



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## SIIT launches Pop-Up Career Centre

**LA LOCHE** – Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) proudly announces the grand opening of its 10<sup>th</sup> Career Centre. This landmark event underscores SIIT’s unwavering commitment to fostering economic empowerment and professional growth for First Nation communities throughout the province.

Strategically situated in La Loche, this innovative Pop-up concept has been designed to cater to regions of the province experiencing a demand in the labour market. We are excited to be working in La Loche and surrounding communities. The new Pop-up Career Centre serves as a hub for Indigenous individuals and communities seeking comprehensive employment and training services tailored to their unique needs. SIIT recognizes the opportunity to grow training and employment services in La Loche through partnership with existing community organizations and employers. Working collectively, we can design a unique service plan that responds to local labour market opportunity as well as the circumstances of La Loche job seekers.

"Last year the SIIT Career Centre network supported over 4,100 clients on their pathway towards sustainable employment, providing employment connections and opportunities for pre-employment preparation and skill development. Clients set their objectives, local employers identify their workforce needs and we create alignment between the two." explains Lisa Shingoose, VP Employment Development & Career Services. "Career Centres partners with over 1,000 employers across the province to implement an industry-driven service delivery model. We are proud of the longstanding relationships we have with many employers and work together to provide employment experiences for people and workforce development solutions. We are passionate about the work and approach each new client and employer relationship with versatility to create success."

The Career Centre in La Loche marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Career Centre across the province. Started in 1987, SIIT Career Centres established locations in Creighton, La Ronge, Lloydminster, Meadow Lake, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Yorkton and the Battlefords. The last of which won the Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce BBEX 2023 Community Impact Award earlier this year. "First Nation peoples are the fastest growing demographic in Saskatchewan and critical to the economic growth of our province", explained Riel Bellegarde, President & CEO. "SIIT will continue to build relationships with local employers and connect Indigenous clients to meaningful employment."

## **Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)**

Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies was established in 1976 by Saskatchewan First Nations Chiefs representing all Treaty areas. Today, SIIT remains a First Nations-governed educational institution – and one of only four credit-granting post-secondary institutions in the province. 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 percent of the student body.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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