September 2026
ᐅᓅᒋᐦᐃᑐᐃᐧ ᐱᓯᑦ onôcihitowi-pîsimᑦ
rutting moon

otâcimow

Official Newsletter of Saulteau First Nations

In this Issue:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE P.02

GOVERNANCE P. 04

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS P.07

ASSET MANAGEMENT, HOUSING, & PUBLIC WORKS P.08

CULTURE, HERITAGE & RECREATION P. 10

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT P.12

TRANSPORTATION P.15

EDUCATION P.16

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT P.19

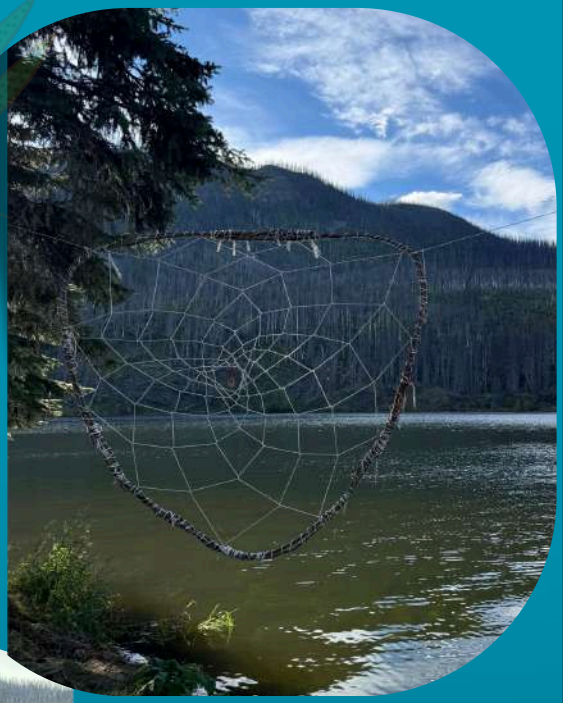
LAND STEWARDSHIP & PROTECTION P.21

HEALTH SERVICES P.30

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS P.33

CULTURE

camp





UPDATE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tansi SFN Community and members all around the world:

I am pleased to share highlights from this summer and share some insights into the work SFN administration will be doing in the fall.

Summer Highlights

- Our events staff and volunteers pulled off Pemmican Days, Culture Camp, and the two golf tournaments – membership (June) and industry (August). I heard great feedback from all events and am very proud of everyone involved in planning and coordinating these events. Great work everyone!
- Back in June we held our first all-department open-house. It was packed – what a busy day! I am so pleased so many people came out to learn more about our departments, meet our teams, and enjoy a meal form our Culture Centre kitchen. We will be doing this again every approx. 6 months, stay tuned for the date of the next one in early 2027.
- Our finance team worked hard to get our 2026 year-end audit done, and it is currently in final stages of completion. We will present this audit to community at the next Annual General Meeting, to be announced (likely late October).
- I personally took some time off this summer, from late June until August 4, to finish some courses at the University of Victoria School of Public Administration and to recharge. I am grateful to all the staff at SFN who continued to work and to the Director team for covering my responsibilities while I was off.

What's ahead:

- In the Fall, I plan to meet with new term Chief and Council and senior management to review our Community Comprehensive Plan (2022) and Strategic Plan (2025) progress and identify priorities to be completed this term.
- Additionally, in the Fall I will work with the finance department and management team to review our current year budget progress and propose budget amendments to Council.

Chief & Council Contacts

Chief Rudy Paquette
Desjarlais Family
rpaquette@saulteau.com

Councillor Justin Gauthier
Gauthier Family
justin.gauthier@saulteau.com

Councillor Ashley Barrett
Davis Family
ashley.barrett@saulteau.com

Councillor Donovan Cameron
Courtoreille Family
dcameron@saulteau.com

Councillor Tammy Watson
Napoleon Family
tammy.watson@saulteau.com

Tristan Robertson
Executive Assistant
tristan.robertson@saulteau.com

Executive Director

Nathan Paquette
Executive Director
npaquette@saulteau.com

UPDATE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This is an ordinary part of our annual financial procedures as per the SFN Financial Administration Law, and allows us to adjust our budget based on events that have come up since the budget was originally passed. For example: new events that have come up since the budget was originally passed. For example: new funding arrangements (and related spending), fixing any errors in the original budget, and adjusting band own-source revenues to actual results. Stay tuned for further announcements.

- In September, a new school year starts. Shout out to the staff in our Cree-Ative Wonders Head Start daycare, Muskoti Elementary School, Muskoti Learning Centre, and Post-Secondary education department for their hard work to get all our students ready for a new year.

Key events to watch for:

- SFN and West Moberly Annual Health Fair, September 10 at SFN Culture and Rec Centre https://www.saulteau.com/event/sfn-annual-health-fair/
- Cultural Gathering of Nations, September 17-20 in Dawson Creek https://www.culturalgatheringofnations.com/
- Healing the Land Conference, September 22-24 in SFN Culture and Rec Centre https://healingthelandconference.ca/ Registration closes September 4 so please register ASAP if interested

Questions? Email npaquette@saulteau.com

Mussi cho!

Nathan Paquette

Executive Director, Saulteau First Nations

GOVERNANCE



Governance Contacts

Niki Ghostkeeper
Manager of Governance
nghostkeeper@saulteau.com

Norma Gauthier
Indigenous Registry & Membership
ngauthier@saulteau.com

Kayla Embree
SFN Communications
communications@saulteau.com

Tracy Laboucan - Carter
Policy Analyst & Grant Writer
tracylc@saulteau.com

Shadow Paquette
Governance Excutive Assistant
spaquette@saulteau.com

Canva

Saulteau
FIRST NATIONS

Citizenship Committee Opportunity

Saulteau First Nations is inviting members to apply to join the Citizenship Committee, as outlined in Section 10 of the Saulteau Citizenship Act, 1986.

All positions are currently open, and appointments will be for a two-year term. The Citizenship Committee plays an important role in supporting the Nation's membership process, hearing appeals under the Act, and helping uphold the Saulteau Citizenship Code.

"The Committee shall be responsible for hearing appeals from decisions of the Enrollment Officer and for considering proposed amendments to the Citizenship Act."

Committee Composition (per Section 10):

- Two (2) Elders of Saulteau First Nations
- One (1) Representative from Chief and Council
- Two (2) Citizens of SFN
- Each committee member will be a representative of each family groupings, defined as Davis, Desjarlais, Courtoreille, Gauthier and Napoleon for a total of five (5) committee members.
- Term: 2 years
- Eligibility: Open to all Saulteau First Nations members in good standing
- Selection: Final appointments will be made by the Governance team

How to Apply:
Please submit a brief letter of interest outlining why you would like to serve on the Citizenship Committee to:
ngauthier@saulteau.com

Deadline: September 10th 2026

We encourage all interested SFN members to apply and take part in this important community process under the Saulteau Citizenship Act (1986).

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: NORMA GAUTHIER INDIGENOUS REGISTRY & MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATOR NGAUTHIER@SAULTEAU.COM | 250-788-7283

Saulteau
FIRST NATIONS

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
SFN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



ABOUT THE ROLE

The SFN Advisory Council will bring together Elders, adults, youth and technical advisors to support fair, transparent and accountable governance. Members will review complaints and appeals, consider evidence, provide impartial decisions and offer governance advice when requested. Guided by SFN laws, traditions and community values, the Council will help ensure important matters are handled respectfully, confidentially and in the best interests of SFN Citizens.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The Advisory Council is made up of seven voting members:

- Three SFN Elders, aged 55 or older
- One SFN Adult, aged 26–54
- One SFN Youth, aged 18–25
- Two technical advisors with relevant governance or dispute-resolution expertise

The five citizen representatives are appointed by Chief and Council, while the two technical advisors are appointed by the Executive Director.

ELIGIBILITY

□ I am an SFN Citizen and meet the age requirement for the position.
□ I am in good financial standing with SFN, as required by Appendix E.
□ I am willing to complete a criminal record check.
□ I can maintain confidentiality and impartiality.
□ I will disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest.
□ I am available to attend orientation, training, monthly meetings, and additional hearings when required.

COMMITMENT

Members will attend orientation, monthly meetings and additional hearings as needed. They must review sensitive materials, maintain confidentiality and remain impartial. Citizen members may serve up to three years.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications can be found on the **Members Only Portal** or **Band Hall Reception**

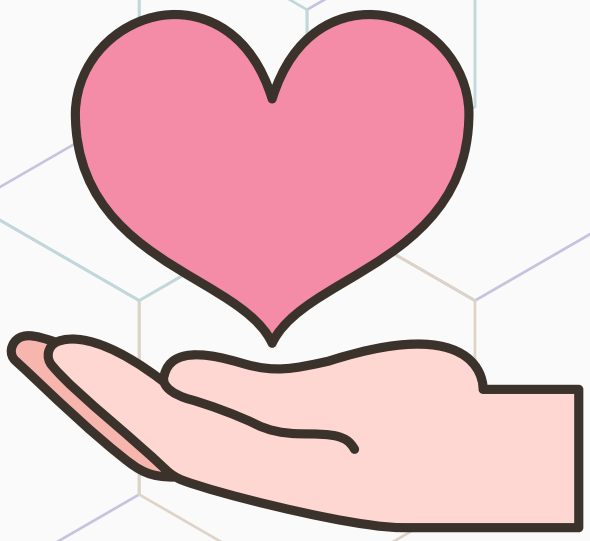
Complete Application form and submit to **gov@saulteau.com**

We encourage all SFN members who meet the eligibility criteria to apply for this important community process. For any further questions regarding the committee please email **gov@saulteau.com**

Application Deadline is September 10th @ 4:30pm

COMMUNITY SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS





Birthday Wishes!
Anniversary Celebrations!
Sobriety Birthdays!
Educational, Athletic, or Professional Achievements!
New Baby Announcements!
Wedding Well Wishes!

Celebrating in October 2026? Please Email communications@saulteau.com by September 27, 2026 for inclusion in next months Newsletter!

ASSET MANAGEMENT, HOUSING, & PUBLIC WORKS





Andrii Sorok
Director of Infrastructure
asoroka@saulteau.com

Asset Management Contacts

Shane Reynolds
Manager of Assets & Capital Projects
sreynolds@saulteau.com

Housing Contacts

Cindy O'Brien
Housing Manager
cindy@saulteau.com

Marci Doonan
Tenant Relations Supervisor
mdoonan@saulteau.com

Facilities Maintenance & Public Works Contacts

Ronda Lalonde-Auger
Facility Maintenance & Public Works Manager
rlalonde@saulteau.com

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

September 2026

🍂 September Tips for Tenants

As cooler weather arrives, September is a great time to prepare your home for fall and winter.

🔥 **Check your heat:** Make sure your heating system is working properly and report any problems to your landlord or Housing Department.
🚪 **Check doors and windows:** Report drafts, damaged seals, or windows that don't close properly.
💧 **Disconnect outdoor hoses:** Remove and drain garden hoses to help prevent frozen pipes and damage to outdoor faucets.
🏠 **Report leaks:** Check ceilings, walls, and under sinks for signs of water damage or leaks.
🌧️ **Keep gutters and drains clear:** Report blocked or damaged gutters and downspouts.
🐭 **Prevent pests:** Keep food sealed, maintain a clean home, and report signs of rodents or other pests.
🍂 **Clean up outdoors:** Keep yards, steps, and walkways free of leaves and debris.
🚨 **Check safety devices:** Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and report any issues.
📞 **Report maintenance concerns early:** Don't wait for a small problem to become a major repair.

🏡 Remember:

Taking care of your home and reporting problems early helps keep your home safe, comfortable, and well maintained.

Housing Department Staff

Cindy O'Brien - Housing Manager
Marci Doonan - Housing Supervisor
McKenna Glover - Tenant Relations Officer
Melanie Gauthier - Housing Front Desk
Cory Longley - Red Seal Plumber
Tracy Lauzon - Red Seal Carpenter
Barry Davis - Maintenace Worker
Devon Lambert - Wood Delivery & Maintenace
Kurtis Swanson - Wood Delivery & Maintenance

Saulteau First Nations
Housing Department
@
236-364-2019

CULTURE, HERITAGE & RECREATION











culturecamp 2026

Laurelle Watson
Director of Programs & Services
lwatson@saulteau.com

Culture, Heritage & Recreation Contacts

Jamie Kristoffy
Manager of Culture & Heritage
jkristoffy@saulteau.com

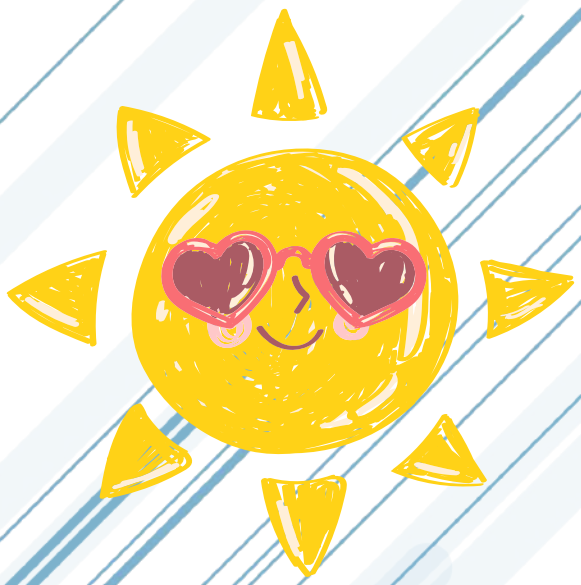
Carlee Westgate
Community Events Coordinator
cwestgate@saulteau.com

Candace Schmidt
Rec Coordinator
cschmidt@saulteau.com

Kirsta Lindstrom
Four Pillars Coordinator
KLindstrom@saulteau.com

Tylene Paquette
Cultural Connections Coordinator
tpaquette@saulteau.com





🌞 Summer Program 2026 has officially come to an end! 🌞

What an amazing summer it has been! We made so many memories, had so many laughs, and packed in so many fun adventures. ❤️

We went swimming at the Hudson's Hope outdoor pool, explored the Hudson's Hope Museum (which was pretty cool—if you ever get the chance, go check it out! 😆) and visited the W.A.C. Bennett Dam.

We spent a day at the splash park in Chetwynd, played at the little play place in the Rec Centre, and enjoyed some ice cream before heading back to Saulteau. 🍦 We even went haspberry picking! 🫐 and we got creative making drums with Tylene, which was such a fun and memorable activity! 🥁❤️

We finally made it to the Chetwynd Museum, had an epic water balloon fight (which the kids absolutely LOVED! 💦😂), made some awesome arts and crafts, and enjoyed plenty of movies and popcorn. 🎨🍿🎬

But most of all, I will remember the kids—their smiles, their laughter, their silly moments, and all the fun we shared. Every single one of them filled my heart, and I'm truly going to miss them. ❤️

A huge thank you for allowing me and our amazing summer students—Carys, Jayse, Reese, Braxton and Daylin—to spend the summer with your littles. It has been such a special experience, and we are so grateful for every moment.
Thank you for an unforgettable Summer Program 2026! ☀️❤️
Until next summer! 🥰

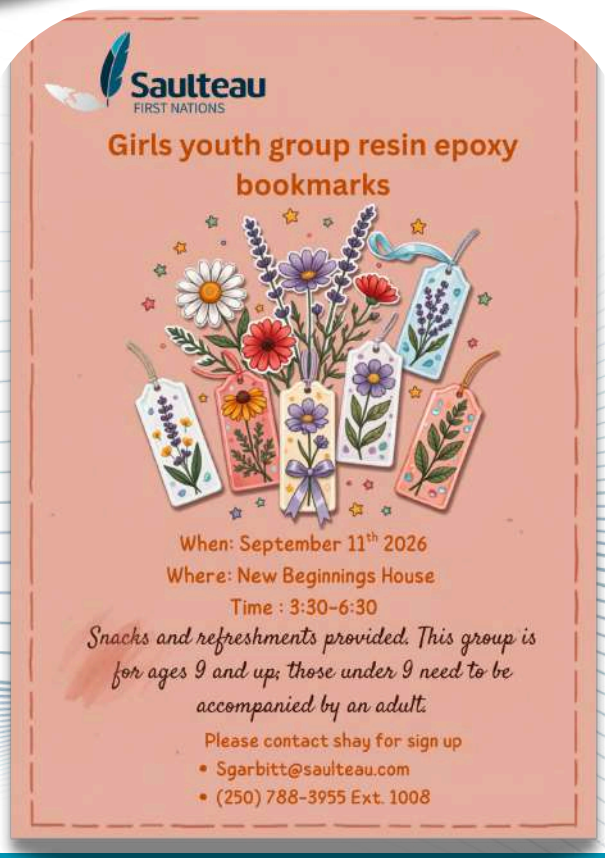


SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT









Laurelle Watson
Director of Programs & Services
lwatson@saulteau.com

Social Development Contacts

Carrie Paquette
Manager of Social Development
cpaquette@saulteau.com

Tammy Walker
Band Social Development Worker
twalker@saulteau.com

Cara Martin Earl
Member
Transportation Driver
cmartin-earl@saulteau.com

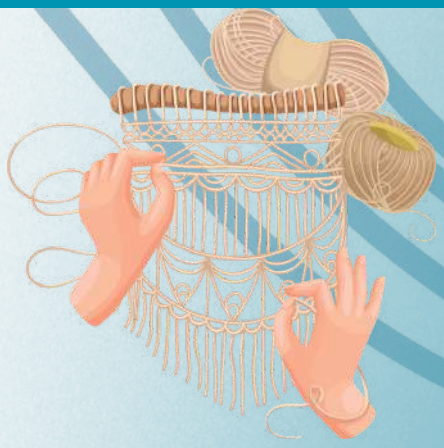
Ethan Cameron
Youth Support Coordinator
ecameron@saulteau.com

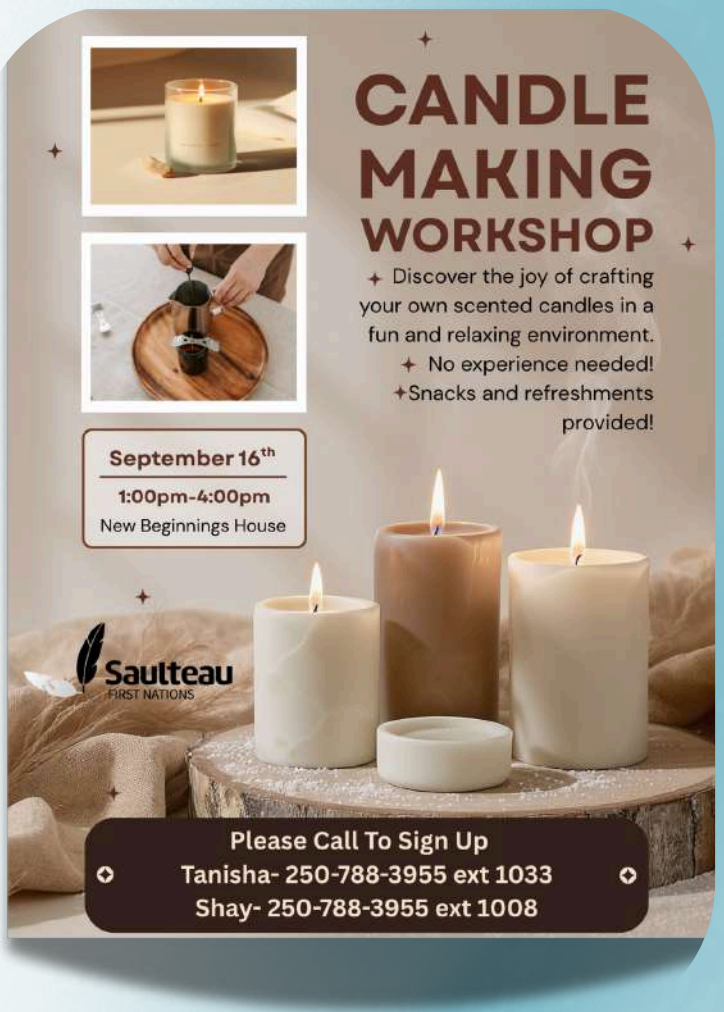
Tasha Lalonde
Elders Support Coordinator
tlalonde@saulteau.com

Tanisha Llewellyn
Life Skill Coordinator
tllewellyn@saulteau.com

Shay Garbitt
Life Skill Program Facilitator
sgarbitt@saulteau.com


MACRAME WORKSHOP
Choose ONE of three and let us know which one you would like to make upon sign up!
1
2
3
Quickest with least amount of steps
Most amount of work- slight difficulty level (minimum 4 hrs)
Simple but time consuming (minimum 4hrs)
DATE: SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2026
TIME: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM
WHERE: NEW BEGINNINGS
Lunch and Refreshments Provided
Tanisha: 250-788-3955 ext 1033
Shay: 250-788-3955 ext 1008
Saulteau
FIRST NATIONS




CANDLE MAKING WORKSHOP
Discover the joy of crafting your own scented candles in a fun and relaxing environment.
No experience needed!
Snacks and refreshments provided!
September 16th
1:00pm-4:00pm
New Beginnings House
Saulteau
FIRST NATIONS
Please Call To Sign Up
Tanisha- 250-788-3955 ext 1033
Shay- 250-788-3955 ext 1008


Youth Co-ed Baking Group
Come learn how to bake healthy cookies & muffins to take home
Youth Baking Class
This baking class is intended to bring youth together in the community to have fun, connect with one another, and learn the basics of baking. Youth will have the opportunity to build a new life skill, try new recipes, and enjoy creating something together in a fun and welcoming environment.
September 18th 2026
Time: 3:30-6:30
Where: New Beginnings House
Please contact Shay for sign up
sgarbitt@saulteau.com
(250)-788-3955 Ext. 1008
Snacks and refreshments provided. This group is for ages 9 and up; those under 9 must be accompanied by a parent.
Saulteau
FIRST NATIONS
Made with
Good Food. Good Friends. Stronger Together.





Social Assistance Clients

Rights and Responsibilities of Applicants and Recipients

Applicants have the right to:

- Apply if they believe they are in need
- Have their information treated as personal and confidential
- Receive prompt, courteous and e cient service
- Receive all the assistance and benefits they are entitled to
- Appeal decisions concerning an application or provision of benefits

Applicants have the responsibility to:

- Disclose all information required to determine eligibility for assistance
- (if employable) Seek work/be available for work at all times and participate in employability programs and training
- Use all available resources and income to support themselves as a preferred alternative to social assistance
- Inform BSDW of changes in circumstance that may reflect eligibility

All new applicants and continuing recipients of Income Assistance are to search for, accept and continue seeking employment at all times. All clients are required to complete or demonstrate they have completed a satisfactory work search lasting three weeks. However, applicants who meet a certain criteria may be temporarily exempt from this requirement.

If you are a client and want to find out what criteria you fall under, please reach out to your BSDW (Band Social Development Worker) via phone or email to see if this applies to you.

Some examples of reasonable work search activities include but are not limited to:

- Preparing a resume.
- Searching for job openings.
- Telephone, email or face to face inquires with potential employers.
- Submitting applications or resumes for jobs.
- Responding to advertisements.
- Employment interviews.
- Accessing Employment Services such as meeting with the Nation's Employment & Training O cer or Work BC.
- Attending job search sessions or job fairs.
- Pursuing job shadowing opportunities and volunteering.
- Attending workshopson employment search.

Monthly Renewal Declaration

Reporting Requirements for recipients of income assistance, disability assistance and hardship assistance are required to report all or and any employment income or other money received and any changes in their circumstances in addition to requesting further assistance each month.

Changes that **MUST** be reported by Recipients of income assistance, disability assistance and hardship assistance are required to report changes in their circumstances such as:

- address
- shelter/utility costs
- number of dependents
- changes in employability status
- whether they are attending school
- and any changes in assets

Monthly Declarations can be completed by phone, email or in person to the BSDW.

Note: Work search must be submitted with monthly declarations for applicants required to do so in order to continue eligibility.

For any inquires related to Social Assistance please contact

Tammy Walker - Social Assistance Administrator
twalker**@saulteau.com T.250-788-7286 F. 236-364-2038**
Office Hours Monday -Thursday 8am-4:30pm

We strive to work with all community members to deliver a SERVICE that lives up to the name of the department MEMBER SERVICES with EMPATHY, HUMILITY, TRUST and HONESTY! Ka nesohkamatin (I will help you!)

Saulteau FIRST NATIONS

2026 Income & Disability Assistance Payment Schedule

Payment Date	for the month of	DeclarationsDue
January 21, 2026	February 2026	January 12-15, 2026
February 25, 2026	March 2026	February 16-19, 2026
March 25, 2026	April 2026	March 16-19, 2026
April 22, 2026	May 2026	April 13-16, 2026
May 27, 2026	June 2026	May 18-21, 2026
June 24, 2026	July 2026	June 15-18, 2026
July 29, 2026	August 2026	July 20-23, 2026
August 26, 2026	September 2026	August 17-20, 2026
September 23,2026	October 2026	September 14-17, 2026
October 21, 2026	November 2026	October 12-15, 2026
November 18, 2026	December 2026	November 09-12, 2026
December 16, 2026	January 2027	December 07-10, 2026

The above dates are aligned with the BC Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction payment dates. If required, there will be advanced notice for any changes to the dates above through newsletter or SFN social media outlets.

***Job search activity and other requests must be submitted with declarations for applicants required to do so.**

Please contact Tammy Walker @250-788-3955 ext. 1024 - Direct line 250-788-7286 or email twalker@saulteau.com

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION CALENDAR *September 2026*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Saulteau FIRST NATIONS		1 Dawson Creek Shopping Day!	2	3 11:45am: Elders Lunch & Bingo!	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY SFN OFFICES CLOSED	8	9	10 11:45am: Elders Lunch & Bingo!	11	12
13	14	15 10:30am: Elders Swim in Chetwynd	16	17 11:45am: Elders Lunch & Bingo!	18	19
20	21 1:30pm: Recycling @ Moberly Lake Transfer Station	22 10:30am: Elders Swim in Chetwynd	23	24 11:45am: Elders Lunch & Bingo!	25	26
27	28	29	30 TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY SFN OFFICES CLOSED	Contact your driver, Cara @ 236-364-2016 to arrange pick up. Please note that all times posted are departure and return times. It is the responsibility of the attendee to bring all items required for activity, including costs. Booking is based on a first-come first served basis. Advanced booking is recommended for medical or dental travel.		

Call Cara to book your ride 236-364-2016




SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS
MICRO START-UP GRANT
LAUNCH YOUR DREAM BUSINESS !
For more information and to apply, contact:
Ginette Lapierre or Stacy MacMillan
glapierre@saulteau.com
smacmillan@saulteau.com
Employment & Training Department
Accepting applications until September 10th, 2026
Applications will be reviewed and awarded based on the merit of each submission for NEW start-up businesses only.
GRANT OVERVIEW
Funding up to $5000
To support Saulteau First Nations members in launching a small business
one time only grant application per eligible applicant
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Registered SFN Member
Have a registered business name
Submit a basic business plan
Eligible Expenses (Examples)
Business Registration
Basic equipment, tools or software
Start-up Inventory & supplies
Marketing and promotional materials

MUSKOTI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Saulteau FIRST NATIONS

Muskoti Elementary School

WELCOME BACK!

First Day of school for students: September 9, 2026 10:45-2:00 pm
Parents are welcome to attend from 10:45-11:20. Snacks and refreshments will be provided!
11:30 - students will transition into their classrooms and familiarize themselves with their classroom and peers.
September 10th first full day of classes. 8:45-3:00 pm.
Doors open for students at 8:30 a

250-788-3955

Www.saulteau.com





Muskoti Elementary School

Saulteau FIRST NATIONS

tânisi fellow band and community members:
only two seats remain for 2026/2027.

Do you or someone you know have a child turning four by December 31, 2026, or entering Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, or 3 in September 2026? If so, please contact us for registration forms, or they can be found on our SFN website under Education and submitted to cschlamp@saulteau.com. Registration for full-day K4, Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, or 3 opens January 30th for the following school year. We limit class sizes to provide the highest quality of education, so it is best to register early.

We have a strong culture and language program that continues to flourish, nêhiawi-kiskinwahamâkosiwak (they learn Cree, Cree ways). We also offer units on skating, snowshoeing, swimming, gymnastics, and so much more for your students to learn.

Our field trips and local bus service enhance our program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our principal, Cody Schlamp, at cschlamp@saulteau.com

Education is critical, and the BC First Nations Schools are striving for excellence and achieving outstanding results for our students.

kinanâskomitinân (we give thanks to you).

Our school is proudly staffed entirely by Indigenous educators and support staff, bringing lived experience, cultural knowledge, and strong connections to our community.



MUSKOTI MASKWAK





Saulteau FIRST NATIONS
Muskoti Elementary School

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labour Day Statutory Holiday (STAT)	8 Non-Instructional Day (NID) Staff in school	9 First Day of School 10:45-2:00 Parent Meet & Greet 10:45-11:30	10 First Full Day 8:45-3:00	11	12
13	14	15 Tentative Field-trip amisk farm	16	17	18	19
20 TREP Healing the Land Conference 22-24	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 National day for Truth & Reconciliation (STAT)			

Onôcihitowi-pîsim Oh-nochee-tow-pee-sim

Breeding Autumn Moon

MUSKOTI MASKWAK





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



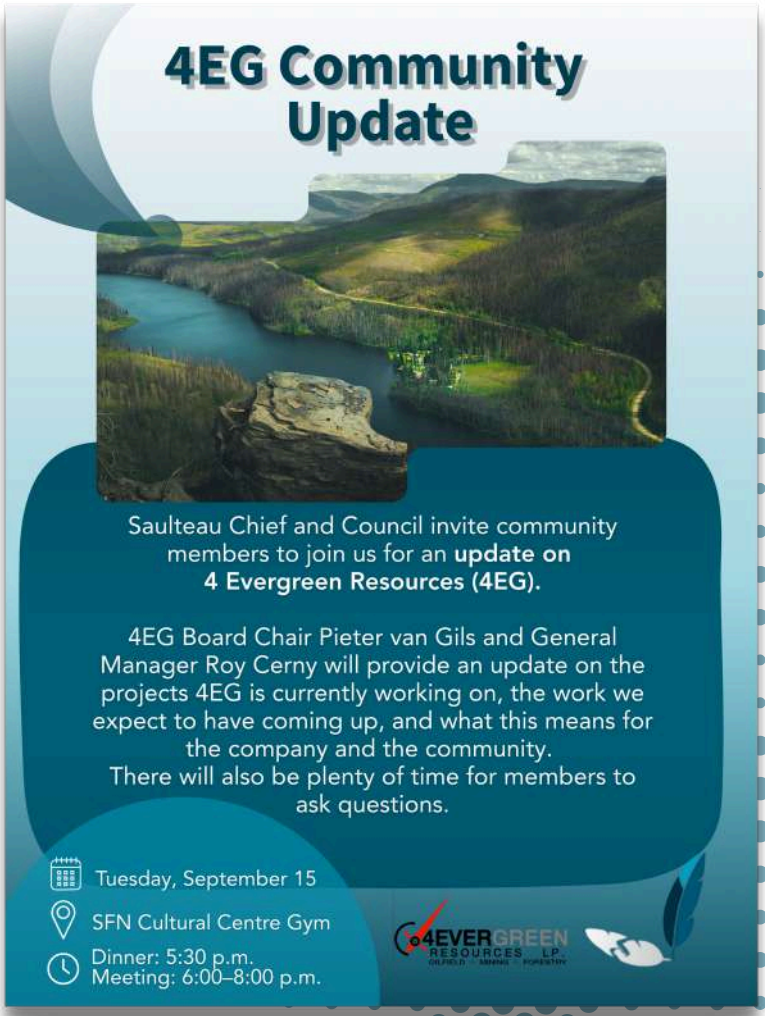


Justin Napoleon
Director of
Economic Development
justin.napoleon@
saulteau.com

ECONOMICS CONTACTS

Tonia Ritcher
Officer of
Economic Development
tritcher@saulteau.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT







LANDS STEWARDSHIP & PROTECTION



Hay Sales- 2026

UPDATE: The Nation will be waiting until the completion of haying season prior to releasing hay sales. The number of hay bales this year has decreased significantly, so once we have a final tally of what is available, we will be fairly distributing bales amongst requests. The price this year is $65/ea.

For members interested in purchasing hay from the Nation.

1- To make this a fair process for everyone, please contact Duane Cameron at 250-788-6266 to put your name on the list.

2- Upon confirmation **Payment arrangements can be made via Cash, Debit, visa at the Band Hall front desk with Willow Davis.**

3- Proof of payment will be required for pick up of hay and will be needed to be provided to Duane prior to pick up.
($65 per bale - No receipt no hay)

Please note:
- based on supply
- "As Is"

*** Please be patient and wait for a return call from Duane**

Naomi Owens-Beek
Director of TREP
nowens-beek@saulteau.com

TREP CONTACTS:

Teena Demeulemeester
TREP Manager
tdemeulemeester@saulteau.com

Jessica Eastman
Guardian Supervisor
jeastman@saulteau.com

Tom Aird
Aboriginal Liaison
ttom.aird@saulteau.com

LANDS CONTACTS:

Mary Doyle
Lands Manager
mdoyle@saulteau.com

Brooke Walker
Lands Officer
bwalker@saulteau.com



SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS

COMMUNITY PLANNING WORKBOOK

Executive Summary | August 2026

ABOUT THE WORKBOOK

Saulteau First Nations created the Community Planning Workbook to gather community input on several planning and development projects together in one place. The workbook gave members living both on- and off-reserve an opportunity to share their priorities, ideas and concerns about housing, land use, economic development, agriculture, training, community services and the future of Saulteau.

The feedback will help Saulteau make more coordinated, community-informed decisions about how reserve lands, resources, services and future development are planned and managed in the present and future!

A COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

Members shared a clear vision for the future: grow the community, create opportunities, and strengthen housing and services while protecting land, water, culture and wildlife.

238
workbook responses summarized in the workbook summary report

70%
of citizens identified new housing as a top land-use priority for the Nation

68%
of citizens identified agriculture & food security as a top priority to consider with future growth and development on-reserve

What stands out across the workbook results:

1 PROTECT WHAT MATTERS
Water, cultural and spiritual places, wildlife habitat, traditional use areas and agricultural lands were repeatedly identified for protection.

2 BUILD NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR PEOPLE
Strong interest in housing for families, Elders and singles in neighbourhoods that include walking paths, gardens, recreation and gathering spaces.

3 CREATE LOCAL BENEFITS
Members want economic development that creates jobs, training, local business opportunities and long-term benefits for Saulteau.

4 PLAN WITH PURPOSE
Support for development is strongest when there is a clear plan, environmental protection, community input and a visible community benefit.

5 STAY CONNECTED
Members want continued opportunities to provide input and to see how community feedback influences decisions.

THE OVERALL MESSAGE

Saulteau members are not choosing between growth and protection, but support balanced and community-led growth and development on our reserve lands that improves everyday life while protecting the lands and waters for future generations.

More detailed information on the workbook results can be found in the Summary Report on the planning areas seen below:





WHAT THIS MEANS FOR FUTURE PLANNING

Key findings from the community's responses

Bars indicate level of support from Citizens: *Lower Support* *Higher Support*

HOUSING-COMMUNITY GROWTH

- New housing as a top priority — 70%
- New Boucher Lake Road housing — 70%
- Highway 29 commercial support — 77%

Lakeview: 53% expressed interest in living there (rental or private home), while 35% were unsure. Affordability, lot size, infrastructure and access to jobs were key factors.

LAND, WATER & CULTURE

- Protect water, rivers, wetlands and shorelines.
- Protect cultural/spiritual sites and traditional use areas.
- Maintain wildlife habitat, corridors, berries and medicines.
- Use Elder and cultural knowledge to guide future planning and development.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT-INVESTMENT

Members support a diverse business and job hub, with priority for Saulteau and Citizen-owned businesses and partnerships that create local jobs.

- Nation-owned businesses — 58%
- Citizen-owned businesses — 67%
- Saulteau Business Partners — 53%

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Support agricultural investment — 78%
- Greenhouses / indoor growing — 68%
- Small livestock (e.g. chickens) — 57%
- Balance food + economy — 53%

Food security, self-sufficiency, affordability and sustainable stewardship were central priorities.

SKILLS & TRAINING

- Blended learning (in-person / virtual) — 92%
- Cultural / land-based learning — 86%

Members also expressed strong interest in a community skills inventory to support employment, training needs, skills-gap planning and decision-making.

SAFETY, RESILIENCE & FAMILY

- Highway safety: speeding, heavy traffic, crossings and winter conditions were recurring concerns.
- Climate/resilience: drying, flooding, erosion and wildfire risk were identified.
- Family supports: safe, welcoming, home-like spaces and culturally grounded services were emphasized.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the Community Planning Workbook and share your ideas, priorities, and concerns. Your feedback provides valuable direction for planning Saulteau's future and will help guide decisions around housing, land, economic development, community services, and the protection of land, water, and culture.

Your voice is an important part of shaping the future of Saulteau. Please stay tuned for future news and announcements regarding important planning projects and engagement opportunities!

Community Engagement Summary

Lakeview Subdivision Feasibility Study

Saulteau FIRST NATIONS

This project is a three-phase study exploring whether the area above the existing Lakeview subdivision is suitable, safe, and practical for future housing development, and what a new neighbourhood in this area could look like. Community input has been a key part of the process, helping identify priorities for housing, amenities, and neighbourhood features that will inform future subdivision concepts and planning decisions.

Phase 1: Kick-Off & Background Review — Phase 2: Site Analysis & Community Engagement — Phase 3: Site Investigation & Conceptual Design

How We Engaged – Phase 2

Community Planning Workbook
Online and in print

World Café
Open House

Door-to-door
Outreach

We received 247 completed workbooks, engaged with more than 50 participants at the World Café, and had many additional conversations throughout the community. Thank you to everyone who shared their ideas, priorities, and perspectives. Your input is helping ensure planning reflects our citizen's needs, values, and aspirations for the future.

What We Learned

Interest in Living in the Neighbourhood
Over half are interested, with conditions

Just over half of participants (53%) expressed interest in living in the new neighbourhood through either private ownership or rental housing, while 35% were unsure. Affordability, lot size, location, employment, and access to services were key factors influencing interest.

Amenities
Paths, gardens, and play spaces top the list

The three amenities were nearly tied, reflecting a community that values active living, cultural connection, and spaces for all ages.

- Lit walking and cycling paths - 52%
- Community gardens and plants - 51%
- Play areas for children and youth - 50%

Lot Sizes
Balance over uniformity

More than half of participants (53%) preferred a mix of smaller and larger lots. Many felt this approach could support more housing while still providing space for parking, storage, gardens, and cultural activities. Privacy and fairness were also important, with participants emphasizing that lots should not be too small or vary too greatly in size.

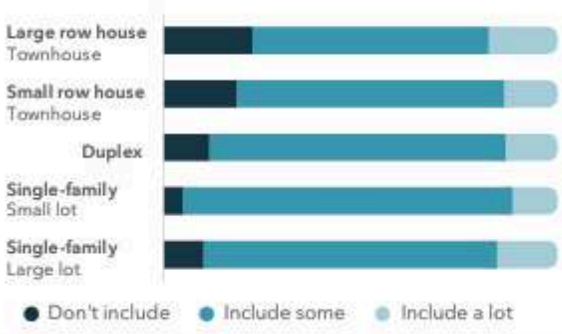
53% – mix of sizes
23% – larger lots
17% – smaller lots
19% – not sure

Housing Types
A mix of housing choices is widely supported

Participants supported providing a variety of housing options to meet the needs of different households, including Elders, singles, families, and people with specific housing needs. Feedback suggests community members want a range of housing choices, with single-family homes remaining an important part of the mix.

Building Types
Support for a balanced mix of building forms

Participants were asked which types of residential buildings should be included in the subdivision to accommodate more homes. Most preferred a balanced mix of building types rather than focusing on a single option. More than 75% of respondents felt every building type should be included to some extent. Single-family homes received the strongest overall support, while larger rowhouses and townhouses received the strongest support for being included in greater numbers in the final plan.



How Community Input Is Being Used

Your feedback helped shape the plan
Draft subdivision concepts were developed using technical studies and input from Saulteau staff and leadership, then refined based on feedback from the World Café, workbook submissions, and community conversations.

What Changed
Community feedback led to more multi-family housing, a more balanced mix of housing types, and additional parks and open space.

What Stayed the Same
Trail connections, road connections, the future loop road, and the potential future expansion area remain part of the concept.

For more information about the project, please contact the Lands Office or Mary Doyle, Lands Manager, at mdoyle@saulteau.com or 250-264-7133.

Next Steps

Completed: Results Shared with Chief and Council
Engagement findings and updated subdivision concepts were presented to Chief and Council, who supported moving the project to the next phase.

Now Underway: Site Investigation and Feasibility Testing
The project team is assessing land conditions, environmental considerations, servicing requirements, and long-term costs to determine whether the subdivision is feasible.

If Feasible: Funding, Design, and Approvals
Secure Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) funding, complete detailed design work, continue community engagement, and obtain approvals.

Future Phase: Construction
Construction would only proceed once technical work, funding, approvals, and community acceptance are in place.





August 24, 2026

Natural Resource
Aboriginal Liaison Program

Aboriginal Liaison Program (ALP) Report for April to June 2026.

Tanisi Saulteau Nation, Community and Members,

For your review and comments, my 2026-2027 Q1 report. This quarter included a lot of field time, pipeline inspections, meetings and planning (TR Youth Wellness Retreat, HTL, PRGT NLG, CER NorthRiver, TREP Open House) and a trip to the Haisla Nation for tours of the LNG projects on-going in Kitimat.

Treaty 8 field days included:

- Kakwa (orphan / dormant well sites)
- Sukunka (logging, mining, pipeline)
- Tumbler Ridge (Geo Park Office opening, meetings with Conuma, and HD, Windfarm site visit)
- Dawson (Rural Crime Watch, they would like to meet with us to discuss including SFN in this program)
- NorthRiver Mainline Pipeline (multiple inspections)
- Chetwynd (with West Fraser and Ovintiv for field planning around multi-industry, multi-nation field reclamation days)
- Hasler (pipeline, logging)
- Bearhole Lake (fires, oil & gas inspections)
- 6 Mile, Tower Lake (oil & gas inspections)
- Stewart Lake (oil & gas inspections, logging)
- Fort Nelson (COS training)

Meetings included:

- Healing the Land Conference
- PRGT Project Zoom update
- Tumbler Ridge Youth Wellness Camp (Carbon)
- 5 Mile Boat Launch with Chetwynd)
- CER AST on NorthRiver Pipeline Project
- SFN Open House

With the Orphan / Dormant sites, the T8 ALP's, discussed the status of the standing water on these sites. A lot of these sites are UTV access only, almost all have flare pits full of water, and we didn't know if the waters were tested regularly for toxins. This also lead us to a discussion of how the toxic water sites should be prioritized for reclamation.







Right now, the BCER sends a list of sites to be reclaimed, but we think knowing which sites are poisonous, would be helpful in this decision making. Have had a good discussion with this and they have provided us with a good way to document and report any sites that are of concern. Please let me know of any that are concerning for you.



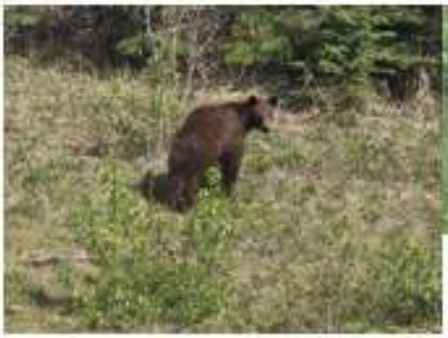


For the NorthRiver Pipeline, the first two inspections us ALP's participated in were busy with lots of questions and dialogue. As this is a new opportunity to participate for the ALP's we are learning a lot and is great to be part of the discussions around pipeline develop in our territory. There were some environmental issues, sediment controls issues, minor disturbances to wetlands and conversations around habitat disturbances adjacent to the pipeline (woodpecker and porcupine). Have recently completed a 3rd inspection with West Moberly (Kendall Davis) and the PLRW was in much better condition. Can say that the improvements in work were noticeable.

Attended Conservation Officer Training at the Fort Nelson First Nations community. Was a great training session and would recommend this to anyone from our nation that is doing field work.

The meeting with the City of Chetwynd, about the 5 mile boat launch, was good. We discussed how this development has impacted our treaty rights (I have used this site for a very long time for fishing and am no longer able to do this because of traffic and disturbances). Chetwynd admitted they hadn't thought about this when doing the boat launch upgrade. Is still an open conversation.

Accompanied John on a "fly-over" day up the Sukunka as requested by the CTI Mining Company. Very good dialogue on coal transfer options if this mine was to re-open (will let John update you on this one).





Had a lot more interest in the multi-industry, multi-nation field reclamation tours in July. Was a very busy schedule, starting at Site C, to Tower Area, Fellers Height and Tumbler areas. Over 25 people had expressed interest in attending to this, so lots of logistical planning. Ovintiv and West Fraser are presenting on this at the Healing the Land Conference, here, September 22-24,2026.







For the Saulteau Open House, was excited to share some of the provincial groups I participate on, listen to their concerns about development in our territory, get feedback on the Tumbler Youth Wellness Camp, and share my visit to the LNG Canada site. Had lots of questions from the community about pipelines and development.

Thank you for your considerations and please call or get in touch if you have any questions.

Tom

LANDS STEWARDSHIP & PROTECTION

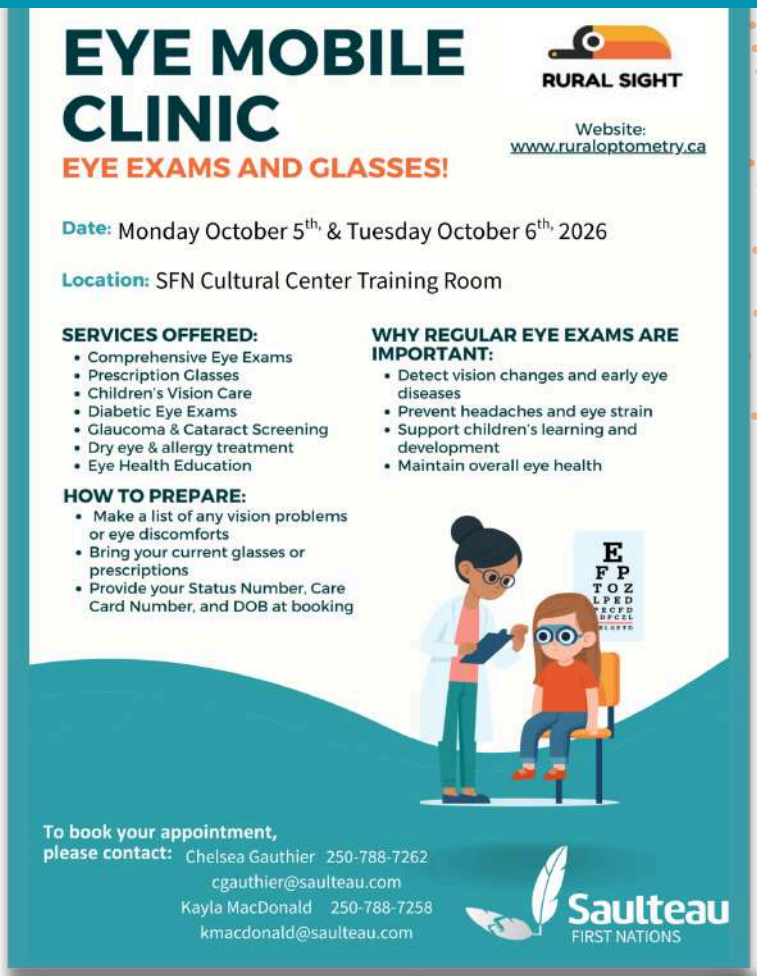


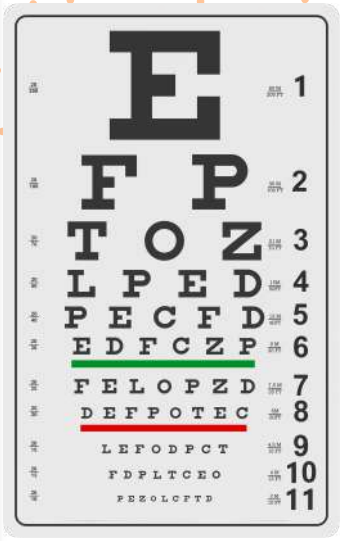






SFN HEALTH CENTRE









Sarah Howes
Director of Health
sgayse@saulteau.com

HEALTH CONTACTS:

Ashely Gauthier
Operations Manager
SFN Health Centre
ashely.gauthier@saulteau.com

LINDA KRYSTINA HOUSING SOCIETY CONTACTS:

Shari-Lyn Rougeau
Manager of LKHS
srougeau@saulteau.com

MENTAL HEALTH CONTACTS:

Annie Miller
Manager of Mental Health
akingstonmiller@saulteau.com

FAMILY SERVICES CONTACTS:

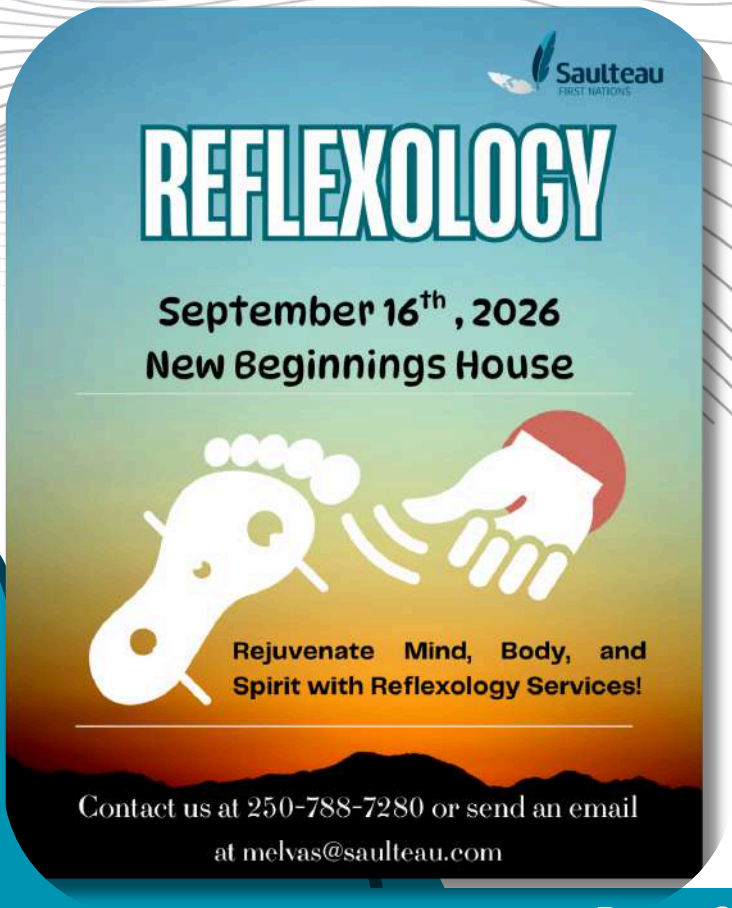
Jessa Coukell
Manager of Family Services
jcoukell@saulteau.com

SFN HEALTH CENTRE









SFN HEALTH CENTRE

September 2026 Health Centre Events

Plan	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Massage Therapy NBH	4	5
	6	7 Labour Day CLOSED	8 Hypnotherapy Week-Health Centre	9	10 HEALTH FAIR 10:00 am - 3:00 pm SFN Cultural Centre Gym Diabetic Footcare HC	11	12
Note	13	14 Acupuncture HC	15	16 Reflexology NBH	17 Massage Therapy NBH Physio Therapy HC	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24 Diabetic Footcare HC	25	26
	27	28	29	30 National Day for Truth and Reconcilliation!			





MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS



Talking Circle

Sunday, September 27th at 1:00pm
at the SFN Mental Wellness Department
(Above IDA Pharmacy)

Wellbriety is an Indigenous approach to healing and wellness. It goes beyond sobriety by focusing on balance in all parts of life. Mind, body, emotions, and spirit. It also encourages people to reconnect with culture, community, and traditional teachings as part of the healing journey.

Saulteau First Nations Mental Wellness Department

With questions please contact
Johnathan Davis at 2508751064 or
Kylie Davis at 25089751072

Saulteau FIRST NATIONS

Saulteau First Nations Mental Wellness Department

LUNCH

The SFN Mental Wellness Department invites you to enjoy lunch on the following days

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16
WEDENSDAY SEPTEMBER 23
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

12:00PM
at the Mental Wellness Department
(above IDA pharmacy)

Saulteau First Nations Mental Wellness Department

Harm Reduction Supplies Available for Pick Up or Drop Off

Sterile, free, tools to reduce the risk of injury, disease transmission, and fatal overdoses among people using substances.

Available for anonymous pick up at the Saulteau Health Centre & Mental Wellness Clinic.

Supplies can also be dropped off by calling or texting Tanya at 250-875-1011 or email tdavidson@saulteau.com

Saulteau FIRST NATIONS