



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Everyone is Welcome to Attend the First Nations University of Canada 2023 Spring Celebration Powwow this Weekend.

Regina, Saskatchewan – The First Nations University of Canada Spring Celebration Powwow Committee welcomes everyone to the longest-running indoor powwow in Treaty 4 Territory. The doors will open at 9:00 am for this 2-day April 22 & 23 event held at the Brandt Centre, REAL District, in Regina, SK. The first grand entry on Saturday, April 22nd, at noon, will kick off the Spring Celebration Powwow presented by K+S Potash Canada. Over the weekend, two grand entries will be each day at 12:00 pm and 7:00, with dancing and singing contest finals.

Scheduled throughout the weekend are 32 dance category competitions and several family and committee dance specials. We welcome all singers & drum groups from across Canada and the United States to compete in the Singing Competition sponsored by SaskPower. An annual highlight during the powwow is the Miss FNUniv Princess Pageant, now the Miss FNUniv Ambassador Contest. The reigning Miss FNUniv Princess, Alexis Isnana, will transfer her crown during the Miss FNUniv Ambassador Pageant on Saturday, April 22nd, during supper break.

If you want to purchase authentic Indigenous arts, crafts, and clothing from Indigenous artisans and businesses, you must browse the Tradeshow Market to see if anything catches your eye. An extension to the tradeshow market, visit the food vendors and enjoy some bannock or a smoothie! The entire market will be an experience, and at the same time, you'll support Indigenous artisans and businesses.

"We've had a long winter. The people who attend, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, are looking forward to the powwow because it represents a new season to gather, to re-connect and all the good feelings that come with visiting with one another", says Interim Co-Chair, Cherish Jean-Baptiste.

The return of the 2022 celebration attracted more than 5,000 visitors, over 300 registered dancers, and 12 drum groups. We anticipate the 2023 celebration will attract higher numbers now that the pandemic has subsided. A 2-day admission wristband is \$18, while daily passes are \$13, and children five and under are free.

The Powwow Committee is grateful to the long-time corporate sponsors such as K+S Potash Canada, the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA), SaskPower, the Regina Police Service, the Regina Public Schools and Creeland Mini Mart and the new partners to join us this year.

"K+S Potash Canada is honoured to be the Presenting Sponsor of the First Nations University of Canada's Spring Celebration Powwow again this year. This beautiful event celebrates

Indigenous culture and traditions as well as showcases the incredible talent of many First Nations dancers, drummers, and singers from Saskatchewan.” We look forward to being part of the celebration and we wish the best of luck to the competitors and a very safe weekend for all who attend.” Melissa Shepherd, Manager, Indigenous Relations, K+S Potash Canada.

About First Nations University of Canada

The First Nations University of Canada (FNUUniv) was founded in 1976 and is a First Nations-owned post-secondary institution that bridges our ceremonies, knowledge keepers, languages, and traditions to deliver high-quality post-secondary education. This transformative impact will lead to the pride and success of all students, First Nations communities, and Canada. For more information about FNUUniv, please visit <http://fnuniv.ca>.

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