

JANUARY 2024



ÓMAHKSÍKI'SOMMIKSI

"OLD MOON"

Pronounced:

Ooh-mah-ksa-key-soom

Ka'toyi (Kah-doi-ye) is another, more historical way to refer to this 4th winter lunar cycle. This Blackfoot word references the shortage of food that was experienced at this time of year.

I'TAAMIMAANSSTOYI!

Happy New Year!

Important Dates in the Old Moon

January 4th - National Ribbon Skirt Day

January 11th - Lethbridge School Division celebrates Ribbon Skirt Day

January 18th/19th - Last Day of Semester 1 classes

Good Luck on your Exams Students!!

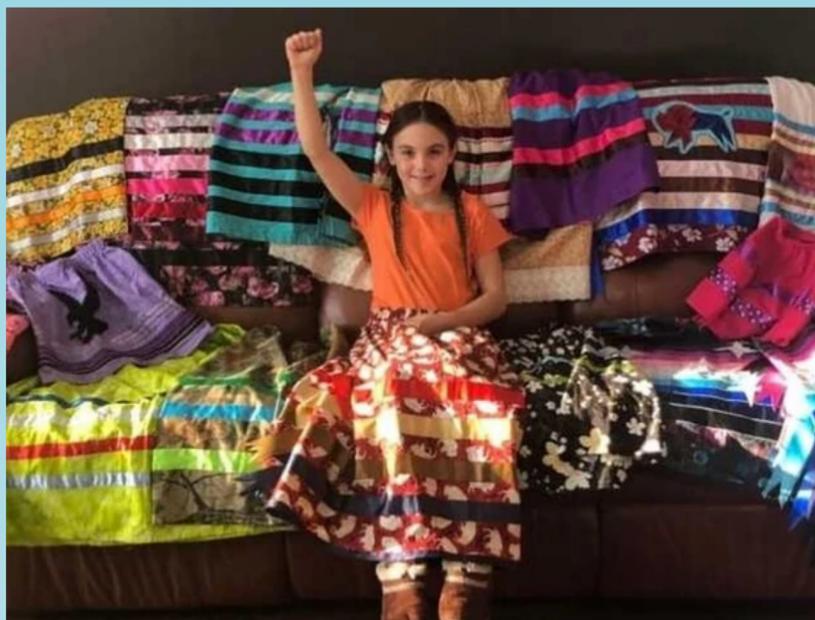
January 30th - Semester 2 begins



2nd National Ribbon Skirt Day

LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION WILL
CELEBRATE RIBBON SKIRT/SHIRT
DAY ON THURSDAY JANUARY 11TH.

WEAR YOUR RIBBON SKIRT OR
RIBBON SHIRT TO SCHOOL WITH
PRIDE!



In 2020 Isabella Kulak wore a Ribbon Skirt to her school formal day and was told she should have worn something more appropriate- something store bought, like the rest of the girls in her class. This incident left Isabella feeling very upset, but never ashamed. Her story went viral and inspired thousands of Indigenous people across Canada to wear their Ribbon Skirts and Shirts with pride!

Mary Jane McAllum, a member of Cree First Nation and Manitoba Senator, passed a Bill in 2020 that declared Jan. 4, 2023, as the first National Ribbon Skirt Day. The federal government shared a statement, reflecting that "this day is to learn more about and to celebrate Indigenous cultures, traditions, histories and contributions to Canada."

In Canadian history, there was a time (1884-1951) when the Indian Act dictated to First Nations peoples that it was illegal to practice our culture. Under the Indian Act, it was also illegal to wear traditional clothes from 1914 to 1951. National Ribbon Skirt Day is a time to celebrate First Nations, Métis and Inuit culture, while remembering the harsh laws imposed upon our way of life. It is also a time for settlers to reflect on cultural safety and how Canadians can continue to work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

Throughout our Communities...

Sik-Ook-Kotoki Friendship Society Archery session

Date: January
10, 2024

Location: Old
Agency Hall

Facilitator:
Kevin Healy

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Age category: 10 yrs +

Light lunch provided for the first
20 people

Please call 403-328-2414 for registration

Brought to you by One Horn Culture & Wellness & Blackfoot Confederacy

PIIKANI BUFFALO HARVEST

Lunch will be provided

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Everyone welcome to participate

Begins at 10:00am

Jan. 14 2024

QR code for location

Contact Patricia Bruised Head to register & for more info (403) 795-8483



TUESDAY,
JANUARY 16 & 30
from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

LET'S GET BEADING

FREE BEADING WORKSHOP

Join us at the Lethbridge Public Library to participate in a free beginner friendly Indigenous beading workshop.

MAIN BRANCH | PIITOYISS EAGLES NEST
TO REGISTER FOR A SPOT, PLEASE EMAIL:
indigenous.services@lethlib.ca

Lethbridge Public Library | CONNECTING YOU



The Lethbridge Public Library, Long & McQuade,
and The Lethbridge and Area Metis

Presents

Jig and Jam Music and Dance Lessons

By Dr. Monique Giroux, Dian Bessen-Bergeron, and Brittany Lee

A free twelve week music program starting on February 1
Thursday evenings at the Crossings Branch of the Lethbridge Public Library
6:30 pm to 8pm

Instruments provided by Long & McQuade
Feel free to bring your own fiddle or guitar

Register for instruments with the Lethbridge and Area Metis
lethlibandmetis.com
403-328-2414

Dance lessons start at 8:30 drop in welcome



WINTER CLOTHING




DRIVE

Donated clothing will be distributed to those
in need.
Thank you!

ACCEPTING LIGHTLY USED WINTER CLOTHING
ALL SIZES

SCARVES - GLOVES - BOOTS - COATS

Sik-Ook-Kotoki Friendship Society
1709 2nd Avenue South Lethbridge, AB
(403) 328-2414



Indigenous Women's Gathering

Join us in person to share your knowledge, wisdom, and experience. Circles have long been part of our Indigenous Culture in creating a safe space to engage in conversations about concerns and challenges we face.

We encourage sharing your ideas and thoughts including any limitations that you may have encountered moving forward. We are here to listen and empower each other by sharing our stories!

These circles create opportunity to build stronger connections for Indigenous Women and communities in Alberta.

Date: Tuesday January 30th, 2024
Time: 3:00-7:00pm (Meal Provided)
Location: Lethbridge and Area Metis office
132 - 909 3 Avenue N

Esquao, the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women, is an Alberta non-profit organization that serves to amplify and share the voices of Indigenous women on the issues and challenges they face.



If you would like to get involved with our 'Kitsiikakomimm' initiative this year for the month of February, where we collect supplies for the less fortunate, please contact shawnee.bigbull@lethsd.ab.ca or reach out to your High School Indigenous Grad Coach for more information and collaboration.

LILY GLADSTONE

BLACKFEET, NEZ PERCE

Lily made history at the Golden Globes on January 7th, 2024, as she became the First Indigenous person to be awarded the Golden Globe award for her major role in the Motion Picture, 'Killers of the Flower Moon'.



Click to watch Lily's acceptance speech where she acknowledges attendees as well as millions of viewers worldwide in Blackfoot!



One of the songs featured on "Killers of the Flower Moon" film is "Midnight Sun" by Reuben and the Dark, and the Bullhorn Singers, - a drum group from here in Sikookohtok (Lethbridge). Check it out!

