

UJ. OR. NA. 40

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



3 3286 55962727 4

Wind speaker



Inform. Impact. Inspire. Independent. Indigenous.

**Pipeline panel
withdraws over concerns
for safety**
Page 8

**Cuts disappointing, and
should concern
leadership, says Satsan**
Page 9

**Chief curious about the
motive behind
privatizing reserve land**
Page 11

Volume 30 No. 2 • May 2012

plus GST/HST
where applicable

\$5.00

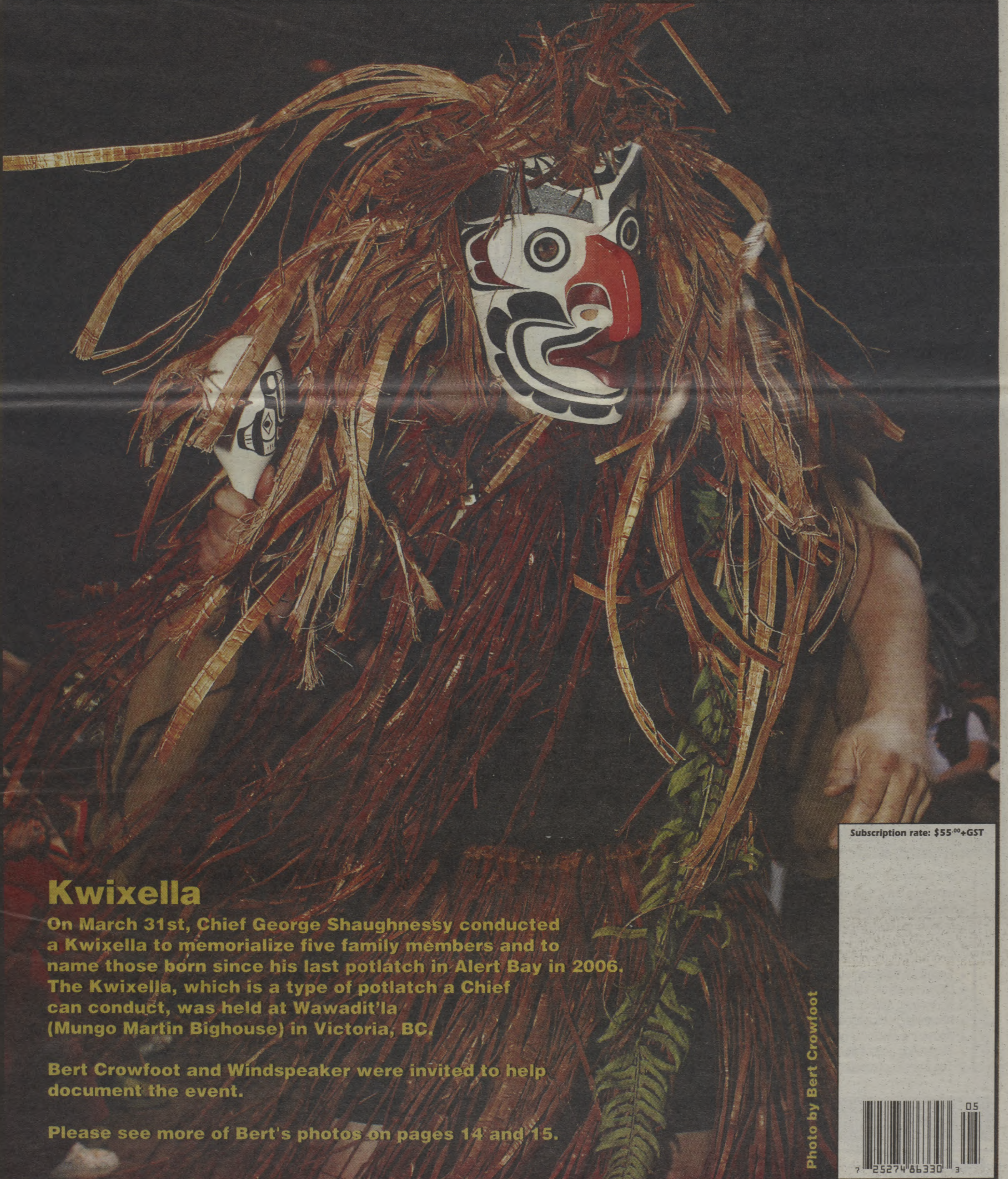
www.ammsa.com

Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA)

Publications Mail Reg. No. 40063755

ISSN 0834 - 177X

Windspeaker • Established 1983



Kwixella

On March 31st, Chief George Shaughnessy conducted a Kwixella to memorialize five family members and to name those born since his last potlatch in Alert Bay in 2006. The Kwixella, which is a type of potlatch a Chief can conduct, was held at Wawadit'la (Mungo Martin Bighouse) in Victoria, BC.

Bert Crowfoot and Windspeaker were invited to help document the event.

Please see more of Bert's photos on pages 14 and 15.

Subscription rate: \$55.00+GST

Photo by Bert Crowfoot



05

PORCUPINE CANVAS INC.

**TIPIS
DRUM COVERS
CANOE CANVAS
SWEAT LODGE COVERS
TENTS
TARPS**

Visit our website for many more items!



www.porcupinecanvas.com

Toll Free Phone: 1-800-461-1045 Email: porcan@vianet.ca
33 Father Costello Drive, Schumacher, ON P0N 1G0
Fax: 705-360-1865 Local phone: 705-268-7878



FIRST NATIONS INSURANCE SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

A 100% Indian-owned brokerage in operation since 1987

- Group Life & Health Benefits
- Group Pensions
- Employee & Family Assistance Program
- Individual Life, Health and Financial Services

"Providing Superior Financial Service to First Nations and Their Employees"

1-800-667-4712

Phone: 306.763.4712 | Fax: 306.763.3255

Chief Joe Custer Reserve #201
PO Box 2377
2300 - 10th Avenue West
Prince Albert, SK S6V 6Z1

Sub-office:
202B Joseph Okemasis Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1

Email: fnis@sasktel.net
Website: www.firstnationsins.com

Contact:
Helen Burgess
General Manager or
Stuart McLellan
Pension Administrator

Residential School Survivors!

*I'll work with you
to bring resolution
to your claim.*



The deadline for
submitting an
Independent
Assessment Process
(IAP) claim is
SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

Meredith Porter, LL.B., LL.M.

Ojibway lawyer practicing in Ottawa
Providing legal services nationally

Experienced | Professional | Proficient

If you require help with your IAP Claim,
Please call me for respectful
and professional service:

Office: 1.613.843.0393
Cell: 1.613.698.8146
Email: porterlaw@bell.net



Porter Law

Every
single
Windspeaker
article
ever
published
(well, almost)
is now
available
on our
online
archives.

That's
more
than
24,000
original
articles.

Only at
www.ammsa.com

Access is
FREE!

How's that for
affordable?

GET YOUR MONEY NOW!!!

PAY NO
WITHHOLDING
TAX WITH
INDIAN STATUS
CERTIFICATE

WE UNLOCK:

- FORMER EMPLOYER PENSION PLANS
- LOCKED IN RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

**FUNDS WILL BE DEPOSITED
DIRECTLY INTO YOUR
BANK ACCOUNT**

CFS

CANADIAN FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS INC.

* BC Registered funds do not qualify. Not available in QC.

CALL MARK Toll Free: 1 (888) 451-6133

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS

KNOW YOUR

Rights

Deadline Approaching
IAP application September 19th, 2012

For a Free Consultation or Workshop...

Please Call Toll Free 1- 877-378-4487

Clients keep 100% of their settlement.

Email: frank@alghoul-law.ca
200 - 286 Smith St. Winnipeg MB, R3C 1K4

ALGHOUL & ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

**Looking for your ideal career?
Start with our career listings
on pages 24 & 25.**

**Then browse through even
more career listings online:
www.ammsa.com**

insight

ABORIGINAL RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Consultation, Accommodation, Negotiations, Revenue-Sharing, Partnerships, Wealth Creation & Management

June 6 - 7, 2012

**The Fairmont Winnipeg
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

This seminar will cover a broad range of issues dealing with industry, resources, business and legal issues as it relates to Aboriginal participation. Aboriginal communities and businesses are entering into many new initiatives as they pursue greater sustainability and economic independence.

- Economic development: the role of good governance
- Economic opportunities through Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs)
- Economic development and leasing - a case study
- Urban reserves - tapping the growing Aboriginal workforce and consumer purchasing power
- Maximizing Aboriginal participation and partnership opportunities within major resource projects
- Aboriginal participation in energy project approval and development
- Accessing electricity generation resources - transmission options for remote First Nations communities
- Separating politics from business for community success
- The transfer of resource wealth to First Nations

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Chief, Leader or Member of an Aboriginal Community or Associations
- Band Council Member or Officials
- Federal, Provincial and Municipal Government Official and Employees
- Legal Counsel Practicing Aboriginal, Resource Development, Environmental and/or Constitutional Law
- Regulator and Policy Makers
- Consultation/Accommodation Negotiators
- Business Developers and Entrepreneurs
- Senior Executive, Directors or Managers of Energy, Hydropower, Wind Power - Green Energy, Mining, Forestry, Pulp and Paper, Oil & Gas
- Consultants in Natural Resources and Aboriginal Matters

Didn't receive a brochure with your copy of Windspeaker (MB, ON, SK)?
Download your conference brochure and registration form at www.insightinfo.com/aboriginalresources

An **ALM** Event

Please contact InSight at 1-888-777-1707 or fax 1-866-777-1292 to register.

Publisher

Bert Crowfoot

Editorial

1-780-455-2700

E-mail: windspeaker@ammsa.com

Contributing News Editor

Debora Steel

Staff Writers

Dianne Meili

Production

Judy Anonson

Advertising Sales

1-800-661-5469

E-mail: market@ammsa.com

Director of Marketing

Paul Macedo

Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario,
Quebec, Maritimes and USA

Keven Kanten

BC, Yukon, Alberta, Northwest Territories

Shirley Olsen

Accounts

Carol Russ • Hermen Fernandes

Circulation

Janet White

AMMSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Harrison Cardinal

Vice President

Rose Marie Willier

Treasurer

Chester Cunningham

Secretary

Leona Shandruk

Directors

Noel McNaughton

Jennie Cardinal

Monthly Circulation: 24,000

Windspeaker 1-year subscription: \$55.00+GST

Published since 1983, *Windspeaker* is politically and financially independent.

COPY RIGHTS

Advertisements designed, set and produced by *Windspeaker* as well as pictures, news, cartoons, editorial content and other printed material are the property of *Windspeaker* and may not be used without the express written permission of *Windspeaker*.

Letters to the editor and all undeliverable Canadian addressed copies can be sent to:

Windspeaker

13245 - 146 Street NW,
Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4S8

General Enquiries: windspeaker@ammsa.com

Rants and Raves: letters@ammsa.com

Twitter: [windspeakernews](https://twitter.com/windspeakernews)

Facebook: [windspeaker](https://www.facebook.com/windspeaker)

MEMBERSHIPS

Magazines Canada

Alberta Magazine Publishers Association



ADVERTISING

The advertising deadline for the June 2012 issue of *Windspeaker* is May 17, 2012.

Call toll free at: 1-800-661-5469 for more information.

Windspeaker acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund - Aid to Publishers for our publishing activities.

Canada

Features

Pipeline panel withdraws over concerns of safety 8

The Heiltsuk First Nation is demanding that the National Energy Board's Northern Gateway pipeline joint review panel return to the coastal community and give them back the day-and-a-half lost in hearings last month.

Cuts disappointing, and should concern leadership, says Satsan 9

"It's one thing for governments to be able to close our doors, but they can't close our minds," said Satsan Herb George, executive director for the National Centre for First Nations Governance.

IAP claimants more than double than expected number 9

The number of former residential school students claiming compensation through the Independent Assessment Process for physical, sexual and emotional abuse is forecast to be more than two times higher than originally predicted.

Ottawa kicks a peg out from foundational organizations 11

The four-prong approach to fiscal management and economic development created in the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act of 2006 was reduced to three in the recent federal budget.

Departments

[rants and raves] 5

[rank comix] 5

[what's happening] 7

[windspeaker briefs] 9

[strictly speaking] 12

[guest column] 12

[shaughnessy potlatch] 14 & 15

[windspeaker confidential] 17

[radio's most active] 17

[provincial news] 18 & 19

[health] 20

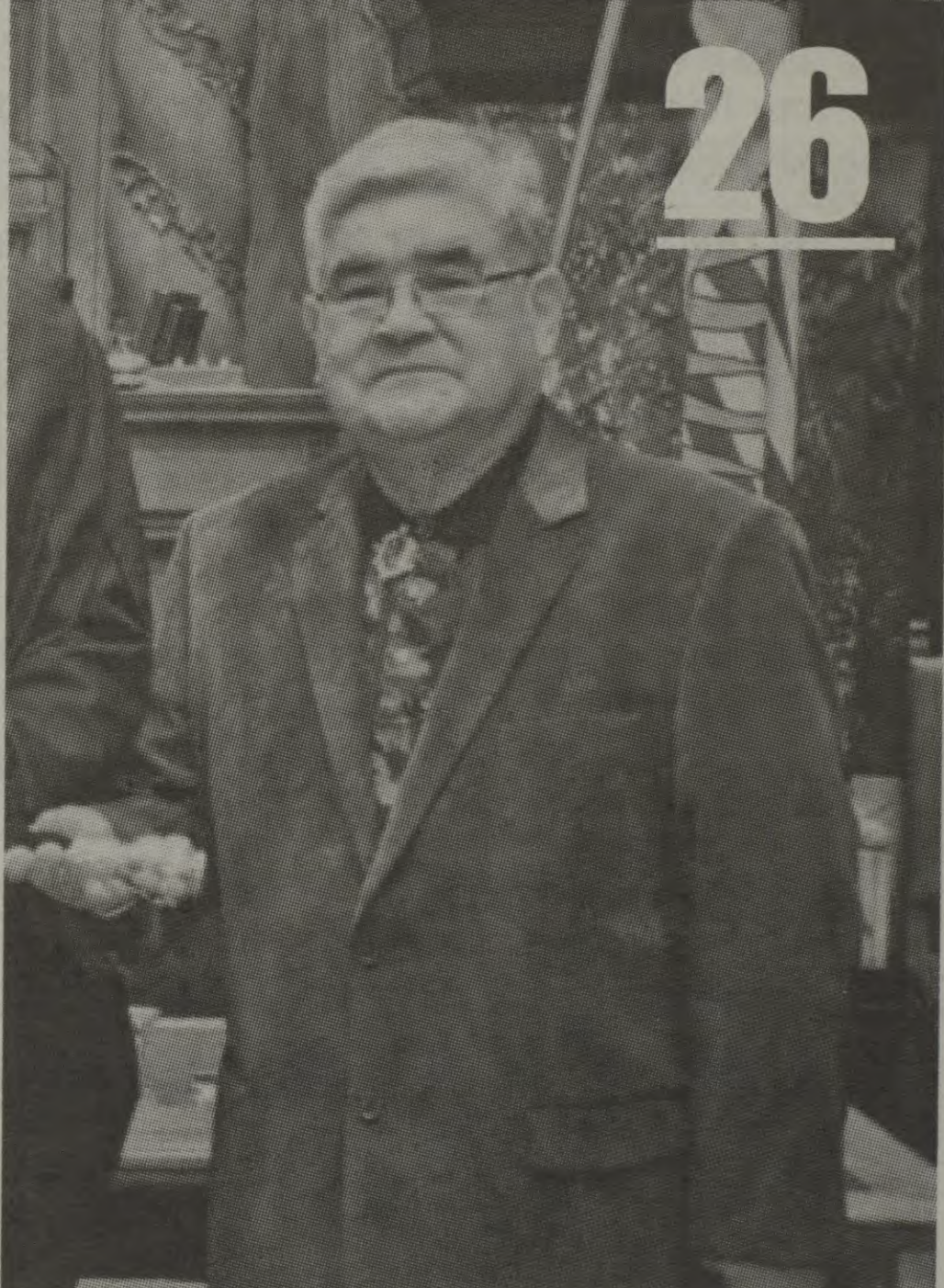
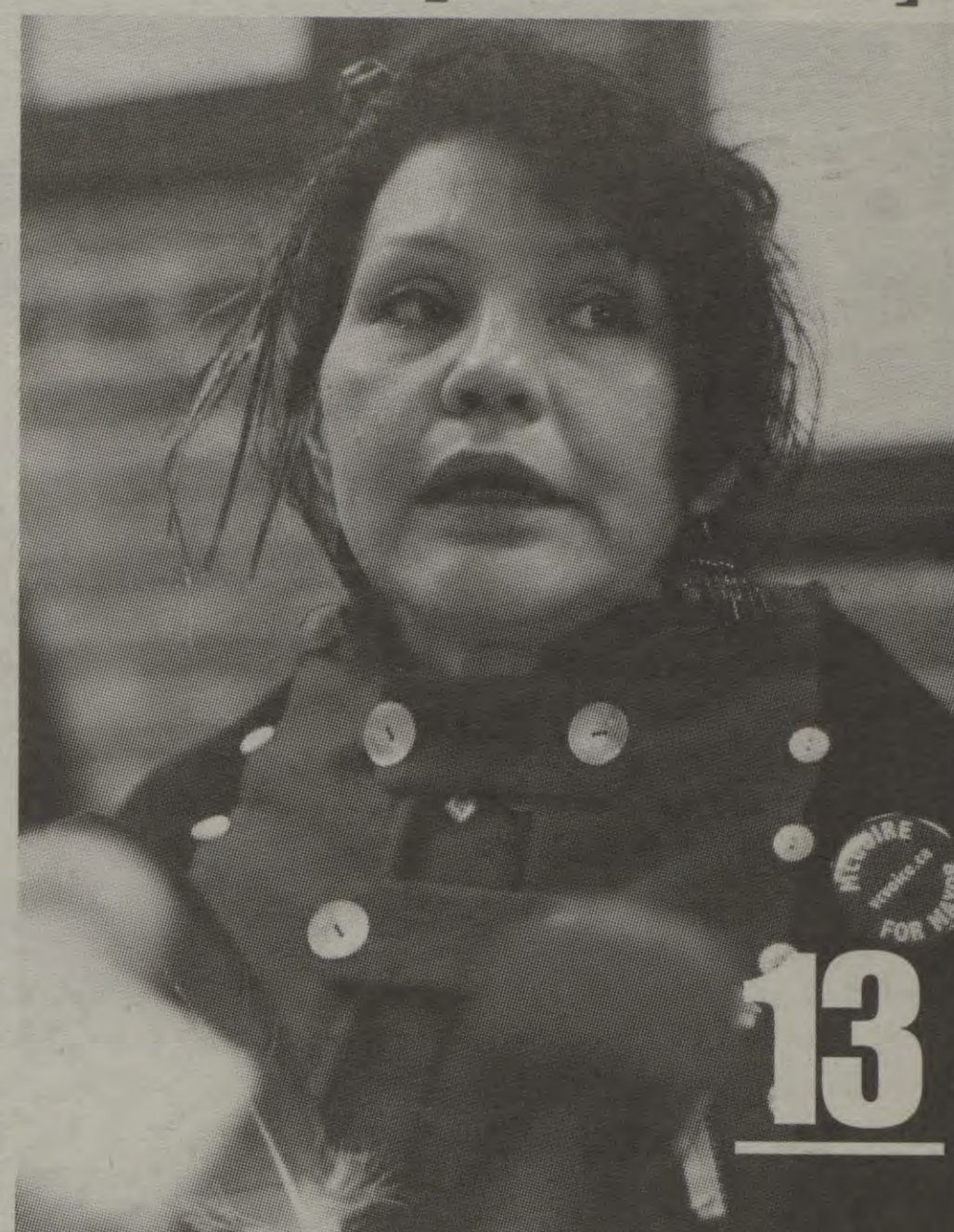
[sports] 21

[education] 22 & 23

[careers] 24 & 25

[footprints] Clifford Bolton 26

Former Kitsumkalum Chief Clifford Bolton was a master carver, known for gallery and museum-quality art. His 1987 event to amalgamate his people and thwart government interference was politically creative. For two centuries his people had almost lost themselves under assimilative pressures from traders, missionaries, and government authorities.



Windspeaker is published by the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA) Canada's largest publisher of Aboriginal news and information.

AMMSA's other publications include:

Alberta Sweetgrass — The Aboriginal Newspaper of Alberta

Saskatchewan Sage — The Aboriginal Newspaper of Saskatchewan

Business Quarterly — Canada's Aboriginal Business Magazine





September 19, 2012
is the deadline for Independent Assessment Process applications.
The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.
The healing continues.

On September 19, 2007 the Indian Residential Schools Settlement became effective. An important deadline is now approaching.

Under the terms of the Settlement, September 19, 2012 is the Independent Assessment Process (IAP) Application Deadline. Applications submitted after this date will not be accepted. The IAP is a complex process. Do not wait until just before the deadline to begin, as the application form can take time to complete.

What is the IAP? The IAP is an out-of-court process created to resolve claims of abuse at Indian Residential Schools. People who suffered sexual abuse, serious physical abuse, or certain other wrongful acts which caused serious psychological consequences while at a recognized residential school may receive money through the IAP. Awards are based on a point system for different abuses and resulting harms.

Is the IAP different than the Common Experience Payment? Yes. The IAP process is separate and different from the Common Experience Payment (CEP) application process. The CEP is a payment to those who lived at a recognized residential school. The IAP provides payments for specific abuse suffered while at a recognized residential school. Under the settlement, former students could apply for the CEP, or for the IAP, or for both the CEP and IAP. The CEP application deadline was September 19, 2011; however, where former students can establish that they were unable to submit their CEP application due to disability, undue hardship or exceptional circumstances they can still apply for CEP up until September 19, 2012.

Which schools are included? The list of recognized Indian Residential Schools has been updated. Decisions regarding a number of other schools are in progress. A complete and updated list of recognized residential schools is available at www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca.

Who can apply? You can apply for the IAP if you experienced

(1) sexual abuse, (2) serious physical abuse, or (3) certain other wrongful acts which caused serious psychological consequences, while you were either (a) living at a residential school, (b) a student at a residential school, or (c) under the age of 21 and allowed to be at a residential school to take part in authorized school activities. It is not a requirement to have lived at one of the recognized residential schools in order to make an IAP claim for abuse that may have occurred there.

How do I apply for IAP? To apply for an IAP payment you must complete and submit an application form by **September 19, 2012**, to Indian Residential Schools Independent Assessment Process, Suite 3-505, 133 Weber Street North, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 3G9. **Applications after this date will not be accepted.** The IAP is a complex process and it is strongly recommended that you hire a lawyer if you wish to submit an IAP

application. Do not wait until just before the deadline to begin, as the application form can take time to complete. To get an application, please call 1-866-879-4913 or go to www.iap-pei.ca or www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca.

Do I need a lawyer? All of the parties who developed the IAP believe that claimants should have a lawyer to represent them as the IAP is complex and involves difficult legal concepts and

processes. It is not required, but it is strongly recommended that you hire a lawyer to help you. For a list of lawyers, visit www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca. If you do not wish to hire a lawyer you can call 1-866-879-4913 to obtain information about the support available to you.

What if I have already applied for the Independent Assessment Process? If you have already applied, and have not received any information or have questions about your IAP application, please contact the phone number below.

How can I find out the status of my application? There are 3 ways to find out the status of your application:

- 1) Contact your lawyer or legal representative;
- 2) Call 1-866-879-4913; or
- 3) Send an email at info@iap-pei.ca

<p>Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About the IAP and how to apply • Help completing the application • Find out about a pending IAP claim <p>1-866-879-4913 • www.iap-pei.ca</p> <p>Crisis Line</p> <p>Immediate and culturally appropriate counselling support</p> <p>1-866-925-4419</p>
--

1-866-879-4913 • www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca

A do-nothing approach requires nothing at all

It seems to us that the Aboriginal Affairs ship being captained currently by MP John Duncan has been set adrift by its political master, Prime Minister Stephen Harper. It's not only just off course; there seems to be no course charted at all, and that's a disgrace after all this time. Aboriginal Affairs is just a cork bobbing in high seas, aimless, directionless, hopeless, hapless and of no good use to anyone at the moment.

Unless there is some method to the scattershot of recent cuts to Aboriginal programming, including the cuts from Health Canada, that have yet to be completely communicated, it seems that the only work being done is to tear down the work of others with no clear explanation to the benefits of such.

Perhaps the federal government doesn't wish to burden us with details, seeing how fatigued we are with consultation, at least according to Joe Oliver, minister of Natural Resources, who recently announced his intention to revamp the environmental assessment process, presumably to help friend Enbridge through a difficult time during its review process for the Northern Gateway project.

Still we are left to wonder if doing nothing, except destroying previous effort, is a strategy in itself.

What are we about to lose? Well, the National Centre for First Nations Governance, for one.

Governance and building the capacity to govern. That's basically what this organization is all about. This is how the centre explains what they do.

"We are passionate about supporting First Nations engaged in Nation rebuilding. The goal of Nation rebuilding is to restore economic prosperity to our Nations, improve social conditions in our communities and bring a renewed sense of honour and well-being to our people. Nation rebuilding uses the values and traditions of our past to build effective, independent governance for the future."

It means examining our languages, culture, spirituality, history and territories. Nation rebuilding is a long-term project involving everyone in our communities, especially our youth."

Now, what could be wrong with that? Isn't that what the Conservatives would want? Good, open and honest-to god effective, independent governing?

We know that the centre worked extensively with treaty nations—Maa-nulth and Tsawwassen—during their constitution-making and law-building phases leading up to implementation. So, what is this cut signaling to the treaty process in British Columbia?

The BC Treaty Commission has been calling for some time for a re-commitment from the federal government to the treaty-making effort. There is a serious concern that there has not been enough return on investment after some 20 years since the commission was established.

And then there was that Common Table experience that urged the government to get its treaty making mandate in line with actual current Canadian law. The feds have, it seems, abandoned that effort.

James Lornie, the special advisor on the BC Treaty Process that was appointed by Duncan last year, has submitted his report to government, but where is it? A summary is floating about with the chiefs, but the actual report?

Lornie was to give his advice about how to kick-start negotiations. Perhaps what we will see is that Canada's government isn't actually interested in kick-starting anything at all.

Do nothing. A simple approach that requires no vision, no leadership, no effort, no money. Sounds like a plan.

Of course, we're just speculating.

Windspeaker

[rants and raves]

Page 5 Chatter

The dunnvillechronicle.com reports

that community officials in Haldimand County, Ont. were so concerned about a rally scheduled to mark the sixth anniversary of the OPP raid on Douglas Creek Estates that they met hoping to put restrictions on rally organizers. Haldimand Mayor Ken Hewitt wanted a discussion on imposing an injunction on organizers of the Peace, Respect and Friendship in Caledonia rally, but found that containing the situation was going to be harder than first thought. "The challenge with an injunction is within the Charter of Rights and Freedoms everyone has the freedom to stand for what they believe in," Hewitt reportedly said. "I cannot simply put forth an injunction without having a significant expectation of violence to occur." Though organizers assured the county their rally would be exactly as described, a peaceful respectful assembly, the mayor was skeptical. "A precedent has been set whereas they are coming to a community that already has the potential for an explosion to occur," Hewitt said. "There's already a mindset in the community and their peaceful intent certainly doesn't negate the fact they are coming to a place that is charged." Caledonia Councillor Craig Grice believes the community shouldn't be a place to make political statements on matters that belong in the provincial or federal spheres. "The general public is concerned," he said. "This is an occupation that has torn Caledonia apart and we don't want to be torn apart anymore. We're not a site for protest." Hewitt seemed to agree. "Regardless of culture or sides, it's always the innocent people of Caledonia that take the brunt of any statement made since 2006. The people are tired of it and want to move on." He said his council has a "responsibility to our community that the streets are safe, open and available ... I'm no longer willing to sit back and watch these marches and parades turn our town upside down."

Letter: A new way

Dear Editor:

We are at a tipping point in the progression of human history and are now making the final decisions that will lead to the slow suicide of our species or its salvation. For too long we have walked heavily on this earth and our massive footprint can now be seen from space.

†We have accomplished wonders and committed atrocities. We have built monuments to our greatness and we have dug mass graves.

The digging of the final mass grave is now well under way. What can we do? Who do we turn to? The answer is simple; we must look to those whose knowledge has been gleaned from centuries of living in harmony with nature—the people of the First Nations.

First Nations communities are, after all, the embodiment of our environment. Like nature, they have now been confined to small, unsustainable, broken pieces of land and small pockets throughout our cities.

Colonization and the subjugation of First Nations people and nature in a vain attempt at control have resulted in unforgivable acts of genocide and the wiping out of entire species and cultures. We have created an imbalance.

The ecosystems that we have forced nature into are barely livable. Habitat loss is the number one cause of the loss of so many species and is affecting First Nation communities in the same manner. One only has to read the papers these days to see situations like Attawapiskat and hundreds of other struggling communities.

So before you choose to blame the victim and before you opt for the beliefs that the impoverished First Nations individuals are simply lazy or abusing the system, consider this. Our colonial culture and our affluence has polluted their beauty and nobility just as we have done with the landscape.

In doing this, we have also poisoned ourselves. These stewards of the land are only impoverished because their land is impoverished.

We must begin to develop systems of co-management in regards to the conservation of the resources that sustain us. We must also look to reconcile the damage that has been done to these First Nations people through years of slavery, genocide, and segregation. If we are to survive as a species, we must act collaboratively and in a way that uses the strengths of every culture.

And who could better help humanity with remedying the current environmental catastrophe that we have created than those who have maintained an inherent kinship with this earth? This shift from our colonial and capitalist perspectives will commence a new way of thinking that involves sustainability and stewardship of the Earth.

Strive together with hope towards the sustainability of our species and come to terms with our mother earth. Realize that we have never left her womb. We are still surrounded by her and attached to her and anything that we do in detriment to her, we do also to ourselves. United as one, we will survive. We will achieve a new way of knowing.

Jordan Bruce Brydges

Rank Comix

by Adam Martin

OUR ATTEMPT TO HAVE AN INJUNCTION STOP THIS "WALK FOR PEACE, RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP" MARCH FAILED... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO STOP THAT GUY'S PROTESTS?

OH RIGHT, HIM. NOT MUCH. WE JUST IGNORE HIM.

I'M WHITE YOU'RE WRONG!





A brief history of Windspeaker...

1983

The Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA) is incorporated and begins publishing the AMMSA newspaper to serve Alberta's Aboriginal people.

1985

The AMMSA newspaper is renamed Windspeaker.

1987

Windspeaker expands coverage to western Canada.

1990

AMMSA and Windspeaker develop a 5-year plan to become self-sufficient.

1991

AMMSA and Windspeaker (along with 10 other Aboriginal publishers) lose all government funding to support training of Aboriginal people in publishing careers.

1993

Windspeaker celebrates its 10th anniversary and self-sufficiency by expanding distribution and coverage to include all of Canada.

1996

AMMSA and Windspeaker launch the web site: www.ammsa.com

2001

AMMSA and Windspeaker re-launch www.ammsa.com to include archived articles.

2003

AMMSA and Windspeaker celebrate 20 years by expanding operations and moving into a new and larger location.

2010

AMMSA and Windspeaker celebrate 27 years with a major re-launch of the web site.

Please visit the new and improved ammsa.com and share your thoughts and comments with us.

Pipeline panel withdraws over concerns of safety

By Shauna Lewis
Windspeaker Contributor

BELLA BELLA, B.C.

The Heiltsuk First Nation is demanding that the National Energy Board's Northern Gateway pipeline joint review panel return to the coastal community and give them back the day-and-a-half lost in hearings last month.

"Right now we are in discussions with the joint review panel staff people," said Heiltsuk Chief Marilyn Slett. "We want them to come back to Bella Bella," she explained.

The pipeline review hearings, which began Jan. 11, are expected to wind through communities in B.C. and Alberta, providing a public platform where people can express their views about the pipeline project.

The Heiltsuk were scheduled to participate in the hearing in their territory April 2 to April 5, but they say their voices were silenced when the review panel began later than planned.

The panel, which was greeted in Heiltsuk territory by chiefs and protestors against the proposed \$5.5 billion oil pipeline deal, claimed that its safety and security was at risk and halted proceedings until discussions with Heiltsuk leadership could commence.

"The hearings resumed on Tuesday, April 3 and closed on Thursday, April 5," explained Kristen Higgins, spokesperson for the National Energy Board.

When asked for details about the specific concerns that prevented the scheduled start of the hearings, Higgins was vague.

"The hearing on Monday was cancelled because of circumstances the panel experienced on Sunday afternoon when the panel arrived in the community. They felt a meaningful hearing could not be achieved until issues were discussed with the community leaders," Higgins explained in an email.

"The panel needs to be able to receive information from the community in an environment that is safe and secure and where it can be assured that there is a clear understanding of expectations and protocols," she added.

But Slett said she doesn't buy the excuses. She said her community has been actively involved in review panels in the past and they knew exactly what to expect.

"Our community is fully aware of this process and what it represents," said Slett. "[The panel's actions] didn't sit well. It was disrespectful to our community."

"That was just absolutely ridiculous," agreed Bob Chamberlin, vice president of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. "I have no idea why they think they would be threatened," he added.



Heiltsuk children turned out to greet the Northern Gateway panel as it arrived in Bella Bella. The panel postponed the start of the review hearings because it felt panel members' safety and security was in question.

ALL PHOTOS: CHRIS DARIMONT AND THE HEILTSUK NATION

Chamberlin, who attended the April 1st rally in Bella Bella, said he was outside the airport fence with other traditional singers and drummers as the plane carrying the joint review panel landed and chiefs greeted members.

Chamberlin claims he witnessed nothing that would constitute an unsafe environment for the review panel.

"We sang some beautiful songs and the police were present. I know [the police] had no problem with what was going on," he said, adding that a majority of those that gathered were youth and children.

Later, Chamberlin claims that the First Nation had invited the panel to share a feast with them but panel members declined the invitation.

"Talk about disrespectful," said Chamberlin. "That just shows that there is no cultural sensitivity with this review panel, whatsoever," he exclaimed.

"It's just a cop-out," continued Chamberlin. "Are they going to continue to avoid places where they hear the truth? People need to speak."

Chamberlin said he has not met one First Nations person in favor of the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline.

"I have not heard one utterance, other than government, that [the pipeline] is of national interest," he said.

Slett said her entire community opposes the plan.

"Our major concern is over the super tankers that would travel the narrow passages," she said. "One oil spill could be catastrophic to marine resources," she explained.

The Heiltsuk are not alone in their opposition to the pipeline

plan. Last January, the Gitksan First Nation hereditary chiefs voted 78 per cent to overturn an agreement to participate in the controversial oil pipeline project. The agreement would have generated \$7 million for the band.

On Dec 2, 2011, the Gitksan Treaty Society chief negotiator, Elmer Derrick, signed on to the pipeline project with Calgary-based Oil Company, Enbridge Inc, causing a firestorm of controversy among band members and leaders.

Enbridge has offered Aboriginal communities affected a share in 10 per cent of the pipeline's ownership, as well as \$1 billion in community development money.

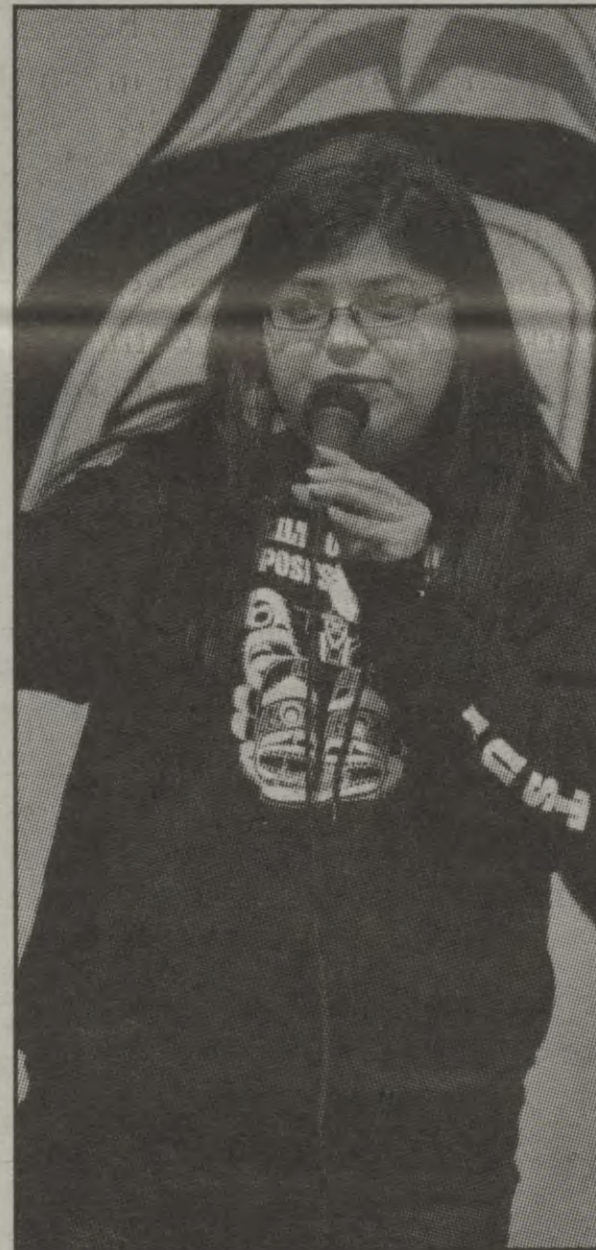
But Slett said she just wants the voices of her community properly heard.

"We want [the panel] to come back to Bella Bella for an additional day," she said, explaining that the statements of nine speakers scheduled April 2 had to be cancelled.

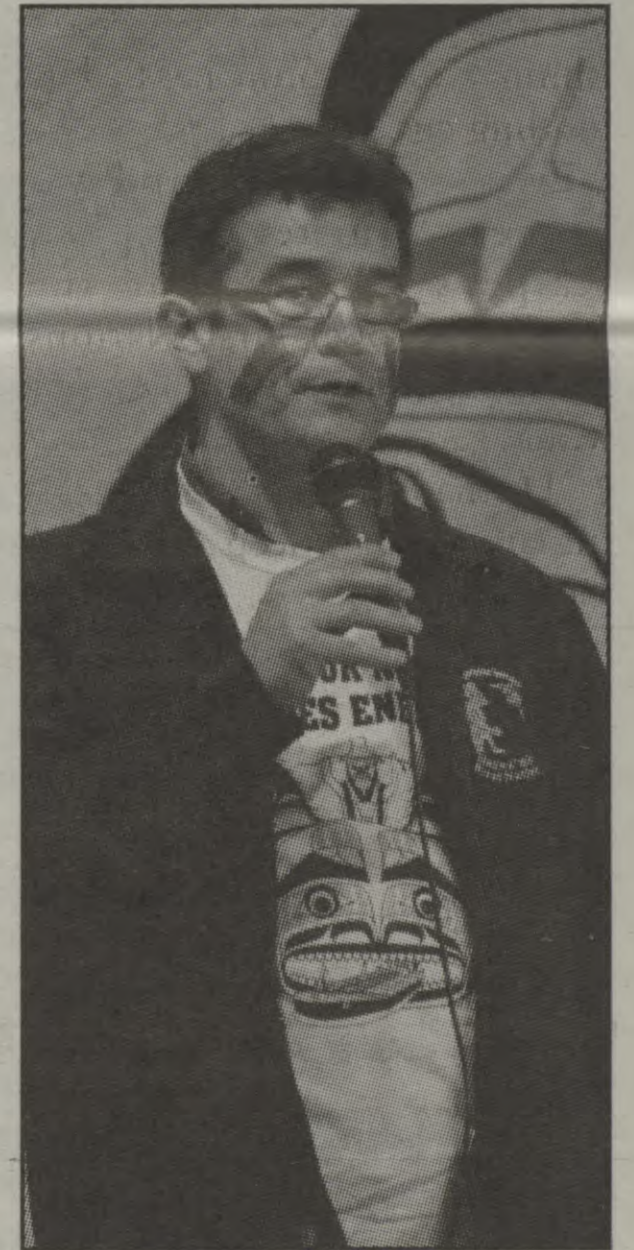
"That's a lot of people," Slett said of those unheard. "[Those are] Elders, cultural leaders and community members," she added.

Slett admitted that the joint review panel had offered the Heiltsuk community an extra day following the Klemtu hearings held April 11 and April 12, but the band declined, explaining that they needed more notice to allow out-of-town speakers to plan for an allocated hearing day.

Slett also said the panel had suggested that the Heiltsuk video record or write their comments to add to the final report, however, she said the band



Heiltsuk Chief Marilyn Slett speaks at the April 1 feast that the review panel members declined to attend.



Bob Chamberlin, vice-president of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, witnessed the protest and said nothing he saw in Bella Bella indicated any threat to safety and security.

deserves to be respectfully acknowledged and not pacified through indirect communication with the board.

Higgins didn't say when, or if, the Heiltsuk people will be given back the lost hearing time.

"Panel staff are working with the Heiltsuk leadership to ensure that the information from the community becomes part of the public record. To my understanding, those discussions are still going on," Higgins confirmed.

Chamberlin said he supports the Heiltsuk First Nation's demand for their lost hearing time.

"Canadians should not be denied their due process and as

First Nations we have to constitutionally protect rights," said Chamberlin. "The government needs to start respecting that in the fullest and broadest sense."

The joint review panel consists of members from the National Energy Board and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Technical hearings are also set for the fall. The entire process is slated to end in spring 2013.

Panel discussions are planned following the hearing, after which the federal government will have the final say on the project.

Cuts disappointing, and should concern leadership, says Satsan

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

"It's one thing for governments to be able to close our doors, but they can't close our minds," said Satsan Herb George, executive director for the National Centre for First Nations Governance.

Almost two weeks after the federal budget was brought down, George received word from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada that funding for the centre had been cut. The organization has gone from \$3 million to \$1.5 million effective April 1. There will be no funding after the end of this fiscal year, which will mean the doors will be closing on or before March 31, 2013.

George said he had been optimistic when the budget was released and the centre was not named as one of the institutes cut. However, he said he wasn't surprised to find out that in secondary cuts the centre had been axed. For two years running, the institute has had its funding cut.

Even more of a portend was Prime Minister Stephen Harper's comment at the January Crown-First Nations gathering that the Indian Act would remain.

"He made it very clear that the Indian Act had deep roots and the government wasn't interested in changing it or getting rid of it," said George.

That philosophy flies in the

face of what the National Centre for First Nations Governance is all about.

"Our centre is built around working with First Nations and our people, around putting in place our own governments that reflect our own opinion and our own needs, so we're talking beyond the Indian Act and into the realm of the inherent right," said George.

Perhaps the most obvious example of the divide that lies between the Indian Act and the work undertaken by the centre is what recently transpired with Attawapiskat First Nation. The federal government replaced chief and council with a third-party manager for four-and-a-half months. When Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence returned mid-April, one of her first calls was to the centre asking the organization to work with her and the community.

Since the centre opened its doors six years ago the demand for services has climbed, said George.

"We do governance better than anybody has tried in our communities. And we've got results; we've had success."

The Membertou First Nation is one of those successes. The work offered by the centre has been invaluable as Membertou works toward establishing codes for citizenship/membership and land management, said Cheryl Knockwood, governance coordinator with Membertou.

"It's unfortunate the funding has been cut because we're on a

trajectory of working in partnership on these issues at a community level." She created the centre for its critical help in those discussions.

Membertou has had an agreement in place with the national centre for a number of years which has seen the First Nation participate in the wide variety of workshops the organization offers.

"Because of those workshops we're moving full tilt forward. We feel disappointed because other communities who are not in our situation and (who) will require a few services to be able to do similar things we're doing, won't have the option or support from the national centre, so that's not a good thing," said Knockwood.

George said the national centre will continue to work on its projects "until we can't," noting that the organization has been involved with over 300 First Nations, almost half of the First Nations in Canada.

"We've created a movement for change that's in gear," said George, who believes that the Indian Act is the systemic cause for the difficulties faced by First Nations.

"What we've said to our people is that you've got to do it for yourself and you've got to do it based on your own vision. And that's happening. Even though our funding is cut, the movement for change is in gear. And I think our leadership should be very, very concerned about this (cut)."

IAP claimants more than double than expected number

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

The number of former residential school students claiming compensation through the Independent Assessment Process for physical, sexual and emotional abuse is forecast to be more than two times higher than originally predicted.

With an increase of applications expected from now until the deadline date of Sept. 19, it is believed that close to 30,000 former students will have submitted claims.

When the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) was signed in 2006, it was estimated that 12,500 students would be seeking compensation through the IAP.

Whatever the final number turns out to be, everyone applying will be dealt with fairly

and compassionately, said Daniel Ish, chief adjudicator for the IAP.

"This is one of my primary concerns, that the increased numbers don't affect the quality of the hearings." He said it is his job that the claimants' experiences are not "watered down, because we have to do more hearings," said Ish.

Ish was not present when the parties to the IRSSA set 12,500 as the number for IAP applications, but he understands that the figure was based on a study of students who attended British boarding schools, which indicated 15 per cent were criminally abused. There is an estimated 80,000 Indian residential school survivors still alive.

Ish said the system to deal with IAP claims was set up based on the estimated figure. When application numbers did not decline after 2007 as

anticipated, but remained steady, more staff was hired and the number of adjudicators increased from 70 to 108. As resolution health support workers are contracted by the federal government, Ish said he is unaware if those numbers increased. He said adjudicators always request that support workers be present or nearby when an IAP hearing is held.

James Scott, general council officer with the United Church, figures claimant numbers did not taper off because residential school survivors found the IAP process to be a "user-friendly... non-adversarial, non-confrontational approach. A number of people were initially hesitant to tell their stories... and they needed to know that that process was going to be respectful and going to be some benefit in terms of their healing."

(See IAP on page 10.)

Windspeaker News Briefs

A MAJOR VICTORY WAS WON ON

April 18 when a federal court ruled that the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal failed to give a thorough airing to the issue of discrimination in federal funding to child welfare services on reserve. The court has ordered a new hearing on the issue. The tribunal had dismissed a case, filed by Cindy Blackstock of the First Nations and Family Caring Society and the Assembly of First Nations, on what many called a technicality. Without hearing any testimony, the tribunal ruled that to establish discrimination a comparison must be made of the services being provided to two different groups. Blackstock had argued that the federal government was underfunding services to on-reserve children as compared to the funding received by children living off-reserve and provided by provincial governments.

THE YINKA DENE ALLIANCE,

a group of British Columbia First Nations that has used its laws to ban the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipelines and tankers in their territories, announced April 24 that it will embark on a "Freedom Train" journey beginning April 30. The goal is to protect their rights and their freedom from the threat of oil spills. The journey starts at Jasper in Alberta and ends May 9 in Toronto where Enbridge's corporate leaders will be attending an annual shareholders meeting. "Our journey on this Freedom Train is to build on the support from the people of Canada for the protection of our traditional lands. We will stand firm against all industries like Enbridge that are planning to destroy the environment and the future of all peoples," said Chief Martin Louie of Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, a member of the Yinka Dene Alliance. "We need a healthy environment to ensure a healthy future for our children." The Freedom Train is expected to be greeted by demonstrations of support as it stops in major cities across the country. About 40 First Nations people from at least 10 different nations will be traveling. Additional First Nations representatives will join the train journey along the way, and more are expected to participate in events in cities along the route. The Freedom Train will stop for feasts, ceremonies, rallies and events in Edmonton, Saskatoon and Winnipeg before arriving in Toronto. In Toronto there will be two days of events, including a concert, rally, march and the attendance of First Nations representatives at Enbridge's Annual General Meeting on May 9. "We're travelling across Canada to tell Enbridge that they will not be permitted to build their pipelines through our lands, period," said Chief Jackie Thomas of Saik'uz First Nation. "The fight against Enbridge is a fight for our freedom to govern ourselves and to choose our own future. We will not accept the government imposing a decision on us and forcing this pipeline through our lands."

NEKANEET FIRST NATION

in Saskatchewan will introduce its own Goods and Services Tax where the collected revenues will go back to the band instead of Ottawa. The initiative falls under the First Nations Goods and Services Act. Three years ago, Whitecap Dakota First Nation was the first to introduce such a tax in Saskatchewan. Nekaneet hopes to make up to \$20,000 a month from the tax which it will use towards economic development.

THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

was compelled to layoff staff when Health Canada reduced funding to the organization by 40 per cent. The layoffs, said the AFN, will impact "its supportive and facilitative role in informing the development of health policies and programs for First Nations." Health Canada was asked to make \$200.6 million in cuts over three years as part of the federal budget's review of departmental spending.

THE UBC GRADUATE SCHOOL OF

Journalism project provides an in-depth look at efforts by Aboriginal communities to address such major health and social issues as suicide, sexual abuse, diabetes and the survival of traditional languages. The series of original news stories can be seen at www.indigenousreporting.com and was created by students in UBC's inaugural Reporting in Indigenous Communities class. The eight multimedia stories result from a unique partnership with Metro Vancouver Aboriginal communities where UBC graduate students were assigned to cover important community news as "embedded" journalists. "Far too often, news media portray Aboriginal people in ways that reinforce negative or inaccurate stereotypes," said Duncan McCue, CBC reporter and UBC Graduate School of Journalism adjunct professor who led the course. "By exposing the next generation of journalists to Aboriginal stories, cultures and protocols, we have produced a series that shows Aboriginal people not as victims, but as catalysts of positive change." The five Aboriginal course partners are the Squamish First Nation, Tsleil-Waututh First Nation, Tsawwassen First Nation, Sto:lo First Nation and the Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council. The national CBC program The Story from Here is scheduled to broadcast the entire series as a one-hour radio documentary on June 20.

Injunction halts Fed's attempts to harmonize social assistance

By Shauna Lewis
Windspeaker Contributor

ELSIPOGTOG FIRST NATION, N.B.

First Nations in Eastern Canada have won a court injunction against the federal government preventing a plan to impose on-reserve social assistance cuts.

Ottawa had planned to impose a welfare program that would harmonize First Nations social assistance with that of the rest of the eastern provinces beginning April 1.

But on March 30, Federal Court Judge Sandra Simpson issued an injunction, putting a temporary hold on planned cuts.

The injunction comes after the Elsipogtog First Nation, a community of 3,000 in New Brunswick, filed a notice of application to the Federal Court for an injunction to delay the cuts until the case is heard in court.

In her report, Judge Simpson pointed to evidence proving that

there were efforts on behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to consult with eastern First Nations regarding the implementation of the new policy, however, it was the lack of meaningful consultation with First Nations about the details and merits of the policy before it was developed that helped influence her decision to issue the injunction.

Judge Simpson also ruled that the plan, which proposed to cut welfare rates for First Nations by as much as 50 per cent, could have a distinctly negative impact.

"In my view, the estimated decline in income assistance rates under the policy and the potential for ineligibility will cause emotional and psychological stress amounting to irreparable harm for some recipients," Judge Simpson stated.

"Individuals who are reliant on income assistance are especially vulnerable even to small changes in the resources available to meet their basic needs and, for this

reason, I have concluded that the applicants have demonstrated irreparable harm," she concluded.

Those in support of the injunction are applauding the judge's decision.

"I feel great, said Jesse John Simon, former chief of the Elsipogtog First Nation. Simon was representing the band when they filed the injunction.

"[The government] have been imposing a lot of sanctions on us without our input and without us at the table," he said.

"It's really good that justice did prevail, especially with the poorest of the poor who normally don't get to be heard," Simon added.

The road to the injunction began last year when the Elsipogtog Nation was informed that cuts to on-reserve welfare were imminent.

"We had heard in April 2011 that the federal government was going to impose new social assistance rules on us without any sort of meaningful consultation."

Simon said the new policy was

to take effect in November 2011. But First Nations rallied together urging the government to reconsider enforcing such harsh changes without consultation.

Ottawa agreed to postpone the cuts until April 1, 2012.

That's when the Elsipogtog First Nation filed the court application.

Looking back, Simon claims that the government was going to enforce the new welfare system regardless of consultation with First Nations.

"It really didn't matter what we did, they were going to do it April 1," he said.

In an email dated April 20, Michelle Perron, spokesperson for AANDC, confirmed that the ministry filed an appeal against the injunction on April 16.

"As outlined in Economic Action Plan 2012, our Government is committed to better aligning its on-reserve income assistance program with provincial systems through improved compliance with program requirements," Perron wrote. "This is consistent with our commitment to fairness and transparency across the country," she added.

Perron noted that the ministry's goal was, in fact, to employ First Nations.

"This policy, along with active measures to transition First Nations to the workforce, will provide greater opportunities to participate in the Canadian economy," she stated.

"We realize that a limited 'transition' period is required for some First Nations.

The department is willing to

work with First Nations to gain a more comprehensive understanding of their views on the potential impacts of provincial Income Assistance programs on First Nation recipients. This [plan] is consistent with the Government's approach across the country to improve the effectiveness of the Income Assistance Program and ensure First Nations are well-positioned to be full participants in the Canadian economy," Perron concluded.

But Simon claims that there are very few employment opportunities for members of his reserve. Further, if the new program goes through, First Nation members will face about \$300 in cuts to their social assistance funding and will be required to manage the entirety of their monthly allowance alone rather than relying on the band to cover specific costs like shelter and hydro.

The changes concern Simon.

"Some of my people can't manage money," he said quietly. "Through no fault of their own," he added. Simon said residential schools had severe impacts on some band members and many never learned to budget. Others are too caught in the web of addiction to manage finances.

Simon said if the plan goes through the consequences could be "devastating."

However, he believes the dispute is not only about funding.

"It's not about us wanting to stay on welfare," he said. "It's about us being included in making policy," he stated."

IAP claimants more than double than expected

(Continued from page 9.)

The United Church, along with the Presbyterian and Anglican churches and the Catholic Entities, were party to the IRSSA with the federal government. The United Church operated 14 residential schools, all of which are recognized in the IRSSA list of schools. As signatories to the agreement, the churches have the right to attend IAP hearings. However, said Scott, who has worked with residential school survivors for the past eight years and has attended a few hearings, the United Church, along with the other two protestant churches, always seek permission from the claimant before attending a hearing in which their church ran the residential school attended by the claimant. If the claimant is amenable, a church representative sits through the hearing. When the hearing is adjourned, the representative apologizes on behalf of the church.

Ish said the personal apology issued from a church representative is important for claimants.

"It all works together, this kind of team approach. I really believe there's a healing element for the claimant that occurs by hearing both Canada make an apology at the hearing and the church," said Ish. He noted that the Catholic Entities do not usually have a representative at hearings in which the claimant attended a Catholic-run residential school.

Ish does not believe false claims have caused the higher IAP

numbers. While false claims are inevitable, Ish said adjudicators are good at "testing the evidence." He does note that 'zero' claim decisions are increasing, but he attributes that to the stronger cases having been heard earlier and the weaker cases now coming forward. Weaker, Ish said, doesn't mean the claims are false only that the evidence put forward cannot be proved on the civil standard.

Ish points out that survivors are quick to set the record straight.

"Sometimes it's not the claimant who exaggerates but it's whoever filled out the application form that exaggerated it. There have been so many incidences where the claimants have had an opportunity to embellish their claims and don't take it and instead do the opposite," he said.

There are companies – a large number in particular in Manitoba – that market their services for a fee to claimants to fill out the IAP forms. Sometimes the forms are not filled out accurately, which comes out at the hearing, said Ish.

Scott said the IAP is not about the money for residential school survivors.

"Aboriginal people themselves, I've heard over and over again very wisely, say that money doesn't bring healing, but hopefully the telling of the story, and hopefully the validation of the story ... will," he said.

While the IRSSA budgeted \$1.9 billion for the Common Experience Payment, with an average of \$20,500 awarded to applicants, there is no budgeted

figure for IAP payments.

"The IAP remains open-ended, which is highly unusual in a class action settlement," said Ish.

The budget for the entire IRSSA was set at \$3.2 billion. However, with IAP claimants more than doubled, the federal government will have to come up with more money. The churches fixed their financial contribution to the IRSSA.

"Canada committed itself to pay whatever was necessary to complete all of the claims based on the rules set out in the IAP," said Ish.

That the number of students criminally abused is so high "is tragic," said Scott. "It communicates even more profoundly ... the extent of damage done. Clearly we understood that all former students who went to residential schools experienced the generic harm being away from their families and [not] being taught their culture and their heritage and their language was no good. What I think the whole country is coming to see is that a much higher proportion of students also experienced criminal harm ... It's always been hard to understand how children in church-run schools where the commitment of many people in the schools was to the Christian gospel could have been so deeply abused."

Ish expects that it will take until 2015 for the final IAP claims to be settled, considering psychological assessments, if required, can take up to six months.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FIRST NATION RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL ISSUES

MANN & ROBINSON

would like claimants and potential claimants to be advised the deadline for applying for the Independent Assessment Process is

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

If steps are not taken in time your claim right could be lost. Taking immediate action is recommended.

**MANN & ROBINSON
Barristers & Solicitors
9902 – 97 Avenue**

**Peace River, AB T8S 1H6
1-780-624-4860**

Toll Free 1-888-624-4861

Email: Law@MannRobinson.ca

Chief curious about the motive for privatizing reserve lands

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

In the recently tabled federal budget, the government has committed to look more closely at private property ownership of reserve lands, claiming it is the only way First Nations can achieve their full economic development potential.

"I think it's ridiculous," said Robert Louie, chair of the First Nations Land Advisory Board and chief of Westbank First Nation.

"All of the work that we're doing right now under First Nations Land Management accomplishes everything that needs to be accomplished, except we don't transfer land to fee simple. We don't want to and don't have to."

The federal government, with support from the First Nations Tax Commission, suggests that fee simple or private land ownership will allow

development to occur at a faster pace than what is allowed under the Indian Act.

But this is already happening through the First Nations Land Management Regime, said Louie, whose organization recently recommended 18 First Nations be accepted under the regime. There are 73 First Nations across the country in the process of, or already operating under, their own land codes. Members of the land management regime can opt out of the 34 land-related sections of the Indian Act, allowing them to manage their land, resources and environment. It allows the nations to avoid red tape, bypass federal government approval, and allow economic development to occur at the same rate as municipal counterparts.

The budget document states, "Some First Nations have expressed an interest in exploring the possibility of legislation that would allow private property ownership within current

reserves. Economic Action Plan 2012 announces the government's intent to explore with interested First Nations the option of moving forward with legislation that would allow for this."

Louie said he recently spoke to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Minister John Duncan who indicated that six to eight First Nations had expressed interest in First Nation Property Ownership. Louie balks at the number, saying he would be "very surprised" if that number is even as high as three. There are 633 First Nations in Canada.

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo backs up Louie's perspective.

"It is very clear that, by and large, the majority of First Nations do not support the move toward private property," said Atleo in response to the federal budget and Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's inclusion of private property ownership.

In 2010, a resolution was

passed at the AFN's Special Chiefs Assembly rejecting the First Nation Property Ownership Act, and calling for "a strategic lobby to oppose federal legislation for a First Nation Property Ownership Act."

Manny Jules, chair of the First Nations Tax Commission and former chief of the Kamloops Indian Band, declares support for the act in a Web site saying the "costs of doing business on First Nation lands will be substantially lowered; the economic value of First Nation lands will be substantially improved; private initiative and entrepreneurship will be greatly enhanced."

But Louie said this is already being accomplished without First Nations having to sell their land. First Nations that have implemented their own land codes, including Westbank First Nation, have shown that financial institutions and investors "are very comfortable with the structure that we have today."

Why the federal government

would be pursuing First Nation Property Ownership with so few First Nations interested in it is unclear to Louie, unless the federal government is looking to pass on responsibility to the provinces and cut the federal budget even further.

If the land becomes fee simple that means it falls under the provincial lands registry.

"That's a huge concern and worry that First Nations have. Once you bring in the provincial registry land system then you have a different government, a different view point as far as lands are concerned. And that causes a lot of uncertainty among First Nations," said Louie.

"If there isn't much more interest, if it's going to die on the vine, I just don't know," he added, noting that the federal government could pass the proposed legislation, presenting it as an option to First Nations.

"I'm coming down pretty harsh on the process because that's where the chiefs are at," Louie said.

Ottawa kicks a peg out from foundational organizations

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

NIPISSING FIRST NATION, Ont.

The four-prong approach to fiscal management and economic development created in the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act of 2006 was reduced to three in the recent federal budget.

The 2012-2013 operating dollars for the First Nations Statistical Institute have been cut in half to \$2.5 million. By April 1, 2013, there will be no funding available to the only First Nations-led and managed Crown corporation in Canada.

"We were taken aback by the announcement," said Keith Conn, FNSI's chief operating officer. However, he points to other similar institutes and organizations that were casualties to Finance Minister Jim Flaherty. "We're part of a tsunami of budget cuts for organizations that are focused on research and data."

Harold Calla, chair of the First Nations Financial Management Board, said the loss of FNSI will leave his organization having to

collect its own data in order to satisfy the requirements of the investment banks and rating agencies that First Nations need to accomplish long-term investments. The financial management board, statistical institute, First Nations Tax Commission and First Nations Finance Authority were created under the same 2006 legislation.

The FNSI is an important nonpartisan tool used to provide the necessary financial analysis and data gathering for the bond debenture process. That work came to the forefront recently when Osoyoos Indian Band Development Corp., along with Songhees and Tzeachten First Nations, became the first bands to become borrowing members of the First Nation Finance Authority.

The FNFA sells debentures and, in turn, lends the money to certified First Nations.

To qualify for this standing, the three First Nations had to meet stringent guidelines and it was data provided by the FNSI that helped establish their credit rating.

Conn pointed out that the FNSI was created by the

government because of a perceived gap in First Nations statistical information. Many First Nations do not participate in the census process because they do not trust how the information will be used. As the FNSI is an independent, neutral body which is First Nations-led, First Nations-managed and housed on a First Nation, it generates that trust, he said.

FNSI gathers the data through specific agreements on how the data will be collected, managed and published. The data remains the property of the individual community.

"Data is important in terms of generating knowledge and it's also important for policy development and planning processes," Conn said, pointing to the planning that is required in such areas as housing, employment and education.

"There's also an important aspect around communities wanting to be more accountable to their (members), by having the right tools and analysis in terms of reporting out."

Not only is statistical data vital for on-reserve planning, but it's also important for acquiring

government funding, said Calla. "It is statistical data that drives decisions on allocation of scarce resources that comes from government."

"The organization was on the cusp of doing a lot more work with communities," said Conn. He noted that there are 24 projects FNSI has on the go with different First Nations communities and organizations. Those will have to be wound down over the next 11 months, and the 23 staff will have to find new jobs.

Conn said FNSI is working closely with the other three "sister organizations" to map out what that transition will entail and expects direction and an amendment to the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act to be included in the 2012 Budget Implementation Act. He noted that the federal government and Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Canada will have to ensure that the "intent and spirit of the original legislation" is maintained.

What will happen with the data and information collected by the FNSI is also at issue. Some

material is private to specific First Nations and needs to go to them. General information is also a concern and Conn wants to ensure that the material is publicly available and easily accessible.

"We have to find a new safe home for many of our products and services we have developed," said Conn. He added an established First Nations-centred organization, such as an academic institution, would be suitable. "We need to explore all these options as to what would be advantageous to First Nations."

"We're now in the position with the phasing out of this institution that I see these things, like full inclusion of all Aboriginal data, not being as easily achieved as it otherwise could have been," said Calla.

Conn is concerned that closing down FNSI will take First Nations back to where they were before.

"With the gap widening, that will create a great and significant disadvantage for First Nations governments and communities in terms of planning and negotiating and trying to identify disparities and eliminate gaps," said Conn.

Every single Windspeaker article ever published (well, almost) is now available on our online archives at www.ammsa.com

Access is now available at no charge. How's that for affordable?

[strictly speaking]

Ending winter, but not storytelling

I look out my window and can't help but notice that winter is beating a hasty retreat and spring is rapidly invading, spreading across the land like a canoe full of voyageurs and black robes.

The beginning of spring marks the start of some things and the end of others. No more pushing cars or trucks stuck in snowdrifts – unfortunately the primary source of cardio in many First Nations communities.

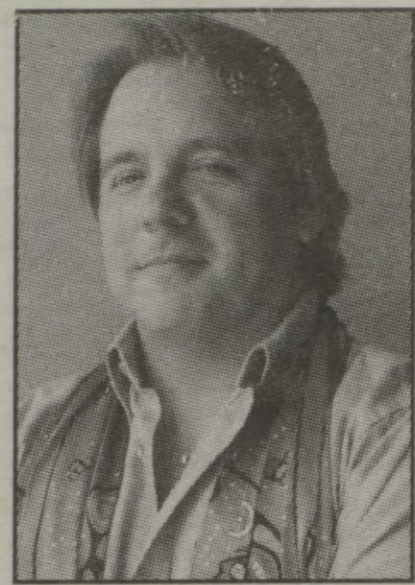
Maple sap is running already, meaning fresh maple syrup is already boiling in the pots.

Much like non-traditional tobacco, it is one of our more dubious contributions to the health of our own society, what with the high rate of diabetes in our communities. Knowing that exquisite taste, however, who wouldn't chance a pancake coma?

Also, no more ice fishing. All those shacks I saw only a month or so ago dotting the lakes are already put in storage, the summer cottage for many a spider.

But what concerns me on a personal and professional level about spring is that it is the traditional end of storytelling.

Many cultures, including my own, believe that winter time is



THE URBANE INDIAN

Drew Hayden Taylor

the proper season to tell stories. Much like the European story of the Ant and the Grasshopper, summer is a busy time with too much to do to waste time with stories. Those are best left to the winter, when families and communities spend long hours in the warmth of their tipi/wigwam/longhouse/RVs, weaving intricate stories about the animals, spirits and people that populated their world.

There's an old saying, or a warning, really. 'Mosquitos love stories.'

Needless to say this philosophy is problematic to someone like me who makes his living from various methods of storytelling. Every year I ponder if I should take an enforced six month break, mastering some other fine art like

pottery or macramé? I mean, so what if I did tell a few stories... let the mosquitos come. I have enough Muskol to get me through most of June and July.

And what are the metaphysical implications if I decide to summer in somebody else's winter... like August in the Antarctic? Thinking of the broader picture, I've always meant to ask an Elder if I could tell stories there. Or are the limitations on seasonal storytelling restricted to location or culture?

This is getting deeper than I expected. Maybe I will just rely on my Caucasian side to tell stories. There seems to be no moratorium on stories told by the colour-challenged. And then I will let my Indigenous half

grumble and complain, like chiefs at a First Nations conference.

Coincidentally enough, one of my favorite stories is about ice fishing. And like the best stories, it's supposedly a true one. At least that is what I was told.

It seems a friend of mine who lived down in the L.A. region of California married a Cree woman. He himself was of Apache and Pueblo blood, and was more familiar with the dry deserts and rocky Road Runner-type vista of the American Southwest.

Then he went north with his wife to spend Christmas with his in-laws. And eventually as the week progressed, he found himself embracing the local customs, which included sitting in an ice shack situated in the middle of a frozen lake with a bunch of his new family. So there they sat for several hours.

Needless to say, he felt very out of place. He was cold. Nobody talked. He was very uncomfortable knowing he was located in the middle of a large body of water with several holes cut in its frozen surface.

This was not L.A. or the desert. For the Apache/Pueblo gentleman, something was

definitely wrong with this picture. So eventually getting bored, he tried to start a conversation.

"Is this all you guys do, just sit around here?"

One of his companions shrugged and said "Yeah. But you should have been here last week."

"Why?" my friend asked.

"That's when the ice shack hookers came around."

Ice shack hookers? Now, admittedly, I don't know a lot about the sex trade industry, but in the social hierarchy of that industry, working the ice shacks has got to be on the real low end of the spectrum. It's got to be hard to look sexy in a skidoo suit.

I have heard of prostitutes working truck stops, supposedly leaving your head lights on is some sort of signal, but ice shacks? Do you pay them in fish!? Bait!? Can fish and game wardens bust them for hunting without a license?

Now every time I drive by a lake and look out on its frozen surface, I can't help but see those small isolated shacks sitting on the ice, and occasionally somebody walking across the ice. It makes me wonder what is really going on in those things.

Saying no to the proposed Gateway pipeline is unselfish

By Tatyana Daniels
Guest Columnist

The proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline's environmental damage risks far outweigh the economic benefits for British Columbians.

Enbridge is an international company. It has offices in Canada, United States, Spain, Columbia, and Venezuela. In Canada, Enbridge is proposing to build a pipeline from the Alberta tar sands to the shipping port in Kitimaat, B.C.. This proposal has divided people in B.C.

From Alberta, crude oil will be shipped through pipelines crossing many traditional First Nations territories, and hundreds of important fish-bearing rivers and streams while on its way to the shipping port of Kitimaat.

When the crude oil arrives in Kitimaat, it will be loaded onto supertankers and shipped across the ocean to China. This can potentially be a very dangerous environmental risk.

The risks far outweigh the economic benefits for British Columbians. Enbridge claims 3,000 jobs for British Columbians will be created during the process of the construction phase. Three thousand is not a huge number.

There are 5,000 people living in the small town of Smithers, BC. Three thousand jobs do very little benefit for British Columbians.

In the long term, Enbridge claims 560 jobs will be created. These jobs will only be at the Tar Sands in Alberta and at the shipping port in Kitimat. This is not

worth the huge environmental risks.

Building this pipeline will cost a lot of money. The pipeline will cost more than any infrastructure project for the energy industry and claims to be an important bridge between Aboriginals and industry for long term benefit.

Enbridge wants to ensure maximum participation for Aboriginal communities in economic opportunities, equity, ownership, directed procurement and employment. They have also developed a package of environmental and economic commitments for the communities along the route, including coastal communities.

They are very determined to find solutions for the concerns of Aboriginal groups. They have offered Aboriginal people a 10 per cent share net income over

“When we look at projects before us, the experts in the oil industry say if you move oil, you spill oil; whether it's through a pipeline rupture or a super tanker accident. This will have catastrophic results on wild salmon.”

the next 30 years. This will be approximately \$280 million shared between all communities.

Enbridge also states that Aboriginal ownership would help achieve priorities such as health care, education and housing. Still, I am against the Northern Gateway and I don't think that the pipeline will have many benefits. It is still too big of a risk.

On the Web site pipeupagainstenbridge.ca, the author states that the pipeline will cross 1,000 rivers and streams. I contacted the NDP party which believes the risks far outweigh the benefits of the proposed pipeline, and they do not recommend that it should proceed.

The wild salmon in our area is not just a nourishment physically; it's a nourishment

culturally. Salmon is a huge part of not only Gitksan culture, but a lot of First Nations cultures in the northwest.

In the Gitksan nation, salmon is a big part of our culture. In the summer time we harvest our salmon and the salmon connects us to

each other. We get together; Elders, adults and the younger generation. We learn a lot from this. We learn how to properly cut and gut the salmon, and how to preserve it. It reinforces the lineage and the connection to our land.

During this time, the Elders start sharing the stories of our culture and they also speak our language around us. We, as I am speaking of the younger generation, get our knowledge through the salmon. If the salmon dies out, our learning of our own culture dies out too.

Refusing this pipeline is not selfish, believe the NDP, and that we've been very generous about the way we've participated in the global economy in forestry and mining. Northwestern B.C. is a fish nation; anyone connected with the land base knows that.

When we look at projects before us, the experts in the oil industry say if you move oil, you spill oil; whether it's through a pipeline rupture or a super tanker accident. This will have catastrophic results on wild salmon. We don't want the existence of healthy salmon populations to be a story of the past like the modern-day buffalo story of the Plains.

It's not just the First Nations people that depend on salmon for food. Salmon also connects a lot of non-First Nations people too; fishing reinforces relationships.

Salmon also keeps our ecosystem healthy and stable. It creates a diverse ecosystem providing food for the bears and many other animals in our ecosystem. Without salmon, our ecosystem would go wacky and be unhealthy, and unstable.

The Gitksan nation is taking a stand and saying no to Enbridge. The Gitksan would rather protect the land and traditional ways over the money.

If anyone really respects the environment, we wouldn't let this pipeline go ahead. Some of the species we have are irreplaceable. The land we have is what we should cherish. Northern British Columbia is beautiful, and we should keep it beautiful.

If you would just go ahead and order a Windspeaker subscription then you could get Windspeaker delivered right to your office or home. For only \$55.00 +gst you would not only help support independent Aboriginal communications, but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Inquiry's failure succeeds in pulling together groups



PHOTO: DAVID P. BALL

Cee Jai Julian (right), a former sex worker in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, addresses an April 10 press conference, with Battered Women's Support Services worker Lisa Yellow-Quill.

By David P. Ball
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

A coalition of interested groups have rejected pleas to rejoin BC's missing women inquiry, saying they will instead focus on a United Nations investigation and proposed royal commission into the circumstances surrounding Canada's nearly 600 murdered or missing Aboriginal women.

Only weeks after the tearful resignation of lawyer Robyn Gervais who was representing Aboriginals at the inquiry and who left frustrated by the back seat the inquiry was making her take, an open letter from 15 groups – including the Assembly of First Nations, the Native Women's Association of Canada and Amnesty International – called the hearings “flawed and illegitimate.”

They vowed to support the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which in January announced its intentions to initiate an investigation.

“The high levels of violence experienced by Aboriginal women, as well as the hundreds of missing and murdered Aboriginal women across the country are evidence of Canada's failure to meet its international legal obligations to respect, protect and fulfill the

fundamental human rights of women,” the coalition stated. “Our organizations will dedicate what limited resources we can offer to working with the United Nations to facilitate their investigations and fact-finding processes, in order to ensure that Canada is held internationally accountable for ongoing human rights violations.

“We have no confidence that the Commission of Inquiry can provide such accountability.”

Groups also proposed a federal investigation.

“We're seeking other ways to get justice,” said Lisa Yellow-Quill of Vancouver's Battered Women's Support Services. “We're calling for a national royal commission.”

“We know what the root causes are – but we want them on paper – of racism, sexism and poverty.”

Organizations listed eight criticisms, including limited inquiry terms of reference, the refusal to fund their participation, and “impossible” timelines for their refusal to go back to the inquiry led by Commissioner Wally Oppal.

According to Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, president of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, the inquiry's failures stem from provincial inaction.

“I want to be absolutely clear on this – it was Premier (Christy) Clark that strangled the inquiry when she absolutely refused to fund the representative groups

here today,” Phillip told Windspeaker. “It denied us the opportunity to engage legal counsel to cross-examine police witnesses – that opportunity is gone.

“There has been a shift in focus to working towards a royal commission of inquiry at the national level, and further to that there's work ongoing at the international level through the United Nations. . . It has to do with organizing an ongoing campaign to change systemic racism, sexism and classism that permeate the criminal justice system from top to bottom.”

He said groups have been meeting often to plan those efforts, and would not let a “failed inquiry” derail them. Although Canada has not responded to the UN, Amnesty said that it would be unprecedented to refuse.

“There's no doubt it's going ahead,” Craig Scott of Amnesty International Canada's Indigenous campaigner told Windspeaker. “The question is whether it will benefit from the cooperation of the Canadian government or not.

“We've had visits by UN special rapporteurs before. . . These mechanisms have full access to Canada. Certainly it would be a terrible thing for that to be reversed. It would be an extraordinary thing for Canada to rescind its invitation.”

Amnesty – the world's largest rights group – has now fully

distanced itself from the inquiry, despite initial hopes of participating, he added.

“The deeper question is about the factors that put Indigenous women – marginalized women – at risk of violence, and what are the structural changes needed,” he said. “This has to part of any credible investigation into what happens in the Downtown Eastside (DTES).

Families of missing women, whose DNA were found on serial killer Robert Pickton's pig farm, expressed frustration with the groups' refusal to take part in the inquiry.

“It's disappointing because many of them have a lot of things the commission should hear,” said Ernie Crey, whose sister Dawn was among the victims. “They have a lot of important information and on-the-ground knowledge about the lives of the women in the (DTES) before many of them vanished.

“I'm disappointed in our provincial government. The community groups that have turned their back on the inquiry and walked away . . . but I understand why.”

The formal social worker welcomed any investigation into systemic problems in the DTES.

“It became really personal, where I'm concerned, when my sister became one of the missing women in November 2000,” said Crey, a Sto:lo First Nation fisheries consultant. “I'm from a

family that fought really hard for this inquiry, despite some of its shortcomings.

“That's why I'm keenly interested in this inquiry, regardless of its shortcomings. I'm interested in any efforts to make life different down there. . . We want to talk about what changes should transpire, regardless of what Oppal's recommendations may be, to address the social, economic and health circumstances in the community, so people like my sister are actually helped.”

Oppal will publish his report in June on what went wrong in the Pickton investigation, why the province dropped an attempted murder charge in 1997, as well as police failures to heed several witnesses' warnings about the killer five years before his 2002 arrest.

But with groups vowing to push internationally, abandoning the inquiry altogether, one positive outcome is the coalition of human rights, Native, women's and civil liberties groups which has emerged, Phillip said.

“There's no question about it – the interesting dimension to all this is it's the miserable failure of the inquiry itself that brought us together,” he said. “We've been working very closely over the last number of months, particularly when it became evident the inquiry wasn't able to fulfill its mandate.

“It's a work in progress. I'm absolutely optimistic.”

[kwixella – chief shaughnessy potlatch]

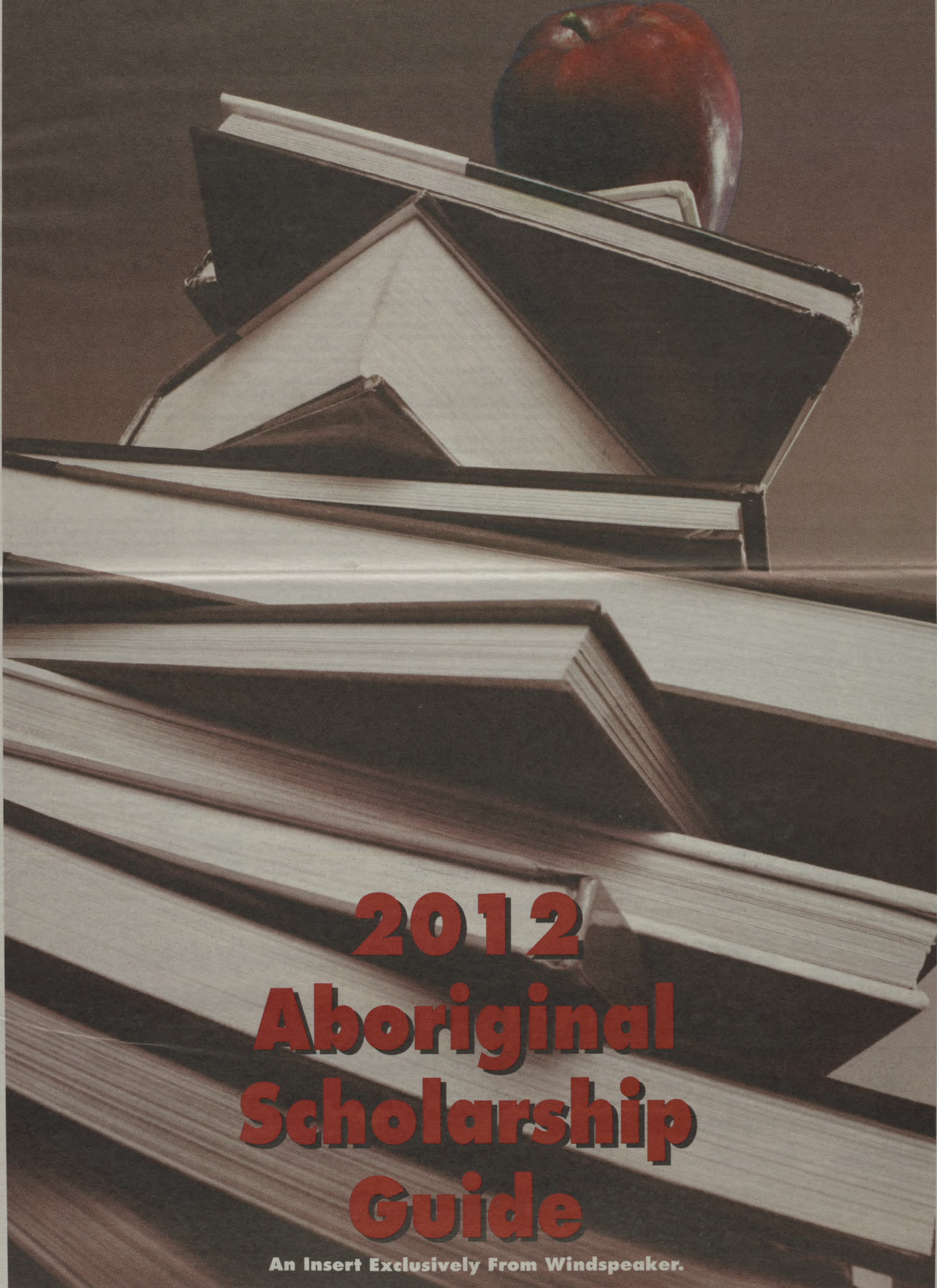


Above: Gerry and Maureen Curle being honoured by Daisy Sewid-Smith and Speaker Chris Cook, while Clan Chief Adam Dick looks on (foreground left)

Right: Two year old Marlene August-Seaweed was born to dance.

ALL PHOTOS: BERT CROWFOOT





2012
Aboriginal
Scholarship
Guide

An Insert Exclusively From Windspeaker.

Scholarship Search Tips!

• When fishing for scholarships, cast the widest net you can, focusing on your area of specialty while applying for general scholarships/bursaries anywhere you're eligible. Admissions offices will often have listings, but internet searches are also effective, and many applications can be completed online.

• One of the longest running programs of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), the Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth One form submitted there will be considered for about 145 scholarships. Their submission form dates are October, once school has already started.

• Criteria and eligibility vary from place to place but once you've completed a first application, the second one invariably goes faster. It is mainly a gathering and organization of information for the sponsor awarding the scholarship, so checking carefully to meet the criteria and goals listed by the organization will increase success.

• Always try and keep copies of documentation, such as letters of support, to use for multiple submissions. Many scholarships can be completed online.

• Read guidelines thoroughly and check biographies of past winners.

• Remember to make deadlines – even the strongest candidates will be eliminated if they file too late – this demonstrates commitment and responsibility! And if you don't make it this year – your chances can only increase with time and experience for next year.

• Many sponsors learn who their students are and maintain a supportive relationship, which can even include summer employment opportunities.

• Everyone likes to back a winner! List past scholarships and bursaries received, for that "snowball effect".

The following list of scholarships and bursaries has been compiled by Windspeaker with the kind assistance of participating companies, schools and foundations. For a complete and up-to-date listing of Aboriginal scholarships and bursaries please check our online listings located at: www.ammsa.com.

NATIONAL

Norman Taylor Memorial – Aboriginal Financial Management Scholarship and Bursary Program

Norman Taylor was a member of the Ucluelet First Nation on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. He was one of the founding members of the AFOA Canada serving as the founding President and later the Chief Advocacy Officer.

Bursaries Deadline: July 27

Bursaries are available to Aboriginal students attending university or college as a full-time student in an academic program such as Business Administration, Business Management, Accounting, Commerce and/or other finance related programs. Bursaries are open to AFOA members and non-members. Four bursaries in the amount of \$1,000 each will be awarded.

Scholarships Deadline: July 27

Professional Development Scholarships are available to AFOA members who wish to take AFOA's AFM courses or AFOA management certificate courses on a one-off basis for professional development reasons, or to attend AFOA's National Conference. The Professional Development Scholarship is intended to offset full registration costs for AFOA courses and/or registration and travel related costs to attend the National Conference (February 2013 in Toronto, ON).

Scholarships: Two applicants who wish to enroll in one on-line AFOA course – scholarship value of up to \$800 each. Two applicants who wish to attend the AFOA National Conference – each scholarship includes conference registration (value up to \$800) and travel related costs (up to \$2,000).

Application forms, program guidelines and eligibility criteria can be obtained by visiting www.afoa.ca or by calling AFOA Canada at 1-866-722-2362.

ATCO Pipelines Aboriginal Education Awards Program

The ATCO Pipelines Aboriginal Educational Awards Program is aimed at supporting Aboriginal students from First Nations and Métis communities in close proximity to our facilities. Successful applicants will demonstrate a balanced lifestyle and commitment in the pursuit of education. These awards, bursaries and scholarships are awarded to select students who demonstrate leadership capabilities and strive to be role models in their schools and communities.

This program was launched in 2011 and saw 26 students from across the province receive awards.

There are three different awards available:

* Merit Award - Ten merit awards of \$500 to be granted each year; Must be attending High School (completing grades 10-12); Maximum one award per applicant

* Bursaries - Ten bursaries of \$1000 to be granted each year; Must be registered in a recognized trade/community/technical college diploma or certificate program; Preference will be given to those enrolled in a program relating to the natural gas industry; Maximum one award per applicant per calendar year; Must re-apply to be considered for subsequent years

* Scholarships - Five scholarships of \$1,500 to be awarded each year; Must be registered

in a university program intended to lead to a bachelor or graduate degree; Preference will be given to those enrolled in a program relating to the natural gas industry; Maximum one award per applicant per calendar year; Must re-apply to be considered for subsequent years

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must be enrolled full-time in a secondary or post-secondary educational program and be Canadian citizens of Aboriginal ancestry and originate from within 50km of ATCO Pipelines facilities. ATCO employees and/or their children will not be considered for these awards.

The deadline to submit an application is August 1st annually. Applications received after that date will not be considered during the review and selection process.

The following information must ALL be included in the application package in order to be regarded for any one of these awards:

- A completed application form
- One reference letter from a teacher, faculty member, employer or other community leader
- A short essay (minimum 250 words) describing why you are a suitable candidate for the award
- Proof of enrollment for the upcoming semester in a secondary or post-secondary institution

Official transcripts from a secondary and/or post-secondary institution in which you are currently enrolled must be ordered and sent directly to ATCO Pipelines.

Mail or deliver completed application packages, and direct official transcripts, to:

Corporate Communications
ATCO Pipelines
#1300, 909 – 11th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2R 1L8

Strategic Alliance of Broadcasters for Aboriginal Reflection (SABAR) Scholarship

Deadline: May 16, 2012.

SABAR is pleased to offer our first annual Scholarship to an Aboriginal student in Journalism or Radio/Television Arts. SABAR is particularly proud to play an important part in supporting the development of a future community leader who may have the potential to help us meet our primary goal of increasing Aboriginal reflection in Canadian broadcasting.

Eligibility

1. First Nations, Inuit or Métis permanent Canadian resident;
2. Desire to follow a path to a career in the broadcast industry;
3. Enrolment in Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio and Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program; and
4. Interest in acting as an ambassador for the broadcasting industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting.

Guidelines:

One scholarship valued at \$5,000.00 will be awarded. This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs.

Scholarship winners are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in their approved programs in the amount of \$2,500.00 annually to a maximum total scholarship value of \$10,000.00.

For more information: www.sabar.ca

GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada

The GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada is a unique program that provides

financial support and skills development opportunities for up to 5 accomplished first-year undergraduate students from recognized institutions who are pursuing degrees in the fields of engineering or business/management and are Canadian resident Aboriginal individuals who are either First Nation status or non-status, Métis or Inuit

Why Apply?

- * A \$4000 per year scholarship for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years of your undergraduate program
- * An opportunity to be mentored by a business leader at GE in Canada
- * Participation in GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders activities, including a specially designed leadership development seminar at GE Canada in Mississauga, Ontario
- * Participation in community development projects

Who Can Apply?

Only applicants who meet the eligibility criteria described below will be considered for the award

Aboriginal peoples who:

- Are Canadian residents
- Are first-year full-time undergraduate students at a recognized Canadian university
- Are studying engineering or business/management
- Have high academic performance, as demonstrated by first semester university results and high school transcripts.
- Demonstrate financial need

How to Apply?

Click on the link at the bottom of the page and complete the online application.

The application form including essay must be submitted online by 11:59pm EST on

March 15 each year.

All Supporting Documentation must arrive via post by March 15 to:

GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada
Institute of International Education
809 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
USA

Supporting Documentation – In addition to your application form, the following documentation is required:

1. Certification Page with original signature (downloaded from online application)
2. High school transcripts – official copy, may be sent directly by high school
3. First semester university results (if available) – official copy, may be sent directly by university
4. Two letters of recommendation (see instructions on form which can be downloaded from the online application)
5. Proof of Aboriginal ancestry – photocopy of Band/Treaty card; Métis membership card; Inuit Beneficiary card. Students who are non-status First Nation may send a photocopy of the band card issued to parent or grandparent.

English translations must accompany any documents not in English.

Incomplete application materials or application materials received after March 15 will not be considered. Application materials will not be returned to applicants.

What is the Selection Procedure?

A selection committee will evaluate all applications. Each applicant's motivation and academic potential will be assessed.

Who Can I Contact for More Information?

If you have any questions, please contact IIE:

Email: gefslp-canada@iie.org
Phone: 1-800-486-0308
Fax: 1-212-205-6466

Complete the GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Application Here: apply.scholarshipandmore.org/

Canadian Nurses Foundation

Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) is the only national foundation solely committed to promoting the health and patient care of Canadians by financially supporting Canadian nurses engaged in higher education, research, home health-care and specialty certification; advocating dissemination and utilization of nursing knowledge.

Awards are supported by contributions from corporate and individual donors. CNF gives nurses across Canada approximately \$275,000 annually in scholarships and certification awards. The value of the scholarship awards ranges from \$1,000-\$6,000.

The CNF TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund specifically supports First Nation Status or Non-status, Inuit or Métis nurses at the Bachelor, Master's, PhD and Nurse Practitioner levels. In 2009 and 2010, CNF provided scholarship awards to a total of 32 aboriginal scholars.

Deadline for all applications is March 31st of each year for the following academic year.

Applicants for the CNA Certification awards must have confirmation of approval from CNA to write the exam.

For more information, please visit the CNF web site at www.cnf-fncc.ca or e-mail to info@cnf-fncc.ca We're on Facebook and Twitter, too! Tous les renseignements sont Également disponibles en français.

AltaLink Aboriginal Scholarship Program

In 2007, AltaLink launched its aboriginal scholarship program. This scholarship program is designed to recognize the aboriginal community and offer financial assistance to aboriginal students attending post-secondary institutions by offering four \$2,000 scholarships.

ELIGIBILITY:

This scholarship is open to all students who are Métis or members of Treaty 6, 7 or 8 and are currently enrolled in a post secondary institution.

HOW TO ENTER:

Applicants can enter one of two ways, online or by mail.

All applications must be received in full by November 30

In addition to this application form, applicants must arrange to have a copy of their official transcripts sent to:

ATTN: Megan Wolfinger
AltaLink
2611 3rd Ave SE
Calgary AB, T2A 7W7

Official transcripts must be requested by you directly from your post-secondary institutions. Only official transcripts received directly from your post-secondary institution that are received no later than November 30, 2012 will be accepted. Only once we receive an application form and transcripts will an application be complete and considered eligible.

AltaLink will not be held liable for late, lost, delayed, not received, damaged, misdirected, incomplete, stolen, fraudulent, or illegible applications.

www.ammsa.com

We can help you sort through what's important to you.

First Nation Justice Murray Sinclair
Métis HST veterans
Chief and Council role models
Kelowna Accord NAC
Aboriginal Healing Foundation
Residential Schools poverty
AIDS Inuit elections
Stephen Harper scholarships
environment service Land Claims Sisters in Spirit
assimilation Congress of Aboriginal Peoples

Aboriginal Scholarship & Bursary Guide

Annual Windspeaker Insert — May 2012

Check online for complete listings at www.ammsa.com



SCHOLARSHIPS:

A scholarships valued at \$2,000 will be awarded to a student from each of Treaty 6, 7, 8 and Métis.

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION:

Recipients will be selected in January of 2013 and will be directly notified. Only successful applicants will be notified.

Students will be selected for the awards based on financial need, scholastic achievement, community involvement and career and life goals.

Be sure to complete all the required questions and provide your official transcripts to us. A complete application will increase your chances of selection.

PRIVACY:

The information you are providing to AltaLink is being collected for the purpose of choosing a scholarship recipient. AltaLink will not rent or sell your personal information to any third party. Information held by AltaLink will be protected in accordance with AltaLink's privacy policies. If you have any questions, please contact Megan Wolfinger at (403) 267-4292.

Application deadline is **November 30**

Dr. William Commanda Willis Scholarship

Willis College, with 11 locations across Ontario, is announcing the scholarship in partnership with TeKnoWave Inc.

Willis College of Business, Health & Technology and TeKnoWave Inc. are proud of its association with Elder and Grandfather Dr. William Commanda and have chosen to establish The Dr. William Commanda Scholarship in Clean Energy and Business Education.

The scholarship will be awarded annually to eleven Aboriginal students from across Canada who would otherwise not have the opportunity to obtain the career-oriented education provided at Willis College.

The scholarship will accommodate one Aboriginal person, per location, to take one program in clean energy or business valued at ten thousand dollars. The Scholarship provides

tuition and book cost for a one year program at Willis College. The student may select courses from the curriculum offered at the time of selection. Students will also be able to choose which Willis College location they wish to attend.

The evaluation and award process will take place annually in Ottawa with many prominent individuals involved on the scholarship board of trustees. Students of First Nations, Métis or Inuit heritage will be chosen based on academics and community involvement along with other criteria. The scholarship is administered by The Dr. William Commanda Board of Trustees.

Interested candidates must apply by July 1.

Willis College of Business, Health, & Technology established in 1896 stands as an ongoing testament to the creativity, tenacity, and strength of Canadian private career colleges and maintains a corporate mission statement to provide a quality adult educational learning environment where the creative interests and development of our students are paramount. Willis specializes in accredited adult career education. Students may take individual courses to upgrade their skills or enroll in a full career program that leads them to attractive jobs in the clean energy and business sectors.

Algonquin Elder William Commanda from Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, Maniwaki, Quebec was born on November 11, 1913. He was acclaimed chief of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg for over nineteen years. He received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the University of Ottawa in 2005. In December 2008, he was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada and in November 2009, the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards Foundation announced his selection as the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

Details

"The Scholarship" was announced in January 11th, 2010. The Scholarship carries a nominal value, at the time of announcement, of \$110,000.

The scholarship will accommodate one Aboriginal person, per location, to take one program in clean energy or business valued at

ten thousand dollars. Students will be able to choose which Willis College location they wish to attend.

The Scholarship is available to qualified First Nations, Inuit and Métis students to pursue clean energy and business studies.

The Scholarship is awarded annually to a qualified student selected by the Dr. William Commanda Scholarship Board of Trustees Selection Committee.

The Scholarship provides tuition and books for up to a one year program at Willis College of Business, Health and Technology's eleven locations. The student may select courses from the curriculum offered at the time of selection.

The Scholarship is non-transferable and may be applied to academic career courses only.

The student may attend courses during a 12-month period from the time the courses are started at Willis College campuses offering the selected courses.

Interested candidates must apply by July 1.

Any Aboriginal student in Canada who wishes to apply may do so directly through Willis College by July 1st. The candidate selection will be made by the Dr. William Commanda Scholarship Board of Trustees and will entitle the winner to attend the program of his/her choice at any of the Willis College campuses across Ontario.

Selection Process

Basis of Selection

The Selection Committee is looking for candidates with proven intellectual and academic ability, integrity of character, interest and respect for fellow human beings, ability to lead, demonstrate leadership and creativity in the areas of environmental stewardship and sustainable relationships, appreciation for education, and initiative to use their talents to the fullest.

Method of Selection

A Selection Committee, consisting of representatives of the Dr. William Commanda Scholarship Board of Trustees, will choose the successful candidate. The decision of the Selection Committee is final.

Method of Application

The completed application, with all the required information must be forwarded to:

Selection Committee Dr. William Commanda Scholarship Board of Trustees
c/o Willis College of Business, Health & Technology
85 O'Connor Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5M6

Admission Status

The applicant must:

- (i) Have a minimum of Grade 12 high school or be of age of 19 and over; and
- (ii) Provide a transcript of marks from a previous academic institution.

Payment of Award

The successful candidate will be presented with the award and a commemorative certificate at The Dr. William Commanda Scholarship Award Annual General Assembly, which is held each summer at Willis College Ottawa campus.

Canada - US Fulbright Program

Deadline: November 15

Student must be American or Canadian with Native Heritage and attending a post-secondary education institution studying countries relations between other countries. Value of award is \$15,000.00 for student and \$25,000.00 for faculty members enrolled in graduate studies.

For more information contact:

350 Albert Street, Suite 2015,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 1A4
Ph: (613) 688-5540
Fax: (613) 237-2029
E-mail: info@fulbright.ca
web site: www.fulbright.ca

Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation (CMSF):

The CMSF Awards program was started in 1989 to identify, recognize and reward well-rounded students who combine distinguished talents with character, leadership potential, and a commitment to the community.

The CMSF National Awards

The CMSF National Award is our most prestigious scholarship. It is awarded after a rigorous process, which includes the written

application and extensive interviews. A description of the National Awards follows: Up to 35 National Awards are offered to students bound for one of our 25 participating Canadian universities. The top National Award is valued at up to \$8000 cash and up to \$8000 in annual tuition for up to four years of full-time study, plus up to \$7500 in summer program funding over the course of a degree.

The CMSF Finalist Awards

CMSF Finalist Award are valued at \$2,500 and are one-time entrance awards tenable at any accredited university in Canada at which the recipient gains admission and enrolls in a full-time program of study. A Finalist Award is offered to every finalist who participates in National Selections but is not offered a CMSF National Award.

The CMSF Provincial Awards

CMSF Provincial Award are valued at \$1,500 and are one-time only entrance awards tenable at any accredited university in Canada at which the recipient gains admission and enrolls in a full-time program of study.

All Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation (CMSF) Awards inquires contact:

Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation (CMSF)
53 Yonge Street, 5th floor
Toronto, ON M5E 1J3
1-866-544-2673
Website
www.cmsf.ca

Garfield Weston Merit Scholarships for Colleges (GWMSC)

Deadline: March 27

Eligibility:

- 1) Be in the final year of study for a high school diploma OR be an adult in the work force.
- 2) Must NOT be university degree or college diploma graduate within the last 3 years.
- 3) Demonstrate an academic ability that will ensure success in their chosen course of study.
- 4) Demonstrate leadership potential.
- 5) Present a record of service to the school and/or community.
- 6) Demonstrate an interest in his/her selected field of study.
- 7) Be accepted at an accredited community college for 2-4 year diploma studies in the academic year after selection.

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!



The most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada featuring award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

News, editorials, columns, humour, features and much more — it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

A new edition at your home or office every month for the low price of \$55.00/year.



Saskatchewan Sage provides coverage of the news and events from Saskatchewan's Aboriginal communities.

Profiles of youth, elders, artists, writers and many others from communities throughout Saskatchewan — every month.



Alberta Sweetgrass provides coverage of the news and events from Alberta's Aboriginal communities.

Profiles of youth, elders, artists, writers and many others from communities throughout Alberta — every month.

SAVE!! — You will receive Alberta Sweetgrass every month for only \$25.00/year when you also subscribe to Windspeaker.

SPECIAL RATE ON MULTIPLE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

- WINDSPEAKER — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$55.00 +gst
(includes Sage for Saskatchewan subscribers and Raven's Eye for BC subscribers)
- ADD ALBERTA SWEETGRASS — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$25.00 +gst
(Get Sweetgrass alone for just \$35.00 +gst)

PRICING PLEASE ADD \$10.00 PER YEAR FOR EACH PUBLICATION FOR DELIVERY IN THE USA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____ Phone: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
OR CHARGE TO YOUR VISA/ MASTERCARD/AMEX NUMBER
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

VISA: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail to: AMMSA • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton • Alberta • T5L 4S8
toll free: 1-800-661-5469 • web: www.ammsa.com • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

National Award:

Up to 50 available annually
For each National Award the colleges make a tuition grant of up to \$4500 per year. In addition to this, the GWMSC offers up to \$8000 per year as a stipend.
The National Award is renewable for up to 4 years of diploma studies only at our participating colleges.

To renew the National Award, award holders must:

- 1) Show continued evidence of character, leadership and service
- 2) Maintain an acceptable academic record under a full course load

GWMSC Regional Award:

Up to 30 available annually @ \$4000 Award

GWMSC Provincial Award:

Up to 25 available annually @ \$2500 Award
Regional and Provincial Awards are one-time awards for use at any accredited community college in Canada.

All GWMSC Awards inquires contact:

Web Site: www.garfieldwestonawards.ca

Native Women's Association of Canada Corbiere - Laval Two-Axe Early Student Awards

Aboriginal women and be enrolled in a post-secondary institution.
Two (2) awards valued at \$1,000.00 each
For more information contact:

Native Women's Association

9 Melrose Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 1T8
Phone: (613) 722-3033
Fax: (613) 722-7687

Sir John A. MacDonald graduate fellowship in Canadian History

This scholarship is awarded to a student enrolling in a doctoral program in Canadian history at an Ontario university. The value of award is \$8,500.00 and can be renewed for three consecutive years to a maximum of \$25,500.00.

For more information contact:

The Graduate Studies Office at Ontario Universities or**The Ministry of Education and Training Student Affairs**

PO Box 4500
189 Red River Road, 4th Floor
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6G9
Phone: (807) 343-7257
or 1-800-465-3957

Gil Purcell Memorial Journalism Award - The Canadian Press

To a Native person studying journalism.
Value: One scholarship of \$4,000
Eligibility: Native ancestry.

Studying journalism at a Canadian university or community college.

Deadline: November 15 of each year.

Mrs. Deborah McCartney**Administrative Assistant - HR**

The Canadian Press
36 King Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 2L9
Tel: 416-507-2132
Fax: 416-507-2033

E-Mail: dmccartney@cp.org

The Canadian Medical Foundation Dr. John Big Canoe Memorial Scholarship

Deadline: Applications and supporting documentation for the 2009/2010 academic year must be received by October 2010.

During each year of the program, a \$2000 scholarship may be awarded to an

undergraduate Aboriginal student enrolled in the last or second to last year of study in a Canadian school of medicine who has demonstrated both strong academic performance and outstanding contributions to the aboriginal community in Canada.
Applications and supporting documentation to:

Marie-Jeanne Schoueri, Office Manager

The Canadian Medical Foundation,
1867 Alta Vista Drive,
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7
Phone: (613) 520-7681
Toll Free: 1-866-530-4979
Fax: (613) 520-7692
Email: marie-jeanne.schoueri@cmf.ca

Web site:

www.medicalfoundation.ca

Canadian Medical Association Special Bursary Program for Undergraduate Aboriginal Medical Students

Deadline: October 9

The bursary is awarded based on financial need and will provide a maximum of \$4000 per academic year to each successful applicant. A total of up to \$40,000 in bursaries may be awarded in each academic year of the program. Given that financial resources are often limited by the end of the academic year, bursaries will be awarded at this time. Bursary recipients will also receive memberships in the CMA, the relevant division of CMA (provincial or territorial) and the Native Physicians Association in Canada.

Applications and supporting documentation to:**Marie-Jeanne Schoueri, Office Manager**

The Canadian Medical Foundation,
1867 Alta Vista Drive,
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7
Phone: (613) 520-7681
Toll Free: 1-866-530-4979
Fax: (613) 520-7692

Email: marie-jeanne.schoueri@cmf.ca

Web site: www.medicalfoundation.ca

Heroes of our Time Scholarships - Assembly of First Nations

Sponsored by: Assembly of First Nations

Eligibility: First Nations Citizen

Value: TBA

Deadline Date: June 1 each year

Tommy Prince Award

Walter Dieter Award

Omer Peters Award

Robert Smallboy Award

James Gosnell Award

Applications submitted to:

Selection Committee - Heroes of Our Time Awards

The Assembly of First Nations - Education Sector

473 Albert Street - Suite 810

Ottawa, ON K1R 5B4

Toll-Free: 1-866-869-6789

Phone: (613) 241-6789

Fax: (613) 241-5808

Tom Longboat Award

Sponsored by: The Aboriginal Sport Circle
Eligibility: Nominations are invited from all levels of sport. To be eligible, nominees must meet the following criteria:
Must be of Aboriginal descent

Must have amateur status in the sport which they are nominated

Must be for athletic achievements within the awards calendar year

Must submit a completed Nomination Form to the appropriate Provincial/Territorial Aboriginal Sport Body on or before the annual deadline.

Value: TBA

Criteria: Currently enrolled/accepted in medical program, demonstrated exceptional academic abilities, involved and committed to extra-curricular activities

Deadline Date: January each year.

For more information contact :

Aboriginal Sport Circle at

Email: mtrudeau@aboriginalsportcircle.ca

Ph: (613) 236-9624 ext. 223

website: www.aboriginalsportcircle.ca

Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP)

FSWEP replaces the Federal Summer Student Employment Program

Offers full-time high school, CDGEP, college, technical institute and university students the opportunity to apply for student jobs with the federal government

Application forms are available at student career offices at colleges, GEGEPS, technical institutions and universities, Human Resources Centres of Canada, and PSC Regional and District offices.

Canada Trust Scholarship for Outstanding Community Leadership

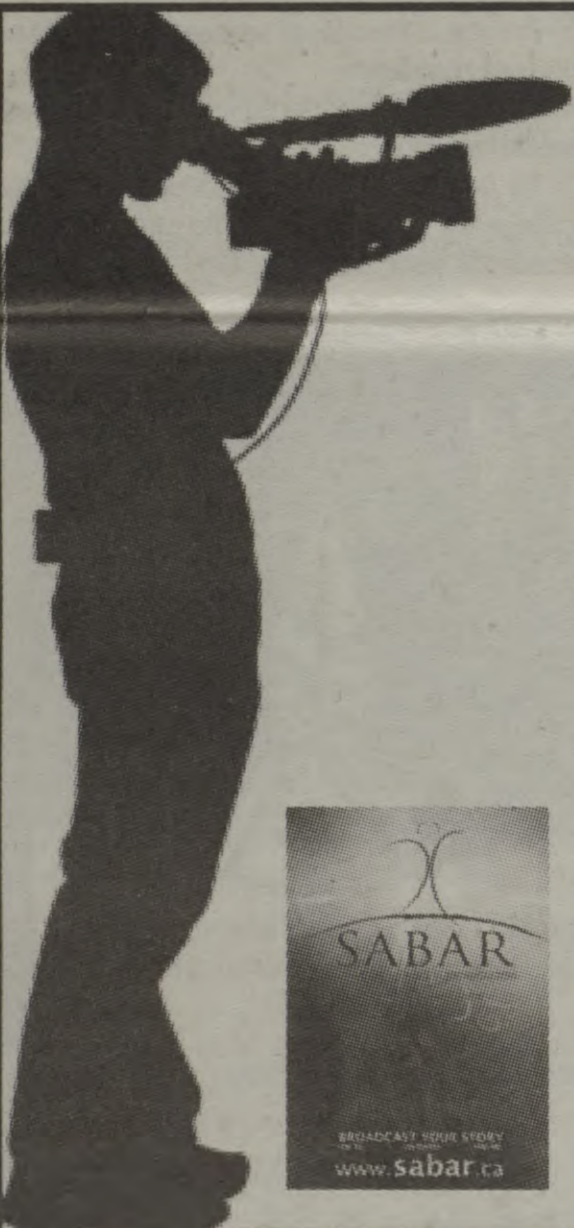
Full tuition plus \$3,500 toward living expenses
Guaranteed offer of summer employment at Canada Trust

Deadline: October 31

Contact: 1-800-308-8306

Investing in the future growth of Aboriginal Youth - Canadian National

CN makes awards available to Inuit, status or non-status Indian or Métis students entering or enrolled full-time in a post-secondary program in Canada that leads to a career in the transportation industry. This includes fields



Scholarships in Broadcasting

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- © First Nations, Inuit or Métis permanent Canadian resident;
- © Desire to follow a path to a career in the broadcast industry;
- © Enrolment in Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio and Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program; and
- © Interest in acting as an ambassador for the broadcasting industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting.

\$5,000 scholarship will be awarded in 2012

One scholarship valued at \$5,000.00 will be awarded.

This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs.

Scholarship winners are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in their approved programs in the amount of \$2,500.00 annually to a maximum total scholarship value of \$10,000.00.

Application deadline: May 16, 2012

Full scholarship details and application forms are available online:

www.sabar.ca/scholarships-internships

SABAR is pleased to offer our annual Scholarship to an Aboriginal student in Journalism or Radio/Television Arts. SABAR is particularly proud to play an important part in supporting the development of a future community leader who may have the potential to help us meet our primary goal of increasing Aboriginal reflection in Canadian broadcasting. Please visit www.sabar.ca for more on our organization and our initiatives.



SMALL UNIVERSITY BIG EDUCATION

- Classes capped at 65 students
- Average class size of 22
- Guaranteed single rooms in residence
- Best scholarships in Ontario
- Dedicated First Nations academic & cultural support services
- Focus on undergraduate education

algomau.ca
info@algomau.ca

ALGOMA
university

Aboriginal Scholarship & Bursary Guide

Annual Windspeaker Insert — May 2012

Check online for complete listings at www.ammsa.com



such as engineering, business, computer science, communications and technical studies.

Deadline: June 1 of each year.

For more info, contact your band office, friendship centre or college of your choice

Web Site: www.cn.ca/en/careers-offer-scholarships-aboriginal-awards.htm
To obtain further information or an application form, please contact:

Aboriginal Awards Program
c/o National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation
70 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 33A
Toronto, Ontario M5R 1B9
Telephone: 1-800-329-9780 (toll-free)

CN Scholarship For Women

Deadline: October 15 each year

CN encourages women to pursue non-traditional careers in areas such as trades, technology and operations. To date, participation by women in these fields has been limited. This is a special CN initiative aimed at promoting employment equity in Canada. Scholarships are awarded annually to women in selected community colleges and institutes of technology across Canada.

Web Site: www.cn.ca/en/careers-offer-scholarships-women.htm

Educational Awards Program - Husky Oil

Deadline: May 31

Awards announced: July 31
Up to 7 Aboriginal students are selected each year.

Awards of up to \$3,000 per year will be granted to cover a portion of tuition, books, or living expenses.

Aboriginal people (Inuit, Métis, Status and Non Status Indians) who meet the following qualifications:

- * Canadian citizen
- * in need of financial assistance
- * demonstrate serious interest in furthering their educational and career development

Preference will be given to applicants whose

residence is located on or near one of Husky's exploration, development or operation sites

Individuals pursuing academic post-secondary studies at a university, community college or technical institute are eligible to apply.

Diversity and Aboriginal Affairs
Husky Oil Operations Limited
P.O. Box 6525, Station D
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G7

RBC Aboriginal Student Awards

Deadline: January 31

Ten (10) awards of up to \$4,000/ year for four (4) years at university or two years at college.

- * You are a permanent resident or citizen of Canada
- * You have been accepted to or are currently attending an accredited post-secondary institution in Canada
- * You maintain a full course load that leads to a recognized degree, certificate or diploma
- * You require financial assistance to pursue your education

A committee of Aboriginal academics and RBC representatives review all completed applications and makes the final selection of the award recipients primarily based on personal and academic achievements and individual financial need. Successful applicants are notified of the committee's decision by June 15 of each year. All decisions of the committee are final.

You will receive up to \$4,000 per academic year for educational and living expenses for a maximum of four years. To receive the full amount for all years of study, you must attend an accredited post-secondary institution, remain in the program of study we awarded the scholarship for and maintain a full-time course load and good academic standing. RBC requests confirmation of your full course load and good academic standing at the beginning of every fall and winter semester. This confirmation will be collected in a way satisfactory to RBC. You will receive the first half of your scholarship at the beginning of the fall semester. If you maintain a good academic standing, you will receive the balance

in January. Please note that RBC reserves the right to change or discontinue this program at any time. We will honour commitments already in place if the program changes or ends.

Toll-Free Fax: 1-866-780-2188
Mail:
RBC Aboriginal Student Awards
C/O Aboriginal Link
PO Box 50058, 17-2595 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R2V 4W3
www.gotoapply.ca/RBC

CMHC Housing Awards: Housing for Youth

Individuals, firms, institutions and government agencies that are delivering programs that improve choice, quality or affordability of housing for youth may be nominated for a Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Award. Awards and honourable mentions are given to those individuals or groups that have achieved excellence in one of five categories: financing and tenure, technology and production, planning and regulation, concept and design, and process and management.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Social and Economic Policy and Research
700 Montreal Road Room C7-417
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P7
Phone: 1-800-668-2642
Web: www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Polaris - Northern Star Program

This awards program recognizes the creative and innovative environmental actions by youth who have had an impact within their communities.

Young people up to 25 years of age may be nominated for an award. Completed forms are due by March 31 of each year.

For more information and a nomination form, call the Action 21 National Office toll free at: 1 800 668-6767.

Chevron Canada Resources

Deadline: January 31

Number of scholarships varies, value up to \$5,000
Available to students of Aboriginal heritage

interested in undertaking a period of study in public administration and/or community affairs involving drug/alcohol education and rehabilitation. Special consideration given to residents of Northwest territories and other areas of concern.

Parent must be Chevron employee

Apply to: Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
#201, 130 Albert Street,
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4
Phone: (613) 238-3525

TD Bank and First Nations Bank of Canada
Aboriginal Education Awards

Deadline: March 31

Value: Five awards of \$1,000 each Recipients will also receive consideration for summer employment and full-time employment once education is complete.

Criteria: Applicants must be of Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, Inuit, Métis); full time student at recognized Canadian post secondary institution pursuing a program relevant to a career in banking such as business, economics, computer science, math and sciences; in need of financial assistance to further educational goals.

Apply to:
Award Coordinator
Toronto Dominion Centre
201 Portage Avenue
P.O. Box 7700
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3E7

J. Michael Waldram Fellowships - The Canadian Model Forest Network and the Canadian Institute of Forestry

The Canadian Model Forest Network, together with the Canadian Institute of Forestry, has awarded J. Michael Waldram Fellowships of \$1000 each to three students in resource management programs in British Columbia and Quebec.

The J. Michael Waldram Fellowship was first awarded in 2008 and is given annually to assist Aboriginal youths pursuing studies in natural resource management at the college or

university level.

This award honours Mike Waldram, General Manager of the Manitoba Model Forest from 1993 to 2006. As General Manager, Waldram strove to enhance the participation of Aboriginal peoples in the model forest and in forest resource management.

The Canadian Model Forest represents Canada's 14 Model Forests, in a shared vision of advancing sustainable forests and sustainable communities.

Contact:
David Winston, President, CMFN
Phone: 613-258-8400 or dwinston@cmfn-rcfm.ca

AMEC Aboriginal Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship

Deadline: January 15
Value: \$5,000

In conjunction with AMEC, CEMF offers up to one \$5000 Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship annually to young Canadian Aboriginal women who are proven leaders and active in their community to encourage them to pursue a career in engineering. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in an accredited Canadian undergraduate engineering program of study and be:

1. In their first year, or
 2. In their second year, or
 3. In the first term of their third year, immediately prior to the December deadline.
- Scholarships are based primarily on demonstrated community leadership and involvement in extra-curricular activities. Special emphasis is placed on leadership to recognize and encourage continued contributions to Canadian society.

Work experience may also be considered. High marks are not one of the criteria for this scholarship.

Applicants must be willing to act as role models and promote engineering as a career choice to young Aboriginal girls - each Scholarship winner will be required to make at least one presentation to a high-school level audience of Aboriginal youth.

Scholarship funds may be used by the winner as she wishes. Successful applicants will be paid in two installments - \$3,000 within

I believe absolutely in the power and the importance of education as key to our path forward. Equipping our peoples for the future means ensuring that every one of our children has the full support and opportunity to succeed.

Chief Shawn (A-in-Chut) Atleo
Chancellor, Vancouver Island University

Your future, VIU can help you get there

Located in the traditional territory of the Coastal Salish people, Vancouver Island University (VIU) offers programs, services and a setting that has been designed with Aboriginal students in mind.

Explore your potential, **Discover** more about yourself and **Excel** in whatever you choose to do at VIU.

Contact VIU's Aboriginal Services Centre to find out more.
Toll Free: 1-888-920-2221, local 6510 | Tel: 250-740-6510
E-mail: sas@viu.ca | viu.ca

VANCOUVER ISLAND
UNIVERSITY



Nanaimo | Cowichan | Parksville • Qualicum | Powell River



I AM A VISIONARY

I've always been one to take advantage of opportunities that come my way. At the U of M, I've come across countless scholarships, travel opportunities, and various work and volunteer experiences that I have taken advantage of. Thanks to these opportunities, my experience as a student has been so much richer.

—KERRY SPENCE,
Ojibway student, Lake Manitoba First Nation,
Human Nutritional Sciences

JOIN OUR THRIVING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

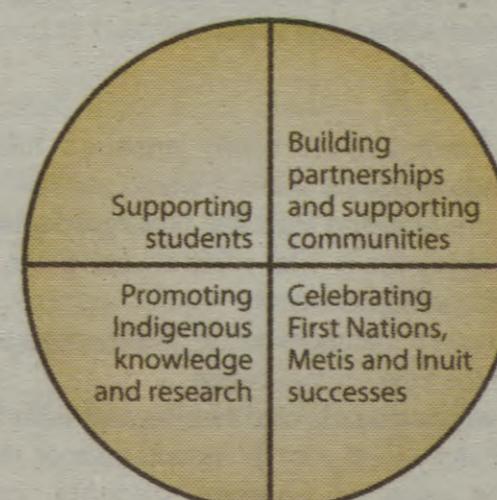
The University of Manitoba is home to a dynamic community of Indigenous students, faculty and staff. Each year, over 2,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit students attend the U of M, and many Indigenous graduates return to their communities as leaders and role models.

Migizii Agamik (Bald Eagle Lodge), located on our Fort Garry campus is the central gathering place at the heart of our community. The positive learning environment within this new building is focused on Indigenous values, cultures and traditions. It features a student lounge, study areas, computer lab and kitchen area that is available 24/7 to members.

We strive to ensure that First Nations, Metis and Inuit values are acknowledged, embraced and infused into university life.

Indigenous Achievement is a key component of the U of M's strategic planning framework and Deborah Young, Executive Lead for Indigenous Achievement, has developed a plan titled Pathways to Indigenous Achievement.

The plan is based on four directions:



COMING TO U OF M

We are here to help you reach your goals. The University of Manitoba offers a full range of specialized services and academic programs geared towards First Nations, Metis and Inuit students.

The **Aboriginal Student Centre** at Migizii Agamik (Bald Eagle Lodge) provides a caring, supportive, family-style environment where students can access academic, cultural, financial and personal supports, yet fosters a strength-based atmosphere based on community ties, identity, and Indigenous ways of learning. The Elders-in-Residence Florence Paynter and Garry Robson are available to meet and offer support to you in making the transition to university life. Margaret Lavallee, Elder-in-Residence at the **Centre for Aboriginal Health Education (CAHE)** on our Bannatyne campus, is a support and resource for students enrolled in health professional programs.

The University of Manitoba **Access and Aboriginal Focus Programs** provide a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment in which students from under-represented groups in Manitoba are provided with programs and supports to overcome barriers and to enhance their success in post-secondary education, including certificate and diploma programs, transition year programs, and degree studies.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

We are committed to ensuring the success of Indigenous students and graduates. Your educational experience on campus moves beyond the classroom. U of M offers opportunities to connect with other community members and explore new areas through:

- Leadership and mentorship programs
- Student groups
- Cultural and recreational events
- Community outreach programs and much more

A full range of financial awards and bursaries are available, designed to assist Indigenous students meet the costs of their tuition and living expenses while studying full and part-time.

For more information, visit:

umanitoba.ca/indigenous



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

ADVENTURER INNOVATOR CHALLENGER DEFENDER TRAILBLAZER VISIONARY

approximately four months of the application deadline date and \$2,000 twelve months after the first installment, upon submission of:

1. Confirmation in writing of continued enrollment in engineering prior to payment of the first installment and proof of promotion to the next year or term of engineering study.
2. A written report to CEMF prior to payment of the second installment which shall include:
 - a. A written update of community and extra-curricular involvement demonstrating leadership qualities,
 - b. Proof of having made at least one presentation to a high-school Aboriginal audience including a letter of confirmation from an attending teacher,
 - c. Proof of promotion to the next year of engineering study.

The Foundation reserves the right to not issue a scholarship in any given year.

A Committee appointed by the Foundation will select the winners, with the Judges being both engineers and non-engineers. The Committee's assessment will be based on all of the information provided with the application. Any application that is incomplete in any way will be rejected prior to judging and another application will not be accepted until the following year. The decision of the Judges will be final.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be Canadian Aboriginals with permanent residence in Canada. In accordance with the Constitution Act, 1982, Part II, Section 35(2), an Aboriginal applicant is an Indian, Inuit, or Métis person of Canada, or a person who is accepted by one of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada as a member of their community.

The following will be accepted as proof of ancestry:

- * A certified copy of a Status or Treaty card;
- * A certified copy of a Métis membership card;
- * A certified copy of an Nunavut Trust Certificate card, roll number or any other proof accepted by Inuit communities;
- * Proof that an ancestor's name has been entered

- in the Indian Register according to the Indian Act, or

- on the Band list of an individual Band, or

- on the Inuit roll;

* Evidence of an ancestor who received a land grant or a script grant under the Manitoba Act or the Dominion Lands Act;

* Written confirmation of Aboriginal ancestry from the Department of Indian Affairs;

* A Statutory Declaration by an Applicant attesting to Aboriginal ancestry, supplemented by letters or documentation supporting that Declaration

- from an official or a recognized native organization, or

- from a relative in the Aboriginal community, or

- from the Applicant describing involvement with Aboriginal issues.

All applicants must be enrolled in a Canadian university accredited engineering program. Previous AMEC Scholarship Winners are not eligible to apply although unsuccessful applicants may re-apply in a subsequent year if they qualify.

There is no limitation on the number of applications from any university or program. All applications must be submitted by all applicants directly to:

The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation
AMEC Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship Award
 P. O. Box 370, 1-247 Barr Street
 Renfrew, Ontario K7V 4A6
www.cemf.ca

Indigenous Scholarship Program - Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown

Value: \$2,000

Number: 4 awards in 2009

Deadline: N/A

Conceived and established in 2003 by Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown, the Indigenous Scholarship Program sets aside program funds for every room night spent at the hotel by a member of Canada's Aboriginal Community. Each year, the hotel will award at least one scholarship to First Nation youth that are pursuing a post-secondary education. Open to all Aboriginal students, the Indigenous Scholarship Program considers a number of criteria in awarding scholarships including financial situation, academic achievement, community involvement and career aspirations. The Indigenous Scholarship Program is managed by Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown with recommendations from an Executive Education Committee and input from an Advisory Board made up of representatives from Canada's Aboriginal Community.

Eligibility: Any Aboriginal student currently enrolled at or, accepted to a post secondary institution.

Application: Application form and eligibility

criteria for the Indigenous Scholarship Program can be obtained by calling the Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown at 1-800-663-9151.

Web site:

holidayinnvancouverdowntown.com

CSA Spaceflight and Life Sciences Training Program Scholarship

The trainee(s) will be sponsored by the Canadian Space Agency and will receive:

- * round trip transportation between their home in Canada and the Orlando International Airport in Florida
- * accommodation in the Cocoa Beach area
- * local transportation to and from the Kennedy Space Center
- * a daily meal allowance, which should also cover some other expenses

Eligibility

- limited to currently enrolled full-time undergraduate students who:

- * are pursuing their first undergraduate B.Sc. degree in a life science program at a recognized university
- * have a minimum cumulative average of 75% at the time of application
- * will have completed their second or third year of study (first year or second year of study in the case of Quebec students, called, respectively, U1 and U2 by the Quebec Ministère de l'Éducation) by the start of the training program

* are proficient in English (score of at least 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language, TOEFL);

* are Canadian citizens, who have or can obtain a valid Canadian passport and are at least 18 years of age

Web Site: www.space.gc.ca/slstp

Email address for inquiries: slstp@space.gc.ca

CSA Space Exploration Scholarship -

www.space.gc.ca/ses

Email address for inquiries: ses@space.gc.ca

How to Apply

Application materials include:

Please note that SLSTP is presented in English and applications must be submitted in English only.

Completed application materials must be postmarked by January 31 and mailed to:

SLSTP

Space Science Program

Canadian Space Agency

6767 Route de l'Aéroport

Saint-Hubert, QC J3Y 8Y9

Marion Neiman

CSA Scholarships Coordinator

Project Manager/Consultant

Lansdowne Technologies

Suite 1001 - 275 Slater Street

Ottawa ON K1P 5H9

www.lansdowne.com

ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program

The Aboriginal Awards Program has been developed to provide financial assistance to Aboriginal students pursuing high school upgrading and post-secondary education.

Award amounts are designated according to the educational level you are pursuing:

Secondary School/Academic Upgrading \$1,000

College or Technical Institute \$2,000

University \$3,000

The award amounts are granted on an annual basis with students being required to re-apply each year for continued funding. Awards may be used to cover portions of tuition, books or living expenses.

Eligibility

You may apply to the ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program if you meet the following criteria:

1. You are of Aboriginal ancestry
2. You are a Canadian citizen
3. You are enrolled in an eligible program, on a full-time basis
4. You demonstrate promising academic qualifications
5. You require financial assistance to pursue your education

Application process: Please send your completed application along with your proof of acceptance and most recent transcripts to the following address:

Please send your completed application along with your proof of acceptance and most recent transcripts to the following address no later than June 30th:

Diversified Staffing Services

Attention: ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program

100, 805 - 5th Avenue SW

Calgary, AB T2P 0N6

Telephone: (403) 237-5577

Toll Free: (877) 271-7720

Fax: (403) 266-3386

TransAlta's Aboriginal Bursary Program.

Empowering Aboriginal students for success.

Each year, TransAlta offers up to seven \$3,000 bursaries to Aboriginal students attending full-time college or university programs and up to three \$1,000 bursaries for those in full-time trades programs. The annual deadline to apply is September 15th.

For information including eligibility criteria and an application form,

visit www.transalta.com/communities/aboriginal or contact Aboriginal Relations at TransAlta at 403-267-7630 (Janet Janvier). Applications are also available at select post-secondary offices.



facebook.com/transaltaaboriginal

TransAlta

MÉTIS POST-SECONDARY FUNDING

Métis Training To Employment Services can provide support to Métis students entering:

- » The final two semesters of a university degree, a college diploma or a technical institute program;
- » The first and second year of technical training in a Registered Apprenticeship Trade;
- » A certificate program of one year or less;
- » A college diploma or technical institute program for up to two years in length if the training results in an occupation designated as being in high demand;
- » The financial contribution for eligible clients may include tuition, mandatory books and supplies and income support.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AUGUST 3RD

Métis Scholar Awards are also available to students at a number of post-secondary institutions across Alberta. Contact Métis Training To Employment Services, or your school for more information on awards at:

- » Grant MacEwan University
- » NorQuest College
- » Portage College
- » University of Alberta
- » University of Lethbridge
- » NAIT
- » University of Calgary
- » Mount Royal University
- » Grande Prairie Regional College

For more information, contact:

Métis Training to Employment Services

1-888-48-MÉTIS (1-888-486-3847)

www.metisemployment.ca



Rupertsland Institute
 Métis Centre of Excellence

Canada

more scholarships • more bursaries • more of everything
 online at: www.ammsa.com



AU student Kathleen in Edmonton, AB

Dream.

Pursuing your education sometimes means dreaming big. And with more than 800 courses and 50 programs delivered online and at a distance, **Athabasca University** can help take you where you want to go.

Learn more at
explore.athabascau.ca.

Athabasca University

www.diversifiedstaffing.com

Alliance Pipeline Aboriginal Student Awards Program

Number: One
Value: Cost of tuition, books and supplies to a maximum of \$4,000 per academic year.
Deadline: January 10
Eligibility: Aboriginal students who are: residents of Saskatchewan, Alberta or British Columbia; enrolled in, or have applied to a technical school, college or university, in a program relevant to the oil and gas industry; relevant programs include: mechanical engineering technology, instrumentation engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, power engineering, mechanical engineering or business administration.

Coordinator, Aboriginal Student Awards Program
Alliance Pipeline Ltd., #400
605 5th Avenue South West
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3H5
E-mail: awards@alliance-pipeline.com
Website: www.alliance-pipeline.com

Imperial Oil Aboriginal Scholarships Awards Program

Value: \$3,500 (maximum for college) and \$4,500 (maximum for university)
The awards are designed to cover tuition, textbooks, supplies and other compulsory fees.

Deadline: June 30 of each year

Imperial Oil Resources offers four individual education awards each year to any person of Aboriginal ancestry entering post-secondary studies. The purpose of the awards program is to encourage people of Aboriginal ancestry to pursue undergraduate post-secondary educational studies in disciplines relevant to the petroleum industry. Applicants must reside in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories or the Yukon for at least one year immediately prior to applying for the award.

Application form, full program guidelines and eligibility details can be obtained by calling Imperial Oil Community and Aboriginal Affairs at 780-639-5194.

Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$5,000.
The Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a graduate student in northern biology who best exemplifies the qualities of scholarship that the late Jennifer Robinson brought to her studies at the Institute's Kluane Lake Research Station.
Eligibility: Applicants must submit: a brief description of the proposed research (two to three pages), including a clear hypothesis, relevance, title and statement of the purpose of the research, the area and type of study, the methodology and plan for evaluation of findings. A collaborative relationship or work should be briefly identified; three academic reference letters; a complete curriculum vitae with transcripts; and a list of current sources and amounts of research funding, including scholarships, grants and bursaries.

The scholarship committee looks for evidence of northern relevance, and a commitment to field-oriented research.

Deadline: January 10
Executive Director
Arctic Institute of North America
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4
Phone: (403) 220-7515
Fax: (403) 282-4609

Jim Bourque Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$1,000.

The Jim Bourque Scholarship is awarded to a Canadian Aboriginal student who intends to take, or is enrolled in, post-secondary training in education, environmental, traditional knowledge or telecommunications. The scholarship is open to mature students and matriculating students alike.

Eligibility: Each applicant must submit, in 500 words or less, a description of his or her intended program of study and the reasons for the choice of program. In addition, applicants must: include a copy of their most recent high school or college/university transcript; a signed letter of recommendation from a community leader (e.g., Town or Band Council, Chamber of Commerce, Métis Local, etc.); a statement of financial need, indicating funding already received or expected; and proof of enrollment in, or application to a post-secondary institution.
Deadline: July 18
Executive Director
Arctic Institute of North America

University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4
Phone: (403) 220-7515
Fax: (403) 282-4609

Lorraine Allison Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$2,000.
Eligibility: The Lorraine Allison Scholarship is open to any student enrolled at a Canadian university in a program of graduate study related to northern issues, whose application best addresses academic excellence, a demonstrated commitment to northern research, and a desire for research results to be beneficial to northerners, especially Native northerners. Candidates in biological science fields are preferred, but social science topics are also considered. Scholars from Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are encouraged to apply.

Each application must contain: a two-page description of the northern studies program and relevant projects being undertaken; three letters of reference from the applicants' current or past professors; a complete curriculum vitae with academic transcripts; and a list of all current sources of research funding.

Deadline: January 10
Executive Director
Arctic Institute of North America
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4
Phone: (403) 220-7515
Fax: (403) 282-4609

Northern Resident Scholarships - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: Four (4) awards of \$10,000.
The Northern Scientific Training Program is sponsoring four scholarships, valued at \$10,000 each, for students identified as long-term residents of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon, or the Provincial North, enrolled in full-time, post-secondary programs at the undergraduate level at a Canadian college or university.

Northern Resident Award - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: Eight (8) awards of \$5,000.
The Northern Scientific Training Program is sponsoring eight (8) scholarships valued at \$5,000 each for students identified as long term residents of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon or the Provincial North, currently enrolled in master or doctoral-level programs at a Canadian university.
#Research Support Opportunity in Arctic Environmental Studies - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
The Meteorological Service of Canada (a division of Environment Canada) sponsors a unique research support opportunity by providing accommodation, facilities, and services at the High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS) at Eureka on Ellesmere Island, to graduate students at the masters or doctoral level. Preference will be given to environmental research proposals in the physical or biological sciences.

Deadline: March 31
Application materials will not be accepted by fax or email.
Mail complete packages to:

Canadian Northern Studies Trust Awards Program
Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
17 York Street, Suite 405
Ottawa, ON K1N 9J6
www.acuns.ca

James W. Bourque Studentship in Northern Geography - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: One scholarship of \$10,000.
Eligibility: The James W. Bourque Studentship is awarded for research on subjects relating to northern geographical research. While applications are normally from students in geography departments, careful consideration is given to students in related fields. In making its decision, the Management Committee is guided by academic record, potential for development, and the applicant's interest in, and commitment to, advancing the knowledge and appreciation of the geography of northern regions. If you apply to the James W. Bourque Studentship in Northern Geography and to the Studentship in Northern Studies only one set of official university transcripts and reference letters is necessary.

Deadline: January 31
Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
17 York Street, Suite 405
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 9J6
Phone: (613) 522-0515
Fax: (613) 562-0533

Intelligent Sensing For Innovative Structures (ISIS) Canada Research Scholarship for Aboriginal People in Engineering



SUCCESSFUL CAREERS START IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Did you know that NAIT has successfully delivered programs to aboriginal communities in Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and all parts of Alberta? Programs currently being offered in aboriginal communities include:

- Introduction to Trades
- Business/Accounting
- Project Management
- Aboriginal Entrepreneurship
- Pre-Technology/Upgrading
- Apprenticeship programs
- Accounting Certificate
- Computer programs

For more information
www.nait.ca/cit | 780.378.1230
EDUCATION FOR THE REAL WORLD



more scholarships • more bursaries • more of everything
online at: www.ammsa.com



Value: One scholarship of \$5,000 per year.
Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structures (ISIS Canada) is a Network of Centres of Excellence funded by the federal and provincial governments, the university communities and the private sector. The mandate of ISIS Canada is to develop a new generation of sophisticated civil engineering structures for the 21st century.
Eligibility: In order to be eligible, applicants must be graduates in engineering or applied sciences at a Canadian university or be currently enrolled in a degree program, and must be registered in, or intending to proceed to, graduate study in engineering or applied sciences. The scholarship is awarded for a 12-month period and may be renewed for a second year at the discretion of the awarding committee.

Deadline: March 31
ISIS Canada - Scholarship Committee
University of Manitoba
A250 Agricultural and Civil Engineering Building
96 Dafee Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
Web: www.isiscanada.com/students/scholarships.html

Intelligent Sensing For Innovative Structures (ISIS) Canada - Research Scholarship for Women and Aboriginal People

Value: One scholarship of up to \$5,000.
Eligibility: Applicants must: be women or be of Aboriginal ancestry; be engineering graduates or currently enrolled in a degree and intending to pursue graduate studies; be seeking solutions to the deterioration of steel reinforced concrete; and be in third year civil engineering or above.

Deadline: March 31
ISIS Canada - Scholarship Committee
University of Manitoba
A250 Agricultural and Civil Engineering Building
96 Dafee Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
Attention: Mrs. Kim Archer
Web: www.isiscanada.com/students/scholarships.html

National Union Scholarship for Aboriginal Canadians

Value: One scholarship of \$1,000.
Eligibility: The award is open to all Aboriginal Canadian students who plan to enter the first year of a public post-secondary education institution full-time, and who are children of, or foster children of, a National Union member. The award is given to the writer of the best 750-1000 word essay on "The importance of quality public services in enhancing the quality of life of Aboriginal Canadians."

Deadline: June 30
Scholarships
National Union of Public and General Employees
15 Auriga Drive
Nepean, Ontario K2E 1B7
Phone: (613) 228-9800
Fax: (613) 228-9801
Email: ltrepanier@nupge.ca

National Union Scholarship for Visible Minorities

Value: One of \$1,000.
Eligibility: The award is open to all visible minority students who plan to enter the first year of a public post-secondary educational institution full-time, and who are the children, or foster children, of a National Union member. The award will be given to the writer of the best 750-1000 word essay on "The importance of quality public services in enhancing the quality of life of visible minorities."

Deadline: June 30
Scholarships
National Union of Public and General Employees
15 Auriga Drive
Nepean, Ontario K2E 1B7
Phone: (613) 228-9800
Fax: (613) 228-9801
Email: ltrepanier@nupge.ca

Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth (FAAY) - Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

Number of Awards: The number of awards is dependent on the sponsors of the program. In 2008 we disbursed 140 awards, 95 were scholarships and 45 were bursaries.
Award Amount: Scholarships for post-secondary applicants range from \$2,500 - \$5,000. Bursaries for high school applicants are \$750.

Eligibility Factors: Canadian residents of First Nations (Status or Non-status), M̐tis and Inuit Heritage attending High School or a Post-secondary Institution full-time within Canada. Mature students and adult education programs are included.
Supporting Documents Required:

1. Letter of introduction: introduce your-self, mention education goal and career plan, any challenges, any successes, contributions to family, school, community, and answer why you think staying in school is important.
2. Proof of Heritage includes: copy of Indian Status Card; copy of M̐tis membership card; copy of Inuit beneficiary card; parent/grandparent heritage information & documents showing your relationship to them (long-form birth certificate, baptismal records.); letter of acknowledgement from First Nation, M̐tis Association or Inuit Agreement Administrator.
3. Original, signed letter from a school/academic representative: teacher, instructor, guidance counsellor, principal, faculty member, teaching assistant, sessional lecturer, practicum supervisor
4. Original, signed letter from someone, not related to you, who can speak to your commitment to your community: volunteer organization, aboriginal group, sports rep, camp leader, work supervisor.
5. Copy of most recent official Transcript or Report Card.
6. Copy of acceptance letter to program or proof of continued enrolment.
7. Recent photo in either digital or hard copy format.
8. Completed application form, signed and dated.

Deadline: Application must be postmarked on or before October 15th of each year.
Applications are available for download from Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) website (www.ccab.com/faay) or contact CCAB office for a hard copy.

Contact Information/Mailing address:
FAAY Coordinator
Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business
250 The Esplanade, Suite 204
Toronto, ON M4C 1Y4
1-866-566-3229
faayinfo@ccab.com
www.ccab.com/faay

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) is now Indspire.

Deadlines:

Fine Arts: Two deadlines annually on May 1
OFIFC Bursary:
 For Mature Aboriginal Women with Dependant Child(ren) Residing in an Urban Setting in Ontario
 May 1
Legal Studies for Aboriginal People (LSAP) PRE-LAW Bursary Award:
 May 15
Oil and Gas Aboriginal Trades & Technology
 Two deadlines annually on April 30 and November 30
Aboriginal Health Careers:

One deadline annually on June 1

Post-Secondary Education Awards:
 One deadline annually on June 1

Imperial Oil Aboriginal Scholarship Awards Program (Inspire)

Imperial Oil has formed a partnership with Indspire to manage its Aboriginal Scholarship Awards Program (ASAP).

The purpose of the awards program is to encourage and assist people† of Aboriginal ancestry to pursue post-secondary educational studies† in disciplines relevant to the petroleum industry.

Please apply on-line at Indspire's post-secondary education bursary awards program or contact Indspire at 1-800-329-9780.

Aboriginal Health Careers Program Scholarship:

Deadline: May 1
 Provides support for students who are pursuing accredited health studies leading to employment in the health professions and who have demonstrated the potential for academic success.

Eligible fields of study: medicine, nursing, dentistry, biology, chemistry, physiotherapy, pharmacy, clinical psychology, laboratory research and technology and any other health field in which a study of the hard sciences is a pre-requisite.

Aboriginal Veterans' Scholarship Trust - Canada

For students engaged in fields of study that support and contribute to Aboriginal self-governance and economic self-reliance. For more information check out the web site Aboriginal Veterans Scholarship Trust.

Business, Sciences and General Education Program

Value: Varies from \$1,000 to \$8,000
Eligibility: Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, M̐tis, Inuit) attending a Canadian

ATCO PIPELINES ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Supporting Tomorrow's Leaders

ATCO Pipelines is offering awards, bursaries and scholarships to Aboriginal students demonstrating leadership and commitment to further development.

Deadline to apply is August 1, 2012

ATCO Pipelines

ATCO Pipelines is committed to supporting the development of young leaders in the communities where we operate pipelines and facilities.



FIND OUT HOW TO APPLY: ATCOPIPELINES.COM/ABORIGINALAWARDS

For more information, please contact ATCO Pipelines Corporate Communications at 403.245.7300 or aboriginal.awards@atcopipelines.com

We branch out in Aboriginal communities

Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries values the importance of education and continued learning and believes in partnerships which provide more than financial assistance to those seeking a formal post-secondary education.

Our Aboriginal Education Partnership Program, an annual bursary awarded to an Aboriginal student living within or near our Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area, provides full tuition for up to five years of post-secondary studies.

For more information on Al-Pac or our scholarship program please call us toll free at 1-800-661-5210 or visit our website at www.alpac.ca



NECHI TRAINING, RESEARCH AND HEALTH PROMOTIONS INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 2039, Stn. Main, St. Albert, AB T8N 2G3
 Phone: 1-780-459-1884 • Toll Free: 1-800-459-1884
 Fax: 780-458-1883 • Web Site: www.nechi.com • Email: nechi@nechi.com

- **COMMUNITY ADDICTIONS TRAINING:**
 - Summer Session July 1 to August 24, 2012
 - Fall Session September 9, 2012
- **ADVANCED COUNSELLOR TRAINING:**
 - Fall Session August 25, 2012
- **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT:**
 - Summer Session: July 1 to 27, 2012

Courses are CACCF Certified (*Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation*)
 Courses are CCPC Certified (*Canadian Council of Professional Certification*)

Bring Nechi training to your community.
Call Contract Training Coordinator for details.

"WHERE HEALING AND EDUCATION MEET"

more scholarships • more bursaries • more of everything
online at: www.ammsa.com

Aboriginal Scholarship & Bursary Guide

Annual Windspeaker Insert — May 2012

Check online for complete listings at www.ammsa.com



girl power groups

awareness • skills • creativity

Call to book a training in your community!

Girl Power Facilitator Trainings 2012 - First Nation Focus

Timmins Friendship Centre, Timmins, ON May 7 & 8
Nishnawbe Aski First Nation, Thunder Bay, ON May 10 & 11
Wasauksing First Nation, Parry Sound, ON May 14 & 15

~ Price: \$395 plus taxes ~

Sherry Bezanson, BSW, M. Ed, RCC
Phone: 250-514-1570 • Fax: 250-245-8134

www.girlpowergroups.org

(New website coming soon: www.wcet.ca)

Why wait for problems to develop in girls' lives? This workshop will prepare participants to launch a pre-adolescent girl's group in your community. The course is designed for educators, social workers, nurses, youth workers, and counsellors who support girls' growth & development.

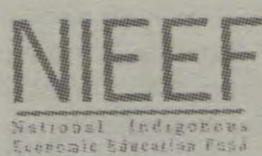


Connecting Your Post-Secondary Education to the Financial Resources You Need!

APPLY FOR NIEEF SCHOLARSHIPS TODAY!

Visit our website at:

www.edo.ca/certification/nieef-scholarships
or call 1-800-463-9300 for more information



Community College (CEGEP) or university (first year or returning students); registered in programs such as business, health sciences, new and advanced technologies (not limited to these). Priority is given to students enrolled in business and sciences.
Deadline: June 1

Diane Fowler Leblanc Aboriginal Social Work Scholarship - Indspire

Value: The amount of each scholarship is based on the individual needs of each candidate (tuition, course materials, living expenses, daycare, travel) up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year for three or four years, depending on the institution's course requirements.

Eligibility: The scholarship is open to all Aboriginal people, including Métis, Inuit, and Status and Non-Status Indians, interested in studying at the Bachelor of Social Work level at a recognized educational institution in Canada.
Deadline: Unknown

The Alberta Museology Internship

Value: Varies.
Two four month internships at the Provincial Museum of Alberta for Aboriginal students

pursuing a career in ethnology, natural history or Canadian history.

Arts Scholarship Program

Deadline: March 31.

Value: Based on Budget needs. All areas related to the visual, performing, media, graphic and literary arts. Award decision based on merit of project, quality of training and financial need. Art work samples will need to be sent with application.

Petro Canada Education Awards for Native Students

Deadline June 15

Five education awards of up to \$5,000 are available to native students of Canadian or Inuit ancestry entering or enrolled in post-secondary programs where studies can be applied in an industrial setting in the oil and gas industry. Selection is based on financial need, academic performance and potential, appropriateness of studies to industry, and future aspirations.

Contact individual schools for application forms.

Shell Canada Aboriginal Scholarship Program (Indspire)

Preference will be given to studies in business, science and engineering.

CIBC Achievers (Indspire)

Fields of study are unlimited.

TransCanada Pipelines Leadership Awards (Indspire)

With these awards, TransCanada Pipelines is helping Aboriginal students prepare themselves to play leading roles in the fields of engineering, business and commerce, law, science and technology, environment and communications.

BP Canada Aboriginal Young Achievers Scholarship (Indspire)

Priority for these scholarships may be given to students who are pursuing careers in business, engineering, environmental studies and physical sciences.

Great-West Life Business Education Scholarship (Indspire)

This scholarship was created to help Aboriginal students from across Canada to succeed in the areas of business and entrepreneurship.

TD Bank Financial Group Scholarships (Indspire)

Through its support of the scholarship program, TD Bank Financial Group is helping to make it easier for Aboriginal students to realize their educational goals.

UGG Agricultural Scholarships (Indspire)

UGG is pleased to provide scholarships to encourage Aboriginal students from the Prairie Provinces to pursue careers in fields related to agriculture.

The CN Aboriginal Scholarships (Indspire)

These scholarships provide funding assistance to Aboriginal students from across Canada who are engaged in studies that will prepare them for careers in the transportation industry such as engineering, business, computer science, communications and technical studies.

Suncor Energy Foundation "Shared Achievements" Aboriginal Scholarships (Indspire)

These scholarships were created to assist Aboriginal students who are pursuing post-secondary education in business, teaching and science, particularly engineering, earth sciences, natural resource management, environmental studies and computer science. Preference will be given to students from Central and Northern

Alberta, Northeastern and Southwestern British Columbia and the North West Territories.

3M Canada Aboriginal Health Education Awards (Indspire)

With these awards, 3M Canada is making a positive contribution to the lives of Aboriginal students who are pursuing careers in fields related to health care.

Sun Life Financial Careers in Health Awards (Indspire)

With these awards, Sun Life Financial is providing increased opportunities for Aboriginal students to receive training and education for careers in health care.

Weyerhaeuser Aboriginal Scholarship (Indspire)

Weyerhaeuser is pleased to offer scholarship assistance to Aboriginal students who are pursuing careers in business and science. Contact individual schools for application forms.

Indspire

Head Office
P.O. Box 759
2160 Fourth Line Rd.
Six Nations of the Grand River
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0
Toll free: 1-800-329-9780
Phone: (416) 926-0775
Fax: (416) 926-7554
www.indspire.ca

USA

Presidential Diversity Scholarship - St Lawrence University

Value: \$15,000/year scholarship
Dedicated to Aboriginal, hispanic, black and Asian Americans and Canadians, including a US\$15,000/year scholarship, as well as additional favourable aid based on family need.

For more information contact:

Skip Staats
Office of Admissions
St Lawrence University
Canton NY 13617
1 800 285 1856

A website specific to the program is currently under construction.

Government Finance Officers Association Minorities in Government Finance Scholarship

Value: One scholarship of US\$3,500.
The Minorities in Government Finance Scholarship is funded by J.D. Edwards, Fidelity Investments Government Services Division, Financial Guaranty Insurance Co., Georgia GFOA, ICMA Retirement Corporation, MBIA, Girard and Lynn Miller Foundation, Minnesota GFOA, and Nations Bank. It recognizes and encourages outstanding minority students enrolled in a course of studies preparing for a career in public finance.

Eligibility: This scholarship competition is for Canadian or U.S. minority students of public administration, (governmental) accounting, finance, political science, economics or business administration (with a specific focus on government or nonprofit management) at the upper-division undergraduate or graduate level. Candidates must belong to one of the following groups (as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau): Black, Indian, Eskimo or Aleut, Asian or Pacific Islander, or Hispanic. Candidates should have a superior record of academic achievement and/or job performance and show promise of completion of their studies at a high level of performance. In addition, candidates should have plans to pursue a career in state or local government finance.

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



Prepare for your future by studying at Cumberland College!

Benefit include studying within smaller class sizes, personalized instruction and attention from skilled professionals and a friendly atmosphere on the College Campus.

SIAST Technical Programs

- Applied Certificate in Carpentry, Nipawin, Jan. 2013
- Applied Certificate in Electrical; Nipawin, Aug. 2012
- Business Certificate; Tisdale, Aug. 2012
- Business Diploma; Melfort, Sept. 2012
- Continuing Care Assistant; Tisdale, Sept. 2012
- Correctional Studies; Nipawin, Sept. 2012
- Heavy Equipment Operator; Tisdale Area May/June 2012
- Practical Nurse; Melfort, Feb. 2013

Apply today for
1 of 20
\$2000
Entrance Scholarships
Deadline to apply:
May 8, 2012

University

Start a University degree from the U of S or the U of R. Classes available in Hudson Bay, Melfort, Nipawin and Tisdale. Prospective students apply directly with the Universities and indicate that they are studying at Cumberland College.

Degree possibilities include: Arts and Science, Agriculture, Education, Pre-Law, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Nursing, Pre-Nutrition, Social Work and many more!

The Masters of Educational Administration through the University of Saskatchewan is starting May 2012 get your application in today!

Melfort	Nipawin	Tisdale	Hudson Bay
Box 2320	Box 2225	Box 967	Box 207
SOE 1A0	SOE 1E0	SOE 1T0	SOE 0Y0
752-2786	862-9833	873-2525	865-2175

www.cumberlandcollege.sk.ca

YOU GET A GREAT LOCATION IN DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER.

CANADA'S YOUNG INDIGENOUS PEOPLE GET A CHANCE AT A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

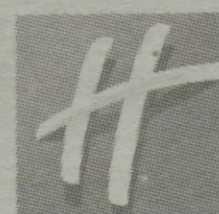
Holiday Inn & Suites Vancouver Downtown is helping to meet the educational needs of Canada's First Nations youth.

For every night our Aboriginal guests stay with us, a donation is made to our Indigenous Scholarship Program, a post-secondary education fund.

Only footsteps away guests will find the best of downtown Vancouver, including shopping, dining and attractions. Enjoy comfortable accommodations, free internet and a 24 hour indoor pool.

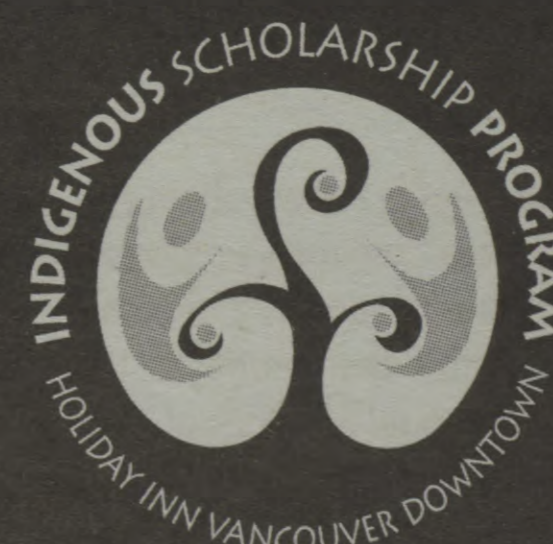
Phone: 604-684-2151
Fax: 604-684-4736
E: info@hivancouverdowntown.com

*Prices subject to availability and do not include applicable taxes.



Holiday Inn
& Suites
VANCOUVER DOWNTOWN

Call Toll-Free: 1-800-663-9151
www.holidayinnvancouverdowntown.com



PROGRAM ROOM RATES

\$140 Single*

May 1 - September 30, 2012

\$95 Single*

October 1 - December 30, 2012

Deadline: February 13
Government Finance Officers Association Scholarship Committee
 180 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 800
 Chicago, Illinois 60601-7476
 Phone: (312) 977-9700
 Fax: (312) 977-4806

American Planning Association APA Planning Fellowship

Value: Several scholarships from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

The goals of the APA Planning Fellowship are both to encourage students of certain minority backgrounds to enter the planning profession, and to help such students who would otherwise be unable to continue their studies in planning. The program is open to first- and second-year students. First-year students who receive fellowships are eligible to compete for an award the following year.

Eligibility: In order to be eligible, applicants must be a member of one of the following minority groups: Black, Mexican-American, Native American/North American Indian or Puerto Rican; be a citizen of the United States or Canada; be enrolled or accepted for enrollment, in a graduate planning program that has been accredited by the Planning Board. Preference is shown to full-time students; and document the need for financial assistance.
Deadline: May 15

Attention: Assistant for Division and Student Services

APA Planning Fellowship Program
American Planning Association
 1776 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
 Washington, DC 20036 U.S.A.

American Indian Scholarship Fund, Inc.

The Native American Scholarship Fund was founded in 1986, and has made awards to a total of 131 carefully selected students. Out of the 131, only six have dropped out, for a retention rate of 96 percent, the highest rate of retention of Indian students of any college or scholarship program in the nation. The dropout rate for Indian students at the University of New Mexico, for comparison, is 83 percent for freshmen alone. Our priorities are math, engineering, science, business, education, and computers.

Native American Scholarship Fund
 8200 Mountain Rd, NE, Ste 203;
 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
 Phone: 505-262-2351
 web site: www.collegefund.org

Canada-US Fullbright Program

Student must be American or Canadian with Native Heritage and attending a post-secondary education institution studying countries relations between other countries. Value of award is \$15,000.00 for student and \$25,000.00 for faculty members enrolled in graduate studies.

For more information contact:

Ste. 2015, 350 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 1A9
Phone: (613) 237-5366
Fax: (613) 237-2029

AISES - Schuyler M. Meyer, Jr Scholarship Fund
 Value: \$1,000
Deadline: June 15

Download application from: www.aises.org

Eligibility: Must be Aboriginal and a member of AISES. Students must be pursuing studies in the following: sciences, engineering, health related fields, business, natural resources, math or science secondary education.

AISES - A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarship
 Value: \$1,000 Undergraduate and \$2,000 Graduate
Deadline: June 15

Download application from: www.aises.org

Eligibility: Must be Aboriginal and a member of AISES. Students must be pursuing studies in the following: sciences, engineering, health related fields, business, natural resources, math or science secondary education.

AISES - EPA Tribal Lands Environmental Science Scholarship
 Value: \$4,000
Deadline: June 15

Download application from: www.aises.org

Eligibility: Must be a member of AISES. Must pursue studies in the following: chemical engineering, biochemistry, chemistry, toxicology, biology, entomology & related

environmental disciplines.
AISES Scholarship Department
 5661 Airport Boulevard
 Boulder, Colorado USA 80301
 Phone: (303) 939-0023

OTHER

Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Program

The BC Aboriginal Student Award was established as part of the Provincial Government's strategy to improve Aboriginal access and achievement. Its purpose is to support Aboriginal people in getting post-secondary education by reducing financial barriers.

The Scholarship Society administers the program in partnership with the Victoria Foundation. Awards of \$1,000 - \$3,500 are available for Aboriginal people pursuing post-secondary education that is at least nine weeks long.

Application for this award includes:

* A brief outline of your education and career goals; * Supporting evidence of your Aboriginal ancestry; * Evidence of community service in an Aboriginal, or any other, community; and * Indication of financial need.
Deadline: May 15th.

BC Aboriginal Student Award
Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society
 #109 - 645 Fort Street
 Victoria, BC V8S 1Y9
www.bcscholarship.ca/web/node/55

First Citizens Fund - Student Bursary Program

Objective: To provide financial assistance to eligible Aboriginal students enrolled in post-secondary education programs.

Number: Varies

Value: Maximum \$2,000 per year (Students receiving assistance from their Band or Tribal Council are eligible for a maximum of \$700 per academic year.)

Criteria: Bursaries are available to assist Aboriginal post-secondary students that are normally a resident of BC and are attending a recognized university or college on a full-time basis.

Applicants for the bursary program must be registered in a minimum two-year academic program and must maintain an average of C+ or 2.5 GPA.

Bursary levels are determined by the financial

needs of each student but the maximum bursary students can receive is \$2,000 per academic year, and this is paid only after the receipt of official transcripts.

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC), under contract with the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, currently administers the Student Bursary Program.

BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
 200 - 506 Fort Street
 Victoria, BC V8W 1E6
 Phone: 250 388-5522
 Fax: 250 388-5502
 Toll Free: 1-800-990-2432

Joe P Cardinal Bursary/Internship Award The Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA)

AMMSA is pleased to offer an annual Bursary/Internship Award to an Aboriginal student to further their education in communications specializing in broadcasting and/or journalism. This Bursary is intended to assist students in the 2nd or subsequent years of a degree program in radio broadcasting or journalism.

The Bursary is named to honour Joe P. Cardinal, Elder, AMMSA Board Member and leader who believed communications was key to greater understanding between people and cultures.

Applicants MUST: - Be First Nations, Inuit or Métis, hold permanent Canadian resident status and have in Alberta; - Be enrolled in the 2nd year (or beyond) of a Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio & Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program (as recognized by Alberta Learning) and be able to produce a transcript of grades from the 1st year; - Be available to participate in a 4 week internship program at AMMSA at the completion of the school year - Be interested in acting as an ambassador for the broadcast industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting

Guidelines:

One bursary valued at \$4,000 will be awarded each year. This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs. An additional \$1,000 will be awarded to the student for their participation in the AMMSA Internship program.

Bursary recipients are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in the approved programs in the amount of \$2,500 annually to a maximum of \$10,000

Deadline: May 15

Please submit to:

Selection Committee, AMMSA Bursary
 13245 - 146 Street
 Edmonton, AB T5L 4S8
 Web: www.ammsa.com

BC Hydro Aboriginal Scholarship Program

To encourage and financially assist Aboriginal people to pursue post-secondary education in disciplines relevant to BC Hydro and, where possible, to provide recipients with work experience.

Value: Eight scholarships of \$1,000 each.

Eligibility: Status Indian, Non-Status Indian, Inuit or Métis. Has successfully completed the first year of a full time post-secondary program in a discipline relevant to a broad range of BC Hydro careers.

Good academic standing (preferably 75% grade point average) in addition to good written communications skills. Balanced lifestyle (i.e., fitness, community involvement, hobbies and interests). Supported by a British Columbia First Nation or Native organization.

Deadline: Mid-January

Information: Outreach Programs

BC Hydro
 16th Floor, 333 Dunsuir St.
 Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R3

Windspeaker's Aboriginal Scholarship Guide only lists the portion of the funding currently available to Aboriginal students. There are many more listings posted online at www.ammsa.com.

did not have room to include in this year's Guide.

Please visit our web site to get a comprehensive list: www.ammsa.com
This online list is updated throughout the year as new information becomes available.

If you would like to add/update scholarship information from your school or organization please forward the information via email to us at: market@ammsa.com

SYMPOSIUM 2012:

Wise Practices in Indigenous Community Development

SEPTEMBER 13-15, AT THE BANFF CENTRE



Much of what is known about Aboriginal communities today comes from media reports that overlook the many stories of success and prosperity that have yet to be told. Rather than portrayals that depict struggle, we must begin to relay stories of Aboriginal communities that have been able to rise above challenges to develop successful and sustainable enterprises.

Join us at the Wise Practices in Indigenous Community Development Symposium as we highlight accounts of Aboriginal community development, and learn from community members who engage their people and share in the pride that comes from successful endeavours.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 OR TO REGISTER, PLEASE
 VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.aboriginalleadership.ca
 Phone: 403.762.6479
 Toll Free: 1.888.255.6327
 Email: wisepracticesym@banffcentre.ca

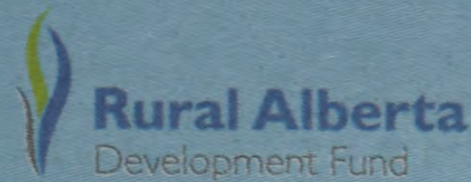
REGISTER NOW

Early Bird Registration Until June 15!

Early Bird Registration
 until June 15, 2012 **\$800**

Full Registration
 after June 15, 2012 **\$1,200**

Presented by Aboriginal Leadership and Management at
 The Banff Centre with generous support from:



The Banff Centre
 inspiring creativity

GST to go into hands of another Saskatchewan First Nation

Page 3

Recognition received for personal, work accomplishments

Page 4

Special section providing Aboriginal news from Saskatchewan



PHOTO: CBC SASKATCHEWAN

Making their pitches and selected for final consideration in the Boom Box were (from left) Dean Villeneuve, Jennifer Dubois, Janine Windolph, Moe Mathieu, Jacob Pratt, and Annie Charles. Windolph and Charles teamed up on their business proposal.

Ready-to-market ideas get helping hand

By SHARI NARINE
Sage Contributing Editor

REGINA

It all begins with "one good idea."

CBC Saskatchewan producer Merelda Fiddler is referring to the Boom Box, but she could just as easily be talking about the three winning entries for CBC's inaugural competition for Aboriginal entrepreneurs.

"Everything starts with one good idea and it's what you do with that idea that affects change," said Fiddler.

Fiddler had been working on a series of stories about Aboriginal employment, when the idea of Boom Box came up. The title of the contest, she noted, is a nod to Saskatchewan's booming economy. Fiddler approached *Dragon's Den* veteran Brett Wilson to team up on the project.

"I often say if I can only plant a few seeds it's been a worthwhile day. I think we planted more than a few seeds in the Aboriginal community,"

said Wilson.

One such seed was planted in the form of Jacob Pratt, a third year business student at the First Nations University. Pratt took first place with his pitch for Wambi Dance, which has been in operation for about two months. Wambi Dance serves two purposes: it is a talent agency registering a wide variety of Aboriginal artists and gets them work and it is a central agency that event planners and organizations can turn to for Aboriginal artists.

"We're growing quickly and the possibilities of where we can go seem to be getting bigger and bigger and something like this is needed because nobody else is providing these services here in Saskatchewan," said Pratt in his video pitch.

Along with winning \$2,500, Pratt will receive three months of mentorship. While the money will help, Pratt said the mentorship is "really, really worth more than that."

Wilson, who put up \$5,000 in prize money, with second place finisher taking \$1,500 and third

place \$1,000, agrees with Pratt's assessment.

"Mentorship is so, so, so important in terms of keeping ... entrepreneurs focused," said Wilson.

Three months of mentorship was also supplied to Jennifer Dubois and Heather Abbey, who placed second and third, respectively.

Dubois, who is graduating this year from the School of Business at FNU, is working part time from home as a hairdresser. Her plan is to "open a salon spa that provides a First Nations experience," she said in her video pitch. Along with serving other clients, Dubois wants to cater to First Nations traditions as well as invest in the First Nations community. She plans to travel to reserves to cut hair, as well as offer haircutting services to low income families. Purchasing hair product from Aboriginal companies is also a target as is displaying arts and crafts by Aboriginal artisans.

Dubois said she wants to take her time working on her business plan and get it right.

"The mentor will help me answer questions I don't know myself. That's why it's always good to have a professional who has done it before work with you," said Dubois.

Abbey, a work-from-home mom, who referred to herself as a "momprenuer" on her video pitch, wants to establish Shop Cairo.ca, a website that will allow Aboriginal artists to sell their wares from home and get a decent price. She said after talking to artisans, she found that many were stymied by lack of resources and unable to get to powwows or regional fairs in order to sell their work. And if they made it out, many were selling at slashed rates on the last day.

With Shop Cairo.ca, "anyone can sell anytime, from anywhere," said Abbey. All they need is a digital camera, computer, Internet connection, and access to the postal system.

Nearly 40 pitches were posted on the Boom Box website, which received over 100,000 hits. Six pitches moved on for final consideration. Four

finalists were selected by a committee that consisted of CBC representatives and business community leaders, one selection was made through audience voting, and the last selection by Wilson.

The winners were chosen by a panel of four consisting of Wilson, Metis consultant John Lagimodiere, Stephanie Yong from the Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence at the University of Saskatchewan, and FNU president Doyle Anderson.

"They were all ready to go to market, subject to a little more coaching and money," said Wilson of the winners.

Fiddler said CBC would consider running the competition again. Wilson said he would be involved a second time around "if we can build on the success." He noted that 40 pitches and over 100,000 hits for a first time event were strong indications of interest.

Said Wilson of the winners, "I would like to see the three that are chosen do well, that would be a great message."



PHOTO: PROVIDED

Two youths have been charged with arson in a fire late last year that caused damage to the Montreal Lake band offices on the second floor of the building the band shared with the local RCMP detachment.

Youths charged with arson in band office, RCMP detachment fire

Two youths, ages 12 and 15, have been charged with arson, break and enter to commit arson and mischief over \$5,000, in the November fire that caused damage to the building that holds the Montreal Lake Cree Nation band office and the Montreal Lake RCMP Community detachment. Damage was limited to three of the band's administrative offices on the second floor. Before the Waskesiu and Weyakain fire departments arrived, RCMP members used fire extinguishers to try and control the fire. As the fire continued to increase, the heat and smoke forced the members out of the area. Members then closed the doors and windows to cut off all sources of oxygen in the area to try and contain the fire. The Prince Albert Grand Council Fire Investigator, Office of Fire Commissioner's Branch Fire Investigator and the Waskesiu RCMP conducted the investigation to determine the origin and cause of the fire. Prince Albert Identification and Police Dogs Services from Meadow Lake also assisted.

Power outage may have crippled chance of Hockeyville

After making it to the final five to be named CBC's Kraft Hockeyville, Beardy's and Okemasis Willow Cree First Nation was the first to be eliminated. "Our community came together in a way that I don't think they expected. I don't think they understood the magnitude of what Kraft Hockeyville really was and what it could mean for us," committee member Kevin Seesequasis told the *Star Phoenix*. The Duck Lake entry was vying for a chance to win \$100,000 in arena upgrades and to host an NHL preseason game in September. A power outage on March 19 disrupted voting and resulted in Duck Lake earning 903,260 votes. Winner Stirling-Rawdon, Ont., received almost four million.

Poundmaker Chief admits to stealing band funds

Poundmaker First Nation Chief Duane Antoine pleaded guilty to one count of theft under \$5,000 in a North Battleford courtroom on April 16. Antoine was among nine band members facing a total of 47 charges of theft, fraud and breach of trust relating to the mispending of Treaty Land Entitlement funds back in 2004. Three people also pleaded guilty to one count of theft over

\$5,000. All are due back in court for sentencing in September. Another of the accused, Victoria McMillan, pleaded not guilty to several charges including theft, fraud and criminal breach of trust. Three additional charges were laid against her on April 15.

Loon Lake man named dangerous offender

Brian Ben, 51, of Loon Lake First Nation, has been named a dangerous offender by Meadow Lake provincial court judge Lorna Dyck. Ben is presently serving a three-year prison term after assaulting an RCMP officer in 2010. The prison term will be followed up by six years of community supervision. Until the Criminal Code was amended in 2008, a dangerous offender designation carried a mandatory indeterminate sentence, meaning the offender could be kept behind bars indefinitely for the sake of public safety. "I have found that an indeterminate sentence is not required in this case as there is a reasonable expectation that a lesser measure will adequately protect the public against the commission by Mr. Ben of murder or a serious personal injury offence," wrote Judge Dyck.

New scholarship for U of S Aboriginal students

Aboriginal students pursuing undergraduate and graduate business degrees at the University of Saskatchewan's Edwards School of Business can now access increased scholarship, bursary and award funding thanks to a contribution from Scotiabank. The \$200,000 donation is the second major gift that Scotiabank has given to Aboriginal students at the U of S and is provided through Scotiabank's Bright Future global philanthropic program.

"In addition to recognizing the importance of this local resource, this funding demonstrates our strong belief in education, recognition of the academic excellence of the University of Saskatchewan and our commitment to Canada's Aboriginal communities and individuals," said Rick Waugh, president and CEO, Scotiabank, in a news release. Through its Bright Future program, Scotiabank offers Aboriginal youth mentoring and last year partnered with the Martin Aboriginal Initiative Program to sponsor the first-of-its-kind, on-reserve entrepreneurship program for youth of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation. Scotiabank also supports a number of Aboriginal community cultural celebrations across the country both financially and through employee participation.

OTC, U of S collaborate to promote understanding on treaties

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner will collaborate with the Aboriginal Students Centre and other interested groups, such as the Department of Native Studies, at the University of Saskatchewan to make a plan to provide education outside the classroom on treaties and the responsibilities that come with them for all people in the province. An agreement signed in March includes measures such as a series of eight lectures by members of the OTC Speakers Bureau to the university in the 2012-13 academic year, extensive write-ups in future ASC handbooks and information at the existing centre and the future Gordon Oak Red Bear Student Centre. The agreement follows a student initiative that began 18 months ago and the partners are confident the relationship will evolve and develop over time, especially since faculty and staff are now on board to maintain the movement after the current class has graduated and moved on.

Award extended to help in finding missing girl

The Regina Board of Police Commissioners has voted to extend the \$25,000 reward for information leading to the whereabouts of Tamra Jewel Keepness. Keepness, five years old at the time, was last seen in her home on the 1800 block of Ottawa Street on July 5, 2004. The next day, she was reported missing to police. The reward was first offered a week later on July 13, and has been extended on an annual basis ever since. "One of the things that we believe is that somebody in the community knows something about her disappearance, and that we need the information to help us close this file and locate Tamra," said Deputy Police Chief Bob Morin.

Potash mining to go ahead on Muskowekwan

Results from a new technical report for potash mining on the Muskowekwan First Nation home reserve and the MFN Treaty Land Entitlement lands are favourable. "We look forward to progressing this project into the first potash mine on First Nations' land. Clearly this is another significant milestone achievement for Encanto," said James Walchuck, president and CEO of Encanto in a news release. Annual potash solution production from the caverns on the Muskowekwan property has the potential for a 52-year mine life based on the measured and indicated resource and upgrading inferred resources has the potential to significantly extend the life of any potential mine.

Federal dollars will help Whitecap Dakota plan War of 1812 commemoration

Funding from the federal government will allow the Whitecap Dakota First Nation to research and plan for commemorative activities related to the War of 1812 that will recognize the important part played by the Dakota and other Aboriginal communities. "The War of 1812 was a defining moment in Canada's history," said Chief Darcy Bear of the Whitecap Dakota Nation in a news release. "It is often overlooked that the Dakota people played a critical role in this historic achievement, so it is important to remind ourselves of these events and of the fact that First Nations are an integral part of the fabric of this country." The federal government has provided funding of \$49,999 through Canadian Heritage's War of 1812 Commemoration Fund. The fund supports community-based projects to foster greater awareness and understanding among Canadians of the importance of this moment in our history.

Shoal Creek receives HSF grant funding

Shoal Lake Cree Nation is among five Saskatchewan communities to receive grant dollars from the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Shoal Lake will use the funding from My Healthy Community grant program for its Foods from the Creator project. "We had an overwhelming response, with over 140 applications for grants," said Lorie Langenfurth, HSF CEO in a news release. "Many Saskatchewan communities face significant challenges in making healthy choices available and affordable. That's why it is so encouraging to see these grass-roots organizations wanting to initiate proactive programs that promote healthy living in their communities." Grants for up to \$4,000 were awarded.

Compiled by Shari Narine

GST to go into hands of another Saskatchewan First Nation

By SHARI NARINE
Sage Contributing Editor
NEKANEET FIRST NATION

Low membership numbers and no on-reserve businesses have made it possible for the Nekaneet First Nation to collect GST on business conducted on its land.

In the next month, chief and council will pass the necessary bylaw and by July or August, GST remitted to Ottawa will be back in the hands of the First Nation.

"It's more income for the band and it will allow us to reinvest in our economic development opportunities," said Chief Jordi Fourhorns.

Figures aren't in yet, but Fourhorns said that no less than \$15,000 each month is the

expected take. The FNGST will be applied to the same goods and services that are taxable under the federal GST.

The bulk of that tax revenue will come from the Living Sky Casino, which Nekaneet First Nation operates in Swift Current, and urban property in Regina that the band owns. GST will be charged and while both First Nations and non-first Nations will have to ante up the additional five per cent, Fourhorns said the majority of the people dishing out the extra dollars will not be Nekaneet band members.

"Only a small number of our members go to the casino and it will benefit more as we will be collecting GST on all of the people that go the Living Sky casino, all the non-First Nations

people from Swift current, all the non-First Nations people who pass by and stop at Living Sky," said Fourhorns.

Nekaneet has under 200 members living on the reserve and about 200 members who live off-reserve in the surrounding area and larger cities. Fourhorns said as there are no businesses on-reserve, members travel into Swift Current and Maple Creek or cross the border to Medicine Hat in Alberta.

Chief and council took the proposal of collecting GST to the membership through community meetings and received full support. Elders also gave the proposal their approval.

"The Elders say it's not the government that will be taxing our people. It's going to be our own Nation. It's our own tax and

we will be getting it all back," said Fourhorns.

After approval was received from membership, the band applied to the Canada Revenue Agency. Approval was received from the CRA.

Fourhorns expects the additional revenue to be reinvested in economic development opportunities in urban centres as well as on-reserve housing and infrastructure.

Nekaneet joins Whitecap Dakota as the only two First Nations in Saskatchewan to collect GST. Whitecap Dakota also operates a casino. Fourhorns said the revenue collected by Whitecap Dakota through the FNGST was another factor as to why Nekaneet decided to pursue that option,

which is available to all First Nations.

"Whitecap started off with their casino and then they implemented their tax and they grew and now they have a very top notch housing program," said Fourhorns. It is estimated that Whitecap Dakota takes in \$1 million annually through FNGST.

Fourhorns added that a handful of bands in British Columbia and the Yukon also collect tax on their land under the First Nations Goods and Services Tax Act. The FNGST Act replaces the federal GST with the tax remitted to the First Nation.

Nekaneet will also look at applying to collect provincial sales tax and liquor tax in the future, said Fourhorns.

Winter Games hit "legacy" proportion, says ED

By SHARI NARINE
Sage Contributing Editor
SASKATOON

It's with a good feeling that the Saskatchewan First Nations Winter Games wrapped up on April 13.

"Even if we do it again next year, I don't think we'll ever be able to surpass our standards. We're really satisfied with what we left. If someone else can meet that level and pass it, do whatever they need. I believe we're really happy with what we left as a legacy," said Neil Sasakamoose, executive director with Battlefords Agency Tribal Council.

BATC hosted the Saskatchewan First Nations Winter Games, which ran from April 8-13 and took place in Saskatoon. Initially scheduled for North Battleford, Sasakamoose said BATC was given the heads-up by North Battleford about a year and a half ago that the multipurpose facility being built might not be completed in time for the

April event. As it so happened, the multiplex was not completed.

So BATC took the event to Saskatoon and was more than pleased with the response the city gave.

"They're a well-oiled machine for event management," said Sasakamoose. "They have a sports tourism board that we went to and (they) welcomed us with open arms and gave us the city."

Bunk beds were set up in school gymnasiums, hotel rooms booked and a Saskatoon city church catered all meals.

The five-day event attracted just under 3,000 athletes from the 12 councils participating in six events, including the newly added three-on-three basketball. Each host community gets to introduce a new sport and Sasakamoose said basketball was chosen because of its popularity both in the inner city and on the reserves.

"It was very successful. The sport is on the rise again

especially in First Nation country," said Sasakamoose.

Other sports hosted were hockey, badminton, volleyball, curling and broomball.

All sports were streamed live on the Internet, something added new this year. Six Internet channels ran simultaneously during the course of the event (and replays are still available). Channel one, which showed the opening ceremonies and the hockey action, was the most popular with over 105,000 minutes of viewing. Hits came from as far away as Russia, Portugal, Spain, Poland, the United States and throughout Canada.

"(Internet streaming) is the way of the future," said Sasakamoose, noting that traveling to the games can be expensive for families. "Internet access is a little more ready for First Nations in Saskatchewan. A lot of people were thankful they could watch their kids live."

Another unique aspect of these games was the beaded medals. Athletes winning gold

and silver took home beaded medals. Beaders didn't have enough time to complete the bronze medals as each medal took six to eight hours to bead. One thousand medals were required.

The Agency Chiefs Tribal Council team earned the most points and took home nine golds, 11 silvers and five bronze. Saskatoon TC placed second with seven golds and six each in silver and bronze medals. Team Woodland was third with five gold, four silver and three bronze. Host BATC earned two gold, one silver and two bronze.

Sasakamoose said he could pick 20 different highlights for the games, but what stands out the most were the opening ceremonies on April 10 which kept nearly 2,000 athletes in their seats.

"It was really rich in the fabric of the Plains Cree," he said. Battlefords is an area known for its traditions, singers, drummers, oral storytelling and Cree language. This was all incorporated into

a two-hour ceremony that kept the kids riveted.

"The other highlight was seeing smiling young and the old First Nations people taking their picture with the Stanley Cup," said Sasakamoose. The travelling Hockey Hall of Fame, larger than it has ever been, spent two days at the Prairieland Exhibition Pavilion and had on display nine trophies.

Also noteworthy, he said, was the restricted-access youth dance, which saw 2,000 kids ages 12-18 on the floor and zero incidences and the well-attended round dance.

The games were marred by a brawl during a midget hockey game between BATC and File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council, but the players were dealt with "pretty firmly" by the provincial hockey body, said Sasakamoose. The only other glitch was the lack of lanyards needed for the name tags. Organizers had prepared for 3,500 participants (athletes, coaches and chaperones). Instead 3,950 were registered.

agreements
Melis
Chief and Council
Kelowna Accord
Aboriginal Healing Foundation
Residential Schools
AIDS Inuit
Stephen Harper
environment
assimilation

First Nation
HST
INAC
www.ammsa.com
We can help you sort through what's important to you.
elections
Land Claims
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples

Justice Murray Sinclair
veterans
role models
Treaty Rights
Shawn Atleo
scholarships
Sisters in Spirit
harvesting

Band Manager - Saulteaux, Saskatchewan

- * Attractive salary of \$70,000 plus benefits!
- * Pivotal position with an influential First Nations band government!
- * Relocation assistance + generous medical, dental & pension plan!



Saulteaux First Nation has an exciting and rare opportunity for a talented **Band Manager** to lead their overall operations.

Reporting to the Chief and Council, the Band Manager is primarily responsible for the **planning, accountability, supervision, leadership, and overall operation of the Saulteaux First Nation.**

The successful candidate will enjoy **attractive remuneration of \$70,000**, depending on qualifications and experience. In addition, employees enjoy a wide range of excellent benefits, including:

- Generous medical, dental, and pension plan;
- Laptop and cell phone allowance;
- On-Reserve Tax Exemption for Treaty candidates;
- No housing is available in community - will negotiate relocation to neighbouring community; and
- Competitive travel rates.

This is a rare chance to join and help **shape the services of a growing and innovative First Nations organization committed to driving positive change. Don't miss out- APPLY NOW! Please apply online before May 18th, 2012.**



www.applyfirst.ca/job33793
Apply Online or Call 1866 474 3140



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project

The importance of Métis veterans to the Métis community cannot be understated. Our veterans occupy a point of honour at all Métis gatherings and cultural events. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument will be a landmark for generations of Métis people to gather and pay homage to the servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has been chosen to oversee the building of the Métis Veterans Memorial Monument at Batoche, and is seeking donations towards the total project cost of \$300,000. Donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt.

Donations over \$25 will receive the CD *Honouring Our Heroes: A Tribute to Métis Veterans*, featuring Métis performing artists ~ Donny Parenteau, Andrea Menard, Ray St. Germain, Jess Lee, Mike Gouchie, and Krystle Pederson.

Donations over \$50 will receive the CD above as well as the book: *Métis Veterans of Saskatchewan: 1914-1953* by Cathy Littlejohn.

Our goal is to ensure the monument recognizes and honours all of our Métis Veterans, past and present. If you know of a Métis veteran who should be recognized, please visit the website below for submission information.

For more information, please contact the Gabriel Dumont Institute toll-free at 1-877-488-6888 or visit the website www.gdins.org/veteransmonument.

Donations can be mailed to:
Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
917-22nd Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9

GDI Mission: To promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

Recognition received for personal, work accomplishments

Elder recognized with health excellence award

Elder Betty McKenna, from the Anishnabae Nation, Shoal River Band, is the recipient of the 2012 Saskatchewan Health Excellence Award in the "Health of a Population" category. She was nominated by Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre researchers Dr. Carrie Bourassa and Dr. Mary Hampton for her involvement in numerous health projects and her commitment to promoting health, wellness and culture in the Aboriginal community. "Elder Betty is one of the most amazing individuals in our community," said Bourassa, in a news release. "She gives of herself for the betterment of her community on a daily basis. She has provided guidance to me not only professionally but personally as well. The ceremonies she holds are open to all and she graciously shares her knowledge and wisdom in order to help those who are on healing journeys. I cannot think of a more worthy recipient of this award."



PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

Elder Betty McKenna was recently recognized for her work in the field of health.

New Grand Chief elected for SNEVA

Raymond Sanderson has been elected the new Grand Chief of the Saskatchewan First Nation Veterans Association. "I am honoured to have been elected by my fellow peers," said Sanderson. "I am committed to working hard for my fellow veterans and widows. In these short few months we will focus our initial efforts on the Grave Marker program and a fund raising initiative for our members." Born on the James Smith Cree Nation, Sanderson entered residential school at the age of seven, where he spent the next 11 years. At school Sanderson became involved with the Army Cadets, and his brother, who had served in Germany, filled Sanderson's head with tales of army life. At age 17, Sanderson joined the Canadian Armed Forces, and by the time he was 18 he was already in West Germany, where he completed two tours of duty with NATO Forces. Sanderson served with the 2nd Battalion (the Black Watch of Canada) and the 2nd Battalion (Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry). During his military career, he was awarded the NATO Special Services Medal, the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal, three NAVA medals and a thank you medal from Holland. Sanderson has spent the last several years assisting the SFNVA as their Prince Albert branch president.

Judge appointed to Provincial Court

Inez J. Cardinal, Q.C. has been appointed a judge of the Provincial Court in Melfort. Cardinal will work temporarily in Meadow Lake until November 2012 and will then be based permanently in Melfort.

She will replace Judge Lorna Dyck. Cardinal received her diploma in Renewable Resources Technology in 1981 from the Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences and her Bachelor of Laws in 1990 from the University of Saskatchewan. She articulated with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General in Regina. In 1991, she joined Public Prosecutions in Regina and has since worked in the Saskatoon and La Ronge offices of Public Prosecutions. She has been the designated prosecutor for environmental offences in Saskatoon since 2006. Since 2000, Judge Cardinal has been a sessional lecturer in the areas of Human Justice and Indigenous Studies with the First Nations University of Canada at its Northern Campus in Prince Albert. "We are very pleased to be able to appoint someone with Judge Cardinal's diverse and considerable experience to the Provincial Court bench," Justice Minister and Attorney General Don Morgan said in a news release. "Her varied experiences will serve her and our justice system well."

Compiled by Shari Narine

**More news, more careers,
more events, more sports.
Find more of everything online.
Check us out:
www.saskatchewansage.com**

A part of the AMMSA online information network.



Raven's Eye: Special Section providing news from BC & Yukon

Ottawa throws legal curve ball in fisheries case



PHOTO: SHAYNE MORROW

Community fish days in the Somass River at Port Alberni allow for Tseshaht and Hupacasath member to catch and sell sockeye and chinook to the tourists and residents alike along the roadside along Highway 4.

By SHAYNE MORROW
Raven's Eye Writer

OTTAWA

The Supreme Court of Canada has called on the British Columbia Court of Appeal to reconsider its finding that five First Nations on Vancouver Island have a right to sell fish harvested in their traditional territories.

In a decision that has even legal experts scratching their heads, the Supreme Court has ordered the lower court to review a decision in Ahousaht vs Canada rendered on May 18, 2011, in light of the high court's November 2011 Lax Kw'alaams decision, which determined that the North Coast Tsimshian nation did not have the right to sell fish.

"It's certainly unusual," said lawyer Matthew Kirchner of the North Vancouver law firm Ratcliff and Co., which handled both cases. "We've looked into it. There are perhaps a half-dozen cases that have been referred back in that way. I know of maybe three or four in B.C."

In a landmark 2009 decision, the B.C. Supreme Court ruled that five Nuu-chah-nulth nations had demonstrated that their ancestors had practiced commerce in marine resources between nations prior to contact with Europeans in the late 18th century. The court set a time frame of two years for the five nations, which include Ahousaht, Ehattesaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht,

Hesquiaht and Tla-o-qui-aht, and the government of Canada to negotiate a way for them to engage in commercial fisheries without infringing the rights of other Canadians.

Canada appealed to the Court of Appeal to overturn the decision, but on May 18, 2011, the appeal court affirmed the Nuu-chah-nulth right to catch and sell fish, and extended the deadline to negotiate. Instead of negotiating, however, the federal government applied to the Supreme Court of Canada to overturn the case.

On March 29 this year, the high court refused to hear the appeal, but sent the case back to the B.C. Court of Appeal. Legal observers have pointed out that the Supreme Court ruling did not cite any errors in the lower court's finding, but there was some concern that the trial judge in Ahousaht did not have an established method of analysis to establish fact. By law, the Supreme Court has now set the legal test a judge must apply to determine whether a First Nation has an aboriginal right to sell fish.

The Ahousaht and Lax Kw'alaams cases are unique in that they were the result of a direct application by First Nations people to address an infringement of their right to harvest their own resources. Most aboriginal rights cases that reach the Supreme Court of Canada stem from criminal prosecutions for violations of fisheries or hunting regulations.

The appeal court has been

instructed to review the process used in Ahousaht to see if it meets the test set out by the Supreme Court in Lax Kw'alaams.

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council president Cliff Atleo said the maneuver by Canada is frustrating.

"The two cases, in terms of the evidence, are quite different," Atleo said.

In Ahousaht, the court heard extensive evidence from written sources at the time of contact, affirming that Nuu-chah-nulth nations had an established form of commerce which they readily adapted to build trade with the English, Spanish and later, the Americans.

By contrast, contact with the Tsimshian peoples of the North Coast was far more limited until the Hudson Bay Company established a fort at Port Simpson in 1837. At trial, the judge ruled that the Lax Kw'alaams had failed to demonstrate a pre-contact commerce in fish, other than a small trade in eulachon oil.

"So far, we haven't applied a whole lot of what we considered a win in the B.C. Court of Appeal," Atleo said, adding that from the Nuu-chah-nulth position, that is how they will continue to operate even as the courts continue to wrangle over the details. "As we speak, we have a win, and we have been instructed to deal with it."

Atleo said Nuu-chah-nulth nations hope to conduct licensed and authorized salmon fisheries this summer, as is their

Aboriginal right.

Two urban Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations located in Port Alberni, Tseshaht and Hupacasath, share the plentiful sockeye and chinook salmon runs on the Somass River, and have intermittently conducted an extra-legal "pilot" harvest and commercial sale of both species, in lieu of a long-term allocation. Both nations were originally parties to the Ahousaht litigation, but were removed at the request of the Crown shortly before the original decision was rendered in 2009.

"The Crown's rationale was because there were overlapping territory issues between Tseshaht and Hupacasath," said Chief Councillor Les Sam.

He said the two nations have no disagreements on the issue of aboriginal fishing rights, so the Crown's tactic amounts to divide and conquer. That is despite the fact that the two nations each year take part in a fisheries roundtable process with the department of Fisheries and Oceans, the commercial and sports fishing sectors to hammer out an agreement on the lucrative sockeye and chinook fisheries. The roundtable has been held up as a model of cooperation for the entire B.C. coast, but to date it hasn't earned any favors from Ottawa for Tseshaht and Hupacasath.

Sam said the continued uncertainty means nobody is able to make long-term plans to maximize the value of the

resource, such as building storage and processing capacity.

"There has to be some sort of defined share of the resources for First Nations in their watersheds and in their systems. You cannot make long-term arrangements because someone will just pull the carpet from under you," Sam said.

For that reason, Alberni Valley residents and the tens of thousands of tourists passing through town on their way to the tourist Meccas of Tofino and Ucluelet this summer will be able to purchase fresh-caught sockeye salmon at informal roadside stands. It has been going on for years, and it's not quite legal, but since 2009, the local nations have endorsed the sales as a public assertion of their aboriginal right to sell fish.

"That's a Direct Action item for the situation we're in," Sam said.

Atleo said the Nuu-chah-nulth nations have learned patience over the centuries and they have also become very experienced in dealing with the courts.

"I have no doubt we will be out harvesting our species, but it will be a slow building. We are going to move forward if Canada likes it or not," he said.

Kirchner was scheduled to appear before Mr. Justice Hall of the B.C. Court of Appeal on April 17 to establish a timeline for the case. The court registry is currently setting hearing dates in late 2012 and early 2013.

Knitting and basket-making receives an official nod



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Charlotte Williams displays a Cowichan sweater that she knit. Ottawa has honored the Cowichan sweater and the knitters of those sweaters as an item of national historic significance.

By **SHAUNA LEWIS**
Raven's Eye Writer

Ottawa

Canada has officially recognized and honoured the Cowichan sweater and the knitters that make them, as well as Interior Salish basket making, designating them Aboriginal items of national historic significance.

Peter Kent, Canada's minister of the Environment and minister responsible for Parks Canada, announced the commemorative designations on March 22, along with 11 other Aboriginal persons, places, and events of

historic significance.

"[These] designations will bring to life the spiritual, cultural, and physical ties that First Nations have to this country, for both Canadians and visitors to Canada," Kent said in a statement. "They will give future generations an understanding of moments in time that span the centuries," he added.

Established in 1919, and supported by Parks Canada, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada advises the minister of the Environment regarding the national historic significance of places, persons

and events that have marked Canada's history.

This year, all 13 designations were associated with First Nations history.

Although officially recognized as important historic markers, designations don't hold any responsibility on the government or those honoured, explained Julie Dompierre, director of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada Secretariat, Parks Canada.

"The designations simply act as an official reminder of what has helped create Canada's history," she explained.

"It is an honorific designation," Dompierre continued, adding that plaques will eventually be situated in various locations or where the people, places, events or items originated.

Each year public nominations flow into the department where they are reviewed. Dompierre says the board sees 70 to 80 designation nominations annually.

Designating the Cowichan knitters and sweater and Nlaka'pamux basket making is something unique to the board.

"Those were wonderful subjects and they were a little bit outside the traditional type of honour," she admitted. "Neither fit neatly into the site, person and event criteria. But they did fit," Dompierre continued. "The board recognized the symbolism of the baskets and the Cowichan sweaters, the products produced and the transfer and preservation of traditional knowledge," she said.

Cowichan First Nation members say they are proud of the recognition.

"I'm very pleased," said Cowichan Tribes Chief Harvey

Alphonse.

"This recognition is long overdue, but I am glad that the Cowichan Sweater and the Cowichan knitters are being honoured at this level," he added.

"Knitting Cowichan Sweaters is a teaching that has been passed down for generations," continued Alphonse. "Our people have learned this unique skill from their parents and grandparents. Families pass down unique designs specific to them; it's a bonding experience for many and a way of sharing our culture and teachings with the younger generations," he explained.

"It shows Cowichan culture," agreed Elder and expert knitter, Charlotte Williams.

Williams, 66, has been knitting Cowichan sweaters, toques, vests and scarves since she was 19 when her late husband's grandmother taught her the craft.

"It [knitting] has helped our people financially," she said.

While knitting has traditionally been designated woman's domain, Williams said husbands and brothers in the community would often help process the raw wool; preparing it for use.

Williams says today the gender roles regarding knitting are more relaxed.

"Now some of the men even knit," she said with a chuckle.

"We've made sweaters for all over the world," Williams adds proudly. Williams' Cowichan sweaters can be found in Japan, New Zealand and England.

Production of what has come to be known as the Cowichan sweater began in the Cowichan Valley, and grew into an industry that served national and international markets.

Long before the arrival of Europeans, the Coast Salish turned mountain goat wool, dog hair, and plant fibres into woven textiles of great value among the peoples of the Pacific Northwest coast.

Williams has recently retired from her job as a health worker in her community. She says knitting simply provides her with a sense of peace.

"It's good therapy for me," said Williams. "I can focus on my knitting and it's something to do with my hands," she said.

Also receiving a federal designation is the coiled basket-making of the Interior Salish.

The baskets, made by the Nlaka'pamux, formerly known as the Thompson Indians, are made with coiled cedar root and they emphasize the fine workmanship and decorative techniques of historic basketry. Basket making is central to Nlaka'pamux identity as it articulates a tangible expression of Nlaka'pamux culture and historical memory.

Attempts to contact members of the Nlaka'pamux First Nation were unsuccessful by press time.

However, Lorelie Michaud of the Yale and District Historical Society applauded Ottawa's decision to designate the basket makers.

"I think they are definitely important and significant. They [the baskets] are part of Canadian heritage," said Michaud.

Located in Yale in the southern Interior Fraser Canyon, the society holds a modest, yet impressive, collection of 19th century Nlaka'pamux baskets.

Basket making continues among the Nlaka'pamux First Nation as hands-on workshops continue to be offered in the region, Michaud explained.

Aboriginal cultural viewed through urban aesthetic

(Continued from page 1.)

Jungen, who is of Dane-zaa descent, wanted to show a relation between mass produced consumer objects and "authentic" Aboriginal artifacts with his display.

"The Native tradition is to craft one object into another," said Jungen.

"It was kind of improvised salvaging born out of the practical and economic necessity, and it greatly influenced the way I see the world as an artist."

Another display by Hoka Skenadore, which consists of colourful mixed media done on vinyl records, showcases the artist's fascination with street art and music.

"I collect records and have been doing so since I was a kid," said Skenadore.

"At some point in the early 2000s I had seen a painted

record by [a local artist] and I loved it. Around the same time I stole a Sotheby's catalogue with a Gerhard Richter painting, it was one of his abstractions on a record... I saw fit to attempt to combine these two ideas together: graffiti meets fine art on vinyl."

Along with gallery displays, Beat Nation also features film-viewing rooms with screenings of video art, such as Mohawk artist Jackson 2bears's multimedia collage "Heritage Mythologies."

The 13-minute-long video juxtaposes photographs and various video clips with hip hop and traditional music.

The images show moments in history like students in residential schools and protesters holding "no Olympics on stolen land" signs, dealing with hard issues

like racism, colonialism and discrimination.

"I envision my practice as a form of cultural critique in which I explore alternative ways to engage with the question of Native spirituality in our modern, technological society," said Jackson 2bears, who is based out of Victoria.

Tania Willard, co-curator of Beat Nation, said that, as a whole, the exhibit expresses freedom from Aboriginal oppression.

"Beat Nation shows, despite the many efforts to repress and eradicate our culture, that we are here. And we are thriving," said Willard.

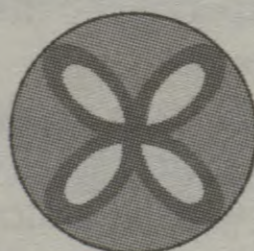
"Like the beats of our sacred drums, we echo our ancestors in our expression of culture regardless of medium."

Beat Nation will be at the Vancouver Art Gallery until June 3.



**IN A JAM?
WE'LL BRING
THE BANNOCK**

- Project Management • Evaluations • Research • Facilitation
- Event Planning • Training • Resource Development



**Connecting
Cultures**

20 yrs. Professional Experience & Excellent Rates

www.healthandsocialdevelopment.com

Free estimate ph. 250-920-0373

"Connecting Together to Build a Brighter Future"

Check us out online: www.ammsa.com

Fighting to protect culture and history

On April 18, an open letter was sent to Premier Christy Clark and Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robinson from the Musqueam making it abundantly clear their position on a condo development that is going forward on an ancient village and midden site, which the Musqueam say has been continuously occupied since the time the first pyramids were built in Egypt. It is known today as the Marpole Midden, a Canadian Heritage Site since 1938. The Musqueam state that the site contains intact remains. They say that just because part of the site has already been disturbed for commercial and transportation ventures, like a body shop and a bridge, it should not be an excuse to continue to desecrate the sacred ground where their ancestors lay. The site also contains priceless artifacts dating back 4,000 years. The Musqueam believe the province and the city have put commercial interests above the "just and right assertion of the Musqueam that the site not be developed." Interests of third parties, the Musqueam say, have been granted protection rather than the culture and history of the Musqueam people. Said Union of BC Indian Chiefs President Grand Chief Stewart Phillip: "The fact that the BC Government and the City of Vancouver have provided permits to build condos on ancestral land is horrifically offensive and unfathomable." The Musqueam have put out their hands out to work in cooperation with the province and city to find solutions to the situation. "To ignore the Musqueam's offer is to challenge not only the determination of Musqueam's position to protect the entire site, but a challenge to all First Nations in B.C.," Phillip concluded.

Revenue sharing agreement signed by Kwantlen

On April 20, a new agreement was signed between BC and the Kwantlen First Nation that will bring forestry revenue back into the community. The Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (FCRSA) reflects 'on the ground' forestry activity in Kwantlen's traditional territory, located in areas along the Fraser River and Stave River around Fort Langley, Maple Ridge and Mission. The agreement flows a

percentage of the forestry revenue directly back into the community and allows the First Nation to decide where the dollars are needed most. Kwantlen expects \$81,464 in the first year of the three-year agreement. In addition to revenue-sharing, these agreements also provide a consultation process for operational decisions related to forestry in the area. It streamlines consultation, provides certainty to the land base and provides a positive investment environment for industry and opportunities for First Nations and non-First Nations community members.

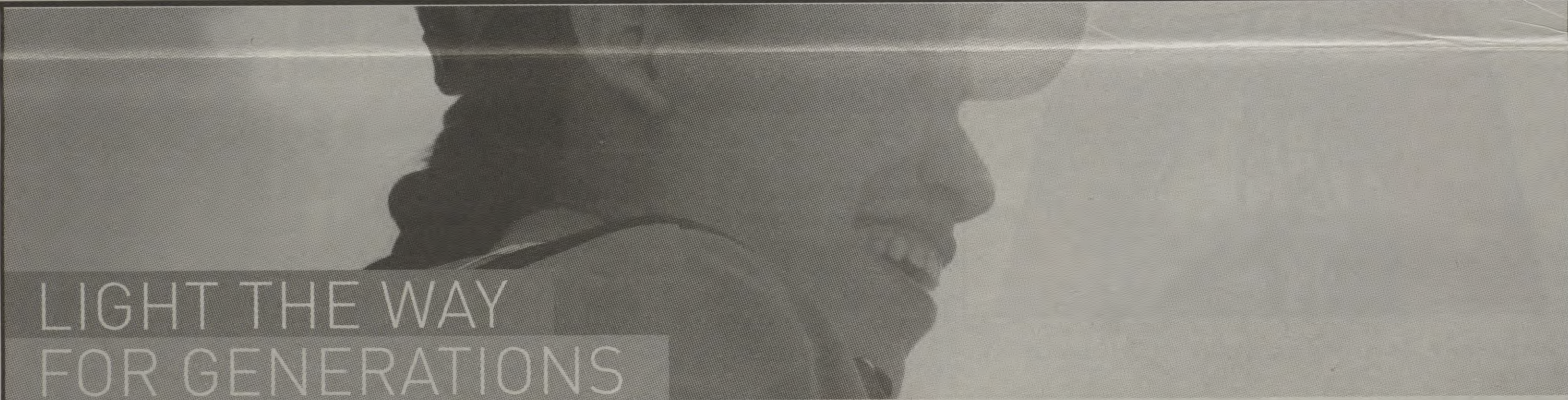
Clean, affordable energy in sight

A small storage, run-of-river hydro facility that will create economic opportunities and help a coastal First Nation get off diesel is one of 11 new projects supported by B.C.'s First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund. More than \$610,000 will go to 11 First Nations communities across B.C. For the Gitga'at First Nation, equity funding of \$250,000 will support construction and operation of hydroelectric works that will replace diesel power with clean and reliable power and create economic opportunities for the community by selling the power to BC Hydro for resale to the community of Hartley Bay. In the past year, B.C. has supported 41 projects in communities around the province, ranging from job training, joint ventures with industry and exploring ways for Aboriginal communities to participate in clean and renewable energy opportunities. By providing funding for equity and capacity-building and feasibility/development projects, the fund benefits First Nations and non-First Nation communities alike, as well as building economic independence for First Nations. Four communities will receive \$30,000 each for community energy planning, to study their current energy sources and consumption, and assess clean energy alternatives for use in the future. Six communities will receive \$40,000 each for feasibility studies and development work across a range of projects, including a wind power project that would be the first wind farm in B.C. owned and operated by First Nations. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund was created in 2010 to support First Nations and new power projects. B.C. contributed an initial \$5 million. A

percentage of land and water rentals generated by eligible projects will be returned to the fund with the goal of the fund being completely self-revenue generating in the future.

"Freedom Train" journey starts April 30

The Yinka Dene Alliance, a group of British Columbia First Nations that has used its laws to ban the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipelines and tankers in their territories, announced April 24 that it will embark on a "Freedom Train" journey beginning April 30. The goal is to protect their rights and their freedom from the threat of oil spills. The journey starts at Jasper in Alberta and ends May 9 in Toronto where Enbridge's corporate leaders will be attending an annual shareholders meeting. "Our journey on this Freedom Train is to build on the support from the people of Canada for the protection of our traditional lands. We will stand firm against all industries like Enbridge that are planning to destroy the environment and the future of all peoples," said Chief Martin Louie of Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, a member of the Yinka Dene Alliance. "We need a healthy environment to ensure a healthy future for our children." The Freedom Train is expected to be greeted by demonstrations of support as it stops in major cities across the country. About 40 First Nations people from at least 10 different nations will be traveling. Additional First Nations representatives will join the train journey along the way, and more are expected to participate in events in cities along the route. The Freedom Train will stop for feasts, ceremonies, rallies and events in Edmonton, Saskatoon and Winnipeg before arriving in Toronto. In Toronto there will be two days of events, including a concert, rally, march and the attendance of First Nations representatives at Enbridge's Annual General Meeting on May 9. "We're travelling across Canada to tell Enbridge that they will not be permitted to build their pipelines through our lands, period," said Chief Jackie Thomas of Saik'uz First Nation. "The fight against Enbridge is a fight for our freedom to govern ourselves and to choose our own future. We will not accept the government imposing a decision on us and forcing this pipeline through our lands."



LIGHT THE WAY
FOR GENERATIONS

LEARN MORE ABOUT BC HYDRO CAREERS

Visit bchydro.com/careers to search for Current Opportunities.

- Complete the online Diversity Self Identification survey in your application
- Forward the email recruiter message you receive to aboriginal.employment@bchydro.com

Create and receive Job Alert emails

Check out Student & Grads and Scholarship opportunities

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jeannie Cranmer,
Aboriginal Education and Employment Strategy Manager
13th Floor—333 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R3
Phone: 604 623 4401
Toll Free: 1 877 461 0161
Fax: 604 623 3799
jeannie.cranmer@bchydro.com

JOIN OUR TEAM

We have opportunities in:

- Administration
- Communications
- Engineering
- Finance & Accounting
- Human Resources
- Technology
- Legal
- Management
- Marketing & Sales
- Safety, Health and Environment
- Skilled Trades

BC Hydro | **50**
REGENERATION

bchydro.com/careers



Progressive
Aboriginal
RELATIONS
SILVER
LEVEL
Canadian Council for
Aboriginal Business



GDS11-255



RAVEN'S EYE

Special section providing Aboriginal news from BC & Yukon

Fighting to protect culture and history
Page 2

Mining companies face heated opposition
Page 3

Ottawa throws legal curve ball in fisheries case
Page 4

Aboriginal culture viewed through urban aesthetic



PHOTOS FROM CARA MCKENNA

9-Skeena Reece, *Raven on the Colonial Fleet* 2010 performance regalia

By CARA MCKENNA
Raven's Eye Writer

Vancouver

Beat Nation is an exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery that features a variety of artists who juxtapose different visions of Aboriginal culture with urban youth and hip hop aesthetics.

The exhibit, which features more than 20 artists from different Aboriginal communities across North America, showcases a variety of artistic mediums including video, photography, audio, painting and installation.

Many pieces in the exhibit represent the heritage of the artists or deal with Aboriginal issues in a fresh way, incorporating vinyl records, skateboards, graffiti murals and even low-rider bikes.

"Aboriginal hip hop has become an important forum for storytelling. Indigenous languages and political activism," said Kathleen Ritter, co-curator of the exhibit.

"We see artists using similar strategies in the visual arts by appropriating mainstream pop



7-Brian Jungen, *Prototype for a New Understanding #2* 1998, Nike Air Jordans, hair.

culture to reflect Aboriginal identity. This is what Beat Nation reflects."

One display by Emily Carr graduate Brian Jungen features Nike Air Jordan runners reformed into Aboriginal masks.

(See *Aboriginal* on page 3.)



PHOTO: BERT CROWFOOT

Clan Chief Adam Dick, holds the Talking Stick in his role as speaker at the Kwixella potlatch of Chief George Shaughnessy held on March 31st at Wawadit'la (Mungo Martin Bighouse) in Victoria, BC.

[kwixella – chief shaughnessy potlatch]



On March 31st, after two years of preparation by his extended family, Maxwxwadziy, Chief George Shaughnessy conducted a Kwixella to memorialize 5 family members and to name those born since his last potlatch in Alert Bay in 2006. The Kwixella, which is a type of potlatch a Chief can conduct if he has already initiated his main dancers in previous potlatches, was held at Wawadit'la (Mungo Martin Bighouse) in Victoria, BC.

Chief Shaughnessy has potlatched three times and has held several feasts and ceremonies in both Alert Bay and Victoria.

Chief Shaughnessy's cultural team consisted of his teacher of 24 years, Kwaxistalla, Clan Chief Adam Dick as speaker, Ogwila'gamey, Chris Cook as second speaker and Myanilth, Daisy Sewid-Smith as potlatch recorder. As the ceremonies unfolded extended family members graciously attended to over 200 guests with feasts of barbecued sockeye, deer stew, halibut, clams and homemade bread. At the end of the Kwixella they distributed many gifts they had made and collected for the witnesses.

ALL PHOTOS: BERT CROWFOOT



Above: Speaker Adam Dick, holding baby Di'ya after being named.



Clan Chief Adam Dick dancing last dance of the Glawallaxa



The host Chief George Shaughnessy (left) with his hired speakers Chris Cook (center) and Clan Chief Adam Dick

Custom Election Code leaves member scratching his head

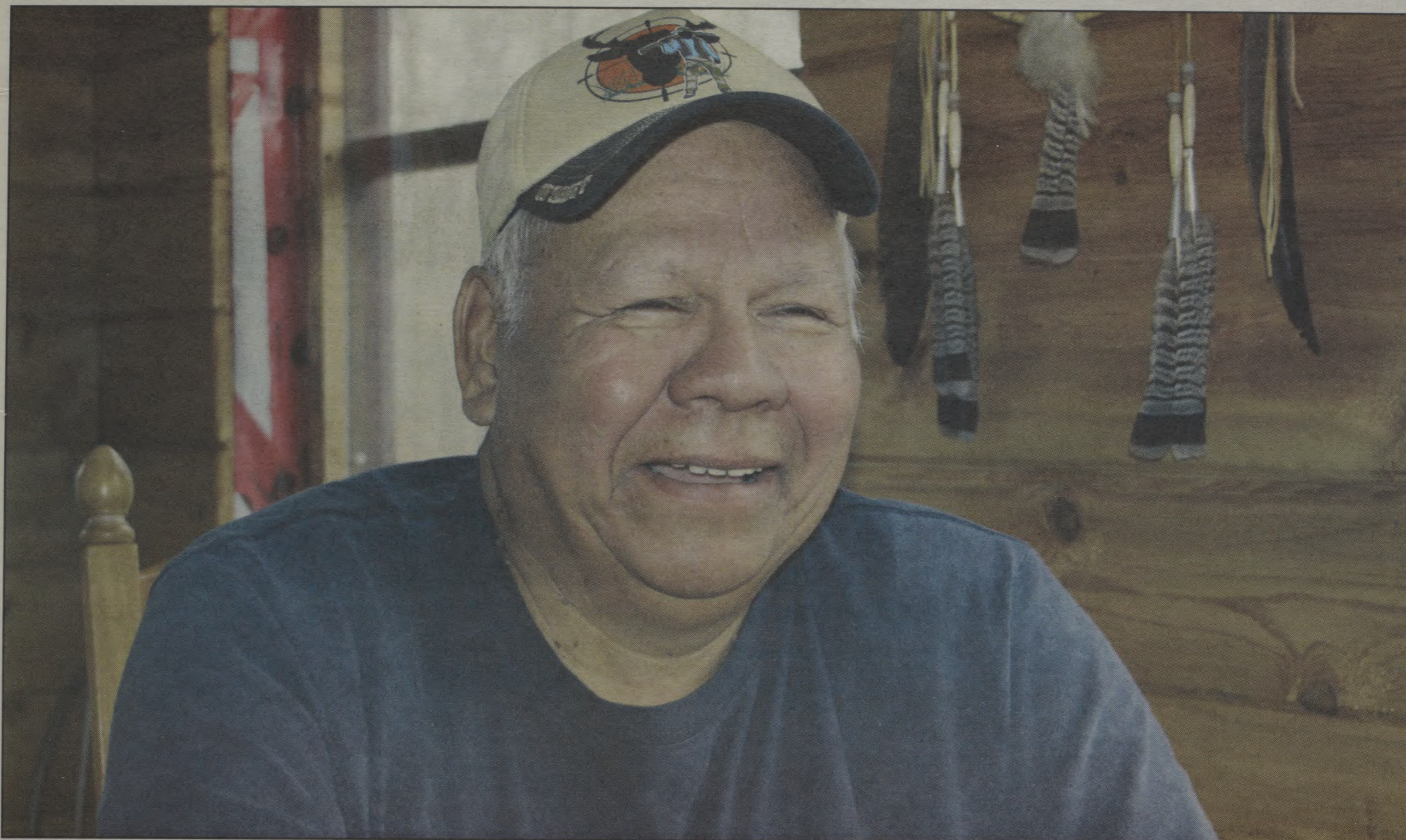


PHOTO: JENNIFER ASHAWASEGAI

Shawanaga First Nation member Wayne Pamajewon wants to see a by-election for council as recommended by an Elders tribunal and petition in his community.

By Jennifer Ashawasegai
Windspeaker Contributor

SHAWANAGA FIRST NATION, Ont.

Wayne Pamajewon is unhappy right now with his community's custom election and Elders tribunal processes.

Upon the recommendation of its Elders tribunal, Shawanaga First Nation held a by-election for chief earlier this year. Pamajewon participated in the Elders tribunal last fall when they recommended an election, not just for chief, however, but for council as well, after learning about financial and management irregularities.

Pamajewon says the former chief was the only one who willingly stepped down from his role, and all members of council stayed put. Because of that, he wonders, "How do band members challenge leadership?"

While proud his community is an independent First Nation with its own custom election code, Pamajewon is concerned about the authorities of the

tribunal and chief and council.

Since the community is under its own custom election process, Aboriginal Affairs is of no help. An email from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada spokesperson Genevieve Guibert states, "The department encourages Band Councils and membership to undertake reviews of their election codes to determine whether or not it reflects the community's view and to address deficiencies."

Out of 617 First Nations in the country, 341 of them select leadership via their own community or custom election codes and 36 of them are self-governing.

Without a formal appeals process for some First Nation custom elections, Federal Court seems to be the only resort for those who would challenge band leadership. For instance, the federal court intervened to end a dispute in Bears Paw First Nation in southern Alberta. The issue was over amending the chief and council term from two years to four in their custom election code. The next

scheduled election was canceled to reflect the amendment. That was a point of contention for membership and the matter went to court last year. The federal court judge removed chief and council and forced the election. (All new leadership was elected).

A federal court process can be lengthy and costly. Pamajewon says legal fees for disputes within the community are not available, so court is not an option. In relative terms, the customary election code in Shawanaga is quite new, and Pamajewon would like to see amendments to the document, which was adopted in 1993.

Pamajewon thinks the Elders Tribunal process in Shawanaga wasn't handled appropriately. He not only questions its authority, or lack thereof, but also the way it was put together.

"The Elders were summoned, and some were handed tobacco, while others found tobacco in their mailbox." He was one of those that found tobacco in his mailbox.

Another community member

confirms this. Ann Pamajewon also found tobacco in her mailbox. Though Ms. Pamajewon says she was flattered at being considered an Elder in the community, she didn't like the way it was handled either.

"The tobacco was attached to an envelope, and I thought it was disrespectful of the cultural value of tobacco."

Not all First Nations run into hurdles in their custom elections. Peter Recollet, spokesperson for Wahnapiatae First Nation, also in Ontario, says, "It's working for us, but there may have to be a little tweaking." He says the only hiccup Wahnapiatae has run into since their custom election code was adopted in 1999 has been minor issues with electoral officers. It's an easy fix, Recollet says. Procedures only need to be tightened up. Also, his community's election code includes an appeals process, and members can suggest amendments to the code with adequate community notification.

The waters are muddy when

considering authorities of custom election procedures and appeals. And Aboriginal Affairs Canada is closer to adding another process to the mix.

In AANDC's email, Guibert writes, "It should be noted that Bill S-6, the First Nations Elections Act, contains a provision that states that a First Nation council may ask the Minister by band council resolution, to add its name to a schedule of First Nations who would hold their elections under that bill. The bill is currently before the Senate at third reading stage."

The federal governments First Nations Elections Act includes options for petitions to oust leadership, and will impose penalties for offenses under the Indian Act.

For now, Pamajewon has presented a petition to Shawanaga First Nation Council requesting the resignation of council and to hold a new election. Numerous phone calls to newly elected Shawanaga First Nation Chief Mike Pamajewon were not returned.

Every single Windspeaker article ever published (well, almost)

is now available on our online archives at

www.ammsa.com

Access is now available through online subscription.

Jacob Pratt — [windspeaker confidential]

Windspeaker: What one quality do you most value in a friend?

Jacob Pratt: I just appreciate friends that you, even if you don't need them, they would be there if you ever needed them. Somebody who is trust worthy and loyal. A real friend is more like a sister or a brother, not just a friend.

W: What is it that really makes you mad?

J.P.: Many things can make people mad but like other First Nation/Native American people racism and blind ignorance really bothers me.

W: When are you at your happiest?

J.P.: I am most happy when I know I've done something good. For example, I recently finished a weekend tour to youth events doing motivational speaking and performing. After seeing the reactions to what I had to say I knew I had a positive effect on many of them. I went home feeling very accomplished and happy. Also, just hanging out with my family.

W: What one word best describes you when you are at your worst?

J.P.: When I'm at my worst I'm lazy, not motivated, and stagnant. The times I'm least pleased with myself is when I know I've done nothing productive.

W: What one person do you most admire and why?

J.P.: I most admire my mother. She came from a childhood that

was really hard. Then she broke the destructive cycles to raise her children in a healthy loving environment. She has never stopped being a positive role model to me and my siblings. She showed me how to strive for a better life. I also always look back on our strong leaders in the past, those that gave selflessly and not for their own benefit. They fought for the benefit of their people.

W: What is the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

J.P.: I've had many difficulties throughout my life. I've lost loved ones, struggled with peer pressure, fought against stereotypes and racism and many other things. Although none of these things were easy, each one of my struggles help in making me a stronger person.

W: What is your greatest accomplishment?

J.P.: I am proud of a lot of the things I've done in my life but I'm still striving and working toward reaching my greatest accomplishment....whatever that may be.

W: What one goal remains out of reach?

J.P.: I don't think any goal is out of reach anymore. If I keep working hard I'll get it. I do want to finish school, grow my business, and keep working toward success. The one long term goal is to one day buy my mother a house and car. Of course, this my mother never lets me forget and is difficult when I

haven't done all that for myself yet.

W: If you couldn't do what you're doing today, what would you be doing?

J.P.: If I wasn't doing what I'm doing now I would still try to do something that would allow me to live while also trying to help improve the lives of my people. I'm not sure what that would be, but that's what drives me.

W: What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

J.P.: My grandmother said "if you want to be a healthy person you need to be balanced. You need to balance your physical, mental, emotional and spiritual self."

W: Did you take it?

J.P.: As a child I didn't think much about what my grandmother taught us but it did manage to stick with me and to this day I try to stay healthy by balancing those areas. That goes for many of the things I was taught by my elders growing up.

W: How do you hope to be remembered?

I would like to be remembered as somebody who led by example, and maybe, long after I'm gone, that generations down the road somebody will say "that was my great grandfather and he fought for his people." I hope that generations down the road my grandchildren will still be strong and proud First Nations/Native American people.

Jacob Pratt, Dakota/Saulteaux and registered member of the

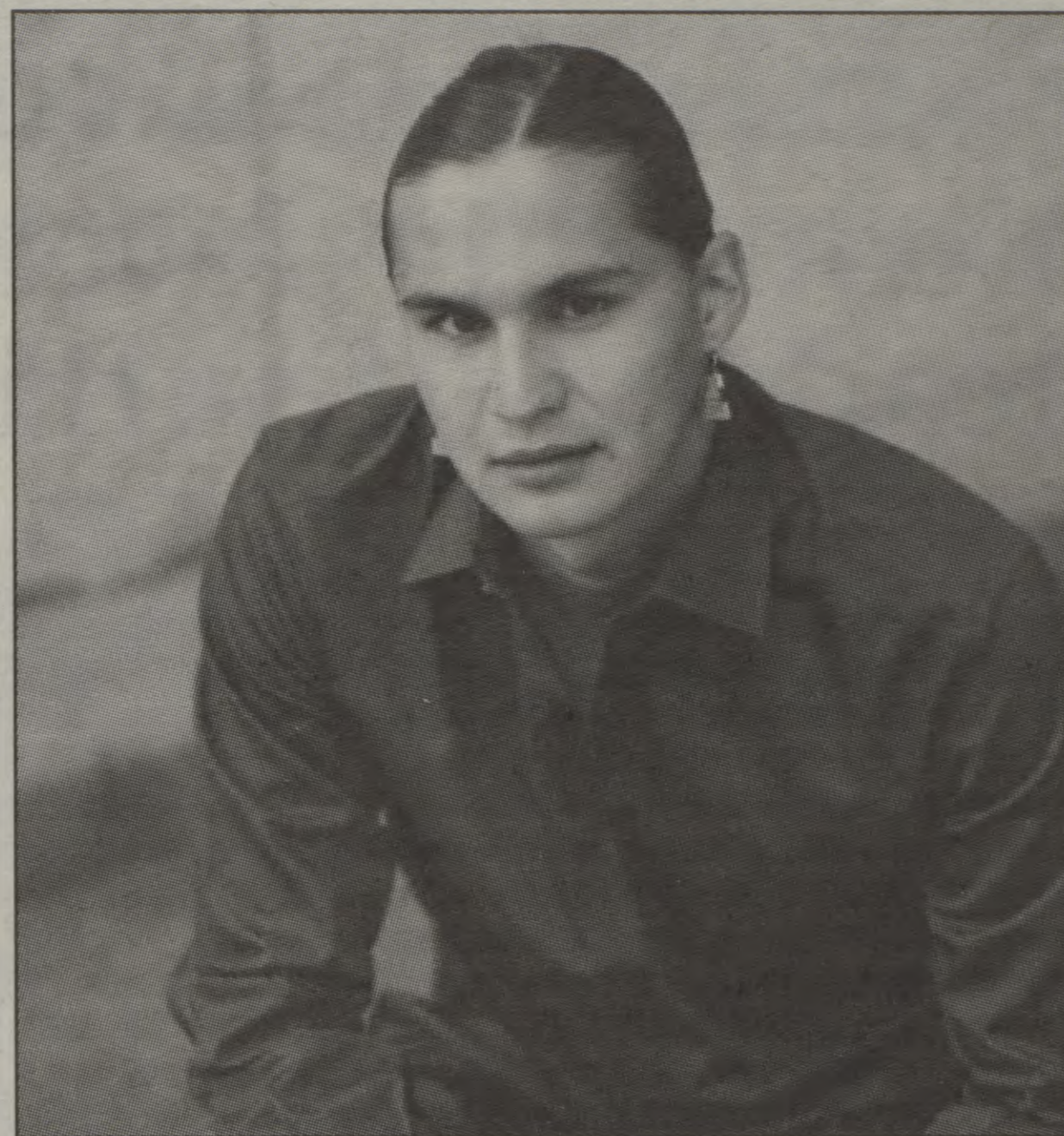


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Jacob Pratt

Cote First Nation of Saskatchewan, was a nominee in the Aboriginal People's Choice Awards. In 2011 Pratt was nominated and won in the Best Flute CD category for his CD 'Eagle Calls.' At the age of 14 Pratt started playing the traditional Native American flute as well as dancing men's traditional in powwows. His dance repertoire has expanded to include the Hoop Dance using 15 hoops to tell stories depicting animals like the eagle, bear and butterfly. Pratt also teaches

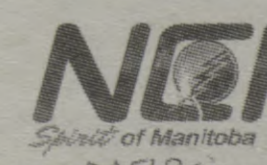
powwow dance. Pratt is working as a professional model doing runway as well as photographic work. Native Entertainment Magazine named him "Sexiest Native Man 2011." Pratt hopes to spread out into acting and has already completed a pizza commercial. If that isn't enough to keep him busy, Pratt is also an experienced motivational speaker who focuses on cultural preservation, youth empowerment and language revitalization to First Nations and Native American youth.

[radio's most active]

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

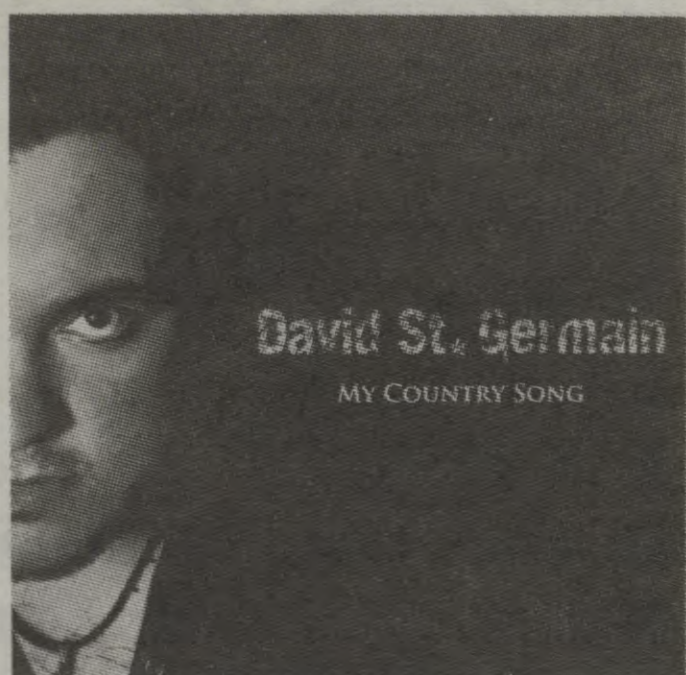
ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Armond Duck Chief	Country Groove	Country Groove
Pura Fe Trio	Endless Possibilities	A Blues Night In North Carolina
Sherry St. Germain	Kick Out The Lights	Kick Out The Lights
Darrellyne Bickel	The Good In Goodbye	Single Release
Keith & Renee	Wildflower	The Best Day
Shane Yellowbird	Sedona Arizona	It's About Time
Jody Leslie	Dodge Dually	Little Things
Amanda Rheaume	Let Yourself Breathe	Life Of Another
Fargo Arizona	I Promise	Single Release
Jerry Serada	My Heart's Got A Memory	Turn The Country On
Tim Harwill	Rollin' With The Flow	A Tribute To Catfish John
Hank Horton	Oh Mama	Mama's Waiting
Sharon Anderson	I Got Love	Life And Times
Holly Vee	I Luv You	Love, Spurs and Rock n' Roll
Nathan Cunningham	Drinkin' Thing	Single Release
David St. Germain	Come Home	My Country Song
Bob Chartrand	Let's Play Love	The Hits
Terri-Lynn	Have A Light Heart On Your New Journey	New Journeys
TK & The Honey Badgers	Please Take Me In	EP
Savannah Rea Boyko	Sick Obsession	Savannah Rea Boyko

CONTRIBUTING STATIONS:



OUR PICK

Artist— David St. Germain
Song— Come Home
Album— My Country Song
Label— Independent



Country music has changed over the last couple of decades. Some will argue that it's not country music anymore but a country flavored pop music. All things evolve and David St. Germain, of Manitoba's country music family royalty delivers on every front of this genre. Right off the first cut on this cd, "Radio" provides visions of the catchy country rock sounds popularized in the late 70's and early 80's by groups like 38 Special. Throughout this cd, you'll find St. Germain crafting songs with the melody and depth that made bands like Alabama gain so many of their country hits. "Working Man Blues" provides the energetic speed that reminds us of the Charlie Daniels Band. If you didn't know better, you'd think St. Germain grew up in the southern Delta where country, rock and blues all combined together to create this genre that is accredited to studio musician Duane Allman and The Allman Brothers. David St. Germain seems to know what he's doing and has the full quality sound production and instrumentation to go along with his songs. If you are a fan of new country music, you will be 100% satisfied by this cd release. Not so much twang but still earthy in its country feeling. Which is what country music seems to be more about than a specific music style in today's music tastes. If this artist catches some lucky breaks, St. Germain should be one of Canada's next big country acts touring endlessly. Until of course, like his song Come Home, he returns to where his home and heart is. St. Germain calls this cd My Country Song but I'm sure listeners will soon feel these are "their" Country songs!

Website: davidstgermainmusic.com

Review by : K. Kantan

Alberta Sweetgrass: Special Section providing news from Alberta

Economic development agreement will lead to self-sufficiency

By SHARI NARINE
Sweetgrass Contributing
Editor

ONION LAKE FIRST NATION

An innovative approach to economic development promises to generate self-sufficiency for four partner First Nations.

Last month, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Onion Lake Energy, owned and operated by Onion Lake Cree Nation which straddles the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, and Driftpile, Sucker Creek, and Ermineskin First Nations. The agreement to create the Wanska Energy Alliance will see the four First Nations work together as strategic partners over the next year to explore economic opportunities, including joint gas and oil ventures.

Onion Lake Cree, which is the largest oil-producing First Nation in Canada, and Ermineskin First Nation, which also operates its own energy company, bring expertise and already formed

partnerships to the alliance, said Sucker Creek Chief Jim Badger. He said talks to form this alliance began three to four years ago and a relationship of trust was built over that time.

Badger said there are 17 wells drilled on Sucker Creek but most are held in abeyance by oil and gas companies. Oil and gas development potential is huge for Sucker Creek, which shares the Swan Hill area as traditional territory with Driftpile First Nation, he added, but neither First Nation has been able to do any resource work in that area.

"Here in Sucker Creek, the reason we can't play, meaning working the system, is we don't have the necessary capacity or capital to be able to do as we wish," said Badger. "With the alliance, there's considerable resources being brought, especially by the two First Nations, Onion Lake and Ermineskin."

Another advantage, said Rose Laboucan, Chief of Driftpile First Nation, is the ability to be able to bring First Nation knowledge and experience in the oil and gas

field to the negotiation table. At this point, there is no oil and gas work being undertaken on her First Nation, but Laboucan said she is in the process of meeting with an oil company to discuss development.

"I would be bringing (Onion Lake's) experts to my meeting, because I don't have that knowledge or insight into how it works sitting at my table. They have access to a lot because they've gone and grown so much.... They would know what questions to ask. They can actually be the ones to come and drill here," said Laboucan.

Badger said he was impressed when he spoke to Canadian Natural Resources Ltd., Fogo Energy Corp., and Black Pearl Resources, oil and gas companies already drilling on Onion Lake Cree Nation.

"It was obvious to me ... that they were so proud in terms of working with First Nations. I've never seen that before. It was very encouraging," he said.

Badger said taking the federal government out of the oil and gas industry on the First

Nations provides more opportunities for membership and more opportunities to develop further faster.

"There will be limited (federal) government involvement once we set up our own structures.... If there's no resources or capital coming from them, they don't set the rules," he said. "The end goal is self-sufficiency. Because we're not self-sufficient, our hands are tied. We're pretty much dictated to as well as legislated by the *Indian Act*, how to do things and everything like that, and basically it's a continuance of the residential school format."

The partnership between the four First Nations is expected to bring economic development beyond the oil and gas industry.

"The potential is there for investment from First Nations in other areas," said Ermineskin Chief Craig Mackinaw.

Laboucan said she sees the agreement "as an overall collaboration between the Nations who want to move and advance their agenda on economic development" which

could include capital support from the partner Nations for a five-star RV site along Lesser Slave Lake which Driftpile is developing. She said Driftpile will be making presentations to Onion Lake and Ermineskin for financial support of the development.

"Investment by them in whatever process we use, will be very valuable for the community," said Laboucan.

And it's jobs for membership, which means further economic development on the reserve.

"The workforce that's developed will be able to recycle the dollars within our communities. That's what's missing right now. (The money is) recycled outside our communities," said Laboucan.

Laboucan said she is excited about the potential of the agreement.

"It's not been done before so we're kind of setting the stage for something new among First Nations," she said. "I hope it works and we're all working well together and collaborating on what could be the future for our communities."

Aboriginal communities could argue "unreasonable" consultation with Gateway

If the decision is made to go-ahead with the Northern Gateway Pipeline project, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is warning that the courts could overturn the decision because of "unreasonable" consultation with Aboriginal communities. "Lack of funding may limit the ability of Aboriginal groups to reasonably and meaningfully participate in the consultation and environmental assessment process," said the agency in a presentation released by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans through access to information legislation. "If Aboriginal groups cannot consult meaningfully due to a lack of resources and capacities, and if the Crown fails to provide adequate funding, [there is a] moderate to high risk that the courts would find the consultation process to be unreasonable." Funding received by 38 Aboriginal recipients was "at significantly reduced funding levels to fit within the available budget," said the agency. Dozens of First Nations communities have signed a declaration to ban the Enbridge project and other proposed pipelines from crossing their land in order to protect the Fraser River watershed.

Ethics commissioner asked to look at AFNEC decision

Alberta's Liberal energy critic Kent Hehr is asking the ethics commissioner to investigate the province's rejection of a proposed \$6.6-billion bitumen refinery operated by the First Nations. The Alberta First Nations Energy Centre was refused funding by Energy Minister Ted Morton. The government is saying the project had too many financial risks and not enough advanced preparation. Hehr is asking the province's ethics commissioner to investigate if internal party politics and lobbying efforts from Spotlight Strategies Inc., a Calgary firm representing the North West Upgrader project and Enbridge, influenced the province to reverse their previous optimistic position.

Métis women receive Diamond Jubilee medals

Lawyer Jean Teillet was one of three women to receive Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals at a ceremony hosted by the Women of the Métis Nation general assembly in Edmonton on March 30. Teillet has represented the Métis Nation of Alberta in a number of court cases, including the ongoing Métis harvesting case. Also receiving medals were Shirley Isbister, an advocate for Métis Children and Families involved in child welfare and lawyer Kathy Hodgson-Smith, who has worked on various national policy initiatives for the Métis National Council. Thirty Métis Nation citizens will receive a Diamond Jubilee medal in 2012.

Metis Spring Festival

Hosted By



Servus Centre #400 Campbell Rd, St. Albert

JIGGING & FIDDLING COMPETITIONS
Saturday May 19, 2012 @ 1:00 pm

TALENT SHOW
Saturday May 19th, 2012 @ 7:30 pm

JIGGING & FIDDLING FINALS
Sunday May 20, 2012 @ 1:00 pm

SQUARE DANCE PERFORMANCES DAILY
\$20,000 Cash Prizes

No Entry Fee For Competitors - Gate Admission Only

CATEGORIES
JIGGING: Tiny Tots - Golden Age
FIDDLING: Age 12 - Senior 65+
VOCALS: Youth, Adult, Duos

Registration Cutoff: Noon Sat May 19th for Jigging and Fiddling
Talent Show Entry Cutoff: 6 pm Sat. May 19th

For More Info Contact: Florence Gaucher - Festival Coordinator
(780) 452-6100 ext 227
Email: florencemc@metischild.com

CONCESSION / VENDORS ON SITE
ADMISSION: 0-5 Free / 6-12 \$5.00 / Seniors \$5.00 / 13+ \$7.50

Chief wants her nation's side put on the record

By SHARI NARINE
Birchbark Writer

Attawapiskat First Nation

"Over reaction" followed by the federal government's refusal to meet with chief and council has forced Attawapiskat First Nation to continue with court action it initiated in January.

"What was done to us was the wrong way of recognizing our kind of emergency," said Chief Theresa Spence.

In November, the federal government relieved Spence and council of their duties, appointing instead Jacques Marion as third-party manager. Last month, council received a letter from the regional office of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada stating that Marion would be relieved of his duties on or before April 19 because "of the success that has been achieved in addressing the urgent health and safety requirements of the 25 affected families that were identified last winter." Members were living in tents and sheds and multiple families were crowded into single homes. Some families were living in hovels, without proper toilet facilities or heat as the coldest part of winter approached.

Spence believes the move to restore council was made because

the federal government realized that third-party management was not the way to deal with the housing issue. She also said that with Marion working from his office in Winnipeg, he was out of touch with band business and bills went unpaid.

In an email response, Michelle Perron, spokesperson for Aboriginal Affairs, said, "The third-party manager has paid all invoices and allowances for which he has received appropriate documentation from the First Nation. The First Nation is aware of the requirements needed to process any further payments for eligible activities."

A judicial review in federal court had been slated for April 24. After repeated attempts failed to garner a meeting with Aboriginal Affairs Minister John Duncan or any department official, both with or without legal counsel, Spence said the band decided to proceed with the judicial review challenging the government's decision to appoint third-party management.

"We need to know why we were put in that third-party position to begin with. We need to proceed with this court action to know what really happened," said Spence.

Perron said because the matter

is before the court, "it would be inappropriate to comment further."

On Nov. 30, 2011, Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement saying "management problems" had forced him to replace Attawapiskat's chief and council.

However, Spence contends the "management problems" lay with the federal government's refusal to listen to Attawapiskat's concerns, to communicate with its regional AANDC office as well as to take action quickly.

"They over-reacted to the situation because they responded too late. They didn't respond immediately to our emergency," she said.

The third-party manager was appointed to "support measures to address the urgent health and safety issues" and to administer federal funding, said Perron.

Attawapiskat declared a state of emergency on Oct. 28 over unsafe living conditions. Spence said an appropriate response would have been to send in Red Cross immediately and for the federal government to work with the First Nation to resolve the housing crisis. Instead, a third-party manager was put in place.

During Marion's time, the federal government purchased 22 modular homes at a cost of

\$2.2 million and hauled them to the northern community. Repairs were carried out on the trailers, renovations were begun on three houses, and the healing lodge was retrofitted. Spence said there were some delays in moving families into the modular homes because of frozen water pipes.

She also noted that some community members were upset at being jumped on the housing list. However, because a state of emergency was declared, Spence said priority had to be given to those living in tents and sheds. Those who were passed-up were living in over-crowded houses.

Spence said maintaining the court date was important in allowing Attawapiskat council to set the record straight both with the Canadian public and its own members.

"All we did was ask (the government) for help and they created a problem," she said. "They did a lot of damage within our leadership, within our community and with the Canadian citizens."

After figures were thrown out by Prime Minister Harper, Attawapiskat responded with figures of its own, stating that the per capita funding received from Aboriginal Affairs was \$10,000 and not the \$50,000 claimed in

the House of Commons and that the funding was not paid directly to individual members but to the band to cover the costs of providing services and conducting reserve business.

Spence said she and council will be meeting with their membership in May to discuss what happened, the actions taken by the government, and look at future plans.

Spence, who is halfway through her first three-year term, said there have been calls for her resignation.

"I did nothing wrong. All we did as leadership, we called for assistance to assist people who lived in these kinds of conditions," she said.

Council will continue with the business started before third-party management took over, including working on the capital plan that involves housing, acquiring additional land and looking at water intake.

"This crisis has been going on for so many years, but it's time to really sit down with the government, say let's do it together, not to blame anybody. We know that's not going to happen overnight.... It will take a commitment of a timeframe of working with each other.... It will take the whole community working together," Spence said.



Windspeaker
Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment – it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ORDER NOW AND SAVE
One year (12 issues) only \$55.00


USA subscriptions: \$65.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____
Address: _____
City / Town: _____
Province: _____ Postal: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA / MASTERCARD / AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

CC: _____
Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____
Signature: _____

By mail: *Windspeaker* • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-881-5488 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com



Mount Elgin Commemoration and Family Gathering

Calling ALL former students of the Mount Elgin Indian Residential School


The Chippewas of the Thames First Nation invites you to attend a special two day event to honour former students of Mount Elgin. We are set to unveil a larger-than-life monument with student's names etched into granite to act as a reminder of what our families and communities have endured. The event will be a time for reflection and renewal, as together we find the strength we need to reclaim our future as proud Anishinabe, Lenape and Haudenosaunee...

- **Monument Unveiling**
- **Symposium and Healing Circles**
- **Pow Wow and Vendors**
- **"Healing with Laughter" Comedy Night**
- **Fireworks!**

Contact us to have your name or the name of a family member included on the monument.

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
519-289-5555
ccouchie@cottfn.com
Transportation support is also available.
Find us on Facebook.

June 20 & 21, 2012
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
With support from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission



Immovable NAHO suffers the government axe

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

David Chartrand, vice-president of the Métis National Council, said the federal government is finally listening to the concerns of the three major national Aboriginal organizations in cutting all funding to the National Aboriginal Health Organization.

In the 2012 federal budget, NAHO lost its full funding of \$4.4 million.

The mandate of the organization, which was officially incorporated in March 2000, was to advance the health of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. However, according to a letter dated Nov. 28, 2011 and sent to Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq, that mandate was not being worked on effectively.

"It is clear that the only viable option for advancing First Nations, Inuit and Métis health is to wind-down NAHO and to work with us to create three legal

entities that can be developed as separate arms-length centres of excellence that are result based and accountable to the respective peoples," states the letter signed by the heads of the MNC, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Assembly of First Nations.

The letter is a follow-up to two resolutions passed by the AFN at the Special Chiefs Assembly both in 2009 and 2010. The earlier resolution called for the AFN to "no longer support or participate in NAHO activities," while the second resolution resolved that the AFN "no longer participate as a member organization in NAHO."

NAHO's Web site confirms that the AFN is no longer a member organization, although ITK and MNC remain. The other two member organizations are the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples and the Native Women's Association of Canada.

The MNC stated in a news release following the withdrawal of NAHO funding that it had been involved in "good faith in a governance review process

intended to address the issues that have plagued NAHO since its inception over a decade ago. It became clear that the necessary reform to NAHO would not be possible from within."

Aglukkaq said in a statement that "governance issues" were a concern and that "Health Canada worked with NAHO in an attempt to resolve these issues but, unfortunately, they were not addressed."

Chartrand said the MNC had concerns about the pan-Aboriginal approach, believing there was no one way to measure outcomes because of the vast differences in infrastructure, resources, services and population between the Métis, Inuit and First Nations peoples.

According to Chartrand, NAHO imploded with a structure that refused to be accountable to the people that the board members represented.

"NAHO became an island upon itself... and it failed to be accountable back to who it was supposed to be accountable to.

It caused some long-term struggles and challenges for us," said Chartrand.

He added that NAHO's attitude is reflected in the organization's attempt right now to partner with academic institutions instead of approaching MNC, ITK, or the AFN to see if they want to archive their respective materials to build on in the future.

Chartrand said that the Métis face a greater challenge than their First Nation and Inuit counterparts when it comes to the federal government addressing their health issues. He said Health Canada holds the position that the department's mandate is only to First Nation and Inuit.

"The Métis have always been left out and that has been a struggle for our people for generations now," said Chartrand, who challenges the minister to step up and deal with Métis-specific health issues and research and commit some of the \$4.4 million to that end.

Sandra Wright, manager with the Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-Being, said she was not aware of any internal political struggles within NAHO while her organization worked with NAHO to plan an upcoming conference on the resiliency of Aboriginal youth.

"We're going to miss their expertise, their research, and the knowledge they have," said Wright. "The problem we may have (when NAHO closes) is having to go to a non-Aboriginal source. It's helpful to have an Aboriginal approach to wellness issues, especially when you're talking about traditional medicine."

"The government is committed to ensuring taxpayers' dollars are spent effectively and will continue to provide core health services to Aboriginals," said Stéphane Shank, senior advisor, media relations with Health Canada.

The National Aboriginal Health Organization did not respond to repeated calls from *Windspeaker* for comment.

Coronary Heart Disease: A Cautionary Tale

By Lauren McComber
Windspeaker Contributor

KAHNAWAKE, Que.

Most people who survive a heart attack change their diets and cut back on strenuous activities; after surgery, they are almost as good as new.

But not Don Patrick Martin, a classically trained musician from the Mohawk First Nation of Kahnawake. After suffering from a heart attack last summer, he can't do the simple things most of us take for granted.

For instance, he can't be in the cold for more than two-minutes, as it constricts the blood vessels in his heart, thus causing a heart attack; he can't walk or do any kind of physical activity for more than five-minutes; and he must also take a combination of several pills three times a day just to function normally.

"I'm like a dog who needs to live on a leash now," said Martin. "But if I live within this 'leash', I will live to my normal life expectancy. If I go outside of my limits, I will need a new heart."

Martin, who is only 55-years-old, has the heart of a 90-year-old. This is shocking, considering Martin was in top shape before his heart attack: He enjoyed running, participated in biathlons, and ate impeccably. He was even a vegetarian at one point in time.

"It was almost like a shot in the face," said Martin. "You live this healthy lifestyle, and yet you almost die from a heart attack."

So why did this happen to him? Normally what happens to an individual suffering from Martin's type of heart disease is that one of their coronary arteries

will block in the middle, thus allowing doctors to perform coronary artery bypass surgery, which replaces the blocked coronary artery with an artery or vein from another part of the body.

Martin's coronary artery is instead blocked where it connects to the heart. This is caused by his liver over-producing cholesterol, which in turn made his right coronary artery stick to his heart, hardening to the point of causing a heart attack. The actual heart attack caused a scar to form where his right artery connects to his heart.

"There's no option for operation," explains Martin. "Basically, I'm going to be like this for the rest of my life. I have to live with it."

Martin's physical health is largely the reason why his heart condition went unchecked for so long. He may have shown early warning signs of coronary heart disease - he suffered from pain in his neck and had fainting spells - but because his cholesterol tests always came back average, these indicators were overlooked by his family doctor.

What Martin and his doctor failed to inspect was his family history. It turns out that the males on both sides of his family suffer from this particular heart disease: their livers naturally over-produce cholesterol.

If Martin and his family physician had been aware of this, simply prescribing him cholesterol pills could have prevented the life-altering heart attack.

"Dealing with the cycle of emotion of it was the hardest," admits Martin. "I was angry.



PHOTO: PROVIDED.

Don Patrick Martin in 2010 - less than a year before his heart attack drastically altered his life. Photo Courtesy of Don Patrick Martin.

Then an instant later, I was sad and depressed; an instant later, I felt shame, and then I was back to being angry. I was like that for six-to-seven months."

After the heart attack, Martin was sent to a cardiologist in Quebec City. There, he was put under a stress test. Electrodes were stuck to his chest and back while walking on a treadmill to determine if there were any parts of his heart that weren't getting enough blood.

After the test came back positive, Martin was then recommended to undergo a mini angiography surgery, which consists of a catheter (a thin

hollow tube) being stuck into one's wrist and forced up the arm into the heart. Once at the heart, special ink is injected, then an x-ray is immediately taken. This allows cardiologists to determine exactly where the blockages are in the heart.

Martin underwent three of these mini-surgeries to determine exactly where his heart failed him.

Now, Martin is taking it upon himself to warn his family - and other men across Turtle Island - to be proactive when it comes to heart disease.

"My message is don't put off the symptoms," stresses Martin.

"I was taught that with a heart attack, you get it in the chest. A lot of men, they wait for the chest pain."

"But in most cases, there will be no chest pain. [Instead], there will be pain in your jaw, your neck... there could be pain in your shoulder or back, and there could be fainting spells."

Martin recommends both men and women to watch what they eat, as the human liver produces 80 per cent of the cholesterol needed for the body to function properly. He also cautions everyone to know his or her family health history; it was a lesson he learned too late.

Sports Briefs

By Sam Laskaris

Sacobie joins hall

Josh Sacobie is about to become a Hall of Famer. The former University of Ottawa Gee-Gees star quarterback will be among the inaugural inductees into the New Brunswick Aboriginal Sport Hall of Fame. Sacobie is a Maliseet from the St. Mary's First Nation in New Brunswick. Induction ceremonies are scheduled for April 27 in Fredericton. But Sacobie will not be able to attend the induction ceremony as he'll be in Croatia. He's heading overseas for a family wedding and for a previously planned vacation. Sacobie played with the Gee-Gees for five seasons, from 2004 to 2008. And he holds the team record as the all-time leading passer with 7,714 yards. Sacobie had aspirations to play at a higher level following his university days but he never caught on with a professional franchise. He was, however, able to add another career highlight to his resume this past year. He was a member of the Canadian squad that won the silver medal at the International Federation of American Football world championships staged last summer in Vienna, Austria. Sacobie also racked up his share of accolades while toiling for the Gee-Gees. He was named the most valuable player in the Ontario university league in 2007. He was also a two-time all-Canadian and was chosen as the University of Ottawa's male athlete of the year three times. Sacobie is still heavily involved in the sport. He works in Ottawa as Football Canada's technical co-ordinator. And he also rejoined the Gee-Gees this past year. He's a member of the team's coaching staff now, serving as the quarterbacks' coach.

Taste of pro

Besides winning a national title, Francis Verreault-Paul was also able to get a taste of professional hockey this season. Verreault-Paul is a 24-year-old Montagnais. He hails from Mashteuiatsh, an Innu community in Quebec. Verreault-Paul was able to finish off his university hockey career in fine fashion. He was a member of the Montreal-based McGill Redmen, who captured the Canadian university championship on March 25. McGill edged the University of Western Ontario Mustangs 4-3 in overtime in the championship final. The six-team national tournament was staged in Fredericton. Verreault-Paul was selected as the most valuable player at the Canadian tournament. He collected five points, including three goals, in three games. Shortly after winning the national title, Verreault-Paul signed a professional tryout contract with the American Hockey League's Hershey Bears. The Bears are the top affiliate of the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals. Verreault-Paul appeared in six regular season matches with the Bears. He had one assist in those appearances. Verreault-Paul, however, returned to McGill in mid-April to finish off his school year when he was not added to Hershey's post-season roster. Before his four-season stint with the Redmen, Verreault-Paul had played five years with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League's Chicoutimi Saguenéens. His best season in Chicoutimi - in terms of offensive stats - was his third one, 2005-06. He racked up 64 points, including 30 goals, in 69 matches.

Hockeyville chosen

The Beardy's Memorial Arena will undergo some upgrades, but residents of the Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation are not as happy as they possibly could have been. That's because their community - one of five finalists in the Kraft Hockeyville contest - was not selected as the over-all winner. That distinction went to the eastern Ontario community of Stirling-Rawdon. The official announcement was made on March 31 during a Hockey Night in Canada broadcast. By winning the contest, Stirling-Rawdon will receive \$100,000 to spend on renovations at its existing rink. Perhaps more importantly, however, the community also earned the right to host a National Hockey League pre-season contest this September.

This match, which will feature the Toronto Maple Leafs versus the Columbus Blue Jackets, is expected to be staged in nearby Belleville. By being one of the four other finalists, the Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation will receive \$25,000 to upgrade its rink. The other finalists were West Kelowna, B.C., Amos, Que., and Yarmouth, N.S. They too will also receive \$25,000 each to put towards improving their hockey facilities. A total of 227 communities entered the Hockeyville contest this year. The Beardy's bid became the first First Nation community to advance to the Top 5 stage in the six-year history of the contest. The contest, sponsored by Kraft Foods, the NHL and the NHL Players' Association, was developed by CBC Sports.

[sports]

Practise roll tweaks back to put championship in doubt



Daley Forbes speaks with her coach James Messenger at the Canadian Wrestling Championships in Fredericton where she earned a gold medal. PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

FREDERICTON, N.B.

Despite getting injured mere minutes before her gold-medal match, Daley Forbes was able to persevere and win yet another Canadian wrestling championship.

Forbes, an 18-year-old who lives in Port Alberni, B.C., captured the gold medal in the juvenile girls' 75-kilogram category at the nationals, which concluded April 14 in Fredericton, N.B. For Forbes, a member of the Hesquiaht First Nation, this marked the third straight year she won a Canadian title.

The juvenile grouping is for those aged 17 and 18. Forbes also won the national juvenile division at the 2011 Canadian tournament in Windsor, Ont. She won her first national crown at the Canadian cadets (15- and 16-year-olds) in 2010 in Burnaby, B.C.

Forbes, who represents the Alberni Valley Wrestling Club (AVWC), was one of seven competitors entered in her weight class in Fredericton. And she advanced to the gold-medal bout by easily winning her first two matches.

The chances of Forbes winning another national crown, however, were dealt a blow when she suffered an injury about 20 minutes before the final.

Forbes was practising a routine dive roll by herself when she injured her back.

"I hobbled over to my coach and he told me to stretch it out," Forbes said.

Though her back was still bugging her as the gold-medal bout was about to commence, Forbes said the thought of forfeiting the match did not cross her mind.

Forbes' championship final was against Kyla Litmola, a member of the Matmen Wrestling Club located in Brampton, Ont. AVWC coach

James Messenger was concerned for his athlete when early on in the first round Litmola managed to take Forbes down onto her back, scoring three points.

Messenger, who has coached Forbes since 2007, said such a move against his wrestler is a rarity.

"I don't know the last time she has been taken down for three points," Messenger said.

Though she was trailing after that initial two-minute round, Forbes battled on. She managed to score more points than Litmola in the second round. And then she emerged victorious by pinning Litmola during the third and final round.

Throughout the bout Forbes knew she was still injured.

"I put it out of my mind," she said of her injured back. "I don't even remember feeling it at all."

Forbes, however, was still feeling sore, even after returning home to Port Alberni.

"It hurts when I'm standing up and I can't walk properly," said Forbes, adding she was contemplating whether to have her back looked at by a doctor.

Despite the fact she already had two national titles to her credit, Forbes said her latest championship is the most meaningful one for her.

"I think it means more because it's my senior year," said Forbes, a Grade 12 student who is graduating this spring from Alberni District Secondary School.

Messenger wasn't surprised to see Forbes register some more impressive results at the Canadian tournament.

"Daley has been a really competitive performer for our club at nationals," he said.

Besides her three consecutive gold medals, Forbes also won a silver medal at the 2009 cadet nationals.

But Messenger said predicting success for Forbes - or any of his athletes - would have been difficult before they actually arrived in Fredericton.

"You never know until you get

there and get rolling and you see your competition," he said.

Forbes was also obviously hoping for another medal-winning effort.

"I was fairly confident," she said. "But I was more nervous because it was my last chance (in this age grouping)."

Earlier this year Forbes had also concluded her high school wrestling career in style. She captured the gold medal in the girls' 75-kilogram class at the B.C. high school tournament, staged Feb. 23 to 25 in Penticton.

There were 14 competitors in Forbes' division at the provincial meet. She won all seven of her matches at that event. And though she had won national titles before, this marked the first time Forbes was able to win a gold medal at the provincial high school finals.

She did own a pair of silver medals from previous provincials. She was the runner-up in her category at both the 2009 and 2011 high school tournaments.

Forbes' victory at the B.C. championships also helped Alberni District place first overall in the team standings.

Besides finishing up her high school studies, Forbes now has to seriously start thinking about her future.

"She's got to figure that out - what she wants to do with her wrestling career and her education," Messenger said.

Forbes said her first choice is to stay in her home province and attend Simon Fraser University (SFU). The school's wrestling coach has expressed plenty of interest in having her on the school team.

But since she is missing a Science credit, Forbes said she might enrol at Douglas College in B.C. before possibly transferring to SFU after one semester.

"I want to study kinesiology and then move up and get a physiotherapy degree," she added.

[education]

Community engagement one key to improving Aboriginal health



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Dr. Carrie Bourassa, associate professor of Indigenous health studies at First Nations University of Canada

By **Shayne Morrow**
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

Dr. Carrie Bourassa, associate professor of Indigenous health studies at First Nations University of Canada (FNU), was one of 28 leaders invited to share their views on how to improve health at the Building on Strengths Roundtable Dialogue on Aboriginal health which took place at Rideau Hall on March 27.

One of the conclusions of the groups was that self-determination will play a huge role in improving health prospects for Canada's Aboriginal communities.

The event was organized by the National Expert Commission and the Canadian Nurses Association, and was hosted by Sharon Johnston, wife of Governor General David Johnston.

"Their goal was to bring community members and leaders from both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, that were in various health fields, and they wanted to talk about the social and environmental determinants of health and how

that impacted the health and well-being of Aboriginal Canadians. And also, to generate some solutions that would improve Aboriginal health," Bourassa said.

Bourassa teaches Indigenous health studies at FNU, and serves as the nominated principal investigator for the Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre. One message flowing from her work is that Canada's Indigenous peoples face numerous systemic barriers within the health care system.

"Everybody around the table agreed that there is systemic racism [in the system] and that we will have to deal with it," Bourassa said. "I work a lot around 'culturally safe' care and how to provide it. When you work in the communities, you hear the same thing over and over from First Nations and Métis peoples that they are not getting quality care, and a lot of that is around those systemic barriers."

The cultural misunderstandings may be small, but cause considerable stress.

For example, when a critically ill First Nations person is in hospital, surrounded by family members, there is a tendency among non-Aboriginal hospital

staff to see it as a space management problem, rather than as a sign of a caring community.

"You hear, 'How come they always have so many people in the waiting room?' They fail to understand how important it is for that family to be there," Bourassa said.

Likewise, there was agreement on the need to address the proliferation of chronic diseases, such as diabetes among Canada's Indigenous peoples. Bourassa said while the recent explosion in obesity and diabetes rates is North America-wide, the causes are compounded among First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

"When you talk about chronic diseases, you have to talk about poverty," Bourassa said. "If you have diabetes, you know you have to eat better, but it comes down to having access to healthy food."

For people living in remote communities, fresh, healthy foods are often prohibitively expensive, if they are available at all. The problem isn't in knowing what you should be eating. It's being able to obtain it in the first place.

"People tell us, 'We have a convenience store. There's pop

and chips and milk, and we're lucky that they do have milk,'" Bourassa said. "You can't label someone 'non-compliant in their treatment program' if they can't afford to follow it."

Bourassa said the result can be a sense of hopelessness that affects whole communities.

One of the solutions the roundtable agreed on was the need to recruit and train more Aboriginal health professionals, both physicians and nurses as well as academics to further the research necessary to implement changes in the system.

"There is a difficulty in attracting people to the health sciences and much more attention needs to be paid to it," Bourassa said. "I have found some of the barriers are a feeling [among Aboriginal students] that they can't do the math and sciences... even though they are perfectly capable of it."

Roundtable participants agreed there is a need to break down existing bureaucratic barriers between policy, health care delivery and social services, and to create an integrated system that serves individuals, families and communities at the ground level.

Bourassa believes self-

determination, at the national and community level, is the key to bringing about positive change for Canada's First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

"Where communities are engaged is where you see changes happen," she said, citing one of her ongoing community health studies launched in 2003.

"We didn't have any baseline health data for Métis in Saskatchewan. What we found right away was that there were high smoking rates and high rates of cardiovascular disease," Bourassa said.

Rather than lecture smokers, Bourassa and her team launched the Green Light campaign.

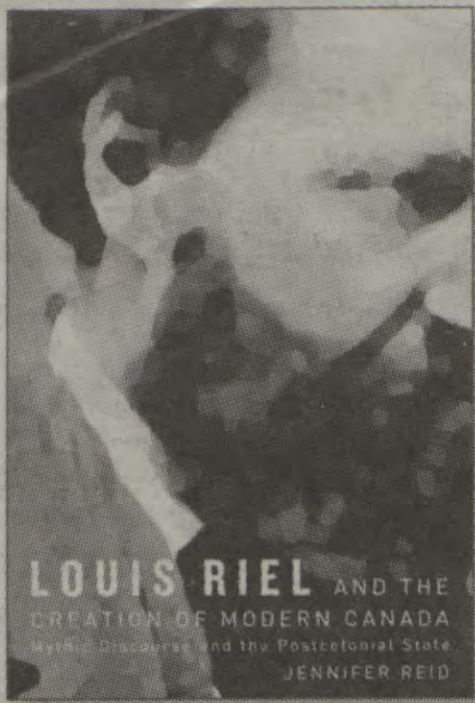
"We gave a green light to each smoke-free home. They loved it. That was followed up with a second phase involving peer training on smoking cessation. This is a bit of self-determination for them, and the community is fully engaged," she said. "We haven't compiled the data to see how successful the program has been, but we ran out of green light bulbs."

The National Expert Commission will now analyze the results of the roundtable to provide a report to the Canadian Nurses Association in June.

Every single Windspeaker article ever published (well, almost) is now available on our online archives at: www.ammsa.com

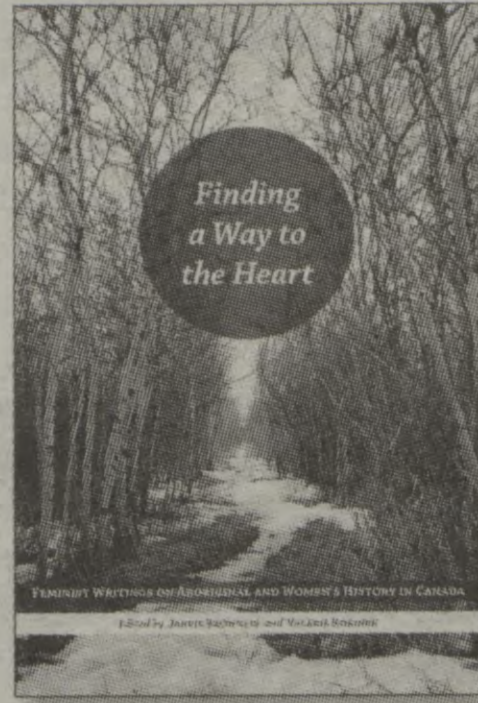
Access is now available at no charge. How's that for affordable?

New Indigenous History Books



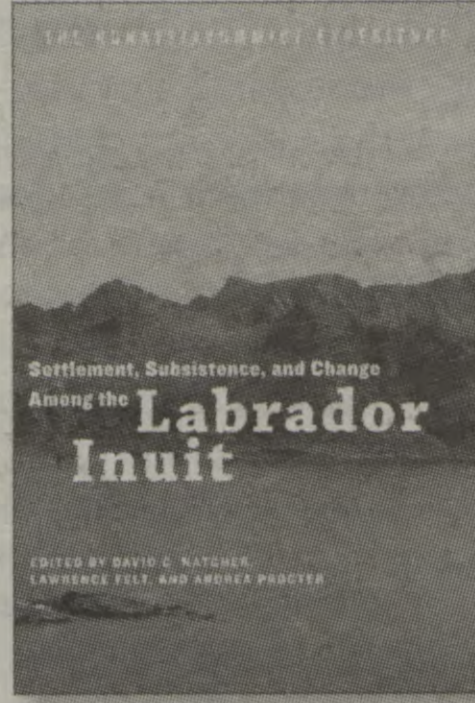
Louis Riel and the Creation of Modern Canada: Mythic Discourse and the Postcolonial State
by Jennifer Reid

An in-depth look at the continuing role Riel plays in shaping contemporary Canadian identity.
PB • \$27.95 • 978-0-88755-734-7



Finding a Way to the Heart: Feminist Writings on Aboriginal and Women's History
by Robin Jarvis Brownlie and Valerie J. Korinek, eds.

Provocative examinations of race, gender, identity, and colonization from fourteen new and established writers.
PB • \$27.95 • 978-0-88755-732-3



Settlement, Subsistence, and Change Among the Labrador Inuit: The Nunatsiummiut Experience
by David C. Natcher, Lawrence Felt, and Andrea Procter, eds.

The first major publication on the history, politics, and identity of the Labrador Inuit in more than thirty years.
PB • \$27.95 • 978-0-88755-731-6

ON SALE NOW at bookstores and on-line retailers, or phone (204) 474-9998 for more information.

University of Manitoba Press
uofmpress.ca



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project

The importance of Métis veterans to the Métis community cannot be understated. Our veterans occupy a point of honour at all Métis gatherings and cultural events. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument will be a landmark for generations of Métis people to gather and pay homage to the servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has been chosen to oversee the building of the Métis Veterans Memorial Monument at Batoche, and is seeking donations towards the total project cost of \$300,000. Donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt.

Donations over \$25 will receive the CD *Honouring Our Heroes: A Tribute to Métis Veterans*, featuring Métis performing artists ~ Donny Parenteau, Andrea Menard, Ray St. Germain, Jess Lee, Mike Gouchie, and Krystle Pederson.

Donations over \$50 will receive the CD above as well as the book: *Métis Veterans of Saskatchewan: 1914-1953* by Cathy Littlejohn.

Our goal is to ensure the monument recognizes and honours all of our Métis Veterans, past and present. If you know of a Métis veteran who should be recognized, please visit the website below for submission information.

For more information, please contact the Gabriel Dumont Institute toll-free at 1-877-488-6888 or visit the website www.gdins.org/veteransmonument.

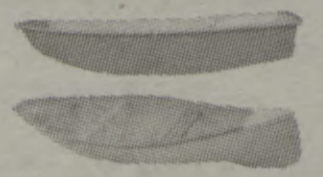
Donations can be mailed to:
Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
917-22nd Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9

GDI Mission: To promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

XAXLIP FIBERGLASS

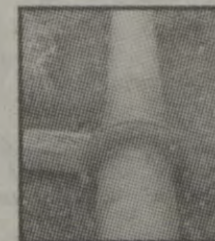
CUSTOMIZED REINFORCED FIBERGLASS SOLUTIONS

- Distribution
- Industrial Pipes
- Custom Flanges & Fittings
- Liquid Storage ~ Holding Tanks
- Manhole Covers



RESIDENTIAL SOLUTIONS

- Irrigation Pipes
- Patios
- Boats
- Canoes
- Custom Fabrication Services



Phone: (250) 256-4844 or
(250) 256-4800

Visit our website at: www.xaxlip.ca

Check out our current online career listings...

- Chief Financial Officer
- Communications Officer
- Community Youth Worker
- Policy Advisor

www.ammsa.com



Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment - it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ORDER NOW AND SAVE
One year (12 issues) only \$55.00

USA subscriptions: \$65.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA /MASTERCARD/AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

CC: _____

Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

By mail: *Windspeaker* • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-661-5469 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

If you would just go ahead and order a *Windspeaker* subscription then you could get *Windspeaker* delivered right to your office or home. For only \$55.00 +gst you would not only help support independent Aboriginal communications, but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Payout is great for nation, but concerns others

By Jennifer Ashawasegai
Windspeaker Contributor

THUNDER BAY, Ont.

The chief of the northwestern Ontario community Kitchenumaykoosib Inninuwig (K.I.) is pleased to win another battle in the world of mining. It's the second fight for the community west of Thunder Bay which wishes to keep mining and exploration companies out of its traditional territories in their bid to protect the environment and sacred sites.

The government of Ontario announced March 29 that it reached an agreement with Toronto-based mineral exploration company God's Lake Resources Inc. (GLR) to surrender its mining lease near K.I. That agreement cost the province \$3.5 million in exchange for God's Lake to surrender its lease and claims within a 23,000 hectare area.

That agreement settled a dispute between the company and K.I., and the lands are now subject to the province's recent withdrawal from staking and mineral exploration in the area.

The dispute has been ongoing since early last fall when K.I. hunters came across some prospect tents, survey tape and other evidence of mineral exploration in an area the

community had deemed off limits to protect its sacred sites.

Last October, K.I. issued an eviction notice to the exploration company, which was ignored. Talks broke down with the province nearly a month later. Then, in early March, K.I. led a protest in Toronto during the Prospectors and Developers Associations International Convention. Shortly after that, the province removed 23,000 square kilometres of K.I. traditional lands from future mining claims. But, that move didn't affect GLR's mining claims in the area. So, two-and-a-half weeks later, the province bought out GLR's interest in the lands, to the relief of the chief.

K.I. Chief Donny Morris says, "In a way, it means we won our dispute with God's Lake Resources. But on the other hand, I don't think we should keep coming back like we did with Platinex."

K.I. leaders made headlines in 2008 when six of its leaders, including Morris, were jailed for contempt of court after leaders protested Platinex's mining activities on their lands. That decision was later overturned by a higher court.

Ramsey Hart, Mining Watch's Canada Program Coordinator, points out this is the second time the province bought out the interest of a mining company.

"They did a very similar thing with Platinex back in 2008. And that was a \$5 million price tag."

Hart thinks the Ontario buy-out sends the wrong message.

"In combination it sends a message to companies that would choose to mine for compensation that they may have a window until the new mining act is fully enforced to push the envelope and try and mine the province for compensation money as opposed to mining minerals."

Hart's not the only one who thinks it's a bad idea. For different reasons, the purchase leaves a bad taste in the mouth of K.I. community member John Cutfeet, who used to also act as spokesperson for his community.

"I think it's despicable that they're leveraging K.I. lands to make a profit and having to pay off companies," he said.

Cutfeet said Aboriginal rights must be recognized, plus, he too remembers when the K.I. six were jailed and what came after.

"The rights of K.I. have to be reconciled with other competing interests because that is one of the decisions that was made in May 2008 when the K.I. six were released.

"Aboriginal interests had to be reconciled with other interests. And that's one of the things that K.I. has been asking for, to sit down and look at what it is you're trying to do in our area," he said.

And since the provincial purchase last month, Morris has been calling for a meeting with Rick Bartolucci, the minister of Northern Development and Mines. "It's really time to sit down as government-to-government and discuss this issue so that it doesn't happen again," said Morris.

Adrian Kupesic, spokesperson for Ontario Minister of Northern Development and Mines, says the province has been inviting the community to sit down and talk. "Over the past three years, staff from our ministry have made several offers to visit the K.I. land to better understand the community's assertion regarding burial grounds in the area and explore ways in which we can protect them. To date, the ministry's requests have gone unanswered."

Kupesic then referred the community to another ministry.

"At this point, we would like to encourage Chief Morris and the K.I. Nation to work closely with the Ministry of Natural Resources to complete their land use planning exercise. Through that exercise, they will be able to identify which lands are sacred and off-limits to any future exploration or development." The land-use planning component Kupesic refers to falls within the Far North Act, which does not provide funding for the

work.

However, Chief Morris wants more than that.

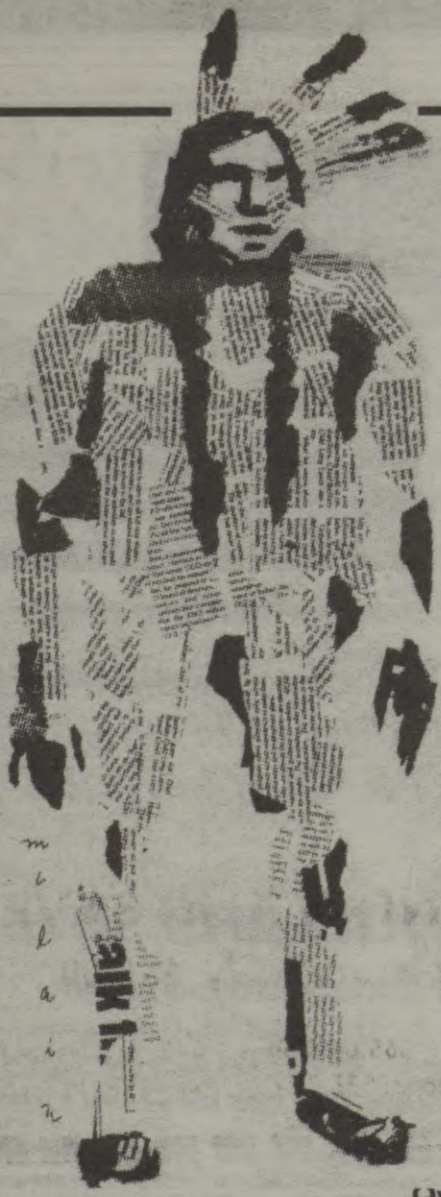
"We've been pushing for a joint panel to discuss outstanding issues, which are our territory, our Water Declaration, and our Consultation Protocol and other issues being worked on at the community level," Morris said. Last year, the community ratified its own Water Declaration and Consultation protocol to look after their lands.

"We need to sit down with government and tell them we're moving forward in the areas of protecting our resources for future development and if you want to be a part of it, you have to come to the table," Morris said.

K.I. jurisdiction over the land is something Cutfeet supports, because he doesn't believe the province has ownership over his community's traditional lands.

"I think Ontario has to begin to realize that they cannot continue to allow companies to raise moneys off of K.I. lands without talking with K.I."

Cutfeet adds, "The province has had to pay out \$8.5 million so far, for not following the rule of law, as they tend to claim that they're following the rule of law. But the rule of law states that K.I.'s interests have to be accommodated and reconciled with other competing interests."



Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment – it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ORDER NOW AND SAVE

One year (12 issues) only \$55.00

USA subscriptions: \$65.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA / MASTERCARD / AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

CC: _____

Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

By mail: *Windspeaker* • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-981-5489 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com



NORTHERN ISGA FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 338, Glenevis, Alberta T0E 0X0
Phone: 780-967-1035 • Fax: 780-967-1039

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Northern Isga Foundation is a not for profit organization created to support the collective interests of the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation. Its mandate is to direct the affairs of the organization as holder of a "Casino Gaming Licence" issued by the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission and to administer the disbursements of gaming proceeds for the betterment for its Band Members. Due to the retirement of the incumbent, we are looking for a skilled and dedicated individual to be part of taking this exciting and challenging organization to its next level in the following role:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer will be an individual who understands and is committed to supporting the aspirations of the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation. The CEO reports to and is accountable to an independent Board of Directors, and will lead the Administration team to facilitate the continuing development of the Foundation. The key areas of responsibility include:

- maintaining positive relationships with its principal regulator (AGLC) through close compliance with their requirements,
- long term planning for the optimum development and utilization of the Foundation's human and financial resources,
- day to day administration of the Foundation's operational and financial activities, and
- training and development of staff.

The CEO will be an individual who has extensive experience in working in a highly regulated industry, possesses strong people skills, positive experience in working in a cross-cultural environment and who is sensitive toward First Nation culture and values. An accounting or finance background would be an asset.

The successful candidate will have to provide a clean 'criminal check' and submit an information package to Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission for their review and approval. The Foundation has an attractive benefit and insurance plan available. Please provide an indication of your salary expectations in your cover letter. The work location is on the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation Reserve.

Please submit your cover letter and resume to:
Mr. Darwin Alexis, Chairman of the Northern Isga Foundation
P.O. Box #338, Glenevis, Alberta, T0E 0X0
Or by fax to: 780-967-1039 • Or email to: d.alexis@ansn.ca
Closing date is May 15, 2012.

Check out more career listings on our online Aboriginal Job Board at: www.ammsa.com



ELSIPOGTOG CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. Box 1078, Rexton, NB E4W 5N6
Phone: 506-523-8224 Fax: 506-523-8226



CHILD PROTECTION SOCIAL WORKER
(one year term position)

The Elsipogtog Child and Family Services Agency is now seeking to hire a qualified person to work in the Child Protection Program in the position of Social Worker. The agency is fully accredited by the Minister of Social Development for the Province of New Brunswick and is located in the community of Elsipogtog First Nations, New Brunswick.

Community: Elsipogtog is a beautiful rural community located on the banks of the Richibucto River one hour north of Moncton NB. The population is about 3000 and the residents have many community support services including a Young Band Council, a modern Health Center, a Youth Center, R.C.M.P detachment, and a modern school, to mention just a few. There are numerous communities in the area, the main two being the Villages of Rexton and Richibucto. Popular local activities include all outdoor interests such as hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hockey, and boating, as well as cultural activities such as the Rexton Theater Group and parks. It is a good location to raise a family and make new friendships.

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Agency Supervisor you will become proficient with the duties of the Social Worker's role in Child Protection Services, Family Enhancement Services and Intake and Assessment Services. Your main job will be in one of these areas. Training and support will be provided. An After-hours Emergency Services component is also required at one week increments seven times per year.

Qualifications: Qualified applicants must possess:

- A degree in social work and be a member (or eligible to become) of the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers.
- A genuine interest in working with First Nations and Mik'mag culture.
- A willingness to work as a team player.
- A valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.

Preference will be given to individuals with native ancestry.

Salary Range: Basic entry level with no social work experience and minimum qualifications may earn \$37,000. A senior social worker with an M.S.W. may earn \$50,000.

Deadline: This job offer date is open ended. Interested individuals may e-mail resumes to PhyllisSock@ccfs.ca

Send by regular mail to:

Mr. Harry Sock, Director
Elsipogtog Child and Family Services
P.O. Box 1078
Rexton, NB E4W 5N6

or Fax: 1-506-523-8226



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE VACANCIES
Ontario Court of Justice

Court Locations*: Oshawa, Toronto (2), Barrie (Bilingual),
Brampton (Bilingual), L'Orignal (Bilingual), Timmins (Bilingual)

*Please check www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac/advertisements for an updated listing of advertised vacancies.

At the request of the Attorney General, the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee invites applications for vacant Justice of the Peace positions in the Province of Ontario.

A Justice of the Peace is an independent judicial officer who presides in court over various proceedings under federal and provincial statutes. Applicants must meet minimum qualifications as set out in the *Justices of the Peace Act*. In addition to reflecting the diversity of Ontario's population, applicants should also display the fundamental skills and abilities, personal characteristics and community awareness attributes set out in the Committee's General Selection Criteria. Bilingual positions require a high degree of proficiency in English as well as a superior level of oral and written proficiency in French.

The Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee reviews and evaluates applications and classifies candidates as "Not Qualified," "Qualified" or "Highly Qualified." Classifications are reported to the Attorney General, who recommends candidates for Order-in-Council appointments to the Ontario Court of Justice.

Information about: the vacancies noted above; minimum qualifications and the selection criteria; the required application forms; and the Committee's process; is located on the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee's website at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac.

Applications for current vacancies must be submitted and received by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 1, 2012. Applications received after this date WILL NOT be considered.**

As of August 2, 2011, applications must be submitted for each vacancy. Candidates who applied to the Committee prior to August 2, 2011 must now apply under the current process described on the website, unless he/she has received a "S.2.1 (12.1) Transition Letter" from the Committee.

PLEASE NOTE: Future vacancies and deadlines for applications will be posted on the Committee's website as they occur. Interested individuals can receive e-mail notification by registering at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac/advertisements and clicking the "Subscribe to Vacancy Notifications (via e-mail)" link.

Pour voir cette annonce en français, consulter le site Web du Comité à www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/fr/jpaac/annonces.

Siemens
TRANSPORTATION GROUP INC.
www.siemenstransport.com

Hiring Long Haul Truck Drivers & Truck and Transport Technicians

Toll Free 1.888.878.9585 Fax 306.668.5849
driver.recruitment@siemenstransport.com

Check out our current online career listings...

- Chief Financial Officer
- Communications Officer
- Community Youth Worker
- Policy Advisor

www.ammsa.com

Windspeaker
Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment - it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ORDER NOW AND SAVE
One year (12 issues) only \$55.00

USA subscriptions: \$65.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____
Address: _____
City / Town: _____
Province: _____ Postal: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA / MASTERCARD / AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

CC: _____
Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____
Signature: _____

By mail: *Windspeaker* • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-661-5469 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

If you would just go ahead and order a Windspeaker subscription then you could get Windspeaker delivered right to your office or home. For only \$55.00 +gst you would not only help support independent Aboriginal communications, but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Kitsumkalum chief strategized cultural and political renewal

By Dianne Meili with files from James McDonald

Former Kitsumkalum Chief Clifford Bolton was a master carver, known for gallery and museum-quality art. His 1987 event to amalgamate his people and thwart government interference was politically creative.

For two centuries his people had almost lost themselves under assimilative pressures from traders, missionaries, and government authorities. The four clans of his Tsimshian Nation – eagle, raven, killer whale and wolf – were fragmented as they moved from traditional social organization to modern living under foreign laws in a rapidly expanding industrial economy.

The Indian Act had further served to divide families within his Tsimshian Nation by giving some individuals Indian Status and deeming others as non-status people.

To remedy some of the disintegration of familial relations and bring people together, Bolton helped organize *Su-Sit'Aak*, which in his *sm'algyax* language means "a new beginning." It involved the raising of two totem poles and staging a potlatch, events that had not occurred in the Kitsumkalum Valley for more than 150 years.

Bolton strategized the event to give his people a chance to reunite and express themselves as a community. He took care to ensure the central planning committee consisted of diverse individuals from throughout his nation, and volunteer members were drawn from the major social sub-groups in Kitsumkalum. Different families, clans, status and non-status people, special interest groups, Elders and elected representatives came together to decide everything from how the totem poles would be raised, who would be seated where, and how the food would be prepared and served.

On Aug. 1, 1987 more than 2,000 people gathered to celebrate *Su-Sit'Aak* and Bolton explained to the crowd that Canadian laws had made it difficult for the Tsimshian to

retain their culture. This celebration was his generation's way of telling the children that the next generation will have to be prepared to fight for the survival of their culture.

"We decided we would do this totem pole raising some years back because we felt it was important that our people start over again in bringing back our culture," he said in an interview with the Native Music Heritage Society in 1987. "With all the preparations and learning of the old traditional ways to the best of our ability, *Su-sit'Aatk* is a new beginning for our people. It's very exciting because there is a lot that had been forgotten. It didn't totally die out because it had been always around all this time, but now it's coming to the surface."

The chief explained to the crowd that one of the poles had all the major crests on it to represent the whole community and was dedicated to the children to signify the future. The other one was a replica of an older pole and displayed the crests of one of the ancient families of Kitsumkalum. It represented the past and honoured Elders who had died, the cultural heritage of the ancestors, and the generations that suffered during the period of harsh Canadian assimilation policies.

Though the potlatch may not have led directly to self government, it did serve to strengthen awareness about Aboriginal rights. It started the Tsimshian Nation thinking about organizing a political forum for expressing their needs over and above what the government had deemed was good for them.

After working in several government departments in Terrace, Prince Rupert and Vancouver, Bolton was well-prepared to lead Kitsumkalum in 1981.

"He did the early legwork in negotiating the terms of our treaties and our land claims," recalls Steven Roberts, his nephew. "When the government introduced the white paper, he



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Clifford Bolton (right) presents a new version of the B.C. Lieutenant-Governor's Black Rod, on which he carved the jade design, to Lieutenant Governor Steven Point in the provincial legislative chamber. Joining them (centre) is Bill Barisoff, Speaker of the House.

helped unify leaders to create the Union of B.C. chiefs to oppose it.

"He had a good education and was well-prepared to fight for and protect our treaty rights. He wanted our people to have a fair deal and he worked hard to negotiate our stance. In terms of economic development, he helped establish a fish hatchery and other businesses in Kitsumkalum."

Bolton worked his way up the ranks, having worked at all kinds of jobs in his youth, said Roberts. "He worked as a taxi driver, a construction worker, you name it. Anything he took up he seemed to do well at. When he was a young man his army cadet troupe came second in the world for rifle target shooting."

Roberts said his uncle learned about lapidary work in a foster family he lived with and he began working with semi-precious stone early in life. One of his last projects was to carve a decoration out of jade for the Lieutenant Governor's new black rod which serves as a symbol of his office. He presented it to Steven Point, his step-son, who is the current Lieutenant

Governor in the BC legislature.

As a child growing up in Port Essington on the north coast of Vancouver Island, Bolton began carving model canoes and small model totem poles. In 1976, he began to produce full size canoes with Mark Point of the Sto:lo First Nation. By 1981 he was collaborating with master carvers like Dempsey Bob and Freda Diesing, learning different styles.

"He was my go-to man if we needed Tsimshian display pieces for our living cultural centre," said Web Bennett, coordinator of the Kitselas Canyon Native Historic Site. In 2010 he helped arrange for Bolton to lead four carvers in producing a war canoe.

"It was an intense program. The group started in August of that year and completed the carving and painting of the canoe from a solid piece of cedar four months later.

"Cliff was an elder very willing to share and pass on the skills he'd learned as a master carver. When he found a young person who had the desire to learn, he was more than happy to act as a mentor," Bennett added.

Bolton was involved with

other master carvers in guiding the art program at the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art at the Northwest Community College.

"It's been so successful, I'd say we have eight to 10 outstanding new carvers. Ten to 15 years ago, I would say we only had two prominent carvers in this area," Bennett commented.

Bolton had a good sense of humour and many people say they've never seen him get angry, said Roberts. "But I saw him get gruff when he was trying to get a good deal for our people in government meetings of the mid-80s. He knew the system and he never let anyone mislead him."

Roberts described his uncle as a man who "lived a clean life". Bolton was involved in his community right up until about four weeks ago when he complained of being tired. He suffered a stroke, was hospitalized, and died on April 12.

He was married to Rena Point Bolton, a master weaver. The couple had one son together.

Chief and Council role models
 Kelowna Accord INAC
 Aboriginal Healing Foundation
 Residential Schools poverty
 AIDS Inuit elections Shawn Atleo
 Stephen Harper scholarships honour

www.ammsa.com

We can help you sort through what's important to you.

be more

informed for less

ORDER
ONLINE!
www.windspeaker.com

Order Windspeaker, Canada's favorite Aboriginal publication, in quantity and save.

Who qualifies?

The Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA), publisher of Windspeaker is a non-profit Aboriginal communications society dedicated to providing objective coverage of Aboriginal news, issues and events and providing low-cost access to its publications to Aboriginal people throughout Canada.

AMMSA/Windspeaker extends this special offer to the following organizations:

All Aboriginal non-profit or charitable groups, First Nations, Métis Settlements, Friendship Centres, Tribal Councils, Schools, Libraries, Education Centres, Colleges, Universities, Literacy Groups/Organizations, Drop-in Centres, Treatment Centres, Clinics, Hospitals, Correctional Centres/Facilities.



ORDER IN BULK AND SAVE!

1 copy/month for \$55.00/year +GST

5 copies/month for \$140.00/year +GST

10 copies/month for \$180.00/year +GST

15 copies/month for \$225.00/year +GST

25 copies/month for \$250.00/year +GST

Phone: 1-800-661-5469 Fax: (780) 455-7639

e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com www.windspeaker.com

**Wind
speaker**

**Danielle Dick and son, David,
sharing a moment during
a potlatch held in
Victoria, B.C.
Happy Mother's Day
from Windspeaker.**



Photo: Bert Crowfoot