



Office of Chief and Council Government of Siksika Nation

Siksika Nation Chief and Council Community Update: March 2022

**INFORMATION-GATHERING INTERVIEWS BEING CONDUCTED
FOR THOSE HAVING BEEN SUBJECT TO, AND OR WITNESSED RACIST OR
DISCRIMINATORY BEHAVIOR WHILE RECEIVING HEALTHCARE IN ALBERTA INVOLVING
SIKSIKA NATION MEMBERS**

Siksika Nation Chief and Council have received an overwhelming number of reports about Siksika Nation members suffering discriminatory, racist, or otherwise harmful treatment at Alberta hospitals and healthcare facilities.

To help address this issue, Chief and Council have authorized the firm JFK Law Corporation to conduct information-gathering interviews with Siksika Nation members. These interviews may be used to assist in potential litigation for the protection of Siksika Nation members and their families while receiving healthcare.

If you or anyone you know:

- **has been discriminated against, or has been treated negatively based on race, ethnicity, or status as a Siksika Nation member, while receiving healthcare in Alberta;**
- or
- **has witnessed a racist or discriminatory incident or event involving a Siksika Nation member at an Alberta healthcare facility,**

then you are encouraged to contact either JFK Law or Siksika Health Services by **phone, email, or mail:**

JFK Law Corporation

340 – 1122 Mainland Street Vancouver, BC V6B 5L1

Attention: Kaelan Unrau

Email: kunrau@jfkllaw.ca **Phone:** 778-350-5155

Alternative contact: Brock Roe: 250-886-3144

You may also complete and mail/email a letter to JFK Law at the address(es) above.

For your safety, appointments are only being booked for virtual and phone interviews at this time. Chief and Council will reassess the option of conducting in-person interviews in the future.



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We are committed to helping participants feel as safe and comfortable as possible. If you require any supports or arrangements, or have any special preferences for the interview, please do not hesitate to notify JFK Law or Siksika Health Services (see the contact information above) and we will do our best to ensure that your needs are met.

Available supports and arrangements may include:

- support personnel;
- Blackfoot language translation;
- interviewer gender preferences.

Participation is Free and Voluntary.

All rules and guidelines concerning privacy and confidentiality will be followed as required by law.

Please visit or subscribe to our social media outlets and website for updates.

Approved via Motion: February 15, 2022

Councillor Samuel Crowfoot B.A., J.D.

Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement Community Update

The Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement was established to address the needs of the Nation, both on an immediate and long-term basis.

The Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement is a fiduciary instrument that identifies who will benefit from the trust resources, how the assets will be administered, and how and when the assets will be distributed. The Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement was designed to benefit all Siksika Nation members today and future generations.

As part of the fiduciary responsibility to Siksika Nation members, Siksika Nation Chief and Council are organizing information sessions on the Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement, which will outline the details of the trust and invite input from the community on the management and disbursement of the trust.

Community input surveys will be forthcoming to provide community recommendations as to the needs and wants of the Nation. These information sessions will continue



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throughout the life of the Trust Agreement to allow for continuous input from Ma'tapiiks.

The following information sessions are scheduled as follows:

1. March 21, 2022 in Siksika (Arbour) at 6PM
2. March 22, 2022 in Siksika (Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park) at 6PM
3. March 23, 2022 in Calgary at Sunpark Plaza SE at 6PM
4. April 04, 2022 in Edmonton, Four Points at 6PM
5. April 06, 2022 in Lethbridge, Sandman at 6PM
6. April 08, 2022 in Browning, MT at Glacier Peaks at 10AM
7. April 09, 2022 Virtual Meeting at 10AM

Please note that these information sessions are for Siksika Nation members only. No media requests will be granted at this time.

For more information Siksika Nation members can contact:

Siksika Nation Chief and Council

Address: P.O. Box 1100 Siksika, AB T0J 3W0 Phone: (403) 734 5109

Toll free: 1-800-551-5724

Email: sncc@siksikanation.com

RCMP investigate suspicious death of Siksika Nation member

In a statement put out March 1, 2022, Gleichen RCMP responded to a 911 report of an unresponsive female at a residence in Siksika on February 27th. An adult female was located deceased in the residence. The initial investigation indicates that the circumstances surrounding the death are suspicious and is ongoing.

Siksika Nation Chief and Council send our deepest condolences to the families of a fellow Nation member and acknowledge the tireless efforts of the first responders. The family will be holding a vigil today in Siksika at 2pm to honour the life of a young lady, mother, daughter, and friend taken too soon.

We thank everyone for the tremendous outpouring of sympathy and ask that people please join us in prayer for strength and healing for the family as we grieve this terrible tragedy. On behalf of the family, Chief and Council request privacy from the media at this time.



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Siksika Nation Chief and Council celebrates International Women's Day

Siksika Nation Chief and Council celebrates International Women's Day today with all women of Siksika and around the world.

This year's theme "Break The Bias" celebrates a gender equal world, "Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias."

Siksika Nation Chief and Council has organized a giveaway for the women of Siksika and has made two generous donations to local agencies; the Ittasinno'P Food Bank Centre In Siksika and the Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society in Calgary.

Leadership would like to acknowledge and thank the following companies who donated to Chief and Council Women's Day initiatives; Transalta, Bank of Montreal, NGLP, Siksika Group of Companies, JFK Law, Fox Fraser Law and Graham Construction. Your generous contribution will go on to support the women of Siksika and their families.

If you would like to donate to the Ittasinno'P Food Bank Centre and Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society, please contact them directly.

About Ittasinno'P Food Bank Centre

The Ittasinno'P Food Centre provides immediate food access for individuals and/or families in need. The centre provides food hampers packed with nutritious and healthy food options that will last individuals or families two weeks. <https://siksikahealth.com/programs-services/food-nutrition-services/>

About Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society

The Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society is a 32 bed full-service women's emergency shelter in Calgary, Alberta, dedicated to providing services to women and children from all cultures. Our shelter operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with both on-site and on-call counsellors available at all times. <https://www.awotaan.org>



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UPDATE: 22nd Annual Blackfoot Confederacy Conference: MARCH 29-31, 2022

NEW DATES: Please note the conference dates have been changed from March 28 – 30 to March 29 – 31, 2022. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our delegates, presenters or vendors. If you are able to join us, we remind you to adjust your travel plans to fit these dates. *****PLEASE NOTE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED.**

Request for Public Comment for Siksika Nation Peace Officer By-law NO. 2022-01

On March 9, 2022, Siksika Nation Chief and Council conducted a third and final reading of the Siksika Nation Peace Officer By-law No. 2022-01.

BEING A BY-LAW OF THE SIKSIKA NATION WITH THE PURPOSE OF APPOINTING PEACE OFFICERS ON THE SIKSIKA NATION RESERVE.

The Peace Officer By-law has undergone the requisite three separate readings. The by-law has also been reviewed by the Nation's legal counsel, Fox and Fraser LLP and is authorized to be posted for public comment.

The period for public comment will end on: April 1, 2022.

Any comment or concerns about the by-law can be directed to:

Councillor Samuel Crowfoot J.D. Siksika Nation Chief and Council

P.O. Box 1100, Siksika Nation, AB, T0J 3W0

Email: samuelc@siksikanation.com

Website: <https://siksikanation.com>

MORE INFO ONLINE: <https://siksikanation.com/request-for-public-comment-for-siksika-nation-peace-officer-by-law-no-2022-01/>



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Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement Community Member Survey

The Ma'tapiiks Trust Agreement Community Member Survey was established to address the needs of the Nation, both on an immediate and long-term basis. The purpose of the survey will be to provide community recommendations as to the needs and wants of the Nation.

Siksika Nation members are invited to fill out the survey:

Instructions: Members can download the survey, print it off, fill it out and email scan a copy to: sncc@siksikanation.com or fill out online: <https://siksikanation.com/matapiiks-trust-agreement-community-member-survey/>

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