

2014 ACCESS CONFERENCE: GENERAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE LOCATION: Blue Quills First Nations College
See attached map for driving directions

The Board of Governors, students, faculty, and staff of Blue Quills First Nations College are pleased to welcome each delegate who will be attending the 2014 ACCESS Conference.

Since 1971, Blue Quills has been a locally controlled Indigenous education centre serving the academic and training needs of people of all cultures, encouraging everyone to experience studying in a unique socio-cultural and academic environment. As an Indigenous non-profit educational institution, a prime objective is to promote a sense of pride in Indigenous heritage and reclaim traditional knowledge and practices. Blue Quills is governed by seven appointed Board members, each representing one of the seven local First Nations communities: Beaver Lake, Cold Lake, Frog Lake, Whitefish Lake, Heart Lake, Kehewin, and Saddle Lake, plus one Elder from the Saddle Lake First Nation. These communities represent almost 17,500 people.

Located approximately 200 kilometers northeast of Edmonton, Blue Quills occupies 240 acres of designated Reserve land near the town of St. Paul, Alberta. Originally built in the early 1930's and formerly a federally sponsored church operated residential school, the College now houses college and university programs for area residents. In 2011, Blue Quills celebrated 40 years as Canada's first Indigenous controlled education centre.



REGISTRATION FEE:

The \$250.00 registration fee includes:

- \$50.00 2014-15 ACCESS Membership Fee
- All conference events: opening and closing keynote address, workshops, cultural activities, morning and afternoon refreshment breaks, and the following meals:

Monday June 9th: Dinner

Tuesday June 10th: Lunch

Dinner for those who choose to participate in the optional Sweat and Feast activity

Wednesday June 11th: Lunch

DRESS RECOMMENDATIONS:

As the conference will include several outdoor activities, we suggest that delegates wear casual clothing and comfortable shoes. On the evening of Monday June 9th, we will spend time preparing both men and women for cultural protocols for the pipe ceremony that will take place on the morning of Tuesday June 10th. While we will have extra appropriate clothing on hand, we invite women to bring long skirts or dresses that they can wear for ceremonial purposes.



ANNUAL ACESS GIFT EXCHANGE:

We invite each delegate to please bring a gift from your college/university for the annual ACESS gift exchange, which will take place on Wednesday June 11th.



The 2014 ACESS Conference Planning Committee sends you wishes for a rejuvenating set of experiences as we once again gather our ACESS community.