

March 25, 2025

### **Press Release in Response to Chief Cameron's call for the Resignation of Street Culture Project CEO, Jeff Dudar**

We take the matters raised by Chief Cameron of the FSIN very seriously. The majority of our youth that we provide services to at Street Culture Project are Indigenous. Over the past 3 years, we have taken great efforts and are making significant strides in creating safe spaces for youth in Regina that includes cultural programming. Until recently, we have done this without any significant sources of funding, paying for these opportunities through fundraising initiatives and donations, as well as through programming dollars attached to some of our funding agreements.

Last year, 29% of our new hires were Indigenous. We are actively working to increase the number of Indigenous staff, as well as staff from other cultures. Overall, 21% of our active staff are Indigenous. 76.7% of all the youth currently living in our Street Culture Project homes (4 peer homes & shelter) identify as Indigenous. In the past 5 years Street Culture Project has provided services to a total of 329 Indigenous youth in our homes.

We take into account the youth's desires and interests in learning about their culture and make those connections when and where possible. Last year, almost 200 youth participated in 53 cultural events. These events offered a diverse array of events and activities, fostering connection, creativity, and tradition.

Highlights included:

- Hands-on crafting workshops such as regalia making, beading, sewing, belt making, ribbon skirt creation, and Christmas stocking crafting
- Community sweats
- Round dance and singing ceremonies
- Traditional bannock making
- Participation in programming at Raven Healing Lodge
- Healing workshops and traditional health gatherings
- Cultural excursions, including trips to Batoche
- Cultural training sessions
- Kawacatoose Culture Night
- Powwows at Kawacatoose, Pasqua, and Ranch Ehrlo Society, complemented by powwow dance classes and workshops

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- Elder Forum
  - Indigenous Horse Program, featuring Equine Assisted Learning at Yellow Thunderhorse Ranch
  - Indigenous Language and Art Hive sessions
  - Movie nights
  - Attendance at community events like Agribition and the Queen City Ex
  - Women's gathering

A loss of any life is tragic, especially a young person's life that is receiving our service, and we make great efforts to provide a safe, caring, professional and culturally inclusive environment for our youth and for our staff. Any recommendations that have been made or will be made with respect to this incident will be considered and implemented.

As the CEO of the organization, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with Chief Cameron to discuss our agency, our programs and services and to learn from him how we might strengthen the work that we do. As a proud Metis person myself, this matter is very important to me.

Jeff Dudar, Chief Executive Officer, SCP