

kâ-nihpî masinahikâtkwâw kiskinohamâkiwasinahikana – Curriculum

Curriculum themes for Spring Season

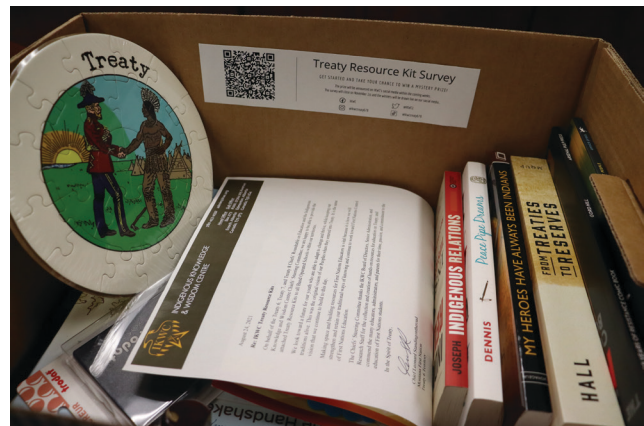
niski-pîsim	March	goose moon
ayîki-pîsim	April	frog moon
opiniyâwiwi-pîsim	May egg	laying moon
opâskâwihôwi-pîsim	June egg	hatching moon

From March to June, students are exploring topics such as:

- Ducks and geese: identifying and calling local geese and ducks, harvesting duck eggs, preparing and dressing ducks and geese.
- Spring beaver and muskrat harvesting: snaring, trapping and animal behaviour/habitat.
- Making dry meat, drying fish and moose/elk/deer hide preparation and canoeing.



Treaty 8 Kits



The Curriculum and Instruction team met in March to discuss Treaty Education resources for students. Staff reviewed Treaty 8 Kits with books and classroom lessons donated by Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta.

KTCEA Website Update: www.ktcea.ca



We recently completed a project to update the KTCEA website to add more content, photos and features. Highlights of recent changes include:

- Cree language used throughout the website in the headings/page titles.
- More photos of students, school activities, and staff.
- More information about our services and programs including videos of land-based learning materials and activities in Cree and English.

Literacy Week

KTCEA schools held literacy weeks between February to April which featured school-based events, book fairs, take home books, literacy celebrations and prizes, storytelling, land-based learning activities, contests and more.



ki-kiskinohamâtôwikamikonawa – Our Schools

Schools focused on spring curriculum themes in lessons with students and many were able to hold activities that were postponed due to weather or COVID-19, such as land-based learning, Cree immersion days, Trickster Theatre and shows by DerRic Starlight and his puppets. In May, several schools held Oiler's Watch Parties for students and families at the school.

Elizabeth Quintal School



EQS concentrated on welcoming back students into the school from February 14-16. Inclusive Education week was from February 22-24 which had weeklong activities including an RCMP anti-bullying presentation, belonging canvas painting, cupcake decorating and more. A winter land-based learning camp was held on March 8-11 where students learned to bead, snowshoe, and received elder teachings by Charlie Orr. The student's enjoyed the activities and took the teachings to heart. Students celebrated on St. Patrick's Day with activities and dressing in green (March 17). The equine program returned, and students learned to groom, saddle, and ride the horses as well as build trust with them. It was beautiful to see the students light up when they realized how brave they could be!

Outreach School



KTCEA's Outreach school program serves over 20 students from across KTC nations. Students from the Outreach school joined with students at Atikameg school in March for land-based learning and bison harvesting. One Outreach high school student attended the visit and tour of SAIT campus May 16-19 with other KTCEA students. Some students are also attending the CTS/Land-Based Learning High School camp with other KTCEA students at the end of May.

Atikameg School



Atikameg School held a literacy week with many exciting events including Land-based Learning and Curriculum Specialist who did storytelling and led students through bison harvesting on March 24-25. DerRic Starlight put on an entertaining Indigenous puppet show. Other events held this included a student spring concert and a feast for Jr. and Sr. High students and staff on March 10 where everyone enjoyed meals with moose meat that the students helped harvest, prepare, and serve.

Little Buffalo School



Highlights included land-based learning and science lessons, skating at Red Earth Creek and an Earth Day nature walk and clean up on April 27. Swimming lessons are underway in May for grades 1-3 and Grades 4-6. Junior Chief and Council elections were held in April. Junior Chief is Jaleel Whitehead, Councilors are: Logan Noskiye, Callen McDonald, Tanisha Nahachick and Eldren Sawan. Congratulations to all student candidates and the elected council! Edmonton Oiler play off tickets were donated to Little Buffalo School for a group of students and staff to attend a game on May 10, 2022 in Edmonton. Thanks to Lubicon Lake Chief and Council, Inland Company and Baytex Company their generous donations.

Kateri School



Students enjoyed land-based learning, ice fishing and fish harvesting with Elder Emile Houle. The school also had special guest visits from DerRic Starlight and his Indigenous Puppets. Students participated in a school production with Trickster Theatre. On Red Dress Day, students wore red and had a RCMP escorted walk to honour and bring awareness to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Clarence Jaycox School



CJS students participated in dog sledding land-based learning lessons with a visit from the Red Earth RCMP. The school planned activities focused on anti-bullying and inclusion during Inclusive Education Week in February and held Cree Immersion Day with Elders in March.

Cadotte Lake School



Cadotte Lake School welcomed back their students into school on March 21 with activities including time outside on the snow and redo of missed Halloween and Valentine's Day parties. Students participated in CTS classes like flight simulation and volleyball matches with students vs staff on April 1st. Family Literacy Week was held after Spring Break from April 19-22 which included a weeklong virtual book fair. Students also got to get active with weeklong jigging/square dance workshops hosted by Ashla Michel and Modeste Mckenzie in late April.

KTCEA Students Visit SAIT



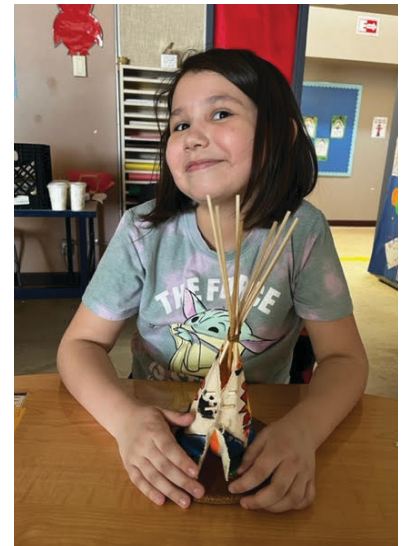
We are excited that over 50 KTCEA high school students toured the Southern Alberta Institute for Technology (SAIT) campus from May 16-19 to experience campus life and learn about CTS and SAIT programs. May 30 to June 4, high school students from all KTCEA schools are invited to Mihkowapikwaniy cultural camp for a week of land-based learning, CTS, diploma exam preparation and hands-on learning with instructors from SAIT.

nîhiyâwîwin — Cree Language

Schools held Cree Immersion Days this spring to promote the use of Cree language with students and staff. KTCEA has a Cree bonus for staff to encourage the use and learning of Cree language. Staff can choose to be assessed for their use of Cree to receive a Cree language bonus. The assessments will continue at schools through May/June and will run again in 2022/2023 school year for those interested.

Meeting with each of the KTCEA member nation's Chief and Councils.

KTCEA started meetings with KTCEA Nation's Chief and Councils along with school principals to discuss how education is delivered and to learn what services and programs are provided to students. These valuable meetings will be ongoing into May.



Graduation Photos

On April 6, 2022, we had another cohort of high school graduates come to the central office to have their graduation photos taken and to select and order their grad rings. Schools with graduates are planning for their graduations and dates will be announced soon. We look forward to the graduation ceremonies and celebrations later this summer! Stay tuned to the KTCEA Facebook page for an interview video with the graduates.*



Red Dress Day May 5, 2022



On May 5, 2022, the KTCEA Curriculum team, Cree language and land-based learning leads and Elders walked together to honour the memory of Indigenous women, men, boys, and girls. Students and staff at KTCEA schools also took time to recognize red dress day in honour of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, men and boys.

sakâwi-pimâcihowin — Land-based Learning



Land-based learning and Cree leads from each school joined the Curriculum and Instruction and Cree Specialists at Mihkowapikwaniy cultural camp to experience land-based learning, wellness and Cree language from a student's perspective. PD included tipi teachings, equine therapy, art and Cree immersion. Elders from KTCEA member nations shared stories and local history in Cree at Mihkowapikwaniy cultural camp.

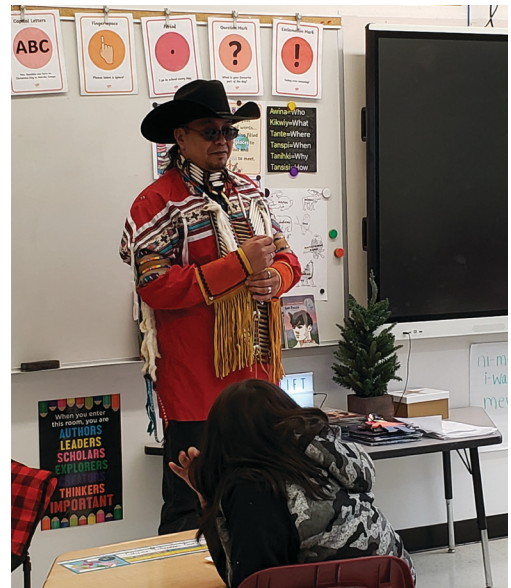
In March, students at Atikameg school had a visit from Jason Bigcharles that linked land-based learning and storytelling to Language Arts. Jason also made similar visits for Land-based learning in other KTCEA schools.

Letter from Student to Jason Bigcharles

Good Morning Jason,

Thank you for visiting Atikameg School and sharing your knowledge with our students. Students were thrilled to have you in the school, meet you and see your regalia. We will revisit your stories for students to retell them, then move on to write one legend on How The Beaver Got Its Flat Tail over the next few days. We will go over the elements of stories, character development and plot and sequence. We even have a beaver's tail in the freezer that they may look at.

Thank you,



Student Legend

Here is a legend written by David Auger, Grade 5 from Atikameg School following Jason's visit. David also read his story on KTCEA radio!

How Amisk Got A Flat Tail

There once was a bossy amisk who had a beautiful fluffy tail. He lived in an amisk dam near some trees. He chopped wood all day to build his house. He would always ask the other beavers, "Isn't my tail so beautiful?" The other beavers were getting very tired of his question.

One day he was chopping wood, he wasn't paying attention to his surroundings because he was admiring his tail. One of the other beavers was chopping a tree and he yelled, "LOOK OUT!" The bossy amisk who was too busy admiring his tail did not listen to the warning. Suddenly, he felt a pain on his tail and froze in terror. He said, "MY TAIL, MY BEAUTIFUL TAIL!!" The other amisk said, "I warned you, but you were too busy admiring your tail." The Amisk hung his head in embarrassment. That is how the Amisk got a flat tail.

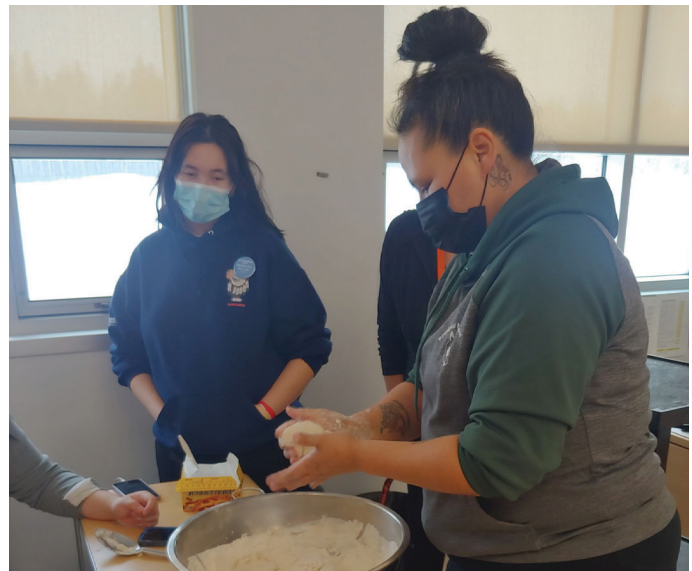


Miyo Mitsowin/Good Eating



KTCEA Food Services team is always busy delivering and preparing healthy meals and snacks to students in our schools each day, and for field trips and special events. The Food Services Manager met with cooks from each school for training in the online ordering system and arranged a tour with delivery drivers to visit a new meat supplier for school meals. We are proud that KTCEA's traditional meals program and an interview with Clifford Gladue was featured online at farmtocafeteriacanada.ca in April. Thank you to our amazing food services team!

Inclusive Education Week – Feb 22- 25



Students and staff came together last week for a variety of activities to embrace Kiscâyâwin (Belonging), our theme for Inclusive Education Week 2022. The activities included indoor and outdoor land-based learning activities that aligned with winter themes from the KTCEA Common, Consistent Curriculum.

The week was capped off by a virtual professional development day for staff where they were inspired by the keynote speech of Travis Dugas Bellerose and learned more about using technology, writing, movement, music, language and personal strengths to meet the needs of all students.

Thank you to staff and students who participated! A big thank you to staff from Student Services and the Curriculum and Instruction for leading activities at schools during Inclusive Education Week.



Jr./Sr. High Winter Semester Kick Off Event



We had another digital Jr./Sr. High kick off event on March 2, 2022. It was an informative and fun event for our older students who saw an overview for the myBlueprint for students system which will help them with tools to better plan and navigate their education journey. Students also learned about the SAIT Green Building Technologies department which researches and provides training on green-building technologies and learned more about the KTCEA Greenhouse Project. Finally, students enjoyed a relatable and engaging keynote speech from comedian Tonia Jo Hall.

Land-based Learning Challenges



We held land-based learning challenges in February for students and members of the KTCEA communities. Students were challenged to make and take photos of themselves making soup and Bannock with their families with the winners receiving up to \$150. Community members also had the opportunity to participate in King and Queen challenges where they were tasked with making bannock, setting rabbit snares, chopping wood, ice fishing, and animal tracking with the prizes ranging from \$800 to \$200. Thanks to all who participated and congratulations to all the winners! We look forward to hearing more about winners of the community and student Stewardship challenges in May!

Land-based Learning Student and Community Stewardship Challenge (May 16-31, 2022)



Land-based Learning

Community and Student Stewardship Challenges

Open to community members (aged 16+) and KTCEA students (any grade). Enter the challenge, practice stewardship, and help take care of our land and environment!

[Learn More](#)

A core value for KTCEA is stewardship and taking care of our land and environment. We are excited to offer a Land-based Learning Student Stewardship Challenge and Community Stewardship Challenges. The challenges will have participants going out into the community to spring clean, pick up trash from this past winter or doing something to beautify the community.

Student Community Stewardship Challenge

Open to all KTCEA students. Students are being challenged to put stewardship into practice by cleaning their yard or cleaning an elder's yard in the community. KTCEA values our elders and the responsibility in taking care of them. As such, there will be a separate prize for students that clean an elder's yard. Students may compete in both prize categories.

To qualify, take at least 4 selfies/pictures including before and after, while completing the task to submit for judging. Both your face and activity must be clearly visible in a selfie/picture in order to qualify. If cleaning an elder's yard, a photo of the elder must be included. This is a timed challenge so prizes will be awarded in order that completed entries are received.

Prize awards

Cleaning your own yard: first \$300, second \$250, third \$200, fourth \$150.

Cleaning an elder's yard: first \$400, second \$350, third \$300, fourth \$250.

Challenge will remain open, and entries will be accepted from **May 16 to May 31, 2022**, with winners announced on **June 7, 2022**. Entries with pictures can be e-mailed to Jason Bigcharles at Jason.bigcharles@ktcea.ca. Please include the student's full name, grade, and school in the entry. Click here to download the PDF of this challenge.

Community Stewardship Challenges

Each KTCEA First Nation will be doing the same challenges with their own winners.

Prize Awards (repeated for each nation)

First \$800, second \$600, third \$400, and fourth \$200.

The challenge is open to each nation's members 16 years of age and up, so youth and elders alike can compete against each other! Youth 15 years of age and younger can compete in the Student Community Stewardship Challenge (above). By entering, contestants agree to allow KTCEA to publish their name and photo, unless explicitly directed not to.

Challenge will remain open, and entries will be accepted from **May 16 to May 31, 2022**, with winners announced on June 7, 2022. Prizes will be mailed or delivered where possible. Entries with pictures can be e-mailed or texted to the attention of Jason Bigcharles at Jason.bigcharles@ktcea.ca or text to (780) 618-5390, please include contestants **full name and age** in the entry.

Go to [KTCEA.ca](https://www.ktcea.ca) for more information on these challenges.



Nîkânîwin Kîhcîyihâtâkosiwin Honouring Leadership Award



KTCEA is proud to announce the Nîkânîwin Kîhcîyihâtâkosiwin - Honouring Leadership Award. This award is available to all qualifying KTCEA students in recognition of the guiding principles and values that are grounded in education at KTCEA:

Nîkânîwin — Leadership

Nîhiyawîwin — Cree Way of Being

Wahkohtowin — Kinship

Pîkiskwîstamowîwin — Speaking on Behalf of Others

Wîcihitowin — Sharing

Manâtisiwin — Respect & Respect for Each Other

Tapatwîwin — Honesty

Annual award amount: \$600 per nation for a student enrolled in and attending Grade 6-12 in a KTCEA school. Award recipients will be announced in June of every year.

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