

Media Release

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SIIT's Virtual Career Fair Connects Employers to Skilled Indigenous Workforce

SASKATCHEWAN – Finding creative solutions to tangible challenges has always been a staple of SIIT's programs and services. It comes as little surprise then, that in the current pandemic environment, the SIIT Job Connections team has quickly pivoted their services to ensure clients throughout the province receive the labour market services they need.

On February 18, SIIT will be holding its second Virtual Career Fair of the 2020/2021 academic year. Participating employers include the Ministry of Highways, Des Nedhe, and SaskEnergy with opportunities throughout the province. All employer information sessions will be held over the ZOOM online platform and registration is free. "You can attend all or chosen sessions", explains organizer Jason Chickosis, "these are active sessions and there will be opportunities to ask questions and interact with the employers".

The Virtual Career Fair is open to all SIIT Career Centre job seeking clients as well as members of Tribal Councils and First Nations partnered through the Indigenous Skills & Employment Training (ISET) Program. This event is truly provincial in scope, encompassing member nations as well as the SIIT Career Centres in the Battlefords, Creighton, La Ronge, Lloydminster, Meadow Lake, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, and Yorkton.

Next week's fair builds on the success of the first SIIT Virtual Career Fair held in November 2020. With four provincial employers invited, over 150 potential connections where made in just one day of sessions. "SIIT, along with the ISET Program network, works to support Indigenous people of Saskatchewan through pre-career development activities, basic education, skill development programs, and education right to the labour market. We want to ensure that program graduates and job seeking clients have supported connections to Saskatchewan employers that will lead to employment outcomes," explains Lisa Shingoose, VP - Employment Development and Career Services at SIIT. "This virtual career fair is just one of the many ways we adapt service delivery to continue creating opportunities." Each year, SIIT Career Centres support over 5000 clients to find meaningful employment.

For more information, registration and an agenda, please email chickosisj@siit.ca.



Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)

SIIT was established in 1976 by Saskatchewan First Nations leaders representing all Treaty areas. Today, SIIT remains a First Nation-governed educational institution, one of only four creditgranting post-secondary institutions in the province and the only accredited Indigenous institution. SIIT provides adult learners with academic, vocational and technical training as well as services and supports for employment and career growth. Indigenous learners are at the core of SIIT, representing over 95% of the student body.

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For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact: **Dr. Victoria Lamb Drover Director, Strategic Communications** Phone: (306) 441-5418 Email: <u>droverv@siit.ca</u>