



Fall Quarter | 2026: A Newsletter for Salish Kootenai College

Integrity ~ Respect ~ Relationships ~ Reciprocity ~ Equity ~ Equality

Upcoming Dates:

October 26th – 30th
Founder's Week

November 23rd
Blackout Date | Employee Meeting

November 23rd – January 1st
Winter Break | Students

November 25th – November 29th
December 23rd – December 27th
Holiday Closures | Campus Closed

President's Fall Address

Xest sxlxalt and ki'su'k kyukyit my Bison Family,

I write to you today with inspiration from the Fall Montana Tribal College Association (MTCA) and American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Board Meetings, which are being held in the homelands of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. Although my heart is at home with Salish Kootenai College, having the opportunity to gather in solidarity and collaborate to find solutions that support the collective work of all our Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) throughout Montana and the Nation is both inspiring and helpful.

This meeting holds the special emphasis of considering what makes our TCUs who and what we are and how we can support one another in our sustainability. Collectively, TCUs are institutions built to support the workforce and education needs of the Tribal Nations we serve, grounded in our cultures, languages, values, spirituality, and social systems. Salish Kootenai College embodies this by meeting the call of our ancestors and elders—our people deserve the very best education possible, both culturally and academically.

The meetings I am attending today and tomorrow are aimed at taking a hard look at how we can use our collective sovereign rights as chartered institutions to meet this call—the collective call of our Tribal Nations—by coming together to determine how TCUs can and should look, and by building our own accreditation system to ensure we can continue to strengthen this important work we do. I look forward to returning home with strengthened conviction and inspiration for the work we have ahead of us—as we mirror these efforts at SKC—and in partnership with our collective TCUs.

This two-day trip is especially helpful this fall as we find ourselves in the midst of a new era—an era aimed at reconnecting with our foundations, our Mission, our cultures, and our languages, and how we want to move forward together as a Tribal College.

–To read the rest of President Munson's Fall Address, follow the link or scan the QR code:

President Munson's Fall Address



Salish Corner

Séliš u Qlispé (Salish and Pend d'Oreille)

sčtip spqni?: hunting month – October

sq^wlllu spqni?: storytelling month – November

es?acmi spqni?: trapping month – December

Kootenai Corner

Ksanka (Kootenai)

ḱupaquḷaqpī'k: leaves falling month – October

ktāḷu'k ḱupqa: deer calling month – November

ḱusmukusaḷ ḱxamaḷiḷ : first prayers month – December

SKC's New 'Ways of Being' Campaign Begins to Take Shape Across Campus

Recently, Fall Inservice marked the introduction of our SKC 'Ways of Being,' bringing employees together around shared values that guide how we learn, work, and care for one another:

**Integrity | Equity & Equality | Reciprocity
Relationships | Respect**

The rollout invited us to reflect on how we put those values into practice—from listening with respect and acting with integrity to nurturing relationships across all of campus. Inservice offered an opportunity to consider what these commitments mean and look like in the daily work we do and the experiences we create for students, colleagues, and our broader community.

As we carry this work into the academic year, our Ways of Being serve as a shared foundation for strengthening connections and building a campus where people feel welcomed, valued, seen, and supported.

You will notice signage across campus to serve as a reminder of our commitment to our Ways of Being. Posters will be available soon as well—if you'd like to be sure to get one, reach out to the office of the **Marketing & Communications Strategist**.



SKC Board of Directors

The current Members of the Board are:

- Eldena Bear Don't Walk, Chairperson
- JaNeal McDonald, 1st Vice Chairperson
- Selina Kenmille, 2nd Vice Chairperson
- Jim Durglo, Board Member
- Vernon Finley, Board Member
- ArriAnna Henry, Board Member
- Elijah Cahoon, Jr., Board Member

Please note that SKC Board of Directors meetings are open to the public and offer opportunities for public participation at the beginning of each meeting (typically between 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM).

You can attend in person in the Big Knife Conference Room or via Zoom:

<https://skc-edu.zoom.us/j/84271424327>.

Upcoming Board Meetings are scheduled for:

- November 6th
- December 11th
- January 8th – *Tentative, to accomodate Cultural Gatherings*

Announcement:

SKC Administration would like to take a moment to share our gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work and commitment you show each and every day!

To show our gratitude in a way that feels especially meaningful, we are thrilled to announce that the Executive Council has voted unanimously to make December Friday-Free!

Friday-Free means no work on Fridays. This does not automatically mean we transition to four 10's in December either. This year, logistics have been worked out at the Administrative level and will be implemented across campus to ensure *Equity & Equality* for all employees, including PT and Student employees. Be on the lookout for more information to come.

Fall Enrollment Update

These results reflect the continued dedication of our SKC community to advancing the College's Mission. lemlmtš | hu sukiḡukni!

- Student Headcount is 676.
 - Undergraduate: 635
 - Graduate: 41
- Tribal Student Enrollment is 75% (this includes Enrolled, 1st and 2nd Descendants from all Tribes and Canadian Indian)
 - 210 students are CSKT-affiliated
 - 172 students are affiliated with other MT Tribes



Some Wise Words from IT:

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month!

Simple habits can help keep student information, employee records, and college systems safe: use strong, unique passwords, enable multifactor authentication, and keep your devices and software updated. Be cautious with unexpected emails, links, or attachments—even when they appear to come from a colleague—and **report suspicious messages**. A little extra attention can make a big difference in keeping our campus secure.

Need help with technology? Be sure to submit a request through the **SKC IT Helpdesk**. Using the SKC Helpdesk Ticketing system helps our Team organize requests and get you the support you need. Before submitting a ticket, check out our '**Knowledge Base**' for answers to common questions. Visit helpdesk.skc.edu to browse topics by category or use the search bar to find what you need.

To submit a ticket:

1. Click Login in the upper-right corner of the helpdesk page.
2. Select Google Apps and sign in with your SKC email and password.
3. Complete and submit your request. Signing in automatically fills in your contact information.

Thank you for your patience as we work through the busy start of the school year.



SKC Partners w/ CSKT to Address Homelessness Through Training

The SKC Building Trades program collaborated with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' Homelessness Task Force, CSKT Member Services, Department of Human Resource Development, Tribal Lands, and TIWAHE to pilot a 6-week, hands-on, non-credit Building Trades training program in July and August. The training equipped 12 community members with invaluable job skills while helping to address the housing shortage on the Reservation.



SKC Audit to Take Place

SKC is preparing for an upcoming annual audit, which will take place Monday, November 2nd – Friday, November 6th. Employees whose departments are involved are encouraged to watch for additional guidance regarding documentation requests and preparation timelines.

We are grateful for your patience and understanding during this time as the effort of the Business Office staff is intensified and can be stressful. Let's be kind and considerate!



SKC Welcomes New HR Director: Jody Cahoon Perez

Join us in welcoming our new Human Resources Director, Jody! As an SKC alumna and former member of the SKC Board of Directors, she brings a meaningful connection to our college community. Jody brings extensive experience in Tribal leadership after having served in various roles throughout Indian Country. Her insight and knowledge will offer a valuable perspective in her role dedicated to supporting our employees and campus at large. We're excited to welcome her back to SKC in this role!



Wednesdays Are for the Bison!

This is your reminder that on Wednesdays, We Wear Bison Gear!

Wear your favorite SKC shirt, hoodie, or any other Bison gear you may have on Wednesdays. Whether you're learning, teaching, supporting students, or keeping our beautiful campus running behind the scenes, you're part of what makes SKC so special. Wearing our Bison Gear is one small way we can connect every week and remember why we show up every day.

Let's fill our campus with Bison Pride—one Wednesday at a time!



Charge Into Your Future

Your future, your path. Choose from 60+ diverse pathways—from workforce certificates to master's degrees—and apply to SKC today to start your journey.

[Apply to SKC Today](#)

Interested in Donating to SKC?

Help cultivate the next generation of community leaders by supporting SKC's unique educational framework that encourages lives of purpose and leadership.

[Donate to SKC](#)

SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE
GROUNDED IN TRADITION. CHARGING INTO THE FUTURE.

