

New Indigenous Engagement Guide launched

Ranch Ehrlo has rolled out an Indigenous Engagement Guide to deepen its commitment to understanding, respecting, and honouring Indigenous culture. The guide emphasizes the involvement of all agency stakeholders to integrate Indigenous culture into their work and relationships.

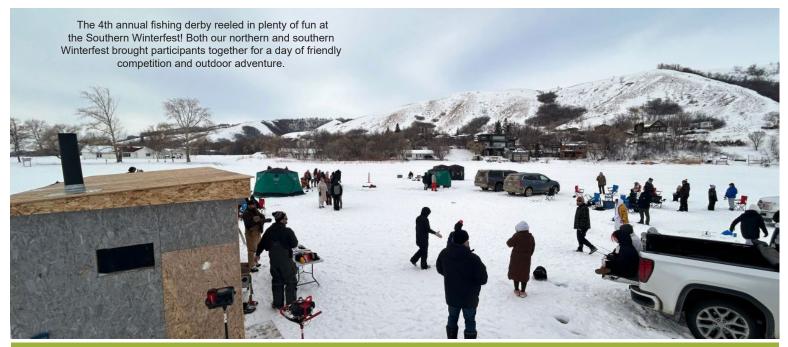
Aligned with the agency's five-year strategic guide, the Indigenous Engagement Guide enhances program excellence and strengthens governance and stakeholder relations. It also serves as a framework for staff to set goals and evaluate progress in key areas.

The strategy focuses on four key areas: Participants: Enhancing their cultural identity through experiences and family engagement. Staff: Building cultural competency through education and exposure to Indigenous culture.

Relationships: Promoting diverse representation at all organizational levels to foster trust and partnerships.

Communities: Developing relationships with Indigenous agencies and supporting economic reconciliation through Indigenous-owned businesses.

The Indigenous Engagement Guide aims to inspire staff to advance cultural competency



RANCH EHRLO SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Issue 139 May 2025

and strengthen connections across these four areas.

Building stronger families together

Ranch Ehrlo's family treatment programs and Kasohkowew Child Wellness Society have partnered to strengthen support for families in need.

In August 2024, key Kasohkowew members visited Ranch Ehrlo to explore its family programs. At the time, Kasohkowew was developing a new initiative featuring four family treatment homes and 10 sibling reunification homes to help families heal and reconnect.

FTP managers Sharon Miller and Deena Hall provided an overview of Ranch Ehrlo's services, demonstrating how they support family reunification and long-term stability. Kasohkowew saw strong alignment with its goals and committed to further collaboration.

The visit led to a signed service agreement and a two-day leadership training for Kasohkowew supervisors and managers. Patti facilitated the session, focusing on leadership and supervision in intensive inhome family treatment.

"This training is key to building a lasting, impactful partnership,"said Patti Petrucka, FTP director. "By working together, we can strengthen services and help families build brighter futures."

Ranch Ehrlo joins Home Depot's Orange Door Project

This spring, we're excited to partner with Saskatoon Home Depot for their biannual Orange Door Project Campaign, a nationwide initiative focused on raising funds to prevent and end youth homelessness.

From May 27 to June 22, customers at Saskatoon Home Depot stores can donate \$3, \$5, or \$10 at checkout. One hundred per cent of the funds raised will stay within the local community and directly support Ranch Ehrlo's northern group living treatment service, providing essential services to youth in Saskatchewan, including group living, clinical support, and educational programs.

The funds raised will help enhance youth programs in northern Saskatchewan and contribute to developing a future recreational and therapeutic space. This initiative, along with other programs, will provide lasting benefits for the youth in our care.

Parents find belonging



Parents in Ranch Ehrlo's family programs have found purpose and belonging in a moccasin-making workshop that grew into a strong community of support.

"This was a space where parents could have a community, engage in healing, and also have space to talk, visit, and process," said Erica Gray, family therapist. "The group became a strong source of support and became this beautiful circle where they would create, chat, laugh, and just be together."

Led by Linda*, a family program participant and artisan from the Northwest Territories, the 12-week group provided a space for healing, cultural reconnection, and friendship.

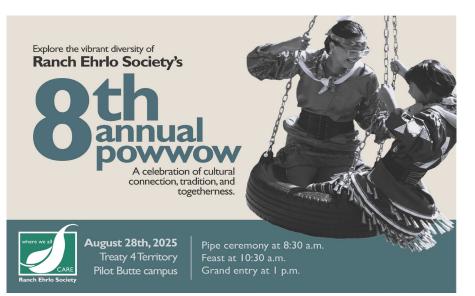
Beyond crafting moccasins, participants built resilience and confidence, pushing through challenges to complete something meaningful. The creative process also offered deep emotional healing, helping parents reconnect with their histories.

Mark your calendar's for the 8th annual powwow

Mark your calendars! Everyone is invited to our 8th annual powwow on August 28, 2025, at our Pilot Butte campus on Treaty 4 Territory.

The day begins with pipe ceremonies at 8:30 a.m., followed by a feast at 10:30 a.m., and the grand entry at 1 p.m. Competitive dancing will take place throughout the day, with cash prizes for top performers. A family





carnival, inflatables, canteen, and a new sensory tipi will be available for attendees.

Open to all—come celebrate Indigenous culture and community with us. Rain or shine, we'll be here!

For volunteer or sponsorship opportunities, contact Kayla McKee at kayla.mckee@ranchehrlo.ca or 306-751-5684.

EELC's commitment to childcare excellence

A renewed focus on professional development is transforming the Ehrlo Early Learning Centre (EELC).

EELC, operates as a part of Ranch Ehrlo's community services and provides high-quality child care to families in Regina.

In September 2024, EELC introduced a new initiative requiring all staff to achieve a minimum Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Level 3 certification. To support this, the Government of Saskatchewan's ECE Wage Enhancement Grant provides a wage top-up of up to \$8.50 per hour for certified educators.

"While many educators are skilled without formal training, having theoretical knowledge helps them better understand child development," said Karin Duff, EELC director.

EELC fully supports current staff in achieving their certification, covering tuition, providing study time, and allowing a flexible pace. New hires must already hold ECE Level 3 certification.

The impact has been profound. "I've gained so much confidence, not just as an educator but as a mother," said Glennise Handoc, early childhood educator. With 12 educators currently enrolled, EELC is well on its way to full ECE Level 3 certification, fostering a culture of continuous learning.

Happiness through art



Ranch Ehrlo is proud to once again partner with the Regina Public Library to present the fourth annual Make a Mark art showcase, celebrating the creative talents of its program participants.

This year's exhibit, titled Happiness, will run from May 1 to May 31, 2025, in the Creation Cube at the George Bothwell branch in Regina's Southland Mall.

"Participants and staff involved in the art have chosen themes that make them happy," said Dustin Ritter, art facilitator at Ranch Ehrlo.

The exhibition will feature works by youth from Ranch Ehrlo's Schaller Education Centre, as well as young adults from the Ranch's vocational programs, each with unique perspectives on the theme of happiness.

Dustin added, "Participants of all skill levels were involved in the show, with varying degrees of interaction—so even those who think they can't paint can still make a mark."

The show will be open to the public with the grand unveiling will take place on May 2nd from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., where attendees can enjoy the art, meet some of the artists, and participate in an interactive segment.

Women take back their lives

Violet and Martine, two staff members at Ranch Ehrlo, exemplify hope and resilience, using their personal experiences to support families in the Family Treatment Program (FTP).



Both women, who once sought help from the program, have overcome addiction and fought for reunification with their children. Now, as family treatment workers, they offer support to parents navigating the challenges of daily life and the reunification process.

Violet, a mother of six, joined the FTP in November 2023. The program helped her reconnect with her family after her children had been in care. Inspired by her experience, Violet returned to Ranch Ehrlo in January 2025 to work as a family treatment worker, where she helps parents with tasks like meal preparation, childcare, and transportation.

Martine's journey was shaped by addiction from a young age, and she lost her children in 2015. After entering the FTP in 2020, Martine completed the program and reunited with her children in 2021. She joined the team as a family treatment worker in December 2024, drawing strength from her past to help families facing similar challenges.

Both women find fulfillment in sharing their stories, offering families hope and reassurance that they are not alone. Their journeys show that change is possible, providing invaluable support to families in need. Learn more about Ranch Ehrlo's family programs.

Thank you to our sponsors and donors

Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors who helped Ranch Ehrlo in the past several months:

- Jumpstart event grant \$ 2,000
- Jumpstart OHL grant \$4,422.00
- QCM Race Roster donation for ESV \$25
- Cody Demaris- in kind donation
- Winmar ESV Equipment Drive

MLA visit



Ranch Ehrlo's Tandi van Tol, Vance Heaney, and CEO Natalie Huber recently met with MLAs Brittney Senger, Brent Blakley, and April ChiefCalf at Corman Park to discuss key issues impacting the Ranch.

Record breaking OHL



Kids and coaches share their favourite things about the Ehrlo Outdoor Hockey league, as the CJME Morning Show spotlights the 32nd season of the Ehrlo Sport Venture OHL. This year, a recordbreaking 466 kids are lacing up their skates and enjoying the game.

Aid foundation helping



Ranch Ehrlo youth continue to benefit from programs funded by the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada. This year, the Scotiabank Stay in School Program provided \$30,000 in grants to encourage academic success, while the Ted and Loretta Rogers Foster Care Comfort Kit Program supplied backpacks filled with essential items to ease transitions into care.

Expansion progressing



Construction is progressing smoothly at the Buckland campus. One of our 10-bed group living homes, Alex Guy House, is currently undergoing an extensive renovation.

Special presentation



Students at Ranch Ehrlo were treated to a special presentation and inspiring message thanks to motivational speaker Cody Demerais and sponsor SGI. Cody spoke about his struggles as a young boy and highlighted how a shift in mindset and behaviour led to some of the greatest years and achievements of his life.

