



Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin
Trust Fund
ANNUAL 20
REPORT 21



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT US	02
SERVICES	03
CHAIRWOMAN'S MESSAGE	04
CHIEF'S MESSAGE	05
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	06
COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE	07
HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION LIST	08
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES	09
POST- SECONDARY CERTIFICATES	11
DIPLOMAS	13
TRADES	14
DEGREES	15
STUDENT SUCCESS	16
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	19
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	23

About Us

The Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund (NITF) provides education support services to Samson Cree Nation members who require assistance in pursuing their education goals.

Who we are

Our mission is to promote and encourage Samson Cree Nation members with their educational endeavors. NITF seeks to officially recognize Samson members who have successfully completed their education and have obtained a profession or occupation that will benefit themselves and the Samson Cree Nation.



Services

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund (NITF) helps SCN members with support education services such as monthly attendance incentives, completion grants and more! It is NITF goal to offer additional services to SCN members so they can be successful in their educational endeavors.

Incentives

Samson Cree Nation students who are enrolled and are attending post-secondary educational institutions such as a university, college or technical school can be eligible to receive an attendance incentive

Grade 12 Grad Assistance

Grade twelve Samson Cree Nation students can be eligible to receive graduation assistance for the high school diploma convocation ceremonies.

Student Benefits

Samson Cree Nation students grade 12 and under who are travelling as part of a school excursion are eligible for travel funds related to academic studies.

Achievement Awards

Samson Cree Nation Members who have successfully completed education programs are honored with our achievement awards.

Completion Awards

Samson Cree Nation Members who have successfully completed post-secondary programs are honored with completion awards.

Did you know

Since the approval of laptop reimbursements in 2020, the NITF has assisted post secondary students with 85 laptops!



Chairwoman's Message

Our mission statement of encouraging students to complete their educational endeavors is taken seriously. In fact, we have implemented more programs to help students succeed with peace of mind; more so, during the time of the pandemic the world is currently experiencing.

Throughout the year we have realized the needs of the students, whereby creating new programs such as: laptop and calculator reimbursements, off-reserve school supplies, and adding honorary degrees to those members who are acknowledged for their work within the community. We have also increased various programs such as: student benefits (school trips Gr.1-12), incentives for Post-Secondary, and the technical trades awards. Implementing these additions is our way of assisting students and adjusting rates to accommodate the cost of living, which has been increasing over time.

In addition, and most exciting for the trust itself, we have begun the process of moving funds from the bonds into an agreement with IMC, an alternative investment. Why? The bonds have a very low interest rate (1%, or lower) and if we moved forward with this quest in March 2020, our trust would have made over 8% compared to the 1% the bonds have generated. These business transactions are what being prudent trustees do, to create more growth to the trust fund for the benefit of the students. The growth of the trust fund is evident when you view the financial statements as we have reached the \$40 million mark in our 40 years of growth.

We look forward to hearing from you the students to see how we can help make further improvements to the various programs. Continue making our Nation proud in achieving our goals of having a healthy and educated Nation

Yours in Education,



Louise Omeasoo, B.A

Samson Cree Nation Councillor

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund Chair

Chief's Message

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund



Tansi,

Welcome to the 2021 annual report. I would first like to say Congratulations to all our students on completing another school year! Whether you're just beginning your education journey or completing your post-secondary studies, hats off to your tremendous efforts and achievements!

As we transition from a global pandemic to the endemic phase, as students you have demonstrated resilience and how our elders would say "akameymowak! You never gave up, you were strong and resilient. As you go on in life with the degree and parchment papers you will have earned you can always look back and say I advanced my education dreams during a pandemic. Nothing can stop me! You are all part of a growing student body who found a way to succeed during a medical crisis.

I'd like to honor and acknowledge our past SETF Board of Trustees for all their wonderful work. The trust fund has grown for the last several years through the great work of previous Boards and Chairs. It's grown to a healthy state for the Nation members. Also as we transition to the endemic phase we will continue to send our students on their school sponsored trips. I'm very proud of how NITF continues to support the efforts of our students.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V. Saddleback', with a horizontal line underneath.

Vernon Saddleback

Chief of Samson Cree Nation

Board of Trustees (Term 2020-2023)

The Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing its management and administration for the benefit of the members of the Samson Cree Nation, in accordance with the NITF mission and objectives. The Board of Trustees is also responsible for informing the growth of the programs offered to Samson Cree Nation members by distributing this annual report.



**Vernon
Saddleback**



Louise Omeasoo



Mario Swampy



**Katherine
Swampy**



**Marvin
Yellowbird**



Coordinator's Message

It has been over two years since we went into the World Wide Pandemic. "Not Even A Global Pandemic can stop you" Our Samson Cree Nation students have proven this statement in the last two years. Their pursuit of excellence is driven by a desire to make things better for themselves and for

the Samson Cree Nation. I want to honor, recognize, and congratulate each and every student who completed their programs in 2021 school year. Your hard work and determination will take you along ways in life and you will never regret going to school.

I would like to take this time to acknowledge my assistant Doris Saskatchewan who comes into the office part time to help with administrative work.

As we look to the future, we must continue to support our students so that they will continue to be successful in all that they do in their lives. In 2021, the NITF Board of Trustees approved the off-reserve school supplies program and this will be available each year moving forward. Since the approval of laptop reimbursements in 2020, the NITF have assisted post secondary students with 85 laptops.

With continued commitment and proper fiscal management, the NITF Board of Trustees will plan for a long-term successful future while ensuring our students receive benefits today!

In closing, I would like to thank Samson Cree Nation and NITF for my position as the coordinator.

Hai Hai

Larron Northwest

Larron A. Northwest
NITF Coordinator

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

Grade 9

- Angel Applegarth
- Sandra Lynn Bird
- Drezell Buffalo
- Mitchell Geoffry
- Kasha Caibaiosai
- Derwin Crane
- Willard Crane
- Christopher Crier
- Samuel Henderson
- Landy Johnson
- Azure Lightning
- Kayleaha Lightning
- Shayden Littlepoplar
- Brook-Lynn Nepoose
- Neveaeh Okeymow
- Marissa Rain
- Joaquin Sam
- Nevaeh Samson
- Marshal Swampy
- Cianna Yellowbird
- Nicholas Yellowbird
- Shaun Swimmer-Yellowbird
- Gerald Wolfe-Crier
- Taecyn Wolf

Grade 10

- Jaiden Baptiste Louis
- Keith Baptiste
- Kailen Bird
- Anthony Buffalo
- Bryson Buffalo

Grade 10 Continued

- Marie Buffalo
- Shanelle Buffalo-Crier
- Tyrikis Buffalo-Wolfe
- Jasmine Caibaiosai
- Sammarah Crane Saddleback
- Kenita Crier
- Tashina Greene
- Madison Lightning-Swampy
- Patrick Morin
- Dion Okeymow
- Tairrah Potts
- Maheegan Roper
- Daleena Soosay-Samson
- Juanita Soosay
- Zandraya Swampy
- Lastat Sylvester Saddleback
- Tianna Yellowbird

Grade 11

- Brook Lynn Anderson
- Joshua Baptiste Louis
- Hayden Bruno
- Donavan Buffalo
- Dwight Buffalo
- Kaydence Buffalo
- Keegan Buffalo
- Waylon Buffalo
- Grant Buffalo-Crier
- Katherine Crier
- Sebastian Crier
- Eijah Dennehy
- Justice Dennehy
- Heaven-Leigh Dion
- Marcellous Dion

Grade 11 Continued

- Cordell Johnson
- Kadence Lightning
- Seth Lightning
- Tenesha Lightning
- Taylynn Littlepoplar-Okeymow
- Miguel Montour
- Shanoah Montour-Saddleback
- Trey Montour
- Dale Nepoose-Deschamps
- Jerriid Nepoose
- Madison Nepoose-Wood
- Nathania Nepoose
- Destiny Okeymow-Firingstone
- Keira Saddleback-Danielson
- Alex Soosay
- Camrin Soosay
- Dana Soosay
- Kayla Soosay
- Mackenzie Soosay
- Bryson Swampy
- Dezirae Swampy
- Damian Swampy-Omeasoo
- Thone Yellowbird
- Trace Yellowbird

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Grade 12

- Madison Boysis-Oliver
- Alyce Buffalo
- Andrew Buffalo
- Anthony Buffalo
- Cole Buffalo
- Dezrick Buffalo
- Izayah Buffalo
- Nolan Buffalo
- Madison Buffalo
- Nikkolas Crier
- Carson Bear Cutknife
- Easton Cutknife
- Emily Cutknife-Ellen
- Keala Cutknife
- Dexter Dennis
- Caleb Dion
- Evangelina Haigh-Baptiste
- Destiny House-Firingtstone
- Keisha Johnson
- Zander Johnson
- Kylie Johnson-Potts
- Paris Lightning
- Tyler Lightning
- Andres Littlepoplar-Soosay
- Cale Littlepoplar
- Amelia Louis
- Kashius Montour
- Christopher Nepoose
- Isaiah Nepoose
- Kailey Okeymow
- Lestat Okeymow
- Josee Omeasoo
- Curtis Potts

Grade 12 Continued

- Jayden Rain
- Kristen Rain
- Edward Rowan-Smallboy
- David Saddleback-Peterson
- Emerald Saddleback
- Ian Saddleback
- Kraze Saddleback
- Keedance Saddleback
- Sasha Saskatchewan
- Jade Soosay Daniels
- Calida Soosay-Potts
- Evan Soosay
- Darian Soosay
- Jayliese Swampy-Montour
- Kaitlyn Swampy
- Logan Swampy
- Liberty Yellowbird

Grade 12 Advanced

- Carter Bruno
- Colin Buffallo
- Kree-Dawn Buffalo
- Kreeshen Buffalo
- Anisha Crier
- Chloe Fraser-Bruno
- Evan Louis
- Kayley Louis-Johnson
- Tessa Potts
- Autumn Rain
- Gage Saddleback
- Jaden Samson
- Jaslyn Soosay
- Vanessa Soosay-Daniels
- Megan Swampy
- Haylee Yellowbird

Grade 12 Equivalency

- Matthew Boysis
- Dallas Buffalo
- Jason Buffalo
- Sherranna Crier
- Taryn Desjarlais
- Zachary Louis-Bruno
- Billy Northwest
- Heavenly Saskatchewan
- Kenzie Soosay
- Rayanne Yellowbird



SINCE 2021, NITF HAS SUPPORTED STUDENTS IN SPONSORSHIP FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO:

- SWITZERLAND
- ITALY
- SONORAN SCIENCE ACADEMY
- TUCSON, ARIZONA
- BRONCS WORLD TOUR 2023

Certificates

- Michelle Buffalo, Nurse Specialization
- Shaydawn Buffalo, UCEP
- Danielle Crane, Administrative Assistant Program
- Arlene Foureyes-Gross, Spa Massage Practitioner
- Teri Foureyes-Awasis, Career Development/Academic Advising
- Sara Joshua, Medical Office Assistant
- Dana Lameman, Advanced Social Work (Graduate level)
- Ashley Lightning, Administrative Assistant Program
- Cody Lightning, Professional Communication
- Michael Lightning, Occupational Health & Safety
- Selena Montour, Indigenous Plan Administrator
- Pat Morin, Human Resources Professional
- Aaron Nepoose, Aboriginal Theatre
- Renee Nepoose, Adult Education Program





Certificates continued

- Erin Northwest, Nail Technician
- Michael Okeymow-Mcknight, First Nations Health Manager
- Zena Okeymow, Barbering Program
- Katey Omeasoo, Health Care Aide
- Shanna Omeasoo, Community Support Worker
- Melissa Potts, Leadership & Administration
- Sophia Quinney, Health Care Aid/HVET
- Joyce Rain, Indigenous Plan Administrator
- Dawson Saddleback, Early Childhood Development
- Evangeline Saddleback, Education Assistant
- Lorna Saddleback, Plains Cree Syllabics
- Noreen Saddleback, Cree Language Teacher Development
- Kaysha VonOS-Buffalo, Adult Education

DIPLOMAS

- Terri Baptiste, Hairstyling & Barbering
- Suzannah Bruno, Esthetics
- Billie Dee Buffalo, Addictions & Community Health
- Crandall Buffalo, Digital Media & IT
- Destiny Buffalo, Paralegal
- Rhonda Buffalo, Indigenous Arts
- Stephanie Buffalo, Advanced Care Paramedic
- Christy Crane, ATEP
- Angelin Crier, Indigenous Language Revitalisation
- Jayleen Crier, Community Service & Addiction worker
- Michael Dennehy, Camp Life Training
- Tyler Firingstone, Policing & Investigations
- Colin Johnson, Indigenous Arts
- Kurt Lightning, Indigenous Arts
- Tanner Montour, *Business & Marketing w Honors
- Tatiana Montour, Dental Administrative Assistant
- Chenaya Mykat, Indigenous Business Management
- Erin Northwest, Aboriginal Artisan
- Keenan Okeynan, Business Administration
- Lori Potts-Young, Indigenous Education
- Sheridan Potts, Indigenous Education
- Christie Saddleback, Indigenous Business Management
- Shennaya Saddleback, Message Therapy
- Teddi Saddleback, Correctional Studies
- Krissy Samson, Veterinary Assisting
- Darian Swampy, Speech Language Pathology Asst.



Trades

- Cody Applegarth, Class 1 MELT
- Joseph Baptiste, Class 1 MELT
- Billy Bruno, Mixed Heavy Equipment Operator
- Barry Buffalo, Heavy Equipment Apprentice (2nd yr)
- Colby Buffalo, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Leighton Buffalo, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Myers Buffalo, Class 1 MELT
- Patrick Buffalo, Construction Engineering (2nd yr)
- Bradley Baptiste Jr, Pre Apprentice Pipe Trade
- Nigel Crier, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Gabrielle Dennehy, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Dale Foureyes, Pre Apprentice Ironworker
- Dakota Lightning, Apprentice Cook
- Leon Lightning, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Sonny Littlepoplar, Heavy Equipment Operator
- Bailee Louis, Building Trades
- Ethan Saddleback, Electrical (3rd yr)
- Levi Montour, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Ellen Omeasoo, Residential Construction
- Ashton Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- George Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Ian Saddleback, Plumber/Gasfitter (3rd yr)
- Ian Saddleback, Plumber/Gasfitter (4th yr)
- Nigel Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Rod Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Roy Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Thane Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Trent Saddleback, Carpentry (3rd yr)
- Zachary Saddleback, High Velocity Equipment Training
- Craig Soosay, Class MELT
- Nigel Soosay-Crier, Heavy Equipment Operator

Degree's



Sunny Buffalo
Indigenous Bachelors of
Social Work



Christy Crane
Bachelor of Education-
Aboriginal Teacher
Education Program



Deneika Dennehy
Bachelor of Education



Sherelle Johnson
Indigenous Bachelors of
Social Work



Taren Yellowbird
Bachelor of Arts



Jennifer Nepoose
Indigenous Bachelors of
Social Work



Sheridan Potts
Bachelor of Education



Chase Soosay Bachelor of
Commerce



Annette Soosay
Bachelor of Education



Gilda Soosay Indigenous
Bachelors of Social Work



Stephanie Rae Soosay
Indigenous Bachelors of
Social Work



Tannis Swampy
Indigenous Bachelors of
Social Work



Caeleigh Long
*Bachelor of Arts-
Indigenous Environment
Studies w Honors



Conroy Provost
(Saddleback)
Bachelor of Education
2nd Degree



Victor Buffalo
Doctor of Laws
Honorary Degree

Student Success Stories



Jolene Wood

I am from Nipisihkopahk Cree Nation. I graduated in June 2021 from the University of Alberta. When I returned to the U of A to obtain a Master of Education in Indigenous People's Education, it was an overwhelming experience. I am thankful for the support of Nipisihkopahk Iyiniw Trust Fund and the Post-Secondary Student Support Program.

I've worked in Maskwacis since 2001 and I bring twenty years of education experience. I have taught at both the junior and senior high levels; and, facilitated restorative practices; along with school administrative experience, both as Vice-Principal and Principal capacities. I am honoured to be joining the Maskwacis senior high team as Vice Principal in the 2022-2023 academic year.

One of the most important lessons that I have learned over the past few years has been the concept of biculturalism. The importance of furthering our own education while balancing and embracing our Nehiyaw identity are paramount to our existence. In the words of our Elders, "the world is changing and our students need to be able to thrive in both worlds." Take advantage of every opportunity.



Violet Soosay

Waciye, pîsimwak'skwew, Violet Soosay, I am grateful to Creator each and everyday through struggles and achievements on my selected journey. Being a residential school survivor had created identity, language and cultural barriers, let alone social and emotional issues but through perseverance and determination have allowed for personal growth and educational successes. I am grateful to my surviving grandparents, William and Hattie Denny, who taught me to be the successful person I am today. Their cultural immersion after residential school enabled me to continue my educational endeavors through the lens of Indigeneity.

My narrative is similar to other survivors of residential school where overcoming barriers and achievements meant focus and hard work. nipsîkopahk îyiniw Trust Fund has assisted me in making my educational pursuits a reality. Without that type of assistance provided to my education, it would have taken a longer journey for me to complete.

I am still a life long learner of our nehiyawewin, nehiyaw mâmtoneyicikan, nehiyaw âtisowin ekwa îyiniw ayisînwîn. I encourage the young people of nipsîkopahk to continue learning our Indigenous education ways of knowing, being and doing and to be humble in the western education achievements.



Conroy Provost
(Saddleback)

My name is Conroy Provost. My mother is Elizabeth Saddleback (Maskwacis), and my Kookum is Evelyn Saddleback. My father is Vance Provost (Piikani) and my paternal grandparents is the late Teddy (Theodore) Provost, and Dila Yellowhorn. I was raised in Maskwacis and Piikani and graduated high school in 2006. I earned my first Bachelor's Degree in Advanced AudioEngineering from Utah Valley University in 2016. I earned my second Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Lethbridge in 2021.

I currently work as a substitute teacher for the Muckleshoot Tribal School in Auburn Washington. I am currently earning my Master's Degree in Education with an emphasis on Indigenous Languages. I have spoken with many elders and each one has explained and shown me how important it is to acknowledge our identity and learn our Indigenous Languages and Culture. Without it, we are lost. The older I get, the more I realize how insignificant I am and how important our way of life is. I know that my life will have served meaning in the service of my people, community, and family.

I am very grateful to have the support of NITF for the opportunity to educate myself and become an example for my family and community.



Jaslyn Soosay

My name is Jaslyn soosay. I am from maskwacis and have graduated from Jasper Place High School in 2021. All throughout high school I struggled with where I belonged, what I wanted to do once I graduated, and just who I was in general. Growing up I didn't have the privilege of taking part in many traditional ceremonies and such, this caused a lot of not knowing who I was, because I had barely known where I was from. Once I turned 18 I went to get my own place with my best friend before I start school again and through her I have learned so much about the culture. Even though I didn't grow up in an environment that really allowed me to take part in my culture, I learned that it doesn't make me any less indigenous, and that it's never too late to get in touch with your roots. Once covid had taken the world by storm when I was 17, I felt much more alone and due to this, I really struggled in my second year of highschool. I retok classes and picked myself up in my last year. With that hard work I was able to graduate with honors which was a big achievement of mine especially with how my grades were the previous year. It's been almost a year since I graduated and I finally know what I am going to take in post secondary. If I were to give my younger self advice, it would be to trust yourself, don't be frustrated if you don't know what you want with your life right away. Take the time you need and it will lead you to a much happier life. Also, if school doesn't go the way you planned, just know that there are alternatives to get to where you want to be and there's nothing wrong with taking them.



Rayanne Yellowbird

Hello, my name is Rayanne Yellowbird I reside on Samson Cree Nation. I have just finished my adult upgrading last year, I am now in my post secondary in open studies for practical nurse program and I start my PN program in the fall of 2022. I always wanted to go into the health care field for many reasons, my mom being diagnosed with kidney disease, having kids and to just be able to take care of my family and others. Having this knowledge and experience will help me, help others and my community. I like to thank the incentive program and the sponsorship I received from education, it's helped me in many ways. Greatly appreciate all the support.



Chase Soosay

Tansî, my name is Chase Soosay! Born and raised right here in Samson Cree Nation. Recent graduate from the Bachelor of Commerce program at MacEwan University in the heart of Edmonton, AB and currently continuing into my second year of studies with the Master of Accounting (MAcc) program at the University of Alberta. As an individual who had truly struggled throughout my high school years and as a troubled youth making poor decisions. I know very much of the adversities faced by so many of our youth. I never believed in myself, nor my capabilities and the lack of mentors was very apparent as a child. Life is but a journey and you must be a continuous student to life. Know thyself first. I truly believe that we're habitual beings. Some of us have made poor habits for a lifetime and when you're making changes, those habits are the first to work on. I'm no stranger to bad habits but have been truly blessed throughout my studies by remaining a student of the Dean's List for the School of Business for four consecutive years and receiving the President's Medal at the end of my education and speaking to 2000+ graduates for the virtual convocation. Never forget who you are, what your ancestors have done for you, and honor them all by utilizing the gifts Creator has blessed you all with.

I want to truly thank Nipisihkopahk Iyinihiwin Trust Fund (NITF), the board, its members, and the sponsors for everything you all continuously do for the students and for myself. One of the biggest obstacles for so many indigenous students are financial barriers. With NITF's support, I was able to focus my energy to not only studies but to extracurricular events within the campus and within the community. I'm truly grateful for what the program offers. Hiy hiy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT-SAMSON CREE NATION'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

NITF has taken direction from the Director of Emergency Management to continue to provide services to students amidst the global pandemic.

Team EM

Scribe- Tanya Dion/Georgia Saddleback/Holly Johnson
Communications – Delorna Buffalo/Makinaw/Hawk radio Bobby Jack
Security- Coleman Saddleback, townsite, elections, pcd
Pigeon Lake Liaison – Mike Johnson/ Marcella Dion
Logistics- Food hampers and supplies- Stacy Rain/Mason Buffalo
Operations- Vaccine clinic- Debbie Buffalo
Deputy DEM – Kevin Johnson – cohort
Planning – Jay Samson
Finance – Mandy Small, Jamie Nepoose all of finance department
Public Works – Marlon Louis Crew, baracades
Community Wellness – Bonnie McCloud and staff/trailers/drivers
Community Initiatives – Deb Buffalo crew
Elders Department – Leanne Buffalo when she was manager
CTA Maintenance – Myles Rain and his janitorial staff, supplies
Housing – Dale Rain housing list that were positive
Income Support- Deb Nepoose, income distribution
4 Nations Arena- Myrna Buffalo our first food distribution
Bingo Hall- Shannon Buffalo Chair of SRB, vaccine clinic
Samson gas bar- Jamie Bennefield and her staff
HBMC/SYSD – Kacey Yellowbird staff
COVID Trailers- Sara Oskatamin Potts custodian staff/ Security
Farm & Ranch – Keith Nepoose donation potatoes
Membership- Wilda Buffalo staff, pcd, elections
Food Bank – Janet Swampy staff
Security – Dion Simon and staff
MESC – Brian Wildcat and school staff/ food hampers 20% discount
Mamawai school – Food donations
Wolf Creek School Division – Monetary donation
MHS – Randy Littlechild/ Mike McKnight all their staff, vaccine clinics, contact tracing, positive case names, Covid trailers, the list goes on.
MAA – Stu Schmit and all his crew at Ambulance authority, picking up covid patients and taking them to the covid trailers in Erminskin.
Maskwacis Mobile Mental health – Steve Skakum and all there workers
All the Band members and non band members that came out to work through this time. We employed over 300 people in the last 23 months. They put their lives and safety of there lives first.



Maskwacis Mobile Mental health – Steve Skakum and all there workers
All the Band members and non band members that came out to work
through this time.

We employed over 300 people in the last 23 months.
They put their lives and safety of there lives first.

Band Administrator Bonita Crier, thanks for believing in me.
Chief Vern Saddleback for all the support, Council for advise and allowing me to do
my job.
Pricilla Swampy who liaison with council.

This was a whole community working together, to keep our band members safe. Right from the new born
babies right to our oldest elders on the Nation. I can't thank all of you enough, but I can say a prayer and
ask the creator to give you good health and to watch over and protect your families.

Hai Hai

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harper Potts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Harper Potts





Each year, Alberta Fish & Wildlife graciously donates Eagle Feathers to NITF to be blessed and passed to each graduate for their honorary designation. Darren Unreiners photo above.

KINANÂSKOMITIN
ᑭᓐᓇᓂᓄᓚᓴᓴᓴ^ᑦ
THANK YOU





Photos of students

Cover photo- Conroy Provost
(Saddleback)

Page 10 (Left to Right): Easton
Cutknife, Keisha Johnson,
Kreeshen Buffalo, Tayli Bree
Yellowbird, Matthew Boysis

Page 11: Kree Dawn Buffalo,
Madison Boysis Oliver

Page 12: Darian Swampy, Tyler
Lightning

Page 14: Charmaine Soosay

Page 15: Jayliese Swampy
Montour

Page 19: Megan Swampy

Page 22: Kylie Johnson-Potts

Back page: Kaysha Van Os

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund Financial Statements

DECEMBER 31, 2021

PREPARED BY

MNP



Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund

Contents

For the year ended December 31, 2021

Page

Independent Auditor's Report

Financial Statements

Balance Sheet.....	1
Statement of Earnings.....	2
Statement of Changes in Trust Capital.....	3
Statement of Cash Flows.....	4
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	5

To the Board of Trustees of Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund (the "Trust"), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2021, and the statements of earnings (loss), retained earnings and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at December 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared for the purpose of providing information to the management and Board of Trustees of Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund and the members of Samson Cree Nation. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the management and Board of Trustees of Nipisihkopahk Iyiniwin Trust Fund and the members of Samson Cree Nation and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than those specified.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Trust's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Edmonton, Alberta

June 17, 2022

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund

Balance Sheet

As at December 31, 2021

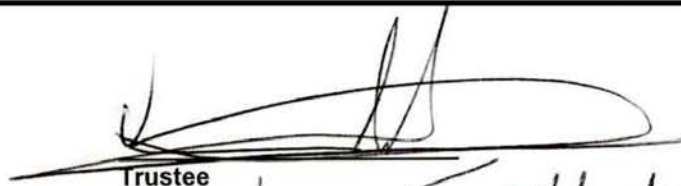
	2021	2020
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	203,975	403,788
Accrued investment income	34,471	-
	238,446	403,788
Investments (Note 4)	40,828,758	36,953,921
	41,067,204	37,357,709
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals (Note 8)	42,387	38,441
Distribution payable (Note 5)	1,469,193	1,054,885
Due to Samson Cree Nation (Note 8)	199,923	188,898
	1,711,503	1,282,224
Equity		
Trust capital	39,355,701	36,075,485
	41,067,204	37,357,709

Approved on behalf of the Trustees



Trustee

LOUISE O'MEARA



Trustee

Christ Vernon

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund

Statement of Earnings

For the year ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Revenue		
Investment income <i>(Note 6)</i>	1,048,100	1,574,927
Unrealized gains on investments	3,090,860	1,109,655
Realized gains on investments	875,145	345,030
	5,014,105	3,029,612
Expenses		
Investment management fees <i>(Note 7)</i>	188,474	130,079
Peace Hills Trust custodial fees <i>(Note 8)</i>	37,332	34,448
Audit fees	10,500	10,500
Professional fees	3,275	3,308
	239,581	178,335
Net earnings	4,774,524	2,851,277

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund
Statement of Changes in Trust Capital

For the year ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Trust capital, beginning of year	36,075,485	34,793,315
Net earnings	4,774,524	2,851,277
Distributions (Note 5)	(1,494,308)	(1,569,107)
Trust capital, end of year	39,355,701	36,075,485

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating activities		
Net earnings	4,774,524	2,851,277
Unrealized gains on investments	(3,090,860)	(1,109,655)
	1,683,664	1,741,622
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accrued investment income	(34,471)	68,796
Accounts payable and accruals	3,946	1,952
	1,653,139	1,812,370
Financing activities		
Advances from Samson Cree Nation (Note 8)	11,025	11,025
Distributions (Note 5)	(1,080,000)	(1,240,000)
	(1,068,975)	(1,228,975)
Investing activities		
Purchase of investments, net of proceeds on disposal	(783,977)	(1,482,951)
Decrease in cash resources	(199,813)	(899,556)
Cash resources, beginning of year	403,788	1,303,344
Cash resources, end of year	203,975	403,788

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2021

1. Nature of operations

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund (the "Trust") was established by the Samson Cree Nation, the Settlor and Beneficiary of the Trust, on January 1, 2018 to promote education and well being through Trust Grants for the long-term benefit of Samson Cree Nation and its members.

2. Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for private enterprises set out in Part II of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting, as issued by the Accounting Standards Board in Canada. The Trust is governed by Trustees who are all members of Chief and Council of Samson Cree Nation and as an entity controlled by a First Nation, the Trust should be reporting under Canadian public sector accounting standards. Consequently, the basis of accounting used in these financial statements materially differs from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

3. Significant accounting policies

Revenue recognition

Interest and dividends are recognized as investment income when they are received or become receivable.

All realized gains and losses on disposition of investments, together with unrealized gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of investments during the year, are reflected in the statement of earnings and recorded as gains or losses on investments.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include short-term investments with maturities of three months or less.

Foreign currency translation

These financial statements have been presented in Canadian dollars, the principal currency of the Trust's operations. Transaction amounts denominated in foreign currencies are translated into their Canadian dollar equivalents at exchange rates prevailing at the transaction dates. Carrying values of monetary assets and liabilities reflect the exchange rates at the balance sheet date. Gains and losses on translation or settlement are included in the determination of net earnings for the current period.

Measurement uncertainty (use of estimates)

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for private enterprises requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period.

The amounts reported for the fair values of the investments are based on management's estimates of the value of the investments at the reporting date.

The amounts reported for distributions on the statement of changes in trust capital and distribution payable on the balance sheet are based on calculations of net income as defined in the Trust Deed. This calculation requires estimates of taxable income from the Trust's investments to be made by management as taxable income information for these investments is not available when the financial statements are prepared. If differences exist between management's estimate and actual taxable income reported by investments, the Trust adjusts the distribution in the subsequent year to account for the difference.

These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in net earnings in the years in which they become known.

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2021

3. Significant accounting policies *(Continued from previous page)*

Financial instruments

All financial instruments are initially recorded at their fair value, excluding financial assets and liabilities originated and issued in a related party transaction measured at their carrying or exchange amount in accordance with Section 3840 Related Party Transactions (Note 8). At initial recognition, the Trust may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any financial instrument at fair value. The Trust has not made such an election during the year.

The Trust subsequently measures investments in equity instruments quoted in an active market at fair value. All other financial assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost.

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in net earnings. Transaction costs and financing fees are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

The Trust assesses impairment of all of its financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost when there is an indication of impairment. Any impairment which is not considered temporary is included in current year earnings.

4. Investments

	2021	2020
Fixed income	12,645,111	12,371,762
Canadian equities	14,136,209	11,393,640
Foreign equities	14,047,438	13,188,519
	40,828,758	36,953,921

The cost of marketable securities at year-end is \$33,818,662 (2020 - \$33,034,685). Cumulative unrealized gains to December 31, 2021 are \$7,010,096 (2020 - \$3,919,236).

5. Distributions

Pursuant to the terms of the Trust Deed, the Trust is required to distribute each year an amount equal to the greater of the following:

	2021	2020
a) all of the income for Canadian federal tax purposes arising from Trust Property in any fiscal year, estimated as follows:		
Revenue for the year per the financial statements	5,014,105	3,029,612
Less: Unrealized gains on investments	(3,090,860)	(1,109,655)
Less: Non-taxable portion of realized gains on investments	(437,573)	(172,515)
Less: Expenses for the year per the financial statements	(239,581)	(178,335)
	1,246,091	1,569,107
b) an amount equivalent to 4% of the closing market value of the Authorized Investments, which consists of cash and cash equivalents and investments, during the immediately preceding fiscal year.	1,494,308	1,426,586

In accordance with this requirement, the Trust has made cash distributions to the Beneficiary of \$1,080,000 (2020 - \$1,240,000) in 2021 with an additional amount of \$414,308 (2020 - \$329,107) to be paid out subsequent to year-end. The prior year amount of \$329,107 remains in distribution payable as at December 31, 2021.

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2021

6. Investment income

	2021	2020
Dividends	793,289	1,412,708
Interest income	101,838	1,023
Capital gains distribution	152,973	161,196
	1,048,100	1,574,927

7. Investment management fees

Investment management fees are payable quarterly at rates which have been negotiated with the professional fund manager who has been appointed by the Trustees to manage the Trust's investments.

8. Related party transactions

During the year, the Trust incurred custodial fees expense of \$37,332 (2020 - \$34,448) to Peace Hills Trust, a company ultimately owned by Samson Cree Nation, of which \$3,169 (2020 - \$3,015) is in accounts payable and accruals at December 31, 2021.

During the year, Samson Cree Nation paid investment management fees of and audit fees of \$11,025 (2020 - \$11,025) on behalf of the Trust. As at December 31, 2021, the amount owing to Samson Cree Nation is unsecured, non-interest bearing, and has no set terms of repayment.

These transactions are incurred in the normal course of business and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

9. Financial instruments

The Trust, as part of its operations, carries a number of financial instruments. It is management's opinion that the Trust is not exposed to significant interest, currency, credit, liquidity or other price risks arising from these financial instruments except as otherwise disclosed.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The financial instruments that potentially subject the Trust to a significant concentration of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents and fixed income investments. The Trust mitigates its exposure to credit loss by placing its cash and cash equivalents with major financial institutions and government issued securities. The Trust mitigates its exposure to credit loss with respect to its fixed income investments by an established investment policy which sets out minimum quality requirements, including minimum quality ratings from a recognized bond rating agency.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The financial instruments that potentially subject the Trust to a significant concentration of interest rate risk consist primarily of investments in fixed income securities and cash equivalents which earn income at a fixed rate of interest.

Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The financial instruments that potentially subject the Trust to a significant concentration of market risk consist primarily of equities and fixed income securities. The Trust mitigates this risk by establishing investment policies and procedures with quality and quantity restrictions, and requiring each investment manager to sign and acknowledge annually a statement of the policies and procedures.

Nipisihkopahk Iyiniisiwin Trust Fund
Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2021

9. Financial instruments *(Continued from previous page)*

Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Trust is exposed to currency risk with respect to holding foreign investments by purchasing and selling foreign securities and receiving investment income in foreign currencies.



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