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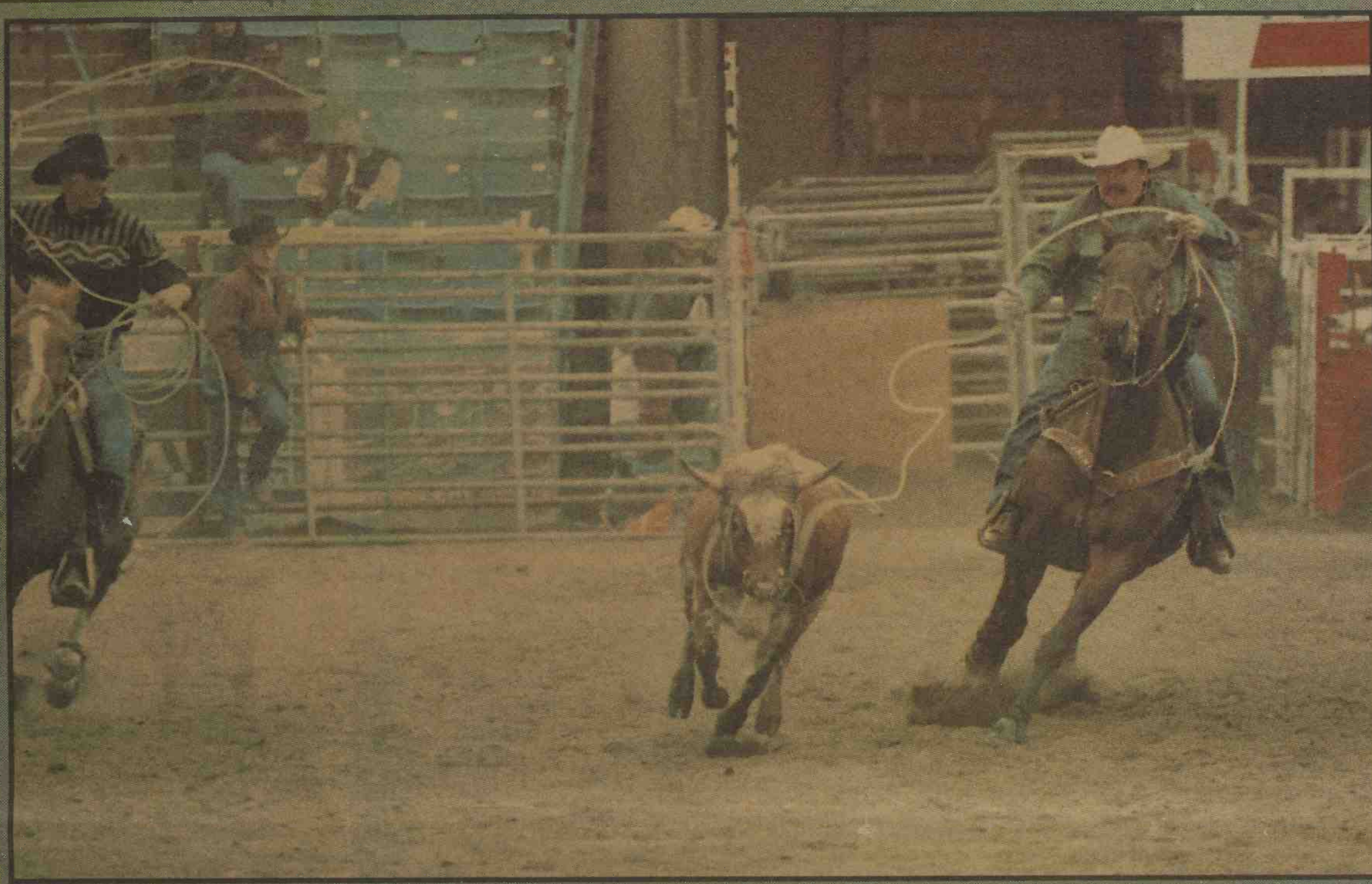
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Windspeaker

DECEMBER 1996

Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Volume 14 No. 8



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Gotcha!

Larry Bull of Hobbema, Alta., lassoes a calf in the team roping event at the Indian National Finals Rodeo held in Saskatoon on Oct. 31 to Nov. 3. The rodeo was held in conjunction with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations' 50th Anniversary Powwow. Thousands of spectators from across Canada and the United States came to see the best Indian cowboys compete in the third richest rodeo in North America.

Feds to be held accountable

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

Five of Canada's most influential Aboriginal leaders met with three provincial premiers and the two territorial leaders last month in Calgary in what was hailed as a historic meeting. The group, which also included ministers of Aboriginal affairs from the other provinces, agreed to hold the federal government responsible for its obligations to Native people, and that it not be allowed to download those responsibilities onto the provinces.

"What [the Liberals] want to do is to ensure that their financial obligations to Indian people are diminished," said Grand Chief Ovide Mercredi of the Assembly of First Nations, "and they try to accomplish this through administrative transfer of power to the provinces, but the provinces know that they don't have the financial capacity to take the responsibility for Indian people for a full range of services."

"If the feds are saying to the provinces 'you deliver those services and you dictate how those services are to be delivered

relative to Aboriginal people,'" Alberta Premier Ralph Klein said, "the Aboriginal leaders here today are saying 'resist that, and encourage the money to go direct to the Aboriginal community so they can deliver services in a way that is appropriate to the Aboriginal people.'"

DIAND Minister Ron Irwin cautioned against the tone and content of the meeting.

"I would say that to get in bed with the provinces on off-loading," he said, "isn't the best strategy for the Native leaders." He said Native leaders get services from both levels of government, and require "holes" to be filled in the services provided by both levels. To be allied with the provinces would seriously limit their strategic abilities to fill those holes.

Mercredi and Klein were instrumental in setting up the meeting, which was meant, in part, to come up with a strategy to persuade Ottawa to give Native people control over how welfare money is distributed.

"Currently, the federal government spends close to a billion dollars in social assistance each year," Mercredi said, "and at the same time, because of the deficit retirement announced by

Paul Martin, they cut down the economic development budget by 75 per cent. So you can clearly see that their priorities are mixed up. The Indian leaders have been saying 'we don't want more welfare. We want our people to become self-sufficient and the federal government has a responsibility to help this kind of thing in that area.'"

The meeting participants agreed on a number of other issues.

"They agreed to have open dialogue to consider strategies for opposing federal off-loading," Klein said. He promised to try to arrange another meeting with the premiers before the next premiers conference. The Aboriginal leaders saw the premiers as welcoming fuller participation of Native groups in a formal decision-making role.

"We will have a discussion at that upcoming meeting between the Aboriginal leaders and the premiers on how we can continue to be involved in a dialogue with the premiers in future first ministers conferences and forums on a whole variety of issues," said Gerald Morin, president of the Métis National Council.

The major issues dealt with at the October meeting were social services for Native Canadians

and federal off-loading of responsibilities and funding.

"Several months ago, the federal government, without any consultation with the provinces, decided that off-reserve Indian people on welfare were no longer the responsibility of Ottawa," said Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow. "They were the responsibility of the provincial governments. And, by that decision, like that," he said, snapping his fingers, "9,000 more people were added to Saskatchewan's welfare roles."

"There never has been permanent social assistance for off-reserve Aboriginal people," Irwin countered. "It's amazing how a temporary program becomes permanent when the provinces get hold of it. Social assistance for off-reserve Native people was a transitional strategy in the 1970s."

It was eliminated as a program by the Joe Clark government in 1979 and it was gone, according to Irwin, in all provinces by the end of the '80s.

"An important point that has been overlooked," said Irwin, "is that [Canadian Health Social Transfer] transfers already include the on-reserve population. (see *Historic meeting in Calgary* p. 2)

WHAT'S INSIDE

QUOTABLE QUOTE

'In the old days our people had no education. All their wisdom and knowledge came to them from dreams. They tested their dreams and in that way learned their own strength.'

— Ojibwa Elder

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They're gearing up for the North American Indigenous Games in Victoria this summer. While the organizing committee proudly introduced two major sponsors last month, games funding is not yet all in place.



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NATION IN BRIEF

Veterans called to gather

Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, and Sam Sinclair, president of the National Aboriginal Veterans Association, have called a national meeting of all Aboriginal veterans at the end of March 1997. The meeting will aim to get the federal government to respond to outstanding grievances that have not yet been dealt with. "Thousands of Aboriginal people went to fight for the rights and liberties of the citizens of this country. It is totally unacceptable that they have to keep fighting, more than 50 years after the end of the Second World War, to receive the same benefits that other veterans have been granted by the federal government," said Mercredi.

Hope restored in Davis Inlet



Katie Rich

Mushuau Innu Chief Katie Rich, the Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin, and Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin signed an agreement to relocate the Mushuau Innu community of Davis Inlet to Little Sango Pond on the Labrador mainland. The agreement was signed Nov. 13. "The relocation agreement is a great achievement for all our people, but especially for the Elders who have been struggling for 30 years to build a better future," said Rich. "The key to our healing is for us to take back power and responsibility for ourselves. The relocation is not an end in itself — it is a vital tool for our re-empowerment." The new community at Little Sango Pond will have a land base of 2,000 hectares (roughly seven square miles) and will include 100 homes, a water and sewage system, streets and service roads, a wharf and airstrip.

Education institute in cyberspace

A new "virtual" institute for First Nations education will create a forum for First Nation organizations to share information on subjects as varied as language curriculum and special needs education. The federal government has earmarked funds to support the establishment of the First Nations Electronic Education Institute. The institute will be a distinct site on SchoolNet. (SchoolNet is a partnership through which the various levels of government and the private sector work together to encourage all Canadian schools and libraries to connect to the Internet. Under the SchoolNet program, the federal government will provide the funding to hook up 416 First Nations schools by the end of the current school year.)

Jobs not jail for gang members

Ovide Mercredi, grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations, said most members of inner-city street gangs would much prefer a job or an education. Gang members are looking for real opportunities rather than a life of crime, he said. Mercredi met the leaders of the two main youth gangs in a Winnipeg jail. He said the leaders of the Indian Posse and Manitoba Warriors are legitimate leaders in their communities and should be invited to talk to government leaders about solutions to violence.



Ovide Mercredi

New vice-president for CESO

Ricky Fontaine, a business development expert with one of the most progressive and successful Aboriginal communities in Canada, succeeds Jim Richardson as the vice-president of CESO Aboriginal Services. For the past five years Fontaine has been responsible for business and special projects for his home community of Uashat Mani-Utenam Innu First Nation near Sept-Îles, Que. He has extensive experience in marketing, consulting and management with several other organizations and has been actively involved with the Indian Taxation Advisory Board, the Native Benefit Plan Pension Committee and the Canada-Quebec Agreement on Regional Development Committee.

Song sweeter still

The Song of Hiawatha has won awards for Best Actor for Litefoot and a Special Producers' Award for John Danyikiw at the American Indian Film Festival. The awards were presented Nov. 9 at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. *The Song of Hiawatha* stars Litefoot (*The Indian in the Cupboard*), Irene Bedard (*Walt Disney's Pocahontas*) and Graham Greene (*Dances with Wolves*). It is an adaptation of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's beloved epic poem "The Song of Hiawatha" and celebrates the heroic deeds of the legendary Ojibway chief of miraculous birth, sent by the Great Spirit to lead his people. *The Song of Hiawatha* was produced in Toronto by Leatherstocking Productions Inc. and will be telecast on Tuesday, Dec. 10 on the Movie Network.

Poll backs Aboriginal leaders

R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

While the prairie premiers and national Aboriginal leaders were meeting in Calgary, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples was releasing its poll on Canadians' attitudes about Aboriginal people and issues.

Conducted by the Angus Reid Group, Inc., a national polling company, the final report gave opinions on six questions which show that Canadians all across the country support calls for Native participation in Canada's politics.

"The basic issue is whether the public supports Aboriginal people through the process of the inherent right to self-government initiative," said Dwight Dorey, co-chair of the congress's political task force. "There was some feeling that public support was not there very strongly. The results of our poll clearly indicate where Canadians stand on this issue — the federal government needs to start taking responsibility for dealing with Aboriginal rights and stop trying to ignore those responsibilities."

The congress serves and represents off-reserve Aboriginal peoples across Canada.

Of the six questions answered by the poll, the congress chose to highlight the finding that 65 per cent of Canadians agreed that "the federal government — not individual provincial governments — should have the lead responsibility for dealing

with the rights and needs of Native people, regardless of where they live."

Dorey claimed that this finding supported the statements made by Aboriginal leaders and premiers Ralph Klein of Alberta and Roy Romanow of Saskatchewan that the federal government cannot continue to dump its responsibilities onto the provinces.

"We look at certain specific issues related to [the position put forward after the Calgary meeting]," he said. "One is federal off-loading. It is indicated in the poll that the public is supporting our position that that can't continue."

Thirty-six per cent of respondents in the poll "strongly agreed" with the statement while only 14 per cent strongly disagreed.

Differential treatment of "on- and off-reserve Natives" when negotiating treaties was considered "unacceptable" by 56 per cent of respondents, in what was a crucial question for the congress.

Three-quarters of respondents agreed with the statement "leaders from the provinces, the federal government and Native groups should meet in the near future to plan the implementation of Native self-government."

Aboriginal control of major social programs was also clearly supported by Canadians — 74 per cent of respondents agreed that "Aboriginal people should take control over the delivery of major social programs to their communities."

The two other questions were

much less decisive. A small majority agreed that all Natives should have equal access to treaty hunting and fishing rights, but the strong opinions were equally split, with the difference only in those who "somewhat" agreed or disagreed.

The split in opinion regarding the transfer of labor-market training responsibility to the provinces was absolutely even. When asked whether they agreed or disagreed "with the federal government's decision not to transfer Aboriginal labor force programs to the provinces," 19 per cent strongly agreed and 19 per cent strongly disagreed; 27 per cent somewhat agreed and 27 per cent somewhat disagreed; seven per cent had no opinion.

"Coming into this kind of a process with the premiers, we are basically looking at the premiers' help in addressing a number of issues with respect to the federal government," Dorey said. "The poll clearly indicates that the position that we're putting forward is still supported quite strongly by the Canadian public in general."

On all questions, the report showed that men were more likely to take a strong position than were women, as were older respondents, but that there was little difference in the overall agreement or disagreement based on the sex of the person giving his or her opinion. There were some insignificant geographic variances as well.

Historic meeting in Calgary

(continued from p. 1)

The provinces complain that they're having all these people dumped on them, but the funding they receive is based on numbers that include all on- and off-reserve Aboriginal people already.

"It upsets me the way the provinces are using First Nations people in this debate," he continued. "I look on a First Nations person as a Canadian citizen, but to listen to [the provincial premiers] talk, they seem to be giving them fewer rights than a new immigrant has. I don't like seeing [Native people] being used as pawns in a federal-provincial fight."

Native leaders, however, stressed the plight of their people and called on the federal government to get on side with the other levels of government.

"Winnipeg has 60,000 Aboriginal people and Regina has 35,000," said Jim Sinclair, president of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. "The next couple of years, Regina will have 50 per cent Aboriginal people in the schools, and we've got to address the issues of concern in terms of housing, education and jobs."

"The system in Canada can no longer carry the burden of paying out welfare and having a prison system that works very well but a system that doesn't work for educating and training our youth," he continued. "We have come to ask the provinces today to help us get the federal government to honor its fiduciary responsibilities through the



R. JOHN HAYES

Native Women's Association of Canada president Janis Walker following the meeting.

treaties through the constitutional process."

"Aboriginal people, in particular, are very concerned with any off-loading," said Janis Walker, president of the Native Women's Association of Canada. "Seventy-five per cent of Aboriginal people live off-reserve; 57 per cent of those Aboriginal people are Aboriginal women. They have suffered discrimination prior to 1985, at which time Bill C-31 was passed and they were reinstated as Indians. That was one form of discrimination."

"It has been replaced by another, and that is discrimination based on residency," she continued. "If you live off-reserve, the federal government doesn't really look at you being their responsibility, so the off-loading has happened in back-room deals, in cut off observances, to

the poorest of the poor in our society — Aboriginal women."

"The most important two things we have to deal with are self-sufficiency and problems in the cities," Irwin said. "We want to create a system which includes the provinces, the First Nations and the federal government. But when we get into trying to deal with these things, the provinces start going on about off-loading."

Irwin said that his government has a good working relationship with British Columbia, and has working relationships with Alberta and Saskatchewan in a number of areas, but Manitoba lags behind in terms of co-operation. The federal minister said that the importance of the meeting shouldn't be overestimated.

He may, however, face some concerted pressure from the parties involved.

"I think that the premiers conference is a pretty influential group," Klein said. "The five Aboriginal leaders who are here representing most of the Native population in this country are fairly influential. I think that there are some political realities, even in Ottawa, and to ignore the kinds of things that came out of a meeting today would be political folly."

"As Aboriginal people and as leaders in Aboriginal organizations, we are standing together now and facing the federal government," Walker said. "I don't think you are going to see any more solidarity than you see in here today."

Sacred

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Co-

Elijah Harper has been named as the bishop Desmond Tutu for the year's Sacred Journey. He was selected for Aug. 17, 1996, by Alexander, Man.

"I'm hoping, I hope it comes," said Harper. He is an MP for Churchill. Before he left Ottawa for a gathering of the New Zealand.

Noble Prize winner, head of South Africa's Reconciliation Commission.

Delegates to the meeting will discuss issues "from a perspective," said Harper. He was invited to head the delegation by World.

There is still a large amount of support for the assembly both within and abroad — largely from the political process, said Harper.

He said that with the Native people at Ontario's Ippigustafsen Lake.

"what I felt was a good approach, a way that was driving

Date

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Co-

World representatives will watch the second session of the First Nations Court of Justice. The Canadian government continues to refuse to

The court will meet in Ottawa in 1997 in Ottawa. The United Nations is on treaties and the European Parliament.

RCM

By Paul Barnes
Windspeaker Co-

SIX

Native leaders reacted angrily against the ownership of manufacturing in the Six Nations River territory November.

Arrest warrants were issued for the request of the Ontario, Ont. bar Crime unit and partners who Enterprises S (known locally

A ninth man whose office is in the reserve, was also a manufacturer of cigarettes.

Charged are Victor "Yogi" Jeffrey Allen, Sidney Burnham, Ryan Hill, 38, Montour, 26, P. 57, Donald S. Scott Smith, 3, Ont. lawyer Bomberly, 45.

Each is charged with multiple offences a

Sacred Assembly needed to bring people together

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

Elijah Harper has invited Archbishop Desmond Tutu to next year's Sacred Assembly scheduled for Aug. 17 to 24 in Fort Alexander, Man.

"I'm hoping, I'm praying he comes," said Harper, Liberal MP for Churchill, Man., just before he left Ottawa for a world gathering of Native people in New Zealand.

Noble Prize winner Tutu is head of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Delegates to the New Zealand meeting will discuss Aboriginal issues "from a spiritual perspective," said Harper, who was invited to head this country's delegation by World Vision Canada.

There is still "a tremendous amount of support" for the assembly both within Canada and abroad — largely "because the political process has failed us," said Harper.

He said that when he watched Native people set up blockades at Ontario's Ipperwash Park and Gustafsen Lake in B.C., he saw "what I felt was a wrong kind of approach, a wrong kind of spirit that was driving the people who

were occupying these places.

"I think that's one of the reasons things have gone the way they have. We've strayed away from the principles of the treaties.

"If you look deeply into the treaties," Harper said "if you look at [them] as understood by Aboriginal people, you'd find it there. You'd find that is an understanding for co-existence, that we would respect each other, that we would share the land with the newcomers that came to this country, and not dominate one another.

"What I found was that many Canadians, ordinary Canadians, don't even know that Aboriginal people have a treaty with the federal government. That was one of the reasons we needed to bring the people together."

Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, spoke at the first assembly one year ago about having to learn of his Native roots as an adult. He tearfully sang a Cree song and said "It's going to take justice" before healing can take place.

"When you steal their land, you gut their economy, that's physical genocide," he said. "No prime minister can resolve himself by saying he's sorry.

"You can pray about it as much as you like, you can go to confes-



FILE PHOTO

The opening day of last year's Sacred Assembly was attended by (from left) Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations; Prime Minister Jean Chretien; Elijah Harper; and Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin. Harper has scheduled another assembly for Aug. 17 to 24. "There's a spiritual principle here, that you need to address the wrongs that have been done way back," said Harper of the injustices done to Aboriginal people by the Canadian government.

sion 1,000 times... if the injustice remains, the pain remains."

Mercredi said recently, "I don't think that it hurts to have assemblies where people come together with common values" but "I think it would be a mistake to use them to let governments off the hook."

Harper said, "There's a spiritual principle here, that you need to address the wrongs that have been done way back.

"To ask the government to apologize, I don't know whether it will happen. Maybe some day it will happen. For them to apolo-

gize... I guess one of the first reactions is liability. I mean dollar signs go up.

"People don't realize how much is released if someone makes a statement. It's so important. That's part of the Sacred Assembly approach."

Date set for sitting of First Nations international court

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

World representatives will watch the second sitting of the First Nations International Court of Justice in Ottawa while the Canadian government continues to refuse to participate.

The court will meet Feb. 24 to 28, 1997 in Ottawa, and members of the United Nations working group on treaties and those from the European Parliament will attend the

session, said court organizer Sylvia Thompson of the Chiefs of Ontario.

A court-appointed "friend" will represent Canada.

On trial will be Prime Minister Jean Chretien, representative of the Canadian government. In April the first sitting of the court found sufficient evidence to hear three charges against the government: unlawfully interfering with the internal affairs of First Nations; unlawfully imposing its laws on First Nations peoples and territories; and the unlawful seizure of First Nations lands,

resources and tax revenues.

The seven judges at the first hearing found "the (Canadian) legal system itself is a violation of Indigenous peoples and their rights."

Testifying at the trial were the Onondaga, Hnahnnu, Haida, Dene and Cherokee First Nations. Elders acted as court advisers and will do so again, Thompson said. Judges from Indigenous nations in Canada, the U.S., Australia and New Zealand will again hear the testimony.

The British Parliament will also be served an indictment,

Thompson said. The U.S. and Mexican governments will be put on notice.

The Court has put out a call for testimony from First Nations on how they have been treated by the Canadian government. "A pile" of groups have indicated they want to testify, Thompson said.

The court was born from an Assembly of First Nations resolution made in response to the federal government's revision of its tax policy on Native people. But the AFN does not offi-

cially support the court.

"We're laying the groundwork for an Indigenous legal system," said prosecutor Sharon Venne at the court's first sitting in April.

Justice does not come cheaply. The court has a debt after the first three-day sitting and will need a "bare minimum" of \$150,000 for the hearing next year, Thompson said.

The court is paid for completely from donations, she said. "The people that gave the money are very supportive in what's been done," Thompson added.

RCMP charge on-reserve cigarette manufacturers

By Paul Barnsley
Windspeaker Contributor

SIX NATIONS, Ont.

Native leaders across Ontario reacted angrily to charges laid against the owners of a cigarette manufacturing plant located on the Six Nations of the Grand River territory by RCMP in early November.

Arrest warrants were issued at the request of the RCMP's London, Ont. based Proceeds of Crime unit and named the eight partners who own Grand River Enterprises Six Nations Ltd. (known locally as GRE.)

A ninth man, a Native lawyer whose office is located on the reserve, was also charged. GRE manufactures the Sago brand of cigarettes.

Charged are partners Wayne Victor "Yogi" Bomberry, 36, Jeffrey Allen Burnham, 32, Sidney Burnham, 48, Kenneth Ryan Hill, 38, Jerry Bradwick Montour, 26, Peter John Montour, 57, Donald Skye, 51, Gregory Scott Smith, 38 and Ohsweken, Ont. lawyer Lonny Corbett Bomberry, 45.

Each is charge with four indictable offences and four counts of

conspiracy related to the alleged illegal manufacturing, possession and sale of tobacco products, possession of proceeds of crime and money laundering.

The Six Nations band council have fully supported GRE since the plant opened in January 1994. The council was quick to issue a press release condemning the charges. The regional branch of the Assembly of First Nations — the Chiefs of Ontario office — followed soon afterward with a similarly scathing response to the RCMP action. Native leaders and factory owners say the issue doesn't belong in the courts.

In their published list of pre-election promises, (called the Red Book), the federal Liberals assured First Nations people that the federal government would respect the jurisdiction of First Nations governments over their own territories. A statement issued jointly by GRE and the Six Nations council called the charges against the company a "failure by the RCMP to respect the Liberal government's Red Book promises of recognizing First Nations Inherent Right to Self-government."

When the partners announced their intention to open the busi-

ness three years ago, spokesman Jerry Montour stated that the company would not pay excise tax, because the business was located on sovereign First Nation territory. The company asked the federal government to license their operation so that GRE could purchase Canadian tobacco. The heart of southern Ontario's tobacco belt is less than one hour's drive from the plant. Tobacco farmers and Haldimand Norfolk MP Bob Speller (Liberal) urged Ministry of Revenue officials to relent on the tax issue and allow local tobacco farmers to access this new market. But the government would not give in.

Without a federal manufacturing licence, the partners were forced to turn to "other sources" in Wilson, North Carolina and Pennsylvania for the tobacco product, the RCMP allege.

After almost two years of manufacturing without a federal licence, the partners announced last year that they would seek one. Negotiations with Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Revenue officials were publicized early in 1996. Six Nations council and GRE claimed in their joint press release that the latest of those ne-

gotiating sessions occurred the day before the arrest warrants were sworn.

Sgt. Terry Cameron, the man who led the investigation which led to the charges, said he isn't concerned with the political aspect of the situation.

"My only concern is the legal aspect," he said. "Could they legally do what they were doing when they did it?"

Six Nations Police Chief Glenn Lickers criticized that position. He suggested it was absurd to think that a taxation issue involving a reserve-based company wasn't an issue for the politicians to deal with.

Lickers refused to lend his support when the RCMP previously made overtures about raiding the factory.

And it was not the first time the RCMP had fallen afoul of the Six Nations band council during this investigation. Council criticized the federal police service when its officers seized a bank account containing \$172,400 several months ago.

GRE and council claim the money was a community fund that the partners contributed for much-needed local projects. Lawyer Lonny Bomberry claims

that his only involvement with the company was to administer that fund in conjunction with the band council.

The Indian Act prohibits seizure of assets located on a reserve, but the bank account was located at an off-reserve branch. That seizure convinced the local police commission to boycott joint forces operations with the RCMP and to cancel the temporary secondment of a federal officer to the Six Nations police service.

With the political tension running high, the RCMP did not venture onto Six Nations territory to arrest the men. A lawyer in nearby Hamilton, Ont. was asked by the Mounties to arrange for the partners to surrender themselves.

A bail hearing with all nine of the accused in attendance went without trouble six days after the charges were announced. Lawyer Bomberry was released on his own recognizance. The partners were released on \$5,000 bond.

A good-sized crowd attended a demonstration to protest the charges at the band administration building shortly after the charges were laid.

Monument will honor contribution of Native vets

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

Native veterans say a monument and scholarship fund announced prior to Remembrance Day are a way to begin redressing the problems many of them have faced since returning to Canada from war.

"I think we've got to give these two projects a chance," said Sam Sinclair, president of the National Aboriginal Veterans Association at a Nov. 10 meeting in Ottawa.

Earlier in the week, Sinclair helped Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin unveil the model of the Aboriginal Veterans Monument Project and announce the creation of a scholarship for Native students in the name of Aboriginal veterans.

"For the first time [veterans] feel they're part of something they don't want to let go of," Sinclair said at the unveiling, "for the betterment of themselves, their children and their grandchildren. . . We're only asking to be equally represented so people can say 'these people did a fine job in the world wars'."

Indian Affairs provided \$80,000 for the stone and bronze monument, to be built by Native artist Lloyd Pinay and erected near the War Memorial in Ottawa. Veterans estimate they'll have to raise about \$700,000 to pay for construction and maintenance of the nine metre structure. Liberal Senator Nick Taylor will head the fundraising committee, of which Sinclair is a member. But veterans shouldn't have

to raise the money, said Assembly of First Nations Grand Chief Ovide Mercredi at the Nov. 10 meeting.

"If we were a rich people, I guess we could do it."

Ironically, one of the contributions made by Native people during the wars was financial. Indigenous people raised \$44,000 for the First World War effort. It's estimated that one in three able-bodied Native men enlisted in that war, although they were not conscripted.

Status Indians had to give up that status to fight for Canada and when they returned were blocked from receiving free land given to returning soldiers. In some cases, it was reserve land that the federal government purchased from bands that was being given away.

The association estimates that 20,000 Natives fought in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War. Hundreds died. Many of the survivors are struggling to receive appropriate compensation.

Sinclair, who falsified documents to join up when he was 15, said authorities "had all kinds of excuses to deny me land" when he returned. "I'm still landless. I'm trying to get land as a citizen of Alberta."

Association vice-president Claude Petit said the biggest problem is that many returning Natives were unaware of what they should have received, "especially the northern people here. They don't know what the hell's going on. . ." He said they don't even know that a veteran's allowance is available.

Petit said his dad only started receiving a veteran's pension af-



The new Aboriginal Veterans Monument will be erected near the War Memorial in Ottawa and will be built by Native artist Lloyd Pinay.

ter his mom read about the program in a magazine and forced his father to go ask about it.

The association says the Department of Veterans Affairs must do something to address

the specific needs of Aboriginal veterans, such as appointing staff to deal with their needs.

"It's got to be somebody who knows Native people," Petit said.

That was one of the recommendations of a Senate committee that examined the treatment of Aboriginal veterans. In a 1995 report, the committee said the department should "create new procedures, appropriate to Aboriginal communities, to reach out to Aboriginal veterans."

It also called on the federal government to apologize for the inequities and insensitive treatment Native veterans experienced after their return from these wars. And the committee recommended the appointment of an independent investigator who could quickly intervene on behalf of Native veterans to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

An association employee said that since the Senate hearings, 10 veterans from British Columbia have had their cases reviewed and received compensation. Minister of Veterans Affairs Lawrence MacAulay wrote Mercredi after a March meeting with the chief.

"I believe that [Native veterans'] grievances are being dealt with in the only practical way."

"We review every individual complaint that is brought to our attention. We update any veteran's file, at the veteran's request, and report the results to the veteran or the veteran's authorized representative."

But Veterans Affairs continues to refuse the association's request for core funding, saying it won't make an exception to its (see *Veterans honored* p. 5)

Chief Ovide Mercredi complained to the federal government, saying it was demeaning to Native people.

Pinay concedes his work might play a part in correcting the historical record.

"I think there'd be a public outcry" if someone erected a statue to a Native [people] with a white person kneeling at his feet, he said.

Lest we forget

Women will stand tall in Lloyd Pinay's monument to Aboriginal veterans. They "tend to be left out of a traditional monument," said the Native artist at the unveiling of a model of the nine-metre high project in Ottawa.

The stone and bronze monu-

ment will be topped with a golden eagle above human and animal figures. They will rest on a marble base whose four sides feature panels representing both world wars, the Korean War and peacekeeping.

Women will be prominent in one of those panels. A female

figure will also stand with three male figures below the eagle.

Surrounding the human figures on the monument will be a cougar, (which Pinay said represents stealth), an elk (fleet of foot), a wolf (family values) and bear (tremendous strength).

Pinay, whose forefathers include Plains Ojibway, Cree and Sioux, has done commissioned works for the Royal Saskatch-

ewan Museum and at Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. He hopes to finish the veterans monument in 18 to 24 months.

The artist said the project began before the recent controversy in Ottawa over the Native scout figure at the feet of a statue to commemorate French explorer Samuel de Champlain. The scout is to be removed from the statue after Assembly of First Nations

Chief Ovide Mercredi complained to the federal government, saying it was demeaning to Native people. Pinay concedes his work might play a part in correcting the historical record. "I think there'd be a public outcry" if someone erected a statue to a Native [people] with a white person kneeling at his feet, he said.

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PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Merc

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Co

A good move helped bring Aboriginal veterans and Assemblies Chief Ovide Mercredi closer together on Remembrance Day.

Separate meetings Mercredi and the original Veterans Association (NAVA) revealed. Native veterans and the grand chief sat in a room filled with 75 empty chairs and dozens of veterans at the end of the same table.

The problem was when a group of Indian veterans was one that was supposed to be for all Aboriginal veterans. The first group was made up of chiefs of the AFN.

"We have to sit together. It's hurtful," said Claude Petit, before he broke for lunch.

Early that afternoon, veterans went to meet with president Sam S.

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Mercredi attempts to mend rift

By Marty Logan
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

A good movie and supper helped bring Aboriginal veterans and Assembly of First Nations Chief Ovide Mercredi closer together this Remembrance Day.

Separate meetings called by Mercredi and the National Aboriginal Veterans Association (NAVA) revealed a split in the Native veterans camp: while the grand chief and one veteran sat in a room filled with about 75 empty chairs, a couple of dozen veterans met at the other end of the same hotel hallway.

The problem was created when a group representing Indian veterans was replaced by one that was supposed to speak for all Aboriginal vets. Then the first group was resurrected by the chiefs of the AFN.

"We have to start working together. It's hurting everybody," said Claude Petit, NAVA vice-president, before his meeting broke for lunch.

Early that afternoon, the veterans went to meet Mercredi. NAVA president Sam Sinclair sat at the

head table with the grand chief. "My colleagues wanted to know what is creating the split. To me it's not a split... but it creates hard feelings," Sinclair said.

"When we start having these separate meetings, that's where I'm hung up... I think it can be mended pretty fast if we start now," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're still intact on paper and at heart we're together."

"We won't have that many more [veterans] left in five or 10 years," said Vincent Toney from Nova Scotia. "We should address the [split] while we have a chance. Veterans and their families 'need to know veterans are going to be together, not apart,'" he added.

Mercredi told the veterans the apparent split was being exaggerated.

"I'm not working against anyone," he said.

In 1992 the AFN passed a resolution supporting the transformation of the National Indian Veterans Association (NIVA) into the National Aboriginal Veterans Association.

It said "There is an immediate need to assist this veterans association to ensure that all Aborigi-

nal veterans and their families obtain the services which they are entitled to by virtue of being veterans."

But a year later another AFN resolution resurrected NIVA.

"On-Reserve Indian Veterans are not represented by the National Aboriginal Veteran's Association," the resolution said.

Mercredi said he supported the birth of NAVA and hinted he didn't understand the need for the Indian veterans' group to reappear.

"I haven't called anyone together to reinstate NIVA. I'm expected as national chief to do that, but I haven't."

Mercredi then invited the veterans to watch a new film on Aboriginal veterans that had been screened in the same room earlier in the day. Sinclair invited Mercredi to NAVA's supper on Remembrance Day.

"I think we want to pull together as Aboriginal people of Canada, as veterans," said NAVA's president, "regardless of the status that governments put us in."

"I for one do not want to see disagreements across Canada that could hurt the future of our members who have already been hurt enough."

Veterans honored

(continued from p. 4)
policy of not funding veterans' organizations.

One of the Senate committee's recommendations was the creation of a scholarship foundation.

Mercredi said the Aboriginal Veterans Scholarship Trust — which makes only the interest on the original amount available to students (about \$100,000 a year, according to Sinclair) — doesn't fulfill that need.

The Chief also wants assurances the money is new money.

"Sam [Sinclair] can say that's a good start. He can say that for NAVA — but as national chief I can say that's not a good start," Mercredi said.

The trust will provide money for Native students studying full-or part-time at a college or university program of at least two years. Veterans Affairs will contribute most of



"For the first time [veterans] feel they're part of something they don't want to let go of."

— Sam Sinclair, president of the National Aboriginal Veterans Association.

the \$1.15 million trust.

It will be administered by the Canadian Native Arts Foundation and will provide money for Métis and non-Status students and others who "may fall between the cracks," said John Kim Bell, president of the foundation.

Student merit, financial needs, and other things will be taken into consideration in the granting of scholarships.

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If the door's locked, go in the window

In Canadian Aboriginal politics, there has been one constant for a quarter of a century: Native leaders have been demanding a place at the constitutional table and the federal government has been denying it to them. At a meeting in Calgary last month, that recipe for frustration may have changed a bit.

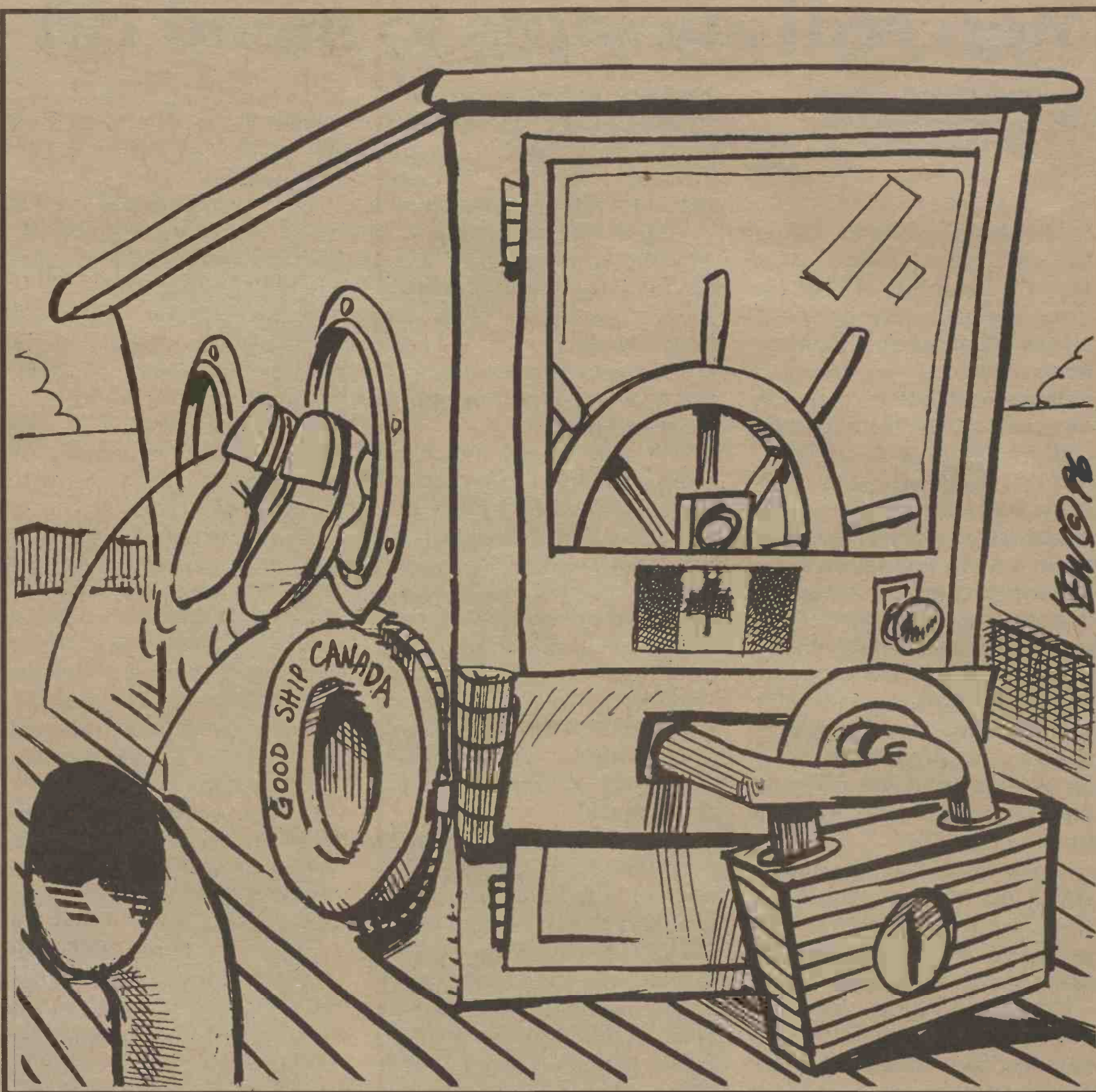
The new ingredient is the provincial premiers. Over the same quarter century, the role of the premiers in Canadian politics has grown immensely. The growth in federal-provincial relations as the centre of power in this country has made an alliance with the provinces a useful tool for getting what you want. And that's exactly what Canada's Aboriginal leaders now have — an alliance with the provinces.

It shouldn't have to be this way. Most of Canada's Aboriginal people are the fiduciary responsibility of the federal government. One would have thought — naively, really — that the federal government would want Canada's Native people to be participants in the political process, but that's not the way it's been. The paternal hand on the Natives' shoulder has been there to firmly hold the Natives in their place.

Which is why there was a need for the alliance forged in Calgary last month. There is a commitment that the premiers and Aboriginal leaders will meet again before the next premiers conference. And there's a feeling that this may be the best way for Aboriginal representation in Canada's constitutional decision-making process. If it can't be written in by a Charlottetown agreement or the like, then to have it put in as much of Canada's law is, by common consent and practice, will be the best option.

Perhaps "getting in bed with the provinces isn't the best strategy for Canada's Native leaders," as Ron Irwin said, but there's a lot in Ralph Klein's response to that. He said, "I think that there are some political realities, even in Ottawa."

With the front door still firmly barred against Aboriginal participation in government, the political realities determine that Native leaders climb in through the window.



Too young to understand

GUEST COLUMN

By R. Bauer
Windspeaker Contributor

I want to address all who took time out on Remembrance Day to pause and reflect on the lives of our heroes from past wars.

Many communities across Canada, like Cold Lake First Nations in Alberta, have numerous heroes. Men and women who stood in the line of duty and gave their all for the cause of freedom, peace at home and liberty elsewhere in the world.

The day, we call Remembrance Day, is very significant for many people and for many reasons. First, we gather to honor the veterans, those who survived the tragedies of war. It was their courage in the face of terrible danger that helped to bring the battles to an end. Their ardor to preserving these freedoms at home caused some of the men and women at Cold Lake First Nations, like elsewhere in Canada, to respond to the call for help in settling disputes in far away places.

Furthermore, we gather to remember their comrades, the men and women who gallantly gave up their youthful lives in the same skirmishes, to keep that peace. They never made it back to their homes and families to enjoy what we experience today.

Now it is our turn, once again, to pause, remember and reflect on all the weary servicemen and

women and their loyalty to us and all Canadians. We want and need to remind ourselves of the blazing torch they held so high in their struggle to maintain those freedoms, peace and happiness that we, in our country today, are privileged to enjoy.

The poppies we wear are the symbol and temporary reminder of the dying moments of those brave people, marked only by a moment of silence and a memorial on Remembrance Day.

As we think about these valiant heroes, our minds spring into action and we think on these painful scenes that flash before our mind's eye. Mentally, we aspire to avenge their senseless deaths. All too quickly, our memory fades as reality sets in once again and this brief moment is but a glimpse in time.

Bigger obligations step out to embrace both the long lines of veterans standing with bowed heads listening to the booming of a gun salute followed by a deathly silence to remind us about our fallen heroes who died in the line of duty for our sake.

During the two world wars and the many small battles fought worldwide since 1914, we had something like 186,000 Canadians die to keep this peace and offer up safety for us at home. These men and women who died at sea, on land and in the air were fighting for what we claim as our rights.

They gave up their rights to safeguard ours. Many thousands more came home victorious heroes, some seriously handicapped and suffering from the trauma of their horrific experiences. These soldiers, sail-

ors and airmen that left the shores of Canada and heeded the call, were only teenagers when they left home, just like many of the children in our schools today. Those who survived the wars are now standing among us as older men and women graced with pride and age, as we respectfully refer to them as veterans.

There are fewer of them now, but on Nov. 11 we saw our veterans and service men and women wearing their dark blue legion blazers and wearing the poppy as they have always done. They stood before us, on guard to honor their friends and buddies. Canada's war dead.

Our hearts are filled with the mixed emotions of anger, sorrow, disappointment, bitterness, pathos, and love. Others may feel nothing. . . just too young to remember or understand. All of us are touched by some tingle or wrenching as we remember those same friends who never had a chance to grow older like the rest of us.

As you take a second look at your bright red poppy, you will be reminded of the images of people who fought with courage and died with honor, with conviction in their hearts and felt a hope for the future. As you wear the poppy, be proud of it as it speaks of our grand and glorious heritage.

Be proud of what that poppy really stands for. Be proud of the people that died on our behalf and along with those who survived. . . together they deserve our love, our quiet reflection, respect and prayers Nov. 11 and always.

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B.C. t proc

Dear Editor:

Much has been made in the and video me Treaty Commis time, money and expended on the

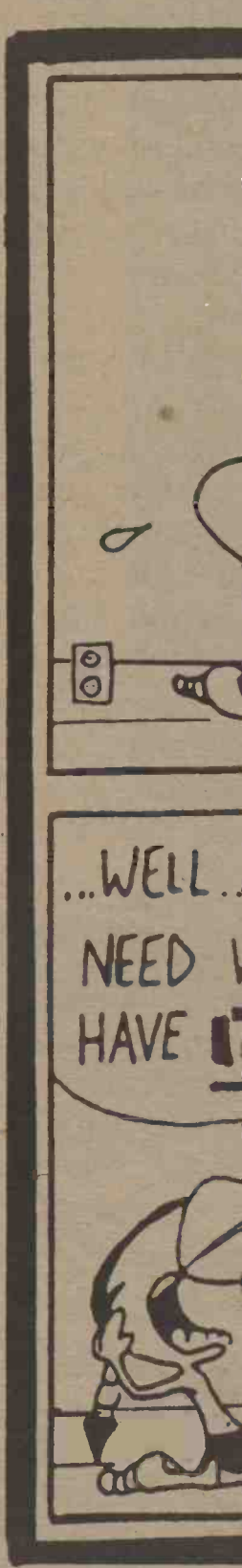
The BC Treaty however, is seen peoples as simp mination initiat people utterly a surrender to Ca other governm S.W.A.T. (Spec Tactics) team to the real issues o reliance, self-det decolonization.

When we stop at the political policy and legi not help but sh we are permitti Chretien, now was determine plement the Wh regardless of o aspirations, by approaches, at with different g ent times. So wh take that look a ctly what we s

All the govern reference to ne solved land qu Columbia are b tinguishment o and recognition rejected as a bas

Indigenous p ties are to be b dian institution nation is to be n sufficiency is t through empl dent money r fixed settlement Provincial pe

OT



B.C. treaty-making process criticized

Dear Editor:

Much has been and continues to be made in the print, audio and video media of the BC Treaty Commission. So much time, money and effort has been expended on the process.

The BC Treaty Commission, however, is seen by many of our peoples as simply another termination initiative to have our people utterly and completely surrender to Canada. It is another government designed S.W.A.T. (Special Words and Tactics) team to distract us from the real issues of attaining self-reliance, self-determination and decolonization.

When we stop and look about at the political statements on policy and legislation, one can not help but shudder at what we are permitting to go on. Mr. Chretien, now Prime Minister, was determined in 1971 to implement the White Paper Policy, regardless of our opinions and aspirations, by using different approaches, at different places with different groups, at different times. So when we stop and take that look about, that is exactly what we see.

All the governments' terms of reference to negotiate the unresolved land question in British Columbia are based on the extinguishment of title for money, and recognition of our title is rejected as a basis of agreement.

Indigenous peoples authorities are to be based on non-Indian institutions. Self-determination is to be rejected and self-sufficiency is to be realized only through employment or prudent money management of fixed settlement dollars.

Provincial participation in all

negotiations is made essential so we do not have a nation-to-nation treaty-making process, but a process for a tripartite agreement with a local government holding a veto power over our title rights and interests.

If they can be called treaties, then they are treaties of total capitulation and I know our people cannot accept that. The cabinet document of 1979 (outlining the strategy for termination), the Nielsen task Force recommendations of 1985 and the Charlottetown Accord of 1992, all display a similar strategy and intent to weaken and discredit Indigenous peoples.

Such termination policies outlined an unwillingness to waste time with unacceptable matters such as title, and self-determination. Also to be avoided are those people committed to fighting for Indian rights. Encouragement is offered to those willing to deliver government-designed programs.

Negotiation time limits are set and enforced by threats of legislated settlements. Public relations S.W.A.T. teams, especially for the federal government, are in constant overtime to show government proposals as fair, just, generous and economical.

This then is the legacy that the BC Treaty Commission brings. The continued policy of termination through its modern beads and trinkets settlement agreements. It is a bogus treaty making process.

Yours truly,
Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs
Chief Saul Terry
President

Hands across the water

Dear Editor:

I am extremely interested in corresponding with some Canadian Indian pen-pals.

I am a 46-year-old sole parent, with three daughters aged 18,15, and 12 years old.

I spent some time travelling through the Canadian Rockies in 1976 and fell in love with the beautiful mountains and countryside. I am a staunch environmentalist and have read and obtained many books by the renowned Canadian environmen-

talist Dr. David Suzuki. I also have a genuine desire to learn more of Canadian Indian culture and their way of life and to extend the hand of friendship and caring across the seas.

My interests include organic gardening, reading, camping and outdoor activities. I have also travelled extensively overseas in the early 1970s and spent some time in Hawaii.

I strongly believe that we should sit and listen to what the genuine Native Elders have to

say and learn to respect and care for mother earth and the environment and learn to live in peace and harmony with all upon the earth.

I would be extremely grateful if you could help me with this request.

Thank you
Cathy Matra-Ketera Carley
40 Lexcer Drive
Noarlunga Downe
5168
South Australia
Australia

Aboriginal artists and craft dealers explore the American art market

Dear Editor:

Three Alberta Aboriginal artists were included in a Canadian delegation researching U.S. market opportunities at the Indian Arts and Crafts Association wholesale marketplace in Mesa, Arizona held Oct. 24 to 27.

Bronze sculptor Rocky Barstad from High River, artist Pat Donaldson from Calgary and fashion designer Patricia Piché from Bon Accord were seeking markets for their work at the Arizona event which connects professional wholesale buyers for museum stores and commercial galleries, with nearly 130 suppliers of authentic Aboriginal jewelry, pottery, blankets, paintings, baskets, sculpture and other artifacts.

While the marketplace has

been devoted primarily to southwestern Native art, the appetite for work from north of the border was evident. Susan McQuire, executive director of the association, welcomed the Canadian group.

U.S. dealers, Barbara Goldeen and John Selmer of Santa Fe Crafts, were particularly enthusiastic potential buyers. The couple will be including Canadian carvings, jewelry and clothing from Native suppliers in the repertoire of gift items they offer to U.S. museum store buyers.

The visit to Mesa was set up by the Canadian Consulate in Los Angeles as a means of encouraging new exporters to the U.S., and was funded by the department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Aboriginal

Business Canada and the individual participants.

The visit to Mesa allowed for assessment of future participation in Indian Arts and Crafts Association market, and included a special seminar on export techniques and customs regulations. As a measure of success: there were three times more applications than the space available in this first Canadian export development program focused exclusively on Aboriginal art.

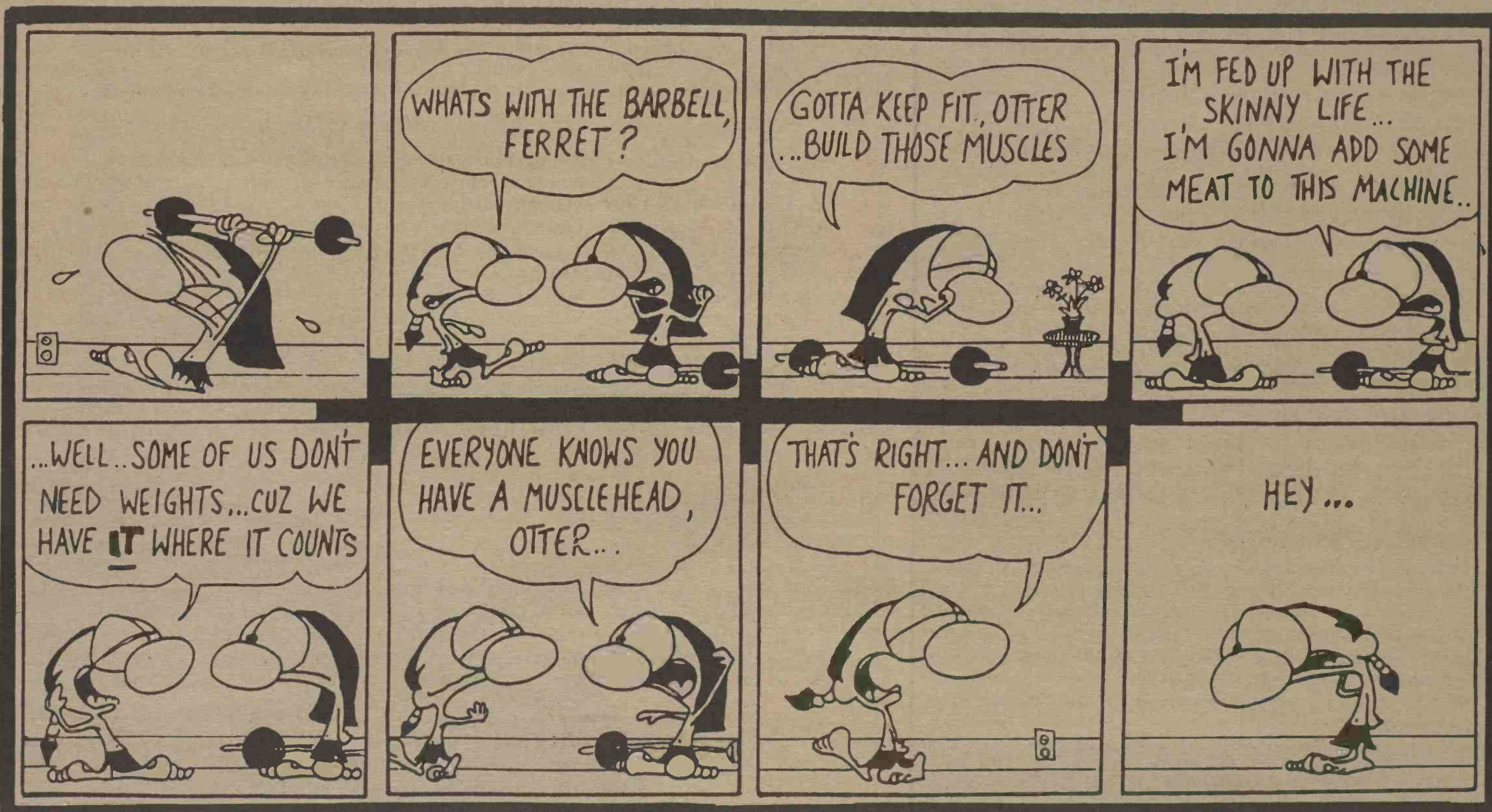
While in Mesa for the IACA marketplace, the Canadian artists visited individual galleries in the affluent Scottsdale community also in Phoenix. The Scottsdale art market is considered to be the second largest in the United States after Santa Fe.

Roz Wolfe

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OTTER



By Karl Terry

Columnist
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Champ's warning hits home

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SIKSIKA, Alta.

After 97 professional fights and 31 years in the ring, the man who may be the best Canadian boxer of all time keeps taking it on the chin. In the last decade, George Chuvalo's seen the deaths of three sons, all of them heroine addicts, and the suicide of his wife. It's a testament to his toughness that he's never been knocked down, either in the ring or outside, and that he's still fighting back.

"I just had to be the strong one in the family, what with everything going on," he said. Chuvalo was a guest at the Siksika Nation High School, talking about drug and alcohol dependency and how young people can be encouraged to avoid it.

"I've set up the George Chuvalo Foundation, which will essentially be getting money from different people in the corporate sector," Chuvalo said. "It will enable me to go across [Canada] and speak to all kinds of groups, but essentially targeted to young people, high schools, friendship centres, kids in prison. That's what the foundation's about. Getting me across the country to speak in these circumstances."

Drugs are something that he knows a lot about. Chuvalo, 58, whose wife was 15 years old when they were married, had five children: four boys and a girl. His eldest son and daughter are still alive, but the other three boys killed themselves after becoming long-term heroine



R JOHN HAYES

Former Canadian heavyweight boxing champion George Chuvalo signs an autograph for Colleen Sitting Eagle at Siksika Nation High School after an information session on drug and alcohol abuse.

addicts. The first two were suicides; the most recent, his son Stephen, which may have been a simple overdose — Chuvalo thinks so — took place on Aug. 8, just 81 days before Chuvalo's appearance at Siksika. His wife killed herself four days after Georgie Lee, the second Chuvalo to take his life, had committed suicide.

"I wondered how it all happened," Chuvalo said in his afternoon appearance to parents and adults. "I've never done drugs. I had heard about heroine, of course, but it was something that happened to American jazz musicians. It didn't happen to Canadian boys."

But Chuvalo was to find out that it did. He later called hero-

ine addiction "a descent into hell even though you're on earth."

Chuvalo fought for Stephen's life, but his son was unable to take the strain of a divorce. He returned to heroine only 11 days after being released from jail. Chuvalo speculated that it was the strength of the stuff now on the street that did him in — after years in jail, his body was unable to deal with the dosage.

Having lost four-sevenths of his family, the man who had the world heavyweight title stolen from him by Chicago mob boxer Ernie Terrell in 1965 now fights for kids as susceptible to drugs as his family was. He knows the pain the drugs can cause, and he hopes that his message can save lives.

(see George Chuvalo on p. 28)

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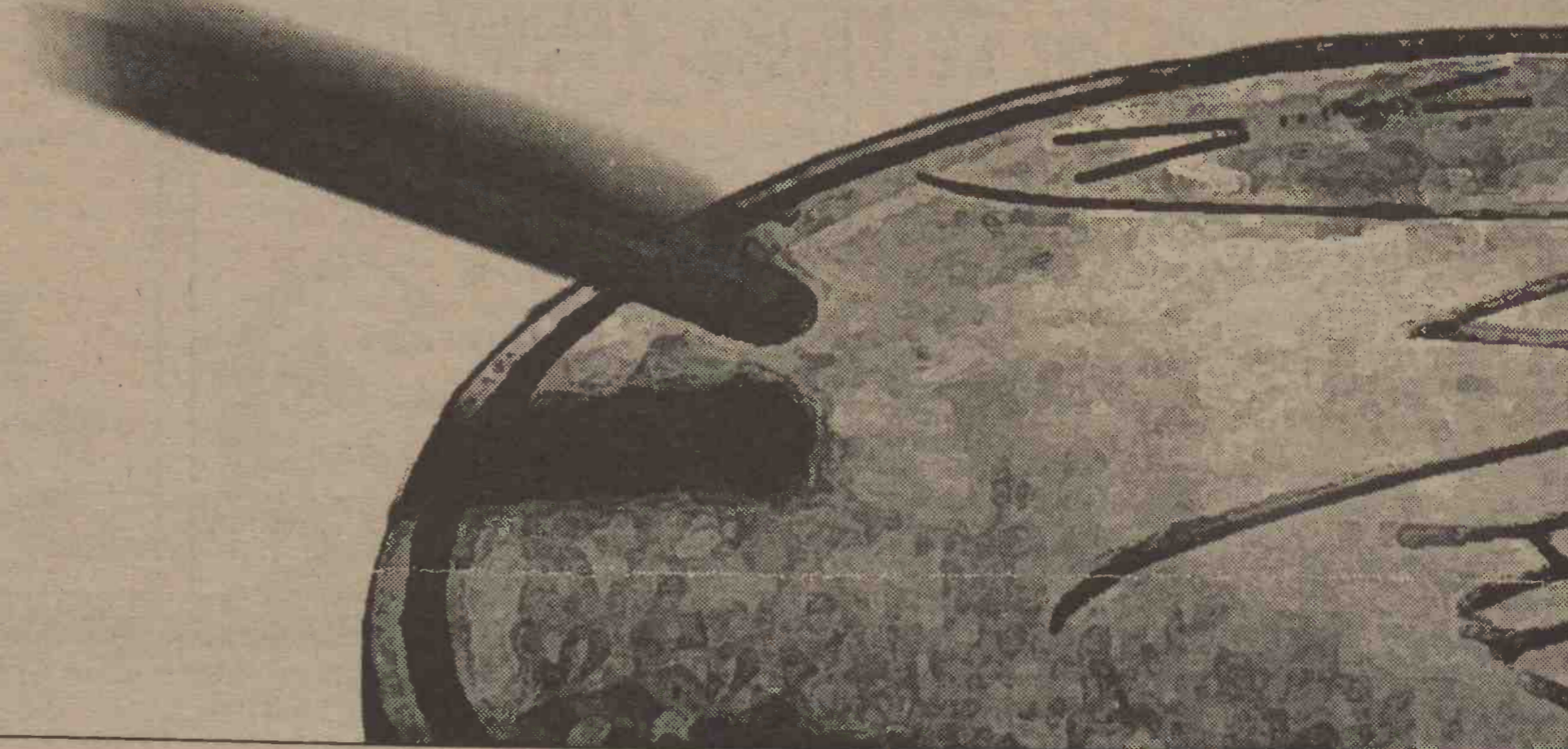
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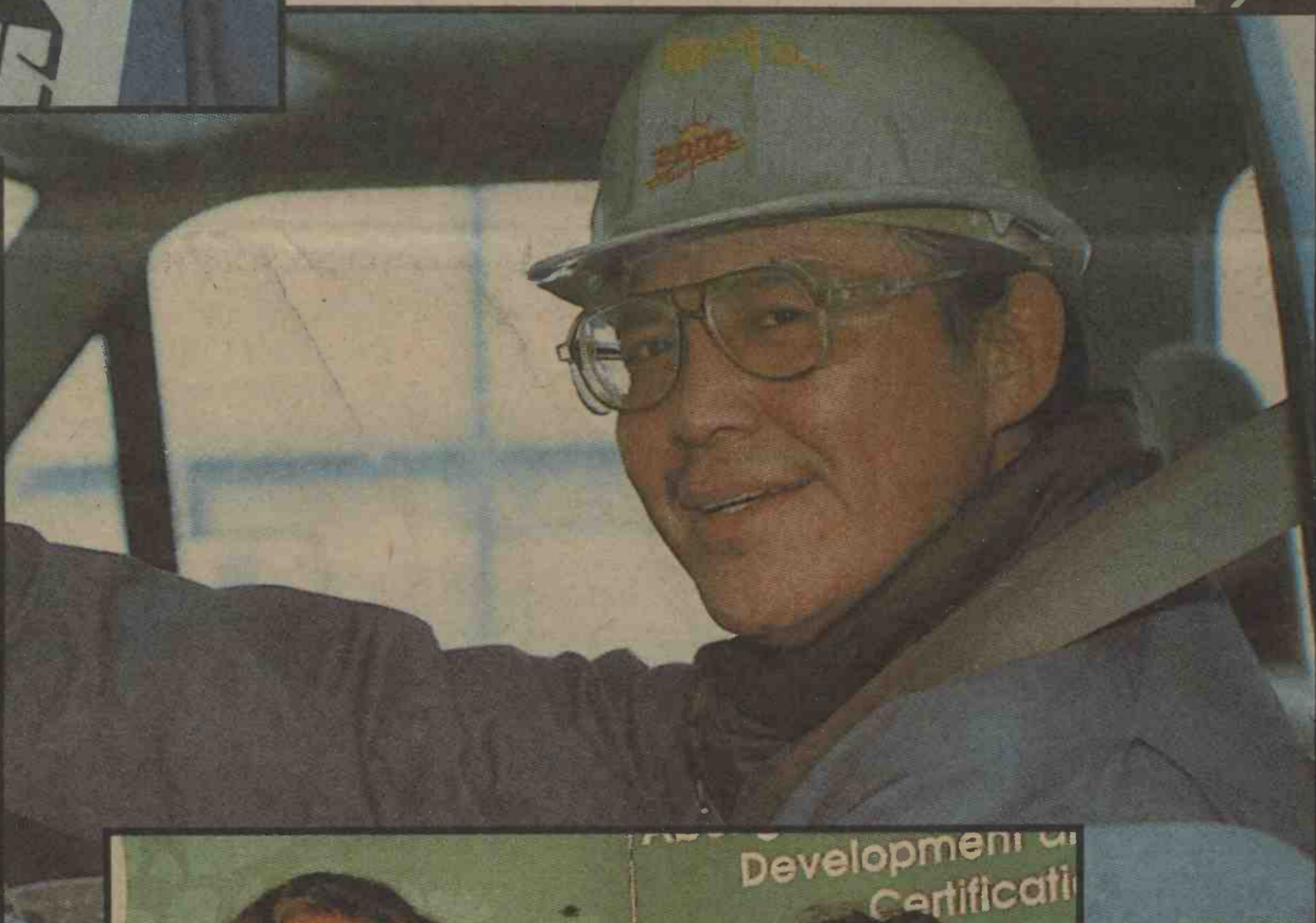
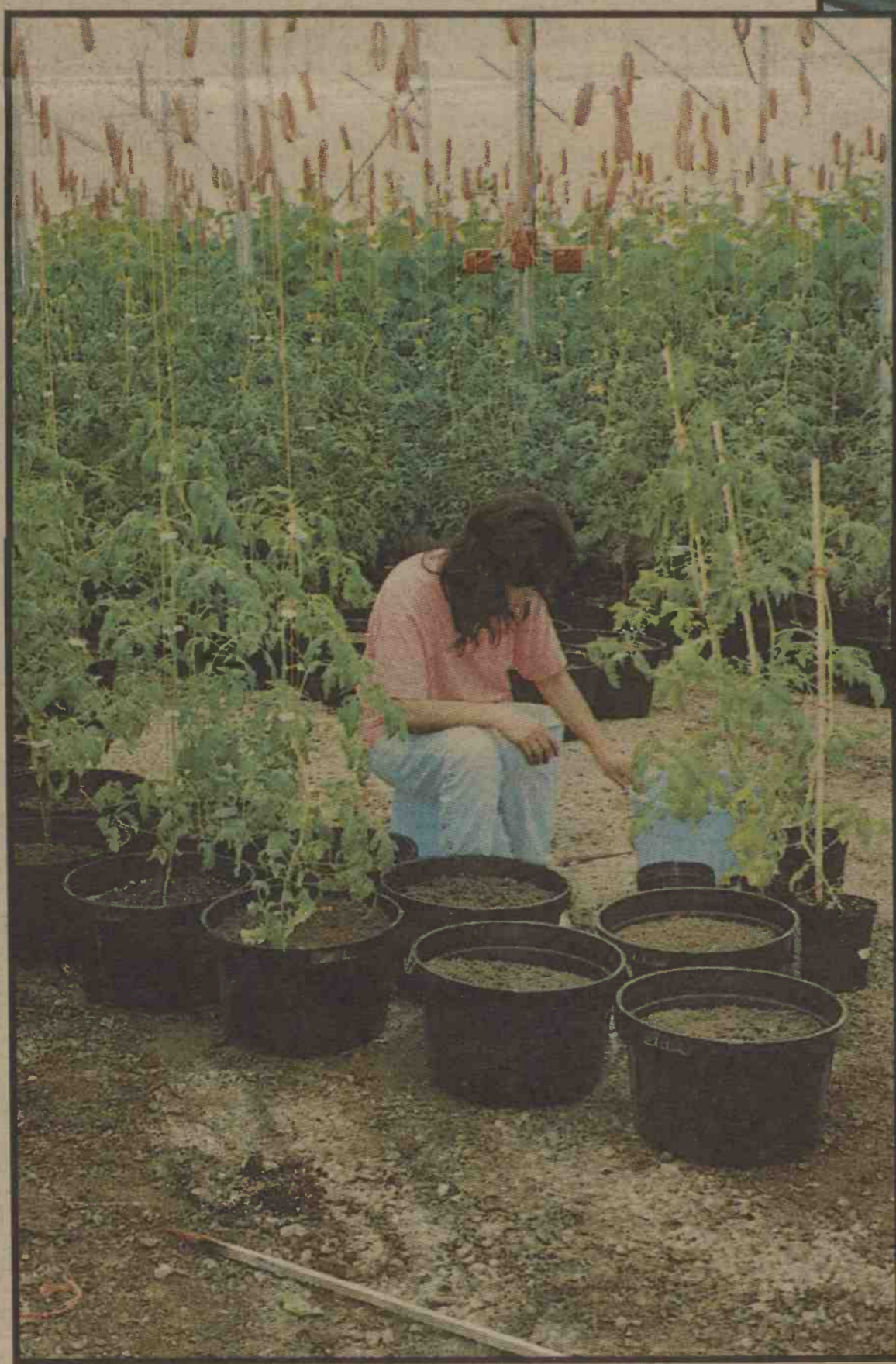
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CANDO Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers
RECOGNITION AWARDS

Conference focuses on power of Indigenous economy

By Kenneth Williams
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

The Saskatoon Tribal Council and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations hosted the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers' annual general meeting and international development conference in Saskatoon.

The theme of this year's conference was "Controlling Our Future: The Power of the Indigenous Economy." Approximately 200 delegates, economic development officers and corporate executives attended the conference.

The conference, which was held from Oct. 27 to 30, included workshops and seminars on all aspects of Aboriginal economic development. The highlight of the four days was the President's Dinner and the 1996

it was an individual award, a lot of people were responsible for him being honored. He has enjoyed the support of his community for the past 23 years, as well as many other First Nations people throughout Canada. He said that they deserve this award as much as he does.

Chief Jules has been in the midst of many battles for Aboriginal economic self-sufficiency in Canada, not the least of which is his fight for amending the Indian Act. He has also pushed for Aboriginal controlled institutions, such as the First Nations bank which was announced at this conference.

Nicola Valley was recognized for its training program in economic development. This program is open to all Aboriginal people across Canada, through on-campus and off-site training. It attracts 250 students.

Chief Jerry Polson of the Long Point First Nation accepted the recognition award on behalf of his band. In just a few years, Chief Polson's band reduced unemployment to 20 per cent from 75 per cent.

Ed Courtereille, president of 2000 Plus, is from the Mikisew Cree First Nation located in northern Alberta. 2000 Plus is a business owned by the Mikisew Cree First Nation and provides maintenance to the oil and gas industry. The company's mission statement is "People helping people." Since becoming president in 1993, Courtereille has managed to increase 2000 Plus's profits from \$1.5 million to \$4 million and provide employment for about 150 people.

"When I'm talking 'people helping people,' I'm talking about the whole Fort McMurray community," said Courtereille. "We have to live in that community and working together is the only way we're going to achieve our goals."

The President's Dinner also represented the last day of duty for outgoing CANDO president Darrell Balkwill. Myron Sparklingeyes takes over as new president.

Chief Blaine Favel of the FSIN addressed the dinner and spoke about "celebrating a small miracle."

"For 50 years, the First Nations of this province have put aside differences they may have and come together," he said. "The FSIN consists of 75,000 people from 72 tribes that have never broken apart."

Chief Favel said the Assembly of First Nations could follow the example of the FSIN as an organization that overcomes its regional differences for the common good of all First Nations.



KENNETH WILLIAMS

The recipients of CANDO's Recognition awards were (from left) Ed Courtereille of 2000 Plus Ltd., Jerry Polson representing Long Point First Nation, Warren Weir representing the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, and Chief Manny Jules.

CANDO Recognition Awards held on the 29th.

The award recipients, Chief Clarence "Manny" Jules, the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, the Long Point First Nation and Edward Courtereille, president of 2000 Plus Ltd., were acknowledged for their achievements in Aboriginal economic development. Chief Jules was also awarded the CANDO Economic Developer of the Year.

The Economic Developer of the Year is a separate award that is only available to recognition award recipients. The winner is determined by a secret poll of the recipients' peers.

"It's always an honor to be recognized," said Chief Jules, but "it's not something that you seek."

He was also quick to point out that even though

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By Kenneth Williams
 Windspeaker

Chief Clarence Jules of the Long Point First Nation was named the Year award recipient at the annual general meeting of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO) held in Saskatoon.

It was Jules who had been named the recipient of the award.

Chief Jules said his name was quickly put forward with the support of his band and other First Nations people.

"Even though I was involved in a lot of things," he said. "It's a great honor."

And it's been a long time since he was named to the Kamloops award in 1974. In 1983, he was named president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Aboriginal Business Enterprises.

"I'm a very busy person," he said. "I've helped establish a number of businesses."

Jules is also a member of the Saskatchewan Advisory Board on Aboriginal Economic Development.

But they have a lot of work to do, he said. A new fiscal year is beginning.



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RECOGNITION AWARDS

Optimism and humor the mark of chief's success

By Kenneth Williams
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

Chief Clarence "Manny" Jules of the Kamloops First Nation received the Economic Developer of the Year award in Saskatoon at CANDO's annual general meeting. The award, determined by way of polling the delegates at the meeting, was given out at the President's Dinner on Oct. 29.

It was Jules' second honor of the night. Earlier he had been chosen as one of CANDO's recognition award recipients.

Chief Jules is an energetic, but humble man. His name may be on the recognition award, but he quickly pointed out that he has enjoyed the support of his band, his people and other Aboriginal people. Without that support, he would not be where he is today, he said.

"Even though it's an individual recognition, it involved a lot of work from other individuals," he said. "It's really a shared recognition."

And it's been a long road. Jules was first elected to the Kamloops First Nation band council in 1974. In 1984 he was elected chief. He has held that position ever since. He was a founding member of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council and helped establish the Secwepemc Heritage Park.

"I'm a very optimistic individual," he said. That has "helped me in my role as a chief and in my role on the advisory board."

Jules is also the chairman of the Indian Taxation Advisory Board which advises the federal government on Indian taxation matters and provides information for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.

"First Nations develop a lot of tax bases," said Jules. But they haven't been allowed to take advantage of them, he added. The First Nations need to "establish a new fiscal relationship with Canada," he said.

A significant moment in the taxation board's history came in March, when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Department of Indian Affairs. The memorandum formally established the mandate of the taxation board.

The mandate directs the board to promote First Nation real property taxation jurisdiction in support of self-government and self-determination; to examine taxation bylaws proposed by First Nations; to advise the minister on policy related to the taxation powers of First Nations; and to foster conformity between First Nations and taxation by other authorities.

"The board has been, and continues to be, instrumental in creating awareness in Aboriginal communities about raising revenues through taxing property interests on reserve land. The ability to raise revenues is also a key element in achieving self-government and self-reliance," said Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin.

"This Memorandum of Understanding formally establishes the mandate of the Indian Taxation Advisory Board, the first independent Aboriginal-controlled institution involved in ministerial decision-making under the Indian Act."

"This is a very historic moment for the Board," said Chief Jules at the time of the signing. "The signing of this [memorandum] signals the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's commitment to ITAB [the taxation board], both in terms of our work and the direction in which we are heading."

"With the signing of this memorandum we can continue to make property taxation more accessible and understandable for those First Nations who choose taxation to achieve self-reliance," he continued. "The funds raised will help First Nations create jobs, finance economic programs and support efforts to heal our communities."

The board was created in 1988, following
 (see Chief's success p. SS5)



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Chief Jules (left), from the Kamloops First Nation and Isadore Campbell, from the Meadow Lake Tribal Council, who received the same award last year.



Tradition meets innovation at Kamloops First Nation.

1996

**Chief Manny Jules
 Ed Courtoreille
 Long Point First Nations
 Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**

The Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) is proud of their achievements in economic development and pleased that we could share their tremendous success with Windspeaker readers.



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The Third Classroom Edition will showcase various viewpoints and opinions regarding critical issues being faced by Aboriginal people today.

There is no question that Aboriginal youth need to access information and news on issues that will impact their future. As tomorrow's leaders and decision makers, our youth needs to be exposed to a variety of viewpoints, so that they may be better capable of making informed decisions for themselves and their communities.

The information contained in each Classroom Edition can play an instrumental role in breaking down barriers and increase understanding between individuals, communities, and cultures.

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Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers

RECOGNITION AWARDS

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Kamloops First Nation is a growing, thriving community



KAMLOOPS FIRST NATION

Aerial view of Kamloops First Nation's new powwow arbor.

(continued from p. S53)

amendments to Section 83 of the Indian Act. These amendments allow First Nations to tax residential and commercial properties on reserve land. Since its creation, the taxation board has aided many First Nations to enact property tax bylaws.

Another major achievement for Jules was the establishment of the Centre for Excellence in Municipal-Aboriginal Relations. The centre was announced last June 3 and is a joint initiative of the taxation board, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and Indian Affairs.

This initiative is designed to offer municipal and Aboriginal governments the opportunity to best practice inter-governmental relations at the local level.

A steering committee will be appointed to set

priorities and provide strategic direction.

The taxation board and the federation share the objective of promoting positive, practical and effective working relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and their respective governments, said Jules.

"There is hope for First Nations in this country. I see lots of opportunities — a lot of work." A lot of that work is to develop the institutions necessary for First Nations to achieve self-sufficiency.

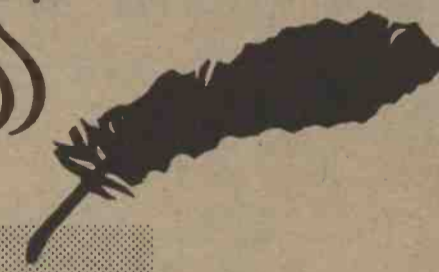
"I just hope that the work that I do has a benefit for First Nations in Canada," Jules said.

Whatever the future holds for Jules, you can be assured that he will face it with his own brand of optimism and humor.

"My future's so bright, I gotta wear shades," he said.

Congratulations

to all achievers



The Mount Paul Industrial Park would like to congratulate the recipients of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers' (CANDO's) prestigious Economic Development Awards.

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RECOGNITION AWARDS

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The Bank of Nova Scotia wishes to Congratulate Mr. Ed Courtoreille and 2000 Plus Ltd. on their nomination for Economic Developer of the Year Award. The significance of Aboriginal entrepreneurs in Canada is acknowledged by the Bank of Nova Scotia, and we are proud to be part of this future.

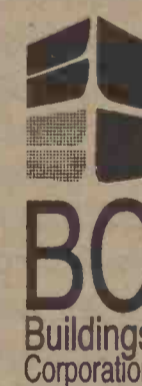
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Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers
RECOGNITION AWARDS

CANDO

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology spearheads economic development training

By Kenneth Williams
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology started as the collective dream of five bands of the Nicola Valley Tribal Council. They wanted an Aboriginal-controlled post-secondary institution.

The five bands in the tribal council, the Coldwater, Nooaitch, Upper Nicola, Lower Nicola and Shackan First Nations, were seeking accredited education in a culturally-reinforced environment. In 1983, in Merritt, B.C., that dream started to become a reality.

The dream, however, started small, with one program and only 12 students. But in just a mere 13 years, the NVIT grew to where it now serves 250 students from 195 First Nations across Canada.

In 1995, the NVIT received designation from the province of British Columbia as an Aboriginal provincial institute. Today, NVIT has seven departments, Academic Studies, Administrative Studies, Developmental Education, Fine Art, Indigenous Studies, Natural Resource Technology and Social Work & Human Services, and offers post-secondary diplomas, certificates and associate degrees in 17 program areas.

But in the field of economic development, it is NVIT's Off-Site Aboriginal Community Economic Development Program that attracts a lot of attention. The off-site method allows for NVIT to provide education to Aboriginal students across Canada, because the program is broken down into 20 modules each five and a half days long that are delivered directly to the First Nations communities, with two facilitators provided to aid with the instruction. The courses are designed for a maximum of 20 students at a time.

"It's a national program — we deliver our diploma to First Nations across Canada," said Ken Tourand, administrative coordinator of the CED department at NVIT. "We've been to Truro, Nova Scotia, Moose Factory, Ont., Lutsel'ke, N.W.T. and throughout B.C."

"We also partner with other Native institutions in delivering our program," he continued. "The main one being Chemaimus Native College on Vancouver Island."

At least one of the facilitators is Aboriginal. The diploma program normally takes four years, but NVIT will deliver the modules whenever the First Nations community requests them.

"We were very happy and honored to receive

national recognition for the CED [Community Economic Development] program," said Tourand. "We feel that the CED program is unique because it brings the education into the communities, rather than people having to leave their communities to get their education."

"It allows people to continue working at their jobs, yet still receive training," he continued.

Another benefit to this education is that these courses can be transferred for credit to the four year degree program at University of Lethbridge's school of management's BESS (Business Enterprises and Self-Governing Systems of Indian, Inuit and Métis Peoples) program.

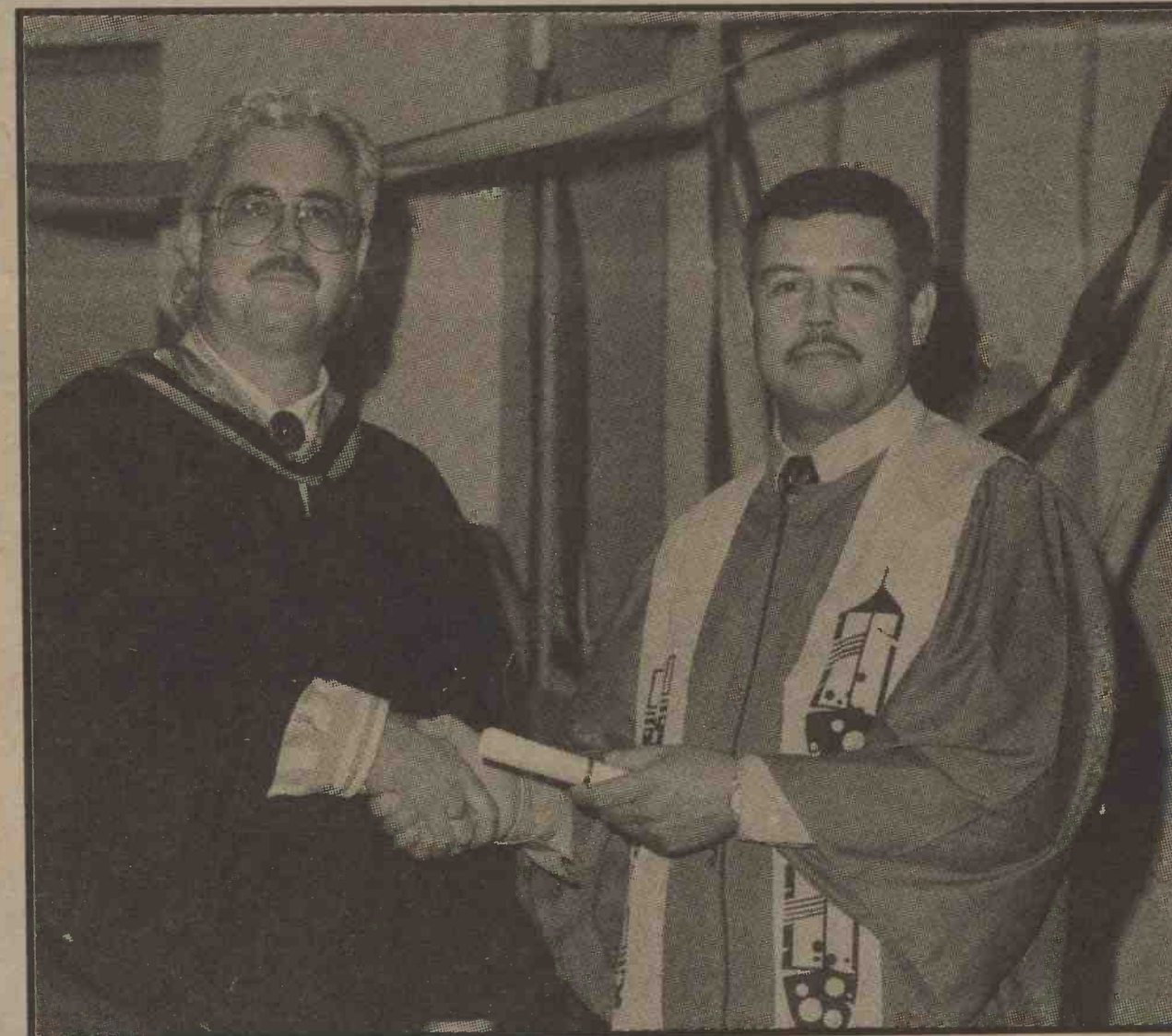
The career opportunities available to CED participants are Economic Development Officer, Business Planner/Analyst, Business Development Consultant, Band Planner/Manager and Community Development Worker. Ultimately, this program is geared towards First Nations communities achieving greater economic self-sufficiency.

Some of the courses offered include Introduction to Aboriginal Community Economic Development, Introduction to Accounting, Community Development, Management, Introduction to Marketing, Computer Information Systems, Technical Communications, Contemporary First Nations Issues and Strategic & Financial Planning.

"We're controlled by a board of governors from the Nicola Valley Tribal Council," said Tourand. "And we have an independent education philosophy that guides us in everything we do."



In the classroom with the students from the Lower Similkameen Indian Band.



Warren Weir (left), department head of administrative studies, presents graduate Glen Benoit (right) of Newfoundland with a diploma. Benoit's training took place in Truro, N.S.

The success of Canada's Aboriginal peoples is a priority of CIBC.

CIBC wishes to congratulate the recipients of this year's CANDO Economic Development Awards and a special congratulations to Chief Manny Jules on his contributions and accomplishments.

CIBC



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RECOGNITION AWARDS

CANDO

Ed Courtoreille drives 2000 Plus to greater heights

By Kenneth Williams
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

Ed Courtoreille of the Mikisew Cree First Nation is one of the recipients of CANDO's 1996 recognition awards. He believes in people. "People helping people," is the motto of 2000 Plus, an enterprise owned by the Mikisew Cree First Nation that provides maintenance services to the oil and gas industry in northern Alberta. He has been its president since 1993.

Since he's become president, 2000 Plus has grown tenfold. Founded in 1991, it used to be a six-person operation and had revenues of \$400,000. But after three years of Courtoreille's guidance, the company employs over 140 people and has approximately \$5 million in revenue.

The name 2000 was inspired by a vision statement that Mikisew First Nation approved, said Courtoreille. "By the year 2000, the majority of the band members will be self-sustaining people," because 2000 Plus is creating employment and training First Nations people for the future and for the children's future, he said.

Of the people employed by 2000 Plus, 90 per cent are of Aboriginal ancestry, with 50 per cent coming from the Mikisew First Nation. This company is the largest employer of Aboriginal people in the Fort McMurray area.

Receiving the CANDO award means a lot to Courtoreille, because it acknowledges his accomplishments.

This award recognizes "something that we as a company, and I, as an individual person, have accomplished in our region as far as providing economic growth in the oil industry," said Courtoreille.

Building a company so quickly and so successfully, one would assume that Courtoreille graduated from a big business school, but that isn't the case.

"All the business experience I have is what I gained in three years" since becoming president, he said. "My background is human resources. I've worked from youth counsellor to employment counsellor to correctional office service counsellor and I've always been in the field where I've used my skills to motivate people.

"With my ability to listen to people and to understand people — those are skills that I've utilized to get this company on the road," he said. "Making people work together, making people understand each other and getting them motivated so they all work for one common goal, that was one of the biggest skills that I have."

Obviously, people are listening and believing

in Courtoreille. The CANDO recognition award follows the Fort McMurray 1996 Small Business of the Year award that he received on Oct. 21. This is a great recognition because this is the first time an Aboriginal-owned business has ever received this award.

This, however, just follows Courtoreille's commitment to his northern Alberta community.

"I make myself available to a lot of organizations through fund-raising," he said.

In "the city of Fort McMurray, I host major events, like Native golf tournaments and I sponsor minor hockey or I'm giving talks in schools.

"I'm always participating in community events, because that gives me also a good lead into the community and lets me know what's going on," he continued. "It's something that I've always done in the past and it's one of my goals to work with people and the community."

Courtoreille's management style focuses on team building and achieving a common goal.

"One individual alone doesn't go very far," he said. "We have to support the team concept and we'll accomplish a lot."

After winning these awards, Courtoreille is not about to start sitting on his laurels. He keeps focusing on the future and what other goals he can accomplish.

"Our people are our product," he said. "At 2000 Plus we focus on making our people more marketable, by encouraging education and training because in any business you do you've got to know your product and you've got to upgrade your product."



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Part of the success of 2000 Plus is the company's commitment to the community. By sponsoring sports teams, president Ed Courtoreille says he can get a lead into the community and know what's going on.



KENNETH WILLIAMS

"People helping people" is the 2000 Plus motto. President Ed Courtoreille is a firm believer in the power of people and said it's important to invest in their future.

NESO CAMP SERVICES

A joint venture between the Mikisew Cree First Nation and National Caterers

Congratulates Ed Courtoreille and 2000 Plus Ltd. on their award for Economic Development. The award recognizes the abilities, hard work and successes of Ed and his team at 2000 Plus. Neso Camp Services and its parent organizations join in wishing them continued success in the years ahead.

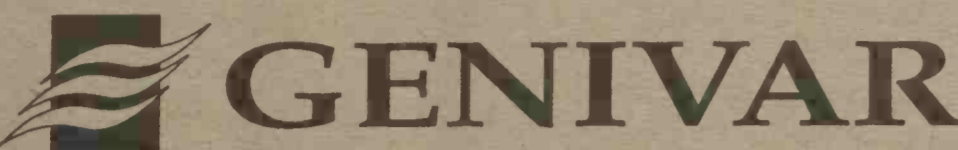
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By Kenneth
 Windspeake

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Long Point tackles chronic unemployment on reserve

By Kenneth Williams
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

It wasn't that long ago that the Long Point First Nation, near Winneway, Que., had to endure 75 per cent unemployment. Most of the people were either on welfare or employed in public sector in short-term jobs. But through a series of innovative economic development strategies, Long Point has reduced unemployment to just 20 per cent.

The people of Long Point live in a settlement and not a status reserve on land that is leased by the Oblates to the Quebec government. They're called the Long Point First Nation because they were originally from Long Point but were forced to relocate on two different occasions because of flooding caused by hydro-electric dams in the early 1900s. Winneway is about 30 km southeast of Long Point.

Their remarkable economic growth started with a community greenhouse and garden project that now produces commercial-grade fruits and vegetables and provides employment for First Nation members.

The project was called Jitigan, which is Algonquian for garden. It started from humble beginnings.

"This project started as an experiment three years ago," said Steve Mathias, the band manager for Long Point. "A small investment of \$5,000 was made by the band to assist a person who had this project in mind here. And what this person did was buy the rafters of an old barn and made a greenhouse out of them."

Attached to the greenhouse was a small garden. The band wanted to see what kind of interest this project would generate, since no one had a garden up there before.

"A lot of people got involved, including the school and the kids," said Mathias. "Knowing that it generated a lot of interest, we looked at building this at a larger scale to make a commercial project out of it."

The original greenhouse wasn't large enough to be a commercial project, so they approached Industry Canada for funding. The other problem they had to overcome was the climate in northern Quebec, which meant the greenhouse had to be heated throughout winter.

They next had to train people to properly care for the produce. A two-year training program was started for 15 people to familiarize them on how to take care of the plants.

"They're completing their two years of training at this minute," said Mathias. "So now today, we're in the phase of commercializing our project, and we're developing a business plan and a marketing plan."

Unfortunately, all 15 of the trainees will not be

employed when the greenhouse becomes a full-scale commercial operation, because it cannot employ that many.

"We'll take the best six trainees for next year, because we want it to be a feasible project," said Mathias.

The band also planted approximately 2.5 hectares of potatoes which they plan to expand when they purchase some nearby farm land and hope to harvest 12 hectares of potatoes.

This is an impressive achievement, since no one from the Long Point First Nation had ever worked a garden, much less a greenhouse before.

"No one had a garden in this community," said Mathias. "The greenhouse was new to everybody."

Following that, the Long Point First Nation negotiated an agreement with Domtar, one of Quebec's largest forestry companies.

"We've concluded a harmonization agreement where we're going to take part in the management of the resource," said Mathias. "Our concerns, in regards to the agreement, are hunting, trapping and fishing."

The agreement sets up a funding arrangement between the band and Domtar for the establishment of the Winneway Forest Authority. This new authority will consult with the fishermen, trappers and hunters — basically, those that use the forest — and attempt to address their concerns about logging.

The business relationship between Domtar and the Long Point First Nation also extends to logging and pre-commercial thinning. Pre-commercial thinning involves removing the underbrush from around the younger trees, that you wish to harvest later on, so they receive more sunlight.

"We just completed that contract and the company was quite impressed with the work and Domtar is looking to use us again next year," said Mathias. "This is seasonal work and we created 12 jobs with that this summer."

"The other part of this forestry activity is logging with horses, that just started in the spring," continued Mathias.

This also meant training their people to work with horses which was, again, something that they hadn't done before. But the opportunity they had, that Domtar didn't, was to harvest trees near streams and lakes, which cannot be commercially logged. Horse logging is easier on the environment, because horses won't harm the land like commercial logging equipment does, and only the trees that are wanted are taken.

"The big companies like to go near lakes and rivers because that's where the big logs are and if you go there with horses and do very selective cutting, you don't



Logging with horses is just one of the new business ventures that has taken Long Point First Nation's unemployment rate down to only 20 per cent.

damage anything," said Mathias. "We can go where the company isn't allowed to go and that means more volume for them."

The Long Point First Nation is also considering purchasing the nearby hydro-electric dam, as well as possibly investing in local fisheries and cheese factory projects.

All in all, the Long Point First Nation focuses on viable economic development that will provide long-term benefit to its 600 members.

"We were able to hire two consultants who have expertise in economic development," said Mathias. They have helped the band by "doing business plans, feasibility and marketing plans."

They're also there to help with follow-up reports, so the band can evaluate the effectiveness of their investments.



The people of Long Point First Nation were either on welfare or employed in the public sector. That's all changed for the community.

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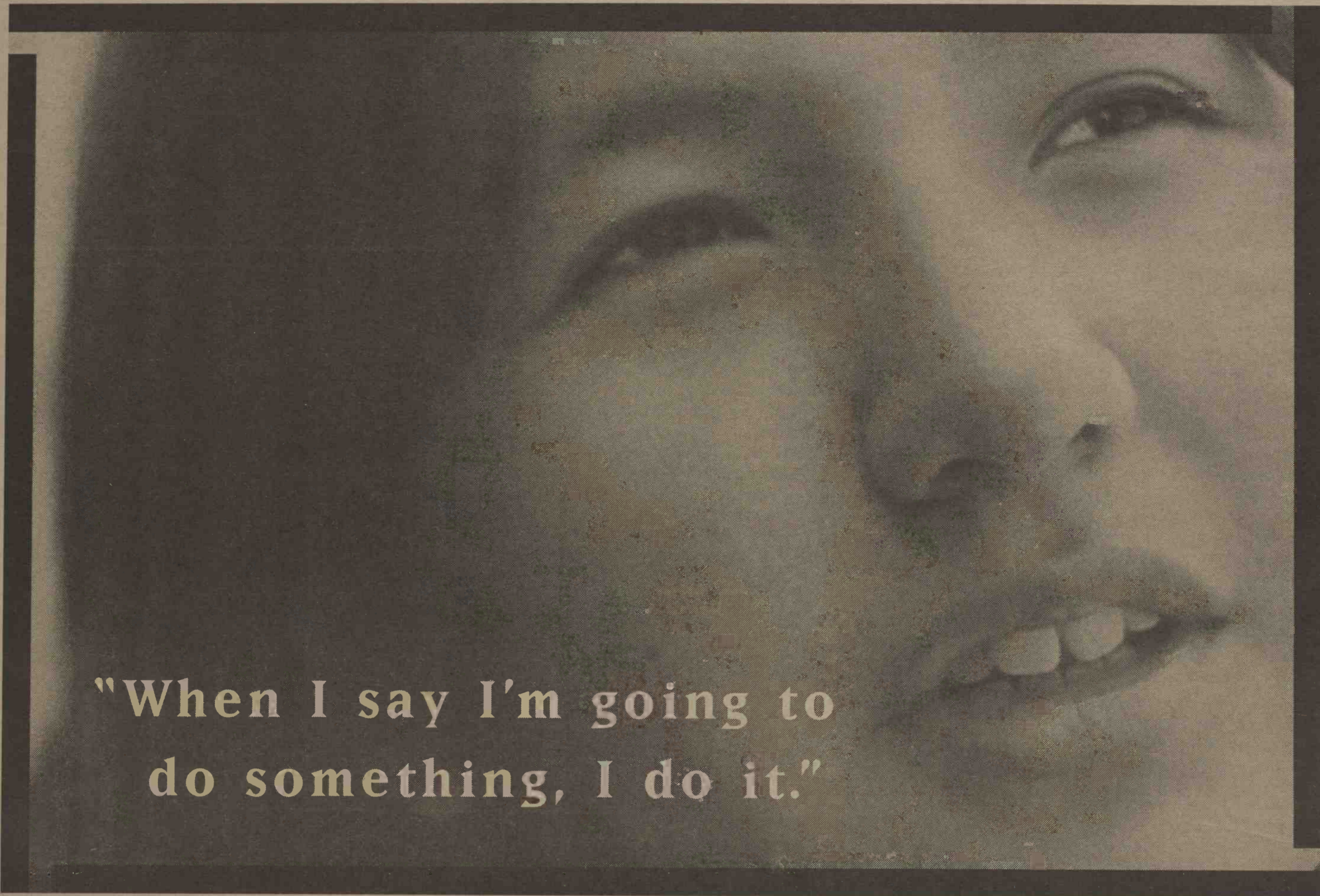


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Wall of famer goes back to high school

When I was a teenager, there was one thing above all others that always annoyed the hell out of me about high school. It's a rather innocuous little thing, but then again, so is a thistle. Year after year, semester after semester, teacher after teacher would always scribble down on report card after report card, "Drew could try harder." To this day, I still find that statement a tad presumptuous.

Maybe I could try harder and maybe I couldn't. I didn't care. But there was one thing I gradually became sure of over the years, and it had nothing to do with school. God has a sense of humor.

On Nov. 1, I received an honor that was tinged with both irony and unexpected graciousness. My old high school, the doorstep of which I have not darkened for 16 years, invited me back to participate in the dedication of a "Wall of Fame" within its hallowed halls. It



Drew Hayden Taylor

seems that I, and seven other former alumni from Lakefield District Secondary School, were the first inductees to the wall.

I had been included in this select group in recognition of my work in the arts. I am a playwright (though some might argue) and run a Native theatre company.

Over tea one afternoon (we are a civilized Native theatre company), my friend Eva Nell asked me if I enjoyed my years in high school.

"Not really." I am nothing if not honest.

I mean, I'm not phobic or neurotic about it. I don't break out

into a cold sweat when I smell chalk dust. Nor do I feel my bowels clench at the sight of row after row of lockers. Like most people, high school merely brings back memories of that time when most normal adolescents are trying to figure out who they are. And high school has got to be the worst place in which to do that, what with all the peer pressure, academic pressure, cafeteria food, teachers who think they're doing you a favor by making you look up a word, instead of just helping you spell the damn thing.

I once asked my Grade 10 English teacher if a person could make a living as a creative writer in Canada. At that particular moment he was digging through a filing cabinet looking for something. Without looking up, he muttered, "Not really." It wasn't until almost 10 years later that I started writing again.

In my life, I've met maybe six or eight people who admit they were actually born in the city of Toronto rather than having moved there. I think I have met maybe the same number of people who say they actually enjoyed their years of secondary school education. Maybe they're the same people. I don't know.

Since I am telling the truth here, I will admit, fully and without hesitation or embarrassment, that... in high school I was... a geek. And I was seen and acknowledged as a geek. Teased and ignored—if it's possible to be both teased and ig-

nored. But here I was now being honored.

The invitation to the dedication ceremony posed one problem though, and it was a serious one. Up until the last minute, there was a good chance that I might not be able to attend the auspicious night. My fifth book, *Funny, you don't look like one*, had just been released and my publisher wanted me to go on a book tour across western Canada. At the same time, I was organizing a playwright's festival for my theatre company, Native Earth Performing Arts Inc. A play of mine was to have started rehearsal the week before and I was afraid I might be needed for that.

But as luck would have it, everything came together. But I couldn't help thinking that Lakefield District Secondary School came pretty close to partying without me. Because, maybe, Drew did try a little harder.

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NRCB
Natural Resources
Conservation Board

NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE APPLICATION NO. 9601

ALBERTA PUBLIC WORKS, SUPPLY AND SERVICES
WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT
LITTLE BOW PROJECT/HIGHWOOD DIVERSION PLAN

WHEREAS Alberta Public Works, Supply and Services (PWSS) has filed an application with the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) for an approval to commence a water management project, consisting of four separate components: A Canal in the Town of High River and in the Municipal District of Foothills No. 31; the Little Bow River Dam and Reservoir in the Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26 and in the County of Vulcan No. 2 approximately 20 km west of Champion; the Clear Lake Diversion and Canal in the Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26, approximately 15 km east of Stavely; and the option of enlarging the Squaw Coulee Reservoir by constructing upper and lower dams and a return canal to the Highwood River; and

WHEREAS the NRCB previously issued a Preliminary Notice of Application; and WHEREAS the NRCB has reviewed the application and by letter dated October 29, 1996 requested further information from PWSS to complete the application.

THEREFORE TAKE NOTICE that:

- The NRCB will hold a pre-hearing conference early in 1997 to hear representations respecting certain preliminary and procedural aspects of the public review, including:
 - a discussion of the major issues to be examined at the hearing;
 - the appropriate scope and jurisdiction of the review;
 - the location for a hearing, and the appropriate timing of a hearing and deadlines for filing hearing submissions;
 - a discussion of procedures to be followed at the hearing; and
 - specific requests from individuals or groups of individuals who believe they are eligible to apply for funding, which would allow the NRCB to make a determination as to whether such individuals or groups of individuals are or may be directly affected by the project and therefore eligible to apply for funding or advance funding pursuant to the NRCB Act.
- Persons wishing to address preliminary matters are requested to register with the NRCB on or before December 6, 1996. Only those persons who register will be:
 - notified of the date, location and submission deadlines for the pre-hearing conference,
 - provided with a copy of the applicant's analysis of issues, and
 - advised of information sessions to be held to familiarize participants with the NRCB pre-hearing conference process.
- Copies of the application including information and particulars filed in support thereof may be obtained by persons with an established interest in the matter (the NRCB will provide direction in the event there is a question as to whether a person has an established interest in the matter) from the applicant, Alberta Public Works, Supply and Services, Attention: Jim Barlishen, Director, Environmental Branch - Civil Projects Division, 3rd Floor, PWSS Building, 6950 - 113 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5V7.
- Copies of the application are available for viewing by appointment at the Natural Resources Conservation Board office in Edmonton, the Information Services Department of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board, 640 Fifth Avenue S.W., Calgary, and the Registry of Environmental Information, Alberta Environmental Protection, 6th Floor, Oxbridge Place, 9820 - 106 Street, Edmonton.

Individuals wishing to register for the pre-hearing conference are asked to advise the NRCB by calling 422-1977 (or toll-free through your local RITE operator at 310-0000). Please note that any correspondence or information provided to the Natural Resources Conservation Board in conjunction with a reviewable project is considered public information.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, on November 5, 1996.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD
William Y. Kennedy — Board Solicitor
11th Floor, 10909 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3L9
Telephone: (403) 422-1977 Fax: (403) 427-0607
e-mail: NRCB.Mailroom@gov.ab.ca
Internet: http://www.gov.ab.ca/~nrcb/page9601.html

Career takes a step forward with release

REVIEW

By Brian Wright-McLeod
Windspeaker Contributor

Pa Ma Sei Win
By Thelma Ceechoo
Independent 1996

From Moose Cree First Nation, singer-songwriter Thelma Ceechoo's first recording marks a new plateau in her vibrant musical career. Along with appearances at many music and folk festivals, she has opened for Susan Aglukark, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Blue Rodeo and many others. *Pa Ma Sei Win* (Cree for life) is primarily original material with the exception of Hank Williams' "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "Darkest Hour" by Ralph Stanley. Backup musicians include Vern Ceechoo (who's also working on a new album) and some very talented session players who have avoided the recording studio for far too long. Rena Music, PO Box 23060, RPO Ferris, North Bay ON P1A 4K6

Roughin' It
By Billy Joe Green Band
Sunshine 1996

Billy Joe Green's new album is finally here with some big guitar surprises. For any fans of the blues or of Billy Joe's, this one is hot enough to fry buffalo burg-

ers on. Green's Hendrix-style guitar playing shines bright with a cover of Devadip Santana's "Earth's Cry, Heaven's Smile." Two more outstanding tracks from an album of solid material include "Keep the Circle Strong" and "Little Boy Blue". *Roughin' It* proves that Green is more than a blues guitarist. He is a singer-songwriter who rocks the house. Sunshine Records Ltd., 275 Selkirk Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2W 2L5.

The Spirit Within
By Mishi Donovan
Sunshine 1996.

Mishi Donovan's third release reflects a maturity that embodies her music and creativity. With the glossy, professional visual impact of *The Spirit Within*, Donovan says goodbye to her previous down-to-earth approach. This album also marks a departure from her previous material as well. Unfortunately, the standard country-rock device offers no challenges to this promising vocal talent. Her lyrics, that cover everything from inner turmoil to the issues of identity, utilize political, historical and cultural references that border dangerously close to cliché.

Clan/Destine
By Clan/Destine
Canyon 1996

Are you ready for the Redbone of the '90's? The latest high-end production release from the

southwest comes in the form of five musicians collectively known as Clan/Destine. Their sound is a mix of rock, acoustic, reggae and traditional Native influences with material full of reverent cultural references. "All Nations" stands out as having a bit more musical maturity and direction with its West Coast Mestizo-rock flavor reminiscent of Malo or Santana. Overall, Clan/Destine strives for commercial potential. Canyon Records Productions, 4143 North 16th St., #6, Phoenix AZ 85016

Creator
By Burning Sky
Canyon 1996

The natural forces of creation that are translated into four parts — Sun, Wind, Rain and Earth — allude to a singular style that has become the hallmark of the trio, Burning Sky. Their album is entirely an instrumental offering, even though much of their material done outside the recording studio contains well-crafted lyrics that contain some keen perspectives. There is a tendency these days to try and place music with cedar flute and percussion with nature sounds into the New Age section, but Burn-



ing Sky's style just refuses to be so narrowly defined. Creation is more than a concept album, but a forum that showcases some very talented musician and songwriters.

I'm Not Your Indian Boy
By Mack MacKenzie
Justin Time 1996

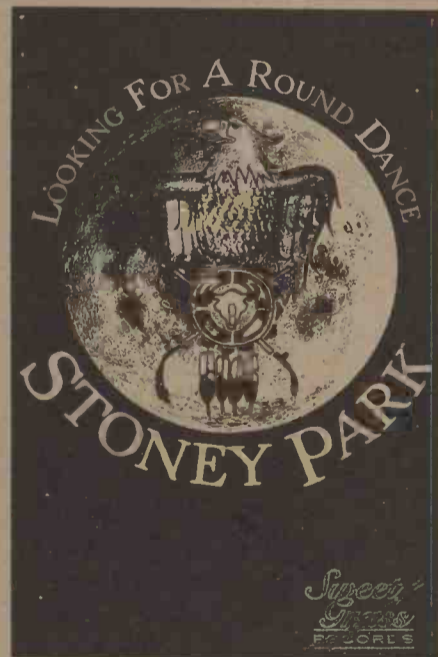
Mack MacKenzie's *I'm Not Your Indian Boy* provides a four-track sampling from two forthcoming releases containing hits

waiting to happen. The grit and clarity of MacKenzie's voice is of distinctive character and could easily grow beyond the country-rock acoustic combination of the music. His forthcoming *Mack MacKenzie and the Three O'Clock Train Anthology* will be long-awaited surprises for fans and other passengers of his famous "Three O'Clock Train". Justin' Time Records Inc. 5455 rue Pare, #101, Montreal PQ H4P 1P7

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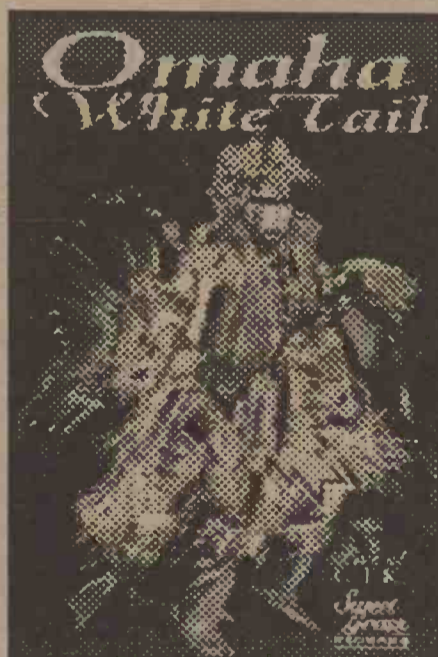
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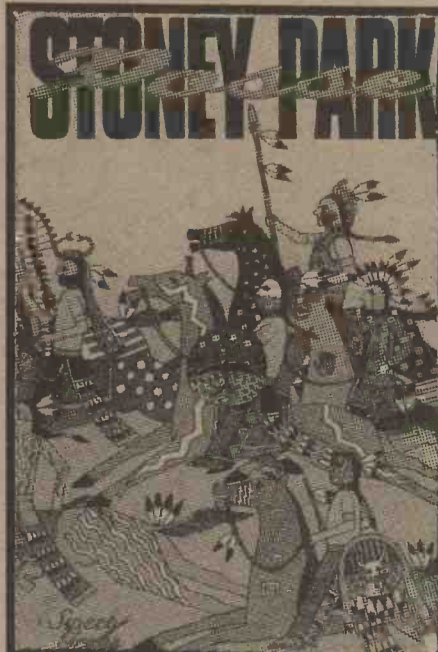
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REV

By R John Hay
Windspeaker Staff

Native America in the Twentieth Century
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Edited by Mary Kay Vaughan
832 pages, Garland, New York, \$24.95

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REVIEW

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

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An Encyclopedia
Edited by Mary B. Davis
832 pages, Garland
New York, \$24.95 (U.S.) (pb.)

An encyclopedia is a massive work of scholarship, and *Native America in the Twentieth Century* is no exception. Comprising articles by hundreds of expert contributors, many of whom are themselves Native Americans, the book's editor emphasizes the continuing aspects of Native culture in what they cover.

There are at least three areas in which an encyclopedia can be directed to reflect one view over others. The first is in topic selection. The second is in the choice of contributors. The third is in the content of the individual articles. In *Native America*, all three reflect a thoroughly modern orientation.

More than half of the entries are articles on present-day tribal groups in the United States. An effective comparison is provided by the entries on the Paiute and the Pamunkey, which are back-to-back.

The Paiute entry is long and detailed, dealing as it does with

a major tribal group with a population of more than 11,000. There are subdivisions within it on the Northern Paiute, Owens Valley Paiute and Southern Paiute, which are in turn divided into sections dealing with government, contemporary issues, Paiute rituals, 20th century issues, religion, and so on. Each entry, and this reflects the general tone of the book, is accessible to a newcomer to the field. Yet the articles are not simplistic, just clear. The Paiute entry fills most of 11 encyclopedia-style pages.

The entry for the Pamunkey, a much smaller group with a population of approximately 450, is considerably shorter — about half a page. While it covers all the same territory as the Paiute entry, it does so only as an outline, really, and with little depth and no color. For example, the entry skips much history rather than detailing it.

"The Pamunkey have a long history of contact with the State of Virginia," it reads. "Every autumn the Tribal Council pays tribute to the governor of Virginia, in the form of freshly killed game, upholding the requirements of the 1677 treaty." That's it on that topic, although there are suggested further reading sources.

As well as the tribal entries, *Native America* includes subject entries for the individual arts, aspects of daily life, educational

policy, religion and social issues; and historical and political entries on significant associations and organizations, treaties and aspects of law. The breadth of the coverage of the Aboriginal United States is stunning, and the entries provide a good starting point for research, for anything from a school paper to something in greater depth.

The contributors determined, in many ways, the content of the articles, and so these two factors can be considered together. The book is written by many who are or have been involved in the struggle to create a sense of on-going cultural importance in Native America in the face of the Euro-American juggernaut. While this may lend *Native America* a sense of immediacy and certainly of expertise, it does not give it a sense of detachment or of balance.

Entries that end with predictions couched in phrases such as "as knowledge increases, it is to be expected that more and more persons will come to..." are not so much at home in an encyclopedia as on an editorial page. There are prevalent assumptions and generalizations throughout the book that will not in all cases bear out close analysis.

On the other hand, the book contains a wealth of information, and the flaws are relatively minor. And it comes with a very impressive feature in a book of



this size and type — it is very affordable at \$24.95 (U.S.). *Native America* is the single best

reference book I've seen on *Native America*, and it deserves a place on all reference shelves.

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Reality of the contemporary Native life subject of film

By Jackie Bissley
Windspeaker Contributor

HOLLYWOOD, California

Grand Avenue received little media attention when it first aired this past summer. To say that the two part dramatic mini-series, produced by HBO, caught many off guard is a vast understatement: Grand Avenue scored HBO's highest ratings in over a year as well as setting a precedent by bringing Native Americans into the 1990's.

For many years, the Native American community has been critical of Hollywood's unwillingness to portray their community in a contemporary light. With more than 60 per cent of all Native Americans living in cities, there have been no films reflecting this reality. Many feel it is as though Native Americans are imprisoned within a historical time warp which is perpetuated (even with the best intentions) in projects such as Dances With Wolves, the Turner Network's Native American Series and in the sprawling PBS series, The West.

Grand Avenue is the breakthrough many Native Americans have been looking for. Writer and co-executive producer Greg Sarris, a member of the Miwok Tribe in northern California, said the project was definitely a labor of love, but more importantly, a chance to set the record straight.

"The reason why I did this is very simple. I have over 2,000 relatives. I've published four books and, maybe, five of those relatives have read one. That is the reality — people don't read, they watch TV. I want to reach people, those in my community and those outside of it. Let people see our reality. For me to do that I have to go to where they are. In America, 50,000 people have bought my books, 20 million watched Grand Avenue."

The mini-series was shot entirely on location in Santa Rosa, California just a few miles down the road from where Sarris (Miwok, Filipino and Jewish ancestry) grew up. Grand Avenue is a real place located in the city's South Park district and the story is based on the writer's own life.

Nowadays in Hollywood, the title "executive producer" is freely thrown around: usually bestowed upon some agent or manager in lieu of signing one of their big box office name clients. Sarris insisted on being a very "hands-on" producer, overseeing every aspect of production, right down to wardrobe and make-up. The writer was committed, one could say obsessed, with ensuring that when it came to casting, the story would not be undermined by capitulating to a politically correct appearance.

The result is, as Sarris puts it bluntly, "we went in brown and



DAVID M. MOIR/HBO

Sheila Tousey (top center), Deeny Dakota (left) Cody Lightning (center) and Dianne Debassige (right) perform in HBO's Grand Avenue.

we went out brown." If non-Native movie-goers expect to be intimidated and overwhelmed with Native American presence and culture, they'll be disappointed: the issues and themes in Grand Avenue are home-grown, urban mainstream America.

The story chronicles the lives of three interrelated families: families where women are the backbone. This is not to say Grand

Avenue falls into the cliché of being a "woman's film," because it doesn't. But it is the poignant performances of Sheila Tousey, Tantoo Cardinal and Jenny Gago who deliver the gut-wrenching heart and soul of this film.

There are no Pocohontas stereotypes or "superwoman" characters in this production: only women who some days are strong and some days not so

strong, but continue on because they know of no other way of surviving.

Unswayed by the track records of some of the actors suggested to him by producers, Sarris stood his ground and went with those performers who not only looked like "real contemporary Indians" but actors who could relate to the urgency of the story.

(see Performances... p. 13)

Powerf

(continued from p. 12)

Grand Avenue is about struggling on a day to day basis. Mollie (Sheila Tousey) is a single mother of three children all from different men. After the death of her son's father, she is kicked off the reservation and decides to return to her hometown. Unable to keep a job, she turns to the bottle. Mollie seems to be able to hold it together in time. Deeny Dakota and Dianne Debassige play the roles of children who look to their mother to maintain some semblance of a family.

It is to Mollie's credit that she goes to her sister (Jenny Gago), that she goes to her mother for help when she is in town. Anna, however, is in her own crisis, facing her worst nightmare: a diagnosis of cancer. Eloy Casagrande plays Anna's husband who is the only way to deal with the crisis. He is emotionally exhausted by his wife and children.

The matriarch of the family is Aunt Nellie (Tantoo Cardinal), a gutsy sophisticate who admits to knowing how to survive, but at the same time she knows how to find all the answers. Nellie is the coagulation of the past to the present of the 90s.

Unlike many previous Native American film attempts, these have fallen victim to tight budgets and exper-



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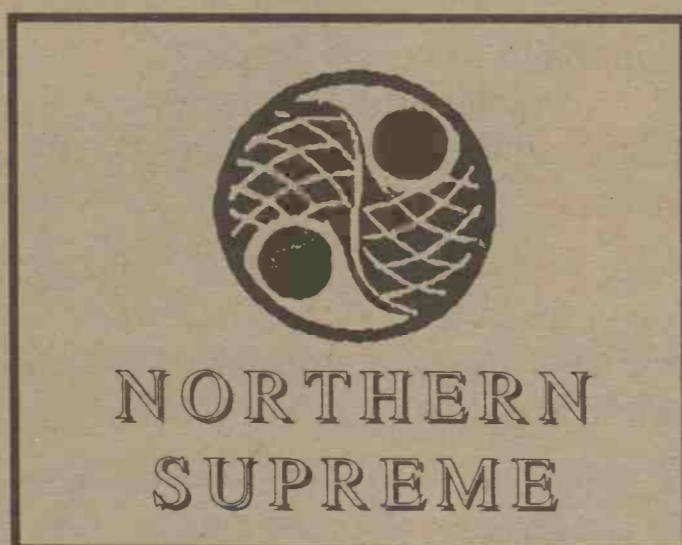
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Powerful performances make for an exceptional film

(continued from p. 12)

Grand Avenue is about people struggling on a day to day basis. Mollie (Sheila Tousey) is a single mother of three children, all from different men. After the death of her son's father, Mollie is kicked off the reservation and decides to return to Santa Rosa. Unable to keep a job and stay off the bottle, Mollie never seems to be able to get it together in time. Deeny Dakota, Dianne Debassige and Cody Lightning play the roles of her children who look to each other to maintain some semblance of a family.

It is to Mollie's cousin Anna (Jenny Gago), that Mollie turns to for help when she pulls into town. Anna, however, is in her own crisis, facing a parent's worst nightmare: a child dying of cancer. Eloy Casados plays Anna's husband who finds the only way to deal with the tragedy is by emotionally abandoning his wife and child.

The matriarch of the family is Aunt Nellie (Tantoo Cardinal), a gutsy sophisticated woman who admits to knowing nothing, but at the same time knows how to find all the answers. Nellie is the coagulating force that binds the traditional ways of the past to the complexities of the 90s.

Unlike many previous Native American film attempts that have fallen victim to inadequate budgets and expertise, *Grand*

Avenue delivers the goods and then some. Even though *Grand Avenue* was made for \$5 million, considerably less than the going Hollywood budget, there is nothing substandard about this production. In fact, HBO is planning to rebroadcast *Grand Avenue* closer to Emmy Award nomination time in hopes of capturing the attention of voting academy members.

Sarris says the biggest battleground in getting *Grand Avenue* made was over control of writing. Subsequently he refused to relinquish his position as writer, being all too aware of the common practice of bringing in outside writers to do screen adaptations and rewrites. By remaining on as sole writer, Sarris was able to side-step the usual fate of authors who get pushed to the background, left with the title of "consultant" as consolation prize. For Sarris it was a gamble that paid off. His script holds nothing back: there's no down time, no long breathing spaces. Sarris knows that when a story is character driven, hooking the audience early on is critical.

But the writer is also savvy enough to admit that had it not been for executive producer Robert Redford making a phone call to the right person, *Grand Avenue* could have easily remained sitting on HBO's development desk. Sarris met Redford while attending a writers workshop at Redford's

Sundance Film Institute.

All in all, Sarris said the experience of filmmaking only affirms what he already knows: for something to be authentically Native American, it has to be written by a Native American — there is no other way.

"What was difficult was having to teach everyone about who Indian people are, how we think, what our reality is. The socio-economic realities. No one had any sense of that.

"There were some comments about the language seems flat, the action isn't wild enough. Why doesn't Mollie's character go into therapy? Indian people are subtle — we don't act out, we act in. In the end the producers and director had to listen to me, because I was the only link to the Indian community," he said.

Sarris, who is a tenured professor at UCLA teaching 20th century American literature, Native American literature and creative writing, has no plans of slowing down. He is currently writing another novel, shopping another script and is considering running as tribal chairman for his tribe. Sarris served twice previously as chairman, in 1991 and 1993.

Besides being entirely written by a Native American (a first for Hollywood) *Grand Avenue* sets itself apart from other "Indian films" (*Pow Wow Highway* and *Thunderheart*) by one unique distinguishable feature — it is a



TERRY LUSTY

Tantoo Cardinal portrays Aunt Nellie, a gutsy, sophisticated woman, in *Grand Avenue*.

story about human beings: people who happen to be Indian (instead of the usual focus, Indians who happen to be people.)

But above all, *Grand Avenue* is about healing the human spirit

and surely that is an insight worthy of attention.

Notes: *Grand Avenue* opened the 21st Annual American Indian Film Festival held November 7 to 9 at the San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts.

Aboriginal Peoples Restoring the Land



Aboriginal Peoples are ensuring that the land they have borrowed from their children will be returned in better shape through environmental improvement projects undertaken in their communities across Canada.

Aboriginal Peoples, from Newfoundland to the Queen Charlotte Islands and north to the Arctic Circle, are participating in **ACTION 21** which is a one-year-old Environment Canada program that encourages community efforts to support a healthy environment. We are beginning to understand the deep spiritual relationship and connection Aboriginal Peoples have with the land. A number of aboriginal communities have become involved in projects to reclaim or rehabilitate sites damaged by the process of industrialization.

ACTION 21 provides financial support to community non-government, non-profit organizations which take on projects to redress issues involving such things as biodiversity, ecosystem conservation, climate change, air pollution and household hazardous waste. New applications are being received for the next round of funding by February 1, 1997.

To be considered, proposals must promise a positive, measurable impact on the environment, and the applicants must at least match the Environment Canada funds with financial or in-kind support.

We recognize that Aboriginal Peoples, in their belief that each generation does not inherit the land but borrows it from the next, have for many generations focused on a holistic approach to land management. Various groups across the country today have implemented biodiversity and ecosystem conservation methodologies.

Along the watershed of Pinchgut Lake in Newfoundland, members of the Benois Cove Indian Band removed debris that impeded waterflow and the upstream movement of fish on the way to spawn. And fish returning to the waterways of the Tobique River this fall found the going easier and the water cleaner than their forebearers did, thanks to a three-month clean-up project undertaken by the Maliseet Nation members on their New Brunswick reserve.

In the west, the Seton Lake First Nation Community in the Chilcotin Mountain Ranges halfway between Vancouver and Williams Lake is working to remove noxious weeds infiltrating sensitive wildlife habitat. On the Queen Charlotte Islands, Aboriginal Peoples and their community neighbours have a multi-material recycling program. The Liard River Reserve # 3 at Watson Lake saw an opportunity with **ACTION 21** to clean up about 15 sites on its land strewn with garbage, abandoned vehicles and harmful chemicals.



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Games sign corporate sponsors

But the 1997 Indigenous games funding is still far from settled

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

VICTORIA

Organizers of the 1997 North American Indigenous Games, to be held in the British Columbia capital next summer, were jubilant as they announced that two major corporate sponsors had come on board. Royal Bank of Canada presented a cheque for \$75,000 and BC Telecom Inc. formally agreed to provide products and services to the games in a Nov. 5 ceremony held at the Royal British Columbia Museum. They also unveiled the motto for the event, which will be "Celebrate the Circle."

"This event is a continuation of Royal Bank's dedication and commitment to First Nations youth," said the bank's B.C. and Yukon senior vice-president and general manager Rod Pennycook. "Another example of our involvement in this area is the Aboriginal Stay in School Program and our scholarship program."

"The Royal Bank, BC Tel and other potential sponsors, together with the provincial and federal governments, will assist us in creating a forum for positive cross-cultural experiences for all people," said Alex Nelson, executive director of the Victoria

games committee. "For the corporate family it is a great opportunity to develop strong relationships with Aboriginal communities and do something good for the youth of our country."

"BC Telecom is honored to have the opportunity to contribute to the games," said Dan Calder, executive vice-president in charge of network services. "The cultural connection is made not only among Aboriginal youth who compete, but also among those in the non-Aboriginal community who take advantage of this forum and join the circle."

This gives organizers a timely boost in their efforts to ensure that the games will indeed go ahead. Estimates of the economic impact of the eight-day games on the Victoria area range as high as \$20 million.

The fact is, however, that two of the major funding players for the 1997 games have yet to join the circle. The provincial and federal governments haven't released any cash to the games committee, and there is widespread talk that the money will be less than the anticipated \$2 million.

B.C. provincial funding will match what the feds cough up, so a dollar lost from the Government of Canada is two dollars lost to the games.



R JOHN HAYES

Royal Bank's Rod Pennycook presents a cheque for \$75,000 to the North American Indigenous Games in Victoria last month, at a ceremony to introduce the first two major corporate sponsors of the games.

"We believe that the games will go ahead," said Alex Milne, senior account manager with Royal Bank. "Will they go ahead at the same level as they originally planned? I would suggest probably not."

"There are concerns and they have to be dealt with," he continued. "We worked with the

core of this same group during the Commonwealth Games and the same thing happened. We had a belief then that the games would go ahead, and they did."

Lower funding will, he said, likely mean fewer athletes, fewer sports and a less ambitious cultural program running along with the games.

"I am not concerned at all that the games won't go ahead," said Paul Peters, Aboriginal liaison with BC Telecom. "I believe that the federal government will live up to their financial commitments." Peters reaffirmed his company's commitment to the games.

"We came on board early in the hope that other corporate sponsors would be encouraged to join up with the games," he said.

"The funding is not being held up," said Janet Bax, director of communications for Canadian Heritage Minister Shiela Copps. "There has been no delay as far as we are aware."

"The province said that they would put \$950,000 in provided that we would," she continued. "That's not a sum of money that we had parked under the pillow."

Copps has spent a lot of time trying to get funds for the games, and that's what has taken time.

"Any delay has been a function of the minister trying to secure funding to top up the amount that she is going to put in with money from other departments," Bax said. "While I don't want to name a deadline, there should be an announcement coming in a few weeks."

When that happens, if you listen carefully, you'll hear a huge sigh of relief from the far west.

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India

By Kenneth Williams
Windspeaker Staff

It was a double... Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations as... Indian National... Saskatoon, Oct. 31... coincide with the... versary Powwow.

It was the first... INFR had been... the United States... richest rodeo in... after the National... in Las Vegas, Nev... Calgary Stamped... and prizes to... \$200,000, making... INFR ever.

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Indian National Finals Rodeo dusts up Saskplace

By Kenneth Williams
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON

It was a double header for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations as they hosted the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Saskatoon, Oct. 31 to Nov. 3, to coincide with their 50th Anniversary Powwow.

It was the first time that the INFR had been held outside of the United States. It is the third richest rodeo in North America, after the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Calgary Stampede. The money and prizes totaled over \$200,000, making it the richest INFR ever.

It is usually considered to be the world championship for the competing Indian cowboys and cowgirls.

Contestants came from 12 regional rodeo associations, eight in the U.S. and four in Canada. The regions were the All Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma, Eastern Indian Rodeo Association, Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association, Indian Rodeo Cowboys Association (Alberta), Navajo Nation Rodeo Cowboy Association, Northern

Alberta Native Cowboy Association, Prairie Indian Rodeo Association (Saskatchewan), Rocky Mountain Indian Rodeo Association, Southwest Indian Rodeo Association, United Indian Rodeo Association, Western Indian Rodeo & Exhibition (B.C.) and Western States Indian Rodeo Association.

In the bareback category, representing the Prairie Indian Rodeo Association, Kenton Randall, from Fort Vermilion, Alta., took home the top prize.

Spike Guardipee, from Browning, Montana, representing the United Indian Rodeo Association, won the calf roping event.

The steer wrestling champion, Howard Edmundson, came from Dewar, Oklahoma, and represented the All Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma.

In the barrel racing event, Lesa Arnold, from Pryor, Oklahoma, and also representing the All Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma, rode away with the top prize.

Two Oklahoma cowboys, Dee Keener, from Inola, and Joel Maker, from Tahlequah, teamed up to win the team roping championship. These two were also representing the All Indian Rodeo

Association of Oklahoma.

Whisper Alexander, from Bozeman, Montana, lassoed the ladies breakaway roping event, representing the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association.

Mary Hebb, from Eagle Butte, South Dakota, also representing the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association, held on to win the saddle bronc riding event.

To complete the hat trick for the Great Plains Rodeo Association, Smiley Sierra, from Kyle, South Dakota, won the bull riding event.

The regional winners were the United Indian Rodeo Association in third with 649 points. The Great Plains Rodeo Association came in second with 733 points. The overall title went to the All Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma, with its cowboys and cowgirls earning 772 points.

The all around cowboy title went to Jay Lyle Louis, of Vernon, B.C., representing the Western Indian Rodeo and Exposition Association. Lesa Arnold won the all around cowgirl title.



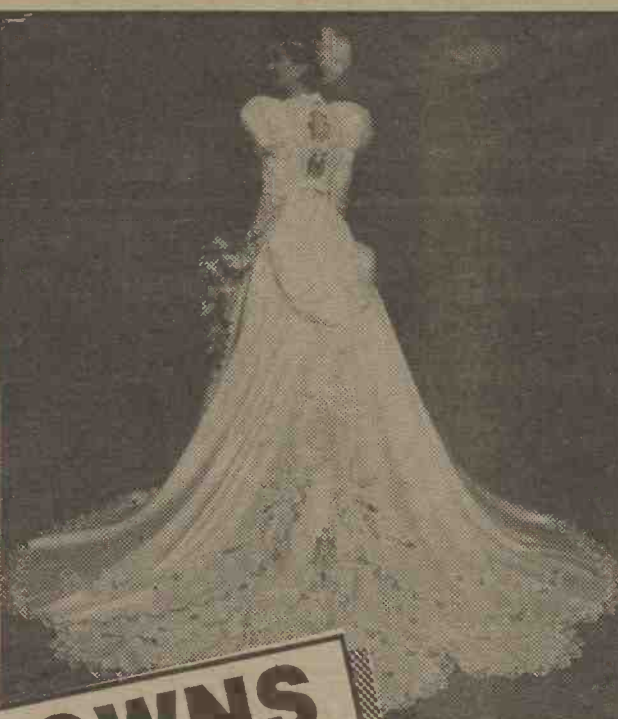
KENNETH WILLIAMS

Lesa Arnold from Oklahoma rode away from the Indian National Finals Rodeo, held in Canada for the first time, with the barrel racing and all around cowgirl titles.

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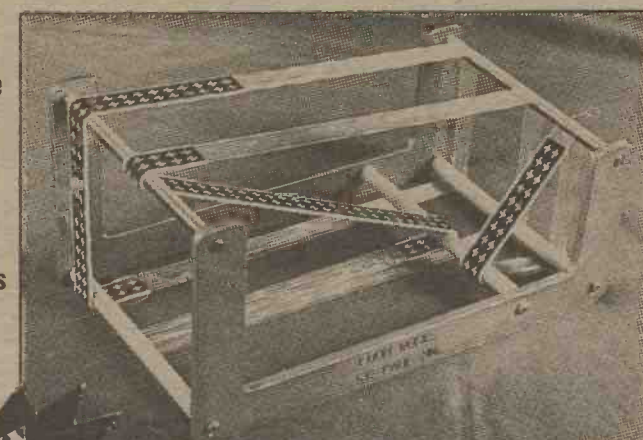
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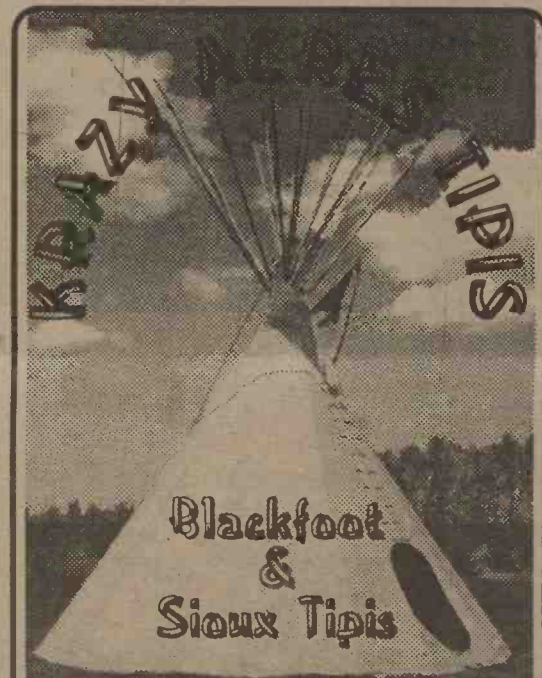
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Sabres' coach Nolan no longer in jeopardy

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

BUFFALO, New York

Like all other National Hockey League coaches, Ted Nolan has his share of both supporters and critics. That's certainly made life interesting to say the least for Nolan, an Ojibway, who's in his second season behind the Sabres' bench.

During his first season in Buffalo, Nolan inherited a franchise rebuilding through a youth movement and registered a 32-43-7 mark.

"I think the most impressive thing about Ted Nolan this season is how much he's grown from last season," said Jim Kelley, the *Buffalo News'* hockey columnist who serves as the president of the Professional Hockey Writers' Association. "Last season I was kind of impressed with the way he got guys to work hard and come to play every night. This year I give him high marks for bringing in [assistant coach] Paul Theriault, a guy he played for in Sault Ste. Marie.

"Now you don't just see the Buffalo Sabres going out knocking bodies around out there hoping something happens," he continued. "There's a plan out there, there's a style of play that Teddy has gotten the players to buy into. I think he's blossomed into a genuine, high-quality NHL coach."

We all know what happens to those coaches — they inevitably

get fired. Nolan, who's in the midst of his ninth coaching season — he spent six seasons with the Ontario Hockey League's Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds and one as an assistant with the NHL's Hartford Whalers — has never been fired.

Earlier this season, though, he was a prime candidate to be the NHL's first coaching casualty. The Sabres got off to a 1-4 start and Nolan and Sabres' general manager John Muckler were not seeing eye-to-eye. The feud reportedly started during the off-season, when Nolan was not given an extension to his contract which expires at the end of this season.

"Though it may never end, I think it more than likely will go underground and there will be a strong working relationship over the next few months," said Kelley, who believes Nolan will still be manning the Sabres' bench when the regular season concludes in mid-April. After their 1-4 start and while the rumors were flying faster than Sabres' enforcer Rob Ray's fists, Buffalo strung together a four-game winning streak.

"I took that from the team that this was a message to management and ownership that [Nolan] is the guy we're going to respond to," Kelley said. "I thought that was a vote of confidence from the players to Ted. And I think Ted took that as an obligation from the players that if they're going to do that for me then I have to do my best for them."

Kelley added that the major-

ity of the public support in the Nolan-Muckler battle was with the coach.

"Ted Nolan is the most popular coach in Buffalo right now," he said. "And John Muckler is not the most popular general manager right now. That's not all John Muckler's fault mind you. It was John's job from the direction he got from ownership to cut the budget of this team down to what they felt was a manageable size. Muckler did that but along the way angered a lot of people who are hockey fans."

Nolan no doubt prefers to minimize his personal off-ice distractions and focus on attempting to ice a respectable squad. As of mid-November, the Sabres were tied for sixth spot in the Eastern Conference with the Montreal Canadiens. This position rightfully had the franchise's players believing they could grab one of the conference's eight playoff berths this season.

The Sabres were hovering around the .500 mark even though they were receiving sub-par performances from two of their offensive big guns, captain Pat LaFontaine and Donald Audette.

"Donny missed a year of hockey [knee injuries kept him out of 59 games last season] and Patty has been struggling since the World Cup," Nolan said. "Once those guys get going, we'll be OK."

If that's the case, Nolan could have a long and successful run in Buffalo.

Ted Nolan
Born Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., April 7, 1958

Coaching record

Season	Team	Regular Season					Playoffs			
		Games	W	L	T	Pct.	Games	W	L	Pct.
1988-89	S.S. Marie (OHL)	38	12	25	1	.329	-	-	-	-
1989-90	S.S. Marie (OHL)	66	18	42	6	.318	-	-	-	-
1990-91	S.S. Marie (OHL)	66	42	21	3	.659	14	12	2	.857
1991-92	S.S. Marie (OHL)	66	41	19	6	.667	19	12	7	.632
1992-93	S.S. Marie (OHL)	66	38	23	5	.614	18	13	5	.722
1993-94	S.S. Marie (OHL)	66	35	24	7	.583	14	10	4	.714
1995-96	Buffalo (NHL)	82	33	42	7	.445	-	-	-	-
1996-97	Buffalo (NHL)	18	8	9	1	.472	-	-	-	-

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Siksika celebrates opening

SIKSIKA, Alta. — The sparks flew at the opening of the Deerfoot Sportsplex at the Siksika Nation east of Calgary. Literally. The ribbon was cut by laser in a ceremony witnessed by approximately 1,000 people. The new building holds an NHL-sized hockey rink, a second arena designed for figure skating and large enough for curling ice, a large gymnasium and fitness facilities. Plans call for the addition of a swimming pool to one of the finest multi-sport facilities in the country. The arena will serve to "develop our young people and give them a place for recreation on the reserve," said Siksika Chief Robert Breaker.

Yukon soccer joins up

WHITEHORSE — The Yukon Soccer Association, with a membership of about 1,200, including many Aboriginal players, will become members of the Canadian Soccer Association in 1997, the last part of the country to join up. Because travel costs are high and the population is small, YSA president Dave Stockdale expects a break on the fees. The \$2,000 membership will allow Yukon teams to compete in national tournaments, and to develop high-caliber players.

Martial master

PICTOU LANDING, N.S. — On Oct. 18 to 20, 21-year-old Bobby Thomas of Pictou Landing First Nation took gold in the seventh annual martial arts symposium in Toronto in the team competition. Thomas, who holds black belts in karate and ju-jitsu, is now looking forward to representing Canada at the world karate championships in Japan in August of 1997.

Eagles set to soar

GIFT LAKE, Alta. — Much will be expected of the Lakeland Eagles in this, their third year in the North Peace Hockey League. The Native-based senior team lost the best-of-seven league final last season in the seventh game. "We were the underdog team coming in the league for the first year," said Allan Lamouche, team vice-president. "There was a lot of skepticism. Some people thought the team would fold halfway through the season." But the Eagles rivaled every other NPHL team for fan support. For last season's playoffs, which saw the Eagles finish first in the league's regular season, more bleachers had to be added to their arena to accommodate the large crowds.



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United we band... together we can deliver

Well Creator, this year is almost to a close. I must prepare for the new year to come.

What kinds of memories can I relish from this past year? Reflections... ahhh!

Met some great people at Buffalo Lake Métis Colony by Caslan, Alta. To the youth, I've read your letters. Thank you, as I quietly smile the night away. Yes, I have AIDS now, but that's okay. Like Doris Rain from Alberta's Paul Band said as we walked from an in-service meeting we had been to, "you are closer to the Creator." I hope I've earned a place with the many others who have gone before.

To Freida Borque, Doris Rain, Doris Courtrielle (who, incidentally, organized a super turn out for the Elders Conference in Slave Lake, Alta.), thank you for your work in regard to HIV and AIDS awareness. Also, thank you to the staff and conference committee at Elizabeth Métis Colony, Alta., and it's nice to see Karen Collins back at her home. I am so darned proud of these women who are sincere in their efforts. Leadership take notice — honest women are out there. Perhaps it's time to see our women in leadership roles. Believe me, they have my full support.

I have met quite a few Aboriginal people and their families this past year. What an honor to hear their stories of living with HIV and AIDS.

There are concerns that Aboriginal people who are diagnosed with HIV and AIDS are not speaking out. I realize



Ken Ward

why. It's plain and simple. They are:

1. Afraid of being shunned.
2. Afraid of being hurt. Believe me, we've been hurt too many times in our history.

The politicians cannot face the challenge of caring for their own. It may be costly to what is called "the power people," but it is sad but true — "money becomes the asset."

Living with HIV or AIDS can be shrouded in darkness. Only with a shimmer of light will the basic quality of life be improved.

Yes, this year, I think, people have demonstrated a sincere effort of promoting healthy lines of communication. You give us reason for hope.

Without the strength and wisdom from our beloved Elders, the innocent energy of the youth would be misguided. Our hearts go out to the families of those affected by illnesses and disabilities, to the brothers and sisters in the jails and to those who struggle with addictions.

I have realized that those who worship false ways of power and greed are very few in number. One day you will realize through experience

that the people will speak out and say, "Enough is enough." I pray for you, as I prayed in the last seven years, that you learn humility as I have learned to live with HIV and now AIDS.

Something in my heart wanted to write this article about politics and health and how separated we become when we support the "divide and conquer" mentality. I wonder what ever happened to "United we band... together we can deliver?"

I would like to see a National assembly of "Elders and Youth" in the circle while the leaders sit in the outer circle and listen to their cries and hopes for tomorrow. Will these leaders move on these dreams... we'll see.

As the night prepares me, a few thoughts drift by and I would like to address the Joe Duquette School in Saskatoon, Sask. Your theatre production on HIV and AIDS was impressive. The Elders stood to applaud your efforts. A few of us who live with HIV and AIDS appreciated your interpretation of what we go through with our tears. You did well at

the Saskatchewan Aboriginal AIDS Conference this year. We love you.

I've seen their production before and the main character in her real life is a "traditional" dancer. As I watched this actress I thought of an ending to a movie. Imagine a young Indian girl who moved away from the reserve because of an unhappy life. Her goal in life was to become a dancer, but the move to the big city is negative. In the end she is raped in a "date rape" situation. She's 17 years old and thinks of her mooshum and kokum back home. They are the only ones she must tell that she now has AIDS. Mooshum suggests they must attend a powwow.

In the arbor, word gets around about the girl's illness. Everyone knows and there is silence. She looks to mooshum — he motions her to the center.

While the drummers are lost as to what to do, the head singer speaks.

"We were offered tobacco to sing. We must honor it." As the honor song begins, the chief and council whisper. "Should we ask her to leave?" The Chief speaks to his council. "I am their leader and I will join this young brave girl. I will dance."

And slowly, the rest of council joins this young girl and the people, one by one, quietly move to the circle. The young girl, whose head is held high, has a tear trickle down her face. She realizes that her mooshum knew what he was doing. She has regained her destiny to dance her final

dance and cling to a tradition that paves the way for hope... what an ending to a movie.

And you know, I did meet a woman in real life who was a dancer. Her shawl is now hanging up on a wall. She has AIDS.

This is why I'm putting out a call for proposals on this project. Anyone interested in putting together a video production, please contact me.

Also, I've been promoting Alberta's first ever Aboriginal AIDS Conference. I need to hear from you by the end of December to arrange a meeting of the planning committee.

This has been a big article for you, but over the last seven years, I have come to recognize that these issues need to be addressed. Remember, I only wish to speak the truth, not to offend. Also please give *Windspeaker* a call or a letter to let them know if I am being helpful to you.

I wish you all a good Christmas and the new year to come. Remember, it's not the Christmas presents the children ask for that is important — it's your love.

And to the staff of AMMSA — good Christmas, you great bunch of people. By the way, to my wandering Mohawk brother Bob Maracle, keep going, you're doing fine. Thanks to my sponsors.

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Thank-you
Ken Ward

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Blood Tribe college celebrates 10th year

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

BLOOD RESERVE, Alta.

Though it's been a decade of growth and change for Red Crow Community College, its president Marie Smallface said the next decade will see the school get even larger and more vital.

A student residence is nearing completion and its expanded library should be in operation before the school year ends. Plans are already in the works for several new programs.

Smallface said that meeting the needs of the reserve's residents will continue to be the school's mandate. Red Crow already offers a diverse line-up of programs, including community-based upgrading classes, a university entrance preparatory program, and post-secondary courses in early childhood education, business administration, social work and addictions

counselling. A horticultural course, using irrigated land from the reserve's huge agricultural project to teach organic and market gardening, is already in the planning stages.

Within the next few years, Smallface hopes to finalize plans for a Masters degree program through Gonzaga University in Washington state, and a formal course transfer arrangement with the University of Lethbridge in Alberta. She also hopes to sign an affiliation agreement with the university for a First Nations education degree, to be offered largely at Red Crow.

"We'll also be offering upgrading courses on computer use that will be open to Blood Tribe staff, local businesses, members of the community and high school students," Smallface said. "We're currently developing a computer network and getting Internet access via satellite for the school. And we're working toward setting

up a Business Assistance Centre for Treaty 7 small business entrepreneurs."

Smallface said she attributes the school's success to the positive energy contributed by students, staff and teachers.

"We try to de-emphasize the negative and push the 'up' side of things. As much as possible, we involve the staff and the students in decision making, so everyone has a sense of ownership."

The approach seems to be working. The school's retention rate is very high and students are highly motivated. In an alternate school program, run for high-risk public school dropouts, 65 of the 80 students who started in September are still with the program. "These are students that have failed in other programs, who are doing good work here," Smallface said.

"Our retention rate overall is about 95 per cent. I think that shows we're doing something right."



BARB GRINDER

Red Crow Community College student Steven Hunt celebrates at the ceremony commemorating the school's 10th anniversary.

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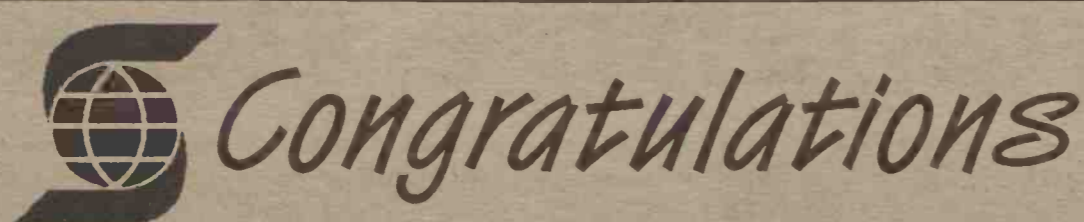
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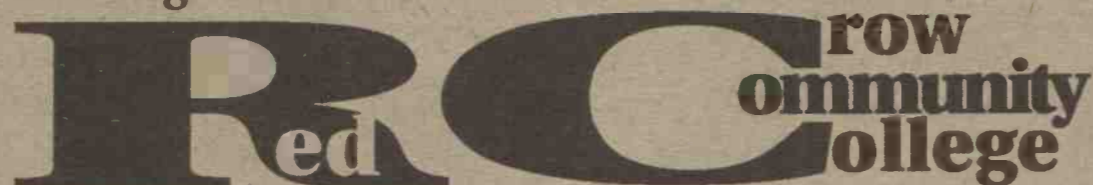
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A proud supplier of Red Crow Community College

Co-operation motivates teachers

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

BLOOD RESERVE, Alta.

Ask any of its dozen teachers or 300 students what they like best about Red Crow Community College and the answer you'll probably get is the institution's friendly and co-operative atmosphere.

"The staff and students all get along so well here," said Linda Crandall and Verena Beazer, who both teach math and science at the school. "We spend a lot of time just visiting together, having adult conversations. It's not like we're the teachers and they're the students," Beazer adds.

That attitude of camaraderie pervades the quiet halls and crowded library, the busy computer labs and classrooms, and cafeteria. Snatches of conversations about courses, books and assignments can be heard, as in any school, but here students also share their insights about Native spirituality, their ex-

tended families, and the transportation problems that are one of the school's biggest problems.

The Red Crow campus is situated 15 minutes south of the tribe's official headquarters at Stand Off, Alta. and miles from any of its other three communities. Students must either have their own cars or catch the one small bus that plods the washboard roads. Many students have a hard time finding a way to come to class every day, said Beazer. "The students sometimes just can't make it in, even though they're all very motivated."

Beazer said she views attendance as a challenge, not a problem.

"I teach upgrading courses in math and we essentially cover a new concept every day, so if a student misses class, it's hard to catch up. But everyone's very co-operative about getting homework assignments and helping their classmates. There's certainly no lack of interest.

Interest is also high in Rob Peregoddoff's computer classes.

Now in his second year at the school, Peregoddoff said he finds his students a joy to teach.

"There are no discipline problems and everyone's very motivated. Teaching here is a great opportunity. I particularly enjoy the fact that Red Crow is less structured than the mainstream school situation. It gives me a lot of freedom in providing the best instruction for my students."

Helping students, and the on-reserve communities they come from, is the top priority for instructors Gordon Morning Bird and Roy Weasel Fat, who teach in the community-based adult upgrading program run by the college. Both men teach rotating 10-week sessions in each of the reserve's four communities — Stand Off, Moses Lake, Lethvern, and Old Agency.

For Morning Bird, his life skills program is as much a means of building self-esteem and personal development as it is a chance to learn about getting along in a predominantly white society in the 90s. His students are primarily young parents, trying to get by without the basic education they need. To help them, he emphasizes community volunteerism, traditional spiritualism and stories that give his students pride in being Blackfoot.

Weasel Fat has taught in the regular school system, but said his job at Red Crow is both the most exciting and most frustrating he's ever had. His basic skills program grew out of a literacy course, and expanded to include upgrading in math, science and social studies, as well as language. Like Morning Bird, his main objective is to build the students' self-esteem by creating a positive learning environment.

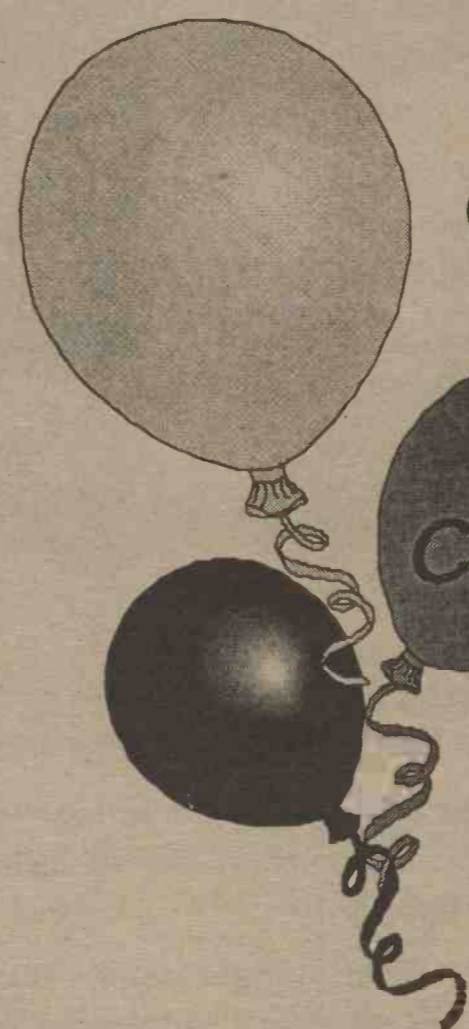
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Protest turns ugly on legislature steps

By Michael Smith
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

Seven unsolved cases involving the deaths of Aboriginal people will be reopened and investigated by the RCMP, at the order of the provincial justice minister. Rosemary Vodrey made the promise to reopen the cases to members of Manitoba's Mosakahiken Cree Nation, who marched on the legislature Nov. 6 and 7.

Vodrey also made a commitment to meet with the First Nation's chief, Phillip Buck, and other Native leaders to discuss perceived inequities in the justice system. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 29, in the northern town of The Pas. Federal Justice Minister Allan Rock, who will also be visiting the community at this time, will be invited.

Chief Buck said he was pleased with the minister's promise and satisfied that the protest had put the issue of Natives and justice on the table for serious discussion. He received a written commitment from Vodrey on Nov. 7.

Royce Wilson, Manitoba's vice-chief of the Assembly of First Nations, said the promise of talks was one "small step for the people of Moose Lake [Man.] to get the ministry to respond to their specific issues."

Wilson called for the nearly 300 recommendations of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry to be taken down from the shelf and implemented. "If the recommendations had been in place, I believe the people of Moose Lake would not have had to march." The inquiry found that Natives were treated unfairly by the justice system and recommended, among other things, the formation of a separate justice system. To date very few of the recommendations have been adopted.

Wilson warned that the government response better not be just lip service to placate the protesters.

"If it is, our chiefs will recognize this and the people will march again. I don't think Chief Buck will hesitate to take similar action if his people's concerns are not being taken seriously."

The protest turned ugly when Vodrey, trying to address the crowd, was swarmed on the steps of the legislature. She was grabbed and jostled by the angry crowd, which chanted, waved signs and hurled insults at the minister. Vodrey was visibly shaken and was escorted to her office by building security guards.

The protesters then stood in front of her door while the music of drummers and singers echoed throughout the building, along with calls for the minister's resignation.

Chief Buck was quoted as saying the incident was the result of the rough handling of a young child by a security guard.

After appealing to Grand Chief Phil Fontaine of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, to help restore order, the minister agreed to discuss justice issues with chiefs and their officials.

Vodrey said the meeting was constructive. A number of justice issues were raised, including violence against women and Aboriginal street gangs. She said these and other issues would likely be discussed in more detail at the Nov. 29 meeting. The minister said she was prepared to keep talking about issues that are of concern to the province's Aboriginal peoples.

A major concern of the protesters, the April 26 shooting death of band member Dorothy Martin, was not addressed by Vodrey. She said it would be inappropriate to make any comment since the case is before the courts and under investigation by the police.

The RCMP reports that Martin died during a struggle over



MICHAEL SMITH

Chief Phillip Buck at the door of Manitoba Justice Minister Rosemary Vodrey's office during protest at legislature on Nov. 6.

a shotgun. Martin's common-law husband Gerald Wilson — a white man — has been charged with two minor weapons related offenses: unsafe storage of a firearm and possession of a prohibited weapon.

Band members say the charges are inadequate and do not reflect the seriousness of the crime. They believe it is yet another example of how little value the white man's justice

system places on Indian lives.

The incident has also been linked with the case of Helen Betty Osborne, whose killers were not brought to justice for 16 years. It was found that the sheriff's office had withheld evidence that could have quickly resulted in convictions of the guilty parties.

Gerald Wilson is the son of the local sheriff that was involved in the Osborne cover-up.

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Native ranching and rodeo hit the museum circuit

By Louise (Bastien) Delisle
Windspeaker Contributor

HULL, Que.

Horses brought to America by the Spanish took well to this new continent. Native people of the Americas took even better to horses and horseback riding. It was a natural move for Native people during the 19th century to become cowboys and ranchers. Becoming rodeo performers was equally natural for Native cow hands. Aboriginal people are involved in ranching and rodeos to this day, as business people, artisans, poets and artists as well.

Like hockey or baseball, rodeo has even become a family sport. And it would be a mistake to think that only men are involved. Women take part in a wide range of both ranching and rodeo activities, including competitions. Some towns even feature all women rodeos. It is a way for young men and women both to earn scholarships, just as they can in a variety of other sports.

The Canadian Museum of Civilization, in Hull, Quebec, is gearing up for an exhibition that will focus on Native ranching and rodeo life on the Plains and Plateau. The interior of British Columbia is where ranching started in Canada, with livestock being brought in from the United States. British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and

the adjoining American states will be the focus of this first in museum practise.

Communities in the Plains and Plateau areas were invited to get involved with the project. Four responded: Fort Berthold (North Dakota), Flathead (Montana), Wood Mountain (Saskatchewan) and En'winkin (in British Columbia's Okanagan valley). People there are presently working on their local ranching and rodeo history. Native Elders, tribal leaders, ranchers and cowboys were consulted before the museum curators proceeded with the idea. The process goes on with a committee of Native people who are experts in various areas. The choice of the title — Legends of Our Times — was decided by this committee.

Morgan Baillargeon is the curator of Plains ethnology at the Museum of Civilization. He was born in Tecumseh and studied in Ontario. Then he headed west and ended up in Hobbema, Alberta, where he worked at Panee Memorial Agriplex for most of the 1980s. *Windspeaker* readers in Alberta may also remember him as a teacher of traditional Native art, a subject he taught at the Alexander and Atikameg reserves and John D'Or Prairie. Morgan has been working on the idea for this exhibition since 1992, when he joined the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Six years later, in May 1998, his vi-

sion will become a reality.

Together with Leslie Tepper, curator of Plateau ethnology, Morgan is busy gathering artifacts. A wide range of objects, both traditional and contemporary, will depict this highly glamorous aspect of the Native culture and economy. They already have an impressive collection of fine items such as saddles, bits, bridles and other horse gear. Some were commissioned to crafts people such as Pete Standing Alone of the Blood reserve, in Alberta, and Dwayne Laferty of Kyle, South Dakota. Boots and fancy or practical clothing such as chaps (including a pair by Kathy Sparvier of Calgary), are another important line. There will also be a variety of other items including a horse dance stick by Dennis Fox of Fort Berthold, as well as pipes, musical instruments and children's toys.

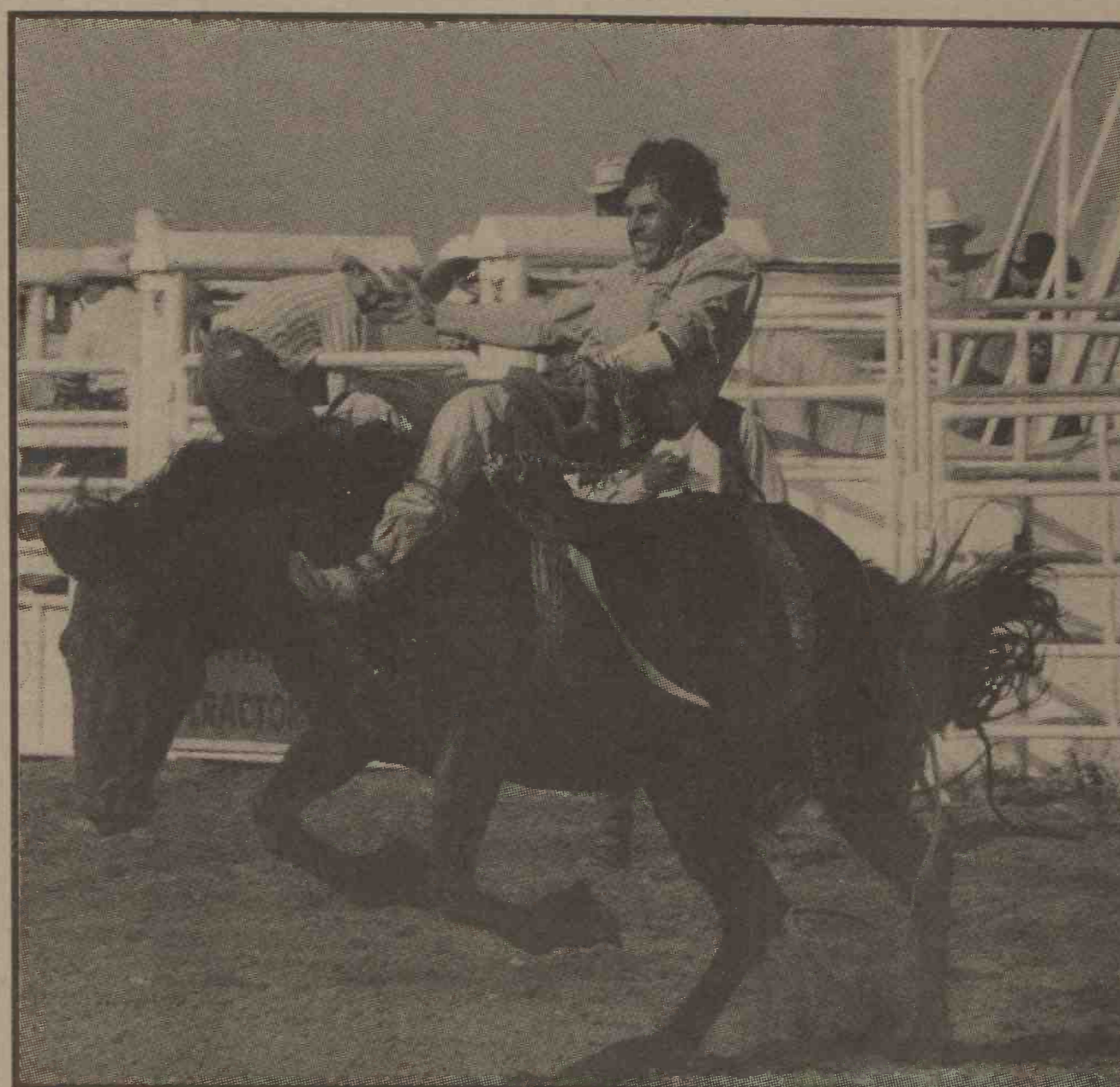
Like Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, Legends of Our Time will be a touring attraction: a travelling exhibit. People who are used to thinking of cowboys and Indians as opposites,

like black and white or day and night, will find food for thought here. The exhibit will be in two sections. One is called "Home on the Range." It explores Native people's relationship with horses, dogs and buffalo and the history of ranching.

"On the Road" is the other section's title. It will deal with the

modern day rodeo and Native cowboys' involvement with the motion picture industry.

If all goes well, Tepper and Baillargeon hope to have a live rodeo, either for the exhibition's opening or as a closing event. But this particular aspect of the curators' project will depend on whether they can get sponsors for the event.



CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

This photo of Kelvin Fox taking part in the bareback riding event will be a part of the travelling exhibit of Native ranching and rodeo titled Legends of our Times.

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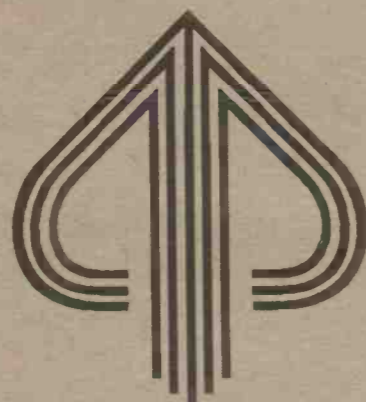
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Blood Tribe to sign contract with Japanese

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

STAND OFF, Alta.

In what would be a first for Canada's Aboriginal people, the Blood Tribe is poised to sign a memorandum of understanding with a major Japanese company for the export of an agricultural product.

Timothy, a perennial hay grown on the reserve's irrigated Big Lease lands, would be compressed in Alberta, then exported to the Sumitomo Corporation to feed Japan's growing dairy herds. The contract would be part of a joint venture with the Transfeeder Corporation of Olds, Alta.

Blood Chief Roy Fox, who led a small trade delegation to Tokyo recently, said the agreement would be the next step in "a well-planned process that will see construction of a compressing plant on the reserve in the near future. We are working with Transfeeder in all phases of the venture."

Transfeeder, a part of the Alberta Timothy Group, is the largest timothy compactor in the country. It currently operates plants in Alberta at Olds, Cremona and Peace River.

"We've been in the Japanese market for 12 years," said Transfeeder vice-president Barry Schmitt. "Because of our experience, we'd be leading the venture. But if we're to continue a long-term relationship with the Blood Tribe, it has to be a win-win situation for both of

us. We should have a contract in place by early spring."

According to Blood Tribe Agricultural Project official Frances First Charger, the tribe's goal is to seed 3,000 hectares of timothy by the turn of the century. About 30 to 40 per cent of the 30,000 metric tons of hay would be grown on the tribe's land, with the rest coming from other reserves or nearby non-Native off-reserve landowners. The Blood Tribe plans to start work on a storage building as soon as the deal is finalized, said First Charger.

"Because we have the irrigation system in place, we can get into timothy production without much capital. We'd just need a tractor and baler, and some fertilizer."

First Charger said the tribe had been talking to Transfeeder about the project since 1991 and have been working together on feasibility and action plans since 1994.

"We don't have a firm commitment for the deal, but everything looks pretty good," he said.

Sumitomo executives have already visited the reserve twice to inspect the crop and meet project officials. Fox said the Blood and the Japanese have much in common, as both seek to understand the culture and gain the trust of the people they do business with.

"This is a big opportunity for both the Blood people and Canada to export value-added agricultural products," he said.

First Nations bank to open

By Debora Lockyer and Kenneth Williams
Windspeaker Staff Writers

SASKATOON

Canada's first Aboriginal bank will be up and running in less than 90 days, said Keith Martell, director of finance for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. Martell was speaking to a gathering of business people at the CANDO conference held in Saskatoon in late October.

The bank will be located in Saskatoon and run independently. That was an important issue with the chiefs of Saskatchewan when negotiating for the bank, said FSIN Chief Blaine Favel. While the bank will operate for the first decade with the assistance of the Toronto Dominion Bank, it will cut ties with the TD and will, eventually, run as a separate entity.

"Everything on the agreement [presented by the TD bank to the chiefs last May] was satisfactory. But one element wasn't," said Favel. "And that was the element of tokenism. The fact that we were not a separate bank. The fact that we were not masters of our own destiny."

Favel said the chiefs were concerned that if they pressed the issue of independence, the TD bank might simply close the books on the project.

"So we convinced them, and we impressed upon them, that if any Indian economic development venture is to be successful, be it a bank, be it a store, it had to be based upon the value of our own people controlling our own destiny — making decisions,



"...if any Indian economic development venture is to be successful, be it a bank, be it a store, it had to be based upon the value of our own people controlling our own destiny..."

— FSIN Chief Blaine Favel

making the good ones, thriving on it, like we've had with gaming, and making the bad ones, but dealing with the consequences and getting up and growing stronger," said the chief.

The bank will give Indian nations control over the millions of dollars filtering through their communities and make getting loans a little less difficult. But the bank is not only for Saskatchewan First Nations, as Favel points out.

"We have the support of many leaders across Canada for this venture. We have representation from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs on our board of directors. We have Grand Chief [Matthew] Coon Come of the Quebec Cree, who has agreed to sit on the board of directors and wants to do business with this bank."

Favel said he briefed Coon Come on the bank during a meeting in Ottawa and was asked by the chief, how much it would cost to buy out the FSIN.

"I said, 'Sorry man, you can't do that...'"

Other supporters include Chief Roy Whitney of southern Alberta's Tsuu T'ina First Nation. His community is heavily involved in the oil and gas industry.

Favel sees great opportunity for the expansion of this institution and has already made presentation to the chiefs of British Columbia. He said the interest there was intense.

"We made presentations across Canada, the investment will be open to all First Nations across Canada. And, as a result of controlling our economic destiny (not doing it as a lark. We're doing it to make money, doing it to control our own institutions), I believe, ultimately, the bank will have a role in keeping the Assembly of First Nations as a vibrant political entity, because what the Assembly of First Nations can learn from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations is that our people work together when we have common causes that affect them directly."

If there is anything that will help Native nations, it will be this bank, said Favel.

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Alberta chiefs sign accords

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

The fifth Alberta chiefs summit drew more than 85 per cent of the chiefs of Alberta First Nations, as well as luminaries in Aboriginal, provincial and federal governments to Edmonton on Nov. 18 to 20. It also saw the signing of a number of significant documents, including two "sub-agreements" with the federal government, one dealing with health and the other with education.

Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin signed both sub-agreements for the federal government, one on behalf of Health Minister David Dingwall. Representatives of the three treaty organizations covering most First Nations in Alberta — Treaties Six, Seven and Eight — signed on behalf of the chiefs.

"Today's agreement [on education] sets an important direction for education," Irwin said. "We have to take it from Head Start to Ph.D., and we have to make sure that there are jobs at the end, not just a wall."

The education agreement is designed to set the groundwork for negotiations leading to a framework agreement that will establish First Nations' jurisdiction and authority in the area of education, from early-childhood to post-secondary. The health sub-agreement is similar: it lays the groundwork for the establishment of a First Nations medical services branch co-management committee to "consider issues and make decisions on matters relating to" health delivery to First Nations, resource allocation

and other common health issues pertaining to First Nations communities.

"[The health agreement] is quite a step forward in terms of the relationship between the federal government and First Nations in Alberta," said Paul Cochrane, assistant deputy minister for the medical services branch of Health Canada. "Traditionally, decisions rested with the federal government. This agreement establishes a budget for the Indian health program in Alberta as a global budget, and it says that the First Nations will sit at the table with our senior management people in Alberta and they together will make decisions about priorities and the allocation of resources.

"Most importantly, they will have the opportunity to apply solutions to problems which are First Nations solutions," he continued. "Savings that occur because of this process will remain in Alberta for reinvestment with Alberta First Nations."

Irwin didn't escape the signing ceremony without receiving some pointed questions, several of which dealt with the widespread fear that Indian Affairs is downloading federal responsibilities to the provinces.

"By signing all the agreements we've signed, we're going to remove [federal fiduciary responsibility] gradually," said Samson



R JOHN HAYES

Samson Chief Florence Buffalo asked a few pointed questions of Ron Irwin.

Nation Chief Florence Buffalo. "By signing these things that we don't really want to do, it hurts the bands." Irwin denied that the agreements in any way affected federal responsibilities.

The chiefs summit, which meets twice a year, also put other issues before the federal reps, including resolutions designed to give Native people control of on-reserve gaming in Alberta, to improve provincial funding and support for First Nations police services, to reaffirm the status of treaties and to clarify the ongoing process of discussion between the Indian Affairs minister and Alberta First Nations.

Irwin met with Alberta Family and Social Services Minister Stockwell Day to intercede on behalf of the Lubicon Lake First Nation in their stalled negotiations with the province. The chiefs also met with Alberta Premier Ralph Klein in the wake of the meeting of national Aboriginal leaders and the prairie premiers held earlier in Calgary.

Time to take control of education system

By Michael Smith
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

First Nations must have jurisdiction over their education system and equitable funding or the future of Native youth will continue to be seriously compromised, according to Manitoba's vice-chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

Royce Wilson said outdated government policies and a history of discriminatory practices have handcuffed First Nations from delivering high quality education to their students.

Wilson made these comments at the conclusion of the Assembly of First Nations annual education conference, held in Winnipeg on Nov. 6 to 8.

The annual event attracted about 450 delegates from across the country, including educators, leaders, Elders and grassroots people.

The conference featured four workshops, in which issues relating to jurisdiction, resourcing, management, and quality of education were discussed. The results of the workshops will be analyzed by AFN staff with conclusions and recommendations incorporated into a report. The report is expected to be distributed to conference delegates by Christmas.

Royce said the primary objective of First Nations is to obtain jurisdiction over education and to receive funding at levels equivalent to provincial school systems. First Nations have nei-

ther of these elements, making it extremely difficult to deliver quality education programs.

First Nations are also working towards getting the federal government to acknowledge education as a treaty right. Talks concerning these issues are ongoing between the AFN and the Department of Indian Affairs. A breakthrough is not expected anytime soon, said Royce.

"The department wants to water down our initiatives so they can retain control over education. . . . It is very reluctant to give up control over education. . . . We don't expect things to happen quickly."

Other matters of concern discussed at the conference included funding for off-reserve students, tuition-based agreements with local authorities and DIAND's funding formula for kindergarten to Grade 12 on-reserve students. Commenting on the latter, Royce said the formula does not meet the needs of First Nations and has little to do with the actual number of students enrolled in on-reserve schools.

Royce dismissed the suggestion that First Nations people were not prepared from an organizational or personnel standpoint to competently run their own education systems.

"We have many quality First Nations people who have been involved in education for many years. They know what is required and have the training and experience to deliver effective programs."



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE '97

hak^w ttəl

(A Gathering of People of Like Minds)

FEBRUARY 5 - 8, 1997 VICTORIA CONFERENCE CENTRE, VICTORIA, BC

Delegates will experience plenary session & individual workshops, including:

Separate pre-conference session (February 5) addressing awareness and understanding of race relations and treaty issues. Robert Consedine of Waitangi Associates in New Zealand and Patrick Kelly of the Sto:Lo Nation (presently employed in Aboriginal Relation Department of BC Hydro) will be co-presenters of this full-day session. (cost is \$125.00)

George Erasmus, Co-chair on the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples will give the keynote address on the opening day of the conference and Matthew Coon Come, Cree Grand Chief will give the afternoon address. As well delegates will have the opportunity to participate in numerous workshop presentations by outstanding Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Educators.

David Rattray of Dease Lake in a full-day drum-making session. How Do Elders Teach? Participants will take home their drum, a reminder of what it means to be a drum-makers. (Participants must register separately by contacting BCPVPA before December 20, 1996. Cost is \$75.00 for materials.)

Roy Henry Vickers, renowned artist, as hak^w ttəl conference closing speaker. Roy will present participants with a gift of his own creation.

An invitation to attend a Feast and Cultural performance hosted by the North American Indigenous Games Committee.

For more information or to confirm registration space please contact:
BC PRINCIPALS' AND VICE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
#1550-1185 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 4E6
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Lands and resources are at the heart of Aboriginal and treaty rights, land claims, co-management and self-government negotiations, and hunting and fishing cases. These issues also have important constitutional and environmental implications.

Windspeaker Works

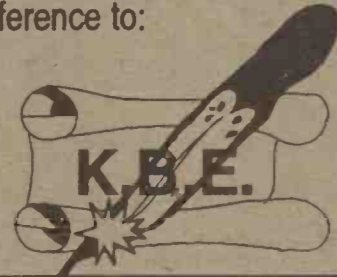
**Kainaiwa Board of Education Job Opportunity
3 SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS
Saipoyi & Levern Elementary & Kainai Middle School**

The Kainaiwa Board of Education uses the inclusion model with some resource room time. Applicants must have a major or a minor in Special Education. Training and experience with adolescents is a requirement in the middle school position. Behavior and conflict management training desirable. All positions are contracted for one year.

• Requirements:

Some coursework in Native American Studies, specifically as related to the Blackfoot Confederacy would be beneficial. Must be genuinely interested in and have some experience working with Native American children.

Please mail/fax complete letter of application and resume with three letters of reference to:



Joyce Goodstriker, Superintendent
Kainaiwa Board of Education
P.O. Box 240, Standoff, Alberta T0L 1Y0
DEADLINE: 4:00 pm - December 2, 1996
Tel: (403) 737-3966 • Fax: (403) 737-2361

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**SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE
(SIFC)
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SIFC is the only Indian controlled and administered post-secondary institution in Canada. About 1500 students are enrolled in various pre-professional and degree programs. Internationally recognized as a visionary academic leader, the SIFC seek to continue to provide a positive and enriching work environment for its employees within multi-site locations. As a result, the College is actively recruiting candidates for the following position:

**DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
REGINA CAMPUS
1 YEAR TERM POSITION**

Reporting directly to the Executive Director of Finance & Administration, this mid-level management position requires an experienced Human Resource practitioner with a proven background in implementation. Current challenges include a mandate to develop and nurture a service-focused responsive HR team, while providing a mentoring and coaching role to SIFC managers over a full range of HR issues.

- The successful applicant will possess a related post secondary education and extensive Human Resource management experience within an organization in transition.
- The ability to contribute at a leadership level on areas of organizational development, classification/job evaluation, continuous improvement and performance management techniques is critical to this position.
- Superior communication, leadership and interpersonal skills and a demonstrated ability to facilitate and manage change are key requirements.
- Experience working within an Indian organization is a preferred asset.

Start Date: Immediately

Salary: Salary levels commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The search process will continue until an individual is selected. Applicants interested in this position should submit their resume and 3 reference contacts to:

SIFC Human Resources
Selection Committee for Director of H.R.
CW Room 118
University of Regina
Regina, SK S4S 0A2 Ph: 565-5452 or 5450

PLEASE QUOTE COMPETITION NUMBER WHEN APPLYING: 96033DHR



**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF SERVICES
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY PLANNING
& DEVELOPMENT**

Competition No. NW96EM342-003-WDSP

McLENNAN — The Office of the Commissioner of Services for Children and Families is seeking an individual to work with appointed Steering Committees in Regions 13, 14, 15, 17 (Northwest Alberta) to facilitate the development and integration of regional services plans for Child and Family Services. Through your leadership to a team of Community Facilitators you will be responsible for coordinating the development of plans for a community based, integrated system of services and supports in the Northwest region. This challenging role includes ensuring expertise is provided to communities regarding current services, standards, models of delivery and the mandated requirements of various Acts. As well, this role will administer the Early Intervention Program of the Office of the Commissioner of Services to Children and Families, providing funding to community based preventive programs for children and families. Reporting to the Deputy Commissioner you will represent the region as a member of the Commissioner of Services for Children and Families Executive Team, ensuring a province wide approach is taken to community integration of delivery. The role will also provide a key link to current delivery systems for children and families. You will have demonstrated skills in the areas of community development facilitation, negotiation, problem solving and communication. In-depth knowledge of child and family services and aboriginal communities is important.

QUALS: Extensive experience in community development is essential as well as an in-depth knowledge of the Children's Services initiative. A related university degree or an equivalent combination of training and experience will be considered. Experience with aboriginal communities is an asset. Travel will be required.

Salary: dependent upon qualifications

Closing date: open until suitable candidate is selected

Please send an application form or resume quoting competition number to:

**Gloria Thompson, Family and Social Services,
Headquarters Personnel, 2nd Floor, Centre West
Building, 10035 - 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3E1.
Phone: (403) 427-3637, Fax: (403) 427-3937**

Minister of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development



Ministre des Affaires
indiennes et du Nord canadien



*Season's Greetings From
Minister Ronald A. Irwin*

I would like to wish all of you a happy, healthy holiday season. This special time allows us to reflect on the past year and dream of change for the next. I know I will look back with pride on the positive developments that Aboriginal peoples, northerners, and the Government of Canada achieved together in 1996. I am certain those successes will continue in 1997.

This year saw important new developments in our ever-evolving partnership with Aboriginal peoples and northerners. For example, the Government of Canada declared June 21 as National Aboriginal Day, giving Canadians a special day to celebrate Aboriginal peoples' achievements and contributions to this country. In communities across the country, people came together to share and recognize the traditions and great cultures of First Nations, Métis people, and Inuit.

In the summer we increased our funding for on-reserve housing for the next five years by a minimum of \$140 million. We also allocated an extra \$98.5 million to speed up repairs and new construction of water and sewer systems in First Nations communities, thereby ensuring healthier, modernized communities that are better able to prepare their members for the future.

The federal government is committed to helping Aboriginal peoples create successful careers and businesses for themselves. That's why we unveiled three new educational and career programs for Aboriginal youth this year. We also launched a strategy to help Aboriginal firms gain easier access to federal government contracts. By opening up our procurement practices, we are tapping into the 18,000 or so Aboriginal owned and operated businesses, one of the most energetic groups of businesses in the country.

Since announcing our policy on the inherent right of self-government, this government has sat down at more than 86 negotiating tables representing 375 First Nations. Achieving land claims settlements is also a key priority for us, and since the last election, we have negotiated 58 specific and treaty land entitlement claims and five comprehensive claims. Our agreement-in-principle with the Nisga'a people and British Columbia government this year is particularly historic, as it will lead to British Columbia's first modern-day treaty.

In the North, important developments have taken place that will safeguard both the North's precious environment and its hard-won efforts for economic development. The proposed BHP diamond mine comes close to being a reality and all the regulatory processes are in place to ensure that the North realizes significant benefits, such as jobs and investment. Moreover, Bill C-6 has put into place the first modern environmental protection legislation in relation to mining in the Yukon.

The progress we have made together this year on all fronts is cause for celebration. Please join me in resolving to accomplish much more in 1997.

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Employment Opportunity

Primrose Oilfield Services, of Cold Lake, Alberta, has openings for experienced "B" pressure welders to operate mobile rig and shop fabrication. Candidates should have working background in oilfield construction. Must have current Alberta "B" Pressure Ticket and a valid drivers licence.

Please forward resume and references to:
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 Box 911, Grand Centre, Alberta T0A 1T0
 Phone/Fax: (403) 594-1352



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BASIC REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE: Completion of Grade 12 and a recognized one year post-secondary secretarial program (or equivalent experience); excellent interpersonal communication skills; ability to cooperate with others in the office and willingness to share tasks; ability to deal effectively with the public; experience, knowledge, and understanding of the needs of Aboriginal students; an ability to work independently and to cope with a diverse set of tasks in a busy and often stressful office setting. This advertisement is directed specifically to applicants of Aboriginal ancestry (authorized by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission). This is a term position, closing date for applications is December 5, 1996. For more information, please contact the Aboriginal Students' Centre at (306) 966-5790. Submit applications/resumes marked confidential to:

Director, Aboriginal Students' Centre
 University of Saskatchewan
 Room 60 Place Riel Campus Centre
 1 Campus Drive
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A3



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 Must be 19 years or older

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 Attn: General Manager

Land Use Technician Program

The Alberta Vocational College-Lesser Slave Lake is pleased to announce the startup of the Land Use Technician program. This program provides the student with the necessary training to help manage land use in small, rural communities. This program has been developed with the help of private industry, band and settlement administrators, government agencies and the staff of AVC.

The Land Use Technician program is designed to help the graduate to:

- recognize and apply appropriate statutes,
- assist and manage the planning development,
- manage the subdivision process,
- work jointly with both the community and government,
- manage local resources,
- apply land use planning theory, and
- develop their technical and professional job skills.

With these job skills we envision the Land Use Technician as an essential component in the planning and development of small, rural communities.

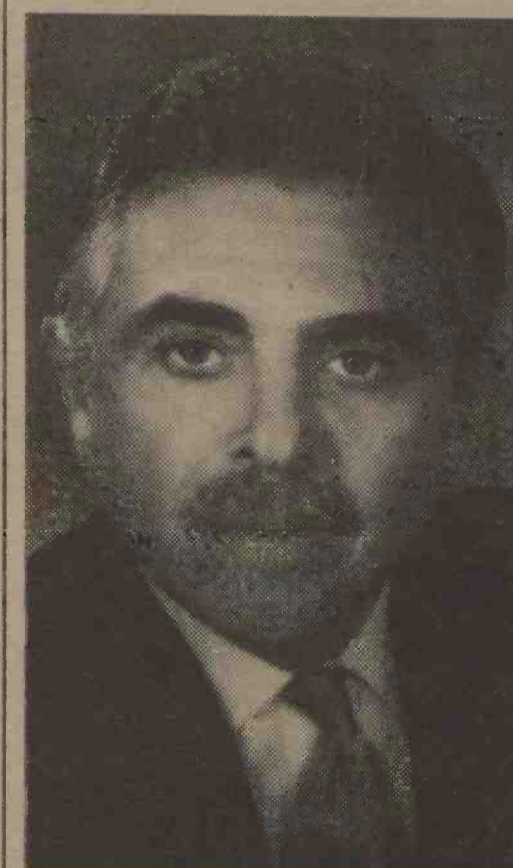
The Land Use Technician program is currently accepting applications for a spring intake.

Applications and further information can be obtained by calling Mark Missal at 403-751-3319, or AVC Grouard Campus at 403-751-3200 (toll-free 310-0000).



Operating under the jurisdiction of
 Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development

Announcement



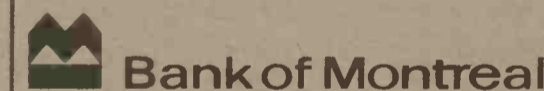
Ron Jamieson

Bank of Montreal is pleased to announce that Ron Jamieson has been promoted to Senior Vice-President, Aboriginal Banking, Bank of Montreal.

Mr. Jamieson joined the Bank in 1992 as Vice-President of Aboriginal Banking and was the first Aboriginal person appointed to an executive position in a financial institution. Prior to joining Bank of Montreal, he held several senior executive positions within the financial services industry.

A Mohawk from Six Nations of the Grand River, he is a founding member and current Chairman of the Executive Committee and National Co-Chairman of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business; a Governor of Junior Achievement of Canada; Chairman, President and CEO of Ontario Energy Corporation and a member of the Conference Board of Canada's Council on the Corporate Management of Aboriginal Affairs.

Mr. Jamieson was Chairman of the Round Table on Economic Matters for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. He is also a member of the Whitehorse Mining Initiative - Finance and Taxation Issue Group and sits on the Board of Directors of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards for Canada.



Have You Ever Thought of Becoming a Nurse?



The National Native Access Program to Nursing (NNAPN), is an annual nine-week spring program that assists students of Aboriginal ancestry to gain entrance to university or college nursing programs across Canada.

The next program will take place April 28 to June 27, 1997.

For information, please contact:
 NNAPN, College of Nursing
 University of Saskatchewan,
 Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5

Phone toll free: 1-800-463-3345 or (306) 966-6224

Blood barley farmer challenges board

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

STAND OFF, Alta.

The former chief of the Blood Tribe is challenging the grain export monopoly of the Canadian Wheat Board. Harley Frank has pleaded not guilty to a charge of contravening Section 160 of the Customs Act, attempting to export barley without a proper licence.

The case first came to light on Sept. 27, when Frank tried shipping a semi-trailer load of feed barley across the U.S. border at Del Bonita, Alta. The barley, grown on the reserve, was part of a private sale by Frank to a buyer on the Blackfoot Reservation in Browning, Montana. The truck hauling the grain was also Native owned and operated.

According to his lawyer, Duncan Thompson, Frank pleaded not guilty to the criminal charge on the basis of several strong arguments that regard his status as a treaty Indian.

"Section 87 of the Indian Act prohibits the taxing of property originating on an Indian reserve. In a case before the Saskatchewan courts, the judge ruled that where a licensing fee was more than a reasonable charge for a service provided by a government agency, it constituted a tax, and First Nations people were not subject to such taxes.

"Under the Canadian Wheat Board regulations, interprovincial trade of grain requires a licence, but there is no fee. But in exporting grain, they charge \$10.00 for the licence, plus all the profits from the sale of the grain outside Canada. This is certainly more than is reflective of just the cost of providing a licence, and therefore it constitutes a tax," Thompson explained.

Thompson said Frank's case is strengthened on several other counts, as well. Under Section 32 of the Indian Act, any agricultural produce raised on, and

being sold from, a Reserve needs only the approval of a 'superintendent' appointed by Her Majesty's government, now considered to be any local band agent authorized by Indian and Northern Affairs. Because this approval had been given for shipment of the barley, requiring Frank to obtain a licence from the wheat board is like asking him to go to the Queen again, Thompson explained.

"The Indian Act takes priority. Harley doesn't need any other permission."

Thompson also said that under Treaty 7, agriculture is encouraged amongst Indians, and this encouragement must today include the right to market and sell the produce raised.

"Section 35 of the Constitution entrenches treaty rights," he added. "The court has upheld a liberal interpretation of the rights many times."

Frank also feels that historically Aboriginal rights to trade freely with other Indians has also been strongly upheld. In this instance, because the grain was going to another part of the Blackfoot confederacy, albeit in the U.S., his case is especially strong.

Frank has indicated that he is not doing this as a random militant act, but is simply trying to exercise his rights as a Blood Tribe member to use his land to make a living.

Thompson, a close personal friend of the Frank family as well as their legal counsel, said Frank is no revolutionary, "but this certainly is a case that is significant for other Aboriginal farmers, and business people, like truck owners or drivers. Native people need every advantage if they're going to be able to make a living from their land. They shouldn't be subject to criminal charges for exercising their rights."

A pre-trial conference will probably be held in February. Frank's court date is scheduled for April 14, 1997.

George Chuvalo

(continued from p. 8)

"It is a big problem, both the drugs and the alcohol," school principal Audrey Breaker said. "Now, there's more accessibility to drugs and it's creeping into our community. Just where we're situated from Calgary — it's not such a big distance to come from Calgary to Siksika any more. It only takes a few minutes."

"Through your knowledge and through your pain," said Butch Wolf Leg on behalf of the Siksika chief and council, "I hope that we may have gained something." Breaker thinks they did.

"This kind of program has a big impact on our young people," she said. "There's so much more we need in the way of alcohol and drug abuse prevention. I really admire the message that he brought to our students today — we have a lot of young people who are vulnerable to this. We have students who range from 14 to 22 years of age. I hope his message has a big impact."

It certainly seemed to. After the session with the kids, they

flocked to the man who was a sports hero two decades before most of them were born. Quite a few kids told Chuvalo that they loved him, responding to his call for them to be open with the ones they love.

Sponsored by the Treaty 7 Brighter Futures Program, Chuvalo's visit was arranged by Diane Dodging Horse. Chuvalo was accompanied by his only daughter, Vanessa, who watched the sessions and said afterwards that they brought back some difficult memories.

"This is the first time I've seen him speak and the first time I've been with him and I think he's doing a very good job and I think it'll be very helpful," she said. "It's not only helpful to other people, it's therapeutic to him."

Chuvalo said that his life has been much tougher since his retirement in 1980. "Fighting is a tough job, but it's my business," he said. "Dealing with death in your family is hell of a lot tougher than just dealing with punches."

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