

# George Lepine

Chief Instructor - Okichitaw Indigenous Combat Arts - Historian / Presenter / Keeper of Traditional Knowledge

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## Summary

Okichitaw is an Indigenous Martial Art of the Indian Plains (Assiniboine/Plains-Cree). This system has been effectively structured and developed by Canadian Martial Artist, George J. Lépine and endorsed and supported by Traditional Teachers and Elders. A system of combat based on the fighting techniques of the Assiniboine and Plains Cree Indian Nations, which have historically only been transferred through "Oral Traditions" is now being taught and captured through modern methods. Okichitaw comes from the Plains traditional word known as Okichitawtawak, better known as the Worthy Men - who were protectors of their community. Okimakahn George Lepine is Plains Cree-Assiniboine from Manitoba and grew up on the Prairies embracing his Aboriginal identity and culture. Master George Lépine started learning traditional games and some fighting-wrestling techniques before the age of 13 (rights of passage). He has also secured extensive training and knowledge of other martial arts such as Japanese Judo, a 6th Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon-Do, and a 6th Degree Black Belt in Hap Ki-Do. Elders in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario gave him the responsibility as Chief Instructor (Okimakahn Kiskeno Humakew) to establish the Okichitaw Martial Arts System and Federation. This System has been officially identified as an Indigenous Martial Art (within Canada) through the World Martial Arts Union (WoMAU) and also now recognized through Patronage with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Culture Organisation (UNESCO) .

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## Experience

### **Canadian Chairman of the World Police Martial Arts Federation - Canada Association at World Police Martial Arts Federation**

September 2014 - Present (1 year)

Mission of the World Police Martial Arts Federation The Korean National Police (KNP) continue to establish effective world wide law enforcement relationships through the internationalization of martial arts and various martial arts systems. The KNP continue to inform and liaise with police within the martial arts community throughout the world to ensure excellence, foreign diplomacy through effective means of police martial arts international awareness. This program and feature of the World Police Martial Arts Federation also embraces its commitment to help contribute to world peace through the International Police Martial Arts Community.

### **International Master Member at World Academy of Sciences of Traditional, Modern Martial Arts and Real Applied Combat Systems**

May 2014 - Present (1 year 4 months)

The World Academy of Sciences of Traditional, Modern Martial Arts and Real Applied Combat Systems is an organization that recognizes combat systems that provide SPECIAL PREPARATION in the areas of Anti-criminal, Counter- terrorism modern conditions. Instructors and special technical guests provide seminars and training applications to mitigate against these modern threats with proven applied combat methodologies. All master instructors who are a part of the World Academy of MACS Sciences are effectively screened before they can become members.

**Chief Instructor - Okichitaw Indigenous Combat Arts at Riverdale Martial Arts & Wellness Centre**  
March 2014 - Present (1 year 6 months)

At the Riverdale Martial Arts and Wellness Centre, we offer the finest quality instruction in the martial arts for both adults and youth. Our programs include Okichitaw (Indigenous Martial Arts), Karate/Kickboxing, Brazilian Jiu-jitsu as well as other integrated influences from Judo, Aiki-Jujutsu and practical self defense. To get started, please feel free to take advantage of our complimentary classes. We are also expanding our services to include fitness programs, summer camps, personal training, massage therapy as well as other wellness programs.

**Chair and International Delegate - CANADA at World Martial Arts Union**  
September 2002 - Present (13 years)

All countries have particular martial arts with unique forms and features which originated and evolved through the ages in response to the particular security needs of the people concerned, and that such martial arts, an important cultural heritage of the people, share in forming their national character and outlook. Noting that martial arts, originally in the past age various combinations of the combat skills and fighting technique for self-defence and survival, are today practiced for and applied to a wide range of peaceful uses, such as physical fitness, recreation, self-defence, law enforcement action and competitive sports, and contribute in a significant way to the promotion of peace and security of the society as well as the well-being of the people. The World Martial Arts Union believes that an international union of the martial arts will provide to the world martial arts community an institutional center long since needed for its members to better organize their efforts at contributing to the world peace by promoting friendship between peoples through marital arts and by spreading worldwide its underlying values of peace and justice.

**Chief Instructor (Okimakhan-Kiskenohumakew) at Okichitaw Aboriginal Martial Arts**  
June 1997 - Present (18 years 3 months)

OKI CHI TAW is an Indigenous Martial Art system that uses basic, but aggressive combat movements that allows the Martial Artist to take their opponent down to the ground and finish out their adversary as quickly as possible. We employ a very direct approach in the area of combat, thus achieving effective results. The system is based on the philosophy and physical attributes of the Four Directions and the Seven Grandfather Teachings. \*East: The east represents balance, confidence and creativity. In battle, the East influences the identification or location of an adversary, and when setting up to develop a solid attack position. \*South: The south represents strength, focus and success. In battle, the South influences the person to be brave and aggressive in challenging an opponent. \*North: The north represents courage, energy and knowledge. In

battle, the North influences control of an opponent through surprise or overwhelming force. \*West: The west represents challenge, choice, and proof. In battle, the West influences the finishing out of an opponent before moving on to another. Okichitaw employs a variety of hand-fighting techniques where almost all hand attacks and counter-attacks in the system are conducted the same way as if the student was holding a weapon(s) but instead using the application of the forearm and fist for impact. The style of Okichitaw has a tendency to really emphasize body mechanics, leverage, and applied force. In Okichitaw we tend to use weight, strength, positioning, terrain and anatomy to our optimal advantage. Okimakahn Kiskinahumakew George Lepine is a Master in the use of Plains Indigenous weaponry which includes the Plains Knife, the Gunstock Warclub, the Tomahawk, the Plains Short Lance as well as Combat Tracking Tactics & Survival that were applied through historical Aboriginal operational concepts and applications.

*I recommendation available upon request*

### **Chief Instructor / Director - NCCT Indigenous Martial Arts Program at Native Canadian Centre of Toronto**

June 1997 - Present (18 years 3 months)

Native Canadian Centre of Toronto Martial Arts has been offering instruction and training in martial arts since 1997. Located in Toronto, Ontario, Native Canadian Centre of Toronto Martial Arts has produced champions in life as well as in the martial arts. Students and enthusiasts of martial arts have many reasons for their interest in the martial arts. Some are drawn to the physical fitness and weight-loss aspects of training. Others seek to add discipline and self control to their lives. While still others are concerned about safety and self-defense. Whether you are interested in our programs for mental or physical well being, Native Canadian Centre of Toronto Martial Arts offers a number of programs that will fit your developmental needs and your busy schedule as well. The OKICHITAW Aboriginal Martial Arts Program consists of Basic and Advanced Martial Arts training. Advanced training involves the introduction of specific aboriginal weaponry and the proper training in working with these items. Classes are Monday 6-7pm and 7-8pm / Wednesday 6-7pm and 7-8pm / Saturday 12-1pm.

*I recommendation available upon request*

### **Aboriginal Historian / Presenter / Keeper and Teacher of Traditional Knowledge at Indigenous Plains History and Traditional Combat / Warfare**

September 1995 - Present (20 years)

George Lepine is a Canadian pre & post contact historian in the area of Indigenous warfare and combat practices. He has been noted as a key figure in the study of Aboriginal warfare on the Plains (Central Canada) in the world of martial arts studies and history. Born in Manitoba, he grew up in the prairies embracing his indigenous history through his ancestors who were directly involved and actively participation in the Red River Resistance as well as the Northwest Rebellion. He has maintained knowledge of his history and speaks to it in great detail at various educational presentations that he continues to participate on throughout Canada and internationally.

*I recommendation available upon request*

## Organizations

### **World Police Martial Arts Federation (WPMAF)**

International Representative

September 2014 to Present

The Korean National Police (KNP) continue to establish effective world wide law enforcement relationships through the internationalization of martial arts and various martial arts systems. The KNP continue to inform and liaise with police within the martial arts community throughout the world to ensure excellence, foreign diplomacy through effective means of police martial arts international awareness. This program and feature of the World Police Martial Arts Federation also embraces its commitment to help contribute to world peace through the International Police Martial Arts Community.

### **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**

Okichitaw Indigenous Martial Arts Representative - WoMAU

September 2010 to Present

Traditional national martial arts are a valuable part of cultural heritage. The WoMAU is recommended for accreditation to the UNESCO Convention of 2003 for the Safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage. The recommendation was made during the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee in Turkey in November 2008 and was confirmed during the Assembly of State parties in June 2010.

### **World Martial Arts Union (WoMAU)**

International Martial Arts Delegate for CANADA Indigenous Martial Art of Okichitaw

September 2002 to Present

WoMAU represents over 36 countries including Kenya, South Africa, Sudan, Brazil, Canada, United States of America, Venezuela, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Australia, New Zealand, Belarus, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia and the Ukraine. The goal of WoMAU is to document, record and promote the exchange and cooperation between martial arts organizations, promotion and conservation of each country's traditional martial arts, research and study of martial arts and contribution positively to the world peace.

### **International Association Chiefs of Police (IACP)**

Member

March 2000 to Present

The IACP advances professional police services and helps promote enhanced administrative, technical, and operational police practices; foster cooperation and the exchange of information and experience among police leaders and police organizations of recognized professional and technical standing throughout the world. The IACP champions the recruitment and training of qualified persons in the police profession and encourage all police personnel worldwide to achieve and maintain the highest standards of ethics, integrity, community interaction and professional conduct.

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## Honors and Awards

### **Brown Belt Judo**

Judo Manitoba / Moe Oye - Vice Principal

May 1980

Judo is a tremendous and dynamic combat sport that demands both physical prowess and great mental discipline. From a standing position, it involves techniques that allow you to lift and throw your opponents onto their backs. On the ground, it includes techniques that allow you to pin your opponents down to the ground, control them, and apply various chokeholds or joint locks until submission.

#### **5th Degree Black Belt Taekwondo (WTF)**

Grandmaster KS Cho - World Taekwondo Federation

1992

Taekwondo is a scientific Korean traditional martial art that teaches more than physical fighting skills. It is a discipline that shows ways of enhancing spirit and life through training the body and mind.

#### **6th Degree Black Belt Hapkido (IHF)**

Master Inn Shuk Pak - International Hapkido Federation

1995

Hapkido is a dynamic and highly eclectic Korean martial art. It is a form of self-defense that employs joint locks, grappling and throwing techniques of other martial arts, as well as kicks, punches, and other striking attacks. Hapkido contains both long- and close-range fighting techniques, utilizing jumping kicks and percussive hand strikes at longer ranges and pressure point strikes, joint locks, or throws at closer fighting distances. Hapkido emphasizes circular motion, redirection of force, and control of the opponent. Practitioners seek to gain advantage through footwork and body positioning to incorporate the use of leverage, avoiding the use of strength against strength.

#### **Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal**

Government of Canada

2012

Created in 2012 to mark the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was a tangible way for Canada to honour Her Majesty for her service to this country. At the same time, this commemorative medal served to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians. During the year of celebrations, 60 000 deserving Canadians were recognized.

#### **4th Dan Black Belt Police Martial Art Tactics & Theory (WPMAF)**

World Police Martial Arts Federation

2014

Certified to 4th Degree (DAN) Black Belt through the World Police Martial Arts Federation. The Korean National Police (KNP) developed this organization to establish effective world wide law enforcement relationships through the martial arts. This martial arts organizations primary feature is in its commitment to help contribute to world peace.

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## Publications

### **Okichitaw Indigenous Martial Arts of CANADA Manuscript**

Scribd June 21, 2013

Authors: George Lepine

Okichitaw is a renewed expression of traditional warrior martial arts knowledge and practice. This informative manuscript provides the reader with a general understanding in the areas of history, techniques, tactics and values through the Aboriginal culture of Okichitaw.

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## Skills & Expertise

**Teaching**

**Entrepreneur**

**Leadership Development**

**Mentoring**

**Writing**

**Traditional Teacher**

**Martial Arts Expert**

**Fitness**

**Youth Development**

**Youth Empowerment**

**Women's Health**

**Men's Health**

**Presenter**

**Aboriginal History**

**History**

**Entrepreneurship**

**Martial Arts**

**Personal Development**

**Community Outreach**

**Strategic Planning**

**Program Development**

**Non-profits**

**Mens Health**

**Event Planning**

**Weapons**

**Research**

**Art**

**Coaching**

**Strength Training**

**Fundraising**

**Nonprofits**

**Workshop Facilitation**

**Training**

**Government**

**Staff Development**

**Leadership**

**Curriculum Design**

## **Policy**

**Aboriginal Affairs**

**Organizational Development**

**Policy Analysis**

**Community Engagement**

**Motivational Speaking**

**Aboriginal Relations**

**Youth Leadership**

**First Nations**

**Conflict Resolution**

**Adult Education**

**Report Writing**

**Event Management**

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## **Education**

**World Martial Arts Union in Patronage with UNESCO**

Vice President, Martial Arts, 2002 - 2014

Grade: Master, Teacher

Activities and Societies: World Martial Arts Union carries out the work with the aim of exchange and cooperation between martial arts organizations, promotion and conservation of each country's traditional martial arts, research and study of martial arts and contribution positively to the world peace.

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## **Interests**

All things Indigenous :) and to Make Our Aboriginal Communities Strong....

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## **Patents**

**Okichitaw**

Canada Patent

Inventors: George Lepine, Our Ancestors

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## **Certifications**

**First Aid and CPR**

June 2015 to June 2018

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## 3 people have recommended George

"Master George is a very well rounded, talented professional. As a world class athlete, teacher, mentor, originator, and international executive, he has excelled in many areas. I find in him a "kind warrior spirit" that is a delight to be associated with. A special gift to the world today."

— **Johnny Powers**, *Chief Talent Officer, Event Management Group Inc.*, was with another company when working with George at Native Canadian Centre of Toronto Martial Arts

"As a student of Master George Lepine and a student of native Canadian Culture, I am honoured to know and had been briefly taught MMA by Master George through the NCCT friendship centre. Through Okichitaw training I was taught to go beyond my comfort zone and strive for excellence while remaining respectful of others, and keeping traditions and understandings of native culture sacred. I consider Master George as a wise mentor and great role model for our society, and would be confident to go to battle knowing that 'he's got my back' and would do the same for him in return. The expression I've got your back, means that, we would stand by each other, back to back, to respect each other, and fight for each other no matter what the outcome. With great respect, Rhett 'Mike' Pardinias"

— **Rhett Mike Pardinias**, was George's client

"I met George at NAIG some 20 years ago through TKD and was very impressed with his knowledge and great spirit. A real martial artist Nia:wenkowa George "

— **Mike thomas**, worked directly with George

[Contact George on LinkedIn](#)