

SIKSIKAITSI TAPI ISSKINIMATSTOHKSIN | KAINAIWA BLOOD TRIBE | AITSI'POYIIKSI
PRESENTS



NIITSIPOWAHSIN

BLACKFOOT LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

JUNE 18 & 19, 2024 | RED CROW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JUNE 20, 2024 | BLOOD TRIBE MULTI-PURPOSE

9AM - 4PM DAILY

Presentations | Awards | Field Trips
Light Breakfast & Lunch Served



REGISTER NOW:

niitsipowahsinstrategyiii@gmail.com

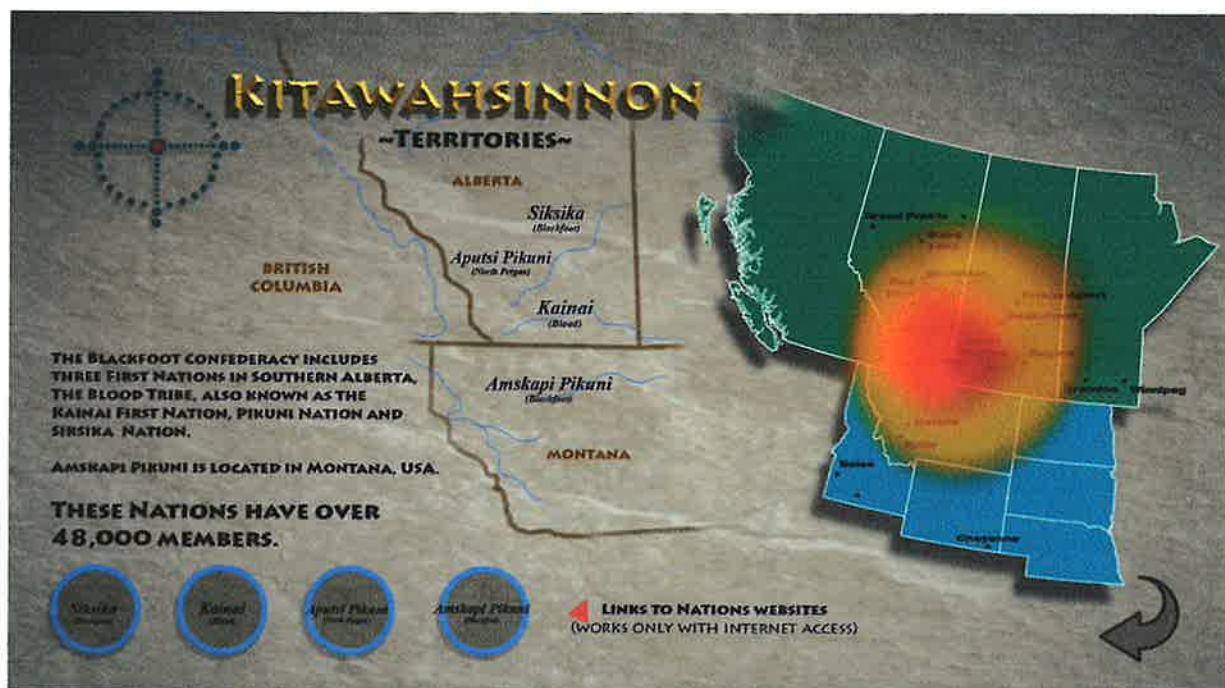
AAKOMANISTAHTSI' KI' TSIPOWAHSINNOONI

OKI, WELCOME to SIKSIKAITSI TAPI TERRITORY

Oki and greetings to our Siksikaitstapi members and stakeholders, it is an honor to host the Niistipowahsin Language Conference on behalf of the Blackfoot Confederacy, Blood Tribe and Aitsi'poyiiks committee.

Please help us to celebrate and honor the efforts of the various individuals, entities and initiatives that support the advancement, reinforcement and revitalization of Niistipowahsin, so that our future generations may benefit and learn about our history, and all those endeavors to preserve and protect Niistipowahsin, the Blackfoot Language.

AAKOMANISTAHTSI'KI'TSIPOWAHSINNONNI





MAKIINIMA

CHIEF ROY FOX

Makiinima, Chief Roy Fox has been involved in political & business leadership for the Kainai / Blood Tribe and others for over 50 years. Makiinima was 24 years old when he was first elected to the Blood Tribe Council & he was mentored by wise & knowledgeable leaders such as Chief Shot Both Sides & long-time Council members & other leaders in the business sector within the Tribe & it's various partners. He was elected as Chief of the Blood Tribe in 1980 upon the retirement & support of Chief Shot Both Sides. He was elected continuously until his initial retirement in 1996 after serving 8 terms as the Kainai Chief and proceeded to work in the resource sector privately and for the national Indian Resource Council as the President/CEO. He continued to work in the resource industry after he led the IRC for about 15 years & was eventually convinced to run for political office again.

He was elected with a great majority in 2016 & has served the Kainai/Blood Tribe as the Chief since then.

His political & business accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this brief summation however that information can be provided.



Special Dedication to **Itoomitaipiima, ANGIE (Louise Marie) CROP EARED WOLF**



Itoomitaipiima (First to Enter) Angie (Louise Marie) CROP EARED WOLF, was born on July 21, 1958 to Joe and Louise Crop Eared Wolf. She was named after her Great Grandmother, Itoomitaipiima, Tall Man's mother. She belonged to the Fish Eater and Lone Fighter Clans.

Angie grew up with her parents, her sisters and brothers on the family ranch. She attended St. Mary's Residential School. She graduated from F. P. Walsh in Fort Macleod and the University of Lethbridge with a BA in Native Studies. She also attended the University of Regina and Lethbridge Community College.

Angie's life work centered around the preservation of the Kainai Oral Tradition, including research, interviewing our elders, as well as transcribing and translating the interviews from Blackfoot to English. Her latest project was working with Blood Tribe Management collecting Kainai stories from the Elders and along with her team producing a series of videos intended for community education and the preservation of our old-time stories for future generations.

Angie was a kind and gentle soul, always ready to help and support you in your time of need; always going out of her way out to make things right. As a young girl she had a special love for cats, was always bringing strays home and nurturing them back to health.

Angie loved the outdoors, and was an avid gardener, she had a way with plants and flowers as well she had a special talent for cooking and baking.

Angie was a great writer and was well read and interested in many topics including history, culture, politics and First Nation issues and was a great proponent of Blackfoot language preservation. Angie will be remembered for her genuine interest in and deep commitment to the preservation of our Blackfoot language and culture.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Sii pii nama yaaki **Adelaide (Dolly) Creighton**

Siipinamayaaki is a member of the Blood Tribe – Kainai People in Southern Alberta of the Blackfoot Confederacy. She is a mother of one son and two daughters. A grandmother of seven and has eight great grandchildren.

Dolly received her former education in her community on the Blood Reserve in a residential school for ten years. Her life experiences including her academic education; trainings; teachings and professional careers in Nursing; Social Work; Mental Health Therapist; Community Health Educator; Community Development Coordinator; Project/Program Planner; Certified Trainer; Holistic Healing & Energy Medicine Facilitator. These experiences have provided her with the knowledge and skills to help others how to help themselves.

Her personal healing journey took her to many places across Canada and in the world including California, Europe and Australia. Dolly has experienced the wisdom of body-mind communication and its healing powers including her advanced training in “Intuition & Clairvoyance” teachings. Her journey of learning is on-going from the wisdom of First Nations Knowledge Keepers; Healers; Herbalists; Hypno-Therapists including world renowned & distinguished teachers from the “Harmony Institute Of PsychoSomatic Therapy” in Australia. She uses and includes these concepts and techniques to help others how to help themselves, whether it be personal, family, groups, management, professional or community sessions. Her First Nations Blackfoot Culture and Language is a crucial integrated part of transferring her knowledge and information.

Dolly's passion is to create awareness and promote the importance of healing from our past. Especially as it relates to the impacts and effects of the legacy of colonization and residential schools. She believes that in order to become whole and healthy one must balance the body, mind and spirit – and have a strong spiritual connection. “When we are balanced we are living fully. When we are not at ease with body, mind and spirit, the result is disease, illness and discord. We tend to get wholistic diseases and for that reason we need wholistic medicine. No body, healer or anyone can give us this balance unless we choose to participate in our own healing process”. Dolly believes that healing is a very personal choice. It is something that doesn't come from outside of us – it begins within (inside) each and everyone of us as human beings



NSIII - 2024

Overview of the Niitsipowahsin Strategy, capturing of historical accountings by Elders and Knowledge Keepers from the Siksikaitsitapi – Blackfoot Confederacy. The facilitator is grateful for these contributions as these accounts contain wisdom and lessons that the ancestors used to help our people become Niitsitapi, one who understands their place in this world and how they can contribute to ensure our ways of being, our language, and our knowledge of ceremony continues for the children yet unborn.

Thank you to the PRESENTERS from the BLOOD TRIBE for sharing highlights from the many initiatives supporting the revitalization of Niitsipowahsin, the Blackfoot Language.

Biographies:

Ikkinaiahkii, Camina Weasel Moccasin, is from the Kainai Nation and part of the Many Children's clan. She is born to the parents of Alvin and Tamra Manychief and has been involved in archeology and anthropology for 15 years. Camina has worked at heritage sites such as Writing-On-Stone/Aisinai'pi and Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump. She has spent the last two years working at the Galt Museum and Archives | Akaisamitohkanao'pa as the Indigenous Curator while also completing her MA in Anthropology.

Kitawahsinnonni – An interactive discussion regarding our Blackfoot Territory, Native Trout and Blackfoot Guardianship Rocky Mountain Eastslopes.

Presenters from Blackfoot Confederacy Tribal Council: Kimmy Houle Akai'kamotaaki Director Environment & Economic Development, Elliot Fox Makoyoohkinii Project Manager - Environmental Protection & Conservation, Justin Bruised Head Aakamoot'skoonuk-kii, Coordinator Blackfoot Guardianship Hank Shade Akokiika (Many Camps)



EAGLE TALKERS app

Step 1: Unlock your phone or tablet and open the "Camera" app or go to "www.kaleidoscopexr.ca/EagleTalkers"

About Us

Since 2017, CIF Reconciliation Society has led the effort to provide opportunities for Indigenous people through advancing education on Indigenous issues, spirituality, art, and culture by providing space in Treaty 7.

Eagle Talkers

In today's rapidly changing world, many Indigenous languages are at risk of disappearing. Eagle Talkers is an augmented reality application that joins stunning sacred site visuals, and live-facilitated storytelling to help children learn and preserve their ancestral languages. The application honors the traditional Indigenous way of learning through oral culture, while also incorporating modern technology to enhance the experience.

Connect with Remote Communities:

Eagle Talkers acts as a digital meeting ground, uniting distant Indigenous communities. It's a space where individuals from different locations can gather, share stories, and learn their endangered languages in real-time.



Live-Facilitated Storytelling:

Embark on a captivating journey through live-facilitated storytelling sessions. Led by experienced facilitators, these sessions infuse cultural richness into language learning, creating an engaging and inclusive experience for users.

360-Degree Videos of Cultural Sites:

Explore the cultural significance of various sites through immersive 360-degree videos. Eagle Talkers provides a visual experience that deepens the connection to heritage, offering users a window into the roots of language.

Interactive Learning with Virtual Whiteboard:

Engage in collaborative learning with Fingerprint's virtual whiteboard feature. Language exercises, games, and lessons become a shared experience, making learning enjoyable and dynamic.

Community Collaboration:

Built on the spirit of community collaboration, CIFRS invites all Indigenous communities to participate. Download the app today and become part of the collective effort to preserve these invaluable languages for generations to come. Have a great evening!

Oli Siska, MBA

CEO

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AAKOMANISTAHTSI'KI'TSIPOWAHSINNOONI

Our Language will continue

TIME	TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024					
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast	Red Crow Gymnasium				
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome & Introductions, Opening Prayer	Aitsi'poyiiks Drummers Grand Entry and Flags from nations Aatsimoihkaan: Siksapo'p Patrick Black Plume MC: Mai'stoi'na Clayton Blood, Jack Royal CEO Blackfoot Confederacy Welcome by Ikhkin'ninaiks: Makiinima Chief Roy Fox Representatives from Siksika, Amskapi Pikuni, & Piikani				
9:30 – 10:30	Keynote	Sii pii nama yaaki Dolly Creighton				
10:30 - 10:45	Wellness Break					
10:45 – 12:00 Noon	YOUTH PANEL: Po'ksiiksiskstakaaki Doricia Healy, Pitaih Ohkatok Kaysen McNeely,	Panel of Siksikaitstapi Youth speaking on how they have utilized Siksikaitstapi Ways of Knowing and Being to prepare themselves for their life journey, and share information on their accomplishments.				
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Lunch	Blackfoot Confederacy Archive – Staahtsisttayaaki Dr. Genevieve A. Fox & Tech team: Sandra Bruised Head (Translator/Interpreter), Tracy Weasel Fat (Videographer), Phil Spink (Archive)				
12:45 – 1:45	Honoring of Iitoomitaipiima Angie Crop Eared Wolf	Blood Tribe Videos, Nadine TailFeathers				
1:45 – 2:00	Wellness Break					
	Room: Gym	115	116	203	118	206
2:00– 3:00 pm	Showcase of Blackfoot Language Revitalization efforts Kainai Blood Tribe Annette Bruised Head	Iinni Restoration CloAnn Wells,	Kitawahsinnonni Kimmy Houle, Elliot Fox, Justin Bruised Head & Elder Advisory Committee	Niitsipowahsin Strategy Staahtsisttayaaki, Tech Team, Elder & Youth	Traditional Horse Therapy Shane Little Bear & Elder Advisory committee	Restorative Justice Annabel Crop Eared Wolf, Eugene Creighton, Leon Day Chief & KPP Staff



AAKOMANISTAHTSI'KI'TSIPOWAHSINNOONI

Our Language will continue

	Gym	115	116	203	118	206
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Showcase of Blackfoot Language Revitalization efforts Amskapi Pikuni Lea Whitford,	linni Restoration CloAnn Wells,	Kitawahsinnonni Kimmy Houle, Elliot Fox & Elder Advisory Committee	Niitsipowahsin Strategy Staahtsistayaaki, Tech Team, Elder & Youth	Traditional Horse Therapy Shane Little Bear & Elder Advisory committee	Inter-active conversation Nadine Tail Feathers,
4:30 – 6:00 PM Field Trip	TOUR of NAPI'S GARDEN Api'somahka William Singer III					
END OF DAY 1						



AAKOMANISTAHTSI'KI'TSIPOWAHSINNOONI

Our Language will continue

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024						
TIME						
8:30– 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST					
9:00 – 9:15 AM	OPENING PRAYER	Wilton Good Striker				
9:15 – 10:30	<u>ELDERS & KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS PANEL:</u> Camina Weasel Moccasin, Wilton GS, Agnes FC, Gilbert Eagle Bear	Panel of Elders/Knowledge Keepers to talk about 1. The past, oral tradition 2. Pictographs, petroglyphs 3. Star stories 4. songs, ceremony, 5. Niinamskaiksi 6. Governance,				
10:00 10:45	Wellness Break	115	116	203	118	206
10:45 – 12:00 noon	Showcase of Blackfoot Language Revitalization efforts Siksika Verna Weasel Child & Larissa	Restorative Justice Eugene Creighton, Wilton Goodstriker, Leon Day Chief & KPP Staff	Iinni Restoration CloAnn Wells,	Inter-active conversation Nadine Tail Feathers	Kitawahsinnonni Kimmy Houle, Elliot Fox & Elder Advisory Committee	Niitsipowahsin Strategy Staahtsisttayaaki, Tech Team, Elder & Youth
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH	Showcase EAGLE TALKERS	Teaching APP	Staahtsisttayaaki,	Oli Siska, Joyce Healy,	& Kaleidoscope Tech Team
	Gym	115	116	203	118	206
1:00 – 2:15 PM	Showcase of Blackfoot Language Revitalization efforts Blackfoot Confederacy Annette Bruised Head	Restorative Justice Eugene Creighton, Wilton Goodstriker, Leon Day Chief & KPP Staff	Traditional Horse Therapy Shane Little Bear & Elder Advisory	Iinni Restoration CloAnn Wells,	Inter-active conversation Nadine Tail Feathers	Kitawahsinnonni Kimmy Houle, Elliot Fox Justin Bruised Head & Elder Advisory Committee



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Our Language will continue

2:15 – 2:30 PM	Wellness break	115	116	203	118	206
2:30 – 3:30 PM	Showcase of Blackfoot Language Revitalization efforts BFC Health Tisha Wadsworth, Chyloe Healy	Niitsipowahsin Strategy Staahtsistayaaki, Tech Team, Elder & Youth	Iinni Restoration CloAnn Wells,	Restorative Justice Eugene Creighton, Wilton Goodstriker, Leon Day Chief & KPP Staff	Traditional Horse Therapy Shane Little Bear & Elder Advisory committee	Inter-active conversation Nadine Tail Feathers,
3:30 – 4:00	Closing remarks: Makiinima Chief Roy Fox, Retiring of Flags Aitsi'poiiks Drummers					



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Our Language will continue

MULTI – PURPOSE BUILDING,	THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024 AITSI'POYIIKSI
8:30 – 9:00	BREAKFAST
9:00 – 9:30	MC – Tony Delaney and Floyd Big Head Prayer – Leroy and Harriet Heavy Runner Welcome – Makiinima Chief Roy Fox Honor Song & Flag Song – Aitsi'poyiiksi Drummers Grand Entry
9:30 -10:30	Keynote Presentation Title: Keeping the Spirit of our language alive Abstract: As an Indigenous youth advocate who is exploring language revitalization and decolonization in my own community, and across Turtle Island, my keynote will offer perspectives from my own journey. I will share my experiences in language revitalization, projects I have been a part of, and how I use technology and media to support language revitalization. I will focus on how youth can engage in language revitalization and language learning, and share tips on how they can become involved. My hope is that you will learn more about language revitalization from a youth perspective and why it is important for more youth to become involved and the positive impact it will have for their community and future generations. Keynote Presenter: Aiyanna Twigg, Ktunaxa and Blackfoot Descent
10:30 - 10:45	BREAK
10:45 – 11:45	Presentation from Amskaapipikani Robert Hall embodies the rich cultural heritage of his ancestry. With roots tracing back to Mary Ground on his mother's side and Sits-Himself-in-the-Middle on his father's, Robert cherishes the wisdom passed down by his elders, particularly their emphasis on the significance of language preservation. His passion for revitalizing his native tongue is palpable, often employing puppets as engaging tools to impart its words and teachings. Unfazed by linguistic errors, Robert ardently believes that imperfectly spoken words nourish a language far more than its neglect ever could. Presenter: Robert Hall
11:45 – 1:00	LUNCH
1:00 – 2:00	Presentation from Siksika Title: Innovative Language Revival through VR: Thunder VR Abstract: The Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY) presents a groundbreaking approach to language preservation through a virtual reality (VR) game: Ksiistsikom (Thunder) VR. This project merges Indigenous storytelling and immersive technology, focusing on a narrative where a man confronts the spirit Thunder (Ksiistsikom) in a Blackfoot mythological context. The game's development highlights USAY's integration of traditional tales with VR technology, aiming to revive the endangered Blackfoot language. The presentation will discuss the game's



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Our Language will continue

	<p>role in language learning, its development process, and the potential of using games and technology for educational purposes. USAY's initiative demonstrates how digital platforms can be powerful tools in preserving and promoting endangered languages and cultures, offering a new way to engage and educate diverse audiences.</p> <p>Presenter: Chaz Prairie Chicken, Coordinator for Creative Projects at USAY</p>
2:00 – 3:00	<p>Presentation from Kainai Title: First/Early Standoff Homesteads, Names of Owners/Occupants Martin and Gilbert will identify early occupants in the community of Standoff. They will share some of the community history. The Blackfoot language lesson in their presentation will be in identifying the occupants of these early homesteads and sharing their traditional Blackfoot names.</p> <p>Presenters: Martin Eagle Child and Gilbert Eagle Bear</p>
3:00 – 3:15	<p>BREAK</p>
3:15 – 4:15	<p>Presentation from Apatohsipikani Piikani Niitsipowahsin Curriculum Development Presenters: Peigan Board of Education Piikani Niitsipowahsin Language Group</p>
4:15 – 4:45	<p>Door/Major Prizes <u>MUST BE PRESENT TO ACCEPT PRIZE</u> BTSD employees will not be included in the Major draw</p> <p>Thank You Dance – End of Symposium XII</p>



NITSINIIMI'TAKI

~THANK YOU~

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE
AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF THIS ARCHIVE



DCH Department of Culture and Heritage

MAKIINIMA CHIEF ROY FOX

STAHTSISTTAYAARI DR. G.A. FOX

AAKAIKKITSTAKI BRIAN SCHMIDT

SANDRA BRUISED HEAD

TRACY WEASEL FAT



~CLICK TO CONTINUE~

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