

Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park

Newsletter

Park Developments

We are pleased to announce a few major park developments. For a great deal of time we, at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park have wanted to enhance and update our park site, and make it a gathering space for all to enjoy.

An Elders Gathering area is being constructed on lush green grass that has been newly laid in front of the Museum. A full sprinkler system has been installed to ensure our grass remains lush all summer long.

Our outdoor area will feature a Digital Board with QR Code technology, that will provide our guest with additional information about Blackfoot Crossing and the Museum as a whole

For ease and accessibilities, we have build new paved pathways and sidewalks, as well as a tour

bus drop off zone. We have better established our wider pathway system that extends through out the park, and will lead you to Poundmakers former grave as well as the Blackfoot Treaty Commemoration Monument.

We are thrilled to be able to share our pathways with all who visit the park, we do ask that guests not ride any All Terrain Vehicles or Quads on the pathways though the park, so we can maintain a fun and safe visit for everybody.

Elder of the Month: Ruth Scalplock

We are pleased to be featuring an Elder of the Month, to showcase and highlight the important work and guidance our elders provide for each and every one of us. This month we are delighted to feature Ruth Scalplock. Ruth was born on the Siksika First Nation east of Calgary, her Father Blackfoot, her mother Cree. She was raised in her traditional culture. As a young child she was placed in the Indian Residential School, where she suffered much abuse. She survived that experience and the following years of addiction and violence. In 1974, she experienced a spiritual reawakening and chose a healing path. She worked in many helping places until she had a vision to address the legacy of her people, working for many years to establish a shelter for Indigenous women, based on a cultural approach. Ruth ran for the position of MLA in southern Alberta in 1992 for the NDP. She then ran and was subsequently elected as a Band Councillor at Siksika Na-

tion, where she sat for 18 years.

Today Ruth is a healer, community builder, and Elder. She is currently involved in the issue of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women in Canada. She was appointed to the Provincial Three Eagles Wellness Society for Family Violence Prevention in 1991, where she still serves.

In 2014 she released her Book, My Name is Shield Woman: a hard road to healing, vision and leadership. The name Awo Taanaakii was given to her by her Great Aunt Margaret Bad Boy, along with the shield design that became the design for her Tipi.

Ruth received an Esquao Award for Indigenous Woman's Lifetime Achievement. In 2023 Ruth received the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal for her contribution to the Province of Alberta.

Ruth is a voice for cross cultural understanding and forgiveness, as the beginning of reconciliation of the past and building the future.



Sprinklesystem hydrates freshly laid sod. A glimpse of our Elder Gathering Area



Boulders line one of our new pathways leading to Blackfoot Treaty Monument.

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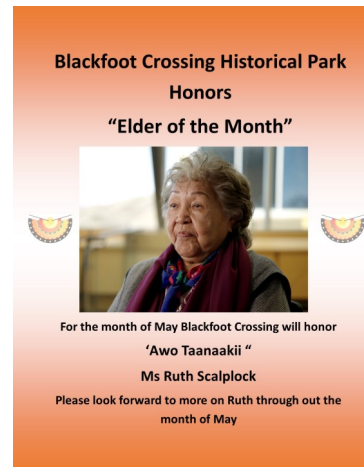
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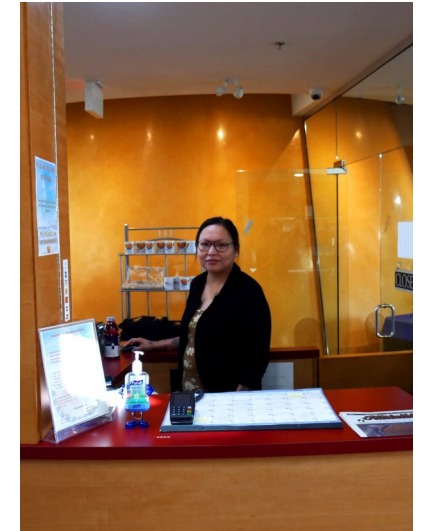


Blackfoot Crossing Gift Shop & Boy Chief Trading Post

Blackfoot Crossing and Boy Chief Trading Post have partnered together to elevate and enhance the guest experience in our recently renovated giftshop.

We have all the gift shop essentials as well as a selection of medicines like sage, tobacco and sweetgrass, all locally sourced, for your traditional needs.

We are pleased to introduce Amie Sitting Eagle, our Guest Services Attendant. Ami is more than happy to help our guests with everything from admissions to enhancing your shopping experience.



New Booking System

We are excited to be forging ahead with Building and Park improvements, however our improvements don't end there. Our central booking system will face enhancements as well. We will be moving to a streamlined system through our website online. It will provide our guests with the ability to really plan a visit that is tailored to them and what they desire to experience. From the online booking system, you will have the opportunity to book everything from Plant Walks to Indoor Guided Tours, or book a Tipi Excursion for the weekend!

Introducing Melva's Kitchen!



We sure hope you're hungry! Our kitchen is officially open! Join us in welcoming Melva's Kitchen where you can find all your staples here! Burgers and Fries, to our delicious fry bread. We hope your mouth is watering, and your tummy rumbling. Contact info@blackfootcrossing.ca for more information on catering for board meetings and conferences.

Check out our menu on line at <https://blackfootcrossing.ca/wordpress/cafeteria-2/>

2023-2024 Fiscal Year Board of Directors



- Blackfoot Crossing would not be able to succeed without the support from Siksika Chief & Council, B.C.H.P Board of directors and community members.
- Blackfoot Crossing museum will proudly showcase Blackfoot history, Culture and the thriving Siksika Nation today.
- We can continue to create a strong foundation to continue uplifting our communities, and to share Blackfoot culture with our Visitors around the globe.
- Together we can support this work and guide the actions to effectively engage audiences and continue promoting and preserving the Siksika Language.

Blackfoot Crossing Board of Directors:
Strater Crowfoot, President, Marsha Wolf Collar, Vice President, Kendall Pantherbone, Bare Trustee, Darrin Martins, Board Member.





Blackfoot Language Initiatives Gathering

We are eager to be hosting Old Sun Community College as they put on The Blackfoot Language Initiatives Gathering. This two day seminar is for the whole community to come out and explore what Siksika Nation is doing as a community to ensure our language will remain strong, that it will never fade from our memories. It'll be a great opportunity for our young people to come out and express themselves in their Blackfoot language . We want to hear from our young people, what methods could we all be using to learn our language.

As well as come out and see the work Old Sun Community College has done in bring the Blackfoot language into the 21st century, where they have compiled a list of modern English words and have translated them into Blackfoot

Truly exciting stuff. Join us and Old Sun Community College at Blackfoot crossing on May 24th and 25th 9:00 AM



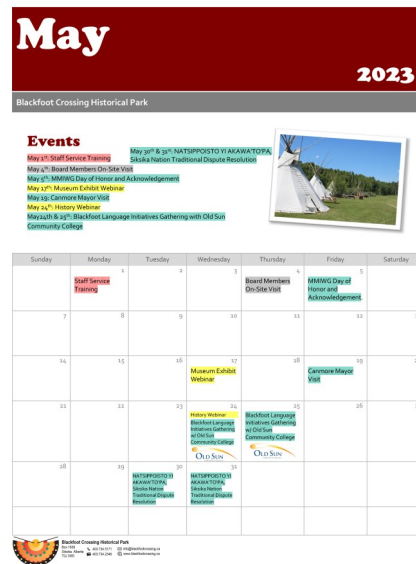
Interpretive Tours & webinars with Grant Many Heads

We are so excited to announce with will be bringing back our monthly History Webinars with Grant Many Heads, as well as new Exhibit Webinars from Shilo Clark.

Grant will also resume his post as Interpretive Tour Guide. We are so pleased to have Grant spread his knowledge and educate each guest that comes through our doors.

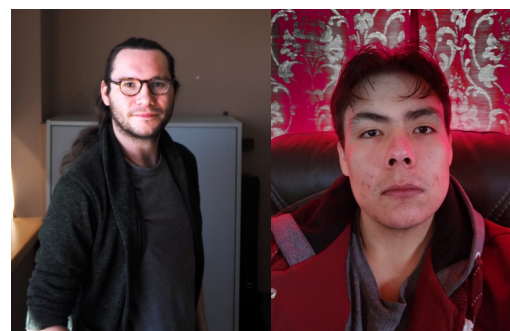
Keep an eye out for Exhibit Webinars every 3rd Wednesday of the month and for History Webinar on the 2ed to last Wednesday of each month

Check out our Month of May Events Calendar for more event dates.



Communications Team

We are Happy to Shilo Clark as our new Museum Exhibits Communications Coordinator. Shilo will be working with Shayde Yellow Old Woman, or current Communications Team. They will keep the community up to date with any events and activities that are happening at the Park, as well as maintain a strong relationship between Blackfoot Crossing and our partner organizations. Join us in wishing them success in those endeavours.



Shilo Clark

Shayde YellowOldWoman

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, 2023.

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.