Harper made honourary Blood chief

STANDOFF, ALTA – Prime Minister Stephen Harper has been named an honorary member of the Kainai Chieftainship by the Blood Tribe of Alberta.

“It is a great privilege to be named an honorary Chief of Alberta’s Blood Tribe, a strong and proud First Nation,” said Harper. “I am particularly proud of this honour given it recognizes the efforts that our government has been taking to help preserve the rich culture and heritage of First Nations in Canada while also investing in the future of Aboriginal peoples.”

The honorary Chieftainship was requested by Blood Tribe Chief Charles Wessel Head in response to the apology read in the House of Commons by Harper in 2008 to former students of Indian Residential Schools.

Honorary Chiefs are expected to help promote the cultural pride of the Blackfoot and Kainai and all First Nations. They are expected to maintain the headress with the highest respect and be an available resource to First Nations.

“My family and I are deeply grateful for this gift and I will carry my Blood name, Chief Speaker, with great joy and pride,” added the Prime Minister.

SURPRISE! Reserve water unsafe...Let us raise our own kids

TORONTO – A report commissioned by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development says 72 water treatment plants on First Nations in Ontario are at high risk.

Ontario Regional Chief Angus Toulouse says the results of the National Assessment of Water and Wastewater Systems in First Nation Communities are “a factual statement of the challenges that our people face each and every day. Basic human rights and human dignity are taken for granted by so many, while First Nations people suffer from indifference. “It is also obvious that part of the solution is new and significant investment in First Nations infrastructure and capacity. First Nations leaders expect federal and provincial governments to act on these issues in accordance with human rights standards and their treaty responsibilities with respect to First Nations peoples.”

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee said the report comes as no surprise to any of the 39 communities represented by the Union of Ontario Indians.

“There isn’t likely a single one of our First Nations that doesn’t know what it’s like to live under boil-water advisories. All our communities want is daily access to the same secure source of clean water as the Minister of Indian Affairs’ family enjoys.”

Jobs for youth key priority for Anishinabek

UOI OFFICES – Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee says pursuing economic opportunities for Anishinabek youth will be a priority for the Nation’s leaders when the fall political season gets into full swing.

“We’ve met with the regional leaders, each of our Regional Grand Chiefs, to set priorities for the issues that we’re going to be working on advocacy for our citizens both on and off reserve. These issues include resource benefit-sharing issues that are going to focus primarily on economic development initiatives for our communities,” says the Grand Council Chief in a message to be posted on YouTube. “We want to work on enhancing our Economic Blueprint that we’ve developed here for the Anishinabek Nation.

“One of the things that is going to be really key here is to build capacity for our young people. There are going to be many opportunities that will arise as a result of mining development that’s going to take place in our territories, forestry developments, we’re looking at commercial fishing, a number of other small business development activities that we want to try to push both the federal and provincial governments to support economic stimulus initiatives for our communities. This is going to be one major focus of our Anishinabek nations, to pursue economic stimulus for our communities.”

“The economy is one of four “pillars” that the Grand Council has identified as political priorities. The others are education, health, and governance.

There is a separate YouTube video on how to deal with Ontario businesses not complying with the PST exemption especially regarding take-out food purchases.

IN BRIEF

Act in effect

OTTAWA – First Nations leaders are calling on the federal government to ensure they have adequate capacity to comply with the Canadian Human Rights Act, which was legislated into effect on reserves as of June 18.

Public buildings and housing owned by First Nations will have to comply with the CHRA, including meeting the needs of persons living with physical disabilities.

Tax complaint

To complain about a retailer not honouring the PST exemption off-reserve, please call toll-free, 1-866-668-8297.

Robbie stamped

TORONTO – Cana- Post has issued a stamp featuring Mohawk music legend Robbie Robertson.
Education key topic for round tables at Serpent River

By Lisa Abel

SERPENT RIVER FN—Leaders of Lake Huron Region Anishinabek Nation communities took advantage of a rare face-to-face meeting with an assortment of municipal, provincial and federal government officials to voice concerns about how best to make headway on such cornerstone issues as post-secondary education.

A day-long series of round tables hosted June 22 by Serpent River First Nation provided a regional forum to discuss the proposed new federal action plan for First Nations issues.

Representatives from the Serpent River First Nation, the North Shore Tribal Council, the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitooul, Shingwa Kinoonaage Gamiin and the Atikameksheng First Nation shared their perspectives on the recently-announced Canada-First Nations Joint Action Plan during an afternoon discussion with Joanne Wilkinson, Regional Director General of the Ontario Region of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC).

As part of the Joint Action Plan, AANDC and the Assembly of First Nations will work on four priority areas: education; accountability, transparency, capacity and good governance; economic development; and negotiation and implementation.

Participants pointed out that the plan, which includes a National Panel on First Nation Elementary and Secondary Education, falls short on addressing First Nations concerns.

"We need to get serious, pointed and collective about the issue of post-secondary student support funding," said Chief Isadore Day. "Post-secondary education is part of a lifelong continuum that needs to be a priority."

Marnie Yurchuck, Education Manager at the Mamaweswen North Shore Tribal Council, agreed that the scope of the panel should have been wider, pointing out that in Ontario, both daycares and early learning are included under the Ministry of Education, as well as post-secondary learning.

Furthermore, while the Panel includes the possibility of new legislation to improve governance and accountability for First Nations K-12 education, Yurchuck noted that inequitable funding was the bigger issue: "We have a huge funding gap... and we need the funding now."

With "no new money" coming in, Wilkinson explained that within the federal system, "part of what we need to look at is what do we stop doing? What's the federal role, what's the provincial role, what's the tribal council's role? Being clear on who does what starts to free up some money that can get re-invested."

In terms of governance, Chief Day suggested Tribal Councils could play a larger role in community comprehensive planning.

The AANDC discussion was followed by the arrival of senior bureaucrats from the provincial Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Transportation, Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs as well as local mayors and reeves.

Lori Sterling, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs said that having Deputy Ministers visit Serpent River in person was important because the Ontario Government "encourages every Ministry to take an Aboriginal lens to their day-to-day work."

The relationship between the municipality of Elliot Lake and the Serpent River First Nation — the two signed a Memorandum of Agreement in 2007 to collaborate on community priorities — is an example to all other municipalities" on how to work together, Sterling said.

Participants discussed the distribution of Crown lands, land use planning and urban boundaries, and relationships between municipalities and First Nations.

"First Nations want to participate in regional economic development," said Chief Day. "Our strategy, moving forward, will be to assert our economic jurisdiction in discussing what happens in our territory."
**Sarnia skaters get their wish**

By Greg Plain

AAMIWNAANG FN – Youth in this Sarnia-area First Nation finally got their wish. Chief Chris Plain was on hand July 7 to assist in the opening of the brand new Skate and Bike Park.

“After years of work and the youth asking over and over again for a park to be created, we are proud today to bring that dream to life. These kids have pushed me to create this park for them and we worked very hard as a council and community to make it a reality.”

The $225,000 state-of-the-art facility is the result of years of consultation with community youth. About 100 community members were on hand for the official opening to see the new park and hear a presentation about bike and skateboard safety by Const. Chris Moxley of the Sarnia Police department.

---

**‘Anything can be a picture’**

By Christine McFarlane and Marci Becking

TORONTO – More than 50 youth took part in an Aboriginal Youth Photograph Exhibit which showcases their images and stories in an online gallery www.inmyowneyes.ca at the CN Tower of Toronto’s Skyquest Theatre on National Aboriginal Day.

“I heard about this opportunity through a friend of mine and was invited,” says 16-year-old Thailia Sarazin, citizen of Algonquins of Pimikowin, living in North Bay. “I was allowed a camera to take abstract pictures of my life and I returned the camera the next day. I was also asked to make a video and used the pictures with the story.”

Sisters Summer, 9, and Eden Beaudin, 11, from M’Chigeeng First Nation also took part in the project. “Anything can be a picture if you think it is,” says Summer. “I like to take pictures of mostly anything that comes up in front of my eyes,” says Eden. “I like to try to get a different aspect of the figure and play with shadows.”

---

**Henvey chief gets headdress**

HENVEY INLET FN – Chief Wayne McQuabbie was presented with a headdress June 13, the first such ceremony in the community in over a century. Council said the headdress honored his positive leadership style over the past five years.

---

**Competing with respect**

CHIPPEWAS OF THAMES – Some 350 athletes and coaches from Aamjiwnaang, Bkejwanong, Kettle Point, Oneida, Munsee, New Credit, Moravian, and Can-Am Friendship centre participated in the June 15 Native Youth Olympics.

---

**Runners see turtle**

TORONTO – The tradition of walking and running along the Toronto Carrying Place continued with the Second Annual 4K Walk / Run June 11 at Etienne Brule Park beside the Humber River. Participants were blessed by the sight of herons, a deer and a turtle.

---

**Dreamcatcher helps**

Greg Brown, a coach at Top Glove boxing in Sudbury, was able to participate in the 2010 World Championships in Kansas City, Missouri, thanks to a $1500 donation from the Dreamcatcher Foundation.
Fire helps us understand what’s really important

Richard Wagamese

There was a fire on a nearby mountain. The weather has been hot. Desert hot.

The fire risk has been extreme and everyone in our community has been edgy, watching the skyline for signs of smoke and worried for their homes.

It was only six years ago that horrendous fires swept through this part of the B.C. Interior and devastated everything. People have trouble forgetting things like that. The recollection of it smolders in your memory for a long, long time, and the heat of this summer brought those memories even closer.

So when the heat lightning struck the mountain and tell-tale spirals of smoke curled up, everyone was anxious. We drove down to the lakefront and neighbors were sitting on their docks eying the smoke and the helicopters that appeared to survey the situation.

For us, they were tense hours. We have come to love our home in the mountains and the idea of losing it to fire was hard. When it looked like the possibility was real we began to make a plan.

The first thing was to protect our vital papers. Then we saved our computer files to disk. We took photos of everything in the house for insurance purposes. As I did that Debra packed a suitcase with clothes and things we’d need if we were evacuated.

As we did all that, as we pared the list of things that were vital to us down to what we could carry, it occurred to us that we actually needed very little. Sure, the house was filled with stuff: furniture, a stereo, television, art, books, music and all the other usual accouterments of living – but we really needed, what was truly valuable to us, was actually very little.

Our wedding pictures, legal documents, personal keepsakes were the first things in the bags. That says something. It points to the things of the heart – not big shiny expensive things. In then end, those are the things that count, those are the things that make life worthwhile.

The fire never caught. Heavy rain came and doused things. We woke in the morning to disk. We took photos of everything in the house for insurance purposes. As I did that Debra packed a suitcase with clothes and things we’d need if we were evacuated.

As we did all that, as we pared the list of things that were vital to us down to what we could carry, it occurred to us that we actually needed very little. Sure, the house was filled with stuff: furniture, a stereo, television, art, books, music and all the other usual accoutrements of living – but we really needed, what was truly valuable to us, was actually very little.

Our wedding pictures, legal documents, personal keepsakes were the first things in the bags. That says something. It points to the things of the heart – not big shiny expensive things. In then end, those are the things that count, those are the things that make life worthwhile.

The fire never caught. Heavy rain came and doused things. We woke in the morning to make a plan.
Maanda ndinendam /Opinion

Letters

Eastlink and PST runaround

I just got off the phone with Eastlink regarding my taxation issue. It has still yet to be resolved, but don't worry they are resubmitting it today! This has been going on since last August!

I did get them to promise to pay retro, only when I received the bill only 3 of the 6 months was credited. Today I got the same runaround and had to start going up the ladder again.

To make long story short they have again promised this will be resolved. I feel like they keep offering me treats. Supposedly I will be compensated retroactively and they even offered a credit amounting to $12. Wow! I told them I just want to be treated fairly. It's not so much about the money as the principle. What good are these rights our leaders fight for if we don't use them?

I am a highly-educated person and can usually take care of business no problem. What about our people who cannot fight these corporations? If we didn't have the Union who would stand up for their rights?

Oh well here I sit waiting for the next step. Not sure what else to do. The Ministry of Revenue I guess is not following up on their complaints. Eastlink is in the treaty business and me, well I believe the Creator is making this a test of patience and humility. So the story plays on.

Mark King

Apology needs action

Excerpted from remarks made by Jamie Scott, United Church of Canada’s General Council Officer: Residential Schools at June 20 KAIROS “Roll with the Declaration” event in Ottawa.

The United Church is pleased that the Canadian government endorsed the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples last fall, as we were pleased when the Prime Minister made an apology to former students of residential schools three years ago. It is time now to breathe life into those words. While we are encouraged by the recent announcement of the Joint Action Plan between the government and the Assembly of First Nations and by the renewed work on the specific land claims process, we will not be satisfied until the words of the Declaration issue in concrete action.

So we join with other KAIROS members to call for action to address inequities in educational funding; to provide for clean, safe drinking water; to address deplorable living conditions; to create a fair and speedy land-claims process; to acknowledge the historic injustices of the past and present, and to implement the rights specified in the Declaration.

Jamie Scott

Parks passes free

Have you received your free My Parks Pass yet?

Any Grade 8 students, including home schooled students who were missed during the distribution, can request a My Parks Pass through the Parks Canada National Information Service at 1-888-773-8888 or information@pc.gc.ca.

As Canadians, we are remarkably fortunate to have abundant opportunities to connect with nature. For so many of us, some of our favourite childhood memories involve being outdoors – and children today can still have those same memorable moments. So I encourage you to use the My Parks Pass, get outside and have fun!

Ian Davidson

Executive Director, Nature Canada

Royal visit reminds us of treaties

The big news this summer was that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge were in Ottawa for Canada’s 144th birthday. The visit was extra special because it is William and Catherine’s first official tour as a married couple. Prime Minister Harper said that it is “a testament to our country’s close relationship with the Crown and Royal Family, and an opportunity for all Canadians to take pride in our traditions, history, and institutions.”

Many Canadians do not realize, though, that there is a unique legal and symbolic relationship between the British sovereignty and the First Nations of this country.

It began with Canada’s colonial history; specifically, its need for treaty-making with the Native nations in order to legitimize an internationally recognized claim to the lands they were occupying and planning to occupy, and to establish formal imperial rule. Treaties were then signed during the 19th century between the British Crown and the indigenous peoples; they are the basis for the special ties that are represented by Britain’s Royal Family.

To this day, First Nations people, including lead- ers, honour those treaties but see that residual rights are still held by the Crown.

One of Prince William’s responsibilities, when he ascends the throne, will be as the representative of these treaties, and this is widely recognized among Native people today.

Anita Olsen Harper recently received a PhD in education with an emphasis on history, from the University of Ottawa.

By Damien Lee

The Indians- Ireland's top show band

Describing themselves as “Ireland’s Top Show Band”, ‘The Indians’ stereotypical flavour has drawn plenty of comments to their website and Facebook page. One disgusted browser suggested everyone “dress up like leprechauns and vomit green beer to “honour” their (real or imagined) Irish roots.

Windpower: progress not just profit

By Damien Lee

Last week, I stood on top of the mountain in the centre of Fort William First Nation, overlooking Lake Superior, the city of Thunder Bay, and my reserve. Our mountain is called Anemki Wadijw, and is a place where the Thunder Birds visit. Thunder Bay is named for the big thunders that come through our place every year, with all their power. Standing on top of our mountain at sunrise, I saw not only my home, but my community’s territory. Much of our territory is currently occupied by industrial projects that serve Canadian interests. At this moment, a new project is threatening to get underway on top of the very mountains I was standing on.

In May 2011, Horizon Wind Inc. became the latest project proponent to position itself as a would-be colonist, acting within provincial laws in their attempt to occupy the traditional territory of Fort Wil- liam First Nation.

With their “Big Thunder Wind Park” project planned to butt-up immediately next to my reserve, Horizon Wind Inc. purports to have all the answers to my community’s concerns. People in my community move throughout our territory to hunt moose, to fish and to renew spiritual relationships. The land proposed to become a wind park is no different. We have a relationship with that land that transcends the need for electricity. And I think the moose would agree.

Our resistance to such projects is not about jocke- sying for a better deal or to protect what our place merely looks like; our resistance is our self-determi- nation in action. own Eurocentric worldviews.

Damien Lee is a Fort William FN citizen currently completing a Masters of Arts degree at the University of Victoria’s Indigenous Governance program.

The Indians Ireland's top show band

Anishinabek News

July-August 2011

Page 5
Hard work, healing help Buck

TORONTO – Buck Neshkiwe stands six feet tall and weighs 301 pounds. He would make a formidable opponent, but would rather give out hugs.

“When I was a kid, I thought of First Nations people as ‘not real,’” says Neshkiwe. “But then I realized that they are real people, just like me.”

With both parents being from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, the move back to Manitoulin Island was easy for them, but not for their six-year-old daughter. She made friends, but was always the feeling of not fitting in, leaving Lena with a yearning to serve, the move back to Manitoulin Island was easy for them, but else she’s going to grow up,” she says.

In Wikwemikong, Neshkiwe worked 30 different jobs from the ages of 18 to 35. His resume includes stints working at restaurant drive-thru counters, plumbing, carpet cleaning, and auto-part warehouses. Working 18-hour days was normal for Neshkiwe, who says he worked hard and party hard.

“I could have everything a bachelor wanted but I wasn’t happy,” he says.

When he reached the age of 35, Neshkiwe says: “I knew I needed some kind of healing. I knew the importance of work but I didn’t know how to take care of my well-being.”

In 2008 he enrolled himself in the three-month Apanenmowinmen “Having Confidence In Myself” Program at the Sagatay “New Beginning” facility in Toronto. Developing skills and confidence in communication, problem solving, traditional studies, employment skills, healthy living, and personal identity, Neshkiwe passed with flying colours.

He started attending sweat lodge ceremonies once a week, became a helper to Elders and sweat conductors, and learned to sing and drum.

After confronting and body-checking his demons, Neshkiwe started thinking about furthering his studies. “It feels good to wake up and face the music. I knew I had emotional intelligence. I just had to get book knowledge.”

Entering in the Transitional Year Program at University of Toronto, Neshkiwe supplemented his hard work ethic with his newfound spirituality and dove into his studies, graduating in the fall of 2011.

“I never thought I could believe in myself,” says Buck Neshkiwe. “I can say that I’m a good man now. I can say that I’m on a good path.”

Stickmen started art career

TORONTO – Artist Lindy Kinoshameg has been improving on his “stickmen” since the age of five.

That’s when he started painting as a child in Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, enjoying full support from parents Rosella and Jim.

“I may not have been good at it initially...but they would buy me all the paper I needed...” says Buck Neshkiwe.

Stickmen have evolved into real humans after kinoshameg’s paintings were showcased by First Nations House at the University of Toronto this fall. “There was a lot of mental anguish.”

Buck Neshkiwe ready to tackle university studies.
Summertime entrepreneurs

By Eden Beaudin

What are you doing this summer? Why not become an entrepreneur?

Lots of great ideas are right in front of you, things you could do.

The first step on becoming an entrepreneur is to decide what you are going to do. To make it easier, do something you are good at. If you’re good at baking, organize a bake sale. If you’re good at building things, arrange a home goods sale. There are also book sales, yard sales, clothing sales, and many more. (A clothing sale is when you design and make or fix your clothes. Like a designer!)

The second step is to set a date and time. Good dates are always on Saturdays!

The third step is to plan out and start building/baking/making your items for sale. If you were doing a bake sale, you would want to make your items the day before or the day of your sale. If you were building something you could actually start whenever you wanted to, even weeks ahead of time. You could also start whenever you wanted for your yard sale or clothing sale.

After you are finished building/making your items you can start advertising. Making posters with important information on it like the date, time and place, what kind of sale it is, where it is, and an eye-catching start or conclusion. Here is an example: “Come and get some freshly-squeezed lemonade!” When you are completed with your posters hang them up. You could hang them up at places where people like to gather, such as your local grocery store, general store, community complex, and post office.

The fifth step is to bring a table out onto your lawn, put up your big sign, some balloons to get people’s attention, put the items on your table, get out a change box, and wait for customers.

Your last step is to find out what you are doing to do with your money: save it, donate it, or spend it. How about setting up a bank account?

Munsee creates 2-in-1 centre

By Sherry Huff

MUNSEE DELAWARE – This southwestern Ontario First Nation community is proving that a little ingenuity -- combined with an entrepreneurial spirit -- can go a long way.

On June 3rd Munsee-Delaware celebrated the grand opening of a new Small Business Centre, a unique facility that also houses a community centre which is not expected to cost the community a dime.

Chief Patrick Waddilove says Munsee has never had a community centre. People have been forced to organize large gatherings outside on the community’s powwow grounds, or rent a hall off the Nation. Waddilove says both scenarios are inconvenient because one is weather-dependent, the other requires access to transportation.

Waddilove searched other communities for ideas on how to build an affordable community centre. But none could be applied to a community the size of Munsee Delaware, which occupies 4.33 square miles about 25 km. southwest of London, Ont.

“We’re a small Nation and we can’t afford to run in the red. The bottom line was that we needed a centre to create jobs and generate an income,” says the Chief, estimating that it can cost up to $50,000 to operate and maintain a community centre on an annual basis, a hefty price tag for a community with 150 on-reserve residents of a total 550 citizens.

Waddilove got together with London-area consultant, Walter Kornas of the Zarex Business Centre, who had been helping Munsee develop a Small Business Centre. The two realized that with a few design changes, Munsee Delaware’s Small Business Centre could incorporate a community centre at a fraction of the cost to build a separate facility. The income from the Small Business Centre could cover the operational costs of the Community Centre.

“The beauty of this is that the revenue generated from the rent at the Small Business Centre is enough to cover the costs of Munsee’s Community Centre. There may even be a profit, once all the tenants are in,” says Kornas.

The Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs supported the multi-use facility proposal, by contributing nearly $1 million. More than $2 million came from the Nation’s Charity Corporation which is funded by the community’s gaming facility, Paradise Bingo.

Tenants of the Small Business Centre include offices for Paradise Bingo, the Mixed Waste Processing Facility, Munsee Tree Corporation, Mnaasged Child and Family Services and the Anishinabek Educational Institute. A restaurant and gift shop are also planned for the future.

The community centre itself is now operational, with various programs and services underway. The new facility also created a job for a facilities manager.

“It’s an overwhelming feeling of accomplishment for us as Nation,” says Waddilove, “and it won’t cost the Nation anything.”

Bingo re-opens its doors

MUNSEE-DELAWARE FN – Paradise Bingo is once again open for business.

The grand re-opening took place on June 25 after the community-owned gaming facility had been closed since May 16 due to a fire that caused minor damage.

Local police and fire officials determined the fire to be accidental.

Paradise Board President, Jody Waddilove says a bingo hall employee unknowingly placed some paper on top of an ashcan.

“It’s taken several weeks to make the repairs and get Paradise Bingo ready to open its doors, but the hall looks great and our customers will notice some changes in operations,” says Waddilove.

Paradise Bingo is under new management, with a new board of directors.

Waddilove says the gaming facility is eager to get back to work and it made the bingo destination a neighbourhood of choice for many people in the region when it first opened in 2007.

Paradise Bingo is owned and operated by the Munsee Delaware Nation.

The gaming facility is having a tremendous impact on the local economy and is ultimately helping the Munsee Delaware Nation secure a brighter future.

It employs more than 20 full-time people from Munsee Delaware, as well as surrounding First Nations.

A portion of the profits generated at Paradise Bingo help support local charities and community groups, with a special focus on supporting youth and their pursuit extra-curricular activities.

Master canoe-maker plays with full deck

By Marcia Becking

TIMISKAMING – Europeans brought a lot of things with them to North America –including their card games.

Artist and master birch-bark canoe builder Chris Wabie started designing his own Native playing cards four years ago when he discovered that he was not the only Ojibwe to do so.

Wabie got together with London-area consultant, Walter Kornas of the Zarex Business Centre, who had been helping Munsee develop a Small Business Centre. The two realized that with a few design changes, Munsee Delaware’s Small Business Centre could incorporate a community centre at a fraction of the cost to build a separate facility. The income from the Small Business Centre could cover the operational costs of the Community Centre.

“The beauty of this is that the revenue generated from the rent at the Small Business Centre is enough to cover the costs of Munsee’s Community Centre. There may even be a profit, once all the tenants are in,” says Kornas.

The Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs supported the multi-use facility proposal, by contributing nearly $1 million. More than $2 million came from the Nation’s Charity Corporation which is funded by the community’s gaming facility, Paradise Bingo.

Tenants of the Small Business Centre include offices for Paradise Bingo, the Mixed Waste Processing Facility, Munsee Tree Corporation, Mnaasged Child and Family Services and the Anishinabek Educational Institute.

A restaurant and gift shop are also planned for the future.

The community centre itself is now operational, with various programs and services underway. The new facility also created a job for a facilities manager.

“It’s an overwhelming feeling of accomplishment for us as Nation,” says Waddilove, “and it won’t cost the Nation anything.”

Chris Wabie

For more information visit www.nanabushplayingcards.com
Overall I think that we are an accessible society, intent on making lives easier for people with disabilities.

We have laws and regulations for public places to make them accessible, whether it is with automatic doors, ramps and wider doors, or larger bathroom stalls with supportive railings. There is Braille on bank machines and telephone services for the hearing impaired. Wherever you go in a public place you can usually see some sign of an attempt to be accessible. I thought that we had made huge advances to make the day-to-day world run a bit smoother for people with disabilities.

But, as I was informed by a family member of a person with a disability, we might not be thinking small enough when it comes to accessibility.

This discussion took place over an Internet terminal at a store. She commented how the small terminals used by stores differ in size, types of key pads and even how or where to swipe or insert your card.

Not having a disability, I couldn’t quite figure out the problem. Numbers on keypads are generally in the same order with maybe a few others thrown in for account selection. She quickly set me straight. Her father is losing his eyesight but he still tries to maintain his independence and has problems using key pads because the button shapes and positions vary from store to store. She finds it frustrating that there is no consistency with technology, instead he has to risk his privacy and information by asking for help.

Since that discussion I have tried to pick out other objects or places where accessibility is an issue. It is difficult for me to identify problems because I have no personal experience with accessibility. So I thought about daily activities that might pose problems, and brought to mind questions about how technology is being adapted to be accessible to everyone. When we make advances in handheld devices, are models made to be accessible not just for the hearing and visually impaired but also people who have a physical limitation that would make touch screens and small buttons a concern? As companies fight to make products the smallest possible are they also considering that there is no consistency with technology? Instead he has to risk his privacy and information by asking for help.

This will be an ongoing investigation. As I think or experience something that makes me think about accessibility, I will search for an alternative or adaptation that could address the problem.

Have you noticed something that would limit access for a person with a disability – maybe an object, item or place with limited access for someone with a disability? I welcome your observations and would like to hear of your experiences of limited accessibility or success stories where someone has gone above and beyond to make accessibility a priority.

ASK HOLLY

BY HOLLY BRODHAGEN

ashkoholly@gmail.com

Make it accessible

Abused woman shares experience

By Emilie Corbiere

Growing up, I was a happy child, at least I thought I was. Back in the seventies, domestic violence and alcoholism were the norm in my family. My mother was beaten by my father and my aunt was beaten by my uncle, etc...So it should have come to no surprise that I would eventually fall in their footsteps.

But as I entered my late teens, I met a man who was five years older than myself. He was so cool, he didn't go to school anymore, he had a job and his own place. We dated for a little while and then decided to live together. It was going pretty good. I got a job where he worked and for the next five years we would work and live together. He didn't really like my family and although he would swear up and down that he did, I could see it in his face. My family wasn't too crazy about him either, that little (shoganoosh) white guy.

In our fifth and last year together, he started changing, doing drugs and drinking more than usual, which brought out a side of him that I'd never seen before. It all started with a shove here and a shove there, no big deal, I thought. Then the shoves escalated into full blown punches. How did I get here? I shove up and down that I would never end up like my mom or auntie, yet here I was.

Shortly after the abuse started, my mom passed away suddenly from a massive heart attack. The shock of that left me in a coma like state for two weeks straight. Before her death, I was afraid to leave my abuser because I didn't think that I could make it on my own. I had no self-esteem at all and I'm certain that's exactly the way that he wanted it. After her mom's death, she came to me in dreams and it was like a wake-up call. I woke up one morning like a totally different person. That same day, I made arrangements to leave that abusive situation and stay with family. I was very difficult, don't get me wrong. I left with no money, no job and just a duffel bag full of belongings but I had the love of my family to keep me going.

Now in the year 2011, I have been blessed with a wonderful family of my own, including a wonderful husband, who would never lay his hands upon a woman and two beautiful boys. I know that my boys will grow up to never strike a woman and that makes me happy.

I am now the published author of three aboriginal children's books. With the help of my cousin, we wrote and illustrated the porcupine series together.

Visit www.porcupineandfriends.com

Maltreatment of First Nation children remains high: Blackstock

MONCTON, N.B. – As the number of maltreatment cases of First Nations children remains high, a call to ensure their welfare was made on the last day of the 32nd annual general assembly of the Assembly of First Nations.

Presenters brought everyone up to speed on a case currently on appeal in the Federal Court alleging that the Government of Canada is racially discriminating against First Nations children by providing less benefits under child welfare laws.

A complaint was originally filed with the Canadian Human Rights Commission in 2007 by the AFN and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, but the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ultimately agreed with the government’s argument and dismissed the case this past March.

Society executive-director Cindy Blackstock urged all First Nations people to follow the appeal very closely, telling them that “the emergency is right now.”

“Children have never been more First Nations children in child welfare care than at this moment,” she said. “We have the chance to stop this. That's what this case is about.”

Blackstock said there has been a serious lack of funds coming from the federal government to finance programs that would prevent maltreatment and help families stay strong so that they can care for their children. She indicated that the government has not recognized that the needs are different for Aboriginal children and families.

Cindy Blackstock

HOME CHILDCARE PROVIDERS NEEDED

We are an Aboriginal Agency Providing Licensed Home Child Care to the First Nation Community of Ottawa, and WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!

We believe that child care is one of the most important & rewarding careers you can have.

As a provider working from your home you would be a vital partner with our agency & parents to provide the best possible experience for children.

1st Nations, Inuit or Metis heritage an asset

APTN can broadcast

Federal Court Chief Justice Allan Le Cluyt has set aside Tribunal Chair Chotalia’s decision to not permit broadcasting of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations child welfare. For more information visit www.tncfes.com/news.

Sweetgrass Home Child Care Agency

Call Alison today!

613-722-3811 ext. 234

50th wedding anniversary at the UCCM True Roots Gathering in Sheguindah.

–Photo by Laura Liberty

Elders Rita and Eric Corbiere
New FASD Diagnostic Clinic

SUDBURY – Families seeking services for children affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) will now have access to the very best in diagnostic services, thanks to the hard work of four First Nation organizations and Sudbury Regional Hospital.

The new FASD Diagnostic Clinic is the first of its kind in Northern Ontario and is situated in the Pediatric Centre of the Sudbury Regional Hospital. It means that families in the Manitoulin, North Shore and Sudbury Region will no longer have to go to Toronto for diagnosis and treatment.

“We are extremely proud of playing a role in this groundbreaking initiative that will enable us to develop and launch specialized care to meet the needs of all children, both Native and non-native,” said Deputy Grand Chief Glen Hare, of the Anishinabek Nation, at the grand opening on June 14th.

The opening of this clinic has been the dream of project partners: Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre, Noojinwin, Teg, North Shore Tribal Council and the Union of Ontario Indians since launching their FASD programs in 2002.

Currently opened under pilot project status, the clinic will service 20-25 families this fiscal year. As FASD, is the number one cause of preventable birth defects worldwide, it is the hoped that the clinic will receive long-term funding to enable it to become a permanent part of the Sudbury Regional Hospital’s pediatric unit.

Parent Shelley MacKewn, whose adopted daughter Hope, 5, was diagnosed with partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, last October, said the clinic is badly needed in the North.

L to R: Shannon Dowdall-Smith (Sudbury Regional Hospital), Tracey Clark (Health Canada), Holly Johnston (North Shore Tribal Council), Carol Anne Cheechoo (Shkagamik-Kwe), Shelley MacKewn (parent), Tony Jocko (UOI), Deputy Grand Chief Glen Hare (UOI), Dr. Sean Murray, Laurie McLeod-Shabogesic (UOI), Dan Garcia (Noojominwin Teg), Chantal Gaudreau (Sudbury Regional Hospital), Angela Recollet (Shkagamik-Kwe), Gloria Daybulch (North Shore Tribal Council) and Priscilla Southwind (North Shore Tribal Council).

“Having this clinic brings hope, understanding, support,” she said. “To have this diagnosis and early treatment means my daughter will be successful. She will reach her potential.”

FASD is a term used to describe a very complex and broad range of effects that can occur in a person whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. Children referred to the new FASD Diagnostic Clinic will be assessed and diagnosed based on a number of criteria, including brain structure, cognition, communication, academic achievement, memory, reasoning, attention deficit/hyperactivity and social skills. Children with a positive diagnosis of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome will be seen monthly for treatment.

“It’s not just a Native issue,” said Angela Recollet, executive director of Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre. “It’s a problem that has affected people all over the globe. I think collectively, we have to look at how we can help all affected people.”

“It is imperative that Northern families have access to such critical services,” said Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare. “"The work we are doing today will have long-term results tomorrow. The kids will be happy. The parents will be happy.”

M’Chigeeng Water Safety Program

M’Chigeeng’s Water Safety Swim Program is run through the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy, Community Wellness Worker Program since 1990. Since this time the program has encouraged youth to attain instructor accreditation. Previously, swim instructors and lifeguards needed to be hired off-reserve. Back row: Certified Swim Instructor Phoeinx McGregor, certified Lifeguard Jordon Cody Ense, certified Swim Instructor Buffy Beaudin. Font row: youth currently in Swim Instructor program Justice Corbiere, Faith Beaudin and Tyler Harvey.
Debenjiged gii’saan anishinaaben akiing giibi dgwon gaad-eni mnidoo waadiziwin.

Creator placed the Anishinabe on the earth along with the gift of spirituality.

Shkode, nibi, aki, noodin, giibi dgosdoonan wii naagdowendmang maanpii shkagmigaang.

Here on Mother Earth, there were gifts given to the Anishinabe to look after: fire, water, earth and wind.

Debenjiged gii miinaan gechtwaa wendaagog Anishinaaben waa naagdoonjin ninda niizhwaaswi kino maadwinan.

The Creator also gave the Anishinabe seven sacred gifts to guide them. They are:

Zaagidwin, Debwewin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwaakaawin, Dbaadendiziwin, Gwekwaadziwin miinwa Aakedhewin.

Love, Truth, Respect, Wisdom, Humility, Honesty and Bravery.

Debenjiged kiimiingona dedbinwe wi naagdowendiwin.

Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves.

Ka mnaadendanaa gaabi zhiwebag miinwaa nango megwaa ezhwebag, miinwa geyaabi waa ni zhiwebag.

We respect and honour the past, present and future.

By Mary Laronde

A Declaration of Commitment to Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe was attached to Resolution 2011/04 of the same title and signed by 25 Chiefs to indicate their commitment to continue with the development of the constitution, now called Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe.

Additionally, the Chiefs committed themselves to specified timeframes to prepare a detailed work plan by July 8 and to ratify and proclaim the constitution at the 2012 Grand Council.

Taking the lead, the Chiefs Committee on Governance (CCoG) invited those Chiefs who were most adamant that the adoption of the Anishinabek Nation constitution be deferred, as well as other Chiefs, to attend a special caucus on June 13, during the evening prior to the All Ontario Chiefs Conference in Toronto.

The purpose of the caucus was to strike an Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe Steering Committee that would draft the work plan to send to all Anishinabek Chiefs by July 8 and receive their input into the draft plan.

The steering committee would also play an oversight role as the plan is implemented over the coming year. Councillor Arnold May of Nipissing Nation, representing Chief Marianna Couchie, attended the caucus meeting.

Under the guidance of Chief Isadore Day, Chairperson of the CCoG, direction was given to include one representative from each of the Elders’, Women’s, and Youth Nation Building Councils in the new steering committee.

To recruit Chiefs to the Steering Committee, Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee requested appointments from each Region.

Members of the Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe Steering Committee are: Elsie Bissaillon (Elders’ Council); Arlene Barry (Women’s Council); Arnold Yellowman (Youth Council); Chief Bart Hardy (Northern Superior); Chief Xavier Thompson (Northern Superior); Chief Craig Abotossaway (Lake Huron); Councillor Arnold May – Nipissing (Lake Huron) Chief Elizabeth Cloud (Southwest); Chief Chris Plain (Southwest); Chief Keith Knott (Southeast); and Chief Jim Marsden (Southeast).

**ROJ youth survey results**

Anishinabek Nation youth were surveyed at the Buzz on Drugs conference in Peterborough, on May 27-29. Thirty youth respondents from various communities of the Anishinabek Nation took part in the survey, answering questions related to the Anishinabek Nation and the Restoration of Jurisdiction process. The data collected from the survey will be used to improve communication, participation and awareness levels among Anishinabek Nation youth.

**Guiding Principles**

Debenjiged gii’saan anishinaaben akiing giibi dgwon gaad-eni mnidoo waadiziwin.

Creator placed the Anishinabe on the earth along with the gift of spirituality.

Shkode, nibi, aki, noodin, giibi dgosdoonan wii naagdowendmang maanpii shkagmigaang.

Here on Mother Earth, there were gifts given to the Anishinabe to look after: fire, water, earth and wind.

Debenjiged gii miinaan gechtwaa wendaagog Anishinaaben waa naagdoonjin ninda niizhwaaswi kino maadwinan.

The Creator also gave the Anishinabe seven sacred gifts to guide them. They are:

Zaagidwin, Debwewin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwaakaawin,
Dbaadendiziwin, Gwekwaadziwin miinwa Aakedhewin.

Love, Truth, Respect, Wisdom, Humility, Honesty and Bravery.

Debenjiged kiimiingona dedbinwe wi naagdowendiwin.

Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves.

Ka mnaadendanaa gaabi zhiwebag miinwaa nango megwaa ezhwebag, miinwa geyaabi waa ni zhiwebag.

We respect and honour the past, present and future.

By Mary Laronde

A Declaration of Commitment to Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe was attached to Resolution 2011/04 of the same title and signed by 25 Chiefs to indicate their commitment to continue with the development of the constitution, now called Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe.

Additionally, the Chiefs committed themselves to specified timeframes to prepare a detailed work plan by July 8 and to ratify and proclaim the constitution at the 2012 Grand Council.

Taking the lead, the Chiefs Committee on Governance (CCoG) invited those Chiefs who were most adamant that the adoption of the Anishinabek Nation constitution be deferred, as well as other Chiefs, to attend a special caucus on June 13, during the evening prior to the All Ontario Chiefs Conference in Toronto.

The purpose of the caucus was to strike an Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe Steering Committee that would draft the work plan to send to all Anishinabek Chiefs by July 8 and receive their input into the draft plan.

The steering committee would also play an oversight role as the plan is implemented over the coming year. Councillor Arnold May of Nipissing Nation, representing Chief Marianna Couchie, attended the caucus meeting.

Under the guidance of Chief Isadore Day, Chairperson of the CCoG, direction was given to include one representative from each of the Elders’, Women’s, and Youth Nation Building Councils in the new steering committee.

To recruit Chiefs to the Steering Committee, Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee requested appointments from each Region.

Members of the Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe Steering Committee are: Elsie Bissaillon (Elders’ Council); Arlene Barry (Women’s Council); Arnold Yellowman (Youth Council); Chief Bart Hardy (Northern Superior); Chief Xavier Thompson (Northern Superior); Chief Craig Abotossaway (Lake Huron); Councillor Arnold May – Nipissing (Lake Huron) Chief Elizabeth Cloud (Southwest); Chief Chris Plain (Southwest); Chief Keith Knott (Southeast); and Chief Jim Marsden (Southeast).
Chief Shining Turtle, Whitefish River FN, signing the signed the resolution to adopt the preamble and commit to a work plan/process to finish the Gdo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe in Alderville while Chief Denise Restoule, Dokis FN and Chief Steve Miller, Atikameksheng Anishinawbek FN look on.

Anishinabek Chiefs adopted the Guiding Principles of the Anishinabek Nation constitution, Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe, at the 2011 Grand Council and pledged to “work diligently” toward ratification and proclamation of the nation’s constitution at the Anishinabek Grand Council Assembly in 2012.

Grand Council Resolution No. 20011/04 states that “the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly recognize that some Anishinabek First Nations still require time to review and consider the content of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin, which is now Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe…” The resolution was moved by Chief Joe Hare of M’Chigeeng and seconded by Chief Shining Turtle of Whitefish River.

As the resolution further states, the Chiefs adopted “the preamble referred to as Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe because it accurately reflects the intent of the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly.” The Guiding Principles, a.k.a. “the Preamble,” was developed and recommended by the Elders of the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin (UCCM) following their participation in a lengthy, and sometimes difficult, discussion on the introduction to the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin at the March 1-3, 2011 constitutional convention.

Many Chiefs that voted to ratify the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin last March were expecting the proclamation and ceremony to add the constitution to the Anishinabek Nation Bundle to take place at the recent Alderville Grand Council. A celebratory feast had been planned for day one, following discussions on the new Guiding Principles, next steps to begin implementation, and adoption of a resolution to proclaim the Anishinabek Nation Chi-Naaknigewin.

However, with some Chiefs either appealing to the assembly for more time to discuss the document among their citizens or questioning the validity of the ratification vote taken in March, the resolution to defer the ratification and proclamation of the constitution to June 2012 was passed by majority. Chief Elizabeth Cloud of Kettle and Stony Point summed up the sentiment of the majority, “We need to allow time for them to be comfortable.”

There were no abstentions with one Chief opposing on the principle that a successful ratification vote had taken place at the March 2011 convention held specifically for that purpose. Other concerns expressed by the dissenting Chiefs were lack of clarity around basing the Anishinabek Nation Government on the Doodemaag (Clan) system and financing the new central government.

Chief Keith Knott of Curve Lake, a fluent speaker of Anishinaabemowin, said he understood the misgivings about the uncertainty of the document. “A written document on white paper makes it hard for us…that is why it is so hard to agree on the language. We must move to get away from the Indian Act. Our job is to reach our people.”

In his summation of the discussion, Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee likened the proclamation of the Anishinabek Nation constitution to the Anishinabek Declaration of 1980. “It is a statement of fundamental values and principles.”

“There’s been a lot of discussion and we needed to have this discussion,” the Grand Chief stated. “We have decided to adopt the Guiding Principles and allow for proclamation of the Anishinabek Nation constitution one year from now. We can walk away from here with our principles intact.”
GARDEN RIVER FN – Participants in an Ojibway language course literally took the words out of the dictionary and placed them in community settings. The hands-on Anishinabemowin course offered at the Adults in Motion School (AIM) and instructed by Doris Boissoneau involved using words in practical situations.

For example, following the learning of Ojibway words used in the kitchen, the 11 students prepared soup, bannock, cake, cookies, vegetable and fruit trays. Guest speaker Helen Roy explained in Ojibway how the bannock was being made while students, Dalton Boissoneau and Mona Jones each prepared a batch using their own personal style.

Another lesson involved planting a garden while learning the names of the vegetables.

And students made signs in the language to place in different stores around the reserve, labelling products and prices.

“I look for ways to make it fun for the students so they will come back,” said instructor Mona Jones.
Aamjiwnaang celebrates 50 years

Aamjiwnaang FN Chief Chris Plain, left, and Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, right, flank Aamjiwnaang Head Veteran George Martin in Grand Entry at the Sarnia community’s 50th anniversary pow-wow June 18-19. The host drum was the Grammy-nominated Bear Creek from Sault Ste. Marie. The Grand Entry honoured families of the founding members of the celebration, which was organized by Courtney Plain and her pow-wow committee.

–Photo by Greg Plain

By Sharon Weatherall

MIDLAND – An infant in the womb hears the heartbeat of its mother and is connected. That beating sound remains a significant tie throughout one’s life.

Members of Gwayago Kwag singing and drumming group deliver a message that is positive and healing. The name of the all-female group, based out of Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre, translates from Ojibway to “humble women”.

The group has grown to 28 women who sing, drum and perform regularly at area events.

Rose McArthur, a centre board member from Beausoleil First Nation, has been drumming for two and a half years.

“When I first got into the drum group I didn’t know any of my culture but I have jumped two feet in with drumming, dancing and I have also learned the language. You are not only learning to drum but you are finding your identity.”

Humble heartbeat

Rose McArthur


–Photo by Christine McFarlane

Ben Benson, Chippewas of Rama FN, at 15th annual Scugog Powwow.

–Photo by Christine McFarlane
Sharing Ipperwash information

Nicole Latulippe, Ipperwash Project Coordinator for the Union of Ontario Indians, has been meeting with First Nations Chiefs, Council members and staff on the Ipperwash implementation process. In June and July, Nicole led information-sharing sessions in communities from all parts of Anishinabek Nation Territory: Northern Superior, Southeast, Southwest and Lake Huron Regions. Feedback from these sessions will inform how the Union of Ontario Indians participates in the provincial process to implement the recommendations made in the 2007 Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry into the death of Anthony Dudley George. The process is referred to as the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee (IPiPAC) and the UOI has been an active participant since its formation in 2008.

Nicole Latulippe discusses Ipperwash Inquiry recommendations with Curve Lake First Nation Chief Keith Knott.

Survey info helps First Nations plan services for their citizens

By Melinda Commanda
Statistics Canada
SUDBURY – In addition to the 2011 Census, every household on reserve will also asked to participate in the new National Household Survey (NHS). Information previously collected by the long-form census questionnaire is now collected as part of this new survey. Off reserve, one-in-three households will be randomly selected to participate in the NHS. The NHS gathers information on a wide variety of topics including:

- demography
- activity limitations
- citizenship and immigration
- language, language of work
- ethnic origin, population group, place of birth of parents
- Aboriginal group, Registered or Treaty Indian status, member of a First Nation/Indian band
- religion
- mobility
- education
- labour market activities
- place of work
- Mode of transportation, car-pooling
- child care and support payments
- income
- housing

This information is very important because it can provide information First Nations need to plan services such as child care, schooling, family services, housing, roads and public transportation, and skills training for employment. The data are also used to support government programs directed at target populations, such as immigrants, Aboriginal populations, lone-parent families and seniors.

Ippeprowash Report and First Nations policing

This is the second article in a series on First Nation policing that will appear in the Anishinabek News. Strengthening First Nation police services is a key recommendation made in the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry, a public inquiry into events surrounding the 1995 shooting death of Dudley George by an OPP officer during a land claim occupation at Ipperwash Provincial Park. The Union of Ontario Indians has been involved in the process to implement the Report’s recommendations since 2008. Read the third article in the series, Ipperwash Inquiry Report and First Nation Policing, in the next edition of Anishinabek News.

By Jim Ransom

By 1995, the Stoney Point people had been on an almost 60-year quest to get their lands back after their entire reserve was expropriated by the federal government in 1942 and they were forcibly removed. The federal government had claimed they needed the land temporarily as a military training base during the Second World War but that it would be returned. It never was.

In 1995, Dudley George was helping the Stony Point people bring attention to their plight through a peaceful protest that tragically turned violent. He was shot during a land claim occupation of Ipperwash Provincial Park and died of his wounds. A public inquiry into and report on events surrounding his death was launched on November 12, 2003, funded by the Government of Ontario under the Public Inquiries Act and conducted by a neutral third party, Sidney B. Linden. Justice Linden’s final report and findings of the inquiry were released on May 31, 2007.

Chapter 10 of the Ipperwash Inquiry Report provided a review of First Nation policing in the province and identified recommendations to strengthen and improve First Nations Police Services. It called upon the federal and provincial governments to recognize that self-administered First Nation police services in the province are the primary police service providers in their communities.

It called upon the provincial government, Ontario Provincial Police, and First Nation police services to work together in identifying how the provincial government can support First Nation police services to be effective as possible when policing Aboriginal occupations and protests.

It recommended long-range planning and securing a legislative basis for First Nation police services in Ontario. The lack of a legisla- tive basis creates the perception that First Nation police services are a “second-class” program.

It called for the province to work with First Nations to create a legislative or regulatory framework for First Nation policing in Ontario and also recommended that First Nation police services or boards should appoint their own officers instead of the Ontario Police Commission.

It recommended the creation of a First Nation Chiefs of Police Association as a professional forum for discussing policing with First Nations and to create policing standards, the legislative framework, officer recruitment, training, development and other matters of shared concern.

Finally, it called upon the federal and provincial governments to increase capital and operational funding for First Nation police services in Ontario.

Ipperwash Report and First Nations policing

This is the second article in a series on First Nation policing that will appear in the Anishinabek News. Strengthening First Nation police services is a key recommendation made in the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry, a public inquiry into events surrounding the 1995 shooting death of Dudley George by an OPP officer during a land claim occupation at Ipperwash Provincial Park. The Union of Ontario Indians has been involved in the process to implement the Report’s recommendations since 2008. Read the third article in the series, Ipperwash Inquiry Report and First Nation Policing, in the next edition of Anishinabek News.

By Jim Ransom

By 1995, the Stoney Point people had been on an almost 60-year quest to get their lands back after their entire reserve was expropriated by the federal government in 1942 and they were forcibly removed. The federal government had claimed they needed the land temporarily as a military training base during the Second World War but that it would be returned. It never was.

In 1995, Dudley George was helping the Stony Point people bring attention to their plight through a peaceful protest that tragically turned violent. He was shot during a land claim occupation of Ipperwash Provincial Park and died of his wounds. A public inquiry into and report on events surrounding his death was launched on November 12, 2003, funded by the Government of Ontario under the Public Inquiries Act and conducted by a neutral third party, Sidney B. Linden. Justice Linden’s final report and findings of the inquiry were released on May 31, 2007.

Chapter 10 of the Ipperwash Inquiry Report provided a review of First Nation policing in the province and identified recommendations to strengthen and improve First Nations Police Services. It called upon the federal and provincial governments to recognize that self-administered First Nation police services in the province are the primary police service providers in their communities.

It called upon the provincial government, Ontario Provincial Police, and First Nation police services to work together in identifying how the provincial government can support First Nation police services to be effective as possible when policing Aboriginal occupations and protests.

It recommended long-range planning and securing a legislative basis for First Nation police services in Ontario. The lack of a legisla- tive basis creates the perception that First Nation police services are a “second-class” program.

It called for the province to work with First Nations to create a legislative or regulatory framework for First Nation policing in Ontario and also recommended that First Nation police services or boards should appoint their own officers instead of the Ontario Police Commission.

It recommended the creation of a First Nation Chiefs of Police Association as a professional forum for discussing policing with First Nations and to create policing standards, the legislative framework, officer recruitment, training, development and other matters of shared concern.

Finally, it called upon the federal and provincial governments to increase capital and operational funding for First Nation police services in Ontario.
Mining, energy opportunities for First Nations partnerships

By Marlene Bilous
Lands and Resources Policy Analyst
NIAGARA FALLS – The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the National Congress of American Indians sponsored the International Indigenous Summit on Energy and Mining in Niagara Falls on June 26-29.

Patrick Madahbee, Grand Council Chief of the Anishinabek Nation addressed the conference on June 28th, noting that he and Chief Isadore Day of the Serpent River First Nation had spoken to National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo two years ago and suggested this conference and he was pleased that “the National Chief could make things happen”.

Grand Council Chief Madahbee reminded the audience that Niagara Falls was important in Canadian-First Nations history because the Treaty of Niagara was signed here in 1764, over two hundred years ago.

This treaty was one of the most comprehensive treaties on First Nations rights and demonstrated very clearly that First Nations have rights to land and resources which they never surrendered.

“We are Nations with treaty rights and should be consulted and accommodated on all proposed developments on our territories. We are not against development; you must talk to us first.”

He pointed out that he was pleased to be able to assist the First Nations on Manitoulin Island to negotiate a 50/50 energy development partnership with a transmission company building windmills by pointing out that the company needed to cross First Nation territory in order to complete its project.

He added that there are many economic opportunities for First Nations. “We need to work towards getting a fair deal for our people.”

National Chief Atleo addressed the conference, speaking about the importance of working together and having development driven by our leadership and working with the private sector and government as equal partners.

He stated that there were currently over 170 agreements between mining companies and First Nations and emphasized the opportunities for future partnerships in energy and mining for First Nations which would create jobs and improve the livelihoods of our people.

Atleo called for the need to create a national strategy on energy and mining and stressed the importance of continuing dialogue and of consultation, accommodation and obtaining consent from First Nation communities prior to development.

Six Nations and the B.C. First Nations Energy and Mining Council contributed to the agenda. Approximately 800 delegates attended the conference.

SPECIES AT RISK

Waabshki Miingun a special concern

Name: Eastern Wolf – Waabshki Miingun

Features: The Waabshki Miingun (Eastern Wolf) is a distinct form of the Grey Wolf. Waabshki Miingun is smaller, brown-cooured with long black guard hairs on his back and sides. The back of the ears are reddish. It has been estimated there are approximately 2000 Waabshki Miingun in Ontario and Quebec.

Habitat and Food Sources: Waabshki Miingun are found in deciduous, mixed-wood, coniferous forests and spruce bogs. Their dens are often found adjacent to beaver ponds and meadows. Wolf packs may re-use their dens over multiple years. The highest population density is in Algonquin Provincial Park. Waabshki Miingun are predators to the white tail deer, moose and beaver. They hunt in packs to take down large prey. Sometimes they will scavenge for food.

Status: Special Concern Provincially and Nationally.


Threats: Waabshki Miingun has disappeared from all of Southern Ontario due to loss of habitat from the clearance of the forests to create farmland. Wolves are also hunted in Ontario year-round and it is estimated that hunters kill approximately 10% of the population annually in Ontario. Other threats include: trapping, road mortality and habitat loss, as well as the long-term threat of hybridization with domestic dogs, or other wolves, which threatens genetic integrity (genetic biodiversity among pack populations).

Protection: Waabshki Miingun is classed as a fur-bearer. They cannot be hunted in some provincial parks or reserves like Algonquin Park.

Traditional Aspect: Culturally and historically, the Waabshki Miingun and the Anishinabek once lived in harmony. It was once said “they hunted together and their spirits touched”. The Anishinabek have held the Waabshki Miingun in high regard as they are found in many artifacts, legends and stories. It is said that the Waabshki Miingun is a symbol of freedom and individuality.

What is Species at Risk?

Wildlife species that are considered threatened or in danger of becoming extinct.

Risk Categories:

Data Deficient – there is not enough scientific information to support the status designation.

Not at Risk – the species has been evaluated and was found to not be at risk.

Special Concern – species whose characteristics make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events.

Threatened – species likely to become endangered if factors are not reversed.

Endangered – species facing imminent extirpation or extinction.

Extirpated – species no longer existing in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere.

Extinct – species that no longer exist.

Waabshki Miingun - Eastern Wolf

Extirpated - species no longer existing in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere

Extinct - species that no longer exist
Anishinabek salute excellence

By Andrea Crawford

NORTH BAY – There was no lack of humility or gratitude in the ballroom of the Best Western Hotel as the 13th Annual Anishinabek Evening of Excellence took place on June 22.

A total of 21 awards were presented to corporations, students and citizens for their various achievements within the Anishinabek Nation. The George Lanouette Memorial Award was received by Dwayne Nashkawa, Executive Director for Nipissing First Nation.

Every year the award is dedicated to an individual who has made significant contributions toward successful community development and benefited the lives of Anishinabek citizens.

Nashkawa, who dedicated the award to his children, said that everything he does is to try and build a better future for the next generation.

This was a fitting statement following the presentation of Scotiabank Anishinabek Student Excellence Awards which were given to five outstanding Anishinabek women for their academic perseverance.

Karen Restoule, a third year Common Law student at the University of Ottawa, was overwhelmed by the accomplishments of her academic peers.

“I’m so proud of all the scholarship recipients here tonight, but I was especially impressed with Alyssa Whiteduck,” said Restoule. “She has chosen a field of study that is rarely undertaken by women, but is probably unheard of for an Anishinabek woman, and that is so inspiring.”

Co-recipient Alyssa Whiteduck, of Pikwakanagan, is entering her fourth year of study in the civil engineering program at the University of Ottawa and plans to continue her studies in the unique field of Aerospace Engineering upon graduation.

In addition to the student excellence awards, 14 Anishinabek citizens received Lifetime Achievement Awards for outstanding service to communities and citizens.

Sara Bagnato and Leonard Dokis were two of the recipients recognized for their lifelong contributions to community and culture.

Sara was born and raised in the community of Birch Island. She is a Spanish Residential School survivor and worked for many years in the health care industry as a registered nurse assistant.

Bagnato attributed her professional successes to the role model who motivated her to become a nurse at a young age.

“Never underestimate the power of a good role model,” said Bagnato, “cause no matter how old you get, you always need someone to look up to, who will encourage you to be a better person.”

Leonard, of Dokis First Nation, also recalled the many people who motivated him along his path as a game warden, a community leader and a businessman.

Leonard served as Chief of Dokis for two terms and he continues to serve the community today in his 12th term as a Councillor.

His dedication and involvement have helped open the doors to many economic and social opportunities in Dokis and the Anishinabek Nation, including the Little NHL.

“I watch my grandsons playing in the Little NHL now and I remember that I was there when it first started,” said Dokis. “I was a part of that for my community and it makes me proud.”

Leonard and his wife Shirley are now the owners of a large tourist operation, Riverview Cottages, which employs 40 community members and sponsors a Little NHL hockey team every year.

Twelve other recipients accepted lifetime achievement awards throughout the evening, all of them exceptional citizens of the Anishinabek Nation.

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee congratulated each of the award winners and communicated his pride and respect for the recipients very clearly.

“It’s always amazing to see how our people are contributing to their communities and it’s events like this one here tonight that showcase the kindness, the intelligence and the resiliency of the Anishinabek people,” said Grand Chief. “That’s something to celebrate.”

L to R: Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee; Lee Walker, Scotiabank; Pat Cunningham, RBC; Angela Johnston, Westmont Hospitality; Jeff Fournier, Ontario Power Generation; Frank Binder, CN; John Bonin, Union Gas. – Photos by Andrea Crawford

Anishinabek News
July-August 2011

Life time achiever

Joseph Thomas
Neskewke
Wikwemikong Unceded
Indian Reserve

The Late John C.
Restoule
Dokis First Nation

Leonard Dokis
Dokis First Nation

Bruce George
Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point

The Late Chief Ralph
Akiwenzie
Chippewas of Nawash

Delma Toulouse
Whitefish River First Nation

Pearl Bosman
Whitefish River First Nation

Rose Richardson
Whitefish River First Nation

Geraldine (Gerry)
Ziegler
Whitefish River First Nation

Sara Bagnato
Whitefish River First Nation

Albert Beaudin
M’Chigeeng First Nation

Rose Fraser
Wikwemikong Unceded
Indian Reserve

Les Couchie
Nipissing First Nation

Rick Beaver
Alderville First Nation

Andrew Boniface
Manitowabi
Wikwemikong Unceded
Indian Reserve

Anishinabek Nation Seventh Generation Charity

To support the needs of our people
The 13th Annual Bell Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament was held on June 16th at Osprey Links Golf Course in Callander. Over 130 golfers were out enjoying a beautiful hot sunny day on the course!

Congratulations to this year’s Ray Martin Memorial Trophy winners:


Mixed Division: Laura Mayer, Robert Tabobondung, Craig Baker, Barney Batise.

Mens Division: Dan Stencil, Carl Hewitt, Dave Hutchison, Ron Marsh.

Thank you to our special guests: Mike Krushelnyski, Jack Valiquette, Dave Restoule, Theresa Green, Terry Restoule, Esther Gilbank, Monica Lister, and Brendan Huston, as well as Angela Johnston, Alison McGraw and Simon Evans from Westmont Hospitality.

We are looking forward to seeing all next year at the 14th Annual Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament.

A special thanks to all of our great sponsors:

- CTV
- Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment
- Delta Sault Ste. Marie Waterfront
- Osprey Links Golf Course
- Burger World
- APTN
- Golf Town Sudbury
- Hoppers
- Union of Ontario Indians

Lee Walker, Scotiabank Director for Aboriginal Financial Services; Alyssa Whiteduck, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, entering 4th year of Civil Engineering Program.

Karen Restoule, Dokis First Nation, entering 3rd year of Common Law Program

Faron Trudeau, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, graduate of Childhood Education Program

Shannon Apowisaa, Atikameksheng Anishinabek, graduate of Police Foundations Program

Shannon Manitouwabi, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, graduate of School of Business Program

Leah Walker, Scotiabank Director for Aboriginal Financial Services; Alyssa Whiteduck, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, entering 4th year of Civil Engineering Program.
Students, teachers and parents from Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik in Wasauksing First Nation travelled to Hwy 17 west of Mattawa to join the Youth walking for the water

Making the world aware

By Sharon Weatherall

BEAUSOLEIL FN – Gloria King believes ‘Water Walk 2011’ generated global awareness that Anishinabek are protectors of the water. "The event made an impact for all the world to see - this is a role given to us by the Creator," said the Christian Island traditional language/culture teacher who attended event in Bad River Wisconsin with friends John and Joanne Keeshig of Cape Croker.

Elder Josephine Mandamin, chair of the Anishinabek Nation’s Women’s Water commission, was a driving force behind the move- ment to make all people aware that water is a precious resource that must be protected. At 66 years of age she started out in Thunder Bay and walked around all of the Great Lakes between 2003 and 2008, later walking along the St. Lawrence River with her family to the Atlantic Ocean.

King took part in the peaceful protest two summers ago against the proposed location of a landfill at Site 41 in Simcoe County above one of the world’s purest sources of drinking water.

"At Site 41 my daughter and little granddaughters were taking part in the ceremony and as I stood by the Eastern doorway I could see my future as a woman that speaks to the world faced a "true crisis" the Human Rights Council’s Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation told the Permanent Forum on Ind-igenous Issues in May during a half-day discussion on the right to water.

Asking who exactly did not have access and why, Catarina de Albuquerque said it was always the same people - the marginal- ized, the poor and those without a political voice. In countries with indigenous populations, it too frequ- ently included indigenous peo- ple. "Like so many other human rights, indigenous peoples suffer disproportionate violations of their rights to safe drinking water and sanitation," she told the gathering of Member States, indigenous organ- izations, civil society and local and indigenous Governments.

She stressed that "such lack of access is not simply an unfortunate situation nor a coincidence, but is a direct result of policies and poli- tics which exclude."
Amber fulfilling her hockey dreams

By Marci Becking

M’CHIGEENG FN – Hard work and determination are the key elements to 18-year-old Amber Debassige fulfilling her hockey dreams.

Debassige, who plays defence, was the first Anishinaabe player from Manitoulin Island to be selected to play in the Provincial Women’s Hockey League.

“Dad Arnold Debassige says that Amber loves hockey and that it’s her passion and that offers have come in from Potsdam and Plattsburg, New York to go to school and play,” says Amber, whose favourite hockey player is Bobby Orr.

Amber’s role models are Rebecca Johnston and Tessa Bonhomme.

“They both came out of the same hockey association as me in Sudbury for the Lady Wolves and

Amber Debassige

made it to the Olympic level,” says Amber.

Dad Arnold Debassige says that Amber loves hockey and that it’s her passion and that offers have come in from Potsdam and Plattsburg, New York to go to school and play.

“She started to play hockey at the age of five,” says Arnold.

“Even at an early age her calibre of play was noticeable and it was recommended that she should start playing rep hockey.”

The Etobicoke Junior Dolphins (PWHL) had a position open for Amber and coaches said that she had the skill, talent, great work ethic and she was a team player.

“Practices will be at the Mastercard Centre – the same practice ice for the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Marlies,” says Arnold.

“The girls have their own dressing room, exercise room and lounge.”

She began playing for the Sudbury Lady Wolves at PeeWee level and the family had to travel to Sudbury four times a week for five years.

Amber hopes to one day play for Team Canada and to become a police officer.

Iliana Susin, 9, Fort William FN, visits Lynda Banning’s booth.

‘Where do babies come from?’

By Lynda Banning

FORT WILLIAM FN – One of the 300 participants in a June 30th Health Fair asked a really basic question at my Union of Ontario Indians display about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

“Where do babies come from?” she asked me after looking over the display designed to teach about the danger an unborn baby is put in when a mother drinks alcohol while she’s pregnant.

I have been doing this work for four years and that was a first.

Children are definitely our teachers because her question really had me thinking. Mothers and fathers have an amazing ability and an enormous responsibility. They can take some things that are microscopic and turn them into something magnificent, a human being.

Next time I am asked to explain where babies come from, my answer may be as simple and as basic as our young community member’s question: “Babies are a sacred gift that we receive from the Creator. Let’s all take good care of our special gifts. Say no to alcohol during pregnancy.”
Kids learn how to project stories at Big Medicine Studio event

By Marci Becking

NIPISSING FN – The First Nation-based Aanmitaagzi arts collective had extra hands helping them with the puppet theatre they staged July 8 at Big Medicine Studio located on Couchie Memorial Drive in Duchesnay. Aanmitaagzi – “he (or she) speaks” – attracted 20 children to learn about shadow puppetry and take in some teachings about the seasons and the Manitous.

“Long time ago, Porcupine didn’t have five fingers,” began group founder Sid Bobb, who narrated the first puppet show about why the porcupine only has four fingers.

“Before there was T.V., in British Columbia we never had four seasons,” recounted Sid. “Before there was T.V., we never had four seasons.”

The kids were divided up into groups of five and they made their own shadow puppets after being shown by Aanmitagzi troupe members how to use the shadow projector.

Ariel Blonski John-George, Nipissing First Nation made a wolf shadow puppet because she likes wolves.

“I also made a puppet of the night sky,” said Ariel.

Alex Hebert, Dokis First Nation, said that he enjoyed both of the stories, but related to the one about the animals more. His shadow puppet was a moose.

“My moose has big antlers. I liked the story about the animals,” said Alex.

Jack Cotter, Nipissing First Nation, said that he liked the story about the porcupine because it reminded him of the winter story of his own. Jack’s shadow puppet was a monkey with a banana-sword.

The events feature the talents of local First Nations performing and visual artists, with a focus on culturally-relevant themes.
Speech specialist honoured by peers

By Nicole Charette
SUDBURY – An Aboriginal Oral Language Specialist and Speech and Language Pathologist with the Rainbow District School Board has received national recognition among her peers. The Canadian Association of Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists honoured Sharla Peltier at an awards banquet in Montreal on April 30. She was joined by husband Stan Peltier and son Vincent.

Sharla Peltier, an Aboriginal Oral Language Specialist and Speech and Language Pathologist with the Rainbow District School Board, received national recognition among her peers. The Canadian Association of Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists honoured Sharla Peltier at an awards banquet in Montreal on April 30. She was joined by husband Stan Peltier and son Vincent.

Sharla Peltier’s research article focuses on First Nations English dialects and how to assist students who need to learn standard English as an additional dialect in order to succeed. Research for her Masters in Education focused on First Nations orality, particularly story-telling.

Well known as a leader in Canada in exploring the needs and goals of First Nations children, youth and families in the areas of language acquisition, speech development and education, some of Sharla Peltier’s writings can be found at www.ecdip.org.

Sharla Peltier is one of only a handful of Aboriginal Speech and Language Pathologists in Canada. Husband Stan Peltier and son Vincent Peltier, as well as research partners from across Canada, including Dr. Jessica Ball and Dr. May Bernhardt, attended the awards evening.

All gambling has potential risks. If you are experiencing financial, family, emotional or physical health problems because of your gambling you should consider taking a break to fully understand its impact on your life and to help you gain control.

WAYS TO CONTROL GAMBLING:

Set a budget on your time and money. Spend only what you can afford to lose. Leave your bank and credit card at home. When your budget is gone and your time is up, walk away!

Keep a diary of how much time you play and record your wins and losses—memory is selective in remembering the wins. View gambling as entertainment—not a way to make money.

Play knowing that you will almost certainly lose. See the money lost as part of your entertainment budget.

Understand the odds—the “house” always has the edge. Make your gambling decisions based on an accurate understanding of your odds of winning. Expect to lose. You cannot change the outcome, there are no winning strategies and you cannot influence luck. The odds are stacked against you and always favour the house.

RECOGNIZE RISK FACTORS

Do not gamble when you are feeling vulnerable, depressed, bored, lonely, anxious or angry. Be careful not to use gambling as a way to escape problems or avoid difficult feelings or situations. Mixing alcohol and gambling is very risky. Take frequent breaks from gambling. Walk outside to clear your head.

Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline
1-888-230-3505
www.opgh.on.ca

Recognition of Residential School Survivors!
If you received the CEP (Common Experience Payment), you may be eligible for additional CASH compensation.
To see if you qualify, Call Now!
Toll Free: 1-877-988-1145
Graphic novel tells treaty stories

By Nimkii Binansie

The Union of Ontario Indians has developed a new tool to remind Canadians that the treaty relationship is the foundation of the Canadian federation.

The corporate office serving the 39 member communities of the Anishinabek Nation has published “We are all Treaty People” – a glossy, 36-page graphic novel designed to present a First Nation perspective on treaty rights in an easy-to-read format.

“This is an ideal resource for children of all ages,” says Maurice Switzer, the UOI director of communications who compiled the text for the book. “We regularly take one across university graduates and high school principals who don’t know any more about treaties than elementary school students.”

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee says the new book helps fill the need for greater public education about treaties.

“Most Canadians don’t understand that the root cause of most protests involving First Nations that they see in newspaper headlines or on the six o’clock news are related to a failure or delay by governments in keeping promises made to them in the treaties. It happened in last year’s fight to retain our sales tax exemption in Ontario. It happened at Oka in 1990, Ipperwash in 1995, the so-called lobster war in Burnt Church in 1999. If First Nations hadn’t agreed to treaties, there wouldn’t be a Canada. The Ipperwash Inquiry identified a big need for more public education about treaties in this province.”

The book’s title echoes the words of Justice Sidney Linden, who, in releasing his report on the Ipperwash Inquiry into the Sept. 6, 1995 shooting death of Dudley George – noted the lack of awareness on the part of most Ontarians about the treaty rights that were being defended by the Chippeo of Kettle and Stony Point.

“We are all Treaty People,” Justice Linden emphasized in issuing his report.

Switzer says what sets the new book apart from most textbook treatments of the treaty process are the original watercolours on every page created to illustrate the text by Dokis First Nation artist Charley Hebert. Currently living in Powassan, Ont., Hebert is a graduate of the Sheridan College Classical Animation program, and the author and illustrator of the children’s book series “Bush Buddies.”

“Charley did an excellent job of providing reader-friendly pictures to tell the story. That’s what has really attracted the attention of educators, and they’re our target market.”

Within one month of the graphic novel’s May 28th launch, sales to Rainbow District School Board in Sudbury and the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board helped create the need for a second printing to follow up on the initial production of 1,000 copies.

Copies of the book were provided to all Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in hopes they would promote its use by school boards in their areas.

“We are all Treaty People”; ISBN: 978-0-9688211-0-3; Genre: History, graphic novel; Soft cover: 11x8.5– 36 pages, glossy watercolours throughout. $25.00 (Cdn.) plus shipping. Bulk orders available upon request. Contact UOI 705-497-9127 ext. 2288.
Film school offers 3 youth programs

By Marci Becking

M’CHIGEENG FN – Founder and artistic director of Weengushk Film Institute, Shirley Cheechoo, says she’s pleased to announce that, for the eighth year, the Manitoulin-based centre is supporting the film and television education program for youth.

“Weengushk Film Institute is an artist-focused, film and television training centre dedicated to unlocking the creative potential of aboriginal youth,” says Cheechoo.

The non-profit, charitable organization is offering three programs – short films, language of cinema program and television – starting in September with an application deadline of August 1st.

Short Films is an eight-month introductory program that offers instruction and hands-on experience. Participants will write and direct a short film and create multiple service announcements.

The Language of Cinema is a six-month program that focuses on “The Art of No Budget Film Making” with participants creating their own narrative or documentary film.

A Television Lab sees participants collaborating in completing a television series. It’s a 10-month program and includes a variety of professional instructors from all over North America to teach various segments of this program.

The Weengushk Film Institute is located in M’Chigeeng First Nation and for more information visit www.weengushk.com.

IN BRIEF

Aboriginal law focus of new program

THUNDER BAY – Students will soon be able to study and practice law in Northern Ontario.

The Ontario government is helping Lakehead University establish the first law degree program in Northern Ontario. The new program will begin in September 2013 with a strong focus on Aboriginal Law, legal issues relevant to practice in rural and remote communities and law relating to natural resource management. It will also support economic prosperity and help to attract a wider range of opportunities for Northern Ontarians.

Union Gas buys books

KETTLE & STONY POINT FN – Hillside School has been awarded a $1,000 Centennial Community Grant from Union Gas to support improved literacy through new books on science and technology for the school library.

“Union Gas strives to be the partner of choice for communities and that includes building long-term productive relationships with First Nations and the Métis,” said John Bonin, Manager of Aboriginal Affairs for Union Gas.

Sands excels in math contest

NIPISSING FN – Ray Sands Jr., a Grade 11 student at Northern Secondary School in Sturgeon Falls, placed first in his student body in the 2011 Fermat Mathematics Contest administered by The Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing at the University of Waterloo.

Ray is from Nipissing First Nation and has family from Walpole Island. Proud parents of Ray are Elaine Commanda and Ray Sands Sr.

In 2010 Ray placed first in an art contest, whereby his artwork was selected for the 2010 Northern Secondary School Yearbook!

North Bay to host CTV camp

NORTH BAY – CTV Northern Ontario will be hosting a one-day communications camp for Aboriginal youth in late September at the CTV station in North Bay.

CTV launched the camps in 2005, taking a producer, reporter, camera and other staff to such locations as Moose Factory, Timmins, Sault Ste. Marie, and North Bay. CTV has since revamped the camps and have invited the youth into the Sudbury station for exposure to an actual television studio setting. Two spring camps are held annually in Sudbury and CTV has decided to expand the program to its North Bay site in late September.

Over 150 youth have participated in the CTV Communication Camps. The program’s goal is to encourage Aboriginal youth to pursue post-secondary education, and consider career opportunities with CTV North, which offers scholarships at Cambrian College in Sudbury, Northern College in Timmins, Canadore in North Bay and Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information contact Candalee Beatty at (705) 674-8301 ext. 2231

Treaty people

National Chief Shawn A–in-chut Atleo visits Assembly of First Nations pavilion at Lebreton Flats in Ottawa during Education Day portion of National Aboriginal Day. Union of Ontario Indians communications director Maurice Switzer had a display about treaties, including 1764 Covenant Chain Wampum Belt and “We are all Treaty People”, graphic novel published by Union of Ontario Indians.

--Photo by Leslie Lounsberry, SAY Magazine
We Offer:

College Programs

Environment in an Office of Aboriginal Initiatives

www.nativeeducation.ca    1.800.461.2260

at the University of Sudbury

Native Language Instructors Program

Honours Bachelor of Education (Aboriginal Education)

Aboriginal Alumni Chapter

Elders Program

Lakehead University Native Student Assoc.

T ~ 3 Old York Rd. ~ Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, ON K0K 1X0 ~

University Programs

“Let FNTI Be Part of Building Your Future”

Secondary Programs for Adults & Youth

info@algomau.ca

Wilfrid Laurier University

• Social Work

Master of Social Work

As the first Aboriginal

An University Degree!

Knowledge is

Graduate Studies with an Indigenous World View

MSW Aboriginal Field of Study

As the first Aboriginal Master of Social Work program in Canada that is completely informed by an Indigenous world view, our goal is to develop social work practitioners who demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the history, traditions and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of Canada. This unique program includes the involvement of Indigenous elders, a traditional circle process, and Indigenous ceremonies.

• An innovative MSW degree immersed in an Indigenous, holistic world view
• A full-time and part-time MSW program for candidates with a BSW
• An empowering healing experience for everyone

Laurier

Lyle S. Halman
Faculty of Social Work
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

M.S.W. in Aboriginal Social Work

The University of Western Ontario,

personal support.

specifcally for Indigenous students!

FSW Admissions  519.884.0710, ext. 5242 | socialwork@wlu.ca  | www.wlu.ca/socialwork

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY

Choose your pathway.

The School of Native Human Services
Honours Bachelor of Social Work
Nishnaab Kinoomaadwin Naadmaadwin
(Native Teaching in Helping)

Lakehead University Aboriginal Alumni Chapter

Elders Program

Lakehead University Native Student Assoc.

Tel: 705.675.1151, ext. 5082 Fax: 705.675.4817

www.lakehead.ca

Turn your College Diploma into a University Degree!

OFFERING DEGREE PROGRAMS IN:

• Community, Economic and Social Development
• Anishnaabemowin
• Social Work

We Offer:

Information is a 60+ programs

and life at Loyalist College, contact Paul at:

The Aboriginal Resource Centre

LOYALIST COLLEGE

P.O. Box 4200, Belleville, ON K8N 5B9

1-888-LOYALIST, ext. 2250

T & F 613-962-0613

e-mail: platc@loyalist.on.ca

LOYALISTcollege.com

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

DARE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE

The Office of Aboriginal Initiatives—NRigigaling is dedicated to the success of Aboriginal students at Nipissing University. Through the delivery of specific programs, academic and cultural supports and leadership opportunities for students, NRigigaling continues to meet the needs of all current and future Aboriginal students at Nipissing University.

Check our website for upcoming events at www.nipissingu.ca/aboriginal/upcomingEvents.asp

Aboriginal Academic Programs

• Aboriginal Teacher Certification Program
• Teacher of Anishnaabemowin as a 2nd Language
• Native Classroom Assistant Program
• Native Special Education Assistant Program

Email: aboriginalprograms@nipissingu.ca
Phone: 705.476.3670 ext. 4368

Aboriginal Services

• Aboriginal Student Links
• Community Liaison
• Cultural Supports
• Academic Supports

Email: abstudent@nipissingu.ca
Phone: 705.476.3670 ext. 4362

ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Anishnabe Education & Training Circle

Come to Georgian College Aboriginal Studies and feel the Community Spirit!

Shii-Mikan (New Roads)
Create-your-semester programs:
• Develop a solid academic base for further professional programming,
• Assess education/career options,
• Enhance your knowledge of Aboriginal cultural identity.

Aboriginal Education - Community and Social Development
Two-year co-op options program:
• Focuses on the planning, development, evaluation and administration of social/health services within the Aboriginal Community.
• This program focuses on business and community development studies with an emphasis on integrating cultural, social and health issues relevant to Aboriginal people in Canada.

Aboriginal Student Support Services

Aboriginal Resource Centres are available at the Barrie, Midland, Orillia and Owen Sound Campuses and we offer: Academic and Personal Counselling, Community Liaison, Elder Support, Peer Mentoring, Tutoring and Social/Cultural Events.

More Information
Barrie Campus: 705.728.9658
Midland Campus: 705.527.8600
Orillia Campus: 705.325.3066
www.georgian.on.ca/aboriginal

We understand you

We incorporate an aboriginal world view, and our mission is to help eliminate whatever barriers exist between you and your goals.

www.nativeeducation.ca    1.800.461.2260
Native Studies
Connecting to a Strong Future

EARN YOUR DEGREE IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT
Lakehead University is committed to helping Aboriginal people further their aspirations. Aboriginal programs at Lakehead offer academic, research, and cultural support services tailored to Aboriginal needs.
Office of Aboriginal Initiatives
aboriginalinitiatives.lakeheadu.ca
1-807-766-7219 or toll free 1-888-558-3388

Consider your Future at...
The University of Western Ontario
Explore unique opportunities created specifically for Indigenous students!
You are encouraged to apply to the...

Access Transition Opportunities
The program is offered to students in the faculties of Arts and Humanities, Engineering, Health Sciences, School of Kinesiology, Science, and Social Science.
Each program offers you enriched academic and personal support.

For information on how to apply contact:
Indigenous Services,
Student Development Centre,
The University of Western Ontario,
London, ON N6A 3K7
Toll-Free: 888-661-4095
Local Phone: 519-661-4095
E-mail: is.staff@uwo.ca

www.indigenous.uwo.ca

We Offer:

College Certificate
- Indigenous Public Relations
- Indigenous Media Foundation
- Office Administration

College Diploma
- Aviation Pilot – Fixed Wing – Aboriginal
- Law Clerk
- Native Social Service Worker

College Post-Graduate
- Indigenous Community Health
- Approaches (Eniokwekakaniteke)
- Native Diabetes Prevention Program

University Undergraduate Degree
- Bachelor of Arts Public Administration and Governance
- Bachelor of Social Work

University Graduate Degree
- Master of Social Work
  - Aboriginal Field of Study
- Professional Master of Public Administration

Training and Professional Development

"You'll love the experience!"

613-396-2122 or 800-267-0637
www.fnti.net

~ 3 Old York Rd. ~ Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory ~ ON ~ K0K 1X0 ~
NORTH BAY – The Harris Learning Library, subject of controversy over being named after the former premier of Ontario, officially opened its doors June 25.

Canadore College and Nipissing University, whose students will be the principal users of the $25-million state-of-the-art facility, staged a grand opening for the new campus library, which became the focus of considerable media attention after First Nations condemned the naming of the facility after the politician linked to the Sept. 6, 1995 killing by an OPP sniper of Stoney Point protester Dudley George in Ipperwash Provincial Park.

The event was opened with a traditional First Nation smudging ceremony, with some words of thanksgiving offered by Nipissing professor Terry Dokis. Harris joined other participants in welcoming the smudge with outstretched arms.

Nipissing President Lesley Lovett-Doust announced that a special feature of the Learning Library will be a Treaty Learning Centre, a suite of three rooms designed for study and discourse on the history and experiences of First Nations in Canada, and the experiences, obligations and promises for all Canadians embodied in Treaties.

Anishinabek Nation citizen Maurice Switzer, who authored a graphic novel on the treaty relationship called “We are all Treaty People”, greeted the former premier as he arrived for the event and presented him with four books he asked Harris to pass on to university officials for consideration for inclusion in the library’s collection. In addition to the graphic novel published by the Union of Ontario Indians, Switzer handed Harris copies of “Treaties Matter – Understanding Ipperwash”, “Ipperwash: From Tragedy to Reconciliation”, and “One Dead Indian”, journalist Peter Edwards’ account of the Ipperwash tragedy.

“Great. I’ll give these to the university and if they find the books appropriate, they will be put in the library,” Harris told Switzer. Through the PALS (Public and Academic Libraries Sharing) initiative, surrounding community libraries will be able to access resources and services in the Harris Learning Library, and Canadore and Nipissing students will in turn have access to the holdings of nine regional public libraries.

Mike Harris and Maurice Switzer

Kris Harris and Marc Becking
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

Nog-Da-Win-Da-Min Family and Community Services

PERMANENT/FULL TIME

Qualifications
- Required Human Services degree combined with an Human Resource designation, CHRP;
- Five years Human Resource Management preferably in an Anishnawbek non-profit environment;
- Equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered;
- Working knowledge of the Canada Labour Code and Employment Standards;
- Required valid Ontario driver’s license and have access to an automobile for the performance of field duties, and carry a minimum of $1 million in liability insurance;
- Ability to submit a clear criminal record check and vulnerable sector screen upon employment.

Overview of Responsibilities
Under the direction of the Executive Director, the Human Resource Manager is responsible for the development and on-going implementation of the human resource and personnel systems of the Agency. The Manager of Human Resources is responsible to ensure the effective day to day activities of the Human Resources Department. The Manager of Human Resources is also responsible to assist with the required personnel planning for the delivery of child welfare services.

Please submit a job related resume along with three work related references and proof of academic qualifications by: July 18, 2011 - 12:00 noon to:

Hiring Committee
Nog-Da-Win-Da-Min Family and Community Services
210 Gran St.
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 5K9
FAX (705) 946-3717

As preference is given to First Nation applicants, please state your First Nation affiliation. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

INCOMPLETE/LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Refer to a full job description located on our website at www.nog.ca
September 2011

*Munsee-Delaware Campus – London, ON*
- Protection, Safety and Security
- Native Community Worker
  (Traditional Aboriginal Healing Methods)
- Personal Support Worker
- Pre-Health Sciences

*Nipissing Campus – North Bay, ON*
- Registered Practical Nursing
- Native Community Worker
  (Traditional Aboriginal Healing Methods)
- Native Early Childhood Education

"We are proud that AEI has graduated 474 students."
– Murray Maracle, Director of the Anishinabek Educational Institute