

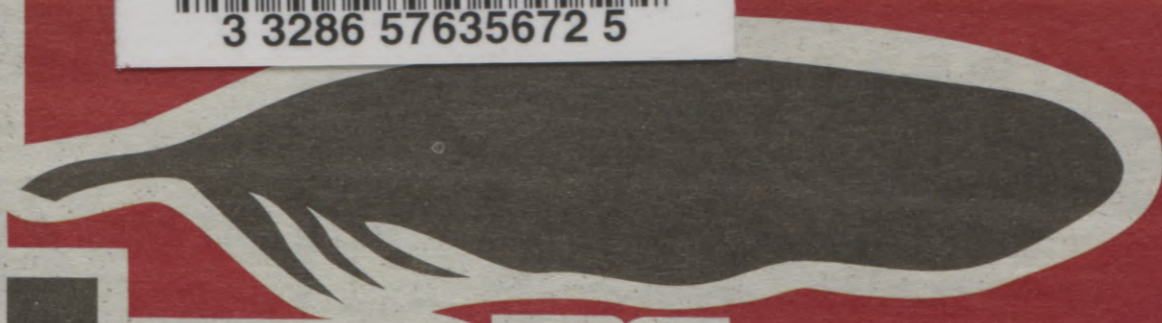
NJ. OR. NA. 40

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



3 3286 57635672 5

Wind speaker



LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
16 FEB 2015
SERVICES BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET DU NOUVEAU
ÉDUCATION



Inform. Impact. Inspire. Independent. Indigenous.

**Expect a full airing
of the truth,
says TRC Chair
Page 6**

**Solitary confinement
crammed with
Aboriginal inmates
Page 8**

**Valcourt rejects
new law; Council
remains unconcerned
Page 9**

plus GST/HST
where applicable

\$5.00

www.ammsa.com

Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA)

Publications Mail Reg. No. 40063755

ISSN 0834 - 177X

Established 1983



A mother's plea for justice

Michele Pineault, comforted by Butterflies in Spirit founder Lorelei Williams, is demanding new murder charges be filed against convicted serial killer Robert Pickton, after her 20-year-old daughter Stephanie Lane's skeletal remains were recently discovered in an evidence storage locker.

Story on page 8.

Photo: David P. Ball

Subscription rate: \$65.00+GST

26401 1 02/28/2014 DIR(A) 7/7
Indian & Northern Affairs Can. Departmental Library
Attn: Christiane Comeau
10 Wellington St., Rm 1400
Gatineau ON K1A 0H4



7 25274 86330 3 02



1000659765

DIAND / MAINC

**5TH ANNUAL
2015 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Mental Health Disorders:
Challenges in the Criminal Justice System,
In the Workplace, In Aboriginal
Communities & Within Society Today**

March 4 – 6, 2015

Best Western PLUS Winnipeg Airport Hotel

Sponsored by the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba

Contact:

**Rebecca Marinos
Conference Manager**

Phone: (650) 888-2654 Fax (650) 513-2020

Email: Rebecca@2015mentalhealthconference.com

www.2015mentalhealthconference.com



Chief Joe Custer Reserve #201
PO Box 2377
2300 - 10th Avenue West
Prince Albert, SK S6V 6Z1

Sub-office:
202B Joseph Okemasis Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1

E-Mail: Marketing@fnislp.ca
Website: www.fnislp.ca

Contact:

**Helen Burgess
General Manager or
Stuart McLellan
Pension Administrator**

**FIRST NATIONS
INSURANCE SERVICES
LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**

- Group Life & Health Benefits
- Group Pensions
- Employee & Family Assistance Program
- Individual Life, Health and Financial Services

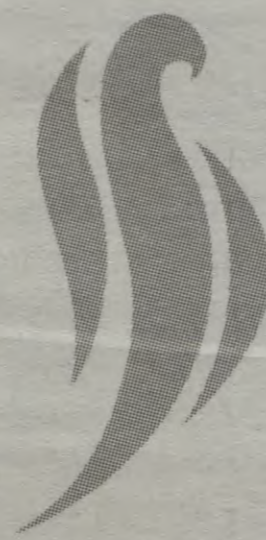
Over
25 years
in business
since
1987.

*"Providing Superior
Financial Service to
First Nations and
Their Employees"*

A 100% Indian-owned brokerage

1-800-667-4712

Phone: 306.763.4712 | Fax: 306.763.3255



WestCan | LTF 2015

First Nations Administrators Education Conference

May 6 - 8, 2015 • Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre
1808 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc. is proud to host the (16th) annual Lighting the Fire Conference in partnership with the 11th Western Canada First Nations Administrators Education Conference.

WHERE EAGLES GATHER — A FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

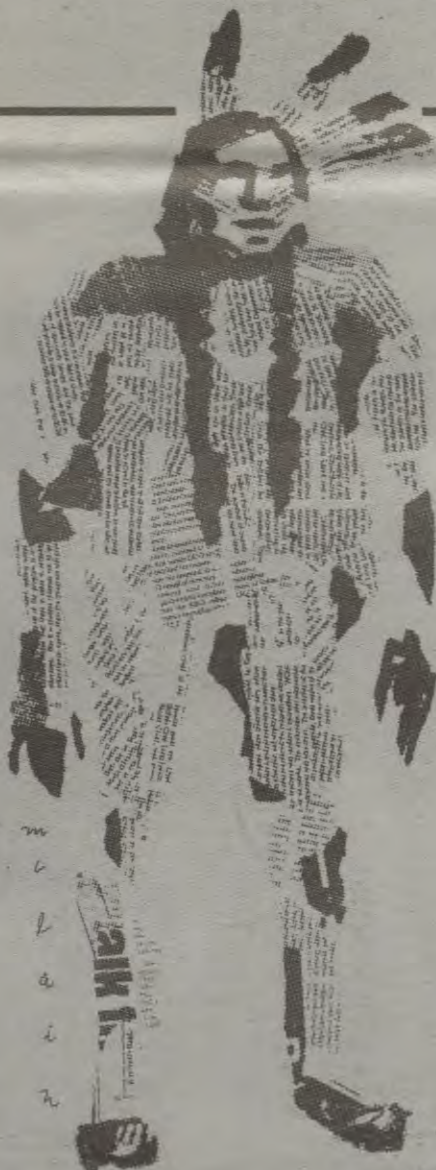
As our First Nations school system has grown through the 21st century, a generation of dynamic education leaders has emerged, influenced by those visionaries who sought to push Indigenous education rights and self-determination forward.

This year's conference will showcase perspectives from educational and political leadership and includes innovative education plans and strategies that have been found successful within First Nations communities and schools. Workshops and presentations will focus on groundbreaking initiatives, curricula, and viewpoints to support and inspire stakeholders at all levels of the First Nations education model.

The conference will bring together Chiefs and Councillors, school boards, education directors, principals, aspiring administrators, teachers, parents, and all First Nations education stakeholders.

**Manitoba
First Nations Education
Resource Centre Inc.**

For more information please contact:
Joy Keeper, Conference Coordinator
Email: joyk@mfnerc.com | Toll Free: 1.866.319.4857 | Fax: 204.942.2490



Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment – it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

**ORDER NOW AND
SAVE**

One year (12 issues) only \$65.00

USA subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$85.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal: _____

**PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA /MASTERCARD/AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639**

CC: _____

Card Type: _____ Exp.Date: _____

Signature: _____

By mail: *Windspeaker* • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-661-5469 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

**Find more of everything online:
www.ammsa.com**



**Feels
like a fit**

Be comfortable with diversity

At FCC, we've built a culture where you can be yourself. You're an individual and it takes strong individuals to make a strong team. So, be who you are and feel at home when you go to work.

fcc.ca/diversity



Canada





Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Publisher

Bert Crowfoot

Editorial

1-780-455-2700

E-mail: windspeaker@ammsa.com

Contributing News Editor
Debora Steel

Staff Writers
Dianne Meili

Production
Judy Anonson

Advertising Sales
1-800-661-5469

E-mail: market@ammsa.com

Director of Marketing
Paul Macedo

National Sales
Shirley Olsen

Accounts
Carol Russ

Circulation
Joanne Rediron

AMMSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Jennie Cardinal

Vice President

Rose Marie Willier

Treasurer

Dr. Chester Cunningham

Directors

Leon Shandruk
Noel McNaughton

Monthly Circulation: 20,000

Windspeaker 1-year subscription: \$55.00+GST

Published since 1983, Windspeaker is politically and financially independent.

COPY RIGHTS

Advertisements designed, set and produced by Windspeaker as well as pictures, news, cartoons, editorial content and other printed material are the property of Windspeaker and may not be used without the express written permission of Windspeaker.

Letters to the editor and all undeliverable Canadian addressed copies can be sent to:

Windspeaker

13245 - 146 Street NW,

Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4S8

General Enquiries: windspeaker@ammsa.com

Rants and Raves: letters@ammsa.com

Twitter: @windspeakernews

Facebook: /windspeakernews

MEMBERSHIPS

Magazines Canada

Alberta Magazine Publishers Association

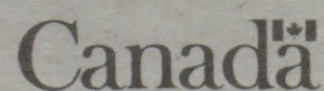


ADVERTISING

The advertising deadline for the March 2015 issue of Windspeaker is February 19, 2015.

Call toll free at: 1-800-661-5469 for more information.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.



Features

Expect a full airing of the truth, said TRC Chair 6

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is promising a scathing – and sweeping - report on the federal government and Canadian society. “Our work of truth telling and truth collecting was not easy. We had challenges throughout,” said TRC Chair Justice Murray Sinclair, at the Special Chiefs Assembly in December in Winnipeg. He said he expected this to be the last time he addressed the Assembly of First Nations since the TRC’s mandate ends July 1, 2015.

Solitary confinement crammed with Aboriginal inmates 7

Isolation. Seg. The Hole. The Cooler. Special Handling Unit (pronounced “shoe”). There are many terms for the segregation cells for prisoners banned from mingling with their peers behind bars. But a new lawsuit is seeking to curb the “over-reliance” on solitary confinement in Canada, particularly in cases when no offence was committed to warrant isolation.

Valcourt rejects new law; Council remains unconcerned 9

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke has added one more law that challenges federal authority in its community. “It’s a jurisdictional dispute. We are the elected council in the community ... we have operated outside the scope of *Indian Act*. We have taken mandates from the community and developed in their own jurisdiction and territory so we’ve been creating laws ... for many years,” said Chief Lloyd Phillips.

Bellegarde promises forceful diplomacy in dealing with feds 10

Not even two weeks after Perry Bellegarde was elected national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Ottawa passed Bill C-428, the Indian Act Amendment and Replacement Act, legislation strongly opposed by First Nations.

Departments

[rants and raves] 5

[drew hayden taylor - column] 6

[windspeaker briefs] 9

[provincial news] 12 - 17

[health] 18

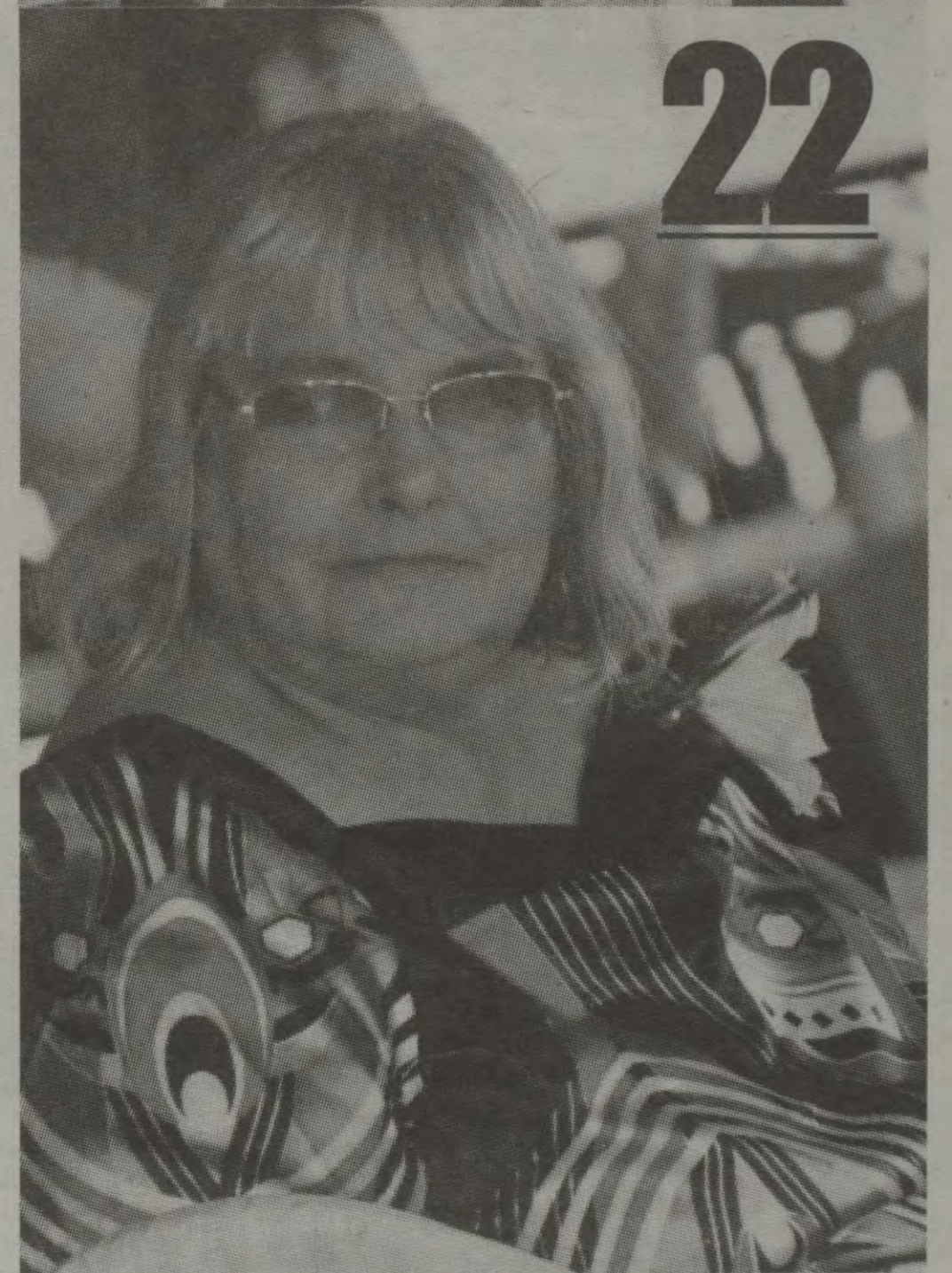
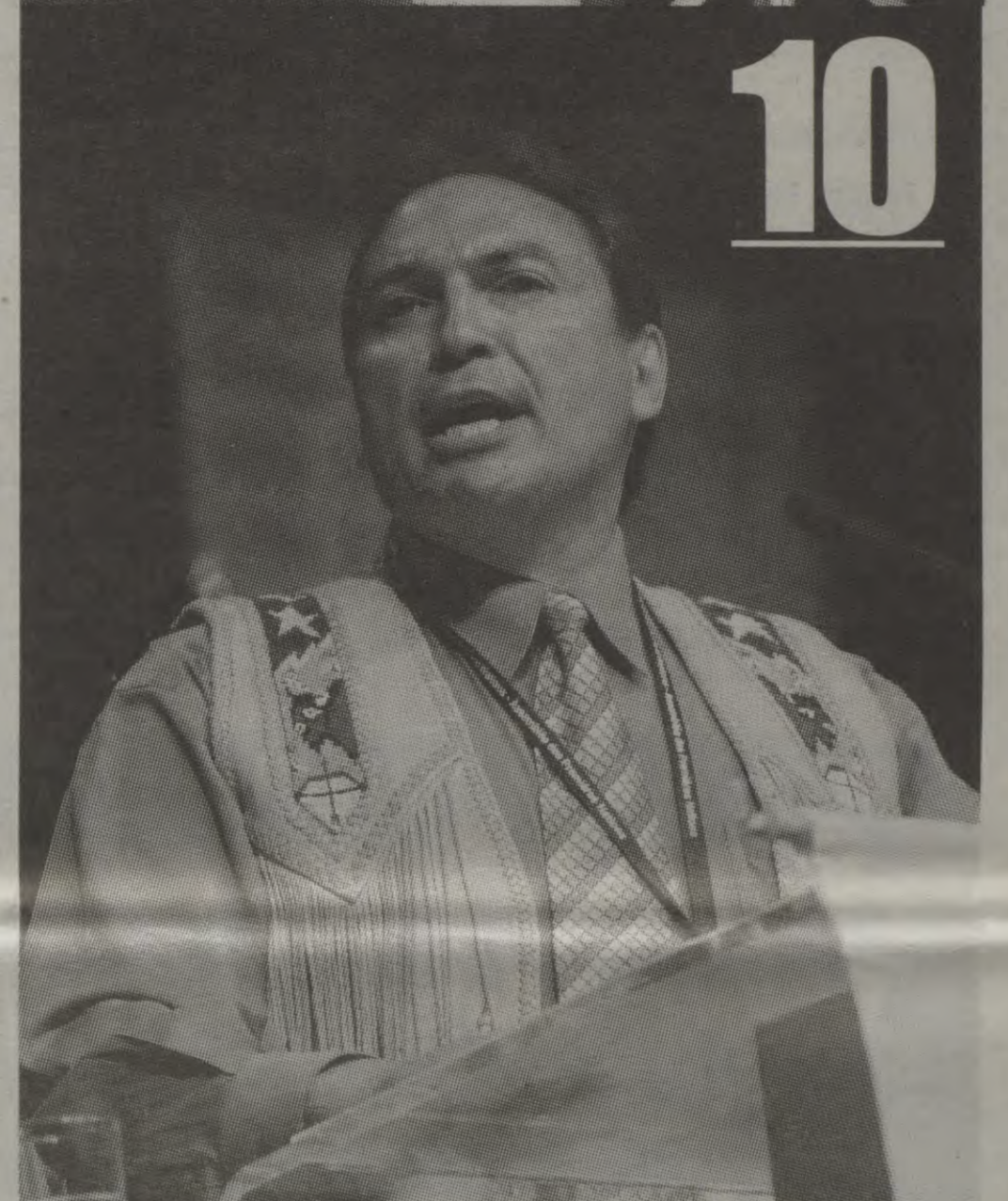
[sports] 19

[education] 20

[careers & training] 21

[footprints] Marie Smallface-Marule 22

After signing up to work in Africa with CUSO right out of university, Marie Smallface-Marule was primed to defend Indigenous rights on a global scale. Only 22, the first woman from the Kainai Nation in southern Alberta to earn a post-secondary education – with a degree in anthropology and sociology – stepped into the unknown by volunteering in Zambia.



Windspeaker is published by the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA) Canada's largest publisher of Aboriginal news and information.

AMMSA's other publications include:

Alberta Sweetgrass – The Aboriginal Newspaper of Alberta

Saskatchewan Sage – The Aboriginal Newspaper of Saskatchewan

Business Quarterly – Canada's Aboriginal Business Magazine





Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why *Windspeaker* is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month *Windspeaker* features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment – it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ORDER NOW AND SAVE

One year (12 issues) only \$65.00

USA subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$85.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal: _____

**PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA /MASTERCARD/AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639**

CC: _____

Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

By mail: Windspeaker • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-661-5469 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

Check out our current online career listings...

- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Food Service Supervisor
- Truck Driver (Long Haul)
 - Baker
 - Line Cook
 - Drywall Installer
 - Director
 - Faculty Position
 - Surgical Assistant
 - Sous Chef
 - Delivery Driver
- Truck Driver (Long Haul)
 - Metal Welder
- Community Youth Worker
- Project Coordinator and Liaison

www.ammsa.com

WWW.MYPREPAID VISA.CA

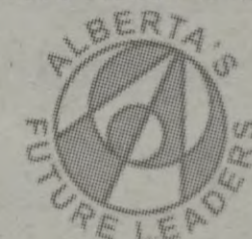
APPLY TODAY
Online process makes it simple for anyone to apply!

- ◆ Great for online activities
- ◆ No holds of funds once uploaded
- ◆ Canada's lowest prepaid visa
- ◆ Easy to load
- ◆ Accepted everywhere VISA is



A SUMMER JOB THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Use your sports, arts, recreation, leadership and cultural programming background to positively affect the lives of youth in Albertan First Nations and Métis Communities.



Applications are currently being accepted for Youth Mentors and Arts Mentors to work with the Alberta's Future Leaders program (AFL) - for more information about the AFL program and a detailed job description, please follow this link: <http://albertasport.ca/sport/future-leaders-program.aspx>

The AFL Program is a unique, grass roots approach to community development, and Mentors regularly return every summer because of the skills, cultural knowledge, and personal growth they gain in the program. As a Mentor, you will:

- Live in a First Nation or Métis community, immersed in local culture and the traditions and protocols of your host community
- Be an active community member, becoming a link in the chain that strengthens the community
- Role model your active lifestyle with youth age 9-25, organizing daily sport, arts, recreation, leadership and cultural activities
- Plan and run exciting camps, programs/activities, active trips, and leadership opportunities
- Learn from and work with youth, recreation directors, professional artists, community members, schools, and local leaders
- Develop meaningful relationships and be part of significant, "life changing" experiences
- Do challenging and exciting work you can be proud of, stretching your comfort zone in a safe, supportive environment
- Live and work with your assigned Mentor Partner, who may be either a Youth Mentor or an Arts Mentor

Compensation:

The contract period for Youth Mentors and Art Mentors is from April 26th-August 25th/2015 (INCLUSIVE), with irregular and occasional long hours, including evening and weekends as required. Maximum of 40 hours per week. Total Compensation for the contract period is \$10,800.00. All applicants must have a valid driver's license and Standard First Aid.

The Alberta's Future Leaders program is a partnership of
The Alberta Sport Connection and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.

Please apply for **ONE** of the following positions. Application deadline: Monday, February 23, 2015

AFL Youth Mentors:

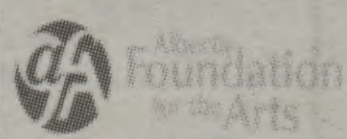
Your experience in Sports, Recreation, Physical Education, Education, Native Studies, Social Work, Child/Youth Care or other relevant fields is what is needed for this unique position. Youth Mentors have experience working with youth and are able to plan, organize and implement, sport, art, recreation, leadership and cultural programs. A Youth Mentors' self-motivation, communication skills, active lifestyle and ability to work within a team will be imperative when living and working in an Aboriginal cultural setting.

AFL Arts Mentors:

Your background in Fine Arts (music, dance, theatre, visual arts, and more), Arts Education or Native Studies is required for this dynamic Arts Mentor position. Arts Mentors are able to plan, organize, create and implement arts programming, enjoy working with youth, are creative thinkers, excellent communicators, flexible and self-motivated leaders. An Arts Mentor's ability to work well in a team environment while living and working in a First Nation or Métis community is essential.

All Youth and Arts Mentors will be contract employees of the community in which they are placed.

Please forward a letter of application indicating position preference along with a resumé in confidence to:



Alberta's Future Leaders Program abfutureleaders@gmail.com
Suite 500, HSBC Building Phone: (780)-422-9254
10055 - 106 Street Fax: (780) 415-0308
Edmonton, AB, T5J 1G3



If you would just go ahead and order a *Windspeaker* subscription then you could get *Windspeaker* delivered right to your office or home. For only \$65.00 +gst you would not only help support independent Aboriginal communications, but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Subscribe today! 1-800-661-5469 Email: subscribe@ammsa.com

Chiefs' handsome fees cripple child welfare agency

Chiefs of Nova Scotia handed Ottawa and streetfighter Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Bernard Valcourt their best day ever with the issue of over-inflated chiefly per diems making headlines on APTN.

The chiefs have been, unabashedly, taking the biscuits out of the mouths of their most vulnerable people, charging \$500 each as board members to lead their own cash-strapped child welfare agency.

Any meeting they attend, they pocket \$500 each, "regardless of time commitment." If they pick up the phone to have a quick talk about business, that's \$500 each. This is on top of their regular salaries and travel.

Federal funding of the Mi'kmaw Family Services Agency is 'woefully inadequate', said its representative Brenda Cope. It doesn't even remotely cover what was necessary to operate, she said. But that's not stopping the chiefs from adding to the burden, to the point that the organization can't have the meetings it needs for fear of busting the bank.

It's hard to make an argument for the underfunding of child welfare when your own chiefs are skimming a packet of dough from budgets that should go to other priorities.

The information comes to APTN through an internal report done for the child welfare agency. Reporter Tina Roache doesn't tell us how she came to be in possession of such a document, so people have surmised that it could have been leaked to make the chiefs look bad.

And in this case, that's not hard to do. The chiefs were fully aware of the financial pressures the organization was under when they increased their per diem rate. Yes, you read that right. The board of directors of the Mi'kmaw Family Services Agency—the chiefs—decided their own per diem rate and, while they could have chosen restraint, they did not.

So now the gravy train has just pulled into the station of public disapproval. Look bad they do, with accusations of double-dipping and gorging themselves at the trough to enrich themselves above all others.

You can do a pretty good business as a Nova Scotia chief by attending meetings it would seem. If they attend two or three meetings a day, then they get the per diem for each meeting. There has, however, been recent reforms, said one chief, around the number of times you can claim the same travel subsidy.

"Sometimes we have three meetings and people would get paid the full three meetings, the whole thing. Now we changed that part," said Potlotek Chief Wilbert Marshall. "If you're already there you don't have to travel, right? You get the honorarium. And some places are dropping theirs to \$300 a day."

Cope said the internal review suggested the agency should turf the chiefs in favor of having community members sitting on the board. But she said having the chiefs at the table buys their influence with Aboriginal Affairs Canada.

"What we find is that the chiefs are more powerful than community members," said Cope.

So it would seem, but now the cat has been let out of the bag, we'll see who holds the power. A second report from APTN on this issue says the people of Nova Scotia are furious at the per diem practice.

Back in the day, writes one reader responding to the story via Facebook, leaders used to fight to the death for their people. Now, it's all about the almighty dollar.

"Shame on them for stealing money from their own people," writes another. "That is why non-Natives always make comments and look down on us... we don't look after each other...everything anymore is me, me, me. Fill my pockets...It's sickening!"

"I have no time for anyone, let alone my own people, stealing from their own communities, and from those that need it the most. Shameful," reads another comment.

And on and on.

We happen to believe that chiefs and other leaders need to earn a reasonable living, and should be compensated fairly. It has to be fair to them, but it also has to be fair and credible in the eyes of the people. And it should pass the smell test, and this practice reeks of abuse.

Chief Paul Prosper of Paqtnekek First Nation says the chiefs recognize that they shouldn't be saddling an agency with the kinds of costs associated with their per diems. The internal review was done in 2011. We guess they are still mulling over what should be done about these very serious concerns.

The chiefs have struck a committee to review the per diem rate. No word on how soon that committee's work will get done. Until then, the per diem structure remains unchanged.

Windspeaker

[rants and raves]

Page 5 Chatter

THE RAPID CITY JOURNAL HAS REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF

Native American students on a class trip to a Rapid City Rush hockey game Jan. 24 were subjected to racial slurs and sprayed with beer.

Craig Baltzer, executive director of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, said the claims of harassment appear credible and are under investigation.

Tom Helland, the president of Eagle Sales, a Rapid City beer distributor, said the harassment came from people in a suite the company rents out. In a statement of apology, the company said guests, who are non-employees, were responsible for the poor behavior. The Rush also issued a statement apologizing.

Justin Poor Bear wrote on his Facebook page that he was at the game with students from the 21st Century Club of American Horse School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He said there were about 15 people in the suite above the students' seats. The verbal harassment began in the third period, and beer was thrown on some of the students and staff. A teacher gathered the students and left the arena in fear of their safety, Poor Bear wrote.

Baltzer said the civic centre is working to identify the alleged harassers who could face a ban from attending future events.

TSAL'ALHMEC (SETON LAKE INDIAN BAND) IS THE FIRST "BLUE"

Indigenous community. The band adopted a resolution banning bottled water at community facilities and events. It also recognized the human right to water, and promotes public water services.

Tsal'alh joins 15 other Blue communities in Canada and three international Blue communities.

The Blue Communities Project is a joint initiative of the Council of Canadians and the Canadian union of Public Employees.

"It's been nearly five years since countries in the UN General Assembly overwhelmingly voted to recognize the human right to water and sanitation," reads a press statement. "Canada was one of the few countries that failed to support this historic move. Though Canada has since expressed its support, the federal government has yet to give life to its endorsement of the human right to water and sanitation."

The release goes on to say the lack of clean, drinking water in First Nations communities "is one of the shameful violations of human rights in Canada. In one of the richest countries in the world, it is incomprehensible why people are going without safe, clean drinking water."

As of November, there were 127 First Nation communities under water advisory. At any given time, there are more than 100 Indigenous communities under water advisories, some without clean drinking water for as many as 15 years.

NATIVE GROUPS IN ALASKA WITH TIES TO THE

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge welcomed the White House proposal to put two-thirds of the area's 80,000 square km off limits to oil exploration.

The Obama Administration's decision provides the refuge the highest level of protection and demonstrates important recognition of the area's value.

The ANWR is an important cultural area for the Gwich'in and Inupiat, who call it 'the sacred place where life begins'. Sarah James, chair of the Gwich'in Steering Committee, said "Oil development there would hurt the caribou and threaten the Gwich'in way of life."

But Alaska lawmakers called the plan an "attack" on the state's sovereignty, reports *The Arctic Journal*. Supporters of drilling in ANWR insist its oil would help reduce America's reliance on foreign oil.

A REVISED PROPOSAL FOR PIMACHIOWIN AKI,

the boreal forest that spans a territory in both Manitoba and Ontario, is set to go before UNESCO for consideration of special recognition, designation as a world heritage site, reports CBC Aboriginal. The international world heritage committee deferred a bid from a coalition of five First Nations and both provincial governments in 2013, asking for more information. The revised bid, a 4,000-page document, is scheduled to be considered next year. The proponents believe the area should be considered both a cultural and natural heritage site. If successful, it will be one of the first of its kind in Canada. Pimachiowin Aki means "the land that gives life."

IN A NEWS STATEMENT DATED JAN. 23, PACIFIC TRAIL PIPELINE

says it is the first to reach agreement with all First Nations on a proposed 480-kilometre pipeline route intended to deliver natural gas from Summit Lake to Kitimat, B.C.

The First Nations Limited Partnership (FNLP) that day announced that Moricetown Indian Band had joined the FNLP, a commercial partnership that now includes all of the 16 First Nations whose traditional territory is located along the route.

The statement goes on to call the partnership "without precedent in the Canadian energy industry" and the pipeline "the only proposed natural gas pipeline for a liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in B.C. with such a benefits agreement."

"This agreement is unparalleled in balancing strong economic growth measures with preserving our cultural heritage and the environment. There is, quite simply, no other deal that comes close to what we've been able to achieve in this partnership," said Chief Dan George of Ts'il Kaz Koh (Burns Lake).

Do you have a rant or a rave?

Criticism or praise?

E-mail us at: letters@ammsa.com

twitter: @windspeakernews

facebook: /windspeakernews

[strictly speaking]

The story of MMIW needs a third act

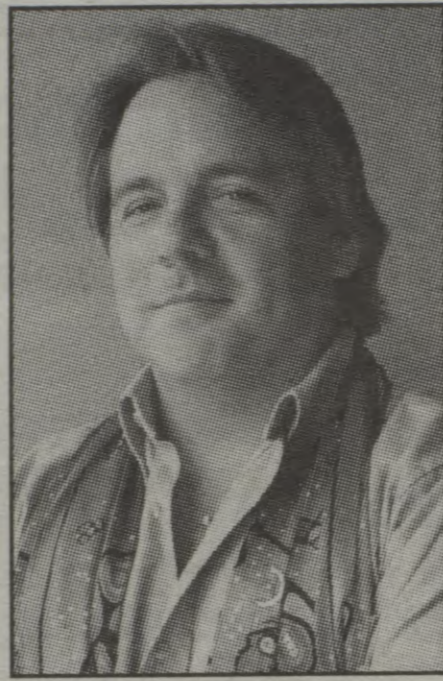
I am a playwright, amongst a few other related professions. More specifically, a First Nation playwright, a contemporary storyteller, a teller of tales both dark and amusing.

I, like many of my fellow literary artists, spend my career writing about the issues and problems faced by our present day Native population. For many, it's a way of dealing with the trauma caused by what I call P.C.S.D (Post Contact Stress Disorder).

Many Indigenous cultures around the world suffer from it. It often manifests itself in an inability to comfortably co-exist with in an invasive culture, and a difficulty in manoeuvring through its complex and oppressive social conventions, frequently resulting in tragic situations.

Our contemporary literature is rife with stories about the scoop-up, residential schools, the reserve system, racism, and the other many repercussions of colonialism.†

There is a line in the introduction to Tomson Highway's play, "The Rez Sisters", where it's stated "Before the healing can take place, the poison must be exposed." That is why we write. Think of us as putting our lips to the wound and trying to suck out the poison.



THE URBANE INDIAN Drew Hayden Taylor

The issue de jour in the Native community seems to be the 1,200 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada. I do not say this flippantly. If there is ever such a topic that needs addressing, I cannot think of a better one. For the last 10 or 15 years, there has been a plethora of fiction and non-fiction books and plays coming out of the Native community dealing with residential school survival. I know, I have written one myself. So it's only natural that this new horrible statistic will be necessarily embraced and explored artistically. I myself have been toying with the idea of crafting a story attacking this issue. Already an anthology titled "Kwe: Standing With Our Sisters," published by Penguin Books was launched in December. The book contains never before published material

by such authors as Joseph Boyden, Lee Maracle and Richard Van Camp. All royalties will go to Amnesty International: No More Stolen Sisters.

But how does one tackle a story like this on a larger dramatic canvas? In the larger Canadian and Aboriginal literary community, I am primarily known as a humourist, but obviously, that's not the path to follow. I have yet to see a successful comedy about the Holocaust. Some might argue the Academy Award winning Italian film "Life Is Beautiful" attempted that, but personally I am not sure how successful it was.

Last December when I was in Trivandrum, India participating in a conference on cultural humour, I sat in the audience listening to a woman from Tel

Aviv, Israel give a lecture on "Humour and the Holocaust". However, her talk dealt more with Jewish humour than specifically the Holocaust.

Back to my point, 1,200 missing and murdered Aboriginal women—The Play. There certainly wouldn't be a lack of characters to choose from. To start off with, there are those 1,200 women, plus the dozen or so people that knew each of them and cared for them (I am being admittedly conservative here but I needed a number to play with). There are several different villains/antagonists, ranging from the evil and despotic men responsible for the issue being discussed, to the leader of this country who insists the mysterious absence on this planet of those women is merely a coincidence of crime, not a sociological phenomenon.

After all, who could possibly conceive the disappearance of 1,200 racially similar women, many of them with the same socio-economic background, having a sociological origin? I mean, you have 1,200 Native women (or men) doing anything together any other time and the sociologists and anthropologist would be all over it.

As for a location for the play to take place... How about all across the country? The whole nation is a stage. In fact, much

of the action is still taking place. Ask Renelle Harper and Tina Fontaine in Winnipeg. Actually, you can't ask Tina. Same with Loretta Saunders. She was an Inuk student living in Halifax that was found murdered last February. Ironically she was attending university and studying the issue of missing and murdered Aboriginal women. A touch of tragic irony for the play.

Perhaps my friend Columpa Bobb put it best. She's a Native actress and theatre director currently living in Winnipeg. "I am the most hunted urban bipedal mammal in our country. There is no bigger game than me. This both frightens me to my core, threatening to make me retreat into invisibility. It also bolsters my resolve to take my rightful human place."

She reflects the sentiment of many Native women with whom I have chatted with across this country called Canada. It's like a horror movie. Something insidious is happening to the Native women of this country, and the authorities just don't believe it!

All things considered, I may leave the writing of this play/novel/movie to somebody else. For me, the third act still has yet to be written. I know it's a long shot but I am hoping it has a happy ending.

If that's possible.

Expect a full airing of the truth, said TRC Chair

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

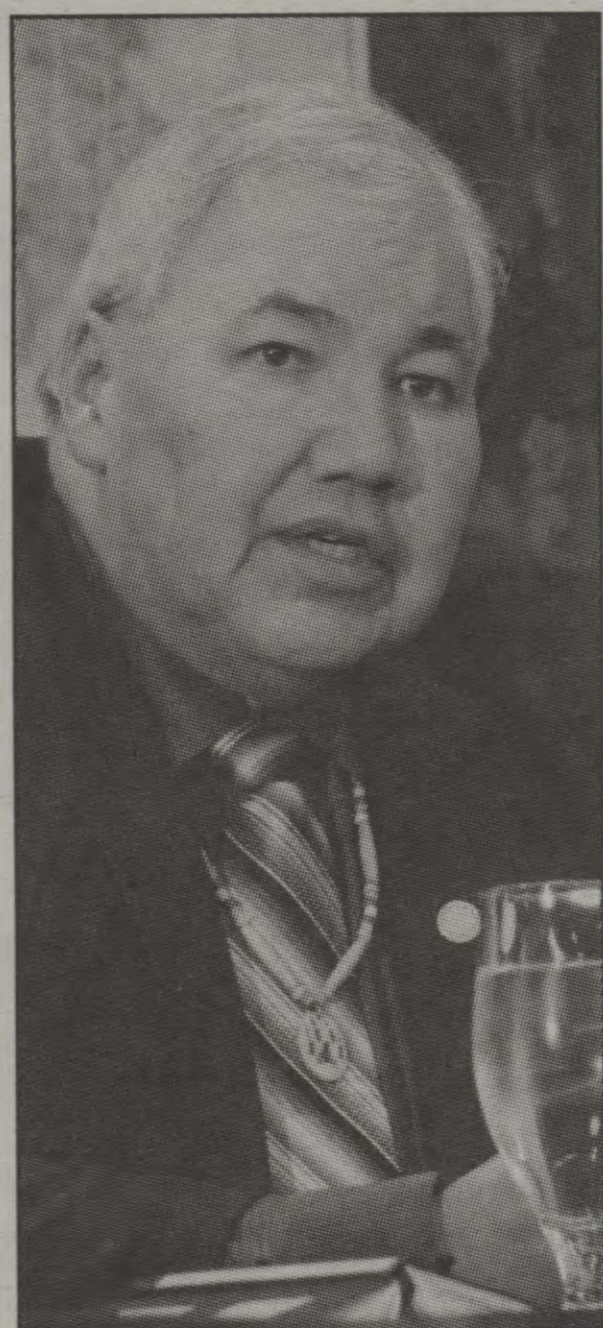
WINNIPEG

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is promising a scathing – and sweeping – report on the federal government and Canadian society.

"Our work of truth telling and truth collecting was not easy. We had challenges throughout," said TRC Chair Justice Murray Sinclair, at the Special Chiefs Assembly in December in Winnipeg. He said he expected this to be the last time he addressed the Assembly of First Nations since the TRC's mandate ends July 1, 2015.

Sinclair singled out the federal government's reticence in handing over documents that dealt with Indian residential schools as one of the TRC's "significant challenges." The result was three separate occasions in court, all of which ended with the TRC winning. Sinclair said four million documents, from a variety of sources, have been collected to date, and he expected that number to double.

Sinclair also said that the narrow scope of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, which names only 140 Indian residential schools, has "saddled and hampered" the commission's work. Excluded



TRC Chair Justice Murray Sinclair

from compensation are students who attended any of the non-prescribed schools; day scholars; attendees of residential schools in Newfoundland and Labrador; attendees of Metis residential schools; and those who resided in foster homes and group homes.

"There's a significant group of students still waiting for justice for their situation," said Sinclair. "This is a matter we will be addressing in our final report."

The first two volumes of the report will deal with the history of the residential schools and expand on the TRC's 2012 interim report. Children taken away to residential school but who never came home, whether they died at school, died running away, or are simply missing, will also be examined.

But the report will not focus solely on residential schools. It will also look at what Sinclair referred to as "legacy issues," the ongoing impacts on residential school survivors, their descendants and their communities.

"The intention behind the schools was to eliminate Aboriginal culture and Aboriginal languages as very expressly stated in the set-up of the schools, in the way they were established, but it was also stated as an ongoing purpose of the schools existence," said Sinclair.

The results have been the loss of culture, language, ceremony and spirituality, which has all led to health issues for Aboriginal people; high rates of incarceration and victimization; thousands of murdered and missing Aboriginal men and women; and the loss of economy and education directly related to living in poverty.

"Residential schools were about taking children away from their families in order to acculturate them into a different

way of thinking. So residential schools really were just a huge child welfare system and you see the ongoing impact of that role in child welfare system today," said Sinclair. "We intend to talk about the fact that the child welfare system is continuing, is perpetuating the work of residential schools in many ways, continuing to take children away from parents but also placing them into environments in which they cannot receive their culture, cannot receive their language and do not know who their families and communities are."

The report on reconciliation may number three volumes, said Sinclair.

"We know there is a lot to be said about reconciliation. (The TRC is) calling for a new attitude and new vision in terms of the relationship in Canada towards Aboriginal people. We are going to talk about the dangers of doing nothing. We know if this country continues on the course that it has... that there are going to be issues that are going to be brought to the public fore that are not going to be pleasant for everybody," said Sinclair.

He stressed that reconciliation was not an Aboriginal issue but a Canadian issue.

"Everybody who is in position of leadership in this country needs to take action, needs to support action, because we're of the view that if we wait for the

groundswell of movement among the Canadian public, it's not going to appear soon enough... We know that leaders need to step up, leaders need to show the way of reconciliation. Leaders on both sides need to question the way that they are doing their work, that they are talking to and about each other to ensure that those conversations are being held in a positive way," said Sinclair.

Perhaps an indication of successful listening can be seen in the recent ruling by the BC Supreme Court to extend the deadline for the \$3,000 personal education credits. The request was filed in court by Justice Canada at the urging of AFN, said AFN Communications Officer Jenna Young. All signatories to the IRSSA agreed to the extension. With personal education credits finalized only as of October 2013, less than one-third of the approximately 79,000 eligible Common Experience Payment recipients had submitted applications by December 2014.

The closing ceremony for the TRC will be held May 31 to June 2 in Ottawa. It will begin with a reconciliation march, which Sinclair said is important.

"We know without that public display, without that public showing, (people) will be able to say this is all irrelevant, no longer of any importance," he said.

Solitary confinement crammed with Aboriginal inmates

By David P. Ball
Windspeaker Contributor

Isolation. Seg. The Hole. The Cooler. Special Handling Unit (pronounced "shoe").

There are many terms for the segregation cells for prisoners banned from mingling with their peers behind bars. But a new lawsuit is seeking to curb the "over-reliance" on solitary confinement in Canada, particularly in cases when no offence was committed to warrant isolation.

Prisoner advocates John Howard Society and the B.C. Civil Liberties Association launched their constitutional challenge in B.C.'s Supreme Court on Jan. 19, the first of its kind against segregation in Canada, arguing the practice is discriminatory against Aboriginal people and those with mental health conditions.

"Prisoners may be held in solitary confinement for months and years at a time," said a lawyer on the case, Alison Latimer with Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy LLP.

When it comes to inmates segregated for purely administrative, not disciplinary, reasons, the rationale for being thrown in the Hole is "very broad and very vague," she continued, "and the prisoners may not have a very good understanding of why they're being segregated, how long that segregation's going to last, or how they'll bring it to an end."

Only two per cent of prisoners in solitary actually committed an offence. The rest are deemed a risk to the institution, themselves or other prisoners. And unlike disciplinary segregation, where the accused is entitled to legal counsel, a hearing process, and periodic reviews, when it comes



PHOTO: DAVID P. BALL

At a Jan. 19 press conference announcing the first constitutional challenge to solitary confinement in Canada, John Howard Society executive director Julia Payson called increasing reliance on the practice "cruel and unusual punishment."

to administrative cases, "It's not subject to external oversight or time limits," Latimer explained.

The numbers are revealing: one in every five federal inmates is, at some point, tossed into the Hole.

For Canada's prisons watchdog, Howard Sapers, the reasons for so many Aboriginal prisoners being cast into isolation for indefinite periods of time are myriad, but likely stem from the same root causes that have filled the country's jails with Indigenous inmates in the first place.

In fact, despite making up only 3.8 per cent of the Canadian population, Aboriginal people make up 23.2 per cent of the total number of inmates, according to Sapers' office. In segregation it's even worse: 31 per cent of segregated inmates are Aboriginal; they

spent nearly 16 per cent longer in the Hole than non-Aboriginal prisoners.

Aboriginal individuals who come into conflict with the law include life histories of "mental illness, of substance abuse, personal trauma," Sapers explained, "and that disadvantage carries with them into prison, where they find themselves often running into conflict with the rules of running a prison."

In addition, Aboriginal people are more concentrated in higher-security classifications when it comes to federal corrections. Since segregation rates go up in maximum security, so do the disproportionate numbers of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in solitary.

"It's a bit of a vicious cycle," Sapers argued.

In launching the lawsuit, the

John Howard Society cited the 2010 suicide of Eddie Snowshoe, a Northwest Territories Aboriginal man imprisoned after a botched robbery attempt. At the time of his death, the 24-year-old had been under segregation for 162 days after he fashioned a makeshift blade. He had tried to kill himself a previous four times in the Hole, in a cell only nine square metres in size. Last July, an inquiry into his death ruled Snowshoe "fell through the cracks."

Only three years earlier, Ashley Smith, 19, took a similar path after more than 1,000 days in the Hole; in an emotionally charged inquest into her suicide, the jury ruled her self-choking death was in fact "homicide." But last December, the federal government announced it would nonetheless ignore recommendations to curb administrative segregation.

Smith and Snowshoe may have been isolated, but they were not alone: out of a staggering 8,700 inmates sent into the cooler in 2011 and 2012, Sapers reported, one in every six were left there for more than four months. More than half for more than a month.

"In solitary confinement, people end up with psychosis, they can end up with hallucinations, mental confusion, breakdowns," said

Julia Payson, executive director of the John Howard Society of B.C. "All of these things are exacerbating behavioural issues that had them go into solitary confinement ... They may even exit with a new mental health illness because of the conditions inside solitary confinement. That has a long-term impact on their ability to reintegrate, to be successful, to build a life outside of prison."

Segregation is also on the rise, according to Sapers' 2013 report. Over the previous five years, it swelled by 6.5 per cent.

But according to Jason Tamming, a spokesman for Canada's public safety minister, the government's priorities remain on the victims of crime — not those who commit it. Therefore the Correctional Service Canada "uses all of its tools to make sure the corrections system actually corrects criminal behaviour, including the use of segregation," Tamming said in an email.

Nonetheless, Sapers revealed that in fact the federal government recently agreed to an "international benchmarking review of segregation practices around the world," and he vowed to continue to investigate the practice and make recommendations for reform.

"I am hopeful there's still room for some policy and operational changes," he said. Although he said he was not authorized to comment on the lawsuit, Sapers said he'll be watching closely what the courts decide on a cause he's championed for years.

Despite Sapers' numerous investigations as well as scathing findings from inquests into the suicides of Smith and Snowshoe, lawyer Latimer argued that even though "many of [his] reports identified the very same problems, the government fails to act." She insisted that the lawsuit is not aimed at stopping all segregation — but to curb its misuse and ensure there is accountability and oversight.

"The benefit of a lawsuit is when the court finds the law is unconstitutional, the government must act," she said. "We just can't wait any longer for the federal government to choose to do something."

Celebrate creativity,
heritage and legacy.

Between the ages of 11 and 29?



ABORIGINAL
ARTS & STORIES

Win up to \$2,000 and
other great prizes!

Showcase your creativity
and explore your heritage.

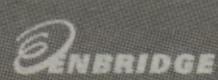
Deadline: March 31
1.866.701.1867

OUR-STORY.CA

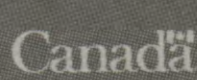
A Project of



Presenting Sponsor



Supporting Sponsors



Media Sponsors



Looking for your ideal career?
Check out our career listings on
page 21 and also
browse through more career
listings online only at:
www.ammsa.com

Atleo, Mercredi at odds with BC's Coastal Nations

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

Art Sterritt regrets that his desire to meet with former Assembly of First Nations national chiefs Shawn Atleo and Ovide Mercredi was made public before he had a chance to pick up the telephone, but he notes that Atleo and Mercredi, now advisors with Pacific Future Energy, could have got in contact with him.

"We have a couple of people who've come in, gone to work for an oil company and never bothered to talk to us before they went there and have not reached out to the group who has been the most vocal about this thing for the past decade," said Sterritt, executive director with the BC Coastal First Nations.

"It's a two-way street. If they want to reach out, we're still there."

The Coastal First Nations is at the forefront of preventing oil from coming through the north coast. And that is still the position the group holds despite Pacific Future Energy's proposal of the "world's greenest refinery," a \$10-billion project for the Prince Rupert area, which would "turn Alberta's raw bitumen into high value refined products ...

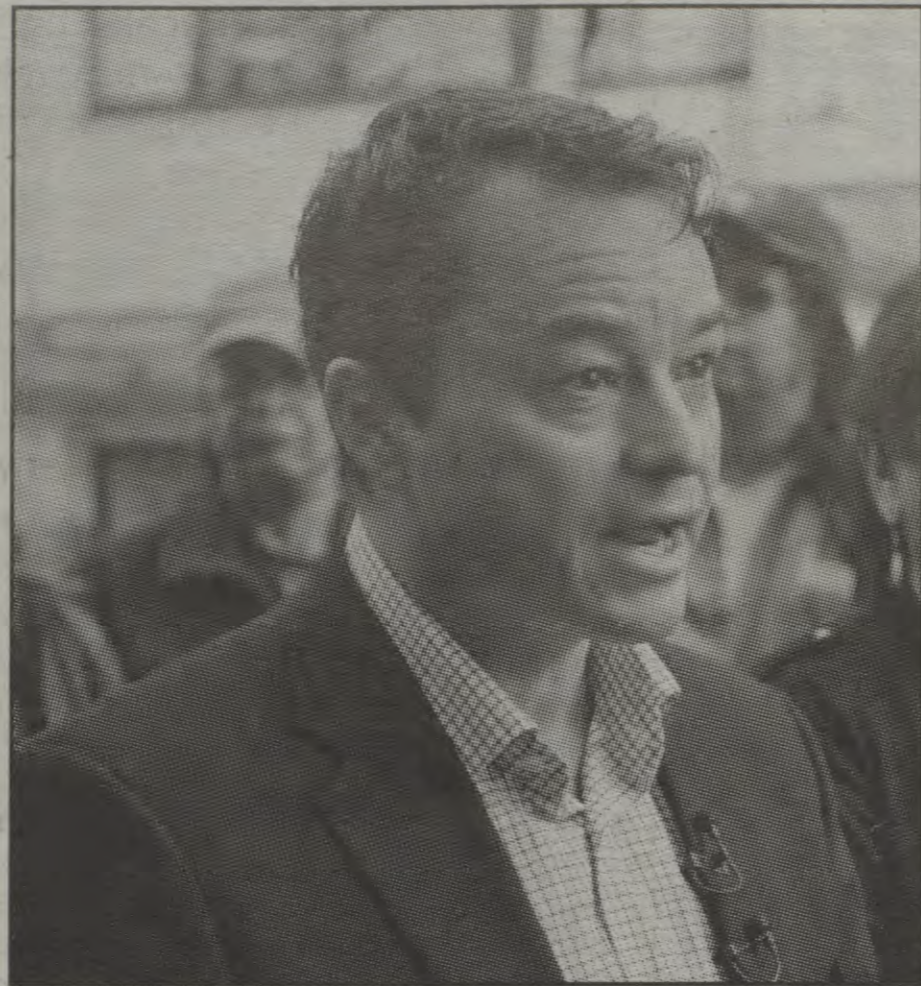


PHOTO: FILE

Former AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo

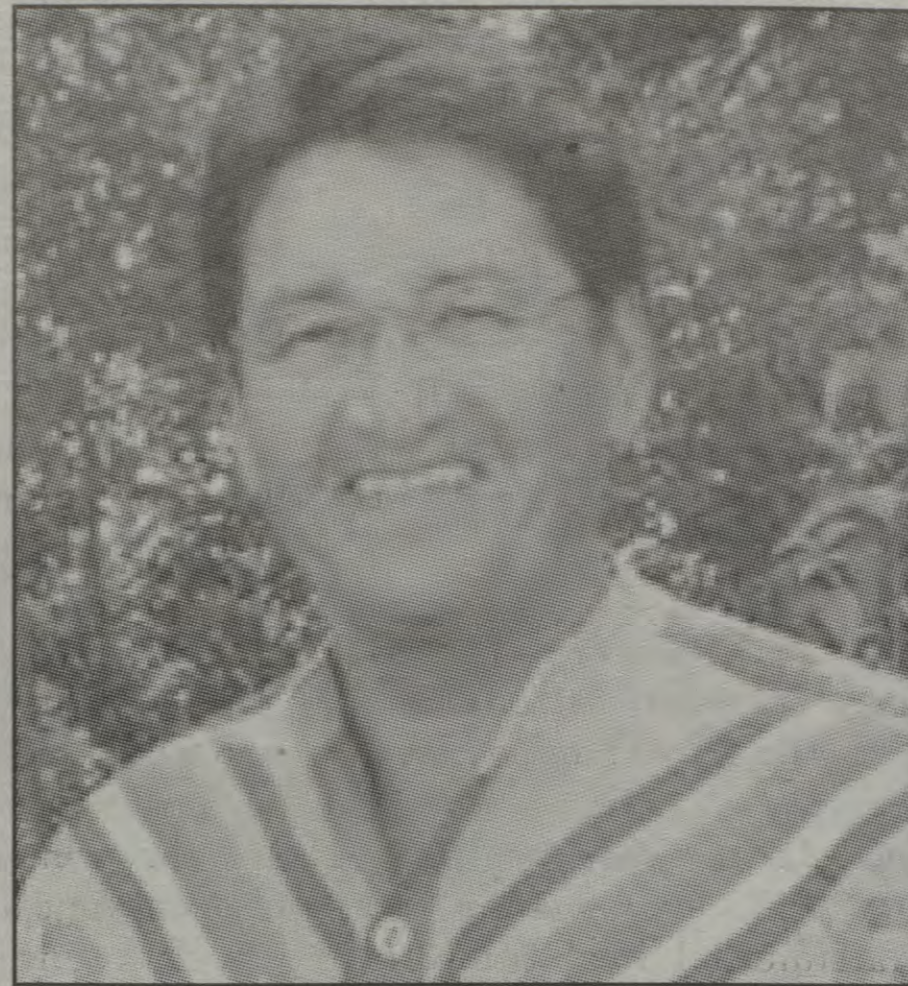


PHOTO: FILE

Former AFN National Chief Ovide Mercredi

but it won't be done at any cost to our coast or the broader environment," reads the company's website.

Sterritt, who says he respects both Atleo and Mercredi and has had numerous conversations with both men before they signed on with Pacific Future, wanted to talk to the former leaders about "stepping down." In December, Pacific Future announced Atleo was joining the company's senior management team in the role of "senior advisor-partnerships." Mercredi was named to the Pacific Future's advisory board.

"There's nothing we can do to make them step down ... but certainly they're not going to get any freeway when it comes to oil. I have a very clear mandate from my communities," said Sterritt. "We've been very clear with all those (proposed developments that) exposing the north coast, the Great Bear rainforest, to any dangers from oil is not something we're going to abide by."

Sterritt is willing to give Mercredi a break in understanding the position of the Coastal First Nations because Mercredi is not from BC, but

Atleo is from BC and the Coastal First Nations have discussed their concerns with him numerous times when he held the position of national chief.

Sterritt said he would be interested in hearing from Atleo and Mercredi as to why they think Pacific Future's project should proceed. However, Sterritt is clear that there is no "wiggle room" when it comes to moving oil through the Great Bear rainforest.

While Sterritt does see the advantage of having two former AFN chiefs in the boardroom of Pacific Future Energy if they take

the Coastal First Nations' message to the rest of the company.

"It would be our hope that they would get a full body of knowledge about why we have the position we have and why a new slant on this is not going to do the trick," said Sterritt.

Newly elected AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde agrees there are advantages to having First Nations people involved within organizations and governments.

"I would see them as potential allies ... if they're inside around those board room tables, if they're inside around those management team tables ... that they're saying the things they've been espousing when they were former national chiefs or former chiefs at the community level," said Bellegarde.

He adds that the AFN can "be hammering from the outside," but work from within—whether in the corporate boardrooms or provincial and federal cabinets—is valuable.

"But having said that, those people, I would hope and pray, they have an Indigenous person's perspective and worldview about land and water and how precious that is to our people, how important it is to respect and reflect inherent rights and treaty rights," said Bellegarde.

Family of missing woman demands new Pickton murder charges

By David P. Ball
Windspeaker Contributor

The mother of a young woman whose skeletal remains were found on Robert Pickton's farm—but forgotten about in storage for years—is demanding murder charges be brought against the convicted serial killer so she can find closure.

Michele Pineault's daughter Stephanie Lane was 20 when she went missing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in January 1997. Next year, Lane's son will be the same age as his mother was when she disappeared.

During the 2003 police investigation, authorities informed Pineault that her daughter's DNA was found in one of Pickton's freezers, but there was not enough of it to charge him. However, if they found more than fluids, they would charge him. In 2007, Pickton was convicted of the second-degree murders of six women, after the Crown dropped 20 other murder charges.

None were ever laid in Lane's murder, or five others whose DNA was found on the notorious farm.

Last August—more than a decade after police raided Pickton's property, sparking the largest police crime scene

investigation in Canadian history—came an unexpected shock for Pineault. Accompanied by an apology from the Coroner's Service, she learned the RCMP had her daughter's partial skeletal remains in storage until 2010, when they transferred them to the coroner.

"They just repeated over and over that it was an oversight," Pineault said, tearfully, in the offices of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs. "She should have been at home years and years ago. To be told that there's only DNA evidence found, to accept that, to live with that, and to know that you're not going to have justice because of that—and to find out 11 years later they did indeed have evidence, it's just not acceptable."

The provincial coroner's service apologized to Pineault for the delay, but in a statement to media said the remains are not considered new evidence because they were part of the initial investigation of Pickton's Port Coquitlam property.

The "sole issue," the statement read, "is the unfortunate delay in returning the remains to the family of Ms. Lane ... The BC Coroners Service regrets it cannot explain this delay, as none of the current senior management team were in their

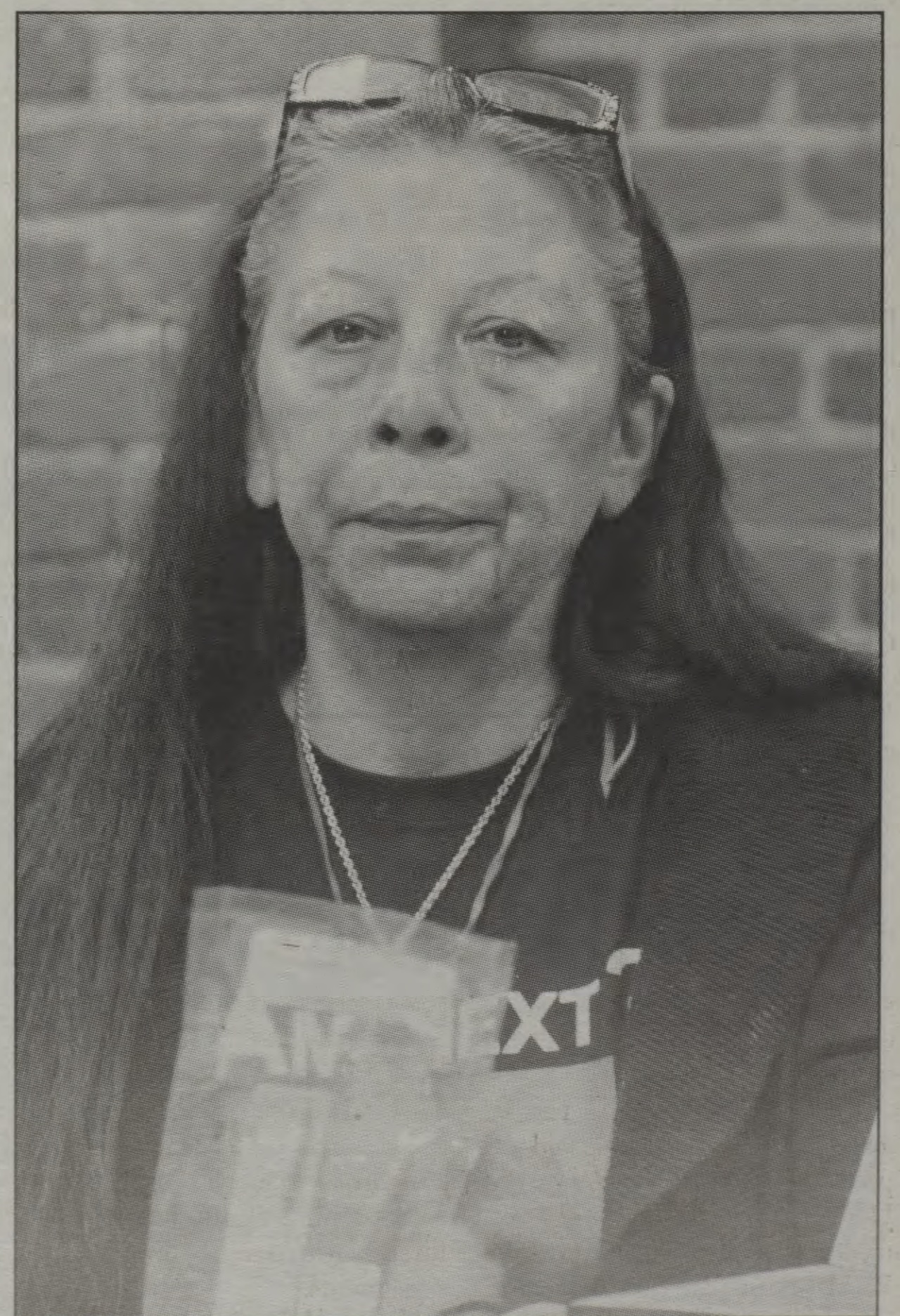
positions at the time, and those who were involved are no longer employed by the BC Coroners Service." The province's justice ministry did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday.

In late 2011, the province launched a Missing Women's Commission of Inquiry. More than a year later, it released a scathing report citing "critical police failures," and racism and sexism, that hampered dozens of B.C. missing person cases.

Last year, the BC Liberal government announced it would invest \$5 million towards implementing the inquiry's recommendations and compensating victims' families, but many advocates remain critical of what they call an inadequate response and unaddressed recommendations.

At Wednesday's press conference, several organizations reissued their calls for a national inquiry into what the RCMP admitted last year are more than 1,200 missing or murdered Aboriginal women's cases across the country.

"I want justice for my daughter and grandson who's lived his entire life without a mother," Pineault said. "... I have no answers at all. That's what I'm seeking."



Michele Pineault's daughter Stephanie Lane was 20 when she went missing from Vancouver in 1997.

Valcourt rejects new law; Council remains unconcerned

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

KAHNAWÀ:KE

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke has added one more law that challenges federal authority in its community.

"It's a jurisdictional dispute. We are the elected council in the community ... we have operated outside the scope of *Indian Act*. We have taken mandates from the community and developed in their own jurisdiction and territory so we've been creating laws ... for many years," said Chief Lloyd Phillips.

In December, council received word from Aboriginal Affairs Canada that its recently adopted Kahnawà:ke Family Homes and Matrimonial Interests Law would not be recognized by Ottawa.

"It has come to my attention that your proposed law has not been approved in accordance with the Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act or under the authority on the First Nations Land Management Act. I am not able under section 11(6) of the Act to list the name of your First Nation on the Department's website as having a community-specific matrimonial real property law in force under the Act," wrote Minister Bernard Valcourt.

Notice from the federal government will not slow down the process, said Phillips, who was a driving force behind the new

law. In fact, he says, work is being undertaken right now through the community's *Justice Act* to ensure the smooth implementation of the *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law*.

"When we created our own law, we never had the intention of asking approval from the federal government," said Phillips. Information about the law was sent to Ottawa simply as notification and so the community could be included in a list of First Nations with matrimonial laws, which would take precedent over the provincial court.

The *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law* replaces Canada's S-2 'Matrimonial Real Interests' legislation, which gives provincial courts jurisdiction to adjudicate in the division of property when a marriage or common-law relationship ends. Phillips is clear that the *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law* is outside the scope of S-2 and instead based on inherent rights and the council's authority in the community.

"(S-2) was totally unacceptable to us," said Phillips. The council began working on its own matrimonial law in April 2013, passing the *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law* unanimously in October 2014 using the Urgent Process of the Community Decision Making Process. A Mohawk Council Resolution in December brought the law into force. Phillips expects it to be implemented by this spring.

Under the *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law*, final decision-making powers fall under the jurisdiction of the community's Justices of the Peace. Having a JP make a ruling is the last resort, says Phillips, who notes that it is the goal of the law to implement traditional processes that result in consensus decision-making.

"We want to ensure there's a fair division of properties and that children are a priority in any type of decision that is rendered," said Phillips.

He also notes that local judges will take into consideration lands that historically belong to families while a provincial judge will not make the same distinction.

As the council moves forward following the community's ratification of the *Kahnawà:ke Justice Act*, which allows for the full implementation of the *Kahnawà:ke Family Homes Law*, Phillips says council will not be stymied by the fact that the federal government does not recognize any of the laws enacted by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke.

In Valcourt's letter, he states, "Our records also indicate your First Nation is not operating under a negotiated self-government agreement with Canada that includes First Nation jurisdiction over reserve land."

"There's always that argument with the outside on whose law applies. But it's very clear to us that our law supersedes any law from federal or provincial," said Phillips.

Yukon to appeal Peel

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

INUVIK

There is no "reconciliation" — despite the urging of a Yukon Supreme Court justice—on the part of the Yukon government when it comes to working with First Nations to protect the Peel River watershed.

The Yukon government's decision to appeal a Dec. 1, 2014 court ruling to protect 67,000 square kilometres of wilderness in northern Yukon is no surprise, said Norman Snowshoe, vice president of the Gwich'in Tribal Council.

In his 92-page decision, Justice Ron Veale wrote, "I have concluded that the process adopted by the Government of Yukon to create the Government approved plan was not based upon a contextual interpretation of s. 11.6.0, nor did it enhance the goal of reconciliation. It was an ungenerous interpretation not consistent with the honour and integrity of the Crown."

Veale said the Yukon government had not followed the process established through the Umbrella Final Agreement, undertaking modifications to the Peel land use plan on its own and not abiding by the Peel Watershed Planning Commission's findings of 2011.

The commission's final land use plan, which was created over five years at a cost of \$1.6 million, called for up to 80 per cent of the watershed to be withdrawn from any industrial development, including mineral staking.

However, following the 2011 territorial election, the Yukon Party government rejected the commission's plan, developing its own plan. That new plan, approved in January 2014, protects less than 30 per cent of the land from development.

Veale said the government could not be allowed "to benefit from its flawed process" and he limited the modifications the government could make to the plan to simplifying and streamlining the documents.

"It's a full victory," said Snowshoe. The Gwich'in First Nation, based in the Northwest Territories, acted as an intervener as it has traditional territory in the Peel watershed. The court action was undertaken by the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun, and the Tr'ondek Hwech'in, along with the Yukon Conservation Society and the Yukon chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

"The courts clearly sided on the First Nations with land claim agreements."

Veale said that "the key principle is that modern treaties must be interpreted in a manner that

fosters a positive long-term relationship between First Nations and Government of Yukon as well as between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities."

Snowshoe said the Yukon government is failing to foster that relationship.

"By the appeal process alone it clearly demonstrates that they don't support the treaty-making process with First Nations," said Snowshoe. "These treaties were made to share not only the resources but the land Unfortunately that sharing concept has been forgotten by some governments. It's unfortunate that the legal avenue is the way to remind them of that."

Snowshoe said the Peel watershed, both its protection and management, will continue to be a priority for First Nations.

"When we signed up for land claim agreement, we clearly understood that there was going to be a plan for that area not by one party but by all First Nations of the area," he said. "We do have rights clearly established by our land claim agreement and we will defend those rights wholeheartedly."

The court decision has brought a halt to the Dawson Regional Land Use planning process as it is governed by the same section of the Umbrella Final Agreement that guided the Peel planning process.

Windspeaker News Briefs

ALDERVILLE FIRST NATION HAS WON A MINISTER'S AWARD for Environmental Excellence for its efforts in protecting the Black Oak Savanna from development and restoring the rare ecosystems. The 150 acres of former farmland is home to more than 20 species at risk and 163 species of birds. The award was presented by Glen Murray, minister of the Environment and Climate for Ontario, on Jan. 20.

Community members took part in education workshops, tours and special events to help protect the area.

The Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence recognizes and encourages environmental excellence, fosters innovation and raises awareness about the importance of protecting the environment. Since 2011, the program has recognized the environmental achievements of 40 organizations. This year Alderville First Nation was one of nine groups across Ontario to win the award.

A GENETIC MUTATION RESPONSIBLE FOR GLYCOGEN STORAGE disease type IIIa has been identified in Inuit in northern Quebec by a team of Canadian and Japanese researchers. They reported their findings in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*.

Glycogen storage disease type IIIa is an inherited metabolic disorder that interferes with the body's ability to release sugar from glycogen for energy, reads a press statement from the University of Manitoba. Excessive glycogen deposits can damage the liver, heart and skeletal muscle. Symptoms include recurrent low blood sugar levels (hypoglycemia), enlarged liver and muscle weakness.

The researchers conservatively estimate that about one in 2,500 people in Nunavik may have glycogen storage disease type IIIa. The mutation had been previously reported in 12 North African Jewish patients but never in North American children and had gone undetected during a decade of investigation by the Canadian and Japanese researchers.

"This discovery will help interested families and communities receive genetic counselling and screening to help identify and manage the disease," said Celia Rodd from the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health at the University of Manitoba. "Early diagnosis may help prevent hypoglycemia and organ damage in infants and serious health complications."

THE COASTAL FIRST NATIONS AND THE COUNCIL

and hereditary leadership of the Gitga'at First Nation have launched a constitutional challenge against British Columbia to compel the province to exercise its decision-making power over the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline. The petition says B.C. is required to review the impacts of the project and make a decision as to whether it should proceed and, if so, on what conditions.

The lawsuit argues that B.C. failed to consult with First Nations and failed to follow the *British Columbia Environmental Assessment Act* when it entered into an "Equivalency Agreement" with the federal National Energy Board. Through that agreement, the province abdicated its power to review the project's environmental effects and to impose more stringent environmental protections, First Nations leadership insist.

"The province signed the Equivalency Agreement without any consultation with First Nations, even though the Northern Gateway project could have devastating impacts on our rights and way of life," said Arnold Clifton, chief councillor of the Gitga'at First Nation. "Our territories are within the shipping route that would be used by hundreds of tankers each year. In abdicating its decision-making power, the province is putting coastal communities at risk of the severe and irreversible harm of oil spills and oil tanker traffic."

The Gitga'at First Nation and Coastal First Nations are bringing a direct challenge against the Equivalency Agreement, which they argue was made in violation of their constitutionally protected rights and the *Environmental Assessment Act* itself.

The lawsuit contends that while the province was entitled to reduce duplication and overlap by participating in the federal assessment process, it was not entitled to abdicate its decision-making power over the project.

APTN NATIONAL NEWS REPORTS THE HARPER GOVERNMENT has cut \$60 million from Aboriginal organizations' core and project funding over three years, with Inuit groups hit the hardest.

The news organization had obtained a copy of an Assembly of First Nations analysis based on federal numbers as of Jan. 7. "First Nations organizations absorbed 65.5 per cent worth of cuts... Métis organizations saw cuts of 39 per cent, non-status Indian organizations 14 per cent and women's organizations were hit with a seven per cent cut." But Inuit organizations got hit with 71 per cent cuts.

[news]

Bellegarde promises forceful diplomacy in dealing with feds

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

Not even two weeks after Perry Bellegarde was elected national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Ottawa passed Bill C-428, the Indian Act Amendment and Replacement Act, legislation strongly opposed by First Nations.

"The federal government is unnecessarily adversarial," said Bellegarde. "They've moved beyond free, prior and informed consent. They don't respect the duty to consult and accommodate. They pass legislation that impacts on our rights and this is just another example."

In a prepared statement, Bernard Valcourt, minister of Aboriginal Affairs Canada, said, "This is consistent with our government's approach of taking incremental, concrete steps to create the conditions for healthier and more self-sufficient First Nation communities."

The new legislation was presented as a Private Members Bill by Rob Clarke, MP for Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River,

In a report presented by AFN BC Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, it was made clear that Bill C-428 was "well-intentioned but ... flawed"

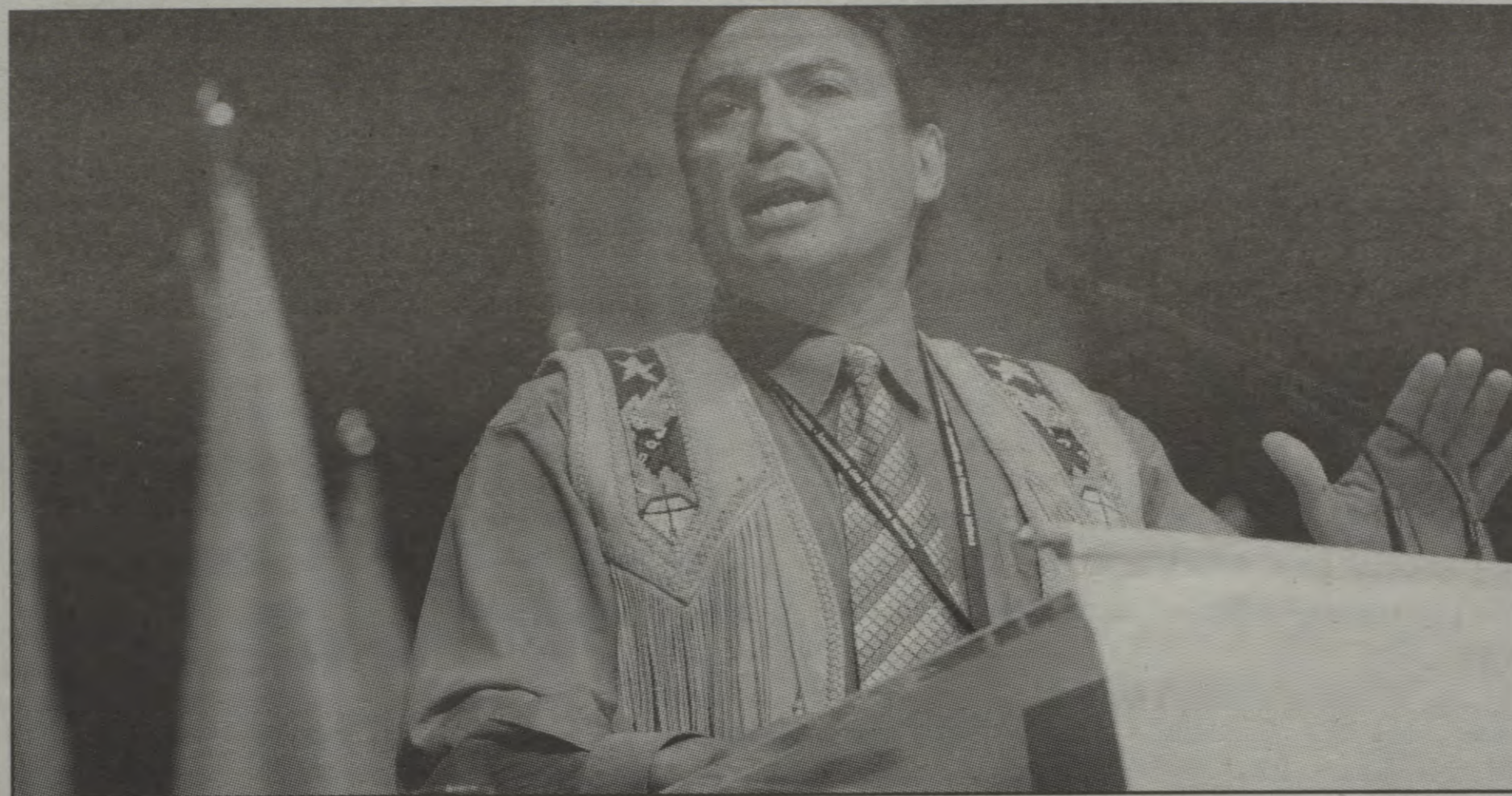


PHOTO: FILE

AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde

and not the correct means to tackle the outdated *Indian Act*.

"The good news is, however, First Nations do have solutions and are making progress in their efforts to move away from the *Indian Act* – despite progress being still far too slow.† We need to continue developing our solutions," said Wilson-Raybould. "Additional mechanisms are needed that support our nations at their option to move beyond the *Indian Act* when they are ready, willing and able."

Bellegarde said the federal government, however, is not listening. And the result of that practice last year was \$106 million in taxpayers' money being spent on lawyers as Ottawa

fought legal battles against First Nations.

"That's why I say it's unnecessarily confrontational. If we are to make any headway in this country, it shouldn't be adversarial like that. We've got to get to the table and we've always got to reach out because, the point I make is this, the status quo is not acceptable," said Bellegarde.

He points to the United Nations human development index for quality of life. At one point Canada was ranked as sixth, but at the same time, those living on First Nations were ranked at 63.

"It's the gap that exists," said Bellegarde. "And that's the issue that's got to be looked at. And

that's what has to be addressed because there's a high social cost to that. And there's a high cost to not respecting and recognizing treaty rights, there's a high cost to not respecting and recognizing Aboriginal rights and title, there's a high cost to not embracing new concepts like resource revenue sharing, and that's what we need to keep working on and rebuild this relationship that's unnecessarily confrontational into one that's respectful of each other's rights and each other's jurisdiction."

But if a recent interview conducted by *Maclean's* magazine with Valcourt is any indication, the man who has held the Aboriginal portfolio since early 2013, isn't budging. Despite a

renewed call by Bellegarde for a national inquiry on murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls, Valcourt is remaining adamantly opposed. He is also standing firmly behind the First Nations Financial Transparency Act – another piece of legislation opposed by First Nations due to lack of consultation – and has threatened sanctions against First Nations who have not yet posted online their audited statements.

Bellegarde said he will continue to push the government on the issues prioritized by the AFN in a "very diplomatic, forceful way. A way that fits with our rights. We'll never jeopardize or break away from inherent rights or treaty rights or the teaching that our Elders have bestowed to us, we'll never back away from those and government needs to get this."

Bellegarde promises to stick by the three-prong approach he touted while running for the position of national chief: legal strategy, political strategy, and political activism.

"We've got to continue to move towards First Nations being recognized not as a third order of government in Canada, but as a first order of government, where our laws can be recognized as well," said Bellegarde. "Canada continues to portray this myth that it was founded on two founding nations, French and English, and in a respectful way, we've always challenged that as Indigenous nations."

Law on the side of First Nation on Omnibus bills

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

MIKISEW CREE NATION

Yet another court ruling has come down telling Ottawa it needs to consult with First Nations, but there's a difference with the decision rendered by Justice Roger Hughes on Dec. 19.

In the Mikisew Cree Nation's challenge of the federal government's decision to push through Omnibus bills C-38 and C-45 in 2012, the court tells Ottawa when that consultation needs to take place.

"Up until this point there hasn't been a ruling which explicitly said there's an obligation to consult about legislation," said Jessica Clogg, executive director and senior counsel for West Coast Environmental Law.

Clogg's organization provided affidavit evidence for Mikisew in its challenge of the two pieces of legislation, which had sweeping ramifications on budgets and environmental laws.

In his 64-page ruling, Hughes wrote, "I find that upon the introduction of each of the

Omnibus Bills into Parliament, notice should have been given to the Mikisew in respect of those provisions that reasonably might have been expected to possibly impact upon their 'usual vocations' together with an opportunity to make submissions....In the present case, no notice was given and no opportunity to make submissions was provided."

Hughes noted that both bills passed "with remarkable speed" in 2012. Bill C-38 was introduced in April and became law in June, while Bill C-45 was introduced in October and passed in December.

However, Hughes did not grant an injunction to Mikisew, writing "the scope of the terms of such an order would be almost impossible to define."

"It feels great that there's some hope in the justice system of this country," said Mikisew Chief Steve Courtoreille. "But the sad part is that time and time again, the governments, both federal and provincial governments, they continue to create legislation and without consulting with the First Nations."

This is not the first time Mikisew Cree Nation has been

successful in a court challenge against federal legislation implemented without consultation.

"We took them to task and won our case in the Supreme Court in 2005. Isn't that good enough to say you have a legal responsibility, not only a fiduciary responsibility, to protect our interest? And why do we have to go to court to remind you?" said Courtoreille.

In 2005, the Mikisew argued in front of the Supreme Court of Canada that Ottawa had failed to adequately consult with them over plans to add traditional territory to Wood Buffalo National Park. The band is presently lobbying UNESCO to give the park an "at-risk" designation to further protect it from encroaching oil sands and hydroelectric projects.

Courtoreille believes that this latest decision is not only a victory for First Nations, but all Canadians.

"The environment affects everybody and if the government is going to cut out the Environmental Act and not protect the environment, well, what are they saying to the Canadian people? What is more important? The tarsands projects

that are pushing forward and (this) makes it a lot easier for them to get approvals rather than going through hearings and it's pretty scary how the future is going to look like if we allow them to continue," said Courtoreille.

Clogg agrees.

"In 2012, the federal government made a series of legal changes in order to facilitate major oil and gas development and they hoped those changes would allow projects to move through quickly. But, in fact, what they're seeing is that the failure to deal honourably with First Nations and their efforts to silence the public are backfiring on them and this case is just the latest example of the many problems that have resulted for the Crown," she said.

There are numerous reasons why Mikisew's legal victory should be lauded by Canadians, blogs Don Richardson, with Shared Value Solutions, a corporation in Ontario that "uses the power of business to solve social and environmental problems."

Not only will there be increased Aboriginal environmental oversight and stewardship on the

waterways and fish habitat, along with the application of Aboriginal traditional knowledge impacting government decisions, writes Richardson, but there will also be more federal environmental assessments and stronger partnerships between Aboriginal groups and industry.

Clogg says the ruling "should be seen as opportunity for the Crown to collaborate fully with First Nations governments in designing legislation that could impact Aboriginal and treaty rights. First Nations should be front and centre in designing what's appropriate."

However, the federal government is not taking that stand and has decided to appeal the decision.

"We cannot comment further on this case as it is now back before the courts," said Michelle Aron, communications advisor for Natural Resources Canada, in an email. "Our government remains committed to our plan for Responsible Resource Development, which strengthens environmental performance, enhances Aboriginal engagement and participation in natural resource development and creates jobs for Canadians."

Manitoba Pipestone: Special Section providing news from Manitoba

Sinclair family sees inquest as missed opportunity

The family of Brian Sinclair says an inquest into his death was "an opportunity wasted" to get at the root causes of racism that Aboriginal people face in Canada's health-care system. Sinclair, 45, a double-amputee, died of a treatable bladder infection while waiting 34 hours for care six years ago at Winnipeg's Health Sciences Centre. Inquest Judge Tim Preston said in his final report, released in December, that Sinclair "did not have to die," but rejected the family's pleas to rule the death a homicide on the grounds that failing to provide medical care was akin to failing to provide the necessities of life. Preston also denied the Sinclair family's call to direct the Manitoba government to convene an inquest into how Aboriginal people are treated in the health-care system. Preston made 63 recommendations aimed primarily at policy reviews at the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to ensure what happened to Sinclair doesn't occur again. Some staff testified that they assumed Sinclair was drunk, "sleeping it off," or homeless. By the time he was discovered dead, rigor mortis had set in. Both Health Minister Sharon Blady and the health authority have apologized to Sinclair's family.

Injunction to delay Bipole 3 denied

Sapotaweyak Cree Nation's application for an injunction to halt clear cutting its ancestral lands between Swan River and The Pas in the construction of

Manitoba Hydro's Bipole 3 transmission has been denied. A Court of Queen's Bench judge dismissed the application with reasons to come at a later date. "The judge clearly sided with Manitoba Hydro's economic interests over our Constitutional claims, interests and ambitions," said Chief Nelson Genaille. Bipole 3 is a key part of a multi-billion-dollar plan to build new hydro dams in northern Manitoba and bring it south to homes and businesses.

Government apologizes for past Hydro development

The government of Manitoba has formally apologized to all people and communities affected by past hydroelectric development, including all Northern Flood Agreement First Nations. "Many initiatives have been undertaken to address adverse effects of hydro development, and we recognize that reconciliation is an ongoing process," said Premier Greg Selinger in a statement issued in Cross Lake. The government says it is committed to working with First Nations on future developments, pointing out that the Wuskwatim project was developed in partnership with Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation while the Keeyask Project was a collaborative effort among Manitoba Hydro and Tataskweyak Cree Nation, York Factory First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation. Deputy Premier Eric Robinson, minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro, said, "We acknowledge there is more work to be done with First Nations

towards further reconciliation,"

Culturally-appropriate sexual assault program funded

The Manitoba government will provide \$150,000 over three years and team up with Ka Ni Kanichihk, a resource centre that helps Indigenous families in the city's North End, to offer culturally appropriate counselling and services for sexual assault victims. Ka Ni Kanichihk will hire and train a counsellor and set up a network of Elders to provide immediate and ongoing support. It will also work with Klinik, the Health Sciences Centre and Winnipeg police. Leslie Spillett, the centre's executive director, says while other services exist, they are not Aboriginal-run and she hopes that if women and girls feel comfortable coming to Ka Ni Kanichihk, perhaps they will feel safe enough to go to the police or seek medical or other help. The funding, which will be \$50,000 for each of the next three years, falls under the province's domestic violence prevention strategy.

AMC suffers significant cut in federal funding

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs has received \$106,000 from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada - after requesting a total grant of \$2.6 million. Grand Chief Derek Nepinak says Ottawa is failing to act in good faith and introducing "political" changes in procedures to secure funding. Prior to 2012, AMC received a budget, including core expenses and projects, of \$10 million to \$15 million through Aboriginal

Affairs and Health Canada. Aboriginal Affairs has imposed the latest cuts, \$2 million last year and roughly another \$2 million this year. The department said its focus is to "ensure that funding for organizations is directed at the delivery of essential services and programs for Aboriginal peoples." Nepinak said the cuts came without warning, with the AMC only learning of them three-quarters of the way through the fiscal year, well after projects were underway. Proposals that were denied funding include renewable energy solutions for northern communities, policy frameworks on resource equity, environmental research and food security in Manitoba First Nations and proposals for helping First Nations residents make successful transitions to urban living from life on often remote rural reserves.

Chantal Kreviazuk Opportunity Fund Bursary inaugural winner announced

Tracy Benjoe is the inaugural winner of \$1,000 through the Chantal Kreviazuk Opportunity Fund Bursary. Benjoe, who is an adult learner with a nine-year old child, plans to take classes through University of Winnipeg's Winnipeg Education Centre, which offers an Education degree tailored to the needs and challenges of the inner city. Benjoe grew up on the Muscowpetung First Nation, in Saskatchewan. The Chantal Kreviazuk Opportunity Fund Bursary was established in March 2014 as Kreviazuk received the Allan Waters Humanitarian Award at the Juno


awards and an Honourary Doctorate from the University of Winnipeg. She is a graduate of UWinnipeg's Collegiate and in 2006 was instrumental in helping UWinnipeg launch the Opportunity Fund. As well, 74 UWinnipeg students of Metis descent were awarded \$2,500 each through the Louis Riel Bursaries.

New CMHR tour developed with Elders

Mikinak-Keya (The Spirit Tour) launched this month at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. The tour, which is a cultural experience exploring rights and responsibilities from a First Nations perspective, was developed through a partnership between the museum and a group of seven Elders representing Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota nations. Visitors will spend approximately 90 minutes with the CMHR's Indigenous program interpreters, exploring how the symbolism in the building's architecture profoundly relates to the Seven Sacred Laws and the teachings of Grandmother Turtle. "As the Original People, we are the roots of our homeland. Through our leadership we have come to share our knowledge about where all our human rights come from. Mikinak-Keya reminds us to live in accordance with the principles of respect, love, courage, honesty, wisdom, humility and truth. These traditional teachings show us that we are all related and equal," said Elder Dave Courchene.

Compiled by Shari Narine

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!





The most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada featuring award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

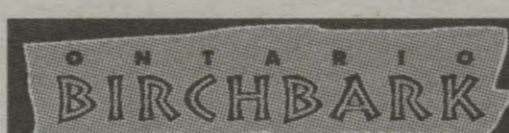
News, editorials, columns, humour, features and much more — it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ONLY \$65.00 for one year


SASKATCHEWAN

ONTARIO



ALBERTA



Alberta Sweetgrass provides coverage of the news and events from Alberta's Aboriginal communities.

Profiles of youth, elders, artists, writers and many others from communities throughout Alberta — every month.

ONLY \$45.00 for one year

SPECIAL RATE ON MULTIPLE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

WINDSPEAKER — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$65.00 +GST (includes Saskatchewan Sage, BC Raven's Eye and Ontario Birchbark)

ADD ALBERTA SWEETGRASS — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$45.00 +GST
Get both Windspeaker and Sweetgrass for only \$100.00 +GST

PRICING PLEASE ADD \$10.00 PER YEAR FOR EACH PUBLICATION FOR DELIVERY IN THE USA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____ Phone: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
OR CHARGE TO YOUR VISA/ MASTERCARD/AMEX NUMBER
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

VISA: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail to: AMMSA • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton • Alberta • T5L 4S8
toll free: 1-800-661-5469 • web: www.ammsa.com • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

Squamish elder to grace Mountain Film Festival



Wendy Charbonneau, an elder from the Squamish First Nation

By Sam Laskaris
Raven's Eye Writer

VANCOUVER

A new Aboriginal component will be part of this year's Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival.

The 18th annual event will run from Feb. 13 to Feb. 21.

For the first time, the festival will include a storytelling series. This part of the festival, held in conjunction with the Vancouver Society of Storytelling, will feature 12 speakers who will take audience members on a journey through the telling of their tales, local legends and personal narratives.

All of these stories will be focused on the theme of mountains. The afternoon storytelling sessions at the festival will be titled Stone and Fire. And the evening sessions are dubbed Ice and Wind.

The storytellers will include Wendy Charbonneau, an elder from the Squamish First Nation, and Patrick Lucas, who for the past two years has

completed a mountain bike charity ride covering 115 kilometres to the Tahltan First Nation.

The storytelling series will feature both afternoon and evening sessions on Feb. 14 at the St. Mark's Anglican Church. Charbonneau and Lucas are both included in these sessions.

Charbonneau is no stranger to the Vancouver storytelling scene. For the past number of years, she has been a regular, opening and closing the Vancouver Storytelling Festival.

"I love it," she said of her speaking engagements. "Each time at the end I've been circled by people wanting to ask me questions about the legends."

Charbonneau seems like an ideal candidate to engage in some storytelling. She is a direct descendant of Chief George Capilano.

Capilano is known for welcoming both Captain James Cook and Captain George Vancouver to the west shore in the late 1700s.

And Charbonneau was also related to a legendary Squamish

member simply named Mulks. He was considered a historian among the Squamish people as he lived to be about 100 years old and would tell younger generations his stories.

Charbonneau, 59, considers it a huge honour she can now pass on stories involving her ancestors.

"I feel their joy," she said. "I feel their happiness that I'm still continuing on for them."

Charbonneau will begin her storytelling segment by performing the Paddle Song. She learned this song from her grandmother.

The Paddle Song has been considered a welcoming song for visitors and settlers on the west coast for hundreds of years.

Charbonneau will also focus in on a pair of stories called The Two Sisters and Siwash Rock.

The Two Sisters is not only a story about two young women and their desire for peace, but also details the legend of Vancouver's famous mountain peaks. The Squamish name for these peaks translates into Twin Sisters.

LIGHT THE WAY
FOR GENERATIONS

LEARN MORE ABOUT BC HYDRO CAREERS

Visit bchydro.com/careers to search for Current Opportunities.

- Complete the online Diversity Self Identification survey in your application
- Forward the email recruiter message you receive to aboriginal.employment@bchydro.com

Create and receive Job Alert emails

Check out Student & Grads and Scholarship opportunities

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jeannie Cranmer,
Aboriginal Education and Employment Strategy Manager
10th Floor—333 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R3
Phone: 604 623 4401
Toll Free: 1 877 461 0161
Fax: 604 623 3799
jeannie.cranmer@bchydro.com

JOIN OUR TEAM

We have opportunities in:

- Administration
- Communications
- Engineering
- Finance & Accounting
- Human Resources
- Technology
- Legal
- Management
- Marketing & Sales
- Safety, Health and Environment
- Skilled Trades

BC Hydro | 50
REGENERATION

bchydro.com/careers



Progressive
Aboriginal
RELATIONS
SILVER
LEVEL
Canadian Council for
Aboriginal Business



Raven's Eye: Special Section providing news from BC & Yukon

As for the Siwash Rock story, it is about the famous landmark in Vancouver's Stanley Park. Charbonneau will tell a story how the rock represents a father's commitment to a pure life.

Meanwhile, Lucas will be telling his story titled The Chief's Ride. In both 2013 and this past year he took part in the charity bike ride, which begins

in Dease Lake and continues until Telegraph Creek on the Tahltan First Nation.

Former Tahltan Chief Rick McLean started the ride in 2009. He himself took part in the ride, completing the journey on his own during the first year of the event, to advocate a healthier lifestyle and as a fundraiser for his community.

Besides being an avid

mountain biker, Lucas, 39, is also a community planner, writer, storyteller and film maker.

Through his community planning, he has worked extensively with Aboriginal communities, helping them boost their tourism ventures.

Lucas though was one of the non-Natives who joined in on the bike tour. He said there were 17 people who completed the ride in 2013, a journey which took about seven hours.

As for this past year, there were 15 riders. But because of

some heavy rain which slowed the participants down considerably, the ride took about nine hours to finish.

For Lucas, the rides not only enabled him to pedal through some picturesque landscapes but also allowed him to better connect with some Aboriginal people.

"Hearing their stories and all the problems they're going through gave me a broader understanding," Lucas said. "And it's an amazing transformative experience."

Ride participants travelled

through some ancient villages and past some sacred sites.

As for the festival itself, it has experienced massive growth over the years. It began as a three-day event and now spans nine days.

This year's festival will include 65 films. Included in this list will be three movies that will make their world premiere and 14 movies that are North American premieres.

As in previous years, the festival will also feature its share of guest speakers, who are not part of the new storytelling segment.

OPEN DOORS, GO PLACES



WITH A BC ABORIGINAL STUDENT AWARD

OPEN TO BC RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THEIR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY AND ARE PLANNING TO STUDY IN BC IN:

An approved trades training or apprenticeship program

.....
A certificate or diploma program

.....
An undergraduate or graduate degree program

APPLY NOW! DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2015

Visit www.ikbbc.ca



THE IRVING K. BARBER
British Columbia Scholarship Society

ADMINISTERED BY

VICTORIA FOUNDATION



COOKS FERRY INDIAN BAND BAND MANAGER

Cooks Ferry Indian Band is seeking an energetic and self-motivated Band Manager who will take on a variety of challenges and opportunities and play an integral role in the continued strengthening of the vision for the Cooks Ferry community.

Located in Spences Bridge, BC in the beautiful Nicola and Thompson River valleys, the Cooks Ferry Indian Band (CFIB) of the Nlaka'pamux Nation offers a wide range of recreational activities and outdoor adventures. With a proud history rich in culture and tradition, the community is building a promising future through cultural, social and economic development. Involved in the forest industry, mining, tourism and land management, CFIB is looking next to expand their economic development opportunities with capital projects that include housing construction and water system upgrades.

DUTIES:

Working closely with Chief and Council and staff, the successful candidate will:

- Provide leadership over band programs and services including education, social services, health services, capital projects, housing, recreation, elders care, utilities, public works, and safety;
- Bring financial expertise to the budgeting process and encourage sound policies and practices;
- Establish and maintain good relationships with other First Nations, governments, industry, and partners and develop service initiatives for Band members;
- Foster the vision of the organization, coach and mentor staff, and encourage employee training and development; and
- Support Council goals and priorities.

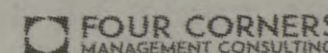
QUALIFICATIONS:

Preferred qualifications include the following:

- You have a degree in commerce, economics, public administration or similar discipline, or equivalent education and experience;
- Are an energetic person with demonstrated experience in strategic planning, inter-government relations, program management, project management, budgeting and human resource management;
- Have progressive leadership abilities and can work effectively in a team environment with Council, community members and staff;
- Have superior interpersonal skills;
- Have competent computer skills;
- Have strong knowledge of social and economic issues facing First Nations;
- The ability to adapt to a rural, small community.

We offer an attractive salary and commensurate with experience and qualifications. Preference will be given to candidates with aboriginal ancestry. Explore this exciting opportunity by submitting your résumé to:

Katrina Elliot
Four Corners Management Consulting
katrina.elliott@4cmc.ca



More news, more careers, more events...

find more of everything online:

www.ammsa.com



REGISTERED SOCIAL WORKERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Social workers support clients in complex life transitions. They provide services in our communities, not-for-profit and government agencies, hospitals, schools and through private practice. They connect their clients to services and resources in the community. Those registered with the BC College of Social Workers are the only ones who can use the title Registered Social Worker.

Regulating in the public interest
bccollegeofsocialworkers.ca

BC CSW
British Columbia College of Social Workers

Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

Convicted murderer in Bosse's death appeals

Douglas Hales is appealing his second-degree murder conviction in the violent death of Darlene Bosse. The verdict came down in December 2014 after years of trial delays due to legal representation issues. Bosse disappeared in May 2004. Her body was found in a wooded area outside of Saskatoon in August 2008 after Hales confessed to undercover officers during the sting operation that he killed Bosse and burned her body. Lawyers for Hales filed papers with the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal on Jan. 8, citing three reasons, two of which concern a ruling made by the Supreme Court of Canada last year on "Mr. Big" sting operations, which was handed down after closing arguments had been made but before a verdict was delivered. Judge Allbright, who presided over Hales' trial, stated in his verdict that Hales' admission during the sting met the test set out by the Supreme Court. Following an eight-month trial, Hales was found guilty of second-degree murder and offering an indignity to a body. He was sentenced to life with no chance of parole for 15 years.

Continued dissension results in more problems with MNS

The Metis Nation-Saskatchewan abided by a judge's order to meet before the end of January, but couldn't fulfill directions that a date be set for the next legislative assembly. The MNS met Jan. 16 and Jan. 17, the first time in almost two years, but factional fighting continued and no consensus was reached as to when and where to hold the next legislative assembly. If the MNLA doesn't meet by the end of March, \$800,000 in registry money and another \$150,000 in basic operations for this fiscal year could be lost. MNS President Roger Doucette said the delay is forcing him to go back to court to ask for an order to hold the MNLA in the next two months. "This is the last resort. If this doesn't work the doors of the MNS are going to shut. It's the bottom line," he said. The last Métis legislative assembly was held five years ago. The organization's constitution states two are to be held each year. The federal government froze funds to the organization over the issue in October 2014.

RCMP member faces pornography charges

An RCMP member stationed in Fond du Lac as a general duty constable has been charged with accessing child pornography and possession of child pornography. Aiden Arthur Pratchett was arrested by the Saskatchewan Internet Child Exploitation Unit on Dec. 22,

2014, and charged. The investigation began in October, when numerous computer devices were seized from his home. Pratchett was removed from the community and a Code of Conduct was ordered on Oct. 17, 2014. He was suspended with pay. No charges were laid at that time. Through the investigation, evidence was recovered to lay charges. "Allegations like these are disturbing when made against a member of the general public. We find it extremely disturbing that a serving police officer is facing charges like this," said Superintendent Alfredo Bangloy in an RCMP news release. Pratchett will make his first court appearance at Provincial Court Jan. 28, in Prince Albert.

Woman Chief heads FSIN

Upon the election of Perry Bellegarde as national chief for the Assembly of First Nations, First Vice Chief Kim Jonathan took over as Grand Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations in accordance to the organization's charter. It is the first time a woman has held this position. "I commend and salute her and acknowledge her," said Bellegarde. "She's strong with a team approach." Elections for a new grand chief, first and third vice chiefs will be held in October 2015. Until then, Jonathan is joined by Vice-Chiefs Heather Bear, Bobby Cameron and Edward Dutch Lerat to lead FSIN.

Pasqua has right to bring action before Federal Court

A judge has ruled that the Pasqua First Nation has the right to bring an action before the Federal Court of Canada against both Saskatchewan and Canada for failure to implement their Treaty Land Entitlement obligations. In July 2014, the First Nation filed a Statement of Claim before the Federal Court alleging that Canada and Saskatchewan had failed to properly implement their TLE Settlement promises and to make any Crown lands or minerals available for purchase by Pasqua. Despite agreeing to language in the Settlement Agreement that all disputes would be heard at the Federal Court, the province brought a motion to strike the claim and that the Federal Court did not have jurisdiction. However, Justice Boswell dismissed the motion, citing the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision in *Grassy Narrows First Nation v. Ontario* when he stated "treaty obligations to Aboriginal peoples are duties that bind the Crown. Insofar as both levels of government are responsible for fulfilling the Crown's promises made in Treaty 4, it is important in the present case that...the Defendant Saskatchewan and the Defendant Canada, both be parties in this proceeding."

House fire devastates family

A house fire near Prince Albert on New Year's Day claimed the home of Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations senate member Sol Sanderson and his wife. It is believed that a problem with the chimney led to the fire. Grandson Dane Robins set up an online fundraiser for his grandparents as they had no

SCHOOL BUSES and School Bus Parts

Good used school buses for Bus Routes

Many buses 1993 to 2001 in stock or on the way!

Does your bus need parts?

1999 GMC 36 Passenger Blue Bird, Cat 3126
1999 GMC 23 Passenger Thomas, 350 Gas



Phoenix Auto - Lucky Lake, SK
Phone# 1-877-585-2300 DL#320074

CLASS 1 DRIVERS WANTED TO OPERATE TRACTOR-TRAILERS LONG-HAUL ON A FULL-TIME PERMANENT BASIS

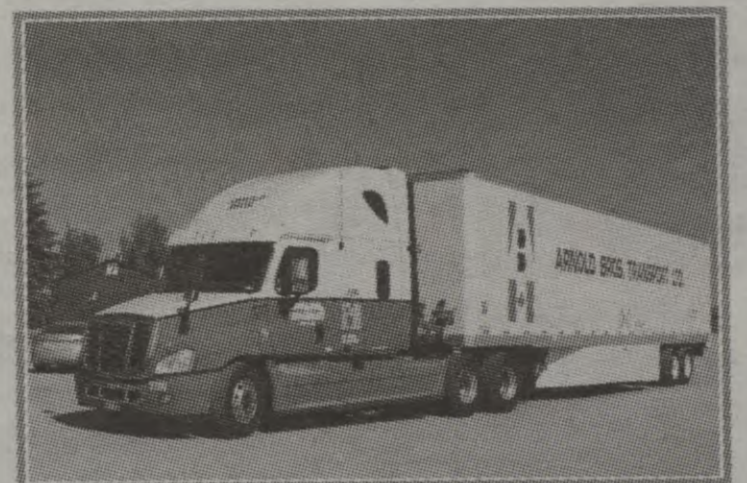
SINGLE OR TEAM DRIVERS ARE WELCOME!

- Yearly salary starting at \$41,000 per 40 hour weeks.
- Pay is calculated on a per mile basis with USA mileage premiums.
- Minimum 1 year over the road experience.
- Loads to go cross-Canada and USA.
- Must be FAST card approved or able to apply for FAST and have US border crossing documents.
- Company or Owner Operators welcome.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Dental
- Medical
- Vision Care
- Life Insurance
- Group Insurance

Drivers will be based out of Winnipeg, MB terminal.



If interested please contact recruiting at 1-855-JOINABT (564-6228), by email at recruiting@arnoldbros.com, or mail to 739 Lagimodiere Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R2J 0T8.

ARNOLD BROS. TRANSPORT LTD
On the road and on time!



Do you want to make a difference in the lives of young people?

Join our exciting teaching team at Regina Public Schools!
We are now accepting applications for 2015-16.

We believe that the inclusion of Aboriginal perspectives and Indigenous Knowledge benefits all students.

TEACH • LEAD • INSPIRE



REGINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To apply, contact Human Resources & Workplace Diversity:
Email: hr@rbe.sk.ca
Phone: (306) 523-3056
Web: www.rbe.sk.ca/school-board/careers
Mail: 1600 4th Avenue, Regina, SK S4R 8C8

Subscribe to Windspeaker today!

1-800-661-5469

Email: subscribe@ammsa.com

Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

insurance as they were waiting to finalize the sale of their Prince Albert home. Sanderson, who served on the Prince Albert City Police Force and held the position of executive director, first vice president and ultimately served as FSIN chief for six years, is credited by the FSIN as one of the founders of FSIN schools, including SIIT, SIFC and SICC.

Conviction on illegal outfitting, possession of wildlife

Wayne Whitehead, from the Pelican Lake First Nation, has been fined for illegal outfitting in the province and unlawful possession of wildlife. A complaint was first made against Whitehead in November 2012. An investigation by conservation officers found Whitehead was unlawfully outfitting by providing a hunt outside his authorized area on First Nation land. A second complaint in February 2013 led conservation officers to find Whitehead was in unlawful possession of a moose. "Illegal outfitting and hunting rob the people of Saskatchewan, and the provincial government is committed to ensuring those who abuse our wildlife resources are prosecuted," said Ken Aube with the ministry of environment. Whitehead was convicted and fined \$4,900 on Dec. 23 in North Battleford provincial court.

Witness Blanket stands as monument to residential school survivors

A monument to residential school survivors will be on display at the University of Regina's RIC Atrium until Feb. 27. The Witness Blanket, created by BC Kwagiułth artist Carey Newman, whose father is residential school survivor, is a wood-based art installation incorporating more than 800 items connected to residential school experiences across Canada. "The Witness Blanket serves as a living testament to the survivors of residential schooling – and more importantly to those young people who never made it home again from this state-sanctioned required experience," said Dr. Shauneen Pete, associate professor and executive lead on Indigenization at the U of R. One of the artifacts included on the blanket was donated by Dr. Blair Stonechild, professor of Indigenous studies at First Nations University of Canada and residential school student at Lebreton. "But you look at things like door knobs there, signs and different pieces of buildings. It makes me think of the facility itself which was a giant red brick structure. It makes me think of the fences, the discipline, the regiment and all that type of thing," said Stonechild.

Compiled by Shari Narine



National Energy Board

Office national de l'énergie

Notification of Application to Participate in National Energy Board Public Hearing

Energy East Pipeline Ltd. Energy East Project

The National Energy Board (Board) received an application from Energy East Pipeline Ltd. (EEPL) for approvals needed to construct and operate the proposed Energy East Project, a 4,500 km crude oil pipeline system from receipt points in Alberta and Saskatchewan to delivery points in Quebec and New Brunswick, comprised of both new oil pipeline facilities and existing natural gas pipeline facilities to be transferred from TransCanada PipeLines Limited to EEPL and converted from gas to oil service (Application).

EEPL's Application and a description of the Energy East Project are available on the Board's website at www.neb-one.gc.ca.

The Energy East and Eastern Mainline Projects will be reviewed by a single Panel made up of three Board Members, who will consider all evidence filed on both projects. This is the most effective approach to conduct a thorough review. The details of the hearing process will follow once the Application to Participate (ATP) process has ended. Further information on the Panel can be found on the NEB website.

The Board is currently assessing completeness of the Energy East Project application. The completeness determination is an initial threshold question where the Board determines if an application is sufficiently complete to proceed to assessment. If the application is found to be sufficiently complete, the Board will hold a hearing, at which time it will collect evidence from the parties approved during the ATP process. Any information received prior to the completeness determination is not considered to be evidence in the hearing.

Participation in the Hearing

The Board has updated its List of Issues. The List of Issues is available on the Board's website and will be part of the ATP form for the Energy East Project.

Those who wish to participate in the hearing for the Energy East Project must apply to participate using the ATP form. Persons who apply to participate must clearly describe their interests and how those interests relate to the issues on the List of Issues. Those persons or groups who, in the Board's view, demonstrate clearly that they are directly affected will be allowed to participate. The Board may allow people who clearly demonstrate they have relevant information or expertise to participate.

The Board encourages persons to collaborate or form a group with those who share similar interests or views or will present similar evidence. Groups should complete one ATP form on behalf of their group, identifying the individual(s) who will speak on behalf of the group.

The ATP form will be available on the Board's website from **3 February to 3 March 2015**. All deadlines must be adhered to.

The deadline to submit an Application to Participate is noon, 3 March 2015, Mountain Standard Time.

To access the ATP form, select "Energy East Project" from the Quick Links menu on the right hand side of the Board's main page. A link to *Apply to Participate* will be visible on the right hand side menu of the Energy East Project webpage.

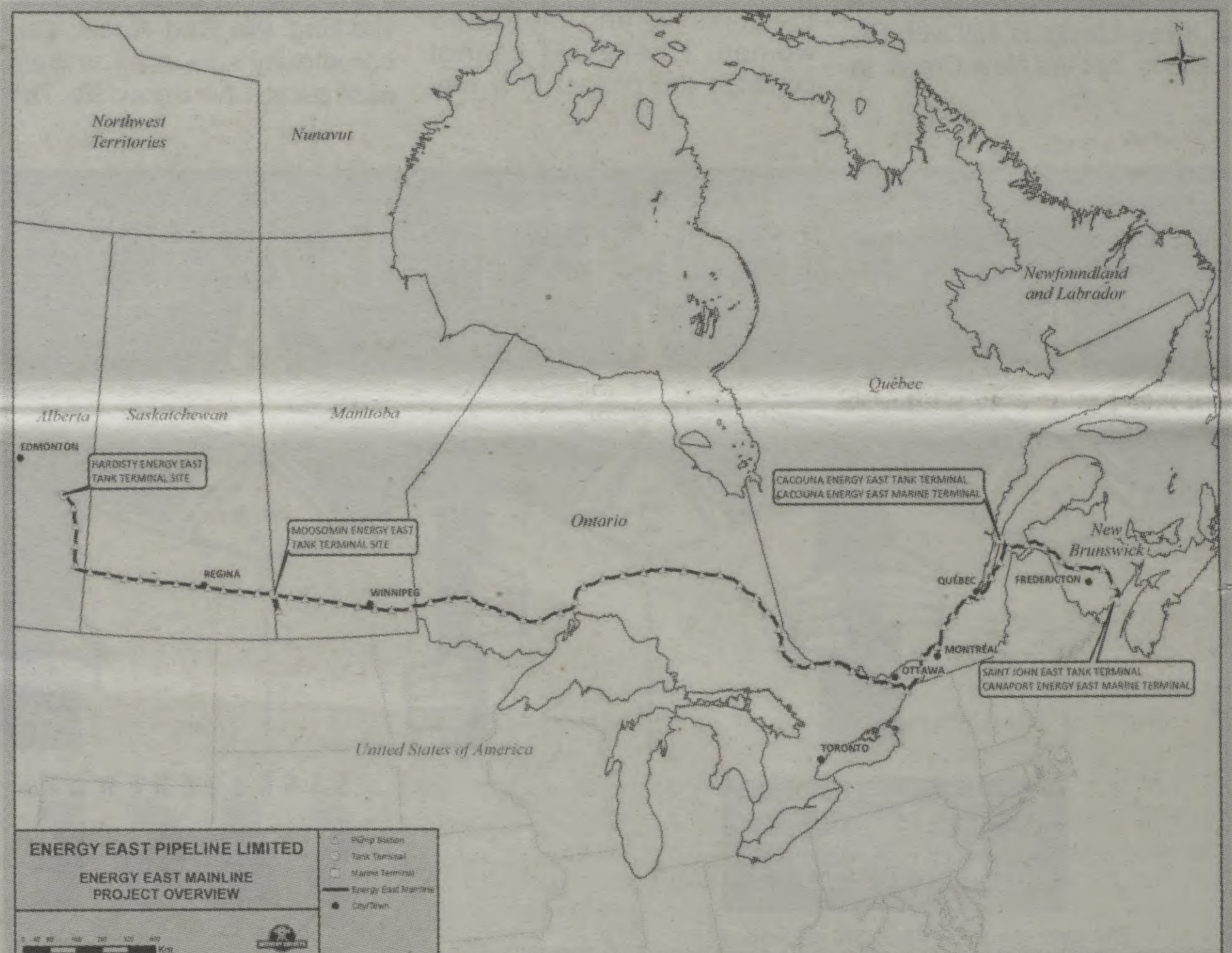
Process Advisory Team

The Board's Process Advisory Team will provide general information and a step-by-step overview of the ATP process through technology-based (online) sessions. The ATP forms and the schedule for information sessions are available at www.neb-one.gc.ca along with information on the Board's hearing process and participant funding.

If you have process questions or need further assistance accessing the website or the ATP forms, please contact the Board's Energy East Process Advisory Team:

Email: energyeast.processhelp@neb-one.gc.ca
Telephone: 403-292-4800
Telephone (toll free): 1-800-899-1265

Ms. Katherine L. Murphy
Communications Officer, NEB
Email: KatherineL.Murphy@neb-one.gc.ca
Telephone: 587-538-2120
Telephone (toll free): 1-800-899-1265



Ontario Birchbark: Special Section providing news from Ontario

Six Nations prepared to prevent New Credit reserve addition

The Six Nations elected council says it will use all legal means available to prevent Ottawa from declaring 42.8 acres of land within the Hamilton-Port Dover Plank Road as part of the Mississaugas of the New Credit. Six Nations says the land belongs to them and not the New Credit, so the express consent of Six Nations is required. In 2014, the federal government outlined its intention to make an Order-In-Council declaring the land to become part of the New Credit reserve. However, research conducted by Six Nations revealed that the Mississaugas of the New Credit were only granted a licence to locate on the five concession blocks that presently compromise the New Credit reserve. Underlying title to those blocks is still with Six Nations, not the New Credit. In

November 2011, the Six Nations elected council notified the New Credit and Ottawa that it was opposed to the addition because Six Nations had not been consulted and its consent had not been obtained. The Hamilton-Port Dover plank Road Claim comprises the road itself and one-half mile width of land along each side of the road. This land was only intended to be leased by Six Nations.

Illustrator ends campaign

After hearing from some families, part-time illustrator Evan Munday stopped tweeting his illustrations of missing Indigenous women to Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Munday, of Toronto, started his campaign Jan. 5. A week later he stopped, explaining on his website, "After extensive conversation with a group formed of families of some of the missing and murdered women, I believe I cannot continue the project in a way

that respects these women's autonomy or a way that helps rather than harms the families of these thousands of women." In an interview with CTV News, Munday said he had been inspired to illustrate the women after hearing Harper say the issue "wasn't high on his radar." Munday said on his website posting that some of the families raised concerns over image consent and the appropriateness of "cartoony" drawings to draw attention to the matter.

Funding to implement project findings

The North Bay Indian Friendship Centre has received grants of \$360,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and \$100,000 from the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs to support the Urban Aboriginal Strategy, which will implement the findings of a report entitled *Walking the Red Road, Our community's journey to help each person live a good life*. The

funding is the culmination of a two-year community-driven research and social action project, Urban Aboriginal Communities Thrive, designed to bring together both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members, organizations and other partners to lay the foundation for strengthening social and economic participation of North Bay's Aboriginal people. The report highlights eight key learnings, including the fact that an Aboriginal worldview influences how community members experience services and that those services need to be more responsive.

Independent research confirms Métis history

The Métis Nation of Ontario has released a historic report on the Métis in the Mattawa/Nipissing region. The report was prepared by two independent research companies: StoneCircle Consulting and Know History and is a result of

a tripartite research initiative financially supported by the Ontario government, the federal government and the MNO. After an extensive review of both English and French historic records about the region, the researchers concluded that a distinct, inter-related Métis population emerged in the Mattawa/Nipissing study region in the early 1800s and that this historic Métis community meets the legal test set out by the Supreme Court of Canada in *R. v. Powley* (2003). This research fulfills a shared commitment of the MNO and the province flowing from the 2004 MNO-Ontario Harvesting Agreement with respect to pursuing joint research on the MNO's identified traditional territories (as set out in the MNO Harvesting Policy). This harvesting agreement, which remains in place today, recognizes the MNO Harvesting Policy and MNO Harvesters Card system in those traditional territories.

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!



Windspeaker

The most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada featuring award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

News, editorials, columns, humour, features and much more — it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ONLY \$65.00 for one year

SASKATCHEWAN
SAGE

RAVEN'S EYE

ONTARIO
BIRCHBARK

ALBERTA
SWEETGRASS

Alberta Sweetgrass provides coverage of the news and events from Alberta's Aboriginal communities.

Profiles of youth, elders, artists, writers and many others from communities throughout Alberta — every month.

ONLY \$45.00 for one year

SPECIAL RATE ON MULTIPLE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

WINDSPEAKER — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$65.00 +GST
(includes Saskatchewan Sage, BC Raven's Eye and Ontario Birchbark)

ADD ALBERTA SWEETGRASS — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$45.00 +GST
Get both Windspeaker and Sweetgrass for only \$100.00 +GST

PRICING PLEASE ADD \$10.00 PER YEAR FOR EACH PUBLICATION FOR DELIVERY IN THE USA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____ Phone: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
OR CHARGE TO YOUR VISA/ MASTERCARD/AMEX NUMBER
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

VISA: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail to: AMMSA • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton • Alberta • T5L 4S8
toll free: 1-800-661-5469 • web: www.ammsa.com • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

Ontario Birchbark: Special Section providing news from Ontario

Aboriginal Affairs Award presented

David Abbott, a North York resident, is the latest recipient of the City of Toronto's Aboriginal Affairs Award. Abbott was recognized specifically for his work with the Aboriginal Economic Business Development Project, although he has served on a number of boards including the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto and the Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto and is currently on the advisory board for the Aboriginal Professional Association of Canada. The Aboriginal Affairs Award was established in 2003 and is given to a person, people or organization whose volunteer efforts have made or are making a significant or ongoing contribution to the well-being and advancement of the Aboriginal community in Toronto. This includes services or advocacy work on issues such as health, shelter work, street work, governance or self-determination, employment, economic development, human rights or cultural activities.

More institutions sign on to Indigenous Education Protocol

Confederation College's Centre for Policy in Aboriginal Learning recently facilitated the signing of a national Indigenous Education Protocol by President Jim Madder. College partner, Leona Scanlon, chair of the Negahneewin Council, also signed in support of the college's ongoing commitment to Aboriginal education. The Indigenous Education Protocol, developed by the Colleges and Institutes Canada in consultation with its members and partners in Indigenous communities, underscores the importance of the structures and approaches required to address Indigenous peoples' learning needs and supports self-determination and socio-economic development of Indigenous communities. The IEP is founded on seven principles, including commitments to implementing more Aboriginal curriculum and increasing the number of employees with a First Nations, Inuit or Métis background at institutions. There are 19 participating institutions across the country. "This protocol reflects the work we have already been doing, and motivates us all to enrich conditions for Aboriginal learners, not only at this College, but across Canada," said Scanlon.

Compiled by Shari Narine



National Energy Board

Office national de l'énergie

Notification of Application to Participate in National Energy Board Public Hearing

Energy East Pipeline Ltd. Energy East Project

The National Energy Board (Board) received an application from Energy East Pipeline Ltd. (EEPL) for approvals needed to construct and operate the proposed Energy East Project, a 4,500 km crude oil pipeline system from receipts points in Alberta and Saskatchewan to delivery points in Quebec and New Brunswick, comprised of both new oil pipeline facilities and existing natural gas pipeline facilities to be transferred from TransCanada PipeLines Limited to EEPL and converted from gas to oil service (Application).

EEPL's Application and a description of the Energy East Project are available on the Board's website at www.neb-one.gc.ca.

The Energy East and Eastern Mainline Projects will be reviewed by a single Panel made up of three Board Members, who will consider all evidence filed on both projects. This is the most effective approach to conduct a thorough review. The details of the hearing process will follow once the Application to Participate (ATP) process has ended. Further information on the Panel can be found on the NEB website.

The Board is currently assessing completeness of the Energy East Project application. The completeness determination is an initial threshold question where the Board determines if an application is sufficiently complete to proceed to assessment. If the application is found to be sufficiently complete, the Board will hold a hearing, at which time it will collect evidence from the parties approved during the ATP process. Any information received prior to the completeness determination is not considered to be evidence in the hearing.

Participation in the Hearing

The Board has updated its List of Issues. The List of Issues is available on the Board's website and will be part of the ATP form for the Energy East Project.

Those who wish to participate in the hearing for the Energy East Project must apply to participate using the ATP form. Persons who apply to participate must clearly describe their interests and how those interests relate to the issues on the List of Issues. Those persons or groups who, in the Board's view, demonstrate clearly that they are directly affected will be allowed to participate. The Board may allow people who clearly demonstrate they have relevant information or expertise to participate.

The Board encourages persons to collaborate or form a group with those who share similar interests or views or will present similar evidence. Groups should complete one ATP form on behalf of their group, identifying the individual(s) who will speak on behalf of the group.

The ATP form will be available on the Board's website from **3 February to 3 March 2015**. All deadlines must be adhered to.

The deadline to submit an Application to Participate is noon, 3 March 2015, Mountain Standard Time.

To access the ATP form, select "Energy East Project" from the Quick Links menu on the right hand side of the Board's main page. A link to *Apply to Participate* will be visible on the right hand side menu of the Energy East Project webpage.

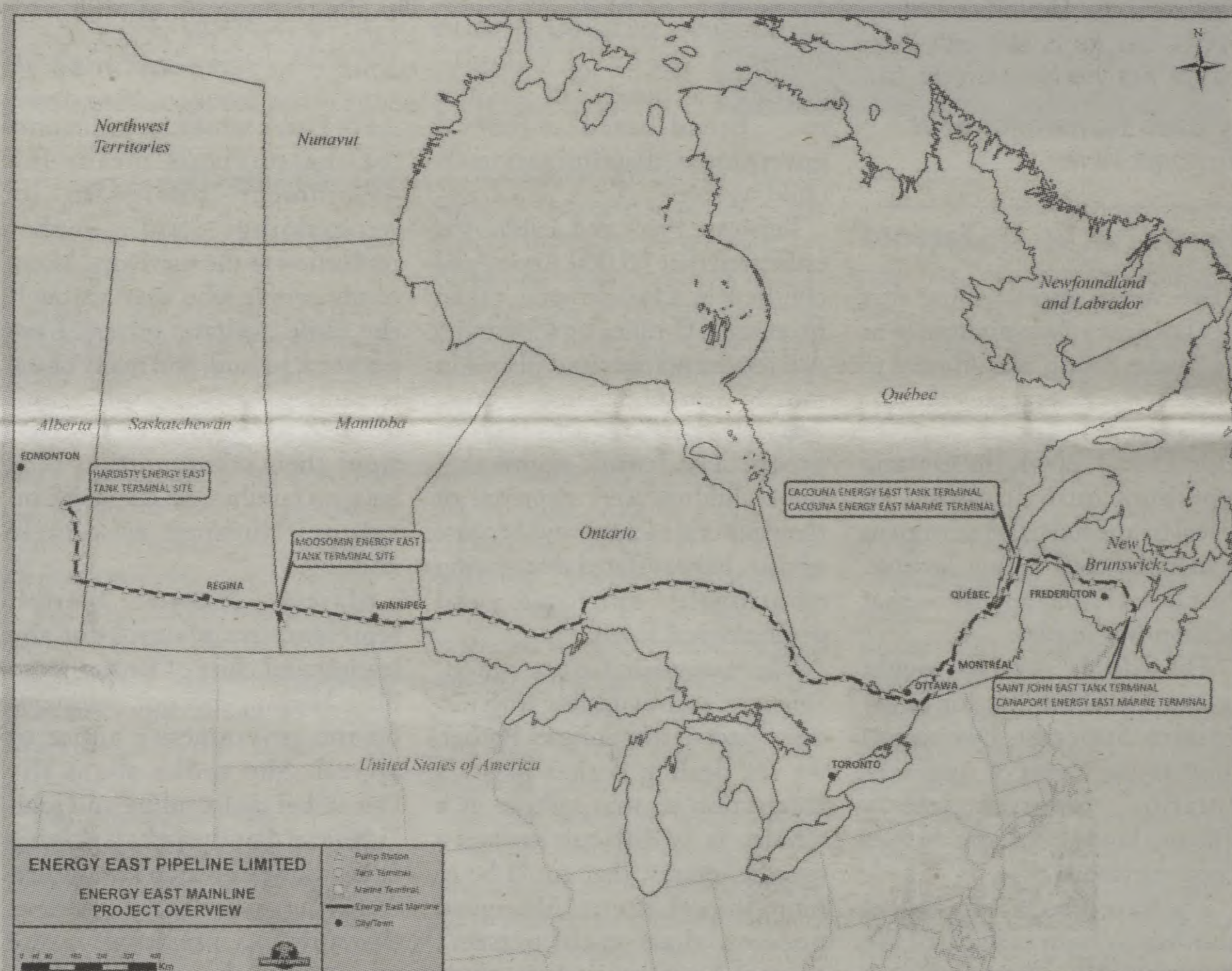
Process Advisory Team

The Board's Process Advisory Team will provide general information and a step-by-step overview of the ATP process through technology-based (online) sessions. The ATP forms and the schedule for information sessions are available at www.neb-one.gc.ca along with information on the Board's hearing process and participant funding.

If you have process questions or need further assistance accessing the website or the ATP forms, please contact the Board's Energy East Process Advisory Team:

Email: energyeast.processhelp@neb-one.gc.ca
Telephone: 403-292-4800
Telephone (toll free): 1-800-899-1265

Ms. Katherine L. Murphy
Communications Officer, NEB
Email: KatherineL.Murphy@neb-one.gc.ca
Telephone: 587-538-2120
Telephone (toll free): 1-800-899-1265



[health] Feds appeal nod to Sixties Scoop class action



John Fox, member of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, political activist and Sixties Scoop survivor, pictured here in Toronto, 2014.

By Barb Nahwegahbow
Birchbark Writer

Toronto

Two weeks after a ruling that the class action lawsuit known as the 'Sixties Scoop' was allowed to proceed, the federal government filed a notice of appeal.

On Dec. 2, 2014, the Ontario Superior Court dismissed an appeal by the federal government to halt the class action lawsuit. On Dec. 17, the appeal of that decision was in play.

"The federal Crown has sought leave to appeal the decision of the Ontario Superior Divisional Court to the Court of Appeal of Ontario," reported Jeffery Wilson, lawyer for the Sixties Scoop survivors.

"The leave process is via written submissions from each party. We are presently preparing our submission. It will be another few months after we file our submissions before the Court of Appeal releases its decision. If leave or permission is granted for the appeal, it would be another year before the appeal is heard and decided. The test for leave is not particularly high. The Court of Appeal has to be satisfied that there is a public interest issue requiring its review."

Cindy Blackstock, executive director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, was not surprised by the federal government's move.

"The government of Canada's decision to appeal this decision, instead of doing right by Sixties Scoop survivors, is disappointing and sadly predictable," said Blackstock. "It is consistent with the federal government position in the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal hearings on First Nations child welfare where they continue to deny or diminish mountains of evidence pointing

to broad-based federal government discrimination in child welfare."

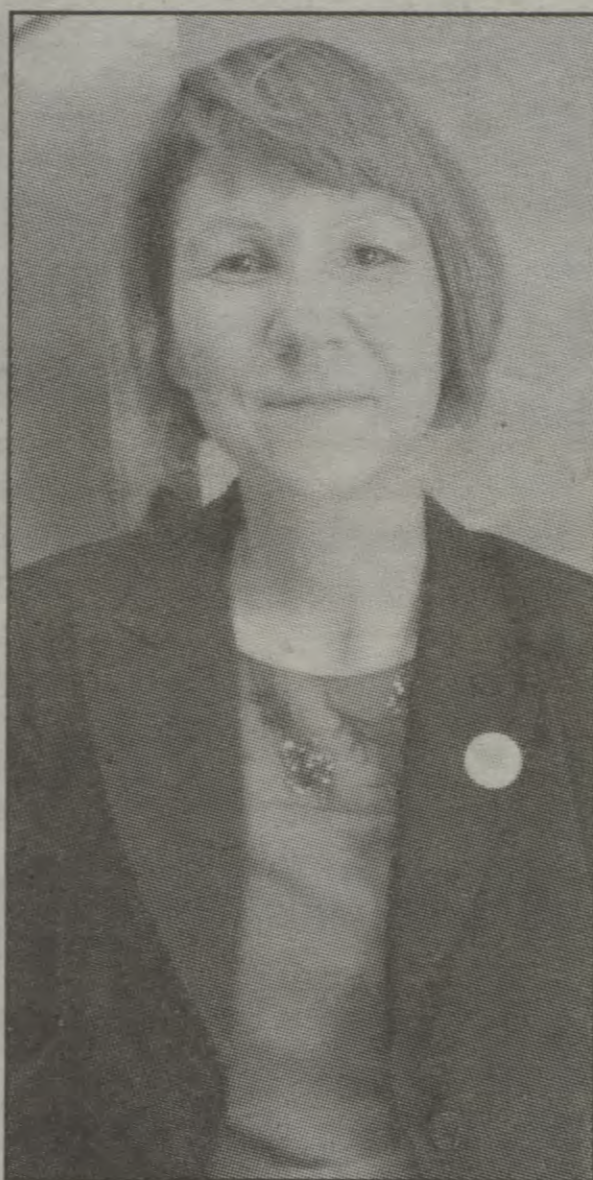
Between 1965 and 1985, it is estimated that 16,000 Aboriginal children in Ontario were taken from their families by Children's Aid representatives and placed in mostly non-Aboriginal homes. This is known as the 'Sixties Scoop'. The lawsuit claims that these children were deprived of their cultural identity and because of that, have suffered devastating emotional, spiritual and psychological harm.

The Superior Court noted: "Here we are not dealing with just one aspect of that culture. Rather, we are dealing with a person's connection to that culture as a whole. It is difficult to see a specific interest that could be of more importance to Aboriginal persons than each person's essential connection to their Aboriginal heritage."

Sixties Scoop survivor and well-known political activist John Fox, a member of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve on Manitoulin Island, was also not surprised that the federal government has filed a notice of appeal.

He said he is concerned with "the continued genocide of our families, of our children, of our parents. I think everything's getting worse in this country for our people," said Fox. "The whole Canadian system is based on oppression and genocide."

Fox and his sister were taken from their parents by the CAS and placed in foster care when he was 12. Until he was 18, he was in non-Aboriginal homes in non-Aboriginal communities. He was living in a vacuum, he said, devoid of any contact with his sister, other family members, and his community and culture. It wasn't until later, he said, that he reunited with his sister.



PHOTOS: BARBRA NAHWEGAHBOW

Cindy Blackstock, Gitksan activist an Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. Toronto, 2013

For Fox, a satisfactory outcome for the survivors means the government admits to its wrongdoing and makes restitution to the survivors. Many of the people who went through the child welfare system have perished, he said, and many of the remaining survivors, "suffer from homelessness; they're isolated from their communities, they have no families, no language, no culture. Nothing. Absolutely nothing."

Marcia Brown Martel, representative plaintiff for the lawsuit and chief of Beaverhouse First Nation, did not comment on the government's notice of appeal. She spoke about the December court ruling and said, "I believe that the light is shining in the right direction as opposed to having gotten there. I believe that this is a milestone in the journey, but the majority of the trek is yet to come. It will definitely be a very fulfilling and worthwhile process to let the people of Canada know what has happened to people within the borders of Canada, and what they didn't do to protect the children."

Martel herself was taken from her family when she was a little girl and adopted into a non-Aboriginal family when she was nine.

Every person in every Aboriginal community across Canada has been affected by the Sixties Scoop, insisted Chief Brown Martel.

"One cannot live without their cousins, without their uncles and without their aunts." The extended family was denied their traditional teaching role, and children were denied the knowledge about their culture, she said.

Owen Young, lawyer for the federal Department of Justice, did not respond to requests for an interview.

Health Watch

Leukemia victim dies at home

Makayla Sault, 11, the New Credit First Nation girl who was supported by her family in her wish to discontinue chemotherapy in favour of traditional healing, passed away on Jan. 19 at her home. She suffered a stroke. "Surrounded by the love and support of her family, her community and her nation Ö Makayla completed her course. She is now safely in the arms of Jesus," her family said in a statement published by the *Two Row Times*. Makayla's case made national headlines and ignited a debate about the validity of Indigenous medicine and the rights of children to choose their own treatment. Makayla was given a 75 per cent chance of survival when she was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in March. She underwent 11 weeks of chemotherapy at McMaster Children's Hospital in Hamilton. She left treatment while in remission to pursue alternative and traditional Indigenous medicine. In July, Makayla went to the Hippocrates Health Institute in Florida and took its three-week "life transformation program." The Office of the Chief Coroner said it has begun investigating Sault's death. While the results of the probe will remain secret, the coroner will determine whether a public inquest is necessary. Top oncologists say it's highly unlikely the chemotherapy caused the stroke.

IACHR calls for nation-wide action on murdered, missing Indigenous women

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C. has released its report on murdered and missing Indigenous women in British Columbia. IACHR, an arm of the Organization of American States, examined the role that such factors as poverty and discrimination, going back to colonialization and the residential school system, play in the violence, and called for "the creation of a national-level action plan or a nation-wide inquiry into the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, in order to better understand and address the problem through integral approaches." The report is based largely on information gleaned from interviews with government officials, opposition politicians, non-governmental organizations and the relatives of victims during a 2013 working visit to Ottawa, Vancouver and Prince George, B.C. The investigation was requested by the Native Women's Association of Canada and the Feminist Alliance for International Action. "This report is ground-breaking," said NWAC Vice-President Dawn Harvard. "It is the first in-depth examination by an expert human rights body of the murders and disappearances of Indigenous women in Canada." The Assembly of First Nations, the First Nations Summit, and the NDP all lauded the report and reiterated their calls for a national inquiry.

Healthcare needs better understanding of Indigenous patients

An editorial in the most recent edition of *The Canadian Medical Association Journal* says caregivers require better cultural understanding of the needs of Aboriginal patients to keep medical decisions from being made in a courtroom. Authors Lisa Richardson, an internal medicine specialist who is a leader of the University of Toronto's office of Indigenous medical education, and Matthew Stanbrook, a respirologist and deputy editor of the *CMAJ*, write that Indigenous Canadians continue to feel unwelcome or unsafe in medical institutions. "To make medical treatment acceptable to our Aboriginal patients, the health care system must earn their trust by delivering respect," they write. Medical professionals "must ensure that our Aboriginal patients, their families and communities feel welcome, are comfortable self-identifying as Aboriginal, and do not fear judgment based on stereotypes." Richardson said she was compelled to write the editorial because the bigger picture of why so many Aboriginal patients have poor experiences in the health-care system was being lost in all of the media coverage around the case of J.J., who has acute lymphoblastic leukemia and whose mother pulled her out of chemotherapy last fall saying they would instead rely on a traditional healer. McMaster Children's Hospital in Hamilton asked a court to have the girl taken away from her family, but a judge refused, saying the Constitution protects the Native mother's right to treat her child with traditional Aboriginal medicine. The good news, said Richardson, is there are places in the country, especially British Columbia, where Indigenous input is having a positive effect and medical schools are taking the Indigenous reality into consideration. "I think we have a real willingness at the level of leadership of faculties of medical education to make change."

New position to focus on inequities in health, health services

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Public Health Agency of Canada have approved funding to address the inequities in health and health service access experienced by Indigenous people in Canada. Dr. Janet Smylie, who has received an Applied Public Health Research Chair to take on the task, will focus on improving access to effective treatments for illnesses disproportionately affecting Indigenous peoples, such as diabetes, obesity, tuberculosis, suicide and dental disease. Smylie, who is Métis, said her research will consider local Indigenous cultures and contexts and prioritize community partnerships. "We'll integrate Indigenous approaches to health and well-being in our research to find the most effective ways to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based interventions with Indigenous populations," she said. "Our research will support the respectful sharing local best practices between Indigenous communities in Canada and globally—an approach which wouldn't be possible without our Indigenous community and organizational research partners."

Sports Briefs

By Sam Laskaris

World Champ Seeking More Titles

A Native boxer who already is a world champion will be seeking to win two more prestigious belts in her next fight.

Kali Reis, who has Cherokee, Nipmuc and Seaconke Wampanoag ancestry, captured her first world title, the women's International Boxing Association (IBA) middleweight championship, during a bout held in Bermuda in November.

Reis, who lives in Providence, Rhode Island, will head overseas for her next fight. She will battle Germany's Christina Hammer in a bout scheduled for March 7. That fight will be held in Magdenburg, Germany.

Quite a bit will be at stake in this bout. Hammer is the reigning World Boxing Organization champion and she will be attempting to defend her belt. The winner of the Reis/Hammer fight will also be awarded the vacant World Boxing Council belt.

Reis, who turned pro in 2008, will enter that bout sporting a 7-3-1 record. Hammer has an unblemished 17-0 mark.

Reis had also fought for another world title, the Women's International Boxing Association welterweight crown, back in November of 2013. But she lost that encounter to Virginia's Tori Nelson.

For Reis, the fight in Germany will mark her third consecutive bout on foreign soil. Besides her last fight in Bermuda, she had also travelled to Spain this past July for a fight that she ended up winning against a Swedish rival.

Prior to that, all of Reis' other fights had been staged in the United States.

In order to increase her North American popularity, a Reis spokesperson said her management team has discussed the possibility of having an upcoming fight in Canada as well.

Mirasty Toiling In Quebec Circuit

Jon Mirasty is still earning a living as a fighter, er, hockey player.

The 32-year-old Cree from Meadow Lake, Sask., known primarily for his fighting skills, is currently toiling in the Quebec-based Ligue Nord-Americaine de Hockey (North American Hockey League).

Nicknamed Nasty Mirasty for his pugilistic ways, he's on a team called Sorel-Tracy Eperviers.

The club was atop the standings of the eight-team circuit as late January was approaching with a 22-5-1 record.

Mirasty has appeared in 10 games for the Eperviers. He has been credited with two goals and one assist.

And as one might expect, Mirasty, a fan favourite wherever he has played, has also racked up his share of penalty minutes. Though he has only played in 10 games this season, Mirasty has been assessed 82 penalty minutes.

This marks Mirasty's second consecutive season with the Sorel-Tracy squad. He also spent portions of three seasons with the organization about a decade ago. During his pro career, Mirasty has also suited up for a number of other clubs.

The highest level he played in North America was in the American Hockey League, a step below the National Hockey League. He was a member of the AHL's Syracuse Crunch for three and a half seasons, starting in 2007.

He also played in the East Coast Hockey League with the Elmira Jackets, Bakersfield Condors and Greenville Grrrowl.

Mirasty also had stints in the Russia-based Kontinental Hockey League where he played for a team called Chekhov Vityaz during the 2012-13 season and with a club dubbed Astana Barys the year before that.

He also suited up for the United Hockey League's Danbury Trashers and the Central Hockey League's Fort Wayne Komets.

Mississauga Hosts Little NHL Again

A pair of First Nations from northern Ontario will join forces to serve as hosts for this year's Little Native Hockey League (NHL) Tournament.

Despite the fact the organizers are based in the north end of the province, the 44th annual tourney will continue to be held in the southern Ontario city of Mississauga. The Six Nations Minor Hockey Association had hosted the tournament the past two years in Mississauga. The Whitefish River First Nation and the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation will co-host this year's tournament.

Opening ceremonies for the event are scheduled for March 15. Tournament action will then run from March 16 to March 19.

A total of 10 divisions will be contested at this year's youth tournament. Girls will be competing in Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget categories. Boys will participate in these four age groupings as well as Tyke and Novice divisions.

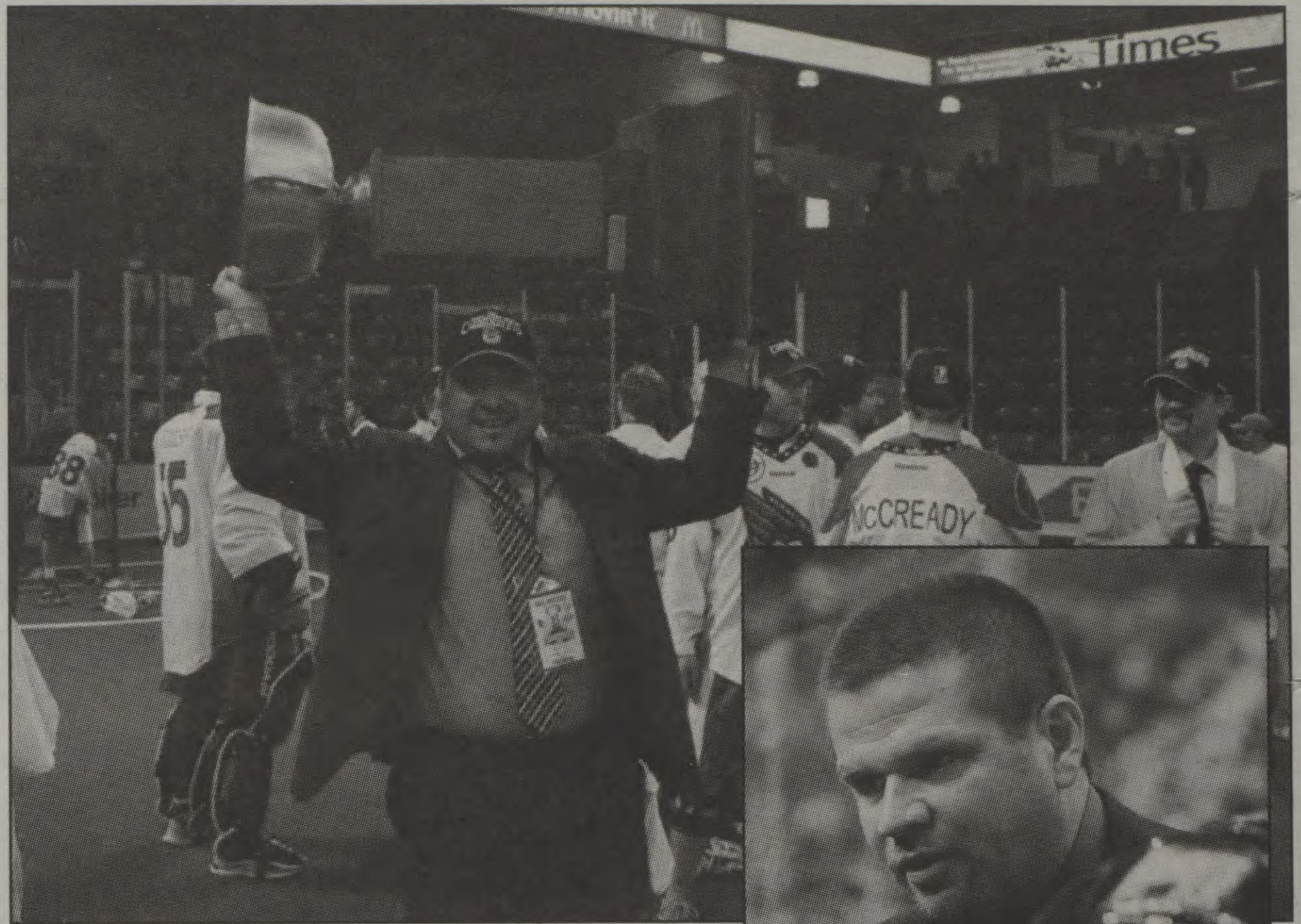
A record 164 teams competed at the 2014 Little NHL.

As in the past couple of years, the majority of the tournament matches will be held at the Hershey Centre, which is also home to the Ontario Hockey League's Mississauga Steelheads, and Iceland.

Both of these facilities feature four ice pads each.

[sports]

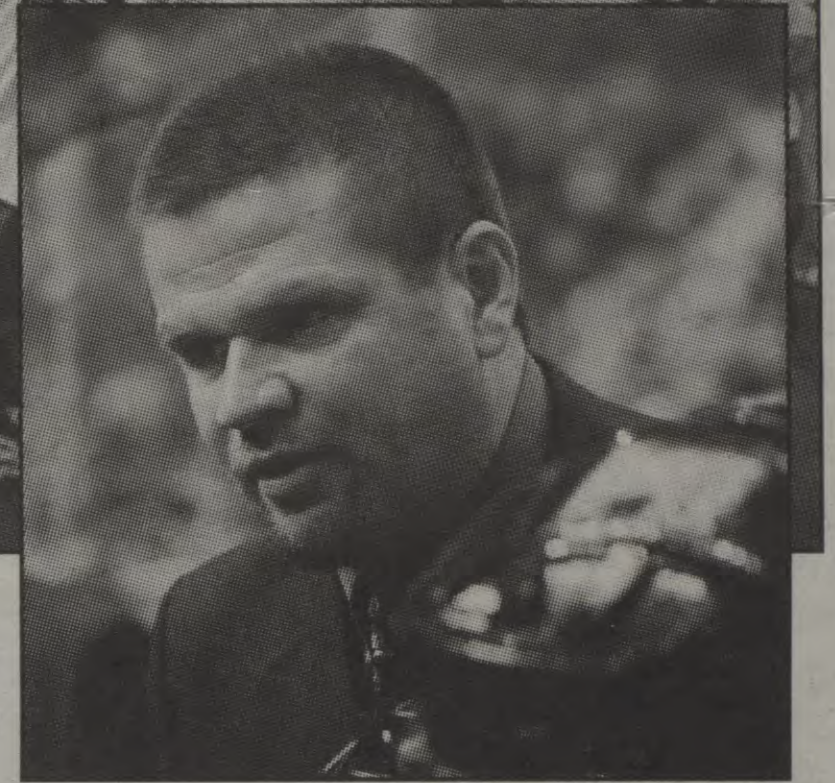
Team wants top prize as it hosts the world



Landon Miller, the Nationals' general manager.

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Writer

Rich Kilgour, head coach of the Iroquois Nationals.



PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

OHSWEKEN, ON

Second place is no longer acceptable.

That's the message Landon Miller is trying to instill for all those who will be part of the Iroquois Nationals this year.

The men's lacrosse team is not only participating in, but will also host, the 2015 world men's box (indoor) lacrosse championships.

The tournament will be staged Sept. 18 to Sept. 23. All preliminary and quarter-final matches will be staged at the Onondaga Nation Arena near Syracuse.

The tournament will then shift to the First Niagara Center in Buffalo for the semi-final and both medal games. Matches to determine final rankings from fifth through eighth will also be staged in Buffalo.

Eight squads are expected to take part in the event.

This marks the fourth time the global tournament has been held. Canada has won the gold medal at all three previous events. The Iroquois Nationals have settled for the silver medal each time.

"We don't want to be competitive anymore," said Miller, who has been appointed as the Iroquois Nationals' general manager. "We want to be the best."

Hosting this year's tournament provides added incentive to win the championship.

"This is historic," Miller said. "It's the first world championship on Haudenosaunee territory. We have to win this to establish ourselves in the world."

Miller, who is from the southern Ontario Six Nations community of Ohsweken, knows a thing or two about building successful teams.

He's currently in his fourth season as serving as the assistant general manager of the Rochester Knighthawks, members of the professional National Lacrosse League. The Knighthawks are the three-time defending NLL champions.

Miller is also gearing up for his seventh year as president of the Six Nations Arrows, a Junior A club that competes in the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA). The Arrows not only captured the OLA title this past summer, but they also went on to win the Minto Cup, annually awarded to the top Junior A squad in Canada.

Besides selecting Miller as its GM, the Iroquois Nationals have also named their coaching staff for September's tournament.

Rich Kilgour, a member of the Tuscarora First Nation in western New York, is the team's head coach. A former NLL star himself, Kilgour is now an assistant coach in the league with the Buffalo Bandits.

"It is an unbelievable honour being picked to coach your nation's team at the highest level," Kilgour said. "As soon as I heard where the worlds were going to be played, I definitely wanted to be a part of it."

Kilgour's brother Darris, who was an assistant coach for the Iroquois Nationals at the 2011 tournament in the Czech Republic, will be an assistant once again.

The squad also has two other assistant coaches, Duane Jacobs and Andy Secore.

Jacobs is no stranger to the world tournament. He played for the Iroquois Nationals at the inaugural 2003 event, staged primarily in Hamilton, Ont. And then he was the team's head coach for both the '07 and 2011

tournaments.

Secore, a former pro player who played in the 2011 tourney, now has coaching experience in both the NLL and OLA.

Though he already has four coaches on the Iroquois Nationals' staff to assist him, Miller said he will be looking to also bring aboard one or two scouts to assist in the team's player selection process.

"We're going to pick the best team," Miller said. "We're not necessarily picking the best individuals."

Miller added the club's brass will be looking for a particular style of play when choosing those it wants on what is expected to be a somewhat youthful squad.

"We're going to be aggressive," Miller said. "It holds well that we're going with youth."

The majority of those who will be named to the Iroquois Nationals' roster are currently playing in the NLL, which kicked off its 2015 regular season schedule in early January.

But there could be some roster surprises as well.

"We're not going to exclude anybody that is not in the NLL," Miller added.

The Iroquois Nationals are expected to invite prospective players to a training camp at some point after the NLL campaign concludes in May.

"We'll probably keep it at 30-35 (players) tops," Miller said. "We'll have already selected all of the top players by then."

Though it remains to be seen which Iroquois Nationals players will be selected for this year's team, one thing is certain. The calibre of First Nations players available has gone up from previous years.

"Our program has grown by leaps and bounds," he said.

[education]

Software to revitalize, support Indigenous languages

By Paula E. Kirman
Windspeaker Writer

EDMONTON

Need to look up a word in the Plains Cree language? There's an app for that.

Well, not quite, but there will be a software package available in the near future.

Plains Cree is the first language that is part of the project "21st Century Tools for Indigenous Languages," which "aims at developing software tools that support the revitalization and the continued use of Indigenous languages in all spheres of life: day-to-day communication, administration, business, and education, by both their native speakers and language learners," said Dr. Antti Arppe, professor of quantitative linguistics at University of Alberta.

The tools include an intelligent web-based electronic dictionary, which will assist in understanding texts like web pages written in Plains Cree, a spell-checker that helps in writing Plains Cree texts, and a language training and education application that supports learners of Plains Cree.

Choosing to focus on Indigenous languages made sense to Arppe, who is originally from Finland.

In the late 1990s, Arppe worked for Lingsoft, a small Finnish software company that developed language tools for the Nordic languages. From this experience, Arppe says, they learned it was possible to start from almost nothing and create, in one or two years, a decent-quality initial version of the basic set of language tools (spell-checker, electronic dictionary). Having access to one or more good dictionaries for that language and comprehensive descriptions of the structure of the language's words is essential, though, for the work to succeed.

Now working in an English-speaking environment, Arppe has discovered how important it is to his personal identity to keep

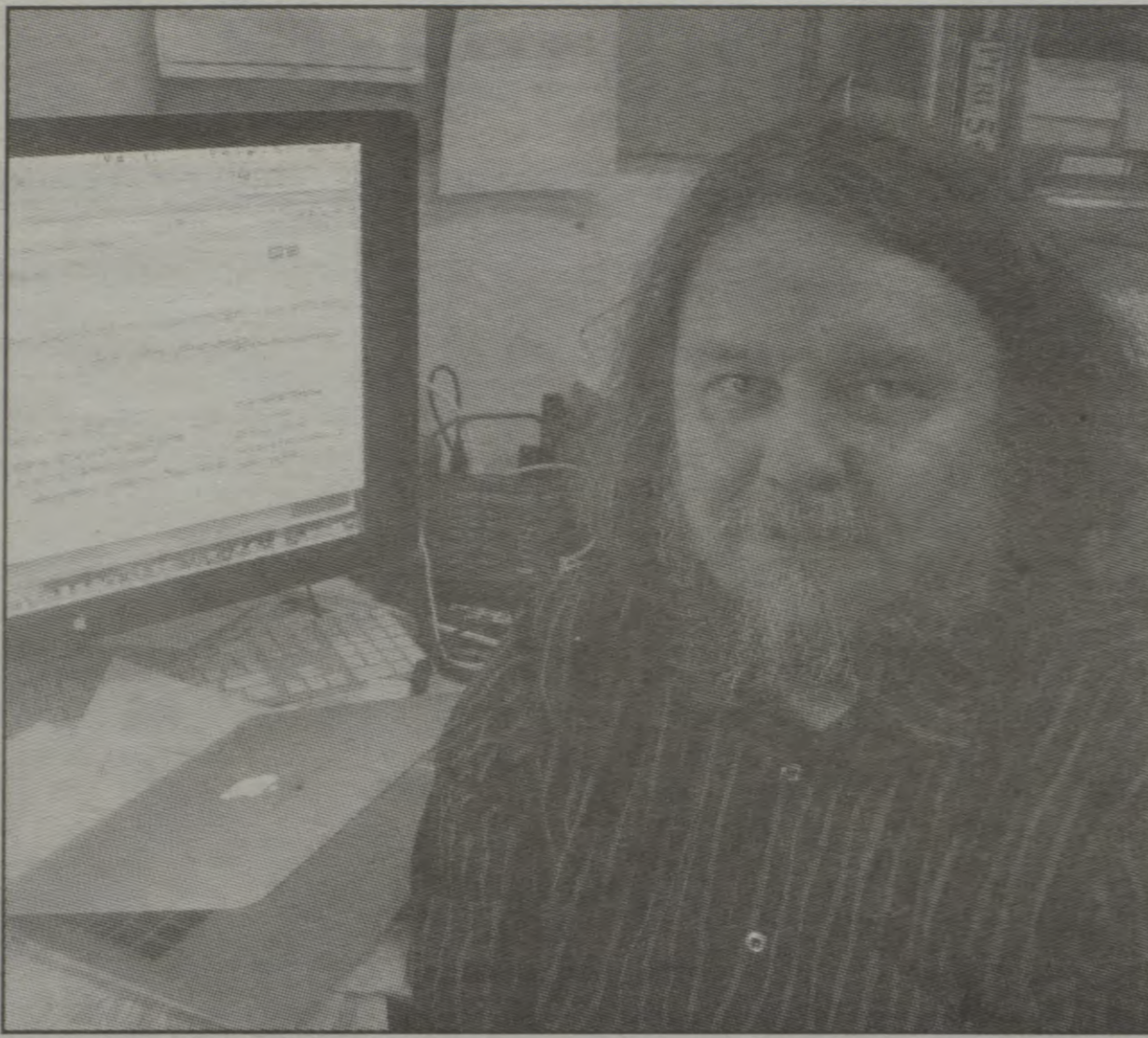


PHOTO: PROVIDED

Dr. Antti Arppe shows content from the website for the intelligent dictionary for the Plains Cree language.

hold of his language.

"More generally, there is no doubt that language plays a central role in the identity of a community, and that language

is one of the key channels through which a community's culture, traditions and values are maintained," he said. "Therefore, the continued use of



WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY
KITCHENER | Waterloo | Brantford | Toronto

GRADUATE STUDIES
WITH AN INDIGENOUS
WORLD VIEW

LYLE S. HALLMAN FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK
MSW ABORIGINAL FIELD OF STUDY

As the first Aboriginal Master of Social Work program in Canada that is completely informed by an Indigenous world view, our goal is to develop social work practitioners who demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the history, traditions and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of Canada. This unique program includes the involvement of Indigenous elders, a traditional circle process, and Indigenous ceremonies.



- An innovative MSW degree immersed in an Indigenous, holistic world view
- A full-time MSW program offered at Laurier's Kitchener Campus
- Part-time offering in partnership with First Nation Technical Institute, Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory
- An empowering learning experience

ADMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2015

Tel: 519.884.0710 x5249
Email: csayer@wlu.ca

wlu.ca/socialwork

LAURIER
Inspiring Lives.

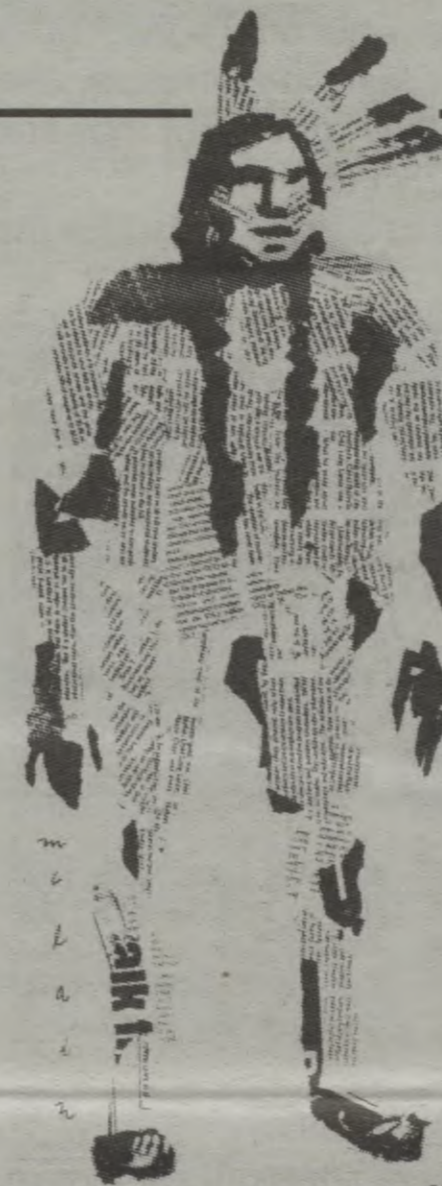
Indigenous languages, often under hard pressure from the majority languages and cultures, has great intrinsic value in itself."

A number of factors played into the decision to focus on Plains Cree. The language is widely spoken by communities

in Alberta as well as neighbouring provinces and territories, and is the only Indigenous language taught at the University of Alberta.

"In addition, it has an established standardized orthography, and its grammar

Looking for your ideal career?
Check out our career listings on
page 21 and also
browse through more career listings
online only at:
www.ammsa.com



Windspeaker

Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Discover why Windspeaker is the most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada. Every month Windspeaker features award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

Read news, editorials, columns, and features on topics ranging from politics to arts and entertainment – it's all in every issue of Windspeaker.

ORDER NOW AND
SAVE

One year (12 issues) only \$65.00

USA subscriptions: \$75.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).
Overseas subscriptions: \$85.00 Cdn per year (12 issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal: _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - Payable to "AMMSA"
CHARGE TO YOUR VISA /MASTERCARD/AMEX
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639

CC: _____

Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

By mail: Windspeaker • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton, Alberta • T5L 4S8
OR PHONE TOLL FREE 1-800-661-5469 • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com



Working at Alberta Health Services (AHS) is about making a difference — whether you are a health professional, support staff, physician or volunteer. We provide the highest quality patient care by placing the needs of our patients, families and communities first. At AHS, you'll discover a culture of care based on collaboration and values.

We value the diversity of the people and communities we serve, and are committed to attracting, engaging and developing a diverse and inclusive workforce. Join our team — Make a difference.

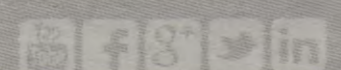
ADVANTAGES

- Urban and rural opportunities
- Work/life balance
- Flexible Hours
- Personal & professional growth
- New and established facilities

what's your reason?



www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers



and vocabulary are well documented in dictionaries, text collections and scientific research. All this provides us with a good spring-board for developing the various language software tools for Plains Cree," said Arppe.

Arppe is joined on his team by Native speakers and scholars Dorothy Thunder, who teaches Cree at the University of Alberta, and Jean Okimâsis, from First Nations University of Canada and also author of the widely used text book for learning Plains Cree. Strengthening their

work is access to three Plains Cree dictionaries: *nêhiyawêwin* : *itwêwina* / Cree: *Words* by Arok Wolvengrey, the *Alberta Elders' Cree Dictionary* (edited by Earle Waugh based on the contributions of numerous Cree Elders), and the *Maskwacis Cree Dictionary* (Miyo Wahkohtowin Education). All three dictionary authors are also collaborating on the project, and Arppe and his team are also consulting with senior colleagues Sally Rice and David Beck, as well as Cree Literacy Network director Arden Ogg.

The project is in its second year of development. Arppe hopes to have the first proper version of the web-based intelligent dictionary completed shortly, which would recognize most of the forms nouns and verbs for the basic central vocabulary of Plains Cree.

However, development of the dictionary will continue. Also to be developed is a plug-in version of the dictionary that would allow clicking on Plains Cree words on a webpage and getting the English translation, irregardless of how the word form is inflected.

Arppe hopes that this project will enable Indigenous communities to be able "to continue to use their own languages, in the broadest possible sense - that is, not just in day-to-day communication but also in administration, business, and education."

LONG-HAUL TRUCK DRIVER



BYTRUCK
TRANSPORT CORP.

LOCATION ADDRESS:

9900 River Drive
Richmond, BC, V6X 3S3, Canada
Phone: 604-214-3161
Fax: 1-888-778-3563

BYTRUCK TRANSPORT CORP. is looking for Class 1 Truck Drivers with mountain driving experience to run BC/AB Long-Haul.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Operate and drive straight or articulated trucks to transport goods and materials, ensuring safety and security of cargo. Trip planning required.

WORK CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES: Physically demanding, weight handling of up to 45 kg (100 lbs).

ESSENTIAL SKILLS: Professionalism in customer service, reading text, document use, numeracy, writing, communication, working with others, and decision making.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED: Must provide a driver's abstract, 6 year accident claim history, current criminal record check and have a valid class 1 driver's licence with Air Brake Endorsement.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Some high school and 2 to less than 3 years' experience.

DOCUMENTATION KNOWLEDGE: Driver logbook, Inspection Report (pre-trip, en-route, post-trip), Trip Reports.

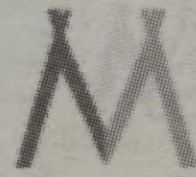
TYPE OF TRAVEL/TRUCKING & EQUIPMENT/TRAVEL INFORMATION: Willing to travel cross-border (with proper documentation or the ability to obtain proper documentation), willing to travel overnight, Regional, Provincial/territorial, International travel, Tractor-trailer.

SALARY: \$22.65 Median per hour on a Mileage Contract.

If you have a valid class 1 driver's licence (with Air Brake Endorsement), a clean abstract, and are looking for your next exciting opportunity, please reply to this ad with your resumé. Candidates with at least 2 to less than 3 years' experience will be given preference. Please clearly indicate that you are applying for the Long-Haul Truck Driver position.

Apply, in person, or mail your resumé, to:

Recruiting Manager
Bytruck Transport Corp.
9900 River Drive
Richmond, BC V6X 3S3
Email:
jobs@bstmanagement.net
Fax: 1-888-778-3563.



Mahkesis Consulting

Phone 780-870-6599

mihkesisconsulting.janetf@sasktel.net

Train the Trainer Traditional Family Parenting & Holistic Health

Date and time: April 8-10, 2015 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Wingate Hotel, 18220 - 100 Avenue, Edmonton, 780-443-1000

Facilitators: Janet Fox and Beatrice Okeymow, Energy Balancing

Deadline for Registration: March 31, 2015 ~ Cost: \$495.00

Deadline for Early Bird Registration: March 6, 2015 ~ Cost: \$395.00

Price includes a parenting manual and all power point presentations.
Coffee and refreshments provided (lunch not provided)

Email completed registration forms to
mahkesisconsulting.roberta@sasktel.net

**If you have any questions or concerns, please call
Janet Fox at 780-870-6599 or Roberta at 780-361-6733**



Sutco Contracting Ltd.
104-2374 Bering Rd.

West Kelowna, BC, V4T 3J6, Canada

Sutco Contracting Ltd. is looking for 15 qualified

COMMERCIAL CLASS 1 DRIVERS

Qualities: These positions are on a rotating schedule days/nights and require the following qualities:

- ◆ prolonged sitting
- ◆ the ability to work at heights
- ◆ the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions
- ◆ the ability to work 45-60 hours per week
- ◆ the ability to install and remove tire chains
- ◆ and the ability to load and unload freight safely

Job requirements:

- a valid Class 1 commercial drivers license or equivalent,
- a minimum of 6 months verifiable commercial truck trailer mountain driving experience,
- a clean drivers abstract, and
- an ability to communicate in English.

Minimum education: Grade 12 or equivalent.

Benefits: Earn \$23.75/hour in these fulltime/permanent positions and qualify for extended benefits after three months, and our pension plan after one year of service.

Sutco is an equal opportunity employer; we welcome all applications regardless of age, race, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.

Please apply on line at sutco.ca
by Fax at 250 357 2009 or
call 1 888 357 2612 ext. 230

Looking for a SCHOLARSHIP and more?

If you are a Canadian resident 1st-year undergraduate pursuing a degree in the field of engineering or business/management, visit www.scholarshipandmore.org to learn more about this unique opportunity for students.

Application deadline: March 15, 2015

- A \$3000 per year scholarship for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years of your undergraduate program
- An opportunity to be mentored by a business leader at GE in Canada
- Participation in specialized GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders activities & community projects



GE Foundation
Scholar-Leaders Program In Canada



[footprints] Marie Smallface-Marule

Indigenous rights activist

fought colonialism

By Dianne Meili

After signing up to work in Africa with CUSO right out of university, Marie Smallface-Marule was primed to defend Indigenous rights on a global scale.

Only 22, the first woman from the Kainai Nation in southern Alberta to earn a post-secondary education – with a degree in anthropology and sociology – stepped into the unknown by volunteering in Zambia.

But once there, she was assaulted by 1960s apartheid and quickly absorbed how damaging the effects of colonization were on the people she was trying to help.

“She also met and married my father, Jacob Marule,” said daughter Tsuaki Marule. “He was a militant member of the African National Council and was exiled from South Africa.”

Over the four years she was involved in community development and adult literacy, Smallface-Marule understood to what extent Indigenous people like herself could be minimized.

When her mother let her know it was time to come back home, Smallface-Marule didn't quite make it back to Alberta. †Intercepted by politician George Manuel, on a tip from activist and author Harold Cardinal who had heard she was returning to Canada, she was invited to work for the National Indian Brotherhood in Ottawa, the forerunner of the Assembly of First Nations.

“The way mom told it, George interviewed her but said he only had it in his budget to hire her as a secretary,” said Tsuaki. “She told him she understood government funding and that the work being done was so important she had to be a part of it. She accepted the secretary job but told George ‘I don't type and I don't take dictation.’”

In three months' time she was promoted to executive director of the Indian Brotherhood, but soon she was summoned again – this time by LeRoy Littlebear at the University of Lethbridge. Smallface-Marule was ready to work with her own people and jumped at the chance to teach in a newly developed Native American Studies department.

She would continue to instruct at the University of Lethbridge for the next 15 years.

While teaching full-time, she helped create the World Council of Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) in an office at the university. In 1975 her old friend George Manuel and others joined her to orchestrate the first WCIP conference in Port Alberni, B.C.

“I think there were about 17 different countries represented at that first gathering,” said Lix Lopez, a Mayan who came from Guatemala to work for Smallface-Marule between 1979 and 1984. Delegates began drafting a charter for the WCIP, and set about organizing the second assembly in Samiland, northern Sweden in 1977, he said.

“Right after that, delegates were sent to Geneva, Switzerland, and awareness of Indigenous rights at the United Nations level began. Marie was the brains behind all of that,” Lopez explained.

The early action led to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues established in 2002 “and now thousands of people arrive in New York at the United Nations headquarters to attend each year.

“Marie was my mentor. She understood complex issues and how to negotiate through them. When she spoke she was taken very seriously at all levels,” said Lopez.

The years Smallface-Marule ran the WCIP out of the Lethbridge office were interesting ones for Tsuaki and her sisters.

“People were coming and going. I learned to yoik (yodel sing) from a Sami woman who lived with us. We took in Niillas Somby, a Sami political rights activist and film director who fled his country.” Somby lost a hand trying to blow up a bridge to stop hydro power plant development on a river in his homeland.

In 1992, Smallface-Marule became the president of Red Crow College where she would stay until retiring last year. She guided the institution toward its 1995 opening as the first tribally-controlled community college in

Canada, and created the Kanai Studies Department based on Blackfoot Ways of Knowing.

“One of Marie's visions was to decolonize by understanding how we were colonized in the first place,” said former Kanai Studies Director Narcisse Blood.

“She saw the resulting neo-colonial state we are left in as so unhealthy for our community. One way to deal with this is to take control of our own education and teach relevant knowledge. †Kainai Studies celebrated our extensive and deep way of knowing that sustained us for thousands of years. It's a wonderful way of healing from the trauma we endured through being colonized.

“Her message wasn't difficult. She was saying there is nothing wrong with our ways. In Blackfoot, we have a saying ‘let's go back on the trail’ to see how and why our ancestors, who knew the land and the animals intrinsically, approached life. Marie listened to that saying.”

In her WCIP work, Smallface-Marule saw the effects of greed as wealth was siphoned from Indigenous territories, reminders of the consequences of ignoring the knowledge that was already here before the newcomers came.

“She told me not to borrow from them, or I would become a poor imitation of them,” Blood told Windspeaker.

“My mom's fight was to validate Blackfoot knowledge and encourage mainstream institutions to accept Kainai Studies as accredited courses,” Tsuaki noted.

In an address made during Red Crow College's 25th anniversary in 2011, Smallface-Marule sounded confident in her goal of “linking First Nations' knowledge and culture to other programs such as nursing, agriculture and science to make it part of people's lives in more conscious and academic ways.”

“She was very serious about the work she was doing in education. She didn't suffer any fools and that gave her a stern countenance,” said Tsuaki. “My aunt said people would ask her to intercede for them because they were intimidated, but my mom was compassionate and



Marie Smallface-Marule



loving. She adopted my sister Debbie out of a bad situation, and was good friends with my father, even though they were divorced.”

Smallface-Marule died of a sudden heart attack on Dec. 31

at the age of 70. Former husband Jacob Marule, daughters Tsuaki Marule, Debbie Minyard, and Refilwe Marule McLean, and grandchildren Logan, London, Jack and Mady, survive her.

If you would just go ahead and order a Windspeaker subscription then you could get Windspeaker delivered right to your office or home.

For only \$65.00 +gst you would not only help support independent

Aboriginal communications,

but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Subscribe to Windspeaker today! 1-800-661-5469 Email: subscribe@ammsa.com

Order 3 DVDs and get 1 FREE

ABORIGINAL culture, social issues, & legal rights



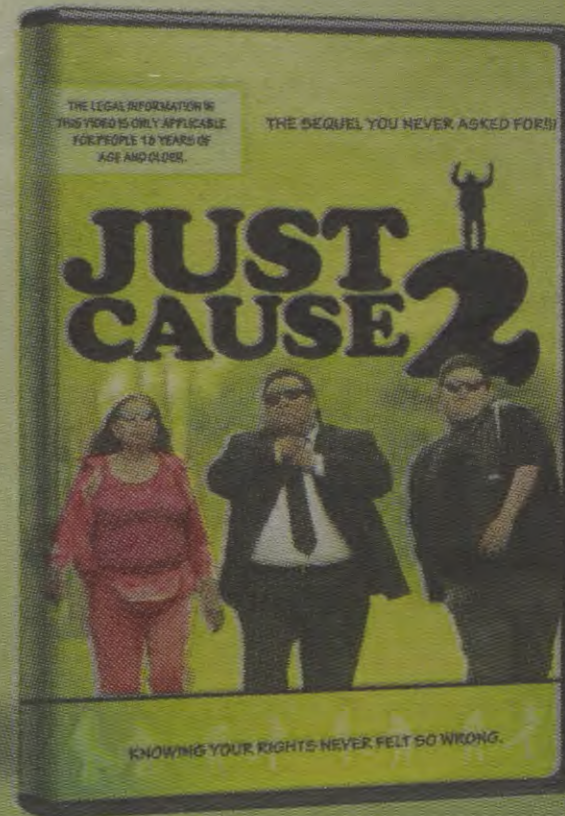
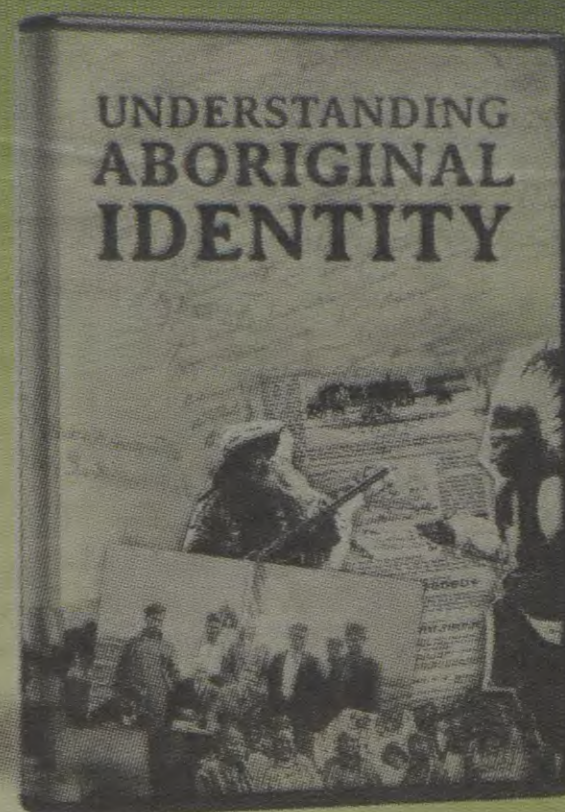
**BearPaw Legal Education
& Resource Centre**

BearPaw Legal Education

BearPaw Legal

BearPaw Legal Education

BLERCvideos



www.bearpaweducation.ca

1-800-429-9302



Native Counselling Services of Alberta
Celebrating 45 years

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!



Windspeaker

The most respected Aboriginal publication in Canada featuring award-winning coverage of the news and events important to Canada's Aboriginal people.

News, editorials, columns, humour, features and much more — it's all in every issue of *Windspeaker*.

ONLY \$65.00 for one year

SASKATCHEWAN
SAGE

RAVEN'S EYE

ONTARIO
BIRCHBARK

ALBERTA
SWEETGRASS

Alberta Sweetgrass provides coverage of the news and events from Alberta's Aboriginal communities.

Profiles of youth, elders, artists, writers and many others from communities throughout Alberta — every month.

ONLY \$45.00 for one year

SPECIAL RATE ON MULTIPLE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

WINDSPEAKER — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$65.00 +GST
(includes Saskatchewan Sage, BC Raven's Eye and Ontario Birchbark)

ADD ALBERTA SWEETGRASS — 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) - \$45.00 +GST
Get both Windspeaker and Sweetgrass for only \$100.00 +GST

PRICING PLEASE ADD \$10.00 PER YEAR FOR EACH PUBLICATION FOR DELIVERY IN THE USA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town: _____ Phone: _____

Province: _____ PC: _____

**PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
OR CHARGE TO YOUR VISA/ MASTERCARD/AMEX NUMBER
FAX THIS ORDER FORM TO (780) 455-7639**

VISA: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail to: AMMSA • 13245 - 146 Street NW • Edmonton • Alberta • T5L 4S8
toll free: 1-800-661-5469 • web: www.ammsa.com • e-mail: subscribe@ammsa.com

THEY CAME FOR A MAGAZINE AND
LEFT WITH SO MUCH MORE

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN AT A MAGAZINE STAND

VISIT A MAGAZINE STAND **AND FIND** *your own* **STORY**



CASTING
AMY FORCE

WRITING
JEFF SINASAC

EDITING
JAMIE WAY

PRODUCTION
BRUCE SEFTON

SCRIPTS BY
SUSAN ELSLEY

ART DIRECTION AND DESIGN BY
KO STRATEGY + DESIGN

CREATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BY
KENANDIGOR.COM

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
RYAN HAAS

EDITED BY
CHRIS DI STAULO

SEE THEIR STORY AT

CANADASMAGAZINESTORE.CA/ANYTHINGCANHAPPEN