# **Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park**

# Newsletter

### Immerse Yourself in the Rich Traditions at the Prairie **Chicken Dance World Championships**

The rhythmic beats and vibrant regalia of the Blackfoot people are set to come alive at the muchanticipated Prairie Chicken Dance World Championships. This exciting event, deeply rooted in the heritage of the Siksika nation, invites one and all to partake in a celebration that is as much a feast for the senses as it is a tribute to our traditions

On Thursday, June 27th, the Piiksapi Memorial Arbour will set the stage for the world's finest Prairie Chicken dancers. The festivities commence at 1:00 PM, promising an day filled with mesmerizing dances that echo the heartbeat of the plains. We are honored to have Butch Wolfleg, Eldon Weasel Child, and Travis Plated Hair as our Emcees, who will guide us through the day's events with their wisdom and wit. Accompanying them will be the soul-stirring performances by our invited drum groups: Blackfoot Confederacy, Sorrel Rider, Bull Horn, Blackstone, and Indian Hill. Their drums will resonate with the legacy of the Blackfoot people, each beat a story, each rhythm a chapter in our history. For those unable to join us in person, the event will be live-streamed by Powwows.com, ensuring no one misses out on this cultural highlight. Additionally, the event's excitement will be broadcasted through the airwaves on CJWE Radio station and spread across the digital landscape via social media. The celebration doesn't end with the last dance. On the following day, Blackfoot Crossing extends an invitation to a complimentary Pancake Breakfast. This is more than just a meal; it's a gathering of champions, enthusiasts, and new friends, all brought together by their

So, whether you're a longtime aficionado or a curious newcomer, we welcome you to join us on June 27th and 28th. Come, immerse yourself in the pageantry and passion of the Prairie Chicken Dance World Championships, and carry with you memories that will last a lifetime.

shared love for the Prairie Chicken



Filming "Treaty Roads" with APTN: A Captivating Two-Day Experience!

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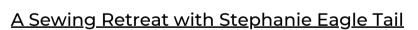
Experience the Vibrancy of Summer with GlobalFest!

**Embrace Indigenous Peoples** Day at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park

Celebration of Culture: Dazzling Performances at One World Picnic

Experience the Spirit of Blackfoot Crossing at the Calgary Stampede!

Community Engagement Night with Banff and Lake Louise Tourism



Dance

Bridging Communities Through Craft: A Sewing Retreat with Stephanie Eagle Tail In a heartwarming blend of creativity and community spirit, our staff recently joined local community members for a few relaxing days of sewing, led by the talented Stephanie Eagle Tail. This unique workshop was more than just a sewing lesson; it was an opportunity to transform a Pendleton blanket into a stunning, custom jacket.



The event was a resounding success, fostering connections between our staff and the community while imparting a valuable new skill. Participants, both novice and experienced, learned side by side, quided by Stephanie Eagle Tail's expert instruction. The process of crafting these beautiful jackets not only honed our sewing abilities but also provided a shared experience that brought us closer together. The workshop was an incredible chance to engage with community members, exchange ideas, and build relationships through a shared love of craftsmanship. The sense of accomplishment from creating something beautiful with our own hands was a wonderful bonus. We extend our deepest gratitude to Stephanie Eagle Tail and her team for their exceptional guidance and the unforgettable experience they provided. The skills and connections forged during these days will undoubtedly inspire many more creative endeavors in the future.



### Filming "Treaty Roads" with APTN: A Captivating Two-Day Experience

We recently enjoyed an exciting two days of filming with an APTN crew for the TV show "Treaty Roads," which explores Canada's numbered treaty regions and their Indigenous peoples. Hosts Erin Stonepipe and Saxson De Cocq conducted insightful interviews with Grand Manyheads and Shilo Clark, discussing the significance of the Blackfoot treaty's signing and negotiation, and the evolution of the relationship with the government over the years. The filming also featured a visit to the Siksika Nation, where they had the privilege of speaking with a member of the Siksika Men's Warrior program. This segment highlighted the traditional art of bow-making, offering a glimpse into the skills and knowledge passed down through generations. The entire experience was incredibly enriching, providing a deeper understanding of the historical and contemporary issues facing Indigenous communities.

"Treaty Roads" will air on APTN sometime next year, bringing these important stories to a wider audience. Stay tuned for an enlightening and educational series!



### **Experience the Vibrancy of Summer with GlobalFest!**

As the warmth of summer envelopes us, we are back with GlobalFest, showcasing the richness and splendor of our beautiful culture. With three incredible events already behind us, we're thrilled to extend a warm invitation to all to join us for our upcoming performances! Mark your calendars for June 23rd, as Hotchkiss Park transforms into a cultural fest from 12 pm to 5 pm. Prepare to be mesmerized as our performers bring the spirit of our traditions to life, filling the air with music, dance, and joy.

But the festivities don't stop there! On July 11th, catch us at the BMO Center during the Calgary Stampede. From dawn till dusk, immerse yourself in the rhythms and colors of our heritage as we showcase our talents throughout the day.

And if you miss us, fret not! We'll be back at Hotchkiss Park on July 21st, ready to captivate audiences once again with our dazzling performances.

So, whether you're a seasoned fan or new to the GlobalFest experience, come join us as we celebrate unity in diversity, spreading love and happiness through the universal language of culture. See you there!"



#### Embrace Indigenous Peoples Day at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park



We extend an invitation to everyone to join us in celebrating Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park! Prepare for a day brimming with engaging activities, mesmerizing dance performances, and enlightening screenings in our very own theater.

From 11 am to 3 pm, include in the festivities with complimentary admission and enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch amidst the stunning beauty of our park. Let us gather in the spirit of reconciliation as we pay respect to the richness of Siksika culture and the resilience of our community.

Indigenous Peoples Day provides a platform for all First Nations to share their voices and stories, fostering understanding and empathy. We invite you to join us, explore, and discover the untold narratives that shape our history and heritage. Come and be part of this meaningful celebration, where you'll not only learn something new but also gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity of Indigenous cultures. We eagerly await your presence at Backfoot Crossing Historical Park's Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration!

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#### Celebration of Culture: Dazzling Performances at One World Picnic



In the heart of Downtown Calgary, the atmosphere was vibrant with cultural richness as our dancers graced the stage at the One World Picnic held at Hotchkiss Gardens. Daleina and Susie, representing Blackfoot Crossing, captivated the audience with their graceful performances, leaving an indelible impression on all who attended. As they moved with elegance and poise, our dancers breathed life into our heritage, each step echoing the enduring beauty of our traditions. Their performance was a mesmerizing display of our culture, resonating deeply with spectators and stirring a sense of pride within our community.

In addition to their captivating dances, Daleina and Susie generously shared moments with their admirers, taking photos and spreading joy throughout the event. Their warm interactions with fans added an extra layer of magic to an already unforgettable day. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Daleina and Susie for their outstanding contributions, making the One World Picnic an experience to cherish. Their talent, grace, and commitment to preserving our culture left an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to witness their performances.



#### Experience the Spirit of Blackfoot Crossing at the Calgary Stampede!

From July 10th to July 14th, don't miss the chance to experience the essence of Blackfoot Crossing at the Calgary Stampede, hailed as the greatest outdoor show on earth! Join us for a journey into the heart of Blackfoot culture, filled with excitement, education, and authentic experiences.

Mingle with our welcoming staff at our cultural pavilion booth, where we'll share the rich history and significance of

Blackfoot Crossing. Discover the stories and traditions that have shaped our community for generations, offering visitors from all corners of the globe a deeper understanding of who we are. Be sure to mark your calendar for July 11th, as we present a special day of dance performances at the GlobalFest One World stage in the BMO Center. Prepare to be dazzled by the artistry and grace of our talented dancers as they showcase the beauty of Blackfoot culture through movement.

In addition to our captivating performances and educational exhibits, don't forget to visit our booth to explore and purchase handmade goods from our gift shop. Take home a piece of Blackfoot craftsmanship and support our community's artisans while immersing yourself in our culture.

Join us for an unforgettable experience at the Calgary Stampede, where the spirit of Blackfoot Crossing awaits. Whether you're seeking cultural enrichment, entertainment, or unique treasures, we promise an enriching and memorable visit for all!



## Community Engagement Night with Banff and Lake Louise Tourism



On May 31st, the community had a unique opportunity to engage with industry professionals from Banff and Lake Louise Tourism during a special event focused on enhancing visitor experiences. Hosted by Banff and Lake Louise Tourism, the evening featured insightful discussions led by Nancy DaDalt, Director of Visitor Experiences, and Greg Hopf, owner of Moccasin Trails.

The event drew a diverse crowd of community members who gathered to share their thoughts and suggestions on fostering a more Indigenous-led approach within the tourism sector. This dialogue was instrumental in highlighting the importance of including Indigenous voices, perspectives and leadership into the tourism industry of Banff and Lake Louise.

Nancy DaDalt and Greg Hopf provided valuable insights and facilitated discussions that encouraged attendees to think critically about the future of tourism in the region. The event was a resounding success, offering a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Our heartfelt thanks go to Banff and Lake Louise Tourism for organizing such a valuable and enriching event. It was a wonderful occasion that underscored the community's commitment to creating a more inclusive and representative tourism experience for all.

BLACKFOOT CROSSING HISTORICAL PARK is of national and international significance, and is working toward becoming a World Heritage Site. The pristine Bow River surrounds the site where Siksika and Canada signed historic Treaty Seven in 1877. Decades have passed since Blackfoot elders first dreamt of sharing our unique culture in a world-class building that immerses visitors in authentic Aboriginal cultural experiences.

Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park is proud to welcome the world.



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For general information, conference bookings, tour bookings, school programs, marketing inquiries, employment, and more, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Check out our web site for updates and even more information.



Newsletter published in-house, 2024. Shilo Clark, Marketing & Communications

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday to Friday

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Hours subject to change according to summer/winter seasons - please refer to our web site for updates.

#### MUSEUM ADMISSION:

Adults: \$22.00 +GST Youth (8-17): \$15.00 + GST Seniors (65+): \$14.00 + GST Children (Under 7): FREE

#### **GROUP RATES:**

Adults (25 or more): \$20.00 per person Students (25 or more): \$12.00 per person

Seniors (65+): \$10.00 per person

PROGRAMS - ADDITIONAL COST PLUS GST

Indoor Programs: 25 or more) \$15.00 per person Guided Tour Indoors: (25 or more) \$15.00 per person

NOTE: You do not need to pay admission to view the gift shop,

use the library, or visit the cafeteria.