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First Nations University of Canada Hosts National Conference on Reconciliation

(Regina, SK – JUNE 22, 2016) Today, over 180 community members and scholars joined at the First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv) in Regina, Saskatchewan for the opening of the annual conference of the Canadian Indigenous/Native Studies Association (CINSA).

The Urban Annual Knowledge Network (UAKN) and FNUniv are honored to be co-hosting the event. Guided by the theme of Reconciliation through Research: Fostering *miyo-pimatisiwin* in the city, this year's conference will feature individual paper presentations, panel sessions, roundtables, workshops, film screenings and performances that highlight community-driven research and pathways to achieving reconciliation.

The CINSA conference represents the growing partnership between urban Aboriginal communities and the research community who are involved joint efforts to find ways of improving *bimaadiziwin* for urban Aboriginal residents.

"I am pleased that First Nations University of Canada has agreed to host the conference," said David Newhouse, Principal Investigator for the UAKN. "This is the second UAKN national conference to bring together researchers and community members. The National Association of Friendship Centres, who is co-chair of the UAKN, has worked tirelessly over the last half century to improve the quality of life for urban Aboriginal peoples."

FNUniv President Dr. Mark Dockstator, remarks that the university is proud to host this year's CINSA conference: "As the national leader in Indigenous post-secondary education since 1976, First Nations University of Canada is the ideal venue for this prestigious conference, bringing together Indigenous studies scholars from across the country. FNUniv is marking its 40th anniversary in 2016, and this event is just one of a number designed to bring a national spotlight to our amazing institution. The theme of reconciliation through research is one that resonates with the attention focused on Indigenous issues in light of the TRC's Calls to Action."

The CINSA annual conference continues through June 22 – 24, 2016 at the First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv) in Regina, Saskatchewan. For conference information see: www.uakn.org/cinsa

About the UAKN

The UAKN is a research network of urban Aboriginal communities, policy-makers and academics, engaging in community-driven research with the goal of contributing to a better quality of life for urban Aboriginal people. Based at Trent University and co-led by the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC), the network includes over 80 partners.

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