



IN BRIEF

Win 'Sid' prize

Would you like to win sports memorabilia autographed by Sidney Crosby or Alexander Ovechkin Jersey?



Then let Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) know by sending the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) and the Anishinabek Educational Institute (AEI) a letter stressing the importance of your post secondary education and the impact that "lack of funding" will have on your future career.

www.aeipostsecondary.ca

2011 games off

REGINA – A bid to host the 2011 North American Indigenous Games has been withdrawn by the host committee. The week-long sports games were to take place from July 10-17, 2011, in Milwaukee, Wis.



Morley Watson, vice-chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, whose bid to host next year's games was rejected, felt that the time might be right for a Canadian competition for First Nations athletes.

Milloy resigns

Dr. John Milloy says his resignation as director of research has for Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Indian residential schools is not related to remarks he made expressing his frustration over the pace of obtaining documents from church leaders.



Dr. John Milloy

Milloy had suggested the Roman Catholic Church was afraid of lawsuits against living priests if diaries reveal details about "buggering boys in the basement and that sort of thing."

Save your receipts

See pages 2, 32.



Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare is seen beating the 13% HST by making a purchase from Terry Chevrier at the Eagle's Nest Gas Bar on Nipissing First Nation.

– Photo by Marci Becking

Beat the tax - buy local!

By Maurice Switzer

There is one sure way First Nations citizens can avoid collecting and submitting a wad of July-August sales receipts to claim a Provincial Sales Tax rebate.

"This whole HST debacle might convince some of our citizens to start supporting their own community businesses, and hopefully starting new ones" says Anishinabek Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee. "For the next two months, having to pay as much as 13 cents more on the dollar in off-reserve stores will make First Nations prices look much more attractive."

Madahbee was referring to the eleventh-hour deal negotiated by First Nations in Ontario with the federal government that retains point-of-sale exemption of the 8% PST position of the new 13% Harmonized Sales Tax. Under the terms of the Ontario HST framework -- arrived at just before the July 1 HST implementation after First Nations pledged to blockade highway, rail and even seaway traffic if their treaty right was ignored -- First Nations citizens will pay the full 13% HST (8% PST and 5% GST) for off-reserve purchases not delivered to a reserve for the months of July and August.

They can submit receipts for a refund of the 8% PST portion until Sept. 1, when retailers will again be expected to honour the point-of-sale exemption. First Nations citizens should notify their band offices about any off-reserve retailers not extending point-of-sale PST exemptions af-

ter Sept. 1.

"Since the HST issue first surfaced 18 months ago, we told Ontario and Canada that what they were doing was illegal; they were trying to breach our inherent and treaty rights, and doing so without consulting us in a meaningful way, as the Supreme Court of Canada has said must be done," said Madahbee. "Our citizens now understand what can be achieved by standing up to defend their rights."

"Hopefully this will also convince our communities of the importance of developing our own economies so our citizens can't be held for ransom in this way."

The Grand Council Chief pointed to a study by Waubetek Economic Development Corporation that showed that 80 cents out of every dollar coming into some Manitoulin Island-area First Nations was "leaking" out of the communities.

"We need more Anishinabek entrepreneurs and need our citizens to support them. Even if you have to pay a few cents more for a loaf of bread than you would in town it still helps keep money circulating in our First Nations, and we benefit from that in the long run."

Madahbee said he hoped the HST issue would prompt more interest in the Anishinabek Nation Economic Blueprint, which provides a template for the 40 member communities to create their own local business opportunities.

More tax information on Pages 2 and 32.

What we could buy with \$57,000

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

The G8 and G20 Summits cost Canada a whopping \$1.1 billion to host, but by far the biggest single focus of public criticism was centred on the infamous Fake Lake.

Despite federal government insistence that it cost a mere \$57,000, for many Canadians the wading pool at the G8 media centre in Toronto became a symbol of extravagant spending for which taxpayers will foot the bill.

Assuming the accuracy of government cost estimates, here is a Top Ten list of what some First Nations could buy with \$57,000.

10. A year's post-secondary education – room, board, tuition and books – for two students.
9. Filtration systems to provide clean water for 28 on-reserve homes.

8. One year's respite care or companionship program for an elder.
7. A breakfast program on a First Nation for one full year. (Studies have shown full bellies help kids do better in school).
6. Dehumidifiers to help stop the effects of mould in 380 substandard units of First Nation housing provided by Indian Affairs.
5. Start-up funding for a First Nation small business entrepreneur.
4. A weekend community pow-wow, including a feast.
3. Then cost of keeping two First Nation's children in foster care for one year.
2. A Chief's annual (tax-free) salary.
1. Three nutritious meals for every citizen – on and off-reserve – of one average-population First Nation for one day.



Welcome to my place

Chief Shane Tabobondung welcomed Governor General Michaëlle Jean and world leaders to the G8 Summit in Huntsville, which is located in Wasauksing First Nation's traditional territory. Details on Pages 13 and 14.

IMPORTANT HST INFORMATION FOR FIRST NATIONS

Starting September 1st, First Nations status card holders will be exempt from the provincial part of the HST, at the point of sale, for eligible off-reserve purchases.

For July and August—to allow businesses and the Canada Revenue Agency to prepare for the exemption—status card holders will be refunded the provincial part of the HST by keeping receipts and sending them to the provincial government, after September 1st.

**For information about how the exemption works,
visit ontario.ca/taxchange or call 1-800-337-7222 or
1-800-263-7776 for teletypewriter (TTY).**

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ANISHINABEK

In Brief

Fast on track

Aamjiwnaang resident Britany Lewis, 17, is off to Singapore this summer for the World Youth Olympic Games.



Lewis represented Canada at the World Youth Track and Field Championships in Italy, and ranked her among the top two athletes in the 400m and 400m hurdles for her age group in Canada.

Anishinabek Nation Chiefs at their annual assembly in June passed the hat and collected \$600 for the youth.

In driver's seat

Terry Lariviere credits Nipissing First Nation with helping him reach his goal to become a heavy equipment operator. "I was always interested in heavy equipment ever since I was a child playing with Tonka trucks. Through the support of the Employment and Training Unit I was able to attend the Fifth Wheel Training Institute and get full-time employment."



Six-plex for Pic River

The construction of the multi-unit housing project for the Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation started in October 2009, and was completed in June 2010.

Pic River Chief Roy Michano said "Housing developments like this one give greater hope and opportunity for the individuals and families in our community."

Lady warrior

Arizona Restoule, member of the Nipissing Lady Warriors, supported by the Dreamcatcher Fund, who lost in Midget Girls semi-finals in the 2010 Little NHL Tournament in Sudbury.



Assembly tune

Henry Peltier (pictured), Wikwemikong, and Eugene Manitowabi provided an impromptu guitar concert for Chiefs and delegates at June's Anishinabek Nation annual general assembly in Fort William First Nation.



— Photo by Mike Restoule

Carver spots the art by looking at antlers

By Rick Garrick

THUNDER BAY — Lake Helen carver Mike Anderson has a knack for carving Anishinabe designs out of moose and elk antlers.

"Sometimes I pick up a piece and I see it right away and I just carve," Anderson says, explaining that he often envisions the finished carving before beginning work. "Sometimes I am working on three pieces at a time. That's the best way for me — it keeps me fresh for each different piece."

Anderson has completed about 30 antler pieces since he began carving antlers about 10 years ago as a change from painting, which he has been doing since his late 20's.

"I started painting to learn more about my culture," Anderson says. "When I first started I never painted to make money, it was for something to do. I just enjoy doing it very much."

Anderson, who calls his work Ninjichaag Creations, usually carves his antler designs about five hours a day.

"Then in the evening times I am probably sitting there planning what to do for the next, how to go about it," Anderson says, explaining that he sells his larger carvings for \$1,500 each. "Some went to Europe, one to Sweden and (others) to the States and here in Canada."

Anderson uses a drill and a power carver with specialized bits to carve the antlers and wears a mask and ventilates his work area to protect himself from the dust.

"The smell is not too good, but I enjoy it," Anderson says. "As long as you have proper ventilation and a face mask on, no problem."

Anderson usually attends one or two arts and crafts shows per year since moving to Thunder Bay about five years ago, including the Sequin Aboriginal Fine Arts and Crafts Spring Sale in late May at the Victoriaville Centre in Thunder Bay.

"I actually just started last year pushing my name out there more," says Anderson, who can be reached at Ninjichaag@hotmail.com. "I give a regular tour through my little apartment."



Mike Anderson carvings go to Europe

NDP fields Native candidates

By Shady Hafez

OTTAWA — The federal New Democratic party is reaching out to Aboriginal people — and they have connected with Crissy Sinopole.

"The NDP really understands where our voice needs to be" says the young 36-year-old woman from Aamjiwnaang First Nation. "They have the platform that will benefit us as a whole. The NDP gives us a voice, where we haven't had one".

Sinopole was one of nine aboriginal candidates who will carry the NDP banner in the next federal election. In June the party held an Aboriginal Candidate Summit in the nation's capital to provide an opportunity for the party's Native candidates to get acquainted with one another and to share common experiences.

The event also provided orientation about how things work on Parliament Hill, which the candidates toured, as well as participating in meetings with the

national Aboriginal organizations and media training.

Sinopole, who will contest the election for a Sarnia riding seat, has her campaign platform issues in place.

"The number of youth abusing prescription drugs is an absolute epidemic," she says, calling for more public education on the issue.

Her First Nation-specific issues include the right to education and — before the federal Conservatives conceded the point at the end of June — continuation of the point-of-sale exemption from the provincial sales tax portion of the HST for First Nations citizens.

The other Aboriginal candidate for the NDP in Ontario will be Tania Cameron from Ojichagwe'babigo'ning First Nation. The 35-year old band councillor will be running for office in Kenora, one of the largest ridings in Canada.



Crissy Sinopole

Alderville opens first phase of Elders facility

ALDERVILLE FN — A seven-year vision became reality June 28 with the grand opening of a six-unit Elders Residence and Long-Term Care Facility.

"It has always been this community's desire to have a long-term care facility," said Chief James R. Marsden, "and with the assistance of the CEAP New Construction Program, the first phase has been made possible."

With the assistance of the Canada Economic Action Plan through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada the federal government provided \$956,000 for the

two-bedroom units designed to meet the needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

"It is our continued dream to

eventually add to the complex and be able to provide long-term care where our Elders can come home or will never have to leave the

community they have known," Chief Marsden added.

Occupancy is expected in August.



Elders Residence and Long-Term Care Facility

ANISHINABEK NEWS

The Anishinabek News is a monthly publication of the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI). Views expressed are not necessarily the opinion or political position of the UOI.

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PUBLISHING CRITERIA

GOAL

To publish a quality newspaper and related publications designed to foster pride and share knowledge about Anishinabek current affairs, culture, goals, and accomplishments.

OBJECTIVES

To provide information that reflects the Creator's four original gifts to the Anishinabek:

Respect: To welcome diversity and encourage a free exchange of opinions that may differ without being disagreeable. Fair and humorous comments are welcomed, but not ridicule or personal attacks.

Honesty: Debwevin – speaking the truth – is the cornerstone of our newspaper's content.

Sharing: Providing opportunities for people from the four corners of the Anishinabek Nation to tell stories and record achievements, and to keep our citizens informed about activities of the Union of Ontario Indians.

Strength: To give a voice to the vision of the Anishinabek Nation that celebrates our history, culture and language, promotes our land, treaty, and aboriginal rights, and supports the development of healthy and prosperous communities.

Advertising & News Deadlines

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DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUG

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Bookings: August 20

Final Art: Sept 10

News

News submissions: August 20

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MAANDA NDINENDAM / OPINION

Seeing things differently not so bad

Different people just see things differently.

It's so simple, yet so complicated...and so divisive.

This was never more evident than on July 10 when the 20th anniversary rolled around of the 78-day stand-off between 63 Mohawks and over 4,000 Canadian soldiers and Quebec police officers.

We can't even agree on the name by which this landmark event is remembered. A generation later, journalists are still referring to the events at Oka, instead of identifying the location as the Mohawk territory of Kanesatake. It was almost three centuries of denial of that fact by the governments of France, England, Quebec and Canada that led to the crisis in the first place.

Of course, these would be pretty much the same journalists who the subsequent Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples said were "woefully ignorant" of the day-to-day facts of aboriginal life in Canada. The RCAP report said Canada's media basically only see First Peoples in this country as "noble environmentalists, angry warriors, or pitiful victims."

It was the angry warrior stereotype that dominated the headlines and newscasts in the summer of 1990. In fact the memorable Canadian Press photo of one of the masked Mohawk "warriors" face-to-face with a determined young Canadian soldier was still on the front pages and providing screened backdrops for broadcast news readers two decades after the fact. Even the keenest of Canadian history buffs would be hard-pressed to tell you that the majority of those 63 besieged Mohawks were not wearing masks or carrying rifles; they were unarmed women and children.

What the Mohawks of Kanesatake saw differently from most people in Canada that summer was that their historic occupation of that territory took precedence over plans by the neighbouring Quebec town of Oka to expand an existing golf course onto a traditional Mohawk burial ground.

When he looked at that picturesque piece of land into which are rooted towering pine trees, Mayor Jean Ouellette saw golfers lining



Maurice Switzer

up to pay their green fees and tax assessment notices going out to dozens of ratepayers living in a new housing development. He saw dollar signs.

The people of Kanesatake, on the other hand, saw a peaceful resting place for the remains of their ancestors.

This is a scenario that has repeated itself over and over again during the past 500 years from Baffin Island to the tip of Cape Horn. Recent Canadian versions of this seemingly never-ending melodrama are played out in places like Gustafson Lake Ipperwash, and Caledonia.

Different people just see things differently.

A textbook project in which I am involved is trying to create teaching materials that will help Ontario high school students understand that First Peoples don't merely disagree with provincial and federal government officials on issues of historic fact. There aren't 1,000 unresolved land claims in this country because First Nation chiefs can't agree with government bureaucrats on the number of square miles or dollars required to forge fair settlements.

It's because different people see things differently.

The new Grades 10 and 11 texts will try to help students understand what are called aboriginal world views, that First Peoples aren't noble environmentalists, angry warriors or pitiful victims. They have the same basic wants and needs and hopes as people everywhere but they see things differently.

So if the ancestors of the townsfolk at Oka followed the custom of erecting marble tomb-

stones for deceased family members and the ancestors of the Mohawks of Kanesatake did not, it does not follow that the former were civilized and the latter were savages.

The pow-wow dancer is no more a pagan for incorporating weasel fur into her outfit than the Queen who wears a stole fashioned from the same animal. ("Ermine" has a much more elegant ring to it in royal circles than "weasel".) The dancer honours the spirit and skills of the creature. Her Majesty merely likes the way it looks.

Perhaps, over the long haul, Native Studies textbooks in the hands of students will accomplish something that newspaper articles in the hands of politicians have not.

Maybe, just maybe future generations will understand that there is nothing wrong with seeing things differently than other people – so long as you all share the same long-term vision.

SEARS

A post-script: before Christmas I wrote that an old friend – Sears – and I would be having a parting of the ways, all because a lifetime of my customer loyalty was betrayed by the retailer's refusal to honour stale-dated gift certificates given to me as presents by family members.

I am delighted to report that Sears is back on my Christmas card list, thanks to the common sense and good judgment of Paulette Gagnon, manager of the large North Bay Sears outlet, who promptly cashed in my \$100 in certificates when she learned of my plight.

Common sense trumps corporate policy every time!

Maurice Switzer is a citizen of the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation. He serves as director of communications for the Union of Ontario Indians and editor of the Anishinabek News.

Animals have lots to teach us about love

When you get to be my age you come to believe that you know all about love.

By this time you've lost a bit, compromised some, taken huge leaps off high places and if you're lucky, like I am, found it and locked into it with the right person. But there's always more to learn. There's always something about the nature of love that surprises you.

Not surprisingly, I learned a lot about it from an animal. A dog. His name is Bodie and he's a border-Collie cross. He's a young dog, full of life and zip as his breed tends to be, and he's the companion of a long-time friends of ours.

A while ago Bodie was in the back seat of their car when their daughter ran off the road. There was no other car involved but the wreck was horrendous. The back door sprung open when it settled after rolling and Bodie leapt free. Their daughter was unable to move.



Richard Wagamese

The accident happened about a kilometer from our house. Bodie had only been here a few times but he ran full-tilt from the wreck to our door looking for help. He'd had surgery on his shoulder a few days before and he broke the stitches and was bloody.

When I saw him I was on high alert. We calmed him down, tried to call our friends but there was no answer. They were at the airport on their way to Toronto when we reached them on their cell phone and we learned that Bodie had been with their daughter.

I drove down the road knowing that there

must have been trouble. I came across the accident site where the local first response team was looking after her. Once I made sure she was alive and aware I went back home and called her folks. The car was a write-off but she was going to be okay.

What amazed us was Bodie. He knew exactly where to go. He knew that we would help so he ran with a wounded shoulder after a horrific crash and made sure his friend would be okay.

Animals love with their whole soul. They love with their entire being. There's no compromise, no negotiations, they just love purely and simply with forgiveness and loyalty.

Human beings are animals. Maybe we need to remember that more.

Richard Wagamese is Ojibway from Wabassewong FN in Northwestern Ontario. His novel *Ragged Company* and his collected memoir, *One Native Life*, are in stores now.

MAANDA NDINENDAM / OPINION

For First Nations, taxes encroach on treaty rights

By Michael Erskine
Manitoulin Expositor

The concerns expressed by members of First Nation communities and their leaders leave many non-Natives somewhat perplexed even outraged, as it is difficult for many people to understand why it is that Natives are largely exempt from taxation in the first place.

The answer to that question lies in the basis of the relationship between the First Nations and that of the Dominion of Canada. The core of the misunderstanding might be traced, in an uncomfortably large part, to the influence of American media and culture through generations of Hollywood movies and TV westerns.

The myth of John Wayne winning the west Michael Erskine and Indigenous peoples being conquered by a technologically advanced civilization is a powerfully inculcated idea and one not easily overcome given that there has historically been a poor explanation of the history of the relationship of the First Nations within the educational system.

The vast majority of First Nation communities in Canada, and especially in Ontario and Quebec, were allies of the founding settler nations of North America. The British crown allied with the Indigenous nations and enlisted them as allies in their 1812 war with the nascent and brash new United States of America.

The war of 1812 is still poorly understood on both sides of the border even onto today, but among most historians there is little dispute that had not the warriors of the great warrior Chief Tecumseh (many of them recruited from this region) not held back the Americans advancing up the Thames estuary allowing the British army to retreat in good order, the Americans would have conquered Canada—we would all be living under the Stars and Stripes. There would be no Dominion of Canada—there would be no Constitution Act of 1867.

Under section 91 of the Canadian constitution, the federal government is given rights to form international treaties and it is no accident that in this section of the founding document of the nation that the federal responsibility for dealing with the First Nations (or Indians as the indigenous nations were then commonly referred) can be found.

Under those solemn contracts, explicitly made on a nation-to-nation basis, and through the authority of the constitution; Natives in Canada would never be taxed upon their property. Court interpretations have defined

that as all property "including income" within the sovereign boundaries of their reserves.

The repatriated Constitution Act of 1982, section 35 guarantees First Nation treaty rights will be upheld.

First Nations regard themselves as sovereign entities having contracts with the country of Canada in which they have been exempted from taxation by virtue of the nation-to-nation relationship. One nation may not tax another nation.

There are many who either dispute this interpretation or who feel that the time has come to abrogate or throw aside the obligations and promises made in return for territorial concessions made by the First Nations.

After generations of First Nation members being exempted from provincial taxation at the cash register on the basis of treaty rights to tax exemption in Ontario, the one-size fits all approach of the federal government to the HST is seen as an incremental erosion of treaty rights. Each nation, remember is sovereign, there is not one treaty for all Native bands across the country.

The federal GST exempted First Nations from taxation on reserves, or for goods delivered to a reserve (with proof) and a selection of other items. The HST has exactly the same rules but where ordinary Ontarians will be paying the provincial portion on only a relative handful of new items, the First Nations would be paying an additional eight percent on virtually everything purchased off-reserve for which they were once exempted at the cash register.

The government of the Province of Ontario has maintained that they wish the status quo exemption for First Nations to be continued.

The only acceptable solution to First Nations will be to maintain the status quo point of sale exemption they feel they are entitled to under treaty.

For First Nations, the inability to get the federal and provincial governments to the table to deal with fundamental treaty rights has led to extreme frustration—a frustration that has led to threats of civil disobedience and disruptive protest. While the anger of many citizens may be directed at the First Nations and their membership, the First Nations point out that they have contractual sovereign agreements, agreements which various levels of government have continued to ignore during deliberations over taxation policy despite a clear obligation to consult.



Born too soon

Miigwetch to Sharon McIvor who stood up to the government and received some concessions! This was incredibly difficult to do, and probably expensive too; I hope you have been at least partially reimbursed. Congratulations on your success, and to all those of you who were born after Sept. 4, 1951!

Unfortunately, I was born 2.5 years earlier than that, so I will not receive my status. I could if I had younger brothers or sisters. This is what I received several months ago when I enquired how to now obtain my status: "(Your) sibling(s) would have to apply first. In granting status to the siblings, the status parent would be upgraded to 6(1)c.1. Once the parent was upgraded, the applicant born before Sept. 4th 1951 could apply and be registered."

My mother had no other living children. I have another problem in establishing my government status, and I have no strength to fight this. I admire you Sharon, that you do have the strength and have walked this to a successful conclusion! Again, Miigwetch!!

Patricia MacDonald
North Bay

In their words – National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo

"I commend the strong leadership of First Nations in Ontario in working together with the provincial and federal governments to maintain point-of-sale tax exemption for First Nations citizens in the province. The decision by the provincial and federal governments signals a willingness by the Government of Canada to recognize and respect the agreements and rights outlined in treaties - the original agreements between our nations and the Crown. We are encouraged by the resolution of this matter accomplished through meaningful engagement and discussions with First Nations regarding our Treaty and Aboriginal rights."



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Judy Nahwegahbow



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Chief Franklin
"Shining Turtle" Paibomsai



Albert Smoke



Maurice Switzer



Pattiy Tangie



June 24, 2010

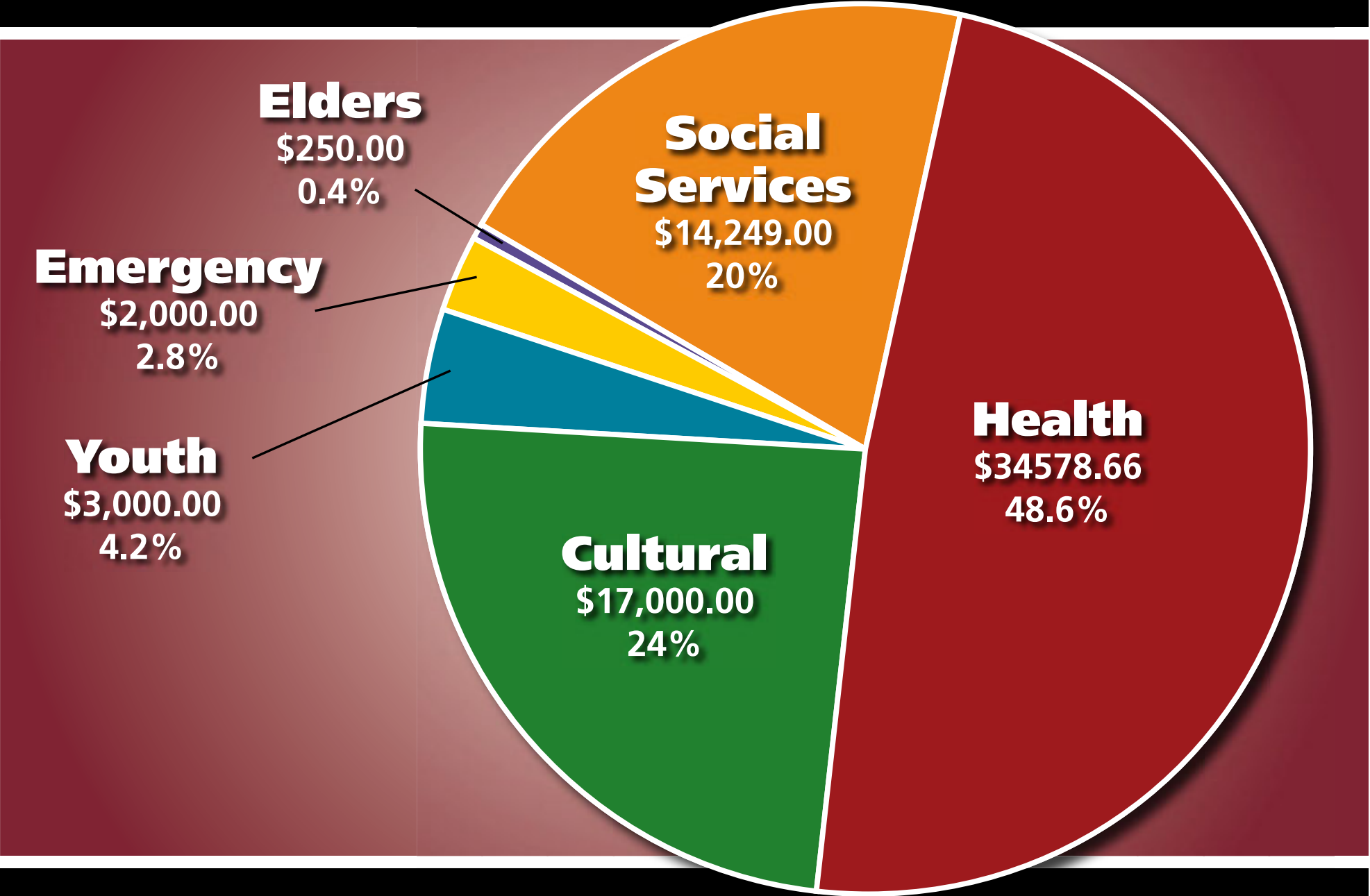
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CANADIAN PACIFIC



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Anishinabek Evening of Excellence

Close to three hundred people attended this year's 12th Annual Anishinabek Evening of Excellence at Casino Rama in the Silvernightingale Ballroom on June 24. Elijah Harper gave the keynote address to a very grateful audience who the former member of the Manitoba Legislature a standing ovation. Phil Fontaine former National Chief was also in attendance representing the RBC group.

Scotiabank Student Excellence awards were handed out by Lee Walker, Director of Aboriginal Banking for Scotiabank. 2010 Student Excellence winners were Chief Craig Abotossaway, Daphne Belleau, Pamela Sago-Toulouse and Emma Wilkins.

The first recipient of the George Lanouette Memorial Award for outstanding community development was Franklin "Shining Turtle" Paibomsai. Madeliene Lanouette assisted with the presentation representing the family.

The recipient for the Ian Thomson Memorial Award for corporate loyalty and support to the Anishinabek Nation was David Lamothe, Carte Blanche Marketing. Laurie Thomson assisted with the award representing her husband.

Lifetime Achievement Recipients were:



Chief Craig Abotossaway,
Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation



Daphne Belleau, Garden River
First Nation



Pamela Sago-Toulouse from
Sagamok Anishinawbek



Emma Wilkins from Wikwemikong
Unceded Indian Reserve



Elijah Harper, Keynote Speaker
at the Evening of Excellence
Awards held June 24.



Chief Shining Turtle of Whitefish
River FN, recipient of the George
Lanouette Memorial Award with
presenter Madeliene Lanouette



AN7GC Operations Director Les
Couchie with the winner of the
Ian Thomson Memorial Award for
corporate loyalty David Lamothe,
owner of Carte Blanche Marketing
with presenter Laurie Thomson.

Southwest Region

Donald Keith Bressette
Sharon Henry
The Late Maynard "Sam" George

Southeast Region

The Late Albert Smoke
Maurice Switzer

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Mary O'Donnell
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Chi-Miigwetch to all of the sponsors for the 2010 Anishinabek Evening of Excellence.

If you would like to become a sponsor of an Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity event, please contact Les Couchie toll-free 1-877-702-5200 or by e-mail ANSGC@anishinabek.ca



2010 Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament

Perfect weather greeted the 12th Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament June 17 at the Hawk Ridge Golf and Country Club. Our guests for this year's event included our favorite Johnny Bower, teammate Bob Baun, Jim Morrison, Dave Hutchison, Harry Howell and two great gals from Canada's National Olympic hockey team, Lori Dupuis and Vicky Sunohara. Emcee Peter McKeown kept everyone in stitches following the event with his quick wit and humorous stories.

Winner of the 50/50 draw was Walter Boshyk from Legends of the Game in Toronto who returned his portion of \$500 back to the charity.

The Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity would like to thank all those who took part in the tournament and we hope to see all of you back next year. Special thanks to all the great volunteers who make this event possible: Randy Hack, Bill Couchie, Sheila Bellefeuille, Joanne Santi, Greg Brown, Arnya Assance, Mike Tangie, Jeremy Tangie, Linda Belanger, Allison McGraw and Jocelyn Formsma.

Prize winners included:

Closest to the pin-Men: Stan Hubert

Closest to the pin-Women: Lori Dupuis

Longest Drive Women: Bridget Taylor

Longest Drive Men: Jim Hechler

Ray Rogers Memorial Trophy Winners



Top Men's Team: Pat Remillard and Jamie Restoule. Jason Restoule and Melvin McLeod missing.



Top Ladies Team: Cathy Fox-Beaudin, Heather Debassige, Corella Manitowabi and Martha Murray.



Top Mixed Team: Michelle McNaney, Lori Dupuis, Al Atkins, and Stan Hubert.

Would you like to contribute or play in the Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament?

Contact Les Couchie
toll-free at 1-877-702-5200 or by
e-mail ANSGC@anishinabek.ca



Aboriginal Ontario

Open for Business

A Special Report on Economic Development



Small may be better

By Laura Pudas

FORT WILLIAM FN – It appears that bigger is not always better when it comes to First Nations economic development.

Barret Dokis, the former Economic Development Coordinator for the Union of Ontario Indians, presented his updates on the Anishinabek Nation Economic Blueprint at the Grand Council Assembly, held in Fort William during the second week of June.

When asked his advice for the smaller Anishinabek communities across the province that may feel slightly discouraged when it comes to promoting economic development, Dokis expressed his belief that “smaller communities can often be in a better position than larger ones, as they are usually working with a blank slate.”

“The thing is”, Dokis continues, “that they are able to start fresh and have the ability to decide the path in which they want to take, as the majority of them are undeveloped in the economic sector”.



Gary Dokis, Anishinabek Nation political office advisor, discusses Anishinabek Economic Blueprint with Barret Dokis.

The official Economic Development Blueprint document, which was initially released in the spring of 2008, is composed of a series of recommendations, examples and guidelines that prioritize the importance of economic progression.

Dokis touched on the accomplishments and successes that the Blueprint has brought about in his presentation, but also went on to establish the aspects of the Blueprint that have not yet been fulfilled.

“The main goal that I wanted to communicate is the idea that

it can not be up to the Union of Ontario Indians to implement the blueprint alone, and that help from not only the Chiefs and community members but Nation members as well is extremely necessary” Dokis told assembly delegates.

Though there were several recommendations outlined in the presentation, Dokis emphasizes that “the most important suggestion is the notion that we now need to get community level support, that should be integrated along with strong planning at a community level”.

Hints for job-hunters

By Rhonda Couchie

In today's aggressive labor force market, people can't afford to miss the mark when it comes to competing for job vacancies.

Many people apply for jobs with no experience or background, fail to do research on the organization they are applying to, do not give enough information to interview questions, and after all this, some people don't understand why they didn't get the job.

If you want to level the playing field, the following suggestions may help to set yourself apart from other job seekers:

Resume and Cover Letter

- Review the job posting and ensure that your resume and cover letter match those skills in the posting. Otherwise, your resume may be screened out of competition.

- Do not write: “References Available upon Request.” If the job posting asks for references always include them. And as a courtesy, kindly ask for permission from each person named in your reference section.

Researching the Organization

- Make sure you study the organization and visit its website. Click on every icon to read and learn as much as you can about the organization.

- If there is no website, visit the organization and ask if there are any materials and information packages

available for you to take home. You will be better prepared to answer the dreaded interview question: “What you know about our organization?”

Interview

- Look your best.

- Take your time in thinking and in answering each question. Count to 10, take a deep breath, relax and go with the flow. Nerves can make you appear to be unprepared or stumped. Reassure yourself and remember it is normal to be nervous.

- Ask if you can go back to any question if you are taking too long to provide a logical answer or if your mind is blank. Most hiring boards will provide the opportunity.

- Remember many interview questions are developed using a marking system. Meaning, the first question may have 10 marks attached. Therefore, there are ten possible answers they are looking for. Cover all bases with each question, and give as much information as you can

- Don't be afraid to ask the interviewer to re-phrase the question or explain any term you don't understand. Don't assume or try to figure out what they are trying to ask. Always reconfirm your understanding.

- And finally, think about the interview time. Really, it is only a short period of time to make a lasting impression so give it all you've got. Say to yourself “why not me?” then sell yourself.

CALL FOR ARTISTS



1st Annual Native Woodland Peoples Art Market

October 28, 29 & 30, 2010

We invite you to tell the story of Eastern Woodland Art and Culture. Join us at the traditional Woodland People's meeting place, Bawating the Place of the Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Our first gathering will be held at Kewadin Casino DreamMakers Theater. Spaces are limited, cash prizes in six categories, along with a best of show! Best of Show recipient will also receive “Featured Artist” display in the Bawating Art Gallery in Kewadin Casino.

For information and your application
call Mahdezewin International at 906-635-8227.

Featured hotels



Holiday Inn - Toronto

This month the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity recommends the Holiday Inn- Toronto on Bloor Street West.

Located next to the Yorkville shops and restaurants and just steps away from the St. George subway for easy access to the downtown core.

You can book your room by calling 416-367-5555. Use your Client ID 100205578.

Remember, this rate is available to all citizens of the Anishinabek Nation.

Inter-governmental Affairs

Protecting Aboriginal and Treaty Rights



Sam honoured for lifetime achievement

The late Maynard "Sam" George was honoured with an Anishinabek Nation Lifetime Achievement Award in June at Casino Rama. His wife Veronica accepted the award on his behalf. Sam said he only ever wanted the truth about the 1995 death of his brother Dudley George - an unarmed protester at Ipperwash Park shot and killed by Ontario Provincial Police.

Chiefs Corner

Magnetawan First Nation Chief William Diabo, Bear Clan

Political Career: Community Chief

Vision for community: Preservation and restoration of Treaty and Inherent Rights, correct financial status, provide program services efficiently within budget, create means to generate sustainable revenue for the community, self-government, healthier community, and education continuance.

Community accomplishments/challenges: Obtained funding to renovate six homes, recreation building and health centre built, created community website, improved relationship with funders and INAC, and developed pandemic plan and emergency response for the community.

On a personal note: I enjoy fishing, golfing and billiards. I love to travel. My political influences have been the community need for change and personal experience in management. I have a wife, five children, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Chief William Diabo



George family at the Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards. Back row – Irvin George, Meriza George, Steve Storr, Yvonne Storr, Vivian George, Andrew Jackson, Tammy Jackson. Front row – Lillian George, Delia Opekokew, Basil Alexander, Veronica George, wife of the late Maynard Sam George.

– Photo by Marci Becking

Pipes, drums honour Sam's passing

By Greg Plain

KETTLE & STONY POINT FN – Pipe carriers and drums convened on June 5th to commemorate the passing of the first year since Sam George's death.

"It has been a very difficult year for the family as Sam's loss has left a large hole in the family," said wife Veronica, extending a welcome to the Sam George memorial Feast. "Today we all come together again to remember Sam. Sam loved his community and the drum that you hear here today. He sang with this drum and would like to see the members of it singing more in the community."

Veronica was referring to Animakii-Sasawin (Where the Thunderbird Nests), a Kettle Point drum that was one of three on hand at the feast, along with Crazy Spirit and Weengush from nearby Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

Pipe carriers from across Turtle Island also came to ensure the feast and ceremony were appropriate to honour Sam George, who spent 12 of his 56 years trying to ensure that justice was served after brother Dudley was shot and killed by Ontario Provincial Police on the night of Sept. 6, 1995 at Ipperwash Provincial Park.

The subsequent judicial inquiry chaired by Justice Sidney Linden vindicated the actions of the unarmed Stony Point protesters who were seeking the return of land that had been expropriated during World War II by the federal government to be used as a military training base. Sam George sat in the front row at the Ipperwash Inquiry, just a few feet away from witnesses, including former Premier Mike Harris, whose impatience to "get the (exple-

tive) Indians out of the park" was determined to have created an environment that made the tragedy more likely to happen.

Before Sam's death on June 3, 2009 he received the Order of Ontario – the province's highest civil honour – learned that the resource library in the newly-created Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs would be named after him, and saw the provincial government take the first steps toward handing the disputed park lands back to the First Nation.

At the feast, family and friends shared memories and watched video clips of Sam's interviews.

Emcees for the event were Sam's brother Irvin George and family lawyer and friend Murray Klippenstein.

"It was an honour to work with a man like Sam," Klippenstein said. "He is looking down on us today and smiling. His family and friends should be proud."

The Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry was released May 31, 2007. The Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) advocated since that time for the federal and provincial governments to partner with Ontario First Nations to implement the Report's recommendations. Through this effort, a joint implementation process with Ontario was formalized in September 2008, and the UOI continues to be involved in the ongoing process.

For more information, please contact Nicole Latulippe, Project Coordinator, at Ipperwash@anishinabek.ca, or at (705) 472-9127, ext. 2253

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MISSION

The Union of Ontario Indians Intergovernmental Affairs department is committed to the protection of aboriginal and treaty rights, ensuring access to land and resources, and supporting the political goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.

Lands and Resources

Ensuring access to natural resources



Fine-feathered protest

National Chief demonstrates 'cultural and ceremonial rights'

By Suzanne Fournier

The Province

VANCOUVER – First Nations leaders donned regalia dripping with eagle feathers at a June 24 media conference to demonstrate "cultural and ceremonial rights" they say shouldn't be subject to prosecution.

Speaking in a downtown hotel ballroom that reverberated with drumming for hours, Sto: lo Tribal Council Grand Chief Doug Kelly said he earned the right, as a leader with many responsibilities, to wear eagle feathers.

"According to the law, though, I'm an outlaw -- because I'm in possession of eagle feathers that make up part of my regalia," said Kelly.

"Maybe now that I've confessed that in public I'll be arrested. But it's the risk I take, on behalf of those who are punished for practising our beliefs."

Francis James, 36, who is among 15 men charged in a recent undercover sting for using eagle feathers to make ceremonial costumes, said: "I'm not a hunter, I'm



Sto: lo Tribal Council Grand Chief Doug Kelly fits an eagle headdress on National Chief Shawn Atleo of the Assembly of First Nations after chiefs held a news conference to state their position on the harvesting of eagle feathers.

a cultural person. I grew up knowing my culture. We flourished here for thousands of years in the Lower Mainland, and now, where we once had longhouses there are churches where people can legally take sanctuary.

"Yet because we are First Nations, we have conservation offi-

cers who violate our religion by coming into our homes, into our ceremonies, looking to buy or sell eagle feathers, looking to entrap us."

In 2005, about 50 eagle carcasses were found on the Tsleil-Waututh reserve in North Vancouver. Although no one ever has

been charged with dumping the carcasses, the B.C. Environment Ministry began an undercover investigation by sending aboriginal conservation officers to seek out eagle parts on reserves. The native leaders charge the officers offered money to impoverished people, living on welfare, to kill eagles

to get money for their parts. Stiff fines and jail sentences were levied against several men who were convicted, while others pleaded guilty because they couldn't afford fines.

Snuneymuxw Chief Douglas White, a lawyer and First Nations Summit leader, said the "criminalization" of the cultural use of eagle feathers "is no different than prosecuting our people for potlatching or hunting."

George Wool, lawyer for some of the Fraser Valley men, in court charged that conservation officers "paid cash to people who were living in circumstances of poverty and welfare to kill eagles."

The officers also trespassed on reserve land without any proof of guilt, said Wool. Richard Grindrod, senior conservation officer who ran the probe, resigned from government after he was accused of embezzling \$35,000.

Native leaders say Grindrod used government cash to "entrap" poor natives and to buy eagle feathers that officers then tried to resell.

Regulations alone won't improve water

OTTAWA – Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo says that legislation introduced in Parliament on First Nations drinking water -- Bill S-11 -- will not in its current form meet the stated objective of ensuring First Nations have access to safe drinking water.

"This legislation will create new regulations for First Nations drinking water but does not specify how First Nations will be equipped with the facilities, skills and resources to meet those regulations," said National Chief Atleo. "First Nations need infrastructure, training and support to meet the requirements of the new regulations. Regulations without the capacity and financial resources to support them will only set up First Nations to fail and to be punished for this. In my view, we must address the 'capacity gap' as well as the 'regulatory gap'. After all, the safety and health of First Nations people is the stated goal."

As of March 2010, 114 First Nations communities across the country were under Drinking Water Advisories and 49 First Nations water systems were classified as "high risk". Bill S-11, introduced in Parliament May 25, does not include a plan to reduce these unacceptably high numbers or the duration of First Nations drinking water advisories; does not help to license operators; does not provide resources to improve operations and maintenance; does not lower the number of water and wastewater treatment systems currently at risk; and could negatively impact First Nations water rights.

"Furthermore, this legislation has failed to take advantage of recommendations made by the government's own Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water," National Chief Atleo stated. "We must build on these recommendations and move forward based on the rights of First Nations peoples and governments and design solutions in full collaboration. Our communities have a clear understanding of the real needs and challenges in delivering safe drinking water and our voices must be heard."

Invasive Species

What are invasive species? - They include species native to one part of Canada that move to another region of the country, as well as those that come from outside the country. These invaders are any species that has spread beyond its natural range into new locations as a result of human activity.

Where do they come from and how do they get here? - Invasive species come into Canada by any means of transport that moves them farther than they could move on their own. Sometimes they are brought in on purpose, but often they arrive unintentionally.

Why are we concerned? - When an invasive species enters an ecosystem, it can have an impact on the native species that are present, on important habitats, or even on the ecosystem itself. Concern arises when an invasive species changes the system for the worse, either by reducing or eliminating populations of native species, or

by otherwise changing the way the ecosystem works.

Purple Loosestrife is an example of an invasive species seen across Ontario.

Purple Loosestrife was introduced from Europe in the early 1800s as a garden ornamental plant. It has now invaded wetlands throughout Ontario, edging out many native species. Wetlands are the most biologically diverse part of our ecosystem and the purple flower chokes out habitats affecting hundreds of species of plants, birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, fish, and amphibians that rely on wetlands to survive.

How can you help? - Individuals are responsible for the introduction of many invasive species. You can do your part to help prevent further invasions by following these values:

- Do not release plants or animals (including pets and live bait) into the wild.
- Before taking a recreational trip, inspect and clean fishing equipment, boats, trailers, recreational vehicles, and other items that may harbour hitch-hiking invaders.
- Do not transport over long distances firewood or other wood



Purple Loosestrife

with bark attached.

- Learn which plant species are invasive, and remove them from your garden. Take special care with water garden plants, as many are invasive
- Keep natural habitats on your property healthy.
- Volunteer with your local community to maintain healthy ecosystems or restore degraded ecosystems.

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MISSION

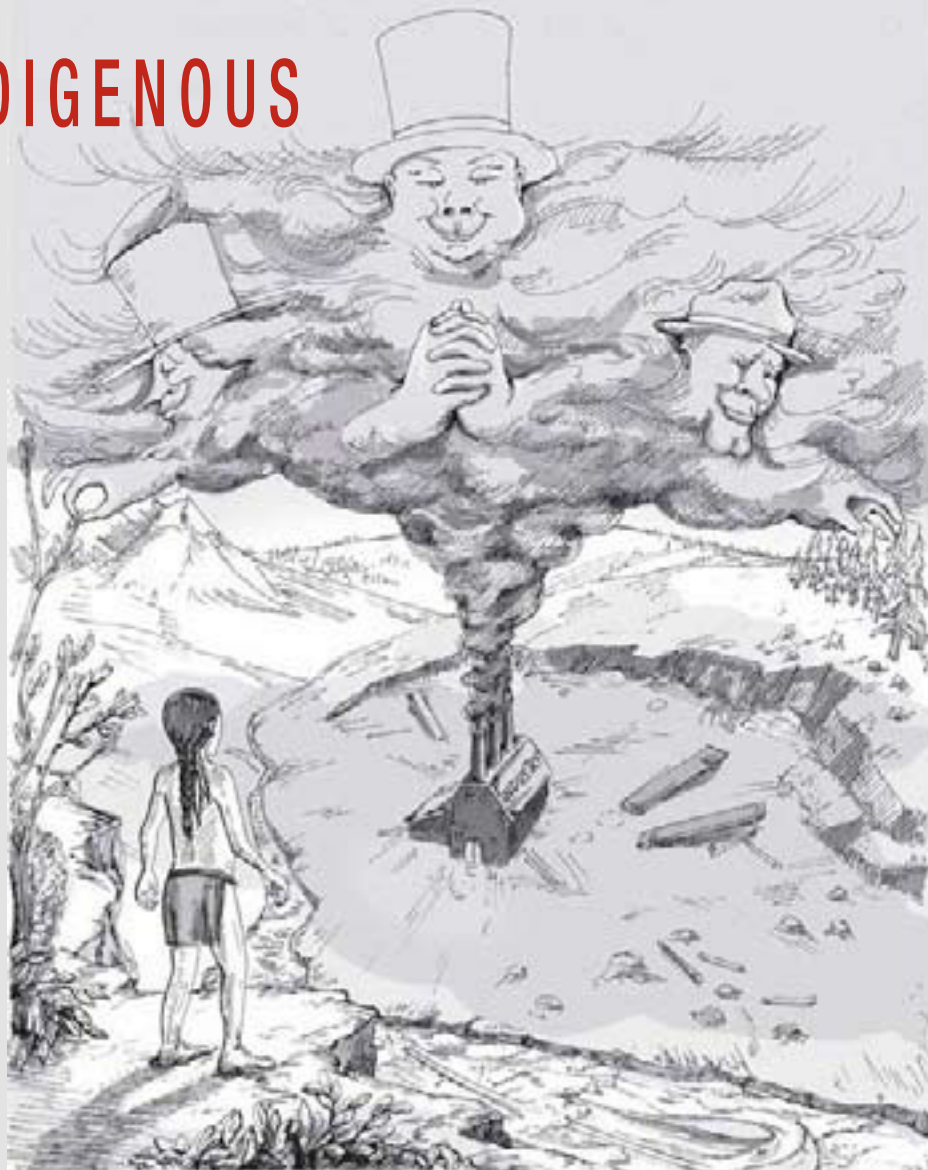
The mission of the Lands and Resources department is to foster a better quality of life by ensuring access to natural resources in support of the goals, principles and values of the Anishinabek Nation.

ENGAGING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES: RESOURCES, REBELLIONS AND RESURGENCE

AUGUST 10TH - 13TH

9:30AM - 4:00PM

\$50 REGISTRATION FEE
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Where:

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P6A 5V4

For more Information contact
Karl Hele
eicrrr@gmail.com
Tel: 705-942-1103
Fax: 705-942-2706

For more Information contact
Garden River Community Trust
16 Moccasin Street
Garden River First Nation
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G8 SUMMIT

2010 HUNTSVILLE, ON



G8 coverage provided by
Jennifer Ashawasegai

Chief greets world leaders

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

HUNTSVILLE – It was a once-in-a-lifetime invitation for Wasauksing Chief Shane Tabobondung, and something he'll be telling his grandchildren about.

The Wasauksing First Nation Chief joined the dignitaries who welcomed the leaders of the eight most powerful nations in the world to Canada June 25-26 for the G8 Summit.

"When I first heard Huntsville was selected to host the G8 Summit, I held a small dream in my head," the Chief says. "I thought, wouldn't it be nice if Wasauksing was there to represent the Aboriginal community?", since the summit site sits in Wasauksing First Nation traditional territory.

Several months earlier, Wasauksing along with Rama First Nation near Orillia were asked to help plan a Unity Pow-Wow to be held on National Aboriginal Day, June 21st in Huntsville as a way to recognize the visit of the G8 leaders. About 1,000 attended the pow-wow for Grand Entry, and about 250 people attended that morning's Sunrise Ceremony.

Tabobondung thought his G8 participation was over, but that changed once he was invited by the Summit Management Office to be one of the greeting delegates. The invite came shortly after Tabobondung was featured in a Globe and Mail story by Roy MacGregor on June 20.

Tabobondung says that the invitation made him think about his grandmother, the late Flora Tabobondung, who served as Wasauksing



Wasauksing First Nation Chief Shane Tabobondung welcomes Prime Minister Stephen Harper to the territory to launch the G8 Summit of world leaders at Huntsville.

chief for 26 years and was inducted into the Order of Canada.

"My grandmother was a strong diplomat when it came to representing Wasauksing. I think we're all told that when we leave our communities, we represent our First Nation, and it [the invitation] was an extension of that teaching," he says. "It was an honour to be invited."

International recognition was an important factor for consideration.

"I think of why I did that, and what made me feel so honoured to do that," Tabobondung says. "It's only my first term as chief, but I sit and listen to the elder Chiefs and hear them say that we need to be recognized on an international level before our issues will be really taken seriously by Canada."

The G8 leaders include Cana-

dian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, United States President Barack Obama, Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, United Kingdom Prime Minister David Cameron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy, Prime Minister of France.

"The most poignant moment, was when I met the Prime Minister of Japan," recalls Tabobondung. "He stood a few minutes with me with his interpreters and explained how he really honours the Aboriginal people of Canada."

"The most memorable was President Obama. He arrived 11:30 Friday afternoon. There was so much hype and increased security... I can't explain his walk, he has a very unique walk with a confident stride. You could see by

his personality why he is the man he is."

After Tabobondung greeted Obama in Anishinabemowin as he had all the leaders, the U.S president thanked the Chief for welcoming him into the territory and told him the land was very beautiful.

Once Obama completed his round of handshakes, Tabobondung says the President eased the formality of the occasion by joking: "You know what, guys? I think we should put off the meeting for a little and go sit on the dock and do some fishing!"

Tabobondung mentions My Summit, a G8 Youth Summit where young people from around the globe discussed many of the issues the leaders spoke about, including economics.

"That was where I really un-

derstood what was happening," he recalls. "The youth summit had a parallel agenda to the G8 and the youth were gathering their solutions to the problem of child and maternal health, food safety and financial stability."

Tabobondung addressed the international youth delegates, speaking about the Aboriginal world view and how it ties into a healthy environment as well as Anishinabek spirituality. There were three Aboriginal youth participants, who thanked him over lunch for speaking at the event.

"As I reflected on it, I found more and more understanding, why it happened and the reasons for it. It wasn't any doing of my own, it was more of our ancestors. It was also able to dream. The most meaningful part was being with the youth."

How relevant were the G8 and G20 Summits to the Anishinabek?



Pazhe Rice, Wasauksing

"The G8/20 didn't affect me at all, because Indigenous issues didn't hit either table."



Colin French, Chippewa of the Thames

"Not relevant at all. The Summits don't deal with issues that pertain to First Nations."

Eva Rose Tabobondung, Wasauksing

"If these Summit 'leaders' really wanted to know what was relevant, they would ask the people at the grass roots level, and actually invite them. Freedom of speech and presence. I wondered how many of the people from each nation were invited."



Shawna L. BigCanoe Snache, Rama

"They were absolutely irrelevant to me and they have nothing to do with us or poverty issues. It's about keeping the rich richer and poor poorer. The Summits are a severe waste of money considering there's a lack of clean drinking water in our own country."



Doreen McKenzie, Henvey Inlet
"They weren't very relevant. Besides, I don't think there's enough education on the Summits, and that's something which should be taught in schools."

G8 SUMMIT

Leaders overlook declaration

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

TORONTO – Indigenous issues such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and the environment as it relates to Aboriginal and Treaty rights couldn't have been further from the minds of the G8 leaders, safe inside their Huntsville security perimeter and insulated from reality.

Two hundred kilometers south in downtown Toronto, organizers were staging a series of events to draw attention to issues not on the G8 agenda. "Shout Out for Global

Justice" was held Friday, June 24 at Massey Hall on the eve of the G8.



Clayton Thomas-Muller

Clayton Thomas-Muller, from the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation in northern Manitoba is renowned for his work as the tar sands organizer for the Indigenous Environmental Network.

Calling the Indian Act a tool of assimilation, Thomas-Muller noted that "Canada is the only country still opposing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People," and said this country "continues to criminalize First Nations activists who fight for their rights, as affirmed by the treaties, UN Declaration and the Constitution."



Jack Layton

That echoed remarks made earlier in the day by federal NDP leader Jack Layton at the International Media Centre in Toronto.

"Unfortunately Canada has not signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People," he told the Anishinabek News. "It really just shows you that the government of Canada doesn't assign the priority to dealing with First Nations, Metis and Inuit issues -- the global issues facing Indigenous people that really need to be assigned."

On June 26 an estimated 25,000 demonstrators took to Toronto streets.



Tomson Highway

That evening the Berkeley Theatre was the scene of "Kisageetin" – Cree for "I love you" – a cabaret presented by renowned poet, playwright and musician Tomson Highway.

With the G20 Summit on the horizon, Highway jokingly called his three-person performance "the G21 Cabaret", saying: "the 21st Nation in the mix is Aboriginal Canada and I want to remind Mr. Stephen Harper that he's receiving his guests on Indian land."



Journalists covering the G8 Summit in Huntsville lounged in a media centre in downtown Toronto, sitting in Muskoka chairs beside a \$57,000 "Fake Lake"



Wasauksing Women's Hand Drum Group performed at the MinWeWe G8 Youth Summit. From left: Jodi Baker, Anita Chechock, Christine King, Nancy Stevens, Nikeeta Tabobondung.

Media paid some attention to Native issues

Mainstream media coverage of Indigenous issues was scant leading up to the G8 Summit in Huntsville and G20 Summit in Toronto over the weekend of June 25--27. But the slim coverage was overall positive on First Nations issues.

The story which attracted the most media attention was the march in downtown Toronto on June 24, the 4th annual National Day of Action, which was termed "peaceful" by media.

The Canadian Press quoted Russell Diabo, spokesperson for Defenders of the Land.: "We're here basically to bring attention to the impact that G8 and G20 meetings have, and the effect their social and economic policies are going to have on indigenous people, lands and resources."

The National Day of Action was first declared in June, 2007 by former Assembly of

First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine to focus on issues ranging from child poverty, safe drinking water, health care, education, housing and missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

In addition to the protest angle, The Toronto Star coverage mentioned how Canada has failed to adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and has also failed to protect land and water.

A National Post cartoon titled "On the Fence", published June 26 poked fun at different issues from the \$57,000 Fake Lake in the international media centre to the three-metre-high fence around the downtown Toronto perimeter and the National Day of Action March. The cartoon text said "The Aboriginal Day of Action rally and march is peaceful and well attended. A young man wears a pig costume that has an effigy of a Bay Street type attached to his rear end. Overall we were a bit confused."

Perhaps the most significant coverage of an Anishinabek issue was a June 20 column by the Globe and Mail's Roy MacGregor. He focused his pen on the beautiful land in Muskoka, the traditional territory of Wasauksing First Nation where community members have lived since before Confederation.

Huntsville invited nearby Wasauksing and Rama First Nations to participate in the town's G8 celebrations, and the communities hosted a Unity Pow-Wow to honour the G8 leaders.

MacGregor wrote about how the community had been displaced from their home and how their request to return to their land was never answered by government. The day after this story appeared in Canada's National Newspaper, Wasauksing First Nation Chief Shane Tabobondung was invited to be among delegates welcoming G8 leaders to the country.

UNION OF ONTARIO INDIANS



Union of Ontario Indians staff participate in a Feb 2009 grounds preparation ceremony led by Elder Gordon Waindubence.

— Photo by Marci Becking

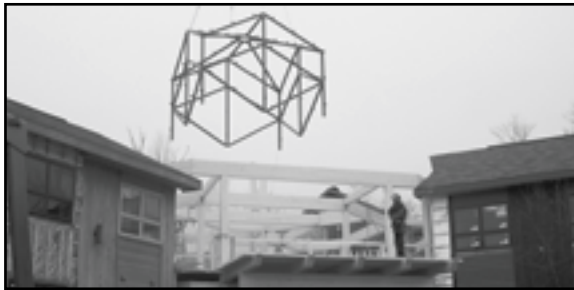
UOI facelift completed

NIPISSING FIRST NATION – The Union of Ontario Indians received a facelift over 14 months which includes a hub that connects the four existing office buildings together.

The new hub has a lift so that both floors of each building will be wheelchair accessible.

Additions were done in the east and west buildings as well as the north and south buildings were refitted for more office space.

The first building was the east building which was built in 1990 and staff moved up from the Toronto office in 1991 to the Highway 17 site. Grand opening for the hub is set for August 26.



Hub construction from start to finish. The total project cost was \$3,254,000 and was funded internally by Restricted Funds set aside over the past ten years for this purpose. Outside external government funding came from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and FedNor. Upstairs of the hub is now the home of the Anishinabek Educational Institute classrooms. Reception and the communications unit is on the lower level.

— Photos by Barb Naveau



Our new community website is now live!

There's a new website in town, and it's loaded with information.

Cameco's new community website is your
#1 source for information about the Blind River Refinery
and Fuel Services Division.

Find out more about nuclear energy, and Cameco's role in
uranium refining and conversion and nuclear fuel manufacturing.

You'll also find news and updates on the new site, including electronic versions
of environmental reports and how to apply for community sponsorships.

Visit camecoblindriver.com today
and find out more about Cameco in our community.



Cameco

www.camecoblindriver.com

UOI staff additions

Ex-marine joins legal team

I'm Eric Crowe the new Legal Policy Analyst for the UOI, Legal Department. I am a citizen of Alderville First Nation.



I have previous policing experience which included ten years of Aboriginal Policing. I am also a former United States Marines, being honourably discharged in 1991.

I obtained my Law Degree from the University of Ottawa, and have been the recipient of numerous National awards including the prestigious Indigenous Bar Association National Scholarship.

I am the proud father of daughters Erica, Brooke, Chloe and son Braydon.

I am a strong advocate and activist for Aboriginal issues and look forward to working with the Legal team and all UOI departments in providing assistance and support for all participating First Nations in the UOI.

Please feel free to contact me at (705) 497-9127 or via email at eric.crowe@anishinabek.ca.

UOI not a stranger

Hello everyone! My name is Monica Lister and I am from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. I am now with



the Restoration of Jurisdiction (ROJ) team as the Fiscal Policy Analyst. I am excited to be back after being gone for almost a year. This is my third position with the UOI. Previous to this position, I was the Executive Liaison Officer in the Political Office under the leadership of John Beaucage for 4 years. Prior to that I was the Aboriginal Business Services Network Coordinator.

During my absence, I held a brief position with the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation. I believe this is worth mentioning because this organization does some tremendous work offering scholarships and bursaries to First Nations, Metis and Inuit students.

Contrary to popular belief, not all scholarships and bursaries are based on grades or the fact that you receive Band funding. Their website is www.naaf.ca.

Brendan in legal



My name is Brendan Huston. I am 17 years old and a citizen of Nipissing First Nation. This summer I am an office assistant at the Union of Ontario Indians Legal Department.

In the fall I will begin my first year of University at Queens, with the intentions of obtaining an Honours degree in History and Political Studies.

I look forward to gaining experience in an office/legal setting at the UOI because of my interest in legal studies and because of my future aspirations of one day practicing law. I am excited to be working in the Legal Department at the UOI because I will be exposed to the different aspects of Aboriginal Law.

Charlotte in political



My name is Charlotte Hoelke and I am the new Political summer student. I grew up in North Bay and in the Ottawa Valley. I am a Bon-nechere Algonquin.

I just completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Native Studies and Religions and Cultures from Nipissing University. Next year I will start law school at the University of Ottawa. I am hoping to focus on Native law. I have also been accepted to University of Otago's Masters of Indigenous Studies programme, which I am hoping to do part-time through distance studies.

I am really excited to be working in Political! It is going to be a busy and educational summer for me!



WENJI-BIMAADZIYING/ OUR ENVIRONMENT



Cleaning green

By Sarah Blackwell

Most of us probably aren't fully aware of the dangers of household cleaners on our health and our precious Mother Earth. Now is the time to know more, because what we don't know WILL hurt us.



The first word of caution is that just because something is labelled Spring Lilac, this does not mean it is free of chemicals. The manufacturers of these products are masking the chemicals they use with these more pleasant sounding words and smells, because who would buy something with the scent Toxic Summer Breeze?

So what exactly do these chemicals do to our health? Well, for starters common symptoms of using sprays in the home include: headache, fatigue, and shortness of breath, dizziness, worsening allergies and/or asthma, coughing, sneezing, sinus congestion and even eye, nose, throat and skin irritations. In addition, research has shown that in the households of pregnant women where the most chemical-based household cleaners were used, their children were twice as likely to have asthma.

Since this is a major health concern for unborn babies, we need to be cautious of the type of cleaners used in the home even after pregnancy. By making small changes you can make a healthier choice for your family and also by helping reduce the number of chemicals flowing into streams and lakes.

With a few natural ingredients and a search on the Internet you can make some great household cleaners without chemicals. Here is one of my favourites for tub and floor cleaner:



3 Tbsp mild liquid dish detergent
1.4 Tbsp Borax (found at your grocery store)
½ cup of vinegar
Fill into a spray bottle, then add the water, and sprinkle your tub and/or floor with the baking soda
2 quartz of water
1 tsp baking soda
*taken from The Complete Idiot's Guide to Green Cleaning, by Mary Findley and Linda Formichelli.

Anishinabek Heirloom Seed exchange

Do you keep a food garden? Do you volunteer at a community garden? Are you interested in getting involved in a grassroots gardening project? Akiing-bemosejig (the UOI Environment Committee) would love your feedback on a potential Anishinabek Nation-wide seed exchange!

For more information and to share your thoughts, please contact: Rhonda Couchie at courho@anishinabek.ca.

Three Steps to Wet Processing Seeds

1. Removal of Seeds

Large fruits are cut open and the seeds are scraped out. Small fruits are usually crushed or mashed. The seeds, pulp and juice from the fruits may need to go through a fermentation process. During the fermentation process, microorganisms such as bacteria and yeast destroy many of the seed-borne diseases that can affect the next generation of plants.

2. Washing Seeds

The process for washing seeds to remove them from the surrounding pulp or to separate them from the fermenting mixture is basically the same. Add at least twice as much water as the volume of seeds and pulp, and stir the mixture vigorously.

3. Drying Seeds

Dump the cleaned seeds onto a glass or ceramic dish, cookie sheet, window screen, or a piece of plywood. Do not attempt to dry the seeds on paper, cloth or non-rigid plastic, because it can be extremely difficult to later remove the seeds from such surfaces.

Spread the seeds as thinly as possible on the drying surface and stir the seeds several times during the day. Always remember that damage begins to occur whenever the temperature of the seeds rises above 95 degrees Fahrenheit. For that reason never dry seeds in the oven.

Fans hasten the drying process; ceiling fans are ideal, and placing seeds on window screens is best of all as they allow for excellent air circulation.

Baby steps taken to green assemblies

By Nicole Latulippe

The Akiing-bemosejig (Earth Walkers) Committee at the Union of Ontario Indians worked with the organizers of the June 2010 Grand Council Assembly. Our recommendations were well received and a number of positive initiatives were carried out at the Assembly. These included the distribution of reusable water bottles, USB keys were made available to save on paper, food was served on biodegradable plates and utensils made from corn and at the end of the final day, participants were given the opportunity to return their binders so they could be re-used.

To continue on the path towards "greening" UOI events, steps can be taken to transform attitudes and behaviours, raise awareness and generate support.

At events, there is opportunity to inform participants of potentially unnoticed "green" initiatives taking place.

- Make recurrent announcements to encourage cooperation with and understanding of the initiatives underway
- Distribute electronic material on USB keys at the start of an event, and enable participants to update electronic files at the end
- Raise awareness by announcing "green" catering initiatives; for instance, the use of biodegradable plates and cutlery
- Work with caterers/event organizers to provide alternatives to Styrofoam cups which are often brought in with coffee and tea
- Discourage use of individual plastic water bottles, particu-



Youth HST panel speaker, Lance Curry, Wasauksing FN with reusable water bottle at the June Assembly.

— Photo by Laura Pudas

larly when alternatives are made available

The Akiing-bemosejig (Earth Walkers) Committee at the UOI has been in operation since February 2010. A key component of the Spring-Summer 2010 advocacy campaign was to help support the transition to more environmentally friendly meetings, conferences and events hosted by the UOI.

Borrowing the earth

By Arnya Assance

Do we do justice to honouring our Mother, one day per year? Or is it a concerted effort every day? I'd like to think that as Anishinabek citizens, we honour her every day.

It isn't hard. Actually, simple things like turning the tap off when you brush your teeth; installing low-flow shower heads and toilets; turning lights off when you aren't using them; packing your lunch in re-usable containers; car-pool. There are lots of tips – reduce, reuse, recycle, compost.

I am a mother of two boys. We get busy, and life gets in the way. But together we conscious

of our impact to our Mother. Daily we do our best to be good Anishinabek. More often than not, my children are the teachers.

My youngest son, Miigwans feels this deep connection to ensuring our Mother isn't burdened with litter, or pollution in the water. His heart is so kind and caring that he carries on this responsibility every day. On his recess he picks up trash, and puts it in his pocket to dispose of properly. He wonders, why do people litter? He asks me, "Momma do you know people actually pollute the water? Why would they do that?" I do my best to address his questions. When we don't

know, we share the Creator through Miigwans Prayer, and Assance-Goulais offer our Ah-sayma, and say Miigwetch for all we are provided with, and ask for forgiveness for our abuses.

I would like to say Miigwetch and N'Zaagin to my sons, Zoon-gabow miwaa Miigwans for being the very best teachers. That Native Proverb really is true: we don't inherit the Earth, we borrow it from our Children.

Arnya Assance, Asiniikwe, Ojibway Anishinabe Kwe from Christian Island. She is First Degree Midewiwin.



Bottled water & you

Bottled water can be very expensive and unnecessary. Using a Brita water filter is a great way to avoid using bottled water. In addition to this, the chemicals that leak from the bottle into the water have uncertain long-term health risks.

The additional waste created in the packaging of bottled water, the energy involved in the processing and the transportation of the bottled water from manufacturers to stores to you is also excessive.

Think about it! Why should we buy water when most of us can drink it for free out of a tap! And, the majority of the time, the bottled water you pay for is the same water that comes from a tap!

As David Suzuki says, "I think that we've got to drink the water that comes out of our taps, and if we don't trust it, we ought to be raising hell about that."

Think twice next time you buy bottled water. Use a travel mug, or a bottle instead of relying on disposable, wasteful products.

If you do not trust your tap water, have it tested. Depending on the result of the test and the source of your water there are many resources that you can turn to. For more information, go to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Well Aware Program, www.wellaware.ca



COMMUNITY PROFILE

WAHNAPITAE FIRST NATION



By Heather Campbell

Chief Myles Tyson is happy to share his optimism with everyone at Wahnapiitae First Nation's community BBQ to celebrate National Aboriginal Day.

"Future looks exciting," he says. "Community is committed and there is a sense of pride."

Chief Tyson's council is building on the partnerships and projects initiated by previous Chief Ted Roque as they pursue ways to build an economic base for a First Nation that claims about 300 citizens, only about 60 of whom live on the reserve.

In fact the picturesque community – one of the smallest population-wise of the 40 members of the Anishinabek Nation – is often stumbled upon by tourists who follow signs on a gravel road north of the town of Capreol, about 50 kilometres from the heart of the City of Greater Sudbury.

The signs point to Rocky's Restaurant. Rocky's is actually a successful business operated by the Rocque family that offers a variety of outdoor experiences, including fishing, camping, all-terrain-vehicle rentals, and snowmobiling.

In a bold effort to ignite economic development beyond the success of Rocky's, the First Nation has entered into several partnerships with mining companies in resource-benefit-sharing arrangements that are starting to show dividends.

In 2008 Wahnapiitae signed partnership agreements with Xstrata Nickel, Mohawk Garnet and QuadraFNX Mining.

Doug Conroy, Human Resources Manager at Xstrata Nickel (formerly Falconbridge) Sudbury operations and two of his colleagues have come out for the community BBQ after participating in a sweat lodge ceremony with community

members that morning.

"We come to the community regularly," says Conroy. "I had no knowledge of First Nations before this project but this has been an amazing experience, out of the normal." Peter Recollet, the company's Director of Sustainable Development, accompanies Conroy as part of the cross-cultural training being provided Xstrata Nickel employees.

The community's historic traditional name is Wahnapiitae which means "That place where the water is shaped like a molar tooth".

The name, though, is often confused with the town of Wahnapiitae and the Wanapitei River on the other side of Sudbury.

The Wahnapiitae First Nation used the Wanapitei watershed for traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping and harvesting.

The area was particularly significant for trade routes that used the Wanapitei and Vermillion River for access to the Great Lakes and other major waterways. In 1821, this route helped to establish a Hudson's Bay Trading Post at the North River on Lake Wanapitei and in the mid 1870's on Post Creek.

Wahnapiitae is a signatory to the 1850 Robinson-Huron Treaty, which specified that "the reserve for Tagawinini and his band would be two miles square at Wanabitibing, a place about forty miles inland near Lake Nipissing."

Following an 1884 survey done without consulting the First Nation, the Wahnapiitae reserve land base was determined to be 3.2-kilometres square, or about 1,036 hectares, a figure which may increase pending settlement of an existing land claim.

Chief Tyson recalls moving to



Xstrata Tour March 2010. AHRDA Manager, Union of Ontario Indians Polly Bobiwash, Cheryl Recollet (Environmental Coordinator), Carolyn Recollet, Angie Kratky, Joseph Recollet, Jim Smith, Fabian Recollet, Rosalie Smith, Evelyn Williams, Henry Burke (Councillor), Frank Recollet and Nicholas Recollet.

the lakeside community in 1991 when there were no year-round residences. Today, guided by a Community Development Plan, more homes are being built, three just this year.

Employees of the First Nation are eagerly anticipating the construction of a multi-purpose complex that will bring staff working out of separate portables into one new building that will also serve as a community centre able to accommodate 100 people.

Councillor Larry McGregor, who was elected with Chief Tyson, says the community has come a long way with many positive changes.

"This is a good community to raise our kids, away from the city," he says, pointing to a playground built with proceeds from a fund-raising drive.

Chief Tyson is making every effort to help keep Wahnapiitae's young people in the community and in school.

"There are no boundaries for whatever school they need to attend. We have our own school bus that takes students to Capreol, Hanmer and even Sudbury if need be," he says.

Creating jobs for community members is a related priority, and the First Nation's economic benefit agreements includes participation in Xstrata's high level environmental monitoring at both its Sudbury smelter and Nickel Rim South project. Xstrata also funds Cheryl Recollet's position as the community Environmental Coordinator.

Recollet, a recent Master's graduate from McGill University, assists with water sampling and analyzing environmental data related to the mining project. She is also developing a bi-weekly curbside recycling program in partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury.

Partnerships are key to creat-

ing programs that can overcome the community's comparative remoteness, and chief and council are currently working to establish a protocol with the Anishnabek Police Service.

Communications between leadership and community members has been addressed by the creation of a monthly newsletter and the staging of several open houses to share updates and information about the mining partnerships.

Chief Myles Tyson understands that a healthy First Nation means more than economic development and building more houses.

"More people are asking for culture," he says. "We now have more naming ceremonies and the sweat lodge ceremony happening on a regular basis."

This coming August 21-22 weekend will mark Wahnapiitae's 15th traditional Pow-Wow, surely an indication that a small community can create a lasting legacy.



Chief Myles Tyson greets guest representatives from Xstrata Nickel to Wahnapiitae FN celebrations for National Aboriginal Day in June.



Wahnapiitae First Nation Traditional pow-wow, 2009



Rayden Recollet, Dayen Recollet, Keegan Osawamick, Mason Recollet.



RESTORATION OF JURISDICTION

Keeping the big boat afloat *Anishinabek Education Agreement inches forward*

By Shayla Brunet
ROJ Summer Student

Negotiators from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Anishinabek Nation met to discuss the Restoration of Jurisdiction process in regards to the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement.

"It's a very big ship, and we're moving it along." Says Jide Afolabi, Chief Federal Negotiator for INAC. Afolabi was confident in the fact that there is a lot of optimism on both sides and that solutions can be found to the challenges that will face conducting a ratification vote over such a vast geographical area, with communities all having different expectations and needs; particularly, with respect to voter turn-out and the inclusion and participation of off-reserve eligible voters.

"Some of the biggest hurdles are presented through communications," states Afolabi, "such as the size of the group of people and to ensure they all have a say in the process, is crucial."

With 40 member communities across Ontario, representing approximately 55,000 people, keeping communities engaged and informed is challenging, especially for the off-reserve eligible voters and more remote communities.

While communication is a crucial factor to keep the negotiations moving forward, Tracey O'Donnell, Legal Counsel for the Anishinabek Nation, also stresses that "in negotiations, it is key for Canada to accept First Nations proposals on thresholds for a ratification, to move through the processes for voting in regard to the education agreement, and for Canada to put forth sufficient funding."

Afolabi said the ratification process is "not comparable to standard ratification processes of Canada or even to First Nations elections, because this [ratification process] is dealing with how people are being governed and moving to governing themselves."

O'Donnell discussed four main points which had been directed at the last Chiefs Committee on Governance meeting on June 2 and 3, in Alderville:

- No 'roving poll' as a means to increase voter turnout, as Canada had suggested;
- Off-reserve polls will be conducted as long as it doesn't increase the threshold;
- Ratification should be based on broad consensus; and
- Voting thresholds should reflect current voter turn-out.



Negotiators for both the Anishinabek Nation and Canada were at the Elders Hall at the Union of Ontario Indians head office in Nipissing, June 15 and 16. (Back row) Jide Afolabi, Chief Federal Negotiator; Peter Coon, Federal Legal Counsel; Kevin Chief, Fiscal Analyst INAC; Murray Pridham, Assistant Education Negotiator; INAC; (Front row) Lorie Young, Ratification Coordinator; Tracey O'Donnell, Anishinabek Nation Legal Council; Bernadette Marasco, Education Administration Assistant.

Canada is proposing a threshold of 25% + 1, or 'a majority of the majority' in each community. For example, in a community with 100 people, 50 eligible voters would have to come out for the vote to even count, and of those 50 people, 25+1, or the majority, would have to vote 'yes' for the agreement to pass.

But since Anishinabek Nation communities have an average

voter turn-out of around 20%, the threshold for ratification is one of the key issues presently being negotiated.

The Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement would essentially 'phase out' or replace INAC's control of education with the First Nations jurisdiction which would operate the Anishinabek Education System.

But before education laws,

regulations, and policies can be enforced by First Nations, they will need to be developed and mediated through talks with Ontario, and be recognized by Ontario for practical purposes. These discussions with Ontario are on-going under a Memorandum of Understanding signed by Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Ontario Minister of Education, Kathleen Wynne, in November 2009.

Practical cross-walking away from the Indian Act

By Shayla Brunet
ROJ Summer Student

In the June 23-24th governance negotiations meetings, the two top items covered were Citizenship Law and the Implementation Plan discussions.

Both teams are moving steadily through the agreement, focusing on practical issues in relation to Anishinabek self-government. The two teams are doing a 'practical cross-walk', as Liz Morin, Chief Federal Negotiator describes the agreement, moving away from Indian Act to Anishinabek Nation jurisdiction over governance.

The agreement provides for establishment of an Anishinabek Nation Government with the power, recognized by Canada, to enact laws in certain areas and to address matters of common concern to Participating First Nations. While Canada is prepared to recognize only some areas of Anishinabek jurisdiction at this time, the Anishinabek position is that these, and the full range of Anishinabek jurisdiction exists, independent of Canada's recognition.

The agreement deals with the Indian Act sections 8 to 14 which covers Band Lists, and sections 74 to 80 which covers Elections of Chiefs and Band Councils. If the agreement is accepted by the 40 Anishinabek First Nations, this would place governance control of these crucial political community decisions back in the hands of the Anishinabek, rather than giving the

final choice to the Minister of Northern and Indian Affairs Canada (INAC).

Restoration of Jurisdiction Communications and Policy Analyst, Mary Laronde stated, "I hope that the negotiations will result in equality and establish a government to government relationship rather than just the paternalistic relationship which exists now."

Chief Federal Negotiator, Liz Morin said, "This is only part of the process. The Indian Act is still going to apply in some aspects. This agreement will help set up a basis for good governance. We are establishing a new relationship and have a joint responsibility to see to the success of this agreement."

Setting up a central Anishinabek Nation Government has huge implications for an Implementation Plan. Usually, Implementation Plans are attached as contracts to the final agreements between Canada and Indigenous Nations and have lifespan of about 5 to 10 years.

Dave Shawana and Laura Hudson-Grant were appointed by the Anishinabek Nation and Canada, respectively, to begin the process of putting the legal words in the agreement into practical tasks that the Parties would commit to undertake to put the agreement into practice.

Hudson-Grant was clear in her report to the main table that the Implementation Plan contains many tasks that will need signifi-



Negotiation teams and joint sub-committee members representing both Canada and the Anishinabek Nation met to hear reports and plan for the upcoming year at the June 23 and 24 meeting in Rama.

cant human resources to do the job justice, over and above the standard Implementation Committee to oversee carrying out the plan. Hudson-Grant has been assigned to a self-government table in the Northwest Territories and now Canada needs a replacement to continue the planning.

A major issue that came up during the discussion on citizenship were the 'gaps' in who is considered an Anishinabek Nation citizen by Canada, compared to who is recognized as such by the Anishinabek Nation. Canada controls Indian status and provides funding to First Nations based on status Indian numbers.

The Anishinabek position is that First Nations have the right to determine its own citizens under its own laws. The Anishinabek Grand Council gave the mandate in 2007 to proceed with the development of an Anishinabek Nation law on citizenship.

The law is based on a one-parent rule which would recognize "those who belong" (E-Dbendaagzijig) instead of following the arbitrary rules governing Indian status under the Indian Act. It is expected that the

Anishinabek E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewin will result in an increase in population, the impacts and benefits of which is yet unknown and are to be the focus of a study this year.

"Right now some First Nations recognize their own membership code, if you are status, or non-status, you still may be accepted and recognized as a member of a particular First Nation," says Laronde.

The Anishinabek Nation is still living with the effects of the loss of control over membership and the current Indian Act system where Anishinabek are categorized into different classes of people, some funded, some not, often pitting people against one another.

The Anishinabek is working towards having our citizenship law and definition of citizenship recognized by the Crown to replace the Status Indian policy and definition sections of the Indian Act. As Chief Patrick Madahbee mentioned in Baytoday.ca during the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) negotiations, "We are allies of the Crown – not subjects."

RESTORATION OF JURISDICTION

Final draft of Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin approved

By Mary Laronde, Communications and Policy Analyst

At the June 2010 Grand Council, the Chiefs in Assembly approved the final draft of the modern Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin (Anishinabek Nation Constitution) and instructed the Governance Working Group, supported by the Union of Ontario Indians, to take the draft document out to the people for their information and input.

On March 1, 2 and 3, 2011, the second phase of the constitutional convention process will take place in Bawating. The Governance Working Group's and the UOI's job is to reach as many people as possible and record their input. In February 2011, the input will be assessed and revisions will be recommended at the Anishinabek Nation Constitutional Convention II.

Over the coming year, the Restoration of Jurisdiction department will implement Phase II of a community engagement strategy designed to build awareness and support for the self-government initiatives that have been on-going for several years. The Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin is central to these initiatives as it is the foundational document for establishing the Anishinabek Nation Government.

The Anishinabek have always had a government and an unwritten constitution. It is part of our culture and heritage and is set out in the ways we do things and the principles by which we lived our lives. It is expressed in the Dodem System and our understanding of what is right.

The establishment and the recognition of the Anishinabek Nation Government and the recognition of some Anishinabek jurisdictions by Canada have been the subject of the governance negotiations since 1998. During this time, extensive community consultation were undertaken from which unity, expressed in a written Anishinabek Nation constitution, was identified as the number one priority.

Community consultations on the establishment of a central Anishinabek Nation government, various models of government, proposed structures of government, and the operation of government have been undertaken. Over the years, thousands of voices have been involved in the development of the draft Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin, including the Chiefs in Assembly.

Over the past two years, the Governance Working Group has dedicated almost all of its time to preparing the document for the Anishinabek Constitutional Convention I, which was held last March and which produced this final draft.

This final draft Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin is your document.



The Restoration of Jurisdiction department, led by Chair of the Chiefs Committee on Governance, Chief Isadore Day (far right), seek mandates and approvals from the Grand Council to incorporate the Kinomaadsowin Education Body; take the final draft Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin to the people; begin implementation of the E-Dbendaagzijing Naaknigewin; engage communities in self-government initiatives; and seek an agreement with Census Canada to acquire information needed by Anishinabek Nation and First Nations Governments. Presenting and assisting the deliberations are, from left, Dave Shawana, Governance Working Group Coordinator; Tracey O'Donnell, Legal Counsel; Jeannette Corbiere Lavell, Commissioner on Citizenship; Mary Laronde, ROJ Communications and Policy Analyst; R. Martin Bayer, Chief Negotiator on Governance; and Chief Day.

— Photo by Mike Restoule

Education body to be incorporated in move to establish system

By Mary Laronde, ROJ Communications and Policy Analyst

The Anishinabek Education System will take a big step off the drawing board to on-the-ground reality in the next few months.

The Kinomaadsowin Education Body ('KEB'), the central, administrative body of the Anishinabek Education System (AES), will be incorporated under Ontario law as an interim step towards the exercise of First Nation jurisdiction and authority over education and towards the establishment of the AES, ahead of a final agreement on education with Canada.

Endorsed by the Chiefs Committee on Governance at its June 2 and 3 meeting in Alderville, Chairman Chief Isadore Day introduced a resolution the next week at the June 2010 Grand Council in Fort William, seeking approval to incorporate the central education authority, the 'KEB'. The resolution was passed unanimously.

In her presentation to the Chiefs Committee on Governance and to the Grand Council, Legal Counsel, Tracey O'Donnell explained that the incorporation of the KEB at this time would build capacity for the operation of the Anishinabek Education System under First Nations jurisdiction when the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement takes legal effect, depending on a positive outcome of the ratification process by the Anishinabek First Nations and Canada. At that time, the Ontario corporation known as the 'KEB' would be dissolved and the KEB would become legally recognized through legislation flowing from the final agreement on education.

Incorporating the KEB as a legally recognized entity under Ontario laws will also facilitate practical partnerships with the Ontario Ministry of Education

for work that can be done now and set the stage for future cooperation between the two education systems. Discussion with Ontario about practical and jurisdictional issues are on-going under a Memorandum of Understanding signed last year.

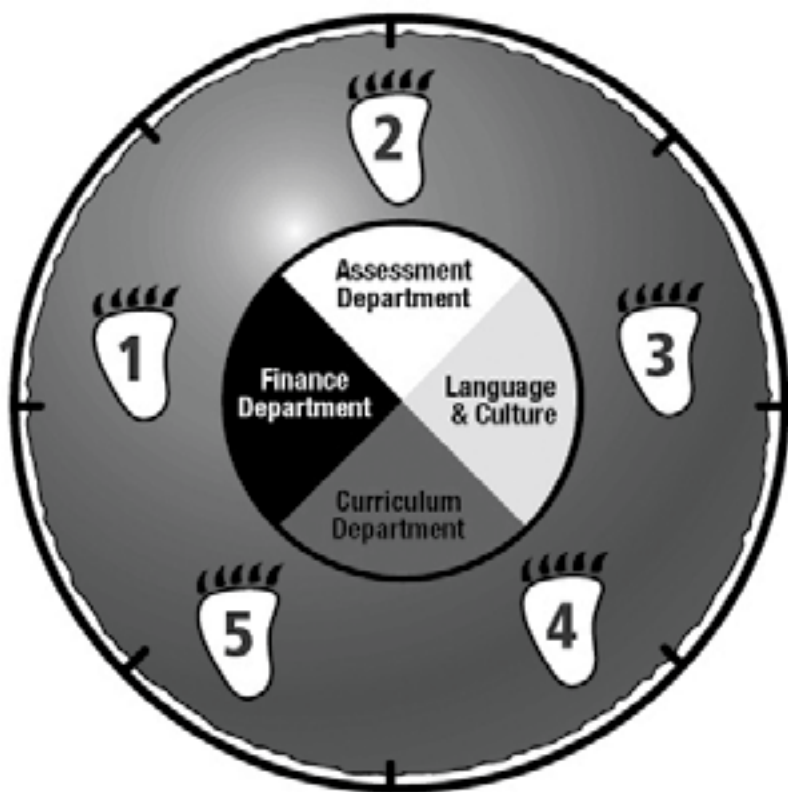
A slate of directors for the board governing the new KEB will be announced following discussion with the Education Working Group. The KEB will be accountable to the First Nations and report directly to the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council.

The Education Working Group, a committee of education professionals representing the Anishinabek First Nations, designed the Anishinabek Education System over a 12-year period, in consultation with Anishinabek citizens through community meetings, regional sessions, and conferences. The development of the AES occurred as part of the negotiation process with Canada.

The Anishinabek Education System consists of Local Education Authorities at the community level, Regional Education Councils modelled after historical relationships and provincial school board affiliations, and the central administrative body, the KEB.

The KEB will support the delivery of education programs and services and coordinate First Nations education in the Anishinabek Nation, as decided by the Anishinabek First Nations. First Nations jurisdiction over education is recognized and the KEB is accountable to the First Nations.

Two years ago, the working group recommended that the KEB become a corporation to better coordinate First Nations education expertise and efforts for improved experiences and outcomes for Anishinabek students, in band-operated schools and provincial schools.



**Anishinabek Education System
Departments of K.E.B.**



DOHM-NUK/LET'S PLAY



Chad Solomon illustrates his workshops by using puppets of his graphic novel characters Rabbit and Bear Paws.

Modern methods convey teachings

By Shady Hafez

NORTH BAY – Chad Solomon is an artist and storyteller – one of the many who are reviving the traditional act of passing on teachings, but in a contemporary way. His stories continue to captivate and educate young reader's minds and they help start the process of traditional education at a young age.

At Nipissing University workshop, the creator of the Rabbit and Bear Paws series of graphic novels showcased his works along with discussing various techniques in storytelling and using art as a way of conveying those stories and teachings. Solomon is a citizen of Henvey Inlet First Nation. He is the grandson of the well-known artist and activist Art Solomon, who gave Chad many of the teachings he is passing on now.

Solomon owns a production company that allows him to publish his award-winning stories on his own terms. All illustrations are done by him, and each story takes him approximately three years to finish. Stories are based on the Seven Fires prophecies of the Anishnaabe people, and each story conveys one of the seven Grandfather Teachings. So far Solomon has completed three full novels, each based on one of the teachings. All the characters in his stories learn lessons from these teachings and are inspired by them. He believes his stories are beneficial because of his use of humour in sharing them.

"Sharing a teaching through laughter is the best way to pass the teaching on to the next generation," he says.

The three main characters Solomon created are Rabbit, Bear Paws and Strawberry, and he uses large puppets of them to illustrate his workshops.

Rabbit and Bear Paws stories target younger children.

"It's the largest growing demographic of our people," says Solomon. "The best way to share these stories is with a generation that grows with them."

He believes it is up to the reader to interpret the teaching his stories attempt to convey, which is how he was taught.

He also spoke on the significance of other characters in his stories. In one story he tries to convey unity among various nations by introducing Mohawk chief Joseph Brant, who tried to unite the Five Nations of Iroquois. Brant teaches Rabbit and Bear Paws to play lacrosse, a traditional Haudenosaunee game.

Solomon says he will be adding a dog to his cast of characters, and his readers will be asked to suggest a name which will be announced on his blog. He says he incorporates many of his followers' suggestions into his storylines.

His upcoming projects include the creation of a young reader's software to be introduced into Aboriginal learning curricula. The software will be available in English and Anishinaabemowin and will allow very young readers to learn about the Seven Grandfather teachings, as well as gives them the opportunity to create their own stories and images.

"We are definitely helping the fire grow," he says.

Another successful venture of has been his partnership with the One Laptop per Child Program through the Belinda Stronach Foundation. Solomon was able to sell half a million units of his stories to be pre-installed in the laptops when they are released.

Rabbit & Bear Paws



© CHAD SOLOMON AND LITTLE SPIRIT BEAR PRODUCTIONS, 2010

Check out our new website!
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ASSOCIATION OF IROQUOIS AND ALLIED INDIANS WWW.AIAI.ON.CA

Responsible Gambling

AIAI: RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING PROGRAM 2010



In 2007, AIAI undertook a needs assessment and the results show there exists a general lack of knowledge that gambling in our communities is a problem and gambling takes place in all communities that participated in the survey. In late 2009, the Ministry of Health Promotions approved funding for a Responsible Gambling Program and Coordinator.

The program will focus on prevention, awareness, reduce stigma towards problem gamblers and contribute to the overall health and well-being of our member nations.

We look forward to your feedback, suggestions and questions.

TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING:

- Set a money limit and stick to it.
- Set a time limit.
- Balance gambling with other activities.
- Never chase losses.

HELP IS AVAILABLE:
 Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline
 1-888-230-3505
www.opgh.on.ca

PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

One way that we can encourage healthy lifestyles and at the same time initiating community events and family time is to think of creative ways to 'spend' one of our most valuable assets, our 'time'. Whether it be a family night of watching movies, going to the park, playing sports, socials or just visiting with family & friends.



AIAI's RGP Goals:

For more information on AIAI's Responsible Gambling Program please contact:
 LISA JACKSON
 AIAI-RGP Coordinator
 519-434-2761 x 44
ljackson@aiai.on.ca

- Increase Awareness of the risks associated with gambling
- Increase public awareness of services available for problem gambling and how to access them
- Prevention based programs
- Decrease stigma/negative attitudes towards problem gamblers.

EDUCATION

Kinoomaagewin



A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ANISHINABEK NEWS
July/August 2010

Atleo seeks funding equity

NIPISSING FIRST NATION – Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, in the region June 9 to accept an honorary doctorate in education from Nipissing University, launched a broad call to action on First Nations education, highlighting the importance of reconciliation and effective partnerships in ensuring equitable education opportunities for First Nations.

"Today we launch a call to action. A call for education to become a door to opportunity and to success firmly rooted in our cultures, languages and rights," said National Chief Atleo.

"First Nation leadership across the country identified education as central to our agenda. Education is directly related to social and economic health and is a key to pursuing our other priorities like stronger governing capacity and economic development," said National Chief Atleo. "This is a call to action to all governments, to education institutions, the private and public sectors as well as our own communities to join in developing a fundamentally new approach to education that turns the page on the Indian residential schools era. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership will be the hallmarks of our efforts as we work together to significantly improve education outcomes and opportunity for all First Nation learners at all levels."

Through five key components, the AFN Call to Action on First Nations Education is an approach that will ensure First Nations have fair and improved access to quality education opportunities in a way that reflects the needs of our important and growing population:

1. Reconciliation and implementation of First Nation rights within



National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo demonstrated his skills on the hand drum during a June visit to Nipissing First Nation. Among the onlookers in Nipissing Secondary School gym were Zach Beaudette and Echo McLeod-Shabogesic.

all federal and provincial education legal and policy regimes;

2. An education guarantee that creates a secure fiscal framework, a guarantee enjoyed by every segment of Canadian society except First Nations;

3. Sustainability to ensure funding arrangements based on real costs, indexation and appropriate treatment for northern and remote communities;

4. Building First Nations education systems including professional, accountable institutions to support teachers and language and cultural curriculum;

5. Supporting a culture of learning in First Nations communities and linking with organizations, the public and private sector to invest in our schools and students.

"For far too many First Nations students, the current system is under-funded, under-supported and unfair," said National Chief Atleo, noting that First Nations students receive on average \$2000 less in educational support than other

'Education is related to economic health.'

– National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo

students in Canada. "If we support our students, bring fairness and equity to First Nations education, we will spark success, create jobs and build economies. Investing in First Nations education will benefit all people in Canada. It's a long-term sustainable stimulus plan for Canada's economy. Increasing our graduation rates to match those of other Canadians would inject an additional \$71-billion into Can-

ada's economy over the next 10 years and help eliminate the employment gap."

Nipissing First Nation Deputy Chief June Commanda joined National Chief Atleo along with Nipissing Secondary School stu-

dents emphasizing the importance of education and partnership.

"Our community fully supports the broad Call to Action on First Nations education, as we continue to see first hand the challenges that the current systems and supports have on our students," said Nipissing First Nation Chief Marianna Couchie. "As a community, we have made education our priority, investing in a new high school and

–Photo by Priscilla Goulais
pursuing partnerships with universities. Yet still much more needs to be done. We really need help and support to make a better future a reality for our young people."

Nipissing student and Nipissing Council member Zach Beaudette says that he really enjoys learning his language, and says that some of the youth are trying to save it.

"There is a gap – my parents don't speak the language but my grandparents do. Youth my age are really trying hard to learn the language."

Beaudette decided to come to Nipissing Secondary School to learn more about the culture and to have more pride about his community.

"I'm speaking with the Elders and it's giving them the courage to speak the language again."

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Allan Moffatt
ANCU manager



Navajo Nation librarian Irving Nelson receives gift from Carol Pegahmagabow, librarian for Wasauksing First Nation.

Librarian's work never finished

By Kelly Crawford

SUDBURY – A librarian's work is never finished.

That was the message Northern Ontario First Nation Librarians heard from the keynote speaker at their banquet during May's annual Ontario Library Service-North conference.

"As you are all aware, library work can never be finished," said Irving Nelson, who has spent 33 years working with the Navajo Nation Library. "Our humble Office of Navajo Nation Library has touched the lives of our Navajo people and non-Navajo residents across the Navajo Nation. We are continuing our efforts to meet their educational, informational, recreational and cultural needs."

Nelson, who started his library career as an 18-year-old Bookmobile Driver, is a recipient of the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Native American Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums, the 2009 Prism Award from Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, and -- most recently was chosen 2010 Librarian of the Year (Reader to Reader).

"Navajos are raised to be very humble and not to boast about themselves," he told his Sudbury

audience. "My late father was a community leader for 48 years and he lectured my siblings and me at every mealtime around the table. My siblings and I were raised to be humble and to help people as much as we can with whatever talent we are blessed with."

Only a year after he started work, Nelson was called on to present his library's needs to vari-

ous committees and the Navajo Nation Council Chambers.

"Can you imagine a 19-year-old young man speaking before the esteemed 88-member Navajo Nation Council?"

The main Navajo library currently houses over 76,000 books, and Nelson has catalogued every single volume.



Pow-wow loaner

Beausoleil First Nation librarian Kathleen Peters holds a copy of 'Long Powwow Nights' by David Bouchard. The book's story and artwork won awards through 'A First Nation Community Read' program. The Christian Island Library has copies to loan out and an accompanying CD in English and Cree.

– Photo by Sharon Weatherall

REVIEWS

Tributes to trees

Albert Dumont handed me one of his books – *Of Trees and their Wisdom* – in a coffee shop.

Albert's slim but deep volume is a mixture of what I would call gentle parables and short poems, only one of the poems being longer than a page.

It is divided into sections devoted to the maple, the birch, the pine and the forest, and to their spiritual possibilities. On one page Albert describes trees as the pillars of the woodland community, which is delightful, and many of the simple direct poems come off the page as semi-prayers, like this: "O Great Spirit/Our voices/Are as a forest being destroyed."

As he told me, "Ottawa wouldn't be here if it wasn't for trees," and he is right to pay his respects to them.

The parables/short homilies, which are based on arboreal anecdotes Albert has overheard or collected, are written in a readable, no-nonsense style such as the one titled, *The Sap is Sweet but the Syrup is Sweeter*.

The book is published by Turtle Moons Press, Albert's own imprint. His website is albertdumont.com.

– Phil Jenkins

Pipeline plot key

White Bird Black Bird by Val Wake offers a unique look at conflicts between big business expansion and native cultural preservation.

Influenced by his own work as a journalist in the Arctic and the current controversy over providing environmentally sensitive areas for oil and gas exploration, Wake introduces *White Bird Black Bird*.

This new novel presents the struggle a native rights group faces to oppose the construction of a gas pipeline in prime hunting and trapping country.

White Bird Black Bird follows journalist Warren Pritchard as he becomes deeply involved in indigenous rights in Canada. As he deepens his investigation, Warren forms close friendships and a romantic relationship with the local Canadian Indians and Inuit people. As his allegiance grows, danger and conflict also ensue as Warren risks everything to defend the local community.

White Bird Black Bird aims to present both sides of a combative argument.

White Bird Black Bird, 521 pp.; Booksurge (2008), ISBN-10- 1439203458 -- 2008 is available online at Amazon.com and other channels

Balanced history

History written by First Peoples restores balance.

The Kids Book of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada by Diane Silvey includes the Peoples of the northwest coast, plateau, plains, arctic, subarctic, Iroquoians of eastern woodlands, Algonquians of eastern woodlands, and what happened to us after contact.

Silvey is from the Sechelt Band in BC. She works at the University of BC in the Native Indian Teacher Education program and is author of *From Time Immemorial*, winner of the BC book award in 2000. John Nantha, from Toronto is the illustrator.

Written for Grades 3-6, ages 8-11 years of age, Silvey begins with the Grandfather Teachings, uses plenty of illustrations and colour to make learning an attractive process.

Her topics include housing, use of cedar, fish, clothing, ways of life, preservation of food, buffalo hunting and how all the animal was used, recreation, transportation methods, and ceremonies.

The Kids Book of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada – Diane Silvey (Kids Can Press Ltd., Toronto, ON; 2005; ISBN 1-55074-998-6, 63 pages \$19.95)

–Joyce Atcheson

Indigenous inventions

This children's history book shows that many of today's tools and practices had their origins in First Peoples' communities.

The first scalpels were made from obsidian, syringes from animal bladders and bones, and diapers were made with moss.

A Native American Thought of It: Amazing Inventions and Innovations includes maps identifying locations of nations and many illustrations of hunting, shelter, fishing, food, clothing, medicines and healing, transportation, communication, recreation, war and peace, and our world today.

Written by Rocky Landon, Wabigoon First Nation with freelance editor and author David MacDonald, this book is a delightful view of common items that had their humble beginnings in our communities.

First Peoples have more than an oral tradition – we had wampum, birch bark scrolls, sign language, totem poles, smoke signals, petroglyphs, and rock paintings to communicate between nations.

A Native American Thought of It: Amazing Inventions and Innovations – Rocky Landon with David MacDonald (Annick Press Ltd., 2008; ISBN 978-1-55451-154-9, paperback; 47 pages \$9.95)

– Joyce Atcheson

History for speculators

History is written from the writer's perspective and this Grade 6-9 book is no exception.

The authors say this book is to inform Canadians and Americans alike about Canada.

Before Canada: First Nations & First Contacts Prehistory – 1523, by Sheila Nelson and David Bercuson perpetuates Eurocentric creations that our people did not originate here.

One of 10 books in the series, this book begins by portraying North America from its beginning geographical land shifts to the arrival of explorers who "discovered a land and peoples." Despite being unable to provide evidence to support the currently held Eurocentric beliefs about the early arrival of Europeans to this land, included at the back of the book is a theoretical time line of visitors' arrivals beginning 500-1,000 BCE.

Before Canada: First Nations & First Contacts Prehistory – 1523 – Sheila Nelson (Mason Crest Publishers Inc., Broomall, Pennsylvania; 2006; ISBN-13: 978-1-4222-0000-1; ISBN-10: 1-4222-0000-0; 88 pages; \$21.95)

– Joyce Atcheson

Education

Forever to the Seventh Generation

Kids encouraged to study sciences

By Sharon Weatherall

BEAUSOLEIL FN – The lack of interest in science and engineering careers may change after a June 1st symposium on Christian Island attended by some 30 elementary, secondary and adult education students.

Chief Franklin “Shining Turtle” Paibomsai referred to his 14 years’ experience in civil engineering to encourage students to pursue that as a career option.

“Never say you can’t do something – always say ‘I can do it’”, said the chief of Whitefish River First Nation, who gained work experience in design, construction and project management after studying at Seneca College, Lakehead University, California State University, University of Florida and the Northern Centre for Advanced Technology.

He reminded the students that engineering skills were involved in the design of traditional First Nation tools as paddles, and snowshoes centuries ago and are still in use today.

Beausoleil First Nation Educational Director Peggy McGregor organized the day’s program, inviting presenters that included an architect, biologist and chemical engineer.

“The purpose of the event was to give the students career ideas and incentives and spin some interest in science and engineering due to the lack of native people in those trades. It may help them consider entering those fields,” said McGregor.



Chief Shining Turtle tells students that the paddle is an example of First Nation design engineering skills.

Grad/mom put in 18-hour days

By Jorge Antonio Vallejos

TORONTO – “I belong to Sagamok,” says Ericka Brosseau, 28, with pride.

A hug from her mother welcomed her as she walked through a sea of graduates following June’s ceremony at Convocation Hall at University of Toronto.

The certificate clutched in Ericka’s hand represented two years of hard work in the Masters of Information Studies Program.

Brosseau describes those two years – consisting of days that started at 6 a.m. and ended at midnight – as “tough.”

Raising a baby – Zoe, aged

three – working at the First Nations House University of Toronto resource centre, and studying in a competitive Masters program, Brosseau thrived under pressure.

Facing adversity is nothing new for her. Born in Sudbury and growing up in nearby mining towns of Cartier and Onaping Falls, Brosseau recalls being the only Native girl in her class, and being the subject of ridicule for being “different.”

An avid reader and music buff, she switched to the Sudbury Performing Arts School at the age of ten.

“I couldn’t handle the small-townness anymore. I was different than the rest of the kids,” says Brosseau. She learned to read before junior kindergarten, and her mom refused to buy her books because she would finish them within 45 minutes.

“I was at the top of my class. I wasn’t necessarily the geeky kid. When you’re the smart kid in class there’s kind of an animosity that exists in any class.”

“I read a lot,” says Brosseau of her youth. A lover of English classics and Russian literature, Brosseau read widely, from Dickens to Dostoyevsky to Orwell to Anne Rice.

Half Acadian, Brosseau was a French Immersion Honour student throughout high school and a fluent speaker today. She describes her family of hard workers as coming from a long line of trappers, miners, rail workers, and lumberjacks. That hard work ethic transferred to Brosseau and her seven years of study in differ-

ent universities in Ontario.

Earning an Honours BA in History in 2006, she traveled Europe and had a child during a two-year break, before being coaxed by a friend to enter the Masters in Information Studies program at University of Toronto in 2008.

“I’m really into history,” says Brosseau. “My major interest is 19th Century history with all the revolutions and the revolts and uprisings.” With such a love for the past, archiving is a perfect fit for the Sagamok First Nation citizen.

“Archives is where history is. It’s the historical records that are used to support historical arguments,” says Brosseau. “You need archives because libraries are full of published books. Archives are separate documents like photographs, letters; things aren’t published as a set.”

Recently starting a website, <http://aboriginalarchives.info>, Brosseau says she wanted to promote discussion about archives in Aboriginal communities.

“What I want to do is make communities build their own archival programs. I want to facilitate it but I don’t want to do it all myself.”

“I think Aboriginal communities really have to take a hold of their own history,” says Brosseau.

She credits her mother for much of her success: “I don’t think I would have been able to do this without my mom because she’s been such a help during this and she did it because she wanted Zoe and me to have a good life.”



Chief Elizabeth Cloud, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, and John Bonin, Union Gas, with interactive whiteboard system purchased through their partnership for Hillside School. The equipment purchase is part of a program to improve literacy for on-reserve students.

Kettle Point school gets literacy boost

KETTLE & STONY POINT FN – Hillside School is taking on a unique and culturally-based multi-year literacy project to build up low numbers of First Nation graduates.

Kettle and Stony Point has partnered with the Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative (MAEI) in the development of a project to establish best practices in literacy instruction, which will benefit First Nation students who attend the community’s school and increase the educational achievement of First Nation students.

In June, former Prime Minister Paul Martin told the school’s staff and students, “We decided to take this program, for the first time, into a First Nation school and Hillside was already a progressive school in a community that will bring together its strong tradition, culture and beliefs with the program.”

“Our First Nation is pleased and grateful that we are entering into this agreement with the MAEI to improve the academic achievements of our students,” said Chief Elizabeth Cloud. “We must equip our children with the essential tools for future success, as it is a known fact that aboriginal people have more barriers to overcome than the general population.”

MAEI is a charitable organization founded by Paul Martin and his family. The overall goal is to work with aboriginal Canadians to enable them to enjoy greater economic self-reliance and an ever-increasing quality of life.



Ericka Brosseau

Oral history more than hearsay

By Christine McFarlane

TORONTO – Justice Leonard Mandamin admits it's an uphill battle to convince the courts that oral history is more than just hearsay.

"Law practitioners have to ask themselves 'how do you treat Elder testimony and respect an oral history that often encompasses stories that go back before living people,'" the Wikwemikong citizen told an audience attending a National Aboriginal Day event sponsored by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

"First Nations look at their Elders differently and Elders are held in higher regard in their communities. We are looking at how that can be done in the judicial

process because questioning Elders in a court of law can often be an adversarial process, especially through cross-examination."

Mandamin, one of 30 full-time judges currently sitting on the Federal Court of Canada, said that "practitioners must take in the Aboriginal perspective and adjust rules of evidence so that when and if Elders have to testify in court, their evidence is not seen as hearsay as it is still seen by some."

Justice Mandamin talked about developments in Aboriginal Law that he has observed over the course of a le-



Justice Leonard Mandamin

gal career that began when he was first called to the bar in 1983.

"At that time there were only about 88 Aboriginal lawyers; there are at least 1,000 now. We are seeing right across the country a trend in the legal academic area of many pursuing a higher education than law -- getting their masters and obtaining their PhD's."

He also described the work of the Federal Court Aboriginal Liaison Committee and its members that consist of the Federal Court judiciary, the Indigenous Bar, the Canadian Bar Association, Aboriginal Bar section and the Department of Justice and how they are currently considering the treatment of oral history and Elder evidence.



Remembering Residential Schools

Nipissing First Nation citizen Riley Scott holds his grandmother's "welcome home" medal from a 2001 Residential School gathering held in Nipissing FN. The Grade 5 student from J.W. Trusell says that his grandmother went to Residential School in Spanish, Ontario. He was one of 100 North Bay students who participated in the Regional Heritage Fair in May.

– Photo by Marci Becking

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**Notice of
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**Community Engagement
Strategy Workshop
October 2010 (Date TBD)**

**Joint Conference with
University of Toronto
January 21 and 22, 2010
Nipissing Secondary School,
Nipissing First Nation**

**Anishinabek Nation
Constitutional Convention II
March 1-3, 2010—Sault Ste. Marie**

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Inspection

Notice of Aerial Herbicide Spraying French Severn Forest

The **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)** invites you to inspect the Ministry of Natural Resources approved aerial herbicide spray projects. As part of our ongoing efforts to regenerate and protect Ontario's forests, selected stands on the French Severn Forest (see map) will be sprayed with herbicide to control competing vegetation, starting on or about: August 20, 2010. The herbicides Release PCP registration # 22093 and Vision PCP registration # 19899 will be used.



The approved project description and project plan for the aerial herbicide project is available for public inspection at the Westwind Forest Stewardship Inc. office and on the Ministry of Natural Resources public website at ontario.ca/forestplans beginning July 20, 2010 until March 31, 2011 when the annual work schedule expires and throughout the one year duration of the annual work schedule. Ontario Government Information Centre at 7 Bay Street, Parry Sound, ON P2A 1S4 and the Parry Sound District Ministry of Natural Resources office at the same location provide access to the internet.

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange an appointment with Ministry of Natural Resources staff at the Ministry of Natural Resources District office to discuss the aerial herbicide project.

For More information or to arrange an appointment with Ministry of Natural Resources staff please contact:

Westwind Forest Stewardship
Barry Davidson, R.P.F.
72 Church Street
Parry Sound, ON P2A 1Z1

Ministry of Natural Resources
Joe Johnson, R.P.F.
7 Bay Street
Parry Sound, ON P2A 1S4

or call toll-free: 1-800-667-1940 and ask to be forwarded to one of the contacts above.

Congratulations Graduates



Congratulations to our PARAMEDIC graduating class! We understand more than five graduates may have already secured work in their field. Well Done!

The staff, students and faculty would like to extend our appreciation to all that made a contribution to the success of the first Paramedic program at CTS Canadian Career College Garden River Campus. To the participating First Nations Communities, Garden River and its Education Centre, the Indian Friendship Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, Employment Connection and Fire Chief, Steve Nolan, thank you.. This couldn't have happened without your assistance.



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NISHNAABEWIN/CULTURE

Toronto hosts history month

By Christine McFarlane

TORONTO – Downtown Toronto echoed to the sounds of a First Nation drum, Metis Fiddlers, and Inuit throat singers at June's launch of the First Annual National Aboriginal History Month that was organized by the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto.

Chief Bryan La Forme, of the Mississaugas of the New Credit welcomed everyone to the host territory, saying "Today is a day of celebration as well as for the whole month in order to celebrate a way of life."

Native Canadian Centre President Lyndon Blackbird said the event resulted from a series of community consultations last fall and the formation of a steering committee in January.

In addition to traditional music, the day-long agenda included



Hoop dancer Crystal John from Kehewin First Nation in Alberta.

a lacrosse demonstration by the Toronto Nationals, a talent show and appearances by The Johnny's and Brock Stonefish and the Battle River Blues band to close out the evening.

Vendor Chris McGregor, from Manitoulin Island and owner of Oga Creations, a Native designs business, said "It's great that we can all get together like this. By having a booth at an event like this, we are teaching each other and sharing. That is what our people are about."

Strawberry fest attracts 10,000

By Shady Hafez

PETERBOROUGH – The annual Odemini Giizis Festival was held June 16-21 to celebrate the strawberry harvest, the summer solstice and National Aboriginal Day.

Over 200 performers of music, visual art, performance art and dance entertained and educated over 10,000 people.

The festival wrapped up with a two-day pow-wow featuring the world famous drum group Northern Cree, as well as drummers from Armour Hill out of Peterborough and the Chippewa travelers, winners of the recent Pow-wow Idol online competition.

Head Dancers were Wesley King from Christian Island and Leslie McCue from Curve Lake.

Miss Indian World Teyotsihstokwathe Dakota Brant, a Trent University student, also attended



Dakota Brant, Miss Indian World the pow-wow and and demonstrated traditional Iroquois dance.

The week's program included performances of the contemporary Métis play Gabriel's Crossing and art shows by Wanda Nanibush from Beausoleil First Nation. The Indie-Genius concert featured Missy Knot from Curve Lake and the stunning Tanya Tagaq from Nunavut.

During the festival a reburial ceremony was held in Peterborough for some unearthed remains of First Nations ancestors that were found during archaeological digs and construction.

Drowning pain of Indian schools

By Suzanne Keeptwo

OTTAWA – Where the Blood Mixes is a play about the impact of residential schools and fuels an understanding of the negative behaviours it created. A Vancouver Playhouse production, directed by Glynis Leyshon, it toured across Canada with rave reviews up to its final stop at Toronto's Factory Theatre in April.

The characters in Kevin Loring's award-winning script are aimless drunks, but the playwright – from Nlakapmox FN in B.C. -- crafts such insight into their pain, one understands the tendency to want to drown in it. Each of the main characters processes the disruption to their identity differently, and



Billy Merasty

represents various traits picked up from an institutionalized upbringing.

Billy Merasty masterfully internalizes the emotional pain of Floyd who wears anger like a warrior in constant battle with himself. In spite of a desire to self-isolate, he spends his days quenching a thirst for a life denied in the companionship of his childhood friend Mooch, skillfully played by Ben Cardinal.

Walking the path to Native pride

By Marci Becking

STURGEON FALLS – OPP Sergeant George Couchie watches as Our Lady of Sorrows Grades 5 and 6 students smudge around the circle with their parents and teachers. One mom looks nervous as the smudge comes closer and she quickly wafts the burning sage over her head.

"It will clear your head and bring good thoughts," her son tells her.

The students have been participating in "Walking the Path" – a 10-week program Couchie created in 1996 having been inspired by this very school.

"It's not about spirituality – it's about First Nations history," says Couchie. He says that everyone's quick to criticize but these students now know about residential schools, why we should carry a drum.

"We see a different pride in these students – an attachment to teachings and culture. They aren't embarrassed and they are very proud to be who they are."

Couchie points to the Nipissing First Nation drum – Little Iron.

"The measurement of success is sitting around that drum," says Couchie.

Blair Beaucage, Zachary Beaudette and Tory Fisher, all from Nipissing First Nation have made the commitment to lead a healthy lifestyle. They are now role-models for other youth in their community. Beaudette at 18 is Nipissing's youngest council member.

"You don't hear stories in the news about children growing up in healthy communities," says Couchie. "All you hear are the bad things that First Nations and police are doing. Suicides in communities are seen as normal. It's a tragedy. These kids need to be proud of who they are."

"First Nations need to talk



George Couchie

about the great work First Nations people do."

A younger group of boys join the drum. They look up to the older ones – proud to be included.

The student-led ceremony is a culmination of teachers, police officers and the community working together.

The Catholic School Board in Ontario is using "Walking the Path" in their curriculum. Couchie is training Kindergarten through Grade 12 teachers. The program is in the North Bay, Timmins and Cochrane area schools. At Our Lady of Sorrows, three teachers have taken Couchie's four-day training.

Grade 5/6 teacher Emily de Jourdan is says that the four-day training was inspiring.

"It's something that needs to be a part of Teacher's College, but we're not there yet," says de Jourdan.

"Walking the Path" training is free for teachers and community members.

Sunrise ceremony focused on environment

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

HUNTSVILLE – A doe and a fox observed the sunrise ceremony conducted by Wasauksing Elder Stewart King on June 21, National Aboriginal Day. The ceremony was held the day before a Unity Gathering pow-wow was staged to honour the G8 Summit leaders arriving at Deerhurst Resort in Anishinabek territory.

King says the sunrise ceremony was to send a message to the world, with a special focus on environmental issues.

"We need clean air, clean water. We are in danger. It's something we can do something about right now."

Prayers were offered for the water because of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the poisoning of the Great Lakes by pharmaceutical dumping and other pollutants.

"It was the biggest sunrise ceremony I have been to," says King, who said a female deer appeared with a fox and watched the event. Over 250 people gathered at Memorial Park in Huntsville, including visitors from Germany, France, Asia, Sweden and Ireland.

"They seemed to be moved by the experience," says King. "It's something they hunger for -- a full Native teaching and ceremony. It's a message of the heart and a message of light that all people can understand because it has meaning."

King said the environment is the top priority for the Anishinabek.

"Our people have been sent here as caretakers, and we've lived sustainably from this land. We're the only ones qualified to look after it. Many of our people are the only ones that live in certain regions."

1,000 Native students attend Simcoe schools

By Elizabeth Bokfi

MIDHURST – Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) celebrated Aboriginal Education Month by hosting Sharing Our Learning, an event that showcased the implementation of new First Nation, Métis and Inuit curriculum at the elementary and secondary levels.

Over 250 people gathered at the board offices for the June 8 event, which opened with a smudging ceremony and prayer by Elder Ernestine Baldwin. Beedahiga Elliott of Cape Croker First Nation acted as master of ceremonies. Board chair Brad Saunders officially opened the celebration.

Lisa Ewanchuk, Central Principal of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education for the board and a citizen of Rama First Nation,

helped coordinate the event using input gathered the previous year at a student symposium.

"At the elementary and secondary level our goal is to infuse First Nation, Métis and Inuit history, perspectives, world views and culture into the Ontario curriculum in all subject areas," she said. "At the secondary level, we specifically have Native Studies courses available to all students from grades 9-12. There are a variety of courses offered in 14 of our 17 secondary schools."

Ewanchuk noted that some 1,000 board students had self-identified as First Nation, Métis or Inuit.

Following the opening ceremony students and guests broke into groups and visited the many display stations, attended student



Niki Monague, a Fancy Shawl Dancer from Beausoleil First Nation, performs the butterfly dance.

workshops or gathered to observe and participate in traditional dances supported by the Taabik Drum and Singers.

Keynote speaker Susan Aglukark shared her personal history and performed several songs.

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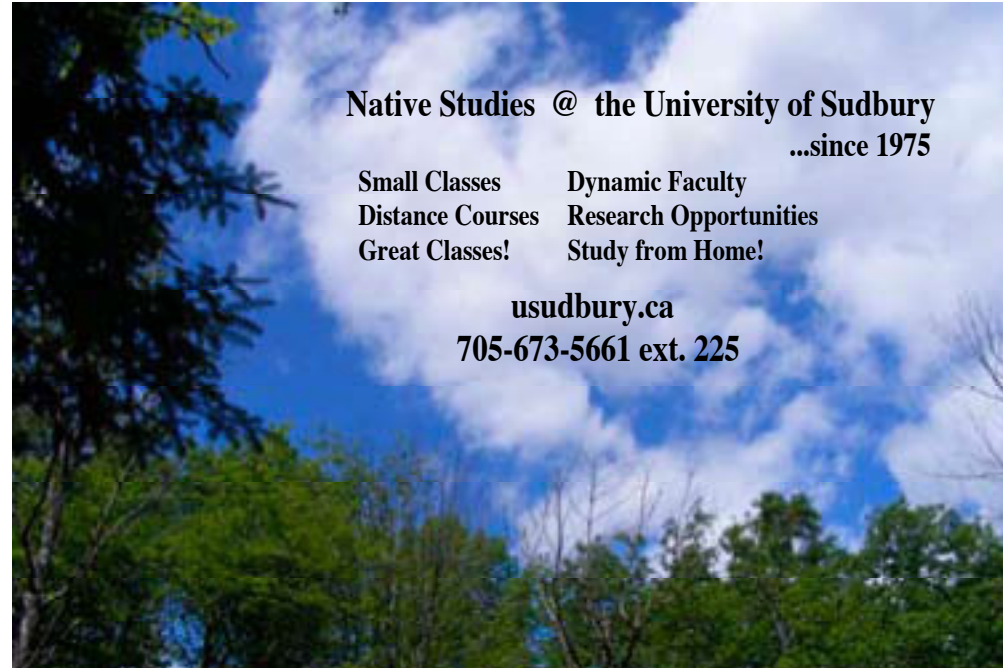
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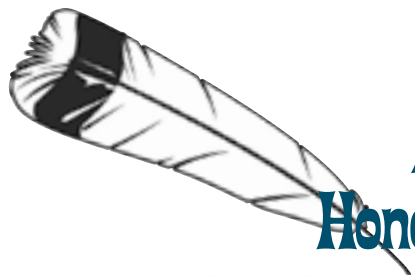
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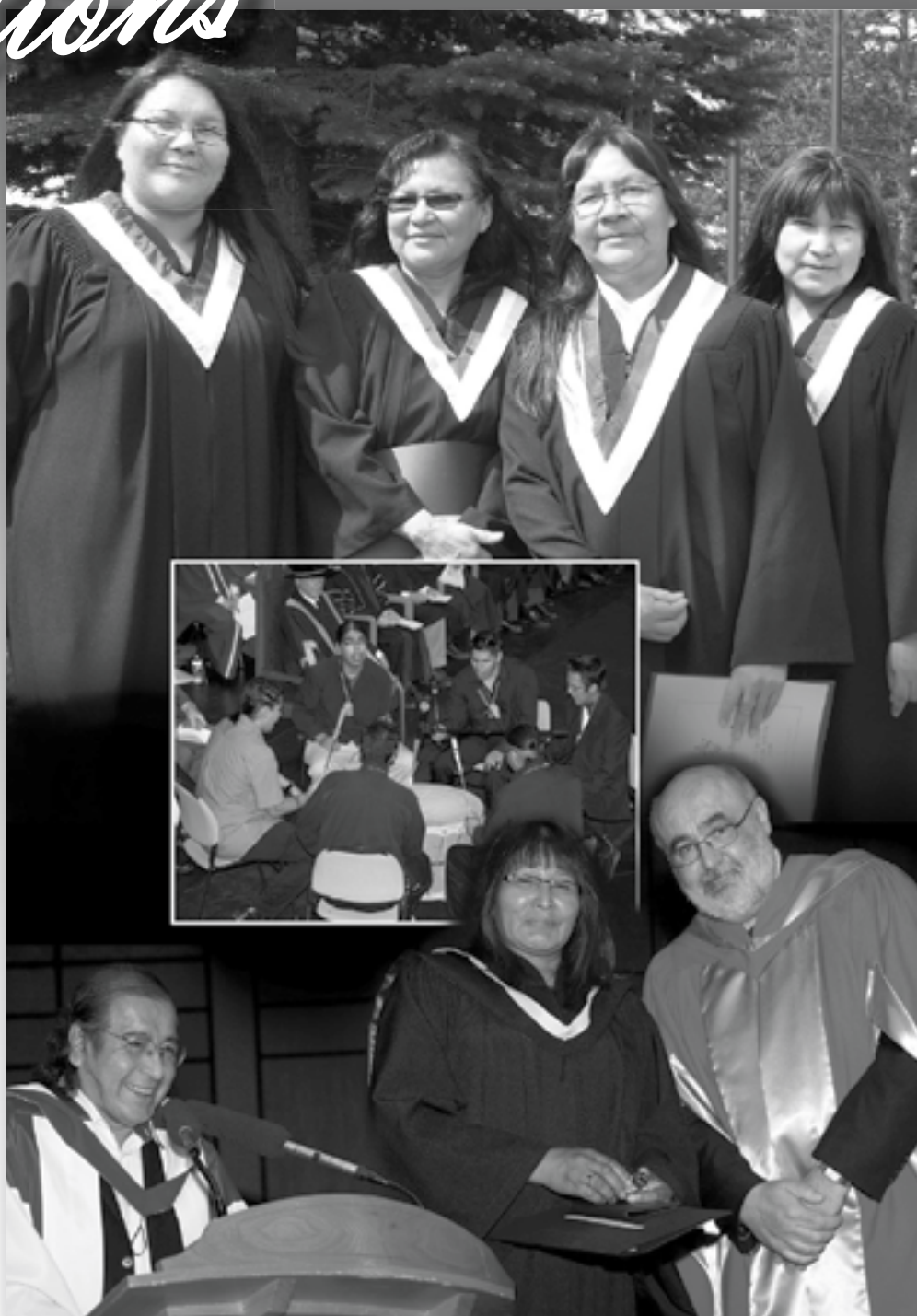


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Kesha McLeod



Good luck in your future endeavours.

From all staff at the Mississauga First Nation Education Department.

Photos not available:

Jordan Bisson

Sonni MacDonald

Dylan Mutch

Chad Boyer

Dillian Boyer

Education

Forever to the Seventh Generation

Success in one area usually leads to success in others

SAULT STE. MARIE – If it can be done, Daphne Belleau can do it.

Originally from Sault Ste. Marie and a citizen of Garden River First Nation, this Sault College graduate makes things happen.

As President of a new group on campus – a chapter of the Aboriginal Student Nursing Association (A.S.N.A.), Daphne has carried a full workload at the College, finished a consolidation placement as a fourth-year nursing student, and is also raising her five-year-old son, Aiden as a single mom.

She is also a mentor to other students.

“I want to help those who might think, somewhere along the journey, that they can’t go on because the program is so difficult,” says Belleau, who has also recently applied to N.O.S.M. – the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, to become a physician. “It’s so important not to ever stop trying... I want to be the one there who says to someone, ‘Keep going – don’t ever give up.’”

Belleau has faced her share of personal challenges and won.

For instance, she has lost a total of 110 pounds from her petite frame over the past five years all on her own through diet and exercise, and has kept it off.

“I realized that food doesn’t have to be an emotional thing. It is fuel for me, nothing more,” she says. She keeps active by taking the stairs, walking and biking whenever possible, and encouraging others to do the same. As a health care provider, she knows all too well the challenges and rewards of being a role model to others.

She also helps others realize their dreams. Belleau gives presentations on change to Sault College students for classes in the health field and was selected to attend the National Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada conference in Edmonton earlier this year with Sault College faculty members, Kay Vallee and Lori Matthews, to share what the College

is doing in the field of Aboriginal Health Care.

“Daphne has made such a difference to the success of the Aboriginal Health and Human Resource Initiative here at the College,” says Lori Matthews, who has helped coordinate the project. “She has demonstrated leadership within the new student group on campus and in so many areas of her life. Even taking on additional responsibility in researching how we could successfully begin the mentoring group.”

“Once you are able to achieve success in one thing, there is no stopping what else you can do because you’ve learned what’s needed to get there,” reflects Belleau. “It’s a continuous cycle. I know I’m meant to help educate and empower people – to bridge the link between the Native and non-Native world,” she adds. “If knowledge is power, then education holds the key to our collective future.”

The birth of her son has been the most significant event for Daphne, and has inspired her to be more. “After Aiden’s birth, I realized all that I wanted him to know and have... all the things I didn’t know or have when I was growing



Daphne Belleau

up. Now, when I go out jogging, he rides his bike alongside me and sees the importance of regular exercise. Then I pull out my textbooks in the evening, and he reads alongside me – in that way, he sees that education is important. My son made me want to be a better person,” she adds.

What makes it all happen? What has led her to this life where she is living her dreams and inspiring others to live theirs? In a word – passion. “Passion is everything,” says Belleau. “I’m passionate about empowering others, I’m passionate about learning, I’m passionate about leading, having a voice, being healthy. Passion is

the key to making everything become real.”

“If sharing my story can help others realize their own potential by discovering their passion, that’s amazing.”

If there’s one thing that’s amazing, it’s Daphne Belleau who was a recipient of the Scotiabank Scholarship presented at this year’s Evening of Excellence Awards staged by the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity.

Find out more about taking a Health program at Sault College by calling 705.759.2554, ext. 2222, or logging onto www.nativeeducation.ca.

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ASK HOLLY

BY HOLLY BRODHAGEN

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Getting attached... to my coffee!

I will say it sheepishly... but truthfully... I am unhealthily attached to coffee. I have finally admitted to myself that my love of coffee has taken me beyond my comfort level. It began the morning I ran out of instant.

Many mornings I begin with a cup of instant. I do not make a pot since I limit myself to one cup of caffeinated beverage a day. On this particular morning I found myself wanting another cup. I rationalized that it was decaf so I could have two.

The next day was the same, and after a week I convinced myself it would be okay to have a caffeinated coffee from a coffee shop along with my two decafs at home. Within a month I was up to half a pot of decaf and, depending on the day, one caffeinated coffee from the shop.

Then the unthinkable, the instant ran out. I thought I had more, but nope, nothing. No perk, no instant. I ripped my cabinet apart and then dove into the camp supplies but no luck. So early that morning I packed up the kids and drove to the store for coffee. As I stood in line it hit me -- I had an unhealthy attachment to coffee.

Please do not think that I am comparing my coffee craving to drug, alcohol or gambling addictions. I understand the difference. But we can become attached to many things that we rationalize as harmless, and don't take it seriously...even though there are consequences.

This is what coffee has become for me. I wake up thinking about it and go to bed thinking about my first cup the following morning. I have a coffee routine and an expectation of coffee when I am out running errands or working. If I don't get my coffee I get a headache and the shakes. This is a problem since I know that coffee is not good for me, especially when I add in the sugar and cream. I find it problematic that my children have taken to playing house and making me a "mommy drink" (that's their code for coffee).

Most of my coffee does get made at home but too often I indulge in my guilty pleasure for a restaurant-bought cup. I have even scrounged around in the car and house looking for coffee money.

Can you relate? Do you run to the coffee shop first thing in the morning and then have a morning and afternoon coffee break? How about the drive home coffee? Maybe you have another habit that might be swinging towards an unhealthy attachment. What are you doing about it?

Personally, I am trying to cut back. Reach for the water instead of the coffee. Limit myself to my one cup a day and try not to replace it with something equally unhealthy.

Wish me luck; I think I am going to need it!

Holly Brodhagen is a citizen of Dokis First Nation, and holds a Master's Degree in Social Work.



AMUN walkers Vivane Michel, Danielle Guay, Sharon McIvor and Michele Audette with son Yocoisie Sioui. The Marche AMUN (Innu word for "great gathering") covered a 500 km trek from Wendake, Quebec on May 4 to Parliament Hill on June 1 to raise awareness about the problems in Bill C-3.

—Photo by Gwen Brodsky

Canada gets time to fix status law

VANCOUVER—The federal government has been granted another extension to fix the Indian Act to comply with the B.C. Court of Appeal ruling that the law violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The B.C. Court of Appeal ruled in April 2009 that two sections of the act discriminate against aboriginal women who married non-aboriginal men and their children because of how it confers Indian status to the women's grandchildren.

The court gave the federal government one year to fix the law, but this past April, Ottawa asked for an extension until July 5.

Now, with Parliament on summer break and the fall session not scheduled to begin until September, the federal government has asked to have until January 31, 2011 to make further changes to Bill C-3.

The B.C. Court of Appeal has agreed to that request, but warned the federal government that a violation of the Charter of Rights is a "serious matter" that must be dealt with quickly.

Changes were tabled in Parliament earlier this year to extend status to the grandchildren of women who married non-aboriginals — a change that could add as many as 45,000 people to the Indian registry.

Until 1985, the Indian Act stripped women who married non-natives of their status, while men kept theirs regardless of who they wed. The act was changed that year to fix that inequity. However, those changes meant that children whose mothers had married non-natives could not, in turn, pass status on to their own children if they also married a non-aboriginal.

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Matrimonial law postponed to fall

OTTAWA — Legislation the federal government claims will help prevent women who live on reserves from losing their homes because of a divorce has received approval from the Senate but must be debated by the House of Commons when it reconvenes in the fall.

Because the Indian Act prohibits non-status spouses from owning property on-reserve, often when these "mixed marriages" dissolve the non-status spouse is unable to obtain equity from the matrimonial home and other marital assets.

Anishinabek Nation Chiefs have approved their own Matrimonial Real Property law, and a number of the 40 Anishinabek communities already have their own MRP laws in place.

"Our women have been very clear about this -- this is about status and citizenship," said Anishinabek Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee. "Our First Nations have the right to define who our citizens are and provide our own solutions."

"Our children will always be the priority, and in most cases, non-status spouses would be considered citizens and be subject to Anishinabek Nation law and citizenship codes."

Health Secretariat

Good Health for Our People



Nbiising Secondary School drum at the Strawberry Moon Conference in North Bay.

Conference a place to share stories

NORTH BAY – In conjunction with Patrick4Life, the Union of Ontario Indians HIV/AIDS Strawberry Moon Conference attracted many youth from around the North Bay area.

Many of the 2,000 participants were there to get educated and hear the stories of those who live with the virus or have lost a loved one.

"The crowd looked like a sea of red shirts dancing along and singing songs in memory of Patrick Fortin who died from the complications of HIV and hepatitis C in 2001 at the age of 23.," says UOI HIV/AIDS coordinator Jody Cotter. "As a severe hemophiliac, he contracted HIV from tainted blood products in the 1980s.

"The provincially recognized and supported Partici-Patrick curriculum promotes student aware-

ness of HIV by linking physical activity and health choices to character development," says Cotter. "The result is greater self-esteem and a sense of accomplishment. The goal is to link physical activity and health choices to character development by completing a 42.2-kilometre marathon over several months.

"Students then joined together for the Day of Champions June 11 at Thomson Park to run the last 2.2 km. We played some games that incorporated education about HIV/AIDS which were put on by the Great Lakes Cultural Camp and Youth for Youth."

Keynote speaker, singer and self-esteem workshop facilitator Susan Aglukark shared her inspirational story and songs to participants.

FASD campaign receives two boosts of support

By Lynda Banning

FORT WILLIAM FN – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) received political attention from two different sources on the same day.

At June's annual general assembly in Fort William, Anishinabek Nation Chiefs passed a resolution to lobby federal and provincial governments to provide Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) travel subsidies to assist First Nation families to access a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) diagnosis. This lifelong disability has many negative consequences which may be improved with proper diagnosis and appropriate services.

Some regional clinics have been closed and clinics located in Toronto are not easy for families living in the north to access. Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) did agree to fund travel for members of the North Shore communities to access diagnostic services at Anishnawbe Health in Toronto. This funding is further limited to referrals made by medical doctors. Although this is very good news, the funding needs to be extended to include referrals made by other important professionals such as nurse practitioners, other First Nation communities, and other diagnostic services like those at Anishnawbe Health Toronto and the Hospital for Sick Children.

On the same day, MP John Rafferty (Thunder Bay-Rainy River) introduced Bill C-532 in the House of Commons. Bill C-532 is an amendment to the Food and Drug Act to assist in the fight against FASD. It would require a warning label be put on alcohol beverages and packaging in Canada about the danger of alcohol use during pregnancy.

The Union of Ontario Indians has begun plans for the 2nd Annual "Honouring Mothers: International FASD Day Mini Pow-Wow". This event will once again be taking place September 9 at Marina Park in Thunder Bay.

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Marchers remember cancer

By Greg Plain

AAMJIWNAANG FN – Community members chose to commemorate National Aboriginal Solidarity Day on June 21 with a cancer-awareness walk along the St. Clair River.

Almost 200 of the 850 Aamjiwnaang residents participated in the procession, and most of the community's family names were represented by 50 white wooden crosses carried by friends or relatives of cancer victims or survivors. Each wooden cross bore a person's name and some were decorated with photos and other personal information.

"Today is a day to bring awareness to the fact that our commu-



Some 200 of Aamjiwnaang's 850 residents participate in cancer awareness walk

nity has been affected by cancer, through all the families that have been touched," said Chief Chris Plain.

The Environment Committee hired local artisan Roger Williams to create a design for the crosses, which incorporated a red, yellow, black and white Medicine Wheel.

The procession started at the Maawn Doosh Gumig (Community Centre) and finished on the

bank of the St. Clair River, where the crosses were planted in the ground to serve as a visible memorial for the next two weeks.

Environmentalists have blamed the First Nation's proximity to Sarnia's notorious Chemical Valley of petro-chemical industry operations for both the high incidence of various illnesses and skewed birth rates.

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Tax exemption for First Nations Citizens

Tax exemption under Ontario HST framework is specific to Status Card holders only.

From July 1 - August 31, 2010

Off-reserve purchases of goods and services **not delivered to reserve:**

- You will be charged the full 13 % HST (8% PST and 5% GST)
- Where HST was charged, keep your receipts for refund of the 8% PST Ontario to provide refund application forms on August 1, 2010. You will need to submit your receipts with form for PST refund - for more information visit www.anishinabek.ca/notax.

Off-reserve purchases of goods and services **delivered to a reserve:**

- You will not be charged the HST (As was before July 1.)
- Not required to submit refund application forms of receipts as NO TAX WAS CHARGED.

September 1 - onward

Off-reserve purchases of goods and services **not delivered to reserve.**

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- You will be charged 5% GST portion of HST (as was before HST implementation day July 1, 2010).

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Background information on point-of-sale tax exemption can be found at:

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