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QUOTABLE QUOTE

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."

— Matthew 1:19

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Protocol breached

By Andrea Buckley Windspeaker Contributor

WHITEHORSE

Yukon First Nations are angry Government leader John Ostashek has gone to the media to complain about the problems plaguing the land claims negotiating process.

(Ostahek's) public comments regarding specific behavior of Kwanlin Dun First Nation negotiators is alarming," said Lena Johns, chief of the Whitehorse-area band.

"In our view, the comments breach a negotiations protocol which Kwanlin Dun First Nations has always maintained - land claims negotiations are confidential and are not to occur in the media."

Ostashek held a press conference in late October, where he told the media that First Nations negotiators continually question the contents of the Umbrella Final Agreement, which has already been ratified by all 14 Yukon First Nations. That is slowing the process, he said.

He also said court cases, two outstanding issues within Dawson City's Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation and a federal government decision to split the Yukon and British Columbia Kaska nations into separate groups, have also caused slowdowns.

And in the case of Kwanlin Dun, negotiators making threats and using abusive language and intimidation tactics have caused problems, he said.

But Johns said she wrote Ostashek a letter in August of this year, outlining a number of concerns Kwanlin Dun officials and Elders had with the behavior of government negotiators. She said they were backtracking on agreements already reached on important community land selections, questioning land use planning and zoning and generally delaying things.

She requested a meeting be set to discuss the problems. But the

First Nation is still waiting for a response to that letter. Steve Taylor, chief of the Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation, said he and his council are becoming increasingly concerned with re-

marks Ostashek has made to the media. Comments which questioned whether some First Nations are

being honorable don't help the process, he said.

And the Yukon Party's renege on an agreement to create a park in the Dawson City area as part of the First Nation's land claims settlement is proof the government isn't being honest, said Taylor.

The government and the First Nation came to an agreement on the size of the park about three years ago, when the Yukon Party was first elected, said Taylor.

Within three months, the park had been slashed to one-third of

its original size.

"Your government's continued attempts to adhere to foolish government guidelines for site-specific selections and island use have done nothing to further the process," he said in a letter to Ostashek.

"Tr'ondek Hwech'in has always been and continues to be willing to negotiate within the guidelines set out in the UFA. The guidelines you are attempting to impose on us are your own, and have nothing to do with the UFA. Again, I would not want to hazard a guess as to who is being honorable and who is not."

Ostashek told reporters in October he wanted to have the re-

maining 10 land claims settled by February of 1997.

The first four, the Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation, the Teslin Tlingit First Nation, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation and the Na-Cho Ny'a'k Dun First Nation, signed final agreements Feb.14.

But Norman Sterriah, chief of the Ross River Dena Council, said the deadline is unrealistic.

"It must be close to an election," he said.

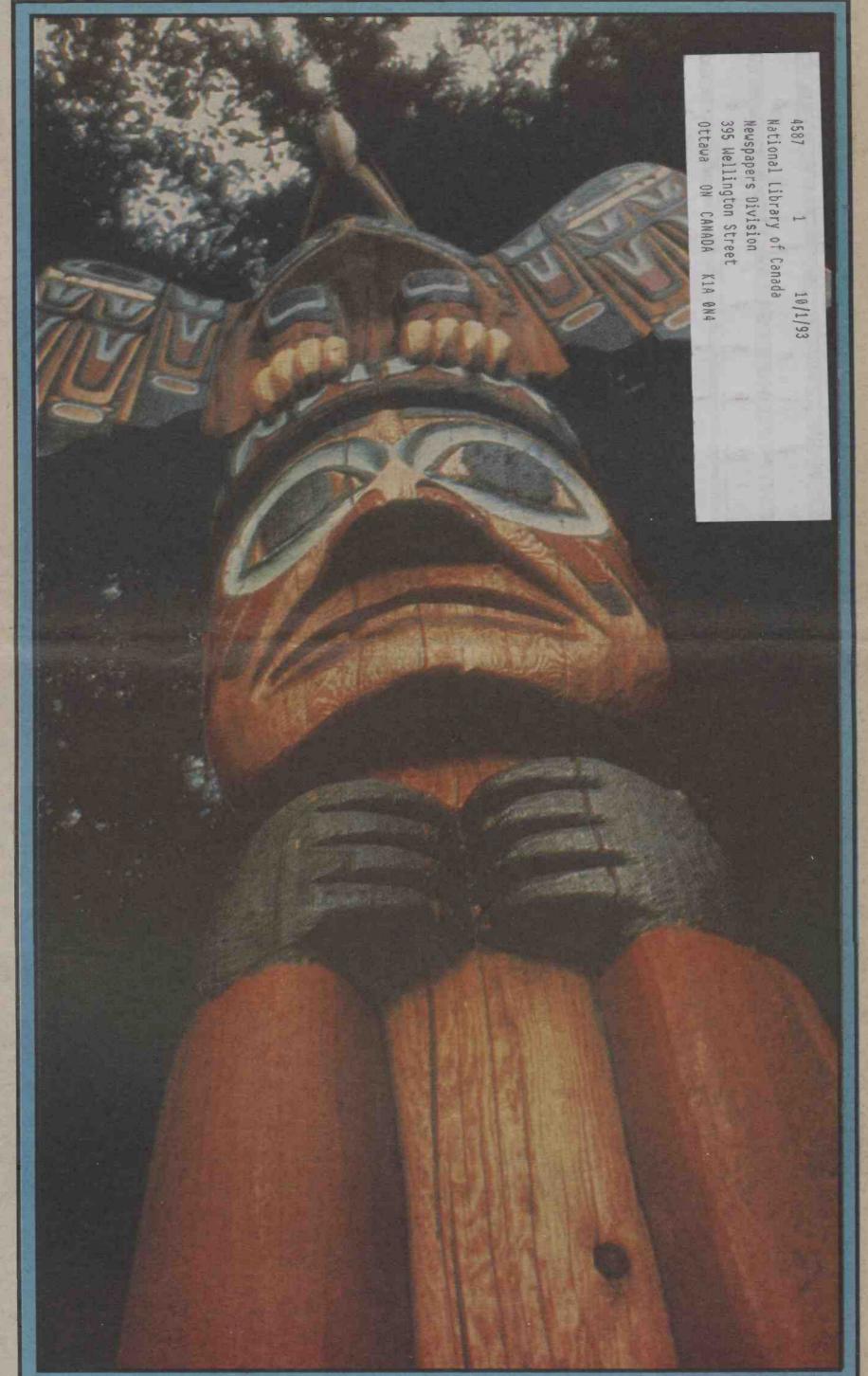
After doing nothing to further land claims process, the government is now making overtures that it is not at fault for the process taking so long, he said.

"The Kaska Nation has been up front with governments, industry and other First Nations groups regarding what their intentions are," he said.

"The most pressing matter for the Kaska is to have a fair and equitable process to conclude the First Nation Final Agreement on the basis of what the members want, basically that is to be treated fairly and equally to those who negotiated their claims before us."

Federal DIAND minister Ron Irwin has added a second negotiating table in the Yukon to help speed up the process.

He wants to see substantial progress within the next six months. "There will be no increase to staff, but it's cheaper to pay for a second negotiator and a second negotiating table than having these huge time lapses," he said.



Alaska Division of Tourism

Faces in wood

The works of the master carvers of the Northwest Coast stand as monuments to the Aboriginal people who live there. The totem pole pictured above can be found in Totem Bight State Park in Ketchikan, Alaska. A story on the history of the totem pole can be found in this issue of Windspeaker on Page 8. -

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CHRISTMAS

In a special pull-out feature, Windspeaker and staff celebrate the holidays with the songs and stories that make Christmas a joyous time for all.

See Pages 14-19.

FUR BAN

The multi-million dollar fur industry in Canada is under attack with a European Ban on trapped pelts. Windspeaker talks to the people who are fighting the European sanction and trying to come up with the compromises.

See Page 11.

AD DEADLINES

The advertising deadline for the January issue is Thursday, DEC. 14, 1995.

Quebec Native peoples hungry for change

By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Correspondent

OTTAWA

Quebec Aboriginal peoples let go a sigh of relief on Oct. 30 when a feather-thin majority of Quebecers voted No to separation from Canada.

But they won't breathe easy until the battle between Quebec and the rest of Canada is resolved.

Quebec's Aboriginal peoples can't stop worrying about being casualties in yet another white man's war.

In the aftermath of this battle, leaders across Canada will have to meet to either amend the Canadian Constitution or create another mechanism of

That meeting must include Aboriginal voices, say Quebec said. Crees and Inuit.

Rosemarie Kuptana, presi-

of inclusion."

"We will continue to work hard to preserve the unity of Canada in this referendum, as we have always done in the past," Kuptana said in an Oct. 31 press conference.

"We will continue to work with federal and provincial governments towards a more united and stronger Canada where all peoples are recognized as an integral part of a larger Canadian identity."

Canada was brought to the brink of destruction because of distrust, inflexibility and a breakdown in communication, Kuptana said.

All leaders, including Aboriginal leaders, have to get together, recognize the legitimacy of each other's goals, and work toward a compromise that suits everyone, she

"We saw this coming," said Grand Council of the Quebec dent of the Inuit Tapirisat of Crees executive director Bill

Canada, calls that the "politics Namagoose, in a phone interview Oct. 31.

> He said the threat of separation has been used over and over again by Quebec politicians.

is unresolvable."

So instead of taking sides in ating a unified force. the battle, the Cree have decided to push their own agenda: equality and self-determination for the Cree nation in Quebec.

And having more control over natural resources could help achieve those goals, Namagoose said.

Cree territory provides the province of Quebec with \$2 billion in forestry revenues and \$3.5 million in hydro power revenues, he said.

"That's our land," Namagoose said.

With just a fraction of those revenues, the Crees could become self-sufficient instead of relying on the federal government for every dollar, he said.

When asked whether Quebec Inuit and First Nations have been brought closer together as a result of the Quebec referendum, both leaders agreed time, money and geog-"It will never be settled...It raphy often prevent Quebec Aboriginal peoples from cre-

Zebedee Nungak, president of Quebec's land claim organization, said such a united front could be helpful.

It may be created... some day, but it's too early for any sort of commitment, said Nungak..

Kuptana said despite having common goals with Quebec First Nations, Inuit are unique and will always require a distinct voice in any discussions about a renewed Canada.

Namagoose said sometimes it takes all he's got just educating his own people and fighting for their rights, let alone trying to help co-ordinate anything more complex.

MLA calls it like he sees it and gets tossed

By Michael Smith Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

The rookie Speaker of the a political party." Manitoba legislature survived a non-confidence motion Nov. 2, after throwing an Aboriginal MLA out of chambers and ruling to limit the word racist in the assembly.

Louise Dacquay made the precedent-setting ruling after expelling a member of the opposition, Oscar Lathlin (NDP, The Pas) for using the word during question period.

Lathlin used the word racist on Oct. 11, in a question related to the government's policy regarding fishing quotas on Lake Winnipeg. When he refused a request by the Speaker to withdraw the word, Lathlin was ordered to leave the chamber for the remainder of the day.

In her ruling Dacquay said "While some members may believe that it is acceptable to ment's policies as being racist, I do not. I will rule it out of order if there is reference to a specific member of this chamber or if there is reference to the policies of a government or

However, the Speaker said it would be acceptable to use the word when referring to any governments or their policies outside the province.

The NDP responded to the ruling by accusing the Speaker of bias and calling for a motion of non-confidence. Although the motion was defeated 30-20, the Speaker appeared shaken by the experience. All government members and the three Liberals voted against it.

Lathlin is defiant and unrepentant. He is reported as saying the ruling is an infringement on his right to freedom of speech. But the ruling will not stop him from taking the government to task on policies and issues of concern to his constituents. Whether he will use the word racist in the mined.

Rupertsland) called the ruling "stupid" and a "breach in our ability... to adequately talk about the issues of concern to our people in this province." He said no other legislatures in the country have comparable rulings, including the federal parliament.

Robinson said it doesn't make sense that members of the legislature can use the word to describe the policies of other governments and not their own.

"What this ruling does is not allow for us to say that policies of the government, past or present, are racist, even if they are. It really restricts our freedom of speech and how we are able to represent our constituents in this legislature."

Robinson also said the Speaker may have a personal grudge against Lathlin which could have resulted in the rulthe word racist three times in refer to a party's or a govern- house again is still to be deter- one question concerning the able for comment.

Aboriginal Justice Enquiry Eric Robinson (NDP, and was not ruled out of or-

"I don't think the Speaker,

or the premier, like Oscar very much. He's probably a pain in their collective necks."

The impact of the ruling is particularly telling on Aboriginal people or any person of color who has personal experience with racism in this society, said Robinson.

"I remember what it was like in residential school. I remember what it was like in public school. I remember what it was like three or four years ago when my wife and daughter were called dirty squaws and bitches by a white man. The government cannot turn a blind eye to these everyday realities for Aboriginal people and people of color. Trying to minimize it by such a ruling like this is just stupid."

Dacquay was invited to comment, but her office said the speaker traditionally does ture. Lathlin was also unavail-

ing. On Oct. 20 Robinson used not discuss rulings of this na-

Election Day decided

The people of the north will go to the polls Dec. 11 to decide the location for the new Nunavut capital. The question people will be asked to vote on is as follows: "Which of these communities do you want to become the capital of Nunavut - Cambridge Bay, Iqaluit or Rankin Inlet?" While the federal government has the legal responsibility to choose the capital, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Ron Irwin announced that a plebiscite on the issue would better reflect northerners' wishes.

Wolverine in court

Preliminary hearing dates have been set for William (Wolverine) Ignace and Joseph (JoJo) Ignace to decide if there is enough evidence to go to trial on charges of attempted murder relating to incidents which occurred at Gustafsen Lake, B.C. in August and September. The Crown estimated that the hearing would take 10 to 15 days and the hearing date was set for Feb. 15, 1996. The two were charged with mischief, causing danger to life, forcible detainer and possession of weapons for a purpose dangerous to the public peace. The preliminary hearing on these charges is scheduled for April 22, 1996.

Native women target for serial killer

The Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs and the Indian Homemakers Association of B.C. expressed concern about the safety of First Nation people, especially women, in the province. Both organizations are concerned that a serial killer is preying on women in Vancouver's east side, and that a number of Native women have been murdered or gone missing from the area in recent years. "Police need to have a more effective means of alerting the Native population to be on guard," said union chief Saul Terry. Both organizations call upon First Nations people, who have been unable to contact a friend or relative living in the Vancouver or Lower Mainland areas, to contact their local RCMP detachment or Vancouver City Police and file a missing persons report. They are asked to contact the offices of the Homemakers or the Union to inform them once the report has been filed.

Two years down the road

Minister of Indian Affairs, Ron Irwin, has sent a letter to all Aboriginal leaders on the second anniversary of the government's election to power in Canada, Oct. 25. The letter details what the ministry has been able to accomplish during the past 24 months. Included in its

NATION IN BRIE achievements is the announcement of the government-wide policy on implementing the inherent right of Aboriginal self-government (a document widely denounced by most First Nation leaders). Also included is the agreement to dismantle DIAND in Manitoba, the establishment of the Mohawk/Canada Round Table to discuss the concerns of Akwesasne, Kahnawake and Kanesatake, plus the building of 25 new log houses as a pilot project, built by band members from local resources such as timber, sand and gravel.

Ordered to pay

A human rights tribunal has ordered a Nova Scotia Indian band to pay three reserve residents a total of \$7,500 in damages after the band refused to pay them social assistance benefits. The Shubenacadie band was also ordered to pay the three, non-Native spouses of reserve residents, the retroactive social assistance money they were owed. The tribunal ruled the band did not have the authority to deny benefits to qualified non-Native residents. "The tribunal concludes the band ultimately used peer pressure and refusal of benefits to attempt to control residency on the reserve," read the ruling.

Tent ci

By Michael Smith Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

In a scene that cou come out of the mists of cluster of tents and tipi the junction of the R Assiniboine Rivers. The is covered with a fresh of snow and a cold No wind swirls through th

About 30 people, in children, most from the Colomb Cree Nation, sit cle inside the main ti smell of wood smoke, ci and sweetgrass envel group as a feather is from hand to hand.

Personal stories of h and struggle are reve members of the group try to maintain a sense and purpose. For over they have been living 'forks', an historic meeti for Aboriginal people, ing the conditions on the lated reserve at Pukata

One person told the that living in a tent in t dle of winter was prefe returning to the reserve 70 people began the pro those remaining appea mined to stay indefinite

Chief Ralph Caribou, it is the women of the o nity who are spearhead action, with the full su chief and council.

"These women hav the source of strength

By Darah Hansen

Windspeaker Contributor

SECHELT, B.C.

It's been a long time the Sechelt Indian Band on their traditional land

Hunching up against elder Carrie Joe is the on of people gathered too even being inside such

Her memory has gro She was a very small gi up the Princess Louisa time, Joe recalls. She rem of an aging long house lies as a place of sleep.

It was the last build Sechelt people, she said traditional Native struct the order of the Catholic tle the area. Certainly no place within in the wall

"They were forbidde That's why today, weather, the people gat such a happy occasion.

On the site where the Sechelt Inlet, a long hou It's an important ste

Sechelt people, the grou "We're getting back to cillor Theresa Jeffries sai

Built of old growth building itself will meas fer enough space for all t traditionally built to dances, naming ceremo nerals.

"Everything happens Right now, the logs to tion lie on shore of the sit up Jervis Inlet known as

News AVAVA

Tent city preferable to living in poor housing

By Michael Smith Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

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In a scene that could have come out of the mists of time, a cluster of tents and tipis sits at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. The ground is covered with a fresh blanket of snow and a cold November wind swirls through the camp site.

About 30 people, including children, most from the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, sit in a circle inside the main tipi. The smell of wood smoke, cigarettes and sweetgrass envelope the group as a feather is passed from hand to hand.

Personal stories of hardship and struggle are revealed by members of the group as they try to maintain a sense of unity and purpose. For over 30 days they have been living at the 'forks', an historic meeting place for Aboriginal people, protesting the conditions on their isolated reserve at Pukatawagan.

One person told the group that living in a tent in the middle of winter was preferable to returning to the reserve. About 70 people began the protest, but those remaining appear determined to stay indefinitely.

Chief Ralph Caribou, 35, said it is the women of the community who are spearheading the action, with the full support of chief and council.

"These women have been the source of strength during

this time. It has been my pleasure to stand with them and to offer any assistance."

Caribou said a combination of factors have brought his people to this desperate situation. Actions taken by the Department of Indian Affairs and the province over the last 15 years has resulted in inadequate housing, pollution, and chronic dis-

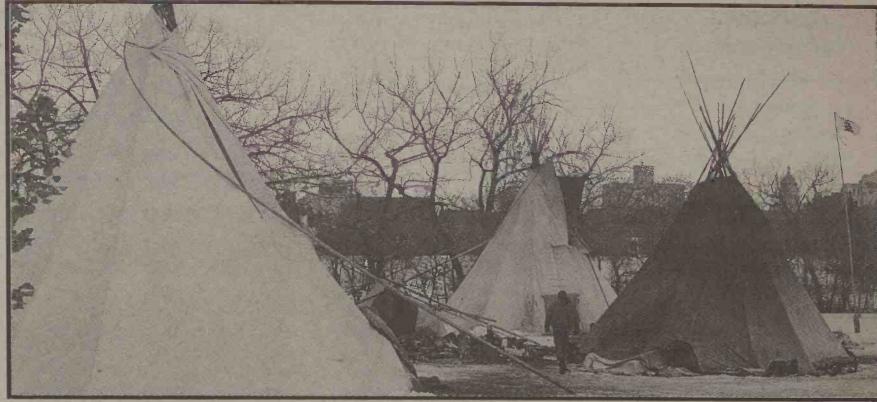
An inadequate annual budget for capital works, about \$2 million, has meant the community is falling further and further behind the demand for suitable housing. The band claims there are an average of 10 to 12 people per house. In one case 24 people are said to be living in one home.

Last year only two houses were built, the year before that 12. This contrasts markedly from previous years. Between 1987 and 1992, 133 homes were built.

The housing shortage is also seen as a major contributing factor to the spread of tuberculosis in the community. Since November 1994, 12 cases were confirmed on the reserve. Another factor is an inadequate sewage system and a contaminated drinking water supply caused when Indian Affairs built the sewage outflow upstream from the water intake.

money from both levels of government to build more homes. Caribou estimates that 150 houses are required to meet the demand.

The band also wants assist-



Michael Smith

There are 30 people from the community of Pukatawagan living in a tent city on the centre of Winnipeg protesting inadequate funding for appropriate housing on their reserve.

ance from the province to clean to meet the needs of the commuup a fuel spill caused by a former hydro diesel generating station. It has contaminated about one third of reserve land with cancer-causing agents, said the chief, who describes it as an "environmental disaster."

On Oct. 12, the province gave Mathias Colomb a license to cut enough trees to build 50 houses. The band is now looking for \$30,000 for harvesting equip-

Indian Affairs has recognized the concern but does not consider it a crisis situation. An official is reported as saying the nificant. The band is looking for department is trying to come up the housing shortage.

> The department disputes many of the band's figures and maintains that the budget, if properly managed, is sufficient

This is impossible, said Levan Hall, a Winnipeg chartered accountant, who has audited the books of many Manitoba First Nations.

"There is all kinds of evidence the money is simply not sufficient to build decent houses."

Hall said the houses are generally poorly constructed and often last only five or six years. He said if more money was invested into each dwelling the long term savings would be sig-

with solutions to the alleviate the economics of that before trying to continue to put up these shacks.

> "I believe the first nations have been short changed in terms of the housing. If housing

was a commitment under the treaties then, damm it, they should have decent housing."

In 1992, Mathias Colomb went \$3 million into debt. To date, neither the band nor the department has made public the figures showing where the money went.

Chief Caribou said the problems began in 1980, with the \$4 to \$5 million expansion of the reserve's school.

Due to a series of blunders the project turned into a bottomless money pit which, in 1984, became the band's responsibility. The school was abandoned "I would certainly look into and later demolished in 1990. The older students are enrolled in schools off reserve, while the younger children attend classes in temporary trailers. A new school is now under construc-

Long house symbol of Sechelt

By Darah Hansen Windspeaker Contributor

SECHELT, B.C.

It's been a long time since even the elders of the Sechelt Indian Band have seen a long house on their traditional land.

Hunching up against a rainy west coast wind, elder Carrie Joe is the only one of the small group of people gathered today who can remember even being inside such a building.

Her memory has grown faint with the years. She was a very small girl living with her family up the Princess Louisa Inlet near Sechelt at the time, Joe recalls. She remembers sharing the space of an aging long house with several other families as a place of sleep.

It was the last building of its kind for the wood." Sechelt people, she said. Even then, many of the traditional Native structures had been burned at the order of the Catholic priests who came to settle the area. Certainly no Indian ceremonies took place within in the walls of the one remaining.

"They were forbidden," Joe said. That's why today, despite the forbidding weather, the people gathered consider the day such a happy occasion.

On the site where they stand, at the tip of Sechelt Inlet, a long house will be built.

It's an important step for the future of the Sechelt people, the group agrees.

"We're getting back to our roots," band councillor Theresa Jeffries said.

Built of old growth red western cedar, the building itself will measure 50 ft by 60 ft and offer enough space for all the needs a long house is traditionally built to encompass, including dances, naming ceremonies, weddings and funerals.

"Everything happens in there," said Jeffries. Right now, the logs to be used in the construction lie on shore of the site, freshly cut from a site up Jervis Inlet known as Hunechin. The wood is benefit" to everyone on the Coast.

a gift to the band from logging company International Forest Products (Interfor) which works in the area, considered traditional territory for the

"They get a new life...it's like a rebirth of the wood," artist Richard Krentz said of the logs. Krentz, a well-known Coast Salish artist, has returned to his Sechelt home after 30 years away to oversee the design and construction of the build-

Krentz said he expects the long house to be completed by early spring 1996 with preparations, both spiritual and practical, necessary for the start of the project already almost complete.

He will carve the big cedar logs himself, each carving telling a story of the four tribes that now make up the Sechelt Nation. The stories, Krentz said, come from the elders.

"We have nothing without them. It's just

Several young people from the band have also expressed interest in helping Krentz in the work, and the artist said he is only too happy to share his experience with them.

The opening ceremony of the long house promises to be an emotional experience. Band elders are currently composing special songs to mark the day, and traditional masks and dancing are expected to once again be used in a celebration of the re-birthing of tradition.

It's an exciting project, the band members agree, especially for the young people.

"We can see it right from pre-school," said Bev Dixon, an employee with the band's day care centre. The kids love to learn traditional singing and the dancing, anything to do with "reviving the culture," she said.

Today, elder Jim Paul sings a song of welcome, taught to him by his mother, to the visitors from the media, and to the district manager of Interfor, Dave Lasser, whom the band thanks for his care in bringing the logs to them.

Lasser said his company was happy to take part in the project, adding it's likely to be "a huge

Natives gather and heal

By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Correspondent

OTTAWA

The man best known for holding up a feather in the Manitoba Legislature and defying the Meech Lake Accord is holding up another feather next month, in the name of Aboriginal peace.

It's called a spiritual assembly. Harper called for the spiritual gathering of Native Canadians after a protest at Camp Ipperwash this summer ended in the death of 38-year-old Anthony (Dudley) George, a Chippewa Indian, on Sept. 6, 1995.

And the call was heard. Organizers of the Dec.6 to 9 event in Hull, Quebec, say they are preparing for 3,000 or more delegates to attend from across the country.

"A lot of people are interested in coming," said Orville Woodford, one of a dozen Ottawa volunteers helping to pull the event together. "It's sort of taken on a life of its own."

For three days, Aboriginal people-First Nations, Metis and Inuit-will gather to talk, cry, pray, and celebrate.

Mornings will be devoted to some difficult and even controversial topics including trying to reconcile native spirituality with Christianity. On day two, organizers hope to have Christian leaders speak about the effects residential schools had on Aboriginal language, culture and spirituality. Then Native delegates will have a chance to respond.

"I'm curious to see how the churches deal with it," Woodford said.

Linda Gouriluk, another volunteer, said Aboriginal people are keen to resolve their past differences because many Native Canadians are adopting certain Christian values or even becoming full-fledged Christians.

In the afternoons, delegates will break into small groups of five or six to talk about different issues and share personal experiences. These will be followed by panel discussions. The meeting's agenda reads this is the time when delegates should come up with real solutions to replenish the spiritual vacuum many Native Canadians feel and possibly bring Native and non-Native groups closer together.

Both Woodford and Gouriluk say they expect it will be a unique and no doubt emotionally exhausting gathering.

"There's a lot anger out there," Gouriluk said, and this kind of meeting can go a long way to diffusing that.

News AVAVA

Alcohol a factor in drowning accident

By Andrea Buckley Windspeaker Contributor

OLD CROW, Y.T.

A Yukon MLA who died in a boating accident in October was intoxicated when his canoe tipped in the Crow River, the and Abel's sister. coroner reports.

Vuntut Gwitch'in MLA from Old Crow, had an blood alcohol level of .26 per cent, more than three times the legal driving limit. Abel and his five-year-old grandson, Troy, drowned after their canoe tipped in the icy waters of the river. Abel's wife, Rosalie, was rescued and survived. Troy's body has not yet been found.

the community for several a stop to this." years.

Old Crow is a fly-in community of about 200 Gwich'in people north of the Arctic Circle.

Community members have body has listened. been meeting to talk about the alcohol problem that still exists

in the community and decide what to do to improve the situ-

"We have already had a meeting and we're getting some ideas from the community as to how to deal with this," said Mary Schafer, the town's community health representative

Chief Robert Bruce Jr. said Johnny Abel, a 48-year-old it's up to the people of Old Crow to inform the RCMP when they see people drinking, even if it's their neighbors, friends or relatives.

"Somebody should have done something about it long ago and that didn't happen," he said. "We need to take some action. We have to start laying complaints whenever we see someone drinking alcohol in the Liquor has been banned in community so that we can put

Elders and children in Old Crow have, for years, offered suggestions of ways to stop the drinking, said Bruce. But no-

"If you don't listen to the Elders, this is what you get,

"Somebody should have done something about it long ago and that didn't happen. We need to take some action. We have to start laying complaints whenever we see someone drinking alcohol in the community so that we can put a stop to this."

- Chief Robert Bruce Jr, Old Crow

tragedies like this," he said. "But we can't go around and make a law that says you have to quit drinking. People have to do it themselves."

There is plenty of money and plenty of resources available from the Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation for people who want help to quit drinking, he added.

Workshops are held on a regular basis, but often nobody shows up. Yet the community refuses to give up.

"We have to continue. Eventually, word will get around and people will start coming out."

Hundreds of family, friends and political colleagues travelled to Old Crow for Abel's funeral. Others paid their respects at a ceremony held in Whitehorse.

"He brought something special to the House, said New Democrat MLA Margaret Commodore, who knew Abel for 20 years. "He brought dignity to the place, just with his presence. Politicians, you know, tend to get mean and nasty. But Johnny could never do that. He would never have gotten that way.

"And although we were coming from different political spectrums, it had no bearing on (our relationship). We were First Nations people first, before anything else. And both of us wanted to see improvements for our people."

Abel often got frustrated in Whitehorse during long sessions of the Legislative Assembly and longed to be back in Old Crow with his family, she said.

He often passed her notes across the floor.

"I'm getting very sleepy. I wish I was out on the flats, trapping muskrats," one of the notes

Abel's love of the land and his dedication to preserving the Gwich'in culture and traditions made him a great leader, said vice-chief Bruce Charlie.

"I went out with him on the land in the springtime for two months. One thing about Johnny, he really valued his culture and his traditions," said Charlie, who grew up with Abel.

"Every spring, he took his family to the Crow Flats right after Easter until the middle of June. Native people say you get your strength and power from the land. He stayed out there and taught his children from the land. That's where you learn everything."

Abel was the former chief of the Vuntut Gwitch'in, a land claims negotiator and the deputy Speaker of the Yukon

legislature.



The University of Manitoba

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

INSTRUCTOR I POSITION

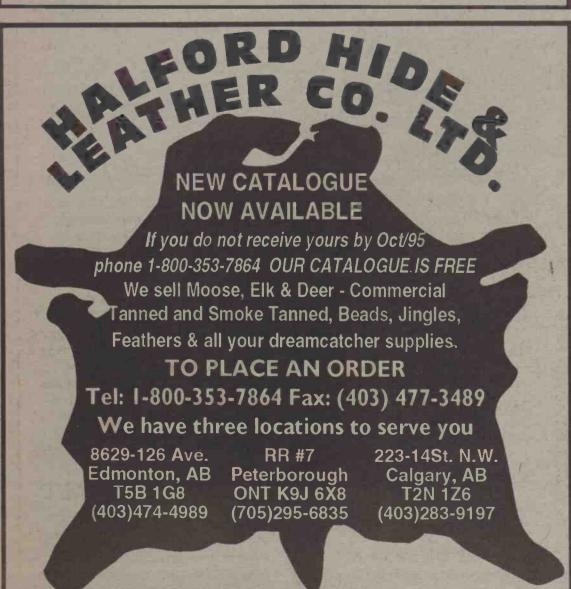
The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Manitoba is accepting applications for a full time probationary Instructor I position. Departmental information is available at http:// www.ee.umanitoba.ca.

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PQ domi Mercredi a

By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Corresponder

OTTAWA

The fate of Quebec Fi tions, inherent right to se ernment, changes to the Act, taxation, and contr renewable resources we some of the issues tack First Nations peoples at federacy of Nations me Ottawa last month.

Saddled with cellular briefcases and business chiefs and other First ! representatives form Scotia to the Yukon met days in October.

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A unanimous vote fr egates solidified a resol that effect.

But when he wasn't about Quebec Native Mercredi pleaded for d

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SUNDAY December 10 7:00

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You may choose to

arrive early and begin your "Banff Experience" by touring the many sights Banff Naional Park has to offer

12:00 Noon

4:30 Get acquainted with your colleagues and faculty and form learning partnerships during an informal welcoming reception.

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Begin the program with introductions and a prayer. Then, participate in a group discussion of participants' overall expectations and an overview of GIS applications.

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Andrew Bear Rol Banff Centre

e often passed her notes the floor.

AVA

m getting very sleepy. I l was out on the flats, trapnuskrats," one of the notes

pel's love of the land and edication to preserving the h'in culture and traditions him a great leader, said chief Bruce Charlie.

went out with him on the in the springtime for two ths. One thing about ny, he really valued his culand his traditions," said lie, who grew up with

every spring, he took his y to the Crow Flats right Easter until the middle of Native people say you get strength and power from and. He stayed out there aught his children from the . That's where you learn

ything." bel was the former chief of Vuntut Gwitch'in, a land ms negotiator and the ity Speaker of the Yukon lature.

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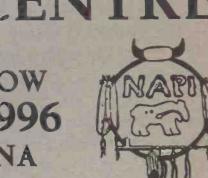
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PQ dominates Confederacy meeting

Mercredi asks First Nations to stay united

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By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Correspondent

OTTAWA

The fate of Quebec First Nations, inherent right to self-government, changes to the Indian Act, taxation, and control over renewable resources were just some of the issues tackled by First Nations peoples at a Confederacy of Nations meeting in Ottawa last month.

Saddled with cellular phones briefcases and business cards, chiefs and other First Nations representatives form Nova Scotia to the Yukon met for two days in October.

At least one day was devoted to protecting the rights of Quebec First Nations in the wake of the Quebec sovereignty vote on October 30.

National Chief Ovide Mercredi railed against Quebec cepts. separatists.

Mercredi said the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) would never allow Quebec Aboriginal peoples to be forcibly taken out of Canada.

A unanimous vote from delegates solidified a resolution to that effect.

But when he wasn't talking about Quebec Native rights, Mercredi pleaded for delegates



Ovide Mercredi.

government. his opening speech, Mercredi went through a checklist of beefs that the AFN has with Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) Minister Ron Irwin and some of the changes his department is plan-

He said DIAND's recent report on inherent right to selfgovernment is yet another example of the federal government defining Aboriginal con-

"What you have here is Irwin's statement, Irwin's view of inherent right, not ours," Mercredi said.

He said that the AFN wrote a response to the report but the chiefs in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and New Brunswick didn't like that response.

angry that the AFN was being zens of that region.

to sup- excluded from a current review port the of the Indian Act.

> He said Irwin sent letters directly to chiefs asking for their input instead of getting advice from AFN.

Mercredi said he has requested copies of the chief's responses but DIAND has yet to release them.

He said the AFN is supposed to be representing First Nations people on this very grave issue.

This kind of backdoor consultation puts AFN at a disadvantage when negotiating with the federal government, he said.

"We have a right to a consensus decision," Mercredi said, "not the interpretation of some letters by Ottawa bureaucrats."

The Confederacy of Nations meets about four times a year and is accountable to and takes direction from the First Nationsin-Assembly, the body made up of member AFN chiefs.

The Confederacy is one of five bodies that exists within the Assembly of First Nations charter. It is made up of one First Nations representative from each region (Alberta, B.C. Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Denendeh, Nova Scotia, Ontario, P.E.I., Quebec, Saskatchewan and Yukon Terri-To emphasize further frac- tory) plus one representative for turing, Mercredi said he was every 10,000 First Nations' citi-

Chretien to court

By Catherine Osborne Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO, Ont.

On Nov. 1, over 130 people assembled at Toronto's Ontario Place for the first public hearing to establish a permanent Aboriginal international court.

Organized by the Chiefs of Ontario, the reception follows on the heels of a First Nations indictment sent to Prime Minister Jean Chretien's office on Sept. 27, which outlines three counts of illegal activity undertaken by Canada. The indictment includes the unlawful interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign First Nations, the enforcement of Canadian laws on First Nation citizens, and unauthorized taxation of First Nations organizations.

The indictment is the result of some of the recent incidents which have occurred between First Nations peoples and the Supreme Court. In particular, the B.C. Sparrow Case on fishing rights, and the dispute over tax exemption laws to First Nations organizations.

The indictment is the first step toward a new court system, and Jean Chretien has been asked to file his plea by Nov. 30 of

The international tribunal is now at a model stage with plans to appoint seven Aboriginal judges from around the world who will establish a court system which recognizes Aboriginal rights and represents national treaties as they are understood by First Nations peoples.

As it stands now, government courts do not recognize many Aboriginal forms of documentation such as oral traditions, wampum or birch bark scrolls.

Plans are for the inaugural sitting of the First Nations International Court on April 2, 3 and 4, 1996 in Ottawa have already begun. The seven judges have been invited to discuss with a panel of appointed Elders the procedural steps needed to meet the mandate of an international court system. As well, a team of international experts will be invited to assist in court proceedings.

Financing of the court will be entirely donation driven with the aim of reaching \$250,000 to cover costs. At present, \$20,000 has been raised.

geographic information systems aboriginal lands management

SUNDAY December 10

7:00

7:30

MONDAY December 11

TUESDAY December 12 WEDNESDAY December 13

THURSDAY December 14

FRIDAY December 15

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

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Learn how to set meaningful GIS objectives and use them to assist your community in managing issues related to cultural relevance and parametres, sovereignty, land management and

heritage resources.

From an Aboriginal perspective, discuss ways to develop effective databases. Examine raster/vector (point and line) data formats and remote sensing and participate in a handson demonstration of GIS technology.

Examine various methods for collecting GIS data and discover the best sources for reliable GIS data. Identify the questions you should ask to qualify the questions you should ask to qualify data before you make a purchase decision. This discussion will provide you with tips

and tools to save

money and time on

your GIS purchase.

Integrate what you have learned during the program in a discussion of resource management issues and an overview of modeling techniques.

Bring closure to your learning by attending a 'graduation' lucheon.

12:00 Noon

4:30 Get acquainted with your colleagues and faculty and form learning partnerships during an informal welcoming reception.

Through a group project, use maps, slides and other teaching aids to learn about the fundamentals of goegraphic information, GIS technology and

developement, This

on the Aboriginal

perspective.

session's emphasis in

database

Through a case study approach, develop an understanding of the power, potenial and limitations of GIS.

Participate in an outdoor excursion where you will see physical examples of the digital data available from centralized data services. Take advantage of this opportunity to discuss your specific GIS

problems or

DINNER

Participate in a guest presentation on how GIS has ben effectively applied within Banff National Park and other locations.

Explore how GIS can help you bolster your land daims.

Faculty members will throughout the afternoon for potional one-to-one consultations to provide participants with general advice and/or specific answers to GIS

related questions.

questions with the faculty.

6:00

Begin the program with introductions and a prayer. Then, participate in a group discussion of participants' overall expectations and an overview of GIS applications.

Continue your discussion of GIS. Explore the importance of GIS as a tool for managing critical information.

Andrew Bear Robe, Program Director,

Banff Centre for Management

Enjoy a free evening for reflection, relaxation, recreation or entertainment.

In an open forum with faculty and colleagues, raise and discuss GIS purchasing issues including types of equipment, software and preferred suppliers. This will help you exercise

better judgement in

GIS tchnology and

digital data.

your own purchase of

Join your colleagues from across Canada and the United States as you celebrate your participation in this program at an evening banquet.



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Limited finacial assistance is available to qualified participants from Aboriginal and not-for-profit groups. To apply for funding, please submit a one-page letter of request specifying the level of assistance you require and the anticipated benefits you and your organization will derive from your participation in this program. To be considered for a scholarship, your application must be received no later than November I, 1995

SUBSTITUTION AND CANCELLATION

We allow participant substitutions if, after registering, you are unable to attend a program. If you wish to send a substitute, please phone us in advance at 1-800-590-9799 to provide us with the relevant details. In the event of cancellation, a \$200 processing fee will be assessed to cover

AVAVA Editorial AVAVA

Imperative we focus on shaping public opinion

The behavior of large groups of people in a democratic society is studied in political science faculties across North America. Recent developments with land claims in B.C. and Yukon indicate that First Nations would do well to pay attention to the shifting of opinion on their issues.

There are three problems. All are directly related to any negotiation process, especially one where a small group, such as a First Nation, stands to benefit from negotiation with a larger group, such as a province. This is the case in a democracy, no matter how powerful or historical the claims of the small group are.

The first is the most obvious: the backlash from those in the larger group who see the smaller group taking what has been theirs. This is going on everywhere across the country. Native leaders in most cases have neglected public opinion, concentrating instead on legal and moral obligations in treaty and land issues. The fact is, though, that the people on both sides are representatives of their people, and the people call the shots, in terms of elections (and reelections) and public compliance with the law.

The second follows logically on from the first. If mainstream politicians have to get re-elected, and they do; and if the body politic - their public - is beginning to react against land claims and other "concessions" to Native people; then the politicians will be under pressure to shift their points of view away from conciliatory positions.

Practically, this means that politicians, who do not as a rule do what is right if it isn't directly related to more votes for them, will sacrifice the legal and moral obligations of the provinces and the federal government to the more practical (for them) purposes of getting more voters to vote for them.

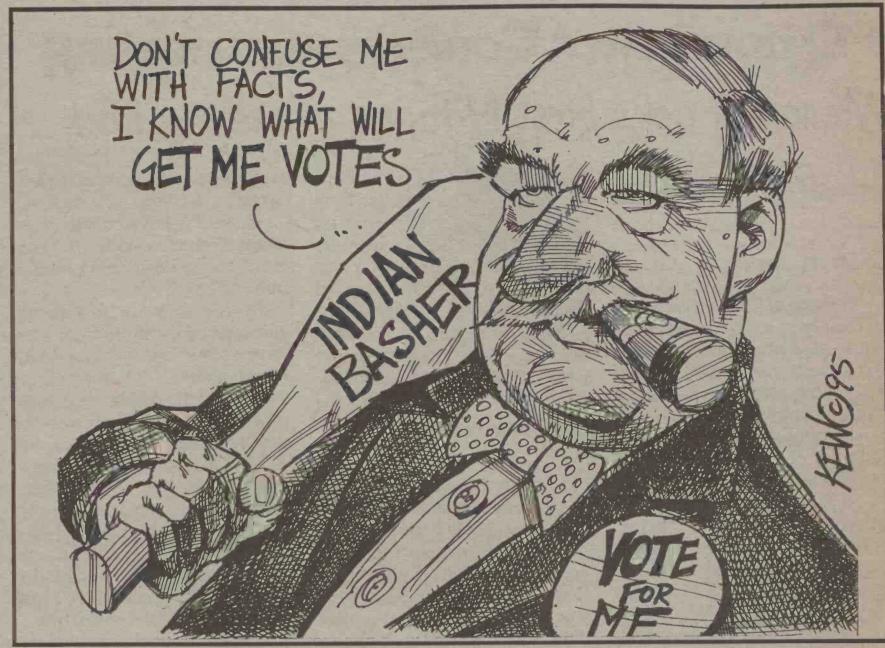
The Nisga'a know about this, now that B.C. Liberal leader Gordon Campbell has broadsided the treaty negotiation process with a promise not to honor their treaty, if it isn't ratified by the time he takes office. He has yet to get elected, but it is a commentary on how far down the road to backlash we've come that Campbell believes he can gain votes by promising to dishonor the promises of the government of British Columbia.

To Nisga'a leaders, who say that this is "Indian bashing," the Liberal leader might reply: yeah, so? If it gains votes for Campbell's party — which is anything but liberal, by the way — then what's the down side for him? Public opinion counts for more than our Native leadership has believed.

There are also calls in Yukon that government leader John Ostashek has gone public with complaints about the land-negotiation process there. The Kwanlin Dun chief's remark that "land claims negotiations are confidential" shows a disrespect for public process that will not be lost on voters. The Yukon debate will not get really ugly because Native people make up a large percentage of the voting population, but that won't hold back the politicians elsewhere, where Natives make up single-digit percentages and historically have a low voting turn-out, to boot.

Indeed, it may be that there will be internal tensions in bands which are in the negotiation process, as well. High expectations and lower results have already seriously damaged the Lubicons in Alberta, and when leaders ask for the moon and then get a piece of Iowa, their followers are not going to be satisfied with their leadership.

The simple fact is that, in the political sphere, the vote is the bottom line. Get it, and you have power. Lose it, and you have your memories. Positive public opinion is essential to any cause, and Canada's Native leadership needs to put some effort into shifting it our way.



The Family under attack

GUEST COLUMN

By Jack D. Forbes University of California

The family and its strengthening is vital to all societies and is especially crucial in a period in which the income-producing ability of ordinary people is under assault by so-called "free" trade and by corporateinspired automation.

The family is fundamental in all Native American cultures and, in fact, it is the family which traditionally exercises ownership of resources and land-use rights in most Indigenous communities. fortunately, white outsiders have harped so much about "the tribe" that we have almost forgotten the primacy of the family. First American families were always "extended", that is, they included not simply a husband, a wife, and children but also grandparents, great grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and so on, as well as adopted relatives. Because of the "clan" system being used among many groups, relatives could extend outward to everyone belonging to the same

clan even if they belonged also to a different tribe.

But our families have been under attack for many years. Tax rules are extremely antifamily. At the same time they are also extremely pro-corporation and favor wealthy individuals. These anti-family tax laws affect the majority of Native people who must make their living away from a reservation or reserve. (They also affect those living on reservations since relatives living in off-reservation areas are less able to help their unemployed kin.)

Why are the income tax laws anti-family?

Everything imaginable is done to enhance the incomeproducing capabilities of those who are engaged in "business" or in the "professions". But the same effort is not extended to ordinary people who must work for someone else. The same effort is not extended to helping extended families help themselves and their members.

Of course, one can argue that the deduction of interest expense for owning a home helps families, but the rich can deduct the interest expense on a second or vacation home as well. Moreover, the elimination of the deduction for interest on ordinary purchases tended to hurt working people much more

than the wealthy (who can more easily borrow large amounts of money on home equities and then deduct the interest payments). Likewise, the deduction of real estate taxes help the wealthy more than families since there is no limit on the deduction of taxes for land and houses held purely for specula-

tion or profit.

To make the income tax laws pro-family we will need to (first) kick out the majority of members of the House and Senate and (second) demand of their successors that the legitimate expenses of maintaining a family be recognized. For example, if deductions are allowed for dependent children they should also be allowed for dependent parents, grandparents and other relatives (including adopted ones). In addition, one should be able to deduct one's contributions to relatives and one's expenses to produce an income (an automobile or the cost of transportation). Medical and dental expenses should also be fully deductible (until we have a Canadian-style single-payer health system).

These ideas represent a start on a pro-family tax system. They will help us rebuild our families and restore the collective strength our ancestors de-

pended upon.

Windspeaker is published by the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) every month to provide information to the Aboriginal people. Windspeaker has a circulation of 15,000. Windspeaker was established in 1983 and is politically independent. Indexed in the Canadian Magazine Index and indexed on-line in the Canadian Business & Current Affairs Database and Canadian Periodical Index, 35 mm microfilm: Micromedia, 20 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2N8.

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Nam C-31

Dear Editor:

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Bill C-31 has given the reserve, there is a of her youth. It is this We should not deny t our community. Nativ resolved this one too.



AVAV Letters to the Editor



Names hurt C-3 | child

Dear Editor:

I have heard all the names: paper Indian, half-breed, wannabes. This is the legacy of having to move away from the my reserve because my mother married a white man.

The family still welcomed us whenever we visited, but there was always a feel in the room. As children we suffered the cruelty of the reserve kids once we were out of earshot of the grown-ups.

I never really understood what we did wrong. It was all because my mother lost her Indian status when she married a nonstatus man. Race did not matter to my parents. They are still married after 32 years and just because my mother is Native does not make my father love her less.

The government punished her by taking away her culture and refusing to let her call herself a member of the Nazko Band. A fact the more tactless members of the Band never let us kids forget.

The controversy of the challenge to Bill C-31 and the point that members are not being permitted to return to their home dredges up all those names that I heard as a child.

The opponents in this controversy are dealing with a very emotional issue. One that could leave lasting scars that will cut deeply in the unity of Native people everywhere.

The children will not forget the names and the scars will surface again in their future. I hope that this issue will be resolved without creating more feelings of hate and anguish.

Does not our past and present troubles give us enough problems to deal with? We need to solve our difference by keeping it within the Native community and not let ourselves get dragged across the headlines.

When Bill C-31 became law my mother and her children became legal members of the Nazko Band. There was some grumbling from Band members over stretching already limited resources, but we are not used to luxuries so the difference of whether 10 or 12 sit down at the dinner table is hardly noticed.

As a parent I am extremely grateful for the medical coverage. The real benefit is that I can return to my reserve and all the voices are quiet. My child does not have to listen to the names or answer the question "What are you doing here?" My mother rests more easily knowing that she has regained what she lost.

Bill C-31 has given back her dignity and when she returns to the reserve, there is a proud tilt to her head as she walks the roads of her youth. It is this comfort that is the real benefit of Bill C-31. We should not deny this comfort to the overlooked members of our community. Natives have weathered many storms and we will resolved this one too.

> Tom French Nazko Band, Carrier Nation

Windspeaker Reader Response Line



If you feel strongly about an issue but don't have time to write, the Windspeaker Reader Response Line is a great alternative to writing a letter to the Editor.

Each month, Windspeaker poses a question to its readers in an effort to promote thoughtful discussion on the issues that most effect Native nations in Canada. While we encourage people to respond to the question being asked, readers are not limited to comments on that one topic alone. An indiviual has three minutes to talk about any issue that most concerns them. All we ask is that you leave your name, band affliation, the city or town of residence, and a phone number where you can be reached.

The Windspeaker Reader Response Line is very easy to use. Just dial our toll-free number and ask the receptionist to connect you with the line. If you are calling after hours (we are on Mountain Time) then listen to the directions on our answering machine and, at the appropriate time, enter extention number 229.

This month's question:

It's been two years since the Liberals were elected to power in Canada. Are you satisfied with the efforts they have made in issues related to Aboriginal people?

Call the reader responses line, toll-free, at 1-800-661-5469, ext. 229 and record your comments. We'll print the responses in next month's issue.

Looking for father

Dear Editor,

I'm looking for my father. His names if Leonard Ward. I last saw him when I was four years old. I have seen pictures of him playing a guitar.

My name is Keitha Frances Kakakaway, I'm 36 years old, and I was born on June 5, 1959. I was raised on WhiteBear Re- Harry Kaye.

serve, outside of Carlyle, Saskatchewan. My mother's name is MaryJane Snowden (nee Kakakaway) and my grandfather's name is James H. Kakakaway. When my father was younger he was friends with my Uncle Kelly (Ernie) Kakakaway and my Uncle

I would very much like to meet my father and get to know his family.

.I can be contacted at my home number (306) 949-4454 or at my work number (306) 757-0195, Riel Human Resources Inc.

> Sincerely, Keitha Kakakaway

Prayers not guns at sacred sites

Dear Editor,

tivities of our youth, and peo- grounds (Sundance sites). ple in general, across the land. I am also enlightened by the hope and enthusiasm expressed by many of these youth in preserving their culture, and I have prayed for all of you during my many sweatlodge ceremonies.

However, I am a little concerned with the attitude and manner of this expression. For

one thing, I believe that guns I've been reading with inter- have absolutely no place in saest, and a bit of sadness, the ac- cred ceremonies, or sacred

blue cloth (blue represents the

Bear and its healing power) to

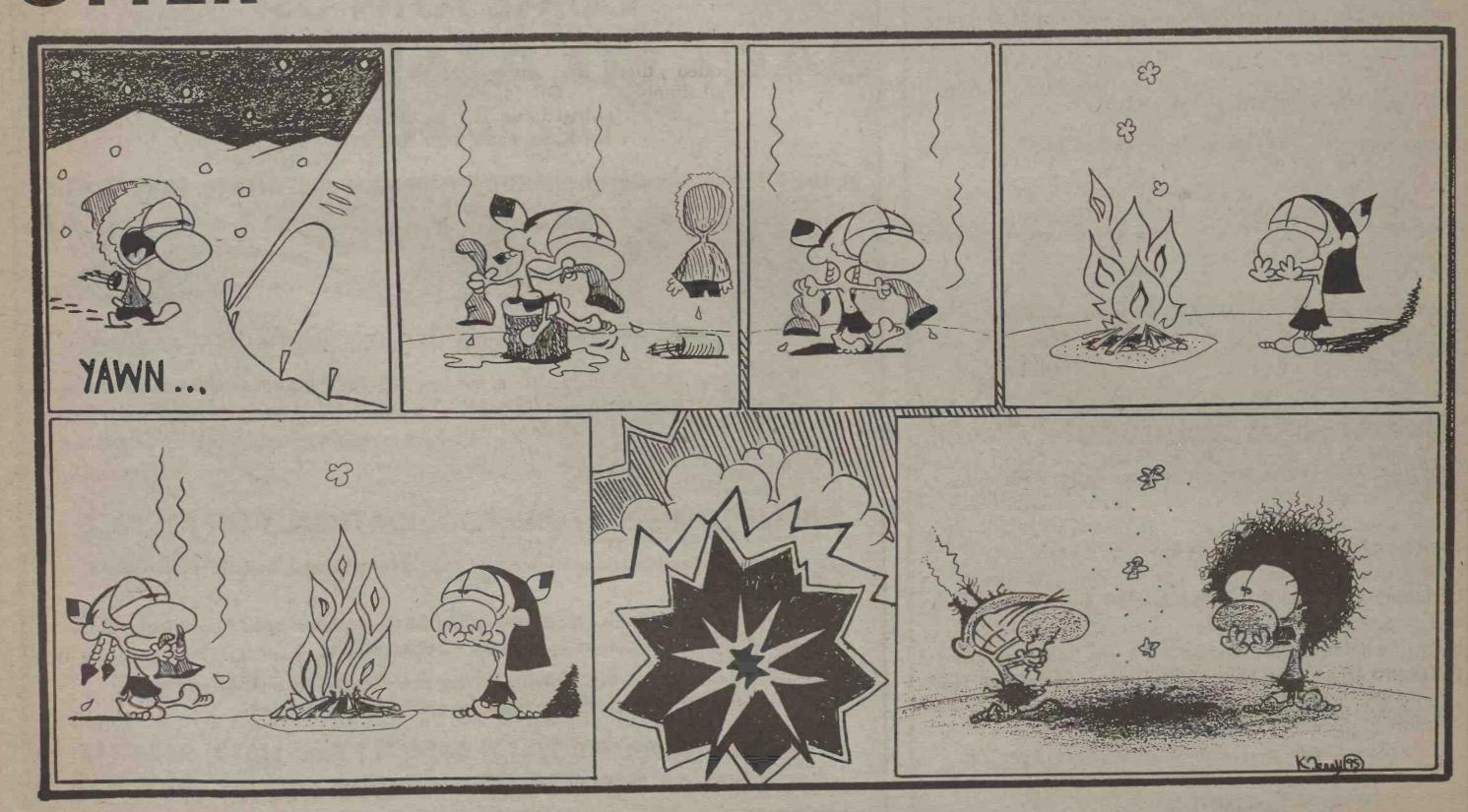
It is very encouraging to hear our Elders remind us that we must begin making changes. As Native people we must heal our 'culture' by learning all we can about our values, traditions and ceremonies. Take some tobacco and one metre by one metre of

an Elder and begin that path that will allow you to learn to understand the teachings of our ancestors.

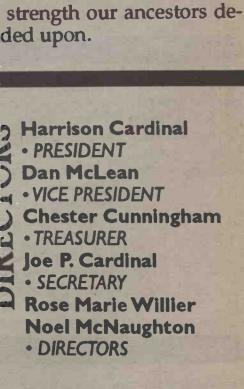
Our Elders believe that Native people must heal themselves. They must try to identify where it is that they're hurting (emotional, mental, physical or spiritual), and then seek out the Elders and the Healers in order to restore balance, harmony and strength in their being.

Oo-Chin-A-Pees

OTTER



By Karl Terry



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These ideas represent a start a pro-family tax system. y will help us rebuild our ilies and restore the collec-

or profit.

SHIPS AJA) ty (NACS) (CMPA) MPA)

Ith system).

GHTS Vindspeaker as well as pictures, news, terial are the property of Windspeaker n permission of Windspeaker.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE YOUR EVENTS IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE, PLEASE CALL CAROLYN BEFORE NOON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AT 1-800-661-5469, FAX: (403) 455-7639 OR WRITE TO: 15001-112 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5M 2V6.

ABORIGINAL HUMAN RIGHTS SÈMINAR

November 30, 1995. Edmonton, Alta. (403) 479-1999

VALDOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

November 30, December 1-3, 1995. Valdor Arena Valdor, Quebec. Call the Arena for more info.

N.W.T. TREATY #8 TRIBAL COUNCIL STAFF CHRISTMAS GATHERING

December 6, 1995. Yellowknife, N.W.T.

EDMONTON ABORIGINAL PROFESSIONAL AS-SOCIATION MONTHLY MIXER

December 8, 1995. Edmonton, Alta. (403)424-1919

NATIVE SENIORS CENTRE 10TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 8, 1995. Edmonton, Alta. (403) 476-6595

N.W.T. TREATY #8 TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS TRAINEE, TEAM BUILDING WORKSHOP

December 11-15, 1995. Yellowknife, N.W.T.

YTV ACHIEVIEMENT AWARDS

December 15, 1995 Deadline. (416) 534-6565, ext. *594

NATIVE HERITAGE CENTRE CHRISTMAS CARD

December 24, 1995 (Deadline @ Noon). Duncan, B.C. (604) 746-8119

DAKOTA OJIBWAY TRIBAL DAYS

January 25-28, 1996. Brandon, Man. (204) 729-3682

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR

CONTEST

February 9-18, 1996. Winnipeg, Man. (204) 233-2556

8TH ANNUAL UNITED TRIBES INTERNATIONAL INDIAN ART EXPO AND MARKET

May 10-12, 1996. Bismarck Civic Centre Exhibit Hall Bismarck, North Dakota, USA (701) 255-3285

A People A VA A people's past carved in the trees

By Joe Zentner Windspeaker contributor

One of the strangest sights a person in North America can see is a totem pole. People of the Northwest Coast built them in profusion: forests of sculptured columns standing between their houses and the sea, proudly announcing to all who passed by the heraldic past of those who dwelt there.

Of the many Native cultures found in the New World, the art of the Northwest Coast Indians, who lived on the coast of southern Alaska and British Columbia, is the most sophisticated. Nothing else in the realm of wood sculpture can compare with the classicism of the faces found on totem poles.

Totem poles first appeared some 250 years ago among the first people of Alaska and British Columbia. Here, among such tribes as the Tsimshian and Kwakiutl, totem poles stood above the land of their creators.

The original purpose of totem poles was to provide support for the roofs of houses. Then, Natives began putting totems in front of their homes.

The most impressive poles were made after a chief died. At such times, the widow's family cut down a tall cedar tree and dragged it to their village. The best carver in the village then

told of the mythological beginnings of great families at a time before time, when animals, mythic beasts and men lived as equals. These wooden monu-

carvers, who perfected an art style whose origins lay in antiq-

There are different types of totem poles, each with a specific meaning. The most common variety was the heraldic pole, which publicized a family's history. Traditional narratives recount how ancestors long ago were harassed or rescued by spirits of the unseen regions and how ancient warriors conquered their enemies.

"Ridicule" poles were carved to shame another person or clan. The Seward pole in Saxman Totem Pole in Alaska reputedly is one. It depicts the tiny figure of a man wearing a hat. U.S. Secretary of State William Seward was given a feast when he came to Alaska to negotiate its purchase from the Russians. The pole supposedly is a reminder that Seward never repaid the favor.

Reading a totem pole is tricky. The largest figure, usually the one at the base, figures most prominently in a story. Thus, using the phrase "Low man on the totem pole" to denote low rank is incorrect.

To understand a pole's meaning, one must understand the legends about animals that are depicted. For example, the raven is often carved holding a round object in its beak. One legend tells how a bad chief worked designs into the pole in stole the sun from the sky and memory of the chief. When he locked it in a box. The raven had finished, the forms of then disguised itself as the wolves, bears, beavers and chief's grandchild. The grandother wild animals covered the child asked to play with the sun, the chief opened the box and Like heraldic crests, poles gave the sun to him. The child then changed back into a raven. Holding the sun in its beak, the raven flew away and put the sun back in its proper place.
Tribal symbols are memory de-

ments were the work of master vices to remind you of a story if you already know it! To read a totem pole requires not only a knowledge of tribal history, but of Native legends. To confuse matters further there may be more than one story on a pole. And there is no way of knowing where one ends and another

Totem poles can be seen to best advantage in their natural setting, at the ocean's edge. Some poles still stand where they were originally placed, particularly on British Columbia's Queen Charlotte Islands. In the ghost village of Nanstints, dozens of the cedar visages remain precisely as their owners left

Vancouver displays copies of famous totem poles in Stanley Park. Also in Vancouver, at the University of British Columbia campus, both the Kwatiutl collection and the adjacent Haida collection are impressive.

Victoria has totem poles on display in Thunderbird Park. Also located there is the carving shed where master carvers copy and repair old poles. In Beacon Hill Park, look for a tall, slender pole that stands by itself. It was carved by the late Mungo Martin, a Kwakiutl master

No single object has been more closely associated with Northwest Coast culture than the totem pole. Carved in animal figures and brightly painted, these cedar objects are an impressive Native art form.

As the people of treeless Easter Island raised up megalith monuments hewn from the only material at hand (stone), so Northwest Coast people carved their memorials out of logs and then stood them up, as if to pro-claim: "In this land, all things are of the tree."

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Elijah Harper has called the Sacred Assembly.

In the face of growing frustration and violence in First Nations communities Elijah saw something missing from our struggles to reclaim land rights and self government through the courts.

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For information: Ph: 1(613) 947-9711 Fax: 1(613) 947-9717 Registration fee: \$30.00. Billeting may be available.

North of 60, Canada's (v CBC) view of Native peop for a brief moment, I wa prised. There in front of the grand total of about for sibly five seconds, I tho heard one of the character a joke and then I actual somebody smile. I was a What has always been one more somber shows on tele for a brief moment, let some genuine Native soul

When the show first we production several year there was great excitemen Native community. The been a few attempts by the sion industry to capture sence of Aboriginal life, so cessful some not. The Bear ers had several permane members of Native desce seldom did the stories de their issues. In the midthere was a family show Spirit Bay that dealt with kids growing up on the All in all, this show was able, though kind of light journeys begin with the fir

Then after a long d came North of 60, a show place in an actual Aborigin munity (albeit reconstr with the majority of cha being Native, except f pesky white central charac all shows about Native seem to need. The concer audience identification then, it quickly became a to the story editors that the possibilities for this one ch had became exhausted by enth or eight episode, and ally the focus of the show to shift to the more inte Native characters in the c

So with a number of ye der its belt, the show I some interesting hits an conspicuous misses. It's p a solid vehicle for introduc amazing talents of Tina Tom Jackson, Tina Bomberry, Gordon Tootoo the rest of the cast of the Lynx River to the Canadi lic. Practically every w Native actor in Canada as



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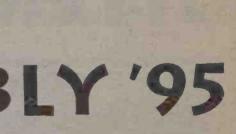
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FOR JUSTICE

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(613) 947-9717 be available.

North of 60, south of accurate

I caught the season opener for North of 60, Canada's (via the CBC) view of Native people. And for a brief moment, I was surprised. There in front of me, for the grand total of about four, possibly five seconds, I thought I heard one of the characters utter a joke and then I actually saw somebody smile. I was amazed. What has always been one of the more somber shows on television, for a brief moment, let us see some genuine Native soul.

When the show first went into production several years ago, there was great excitement in the Native community. There had been a few attempts by the television industry to capture the essence of Aboriginal life, some successful some not. The Beachcombers had several permanent cast members of Native descent, but seldom did the stories deal with their issues. In the mid-eighties there was a family show called Spirit Bay that dealt with Native kids growing up on the reserve. All in all, this show was enjoyable, though kind of light but all journeys begin with the first step.

Then after a long drought came North of 60, a show taking place in an actual Aboriginal community (albeit reconstructed), with the majority of characters being Native, except for that pesky white central character that all shows about Native people seem to need. The concept being audience identification. Even then, it quickly became apparent to the story editors that the story possibilities for this one character had became exhausted by the seventh or eight episode, and gradually the focus of the show began to shift to the more interesting Native characters in the commu-

So with a number of years under its belt, the show has had some interesting hits and some conspicuous misses. It's provided a solid vehicle for introducing the amazing talents of Tina Keeper, Tom Jackson, Tina Louise Bomberry, Gordon Tootoosis and the rest of the cast of the fictional Lynx River to the Canadian public. Practically every working Native actor in Canada and parts



Drew Hayden Taylor

of the U.S. has found themselves in some sort of pickle in the N.W.T. And the show has a fine reputation for training Native people in story editing and other

aspects of television production. For the most part, it has acquainted the television audience with the multi-faceted existence the Aboriginal people of Canada live. Issues that were only statistics now have faces, voices and

But perhaps this is also the shows biggest weakness. Its preoccupation and dedication to showing the negative aspects of Aboriginal existence. When the show first aired I became a faithful viewer, tuning in to see how long the Mountie would survive in this community. There had been a cop stationed in my community as a child and I sort of related to Teevee, having had the same fixation with television, pop culture and the world outside at

But as the episodes passed, I became less and less enchanted with the show. The characters and the plot explored every single thing that could go wrong with a Native community and offered to the viewers nothing of its positive

force for dysfunctionalism. In an average season, topics such as alcoholism, infidelity, residential school abuse, teenage pregnancy, et cetera were endured by this little Dene community in the North. What at first had been hailed as a breakthrough, was now concerning a lot of Native people. Canadian viewers were seeing Lynx River as the most dysfunctional community (outside of a soap opera) on Canadian television.

the show endorsed the perpetuation of Natives as victims.

The more I watched the show, and Teevee's efforts to leave the community, and all the horrible things that were happening around him, I was tempted to take up a collection to buy the poor kid a plane ticket to get him the hell out of there. No wonder he was such a pain. I would be too if I lived under the same circumstances.

critical but I don't stand alone. I did an informal poll on my reserve. Alice Williams, born in Northern Ontario, now living in Curve Lake First Nation shares a similar opinion. She feels the show confirms, affirms and promotes dominant culture ideology about the Annishnawbe (Native people). A health worker in the community agrees, saying "it's all doom and gloom. Too depressing for me."

All the criticism of this show is tinged with a certain amount of understanding. Unfortunately, the vast majority of these issues do and are happening in Native communities all across the country. What irks me and a lot of other Native people is that the Powers That Be, specifically the Each episode became tour-de- producers and story editors refuse to show the other side of reserve life; the humor and good

Throughout these horrific times the show loves to portray, one of the things that has allowed us to face and overcome these tragedies is our sense of humor. Read the works of most Native writers, and even in the deepest darkest moments of their characters' lives, there is always a flash of humor. In the Native commu-There was a growing concern that nity, that seems to be the chief (no

pun intended) complaint con- issues arising from North of 60. cerning North of 60.

When Native actress Columpa Bobb was asked to play the new nurse on the show, she vowed that the one thing outside of what was required in the script that she would do was, simply, smile.

Every time she entered a scene, she told herself to smile. "Nobody smiles on that show. I wanna be the first." And when her first episodes aired, she was indeed the only one smiling. It looked obvious. Too obvious. She soon stopped. She said she looked like she was on drugs. But that's for a later episode no doubt.

According to a friend of mine who works on the show, this choice to not include humor in the life of Native people is deliberate and conscious. Because, again according to my friend, anybody who criticizes the show becomes Admittedly, it's easy to be a person non-grata and will never work for the show again, so I shall refer to this particular person as Deep Quiver.

My, what I consider legitimate criticisms of the show are no secret_to the Powers That Be, the producers and story editors. Deep Quiver tells me that, for almost a year, something to the effect of "North of 60 is one of the most depressing shows on Canadian television and it does not accurately reflect Native life - Drew Hayden Taylor" was scrawled across the top of their wall sized blackboard where they develop and plot stories. I'm not sure if it was for inspiration or vengeance. The odd thing is, I don't remember ever actually saying that in any quotable environment. Up

told me that over the years the many members of the cast have quietly suggested that Native life is not entirely the way it's portrayed on the show, that the communities do laugh occasionally. But the Powers That Be, producers and story editors to be specific, respond that "it's more dramatic" to focus on the problems.

Last spring I attended Dreamspeakers, an Aboriginal film festival in Edmonton. While there, I sat on a panel dealing with Program.

Also in attendance were several of the Powers That Be, the show's Cree/Metis story editor Jordan Wheeler and story editor/producer Peter Lauderman. The floor was opened up to discussion and one of the first questions asked was "If the show is about Native people, shouldn't it be more funny?"

Jordan Wheeler responded simply, "It's a drama. If you want comedy, watch a sit-com." He later told me he often gets asked the same question, even by the Dene of the N.W.T., the people whom the show is about. At the end of the panel, Peter Lauderman mumbled as he packed up his stuff, "if I have to explain why there's no humor one more time, I'll go crazy."

I don't buy Jordan's argument. It's form/style over substance, with the form/style being the drama and the substance being Natives. Humor is so intrinsic to the culture, that to take the humor out of the characters to suit the form seems wrong. And some of the funniest moments I've ever seen have occurred in so-called drama, and some of the most emotional scenes I've witnessed have happened in sit-coms.

So who knows? Maybe the Powers That Be will listen to their audience and lighten things up a bit. In these years of cultural renaissance, Native people want to celebrate who and what they are, not cry over it. But unfortunately, it seems the show has a poor record of heeding its audience.

According to Deep Quiver, last season the show also introduced a character named Suzy Now Deep Quiver has also Muskrat and the viewer response was larger then normal. Evidently the character had touched many viewers and they wanted to see her back. Instead, the Powers That Be shrugged it off theorizing it was just the actress organizing a letter writing campaign to get more work.

After all this, there's only one thing left to say. I'll probably never work in Lynx River again. I hope The Toronto Star is planning to put me in a Critics Relocation



CHIEF DAVID CROWCHILD MEMORIAL AWARD

Nominations are requested for the 1995 Chief David Crowchild Memorial Award. City Council and the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee have established the Award to recognize an individual or group of individuals within Calgary who:

- (a) create bridges of understanding, through cross-cultural experiences, between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures;
- (b) create, within Canadian society, an understanding of the uniqueness and value of Aboriginal culture; and
- (c) encourages, or supports Aboriginal people in fields of education, employment and training.

Please forward nominations in writing to:

Office of the Mayor The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Station "M" Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

All nominations should be received by January 15, 1996. Nominations should include a resume of the candidate and a description of the contribution for which recognition is being sought.

All nominations will be reviewed by the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee. If further information is required, contact S. Small at 268-5111.









B.C. Liberal leader 'Indian bashing'

By R John Hayes Windspeaker Staff Writer

VANCOUVER

Speaking to the faithful at their annual convention Nov. 19, B.C. Liberal leader Gordon Campbell promised "one law for all British Columbians."

His rejection of Native militancy was tied to a blanket dismissal of a negotiated land

and Native logging rights — if they don't measure up to his own criteria for equality.

"We will not respect a settlement that does not reflect the principle of one law for all British Columbians," Campbell said, to huge applause.

"Under a B.C. Liberal government, road blocks will not be tolerated, illegal acts will not be rewarded.

"We will base our settlements pretty rough ride."

agreement, Aboriginal fishery on one single overriding principle: there will be one law for all British Columbians."

> "This is Indian bashing, pure and simple," said Chief Joseph Goshell of the Nisga'a First Nation, on the verge of completing land-claim negotiations with the current government.

If Campbell sticks to his threat to refuse to ratify the treaty after the election, Goshell said: "I'm afraid we're in for a

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WE'RE MORE ACCOMMODATING!

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF AGT LIMITED

AGT Limited has filed an application with the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), for changes to its rates and tariffs, including price increases for local services. The Company has proposed that an interim increase

AGT Limited also proposes that the implementation of the \$2.00 per line per month local rate increase ordered by the CRTC in its October 31, 1995 Rate Rebalancing Decision be postponed from January 1, 1996 to February 1, 1996. Mandated long distance rate reductions stipulated in the CRTC decision of October 31, 1995, will be implemented January 1, 1996.

In another decision, the CRTC advised it will review AGT's three proposed residential local access options in a proceeding next year. AGT will pursue its commitment to offer customers choice in local telephone service in this proceeding. In light of the CRTC's decision to defer consideration of the proposed residential local access options, AGT will not be seeking to implement these options at this time, as originally intended and communicated to all Albertans.

AGT's rates have traditionally been among the lowest in Canada. To keep local rates low, AGT has cut costs and improved efficiency. AGT continues these cost cutting measures. AGT has also introduced new services to generate additional revenues. However, despite these efforts, AGT will experience a revenue shortfall in 1996. These revenues are necessary to ensure AGT continues to provide quality service to customers and meet its legal obligation to provide universal service without impairing its financial integrity.

O. BRIEFLY, WHAT IS THE APPLICATION ALL ABOUT?

A. If approved, the interim rate changes proposed in the application will generate net additional revenues of about \$62.4 Million in 1996.

Q. HOW WOULD MY RATES BE AFFECTED BY THE APPLICATION?

A. Effective February 1, 1996, AGT proposes increases in rates as follows:

Residential customers will see an increase ranging from \$4.00 to \$6.00 per month for each telephone line. Business customers with one or two lines will see increases ranging from \$2.00 to \$6.00 per telephone line per month depending on the rate group of your community. Business customers with more than two lines will see increases ranging from \$2.00 to \$9.00 per telephone line per month depending on the rate group and total number of lines in each business location (Please see Chart A).

These proposed increases are in addition to the \$2.00 per line per month increase ordered by the CRTC in its October 31, 1995 Rate Rebalancing Decision. Residential and business customers in communities with Extended Flat Rate Calling (EFRC) will see increases of up to \$1.50 per month.

Q. WHY IS THE COMPANY ASKING FOR A RATE INCREASE NOW?

A. The company's improved productivity, cost cutting measures and new sources of revenue will not be enough to avoid a serious shortfall in revenues in 1996. The only option available to AGT to generate the needed revenues is through these rate increases. The proposed rate increases are necessary to enable AGT to maintain its financial integrity while delivering service at rates that still represent excellent value for the service provided.

Q. WHERE CAN I SEE A COPY OF THE APPLICATION?

A. The Request for Interim Increase in Rates and supporting evidence are available for public inspection during normal business hours at AGT's offices located at:

AGT's applications may also be inspected at the offices of the CRTC: Bill Payment Centre Security Desk, Main Floor Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere AGI lower 411 - 1 Street S.E. 10020 - 100 Street 2nd Floor, Room 202-B Calgary, Alberta T2G 4Y5 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 0N5 Central Building

Hull, Quèbec

Q. HOW CAN I COMMENT ON THE APPLICATION?

A. You may express your comments: 1) BY SENDING A LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

KIA ON2

If you have a comment or matter that you feel the Commission should take into account in reviewing the application, including such matters as quality of service, availability of service, billing practices, or any other matter relating to the Company's operations, you can write directly to the Commission. Your letter should clearly state your views and should include any relevant information that may be useful in explaining or supporting those views. Send your letter so it will be received by December 11, 1995 to:

Mr. Allan J. Darling Secretary General Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Ottawa, Ontario

A copy of your letter should also be sent to: Bohdan S. Romaniuk, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs 31st Floor, 10020 - 100 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 0N5

O. WHOM MAY I CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION?

A. AGT has set up a special toll-free number to answer any questions you may have about this application. For example, if you want to know how the proposed rate changes will affect your bill, call one of our specialists at 1-800-341-1171 between 7:30 a.m. and midnight, every day (including holidays). Our specialists will be pleased to assist you.

For additional information on the application or the procedure to be followed, please contact AGT at the above listed toll-free 800 number or the CRTC in Hull, Quebec at (819) 997-1027, or in Vancouver, British Columbia at (604) 666-2111. To find out the rights and obligations of parties to a proceeding, please read the CRTC Telecommunications Rules of Procedure. Copies of the Rules can be purchased from the Canadian Communication Group Publishing, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0S9 (catalogue SOR/79-554, amended by SOR/86-832) phone (819) 956-4800.

Chart A - Current Rates (Per Month)

Rates by Rates Group		Business				
	Residence	1-2 line Service Level I	3-4 line Service Level 2	5-7 line Service Level 3	8-12 line Service Level 4	13 lines + Service Level 5
Rate Group I	11.98	22.43	29.98	33.53	35.53	39.58
Rate Group 2	12.27	24.43	31.98	36.03	38.53	42.58
Rate Group 3	12.46	26.43	34.98	39.03	41.53	46.58
Rate Group 4	12.69	29.48	39.03	43.53	46.03	50.58
Rate Group 5	13.07	31.48	42.03	46.53	49.53	55.08
Rate Group 6	13.41	34.48	46.03	51.03	54.08	59.08
Rate Group 7	13.98	35.98	48.03	53.53	56.58	62.08

Approved Rates (Per Month)

The state of the s		Business				
Rates by Rate Group	Residence	1-2 line Service Level 1	3-4 line Service Level 2	5-7 line Service Level 3	8-12 line Service Level 4	13 lines + Service Level 5
Rate Group I	13.98	24.43	31.98	35.53	37.53	41.58
Rate Group 2	14.27	26.43	33.98	38.03	40.53	44.58
Rate Group 3	14.46	28.43	36.98	41.03	43.53	48.58
Rate Group 4	14.69	31.48	41.03	45.53	48.03	52.58
Rate Group 5	15.07	33.48	44.03	48.53	51.53	57.08
Rate Group 6	15.41	36.48	48.03	53.03	56.08	61.08
Rate Group 7	15.98	37.98	50.03	55.53	58.58	64.08

Approved rates include the \$2.00 per line increase approved in monthly local telephone rates by the CRTC on October 31, 1995.

Proposed Rates (Per Month)

Rates by New Rate Groups					Business		
	ups	Residence	1-2 line Service Level 1	3-4 line Service Level 2	5-7 line Service Level 3	8-12 line Service Level 4	13 lines + Service Level 5
Rate Group 1-	3 3		30.43	38.98	43.03	45.53	50.58
Rate Group 4	& 5 →	19.98	35.48	46.03	50.53	53.53	59.08
Rate Group 6	&7		39.98	52.03	57.53	60.58	66.08

• AGT's proposal includes delaying for 31 days the CRTC approved \$2.00 per line, per month increase to monthly local rates to coincide with AGT's proposed interim local rate

 Proposed rates for existing Residential rotary dial customers will be \$0.59 less until December 1, 1996 Proposed rates for existing Business rotary dial customers will be \$0.88 less until December 1, 1996.

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Windspeaker Correspon

By Lisa Gregoire

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OTTAWA

Three centuries ago bullets and blankets f Today, Europeans cause of what is perce

If the European Co pean Union) goes ahe fur, Native trappers a A traditional way of cheques.

"We need to only le to deal with the effect families were affected come for families in t of the Baffin Region I N.WT.

"With this propose out there trapping. Th taken away by Europe doing here and who issue," Ell said.

Keith Conn, envir First Nations was a tr "I talk to my cousin

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The commercial for against Native people no trap is a humane t by imposing standar opinions and sugges collective voice has b

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Poised on the brink of disaster: Aboriginal trappers in Canada

> Article 3 of European Commission Regulation 3254/91

The introduction into the Community of the pelts of the animal species listed in Annex 1 and of the other goods listed in Annex 11, inasmuch as they incorporate pelts of the species listed in Annex 1, shall be prohibited as of 1 January 1995, [later extended to 1 January 1996] unless the Commission, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 5, has determined that, in the country where the pelts originate:

•there are adequate adminstrative or legislative provisions in force to prohibit the use of the leghold trap; or •the trapping methods used for the species listed in Annex 1 meet internationally agreed humane trapping standards.

By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Correspondent

OTTAWA

Three centuries ago, European explorers got rich trading booze, bullets and blankets for stacks of trapped animal pelts.

Today, Europeans are turning their backs on Canadian fur, because of what is perceived as inhumane trapping methods.

If the European Commission (the legislative body of the Euro pean Union) goes ahead with its Jan1, 1996 plan to ban Canadian fur, Native trappers across Canada could lose substantial income. A traditional way of life may have to be traded in for welfare cheques.

"We need to only look at the ban on seal skins. We're still trying to deal with the effects of that. That was 15 years ago. A lot of families were affected. It was a very big change in the level of income for families in the North," said Jerry Ell, executive director of the Baffin Region Hunters and Trappers Association in Iqaluit,

"With this proposed ban, I could see a similar effect for those out there trapping. That will be another big chunk of their income taken away by Europeans who don't really understand what we're doing here and who don't really understand the full extent of the issue," Ell said.

Keith Conn, environmental co-ordinator for the Assembly of

First Nations was a trapper until age 14.

"I talk to my cousins on the phone, I visit them, I go home twice a year and talk about these things and I'm concerned about that I mean here we have an upswing of people going back to the land and now this is going to be a discouraging factor because the price will fall through the floor"

Conn, AFN National Chief Ovide Mercredi, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada President Resemarie Kuptana, Gerald Morin, leader of the Metis Nation and Jim Sinclair, president of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples went to Europe earlier in November to try to persuade European Parliamentarians to see the Canadian trappers' side of the issue. Conn says he is hopeful.

Part of the team included actual trappers to explain the way of life and the potential impacts of this ban, Conn said. "We're hop-

ing for success. The commercial fur industry has pitted animal rights groups against Native people for decades. Animal rights groups maintain no trap is a humane trap. Politicians have struggled with the issue by imposing standards and by giving voice to Native people's

opinions and suggestions. Native people, however, believe their collective voice has been relegated to a whisper. *Canadian politicians and bureaucrats say they'll use international courts and trade agreements to overturn the European regulation. European Commissioners say their hands are tied by pub-

lic opinion. One month before the ban is to take effect, it looks as though animal rights groups may have won the day. The starting point for the controversy is usually attributed to the European campaign against seal skins in 1980. Dozens of Inuit communities were devastated when hunters could no longer sell seal skins and many Inuit say increases in substance abuse, de-

pression and family violence resulted. For the next 15 years, the Canadian government commissioned studies and set up committees to research fur trapping in Canada and satisfy the anti-fur lobby by taking the lead in developing humane trapping methods.

Ten years ago, a portion of the Alberta Environmental Research Centre in Vegreville, Alta, was devoted to fur trapping research and since then, Canada has remained the leader in trapping research.

So when the European Commission passed resolution 3254/91 on fur imports in 1991, which prohibited the use of leghold traps in European Union member states and required that non-Union states not only do the same, but develop humane trapping standards for certain animal species; Canada seemed most prepared for the impending change.

But the regulation was not a simple one that could be legally and rationally defined. Unfortunately emotion, misinformation

and politics prevented the issue from seeing any rational debate. In 1993, after world leaders and animal rights groups fought

for two years over a definition for the word humane, the Commission reinterpreted the regulation, made fur import criteria even stricter and told export nations they had until Dec. 31, 1995 to comply with the regulation or face a ban on fur exports to Europe.

Brian Roberts, head of the fur program for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, said there is no point in trying to get around the ban, because Europeans have no intention of letting Canadian pelts into their market.

That's because they're trying to save European fox and mink ranchers, Roberts said. It's trade protectionism and it has to be fought through treaties and international courts, he said.

Article II of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was developed so that nations could not put restrictions on how goods are manufactured in foreign countries. It's up to the countries to regulate their own exports except where international standards are concerned, he said.

The European Commission's regulation talks about standards, but Europe refuses to accept a definition for the word humane.

That's not only unfair, it's illegal, Roberts said.

But Kenny Blacksmith, deputy chief of the Quebec Crees, said the government's got it all wrong. He said it's more than a trade issue and if federal bureaucrats had bothered to get substantial input from Native trappers, they would have realized that.

For that reason, Blacksmith has been travelling to Europe and meeting with high level officials himself. He said the fur ban is an Aboriginal rights issue and European leaders are more willing to listen to that than threats of court action or trade retribution from the Canadian government.

Roberts said the Canadian government has always sought input from Aboriginal people but he said consultation and negotiation are two different things.

Roberts said when it come to high level negotiations, it is strictly government to government. Opening the meetings up to Aboriginal groups would mean animal rights groups would want a place at the table and then too many voices would prevent any progress.

Blacksmith said he doesn't trust the government to negotiate on his behalf. He said the government bungled the seal skin ban in the 1980s and he doesn't want to see the same thing happen to fur trappers

"If they messed up the last time with the seal skin ban, what assurance do I have that they won't mess up this time?

"We want to be able to have an impact on decision-making that takes place elsewhere that affects our way of life. We don't want to see any more closed door negotiations.

So where does this all leave the Aboriginal trapper? Vulnerable to the whims of Europeans who have money, resources and political connections, say Native people.

"If they want to, [animal rights groups] can get a thousand people right at the doorstep of the European Parliament," said Ell. The larger picture is the animal rights movement and their effectiveness in organizing and influencing parliamentarians," said

Conn. "They're there 24 hours a day. The pressure is intense." "We are not city dwellers," said Ben Kovic, chair of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. "Some people call us barbarians. I don't want to call myself a barbarian. I have ways of dealing with

things in my culture Native trapping organizations and federal bureaucrats agree on at least one thing: leghold traps are a thing of the past in Canada.

Canadian trappers, especially Aboriginal trappers, don't like the steel jawed traps because animals get stressed and struggle which causes bleeding and tearing of the skin. This decreases the value of the pelt.

Conn said Native trappers prefer the more humane quick kill traps because they make for better quality pelts. Most trappers haven't used leghold traps for years.

And while federal bureaucrats have just about given up on getting anywhere by negotiating and will resort to litigation, Aboriginal leaders like Blacksmith still believe European politicians will listen to reason from an Aboriginal Canadian.

"Hopefully in the end, if anybody makes an impression or change in terms of thinking of this whole fur ban, it will be because Native people represented themselves."

Approximate number of trappers in Canada: 80,000

- Approximate number who are Aboriginal: 40,000
- Estimated percentage of Aboriginal income from furs: 30-60%
- Percentage of world fur that comes from trapping: 10% Percentage of Canada's fur that is exported: 90%
- Percentage of Canadian fur that ends up in Europe: 75%
- Value of Canadian fur exports to Europe in 1993: \$14 million Value of Canadian fur sold at Canadian auctions in 1993: \$22 million
- Value sold at auction in 1979: \$85 million
- In 1981: \$41 million • In 1986: \$75 million Number of Canadian pelts produced in 1992-93: 815, 648
- Percentage that came from Ontario: 30%

- Percentage from the Yukon and NWT: 4%
- Number of mink farms in Europe: 4,748
- European mink pelt production in 1993: 13,104,500
- Number of mink farms in Canada: 300
- Average number of Canadian mink pelts produced annually:
- Number of fox farms in Europe: 3,511 European fox pelt production in 1993: 1,695,300
- Number of fox farms in Canada: 650 Average number of Canadian fox pelts produced annually: 65,000
- Muskrats destroyed annually in the Netherlands as pests: 300,000-400,000

An Aboriginal alternative

By Lisa Gregoire Windspeaker Correspondent

OTTAWA

Quebec Crees say they have a solution to the proposed ban on Canadian furs: a special Aboriginal

"This label will be established to ensure that humane trapping standards are used, promoted and developed," the proposal reads. "This label is also established to encure the development of a niche market in Europe for furs and fur products caught and processed by Indigenous peoples in Canada." Kenny Blacksmith,

deputy chief of the Quebec Crees, said he presented the proposal to European officials in September and they seemed willing to entertain the idea. According to the proposal, Aboriginal trappers would be given a special label for their furs and those labeled furs would be exempt from the proposed European fur ban. Blacksmith also proposes to delay implementation of the Jan. 1 1996 ban to work out the details of the plan.

Blacksmith said not only did European officials like the idea, so did some Cana-

dian officials.

"They even told me they had spent, literally, millions of dollars on a strategy that didn't get them anywhere. This was the government of Canada saying this," Blacksmith said.

Brian Roberts, manager of the fur program for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, said if the Crees want to go ahead with this, more power to them. But it won't work.

Roberts said no matter what kind of label the fur has attached to it, if buyers fear a backlash from animal rights groups they won't buy Canadian fur-period.

Besides, buyers buy fur in big quantities for mass production. A few furs with an Aboriginal label may be nice but they just won't sell to people in the business looking for larger quantities of product to invest in.

Blacksmith said he doesn't care what the Canadian government says.

"I cannot stop doing what I can do to defend our people's rights. If it has to be done away from Canadian support, then so be it."

Northern Transportation Co. Ltd. VA

Company bridges the icy gap and wins

One of Canada's largest employers of Aboriginal people became the recipient of a 1995 Merit Award on Oct. 23 ment equity.

Company Limited (NTCL) is the first Aboriginal-owned company to receive the prestigious award. It was presented to NTCL by Human Resources Development Canada at a ceremony hosted by the Conference Board of to the Bering Strait. Canada.

ary of Norterra Inc., a holding larger size and high quality of

company owned jointly by the Inuvialuit Development Corporation, representing the Inuvialuit of the Western Arcfor achievements in employ- tic and the Nunasi Corporation, a development corpora-Northern Transportation tion of the Inuit of Nunavut.

> NTCL is the main marine transportation link for more than 50 Canadian and Alaskan communities, defense sites, the exploration industry and businesses spread along the Arctic coast from Hudson Bay

"This award is particularly The company is a subsidi- humbling to us because of the

the organizations that have won it in the past. We're justifiably proud of the fact that our small company has been able to play a role in the economic well-being of Canada," said Eddie Dillon, Vice Chairman of NTCL.

The NTCL fleet includes 15 tugs and more than 100 barges. It employs more than 300 people during its peak operating season.

While the primary function of the company is to resupply the north, the company also has a firm commitment to provide training and employment for its shareholders, the north's Aboriginal people.

Canada grants awards to em- all levels of the organization. ployers covered under its Employment Equity Act who distinguish themselves by the various outstanding measures they have taken to promote employment equity and fairness in the workplace.

The NTCL Career Development and Employment Committee oversees employment equity initiatives which have been extended to other Norterra companies, including Valgor, an oil and gas pipeline valve manufacturer in Edmonton, and SRI Homes, Canada's largest builder of manufactured homes with plants in Winfield, B.C., Lethbridge, Alta., and Estevan, Sask. Norterra Inc. also has a hand in the employment equity programs of Edmonton's Grimshaw Trucking.

Approximately 42 per cent



From I to r, Peter Tatty, Murrie Hurley, John Carpenter, Eddie Dillon, Evelyn Starr and Pat Lyall accept the award.

The Government of riginal and hold positions at

serving the north and was, un-traveled between Fort til it was purchased by the McMurray, Alta. and Aklavik, people of the north in 1985, op- N.W.T. By 1937 it had introerated as a crown corporation. duced the first steel vessel in

In the 50s, the only means of resupply to the north was through NTCL, said Norterra chairman Frank Hansen. He Early Warning Line and, in the said it was always a thrill for him to meet the first barge entering the community carrying the goods from the south, like groceries and building materials for housing and school projects. It was always a dream of his to work for a large company like NTCL, and now, the company is fulfilling his dream and the dreams of others in their career

wheelers were the transportation of missionaries, fur trad-

of NTCL's employees are Abo- ers, and government emissaries to the north, NTCL introduced into service the first NTCL has a long history of wooden tug and barge which northern service. NCTL played a vital role in the resupply to Canada's Distant oil boom of the 1970s, serviced oil rigs year round.

In 1985, NTCL was the first Federal Crown Corporation to be privatized and, 10 years later, celebrated a decade of Aboriginal ownership.

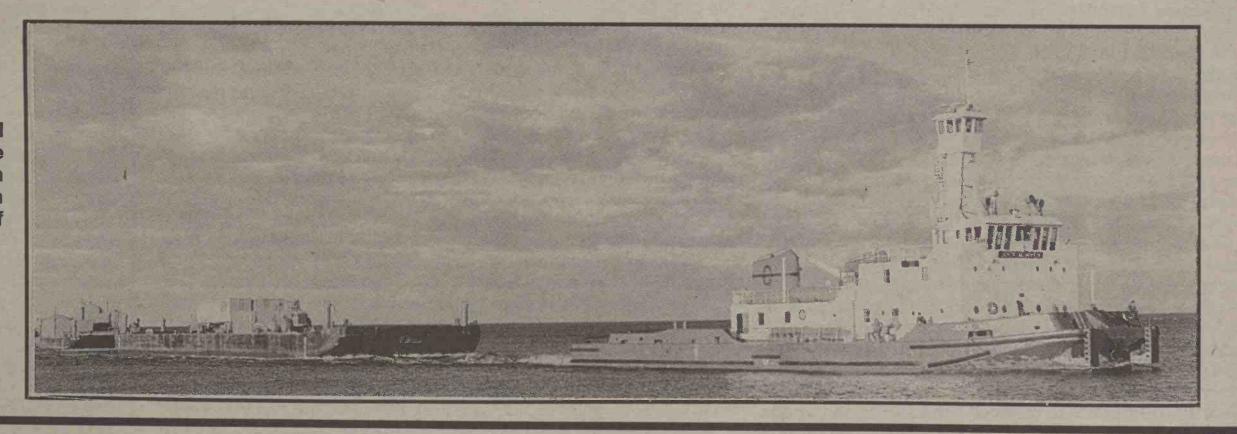
1995 also marked the opening of a new head office in Hay River, with regional offices in Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit.

NTCL is the most reliable and cost-effective means of In 1931, when paddle getting goods from the south to the remote nooks and crannies of Canada's north.



An NTCL barge cleaning crew at Hay River.

An NTCL vessel pushes a barge loaded with cargo through the waterways of th north.



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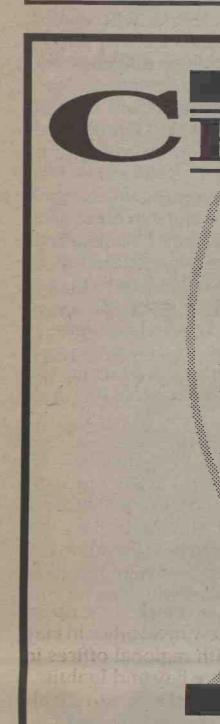
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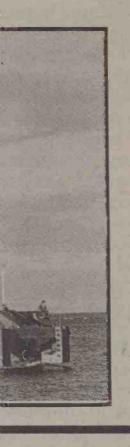


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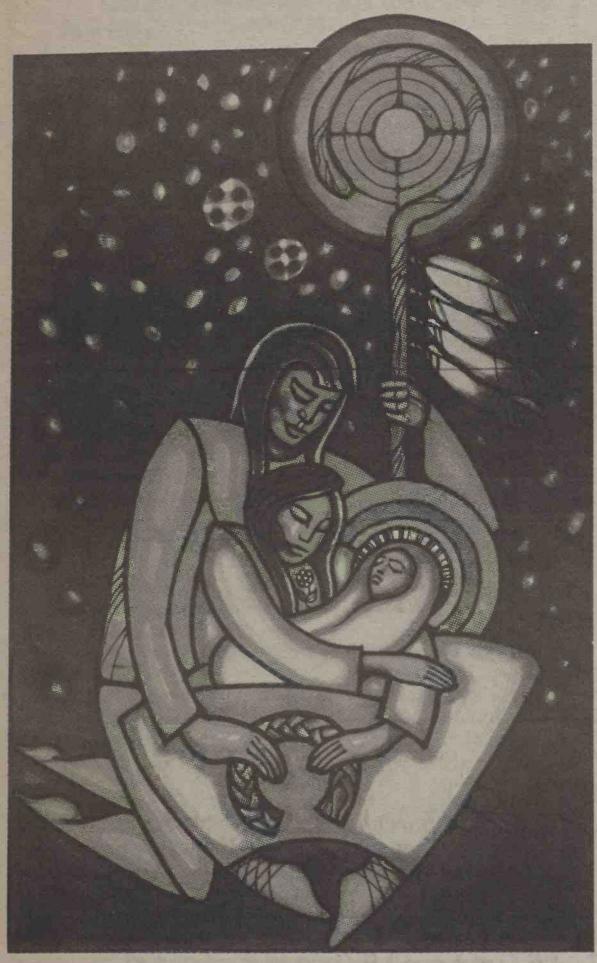
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CANADIAN NATIONAL

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A celebration of the birth of Jesus



Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:18-19

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she would be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord should be born. came up-on them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, Israel. which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:1-14

Now when Je'sus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, joy. there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, shipped him: and when they and are come to worship him.

When Herod the king had laid him in a manger; because heard these things, he was trouthere was no room for them in bled, and all Jerusalem with

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he de-manded of them where Christ

And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet;

And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least bring you good tidings of great among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people

> Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

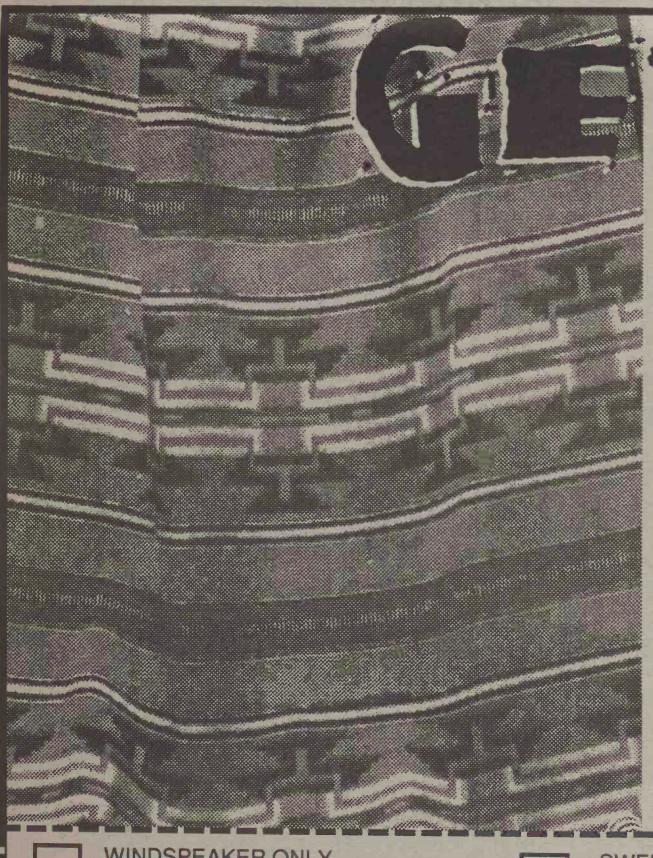
And he sent them to Bethlehem; and said Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed: and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worhad opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:1-11



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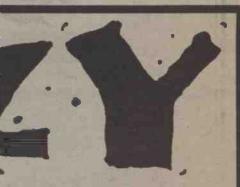
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Matthew 2:1-11



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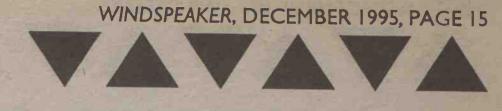
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General Manager Office Manager Receptionist/Secretary Business Analyst Business Analyst Database Project Coordinator

Hark the Herald Angels

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;" Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled. Joyful all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies With th' angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem; Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Gracious bond of earth and sky, Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!

Hail, the son of Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings, Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

holy Night

O holy Night! The stars are Led by the light of faith serenely brightly shining,

It is the night of the dear savior's

Long lay the world in sin and error pining' 'Til He appeared and the soul

felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world

rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and

glorious morn; Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Oh night, O holy night, O night

Oh night, O holy night O night divine!

beaming;

With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;

So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming;

Here came the wise men from Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in

lowly manger. In all our trials born to be our friend;

He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger,

Behold Your King, before Him lowly bend!

Behold Your King, before Him lowly bend!

Behold Your King, before Him lowly bend!

In the meadow we can build a

then pretend that he is Parson

Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you list'nin?

In the lane, snow is glist'nin, A beautiful sight, we're happy

Walkin' in a winter wonder-

Gone away is the bluebird, Here to stay is a new bird, He sings a love song, as we go

He'll say "Are you married?" We'll say "No man! But you can do the job when you're in town!"

snowman,

Brown;

Later on, we'll conspire, As we dream by the fire, To face unafraid, the plans that we made,

Walkin' in a winter wonderland. Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

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Christmas

Word of God in Native tongue

By Debbie Faulkner Windspeaker Contributor

KITCHENER, Ont.

Canadian Bible Society is Busy Again with Native Bible Translation.

After almost a century of relatively quiet presses, the CBS is now working on New and Old Testament translation projects in 11 Native languages in Canada. Scripture selections are being produced in at least another five languages.

"This is the biggest effort at translation since the first contact was made by missionaries," said Bob Bryce, a Saskatoonbased translation consultant with the CBS.

The British and Foreign Bible Society (BFBS), CBS's predecessor, published its last Native translation of the complete Bible in Eastern Kutchin in 1898. The first BFBS publication of the new Testament in Canada was into Labrador Eskimo in 1826.

In the 1800s, most Bible translation was motivated by white missionaries. But today, that motivation is coming from Native people themselves.

"There was renewal in the church in terms of wanting to have things in Native languages," said Dr. Harold Fehderau, director of CBS's Scripture Translation Department in Kitchener, Ont. That was the major finding of a Yuvey sponsored by CBS in 1980 tury, he emphasized.

Ben Arreat, an Inuit Anglican priest and translator who lives on Baffin Island confirmed that

"When we finished the preliminary (New Testament) publishing, a lot of people bought these copies and they said it was the first time they understood the Bible.

"That's what started bringing life into the church when we started using more of the peo-

ple's language," said Bryce, a former Anglican priest whose parish was mainly OjiCree peo-

Church interest, however, was not the only factor CBS looked at in deciding what Bible translation projects to support. Language use and literacy promotion were important too. Was the language still being widely used by all generations? Did the community offer classes in learning to read and write their own language?

Today CBS supports Native people who work with the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), the Anglican Church of Canada, and various missions organizations, such as the Northern Light Gospel Mission.

"CBS felt there needed to be some way to draw people together, to encourage their work and provide some way for the publication of Scriptures," explained Bryce.

Of the more than 50 Native languages listed by the Assembly of First Nations, Dr. Fehderau said CBS decided on about 20 possible candidates for Bible translation.

Many Native hands, he added, will admit that English has made such inroads that there are very few who are using the language a lot.

"Our goal is to have by the year 2000 some Scripture in all viable Native languages," said Dr. Fehderau.

Translation this century is kon-to-Labrador language sur- very different from the last cen-

"The most important part is that no translation work is being done by any what we call expatriates or white people.... The only way it can really sound authentic is if a Native person is doing the translation.

Over the past five years, for instance, the Inuktitut (Eastern Arctic Eskimo) Old Testament translation project, has involved up to five Anglican Native pas-

"Today we have enough Na-

tive people with very adequate education to be able to take an English or French translation, for example, and translate it into a Native language."

Non-Native linguists serve primarily as translation consultants, assisting Native translators in such areas as linguistic theory and Bible knowledge.

Most of CBS's partners are preparing new translations, even if previous translations exist, such as the Micmac New Testament, first published in 1874. The Western (Plains) Cree is one exception. The New Testament portion of the original Western Cree Bible, first published in 1861, is now being reprinted in a "discript"—a Roman alphabet and the original syllabic alphabet.

A fresh translation of the Western Cree Bible, however, is planned for the future.

"It's time that Bible was updated,: explains Dr. Fehderau. "It's kind of like a King James Version Bible for many of the people who know Cree."

A set of basic readers on the Life of Christ rather than an entire New Native Testament is often the first materials produced for a Native community. Other times Scripture leaflets are produced instead. Such leaflets are now being produced in the Inuktitut (Nunavik dialect), Montagnais, Moose Cree, OiiCree and Swampy Cree lan-

"We are working together with the communities to find out what are the topics that are the most urgent for them," said Dr. Fehderau. Scripture leaflets on comforting people in hospital, suicide and depression, and families in crisis are now being produced.

Within the next year, Dr. Fehderau expects Algonquin and Micmac New Testaments will be ready for publishing. The revision of the Western (Plains) Cree New Testament also should be ready for printing.





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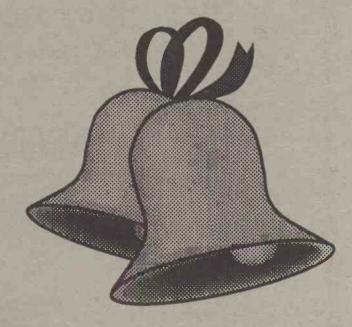
FOR MORE INFOR

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SHIHTA Regional Council

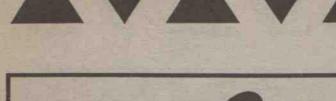
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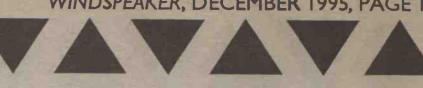
Extend warmest wishes for the Christmas season and good fortune in the forthcoming New Year!













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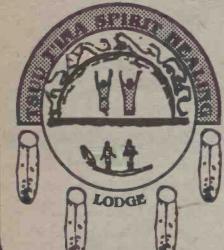
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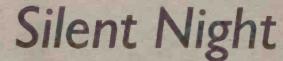
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Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright! 'Round yon Virgin Mother and

Holy Infant so tender and mild, Sleep in Heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories steam from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing "Alleluia," Christ, the Saviour is born! Christ, the Saviour is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light! Radiant beams from Thy holy Face, With the dawn of redeeming

Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful Glory to God, in the highest: and triumphant.

O come ye, O come ye to Beth-

Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels; O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n O come, let us adore Him, above:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the lord.

Yea, Lord we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, the Thee be glory giv'n Word the Father now in flesh appearing,

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

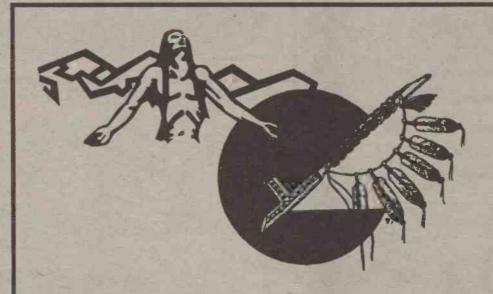
O little town of Bethlehem! How still we see thee lie: Above they deep and dreamless sleep

The silent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together! Proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently, The wonderous gift is given! So god imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven. No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin, Where meek souls will recive Him still. The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Chld of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!



Season's Greetings

At the Holiday Season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.

It is in this spirit we give our lasting support in the continued battle against alcohol and drug abuse.

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Manitoban Wins Peace Hills Trust Art Contest

By Terry Lusty Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

ated, is Pazi. Translated the name means, "He Who Goes Against Yellow Hair". In contemporary circles, he is Fred Pashe, 25, and this year's proud winner of the 13th Annual Peace Hills Art Contest. His acrylic on canvas painting entitled "The Spirit Will Never falo which won him top honours from among approxi-

category. gust Natannah of Assumption, Alta, for "Autumn Hunters," Thrasher of Quesnel, B.C., Couchie, who took first place give them credit for." two years ago. Cash awards of 2,000, 1,000 and 500 dollars were issued to the top three winners.

About 250 people turned up for the awards presentations at Edmonton's Westin Hotel where they were treated to a viewing of dozens of the best entries, a brunch and traditional entertainment by the Edmonton Metis Cultural Braid Powwow Dancers.

Pashe explained the story behind his winning piece. The buffalo represents the Native people through history and eagle in the background rep- heart and soul. Outside of that,

truth of the Creator. All these with a sign and screen paintthings, especially the little chiling company in Brandon. dren, their spirits will never die. The boy in the picture is his nephew Brian who was His Indian name, abbrevi- born with fetal alcohol syndrome and the doctors diagnosed him as having a club foot, and a twisted spine. He was blind, mentally retarded and crippled.

"We adopted him in a sense (in the Indian way)." Very shortly after birth he had heart surgery and the doctors had Die," was of a boy with a buf- little hope for him." Over time, the boy extended so much love to the family and vicemately 180 entries in the open versa."Today, he's back to normal," and much of that Pashe Second place went to Au- attributes to the great love that existed between young Brian and Pashe's family. He sums while "Tuktu" by Agnes it all up by saying, "these little children that doctors have won third prize. Honourable no hope for, they have a lot mention went to Sean stronger spirit than what we

The variety of art styles by Pashe are many. Apart from realism, he also does surrealism, including animal or monsterlike creatures that one normally finds in comic books - a market he'd like to break into someday. But, it's a tough one to crack, he explains, because of the tremendous volume of art entries received by comic producers. All he can do is sit Dancers as well as the White back and hope that one of the times that he submits his work, it will be the right time for his particular style and subject matter. In the meantime, he'll continue to crank into the future, and the golden out what he feels from his

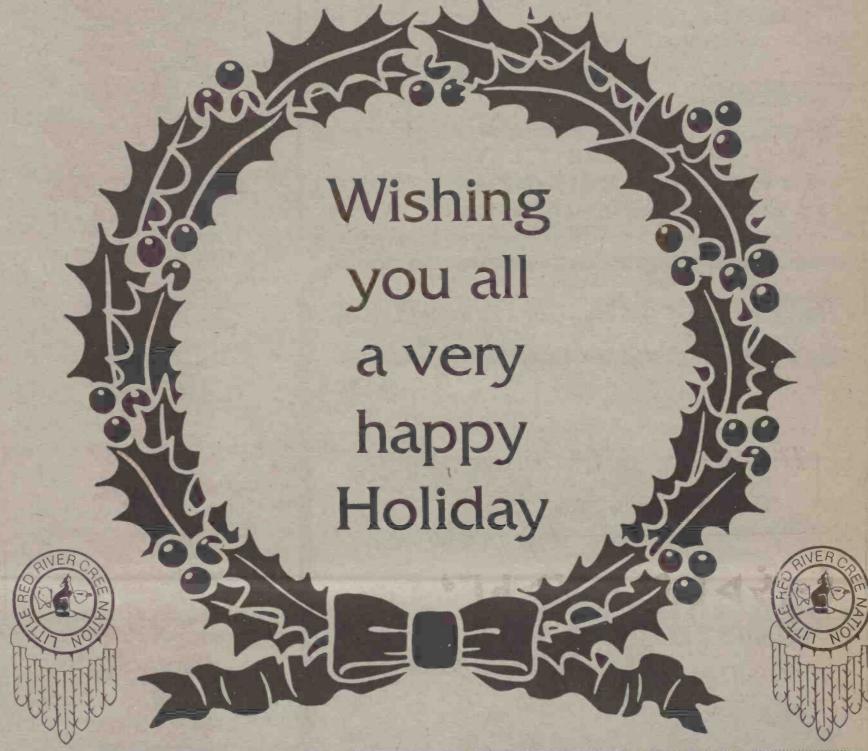
resents the spirituality, the he holds down a regular job

As for the three youth categories of the art competition, the winners were: Youth 9 and under - Brandon Kalllio, Tiffany Anne Denault, Reva Cooper. Youth 10 to 13 -Jacquelyn Fontaine, Rocky Metchooyeah, Shannon Kelly. Youth 14 to 17 - Alec Chief Calf, Clayton Gautier, Lorretta Boucher.

This year's judges were; Twain Buffalo, Agnes Bugera and Martha Campiou.



Fred Pashe and his winning art entry "The Spirit Will Never Die."



From the Chief, Council and Members of the RED RIVER CREE NATION Box 1165, High Level, Alberta T0H 1Z0



SEASON'S GREETINGS

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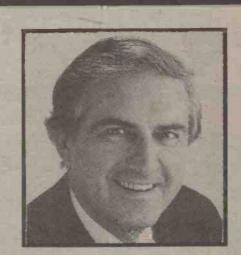


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A Christmas Message from the Premier of Saskatchewan



Once again, the Christmas season is upon us and my wife, Eleanore, and I are delighted to extend our warmest wishes to all for much peace and goodwill during this festive time.

It is important at Christmas to pause for reflection on our many blessings our valuable freedoms, our loving families, our sense of community, and our spirit of co-operation.

Indeed, this special co-operative spirit overflows beyond our borders and extends to helping people around the world. I am particularly proud to live in a province where people truly possess that wonderful caring quality that leads them to give of themselves so selflessly and to remember with compassion those less fortunate wherever they may be.

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I take great pleasure in wishing you and yours all the harmony and joy that are so much a part of the Christmas holiday season.

Roy Romanow Premier

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Terry Lusty
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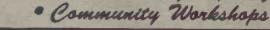
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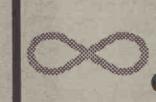




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Entertainment AVAVA

Top marks for latest endeavor from Miller

REVIEW

By Brian Wright-McLeod Windspeaker Contributor

Raven In The Snow: By Bill Miller Warner/Reprise, 1995

In combining electrically induced influences of Bob Dylan, Nine Inch Nails, Red Hot Chili Peppers, blues and indigenous roots music, Bill Miller's second album, Raven In The Snow, has to be one of the slickest products so far this year. Although Miller uses a measure of commercialism, it is achieved without compromise or damage. References to indigenous struggles and culture, have been polished to the sharpness of an obsidian arrow-

The guitar work, vocals and arrangements ring with a familiarity of that of Chris Isaak on the album's opening track River of Time. As the title suggests, it's a song about life being a river and the accompanying lessons. It's this type of simplicity that Miller successfully uses to clearly translate ideas through sound. He plays along a fine line between cliché and mimicry to that of integrating cultural, musical and spiritual ingredients which invoke image and emo-

Eagle Must Fly is a roots combination of Delta blues, country swing, a dab of electric folk and traditional Native music, while utilizing the close historical relationship shared among all of poetic devices that are injected with historical references to Crazy Horse and current struggles; it is also a song that interprets prophecy amid the guitar and harmonica playing that rejoices in the light of Willy Dixon.

In Every Corner of the Forest is three segues of atmosphere charge with electrified flute music and chanting that borders on the experimental. These recurring parts surface throughout the album and tend to represent the circle-of-life philosophy.

The slow-moving Listen To Me deals with the personal and the larger Indigenous struggle within the aftermath of colonialism. The song contains many subtleties that allude to a much larger context.

Red Bird Yellow Sun is the result of applying the traditional flute to a modern melody and instrumentalization that suddenly turns into a gale called After the Storm.

The nearly ripened This Kind of Love defies all melodramatic devices that can send a love song over the top. A faint aroma of Procol Harum lingers in the MB. R2L 0H8. electric organ that haunts the background of the piece.

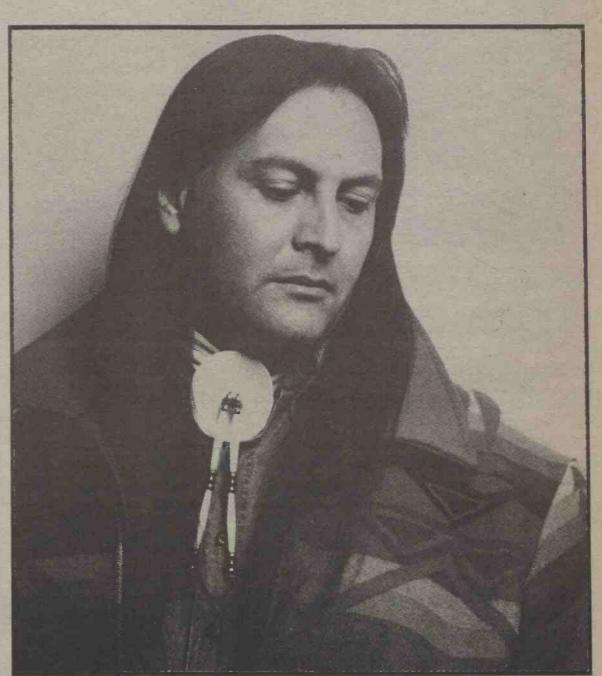
The Final Word is a full frontal assault that recruits a repetitive trumpet loop, sassy guitar licks, bold percussion and bottom-heavy bass lines.

Most of the material was the styles. The lyrics contain written in collaboration with other musicians on the album. Throughout the project, Miller expresses a deep honesty and passion for what he is singing about. The lyrics are anointed with the ink of the poet and placed in the cadence of a good songwriter. With all of this and more to offer, Raven In The Snow will have no trouble flying.

> Red Thunder's full-length album Makoce Wakan is now being distributed by Koch International based in Scarborough, Ontario. The 11 track album takes off where the preview release ended. The MTV PSA and the Aztec drumming tracks are the only omissions. A few more traditional and contemporary songs have been added to round out the tracking for a full-length

Although it may lean to the commercial, Anishnabe musician, Aaron Peters' self-released cassette project is noteworthy by virtue of his vocal talent and determination as an independent musician/producer. Unafraid is available from the artist at 234 Johnson Ave., Winnipeg,

Finally, a double CD collec-



Kris Kristoffersen

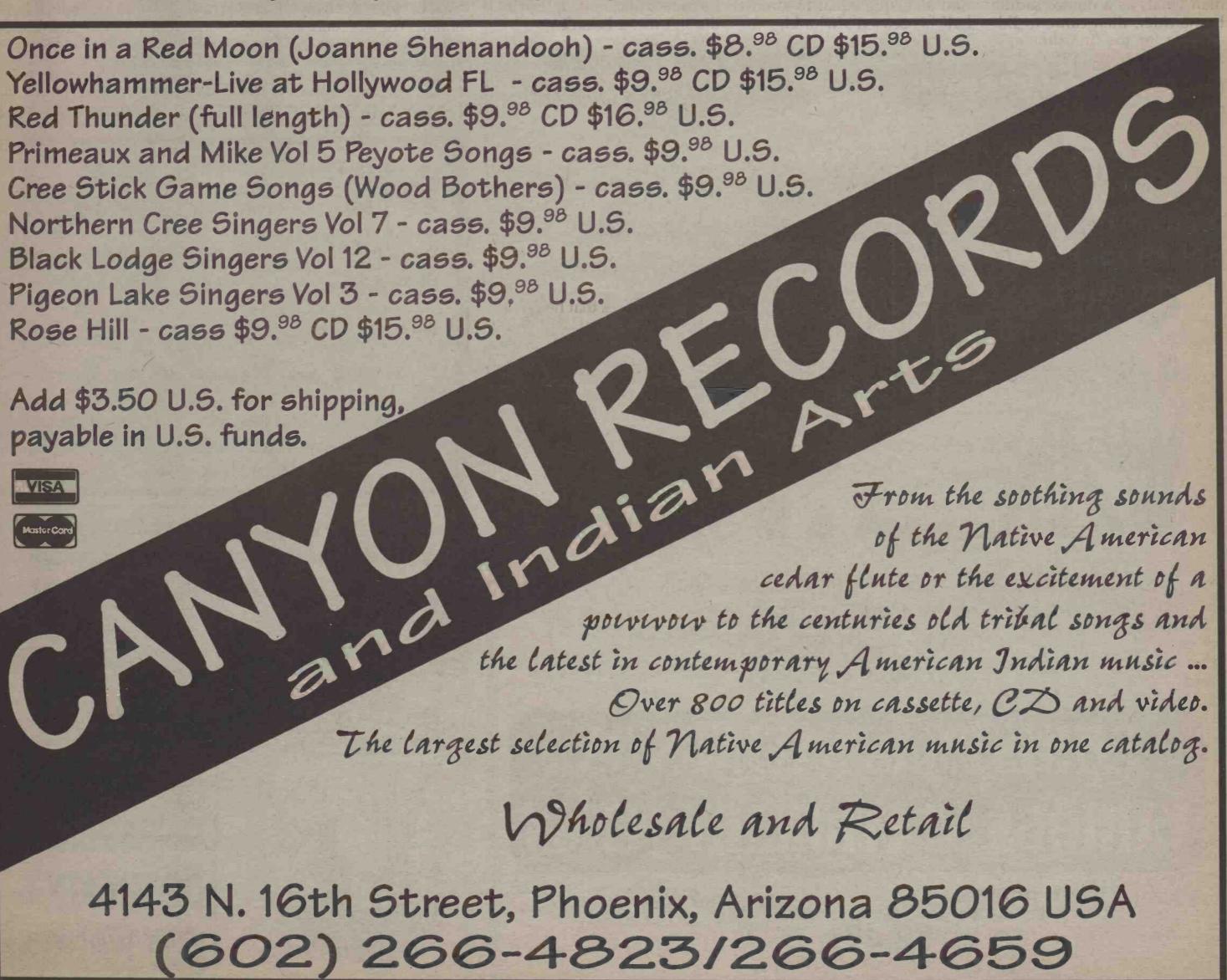
Bill Miller has a winner in his newest release entitled Raven In The Snow.

albums of guitar menace, Link Wray has just been released on the Polydor-Chronicals label. Guitar Preacher: The Polydor Years contains some remarkable blues and rock 'n roll tracks by the leather-clad daddy of the guitar rumble: Link Wray, 1971; Be What tion representing five historic You Want To, 1973; The Link Wray 1477.

Rumble, 1974; Beans and Fat Back, and Mordecai Jones.

Please send submissions or inquiries to:

Brian Wright-McLeod c/o "Heart of the Earth", CKLN 88.1 FM, 380 Victoria St., Toronto, Ontario M5B 1W7 (416) 595-





Bronc r

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

When he was grown Shawn Henry's grand would bring posters bad the Canadian Finals He'd put them on his wa dream of one day actua ing the CFR, maybe commaybe even winning. I he took another step thro dream, winning a perform and placing well up the the toughest saddle bron petition in Canada. In t at 28, Henry says that he tinuing to dream.

"It's been a good ye year, or it has been since he said. "But you've alw dreams, you know, of w of the National Finals, always something m dream about."

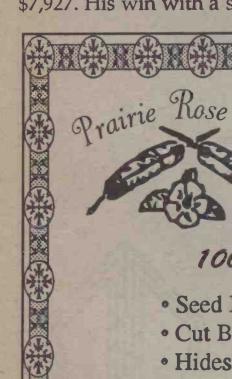
Henry had been at the dian Finals as a novice monton for the first tir senior competitor in 199 years ago, the big ma Williams Lake, B.C., wer empty handed, but not v the determination to be

At the start of the 19 son, he broke his sadd continued to ride on it.

"I thought about [the saddle], it kind of preyed mind," he said in the d room at the Edmonto seum. "I don't know if it saddle, or if it was me the about the saddle, but I ha rible season in '94. I was too hard and fighting m

"I had a terrible star too, but I got a new sadd end of June," he contin won all my money sin start of July."

Henry qualified 10th finals with season winn \$7,927. His win with a s



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Kris Kristoffersen lease entitled Raven In

2, 1974; Beans and Fat Back, ordecai Jones.

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QUOTABLE QUOTE

"We can only get ahead if we stay together. If you have it in you to dream, you have it in you to succeed."

—Alwyn Morris in 1995.

Bronc rider living his dream

By R John Hayes Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

When he was growing up, Shawn Henry's grandparents would bring posters back from the Canadian Finals Rodeo. He'd put them on his walls and dream of one day actually seeing the CFR, maybe competing, maybe even winning. In 1995, he took another step through his dream, winning a performance and placing well up the list in the toughest saddle bronc competition in Canada. In the CFR at 28, Henry says that he's continuing to dream.

"It's been a good year this year, or it has been since July," he said. "But you've always got dreams, you know, of winning, of the National Finals, there's always something more to

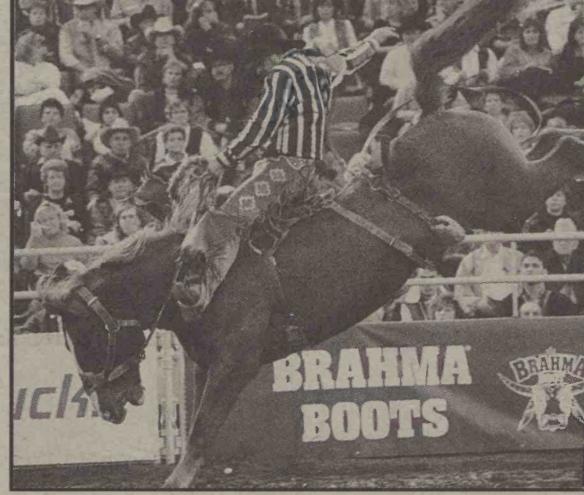
Henry-had been at the Canadian Finals as a novice saddle bronc rider, then came to Edmonton for the first time as a senior competitor in 1993. Two years ago, the big man from Williams Lake, B.C., went away empty handed, but not without the determination to be back.

At the start of the 1994 season, he broke his saddle, but continued to ride on it.

"I thought about [the broken saddle], it kind of preyed on my mind," he said in the dressing room at the Edmonton Coliseum. "I don't know if it was the saddle, or if it was me thinking about the saddle, but I had a terrible season in '94. I was trying too hard and fighting my head.

"I had a terrible start to '95, too, but I got a new saddle at the end of June," he continued. "I won all my money since the start of July."

Henry qualified 10th for the finals with season winnings of



Shawn Henry on Big Stone Rodeo's Sundown Copenhagen at CFR 1995.

80.5 points on Thursday gave him a cheque equal to almost half his season's winnings for just one ride.

"It's been great when things have been going right," said the 6 ft., 200 lb. Henry. "And not so great when they haven't been. I got a great horse that suited me on Thursday, but the first horse didn't suit me and I didn't suit him; I got only an average ride on the third horse; and the fourth was just a little horse, so I didn't have much of a chance because I'm big." An 81 on Sunday afternoon, good for third place, wrapped up a great week, and gave him hope that next year will be his best yet.

"Just being in [the dressing] room with these great cowboys is a thrill," he said. "Rod and Denny Hay, Rod Warren, Guy Shapka, Skeeter Thurston, Mel Coleman — these guys are among the best in the world. They can win the world cham-

lucky to be in here with them," he paused and smiled, "but that doesn't mean I don't give it to them a bit." Warren walked by and Henry gave him a shot about getting a lower score on the horse Henry rode to win on Thursday.

"The best, like the Hay boys there, they do the fundamentals right every time," Henry said. "They spur the horses out good,

stay under the rein and they've got a lot of gas. They do the basics right, and that's why they stay on top. You still make mistakes, but you give yourself a better chance to win."

Henry hopes that he can become more consistent. He's moved to Drayton Valley, Alta., to be with his girlfriend, and he says that's had a calming influence on him, and has allowed him to focus on his rodeo goals. The boy who once dreamed of going to the CFR is now a man who dreams about winning the Canadian championship.

Rodeo growth levels off

By R John Hayes Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Canada's rodeo showcase took a bit of a hit this year, as attendance didn't live up to early predictions by Edmonton Northlands of a new record. Crowds at the Canadian Finals Rodeo, which had seen more paying customers every year for each of the previous nine years, fell by about 3,000 for the fiveday event.

A disastrous attendance slip for the Thursday-night performance accounted for most of that, but no significant increases were tallied on the other two go rounds where there had been lots of empty seats in 1994. Those seats, on Wednesday night and Saturday afternoon, stayed empty in 1995.

at the Edmonton Coliseum, and the sport was, as always, entertaining. The fine performances included a record-tying 7.5-second run by Darren Shaw of who hails from Nanton, Alta., Cardston, Alta., in the calf roping on Saturday night. Shaw, who had come into the CFR as the sixth placer in his event on winnings of \$18,230, came back with a 7.6-second performance

on Sunday afternoon to seal his lead in the championship, and to win the Canadian High Point Award. Calf ropers were four of the top five money winners over the 1995 Canadian Professional Rodeo Association season.

In spite of a spirited last-day ride by Edmontonian Roger Lacasse, Davey Shields Jr. of Hanna, Alta., won the bareback title. Lacasse, the only non-calf roper to break the top five in the seasonal money, had hushed the crowd on Saturday night as he was dragged unconscious for a full lap of the arena after being head-butted by his horse. He had held a slight lead over Shawn Vant of Millet, Alta., and defending champion Bill Boyd of Olds, Alta., coming into the rodeo, but Shields placed high in the early rounds and it was enough to win.

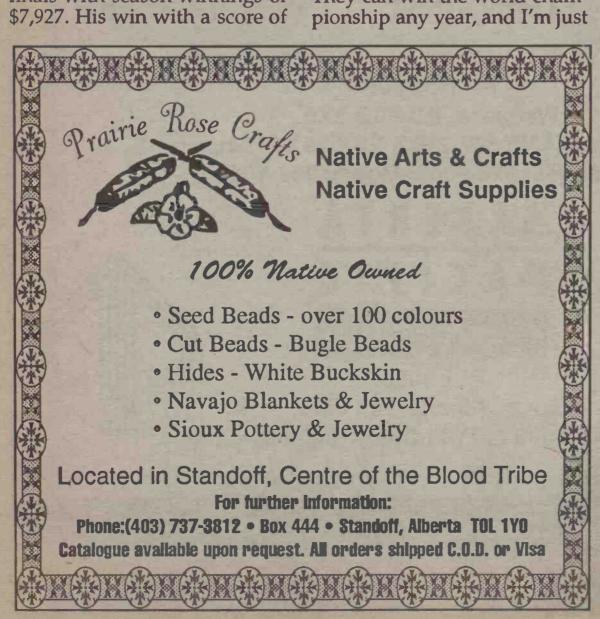
The bull riding was wide open in 1995, due to the retire-The crowds were still good ment of Calgary's Wade Joyal and 1994 world champion Daryl Mills of Pink Mountain, B.C. No one rider was dominant in the marquee event, but Wes Cyr, performed well in all six go rounds and took the title. Cyr was a late addition to the field of 10, which saw two of the original field withdraw due to injury.

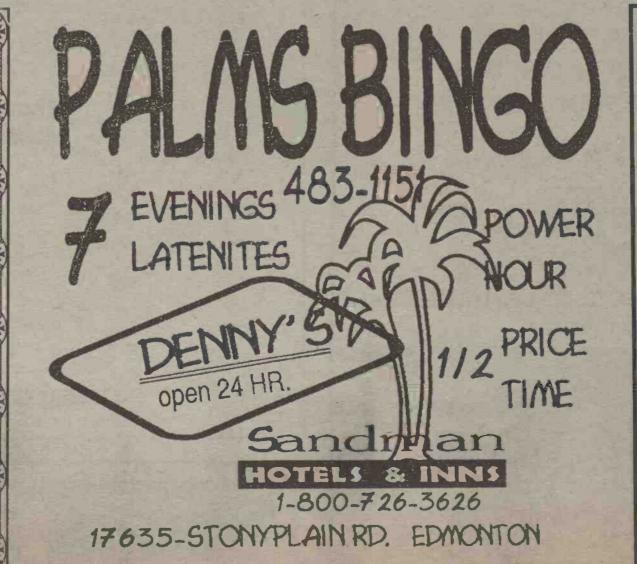
1995 CFR Champions

Bareback: Davey Shields Jr., Hanna, Alta. — 130 points Calf Roping: Darren Shaw, Cardston, Alta. — 160 points Saddle Bronc: Denny Hay, Mayerthorpe, Alta. — 130 points Steer Wrestling: Todd Boggust, Paynton, Sask. — 130 points Ladies' Barrel Racing: Debbie Guelly, Hudson Hope, B.C. — 180 points Bull Riding: Wes Cyr, Nanton, Alta. — 105 points

Novice Bareback: Jay Phipps, Marshall, Sask. — 303.3 points Novice Saddle Bronc: Jonathan Blackmore, Cardston, Alta. — 180 points Boys' Steer Riding: Jason Finkbeiner, Wardlow, Alta. — 130 points

All Around Winner: Duane Daines, Innisfail, Alta. Canadian High Point Award: Darren Shaw — 160 points





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Novice saddle bronc rider ties for first at CFR

By Cole Pederson Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

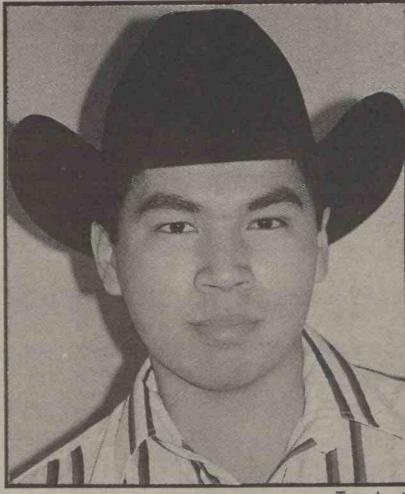
Ben Louis wrapped up his novice season as a professional saddle bronc rider by tying on points for first place at the Canadian Finals Rodeo in Edmonton. The championship, how-third-place ever, was awarded to Jonathan Blackmore of Cardston, Alta., because he had won three go rounds to Louis's one.

At the CFR, Louis, an 18- scored no points year-old member of the for the ride and Okanagan First Nation near stayed within Vernon, B.C., rode against Blackmore and Michael Broderson of Vauxhall, Alta. To establish an overall champion, the CFR awarded 60 points for all position. the win and 40 points for second place in each of six go rounds. In the first three performances, Louis scored three 40-point rides, earning himself a solid hold on second place, just 60 points behind

Blackmore.

At the Saturday matinee performance, Louis came out first and was bucked off. Just as his week seemed about to unravel, Broderson, the rider, was bucked off, too. Then Blackmore lost his stirrup, reach. The fourth go round ended with no changes in over-

Louis spoke with Windspeaker after his Saturday matinee ride. In spite of his disappointment, Louis reluctantly admitted to being pleased with his accomplishments this season.



Terry Lusty

Novice saddle bronc competitor Ben Louis.

CFR," he said. "I've been aiming for it all year, so it's great." As far as the afternoon's ride went, "it looked pretty bad for a while there, but at least I didn't

lose any ground."

him to about 20 rodeos through the year. Of them all, he picked the Pincher Creek Rodeo as the highlight of the season.

"It was my first rodeo of the year, and I won, so it was pretty big for me." He had several other successful days, but none matched the thrill of the first win.

Louis can't remember a time when he wasn't riding. He started competing when he was 13, riding steers in amateur events. Since then, Louis has devoted more and more attention to saddle bronc riding, so that now it is his only serious competitive event.

another guy," he said. "But only saddle broncs for money."

Louis intends to ride for sev-"It feels pretty good to be at eral years, and in fact plans to make a living at it. He is also preparing to work in the ranching operations at the Okanagan First Nation, or nearby. Louis now attends junior college in

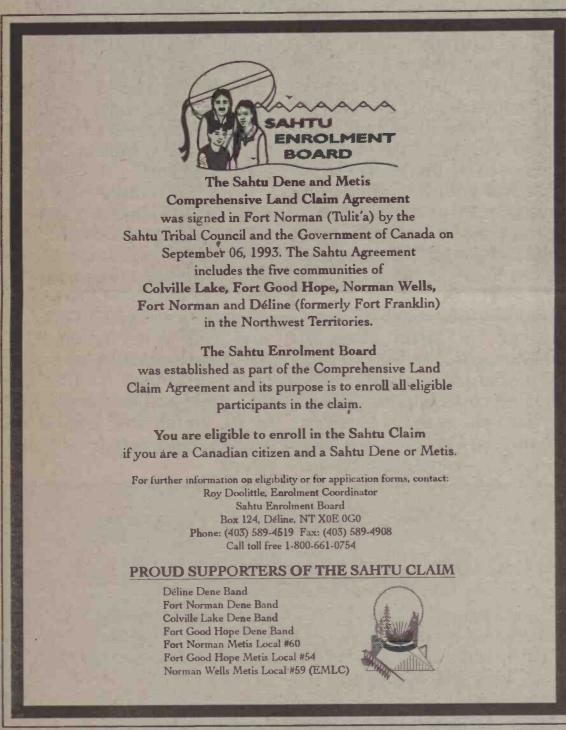
Walla Walla, Wash., where he is Louis's road to the CFR took studying agricultural science and riding on the college rodeo team. The college team practices throughout the school year and competes all over the U.S. northwest as part of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Associa-

"I'm missing a couple of rides right now," Louis admitted. "But this is bigger."

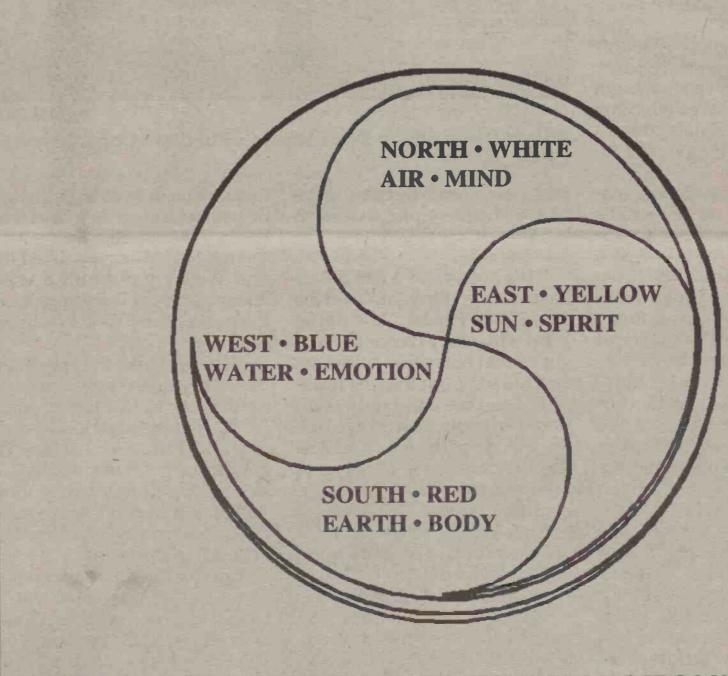
Louis completed his ride and scored a 73, enough to win the final go round. When Blackmore was bucked off, Louis moved into a tie on points for the week. Although the lastday win didn't secure even a share of the championship, it was a solid ride and promises a "I do some team roping with big future in bronc riding.

Louis plans to practice and compete through the winter on the college rodeo circuit. When the season ends and the pro rodeo circuit begins again, Louis will be back to ride as a full professional. Once again, his eyes will be on a berth at the 1996 Canadian Finals Rodeo.

(BACK ROV







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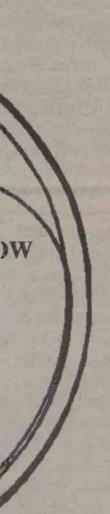
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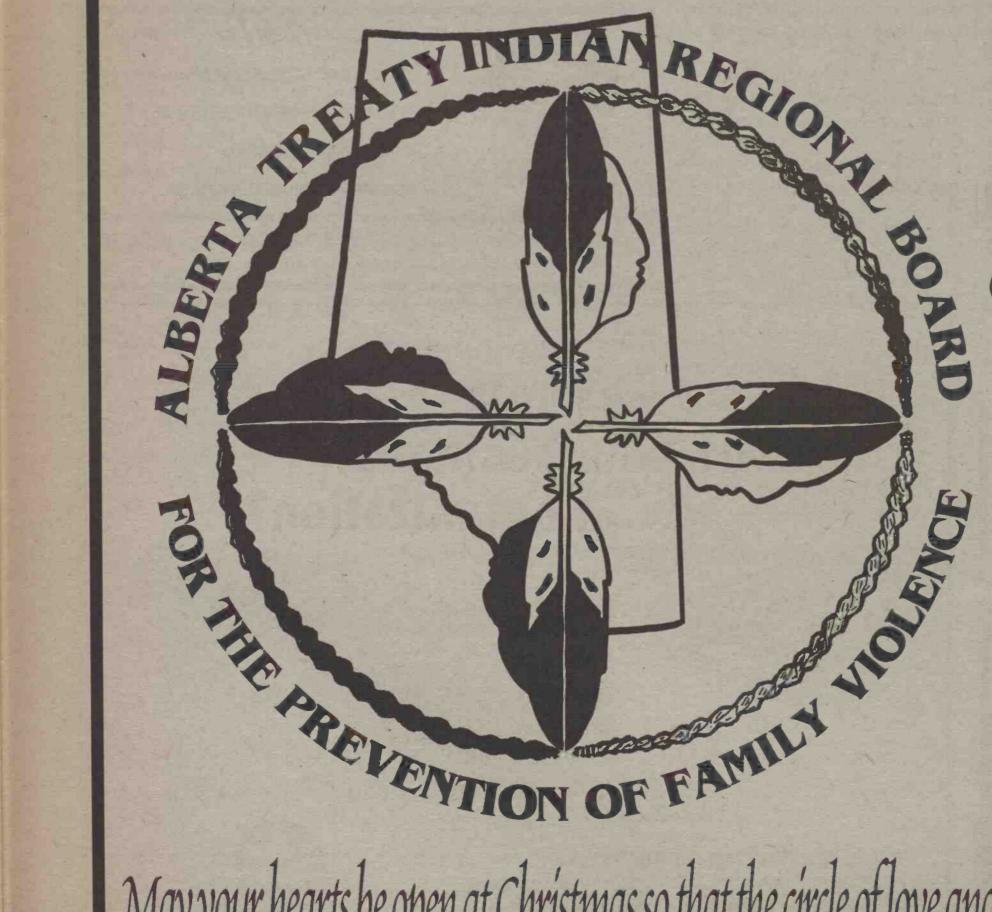
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May your hearts be open at Christmas so that the circle of love and peace may grow through the New Year.

By Dina O'Meara Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

A \$1.4 million pilot program promising employment to 90 First Nations and Metis individuals in Alberta has been formalized with an official signing between local and federal officials.

Richard Arcand, chairman of the Western Aboriginal Development Alliance, (WADA), and Lloyd Axworthy, federal minister of Human Resources Development, announced the Stronger Together program at a press conference in Edmonton Nov. 16. Chiefs and settlement councilmen witnessed the signing which was also attended by Ann McLellan, federal interlocutor for Metis and Non-Status Indians.

The employment initiative involves coordinating efforts between private sector businesses and WADA to provide work opportunities to Aboriginal people.

Four to six communities will be chosen to participate in the pilot program which is in the process of setting selection and evaluation guidelines.

"The board of WADA and the selection of the communities which serve them. within the criteria that will be while," said Arcand.

He estimated that process would take at least three months.

Part of the pilot program involves offering businesses wage subsidies to encourage hiring Aboriginal workers. The wage subsidy will help cover costs until the employee is working "up to speed", said Axworthy.

Program participants will also be provided with an assortment of support services to help make the transition from social assistance to employment, said Arcand. That is one of the key points differentiating Stronger Together from other programs which offer only wage subsidies



Bert Crowfoot

Richard Arcand, chairman of the Western Aboriginal Development Alliance presented federal minister Lloyd Axworthy with a soapstone sculpture at the signing ceremony.

the program is lacking specific guidelines as of yet, the idea is to use services already existing in the communities to provide a basket of support measures.

Arcand also wants to create stronger links between commuthe leadership will be making nities and the county offices

Many counties employ Naestablished over the next tive people for menial jobs, such as road work, Arcand said. He'd like to work towards opening doors to white collar jobs.

"We want to make sure that this will develop partnerships for long-term employment so that people will work up to managers and vice presidents."

Native communities have an often-unappreciated strength, that of purchasing power, added Axworthy. And that can be used in a local forum, collaborating with local businesses.

"What we would use this program for is to help develop training with those businesses,"he said.

The training will be tailored to the requirements of the actual

with some training. Although job available rather than ab-

stract schooling.

The lack of rules and regulations in the program's present form indicates a move from total federal direction to handing the reins over to the communities involved, Axworthy said.

"What we want to do is enable a stronger level of community decision-making taking place so that they can tailor the program. So they can have flexibility to work within the local communities without getting into a whole set of pre-set, standardized rules and regulations."

The accountability will be based on how many people went back to and stayed at work, he said.

"We will be evaluating the results and hopefully it can be used as a model across

Canada." Stronger Together is a threeyear pilot program directed by WADA, an advisory committee of community and business leaders, along with Human Resources Development Canada.



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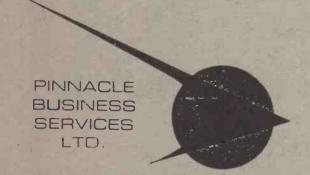
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BUSHESS



Although this month's

topic is not directly related to

investments or finance, it does

relate to the development of

our First Nations economies. I

had the opportunity to attend

the annual dinner held by the

Alberta chapter of the Cana-

dian Council for Aboriginal

Business (CCAB). This was

held in Calgary, and had an

attendance of about 500 Abo-

riginal and non-Aboriginal

of the dinner was to introduce

the two business worlds to

each other, to break down

some of the barriers, and to

remove some of the stere-

otypes the non-Aboriginal

business leaders may have

held. There were also many

companies represented that

already know the value of

dealing with our First Nations,

recognition for them.

and the evening was one of

CCAB's executive director for

Alberta, Robert Laboucane,

and the guest speaker was Su-

preme Court Justice John Ma-

jor. Following a wonderful

dinner, the crowd was treated

to a performance by Quentin

Pipestem, a hoop dancer. Af-

ter that, the crowd had an op-

portunity to meet new busi-

ness acquaintances, to update

each other on business devel-

opments, or to get caught up

with old friends. Now all this

may seem to some to be rather

extravagant, but it played a

The evening was hosted by

INVESTMENT **INSIGHTS**

By Barrie Shibley

business leaders. The purpose very important role in creating a number of business opportunities. It is these opportunities that create additional work, may lead to additional employment, and help to circulate the names of people and companies that offer services of great value to both communities.

After the dinner, I realized that it played an important role in breaking down many of the fences between the two cultures. The CCAB also plays a vital role in the development of our youth through their Aboriginal Youth Internship Program. In this program, applicants must meet the specific hiring requirements of a host organization which in turn provides training and an opportunity to develop business skills, and in 1994-1995, about 150 Aboriginal youth will be placed with corporate hosts. In this way, the program also provides incentives for Aboriginal students to complete their

crease the skill level of the youth who can use those skills in new careers, business, or in their communities.

There are also three other organizations in Calgary well worth mentioning, and each of these can be created rather easily in other communities. The first is the Calgary Aboriginal Professionals Association (CAPA). It started out as a noon-hour lunch idea about 2 years ago. The first meeting started small with about 8 people. Today, with a membership of somewhere between 150 to 200 people, CAPA is a very informal organization, welcoming new members to the meetings so that they can begin to network and create new business opportunities. Each meeting costs about \$5 to attend, and is greatly enjoyed by all. Meetings have many people from various walks of life, lawyers, accountants, bankers, artists, students, writers, everyone is welcome. The success education, and helps to in- of CAPA seems to stem from

its informal nature. The meetings are sponsored by local companies that wish to make inroads to Aboriginal business, and there is seldom a long agenda, other than an explanation of the interests of the host business, and appropriate introductions. This type of group is easy to organize, and serves an important purpose in allowing members to associate directly with other members and businesses eager to meet them. I hope that more of these groups start up

The Calgary Chamber of Commerce has an entire committee dedicated to Aboriginal business, the Aboriginal Opportunities Committee (AOC). This group of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal business leaders reports to the Calgary Chamber of Commerce on ways to increase business activity between the city's businesses and the Aboriginal communities from within the city as well as the surrounding areas. If the Chamber of Commerce in your area does not have a similar committee, it would be worthwhile to ask them to create one. The AOC has sponsored events such as the Treaty Seven Economic Development Forum, which outlined business opportunities within the Treaty Seven Nations. Events such as these make local companies realize the value of doing business (403) 221-4163.

with our Nations.

WINDSPEAKER, DECEMBER 1995, PAGE 25

Another group worth making note of is the Calgary Aboriginal Awareness Society (CAAS), which works very hard at putting on a number of activities during the year, the most well known of which is the Calgary Aboriginal Awareness Week. Although this week is not directly business related, it has had great success in bridging the gap between the two communities, and increasing the levels of understanding and cooperation. The Calgary Chamber of Commerce also sponsors some events during this week.

I know that these are not the only groups doing a great job, but my point is this, by giving both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal business cultures a chance to meet, each will learn the value it can give and receive by doing business with each other. The interest shown in Calgary by local businesses to begin increasing their exposure to our Nations is healthy for both of the economies. The increased levels of employment and training for our youth will also reap benefits in the near future as it is many of these members that will be leaders in the Aboriginal businesses and communities of tomorrow.

Questions or Comments? Contact Barrie Shibley, Manager, Aboriginal Investment Group,



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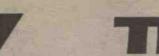
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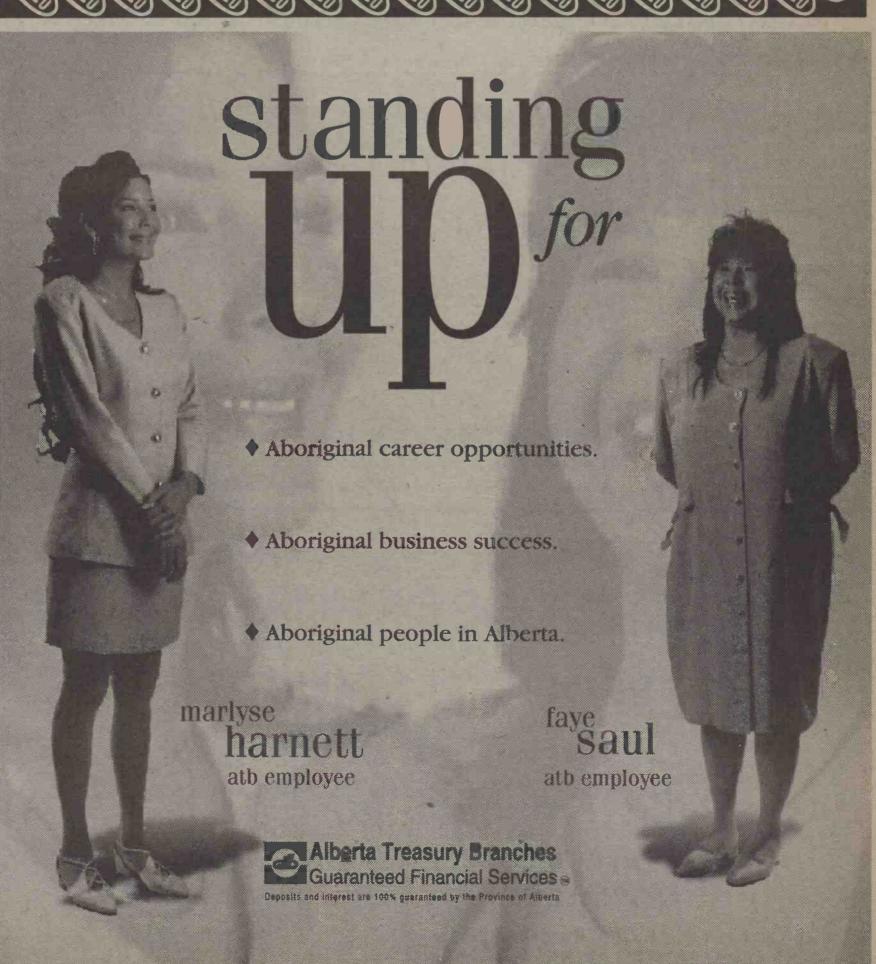
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(Continued from page 26) Tribes come together in ment, narrow-mind (negative energy-creatin behind. Spiritual progr environmental respon and respect (positive creating) will enhance ra derstanding.

Because Native American peoples reco and valued many custo liefs and ceremonies v lowed to travel from or to another, from one trib other. This increased the of truth, creating more energy, bringing comm between many tribes a

Most Native North can people believe that a limit to what the hum can understand, at lea we remain bound to th of Physical Things. Th World holds much knowledge. We may ac knowledge through nies, prayer, fasts, drea in times of illness or da

My Elders have tau and continue to remind to disagree and argue (needless negative among ourselves in thi is deemed both non-s and wasteful. It is also poor manners, and crue tempt to overly define t Mystery between ours to insist that one spec holds the only path to world.

A traditional person however, counter such i with a positive and frie sponse (listen politely, o and drink). For we are to the visions and belief Brothers and Sisters.

By increasing our standing of the Spiritua cance upon which our nies are based, we will our understanding, he to use the Ceremonies were intended, as a n returning to and follow path intended by the C

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piritual and/or philosophic nowledge found outside one's wn culture that verifies and onfirms one's own beliefs.

The Rainbow of Humanity ntains all colors. Each one cares knowledge, wisdom, value nd truth. We must respect the ood in the ways of others. As eople from all the Rainbow

(continued on page 27)





(Continued from page 26)

Tribes come together in agreement, narrow-mindedness (negative energy-creating) is left behind. Spiritual progression, environmental responsibility and respect (positive energycreating) will enhance racial understanding.

Because Native North American peoples recognized and valued many customs, beliefs and ceremonies were allowed to travel from one place to another, from one tribe to another. This increased the spread of truth, creating more positive energy, bringing commonalties between many tribes and peo-

can people believe that there is a limit to what the human brain can understand, at least while we remain bound to the World of Physical Things. The Spirit World holds much higher knowledge. We may access this knowledge through ceremonies, prayer, fasts, dreams and in times of illness or danger.

My Elders have taught me, and continue to remind me, that to disagree and argue (creating needless negative energy) among ourselves in this world, is deemed both non-spiritual and wasteful. It is also seen as poor manners, and crude, to attempt to overly define the Great Mystery between ourselves or to insist that one specific way holds the only path to the next

A traditional person should, however, counter such rudeness with a positive and friendly response (listen politely, offer food and drink). For we are to respect the visions and beliefs of our Brothers and Sisters.

By increasing our understanding of the Spiritual significance upon which our Ceremonies are based, we will enhance our understanding, helping us to use the Ceremonies as they were intended, as a means of returning to and following the path intended by the Creator.

The Smudging Ceremony

The burning of various medicine plants to make a smudge or cleansing smoke is used by the majority of Native North American Peoples. It is a ritual cleansing.

As the smoke rises, our Prayers rise to the Spirit World where the Grandfathers and our Creator reside. Negative energy, feelings, and emotions are lifted away. It is also used for healing of mind, body and spirit, as well as balancing energies.

Our Elders teach us that all Ceremonies must be entered into or begun with good intent. So many of us use the Smudge as a symbolic or ritual cleansing Most Native North Ameri- of mind, body, spirit and emotion. The smell of the burning medicines stimulates our brains to produce beta-endorphins, which are part of the normal healing process of our bodies.

Smudging may also be used to cleanse, purify and bless the part of our Mother, the Earth which we utilize in seeking after the spiritual. For example: around the area used for and communities. sweatlodge or powwow. It may also be used to purify or bless special objects or totems, such as jewelry, rattles, clothing or other ceremonial objects.

It is a customary to cleanse, (brush or wash the smoke) over our eyes, ears, mouth, hands, heart and body. Some people choose to brush it over their backs, to 'lighten their troubles'. It is customary to use matches to light the medicines, when available.

medicine, and offers strength, wisdom, and clarity of purpose. It is used to symbolize the lifegiving power of women. Sage is often braided into three strands, similar to Sweetgrass, and hung within one's home. It may be tied with a ribbon in one of the colors of the medicine wheel: Red, yellow, black, white or green.

Cedar: Is used for purification and to attract positive en-

ergy, feelings, emotions and for balance. Cedar tea has been used as a healing medicine. It's high vitamin C content was essential to the prevention of scurvy, in a time when fruits and vegetables were unavailable during the long winter months. It was one of the first gifts of natural healing shared with the European peoples upon their arrival to Turtle Island (North America).

Sweetgrass: Is used by almost all Aboriginal Peoples in North America. It is a ritual cleansing. The smoke rises, as our prayers rise above us to our Creator, the Grandfathers, and the Spirit World.

Sweetgrass was one of the four original "medicine plants" given by the Creator to the first peoples. The others being Tobacco, Cedar, and Sage.

We cleanse our eyes so that they will see the truth around us, the beauty of our Mother, the Earth, the gifts given us by our Creator, the love shared with us through our families, friends

We cleanse our mouth, that all we speak will be: truthful,. said in a way that will empower the positive, only good things,. always full of words of praise and thanksgiving for our Crea-

We cleanse our ears, so that our ears will: hear the spiritual truths given us by our Creator, listen to the truth as it is shared with us by the Creator, the Grandfathers, Four Directions, Four Kingdoms, be open to the Sage: Is seen as a women's request for assistance from others,. hear only the good things and allow the bad to 'bounce

We cleanse our hearts so that our hearts will: feel the truth, grow with us in harmony and balance, be good and pure,. be open to show compassion, gentleness and caring for others.

We cleanse our feet so that way. our feet will: seek to walk the true path, seek balance and harmony, lead us closer to our fami-

lies, friends, community, walk closer to our loved ones and help us flee our enemies, lead us closer to our Creator.

In some places, it is the custom to exclude a pregnant women so that all her energies may be directed towards nurturing the new life within her. In others, she must participate, as her strength is shared and multiplied by the new life within her. If in doubt, seek out the Elder and ask for direction.

In some places, a woman on her moon time (menstrual time) is asked to remain outside the circle during any ceremony. In others she may sit inside but not partake of the sweetgrass. Again, seek out an Elder and ask for guidance.

The author's grandmother's simplest explanation of sweetgrass was that it chased away all the negative energy, feelings and emotions, and left a well, or open space, into which happiness can enter.

The lesson sweetgrass teaches us is kindness. When sweetgrass is walked upon, it bends, but does not break. So one of the lessons of sweetgrass is that when someone does us an injustice or hurts us, we are to return it with kindness, as does the sweetgrass, by bending, not breaking when it is walked upon. It is often referred to as the hair of our Mother, the Earth.

It is not customary to purchase it. One goes out and picks it during August. If this is impossible for whatever reason, one may ask to exchange gifts with someone who has a supply. If both these are impossible, and the need is great, it is acceptable to purchase some for a friend or spouse, and exchange, with each one using the other's. Medicines are supposed to come to you when you are ready to use them in the right

A woman on her time may not pick Sweetgrass. It is customary to remove any metal, rings, watches, glasses, etc. (except those which cannot be physically removed), prior to the use of any smudge. Metal is man-made, and seen to hold negative energy. Some people choose to smudge these objects on a regular basis to remove any residual energy.

Tobacco: Is held as a sacred plant by all Native North American peoples. It is believed that Tobacco opens the door be-tween the Worlds of Earth and Spirit and is used in many ways by Aboriginal peoples all over Turtle Island.

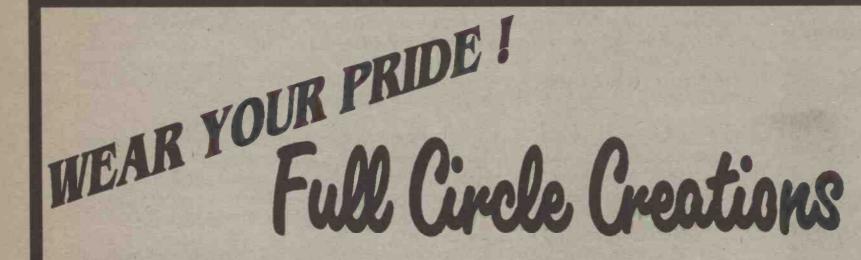
If tobacco is offered and accepted, and a request made of the person accepting it, that promise is sacred. It is a commitment or promise not only between the people involved, but with our Creator and the Grandfathers of the Spirit World. It must be honoured.

Tobacco may be carried around and used as a means of thanking our Creator for his gifts. For example, if you enjoyed a sunset, rainbow, good weather, you might leave some tobacco on the ground, and say thank you for the gift. If you take a gift, gather sweetgrass, cedar, sage, birchbark, stones, herbs, you might leave tobacco in the ground to honor the gift you are taking, returning energy and prayer to our Mother, the Earth, and thanks to the Crea-

Tobacco need not be smoked. In fact, it should be smoked only by certain people on specific occasions., for example, pipe carriers during ceremonies.

Tobacco, or any smudge, may be burned in an earthenware bowl, large clam shell, in a fire or fireplace or other object during periods of prayer and meditation. As the smoke rises, so do our prayers rise to the Spirit World and the Creator.

Women on their moon do not use, carry or touch tobacco, or any other medicine plant or herb. One exception is women's sage, which may be used by all.



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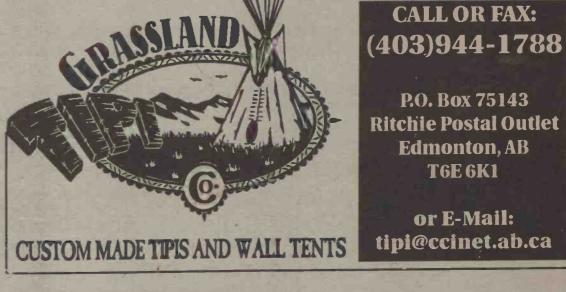
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WINDSPEAKER IS...WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Federal Aboriginal Offenders Major problems and no easy answers.

Speaking Notes for JOHN EDWARDS, Commissioner, Correctional Service of Canada to Pacific Aboriginal Representatives

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA SEPTEMBER 21, 1995

I want to begin by thanking the Native Courtworkers and Counselling Association of British Columbia for inviting me to address you on correctional issues related to the care and custody of aboriginal offenders. It is my intention to make some formal remarks, after which I shall be pleased to have a more informal discussion with you on your concerns and interests as they relate to aboriginal offenders. My colleague, Pieter de Vink, who is the newly appointed Regional Deputy Commissioner of the Pacific Region, would like to provide specific information on aboriginal offender programs and services. We are both pleased to answer any questions or address your concerns.

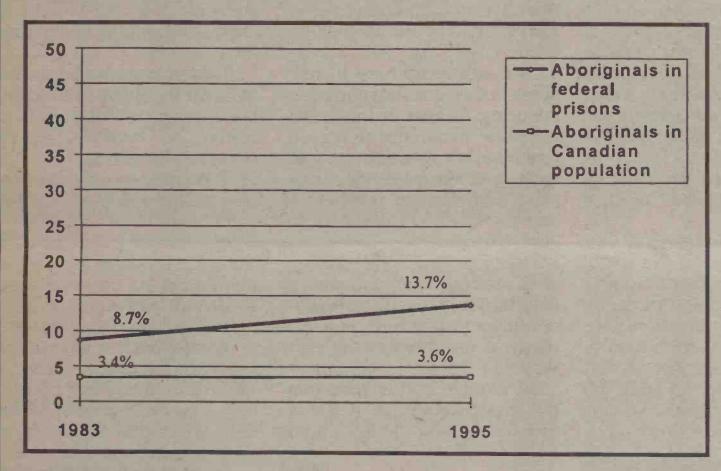
I have been looking for an opportunity to put forward a clear statement of my views on aboriginals and federal corrections. Depending on your reaction, I may give my comments quite wide circulation - inside and outside the Correctional Service.

My presentation will last about 30 minutes and will be around five themes:

- 1. Aboriginal offenders are over-represented
- 2. Many do not do well in federal corrections
- 3. What to do past studies
- 4. What we have been doing
- 5. What more could and should be done.

OVER-REPRESENTATION OF ABORIGINAL OFFENDERS

As you know, many more aboriginal offenders are sent to federal prisons than their share of the Canadian population. I am not going to get into the causes of this - community breakdowns, racism, urban ghettos, loss of spiritual values, lack of employment - though, in truth, that is obviously a much bigger and more important a question than what happens to those sentenced to prison.



The over-representation is not a new phenomenon, but it has been increasing. The proportion in federal prisons is close to 14%, while the proportion of the Canadian population is under 4%.

Most of the aboriginal inmates, not surprisingly, are to be found in the Prairies and the Pacific, 40% of offenders in the Prairies, 16% in the Pacific.

The over-representation is even greater in respect to female offenders in federal institutions - 19% across the country, but 52% of those from the Prairies.

While aboriginal offenders are sent to federal prisons for all kinds of crimes, they are heavily overrepresented in one category - sex offences - the category that has, in the past decade, been growing the fastest. 30% of aboriginal offenders are in prison for sex offences, compared with 17% of nonaboriginal sex offenders.

In recent months, the overall federal offender population has been slowly, but steadily, dropping - this is true in all regions but one. The Prairie region continues to grow, probably because the number of aboriginal offenders is still rising.

MANY ABORIGINAL OFFENDERS DO NOT DO WELL IN FEDERAL CORRECTIONS

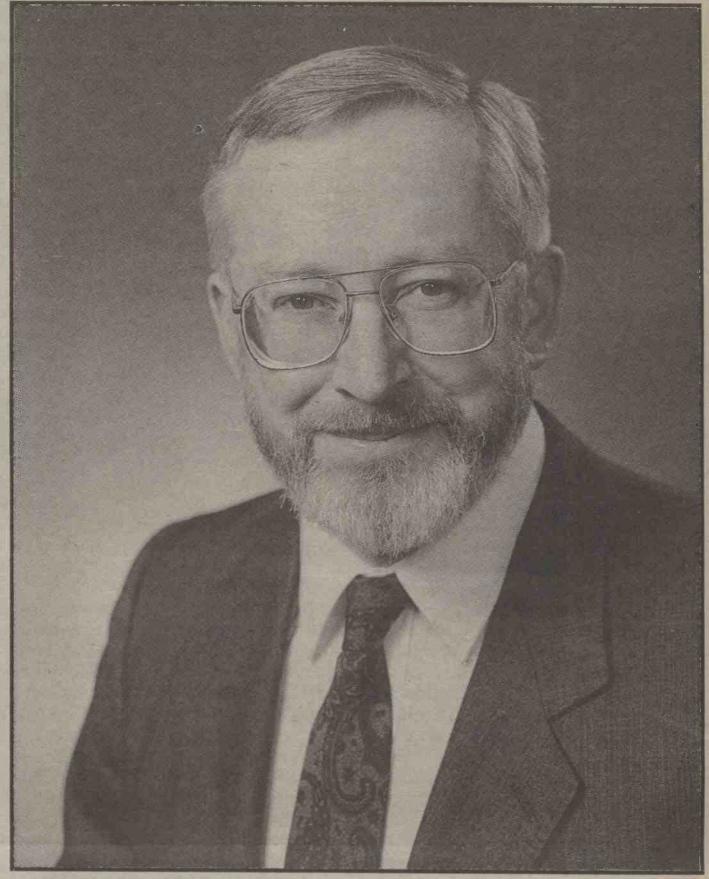
Most inmates can be considered for release after serving one-third of their sentence (parole). Of those not given parole, almost all are released at the two-thirds mark (statutory release). A few are ineligible for these early forms of release (lifers, indeterminate sentences); others are detained by the National Parole Board until their full sentence has been served because of the high risk of further violent offences. We call these Detention cases.

I have mentioned that aboriginal offenders represent 14% of the total offender population, but they represent only 7% of those serving their sentences on parole or statutory release.

With respect to detentions, aboriginals again make up a disproportionate proportion. Of the 1,600 offenders referred for detention over the last six years, nearly 25% were aboriginals.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING ABOUT THIS PROBLEM?

As you could readily predict, we have had many studies over the years. In 1967, the Hawthorn Report concluded that aboriginal people were receiving inequitable treatment within the criminal justice system. It found aboriginal people were more likely to be convicted of offences than non-aboriginal people. Aboriginal offenders were being held longer in jail before being granted parole. Once in the correctional system, aboriginal offenders were faced with serious systemic prejudice and racism. The report recommended a number of justice initiatives that were to address some of the discrimination issues, including:



JOHN EDWARDS, Commissioner, Correctional Service of Canada

- the development of a Native Courtworkers Program;
- the initiation of Native Policing Programs;
- adoption of government affirmative action programs in hiring; and
- the establishment of a Native advisory board within the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

In 1981, the Solicitor General Strategic Plan adopted an objective of reducing the incarceration rate of aboriginal people, increasing the number of aboriginal people employed in the system, and increasing consultation with aboriginal people in the formulation of criminal justice policies. The Carson Report in 1984 found aboriginal people continued to be over-represented within federal correctional facilities. It found that, since 1960, the growth rate of the aboriginal population in federal institutions had doubled that of the non-aboriginal population. The report promoted further development in the area of aboriginal policing programs and the continuance of justice awareness programs.

In 1987, the Solicitor General established the Task Force on the Reintegration of Aboriginal Offenders as Law Abiding Citizens to examine the over-representation of aboriginal people in federal correctional facilities. The Task Force conducted extensive consultations with aboriginal communities and organizations, federal parole and institutional staff, National Parole Board members and staff, and other interested organizations. The final report was issued in March 1988 and, among other things, found:

- over-representation of aboriginal people;
- the growth rate of aboriginal offenders was increasing by three times the rate as non-aboriginal offenders;
- aboriginal offenders were twice as likely as non-aboriginal offenders to be detained in maximum or multi-level facilities;
- non-aboriginal offenders were twice as likely to be paroled compared to aboriginal
- aboriginal offenders were vastly under-represented in the prison population released on full parole and mandatory supervision.

The task force found that, while programs and services have been developed for the general inmate population for many decades, culturally appropriate aboriginal specific programs and services were found to be sporadic and inconsistent. Among its sixty-one recommendations, the task force called for:

- increased program development for aboriginal offenders;
- increased aboriginal employment within CSC;
- increased involvement of aboriginal communities in the day-to-day operations of CSC;
- development and implementation of culturally appropriate assessment tools; and
- ongoing policy development and research concerning aboriginal issues.

We have been responding, over the years, to these studies and recommendations. However, the key question is whether more of the same is needed or some new approaches.

WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE? COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE 702

The first directive dealing specifically with aboriginal offenders was issued in 1987. I am pleased to note today that, after eighteen months of consultations within and outside the correctional field, I have recently signed the latest revisions to this directive. The directive spells out in plain language the administrative practices in place in institutions for the care and custody of aboriginal offenders. It is, I believe, a signal to correctional staff and management that the Constitution and laws of Canada recognize the cultural differences of aboriginal offenders. Such differences continue within federal correctional institutions and are abridged only by the fact of incarceration. The directive is designed

to encourage CSC manag and to have them facilita Within correctional faciliti Liaison Workers.

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to encourage CSC managers and staff to recognize the spirituality inherent in many aboriginal practices, and to have them facilitate, to the extent possible, these practices. In particular, aboriginal practices within correctional facilities are taking place today with the assistance of aboriginal elders and Native Liaison Workers.

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

Strong recommendations have been made on the necessity of involving aboriginal healers, elders, and spiritual leaders in the care of aboriginal offenders. In 1992, Parliament passed the Corrections and

NUMBER OF ELDERS EMPLOYED BY CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS						
ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PRAIRIES	PACIFIC		
4	0	6	12	9		

Conditional Release Act, which, among other things, places an obligation upon CSC to hire aboriginal elders to work with aboriginal offenders. The legislation recognized the role of elders in the spiritual life of aboriginal offenders and set the elders on an equal footing with clergy who work in federal correctional facilities. We now have 31 elders working with us, of which 12 are in the Prairies and 9 in the Pacific Region.

Two female Elders also provide service to women at the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Prairies. We also have a number of regional councils of elders:

- 8 Elders on the Council of Elders for Manitoba.
- 8 Elders on the Council of Elders for Saskatchewan.
- 5 Elders on the Council of Elders for Alberta.
- 12 Elders on the Council of Elders for the Pacific Region.

This whole area is currently under review to ensure that we adhere to the spirit and intent of the legislation. We are examining the possible role of Regional Elders to assist and oversee the work of aboriginal elders now working on contract in federal correctional facilities. We are examining the pay and benefits of aboriginal elders, their training needs, the ways in which the elders can make a meaningful contribution to case management and the parole system, given their day-to-day contact with offenders, and a continuing role in the community with offenders on parole or statutory release. Throughout our current management structure for chaplains, there is a Corporate Adviser of Chaplaincy, five Regional Chaplains, Chaplains in each of our federal correctional facilities - maybe we need a similar situation in respect to elders.

RECRUITMENT OF ABORIGINAL STAFF

We have made efforts over the years to recruit aboriginal staff. It has not been an easy task because of some reluctance on the part of aboriginal people to become part of the correctional system, and because aboriginal staff are not always made very welcome by other staff. As a result, turnover among aboriginal staff has been high.

Progress has accelerated in the past months, particularly in the Prairie Region, where an additional 50 In summary on this, it makes sense to develop aboriginal-specific programming when there is evidence approach the inmate percentages.

ABORIGINAL HALFWAY HOUSES

We now have federal aboriginal offenders in seven halfway houses run by aboriginal people.

ABORIGINAL HALFWAY HOUSES						
NAME	LOCATION	OPERATED BY	NO. OF BEDS AVAILABLE			
AIMS House	Vancouver	Allied Indian and Metis Society	10			
Stan Daniels Centre	Edmonton	Native Counselling Services of Alberta	50			
Regina House	Winnipeg	Native Clan Organization, Inc.	20			
Newberry House	Sudbury	Board of Directors	7			
Weseskun House	Huron Village (Quebec City)	Board of Directors	5			
Nova Scotia Micmac Friendship Centre	Halifax	Board of Directors	Open			
Labrador Native Friendship Centre	Happy Valley	Board of Directors	Open			

ABORIGINAL - SPECIFIC PROGRAMS

It is only in recent years that Corrections Canada has accepted the proposition that more success may be achieved with some aboriginal offenders through the use of programs designed specifically for them.

Some of the earlier aboriginal specific initiatives include:

- Native Clan's Counselling Program in Winnipeg
- Balanced Lifestyle program (Pacific)
- Spirit of the Eagle program (lifeskills) in Ontario
- Aboriginal substance abuse programming. This year, there will be 33 such treatment groups across the country

We will certainly be making more effort in this area over the coming months, particularly in respect to the treatment and care of aboriginal sex offenders, and we are committing \$1 million in 1995-96 to this.

Here in the Pacific Region, CSC awarded a contract for \$325,000 to the Native Courtworkers and Counselling Association of British Columbia to conduct a ten-month training program for aboriginal sex offender counselors. This is clearly a demonstration of our determination to explore new ways to tackle the issue of sex offenders. There are at least four outcomes which we expect:

- there will be 26 aboriginal sex offender counselors trained;
- there will exist a treatment program for aboriginal sex offenders, which may be used within correctional facilities;
- trained counselors will be available in aboriginal communities; and
- if the counseling program is successful, it should assist in keeping down the rate of recidivism and lead to crime prevention in the area of sexual assaults.

NUMBER OF ABORIGINAL SUBSTANCE TREATMENT GROUPS PLANNED PER REGION IN 1995-96 FISCAL YEAR* ATLANTIC QUEBEC ONTARIO PRAIRIES PACIFIC 14 9

As with all new approaches, there is an element of risk that the program may, or may not, achieve these outcomes. Nevertheless, we are committed to fulfilling our legislative mandate to develop and implement culturally-sensitive programming for aboriginal offenders, so that they may be returned to society as law-abiding citizens.

Over the course of the summer, we have been gathering information about aboriginal sex offenders, first because their proportion is so high within our aboriginal offender population; second, to form the necessary theoretical base from which to develop corrective programming; and third, to begin to design such programming. What we have found is that there is very little written in this area, very few pilot projects exist, and little has been professionally evaluated.

There has been some focus on the victims of sex crimes generally in feminist legal literature, but very little study on the perpetrators of sex crimes, particularly in the aboriginal community. We hope to stimulate some academic and professional interest in studies in this area.

Over the course of this fiscal year, we will also be developing a high intensity sex offender program for delivery within federal correctional facilities. As with the rest of the sex offender population, there are some aboriginal sex offenders who refuse any kind of treatment while in prison. Perhaps, with the availability of a program developed specifically for them, by aboriginal professionals and elders, more and more aboriginal sex offenders will avail themselves of treatment while they are incarcerated.

We will also be examining, over the course of this fiscal year, what proportion of aboriginal sex offenders are survivors of residential school sexual abuse. Depending upon the results of this study, consideration will be given to group counselling for aboriginal offenders who may have suffered this experience. It is also not known what proportion of aboriginal sex offenders may have experienced child or teenage sexual abuse and whether special treatment is required in this area.

We need to have aboriginal elders counselling aboriginal sex offenders effectively. Research and program development for sex offenders generally is a new and developing science, and what we may wish to do is to share that information with aboriginal elders. There is also a great deal which may be learned from elders by our psychological and nursing staff, and we will be seeking ways to facilitate this two-way transfer of knowledge.

aboriginal correctional officers were trained last year. In some institutions, the percentage of aboriginal that the general programs are not working very well for aboriginal offenders. Equally, where general correctional officers is encouraging, though a lot more progress is needed before the staff percentages programs work well, it would not make sense to develop parallel programming for aboriginal offenders.

And special arrangements may be required in other areas of correctional life. Two examples:

- 1. We have an elaborate grievance system. If an offender feels mistreated, he can launch a grievance to the warden, on to the Deputy Commissioner, and, finally, to my office. Simply thousands of these occur every year. But, aboriginal offenders appear to make much less use of this recourse, and some of their concerns are very much related to their culture. We are discussing, now, how to ensure that concerns from aboriginal offenders do find expression and are, therefore, dealt with, perhaps with the assistance of elders.
- 2. Inmate effects: Most inmates live in quite small cells, and many are now obliged to share these with a second inmate. We limit the quantity and value of possessions that can be kept in a cell - to keep cells under control, to be able to search effectively for contraband, and to limit any liability of the Crown for damage to possessions, particularly when the inmate is transferred from one institution to another. The policy on cell effects never anticipated that some aboriginal offenders would bring in ceremonial spiritual items of great value. Yet, at least five offenders have brought into institutions their entire traditional regalia, including feathers and other materials, which are extremely delicate and ancient.

WHAT MORE COULD AND SHOULD BE DONE?

I believe we should be exploring other ways of handling aboriginal offenders that may be more sensitive to their needs.

One type of initiative is well underway - the building of healing lodges. Okimaw Ohci Healing Lodge at Maple Creek will receive the first female offenders in a matter of weeks. A similar one for male offenders will soon be under construction at Hobbema. Being very small, the capital and operating costs are high, but for low to medium security inmates, they may well be very successful - successful enough that the total costs could be substantially smaller than the costs saved by reductions in recidivism. (Incidentally, I was dismayed to read, a month or so ago, a vitriolic attack in the British Columbia Report to the effect that the spirituality of the healing lodge approach was government-sanctioned paganism!)

Another way of making progress is through Section 81 of the Corrections and Conditional Release Act that allows the Minister to enter into agreements with the aboriginal community for the care and custody of aboriginal offenders. This could mean, in practice, communities doing parole supervision (of which some is done now), operating halfway houses, or even operating penitentiaries. In such endeavours, the federal government would, of course, provide the funding necessary. I should add the obvious - we would not likely be interested in initiatives that would add to our overall costs, but better ways for the same or lesser cost would be of real interest. Can we see over the next few years several hundred offenders being managed by aboriginal communities? As I indicated at the Prince Albert conference earlier this year, the Correctional Service would welcome proposals.

Perhaps we will see even more dramatic changes. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs has announced the Government of Canada's policy on aboriginal self-government, and he noted that "penitentiaries and parole" are two items on the negotiating table. Exactly how "penitentiaries and parole" will be negotiated will be decided, eventually, in the course of those discussions, whether on a bilateral or trilateral basis involving the aboriginal community, the Correctional Service of Canada, and perhaps, provincial corrections.

CONCLUSIONS

My conclusions are three-fold:

- we have a major problem in aboriginal over-representation in federal corrections;
- we are trying to reduce this problem;
- we are anxious to explore new approaches.

I am pleased to answer any questions you may have or to listen to your reactions to what I have said. And I am sure Pieter de Vink would be happy to elaborate on matters relating to the Pacific Region.

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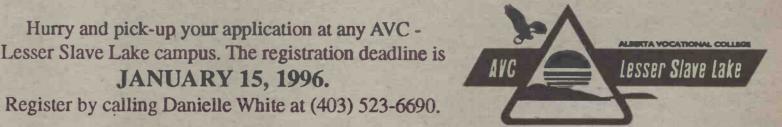
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DIRECTOR, FIRST NATIONS LAW **PROGRAM**

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The Faculty of Law at the University of British Columbia invites applications for a Director of the First Nations Law Program, commencing July 1, 1996 (subject to final budgetary approval). For many years the Faculty of Law has attracted significant numbers of First Nations students, with close to fifty students currently enrolled in the LL.B. and graduate programs. The Director will have academic and teaching responsibilities in the Faculty, as well as responsibilities for the development of First Nations academic programs and curriculum in the Faculty. The Director will also be involved in liaison and program development with First Nations communities and organizations outside the University, as well as recruitment and support of First Nations students. Candidates should be qualified to teach and do research in legal issues relating to First Nations. Experience with First Nations communities,

organizations and issues, as well as knowledge and understanding of First Nations cultures, are also important. Preference will be given to First Nations candidates.

The position will be filled at the rank of Assistant Professor at a salary commensurate with that rank and with the candidate's qualifications and experience. Appointment at a more senior rank may be considered for candidates with exceptional qualifications.

UBC welcomes all qualified applicants, especially women, aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. In accordance with Canadian Immigration Regulations, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Applications and curricula vitae for the position should be forwarded as soon as possible, or by January 31, 1996 to:

Professor Claire Young Secretary, Appointments Committee **Faculty of Law** University of British Columbia 1822 East Mall Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1 Tel.: (604) 822-4669 Fax: (604) 822-8108 e-mail: young@law.ubc.ca

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- · be physically fit as assessed by relevant tests

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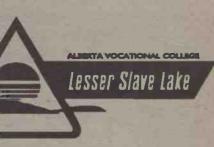
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Applications will be available starting December 4, 1995 at Calgary Police Service **Recruiting Unit** 133 - 6 Avenue S.E. Telephone: 268-8483



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Nicola Valley Institute of Technology **Job Posting**

NVIT is a First Nations college providing a comprehensive range of post secondary programs up to the degree level. In 1995 (our 12th year) NVIT was designated a Provincial Institute by the Government of British Columbia, and incorporated as a full member of BC's post secondary education system. Located in Merrit, our oncampus enrollment is 250, and we serve over 400 students in community-based programs across Canada.

We invite applications for the following positions. All positions are subject to budgetary confirmation. Some positions may be filled initially on a sessional basis.

Instructor, Administrative Studies

Responsible for preparation and delivery of marketing, accounting, financial management, small business development and micro/ macro economics.

Completion of a master's degree of a related discipline. Teaching experience is required; post secondary teaching experience with First Nations adult learners is preferred.

Start date: August 1, 1996. Annual salary range: \$30,000 - \$56,000. Application deadline: March 29, 1996.

Instructor, Natural Resource Technology

Responsible for preparation and delivery of various courses in the NRT program.

Completion of a bachelor's degree in a related discipline, or R.P.F. or diploma of technology plus five years related work experience is required. Post secondary teaching experience with First Nations adult learners and relevant field experience is preferred. Start date: August 1, 1996. Annual salary range: \$30,000 - \$56,000.

Application deadline: March 29, 1996.

Instructor, Social Work

Responsible for preparation and delivery of various courses in the

Completion of a master's degree in Social Work is required. Post secondary teaching experience with First Nations adult learners in

Start date: August 1, 1996. Annual salary range: \$30,000-\$56,000. Application deadline: March 29, 1996.

NVIT gives high priority to First Nations candidates. All applicants should be experienced in working with First Nations people and organizations. Apply to:

Robyn Cunningham, Manager, Human Resources Box 399, Merritt, BC, V0X 2B0, Tel: (604) 378-3307 Fax (604) 378-3332

Note: We encourage application for future job opportunities. Call the Human Resources Office for more information.



NVIT's mission is to provide high-quality post secondary education relevant to the diverse and evolving needs of First Nations communities, in an environment that fosters student success.

News AVAVA

March held to keep killer behind bars

By Michael Smith Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

The mother of Helen Betty Osborne wants intervener status at the upcoming parole hearing of the man convicted of her daughter's brutal murder. But it is unlikely that the National Parole Board will allow this to hap-

Justine Osborne, 70, of Norway House First Nation, and members of a women's wellness circle completed an 800 km Walk For Justice from their northern Manitoba community to Winnipeg on Nov. 17. The five-day march, which started on Nov. 13, was in protest of the possible full parole of Dwayne Archie Johnston. Johnston was found guilty of manslaugher in the 1971 death of Helen Betty and was sentenced in 1987, 16 years after the crime, to 10 years in jail.

Three other men accused of participating in the rape and stabbing of the 17-year-old Aboriginal woman in The Pas, Man. were found not guilty. Johnston admits to participating in the killing, but denies committing the actual murder.

About 200 supporters joined the small group of marchers at the legislature to urge the government to use its influence to convince the parole baord to deny Johnston an early release.

The hearing is expected to be held in February or March of 1996, approximately one year before the end of his sentence.

In an emotional scene, Justine Osborne, supported on both sides by her children and fellow marchers, broke down and cried while addressing the crowd. People, some weeping openly, stood in respect while she composed herself. She said she was grateful to the public for supporting her family in this endeavor.

The parole board usually

does not grant intervener status at hearings to individuals and it is unlikely that it will be granted in this case.

Fraser Simmons, regional Keewatinowi parole board director in Abbotsford, B.C., said the parole board does not allow verbal presentations from observers and victims, just written state-

"In terms of the limits put on the parole board, we have to put aside those kinds of emotional considerations and deal strictly with the likelihood of somebody commtting a new offence."

Simmons said the parole board believes Johnston is not likely to reoffend.

Consumer Minister Jim Ernst said Manitoba's Justice Minister, Rosemary Vodrey, wrote to the parole board on Oct. 23, urging it to deny the early release of Johnston.

The government and the needed reforms. people of Manitoba supported the group in its desire to see jus-

tice done in this case, said Ernst.

Grand Chief of the Manitoba Okimakanak George Muswaggon said the province must take action to reform the justice sytem as it relates to Aboriginal people.

The Osborne murder sparked a judical inquiry in 1987, which resulted in the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry report.

The AJI called for sweeping changes to the way the justice system dealt with Aboriginal people

Muswaggon said the report has to be taken off the shelf, dusted off, and used as a blueprint to implement much

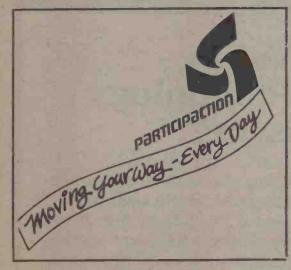
"It is sad that people in positions of responsibility are doing

Mike Smith

Osborne responds to reporters' questions.

almost nothing. It is time we had a justice system that works."

Johnston has been on day parole in Abbotsford, B.C., since late September.

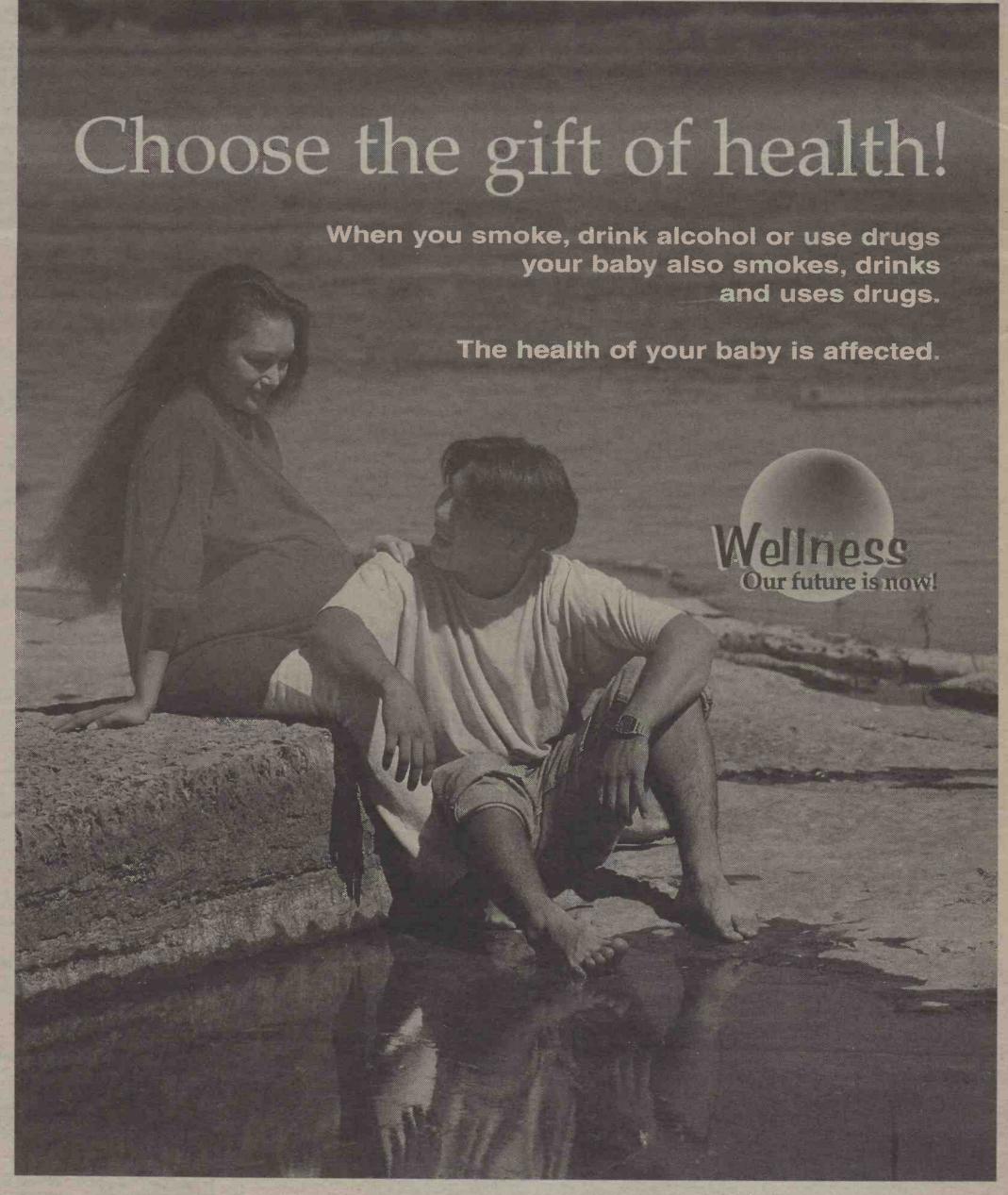


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