Education NOTES

By John Grant McLoughlin
U   N   B   .

Jennifer Hyndman
U   N   B   . C   m .

This edition of the *Education Notes* features two pieces focusing respectively on opportunities for encouragement of Aboriginal youth and of female undergraduates. The

a viewer's attention and interest (thus the title of our project). Each story closes with an open-ended question that should spark discussions and lead to further activities. The question at the end of each story is purposefully not answered in the story.

As much as possible, hands-on activities are used to introduce fundamental mathematical ideas and techniques. Participants are asked to measure, construct, draw, colour, calculate, recognize, describe, tell or make up a story, and so on. Another level of interaction is between our volunteer presenters and participants. The authors of this note firmly believe that a positive role model, i.e., somebody who demonstrates their confidence, knowledge, love and passion for mathematics in a friendly environment, can play a crucial role influencing a young person's life-long attitude towards mathematics. For example, by bringing bright and enthusiastic math students and faculty to a school, onto a reserve, or into an Aboriginal urban community center, and by giving them a chance to talk to and work with young program participants in a friendly

'

Number Counts to 100. For one of our friends, the images were inappropriate because they *supported a colonial view of Aboriginal history.* The other friend said that he *liked them*