COMMUNITY UPDATE

SITANSISK KOLUSUWAKON

MAY 2026

Community Events

St. Mary's 26th Annual Powwow

June 19 to 21
Old Reserve, 534 Union St., Fredericton, NB

Announcing the St. Mary's 26th annual powwow, with host drums Little Bear, Battle Nation, and Muskrat, and invited drums Sipu Boys, Iron River, and Northern Voice. Stay tuned for more details!

Mother's Day Brunch and Bingo

May 9 at 11 am
Maqiyahtimok Centre

Enjoy a delicious brunch and special treats for all mothers and a fun afternoon of bingo, filled with wonderful prizes.

Community Events

Women's Sweat with Ramona Moon

Saturdays: March 7, April 11, and May 16

St. Mary's Health Centre

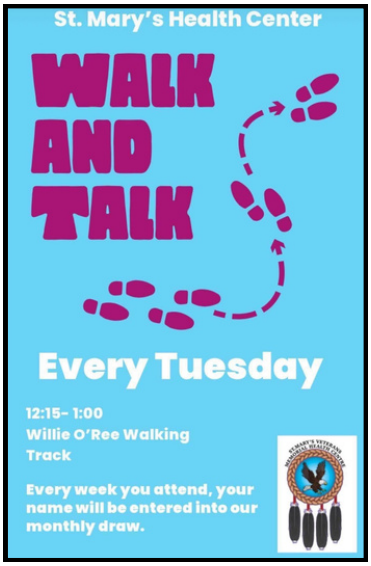
Walk and Talk

Every Tuesday

12:15 - 1:00pm

Willie O'Ree Walking Track

Every week you attend, your name will be entered into our monthly draw!



Community Announcements and Events

Fresh is Best

Monthly Fresh Produce Program

Every month, your household can purchase Fresh is Best from the Health Centre at an amazing deal - $25 gets you TWO full bags of fresh produce, plus an extra item (or two)!

Produce varies monthly. Past bags have included: potatoes, apples, mushrooms, onions, garlic, carrots, bell peppers, lettuce, cucumber, bananas, tomatoes, pineapple, berries, celery, cauliflower, stew bags, and more!

Pay at the Health Centre front desk or e-transfer $25 to freshisbest@smfn.ca (include your name and phone number).

For more information, contact Amber at (506) 452 - 2750.

MMIWG Awareness Event

May 5, 6-8pm

Maqiyahtimok Centre

We are bringing the community together for the MMIWG of Sitansisk on May 5 from 6 to 8pm at the Maqiyahtimok Centre. A feast will follow.

Special guests include:
Sisters of the Drum
Muskrat Singers
Pemiptuhtit ‘Pisun

Hosted by Sitansisk Piley Awt

Community Announcements

Application Period Now Open for UCEPP and Wəlastəkwey Latowewakən

Wəlastəkwey Latowewakən

Wəlastəkwey Latowewakən is a St. Thomas University two-year diploma program that is hosted in St. Mary's First Nation. It is comprised of sixteen intense language courses and two experiential learning courses for a total of 54 credit hours. Language courses start at the beginner level and are progressively taught to an advanced level. The experiential courses comprise of select traditional practices, held both in and out the classroom, as well as various field trips that are historical and culturally significant.

The St. Thomas University's two-year diploma program Wəlastəkwey Latowewakən will be held in St. Mary's First Nation Post-Secondary Department at 35 Dedham Street. Applicants must be able to commit to the two years (September 2026 to April 2028).

The St. Thomas University's two-year diploma program - Wəlastəkwey Latowewakən – is open to registered members from all Wəlastəkwey communities. Application packages can be picked up at St. Mary's First Nation Post-Secondary Department. The application deadline is **June 4, 2026.** Applicants who are accepted to the program by the instructors will then need to apply online at St. Thomas University and meet STU's entrance requirements. Confirmation of post-secondary funding from your community is required.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Brooks at donnabrooks1919@gmail.com.

UCEPP

UCEPP is a one-year liberal arts post-secondary program offered through SMFN Post-Secondary Education Department in partnership with St. Thomas University. It consists of eight university courses at the introductory level from various academic disciplines and a series of academic support workshops. The format is designed to provide students with a solid foundation of academic knowledge and skill sets to transition to an accredited post-secondary institution of their choice.

If you are interested in applying for UCEPP, you must be a registered band member from any First Nation Community who has recently graduated from high school or an adult learner over the age of 21 with or without a high school diploma. The application for UCEPP involves two steps. All applicants must fill out an application with SMFN Post-Secondary Department (funding) as well as an online application to St. Thomas University. All applicants must meet St. Thomas University's entrance requirements. The deadline for applications is **June 25, 2026.**

If you require more information or require assistance with the application process, please reach out. We are here to help!

Annette Paul 506-458-5202 or via email annettepaul@smfn.ca
Donna Brooks 506-458-5398 or via email donnabrooks1919@gmail.com
Sally Brooks 506-452-9559 or via email sallybrooks@smfn.ca

Community Announcements

Submit your grad photos!

Are you a graduating student in Sitansisk?

Please email your grad pictures to bobbijonash@smfn.ca.

The deadline to submit is May 29.

Pictures will be placed on banners displayed in the community and in the newsletter.

Online Survey on Youth out of the Workforce

For Youth 16 to 29

WorkingNB is interested in speaking with youth who are not in education, employment, or training. A 15-minute online survey is available for you to give feedback to the Government of New Brunswick on how they can better support youth aged 16 to 29 achieve their goals.

Participation in the survey is voluntary. All information you provide is confidential. Data will be reported in aggregate only.

https://workingnbsurvey.malatest.net

Complete the survey in French or English at the link or by scanning the QR Code above.

Community Announcements

PSA: K9 Training Ongoing

You may notice our Police Dog Section (PDS) teams training in neighbourhoods around Fredericton.

No need to worry! There is no public safety risk - this is routine training to help handlers and their K9s stay sharp and ready to serve!

Jago and Mac thank you for your cooperation.

SCAM ALERT: Fake Parking Ticket Texts

Fredericton Police Force is seeing an increase in calls regarding fraudulent texts claiming you owe money for a City of Fredericton parking ticket.

These messages are NOT from the City of Fredericton.
The City does not send parking ticket notices via text or social media.

What to do: • Do not click the link • Don't share personal info • Report to your cellphone provider and delete the message • Call FPF at 506-460-2300 if targeted

Legitimate tickets come via: • Paper ticket on your vehicle • Mailed notice to the registered owner

Please share this with friends, family, and seniors. If you've been targeted, please contact Fredericton Police at 506-460-2300.

Community Announcements

Application Period Extended for Mi'kmaq/Wolastoqey Bachelor of Social Work

The MWBSW is a specialized, accredited program designed with First Nation peoples to meet their community's needs. It has an intake every three years and is only open to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people. We aim to provide a culturally relevant curriculum that respects and celebrates the traditions and cultures of Indigenous peoples as demonstrated by its flexible and culturally relevant approach to incorporating First Nation systems of knowledge, practice, and ways of learning.

Program Structure

The program design also respects that First Nation students are typically employed and have family commitments. In recognition of these commitments:

- Courses are offered one week per month from Sept. to June over two years, for a total of six semesters.
- In the third year, students stay in their communities to complete a 700-hour field placement to meet the Canadian Association for Social Work Education Standards. This field placement can be done at your current place of employment, but it must be done in a different area with a new supervisor.
- Class time involves one intensive immersion week per month in Fredericton, with learning being integrated through independent reading and coursework during the three weeks back in the community.
- The expectation is that students will graduate in May of their third year of study.

Application Instructions

Applicants must have already completed a minimum of 60 credit hours in liberal arts courses as a prerequisite for admission. Only Indigenous students are eligible to apply to this program. **The application deadline for the MWBSW program has been extended to June 1**. The application, including supporting documents, must be received by the Admissions Office on or before this deadline.

To start the application process, click "Sign Up" on STU.ca/apply and follow the instructions to sign into the online application portal. You will need to upload a personal statement, resume, and pay the application fee. References and transcripts are also needed. To ensure your application is complete, refer to the Application checklist on your applicant portal (once your application for admission has been submitted) to make sure you have not forgotten anything. As your documents are received by the Admissions Office, they will be marked as "received" on your checklist.

At the second stage of the application process, all eligible candidates will be contacted to attend a group interview with School of Social Work representatives and complete a written social issue analysis. All applicants will receive a letter indicating the status of their application.

For additional information, visit **STU.ca/mwbsw** or contact:
Bailey Rushton, Admissions Counsellor
(506) 460-0342 | baileyr@stu.ca

Job Listings

Chief Executive Officer of Retail and Commercial Operations
St. Mary's First Nation

St. Mary's First Nation is expanding its portfolio of community-owned businesses and is seeking a dynamic, results-driven leader to guide this growth.
This is an opportunity to lead, strengthen, and scale a diverse group of operations. The Chief Executive Officer will oversee retail, fuel, and food service businesses while identifying and advancing new opportunities in leasing and commercial development. *The pay will be based on education and experience, starting at $100K or more.*

Key Responsibilities

- Provide strategic and operational leadership across multiple business lines, including retail, fuel, and food services
- Drive revenue growth, increase customer engagement, and improve overall business performance
- Develop and implement clear, actionable business plans
- Lead, mentor, and support management teams in day-to-day operations
- Monitor financial performance, analyze results, and make informed decisions
- Identify, evaluate, and advance new business, leasing, and commercial development opportunities

Qualifications & Experience

- Bachelor's degree in business administration, commerce, or a related field
- 5–10 years of senior leadership experience overseeing multiple business operations
- Demonstrated success in improving revenue and operational performance
- Strong financial and operational decision-making skills
- Experience in retail, commercial operations, and/or business development

Why Join Us

- Make a direct impact on economic growth and community prosperity
- Lead established operations with opportunities for expansion
- Play a key role in shaping the future of community-owned businesses
- Work in a purpose-driven environment rooted in community values

We welcome applicants who:

- Bring diverse experiences, perspectives, and ideas
- Adaptable, motivated, and committed to continuous learning
- Are passionate about contributing to meaningful, community-driven work

How to Apply

Submit your resume and three references to: humanresources@smfn.ca
or drop off at:
150 Cliffe Street, 3rd Floor
Fredericton, NB E3A 0A1
Only qualified candidates will be contacted for an interview.
Closing Date: May 8, 2026

Sitansisk (St. Mary’s First Nation)

150 Cliffe St., Fredericton, NB, E3A 2T2

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