



# Office of Chief and Council Government of Siksika Nation

November 26, 2020

## **Siksika Nation Chief and Council November 2020 Update:**

### **General Business**

- October 28: Siksika Nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Strathmore and the RCMP Strathmore detachment signifying another huge step in building community relations and addressing the issues of racism and discrimination between the communities and parties involved. Siksika Nation Chief and Council Representatives included Councillor Ruben Breaker, Councillor Wade Healy and Councillor Carlin Black Rabbit. Elder and former Councillor Francis Wolfleg was also invited to deliver the opening prayer for this historic occasion.
- November 3: Announcement made by Siksika Nation Tribal Administration Tribal Manager Richard Sparvier of office closure due to the change of the risk level of COVID-19 spread on Siksika Nation which is at a RED – HIGH RISK level. This change in local risk level was advised by Siksika Health Services' Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Team. The following essential services will remain in operation: Public Works, Housing, Justice (Security), Treasury, the Post Office, Men's Lodge, and Emergency Management. These service areas will continue to provide services at a reduced capacity. The office closure will be re-evaluated on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with guidance from Siksika Health and the CDC team.
- November 6: Siksika Nation Chief and Council representatives Chief Ouray Crowfoot and Councillor Samuel Crowfoot attend the Government of Alberta announcement of a new grant that will provide funding for six First Nations in Alberta to help develop proposals for chartered surgical facilities that could offer publicly funded surgeries to people on and off reserve. Leadership from the Government of Alberta, Enoch Cree Nation, Maskwacis Bands, Tsuut'ina Nation, Bigstone Cree Nation, and the Blood Tribe were also in attendance.
- November 11: On Remembrance Day, we pause to remember the sacrifices made by Siksika Nation men and women who served in both the Canadian and American armed forces. Remembrance Day is a time to honour and thank all members for their service in protecting our country in times of war, conflict and peace. Siksika Nation along with many other First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples of North America have a long and proud history of military service in both Canada and the U.S.A. Today we honour, acknowledge and salute you.



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- November 19: Siksika Nation Chief and Council representative Councillor Samuel Crowfoot attended the Government of Alberta announcement that would ban police from carding members of the public and establish clear rules for common interactions between police and the public to ensure that the rights of Albertans are protected. Solicitor General and Justice Minister Kaycee Madu made the announcement alongside chiefs of some of the province's largest police agencies. Effective immediately, these changes to provincial policing standards ban police in Alberta from randomly and arbitrarily stopping members of the public and asking for personal information – a practice known as carding. To view the announcement and Councillor Samuel Crowfoot's interview check out <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=75726D3E6811E-FBBE-C26A-17E66BA799ACFB48>
- November 23: Siksika Nation Chief and Council announces Student Bursary recipients. Congratulations to the following students: Cassidy Water Chief, Rebekah Nicolas, Tyrone Sitting Eagle, Cecelia Raweater, Tessa Wolfleg, Tyler Red Gun, Saydee Duck Chief, Treena Pretty Youngman, Ravin Stimson, Byron Pooreagle, Crystal Running Rabbit, and Dana Dumont.

## Communications

- A new SiksikaNation.com is scheduled to launch in the new year. For more information on all Siksika Nation Chief and Council and Siksika Nation Tribal Administration news please follow Siksika Nation Administration on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube for regular updates.

## Public Safety

- Members of Siksika Nation Chief and Council were in attendance to support four Siksika Nation members who started the Peace Officer Training program with the Lethbridge City Police. The Peace Officer program is a 12-week in-depth course that will wrap up December 12, 2020. Siksika Nation members enrolled in the program are Dustin Melting Tallow, Chance Breaker-Calf Robe, Tyler Spring Chief and Melanie Black.

## Old Sun Community College Board of Directors Update

**Appointed: Councillor Susan Solway, Councillor Armond Duck Chief**

The Board of Governors held their monthly meeting on October 28th, 2020, with half of the group participating in-person at the Margaret Waterchief Lodge, and the other half participating virtually. This type of hybrid meeting is to ensure safety measures are followed at best, while at the same time, continuing business as usual. As per the Old



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Sun Community College Operations Plan 2020-2025 the Board of Governors have been reviewing the Old Sun Community College By-law No.1 to better reflect the current environment of the Corporation. Additionally, the Board has continued to take a proactive approach in maintaining their commitment to the structure of a new post-secondary facility by beginning the process of establishing a draft Terms of Reference for a Campus Building Committee, that of which will be a part of the Capital Projects initiative proposed by Chief and Council in the near future.

During this meeting as well, the Board also accepted the development of a taskforce that will target the support of the Treaty Right to Post-Secondary Education. This taskforce is comprised of Chairperson Susan Solway, Co-Chair Robert Breaker, Councillor Armond Duck Chief, Board of Governors Dr. Andrew Bear Robe and Cherie Spotted Eagle, and OSCC President Dr. Maurice Many Fingers. The next board meeting is scheduled for November 25th, 2020.