



"To give a voice to the vision of the Anishinabek Nation."

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## Whitefish River gift

On behalf of Whitefish River First Nation, council member George Francis presented Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee with a mounted eagle during the annual general assembly of the Anishinabek Nation in Fort William First Nation. Madahbee said the gift would be on display in the newly-constructed hub at the Union of Ontario Indians offices on Nipissing First Nation.

—Photo by Laura Pudas

## Ontario losing momentum?

TORONTO – Amnesty International is urging the Province of Ontario to ensure that momentum is not lost in fulfilling its promised commitment to fully implement the recommendations of Ipperwash Inquiry.

The Inquiry – which looked into the factors leading to the September 1995 police shooting of an Indigenous protestor, Dudley George, during a land occupation at Ipperwash Province Park – issued its conclusions and recommendations three years ago on 1 May 31, 2007.

The report stated that "the single biggest source of frustration, distrust, and ill-feeling among Aboriginal people in Ontario is our failure to deal in a just and expeditious way with breaches of treaty and other legal obligations to First Nations."

## IN BRIEF

### Toronto claim settled

TORONTO – Citizens of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation have voted nearly unanimously in favour of an historic \$145 million land claims settlement with the federal government pertaining to land in Toronto and Burlington, Ont.

The settlement resolves two land claims: the Toronto purchase of 1805, which included some 250,000 acres of land, and the Brant Tract purchase of 1797, which included 3,450 acres of land.

### Nation-to-nation: NDP

OTTAWA – The New Democratic Party supports a nation-to-nation relationship with First Nations in Canada. Leader Jack Layton highlighted four priorities that the NDP's vision will build on: forging new partnerships with nation-to-nation dialogue; fostering opportunity and prosperity with economic development in aboriginal communities; challenging discrimination; and healing past wrongs.

### Chippewa Travellers win Idol contest

After ten rounds and thousands of online votes, Chippewa Travellers have won the Pow-Wow Idol competition.

Top prize includes being produced and recorded by DrumHop Productions, an invitation to the 2011 Gathering of Nations, 20 free nights at any Motel 6 in North America and being the host drum on the Pow-Wow Cruise. For more information visit [www.powwowidol.com](http://www.powwowidol.com).

## Point-of-sale tax exemption stays in place

UOI OFFICES –The good news is that First Nations have won a hard-fought battle to retain their point-of-sale tax exemption in Ontario, says Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee.

"But our concern is that in this day and age we should be put in a situation where we are negotiating our treaty and inherent rights. We are allies of the Crown - not subjects. And we will continue to insist that Canada uphold their own court rulings that they must consult us and accommodate our interests in all matters that affect us and our traditional territories."

Madahbee praised citizens of the 40 Anishinabek Nation communities for their steadfast resistance to government efforts to impose the new 13% Harmonized Sales tax against them effective July 1.

"It was our demonstrations of solidarity and plans for more peaceful direct action that convinced Canada they should not cross the line we drew in the sand," said Madahbee. "My most sincere thanks to our Elders, men, women and youth warriors."

Anishinabek and other First Nations negotiators succeeded in securing an agreement June 17 from federal Finance Minister James Flaherty that would see First Nations citizens continue to receive exemptions from paying the 8% Provincial Sales Tax on all off-reserve purchases, effective September 1, 2010. In the interim, the provincial and federal governments have promised a refund system of the PST on receipts submitted by First Nations citizens.

Under the agreement:

- First Nations citizens will be exempt at the point of sale from off-reserve purchases, upon showing their status card from September 1st onward. The two month delay is to enable retailers and governments to make the necessary changes to their systems to accommodate the exemption;

- Ontario and the federal government will be releasing in the coming days a Technical Backgrounder/Bulletin describing the scope and procedures for the First Nation point of sale exemption;

- For the months of July and August, First Nation citizens will be reimbursed the provincial portion of the HST upon the submission of receipts. Ontario will be releasing shortly a Memo/Bulletin outlining the procedures for the refund.

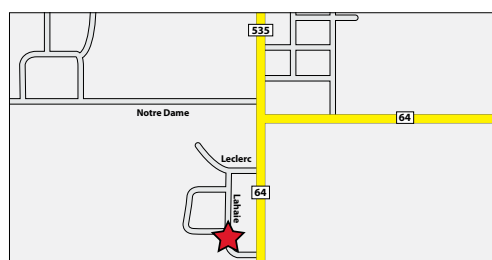
"I am pleased that we, as First Nations, came together in unity on this issue," says Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee. "This clearly shows that others will listen when we speak in a collective voice."

Madahbee was also appreciative of the willingness of Ontario to work with First Nations in the province on substantive issues.

"We went to the table with the federal government, and I hope this relationship continues."

But the Grand Council Chief reserved most of his praise for Anishinabek Nation citizens whose voices and actions brought the provincial and federal governments to the negotiating table on the eve of the G8 and G20 summits in the province.

See 'Communities' on page 2



All courses to be held at "École secondaire de la Rivière-des-Français" 11 Lahaie Street, Noëlville, Ontario, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To obtain more information on materials required and to register for these courses, please call Collège Boréal at 705-753-5420 or 1-800-361-6673 ext. 5313.

## ART AND CULTURE COURSES SUMMER 2010 COURSES

Ojibway Moccasin Making July 10-11 July 17-18  
Stepping Into Freedom, Healing the Broken Spirit July 5-9 July 12-16  
Scoring for the Real World, Composing & Scoring for Film & Television Aug 3-6  
Drawing Fundamentals July 5-9  
Character Design Fundamentals (Characters for animation July 12-16  
Layout Background Fundamentals for Animation July 19-23  
Animation Fundamentals July 26-30  
Landscape for Beginners (acrylic) July 24-25  
Details in Wildlife, Watercolour & Pencil July 17-18  
Traditional First Nations Painting in Acrylic July 5-9  
First Nations Soapstone and Moose Antler Carving July 12-16  
First Nations Totem Pole Carving July 19-23  
Enjeux et Survie Jun 1 - Jul 2  
French as a Second Language June 1 - July 2nd



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## Communities spoke out

(Continued from Page one)

"I think of the people who stood out on the highway on a cold February day in Pic Mobert; the youth from Wikwemikong who took it upon themselves to block traffic along Highway 17 Garden River First Nation's toll booth signs; protests in Fort William and Red Rock; all of the First Nations along the Highway 69 corridor who slowed down traffic during the May long-weekend; Aamjiwnaang and Kettle and Stoney Point's community protests; Mississauga First Nation's road blockade; everyone who sent out postcards, letters, e-mails, faxes."

Madahbee singled out Chief Franklin Paibomsai ("Shining Turtle") and his community of Whitefish River First Nation for their persistence in getting a long-awaited response to the HST issue from Flaherty.

"Everyone who took part should feel very proud that they made a difference in defending their rights as First Nations citizens. I am in awe of their resolve."

## Granny protects future

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

SHAWANAGA FN – On the day before the first long weekend of the summer season over 150 peaceful protesters from half a dozen area First Nations gathered to for a traffic slowdown on busy Highway 69.

Grace Contin, a grandmother from Henvey Inlet First Nation, said it was important for her to continue fighting the tax, which effective July 1st would force First Nations citizens to pay upfront the combined Ontario Provincial Sales tax and federal Goods and Services Tax for all off-reserve purchases.

"The HST goes against the treaties and the 1763 Royal Proclamation," she said. "We need to keep protecting our rights for future generations. I want to see my grandchildren enjoy their rights."

## Trans-Canada blocked

By Laura Pudas

NIPIGON RIVER – Citizens of Red Rock Indian Band led a march of 300 people down the TransCanada Highway to demonstrate their concerns about government plans to illegally impose the 13% Harmonized Sales Tax on First Nations.

"We are just trying to do our part," said Chief Pierre Pelletier. "It is something that affects us very strongly, and if we are not out fighting it we are not doing our job in supporting ourselves, our community members, and our children."

Accompanied by drummers and singers, the protesters marched down highway 11/17 and right across the Nipigon River Bridge, which Chief Pelletier called the "artery of Canada", as it is the only place in the province that must be crossed in order to travel across the country.



Over 150 demonstrators from area First Nations slow down Victoria Day weekend traffic May 21st on Highway 69 near Shawanaga First Nation.

– Photo by Jennifer Ashawasegai



Like any lady, this anti-HST protestor at the Nipigon River Bridge doesn't go anywhere without her purse.

–Photo by Laura Pudas

## Beausoleil fishermen protected the water

By Sharon Weatherall

BEAUSOLEIL FN – Two Christian Island men involved in a First Nations fight to preserve the water were found dead after their fishing boat capsized on Georgian Bay June 16.

Beausoleil First Nation residents lit a Sacred Fire at Cedar Point shore for Gavin Jamieson, 21, and Matthew Elson, 26. Elson is the son of Beth Brass-Elson, a key organizer in the successful 2009 peaceful protest against Simcoe County's plans to establish Landfill Site 41 above a pure-water aquifer. Jamieson participated in the demonstrations and also served as a firekeeper.

A third man in the boat – 21-year-old Tyler Jackson -- swam to shore where he was treated and released.

The boat went down when a quick change in weather conditions generated 50-60 kph winds near an off-shore ridge that is up to 140 ft. deep.

Two fishermen were lost to the community 12 years ago, in similar circumstances.

An OPP spokesman said the incident was witnessed and called in by a cottager around 6 pm on June 16, launching an intensive land and marine search that lasted until 2 a.m. At daybreak over 40 volunteers joined Anishinabek Police and firefighters, OPP and Coast Guard in continuing the search. OPP Marine Unit and divers using ultrasonic equipment and com-

munity volunteers scoured area waters in smaller boats and on the passenger ferry "Indian Maiden".



Robert Monague prepares a sacred fire on the shore of Cedar Point.

## Featured hotels



## Radisson Suite Hotel

This month the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity recommends the Radisson Hotel at Pearson International Airport. This excellent hotel is located just off the 401 westbound. The Radisson includes a business floor with access to computers and printers.

Restaurants along the hotel entrance include Casey's, Milestones, two Tim Hortons, Subway, Swiss Chalet and a convenience store.

Your access to downtown is the first exit off the 401 westbound to 427 southbound to the Gardiner Expressway.

Call 1-800-333-3333 and give code client id# 63522 to make a reservation at the Toronto Pearson International Airport site.

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(Proceeds go to Child Welfare Law Development)

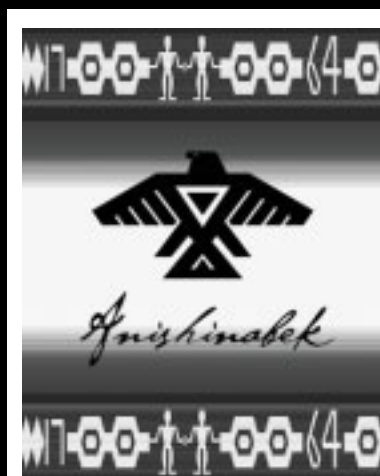
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# ANISHINABEK

## Project digging for trust

By Julie Kapyrka

CURVE LAKE FN – A pilot project has involved archaeologists and First Nations peoples working together in mutual trust and respect.

During the early weeks of Ziisbaakdoke-giizis (March) representatives from the seven Williams Treaty First Nations and several members of the Association of Professional Archaeologists convened for a week-long training session and learning circle regarding archaeological practice and procedure in Ontario.

Hosted by Curve Lake First Nation, this significant gathering included member representatives from Beausoleil First Nation, Georgina Island First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, and Curve Lake First Nation. Although there were no trainees from Mnjikaning/Rama First Nation present, member Ned Benson actively participated in several days of the training program.

Elders and Traditional Teachers also participated in the pro-



Trainee Tracey Taylor look for artifacts in her screen while archaeologists Laurie Jackson, Cathy Crinnion, and Mike Henry watch on.

gram, which was offered over five days, and included classroom discussions as well as experiential activities, such as screening soil and uncovering artifacts. Learning was facilitated through both Indigenous and Western methodologies including prayer, song, oral history, lectures and workshops.

The Association has secured funding from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation to provide stipends to the liaisons-in-training and organized two hands-on training sessions in May.

"Our Ancestors are a very important part of our past culture, heritage and language, and so they should be honoured and preserved as such, just like our culture, heritage and language of

today," said Ellie Big Canoe, an archaeology trainee from Georgina Island First Nation.

Organizers said their goal was to build new relationships between archaeologists and First Nations peoples and to work together to develop a more ethical archaeological practice in Ontario.

"It is so important for us to be thinking about traditional perspectives on history, culture, importance of tradition, respect for the ancient ones and the teachings they have left behind for us in the soil," said Cathy Crinnion, APA Executive.

*Julie Kapyrka is a PhD Candidate in Indigenous Studies at Trent University.*



Paul Shilling and 'Buffalo Child'.

## Shilling paints haunting faces

By Sharon Weatherall

COLLINGWOOD – Rama First Nation artist Paul Shilling has been haunted by faces since early childhood – faces of the living, the dying and of rebirth.

Painting since 1980, Shilling puts oil to canvass, creating the images he sees and expressing himself through vivid colour. The bright reds, yellows, oranges and teal blue identify his individual art style and emotions, which are ever evolving.

For three weeks this spring, Shilling's show "Spirit and Paint" – illuminated the walls of the Blue Mountain Foundation of the Arts gallery in Collingwood.

The artist sees masks and layers in his faces and is fascinated at what is underneath. He paints the images of ideas that he sees and which often come to him in visions.

"A lot of them are parts of me, I use myself as a model," said Shilling who uses his creative talent as a medium for healing, for celebrating the spirit and as a gift. "It is an opportunity to explore and understand myself, and my place and relationship within the circle of creation."

As an aboriginal man, Shilling feels the need to shed the image that was taught to him as a child that he was undesirable, shameful and unworthy. He expresses himself through haunting images coming deep from inside – an inner voice and inner eye of energy that guides him through the great house of invention and spring to life on canvass in colourful visual messages with intense meaning.

Shilling says he is very connected to his past and involved in ceremonies -- through his art he is seeking to heal himself and others. He says the masks universally are all the same yet what is underneath is utterly unique and seeks expression.

"The many personas that we create keep us from knowing who we really are. Energy goes into self protection and self-denial, instead of self liberation," said the artist who, even relaxing, stands over six feet tall. "The child, the adult, the elder all live simultaneously inside of us and are wrapped in the blanket of our spirit. Their voices are muted, their cries for recognition unheard. Yet still the un-destructible spirit tries to emerge, to be felt, heard and seen. There are few who can actually show their true self."

Shilling finds painting therapeutic. It is in his studio at Rama that he is at peace, in his element and in tune with his creative flow. While he studied art at Georgian College in the early 90's, Shilling professes to be mainly self-taught and informed through his own life experiences.

The Ojibway artist comes from an impressive family of artists spanning four generations, including his late brother, the highly-acclaimed painter Arthur.

## Melodies followed the land

By Jennifer Ashawasegai

Digging Roots picked up a Juno award for Best Aboriginal Album of the Year at this year's ceremonies in St. John's, Newfoundland.

The fantastic duo, ShoShona Kish and Raven Kanatakta and their band are based in Barrie and won the Juno for their recent album 'We Are'.

Kish says she was excited to have been nominated and the most thrilling part didn't just come when their names were announced for the Juno. She says, "it wasn't them actually saying our name, it was the whole package of the anticipation of them announcing it."

The spotlight wasn't always on the young duo whose music is roots and blues based. They have both worked hard at their craft.

An Algonquin, Kanatakta has been playing most of his life, since he was about three or four years old, and began his career seriously at just 13.

It's apparent how much they love their jobs because they have such a passion for their music. Kanatakta says he absolutely



Digging Roots: ShoShona Kish, citizen of Batchewana First Nation and Raven Kanatakta is Haudenosaunee from Winneway, Quebec.

loves what he does and wonders at it all, especially on the road. He says, "Sometimes when we're travelling to these amazing places, I step back and try to take it all in, and I think, WOW, this is my life?!"

"My job puts me in so many different situations and its always changing. No two days are ever the same."

As much as he loves travelling, Kanatakta also loves the solitude of creating in studio. Kanatakta says Digging Roots music is about positive change and dreaming about what can be accomplished. "Truth," he says, is what he wants to share with people through the music. "It's okay to speak our truth, it's good to tell our stories, it's powerful to give voice to our struggles and our hope."

Perhaps the coolest things about the album 'We Are', is how it was created. Kish says they were inspired by teachings from her great aunt. Her great aunt told Kish, a long time ago, music was composed based on the contours of the land and the visual rise and fall would become the melody. So, Kish says, "We took a whole bunch of pictures and made these things called song maps and that became the basis for all the song writing on the record."

Kanatakta has advice for youth wanting to get into the music industry, "Work hard at your craft every day and then work at least as hard at your business. To be a musician you have to be an entrepreneur and understand your industry. Have a business plan and a marketing plan."

## Rachel joins UOI team

Rachel McKee is the newest addition to the Union of Ontario Indians custodial staff. Rachel grew up on Bear Island and has two children: Maegan, 12 and Liam 7. Her husband Pete is an officer with Temagami OPP. Rachel has experience in health promotion and safety – she even has her training in child seat installation!

She is excited to be living in North Bay and is a tremendous asset to the UOI team.



Rachel McKee

Rachel joins long-time staff member Doug Couchie to look after the maintenance of the UOI offices which have grown over the past year.



## ANISHINABEK NEWS

The Anishinabek News is a monthly publication of the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI). Views expressed are not necessarily the opinion or political position of the UOI.

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## PUBLISHING CRITERIA

## GOAL

To publish a quality newspaper and related publications designed to foster pride and share knowledge about Anishinabek current affairs, culture, goals, and accomplishments.

## OBJECTIVES

To provide information that reflects the Creator's four original gifts to the Anishinabek:

**Respect:** To welcome diversity and encourage a free exchange of opinions that may differ without being disagreeable. Fair and humorous comments are welcomed, but not ridicule or personal attacks.

**Honesty:** Debwewin – speaking the truth – is the cornerstone of our newspaper's content.

**Sharing:** Providing opportunities for people from the four corners of the Anishinabek Nation to tell stories and record achievements, and to keep our citizens informed about activities of the Union of Ontario Indians.

**Strength:** To give a voice to the vision of the Anishinabek Nation that celebrates our history, culture and language, promotes our land, treaty, and aboriginal rights, and supports the development of healthy and prosperous communities.

## Advertising &amp; News Deadlines

The current circulation of the Anishinabek News is 10,000 copies, with 9,000 mailed and 1,000 distributed at various events.

## DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUG

## Advertising

Bookings: June 22

Final Art: July 8

## News

News submissions: June 22

For more information or inquiries to the Anishinabek News related to advertising and circulation issues please call our Toll-free number: 1-800-463-6408

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## MAANDA NDINENDAM / OPINION

## Library has lots to say about Mike Harris

They say it would be a strange world if everybody held the same opinions, but it can also be pretty weird when they don't.

For instance, I have learned that my notion of who deserves public tributes is on a completely different wave length than that of no less a personage than North Bay Mayor Vic Fedeli.

I had the distinction of asking the last question of the year on Fedeli's cable-TV call-in program in June. As a marketing expert who is so conscious about maintaining positive images, I wanted to know, what His Worship thought about the controversy that erupted after the university announced it was bestowing an honorary degree on former Ontario premier Mike Harris?

The mayor opined as to how sad he was to see all the commotion after word leaked out that Harris's name might be attached to a new library being built at the university campus, followed by an announcement that he would become an honorary Doctor of Letters on June 11. He said he couldn't think of a better example of someone who should be recognized in this way.

\* \* \* \*

When it opens its doors, the new campus library will house a magnificent collection of resources which will be available to students of both Canadore College and Nipissing University. Included will be a copy of The Canadian Encyclopedia, which contains the following entry under Harris, Michael Deane:

"Harris was sworn in as premier of Ontario on 26 June 1995 and immediately launched his conservative agenda. He cut income taxes by 30% over three years, closed hospitals, shifted welfare responsibilities to the local governments, cut education spending, repealed labour laws and began a program of urban amalgamation by forcing together an immense Greater Toronto. Under Harris, Ontario retreated from its traditional role as a national unifier and relations between Ottawa and Ontario sank to a low point.

"Harris's second term in office lacked the dynamism of the first, and the premier



Maurice Switzer

resigned before its end. The malaise of the period and the mounting criticism of spending cuts and the downloading of government services was reflected in, and symbolized by, the tragic contamination of the water supply in the small southern Ontario town of Walkerton, leading to the death of seven people and the illness of another 2300 in the spring of 1999. An inquiry into the causes under Justice Dennis O'Connor specifically faulted Harris's 1996 discontinuation of government laboratory testing services. O'Connor added that budget reductions at the Ontario ministry of the Environment made it less likely that improper practices in the Walkerton public utilities commission would be caught and corrected."

The Learning Library might also contain a copy of the report of the Ipperwash Inquiry, whose task it was to uncover why unarmed Chippewa protester Anthony Dudley George was shot and killed by police on the night of Sept. 6, 1995.

On the Labour Day weekend that Dudley George became the first person to die in a land claim dispute in Ontario in over a century, then-premier Harris – who worked as a golf pro in his formative North Bay years – was participating in events at the Canadian Open Golf Tournament in Oakville.

In his findings, Commissioner Sidney Linden wrote that, contrary to Harris's evidence, "...it is my view that Michael Harris made the statement 'I want the fucking Indians out of the park'" at a meeting of key cabinet members and staff on the day Dudley George was killed by an Ontario Provincial Police sniper. Justice Linden characterized

the premier's remark as "racist", and said the meeting at which the remark was made "was woefully lacking in transparency", noting that Harris did not disclose information about the meeting when questioned several times about it in the Legislature. The meeting was attended by two senior OPP officers.

Justice Linden added: "...the Premier's determination to seek a quick resolution closed off many options endorsed by civil servants in the Ontario government. His narrow approach to the occupation did not enable the situation to stabilize at the park."

\* \* \* \*

With this documentation of Harris's political legacy part of the written record, I was a bit startled when Mayor Fedeli was even more explicit about why the former premier merited public recognition.

"He was the premier ... and he was a local boy."

If the attainment of high political office is an achievement in itself, regardless of how leaders carry out their roles, I can think of several excellent opportunities for Canadians to honour citizens who have been extremely successful at the polls.

How about the Brian Mulroney Centre for the Study of Integrity in Political Office (donations in unmarked bills, only, please), or the Colin Thatcher Women's Shelter for victims of domestic violence?

A Mike Harris Learning Library doesn't seem so inappropriate in this context.

To give the ex-premier his due, since June 11 he should be referred to as Michael Harris, LL.D, although a reference text on academic honours says LTD is also acceptable.

LTD: long-term disability.

Works for me.

*Maurice Switzer is a citizen of the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation. He serves as director of communications for the Union of Ontario Indians and editor of the Anishinabek News.*

## A coat of paint makes the world seem better

We painted our house recently.

It used to be a dark brown and even though it fit well enough into the surrounding bush and mountain, it never really felt quite like the place where we live. So after working hard at renovating and refurbishing we finally got around to painting it.

Now it's a bright shade of red with blue shutters and white door and window trim. The steps are blue to match the shutters and we painted the garden shed to match the house. Now, when we come home it really feels like it's our home.

It was built 26 years ago by a half-blind Swede named Walter Jorgenson. He was 74 at the time. As a bachelor Walter never really saw the need for practical things like paint or updating wood, trim or flooring. When we bought it we knew there was a lot that could and should be done with it.

Everything we accomplished changed it and made it more suitable for our lives. We're



Richard Wagamese

simple folks really. We don't have expensive tastes or a need for big or flashy. We like simple comforts, charming things, homey and warm. The house reflects that now with its new coat of paint.

I still haven't gotten over walking around the yard looking at it. I feel proud. It amazes me how something as simple as a coat of paint can make something seem utterly new. We've lived in it for a few years now but that little house in the mountains feels different, more alive somehow.

I think a lot of things in life are like that. We come to understand or appreciate them

for what they seem or how we've come to know them. We convince ourselves that that's just the way it is. But when we see them in a different light, they take on new, exciting properties.

People are like that. So are situations. My people say that change is the one pervasive, ongoing universal law yet we're so often taken aback by it. Everything changes, even our perceptions of things.

Standing in our yard, looking at our new red house I think about that. Something as simple as a new coat of paint can make things new and splendid again. If we could change the way we see each other, as neighbours instead of strangers, our world would seem more suitable for our lives too.

*Richard Wagamese is Ojibway from Wabassewong FN in Northwestern Ontario. His novel Ragged Company and his collected memoir, One Native Life, are in stores now.*



# MAANDA NDINENDAM / OPINION



## LETTERS



### Why does Canada devalue Native kids?

As I write this letter my heart is breaking. I do not understand why Aboriginal children continue to be devalued in this beautiful rich country called Canada. I do not understand why all Canadians, yourself included continue to let this happen. You have a responsibility.

Canada is not listening to the National Chief or all of the Chiefs across Canada, if their voices were being heard, then it is obvious that the implementation of the HST would not be happening. Resolutions regarding education underfunding have been passed at many Chiefs in Assembly; with no results. Our children need every person in Canada to tell the current Prime Minister and the Government of Canada to make the changes needed to provide equality in education, health and child welfare.

Currently Pic River First Nation receives a grand total of \$660,663 to operate our education system; this includes everything, the daily classroom instruction, salaries and benefits, special education, minor capital, operation and maintenance. If we simply divide this amount by our total number of student units which is 81 (58 elementary plus 23 secondary), this works out to \$8,156.32 per student. If we were to have our children attend school in town, Canada would provide \$15,211.53 per elementary student and \$17,131.88 per secondary student. If this same money was provided to Pic River, we would see a budget of \$1,276,301.98. I do not understand why Canada will give the money to pay a School Board, (which is not native) to educate our children but will not provide the same rate of funding for a First Nation operated education system.

Pic River First Nation has spent in excess of \$ 1.1 million of Own Source Revenue to keep our school operating; in essence Pic River is bailing Canada out. This means there are fewer dollars for other First Nation initiatives, like roads, recreation, a new school, administration building, economic ventures, etc. Unfortunately, even with this investment of over a million dollars, we continue to see an accumulated deficit and this has placed us in the position where we have had to make drastic education staff reductions and programming cuts.

These cuts will have a detrimental effect on the education of our children and ultimately an effect on the future of Canada. I recall reading a report which stated an additional \$71 billion would be injected into Canada's economy if the education gap for aboriginals is closed by 2017. If we continue to cut our education programs, the education gap will only continue to widen and then where will we all be? If needed, Canada can view education in our young as an investment to benefit all of Canada.

**Cindy Fisher, Education Director  
Pic River First Nation.**

### Treaty Rights ignored

**Dear Prime Minister:**

I am writing this letter to state my feelings and opinion about the new Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) taking effect this July 2010.

As an aboriginal youth from Serpent River First nation, I believe that the HST does not acknowledge our First Nations Treaty Rights. The Robinson-Huron Treaty states that First Nation people do not have to pay taxes and that we are exempt from them. If you want Canada, our homeland to be at peace with each other, you must first gain peace with our First Nations.

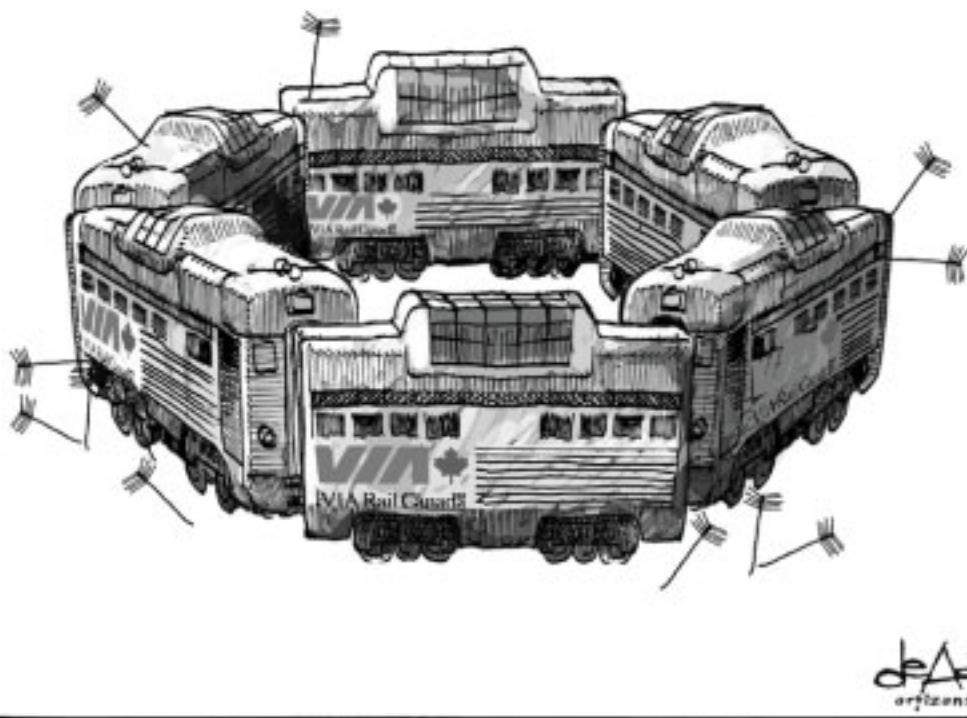
My treaty rights as an aboriginal are just as important as your rights and as important as the rights of every other Canadian that believes Canada is a great Nation in the world. If the HST does take effect on July 1, 2010, I can assure you that the First Nations of Canada will not be silent. We will not be walked all over and we will not let the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario take our Treaty Rights away from us.

I will personally stand by our community leaders, Chiefs, along with other First Nations people across Turtle Island. We will stand together as one Nation and we will achieve satisfaction. This is very important to me, my family, my community and my Naion. This impacts not only me and other First Nations people, but all people in the great province of Ontario and more importantly, our future generations who I am responsible for fighting for.

I am proud to be an aboriginal youth from Serpent River and I ask you to help me continue to be a proud Canadian!

**Quinn Meawasige  
Serpent River First Nation**

### CIRCLING THE WAGONS



## Bill C-3 will still discriminate

**Dear Members of Parliament:**

My name is Sharon McIvor. I am a Thompson Indian and a member of the Lower Nicola Band. I am the plaintiff in *McIvor v. Canada*, the section 15 constitutional challenge to the status registration provisions of the Indian Act. I am writing today to ask you to vote against Bill C-3, Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act.

According to the Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Bill C-3 will make about 45,000 people newly eligible for registration as Indians. But Bill C-3 will not end the sex discrimination in the status registration provisions of the Indian Act.

In 1989, I decided to challenge the sex discrimination in the registration provisions because, as a woman, I was not treated equally as a transmitter of status, and, as a result, my own children and grandchildren were ineligible for registered status. I also decided to challenge the sex discrimination because I was not unique. Many thousands of other Aboriginal women and their descendants are denied Indian status because of sex discrimination.

Since I began my constitutional challenge, the support has been overwhelming. It has come from every corner: from individual Aboriginal women and their children and grandchildren who have personally thanked me for fighting for them, from national and local Aboriginal organizations, from Bands, from many women's organizations, from unions, and from church groups. Organizations and individuals have raised money to help me, held events to educate themselves and others about

the continuing discrimination, and passed resolutions in their organizations to support me.

Women from Wendake, Quebec went on a 500-kilometre march to support the complete removal of sex discrimination from the registration provisions of the Indian Act. So far, they have the support of the Native Women's Association of Canada, the Assembly of First Nations, the Fédération des Femmes du Québec, and Amnesty International (section canadienne-francophone).

Many people in Canada, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, know that this is a struggle for justice and that the discrimination against Aboriginal women and their descendants should end.

But Bill C-3 does not end it. Like the 1985 legislation - Bill C-31, Bill C-3 will provide a remedy for some Aboriginal women and their descendants, but continue the discrimination against many more. Bill C-3 will still exclude: 1) grandchildren born prior to September 4, 1951 who are descendants of a status woman who married out; 2) descendants of Indian women who co-parented in common law unions with non-status men; and 3) the illegitimate female children of male Indians. These Aboriginal women and their descendants are only ineligible for registration as Indians because of the entrenched discrimination in the Indian Act, which has been fiercely held onto by Canada, despite years of protest

and repeated, damning criticisms by United Nations treaty bodies.

Bill C-3 will not even confer equal registration status on those who will be newly eligible. The grandchildren of Indian women who married out will only receive section 6(2) status, and never section 6(1) status. So even those who will be newly entitled to status under Bill C-3 will be treated in a discriminatory way because their Aboriginal ancestor was a woman, not a man. The "second generation cut-off" will apply to the female line descendants a generation earlier than it does to their male line counterparts.

Bill C-3 would benefit my own son and grandchildren. Nonetheless, I ask you to defeat Bill C-3 if it comes to a vote in the House of Commons. It is time for Canada to stop discriminating against Aboriginal women as transmitters of status. The Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Chuck Strahl, should replace Bill C-3 with legislation that will do this, finally and completely.

My own struggle has taken twenty years. Before me, Mary Two-Axe Early, Jeanette Corbière Lavell, Yvonne Bedard, and Sandra Lovelace all fought to end sex discrimination against Aboriginal women in the status registration provisions in the Indian Act. It has been about fifty years now. Surely this is long enough.

Please stand for justice and equality for Aboriginal women and their descendants.

Sincerely,

**Sharon McIvor  
Bearclaw@shaw.ca  
250-378-7479**



Sharon McIvor

# Aboriginal Ontario

## Open for Business

A Special Report on Economic Development



## Tourists get taste of Native culture

By Shady Hafez

OTTAWA – In the heart of Canada's capital there is a tourism company that has been working vigorously to educate Canadians and tourists about First Nations peoples and the diversity that exists among them.

Aboriginal Experiences has been operating on Victoria Island near downtown Ottawa since 2000. The company is based out of Pikwakanagan First Nation, and is owned by Trina Mather-Simard.

"We're trying to educate people about Aboriginal culture," says four-year employee Jason Mullins.

To accomplish this, Aboriginal Experiences invites to their island site groups of students, foreign tourists and anyone eager to learn and experience authentic First Nations culture. Visitors go inside traditional tipis, taste authentic Native foods, hear traditional songs and storytellers, and see dancers in full regalia.

Employees, who are from Anishnaabe, Mohawk, Oneida,

Naskapi, and Cherokee nations, say they want to offer an authentic experience and help eliminate stereotypes. All the performers have been dancing from a young age and regulars on the pow-wow trail.

"We're all grassroots people," says Rhonda Doxtator. "We're all community people and we do this as a part of our regular lives".

Aboriginal Experiences gained global recognition for their work at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. The company was chosen to provide catering services for the aboriginal pavilion, and dancers performed in the Ontario and Russian pavilions.

One setback has been the loss in fires over the past two years of replicas of traditional dwellings – a tipi, wigwam and the Iroquois Longhouse in which they did their performances – the work of suspected arsonists.

Demonstrations and performances now take place in a large tent – a viable, if not ideal option, says one employee. "People do not get the same feel as they used to. The longhouse maintained a traditional feel on the island".

With the summer tourist season beginning employees are hopeful that more tourists and groups come to enjoy what they have to offer, and optimistic that the economic downturn and impact on their offering by the fires will not have too great an economic impact.



Aboriginal Experiences staff : Jean-Philip Charron, Clayton Longboat, Jason Mullins, Rhonda Doxtator and Aryn Lesage at the Ottawa River on Victoria Island. Parliament Hill is in the background.

Aboriginal Experiences staff consider themselves to be an "inspirational" business which has demonstrated what a few talented people can achieve.

"People that come and move to this country can come here and learn about First Nations people," says Rhonda Doxtator. "They can learn it the way we want them to

learn it", she says, looking forward to another successful summer of educating Canadians and tourists about First Nations culture.



Economic Development Officer Randy Restoule gives Entrepreneur Award to Leonard and Shirley Dokis.

## Dokis honours entrepreneurs

By Andrea Crawford

DOKIS FN– In a first-ever celebration of entrepreneurship in Dokis First Nation, several local businesses and artisans were recognized for their spirited ambition and economic success.

Among the recipients at the March 31 event were long-time business owners Leonard and Shirley Dokis. As the owners of Riverview Cottages, Leonard Dokis described the struggles he and his wife have met and the triumphs they've achieved during their 40-year history in the tourism industry.

"We built up our business a little bit at a time, a new cabin one year, a new boathouse the next," said Dokis. "It's a lot of hard work, but we try to give our guests something new every year and it keeps them coming back."

A total of 20 businesses and eight artisans were recognized for their success and dedication to entrepreneurship within the community.

"You Can Succeed" was sponsored by Economic Partners Sudbury East-West Nipissing and Gezhtoojig Employment and Training based in Sudbury. Business Development Canada and Waubetek Business Development Corporation also participated in the event.

Keynote speaker was Deputy Grand Chief Glen Hare of the Anishinabek Nation, of which Dokis is one of 40 member communities.

## CALL FOR ARTISTS



## 1st Annual Native Woodland Peoples Art Market

### October 28, 29 & 30, 2010

We invite you to tell the story of Eastern Woodland Art and Culture. Join us at the traditional Woodland People's meeting place, Bawating the Place of the Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Our first gathering will be held at Kewadin Casino DreamMakers Theater. Spaces are limited, cash prizes in six categories, along with a best of show! Best of Show recipient will also receive "Featured Artist" display in the Bawating Art Gallery in Kewadin Casino.

**For information and your application  
call Mahdezewin International at 906-635-8227.**



# Social Services

To advocate on social issues affecting our people



Attending opening of Dilico Longlac District Office were, from left:: Garry Gustafson, Dilico board vice-president, Michael Power, Mayor of Greenstone, Allan Towegishig, Elder, Gilbert Legarde, Elder, Donald Auger, Dilico executive director.

## Dilico adds space in Longlac

LONGLAC– Dilico Anishinabek Family Care has opened a new district office.

“This new office enhances the quality of the work environment for our staff and provides us with the additional space we need to ensure we continue to deliver the best care possible to our children and families,” said Donald Auger, Executive Director of Dilico. “This space has brought all of our programs and services under one roof, whereas previously we had to offer some services out of different locations.”

At approximately 7200 square feet, Dilico’s new Longlac Office at 118 Forestry Road has almost doubled in size.

The new office provides office space for 23 staff members working in Dilico’s three core service areas of health, mental health and addictions, and child welfare. The new location now includes comfortable visiting areas for clients and their family members

and a medical/exam room. There is also room to accommodate staff that regularly travel to the area from Dilico’s other sites.

“Many of our children and families receiving services from our Longlac staff are from Long Lake #58 and Ginoogaming First Nations,” said Auger. “This spot in Longlac provides us with a central location that is accessible to our clients.”

Those in attendance at the May 18 grand opening included political dignitaries, Dilico board members, management, staff, community partners, and members of Ginoogaming and Long Lake #58 First Nations. Dilico’s Longlac staff hosted a BBQ luncheon and guided tours for community members and partners.

“I would also like to acknowledge and thank Long Lake First Nation Properties for working with our staff throughout the renovation process to ensure our needs were met,” added Auger.

## ASK HOLLY

BY HOLLY BRODHAGEN

askholly@gmail.com



## Home and native land

Whether the line of the national anthem was intended to mean it or not, my thoughts are always directed to our native lands as defined by the reserve. And that always sparks a long and complicated internal debate over what our native lands mean to us.

Is it an appreciation of the land that is in our trust? Is it a sense of belonging from knowing that our ancestors travelled across these lands? Can we feel a sense of connection to a land that we have been forced to occupy? Does this forced occupation limit our sense of pride and responsibility?

I often hear that, as Native people we have a responsibility to protect and care for the land in general. But I also hear many people who speak negatively about their reserve lands, its uselessness, the bad quality of the land in general and the destruction left behind by industry. Should our responsibility not begin where we reside?

On rare occasions, I have heard some people express a sense of pride in their community’s land, an appreciation of its beauty and the bounty that it provided to their families.

And that is where my thoughts lead. Why can we not feel that the land no matter how damaged or useless is a gift given to us to protect and care for? And with that protection and care comes a responsibility to revitalize that land and return it back to nature. It would seem that that next logical step is to take the opportunities presented to care for our community members while caring for the land.

Why can we not take some of the cleared land from the forestry industry and turn it into farm land? Or replant the mined land with a range of useful vegetations such as medicinal plants or produce. How about working on the expansion of naturally growing vegetation or wildlife that can boost the economy of the community? Sure, it might take extra time, effort and money to make it work but it would mean making the land work to the benefit of our communities.

That useless land might be a diamond in the rough. Think of the possibilities: it could become a tourist destination for wilderness buffs, team-building resort for businesses, a children’s camp or education centre. The community could become known as a producer of fine mushrooms, earthworms, medicinal plants, natural energy, water and the list goes on. Think of how that useless land can be converted to useful land. Research how to make it work and, if necessary, test out your idea on your own “private” slice of land. Look for interest and support from community members and motivate them.

Don’t let doubt limit possibility. Plant a tree, grow a garden, limit our impact on an already struggling environment and have some pride in our home and native land.

*Holly Brodhagen, citizen of Dokis First Nation, holds a Masters of Social Work degree.*

## Annual Meeting of the Corporation

## NOTICE OF MEETING

The annual meeting of the Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital Corporation will be held on Thursday, June 17th, at the HRSRH main campus. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.

**All members of the public are welcome to attend.**



HÔPITAL RÉGIONAL DE  
SUDBURY  
REGIONAL HOSPITAL

## Tribunal adjourned

OTTAWA – The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child Welfare scheduled for June 2-3 was adjourned.

At issue was Canada’s attempt to avoid a full and public hearing on a complaint filed in 2007 by the Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada alleging that Canada is racially discriminating against First Nations children and families by providing less child welfare benefit on reserves than other children enjoy.

The inequality has been linked to growing numbers of First Nations children in care driven there by inadequate and inequitable investments by the

Federal Government in services to keep children safely in their family homes.

This complaint was filed after ten years of working with Government to address the problem failed to resolve the inequality.

Canada has consistently tried to avoid a hearing on the merits using a legal loophole arguing that the Canadian Human Rights Act does not have jurisdiction to hear this complaint as what they characterize as “funding” is not a service within the meaning of the Canadian Human Rights Act. They tried twice, and failed to get the Federal Court to put the brakes on the tribunal hearing.

For more information visit [www.fnwitness.ca](http://www.fnwitness.ca).



# NISHNAABEWIN/CULTURE

## Her father's philosophy

By Shirley Williams

CURVE LAKE FN – In 1950 my father was fishing and as little girl I was naming all the things that I saw at the bottom of the lake. All of sudden my father said “You know, my daughter, the water is becoming cloudy that one cannot see like we use to. I see fish changing and fish washing ashore. The water is becoming dirty. Maybe in your time you will be buying water from stores, as water will become unclean.” Yes, I can see that this is happening in 2010!

1950, npapaba gii-paa-gii-goonke miinwaa niin, mii dash gii-ni-waawiindimaaba kina eteg naming gaa-waabdimaa. Gchi-shkwaaj go gii-giigda, “Gii-kendaan na, nbiish aapji eshkaam ni-wiinaagimi, gaawiin eshkaam gwaa-diziinaa gaa-waabdamong ko! Nwaabmaag giigoonyag ni-gwaagimowaad jiigibiig. Nbiish eshkaam ni-wiinaagimi. Gwinimaanh kii-ka-ni waabdaan ni giishinij-gaadeg nbi daawegamigoong, nji sa nbiish ni wiinaagimig.” Noongwa nwaabdaan maanda sa ni zhiwebag.

In the future, with our carelessness and if we do nothing now, the water will become undrinkable. We believe that water is sacred to us and that the women need to take care and bless it.

Women are responsible for the blessing of the water because they are the nurturers.

Women carry life and water is life. We need water as part of food for life to survive and for our health. Our medicine wheel teaching tells us that we are the caretakers and that we need to live in a balanced way.

Both Aboriginal and non-Ab-



Shirley Williams

original women are taking a stand and decided to walk around Rice Lake to bring awareness of the water issue in all of the lakes. This issue of water gave us an incentive to try to help out in any way that we can from the “Water Matters” conference with Tom Jackson in April at Trent university, including Josephine Mandamin, who walked around all five Great Lakes in the past few years.

A group of women – Anishinaabe-kweg – from Kawartha have been doing Full Moon Ceremonies and joined with Trent students at the campus bridge and on several water walks as a means of blessing the water each spring for the past couple of years.

These women came together May 9-10 for a walk around Rice Lake as a means of raising awareness of the importance of water and to keep it clean and to think of it as sacred. The women carried water in a copper pail around the lake to show that water is part of us. Copper comes from the rock in Mother Earth and so a vessel made from Mother Earth is carrying the water.



### Teacher's work

This shadow box painting is the work of Algonquin artist Frank Polson, one of the instructors at this summer's series of Arts and Culture Courses being staged at the high school in Noelville by the French River Cultural Industries Council. For more information call 705-753-5420 or 1-800-361-6673, Ext. 5313.



### POW-WOWs

#### July 3-4, Dokis First Nation Traditional Pow-wow

Dokis First Nation,  
via Monetville, ON  
Grand Entry 12:00 both days  
Music and Dance on Saturday  
night, 8:00 - 11:00 pm  
Vendors \$75.00  
Dancers and Drummers  
must register.

All Visitors Welcome  
For more information contact  
Gladys, 705-763-9939 or  
Veronica, 705-763-2269



celebrates

# National Aboriginal Day

with a special performance by

## Shane Yellowbird & The Smoke Trail Cultural Group

**June 21st at 8PM**





Additional National Aboriginal Day events, open to all ages, include:

**Arts & Craft Show**  
(12 noon to 10 pm in Rama Hall)

**Dreamcatcher Workshop, Pow Wow Demonstrations**  
with The Smoke Trail Cultural Group,  
First Nations Cuisine sampling & much more!

Tickets are available by calling 1.800.832.PLAY(7529) or in-person at the Casino Rama Box Office.  
LIMITED TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE. NOTE: You must be nineteen(19) years of age or older to attend concerts and events at Casino Rama.






# ALGONQUINS OF PIKWAKANAGAN COMMUNITY PROFILE

## Health centre hiring full-time doctor

By Shady Hafez

Pikwakanagan is an Algonquin Nation community that is located on the shores of the Bonnechere River and Golden Lake in the Ottawa Valley, about an hour and a half's drive from Ottawa.

Established in 1873, the community has a registered membership of just over 1,800 with some 400 living on-reserve. The 1702-acre reserve is adjacent to the hamlet of Golden lake – the First Nation's previous name – about 40 kilometres south of Pembroke.

Pikwakanagan is an Algonquin word meaning "beautiful hilly country covered in evergreens."

Current Chief Kirby Whiteluck and councillors Sherry Kohoko, Jerry Lavalley, Cliff Meness, Jim Meness, Richard Sarazin and Vicky Two-Axe were chosen by the community's custom election code process. Pikwakanagan is one of 40 First Nations affiliated with the Anishinabek Nation and its political arm, the Union of Ontario Indians.

Executive Director Dan Kohoko leads an administration team that operates in seven areas: education, economic initiatives, social services, Native alcohol and drug abuse worker, medical transportation, land estates, membership, and public works.

With funding from the provincial government, Pikwakanagan's health staff now operates out of a magnificent health care centre, for which a full-time doctor will be hired, a relative rarity for First Nations.

The community also houses a newly-built nursing home, foster care centre, community centre, daycare centre, and the band office.

The community centre will be undergoing major renovations, expected to be completed in the fall.

"Phase One will be the addition of a swimming pool," says Dan Kohoko, "and Phase Two will basically turn the building we have now into one large hall, an official-sized gymnasium."



Aimee Bailey, Sylvia Tennisco, Michele Gervais and Sharra Behm work at Omamiwinini Pimadjiwawin – The Algonquin Way Cultural Centre. The centre built a website – Omamiwinini Heritage Online – that presents the history of the Algonquin people of the Ottawa Valley and current efforts to preserve their cultural traditions. Visit [www.thealgonquinway.ca](http://www.thealgonquinway.ca). Omamiwinini is the Algonquin people's own name for themselves.

–Photo by Kim Hanewich

The indoor swimming pool, he explains, will give community youth more opportunities to stay active all year round.

Two band-owned businesses operate in the community, and the administration has plans to create a small strip mall to encourage the growth of privately-owned busi-

nesses.

For the past ten years, Pikwakanagan and other Algonquin Nation communities have been involved in a land claim that involves a vast expanse of territory that stretches throughout the entire Ontario portion of the Ottawa Valley, and the Ottawa River watershed. The

claim, which includes the land currently occupied by Canada's Parliament Buildings, is at the agreement-in-principle stage.

Each year on the third weekend of August Pikwakanagan stages its annual pow-wow on a scenic location on the shores of Golden Lake.



Algonquins of Pikwakanagan administration office.



Newly-completed seniors' residence.



Manido Chiman museum and gift shop.

– Photos by Shady Hafez

ASSOCIATION OF IROQUOIS AND ALLIED INDIANS WWW.AIAI.ON.CA

## Responsible Gambling

### AIAI: RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING PROGRAM 2010



In 2007, AIAI undertook a needs assessment and the results show there exists a general lack of knowledge that gambling in our communities is a problem and gambling takes place in all communities that participated in the survey. In late 2009, the Ministry of Health Promotions approved funding for a Responsible Gambling Program and Coordinator.

The program will focus on prevention, awareness, reduce stigma towards problem gamblers and contribute to the overall health and well-being of our member nations.

We look forward to your feedback, suggestions and questions.

#### TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING:

- Set a money limit and stick to it.
- Set a time limit.
- Balance gambling with other activities.
- Never chase losses.

**HELP IS AVAILABLE:**  
Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline  
1-888-230-3505  
[www.opgh.on.ca](http://www.opgh.on.ca)

#### PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

One way that we can encourage healthy lifestyles and at the same time initiating community events and family time is to think of creative ways to 'spend' one of our most valuable assets, our 'time'. Whether it be a family night of watching movies, going to the park, playing sports, socials or just visiting with family & friends.



#### AIAI's RGP Goals:

For more information on AIAI's Responsible Gambling Program please contact:  
LISA JACKSON  
AIAI-RGP Coordinator  
519-434-2761 x 44  
[ljackson@aiai.on.ca](mailto:ljackson@aiai.on.ca)

- Increase Awareness of the risks associated with gambling
- Increase public awareness of services available for problem gambling and how to access them
- Prevention based programs
- Decrease stigma/negative attitudes towards problem gamblers.



# WENJI-BIMAADZIYING/OUR ENVIRONMENT

MY CAR IS  
SMART!



## Learning to drive green

By Holly Brodhagen

Driving green does not have to mean trading in your car for a bicycle and helmet. It can be as simple as being aware of how you are using your car.

Most of us are not aware of how much time we spend in our vehicles and rarely do we question the number of stops we make in any given day. To help yourself become fuel conscious, try keeping track of your driving by keeping a paper and pen in your vehicle. Every time you start and stop, write down as much information as you can include the time, place, mileage, reason for stop, and whether it was planned or unplanned.

At the end of a week (Sunday to Saturday) review your driving habits. Pay attention to those quick stops that you make for coffee, smokes, and maybe groceries. How many stops did you make and how far out of your way did you go? How close together were the stops, could you have walked? Where do you do your groceries and did that require a special trip? How far do you have to drive for organized activities? How often did you make unexpected stops and were they necessary? What changes can you make?

These are important questions when you are thinking about your contribution to the burning of fossil fuel. It isn't always the drive to and from work that burns the gas but all the driving in between.

There are so many green options for travelling including human power such as bicycles, skateboards, roller blades or motorized vehicles such as solar cars, pedal-power bikes, hybrid cars, scooters, etc. There are many benefits to these vehicles but also drawbacks and these are what people have to weigh when making a decision to go green. Can you handle a three-hour bike ride one way to get to work? What are you going to do in the winter? What about my children? Can I purchase and have these modes of transportation serviced where I live? Can I afford to make the change? Will it make my life harder?

Sometimes the reality of everyday life doesn't allow us to make a complete change over to green transportation but that is no excuse to not make simple changes to how you travel. A few tips:

- Limit the stops when travelling by planning out your route and your stops. Avoid making unplanned and unnecessary stops.
- Be willing to shop closer to home or work so you don't have to go out of your way. Although the sales might be better at another store the cost of gas for the trip might not make it a better deal.
- If you live in a rural area make your trips into town productive by planning your trip and carpooling with neighbours.
- Park centrally and walk to your destinations
- Service your vehicle so it works at its best
- Whenever possible take an alternate form of transportation including bicycles, public transit, walking or carpooling

Driving green not only helps the environment but can save you time and money!!

## Cool 'green' sites for kids

[http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/homework\\_help/first\\_nations/index.cfm](http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/homework_help/first_nations/index.cfm)

<http://www.epa.gov/kids/water.htm>

## Travel the pow-wow trail naturally!

By Sarah Blackwell

In this year's pow-wow guide, which can be found at [www.anishinabek.ca](http://www.anishinabek.ca), I wrote how businesses and pow-wow planners can make their vendor spaces more Earth Friendly. That got me thinking of how we can make our own family trips to pow-wows more Earth friendly.

1. Bring your own re-usable drinking and eating containers

Bring your own containers and drinking bottles made from healthier sources like stainless steel or corn. My favourite is Laptop Lunch Kits and Lunch Boxes. Make sure if you are buying plastic to check that is free of BPA (Bisphenol A).

2. Carpool & Rideshare

Use your community newsletter, radio or television channel to advertise looking for a ride or to offer a ride. Be specific about pick up locations, times

and even preferences for smoking.

3. Clean Up Your Area

Make sure all the garbage is picked up, and get your children to help. Teach them young to respect the Earth and clean up their space by showing respect for the pow-wow grounds and picking up garbage. If there aren't any blue boxes, ask the pow-wow committee to consider it for next year. Or volunteer to collect recyclables and bring them to the nearest recycling depot.

4. Use a Natural Bug Repellent

Seek out products that are free from DEET, and never use a product containing DEET on a child less than six months of age. Keep covered and wear clothing that has elastics on the wrists and ankles. Check out northern Ontario's the Original Bug Company at [www.bugshirt.com](http://www.bugshirt.com)



Sarah Blackwell

## Good riddance to home toxic trash

No toxic-trash collection site in your area? Take your non-disposables here;

**Expired Medicine:** Many drugs can contaminate water supplies. For example, the estrogen in birth control pills can "feminize" male fish. Pharmacies accept old medicine for incineration.

**Batteries:** Exposure to incinerated cadmium, one of several toxins in batteries, has been linked to lung disorders and cancer. Rona and Future Shop collect batteries for recycling and many schools have programs set up for battery collection.

**Paint:** Dumping paint in a landfill or down a drain releases up to 10,000 chemicals, including carcinogens such as formaldehyde. Ontario requires retailers to recycle paint. Ask at your nearest hardware chain.

**Compact fluorescent bulbs:** All fluorescent lightbulbs contain minute traces of mercury. Drop them off in collection bins at Home Depot or IKEA.

**CDs and DVDs:** They take decades to break down, and release toxic fumes if incinerated. Best Buy collects CDs and DVDs for recycling.

**Electronics:** Your gadgets contain mercury, flame-retardant chemicals (linked to memory impairment) and lead. Best Buy collects electronics for safe recycling. Dell Canada sends a free courier to pick up its products.

**Printer Cartridges:** They last a lifetime in a landfill. Refill them at locations such as Island Ink Jet or Walmart.

Most municipalities have recycling for electronics, paint and other toxic trash.

### Take these other items to a hazardous waste facility

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| * hair dye            | * fertilizer             |
| * nail polish remover | * pool chemicals         |
| * insect repellent    | * mercury thermometers   |
| * bleach              | * antifreeze             |
| * oven cleaner        | * paint thinner          |
| * furniture polish    | * aerosol cans           |
| * metal polish        | * lighter fluid          |
| * pesticides          | * propane barbecue tanks |
| * mothballs           |                          |

## Got an environmental spill on your hands?

The role of Spills Action Centre (SAC) is to receive reports of spills and other environmental matters and initiate or co-ordinate a response as required. SAC is staffed on a 24-hour basis and can be reached with a Ontario-wide, toll-free telephone number (1-800-268-6060).

## BIIDAABAN HEALING LODGE Program Dates

### Sexual Abuse Survivors

• October 18 - 27/10

### Anger Solutions

• August 9 - 13/10 • November 22 - 26/10 • January 10 - 14/11  
• March 28 - April 1/11

### Grief & Abandonment

• July 5 - 14/10 • September 13 - 22/10 • February 7 - 16/11

### Community Wellness Conference

• October 12 - 14/10

### Relapse Prevention

• December 6 - 10/10

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# Health Secretariat

Good Health for Our People



## Educating inmates on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

By Autumn Watson

Joseph Cloutier is a strong man who keeps his head held high; wherever he walks he makes a huge impact, whether he is talking to an audience at the "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Aboriginal Peoples and the Criminal Justice System" conference that was hosted in Toronto this past March or sitting in a circle with the Native Brotherhood within the walls of correctional institution.

Tanya Michelin-Russell, the Regional Aboriginal Health Services Coordinator for the Correctional Service of Canada, was captured by Joseph's gentle spirit and knew that he was the perfect speaker who had an important message to share through the Aboriginal Peer Education Course (APEC).

The APEC is a two-week program delivered to Aboriginal federal offenders which focuses on health promotion and harm reduction. Sensitive issues are covered such as: HIV/AIDS; Hep A,B,C; Tuberculosis; Aboriginal Diabetes; Mental Health; Sexu-

ally Transmitted Infections; and FASD. A valuable component of the program are guest speakers, who are brought into the program from the community to help provide more insight on specific topics to enhance learning among the participants.

Tanya acknowledges, it is "for this reason I asked Joseph to come and join me in my program delivery at Warkworth Institution (Feb 2010) and Kingston Penitentiary (April 2010) to share his life story with the Aboriginal men who enrol in this voluntary program".

Tanya summarizes how Joseph talks openly with the offenders; there is a tremendous amount of positive energy in the room which leaves the men touched while others in tears during his presentation. The struggles that Joseph faces on a daily basis are just a small part of what he shares in his speech. He talks about being raised by foster parents, not knowing who his real family is, and being bullied by many kids growing up in school and the impact that has had on his life. This hits home for the listeners.



Joseph Cloutier shares personal stories with prison inmates.

Tanya looks forward to working with Joseph again during the delivery of APEC "it has been an absolute pleasure to have Joseph come and present his story which I know has impacted the lives of the Aboriginal men who hear his life story".

As well, Joseph (and his wife Lynn, who accompanied him on his trip to Kingston Penitentiary) agreed that "[their] opportunity to visit KP was an experience beyond [their] anticipation, and to

be accepted by the brotherhood as [they] were will be a memory for a lifetime".

September 9th is international FASDay. However, every day Joseph dedicates his life to increasing awareness of FASD among front line workers, inmates, Aboriginal peoples and respective communities.

Should you like to book a presentation please feel free to contact Joseph at joec111@ymail.com; contact Tanya at Michelin-

Russellth@csc-ccc.gc.ca to learn more about the APEC or, for further information with respect to the Union of Ontario Indians FASD program please contact Laurie McLeod-Shabogesic toll-free at 877-702-5200.

Autumn Watson is a health retention and support officer with the Union of Ontario Indians and Anishinabek Educational Institute, working out of the UOI Curve Lake office..

## Pesticide linked to Type 2 diabetes

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Like many complex diseases, diabetes results from the interplay of genetic and environmental factors. To examine genetic risk factors, scientists pore over the human genome sequence. Environmental factors have been trickier to pin down because there is no way to evaluate them comprehensively.

Now, researchers at Stanford University present what they call an environment-wide association study (EWAS) or to systematically examine the contributions of hundreds of factors in the development of Type 2 diabetes. This "enviromics" approach, which mirrors genome-wide association studies, harnesses high-speed computers and publicly accessible databases.

The first-of-its-kind study, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), appears in the May 20, 2010, issue of PLoS One. The article is titled An Environment-Wide Association Study (EWAS) on Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

The authors examined 226 separate environmental factors like nutrition and exposure to bacteria, viruses, allergens and toxins. They found that certain factors, notably a pesticide derivative and the environmental contaminant PCB, were strongly associated with the development of diabetes.



## FASD workshopers make moccasins

Serpent River FN participants proudly show off deerhide moccasins they made during a "Traditional Teachings for a Healthy Pregnancy" workshop. Included in the regular pre-natal class were two students from the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, excited to learn the holistic viewpoints of Anishinaabe teachings in relation to pregnancy. Laura Liberty, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder worker for the Lake Huron Region of the Anishinabek Nation, led a discussion on the potential harmful effects alcohol may cause to the fetus. The session took place at Kenabutch Health Centre May 5th in Serpent River and was co-ordinated by Community Health Representative Leila Macumber.

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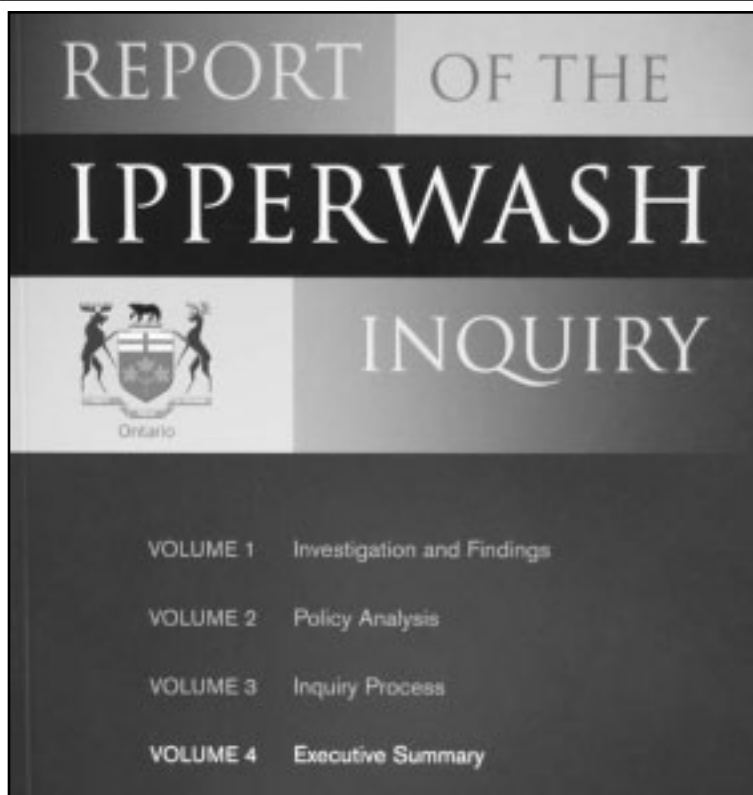
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# Inter-governmental Affairs

## Protecting Aboriginal and Treaty Rights



## Letters behind his name don't erase Harris' role

UOI OFFICES – Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee says that Mike Harris does not deserve any honorary treatment, in the view of First Nations citizens in this province.

"He doesn't deserve titles or tributes of any kind," said Madahbee on learning that Nipissing University planned to confer an honorary Doctor of Letters on the former Ontario premier in a June 11 convocation ceremony.

"I can think of some appropriate letters Mike Harris should have in front of his name, not after it," said the Grand Council Chief.

Chief Marianna Couchie of Nipissing First Nation released a statement saying that that her community would be withdrawing funding support for the new university Learning Library because of Mike Harris's connection.

"We support the recent decision by Nipissing First Nation to cancel their contributions to the new university-college campus library if Mike Harris's name is attached to it in any way," said Madahbee.

"You don't reward a person who was directly responsible for so much economic hardship and divisiveness in this province. Our organization is right now working with the current government on 100 recommendations from a judicial inquiry whose job it was to contribute to changing the relationship that existed between the Harris government and First Nations – a hostile relationship that led to the death of Dudley George at Ipperwash on Sept. 6, 1995," said Madahbee. "That is what Mike Harris will always be remembered for."

The Union of Ontario Indians – corporate arm of the Anishinabek Nation – is playing a lead role in the Ipperwash Inquiry Priorities and Action Committee (IIPAC) process, working with other First Nations organizations and the province to implement the 100 recommendations of the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry.

Dudley's brother, the late Sam George, who pursued the truth of Dudley's death and dedicated his time and energy to public education said in an October, 2008 Toronto Star interview: "I don't believe yet in my heart that all people are treated equally in our country," he said. "You can never change history, but you can start to correct it."

National Chief Shawn Atleo was also named by Nipissing University as a recipient of an honorary education doctorate, and accepted it at a separate ceremony two days before Harris.

## Asserting jurisdiction through Treaty Rights

By Nicole Latulippe and Marci Becking

NIPISSING – The commercial fishery in Nipissing First Nation has always been a contentious issue for some non-natives who don't understand the Treaty right to fish commercially.

A Facebook group dedicated to "Saving Lake Nipissing Walleye" demonstrated the continued ignorance regarding the treaty right to fish commercially, as well as a lack of awareness of the regulations and conservation measures put in place by Nipissing First Nation.

One of the major regulations is the spring gill net moratorium that is in place to allow adult walleye full opportunity to reproduce. Other regulations include quota levels, season closures, net marking and catch reporting to track harvest levels.

Nipissing First Nation is working to dispel myths and rumours.

According to Richard Rowe, biologist and manager of Nipissing First Nation's Natural Resources Department, public awareness includes educating students at local schools, providing information and social marketing.

"The Natural Resource Department Staff deliver presentations at area elementary and high schools, Nipissing University, the Rotary Club, Anglers and Hunters Club, the Nipissing Stewardship Council and other First Nations," says Rowe.

The *Nipissing First Nation Certified: Responsible Fish Harvesting* label is helping to reduce stigma. The seal guarantees that all fish are harvested legally and responsibly as well as cleaned and processed in a sanitary, government-compliant facility and are part of a long-term plan to keep Lake Nipissing healthy.

Rowe says that the Sudbury and Nipissing Parry Sound Health Units recognize Nipissing First Nation Fishery as providing sanitary conditions to process their catch.

The Fishery is also an example of community economic development through asserting their jurisdiction.

Jason Laronde, Lands and Resources Director for the Union of Ontario Indians says that he remembers that prior to 1984 it was not uncommon to see Nipissing First Nation fishermen being harassed by Ministry of Natural Resources enforcement officials while the fisherman exercised their rights. Today, the community is operating a commercial fishery, markets catch in the city of North Bay at the Old Chief Fish Market and sells to local restaurants.

"The community managed to get this far by public education, demonstrating effective management, operating a hatchery, exhibiting a healthy catch and by demonstrating their ability and jurisdiction to convene communal laws," says Laronde.



Hugh Martel filleting pickerel at the Old Chief Fish Market in North Bay.

– Photo by Marci Becking

Rowe says there has been a renewal of community support for the fisheries program.

"By setting up and enforcing regulations in accordance to the NFN Fisheries Law the community is behind the moratorium because the law came from the community," says Rowe.

"Fishers have reason to comply with the regulations which ensure they get access to the label. Incentives include becoming eligible for Employment Insurance during the off-season, higher prices for their catch, access to a processing facility, along with other benefits."

Nipissing First Nation will continue to build their capacity in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources. Four citizens of Nipissing have been trained in Level One enforcement which is the first step in becoming recognized as enforcement officers. Their fish processing facility will be certified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency once our quality management program plan is finalized and when staff is trained.

*The Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry was released May 31, 2007. In order to avoid conflict in similar circumstances, the Report recommendations emphasized the need for treaty implementation, resource co-management and benefit sharing, capacity building, public education and highlighted First Nation jurisdiction. This article illustrates progress in these areas and how one community has taken proactive measures to dispel myths, avoid potential conflict and assert their jurisdiction*

*The Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) advocated since that time for the federal and provincial governments to partner with Ontario First Nations to implement the Report's recommendations. Through this effort, a joint implementation process with Ontario was formalized in September 2008, and the UOI continues to be involved in the ongoing process.*

*For more information, please contact Nicole Latulippe, Project Coordinator, at Ipperwash@anishinabek.ca, or at (705) 472-9127, ext. 2253*

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### MISSION

The Union of Ontario Indians Intergovernmental Affairs department is committed to the protection of aboriginal and treaty rights, ensuring access to land and resources, and supporting the political goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.



# Lands and Resources

Ensuring access to natural resources



## Oil companies always creating problems for Gulf Indian tribes

**Associated Press**

POINTE-AU-CHIEN, La. — Like many American Indians on the bayou, Emary Billiot blames oil companies for ruining his ancestral marsh over the decades. Still, he's always been able to fish — but now even that is not a certainty.

An oil spill — five million gallons and counting — spreading across the Gulf of Mexico has closed fishing grounds that feed the last American-Indian villages in three parishes.

It is a bitter blow for the tribes of south Louisiana who charge that drilling has already destroyed their swamps and that oil and land companies illegally grabbed vast areas.

"Once the oil gets in the marshes, it's all over, that's where your shrimp spawn," said Billiot, a wiry fisherman with tough hands, his fingernails caked with bayou dirt.

Since the 1930s, oil and natural gas companies dug about 10,000 miles of canals, straight as Arizona highways, through the oak and cypress forests, black mangroves, bird rushes and golden marshes.

As companies intensified their search for petroleum in the 20th century, communities where the Choctaw, Chitimacha, Houma, Attakapas and Biloxi tribes married Europeans in the 1800s have seen their way of life disappear.

"This is not a two-week story, but a hundred-year story," said Michael Dardar, historian with the United Houma Nation tribe. "Coastal erosion, land loss and more vulnerability to hurricanes and flooding all trace back to this century of unchecked economic development."

Land claims have proven hard to win because south Louisiana's American Indians have not won recognition as sovereign tribes by the federal government.

American Indians say land and oil companies seized swamps that rightfully belonged to them. Joel Waltzer, a New Orleans lawyer who's worked on an aboriginal land claims lawsuit for the Pointe-Au-Chien tribe, said Indian tribes were so isolated they missed the opportunity to claim ownership of swamplands after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.

"They were not English speaking; they were completely illiterate and they had no means to make it to New Orleans and make their claim," Waltzer said.

Much of south Louisiana was claimed by the federal government and sold off at 19th-century auctions to land companies. By the 1900s, oil companies bought much of the land in south Louisiana. Allegations abound among Indians that oil companies hoodwinked them into selling even the small bits of land they owned.



Ranzel Billiot, left, and Emary, his cousin, both members of the Pointe-Au-Chien Native American tribe, stand on a dock near a hurricane-damaged shrimp processing building in Point Aux Chenes, La. Local Native American fishermen are concerned about the possibility of a growing oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico entering local bayous and man-made canals dug by the oil industry and threatening their way of life.

## Species at Risk

### What is Species at Risk?

Wildlife species that are considered threatened or in danger of becoming extinct.

### Risk Categories :

**Data Deficient** — there is not enough scientific information to support the status designation

**Not at Risk** — the species has been evaluated and was found to be not at risk

**Special Concern** — species whose characteristics make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events

**Threatened** — species likely to become endangered if factors are not reversed

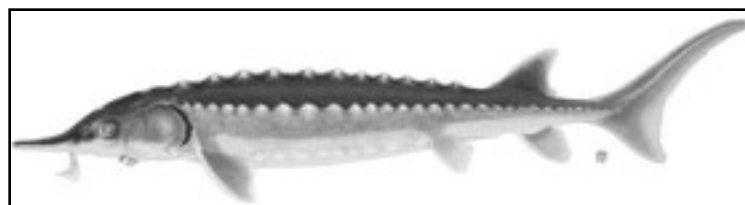
**Endangered** — species facing imminent extirpation or extinction

**Extirpated** — species no longer existing in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere

**Extinct** — species that no longer exist.

**Lake Sturgeon** — Five of eight populations of Lake Sturgeon recently identified for Canada are listed as Endangered, and one is listed as threatened

**Facts** — It has five rows of bony plates arranged along the back and sides; the skin is covered with tiny tooth like projections that give it the feel of fine sandpaper; and the dorsal fin is fairly large and located just forward of the tail, which is unequally lobed like that of a shark. In typical appearance, the belly of the Lake Sturgeon is white or light-coloured and contrasts with the darker back and sides; overall, colour is uniform in adults whereas younger fish may appear blotchy.



Lake Sturgeon

**Habitat** — Sturgeon generally don't move more than a few km during the summer feeding season. However, before spawning or when traveling to over-wintering locations, sturgeon can migrate over 100 km. Adult fish tend to occur in deeper, faster waters of large river mainstems, where they spend most of their time on or near the bottom of the riverbed.

Juveniles prefer slow moving sloughs and backwaters. Spawning habitat is usually in turbulent fast water, but locations can range from shallow murky side channels with pebbly and sandy bottoms to deeper, less murky main channels with larger boulders and cobble.

**Distribution** — Canadian populations occur west to the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta, and east to Cap Brûlé, Quebec in the St. Lawrence River, a location that represents the approximate termination of freshwater in the St. Lawrence River. To the north, it is found as far as Fort George River in Quebec on the eastern side of James Bay, and the Seal River on the western side of Hudson Bay just north of Churchill, Manitoba. In Ontario, the Lake Sturgeon is found in all the Great Lakes, and in all drainages of the

Great Lakes and of Hudson Bay.

**Threats** — human over-exploitation in the latter half of the nineteenth century. the construction of dams, which may disrupt habitat and interrupt spawning movements and timing; habitat degradation resulting from human activities; habitat contamination caused by chemicals, toxins, and fertilizers; and the introduction of non-native species that include competing and predatory fishes, and plants that may modify habitat.

**Traditional Aspect** — Historically Sturgeon had many uses by First Nations peoples. Some First Nation groups called them the Buffalo of the Water. Over 100 uses of sturgeon have been identified. Such as:

- flesh for food,
- oil for medicinal purposes,
- bones for needles,
- spears and arrow heads,
- stomach linings for drum coverings, and
- "isinglass" from the swim bladders for making glue and paint for teepees.

Sturgeon harvesting activities also created a valuable cultural meeting place as many different First Nations congregated in the spring at sturgeon spawning sites to share in the harvest. Some traditional sturgeon spawning sites have been used by First Nations for over 3000 years.

## Hundreds protest pipeline

KITAMAAT VILLAGE, B.C. — Two days after Enbridge filed its application for the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline, over 500 northern B.C. residents gathered in Kitamaat Village to oppose the controversial plan, which would bring oil supertankers to the B.C. Coast.

"Every day more and more people, from all walks of life, are coming together to stop this dangerous project. They are sending a very clear message: Enbridge oil spills will not be allowed to destroy our territory," said Gerald Amos, a Haisla Councillor and an organizer of the event.

In March, on the anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, Coastal First Nations declared

that the Enbridge 1,170km twin pipeline project would not be allowed to bring tar sands oil through their territories. If built, the Northern Gateway Pipeline would carry tar sands crude oil from the Alberta tar sands to Kitimat, and would bring over 225 oil tankers per year to B.C.'s North Coast.

"Today Coastal First Nations reaffirm our declaration that we will not allow tar sands oil to pass through our lands and waters. Enbridge pushing ahead with this project despite our declaration shows a lack of respect that will not be tolerated," said Art Sterritt, executive Director of Coastal First Nations.

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## MISSION

The mission of the Lands and Resources department is to foster a better quality of life by ensuring access to natural resources in support of the goals, principles and values of the Anishinabek Nation.



# RESTORATION OF JURISDICTION

## Great gathering against Bill C-3

By Lynn Gehl

OTTAWA – As many as 200 people attended the celebratory feast on May 31 and the final leg of the Marche AMUN from Victoria Island to Parliament Hill on June 1st.

Marche AMUN, where the Innu word “AMUN” translates to “great gathering,” covered a 500 km trek from Wendake, Quebec to Parliament Hill. The march was carried out during the May moon culminating on June 1st.

The goal of the march was to raise awareness of the problems inherent in Bill C-3 and, as articulated by lead marchers Michèle Audette and Vivian Michel, to inform parliamentarians that “they must denounce Bill C-3 as it simply does not eliminate all the gender discrimination in the Indian Act.”

In honour of the marchers the Odawa Friendship Centre and the Indigenous Peoples Solidarity Movement Ottawa (IPSMO) hosted a celebratory feast. Algonquin Elder Annie Smith St. Georges opened the feast in a good way. Traditional foods

such as waawaashkesh (deer) and ode'minan (strawberries) were served followed by Sharon McIvor offering her sage advice.

McIvor called for a united front among the various women's associations: the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC), the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council (AFNWC), the Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA), and the AMUN marchers.

She cogently argued for the government of Canada to eliminate all of the gender discrimination in the Indian Act when stating “Bill C-3 does not go far enough.”

The government must withdraw the Bill and introduce one that takes out all of the discrimination against us and our children.” Indeed, Sharon is a great thinker and leader worthy of following.

NWAC President Jeannette Corbiere Lavell agreed with McIvor arguing “forty years of fighting this battle is long enough.” There is no need for yet another process of legislative change that fails to resolve all of the gender issues.

Corbiere Lavell also argued that AMUN marchers Audette and Michel are great role models for younger women to emulate. They “have taken on a praise-worthy task” Corbiere Lavell continues. Kathleen McHugh of the AFNWC and Dawn Harvard of ONWA stand in agreement with the actions of the AMUN marchers.

As it stands there are several things wrong with Bill C-3.

First, there is a 1951 cut-off point that will leave out some people. Second, Bill C-3 applies to the grandchildren of Indian women who lost status due to marrying out and fails to include the descendants of unmarried Indian women. Third, a female child of a status man and a non-status woman who were unmarried will continue to be excluded from registration solely because the child is female. Fourth, Bill C-3 confers an inferior form of status on to the grandchildren of Indian women who married out.

Lynn Gehl, Ph.D. Algonquin Anishinabe-kwe – Turtle Clan.



Jeannette Corbiere Lavell and Sharon McIvor joined forces on Parliament Hill on June 1. They protested with Marche AMUN - a group led by Michele Audette and Vivian Michel - to protest Bill C-3.  
– Photo by Nik Gehl

## Revisions made to final draft of Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin

By Perry McLeod-Shabogesic

SAULT STE. MARIE – Final touches were made to the final draft of the Anishinabek Constitution (Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin) at the recent Governance Working Group (GWG) meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, May 18 and 1, 2010.

This final draft will now be presented to the Chiefs Committee on Governance in Alderville First Nation June 2 and 3. This Chiefs Committee meeting will allow for discussion and support by leadership before it is tabled, for the first time, at the up-coming Grand Council Assembly in Fort William First Nation June 8 to 10.

“This is a very crucial time for us” said Eugene Manitowabi of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, “We need to forge ahead with the Anishinabek Constitution to protect our rights and future”. The Anishinabek Constitution will be a larger framework constitution within which Anishinabek First Nation community constitutions can be developed and can operate.

Twenty-two community representatives from 13 Anishinabek First Nation communities were represented as the GWG re-capped the March 2010 Constitutional Convention, reviewed the provisions of the final draft for possible technical changes, wrote the pre-amble, developed the ar-

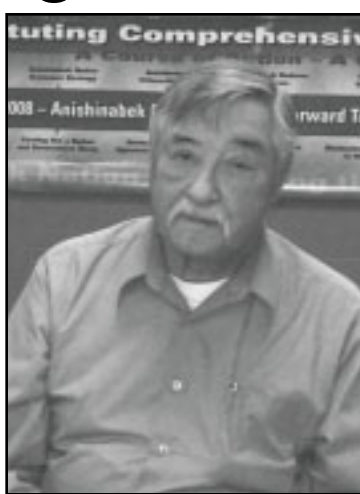
ticle on the constitutional amendment process, and reviewed the upcoming Phase 2 of the Community Engagement Strategy, aimed at getting the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin out to the grassroots for discussion, input and support.

Day one began with a prayer and special sharing to honour the late Fred McLeod-Shabogesic's recent passing. Fred was a GWG member who represented Nipissing First Nation and had been a big supporter of the Anishinabek Nation Constitution. His personality and enormous impact will be missed.

This first day also had participants reviewing, debating and finalizing provisions and recommendations made on the constitution..

The preamble sets the table for the constitution and spells out it's scope. Much discussion took place around this section with everyone agreeing on its final draft version to be presented to the Chiefs Committee meeting in Alderville First Nation.

Discussion and agreement on the constitutional amendment process took much of the day. Participants presented their ideas and thoughts as to how this important constitutional amendment process would work while keeping a balance between making any future changes hard, but not impossible. “We need to make this process one that does allow change but not so



Fred McLeod-Shabogesic

it weakens the constitution”, said R. Martin Bayer, Chief Negotiator for the Anishinabek Nation.

The debate centred on whether the amendments should go directly to membership for an overall vote or whether communities should let their individual First Nation representative at the Grand Council make decisions on proposed constitutional amendments.

The GWG finally agreed that each First Nation community would decide on their process, so long as their membership was consulted in some way. Each community decision would then be brought forward at the Grand Council to be tallied and to decide whether the amendment would pass or be defeated.

## Constitutional amendment

### Preamble – Anishinabek Gdaawm

Whereas, we the Anishinabek Nation have the inherent connection to this Land and to the Air and the Waters since Creation; and,

Whereas, we the Anishinabek Nation is the collective of the Anishinaabe people known as the Algonquin, Chippewa, Delaware, Mississauga, Nbiising, Odawa, Ojibway and Pottawatomi who have existed on this Land since time immemorial; and,

Whereas, we the Anishinabek Nation protect and preserve our culture, languages, customs, traditions and practices and exercise the inherent rights bestowed upon us by the Creator for the betterment of our people; and,

Whereas, we the Anishinabek Nation have the right to govern ourselves and to enter into agreements with other Nations;

Therefore, Jhi-Minomadzyong. We, the Anishinabek Nation hereby establish and adopt this Constitution.

### ARTICLE 10 – Constitutional Amendment (previously Article 12)

10.1 The Anishinabek Nation Constitution shall be amended only in accordance with the following:

a. The Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation, at any regular or special assembly may propose an amendment to this constitution by adopting a resolution approved by at least 70% of Grand Council;

b. Any proposed amendments to this constitution adopted

by the Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation shall be forwarded to the Elders, Women's and Youth Anishinabek Nation Advisory Councils within 30 days of being adopted by the Grand Council;

c. The Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation shall consider the comments of the Elders, Women's and Youth Anishinabek Nation Advisory Councils received within 90 days of the resolution being adopted and will determine whether to amend, or withdraw the proposed amendment to this constitution or to submit the proposed amendment to member First Nations for approval;

d. Any decision by the Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation to amend, or withdraw the proposed amendment to this constitution or to submit the proposed amendment for member First Nation approval shall be authorized by adopting a resolution approved by at least 70% of Grand Council;

e. If the Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation decides to proceed with member First Nation approval of the proposed amendment to this constitution the Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation shall forward the proposed amendment to each member First Nation and within 180 days of the resolution being adopted by the Grand Council of the Anishinabek Nation, obtain at least 70% approval by First Nation Council Resolution from the member First Nations in consultation with their citizens.



# RESTORATION OF JURISDICTION

## Who will be the first community to ratify its constitution?

By Rhea Assinewe

A special invitation was sent out to all Anishinabek Community Constitution Development Committees and approximately 20 communities answered the call to participate in one of three regional workshops on ratifying our community constitutions. Workshops were delivered in Sault Ste Marie, Rama and Fort William from January to February, 2010.

Community Constitution Development Committees were invited to attend one session in their respective area. The main focus was to discuss ratification as means to further communities' positions on their self-government processes. Participants were provided with updates on the Governance and Education Negotiations and information regarding Consultation and Informed Consent, Methods and Strategies for Communication and Community Consultations, and How to prepare a Communication and Consultation Plan(s).

Jason Restoule and a Community Liaison Officer provided two presentations: Methods and Strategies for Communications, and Community Consultation and Consultation Strategies. These two presentations got a good response from the participants during their break-out sessions.

During the breakout sessions, the importance of networking was evident as participants shared ideas on how to get community participation and how to communicate with all First Nation citizens, off and on reserve.

Workshop participants discussed best practices, to get community members involved and to become engaged and informed about their community constitution process and how to get community endorsement of their community's constitution.

Another related topic that was discussed at length was on Ratification Formulas, Options and Impacts, as presented by Ratification Coordinator Lorie Young. This discussion centered on determining the most realistic approach for Anishinabek communities to get a workable threshold. Setting the bar too high can mean that a constitution, or other such important decision requiring a community referendum, does not get approved or ratified simply because people don't come out to exercise their right to vote.

One idea that was mentioned in the breakouts was to talk to the kids. Let the youth know what is happening and explain why we are creating a community constitution, what a constitution is, and why we need one.

Specifically for these three sessions, various resources/tools were developed by the Restoration of Jurisdiction (ROJ) communications team, which included power point presentations. In the planning stages, providing organizational support beyond the workshop became an issue and as result a decision was made to disperse USB Keys which included all regional workshop presentations, information and worksheets.

These useful tools will provide continued support for the participants in their ongoing communications to First Nations leadership, and to Anishinabek citizens both off-reserve and on-reserve.

These workshops and resources continue to be invaluable assets in assisting the First Nation Constitution Committees to move beyond the development stage to actual Ratification of their respective community constitutions.

Following last year's excellent turn-out for the constitution ratification workshops, the big question now is: "Who will be the first to ratify their Community Constitution?"

Some communities have decided to make their community constitution a priority and are ready to ratify them, some are still in the development stages, and there are still a few communities



Jason Restoule, Communication Liaison Officer and Ray Nobis, Rocky Bay at the Fort William Regional Ratification Workshop.

that haven't begun the process.

At the Fall Grand Council Assembly the Special Projects Coordinator presented an update on the constitution Development Project. At that time, all communities were encouraged to create a community constitution regardless of being a signatory to the Governance and Education Agreements-in-Principle.

After the presentation Fort William Chief Peter Collins quickly booked the Restoration of Jurisdiction for a community visit. On Feb 8th, one day before the Constitution Ratification Regional Workshop, Tracey O'Donnell and the Special Projects Coordinator visited the Fort William First

Nation. Before the end of the day O'Donnell remarked, "When you began work this morning you didn't realize that you'd be creating your community constitution." By the end of the day, community members of Fort William completed the first draft of their Fort William Constitution.

Communities that haven't begun the Constitution process, are encouraged to contact the Special Projects Coordinator for continued support and to set up individual community visits.

For more information regarding Constitution Development, contact Rhea Assinewe, Constitution Development - Special Projects Coordinator.



Elder Henry Peltier from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve listens intently to Councilor Irvin Contin from Henvey Inlet First Nation as he engages in discussion during the Governance Working Group meeting in Sault Ste. Marie – Photo by Perry McLeod-Shabogesic



Participants at the Community Engagement Strategy Workshop held in Rama on January 20-21, 2010.

## Engaging our communities – Phase 2

A new, in-depth workshop will assist communities in engaging members.

The Community Engagement Strategy workshop and community sessions will lead to the Constitutional Convention II in March 2011 where CES participants again will facilitate the proceedings to ratify the Anishiaabe Chi-Naaknigewin.

Also planned as part of the engagement strategy is a conference on "Inclusion and Representation in the Anishinabek Nation Government" which will be held in partnership with the University of Toronto Initiative on Indigenous Governance in January 2011.

In January to March 2010, three regional workshops were held and regional engagement preferences and strategies were identified. These workshops focused on facilitation training and information sharing on the Education and Governance Agreements.

Sixty-one community members participated in these workshops and proceeded to conduct presen-

tations and group facilitation at two national conferences.

Overall participation from the communities was very successful. New workshops and conference materials and information-sharing tools were developed. Community awareness of the Anishinabek Nation government and Anishinabek Education system was increased tremendously.

The workshop planned for this coming fall will include a national workshop to discuss the Anishinabek Nation constitution; the citizenship law; selection of leaders; the Governance agreement, and the final Education Agreement package.

The most significant and recurring recommendation from the 2009-2010 CES was to share information through face-to-face meetings.

In 2011, CES participants, including those from the previous year, plus regional representatives from the Nation Building Councils and leadership, will conduct a minimum of 10 in-depth community sessions across the Anishinabek Nation territory.

## Restoration of Jurisdiction

Mike Restoule – Self-Government Project Manager  
 Esther Gilbank – Chief's Committee on Governance Coordinator  
 Andrew Arnott – Fiscal Relations Analyst/Fiscal Negotiator  
 Bernadette Marasco – Education Negotiations Admin Assistant  
 Lisa Restoule – Governance Negotiations Administrative Assistant  
 Lorie Young – Ratification Coordinator  
 Mary Laronde – Communications Coordinator  
 Jason Restoule – Communications Liaison Officer  
 Dave Shawana – Education/Governance Working Group Coordinator  
 Terry Restoule – Capacity Development Coordinator  
 Rhea Assinewe – Special Projects Coordinator

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# DOHM-NUK/LET'S PLAY



## Expressing herself

Selina Roote expressed herself using colourful paints during a workshop at the Christian Island Place of Learning on Beausoleil First Nation. Artist Maureen told participants who think they don't have any artistic talent to be "brave enough to bring their life and their experiences into their work."

—Photo by Sharon Weatherall

## Rabbit & Bear Paws



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August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
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# EDUCATION *Kinoomaagewin*



A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ANISHINABEK NEWS  
June 2010



Dakota Jolie, Colin Lee Mixemong-Cass, Andrea Cass and Reganne Monague --students in Lisa Jones' Grades 1/2 class at Christian Island Elementary School -- point out their illustrations. After reading some books by Robert Munsch, the class was so inspired by the popular children's author they wanted to write a book of their own.

— Photo submitted by teacher Lisa Jones

## *Christian Island kids create their own illustrated book*

By Sharon Weatherall

BEAUSOLEIL FN – There are 15 budding authors on Christian Island who have already published a book by the ages of six and seven.

Students in Lisa Jones' Grades 1/2 class at Christian Island Elementary School have become joint authors and illustrators in an exciting school project. After reading some books by popular children's author Robert Munsch, the class was inspired to write a book of their own.

"As a final activity after reading the series we decided to write our own story pretending that Robert Munsch came to Christian Island from Guelph" said Jones. "It is all about what he would encounter along the way – the story is imagined by a little girl named Sarah."

Jones said the project was a huge group effort with all of her students drawing the pictures themselves. Since the book was being "published" she told them to do their very best and was very proud of the work they did.

"Sarah's Imagination" was written and illustrated by Miss Jones, Miss Temarisch Peters and the class including: Tyler Copegog, Jacey Roote, Andrea Cass, Reganne Monague, Madison Copegog, Grant Mixemong-Cass, Kaden Marsden, Jaide Jackson, Preston Mixemong –Cass, Tyson Roote, Dakota Jolie, Xavier Monague, Bryson Sandy, Trenton Carney and Melina Sandy.

Sarah's adventure depicts the author leaving his home in Guelph and making his way to Christian Island, while mentioning all of things he would see. When he gets to Cedar Point, Mr. Munsch must take the ferry to get across the water to the island so while he is on board he takes pictures of the sights. It is a wonderful story with lots of colourful adventures and each page of the book was drawn by a different student. The children were given a model drawing of Sarah and Mr. Munsch to try and follow so the characters would look consistent throughout.

"Also we wrote Robert Munsch a letter asking him to

come out to the island," said Jones. "He responded with a letter that he was very sorry he could not come due to illness but sent a story called 'Moose' he had written that had all the children's names included in it. The children did not know their names were in the story and were so excited when they heard them mentioned – it was very cute."

Jones said in his letter Munsch letter talks about himself, his three children and how he became an author. When he was younger Munsch worked in a day care and liked to tell the little children stories. His boss encouraged him to write a book and he did. Over the years he has worked with several illustrators and written many books including "The Paper Bag Princess", "Smelly Socks", "Something Good", "Mud Puddles", "No Clean Clothes" and many more best-sellers.

Now the bound copy of "Sarah's Imagination" is in the Grades 1/2 classroom for the budding authors to read and share with other students.

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Allan Moffatt  
ANCU manager



# BOOKS

## Racism in print

Calgary's Mount Royal College policy studies professor Frances Widdowson and her consultant husband, Albert Howard, have written a racist diatribe, not a scholarly work.

The book begins by justifying why racism should not apply to them while they entitle their chapters: 'Child Welfare: Strengthening the Abusive Circle; Health Care: A Superstitious Alternative; Education: Honouring the Ignorance of Our Ancestors; and Environmental Management: The Spiritual Sell-Out of "Mother Earth".'

The sheer volume of 330 pages that negates everything Aboriginal is overwhelming. We are painted as inadequate in every facet of life, a blight on society.

Disrobing the Aboriginal Industry: The Deception Behind Indigenous Cultural Preservation – Frances Widdowson and Albert Howard (McGill-Queens University Press, Montreal, PQ & Kingston, ON; 2008; ISBN 978-0-7735-3420-9, cloth; ISBN 978-0-7735-3421-6, paperback; 330 pages; \$29.95)

– By Joyce Atcheson

## White girls have abortions

Sylvia Olsen, a mother of a 14-year-old pregnant daughter, talked with 13 anonymous BC First Nation teens to learn their fears, feelings, frustrations, and unfulfilled dreams. With their input she wrote, *Just Ask Us: A Conversation with First Nations Teenage Moms*.

The teens discuss their fears of disclosing their pregnancy, how they try to hide it, refusing abortions, their social life of drinking and smoking through the pregnancy.

Written with the teens' comments beside the author's, the voices of the teens are heard.

One teen says, "I think that's why there are so many First Nation girls who have babies and can't look after them properly. White girls would have an abortion. We don't."

Another teen says, "At first sex was fun. I was really into it and curious and all that."

*Just Ask Us: A Conversation with First Nations Teenage Moms* – Sylvia Olsen (Sono Nis Press, Montreal, Winlaw, BC; 2005; ISBN-10: 1-55039-152-6, ISBN-13: 978-1-55039-152-7; 165 pages; \$17.95)

–By Joyce Atcheson



Sheri Mishibinijima

## Librarians making lots of noise

By Kelly Crawford

SUDBURY – First Nation public libraries hosted an official provincial launch of the Speak Up for Ontario First Nation Public Libraries campaign on May 1.

Deputy Chief Wayne Nebenionquit,

of the host Atikameksheng Anishnawbek territory (Whitefish Lake First Nation) welcomed delegates to Ontario Library Service-North's 2010 Conference.

Sheri Mishibinijima, Speak Up Chairperson from Wikwemikong Pub-

lic Library, spoke about the key role played by First Nation public libraries in community development, supporting literacy, and lifelong learning, and invited . Please visit [www.speakuptoday.net](http://www.speakuptoday.net).

## Final Review

### Forest Management Plan Inspection Sudbury Forest 2010 – 2020 Forest Management Plan

The **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)**, **Vermilion Forest Management Company Ltd.** and the **Local Citizen Committees (LCC)**, as part of the ongoing forest management planning process, would like to invite you to inspect the approved 2010 – 2020 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Sudbury Forest

The approved FMP includes information on:

- The long-term management direction of the forest;
- The planned operations for harvest, renewal and tending and access roads for the first five-year term 2010 – 2015;
- The proposed areas of operation for the second five-year term 2015 – 2020;
- The corridors for primary and branch roads for the ten-year term 2010 – 2020;
- The major changes made after consultation of the draft FMP.

#### How to Access the Approved Plan

The approved FMP will be available for public inspection during normal office hours for 30-days from May 19, 2010 to June 17, 2010 at the following locations:

- The Ministry of Natural Resources public website at [ontario.ca/forestplans](http://ontario.ca/forestplans)
- ServiceOntario Centre in Toronto (777 Bay St., Suite M212, Market Level: call toll-free: 1-800-268-8758) which provides computer access to the Ministry of Natural Resources website at [ontario.ca/forestplans](http://ontario.ca/forestplans)
- Vermilion Forest Management Company Ltd. office, 311 Harrison Dr., Sudbury, ON P3E 5E1, Doug Maki, R.P.F., 705-560-6363
- Ministry of Natural Resources Sudbury District office, 3767 Highway 69 South, Suite 5, Sudbury, ON P3G 1E7, Tim Lehman, R.P.F., 705-564-7875
- Ministry of Natural Resources Regional office, Ontario Government Complex, Highway 101 E, P.O. Bag 3020, South Porcupine, ON P0N 1H0, Mark Austin, R.P.F., 705-235-1210

Copies of the approved FMP summary and values maps may be obtained by contacting the Ministry of Natural Resources Sudbury District or the Vermilion Forest Management Company Ltd. office.

#### Can't Make It?

An appointment to inspect the plan during non-business hours may be made by contacting the Ministry of Natural Resources District Manager or a planning team member by calling 705-564-7823.

During the 30-day inspection period, a written request can be made to the Director of Environmental Assessment Approvals Branch, Ministry of the Environment, for an individual environmental assessment of specific forest management activities in the FMP as described in the *Forest Management Planning Manual* (2004). A response to a request for an individual environmental assessment will normally be provided after the completion of the 30-day inspection period.

The planning team for the forest management plan consisted of the following people:

**Peter Street**, R.P.F., General Manager, VFM, Chair  
**Mark Lockhart**, R.P.F., Planning Forester, VFM, Plan Author  
**Tim Lehman**, R.P.F., Area Forester, MNR  
**Bruce Richard**, P & IM Supervisor, MNR, Project Manager  
**Ron Luopa**, R.P.F., Operations Forester, VFM  
**Doug Maki**, R.P.F., Silvicultural Forester, VFM  
**Mike Hall**, Area Biologist, MNR  
**Rick Reynen**, Resource Liaison Officer, MNR  
**Darrell Alston**, Wahnapiatae First Nation  
**John Manitowabi**, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve  
**Vicki Mather**, LCC Representative  
**Chuck Miller**, Killarney Provincial Park, MNR  
**Jesse Leverage**, Senior Forestry Technician, MNR  
**Bert Gauthier**, Area Technician, MNR

For further information, please contact:

**Tim Lehman**, R.P.F.  
**Ministry of Natural Resources**  
 3767 Highway 69 South, Suite 5  
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 Tel.: 705-564-7875  
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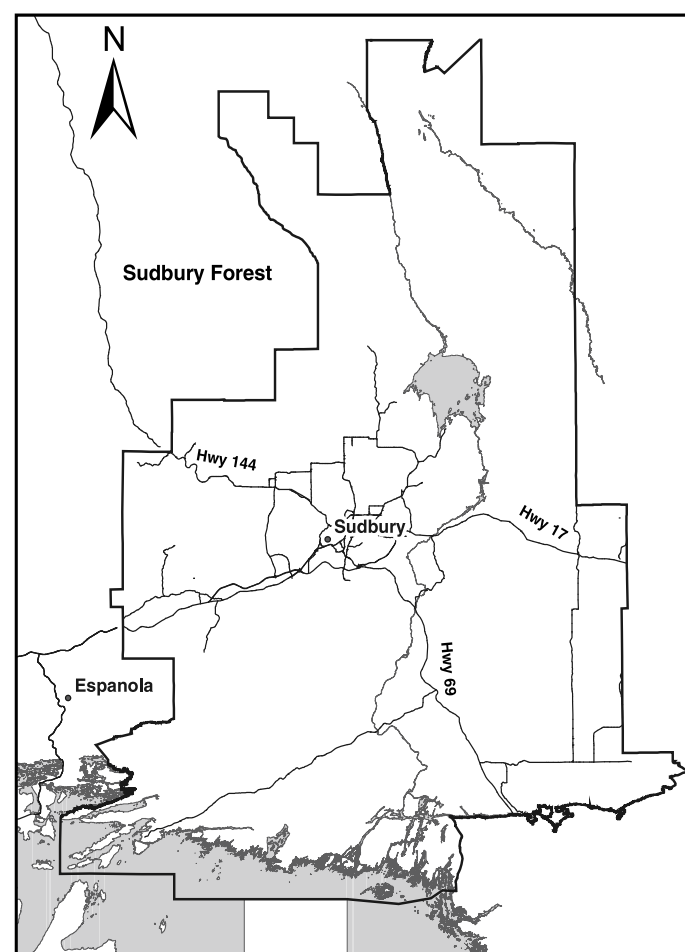
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 Website: [www.sudburyforest.com](http://www.sudburyforest.com)

**Viki Mather**  
**Sudbury Local Citizens Committee**  
 RR #1  
 Wahnapiatae, ON P0M 3C0  
 Tel.: 705-919-7854  
 E-mail: [vikimather@hotmail.com](mailto:vikimather@hotmail.com)

Following the inspection period, the approved ten-year term FMP will be available for viewing at the Vermilion Forest Management Company Ltd. office, the Ministry of Natural Resources Sudbury District office, the Ministry of Natural Resources Northeast Region office and the ServiceOntario Centre in Toronto (777 Bay St., Suite M212, Market Level: call toll-free: 1-800-268-8758).

The Ministry of Natural Resources is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*. Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, however, your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Bruce Richard at 705-564-7849.

Renseignements en français : Bert Gauthier, (705) 564-7866.





# Education

Forever to the Seventh Generation

## Cambrian sends grads

SUDBURY – Four graduates from Cambrian College's Aboriginal community were among a select group of 100 postsecondary graduates from across the country that had the opportunity to participate in the Inclusion Works 2010 conference, Canada's largest employment and human resources event for Aboriginals.

The conference, which was held in Toronto from April 25 to 29, was organized by the Aboriginal Human Resource Council and participants were pre-selected for interviews with potential employers.

Ruby Cooper, a graduate of Cambrian's Civil Engineering Technician program, summed up her experience as wonderful, exciting, and reward-



Ruby Cooper

ing. "I had the opportunity to meet, interview, and network with employers from across the nation, most of whom were looking to recruit and hire aboriginal students to be a part of their team," said Cooper, who landed a summer job with SNC Lavalin. "But the most enjoyable part was meeting other graduates from across Canada.

The other Cambrian College graduates who attended the conference are Craig Jackson, Lorraine Giroux, and Georgette MacDonald.

## Shannen stood up for a new school

By Jocelyn Formsma

I met Shannen Koostachin two years ago at a Rights Assembly in Toronto.

Although it was the first time we had met, I knew who she was because the organization I was working for at the time, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, had co-nominated Shannen for the International Children's Peace Prize Award for the role she played in fighting for a new elementary school for her community of Attawapiskat.

Approximately eight years ago, Attawapiskat's elementary school had to shut down when it was discovered that a diesel fuel pipe had burst and was leaching into the ground causing fumes that made students and teachers extremely ill. The response at the time was to put up temporary portables until a new school could be built.

Shannen's community leaders and family members rallied for eight years, through five different Indian and Northern Affairs Ministers, two different federal governments and three different promises for a new school. While all these changes occurred, the children and teachers of Attawapiskat made due with deteriorating temporary portables.

Shannen's older sister, Ser-



Shannen Koostachin dances at a powwow at Temiskaming Secondary School.

ena, lead a group in 2005 to Ottawa that did receive a promise for a new school, which was later rescinded. Serena graduated and moved away from her community to attend high school, which left Shannen and her peers to take up the fight.

Shannen and her classmates cancelled their planned Grade 8 trip to Toronto and instead travelled to Ottawa to meet with the INAC Minister to make another request for a school. She famously told INAC Minister Chuck Strahl on the steps of the Parliament buildings that she wished her classroom was as nice as his office and "We're not going to quit". At the time she was only 12 years old.

At the Toronto assembly where we met, Shannen said that she wanted her younger siblings to go to a school that allowed them to hope and dream for the future. She told the participants "about the determination in our community to build a better world". She brought members of the crowd to their feet and she brought tears to all of our eyes.

Tragically, Shannen passed away in a vehicle collision on May 31st. She was 15 years old.

She was a remarkable young woman who had sass, determination, passion and drive in her mission to make sure that all children had access to a good education. She was a good person, a strong leader and an inspiration. She definitely made an impact on me in the short time that I knew her. A scholarship fund will be set up in her name and the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Oshkaatisak and the Ontario First Nations Young People Council will be honouring her at upcoming assemblies.

Let us all remember Shannen as a bright young woman who had dreams, goals, and a purpose, and who left a legacy that now is our responsibility to carry on.

Jocelyn Formsma is working as a Social Development Junior Policy Analyst with the Union of Ontario Indians.

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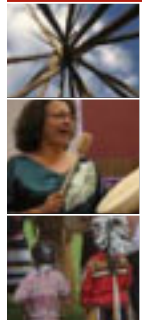
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## Proud to Feature Aboriginal Achievements Honour and Success in Education



### One Person Can Make A Difference

At 50 years old, Algoma University student Joanne Robertson is taking on the biggest challenge of her life. Her goal is to ensure that all First Nation communities in Canada have safe drinking water.

Her mission began in March of 2009 after attending a Community Economic and Social Development (CESD) class at Algoma University where the topic of discussion was human rights. "At the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Canada was the only one to vote against water as a human right. I was shocked by this", says Robertson. "Water is a human right. It is necessary to sustain all life."

As a student studying Graphic Design and Native Arts & Culture, Robertson wanted to use what she had learned from both the CESD program and Shingwauk Kinomage Gamig to make a difference and draw attention to the dire need of many First Nation communities in Canada who go without life's basic necessity. "We've all heard about Walkerton, but have we heard about the First Nation communities that go without safe drinking water?" Robertson questions. "1 in 6 First Nation communities in Canada are on a boil-water advisory."

A research assignment presented Robertson with the inspiration to begin her campaign. While writing a paper for her Modern Arts class in March 2009, she saw a Guy Limone art installation that used plastic figurines and blood red paint to show how many people had been murdered in New York City. She connected with the piece immediately, and very quickly developed the core of the Empty Glass for Water campaign. "The idea came to me within 20 minutes," she explains, "I knew that I needed to attach a symbol to those who were invisible."

That symbol was an empty glass, 350 of which she has personally mailed for students and community members to the Prime Minister of Canada, the first being mailed in the spring of 2009, the day after the idea struck her. "The empty glasses represent individuals that are living without access to clean drinking water. I wanted the symbol to be something physical, that couldn't be shredded, but at the same time fragile,

like the children in our communities who live without this precious gift."

Robertson is unaware of how many glasses have been sent. "It started out as one idea, but it's definitely a community campaign now," she proudly states. "The Algoma University community has been behind this campaign from the beginning. The Shingwauk Aboriginal Student Association (SASA) and the Algoma University Student Union (AUSU) both support the campaign, and it has recently been unanimously supported by the Canadian Federation of Students.

The success of the campaign has reached the highest levels of government, since Chief Dean Sayers of Batchewana First Nation and Chief Laurie Carr of Hiawatha First Nation first helped her to submit resolutions to the Assembly of First Nations and the Chiefs in Ontario. The resolutions were adopted without opposition by the Assembly of First Nations in September of 2009. In December of 2009 Chief Dean Sayers hand-delivered a glass to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and a glass was hand-delivered via Josephine Mandamin, Mother Earth Water Walker, to Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty.

When asked about how far the Empty Glass for Water campaign has come in such a short period of time, Robertson is humble. "I haven't personally left campus to promote it, so it still feels surreal," she says. "I want to keep it grassroots." To do so, Robertson organizes fundraising events to raise money for the campaign. She has enlisted student help to create a film (Glass Action, available on YouTube) and is in the process of developing a website ([www.emptyglassforwater.ca](http://www.emptyglassforwater.ca)) that will allow supporters to inform her about glasses they send, as well as track water ceremonies worldwide. "Greet, pray and leave tobacco at all bodies of water. We need to show our gratitude and respect for the water," says Robertson.

As a graduating student of the Algoma University class of 2010, Robertson is starting to look beyond graduation, but feels very passionate about the continuation of the Empty Glass for Water campaign. "I came to

I want clean drinking water for all communities.

CHERYL SUGGASHEE, OTTAWA AMESHENABE KWEE NORTHERN ONTARIO FIRST NATION COMMUNITY

Support the Empty Glass for Water Campaign:

Mail an EMPTY GLASS FOR WATER to:

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80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa  
K1A 0A2

Let us know you sent in your glass:  
Facebook group: Empty Glass for Water  
[joanne@emptyglassforwater.ca](mailto:joanne@emptyglassforwater.ca)

Greet, pray & leave tobacco at all bodies of water.

**empty glass for water**

Joanne Robertson

post-secondary education later in life," she says, "but it's been a great experience for me. I was overwhelmed, with the launch of the campaign, how generous people can be with their time and efforts, and I am so grateful to have had this experience. I want it to flourish even after my time here, and hope that the momentum it has achieved can be sustained." Robertson realizes the enormity of the task, "This month the federal government introduced new drinking water legislation for First Nations. Bill S-11 provides no guarantees that drinking water infrastructure will be improved," she emphatically adds "there is much work to be done."



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# SUMMER STUDENTS

## Climber behind desk



Angela Benedict from Sheshegwaning FN – UOI Administrative Clerk, Fort William Office.

Typically my summers have been spent pursuing the next great outdoor adventure but this year I have opted to try something new and keep my adventuring to the weekends and evenings. Basically I have traded in my hiking boots, canoe paddle and being broke for daily showers, a computer and an income. Although this bush baby is experiencing culture shock being behind a desk after 4 years working outside a comfort is found in the company of my new co-workers. Go team!

Easily addicted to new and obscure activities. Avid rock climber. A foodie. Lover of shoes and musicals.

## Student now clerk



Kiona Elijah

Hello, My Name is Kiona Elijah. I am from Oneida Nation of the Thames. I am 22 years old and currently enrolled in the RPN that AEI has to offer.

It has been such an awesome program this past year throughout the summer. I am AEI's summer student/educational clerk. I am so very proud of my school to know where the Native people came from and lived through to see what they have and are going to evolve into. I am so very proud to say I am a student and a staff of AEI, they have come along way.

## Athlete joins UOI Lands

Hello! My name is Aaron Paibomsai, and I am from the Whitefish River First Nation, I am currently attending Nipissing Paibomsai University.



I am a devoted athlete and am proud to have been a part of the North American Indigenous Games twice, playing on the girls Ontario Team in 2006 in Denver, as well as 2008 in British Columbia.

Another accomplishment which I am proud of is being an older sister of five.

My work at the UOI in the Lands and Resource department has been exciting and keeps me on my toes.

## Marcia assists UOI AHRDA



Marcia Manitowabi

Ahnee! Aaniish naa? My name is Marcia D. Manitowabi, I am from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve.

I am the New Jr. Administrative Officer in the AHRDA department for the duration of the summer and am very honoured and happy to be here with the Union of Ontario Indians.

My main task will be to assist the AHRDA team in developing a policy and procedures manual for the AHRDA department. I have just completed my first year in the Business – Accounting program at Canadore College, and am already looking forward to returning for 2nd year in September.

## Emilie with AEI



Emilie Bruneau

My name is Emilie Bruneau and I have recently accepted the position of Education Clerk within the Anishinabek Educational Institute. I am happy to embark on this journey and have the opportunity to work with such a helpful and knowledgeable team.

I have completed my first year at Canadore College in the Indigenous Wellness and Addictions Prevention Program. I have a profound interest for the Aboriginal Culture and I look forward to furthering my knowledge through my summer work experience at the Union of Ontario Indians. Miigwetch!

## Joceyln assists Social



Joceyln Formsma

Wachiya! I'm Jocelyn Formsma from Moose Cree First Nation and currently live in Ottawa. I grew up in Chapeau and Timmins.

I have also been involved in promoting Indigenous Youth and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Reconciliation in Child Welfare with the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society.

After this summer, I will return to complete my fourth year of my Bachelor of Social Sciences at the University of Ottawa Majoring in Public Administration. This summer I will be working with Adrienne Pelletier on assisting the Anishinabek Nation in the process to develop a Child Welfare Law.

I'm really excited to be working on such an important file and I look forward to contributing in any way I can. Meegwetch!

## News summer intern up north



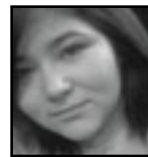
Laura Pudas

My name is Laura Pudas, and I am 19 years old. I am currently living in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

This summer I am working in the position of a Journalism Intern for the Anishinabek News, where I will be writing stories and taking photographs to feature in the newspaper.

In the coming fall, I will be returning for my second year at Carleton University to pursue my post-secondary studies in Communications and Journalism. I aspire to obtain a career related to my studies in the future in which I am able to fully express myself, as well as educate and inspire individuals around me.

## Kayla helps health



Kayla Lariviere

My name is Kayla Lariviere and I am a member of Nipissing First Nation.

I am a Canadore College student currently enrolled in the office administration program. I have graduated from Canadore College's early childhood education program in 2007, and attended Nipissing University for two years, studying English.

When I am finished school, I plan on looking for a full time office administration job here in North Bay.

I am looking forward to gaining experience in an office setting here at the Union of Ontario Indians as the Health Secretariat office assistant for the summer. I also look forward to using all the learning tools, and computer skills I have gained from the office administration program here this summer.

## Shayla joins ROJ team



Shayla Brunet-Legault

My name is Shayla Brunet-Legault and I am the new Restoration of Jurisdiction Communications Summer student. From Nipissing First Nation, I studied Journalism at Canadore College and am completing a B.A. in Mass Communications at Carleton University.

My job at the UOI is to keep communities – especially youth – informed on negotiations with the federal government that will restore and reclaim the law-making authority of the Anishinabek Nation.

I want to follow as key players and ideas move from the drawing table to the final agreements and watch history in the making.

## Shady helps comms



Shady Hafez

My name is Shady Hafez, I am 18 years old and I am an Algonquin from Kitigan Zibi First Nation in Quebec, I also have Syrian.

This summer I was selected to be a journalism intern for the Anishinabek News and will be providing coverage for the North Bay area.

I am very excited and pleased to have been selected for this position because I do plan on heading into a job in the media, or politics once finished with school.

I attend Carleton University in Ottawa working on achieving my Bachelor of Arts in Law.

After school my goal is to either work in First Nations politics or to work as a foreign correspondent.

## Aboriginal Management Advisory Services



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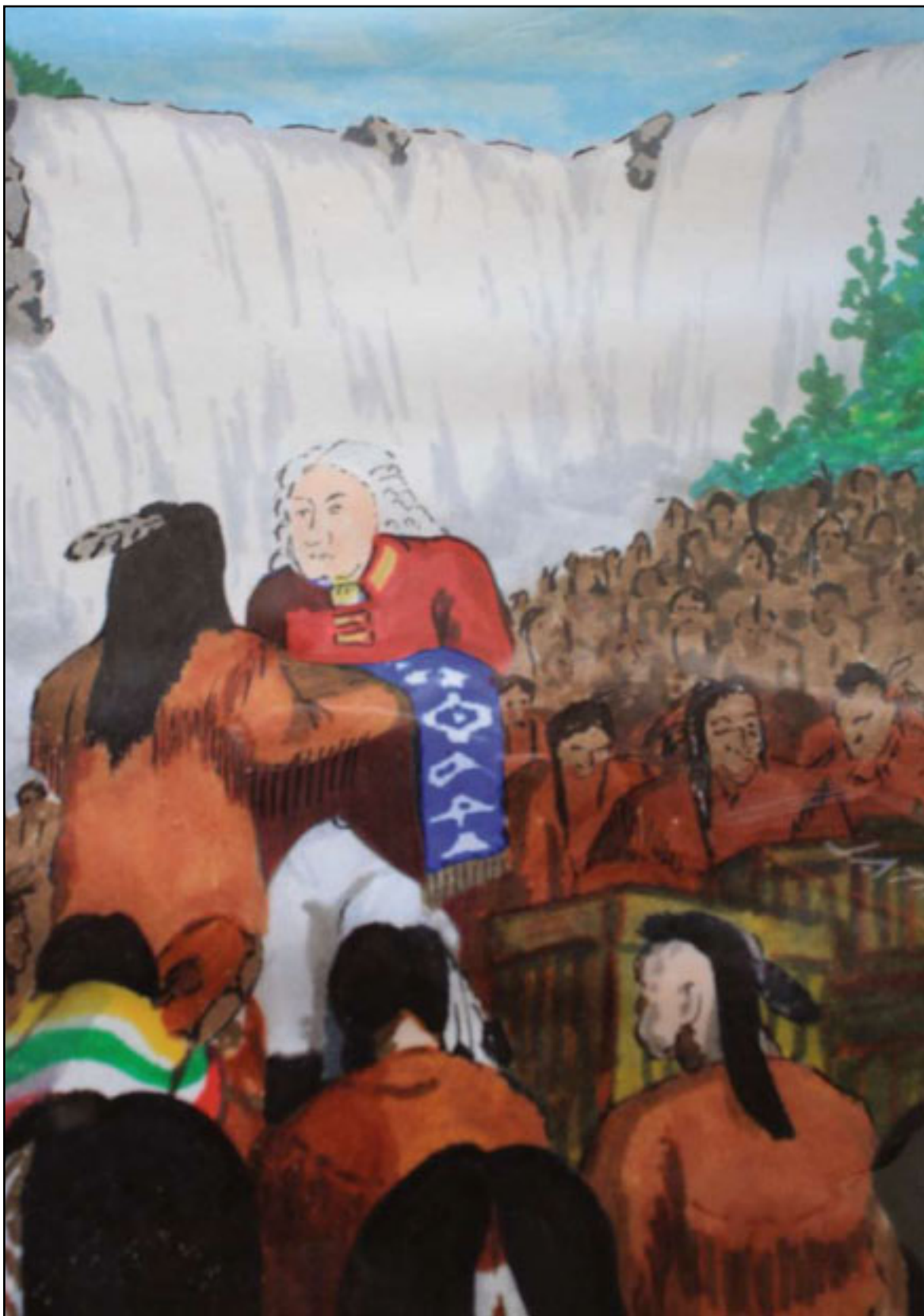


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First Nations have had a special relationship with the Crown in Canada, dating back to the Treaty of Niagara in 1764, when Sir William Johnson presented the leaders of 24 tribes of the Western Great Lakes Confederacy with the Covenant Chain Wampum Belt. This confirmed the message of the previous year's Royal Proclamation by King George III that the Indian tribes of North America were to be treated as sovereign nations, and decreed that they were to be "unmolested in their lands." The Supreme Court of Canada has said "The Honour of the Crown" is at stake in all of Canada's dealings with First Nations, a relationship that is celebrated when the reigning Monarch visits Canada, as Queen Elizabeth II will this summer.

— Painting by Charles Hebert



## Honour of the Crown

October, 1813 – Shawnee leader Tecumseh killed at Battle of the Thames, protecting retreating British troops. Sir Isaac Brock – killed one year earlier in the Battle of Queenston Heights – had promised Tecumseh and his allies a sovereign Indian territory for their allegiance in helping repel American invaders in the War of 1812.



September, 1837 – The first residential school was established on Grape Island, an Ojibwe settlement in the Bay of Quinte near present-day Alderville First Nation. Over the next 130 years an estimated 150,000 First Nation, Metis and Inuit children were removed from their communities and forced to attend 130 of the boarding schools which were funded by Canada and operated by churches. Many of the children suffered physical and sexual abuse, and thousands died.



July, 1867 – Canada comes into existence as a nation, assuming responsibility for the welfare of Treaty Indians and the security of their lands.



1876 – The Indian Act comes into force, defining who is entitled to be registered as an Indian, and requiring all reserve residents to carry an identity card like a passport to be shown when given permission to leave the reserve by an Indian Agent.



July, 1914 – World War I breaks out in Europe, resulting in enlistment by over 3,000 First Nations volunteers who are exempt by treaty right from military service. In the Mississauga community of Scugog, every eligible male volunteered. Cpl. Francis Pegahmagabow of Wasauksing First Nation was awarded the Military Medal for bravery three times, making him one of the most decorated enlisted men in Canadian military history.



May, 1945 – Clifford George returns home from World War II – during which he was a prisoner of war – to discover that his home on Stoney Point has been replaced by a Canadian Army training base.



March, 1960 – Indians granted the right to vote in federal elections without being forced to give up their Treaty and inherent rights.



September, 1995 – Anthony Dudley George, a cousin of Clifford George, shot and killed by an Ontario Provincial Police sniper while protesting Canada's refusal to return Stoney Point land expropriated in 1942 under the War Measures Act.



June, 2008 – Government of Canada apologizes for its role in operation of Indian Residential Schools, pledging to work together with aboriginal peoples to create a better future.



March, 2009 – Governments of Canada and Ontario announce the imposition of a Harmonized Sales Tax which would deny First Nations citizens their traditional point-of-sale tax exemption and have an estimated impact of as much as \$100 per week on every Anishinabek Nation family. The proposed 13% tax is in breach of First Nation Treaty rights—including the Treaty of Niagara of 1764 – and ignores Supreme Court of Canada rulings that First Nations must be consulted in advance by other governments with respect to any actions likely to have an impact on them, and their interests accommodated.

# HST