

# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

## *The First Nations University of Canada Officially Opens the Indigenous Continuing Education Centre*

**Regina, Saskatchewan** – On January 11, 2022, the First Nations University of Canada (FNUUniv) announced its Indigenous Continuing Education Centre (ICEC). On June 23, FNUUniv celebrates the official in-person grand opening of the ICEC, delayed several months due to the pandemic. This centre, using a hybrid learning model, provides distinct Indigenous-focused non-accredited, short course programming for individuals, professionals, businesses, and communities, open to Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

The official in-person opening will take place at the First Nations University of Canada, Regina Campus, 1 First Nations Way at 10:00 am (CST). All members of the media are invited to attend.

Since its launch in January, the ICEC has evolved with an expansion of course offerings. In addition to the highly sought-after course, 4 Seasons of Reconciliation, ICEC added several new courses for the Spring/Summer 2022 Term in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action related to Business & Education. In partnership with Procept Associates Ltd., the Project Management Essentials for Indigenous Communities recently wrapped up on June 9, 2022. Learners gained the skills and the value of Project Management methodologies. Another course provides an understanding of the Scope of Indian Residential Schools entitled, The Indian Residential School System in Canada Origins and History, a 3-lesson approach in response to TRC Call to Action #62-64. Additional courses now available include the kiskeyihtamowina FNUUniv Board Governance Program and an Indigenous Leadership Program. Successful learners of the ICEC course offerings will earn digital credentials in badges, micro-credentials, and professional certificates through MyCreds™

"ICEC's course offerings focus on sharing an authentic transformative experience based on Indigenous knowledge and perspectives. Through the sharing of Indigenous knowledge, culture, and tradition, ICEC strengthens connections and communities which forges a path to reconciliation through lifelong learning." says Reila Bird, Director, Indigenous Continuing Education Centre. "With the partnership between FNUUniv, the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) and MyCreds™, all learners can have 24/7 access to their digital credential wallet made shareable in a digital format anytime and to anyone they choose."

The number of learners to successfully achieve a badge has been increasing since the initial course offering of 4 Seasons of Reconciliation. The badges, micro-credentials and certificates are recognized within corporate Canada to enhance employability by up-skilling and growing competencies.

“As a national educational institution, First Nations University of Canada is committed to providing quality professional development to individuals, organizations, and communities, Indigenous and non-Indigenous.” said Bob Kayseas, Vice President Academic at FNUUniv, “Our Indigenous Continuing Education Centre will continue to develop and introduce new course offerings to meet the needs and demands of students and communities across Canada.”

The Indigenous Continuing Education Centre has been developed to create greater access for education and micro-credentials that leads to new opportunities or connections with Indigenous culture and tradition. Individuals or organizations interested in receiving more information on the Indigenous Continuing Education Centre and available courses may contact the Director at [icec@firstnationsuniversity.ca](mailto:icec@firstnationsuniversity.ca) or visit [www.fnuniv.ca/icec](http://www.fnuniv.ca/icec).

#### **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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