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### QUOTABLE QUOTE

"When all democratic means to get attention or justice have been exhausted and government won't listen, people have two choices. They can keep fighting for their rights or give up and let government ignore them. It's my view there's too much pain in our lives already to give up." — Ovide Mercredi, new national chief of the Assembly of First Nations



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### INSIDE INVESTIGATION DEMANDED

The Prince Albert Tribal Council has given a lukewarm welcome to two government committees set up to investigate how the Saskatchewan justice system deals with aboriginals. Chief Allen Felix is demanding, instead, that an independent investigation be held into what he called the "racially motivated" shooting of Leo LaChance. Please see page 3.

### PARK BID IN LIMBO

The Enoch Cree Nation wants more time to examine its proposed takeover of the Alberta Wildlife Park. Band members have mixed feelings about getting involved in the venture. Please see page 2.

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### AD DEADLINES

The advertising and copy deadline for the July 5th issue is 4 p.m. June 26th due to the holiday weekend.

June 21, 1991 North America's Leading Native Newspaper Volume 9 No. 7

# Calling Lake divorces Bigstone

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALLING LAKE, ALTA.

In a surprise move Calling Lake treaty Indians under the control of the Bigstone Cree Nation at Wabasca have voted to break away from the band.

On June 13, a chief, a vice-chief, five council members and a band manager were elected to administer what is now being called the Gambler band at Calling Lake.

The new leaders said they were tired of the way they were treated over the years by the Bigstone band.

William Beaver, a past Bigstone chief, was elected chief at a late night community meeting June 13.

At a meeting in Edmonton June 14, the new chief and council stated Calling Lake treaty Indians have never been recognized or regarded very seriously by the Bigstone band.

In a news release they listed poor housing facilities, little employment and a lack of health services at Calling Lake as being ignored by the Bigstone administration.

Vice-Chief John Gambler said since 1966 nothing has been done for Calling Lake treaty people. "There's just poverty here and welfare cheques," he says.

But Bigstone Chief Eric Alook said his band always did what ever it could for Calling Lake.

"We have a membership close to 3,000 people that includes Bill C-31 people. Last year we allocated two trailers for Calling Lake and that is more than enough according to population.

"Presently, right here on the Bigstone reserve about 85 per cent of the population is unemployed. I have been chief for nine months now and unemployment here and at Calling Lake is something we're fighting to change. It's a big problem everywhere," explained Alook.

Gambler said about 95 people signed a petition to break away from Bigstone band. And he said about 40 members attended the meeting to elect the chief and council.

Treaty Indians at Calling Lake have a membership of about 150 people.

Beaver said breaking away is nothing new.

"The four bands at Hobbema were all one tribe once, so was Goodfish Lake and Saddle Lake.

## Native studies students graduate

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

On June 10 two Native students from the University of Alberta's Native studies program became the first to graduate from the program.

Connie Twin and Murray McLaren graduated with honors from the program which began in the fall of 1989.

"On behalf of the students' association congratulations, but with a word of caution. You are pathfinders for all of us who follow you. So don't make it hard but don't make it easy," fellow student Cindy Ladouceur told the graduates.

The four-year bachelor of arts Native studies program offers a variety of Native courses ranging from North American Indian languages to management issues in Native communities.

There are about 50 students, Native and non-Native, enrolled

Please see page 2



Rocky Woodward

## Young Voyageur

Dressed in Indian and Metis garments, Stephen Wuttunee, 22, of Calgary left Edmonton June 9 on a 4 1/2 month canoe trip to Quebec City. Please see story on page 9.

Please see page 2

# Militants won't set agenda, vows assembly's new chief

By Amy Santoro  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Canada's newly-elected top Indian chief says he won't allow militant factions to take control of the national agenda.

Ovide Mercredi, a Manitoba Cree elected grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations June 12, said he "won't be involved in a campaign for civil disobedience so troublemakers can control it — I don't trust troublemakers."

Mercredi stressed he doesn't advocate violence as a means for Natives to fight for their rights but rather he supports civil disobedience that's "morally justified."

Civil disobedience can't involve the threat or use of violence or the destruction of property and it must be controlled by the chief and council, Mercredi told *Windspeaker*.

If disruptive behavior meets Mercredi's "program of civil disobedience," then "I'll be there with them."

Mercredi, who gained national recognition last year during the Oka crisis and the death of the Meech Lake accord, cited the situation of the Lubi-

con Lake Indian band in Northern Alberta as a struggle he considers morally justified.

The Lubicons have struggled for over 50 years for a land-claim settlement.

"When all democratic means to get attention or justice have been exhausted and government won't listen, then people have two choices. They can keep fighting for their rights or give up and let government ignore them. It's my view there's too much pain in our lives already to give up. It's better to stand up and fight for our rights but the way we do it is important. Civil disobedience just to get television attention to my mind is going to be destructive."

The six-way race to succeed Georges Erasmus was tough. After candidates Bill Wilson and Neil Sterritt threw their support behind Mercredi he came out in front of Phil Fontaine to capture victory.

Mercredi said his leadership will focus on solutions because "I don't have to raise anybody's awareness of the problems. Georges (Erasmus) has done that for me. Now I have to take that next step to find solutions to our needs."

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Please see page 3 More on page 13

# Calling Lake divorces Bigstone band

From front page

Up until about 1966 we were the John Baptiste Gambler band #183 and recognized as such with the federal government. But after Gambler died we were swept under the wing of the Bigstone band," Beaver commented.

Alook said he has nothing against Bigstone members at Calling Lake wanting to be independent from the Bigstone band, but he wondered if the election of the chief and council was legal.

"Last year Calling Lake approached us and said they wanted to go on their own. They had our approval at that time. It's not a big deal. At one time they were a separate reserve from us.

"However, we want to know how legal their move is and we'll find out, because they are under the wing of the Bigstone band. They held elections for chief and council and we were never notified," Alook said.

He said a band council resolution was passed about 1966, where treaty people at Calling Lake agreed to be part of the Bigstone band. "This BCR is on

file."

Gambler cited a lack of cooperation between the Bigstone band and Indian Affairs and the Bigstone members at Calling Lake as the main reason for the break.

"In a sense we are under a dictatorship rule with no real say from our end. We realize the Bigstone band has done its best to administer us but it's not effective enough to help us to the fullest.

"We're not angry at the Bigstone band or Indian Affairs. We're angry at the system that simply does not work. Obviously, they thought it would work back in 1966 but it doesn't work today," Gambler said.

"The people at Calling Lake want to make their own stand now," added Beaver.

He said the leaders of the new band plan to travel to Ottawa to register the name of the Gambler band and its new chief and council.

Others elected include band manager Pierre Fournier and Councillors Ernie Gambler, Agatha Gambler, Bruce Gambler, Mae Gambler and Susan Gambler.



Rocky Woodward

Left to right (back row) Bruce Gambler, Mae Gambler, Susan Gambler, (front row) John Gambler, William Beaver, Pierre Fournier.

## Enoch's bid for wildlife park in limbo

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ENOCH CREE NATION,  
ALTA.

Whether the Enoch band will get the Alberta Wildlife Park remains in limbo after the council decided on Tuesday to seek a two-month extension to the June 30 deadline for reaching an agreement.

About 120 band members attending Tuesday's closed-door band meeting had mixed feelings about the transfer of \$3-million worth of park buildings and

animals to their reserve. Many wanted more information before they'd cast a vote.

But a band councillor said the meeting was called to inform band members about things relevant to the wildlife park and its possible relocation to Enoch. "Nothing else," said Kathy Thomas.

Thomas blamed the media "as a whole" for blowing everything out of proportion.

"The media has made it more difficult for both sides. They've made it sound as if things are pretty hot in the ring but nothing has been etched in stone.

"Basically, the meeting was informational and we looked at the potential of having the park relocated here. That is all," said Thomas.

Enoch was slated to take over the wildlife park, 50 km north of Edmonton, by June 30 once it approved all conditions it gave to the park's foundation.

Enoch economic development officer Ben Ground said he was also upset with the way the media handled the proposed park takeover.

"They announced we had the park in early June but everyone forgot we had until June 30 to approve the park's relocation to Enoch.

"We gave out a newsletter that stated it was still up to band members to approve us receiving the park and we said we were looking for funding. Nothing was really mentioned in those areas at that time. Of course we didn't like that," Ground said.

Chief Robert Sharphead said if the band membership approves the park he is optimistic "things will work out" if the Alberta Wildlife Park Foundation grants Enoch an extension to August.

Sharphead said he will still go ahead with a plan to approach the federal and provincial governments for funding although provincial Parks Minister Steve West has said the province will not give any money.

Ground said Enoch will only put up one dollar to buy the park as in the agreement.

"We have other things that need our attention right here at Enoch. Any money we budget has to go towards social and economic projects.

"When you really look at it, we're willing to put up land that is worth a huge amount of money and we only have so much land," he said.

Ground added feelings are mixed over the park proposal and unless there is full band support, the plan will not go ahead.

"Nothing is for sure. The meeting we held was informational and naturally, we had to talk with our members before we

*"The media has made it more difficult for both sides. They've made it sound as if things are pretty hot in the ring but nothing has been etched in stone."*

do anything pertaining to the park. Many felt everything was happening too fast. It's one reason why we're asking for an extension," he said.

The band is hoping the park's foundation will extend the deadline but foundation chairman Glen Semenchuk said he will wait to see if the band's reasons are valid. Then it has to be approved by the foundation's seven-member board.

The extension opens the doors

for proposals by three other groups that wanted to take over the park but lost their bids to Enoch.

The Helen Ridgeway Society plans to combine its efforts with Tiffin Investments. The society is quite confident the group could meet the June 30 deadline.

"It they do, fine," Ground said.

Meanwhile, 850 wildlife park animals are still looking for a new home.

## Band proposes a huge land swap

By Lana Michelin  
Contributing Writer

FORT MCMURRAY, ALTA.

The chief of the Athabasca-Chipewyan Indian band is negotiating a land swap with the province to trade an expanse of "useless" delta swampland for more fertile soil.

Chief Pat Marcel said most of his reserve is now covered by marshy Athabasca River delta land, which has become useless to members of his band.

The delta near Fort Chipewyan was once rich in wildlife, but Marcel said there are no more muskrats or other furbearing animals on the land to make it useful to trappers.

"All you have now is polluted water," he said, referring to industrial effluent that empties into the river upstream of Fort Chipewyan.

Since the W.A.C. Bennett hydro-electric dam project in B.C. began to divert flood waters in 1968, it has been recorded that large areas of the delta are drying out.

Several studies — including results from a Parks Canada commissioned report — concluded most of the delta vegetation that has supplied food and habitat for a variety of birds and wildlife, will be gone within 50 years.

Marcel said he has to think of his band's future so he is willing to trade the approximately 240,000 hectares his band is entitled to under treaty for a significantly smaller piece of farming land.

As negotiations with the federal government and provincial solicitor general are still under way, Marcel said the exact location of the new land parcel is still undetermined, but he mentioned he is asking for about 240 hectares.

He hopes to have an agreement for the switch before the fall. His main conditions are that the land is near Fort Chipewyan and has fertile soil for market gardening.

"I'm looking for a land base for future generations and this is some of the most fertile land there is," Marcel said.

(Michelin is a reporter with Fort McMurray Today)

More on the delta on page 7

## Students graduate

From front page

in the program.

"We are proud of both graduates. They worked hard and were dedicated students. They challenged us and supported us. We are proud you are graduates of this university," associate professor and director of the school of Native studies Richard Price told a small gathering of university faculty members, family and friends attending a luncheon in honor of the graduates.

Elders Lawrence Makinaw and Morris L'Hirondelle held a sweetgrass ceremony in honor of the graduates. Both graduates later received a feather and sweetgrass from the elders.

"Now that you have graduated I hope you will act as role models for other Native students so they will have reason to achieve their goals.

"This gift I give you will protect you. Keep them," Makinaw told the two graduates.

"We ask the good spirits to look after you and they are here, even if you can't see them," smiled L'Hirondelle.

Twin is a member of the Bigstone Cree Nation. McLaren, the brother of Leslie McLaren, the reigning Miss Canada, is from Edmonton.

"I hope more Native students join us one day in graduating from the Native studies program. I am very excited about being one of the first to graduate from the program. This is only the beginning," Twin said.

"It was a tough four years for my wife so I must thank her. I am proud to be one of the first to graduate. This school meant a lot to me and I'm sure it will for others," said McLaren.

Dr. Dianne Kieren, vice-president of academics at the U of A, said it took a lot of planning and time for the Native studies program to happen.

"We're looking for great things from this school. We share in your celebration today and wish you both the best of luck," she said.

Twin and McLaren received their bachelor of arts degrees at a U of A convocation later that day.

## Correction

On page 29 of our Powwow Country '91 issue (June 7, 1991), the Watchmaker family was incorrectly identified as coming from Saddle Lake. The family lives at Kehewin. And in the story Ronald Watchmaker was incorrectly identified as Randy.

## News

# Mercredi wins the Battle of Manitoba

## Manitoba friends square off

By Jordan Wheeler  
Contributing Writer

WINNIPEG

Ovide Mercredi defeated Phil Fontaine by a margin of 271 to 177 on the fourth ballot to become the new national chief of the Assembly of First Nations. The decision came in just before 1:00 a.m. June 12, closing a 15-hour marathon that began at 9:00 a.m. the previous morning.

"Hear me elders, chiefs and citizens of First Nations." With those words, Mercredi was sworn into office carrying the bundle passed on to him, through the elders, by outgoing national chief Georges Erasmus at the organization's 12th annual assembly.

In victory speech Mercredi spoke of his friendship with Fontaine — head of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs — a friendship that has spanned several years. "That friendship is strong enough to withstand competing aspirations," he declared, underlining the need for unity. It was a sentiment shared by Fontaine.

"We came here as friends, we will leave here as friends," Fontaine said in his speech moments after his loss was announced. "I made a commitment to you we would come out of this assembly more united and committed, I offer (Mercredi) my unqualified support." In the roar of applause that followed Fontaine grabbed Mercredi's arm and held it in the air.

What became the battle of the Manitoba candidates started out the previous morning as a six-man race. With the previous night's forum fresh in the minds of the delegates, voting opened at 9:00 a.m., closing at noon. With scrutineers from each campaign watching, the votes were counted and announced 90 minutes later.

Fontaine jumped out to a substantial lead with 164 votes, Neil Sterritt came in second with 96 votes, Mercredi was third with 76 votes, Bill Wilson pulled 72 votes, Mike Mitchell came in fifth with 43 votes and Bill Montour came in last with 19 votes.

The winning candidate needed 60 per cent of the votes plus one. On each ballot the candidate finishing last was automatically dropped, Montour was the first to go.

"We did as well as we expected," Fontaine said at the time, pointing to his lead over his closest rival.

"I knew I would be in the top three when we started," Sterritt said, indicating he would try to

get other candidates on board. "We have to get behind the scenes and talk."

The candidates went to work trying to gain new support and form alliances. Sterritt, Mercredi and Mitchell swarmed into Wilson's campaign office. They came out with the news the eligible candidates were remaining on the ticket.

"We thought Mike Mitchell might drop out," Wilson said, "but knowing Mike as long as I have — he's not a quitter." Wilson said natural alliances, in terms of style, might develop. He also added "Phil should be worried, he's not on the top of the mountain."

Later Montour publicly gave his support to Sterritt.

It was the highest profile leadership campaign in the history of the AFN and massive media scrums followed the candidates on the main floor of the convention centre.

Meanwhile, in other rooms chiefs from the various regions were entertaining the candidates' pitches for support. "You'll still have the support you had, plus more," Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) leader Roland Crowe told Fontaine. Fontaine felt he already had the support of the Alberta chiefs, the Maritime chiefs and a portion of the B.C. chiefs. Asked if Fontaine had the support of the Manitoba chiefs, Fox Lake Chief Robert Wavey nodded, "The majority," he said.

"If we go over 200 (votes), we'll do OK," Fontaine said, but he acknowledged an "anyone but Phil movement" might be developing with the remaining candidates. Voting for the second ballot began at 2:30 p.m. and ended at 4:30 p.m.

Shortly before 6:00 p.m. the results came in. Fontaine moved further ahead with 206 votes, Mercredi nudged into second with 82 votes, Sterritt dropped to third with 78 votes, Wilson dropped to 57 votes and Mitchell stood last with 44 votes.

Off the next ballot, Mitchell made a speech saying he would support the new national chief. And in a surprising move both B.C. candidates, Sterritt and Wilson, dropped out and publicly threw their support behind Mercredi. The "anybody but Phil" campaign seemed to be on, but there was denial.

"The people I know will vote on the credibility and capability of the candidates," said Ontario Chief Gary Potts. "Ovide has the capability."

The campaigning became fierce with both candidates get-

ting up on tables to address the crowd. It was felt Mitchell was putting his support behind Fontaine. The B.C. chiefs, who had organized an "anybody but Wilson" campaign and voted for Fontaine on the first and second ballots, were now turning to Mercredi. Later Mitchell turned to Mercredi as well. It looked like a tight race.

Voting on the third ballot began at 6:30 p.m. and went until 8:00 p.m. A fourth ballot suddenly became possible. At about 9:30 p.m. the results came in. Mercredi had surged ahead with 243 votes (53.5 per cent), but was still short of the 60 per cent plus one he needed for the victory. Fontaine had 211 votes (46.8 per cent). A fourth ballot was announced.

Moments later, Fontaine looked as though he was going to concede. He met with the Manitoba chiefs to talk about it. The discussion lasted several minutes, then Fontaine walked up to the podium. "I've conferred with my chiefs," he said. "We're going for it." His supporters rose in ovation.

"I think it's degenerating," Sterritt said of Fontaine's decision to force a fourth ballot. "It's unfortunate. It's not good for unity. What happens if he gets 10



Amy Santoro

Ovide Mercredi

more than Ovide? Do we all come back and do it again?"

Fontaine, however, knew it was over. "We wanted to make a statement," he told a supporter. "We made it, I feel good."

At one in the morning, with the assembly just as packed as it had been all day, the results of the final ballot were announced.

Mercredi came in on top, preventing a fifth ballot by just .49 of a percentage point.

Aboriginal people had a new national chief.

(Wheeler is the editor of Weetamah, a Winnipeg-based aboriginal newspaper)

## Prince Albert aboriginals want Nerland's case investigated

By Amy Santoro  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK.

Chief Allen Felix says the Saskatchewan government is setting up a smoke screen with the announcement of committees to look into how the justice system deals with aboriginals.

Felix, chief of the Prince Albert Tribal Council, said the committees "are just a stall by the government not to deal with the real issue."

He said the tribal council, which represents more than 4,000 Natives, is demanding "an independent investigation of the Carney Nerland case because the whole justice system is implicated."

Nerland, head of the Aryan Nations in Prince Albert, was sentenced in April to four years in prison for the shooting death of Native Leo LaChance in January.

"The shooting was racially motivated and the link between the shooting" and the fact Nerland is the leader of a white supremacist group "was never made," said Felix.

Felix said the province "is just trying to keep Natives quiet for a while" by establishing the two committees.

The Saskatchewan Metis Justice Review Committee and the Saskatchewan Indian Justice Review Committee were announced by Saskatchewan Justice Minister Gary Lane June 5.

The committees "will examine and recommend changes to make the criminal justice system more responsive to the needs and concerns of Saskatchewan Indians and the Metis of this province," said Lane.

But that's not good enough for local lawyer Gerald Morin. He's upset the province won't look into LaChance's death.

"There were mistakes made by the Department of Justice because they never established the link between Nerland and the Aryan Nations. There were definite racial overtones to the death," said Morin.

Staff Sgt. Dave Demkiw, head of the criminal investigations division with the Prince Albert Police Department, told *Windspeaker* he still believes there were "no racial overtones to the case and we haven't come up with any new evidence to suggest it."

Morin wants an investigation conducted into the Aryan Nations to determine how strong the movement is in Prince Albert.

*"The shooting was racially motivated and the link between the shooting" and the fact Nerland is the leader of a white supremacist group "was never made,"*

But Demkiw said there's "no such organization as the Aryan Nations in Prince Albert."

Meanwhile, the committees will not look into specific cases, said Judge Patricia Linn who chairs both committees.

But the issue of racism in the justice system will no doubt come before the committees, said Betty Ann Pottruff, director of policy planning and evaluation for the Justice Department.

"The committees are not public inquiries," said Linn. Rather, Linn will accept written submissions "and if they wish to appear before one or both committees they should say so in the submission." Morin said written submissions "limit who will participate. There's no input from the people in terms of oral submissions."

Dan Bellegarde, who is one of representatives for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations on the Indian Justice Review Committee, said the committees were "not meant to deal with specific cases. It's a step to establish Indian control of the justice system."

The Nerland case "deserves its own independent inquiry," said Bellegarde, FSIN first vice-chief. He said the LaChance shooting "is a clear-cut case of racial discrimination." Bellegarde said the FSIN is actively lobbying the government to establish an inquiry into the incident.

Bellegarde said not to expect the committees to "solve the problems of racism." The committees will present recommendations to the government in December.

## Militants won't set agenda, vows Mercredi

From front page

A "fundamental priority" for Mercredi is "to find a way of creating a better balance in our relationship with Canadian governments. That means implementation of treaty rights, constitutional reform, recognition of the right to self-government and the protection of our distinct society," said Mercredi.

In order for the AFN to build more credibility, said Mercredi, it must deal with people's issues

"not for them but with them so communities better organize around issues important to them."

Mercredi, an advocate of the abolition of the Indian Act and the department of Indian Affairs, said he has a "simple message" for Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon: "Do not interfere in Indian unity. Mind your own business and do the best job you can do for us."

The AFN represents Canada's 500,000 status Indians.

# Wind speaker

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Bert Crowfoot, Publisher

## Changing of the guard

Ovide Mercredi has his hands full.

In one hand is the golden platter handed to him last week in his home province of Manitoba. It's full of opportunity.

In the other hand is a plateful of responsibilities.

No Native leader in Canada has ever been faced with such challenges while at the same time having such a window of opportunity.

Mercredi owes much of his good fortune to past national chief, Georges Erasmus, who brought the organization through some heavy seas such as a multimillion debt he inherited and the pullout of many bands on the Prairies after he was elected to the post in 1985.

As Mercredi noted this week in an interview with *Windspeaker* Erasmus raised everybody's awareness of the problems. "Now I have to take that next step to find solutions to our needs."

Mercredi, who was a compromise choice of Canada's chiefs, brings to his post solid credentials, having worked for the AFN. A lawyer, he was the assembly's regional chief for Manitoba, and he's worked for the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

The new national chief has started to carve out his own territory early, noting while he supports civil disobedience in his fight for justice, he's opposed to violence.

And as days have gone by he's clarified his position indicating he'll be no pushover.

"When all democratic means to get attention or justice have been exhausted and government won't listen, then people have two choices. They can keep fighting for their rights or give up and let government ignore them. It's my view there's too much pain in our lives already to give up. It's better to stand up and fight for our rights but the way we do it is important," he said.

He warned on Tuesday if Ottawa doesn't give aboriginal people a role equal to politicians on a new parliamentary committee Natives might boycott the process.

Already Mercredi is indicating he'll be a force to contend with.

Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., two leading advocates of non-violent civil disobedience, were major thorns in the sides of their governments in their fight for justice.

King and his followers brought the southern United States kicking and screaming into the 20th century by a campaign of civil disobedience. Gandhi brought India under British rule to a halt. "You have been master in our home long enough and it's time we showed you to the door," he told the British." And show them the door, he did.

Mercredi and aboriginal leaders like him, who support non-violent civil disobedience, promise to be a similar threat to the Canadian government.



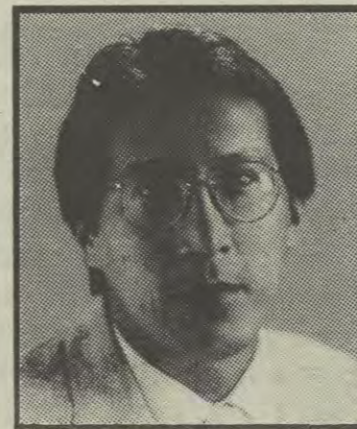
## A leader in exile

Leonard Peltier has served 14 years for fear. White man's fear. He sits in the dankness of Kansas' Leavenworth prison patiently painting the life he wants and deserves to live.

Peltier is dangerous. He's dangerous because he represents an image of Native solidarity, Native pride and Native fortitude. It's an image governments on both sides of the 49th parallel have constantly tried to deflect, deny and denounce. Safer to have the Indians painted as divided, humbled and dependent. It makes anachronistic policies much easier to slip by the unsuspecting and all-too-Native eyes of the country.

In 1977 Peltier was sentenced to two consecutive life terms for the shooting deaths of two FBI agents in June 1975 on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. Curiously, the two co-accused, arrested and tried on the same information, were found not guilty because of inconclusive evidence.

Earlier, after having fled to Canada, Peltier was extradited to the U.S. to face the charges based on evidence provided by the FBI. The agency provided an affidavit from a witness who claimed to have seen Peltier shoot the agents at close range. The witness, a psychologically unstable woman named Myrtle Poor Bear, said the FBI used threats against her to elicit the testimony. Despite the overwhelm-



**RICHARD  
WAGAMESE**

ing outcry from Native supporters, both parliamentary and public, Canada refused to challenge the extradition and Peltier was tried and convicted.

After a lengthy appeal process, Peltier's case was dismissed in 1987. Throughout the course of the proceedings he claimed innocence and evidence provided by the FBI was constantly challenged for its shallowness and inconsistency. A newly filed writ of habeas corpus in Fargo, S.D. holds some promise for renewal of proceedings but Peltier supporters aren't exactly buoyed by optimism after 14 years of wrangling.

What may help considerably is the re-release of Peter Matthiessen's book, *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*. Initially published in 1983, the book denounced Peltier's imprisonment and called for a new trial. Two months after its appearance it was pulled from the shelves because of a pair of lawsuits filed against both Matthiessen and his publisher, Viking Press.

Former South Dakota Governor William Janklow and FBI Special Agent David Price claimed the book defamed them. The two suits totalled \$49 million and made the action the most expensive libel suit in publishing history.

Janklow's suit was dismissed in 1984, a subsequent appeal was dismissed and Price's suit was dropped in 1990. When Janklow failed to respond to the 90-day appeal limit in October 1990 the door was opened for a reissue of *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*.

Matthiessen has written an epilogue to the original text. It outlines conversations with a certain Mr. X who claims to be the agents' real killer. Mr. X's confession is collaborated by Peltier's co-accused Bob Robideau who saw the killing take place. Both Peltier and Robideau have known all along who the real killer is, but have refused to identify him.

As it stands, Mr. X is not going to come forward and confess to the slayings. Peltier supporters feel that to do so would simply result in his death or imprisonment right alongside Peltier, who wouldn't gain his freedom, either.

Conveniently, Peltier's convictions were for aiding and abetting in the murders since inconclusive evidence couldn't pinpoint him as the actual killer. Mr. X's confession would not, therefore, change his status.

The book, however does point to the garbled manner in which both Canadian and U.S. justice systems have denied Peltier his legal rights. It outlines the rigors of resistance and details the emergence and growth of the American Indian Movement as a peoples' movement.

And that's why Peltier is dangerous. To free him is tantamount to admitting wrongdoing and recognizing the solidarity of Native groups across North America that have fought long and hard to see justice implemented.

They've kept him as a leader in exile long enough for the legend to form. Leonard Peltier defence committees in Canada and the U.S. have focused international attention on his plight and the pressure for a resolution to the situation increases with the years.

*In the Spirit of Crazy Horse* is an engaging book. Leonard Peltier was set up as a fall guy by the FBI that has never been able to establish either his guilt or its rightful presence on the Pine Ridge reservation that summer morning in 1975.

It's on bookshelves now and should be read by anyone interested in how governments and justice systems confront Native people strong enough to stand up for their rights.

**EAGLE FEATHERS:** to author Peter Matthiessen for the perseverance through eight years of adversity.

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## Your Opinion

## A solution for racists like Carney Nerland

Dear Editor:

In Europe there's a growing concern about the North American 'Native problem'. Recently, I wrote Mr. Mulroney asking him to re-establish the Native treaty relationship and to fight white supremacists.

I am a member of a pressure group in Nijmegen struggling for Natives in the Western Hemisphere. There are also larger groups in this country and all over Europe, some of them with thousands of members. The vast majority of these people are pro-Native, but not anti-Anglo Saxon or anti-white, racist or anti-Western. We are white Westerners ourselves!

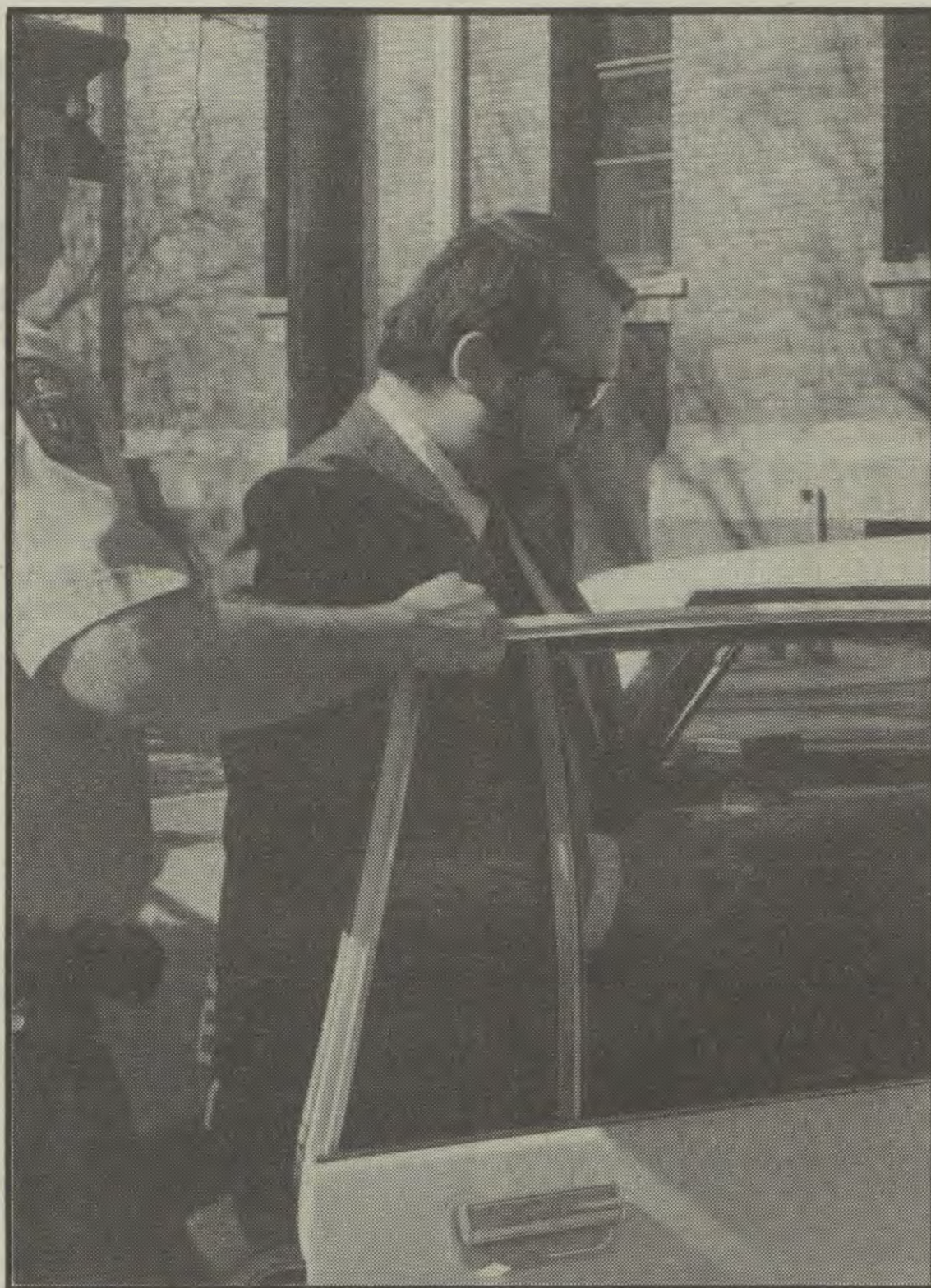
The 1990 Mohawk protest in Canada and the film *Dances with Wolves*, together with visits by Native American delegations, raised and stimulated awareness in European media and among the people over here.

Roel van Eijsden  
Vondelstraat 38  
6512 BH Nijmegen, Netherlands

Dear Mr. Mulroney:

After writing a letter to President Bush about white racism and Native American sovereignty, I felt I could not fail writing to you about the same issues. They are equally essential in Canada. I am a member of I.W.N., a Nijmegen group studying and supporting aboriginal groups and cultures in the Western Hemisphere and I am very motivated by reading the Canadian Native bi-weekly *Windspeaker*.

*Windspeaker* contains articles



Carney Nerland being led away after his sentencing

Dana Wagg

about the recent Saskatchewan racist murder of Native Leo LaChance by Carney Nerland,

leader of a racist group. Nerland faces four years in prison for alleged manslaughter and may

well be out on probation within one year.

I am afraid Milton Born With A Tooth may be in prison even longer for just shooting his rifle into the air in his own Native territory. Could you exert your powers to see to it proper justice is done in both cases?

I don't know the full stories and I'm still collecting information. But it appears to me Nerland deserves the full sentence for first-degree murder. By any means under international law and treaty law, Born With A Tooth should be free.

The real final solution to prevent such ugly complications is three-fold: • Banning and forbidding all supremacist and racist organizations. Hopefully, you can initiate an investigation into legal and other options to combat them in Canada, • Re-instituting federal-Native treaty-relationships in Canada. Aboriginal peoples in Canada have the right to be recognized as sovereign nations. They have always been so and in essence still are. Canada's becoming independent from Great Britain does not imply Native sovereignty is automatically obsolete and forlorn. This matter calls for an honest investigation and dialogue with Native leaders like Manitoba assemblyman Elijah Harper and • Preventing large corporations from financially bolstering racist groups.

I want to express my thanks that my letters to the Canadian government are being answered, sometimes even with thorough

bundles of information. I wrote to you about the Leonard Peltier and Mohawk Kanehsatake cases.

In one of the responses was the suggestion that if Native sovereignty is honored, many other national groups will demand their independence from Canada. I understand this concern, but ancestors of most ethnic groups in North America essentially went there of their own free will. Excluded are Afro-Americans, Chicanos and Métis/Cajuns, Hawaiians and Puerto Ricans, each for their own historic reasons.

I do not want to stigmatize the Anglo-Saxon way of life in North America. My own people make their mistakes, too — historically in Indonesia, South Africa and the West Indies and presently by low-flight jetfighter training in Quebec Innu and Inuit country.

Widening the concept of nationality and sovereignty in North America will not necessarily lead to chaotic disintegration, civil war or foreign enemy intervention. Ethnic minorities have no interest in making their Native territories a springboard for foreign intervention. The fates and destinies of all nationalities in the Western Hemisphere greatly coincide in many realms: the struggle against poverty, the maintenance of peace and disarmament and the environment!

Only people like Carney Nerland live by the allegedly human and natural conflict of interest between nationalities and races.

Roel Van Eijsden

## Contest information netted school \$2,500

Dear Editor:

Thank you for running the Reader's Digest Friend-to-Friend Drug Awareness Challenge contest information in your Nov. 1990 issue.

I was immediately interested and formed a group of students who wanted to create a poster expressing how drugs/alcohol affect our friends and listing the positive activities available to teenagers.

With the hopes of winning the \$2,500 prize we planned for an educational spring break trip. We had only weeks to meet and discuss our poster, the deadline was Dec. 31, 1990. In late February 1991 we were notified as a finalist and that they would call us on the final result. Excitedly anticipating, our group secretly decided not to make individual plans for spring break. (Days dragged on, still no news and spring break was near!!)

After days and weeks of disappointment, a reporter called to inform us of our win (good news

always seems to come when least expected!!) Words could not express our relief and excitement.

Amazingly, out of 95 schools entered in Alberta our school comprised of 50 Sarcee Nation students won!! Each province had a \$2,500 first-place winner. Being Native makes our message against drugs/alcohol more meaningful. Our poster will be used by different agencies including AADAC and it's now being distributed provincially.

Our spring break trip included visiting Custer's Battlefield Museum and skiing at Red Lodge and Rockcreek Resort, Montana. It was awesome, educational and a great success.

I would also like to thank the following for making the winning and experience of the Drug Awareness Challenge possible; students Amy Solway-Big Plume, Ann Manywounds, Barrett Rattlesnake, Carson Otter, Malcolm Owl, Mandi Dodging-horse, Nadine Heavenfire; Reader's Digest; school principal

Betty Lou Elofson for having faith in my decisions; chaperone Patricia Obreiter and the Alberta judges for seeing the message in

our poster.

Glenna Cardinal  
Elofson Academy, Calgary, Alta.

## Humiliating treatment

Dear Editor:

I come to you with a humble heart. As I write these words the feelings going through my mind are hurtful and a feeling of shame. Recently my family had the honor of attending my niece's graduation banquet for Grade 12 students at F.P. Walche High School in Fort Macleod, Alberta.

Our family waited 12 years to reach this day. Many hardships and great patience went into preparing my niece for this special day. The graduation banquet had been set for May 10. Tickets had been purchased and all preparations made.

To our understanding the number eight table had been reserved for the graduate and family. Upon our arrival we found ourselves without a table and were forced to stand in front of the entire audience for 20 minutes while other arrangements were made. We were informed our reserved table had been given away. My family had to face the humiliation of being placed in the back door exit, in the traffic of the general public. My mother, an elderly woman, was requested several times to

remove her chair so people could pass.

As Native people we taught our children to never shame anyone, to always respect their teachers, and above all, the principal. During the entire evening we felt uncomfortable and humiliated by being placed in this corner. For Native students to even reach this point on any reserve in Alberta is a difficult challenge. They must overcome prejudice and many obstacles to reach this special day. As Native parents we know the only way to a better life is through educating our future generations.

We, as Native people in Canada, are considered second-class citizens. Now is the time to end this type of treatment for our future generations. We feel a public apology is due our family and a letter of apology given to my niece. If this kind of treatment of our people and children continues, future generations will step backward not forward. Now is the time to have our children stand tall and say yes, I am an Indian and proud of it.

Linda Eaglespeaker  
Stand Off, Alta.

*Windspeaker* welcomes your letters. However, we reserve the right to edit for brevity, clarity, legality, personal abuse, accuracy, good taste, and topicality. Please include your name, address and day-time telephone number in case we need to reach you. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

## History repeats

Dear Editor:

The articles in *Windspeaker* about the murder of Leo Lachance, a Native of Saskatchewan, by an Aryan super racist, truly gives me sickening feelings over these repeats of history's human bestialities. Many fought in the 1939-1945 war and many paid a hellish penalty. I am sure that, like myself, many who returned wonder about events that repeat themselves.

It appears history not only recycles those boom, busts and wars but that the forefront of its greed-created depressions seem to cultivate the spiritual conditioning for these racial fanatics to sow their seeds of hatred to make history's repetitions.

Louis Riel did not get, as Carney Nerland did, a mere four years with the obvious possibilities of getting out long before his sentence has been completed. I would not be surprised if Nerland's followers give him at least medals of encouragement. Riel's life was snuffed out, this after representing his own people in Parliament. He had returned from Montana, where he taught school, to do the will of a frustrated people who had been spiritually raped by the arrogant masters of greed.

L.P. Girard  
Edmonton

## An astonishing case

Dear Editor:

I was astonished and disappointed by our justice system at the way the courts handled the Carney Nerland-Leo LaChance case. How can our justice system deem itself fair when the case clearly undermined Native people? I think it's time we pushed our government towards amending the system so Indian people receive fair treatment in our courts. As an individual who believes in fairness to all people, whatever their skin color may be, I would like to see the provincial and federal leaders ask for an investigation in this matter to make sure there was no racism and that Nerland was sentenced without prejudice.

The First Nations of Canada have to speak louder to ensure these types of cases are not racist.

Darlene Kahpeaysewat  
Moosomin band  
Cochin, Sask.

## What's Happening?

# Publication by Drumheller's Brotherhood splendid

Hi! Congratulations to the **Arrows of Freedom** staff and the **Drumheller Native Brotherhood** on their splendid publication.

The layout is perfect and I especially liked the boxed information you printed about the meanings behind the Eagle, Buffalo, Bear and Wolf in Native culture. Also the features on the West Coast totem poles and their meanings. It was a professional job, excellently done.

It was great to see photographs of our brothers, stories, humor, cartoons and poems all together in such a well-designed publication.

**Arrows of Freedom** is a publication of the Native Brotherhood of Indian and Metis at Drumheller Institution. Subscription

rates are \$12. The publication is printed quarterly — once every three months for 1991.

To order your first copy, make cheques payable to the Drumheller Native Brotherhood of Indian and Metis or call Drumheller Native Consultants at (403) 823-2542.

You won't be sorry. I have their March edition in front of me and without a lie, I have read it through and through.

The graphics of buffalo and feathers, an elder with an eagle, the salute to the support groups and the Sisterhood along with pictures is simply tremendous. There are profiles of our brothers and much more. I am impressed.

Looking forward to your next edition. Now, where did I put my wallet?

**EDMONTON:** She went and did it! On June 1 our star reporter **Amy Santoro** tied the knot. Doesn't she look happy and beautiful in this picture? That she does.

And who was the lucky man? **Michael Kelly**.

Michael said "I've been late for work for three weeks now." That's OK Michael...Amy hasn't written a story for three weeks. She just sits there, staring at her computer with the weirdest smile on her face...

I'm just kidding folks.

**GOODFISH LAKE:** On July 7 the 6th annual one-mile **Challenge Run** will be held at Goodfish up in the St. Paul area and nearer Saddle Lake reserve.

But how did the run come to be?

"My father, **Homer Jackson**, could have competed in the 1933 Olympics. It was a dream of his to go but at that time everything was against him. He was in a residential school, a Native and had no financial support," said his daughter **Gussy Jackson**.

Over Jackson's running career he won many long distance races.

"Now we run this race to encourage and promote young Native athletes who have ambitions to be marathon runners," commented Gussy.

Her father is 78 years of age.

If you are interested in joining in the challenge run, call Goodfish at 424-1023.

**CHIPEWYAN LAKE:** When **Mary Nanooch** walked up on stage to receive her Adult Basic Education certificate at the AVC Lesser Slave Lake convocation, her family must have been so proud of her; although I don't know Mary, I was just as proud for her.

Mary was the only graduate from Chipewyan Lake and you could see she was very nervous and shy — but she did it! Yeah!

Mary must be very proud and we congratulate her.

So now we salute Mary and name her **Droppin' In's Graduate of the Year!**

**FORT SMITH:** My friend **Archie Paulette**, can you please give me a call at 455-2700 regarding the letter you sent. Thanks.

**HOBBEEMA:** On July 6-7 the North American Golf Championships will be held at Waterton.



## Droppin' In By Rocky Woodward

Waterton is near Lethbridge in southern Alberta.

It's going to be great and there are some surprises in store and, according to **Lloyd Gauthier** "top golfers from the United States and Canada will be there."

Interested? Call 428-6778.

**DROPPIN' IN:** Did you know the **Native Pastoral Centre** has closed its doors and is now located at **Sacred Heart Church** at 10821-96th St.?

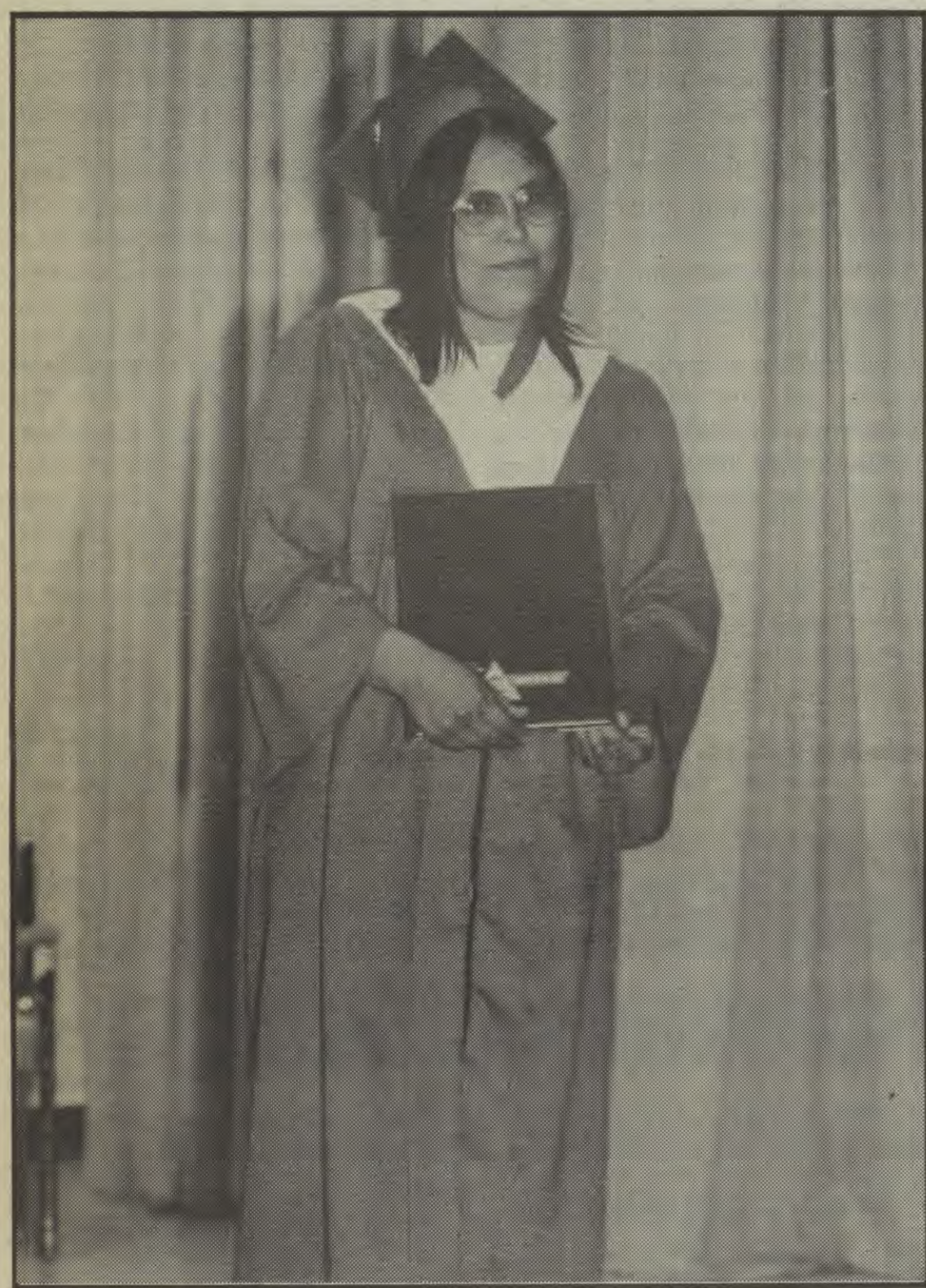
Did you know **Jane Sager**,

who works over at the **Grant MacEwan Community College** in the **Native Communications Program** — is really the **Easter bunny** in disguise?

Did you know the **Metis Nation (MNA)** will be holding this year's general assembly at **St. Albert** in August?

Did you know **Droppin' In** has five outstanding traffic violations, picked up all in the same night?

Now you know.



Rocky Woodward

Mary Nanooch...Droppin' In's graduate of the year



Windspeaker reporter Amy Santoro...just married

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE YOUR EVENT IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE JULY 5TH ISSUE, PLEASE CALL KAREN BEFORE NOON WED., JUNE 26TH AT (403)455-2700, FAX 455-7639 OR WRITE TO 15001 - 112 AVE., EDM., AB, T5M 2V6.

**NORTH COUNTRY FAIR;** June 21 - 23; Jousard, AB.  
**ROBERT & WILFRED PAUL MEMORIAL CO-ED MODIFIED SLOW PITCH TOURNAMENT;** June 22 & 23; Elk Point, AB.  
**5TH ANNUAL 10K ROAD RACE & 3K FAMILY FUN RUN;** June 23; Strathcona Athletic Park, 99 Colwill Blvd, Sherwood Park, AB.  
**TENT MEETINGS GOSPEL REVIVAL;** June 26 - July 7; Gift Lake, AB.  
**3RD ANNUAL TREATY SIX FORUM;** June 25 - 27; Saddle Lake Reserve, AB.  
**SADDLE LAKE POWWOW;** June 27 - 30; Saddle Lake, Alberta.

**POUNDMAKER LODGE POWWOW;** June 28, 29 & 30; Poundmaker Lodge, St. Albert, AB.  
**3RD ANNUAL HERMAN MEDICINE CRANE MEMORIAL TOURNEY, SLOW PITCH CO-ED;** June 28 - 29; Standoff Ball Diamonds, Standoff, AB.  
**FIRST TIME EVER COMPETITION POWWOW;** June 28 - 30; Fort Alexander, Manitoba.  
**14TH ANNUAL SADDLE LAKE POWWOW;** June 28 - 30; Saddle Lake, AB.  
**KINISTIN POWWOW;** June 29 - July 1; Saskatchewan.  
**"OTENOW" GOES COUNTRY CANADA DAY JAMBOREE;** June 29, 30, July 1; Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement, AB.  
**INDIAN TEEPEE VILLAGE;** July 1 - 8; Homestead Campgrounds, Waterton Lakes National Park, AB.  
**JULY 4TH POWWOW;** July 4, 5 & 6; Fuji Park, south of Carson City, Nevada.  
**26TH ANNUAL NORTHERN CHEYENNE POWWOW;** July 4 - 7; Lame Deer, Montana.  
**ENOCH INDIAN DAYS;** July 5 - 7; Cultural Grounds, Enoch,

## Indian Country Community Events

**AB. STAR BLANKET CELEBRATION;** July 5 - 7; Balcarress, SK.  
**"FIRST EVER SCUBA CAMP IN ALBERTA;** July 14 - 19, 21 - 26; sponsored by Scuba Schools International, Alberta Advanced Education; Jasper National Park, AB.  
**24TH ANNUAL KAINAI INDIAN DAYS;** July 19 - 21; Standoff, AB.  
**HEALING OURSELVES & MOTHER EARTH;** July 19 - 26; University of Lethbridge, AB.  
**INDIAN JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM;** June 27 - 28; Mayfield Inn (16615 - 109 Ave.), Edmonton, AB.  
**SHORT COURSE FOR PRINCIPALS OF FIRST NA-**

**TIONS SCHOOLS;** July 29 - August 2; University of British Columbia; Vancouver, BC.  
**1991 CANADIAN NATIVE WOMEN'S FASTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP;** August 2 - 4; Ohsweken Ball Park, Six Nations Reserve, Ontario.  
**WAYNE BABYCH HOCKEY CLINIC;** Aug 24 - 28; open to all treaty youth 8 - 18 years; Hobbema, AB.  
**WOMEN & WELLNESS CONFERENCE II, "A GATHERING OF THE WOMEN";** Oct. 6 - 8; Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Sask.  
**NO BORDERS: NORTHERN ABORIGINAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES;** Oct. 18; U of A, Edmonton, AB.



is available in microform. Back volumes of **Windspeaker** are available in microform (film or fiche).

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## News

## NFB to open First Nations' studio in Edmonton

By Amy Santoro  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

## EDMONTON

Edmonton will soon see the opening of a First Nations studio. The National Film Board of Canada plans to open the studio in two years, says executive producer Graydon McCrea. Natives will play a major role in the studio, he said.

"It's no longer acceptable for Native people to be portrayed as others see them. They must also be portrayed as they see themselves."

The initiative still needs additional funds to become a reality but McCrea is confident the funds for Natives to "reach the screens of their communities" will be found.

The studio will be headed by an aboriginal producer and operated from the Edmonton-based NFB North West Centre, a producer of award-winning films on Native issues. It will provide development, training and production opportunities for Native film-makers.

"The films of such acclaimed Native film-makers as Gil Cardinal (*Foster Child*; *The Spirit Within*) and Alanis Obamsawin (*Incident at Restigouche*; *Richard Cardinal: A Cry From the Diary of a Metis Child*) have struck a chord with Native and non-Native audiences alike," said NFB chairperson Joan Pennefather.

"The NFB is committed to playing a leading role in developing the skills of Native film-makers across Canada and to making their creative works

available to Canadians," she said.

"The National Film Board has produced an impressive body of work on Native issues and concerns over the past 50 years, however the vast majority of these productions were conceived and executed by non-Native film-makers," said Barbara Emo, director-general of the NFB's English program branch.

"It is long past due that aboriginal film-makers be given the opportunity to tell their own stories from their own points of view," she said.

The studio will be developed in three phases over a period of two years beginning this fall. • In Phase 1 the aboriginal studio will co-ordinate the placement of about 10 Native film-makers and craftspeople on a variety of productions for professional development purposes. • In Phase 2, \$10,000 will be committed to each of the 10 film-makers for the production of a short vignette on film or video and • In Phase 3 documentary films will be produced.

"We expect to produce several significant films for TV and community release each year," said McCrea.

Meantime, the NFB has Native women and women of color on its priority list, said NFB marketing officer Bonnie Thompson. The employment equity program "will encourage women to get into film crafts."

Although some of Alberta's most successful film-makers have been women "there's a real inequity in numbers in the areas of film production. The vast majority of craftspeople are



National film Board of Canada

A scene from the NFB production, *Hunters and Bombers*

white and male," said Thompson.

For example, she said, there "are no women who operate cameras." But Thompson hopes the employment equity fund will change this. The fund brings women together with professional film and video craftspeople for hands-on training in camera, lighting, sound and editing. Last year 10 women took advantage of the project.

A peek at NFB projects currently in development reveals a

number of aboriginal films in the making, said McCrea. Edmonton director Gil Cardinal continues his look at Native issues with the NFB production *Native War Veterans*. The film looks at Native soldiers who fought for Canada on the battlefields of the Second World War. When they returned home, many felt they got less than a hero's welcome.

"For me, *Native War Veterans* is a story that could help build the bridges between us," said

Cardinal.

Also in development is *Pulp Mills* which explores the commercial exploitation of Alberta's northern forests. *Moccasin Flats*, written by Ben Cardinal, is a story of two kids who discover street life while collecting bottles to earn money to buy a bike.

Natives were the focus also in the NFB's recent production, *The Spirit Within*, a film about Native inmates' struggle to bring their traditional spirituality to Canadian prisons.

## Dam devastated Fort Chip's fish and wildlife

By Lana Michelin  
Contributing Writer

## FORT CHIPEWYAN, ALTA.

It's no coincidence the historical headquarters of the Northwest fur trade is located on the largest freshwater delta in the world.

The Fort Chipewyan area was once known for the multitude of animal species that existed

within 4,000 square kilometres of surrounding wetland.

But over the past 20 years, area residents have noticed a staggering decrease in wildlife which they blame on a significant drop in water.

Longtime Fort Chip resident Fred Fraser says he has witnessed drastic changes in the area's eco-system since the W.A.C. Bennett Dam started holding back flood waters to the

delta of the Peace and Athabasca Rivers in 1968.

Where he once trapped hundreds of muskrats in a single season, Fraser says he is now hard-pressed to spot a single animal.

Geese once used to be so plentiful they would turn the sandy shores white, he says. "You never see geese here in the fall now, it's a wonder they stop here in the spring."

Fraser's observations are backed by scientific studies that conclude the dam is having a devastating effect on the area's fish and wildlife.

A recent independent study funded by the Canada Parks Service shows 47 per cent of the dam's productive vegetation and wildlife habitat has already disappeared since the dam's construction.

It estimates the amount will jump to 85 per cent by the year 2031 if the river waters continue to be restrained — and this may well be the case.

The dam is owned by B.C. Hydro, which has company representatives sitting on inter-governmental committees with both provinces.

The corporation has made it clear it has no plans to let out flood waters.

Hugh Smith, B.C. Hydro's aquatic quality manager, admits few environmental studies were conducted before the dam was built.

But now that it's up, he said the corporation is reluctant to lose money by reducing electrical output.

Smith explained. "We're car-

rying an enormous capital debt (for the dam's construction) that will take decades to pay off."

Meanwhile, the effects of the hydro-electric project, located on Williston Lake in northeastern B.C., are extending far beyond Fort Chipewyan to Wood Buffalo National Park, which contains 80 per cent of the delta.

Park warden Gordon Antoniuk said the drastic decline in the park's bison population was once thought to be solely caused by bovine tuberculosis, but it is now partly attributed to the disappearance of moist delta sedges, a bison staple.

The disappearing delta worries Dave Milne, a park warden in Fort Smith, N.W.T. He said the area is a prime breeding ground for waterfowl and the migratory causeway for many bird species, including endangered whooping cranes.

"It would be a disaster if the delta dried out because it's a jewel. You just don't find other habitats of this kind."

Ducks no longer stop to feed in the delta in the fall and in the last few years only a few species showed up during the spring migration.

Fort Chip resident Jim Moore, who hunted and trapped in the area when wildlife was plentiful, said the dam has changed his way of life.

"Nobody traps here any more. There are no more animals to trap."

The cause of the delta's decline is mapped on a graph in the Fort Chip environment office.

River levels showed regular patterns of spring and summer

flooding before the dam was built, but since that time office manager Scott Flett has noted only three springs when river runoff produced flooding in the delta.

A recent study of delta fish showed three generations of pickerel were "missing" during the dry years, Flett said. "When it's too dry, the fish don't spawn."

The situation worries Fort Chip resident Lloyd Flett. He believes the dam and several upstream pulp mills are "killing the river" and tipping the area's precarious ecological scale.

"The river can't take any more pollution or damming. It's taken all it can handle."

It is also worrying area Indian chiefs who intend to meet with chiefs in B.C. to lobby for action before the delta dries up.

But warden Milne wonders if anyone can reverse what has already been set in motion.

Provincially installed weirs have failed to rectify the problem, he said. While artificial flooding from the dam might help, Milne said it would have to be timed so the weather and other conditions would create an ice jam.

Most importantly, this hinges on whether the Alberta government can convince B.C. Hydro to sustain financial loss.

Short of eliminating the dam, there are no easy solutions, he said. "We have no control of water volume at all. It's strictly up to Mother Nature and B.C. Hydro."

(Michelin is a reporter with Fort McMurray Today)

ST. THERESA POINT  
1991 GRADS

1. Crocus Plains, Brandon — June 25, 1991  
- Sandra Knott
2. Frontier Collegiate, Cranberry — June 15, 1991  
- Darrel Wood
3. Tuelon Collegiate, Tuelon — June 28, 1991  
- Rebecca Harper  
- Harry Wood, Jr.  
- Judy Wood  
- Abraham Monias  
- Andrew Harper  
- Terrance Wood  
- Clarence Mason  
- Randy Mason
4. Daniel McIntyre, Winnipeg — June 26, 1991  
- Nellie McDougall
5. R.B. Russell, Winnipeg — June 25, 1991  
- Russel Flett  
- Sarah Harper
6. Mrs. Judy Flett  
B. ED. 4 Complete

The Chief and Council, the Education Authority, and the Student Services of the St. Theresa Point First Nation wish to congratulate the students who met and passed the academic requirements for 1991.

Congratulations and Good Luck to Future endeavors!



## Sports

# Tee Pee Crawlers honored by City of Champions

By Molly Chisaakay  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

### EDMONTON

Edmonton, the self-proclaimed City of Champions, has added the Alexander Tee Pee Crawlers fastball team to its list of champions.

Mayor Jan Reimer presented a congratulatory certificate and a letter of recognition to team manager Arnold Kootenay and captain Roland Lacoursiere June 11 in her office at city hall.

The Tee Pee Crawlers won the 1990 National Indian Athletic Association fastball championships in Sioux City, Iowa last September.

"It is important to acknowl-

edge and recognize champions. There are different kinds of champions other than hockey and football in Edmonton and surrounding areas," said Reimer. "The Tee Pee Crawlers are such a team who are now recognized as honorary champions of the city."

The team started attending tournaments about 10 years ago, said Lacoursiere, but "we have been playing for 19 years with players changing throughout, with a few who stayed on."

The team had set a goal to win the championship in Sioux City. "The recognition by the city of champions is an honor as we deserve it and I am proud to be a part of that accomplishment," said Kootenay.

Both Lacoursiere and Kootenay said the team deserved the championship recognition as the team members worked hard together.

Kootenay said the recognition from the city will enhance team morale and help build the character of each of the members.

He said it was an honor to have Reimer present the team with the award.

The team members also include Rupert Arcand (also a captain), George Arcand Jr. (coach), Herb Arcand, Frank Arcand, Billy Paul, Barry Paul, Vaughn Paul, Wayne Mc-

Cullum, Bill Chippiway, Harvey Cardinal, Terry Gauthier, Elmer Anderson, Lyle Normand, Mike Lacoursiere, Doyle Campbell, Lee Sleigh, Richard Mirasty and Bert Cardinal.

Nine members of the team went to the finals last year, said Lacoursiere.



Molly Chisaakay

Roland Lacoursiere (left) and Arnold Kootenay with Mayor Jan Reimer

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### JUNE 21

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(403)479-8609

### JUNE 22-23

Saddle Lake Open  
St. Paul Golf & Country  
Club; Contact: Charles  
(403)726-4009/726-3864

### JUNE 29-30

Enoch Classic  
Indian Lakes; Contact:  
Cec (403)470-4505

### JULY 6-7

North American Golf  
Championships  
Waterton Lake Golf  
Course; Contact: Lloyd  
(403)585-3037

### JULY 10-11

### Nehiyow Classic

Wolf Creek Golf & Country  
Club; Contact: Leona  
(403)783-4597/585-4065

### JULY 13-14

Louis Bull Golf Tournament  
Unconfirmed;  
Contact: Simon  
(403)585-3978

### JULY 20-21

Kainai Classic  
Waterton Lake Golf Course;  
Contact: Duane (403)737-  
3301

### JULY 27-28

Red Wood Meadows  
Classic  
Redwood Meadows Golf &  
Country Club; Contact: Alex  
or Peter (403)281-4455

### AUGUST 10-11

Gordon Provost Memorial  
Waterton Lake Golf  
Course; Contact: Greg  
(403)965-3962

### AUGUST 17-18

Alexander Annual Golf  
Tour  
Ironhead Golf Course;  
Contact: Max (403)939-  
3839 or Harvey (403)962-  
0303

### AUGUST 31-SEPT. 1

Four Nations Tournament  
of Champions - Marlene  
Buffalo

Wolf Creek Golf &  
Country Club  
SEPTEMBER 7-8

### Waterton Open

Waterton Lake Golf  
Course; Contact: Bill  
(403)859-2383

### OCTOBER 12-13

Warm Springs Oregon  
Indian Open

Kah-nee-ta; Contact: Levi  
(503)553-3311/553-1372

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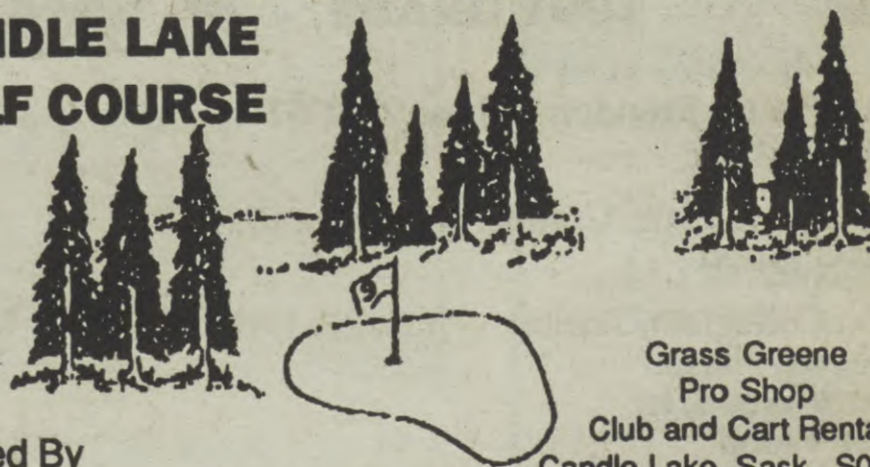


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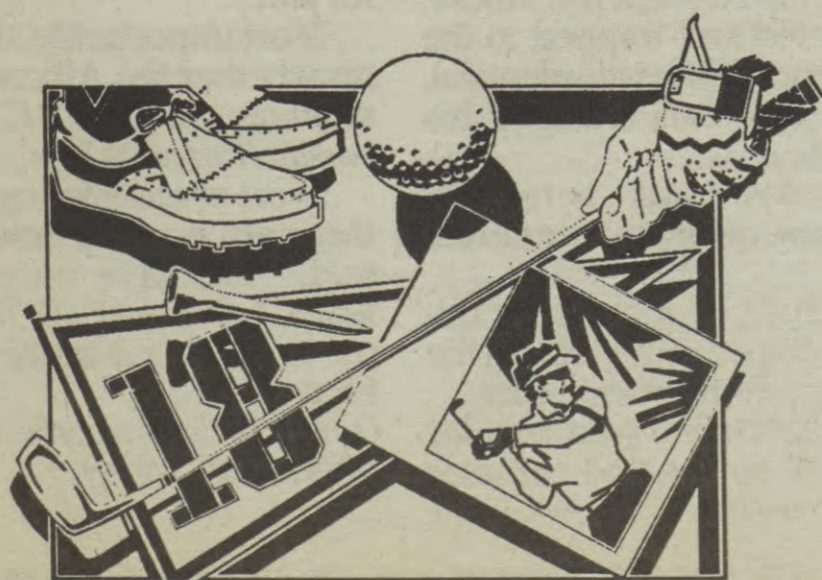
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## Native Achievers

## Young voyageur bound for Quebec City

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Dressed in Metis and Indian garments, Steven Wuttunee lashed the last of his supplies into his canoe and stared out at the waters of the North Saskatchewan River.

"I should make good time today. The water is really running fast," he said to no one in particular.

On the banks of the river a small crowd of friends and family gathered to wait for Wuttunee to begin his four and a half month voyage by canoe from Edmonton to Quebec City — a distance of about 4,000 km by river.

Wuttunee plans to make at least 40 km a day and if things go well for him, he should finish his trip in about 90 days.

"But I have to take into consideration delays, portages and rest. It will probably take me much longer," said the voyageur.

Wuttunee began his trip June 9 from the Low Level Bridge in Edmonton. He said it's imperative he arrive at the St. Lawrence River no later than September or early October.

"If I don't, I could have a problem with ice flow. Especially in the Ottawa River. It's mostly white water (rapids) and if I tipped my canoe, it could get cold," Wuttunee smiles half-heartedly.

Wuttunee's route extends from his starting point in Edmonton, to Saskatoon, Lake Winnipeg, Thunder Bay (via Lake Superior), Lake Huron to the Ottawa River to Montreal and then up the St. Lawrence River to Quebec City.

In his canoe are about 300 pounds of supplies. "I have a compass but the rest of my gear and food are all traditional," said the 22 year old.

His food supply consists of flour, oatmeal, rice, lard, salt pork, raisins and peanuts. And he takes with him a bow and arrow he made and fishing line. He plans to live off the land.

Wuttunee's journey really began after he read a book by

Peter Newman entitled *Caesar of the Wilderness*.

"There were chapters about the voyageurs, Indian and Metis, and about the hardships they went through. They lived a secluded life and really, no one gives them much credit for what they did — they were the first explorers in Canada," said the Cree/French descendant.

Wuttunee said people must realize it was the French, Indian, Scottish people and Metis — "all nationalities working together at one time — who built this country. And now Quebec is thinking of separating from the rest of Canada.

"The time is now or never to remember how this country was built. This is not a plea to the French only, but a plea to the English community as well, to think about rebuilding our country on common ground," Wuttunee said.

Wuttunee was born at Pembroke, Ontario to a French mother, Jinette, and a Cree father, Winston Wuttunee from the Red Pheasant reserve in Saskatchewan. Although born in Ontario, he was raised for nine years in Quebec until he moved west to Calgary.

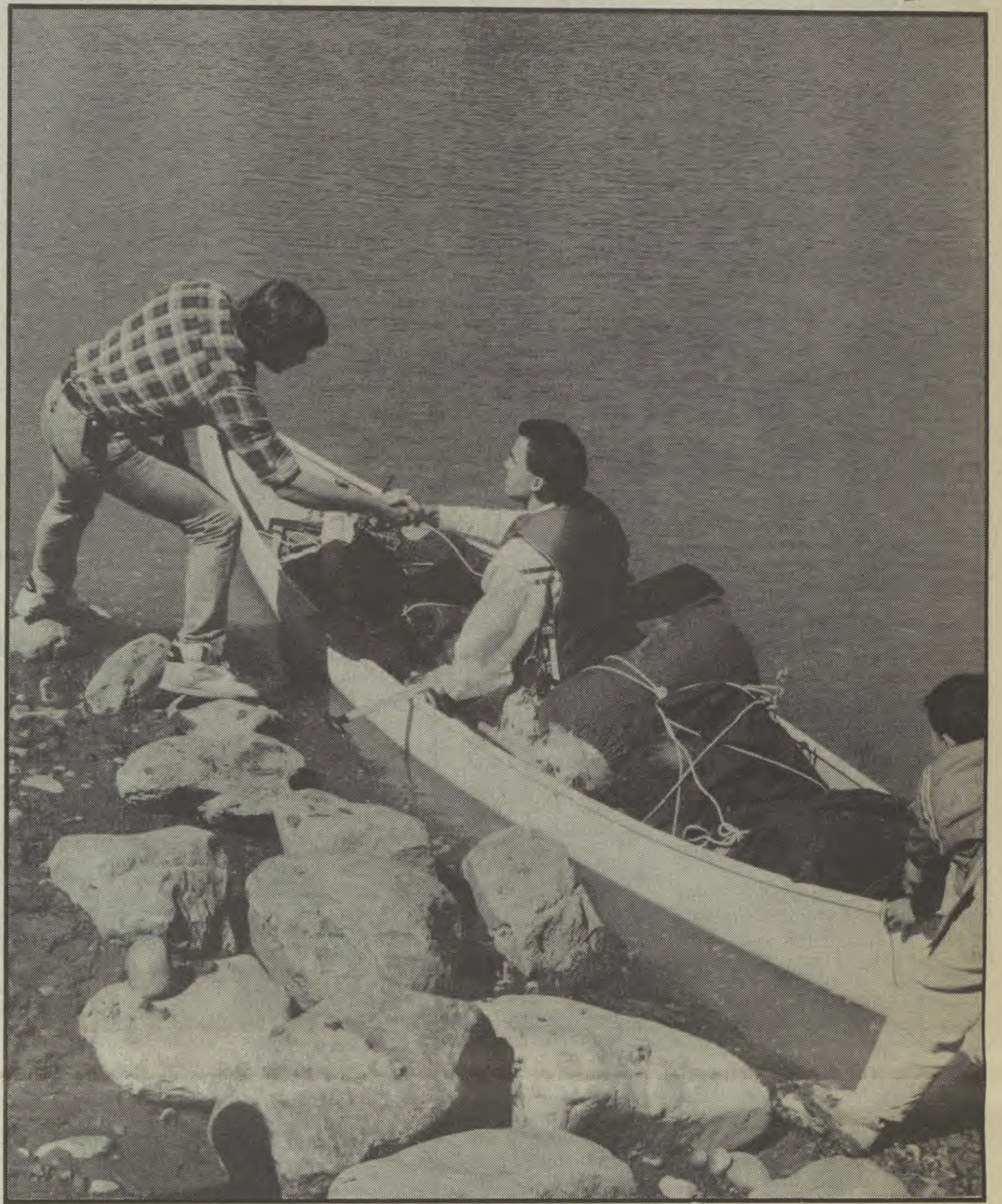
He said all his life he was inspired to do something and not sit back.

"I hope I set a good example for others to follow. The journey can be dangerous but you can't put off things you want to do forever. One day you have to face things and for me, it might as well be now," Wuttunee explained.

The canoe is loaded and Wuttunee is ready to depart. He hugs his family and relatives, Joelle and Erik Meyer, Micaela and Blake Wuttunee, Loretta and Fred Jobin, Yvonne and her daughter Terra Dawn Wuttunee and the children. There are some tears but mostly smiles of encouragement for the voyageur.

Sweetgrass is lit and Wuttunee says a prayer and then he climbs into his canoe and with a wave he pushes away from the riverbank.

Just as he hits midstream his relatives on the riverbank holler out in unison, "We love you Stephen!"



Steven Wuttunee leaves Edmonton on a 4 1/2 month journey

Rocky Woodward

It's enough for the paddler. He understands and waves back. In seconds Wuttunee disappears around the riverbend on a journey that will take him across five provinces — a journey his forefathers took so many years ago. Godspeed Steven.

### Our Canada

By Serena Maendel

My home, my Native land,  
my country I'm so proud,  
We stand so tall and free  
Is this what we really be?  
We cheated for to get  
What the Natives did believe  
Could not be bought,  
owned or sold.  
Ourselves for this we praise  
so loud.

We call ourselves the true  
north strong and free  
And hold our heads so high,  
Without a concrete reason  
why.

Aboriginal land we take  
And a golf course of it make  
Is not once enough to be  
cheated?

True patriot love this cannot  
be.

(Maendel is from a Hutterite colony near Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. She was a student in a poetry class led by Stony Mountain Penitentiary inmate Roy Trace, who has been in custody for over 13 years.)

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# Memories of Sunday chicken and soft-spoken Tom

By Gail Duiker  
Contributing Writer

Tom was a soft-spoken Cree from Cutknife. He was my father. But as far as mothers went, a trail of women moved through our lives. In the end, I was the only one who stayed.

Perhaps it was his gentle doe eyes that gave him trouble. They showed his heart and it wasn't far to his pocket book neither. However, for me, his eyes told me I could trust him completely. With these expressive eyes, he'd look at me. "Hear how I found you? You were like a half-drowned kitten in front of the Biggar Hotel."

"Then...? What next?" I would ask just because he liked to tell the story.

"The cook tried to get you into the hotel with a big hamburger yet. Stubborn bugger, you were. Wouldn't budge!"

His narrow shoulders would straighten proudly. He'd tilt the worn tweed hat back enjoying his role.

"There you were, a little Injun girl sitting there like the world had passed you by. So I gave you a quarter and said 'Go buy yourself a Hires root beer.'"

Tom always shook his head at this part. "You threw the quarter back and said, 'Go drink your beer yourself.'"

His eyes would sadden, "you was put here for God's punishment, to straighten me out." Woefully he'd say, "And no more beer."

He just did this for emphasis. I was just a kid, not no law enforcer RCMP. Anyway, the way I remember it, Tom went in for his beer. When he came out a large lady was draped on his arm.

I noticed them coming down the sidewalk, her stocking legs heavy and his feet tiny. He was strutting like a rooster, silver spurs on those size 6A cowboy boots.

His boots stopped beside me. "Still here, little critter?" Head cocked, he says to the woman, "Doreen, what say you and I get a bit of fresh air?"

Sitting down beside me, he asked me in Cree, "where's your mother?"

I pretended they weren't there, especially the nosy man.

"What's your name?" he asked again in Cree.

I heard him all right. I didn't answer.

"Darned women," he said scratching his head. "Geez, God made them funny. Talk when they want and when they don't, can't get them started!"

Sighing, he informed Doreen, "I'm going in to page the responsible party."

He was gone for a long time. Doreen offered me a stick of Juicy Fruit. I took the gum, seeing there were no strings attached.

Finally, Tom came out. "Lookit, Doreen no one knows who she belongs to. You're a woman, what do you say?"

Take her down to the RCMP station Tom. Let them take care of her!"

At this the little man paled. "Throw her in the coop? Naw, I ain't no stoolie!"

Looking thoughtful, he threw a sideways glance at me.

Then he looks at Doreen, "I told you I got a spread. We'll leave word here for them to put up a notice at the post office. Anyway, word will spread through the moccasin telegraph."

"You'll get us thrown in the caboose," Doreen warned with a head shake.

This was where the conversation ended for me. My eyes had fought sleep for three days, now they closed.

I awoke in a dim-lit cabin and there was an awful smell. Turning my head, I could see Doreen across the room. She was cracking eggs into a smoking frying pan.

Between the egg cracking and grease splattering sounds, Doreen and Tom argued.

"What'm I to do with a child?" she asked. Anyway who says I'm stayin'?"

The burnt egg smell was now overpowering. I began to cough.

"You tryin' to kill us?" questioned Tom as he swung open the cabin door.

Walking to the stove, he dismissed Doreen away with a wave. He tucked a bleached flour sack into his striped coveralls. Clouds of flour arose. Soon there was bannock on the table. Finally he made bacon and good smelling eggs.

"OK kid, you can come out now!" I pretended to sleep.

"Last call," he said, "you come and eat or I'll leave the cookin' to Doreen here next time."

I came and sat down.

As the days stretched into weeks, the arguments went on. Doreen would protest that Tom wasn't trying hard to find my family.

"The RCMP..." she'd say, then Tom would walk away.

"It's not the Indian way!" he'd say.

I was beginning to forget my mother's face, the edges of my child memory blurring. What I did remember was her eyes were not much different from Tom's.

"The old women are talkin'! I may not be from this reserve, but I can hear them. I can make it out. They think this one is mine!" she motioned her mouth toward me. Clanking around the kitchen, she cleaned up.

"How many times I got to tell you, her name is Janet Marie?" scolded Tom. He was changing the subject.

True, it was my name. I had held out telling for what seemed a long time. But when Tom told me his spotted pony wanted to know, I told.

Weeks became months. Old Doreen and I, it looked like we was becoming family to Tom. No more was said about notices or telling the RCMP about me.

Then we came upon hard times. I guess I must have been about five. Anyway, it was before I started school.

It began by Tom bringing home very little game. We had already eaten all the chickens we could without killing the best egg layers. Tom had already sold off a horse or two.

One night, they sent me to bed early. Lying there, my ears perked up.

"I guess I'd better leave the reserve for awhile. I heard there's work puttin' up fences south," Tom stated.

High-pitched, Doreen's voice accused, "you're not going to leave me here are you? Those women, they don't like me. I saw them countin' the months I been here, just in church, too!" Her fingers drummed the table nervously.

"Oh all right," soothed Tom, "I'll figure somethin' out. The mare's foalin. Probably, I'll get a good price later. Maybe later, I can get a down payment from a guy down south I know."

Next day, Tom returned from hunting with a few squirrels.

"I'm not eatin' them go-

pered Doreen. Moving her arm gently away, she smiled at Tom.

Suddenly, Tom crouched closer to the steering wheel and the windshield. He looked up at the night sky. "Really good," he said, "it's getting cloudy."

He turned out the truck lights as we went down the hill. The silhouettes of old man Dumont's farmhouse and chicken coops came closer.

"Kill the motor!" Doreen commanded.

"OK, Okimaw," answered Tom in a strange voice.

The truck coasted forward

Dumont there?"

Tom pretended not to notice. After church, we went straight home.

Within minutes, Tom had changed out of his Sunday suit. Around the coveralls he tucked an old Red Rose bag.

"He was only a Sunday friend," he said to no one in particular.

Doreen brought up two chickens from the ice hole in the root cellar. They were cleaned. Tom had been up late.

Into the pot the chickens went. Tom added secret spices.

The most mouth-watering smell came forth. And as Doreen set the table, she eyed the stove longingly.

We were all waiting. Though what happened next was not what we were waiting for.

Around the corner, came old man Dumont's red truck. He didn't drive past.

He got out of the truck. Doreen mouthed the word RCMP and a look of apprehension passed between her and Tom.

But when Tom answered the door, he was a different man. "Why, come on in," Tom says to Dumont, like he was an honored guest. "I haven't seen you in a coon's age!"

Old man Dumont sniffed the air. "About to have Sunday dinner?"

Doreen smiled a stiff smile.

After a few cups of tea, it became apparent old man Dumont was not about to leave.

"Sure smells good," he hinted.

Tom did what any self-respecting Indian would do.

"We'd be glad if you'd stay for dinner. It isn't much for a man who eats chicken all the time. Jus' a little soup."

Doreen set another place at the table.

I sat by the window wide-eyed at all the goings on.

"Come and eat, child," Doreen called sweetly.

It was a marvelous soup, the kind that keeps women like Doreen happy. With a dreamy look, she served herself more.

Old man Dumont had three bowls. He looked like he would never fill up.

It was when Tom was biting into a chicken thigh, Dumont says, "Damn those chickens! They sure are good. Best soup I ever tasted. Tell me, where did you get them?" He slammed the table with his big fist. "Geez, I'd sure like to have me some of those."

I thought Tom would choke. He mumbled, "Biggar! got them in Biggar...ah...awhile back. These are the last of 'em."

"Well," says Dumont. "I heard you was having hard times so I stopped by. Thought I'd offer you some of my chickens, but I see you're doin' jus' fine. Damn good soup!"

That was a long time ago. Doreen liked old man Dumont's chickens so much she took up with him. Me, I was stuck with Tom. I was family. Heck, when you have family you do what you have to do. This certainly was true for Tom, my father. Hunger made him contrary for that one time.

So this Father's Day when we were toasting fathers and roasting chickens I thought of Tom for a bit. I know he's up there in that big open, chicken coop in the sky. I hope God has a sense of humor about Tom's Sunday chickens.

(Duiker, an Edmonton resident, is originally from Red Phasant reserve in Saskatchewan.)



Ernest Gladu

phers!" Doreen says when she sees them.

"What kind of Injun are you anyway?" Tom looked at her in surprise, "these ain't no go-phers!"

Doreen sniffed haughtily and stomped away. And she stuck to her guns too. Not one tooth touched that squirrel meat.

Not even Tom's concerned looks swayed her. He eyed her ample curves worriedly. "Say Doreen, you're not gettin' skinny are you?"

Now, hunger in the eyes of your loved ones makes you do contrary things. One night both Tom and Doreen were acting contrary to the usual.

"You can stay up late," Doreen says to me. "Then we're goin' for a nice truck ride. We'll see the stars and them nice northern lights!"

That night, Tom was picking out all the special stars. "See that bunch there, Janet Marie? That's the Big Dipper."

"Is it cloudy enough yet?" Doreen whispered.

"Shh!" shushed Tom.

"There's old man Dumont's farm," Doreen said in her church voice. "Right where you said it would be, Tom."

Tom didn't reply. Instead he asked me for the third time, "you sleepy yet, Janet Marie?"

I'm not stupid. I pretended to fall asleep, my head resting on Doreen's plump arm.

"That's it, she's asleep," whis-

slowly until it stopped right by the chicken coops.

"Leave the doors open," Doreen whispered.

"Naw, the mosquitoes will get Janet Marie. Jus' close it light like."

As soon as they had climbed the fence, I sat up.

An awful lot of squawkin' was coming from the chicken coops.

It quit suddenly.

That's when I could make out Tom's slight figure running frantically toward the truck. From his hands dangled two chickens, one still alive and protesting.

Behind him, Doreen got hung up on the barbed wire fence.

There was a long ripping sound, then she too was in the truck, she threw a limp-necked chicken on the floor.

"Let it rip!" she shouted forgetting herself. "Geez, I left part of my pants back there."

I pretended to sleep. I think they wanted it so.

A dog began barking. One of Tom's chickens began jumping and squawking. Doreen made a mad lunge at it.

"Let's get out of here," whispered Tom loudly.

As the truck roared down the road, old man Dumont's light went on.

The next day was Sunday. We went to church. The priest never mentioned the chickens.

Doreen saw someone she knew. "Isn't that old man

## Native Elders

### Spotlight shone on Kookoms and Moshoms

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

According to Jonathan Potskin, his grandmother is the best in the world.

The Grade 7 student from Edmonton's Ben Calf Robe school is praising Jean Potskin from Slave Lake. "She's had over 100 foster children at her place," he says.

Potskin was one of over 75 Native students from area schools who participated in the first annual Kookom and Moshom pageant and seniors' celebration June 7.

The event was planned and hosted by the Metis Womens' Council of Edmonton in conjunction with Seniors' Week, which was celebrated provincially from June 2-8, says Frances Hegedus. Kookoms and moshoms, or grandmothers and grandfathers for those who don't speak Cree, should be recognized at a special occasion in their honor, says the administrator.

The entries explained why the students thought their grandmother or grandfather was special to them. Robert Collins, 14, from Alex Taylor school, says of his grandma Nellie Jean Collins "There's just no one like her."

The pageant was held at Eastwood community hall in the city's east end. As well as the participation from the students, the day was highlighted with a baking contest, card games, Native crafts, bingo, a draw for a handcrafted log cabin and tipi and lots of amateur entertainment.

"Altogether 150 attended throughout the day, most of them seniors," says Hegedus.

The Metis Womens' Council operates a drop-in centre for Native seniors and an urban Native housing registry from its 11821-78th St. location in Edmonton.

One of the regulars at the drop-in centre is Madeline Gibot. "I raised three children and now I have seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren," she says proudly.

Gibot says she enjoys attending events at the centre. "I go every Wednesday for soup and bannock and attend regular functions as well." She is also a volunteer board member.

Gibot feels events such as the Kookom and Moshom pageant are valuable because of the interaction they offer between youths and seniors.

"Maybe if we could mix with the teenagers more, have fun, enjoy games and tell stories, the temptations of modern society would be easier to resist. The younger people could gain a lot by learning what the older folks are all about," she says.



Heather Andrews

Madeline Gibot won the draw for the handmade miniature tipi at the recent pageant saluting grandparents



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## AIDS

## Safer sex means taking responsibility for your sexuality

## Eighth in a series

and it's estimated as many as 6,000 may actually be infected.

A 13-part series on AIDS is appearing on provincial television stations and in provincial newspapers. The campaign is intended to provide Albertans with information and models for changing behaviors which put them at risk of HIV infection. Since AIDS was first reported in 1981, 323 Albertans have been diagnosed with the illness. Of these 176 (54 per cent) have died. Over 1,000 Albertans have tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS

Safer Sex isn't the new catch phrase of the '90s. Safer sex means taking responsibility for your own sexuality and avoiding sexual practices which can spread HIV and sexually transmitted diseases.

Safer sex refers to sexual activities that do not allow blood, semen or vaginal fluid to pass from one partner to the other. Practising safer sex includes the option of having sexual intercourse only when you have

made a conscious choice and are prepared to do so. There are many ways for people to express their sexuality other than through sexual intercourse. Showering together, giving each other back massages and petting are all intimate, loving and safe sexual activities that can be shared between partners.

Practising safer sex also means if you decide to have sexual intercourse you use a latex condom properly. If the two of you have been together for less than six months and have not been tested for HIV, particularly if you have had more than one sexual partner, it is essential not to come in contact with each other's blood, semen or vaginal fluid. To avoid transmission either choose to not have sexual intercourse or use a latex condom when you do.

The risk of HIV infection exists for those who, in the last 10

years, have had unprotected sexual intercourse outside of a mutually monogamous relationship, or have shared needles someone else has used.

Unlike with other illnesses, a person infected with HIV usually looks perfectly well and feels fine. People who don't know they are infected may spread the virus to others through unprotected sexual intercourse or sharing needles to inject drugs. The only way to be certain you aren't infected is have a blood test. If you aren't 100 per cent certain about yourself or your partner, it makes sense to protect yourself.

The choice to have sexual intercourse is not an easy one for some people. Each person has to make that decision for themselves. The chance of HIV infection has made making that conscious choice more important than ever. Having made the decision to be sexually active, we

must face the reality of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases as well as unplanned pregnancies. The risks of any of these can be reduced through safer sexual practices.

By making informed and conscious decisions, by changing our behaviors and by practising safer sex, we can each make a difference. Together we can work towards limiting and ending the spread of HIV.

For more information about HIV/AIDS in Alberta, call the health unit in your community.

So you and your partner have good information about safer sex, contact the sexual health educator at your health unit. Or call your community AIDS organization: Calgary (228-0155), Edmonton (429-2437), Grande Prairie (538-3388), Red Deer (346-8858), Lethbridge (328-8186), High River (938-4911) and Jasper (852-5274).

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## Saluting Native Graduates

## U of A Native studies' graduates honored

## Graduation 'is only the beginning': Twinn

By Molly Chisaakay  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

"I am so honored to be one of the first graduates from this program. It's only the beginning," said Connie Twinn, one of the first students to graduate from the University of Alberta's Native studies program. At a June 10 luncheon given in honor of the two graduates, Twinn was presented with an eagle feather and sweetgrass by elders Lawrence Makinaw and Morris L'Hirondelle. She also received gifts from Prof. Richard Price, director of the Native studies program, and other faculty members.

Twinn, a treaty Indian originally from the Bigstone Cree band in northern Alberta, has one child and is married.

She said her interest in the program started while studying at the Sunrise Project which began four years ago in Slave Lake. There she completed the prerequisite courses prior to her entrance into university, where she completed the Native studies program within the last two years.

Twinn said there were many challenges, including relearning what she took for granted, her Native culture and her lifestyle.

Twinn teaches Cree 15 at the Alberta Vocational College and hopes to continue studies towards a bachelor of education degree at the university. She is taking courses in education. She said by taking a general degree program she can take advantage of other educational opportunities.

"The first year was the most difficult year for me, especially in making the adjustments to new ways of thinking, which takes some getting used to," said Twinn.

She said there were special people at the Sunrise Project and at the university and in the faculty of Native studies, who supported her when she most needed support.

"There are many parts of Native culture which are important," explained Twinn. "By having completed the program, I hope my success in having achieved this goal will help other Native people realize it is possible for them to pursue their goals too."

Twinn said she encourages other Native students to continue their studies. Education can help Natives across Canada not only educate themselves but educate others as well in developing awareness, she said.



Rocky Woodward

Graduates Connie Twinn and Murray McLaren are given eagle feathers and sweetgrass by elders Morris L'Hirondelle and Lawrence Makinaw

## Program increased student's knowledge of his culture

By Molly Chisaakay  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

"I am honored to have fulfilled my desire to enhance my knowledge of my own Native background, as my great grandmother was Cree," said Murray McLaren, a Metis graduate from the Native studies program at the University of Alberta.

McLaren is one of the first two graduates of the Native studies program at the U of A. Connie Twinn is the other graduate. A luncheon in honor of the two graduates was held at the Native studies school on campus June 10.

They were presented with a traditional eagle feather and sweetgrass by elders Lawrence Makinaw and Morris L'Hirondelle. At the luncheon gifts and recognition were given to them by the director of the school Richard Price, other staff members, fellow students and family members.

McLaren said taking the program increased his awareness and knowledge of Native people. McLaren is the brother of Leslie McLaren, the reigning Miss Canada. "It has been very helpful to have my family support me. The first years were tough financially and emotionally as my wife was also a student at the university," he said. "But the last two years were easier." The couple has three children.

"I am very honored to be the first to graduate in that I hope I can make the school proud. I wish for continued success to the Native studies program". McLaren said he also learned more about Native culture from Native students at the university.

He said the program also increased his understanding of what Native people are attempting to do for themselves, especially in their drive for self-determination. "Something I have always wanted to do was to explore Native culture. Through these teachings I have learned about the cultural ways with and from the Native students."

Asked about his plans, McLaren said he hopes to work in some capacity with Native organizations in the future.

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Linda Delorme - Flying Dust  
Connie Patricia Dillon - Onion Lake  
Stacy Carolyn Gladeau - Moosomin  
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Sandra Joan McKay - Peepeekisis  
Yvonne E. McKay - Peepeekisis  
Mary Therese Obey - Piapot  
Viola R. Pambrun - Muskowekwan  
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# NOTICE TO ALL TREATY INDIAN STUDENTS FROM SASKATCHEWAN

Any student who is planning to attend post-secondary institutions in September 1991 and January 1992 **must complete an application** with the Department of Indian Affairs by the following dates:

**June 30, 1991 for courses  
beginning in September 1991;**

**October 30, 1991 for courses  
beginning in January 1992**

or

check with your band or Tribal Council  
as to their deadlines for application for  
funding

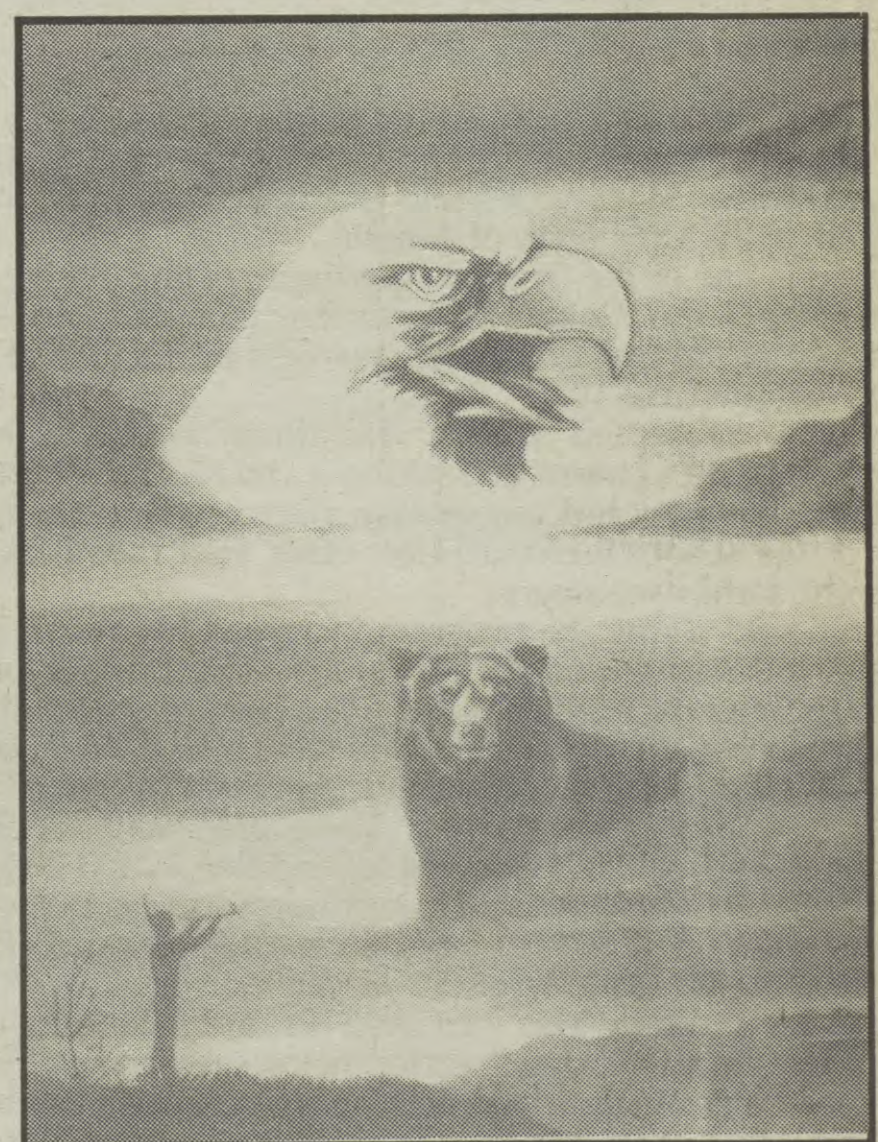
**PLEASE NOTE:**

Students should be aware that resources for the program for the 1991-92 academic year are limited. Sponsorship will be provided pending availability of resources.

Prior to the first disbursement of sponsorship, students are required to submit a copy of their class registration form and a letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution.

**QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations  
Post-Secondary Education Centre  
Ph. (306) 949-6010  
or your Band/Tribal Council Office



## Saluting Native Graduates

# Alexander graduate earned her smiles

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ALEXANDER RESERVE, ALTA.

Pamela Auigbelle is the fastest graduate this reserve has ever had and at that pace she will go a long ways in whatever career she chooses, said a group of reserve teachers. The lone Grade 12 graduate was honored during the Alexander Indian Nation's Kipohtakaw Education Centre's class of '91 graduation.

At least 70 family members and friends of Auigbelle were on hand to celebrate with the beaming graduate at a banquet held at the Edmonton Inn in Edmonton May 24.

Speaking to the hushed crowd of well-wishers, Kipohtakaw's director of education Edna Arcand said without the moral support of family, many students would probably not achieve their goals.

"It's people like Pamela's parents and her grandmother who show they care and take time to listen that helps students succeed. Without their support they would give up but with them they are successful," Arcand commented.

During the evening's ceremonies a slide presentation of Auigbelle's life from when she was a baby to her present age was shown. Auigbelle as a young girl clowning around, sunset shots, the presentation had people remembering the graduate with laughs and sighs.

English teacher Darrell Craigs said the message to the teachers is "the smile on Pamela's face."

"All of us teachers would like to see graduation smiles. The smile on Pamela's face was well-earned so she needs to smile a lot," said Craigs.

He said Pamela's smile is a very important message.

"It comes at a very special time, the graduation. It is a very important evening and we can all thank Pamela for that," he said.

From a class of eight students, Auigbelle was the only one to graduate.

"The other students will have their turn at graduating and I'm sure Pamela will be around to help them," Craigs predicted.

In keeping with the tradition and wishes of Fred Arcand, a late chief of the Alexander Indian Nation, Auigbelle was awarded a certificate and a small cash gift for graduating.

"It was his wishes to always acknowledge graduates with a small amount of money for their accomplishment upon graduating," said Edna Arcand who, along with Auigbelle's grandmother Justine Auigbelle, presented the gifts to the happy graduate.

Holding her gifts and smiling Auigbelle first words were "I finally did it!" to applause from guests.

"I know many times I struggled each day to get here and if it wasn't for my family, my kookum, I wouldn't be here this evening."

"I would also like to thank the Creator for guiding me in this direction and for letting me see this day."

"Thanks to all the teachers who treated me so nice. They have such unique qualities. I can honestly say our school is better than any school in the city. Here the teachers give students more of their individual time. You'll always remain in my memories," Auigbelle said.

Auigbelle had a message for her past fellow students also. "No matter how hard schoolwork might seem, give it a shot and strive for what you want."

Frank Kootenay, band councillor in charge of education, delivered a congratulatory message from Chief Stanley Arcand and other council members unable to attend.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was Wyatt Arcand.

## 'I finally did it!'



Pamela Auigbelle with her grandmother Justine Auigbelle

Rocky Woodward

### Don't Hurt Me

By Noreen Saddleback

I opened up my heart  
when at long last  
I found a friend  
I let go of the past

I rekindled hope again  
I light my life anew  
A friendship true  
I thought I knew

Trust came forth  
In a slow advance  
Touching ever so lightly  
Biding for a chance

Caring arose from within  
Seeking to give  
Caressing with affection  
Striving to live

I let you into my heart  
Hoping, Trusting, Caring  
Believing in friendship  
Can I be so daring?

I opened up my heart  
I Love You I do  
I know I hurt you  
And you hurt me too.

(Saddleback is from  
Hobbema)

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Dallas Koochicum	Office Technician	
Leanne Bellegard	Bachelor of Law	U of S
Colinda Gauthier	Dental Assistant	SIAST
Debbie Hill	Diploma Nursing	SIAST
Sharon Poitras	Diploma of Applied Arts Administration	SIAST-STIT
Norma Koochicum	"	SIAST - STIT
Sandra McKay	"	SIAST - STIT
Yvonne McKay	"	SIAST - STIT
Cordelle Pinay	"	SIAST - STIT
Melisa McKay	Personal Development Worker - Certificate	SIAST

# AVC Lesser Slave Lake Celebrates Twenty Years



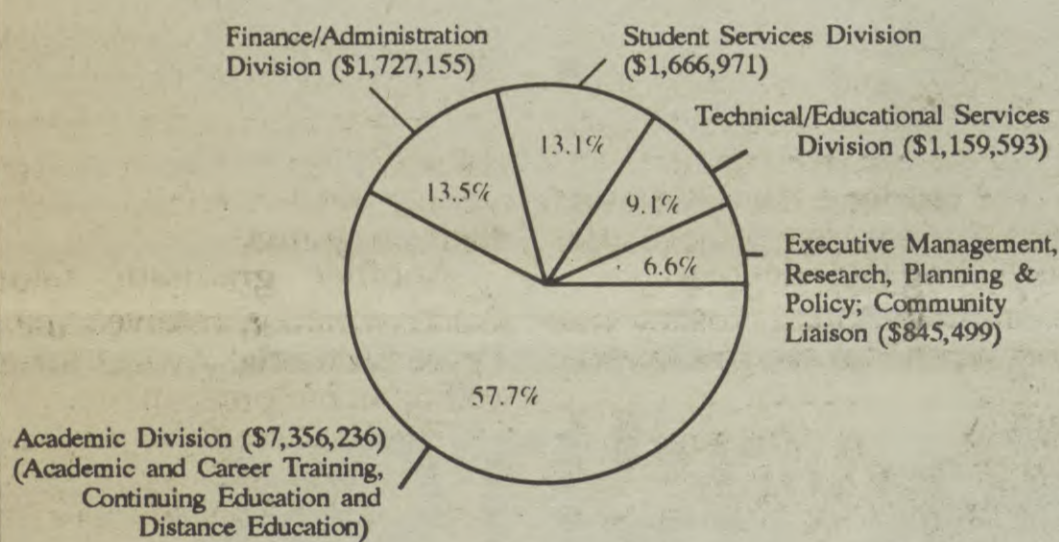
## Twenty years of experience responding to the needs of North Central Albertans

- AVC Lesser Slave Lake is comprised of regional campuses in Grouard and Slave Lake and 18 community campuses.
- AVC Lesser Slave Lake offers over 25 full-time diploma and certificate programs in academics, business, health & human resources, trades and resource technologies, and native cultural arts at campus locations throughout the region.
- AVC Lesser Slave Lake served 9680 people in the 1989-90 academic year - 2511 in credit programs (a 12% increase from last year) and 7169 in non-credit courses.
- AVC Lesser Slave Lake offers first and second year university transfer programs through the Sunrise Project and university and college preparation through the University & College Entrance Program.
- AVC has established program advisory committees for most career training programs. The advisory committees are composed of representatives from agencies, business and industry who meet to discuss labour and educational needs and to ensure programs are responsive and relevant to changing business and industry conditions.

## Community involvement is vital

- AVC has a special relationship with the communities it serves. Each community has a Community Education Committee that ensures residents have access to education and training suitable to their needs and goals. Each CEC is involved in advising and guiding the activities of their community campus.
- Each CEC has a representative on the Council of Community Education Committees which deals with inter-community and regional topics and advises the President on the operation of the College.
- The 21 CECs and their Council believe that the residents of north central Alberta have the right to the breadth and quality of adult education services afforded other Albertans; that the College is composed of students, communities and staff; and that each partner has the right and responsibility to participate in determining, providing and evaluating the endeavors of the College.
- The purpose of the College is outlined in its mission statement. "With respect for cultures and the needs of communities, AVC Lesser Slave Lake provides quality educational programs and services which enable adults to continue their education, to improve their employment opportunities, and to enhance their quality of life."

## Distribution of Expenditures (1989 - 90 Academic Year)



## Who attends AVC?

- In the 1989-90 academic year, the number of students by gender were 71% female and 29% male.
- 42% of the female students and 43% of the male students were between the ages of 19 and 24.
- 45% of the female students and 41% of the male students were between the ages of 25 and 45.
- 77% of the female students were unemployed and 69% of the male students were unemployed prior to entry into the College.

## Students are satisfied!

In a survey conducted in June 1990, students indicated the following:

- 96% enjoyed being at AVC
- 89% agreed that AVC prepared them well for entry into their career goal
- 90% agreed that AVC prepared them for future advancement in their career goal
- 96% would recommend AVC to a friend
- 97% agreed that the instructors were capable and helpful

## What AVC students say

"The Forestry Technician Program was very beneficial for me. The instructors were excellent and the program content was directly related to the work I am doing now."



**Dana Johns**  
Woodlands Technician  
Buchanan Lumber.  
Graduate, Forestry Technician Program

"The training I received in the Secretarial Arts program was very good. Our classroom was set-up like an actual office which made learning more realistic. I would definitely recommend this program."



**Brenda Allen**  
Clerk III  
Alberta Power.  
Graduate, Secretarial Arts Program

"Our instructors were excellent. They were concerned about each student's progress. After completing the program, I was hired by the Slave Lake Pulp Corporation and was able to take a 2-week "hands-on" training program in Sweden. The program at AVC has definitely paid off for me."

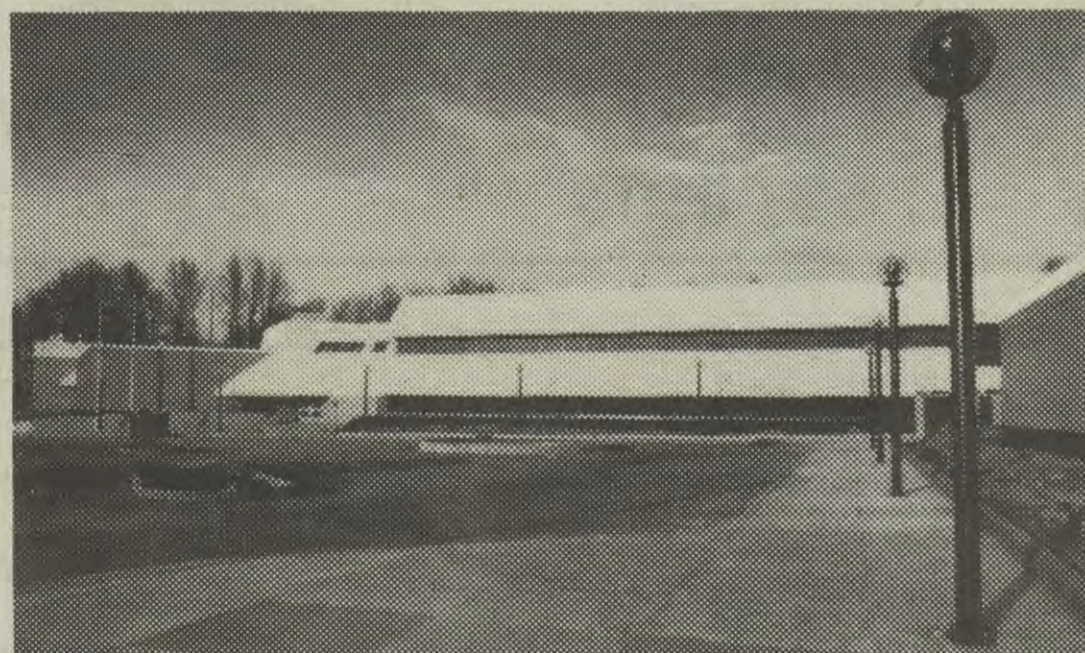


**Bernie Auger**  
Control Room Operator  
Slave Lake Pulp Corporation.  
Graduate, 3rd Class Power Engineering

"This was an absolutely excellent program! The instructors were very patient and gave us a lot of support. The 1-month practicum at the end of the program really gave us a feel for what it's like to work as a LPN."



**Lisa Zahacy**  
Licensed Practical Nurse  
High Prairie Regional Health Complex.  
Graduate, Practical Nurse Program (formerly Nursing Assistant Program)



## College Facilities

In the 1989-90 year, the College occupied 42 different facilities in 23 communities. These accommodations provided a total of 24,318.6 square metres of floor area.

- Construction of the \$15.4 million new campus and aquatic centre at Slave Lake is almost complete. The new campus will be open for classes in September 1991 and the grand opening is scheduled for September 28, 1991.
- The first families moved into the 18-unit student family housing complex located at the Grouard Campus on December 6, 1989.



## Salute to Native Graduates

# Northern AVC students graduate at Slave Lake

By Rocky Woodward  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SLAVE LAKE, ALTA.

The path to graduation is not always an easy one but for 171 students from 12 different communities in northern Alberta, who graduated from AVC academic programs June 7 at Slave Lake, it was time and effort well spent.

In a heartfelt speech, Alberta Advanced Education representative Beth Cunningham applauded the graduates who made personal sacrifices to attend college.

"Some of you have overcome hardships that might have felt insurmountable at times — financial difficulties, children to support, part-time work. Making ends work while furthering your education is clear evidence to your commitment for a better life. You had the motivation to go forward and I congratulate you," she said.

The convocation ceremony saw students graduate from adult basic education, management studies, social work, secretarial arts, high school credit and community addictions programs. Others graduated as pre-employment electricians and logging equipment operators.

Students graduated from AVC programs at Wabasca, Smith, Loon Lake, Peerless Lake, Flatbush, Kinuso, Calling Lake, Swan Hills, Chipewyan Lake, Red Deer, Faust and Slave Lake.

"We are always in search of heroes and role models. I suggest we select our graduates and students who are still sitting in their desks. They are the real heroes,"



Some of the 171 students who graduated from AVC Slave Lake June 7

Rocky Woodward

Lesser Slave Lake's AVC president Dan Vandermeulen told the graduates, while adding he was proud the graduates chose AVC to continue their education.

Vandermeulen added graduates must give thanks to some very special people.

"Your children, spouses, fam-

ily, friends and instructors. If you give thanks to them, you have paid the college back for what it did for you," he said.

AVC students also graduated from the sunrise project, a co-ordinated university transfer project that allows students access to two years of general uni-

versity studies so they may enter university and continue their studies towards a degree — usually in the education field.

Four students also graduated from the sunrise project after completing their degrees.

Graduate Violet Noskey was a big winner at the graduation.

She was given the Jack Shields Outstanding Citizenship Award and the Roland Gladue Memorial Scholarship. The awards recognize students who excel in their programs.

Another graduate, Gloria Goodswimmer, received the Jo Pryce Memorial Award for excelling in her program.

"Without the support of family, friends, fellow students and instructors, we wouldn't be here today. You have helped us towards our future dreams and future successes. For these we thank you," valedictorian Elaine Ulm told the packed gymnasium.

Also attending the convocation was Lesser Slave Lake MLA Pearl Calahasen.

"I like dreams. Martin Luther King had a dream. John F. Kennedy had a dream and it's dreams that improve the world for future generations.

"I throw a challenge to all graduates to keep on dreaming and fulfil your dreams so you can do whatever you want," Calahasen told the graduates.

The convocation theme was *Dreams See Us Through Forever.*

# Lac la Biche grads doing well

By Bob Adebayo  
Contributing Writer

LAC LA BICHE, ALTA.

Alberta Vocational College at Lac la Biche provides a variety of programs including academic upgrading, trades, human services and business education to adult learners in a caring and supportive educational environment.

Results from a recent follow-up survey of 1989 graduates provide an overview of the labor market performance of AVC graduates. Last September AVC surveyed 127 of the 420 students to graduate in 1989. Of those surveyed one year after graduation a total of 99 were in the labor force, 22 were attending school while six were not looking for work at the time of the survey.

Of those in the labor force, 93 (94 per cent) were employed and five (5 per cent) had been laid off. Only one could not find a suitable job. Of those working, about 85 per cent were working full time, while 15 per cent were working part time.

Graduates obtained their jobs through a variety of ways including personal contacts (18 per cent), AVC's practicum (18 per cent), newspaper ads (25 per cent) and other means (39 per cent).

About 67 per cent of the graduates surveyed agreed AVC prepared them well for their job. A very large majority (86 per cent) agreed AVC prepared them for future advancement in their career. Almost three-quarters of those employed one year after graduation found training-

related work.

The overwhelming majority of the sample graduates were employed in northeastern Alberta. The job titles reported suggest graduates found jobs related to their field of training. Seventy-five per cent of the employed graduates worked in clerical, trades, sales and service-

related occupations. About 8 per cent held jobs in the professional or management categories.

A very large majority (86 per cent) indicated their wages were higher than before attending AVC. The average wage reported in a three-month post-graduation survey was \$10 an hour.

The majority of those surveyed were pleased with their training at AVC. Small classes and a caring environment were frequently mentioned as the most positive aspects of AVC.

(Adebayo works in the research and planning department of AVC Lac la Biche)

**DID YOU KNOW...if the world were a village of 1,000 inhabitants: 700 would be non-white, 300 would be white, 60 would own half the wealth, 700 would be illiterate, 500 would not have enough to eat and 60 would live in slums.**

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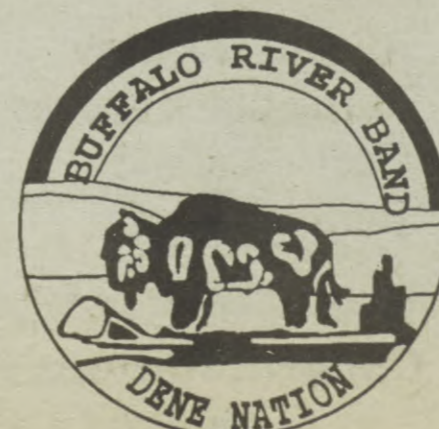
#### Grade 12 Graduates

Lance Billette (Munchoos)  
Arnold Chanalguay (Choodoe)  
Vincent Billette  
Percy Catarat  
Jerry Noltcho

#### Grade 9 Graduates

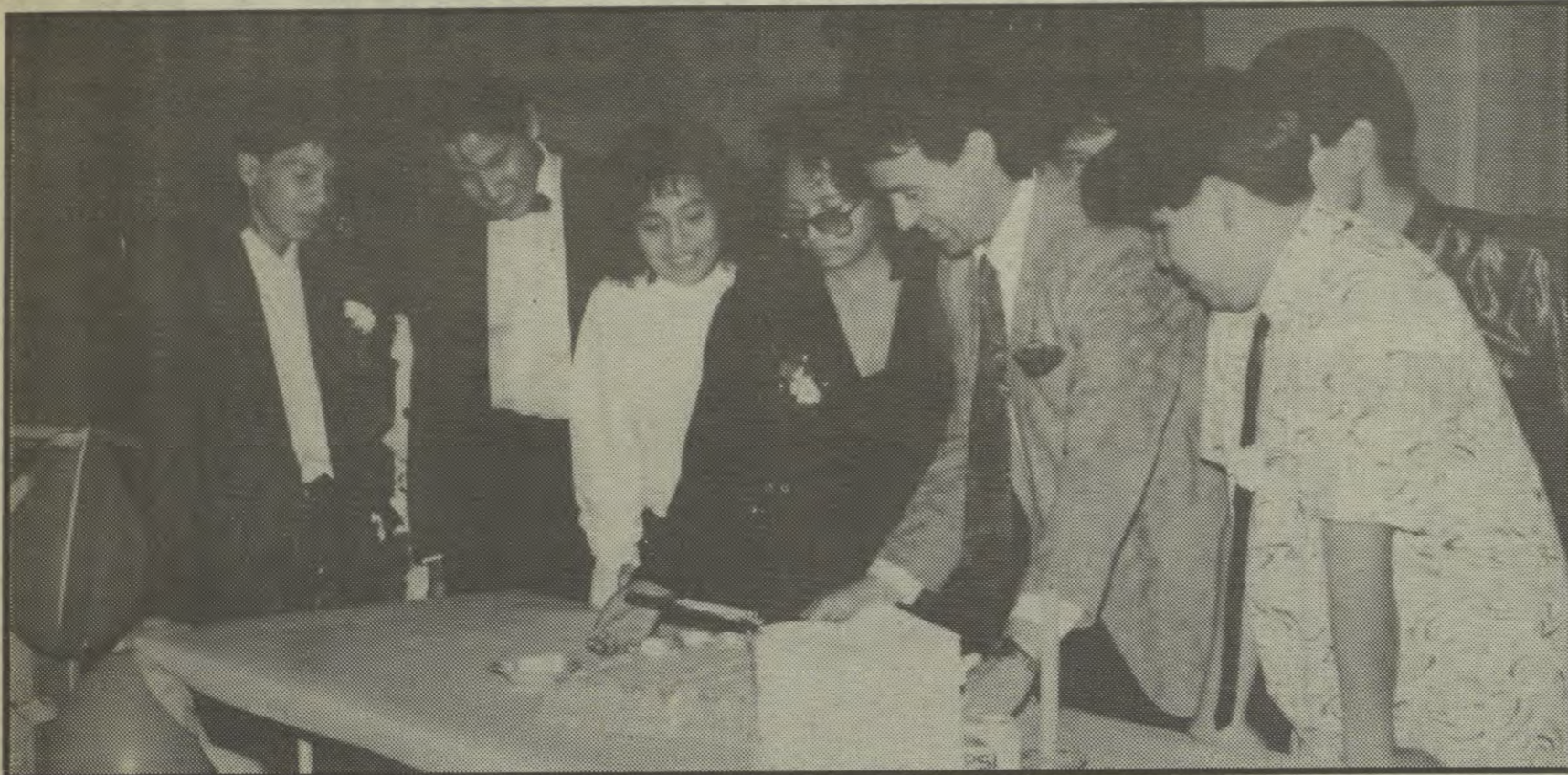
Eunice Noltcho  
Danielle McIntyre  
Rebecca Chanalguay  
Clayton Billette

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## Salute to Graduates



Isabelle Kootenay

Alexis vice-principal Greg Germchled with graduates

# First grade 9 students to graduate at Alexis honored

By Isabelle Kootenay  
Contributing Writer

ALEXIS RESERVE, ALTA.

History unfolded on the Alexis reserve, 60 km northwest of Edmonton, as the first Grade 9 students to graduate at the reserve school were honored June

14. Ten students graduated, after completing the first year of junior high held on the reserve.

Elder Nancy Potts reflects on the first school ever built at Alexis. "It was a log house built in the early 1900s. My mother and father attended classes for two months of a year." The first school basically introduced the

alphabet and counting.

The second school was built in the early 1940s. A one-room classroom, it too was a log cabin. In the cold winter months the school was heated by a cast iron heater. It was the first school Alexis Councillor Dan Alexis attended. "In the cold winter months, the first one arriving at the school had to light the fire," he said.

The third school, which was built in 1951, included a teacherage and two classrooms. It too was heated by coal and lit by kerosene lamps. It was the first school Chief Howard Mustus attended. Language arts was introduced in this era. Schooling extended to Grade 6. Students of higher grades were sent off reserve.

September 1990 was also historic for the First Nations Stoney when Alexis Stoney children entered school on the reserve for the first time at the junior high level.

It was also the first term since the Alexis band took over responsibility for local education from Indian Affairs.

"Having band control is a good thing," says principal Don Tessier. "Monies generated locally are better utilized in programs for the children. Now to complete the full circle we need more Native teachers."

# Students graduate at AVC Lac la Biche

LAC LA BICHE, ALTA.

AVC Lac la Biche bid farewell and good luck to students at graduation ceremonies held at the college on June 1. The program began in the afternoon with the awarding of certificates and diplomas.

In the evening the presentation of awards followed a banquet for about 600 guests. Lynne Duncan, deputy minister of Advanced Education, brought congratulations on behalf of the minister John Gogo.

President Ed Behnke offered encouraging words to students regarding the employment successes of past AVC graduates. "A recent study conducted by the college showed 94 per cent were successful in obtaining employment and the majority were employed in northeastern Alberta."

This year's valedictorian, Enos Willett, a community social services student, received a standing ovation from fellow students and college staff for his very moving testimonial describing what it was like to come back to school as an adult.

"I remember my first week at AVC and all the fears I felt. For people like myself who had to undergo an entire change in mid-life, it is really a traumatic experience. It was 1964 when I graduated from high school. That was a long time ago and I was uncertain of my educational abilities. I had fear of failure. What will my family think if I don't make it? Will I like school? Have I chosen the right career and am I suited for it?"

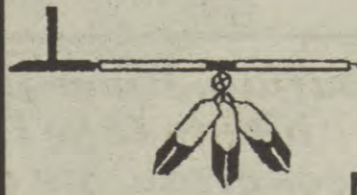
"We needed support to make it through. Thanks to the understanding and respect of my instructors and fellow students who were always willing to help. The warm and caring greetings from staff as we met in the hallways each morning — 'Good

morning, Enos, how are you today?' This respect from staff began to rub off. I began to respect myself, my abilities and the choice I made to come to this college. My self-confidence and self-respect increased. My attitude changed. I began to get new hope. I began to see a direction and a purpose in my life again and I began to feel very good about myself."

Willett encouraged students to continue to see the college and the experiences gained there as a source of future support.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by a local band, the New Addition.

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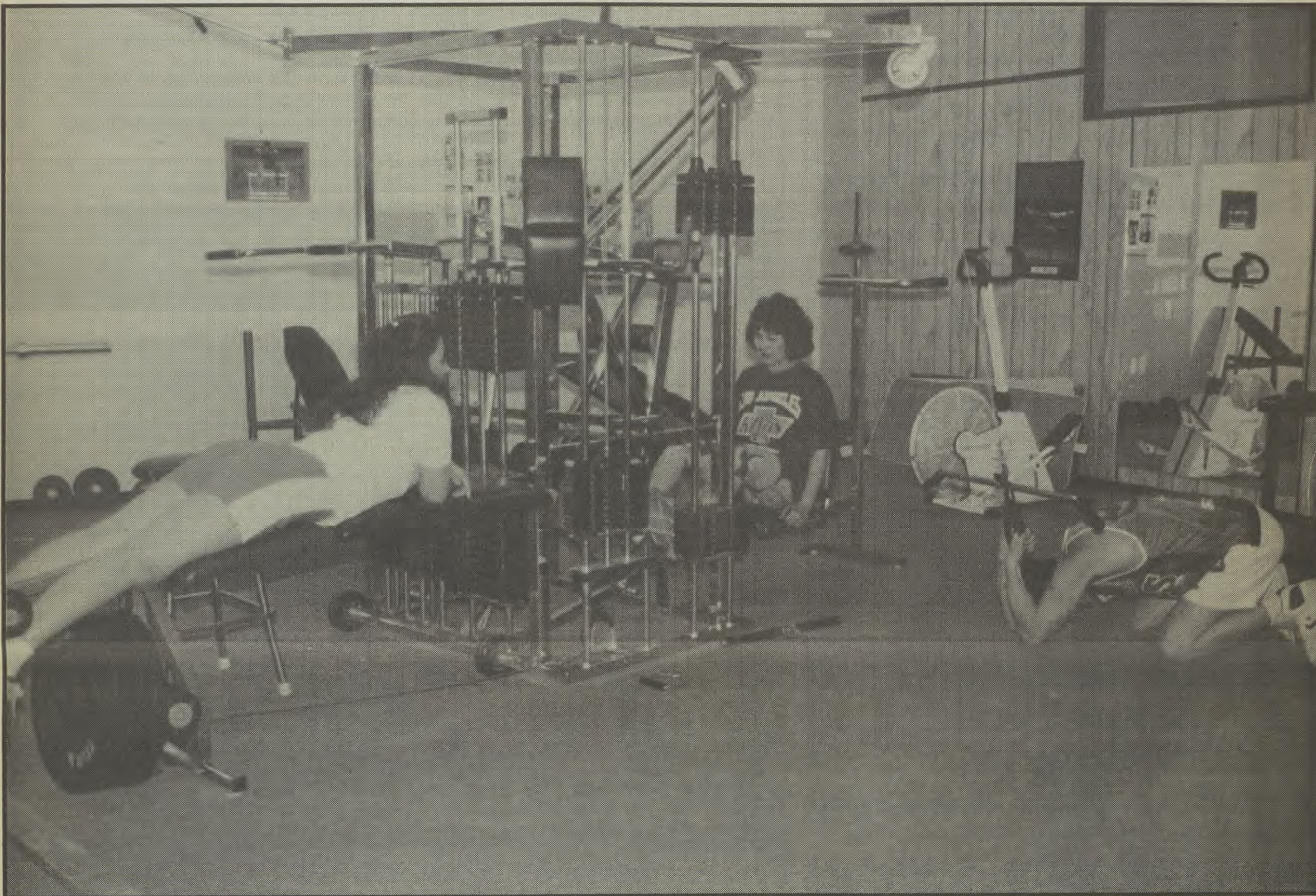
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## SLAVE LAKE PROFILE

# Wind speaker



Heather Andrews

The Eagle Fitness Centre is the only exercise facility in High Prairie

## High Prairie centre bursting at the seams

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

HIGH PRAIRIE, ALTA.

The High Prairie Native Friendship Centre is looking for a new home, says the executive director.

"We are already running numerous programs and are really feeling the shortage of space. The need is there in the community to begin some new programs, but we just can't expand in our present building," says Loraine Duguay.

The centre is a valuable asset to the community. The board room is rented for a modest fee to local groups for meetings and workshops. The centre has the only kiln for firing pottery and various craft groups use the oven.

The Native handicrafts available through the centre attract local residents and tourists. A

consumer and corporate affairs resource library is available. And the Eagle Fitness Centre is the only exercise facility in town.

"So we are a real centre of activity, both day and night," says Duguay.

The fitness centre has state-of-the-art equipment, including free weights, benches, treadmills, an exercise bike, a universal gym and shower facilities on site. Jane Fonda tapes are available for those wishing to keep in shape by other methods.

"The centre is staffed entirely by volunteers and annual fees are kept low, only \$50 a year, so it really is accessible to everyone," says Duguay.

With many non-Native people using the centre, it is an everyday occurrence to see all cultures interacting with each other.

The nearby reserves, including Sucker Creek and Driftpile, are very much a part of the

centre too. "They use our meeting room too, and we always participate in their cultural days," explains the director. The Metis settlements commission often uses the centre as well.

A thrift shop where reasonably-priced clothing can be purchased operates from the centre and is another plus for the residents of the community.

Duguay was born and raised in the area and is proud of her Cree and French background. After leaving the area for education and employment aspirations, she returned to work at the centre and to raise her two boys in her home town.

"My sons are already a part of the friendship centre movement and participate in many youth activities here," she says. She wants them, as well as all participants at the centre, to achieve a mutual respect between people from all cultures.

With a core of four staff, the

centre is glad to welcome three part-time employees for the summer. "Often they are non-Native students and we really welcome the chance to work together," says Duguay.

The staff and volunteers are hoping to move into bigger facilities, possibly closer to nearby Highway 2, which would increase accessibility to tourist traffic.




Heather Andrews


Staff at the High Prairie Friendship Centre includes left to right Kerri Sandquist, Lynn Gauchier, executive director Loraine Duguay, Joyce Hawryliw and Jeff Laboucan.

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ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Profile: Slave Lake Area

# Driftpile council has open door policy with its members

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

DRIFTPILE RESERVE, ALTA.

The band office on the Driftpile reserve has got to be one of the busiest places in Alberta.

Every corner of the three-storey building has employees looking after their many portfolios, including social services, administration, education and NNA-DAP, in addition to a special police constable and a band farm.

Next to the band office a new teacherage houses staff employed at the local school. And a residence, which will house health workers like a dental assistant and community health representatives is under construction.

Chief Eugene Laboucan is proud of the work the staff and the band council is doing for the 500-plus residents of the Driftpile band.

"We are trying to have an organized approach to our administration and to planning for the future," he says. He and the nine councillors meet at least once a month with each member being responsible for a specific area of interest.

On individual farms and residences throughout the reserve a variety of businesses are in operation. "We have lots of resources right here, including a backhoe, gravel trucks, landscaping and other heavy equipment," he says.

Laboucan is pleased there's work for many members on the reserve, but says there is always room for more industry. "We are

currently developing a beach project which will attract tourists," he explains. Part of the shore of the huge Lesser Slave Lake runs along Driftpile lands.

As well, the band has a farm which it's expanding. "Young people are especially interested in raising cattle and hogs and grain farming, so we are running workshops to learn more about these aspects of agriculture. There's more to raising livestock than feeding and marketing," says the chief.

Laboucan is a longtime member of the council. First elected chief at the age of 25 in 1972, he has served terms as councillor and been re-elected to chief several times ever since.

The school on the Driftpile reserve has classes for children from kindergarten to Grade 9. High school students are bused to nearby High Prairie. The council encourages young people to stay in school by offering scholarships to high school graduates.

"Nowadays a high school diploma is just the beginning," says Laboucan. Graduates need to look towards university and college training as well. The walls of the board room are lined with framed portraits of successful students from various programs, some young people still in their teens, while other pictures are of adults who have returned to college after many years away from school.

The band is proud of the members who are currently away at colleges and universities taking everything including hair-

dressing, forestry, carpentry and upgrading courses.

A special effort is made to keep in touch with culture too. The Driftpile are members of the original Woodland Cree band, distinguished from the Plains Cree who live in other areas of Alberta.

"We take our kids on camping trips to Howse Mountain, some 100 miles away by road, although it's only 40 miles as the crow flies," says Laboucan. With elders accompanying the group, they learn to survive in the bush and do a lot of traditional things.

"As well, there are still people here who know how to tan hides the old way and make dried meat and women who do traditional sewing and beadwork," says Laboucan.

Community activities include baseball and fastball for little people right up to adults. Fishing at Boggy Slough, also known as Giroux Bay, and hunting and trapping are also enjoyed by many residents.

"We are having our third annual Powwow Days Aug. 11-13. Response in the past has been great with people coming from all over, including the United States," says the chief.

Coun. Ross Giroux agrees with Laboucan about the high calibre of the ambitious people at Driftpile. Giroux, whose portfolio is administration, says communication is the key to successful community planning.

"Any meeting we have here at the band office is open to local residents, too. We have an open door policy with our members," he states.

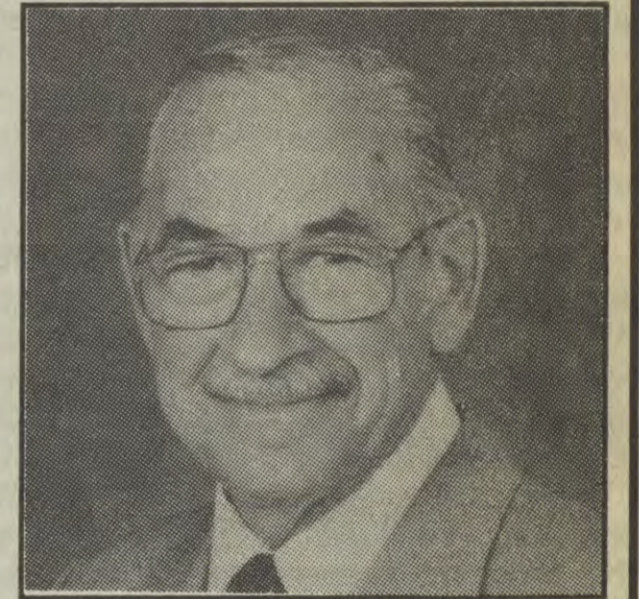


Heather Andrews

Chief Eugene Laboucan brings almost 20 years continuous service to the band council at Driftpile

Windspeaker is...  
Driftpile

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Honourable John Gogo  
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I share in your pride of accomplishment, and I wish each and every one of you much success in all your future endeavours.

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Profile:  
Slave Lake Area

# Sucker Creek band very involved in sports

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SUCKER CREEK RESERVE, ALTA.

The recreation director at the Sucker Creek band office is an especially busy man these days.

Bruce Wright has taken on several new responsibilities in addition to his already-full portfolio of organizing recreational activities for the more than 800 band members living on the reserve.

Wright is chairman for the executive board hosting the Northwest Alberta Summer Games in the High Prairie area July 5-7, 1991.

"Although several local towns are involved, we are the only Native community. Several months ago, letters went out to all the settlements and villages in the area asking for help to organize these games, which are held throughout the province," he says. The winners from each zone go on to the finals in Stettler in August.

"We jumped at the chance to get involved. Working with people from the community at large gives us all a chance to get involved. We're a group working towards a common goal, not individuals with different cultural backgrounds," he says.

Wright is also organizing the volunteers who will be assisting the 1,500 athletes expected to participate and is chairman of the transportation and security committees for the games as well.

Band member Steve Willier and several others on the band's recreation board are all involved in organizing the games. Sucker Creek will host the volleyball and fastball competitions on the reserve, which is just a few miles from High Prairie.

Games manager Wendy Johansson lauds the efforts of the Sucker Creek people. "It is a great community effort. The whole band got behind the idea and is volunteering time and facilities."

The Cree people at Sucker Creek have access to many different cultural and recreational activities. "We have an excellent recreation centre with a weight room and volleyball facilities," says Wright. As well, the band has been active for the past two years in the Alberta Native Hockey Association.

"We came home from the Western Canada Native competitions in Saskatoon in May with a gold medal at the pee wee level and bronze for our bantam team," he says. As well, pee wee, bantam and atom teams won championships in the Alberta Native provincials. A men's team competes locally as well.

Camps which feature outdoor living skills are a regular activity for Sucker Cree youth as well. "We arrange for elders to accompany the young people aged six to 13 to live outdoors for a week. They learn about our culture and enjoy nature, studying plant life and learning things such as getting paint from natural sources like our forefathers did in the past," he says.

An awareness camp for 14 to 18 year olds is held at Marten River near Slave Lake, with the emphasis on issues usually affecting youth in this sometimes tumultuous age group.

"The treaty days celebration is held every June, this year on the 21st, and we feature cultural activities, powwow dancers, archery, relay races, horseshoes and so on," he says. Elders with food offerings and a barbeque complete the day, which is enjoyed by adults and youth alike.

Terry Calliou is the band's education counsellor. "We are really proud of our three Grade 12 grads this year: Terry Calliou, Janice Willier and Jaret Cardinal. And we have many young people involved in other post-secondary studies as well," he says. Psychology, correctional studies, child welfare, accounting and sciences are just a few areas Sucker Creek members are enrolled in.

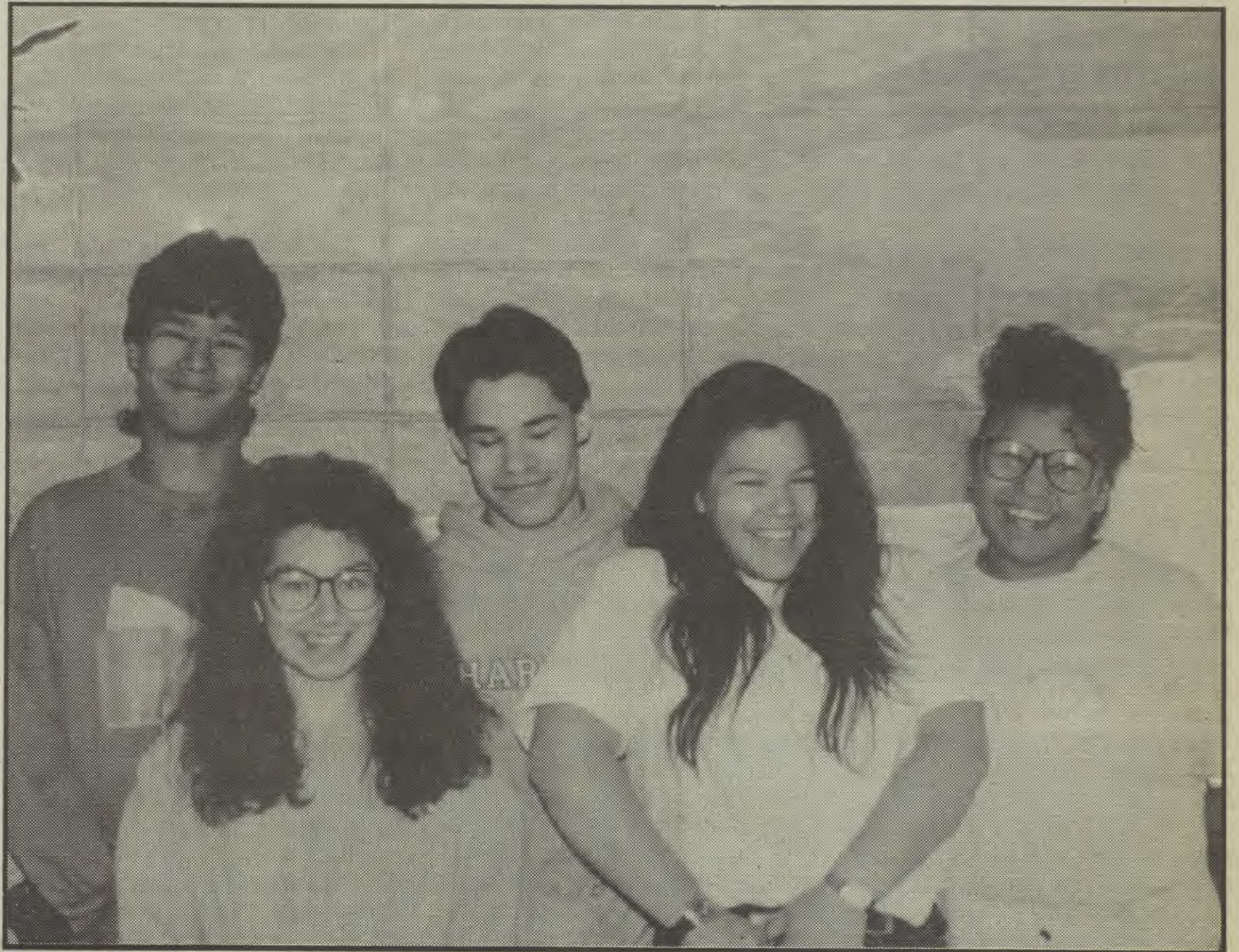
"We have no schooling on the reserve at all. The 122 kids are enrolled in six different schools," he explains. The band has an incentive program to encourage students to graduate and then to enter further training programs.

Cultural events on the reserve are an important part of the students' education as they go to school in community schools which do not have a specific cultural component.

"The kids have to learn to function in the outside world. We try to provide lots of cultural recreation activities to balance it out. And of course culture should come from the students' homes too," says Calliou.

With parents on the reserve coming from many different educational backgrounds ranging from Indian residential schools right to local schooling, he realizes the present system can be confusing for the parents to understand.

"We are hoping to hold a workshop, which will be called Native Education in the 21st Century, possibly later this summer," he says.



Heather Andrews

High school graduates from Sucker Creek — Jaret Cardinal, Terry Calliou and Janice Willier — are joined by Arthur Willier and Caroline Isadore from the Driftpile band as they complete their last year at the High Prairie high school. Missing from the picture is Driftpile member David Giroux.

106th Anniversary

## GOODFISH LAKE CELEBRATION DAYS

July 5th, 6th & 7th, 1991

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**MINOR BALL**  
4 Mosquito - Boys  
4 Beaver - Boys  
10:00 a.m.  
Championship Trophies  
Contact: Willard Jackson 636-3622

**Distribution of Treaty Monies**  
Friday, 10:00 a.m.  
Cultural Centre

**OPENING CEREMONIES**  
1:00 p.m. Following Parade Presentations  
Saturday

**SLOWPITCH CHALLENGE**  
G.F.L. Recreation Committee  
vs.  
Goodfish Lake Admin. Staff  
3:00 p.m.

**TRADITIONAL ROUND DANCE**  
Friday, 7:00 p.m.  
Host Drum: McGilvery Singers, Saddle Lake  
Coordinator: John Seenum

**FOOT RACES**  
Young and Old - 5:00 p.m.  
Prize Money  
Contact: Leonard Houle at 636-3450

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**Sat. & Sun., July 6th & 7th**

**ALBERTA PONY CHUCKWAGON & CHARIOT RACES**  
8:00 p.m. Daily - Fri. - Sat. - Sun.  
Contact: Joe Memmook 636-3622 or Dwayne Bull 636-3622

**HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT**  
Prize Money Upon Entry  
12:00 p.m. Daily  
Entry Fee \$20.00 per Team  
Contact: Cleophus Hunter at 636-2437

**FLAT RACES**  
Upon Entries - \$10.00 Entry Fee  
8:00 p.m. Daily  
Contact: Jim Whitford at 636-3691

**OUTDOOR VOLLEYBALL**  
Contact: Ivan "Zac" Hunter 636-2437 or 636-3622

**BINGO**  
Saturday & Sunday  
1:00 p.m. Daily  
Contact: Doris Jackson 636-2856 (Res.) or 636-3638 (Bus.)

**PARADE**  
Saturday, July 6th, 11:00 a.m.  
Presentations - 1:00 p.m.  
Contact: Pauline Houle

**5th ANNUAL HOMER CHALLENGE**  
**1 MILE CHALLENGE RUN** (Open)  
Sunday, July 6th, 11:00 a.m. (Race Track)  
Registration: Contact James Jr. Jackson  
Prize Money: \$ with Trophy  
Contact: James Jr. Jackson 636-3622

W.R.A. Approved

---

**Ball Tournaments**

**MEN'S BASEBALL**  
Upon Entries Prize Money  
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Entry Fee  
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**LADIES' FASTBALL**  
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Entry Fee \$  
Deadline: June 30th  
Contact: Sandra Houle at 636-3622 or 636-2257

**MEN'S FASTBALL**  
Prize Money  
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Entry Fee - \$300.00  
Deadline: June 30th  
Contact: Ron Whitford/  
Stan Houle at 636-3622

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Jr. Steer Riding  
Jr. Cow Riding  
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Sunday 6:00 p.m.

**TALENT SHOW**  
\$5.00 Entry Fee  
Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
Contact: Darcy Houle 726-2600 or 636-3450

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
F.C.S.S. - Sunday, 8:00 a.m.  
\$2.50 per plate.

**FARMER'S MARKET**  
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**DANCE**  
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July 5th, 6th, 7th

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## Profile: Slave Lake Area

# Centre serves thousands of people

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SLAVE LAKE, ALTA.

Listening to the administrative assistant at the Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre list all the activities and programs run out of the facility, it is hard to believe there are only five full-time staff members.

"There were 3,200 people through our doors from Oct. 24, 1990 to May 15 of this year and most of them were regular patrons who attend functions regularly," says Mickey Gauthier.

Even though fall and winter programs are over for the year, numerous new activities are scheduled to take their place. "Bingos, seniors' teas and family dances are just beginning as well as kids' programs," says Gauthier.

The centre participates in community events as well and enjoys good participation from non-Native residents of Slave Lake. A talent show, bonspiel and Halloween celebrations are all part of activities held at the community level.

"The local Kinettes and Lions Clubs work with us often and the town of Slave Lake has in the past participated, along with the local Family and Community



Heather Andrews

Employees Micky Gauthier, Clay Cardinal, Bonnie Gardner and Dorothy Courterelle take a break from their busy day. Missing is Peggy Roberts who has been executive director since 1988.

Social Services representatives, in sponsoring crafts and recreation nights here at the centre," says Gauthier.

The Fun in the Sun day program is especially popular with young people aged six to 11 years old. "Each year a day program is offered with activities such as sand castle building and T-shirt painting. As well special events in parks and as many outdoor activities as possible are run daily from July 8 to Aug. 23," the administrative assistant says.

Last year over 60 children attended.

While the town shared duties with the centre last year, this season the centre is the sole sponsor, as funding cuts to the town's budgets were felt.

Extra part-time workers are employed by the centre in the winter while the regular programs are running. "And we couldn't do it without our volunteers," says Gauthier. Last year at the annual appreciation night Butch L'hirondelle, Anne Marie

Auger and Sophie Auger were among the volunteers recognized for donating over 100 hours of help. Elders Henry and Edith Sinclair also gave generously of their time.

The Cultural Days celebration, a big event at the centre, is held every fall. Residents from all over northern and central Alberta attend the full weekend of activities. "We have fiddling and jigging contests with trophies and cash prizes being awarded, moose calling and tall

tales competitions and team challenges, to name just a few activities," says Gauthier.

This year's event will be held Sept. 13-15 and planning is already underway. "We have good participation from the non-Native community at this event too," says Gauthier. With logging being a local industry, special events to test skills in spike driving, pole tossing, single and double chainsawing, and cross-cut sawing are held. A Bull and Queen of the Woods contest completes the fun.

A boxing club and a Native dance group "that is in sore need of instructors" are regular programs at the centre too.

The community also works with the centre in presenting a multicultural food fest. "The event has been a success for four or five years now. We have a great diversity of cultural backgrounds in Slave Lake. Each October we have 25 to 30 different dishes," says Gauthier.

The centre is especially proud of participation in the WOW program. "The Work Oriented Workshops are sponsored by the government and are held every summer for students who are considering dropping out of school," says Gauthier. Through a series of workshops and job placements, students are given the opportunity to work with professionals at skilled employment positions.

"They see for themselves the best and most interesting jobs need at least a high school diploma and often college or university training as well," says Gauthier. Of the nine students who participated last summer, eight were back in school when surveyed at the end of September.

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Profile:  
Slave Lake Area

# Sinclair family well-known across Alberta

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SLAVE LAKE, ALTA.

One of Slave Lake's oldest families is well known to Indian people all over the province.

Alfred Sinclair built a log home for his wife Agathe and their large family in the early 1900s. "Altogether there were 15 children," says Evelyn Norberg, the couple's youngest daughter. Alfred and Agathe were also involved with the raising of seven of their grandchildren.

Today the Sinclair name is recognized for the varied and numerous contributions the children have made to the Native community over the years, each in his or her own way.

"Our parents were excellent role models for us. Our father was hard-working and he felt strongly about respect for other people, especially elders, both Native and non-Native," says Norberg.

Clifford, the youngest son, says his mother was a strong believer in discipline and love as basic requirements for a successful life.

"Mom used to say we'd understand what she meant when we were older and now as adults we can see the love she had behind her beliefs," he says. From their mother the Sinclair children learned the importance of a good education. Although neither of their parents could read, both recognized the value of completing school.

"My sister Frances was the first Native graduate from Kinuso high school," says Norberg. Frances went on to become a nurse and worked in the British Columbia community of Prince Rupert for over 25 years, where she and her husband Hector Yeoman lived while raising their four children.

Another sister Mary-Jane, the oldest daughter, married George Bellerose and lived in Slave Lake all her life, where she established a reputation as a hard worker and a top-notch gardener and canner. She and her husband raised six children.

Clara and husband George Foster raised their two children in Edmonton. Clara worked for over 15 years at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, enjoying especially the happy atmosphere on the maternity ward for several years.



Sinclair family members gathered together a few years ago. Pictured are (back row) left to right Sam, Danny, Walter and Clifford, (centre row) Henry and Joe, and (front row) sisters, Clara, Frances, Mary-Jane, Evelyn and May.

"My sister May was one of the best cooks in the north and worked hard for the local friendship centre as well as raising three daughters. She passed away in 1987," says Norberg.

And Evelyn has served on many committees and boards on behalf of Native people everywhere. She was chairperson of the hospital board at Slave Lake, a parole board member and served on the Alberta Human Rights Commission. She also helped get the friendship centre going in Slave Lake in 1973 and

served as a volunteer for several years.

The busy mother of three has also served on the Native people's education committee, a product of the government's Advanced Education portfolio, and worked on the Northland School Division's investigative committee on behalf of Native education in 1980 and 1981. Evelyn and her husband Harold have five grandchildren.

Brother Danny, the second son, was born in 1923 and travelled extensively throughout

Western Canada, working at various labor jobs. "Danny worked for Syncrude as a Native liaison counsellor for a number of years and has set a good example for Native people with the corporate sector. He is also well known for his work as an addictions counsellor and probation officer," says Norberg. He is now retired.

August worked for the Northern Alberta Railway for over 10 years. He and his wife Julia raised eight children, several of whom have worked tirelessly for Native people in Alberta for several years.

Sam is a veteran of the Second World War. In addition to his service, he won championships in the Canadian Armed Forces in track and field and boxing. He has been involved in coaching baseball and boxing. Sam is well known for his four terms as president of the Metis Association of Alberta and for the extensive travelling he did while in the position on behalf of Metis people of the province. Sam married Edna Pierce of the Driftpile band and the couple has six children who are all employed in social, environmental and business development careers.

Brother Walter, born a year before Sam, was famous for his athletic skills which he passed on to his children. "The whole family really gets into community events and encourages sports activities for young people," says Norberg. Walter and his wife

raised seven children.

Henry Sinclair owned and operated a successful logging and contracting company in Slave Lake over the years. He and his wife Edith had five children. Henry has served Slave Lake in many capacities over the years, including positions with various service clubs and as deputy mayor. Henry and Edith are active volunteers at the Native friendship centre.

Joe and his wife Edna raised six children and have provided a good home for their family and proved themselves to be hard workers and good role models to all who know them.

As the youngest Clifford enjoyed several years at home with his parents as a young adult, living with them in their declining years. "Mom was the one who held us all together as a family. Even though she passed away in 1964 at 70 years of age, we still miss her influence today," he says.

Clifford has spent several years studying theology and credits his parents with giving their children strong religious beliefs. He has many good memories of times together as a family, camping out on their father's trapline and living off the land as Mr. Sinclair was renowned as a good hunter and their mother was an expert hide tanner.

Clifford speaks for all the Sinclair family when he says they have seen the best of both worlds.

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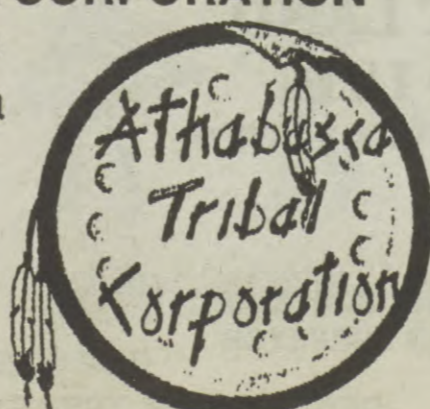
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HOBBEMA

# Wind speaker



Heather Andrews

Five young musicians pounded out heavy metal music

## Youth club sponsors fashion and talent show

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

PONOKA, ALTA.

Part of the mandate of the Native Youth Club at Ponoka Composite High School is to provide opportunities for non-Native classmates and members of the community to participate in cultural activities.

"It is felt they will become more aware of us as a people, with our own identity and our own culture," says the school's Native liaison worker.

"Tonight" allows us to further our goal of participation and integration with mainstream society without assimilation," said Cara Currie at a June 5 fashion and talent show sponsored by the club.

The second annual show featured members of the club entertaining the large audience with a variety of numbers which sometimes made the

crowd laugh and other times thoughtful.

"Fancy dancer Lenore Mahingen and Jonathon Buffalo's performance of the Crow Hop gave excellent examples of our cultural background," says Currie. As well Marie Saddleback demonstrating the hoop dance was an impressive highlight.

Proving the students are also very much in touch with today's modern society, Tanya Buffalo performed an M.C. Hammer-style dance. And five young musicians, all students at the high school, pounded out heavy metal music. Both numbers were reminiscent of MuchMusic presentations seen on local cable television channels.

Aided by the humorous antics of the two masters of ceremonies, Kevin Johnson and Lloyd Potts, the audience enjoyed several numbers before thoughts were turned serious. A poem by 17-year-old Cindy Wolf, entitled Flowers, gave insight into how people can grow tall and strong

guided and nurtured by the Creator just as flowers in the field are guided and nurtured by nature.

Koletta Saddleback gave an award-winning speech, Future Indian Leadership in Canada. She said the government provided by Indian forefathers was stable and acceptable to all members. "We must return to that," she said.

Saddleback marvelled that Indian people are flourishing as a nation, despite their setbacks and loss of identity over the last century. "But we can't stop for a minute with our attempts to return to our cultural roots. Long ago, the elders passed on knowledge, history, culture, legends and leadership to other generations."

Children were carefully nourished through their lives by their family members and the community. The Indian people were in harmony with mother nature as she moved through the seasons and clothed and fed the

people and the animals gave of themselves so others could live, she noted.

Saddleback reflected on the signing of treaties by uncomprehending leaders and the resulting breaking up of the old way of life. And she referred to the tragedy of the environment's fragile condition.

"We as youth must push for changes. Our leaders need our support, as they are often confused and divided. And we must be ready to take over," said the Grade 11 student.

Saddleback said student participation in the evening's performances would help the students have confidence and prepare them to stand up and be leaders. "It is up to us to take over, to raise the banners high on behalf of our people," she said. "It's up to us to seek information from our elders, to learn to speak our language, to learn how to live by our ancient spiritual methods and to manage our governments and our environ-

ment."

Nancy Yellowbird, who led a five-month personal development series with the students as part of their school program, recognized the efforts of the parents who had encouraged the children to participate in the evening. "I also applaud the school who encouraged the young people to get involved in tonight's performance. It is through such participation they learn confidence and pride in themselves and gain self-esteem and a sense of direction," the Samson band councillor said.

Throughout the great range of numbers presented, the students had been encouraged to be innovative and were not coached or tutored in any way. The costumes were totally prepared by the students, said Currie.

A fashion show featuring Native designers like Pat Piche was followed by a grand finale of the 30-plus students who had planned and produced the extravaganza.

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**HELP FOR HEALERS - 21 day summer workshop** designed especially for persons in the role of helping others (e.g. counsellors, CHWs) call for more information on this workshop. Please call for dates.

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## Hobbema

# New program prepares students for further training

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

HOBBEMA, ALTA.

Maskwachees College in Hobbema is branching out to include a new program which will prepare its students for entry into any learning institution or career college.

Traditionally the private post-secondary institution had focused on students entering university-level courses. "Now the University/College Entrance Program (UCEP) will enable all students to gain access to training for their chosen careers more easily," says Fern Thompson, dean of academic studies at Maskwachees.

The college is owned and

operated by the Four Nations of Hobbema and most students are from the local area. But with all the programs having a Cree language and culture requirement, a lot of interest is expressed from people outside Hobbema, who would like to study in a setting where Indian culture is part of every college day.

"The people attending from other locations can find accommodation in nearby Wetaskiwin or Ponoka, both a 10-minute drive from Hobbema. As well there are a few homes right here where room and board is available," says Thompson.

Students can obtain the first two years of university or diplomas in many career areas. "Students can now work towards employment in social work, administration and manage-

ment, teaching assistance and Native teacher education as well as degree programs," says Thompson. Diploma and certificate programs can often be completed right at Maskwachees, with no travel to a larger centre

required.

An added bonus for prospective students to the revised UCEP program is the preparation for entry into health careers. "People wanting to enter professions in health care often need

extra mathematic and science courses and we can supply these as needed," says Thompson.

Students can also enter at any level of competence and will not have to repeat courses in which they already have skills.



Hobbema's Maskwachees Cultural College

Heather Andrews

### Paul Band Annual Men's and Ladies Fastball Tournament July 20 & 21, 1991

#### 12 men's teams

Prizes based on each 12 teams entered

Mens A - 1st \$1000, 2nd \$800

Mens B - 1st \$700, 2nd \$500

**Entry fee:**

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#### 12 ladies' teams

Prizes based on each 12 teams entered

Ladies A - 1st \$850, 2nd \$650

Ladies B - 1st \$500, 2nd \$400

**Entry fee:**

**\$200**

Entry deadline — July 15, 1991

For further info contact:

Greg or Morris ( 8 to 4 weekdays) (403) 892-2691

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Ovide Mercredi on his newly elected position as the Grand National Chief of the A.F.N

From Chief Simon Threefingers

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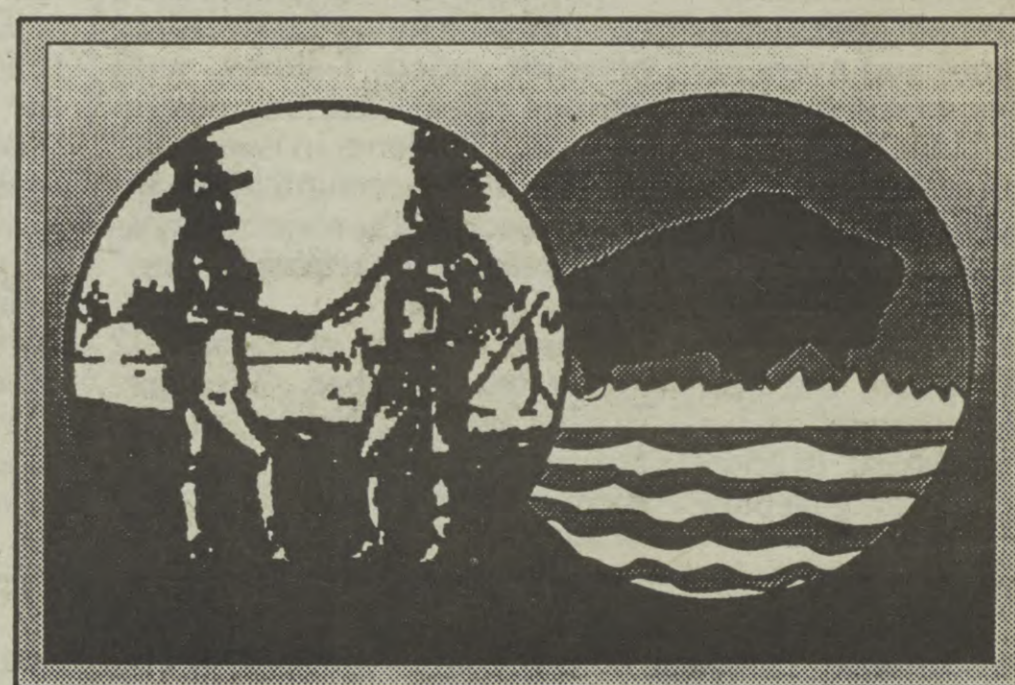
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# Hobbema



Heather Andrews

Staff of the Louis Bull education department includes Ken Dion, Randy Meyer, Betty Peters, Lorraine Potts, Carol Bull, Marilyn Threefingers and Cecilia Moonias

## Louis Bull Nation salutes its students' achievements

By Heather Andrews  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

HOBBEMA, ALTA.

The Louis Bull Cree Nation believes in recognizing the achievements of its students in a big way.

"June 25 will see a full evening of celebration honoring the 300 young people who attend schools in the area. Every single one will be recognized and encouraged in his or her future endeavors," explains Ken Dion.

The school liaison worker at the Louis Bull education department is busy compiling statistics on the attendance and averages of local students, who since there isn't a school at Louis Bull, attend schools at Ermineskin, Wetaskiwin, Falun and Ponoka.

The awards are many and varied. Dion is looking for the most improved students, the best athletic participation, the best academic achievements and a high attendance record. In addition the Louis Bull Police Depart-

ment presents an award for the highest achiever.

The band and council recognized long ago the need to encourage young people in their schoolwork. With the importance of educating their young people a priority, the annual celebrations have been held for 10 years.

Not only high achievers will be recognized however. "We will salute the students who are passing on to new levels, such as from junior to senior high school, and even the little ones passing from kindergarten into Grade 1," says Dion.

An addition to this year's ceremony includes the awarding of color-coded T-shirts, with various colors denoting certain awards. "Students in each category will be recognizable instantly around the community as they wear their particular color," Dion explains.

There will be no Grade 12 graduates this year. "We have five in Grade 11, though, and we are looking forward to seeing them graduate next year," says

Dion.

The evening will feature a barbeque and several guest speakers, possibly Dave Cutler formerly of the Edmonton Eskimos football club, and Native Senator Len Marchand. Although they have not confirmed their attendance, both hope their schedules will allow them to participate, Dion says, adding he is also working on another speaker from Saskatchewan who has good thoughts for the youth.

"Other special guests that night will be our elders, school principals and public service people such as our police, to name just a few," he says.

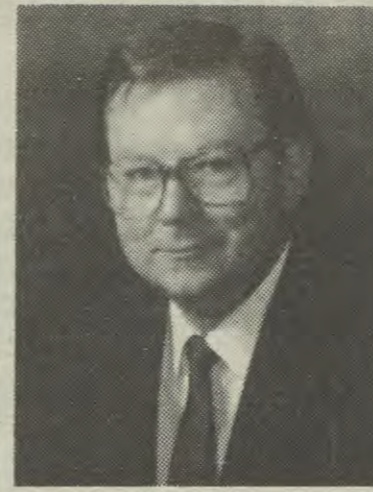
Dion hastens to add the recognition by the band is only part of the encouragement young people can benefit from. "The most important influence will always be the parents. It is always easy to tell the students who have their parents encouraging them and participating in their education. The kids are always progressive and their attendance records are excellent," he adds.

*Windspeaker* is a member of the National Aboriginal Communications Society (NACS). There are 10 member publications including *Windspeaker*. The others are *Dan Sha* (Yukon), *The Press Independent* (Northwest Territories), *Kahtou* (British Columbia), *Kainai* (Alberta), *New Breed* (Saskatchewan), *Wawatay News* (Ontario), *Kinatuinamot Ilengajuk* (Labrador) and *Micmac News* (Nova Scotia).

Five newspapers are published by affiliate members of NACS: *Secwepemc News* (British Columbia), *The Northerner* (Saskatchewan), *The Northwest Eagle* (Saskatchewan), *Weetamah* (Manitoba) and *Micmac-Maliseet Nation News* (Nova Scotia).

The purpose of NACS is to provide relevant media services and information to aboriginal people. These services include radio, print and television as well as various initiatives supporting aboriginal language use and cultural preservation.

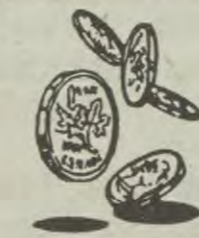
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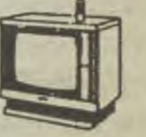
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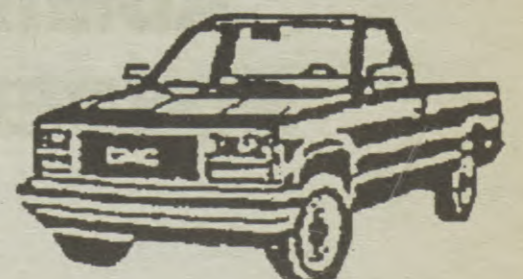
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**Send Resume to:**

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Bonnyville Canadian Native  
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**Closing date:**

July 05, 1991

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Applications are now being accepted for the first year of Grande Prairie Regional College's Early Childhood Development Program scheduled to begin at AVC Lesser Slave Lake - Grouard Campus.

The program will begin in September 1991 and finish in June 1992. Courses will be offered in two or three week segments, together with practical work experience placements in regional programs (day cares, kindergartens, nursery schools or family day homes).

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will receive a Letter of Completion and be eligible for government certification.

**Entrance Requirements:** Applicants must be at least 18 years of age to qualify.

**Deadline for applications:** July 15, 1991

**For more information, and/or registration, please contact:**

The Registrar  
AVC Lesser Slave Lake  
Grouard Campus, Grouard, AB T0G 1C0  
Phone: 751-3915



### JOB OPPORTUNITY: COMPETITION CERTIFIED TEACHER REQUIRED, E.C.S./KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR 91/92 SCHOOL YEAR

The Education Authority Board, under the Bigstone Cree Nation, is a Band operated and controlled E.C.S./Kindergarten School Program and is on the Bigstone 166A Reserve in Desmarais, Alberta. A certified teacher is required to teach classes, Monday to Friday, throughout the school year for 1991/92.

The Bigstone 166A Reserve is located in Desmarais, (400 km) north of the city of Edmonton. The school is located approximately 135 km from the town of Slave Lake. In its 13th year of operation, the school will cater to about (17 four year olds) and (26 five year olds) within the E.C.S./Kindergarten School Program.

**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must have a valid teaching certificate for the province of Alberta.
- Must have some experience teaching Native students in E.C.S. and lower elementary levels; E.C.S. specialty or Special Education Degree desirable;
- Familiarity with Cree culture, history, and language desirable;
- Must be willing to work with parents and community in all aspects of the E.C.S./Kindergarten School Program;
- Shall be required to perform administrative duties to fulfill the requirements of a school operation efficiently throughout the school year;
- Will be responsible for the supervision of two (2) teacher aide/assistants;
- Will be responsible to the Director of Education, in the control and management of the E.C.S./ Kindergarten School Program.

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**DEADLINE:**

August 16, 1991 at 4:30 p.m.  
August 19-23, 1991 - Interviews of Applicants

**PLEASE SEND COMPLETE RESUME AND AT LEAST THREE (3)  
LETTERS OF REFERENCE TO:**

P. Ray Peters, Acting Director  
Bigstone Cree Nation - Education Authority  
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The Four Worlds Development Project at the University of Lethbridge requires a multi-disciplined, multi-cultural Program Facilitator for the Elderhealth Program for a two-year term with the possibility of continuing appointment.

**Qualifications:** The successful candidate should have a Masters degree (or its equivalent education and experience) in education, health promotion, community development and/or geriatrics. The ability to work effectively with Native elders and communities and at least two years active sobriety and recovery must be demonstrated. Working knowledge of a Native language and a computer is desirable. Proven organizational and supervisory skills and the ability to communicate both orally and in writing with many different audiences is essential. A background in participatory research and documentation of research processes is required.

**Responsibilities:** The successful candidate will facilitate the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual empowerment of Native elders and communities. The Program Facilitator will be under the general supervision of the Four Worlds Development Project Coordinators and will work with a management team providing conceptualization, development, implementation and evaluation of community development initiatives; residential treatment programs; curriculum models and administration and supervision.

**Effective Date:** July 15, 1991.

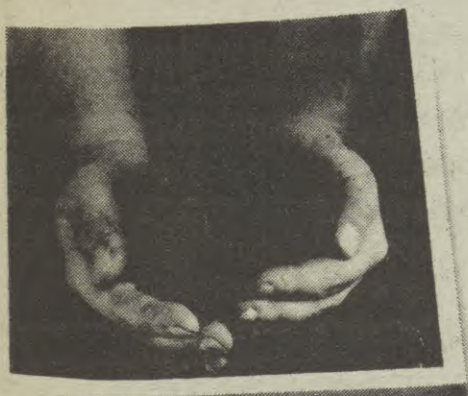
**Closing Date:** June 28, 1991.

**Applications:** Applications, including a curriculum vitae/resume and three references, should be sent to: **Elderhealth Program Coordinators, Four Worlds Development Project, University of Lethbridge, 4401 University Drive, Lethbridge, Alberta, T1K 3M4. Fax (403) 329-3081.**

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Closing date for applications: June 28, 1991

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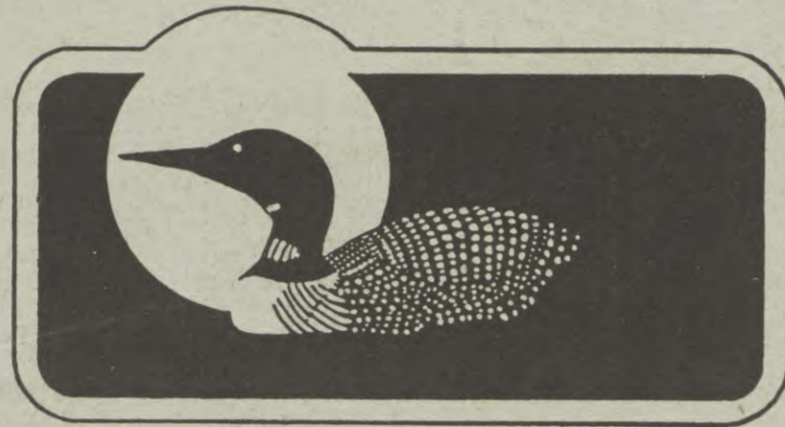
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- complete placement testing
- be at least 17 years of age and out of school for one year

For more information and/or registration, please contact:

• The Registrar  
AVC Lesser Slave Lake  
Grouard Campus,  
Grouard, AB T0G 1C0  
Phone: 751-3915

• The Registrar  
AVC Lesser Slave Lake  
Slave Lake Campus,  
Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A0  
Phone: 849-7140

• or contact your local community campus.



## ALBERTA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRES EVENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST

### Mannawanis Native Friendship Centre, St. Paul - (403)645-4630

BINGO every Friday and Saturday  
LATE NIGHT BINGO starting at 10:15 pm  
July 2-August 25 — SUMMER CAMP, for ages 7-14 years  
June 25 — ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, (Barbecue)

### Canadian Native Friendship Centre, Edmonton - (403)452-7811

#### PROGRAMS

- Day Camp; July 2 - August 31

Register at the centres' front desk. For more info., contact Conrad Southwind

HEALING OUR COMMUNITY — June 17 to Sept. 13, 3 half days a week. Register by June 17, 20 available seats - contact Cheryle

HERITAGE DAYS — Aug. 4 & 5, 1991

The centre will be selling buffalo burgers, buffalo smokies, beef burgers on a bannock bun, and fried bannock. Performances by Powwow & Metis Cultural dancers. (Volunteers are needed to serve and cook, call Georgina or Gerry.

#### URBAN NATIVE REFERRAL

Service is available to anyone, help in the areas of counselling, housing, information, resumes, job referrals, food, AIDS information, and assists individuals with urban living problems. For more information, contact Marlene.

#### SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Recreation and Referral Program looking for students to work for the summer months at the centre for more info., contact the centre.

#### DORIS PAUL NATIVE SENIORS CENTRE

Drop in for tea and coffee anytime. The seniors centre is located at 12417 - 118 Avenue.

### Grand Centre Native Friendship Centre, Grande Centre - (403)594-7526

July 11 — Bingo at the Tropicana Bingo Palace.

July 15 — Friendship centre will begin gathering sweetgrass on a regular basis, weather permitting.

July 18-21 — Friendship centre board members will be attending the National Association of Friendship Centres Annual General Meeting in Calgary

July 20 — Bingo at the Tropicana Bingo Palace

August 3, 4 & 5 — Friendship centre will be entering a float in the Aqua Days parade in Cold Lake. We will also have our Teepee set up throughout the duration of this event.

August 3 — Bingo at the Tropicana Bingo Palace

August 14 — Bingo at the Tropicana Bingo Palace

August — Tentatively will have summer camp for Elders and Youth depending on the weather and interested participants.

August — weekly Narcotics Anonymous meetings, held every Saturday at 8:00 pm.

### Sagitawa Frienship Centre, Peace River - (403)624-2443

- SUMMER HOURS — Mon. - Wed. 9:00-5:00 PM, Thurs. - Fri. 9:00-8:00 pm, Sat. 1:00-4:00pm

- HANDICRAFT SALES — Native Art and Crafts are available for sale during our summer hours. Come in and see our moose-hair tuftings, fish scale work, art shields and beadwork.

- June 28 — LAST DAY SCHOOL PICNIC, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

- July 2 - Aug. 28, 1991 — DAY CAMP, open to all children ages 5-13 years.

- July 4 - Aug. 29 — KIDDIE BINGO, every second Thurs., 1991.

Downstairs Sagitawa Friendship Centre Hall, doors open at 5:00 pm

- July 5 and 18 — SAGITAWA FRIENDSHIP CENTRE BINGO, Bingo Hall. Please come support your Centre at the Bingo Hall

- HERITAGE DAY FAMILY DAY CAMP OUT — Lac Cardinal Rodeo Days. Call Anne to register by July 31, 1991.

- SOUP'S ON — Every Mon. / 75¢ per bowl.

- SANDWICH DAY — Every Wed. 75¢ per sandwich

- NOON LUNCH/NEVADA DAY — Every Fri. 12:00 - 4:00 pm

- Watch for Details on Haig Lake Camp Out!

- July 27, 1991 — SAGITAWA FRIENDSHIP CENTRE RUMMAGE/

YARD SALE, 9:00 am. Youth fundraising project.

- August 24, 1991 — SUMMER WIND UP PICNIC, Strong Creek Park

1:00 pm

### Rocky Native Friendship Centre, Rocky Mountain House - (403)845-2788

July 1991 — Canada Day, National Historical Park

- Red River cart rides, Teepee set up, display of Native handicrafts, etc.

July 5, 6 & 7 — Summer Games, in town of Rocky Mountain House, Rocky

Native Friendship Centre will be participating in cultural events. Teepee

village, Native crafts, ANFCA traveling — display and video, Winston Wut-

tunee, Saturday and Sunday afternoon, T.J's concession, selling Native

cuisine (bannock burgers, Indian tacos), art display, Native dancers

August 23, 24, 25 — David Thompson Days, Town of Rocky Mountain House.

Teepees set up, Native crafts display/sale, T.J's concession, selling Native

cuisine (bannock burgers, Indian taccos).

### High Prairie Native Friendship Centre, High Prairie - (403)523-4511/4512

The High Prairie Native Friendship Centre has developed three basic summer programs for Native youth which are designed to create Native awareness, develop leadership skills, and to allow students to recognize their own potentials through educational and recreational events.

S.Y.U. PROGRAM — allows students to recognize opportunities available to them and helps them to identify some of their scholastic goals; provides lectures, tours, class discussions, as well as hands on experience.

EAGLE DAY CAMP — youth recreation projects, field trips, weiner roasts, trips to the lake, outdoor and wilderness education, seminars and arts programs.

OUTDOOR LIVING SKILLS CAMP — gives children the opportunity to camp out and relate to nature; focus primarily upon Native awareness and cultural traditions.

#### LIST OF ACTIVITIES

Sports, Camping, Hiking, Weiner Roasts, Trips to the Lake, Videos, Plays, Drug and Alcohol Seminar, Law Awareness Seminar, Native Awareness Activities, Introduction to Educational Opportunities, Outdoor Living Skills, Sport Camps, Summer Youth University

### Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Centre, Lethbridge - (403)328-2414

The Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Society is hosting the following activities for their summer programs:

#### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

CULTURE — drumming and singing practice, arts & crafts classes

RECREATION — Co-Ed Softball Youth/Adult, Summer Basketball League,

Summer Volleyball League, Video Night Youth, Horse Riding lessons, Day

Camp, Guitar lessons

UP-COMING EVENTS — Treaty 7 Summer Games, Sik-Ooh-Kotoki

Summer Cultural Camp

Along with these activities the centre also has a literacy program that is now in full swing. If you have any questions about any programs, or ideas please feel free to drop in or phone any time during the week.

### Grande Prairie Friendship Centre Grand Prairie - (403)532-5722

July 1 — Canada Day, Heritage Day

Mid-August — Dinosaur Children's Festival

July & August — Home Skills, Social Issues

Homes Skills and Social Issues will coincide with the children's summer activities.

-Ball Tournaments

-Pool, Crib and Ping-Pong Tournaments

Ten Bingos per week at the Friendship Centre Bingo Hall

### High Level Native Friendship Centre, HIGH LEVEL - (403)926-3355

INTERCULTURAL DANCE, 1st Saturday of each month

BINGO every Tuesday night

CO-ED SPORTS NIGHT every Monday

JAM SESSIONS every Thursday

BOXING every Wednesday and Friday

FAMILY DANCING

ARTS & CRAFTS for sale daily — large selection to choose from

Moosehides for sale

(403) 926-3355

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## ALBERTA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRES ASSOC.

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