

## SIIT Staff and Student Update

May 27, 2020

In accordance with guidelines from the Province of Saskatchewan **all of SIIT's facilities will remain closed to the general public until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.**

### Information for Students

**Program Completion-** We are making every effort to ensure that you are able to complete your program. At this time, we are beginning to pivot to restricted onsite delivery for specific programs. We have a proposal to return to site for these purposes in front of the Provincial Government and expect to have a response soon. Your instructor will be available by phone or email to discuss the status and plan for your program.

Through the guidance of the Government of Saskatchewan's April 23<sup>rd</sup> announcement of the *Re-open Saskatchewan Plan*, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies will coordinate with all Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions and deliver a hybrid, or blended, approach to education delivery this fall.

Students are encouraged to continue to monitor the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies website at <https://siit.ca/closures-info/> for additional details about specific programs and classes beginning in Fall 2020.

**Student Services-** Student counsellors and learning specialists remain available to work with you remotely. If you are unsure of who to contact, please email [supportservices@siit.ca](mailto:supportservices@siit.ca) and someone will reach out to you.

**Parchment Mailout-** If you have completed all requirements to graduate from your program, your transcript and parchment will be mailed out to the address that you listed when you registered. If you need to update your contact information, please email the Registrar at [registrar@siit.ca](mailto:registrar@siit.ca)

**Convocation-** Our 2020 Convocation Ceremony will be provided in a virtual format on SIIT's social media channels on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please stay tuned for details.

**Canada Emergency Student Benefit-** The Canada Emergency Student Benefit opened for applications on Friday May 15, 2020. If you have not set up a Canada Revenue Agency Account yet, please do so at <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/account-individuals.html>. The Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) provides financial support to post-secondary students, and recent post-secondary and high school graduates who are unable to find work due to COVID-19. This benefit is for students who do not qualify for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) or Employment Insurance (EI).

### Career Centre Services

Career Centres will continue to provide services to both job seekers and employers by telephone and online – please contact your local Career Centre to be referred to a Job Coach and stay tuned to your local Career Centre Facebook page for updates. Career Centres will begin restricted onsite delivery of specific services in step with SIIT's plan to reopen sites to the general public.

## Information for Staff

**Human Resources Update-** Prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, Staff must receive clearance from their supervisor and Vice President prior to entering any SIIT site. Although we remain closed to the public, some departments will begin transitioning back to work in SIIT facilities. Staff will continue to receive direction from their immediate supervisor regarding work-from-home and return to work expectations. As we transition back to work, there may be travel required. Please seek approval to travel from your immediate supervisor.

Please continue to utilize our Employee & Family Assistance Program if you are experiencing stress or anxiety at 1-800-663-1142 or [www.homeweb.ca](http://www.homeweb.ca). Homewood Health will continue to offer online counselling services and a large amount of online resources for SIIT staff. Please reach out to HR at [ahenakewa@siit.ca](mailto:ahenakewa@siit.ca) if you require additional information.

**IT Update-** Two new cybersecurity courses will be available to SIIT employees. Cybersecurity for Remote Workers (CIRA) will cover topics such as home Wi-Fi, safe passwords, personal devices, and how to detect a phishing email. COVID-19 Cyber Threats will cover a review of COVID-19 related attacks and how to spot and prevent them. Employees will receive emails from Beauceron Security with links to complete the training.

### **Further Updates:**

We appreciate your hard work during these challenging times and applaud your resilience and flexibility. It is impressive how quickly our staff and students have adapted to the realities of social distancing and working from home. We thank you for doing your part to flatten the COVID-19 curve.

Although there are many unknowns at this stage, SIIT will continue to provide regular updates on operations via email, social media, and our website as plans to re-open the province unfold. Urgent inquiries can be directed to Lorian Kennedy, Director of Strategic Initiatives at 1-877-282-5622. Messages will be reviewed daily.

**Riel Bellegarde**  
**President & CEO**  
**Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies**