

INSIDE

Treaty 7
Winter
Games
— Pg. 8-9

Wind speaker

Quote of the
week:

"We don't recognize the laws of Canada. We're going to tell our people to go out and hunt again." — Dan Martel, a representative of the Assembly of Aboriginal People (AAP).

February 16, 1990

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Paddle resident files lawsuit to declare referendum illegal

Claims improper procedures, no basis for holding vote

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

PADDLE PRAIRIE METIS SETTLEMENT, ALTA.

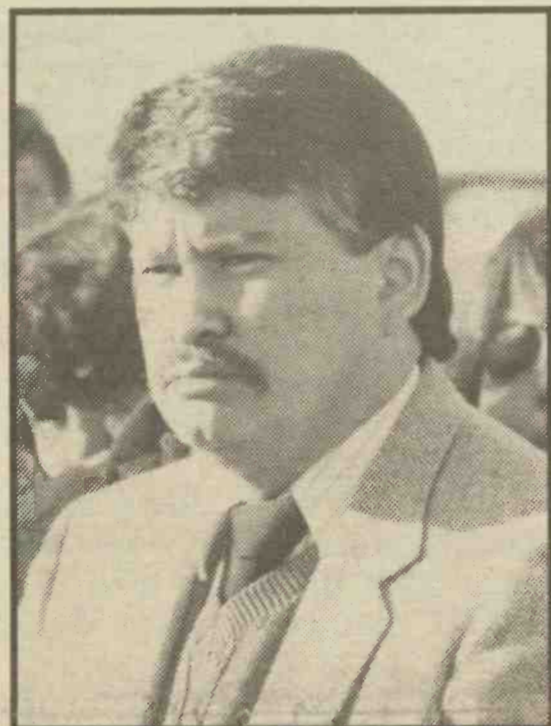
A Paddle Prairie resident has gone to court to declare the Jan. 18 Paddle Prairie referendum illegal and void, claiming improper procedures preceded the vote.

Paddle resident Elmer Ghostkeeper has filed the lawsuit in provincial court against Paddle Prairie council as a concerned citizen. The lawsuit will argue that "the general public does not have the authority to direct that the council hold a referendum," said Ghostkeeper's lawyer Richard Marceau.

"An example of that we can't by petition, as Canadian citizens, all get together and by a majority, say to Parliament — 'You will enact the following law.' We elect MPs and the MPs make the law," he said.

In addition, a voters' list was also not drawn up and the one used was for last autumn's elections. An interim election policy allowed for six month's residency but a 1966 regulation passed under the Metis Betterments Act asks for one year's residence in the colony before being allowed to vote, he noted.

There was also conflict between Municipal Affairs officials and the councillors on the day of the vote over the wording of the



Elmer Ghostkeeper

ballot, delaying the vote until the afternoon.

And that ballot had not been approved by a quorum of any council or government body.

"That is generally the gist of the irregularities," said Marceau.

The referendum is also illegal based on the fact that it "was initiated by two council members without council approval," said Ghostkeeper.

Con't page 2



Dana Wagg, Windspeaker

Daredevil racers

Little Joe (Pudgy) Giroux, 3, takes his cousin, eight-year-old Candace Giroux for a spin on Driftpile Reserve last week.

Metis settlements partners in new plant

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EAST PRAIRIE METIS SETTLEMENT, ALTA.

Three Metis settlements are major players in a \$90 million wood products plant proposed for the High Prairie area.

Gift Lake, Peavine and East Prairie Metis Settlements — known collectively as the Tri-Settlement Councils — are partners in the plant, which would be built at High Prairie.

The oriented strandboard (OSB) plant will be the largest of its kind in the world, turning out 550 million square feet of lumber every year for the American housing and industrial market, said Ray Stewart, president of Polyboard Manufacturing Company of Alberta, in a telephone interview from his Oliver, B. C. ranch.

The other shareholders are Stewart, Rick Cretain and Ross Kneteman.

Twice as large as most existing plants, three 747s could be parked in the building, he said.

Polyboard had earlier considered sites near Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca. YFY Pulp and Paper Canada Ltd., which

Gift Lake, Peavine, East Prairie major shareholders

wants to build a \$600-million chemithermomechanical mill near the town, is also competing for the timber.

The OSB plant will create 145 jobs directly and 300 in woods'

The Polyboard project is environmentally sound, claimed Supernault. "It had to be before we'd pursue anything. If we manage this product aspen, we can continue going forever."

"We have aboriginal shareholders. I can assure you we'll have aboriginal employment. There's no question about that." — Ray Stewart, president of Polyboard Manufacturing.

operations where traditional harvesting methods will be used.

The Polyboard project would be very welcome, bringing badly needed jobs to the settlements where the unemployment rate is quite high, said Harry Supernault, spokesman for the three settlements in a telephone interview from East Prairie.

"We met LeRoy Fjordbotten (minister of forestry, lands and wildlife). We're very optimistic. YFY never came to the settlements or tried to negotiate before. All of a sudden, they're knocking on our door. They want to meet with us."

He said it'll be difficult for YFY to get federal approval for its project. And with Daishowa Canada building a pulp mill at nearby Peace River and needing lots of timber, there's no room for YFY, he said.

He indicated the Metis settlements were pleased to be invited by Polyboard to join the project.

"The town needs it. The people of High Prairie and surrounding area needs it. There hasn't been any industrial development of this sort in High Prairie."

Supernault said none of the

money invested in the project comes from money to be received as part of the Alberta Settlements Accord. He declined to say how much the settlements are investing.

Since it will not send pollutants into the air or water, it's "obviously" a cleaner project than the YFY mill, Stewart claimed. "We easily meet federal and provincial requirements."

"We have aboriginal shareholders. I can assure you we'll have aboriginal employment. There's no question about that," he said.

"When you've got an equal partner in aboriginal people and they've got major representation on the board of directors, they have a say in how the company is operated," said Stewart.

If Polyboard's plan is rejected, the company will abandon Alberta and look at other locations like Alaska, Stewart said. "This is the last timber you've got that's economically feasible for a board plant."

High Prairie is 366 kilometres northwest of Edmonton.

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National Digest

Groups condemn low-level flights over Labrador

HALIFAX—A federal study on low-level flying has been attacked by groups representing doctors, lawyers and women for failing to deal with the social impacts of increased training flights over Labrador. Already about 7,000 such flights occur each year. But the number would rise to about 40,000 if Canada wins its bid to build a \$500-million NATO flight-training base. High rates of alcoholism, suicides and teenage pregnancies in the Goose Bay area of Labrador were ignored in the environmental impact study of low-level flying done for the Department of National Defence, said the groups. The 1,000-page study needs major revisions to include how Natives will be affected by increased low-level flying before the document can even be discussed at upcoming hearings, according to representatives of the four groups.

Manitoba Indians may get to make own hunting laws

WINNIPEG—The Manitoba government is taking a long, hard look at having Indians write their own hunting rules and enforce the new regulations themselves. Chief Oscar Lathlin of The Pas Reserve complained some redneck conservation officers are belligerent and hate to see Indians exercise their treaty right to hunt ducks. Lathlin would like Indian bands to have a hand in managing all aspects of natural resources, not just hunting. That could include even licensing major developments that have a potential to harm the environment. The government has indicated it's in favor of co-management of natural resources. Despite that treaty right, hundreds of Indians are charged every year with hunting geese and ducks out of season. A Court of Queen's bench ruling sided with Indians but the federal government is appealing. The province is continuing to enforce the law.

No headway in employment of Native people in 1988

OTTAWA—Aboriginal people made little headway on the employment front in 1988 in federally-regulated companies and Crown corporations, according to the second annual report on employment equity. Natives increased their representation in the surveyed work force to .73 per cent from .66 per cent. The report also found aboriginal peoples obtained just one of every 400 new professional jobs or promotions (.25 per cent) though they make up 2.1 per cent of Canada's labor force. Of the more than 20,000 managerial hirings and promotions, just 67 or .34 per cent, went to aboriginal people.

Aboriginal commission monitors federal liberal leadership race

YELLOWKNIFE—For the first time in Canadian political history, Natives will have a say in who's elected leader of a major federal party. The Liberal party's Aboriginal People's Commission aims to have 182 Native delegates selected to attend the federal leadership convention which opens June 23 at Calgary.

Meech Lake parallel accord promised Native input

OTTAWA—Native leaders say the federal government has promised to consult Native groups in any negotiations leading to a new or parallel constitutional accord. The leaders said the move was a step forward in their long struggle with Ottawa over the issue of Native self-government. But Senator Lowell Murray was reported to have warned any deal to address criticisms of the Meech Lake Accord was a long way off.

Territories to get new drug, alcohol centres

YELLOWKNIFE—The Northwest Territories intends to spend \$6 million setting up drug and alcohol treatment centres near Yellowknife and the Hay River Reserve on the south side of Great Slave Lake. The move was announced when the government recently tabled its annual budget.

Provincial News

Hobbema schools reopen in wake of whooping cough epidemic

Hobbema schools have reopened in the wake of a whooping cough epidemic which affected more than 500 people in the past few weeks while Grouard School, north of High Prairie, remains closed because one teacher became infected and others showed symptoms of the disease.

The outbreak, which prompted Native leader Roy Louis to demand a federal review of the Alberta Health Care Commission, was downplayed by Hobbema health centre officials during an emergency meeting last week.

The epidemic, which began in early September, forced the closure of several Hobbema schools including one day care and a kindergarden.

"It wasn't that bad, nobody had died," said Chief Simon Threefingers of Louis Bull Band who attended the Feb. 13 meeting at Nisku Inn in Edmonton.

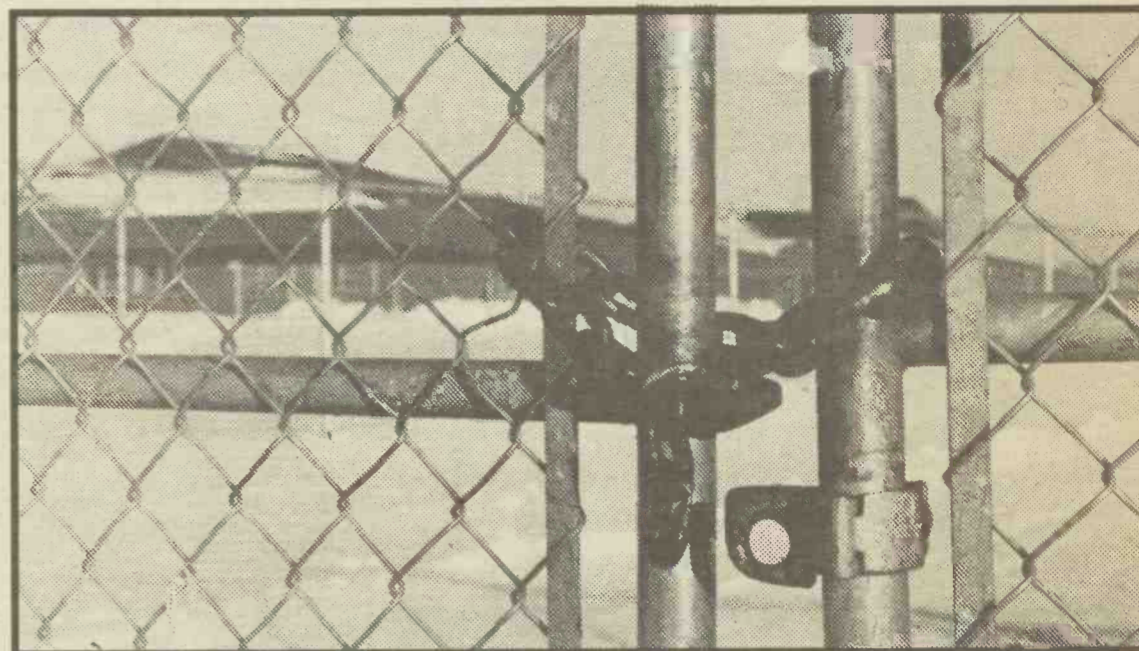
He did stress, however, communication at the reserve level regarding health awareness needs to be improved.

Despite a staff increase at the health centre it could take another six to eight weeks before the numbers begin to decline, according to Health and Welfare Canada officials.

In northern Alberta, the Grouard school board closed Feb. 2, said Sharon Yanicki, a nurse with the High Prairie health unit.

"There wasn't enough staff to keep the doors open," she said.

Grouard School still closed



Dana Wagg, Windspeaker

The Grouard School remained closed because of an outbreak of whooping cough in the area.

Test results on the number of students have not yet come in.

In response to the Hobbema outbreak, federal officials plan to hire workers to transport residents to and from the health centre for immunization.

But the Louis Bull Band has already hired someone on its reserve to do the job.

"We are the only band to appoint someone to transport people to the clinic," said Threefingers.

"When I went down to the health centre, I saw people take their kids in. I was glad they (band members) were doing something about it," he said.

The Hobbema Health Centre is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday to Friday. All schools which closed because of the epidemic have reopened now.

On weekends when the Hobbema Health Centre closes its doors, people have to use the health facilities in Ponoka and Edmonton.

"It shouldn't be closed," noted Chief Threefingers.

In January, when whooping cough reached epidemic proportions in Hobbema, IAA president Roy Louis was outraged.

As a result, an emergency Alberta all-chiefs meeting was held so Hobbema chiefs could meet other Native leaders to discuss the growing concern about health standards on the reserve level.

Paddle resident files lawsuit

From front page

He charged that the Alberta government and the Metis Association of Alberta had interfered with the meeting.

"There was just too many holes in the way it was set up," Ghostkeeper said. "If things were done legally within the law and in a fair manner to the people of Paddle, where everybody really understood what they were voting for, I would have let it go. But in the manner that it was held, I just couldn't let it go on."

The case will be heard in court Feb. 22 at Peace River.

If successful, he said, the lawsuit would free the council of the mandate from the Jan. 18 referendum where 57 per cent of residents voted to keep Paddle Prairie in the Federation of Metis Settlements. 86 of 208 voters wanted the council pull out of the federation to seek its own settlement with the Alberta government.

Ghostkeeper said a successful lawsuit would mean the settlement can enter a separate negotiations process with the provincial government over a \$310 million land agreement signed with the province last year. It would also validate a decision by the council to pull out of the federation last Nov. 14.

"The Nov. 14 council motion to pull out of the federation is still legally binding," declared Ghostkeeper.

"The referendum would only give them the mandate to rescind that motion and to enact a new motion to get back into the federation."

The resolution to hold the ref-

erendum was made at a Dec. 28 general meeting in Paddle Prairie between council members, representatives from Municipal Affairs and about 65 Paddle residents. Municipal Affairs called the meeting to determine if the council had the support of the residents.

The lawsuit effectively prevents the Paddle Prairie council from rejoining the federation, according to a council official.

"We're just waiting for legal opinion. That's why the Paddle Prairie council hasn't moved to go back to the federation. . . in a resolution," said liaison officer Lawrence Cunningham.

On Jan. 24, a notice of a pending lawsuit was faxed to the quorum council, consisting of chairman Robert Parenteau and councillors Emma Martineau and Pat Gaucher, noted Cunningham.

The Alberta government will have to recognize the lawsuit, Cunningham added.

"We've heard a rumor of the lawsuit, but have received no word," said Rick MacDonald, director of the Metis settlements branch with the provincial government.

He admitted that Municipal Affairs received a notice of the "alleged lawsuit" in a letter from the council, but added, "until we find out more about it, we have no comment."

After an analysis of the settlement, Ghostkeeper decided to file the lawsuit to protect Paddle Prairie's land and financial base. The settlement will give limited self-government and \$310 million to the eight Metis settlements over a 17-year period.

"My original assumption was that it was a poor deal for Paddle

Prairie," explained Ghostkeeper, a previous president of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements (AFMS).

He said that the original funding formula in the settlement was to divide 70 per cent of the settlement payments equally and then dispense the remaining 30 per cent to the settlements based on their populations. Paddle found this insufficient but tolerated it, Ghostkeeper said.

"(This year the funding) would be split eight different ways regardless of the population or the distance from materials, etc. They didn't take anything into consideration," he said.

This year the AFMS is dividing the first \$17 million settlement payment equally between the settlements. Ghostkeeper said this is unfair to Paddle because it is the most northerly settlement with living expenses 12 to 15 per cent higher than the other settlements. He also disagreed over whether the AFMS will have jurisdiction over settlement lands and develop self-government policies that the settlements will have to follow.

"I disagreed (that) the Metis Settlements Land Act would exclude all mines and minerals," pointed out Ghostkeeper.

He indicated this was ironic since the initial litigation was based on the premise that the royalties were produced by minerals and sub-surface resources belonging to the residents of the Metis settlements.

"My analysis of the June referendum was, (the Alberta Metis settlements) basically gave consent to the province for the extinguishment of (their aboriginal rights) to sub-surface resources."

Provincial News

Dene, Metis leaders apologize for leaving members stranded

Alberta Dene/Metis upset over possible exclusion from \$500 million land deal

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Correspondent

EDMONTON

Dene and Metis leaders have apologized over the last-minute cancellation of a meeting with their own people to discuss benefits from a recent \$500-million land claim agreement signed in principle with the federal government last September.

Over 200 Dene and Metis, who are former residents of the Northwest Territories, came from all over Alberta to the Native Pastoral Centre Feb. 9 but were left feeling cheated after learning their political leaders had cancelled it.

Almost all of them had not been notified about the cancellation and had travelled long distances to attend the meeting.

Bill Erasmus, president of the Dene Nation, and Gary Bohnet, Metis Association president — both of the Northwest Territories — were scheduled to meet with the group, but because of other commitments, were forced to cancel.

According to Erasmus, who flew into Edmonton Feb. 13 to meet with representatives of the Alberta Dene/Metis members, there was a definite mix-up about the meeting.

"We had negotiators in Edmonton who were supposed to attend the meeting. But an earlier meeting they were attending went until late that evening. Then they flew to Vancouver. It's been very busy."

"We weren't trying to avoid the Dene and Metis in Alberta. I met with them this afternoon to discuss their concerns," said Erasmus adding that because of the important negotiation process between the federal government and his office, the meeting was closed to the media.

According to Bohnet, the NWT Dene and Metis in Alberta "are not forgotten."

"I can't speak for Erasmus but I apologize for not being



Rocky Woodward, Windspeaker

Concerned members Valerie Kaufman and Terry Norwegian

there. I do realize they have some very valid concerns that need to be addressed.

"We sent notice on the sixth of February. I am really sorry to hear many didn't receive our cancellation," said Bohnet.

Janet Sandhu, the representative in Alberta for the Dene/Metis residing in the province, said she received notice of the cancellation "(But) it was such short notice I didn't have any way of reaching the members before the meeting date," she said.

Sandhu said the Dene/Metis members will now most likely, elect a committee to deal with their concerns in the NWT.

"It is a very important issue and we must stay on top of it at all times," Sandhu commented.

On Feb. 9, the day of the scheduled meeting, both Bohnet and Erasmus were in Fort Norman, attending an all-Chiefs meeting on treaties and land claims.

The meeting was called because a number of Metis and

Dene, who live in Alberta want assurances they will receive benefits from a recent Dene/Metis comprehensive land agreement which was recently approved in principle and expecting final approval by 1991.

Local Dene and Metis are concerned about being left out of the agreement because they now live in Alberta although they are still considered members of their settlements in the NWT.

The federal government and the NWT Dene/Metis representatives agreed in principle Sept. 28 on an agreement, which would pay out \$500 million to northern Natives and give them 70,000 square miles of land. That location has yet to be selected.

Another 400,000 square miles of land in the Western Arctic, most of it located in the Mackenzie Valley, is still to be discussed at the negotiation table.

An agreement will likely be made between the NWT Dene/Metis and the government of Canada sometime in March, and

this has local Dene and Metis such as Terry Norwegian worried that once negotiations are finalized, they and their children may not be eligible for any benefits.

"We are very worried. The land claim agreement will be made in March and we don't know where we stand. Do we lose everything?" asks Norwegian, a resident from Arctic Red River in the NWT.

Most of the Dene and Metis now living in Alberta left the NWT for either health reasons or educational purposes, which they say is good reason for not excluding them from the deal.

"It was stated at a meeting last year that anyone who left for medical or education reasons

would still be included in the land claims negotiations taken place, but now I feel they are renegeing on their promise," charged Norwegian.

Bohnet said a meeting dealing with joint leadership regarding the eligibility and enrolment for land claims will be held Feb. 22-23.

"We need to know their feelings. At this meeting we are hoping to make everyone aware of what is going on and I am going to suggest a spokesperson from the group in Alberta be flown up here (Yellowknife) to address their concerns and to bring back information they obtain at the meeting to the Dene and Metis in Alberta," promised Bohnet.

Provincial briefs

City police investigate mysterious death of Native

EDMONTON — City police are investigating the mysterious death of a 21-year-old Native woman, who died after being ejected from Trucker's Saloon at Kingsway Inn Friday, Feb. 9. Katie Cardinal, a single mother of three young children, died from a blow, which fractured her skull. The 125-pound Cardinal was apparently dropped while struggling with a bouncer, who was carrying her out of the bar. She was buried at Saddle Lake reserve, where her family is originally from. Police haven't ruled out criminal charges.

Police officer violated RCMP policy in high-speed chase

EDMONTON — A police officer violated RCMP policy on high-speed chases when he pursued a fleeing truck, which later overturned killing Roger Reginald Saddleback, 29, of the Samson Band and injuring five others. An internal police investigation is being held into the Feb. 10 crash. Police are not to engage in high-speed pursuits if they have non-police passengers in the car. The truck's original driver was in the back seat of the car during the chase. A 20-year-old Hobbema man faces five charges stemming from the accident. Indian Association of Alberta president Roy Louis is demanding police give him a report about the chase. Twenty-one people have been killed in accidents related to RCMP car chases in Alberta since August 1987.

First chopsticks from Sturgeon arrive in Japan

STURGEON LAKE — Cree Valley Industries first shipment of chopsticks — 3.5 million pairs — arrived in Japan Jan. 9. Cree Valley is a joint venture of Sturgeon Lake Band and the Chinese-owned Harbin International Corporation. The band's \$3-million chopstick factory was officially opened Aug. 17, 1989. Chief Ronald Sunshine and Stephen Shang, general manager of Cree Valley, recently returned from a business trip to the Orient in connection with the project.

Opponents of Daishowa mill launch court action

GRANDE PRAIRIE — Friends of the Peace have decided to launch court action to delay Daishowa Canada's proposed \$550-million pulp mill. The application to force an environmental assessment review plan will be filed in Edmonton Feb. 23, said lawyer John Gill. Meanwhile, Proctor and Gamble has decided to delay the release of a company environmental report on plans to expand its Grande Prairie pulp mill. The report will be released in April. Company spokesman Steve Howe said it will contain "positive surprises" for the public. The expanded mill, which will double the output of the current operation, will actually discharge less pollution, he said.

Maskwachees Cultural College Emergency Medical Technician - Ambulance (EMT-A) Training Program

Applications are now being accepted for this full time, four month training program for people wishing to enter the pre-hospital professions. Graduates from the program will be ready to take the provincial licensing examination.

There will be two intakes into the program, the first intake will start classes on April 2nd, 1990, the second intake will start classes on June 25th, 1990.

Successful applicants will have grade 11 or equivalent, a class 4 drivers license, basic rescuer level cpr, a standard first aid certificate, and will be medically fit. To be eligible for funding support applicants will be required to be interviewed and assessed by Canada manpower as well as Maskwachees Cultural College. While primarily designed for Native people, the program is open to non-native also.

The closing date for the receipt of completed applications for the first intake is March 5th.

Further details and an application package may be obtained by calling:

Peter Hyde
Dean, Department of Skills Training
Maskwachees Cultural College
Hobbema, Alberta T0C 1N0
(403) 585-3925

News Feature

AIDS and the Native community

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

AIDS, an acronym that has crept into the English language in recent years as a word synonymous with suffering and death, is still not fully understood by Native people across Canada.

The Joint National Committee on Aboriginal AIDS Education and Prevention wants that changed.

The one-year-old Native consortium is pushing for the federal government to make AIDS education more understandable to Natives.

Though hidden in the isolated regions of the country, far out of touch with rest of society, Canada's Native communities are beginning to feel the effects of the deadliest disease to infect mankind since the bubonic plague.

But according to Alberta spokesman Ray Fox, ignorance adds to the risk of contracting

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

He says community-based initiatives are the best way to change people's attitude.

"One of the reasons why we developed these policies for the government is to support community programs and to offer some support to the health organizations," he says.

"This will give them a better educational base on AIDS and its potential."

The consortium is comprised of 12 Aboriginal communications groups from across the country including the Assembly of First Nations, Metis National Council and the Indian and Inuit Nurses of Canada.

He said the Aboriginal Youth and Elders Councils also have representatives on the committee.

The committee was established last year to research and identify the problem and recommend policies to help Natives understand AIDS and how they can lessen the risk among their

own people.

Fox says the committee has sent their recommendations to federal health minister Perrin Beatty.

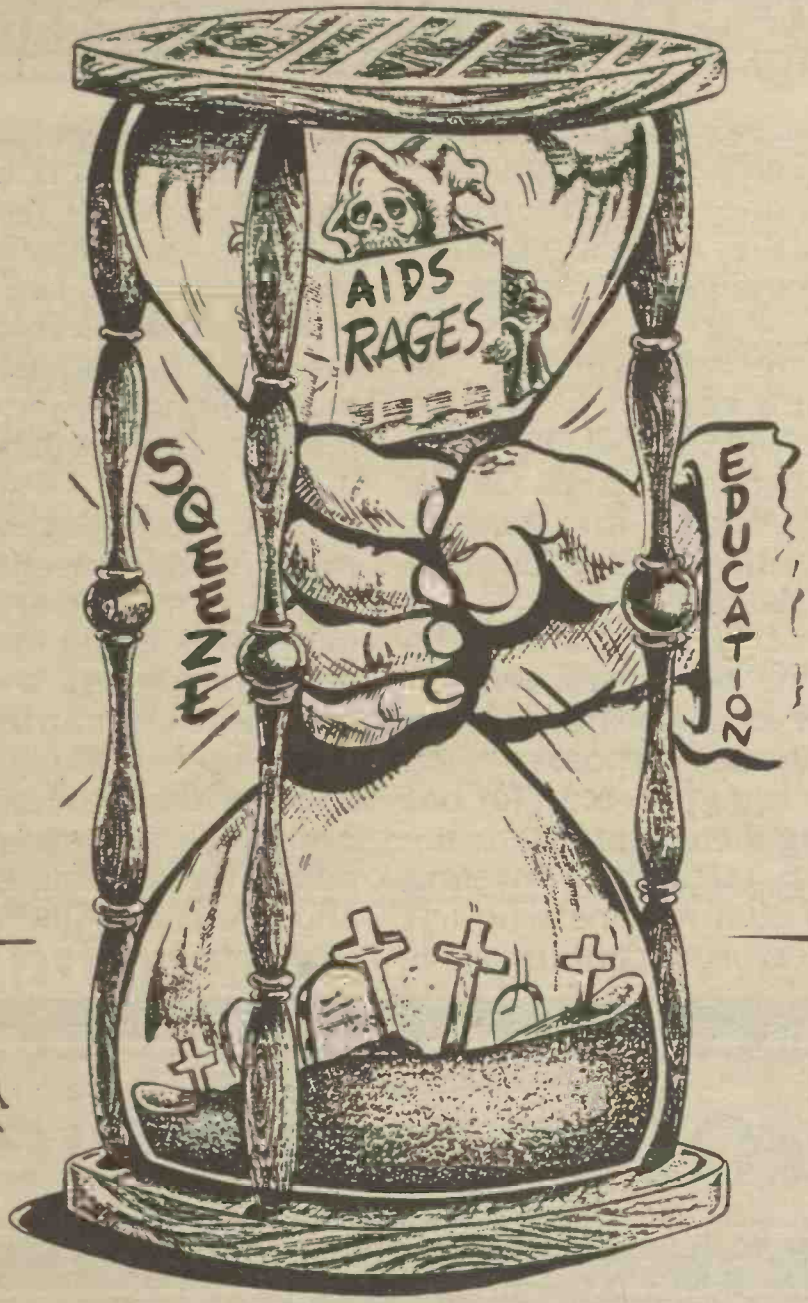
The national committee has found that the greatest concentration of AIDS is in Ontario which has 1,177 reported cases. Only four are male Natives and one female as of Sept. 5, 1989.

Quebec has 897 reported cases. Six are male Natives and two female.

Alberta has 170 with only one Native male case reported as of Sept. 5, 1989.

The national committee recommended that aboriginal communities be targeted for educational campaigns and preventative programs.

The committee has suggested that aboriginal decision-making forums be held to educate community leaders in the form of government meetings, school board assemblies, regional board meetings and tribal activities.



Washing away the years, with gentle tears...

On December 29, 1989 my doctor informed me that I have six months to 10 years to live... I was tested for HIV positive.

Automatically, I thought: AIDS!!

I've got this, I'm going to die!!! I panicked, I cried quietly at times when I informed my brother and sister. I told my mother that it was something else. I didn't want to make the blow any more harder for her to take.

When I was watching Dick Clark's New Year's Eve, I thought to myself: what a New Year's Eve present.

What does one look forward to in the new year with this in my mind and heart?

Having to deal with losing someone from the family and attending another funeral of a friend who has served our community/reserve, I thought of this lady who was a beautiful person and really was genuine in caring for the Native people of this community.

It wasn't fair as I thought of her leaving. And then I thought of myself again.

Since I was 15 and to this date, I have always believed in helping others. Most of my life was caring and understanding in helping those who needed help such as the mentally handicapped, senior

Ken is a young man who has just tested positive for HIV, the virus which can lead to full-blown AIDS. He is the first Native person in Edmonton to be diagnosed with the virus. These are his thoughts and feelings about his life and what he expects will happen to him.

citizens, the physically-handicapped to group homes and, finally, youth working in recreation at my community.

I remember someone saying to me: "You have spent your life taking care of others. It's time that you take care of yourself."

This was in 1987. Perhaps, then, it was a warning that I ignored. Now reality is here and I have no alternative to take that voice from the past to put into use now.

My life in the last five years was not promiscuous, nor was I a constant party person. When I was younger in my late teens, early twenties I was into the night-life, drugs, sex and rock and roll.

I overdosed once, nearly taking my life away. You would think of these warnings as a clear message but ignorance on my part has now left me to deal with the reality of today.

Since the funeral, I was told to

go to the hospital that afternoon. I was to be treated for an infection and there I remained until Jan. 12, 1990.

I experienced many feelings, a lot about the fear of dying, what is the pain I will encounter and the loneliness. The nurses tell me that these feelings should be taken care of.

Otherwise, with the stress, I can be weakened and it can take its toll on me. I would like to mention that acceptance by others is very important to those like myself from professionals. It helps the patient out a lot.

The station at the west-end hospital deserves a lot of recognition. These individuals were not masked, head to toe, armour suit and all.

Please, I ask of you — the readers — that AIDS is not taken by shaking hands or sneezing. Read up on this.

I found out that I was the first recorded Native to be tested for

HIV by an organization who works with HIV and AIDS (patients).

At first, I thought sarcastically to myself that I've done something to be the first.

I thought more about it. Well, I can use this a positive way. By writing to you was my way of helping me in dealing with the issue and also informing the Native community of how one feels of being handed out the reality of life and death.

I'm also writing to help create an understanding of one who can feel the pain, fear and loneliness and as a Native and one human being who has helped many people in my life.

I ask that you remember that of my tasks which I have done for you, that caring for you or someone you know, I ask in return if by chance you know who I am, I am not the elephant man nor am I a threat to society.

All I ask is my dignity to be left with whatever time I have to enjoy what the Great Spirit has given to us by what nature is left on Mother Earth.

Sympathy encourages life. I would ask that the battle of the bottle is old news. 1990 is for those who are junkies, gay or bisexual.

I get angry that I hear that you have a choice... that is, to live... I don't. I dread to imagine seeing in my dreams, band members cranking up with one needle.

Will this begin to eliminate part of a nation?

At the present, I am taping my

thoughts and perhaps one day a book will be processed. Perhaps getting active with an agency, this way when I leave, I would like to leave knowing I have continued my tradition of caring for others as a finale.

I haven't written about what my family is going through, or what impact my community has felt.

Also I will be locking horns with Indian Affairs for where I will get money to pay for my residence. At this point in time, I am incapable of working due to the hospital stays and taking time to deal with myself emotionally.

Spirituality and culture are my best allies and this experience has become a new force in me.

Now I must "wash away the years with gentle tears" and live for what time I have.

I ask only is prayers and I thank the Windspeaker for voicing my feelings, and concerns of myself and others.

To my family and community band members. I really did love this community!

To close is a quote I thought of when I was in the hospital.

"Travelling hundreds of miles to get away from home
It doesn't work."
"Having HIV and only 15-20 miles away is like thousands of miles apart
And now I am alone."

Sincerely,
Ken



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Provincial News

Native group plans battle over aboriginal rights

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDSON, ALTA.

A Native group in west-central Alberta is threatening to break Canadian laws to uphold aboriginal rights.

"We don't recognize the laws of Canada," said Metis Dan Martel, a representative of the Assembly of Aboriginal People (AAP).

"We're going to tell our people to go out and hunt again," he said, noting some aboriginal people in the Grande Cache area had their hunting rights taken away by the province in 1985.

Martel said he may assert what he believes is his aboriginal right to hunt at times other than those set out in Canadian law.

"I look at our Indian brothers. They can hunt. Why can't I? They have a right to a land base. Why can't I?"

In a letter to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney dated Jan. 31, the group issued a declaration of resistance saying it "will resist

Assembly of Aboriginal people won't recognize Canadian laws



Windspeaker file photo

Dan Martel, a representative of the Assembly of Aboriginal People

any interference with our aboriginal rights by any government within Canada.

"Only by unanimous consent of the aboriginal peoples can changes be made to Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution."

"They've tried to sweep us

out the back door and we're not going to be swept anymore," said Martel.

The group doesn't recognize Canadian law and members will assert what they believe are their rights, said Martel, who is also president of Local 44 of the Metis

Association of Alberta.

Ottawa has abandoned its responsibility to aboriginal people by delegating its responsibility to the provincial government, according to the AAP, which has put the communities in a state of "political oppression," says the letter to Mulroney.

Martel said the group is particularly concerned about proposals in the Alberta Settlements Accord to place Alberta's Metis people under provincial control.

The accord resolves a long-standing lawsuit with the province.

That's contrary to Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution, which recognizes Indian, Metis and Inuit people as being aboriginal with rights "recognized and affirmed" in the constitution, he said in a telephone interview from Edson.

"It's a sell-out of our futures (to be under provincial jurisdiction)," said Martel.

He said the AAP may join the

Treaty Alliance of Aboriginal Nations, an alliance for mutual assistance, which represents close to 20 Indian bands across the country.

The AAP plans to hold meetings and to organize in communities across west-central Alberta like Edson, Marlboro, Grande Cache and Hinton.

Lubicon Lake Chief Bernard Ominayak confirmed he'll be meeting in Ottawa later this month with Martel and others to discuss problems facing various aboriginal organizations "and how best to deal with those."

He said Lubicon lawyer James O'Reilly did give the group a legal opinion on what their rights are.

A copy of the letter and declaration has also been sent to the United Nations.

MAA president Larry Desmeules and Federation of Metis Settlements president Randy Hardy couldn't be reached for comment.

Social services remarks over suicide 'offensive' — Potts

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Remarks made by a senior provincial official defending the government's role in caring for child wards were offensive, says IAA vice-president Percy Potts.

Potts said Hugh Tadman, senior communications officer with social services, was out of line to point fingers at families in crisis.

Those families should instead be offered rehabilitative help rather than criticism, he said.

"Social services is set up for the very purpose he's blasting,"

said Potts.

"Someone somewhere has to start showing care for those children."

Tadman in a recent interview with Windspeaker said those critical of the government for its care of wards should "think first about the emotional damage, the neglect and the abuse which children suffer, which causes them to come into our care."

He was discussing a report recently delivered by Judge Michael Porter on the suicide of 16-year-old Metis youth Wayne Moberly, who hanged himself May 30, 1989 in Grande Cache.

Moberly came into the care of the province because of chronic substance abuse by his parents.

Tadman said it's not possible for the government "to wave a magic wand and undo what families have visited upon their children in terms of horrific abuse."

But Potts, vice-president of the Indian Association of Alberta for the Treaty 6 area, said when Alberta Social Services intervenes to help a child it should try to help "the whole family instead of just parts of the family."

He said Alberta Family and Social Services has a less than admirable track record in caring for wards like Moberly.

"It's uncaring treatment by the system into which he was handed over," said Potts.

"The scary thing is how many other children in care are on the verge, because they see no way out. Who's helping them?"

He criticized the province for "warehousing" children. "Their method is to go in for the quick grab and put them in foster homes."

But Potts, who was a government ward himself for 18 months in his young teens, said parents aren't blameless and must shoulder some of the responsibility.

"There's hundreds of graves in this country that say social services hasn't done a good job and that some parents haven't done a good job."

Potts said he survived because members of his family helped him when he needed help.

Judge Porter in his report praised social services for caring for Moberly's physical needs. But he criticized the department for neglecting his emotional needs.

"I have heard no evidence, which lead me to believe his emotional needs were being addressed," he wrote.

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Wind speaker

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Viewpoint

Killing the buffalo: more than a health issue to Native people

Since time immemorial, the buffalo has roamed free on the Prairies.

At that time, the buffalo was valued by Indian people because it provided such daily necessities as meat, pemmican and clothing.

The buffalo was intricately tied to the everyday survival of Plains Indians for a very long time.

Today, the buffalo is still important, in many respects.

It's a part of Indian folklore and for generations, it has represented so much about what it means to be Indian, about a nomadic life long gone but still in the hearts and minds of Indian people.

Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump in southern Alberta, the largest and most well-known buffalo jump display in the world, was built as a shrine to this great beast, whose history is intertwined with the history of Alberta's Indian people.

So, it's no wonder that Indian people are concerned that the last remaining buffalo on the Prairies could become extinct if a plan to destroy them goes ahead.

And it's no wonder they're angry.

From 1925 to 1928, 6,000 diseased buffalo with tuberculosis and brucellosis were moved from Wainwright to Wood Buffalo National Park against every recommendation that such a move would prove disastrous in the future.

Since then, according to government figures, over 800,000 diseased head of cattle have been destroyed.

It's clearly a very serious health concern.

Eradicating the buffalo to prevent the whole herd from becoming diseased is an option under very serious scrutiny now.

Agriculture Canada, which is proposing the buffalo kill, is also interested in saving costs and killing the buffalo they say is apparently the most cost-effective way of eliminating the problem — saving dollars on controlling the disease and prevention.

But the question that remains unanswered is why the government did not do a more effective job over the years in treating the diseased buffalo in the park.

Eliminating the buffalo is a quick and simple solution to a long-standing problem. It's a very drastic step and Indian people deserve to have more input into the fate of the bison.

They want more time to study the issue, not because they do not recognize the health concern.

But because for Indian people, the buffalo represents much more to their lives over the last century than to any other group of Albertans.

The buffalo is their link to a vibrant past and history, which many Indian people still hold dear.

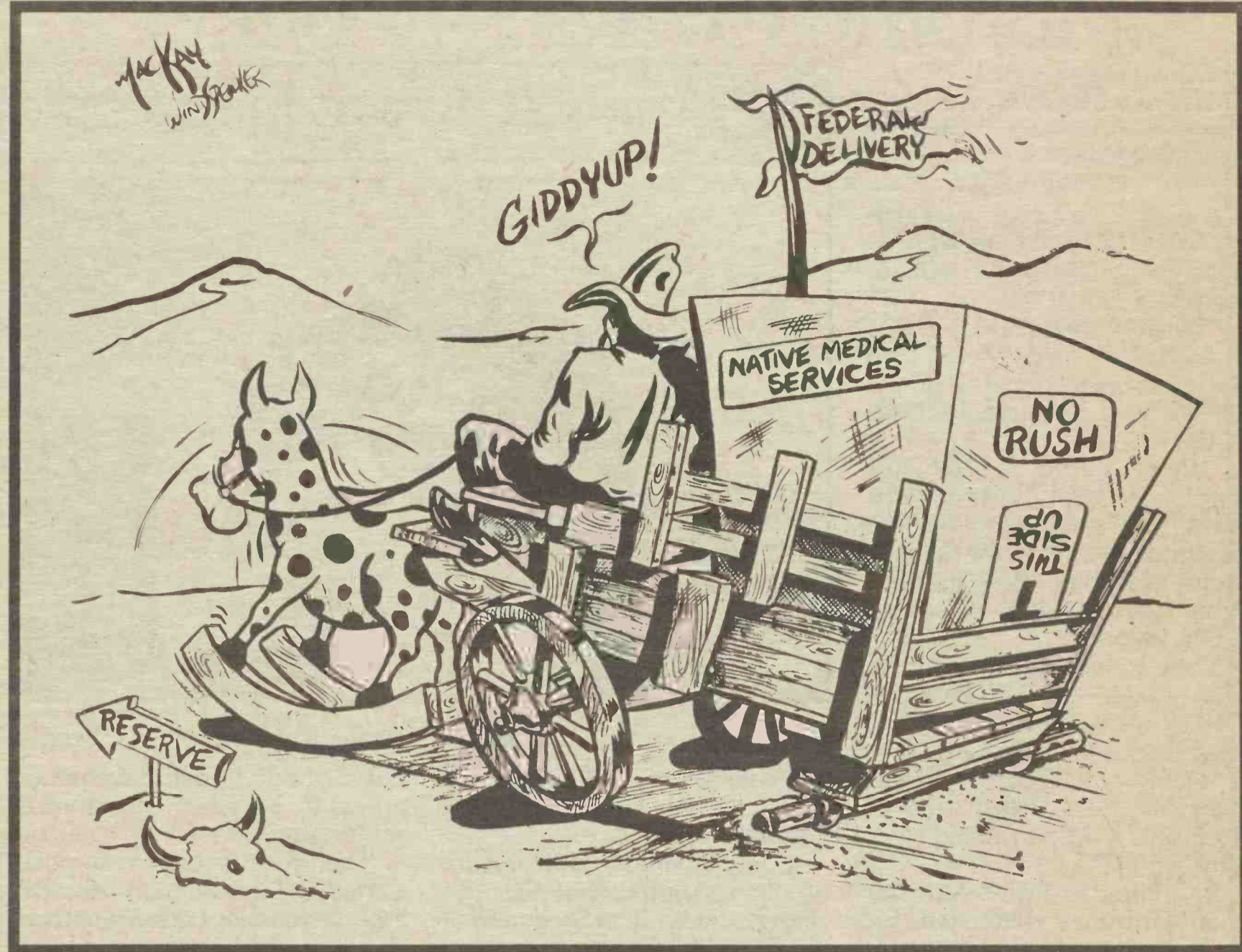
It is also a link to this province's colorful history, of which there has been so little recognition accorded to Alberta's Indians.

Perhaps, because of this shared past, everyone has an interest in trying to find answers to allow the buffalo to continue to roam free in Alberta.

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Editorial Page



Opinion

Former Governor-General failed to address treaty rights — Gladue

Dear Editor:

During the tenure of Madame Jeanne Sauve as Governor-General of Canada, the Advisory Council of Treaty Women — an affiliate of the Indian Association of Alberta — tried on five or six occasions to arrange meetings with her to discuss treaty rights issues. Every time, she came up with lame excuses not to sit down with us, either at Rideau Hall or in one of our reserves.

Busy as she claimed to be, she found ample time to join the Canadian delegation for the funeral ceremony of the Japanese Emperor Hirohito.

It makes us believe that Canada's economic lifeline to the Japanese industrial empire is a greater concern than the impoverishment and oppression of the First Nations at home.

Now we find out that Madame Sauve is going to retire in a 20-room mansion in Montreal that is going to cost a cool \$1.75 million. Clearly, she identifies with Canada's wealthy upper class, not the downtrodden treaty Indians who are called on every day to defend their rights.

Maybe her successor, Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn, will be a humbler person who parleys with us, when we see the need.

We, the treaty Indians, whose ancestors signed treaties 6, 7 and 8 in the name of Queen Victoria, have believed that the Governor-General as the Queen's symbolic representative in Ottawa, has a responsibility to hear us when we are experiencing political problems.

She is the keeper of our treaties, nothing less. In January, 1982, when Justice Lord Denning of the British High Court handed down his landmark decision concerning our treaties and repatriation of the British North America Act (Constitution Act 1982), he advised us to make our political concerns known if the government of Canada shirked its trustee responsibilities.

But Madame Sauve did not hear us, not any more than Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher does when we address her.

It was far different when Edward Schreyer resided in spacious Rideau Hall.

In 1979, he met with the assembly Chiefs from our reserves in Alberta and after exchanging official messages, he was made an honorary Chief.

Schreyer also saw fit to meet with small delegations of our people in his luxurious conference hall. Because he fraternized in a friendly manner with our leaders, Pierre Trudeau might have reprimanded him. Too many political risks!

In her official capacity, J. Sauve, the Governor-General, proclaims legislation (sometimes over our clearly heard protests) since the law does not always protect our interests.

On the other hand, during the time of First Ministers Conferences on Aboriginal Rights, when we wanted affirmative amendments to the Constitution, she had nothing to say on our behalf.

Sad... today, we are still looking for a true advocate within the government of Canada.

Helen Gladue
Chairperson,
A. C. T. W.

Step forward, support Leonard Peltier, says Native inmate prez

Dear Editor:

I am sending this to you about our brother Leonard PelSutier.

I have been active in the Brotherhoods of Peace River, Calgary (Spy Hill) and Lethbridge Correctional Centres since 1983 and am presently the president of the United Native Club in Matsqui Penitentiary.

I felt such a surge of power and happiness at the message contained within the name Leonard Peltier.

What he has tried to do for all brothers and sisters in North America cannot be expressed enough in words.

A message from the heart to all brothers and sisters: step forward, support Leonard Peltier. He has done so much for us, now let's do as much as possible for him.

Only in UNITY are we strong

enough to succeed. We must unite ourselves into one common band of brothers.

We must have but one voice. Many voices make confusion. We must have one fire, one pipe and one war club.

This will give us strength. Thank you for allowing me to express myself to all brothers and sisters.

Dave Vanalstine
Write to:

Leonard Peltier Support Group
P.O. Box 18717
Denver, Colorado
80218

Leonard Peltier
P.O. Box 1000
Leavenworth, Kansas
66048

Treaty 7 games unites 5 tribes

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

BROCKET, ALBERTA

When the 1st Annual Treaty 7 Winter Games ended Feb. 11, the Peigan Nation hosts had collected 38 medals for a bittersweet victory.

Holding aloft the aggregate trophy, Games public relations officer Noreen Plain Eagle wiped tears from her eyes, saying she just wanted to go home to her kids.

"I was relieved and felt we had accomplished something... and our reserve came out on top to get the aggregate trophy," she said.

But accomplishments are always preceded by sacrifices.

For five days, she overlooked the Games.

Her day began early. She had to be at the games office in the arena at 8:30 in the morning, and "wasn't home until 11:30 at night," she said later.

At times the pressure was fierce because there weren't enough Games T-shirts, pins or medals due to a higher than expected turnout.

Problems also extended to registration when some athletes and even one hockey team had not registered previously, she said.

Plain Eagle will recommend the Treaty 7 Recreation Association fund an overseer position for next year's games. That person would be empowered to serve as a final authority on conflicts over registration or any other aspects of the games.

Second and third place went to the Bloods (Kanai Reserve) and the Blackfoot (Siksika Reserve). The Lethbridge Friendship Centre, the Stoney Nation from Morley and the Sarcee Reserve (near Calgary) finished fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

About 1,000 Native athletes competed at the winter games, which was developed by the Treaty 7 Recreation Association to foster a closer relationship between the five southern tribes, according to Games coordinator Marvin Yellowhorn.

Athletes came from the Stoney, the Blood, the Peigan, the Blackfoot and the Sarcee tribes for the five-day event, which ran from Feb. 7-11 and featured volleyball, basketball, downhill skiing, hockey, bowling, snooker and curling.

"The whole idea is to develop the athletics in our area," Yellowhorn explained. "We were getting concerned the athletics were losing ground to the social problems we're all aware of in Indian country."

The Games could give young people something



Peigan volunteers Brenda Potts and Noreen Plain Eagle hold aloft the aggregate trophy for the Peigan Nation which made history by winning the first-ever Treaty 7 Winter Games.

to focus on throughout the year, he said, instead of drugs or alcohol.

"Our young people had no direction. There was nothing in place for them to feel important or just to have a sense of belonging. We felt the Games would provide them that opportunity. I guess an indication of the turnout proves us right," he noted.

"I think the Games far exceeded our expectations from a participation point of view," Yellowhorn added. "It's made the Games more meaningful to watch all the different people come from the five reserves."

The future of the Games looks good, said Yellowhorn, who is also the Peigan recreation director. He noted that over 100 volunteers helped the Games proceed smoothly. Even the local school was shut down for the last two days of the school week.

"All the teachers assisted as score-keepers, as chefs, as judges and officials. It's so exciting to see our community come together," Yellowhorn said.

"The amount of goodwill these games have produced is going to be felt for years to come."

Yellowhorn estimated the costs at \$20,000 for facilities, custom made medals, officials, equipment and maintenance.

About 60 per cent came from the Alberta Sports Council while the Treaty 7 Recreation Association paid the rest. That was a big step this year for the sports council because it doesn't usually fund sports development on reservations, he said.

The funding is part of a

plan to integrate Treaty Indians into mainstream regional sports and provincial finals, as well as events like the Alberta Winter Games.

"Native people have not been included in the provincial sports events that take place. One indication is that no Native people participated in the regional games or the Alberta Winter Games, or the Western Canada Games," Yellowhorn said.

"It's even more remote that Native people have ever been involved in the Olympics."

The Treaty 7 Nations made the Alberta Sports and Recreation minister aware of this, he said, hopeful that Native participation will increase.

The integration will lead up to the Treaty 7 participation in the 1995 Alberta Winter Games. The tribes hope to send a "strong contingent", said Yellowhorn.

This year, the winners in downhill skiing in the 13-17 year old category are going to the Alberta Winter Games to be held Feb. 22-25 in Camrose. Native participation will extend to other sports in the future, Yellowhorn added.

"The kids will now say: 'Hey, I don't just have to go to the Treaty 7 Games. If I'm good enough, I may even go beyond,'" he said.

The Blackfoot Reserve may host the Winter Games early next year but that has yet to be confirmed until an upcoming joint meeting between the recreation directors of each band.

TREATY 7

And the con



The Men's A basketball final game between the Blackfoot and the Kainai Golden Eagles proved to be one of the highlights of the winter games. The Blackfoot squeaked out an 83-82 victory.



Jubilant Blackfoot fans jump to their feet, celebrating the one-point victory over the Kainai Golden Eagles in the Men's A basketball final.

A Kainai
Knight
tional h

7 WINTER GAMES

competition is fierce . . .



A Kainai Bulldogs defenceman fights off a Peigan Knights player in the battle for the bronze recreational hockey division. The Peigans won 10-4.



A Peigan skier navigates a turn in the over 15 years downhill ski event at the Westcastle Park about 41 miles west of Brocket.

Photos by
John Holman

Golden
Blackfoot



over the Kainai Golden Eagles in the



Peigan skier Craig Provost failed to make the last turn and hit the barrier just seven feet from the finish line.

Final Games Standings

Final Standings for the 1st Annual Treaty 7 Winter Games, including individual and team events

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Peigan Nation, Brocket	9	15	14	38
Blood Reserve, south of Kainai	5	6	9	19
Blackfoot Reserve, Siksika	8	5	2	17
Lethbridge Friendship Centre	6	3	2	12
Stoney Nation, Morley	3	2	2	7
Sarcee Reserve	-	1	3	4
Calgary Friendship Centre	-	1	-	1

Hockey

- Rockets
1. Bloods
2. Bloods
3. Peigan

- Novice
1. Bloods
2. Peigan
3. Stoney

- Atoms (10-11 years)
1. Stoney
2. Bloods
3. Peigan

- Peewee
1. Bloods
2. Peigan
3. Bloods

- Bantams
1. Stoney
2. Bloods
3. Blackfoot

- Midgets (16-17 years)
1. Bloods
2. Blackfoot
3. Stoney

- Recreational Hockey
1. Bloods
2. Calgary Friendship Centre (CFC)
3. Peigan

- Oldtimers
1. Peigan
2. Stoney
3. Bloods

Basketball

- Men's 8-12 years
1. Blackfoot
2. Lethbridge Friendship Centre (LFC)
3. Bloods

- Men's 13-14 years
1. Blackfoot
2. LFC
3. Bloods

- Men's A
1. Blackfoot
2. Bloods
3. Bloods

- Men's B
1. LFC
2. Bloods
3. Bloods

- Oldtimers
1. LFC
2. Peigan
3. Bloods

- Jr. Male
1. LFC
2. Blackfoot

- Jr. Female
1. Blackfoot
2. Peigan

- Ladies
1. LFC
2. Blackfoot
3. Sarcee

Volleyball

- Jr. Male
1. LFC
2. Peigan
3. Bloods

- Jr. Female
1. LFC
2. Peigan
3. Bloods

- Sr. Co-ed
1. Blackfoot
2. Bloods
3. Blackfoot

Badminton

- Jr. Male
1. Richard Runningrabbit, Blackfoot
2. Cameron Yellowface, Peigan
3. David Redyoungman, Peigan

- Jr. Female
1. Blackfoot
2. Keshia McMaster, Blackfoot
3. LFC

- Sr. Male
1. Tyler White, LFC
2. Ed McMaster, Blackfoot
3. LFC

- Sr. Female
1. Seline Yellowhorn, Peigan
2. Margaret Potts, Peigan
3. Pauline Yellowhorn, Peigan

Bowling

- Co-ed
1. Peigan
2. LFC
3. Peigan

Curling

- Co-ed
1. Blackfoot
2. Peigan
3. Peigan

Snooker (open)

1. Peigan
2. Sarcee
3. Peigan

Eight Ball Pool (open)

1. Blackfoot
2. Peigan
3. Sarcee

Community News

Windspeaker reporters survive winter ordeal... whew!

Hi!

Sometimes when you're driving on a highway at night just after a fierce blizzard, with long patches of dangerous black ice invisible to your truck lights and a cold northern wind blowing, you thank your lucky stars that, once long ago, you were a long distance truck driver and know how to drive with care on these dangerous roads.

That's exactly how I felt as I drove towards Red Deer from Edmonton, passing empty cars and pickup trucks stranded in ditches all along the 160 km strip of highway.

I made the trip to pick up John Holman, our sports reporter from Windspeaker, who was stranded in Red Deer after attending a winter games event near Brocket in southern Alberta.

John was waiting patiently at the Red Deer public library and after storing his gear in the back of the truck, we ventured back out on to the highway towards Edmonton.

John was napping when just out of Leduc, we came upon this pickup truck with dual wheels pulling an odd plywood trailer the size of a four-horse trailer.

I was in the passing lane and just about even with the truck's trailer, when all of a sudden, he began to fishtail. Both of us were travelling about 100 km per hour.

"He must of hit some black ice just when he pressed down on his accelerator," I thought to myself.

There was nothing I could do as I watched his trailer and truck wipe back and forth alongside of me. Seconds felt like hours.

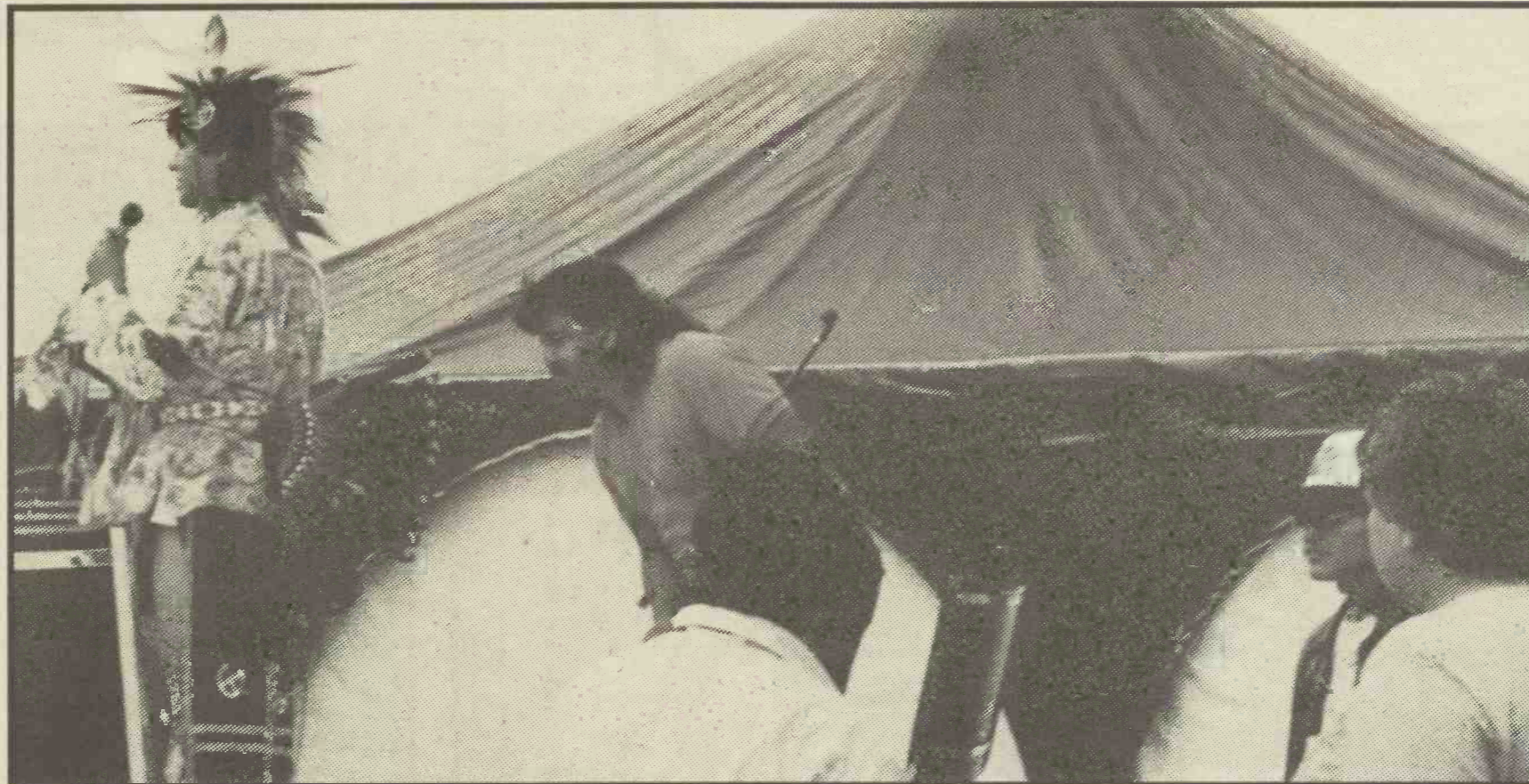
My only thought was: "Don't hit your gas, Rocky! Don't slow down! Only chance... keep going forward!"

Just then, his truck jackknifed sideways on the road only a foot



Droppin' In

By Rocky Woodward



A feather from an eagle? Lyle Donald checks it out.

from my truck. It would have meant instant pileup! Then, just as sudden the trailer he pulled fishtailed the other way, pulling his truck back towards the opposite ditch and John and I were safely by.

After stopping, we backed up to where his truck and trailer was, about 100 yards off the road and buried in a heap of snow. The couple in the truck were OK and in five minutes we found them a tow-truck. That was easy enough. They were all out on Feb. 12.

So, thank God an old habit came flooding back or I might

have panicked. And like I told John, who slept through it all: "But for the grace of God, no one was hurt."

EDMONTON: In the picture here in this column is Lyle Donald. You see, Lyle didn't believe this powwow dancer when he said his feathers were from an Eagle. So Lyle got caught taking a real close look to see if the feathers were indeed Eagle feathers.

He's probably saying — "I knew it! They're from a spruce hen! And one of them belongs to a domestic chicken!"

Lyle, you can thank our Tina over here at Windspeaker, for this moment in time.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Rocky McKay! Rocky's mother Angie just called to wish her son a happy one. Right now, he is in Brandon, Manitoba playing volleyball in a tournament for the Friends of Carmine (FOC) team.

Rocky McKay is a Valentine Day Birthday Boy!

where will never make jokes of me, then I would have to be a very vague man.

And I thought the Look-Alike Contest had some merit. After all, I know a dog in Alexander named Rocky... could it be named after me??? Ha ha!

ALEXANDER: After a long year of hard studies, late hours and temporary employment which went along with the program, 12 people, including Cindy Arcand — a past part-time employee with Windspeaker — graduated from their job entry program on Feb. 16.

Cindy says they are a bunch of "die-hards" and anyone who makes a commitment and follows through with it and graduates deserves a huge round of applause.

So Cindy Arcand and the rest of the graduates... take a bow... here comes your applause... Congratulations! Yeeeee!

DROPPIN' IN: On Feb. 24, a benefit dance will be held at the Sacred Heart Church (10821-96 Street). The dance is to raise funds for the Native Pastoral Centre and we all know they do need help!

The cost, a mere \$7 per person and \$3.50 for children. You can't beat those prices for a fun time for a Saturday night!

Bannock and coffee will be served... no alcoholic beverages permitted or available... a dry dance.

And listen to this... a raffle for a tape deck will be held.

Music will be supplied by A Taste of Nashville.

Also we would like to welcome Father Garry Laboucan to the Native Pastoral Centre. Father Laboucan is taking over from Father Brian Jayawardhana who has left the parish.

That's it! See ya all next week... and drive safely.

To have your event appear in "Indian Country Community Events" call Tina Wood at (403)455-2700.

Windspeaker would like to apologize for the inclusion of a community calendar event which promoted a 'look-alike contest' in Fishing Lake for anyone who wanted to dress up as Larry Desmeules, Pearl Calahasen or Rocky Woodward. The event was not authorized. Apologies to Gary Parenteau and anyone else affected by the promotion.

ALBERTA PEDWAY DISPLAY; Feb. 9 - Mar. 30; 9804 - 107 St., north of the Legislature; Native Indian Arts & Crafts; for more info. call (403)427-7362.

CATCH THE RISING SPIRIT; Feb. 9 - Mar. 1; Beaver House, 10158 - 103 St.; Alberta Indian Arts & Crafts; for more info. call (403)427-2031.

ADULT MEN'S FLOOR HOCKEY; 16 years and up; Ben Calf Robe school, every Tues. and Thurs.; 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., contact Brian at 452-7811.

FOURTH GENERATION BAND; Feb. 12 - 17; Tumbleweeds, 17512 Stony Plain Road; for more info. call (403)484-3444.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN BUFFALO JUMP; mini-events every Sunday at noon thru to March 25; Feb. 18 — Native Films; for more info. contact Louise Crow Shoe, (403) 553-2731 or Calgary office, (403)

Indian Country Community Events

265-0048.

POUNDMAKER/NECHI POUND DANCE; Feb. 17, 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.; Poundmaker Lodge, St. Albert; lunch will be served; drummers will be paid; everyone welcome; (403) 458-1884.

VALENTINE DANCE; Feb. 17; 8:00 - 12:00 a.m.; Frog Lake Gym; sponsored by the Youth Club; for more info. call (403) 943-3918 or 943-3737.

PITCHING CLINIC (ADRIAN HOPE YOUTH CENTRE); Feb. 16 - 18; Edmonton; for more info. call Gordon Russell at (403) 456-1039 or (403) 479-8609.

1ST ANNUAL VAUGHAN WARD MEMORIAL SNOWMOBILE RALLY; Feb. 17 & 18; The Complex, Ft. Vermilion; for more info. call (403) 927-4320.

SNOOKER TOURNAMENT; Feb. 16 - 18; Donny's Arcade, Bonnyville; for more info. call Donny at (403)826-6810, Eugene (ext. 14) or Herman (ext. 10) at (403) 826-3333 or Ray at (403) 826-4732.

C.N.F.C. NATIVE RECREATION HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 16 - 18; Enoch Recreation Centre; for more info. call

Rene Houle at (403) 452-7811. **REACHING JUST SETTLEMENTS (LAND CLAIMS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA);** Feb. 21 & 22, 1990; University of Victoria, Victoria B.C.; for more info. call (604) 721-8055.

C.N.F.C. SENIOR NO-HIT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 23, 24, 25; for more info. call Rene Houle at (403) 452-7811.

GOSPEL JAMBOREE; Mar. 1 - 4; Elizabeth Metis Settlement Hall; for more info. call Liz Jackknife at (403)594-5026.

BLACKFOOT INVITATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT; Mar. 1-3; Deerfoot Sportsplex, Blackfoot Reserve; for more info. call Faron McMaster at (403) 734-3838.

OLD TIME GOSPEL MEETING; Mar. 2 & 3, 8:00 nightly; Slave Lake Friendship Centre; for more info. contact Adolph Kootenay at (403)369-3869.

COLD LAKE FIRST NATIONS WINTER CARNIVAL; Mar. 2, 3 & 4; for more info. call (403)594-7183, ask for Randy Muskeg, Rick Janvier or Eric Grandbois. **ROUND DANCE;** Mar. 9; Frog Lake Hall; for more info. call (403)943-3737.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET & DANCE; Mar. 10; High Prairie; for all volunteers of the High Prairie Friendship Centre; for more info. call (403) 523-4511.

GOODFISHLAKE KINGS NO HIT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Mar. 16, 17 & 18; Lakeside Arena; for more info. call Henry Cardinal at (403)636-2863, work or (403)636-2194, home.

BOYS' HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Mar. 16-18; St. Paul; for more info. call Andy at (403) 645-4491, Crystal or Verne John at (403) 826-7866 or leave message at (403) 645-4455.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT; Mar. 16-18; St. Paul; for more info. call Andy at (403) 645-4491, Crystal or Verne John at (403) 826-7866 or leave message at (403) 645-4455.

SENIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; March 16 - 18; Regina Exhibition Stadium — Exhibition Park; Regina, Sask.; entry deadline Mar. 9; for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333.

1ST ANNUAL NATIVE CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT; Mar. 16-18; Edmonton; sponsored by the C.N.F.C.; for more info. call Rene or Cathy at (403) 452-7811.

ALL CHIEFS HEALTH CONFERENCE; Mar. 20, 21 & 22; Continental Inn West, Edmonton; for more info. contact Audrey or Henry at (403)426-1213.

HIGH PRAIRIE NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 3RD ANNUAL TALENT SHOW;

Mar. 24 at 7:00 p.m.; Elk's Hall (downtown); for more info. call Loraine at (403)523-4511.

EDMONTON NATIVE SNOWBIRDS (LADIES FASTBALL) TRYOUTS; Mar. 31 to Apr. 1; Enoch, Alberta; for more info. call Gordon Russell at (403) 456-1039 or 479-8609.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD; every Wednesday at noon; special screenings; NFB Theatre, 120 Canada Place, 9700 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton; admission is free; for more info. call Muriel at 495-3012.

NATIONAL INDIAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS; (Men/Ladies), April 7-8, 1990; University of Regina Physical Activity Centre; entry deadline Mar. 29; for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333 or fax (306) 584-0955.

12th ANNUAL SPRING POWWOW; April 14-15, 1990; Canada Centre, East Building, Regina Exhibition Park; for more info. contact Melody Kitchemonia at (306) 584-8333 or fax (306) 584-0955.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION - "STAND AND DELIVER"; April 18-21; Convention Inn South and Coast Terrace Inn; for more info. call Anita at (403)962-0303.

ELIZABETH SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE & COMMUNITY HALL GRAND OPENING; May 11; for more info. call Pam Anderson at (403)594-5028.

Community News

Cold Lake community tackles environmental health

By Dianne Parenteau
Windspeaker Correspondent

COLD LAKE RESERVE, ALTA.

A small concerned group of local government representatives and community members gathered in the reserve health center Feb. 6 to discuss environmental health concerns.

Initiated by councillor Mary Francois, who is in charge of health and social services, the two-hour meeting brought to light a long list of issues that the public should be made aware of.

The meeting closed with a list of recommendations to reduce environmental dangers.

"I'm hoping to get people aware about the environment. How to keep the area clean and healthy," said Francois.

"Our plant life is dying, our animal life is dying, birds... who is doing that?" she asked.

"We have no governing bodies that monitor the reserve water, air, ground water, lakes," she said.

Some concern centred on the effect of a large amount of oil and gas activity in the area and the noise from the nearby airbase. But many other concerns about environmental health pointed towards the community itself.

"Basically it has to start someplace," said Alberta Indian Health Care Commission Representative Jerome Yellowknee.

"What can you do as an individual? These issues here are not unsolvable. Some may be uncontrollable. Most are controllable by us right at the community level," said Public Safety Services Officer John Piche.

"We can deal with them, finalize them and get them solved."

Awareness of environmental

health was one thing which was considered lacking in the fight towards improving the pollution situation.

The need for a local person or department to monitor environmental concerns and educate people was an immediate recommendation.

Some other plans voiced included the forming of an environmental health committee consisting of people who are concerned about the environment.

The group wants to solicit government officials and industry to gather information over their concerns and want to talk with local elders to discuss the issue of environmental health in the community.

"People are careless, they need to be taught," said Francois. "Education and awareness for a cleaner environment (is my goal)."

"People were concerned (about the environment) but none wanted to start it. As portfolio holder in health and social services, I wanted to see some-

thing done. We'll form a committee, look at the recommendation and bring the concerns to the local government and Medical Services Branch," she said.

Native students mark graduation at Mount Royal

By Terry Berezan
Windspeaker Correspondent

CALGARY

Ten Native students from Mount Royal College's Counsellor Aid Program celebrated their graduation recently.

The event marked a significant milestone of achievement in the lives of these Stoney, Cree and Blackfoot students.

"It's these graduates who will be the pillars of our Native communities and who will ensure the survival of our people," said guest speaker Roy Cunningham.

"They have shown great fortitude in sticking it out through their courses."

The graduates finished a very demanding program. All of the courses from the regular Mount Royal College social work program, which normally take two years to complete, were finished in one year.

In addition to the in-school courses, the students were required to complete a practical course component. Their work situations included school counselling, working in health care and at the Calgary Correctional Centre.

Lawrence Brul, Director of Programs at the Correctional Centre commented that "it is important to have Native people providing services to their own population. They are more effective than non-Natives in this area."

Lawrence added that he was most impressed with the quality of the counsellor aid program and hoped to develop more links with Native communities.

Course co-ordinator Carol Gowans and instructor Mary Stacey gave emotional speeches at the banquet. They praised the graduates for overcoming obstacles to complete their assignments.

They expressed how it was a tremendous experience working with the students, and felt they had grown as educators through knowing them.

The feeling at the banquet was one of hope and strength. The positive evening closed with students, instructors and guests participating in an appreciation round dance.

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Arts and Entertainment

Profile of an artist: Todd Kervin

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Todd Kervin, a 24-year-old Metis, has lived in Edmonton all his life and although he's never been to the north, his pencil drawing *Cold Indian* featured in the Beaver House Gallery, depicts an arctic man's face so authentically that it almost seems he had to be there to capture it so well.

Kervin's work is featured with eight other Native artists from around Alberta at Beaver House Gallery's (3rd floor, 10158-103 St.) once-a-year show, *Catch the Rising Spirit*.

Among those featured are some well-known artists such as Kim McLain, Faye Heavyshield, Ann McLean — the first runner up at last year's *Asum Mena* art festival, and Jacinta Wostenberg, second runner-up at the festival.

Catch the Rising Spirit runs

until March 1, before moving on to Calgary.

Kervin began his artistic career at age 10 by drawing cars and trucks and people's faces.

For a few years now, he's found faces are the easiest for him so he has kept with it.

Kervin has work with pastels and pencils and is starting to work with acrylic paints.

He says he likes control in his work and that working with pencils and ink are his favorites.

Abstract art, however, is not his forte. "I understand it, but it's not my style. I like control."

The main focus of his art at this time is portraits. Some are authentic but most are from photographs he gets from books and magazines.

A lot of his ideas comes from blues and sixties music as well, he said, explaining that music gives him ideas and titles which eventually turn into a sketch before the final product.

It's ironic that Kervin has be-

come an artist. The only training he's every had was throughout high school. Then, he failed Grade 10 art and barely made passing grades in a grade 12 art program.

He explains that it wasn't because of his work, but his "bad attitude" and not showing up for classes.

He is now enrolled at the University of Alberta in basic design and an introduction to drawing, "which I don't really need, but I need them to get into the course I want: printmaking."

Kervin has been with the Alberta Indian Arts and Crafts Society for four years and has been featured in six shows. Altogether he's sold about ten pieces of his work, four in last year's *Asum Mena* festival.

Recently, he drew the cover of a cassette for a local blues artist, Lester Quitzau's *Take Time*. He has been told his ink drawings were featured in a book about Woodlands and Plains Cree.

Kervin is also in the planning stage to start a cartoon. "Bill C-31, and his cousin Melvin Metis. It's going to be political."

In the summer, he plans to work on some "serialistic" work for the *Asum Mena* show in August, as well as going to Vancouver's Stanley Park with another Edmonton artist to sell and paint for the public.

Kervin explains that he'd like to do art for a living because "if it's something you like doing, you'd like to make money at it, too."

However, he won't compromise artistic integrity for commercial success.

He says if he finds himself doing a piece of work just to add to the chances of getting it accepted into a show, he will not do it.

That is where artist Todd Kervin draws the line.



Artist Todd Kervin



Celina Vandale in powwow dress.

Photo courtesy of S. Katzdorf

Powwow dancing getting popular in Grande Prairie

By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA.

Grande Prairie Natives have the chance for the first time to learn a favorite Indian summer pastime.

They're being taught powwow dance at the city's friendship centre by Saskatchewan Native Celina Vandale.

"I teach boys and girls traditional and fancy dancing. Everyone learns to grass dance. Each person works to develop individual style. I choose to see what dance is suited for them. I give direction," says Vandale.

She taught Native dancing for six years in Fort St. John, B.C. before moving to Grande Prairie to attend Grande Prairie Regional College where she is working towards a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Her maiden name is Celina Bird. Born near Thunderchild, Sask. Vandale has been dancing all her life.

In 1970, she was chosen a Saskatchewan Indian princess and a champion dancer.

"When I was 15 and 16 we used to sing with our dad. We were the first girls to sing," she says, recalling her memories of growing up in Saskatchewan.

As well as teaching drumming and dancing, Vandale helps make powwow outfits for the 25 dancers who participate.

Powwow is becoming popular in the Grande Prairie area. Vandale is teaching 45 area residents at Horse Lake Reserve, 65 kilometres west of the town.

Dance classes are held Sunday afternoons from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the friendship centre, which is located at 10105-97th Ave.

NOTICE

This notice is to inform Aboriginal peoples of the formation of the Aboriginal Peoples' Commission of the Liberal Party of Canada.

The creation of the Commission provides the opportunity to participate in the selection of the next Leader of the Liberal Party. You are invited to get involved and increase direct input into the development of the Aboriginal policy.

The National Executive of the Liberal Party has passed a Resolution enabling 182 delegates to attend the upcoming Leadership Convention scheduled for June 20-24, 1990 in Calgary, Alberta. Delegates will be selected on the basis of one per local club. In Alberta, there can be 19, Aboriginal Clubs created.

If you are interested in participating, the deadline for club accreditation is March 20, 1990. Please call Julie Mongeon at the Liberal Party in Ottawa, toll free.

For area codes (416) (514) (613) (705): 1-800-267-7693
For all other area codes: 1-800-267-7653.

This is a paid political announcement of the Liberal Party of Canada.

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Daishowa Canada's Peace River Pulp Division is seeking Plant Protection Technicians to join its team of employees preparing to start up a 1000 TPD bleached kraft pulp mill in the summer of 1990. This opportunity will appeal to energetic self-starters who are interested in participating in a unique team-working environment.

Successful candidates for this position will be experienced first aid attendants who possess a valid Advanced St. John's First Aid Ticket or equivalent. Applicants will also be skilled fire fighters with either municipal or industrial experience and must possess, or be capable of obtaining, a Class Four Driver's License. Previous experience conducting safety-related training, operating personal computers and maintaining both fire protection equipment and systems is considered an asset.

Applicants should be capable of working with advanced technology in an often physically demanding environment. Finalists must be willing to undergo a Medical Fitness Examination.

Interested candidates should forward their resume, including the names of references, to the Human Resources Superintendent at the address below.



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Provincial News

Siksika Nation takes control of education

By Wayne Courchene
Windspeaker Correspondent

GLEICHEN, ALTA.

A sense of celebration, pagentry and pride filled the ceremony that marked the official transfer of control of the education program in Siksika Nation Indian Reserve from the Department of Indian Affairs.

The ceremony also highlighted the re-opening of Crowfoot School after a recent \$2.5 million of renovations.

Over 150 people arrived in the newly-renovated gymnasium to participate in the ceremony on Feb. 1.

Parents, children, the chief and council, government representatives and invited guests from the neighboring County of Wheatland School Division were there to celebrate the event.

The agenda was filled with traditional and contemporary ceremonies, speeches, song, dance, tours and refreshments.

Following a prayer and blessing from elder Jim Many Heads and translated in English by Russell Wright, a grand entry and flag ceremony was lead by Chief Strater Crowfoot across the new gymnasium floor to the stage.

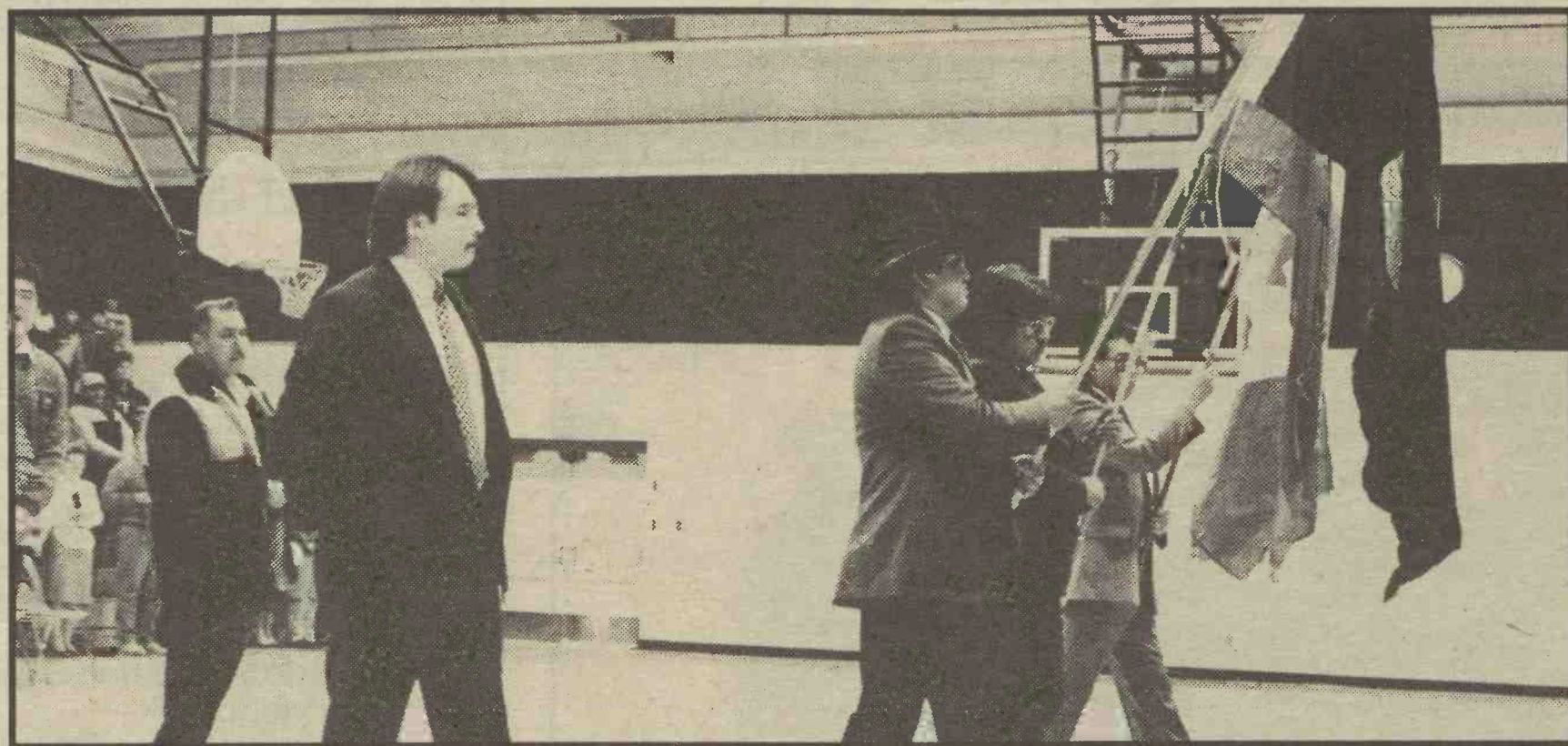
While Council members acted as flag-bearers, the Crowfoot School Dance Troop gave a regal touch to the procession.

Two elementary students, nine-year-old Matthew Henry and ten-year-old Ranell Lagrall proudly took the lead role in the ribbon-cutting ceremony that followed.

Fred Jobin, director of Indian Services, read the band council resolution that served as a public declaration of the transfer of the education program.

The document was signed by Chief Crowfoot and council members in a historic moment.

The occasion was also used to



Wayne Courchene, Windspeaker

A flag-bearing ceremony marked a historic occasion for the Blackfoot band this month.

induct seven people into the Siksika Board of Education.

Sworn-in were Harvina Red Crow as chairperson of the school board and Theresa Bear Chief, Maurena Pretty Youngman, Raymond Crow Chief, Morris Running Rabbit and Melvina McMaster as trustees.

In their speeches, Chief Crowfoot directed his comments to the students in the audience and displayed his graduation certificate as a means of encouraging students to work hard towards achieving their grade 12 diploma.

Ann McMaster, past portfolio holder of education, issued a challenge to students, parents and teachers alike to make Crowfoot School, "one of the best schools in the country."

Angeline Ayoungman emphasized the importance of parent support to children attending school.

Sheila Carr-Stewart, representing the provincial government's department of education, made an important announcement during her greetings to the audience.

She said a grade three class in

the Siksika school had achieved the highest classroom marks in language arts of all reserve schools in Alberta.

It's a distinction, said Carr-Stewart, of the good things to come from Siksika schools.

The program drew to a close with a plaque presented to the Blackfoot Building Committee in recognition for their work on the school project.

The Crowfoot School Dance Troop entertained the audience with a demonstration of their dancing skills and the Eagle Society Drummers' demonstrated their proficiency at singing.

In an interview after the ceremonies, Robert Breaker Jr., education Director of Siksika Nations, said the transfer of the program will mean the band will administer a \$1.5 million budget and be responsible for 440 students in two schools on the reserve.

He added that bands in the Treaty 7 area all have gained control of their education programs with the exception of Eden Valley, which is the only reserve with a federally-run school remaining.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR WORLD

To include your non-profit events in this column, contact the editor.

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Sports

Reborn boxing club needs a home

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

A reborn Native boxing club in Edmonton is struggling for funding and is trying to find a training facility.

Gordon Russell formed the Native Boys Boxing Club after a year-and-a-half layoff following the Fire Marshall's closure of the old Canadian Native Friendship Centre (CNFC), where it had trained before.

The boxing club has 15 members and is now run by the Adrian Hope Drop-in Centre where Russell works.

He said the club should give aboriginal youth a chance to enter this summer's North American Indigenous Games as boxers.

"The Native Boys Boxing Club used to be a very good club, well-known throughout the province," added assistant coach Eric Ward.

"It highlighted a lot of our Native boxers and we're hoping that we can do the same thing again."

The club will host a 10-bout boxing card at the Commonwealth Stadium on April 9, and Native participation will be highlighted.

"We have a couple of boys in training already," Ward added. "But we haven't got our facility yet, so the Cougar Club has been kind enough to let us use their facilities."

The club needs a home. The boxers can use the Cougars Club gym at the McCauley Boys and Girls Club, but Russell does not want to wear out their stay.

Funds will be needed for a ring and extra equipment, so the boxers will seek corporate sponsorship and carry out fund-raising activities like bottle drives, said Ward, who has seven years



Gordon Russell in the ring.

Windspeaker file photo.

coaching experience.

The Alberta Sports Council gave the club \$500 for two punching bags and a pair of gloves and Russell has extra pairs from the time he coached for the Canadian Native Friendship Centre.

Russell has been coaching since 1955. He has been across Canada and even behind the now defunct Iron Curtain in East Berlin in 1973 with a Canadian boxing contingent.

"It's a discipline sport," Russell affirmed. "You'll see a lot

of people who would have been up all night be in bed before nine (at night) and then go running at 6:30, go to school and come back for training and then go to bed."

This type of lifestyle doesn't foster the street-brawling image many people take of boxers, he noted.

"Once they are disciplined, they run from a fight unless they are cornered," Russell explained, adding that the boxers are taught that their strength and training stays in the ring and off the street.

Sports Briefs

Goodfish Lake Blackhawks aiming to win in Battleford

Alexander: The Goodfish Lake Blackhawks posted another win at the Alexander reserve last week, following an easy win at the 2nd Annual Clifford Metchewais Memorial Tournament two weeks ago.

The Alexander Band's 24th Annual Hockey Tournament saw the Blackhawks play four games Sunday in the semi-finals and finals to take first place. The Enoch Tomahawks finished second. The Alexis Jets placed third.

This is part of their training for a major Native tournament in North Battleford, Sask.

"We're really training them, getting them in good shape," said coach Albert Houle last week.

"We make them play a lot of hockey."

Their hard work has paid off but they are also a young, fast team.

"They're real contenders," Houle added, predicting that they should take first place in the North Battleford Friendship Centre Annual Tournament.

It won't be the first time they have been at the tournament. They were the champs in 1982 and 1983. They won fourth place last year and third the year before, but they are a different team now.

Some of the current players have replaced the regulars who have gone on to the U of A and other post-secondary institutions.

"The boys have to do a little hitting because that is how it's played in North Battleford," Houle said, noting that they have been playing no-hit hockey this year.

Fort Mac takes championship

Fort Chipewyan: Five teams competed for top spot and \$500 at a tournament held Feb. 9-11 in Fort Chip. Fort McMurray took the championship with Janvier winning \$300 and second place. Fort Chip came third, for the second time in a row, and won \$200.

The most valuable player was Lawrence Powder from Fort MacKay. The high scorer award went to Peter Powder from the Fort McMurray Chiefs.

He collected 12 goals and 7 assists for a high of 19 points during the tournament. The best goalie was Greg Whalen of the Chiefs, while the most gentlemanly player was Gilligan Laroque from Uranium City, Sask.

Sucker Creek collects first

Fort Vermilion: Sucker Creek defeated the Fort Vermilion Hawks 16-2 to win a 12-team tournament in Vermilion held Feb. 9-11. Sucker Creek won \$1,000 and the Hawks collected \$500. The La Crete Kings beat the Arsenault Trucking team 6-2 to take \$250 and third place.

In another tournament before that, Feb. 2-4, the Hawks beat the La Crete Kings for first place while the Garden River Buffalos placed third.

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NADC Public Forum

Ashmont
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 20, 1990
Legion Hall

The Northern Alberta Development Council holds regular public meetings throughout Northern Alberta, giving everyone the opportunity to present briefs on matters of concern and general information.

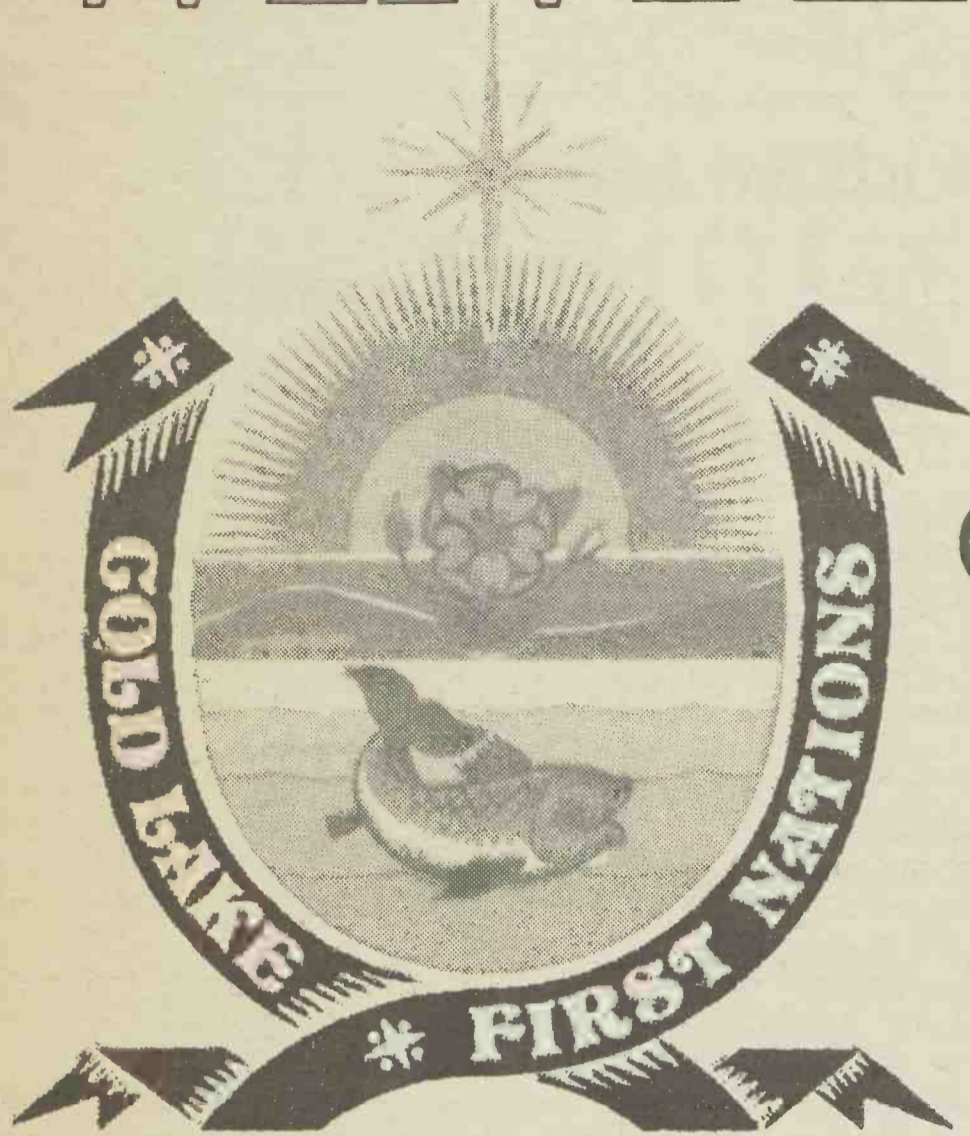
The Council consists of ten members and is chaired by Bob Elliott, MLA for Grande Prairie.

Groups or individuals interested in making submissions at this meeting may contact Council member Marcel Ducharme in Bonnyville at 826-3278 or 826-3905, or the Northern Development Branch in Peace River at 624-6274 for assistance.



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DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

WINTER CARNIVAL



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COLD LAKE FIRST NATIONS

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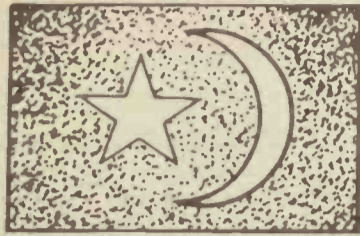
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Lorraine Scanie

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1990 CREE CALENDAR

Syllabics by Joe Redcrow - Illustrations by Henry Nanooch



ꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ JANUARY - The Wicked Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ FEBRUARY - The Eagle Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ MARCH - The Goose Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ APRIL - The Frog Moon
X|||X||| |||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ MAY - The Egg-laying Month
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ JUNE - The Hatching Month
||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ JULY - The Moulting Month
X|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ AUGUST - The Flying Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ SEPTEMBER - The Mating Moon
|X|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ OCTOBER - The Freezing Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ NOVEMBER - The Fog Moon
|||X|||X|||X|||X|||



ꕿꕿꕿꕿꕿ ꕿꕿ DECEMBER - The Drifting Month
|X|||X|||X|||X||| |||X|||



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