

MEDIA RELEASE



**FIRST NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
OF CANADA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 10, 2025

FNUUniv President's Cup Fundraising Classic to Support Fire Recovery and Student Emergency Relief

Prince Albert, SK — The First Nations University of Canada (FNUUniv) is announcing an important change to the fundraising plans for its upcoming 2025 President's Cup Fundraising Classic, set for Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Cooke Municipal Golf Course in Prince Albert. In response to the growing wildfire crisis impacting First Nations communities across Saskatchewan, proceeds from this year's tournament will be redirected to support First Nations fire recovery and evacuation efforts, as well as emergency bursary funds for FNUUniv students affected by the fires.

What was originally planned as a fundraiser for the development of FNUUniv's new Northern Campus has now shifted in focus to address a more immediate and urgent need: helping students, families, and communities facing displacement, property loss, and trauma caused by the ongoing wildfires.

"In times like these, we are reminded of our responsibility to act with compassion and unity," said Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann, President of the First Nations University of Canada. "This shift in focus is necessary to support our students and their families who are facing unimaginable hardship. We are committed to walking alongside our communities and being there when they need us most."

A Call to Stand Together

Wildfires have prompted widespread evacuations and state-of-emergency declarations, disrupting not only daily life but also the educational journeys of many FNUUniv students. Some have lost their homes, while others are experiencing financial strain due to travel, temporary relocation, or loss of income. The funds raised through this year's President's Cup will provide vital support to ensure students can continue their education despite these challenges, while also aiding broader community recovery efforts.

"We recognize that our original goal—supporting the construction of a new Northern Campus—remains critically important for our students," added Gord Hunchak, Vice President of University Relations at FNUUniv. "However, when the students and communities we serve are in crisis, we must act."

Should the fire and evacuation situation improve drastically before the event date, the university may consider returning to its original fundraising plan. However, FNUniv's leadership will continue to monitor the situation and prioritize support where it is needed most.

How You Can Help

The 2025 President's Cup Fundraising Classic is still set to be a day of sport, connection, and community spirit—but with a renewed sense of purpose. Here's how individuals and organizations can get involved:

- **Sponsor the Event** - Align your brand with meaningful action and direct support for Indigenous communities in crisis.
- **Register a Team** - Enjoy a full day of golf while making a tangible difference in the lives of students and families affected by wildfires.
- **Donate a Prize or Make a Financial Contribution** - Whether it's a raffle prize or a cash gift, every contribution helps us reach those who need it most.

Tournament Details

Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM Shotgun Start

Location: Cooke Municipal Golf Course, Prince Albert, SK

Register, sponsor, or donate today:

<https://app.eventcaddy.com/events/first-nations-university-of-canada-fundraising-classic>

Prize donations can be dropped off or mailed to:

First Nations University of Canada
1301 Central Ave.
Prince Albert, SK S6V 4W1
Attn: Golf Committee

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About FNUniv

The First Nations University of Canada is a unique national post-secondary institution offering Indigenous and non-Indigenous students the opportunity to learn in an environment that supports Indigenous cultures, traditions, and values. FNUniv is committed to advancing Indigenous knowledge, fostering inclusion, and supporting student success across all its campuses.