NIPISIHKOPAHK IYINISIWIN TRUST FUND

2025

Annual Report

www.nitf.ca

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ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to promote and encourage Samson Cree Nation members with their educational endeavors. Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund (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.

OUR HISTORY

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund was established by the Samson Cree Nation Chief and Council on June 23, 1980. The leadership at that time saw the need to invest in education for SCN and its members and set aside 1 million dollars. Since then SCN leadership has continued to value the importance of education and work towards assisting and honoring SCN students with NITF. Today that trust fund has grown to $40 million. This growth has been with the assistance of past Chief and Councillors.

OUR SERVICES

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

LETTER FROM CHIEF VERNON SADDLEBACK

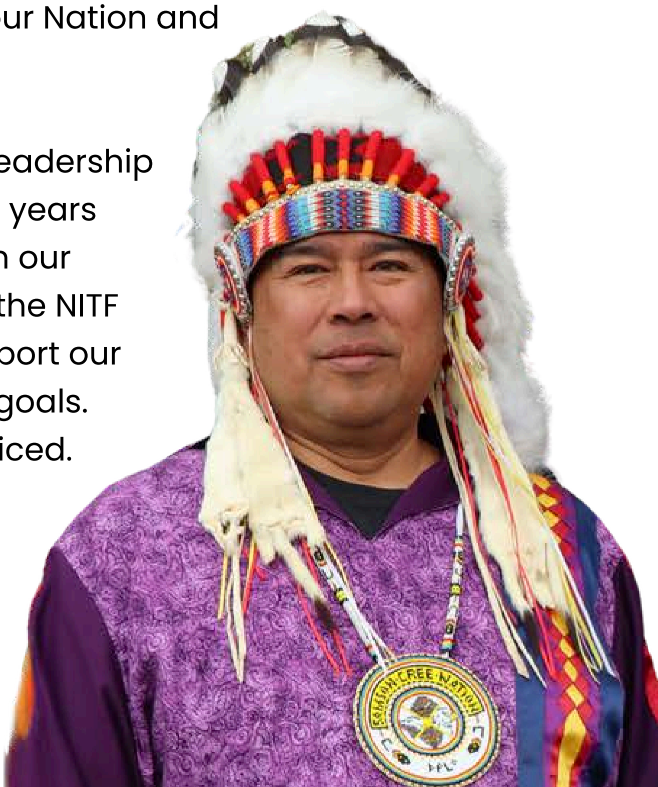
One of the greatest gifts I received throughout my post-secondary journey was the gift of healing. There is something powerful about waking up each morning with purpose, going to class, reading what feels like an impossible number of books, surviving on very little sleep and even less money, building lifelong friendships, staying up late to study, and wondering if your mind can hold one more piece of information before an exam. There are endless papers, moments of doubt, and days when the finish line feels far away.

But somewhere within that journey, something beautiful happens.

Your mind begins to open to new ideas, new perspectives, and new possibilities. You begin learning not only how to succeed academically, but how to think critically, how to persevere, and how to believe in yourself. Education becomes more than the diploma, degree, or certification you are working toward, it becomes part of your healing journey.

To all our students: enjoy this season of growth. Embrace the challenges, the lessons, and the moments that shape who you are becoming. Open your minds to new thoughts and opportunities, and never underestimate the strength and resilience you carry within you. Every step you take forward is not only an investment in your own future, but in the future of our Nation and generations yet to come.

I also want to extend my deepest gratitude to the leadership who have continued to support education over the years and who understand the importance of investing in our people. Thank you as well to the incredible staff at the NITF office who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our Nation members as they pursue their educational goals. Your dedication and commitment do not go unnoticed.



LETTER FROM CHIEF VERNON SADDLEBACK

To all of our students and graduates , good luck in all your future endeavors. It has truly been an honour and a privilege to quietly support your educational journeys from the background. Watching our people grow, succeed, and heal through education gives all of us hope for a stronger future.

Congratulations, and continue walking proudly in your purpose.

Chief Vernon Saddleback
Nipisihkopahk Iyinisowin Trust Fund Board Member

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN

As chairwoman of the Nipisihkopahk Iyinisowin Trust Fund, I want to formally thank you all for striving for your goals in education. As trustees for NITF, we have you and your grandchildren's goals alike in mind. Our focus is supporting you in your achievements, which is why we have strived for financial growth at NITF. We are proud to announce we have reached our goal of $50M, and now aim for even higher gross revenue.

The main achievement for the trust is growth in dollars to ensure we coincide with the population increases of our Nation. With that in mind, we created a mixed portfolio of including a growth manager, and alternative investments. Having diversity is detrimental for growth of a trust fund of this size.

While we concentrate on our growth, we watch you, the students grow as well into confident, educated Samson Cree Nation members. We are also seeing the number of students enrolled increase, and who are succeeding in the completion of their Grade 12 diplomas to undergrad degrees.

Continue making our Nation strong, your families proud with your achievements, as you are future leaders, knowledge keepers, professionals and role models for the many generations to come.

Please be engaged with our trust fund and provide ideas or ask questions, so that we can continue assisting you the students with new programs.

Thank you for your hard work throughout the year. We celebrate each of you and your accomplishments and look forward to seeing all that you will continue to achieve.

Yours in Education,

Louise Omeasoo, B.A.
NITF Chairwoman

NITF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin 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.

Brian Lightning

Elesha Buffalo

Louise Omeasoo

Armand Swampy

Vernon Saddleback

NITF provided incentives for 513 students in 2025

STUDENT SUCCESS PROFILES

The following pages highlight the students that NITF have supported in their educational journeys in 2025.





KARLENE CUTKNIFE

Tansi, Karlene Cutknife “Blue Thunderbird Woman” Age 40 and blessed to have three beautiful daughters, Ayisha Buffalo, Kalaya Buffalo, and Alyrika Buffalo. I am the daughter of Willard Senior Cutknife and Lorna Cutknife, the third-oldest sibling out of ten. On my father’s side, I am the granddaughter of the Late Hazel Cutknife and the Late Richard Wasacase. On my mother's side, I am a granddaughter of Late Matilda and Paul Dufresne. I enjoy teaching and dancing powwow on my free time. It brings healing to my heart and uplifts my family's spirit.

A few of my professional accomplishments was having the opportunity to work within the surrounding areas of Wetaskiwin, Maskwacis and the Pigeon Lake area as a Program planner, Wellness Coach, and into an Indigenous Support worker. Having the Samson Cree Nation Community Wellness as a support by offering training and programming to better my skills has opened a bunch of those doors. With experience with facilitating I was able to be vocal and utilize my voice as a young leader. Within this time I was able to meet a school counsellor who had so much passion for helping the Indigenous students and I wanted to take that step towards educating myself to be able to work within the social work field.

As I started my education journey I was very motivated from all the past highlights, experiences and skills that I learned. I had seen a post of past graduates from Maskwacis Cultural College Indigenous Social Work Diploma and I signed up and got the chance to experience the on-line learning. As I got into the grove of things I soon realized that the course came with a lot of self-healing, as the intergenerational trauma effects came up and made things emotional, I had to learn to navigate through these feelings and turn to the Ceremonies. I quickly remembered my long term goal of seeing myself walking down that aisle with the diploma in my hand. The deeply held desire to finish school for my daughters was important to me and not only them but to be able to help my community.

KARLENE CUTKNIFE

I now have my Bachelor's in the Indigenous Social Work program and work with the Maskwacis Education Schools as a School Counselor. With the support of the Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund, Samson Cree Nation and all my support systems I was able to have that job I once seen myself doing years ago. My massage to everyone is find your passion, stick to it and get connected with Identity and Culture.

DR. CASSIE L. RAYE

My name is Dr. Cassie L. Raye, a proud First Nations educator from Samson Cree Nation with over 15 years of experience as both a classroom teacher and literacy coach. Having personally struggled with reading as a child, I have dedicated my life to implementing effective, research-based practices that support student learning in literacy and numeracy through a culturally responsive lens. I firmly believe that every child can succeed when teachers are equipped with the right tools, strategies, and support.

I began my educational journey at the University of Alberta, where I earned my Bachelor of Elementary Education in 2009. I later pursued my Master's degree in Early Childhood Education from Northern Arizona University, graduating in 2013. Driven by my passion to better support Indigenous learners, I returned to school to further expand my expertise in literacy.

My commitment to ensuring Indigenous students become confident and proficient readers led me to earn a Doctorate in K–12 Organizational Leadership from Grand Canyon University. Through my work, I strive to ensure that no student experiences the same struggles I faced as a young reader. I have built my entire career on advocating for literacy, believing it is a fundamental right for all children. In addition, I have opened my own business, 4R Educational Consulting and Read4Rodeo, to support my mission in life.

I am deeply grateful for the support I received throughout my educational journey. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund for supporting me in furthering my education and helping make my academic journey possible. I remain committed to using my knowledge, leadership, and experience to empower educators and uplift Indigenous students and communities.

Respectfully,
Dr. Cassie Raye, MEd, EdD

SUNNY BUFFALO

Tansi nitotemtik, my name is Sunny Buffalo ekwa Notikwew Iskotew nitisihkason. I am a mother to four beautiful awasisak, my daughter Donis, and my sons Ezias, Joaquin, and Hiero. They are my why, they remind me every day of why I worked so hard to be a better mother. I was born and raised in Maskwacis, currently live in Nipisihkopahk and my parents are Yvonne Buffalo and Marcel Weasel Head. My grandparents were: Wilson Buffalo and Charlie Weasel Head Sr. , Bertha Sitting Weasel and Irene Weasel Head. Their teachings and strength walks with me in everything I do. I carry these identities with pride and purpose. As Newiyaw people our self positioning is rooted in wahkohtin, the sacredness of kinship. It is how we understand who we are, where we come from, and how we are connected to all our relations. I give thanks to the creator Kasonamakoyak for the gift of life, and for guidance that comes through prayer. Kikisimo, kika wicihkosin, these teachings have carried me through my educational journey, especially in the work I do in helping others.

Growing up in school was very challenging for me. I lived with dyslexia and had very limited support. I often believed I was not good enough and that success was not meant for me. I remember being told that due to my learning disability that I would never be able to go to college, but it was an Indigenous Social Worker who told me not believe what colonial papers or tests say, and that if I worked hard enough then I could have a better quality of life. Those words of encouragement stayed with me and helped me turn my life around, when I started to go down a path of addiction as a young single mother. Even though I was raised by a strong single working mother who taught me resilience and to have a strong work ethic, intergenerational trauma and lack of resources in Indigenous schools created real barriers within my life.

At the beginning of my educational journey, everything began to change when I learned about psychology, neuroscience, and the power of neuroplasticity. The understanding that our brains can be re-wired and grow throughout our lives. I realized that doing things that feel scary or uncomfortable actually helps create new pathways in our brains. Through cognitive behavioural approaches, I learned about cognitive restructuring. This helped me begin to process intergenerational trauma, forgive, and focus on what was in my circle of control.

SUNNY BUFFALO

As I slowly began to believe that I could succeed and live a better life, my mindset changed. With support from my family, mentors, elders, and educators at Maskwacis Cultural College, and through prayer and spiritual guidance from my loved ones who passed on. I achieved my dream of completing my Social Work Diploma, Degree, and Masters of Social Work.

Today, I work in my community as Wellness Coach with Maskwacis Education Schools Commission and a Indigenous Social worker practitioner, supporting youth, and families through emotional regulation, connection, and life skills. My story is proof that healing and change are possible. Neuroplasticly teaches you that every new thought, action, and habit can help us start over and create a stronger future. My success is not only about education it is about reclaiming identity, breaking cycles, and helping others believe they can rewrite their own story too. Healing begins within, then flows out to family, and then communities. Aye–hai Nipisihkopahk Iyiisiwin Trust Fund and Samson Cree Nation for all the support throughout my educational journey

ALLYSON DENNEHY

Tansi niwahkomakanak êkwa nitotêmtik. Allyson nitisîkasôn—greetings my relatives. I first want to thank the Creator for my life and for making me a nehiyaw iskwew, a Cree woman. I am deeply grateful for the culture and language gifted to us by the Creator, and for the teachings that allow me to stay grounded. I give thanks to the grandfathers and grandmothers who watch over and guide me, and to the Elders and Knowledge Keepers who continue to carry our ways of life and give us direction and purpose.

I am also grateful to my family for encouraging me throughout my journey and reminding me to laugh—often until my belly hurts. I want to acknowledge everyone who has shared their wisdom with me and helped shape who I am today. Finally, thank you to Samson Cree Nation and the post-secondary departments, including PSSSP and NITF, who work tirelessly to support students.

I completed a Master of Education at the University of Calgary through a laddered program, with each year serving as a standalone credential. In my first year, I completed Poo'miikapi Niitsitapii Approaches to Wellness (Blackfoot Approaches to Wellness). In my second year, I completed Niitsitpisini: Real People's Way of Life (Blackfoot People's Way of Life). These first two years were rooted in Blackfoot ceremonies and land-based learning and were both powerful and eye-opening experiences. During the program, I had the opportunity to take part in many unique, hands-on experiences, including travelling to Montana to visit tipi rings and medicine wheels, and participating in a buffalo harvest among many other experiences.

One of my biggest takeaways from this program was recognizing the strength of Indigenous knowledge systems that have existed for thousands of years. Through colonization and cultural genocide, Indigenous peoples were made to believe we were less than but that simply isn't true.

ALLYSON DENNEHY

My advice to other Samson students is this: âhkameyimok. Ground yourself in traditional ways of life to build the strength and courage needed to complete your education. You are smart, you belong here, and there is a reason you are on this path. Your challenges will make you stronger and give you knowledge that you can one day share with others. Most importantly, know that you are never alone, Creator is with you.
Kinanâskomitin.

Allyson Dennehy, BSW, RSW, MEd

GRADE 9 GRADUATES

Apisimososis, Northwest
Applegarth, Ki
Baptiste, Ayden
Baptiste, Gage
Boysis-Rain, Riley
Buffalo, Baillie
Buffalo, Hailey
Buffalo, Kendrick
Buffalo, Layla
Buffalo, Riley
Buffalo, Ridley
Cabry, Fawn
Crane, Drayton
Cutknife, Sarah
Eagle, Fernandle
Lightning, Jaelynn
Montour, Braillen
Montour, Tristan
Montour, Trini
Mountour, Bryce
Nepoose, Cale
Nepoose, Joey
Omeasoo, Julian
Rain, Hayden
Redcrow, Alyzah
Roughfoot, Darcy Jr.
Saddleback, Diamond
Saddleback, Hunter
Saddleback, Kingston
Saddleback, Krissayah
Saddleback, Leshawn
Saddleback, Raven
Saddleback, Talon
Samson-Peigan, Logan
Shirt Montour, Tristan
Shirt Montour, Trini
Soosay, Adam
Soosay, Surritiah
Soosay, Tarrus
Soosay, Victor
Thom, Damien
Yellowbird, Angel
Yellowbird, Caydence
Yellowbird, Temperance

GRADE 10 GRADUATES

Applegarth, Ki
Baptiste, Ayden
Baptiste, Gage
Baptiste, Reese
Boysis, Riley
Cabry, Fawn
Cabry, Jaunita
Crane, Angel
Crier, Joseph
Cutknife, Ella
Dixon, Serandon
Eagle, Shania
Eagle, Shade
Lightning, Jaelynn
Lightning, Nathaniel
Nepoose, Banks
Nepoose, Tommy
Northwest, Apisimososis
Northwest, Tyrel
Northwest, Tyrese
Omeasoo, Beau Jr.
Omeasoo, Eliza
Omeasoo, Shailyn
Potts, Walter
Rain, Destiny
Saddleback, Brent
Saddleback, Kashis
Saddleback, Riley
Soosay, Adam
Soosay, Surritiah
Soosay, Tarrus
Soosay, Victor
Thom, Damien
Yellowbird, Angel
Yellowbird, Caydence
Yellowbird, Temperance

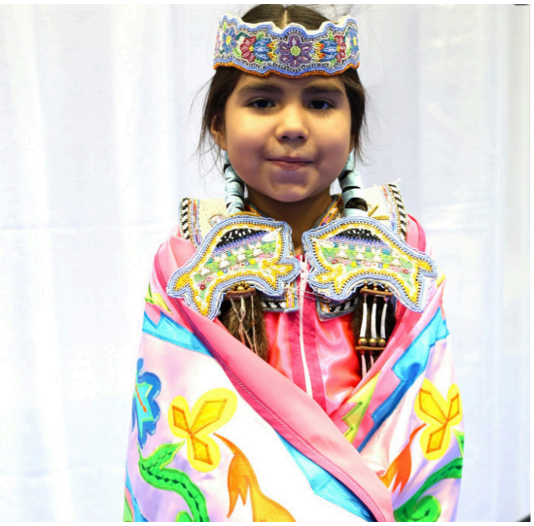
GRADE 11 GRADUATES

Applegarth, Ki
Baptiste, Nevaeh
Boysis, Kiandra
Bruno, Bryan
Bruno, Nathan
Buffalo, Andrew
Buffalo, Anthony
Buffalo, Jarren
Buffalo, Kayne
Buffalo, Marissa
Buffalo, Reshaelee
Buffalo, Scarlett
Buffalo-Bannister, Cash
Buffalo-Brertton, Thomas
Crane, Angel
Crane, Drayton
Desjarlais, Dominik
Dixon, Serandon
Eagle, Blaze
Eagle, Cody
Eagle, Donovan
Ermineskin, Chenai
Lightning, Butterfly
Lightning, Kealynn
Montour, Dylan
Montour, Kieran
Morin, Emiline
Nepoose, Bankz
Nepoose, Bradley
Okeynan, Dakota
Okeynan-Lecoy, Brandon
Okeynan-Lecoy, Charles
Okeynan-Rowan, Trinity
Okeymow, Zarren
Omeasoo, Bryan Jr.
Rain, Destiny
Redcrow, Jayda
Redcrow, Nathaniel
Rowan, Riley
Samson, Kyson
Samson-Peigan, Serena
Schellenberg, Makiyo
Simon, Marcus
Soosay, Athena
Soosay, Emmerson
Soosay, Lance
Soosay, Talyn
St. John, Tecori
Stoney, Janayva
Stoney-Baptiste, Janayva
Swampy, Barry
Threefingers, Lee-Andra
Thom, Lovelle
Thom, Sidney
Yellowbird, Kadence

GRADE 12 GRADUATES

Applegarth, Ki
Badger, Mena
Baptiste, Jaiden
Bruno, Nathan
Buffalo, Arianna
Buffalo, Channing
Buffalo, Ella
Buffalo, Faith
Buffalo, Hailey
Buffalo, Marissa
Buffalo, Scarlet
Buffalo, Taylor
Buffalo, Taydin
Caibaisai, Kasha
Crane, Cashis
Crane, Dillon
Crier, Dena
Crier, Jacey
Crier, Maxwell
Dixon, Serandon
Eagle, Blaze
Eagle, Cody
Eagle, Ozzy
Ermineskin, Kingston
Greene, Tashina
Henderson, Kalelee
Henderson, Kalelele
Johnson, Dalton
Lightning, Butterfly
Lightning, Elise
Lightning, Isabelle
Lightning, Jovie
Lightning, Kealynn
Lightning-Buffalo, Maleigha
Lightening-C, Alexandra
Montour, Suri
Nepoose, Nathania
Nepoose, Sage
Okeymow-Lightning, Dezirae
Okeymow-Nehanee, Demetrious
Omeasoo, Bryan Jr.
Rain, Destiny
Rayne, Orville
Roan, Anya
Roughfoot, Darcy Jr.
Saddleback, April
Saddleback, Creeann
Saddleback, Suri
Saddleback, Sykora
Saddleback, Zayden
Simon, Marcus
Soosay, Ethan
Soosay, Isaac
Soosay, Leara Daniels
Soosay, Melina
Swampy, Maria
Swampy, Marshal
Swampy, Taliyah
Swampy, Trynae
Threefingers, Lee-Andra
Thom, Fawn
Thom, Lovelle
Thom, Nicolis
Wolf-Crier, Juliah
Wolf-Foureyes, Ava
Yellowbird, Nicholis


FUND
NIGHT




PENDLETON

TRADES CERTIFICATES

Name	Program
Joshua Baptiste-Louise	Automatic Control Valve
Dylan Buffalo	Water Well Operation & Maintenance
Chantelle Buffalo-Omeasoo	Heavy Equipment Opterator
Taylor Firingstoney	Pre-Employment Carpentry
Katherine Lighting	Women's Finishing Carpentry
Evander Omeasoo	Fire Attack Crew Member
Casey Okeymow	Food Safety
Casey Okeymow	Transport of Dangerous Goods
Casey Okeymow	WHIMIS
Braelyn Potts	Pre-Employment Carpentry
Eastin Rain	Chainsaw
Eastin Rain	CSTS
Cameron Redcrow	WHMIS
Avery Rowan	Level 2 Scaffolding
Samson Theodor	Heavy Equipment Operator
Kendall Swampy	Pre-employment Carpentry
Mark Yellowbird	Registered Operator

CERTIFICATES

Name	Program
Chandler Baptiste	Environmental Technology
Justin Bruno	Indigenous Social Work
Shalaize Buffalo	Indigenous Arts Diploma
Courtney Crane	Indigenous Education Diploma
Jewel Feldberg	Construction Engineering Technology
Jodi Greene	Business Administration Professional Diploma
Haily Nepoose	Social Work Diploma
Justin Nepoose	Natural Resource/Geospatial Technology
Geraldine Rain	Indigenous Social Work
April Saddleback	Culinary Arts
Josie Soosay	Medial Office Assistant
Joshua Swampy	General Business Diploma
Tenesha Lightning	Personal Training and Fitness Diplona
Michael Lightning	Occupational Health and Safety
Tyrelle Yellowbird	Indigenous Social Work Diploma

BACHELOR'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Name	Program
Gabrielle Applegarth	Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology
Dominique Baptiste	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN)
Shaydawn Buffalo	Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies
Karlene Cutknife	Indigenous Bachelor of Social Work
Kirstin Dion	Bachelor of Technology in Management
Evangalina Haigh-Baptiste	Bachelor of Nursing
Cheylene Lightning	Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Marsha Omeasoo	Indigenous Bachelor of Social Work
Gerrod Rain	Indigenous Bachelor of Arts
Onisty Woods	Bachelor of Education

MASTER'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Name	Program
Sunny Buffalo	Indigenous Master of Social Work
Allyson Dennehy	Master of Education
Nikkita Dennehy	Master of Indigenous Governance
Anastasia Johnson	Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Jennifer Nepoose	Indigenous Master of Social Work
Ainsley Rain	Indigenous Master of Social Work
Conroy Saddleback-Provost	Master of Education – Indigenous Language Revitalization

DOCTORATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Name	Program
Dr. Cassie Raye	Organizational Leadership

NITF SPONSORSHIPS

Thank you to the generous sponsors who contribute to the Annual Awards night each year with honoring post secondary graduates with a laptop.

Photo acknowledgements:
Wildcatic Photography
Graduate Submissions

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund

FinancialStatements

December 31, 2025

Contents

For the year endedDecember31,2025

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Chief and Council and Members of the Samson Cree Nation:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund (the "Trust"), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of income, changes in trust capital 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, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for private enterprises.

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.

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

Trust management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for private enterprises, and for such internal control as the Trustee 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, the Trustee 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 the Trustee 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 Trust management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trust 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

April 17, 2026

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund
BalanceSheet
As at December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	**1,648,654**	962,666
Accrued investment income	**-**	15,238
	1,648,654	977,904
Investments *(Note 3)*	**48,906,976**	46,128,099
	50,555,630	47,106,003
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable andaccruals *(Note 6)*	**65,127**	65,127
Distribution payable *(Note 4)*	**4,002,011**	3,488,927
Due to Samson CreeNation *(Note 6)*	**369,752**	305,250
	4,436,890	3,859,304
Equity		
Unrealized gains	**9,388,789**	7,532,542
Trust capital	**36,729,951**	35,714,157
	46,118,740	43,246,699
	50,555,630	47,106,003

Approved on behalf of Trustees

signed by "Vernon Saddleback"
Chief Vernon Saddleback - Trustee

signed by "Louise Omeasoo"
Councilor Louise Omeasoo - NITF Board Chair

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund
StatementofIncome

For theyearendedDecember31,2025

	2025	*2024*
Revenue		
Investment income	**1,519,273**	1,445,532
Realized gains on investments	**2,031,589**	1,846,692
	3,550,862	3,292,224
Expenses		
Investment management fees *(Note 5)*	**204,569**	183,971
Trustee honorariums and otherfees *(Note 6)*	**79,653**	67,527
Peace Hills Trust custodial fees *(Note 6)*	**36,040**	36,823
Professional fees	**21,722**	20,806
	341,984	309,127
Income before other item	**3,208,878**	2,983,097
Change in unrealized gains on investments	**1,856,247**	3,080,543
Net income	**5,065,125**	6,063,640

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund
StatementofChangesinTrustCapital
For the year ended December 31, 2025

	Unrealized gains	Trust capital	Total
Balance, December 31, 2023	4,451,999	34,790,811	39,242,810
Net income	3,080,543	2,983,097	6,063,640
Distributions *(Note 4)*	-	(2,059,751)	(2,059,751)
Balance, December 31, 2024	7,532,542	35,714,157	43,246,699
Net income	1,856,247	3,208,878	5,065,125
Distributions *(Note 4)*	-	(2,193,084)	(2,193,084)
Balance, December 31, 2025	9,388,789	36,729,951	46,118,740

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin Trust Fund
StatementofCashFlows
For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	*2024*
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating activities		
Net income	**5,065,125**	6,063,640
Change in unrealized gains on investments	**(1,856,247)**	(3,080,543)
Distributions	**(1,680,000)**	(1,484,000)
Realized gains on investments	**(2,031,589)**	(1,846,692)
	(502,711)	(347,595)
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accrued investment income	**15,238**	(4,889)
Accounts payable and accruals	**-**	46,768
	(487,473)	(305,716)
Financing activities		
Advances from Samson Cree Nation	**64,502**	81,072
Investing activities		
Net change in investments	**1,108,959**	446,581
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	**685,988**	221,937
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	**962,666**	740,729
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	**1,648,654**	962,666

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

1. Nature of operations

Nipisihkopahk Iyinisiwin 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. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for private enterprises as set out in Part II of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting, as issued by the Accounting Standards Board in Canada and include the following significant accounting policies:

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Revenue recognition

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

Realized gains on disposal of investments are recorded in net income when they are realized. Changes in market value of investments subsequent to acquisition are recognized as the market values become known.

Investment income includes interest, dividends and distributions. Interest and dividends are recognized when received or receivable. Distributions are recognized when declared or when the right to receive the payment has been established. Gains from the sale of investment arise from the differences between the net proceeds and the cost at the transaction date. Gain on change in fair value of investments are recognized as income based on their fair value at year-end date.

Income taxes

The Trust is classified as a "reversionary intervivos trust" under the Income Tax Act of Canada. The Trust distributes to its beneficiaries all of the income for Canadian federal income tax purposes derived from the Trust Property with the result that the Trust is not liable for any income taxes.

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 income 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 revenues and expenses during the year.

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.

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

Financial instruments
The Trust recognizes the financial instruments when the Trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Arm's length financial instruments
Financial instruments originated/acquired or issued/assumed in an arm's length transaction ("arm's length financial instruments") are initially recorded at their fair value.

At initial recognition, the Trust may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any arm's length 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 and all derivative instruments at fair value. All other financial assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost.

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in net income. Conversely, transaction costs and financing fees are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

Related party financial instruments
The Trust initially measures investments or debt instruments with a quoted market value or derivatives originated in a related party transaction ("related party financial instruments") at fair value.

All other related party financial instruments are measured at cost on initial recognition.

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of related party financial instruments are immediately recognized in net income.

The Trust does not currently hold any related party investments or derivative instruments.

Financial instruments that were initially measured at cost are subsequently measured using the cost method less any reduction for impairment.

Financial asset impairment

The Trust assesses impairment of all its financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost. The Trust reduces the carrying amount of any impaired financial assets to the highest of: the present value of cash flows expected to be generated by holding the assets; the amount that could be realized by selling the assets at the balance sheet date; and the amount expected to be realized by exercising any rights to collateral held against those assets.

For related party equity instruments initially measured at cost, the Trust reduces the carrying amount of the asset (or group of assets), to the amount that could be realized by selling the asset(s) at the balance sheet date.

Any impairment, which is not considered temporary, is included in current year net income.

The Trust reverses impairment losses on financial assets when there is a decrease in impairment and the decrease can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognized. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net earnings in the year the reversal occurs.

3. Investments

The allocation of investments at market value at December 31 was as follows:

	2025	2024
Fixed income	**5,171,128**	8,570,501
Canadian equities	**11,707,686**	10,776,690
Foreign equities	**24,026,402**	18,300,800
Pooled funds	**8,001,760**	8,480,108
	48,906,976	46,128,099

4. 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 taxable income of the Trust and 4% of the market value of Authorized Investments as per the table below to Samson Cree Nation's Trust Grant Bank Account (the "Grant Account"). Any amount that is unpaid is due on demand, unsecured and non-interest bearing.

During the year ended December 31, 2025, the Trust distributed $1,680,000 to the Grant Account (2024 - $1,484,000). See unaudited Schedule 1 - Schedule of Disbursements from Trust Grant Bank Account for additional information on distributions from the Grant Account to eligible Trust purposes as defined in the Trust Deed during the year.

	2025	2024
Distributions payable		
Balance, beginning of year	**3,488,927**	2,913,176
Annual income allocation	**2,193,084**	2,059,751
Less: distributions paid	**(1,680,000)**	(1,484,000)
Balance, end of year	**4,002,011**	3,488,927
a) all of the income for Canadian federal tax purposes arising from Trust Property in any fiscal year, estimated as follows:		
Revenue	**3,550,862**	3,292,224
Less: Non-taxable portion of realized gains	**(1,015,794)**	(923,346)
Less: Expenses	**(341,984)**	(309,127)
	2,193,084	2,059,751
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. For clarity, for the year ended December 31, 2025, the closing market value is derived from the December 31, 2024 values.	**1,883,630**	1,695,527

5. 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.

6. Related party transactions

During the year, the Trust incurred custodial fees expense of $36,040 (2024 - $36,823) to Peace Hills Trust, a company controlled by Samson Cree Nation, of which $3,565 (2024 - $3,423) is included in accounts payable and accruals at December 31, 2025.

During the year, Samson Cree Nation paid audit fees of $15,152 (2024 - $13,545) and trustee honorariums and other fees of $79,653 (2024 - $67,527) on behalf of the Trust. As at December 31, 2025, 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.

7. **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.

Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Trust does not use derivative instruments to hedge its exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. The following financial assets are denominated in foreign currencies and are thus exposed to foreign currency risk:

	2025 ***CAD$***	*2024* *CAD$*
Foreign equities	**24,026,402**	18,300,780