



# Office of Chief and Council Government of Siksika Nation

## **Siksika Nation Chief and Council Update: April 2021**

### **Public Safety Task Force**

#### **Chair Carlin Black Rabbit**

- Chief and Council passed a motion approving a Letter of Understanding between Siksika Nation and The Town of Strathmore, agreeing that a process should be in place to “ensure safe transportation of Siksika Nation persons being released from RCMP during inclement weather or in a situation where the released persons safety is of concern”. Both the Nation and the Town of Strathmore will contribute financially for a local taxi service for transportation.
- Chief and Council continue to promote safety in our community. The task force has launched a safety campaign in our community to address addiction and substance abuse in the hopes to reduce the number of overdoses by Nation members. Signage will be placed throughout the Nation with information to report suspected drug trafficking:
  - *Local Detachment 403-734-3056*
  - *Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or Online at: [www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com)*Those who require assistance with addiction can call: Siksika Community Wellness at 403 734 5687. This is an ongoing community effort; we need to stay vigilant and ensure our children and elders are protected.
- In addition to ensuring public safety in our community, please respect the new speed limit change on the 901 highway. The speed limit has been reduced from 100km-80km. Signage has been put up by Napi Outdoors to help promote the new speed limit. Special thanks to our Communications Specialist Lynn Calf Robe for designing both signs, and Dexter Red Gun for donating to help make these signs possible.
- **Report suspicious vehicles in Siksika**. Siksika Nation Chief and Council “want to empower the people to help keep our communities safe and require everyone to do their part by reporting suspicious activity to the RCMP immediately. Please note that all reports can be made anonymously. RCMP info listed above. You can also contact: Siksika Security 403-734-3815

### **Community Relations Task Force**

#### **Chair Carlin Black Rabbit**

- The Community Relations Task Force, in partnership with the Golden Hills School Division’s First Nation liaisons, held a virtual student Chief and Council inauguration on April 21. Thirty-eight students from the 3 schools were sworn in by members of Chief and Council. Thank you to Joni Breaker and Christina Hoover for helping to organize the event along with the liaisons/staff from Wheatland Crossing, Westmount Elementary School, Strathmore High School and Crowther Memorial Jr. High School.
- Councillor Crowfoot, Councillor Healy, Councillor S Solway and Councillor Black Rabbit spoke virtually to Westmount Elementary and Chief Old Sun Grade 6 students about



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local government and the roles of Chief and Council. Special thanks to Megan Big Snake and Francine Charlie for arranging this opportunity.

- Members of the Community Relations Task Force took part in a SAGE Clan patrol in Lethbridge on April 11, 2021 (All COVID-19 safety protocols were followed). The SAGE is a “grassroots organization that specializes in engage those who need it the most in our community.” Founded by Blood Tribe Nation member Mark Brave Rock, SAGE Clan is based upon the successful community patrol, the Bear Clan, based out of Winnipeg.
- The Community Task Force is working closely with volunteers in our community to establish a Community Fridge to help address food insecurity within the Nation. A committee has been developed and is led by Nevan Bear Chief and task force Chair, Councillor Carlin Black Rabbit. The team is establishing a committee, identifying what is needed to start a fridge, and location. There are many community fridges being developed all over North America, a special thank you to the Calgary Community Fridge for providing resources. If you would like to volunteer/support the initiative, please email [siksikacommunityfridge@gmail.com](mailto:siksikacommunityfridge@gmail.com).
- “Let’s Celebrate Earth Day” is a community clean-up initiative led by Councillors Susan Solway and Jenny Goodin. Leadership encourages members to work together to keep the environment clean by: Picking up garbage in your yard and community; Reusing items and materials as much as you can before replacing them; and Recycling items whenever possible. Share your before and after clean up pictures for a chance to win a gift card by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Send photos to [sncc@siksikanation.com](mailto:sncc@siksikanation.com). “AINIYIIMA KSAHKOOM” - HONOUR THE EARTH.
- The Unsung Hero’s project was a great success. The project was one of two that was held to celebrate International Women’s Day throughout the month of March and into April, and recognized inspiring women in our community. Thank you to the nominees for your participation. Visit SiksikaNation.com to see the complete list. Reminder that a small gift will be mailed to all Unsung Hero’s as soon as we receive all mailing addresses. Please send your mailing address to [sncc@siksikanation.com](mailto:sncc@siksikanation.com) to receive your gift card.
- Chief and Council continues to work with Strathmore Town Council on the MOU and the Anti-Racism strategy. Siksika Nation member Astokomii Smith, indigenous Liaison for the Town of Strathmore, and her team lead an anti-racism messaging campaign, “We Say NO to Racism,” and invited Chief & Council to partake. Councillors Reuben Breaker and Susan Solway sat down with Astokomii Smith to discuss the importance of addressing this important matter.