# MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: November 17, 2026**

## *FNUniv Celebrates 109 Graduates at 2026 Fall Graduation Ceremony*

**Regina, SK (Treaty 4 Territory)** – First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv) celebrated the academic achievements of 109 graduates at its Annual Fall Graduation Ceremony held on Saturday, November 14, 2026, at TCU Place in Saskatoon.

Following the official graduation ceremonies held on November 12, FNUniv hosted a separate celebration that incorporated First Nations traditions and cultural practices to honour its graduates and their academic achievements.

The day began with a pipe ceremony at 10:00 a.m. in the tipi located in TCU Place's Grand Salon. The Regina Campus Knowledge Keeper led the ceremony and offered blessings to the graduates.

The celebration continued with a banquet and Grand Entry featuring graduates, Elders, senior management, and dignitaries. The ceremony concluded with an honour song for all graduates, followed by the retiring of the eagle staff and flags.

During the ceremony, Dr. Tara Turner, Associate Dean, Community Programs and Projects, presented FNUniv's signature embossed leather scrolls to graduates. This year, FNUniv recognized 109 graduates, including 101 undergraduate and eight graduate scholars. Graduate credentials included the Master of Indigenous Education, Master of Indigenous Language Education, and Master's Certificate in Indigenous Nation-Building.

“Graduation is a significant milestone that reflects the dedication, perseverance, and achievements of our students,” said Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann, President of First Nations University of Canada. “We are incredibly proud of our 109 graduates and the journeys that have brought them to this moment. As they move forward, they carry with them the knowledge, values, and teachings that will strengthen their communities and inspire future generations. We look forward to seeing the meaningful contributions they will continue to make.”

Special acknowledgments were presented to Dr. A. Blair Stonechild, who recently received the title of Distinguished Emeritus from the University of Regina; Rebecca Morris-Hurl, who earned her Master of Arts in History from the University of Regina; and Layne Burns, who received his Master of Science in Mathematics from the University of Regina on November 12, 2026.

The ceremony featured an address by Valedictorian Megan Dreaver-Lemaigre, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies. Tania Lafond, who holds a Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work and a Master's in Aboriginal Social Work, delivered the Alumni Address.

FNUniv congratulates all 109 graduates on their academic achievements and celebrates their dedication, perseverance, and commitment to learning. The University remains proud of its alumni and their ongoing contributions to advancing Indigenous education, strengthening communities, and fostering future leadership.

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**About First Nations University of Canada**
Established in 1976, the First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv) is a leading Indigenous-owned post-secondary institution dedicated to advancing Indigenous knowledge and education. FNUniv serves both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, delivering high-quality post-secondary programs rooted in Indigenous knowledge systems, languages and cultures. FNUniv operates campuses in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert, as well as the nēwoskan Traditional Campus near St. Louis, Saskatchewan.

Learn more at www.fnuniv.ca.

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