

JANUARY 2024



# ÓMAHKSÍKI'SOMMIKSI

"OLD MOON"

Pronounced:

Ooh-mah-ksa-key-soom

Ka'toyi (Kah-doi-yee) is another, more historical way to refer to this 4th winter lunar cycle. This Blackfoot word references the shortage of food that was experienced at this time of year.

**I'TAAMIMAANSSTOYI!**

**Happy New Year!**

## Important Dates in the Old Moon

January 4th - National Ribbon Skirt Day

January 11th - Lethbridge School Division celebrates Ribbon Skirt Day

January 18th/19th - Last Day of Semester 1 classes

Good Luck on your Exams Students!!

January 30th - Semester 2 begins

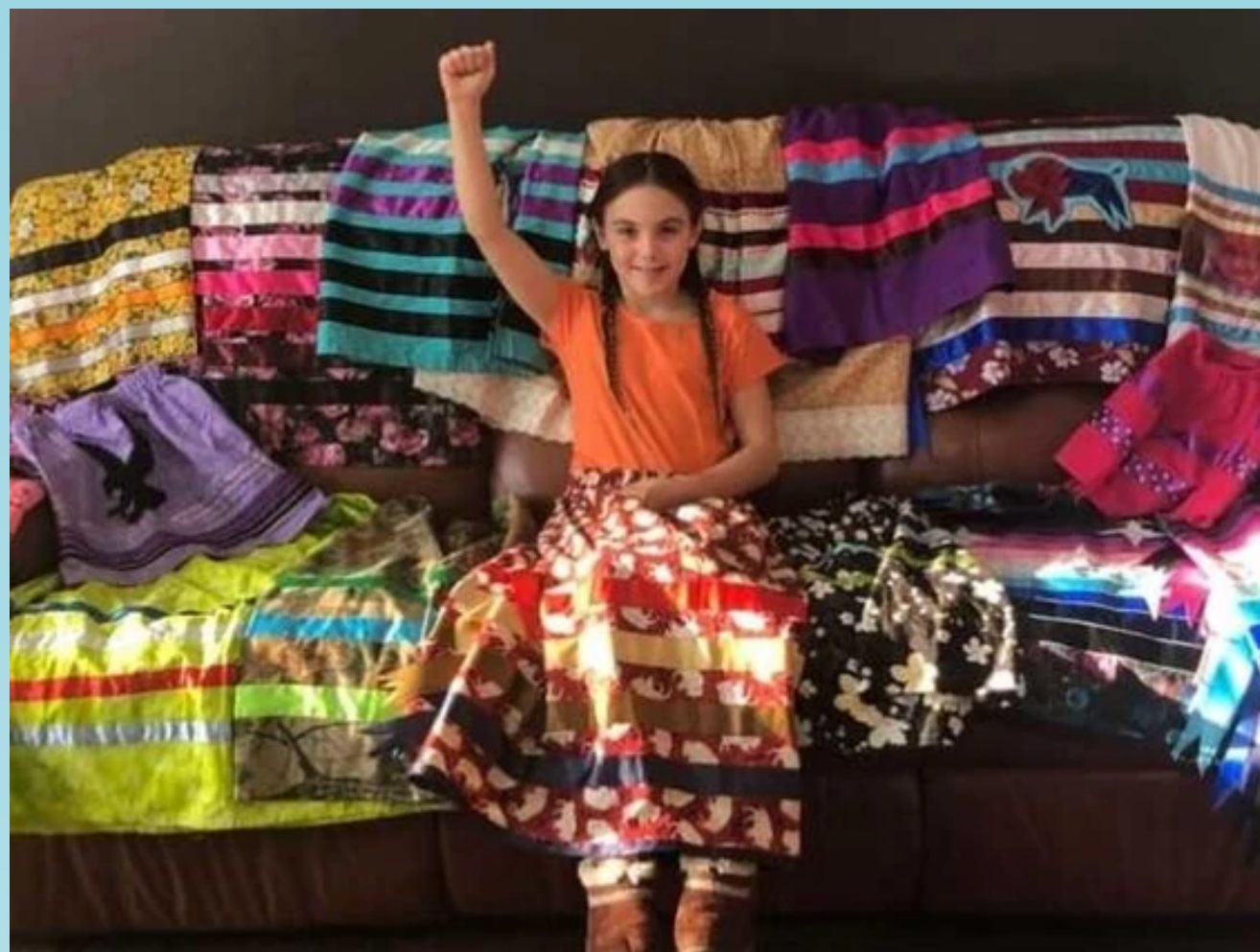




# 2nd National Ribbon Skirt Day

LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION WILL  
CELEBRATE RIBBON SKIRT/SHIRT  
DAY ON THURSDAY JANUARY 11TH.

WEAR YOUR RIBBON SKIRT OR  
RIBBON SHIRT TO SCHOOL WITH  
PRIDE!



In 2020 Isabella Kulak wore a Ribbon Skirt to her school formal day and was told she should have worn something more appropriate- something store bought, like the rest of the girls in her class. This incident left Isabella feeling very upset, but never ashamed. Her story went viral and inspired thousands of Indigenous people across Canada to wear their Ribbon Skirts and Shirts with pride!

Mary Jane McAllum, a member of Cree First Nation and Manitoba Senator, passed a Bill in 2020 that declared Jan. 4, 2023, as the first National Ribbon Skirt Day. The federal government shared a statement, reflecting that “this day is to learn more about and to celebrate Indigenous cultures, traditions, histories and contributions to Canada.”

In Canadian history, there was a time (1884-1951) when the Indian Act dictated to First Nations peoples that it was illegal to practice our culture. Under the Indian Act, it was also illegal to wear traditional clothes from 1914 to 1951. National Ribbon Skirt Day is a time to celebrate First Nations, Métis and Inuit culture, while remembering the harsh laws imposed upon our way of life. It is also a time for settlers to reflect on cultural safety and how Canadians can continue to work towards Truth and Reconciliation.



# Throughout our Communities...

## Sik-Ook-Kotoki Friendship Society Archery session

Date: January  
10, 2024

Location: Old  
Agency Hall

Facilitator:  
Kevin Healy

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Age category: 10 yrs +

Light lunch provided for the first  
20 people

Please call 403-328-2414 for registration

Brought to you by One Horn Culture &  
Wellness & Blackfoot Confederacy

## PIIKANI BUFFALO HARVEST

Lunch will be  
provided

DRESS FOR THE  
WEATHER

Everyone welcome  
to participate

Begins at 10:00am

Jan. 14 2024

Contact Patricia Bruised Head to  
register & for more info  
(403) 795-8483

QR code for  
location



TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 16 & 30  
from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

## LET'S GET BEADING

FREE BEADING WORKSHOP

Join us at the Lethbridge Public  
Library to participate in a free  
beginner friendly Indigenous  
beading workshop.

MAIN BRANCH | PIITOYISS EAGLES NEST  
TO REGISTER FOR A SPOT, PLEASE  
EMAIL:  
indigenous.services@lethlib.ca



CONNECTING  
YOU

The Lethbridge Public Library, Long & McQuade,  
and The Lethbridge and Area Metis

Presents

## Jig and Jam Music and Dance Lessons

By Dr. Monique Giroux, Dian Bessen-Bergeron, and Briffang Lee

A free twelve week music program starting on February 1  
Thursday evenings at the Crossings Branch of the Lethbridge Public Library  
6:30 pm to 8pm

Instruments provided by Long & McQuade  
Feel free to bring your own fiddle or guitar

Register for instruments with the Lethbridge and Area Metis  
info@lethbridgeandarea.com  
403-328-2414

Dance lessons start at 8:30 drop in welcome



## WINTER CLOTHING



## DRIVE

Donated clothing will be distributed to those  
in need.  
Thank you!

ACCEPTING LIGHTLY USED WINTER CLOTHING  
ALL SIZES

SCARVES - GLOVES - BOOTS - COATS

Sik-Ook-Kotoki Friendship Society  
1709 2nd Avenue South Lethbridge, AB  
(403) 328-2414



## Indigenous Women's Gathering

Join us in person to share your knowledge, wisdom, and experience. Circles have  
long been part of our Indigenous Culture in creating a safe space to engage in  
conversations about concerns and challenges we face.

We encourage sharing your ideas and thoughts including any limitations that you  
may have encountered moving forward. We are here to listen and empower each  
other by sharing our stories!

These circles create opportunity to build stronger connections for Indigenous  
Women and communities in Alberta.

Date: Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Time: 3:00-7:00pm (Meal Provided)

Location: Lethbridge and Area Metis office  
132 - 909 3 Avenue N

Esquao, the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women, is an Alberta non-profit organization that serves  
to amplify and share the voices of Indigenous women on the issues and challenges they face.

If you would like to get involved with our 'Kitsiikakomimm' initiative this year for the month of February, where we collect supplies for the less fortunate, please contact shawnee.bigbull@lethsd.ab.ca or reach out to your High School Indigenous Grad Coach for more information and collaboration.



# LILY GLADSTONE

BLACKFEET, NEZ PERCE

**Lily made history at the Golden Globes on January 7th, 2024, as she became the First Indigenous person to be awarded the Golden Globe award for her major role in the Motion Picture, 'Killers of the Flower Moon'.**



**Click to watch Lily's acceptance speech where she acknowledges attendees as well as millions of viewers worldwide in Blackfoot!**



**One of the songs featured on "Killers of the Flower Moon" film is "Midnight Sun" by Reuben and the Dark, and the Bullhorn Singers, - a drum group from here in Sikookohtok (Lethbridge). Check it out!**

