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CELEBRATING U OF A ALUMNI; *PATRICIA GOODWILL-LITTLECHILD*

University of Alberta alumni are making their mark across the globe – using their education, experience, and passion to create a brighter, more inclusive, and innovative future. From advancing research and leading in their industries, to giving back through volunteerism and community engagement, U of A grads are living examples of what it means to lead with purpose.

Each year, the University of Alberta Alumni Awards recognize the outstanding accomplishments of these exceptional individuals. Through their professional success, social impact, and inventive thinking, these alumni are not only improving lives but also inspiring others to strive for meaningful change in their own communities.

The Alumni Awards are more than a celebration – they are a reflection of the university's values in action. By sharing the powerful stories behind these honorees, the awards remind us of the lasting impact of a U of A education and the difference one person can make.

This year, Elder Patricia Goodwill-Littlechild is a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the Alumni Association's highest honour. The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have achieved exceptional accomplishments over a lifetime, earning national or international acclaim, or making a profound and lasting impact within their communities.



Patricia I. Goodwill-Littlechild, '95 BED

Patricia Goodwill-Littlechild is an educator, Elder and cultural protector whose impact on Indigenous education and language revitalization is felt in her home community of Maskwacis, Alta., and around the world. Over her 30-year career as a teacher, principal and administrator, Goodwill-Littlechild advanced education to build a healthy, vibrant community. As president of Maskwacis Cultural College from 2007-17, she brought in culturally grounded policies and expanded degree opportunities for students. Her efforts led to the community's historic 2016 adoption of Nêhiyawêwin (Plains Cree) as the official language of Maskwacis, a landmark step that helped catalyze the United Nations' 2019 Year of Indigenous Languages. She has been a member of numerous boards and committees and an adviser to all levels of government, always working to champion Indigenous self-governance, culturally responsive education and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. A member of the Ermineskin Cree Nation and enrolled member of the Lakota Nation in South Dakota, Goodwill-Littlechild was honoured in 2024 with two lifetime achievement awards – from the Esquao Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women and the Ermineskin Education Trust Fund – that recognized her enduring impact as an educator, wisdom keeper and “angel among us.” She also holds a MA from Gonzaga University. Now retired, she continues to mentor students, study Indigenous languages and contribute to reconciliation efforts.

Mating Moon

September

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onôcihitowi pîsim

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VINO, CAFÉ & HISTÓRIA

CLOSURE ANNOUCEMENT

We extend our sincere gratitude for your continued support and patronage over the years. It has been our privilege to serve you and to be a part of this community.

While this marks the conclusion of one chapter, we look forward to the opportunities ahead and to sharing our next venture with you in the near future.

Thank you for being part of our journey.



Attention

NEXT ISSUE

September 17th, 2025

Submission Deadline:

September 15th, 2025

kayla@ermine-skin.ca



E.C.N STAFF GOLF RESULTS & SPONSORS

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS!

Baker's Funeral Home, Wetaskiwin, Boston Pizza, Bumper to Bumper, Central Refrigeration & Heating, Deboers, Montgomery Glen Golf Course, Ermineskin Brighter Futures, Brentridge Ford, Ralcomm, Kanawemahwasowin Kamik, Loons Golf Course, Lucky Dollar, Safeway, Universal Travel, Shanti Wellness, TAO Kitchen, Wolfe Creek Golf Course, and E.C.N Personnel Department.

WINNERS

1st Place Team: Jamison Laroque, Warren Redcrow, Teresa White, Faye Wolfe

2nd Place Team: Lee Littlechild, Jessica Mackinaw, Ellis Rattlesnake, Featherdancer Roan

3rd Place Team: Dreyton Ermineskin, James Wolfe, Nathaniel Mykat, Joelle Mykat

4th Place Team: (Under 8) Zach Erminekin, Morgan Whitebear, Warren Samson, Quaid Wolfe

1st
Place



2nd
Place



3rd
Place



4th
Place



Treaty 1-11 Gathering — August 18-22, 2025 Hosted by Tsuut'ina Nation (Tsuu T'ina)



A Gathering of Unity: "We Are of One Mind"

From August 18 to 22, 2025, hundreds of Elders, knowledge keepers, leaders, youth, and community members representing Treaties 1 through 11 convened on Tsuut'ina Nation. The multi-day gathering brought together voices from across Canada in a powerful testament to treaty solidarity and renewal.

Centered on the theme "We Are of One Mind", the Summit sought to breathe new life into the spirit and intent of the treaties, bridging past, present, and future in shared purpose and mutual recognition.

What Took Place: Ceremony, Dialogue, Celebration

Daily Pipe Ceremonies & Grand Entry

Each morning began with traditional pipe ceremonies at 7 AM, grounding the gathering in ancestral ways. Grand entries underscored unity and respect among participating Nations.

Five Pillars for the Future

The agenda structured discussions around five foundational pillars of treaty life:

- **Treaty with Creator:** Operationalizing treaties in line with true spirit and intent.
- **History of Treaties 1-11:** Acting on collective memory and treaty teachings.
- **Nationhood:** Rebuilding sovereign governance and identity.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** Delivering treaty benefits and economic stewardship.



- **Citizenship & Jurisdiction:** Strengthening legal and civic frameworks.

Participants joined Elder-led dialogue sessions, youth lunches, and leadership forums to contribute their perspectives and wisdom.



Closing Ceremony & Cultural Highlights

On August 22, the gathering closed with a powerful ceremony featuring the **Transfer of Treaties 1–11 Bundle**, symbolic flag retirements, a communal dinner, and entertainment—highlighted by a Round Dance that invited all to join in celebration.

Voices from the Gathering

Representatives stressed the living essence of the treaties. Margo Auger of the Big Stone Cree Nation (Treaty 8) captured the sentiment beautifully:

“Treaties are not a part of history, but rather a part of the present and future – a way of living together.”

A Shared Legacy, A Renewed Path

Gatherings like this reaffirm that treaties are not static relics—they are living relationships calling for continued respect, dialogue, and action. With the collaborative spirit of the five pillars and renewed leadership engagement, the Treaty 1–11 Gathering charted a course forward rooted in Indigenous sovereignty, accountability, and kinship.

Youth as Future Leaders

Perhaps most impactful was the consistent recognition from Chiefs and leaders across the Treaties that youth are not just “leaders of tomorrow,” but active contributors today. Their input on the **Five Pillars of Treaty Life**—especially on Nationhood and Citizenship—was woven into the collective outcomes of the gathering.

As one young delegate from Treaty 7 expressed: “Our voices matter because we are living the future of these treaties. If we don’t step up now, the promises and teachings could be lost. But if we walk together, we carry them forward.”

Plans Going Forward

Building on the theme *“We Are of One Mind,”* the Treaty 1–11 Gathering closed with a shared commitment to concrete next steps. Among the priorities identified:

- **Youth Leadership Development** – create mentorship and training opportunities to prepare youth to take on roles in governance, cultural preservation, and nation-building.
- **Treaty Education** – expand initiatives in schools and communities to teach the true history and living meaning of Treaties 1–11.
- **Language and Culture Revitalization** – support immersion programs, land-based learning, and intergenerational knowledge transfer.
- **Nation-to-Nation Dialogue** – strengthen cooperation among the Treaty Nations through annual gatherings, working groups, and joint advocacy.
- **Economic Sustainability** – explore collective approaches to fiscal responsibility and economic development rooted in treaty rights.
- **Governance and Sovereignty** – advance discussions on self-determination, jurisdiction, and citizenship frameworks.
- **Quarterly Accountability** – reconvene annually to review progress on the Five Pillars and report back to communities.

Article/ Photos by: Tara Cutarm

Maskwacîs Youth Shine at the National Classic

The National Classic is more than just a baseball tournament — it's a celebration of sport, community, and culture, with a special focus on engaging Indigenous youth. Hosted at Sesquicentennial Park in Brampton, the multi-day event brings together teams from across the country for an unforgettable experience of play, learning, and connection. With the excitement of travel, hotel stays, and intense competition, organizers place a strong emphasis on safety, inclusion, and respect for all involved — including athletes, coaches, chaperones, and staff.

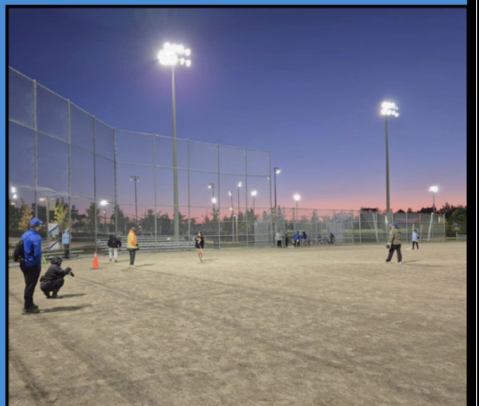
It was an honor for Maskwacîs to be a part of this tournament. In fact, our team was the only team from Alberta to participate in the event. Jays Care Foundation welcomed our 11 youth from Maskwacîs upon their arrival at the airport for this amazing opportunity to

play against other teams across Canada! They played hard over the three days of the tournament, and our Treaty 6 Maskwacîs team took 3rd in the Jr Indigenous Nationals!

"The best experience ever for all our youth who attended. Such a well-organized tournament. Jay's Care Foundation certainly made our kids feel very welcome. Thank you, Ermineskin Cree Nation, for your support. Thank you, Tirzah Swampy, for organizing all this for the kids," says Crystal Cutarm

Congratulations to all of our awasisak for placing! You have made your friends, family and nation very proud of your excellent display of determination, sportsmanship and love for sports!

Photo's Provided from: Maskwacîs Indigenous Rookie League & Crystal Cutarm



JOB OPPORTUNITIES/COMMUNITY EVENTS



Ermineskin Cree Nation

WE ARE HIRING!

September 2, 2025

OPEN POSITIONS:

- ✓ **Crisis Intervention Worker (CIW) with the Ermineskin Women's Shelter**
CLOSING: September 2, 2025 *Contract Term*
- ✓ **Equipment Maintenance the Ermineskin Neyaskweyahk Arena Department**
CLOSING: September 16, 2025
- ✓ **Groundskeeper with the Ermineskin Women's Shelter**
CLOSING: September 2, 2025 *Contract Term*
- ✓ **Board Member the Ermineskin Rural Electrification Association (REA) Board**
CLOSING: September 16, 2025

APPLY NOW

Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:
faith@erminekin.ca

EMPLOYER CONNECTION WITH ELEMENTS



FIRE TACK INC.

WHEN?

• September 4, 2025

PLACE AND TIME

• Maskwacis Employment Center Office
• 10:00 AM (Thursday, Sept. 4)

RECRUITING FOR...

FIRE TACK MEMBER TRAINING

• September 8-12, 2025

REQUIREMENTS

• Valid Class 5 Drivers license
• Valid First Aid

SEND RESUMES TO...

elementsfiretack@gmail.com
Or Call 780-312-6124 more info



KCWS Capital Projects Hiring Fair

September 10, 2025. 10 am - 2 pm

Maskwacis Mall

Positions Hiring:

General Contractors, Equipment Operators, Carpenters, Carpenter Apprentices, General Labourers
AND MANY MORE!



Kanawamehwasowin Kamik Inc. Presents:

Regalia Making

As the Powwow Season is Coming to a halt We strongly encourage Individuals to sign up for our Regalia Making. You will not only learn how to make Regalia but will also be getting an insight on the basics of Applique.

We Welcome Ermineskin Cree Nation Members who are 18+ to join us in our Regalia Making Workshop



September 9 th , 2025 Tuesday	-To-	September 11 th , 2025 Thursday
Light Refreshments and Lunch Provided	Limited Spots	Incentives Given Upon Program Completion
9am-3pm Daily		
Located at: KKI Prevention Building		
For More Information or to Sign-Up: (780)-585-3721 andrea.m@kkamik.com		

ATTENTION!

Ermieskin Emergency Services is working with Indigenous Service Canada for those who were impacted or experienced loss by WILDFIRE in April 2025.

There is funding available for those who have experienced loss. Examples would be as follows:

1. Total loss house fire. These applications do not just apply to the head of the household, but also sub family units.
2. Smoke damaged property, should a household have been impacted by smoke damage if any of their soft furnishings (couch, clothing, mattress, linens, curtains etc) been damaged due to extensive smoke damage, these items can be claimed as well.
3. Due to power outage and being away from the home during evacuation, if any community members realized a loss of food, fridge, freezer etc. they can claim for the appliances and the loss of food (loss of food is an allowance).

You can reach out to Ermieskin Fire Department if you would like to fill out an application:

**Ermieskin Cree Nation
Fire Chief/Disaster Services:
(780)312-3145**



EQUINE THERAPY

Facilitation by
Pat Buffalo
Sept 22-23,
2025

Register at
780.585.2268

Pat Buffalo's residence
on 5 mile
10 am - 3 pm
Lunch will be
provided.

Transportation can be
provided upon request



MCSS PRESENTS TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY Sept. 26, 2025

10:45 am: Registration & T-Shirts
located at Erm Elders Centre
11:00: Opening Prayer & Walk
11:45: Meet at MHS Courtyard
Noon: Prayer, Introductions, & Moment
of Silence
12:15 Lunch
12:30 Guest Speakers
1:30 Closing Remarks

Through collaboration with the MHS Public Health Department, please join us to commemorate the history and legacy of the Residential School Systems. Come and listen to Marven Littlechild and Kathleen Cutarm's words of resilience and prosperity.

Any Questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 780.585.2268

FACEBOOK: MASKWACIS COUNSELING & SUPPORT SERVICES



KKI Prevention Programs Presents:

Mental Health First Aid

with Maskwacis Ambulance Authority



KKI Prevention Building
September 9th & 10th, 2025
9:00am-3:00pm
Max. 10 Participants

Open to ECN Band Members
and Residents Only

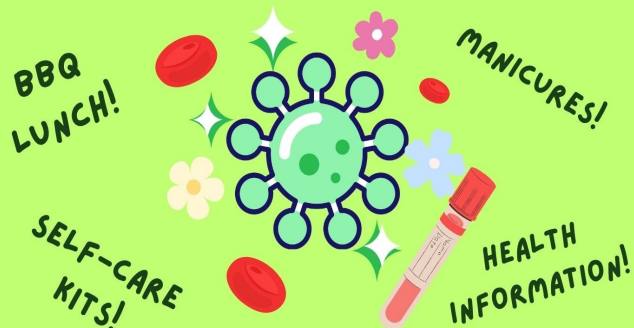
Light Refreshments
& Lunch will be Provided

Certificate Upon Completion



To Register Contact: melina.a@kkamik.com

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH FAIR



Who: individuals 15+

When: Wednesday, September 10th, 2025

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: MHS outdoor gathering area (pictured below)



Kanawamehwasowin Kamik Inc. Presents:

Ceremony Teachings

Are you getting back into ceremony and don't know where to start? Come join us in our Ceremony Teachings Workshop; where you will learn protocols for different ceremonies and the basics of the ceremony circle.

September 18th, 2025
9 am-3 pm

Located at KKI Preventions Building

Must Be
18+

Light Refreshments and
Lunch Provided

Incentives Given
Upon Program
Completion

For More Information or to Sign-Up:
(780)-585-3721 | andrea.m@kkamik.com



MASKWACIS HEALTH
SERVICES

Maskwacis Counselling & Support Sercives Closed on September 30

BUSINESS RESUMES
ON OCTOBER 1.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY
NATIONAL DAY FOR
TRUTH &
RECONCILIATION

T-shirts will be handed out
at our event on September
26, 2025, from 10 am until
all shirts are given out.



Kanawamehwasowin Kamik Inc. Presents:

MENS GROUP

We Are Calling Out To All Male Ermineskin Cree Nation
Members and Residents, to come join us in our Men's Group

Light
Refreshments
and Lunch
Provided

Dates:

September 8th & 22nd
Mondays 10am-3pm

Located at:
KKI
Prevention
Building

Our Men's Group is aimed to provide to the needs of
Men in our Community, below are some of the things
our Men's Group will discuss.

- Self Directed
- Community
- Openness
- Sharing Experiences
- Male Roles

Limited
Spots
18+

For More Information or to Sign-Up:
(780)-585-3721 | andrea.m@kkamik.com

Ermineskin Community Wellness Presents:

Understanding Yourself & Trauma

September 16-18, 2025
9:30AM - 4:00PM

Wayside Inn, Wetaskiwin
Limited spots available

Subject to change



Register with Ermineskin Community Wellness at (780)585-3741



MMHA CONDITIONING

HOCKEY CAMP

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11

ERMINESKIN NEYASKWEYAHK ARENA TIME TBD

ONLY \$25 PER SKATE

3-DAYS CAMP FOR U9, U11 FEMALE U13, U15, U18

TRAINED BY: PRESENT AND FORMER ELITE HOCKEY PLAYERS

Improve your technical skill & be the best hockey player you are dreaming of

Space is limited. Register your place today:
PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER: 780-585-3771
MON-FRI 9-4PM.

POWER SKATING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025
ERMINESKIN ARENA

** No Cost **

Maskwacis Minor Hockey
contact:
780-585-3771

U11, U13
Female
U15, U18

