

NJ-OR-NR-40  
Bioz/Atst

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PSB / DSP

# Windspeaker

August 21, 1987

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### Education cutbacks

## Task force formed at symposium

by Windspeaker Staff

The Alexander education symposium which began with a rally in Edmonton's William Hawrelack park Sunday, ended with a slate of 21 recommendations which many hope will halt the 'crisis' in Indian education.

An implementation team was selected from each of the provinces. Adele Arcand will serve as coordinator; with Wally Janvier from Alberta; John Kim Bell from Toronto; Daryl Nicholas from New Brunswick; Carol Sanderson, Gilbert White Duck, John Kelly from Saskatchewan; Louis Debassige and Jo-Ann Archibald from Ontario and Amy Gauthier from British Columbia.

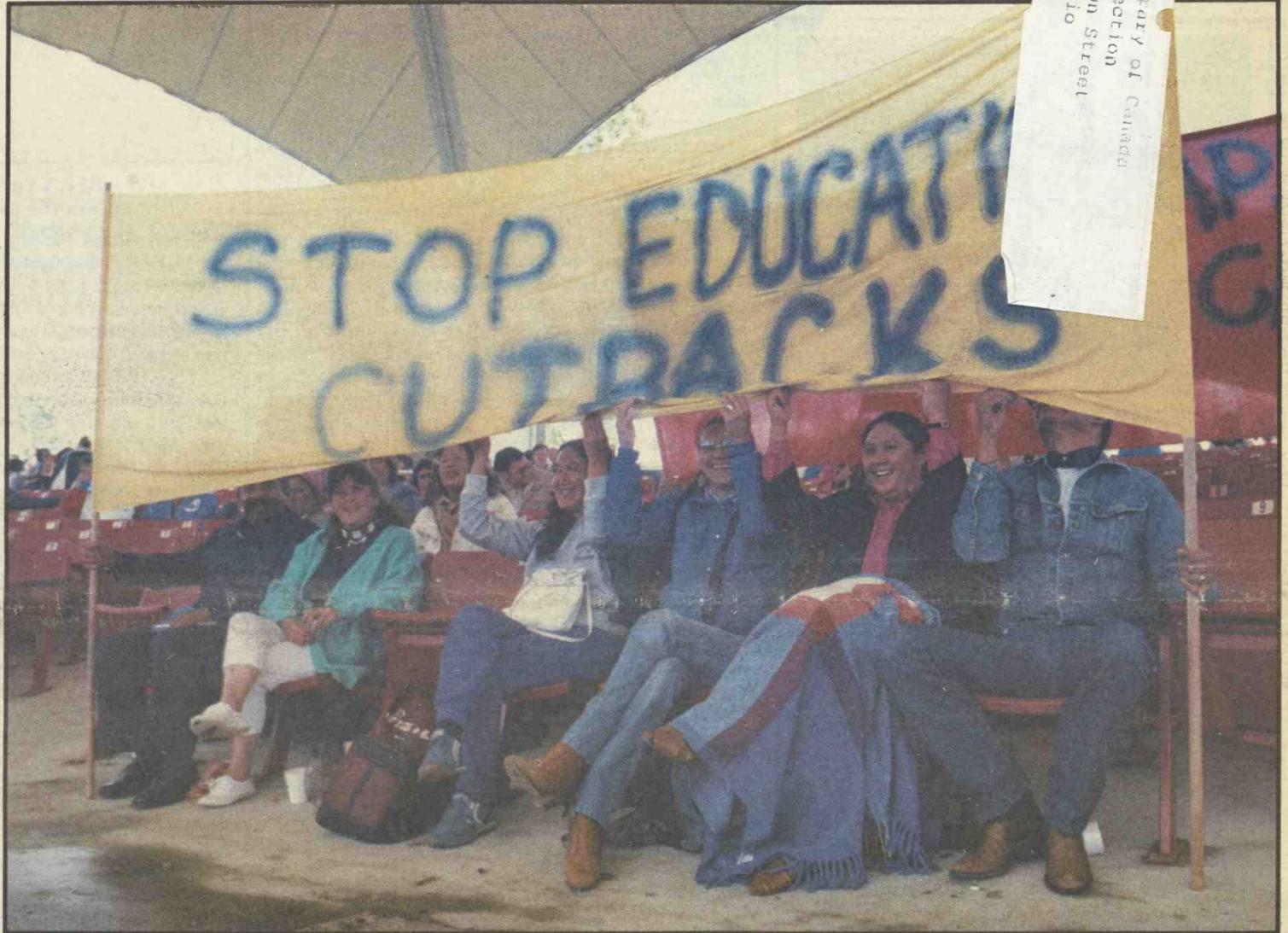
One other delegate will be selected from Manitoba at a meeting scheduled to be held in Saskatoon next month.

During the final day, several delegates complained that the symposium was taking a political turn, says public relations consultant Guiou Taylor.

"Many felt there was an introduction of political techniques and the organization should be just a support organization. We should leave the politicking to politicians," he said.

Taylor added that the newly formed organization will be 'democratic' and will not be applying for government funding.

The 27 recommendations include establishing a



**PROTESTERS GATHER AT HAWRELAK PARK**

network system to link bands, and self-produced curriculum materials.

About 800 delegates and Indian leaders came from all over the country to lend support to the symposium.

During the first day, Assembly of First Nations Grand Chief, Georges Erasmus, called upon all Indian people to join together to fight the proposed education cut-

backs. "We need to do something that goes beyond the leaders involved — we must involve the people," he said.

IAA president Gregg

Smith, slammed Indian Affairs for its "crazy policies and silly guidelines" which hinder Indians from acquiring an education.

Smith noted that Indians were "virtually kidnapped"

and forced into residential schools years ago but now have to fight their way in. Education he says "is a

**See Education Page 3**

## Illiterate councillors meet with dissension

By Albert Crier

Dissenting residents of the Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement, and government officials are tight-lipped over the recent election of two illiterate Settlement Council members.

Council called in the High Level RCMP detachment after a sit-in at the Settlement administration offices by about 30 people took place Friday, August 14.

Gregg Calliou, council chairman charged that the demonstration was not a

sit-in, but a deliberate break-and-enter by a few dissident members. Settlement records were stolen and a complaint has been filed said Calliou.

"I don't know what, they (protesters) are complaining about," said Calliou, who did concede that protesters may be unhappy over the election of the two councillors who cannot read or write.

Calliou also admitted that protesters may be upset over recent firings of three staff members, and recent resident charges

over alleged council corruption.

However there has been no written complaints over the elections of Pat Gauthier and Joe Cardinal held six week ago, said Calliou.

A delegation including Elmer Ghostkeeper, Albert Wanuch and Skipper Villeneuve met Monday with Randy Hardy, president of the Federation of Metis Settlements and Ken Ronstad, Solicitor General of Alberta, responsible for Native programs.

Cameron Hendry of the Metis Settlement Branch of

Municipal Affairs, reported that no immediate action on the dispute will be taken by the Solicitor General. The matter has been referred to the Attorney General's department for a review of the complaints made by dissatisfied residents, said Hendry.

"There is nothing much to tell, only that the issue is not settled," said Elmer Ghostkeeper, a former president of the Federation of Metis Settlements.

Using the Metis Betterment Act, protesters have pointed to regulations

stating the requirements which Council candidates must meet.

Regulation 56/66 states that to qualify for a seat on the council, a person "must be a Metis, a full age of 18 and able to read and write."

Calliou says the two illiterate councillors had been on Council before and there were no previous complaints about their lack of qualifications.

"I don't know what they (protesters) are scared of. Whether it is because we can't read or write or whatever," said newly

election councillor Pat Gauthier.

"Over half the majority of voters want us to stay on because they need help. I'm going to stand by the promises I made to my people," said recently elected Joe Cardinal.

"There are only about 30 (settlement) members that are dissatisfied from about 300 eligible voters," said Calliou.

He added that complaints

**See Paddle Page 3**

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# Land claim in international arena

By Lesley Crossingham

Lubicon chief Bernard Ominiyak, is pleased with the progress of his appeal to the United Nations over the alleged 'genocide' of the Lubicon Cree band, but is still awaiting reaction from both the provincial and federal governments over the ruling.

The United Nations ruled that they will hear the Lubicon case sometime next year and meanwhile rule 86 will be enforced,

which states that the government must not continue its destructive practices.

"This is the first time this rule has been applied to an aboriginal people," said Ominiyak in an interview last week. "It is usually reserved for condemned prisoners who are about to be executed."

Ominiyak and his band have not fully interpreted the ruling, but say that the disputed 95.5 mile radius around Lubicon Lake will

be kept free from oil and gas exploration activity again this winter.

"We are going to keep the oil and gas companies out, regardless of what the Alberta government says," says Ominiyak. However, he quickly points out that neither he nor his band will use violent methods, "unless they (oil and gas companies or the Alberta government) start something first."

"We still have to assess the situation. We have to keep our identity as a people and as hunters and trappers. There is not much left that is not destroyed and we are still trying to keep some of the area from being destroyed."

Since announcing the band's boycott of the Olympic Games and the Glenbow Museum exhibition, *The Spirit Sings*, last year, Ominiyak says the band has received hundreds of letters of support, but more importantly, support and action from the museums contacted by his band.

"We now have about 30 museums boycotting and I feel the exhibition is in real danger," he said.

This week a second Swiss museum announced it is pulling out of the exhibition. In a letter to the band, officials of the Berne Historical Museum said it 'deplores' the fact that Glenbow officials neglected to adequately inform them of the conflict.

The Berne withdrawal comes close on the heels of the Ethnographic Museum in Neuchatel, Switzerland who also reneged on their

promised contribution last week.

Although the boycott and the campaign against the museum is proving successful for the band, Ominiyak says he is still disappointed and 'upset' over the native people who are involved in the Olympics.

"I believe some Indians were proud that an Indian head was used on the Olympic medals. I think this was an insult. Seeing a proud Indian with a ski-pole sticking out of his ear is racist. People should remember this comes from the same people who wanted Indians to burn a wagon."

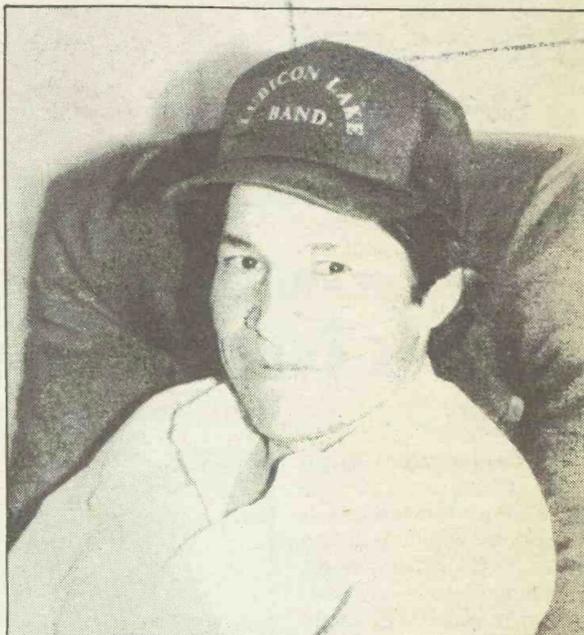
Ominiyak says most of the Indian people involved in the Olympics are being 'used' by OCO and a good example is the Bruce Starlight case.

"It's too late for real economic opportunities. Promises were made, then after OCO took all the good ideas, these people were let go. I am sorry to see native people being cheated like this," he added.

"Maybe the ski pole sticking out of the Indian's ear should have been stuck in the Indian's belly because that is what happened."

The band is boycotting the olympics and the Glenbow museum in support of its 48-year-old land claim and Ominiyak has said that the boycott would stop as soon as the claim is settled. However, Ominiyak does not see a settlement within the near future because the government 'does not wish to sit down.'

A letter from Department



**BERNARD OMINIYAK**  
...enters the international arena

of Indian Affairs Minister, Bill McKnight was sent to Ominiyak saying the talks would be delayed because federal negotiator, Tasse, had stepped down.

"They (the government) haven't found a replacement yet but we are ready anytime the government wants to sit down and settle the claim," said Ominiyak.

Ominiyak says the government is afraid to settle the claim because it would 'open the door' to many other claims from bands right across the country.

The Lubicon land claim has been in dispute for nearly half a century and Ominiyak admits that the patience of some of his band members is wearing thin, but he is still prepared to keep working toward his goal.

"I have tried the political route. People before me tried the political route. It got us nowhere. The political route doesn't seem to be working. We tried the courts and tried to file an injunction on the oil companies and all that did was increase oil activity. That is why we undertook the Olympic boycott."

However, he is bitter over the lack of unity among many native groups saying Indian people are often the puppets of the government.

"It's funny that the government, both federal and provincial, can join together to achieve their goal. But when it comes to native people they often fall apart," he says.

The Calgary winter olympic games are scheduled to begin February 13.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Native Women's Association grant

Donna Weaselchild, a Blackfoot Indian from Calgary, has been elected president of the Native Women's Association in Calgary.

Weaselchild said the organization must begin dealing with more local issues rather than focusing on international issues.

The Canadian government has also announced a \$457,000 grant to the group to assist in operating expenses for 1987-88.

The Ottawa-based organization, which has regional affiliates across Canada, was instrumental in the passage of amendments to the Indian Act removing sections which meant loss of Indian status and band membership for Native women who married non-Native men.

### Prairie Natives in South Africa

Four prairie Natives were given an all-expense paid trip to South Africa to investigate conditions in that country and to publicize their own grievances.

Gerald Wuttunee of the Red Pheasant band, Bryan Tootoosis of the Poundmaker band, Lindsay Cyr, chief of the Pasquas, and Eldon Bellegarde, representing 16 Saskatchewan bands, had their trip paid by the South African government's tourism board.

The four are in South Africa at the same time as Canadian External Affairs minister Joe Clark visits that country.

"It's a sad thing to have to go to another country to tell what is going on in Canada," said Wuttunee.

### Pope to visit northern community

Thousands of northern Natives are expected to flock into Fort Simpson, NWT Sept. 20 for a four and a half hour visit by Pope John Paul II.

This will be the second time the Pope has tried to visit the community; fog prevented him from landing there three years ago.

Native leaders and politicians are hoping the visit will focus global attention on the lifestyle of northern Natives and generate some "political fallout" for the Canadian government.

### Land claims case goes ahead

A suit against the Canadian and British Columbia governments for Native control of 57,000 square kilometers of northwestern BC will continue even though the Natives' funding for the case has been cut by the federal government.

The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en bands were promised \$3.5 million by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to fight the case, but that amount was cut in May.

An adjournment was requested so the bands could raise more money, but the BC Supreme Court refused, saying additional financial support may still be found before the September 8 resumption of the trial.

### Meech Lake

## Leaders demand negotiations

By Jamie McDonell

National aboriginal leaders are demanding a renewal of the constitutional process dealing with their right to self-government.

"Our agenda is unfinished," said National Chief George Erasmus of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) as he appeared before the special joint committee on the 1987 constitutional accord, August 19. "The process should continue until the agenda is complete," he added.

"We need and amendment guaranteeing conferences so our rights can be guaranteed," said Metis National Council (MNC) president Jim Sinclair. "The (federal) government has not yet lived up to its moral responsibilities. If votes come from oppressing our people, they'll do it," stated Sinclair, claiming that the government's main aim is votes, not justice.

Sinclair and the MNC are concerned with how

the creation of a Metis land base would be affected by the Meech Lake-Langevin Accord. The AFN is concerned with how provincial control over immigration will affect such things as land claims, especially those in British Columbia. Both leaders expressed concern over recognition of Quebec as a 'distinct society.'

"It is as if the people of the first nations never existed," said Erasmus. "If anybody is more 'distinct,' surely it is the peoples of the first nations."

The issue which seemed to be of most concern to the leaders was that of the new amending formula for the constitution. Under the new formula, there must be unanimous consent among the provinces for any constitutional changes. Also, any province could stop the creation of a new, predominantly aboriginal province, any change to the senate that would guarantee aboriginal representation of



**GEORGES ERASMUS**

any change in the status of aboriginal peoples.

Both Erasmus and Sinclair spoke of the lack of political will to arrive at a fair solution for Canada's aboriginal peoples. Erasmus spoke of a double standard when dealing with natives and Quebec in recent constitutional meetings.

"Look at the wording we were looking for in our talks," exclaimed Erasmus. "It's all been included in the

Langevin accord. Aboriginal people must have access to upcoming first minister's conferences to defend their rights. We cannot simply be an agenda item."

The Native Council of Canada will be making a submission to the joint committee August 25. The Prairie Treaty Nations Alliance has made a written submission to the committee, but so far, they have been unsuccessful in their request.

# Provincial

## Starlight walks out on OCO red-tape

By Anne Georg

Bruce Starlight is bitter and angry over his treatment at the hands of Olympiques Calgary Olympics (OCO) which, he says, forced him to walk away from his job last May without giving official notice.

Starlight, a Sarcee band member and coordinator of the Treaty Seven Corporation, a company formed to organize Native cultural participation in the olympics, says he is frustrated with OCO's bureaucracy and red tape.

Starlight is now considering writing an official letter of resignation after a Calgary Herald report stated OCO officials were unaware of Starlight's resignation and were under the impression he was still working on his project.

Starlight says he does not regret his action and cites examples of OCO's red tape. "I'm used to dealing with politics on the reserve," says Starlight who has worked for the Sarcee band for 16 years. "But I wasn't prepared for their (OCO's) brand of politics."

Starlight says he had been trying to lease space at the Burns Building for the exhibition. When asked to give a firm commitment Starlight had to get OCO approval. OCO in turn needed further consultation and funding was held up until a suitable location could be found.

"It was a catch-22," says Starlight. "I wound up running back and forth with no firm commitment," he laments.

The time frame of five months to stage the cultural exhibition, which was to include a trade-fair, was inadequate, says Starlight. The \$10,000 allotted by the Native Economic Development Program (NEDP) to develop the concept was largely depleted through travel, office expenses and secretarial staff. In order to achieve what was expected of him, Starlight says he would have needed the help of about 12 people. As it was, says Starlight, he was only paid \$900 a month.

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**'I wasn't prepared for their (OCO's) brand of politics.'**

**- Bruce Starlight**

The frustration that finally drove Starlight to abandon his post came after he was repeatedly asked to revise the concept he had drawn up. He made adjustments for the third time and waited.

A spokesman for OCO said the committee was "sorry" that Starlight had left the organization but pointed out that the position was funded by the Department of Indian Affairs not OCO and that Starlight had been working with his father-in-law, Blackfoot Chief Leo Youngman on his powwow project and had therefore been overloaded.

Norman Grier, chairman of the Treaty Seven Corporation, declined to be interviewed by Windspeaker, saying he did not wish to talk to the media and Sykes Powderface, Native liaison coordinator with OCO was unavailable for comment.

## Business postponed

# Attempt to oust members defeated

By Rocky Woodward

Business was put on the backburner as politics and in-fighting dominated the Metis Association of Alberta annual assembly held at Lac Cardinal, August 15 and 16.

Although the assembly began with a plea from president Sam Sinclair for unity,

a long drawn-out debate on a motion made by Zone two vice president, August Collins calling for the suspension of Zone one vice president and director, Gerald Thom and Alvina Strasbourg, Zone three vice president, Joan Major-Malmas, Zone

four vice president and director, Ben Courtrille and Ron LaRocque, and Zone six vice president candidate, Florence Henry, dominated the first day.

As the debate continued, most of the additions were ruled out of order, as many delegates shouted that the assembly should be 'shutdown.'

"If I am out, I'll recommend to my regional council, not to participate in anything," said Gerald Thom.

The motion was defeated 120 to 79.

Because of this, and other long debates, most of the assembly business was

postponed until next year. This prompted several members to ask for a return to the old system for election by a show of hands.

"You used to come here to meet people that you normally wouldn't see every day or see only once a year, and I think it is where our elders feel bad. I think the voting should be brought back to the assembly."

"I've only missed one (assembly) said Caslan member, Fred Reed. "I've seen a lot of strong people before...they fight more now," he said.

More than 13 resolutions

were tabled as the assembly drew to a close, and many members said they feared this would be the last assembly.

Only about 500 people attended this year's assembly compared to at least 1,200 in previous years. Zone six vice president, George Amato felt that attendance was poor because of lack of travel funds and the ballot box system.

After the assembly, executive members would not comment on whether an assembly would be held next year. No place or date has been set.

## Paddle From Page 1

of staff firings were unfounded, because the employees were unqualified.

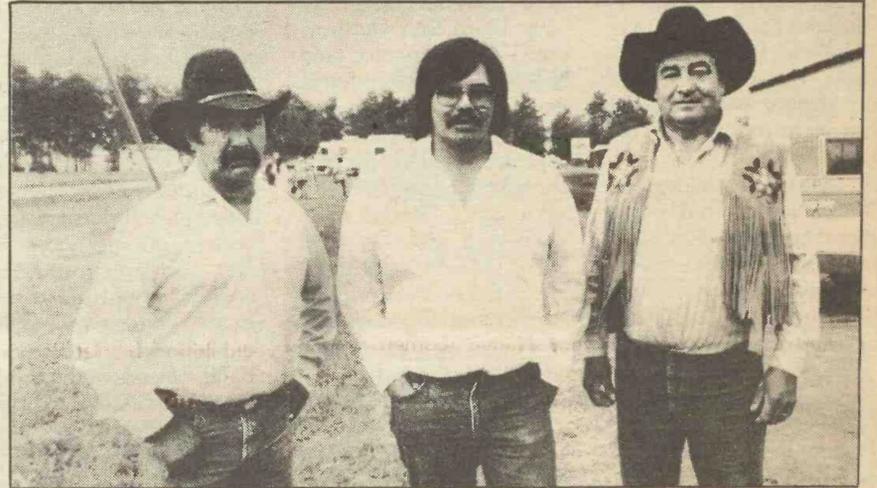
A settlement administrator who was originally screened out, but was hired on a trial basis, was dismissed after being given an extension to her three month contract, explained Calliou. Two secretaries were also dismissed because they did not meet the proper qualifications.

Calliou dismissed corruption charges and accusations of witchcraft against his relatives as mud slinging stressing his main concern is the loss of Settlement records and documents.

The missing documents include files on natural gas, water works and housing operations, as well as cancelled cheques and payment records.

The loss of these files has slowed down operations and prevented council from getting a complete picture of the Settlement's financial situation.

"I don't know why anyone would take these files. Someone had to have motives to take them," said



**JOE CARDINAL, GREGG CALLIOU, and PAT GAUTHIER**  
...protest centered around illiterate councillors

Calliou. Although council reported the alleged theft, RCMP are yet to lay charges.

"I don't know why they (RCMP) are balking," said vice-chairman Dwayne Calliou. "Nevertheless, those who stole them will be charged with break-and-enter and theft."

An investigation into the Council's allegations is presently underway, said RCMP Staff Sergeant Lindstrom.

"We are advised from our High Level detachment that a possible offense may

have occurred, he added.

Meanwhile the dispute seems to be stymied. Chairman Calliou says he is trying to contact Ghost-keeper and he claims minister Ronstad has washed his hands of the problem facing Paddle Prairie.

"We are in troubled times, we would like to resolve this issue, to stop this infighting, because that is the only way we can survive as a community," said Calliou.

The settlement council consist of chairman Gregg

Calliou and vice-chairman Dwayne Calliou, who are brothers, and councillors Gary Houle, Pat Gauthier and Joe Cardinal.

Paddle Prairie has a staggered election system allowing for the election of two councillors in one year, one councillor the next year, then in the following year -- election of two other councillors.

Each position is for a three year term.

Federation of Metis Settlements president, Randy Hardy refused an interview with Windspeaker.

## Education From Page 1

Treaty right."

"There will be many hundreds of students who will not be going back to school...we're being told there's not enough money," said Smith.

Percy Potts, Treaty 6 vice-president, told of the need to access education. When the economy is on a downward spiral he said, "it hits the poor people, the Indians."

Vern Bellegarde, from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, said the mandate of his organization

is "to protect and uphold the Treaties," all of which refer to education.

"Our forefathers had the foresight to see we had a right to education...we have paid the price for that" by surrendering their lands, Bellegarde stated. Indians continue to suffer while Canadians and Albertans reap the benefits and get rich from the resources and revenues of those lands, he added.

"Indians always had an education system. Money and the power to control Indian education, is what Indian people are now after," said Clive Linklater, an educator with the Nayo-

Skan Indian Education Project, at Hobbema.

He urged all Indian people in Canada to get actively involved in resolving education issues.

"Treaty rights are being eroded," declared Chief Allan Paul of the Alexander Tribal government, as he condemned the federal government for not consulting Indians on the cutbacks.

Other keynote speakers include Indian composer and conductor John Kim Bell, Clive Linklater from the Nayo-Skan education project in Hobbema and author and educator, Jeanette Armstrong.

A large delegation of elders were on hand to perform ceremonies and provide advice. A sacred fire was kept burning near the tipi village and elders gave special prayers to the Great Spirit for the symposium, and those who had travelled from afar.

The symposium closed with a flag song and thanks from Chief Allan Paul to all delegates and particularly to the elders.

The newly formed implementation team will be meeting with government officials from the Department of Indian Affairs next week.

# Windspeaker

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# Feud over severance splits assembly

By Rocky Woodward

The applause and standing ovation which followed Sam Sinclair's farewell speech as president of the Metis Association of Alberta changed quickly to angry words and an attack on Sinclair's leadership when a resolution that \$25,000 in severance pay be given to Sinclair was introduced to the assembly.

During a heated and at times emotional debate, MAA treasurer Paul Sinclair advised delegates to vote against the amendment because of the MAA deficit.

"We are already \$49,000 in the hole from last year and \$9,000 this year. I am the treasurer and the MAA has very little money," said Sinclair.

Zone 4 vice-president Ben Courtrille questioned Sinclair's performance over the Metis Urban Housing crisis saying the president could have prevented the corporation "from going down."

"I see housing folding and I also know that some members worked for housing for seven years and only received two week severance pay. He could of stopped housing from going down," said Courtrille.

Sinclair then took the floor and in a moving plea to the assembly, said that this was the first time a president had been put under this amount of pressure.

"In eight years I have had no legal time off. In 1979, I left a job that paid me \$40,000 a year to come to the MAA. I began here at \$25,000 and I knew we could bring up the president's salary, and we did to \$50,000 a year," said Sinclair. "Also money we



**SAM SINCLAIR**  
...asked for severance pay

received from Secretary of State, \$150,000 is in a bank collecting interest. We never had this before. We have \$20 million worth of housing in Edmonton and \$8.2 million for economic development coming. I would like you to take this into consideration, I deserve consideration and I have no job to go to," Sinclair said.

Zone 4 director Ron Larocque said he believed the board of directors had already turned down Sinclair's request and that was where it should remain.

"The board voted against it. Last year's annual assembly was cancelled because the housing division collapsed and put the MAA \$150,000 in the hole. This assembly has a budget of \$40,000 and it is going to cost \$65,000. It cannot be afforded by the MAA," said Larocque.

A vote was taken then a recount was called for when MAA members said vote counters were not counting a raise of hands

properly. The first count was against the motion 104 - 93.

But a second count revealed a second defeat, this time by 92 - 132 against.

Minutes later a motion was passed giving an honorarium of \$15,000 to Sinclair for his many years of involvement as president of the MAA. "I would like to thank my supporters for at least coming up with a reasonable settlement," Sinclair commented after the final vote.

The request was brought to the Metis Association of Alberta's annual assembly held at Lac Cardinal, August 16 - 16 after the executive board of the MAA turned down an earlier request by Sinclair for four months of severance pay. The board voted three in favor, four against and two abstaining.

The resolution was amended stating that if funds were available the president should receive \$25,000, six months pay.

# Sinclair steps down in favor of Desmeules

By Rocky Woodward

In a surprise move, moments before the close of the Metis Association assembly, Paul Sinclair pulled out of the presidential race over what he calls the disrespectful treatment accorded to president, Sam Sinclair, and his fear that candidate Jo-Ann Daniels would win the presidency.

In an interview after the final day of the two-day assembly, Sinclair said because he feared his candidacy would split the vote allowing Daniels to walk away with the presidency, he had decided to stand down and throw his support behind Larry Desmeules.

"I have never played dirty politics, but I cannot see Jo-Ann Daniel's leadership affect Zone 5. I care about Zone 5. I talked to my supporters about stepping down and supporting Larry, and all of them said it was a good choice. Larry is a good choice. I have worked with him for many years, and know he is a good leader," said Sinclair.

However, Daniels said she felt Sinclair is stepping down for other reasons as he had been aware of her candidacy for some time.

"I don't think it has anything to do with me, but it is completely up to them what they do or how they do it. I don't attack them (Paul Sinclair and Larry Desmeules). I don't go after them and I have never done that," said Daniels.

However, Daniels did agree with Sinclair's assertion that she could well become the next, and the first woman, president.

"He should be scared," she said. "Because I am going to win this one. If it's decided that Larry Desmeules is going to look after them, then great. I have worked in Zone 5 and I have never treated anybody differently. I have a lot of support in Zone 5."

Sinclair also said he was upset and "hurt" over the attack upon president Sam Sinclair during the severance pay debate.

"My feelings toward Sam's treatment by the people helped me decide.

What if I got in for twenty years and got dumped. I could not stand that treatment from the people," said (Paul) Sinclair.

Sinclair says he believes his chances of winning the election were good, and that his decision to run was spurred by his regard for the Metis people.

"I didn't enter the race for me. I have a business but I was willing to sacrifice a few years. My chances were probably insured of getting in, but I don't take chances when it comes to the Metis people," he said.

Sinclair is currently Zone 5 vice-president. He has never run for the leadership of the association before.



**PAUL SINCLAIR**  
...fears a Daniel's presidency



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# New Friendship Centre incorporates "total" approach

By Terry Lusty

From all appearances, it looks as if the second attempt in 13 years to open a friendship centre in Wetaskiwin will prove to be successful.

Twelve years ago, the original centre was forced to shut its doors due to lack of funds. It had only operated for 11 months. Today, the city has another centre and an open house was held August 14 welcoming visitors from throughout the province and from neighboring provinces.

The staff of the White Buffalo Cultural Friendship Centre want people to know they are open for business, that they are here



**CHARLES CUTHBERT**  
...sponsoring a variety of activities

to offer information and to assist Natives and others through social programs, job training, general education, cultural programs, AA meetings and friendship.

"We're trying to meet

some of the needs of the community," states the director, Charles Cuthbert. He says the centre is very concerned with improving attitudes of whites towards Natives and vice-versa.

Along with his wife Muriel, Cuthbert hopes to improve racial relations. Through the centre, they hope to foster goodwill in the community "to get them (all people) to work and share together."

One means of accomplishing this is to sponsor a variety of activities. For example, Cuthbert says, one worker will spend one day a week with the school guidance counsellor to create awareness and to be available to help counsel Native students. The centre also hopes to educate store owners on how to treat and deal with Native customers.

A wholistic approach which incorporates culture, education, recreation and

social action is intended to be the vehicle to achieving their goals. Their prime objectives are to host an annual powwow around Christmas time and to promote the friendship centre.

The centre staff also plan to start up a day care centre in a house adjacent to the present structure. At this moment, he adds, plans are still in the "talking stages" but the name "Kokum's House" has already been chosen for when that time

does come.

Input from the public is needed says the director. One thing particularly needed is volunteers, especially considering the extended hours of operation, plus weekend activities which are always times when people need to look for something to do or need a place to seek counsel.

In Alberta, there are 17 centres. Two are not funded by the Secretary of State one of which is the White Buffalo.

## Heart Lake welcomes / rejects Bill C-31er's

By Mark McCallum

Although the Heart Lake band says it is in favor of Bill C-31 and the return of reinstated Indians, it has rejected all reinstatement requests received to date.

"They just didn't fit," said band councillor Rose Monias, of the two people who applied for reinstatement to the band but were turned down.

"We're not saying you automatically have a home if you're a reinstated person. You have to prove that you belong to our reserve first," stressed Monias, who is also a member of a selection committee that reviews reinstatement claims to the band.

Explaining the process used to determine whether a reinstatement claim is legitimate, Monias pointed out applicants have to prove they have blood ties to the reserve.

She added women, who lost their Treaty rights after marrying non-band mem-

bers, and their children are the only people eligible to return.

Applicants have to be on a membership code approved by the government and they have to pass the reserve's membership residence bylaws too, said Monias.

Although only two people have applied for reinstatement to the band, Indian Affairs membership clerk Irene Desaulniers

says Ottawa has received 27 Heart Lake reinstatement applications and have approved seven.

The Indian Association of Alberta (IAA) is continuing to take its tough stand against Bill C-31 because they say the government refuses to comply with requests from bands.

IAA President Gregg Smith stated, "We've never had a problem with reinstatement of members.

However, we've always made it known to the government that in order to do this, there is a need for more land and resources to deal with new members. And, there is also a need for bands to control membership lists."

Officials of the Tribal Chiefs Association, which affiliates seven bands in northern Alberta including Heart Lake, could not be reached for comment.

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# Opinion

## Reader unhappy with story

Dear Editor:

This is to rectify some of the implications wrote about myself in your newspaper Windspeaker in the July 17 issue in an article called "Competitive powwows saving culture." It is not intended to criticize the paper but to improve the quality of interviews and print the exact meaning of your subject's view and not sound opinionated like this one did.

First of all, you calling me an elder is absurd because I have done nothing inspiring or set an example of any kind for my peers (other elders) to call me an elder. An elder to be called as such must have achieved a goal or something out-

standing and is recognized for that by many different tribal elders.

Your indication of my not getting paid for working powwows and round dances is also not so. It is true I get gifts in giveaways and always acknowledge the reason for such gifts, but I am always offered ample rewards for one or two or even three days of work.

I am of the personal knowledge of what I have experienced in knowing the drummers and dancers of recent times. They are, becoming more knowledgeable about the priorities of our culture in respect to the drum and eagle feather. Some have become eagle feather pick-up specialists simply because they

suffered and sacrificed much of themselves to become such personnel. Others carry drum staffs because they can sing and perform special songs for special ceremonies during a powwow because they were given these staffs by those who knew how. Your paper says that today's drummers and drum groups are getting better every year. No, and I reiterate what I said to your reporter. Today's drum groups and dancers are more knowledgeable about other different tribal drummers, singers and dancers and offer more respect to them because of this knowledge.

You implied that I preferred the competition powwow over the traditional, nothing is farther from the truth. I attend both, and enjoy both. You failed to mention in your paper about what I know of the competition drum and dancer. How come I know this? because they say so every year.

These people, as in real life, do not like to lose, and that isn't so much because it's competition, but because

the defeat means the failure to reach his or her objective. The trouble in today's Native communities and all those living in them and ourselves included are afraid to compete even against ourselves. The result is that in many Native communities, they sneer at success or those who succeed because it costs hard work, long hours of practicing and countless sacrifices. This is what competition does to some. What about the traditional powwow? It is up to your reporter and paper.

You write good articles and thank you for everything. This gives you an opportunity to follow up on what is said.

**Eric H. Cardinal**  
Edmonton

*EDITOR'S NOTE: It's letters like yours that help to make the reporting in Windspeaker stronger and more accurate as we attempt to be as accurate as possible. Sometimes we never know if we've missed the mark, because no one ever lets us know. Thank you for your letter.*

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JLAWJ 1986

### Colouring Contest Winners

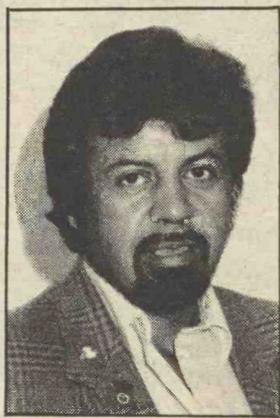
FIRST PRIZE: **Janine Gladue, 8, Edmonton**  
SECOND PRIZE: **Shelley Cardinal, 10; and Dawn Cardinal, 12,** (Sisters from Keg River tied in this category.)  
THIRD PRIZE: **Lisa Larson, 9, Kitscoty, AB**

Judges deliberated for hours before choosing the winners of the Windspeaker Colouring Contest. It was a tough decision because all of the 89 entries were so well done.

# PLANTE X

STAN (BUTCH)

# VOTE



for

# PRESIDENT

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FOR PERSONAL CONTACT: STAN PLANTE'S CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (403) 421-1885

ADVANCE: AUGUST 22  
ELECTION: SEPT. 1

## 1987 LABOUR DAY CLASSIC BALL TOURNAMENT

September 5 & 6, 1987

PAKAN PARK, GOODFISH LAKE

### ENTRY FEES AND EXPENSE MONEY BREAKDOWNS

#### 8 Men's Baseball Teams \$250 Entry Fee Non-Refundable

"A" SIDE	Consolation Side
1st win \$150	1st win \$150
2nd win \$250	Final \$250
Final \$350	

#### 12 Men's Fastball Teams \$250 Entry Fee Non-Refundable - Double Modified Knockout

"A" Side	"B" Side
1st \$1,100	1st \$500
2nd \$700	2nd \$300
3rd \$400	

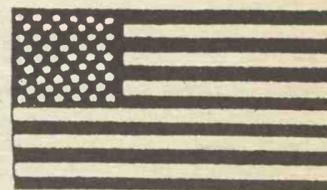
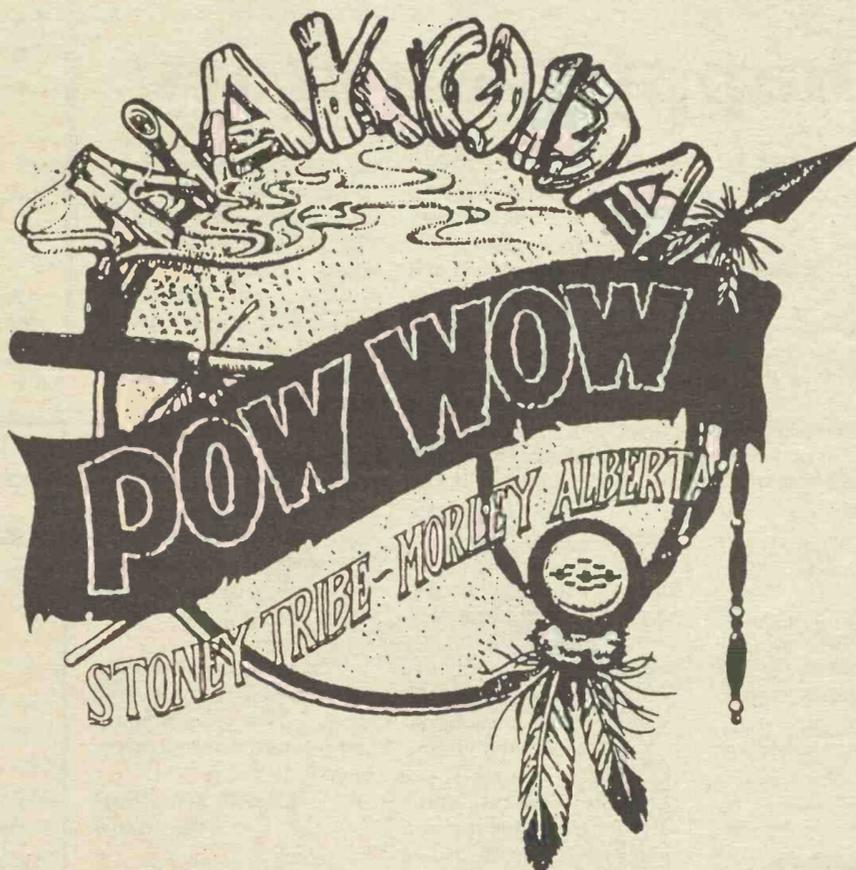
#### 8 Ladie's Fastball Teams \$250 Entry Fee Non-Refundable - True Double Knockout

1st - \$1,000    2nd - \$600    3rd - \$400

To enter the Labor Day Classic a money order, certified cheque, or cash must be provided to the Goodfish Lake Recreation Department no later than September 2, 1987. If more information is required about the ball tournaments, please call Rene Houle, phone number 636-3622 business.

Prize Money Depends Upon Teams Entered

# 5th Annual Labour Day Classic



## SEPTEMBER 4, 5 & 6, 1987

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**GRAND ENTRY**  
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SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 p.m. & 7 p.m.

### ADULT CATEGORIES

- MEN'S TRADITIONAL  
(40 YEARS & OVER)
- MEN'S TRADITIONAL  
(18 - 39 YEARS)
- MEN'S FANCY  
(18 YEARS & OVER)
- MEN'S GRASS  
(18 YEARS & OVER)
- LADIES TRADITIONAL  
(18 YEARS & OVER)
- LADIES FANCY  
(18 YEARS & OVER)

### TEEN CATEGORIES

- TEEN BOY'S TRADITIONAL  
(13 - 17 YEARS)
- TEEN BOY'S FANCY  
(13 - 17 YEARS)
- TEEN BOY'S GRASS  
(13 - 17 YEARS)
- TEEN GIRL'S TRADITIONAL  
(13 - 17 YEARS)
- TEEN GIRL'S FANCY  
(13 - 17 YEARS)

### JUNIOR CATEGORIES

- BOY'S TRADITIONAL  
(7 - 12 YEARS)
- BOY'S FANCY & GRASS  
(7 - 12 YEARS)
- GIRL'S TRADITIONAL  
(7 - 12 YEARS)
- GIRL'S FANCY  
(7 - 12 YEARS)
- TINY TOTS  
(6 YEARS & UNDER)

### SPECIAL CATEGORIES

- DRUM CONTEST
- MEN'S BUCKSKIN  
(40 YEARS & UNDER)
- LADIES BUCKSKIN  
(40 YEARS & OVER)
- MEN'S TEAM DANCING
- LADIES TEAM DANCING
- JINGLE DRESS TROPHY DANCE

POINTS WILL BE AWARDED FOR PARTICIPATION IN GRAND ENTRY AND JUDGING WILL BE DONE ON THE BASIS OF POINT SYSTEM  
 PARTICIPANTS WILL BE JUDGED ON BOTH COSTUME AND STYLE  
 THERE WILL BE NO "DRUM HOPPING" — EACH DRUMMER MUST STAY WITH HIS OWN DRUM GROUP  
 CAMPING FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN STONEY PARK, WEST OF THE RODEO AREA  
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**DROPPIN IN**

**By Rocky Woodward**

**H**i! Well it was quite a time during the Metis Association of Alberta's annual assembly. Good old Metis politics, red river jiggling and cold weather were the highlights for the two-day event that took place at Lac Cardinal near Peace River.

Metis came from as far away as Saskatchewan and British Columbia to take part in the 59th annual assembly.

It was nice to meet and chat with people I haven't seen for a long time such as Joan Tornburg, Elder Eva McKenzie and my good friend Randy Layton who lives in Valleyview now.

Even Laurent Roy was there voicing his opinion and let me tell you, he had the Metis moving when he spoke of accountability.

"We are talking about future generations and we must plan for the future. We must establish accountability of the leadership that will pursue the issues and concerns of the communities and not just for self interest. We don't create political positions to have a job, we create them so responsible people can take care of the workload of the communities."

Well said Laurent. You got my vote even though you're not running as a candidate.

I must add even though the turnout was small, roughly about 500 people compared to 4,000 at times in the past, it was still a good gathering. Metis camps lined the shore and one could only holler to say hi to your neighbor. Everyone was visiting or taking in the talented entertainment supplied by anyone who could sing or dance.

No, it was not as powerful as in the past, but you could still see the Metis pride everywhere. Metis pride, humor and concern for each other is alive and well.

# Red River Jig still a Metis assembly trademark

**DIXONVILLE:** Here are two great people from a great local, Metis Local 163. Cecile and Ken Elter.

Ken is the president of the Metis Local and he and his wife kept things happening, running the talent show along with finding entertainers to perform for everyone's enjoyment. I saw just how much work goes into putting on a talent show...so Dropping In, proclaims the Elters along with the Dixonville Local the "People who Participate Award." A big kiss from each of my four ugly dogs! Not really.

Congratulations!



**CECILE and KEN ELTER**

**ELIZABETH:** Phyllis Collins tells me that she has worked as a public relations officer for the Elizabeth Junior Travellers, a square dance club, since 1982. She also said this is tremendous, that the Junior Travellers won an award from Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC).

They won the award as goodwill ambassadors and as role models for the youth in Alberta.

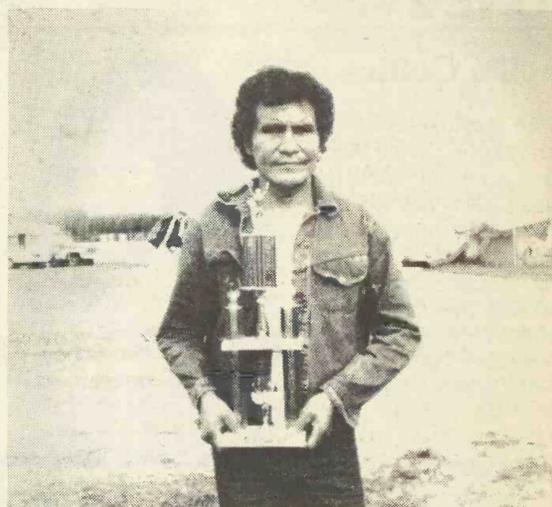
The award was given to the Junior Travellers in 1986, so although it's somewhat late, congratulations go out to each of the dancers.

**GIFT LAKE:** Leonard Flett just phoned and said that the Gift Lake Sluggers lost their first game of the best of seven finals for the fastball league championship at home, to the High Prairie Playboys.

"I'll keep you informed as each game goes along Rocky. They play tomorrow night now in High Prairie."

Thanks Leonard. That means next week I should be able to tell you who wins the championship title.

**EDMONTON:** This picture is none other than Meander River's Rene Metacat who won the male vocal competitions at Lac Cardinal August 15-16. Congratulations Rene and I am sure people back home will be proud to hear a northern boy such as yourself did so well against great Metis talent.



**RENE METACAT**

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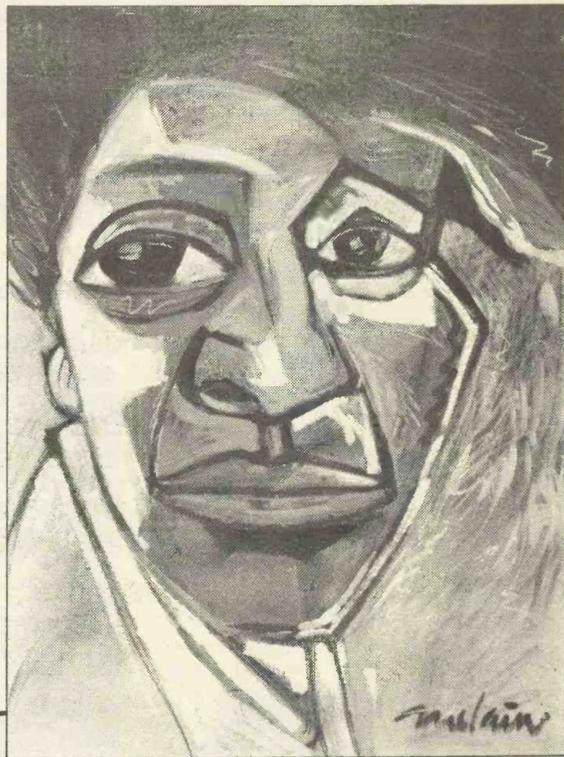
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## ZONE 1

### Joe Blyan

Joe Blyan has been actively involved with "front line" Metis politics for over 20 years and if he is elected as vice-president for Zone 1, he says he will use his experience towards Metis self-determination.

Blyan admits that he was a politician with radical views but he says he has changed. "I've grown more mature and it might have to do with age. I now see that some things never change like people suing each other, accusing each other and I believe that the Metis



are fed up with this. It's got to quit and must be cleared up. With good leadership we can do this."

### Gerald Thom

Lac La Biche resident and acting vice-president for Zone 1, Gerald Thom says he is committed to the Metis of his region and says that he will get the job done if elected in the up-coming Metis Association of Alberta elections.

When the MAA was decentralized in 1985, Thom ran for the vice-presidents position but lost to Sonny Bourque. But stayed on as secretary for Regional Council in Zone 1.

"When Frank Spence was released from his duties as vice-president for Zone 1, I was then appointed acting vice-president."



Thom also believes the Elders must be utilized.

As an active trapper and hunter himself, Thom says he is personally aware of the problems that Metis trappers and people face in Zone 1 and states "I will work to solve these problems."

## ZONE 2

### Phyllis Collins

Vice-presidential candidate for Zone 2 of the Metis Association of Alberta, Phyllis Collins has worked in the Metis communities for many years.

Her number one priority is to see that housing is available for all the Metis of Alberta and "I would like to see education for our Metis youth," said Collins.

"There is really nothing for them and since I have been involved in education for the last seven years, it gives me an edge to do something about it," Collins said.

Elders are very important to Collins and she says they must play a bigger role in guiding the Metis.

"We should seek their knowledge, not on a monthly term, but on a dialy basis. It will help us



understand our roots clearer. Listening to the Elders would help us cope with our daily living problems and the youth would benefit from them. Many people don't realize the suicide rate and attempts among our young people. It's incredible. I know of, in one area alone, there has been ten suicide attempts in one year."

### August Collins

August Collins believes that regionalization of the MAA is in place and needs strong and solid leadership, something he promises if he is elected for a second term, as vice-president of Zone 2, for the Metis Association of Alberta.

"Right now I'm an executive of the board and I see that many things could be handled at a regional council level that are dealt with by the board. It's wrong. Who should know better than Regional Council who is located in the communities and deals with the Metis first hand." Collins supports women's rights and stresses they are a part of the Metis nation.

"They should have equal rights. I'm not more important than my wife. Without the women we wouldn't be



here. When you look at self-government I know that women have to play an important role now and in the future."

Collins is running for the vice-president position because he feels he can do the job.

"I'm satisfied what I have done in the last ten months and I'll just have to let my past performances speak for itself," he said.

## ZONE 3

### Joan Major-Malmas

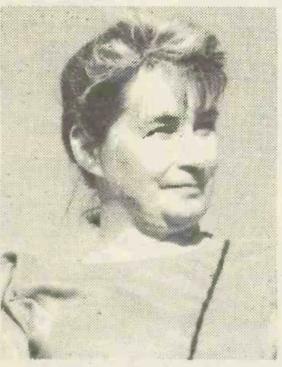
Zone 3 incumbent vice-president, Joan Major-Malmas, is running on a platform of better communications in the Zone 3 area, as well as getting the membership more involved in the many programs and organizations available to the Metis of southern Alberta.

Major-Malmas, a former Zone 3 director, who replaced former vice-president Aurele Dumont when he returned to his home province of Manitoba in June, is originally from Cold Lake, but more recently from Rocky Mountain House. She is also a former president of a Red Deer Local.

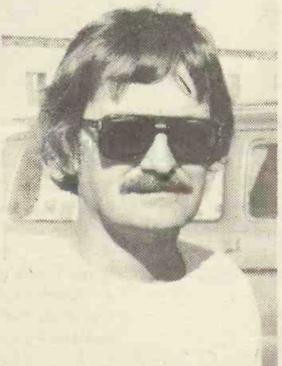
"I want to focus on issues rather than on personalities because I feel we are on our way towards a self-sufficient zone," says Major-Malmas.

Major-Malmas is also working toward encouraging southern trappers to get involved in trappers organizations and support organizations.

"We have quite a few trappers here in the south."



### Jim White



Vice-president candidate for Zone 3, Jim White received his baptism in Metis self-determination when his father Henry

### Peter Pelletier

Zone 3 vice-president candidate Peter Pelletier remembers when he first got involved in Metis groups in Broadview, Saskatchewan in 1954.

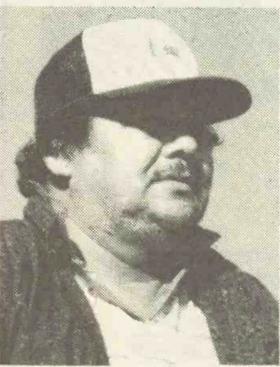
At Present, Pelletier is employed with the Metis Urban Housing (Calgary Branch) as its manager.

Pelletier says if elected he would like to see more meetings conducted between Regional Council and the communities. "Council must meet more often with the grassroots people and the Metis locals and take direction from them," he says. Pelletier says he is also against so many bylaws and would

White helped him write housing documents for the Metis in his home town of Fort McMurray during the 1960s.

Since then, he has actively been involved in Metis politics both at the administrative and community level.

A firm believer in equal rights for women, White says, he has always



like to see only one bylaw for the MAA, Regional Council and at the Metis local level.

"My opinion is there are too many bylaws. In Zone 3 alone, we have four sets of bylaws. We're bogged down with bylaws. I think we need one standard set of bylaws for everyone.

supported them but would like to see women become more active in the communities and at a government level.

"When locals are inactive the communities are excluded from the Regional Council which in turn becomes a bureaucracy. We must get them involved and that's one thing I will go after."

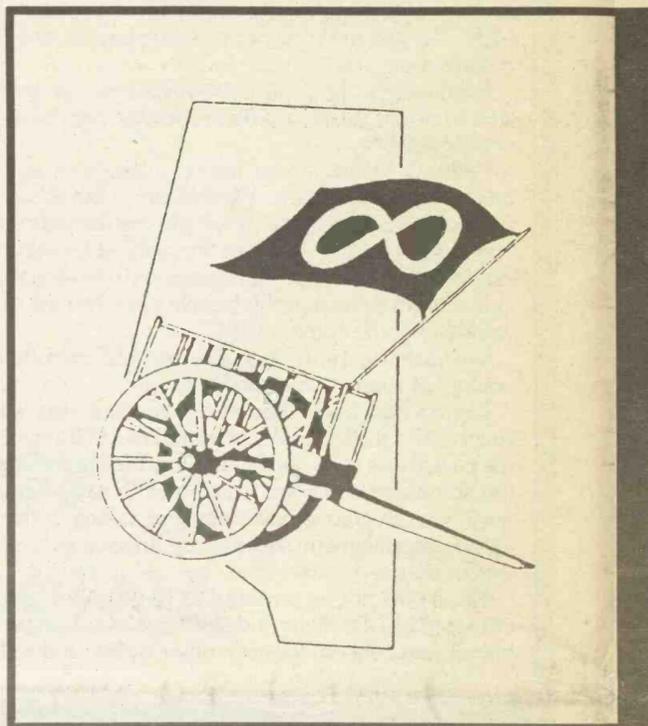
**MAA ELEC**

# Support Your V.I.

*The impending general election for executive positions scheduled for Sept. 1. The elections will not only see members.*

*In this, the second of a two-part special, Windspeaker will be providing full coverage of the vice-presidential positions in each of the six zones.*

*Windspeaker will be providing full coverage of the*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ZONE 1:** Elvina Strasberg\*, Joe A.

**ZONE 2:** Roy Dumais\*, Violet Well

**ZONE 3:** Greg Lavallee, Freda Mar

**ZONE 4:** Len Gauthier, Bruce Glad

**ZONE 5:** Harry M. Laboucan, Clara

**ZONE 6:** Dwight Carifelle\*, Stan Se

\*Denotes incumbents

## ZONE 5

### Peter Campiou Elected by Acclamation

Elected by acclamation as the vice-president for Zone 5, Peter Campiou said, "I realize that I will now have to work on behalf of the Metis in Zone 5. I can only promise that I will do a good job and would like to thank Joanne Abbott and Gordon Sinclair for supporting me."

Campiou said he and three other Regional Council members sat down and discussed who should run for the position. "Everyone else was employed and I

was free to travel and two years ago we thought this year would be a good time for me to run for the vice-president's position. I would like to add that I made it clear to members that if they wanted to run, they should do so but no one did."

Campiou has been the president of Metis Local 147 and 585, both located in his home town of Faust. He has been an active supporter of the MAA for many years and says "I can hardly wait to get to work."

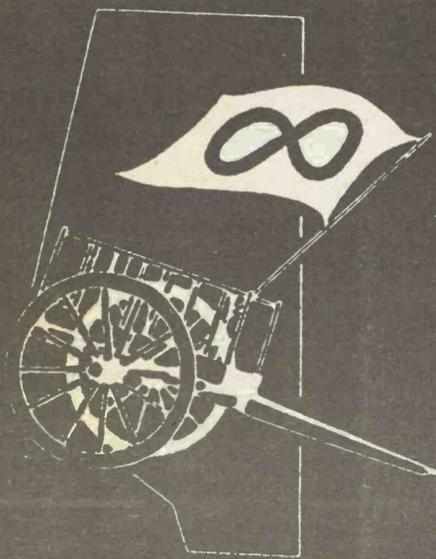
# ELECTION '87

## V.P. Candidates

positions within Metis Association of Alberta (MAA) is not only see a new president, but also many new executive

Windspeaker profiles those candidates vying for the positions.

of the elections in our Sept. 4 edition.



pe A. Tremblay, Lester Whitford

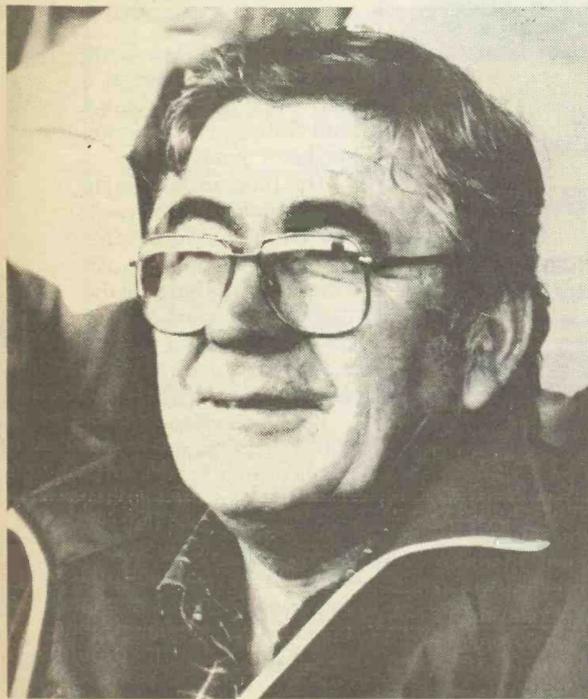
Wells

a Martel

e Gladue, Ed Karakonti, Ron Laroque\*

Clara Yellowknee

an Sewell Jr., Edith Trump



### ZONE 4

#### Ben Courtrielle

Zone 4 vice-president of the Metis Association, Ben Courtrielle says if he is elected for a second term he is ready to listen to the Metis people.

Courtrielle has been a member of the board of directors since 1981 and is the first vice-president whose role is to sit in the capacity of president when



the president is unavailable.

Courtrielle currently sits on the board of directors of Native Outreach and once was a member of the board of directors for Metis Urban Housing and the Canadian Native Friendship Centre.

"We have 29 Metis locals in Zone 4 and it will take a good man to work with these locals and the people in the community. There is only one thing that I promise and that is I will be honest and work hard."

#### Mike Woodward

Anzac-born, Zone 4 vice-president candidate Mike Woodward knows what hard work is all about ever since he worked as a laborer for the Northern Alberta Railway in 1952.

In 1984, Woodward ran in the federal election for the Athabasca riding but lost to Progressive Conservative MP Jack Shields.

He believes in Metis women's rights and "I know that they can make a significant contribution not only to the association but in the communities as well."

He says Metis individuals must have assistance in developing small businesses, something he says he would do if elected.

"I struggled as a laborer,



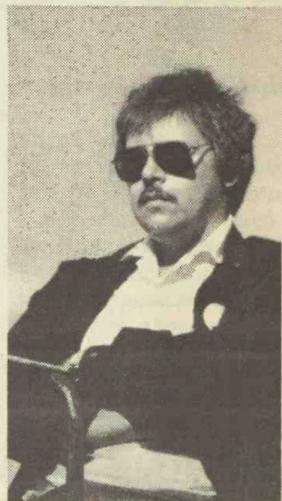
helped raise a family, joined the armed forces and have been actively involved with Metis politics both on a community, provincial and federal level and believe we must strengthen our organization by listening to what the grassroots people have to say and then acting on their concerns."

#### Dan Martel

This is Dan Martel's first bid for the Zone 4 vice-president position but he stands on his record as president of Edson Metis Local 44.

Under Martel's leadership the Edson Metis Local established a Friendship Centre, a Metis Youth Council and is constantly dealing with town council on education and social services concerns of the Metis and Indian people.

Martel says if elected as vice-president one of his initiatives would be to not settle for little things but to reach for things that would benefit Zone 4. "If we have a goal we want to reach, through self-determination, we will be successful," he says.



"I know people are discouraged but I believe that the MAA is a valid organization. If the organization takes direction from the Metis people it will be strong," Martel said.

With the experience Martel has gained as president it is his goal to help the elderly and youth. "With my experience I hope to help others who need it."

### ZONE 6

#### George Amato

The Metis Association of Alberta (MAA) is in desperate need of unity and strong leadership, says a concerned incumbent vice-president George Amato, who has worked 10 years with the organization, the last two as the Zone 6 vice-president.

"The government is reluctant in funding an



organization that does nothing but fight," says Amato. He also stresses that the grassroots people must be recognized in order to move in the direction of self-determination. Amato feels education will play a key role in the future.

"The non-Native society sees us as a tax burden. But, an educated people can change this situation," he stated.

Amato says MAA leaders have to become exam-

ples and he has, in fact, made motions at meetings to reduce MAA salaries, reasoning money could be spent more effectively in the community.

The 48-year old vice-president from White Fish Lake believes a leader should be firm when dealing with the government.

If he wins the voters' confidence again at the September election, Amato hopes to negotiate land and housing programs.

#### Florence Henry

Florence Henry believes the Metis community in Zone 6 has the potential to achieve a number of objectives if they are informed and aware of issues in education, employment, and trapping and hunting.

Henry, 35, of Paddle Prairie says a newsletter and other communication devices could be used to better inform residents of the opportunities available to them.

A vice-president candidate in the upcoming MAA elections, Henry feels her experience in communication services will enable her to develop the newsletter. She has also worked with Canada Fish and Wildlife, social services and the Sagitawa Friendship Centre. She is currently an MAA board member.

If elected Henry "would



like to work closely with the natural resource industry, in an effort to create training and employment programs."

She also expressed concerns that the government to increase hunting and trapping restrictions. But, hopes to alleviate such restrictions by working as an advocate with the government.

#### Lawrence Laboucane

Zone 6 vice-president candidate Lawrence Laboucane's roots run deep. His family originates from the Red River Valley and it's no secret that his father, Ambrose Laboucane, a former president of the Metis Association of Alberta who died recently, was a staunch supporter of Metis rights.

"Some of his involvement working with the Metis must of rubbed off on me because I've been involved for about 20 years," he said.

About a year ago Laboucane moved to Grande Prairie where he was asked by local members from the Hines Creek, Eureka River and Grande Prairie areas to run for the vice-president's position.

Laboucane says he would also like to see equal opportunity for youth in education, equal opportunity for Metis in the commun-



ities in job creation, and he believes in seeking advice from the Elders. Metis can and should have better housing, he says, adding that he supports Metis women's issues such as equal opportunities in employment and education.

From his years of involvement with the MAA, Laboucane says he is a firm believer that, "elected people should be servants of the people who elected them, not their bosses as in the past, and should be accountable for their actions and expenses."

# Education

## Integration promotes harmony

By Christine Purvis

A school on the Enoch Reserve is discovering that integration of white and Native children results in a lower degree of stereotyping and prejudice.

Kitaskinaw school (kitaskinaw means "our land" in Cree) has about 60 per cent Native students and 40 per cent white students in grades 1 through 9. "Of course, our bottom line here is academic achievement," says principal Stan Woloshyn. "But we keep the needs of the individual in mind. For the white students, getting to know the Natives was an eye-opener. It made them see that the reserve is nothing more than a geographical boundary." They see that the Native students and their parents are real people, and they start to lose the image of the Dirty Indian. Not only that, but the Native kids start to form a better opinion of the white kids.

"Historically, Native kids have been labelled as shy

and withdrawn," says Woloshyn. But, as friendships develop, that image also changes. Woloshyn says that these friendships often continue after the students have left Kitaskinaw school.

The school uses a wholistic approach to learning, which the teachers feel corresponds well to Native philosophy. The students learn, not in separate bits of information, but in complete concepts. Language arts teacher Carole Plumb likens this process to learning to walk -- the child does not start with the left ankle, then work up to the left leg, the right ankle and the right leg, but gets his or her entire body involved in the process right from the start. Using this approach in a predominantly Native school could mean incorporating Native crafts into social studies or language arts classes, rather than taking "beadwork" as a separate subject unrelated to other learnings.

The teachers make a



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...perform at Kitaskinaw school

point in recognizing "Indianness" but not over-emphasizing it. They want the children to learn not to use labels -- this applies to academic ability as well as to race. Group activities are deliberately structured to mix together Natives and

non-Natives, bright students and slow students "because that's the way the world is" says Plumb.

Greater parent involvement is a goal of the school. So far, the parents of white students are involved to a large degree, including fundraising and volunteering; while the Native parents come to most parent/teacher interviews and school concerts. There has been a gradual increase over the years in the percentage of all parents becoming involved with the school. At present, Kitaskinaw has one of the highest parent participation rates of reserve schools in Alberta.

As to academic achievement, especially with Native students "it's not quite where we'd like it to be," admits Woloshyn. "We haven't cured the Native high school dropout problem yet." He says it is often difficult to keep Native students in school,

especially since a young Native on the reserve can sometimes earn \$8 to \$10 per hour without a high school education. This, on a reserve where there are no mortgages and no income tax, makes the young person feel more successful than getting a higher education would make him feel.

Woloshyn, Plumb, and the rest of the staff are justifiably proud of the program at Kitaskinaw, but admit there is still a long way to go. "Changing the tone of widely-used textbooks that are derogatory towards Natives is just as important as learning beadwork," says Plumb. Woloshyn would like to see more Native teachers (at present, all teachers at Kitaskinaw are white, with several Native teacher's aides) because "there's a lot to be said for Native role models, but if you're an Indian and a poor teacher, you're not a good role model."

Helen Bruno has had five of her nine children go to Kitaskinaw for varying periods of time. She feels that they would have done better if they had started at the school earlier. Nevertheless, she is pleased with their attitude towards school.

"They really wanted to go to school; their attendance was much better here than in city schools."

The best result, though was the children's new attitude toward other students: "They got along with all the other students. They found out that everyone's the same, whether white or Native."

## MacEwan's new programs unveiled

Grant MacEwan Community College opened a new office of multicultural and Native programming on July 1 of this year.

This program is separate and in addition to the existing Native Studies program. Headed by Roman Petrychan, it is based at the Jasper Place campus. It is part of the federal government's recent increase in support for multiculturalism.

The office will coordinate conferences, research and publications dealing with Native and multicultural issues. The office will also be involved in fundraising activities. For more information on this new project, call Grant MacEwan Community College at 441-4666.



### School of Native Studies University of Alberta

The School of Native Studies wishes to confirm the following Native Studies courses that will be offered in the 1987/88 academic term:

Course Title	Instructor	Times
NS101 Introductory Cree (full term)	Emily Hunter	M T W Th 1200-1250 Lab M 1:00-1:50
NS201 Intermediate Cree (full term)	Emily Hunter	T & Th 2:00-3:20 Wed 3:00-3:50
NS300 Issues and Insights (full term)	Richard Price	T & Th 11:00- 12:20 p.m.
NS301 Advanced Cree (full term)	Emily Hunter	M W F 2:00-2:50 Lab M 3:00-3:50
<b>Selected Topics in Native Studies</b>		
NS403 Aboriginal Self-Government (first term)	Michael Asch	T 7:00-10:00 p.m.
NS403 Introductory Slavey (second term)	Sarah Cleary	To be announced
NS404 Native Art (second term)	Jane Ash Poitras	T 7:00-10:00 p.m.

All of these courses are open to Native and non-Native university students. Community members interested in these courses are able to apply as unclassified\* students at the university.

For further information, please contact:

**School of Native Studies**  
**University of Alberta**  
**11036 - 89 Avenue**  
**Edmonton, Alberta**  
**T6G 2Z6**  
**(403) 432-2991**

\*Unclassified students are not required to submit high school or university transcripts though are expected to meet university level standards in their course work. Only one course may be taken per term. Deadline for fall registration is September 9, 1987.

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# Sarcee to open new school

By Dan Dibbelt

Each year tens of thousands of Canadians graduate from high school and move onto a university education -- less than two per cent of the Native population follows suit.

It's a frightening statistic, one that Shirley Meguinis,

education, cultural and museum coordinator of the Sarcee reserve west of Calgary, hopes to see changed.

"Most of the Natives who got to university enter on a mature student status," said Meguinis. "Very few of them have their matric (matriculation)."

Meguinis hopes to see

that changed with the opening of the Sarcee's own school this September.

"This year we will only be having Early Childhood Services (ECS) and pre-school," said Meguinis. "But by 1989 we should have right up to Grade 12."

The process of growth for the school will come in

phases. By 1988 they plan to serve up to Grade 3 and perhaps even Grade 6. The next two phases would then be Grades 7-9 and 10-12.

It won't be the first school for the Sarcees, but it will be their first band-controlled one. Approximately 15 years ago the government, in an effort to cut costs and to integrate Native and non-Native children, closed down the Sarcee school and began bussing the children into Calgary.

While it was perhaps good economics for the government, it did little to improve the degree of Native education.

"Statistics show that Native children's education declines at about Grade 4," said Meguinis. "In band schools it tends to plateau at about that level. But I think we can improve on that greatly."

Native children in a non-Native environment have difficulty developing self-esteem and self-pride, said Meguinis. "We have to start teaching our children at an early age, teaching them self-esteem and self-pride. They should learn to be proud they are Indian."

Meguinis said the school will meet, if not exceed,

Alberta education standards. Some differences from the normal curriculum will, however, be evident.

"We are working on a standard Sarcee language," said Meguinis. "We have to develop a spoken and written standard so we can teach Sarcee in the schools."

And history may become a new experience for Native children, when they learn it from their own point of view. The Peigans have already developed their own history book, *A Nation in Transition*, and the Bloods have *Land of the*

Bloods.

Both books have Alberta Education approval and both are also being used in non-Native schools. Meguinis is eager to have these topics taught in the Sarcee school as she says the Sarcee language and traditions are rapidly dying out.

The first teacher for the school has been hired. Janet Fenton will be teaching the first 40 students, equally divided between ECS and pre-school. As the school grows new staff will be added.

## CVC students cooking

There are some new faces on the cooking scene in Slave Lake.

Recently, the Community Vocational Centres graduated their first Slave Lake class of Pre-Employment Cook Training students and several of these graduates are already working in local restaurants. Others plan to take a well-deserved break and then pursue a career in cooking.

All students wrote the First Year Apprenticeship Theory Exam on June 18 and are anxiously awaiting results. With the increase in numbers of restaurants in Slave Lake, there are many opportunities for graduates to enter cook

positions and also to arrange apprenticeships which will lead to Journeyman Cook status. Successful completion of the First Year Apprenticeship Theory Exam also allows graduates to receive time credit towards the first year of their apprenticeship in the cook trade.

According to the students the combination of theory instruction, practical shop work and work experience equipped them well to seek and obtain employment. The fact that meals were served at the Mobile Cooking Lab throughout most of the Program gave the students immediate opportunity to put their

newly learned knowledge into practice. The four weeks of work experience in local restaurants and institutions added to these skills.

The next Slave Lake Pre-Employment Cook Training class is scheduled to begin on September 8, 1987. Applicants must be at least 17-years of age, in excellent health and preferably have completed Grade 9. Application deadline is August 14, 1987 and selection interviews will be scheduled in late August. More information may be obtained by calling Student Services at the Community Vocational Centres at 849-7140.



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### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Native Education Project of Alberta Education is pleased to announce the publication of the following approved basic resources for the Alberta Social Studies program. These resources are the result of partnerships between school jurisdictions and Native people. Native teachers played an important part in writing the resources and Native Elders gave approval to their publication.

**Grade 2:** The Sarcee Band Calgary Public School District "Sarcee Reserve: An Indian Community" - Reidmore Books Publishing.

**Grade 3:** The Blood Tribe, Lethbridge School District, Cardston School Division "The Land of the Bloods" - Plains Publishing.

**Grade 4:** Medicine Hat Metis Local, Medicine Hat School District, Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education "Annette's People" - Plains Publishing.

**Grade 7:** The Peigan Nation Willow Creek School Division/Pincher Creek School Division, Pincher Creek Roman Catholic Separate School Division "The Peigan: A Nation in Transition" - Plains Publishing.

All of the above can be purchased from: **Learning Resources Distributing Centre, 12360 - 142 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4X9, phone 427-2767.**

In addition, more resources are in the final stages of publication and are expected to be available by early September. They are:

**Grade 5:** Metis Local 1885 St. Albert School District "Exploration and Settlement in Western Canada: The Role of the Metis" - Reidmore Books Publishing.

**Grade 6:** Kehewin Band Elizabeth Metis Settlement Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School Division "Winds of Change: Government on Indian Reserves and Metis Settlements" - Reidmore Books Publishing.

**Grade 7:** Metis Local 1885 Edmonton Roman Catholic School Division "Canada's People: The Metis" - Plains Publishing.

**Grade 7:** Lac La Biche Native Women's Society/Beaver Lake AVC, Lac La Biche School Division "Western Canada Woodland Cree Indian Art" - Plains Publishing.

These resources have been developed in order to provide opportunities for all Alberta students to recognize and appreciate Native cultures and their many contributions to our province and society.



**Alberta Native Education Project**  
11160 Jasper Avenue  
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NATIVE EDUCATION PROJECT

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- New students already accepted into programs should note the following first day of classes...  
**Sept. 8, 1987 - all programs except trades**  
**Sept. 28, 1987 - all trades programs**
- Applications are also now being accepted for Winter Session programs and for Sept. 1988
- The Centre wishes all students across the province the very best of success in their studies during the coming year.

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# Northlands escapes cutback woes

By Terry Lusty

Culture, language and direct services to students will not be affected by government cutbacks in education within Northland School Division claims its chairman, Jeff Chalifoux.

The division operates 24 schools scattered throughout northern Alberta and have a high proportion of Native people.

The division has been "studied to death." Many research papers have criticized it for its high drop-

out rates, low achievement, age-grade retardation, its abundance of teachers who are unable to get jobs elsewhere, and staff that does not understand nor participate in community events.

In 1982, the division

decentralized and there have been a number of noticeable changes in its operations.

Most of the changes have occurred in the curriculum, parent involvement, local decision-making and expansions in cultural and language resources, in order to reflect Native traditions, lifestyles and culture.

"We want to promote

previous year and from eight in the year before that.

Chalifoux notes that the number of Native teachers on staff also show "a marked improvement." The board he states, is taking a serious look at Native teacher training.

The reason for this is to meet the objectives of raising student achievement levels, improving age-grade levels, and promoting community-parent-school relations.

"We want to promote the involvement of local community school boards in decision-making."

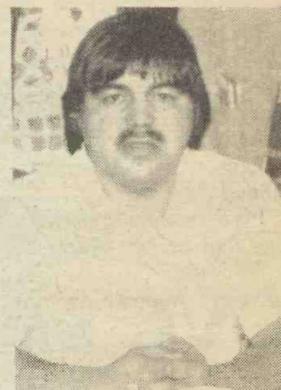
Despite cutbacks in education which often result in cuts to cultural programs, the opposite applies in Northland.

The board has stood fast, explains Chalifoux, to ensure cuts do not affect services such as computer courses, shop, home economics and libraries.

"We'll maintain that kind of service and enhance some in other areas such as Native and cultural programming," he states.

Jim Leary who is responsible for curriculum at the divisional office in Peace River agrees with Chalifoux.

Programs that "are iden-



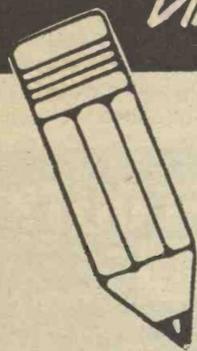
JEFF CHALIFOUX

tified as a priority" such as the language program are being swamped with requests from parents and community leaders.

This "growth industry" explains Leary, helps the development of Native language curriculum. A recent development has been a Cree 25 teleconference course channelled through the vocational centres at Slave Lake and Grouard.

Trapper education is "very successful now...it's sort of captured the imagination of the students as well as some of the teachers," he adds. Eight schools now include the program compared with three, one year ago.

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## NOTICE TO PARENTS

The School Board believes that regular attendance is necessary requirement of all pupils registered in the School Division. The primary responsibility for ensuring **regular attendance** rests with the pupil and his/her parents in accordance with the School Act.

Regular attendance is a legal requirement for all pupils up to the age of sixteen (16) years and a necessary requirement of all pupils enrolled, regardless of their age, if they are to receive the maximum benefit from the programs being offered.

A person who has reached the age of 16 years is no longer compelled, under the law, to attend school. **However, once a decision to continue studies is made, pupils who are 16 years of age or older must abide by the rules, regulations and policies of the school and School board.**

It is further the opinion of the School Board that developing habits of regular attendance at school and accepting the responsibility for regular attendance has the potential for worthwhile and necessary carry over to the day when pupils leave the public school system to further their education elsewhere or to pursue careers in the world of work. The introduction of higher achievement standards by the provincial government through the Secondary School Review means close communication between the home and school is needed. We urge you to keep in touch with the school administration and staff regarding the progress of your children.

In support of these beliefs, the School Board has set out guidelines to assist administrators, teachers, pupils and parents who all must play an important role if the common goals of regular attendance and academic achievement are to be received.

The tragedy is that guidelines providing for either in-school suspensions or complete expulsion from school should not be necessary.

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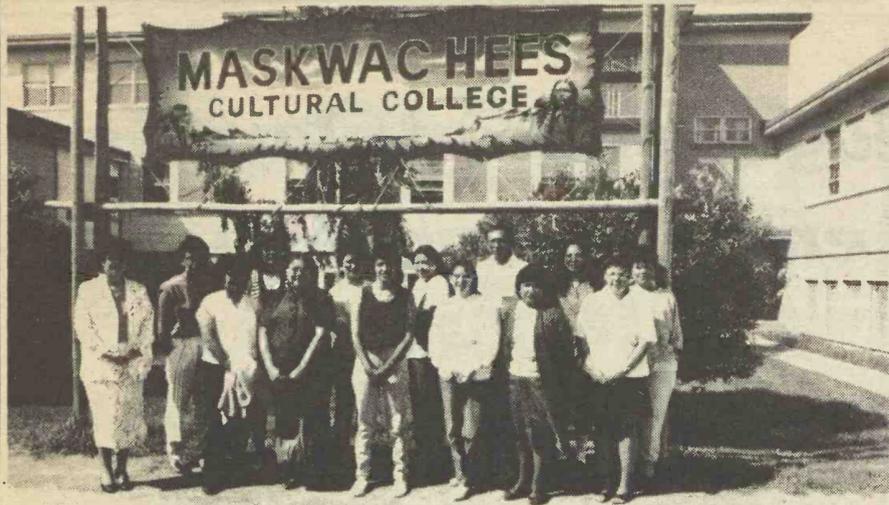
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STUDENTS SOON TO MOVE ON TO UNIVERSITY

## College programs expand under enthusiastic director

By Terry Lusty

A new college facility that will serve as a fully accredited and private Indian college is on the drawing board for Hobbema.

If all goes well, it may be a reality in one or two years says Fred Carnew, director of the Muskawchees Cultural College (MCC) at Hobbema -- a position he filled last fall. Since the college first opened, course offerings have increased and the immediate facilities and satellite programs have expanded.

Carnew moved to Saskatchewan from Ireland in 1962, then worked for 20 years in the Northwest Territories. The last eight of those years in Yellowknife were spent as the assistant deputy minister of education. From 1980-86, he was employed by the Native Education Office at the University of Calgary.

Upon arriving at Hobbema last fall, Carnew discovered "the college basically operated as a cultural centre" with some post-secondary programs.

He speaks in glowing terms of "a unique collection

in Canada" of videotapes produced by MCC. Through the "Living History Program," there is over 200 hours of tapes on a broad range of topics -- "treaties, traditional leadership, spirituality, family life, child rearing, you name it," he says.

MCC has been involved in developing and instituting courses and programs that more aptly suit and benefit the needs of the four bands at Hobbema. The mandate to go in that direction, explains Carnew, comes from the chiefs of the bands.

Last year, the college received \$150,000 to start up an adult upgrading program because community needs "weren't being served by Canada Manpower or anybody else." Now the college itself offers upgrading to the Grade 12 level and has extension courses at the Montana and Louis Bull reserves.

The demand for the courses is here, Carnew maintains. "Last summer about 200 people came to the college for academic programs." The program, which has the capacity to

accommodate 160-175 students, already has about 150 registered for this fall.

For the convenience of those with jobs, night classes will also be available with preference being given to members of the Four Bands at Hobbema. All students are instructed in computer word-processing as well as those courses in which they have specific interests, Carnew explains.

The college has also absorbed the Achievement Training Program that was developed by the Ermineskin Band. The program is designed to assist 25 adolescents, 13-16 years old, "who for some reason are unable to function at all in the regular school programs," says Carnew.

There are 25 university students who will enter their third year of studies at MCC, then complete their degrees by taking their final year either at an Edmonton or Calgary university. Altogether, approximately 200 students are enrolled in university level courses.

A course on Indians and the law will be taught by local Native lawyers and other courses are slated as well.

## \$14 million budget aids education project

By Terry Lusty

In an effort to remove Native stereotypes from Alberta's curriculum, a series of books produced by both Native people and school boards are now in print.

Alberta schools and the public are now able to use four books and a teacher's guide on the topic of Canada's Native peoples.

Stories on the Bloods (Grade 3C), Peigans (Grade 7B), Sarcees (Grade 2C), and the Metis (Grade 4B) are available through the school book branch. All have received departmental approval as basic resources for the Alberta curriculum.

Another six books are slated for fall and winter publishing. One is a junior high Native art text. Three others address the culture and history of the Metis and are geared to grades 5, 6 and 7.

In addition, the manuscript for a Grade 1 book on northern Indians should be completed by fall and a manuscript on Indian Treaties and Aboriginal rights in Alberta is still in the pipeline.

The writing projects for

the books were assisted by Native people and were tested in the classroom so changes could be made prior to any final drafts going to print.

The books already in print and those scheduled for publication were developed through a budget from the Native Education Project (NEP) office.

Earlier this year, Alberta's minister of education, Nanacy Betkowski, announced the adoption of a Native Education Policy to enhance Native education by allowing direct Native participation. The cabinet set aside \$4 million for distribution through the NEP.

Funds through NEP, however, are not only for the express purpose of publishing books says staff consultant, Pearl Calah-

asen. Special projects and services can also benefit.

Grants have assisted many school boards in the development of Native awareness and in-service projects, language programs and home-school liaison projects says Calahasen.

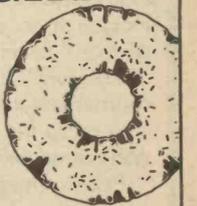
Calahasen says that, in administering the \$4 million, the NEP office makes it very clear that school jurisdictions cannot operate Native programs in isolation.

"Natives and parents must be involved," she states, "and if they are not, those jurisdictions do not meet the criteria and cannot tap into the money." She stressed that Native involvement must occur from the initial planning stages through to completion of the projects.

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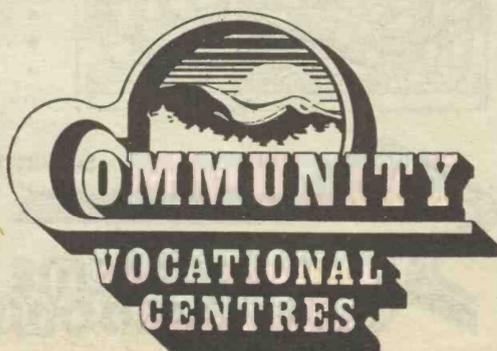
The Community Vocational Centres offers a wide range of courses and programs for the residents of North-Central Alberta.

Our commitment is to provide educational opportunities to adults in their own communities whenever possible.

Information on studies offered is contained in 1987/88 program calendar.

For your copy or future information please contact.

**Community Vocational  
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Phone: 849-7140**





## SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Jerome Bear

**F**all will soon be here and I hope that it will be better than summer, but the ball leagues are coming to a close and students, and parents alike, are looking forward to the school year.

The younger students in Goodfish Lake are hoping the summer would never end because they had fun in the summer playground program. The program consisted of seven high school students who spent time with the kids to show them a good time.

They taught the kids arts and crafts, took them on field trips and swimming during the few nice days they had throughout the summer.

Recreation director Rene Houle said approximately 60 kids participated in the program. He added that from feedback it was successful.

"It couldn't have been done if it wasn't for the seven leaders," said Houle. "I wish to thank and congratulate them for a job well done."

The 'Bear' extends congratulations to these seven students for sharing their time and knowledge with the kids of their community and for making the program a success.

**GOODFISH LAKE:** The second Annual Labour Day Ball Classic will be held September 4-5 and it will include a men's baseball, a men's fastpitch and a women's fastpitch tournament.

They will be accepting eight teams for the baseball tournament which has a total of \$2,000 in prize money. The entry fee is \$250 per team and the entry fee is non-refundable.

Prize money will be based on how many games a team wins. If a team wins the first game, they will receive \$150, if the same team wins their second game, they will receive another \$250, and if they win the final game, they will receive an additional \$350 and the Championship trophy.

In the consolation bracket, if a team wins their first game, they receive \$150 and if they win the final game, they will receive \$250 to give them a total of \$400 for winning the consolation.

The men's fastball tournament will have a total of 12 teams and the entry fee will be \$250. There will be two divisions in this section, division A acting as the championship round and division B acting as the consolation round. First place will receive \$1,100 and the championship trophy, second will receive \$700 and third place will receive \$400 (in the A division).

First place in the B division will receive \$500 and second place will receive \$300.

The women's fastball section will have a total of eight teams participating and the entry fee is also \$250. It will be a double knock-out format, meaning a team who loses two games is out of play. The first place winners

will receive \$1,000 and a championship trophy, second place will receive \$600 and the third place team will receive \$400.

The umpires for the baseball tournament will be supplied by the Alberta Baseball Umpires Association and the fastball tournaments will be supplied by the Alberta Softball Umpires Association.

There will be free camping for the teams and fans at the beach and at the ball diamond, so if you want to save money, bring your tents along.

"Part of the success will be because of the support we are receiving from the local leagues and fans," said Houle. "Also, we are getting teams from all over the province."

This summer was the first time that Goodfish Lake had a mixed slowpitch league and for their first year, they had a total of six teams. Both young and old, formed a team and played against each other. Well, the league is now over for the summer and the Twin Creek Sucker Heads won the league title.

"It gives the people a chance to get out and have fun with each other and it also gives them something to do during the evenings," said Rene Houle.

Houle said he would like to congratulate the Sucker Heads in their win and he hopes everyone will be back next year to play in the league.

"It wouldn't have been as successful if it hadn't have been for the teams' sportsmanship and their help," added Houle. "I hope it will be just as successful in the future summers."

**GRANDE PRAIRIE:** Softball leagues are coming to a close quickly throughout Alberta including the Grande Prairie Phantom mixed slowpitch team who won first in their division but lost semi-finals of the league to the Chance team.

The Phantoms were to play a best out of three game series against Chance on different days, but decided to play all three games August 12. They started the first game at 6 p.m. and after playing 19 innings, they finished the third game at 10:15 p.m. The Phantoms lost the first game 8-7, won the second game 18-7 and lost the third game 11-4.

"Our team was just tuckered out in the last game," said team member Mark Calliou.

"It got so dark, we just had to stop playing because we couldn't see the ball," said Calliou.

I bet they all slept well that night. The 'Bear' is sorry that you didn't win, but as long as you had fun, you'll always have next year.

The Grande Prairie Falcon mixed slowpitch team went to a tournament in Sturgeon Lake August 15 and 16 and won the B division. Also, the Lady Falcons' fastpitch team won the B division title in the Wild Rose Ladies Fastball League.

# Ball league season playoffs signal end of summer

Some of the players from the Lady Falcons' team and from two other teams formed a team called the Combos so they could compete in a tournament at the Canadian Forces Station in Beaverlodge. They won their first game and then lost their next two games.

**HOBBERMA:** The Hobbema Cree Nation's fastball tournament will be held August 22 and 23 and there will be 24 men's and women's teams competing. The entry fee is \$250 per team and there will be cash prizes for the winners.

There is a basketball camp August 26-28 in the Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre in Hobbema. There are two sessions a day, one from 1-4 p.m. for 15-year olds and younger, and 6-9 p.m. for 16-year olds and older.

The camp is organized by the Alberta Basketball Association and will feature basketball fundamentals, the rules and playing procedures. The evening sessions will consist of lessons of dribbling, rebounding, defensive and offensive strategies. The fee for the camp is \$15 per person and includes a one day tournament August 29. For more information, call Lorna Lenz at 423-9115.

**BLACKFOOT RESERVE:** Ken Larson, member of the Canadian Men's Basketball team, will be the head instructor for a basketball camp to be held August 24-27. The fee is \$75 per person and includes free room and board and a T-shirt complete with camp logo. The students won't only be learning about basketball, they will also go swimming and horseback riding. If you would like to attend the camp call Rick Running Rabbit at 734-3070.

Labour Day weekend on the Blackfoot reserve will be quite sporting if you like to play golf and softball. First, there will be a golf tournament September 4 at the Siksika golf course. The entry fee is \$25 per person and this includes a steak dinner. Prizes will be awarded to the winners in the men's, women's, junior's, senior's and open divisions. The tournament is a non-sanctioned tournament. For more information, call Rick at 734-3070.

A slowpitch tournament will be held in Cluny from September 4-6. The tournament is being held by the Siksika Mixers and they are only taking the first ten teams. So far, they have six teams and the entry fee is \$150 per team. Two of the rules are that you must have no more than 15 players on your team and; there must be four girls on the field at all times. For more information, call Flora at 734-3862.

The Windspeaker ball team will be at Kehewin to compete in the slowpitch tournament. We hope to do well, but most important, we hope to have fun. For more on this weekend's activities, read next week's issue. Have a nice week! This is the 'Bear' signing off...

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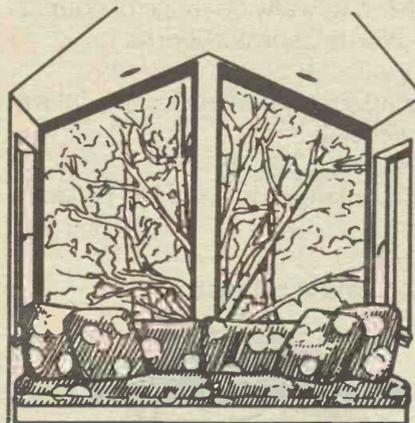
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## Fort McKay Band

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828-4220

### Band Manager

The Fort McKay Indian Band is a community of 300 people, located north of Fort McMurray and heavily impacted by the oil sands projects of Suncor and Syncrude, is seeking a qualified individual to co-ordinate and manage its affairs.

The incumbent, working closely with the Chief and Council, will maintain established administrative and financial procedures while promoting and developing staff skills and awareness for organizational structure and program delivery. Enhanced community awareness and participation will be an ongoing responsibility area.

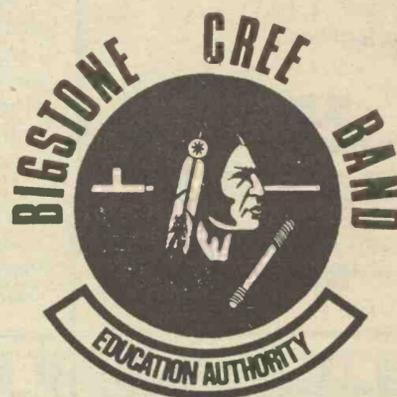
The successful candidate will have demonstrated skills in organizational and staff development as well as sound knowledge of administrative and financial management. Ability to speak a Native language and knowledge of government programs and services will be a definite asset.

Salary and benefits negotiable and commensurate with qualifications.

Applications with resume should be addressed to:

**Chief Jim Boucher**  
c/o Fort McKay Indian Band  
Box 5360  
Fort McMurray, Alberta  
T9H 3G4

Applications will be received until August 26, 1987.



## CERTIFIED TEACHER Required, E.C.S./Kindergarten School Program For 87/88 School Year

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

The Bigstone Cree 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 12th year of operation, the school will cater to about (25 four year olds) and (22 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; may 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 and a janitor.

**Salary:** Commensurate with education and experience; competitive within the Northland School Division #61, regional salary levels.

**Deadline:** August 28, 1987; September 1-4, 1987 - interviews of applicants; September 21, 1987, school year commencement.

Please send complete resume and at least three (3) letters of reference to:

**H. Adrian Yellowknee, Director of Education**  
Bigstone Cree Band - Education Authority  
General Delivery  
DESMARAIS, Alberta  
T0G 0T0

Phone: (403) 891-3825/891-3980 if additional information is needed.

# Culture

## Hand-made drums

### Passing on the tradition

By Diane Parenteau

FROG LAKE — For more than 30 years Andrew Abraham of the Frog Lake reserve has been making drums. Hand held drums and large powwow drums that sound out the dancers heartbeat. Abraham shapes oval hand formed frames, covered tightly with white dried skins stretched and laced.

"The first one I made, I was 15-years old," said Abraham. "Ever since then I've been making them."

The art of making drums was passed down to him by his father.

"He used to show me when I was a kid. I kind of worked with him to show me how to handle the wood and where to get it," said the 46-year old Frog Lake born artist.

Summertime is a little

slow for drum construction as Abraham prefers to work during the winter months when hides are plentiful and logs used for frames will freeze.

"You have to use the right kind of wood," said Abraham. "You know what they are and have no problem." He uses black poplar, spruce and birch, gathering them around marshes and sloughs.

The roundness of the frame is obtained by soaking the wood in boiling water and forming it while still warm and wet.

"They get pretty hot in your hands when you're working with them," said Abraham rubbing together his palms as he talks about the heat.

Thinking back to his father's time and before, Abraham remembers the old ways.

"Back then they used to

make holes and lace the ends together."

Although he enjoys molding frames, Abraham doesn't relish cleaning and skinning hides.

"The only part I don't like is taking the hair off." To make the task easier, the hides are put into garbage bags for 2 or 3 nights. They sweat and the hair comes off easier.

"If you have them in there too long, they'll rot. You have to know what you're doing," added Abraham.

Both sides of the large drums are snugly laced with soft clean skins. The thick hides sound lower and last longer. Moose, deer, cattle and even mountain sheep hides all work for drums and although Abraham has never tried it, he says beaver pelts also work.

Abraham makes anywhere from 50 to 60 drums each winter and as many as 10 in one week when special orders are received. He proudly admits selling drums to people in Saskatchewan, the United States and "all over."

Making drums is a task that Abraham confesses is hard at times because of his increasing age. But it is an art form he feels must be continued by the next generation.

"It has to be passed on to somebody. What we've done, we'd like to see it kept going, not have it fall down slowly until it's lost.

### Dancers return to Frog Lake powwow

By Diane Parenteau

FROG LAKE — Not since the summer of 1984 has the sound of the drum been heard through the trees. Children who had almost forgotten the bone chilling cries of the singers, heard them ringing clearly overhead. White tipis, once again provided shelter from the elements. Young dancers, whose costumes sat untouched dressed proudly as they performed the intricate steps and turns of fancy and shawl dances.

It was the tenth powwow ever held at Frog Lake and the first in three years. The event attracted more than 200 dancers and a dozen drum groups from across western Canada and the USA.

In contrast to many powwow sites, the Frog Lake powwow was held under "the big top," because of fear that the skies would open up.

For the first time since the last Frog Lake powwow, junior dancers performed for their parents and grandparents, participating in a cultural event comparable with few others.

Fourteen year old Keesa Moyah, the crowned 1987 Frog Lake powwow princess, said she did it for her grandfather.



KEESA MOYAH

...presented with crown, flowers and gifts

"I wanted to make my grandfather proud of me," said Moyah who was raised by 80-year old Alex Moyah. The princess was presented with a jeweled crown, flowers and a gift.

Other contestants were Violet Berland, 14, Diane Moyah, 16, Loretta Quinney, 15, and Rose Marie

Stanley, 16, all of Frog Lake.

Raven haired Keesa Moyah will represent the Frog Lake reserve at remaining powwows this year and next summer. If, for some reason, she is unable to fulfill her responsibilities, runner up Diane Moyah will replace her.

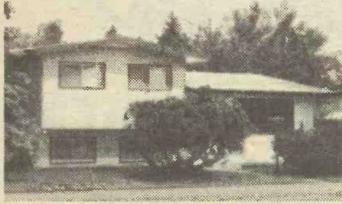
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# Olympic contract goes to Blackfoot company

As a three-time Olympic winner, Francis Many Bears is proud.

Though she didn't actually compete or bring home any medals, she did win the rights to be the official manufacturer of three olympic products.

Many Bears selected five of her company's handmade items to compete for olympic rights for production. Placemats, an apron, a two in one cushion/handbag, a quilt and a doll were the five products she entered.

With the exception of the last two items, her products were selected over the 170 other handicrafts made by entrants vying for production rights.

"I was really excited when I heard they had selected one of my items," said Many Bears, manager of Early Thunder Creations. "But when I heard they had selected three of my items, I just couldn't believe it."

With the quality and detail Early Thunder Creations employees put into each article produced, it is not surprising that they were so successful.

Each olympic article depicts the familiar five circle logo as well as a stylized

maple leaf. In addition, Many Bears' creations also have traditional Native designs, all created by her husband and local artist Al Many Bears.

"It is actually through my husband that I got into this business," explains Many Bears. Early Thunder Creations began with Many Bears selling prints of her husband's work in malls and at handicraft shows.

"I started by getting 100 to 200 prints of his work made," she said. "Then I went to the Harry Hayes building, got permission and set up right there."

Many Bears then arranged for media attention and had one of her most successful shows. Meanwhile, Al Many Bears was constantly working on his art and added silk screening to his talents.

It was just a matter of time before the talents of the two would be combined to create handicrafts ranging from pillows and quilts. Al would create the art designs and Francis would sew them into beautiful hand crafted pieces.

Expansion meant money, though, and that was one thing they didn't have.

"We did really well at the



**FRANCIS MANY BEARS**  
...quilts get OCO nod

shows, but we never seemed to make enough to grow into our own business," explained Many Bears. Using her initiative, Francis approached Indian Affairs requesting the use of an old windowless and bathroomless building located next to the school

on the reserve by Cluny.

"We got the building, but we still needed money to buy supplies and get started," she said. "We were having trouble convincing the band council to give us the money. But Cathy Calf Robe, a band employment officer, spoke

up for us and convinced them."

In September of '86, Early Thunder received \$62,000 operating expenses for the first six months and were on their way to a successful business. It was in December of '86 that Many Bears submitted an application into the olympic handicrafts competition.

With expansion potential on her mind, Many Bears secured a government grant and in February of 1987 Early Thunder took on Margaret Best, vice-president of the Alberta Craft Council, as a consultant.

"I looked at the company's work before taking on the position and was really impressed. I know this had great potential," Best said. Her role with the company is to advise and direct, using her experience to make Early Thunder a successful business venture.

One of her first actions was to sit down with Many Bears and Early Thunder's five staff members and decide what items would be entered into the olympic competition.

"We got a list of items

already entered into the competition from OCO," said Best. "Between that and the staff meeting we decided on the five items."

Early Thunder is well into the production of their olympic items trying to keep up with a steady stream of orders and inquiries.

Their largest order yet has gone to Head-Smashed-In Provincial Park. But requests for their products are coming from Edmonton, Lethbridge and there is an active interest in Calgary.

"I think we may have to get extra staff soon," said a delighted Many Bears. But immediate plans for Early Thunder are the installation of windows and a wash-room into the building -- thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the government. "Right now we have to go to another building," laughed Many Bears.

If the business generated from the olympic manufacturing rights continues to grow, Many Bears may be forced to move her company to another building. And it will not only have to have bathrooms, it must be large enough to accommodate her expanding enterprise.

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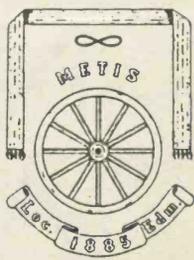
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 **THE CITY OF CALGARY PUBLIC NOTICE**

**INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ABORIGINAL URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Each year at its Organizational Meeting in October, City Council appoints citizens to its various boards, commissions and committees.

Applications from persons who would be willing to sit on the City of Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee for the year 1987 are requested. In some instances City Council may re-appoint members who wish to continue to serve, therefore the number of appointments shown does not necessarily reflect the number of new appointees.

Applicants may be requested to submit to a brief interview by City Council. Particulars on the Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee are as follows:

Citizens to be Appointed	Term of Appointment	Total Number of Members	Meetings Held	Approximate Length of Meetings	Regular Time of Meetings
11	1 year	14	Monthly (1st Wednesday)	2 hours	4:30 p.m.

Your application should state your reason for applying and service expectations. A resume of no more than two 8 1/2" x 11" pages should be attached stating background and experience. Please mark envelope "Committees".

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 4:30 P.M., 1987 SEPTEMBER 18.**

Applications should be forwarded to: City Clerk, City of Calgary, P.O. Box 2100, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to telephone 268-5861.

Joyce E. Woodward, City Clerk

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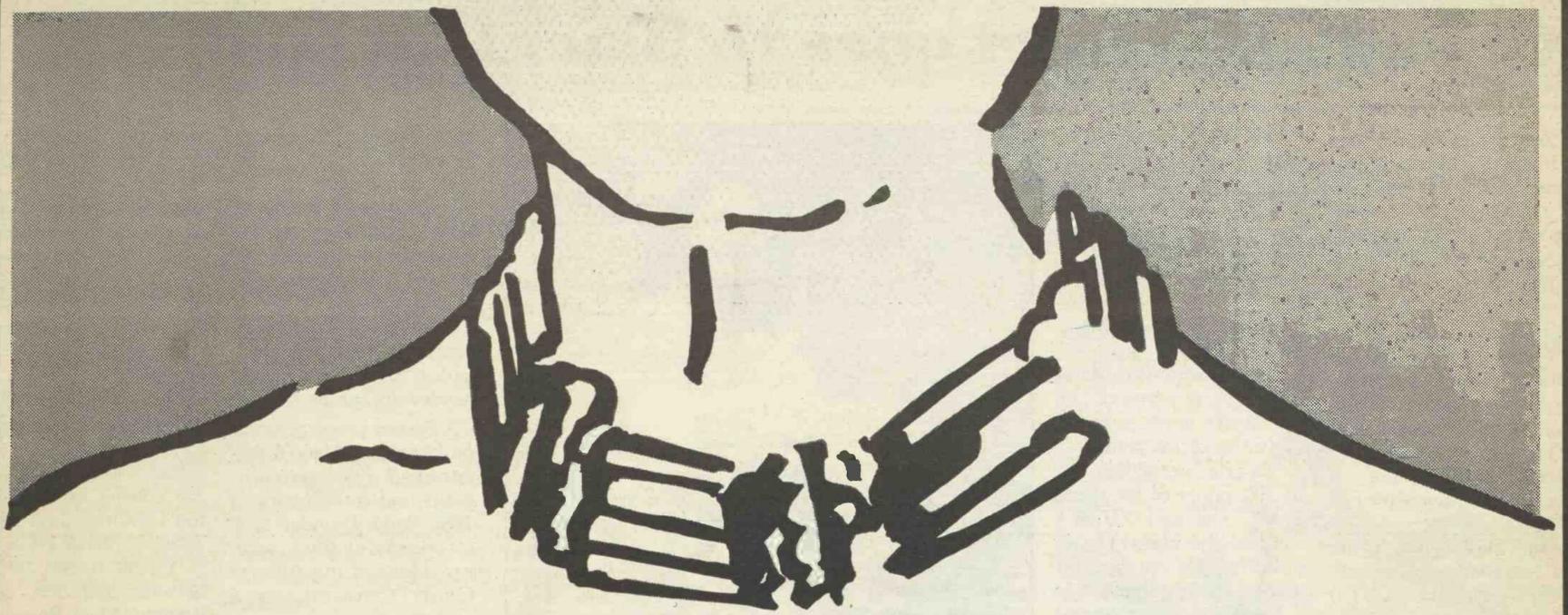
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