



MEDIA RELEASE

September 3, 2025

SIIT LAUNCHES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SPECIALIST PROGRAM EXPANSION IN REGINA

REGINA - Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) is proud to announce a significant expansion of its post-secondary Information Technology Support Specialist (ITSS) programs across Saskatchewan. Building on the success of its Saskatoon-based ITSS program, this new initiative will meet growing demand for Indigenous professionals in health care and other sectors across Saskatchewan. With an investment of \$1,321,198 from PrairiesCan under their Regional Innovation Ecosystems Program, this expansion will bring new training spaces, technology, and programming to the SIIT Regina campus — helping more students build careers in IT and digital support.

Construction of a new computer lab and classrooms in Regina is now complete, with the first ITSS cohort launching this fall. The expanded program will welcome 25 students per year for two years, providing hands-on training in a growing field. In the final year of the project, SIIT will also launch a new Advanced Certificate program with 12 seats, delivered through a flexible hybrid format to increase accessibility for learners across Saskatchewan.

“This project reflects what SIIT does best — meeting learners where they are, creating pathways into meaningful work, and responding to the needs of community and industry,” said Andrea Sanderson, Dean of Post-Secondary at SIIT. “PrairiesCan’s support has been key to growing our ITSS program. Their investment helps us reach more students, offer hands-on learning, and respond to the demand for digital skills across the province.”

As a long-term partner of SIIT, PrairiesCan continues to play a vital role in strengthening Indigenous-led education and increasing access to skills training across the province.

“A skilled and inclusive tech workforce is key to driving innovation and long-term economic growth in Saskatchewan and across our country,” said the Honourable Eleanor Olszewski, Minister of Emergency Management and Community Resilience and Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan). “By investing in expanded IT training at SIIT, our new government is helping to build a talent pipeline that supports businesses, creates high-paying jobs, strengthens Indigenous participation in the digital economy, and ensures workers, companies and communities have the capacity to make Canada the strongest economy in the G7.”

“By investing in expanding IT training at SIIT, we’re helping more students — especially Indigenous learners — gain the skills they need for good, high-paying jobs in the digital

economy”, said the Honourable Buckley Belanger, Secretary of State (Rural Development). “Employers across Saskatchewan are looking for people with these exact skills, whether it’s in health care, small business, or government services.”

This expansion builds on SIIT’s commitment to community-driven, culturally grounded education and reflects a shared vision for Indigenous student success and long-term workforce growth across Saskatchewan.

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Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)

Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies was established in 1976 by Saskatchewan First Nations Chiefs. 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 90 percent of the student body.

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