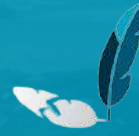


APRIL 2025

# otâcimow



Official Newsletter of Sauleau First Nations

## Northern Nations Wellness Centre To Host Traditional Wellness Engagement Session

The Northern Nations Wellness Centre (NNWC), officially known as MîYôMâCihêwi Kamik, is set to host a Traditional Wellness Engagement Session on April 8, 2025, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the Sauleau First Nations Cultural Centre. This event aims to integrate traditional wellness practices into the centre's services, reflecting its commitment to culturally appropriate healthcare.

Established as one of 13 new First Nations Primary Care Centres (NPCCs) across British Columbia, the NNWC is dedicated to providing comprehensive healthcare services tailored to the unique needs of Indigenous communities. The centre offers a range of services, including primary care, mental health support, and chronic disease management, all delivered in a culturally sensitive environment.

The upcoming engagement session invites cultural committee members and community members from the Sauleau and West Moberly First Nations to share insights on traditional wellness practices and protocols. Their knowledge will guide the integration of these practices into the NNWC's offerings, ensuring that cultural traditions remain central to community care.

The session also provides an opportunity for attendees to contribute ideas for the centre's grand opening ceremony. Appetizers will be served, and all community members are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Nicole at [nicole@nnwc.ca](mailto:nicole@nnwc.ca).

*The Northern Nations Wellness Centre continues to exemplify a commitment to culturally appropriate healthcare, fostering a holistic approach to wellness within Indigenous communities.*

## Update On SFN Strategic Planning Process

The official Sauleau First Nations Strategic Plan has been fully approved by Chief and Council. We will be sharing it with Members and the Community on April 15th, in alignment with the budget.

This planning process has been a valuable learning experience, and we are committed to building on this foundation. The community can look forward to an even more inclusive and refined process for our next strategic plan in 2029!

## This issue:

Chief & Council Update

PAGE 02-03

Asset Management,  
Housing, & Public Works

PAGE 04-05

Culture, Heritage, &  
Recreation

PAGE 06-10

Education Department

PAGE 11-15

Employment & Training  
Opportunities

PAGE 16-18

Health & Family  
Services

PAGE 19-30

Lands Department

PAGE 31-33

Member Services

PAGE 34-38

TREP Department

PAGE 39-41

# CHIEF & COUNCIL UPDATE



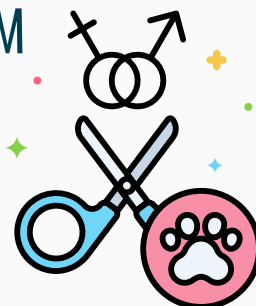
## GOOD DAY, SAULTEAU CITIZENS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

This month has been filled with exciting conversations and future planning. For the past few months our staff and membership has been meeting to discuss our Nation's strategic plan. It has been a team effort to collect ideas on how we can grow and prosper as a Nation and as a people. The 12 priorities include the following; Elders Quality of Life Programming, Comprehensive Recreational Programming, Youth Integration Programming, Housing Support Program Expansion, SFN Wellness & Well Being Centre Initiatives, Cultural Celebration, Restoration & Preservation Programming, Food Security & Sovereignty Projects, Establishment of an SFN Health Authority Initiative, SFN Child & Family Services Programming Expansion, Moberly Watershed Ecosystem Health & Protection Programming, Administration Development & Process Improvement Projects, and SFN Investment & Financial Futures Programming. Through many discussions these were identified as a priority so now managers and staff will work towards these outlined goals and include a timeframe of delivery. As leadership we also participated, and support the strategic plan moving forward. This gives us the opportunity to be structured and organized in a path to the future.

This month, leadership attended the Treaty 8 Chiefs meeting in FSJ and as Treaty 8 Nations gathered, we discussed ways to unite in economic opportunities and how to unify when we meet with government regarding different initiatives. As we all live and play in Treaty 8 Territory, we all want to protect and preserve our ways of life. Supporting each other to accomplish this goal is how we work together as treaty 8 Nations. Lastly, we are excited to announce that we support the continued work to expand and develop our Pemmican Grounds. As a growing Nation we need to accommodate this growth and so as we evolve we are excited to share we will be building a new stage. This will be ready this year for our upcoming July 10th to the 13th Pemmican Days and we look forward to seeing you all there!! Enjoy your day, your week and we will update you next month.

## SFN PET SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

Did you know that Saulteau has a FREE Pet Spay/Neuter program for on-reserve Members? That's right! You can get your furry friend a vet appointment by contacting Niki Ghostkeeper [nghostkeeper@saulteau.com](mailto:nghostkeeper@saulteau.com).



## Council Contacts

**Rudy Paquette**  
Desjarlais Family - Chief  
[rpaquette@saulteau.com](mailto:rpaquette@saulteau.com)

**Justin Gauthier**  
Gauthier Family Councilor  
[justin.gauthier@saulteau.com](mailto:justin.gauthier@saulteau.com)

**Colleen Totusek**  
Davis Family Councilor  
[ctotusek@saulteau.com](mailto:ctotusek@saulteau.com)

**Donovan Cameron**  
Courtoreille Family Councilor  
[dcameron@saulteau.com](mailto:dcameron@saulteau.com)

**Juritha Owens**  
Napoleon Family Councilor  
[jowens@saulteau.com](mailto:jowens@saulteau.com)

## Council Admin

**Niki Ghostkeeper**  
Council Executive  
[nghostkeeper@saulteau.com](mailto:nghostkeeper@saulteau.com)

**Tristan Robertson**  
Council Assistant  
[tristan.robertson@saulteau.com](mailto:tristan.robertson@saulteau.com)

## Governance Contacts

**Nathan Paquette**  
Executive Director  
[npaquette@saulteau.com](mailto:npaquette@saulteau.com)

**Norma Gauthier**  
Indigenous Registry & Membership  
[ngauthier@saulteau.com](mailto:ngauthier@saulteau.com)



# INTRODUCING THE NEW MISTAHIYA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Effective February 2025, Chief & Council is proud to announce the appointment of the new Board of Directors for Mistahiya Development Corporation. This diverse and experienced group of individuals brings a strong mix of business knowledge, community insight, and a shared commitment to economic growth and prosperity for Saulteau. The new board is composed of seven members, including four SFN members, reflecting our Nation’s dedication to ensuring community leadership remains at the heart of Mistahiya’s strategic direction.

We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to the board:

- Jacqueline Bay
- Donovan Cameron, Council Rep
- Niki Lindstrom
- Kory Wood
- Amy Irvine – independent, CPA
- Pieter Van Gils – independent, board chair
- Roger Harris - independent



The Mistahiya Development Corporation plays a vital role in advancing SFN’s economic development goals while upholding our values and vision for self-sufficiency and sustainable prosperity. We look forward to the leadership and direction this new board will bring in the months and years ahead.

Please join us in congratulating and welcoming the new board members!

## COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY JOIN US!



### THURSDAY MAY 1ST, 2025

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAY  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE, CONNECT WITH  
NEIGHBORS, AND HELP CREATE A CLEANER,  
GREENER TOMORROW!

Please dress appropriately according to weather  
conditions, see you there!



Bring your appetites! BBQ lunch  
served at 12pm located at the  
Asset Management Building

After lunch grab your supplies,  
join a team, review your map and  
away we go!

We will provide:  
Garbage bags  
Gloves  
Water



## Department Contacts

**Manager Assets Capital Projects**  
Shane Reynolds  
(sreynolds@saulteau.com)

**Asset & Capital Project Administrator**  
Falon Gauthier  
(fgauthier@saulteau.com)

**Housing Operations Manager**  
Cindy O'Brien  
(cindy@saulteau.com)

**Tenant Relations Supervisor**  
Marci Doonan  
(mdoonan@saulteau.com)

**Public Works & Facilities Manager**  
Ronda Lalonde-Auger  
(rlalonde@saulteau.com)

HAPPY  
SPRING

# SFN Reminder for Garbage Collection!!

## Garbage Collection Policies.....

- 1) Will be picked up 2x per Week (Various Locations)
- 2) Will Only Pick up Household Garbage
- 3) Garbage must be put in tied plastic bags—  
No boxes **\*\* 3 Bags Maximum per pick-up**
- 4) If there is a threat of dogs, garbage will not be collected.
- 5) **Will NOT Pick Up....**
  - a) Meat, Bones or Animal Carcasses
  - b) Yard Garbage, Leaves, or Grass Clippings
  - d) **No Unbagged Cat Litter or Animal Feces**

\*\*Sorry, but the Moberly Dump Station & PRRD will not accept these\*\*



## SFN GARBAGE PICK UP SCHEDULE

BEN FUCHS SFN GARBAGE HAULING SERVICES SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS RESERVE IR #169

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
- Hwy. 29 - Riverside Sub. - South Moberly - Lakeview Subs. - <u>SFN</u> Buildings - Triplexes	- <del>Muskoti</del> Sub - Onion Ring Sub Phase 1 & 2 - Office & Comm. Bldgs - Boucher Lake Rd. - Triplexes	<b>No Service</b>	- Hwy. 29 - Riverside Sub. - South Moberly - Lakeview Subs. - <u>SFN</u> Buildings - Triplexes	- <del>Muskoti</del> Sub - Onion Ring Sub Phase 1 & 2 - Office & Comm. Bldgs - Boucher Lake Rd. - Triplexes	<b>No Service</b>	<b>No Service</b>

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- SOME AREAS MAY HAVE PICK UP DATES ON THURSDAYS – THIS USUALLY AFFECTS THE ONION RING SUBDIVISIONS, OFFICE BLDGS.
- HOLIDAYS MAY AFFECT PICK UP DAYS





# HOUSING



APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

## HOW TO PREVENT MOLD FROM GROWING!

Mold needs moisture to grow. Controlling the moisture and keeping the house dry can help to prevent the growth of mold.

Check your house for signs of moisture or mold. Find out if water is coming in from the outside or if lots of moisture is produced inside the house.

Check your house foundation, walls and roof for leaks. Check for plumbing leaks.

Think of different ways that moisture is produced inside the house (For example, cooking and bathing). Remove moisture as it is produced by opening a window or using exhaust fans.

Reduce the amount of stored materials, especially items that are no longer used. Fabrics, paper, wood and practically anything that collects dust and holds moisture.



## MOLD-PROOFING YOUR HOUSE. ROOM BY ROOM!

### Basement or Crawl Space-

- Get rid of clothes, paper and furniture stored in your basement. Keep only items you can wash. Throw out wet and badly damaged or musty smelling materials. Keep the basement tidy so air can move around more easily.
- Store firewood in a shed or garage, not inside the house.
- Avoid having carpets on the basement floor.
- Periodically clean the drain in your basement floor. Keep the drain trap filled with water.
- A dehumidifier can help to reduce moisture.
- Avoid standing water.
- When storing items, use plastic bins rather than cardboard.

### Laundry-

- Make sure your dryer hose is connected to the outside exhaust vent.
- Remove lint every time you use the dryer.
- Avoid hanging wet laundry inside the house.
- Dry your laundry tub and washing machine after you use them.

### Closets and Bedrooms-

- Get rid of clothing or other stored items that you don't use. Keeping your closets and bedrooms tidy makes it easier for air to circulate and harder for mold to grow.

## HOW TO CLEAN UP SMALL AREAS OF MOLD!

You can clean small areas of mold yourself. Wear rubber gloves, glasses or safety goggles, a dust mask and a shirt with long sleeves.

### Washable surfaces-

- Scrub with a detergent solution; then sponge with a clean, wet rag and dry quickly.

### Moldy drywall-

- Clean the surface with a damp rag using baking soda or a bit of detergent. Do not allow the drywall to get too wet.







## ATTENTION MUSICIANS!



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A MUSIC LESSON TEACHER?  
MUST BE ABLE TO SUPPLY A CLEAN VULNERABLE SECTOR CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE EMAIL MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM OR CALL 250-788-7370**

### Cultural Centre Staff

#### Front Desk Reception

1-250-788-7370

Ethan Cameron

ecameron@saulteau.com

#### Manager, Culture & Heritage

Jamie Kristoffy

(jkristoffy@saulteau.com)

#### Cultural Connection Coordinator

Tylene Paquette

(tpaquette@saulteau.com)

#### Community Events Coordinator

Carlee Westgate

(cwestgate@saulteau.com)

#### Recreation Coordinator

Montana Fuller

(mfuller@saulteau.com)

## SWIM-A-THON



**Danae Murfitt completed 50 laps in one hour! Way to go girl!**



## NEW CULTURAL CENTRE RECEPTION PHONE LINE IS OPEN! (250)788-7370



Looking to contact the cultural Centre? You can now call the front reception line Monday-Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.





# EASTER BINGO <sup>18+</sup>

**FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH - 12:00PM - 2:00PM**

**LUNCH SERVED AT 12:15PM**

**1 LINE - \$250**

**2 LINES - \$500**

**PICTURE FRAME - \$1000**

**BLACKOUT - \$2000**

**EGG DECORATING - COLORING TABLE - EASTER CRAFT**

**FOR ANYONE UNDER 17 YEARS OLD**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL CARLEE AT [CWESTGATE@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:cwestgate@saulteau.com)

SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS

# EASTER EGG HUNT

**FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**0-3 YEAR OLDS - INSIDE CULTURE CENTRE - MUST HAVE ADULT PRESENT**

**START TIME 11:00 AM (PLEASE NOTE DOORS WON'T OPEN UNTIL 11:00 AM)**

**EVERYONE MUST MEET AT BAND HALL PARKING LOT TO START EGG HUNT**

**4-17 YEAR OLDS- OUTSIDE CULTURE CENTRE, SAULTEAU PLAYGROUND, OUTSIDE SAULTEAU BUILDINGS, PEMMICAN GROUNDS**

**5 GOLDEN EGGS - 18+**

**PLEASE MAKE SURE 0-17 YEARS DO NOT COLLECT THE GOLDEN EGGS!!**

**1 EGG PER PERSON - EACH EGG HAS A DIFFERENT CASH VALUE - COME SEE CARLEE AT 12:00PM IN CULTURE CENTRE GYM TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL CARLEE AT [CWESTGATE@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:cwestgate@saulteau.com)**





# CULTURE CAMP COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2025

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - CULTURE CENTRE TRAINING ROOM

PLEASE COME OUT AND JOIN THIS YEAR'S COMMITTEE!! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT WEEK AT THE JUNIOR ALL NATIVE TOURNAMENT BOYS!



**CARTER DAVIS  
KEEGAN DESJARLIAS  
PHINN CAMERON**

**YOU MADE OUR NATION PROUD!**



## ... BASKETBALL

### TOURNAMENT



THE TREATY 8 BISONS TEAM REPRESENTED THE NORTHERN REGION IN A YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT THROUGH THE TREATY 8 SPORTS ASSOCIATION WITH COACH CEDAR WELCHIN. THREE OF OUR SFN BOYS WERE ON THE TEAM.

WAY TO GO BOYS!!





Call 250 - 788 - 7370 or email [mfuller@saulteau.com](mailto:mfuller@saulteau.com) to be added to the list for any event.  
Please note dates and/or times are subject to change, thank you.

# APRIL 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 WEIGHTROOM 6:00 – 8:30PM	2 KIDS ZONE 3:00 – 5:00PM	3 WATERFIT 2:00 – 3:00PM	4 WEIGHTROOM 8:00 – 11:00AM	5 PUBLIC SWIM 10:00AM – 12:00PM
6 VBALL/BBALL 6:00 – 8:00PM	7 WALKING GROUP 5:00 – 6:00PM	8 WEIGHTROOM 6:00 – 8:30PM	9 KIDS ZONE 3:00 – 5:00PM	10 WATERFIT 2:00 – 3:00PM	11 WEIGHTROOM 8:00 – 11:00AM	12 PUBLIC SWIM 10:00AM – 12:00PM
13 VBALL/BBALL 6:00 – 8:00PM	14 WALKING GROUP 5:00 – 6:00PM	15 WEIGHTROOM 6:00 – 8:30PM	16 KIDS ZONE 3:00 – 5:00PM	17 WATERFIT 2:00 – 3:00PM	18 EASTER EGG HUNT & BINGO WEIGHTROOM 3:00-5:00PM	19 PUBLIC SWIM 10:00AM – 12:00PM
20 VBALL/BBALL 6:00 – 8:00PM	21 EASTER MONDAY	22 WEIGHTROOM 6:00 – 8:30PM	23 KIDS ZONE 3:00 – 5:00PM	24 WATERFIT 2:00 – 3:00PM	25 WEIGHTROOM 8:00 – 11:00AM	26 PUBLIC SWIM 10:00AM – 12:00PM
27 VBALL/BBALL 6:00 – 8:00PM	28 WALKING GROUP 5:00 – 6:00PM	29 WEIGHTROOM 6:00 – 8:30	30 KIDS ZONE 3:00 – 5:00PM			

**SATURDAYS  
APRIL  
5TH & 19TH**

# PUBLIC SWIM

**JOIN US FOR SWIMMING!  
10:00AM - 12:00PM**

YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 10  
NEED TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A  
GUARDIAN.  
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS  
PLEASE DONT HESITATE TO  
CONTACT ME BY EMAIL  
[MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:mfuller@saulteau.com) OR  
CALL 250-788-7370

# WATERFIT

**APRIL DATES:  
THURSDAY APRIL 3RD  
THURSDAY APRIL 17TH**

PLEASE NOTE: I HAVE OPENED THIS  
WATERFIT TO 16+ DUE TO LOW  
ATTENDANCE.

**TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FOR 7  
PEOPLE TO THE CHETWYND REC CENTRE**

PLEASE EMAIL  
[MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:mfuller@saulteau.com) OR CALL  
250 - 788 - 7370 TO REGISTER AND BOOK  
TRANSPORT. PLEASE MEET US AT THE  
REC CENTRE FOR 1:45PM.

**Saulteau**  
FIRST NATIONS



# VOLLEYBALL OR BASKETBALL

**SUNDAYS APRIL 6TH & 20TH  
2025**

**6:00 - 8:00PM  
SNACKS PROVIDED  
AGES 12+  
LOCATION: BANDHALL**



# WEIGHTROOM

OPEN MONDAY - THURSDAY  
8:00AM - 4:30PM

APRIL AFTER HOURS  
TUESDAYS 6:00 - 8:30PM  
FRIDAYS 8:00 - 11:00AM

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE  
NO AFTER HOURS TUESDAY  
THE 18TH OR FRIDAY THE 21ST

FOR WEIGHTROOM USE ONLY

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING  
YOU ALL!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
EMAIL: [MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM)  
PHONE: 250-788-7370 EX 1007



## WALKING GROUP

Mondays April 7th, 14th and 28th  
5:00 - 6:00PM

📍 CULTURE CENTER GYM  
MUSIC & WALKING  
AGES 16+

EMAIL [MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM) OR  
CALL 250-788-7370 IF YOU HAVE  
ANY QUESTIONS



JOIN ME FOR FUN ACTIVITIES!

WEDNESDAYS APRIL 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

3:00 - 5:00PM

CRAFTS · SPORTS  
GAMES · LEARNING

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL  
[MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:MFULLER@SAULTEAU.COM) OR  
CALL 250-788-7370

LOCATED IN THE BANDHALL GYM





## Muskoti Elementary School

*Tânisi fellow band and community members:*

Do you or someone you know have a child turning 4 by December 31, 2025, or entering Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, or 3 in September? If so, please contact us for registration forms; or they can be found on our SFN website under Education and submitted to [cschlamp@saulteau.com](mailto:cschlamp@saulteau.com). Registration for full-day K4, Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, or 3 opens in January for the following school year. We limit class sizes to provide the best quality of education we can; so, it is best to register early.

**\*UPDATE\*** Only a few spots remain for next school year.

We have a strong cultural and language program that is continuing to flourish nêhiawi-kiskinwahamâkosiwak (they learn Cree, Cree ways). Breakfast and lunch are provided daily. We also offer units on skating, snowshoeing, swimming, gymnastics, life skills, and so much more for your students to learn. Our monthly fieldtrips and local bussing enhance our program.

Education is so important, and the BC First Nations Schools are striving for excellence and achieving greatness for our students. Kinanâskomitinân (we give thanks to you). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our teacher/principal Cody Schlamp at 250-788-7361.

### Education Contacts

**Manager, Education**  
Audrey Norris  
([anorris@saulteau.com](mailto:anorris@saulteau.com))

**Education Supervisor**  
Cheri Koenig  
([ckoenig@saulteau.com](mailto:ckoenig@saulteau.com))

**Adult Education Teacher**  
Brendon Conrad  
([bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com))

**Muskoti Principal**  
Cody Schlamp  
([cschlamp@saulteau.com](mailto:cschlamp@saulteau.com))

**Muskoti Elementary**  
Call (250) 788-7361

**Muskoti Learning Centre**  
Call (250) 788-7368



# ayikî-pîsim April 2025 Frog moon

Monday	Tue.Sday	Wedne.Sday	Thur.Sday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Cooking Class K4's	2 PHE Gymnastics	3	4	5	6
7 Pro.D No School	8	9 PHE Gymnastics	10 Norman Foote Performance	11	12	13
14 Drum making Grades 1,2 & 3 PHE Gymnastics	15 Drum making Grades 2 & 3	16 PHE Gymnastics	17 Cooking Class Grade 1 & 2's	18 Good Friday STAT	19	20
21 Easter Monday STAT	Earth Day 22 K/1/2/3 Twin Sisters Field-Trip	23 PHE Gymnastics	24 Cooking Class Grade 3's	25	26	27
28 PHE Gymnastics	29	30 PHE Gymnastics				



### MUSKOTI LEARNING CENTRE

## After School Homework Help

The Muskoti Learning Centre offers after school homework help for SFN school students

Register at any time!

**Available hours:**  
Monday - Thursday  
3:00pm - 4:30pm

Get in contact with us:

MLC Teacher - Brendon Conrad

In Person: Stop by the MLC classroom

Email: [bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com)

Phone: 250-788-7368



## **Saulteau First Nations' Cree-ative Childcare**

### **New Spaces Building has opened.**

We are currently taking interest in childcare spaces. These spaces will open slowly to allow for children to have the time to adjust and new clients will be scheduled for starting times. Priority will go to members of Saulteau First Nations.

Contact Mwilliams @saulteau.com to get more information

- Toddler Program—under aged 3
- Preschool Program—aged 3-5

At this time all children must be up to date or in process of getting the routine immunizations.

Cost to non-Saulteau members are part of our \$10/day program

At this time Child Care fees for Saulteau Members is covered for them.

Our location is 1709 Boucher Lake Rd, Moberly Lake, BC

250-788-3911 (phone)

Current Hours of operation—7:45-4:45 Monday to Thursday. We are closed when the band is closed.

\*\*\*Spaces are limited at this time and will increase as we hire certified staff to cover new positions.

We are a fully licensed child care program under Northern Health and have operated for over 25 years.

Program focuses include Cultural teachings, Cree Language teachings and exposure, development of outdoor and land-based learning is in progress. Every Child is loved and nurtured and we believe in having the child feel like this is a second home for them.



# HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION & CAREER FAIR 2025



DATE  
**APRIL 3, 2025**



TIME  
**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**



LOCATION  
**SFN BANDHALL GYM**

- ▶ Meet with universities, colleges, and industries to learn about education and career opportunities!
- ▶ Geared toward grades 10-12, but everyone is welcome
- ▶ Lunch provided
- ▶ Door prizes



**Saulteau**  
FIRST NATIONS



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Cheri Koenig:

 [ckoenig@saulteau.com](mailto:ckoenig@saulteau.com)

 250-788-7275





# MUSKOTI LEARNING CENTRE

*MLC works with students to create their own unique course selection and work schedule*

## At MLC you can:

- ✓ Achieve Adult Dogwood / Dogwood Diploma Graduation
- ✓ Upgrade course grades on your highschool transcript
- ✓ Take new courses to add to your highschool transcript

**Students will earn a \$1000 completion incentive for every earned credited course!**




We offer over 30 courses in Language Arts, Mathematics, Sciences, Social Studies, and other Electives!

**If you are interested in continuing your education you can register with MLC at any time in the school year!**

## Contact Us:

*Brendon Conrad - Adult Ed. Teacher*

 250-788-7368

 [bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com)

*Our mission is to provide a high quality education with a healthy balance of curricular and cultural learning opportunities in a safe and inviting environment. We strive to prepare all students to become responsible citizens and lifelong learners who are ready to meet the challenges of the future.*



# APRIL 2025

## MUSKOTI LEARNING CENTRE EVENT CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1  Birch Forest Prep	2	3  MLC Education & Career Fair 10 am - 2 pm	4	5
6	7  Pro D Day MLC Closed	8  Culture Day Beaded Lanyard	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16  Birch Forest Harvest	17	18  Good Friday MLC Closed	19
20	21  Easter Monday MLC Closed	22  Culture Day Drum keychain	23	24	25	26
27	28	29  Birch Water Processing	30  Last Day of April Reading Challenge			

### Notes:

You can register with MLC to achieve Adult Dogwood or upgrade courses at any time in the school year.

MLC offers after school homework help for students under 18. Contact us to register.

MLC has a Culture Day every 2nd Tuesday. We have a variety of cultural crafts available to anyone who would like to make a cultural craft.

☆ For event info, please phone (250-788-7368), email [bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com), or check in the classroom - dates & times may vary ☆

### MUSKOTI LEARNING CENTRE

# APRIL ADULT READING CHALLENGE



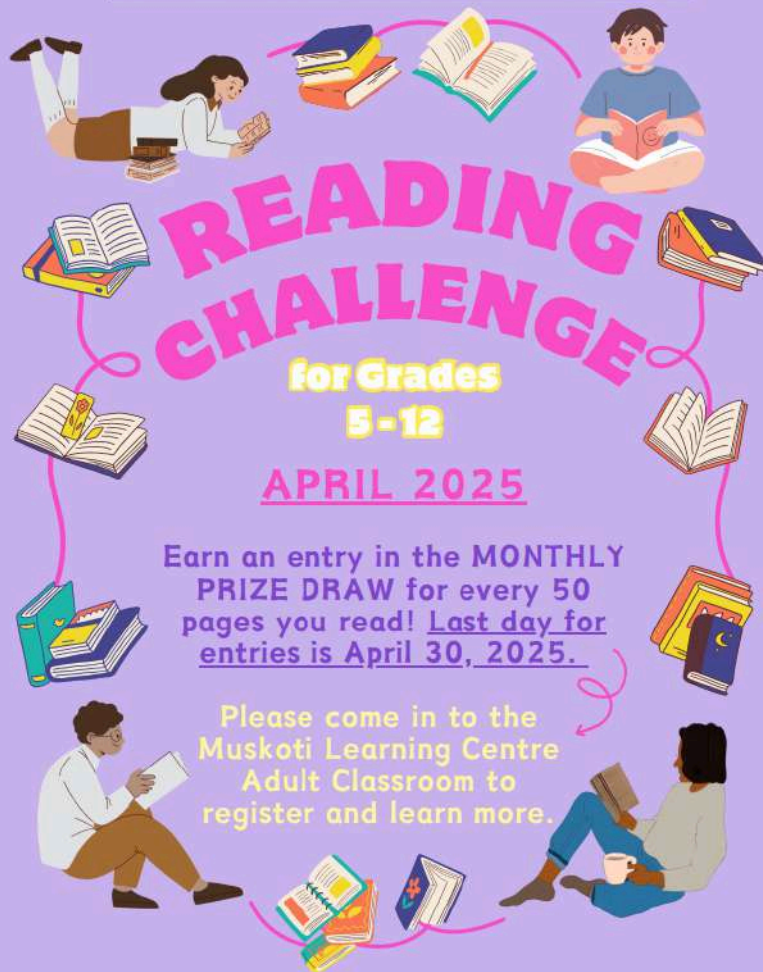
Open to SFN members and staff

Earn an entry in the Monthly Draw for every book you read from April 1-30, 2025!

Please come in to the MLC Adult Classroom to register and learn more

☎ 250-788-7368 ✉ [bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com)

### MUSKOTI LEARNING CENTRE



Earn an entry in the MONTHLY PRIZE DRAW for every 50 pages you read! Last day for entries is April 30, 2025.

Please come in to the Muskoti Learning Centre Adult Classroom to register and learn more.

☎ 250-788-7368 ✉ [bconrad@saulteau.com](mailto:bconrad@saulteau.com)



# EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Employment and Training Department  
is looking for your success story

If the department has helped you get where you  
are, please do a write-up.

(Safety Tickets, Trades, Schooling, PPE )

I will be giving you an honorarium for your photo  
and story.

Contact Ginette or Stacy

[glapierre@saulteau](mailto:glapierre@saulteau) or [smacmillan@saulteau.com](mailto:smacmillan@saulteau)



If You  
**WANT** It  
**WORK**  
For It

## Employment & Training Contacts

Employment & Training Coordinator  
Ginette Lapierre ([glapierre@saulteau.com](mailto:glapierre@saulteau.com))

Employment & Training Assistant  
Stacy McMillian  
([smcmillan@saulteau.com](mailto:smcmillan@saulteau.com))

## Applying for Jobs at Saulteau

All open job applications with SFN are  
available on our website:  
[saulteau.com/employenet](http://saulteau.com/employenet)

ARE YOU A MEMBER  
BUT DON'T HAVE  
SOME OF THE  
QUALIFICATIONS?  
WE CAN TRAIN YOU!

## SFN Membership

What training or workshops would you like to  
see this upcoming year?

What do you need from our department to succeed in  
your current job, or what do you need for your dream job?



Contact Ginette or Stacy at [glapierre@saulteau.com](mailto:glapierre@saulteau.com) or  
[smacmillan@saulteau.com](mailto:smacmillan@saulteau.com) or comment on the posting



We are  
**HIRING**

E-mail your resume  
to [admin@nnwc.ca](mailto:admin@nnwc.ca)

- Medical Office Assistant
- Indigenous Social Navigator
- Traditional Wellness Coordinator



# EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



## SFN CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- DRIVER, SOCIAL TRANSPORTATION
- GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY STORE
- HOMEMAKER 1 YEAR TERM
- GUARDIAN, CARIBOU - CASUAL, ON-CALL
- NURSE, COMMUNITY HEALTH
- RECEPTIONIST, HEALTH CENTRE (CASUAL ON-CALL)
- COUNSELLOR, CLINICAL MENTAL WELLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

APPLY TODAY!  
[JOBS@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:JOBS@SAULTEAU.COM)

## NEW HIRES AT SAULTEAU

- COOK AND CLASSROOM SUPPORT - BILLIE-JEAN GLOVER - START DATE MARCH 24, 2025
- PLUMBER - CORY LONGLEY - START DATE MARCH 31, 2025
- TEACHER, PRIMARY - CEDAR WECHLIN - START DATE AUGUST 25, 2025
- NURSE, LICENSED PRACTICAL HOME CARE - LYNETTE MURPHY - START DATE MARCH 31, 2025
- CLERK, FINANCE - DAWN CRAWFORD - START DATE MARCH 24, 2025
- DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION - KASSANDRA GRANT - START DATE MARCH 31, 2025
- CARE AIDE - ELIZABETH YOUNG - START DATE - APRIL 7, 2025



### KASSANDRA GRANT

Kassandra will be joining the Finance & Administration Team as a Director on March 31st.

She is originally from the Fraser Canyon region of British Columbia, growing up with an amazing natural backdrop of steep mountains, fast flowing rivers and clean lakes. Fun fact, her first job was at Hell's Gate Airtram, which sparked an interest in exploring the history of BC at a very young age.

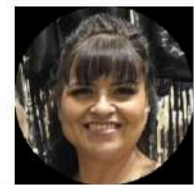
Having lived as far south as Vancouver and as far north as Fort Nelson, she currently resides in Fort St. John with her partner and 3 children. When not working, juggling kids' activity schedules and trying to translate from French the 'new math' homework with one of her sons, she can be found near the water, in the garden or on a golf course for some downtime.

With an extensive professional background in senior Finance and Administrative roles, Kassandra plans to bring a collaborative leadership approach to the team. Having worked in various industries such as forestry, construction, manufacturing and oil and gas, she has a significant breadth of knowledge to draw upon while in this position. Her career path has been supported by formal education in disciplines including Accounting, Commerce and Environmental Social Governance.

Kassandra has expressed how much she is looking forward to working with us on the mandate that's been set out by the community, and is grateful and excited for this opportunity with SFN.

Please join me in welcoming Kassandra to the Saulteau First Nations Team!

*Iris Notley*  
Iris Notley  
Manager, Human Resources



### DAWN CRAWFORD

Dawn joined the Finance & Administration team as a Finance Clerk on March 24th. Dawn's role is a one (1) year term.

Dawn is the daughter of Emile and Patricia Blandin and she is a descendant of the Gauthier family and a proud member of Saulteau First Nations.

Dawn attended school in Chetwynd from 1978-1987 and graduated from Corralieu Secondary School in Quesnel BC. Dawn, along with her husband, Andrew moved back to Moberly from Mission, BC last June so she could be with parents and family.

Dawn's recent employment with Saulteau First Nations as the receptionist allowed her to meet new people and reacquaint herself with old friends. The new position as financial clerk will challenge her to utilize her background and experience in finance.

Dawn is very happy to be employed by Saulteau First Nations again and excited for the opportunity to further her career, learn new skills and serve her community.

Please join me in welcoming Dawn to the Saulteau First Nations Team!

*Iris Notley*  
Iris Notley  
Manager, Human Resources





**About the Roles**

The 2025-2030 Strategic Plan for Saulteau First Nations has identified Youth Employment opportunities as a priority. As such, SFN intends to hire youth for seasonal and summer jobs placements with the following details:

- Youth, ages 16-26
- Placement opportunities for all youth (students and non-students)
- Duration of placement: 6 -10 weeks, and
- Placements commencing as early as April 28, 2025

**Anticipatory Staffing for following Departments and vacancies**

Infrastructure (6 positions)	Programs & Services (3 positions)	Health (7 positions)	Finance & Admin (6 positions)
Housing (1)	Daycare (1)	Mental Health (1)	Human Resources (1)
Assets & Capital (1)	Member Services (1)	Family Services (1)	Finance (1)
Public Works & Facilities (4)	Culture & Heritage (1)	Health (1)	Information Technology (1)
		Summer Camp (4)	Occupational Health/Safety (1)
			Lands (1)
			TREP (1)

**Working with Saulteau First Nations**

We, the Saulteau First Nations, are a spirited and diverse community. We are a strong Self-Governed Nation, one that is healthy, culturally vibrant, and ready for tomorrow. Our cultural teachings and traditions guide us and keep us rooted as we move forward into the future. As stewards of the land, we ensure that the best sustainable practices are followed, now and in the future. For as long as the "sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow", we remain proud and humbly determined.

# APPLICATION AVAILABLE ON THE SFN WEBSITE EMPLOYMENT PAGE!

**Priority Hiring**

- ✓ SFN member or
- ✓ SFN Member affiliates (immediate family member of a SFN member)
  - Youth, ages 16-26, who are not employed.
  - Youth, ages 16-26, who are on a scheduled break from high school or post-secondary studies.

**Ideal qualifications / certifications**

- Class 5 Driver's License is preferred.
- A satisfactory Criminal Records Check; and
- A commitment to the safety of yourself and your team.

**What we offer**

- Competitive compensation, as follows:
  - \$25/hr - Post Secondary Student
  - \$24/hr - Seasonal, non-student
  - \$23/hr - Highschool Student (years 2-3-4)
  - \$21/hr - Highschool Student (year 1)
- Work schedule including Monday to Thursday (with occasional weekend or evenings to assist with events).
- Work experience in a multi-disciplinary team,
- Equal opportunity, diverse and inclusive workplace, and
- A work environment where safety is our core value.

**Application deadline** is 12:00pm on **Monday, April 14, 2025.**

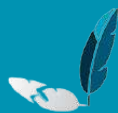
To obtain information about the Summer/Seasonal Jobs Opportunities please contact:

Human Resources Department  
P.O. Box 1020  
Chetwynd, BC V0C 1J0

Email resume and application (attached) to: [job@saulteau.com](mailto:job@saulteau.com)

While we appreciate all applications, only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.





JOIN US IN LEARNING HOW TO BEAD AND MAKE  
YOUR OWN

## MEDICINE BAGS

WITH DIANNE PAQUETTE



**2 DAY CLASS - LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE**

**CLASS WILL TAKE PLACE AT NEW BEGINNINGS HOUSE ON:**

**THURSDAY APRIL 3, 2025**

**5:00PM - 9:00PM**

**FRIDAY APRIL 4, 2025**

**9:00AM - 12:00PM**

**ALL SUPPLIES & DINNER INCLUDED.**

**To sign up please contact:**

**cgauthier@saulteau.com**

**(250) 788-7262**

### Booking Appointments:

**Health Centre Reception**

Melva Sorell

Call 250-788-7266

Email melvas@saulteau.com

### Locations:

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday**

**SFN Health Center**

**1712 Civic Road, Moberly Lake**

**Thursday and Friday**

**Next door to IDA Pharmacy**

**5016 50th Ave, Chetwynd**

### Health Centre Contacts

**Operations Manager**

Ashely Gauthier

(ashely.gauthier@saulteau.com)

**Administrative Assistant**

Kayla Macdonald

(kmacdonald@saulteau.com)

**Community Health Nurse**

**POSITION OPEN**

**Community Health Representative**

Chelsea Gauthier

(cgauthier@saulteau.com)

**Life Skills Program Facilitator**

Shay Garbitt

(sgarbitt@saulteau.com)

**Mental Health & Wellness Manager**

Annie Kingston Miller

(akingstonmiller@saulteau.com)





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Notes
		1	2	3 Medicine Bags-NBH 5:00PM-9:00PM	4 Medicine Bags-NBH 5:00PM-9:00PM	5	<b>HC-Health Centre</b>  <b>NBH-New Beginning House</b>
6	7 Tracy Leach 1FOT-HC	8 Tracy Leach The Thousand Faces of Addictions Workshop-NBH 10am-3pm	9 Tracy Leach The Thousand Faces of Addictions Workshop-NBH 10am-3pm	10 Tracy Leach 1FOT-HC Massage Therapist 8:30am-NBH	11	12	
13	14	15	16 Elder Eye Exams 12:30pm-4:30pm	17 Physio Therapist-HC	18 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	19	
20 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	21 <b>SFN OFFICES CLOSED</b>	22 Tsow Tun Le Lum HC Traditional Healers	23 Tsow Tun Le Lum HC Traditions Healers	24 Tsow Tun Le Lum HC Massage Therapist 8:30am-NBH Drea's Footcare-HC	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

# Reflexology

New Beginnings House  
April 16th  
May 14th

Experience the healing power of reflexology! This natural, non-invasive therapy stimulates specific pressure points on the feet, hands, and ears to promote relaxation, reduce stress, and support overall well-being. Whether you're seeking relief from tension, improved circulation, or a balanced mind and body, reflexology offers a soothing and effective way to enhance your health.

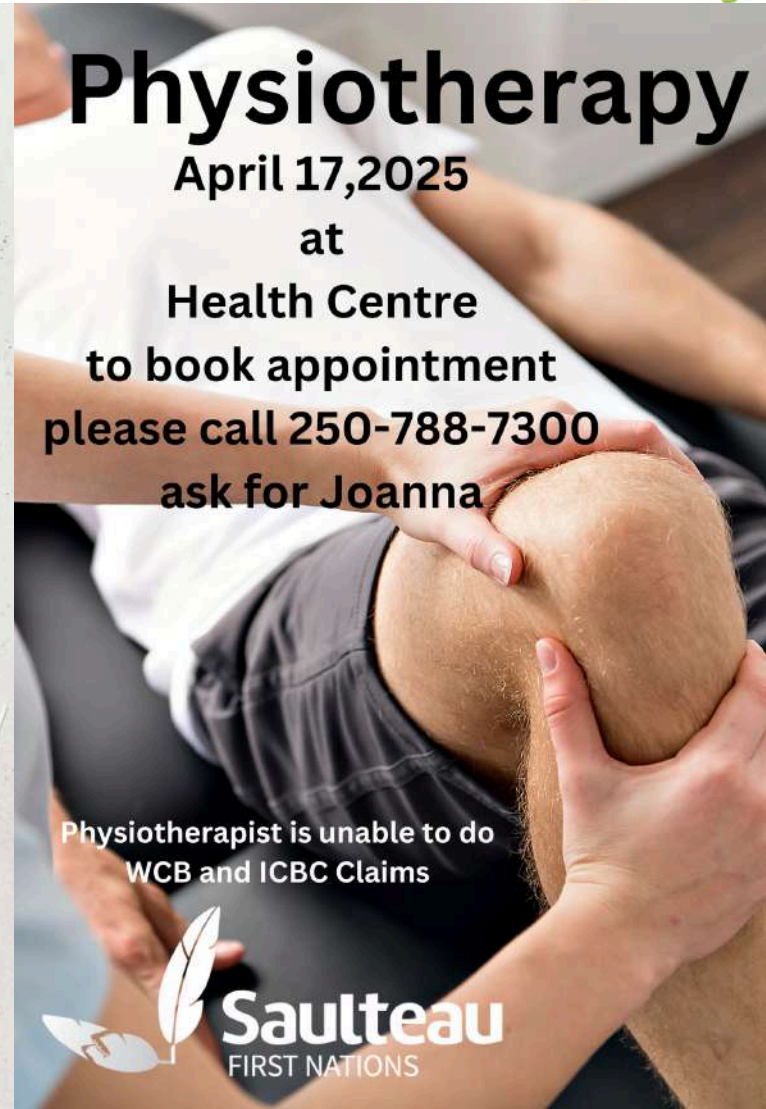


Call the SFN Health Centre for appointments  
Kayla - 250-788-7258  
kmacdonald@saulteau.com



# Physiotherapy

April 17, 2025  
at  
Health Centre  
to book appointment  
please call 250-788-7300  
ask for Joanna



Physiotherapist is unable to do  
WCB and ICBC Claims





# Elder Eye Exams

Dr. Kadziolka and Smarts Office - Chetwynd

Transportation to and from Appointment

**Wednesday, April 16th**

- Meet at band hall 12:30pm
- Return to band hall 4:30 - 5:00pm

- ✓ Limited Spaces
- ✓ Care Card and Status Card required for booking

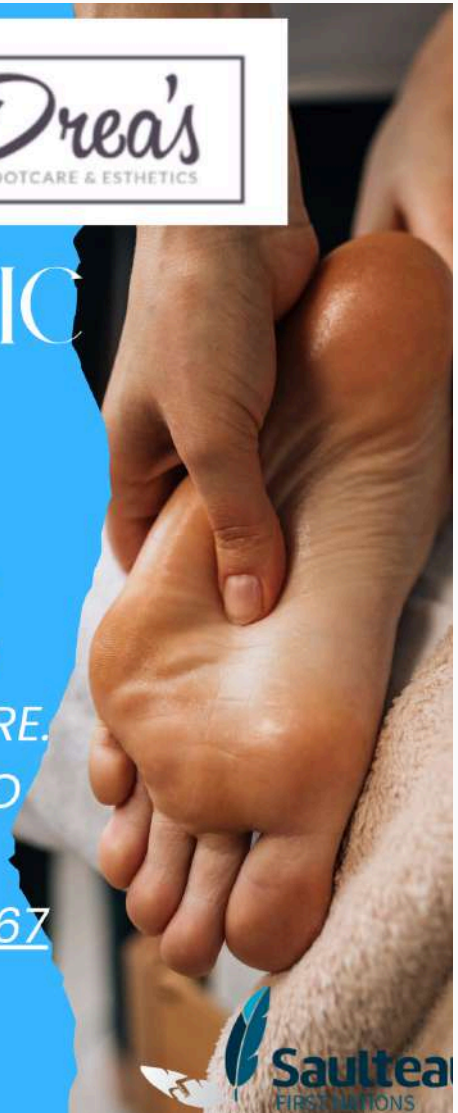
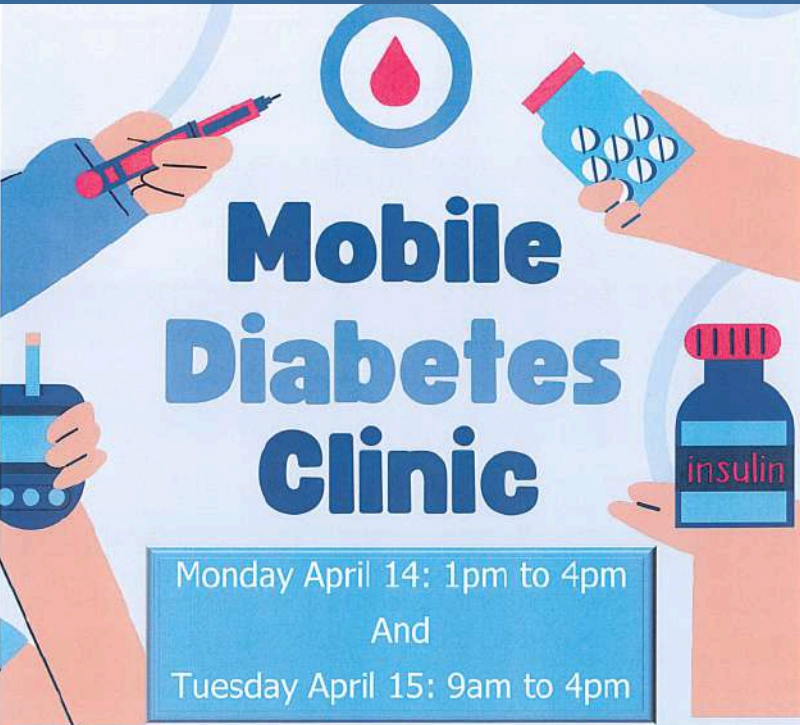
**Book today!**

Kayla - 250-788-7258  
kmacdonald@saulteau.com



# DIABETIC FOOT CARE

THURSDAY  
APRIL 24TH  
HEALTH CENTRE.  
CALL DREA TO  
BOOK  
T: 250-401-8267

## Mobile Diabetes Clinic

Monday April 14: 1pm to 4pm  
And  
Tuesday April 15: 9am to 4pm

Diabetes assessment including blood work review of A1C, kidney and cholesterol values as well as medication reviews.

Diabetes education including physical activity planning, nutrition counseling, retinal screening and foot exam.

Diabetes screening and education for people to check if they have diabetes.

Book an appointment at the health center to see one of our Certified Diabetes Educators today!



**TSOW-TUN LE LUM** 

Traditional Healing  
Team Visiting  
2025

**Coming to Saulteau First Nations Health Centre**

**SMUDGING AND CEDAR BRUSHING!**

**Tuesday April 22 - Thursday April 24, 2025**





## Massage Therapist

Jaclyn Johnson, RMT of NuBalance Massage Therapy will be at the New Beginnings House on April 10th and 24th, 2025. Please contact the Health Centre to book.

250-788-7280



## INDIGENOUS FOCUSING ORIENTED THERAPY (IFOT) with Tracy Leach

Sessions available 9am to 4pm Monday, April 7 and Thursday, April 10 at the SFN Health Centre



Tracy Leach is a proud member of the St'at'imc Nation. Tracy is a Registered Professional Counsellor, Certified Indigenous Focusing-Oriented Practitioner and Former Registered Massage Therapist who focuses on body-centred healing from an Indigenous perspective

Call the SFN Health Centre at 250-788-7280 or email [mentalhealth@saulteau.com](mailto:mentalhealth@saulteau.com) to book an appointment.

## THE 1000 FACES OF ADDICTION HEALING WORKSHOP

TUESDAY APRIL 8TH AND WEDNESDAY APRIL 9TH 2025 10AM TO 3PM



Participants will build understanding of the different manifestations of addiction, including behavioural and substance, as well as signs and symptoms of addiction, while also exploring how addictive behaviours can help to numb, soothe and avoid difficult emotions connected to past traumas. Land-based ceremony and healing practices will be used throughout the workshop to support healing and connection.

## MEET TRACY LEACH



Tracy Leach is a proud member of the St'at'imc Nation, in southern BC. Tracy is a Registered Professional Counsellor, Certified Indigenous Focusing-Oriented Practitioner and Former Registered Massage Therapist.

Tracy's Experience includes teaching Indigenous-based trauma courses at the Justice Institute of BC, 15 years of experience facilitating workshops in Indigenous Communities and 36 years combined experience in Body-centred healing from an Indigenous perspective

To register contact SFN Health Center @ 250-788-7280 or email [mentalhealth@saulteau.com](mailto:mentalhealth@saulteau.com)

Lunch provided as well as grocery gifts cards for attendance.



# Healthy Relationships

## Part 2

Learn to build stronger, safer and more fulfilling relationships

April 11th 2025 from 6pm-8pm

Northern Lights College Room 108

Snacks Provided

Incentives for those who complete all three sessions!

Childcare is available

This is a free workshop but space is limited  
Please register at  
250-401-7085

19+



# WOMENS group

## FLORAL COASTER MAKING

PLEASE JOIN ME IN A FLORAL  
COASTER-MAKING CLASS.

APRIL, 08 2025

PLEASE CONTACT SHAY FOR SIGN-UP AT  
(250)-874-7441. DINNER & REFRESHMENTS  
PROVIDED.

LOCATION:  
NEW BEGINNING HOUSE

TIME: 4:30-6:30

## NORTHERN NATIONS WELLNESS CENTRE IS

HOSTING A:

## TRADITIONAL WELLNESS ENGAGEMENT SESSION

DATE: APRIL 8, 2025

TIME: 4:00-6:00 PM

LOCATION: SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL CENTRE

THE NORTHERN NATIONS WELLNESS CENTRE INVITES OUR CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AS WELL AS MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF THE SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS AND WEST MOBERLY FIRST NATIONS, TO SHARE INSIGHTS ON TRADITIONAL WELLNESS PRACTICES AND PROTOCOLS.

YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND GUIDANCE WILL HELP SHAPE HOW WE INTEGRATE TRADITIONAL WELLNESS INTO OUR CLINIC AND IDENTIFY KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PLAY A ROLE IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK.

THIS IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE IDEAS FOR OUR GRAND OPENING CEREMONY!

APPIES WILL BE SERVED. ALL ARE WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: NICOLE@NNWC.CA





PARENTS AND TOTS

# POT PAINTING

10:00-11:30 AM @ NBH  
APRIL 15, 2025  
SNACKS PROVIDED

CONTACT: [LESTEBAN@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:LESTEBAN@SAULTEAU.COM)  
250-219-1279

## POT PAINTING

APRIL 14, 2025

10:00-11:30 AM

NEW BEGINNINGS HOUSE

ADULTS AND SENIORS ARE WELCOME!  
SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT:  
[LESTEBAN@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:LESTEBAN@SAULTEAU.COM)  
250-219-1279

# Together, we support one another.

FSJ Cancer Support Circles Society



Providing a Safe Haven for Everyone  
Impacted by Cancer.

At the Fort St. John Hospital, we have a  
dedicated wig room where we offer  
support to clients from across the  
Peace Region.

April 16, 2025  
10:30-12:00 @ NBH  
Snacks provided  
To sign up please contact:  
[lesteban@saulteau.com](mailto:lesteban@saulteau.com)  
[cs@arbitr@saulteau.com](mailto:cs@arbitr@saulteau.com)





# Women in Recovery Group

This is an ongoing, in person group open to all women seeking connection and peer support in their recovery.

Chetwynd Public Library 2:00PM- 3:00PM

Saturday, April 12th

Saturday, April 26th

Childcare available by registering at  
250-401-7085



**Saulteau**  
FIRST NATIONS

Please join me for a Textured Canvas Art Group.

# women's GROUP

APRIL  
TUESDAY | **22** | 4:30PM-6:30PM  
2025

New Beginning House  
*See you there*

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH SHAY  
(250)-874-7441

Dinner & refreshments provided



UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY AND SET YOUR INTENTIONS

# Sigil Making

APRIL 29TH 2025  
6:00PM - 8:00PM  
NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE  
ROOM 108  
SNACKS PROVIDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL:  
250-401-7085 OR 250-788-2248

19+



LINDA KRYSTINA  
HOUSING SOCIETY



# Women's Paint Night

APRIL 9TH, 2025  
5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

SNACKS PROVIDED

THIS IS A FREE EVENT BUT SPACE IS LIMITED

TO REGISTER CALL OR TEXT  
250-401-7085

19+



LINDA KRYSTINA  
HOUSING SOCIETY



# ELDERS CALL FOR INTEREST



Who would like to get their Food Safe Certificate? We would like to see who is interested in the 1-day class.

If enough people sign up, then we will see if we can do the class in-person

Please call Ginette (250) 788-7366 or Starr (250) 783-8999



## Chair Yoga



Time: 10:00-11:30 AM

Date: April 28, 2025

Adults and Seniors are welcome  
New Beginnings House  
Snacks provided

Contact:

cgauthier@saulteau.com 250-788-7262

lesteban@saulteau.com 250-219-1279



## SFN ELDERS Painting Class

with Tammy Watson

TUESDAY APRIL 1, 2025  
SFN ELDERS LOUNGE  
CULTURAL CENTER  
10:00AM - 1:00PM

LUNCH PROVIDED



CONTACT:  
cgauthier@saulteau.com

DO YOU LIKE TO GARDEN?  
WE ARE LOOKING FOR  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE  
ON A GARDEN COMMITTEE  
FOR THE COMMUNITY  
GARDEN.



COME AND JOIN US AT  
THE NEW BEGINNINGS  
HOUSE ON APRIL 17TH,  
THURSDAY, FROM 1:00 -  
2:00 PM FOR A MEETING  
AND TO SIGN UP FOR  
BOXES.



CONTACT: LESTEBAN  
250-219-1279



# GIRLS BAKING CLASS

→ **Batch 3:** *muffin & cookie baking*

**APRIL 11 2025**

3:30-6:30

**PLEASE CALL SHAY FOR SIGN UP**

(250)-874-7441 for ages 9 and up, while those under 9 need to be accompanied by an adult. Snacks and refreshments provided

**New Beginnings House**



PARENTS AND TOTS

## Diamond Painting

Join our Diamond Painting Workshop and discover the joy of creating beautiful, one-of-a-kind pieces!



**Tuesday, April 29, 2025**  
10:00 am - 11:30 am

Kindly register to:  
lesteban@saulteau.com  
250-219-1279



Please come join me for slingshot practice.

# BOYS GROUP

where: **New Beginnings House**

Time: **3:30-6:30**

When: **April 25th, 2025**

**snacks & refreshments provided.**

**for ages 9 and up, while those under 9 need to be accompanied by an adult.**

**please contact Shay for sign up (250)-874-7441**



PARENTS AND TOTS

# SLIME MAKING

TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 10AM - 11:30 AM

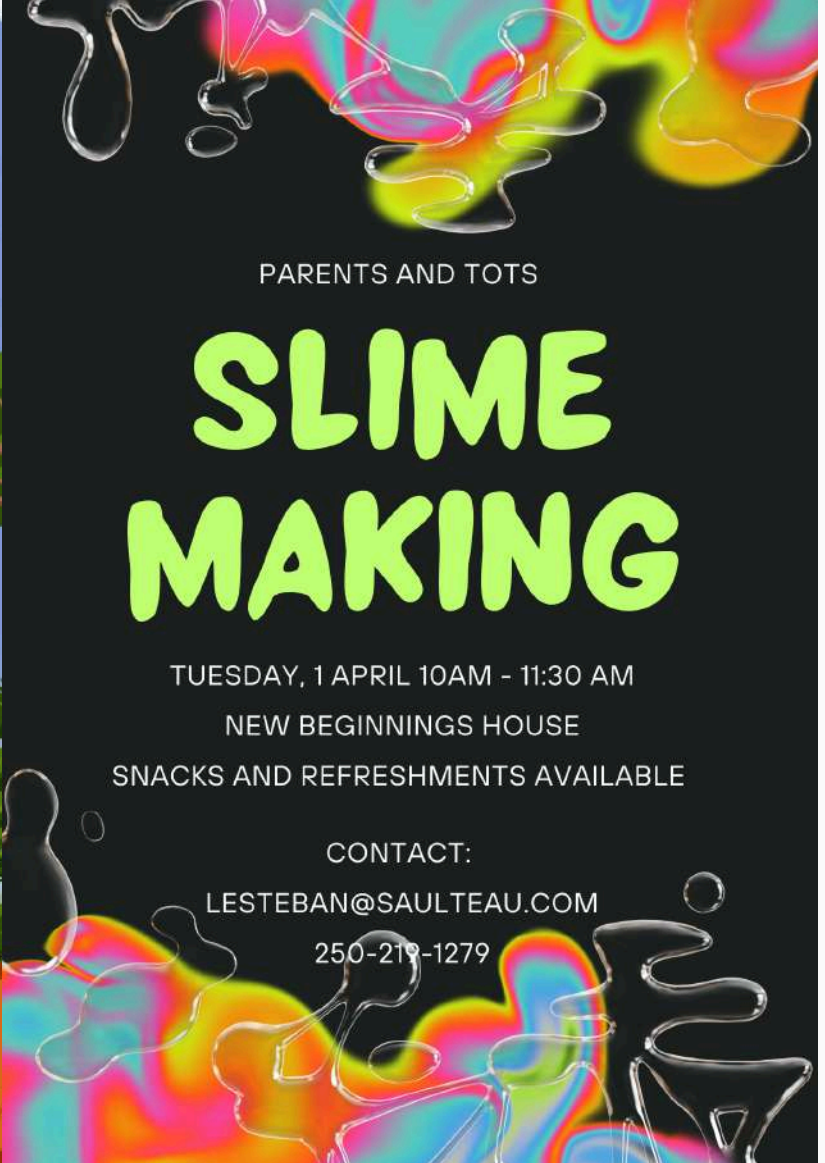
NEW BEGINNINGS HOUSE

SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

CONTACT:

LESTEBAN@SAULTEAU.COM

250-219-1279





# Mothers & Daughters Equine Therapy

with Peace Equine Connection

Discover the transformative power of horses with our Equine Assisted Learning program for Mothers! This program uses horses to foster personal growth, self-awareness, and emotional healing. Key benefits include developing self-confidence, enhancing communication skills, managing emotions, improving leadership and teamwork abilities, and promoting mindfulness through the calming presence of horses.

Join us to unlock the unique potential of equine assisted learning and experience profound personal growth.

*Mothers & Daughters  
Weekend*

*Limited Spaces*  
**May 9th- 11th**

**Includes 4 sessions with 4 foundational riding lessons**

- Friday - Session 1
- Saturday - Session 2 & Session 3
- Sunday - Session 4



*Register with Bonnie at*  
[peaceequineconnection@gmail.com](mailto:peaceequineconnection@gmail.com)



For individuals who are uncomfortable with riding, or are over the 250lb weight restriction, we offer many beneficial ground activities that provide the full benefits of the Equine Assisted Learning program

## Join Us CO-ED YOUTH GROUP

please join me in Monopoly game night

**Activities Include**  
CARD & BOARD GAMES,  
PUZZLES.

**04. APRIL. 2025**  
3:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
please contact shay for sign up (250)-874-7441  
SNACKS & REFRESHMENTS Group for ages 9 and above while those under 9 must be accompanied by an adult

**Saulteau**



# Equine Therapy

with Peace Equine Connection

Discover the transformative power of horses with our Equine Assisted Learning program! This program uses horses to foster personal growth, self-awareness, and emotional healing. Key benefits include developing self-confidence, enhancing communication skills, managing emotions, improving leadership and teamwork abilities, and promoting mindfulness through the calming presence of horses.

Join us to unlock the unique potential of equine assisted learning and experience profound personal growth.

## Monday Saturday

Youth  
Ages 8-18

Mondays 5-8pm

- February 24th
- March 3rd
- March 10th
- March 17th
- March 24th
- March 31st
- April 7th

Adult  
Ages 19+

Saturdays 5-8pm

- March 1st
- March 8th
- March 15th
- March 22nd
- March 29th
- April 5th
- April 12th

Ride assistance available  
on Mondays

Register with Bonnie at

[peaceequineconnection@gmail.com](mailto:peaceequineconnection@gmail.com)



For individuals who are uncomfortable with riding, or are over the 250lb weight restriction, we offer many beneficial ground activities that provide the full benefits of the Equine Assisted Learning program

# Family Equine Therapy

with Peace Equine Connection

Discover the transformative power of horses with our Equine Assisted Learning program for families! This program uses horses to foster personal growth, self-awareness, and emotional healing. Key benefits include developing self-confidence, enhancing communication skills, managing emotions, improving leadership and teamwork abilities, and promoting mindfulness through the calming presence of horses.

Join us to unlock the unique potential of equine assisted learning and experience profound personal growth.

## Family Weekend

Limited Spaces

May 2nd - 4th

Includes 4 sessions with 4 foundational riding lessons

- Friday - Session 1
- Saturday - Session 2 & Session 3
- Sunday - Session 4



For individuals who are uncomfortable with riding, or are over the 250lb weight restriction, we offer many beneficial ground activities that provide the full benefits of the Equine Assisted Learning program



Register with Bonnie at  
[peaceequineconnection@gmail.com](mailto:peaceequineconnection@gmail.com)



# REGIONAL HEALTH SURVEY (RHS) 4

## Saulteau Nation

**April 8th–10th, Cultural Centre Hours**  
**April 11th, Until 12pm**  
@ the Saulteau Cultural Centre

### What is the RHS4?

The RHS is a voluntary nation-wide survey for First Nations people **living in their home community**. It asks about wellness, access to health care, health conditions and behaviors, housing, traditional health, food security, water quality, etc. The survey is important to gather data that will help in policy development and decision-making to improve the well-being of First Nations people. Your voice is important, and we want to hear it!

**Visit [www.fnha.ca/health-surveys](http://www.fnha.ca/health-surveys) for more information about us!**

Receive a \$25  
gift card  
for  
participating  
in the Survey!

\*

### **Interested in participating, but couldn't see us in person?**



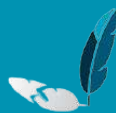
Email us at [RHS4@FNHA.ca](mailto:RHS4@FNHA.ca) and ask about participating. We'll email a link so you may fill out the survey yourself!



Call us at 1 (833) 633-3642 press #3 and then #3 to be connected to one of our knowledge gatherers!

All Nations members **residing in community** may participate in the survey





Proudly Determined

[www.saulteau.com](http://www.saulteau.com)

## Saulteau FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION

📅 April 3rd, 2025  
🕒 5:00 PM  
📍 Saulteau Cultural Centre  
Gymnasium

Saulteau First Nations Land Code



Dinner • Door Prizes

### Question and Answer Panel

Saulteau First Nations is hosting an expert panel on First Nation land governance. Our members are welcomed and encouraged to participate in an open discussion on the proposed **Saulteau First Nations Land Code**.



**Andrew Beynon**

Director, Land Code Governance, FNLMRC



**Austin Bear**

Chairman, FNLMRC  
LAB Director, Prairies



**Stewart Cameron**

Director, LARR  
Management Corps.



**Shona Nelson**

Band Manager, Doig  
River First Nation



**Brittany Brinkworth**

Councillor, Doig  
River First Nation

#### Itinerary:

World Café – 2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Elders Meet and Greet – 3:30 pm-4:30pm (Elders Lounge)  
with former Chief Austin Bear

Technical Meeting -3:30 pm-4:30 pm (Training Room)  
with Andrew Beynon

Panel and Q & A - 5:30 pm-8pm



### Lands Department Staff

**Lands Manager** – Mary Doyle  
([mdoyle@saulteau.com](mailto:mdoyle@saulteau.com))

**Lands Use Planner** – Jenine Campbell-Cove  
([jcampbell-cove@saulteau.com](mailto:jcampbell-cove@saulteau.com))

**Lands Officer** – Brooke Walker  
([bwalker@saulteau.com](mailto:bwalker@saulteau.com))

**Lands Executive Assistant** – Crystal Lalonde  
([clalonde@saulteau.com](mailto:clalonde@saulteau.com))

### How to Stay Informed About Lands

Follow us on facebook!

[www.facebook.com/groups/sfnlands/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sfnlands/)

Check out our webpage:

<https://www.saulteau.com/departments-and-services/lands/>

## ATTENTION MEMBERS

**LOOKING FOR MORE  
LANDS INFO?**

There is important  
Information in the  
Members-Only Portal of  
the SFN Website.  
[www.saulteau.com](http://www.saulteau.com)

If you accessed the old SFN  
website, then you can access the  
new one with your previous login  
name & password.

If you are new to accessing the  
website, click the “Register”  
button and fill in the  
information.

Need assistance?  
Email:  
[communications@saulteau.com](mailto:communications@saulteau.com)





### Land Code Webpage

We are happy to announce the completion of our SFN Lands webpage update and Land Code Portal. We invite you to review the materials at [www.saulteau.com/departments-and-services/lands](http://www.saulteau.com/departments-and-services/lands)



### Upcoming Meetings

- 1) Land Code Committee Meeting - April 30, 2025 - 5-7pm @ the C&C office or virtually online
- 2) We wish to extend an open invitation to the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Community engagement meeting being held both in person and virtually.



## By-laws Workshop: Lands Officer (Brooke Walker)

On March 3rd and 4th, I attended an Indigenous Services Canada and National Aboriginal Lands Management Association (NALMA) By-laws Workshop in Vancouver, BC. I was joined with about 17 other people from different nations. The By-law Development Toolkit that was created by NALMA is a hands-on guide for First Nations to have understandable and fair by-laws for the future well-being of the community. There are 16 chapters and a slideshow the instructor used to teach us with how nations can use this type of community system because a by-law is a permanent continuing rule.

What is a by-law? A by-law is a regulation that prescribes a rule of local government, which First Nations may develop under the *Indian Act*. There are limitations to the types of by-laws that can be made. There are certain requirements that must be followed to develop a by-law. By-laws can be developed, enforced, amended and repealed. I think this is a very good avenue with how we can manage and have collective structure on Saulteau lands. I've also learned about some of our fellow BC band's issues that they've faced and how to move forward. Creating contacts is an appreciable way for shared solutions.

Why is it important? There were traditional Indigenous governance and laws throughout history. Rules to live by were enforced through chieftainship, council, clans, feasts, stories/myths, songs, and dances. This includes laws, rules, decision-making, community participation, and conflict resolution. A big important piece of information that I've learned lately is that the only laws RCMP officers will without a doubt deal with, is the Criminal Code of Canada. Many other inquiries about law enforcement needed—such as dogs on reserve—are simply not strong enough for assistance. Well, let's face it, we are no longer a First Nations band with 300 registered members. We now have 1,433 members with approx. 450 living on-reserve and that number is growing. With TLE/TLA, we have more land and land inquires. Therefore, we at SFN must properly manage with the best intentions for our futures+ security.

This situation for First Nations ties into possibly having a Land Code. As you can see, the poster is attached for the Community Engagement Session is in the page 2 for more information. The Land Code Committee has been working on the idea which would help us immensely as a nation in all ways.

Basically, there are two options to have structure and security for SFN and our generations to come: Either by-laws or land code can help. They can tangibly use weightbearing regulations to form a system for the betterment of SFN and all that we have concerns about including past, present and the future.

Lastly, the government cabinet will be changed, and we will not know until Fall season of 2025. For that reason, we aren't certain on how the new cabinet might affect our options. However, these are great conversation starters for us members to have on how we can strengthen SFN to become the Best Governed Nation as set in our Mission Statement.

## Mission

In pursuit of our vision, Saulteau First Nations will be the Best Governed Nation.

**Brooke Walker**  
Lands Officer



# MEMBER SERVICES



## Reminder

### Social Assistance Clients

Its Declaration week!

April 7-10, 2025

for the month of May 2025

Payment Date: April 16, 2025

**\*Job search activity and other requests must be submitted with declarations for applicants required to do so\***

Please contact Tonia Richter @ (236) 364-2008 or email [trichter@saulteau.com](mailto:trichter@saulteau.com) for any questions or concerns.

### Member Services Staff

**Manager** – Tonia Richter  
(trichter@saulteau.com)

**Patient Travel Administrator**  
Barb Loberg  
(bloberg@saulteau.com)

**Band Social Development Worker** –  
VACANT

### Indigenous Registry & Membership Administrator

Norma Gauthier  
(ngauthier@saulteau.com)

NEED TO UPDATE  
YOUR  
INFORMATION?  
CONTACT NORMA  
NGAUTHIER@SAULT  
EAU.COM

## CONTROL OF DOGS



**Dogs have been roaming the community causing many problems. If you cannot keep your dogs contained in your yard, further measures will be taken. The safety of the children, people and other animals is important. Please, be respectful and responsible with your dogs!!**

### Saulteau 2025 Income & Disability Assistance Payment Schedule

Payment Date	for the month of	Declarations Due
January 15, 2025	February 2025	January 6-9, 2025
February 19, 2025	March 2025	February 10-13, 2025
March 19, 2025	April 2025	March 10-13, 2025
April 16, 2025	May 2025	April 7-10, 2025
May 21, 2025	June 2025	May 12-15, 2025
June 25, 2025	July 2025	June 16-19, 2025
July 23, 2025	August 2025	July 14-17, 2025
August 27, 2025	September 2025	August 18-21, 2025
September 24, 2025	October 2025	September 11-14, 2025
October 22, 2023	November 2025	October 13-16, 2025
November 19, 2025	December 2025	November 10-13, 2025
December 17, 2025	January 2025	December 8-11, 2025

The above dates are aligned with the BC Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction payment dates.  
If required, there will be advanced notice for any changes to the dates above through newsletter or SFN social media outlets.

**\*Job search activity and other requests must be submitted with declarations for applicants required to do so.**



# Free Wildfire Training



**Are You the ages 15-30**

Must have a min of 15 students to host

**Are You Physically Fit?**

**Eager to learn about wildfire safety and firefighting practices**

Introductory Wildlife Training Program-Combines hands-on experience with online learning to build foundational skills for wildlife preparedness and safety.

- **S-100: Basic Fire Suppression**

Gain essential skills for wildlife response and mitigation

Experience hands-on training with pumps, hoses, nozzles, and safety equipment

- **S-185: Fire Entrapment Avoidance**

Learning how to assess fire risks and ensure personal safety in wildfire situations

Explore strategies for deploying resources efficiently

- **ICS-100 Incident Command System**

Understand the structure and roles of an operational emergency centre

Online courses serve as a foundation for future emergency management training.

- **WHMIS: Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System**

### **When Will The Training Be?**

If there is enough interest, we can host this training in early May or June.

### **Do you know how this Training can benefit me?**

It can help build your resume if you're interested in forestry-related jobs. Other industries also view this as an asset!

This training might also help if you're interested in volunteering for the Moberly Lake Volunteer Fire Department, which is looking for you to help protect our communities.

### **Why Should I Become a Wildland Firefighter?**

- Builds Lifelong Connections
- Travel to Different Parts of the Province
- Protect Our Homes and Communities
- Learn Valuable Lessons and Skills
- Builds Your Resume
- Great Summer Employment for University Students
- The program format will be 3days of in-person training: Hands-on practice and live instruction.

## **How Do I Sign-Up?**

You can sign-up or find out more information by contacting one of the emails below

**[glapierre@saulteau.com](mailto:glapierre@saulteau.com) or [Smacmillan@saulteau.com](mailto:Smacmillan@saulteau.com)**





# SFN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - APRIL UPDATE

Hi All!

I hope you had a cozy winter season with your loved ones. The warm weather is returning to us – and that means a return of some of our seasonal hazards including wildfire, flood risks, and extreme heat or smoke dome events. As such, I will be providing some updates and preparedness information monthly throughout the summer and fall season to help the community get personally prepared for any emergencies that may come our way!

Early in the season – it's a great time to remember that emergency preparedness starts with you!

-Talk to your family and friends, what is the communication plan in the event of an emergency?

-Are you prepared to evacuate your home on short notice? Including pet and baby supplies?

-Do you talk to your kids about what might happen in the event of an emergency?

This month – we are focusing on wildfire mitigation through an agricultural burn! Check out poster for details!

## Resources:

**Aislinn Gentles**

**OHS & Emergency Program Manager**

**PH: 250-788-3955 EXT 2027**

**EM: [agentles@saulteau.com](mailto:agentles@saulteau.com)**

## BC WILDFIRE OUTLOOK

<https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/map>

## BC DROUGHT OUTLOOK

<https://droughtportal.gov.bc.ca/pages/drought-map>

## AIR QUALITY OUTLOOK

**Saulteau.com -> Departments -> TREP -> Air Quality Monitoring**

**[Map.purpleair.com/air-quality](http://Map.purpleair.com/air-quality)**

## TEMPERATURE

**Local Forecast is Always Best!**

**DO YOUR PART TO PREVENT WILDFIRES!**



## WHAT GOES IN AN EMERGENCY KIT?

In preparation for an emergency or evacuation, pre-packing the following items can save valuable time and help you and your family stay prepared!

- Granola bars, snacks, and dry foods
- Phone charger
- Small battery powered radio
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Small First Aid Kit
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, hair brush, and a bar of soap
- Extra contact lenses or glasses
- Copies of important documents - insurance, passport, ID
- Seasonal Clothing
- Whistle
- Spare cash





# AGRICULTURAL BURN

## WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Saulteau, supported by local BC Wildfire personnel, will be burning off the two fields within community as part of our wildfire mitigation and revitalization of cultural burning. It's going to be a hand ignited grass fire - slow moving.

## WHERE EXACTLY?



We are planning to burn two parcels - the community pasture / hayfield next to the old barn, and the field surrounding the new shop.

## WHEN IS THIS HAPPENING?

Burn is tentatively scheduled for mid-April 2025. We will be monitoring the wind patterns, weather conditions, and venting index to pick the exact date.

### ***WANT TO KNOW MORE?***

**March 25/2025: 10:00 – 3:00 PM, Band Hall**

**March 31/2025: 10:00 – 3:00PM, Cultural Centre**

**April 01/2025: 10:00 – 3:00 PM, Band Hall**

**PH: 250-788-3955 EXT 2072**



Do you know what to do during a ...



# HEAT WARNING?

Heat warnings are characterized by daytime highs over 30+, and overnight lows in the mid teens (15+).



Stay Hydrated In Cool / Shady Spots!



Check in on Elders & Vulnerable Family Members!



Monitor for Symptoms of Heat Related Illness!

# CAMPFIRE SAFETY TIPS

## CONSIDER YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Be mindful of branches overhead, burning near grassy areas, and wind conditions!

**PUT IT OUT COMPLETELY**  
Campfires are not 'out' until all parts of the fire are cold to the touch - including charcoal!



## USE A FIRE RING

Using rocks or pre-existing fire rings held to contain embers or accidental spreading!

## NEVER LEAVE A CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED

While its burning, campfires should always be watched.

**REPORT WILDFIRES - CALL \*5555**

# Tips to FireSmart Your Home

Taking action to FireSmart your property will dramatically decrease the risk of wildfire damaging your home. The best part is, it's surprisingly easy to do.



Clean under your stairs to remove any combustible material. Establish a 1.5 metre non-combustible zone around the perimeter of the house and deck.



Clean and maintain gutters and roofs. Keep decks and balconies clear of leaves and debris.



Keep grass and weeds cut below 10 centimetres and remove flammable vegetation.



Have a wildfire evacuation plan and make sure everyone in your household knows what to do.



Download the FireSmart home assessment and do a self-assessment of your home and property.



Hold sheds and other structures (such as watersheds) to the same standard as your home.



Add non-combustible 3 millimetre screens to external vents (except dryer vents).



Woodpiles and other combustible materials (eg. stored vehicles) more than 10-30 metres from home.



Prune trees to create a two-meter clearance from the ground to the lowest branches.



Any combustible fuel source (propane, oil, gas) should be stored on a non-combustible surface.



Learn more at [FireSmartBC.ca](http://FireSmartBC.ca)





## CARIBOU CAPTURE UPDATE



SFN and WMFN Guardians



**March 2025 Estimated Population: 180 Caribou!**

**Location: Linfitt Pen Klinse-Za Caribou Maternity Pen located in Clearwater Valley**

**Successful Capture of 24 Adult Cows**

**Sadly, one deceased due to a cervical spinal injury and capture-related myopathy**

**Questions: [jeastman@saulteau.com](mailto:jeastman@saulteau.com) or 250 788 7288**

### TREP Contacts

#### TREP Manager

Naomi Owens-Beek  
([nowens-beek@saulteau.com](mailto:nowens-beek@saulteau.com))

#### TREP Assistant Manager

Teena Demeulemeester  
([tdemeulemeester@saulteau.com](mailto:tdemeulemeester@saulteau.com))

#### Executive Assistant

Sandra Alexander  
([salexander@saulteau.com](mailto:salexander@saulteau.com))

#### Referral Technician - Oil & Gas

Fernie Garbitt  
([fgarbitt@saulteau.com](mailto:fgarbitt@saulteau.com))

#### Referral Technician - Mining & Natural Resources

Lisa Hardy  
([lhardy@saulteau.com](mailto:lhardy@saulteau.com))

#### Natural Resource Sector Aboriginal Liaison

Tom Aird  
([tom.aird@saulteau.com](mailto:tom.aird@saulteau.com))

#### Lands and Resources Planner

Ryan McKay  
([ryan.mckay@saulteau.com](mailto:ryan.mckay@saulteau.com))

#### Guardian Program Supervisor

Jessica Eastman  
([jeastman@saulteau.com](mailto:jeastman@saulteau.com))

## INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

### FERAL PIG

(*Sus scrofa*)

#### HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ANIMAL?

##### DESCRIPTION

- In B.C., any pig that is not in captivity or under a person's control is considered a feral pig. This includes:
  - Domestic pig breeds;
  - Eurasian wild boar; and
  - Hybrids
- They vary in colour; may be grey, brown, black, white, or a combination of these colours.
- They vary in weight (males 60-200 kg, females 35-150 kg).
- They may or may not have tusks.



Photo: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

**REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES**

Download the App!



[www.gov.bc.ca/invasive](http://www.gov.bc.ca/invasive)

We Are  
**HIRING!**

## CARIBOU GUARDIANS X2

CONTACT [JEASTMAN@SAULTEAU.COM](mailto:JEASTMAN@SAULTEAU.COM) FOR MORE  
INFO OR APPLY NOW AT  
[SAULTEAU.COM/EMPLOYMENT](http://SAULTEAU.COM/EMPLOYMENT)



## TREP's Plans for Indigenous-led Sustainable Management advances to next phase

In 2023, Treaty Rights and Environmental Protection received funding from Canada to look at how an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) could work in our territory. The program was called Indigenous-led Area-based Conservation (ILABC).

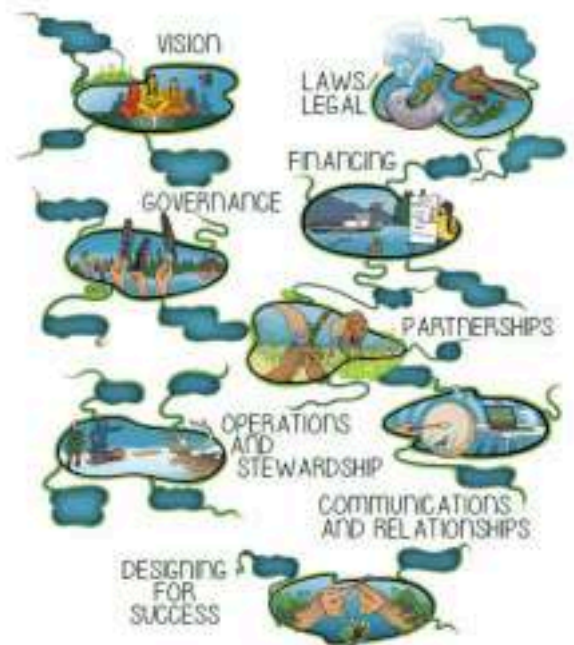
It sounds like alphabet soup with those acronyms! For TREP, it's about laying out how we can create **Indigenous-led Interconnected Sustainable Management and Stewardship Areas** that balance and protect our way of life, ecosystems, and our quality of life supported by the abundance of resources in our territory.

We have created an ILABC Advisory Group made up of an elder, youth, knowledge holders and land users. The Group began meeting in 2024 and have received training from the lisaak Olam Foundation on Indigenous-led conservation planning. (If you are still interested in being part of the Advisory Group, we are hoping for participation from a few more of our family groups!).

We introduced this project at our TREP open house in June 2024. We heard from community members about the importance of all our territory. And we are looking at our lands from a watershed perspective, including the Area of Critical Community Interest (ACCI) that includes the Moberly Lake watershed, and further afield. Over time, we plan to see **Indigenous-led Interconnected Sustainable Management and Stewardship Areas** with clear zones for protected or conserved zones (like the Twin Sisters Park), transition zones, and zones for sustainable resource development and other economic activities.

The United Nations created a model called Biospheres that was the inspiration for this type of zoned planning for Saulteau's **Indigenous-led Interconnected Sustainable Management and Stewardship Areas**.

lisaak Olam has also helped TREP and the Advisory Group draft a Vision and Implementation Plan for the **Indigenous-led Interconnected Sustainable Management and Stewardship Areas**, and we look forward to sharing that plan with the community and getting your input at our May 15<sup>th</sup> TREP open house.





# Kihcinahowin kîspin piscipowin astîk kimîcowinân

Tracking contaminants in traditional foods

Previous studies in the region suggest higher exposure to metals compared to the general population. Sources of these metals may include traditional foods which can be contaminated by surrounding industrial activity. With community members, we will collect traditional food samples to measure several metals in these samples. We will also use techniques to identify the possible sources of metals in traditional foods.



This project was designed to monitor contaminants in traditional foods, while contributing to building local research capacity.

**Info session: May 15, 2025, 2-5 PM  
at the Saulteau First Nations  
Cultural and Recreation Centre  
during TREP Open House**

A traditional food sampling training program for interested community members will be available. Community members collecting samples will be financially compensated.

Results will be presented during public meetings. Community members will be invited to participate in the creation of communications around the consumption of traditional foods and establish future research priorities.



Questions or comments? Feel free to contact:

Elyse Caron-Beaudoin, Researcher  
([elyse.caronbeaudoin@utoronto.ca](mailto:elyse.caronbeaudoin@utoronto.ca))

Julian Napoleon, Researcher  
([jsnapoleon@protonmail.com](mailto:jsnapoleon@protonmail.com)/250-788-5430)

Partners



# Have you ever been impacted by wildfires, or wildfire smoke? We would like to learn about your personal experiences

Exposure to wildfire smoke is associated with increased hospitalization and breathing, heart and mental health issues.

Knowing more about how people living in Northeastern British Columbia experience wildfires will help co-develop future research objectives about the effects of increase wildfires frequency and intensity in this region.



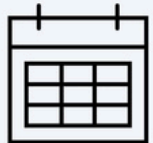
This project aims to better understand peoples' experiences of wildfires. To achieve this, we are organizing focus groups during which we will ask questions about your experiences of wildfires. Food and beverages will be served. This focus group will be audio-recorded and a note-taker will be present. However, your responses will remain confidential, and no names will be included in the final report. Participants will receive a \$150 compensation.

## Focus group meeting

**When:** May 28<sup>th</sup> 2025, 2-5PM

**Where:** to be announced soon!

Limited space so please register at TREP with Sandra Alexander in person, by phone (250-788-7290) or by email ([salexander@saulteau.com](mailto:salexander@saulteau.com))



Questions or comments?  
Feel free to contact:

Elyse Caron-Beaudoin, Researcher  
([elyse.caronbeaudoin@utoronto.ca](mailto:elyse.caronbeaudoin@utoronto.ca))

Partners





# Nikanêse Wah tzee

## Ensuring Caribou Futures

March 2025 update

It's been a busy and exciting time as we've just completed caribou captures for the 2025 Klinse-Za maternity pen! We'll share a full update on that soon. In the meantime, this newsletter brings you key insights from our 2024 Land Restoration efforts and dives into our recent Calf Survival Analysis. Read on to learn how these initiatives are shaping the future of caribou recovery.



## Land Restoration Update

### 2024 Summary

#### A Season of Surprises

The 2024 field season started off a little slow but soon brought an unexpected twist. On June 20, 2024, the expansion of [Klinse-Za/Twin Sisters Provincial Park](#) was officially announced—much earlier than any of us had expected. While the expansion had been in motion for over 4 years (West Moberly First Nations, Sauleau First Nations, and the provincial and federal governments agreed to the Intergovernmental Partnership Agreement for the Conservation of the Central Group of the Southern Mountain Caribou in 2020), the timing of the formal designation came as a surprise.

In fewer than 10 days, oversight of much of the Klinse-Za caribou herd area transitioned from the Ministry of Forests to BC Parks. This shift required quick adaptation, as planned treatment areas under the Ministry proceeded as expected, while others now under BC Parks' jurisdiction required fast coordination to stay on track. Despite the surprise, BC Parks staff—true to their long-standing commitment—proved exceptionally supportive and agile in facilitating our restoration plans, which were set to begin in the coming months.

#### Making Progress on the Ground

With this unexpected speed bump behind us, we moved forward, completing functional restoration work on over 15 kilometres of roads. This included tree felling over 2 kilometres and a mix of recontouring, mounding, and scattering treatments across 13 kilometres.

Where appropriate machinery could access and site conditions allowed, road recontouring was especially fitting given the area's new park status. This technique seeks to mimic natural slopes, covering them with topsoil and woody debris to blend seamlessly



with the surrounding landscape. While ideal recontouring isn't always possible depending on how and when a road was built, the results in some areas were remarkable and we're very excited with some of the results. Once planted and given time, we believe even a keen observer would struggle to see where roads once existed. This was some of our most natural looking restoration to date.

This season's work has set the stage for a new era of restoration in Klinse-Za/Twin Sisters Provincial Park. As we continue forward, we remain committed to ensuring the caribou habitat recovers and thrives in its newly protected status.

#### Our Restoration Techniques

Three main techniques we employed in 2024:

1. Road recontouring with top soil and coarse woody debris spreading (partial and full)
2. Mounding of the road running width and scatter of woody debris
3. Tree falling



# Science Program Update

## Calf Survival Analysis

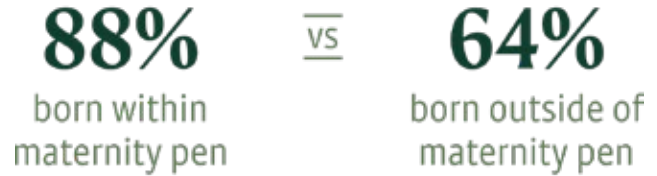
Calves are a key part of increasing caribou populations. The Klinse-Za maternity pen is designed to increase calf survival, and it's the job of the science program to measure by how much the pen is increasing calf survival, and put these amounts into context.

Each year between 2014 and 2023, calves were collared inside the pen, while between 2019 and 2023, calves outside the pen were also collared. Early results from this data reveal important insights into the effectiveness of the pens. Calves released from the pen exhibit high survival rates from birth (May to June) until they are considered "recruited" into the population at 10 months old (March).

On average, penned calves have an approximately 88% chance of survival during this period, compared to calves born outside the pen, which have an approximately 64% chance of survival. In terms of mortality reduction, the benefits of the pen for caribou calves are comparable in magnitude to the safety benefits provided by seat belts for motorists in a crash.



## Calf Survival Rates



Most of the mortality documented for calves outside the pen occurred during the first 6 weeks of life. Therefore, the 6-8 week penning period appears to prevent this period of high mortality that these calves would otherwise face without the pen. The primary causes of death for calves outside the pen were bears (5 cases), wolverines (3 cases), and avalanche (2 cases). We are currently analyzing these results along with information on adult female pregnancy rates. We will prepare reports and peer-reviewed manuscripts over the coming year.

## Thank you to our sponsors



## Nikanêse Wah tzee

### Ensuring Caribou Futures

The Nīkanêse Wah Tzee Stewardship Society takes a hands-on approach to revitalizing the Klinse-Za caribou population through maternity penning, land restoration, and scientific research. This Indigenous-led partnership between West Moberly First Nations and Saulteau First Nations unites community members, caribou guardians, and scientists. Guided by both traditional and Western knowledge, our efforts are scientifically sound and community-driven.



[cariboufutures.ca](http://cariboufutures.ca)

10233 100TH Avenue, Fort St. John, BC V1J 1Y8 Canada