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News Release

## **City of Regina and First Nations University of Canada Sign Memorandum of Understanding**

Mayor Sandra Masters was joined today by First Nations University of Canada President Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU outlines a framework for strategic collaboration aimed at enhancing educational, cultural, and community development initiatives that benefit both parties and the broader Regina community.

"We are eager to embark on this new partnership to create more opportunities for educational and cultural growth that will enrich our entire community," said Regina Mayor Sandra Masters. "I am grateful to the First Nations University of Canada for their leadership and commitment to collaboration in Regina."

The MOU is an important step forward in the City's efforts to advance reconciliation and aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action by promoting Indigenous education and cultural competency within the city.

"The Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations University of Canada and the City of Regina formalizes and publicly demonstrates a commitment to good relations, one that has been forged over time. SIFC (Saskatchewan Indian Federated College) solidified an agreement with the University of Regina in 1976, which led to SIFC (now First Nations University of Canada) being situated in Regina, Saskatchewan," explains FNUUniv President, Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann. "In February 2019, the land that FNUUniv resides on became atim kâ-mihkosit in Cree, or 'Red Dog,' and part of Starblanket Cree Nation. For the last 48 years, we have been neighbours with the City of Regina, and people from FNUUniv and the City of Regina have collaborated in numerous ways. This MOU ensures that we continue to come together in ways that are synergistic, meaningful, educational, and life-giving. I also appreciate the positive example of reconciliation that this agreement shares with other communities, cities, this province, and Canada."

The City and FNUUniv share a vision of enhancing community well-being and educational opportunities. The MOU is intended to guide collaborative efforts between the City and FNUUniv. Specific projects arising from this MOU will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

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