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Windspeaker • Established 1983

Windspeaker



Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

Alberta accused of just going through the motions on consultation
Page 8

Canada Post pays tribute to master artist
Page 9

New program encourages leadership
Page 10



Preparing for the coming waters

Dakota Ryder from Standing Buffalo First Nation, Saskatchewan lends a hand making sandbags to help the community prepare for the coming spring flood waters. More than a dozen First Nations in the southern parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan had to evacuate residents from homes or declare states of emergency due to flooding. For the complete story turn to page 8.

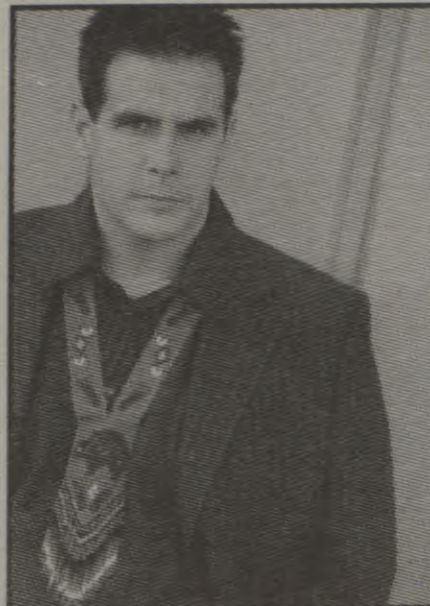
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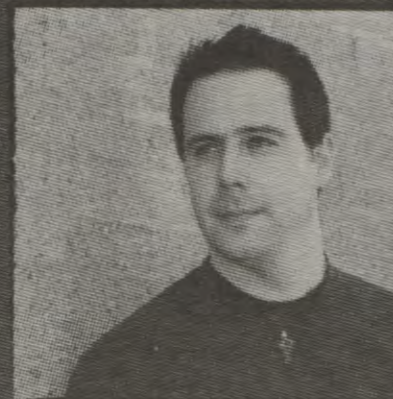
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Flood waters threaten First Nations communities

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First Nations leaders will start taking action of their own, if the federal and provincial governments don't do something about the flooding that plagues First Nations communities each year.

Alberta accused of just going through the motions on consultation

8
The province of Alberta, through its Sustainable Resource department, released a draft plan on April 5 that will guide development in the Lower Athabasca region of northern Alberta.

New program encourages leadership

10
A new approach to crime prevention is expected to have a positive impact in the city that is home to the second largest urban Aboriginal population in the country.

Scream 'fowl' over disparity in infant mortality rates

11
Indigenous communities in the United States have the highest rate of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome [SIDS], according to information collected by the National Institute of Health in the U.S. And in Canada the situation is the same.

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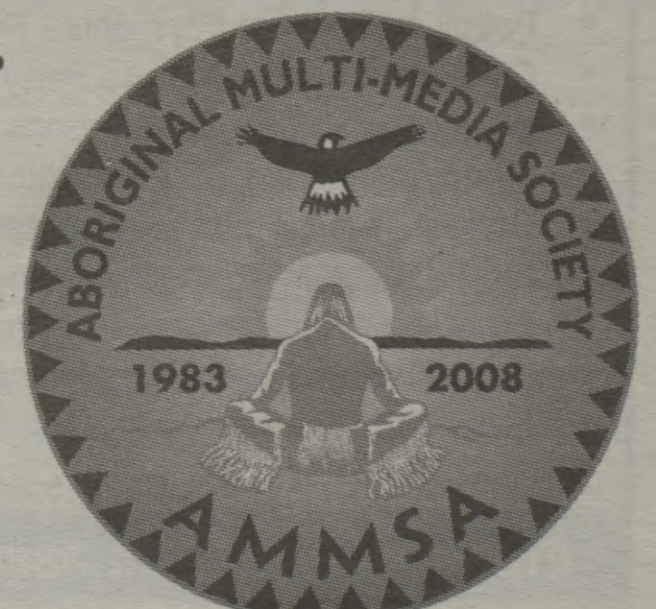
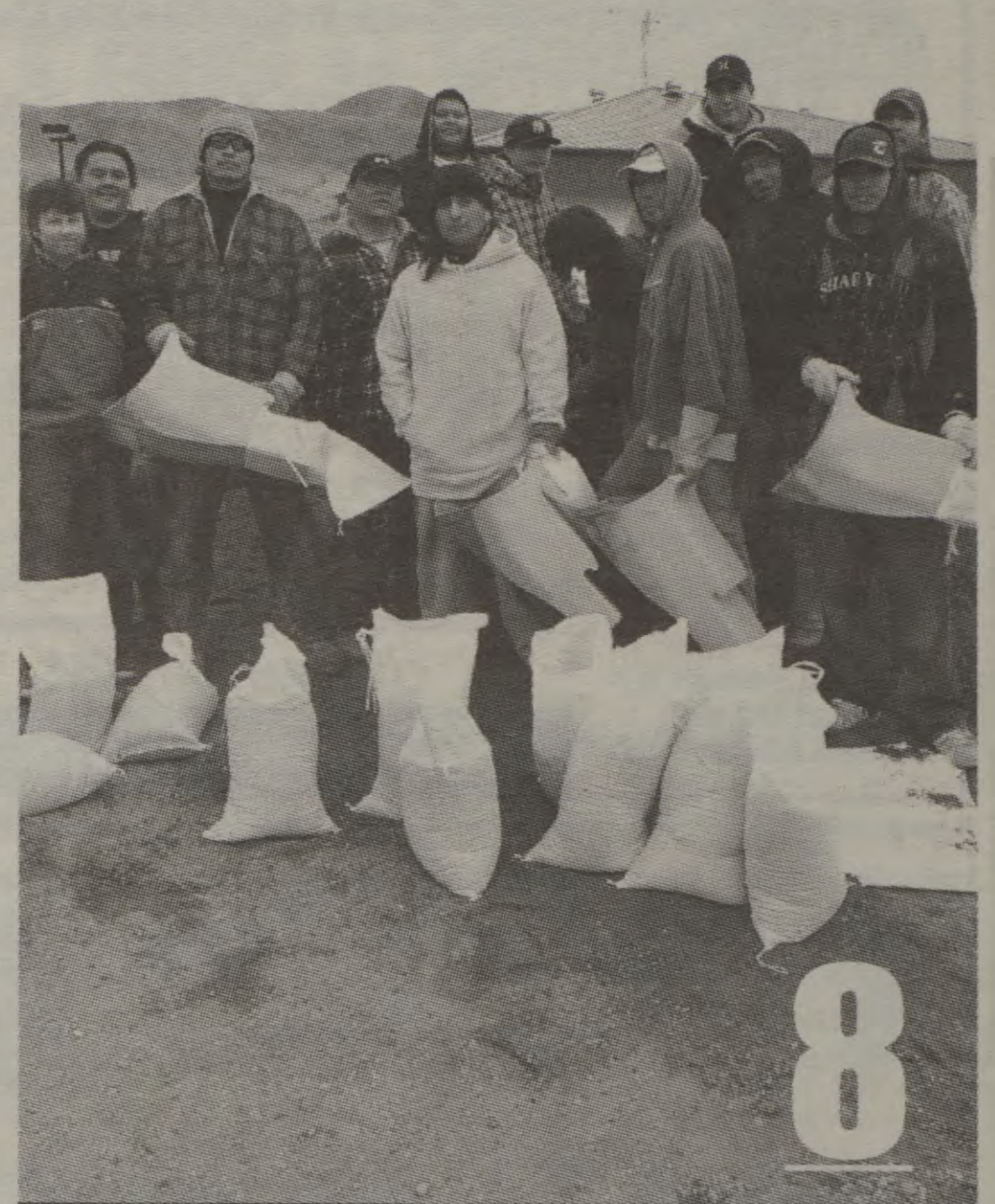
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Olive Dickason lived a quintessentially Canadian life, a Métis who was an advocate for women's rights, First Nations and Métis rights, and seniors' rights. She was more than an advocate; she was at the forefront of the struggles. She was an inspired and inspirational teacher and mentor who changed Canadian history.

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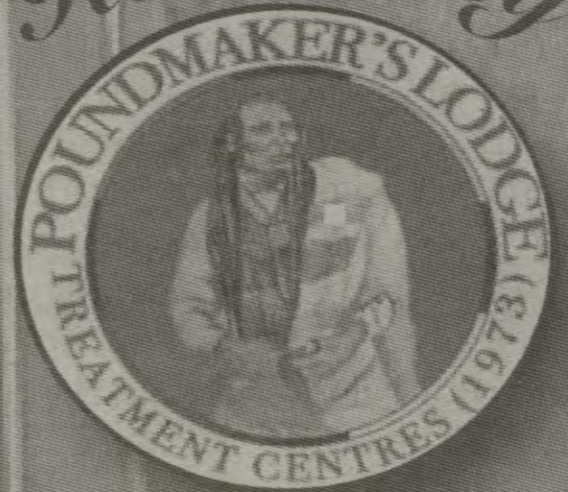
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An **ALM** Event

This should not have happened

In what country of fair-minded citizens would the tasing of an 11-year-old boy pass without outcry and inquiry? Not in this country, one would hope.

Eleven. Try and picture the 11 year olds that surround you and imagine their small bodies jerking in response to an electrical current from a stun gun. If you can't picture it, google Robert Dziekanski and view the film. The polish immigrant who, at about 6 feet tall and well over 200 pounds, died as a result of an RCMP tasing in Vancouver Airport in 2007 and it was caught on video.

RCMP used a stun gun to subdue a boy living in a group home in Prince George, B.C. The boy was believed to be the suspect in the stabbing of a 37 year old in the home. RCMP are reporting that the taser was used to stop the boy from doing harm to himself.

Of course, this is the same RCMP that misrepresented the facts to portray the RCMP in a favorable light in the Dziekanski case.

This is a taser we're talking about people. In what RCMP handbook does it say that there are certain circumstances when a taser should be used on a child?

So, despite the RCMP Public Complaints Commission's promise to investigate, we join the calls for an independent inquiry. Thomas Braidwood, the commissioner that oversaw the Dziekanski tasing inquiry, has recommended that an independent agency with civilian oversights be established to investigate police complaints.

He is quoted as saying "I'm not suggesting for a moment that there is or has been any cover-

ups, but there's always a suspicion of it."

No stone should be left unturned in determining the facts of this case. To use such a weapon on a child is abhorrent. To allow the occurrence to go unquestioned is irresponsible, immoral, and disturbing to the core.

The boy was in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development at the time of the tasing, so BC's Representative for Children and Youth, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, has become involved and is leaning towards an investigation herself.

"I'm very concerned about this situation and obviously that a young child in care, an Aboriginal child that's very fragile ... has been involved in this incident."

The Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) also demands a formal, independent inquiry. Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, president of UBCIC asked, "How is the provincial government going to address the trauma suffered by this extremely vulnerable Aboriginal child?"

UBCIC is calling for a comprehensive investigation into the full context of the situation, including the policing context that led to the deployment of a taser on the eleven-year old.

"Unquestionably, this must be the last time that a child is tasered," said Phillip.

"The eleven-year-old Aboriginal child who received such physically and emotionally abusive treatment from the RCMP must be given every possible chance for success and recovery from the impact and damage of this experience."

We couldn't agree more.

Windspeaker

Letter: 'Do right by us'

Dear Editor:

In this election campaign, it seems that everything else matters but not one of the local candidates have raised an Aboriginal issue that they would tackle in our favor that I have heard about.

However, in the past we have served as the straw man that was stood up to be beaten back down just so some candidate would get elected; nor has the electorate in the Kamloops riding stood up and questioned why the candidates have not put on their agenda Aboriginal issues.

After all, are we not the first of the three solitudes of Canada?

I remind the candidates that it is not enough to demand loyalty from the citizenry, but they too must be loyal to all their citizenry especially those who are weak, impoverished and oppressed. Finally, to the electorate, our fight is not with you who have taken up citizenry in good faith; our fight is with your government, but you have a sacred duty to see that your government does right by us.

Dr. Ronald E. Ignace

Letter: Chair needs to be First Nations

Dear Editor:

The recent joint announcement by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Minister John Duncan and Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Shawn Atleo of a blue ribbon panel on First Nations elementary-secondary education has the hand prints of INAC officials all over it.

First of all, who but INAC would advance the absurd idea that a non-First Nations chair should lead the panel in this day and age? There are more than enough seasoned and qualified First Nations educators and academics in Canada today who could easily fill the role and, with such a critical mandate as elementary-secondary education, the entire panel should be composed of qualified First Nations.

One can only conclude that INAC, and by extension the Harper government, lacks faith in First Nations to determine what reforms are necessary for the successful education of their children.

Second, the composition of the panel makes one seriously question the panel's ability to recognize what reforms will be required to improve First Nations elementary-secondary education.

The two First Nations members both lack on-the-ground experience in First Nations schools as does the chair. This critical lack of experience will make it difficult, if not impossible, for the panel to separate the wheat from the chaff during

the anticipated eight regional conferences and one national conference on education they will convene.

On what basis will they accept some proposals that will emerge from these sessions and reject others? Only INAC would constitute such a panel for such a critical initiative, one that could have profound impacts on First Nations youth.

However, it would be unfair to lay all the blame for this on INAC, given that the AFN National Chief has approved the panel membership. Atleo campaigned on an education platform and this initiative is the first major step by him on education. If this is the best that he can do, then it is indeed a poor reflection on his commitment to elementary-secondary education and it strongly suggests that he has been subordinate to both INAC and the minister during the entire process.

Someone, if not Atleo or the two First Nations members, should have said no to the selection of a non-First Nations chair. It should have been a deal-breaker for any potential First Nations member of the panel.

One has to ask two fundamental questions: Why does this panel exist in its present form, and why has the panel been given a mere four months in which to provide its report?

Blue ribbon panel, indeed.

More like blue ribbon window dressing.

By Harvey McCue

[rants and raves]

Page 5 Chatter

THE CARCROSS TAGISH FIRST NATION

wants to have the remains of two First Nation men, executed during the Gold Rush, reburied as soon as possible after construction crews unearthed the burial site in Dawson City Yukon. Elders say no DNA testing is necessary. Archeologists identified the remains, which date back to the Klondike Gold Rush, as being those of Aboriginal men, and they are believed to be of the Nantuck brothers, Jim and Dawson, who were hanged in August 1899 for shooting two prospectors, one fatally, on the McClintock River, reports CBC News. Two other Nantuck brothers were also convicted in the shooting, but they died in jail of tuberculosis before they could be executed.

INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE HUMAN

remains found in an orchard in Vernon, B.C. came from an old First Nations burial site. A contractor who was clearing an area to plant new trees found one bone, and when an anthropologist came on site several more bones were discovered, including a skull. The site was taped off and has been turned over to the provincial coroner's and archeology offices. Police have been in contact with the Okanagan Indian Band to tell them of the findings.

ABORIGINAL LEADERS FROM NORTHERN

Manitoba announced April 13 they'll open a health clinic in Thompson this summer, reports the Winnipeg Sun. Grand Chief David Harper, the head of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, said MKO hopes the health clinic will complement the government-run health care system. "Every community should have a nursing station or some kind of hospital facility fully equipped with the proper doctors and nurses. It's not too much to ask," said Bill Traverse, the Assembly of First Nations' regional chief for Manitoba. Harper said the MKO clinic will have five doctors who will provide second opinions to people not satisfied with the medical advice they receive in remote communities. Harper made the announcement after an emotional call for better care from the family of Kirby Wood, 28, who died in the nursing station at Manto Sipi Cree Nation in January after what the family described as inadequate care.

TSAWOUT FIRST NATION FISHERY

biologist Ian Bruce says the future of the Goldstream salmon run is in doubt after 30,000 litres of gasoline flowed into the river in April when a tanker overturned on the Malahat Highway. "On a scale of one to 10, it's pretty bad. It's a 9.5," said Bruce. "There are dead fish up and down the river." The goldstreamgazette.com said impacted are chum, coho, chinook and steelhead salmon. The spill also closed the clam, oyster and mussel harvest temporarily in Finlayson Arm and Saanich Inlet. Just hours before the crash, Tsawout First Nations members and Goldstream hatchery volunteers had released 8,000 coho salmon into the river. The hatchery had earlier released 20,000 salmon. "That is about 30,000 coho that are not safe and are at risk," said Peter McCully, a fisheries biologist with the Goldstream hatchery. "It's heartbreaking." He said a huge amount of work has been wiped out by one spill. Tsawout First Nations fisheries manager Dan Claxton said thousands of chum fry and coho smolts may have perished. "It's just devastating to see that many fish gone. If you look under the banks and logs, there are lots of dead fish," Claxton said. "Our First Nation relies heavily on the chum. We harvest chum to fill our smoke houses to get us through the winter."

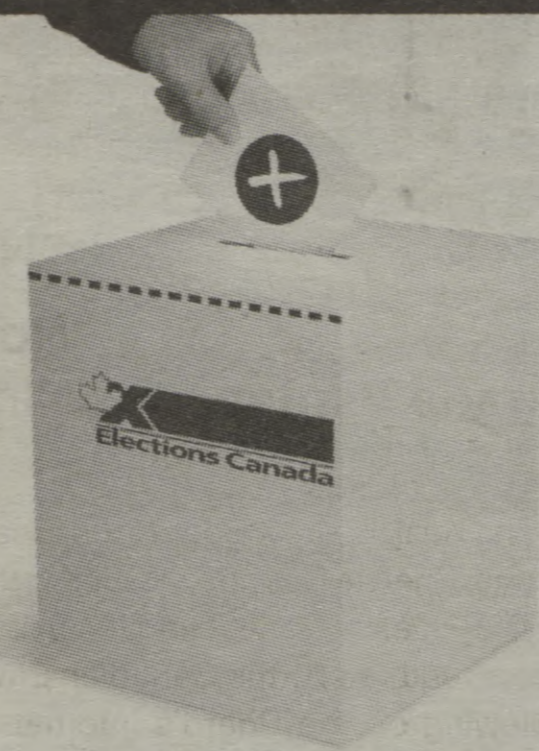
FIRST NATIONS AND FORESTRY

companies lobbying for changes to the Ontario Forest Tenure Modernization Act attended a Toronto consultation via videoconference. Leaders of Treaties 9 and 5, represented by Nishnawbe Aski Nation, said the legislation "largely fails" First Nations. But they are concerned their comments are falling on deaf ears. "It is very clear that Ontario does not take the concerns of First Nations seriously, with regards to the forestry tenure reform process," said Grand Chief Stan Beardy. "Yet again, Ontario solicits input then unilaterally makes decisions without consideration of those who are directly impacted." The best approach is to implement a community forestry tenure system putting First Nations in charge of managing forests on their homelands, he said.

CHESTER BROWN, THE MÉTIS GRAPHIC

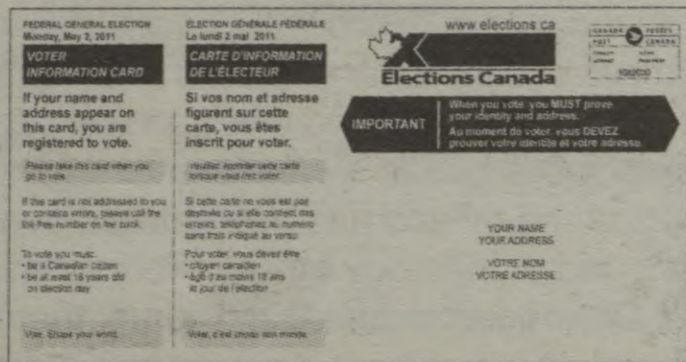
artist that brought us a graphic novel about Louis Riel, has just released his newest endeavour, a graphic novel that explores paying for sex. "Paying for It is billed as 'a comic-strip memoir about being a john,' and documents the author's assignations with more than 20 Toronto sex workers," reads an online review of the piece by The Walrus, a Canadian magazine. "The book begins with a record of Brown's slow disillusionment with the concept of romantic love, then follows his carefully planned and budgeted forays into the world of being a john." The novel sets out the case for decriminalizing prostitution by using Brown's own experiences. The Walrus contends that Brown's story "becomes not so much about people, but rather about the larger mechanics of their relationships, and the thorny sorting out of individual rights that results when sex and commerce collide."

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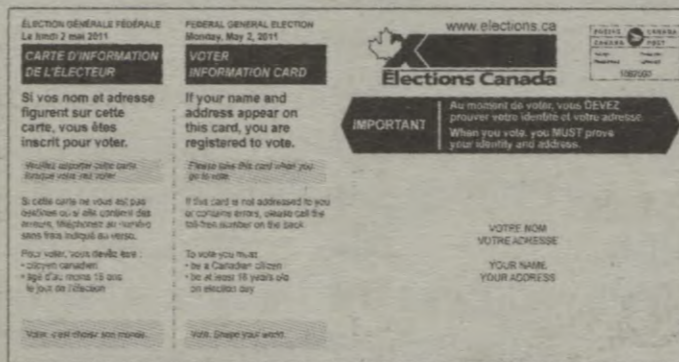
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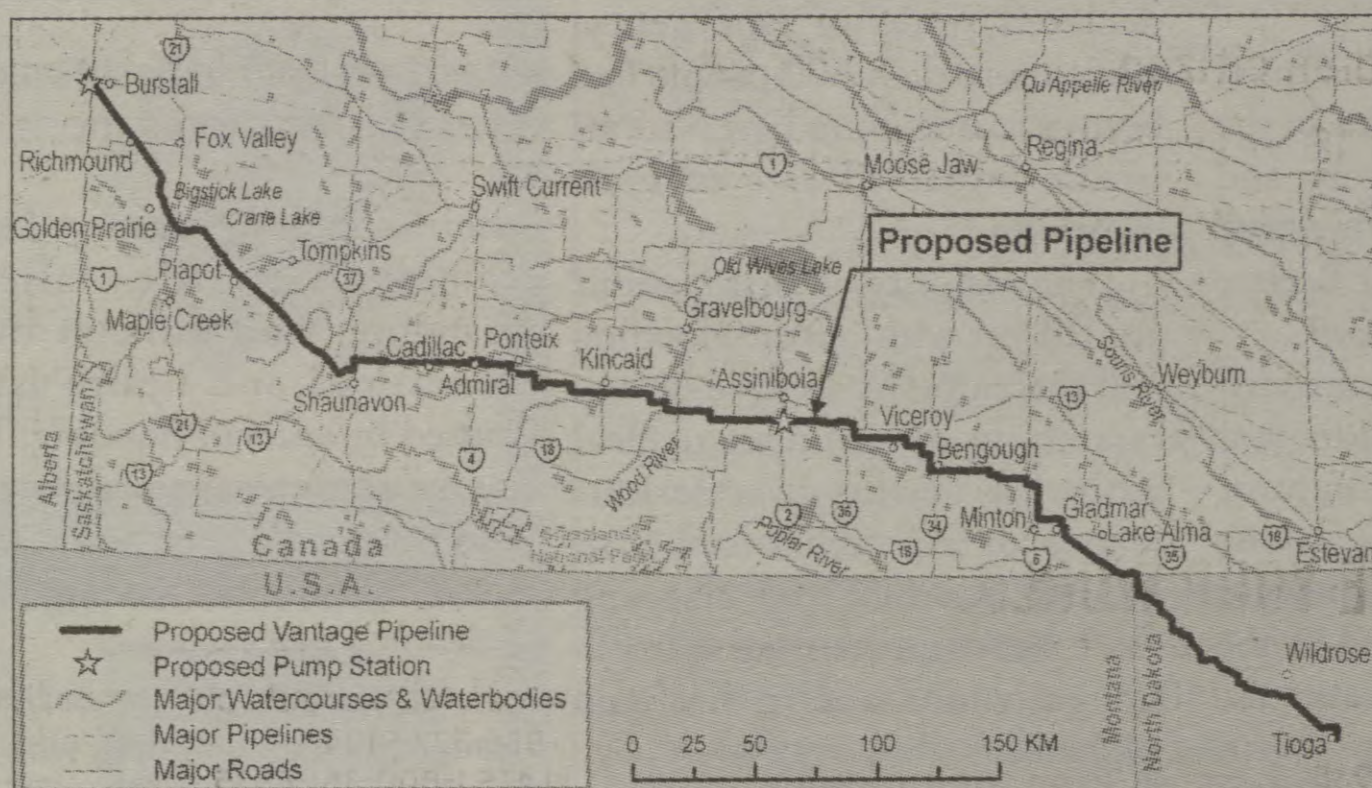
National Energy Board Notice of Public Hearing on the Vantage Pipeline Canada Inc. - Vantage Pipeline Project

The National Energy Board (the Board) has scheduled an oral public hearing on an application from Vantage Pipeline Canada Inc. under the National Energy Board Act to construct and operate the proposed Vantage Pipeline Project and for orders related to toll and tariff matters. The proceeding will also consider matters required by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Copies of the application are available for viewing on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Regulatory Documents" on the right side of the page, and click on "view" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to Vantage Pipeline Canada Inc. - Application for the Vantage Pipeline Project, OH-3-2011), at Vantage's office 440, 521-3rd Avenue S.W., the Board's library (1st floor, 444 Seventh Ave. S.W., Calgary) and the following locations: Bengough Branch Library, 301 Main Street, Bengough, SK; Assiniboia & District Public Library, 201 - 3rd Avenue West, Assiniboia, SK; Grand Coteau Heritage and Cultural Centre, 440 Centre St., Shaunavon, SK; Chinook Regional Library, 205 Jasper Street, Maple Creek, SK

Project Details

The Vantage Pipeline Project would include the construction and operation of approximately 578.3 km of 323.9 mm outside diameter (OD) (NPS 12), high-pressure steel pipeline and associated facilities. The pipeline would enter Canada from the United States near Beaubier, Saskatchewan and extend to Empress, Alberta. Approximately 9.5 10³m³/d (60,000 bpd) of liquid ethane would be transported from Hess Corporation's natural gas processing plant near Tioga, North Dakota, United States to a tie-in to the Alberta Ethane Gathering System. The proposed project would have an in-service date of late 2012.

Project Map



Oral Public Hearing

The oral hearing will start at 9:00 am, local time, 1 November 2011, at a location to be determined. The hearing will obtain the evidence and views of interested persons on the application. Any person interested in participating in the oral hearing should consult the Board's Hearing Order OH-3-2011 for further background and instructions. The deadline for filing applications to intervene is 17 May 2011 and for providing comments on the application is 19 August 2011. Federal or provincial government authorities may choose to participate by filing a declaration that they will be a Government Participant by 17 May 2011. Further details can be found in the Hearing Order.

Information Session

For the benefit of those who may be unfamiliar with the Board's processes, Board staff will be holding an initial information session at the Kinsmen Club in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, local time, on Thursday, 5 May 2011.

Information for Intervenor

Any person wishing to intervene in the hearing must file an application to intervene by noon, Calgary time, 17 May 2011 with the Secretary of the Board and serve a copy on Vantage and its counsel at the following addresses:

Mr. Terry Killackey
Vantage Pipeline Canada Inc.
440, 521-3rd Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3T3
Fax 403 777 1907
Email: tkillackey@vantagepipeline.com

Ms. Bernette (Bernie) Ho
Macleod Dixon LLP
3700, 400 Third Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4H2
Fax 403 264 5973
Email: bernie.ho@macleoddixon.com

You may use a form on the Board's Internet site to file an application to intervene. Go to www.neb-one.gc.ca and under the "Regulatory Documents" heading, click "Submit" - click "Submit documents electronically" - then click "Application for Intervenor Status." Vantage will serve a copy of the application and related documentation on each Intervenor.

Letters of Comment and Oral Statements

Any person wishing only to comment on the application should either file a letter of comment or register to make an oral statement with the Secretary of the Board and send a copy to Vantage and its counsel by noon, Calgary time 19 August 2011.

You may use forms on the Board's Internet site to file your letter of comment or your request to make an oral statement. Go to www.neb-one.gc.ca. Under the "Regulatory Documents" heading, click "Submit" - click "Submit documents electronically" - then click "Letter of comment" or "Request to Make an Oral Statement."

Information on Hearing Procedures

You may access the Hearing Order through the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Regulatory Documents" on the right side of the page, and click on "View" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to Vantage Pipeline Canada Inc. - Application for the Vantage Pipeline Project, OH-3-2011, then click on "Hearing Order" at the top of the screen). You may obtain information on the procedures for this hearing or on the National Energy Board Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1995, as amended, (Rules of Practice and Procedure) governing all hearings (available in English and French) by writing to the Secretary of the Board, contacting Louise Niro, Regulatory Officer at 403 299 3987 or at 1 800 899 1265. You may also go to the Board's Internet site and click on "Acts and Regulations" to access the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure and other legislation.

Anne-Marie Erickson Secretary of the Board
National Energy Board 444 Seventh Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8 Fax 403 292 5503

Flood waters threaten First Nations communities

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

First Nations leaders will start taking action of their own, if the federal and provincial governments don't do something about the flooding that plagues First Nations communities each year.

Nearly 200 people, including Grand Chief Morris J. Swan-Shannacappo of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs Organization (SCO) and Chief Adrian Sinclair of Interlake First Nation of Lake St. Martin, rallied at the downtown Winnipeg office of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada on April 12 demanding permanent action be taken on flooding concerns. The protestors moved to the Legislature in the afternoon.

Lake St. Martin is one of more than a dozen First Nations in the southern parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan that had to evacuate residents from homes or declare states of emergency in April.

Leaders are particularly angered by a government decision that puts their people at risk in favor of protecting 500 cottages along Fishing Lake in Saskatchewan. This decision has resulted in the flooding of First Nations in the Qu'Appelle Valley in Saskatchewan and the Red River water basin in Manitoba.

"The federal government fast-tracked a project to build control structures to release water (on Fishing Lake) and this has been the result," said Greg McIvor, political advisor to Swan-Shannacappo.

The diverted water compounds the impacts of naturally occurring ice jams, frozen ground, and snowmelt. The swollen streams, saturated soil and warm weather all promise to affect water levels taking them to higher than normal or even to record levels for some rivers.

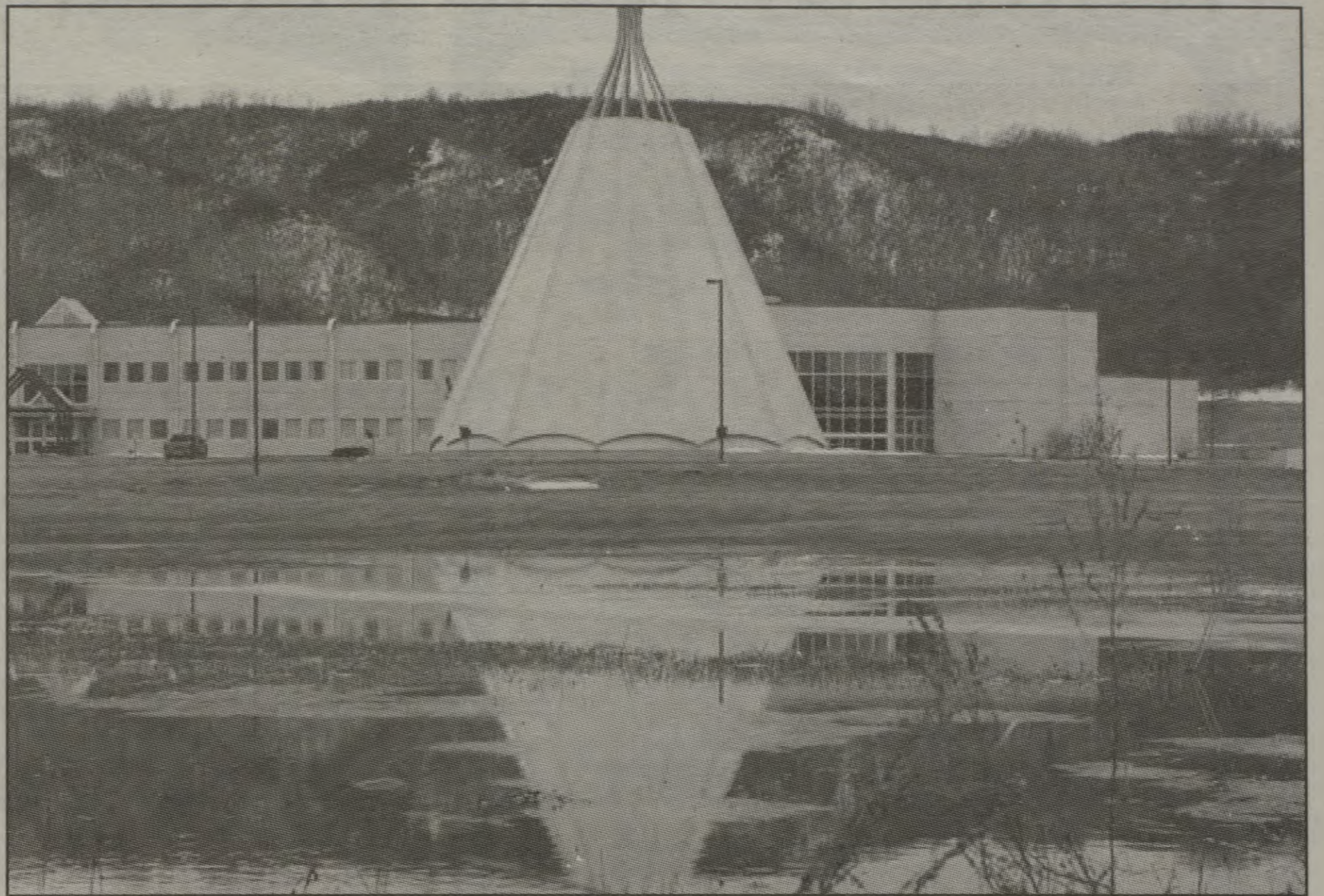
The Qu'Appelle River, which runs from Lake Diefenbaker, northwest of Regina, across Saskatchewan to the Manitoba boundary, is expected to overflow along the entire Qu'Appelle Valley. Officials in Manitoba warn that the Red and Assiniboine rivers could crest at the same time at the end of April. Experts are expecting the Red River to reach water levels higher than 2009, the second highest water level on that river.

At press time, half a dozen First Nations in the two provinces had declared states of emergency, while more than 500 people had been evacuated from First Nations in the impacted area in both provinces.

"The majority of First Nations are fed up with all the flooding and there doesn't seem to be any interest in government to deal with any of this in a serious manner or responsible manner, so I think (the SCO is) planning some public protests and rallies to bring attention to all of this," said McIvor.

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo added his voice to the concerns that First Nations face with recurring flooding.

"This situation needs to be resolved quickly with a sustainable solution that guarantees the safety of the citizens, their homes and



PHOTOS: BERT CROWFOOT

Standing Buffalo First Nation was starting to see rising flood waters in mid April. The community was making preparations, including making sandbag dikes, to minimize the potential damage.

their belongings. These communities are already grappling with difficult living conditions and health issues caused by years of flooding. This is now a chronic, annual problem and the people need and deserve action to prevent flooding," said Atleo in a news release.

Leaping in to the fray is Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff, who was in Saskatchewan campaigning. He told the *Regina Leader-Post*, "These communities flood year after year; it's not good enough. We have to sit down with First Nations leadership and think about how we get a preventative strategy."

(See First Nations on page 9.)



Alberta accused of just going through the motions on consultation

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

ATHABASCA CHIPEWYAN NATION

The province of Alberta, through its Sustainable Resource department, released a draft plan on April 5 that will guide development in the Lower Athabasca region of northern Alberta.

First Nations and environmental organizations say, however, that despite their best efforts to provide input into the plan, their voices have gone unheard.

Melody Lepine, director of government and industry relations with the Mikisew Cree First Nation, said her northern band is concerned about the lack of protection for woodland caribou found in the Lower Athabasca Regional draft plan (LARP).

She said First Nations recommended that 40 per cent of the region be classified as

protected area. The draft plan has designated only 16 per cent as protected.

"The failure to ensure protections for caribou under the LARP is likely the final nail in the coffin for caribou in northeastern Alberta," said Melissa Gorrie, lawyer with Ecojustice. This organization represents the Alberta Wilderness Association and Pembina Institute in a federal case about woodland caribou protection, expected to reach court this summer.

Late last year, the environmental groups joined the First Nations of Athabasca Chipewyan, Beaver Lake Cree, and Enoch Cree in litigation, asking the court to force Environment Minister Jim Prentice to prepare a recovery strategy for woodland caribou. They also recommended that cabinet make an emergency order to protect woodland caribou in northeastern Alberta under the *Species at Risk Act*.

Protection of endangered

species falls under federal legislation, but Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's draft plan has done nothing to pick up the federal slack.

Chief Allan Adam of the Athabasca Chipewyan Nation said the LARP provides little protection for caribou in the region.

"With the influx of people coming in (to the area), there's no access management plan. People are going in to do whatever they want to do. That's how we view it right now," Adam said.

Both Adam and Lepine said they provided extensive material to the provincial government in drafting LARP, as well as participated in the land-use framework and regional advisory council meetings.

"We thought we were doing a pretty good job in providing them with information, what it was we were asking for," said Lepine. "The consultation process for them was just going

through the motions. It wasn't really meaningful in terms of incorporating any substantial input from us."

First Nations representatives believe instead that LARP is focused on development and will help industry.

According to the draft plan, the government will honor existing petroleum and natural gas leases in the newly declared protected areas, but industrial development activities such as surface mining for oilsands and minerals will not be allowed.

About 25 energy and mineral companies will be compensated for the amount spent on leases in those areas, as well as for money spent on work done on the lease.

Adam said treaty rights that First Nations continue to gain will mean little with the development plan as it is now.

"The land-use plan has been watered down to cater to industry. If it keeps going in that direction, there will be no where to exercise our treaty rights," said

Adam.

Athabasca Chipewyan is contemplating legal action against the provincial government.

"Enough is enough," said Adam. "It's time to launch a case on this. We're working on that already."

Lepine said the Mikisew Cree are not opposed to taking legal action, but right now the First Nation will remain focused on the second round of LARP consultations.

"First Nations don't have a lot of capacity or a lot of resources. We put a lot of what little we had into (the regional plan). This was really important to us. We explained that, made the government aware of how important it was to us, and we just feel really let down," said Lepine, who admitted she holds little hope that First Nations will be heard at the work on the draft goes forward.

Albertans have 60 days from April 5 to respond to the draft plan.

Canada Post pays tribute to master artist



By Jennifer Hansford
Windspeaker Contributor

OTTAWA

Aboriginal artist Daphne Odjig of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve on Manitoulin Island, Ont. now has the honor of having her paintings published as a series of postage stamps.

Canada Post announced Feb. 21 the unveiling of three stamps, each showing a different painting created by the artist.

The three paintings displayed on the stamps are entitled *Spiritual Renewal* (1984), *Powwow Dancer* (1978), and *Powwow* (1969).

"Canada Post is proud to add the work of this respected Canadian artist to our Art Canada series," said Jim Philips, director of Stamp Services at

Canada Post.

"Daphne Odjig's colorful palette evokes strength and power."

Odjig was born in 1919 and during her lifetime she has accomplished many things. Accolades include the Order of Canada, the National Aboriginal Achievement Award, the Governor General's Laureate for Visual and Media Arts (2007), the Expression Award from the National Film Board in recognition of work that champions Canadian cultural diversity, and she is the first and only First Nations woman to show her work at the National Gallery of Canada, as of November 2009. She has also received the Order of British Columbia, the province that is also home to the art gallery, Odjig Arts, which is located in Kelowna.



First Nations face flood waters

(Continued from page 8.)

The entire waterway system, from dams to the hydro structure, needs to be looked at in a comprehensive manner, said Michael Bear, chief of staff for the Manitoba SCO. Repeated letters and attempts to push an evaluation through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and INAC have resulted in little response.

The Manitoba government has said that it has raised the issue with the federal government as well but there is no ongoing funding or national strategy in place.

But it seems that the recent rally in Winnipeg has netted some results, at least with the provincial government. Deputy Premier Eric Robison and Water Stewardship Minister Christine Melnick met with leaders and announced the province would be launching a study into the impact floods are having on First Nations.

As well, in Saskatchewan, the provincial government has established a task force to ensure reserves have the necessary

equipment to fight the flooding. The task force has also been charged with helping First Nations plan their flood strategy.

An emergency disaster-relief meeting for the affected First Nations and INAC is scheduled for late April.

"We support the call for immediate action as a priority to protect the people of these First Nations and deliver on sustainable, long-term solutions. We have set this as a key priority for all First Nations to be addressed during this election and this situation is an unfortunate, graphic example of why our communities need action now," said Atleo.

Flooding like this can't keep happening, said Donald Hart, band manager with Little Saskatchewan First Nation, in Manitoba.

"Every spring, we're flooding," said Hart. "There's an emotional stress, a financial burden. Everybody is concerned."

"It's affecting all our lives," said Chief Grady Lerat of Cowessess First Nation in Saskatchewan.

Cowessess anticipated flooding

and began monitoring the situation last fall. Culvert work began two weeks prior to declaring a state of emergency on April 12 when the crossing between Cowessess and Sakimay First Nations became threatened by water.

"By nine in the evening (the water) was just about rolling over. So once you have water running over the road it wears it down pretty quick and pretty soon the road's gone," said Lerat. "Since then we've been monitoring that area."

A second road way between the two First Nations is also being threatened, but road crews have been building it up.

Lerat met with Chief Guy Lonechild of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations when Lonechild visited the Qu'Appelle valley shortly after Cowessess First Nation declared a state of emergency.

The flooding situation in the Qu'Appelle valley is "a little bit unnerving," said Lerat, "but at the same time we're getting focused, making sure everybody is aware of the situation."

Windspeaker news briefs

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS (AFN)

National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo was in Alderville First Nation April 20 for the launch of an Indigenous learning program designed jointly by Alderville First Nation and Lakefield College School. The event marked the start of First Nation-specific programming in the Lakefield private school's curriculum. The Indigenous learning program includes teachings from elders, songs and art and will help strengthen relationships between First Nation and non-First Nation students. "Today marks the beginning of a unique collaboration between Lakefield College School and First Nation peoples," said Joe Bettencourt, the assistant head of Academics at Lakefield College School in Lakefield, Ont. "We look forward to learning about the history and stories of others, and the role we need to play in appreciating the contributions of First Nation peoples to our country." Alderville First Nation Chief James Marsden said the intent of the program is to "increase understanding of First Nation traditions, cultures and histories. This is an important partnership that will further promote strengthened relationships between First Nations and non-Indigenous people." The community-based initiative is an inspiring example of action on the ground that can act as a model for other education and learning partnerships between Indigenous peoples and other Canadians, said Atleo. "It is about engaging and motivating young people to learn about Indigenous people, issues and cultures. During an important federal election, this initiative is a showcase of partnership with an emphasis on education, a key priority for First Nations to achieve their full potential in this country."

THE FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION

Steering Committee (FNESC) said the federal government has reneged on six years of funding negotiations and introduced "totally unexpected and irresponsible new options that threaten the very survival of one of the most highly praised initiatives for First Nations education." Tyrone McNeil, president of FNESC, said the first option the feds have left FNESC with is to reduce funding needs by millions of dollars and take away First Nations control of their schools. Funding negotiations after legislation on education jurisdiction was fast-tracked though Parliament with rare all-party support. "Option 2 calls for us to give control of our schools back to Indian and Northern Affairs in return for an inadequate and previously rejected level of funding, while Option 3 offers the same inadequate funding but would let us keep control and implement jurisdiction, provided we allow ourselves to be used to impose government ideology on First Nations in BC," said Christa Williams, jurisdiction negotiator. FNESC has worked closely with BC to establish school certification, curricula, graduation requirements and teacher accreditation standards that meet all provincial standards and that will reflect the additional needs of First Nations students. It also has fully audited records and strict funding and accountability controls. FNESC says it has shown increasing success with students at First Nation controlled schools that are participating in the jurisdiction initiative, despite the fact that they are still operating with per-capita dollars that are far below the BC public school level and receive no funding for cultural and language training, technology or transportation.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

linguistics professor Keren Rice, considered one of Canada's foremost experts in the Slavey (Dene) language, one of the official languages of the Northwest Territories, has been awarded one of five 2011 Killam Prizes. The Killam Prize, one of Canada's most prestigious awards, is administered by the Canada Council for the Arts and comes with a \$100,000 prize. The awards honor scholars actively engaged in research and are given in recognition of outstanding career achievements in health sciences, engineering, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. The director of the University's Centre for Aboriginal Initiatives, Rice is an expert and an activist, focused on documenting and preserving the Slavey language. She has produced a dictionary of the Slavey language and helped to standardize its written system. She has also developed curricula and language preservation and training programs for Native teachers. Rice plans to use part of her prize money to support a community-based research project in Deline, N.W.T. "The project is looking at language and the different dialects of the language," she said. "It's tied in with issues of self-government and how we can use stories to tell us about what was important to people as the community seeks to define its own governance strategy."

New program encourages leadership

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

A new approach to crime prevention is expected to have a positive impact in the city that is home to the second largest urban Aboriginal population in the country.

"We're learning how to better engage the Aboriginal community in crime prevention in a cultural context, and that's what's important about this in terms of the initiative," said Kate Gunn, executive director for the REACH Council for Safe Communities. "This is hugely significant. No where else in Canada is there an initiative quite like this."

REACH Aboriginal Leadership Circle was launched on April 14 in a special ceremony at Edmonton City Hall. The celebration included a smudging by Elder Francis Whiskeyjack, drumming and fiddling, and ended with a round dance that included Mayor Stephen Mandel.

Mandel said embracing Aboriginal culture is what will make REACH effective as a crime prevention strategy.

Mandel struck a task force in 2008 to deal with the issue of crime. The REACH task force commenced meetings in 2009 and the result was a report with nine recommendations. The fifth recommendation calls for the

city's Aboriginal leaders to foster prevention solutions from a uniquely Aboriginal perspective.

"This approach is one of those which will allow First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people to do what they need to do to mentor their young people," said Mandel.

REACH is a catalyst for bringing together Aboriginal partners, securing funding and providing expertise which will give young people the support and guidance they need to become leaders. Half of Edmonton's Aboriginal population is under the age of 25 years.

"We're ... teaching (young people) respect for their families, their Elders, their community, and most of all for themselves. . .

We're helping them take a path in life that does not include crime, gangs or drugs and (to know) that family violence is not the norm," said Rachele Venne, CEO for the Institute for Advancement of Aboriginal Women (IAAW).

Statistics provided by the Elizabeth Fry Society are startling: More than 90 per cent of the women in Alberta jails are Aboriginal. Of those in jail, nearly half, at 48 per cent, are incarcerated because of poverty-related crimes and 70 per cent of them have children.

"Our young Aboriginal people are living through deep, heart-wrenching trauma," said Venne.

Trying to reach these young



PHOTO: SHARI NARINE

Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel said in the REACH Report: "We want ideas and strategies that prevent criminal behaviour in the first place, programs that help reduce crime before it happens."

people and teach them pride in their culture and, in turn, keeping them off the streets and away from crime is one of the goals of REACH.

The Canadian Friendship Centre, a partner in the program, hosts a powwow, dance and regalia program twice a week for adults, children and their families.

"We're connecting young

people to their roots, letting them know they come from a strong community," said Venne.

IAAW, also a partner in the venture, delivers a leadership development program designed to help Aboriginal men and women find positions on committees and boards to provide an Aboriginal voice in decision-making.

The programs are about

empowering young people, reconnecting them to their cultural identity and language, and nurturing the ability to lead.

"This is new thinking, new solutions, engaging new voices to challenges that have been with us for generations," said Gunn.

Also partnering in the program are the Wicihitowin Circle and the city's Office of Diversity.

Aboriginal youth strive to change the world

By Nancy Doukas
Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO

When we hear the name Jane Goodall, most of us think of a woman who studied chimpanzees for 45 years.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth can say, however, that the name stands for much more.

Jane Goodall started the Roots & Shoots program for youth in 1991 after being approached by a group of 16 teenagers in Tanzania eager to discuss with her a range of problems that caused them deep concern in their communities.

The Roots & Shoots organization has grown to more than 100,000 groups in over 100 countries. In 2009 Jane Goodall and then-Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine, announced the start of a pilot project of Roots & Shoots for Aboriginal youth. This

program would be reflective of Aboriginal culture and beliefs.

Abner Lico, national Roots & Shoots program manager, said the program "is a holistic program that encourages youth to take part in projects that relate to people, animals and the environment...with the goal of understanding the interconnectedness of all living creatures. The focus is also aimed at educating the whole person through learning by thinking, feeling and doing..."

When the pilot was released it was well received within 10 communities across Canada, including Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia with all responding positively to the project. All the funding for this project was received through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

One of the programs within the Aboriginal Roots & Shoots was a Community Narrative they ask the youth to create,

which was a documentary project called "Wisdom Keepers & Storytellers."

The idea behind the project was to have the youth to write, act, and record their stories, document it on video in order for it to be shown on the Aboriginal Roots & Shoots Web site.

Stories could be about anything relating to people, animals and the environment that relates to their traditions and culture. The inclusion of Elders and other adults was encouraged as well.

Muthusamipillai said response had been amazing and that they received more than 150 inquiries regarding the Wisdom Keepers and Storytellers project.

The films are posted on the Roots & Shoots Web site for viewing by members across Canada and around the world.

Another benefit of the Aboriginal Roots & Shoots program is Partners in Action.

Groups work to develop a relationship of cultural sharing, understanding and communication with each other.

Going forward they hope to develop and encourage awareness of other groups around the world and what they are contributing to society. In essence, the Aboriginal Roots & Shoots opens up the whole world to young people. Not only can they learn about cultures different from their own, but these other cultures can learn about them as well.

"My hope for the Roots & Shoots for Aboriginal Youth program is to see provincial and territorial representation across Canada where members can communicate with one another to share stories and ideas about how to make their communities and our world a better place to live," said Muthusamipillai of her ambitions for the program."

Lico agrees.

"Roots & Shoots is a global

network of young people working for positive change in their communities and beyond," he said. "Canada's Aboriginal youth bring tremendous energy, innovative ideas and a unique perspective to the program. By tapping into this spirit through the Roots & Shoots program, everyone benefits."

An excellent summation of the motivation behind Roots & Shoots can be found on the Roots & Shoots Web site, written by Dr. Jane Goodall herself.

"Roots spread underground and make a firm foundation. Shoots seem small and weak, but to reach the light they can break through brick walls. Imagine the brick walls are all the problems humans have inflicted on our planet. Hundreds and thousands of roots and shoots, hundreds of thousands of young people around the world, can break through these walls. YOU can make the world a better place."

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(well, almost)

is now available on our online archives at: www.ammsa.com

Scream 'fowl' over disparity in infant morality rates

By Shauna Lewis
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

Indigenous communities in the United States have the highest rate of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome [SIDS], according to information collected by the National Institute of Health in the U.S.

And in Canada the situation is the same.

The data, which was presented at the 4th International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health this March in Vancouver, states that in the US SIDS is two to four times more likely to occur in American Indian and Alaska Native [AI/AN] communities.

This makes it the leading cause of death in infants between one month and one year of age. The highest rates of SIDS was noted in the northernmost Indigenous communities of Alaska and those that border Canada.

SIDS workshop presenter, Jennifer Irving of the Oglala Lakota tribe in South Dakota, detailed findings from a report conducted through the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD]. Data collected for the report was gathered in collaboration with researchers, SIDS experts, and members of various US Indigenous communities.

"We're trying to empower our communities," said Irving.

While not all cases of SIDS are preventable, risks can be reduced. Babies who sleep on their stomachs are more likely to die of SIDS, so placing a baby on their back to sleep will reduce the risk significantly. Bed-sharing and the over-bundling of babies can cause infants to overheat and lead to higher risk of SIDS, research also suggests.

Crib mattresses should be firm and all toys and loose bedding should be out of baby's sleep area. Smoking around an infant and consuming alcohol while pregnant or breastfeeding also raises the risk of SIDS.

Also, allowing babies arms to move freely rather than tightly wrapping and tucking them inside a blanket can minimize the risk of SIDS; although it can challenge certain cultural traditions, says Irving.

"It goes against the Indian wrapping of babies," she admitted. But Irving says other culturally-specific methods, such as using a cradleboard for a sleeping baby, is encouraged because it allows for infants to sleep on their backs, significantly lowering the risk of SIDS.

Irving said it is also important to note that SIDS is not caused by immunizations and she urges Indigenous practitioners,

community health representatives, new parents and family members to educate themselves on the risk factors associated with SIDS.

In British Columbia, the Vancouver Island Health Authority [VIHA] has formed an Infant Mortality Review Committee which goes into First Nations communities and studies the causes of the high infant mortality rates. They also provide education tools that community health representatives in various bands can share with their members.

"We have the highest infant mortality in the province," said Charmaine Enns, VIHA Medical Health officer for North Vancouver Island. "We said something had to be done. We have to start looking at the babies that are dying on Vancouver Island to determine what we can do," she said.

Enns said babies in First Nations communities have a disproportionately higher number of infant deaths than their non-Native counterparts.

She said that in the neo-natal phase of infancy—birth to 28 days—infant mortality rates among First Nations are two-and-a-half times higher than in the non-Native population.

In the post-neo-natal phase—28 days to one year of age—death rates among Aboriginal infants are six times higher than those of non-Aboriginal infants.

It is the post-neo natal period that SIDS is most preventable, said Enns. She calls post neonatal deaths "community deaths," because it is a period when the babies are back in their communities and largely affected by the often poor social determinants.

"Those deaths [post neo-natal] bring in all the social determinants of health," said Enns. "We cannot talk about Aboriginal Health until we get to the heart of the issue, which is the social determinants of health," she explains.

Enns said socio-economic factors—poor housing, poverty, prenatal and second-hand exposure to tobacco smoke and teen pregnancy—all factor in to the high risk of infant deaths in Aboriginal communities.

However, since the Infant Mortality Review Committee was formed in 2008, Enns said the infant mortality rate has lowered a bit.

"I think it has improved," she said, adding that the 2009 report showed there were less sleep-related infant deaths. The committee has yet to review the 2010 data.

Enns said sleep-related infant mortality is a huge concern when dealing with SIDS and SUDY (Sudden Unexplained Death in the Young). Bed-sharing is one

of the biggest risk factors in regard to post neo-natal infant mortality, she said. "But we can't just build homes," she explained, adding why education is vital to lowering SIDS rates.

"There needs to be more education on safe sleep practices," agreed Lucy Barney, Aboriginal Health consultant with the Perinatal Society of BC.

"We need to talk about the issues of why mothers and fathers are sharing their bed [with their baby]," she added. Barney also said more education is needed about Carnitine palmitoyl transferase-1 (CPT1). This is a hereditary, and treatable, deficiency and genetic marker in the number of infants on BC's west coast and northern coastal communities.

She said research has been conducted determining that these coastal Aboriginal communities have high incidence of infant mortality linked to CPT1, but more research must be done.

Statistical evidence regarding SIDS and Aboriginal communities is sparse and the lack of information is an obstacle to lowering the infant mortality rate, said Dr. Evan Adams, the Province's Aboriginal Health Physician Advisor.

"We don't know what to do if we don't know what the data says," he explains, adding that one of the most important aspects of his work with the Ministry is to get a clear picture of the healthcare disparity between the province's First Nation and non-Native communities. Gathering statistical data is difficult due to privacy laws around ethnic identification and health, he said.

Adams suggests that there needs to be a culturally sensitive way of gathering data so a balance between access to information and the provision of better healthcare can be achieved.

Currently in BC, statistical data regarding many Aboriginal people is gathered through a research process, said Adams. "We extrapolate data by matching a person's numbers with their status cards," he said.

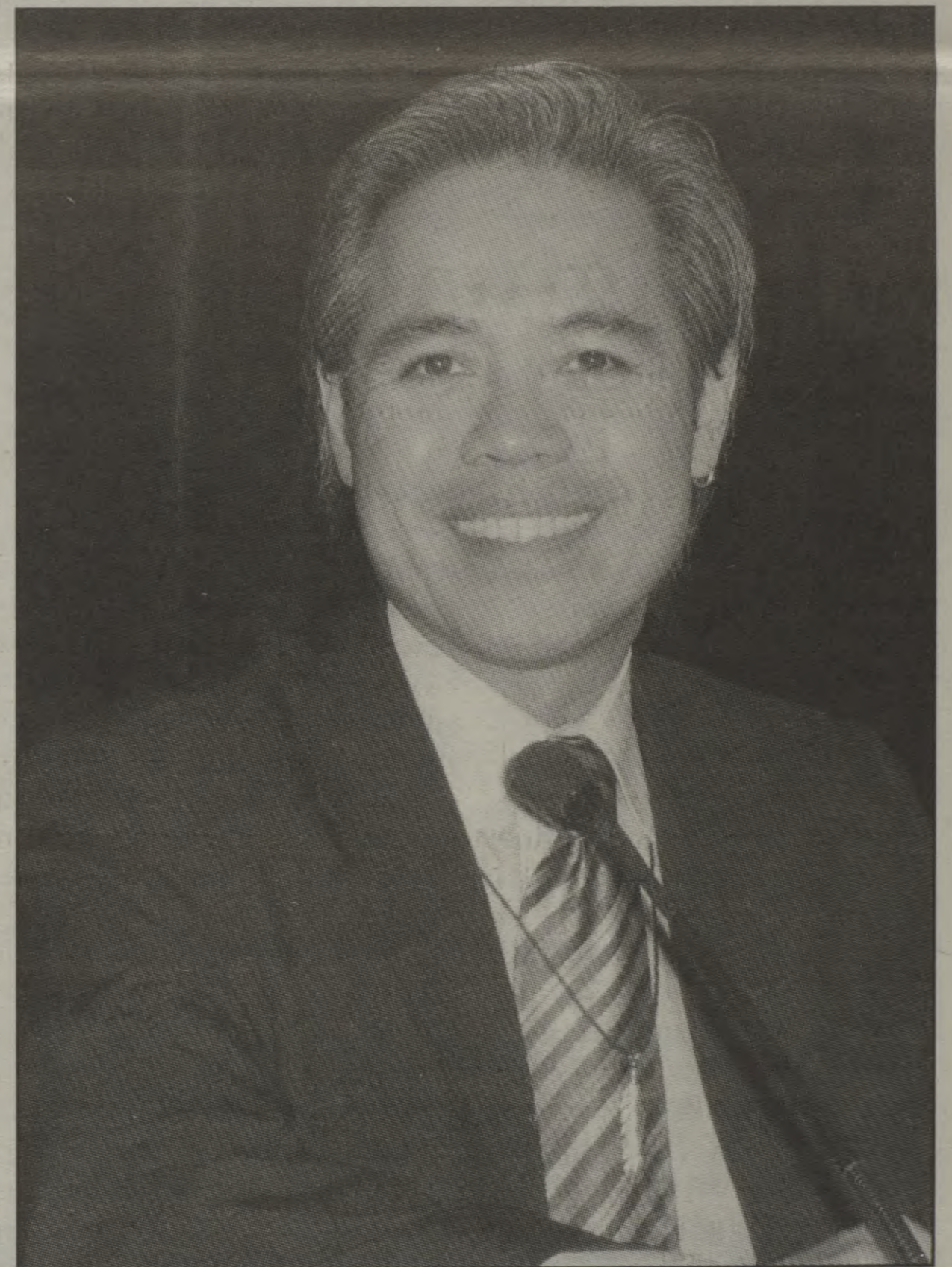
"We know that SIDS deaths in Aboriginal communities is higher [than non-Aboriginal communities] And we know that that there is lots we can do to prevent these deaths but we have to make that actionable," said Adams.

"As a society we should be screaming 'fowl!' as to why these rates are so different," Enns said of the disparity between Native and non-Native infant mortality rates.

"We need a good and safe way to collect info," she added. "We need to improve the health of Aboriginal people as they define it."



SIDS Workshop coordinator, Jennifer Irving.



Dr. Evan Adams

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www.ammsa.com

[strictly speaking]

Doin' time and making friends in the big house

At about 3:30 on Saturday, March 26 I was released from prison. Really. It was great to smell the fresh air again, to see the horizon and not just those oppressive four walls. More importantly, it was great to know I was once again the master of my own destiny. True, some of my family had always suspected that someday I would end up in prison. How right they were. My crime... I am a writer. God, I had missed freedom.

Perhaps I should mention I had been 'locked up in the big house' for about three hours, give or take. And did I mention it was a women's prison? And I was there to do a reading from some of my books. Not nearly as melodramatic, but more accurate. As a writer, you never know where you'll end up. That includes the Edmonton Institute for Women. The title of the establishment sounds quite refined and bookish, doesn't it? And basically, the place looks like a large community college, surrounded by 10-foot fences topped with barbed wire.

I had been asked by the local library system if I would be



THE URBANE INDIAN

Drew Hayden Taylor

interested in paying these women a visit. Evidently, the Native clientele of that establishment had a book club and had been reading my novel, *Motorcycles & Sweetgrass*, and I was at the top of their list for potential visiting authors. Who was I to say no to a "captive" audience? Authors such as myself crave new experiences and this would definitely be one. So off I went to the great province of Alberta, not knowing what to expect.

So I began my adventure by going through security. During some sort of chemical swab test to see if I was carrying any type of illicit contraband, I was surprised to discover my wallet tested positive for morphine.

Not a good beginning. Immediately I had visions of rubber gloves and cavity searches. Quickly, I tried to tell the security people that poppies don't grow well in the forests of central Ontario. I don't even like poppy seed bagels.

But the nonchalance of the woman behind the counter soon told me not to panic. She barely batted an eye. I found out later that false positives like this are quite common. It seems that practically every monetary bill in circulation has in some way come in contact with drugs, or with other bills that have been in contact with drugs. Evidently the money you have right now in your wallet probably has some sort of trace elements on it. So

next, to be safe, she swabbed my cell phone. Luckily, my cell had led a more Mormon lifestyle and was drug free. Upon my return to the real world, I immediately sent my wallet into rehab.

After that auspicious beginning, the rest of the afternoon went surprisingly well. In the gym, where I held court underneath the volleyball net, the audience of about 24 ladies were attentive and intelligent. We all laughed, had a great conversation after the reading/lecture, and my impression of "caged women" changed substantially. Surprisingly, it's nothing like the movies. Even one of the guards became unexpectedly delighted when I mentioned I had written for "The Beachcombers." I was told he had, at some point, started a Beachcombers fan Web site. All went well except when I tried to find a men's washroom in a women's prison. It's just something you never really think about.

But as always, it wasn't long before I soon put my own foot in my mouth. Asked for advice by a woman interested in becoming a writer, I told them

my four rules for developing yourself as a good writer. The first one, possibly the most important, was and is: try to lead an interesting life. The more you've done in your life, the more you'll have to write about. They all looked at each other and smirked. Next, I mentioned the second part of the rule. And keep in mind, I usually give this speech to high school students. I told them (again, for high school students) that if they plan to spend all of their time in one place doing one thing (I often use the basement as an example, playing video games for instance), they're not going to have much to write about. So get out and see the world.

And this is where the real laughter started.

Looking back, they quite probably all had led interesting lives. Very interesting lives no doubt. And I had a hunch they were also quite probably going to be spending all their time in one place. Maybe playing video games, maybe not. And getting out and seeing the world would require a hack saw or helicopter.

Oh well, it did make them laugh.

Letter: On the plight of northern dogs

A lack of access to numerous services and skyrocketing costs plague many northern communities and reserves across Canada. While servicing the north with animal control may be low on the list, even within the communities themselves, we cannot ignore the plight of Canada's northern dogs.

Death is merciful for the thousands and thousands of dogs born each year. Life for these animals is starvation; lonely and cruel, with dog on dog aggression and, in some instances, abuse by people.

The suffering of Canada's domestic animals is not only inhumane, but poses a danger to various levels of a community. Study after study has shown the psychological affects of exposure to neglect or abuse of animals as perpetuating the cycle of despair, hopelessness and violence which thrives in environments of social stress and isolation.

Uncontrolled animal populations also pose physical health risks to community

members ranging from dog bites/attacks, rabies, parasites and death.

The problem of animal overpopulation is a northern issue. It is not simply a reserve issue. Access to veterinary services in remote areas of Canada, particularly fly-in reserves, is virtually nonexistent.

Ideally, a coordinated government strategy is needed to significantly address this national problem. However, there are jurisdictional issues related to accountability, and most "action" has tended to be reactive versus proactive by concerned individuals and animal rescue groups following the death or serious injury of a community member, generally a youth.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) www.wspa.ca organized the first ever Canadian "Northern Dog Conference" in the Fall of 2007. They are a federation of over 800 animal welfare organizations in 150 countries across the world.

This conference was very

significant in linking individuals and animal rescue groups, while recognizing the importance of local community involvement and the establishment of priorities and targets that are sustainable over time.

Following this conference, WSPA and the International Federation of Animal Welfare (IFAW) initiated a multi-stakeholder group to work on the national scope of the issue (involves First Nations, vets, vet regulating bodies, animal welfare groups and individuals) and had their first meeting in November 2010.

There have been a number of successful spay/neuter clinics in some of Canada's northern communities over the past few years, spearheaded by a handful of animal rescue groups. On a local front, the Chief and Council of Nibinamik (Summer Beaver) fly in reserve in northern Ontario welcomed a spay and neuter clinic for their local dogs this past summer, 2010.

The team that flew in was from southern Ontario, having

successfully implemented their first project in Cat Lake Ontario fly in reserve in 2002, returning on numerous occasions over the years for maintenance and follow up.

"Friends of Animush" (meaning dog in Ojicree) is coordinated by Ann Babey, a now retired Registered Nurse living in Southern Ontario, who worked up north for years. The mandate of Friends of Animush is "to improve community mental health in fly-in First Nations communities through improved animal welfare."

In conjunction with veterinarians from the Grey Bruce Veterinary Association, who donated their time and services, approximately 57 surgeries were conducted and 80 vaccinations at the Summer Beaver clinic.

Plans are now being made for a team to return this summer for a follow up clinic which includes a large educational component.

Known in Thunder Bay as the "Northern Dog Lady" and having relocated over 450 dogs

(mainly puppies) over the past few years myself, no longer able to maintain that, I will continue to do what I can to educate and facilitate linkages between interested northern Ontario fly in reserves like Summer Beaver and animal rescue groups (vets) for spay and neuter clinics.

By joining forces we can improve regional access to veterinary services for the sake of our northern neighbors and alleviate the horrific suffering of domestic animals.

Any interested parties are asked to contact me; it would be great to put together a "local" team for a clinic in another northern community. While I do not pretend to have all the answers, and I do this in my spare time, I would like to continue to be a part of the solution.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; in fact, it's the only thing that ever has" "Margaret Mead"...

Karen Bester
Northern Dog Lady

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(well, almost)

is now available on our online archives at

www.ammsa.com

Paperwork may not be fun but it's necessary

By **Andréa Ledding**
Windspeaker Contributor

Scholarships are a student's best friend. Formal education doesn't just cost time, focus, dedication, and energy, you need funds for tuition, books, and overhead, living expenses.

Even living somewhere cost-free within commuting distance, there are costs that just add up. Not everyone can qualify for student loans, plus they also have to be repaid afterwards, and it's easy to go into extensive debt while trying to improve earning potential.

Sometimes there are forgivable portions and bursaries included in that government loan (www.hrsdc.gc.ca), as well as grants and scholarship. So fantastic summer jobs aside, apply for as many scholarships and bursaries as you can, because many education costs can be covered with minimal time, research, and effort, without putting you in debt.

If you don't have access to a guidance counsellor who has a list of scholarships, ask around and do Internet research. As you make a list sorted by deadlines, match yourself with criteria and eligibility. Read the descriptions carefully, so that you meet all the requirements and goals. It's important to beat or meet deadlines, and have all your material (including letters of support, if required), so give yourself (and others) enough time. Remember, if your application is incomplete, it will be disqualified. So it's important to check all the right boxes, but some applications can be as simple as filling out a brief online form.

Once you've completed your first application, the second one is always faster. You can reuse much of the same information already gathered and organized. Other items sometimes requested include official school transcripts, letters of recommendation, and essay questions describing your goals or stating why you should be chosen. To save time, always keep copies of material, including letters of support and essay questions, for future applications.

The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) (www.naaf.ca) disburses approximately \$3 million a year across Canada to provide First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students with financial assistance in three main funding categories - Fine Arts and Professional Development including Cultural Projects; Health Careers; and Post Secondary Education.

"People don't apply because they think their marks aren't high enough. But bursaries are for everyone," said Dr. Noella Steinhauer, director of education for NAAF. "People think they don't qualify...they get intimidated by the process, but anyone can get a bursary."

Scholarships often focus on academics, but bursaries also examine financial need.

Steinhauer said as a student, she would talk herself out of applications, thinking the money was meant for others, but we are all often too hard on ourselves. Money is available for everyone even if they have some funding already.

Every bursary program varies in how they assess financial need. The NAAF student bursaries program equally assess three other areas besides financial need: demonstrated community involvement with an investment in bettering Aboriginal communities, demonstrated suitability to the chosen study field by essay and assessment forms, and academic merit through transcripts and instructor assessment forms.

Any Canadian resident of First Nation (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit heritage, of any age, is eligible to apply at NAAF.

Oil and Gas Trades deadlines are in April and November, while the two major deadlines are May 1 for Fine Arts, and June 1 for post-secondary and health services. Typically it takes at least six weeks to fully process applications, which includes sending all complete applications to jury panels for final selection. Recipients are listed on the website in late August, and cheques are disbursed.

Steinhauer noted that while the application is a big one, it's what represents students to the jury, and NAAF is willing to give help over the phone, like many scholarship organizations, to ensure your best chances of success, particularly with more difficult sections like budgets. Toll free assistance is available at 1-800-329-9780, ext. 020.

While NAAF is not always able to meet the total financial need of students, they try to give some money to as many students as they can, an Aboriginal approach to wanting to give generously to all who request it.

"Usually the only applications that do not receive bursaries are incomplete, missing documentation, or didn't show financial need."

She also observed that Aboriginal students are naturally humble and "not good at bragging ourselves up." But fill out as much as possible for the jury process, particularly with a focus on a well-thought-out budget and full and complete documents.

NAAF has a large endowment fund as well as public and private sector support for Aboriginal education through bursaries, awards, and career fairs. There are many organizations that want to see you succeed almost as much as you do.

Paperwork isn't always the most exciting activity, but it might just be the most efficient way to achieve your goals and create free educational investment capital. And maybe one day you will be the one establishing endowments for other deserving students, as a way of showing gratitude.

A comprehensive scholarship listing exists at the Aboriginal Multi Media Society webpage (www.ammsa.com).

Scholarship search tips!

- When fishing for scholarships, cast the widest net you can, focusing on your area of specialty while applying for general scholarships/bursaries anywhere you're eligible. Admissions offices will often have listings, but internet searches are also effective, and many applications can be completed online.

- One of the longest running programs of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), the Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth One form submitted there will be considered for about 145 scholarships. Their submission form dates are October, once school has already started.

- Criteria and eligibility vary from place to place but once you've completed a first application, the second one invariably goes faster. It is mainly a gathering and organization of information for the sponsor awarding the scholarship, so checking carefully to meet

the criteria and goals listed by the organization will increase success.

- Always try and keep copies of documentation, such as letters of support, to use for multiple submissions. Many scholarships can be completed online.

- Read guidelines thoroughly and check biographies of past winners.

- Remember to make deadlines - even the strongest candidates will be eliminated if they file too late - this demonstrates commitment and responsibility! And if you don't make it this year - your chances can only increase with time and experience for next year.

- Many sponsors learn who their students are and maintain a supportive relationship, which can even include summer employment opportunities.

- Everyone likes to back a winner! List past scholarships and bursaries received, for that "snowball effect".

2011 Aboriginal Scholarship Guide

An Insert Exclusively From Windspeaker.

The following list of scholarships and bursaries has been compiled by Windspeaker with the kind assistance of participating companies, schools and foundations. For a complete and up-to-date listing of Aboriginal scholarships and bursaries please check our online listings located at: www.ammsa.com.

NATIONAL

Strategic Alliance of Broadcasters for Aboriginal Reflection (SABAR) Scholarship - please see our ad on page 2.

Deadline: April 30 - extended to May 15
SABAR is pleased to offer our first annual Scholarship to an Aboriginal student in Journalism or Radio/Television Arts. SABAR is particularly proud to play an important part in supporting the development of a future community leader who may have the potential to help us meet our primary goal of increasing Aboriginal reflection in Canadian broadcasting.

Eligibility: 1. First Nations, Inuit or Métis permanent Canadian resident; 2. Desire to follow a path to a career in the broadcast industry; 3. Enrolment in Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio and Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program; and 4. Interest in acting as an ambassador for the broadcasting industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting.

Guidelines: (One scholarship valued at \$5,000.00 will be awarded. This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs. Scholarship winners are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in their approved programs in the amount of \$2,500.00 annually to a maximum total scholarship value of \$10,000.00.

For more information: www.sabar.ca

Canada - US Fulbright Program

Deadline: November 15

Student must be American or Canadian with Native Heritage and attending a post-secondary education institution studying countries relations between other countries. Value of award is \$15,000.00 for student and \$25,000.00 for faculty members enrolled in graduate studies.

For more information contact:

350 Albert Street, Suite 2015,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 1A4
Ph: (613) 688-5540 Fax: (613) 237-2029
E-mail: info@fulbright.ca
web site: www.fulbright.ca

Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation

(CMSF): The CMSF Awards program was started in 1989 to identify, recognize and reward well-rounded students who combine distinguished talents with character, leadership potential, and a commitment to the community.

The CMSF National Awards

The CMSF National Award is our most prestigious scholarship. It is awarded after a rigorous process, which includes the written application and extensive interviews. A description of the National Awards follows: Up to 35 National Awards are offered to students bound for one of our 25 participating Canadian universities. The top National Award is valued at up to \$8000 cash and up to \$8000 in annual tuition for up to four years of full-time study, plus up to \$7500 in summer program funding over the course of a degree.

The CMSF Finalist Awards

Valued at \$2,500 and are one-time entrance awards tenable at any accredited university in Canada at which the recipient gains admission and enrolls in a full-time program of study. A Finalist Award is offered to every finalist who

participates in National Selections but is not offered a CMSF National Award.

The CMSF Provincial Awards

Valued at \$1,500 and are one-time only entrance awards tenable at any accredited university in Canada at which the recipient gains admission and enrolls in a full-time program of study.

All Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation (CMSF) Awards inquires contact:

Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation
53 Yonge Street, 5th floor
Toronto, ON M5E 1J3
1-866-544-2673
Website www.cmsf.ca

Garfield Weston Merit Scholarships for Colleges (GWMSC)

Deadline: March 27

Eligibility: (1) Be in the final year of study for a high school diploma OR be an adult in the work force. (2) Must NOT be university degree or college diploma graduate within the last 3 years. (3) Demonstrate an academic ability that will ensure success in their chosen course of study. (4) Demonstrate leadership potential. (5) Present a record of service to the school and/or community. (6) Demonstrate an interest in his/her selected field of study. (7) Be accepted at an accredited community college for 2-4 year diploma studies in the academic year after selection.

National Award: (Up to 50 available annually (For each National Award the colleges make a tuition grant of up to \$4500 per year. In addition to this, the GWMSC offers up to \$8000 per year as a stipend. (The National Award is renewable for up to 4 years of diploma studies only at our participating colleges.

To renew the National Award, award holders must: (1) Show continued evidence of character, leadership and service (2) Maintain an acceptable academic record under a full course load

GWMSC Regional Award: Up to 30 available annually @ \$4000 Award

GWMSC Provincial Award: Up to 25 available annually @ \$2500 Award (Regional and Provincial Awards are one-time awards for use at any accredited community college in Canada.

All GWMSC Awards inquires contact:

Web Site: www.garfieldwestonawards.ca

Native Women's Association of Canada Corbiere - Laval Two-Axe Early Student Awards

Aboriginal women and be enrolled in a post-secondary institution. Two (2) awards valued at \$1,000.00 each

For more information contact:

Native Women's Association
9 Melrose Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 1T8
Phone: (613) 722-3033 Fax: (613) 722-7687

Sir John A. MacDonald graduate fellowship in Canadian History

This scholarship is awarded to a student enrolling in a doctoral program in Canadian history at an Ontario university. The value of award is \$8,500.00 and can be renewed for three consecutive years to a maximum of \$25,500.00. For more information contact:
The Graduate Studies Office at Ontario Universities or The Ministry of Education and Training Student Affairs PO Box 4500 (189 Red River Road, 4th Floor (Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6G9 (Phone: (807) 343-7257 or 1-800-465-3957

Gil Purcell Memorial Journalism Award - The Canadian Press

To a Native person studying journalism. Value: One scholarship of \$4,000
Eligibility: Native ancestry. Studying journalism at a Canadian university or community college.

Deadline: November 15 of each year.

Mrs. Deborah McCartney

Administrative Assistant - HR

The Canadian Press

36 King Street East Toronto, ON M5C 2L9

Tel: 416-507-2132 Fax: 416-507-2033

E-Mail: dmccartney@cp.org

The Canadian Medical Foundation Dr. John Big Canoe Memorial Scholarship

Deadline: Applications and supporting documentation for the 2009/2010 academic year must be received by October 2010.

During each year of the program, a \$2000 scholarship may be awarded to an undergraduate Aboriginal student enrolled in the last or second to last year of study in a Canadian school of medicine who has demonstrated both strong academic performance and outstanding contributions to the aboriginal community in Canada. (Applications and supporting documentation to:

Marie-Jeanne Schoueri, Office Manager
The Canadian Medical Foundation,

1867 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7

Phone: (613) 520-7681

Toll Free: 1-866-530-4979

Fax: (613) 520-7692

Email: marie-jeanne.schoueri@cmf.ca

Web site: www.medicalfoundation.ca

Canadian Medical Association Special Bursary Program for Undergraduate Aboriginal Medical Students

Deadline: October 9

The bursary is awarded based on financial need and will provide a maximum of \$4000 per academic year to each successful applicant. A total of up to \$40,000 in bursaries may be awarded in each academic year of the program. Given that financial resources are often limited by the end of the academic year, bursaries will be awarded at this time. Bursary recipients will also receive memberships in the CMA, the relevant division of CMA (provincial or territorial) and the Native Physicians Association in Canada.

Applications and supporting documentation to: Marie-Jeanne Schoueri, Office Manager

(The Canadian Medical Foundation,

1867 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7

Phone: (613) 520-7681

Toll Free: 1-866-530-4979

Fax: (613) 520-7692

Email: marie-jeanne.schoueri@cmf.ca

Web site: www.medicalfoundation.ca

Heroes of our Time Scholarships - Assembly of First Nations

Sponsored by: Assembly of First Nations (Eligibility: First Nations Citizen (Value: TBA (Deadline Date: June 1 each year

Tommy Prince Award

Walter Dieter Award

Omer Peters Award

Robert Smallboy Award

James Gosnell Award

Applications submitted to: Selection Committee - Heroes of Our Time Awards

The Assembly of First Nations - Education

Sector 473 Albert Street - Suite 810

Ottawa, ON K1R 5B4

Toll-Free: 1-866-869-6789

Phone: (613) 241-6789

Fax: (613) 241-5808

Tom Longboat Award

Sponsored by: The Aboriginal Sport Circle (Eligibility: Nominations are invited from all levels of sport. To be eligible, nominees must meet the following criteria: (Must be of Aboriginal descent

Must have amateur status in the sport which they are nominated

Must be for athletic achievements within the awards calendar year

Must submit a completed Nomination Form to the appropriate Provincial/Territorial (Aboriginal Sport Body on or before the annual deadline. (Value: TBA

Criteria: Currently enrolled/accepted in medical program, demonstrated exceptional academic abilities, involved and committed to extra-curricular activities

Deadline Date: January each year.

For more information contact:

Aboriginal Sport Circle

Email: mtrudeau@aboriginalsportcircle.ca

Ph: (613) 236-9624 ext. 223

website: www.aboriginalsportcircle.ca

Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP) FSWEP replaces the Federal Summer Student Employment Program

Offers full-time high school, CDGEP, college, technical institute and university students the opportunity to apply for student jobs with the federal government

Application forms are available at student career offices at colleges, GEGEPS, technical institutions and universities, Human Resources Centres of Canada, and PSC Regional and District offices.

Canada Trust Scholarship for Outstanding Community Leadership

Full tuition plus \$3,500 toward living expenses (Guaranteed offer of summer employment at Canada Trust (Deadline: October 31 (Contact: 1-800-308-8306

Investing in the future growth of Aboriginal Youth - Canadian National

CN makes awards available to Inuit, status or non-status Indian or Métis students entering or enrolled full-time in a post-secondary program in Canada that leads to a career in the transportation industry. This includes fields such as engineering, business, computer science, communications and technical studies.

Deadline: June 1 of each year.

For more info. contact your band office, friendship centre or college of your choice

Web Site: www.cn.ca/en/careers-offer-scholarships-aboriginal-awards.htm

To obtain further information or an application form, please contact:

Aboriginal Awards Program

c/o National Aboriginal Achievement

Foundation

70 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 33A Toronto,

Ontario M5R 1B9

Ph: 1-800-329-9780 toll-free

CN Scholarship For Women

Deadline: October 15 each year

CN encourages women to pursue non-traditional careers in areas such as trades, technology and operations. To date, participation by women in these fields has been limited. This is a special CN initiative aimed at promoting employment equity in Canada. Scholarships are awarded annually to women in selected community colleges and institutes of technology across Canada.

Web Site: www.cn.ca/en/careers-offer-scholarships-women.htm

Educational Awards Program - Husky Oil - please see our ad on page 3.

Deadline: May 31

Awards announced: July 31

Up to 7 Aboriginal students are selected each year. Awards of up to \$3,000 per year will be granted to cover a portion of tuition, books, or living expenses. (Aboriginal people (Inuit, Métis, Status and Non Status Indians) who meet the following qualifications: * Canadian citizen * in need of financial assistance * demonstrate serious interest in furthering their educational and career development

Preference will be given to applicants whose residence is located on or near one of Husky's exploration, development or operation sites

Individuals pursuing academic post-secondary studies at a university, community college or technical institute are eligible to apply.

Diversity and Aboriginal Affairs

Husky Oil Operations Limited

P.O. Box 6525, Station D Calgary, Alberta

T2P 3G7

RBC Aboriginal Student Awards

Deadline: January 31

Ten (10) awards of up to \$4,000/ year for four (4) years at university or two years at college.

* You are a permanent resident or citizen of Canada * You have been accepted to or are currently attending an accredited post-secondary institution in Canada * You maintain a full course load that leads to a recognized degree, certificate or diploma * You require financial assistance to pursue your education. A committee of Aboriginal academics and RBC representatives review all completed applications and makes the final selection of the award recipients primarily based on personal and academic achievements and individual financial need. Successful applicants are notified of the committee's decision by June 15 of each year. All decisions of the committee are final.

You will receive the first half of your scholarship at the beginning of the fall semester. If you maintain a good academic standing, you will receive the balance in January. Please note that RBC reserves the right to change or discontinue this program at any time. We will honour commitments already in place if the program changes or ends.

Toll-Free Fax: 1-866-780-2188

Mail: RBC Aboriginal Student Awards

C/O Aboriginal Link PO Box 50058,

17-2595 Main Street Winnipeg, MB R2V 4W3

www.gotoapply.ca/RBC

CMHC Housing Awards: Housing for Youth

Individuals, firms, institutions and government agencies that are delivering programs that improve choice, quality or affordability of housing for youth may be nominated for a Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Award. Awards and honourable mentions are given to those individuals or groups that have achieved excellence in one of five categories: financing and tenure, technology and production, planning and regulation, concept and design, and process and management.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Social and Economic Policy and Research 700

Montreal Road Room C7-417 Ottawa,

Ontario K1A 0P7

Phone: 1-800-668-2642

Web: www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca

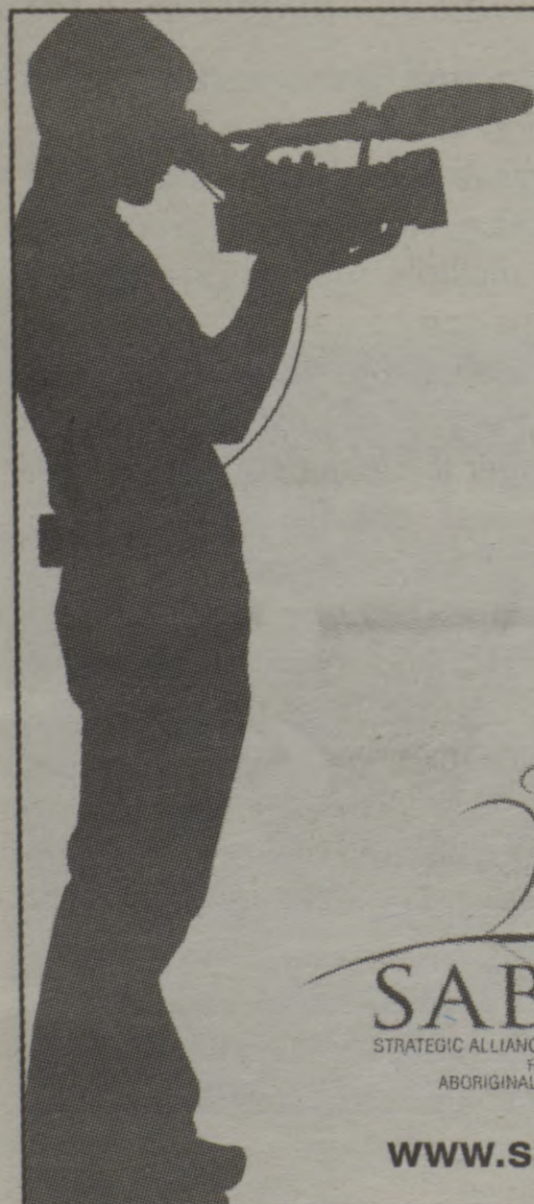
Polaris - Northern Star Program

This awards program recognizes the creative and innovative environmental actions by youth who have had an impact within their communities. (Young people up to 25 years of age may be nominated for an award. Completed forms are due by March 31 of each year.

For more information and a nomination form, call the Action 21 National Office toll free at: 1-800 668-6767

Department of Justice Canada Entrance Scholarships for Aboriginal Students

The Department of Justice Canada has made available three-year scholarships to Métis and non-status Indian students who wish to attend law school. Each year, ten or more pre-law scholarships will be made available to Métis and non-status Indians, to cover the cost of attending a summer orientation program offered by the Native Law Centre, University of Saskatchewan, in Saskatoon and a summer French language pre-law orientation program



Scholarships and Internships in Broadcasting

Eligibility Requirements:

- First Nations, Inuit or Métis permanent Canadian resident;
- Desire to follow a path to a career in the broadcast industry;
- Enrolment in Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio and Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program; and
- Interest in acting as an ambassador for the broadcasting industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting.

\$5,000 scholarship will be awarded in 2011

One scholarship valued at \$5,000.00 will be awarded. This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs.

Scholarship winners are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in their approved programs in the amount of \$2,500.00 annually to a maximum total scholarship value of \$10,000.00.

Application Deadline:

Extended to
May 15, 2011

Full scholarship details and application forms are available online.

www.ammsa.com/sabar.htm

SABAR
STRATEGIC ALLIANCE OF BROADCASTERS
FOR
ABORIGINAL REFLECTION

www.sabar.ca

Aboriginal Scholarship & Bursary Guide

Annual Windspeaker Insert — May 2011

Check online for complete listings at www.ammsa.com



at the University of Ottawa. (In September, ten or more three-year law school scholarships will be made available to Metis and non-status applicants to defray their living costs, textbooks, tuition fees, and other costs. (The Department of Justice Canada is accepting applications for the summer pre-law program until 1 April, and applications for the law school scholarships until 1 June. Students interested in both programs must forward two separate applications.

For further information and application forms, contact: Program Assistant, Legal Studies for Aboriginal People Program, Department of Justice Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8

Similar financial assistance is available from Indian and Northern Affairs for registered Indian and Inuit students.

Sears Canada Inc. Scholarship:

Deadline: June 1

Ten scholarships of \$1,000 are available to children of Sears employees. Applications are available from and submitted to:

Canadian Awards Program, International ... Canadian Programs Division, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Suite 600, 350 Albert Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 1B1
Web: www.aucc.com

Chevron Canada Resources

Deadline: January 31

Number of scholarships varies, value up to \$5,000 (Available to students of Aboriginal heritage interested in undertaking a period of study in public administration and/or community affairs involving drug/alcohol education and rehabilitation. Special consideration given to residents of Northwest territories and other areas of concern.

Parent must be Chevron employee

Apply to: Canadian Universities for Northern Studies #201, 130 Albert Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4

Phone: (613) 238-3525

TD Bank and First Nations Bank of Canada Aboriginal Education Awards - please see our ad on page 4.

Deadline: March 31

Value: Five awards of \$1,000 each Recipients will also receive consideration for summer employment and full-time employment once education is complete. (Criteria: Applicants must be of Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, Inuit, Métis); full time student at recognized Canadian post secondary institution pursuing a program relevant to a career in banking such as business, economics, computer science, math and sciences; in need of financial assistance to further educational goals.

Apply to: Award Coordinator

**Toronto Dominion Centre
201 Portage Avenue
P.O. Box 7700
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3E7**

J. Michael Waldram Fellowships - The Canadian Model Forest Network and the Canadian Institute of Forestry

The Canadian Model Forest Network, together with the Canadian Institute of Forestry, has awarded J. Michael Waldram Fellowships of \$1000 each to three students in resource management programs in British Columbia and Quebec.

The J. Michael Waldram Fellowship was first awarded in 2008 and is given annually to assist Aboriginal youths pursuing studies in natural resource management at the college or university level.

This award honours Mike Waldram, General Manager of the Manitoba Model Forest from 1993 to 2006. As General Manager, Waldram strove to enhance the participation of Aboriginal peoples in the model forest and in forest resource management.

The Canadian Model Forest represents Canada's 14 Model Forests, in a shared vision of advancing sustainable forests and sustainable communities.

Contact: David Winston, President, CMFN

Phone: 613-258-8400 or dwinston@cmfn-rcfm.ca

AMEC Aboriginal Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship

Deadline: January 15

Value: \$5,000

In conjunction with AMEC, CEMF offers up to one \$5000 Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship annually to young Canadian Aboriginal women who are proven leaders and active in their community to encourage them to pursue a career in engineering. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in an accredited Canadian undergraduate engineering program of study and be: 1. In their first year, or 2. In their second year, or 3. In the first term of their third year, immediately prior to the December deadline. Previous AMEC Scholarship Winners are not eligible to apply although unsuccessful applicants may re-apply in a subsequent year if they qualify. There is no limitation on the number of applications from any university or program. All applications must be submitted by all applicants directly to: **The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation AMEC Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship Award P. O. Box 370, 1-247 Barr Street Renfrew, Ontario K7V 4A6** www.cemf.ca

The Department of National Defence Security and Defence Forum (SDF)

SDF Aboriginal Scholarship Program

Value: \$10,000

Number available: The Security and Defence Forum has set aside up to \$10,000 a year to fund Aboriginal scholars. The exact number and value awarded annually will depend on the number and quality of applicants. Scholarship funds may cover tuition fees and or expenses related to a degree program, including - but not limited to

Eligible institutions: Graduate scholarships are tenable only at Canadian institutions.

For more information: For complete information and application form please visit

the DND website. If you wish to have an application form emailed to you, please contact awards@aucc.ca

Ph: (613) 563-1236 — Fax: (613) 563-9745
Aboriginal: www.aucc.ca/scholarships/dnd/aboriginal_e.html

Indigenous Scholarship Program - Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown

Value: \$2,000

Number: 4 awards in 2009

Deadline: N/A

Conceived and established in 2003 by Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown, the Indigenous Scholarship Program sets aside program funds for every room night spent at the hotel by a member of Canada's Aboriginal Community. (Each year, the hotel will award at least one scholarship to First Nation youth that are pursuing a post-secondary education. Open to all Aboriginal students, the Indigenous Scholarship Program considers a number of criteria in awarding scholarships including financial situation, academic achievement, community involvement and career aspirations. The Indigenous Scholarship Program is managed by Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown with recommendations from an Executive Education Committee and input from an Advisory Board made up of representatives from Canada's Aboriginal Community.

Eligibility: Any Aboriginal student currently enrolled at or, accepted to a post secondary institution.

Application: Application form and eligibility criteria for the Indigenous Scholarship Program can be obtained by calling the Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown at 1-800-663-9151.

Web: holidayinnvancouverdowntown.com

CSA Spaceflight and Life Sciences Training Program Scholarship

The trainee(s) will be sponsored by the Canadian Space Agency and will receive: * round trip transportation between their home in Canada and the Orlando International Airport in Florida * accommodation in the Cocoa Beach area *

local transportation to and from the Kennedy Space Center * a daily meal allowance, which should also cover some other expenses
Eligibility - limited to currently enrolled full-time undergraduate students who: * are pursuing their first undergraduate B.Sc. degree in a life science program at a recognized university * have a minimum cumulative average of 75% at the time of application * will have completed their second or third year of study (first year or second year of study in the case of Quebec students, called, respectively, U1 and U2 by the Quebec Ministère de l'Éducation) by the start of the training program * are proficient in English (score of at least 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language, (TOEFL); * are Canadian citizens, who have or can obtain a valid Canadian passport and are at least 18 years of age

Web Site: www.space.gc.ca/slstp

Email inquiries: slstp@space.gc.ca

CSA Space Exploration Scholarship - www.space.gc.ca/ses

SLSTP Space Science Program Canadian Space Agency 6767 Route de l'Aéroport (Saint-Hubert), QC J3Y 8Y9

Marion Neiman CSA Scholarships Coordinator

Project Manager/Consultant

Lansdowne Technologies

Suite 1001 - 275 Slater Street

Ottawa ON K1P 5H9

www.lansdowne.com

ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program

The Aboriginal Awards Program has been developed to provide financial assistance to Aboriginal students pursuing high school upgrading and post-secondary education.

Award amounts are designated according to the educational level you are pursuing: (Secondary School/Academic Upgrading \$1,000 (College or Technical Institute \$2,000 (University \$3,000 (The award amounts are granted on an annual basis with students

Husky Energy

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Husky Energy's Aboriginal Education Awards are available to anyone of Aboriginal ancestry in Canada, who possess suitable academic qualifications, is in need of financial assistance and demonstrates a career interest in the oil and gas industry. Individuals pursuing academic upgrading at a secondary institution or post-secondary studies at a community college, technical institute or university are eligible to apply.

Bursaries will be awarded in the following categories:

Institution	Award Level
University (maximum four years of funding)	\$3,000
Community or Technical College (maximum two years of funding)	\$2,500
Secondary School (maximum one year of funding)	\$1,000

Application forms are found on the Husky website www.huskyenergy.com.

Applications must be completed and returned to Husky Energy by **May 31, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.**

Husky Energy Inc.
Aboriginal Affairs Department
707 - 8th Avenue S.W.
P.O. Box 6525, Station D
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G7

Phone: (403) 750-1427 • Fax: (403) 750-1666
Email: aboriginal.affairs@huskyenergy.com

TransAlta's Aboriginal Bursary Program.

Empowering Aboriginal students for success.

Each year, TransAlta offers up to seven \$3,000 bursaries to Aboriginal students attending full-time college or university programs and up to three \$1,000 bursaries for those in full-time trades programs. The annual deadline to apply is September 15th.

For information including eligibility criteria and an application form, visit www.transalta.com/communities/aboriginal or contact Aboriginal Relations at TransAlta at 403-267-7630 (Janet Janvier). Applications are also available at select post-secondary offices.

TransAlta

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

CANADA POST ABORIGINAL EDUCATION INCENTIVE AWARDS

If you're an Aboriginal Canadian (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) who returned to school after having your education interrupted before completion, you may be eligible for

a Canada Post Aboriginal Education Incentive Award. Find out more and submit your application for the award online.

Submission Deadline

Submissions will be accepted from May 1 – August 31, 2011



canadapost.ca/Aboriginal



From anywhere... De partout...
to anyone jusqu'à vous

being required to re-apply each year for continued funding. Awards may be used to cover portions of tuition, books or living expenses.

Eligibility: You may apply to the ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program if you meet the following criteria: 1. You are of Aboriginal ancestry 2. You are a Canadian citizen 3. You are enrolled in an eligible program, on a full-time basis 4. You demonstrate promising academic qualifications 5. You require financial assistance to pursue your education (Application process: Please send your completed application along with your proof of acceptance and most recent transcripts to the following address:

Please send your completed application along with your proof of acceptance and most recent transcripts to the following address no later than June 30th:

Diversified Staffing Services

Attention: ConocoPhillips Aboriginal Awards Program

100, 805 – 5th Avenue SW

Calgary, AB T2P 0N6

Telephone: (403) 237-5577

(Toll Free: (877) 271-7720

Fax: (403) 266-3386

www.diversifiedstaffing.com

Millennium Excellence Awards

Value: Local award winners will receive a one-time \$4,000 award.

Provincial/territorial award winners will receive a \$4,000 award, renewable up to three times (for a possible total of \$16,000). National award winners will receive a \$5,000 award, renewable up to three times (for a possible total of \$20,000).

Eligibility: The excellence awards recognize, support, and encourage talented Canadians who make positive and significant contributions to the betterment of communities across the country, who demonstrate the capacity for leadership, and are committed to the pursuit of academic excellence and innovation. Only individuals who intend to enter a college or university undergraduate program for the first time may apply.

Duration: N/A

Application Deadline: January 25, 2009 (For application information, visit www.aimhigh.ca, or contact:

Millennium Excellence Award Program

Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation

1000 Sherbrooke Street West, Suite 800

Montréal, Québec H3A 3R2

Alliance Pipeline Aboriginal Student Awards Program

Number: One

Value: Cost of tuition, books and supplies to a maximum of \$4,000 per academic year.

Deadline: January 10

Eligibility: Aboriginal students who are: residents of Saskatchewan, Alberta or British Columbia; enrolled in, or have applied to a technical school, college or university, in a program relevant to the oil and gas industry; relevant programs include: mechanical engineering technology, instrumentation engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, power engineering, mechanical engineering or business administration.

Coordinator, Aboriginal Student Awards Program

Alliance Pipeline Ltd.,

#400 605 5th Avenue SW

Calgary, Alberta T2P 3H5

E-mail: awards@alliance-pipeline.com

Website: www.alliance-pipeline.com

Imperial Oil Aboriginal Scholarships Awards Program

Value: \$3,500 (maximum for college) and \$4,500 (maximum for university)

The awards are designed to cover tuition, textbooks, supplies and other compulsory fees.

Deadline: June 30 of each year

Imperial Oil Resources offers four individual education awards each year to any person of Aboriginal ancestry entering post-secondary studies. The purpose of the awards program is to encourage people of Aboriginal ancestry to pursue undergraduate post-secondary educational studies in disciplines relevant to the petroleum industry. Applicants must reside in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories or the Yukon for at least one year immediately prior to applying for the award.

Application form, full program guidelines and eligibility details can be obtained by calling Imperial Oil Community and Aboriginal Affairs at 780-639-5194.

Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$5,000.

The Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a graduate student in northern biology who best exemplifies the qualities of scholarship that the late Jennifer Robinson brought to her studies at the Institute's Kluane Lake Research Station. (Eligibility: Applicants must submit: a brief description of the proposed research (two to three pages), including a clear hypothesis, relevance, title and statement of the purpose of the research, the area and type of study, the methodology and plan for evaluation

of findings. A collaborative relationship or work should be briefly identified; three academic reference letters; a complete curriculum vitae with transcripts; and a list of current sources and amounts of research funding, including scholarships, grants and bursaries.

The scholarship committee looks for evidence of northern relevance, and a commitment to field-oriented research.

Deadline: January 10

Executive Director

Arctic Institute of North America

University of Calgary

Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

Phone: (403) 220-7515 (Fax: (403) 282-4609

Jim Bourque Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$1,000.

The Jim Bourque Scholarship is awarded to a Canadian Aboriginal student who intends to take, or is enrolled in, post-secondary training in education, environmental, traditional knowledge or telecommunications. The scholarship is open to mature students and matriculating students alike.

Eligibility: Each applicant must submit, in 500 words or less, a description of his or her intended program of study and the reasons for the choice of program. In addition, applicants must: include a copy of their most recent high school or college/university transcript; a signed letter of recommendation from a community leader (e.g., Town or Band Council, Chamber of Commerce, Métis Local, etc.); a statement of financial need, indicating funding already received or expected; and proof of enrollment in, or application to a post-secondary institution.

Deadline: July 18

Executive Director

Arctic Institute of North America

University of Calgary

Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

Phone: (403) 220-7515 (Fax: (403) 282-4609

Lorraine Allison Scholarship - Arctic Institute of North America

Value: One scholarship of \$2,000.

Eligibility: The Lorraine Allison Scholarship is open to any student enrolled at a Canadian university in a program of graduate study related to northern issues, whose application best addresses academic excellence, a demonstrated commitment to northern research, and a desire for research results to be beneficial to northerners, especially Native northerners. Candidates in biological science fields are preferred, but social science topics are also be considered. Scholars from Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are encouraged to apply.

Each application must contain: a two-page description of the northern studies program and relevant projects being undertaken; three letters of reference from the applicants' current or past professors; a complete curriculum vitae with academic transcripts; and a list of all current sources of research funding.

Deadline: January 10

Executive Director

Arctic Institute of North America

University of Calgary

Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

Phone: (403) 220-7515 (Fax: (403) 282-4609

Northern Resident Scholarships - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: Four (4) awards of \$10,000. (The Northern Scientific Training Program is sponsoring four scholarships, valued at \$10,000 each, for students identified as long-term residents of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon, or the Provincial North, enrolled in full-time, post-secondary programs at the undergraduate level at a Canadian college or university.

Northern Resident Award - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: Eight (8) awards of \$5,000.

The Northern Scientific Training Program is sponsoring eight (8) scholarships valued at \$5,000 each for students identified as long term residents of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon or the Provincial North, currently enrolled in master or doctoral-level programs at a Canadian university.

Research Support Opportunity in Arctic Environmental Studies - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (The Meteorological Service of Canada (a division of Environment Canada) sponsors a unique research support opportunity by providing accommodation, facilities, and services at the High Arctic Weather Station (HAWS) at Eureka on Ellesmere Island, to graduate students at the masters or doctoral level. Preference will be given to environmental research proposals in the physical or biological sciences.

Deadline: March 31

Application materials will not be accepted by fax or email. (Mail complete packages to:

Canadian Northern Studies Trust Awards Program

Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

17 York Street, Suite 405 Ottawa, ON

K1N 9J6

www.acuns.ca

Find more scholarships and bursaries online at www.ammsa.com



Why work for TD?

At TD, you'll have the opportunity to grow throughout your career – through access to development programs, networking opportunities, job coaching and mentoring.

We encourage you to get involved!

We have an active Aboriginal Employee Circle with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal employees from across Canada. By participating in the Circle, you'll be able to provide guidance and learn about the exciting work TD is doing within Aboriginal communities across the country. So you won't just be an employee, you'll be a valued team member whose voice is respected and heard.

If you're interested in TD, we're interested in you.

Check out TD's scholarship support

Educational scholarships by TD
<http://www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship/index.jsp>

TD Bank Scholarships with FAAY
http://www.ccab.com/td_bank_financial_group

TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund
<http://www.cnf-fiic.ca>

To learn more about working at TD, visit www.td.com/careers



National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

Achieve Believe

Bursary and Scholarship application deadlines:

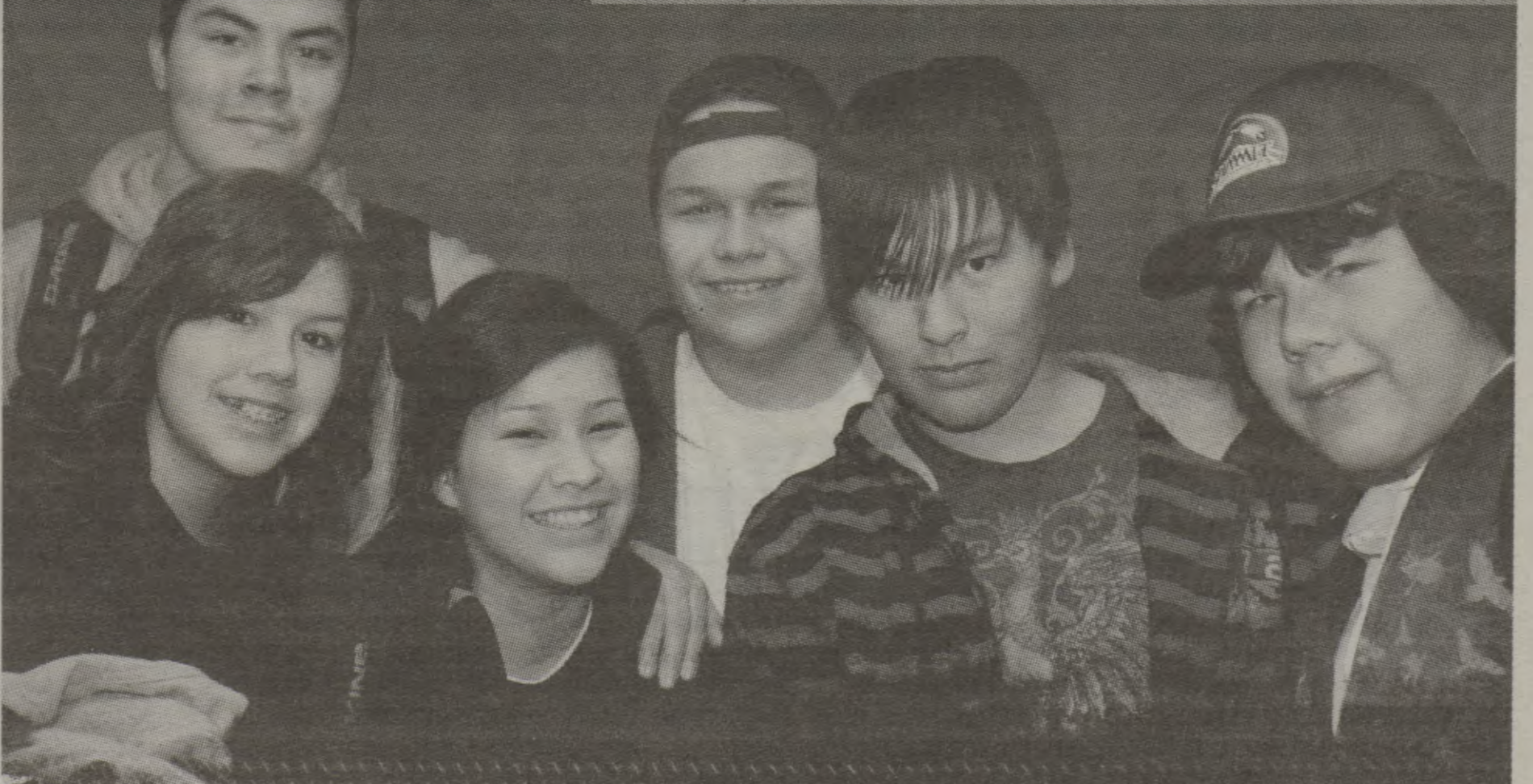
MAY 1:

- Fine Arts
- Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC)

JUNE 1:

- Post Secondary Education
- Aboriginal Health Careers

FOR MORE INFO: 1-800-329-9780 X 020 NAAFCA



Aboriginal Scholarship & Bursary Guide

Annual Windspeaker Insert – May 2011

Check online for complete listings at www.ammsa.com



James W. Bourque Studentship in Northern Geography - Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

Value: One scholarship of \$10,000. (Eligibility: The James W. Bourque Studentship is awarded for research on subjects relating to northern geographical research. While applications are normally from students in geography departments, careful consideration is given to students in related fields. In making its decision, the Management Committee is guided by academic record, potential for development, and the applicant's interest in, and commitment to, advancing the knowledge and appreciation of the geography of northern regions. If you apply to the James W. Bourque Studentship in Northern Geography and to the Studentship in Northern Studies only one set of official university transcripts and reference letters is necessary.)

Deadline: January 31
Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
17 York Street, Suite 405 Ottawa, Ontario K1N 9J6
Phone: (613) 562-0515
Fax: (613) 562-0533

Intelligent Sensing For Innovative Structures (ISIS) Canada Research Scholarship for Aboriginal People in Engineering

Value: One scholarship of \$5,000 per year. (Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structures (ISIS Canada) is a Network of Centres of Excellence funded by the federal and provincial governments, the university communities and the private sector. The mandate of ISIS Canada is to develop a new generation of sophisticated civil engineering structures for the 21st century. (Eligibility: In order to be eligible, applicants must be graduates in engineering or applied sciences at a Canadian university or be currently enrolled in a degree program, and must be registered in, or intending to proceed to, graduate study in engineering or applied sciences. The scholarship is awarded for a 12-month period and may be renewed for a second year at the discretion of the awarding committee.)

Deadline: March 31 (ISIS Canada - Scholarship Committee)
University of Manitoba
A250 Agricultural and Civil Engineering Building (96 Dafee Road)
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2

Web: www.isiscanada.com/students/scholarships.html

Intelligent Sensing For Innovative Structures (ISIS) Canada - Research Scholarship for Women and Aboriginal People

Value: One scholarship of up to \$5,000. (Eligibility: Applicants must: be women or be of Aboriginal ancestry; be engineering graduates or currently enrolled in a degree and intending to pursue graduate studies; be seeking solutions to the deterioration of steel reinforced concrete; and be in third year civil engineering or above. (**Deadline: March 31 (ISIS Canada - Scholarship Committee (University of Manitoba (A250 Agricultural and Civil Engineering Building (96 Dafee Road (Winnipeg, Manitoba (R3T 2N2 (Attention: Mrs. Kim Archer (Web: www.isiscanada.com/students/scholarships.html**

GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada

The GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada is a unique program that provides financial support and skills development opportunities for up to 5 accomplished first-year undergraduate students from recognized institutions who are pursuing degrees in the fields of engineering or business/management and are Canadian resident Aboriginal individuals who are either First Nation status or non-status, Métis or Inuit. Why Apply? * A \$4000 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 GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders activities, including a specially designed leadership development seminar at GE Canada in Mississauga, Ontario * Participation in community development projects

Who Can Apply? (Only applicants who meet the eligibility criteria described below will be considered for the award (Aboriginal peoples who: * Are Canadian residents * Are first-year full-time undergraduate students at a recognized Canadian university * Are studying engineering or business/management * Have high academic performance, as demonstrated by first semester university results and high school transcripts. * Demonstrate financial need How to Apply? The application form including essay must be

submitted online by 11:59pm EST on March 15. All Supporting Documentation must arrive via post by March 15 to:

GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Program in Canada (Institute of International Education (809 United Nations Plaza (New York, NY 10017 (USA

Supporting Documentation - In addition to your application form, the following documentation is required: 1. Certification Page with original signature (downloaded from online application) 2. High school transcripts - official copy, may be sent directly by high school 3. First semester university results (if available) - official copy, may be sent directly by university 4. Two letters of recommendation (see instructions on form which can be downloaded from the online application) 5. Proof of Aboriginal ancestry - photocopy of Band/Treaty card; Métis membership card; Inuit Beneficiary card. Students who are non-status First Nation may send a photocopy of the band card issued to parent or grandparent. English translations must accompany any documents not in English. Incomplete application materials or application materials received after March 15

Application materials will not be returned to applicants. What is the Selection Procedure? A selection committee will evaluate all applications. Each applicant's motivation and academic potential will be assessed. You will be informed in June 2011 about the success of your application. Selection decisions are final. There is no appeal process.

Who Can I Contact for More Information?

If you have any questions, please contact IIE:
Email: gefslp-canada@iie.org
Phone: 1-800-486-0308
Fax: 1-212-205-6466

Complete the GE Foundation Scholar-Leaders Application Here:
apply.scholarshipandmore.org

Canadian Nurses Foundation

Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) is the only national foundation solely committed to promoting the health and patient care of Canadians by financially supporting Canadian nurses engaged in higher education, research, home health-care and specialty certification; advocating dissemination and utilization of nursing knowledge.

Awards are supported by contributions from corporate and individual donors. CNF gives nurses across Canada approximately

\$275,000 annually in scholarships and certification awards. The value of the scholarship awards ranges from \$1,000-\$6,000

The CNF TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund specifically supports First Nation Status or Non-status, Inuit or Métis nurses at the Bachelor, Master's, PhD and Nurse Practitioner levels. In 2009 and 2010, CNF provided scholarship awards to a total of 32 aboriginal scholars.

Deadline for all applications is March 31st of each year for the following academic year. Applicants for the CNA Certification awards must have confirmation of approval from CNA to write the exam.

For more information, please visit the CNF web site at www.cnf-fiic.ca or e-mail to info@cnf-fiic.ca We're on Facebook and Twitter, too! Tous les renseignements sont également disponibles en français.

AltaLink Aboriginal Scholarship Program

Application deadline is November 30

In 2007, AltaLink launched its aboriginal scholarship program. This scholarship program is designed to recognize the aboriginal community and offer financial assistance to aboriginal students attending post-secondary institutions by offering four \$2,000 scholarships.

ELIGIBILITY: This scholarship is open to all students who are Métis or members of Treaty 6, 7 or 8 and are currently enrolled in a post secondary institution.

HOW TO ENTER: Applicants can enter one of two ways, online or by mail. All applications must be received in full by November 30.

Online application To apply online, applicants must fill out the online form please click here. In addition to this application form, applicants must arrange to have a copy of their official transcripts sent to:

ATTN: Megan Wolfinger AltaLink
2611 3rd Ave SE Calgary AB, T2A 7W7

National Union - Aboriginal Canadians Scholarship

Value: \$1,500.00

Number Of Awards: 1

Criteria:

The award is available to all Aboriginal Canadian children (including foster children) of National Union of Public and General Employees members who plan to enter the first year of a Canadian public post-secondary

education institution full-time. The winner will be determined on the basis of a 750-1000 words essay on: "The importance of quality public services in enhancing the quality of life of Aboriginal Canadians". An application form must be completed and accompany the essay.

National Union Scholarship for Visible Minorities

Value: One of \$1,000. (Eligibility: The award is open to all visible minority students who plan to enter the first year of a public post-secondary educational institution full-time, and who are the children, or foster children, of a National Union member. The award will be given to the writer of the best 750-1000 word essay on "The importance of quality public services in enhancing the quality of life of visible minorities."

Deadline: June 30

Apply to: Scholarships, National Union of Public and General Employees, 15 Auriga Drive, Nepean, ON K2E 1B7

Phone: (613) 228-9800

Fax: (613) 228-9801

Email: national@nupge.ca

Canada Post Aboriginal Education - please see our ad on page 3

Area of Study: Any area of post secondary study, including vocational or trades

Eligibility: Aboriginal students who have returned to school after prolonged absence and have completed one year of post secondary education

Amount: \$1000

Application Deadline: July 31

Information:

www.canadapost.ca

NAAF

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) - please see our ad on page 4.

Deadlines are as follows:

Fine Arts: Two deadlines annually on May 1

OFIF Bursary: For Mature Aboriginal Women with Dependant Child(ren) Residing in an Urban Setting in Ontario May 1

Legal Studies for Aboriginal People (LSAP)

PRE-LAW Bursary Award: May 15

Oil and Gas Aboriginal Trades ... Technology

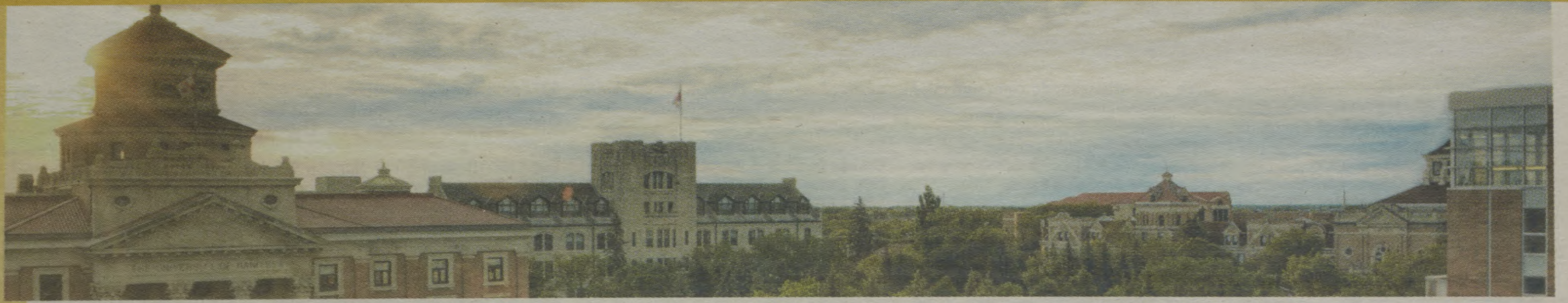
Two deadlines annually on April 30 and November 30

Aboriginal Health Careers:

Are You Ready to Go Farther?

See available Scholarships and Bursaries listed on page 10.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Brampton, Ontario
www.algomau.ca info@algomau.ca 1-888-ALGOMA-U



Become part of our growing Aboriginal community at **THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

The University of Manitoba is a leader in Aboriginal education.

Reflecting a vibrant and diverse Aboriginal community, the University of Manitoba is a place where students thrive in an atmosphere that honours and celebrates their cultures and traditions.

Aboriginal House is a warm and inviting building on campus which acts as an educational, social and cultural hub for the university's 1,800 plus Aboriginal students. At Aboriginal House, students can interact and share with peers, staff and Elders in an environment which is truly a home away from home.

DID YOU KNOW?

The UofM offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate scholarships for Aboriginal students pursuing post-secondary studies. View a complete list of our scholarships and bursaries online at: umanitoba.ca/student/admissions/aboriginal/



Aboriginal House



Aboriginal Student Centre

The Aboriginal Student Centre is a unit within Student Affairs and provides services for all students. The centre is found within Aboriginal House, a place where Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students can gather, study, and share their cultures and traditions in a comfortable, welcoming environment. Here you'll find a caring and supportive community aimed at easing the stress of school. Staff at the Aboriginal Student Centre are eager to help any student with academic, personal or cultural questions. The Aboriginal Students Association, the largest student group on campus, also has an office in Aboriginal House.

Focused on you

With more than 90 degrees to choose from, students have the choice and flexibility they need to succeed. Students can choose from a wide range of academic programming including management, engineering, social work, nursing, education and music.



Some program options that offer built-in supports include:

Native Studies is one of the finest programs in Canada. Focusing on governance, land claims, economic development, representation of Aboriginal peoples and women's issues, Metis and Inuit studies, as well as achievements by Indigenous artists and writers, the Native Studies department provides students with a comprehensive foundation from which to grow and succeed.

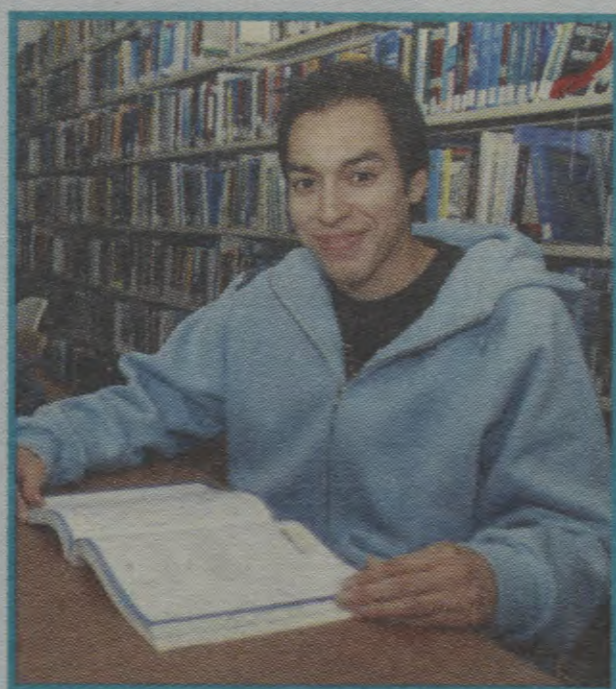
Engineering Access Program is the most successful program of its kind in Canada. It offers an opportunity for Aboriginal students who initially may not meet the engineering entrance requirements, to receive academic upgrading, personal and financial support. Successful completion of the program leads to a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering.

Aboriginal Business Education Program provides academic, personal and financial support for students applying or enrolled in the Asper School of Business. By ensuring that students have what they need to succeed in their studies, ABEP prepares them to become true entrepreneurs and business leaders within their communities and beyond.

My fear of university was gone

"The ABEP program gave me a map of what I needed to accomplish, including educational and emotional support guides to aid me in my attainment of higher education. My fear of university was gone after my first meeting with them."

-Hanwakan Whitecloud



Giving a community hope for the future



"As an adult learner, I feel the services offered by the Access Programs, Health Careers Access Program (HCAP), are very beneficial. The staff has been supportive in providing the direction, guidance, and encouragement that I need to meet my educational goals. Having this support in place has enabled me to trust and to believe in myself, and this has brought me to another stepping stone in my life."

-Debbie (DJ) Fisher

Access Programs offer academic and financial support, counseling, advocacy, instruction and tutoring for anyone who has not had an opportunity to attend university because of social, economic, or academic reasons. Students in the program may obtain any degree offered by the university or may choose to enter the specialized Education and Health Careers programs. Access Programs have helped countless Aboriginal students in their learning journey and in their pursuit of a better future for themselves, their families and their communities.

Aboriginal Focus Programs respond to the needs and interests of Aboriginal people and offer greater accessibility and cultural relevance. Its certificate and degree-credit programs prepare Aboriginal students for practice in such fields as counseling, education, community wellness, child and family services, and environmental studies. AFP also offers health career and transition year programs as a preparatory year offering a full range of student supports. AFP classes are held at the University of Manitoba's downtown campus and in communities.

For more information

Visit: umanitoba.ca/aboriginal or contact one of our Aboriginal Student Recruitment Officers:

Christine Pierre

Phone: 204-474-9983

Jen Storm

Phone: 204-474-7144

Email: Aboriginal_Community@umanitoba.ca

One university. Many futures.
umanitoba.ca



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

One deadline annually on June 1
Post-Secondary Education Awards:
 One deadline annually on June 1

Imperial Oil Aboriginal Scholarship Awards Program - NAAF

Imperial Oil has formed a partnership with the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) to manage its Aboriginal Scholarship Awards Program (ASAP). (The purpose of the awards program is to encourage and assist people of Aboriginal ancestry to pursue post-secondary educational studies in disciplines relevant to the petroleum industry. Please apply on-line at NAAF's post-secondary education bursary awards program or contact NAAF at 1-800-329-9780.

Aboriginal Health Careers Program Scholarship:

Deadline: May 1
 Provides support for students who are pursuing accredited health studies leading to employment in the health professions and who have demonstrated the potential for academic success.
 Eligible fields of study: medicine, nursing, dentistry, biology, chemistry, physiotherapy, pharmacy, clinical psychology, laboratory research and technology and any other health field in which a study of the hard sciences is a pre-requisite.

Aboriginal Veterans' Scholarship Trust - Canada - NAAF

For students engaged in fields of study that support and contribute to Aboriginal self-governance and economic self-reliance. For more information check out the web site Aboriginal Veterans Scholarship Trust.

Business, Sciences and General Education Program - NAAF

Value: Varies from \$1,000 to \$8,000
 Eligibility: Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, Métis, Inuit) attending a Canadian Community College (CEGEP) or university (first year or returning students); registered in programs such as business, health sciences, new and advanced technologies (not limited to these). Priority is given to students enrolled in business and sciences.
 Deadline: June 1

Diane Fowler Leblanc Aboriginal Social Work Scholarship - NAAF

Value: The amount of each scholarship is based on the individual needs of each candidate (tuition, course materials, living expenses, daycare, travel) up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year for three or four years, depending on the institution's course requirements. (Eligibility: The scholarship is open to all Aboriginal people, including Métis, Inuit, and Status and Non-Status Indians, interested in studying at the Bachelor of Social Work level at a recognized educational institution in Canada.

The Alberta Museology Internship - NAAF

Value: Varies.
 Two four month internships at the Provincial Museum of Alberta for Aboriginal students pursuing a career in ethnology, natural history or Canadian history.

Arts Scholarship Program - NAAF

Deadline: March 31.
 Value: Based on Budget needs. All areas related to the visual, performing, media, graphic and literary arts. Award decision based on merit of project, quality of training and financial need. Art work samples will need to be sent with application.

Petro Canada Education Awards for Native

Students - NAAF

Deadline: June 15
 Five education awards of up to \$5,000 are available to native students of Canadian or Inuit ancestry entering or enrolled in post-secondary programs where studies can be applied in an industrial setting in the oil and gas industry. Selection is based on financial need, academic performance and potential, appropriateness of studies to industry, and future aspirations.

Shell Canada Aboriginal Scholarship Program - NAAF

Preference will be given to studies in business, science and engineering.

CIBC Achievers - NAAF

Fields of study an unlimited.

TransCanada Pipelines Leadership Awards - NAAF

With these awards, TransCanada Pipelines is helping Aboriginal students prepare themselves to play leading roles in the fields of engineering, business and commerce, law, science and technology, environment and communications.

BP Canada Aboriginal Young Achievers Scholarship - NAAF

Priority for these scholarships may be given to students who are pursuing careers in business, engineering, environmental studies and physical sciences.

Great-West Life Business Education Scholarship - NAAF

This scholarship was created to help Aboriginal students from across Canada to succeed in the areas of business and entrepreneurship.

TD Bank Financial Group Scholarships - NAAF

Through its support of the scholarship program, TD Bank Financial Group is helping to make it easier for Aboriginal students to realize their educational goals.

UGG Agricultural Scholarships - NAAF

UGG is pleased to provide scholarships to encourage Aboriginal students from the Prairie Provinces to pursue careers in fields related to agriculture.

The CN Aboriginal Scholarships - NAAF

These scholarships provide funding assistance to Aboriginal students from across Canada who are engaged in studies that will prepare them for careers in the transportation industry such as engineering, business, computer science, communications and technical studies.

Suncor Energy Foundation "Shared Achievements" Aboriginal Scholarships - NAAF

These scholarships were created to assist Aboriginal students who are pursuing post-secondary education in business, teaching and science, particularly engineering, earth sciences, natural resource management, environmental studies and computer science. Preference will be given to students from Central and Northern Alberta, Northeastern and Southwestern British Columbia and the North West Territories.

3M Canada Aboriginal Health Education Awards - NAAF

With these awards, 3M Canada is making a positive contribution to the lives of Aboriginal students who are pursuing careers in fields related to health care.

Sun Life Financial Careers in Health Awards - NAAF

With these awards, Sun Life Financial is providing increased opportunities for

Aboriginal students to receive training and education for careers in health care.

Weyerhaeuser Aboriginal Scholarship - NAAF
 Weyerhaeuser is pleased to offer scholarship assistance to Aboriginal students who are pursuing careers in business and science. (Contact individual schools for application forms.

For more information contact:
National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation Head Office
 P.O. Box 759 2160 Fourth Line Rd.
 Six Nations of the Grand River
 Ohsweken, ON, N0A 1M0
 Toll free: 1-800-329-9780
 Phone: (416) 926-0775
 Fax: (416) 926-7554
www.naaf.ca

FAAY Scholarships

Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth (FAAY) - Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

Number of Awards: The number of awards is dependent on the sponsors of the program. In 2008 we disbursed 140 awards, 95 were scholarships and 45 were bursaries. (Award Amount: Scholarships for post-secondary applicants range from \$2,500 - \$5,000. Bursaries for high school applicants are \$750. Eligibility Factors: Canadian residents of First Nations (Status or Non-status), Métis and Inuit Heritage attending High School or a Post-secondary Institution full-time within Canada. Mature students and adult education programs are included.

Deadline: Application must be postmarked on or before October 15th of each year.

No Faxes!

Applications are available for download from Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) website (www.ccab.com/faay) or contact CCAB office for a hard copy.

Contact Information/Mailing address:
FAAY Coordinator
Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business
 250 The Esplanade, Suite 204
 Toronto, ON M4C 1Y4
 1-866-566-3229
faayinfo@ccab.com
www.ccab.com/faay

BY SCHOOL

Scholarships offered by Brandon University

Xerox Canada Award - Brandon University

Value: \$2450
 To be awarded to a Native Canadian student who has registered in a Business Administration course(s) during Regular Session. The recipient may either be an entering or returning student.
 Deadline: May 11th.

Isabelle Douglas Estate Scholarships - Brandon University

Value: 4 x \$310
 To be awarded to a Second or Third Year student proceeding into Third or Fourth Year studies in any degree program at Brandon University being taken on or off campus. Eligible students must be all or part Manitoba Indian ancestry.
 Deadline: May 11th.

MTS Bursaries for Aboriginal Students - Brandon University

To be awarded to Aboriginal students taking courses in Computer Science or Business Administration. In the event that there are no qualified applicants in these areas, the award will be granted to an Aboriginal student in a Science program.

DANCE INTO THE FUTURE WITH QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre - Kingston, Ontario
 Ph. 613-533-6970 to speak directly to an Aboriginal Advisor.
 Regarding Scholarships, bursaries and entrance awards, please call 613-533-6823.
www.queensu.ca/fdasc

KNOWLEDGE IS WITHIN REACH. MAKE IT YOURS.

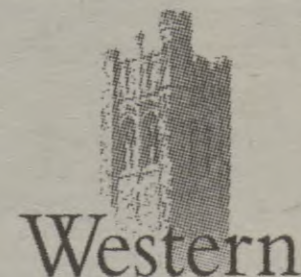
Innovative programming in Arts and Science, Business, Education, Health, Trades and Technology

14 locations serving Northern Manitoba

UCN www.ucn.ca

University College of the North

Welcome to First Nations Studies at the University of Western Ontario

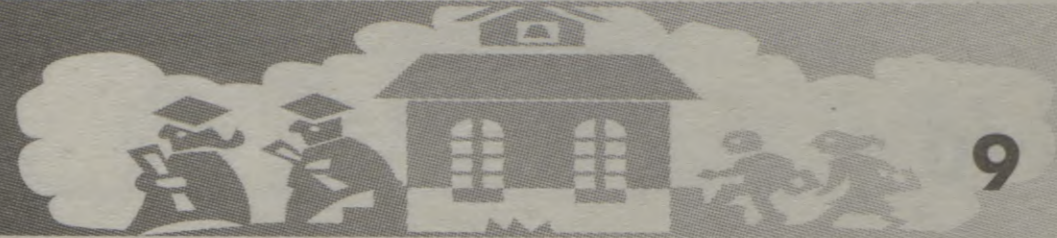


First Nations Studies is an interdisciplinary program that explores the role of First Nations peoples in Canadian society and creates awareness around First Nations issues. Both Native and non-Native students are welcomed to share their perspectives in this program as it engages political, legal, cultural and linguistic perspectives.

The areas studied are broad and interdisciplinary, preparing you for a career in private, non-profit, or a government sector, especially for employment by Aboriginal organizations and communities. The program also provides a sound basis for professional schools, including law, medicine, health sciences, education, and business. Students are able to choose an honours degree, a major or minor and can be combined with other interests.

Sign up for First Nations Studies today! For further information, please contact us at: **First Nations Studies Program, The University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Social Science, London, ON N6A 5C2**
 Tel: 519-661-2053 Fax: 519-661-3868 E-mail: firstntns@uwo.ca

www.firstnationsstudies.uwo.ca



We branch out in Aboriginal communities

Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries values the importance of education and continued learning and believes in partnerships which provide more than financial assistance to those seeking a formal post-secondary education.

Our Aboriginal Education Partnership Program, an annual bursary awarded to an Aboriginal student living within or near our Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area, provides full tuition for up to five years of

For more information on Al-Pac or our scholarship program please call us toll free at 1-800-661-5210 or visit our website at www.alpac



Deadline: May 11th

Donna and Bill Parrish Scholarship for Aboriginal Students - Brandon University

To be awarded to an Aboriginal student of strong academic merit enrolled in full-time study at Brandon University.

Deadline is May 11th

Dr. Wilfred W. McCutcheon Scholarship in Education (Aboriginal Student) - Brandon University

Value: \$1,000

This scholarship is to be awarded, upon application, to an Aboriginal student in the Faculty of Education who is entering the final year of a Bachelor of Education (A.D.) and who demonstrates a combination of outstanding academic achievement, excellence in leadership ability on campus or in the community, and professional promise in classroom teaching. The student must have a minimum 3.5 g.p.a. in the pre-award year and provide two letters of recommendation from the Dean and/or members of the Faculty of Education.

Deadline: May 11th annually.

John & Kay Findlay Scholarship in Native Studies - Brandon University

Value: \$900

Awarded to a Canadian First Nations or Metis student proceeding to Third or Fourth Year who has or will have satisfied at least the requirement for a minor in Native Studies at Brandon University.

Deadline: May 11th annually.

Ms Janet Omstead Wood Senate Awards Office Brandon University

270 - 18th Street

Brandon, MB R7A 6A9

Phone: (204) 727-9737

Fax: (204) 727-4072

Email: wood@brandonu.ca

First Nations University of Canada

First Nations University of Canada students are eligible for all awards offered by the First Nations University of Canada and the University of Regina.

Albert Bellegarde Memorial Scholarship

Ayahkamimakan Pimatisiwin (Life Continues) Bursary

Bobby Bird Memorial Scholarship

CIC Aboriginal Bursary

Cree Language Incentive Award

Dr. Margaret P. Hess Award

Gary Bosgoed Scholarship for Aboriginals in Engineering

Dr. Oliver Brass Graduate Studies Award

Drs. Lewis and Elisabeth Brandt Scholarship

First Nations University of Canada Board of Governors

Graduate Entrance Scholarship

First Nations University of Canada (Molson) Entrance Scholarship

Grain Services Union Bursary

Hudson's Bay Company Student Achievement Award for Excellence

Indian Artist Award

Information Systems Management (ISM) Scholarship

Jack Adelman Scholarship

Jean Shoebridge Memorial Book Prize

John B. Tootoosis Scholarship

Library Book Award

Many Nations/Maritime Life Assurance Award

Margaret & Clare Sherrard Friendship Scholarship

Mary Ahenakew Memorial Scholarship Award

Meyers Norris Penny LLP Scholarship

Public History Award

Saskatchewan Health Bursary Program

SaskEnergy Scholarship

Sasktel Scholarship

SGI Stan Hamilton Scholarship

Sharon Carrier Convocation Award

Solomon Mosquito Scholarship in English

Talisman Energy Aboriginal Award

TD Bursary Program

Wendy Swenson Memorial Scholarship

Weyerhaeuser Community Education Award

Xerox Aboriginal Scholarship Program

Application forms for First Nations University of Canada awards are available from the First Nations University of Canada Student Success Services. General inquiries should be directed to:

First Nations University of Canada Scholarship Committee

1 First Nations Way
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 7K2

Phone: 306 790-5950, extension 3100

Fax: 306 790-5996

Web site: www.firstnationsuniversity.ca

University of Manitoba - please see our ad on pages 6 & 7

The University of Manitoba offers a wide range of scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students.

By self-declaring as a person of Aboriginal descent you will automatically be eligible for a number of awards. Self-Declaration forms are

available from the Aboriginal Student Centre, or you can check the box that applies to you on your University of Manitoba application form.

*Bursary awards are based primarily on financial need; students must submit the University of Manitoba Bursary Application.

*Academic scholarships will be automatically given to the students who meet the criteria. Specific applications are not required unless otherwise noted.

For more information on any awards, please contact:

Financial Aid & Awards

422 University Centre,

Ph: 474-9531, Fax: 474-7543

email: awards@umanitoba.ca

Visit: www.umanitoba.ca/student/awards

The following awards at the University of Manitoba are available to Aboriginal (First Nation, Status or Non-Status, Inuit, and Métis) students:

All Faculties at the University of Manitoba Marguerite and John Burrelle Memorial Aboriginal Scholarships
- four awards of \$3,000

Mary and Louis Finkle Aboriginal and Immigrant Scholarship & Bursary
- \$450 (per award) - application required

Sonia and Ralph Kaplan Aboriginal and Immigrant Scholarship & Bursary
- \$450 (per award) - application required

Winston Samlalsingh Scholarship
- one renewable scholarship of \$1,175 for the student entering the University of Manitoba from high school with highest average

Frances E. Ross Bursary
- \$500 (estimated) available for a Métis student in any program

Louis Riel Bursaries at the University of Manitoba
- 84 awards at \$1,500 for any student in any program who holds membership in the Manitoba Métis Federation

Louis Riel Bursary
- \$150 (estimated) offered every two years to a student in any program

Honourable Mitchell W. Sharp Bursary
- \$3,425 available for multiple awards for U1 students

Cyril Tobias Memorial Bursary
- \$2,875 available for multiple awards for students in any program who are from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, or Alberta

Farm Credit Canada Scholarship
- one award of \$1,500 for a student in either the I.H. Asper School of Business or the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Joan and Dean Sandham Scholarship in Aboriginal Health Professional Leadership
- \$6700 available for multiple awards for medical doctors and nurses in any undergraduate or graduate program who demonstrate leadership skills and a commitment to developing a career in medicine or nursing

Johnston Bursary
- \$5,200 available (variable numbers and values) for students in Law or Medicine

Centre for Aboriginal Health Education Student Support Fund
- \$5,000 to offer multiple emergency bursaries (\$50 to \$500) to undergraduate students in Dentistry, Dental Hygiene, Medical Rehabilitation, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy

Wiciwawin Aboriginal Alumni Emergency Bursary
- \$2,125 available for multiple awards for students in any program

School of Art George Swinton Memorial Scholarships
- \$750 for a student in the B.F.A. (Honours), B.F.A., or Dip. in Art

Architecture (Environmental Design) Frank and Marjorie Silver Bursary
- \$800 bursary for a student in Master of Architecture, City Planning, Interior Design, or Landscape Architecture program

Allan Waisman Aboriginal Architecture Scholarship
- one award of \$4,950 for a student in Master of Architecture, City Planning, Interior Design, or Landscape Architecture Program

Asper School of Business Aboriginal Business Education Program (ABEP) Awards
- multiple scholarships & bursaries of \$500-\$2,000 to ABEP students

North West Company Aboriginal Student Scholarship in Management
- one award of \$1,125 for U1 student who

NIEEF | National Indigenous Economic Education Fund

CONNECTING YOUR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION TO THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES YOU NEED

The NIEEF Aboriginal Scholarships will be awarded to applicants at CANDO's 18th Annual National Conference & AGM in Richmond, British Columbia. The selection process will be based on passing Grade 12 marks or post secondary GPA (Grade Point Average).

submit your scholarship application today



download application form at www.edo.ca visit the Conference section

ENTRY DEADLINE SUBMISSION
JULY 29, 2011

APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

- Cover letter outlining a personal introduction, educational level achieved to date and your community involvement.
- A copy of the official transcripts -submit a copy of your most recent transcripts.
- Proof of current enrollment.
- 2 Letters of Support
- Essay describing career goals and aspirations (2 pages)
- Application Form - ensure all information is filled out and signed. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

NIEEF HISTORY

The National Indigenous Economic Education Fund (NIEEF) is a formally registered charity with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. NIEEF is the charitable organization of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO).

The National Indigenous Economic Education Foundation (NIEEF) provides scholarships, training, research funding and projects for students aimed at increasing awareness and creating a positive environment for Aboriginal economic development.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Priority will be given to those students that are enrolled in one of the CANDO accredited institutions.
- Must be a CANDO student member.
- Attending or currently enrolled in a post secondary institution.
- Proof of Aboriginal ancestry
- Studying in the fields of: Business Administration, Economics, Business Finance, Business Management, Natural Resources or CED.

CANDO WEBSITE

To learn more about previous scholarship recipients or other CANDO program and services or to download the scholarship application form visit the CANDO web site at www.edo.ca



EMAIL

Ray Wanuch
Executive Director
Email ray.wanuch@edo.ca

Svitlana Konoval
Executive and Administrative Services Coordinator
Email skonoval@edo.ca

9635-45 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 5Z8
1 800 463-9300
Phone 780 990-0303
Fax 780 429-7487

Education. Support. Access. Community.

Red River College delivers a number of academic programs that are designed to provide Aboriginal students with a high-quality applied learning experience that will prepare them for success in the workplace:

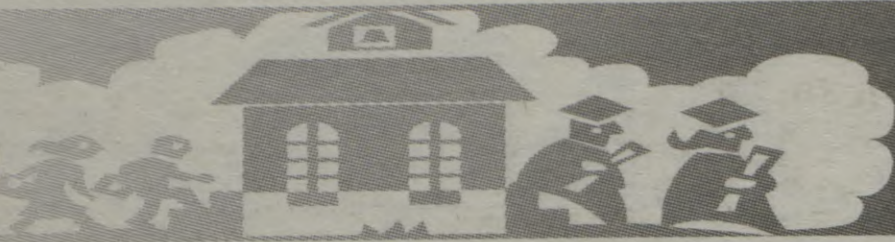
- Aboriginal Language Specialist
- Aboriginal Self-Government Administration
- ACCESS Business Administration Integrated
- ACCESS Aircraft Maintenance and Manufacturing
- ACCESS Civil Engineering Technology
- ACCESS Nursing
- Biindigen College Studies
- Community Development/Community Economic Development
- Computer Applications for Business
- Introduction to Trades

→ To learn more or register, please visit www.rrc.ca/aboriginaleducation or call 204-632-2148.



RED RIVER COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF INDIGENOUS EDUCATION



intends to enter Management - must submit letter of intent

Vision Quest - Steve Prince Memorial Bursary
- \$1,000 for a student in the I.H. Asper School of Business who has demonstrated community involvement

Linda K. Park Memorial Bursary
- two bookstore credits of \$200 available for students in ABEP

**Faculty of Architecture
Allan Waisman Aboriginal Architecture Scholarship**
- one award of \$4,000 for Master's student

**Faculty of Education
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents Bursary**
- one award of \$600

Manitoba Teachers' Society Aboriginal Bursary in Education
- one award of \$2,400

**Faculty of Engineering
Engineering Access Program (ENGAP) Awards**
- multiple scholarships based on grade point average and multiple bursaries from \$500 - \$2,500

**Faculty of Graduate Studies
Right Honourable Brian Dickson Graduate Fellowship**
- one award of \$5,350 for Masters of Law student who is Aboriginal or whose focus is Aboriginal rights

Ph.D. Studies for Aboriginal Scholars (PSAS) Fund
- variable amount of \$5,000-\$20,000 for students in first four years of any Doctoral program

President's Graduate Scholarship for First Nations, Inuit, Métis Students
- *beginning in 2009-10 - for a student in first four years of any Doctoral program or first two years of any Masters program

**Faculty of Human Ecology
Human Ecology Endowment Fund Scholarship for Aboriginal Students**
- up to three scholarships (minimum value \$1000)

Jean Goodwill - Jean Steckle Bursary in Human Ecology
- one award of \$2,900 for student involved in Aboriginal community

**Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
NFL/Budweiser Recreation Services Aboriginal Student Development Award**
- one award of \$670

**Faculty of Law
Michael and Joy Phelps Bursary**
- one award of \$1,000

Petro-Canada Manitoba Law Foundation Bursary
- one award of \$1,675

**Faculty of Medicine
Jack Armstrong Memorial Bursary**
- \$1,475 for a student in the Faculty of Medicine Victoria and J. Stuart Downey Entrance Scholarship in Medicine
- \$4,050 total given to one undergraduate student entering the Faculty of Medicine
- \$3,037 given upon admission to the Faculty of Medicine
- The remaining balance, \$1,013, given in the summer if the student is admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Medicine program, in the Faculty

of Medicine

**Faculty of Social Work
Elizabeth Hill Scholarship**
- \$5,450 available for one or more awards

Esther Seidl Scholarship
- \$4,875 available for one or more awards for graduate students in Social Work
MASW Affirmative Action Bursary
- three awards of \$1,000

Margaret Mary Burns Award in Social Work (Scholarship)
- \$16,425 available to offer scholarships for Masters and Doctoral students in Social Work

Margaret Mary Burns Award in Social Work (Bursary)
- \$8,075 available to offer bursaries for pre-Masters and Masters students in Social Work

Awards Related to Aboriginal Studies (open to non-Aboriginal students)

Aboriginal Issues Press Scholarship
- variable number and value; for graduate students with research focus on Aboriginal Issues

D.A. Thompson, Q.C. Prize for Aboriginal Peoples and Land Claims
- one prize of \$100 for student graduating from Law

D.A. Thompson, Q.C. Prize for Aboriginal Peoples and Law
- one prize of \$100 for a student graduating from Law

Oakes-Riewe Aboriginal-Environmental Studies Research Award
- \$10,750 to offer multiple awards of \$500 to \$5,000 for master's and Doctoral students conducting interdisciplinary environmental research within an Aboriginal context

George A. Schultz Bursary in North American Native History
- \$2,000 for a Masters or Doctoral student in History whose research focus in North American Native History

**External Awards Available for Aboriginal Students
Manitoba Hydro Bursaries in Business, Engineering and IT**
- multiple awards (\$1,500 to \$2,500 each) plus offer of summer employment with Manitoba Hydro for students in Business, Engineering, Computer Science, and University 1 (with a focus on IT) October 1st application deadline

Manitoba Hydro Employment Equity Bursary
- multiple awards of \$1,500 each, plus offer of summer employment with Manitoba Hydro for students entering first year Business, Engineering, or Computer Science who belong to an Employment Equity Designated Group (see website for definition)
October 1st application deadline. Visit Manitoba Hydro at www.hydro.mb.ca for applications and more information.

MB Business Council Bursary
- multiple awards of \$3000 each for students who demonstrate financial need and are in good academic standing. March 30th application deadline. Visit Manitoba Business Council at www.businesscouncil.mb.ca for applications and more information.
For more information on any awards, please contact:
**Financial Aid & Awards
422 University Centre,
Ph: 474-9531, Fax: 474-7543
email: awards@umanitoba.ca**

Visit: www.umanitoba.ca/student/awards

University of Regina

For complete information on any scholarships please go directly to the University of Regina's web site:
www.uregina.ca/awards/scholarships/

Aboriginal Kinesiology and Health Studies Award

Barber, Dr Lloyd Scholarships
Birks Family Foundation Bursary for the Aboriginal Co-Operative Education Program and Employment Services **NEW**
Blakeney, A.E. SaskTel Bursary
Bosgoed, Gary Scholarship for Aboriginals in Engineering
CIC Aboriginal Bursary
Faculty of Business Administration Aboriginal Student Award
Howe, The CD Mature Student Achievement Awards for Excellence
Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre (IPHRC) Summer Undergraduate Research Awards 2006

John Deere Foundation of Canada Award
Lowery, Teal Scholarship
Mike Jake Memorial Scholarship Fund
Purcell, Gil Memorial Journalism Scholarship for Native Canadians
Regina Chamber of Commerce Award
Regina Research Park Aboriginal Scholarship
SaskWater Scholarship
Scholarship for Aboriginal Canadians
Shoebridge, Jean Memorial Prize
University of Regina Aboriginal Student Fine Arts Award
Wolstein, Dr Edward Award for Students of Aboriginal Ancestry
Wood, Morley Memorial Scholarship for Aboriginal Female Students

For complete information on any of the above scholarships please go directly to the University of Regina's web site:
www.uregina.ca/awards/scholarships/

City of Regina - Henry Baker Scholarships

The City of Regina offers six scholarships to students at the University of Regina including one at SIFC in Regina
Value: 2 @ \$1000 and 4 @ \$2,000
Eligibility: Varies
Deadline: August 1st
Information:
Phone: (306) 777-7800
Application form: www.cityregina.com
Return completed application to:
**City of Regina
Public Affairs Division
City Hall, 14 th Floor
P. O. Box 1790
Regina, SK S4P 3C8**

Algoma University Bursaries and Scholarships - please see our ad on page 5.

Algoma University distributes over \$400,000 in bursaries and scholarships each year to qualified students through the Financial Aid and Awards Office. Financial assistance is available to students from a variety of sources and is based on demonstrated unmet need as well as academic standing.
Scholarships are based primarily on academic merit.

Bursaries are based on some combination of financial need and academic standing.
An annual grant provides one scholarship of \$2,000 to a dependent of a municipal employee who enrolls in Algoma U for full-time (30 credits) studies. The candidate must have completed his or her qualifying requirements in the academic year prior to commencing studies at Algoma U, and must present an average of at least 80% on the 6 best U or M courses presented for admission. *This scholarship is non-cumulative with the Algoma*

U Awards of Excellence, Edward & Frank McGrath Award, Carl J. Sanders, Peggy & Willmont MacDonnell, City of Sault Ste. Marie Admission Scholarships, Algoma U Achievement Scholarships, and the John R. Rhodes Scholarship.

John R. Rhodes Scholarship

Amount: \$3000
Deadline: June 30
The John R. Rhodes Scholarship was established in 1979 through generous donations from friends and family of the late John Rhodes. This scholarship, of \$3,000 annually is offered to students entering their first year of university studies from secondary school who have demonstrated academic achievement and community leadership while involved in political, social, or academic activities. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional years. The recipient must have completed all his or her qualifying requirements in the academic year prior to registering at Algoma U, and must enrol in 30 credits over 2 consecutive terms of study.

Algoma University Alumni Entrance Award I

Amount: \$2000
Deadline: June 30
A scholarship of up to \$2,000 is given to the child of an Algoma U alumni with the highest average on the 6 best U or M courses presented for admission. Application required.

Algoma University Alumni Entrance Award II

Amount: \$2000
Deadline: June 30
A scholarship of up to \$2,000 is given to a mature student, now enrolled in the first year of full time studies, who has been away from formal education for at least 5 years.

Algoma University Alumni Entrance Award III

Amount: \$2000
Deadline: N/A
A scholarship of up to \$2,000 is given to a student transferring to Algoma U under a college articulation agreement who has the highest GPA in the last full year of their college program.

Algoma University Alumni Entrance Award IV

Amount: \$2000
Deadline: June 30

The Robert Belair Memorial Fund

Amount: \$1000
Deadline: N/A
St Marys Paper and its employees have established two scholarships in memory of Algoma U alumnus the late Robert Belair, an employee of St Marys Paper. One award of \$1,000 is given to the student entering the first year of studies in the BBA program with the highest average on the 6 best U or M courses presented for admission.

Métis Nation of Ontario Bursary Award

Deadline: April 30
Recipients of the awards shall be members of the Métis Community within the meaning of the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) as described in the 1997/98 Regional Bilateral Agreement executed by Human Resources Development Canada and the MNO on the 27th of November 1996. Applicants must show financial need and be in good academic standing. Endowed.

Anishinaabe Students Assistance Fund

Deadline: April 30
This endowed fund provides bursary awards of up to \$500 to Anishinaabe (First Nation, Métis, or Inuit) students in good academic standing with demonstrated financial need. Endowed.

Shingwauk Anishinaabe Student Association

International Scholarship

The Shingwauk Anishinaabe Student Association International Scholarship provides one annual award of \$600 to an international student in the 2nd year of full-time studies at Algoma University with the highest average overall.
Amount: \$600
Deadline: April 30

Algoma University

1520 Queen Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 2G4
Inquire: awards@algomau.ca
Main Phone: 705-949-2301
Toll Free: 1-888-ALGOMA-U (1-888-254-6628)
Fax: 705-949-6583
www.algomau.ca

The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)

Aboriginal Awards and Scholarships - please see our ad on page

A variety of Awards, scholarships and bursaries are available to NAIT Aboriginal students.

Deadline dates vary.

Office of the Registrar

Student Awards and Financial Aid

The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
Suite 1000 11762-106 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 3H1

www.nait.ca

Aboriginal Graduate Scholarship in Economics - University of Victoria

Application deadlines: (Graduate Students - January 30. (Undergraduate Students - May 30

Terms of Reference: A scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded to an Aboriginal Graduate student entering the Department of Economics. If there is no eligible graduate student then the scholarship will be awarded to an Aboriginal undergraduate student entering the Department of Economics (that is the undergraduate student has declared Economics as their Major, or Honours, programme).

Applications can be requested from the Department in person, by telephone (250) 721-8532 or email: jnixon@uvic.ca.

Coast Ferries (1937 - 1997) Scholarship - Vancouver Community College.

Value: One award \$1,500 annually credit toward tuition fees.
Eligibility: Available to students in the outer Mid-Coast communities of Bella Bella (Waglisia), Klemtu, Shearwater, Ocean Falls, Rivers Inlet/Oweekeno, Dawson's Landing (Rivers Inlet) and Kingcome Inlet.

Not available to students who permanently reside in Bella Coola. Must have supporting letter from their local First Nations Council and/or School District #49. Selection to be made by VCC

Application: (To the Dean of Student Service (Vancouver Community College (250 West Pender Street (Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 1S9

Information: (Rebecca Davey (Development Officer (Vancouver Community College Foundation (1155 East Broadway (PO Box 24620 Stn. F Vancouver, British Columbia V5N 5T9
Phone: (604)871-7148 (e-mail: rdavey@vcc.bc.ca

Simon Fraser University

**Awards and Scholarships:
Hughes Aircraft of Canada Native / Indian Scholarship**

To a Native undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University.
Value: One award of \$750

Raytheon System's Canada Ltd. Scholarship

mypowercareer.com

A FUTURE OF POSSIBILITIES

**YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE HEADED
WE'LL HELP YOU GET THERE**

Every year, OPG grants the John Wesley Beaver Memorial Award to one male and one female of Native ancestry. Each award is valued at \$4,000 and is open to students either attending or entering a college or university in Ontario. To learn more, please visit: mypowercareer.com and look for Student Awards in our Student section.

OPG supports the principles and practices of diversity.

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GENERATION**



Find more scholarships and bursaries
online at www.ammsa.com



SUCCESSFUL CAREERS START IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Did you know that NAIT has successfully delivered programs to aboriginal communities in Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and all parts of Alberta? Programs currently being offered in aboriginal communities include:

- Introduction to Trades
- Business/Accounting
- Project Management
- Aboriginal Entrepreneurship
- Pre-Technology/Upgrading
- Apprenticeship programs
- Accounting Certificate
- Computer programs

For more information
www.nait.ca/cit | 780.378.1230

EDUCATION FOR THE REAL WORLD



AU student Kathleen in Edmonton, AB

Dream.

Pursuing your education sometimes means dreaming big. And with more than 700 courses and 90 different degree, diploma and certificate programs delivered online and at a distance, **Athabasca University** can help take you where you want to go.

Start dreaming at
www.athabascau.ca

Athabasca University

for Native Students
One award valued at \$750

Information: Financial Assistance
3017 Academic Quadrangle
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 1S6
Phone: (604) 291-3892 Fax: (604) 291-4722

Okanagan University College
Awards and Scholarships:
Vicki Hitchen Memorial Scholarship
Interior Aboriginal Endowment Fund Award

Information: Financial Awards Office
Okanagan University College
1000 K.L.O. Road Kelowna,
British Columbia V1Y 4X8
Phone: (250) 862-5419 Fax: (250) 862-5466

University of Northern BC (UNBC)

McCarthy Tetrault Annual Scholarship
Bank of Montreal Aboriginal Scholarship
Canfor Corporation Scholarships

For information on all UNBC
Scholarships please contact:
Linda Roa, UNBC Financial Aid Office
3333 University Way, Prince George, BC
V2N 4Z9

Grant McEwan University
Grant MacEwan University Foundation
Robert C. Carson Memorial Bursary
Sylvia Schulze Memorial Bursary for Alex Taylor School
Alberta Indian Arts and Craft Society Scholarship
Alberta Health Careers Bursary
Aboriginal Leadership Development Awards
Canative Housing Corp. Award
CFCW Ltd. Scholarships
92.5 CKNG FM Scholarship
Claudette Rendall Award
CN Bursary
Dreamcatcher Scholarship
Eagle Feather Award
Oldies 1260 CFRN/CFRB-The Bear Scholarship
Robert Markle Scholarship
Social Services Bursary Program
Information:
Student Awards Office
Student Advising Centre
Room 7-112A City Centre Campus
Grant MacEwan University
P.O. Box 1796 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2P2
Phone: (780) 497-5063

Red River College Awards, Bursaries ...
Scholarships for Aboriginal Students

Helen Basset Commemorative Student Scholarships
Sibyl McKay Inkster Bursary
Rose Nolan Memorial Scholarship Fund
Assiniboine Credit Union Bursary
RBC Aboriginal Students Awards Program
North West Company Scholarship Fund
National Indigenous Economic Education Fund
MB Hydro - Generating Futures Scholarships
Manitoba Lotteries Employment Equity Education Award
Project Neecheewan Award
Ross A. Johnston Award
Gil Purcell Memorial Journalism Scholarship
Early Childhood Education
"Our Children, Our Ways" Award
Engineering/Computers
MB Hydro - Employment Equity Bursary
MB Hydro - Second to Final Year Engineering Bursary
MB Hydro - Generating Futures Scholarships
Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Foundation
TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund
Aboriginal Health Careers (NAAF)
Pre Trades/Trades
Manitoba Lotteries Employment Equity Education Award - Pre Trades/Trades
Tim McLean Memorial Bursary
MB Hydro - Generating Futures Scholarships
MB Hydro - First Year Information Technology
MB Hydro - Second to Final Year Information Technology Bursary
MB Hydro - Generating Futures Scholarships
Nunavut Beneficiaries Scholarships
Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth (FAAY)
Hanna (Nancy) Boon Bursary
Fly Higher - Business Council of Manitoba
Prince of Wales/Princess of Anne Bursary
RBC Aboriginal Students Awards Program
Building Foundation Bursary
Mary Guilbault Métis Bursary
Information:
Red River College Student Awards Office

Red River College Development Office
D101 - Building D
2055 Notre Dame Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3H 0J9
Phone: 204-632-2327
E-mail: financialaid@rrc.mb.ca

University of Western Ontario - please see our
ad on page 8.
Room 1120
Western Student Services Building
London, Ontario, CANADA
N6A 3K7

Tel: 519-661-2100
Email: bursary@uwo.ca
www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm/student-finances/

BC Hydro Aboriginal Scholarship Program
To encourage and financially assist Aboriginal people to pursue post-secondary education in disciplines relevant to BC Hydro and, where possible, to provide recipients with work experience.
Value: Eight scholarships of \$1,000 each.
Eligibility: Status Indian, Non-Status Indian, Inuit or Métis. Has successfully completed the first year of a full time post-secondary program in a discipline relevant to a broad range of BC Hydro careers.
Good academic standing (preferably 75% grade point average) in addition to good written communications skills. (Balanced lifestyle (i.e., fitness, community involvement, hobbies and interests). (Supported by a British Columbia First Nation or Native organization.
Deadline: Mid-January
Information:
Outreach Programs
BC Hydro
16th Floor, 333 Dunsmuir St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R3
Phone: (604) 623-3994 Fax: (604) 623-3614
E-mail: diane.walton@bchydro.com

Mungo Martin Memorial Awards - British Columbia
To assist people of Native descent to further their education, vocational training, skills and competence. These awards are not only open to those who wish to further their general education and skills, but are available to those who seek to do creative work to further the artistic heritage of the Native peoples in their paintings, carving, music, dance, folklore or language.
Value: Normally from \$100 to \$500. (Number of awards and award amounts depend on the funds available.
Eligibility: Aboriginal ancestry. (Living in British Columbia at the time of application. (Preference will be given to young people. (Must be a student at an accredited university or college. (Must complete application form, provide two references and supply an official copy of transcripts.
Duration: Recipients may apply for further award in a subsequent year.
Deadline: May be received at any time for consideration at periodic meetings of the Board.
Information: Lucy Galloway
P.O. Box 883
Qualicum Beach, British Columbia V9K 1T2
Phone: (250) 752-8785 Fax: (250) 752-3076

Joe P Cardinal Bursary/Internship Award (Aboriginal Multi Media Society (AMMSA)
AMMSA is pleased to offer an annual Bursary/ Internship Award to an Aboriginal student to further their education in communications specializing in broadcasting and/or journalism. This Bursary is intended to assist students in the 2nd or subsequent years of a degree program in radio broadcasting or journalism.
The Bursary is named to honour Joe P. Cardinal, Elder, AMMSA Board Member and leader who believed communications was key to greater understanding between people and cultures.
Applicants MUST: Be First Nations, Inuit or Métis, hold permanent Canadian resident status and have in Alberta (Be enrolled in the 2nd year (or beyond) of a Canadian post secondary Journalism or Radio ... Television Arts Program or Equivalent Certified Training Program (as recognized by Alberta Learning) and be able to produce a transcript of grades from the 1st year (Be available to participate in a 4 week internship program at AMMSA at the completion of the school year. (There is an opportunity for the internship to be extended to a 4 month paid internship.) (Be interested in acting as an ambassador for the broadcast industry and serving as a role model for other Aboriginal people to encourage them to pursue careers in broadcasting
Guidelines: (One bursary valued at \$4,000 will be awarded each year. This award may be applied to academic and/or living costs. An additional \$1,000 will be awarded to the student for their participation in the AMMSA Internship program.
Bursary recipients are eligible for continued scholarship awards each year they continue in the approved programs in the amount of \$2,500 annually to a maximum of \$10,000
Selection Committee:
The management team of AMMSA will grade each application on the criteria outlined
Deadline for submissions: May 30
Please submit to Selection Committee
AMMSA Bursary
13245 - 146 Street Edmonton, AB T5L 4S8
On-line: www.ammsa.com

The Belcourt Brosseau Métis Awards
Value: \$2,000 - \$9,000
If you are a Métis residing in Alberta and need financial help to pursue your education or upgrade your skills, a Belcourt Brosseau Métis Award can help you take the next step. It will give you the opportunity to continue your education by covering a portion of your tuition costs.

Deadline: March 31

For more information call: 1-866-626-0015
Web site: www.bbma.ca

Alberta Blue Cross 50th Anniversary Scholarships for Aboriginal Students

Closing date: September 20

Value: Varies (\$375 - \$1,250 depending on institution)

Number of Awards: Three

Applicants must be Registered Indian, Inuit or Métis and must have been residents of Alberta during their previous year of study. Applicants must have just completed their final year of high school and be entering into the first year of post-secondary studies at an accredited Alberta post-secondary institution.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the results as shown on their Alberta Education High School transcript. The top five courses with a minimum five credit value will be averaged to determine a percentage score. Financial need and community involvement will also be evaluated in determining the recipients of the scholarship. (Students will be ineligible if receiving more than \$3,500 in other scholarships or bursaries for the current academic year.)

Field of Study: Any full time program of two or more years duration.

Accredited Institutions: Alberta College of Art ... Design, Ambrose University College, Athabasca University, Augustana University College (U of A), Blue Quills First Nations College, Bow Valley College, Canadian University College, Concordia University College, Fairview College (NAIT), Grande Prairie Regional College Keyano College, King's University College, The Lakeland College, Lethbridge College, MacEwan College, Maskwachee Cultural College, Medicine Hat College, Mount Royal College, NAIT, NorQuest College Northern Lakes College, Olds College, Old Sun Community College, Portage College, Red Deer College, SAIT, University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge

Applications should be sent to:

Alberta Blue Cross (Corporate Offices) 10009-108 Street NW (Edmonton AB T5J 3C5) (Fax: (780) 498-8096)

web site: www.ab.bluecross.ca

Andy Collins Memorial Scholarship

Eligibility Requirements

Applicant must be of Aboriginal ancestry within

Zone II Metis Nation of Alberta regional boundaries *Entering a field in one of the following areas: oil and gas, music or sports *Entering or enrolled in a post-secondary educational institute *Must demonstrate a financial need

Applications Process Fill out an application form available at the Zone II Regional Council office in Bonnyville. Attach the following with your application: Letter of Acceptance or proof of enrollment from the institute, short type-written profile on yourself and proof of Aboriginal ancestry. Applications will be accepted from January 15 of each year to July 1st. A panel will review all applications. Two letters of support must be submitted with application.

For More information:

Zone II Regional Council Métis Nation of Alberta

Box 6497 Bonnyville, AB T9N 2H7

Phone: 780-826-7483

Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc. Scholarships

Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc. has announced that they will provide six \$1,000 cash bursaries to any qualifying Métis individuals that are in their first year of Post-Secondary education.

All the applicant needs to do is go to our web site at www.apeetogosan.com to receive a copy of the details and application.

Michael Ivy, General Manager

Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc.

#302, 12308 - 111 Avenue

Edmonton AB T5M 2N4

Phone: 780-452-7951 Toll Free: 1-800-252-7963

www.apeetogosan.com

Alberta Apprenticeship Scholarship Program

Number: 165

Value: \$1000

Alberta industry is in desperate need of skilled tradespeople.

Funding for the Scholarship program was raised through an industry and government fund-matching campaign. Industry, with support from the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AAIT) Board, raised a grand total of \$1.3 million and Alberta Learning committed to match the double of industry's contributions up to \$1 million.

The first Alberta Apprentice Scholarships will be awarded in Fall 2002. (Complete criteria

and applications will be available later this spring at www.tradesecrets.org and at local Alberta Apprenticeship Industry Training offices.

Information:

Fairview College

Financial Services Department

Toll free 1-888-999-7882, ext.654

E-mail: sbough@fairviewcollege.com

TransAlta Aboriginal Awards Program - please see our ad on page 3.

Each year, TranAlta offers up to seven \$3,000 bursaries to Aboriginal students attending full-time college or university programs and up to three \$1,000 bursaries for those in full-time trades programs. The annual deadline to apply is September 15th.

For information please visit

www.transalta.com/communities/aboriginal

or contact Aboriginal Relations at 403-267-7630 (Janet Janvier)

Syncrude Aboriginal and Women Education Awards Program

Deadline: June 30

Two awards of \$2000.00 each for Aboriginal people attending post secondary educational institutions in programs related to the oil sands industry (i.e. engineering, computer science, technologists etc.)

Two awards of \$2000.00 each for Aboriginal people attending post secondary educational institutions pursuing studies in the Finance/Accounting/Business disciplines.

Two awards of \$2000.00 each for women attending post secondary institutions pursuing a degree in Science & Technology.

Eligibility: Aboriginal peoples (Indian, Inuit & Métis) Women pursuing studies in science ... technology

You must: have lived in Alberta for at least one year immediately prior to applying for the award, or formerly long-term residents; meet the academic requirements for the program of study; maintain a full course work load leading to a recognized degree or diploma; provide proof of acceptance into accredited colleges or universities within Canada (must be provided before awards are received)

A selection committee, comprised of Syncrude employees and community members will evaluate applications and its decision will be final.

Criteria to be used in selecting award recipients are: financial need, academic performance

and potential, and appropriateness of the discipline of studies to Syncrude.

Syncrude Canada Ltd. will notify all applicants, in writing, of the results no later than mid-August.

For further information regarding this award program contact Lana Agecutay at Phone: (780) 790-6356

E-mail: agecutay.lana@syncrude.com

Syncrude Aboriginal/Women

Education Awards Program

P.O. Bag 4023, M.D. 1200, Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 3L5

Web Site: www.syncrude.com

ALPac Aboriginal Education Partnership Program - please see our ad on page 9.

Award: Varies - full tuition for maximum five year period

Deadline: May 30.

Eligibility: Aboriginal person residing in Alberta-Pacific Forest Management area for at least one year pursuing post-secondary studies leading to a recognized degree certificate or diploma. Must possess suitable attitude and be willing to participate in a partnership.

Contact 1-800-661-5210

Theodore R. Campbell Scholarship

Deadline is June 1.

This scholarship was created to reward the accomplishments of an aboriginal student from Blue Quills First Nations College. The scholarship was established by the family of Ted R. Campbell through the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund Endowment Program.

Eligibility: Applicants must be Alberta residents who have completed the first year of an Education degree (university transfer) at Blue Quills First Nations College. Applicants must have completed a minimum of 24 credits with passing marks in all courses. The applicant must be continuing in the Education program. Selection: Blue Quills will determine the qualifying applicant based on their 1st year grade point average.

Award: Each year 1 scholarship of \$1,500 will be awarded.

Application forms are available from the Research and Planning Office at Blue Quills College

OR

Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund (AHSF)

9th Floor - 9940 106 Street

Box 28000 Station Main

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4

Phone (780) 427-8640

In Alberta, but outside Edmonton dial 310-0000

Gabriel Dumont Institute - Métis Health and Wellness Scholarship

The Gabriel Dumont Institute, in partnership with the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the Métis National Council, is pleased to offer funding for Métis students entering into, or already involved in, health related studies.

Applicants must be Métis, a Saskatchewan resident for at least one year, provide proof of acceptance to Dumont Technical Institute, Gabriel Dumont College, University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, SIAST, or a regional college, meet academic qualifications and include letters of support from a Métis community member and personal reference.

The application form is available on the Gabriel Dumont Institute website at: www.gdins.org.

For more information, please contact:

Coordinator, Métis Health and Wellness Scholarship Program 219 Robin Crescent

Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M8

Ph: 306-934-5927 Fax: 306-934-5928

Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation - Alberta's Future Leaders Program

For young people of Alberta's indigenous communities

Program will use sport, recreation and the local environment to address the needs of Alberta's indigenous youth

Contact: (780) 422-7110

Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation, Edmonton, Alberta

Windspeaker's Aboriginal Scholarship Guide only lists the portion of the funding currently available to Aboriginal students. There are many more listings posted online at www.ammsa.com. did not have room to include in this year's Guide.

Please visit our web site to get a comprehensive list: www.ammsa.com

This online list is updated throughout the year as new information becomes available.

If you would like to add/update scholarship information from your school or organization please forward the information via email to us at: market@ammsa.com

BOW VALLEY COLLEGE

Unleash your potential

Bow Valley College provides a nurturing environment for our community of Aboriginal learners.

Our Aboriginal Centre offers:

- Student support programs and activities
- Cultural teachings
- Academic assistance for student success
- Access to an Elder for cultural and spiritual consultation.

Check out bowvalleycollege.ca for information about financial aid and scholarships, including the I Yii Kakimat (Try Hard) Award and the Scobey Hartley Memorial Endowment.



Aboriginal Centre
BVC North Campus
403-410-1786

332 - 6 Avenue SE
Calgary, AB, T2G 4S6



Elijah Wells, BVC student, Dila Provost, Elder, and Teresa O'Krane, BVC alumna

Kind and considered response to grown up experiences

Dear Auntie:

My 15-year-old daughter just told me that she is expecting. I want to be happy that a new life will be brought into the world, but I have to admit. I'm very disappointed that my baby is having a baby. I always encouraged all my kids (five) to do well in school and have a career. I thought she was on the right track, but now not only will she be leaving school, I will have another mouth to feed in my house. What can I do to support her as a new, but young and inexperienced mother, while still showing my other kids that this is not what I want for them in life?

Signed Future Grandma

Dear Future Grandma:

The bittersweet news of new life—babies having babies! There was a time in many of our Indigenous cultures when having a baby at 15 was not uncommon. The entire community supports in traditional times were also wired for helping each other. I remember one of my grannies thinking I was an old maid at 17 because I did not have children. Your daughter has a great start



DEAR AUNTIE
By J'net AyAy Qwa
Yak Sheelth Cavanagh

with your seasoned experience of raising five children. Start with a hug and talk with one another and you both can be honest with your feelings, fears, uncertainties and joy of new life. Be sure to have some tissues for tears that can be burned after your talk and sent out on the winds into creation along with the fears and doubts.

Come from a place of softness and kindness, and model real-time grown up responses to grown up moments. Disappointment and anger is about you, and not about what your daughter and what this baby will need. Get informed and let your daughter take the lead in thinking about the additional support she can pull

into her life that will weave a stronger safety net for her and the baby.

Start with a blank piece of paper and give her the pen to write who else she can work with for support. The Internet could even be helpful. As a Future Grandma you can also try to think of peers to talk to who may have teens with children in order to prepare yourself.

Luckily, school is not going anywhere. It is here to stay and your daughter can make this part of her plan. The father of the baby can be involved and this may take another cup of tea and two pieces of bannock to sort out. The focus is the health and safety of the mother and we can hope the father is a loving part

of this growing family.

In our fast-paced world we sometimes forget to check in with our younger children during these stressful times. With a brave face we inform them what's happening and then that's often the end of discussion. Once you and your daughter have checked in, shared feelings and developed a stronger understanding of how grown up an experience this will be for both of you, find out what the younger ones are thinking and feeling. Motherhood is a stepping-stone to becoming a grandmother... I wish you early congratulations.

Lovingly Auntie

Dear Auntie:

I thought I had good friends, but recently on facebook there have been a few people talking about me and spreading bad rumours. I don't want my friends and family to believe what these people are saying about me, but if I answer the rumours on facebook the comments and lies about me just get worse. I feel like things are getting out of control and I am powerless to stop it. What should I do? I'm very upset about this.

Signed Virtually Bullied

Dear Virtually Bullied:

I am sad to hear you feel the bitterness of rumours online. It's terrible to have facebook show which of your peers participates in being virtually rude and disrespectful. Whether you are in a small village or living in the urban rez there is a wounded part of our community that are the crabs in the bucket that pull at other people trying to get out or live in wellness.

Being different, new or returning to the community, single or educated can be among the many reasons to be a target for being belittled and teased. Insecurity and a need to feel in control is what drives the person spreading the rumour because perhaps you have something someone else doesn't. You're a threat, unexpected competition and many other fear-filled reasons someone wants to put you in your place.

It is a pecking order attitude learned in residential school. Generations of children were raised military-style with training based on who has power and authority. An old school way of thinking that haunts our communities and holds people back from remembering the old ways of living well together.

Rumours are not cultural. Rumours have the bitter taste of jealousy, envy and reveal a whole lot of insecurity about the messenger. The messenger is puffed up with virtual courage and really showing off their small-mindedness online.

Stay out of harm's way and surround yourself with family and friends that show you unconditional love and respect. Perhaps ask for support from people or service providers to organize workshops on how to handle cyber bullying.

My toothless dad gave me comfort once when he declared "it does not matter what people think because they are going to think it anyways." Stand in your truth and take care not to become part of the problem or defensive and reactionary. This will just suck you into giving your power away to the virtual bully.

You have privacy options on facebook you can work with to delete these people. However, you will still see their discussions if you happen to keep any mutual friends, so the next level of privacy is to block these people. Those are anti-stress options to stop torturing yourself from reading the rumours and giving yourself distance from others yanking your chain.

If you felt you had self-control to not read what is being written you could ignore comments from certain friends and visit online without giving the person any energy.

Lovingly Auntie

Editor's Note: The Ask Auntie column is published for readers' entertainment and consideration only. The opinions expressed are those of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by Windspeaker or the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society.

Rank Comix

by Adam Martin

FIRST NATION PEOPLE WHO VOTE IN THE FEDERAL ELECTION ARE HYPOCRITES AND SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT OPPRESSION. NOW IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME, I MUST FILE MY INCOME TAX.



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Windspeaker: What one quality do you most value in a friend?

MAL: Integrity.

W: What is it that really makes you mad?

MAL: Feeling useless. It can be frustrating being in film, because sometimes I doubt myself if I don't have the latest and greatest equipment. You just have to get over that and shoot something.

W: When are you at your happiest?

MAL: I'm happiest when I finish a film and complete that loop. Film can take a long time from concept to distribution, so I work on other projects as a cinematographer or editor. I'm healthy and happy as long as I'm busy and especially if I'm helping someone else.

W: What one word best describes you when you are at your worst?

MAL: Apathetic.

W: What one person do you most admire and why?

MAL: My wife. She is always encouraging and supporting others, including me, while accomplishing her own projects.

W: What is the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

MAL: Putting myself out there has been difficult. I'm my own worst critic. This can be good during production if you use it

to make the film better as long as it doesn't get in the way, but when your film is done and out at festivals, you have to let it have its own life. You can never really know what other people will see in your work or where it will go.

W: What is your greatest accomplishment?

MAL: My son and soon-to-be-born daughter are the greatest gifts. They've taught me to be a kid again and just play.

W: What one goal remains out of reach?

MAL: I'm developing features that I hope to direct in the future. One way is to shoot a low budget indie feature on my own. Another is to master directing short films. It's important to get more experience directing before expecting support (without having to hand the film over), but I'm confident that it will be within reach soon.

W: If you couldn't do what you're doing today, what would you be doing?

MAL: Right now I'm working in film, but I'm interested in web comics, animation, and video games. I've recently been inspired by writing for an animated series. I'd also like to design video games with Cree language and culture for my children.

W: What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

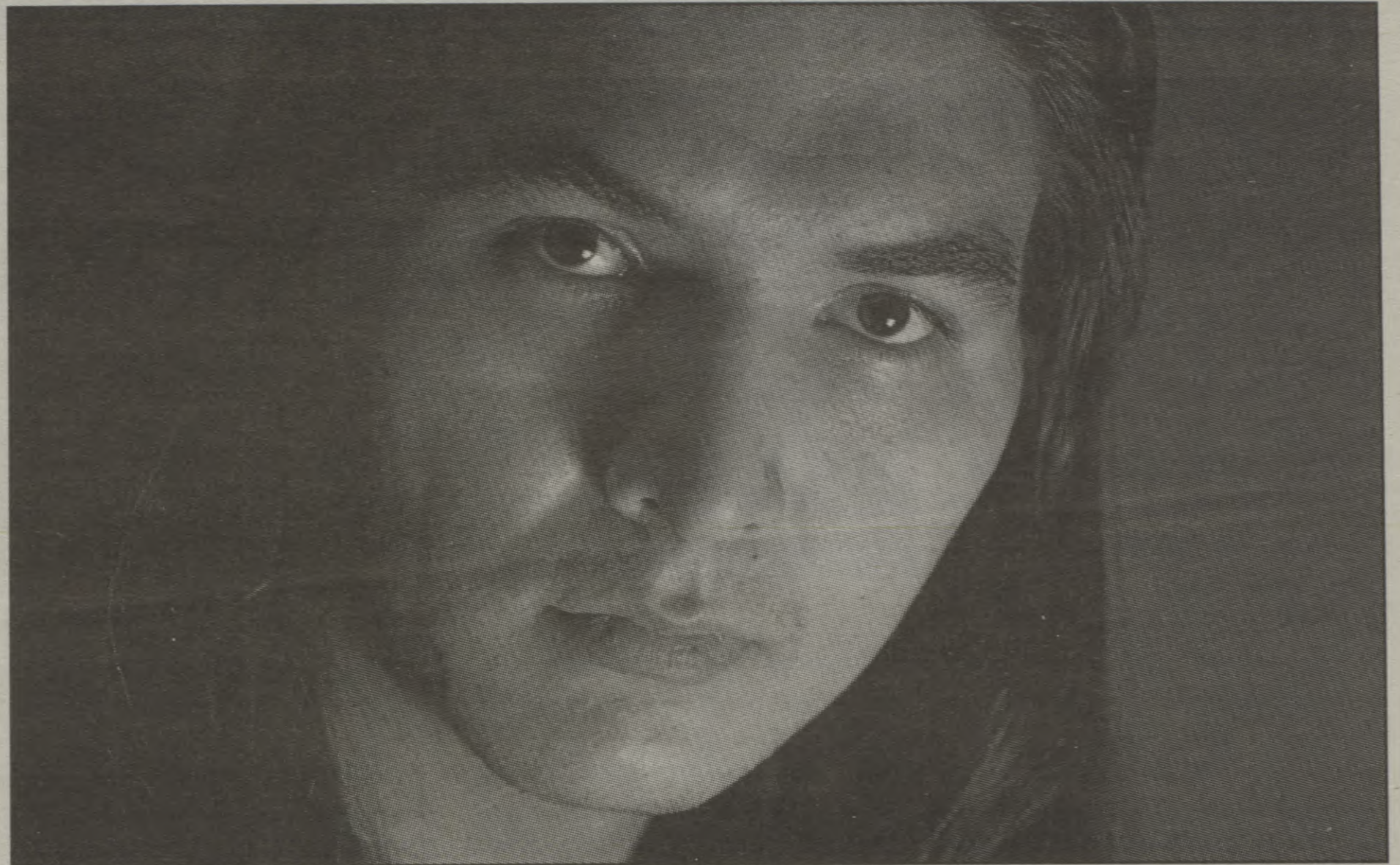


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Myron A. Lameman

MAL: It's important to be mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually balanced.

W: Did you take it?

MAL: It's an ongoing process that I feel I've made improvements with thanks to support from friends and family.

W: How do you hope to be remembered?

MAL: As a good husband, dad, and artist who made some provocative stuff.

Myron A. Lameman comes from Beaver Lake Cree Nation

in Alberta. He is a 2008 graduate of the Capilano University in North Vancouver, BC and during that time he was a part of the Indigenous Independent Digital Filmmaking and Advanced Cinematography program. During his time there he created a seven-minute short film called Mihkoh and an additional 20-minute continuation called Nipiwini. Lameman said that Mihkoh and Nipiwini "speak strongly to the work I continue to pursue, films with political, social or cultural perspectives imagining alternative histories and futures

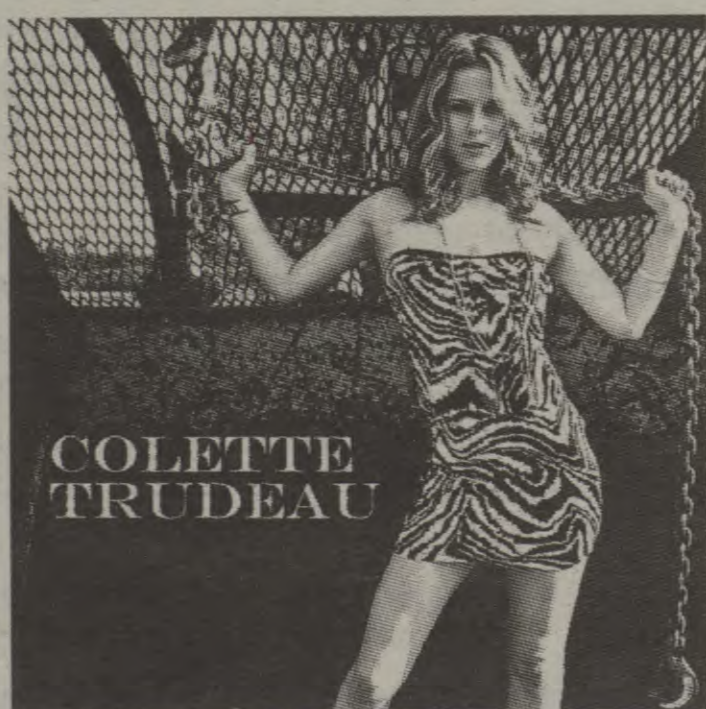
of Indigenous people and the land."

More recently Lameman has written, directed, edited and done the cinematography on Blue in the Face, a comedy short released in October 2010 dealing with the effect of a popular Hollywood film on one of its Native viewers. His newest documentary, released in 2011, is Extraction. It deals with the effects of oil extraction from the Alberta tar sands on his home reserve's people, wildlife and land. He received funding support from the National Geographic's All Roads Film Project.

[radio's most active]

OUR PICK

Artist—Colette Trudeau
Song—Freeze
Album—Colette Trudeau
Label—Independent



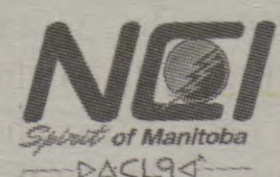
Back in the late 1970's, an artist named Pat Benatar broke the airwaves with a music style few women had ventured into and survived. Benatar proved year after year that she could rock with the best of them, scoring hit after hit and demonstrating that women had a place in the rock music industry. But over the decades, there have not been many iconic women rockers. As I listen to this album release from Colette Trudeau, I'm reminded of those days when rock and roll was ruled by men and women sang nice songs. Colette's debut album is full of songs supported by power chord guitar riffs traditionally associated with the music from 80's rock bands who ruled what is today fondly remembered as classic rock. Colette's voice easily compares with female artists who are more widely known – it is an instrument possessing consistent power and tone. The opening song "I Don't Wanna Know" is clearly designed for radio – it'll stick in your head long after it ends.† But then, there are a number of songs like that on this CD – my personal favorite is "Freeze" due to its catchy vocal and melody. Colette covers a few ballads too, expressing typical sentiments of the young with songs of love and desire, relationships, trust and loyalty, hopes and dreams. To sum up this CD, Colette Trudeau is refreshing, uplifting, cheerful, and confident, all offered with a strong commercial rock sound. I look forward to her next release and hope that the rock persona this Métis singer/songwriter projects is as genuine as it feels on this one.

Review by K. Kanten

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Anita Issaluk	Healing Through Song	Arctic Wind
Elisapie Isaac	Out Of Desperation	There Will Be Stars
Art Napoleon	Wild Flowers	Creeland Covers
Angus Jourdain	Waiting	Single Release
Alexander McKay	Trapper	Single Release
Ghostkeeper	By Morning	Ghostkeeper
Yvonne St. Germaine	Tennessee Sky	Tennessee Sky
Kinnie Starr	A Different Day	A Different Day
Ron Loutit	Why Don't You Call	Where I Come From
Little Hawk	Metis Princess	Vigilance
CerAmony	Shine Alive	CerAmony
Rebecca Miller	Wouldn't Change You	Single Release
D'Aoust Brothers	Closer To Home	Single Release
Victoria Blackie	Don't Make Me Love You	Wanted Man
Lucie Idlout	Lovely Irene	Swagger
Wayne Lavallee	Big Country	Trail Of Tears
Damien Cheecham	Take Your Soul Away	Damien Cheecham
Jade Turner	Half An Hour	Thanks To You
Chrome 204	Meant To Be	Single Release
Crystal Shawanda	Fight For Me	Fight For Me

CONTRIBUTING STATIONS:



[business]

First Nations receive camp construction contract

One of the largest ever contracts awarded by BC Hydro to a First Nations has been given to Sexqelkemoc of the Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation.

As part of the regeneration program to meet British Columbia's growing need for electricity, BC Hydro announced that Horizon North Camps and Catering Partnership will develop a temporary "home away from home" for about 250 contractor employees involved in the Mica Units 5 & 6 project.

Horizon North Camps and Catering Partnership is a limited partnership with the Sexqelkemoc of the Secwepemc Nation, also known as the Lakes Division, which consists of the Adams Lake, Neskonlith and Splatsin. Specializing in the construction and servicing of remote work camps, Horizon North Camps has its B.C. headquarters in Kamloops.

Contractor employees will work out of temporary modular dormitories as they prepare to install two 135-metric-tonne generating units into empty bays at the Mica Generating Station, resulting in the addition of 1,000 megawatts of capacity to BC Hydro's system. This additional capacity, which will facilitate service to about 80,000 additional homes during peak demand periods, has an in-service date of 2014 for Mica Unit 5 and 2015 for Mica Unit 6.

The temporary housing and catering facilities will be fabricated in Kamloops by Horizon North's subsidiary Northern Trailer and will be delivered beginning in June with the camp scheduled to be in full operation by August 2011. In addition to single-room



Artists rendering of employee camps.

dormitories, the camp facilities will include a service complex which will house recreation, administration, first aid, security, kitchen and dining, luggage storage and laundry facilities. All facilities will adhere to energy efficient standards guided by BC Hydro's Power Smart recommendations.

Horizon has more than 30 years experience in providing camps, camp management and catering to industry working in remote locations.

"Throughout the traditional territory, Secwepemc leaders are open to partnerships that will generate opportunity for our people and for our neighbours," said Kukpi7 Christian, Splatsin, spokesperson for the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council. "We believe in the statement made by our ancestral leaders in 1910: 'What is ours will be theirs, and what is theirs will be ours. We will help each other to be great and good.' As this contract demonstrates, all British Columbians benefit when their government and its agencies work with us."

"This project with the Sexqelkemoc of the Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation is a great example of what can happen when partnerships with First Nations are formed in the early stages of a

project," said Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister Mary Polak.

"We're confident that the First Nations from the Shuswap Lakes Division teamed with Horizon North from Kamloops will deliver a first class product," said Chris O'Riley, BC Hydro's Generation Executive Vice President. "The awarding of this contract is another important milestone for this project and we look forward to working with First Nations from the Secwepemc Nation to help foster future economic development opportunities."

This is the second project awarded to First Nations in support of the Mica 5 and 6 Project. Last summer, BC Hydro awarded a contract to Kinbasket Integrated Project Management (KIPM) to perform water, sewer and service upgrades at the Mica town site for the project. KIPM is comprised of three Secwepemc Nation bands: Shuswap, Simpcw and Little Shuswap. Phase one of that work, preparing the dormitory pads and water, sewer and electrical services for the camp, began last August and continued through until October 2010. Phase two of the contract, to complete the site preparation work, will be finished this spring, prior to delivery of the work camp dormitories.

Province accused of dragging its heels

The Adams Lake Indian Band says it's not against the development of Sun Peaks Resort, but it insists on being consulted on the incorporation of the area as a municipality. It has been six weeks since the B.C. Supreme Court ruled that the province had failed to fulfill its duty to consult and accommodate the Adams Lake Indian Band (a member of the Secwepemc Nation) with respect to the incorporation of the Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality, said Chief Nelson Leon, and Adams Lake is still waiting for the province to come to the negotiation table.

On March 4, the court ordered the province to consult with the Adams Lake Indian Band on the impacts of the incorporation to their rights and title. Deep consultation was the medicine the court ordered to ensure that the Adams Lake Band would not get sidelined by stakeholders while the municipality continues to do business and make decisions affecting the band's traditional

territory, said Leon.

He said Adams Lake is wondering whether the province has any intention of ever seriously addressing the band's concerns, which have been historically ignored in the creation of the Sun Peaks ski resort, and now in its development and the creation of the Village.

On top of this, the province has decided to appeal the decision and challenge the ruling, said Leon, showing that it is ready to fight rather than to work with the First Nations to find a common future at Sun Peaks.

"Adams Lake Indian Band is extremely disappointed with the decision of the province to file for appeal," Leon said, adding the decision shows that rather than finding a way to move forward together, the decision to appeal displays the attitude that got the province into this mess in the first place.

"The province has ignored our concerns about the incorporation of Sun Peaks from day one," said

the chief, "and now the province is shirking from its responsibilities handed down from the court to work with Adams Lake to find a common future with the Municipality at Sun Peaks." Adams Lake has said from the outset that we are not against development, confirmed Chief Leon, "but we want to be at the table, we want to be part of moving forward and to ensure the protection of our land, our rights and our culture. Now that the justice system has finally given Adams Lake Band the chance to be at the table, the province turns and walks away."

"What message does this send to the world? That our First Nation has no place in the future at Sun Peaks, that the province does not have to follow BC Supreme Court orders? That can't be right."

The chief said the Adams Lake band is frustrated that when the law favors "and orders us to work together to achieve reconciliation at Sun Peaks, the province turns the other way."

Business Briefs

A FISHING STRATEGY FOR 27

First Nations across northeastern Ontario will be developed by the Waubetek Business Development Corporation on Manitoulin Island. The Whitefish River-based organization received more than \$44,000 from FedNor, a regional development organization, and will use it to enhance First Nations involvement in commercial fisheries, aquaculture, fish processing, and related industries. The long-term strategic plan for fisheries will outline steps to enhance business capabilities and identify new business ventures, as well as value-added opportunities. "This comprehensive strategy will help us to lay the groundwork for strategic alliances, opening doors to markets," said Waubetek chair Martin Bayer. Funding for the project flowed through the Northern Ontario Development Program, which funds projects focused on economic development, business growth, and innovation.

THE CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK

First Nations, along with the Dakwakada Development Corp., has signed a protocol agreement with Yukon Energy Corp. to develop geothermal and biomass energy sources and create jobs for its members. Champagne and Aishihik hope to use 400,000 hectares of dead trees on its traditional territory to create energy. Yukon Energy spokesperson Janet Patterson said the utility is hoping for more partnerships with First Nations, but the relationship with Aboriginal groups has not always been solid, including with Champagne and Aishihik, due to the hydroelectric developments on Aishihik Lake. This agreement may help to put those difficulties behind them.

NORTHERN LABRADOR'S INUIT

government says mining companies can't pressure it to make a decision about lifting a ban on uranium mining. Nunatsiavut Lands and Resources Minister Glenn Sheppard said he understands the moratorium is costing companies money, but a mining plan must be developed before work can continue. The moratorium was put in place in 2008. Crosshair Exploration's Mark Morabito said the moratorium has been difficult for his company as it had scared off investors. "Clearly after three years [Nunatsiavut] should have had enough time to look at whatever they feel the risks were," Morabito said. The moratorium requires that a mining review be done, but there are no plans for one yet. In Baker Lake, Nunavut, a huge complex of uranium mines is being proposed, in the middle of important caribou habitat. The community faces the choice of allowing the mine to proceed for jobs, business opportunities, and royalties, or protect the wildlife, the ecosystem, and the community. It was uranium exploration, and its impacts on the life-giving caribou herds, that helped start the whole land claims process for Inuit in Nunavut, reads Rabble.ca. "In Baker Lake, a proposed uranium mine called 'Kiggavik' became the centre of controversy in the late 1980s and it was withdrawn from the environmental assessment process in 1990 after the community voted 90 per cent against uranium mining."

KEITH MATTHEW, THE FORMER

chief of Simpcw First Nation, has been named as an advisor to the board of directors of Yellowhead Mining Inc, reports chair T. Greg Hawkins. The announcement also names Paul Sweeney, recently retired executive officer of Plutonic Power Corporation, as a fellow advisor. "As we move the Harper Creek project through the development stages we will need direct access to the variety of skills that these gentlemen bring to Yellowhead in the fields of Community Relations, Project Finance and Project Development. Each of the individuals is a recognized and accomplished practitioner and we are fortunate to have gained their participation in our future," said Hawkins. Matthew is a journalist and a long-time First Nations leader. While serving as a chief he concluded several major impact benefit agreements with Kinder Morgan Canada and Canadian Hydro Developers. He was also instrumental in the creation of both Simpcw Resources Ltd., the business arm of Simpcw First Nation, and Simpcw Heritage Trust, the wealth management arm of the community.

THE TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

has signed with two property developers, Ivanhoe Cambridge and the Property Development Group, to convert 175 acres of land into a retail complex. "It will be the signature shopping centre in the province," said Chris Hartman, Tsawwassen First Nation's Economic Development Corporation CEO. "A project like this will have a draw much further than the Lower Mainland. You have a significant population on [Vancouver] Island without a facility like this. There's also significant traffic passing by the site going to BC Ferries. And it will draw people from other parts of the province," Hartman said in an interview with the Vancouver Sun. The project, which includes 1.8 million square feet of retail, office, entertainment and other space, would start construction in late 2012. The first phase is expected to open in 2013 and the proposed project would be completed by 2015 at the latest.

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

Native artists find their voice through film

By Shauna Lewis
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

Tenacity and hard work has paid off for three Aboriginal filmmakers from Vancouver after their films won the honors in a digital short film competition hosted in collaboration with the Aboriginal People's Television Network [APTN] and Capilano University's Indigenous Independent Filmmaking Program [IIDF].

Twelve talented film students and past graduates of IIDF competed. Winners were chosen through online viewer votes. The winning artists are Jay Cardinal Villeneuve, who scored first place for his film 'Reserved for Hollywood,' Len Lindstrom, who took second for 'Lost,' and Judson Pooyak, who placed third for his digital short 'Boogie.'

Villeneuve, 34, called the win "humbling."

"I feel really good. I was completely surprised and in shock," the soft-spoken artist said.

Villeneuve, who is a member of the Sub Arctic Cree/Métis nation,

won \$3,000 for his digital short. He says the competition helped to further conceptualize the film, which he says is a work-in-progress.

Villeneuve's winning film, 'Reserved for Hollywood,' is a refreshing mix of tongue-in-cheek one-liners and parody. The film tells the story of three wannabe players, a producer [played by Villeneuve himself], an actor and an agent [played by Lorne Cardinal].

"It's a parody of ourselves," the filmmaker laughs.

"It's a satirical look at the [film] industry from a First Nations' perspective," he added. "We don't take ourselves too seriously in the show. What I wanted to do was look at the stereotype of the typical Hollywood Indian and show that with some slap stick," Villeneuve explained.

Villeneuve plans to pitch the short to APTN as a series in the future.

"We've got the storyline developed and now we have to propose it," he said, adding that he has a producer interested in the film.

While his passion is in creating

feature films with neo-horror, film noir undercurrents, Villeneuve, a father of two, has also recently tried his hand at children's films. He says family is key to his success.

"Growing up in a big family, they supported me when I was on stage or in theatre shows or playing music," he said. Villeneuve is a drummer, both traditional and mainstream.

Len Lindstrom, the second place filmmaker, worked as the cinematographer for "Reserved for Hollywood."

"I totally feel like I won twice," he said.

"It was always just a dream," Lindstrom said of his aspiring film career. Lindstrom grew up on the Vancouver Island west coast First Nations community of Tseshaht. He has many short films under his belt, including one about sex addiction titled "Only Once," and another humorously called "Where You From, Indian?"

But Lindstrom is not solely a fiction filmmaker. Creating short documentaries is also a labor of love for the 33-year-old. With his historically-inspired bio-flicks "Indian Cowboys" and "Ha-Shilth-Sa Bob," Lindstrom is



PHOTO: SHAUNA LEWIS

Doreen Manuel is the program coordinator with Capilano University's Indigenous Independent Filmmaking Program.

refreshingly well-rounded in his craft.

"Ha-Shith-Sa Bob" is a work-in-progress, explained Lindstrom. He said the film is homage to the Nuu-chah-nulth newspaper's first editor, Bob Soderlund. Lindstrom plans to give the film as a gift to his community to be held in their archives when the work is complete.

Lindstrom's film 'Lost' is a reflection of his childhood

struggles with domestic abuse. In the film, a young girl is trapped within a dysfunctional home and witnesses her mother's physical abuse at the hands of her step father. At the end of the three-minute film, viewers are left to ponder if the girl takes her life. It is that question mark that hovers over the film that points to Lindstrom's personal experience with abuse.

(Continued on page 17.)

Think about it

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PUBLIC HEALTHCARE

Pensions

Kids matter Teachers care



BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION
Authorized by financial agent Manchan Sono-chansingh, BC Teachers' Federation

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

(Continued from page 16.)

"It is my story," he said of the film. "I've seen a lot of physical abuses as a child and I didn't know where to turn," he said. "I didn't have any answers [and] that's why the film has no answers for the child," he explained.

"It makes you think: Did she jump or didn't she? She doesn't know where to turn and she doesn't want to get her father in trouble," he said "It [abuse] happens more than people think in First Nations communities," he said.

When asked what the most difficult part of following his filmmaking dream has been, Lindstrom doesn't hesitate.

"It's the poverty," he said, referring to the financial bind most students find themselves in when pursuing higher education.

Before being accepted in IIDF, Lindstrom was enrolled for two years in Vernon College to upgrade his education. While in Vernon, Lindstrom said being away from his wife and young child was extremely difficult. He also said living in student "poverty" proved to be one of the biggest obstacles on the path to fulfilling his dream.

Lindstrom said that going from earning nearly \$3,000 a month from his construction job to living off a measly \$600 a month was one of the biggest challenges he has faced. But he survived and today Lindstrom is on his third year of the five-year film program in Capilano University. He is currently taking courses in cinematography, and while he enjoys directing and acting, Lindstrom said being behind the camera is where he is meant to be.

Judson Pooyak said he is a jack-of-all-trades in the film industry.

"You have to be multifaceted and get your name out there," said the ambitious 33 year old, who has worked as an actor on the popular

television series 'North of 60', as well as dabbling in music, producing and directing.

Pooyak says his heart is in producing, adding that acting is not really his forte.

"I wasn't interesting in being a puppet, [and] good gigs are few and far between," he said of his history as an actor.

Like Lindstrom, Pooyak tapped personal inspiration to create his third-place winning digital short film, "Boogie."

"It's about a man getting back to his own groove in life," the laid-back Pooyak explains of his work. "It's personal," he continued. "I found that there are things I was struggling through and when I let go I [realized] I had to get back to what made me happy," he said.

The film delivers a simple yet profound message. 'Life is short; be good to one another.'

Pooyak said the film was shot in one day on a small budget of \$300 provided by APTN.

Sean Rickner, director of marketing at APTN, said the 'Short Cuts' competition featuring Capilano University IIDF students is a wonderful way to encourage youth to get involved in film.

"I think it's great to showcase young Aboriginal talent and encourage them into film," he said.

"It was great to be a part of." The winners were chosen by the public as viewers watched the films online and voted for their favorites. Online voting took place from mid December until the end of January. Winners were announced in February.

"We got quite a few hits," Rickner said of the online downloads to view the short films. "And in terms of votes we had over 2,300 voters," he added.

"We had some fantastic stuff. I hope people can realize these ways of telling stories," he said of

filmmaking.

Since IIDF began 10 years ago at Capilano University, there has been growing pains regarding the program's curriculum. But program coordinator Doreen Manuel has transformed the two-year diploma program to a three-year degree program and she is passionate about informing First Nations bands about the importance of media and filmmaking.

Manuel said she even mailed postcards, program brochures and documented student testimonials to community education departments, band offices and friendship centres across Canada hoping to gain interest in the program.

"I've done nothing but talk and talk about the importance of getting people interested in the industry," she said.

"When I first started we had a serious problem with enrolment," said Manuel. "I'd lose 30 per cent [of prospective students] right off the bat because they can't get funding," she explained. Manuel suspects that's because those in the industry rely heavily on contract work and not full-time hours, some communities are leery of promoting filmmaking as a viable career choice for their members.

"There's not the nine-to-five steady work," said Manuel. "But a lot of people in the industry own their own homes," she said, adding that contracted directors can typically make \$500 per day while cinematographers can expect \$300 a day.

Asked how she feels about her students' contest win, Manuel gushes.

"I think it's great! I had a strong feeling that Jay [Villeneuve] was going to win. It was so well-written and it was cute and funny," she said.

"Len's show surprised everybody," she continued. "It was



Len Lidsrom

written well and he did it about a pretty heavy and serious topic," she added. Manuel predicts that the issues in Lindstrom's film [suicide and abuse] resonated with residential school survivors as well.

"Judson's film was cute and funny and it had a good message," she said. "It was about keeping upbeat and that is Judson's personality," she added.

"I was so happy with every one of them," Manuel said, pointing to the remaining nine film students that competed. "Everyone had a different message and everyone came to the table," she said.

Manuel explained that the IIDF program is unique as it is created specifically for Indigenous filmmakers and run by Aboriginal industry professionals.

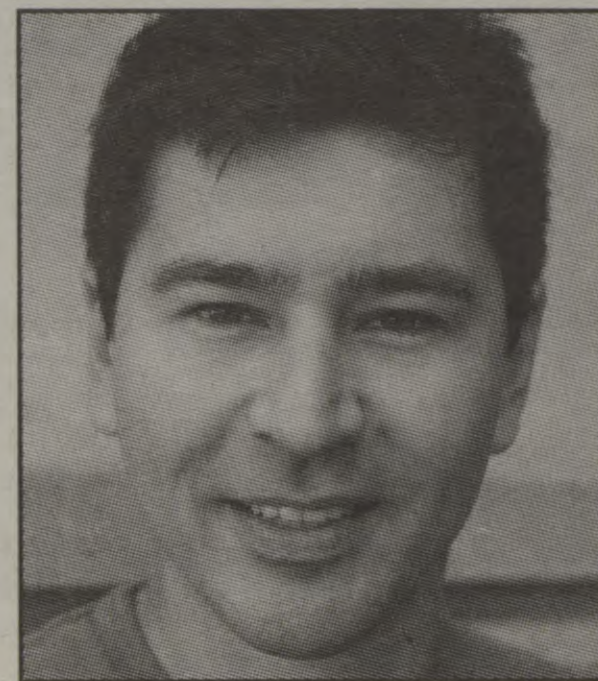
"It's role-modelling when you learn a craft from your people," she explained.

When asked what advice they would give to future young Aboriginal filmmakers, the contest winners say confidence and support is important.

"Find the good support and family network to help you get through-Healthy friends," said Lindstrom, adding that he has been sober for eight years.

"Once you get into it you can do it," he assured. "I don't regret anything."

"You defiantly have to believe



Judson Pooyak

in yourself," said Villeneuve. "If you want to be a filmmaker then I think you have to live it," he said. "You have to be what you want to be."

"You have to be multi-faceted and get your name out there for yourself," said Pooyak. He advises aspiring filmmakers to "keep creating and making good friends."

"It's all who you know," he said. "Be good to yourself so you can be open to inspiration."

"Come here to Hollywood north," added Villeneuve. "And if you have something to say, then say it," he urged.

Manuel said she is working on creating a pitch to APTN for another film contest later this year. She said the entire project cost \$50,000 and was completely funded by APTN.



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[health]

Artist's vision sparks new old way of life

By Kelly McCombe
Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO

Bossy Ducharme from Duck Bay, Man. had a vision, and from that vision he made a change that few would consider an easy one.

For one year he will only eat pre-European-contact foods indigenous to North America before colonization brought non-native plants and food sources to this county.

Why is he doing this? He says what began as a year-long documentary film project turned into a spiritual journey.

"The catalyst to this documentary was the startling statistics of high diabetes rates, over representation in the prison system and higher teen suicide rates in Aboriginal youth," said Ducharme.

"After coming from my vision and being afraid and crying in the fetal position for three hours and talking to the Spirit (universe) and getting angry, I wondered what would happen to my life if I just quit drinking. I wondered what would happen if I quit smoking. I wondered what would happen if I took out all this crap they brought to our land when they arrived."

Three years ago, I hit rock bottom, and I had a vision... an out of body experience where I started floating out of my body while I was watching myself sleep, and I floated out into space and looked down upon earth, and, long story short, I saw my death."

He said it began three years ago in the fall of 2007 that Ducharme had a yearly physical with blood tests. After the results were returned, the doctor told him it was serious and he was going to have a heart attack.

"I finally realized I wanted to live, to be happy, to make films,

to act/dance/sing, to get in shape, and most of all, to help my people. This is how I am going to contribute to the world we live in."

After hitting rock bottom, Ducharme realized it was not a good day to die, and this became the title of his upcoming documentary.

Ducharme has an online blog <https://sites.google.com/site/bossy1stnationdietjournal> that is frank and honest about his way of life before he began his pre-European-contact diet and spiritual journey. Rock bottom for him was drugs, alcohol, losing his job and housing and ending up in the shelter system, a place he was intimately familiar with from many times before.

He saw there was a way forward from that with a healthy balanced way of life that didn't include substance abuse, or a diet rich in saturated fats from fast food. He learned that one can eat a healthy traditional diet and reduce the risk of developing diabetes and other related health problems that plague so many in the Aboriginal community.

And he has gained supporters on his journey. People have given donations to him for wild rice, maple syrup and the meats necessary for his diet.

Last year on Sept. 21, 2010, after a lot of research on pre-contact diets, Ducharme turned his research into his daily reality. He didn't do this to lose weight; he did it because he believes it is the way Aboriginal people are meant to eat, and that he would be at optimal health ingesting only food that was native to North America.

It has been seven months since Ducharme committed to eating this way. His diet mainly consists of buffalo, deer, moose, wild rice, nuts, seeds and berries.

While it may seem restricting, and was a difficult transition for

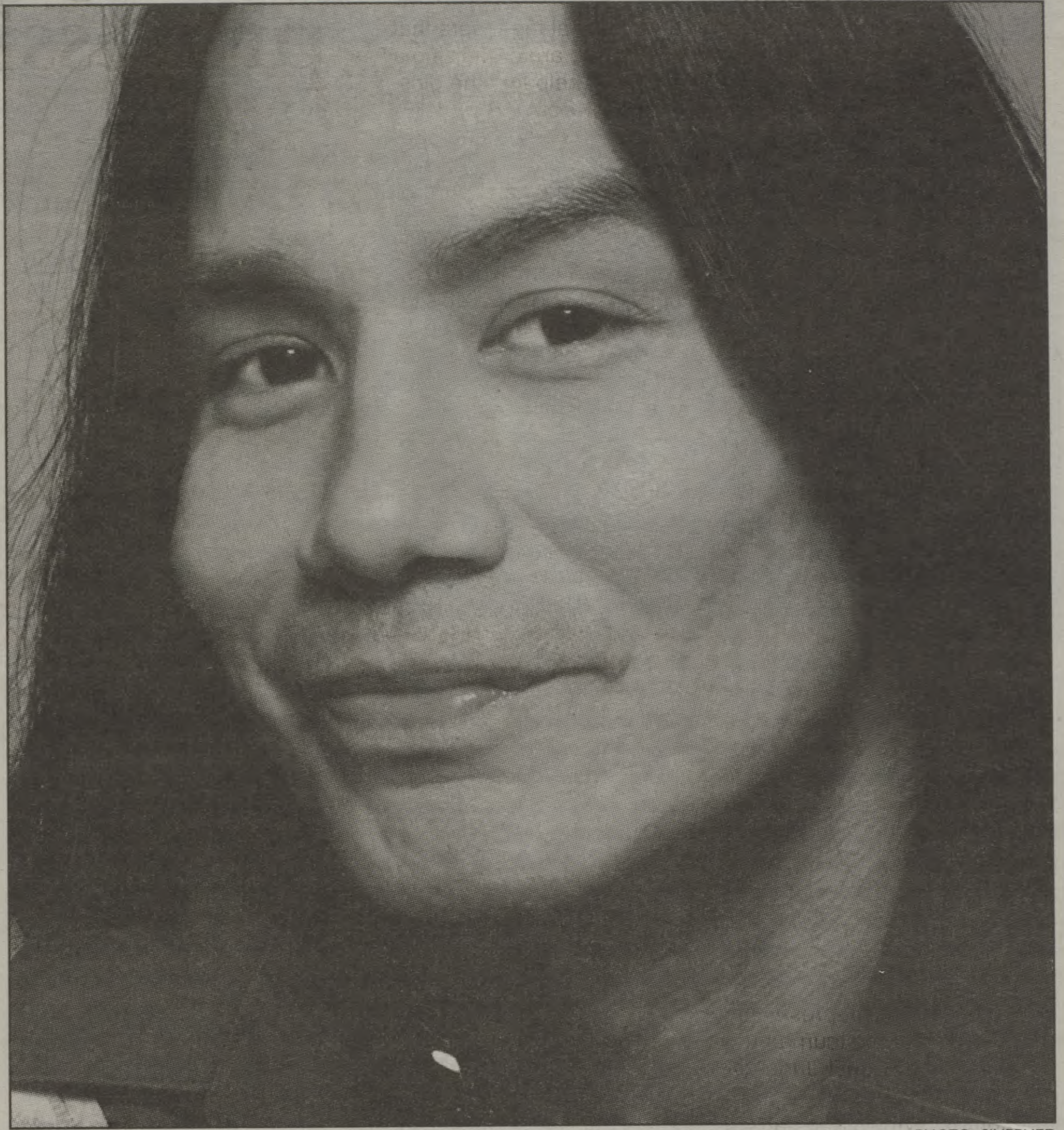


PHOTO: SIUPLIED

Bossy Ducharme

Ducharme initially, it has been the best decision he ever made.

Ducharme has lost over 70 pounds. His doctor says his health has improved and he feels peaceful and serene.

Has his outlook on life changed? As a result of the many changes he's had to make to accommodate this new old lifestyle he has stumbled upon the need for balance, routine, and trust, in himself and the choices and decisions he has made. So, yes, his whole

perception of life has changed.

He doesn't worry as he used to, and is more calm about problems, and lives more in the moment than he ever has before.

He loves the positive outlook, the energy, the stamina... his connection to the Great Spirit, faith in himself and the universe.

"I have always had faith. It's the one thing I've had since my earliest memories; not religion, but my faith to what people call a higher power."

Windspeaker asked who he

hoped to reach with his documentary and he said that he hoped that when the Native youth see it that they'll feel proud to be who they are, and they'll see a good role model, someone who's "been there" and someone who changed his life around and made something happen out of nothing.

"That they too can find meaning to their lives, despite the circumstances they were born into."

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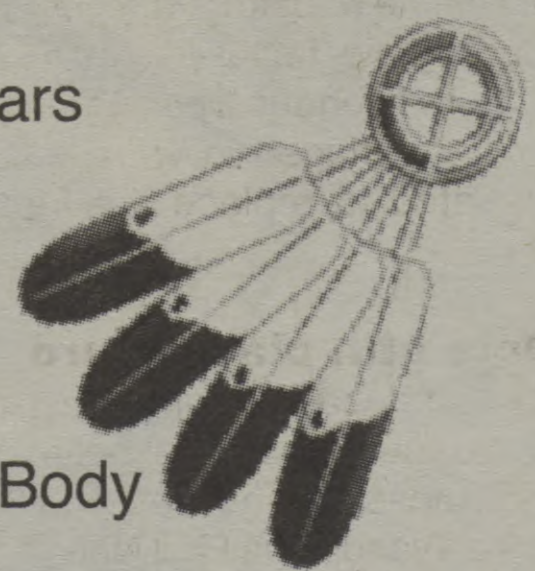
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Windspeaker sports briefs

By Sam Laskaris

Event helps reward

Family and friends of a pair of Aboriginal teenagers that were last seen in Quebec three years ago are organizing a run/walk to raise funds for the reward to help find the girls. Maisy Odjick and Shannon Alexander were 16 and 17, respectively, when they were last seen in early September of 2008 in Maniwaki, Que. So far more than \$16,000 has been raised for a reward to help find the pair. Further awareness about the girls' disappearance will be raised thanks to the KZ Run/Walk for Maisy and Shannon that will be staged June 19 at the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation, a small Algonquin community in Quebec. A Web site, www.findmaisyyandshannon.com, has also been set up to detail the case. The Web site also provides all registration details for the walk/run. Participants, who can walk or run the courses, can choose one of three distances to enter; two kilometres, 5K or 10K.

Nationals in Saskatoon

Aboriginal badminton players will converge in Saskatoon this summer to determine some national bragging rights. The Canadian Aboriginal tournament will be held July 5 to 9 at Walter Murray Collegiate in Saskatoon. The national event will feature five age groupings: under 12, under 14, under 16, under 18 and open. There will be separate female and male divisions for both singles and doubles play. And there will also be a mixed doubles event in each age group. If they wish, participants can enter in three events: singles, doubles and mixed doubles. Organizers will even attempt to find partners for those that do not have one. The national tournament is organized by the Saskatoon Tribal Council and the Saskatchewan Badminton Association. In order to be eligible for the national event, competitors must be Aboriginal and registered with a provincial or territorial badminton association affiliated with Badminton Canada.

Since tournament officials will try to match up competitors looking for a partner for doubles action, entrants will not necessarily be representing their province or territory. The entry fee for the tournament is \$100. Registrations will only be accepted until June 15. Registered players can also attend a camp that will be held on July 4. That event will feature Olympic and national team badminton players. The camp will also include nutritional, mental and physical sessions. More information on the nationals is available by contacting Mark Arcand via email at markarcand@sktc.sk.ca or by phone at (306) 956 6100 or (306) 280 5394.

New Manitoba event

Aboriginal athletes from Manitoba will still be able to take part in a multi-sport competition this summer. The 2011 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), which were originally scheduled for Milwaukee, ended up being cancelled. In response to that, officials from the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council decided to organize their own multi-sport games. The result is the Manitoba Indigenous Invitational Games, which will be held July 11 through July 23. The games will be held at a pair of locations, the Opaskwayak Cree Nation and the Peguis First Nation. During the first week of action, the Opaskwayak Cree Nation will host soccer, basketball, golf, archery and canoeing competitions. Both female and male events will be conducted in various age groupings. The Peguis First Nation will then stage volleyball, softball and wrestling competitions during the second week of the games. Some of those athletes that compete in the Manitoba Indigenous Invitational Games will also be eligible to take part in the various 2012 North American Indigenous Sport Championships. These events, which will be staged in various locations across Canada, were created to replace the fact this year's NAIG were cancelled.

Maracle still playing pro

Almost a decade after he last appeared in the National Hockey League, Aboriginal net minder Norm Maracle is still playing professional hockey. The 36-year-old Mohawk, who is from the Tyendinaga First Nation near Belleville, Ont., toiled with the Rosenheim Star Bulls this past season. The Star Bulls are members of Germany's Second Division pro league. Maracle appeared in 44 games with the Rosenheim side and had a 24-19 record and a 2.51 goals-against average. The Star Bulls placed seventh in their 13-team league. The club then advanced to the playoff semi-final round before being eliminated. Rosenheim is the third German squad that Maracle has played for during his career. He's also been a member of pro teams in Russia and Austria since leaving the North American hockey scene. Maracle played 66 games in the NHL, suiting up for the Detroit Red Wings and Atlanta Thrashers. He last played in the league during the 2001-02 season with Atlanta.

[sports]

Young goalie weighs his professional options

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

Lyndon Suvanto had no idea how much a sport would dominate his life when he was introduced to team handball five years ago.

Suvanto agreed to try out the sport only because his brother's high school squad was searching for a goalie.

It didn't take long, however, for Suvanto to make a name for himself with his Oneway High School team.

As it turned out he had a natural knack for playing goal in the sport and he quickly progressed up the ranks to compete at provincial and national levels.

"I never expected to get where I am now," said Suvanto, a 19-year-old Métis.

Suvanto is currently a member of the national junior men's squad. That club travelled to Brazil to compete in the Pan American junior men's tournament, which ran from April 15 to 23.

Besides the national team, Suvanto also toils for four other handball teams, including Alberta's under-21 club.

Plus, he finds the time to return to his alma mater and help coach his high school team.

He manages to juggle playing for all five of his clubs, as well as his high school coaching duties, while also being a television broadcast student at Edmonton's Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT).

Suvanto was active in athletics before he took up handball. He used to play hockey, baseball and badminton.

But when he realized how proficient he was in handball, he didn't mind focusing on that.

"I gave up hockey," he said. "I

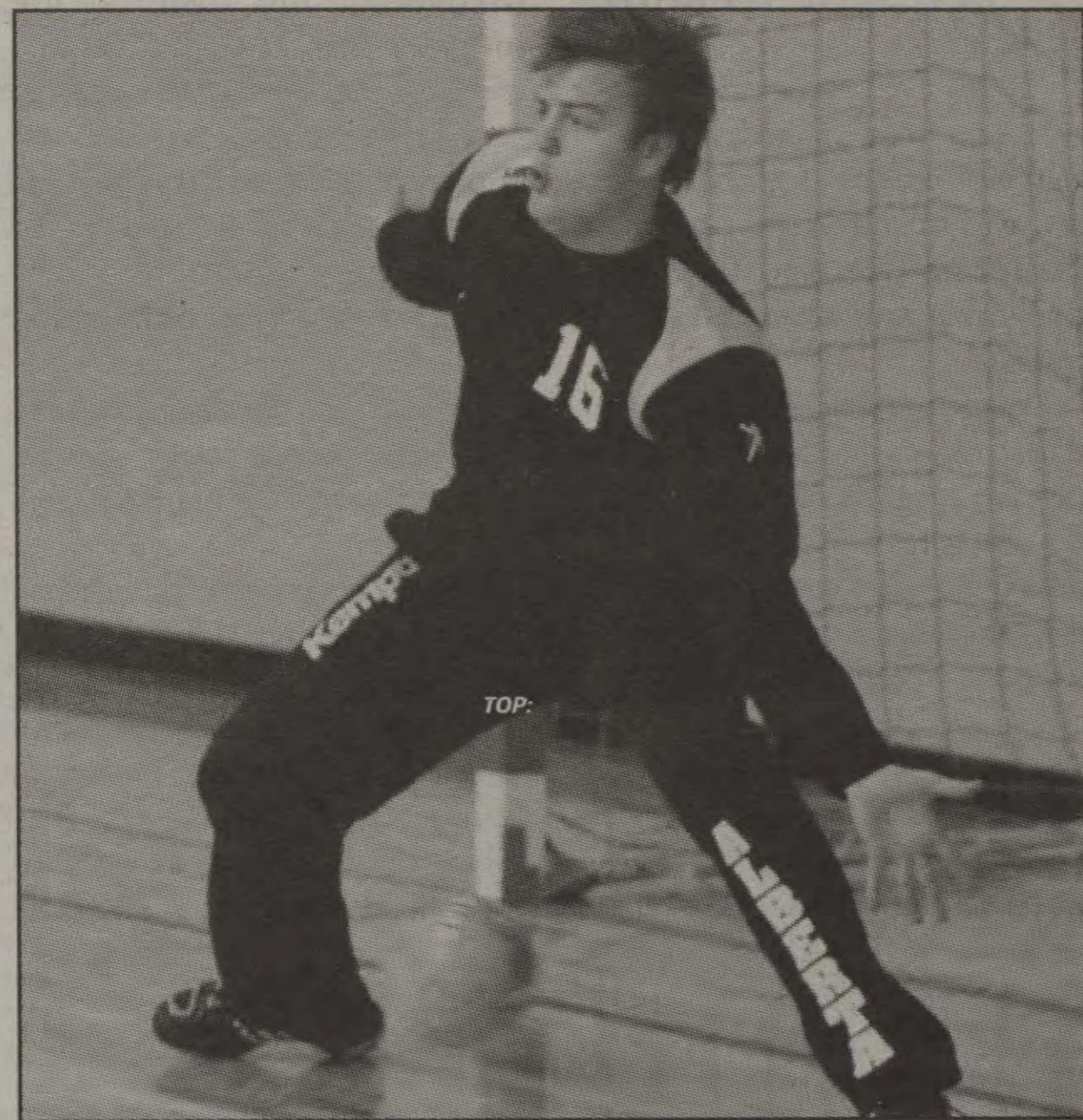


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Lyndon Suvanto

wasn't really going anywhere with it."

Team handball, which is an Olympic sport, features seven players per team on the court. The goal is to pass a ball (slightly smaller than a soccer ball) around and attempt to throw it into the opposition's net, which is two metres high and three metres wide.

Suvanto excels in the sport as he can cover a large chunk of the net rather effectively.

"For my size, I'm pretty flexible and pretty explosive," added Suvanto, who weighs 240 pounds and is almost 6-foot-4.

Though handball is not very popular in North America, Suvanto said there is a tremendous amount of interest in the sport in Europe. In fact, there are various professional leagues overseas.

Suvanto seriously thought of toiling in one of these circuits after his high school days were over.

"I almost went to play in Norway," he said. "But I decided to go to (NAIT) instead."

Suvanto is expecting to graduate from his television broadcast program this December. But he might not be done his education as television production appeals to him as does working on film sets.

Attempting to hook up with a pro handball team in Europe is also something still in the back of his mind.

"I'm still really young," he added.

Suvanto was selected as the most valuable player at last year's national senior tournament staged in Edmonton. He was the youngest person to win that MVP award.

Suvanto is also hoping to one day represent Canada in handball at the Olympics.

"The team we have now is pretty close," he said. "I think we can make it in a few years."

Champs hand-picked for success

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

AKWESASNE, Ont.

Members of Akwesasne's minor professional hockey team can now officially be called champions.

The Akwesasne Warriors captured the inaugural Federal Hockey League (FHL) championship title on March 26 with a 5-2 victory against the visiting New York Aviators.

With that triumph, the Warriors, who play their home games on the Canadian side of the Ontario/New York border Mohawk community, defeated the Aviators 3-1 in their best-of-five championship series.

Akwesasne was the only

Canadian squad in the six-team FHL this season. The league also featured four clubs from the state of New York and one from Connecticut.

Warriors' president/general manager Basem Awwad was confident his club was capable of winning the FHL title.

"We pretty much had hand-picked previous champions," he said. "We picked our team from guys that knew how to win."

The Warriors' roster included five Aboriginal players. The list included Dan Tessier, who is Métis. The team's other Aboriginal players—Kyle Lagace, Casey Swamp, Travis Stacey and Nick Montour—are all Mohawk.

Awwad said the Warriors averaged about 600 fans per

home game this season, about 200 supporters less than what was required for the organization to break even.

"We're in a bit of a loss," Awwad said. "But it makes it all worthwhile when you win a championship."

Awwad added there is a "99 per cent chance" the club will also play the majority of its home contests in Akwesasne again next season. But a couple of the team's home contests might also be scheduled in Cornwall and across the border in Massena, N.Y.

The league has already announced it is expanding and will have teams in Illinois and Vermont next season. Awwad anticipates a couple of more squads will also be added for the 2011-12 season.

A first nation artist with a world vision

By Katherine McIntyre
Windspeaker Contributor

PETERBOROUGH, Ont.

"It came as an absolute surprise," said Sandra Laronde, when asked about her nomination for an honorary degree at Trent University's upcoming graduation ceremony June 1.

Laronde, who is Teme-Augama Anishnabe of the Temagami Nation in Ontario, said she is doubly honored to be one of five distinguished Canadians selected for this degree, and to give the keynote speech to the graduating class.

Although a graduate of the University of Toronto, Laronde said "I have developed a special affinity to Trent University because of its Aboriginal programs."

Trent is the first university in North America to establish a department dedicated to Aboriginal people. It began with Indian-Eskimo studies in 1969 and evolved into the Department

of Indigenous Studies in 2006. This department includes not only a PhD program, but innovative and trail blazing programs for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.

"I have grown with Trent through attending Elders conferences," said Laronde. "I have gained a better understanding of Aboriginal culture from sharing with the elders. At the same time I connect with the students and professors to find out what is happening at Trent."

But it is Sandra Laronde's extraordinary career as the artistic director and founder of Red Sky Performance and promoter of Aboriginal cultures that has earned her the honorary degree.

Her theatre productions have been seen by more than 350,000 people in countries that include Canada, the United States, Mongolia and China.

"We have performed in town halls in small communities in Canada and the United States, the Smithsonian Institute in New York, and in China's most

prestigious venue The Egg in Beijing. Our performance in the Smithsonian was one of their best attended shows," said Laronde.

"It was packed to the rafters. Even the security guards wanted to see the performance. We are a lean, mean touring machine."

Her company opened the show for Canada at the World Expo in Shanghai, and it was featured at Vancouver's 2010 Cultural Olympiad.

Her performances combine dance, theatre and music with Aboriginal themes. She doesn't stay home to dream up a show. She travels. In her performances she has linked Mongolian, Maori, Samoan and Canadian Indigenous cultures.

For her show Tono she travelled to Inner and Outer Mongolia. For her upcoming show, with the temporary name The New Zealand Project, she spent time in New Zealand with the Maori people. When a performance is ready she sets a schedule and it goes on the road. As demand for her shows increase by word of mouth, she has to do



Sandra Laronde

PHOTO: SUPPLIED

less and less promotion.

She has had 15 years working with Red Sky Performance, and has won 10 awards and become the Director of Aboriginal Arts at the Banff Centre.

In her address to the

graduating students at Trent University, she says "I will stress that the biggest journey in life is from the heart to the head and back to the heart. To cultivate the heart and mind makes a powerful person."

University uses art to Indigenize campus

By Stefania Seccia
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

The University of Manitoba opened its campus up to showcase three extraordinary Aboriginal sculptures this month that represent core Inuit, First Nation and Métis culture.

In an effort to have more Aboriginal representation on campus, the university sent out a call nationally for art proposals and selected three professional artists to accomplish the work.

"The sculptures are beautiful and help Indigenize the campus by having something visibly identifiable as Aboriginal centrally located on campus," Kali Storm, Aboriginal Student Centre director, told *Windspeaker*.

On April 4, the sculptures were unveiled on the eastern side of the Aboriginal House and a ceremony helped to celebrate the artists, culture and story behind the work.

"The statues are symbolic of the Métis, First Nations and Inuit communities who call this place home," she said. "Not only do they depict how we value education, they add to the beauty and spirit of the building that we lovingly acknowledge as Migisii

Agamik. We have a strong and vibrant Aboriginal community here on campus and the energy of these statues welcome all who want to learn, teach and share here."

Miguel Joyal, Abraham Anghik and University of Manitoba graduate Wayne Stranger were the three selected artists who also attended the celebration.

Stranger calls his sculpture The Buffalo. He is an artist, musician and educator of Cree and Ojibway descent.

The former U of M student describes The Buffalo as reflecting "the nature of what it is to learn."

"Ki-ken-sad-o-win,' meaning knowledge or the accumulation of knowledge, must be acquired with discipline out of respect for the ways of the Elders and teachers, and how teaching and learning occurred in our past as First Nations."

Joyal, a Winnipeg-born Metis artist sculpted Louis Riel, which was also his muse for his 17-foot bronze sculpture of Manitoba's founding father at the Manitoba Legislative Building.

"It is a tribute to our forbearers, whose vision, commitment and personal sacrifice shaped the province and brought about many of the political, social and

economic benefits that we enjoy today," Joyal said in a media release.

An Inuvialuit artist, Ruben hails from the Southern Gulf Islands in B.C. He has spent the last three decades honing his work and focusing on Inuit art and culture.

"The base of the sculpture is a Shaman on one knee, holding up a boy flanked by a bear and a raven," he said. "Around them are muskox, wolves, whale and walrus. This part of the sculpture deals with the Inuit of the Western Arctic and their specific story, while the upper part of the Shaman and Sedna deals with Inuit culture as a whole—two key representations of Inuit culture."

Along with the three featured artists, other important figures attended the April 4 celebration including the Grand Chief for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Ron Evans; Levinia Brown, Inuit elder; and David Barnard, University of Manitoba president.

"Our campus is artistically and culturally richer with the inclusion of these wonderful sculptures," Barnard said in a media release. "We applaud the artists for their outstanding work and thank them for providing ever-present reminders of our country's rich cultural heritage."

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Muppet Theatre rebuild takes Cree man back to childhood

By Stefania Seccia
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

Lance Cardinal welcomed *Windspeaker* into the Aboriginal Gathering Place at Emily Carr University in Vancouver to have a look at his model of the classic Muppet Theatre, complete with Muppet models, a secret door and a red, draping curtain that actually opens with the pull of a golden rope.

Cardinal, 35, is from the Bigstone Cree Nation at the Calling Lake reserve in Alberta. He built the model Muppet Theatre over many weeks, and he became a bit of an Internet sensation when he put pictures of the work online at lancecardinal.blogspot.com

The Muppet Show ran for five seasons, starting in 1976. It featured a vaudevillian-style show with sketches completely acted by Muppets, a puppet creation by the Jim Henson Company.

When he was growing up Cardinal had access to only one channel, CBC. He loyally watched the Muppet Show on CBC every week.

"It was one of the first shows to take me away to a magical place full of wonder and creativity," Cardinal said, sporting a large Kermit pin on his lapel. "It was an amazing half an hour of my life. There was a sense of whimsy and a sense of playfulness that I didn't have in my normal life."

Prominently displayed on his blog's profile is Cardinal's heritage. He proudly identifies himself as a full-status Cree, which many people have commented on positively.

"As a First Nations person as well, you come from a small pace and you don't feel important," Cardinal said. "You don't feel like anyone listens to you sometimes when you're First Nations and they underestimate what First Nations people can do creatively or even understand creatively."

"Basically I have two sides of my brain—one is this crazy, childlike, playful, totally weird, whimsical person and the other side of me is very political and serious, and very focused on my culture and what that means to me."

Constructing his very own toy theatre came about when Palisades Toys, which had plans to manufacture the Muppet Theatre models, didn't end up doing it. Cardinal had been collecting its Muppet action figures, and the theatre's backstage area, including Kermit's desk, the back doors and changing rooms.

"I thought, 'I'll just build it myself,' and I started building it," Cardinal told *Windspeaker*.

"It was getting done and I thought, 'Wow, this looks just how I imagined' and then I had a moment of...I felt like I worked so hard, I wondered if this was



PHOTO: SAM SMITH

Lance Cardinal from Bigstone Cree Nation in Alberta examines the model of the classic Muppet Theatre that he constructed at the Aboriginal Gathering Place at Emily Carr University in Vancouver.

worthwhile, I wondered if this magic was still out there. I didn't see it. I didn't feel it from people.

"But, I believe this magic still exists and I believe this magic is still out there in people."

Since posting it online, Cardinal has received tons of emails everyday—including a marriage proposal in exchange for his Muppet Theatre. He's also had offers to tour the theatre to Comic Con in San Francisco.

"It was absolutely an embracing of this whole world and these characters who have been in our home since [1976]," he said. "I've already had two online interviews, done a couple of articles. I just put it out there." He was also interviewed for the *Daily Planet* on April 20.

Cardinal is a second-year Emily Carr University student. He's working on his fine arts degree and is majoring in sculpture. He's worked behind the scenes in theatres and used that knowledge to put towards his childhood dream.

"I worked on a lot of theatres and I know what theatres should be like," he said. "Then I imagined the size of this playset and what Palisades would have done if they had actually built it."

He got in touch with a dollhouse shop both online and in North Vancouver who did the custom-made trim. Also, Palisades had shared some of their plans for the model theatre with him.

"For me, this particular project, I really wanted to make sure I built it from scratch, with actual wood that I bought with trim," he said. "I bought MDF [medium-density fiberboard] wood. I used doll house trim."

The theatre is hand-crafted with a baroque trim, which he made with puffy paint. Each panel is made from scratch with the use of the puffy paint as well and then painted red, and trimmed with gold.

The back wall is made from hand-mixed concrete. By using stickers, he was able to make an effect that made the bricks more realistic. He also added his own pipes made from bamboo skewers. At the back he put up Muppet movie posters that Jim Henson was involved in and made them look older and used.

All of the lights actually light up and were wired by Cardinal, who said that the project was quite expensive.

"A full month, one month," he added, about how long it took to construct the theatre. "And that was a lot of hours; full days, full nights, just because the more I built it, each phase just got me more excited."

He also intends to build additional sets, including a balcony for Statler and Waldorf, the grumpy old men Muppets, and a pit for the orchestra performers in front of the theatre. He already has sets from the show, including *Pigs in Space*. But, he wants to build other ones, such as *Veterinarian Hospital*.

"I'm just happy that people are feeling so happy about it and remembering all the positive times in their life and the time spent with their kids and their times spent with their family growing up," he said.

"A lot of people have been talking to me about the emotional connection they had with the Muppets and seeing this



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Lance Cardinal with some Muppets.

fulfilled satisfies the fulfillment they needed to have that experience."

No matter the time or cost, the experience and results were worth it, according to Cardinal, because it's in homage to Jim Henson and Palisades.

"We didn't have much money growing up. I always missed out on having toys and such," he explained. "So in some ways I sort of build these things to have my own youth and that feeling that was once there."

At the end of the day, Cardinal is excited to finally live through his imagination and become Kermit (although Fozzie Bear is

still his favorite), utilizing his hand-made theatre as a tool to access his childhood.

He said it was an enriching moment to pull that gold string and see the curtain open. "I always wanted to be Kermit. I pulled the curtain and I was like, 'I have to share this.' I know there's other people who want to see that again."

"As Kermit said, it's about making millions of people happy."

The Muppets are experiencing a comeback with a Hollywood feature film simply titled *Muppets* expected to be released later this year.

Author and historian sought to set the record straight on Aboriginal peoples

By Bob Beal and Rod Macleod

Olive Dickason lived a quintessentially Canadian life, a Métis who was an advocate for women's rights, First Nations and Métis rights, and seniors' rights. She was more than an advocate; she was at the forefront of the struggles. She was an inspired and inspirational teacher and mentor who changed Canadian history.

Olive Patricia Dickason (née Williamson), who died on March 12 at the age of 91, was born in Winnipeg in 1920, daughter of a Métis mother and English father. During the Depression, the family moved to Manitoba's Interlake region where Olive and her sister learned to live by fishing, trapping, hunting and gathering.

"I very soon learned that survival depended upon assessing each situation as it arose, which calls for common sense and realism," Olive once recalled. "You neither give up nor play games."

She learned something else in the bush: the joy and value of education. One of her few neighbors was a Scottish 'remittance man,' a classical scholar who loaned Olive books by the great philosophers, and the *London Times*.

"Though I only had Grade 10 education, I could discuss the Greek philosophers, what Marx thought on certain subjects. I was just extremely well informed," she said.

When the Second World War broke out, Olive moved south. Her life changed when she met the legendary priest Athol Murray, "the most spiritual man I have ever known. Ever encountered," Olive would say. Murray had founded Notre Dame College (and its famous hockey team) at Wilcox, Saskatchewan, and he took Olive under his wing. "He gave me my life," she said. "I just wouldn't have stood a chance otherwise." She graduated from Notre Dame in 1943 with a degree in philosophy and French.

Olive then began a long career in journalism at the *Regina Leader-Post*. It was while she was a *Leader-Post* reporter that she became truly aware of her Métis roots and became interested in First Nations issues. She moved to

the *Winnipeg Free Press*, then to the *Montreal Gazette*, before becoming Women's Editor at the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. In the process, she had married and divorced, struggling to raise three daughters as a single parent in the hectic and male-dominated world of newspaper journalism.

She left journalism in 1967 to become chief of Information Services at the National Gallery of Canada. There, she began her first book-length work, *Indian Arts in Canada*.

At the age of 50 in 1970, she shifted gears again, going back to school with the specific intent to get Canada's history right, beginning at the beginning with the First Nations. As she later wrote: "Canada, it used to be said by non-Indians with more or less conviction, is a country of much geography and little history. The ethnocentricity of that position at first puzzled, and even confused, Amerindians, but it has lately begun to anger them. How could such a thing be said, much less believed, when their people have been living here for thousands of years? As they see it, Canada has fifty-five founding nations rather than just the two that have been officially acknowledged."

She completed an MA and a PhD in history at the University of Ottawa, studying the early contacts between the French and North American First Nations. Those studies resulted in a groundbreaking book, *The Myth of the Savage*.

Olive Dickason's second career as an academic historian lasted a shorter time than her newspaper career, but it had a much greater impact. At 56 years old in 1976, she took up an appointment as an assistant professor at the University of Alberta. It was from that base she created her best-known work, *Canada's First Nations*.

Olive may not have realized when she signed on that the University of Alberta, like most other Canadian universities at the time, had a firm policy of compulsory retirement at 65. But she was certainly conscious that her time to publish the kind of history she wanted to write was

very limited. The remarkable thing about this stage of her life was that in the space of about a dozen years she completely changed the academic and, ultimately, the popular perception of the history of Canada's First Nations.

Until the 1970s, the original inhabitants of North America occupied a well-defined place in Canadian (and American) historiography. They could not be ignored completely, but after playing their parts as traders with Europeans or, more often, as opponents, they disappeared from the record. Historians wrote about First Nations as if they were an unchanging part of the natural environment. At best they were portrayed as reacting helplessly to the inevitable advance of European civilization.

Olive's *Myth of the Savage* explored how early Europeans in North America categorized and ultimately marginalized First Nations, regardless of how sophisticated their economic and political systems were.

A much more ambitious project was writing a general history of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. That became Olive's enormously influential, *Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples from Earliest Times*, first published in 1992. That book gave Canada's First Nations their voice for the first time. They appear in its pages not merely as victims, but as autonomous historical actors struggling, as we all do, to come to terms with a changing world.

When Olive was well into the research and writing of *Canada's First Nations*, she was approaching her 65th birthday. That meant her professorship at the University of Alberta would have to end. She did not want to go. The University of Alberta was a congenial place to work. History colleagues such as John Foster were doing complementary work in the emerging area of ethnohistory. The university had a very strong Anthropology department where she formed stimulating friendships.

Characteristically, Olive confronted the problem in the most direct way. She challenged



PHOTO: FILE

Olive Dickason receiving her national Aboriginal Achievement Award in 1997

the university's compulsory retirement policy in the courts. At the lower levels, her effort was successful, but the university won at the Supreme Court of Canada. The university administration thought they would lose there, too, and had made budget provisions for the extra costs involved in paying professors who wanted to stay on past 65. A number of temporary appointments were found that allowed Olive to stay on until 1992.

She moved back to Ottawa and renewed her relationship with the University of Ottawa. She continued researching and writing, and travelling to promote the history of the Aboriginal peoples. Declining health merely slowed her down. It could not stop her. She faced that challenge as she had faced all challenges, with determination and purpose.

Olive Dickason was made a member of the Order of Canada

in 1996. The next year, she received an Aboriginal Lifetime Achievement Award, an honour of which she was particularly proud. She is the subject of an excellent documentary by Villagers Media, *Olive Dickason's First Nations*, parts of which are on YouTube.

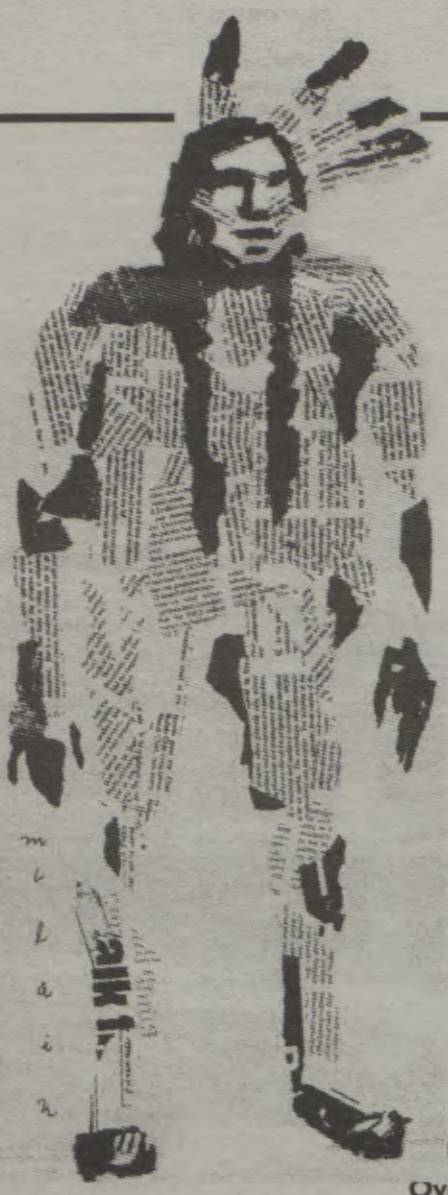
She is memorialized with the University of Calgary's annual Dr. Olive Dickason Award, "which honors the accomplishments of an Aboriginal student who has overcome adversity and life challenges to succeed."

Bob Beal is an independent consulting historian who specializes in the history of North American Indian Treaties and lives in St. Paul, Alta. Rod Macleod is Emeritus Professor of History and University Historian at the University of Alberta. They are friends and former colleagues of Olive Dickason.

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[footprints] Sophie Thomas

By Dianne Meilli

Traditional healer offered help when doctors said 'no' "You've brought me to heaven." That's all the late Sophie Thomas could say when her daughter Minnie Thomas drove her to Tamarack Lake near Skookumchuk, B.C. years ago. "She looked around and she..."

Windspeaker News Briefs - May

Compiled by Debora Steel

MARCH 31 MARKED THE 50th anniversary of the right to vote for First Nations. "This is an important milestone and a cause for reflection," said Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl. The Diefenbaker government amended the Canada Elections...

TRC open for business and planning Winnipeg event

By Shari Narine, Windspeaker Contributor, WINNIPEG

"Survivors and their families are doing all the work we do... Commission design of... go..."



Innovative approach to oil, gas development

By Shari Narine, Sweetgrass Writer, Edmonton

The Ermineskin Cree Nation has signed an agreement with a fledgling oil and gas company that both partners are hoping is the start of doing energy business on First Nations' land in a new way. After six months of negotiations, Ermineskin Chief...

Calgary Briefs - April

Compiled by Shari Narine

CPS IRS training video made available to all The Calgary Police Service is making its award-winning Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement training video available for anyone who wishes to use it. "Although the video was developed for our..."

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Editorial: Dam spin a story

Windspeaker Staff

Gordon Campbell, the premier of British Columbia, seems to have some memory issues. It wasn't long ago that he was boasting that his government was going green. Now all of a sudden he's reviving a massive hydroelectric project from three decades ago...

Compiled by Shari Narine

Homeless Connect held next month May 9 marks the fourth Homeless Connect event to be held at the Shaw Conference Centre. Homeless Connect Edmonton is a broad-based community-inspired initiative, providing free appropriate services to homeless...

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