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Windspeaker

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"National Chief Mercredi's actions and statements are an insult to the chiefs."

— Manitoba Grand Chief Phil Fontaine

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Thumbs up for treaties

VANCOUVER

Negotiation is the only acceptable and civilized way for Native people and the government to deal with the complex issues of Aboriginal title and rights in the province of British Columbia, said Chief Joe Mathias.

He was responding to a new study, conducted by ARA Consulting Group of Vancouver, which found land claim treaties have a positive effect in regards to economic opportunity, community development and improved relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

"The strength of this report is that it provides an independent and balanced perspective of the issues, challenges and opportunities of treaty-making," said Mathias. "It is a critically important and timely document, one we expect will generate constructive public debate in the months ahead."

The study found that modern day treaties have not caused the kind of disruption and disharmony their critics contend they do, but neither do they offer instant solutions. A summary report prepared by Ken Coates of the University of Northern British Columbia said the resolution of long-standing disagreements, through negotiation rather than through legal or politically imposed conditions, will liberate people from the contentious and difficult debates of the past.

"These often heated discussions - about colonialism, dislocation, sovereignty, ownership, and the legitimacy of Native land claims - generate a great deal of rhetoric and anger but rarely provide lasting solutions," concludes the summary.

The study examined three Canadian treaties - the James Bay, Yukon and Inuvialuit - as well as treaties in Alaska, Australia and New Zealand. It provides an analysis of the impacts of settlements on governance, land and resources, business, income, employment, education training and social services.

Chief Edward John, of the First Nations Summit Task Group, hopes the study will dispel the misinformation and confusion surrounding treaty talks and settlements.

"Unfortunately, the debate up to now has been highly charged and emotional. The information in this study should help British Columbians become better informed about the real facts of treaty settlement," said John.

It is important for British Columbians to realize they are not alone in facing the changes and uncertainty surrounding treaty negotiations," said Aboriginal Affairs minister John Cashore. This study shows that treaties are about compromise and about establishing a social, political and economic framework for future relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people."

However, the BC Reform party describes the study as "warm and fuzzy" and says it has little relevance to B.C. taxpayers.

"I don't think most British Columbians give a fig about one academic's view of how treaties have been received in other countries or jurisdictions. But they are beginning to understand very clearly the one-way path to land claims negotiations taken here by both senior governments is not safe to travel, said B.C. Reform leader Jack Weisgerber in a press release.



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Celebration

Leah Pagett

The Saskatchewan Indian Federated College reaches its 20th year in the business of education and will host a powwow April 6 and 7 as part of the anniversary celebrations.

Hereditary chiefs a no-show in B.C. supreme court

By Debora Lockyer
Windspeaker Staff Writer

VANCOUVER

An arrest warrant has been issued for three hereditary chiefs of the Nuxalk Nation who, along with 19 others charged in connection with a logging protest on King Island near Bella Coola,

failed to appear in court for their trial.

The chiefs, Lawrence Pootlass, Edward Moody, and Charles Nelson, were to appear in the Supreme Court of British Columbia Jan. 22. They were charged with disobeying an injunction that would allow the forest company Interfor to harvest the logs on the island. They had set up a road block and stopped logging trucks from

going into the area.

The group was arrested Sept. 26 when an RCMP assault force landed on the remote island off the B.C. coast where the Nuxalk had teamed up with environmentalists to protest the logging. The chiefs challenged the jurisdiction of the supreme court over the territory, and believe it is their hereditary responsibility, under traditional law, to protect the land from cer-

tain abuses.

The court proceeded with the trial in absentia. The chiefs decided not to appear in court, because the judge refused to hear their position on sovereignty and jurisdiction.

The site of the blockade has historic significance to the Nuxalkmc, who believe it is the place from which the first woman descended. King Island is also a part of the Great Coast

Rainforest, the largest remaining ecosystem left in North America.

The hereditary chiefs say they are exercising their sovereign right to prevent logging in their territory, that they have never ceded their territory or entered into any treaties or agreement with the Canadian government, and therefore continue to have jurisdiction over the land.

Confidence lost in AFN leader

By Michael Smith
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

The head of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) stands by recent comments he made opposing the Manitoba chiefs' self government initiative, in spite of an unusual non-confidence vote to censure him.

Grand Chief Ovide Mercredi said on Jan. 12 he will continue to voice his opposition to the Framework Agreement process on self government involving Manitoba First Nations and the federal government. Mercredi, who was in Winnipeg to participate in a 500 person demonstration against health care changes, said the framework agreement, in its present form, could undermine existing treaties, which define Native rights and the nation-to-nation relationship between First Nations and the Canadian government.

Mercredi said he makes no apologies for comments made in a CBC national television report on Dec. 13, 1995 where he stated that "dismantling is dangerous to Indian rights and Indian treaties. That's the reason the people themselves have to stand up against dismantling in Manitoba."

Response to this statement by AMC chiefs was swift and blunt. At a special assembly in Winnipeg on Dec. 15, a motion of non-confidence, put forward by Chief Harold Turner (Mercredi's cousin), was overwhelmingly passed. It said Mercredi was bound by the



Michael Smith

Chiefs Phil Fontaine, right, and Ovide Mercredi marched together in Winnipeg to protest health care changes, but recent comments made by Mercredi during a television interview which denounced the self-government process in Manitoba has escalated a longtime feud between the two leaders.

chiefs of Canada to support the agreement. In other words, he should keep his mouth shut.

In a press release the chiefs charged that Mercredi's comments were part of a continuing campaign of misinformation against the Framework Agreement signed in 1994. They described Mercredi's opposition to the agreement as arrogant, misguided and a deliberate flouting of a 1995 resolution by AFN members directing the organization and the national chief to respect and support all regional self

government treaty processes.

The agreement is intended to repeal the Indian Act, dismantle Indian Affairs and recognize First Nations government authority in an undetermined number of jurisdictions.

The Framework Agreement Initiative Organization, an offshoot of the AMC, was formed last year to work with the federal government in the dismantling process. The process could take up to 10 years to complete.

The vote is considered unusual

by many. It is rare for chiefs to criticize one another in such a public and direct manner. In the past public confrontations have been frowned upon and considered to be an unsavory part of the white mans' politics. Traditionally such disputes are resolved behind closed doors.

The issue has escalated a long-time feud between Mercredi and Phil Fontaine, AMC grand chief. Although the two walked together during the health care march, they seldom looked at or spoke to one another.

"National Chief Mercredi's actions and statements are an insult to the chiefs and, more particularly, to the First Nations peoples in Manitoba. The national chief's only motivation can be to sow confusion and discord among our people, and that is irresponsible, offensive and unacceptable," said Fontaine.

Mercredi said the actions of the AMC was a symbolic gesture that would probably carry little weight outside of Manitoba. Because his second, and last, term of office ends in about 18 months there is little political motive to censure himself. He said it is his right and obligation as AFN grand chief to speak out against policies that may not be in the best interest of Indian people. He said his assessment of the process is based on a significant body of research and his comments are not made lightly or with malice.

He also said his views are shared by many Manitoba Natives. If this support was not evident Mercredi said he would not have felt comfortable attending the march.

Mystery light enchants north

By Debora Lockyer with Dooly Jones
Windspeaker Staff Writers

FORT RESOLUTION, N.W.T.

"Look, up in the sky, it's a bird, it's a plane, it's...what is that thing, anyway?"

This seems to be the million dollar question plaguing the community of Fort Resolution, N.W.T.

Sightings of an unexplained dancing white light, moving through the sky just above the tree line, have the whole town talking.

And the Canadian Armed Forces listening to the stories of the eyewitnesses of the strange, yet beautiful, glow in the sky.

Residents of Fort Resolution

first saw the light Jan. 4, said Euan Hunter, Mayor of Fort Rez. It was spotted by a dozen people who watched it for an hour that first night.

Mayor Hunter did not see the light until 10 days later, when he and the RCMP witnessed the show. It is not the northern lights, a weather balloon, or anything else he's ever seen in the northern skies, he said.

"It seems to hover, and it's above the tree line, and in a period of about, say, from 4:30 p.m. to about 7 p.m., she'll move right from the middle of town, which is southwest to the very end of town and start declining," said Hunter.

The real spectacle occurs dur-

ing the last half-hour of the night's performance, when viewers are treated to a show of bright red, blue and green flashes of light seeming to come from underneath the intense white glow, said the mayor.

There have been three video recordings taken of the light. The first was viewed by representatives of the armed forces, but according to Captain Sue Gray there wasn't a fixed point of reference on the video so all that was visible was a "small, dancing white light throughout the screen. Other than that, you couldn't really decipher anything, except darkness."

National defence arrived in the town Jan. 10 to investigate, but the cloud cover was too great that night and the light was not visible. During

the last few weeks, this was the only night the light could not be seen.

Just about everyone in town has seen the light now, said Hunter. Without counting the children, that number includes approximately 80 "credible" people.

"It's definitely not a hoax," said Hunter. National Defence do not have an explanation for the light, but they know for sure there are no military exercises in the area, he said.

Minus 40 degree weather has put a freeze on any attempts to chase down the source of the light. However, as soon as the temperature rises, many residents have promised themselves a snowmobile trip out on the lake to find out what, or who, is responsible for their evening entertainment.

Liquor

By R. John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SUCKER CREEK, Alta.

In a decision which has broad repercussions, the Licensing Appeal Council (LAC) recently gave Peter Paul Williams go-ahead to open a liquor store at the Sucker Creek Band, overturning a ruling of the Liquor Control Board. It was the first such store in Alberta.

"The ALCB clearly thwarted Peter Paul Williams' application for a liquor store," said Buss, an Edmonton lawyer for the firm Parlee McLaws, for Willier. "I was very disappointed that anything this discriminatory could be done in this day."

"The commission's refusal to allow the licence] was in my opinion, consistent with the opinion of Alberta Native leader Darlene Dickinson, director of communications and relations with the Alberta and Liquor Commission. She took over regulation of the industry from the board in 1995. "We will, of course, appeal council's decision."

Willier's store became a liability when the government announced in September 1993, that it would close liquor stores and allow interests to operate them. Before that, only a few wine stores had sold alcohol side board outlets. Between 4, 1993, and March 5, 1995,

Coral Hart

By Todd Phillips
Nunatsiag News

IQUALUIT, N.W.T.

Commercial whaling wiped out the bowhead whale in the eastern Arctic. It earned this week they harvest one of the remaining

Regional representatives of Nunavut Wildlife Management Board met in Iqaluit to plan for the hunt of a whale in Nunavut's waters.

After some emotion and speech making, they finally agreed that the hunt approved—will take place of York Bay in north Somerset Island.

"We have been held back by bowhead whale hunting in the past, I don't know how many years...but it's been long," said Sam Emiktoiw, from Coral Harbour. "It's our fault."

Emiktoiw convinced that the first whale hunted near his community, Repulse Bay, and Cumberland Sound, Pangnirtung.

"The Pang people I hope you to be sad," said chair of the wildlife board decision was reached. "The people will hunt for you, Elders."

Hunters and Elders in Nunavut are expected to be divided (the meat) will be divided to each community.

Emiktoiw says Inuit by this hunt that they do not have traditional and safe harvesting methods. He said all parts of the whale, including the bones, will be used.

Under the terms of the Nunavut land claim

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HEALTH

Windspeaker takes a special look at the state of the current Health Care situation in Canada and the uproar changes in the system are causing in Indian Country.

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SPORTS

Featured in Windspeaker's sports section is Cree boxer Willard Lewis, who took a step towards the Canadian light-heavy-weight title in Fort McMurray, Alta., last month.

See Page 19.

AD DEADLINES

The advertising deadline for the March issue is Thursday, FEB. 15, 1996.

NATION IN BRIEF

Fur flying over ban

Aboriginal groups hope to collect one million signatures on a petition that states opposition to the European leg-hold legislation. Europeans are threatening to ban Canadian fur imports if the fur is taken from leg-hold traps. The petition should be distributed across the country soon and sent to European parliamentarians this summer. Metis leader Mike Paulette believes the European community is practising a double standard over leg-hold traps. He said some European countries are still using the trapping methods themselves. The Dutch use the traps, as well as snares and poison, on muskrats and do not use the animals after they are dead.

Job-seekers looking to cash in

Supervisors at Casino Rama in Ontario are wading through 35,000 applications and holding five minute job interviews in an attempt to staff a multi-million dollar gambling operation. More than 50,000 applications were mailed out. There are 2,200 jobs available. Employment offers are expected to be made by March 1. The casino will be operated by Carnival Hotels of Miami, and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

Liberals set up fund

The Aboriginal People's Commission of the Liberal Party of Canada will establish an Aboriginal Electoral Endowment Fund. The fund is designed to assist Aboriginal candidates in federal elections and encourage the active participation of Aboriginal people in the Liberal Party. Details are expected to be announced in the fall.

Big business for team Canada

David Osborn, negotiator for Canada in the Nisga'a land claim talks, was paid \$375,000 last year in fees and expenses. Tom Molloy, another federal negotiator, received \$3,000 less. Tribal negotiators got 60,000 to \$75,000 for their efforts in the negotiations.

Bishop back to court

Roman Catholic Bishop Hubert O'Connor goes to trial in July on sex charges that were stayed three years ago. He faces two charges of sexual assault and two of indecent assaults stemming from his time teaching at a residential school in Williams Lake, B.C. in the 1960s. The accusations involve two Native workers and two students at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School.

Right not rights more important

Winnipeg Justice Scott Wright said prohibiting alcohol on Indian reserves may be violating a person's freedom, but it is a reasonable infringement under the constitution. Wright said the infringement is a reasonable limit because the legislation is there to ameliorate conditions on the reserve caused by alcohol abuse. The decision stems from the arrest last year of Gary Campbell, a 38-year-old Moose Lake man found intoxicated on a street on the Moose Lake Reserve.

Chief seeking alternative

Assembly of First Nations Grand Chief Ovide Mercredi wants to hold a national conference in late spring to advocate passive resistance. He's worried about the potential for Aboriginal unrest this summer. He wants an alternative to the kind of unrest that took hold of Canada last year with confrontations in Gustafsen Lake, B.C. and Ipperwash Provincial Park, Ont. Mercredi, a recruit to Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, said non-violent means can be more effective than armed confrontation.

News

Liquor store to open on reserve

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SUCKER CREEK, Alta.

In a decision which will have broad repercussions, the Liquor Licensing Appeal Council of Alberta recently gave Peter Paul Willier the go-ahead to open a liquor store on the Sucker Creek Band reserve, overturning a ruling of the Alberta Liquor Control Board. It will be the first such store in Alberta.

"The ALCB clearly acted to thwart Peter Paul Willier's application for a liquor store," said Karin Buss, an Edmonton lawyer with the firm Parlee McLaws, who acted for Willier. "I was very surprised that anything this discriminatory could be done in this day and age."

"The commission's ruling [not to allow the licence] was, in our opinion, consistent with the views of Alberta Native leaders," said Darlene Dickinson, director of communications and industry relations with the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, which took over regulation of the liquor industry from the board in June of 1995. "We will, of course, honor the appeal council's decision."

Willier's store became a possibility when the government of Alberta announced in September, 1993, that it would close provincial liquor stores and allow private interests to operate them instead. Before that, only a few specialty wine stores had sold alcohol outside board outlets. Between Sept. 4, 1993, and March 5, 1994, govern-

ment liquor stores were phased out.

The basis for the original licence denial was a board ruling that Willier could not open the store because, "by virtue of the location, [he would be] able to provide a price advantage to certain consumers that other retail liquor store licensees cannot because these certain consumers are not required to pay taxes, (e.g. GST)." That policy was passed by the board on May 15, 1995, more than a year after Willier had applied for the store. On July 4, 1995, the board finally considered the application, and refused it. The normal time frame for such a decision, according to Buss, is about six weeks.

In its decision, the council noted that "there was no explanation or reason given by the board for the delays in this matter." It was not until Willier contacted a representative of the board, on Oct. 24, 1994, that it took any action at all.

The board arranged for a referendum on the reserve, which was held on Feb. 10, 1995. The majority of band members agreed to allow alcohol sales in the First Nation and, shortly thereafter, "the Sucker Creek Band advised the board that it had granted unlimited access to agents of the board to attend upon the licensed premises." This dealt with two areas of concern to the board. Only the question of the federal goods and services tax was undecided.

The council decision said: "The board chairman, at the board hearing on Aug. 17, 1995, admitted that its decision was based in part upon

a briefing it received with respect to GST and GST contributions including the federal government's experience with GST exemptions for tobacco. The board chairman did not allow [Willier's lawyer] to review the briefing documents."

Willier's appeal was based on four points: a jurisdictional claim — that the ruling of the board violated the division of powers between the federal and provincial governments; an alleged violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedom; a claim that board authority did not extend as far as they'd taken it; and a claim that the policy was discriminatory.

The ruling in favor of Willier said: "There is no question that the purpose of the board policy was to prevent the establishment of retail liquor stores on Indian reserves. This policy is contrary to the Charter of Rights and Freedom, section 88 of the Indian Act and established case law. The board has no jurisdiction to discriminate if a sector of the population does not pay GST. Furthermore, this board policy discriminates against Indians on reserves and is contrary to section 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedom." Willier had met all other requirements for the licence.

"They made some very odd remarks," Buss said. "I think that they were really afraid that the stores in High Prairie and Slave Lake would suffer, or that there would be a bootlegging problem."

"At this time, no other applications for on-reserve liquor stores have been received," Dickinson said last week.

Cab driver charged in girl's death

RCMP in La Ronge, Sask. have charged Teresa McLeod, 41, with criminal negligence causing death.

McLeod, a resident of Stanley Mission, Sask. was the cab driver who left 15-year-old Becky Charles on a desolate highway Nov. 29, 1995 where she died of hypothermia. The temperature was -25C.

Charles', also of Stanley Mission, was found 12 days after she was ejected from the taxi for causing a disturbance by hitting a passenger who had a heart condition.

McLeod has stated the girl was acting strangely, and police suspect the girl had a severe reaction to Graval, a medication taken for car sickness. An overdose of the drug can cause hallucinations.

The cab driver said she notified her dispatcher to tell the RCMP she had kicked the girl out of the cab about 32 km from La Ronge. The RCMP said police arrived at the drop-off spot 35 minutes after the information was received, but couldn't find Charles.

A searcher found the snow-covered body of Charles only feet from the spot where the girl had been left on the side of the road.

McLeod is to appear in La Ronge provincial court Feb. 26. There is no word as to whether or not the RCMP will be investigating its procedures as it relates to the search for the girl.

Blood Tribe police ask for support

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

STAND OFF, Alta.

A dispute between the Blood Tribe police and a group of concerned citizens seems well on its way to resolution, after two weeks of meetings. Police Chief Wayne Hamby met again with protesters Jan. 19th, to iron out problems that have arisen on the reserve.

Local residents say the problems are long standing, but public awareness first came to light on Dec. 30th, when a group of citizens held a protest march outside police headquarters in Stand Off. More than a dozen people, some carrying placards, aired their complaints about poor quality investigations and other, more personal, problems.

Hamby asked for a meeting with representatives of the group and a few days to do his own investigations and put together a written response. He met with the group again Jan. 4th, and has since then seen them several times.

"The talks have really helped. What people didn't realize is that we don't have a case if we don't have any witnesses. The community here is reluctant to come forth to help the police and give testimony, so we're often left with our hands tied," he said.

Two of the complaints - one

an assault and one a murder - involved cases thrown out of court for lack of evidence.

Hamby also noted that RCMP on the reserve have the same problem getting people to come forward, and in fact, some of the difficulties the group have complained about have been RCMP cases.

"Support is needed for all the police, whether it's our force or the RCMP," Hamby noted. "It's been good to have this open discussion with the community, and I think both sides are making progress."

Hamby noted that this police force doesn't have the same training as the RCMP, but they do go through a rigorous 16-weeks of additional field training before working on their own. He also noted that several of his force have also received specialized training. "We're always working to improve our skills."

"We're still looking into some of the occurrences the group mentioned," Hamby added.

Many of the problems occur in the small community of Moses Lake, at the very end of the reserve, the largest in Canada. Moses Lake borders the town of Cardston, which is policed by the RCMP.

"It takes too long for the Blood police to get here from Stand off," one protestor said. "If nothing else, the RCMP should police Moses Lake and let the tribal police look after the rest of the reserve."

Coral Harbour site for first bowhead whale hunt

By Todd Phillips
Nunatsiaq News

IQUALUIT, N.W.T.

Commercial whalers almost wiped out the bowhead whale population in the eastern Arctic, but Inuit learned this week they may soon harvest one of the remaining few.

Regional representatives of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board met in Iqaluit this week to plan for the hunt of a bowhead whale in Nunavut's waters in 1996.

After some emotional lobbying and speech making, delegates finally agreed that the hunt—once approved—will take place in Duke of York Bay in north Southampton Island.

"We have been held back from bowhead whale hunting for the past, I don't know how many years...but it's been long enough," said Sam Emiktowt, a delegate from Coral Harbour. "It's not really our fault."

Emiktowt convinced delegates that the first whale should be hunted near his community and Repulse Bay, and not in Cumberland Sound near Pangnirtung.

"The Pang people I don't want you to be sad," said Ben Kovik, chair of the wildlife board, after the decision was reached. "These people will hunt for you—for your Elders."

Hunters and Elders from across Nunavut are expected to take part in the hunt, and muktuk (whale meat) will be divided up and sent to each community.

Emiktowt says Inuit will prove by this hunt that they respect traditional and safe harvesting methods. He said all parts of the whale, including the bones, will be used.

Under the terms of the Nunavut land claim agreement,

the wildlife board can request a bowhead hunt one year after starting their bowhead whale traditional knowledge study. They must also look at other information about the health of the bowhead populations.

In December, Kovik wrote to Brian Tobin, then the minister of fisheries and oceans, to say the wildlife management board wants to harvest a bowhead this year.

But recently Tobin quit his fisheries job to seek the premiership of his home province of Newfoundland. Public Works Minister David Dingwall is filling in until Prime Minister Jean Chretien appoints a new fisheries minister.

Dingwall only has until Jan. 29 to overturn the NWMB's decision, and he can only do so on the grounds that the hunt will affect the conservation of the whale population.

Scientists with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans estimate there are at least 600 bowhead whales in two separate populations—one in Foxe Basin in north Hudson Bay, and the other along the east coast of Baffin Island near Baffin Bay.

"In truth, scientists know very little about bowheads in Nunavut waters," said Dan Pike, a former fisheries official now working for the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

Pike said the wildlife management board asked fisheries officials how many bowhead whales could safely be harvested without harming the population.

The scientists estimated that taking one whale every three years from Foxe Basin and one every 19 years from Baffin Bay won't hurt the whale populations there.

But those numbers are conservative estimates based on infrequent and inconclusive surveys of Nunavut's bowhead populations and based on the number of

known bowhead kills between 1919 and 1985.

That's partly why the wildlife board is conducting a five-year traditional knowledge study. The bowhead study committee has already traveled to 10 communities, interviewed more than 180 people, mostly Elders, and transcribed hours of tape about bowheads and whaling practices.

That knowledge will be used to help set quotas in the future.

Pike said biologists know much more about bowhead populations in the western Arctic and Inuvialuit region, where bowhead stocks are much healthier and where whales are harvested annually.

He said the best information available to scientists about Nunavut's bowhead are the meticulous journals kept by the whalers.

"We do know that whalers wiped them out, don't we?" snapped Emiktowt, after listening to Pike's presentation about the depleted bowhead stocks.

Pike estimated that as many as 28,000 whales were killed by commercial whalers between 1700 and 1915 in Baffin Bay alone. They also hunted whales in north Hudson Bay.

That figure drew astonished gasps from delegates who were planning and fighting for the right to harvest only one of the remaining bowheads.

Emiktowt also asked why Inuit should pay for the hunt when it was Europeans who took away their right to hunt with their exploitation of the whale stock.

Keith Hay, a biologist running the bowhead traditional knowledge study, says most Elders interviewed in the study said whale stocks have been increasing.

Hay also found that many Elders have a great passion for the bowhead whale hunt and for the muktuk.

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degree weather has in any attempts to source of the light. on as the temporary residents have themselves a out on the lake to or who, is responsible for entertainment.

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prohibiting alcoholating a person infringement of the infringement of the legislation on the reserve stems from well, a 38-year-old on a street

Chief Ovide conference in assistance. He's original unrestive to the kind last year with lake, B.C. and Mercredi, a rephilly, said non-ve than armed

Commission report released in spring

When the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People releases the first stage of its final report this spring, will anybody really care?

The report, five years in the making and costing a total of \$60 million, comes a bit too late to do any good, said Blaine Favel, Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations in an interview with the Canadian Press.

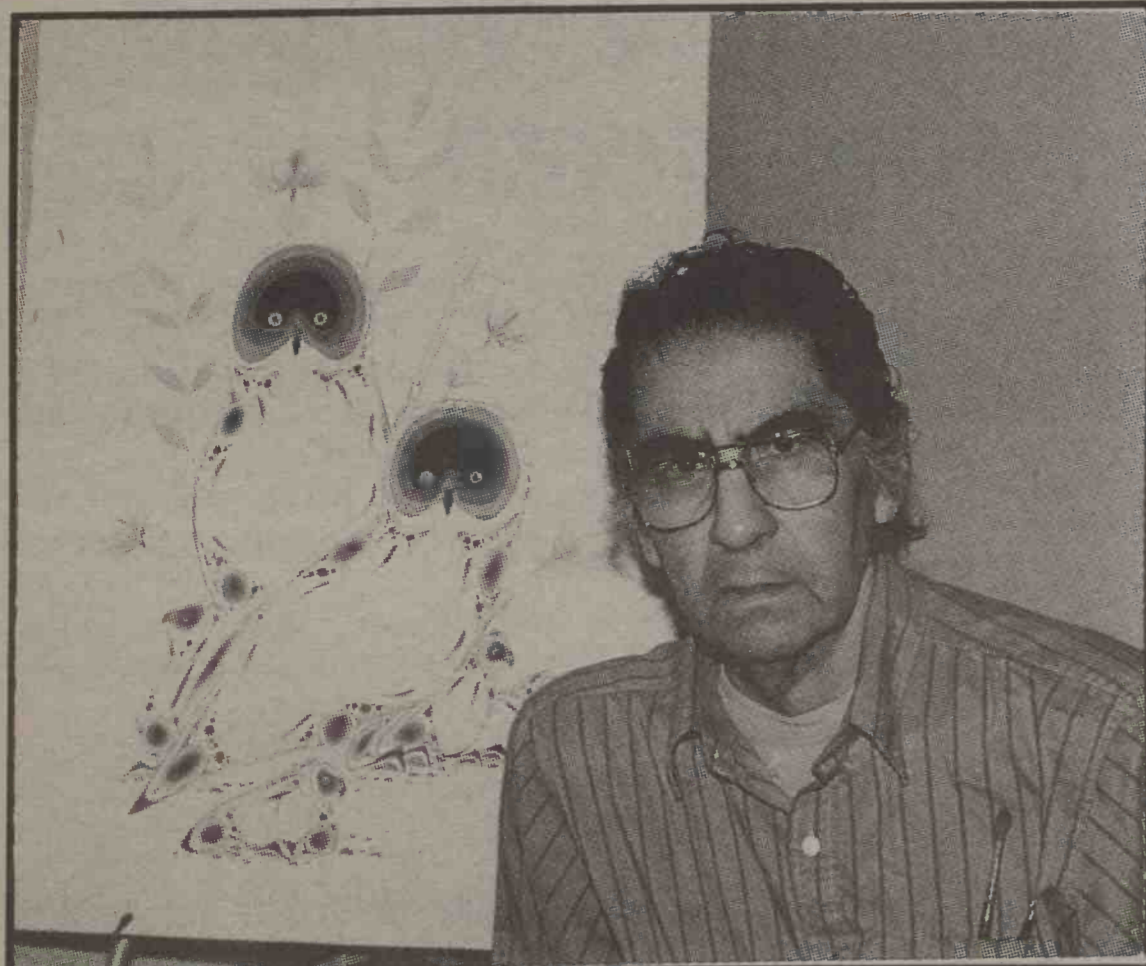
The commission has missed the boat and will have little impact, said Favel. The time to get the biggest bang for the buck was when the Liberals were elected to federal power in 1993.

The commissioners could have had an opportunity to influence the new government, but now all the policies have been shaped and commission's impact nullified, said Favel. People have moved on, he said.

The commission was the most extensive look ever into the lives of Canada's Aboriginal people, and the most expensive commission on Canada's books, going over budget by \$12 million.

Georges Erasmus, commission co-chair, believes the commission will provide answers to the country's most compelling questions regarding Aboriginal people. In his opinion, it's been money well spent.

OBITUARY - Eddy Cobiness



File Photo

Eddy Cobiness

Clean simple lines mark artist's work

WINNIPEG

Eddy "Doc" Cobiness, a renowned Aboriginal Manitoba artist, died Jan. 1 of heart and kidney failure at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg. He was 62.

Cobiness, a treaty Ojibwa, was born and raised in Warroad, Minn. He enlisted in the United States army in 1957, where he was a Golden Glove Boxer. Upon serving his term, Cobiness returned to Warroad where he worked as a fisherman, pulp cutter and accomplished artist.

At one time, Cobiness had a studio in Buffalo Point on the shore of Lake of the Woods. When he was taken ill in 1974, he moved to Winnipeg.

He suffered a heart attack in 1994, had diabetes, and last September fell in the bathroom and broke his hip. Complications from this surgery led to his death.

Cobiness was one of the Aboriginal Group of Seven, also known as the Woodlands Group of Seven. Other artists in this group include such talent as Daphne Odjig, Norval Morrisseau, Carl Ray, Jackson Beardy, Alex Janvier and Joe Schez.

Cobiness was known for his stylized images of animals whose essence he could capture in a few brush strokes.

In an interview with *Windspeaker* in 1992, Cobiness told reporter David Hickey he was influenced by the painting of Picasso, his lines and use of color.

Cobiness is survived by Helen, his wife of 34 years; sons, Eddy Jr., Ernest, Elmer and Elliott; daughters, Rose, Judy, Cindy and Bernice; and numerous grandchildren.

OBITUARY - Bill Haineault

Community mourns the passing of Bill Haineault

EDMONTON

Bill Haineault, a respected member of the Metis community, died suddenly of a heart attack on Dec. 23, 1995. He was 46.

Born in Athabasca, Haineault had been a leader in the Metis community for a number of years. He worked with the Metis Nation of Alberta as a constitution process coordinator, and more recently held the position of census area manager with Statistics Canada.

Haineault was also a founding member of Metis Local 1885 and was instrumental in establishing the Metis and Child Family Services. He was also involved in drafting the Metis constitution during the discussions surrounding the Charlottetown Accord.

Haineault was instrumental in the development of the Pathways to Success strategy in Alberta. This strategy was designed to enhance opportunities for Aboriginal people in the labor market. Haineault was involved in the strategy at the local, provincial and national board levels.

He was particularly proud of his involvement with a police training program with the Edmonton Police Service and a project which provided training for Aboriginal people for middle management positions with Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

He was an advocate of Metis self-government, and worked toward developing a detailed vision of how that self-government could work. Haineault passionately believed that Metis people are strong, that they should be proud of their distinctiveness and that they should value their culture.

Haineault is sadly mourned by his wife Paulette Gosselin, three step-children Garry, Joel, and Pamela and her husband Don and their son Dakota.

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Revised Deadline and Requirements Request for Proposals - Northeast Region

Therapeutic Counselling and Assessment Services
Driver/Attendant Services
Behavioral Support Services

Proposals are invited from interested contractors and organizations wishing to provide all or any of the following services: Therapeutic Counselling and Assessment, and Driver/Attendant services for clients receiving services under the Child Welfare Act. Behavioral Support Services are also required for clients of the Services to Persons with Disabilities program. Services are required in the Athabasca, Westlock, Lac La Biche, St. Paul, Bonnyville, Vegreville, Lloydminster/Vermilion and Fort McMurray areas.

All services will be based on Fee for Service where payment is after services are provided. Proposals may be submitted for any or all of the required services in each or all of the above communities. The contract for each service may be awarded to more than one service provider in each region.

The deadline for written proposals has been changed from 1:30 p.m., January 31, 1996 to 1:30 p.m., March 28, 1996. Faxes and late proposals will not be accepted.

Changes have been made to the annual service requirements. For further information, please contact: Charmaine Hammond: 623-5283

To be connected toll-free, please dial 310-0000.

The lowest bid tendered will not necessarily be accepted. Alberta Family and Social Services reserves the right to accept or reject any or all submissions in whole or in part.

Alberta
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Northeast Region

Get Involved
Families and children in your community need your help.

Local working committees are looking for new ways to plan and deliver services to Alberta's families and children. Included are the entire range of child welfare and family support programs. It will be a system where people from the community decide upon the best ways to meet the needs of local families and children.

Your ideas, suggestions and involvement can help meet the specific needs of families and children in your community.

Everyone has something to offer. In the past year, more than 3,000 Albertans have come forward to play a role in creating a new, community-based, preventive system for helping families and children. You can take part in this important planning.

To find out how you can get involved, call 310-0000, toll-free and ask for the nearest office of the Commissioner of Services for Families and Children.

Alberta
COMMISSIONER OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

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Darlene Muskeg
Union Lake
First Nations

First Place 1995 Artist Winner
Lisa Sowan
Swan River
First Nations

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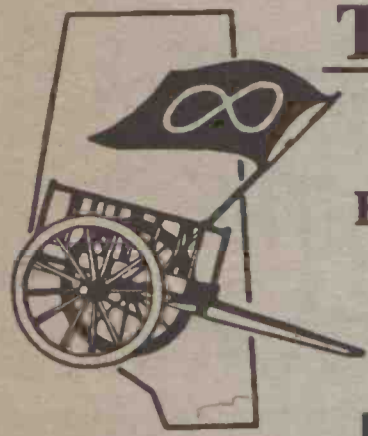
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REGISTRATION FEE PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 1996 IS \$150
REGISTRATION FEE AFTER MARCH 1, 1996 IS \$185

NOTE: No registrations accepted after April 15, 1996

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CANADIANS ON BILL C-68 AN ACT RESPECTING FIREARMS

As of **January 1, 1996**, there will be a mandatory minimum sentence of four years in prison upon conviction of certain violent offences with a firearm.

As of **January 1, 1996**, Section 85 of the Criminal Code will be changed to apply a mandatory minimum term of one year for the use of a real or imitation firearm in the commission of a criminal offence.

Please note that the licensing and registration provisions of the **current law will not change** on January 1, 1996.

Notice will be given to the public before the new licensing and registration provisions of Bill C-68 come into effect.

Canadians requiring additional information should address their questions to the Department of Justice, Communications Branch, 1st floor, 239 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H8, or call (613) 957-9419.



Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
Canada

Canada

Training given to prospective First Nations foster parents

By Barb Grinder
Windspeaker Contributor

CALGARY

More than half of the 800 child welfare cases in Alberta involve Native children, says Doug Dokis, of Calgary's Indian Friendship Centre.

"The provincial government is mainly concerned with finding safe, reliable foster homes for these kids. We'd also like to place them in an appropriate cultural environment."

Working with Alberta Family and Social Services, Dokis has put together a training program to help Native people learn what's expected of them as foster parents or temporary guardians, and to ensure foster homes meet provincial standards of safety, education and reliability.

Dokis says his team has been recruiting Native short term care, emergency safe homes in the Calgary area since 1992. His search for people interested in providing longer term care began in 1994, but has been stepped up recently, with the tragic death of Sachary Giroux, a Metis, in a fire last year.

The 80-hour friendship centre training program includes courses in first aid and CPR, dealing with problem children and the handicapped, and working with youngsters who have been abused. It also tries to provide non-crisis support and on-going training to people who go on to become foster parents.

Elders and Native traditionalists also participate as cultural teachers and counsellors.

"We developed our own training program, with help from a lot of other agencies and people. We've been building on it ourselves too, and are now working on a manual that should also prove useful to other groups," Dokis said.

"The Calgary Foster Parents Association has a similar program, without the Native culture content of ours. In 1992/93 they were contacted by 433 people interested in becoming foster parents. Of these, only 286 registered for their training and only 20 actually applied to be foster parents," he added. "The number of interested Native people is a lot smaller, though the need is even greater."

Dokis feels one of the biggest obstacles is the low rate of compensation paid by the govern-

ment. Infant caregivers currently receive less than \$13 a day, with those providing for older children receiving slightly more.

"We're certainly not interested in people looking to get into it for the money," Dokis notes, "but sometimes this barely covers expenses. The government spends a hell of a lot more than that on each child it places in an institutional setting."

Since 1973, about half of Alberta's 45 Indian reserves have taken over child welfare services, with relative success in providing local homes, especially among family, for neglected children. But Dokis says the urban Native children aren't as lucky. Only 20% of Native children in the province's cities manage to find their way to Native homes.

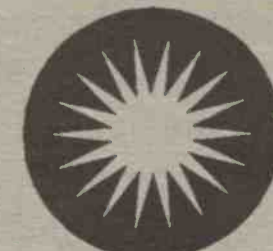
Final placements and home assessments are done by Family and Social Services, but Dokis can make recommendations from his program graduates. The friendship centre recently trained their first batch of 31 prospective foster parents, with 11 of them completing the course and being approved by the government.

Though Dokis agrees that the child's safety and physical welfare comes first, he points out that study after study show Native foster children do better in homes that are culturally similar or at least sensitive to their own backgrounds.

Though he agrees it would be ideal if a child could be placed with extended family, or at least members of the same tribe, Dokis says the program's primary objective is to find Native guardians, without worrying about a precise match. And while families would get priority, single fosters are also being used.

"The key thing is to find responsible people, who are really committed," Dokis says. "There's a big need and it can be a rewarding job, but it's also an extremely demanding one. Many of these children have been through the system for years and have become very troubled and difficult to live with."

Calgarians interested in learning more about becoming a Native foster parent could call the Calgary Indian Friendship Centre at (403) 777-2269. Elsewhere, they should contact their provincial government social services department.



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WINDSPEAKER IS NEWS FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

Striking while the iron is hot

Rumored cuts to two federal programs involving addictions are having an effect. Groups country-wide who work against dependency on alcohol, illegal drugs and tobacco have banded together to work for maintaining federal funding levels.

The programs that may be on the block when the budget comes down from Finance minister Paul Martin's office are Canada's Drug Strategy, begun in 1987, and the Tobacco Demand Reduction Strategy, begun in 1992. While federal spokespeople have publicly proclaimed the "business as usual" line, behind the scenes there have been major-league leaks, and all the leaks are saying the same thing: the programs are in line for the financial chop.

Instead of the usual wait-till-the-end-and-see strategy followed by others who rely on public funding, these groups have responded by trying to nip the cuts in the bud — call it a proactive reaction. So, instead of criticism after the fact, they are giving Jean Chrétien's Liberals a chance to avoid the after-the-fact flack.

Led by Maggie Hodgson of the Nechi Institute, a drug and alcohol education centre in St. Albert, Alta., the self-styled National Coalition in Support of Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Prevention has mounted an impressive campaign to get their message across. At the end of January, there will have been 90,000 cards sent to the prime minister asking him to examine his priorities carefully.

Native people see the problems in mainstream society regarding substance abuse and addiction magnified in Native communities. At the end of the day, we have to thank these activists for their efforts. The campaign has been positive in its approach and a good example of democratic muscle flexing.

But it's not enough to say "Bravo" (although we're sure it will be appreciated). Make sure that you have signed and sent one of the cards to the prime minister.

That, or a letter which tells him that cuts to these programs will seriously impact Canada's Native communities in the long term. And tell him to take this opportunity to make sure that doesn't come to pass.



Writer has a different take on Sacred Assembly

GUEST COLUMN

By Harold P. Koehler

Sacred Assembly '95 was held in Hull, Que., Dec. 6 to 9, and while attendance was not specifically reported, I estimate between 1,500 and 2,000 people took in the event.

On Day Four of the assembly, Elijah Harper read and distributed a "Reconciliation Proclamation." This author believes that the proclamation lacked important concepts, including the important concept of putting an end to policies of assimilation and attempted extinguishment of Aboriginal rights.

Assimilation is perhaps the most important psychological factor which caused havoc in the residential schools and was a force behind the government policies administered by the Indian agents and other adminis-

trators under the Indian Act.

Extinguishment of Aboriginal rights is a feature of present offerings by the federal government in their so-called self-government proposals which is most unacceptable to First Nations. Extinguishment results in complete loss of control by First Nations. This means that the land is finally and completely removed from the commonwealth of sharing that is one of the major tenets of Aboriginal culture and world view.

When the Reconciliation Proclamation was presented to Ron Irwin, minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, he suggested that the government would be able to accept it. (Perhaps that was because some of the difficult concepts were not included.)

The opening preamble smacks of paternalism and authoritarianism. "We, the delegates . . . are now able to assert the following."

First, there was no indica-

tion and authority that the participants in the SA were delegates in any formal or even informal way. Second, there was no attempt to solicit or acknowledge the views of the participants.

The young people seemed to understand this subterfuge and, while they were asked to participate and voice their concerns, their voices were not heard nor were their concerns given any real attention. Only about 30 adults came to listen to the hurt and needs expressed by the young people.

It was rationalized that there were other events scheduled at the same time. That the adults chose to give higher priority to the other events proved to the young people that they are the forgotten generation.

The author has wondered for years just what a consensus is, how it is achieved and what devastating effect it has on the minority. The SA provided an answer: consensus is achieved by

the chair producing a proclamation, reading it to the assembly, but NOT asking if there is dissent. Consensus has been reached!

This author was surprised that so many Native people professed to be of the Christian faith.

The horror stories of the persecution of Native children in residential schools were expounded at great length. The destruction of self-esteem, language, culture and economies by the schools, the military, the police, the traders, the legislators and the clergy was insidious, devastating and widespread over both space and time.

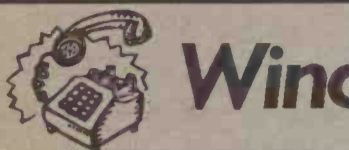
The branding of Native spiritual practices as paganism, savagery and devil worship with the practitioners consigned to purgatory and hell in the afterlife and economic ruin here and now resulted in many conversions of convenience. This same mind set fomented, permitted and excused racism.

The Native concept of spirits

in all of Nature was converted to a worship of the spirit in the bottle with resulting depravity and ultimate ruin. It included physical and sexual abuse and the debasement of women.

It is true that there were Native Elders and teachers at the SA who explained and expounded the virtues of the ancient society, its values, culture, organization and justice. Their voices were often relegated to the evening social functions instead of the mainstream sessions, which may indicate their assumed secondary importance.

Were their voices as unheard and ignored as those of the young people? Was there an attempt to discount their wisdom in the face of the revealed and hierarchical gospel? No mechanism for meaningful input for minority or dissenting views was apparent to this author. Is that because none existed or because it was held in camera to maintain the myth of unanimity and consensus?



If you feel strongly about a topic, Windspeaker is a great alternative.

Each month, Windspeaker asks a question on the issues that most concern you. A few minutes to talk about it, your opinion, your affiliation, the city or town you live in.

The Windspeaker Receptionist will connect you with the person who can listen to the directions.

This month's question is: Are funding cuts to social services a problem for you?



The mother of Helen Betty Osborn, murderer of her daughter's killer.

Killer's de

Dear Editor:

Helen Betty Osborn's murderer is for all intents and purposes a free man. Even though the parole board has placed restrictions upon his movements, he is free.

It seems that Helen Betty Osborn's mother, one of four, has paid a price for her daughter's death. She has been in society but has he? The mother has been in large part on credit. The killer only serving less than 10 years on a life sentence.

In my ignorance, I wonder the impression that the mother has is 25 years in Canada. Is it a society about that?

OTTE



HMMMM... RE... DIDN'T KNOW... INTEREST



Windspeaker

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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Letters to the Editor

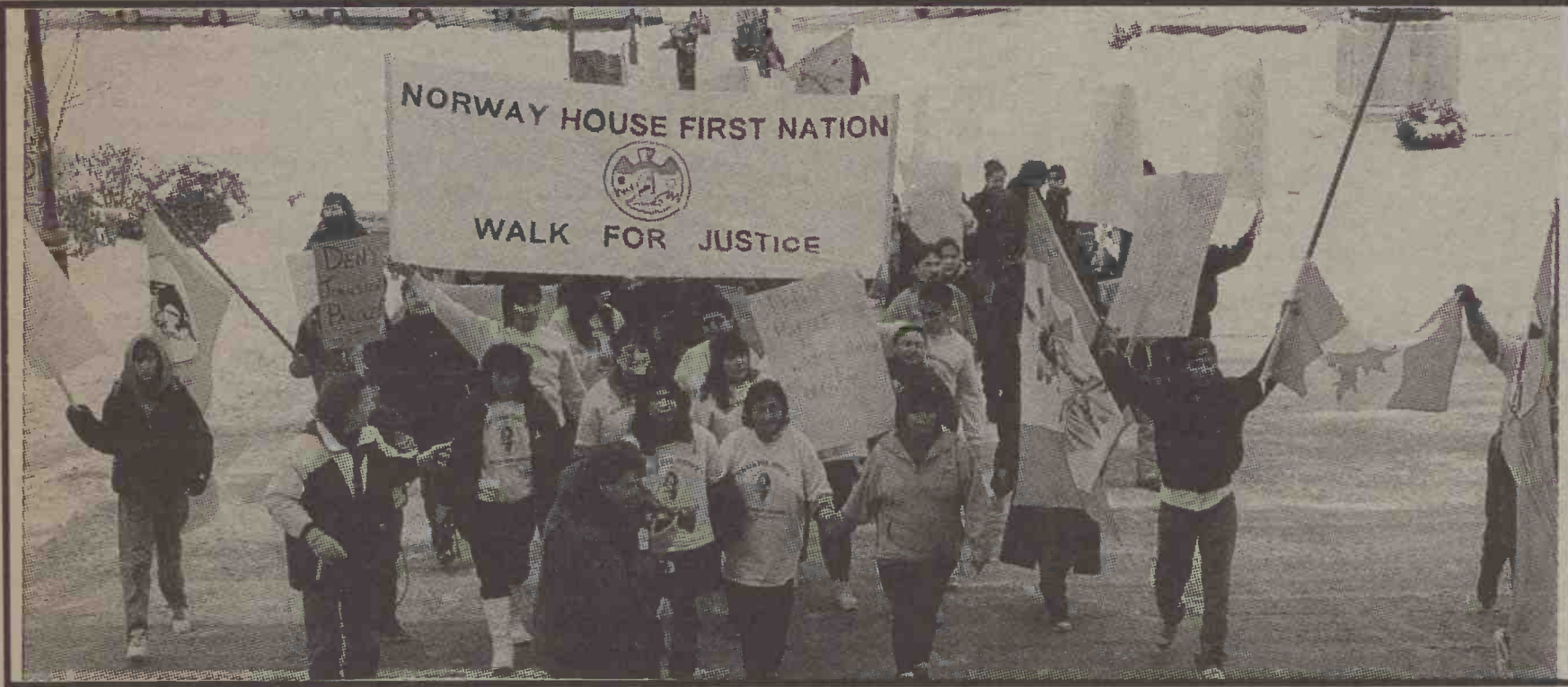
Windspeaker Reader Response Line

If you feel strongly about an issue but don't have the 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 affect 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. Callers have three minutes to talk about any issue that most concerns them. All we ask is that you leave your name, band affiliation, 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 extension number 229.

• This month's question:
Are funding cuts to smoking and drug programs likely to damage Canada's First Nations?



Michael Smith

The mother of Helen Betty Osborne joined a group of supporters Nov. 17 to protest the parole of her daughter's killer, Dwayne Archie Johnston.

Killer's debt to society has yet to be paid

Dear Editor:

Helen Betty Osborne's killer/murderer is for all intents and purposes a free man. Even though the parole board has placed cosmetic restrictions upon his movements.

It seems that Helen Betty's killer, one of four, has paid his debt to society but has he? The debt, paid in large part on credit, with the killer only serving less than eight years on a life sentence.

In my ignorance, I suffered under the impression that a life sentence is 25 years in Canada. What is a society about that allows mur-

derers to walk free. The high premium placed on this killer's freedom reduces the value of the life of a Indian woman.

Society's cruel jest is to have laws that dispense justice with a small "j".

Should Helen's family and community seek formal redress to have (Dwayne Archie) Johnston returned to prison where he belongs, there exists the real possibility of a social backlash for not being forgiving enough of this murder. After all, society has decreed the debt paid, cancelling the out-

standing note on the tragic and cruel end of Helen's too short life.

As Helen's memory fades it must be noted that justice, that savage and evil joke the society has cloaked itself with, must be made aware that the debt is still outstanding. Helen would have been in her mid-40's had she lived and would have been part of the social fabric of this land an equal in Canadian society.

To Helen's family and community, I am heartened by your strength and courage.

Dennis A. Maurice

Reader encourages First Nations to vote

Re: The upcoming election in British Columbia and the campaign to register all First Nations people with elections British Columbia.

Dear Editor:

I am a Haida from Old Masset Village of Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands). Presently I'm an urban Haida who attends the University of Victoria and Camosun College, studying to achieve a bachelors degree in social work, with the goal of working for and with First Nations people in British Columbia.

For the past five years my time has been spent working with many different Native organizations. This is one of the reasons that has led me to the personal decision of starting an election registration project.

The direction that First Nations people have gone with the B.C. provincial government could be changed with the next election. This is of great concern to me, and since Premier Harcourt's announcement to step down as the leader of the NDP, my thoughts have been on what could happen if our people do not take a more involved role in the upcoming election. Many steps can be taken to have the voice of First Nations people heard throughout the campaign process, and particularly on voting day.

The progress that the Aboriginal people of British Columbia have made has been slow and difficult, and an ongoing struggle since the 1800's. All the work that our ancestors and present leaders have made could be diminished if the new party elected decides against Aboriginal rights. This can be stopped if all First Nations individuals, both urban and rural, register to vote and then actually follow through by casting their ballots on election day.

The first step that can be taken is a show of interest by telephoning or faxing me with your personal commitment of time and energy to this cause, and the second step will be a willingness to begin this long-distance relationship for the next six to eight months.

Although this is going to be a difficult task, it can be done. The main thought throughout this project should be the idea that the work can make a difference at a provincial level.

We must make people see that if they don't get involved then they are silently condoning what may happen to First Nations in the province. Our voice matters in this province, and we can make it count on polling day.

If your office or anyone from your nation wants to volunteer then please let me know. The organization will hopefully be comprised of individuals from every nation throughout British Columbia, but we will also accept the help of our non-Aboriginal friends.

The B.C. elections office has informed me that there will be a pamphlet mailed out on Jan. 22 to all residents of B.C. announcing where the registration centers will be located. No door to door enumeration will be carried out because of budget cutbacks.

The actual dates for registration centers opening are as follows: Feb 1 to 4, as well as Feb. 8 to 11. After this date, citizens who did not or could not register have seven days after the announcement of the actual election date to get registered. This organization can begin immediately to campaign successfully by increasing awareness and interest.

If you require more information then please feel free to call. I look forward to hearing from you, and hopefully to working with you side by side throughout the following year. Thank-you. Howa.

Beryl Parke
 PH & FAX (604) 381-1046

OTTER



By Karl Terry

Indian Country

Community Events

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE YOUR EVENTS IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE MARCH ISSUE, PLEASE CALL CAROLYN BEFORE NOON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH AT 1-800-661-5469, FAX: (403) 455-7639 OR WRITE TO: 15001-112 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5M 2V6.

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February - April, 1996. Calgary, Alta. (403) 246-8829

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February 9-11, 1996. Winnipeg, Man. (U of Man.) (204) 474-9926 or 1-800-432-1960 (Man.)

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR

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

NORTHERN MANITOBA TRAPPERS FESTIVAL

February 12-18, 1996. The Pas, Man. (204) 623-2912

NITEP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION

February 14-17, 1996. Vancouver, B.C. (604) 253-5202 or 1-800-886-1213

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE - INDIAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

February 20-23, 1996. Location to be announced.

AMISK COMMUNITY SCHOOL ROUND DANCE

March 1, 1996. Beaver Lake First Nation, Alta. (403) 623-4548

CLIFFORD METCHEWAIS MEMORIAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT (open rec. division)

March 1-3, 1996. Saddle Lake, Alta. (403) 594-0892

ROCK'EM SOCK'EM ALL STAR SENIOR AND OLD TIMERS HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS

March 8-10, 1996. Saddle Lake, Alta. (403) 726-2828

"BUILDING BRIDGES": RESPONDING TO HIV/AIDS IN ETHNOCULTURAL AND ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

March 8-11, 1996. Toronto, Ont. (613) 230-3580 or 1-800-884-1058

AWASIS CONFERENCE '96

March 27-29, 1996. Saskatoon, Sask. (306) 668-7490

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE POWWOW

April 6-7, 1996. Regina, Sask.

BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE - ABORIGINAL YOUTH CAREER FAIR

April 9-10, 1996. Winnipeg, Man. (204) 944-6179

10TH ANNUAL ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY SPRING COMPETITION POWWOW

April 19-21, 1996. Tempe, Ariz., USA (602) 965-5224

10TH INTERNATIONAL NATIVE EDUCATION CONFERENCE

May 1-3, 1996. Winnipeg, Man.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION

May 7-10, 1996. Edmonton, Alta. (403) 455-2200

EIGHTH ANNUAL UNITED TRIBES INTERNATIONAL INDIAN ART EXPO AND MARKET

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

People

Historian awarded Order of Canada

By R. John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Always passionate about history, which she made her life's work, Olive Dickason has had that work recognized by being made a member of the Order of Canada. She will be formally named to the Order of Canada, Canada's highest civilian honor, at an investiture ceremony in Ottawa on Feb. 15. Officially, the honor is being bestowed upon her for her work for Canada's heritage.

"I don't know what factors go into the selection," Dickason said. "But I am accepting it on the understanding that it's a tribute to my work in Native history."

The 75-year-old former history professor made headlines in 1985 when she refused mandatory retirement from the University of Alberta. After a legal struggle, she was reinstated to her professorship, and she stayed on until 1992, finally retiring at 72 years of age. Her struggle ended in disappointment as the higher courts, to which the institution appealed earlier decisions in Dickason's favor, ruled against her.

Dickason's specialty was and is Native history, although she had to battle to get into the field. She came to post-graduate studies late, after a 24-year career as a journalist and raising a family, and intended to take Indian history, as she called it then. The University of Ottawa, though, which had accepted her as a graduate student, did not acknowledge that Indians had any history, and suggested that she take anthropology instead.

"I was lucky," she explained. "A Belgian fellow, who didn't know very much about Native people, but knew a lot about discrimination, took up my cause, and the university even-

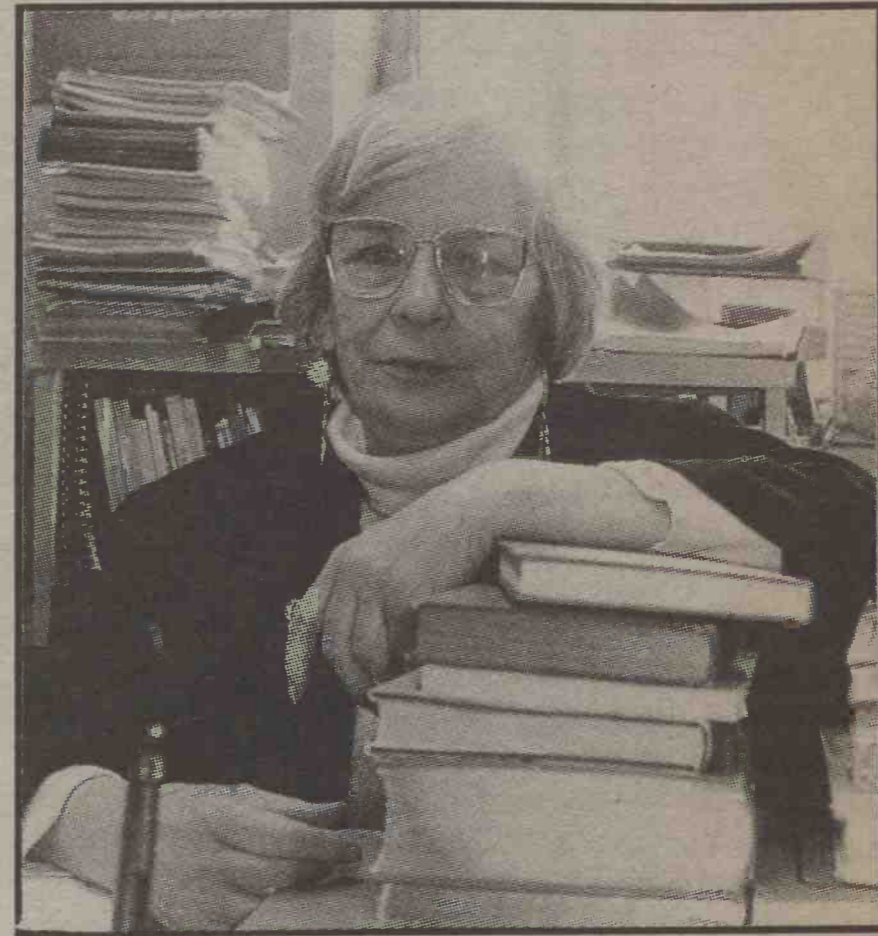
tually admitted me." She went on to earn her doctorate in the late '70s, at the age of 57.

Dickason grew up in Winnipeg, then moved with her parents to a then-isolated reserve on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg at Manigotogan. When she could, she trekked back to Manitoba's capital to seek her fortune, which she found, in a way, while she was selling

magazine subscriptions door-to-door. Father Athol Murray, the famous guiding light of Notre Dame college at Wilcox, Sask., took the young woman with the Grade 10 education to the school and encouraged her to complete her high school and to take her BA. She did so, working through a program in which the University of Ottawa granted the degree for work done at Notre Dame.

"Those were the days when jobs were looking for people, instead of people looking for jobs," Dickason said. "I went straight into journalism. After my family had grown up, I was able to return to university," she said. "I quit the Globe, and was hired on as an information officer at the National Gallery," she continued. "It was just ideal for me."

Her doctoral thesis, titled *The Myth of the Savage*, was eventually published, and signaled the academic continuation of Dickason's career as a writer.



Mark McCallum

Former University of Alberta history professor Olive Dickason in her office in 1987. Her life's work has made her the recipient of Canada's highest award.

She had a very important work of scholarship published in 1992 in Canada by McClelland & Stewart, *Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples from Earliest Times*. The book is now accepted as a textbook in Native studies across Canada, a field of which Dickason is one of the founders.

"Native history is moving along, but it isn't there yet," she said. "I really do think that my work has been significant at getting the field to where it is now."

Dickason continues to be active in the field, and has plans that would daunt many a scholar at 30. When she finishes her immediate task of revising *Canada's First Nations* for a new edition, she intends to start on her long-term project.

"I'd like to do another study, this one a comparative study of first contacts in America, including Canada, the U.S. and Mexico," she said. "There's been some work done in the area, but it's a vast field and a major detailed study has not emerged."

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What's in a word? Plenty



Drew Hayden Taylor

It seems Native people are everywhere in the media these days, be it in a political, social, economic or entertainment context.

Linguistic terms often used in relation to Canada's Indigenous people are fast becoming words of everyday use. But sometimes these words have a specific and contextual meaning, above and beyond their accepted use.

To help cut down on potential misuse and misunderstandings, I have put together a small list of contemporary Aboriginal buzz words to help facilitate the proper dialogue. Please use them with care.

Assembly of First Nations: Political organization claiming to represent all status and reserve Natives except those that have decidedly opted out, like the Iroquois Confederacy and certain Western tribes. Sort of like the situation in the former Soviet Union.

Blockades: Pre-ordained trump card. Why else would the Creator have located a large portion of necessary and needed roads on Native territory?

Dreamcatchers: Aboriginal merchandising at its best. They are everywhere.

Government (1): Source of all evil

Government (2): Source of all funding, allowing various

Native organizations to criticize government (1).

Indian giver: A case of saying one thing but reversing it and doing the opposite. Like in the treaties.

Kashtin: Simon and Garfunkel with a tan.

W.P. Kinsella: Aboriginal enemy #1, or the second coming of Shakespeare if you have anything to do with the new television series based on *Dance Me Outside* called *The Rez*.

Land Claims: Native equivalent of Karma.

Minister of the Department of Indian Affairs: Person who has no real grasp of what's going on out there but acts like he does. See U.N. Peacekeepers.

Native/Quebec Relations: An oxymoron

Oka: Where past treatment met current reality. See Malcolm X's comment concerning the assassination of JFK, "A case of the chickens coming home to roost."

Pocahontas: In film, Tonto in drag; in reality, a 12-year-old with a fabulous publicist.

Quebec: Province that wants to separate from Canada but is unwilling to allow Native communities the same from Quebec. A case of "do as I say, not as I do."

Self-Government: Self-determination or the right to have our own Trudeau or Mulroney.

Tobacco: Sacred ceremonial herb or cursed addictive plant, depending on how long your family has been in this country.

Treaty Rights: Not to be confused with hunters & anglers, logging, mining or government wrongs.

Wannabe: Elements of mainstream society suffering from culture-envy. The Anti-Apple.

White People: Politically incorrect term for those of European descent. More currently acceptable terms are People of Pallor, Color Challenged, or the Pigment Denied.

Wine/Beer/Liquor: Tasty recreational beverages or cursed addictive intoxicant, depending on how long your family has been in this country.

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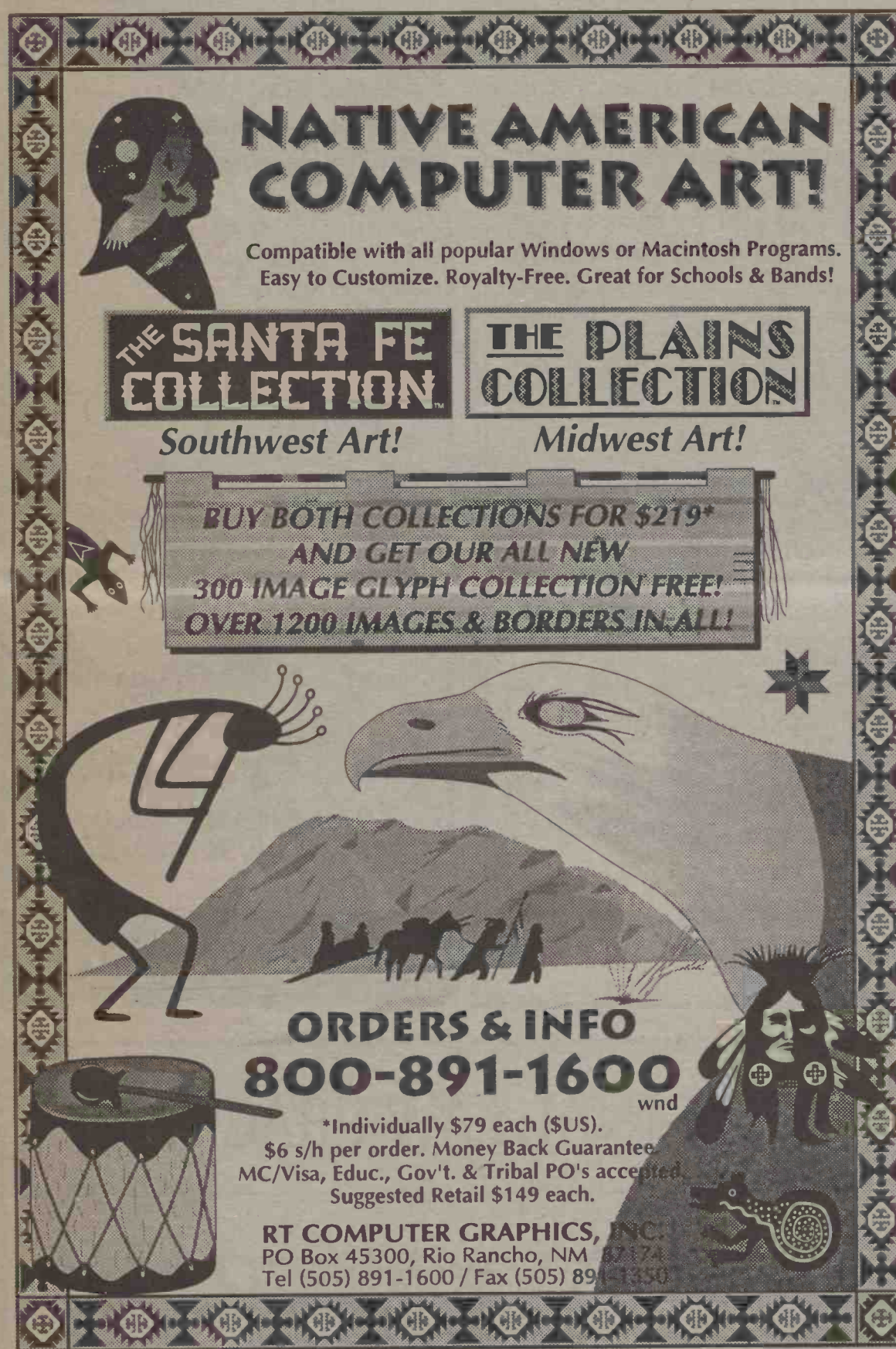
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Too much of a good thing in new release

REVIEW

By Brian Wright-McLeod
Windspeaker Contributor

Julian B: "Once Upon a Genocide"
Julian B. Watson
Soar/Warrior.

Julian B. Watson's first ambitious release rejects subtlety and brandishes the album's direction and purpose with the opening message.

"Genocide against Native people is still going on today, all over the world," the segment, taken from a pre-recorded speech, flatly states. With clues like that, the listener immediately understands whose land they're standing on.

The album, consisting of 12 tracks, clocks in just under 60 minutes in length with one track that is slightly more than eight minutes long. The lyric-heavy material of the rapid-fire pen-mad warrior provides little

room for escape. The sweeping social commentary is supported with clever nuances and lyrical twists that are further enhanced by poignant out-takes from speeches, six-o'clock news items and movies. The musical backdrop effectively reinforces the message (like a wall waiting for graffiti).

A few of the more outstanding tracks include *There and Beyond* wherein B. rips up reckless patriotism while exposing "law and order" as nothing more than actions of blind vengeance.

Change Makes Sense attempts to communicate with cultural strays and youth gangs through lyrics that serve as directional signposts back to the Red Road. *Indian Fan*, as one might expect, runs the gamut of images of cultural piracy and also makes direct reference to the omnipresent plastic medicine-man where "fate meets fake".

The album's final track, *The Spirit of Crazy Horse* is a tribute to AIM activist Leonard Peltier who was wrongfully convicted and given two-life sentences for

the murder of two FBI agents in 1975. Although the prosecution admits that they have no direct evidence of his guilt, Peltier remains incarcerated and has become an international symbol of injustice and resistance.

If he had concluded the album with that material, it would have left a deeper more memorable impression. The whole exercise began to wear a little thin by including the following tracks: *Know Who You Are* which deals with identity crises with lyrics that are (to be kind) slightly patronizing, *Twisted Dreams* is a self-absorbing autobiographical piece about a battle-fatigued mic-warrior, and *You Get What You Wish For* attempts to communicate the importance of asserting self-determining willpower amid social, environmental and political mayhem. The three pieces tend to mull over the same ground that has already been covered in the other nine tracks with self-defeating results.

The vocals, throughout the album, sound slightly strained

and a little far away, as though they'd been recorded with B's voice directed into an ash-can (which is how Frank Zappa had Grand Funk Railroad's Mark Farmer record his vocals on a Zappa-produced GFR album). *Once Upon a Genocide* is full of grit rather than over-produced gimmickry. There are sections where the album's music has the tendency to drag methodically in a seemingly endless mundane way. It lacks the mix-magic luster and turn-table majesty of sharp instrumental usage for which the genre is infamous. Instead, B. relies on synthesizer programming, samples and recordings to display a creative if not bold individuality.

Despite its minor shortcomings, the message of *Once Upon a Genocide* is neither transparent nor frivolous and successfully reflects important realities that should not be ignored. J. B. Watson displays an ability to articulate and reinforce cultural pride, humility

and truth. He draws upon the message of unity of oppressed people the world over through his brand of renegade rhyme that is steeped in resistance consciousness.

End Notes:

Robert Mirabel's *Land* released on Warner/Western takes new twists and turns with traditional musical relationships that begin to border on the experimental.

Mirabel plays flute, drums and chants while filling the cracks with hand-made ambient sounds which are much more creative and appealing than the nauseous embellishments of synthesized wind, waterfalls and chirpy little bird sounds of non-existent species. *Land* conveys an imaginative talent without losing itself on the New Age stereotype of imagery and sound. Thank Tunkasila for little graces.

Please send submissions to Brian Wright-McLeod, "Heart of the Earth", CKLN 88.1 FM, 380 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1W7.



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Ancient stories for a new age

REVIEW

By Suzanne Methot
Windspeaker Contributor

*Coming to Light:
Contemporary Translations of the
Native Literatures of North
America*

Edited by Brian Swann
801 pages, \$40 (hc)
Random House

Laguna writer Paula Gunn Allen calls traditional Native storytelling a 'literature of vision'. To people of an oral culture, words do not simply represent meaning, they have the power to create, to make things happen. Words can take thoughts and dreams and transform them into reality.

In *Coming To Light*, scholar Brian Swann has compiled new translations of ancient stories, offering an alternative to previous anthologies full of badly translated and generally misunderstood works.

This volume is a great improvement on the usual 'myths and legends' offered up by over-zealous anthropologists seeking to define Native culture.

The stories in *Coming To Light* go a long way toward dispelling the idea that Native culture is homogenous, static or dying, and they illustrate the

reverence with which Aboriginal cultures approach the word.

Sometimes, though, a story is just a story. The Innu of Labrador and Quebec, for instance, tell uproariously funny tales about kwakwadjec (wolverine), a trickster who created the Innu world to keep himself from drowning.

Wolverine tales from the Innu settlement communities of Davis Inlet and Sheshatshiu illustrate the sheer entertainment value of a good yarn while still managing to teach lessons about accepting imperfection in the face of good intentions. Whether tangling with skunk or getting stuck in a bear's skull, old wolverine's antics mirror human attempts at interaction and survival.

In the telling of stories there is a communication of history, a passing down of beliefs and social conventions. The classic story of the girl who married the bear is an excellent example of the versatility of such teaching stories. Tagish/Tlingit storyteller Maria Johns invests this tale with many lessons: the power of old women, how the actions of one person affect the community, the importance of unity between siblings and in-laws.

Other nations, such as the Cree of northern Manitoba, tell essentially the same story, but with important cultural distinctions. The storyteller's sex, age and position in the community

may alter the telling, while the location and the season have their own effects upon the tale. Each version is as relevant and as true as it is different.

The stories in *Coming To Light* are sophisticated examples of the sacred, the profane and everything in between. Readers are treated to teaching stories of the Dunne-Za (Beaver) people of the Peace, the Iroquoian longhouse thanksgiving address, Wind River Shoshone ghost dance songs, Zuni ritual song sequences and a truly disturbing story about grizzly women, courtesy of Thompson Salish Elder Hilda Austin.

Since traditional oral literature is usually dismissed as primitive folklore in the dominant society, it is heartening to see these stories gain wider attention and respect. One wishes the printed word could be as real as the spoken, however the theatre of storytelling is missing here, and it weakens the overall cultural context.

In most Native cultures, the responsibility for telling stories is shared by the people. The ability to use words wisely is as important to the people as a hunter's skill. Yes, we need to eat. But we also need history, or we will suffer the loss of all that makes us unique as First Nations peoples. We must cradle these stories to our hearts and we must never forget them, or we will forget ourselves.

Writers wanted

The Native Writer Development Project based in Toronto, Ont. is now accepting submissions for its third anthology of writing by new and emerging writers of the First Nations. Submissions of poetry, short stories, essays, and line artwork are being requested. All works should elicit pride of culture, identity, and heritage; be suitable for use in a school curriculum; be readable for those at a younger age, or at a low literacy level. For more information call or FAX Joel Maki at (416) 340-0068 or write the Native Writers Development Project III at 96 Gerrard St. E. Suite 12A1, Toronto, ON, M5B 1G7. Closing date for submission is June 1, 1996.

Art times three

The Art of the Anishnawbek, Three Modern Perspectives goes on display at the Royal Ontario Museum, Saturday, March 9 to December, 1996. The works of the three contemporary Anishnawbe artists, Ahmoo Angecone, Blake Debassige and Roy Thomas, maintain and strengthen the rich culture of the Anishnawbe people of central Canada and U.S. The display features over 40 works of the artists, influenced by their traditional culture, ancestral teachings and spiritual heritage.

Simple drawings shown

Reclaiming History. Ledger drawings of the Assiniboine Artist Hongeeyesa are on display at the UBC Museum of Anthropology until March 31. The touring exhibition was organized by the Glenbow Museum and features 44 drawings on lined and unlined paper, using pencil crayon, graphite, ink and colored ink. The drawings are known as ledger art because many were done on Indian Agent ledger or lined accountant's paper. They are an important source of knowledge about the life of the people between 1882 and 1901. The artist is from southern Saskatchewan.

Alumni Alert

The Institute of American Indian Arts is seeking to locate all IAIA alumni. The IAIA Development Office requests that all alumni that have not been getting any correspondence from IAIA call 1-800-804-6423 and give them your correct mailing address. The Alumni Association is reorganizing and would like for all alumni to get involved with supporting the school. For more information call Della Warrior or send your address to: IAIA, Alumni Relations, 108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501.

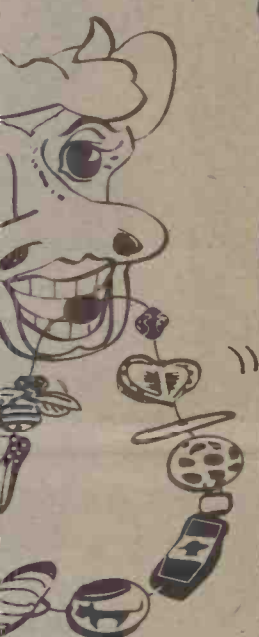
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HEALTH MATTERS

By Michael Smith
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

Protest marches and peaceful demonstrations against cuts to Native health care may become regular events across the country this year, says Native leader Ovide Mercredi.

The Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations led a march of about 500 people through the heart of Winnipeg in a public demonstration of anger and frustration with the federal health department's unilateral actions to cut Native health care benefits. The march ended at the medical services branch (MSB) where many of the protesters occupied the offices for several hours.

At the core of the issue is the question of whether or not health care is a treaty right. First Nations believe that it is. The federal government contests that it is not.

Chief Louis Young, march spokesman, said the cuts were being made unilaterally by MSB without discussion or consultation with Native organizations. The actions of the federal government clearly indicate that it does not recognize Native health care as a treaty right and is trying to off-load these services onto the provincial government.

"The eroding of these treaty rights is a big concern," said Young. "If we don't take action now, then in a few short years, we will not have any treaties."

The protest was initiated by two provincial organizations in response to announced changes to three specific services affecting Manitoba First Nations people: the relocation of dialysis patients; cuts to medical transportation funding; and restrictions to the traditional healers program.

However, on Jan. 11, the day before the march, MSB announced in a letter to Chief Young that these changes would not be made at this time. It said the policy to relocate dialysis and other long term outpatients from their reserve to the city had been rescinded, as well as changes to the traditional healers program. The issue of reducing the per kilometre rate from 34.5 cents to 20 cents would be open for discussion.

The letter also said that newly appointed Acting Regional Director Jerome Berthelette requested continued dialogue with Manitoba First Nations leaders on policy issues affecting the delivery of health care services. Berthelette assumed his duties on Jan. 15.

With the MSB announcement and the participation of the AFN leader, the focus of the march changed, concentrating on health as a treaty right and general health care issues that affect all First Nations people in Canada.

In February 1995 Health Minister Diane Marleau announced that her department would cap the First Nations health budget increases by six per cent in 1995-96; three per cent in 1996-97; and three per cent in 1997-98. In previous years, say march organizers, the annual growth rate of First Nations health funding averaged around 10 per cent. They estimate that during the next five years an increase of 15 per cent would be needed to maintain present levels of health care. On Dec. 1, 1995 changes reflecting these budget restrictions began to be implemented.

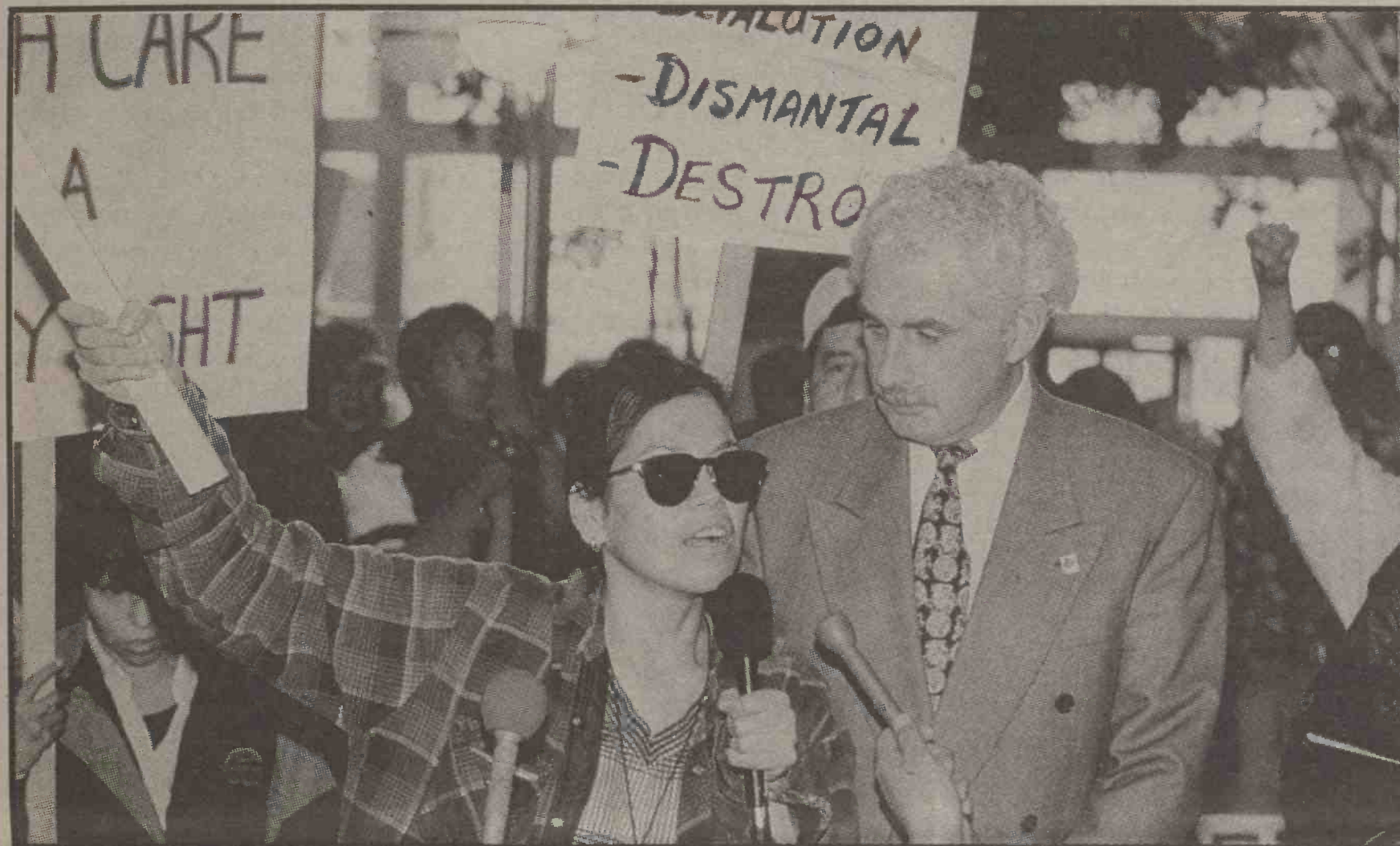


Photo by Bert Crowfoot.

Opposition to changes in the health care budget have resulted in protest marches in urban centres across the country.

At a press conference, Mercredi said the march will be one of many to be staged across the country if the government does not change its policies regarding Aboriginal health.

"This is just a warm-up", he promised, adding that the time for talking was over.

"There is no dialogue with Canadian politicians. I'm tired of sending letters and attending meetings that do not show results."

He laid the blame squarely on the shoulders of Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin and Finance Minister Paul Martin for contributing to the confrontation and conflict with Indian people and indicated that the ministers' Ottawa offices would be targets for demonstrations.

Mercredi said a campaign of peaceful protest and civil disobedience across the country may be more effective in attracting the attention of politicians and federal bureaucrats.

Activists fear tobacco program reductions

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

With rumors abounding that Canada's Tobacco Demand Reduction Strategy funding will be cut off this spring, social organizations have banded together to head the budget off at the pass. The strategy was introduced in 1992, and was scheduled for sunset and review in 1997, but insiders expect it to be axed in the next federal budget, effective March 31.

The National Coalition in Support of Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Prevention organized a card- and letter-writing campaign to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in support of continuing funding. Last week, the campaign had already exceeded its goal of 50,000 cards, and coalition coordinator Maggie Hodgson estimated that it would reach 90,000 by the end of January, the scheduled end of the protest.

"We want to influence the decision before it becomes a fait accompli," she explained. "We haven't received the information in writing, but I had an informal meeting with the director general of the strategy, and he suggested that it would be sunsetted in the next budget, effective March 31."

"The government is still committed to the program,"

said Bonnie Fox-McIntyre, a media spokesperson with Health Canada. "We have heard rumors, but [Finance minister] Paul Martin has got to bring down the budget and that may or may not bring changes."

In addition to the tobacco strategy, Canada's Drug Strategy is supposed to sunset next year. In both cases, unless a review by Health Canada indicates that the programs should continue, it's curtains at the sunset date. If the department's review indicates that the program still has a purpose, the recommendation to continue would be passed on to cabinet, at which time a decision would be made.

"We're not against the ending of these programs, *per se*," said Hodgson. "We are opposed to the reduction of program funding in these areas. Our position is that we know [the government is] moving out of the single-focus 'stove-pipe programs' to a population-focus health formula. If the two strategies are cut, we hope the funding goes into the new strategy and continues to service the same core areas."

"The present government has a Red Book strategy commitment: one, to look at tobacco use policy and, two, to look at drug use and abuse in Canada," Fox-McIntyre said. "Based on what we know, there is no change planned, and our department is continuing to follow exactly the same tobacco strategy."

But Hodgson and others are not convinced that the government will treat the issue with the same seriousness planned by Health Canada.

"This is indicative of the government's lack of general

commitment to reducing tobacco use in Canada," Hodgson said. "I think that it's become even more of a concern that there's no balancing just when the trend seems to be moving in favor of the huge tobacco companies."

Over the last couple of years, federal and provincial governments have reduced taxes on cigarettes and tobacco products significantly, mostly to combat cross-border smuggling. Combined with a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision striking down a broad ban on tobacco advertising, the trend has been to make access to tobacco products easier and cheaper. This, Hodgson said, is likely to lead directly to increases in smoking.

"We're just now seeing declines attributable to a number of early anti-smoking strategies," Hodgson explained, citing the Canadian Early Smoking Campaign of 20 years ago. "What we've put into place now will have effects a long time from now."

"One of the interesting statistics we have come up with is that, in the Native community, 36 per cent of abstaining children come from abstaining parents," she continued. "That shows that we're into second and third generations of effects here."

Hodgson's national coalition thus expects results from this decision to show themselves in a generation, not in terms measurable to a federal government looking just two years ahead. In addition to the writing campaign, Hodgson expects that Liberal Party fund raisers will be asked to exercise their influence in favor of the programs.

Dental woes

By Debora Lockyer
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SADDLE LAKE, Alta.

Changes to the schedule of benefits in dental health care has Alberta dentist Deb Crowfoot concerned and worried about his patients' oral health.

The changes, which went into effect Jan. 1, were imposed without input from the people who most deal with a Native clientele and will affect the community greatly, said Crowfoot.

Paul Glover, Director General of the Non-insured Health Benefit Program said changes to the benefit schedule were limited to three areas including the expanded use of prior approval; changes to frequency limits; and the expansion of the preventative nature of the program.

Prior approval is needed from the program for major surgeries, which are intrusive and usually expensive, said Glover. This means that before any such work is done, the benefit program must make certain the surgery is necessary.

Crowfoot said the program is being very strict on what is now being approved.

The program is now limiting (to three) the number of general exams covered for a patient per year, and limiting retreating - the treatment of a cavity on the same surface on the same tooth, said Glover.

A filling should last for three years and that is all the program will cover, said Glover. If the dentist has to refill that surface, the dentist will have to "eat the cost" of the treatment.

But the frequency limitations go farther than that, said Crowfoot. Denture replacement is only covered every eight years. A patient can only have one root canal done every three years. General anesthesia has been cut completely for people over 17, he said. Dental scaling has also been limited.



Historic

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

After being in decades, Winnipeg's historic site will eventually be more than 7,000 sq. ft. space, as well as a public space restored to pre-decline condition.

"The special focus site] has been on the top of the grandest of them in Canada," said Mel Mitchell, principal of the LM Architects Group, who has worked on the restoration. "It's an incredible because almost everything came into the West end of the rotunda at one time. It was in a seriously poor condition, but in the phase of restoration, people will be able to see it."

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Historic railway station becomes Aboriginal Centre

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

After being in decline for 30 years, Winnipeg's historic Canadian Pacific railway station has a new lease on life as Winnipeg's Aboriginal Centre. The national historic site will eventually provide more than 7,000 sq.m of office space, as well as a public area fully restored to pre-decline standards.

"The special focus [as a historic site] has been on the train rotunda, the grandest of them in western Canada," said Mel Michener, principal of the LM Architectural Group, who has worked on the restoration. "It's an important site because almost everybody who came into the West came through the rotunda at one time or another. It was in a seriously deteriorated condition, but in general, when this phase of restoration is complete, people will be able to expe-

rience the original grandeur of the public space."

"As long as the building remained in railway's hands, it couldn't be designated a historic site," explained Bill Shead of the Aboriginal Centre of Winnipeg Inc. (ACWI), who has directed the redevelopment. "As soon as ACWI became owners, on Dec. 15, 1992, the building became a historic site. ACWI then took on a stewardship role with the maintenance of the building."

"It is important to note that the Aboriginal community assumed the responsibility of this building at considerable cost," explained Michener, referring specifically to the 3,000 sq.m rotunda and public area. "It will generate little or no revenue for them, and it provides the community at large with an important and accessible public space."

The railway station, located just north of Winnipeg's city hall in an area known as "north Main," was built in three phases by Canadian

Pacific. The first phase, in 1904, was what is now the east portion of the station. The west wing was added shortly thereafter, and the Royal Alexandra Hotel was added to the west end while the great era of trains continued.

Settlers coming west until after the war all passed through the grand old station, or through the Canadian National station, now VIA Rail's Union Station, near Portage and Main. The hotel was demolished about 25 years ago, after the whole area had begun a long decline; it was recently designated by the city the downtown area most in need of revitalization.

"This renovation could provide the focus for some renewal in the area around the building," Michener said. "There's a lot resting on the success of this project, not just in the Aboriginal community but in the city as a whole."

"When ACWI became owner, [the building] had to be brought up to standards required by the building codes, for which the railways

were and are exempt," Shead explained. "It's not just enough to operate and keep the building open, but we've also had to find funding to make the building occupiable." And all that has been required before the building could start to generate revenue by renting office space in it.

"We could occupy the building as owner," Shead continued, "but we weren't able to enter into leases with any of the groups who we expect to be tenants. When the retrofit is completed, we will have a number of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal tenants." In addition to Aboriginal service organizations, Shead expects several governmental agencies, as well as a number of professionals, to open offices in the refurbished Aboriginal Centre, as it is being called.

"The 60,000 sq. ft. of office space was in a variety of conditions, from dilapidated to just outmoded," Michener said. "It will become modern office space. The building has had a number of special kinds

of problems, particularly renovation of the mechanical and electrical systems.

"A good portion of the work has been done by Aboriginal people under a federally funded employment training program," Michener continued. "Much restoration work is tedious, and requires more dedication than is normal in construction work. The work's been done very well, and the program funding has considerably reduced the costs of building restoration."

Even so, the total cost will be about \$6 million, Shead said, with the cost of the first phase, which will see more than half the office space come on-line, reaching nearly \$4 million. Peter Mitchell of the Bosgoed Group has been the project manager, The Dominion Company has been the construction managers and Werner Design has been responsible for the tenant layouts. Phase One of the refurbishment project will be completed in early March.

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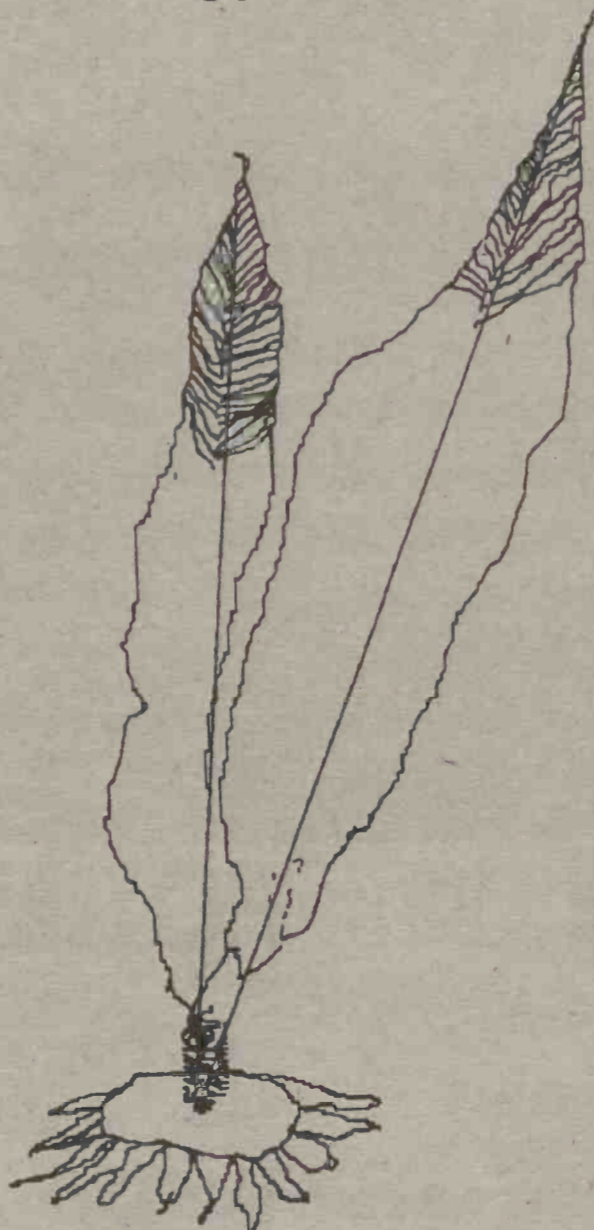
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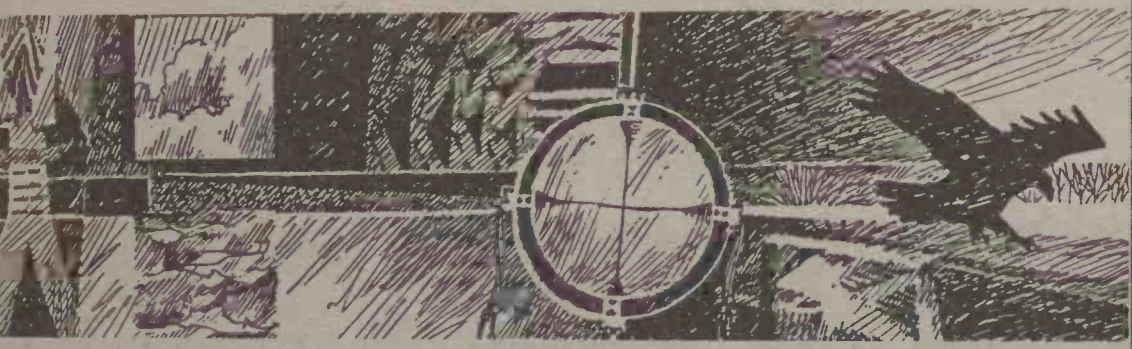
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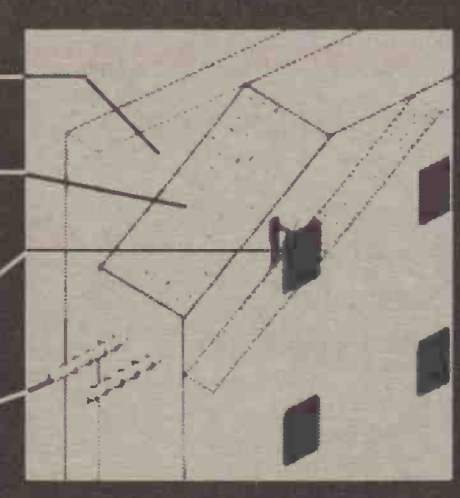
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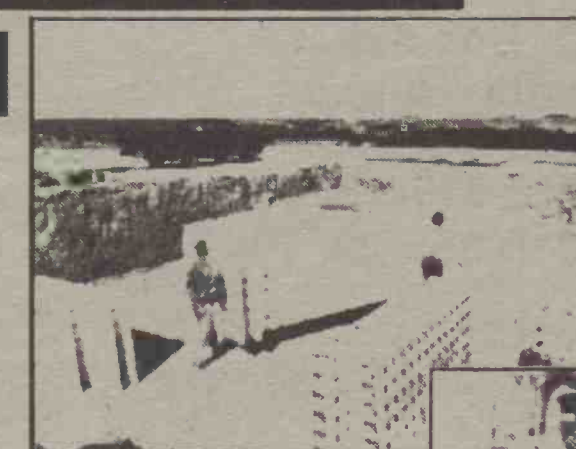
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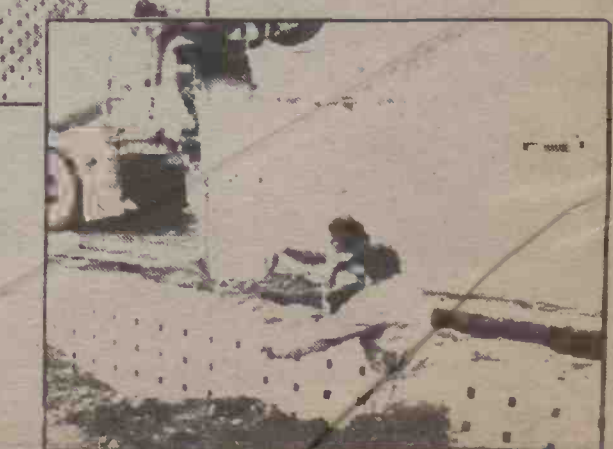


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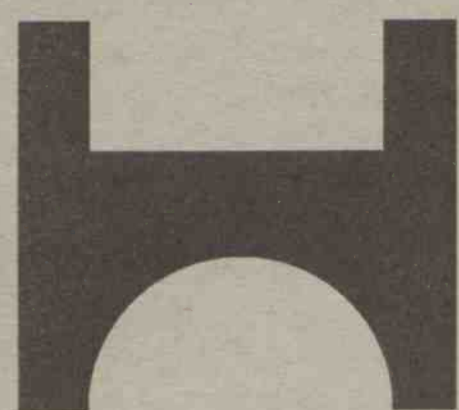
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ALEXANDER FIRST NATION, Alta.

Deputy Minister Scott Serson, on behalf of Ron Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, helped commemorate the opening of the Alexander First Nation's water supply pipeline Jan. 16.

"I am pleased to participate in the opening of this new water line, which I understand will provide more than 70 homes with improved water. This project is indicative of the federal government's commitment to rectify water and sewer problems on reserves across Canada," Serson said, with the presentation of a water pitcher and tray.

Chief Stanley Arcand welcomed Serson to Alexander and said he is pleased that the project has been completed.

"We have had problems with both the quantity and quality of our water over the years. Finally we have access to all the water we need," noted the Chief. "This is a very significant undertaking because it has been a joint project with our neighbors from the Municipal District of Sturgeon."

The Municipal District of Sturgeon constructed the pipeline from the town of Morinville to the community of Riviere Qui Barre. The Alexander First Nation then completed the construction of nine kilometres of pipe to the pump house at Alexander.

Frank Schoenberger, reeve of the Municipal District of Sturgeon, said the project has been beneficial

to all residents who live along the newly constructed pipeline.

"Without the cooperation of the Alexander First Nation, the Department of Indian Affairs and the M.D. of Sturgeon, this project would not have been viable," said Schoenberger. "It is important to work with neighboring communities to help attain new services that are a benefit to each party."

Upon notification of the opening, Irwin said, "Every effort is being made to improve the health and safety of families living on reserves, and to involve First Nations in completing these projects. These kinds of projects provide jobs and training for First Nations peoples, thereby improving the economic well being of First Nations communities."

The Alexander water supply pipeline project created 20 jobs for members of the Alexander First

Nation for five months. The band managed the 16-month project through its economic development company, Kipohtakaw Developments Limited. The \$2.3 million funding for this project comes from existing departmental budgets and is built into the existing fiscal framework. This initiative is an example of how this government is prioritizing its spending so that it can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

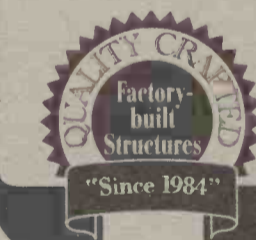
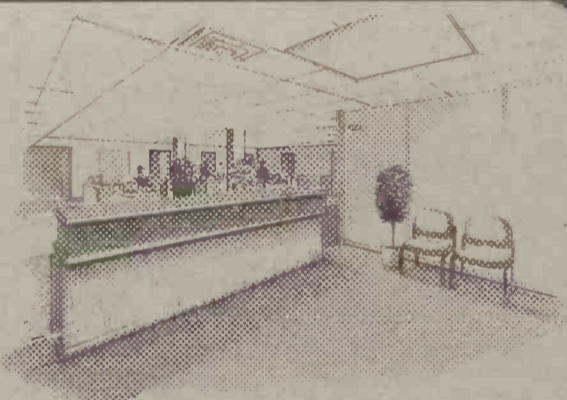


Chief Stanley Arcand (left) and Deputy Minister Scott Serson.

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Community justice workshops a national model

Federal Justice Minister Allan Rock, Saskatchewan Justice Minister John Nilson, and Chief Blaine Favel of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) today announced the development and delivery of community justice workshops for First Nations communities.

The federal government will provide \$100,000 and the province \$70,000 to the FSIN to develop a workshop curriculum and deliver workshops on community justice to local justice committees and other interested parties in 10 First Nations communities across Saskatchewan.

The workshops will provide information on current justice processes, customary First Nation law and justice practices, family violence and victim issues. Options for community justice services will also be identified and discussed, including public legal education, healing and sentence circles, diversion, mediation, family group conferences and alternate dispute resolution.

"The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to work with First Nations communities and the federal government to foster the development of community-based justice services that focus on restoring the well-being of the victim, offender and community," Nilson said.

"I am very pleased that the federal government, the Government of Saskatchewan, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations are working together to develop community-based justice approaches for First Nations in Saskatchewan," Rick said.

"This initiative is an important step in the development of practices that will benefit both First Nations communities and Canadian society."

"The FSIN will continue working to assist First Nations Bands and Tribal Councils in developing justice institutions which will help heal our people. Our vision of justice reform is one of restoration of offenders and victims with the participation of the community."

First Nation Bands and Tribal Councils with active local justice committees as well as those interested in establishing such committees will be identified to host the three-day workshops, which will be scheduled for the winter and spring of 1996.

The workshops will focus on topics such as the following:

- current justice administration processes, including First Nations Policing agreements, the Aboriginal Courtworker Program, court processes, corrections, probation, parole, youth justice programming, victim services, and fine option, restitution, alternative measure and community service order programs;
- historical/customary First Nation law and justice practices;
- options/models for community justice service delivery, such as healing and sentencing circles, diversion, mediation, family group conferencing, alternate dispute resolution, and other restorative justice/justice as healing approaches;
- developing community-based justice services, including needs assessments, crime prevention

and community development techniques; and

The grant will be used to develop this curriculum and employ four trainers to deliver a series of up to three workshops of three days duration to a minimum of 10 Saskatchewan First Nation communities.

A minimum of 10 participants is anticipated for each workshop. The primary audience for the workshops is members of local tribal/community justice committees as well as those potentially interested in participating in such committees.

Given this focus, at least initially, extensive participation by local and regional justice sector officials is not anticipated.

Justice Canada views this initiative as a national model for community justice development training.

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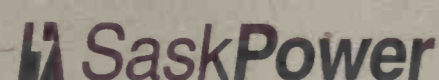
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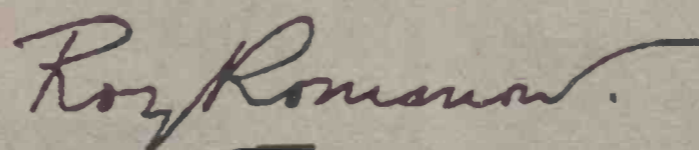
Congratulations Saskatchewan Indian Federated College for growing along with us. Happy 20th Anniversary!




On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I congratulate the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College on its twentieth anniversary.

Twenty years of earnest and dedicated work in post-secondary education is indeed good cause for celebration. The SIFC is an important part of our provincial community, and I applaud the efforts and talents of all faculty, staff and students as they realize the unique dreams embodied at the founding of this distinctive institution, and strive together for excellence in education.

Please accept my best wishes for continued success.



Roy Romanow
Premier

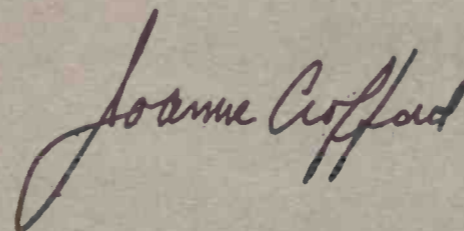
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As Minister of Indian and Metis Affairs, I am well aware that Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan are leaders in education, economic development, and Aboriginal self-determination. This has enabled the Saskatchewan government to work effectively with Indian and Metis peoples to achieve common goals.

I would like to offer a special congratulations to the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College on this, their 20th year. The College's success serves as an inspiration to educators, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal alike.

Aboriginal issues are high on the agenda of the Saskatchewan government. I remain personally and professionally committed to working with Metis and First Nations peoples in Saskatchewan to bring about positive change.

Joanne Crofford
Minister of Indian and Metis Affairs



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SIFC celebrates 20 years of success in education

In 1976, vision became reality with the establishment of the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (SIFC). Elders and leaders alike anticipated such a facility would provide for the educational needs of First Nations people.

The SIFC became officially federated with the University of Regina in May, 1976. Initially, it offered a Bachelor of Arts Program in Indian Studies within the Faculty of Arts. Other accredited programs were subsequently developed and implemented: Indian Art, Indian Education, Indian Management and Administration, and Indian Social Work Education. All these programs are academically integrated with their respective University of Regina faculties.

Ida Wasacase was the first director of the SIFC. An extraordinary woman, Ida was with the College from its inception. She was working with the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College at the same time the plan for the federated college was drawn up, and consequently was involved in the birth-pangs of the college.

From a staff of two in a small office, with an enrollment of fewer than 10 students, the college now has a complement of about 160, delivering programs and services to 26 communities across the province and nearly 1,600 students. Three central campuses are located in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. The latest program to come on stream in its own right is the National School of Dental Therapy. Until last year, it had been part of the University of Toronto.

SIFC has truly become more than the sum of its parts. Past and present, cultural and contemporary, have merged. For

example, in areas like student services, the personal and social adjustments to the academics of a university are eased and encouraged by counselling and advice, based on traditional Indian values, from college Elders.

Certificates or degrees are available in 11 different departments. The library is home to more than 30,000 items, including collections focusing on the Indian, Inuit, and Metis peoples in the Americas.

Indigenous foreign students have been admitted since 1978, but a formal policy wasn't adopted until 1982. Then, in 1988, the SIFC Board of Governors officially proclaimed the college as the Centre for International and Indigenous Studies and Development.

The Centre has since entered into several international agreements with universities and Indigenous non-governmental organizations from the Caribbean Commonwealth, Central and South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe—including one with the United Nations University for Peace, signed during the 1993 International Year of Indigenous Peoples.

SIFC recently became a member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) in its own right. It was an affirmation of continuing efforts to be recognized as a "Centre of Excellence".

While the College remains homeless after 20-years, the hope is that 1996 will mark the turnover of a section of land selected for the new SIFC building, and the turning of the first sod.

It remains the only Indian-controlled, university-level college in the country.

If you can't find Windspeaker in your band office, ask why.

Government helping to link business and Aboriginal employees

REGINA

Creating links is what the Saskatchewan government's Aboriginal Employment Development Program is all about.

Established in 1992, the program is designed to link employers with suitable Aboriginal employees. It has set up a comprehensive inventory of resumes of Aboriginal job candidates in an attempt to improve access to Aboriginal employees.

The goal of the program is to increase Aboriginal employability and employment across the province in both the public and private sectors.

The forecast is to triple the Aboriginal entrants to the labor market in the next eight years.

To this end, the following

strategy was adopted:

- maintain a focus on Aboriginal employment and career development.

- link employers with the Aboriginal workforce by maintaining an inventory of resumes of job candidates.

- relate Aboriginal training to real job opportunities.

- develop partnership agreements with employers to increase Aboriginal employment.

- develop partnerships between employers and Aboriginal institutions of higher learning through "Affiliation Agreements".

The Aboriginal Employment Development Program is beginning to yield results and has been effective in building a large data base of potential Aboriginal candidates. It has helped them gain employ-

ment in government and industry in Saskatchewan.

In 1993, approximately 1,400 resumes had been coded and entered into the inventory. There were 500 job orders from government departments, crown corporations and private sector organizations which resulted in 951 referrals to government departments, 200 to crown corporations and 180 to private companies. Only 73 Aboriginal people were known to be hired since 1993, however that number may be higher because employers do not necessarily notify the program once the employee is chosen.

* Source: Corporate Aboriginal Relations by Pamela Sloan and Roger Hill, published by Hill Sloan Associates Inc., Toronto.

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In traditional forest management, logging trees was the main objective. New forest management plans deal with the logging of trees but now provide evidence that in the planning and management process, trees are not necessarily the main objective.

New forest management plans will require the development of an educational process that begins to deal with a new vision for forest management in the 21st century. Mistik Management is prepared to accept this challenge.

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP TO: Suzanne Sasakamoose & Donald Goodin

Take notice that on the 14th day of February, 1996 at 9:30am, a hearing will take place in Courtroom Number 2, Wetaskiwin Family Court. A Director, under the Child Welfare Act, will make an application for Permanent Guardianship of your children, born on March 21, 1986, January 12, 1990, January 6, 1991 and January 3, 1992. You are requested to be present at the hearing. You have the right to be represented by legal counsel. An Order may be made in your absence, and you have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made. Contact: MARILYN SHERK, Alberta Family and Social Services, Wetaskiwin, AB, @ (403) 361-1431.

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Application Deadline: Friday, March 1, 1996

• Project Programs

Eligible applicants may apply for support in the Literary, Media, Multidisciplinary, Performing, and Visual Arts under current programs for projects that comply with existing guidelines.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 15, 1996

APPLICATIONS AND ALL SUPPORTING MATERIAL FOR ALL PROGRAMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:30 PM ON THE DEADLINE DATE.

To obtain application forms, to discuss applications and appropriate categories, and for other information contact:



Saskatchewan Arts Board

3rd Floor, T.C. Douglas Building
3475 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 6X6
Phone: (306) 787-4056
1-800-667-7526 (Sask.)
Fax: (306) 787-4199

The Saskatchewan Arts Board was created by legislation in 1948. It was the first arm's-length agency of its kind in North America and second in the world only to the British Arts Council, on which it was modelled. It is a provincial agency that supports and develops the arts and artists in Saskatchewan. The public programming in the arts offered through the work of individual artists, arts groups and organizations provides for employment, tourism and community enjoyment, and contributes to Saskatchewan's economy.

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Lewis

By Terry Lusty
Windspeaker Contributor

FORT MCMURRAY

Cree light-heavyweight Willard Le step closer to the dian title with a decision over Tim Jackson, Tenn., i Both fighters went distance, with the scoring 98-93, 100- in Lewis's favor. born in Fort Mc raised in nearby Alta.

In what Lewis his "best match a formance" as a pr ingly disposed of and well-condition can. It took two or for the fighters to the cool tent Sawridge Hotel — outside had dipp fight time — but increased after th when the fighters eral excellent exch

Wind speaker Sports

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Everybody has an incentive, and if you can bring out that incentive you've got a winner."

—Conn Smythe, 1952

Lewis moves closer to title

By Terry Lusty
Windspeaker Contributor

FORT McMURRAY, Alta.

Cree light-heavyweight contender Willard Lewis moved a step closer to the vacant Canadian title with a convincing decision over Tim Cooper of Jackson, Tenn., in December. Both fighters went the 10-round distance, with the three judges scoring 98-93, 100-90 and 100-90 in Lewis's favor. Lewis was born in Fort McMurray and raised in nearby Lac La Biche, Alta.

In what Lewis described as his "best match and best performance" as a pro, he convincingly disposed of the seasoned and well-conditioned American. It took two or three rounds for the fighters to warm up in the cool tent behind the Sawridge Hotel — the mercury outside had dipped to -40° at fight time — but the intensity increased after the third round when the fighters initiated several excellent exchanges.

Seconds before the end of the fifth round, Lewis sent Cooper to the canvas in the only knock-down of the bout. By the seventh, it appeared that Lewis was again headed for a quick victory through good jabs and combinations. Somehow, the wily Cooper survived the barrage.

In the eighth, Lewis had Cooper in trouble twice, but a knock-out was not in the cards. Cooper was staggered good in the early and middle part of the round, with Lewis scoring at will late, when he had Cooper backed against the ropes.

The performance was repeated in the 10th, when Lewis staggered Cooper a couple more times. Although Cooper hung in to the end, it was Lewis who walked away with the big win, and the outcome was really never in doubt.

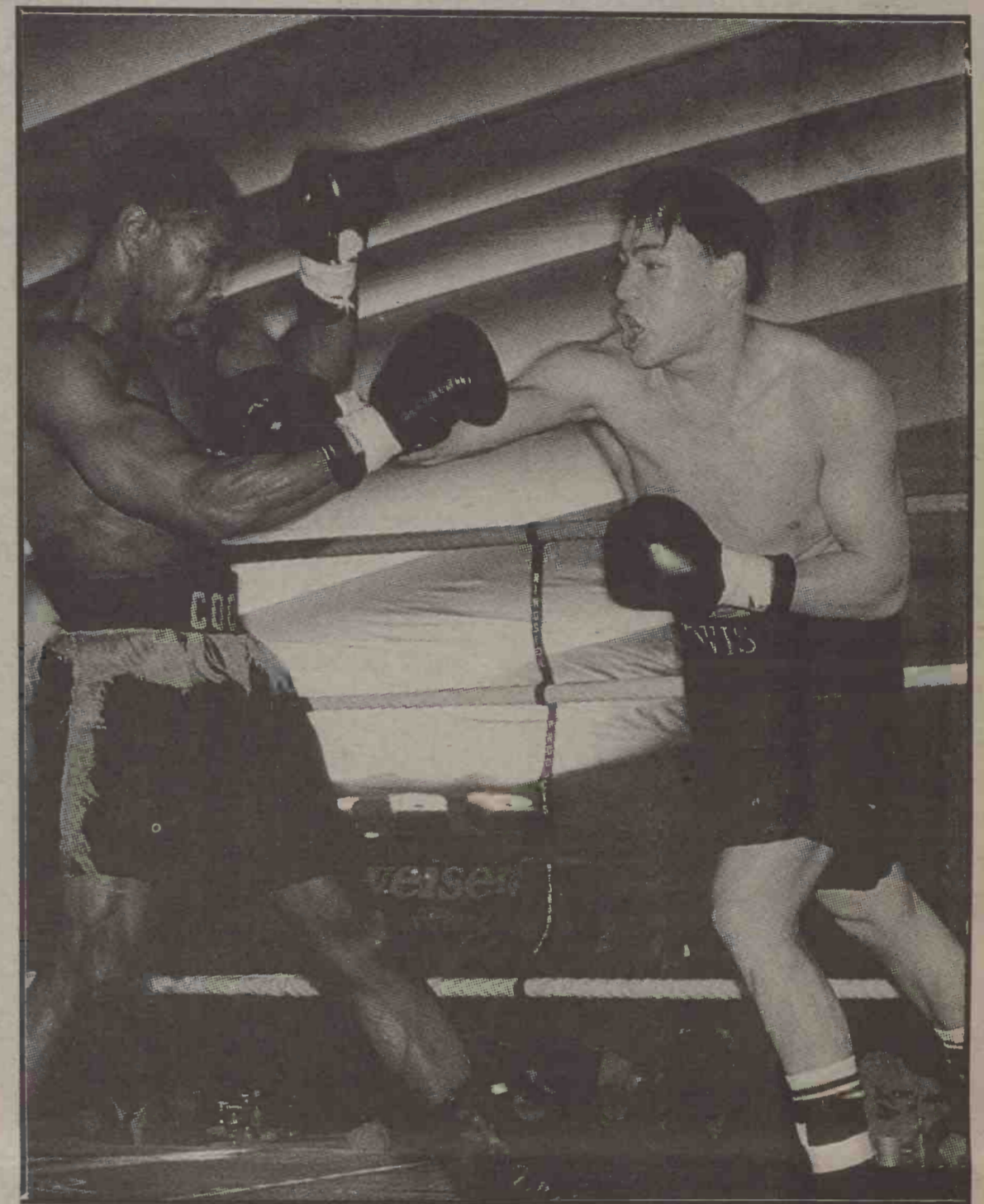
On the under card of the Sawridge Main Events and KO Boxing promotion were a kick boxing demonstration, two amateur fights and four pro bouts. The amateur bouts had Kevin Courtoreille up against Mike Weibel and Roger Wan-

dering Spirit versus Randy Bennett, with no decisions because they were exhibitions.

In a pro match, Edmonton's Tony Badea improved to 12-0 when he upset Phil Chlarson (12-5) from Guam. Stan Cunningham, an Edmonton Metis who is not known as a KO artist, knocked out Calgary's Les Wisneski at 2:24 of the second round. The taller Cunningham had little trouble with Wisneski, whose record fell to 12-14.

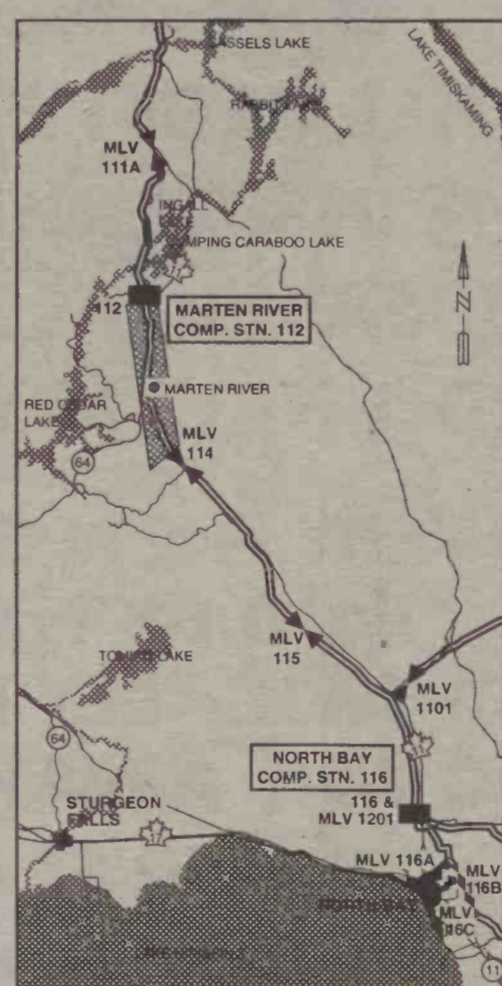
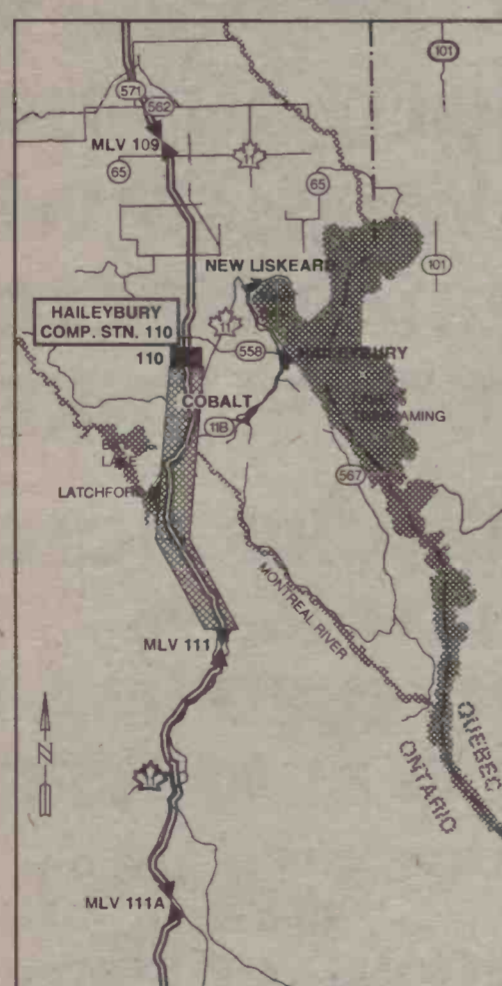
The pro opening bout had another Metis, Earl Lambert, make his professional debut against veteran Tracy Anderson (4-8). The two Dawson Creek fighters had their bout stopped and declared a third round technical draw due to a severe head butt by both fighters which sent Anderson to the doctor for eight stitches over an eye.

Lewis may meet Lorie Gros for the light-heavyweight title March 7 in Edmonton, in what would be his first fight for a pro title. He may also try to take the Canadian cruiserweight crown a month later at a fight being put together for Saskatoon.



Terry Lusty

Willard Lewis (right) exchanges blows with Tim Cooper in the main event in Fort McMurray, en route to decisioning the American in 10 rounds.



TransCanada PipeLines Limited Public Notice of Facilities Application Latchford, Martin River

To keep pace with growing customer demand for natural gas TransCanada periodically increases its mainline natural gas transmission capacity. This can be accomplished by constructing new pipeline facilities and/or compression facilities on our mainline transmission system. We are currently considering constructing additional facilities in your area in 1997 or later. The maps indicate the general location of the proposed expansion under consideration in your area.

TransCanada will be applying to the National Energy Board (NEB) to obtain approval for some or all of the facilities noted in the maps. As part of our application to the NEB, we will be conducting comprehensive environmental and socio-economic assessments for the proposed construction. To ensure community concerns are identified and addressed by both TransCanada and the NEB, we are seeking comments from members of the public on the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of the proposed construction.

The NEB Information Bulletins 1, 2, 3, and 4, which describe the pipeline route approval process and how landowners and members of the public can participate in this process and TransCanada's Environmental

Management Handbook (1995) have been distributed to the clerks of the municipalities in which the proposed construction is located. We will also be forwarding a copy of the environmental and socio-economic assessment report for the facilities under consideration in your area to local municipal offices when it is completed. If you are interested in reviewing any of this information please contact the municipal clerk in the area where the construction is being proposed.

TransCanada is committed to consulting with members of the community and views your comments as a valuable component of the planning phase. If you have any comments or questions regarding the proposed facilities, the approval process, TransCanada's right-of-way policies, or any environmental and socio-economic issues, please contact:



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Al Tuckwood

Jim Neilson (in Rangers jersey) and Fred Sasakamoose (in Blackhawks jersey) were the first two inductees into the Canadian Native Hockey Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Onion Lake. They're joined by the most valuable players of the Russia '18' Selects-Native All-Stars exhibition game: Louie Blackbird (left) and Alexei Krovouskov (centre), and by former federal member of Parliament Willie Littlechild.

First hall of fame inductees

By R. John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ONION LAKE, Sask.

Native hockey stars Jim Neilson and Fred Sasakamoose were made the first inductees into the Canadian Native Hockey Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Onion Lake, Sask., on Jan. 5. The presentation took place after the International Challenge exhibition game between the Native All-Stars and the touring Russian "18" Selects.

"Fred Sasakamoose was the first treaty Indian in the NHL," said Gordon Hum, founder of the hall of fame and commissioner of the Canadian Native Hockey Federation. "Jim Neilson played in the NHL for 15 years. They're the two

first selections because of their careers, and because the ceremony was held in Saskatchewan and they're both from there."

Sasakamoose is from the Sandy Lake Reserve in northern Saskatchewan. He started playing hockey when he went to St. Michael's in Duck Lake, then went on to play junior hockey in Moose Jaw. The small forward had a cup of coffee in the old six-team NHL with the Chicago Black Hawks, then went on to star in semi-professional and minor pro leagues, including stints with the Buffalo Bisons of the American Hockey League and the Saskatoon Quakers of the Western Canadian Hockey League.

Jim Neilson is from Big River, Sask. He played more than 1,000 NHL games, mostly with the New York Rangers. The steady blueliner

also suited up in the NHL for the Cleveland Barons and the California Golden Seals, and ended his playing career with the Edmonton Oilers of the World Hockey Association. He now lives in Winnipeg.

Sasakamoose was inducted into the hall of fame by Hum, who has been an aggressive advocate of Native participation in minor hockey across Canada, as well as of opening doors for Native youth to play at a higher level more easily. Neilson's inductee was Willie Littlechild, Hobbema lawyer, athlete and one of the founders of the North American Indigenous Games movement.

Hum announced that the hall of fame will eventually find a permanent home at the Tsuu T'ina First Nation immediately west of Calgary.

Alaska towns prepare for Arctic Winter Games

By R. John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EAGLE RIVER, Alaska

When the residents of Juneau, Alaska, voted against building a hockey arena, they forced the capital city to bow out as host of the 1996 Arctic Winter Games. There was no shortage of candidates willing to step into the breach, but Eagle River and Chugiak, just north of Anchorage, applied to keep the games in America's largest state.

"We're about 45 days out, and we're pretty confident," said Dan Sullivan, executive director of the games, last week. "There's always a few things that fall through the cracks, but we're having a general meeting of all the committees, and we'll then have about 30 days to clean up anything that might be going wrong." Sullivan was confident that the huge volunteer staff of the games will have every angle covered.

"This will be a great event for this area," he continued. "There are plenty of financial benefits from having about 2,500 people staying in town for a week." Sullivan estimates that each of those visitors will contribute something like \$1,000 each to the Anchorage economy.

"I'd say \$2 million is a conservative estimate," he said. The organizing committee

was gearing up to begin registration of the athletes, coaches, dignitaries and media. Sullivan explained that there would likely be plenty of places to stay in the Anchorage area, but that those hoping to stay at the host hotel should book ahead.

The 19 sports include ice hockey, basketball, dog mushing and Nordic and Alpine skiing, and will see more than 1,500 athletes and coaches from Alaska, Alberta, Greenland, the Northwest Territories, Russia and Yukon. Included will be cultural performers.

One ticket will give admission to all athletic competitions. A Native American Entertainment Concert will feature comedian Charlie Hill, musician Floyd "Red Crow" Westerman and singer Bunny Swan.

"The only thing we're missing now is snow," Sullivan laughed. "But we've still got 45 days to go. And one of the beauties of the games is that 13 of the 19 events are indoor, and we can make other arrangements for downhill skiing — we'll make snow — and mushing — they can compete on a lake with some snow cover. The only sport that needs more snow is the cross-country skiing. But I'm confident we'll get it."

Further information can be obtained from the games office at (907) 694-8866, or at <http://www.ak.net/arcticgames> on the internet.

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Sports

Devils draft traded to contender

By R John Hayes
Windspeaker Staff Writer

KELOWNA, B.C.

At 20 years old, the last thing a junior hockey player wants to do is play out his junior career on a team that's dead in the water before the new calendars are up on the wall. And, thanks to the defensive needs of the Kelowna Rockets, Sheldon Souray has moved to a team that has a legitimate shot at a long playoff run.

Two weeks ago, the Rockets sent 18-year-old defenceman Joel Kwiatkowski and their second-round draft pick in 1997 to the Prince George Cougars in exchange for the dominant 20-year-old and the future considerations the Cougars owed Kelowna for 18-year-old Quinn Hancock, moved to Prince George earlier this season. The Rockets are fourth in the Western Hockey League's West Division, in a dogfight with Spokane, Kamloops and Tri-City for first place. The Cougars are some 30 points behind Kelowna, sporting the league's worst record.

"Prince George did a favor for me," said Souray. "For me it's exciting coming from a team not making the playoffs, to a team with a chance to finish first in their division and go on to the Memorial Cup."

"We gave up a pretty good player to get Sheldon," said Bruce Hamilton, the Rockets'

general manager. "He's a fast skater and he'll be an offensive force up there."

Kelowna's defence now has three seasoned players and four kids, with Souray added to the mix. With two 16 year olds and two 17 year olds, Hamilton was worried that the pressure of a playoff run could get to the younger players.

"Sheldon adds a big, physical presence to our team, and he's a very talented player," Hamilton explained. "He's so strong, especially in our end of the rink, that we're confident that he'll have a big impact."

"We stress our specialty teams, and that'll be something that will be work for Sheldon," Hamilton said. "He'll need some coaching on the way we do things here."

The Rockets play some 15 games against their three rivals over the last third of the WHL season, and those games are make-it-or-break-it. It will give Souray a jump start on his first full year as a pro next season.

"This is more intense and competitive in games and in practices," he said. "It will prepare you better for the next step."



Kelowna Rockets

Souray: A new uniform.

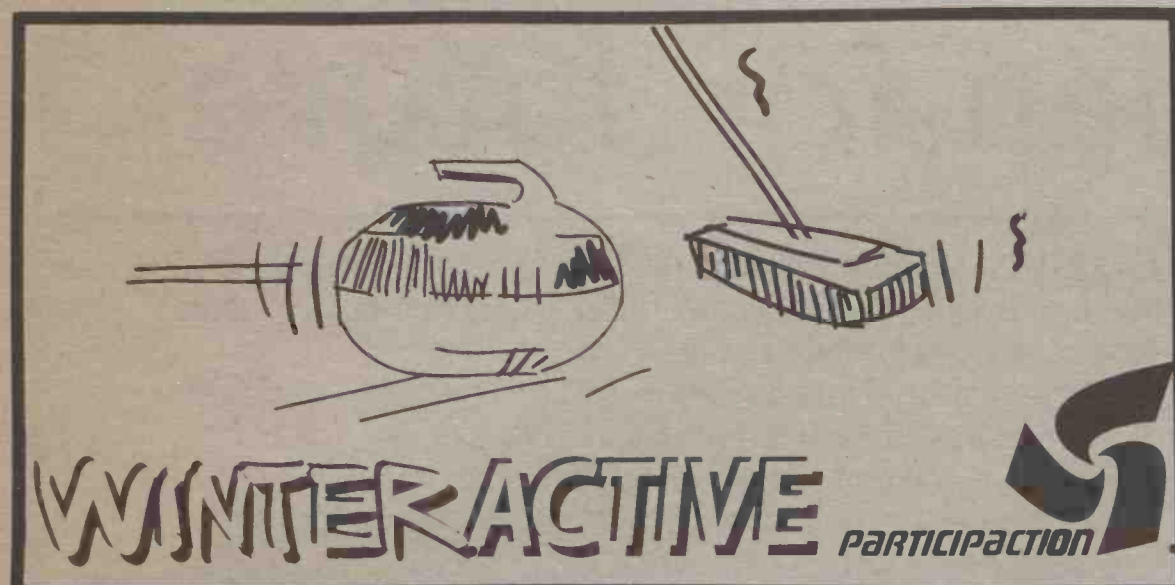
"They're all four-point games," agreed Hamilton. "and you're either pulling up and ahead with a win or falling behind in a hurry with a loss."

"My role with the team stays the same," Souray said. "I have to be one of the leaders in the room and on the ice, and I have to be physical and, as

well, just have fun. "For us to win, we have to work harder than [the other three contenders] do," he explained. "We have to stick to what we've been doing, and do what we've been taught by the coaches. That's our best chance of winning."

Those kinds of comments must be music to the Rockets' ears, but they're what Hamilton expected from the positive defenceman.

"Sheldon Souray's a dynamic guy," the general manager said. "He's got a good personality. But even more important, he's a leader in the room and on the ice. Since he's been here, our guys are playing two inches bigger, and in the room, he doesn't have to go out of his way — the other players come to him."



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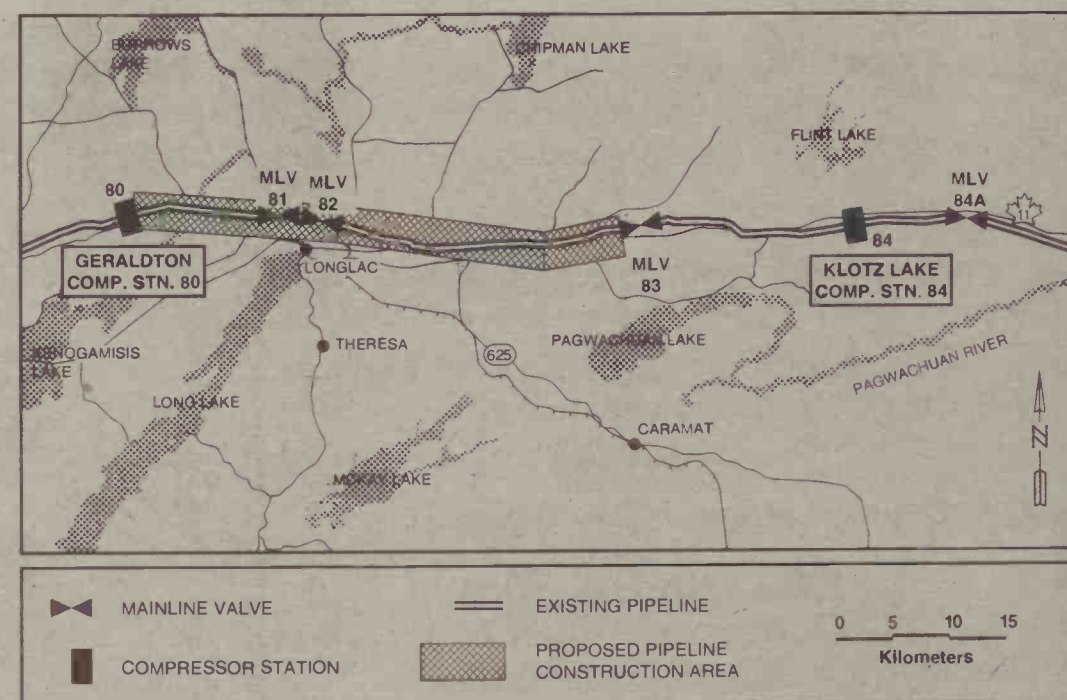
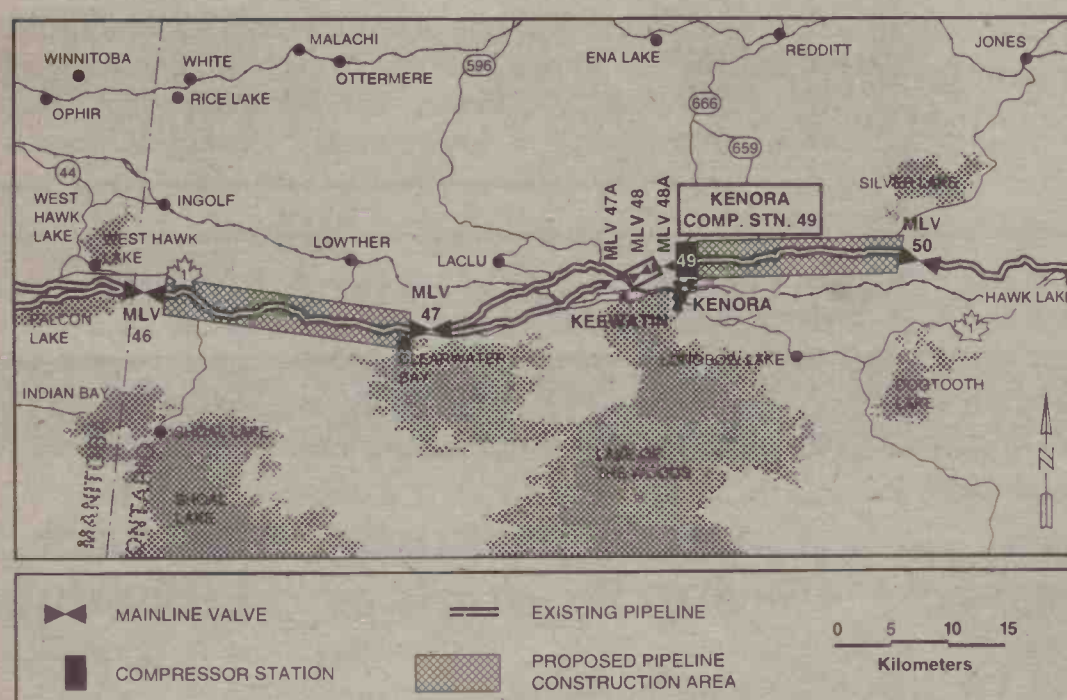
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TransCanada PipeLines Limited Public Notice of Facilities Application Lake of Two Mountains, Geraldton

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You can't afford not to plan for future

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Everyone looks forward to the day when they are no longer working and can enjoy "the fruits of their labors". However, for many Canadians, retirement years are not as golden as they had imagined. Instead, they scramble just to get by.

Statistics show that almost 60 per cent of retired Canadians rely solely on government support, simply to meet their basic needs. For Canadian Aboriginals, this situation is even more concerning. Why? These people did not plan to fail. They failed to plan. Traditionally as we all know, Indian people live for today. This must change. Even a basic plan can put you well on your way to achieving your number one retirement goal - financial security.

Why don't people plan?

One of the main reasons people don't save for retirement is that they think they can't afford it, without taking into account the fact that perhaps they can't afford not to.

Two factors come into play - future and a current benefit. The effects of compounding returns can make small contributions grow significantly - this is a future benefit. The current benefit is that retirement savings are tax deductible. For status Indians it's a way to secure higher interest rates.

Lesson 1: You can afford it. Take advantage of the current and future benefit of retirement savings. It's better to put away a small amount than nothing at all.

Lesson 2: It is never too early to

begin planning for retirement. A lot of people assume the government will take care of them, but government plans are usually not sufficient to give most retirees the financial security they need. Also, the further you are from retirement, the less predictable becomes the level of government support you may receive. Even more concerning is the fact that most status Indians do not pay into Canada Pension Plan.

Lesson 3: Taking control of the future today is the most effective way to ensure financial security tomorrow.

There are four basic steps to creating a successful retirement savings plan:

- Set your goals.
- Assess your current savings and identify potential shortfalls.
- Create a plan to make up for any shortfalls.
- Implement the plan.

Goal setting is the most important step, since everything else grows out of it. Think about what kind of lifestyle you want when you retire. Ask yourself questions such as:

- Do you plan to travel?
- Do you plan on owning a house or a property in the country?
- Will you be wintering "down south"?

The point is, each of these scenarios will involve different costs. When setting goals, be imaginative and realistic. There is nothing wrong with travel as a number one goal, but remember that you need to pay your basic expenses first.

Many financial planners suggest you will need between 60 per cent and 80 per cent of your present annual income to maintain your current lifestyle. As with any financial plan, personal circumstances and unforeseen expenses should be taken into consideration. Using 75 per cent of your income provides a

good base on which to plan and can be adjusted as you get closer to retirement.

Once you've determined what income you want, look at the retirement savings you already have and assess whether they will meet your goals. The three basic sources of retirement income are: government plans; company plans; and personal savings.

What will the government do?

- Canada Pension Plan: All working Canadians are entitled to benefits under these plans. Specific benefits depend on the amount of contributions made. Keep in mind you must have paid in, to receive.
- Old Age Security: Eligible residents of Canada aged 65 and over may receive a fixed monthly old age security pension.

What will my company plan do?

- Defined Benefit Pension Plan: Income received is fixed and based on a formula relating to years of service and your salary or a fixed benefit. Your latest benefit statement should give you a figure for your accumulated pension benefit.
- Defined Contribution Pension Plan: Retirement income depends on total contributions made and the investment performance of those funds. (Most Status Indians who are in Registered Pension Plans, pay into this type of a plan)

What are personal savings? Personal savings include any savings you may have for retirement purposes, such as personal RRSPs or non-registered savings.

So where does this leave you? At this stage, add up your existing retirement assets and determine whether they will be sufficient to meet your lifestyle goals.

If it doesn't look like they will, then you must make one of two choices: either change your goals; or create and implement a plan to achieve them.

Example: William Eagle: Eagle First Nation, Age 35, Desired Retirement: Age 65; Years to retirement: 30; Desired Retirement Income - 75%.

How much do I need to save?

1. Current annual income before taxes	\$35,000
2. Annual income desired after leaving work (60 - 80 per cent of pre-tax annual income)	\$26,250
3. Anticipated annual income from government programs	
a) Estimated C.P.P.	\$8,558
b) Old Age Security	\$4,653
Total anticipated gov't pension	\$13,211
4. Defined benefit pension plan	\$ 9,000
5. Annual retirement income shortfall which must be made up by personal savings (line 2-line 3&4)	\$4,039
6. Amount one must save to provide this shortfall (line 5 X Annuity factor)	\$45,561
7. Accumulated retirement savings	
a) Defined Contributions Assets	\$ 0
b) Personal Savings	\$ 0
TOTAL (a+b)	\$ 0
Multiply by Savings Multiplier (table B) X =	\$ 0
8. Amount still needed (line 6 minus line 7)	\$45,641
9. Amount to save each year	\$45,641 X 0.020 = \$913
10. a) Line 9 as a percentage of my annual salary (Line 9 divided by Line 1 times 100)	= 2.6 per cent
b) Less Defined Contribution annual percentage	0.0 per cent
11. Additional contribution needed each year	2.6 per cent

Reference Tables

Table A

Retirement Age	Annuity Factor
55	13.3
60	12.6
65	11.3
70	11.0

Table B - Savings Multipliers*

Years to Save	Savings Multiplier	Annual Multiplier
5 years	1.159	0.183
10 years	1.344	0.085
15 years	1.558	0.052
20 years	1.806	0.036
25 years	2.094	0.027
30 years	2.427	0.020
35 years	2.814	0.016
40 years	3.262	0.013

*Based on annual rate of return of eight per cent inflation of five per cent

Now William knows he'll need to create a savings program to achieve his goals. In the majority of situations the most effective way to attain financial security in retirement is additional RRSP contributions. For Status Indians, higher interest rates can be obtained by investing in registered funds.

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Eva Weidman
 Windspeaker Contrib

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Company takes a refreshing approach to business

Eva Weidman
Windspeaker Contributor

The "real thing" could take on a whole new meaning in the soft drink business if Mike Birch has his way. Birch owns and operates the Aboriginal Bever-

age Company in Manitoba.

The enterprise started as a daydream behind a store counter in Garden Hill and is now growing faster than Birch could ever dream.

Birch owns two grocery stores on his home reserve in Garden Hill. He began the gro-

cery business out of a trailer when he was 17-years-old.

That was 10 years ago and Birch has moved from the trailer to a warehouse full of soft drinks and national distribution contracts for his product, First Nations Cola.

He admits that at 27 he might

seem to be an unlikely business mogul but his research and energy convinced the money lenders that the Aboriginal Beverage Company would be a viable business.

"In the stores in Garden Hill, we moved 20,000 cases of soft drinks in one year, on a reserve of 3,200 people. I did some research and found that Aboriginal people buy three times the amount of soft drinks compared to the rest of the Canadian population," Birch said.

Birch's research led him to the COTT Beverage Company in Calgary. First Nations Cola is not only distributed from there, it is where the beverage is made and packaged.

Birch says he has a strong sales team of Aboriginal people marketing and distributing to reserves in Canada.

"There are 720 reserves in Canada which is our primary market. Right now we are looking into distribution in the U.S. and Europe."

While Birch is looking at new markets he admits there are problems getting his product into the supermarkets in Canada. Not only is First Na-

tions Cola competing against the big guys like Coke or Pepsi, most grocery chains have their own labels.

An Aboriginal entrepreneur also has another force to reckon with - prejudice.

"Some managers and store owners think I'm funded by the government because I'm Aboriginal, but this is my own money and my business completely. There is still a frustrating attitude in the mainstream (towards Aboriginal people) that we have to constantly work to change."

Along with expanding his distribution range, Birch is considering a number of products that will bear the First Nations label. He has been approached by everyone from potato chip makers to meat wholesalers. Birch says at the moment he is trying to make careful decisions and thoroughly research any products of offers.

Birch's confidence and belief in his enterprise have been recognized in the Aboriginal community with a nomination for this year's National Aboriginal Achievement Award (NAAA) which will be held in Winnipeg on April 10, 1996.

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Step aside for the set-aside

Native business will get a shot in the arm from the federal government with its new "set-aside" policy. This could mean that Native companies can expect \$300 million worth of government contracts to be sent their way each year.

The set-aside policy, approved by cabinet at the end of last year, would see three per cent of the federal government's annual \$9 billion in contracts funneled into the Native business community.

The main objective of the policy is to create jobs in, and give support to, Aboriginal-owned businesses.

The policy goes into effect April 1, but bureaucrats are still busy trying to define what constitutes an Aboriginal business. It is feared that mainstream business people will set up paper businesses with the look of an Aboriginal business in order to pick-up the set-aside business.

Tutoring kit offers real life examples

By Raymond Lawrence
Transition Magazine - DIAND

Far too often we learn important lessons at the school of hard knocks where the tuition can run steep for the fledgling entrepreneur. Learning through trial and error can be costly.

A video information kit called, *The Spirit Lives: Aboriginal Entrepreneurs in Canada*, solves this difficulty by offering an interesting assortment of tips, as well as some helpful material that could supplement either a post-secondary or secondary education program.

The kit consists of two full-length VHS tapes and a user's guide which is actually more like a work book. Its strength lies in the interviews with Aboriginal entrepreneurs.

Their success stories vary from those of larger operations to the one-man-show type business, but in all instances the people featured speak frankly about both their

successes and failures.

The examples present the challenges, hardships and hard work involved in making a business fly, intertwined with the hopes and visions. The kit is encouraging and will also help guide people around the pitfalls of launching a new business.

Although it does not examine the pitfall in detail, the kit does pose various questions covering a wide range of issues related to entrepreneurial ventures. By considering these questions, future entrepreneurs should be more aware of where risk-taking crosses the line into the danger zone.

The kit was produced by the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education in association with Kwakiutl District Council and Wawatay Communications Society, Inc.

Contact: Canadian Foundation for Economic Education at 2 St. Clair Street West, Suite 501; Toronto, ON; M4V 1L5. Or call (416) 968-2236.

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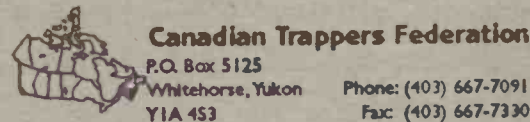
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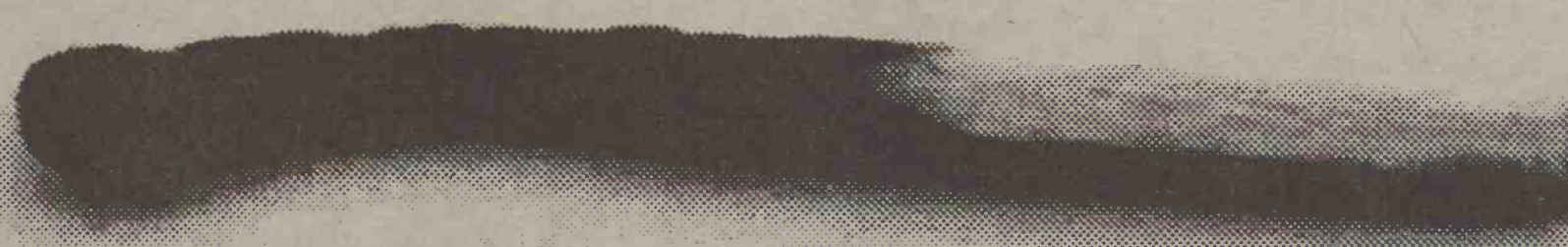
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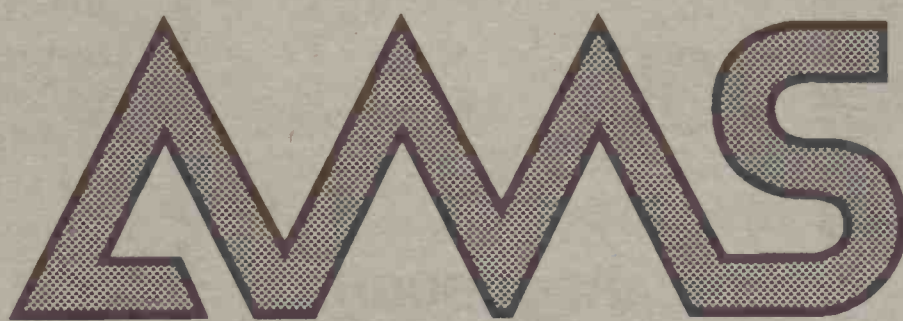
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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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| Sunday, February 18
• Arrival and registration
• Reception and orientation | Wednesday, February 21
• Indian Treaties and the Ojibwa Interpretation
• Indian Treaties and the Blackfoot Interpretation |
| Monday, February 19
• Opening ceremonies, introductions and explanation of group assignments
• History of Indian Treaties within Canada
• Canadian Legal Interpretation of Canada's Indian Treaties
• Paradigm shift from Western philosophical thought to Aboriginal philosophical thought process | Thursday, February 22
• Indian Treaties and the Coast Salish Interpretation
• American Indian Treaties and the Navajo Nation Interpretation
• The best possible case scenario for the successful interpretation and application of the Queen's promises within Canada's Indian Treaties for purposes of self-government, land claims, social and economic development
• Reception and closing banquet |
| Tuesday, February 20
• Indian Treaties and Mik Maq interpretation
• Indian Treaties and the Mohawk Interpretation | Friday, February 23
• Small group reports
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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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| Thursday, February 22
• Check-in
• Registration and Reception | Saturday, February 24
• Opening prayers and house-keeping matters
• Policy Development
• Group exercise
• Board-Staff Relations
• Legal Aspects of Board Governance
• Ensuring Board Effectiveness
• Banquet Dinner |
| Friday, February 23
• Opening ceremonies and prayers
• Orientation and course objectives
• Introductions
• Needs Assessments
• Board Governance from an Aboriginal Perspective
• Governing Boards of Not-For-Profit Organizations
• Board of Governance Model for Aboriginal Organizations
• Self-government in Aboriginal Communities | Sunday, February 25
• Opening prayers and house-keeping matters
• Organizing and Directing the Work of the Board Financial Management and Control
• Summary and Evaluation
• Departure from The Banff Centre (after lunch) |

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 Mr. Harvey Knight Prince Albert Tribal Council</p> | <p>F. Moose Stew and Bannock: School Board & Administrative Issues
 Dr. Pier De Paola & Mr. Danny Bradshaw O'Chiese Education</p> <p>G. A Round Table Discussion for Directors of Education
 Ms. Katherine Whitecloud Roth C.E.O. Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council</p> <p>H. a) Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: An Overview
 b) Alcohol Epidemiology and Policy for Native Communities
 Dr. Philip May, Director, The Centre on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions University of New Mexico</p> <p>I. Legal Education: Part 1 - Criminal Law and Procedure
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 MR. HARVEY KNIGHT • Prince Albert Tribal Council</p> | <p>THURSDAY ONLY (#21-#24)</p> <p>21. Aboriginal Perspectives in Classroom Management
 MS. DEBORAH AMEV KISKEENTUM • L.O.O.F. Aboriginal Cultures Instruction Group</p> <p>22. The Solution Group Model: An Approach for Self-Management
 MS. VAL MONK • Val Monk & Associates</p> <p>23. Tutor-Escorts/Assistant's Special Education Training
 MR. STEVE MANLOW • Learning Sources</p> <p>24. Project Bridge
 MR. KEITH MURRAY • St. Mary's Academy</p> <p>FRIDAY ONLY (#25-#28)</p> <p>25. Storytelling as a Teaching Model
 MS. DEBORAH KISKEENTUM • L.O.O.F. Aboriginal Cultures Instruction Group</p> <p>26. A Winning Way for Leaders
 MS. VAL MONK • Val Monk & Associates</p> <p>27. AIDS
 MR. ALBERT MCLEOD • Manitoba Aboriginal AIDS Task Force</p> <p>28. Teamwork Building
 MR. STEVE MANLOW • Learning Sources</p> |
|--|---|--|

Workshops #1-#20 are on Thursday and repeated on Friday

Note:

- Workshop spaces are limited
- All Workshops are located within a block of the Sheraton
- Group registration forms are available

For Additional Information, Brochure & Workshop Descriptions
 Dr. Ron Phillips, R.S. Phillips & Associates
 Consultants in Native Education
 517 Bower Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 0L7
 Phone: (204) 896-3449 • Fax: (204) 889-3207

HOTEL INFORMATION

- SHERATON WINNIPEG \$90(Single/Double) \$105(Triple/Quad)
 Phone (204) 942-5300 1-800-463-6400 Fax (204) 943-7975
- PLACE LOUIS RIEL \$67(Studio) \$77(1 bedroom suite) \$97(2 bedroom suite)
 Phone (204) 947-6961 1-800-665-0569 Fax (204) 947-3029
- CHARTER HOUSE \$56-\$70 Phone (204) 942-0101
- HOTEL FORT GARRY \$69-\$99 Phone (204) 942-8251

AIR CANADA has been appointed the Official Airline of the "EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES" Conference. You do not have to stay over a Saturday night to take advantage of savings. Call your Travel Agent or AIR CANADA 1-800-361-7585. When purchasing your ticket, please ask that your Event Number CV960291 be entered in the Tour Code box.

Effective Strategies • 10th International Native Education Conference Pre-Registration Form

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town/City/Prov.: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Conference/Workshop Fees (GST included):		
	Pre-registration	On-site
A. Three days	\$220.00	\$300.00
B. Two Days	\$140.00	\$200.00
C. One day	\$ 80.00	\$100.00

Please indicate your choices of workshops.
 Note: Workshops are all day (5-6 hrs). You will be placed in one of your choices.

Wednesday:	1st: _____	2nd: _____	3rd: _____
Thursday:	1st: _____	2nd: _____	3rd: _____
Friday:	1st: _____	2nd: _____	3rd: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

* All pre-registrants will be notified
 SAVE TIME AND MONEY BY PRE-REGISTERING BY APRIL 19, 1996. Pre-registrations post-marked after April 19, 1996 will not be accepted. On-site registration will be available on a space available basis beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1 in the conference registration area of the Sheraton Winnipeg. WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS, minus 25% administration costs will be honoured only if postmarked no later than April 19, 1996.

To pre-register, mail this completed form along with your cheque, money order or purchase order, payable to:
R.S. Phillips & Associates, 517 Bower Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 0L7

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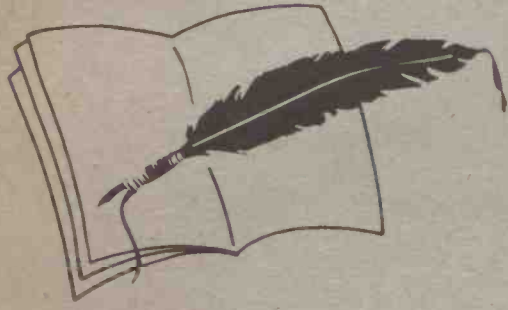
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University & College Entrance Program



Concordia's University and College Entrance Program (UCEP) is designed for aboriginal adults 21 years of age or older who require the necessary prerequisites to apply for post-secondary studies.

- ▶ UCEP combines 10-20-30 subject matter into a fast track eight-month program that provides prerequisites for entry into universities, colleges and technical schools.
- ▶ The curriculum provides matriculation credits in English and Math.
- ▶ Students participate in a Career Development course and have the opportunity to study a university-level Cree language course.



CONCORDIA
University College of Alberta

Application deadline is June 14, 1996. Apply Early!
Admission interviews are held January - June 1996.
Classes start September 3, 1996.

Call Maxine Nelson at (403) 479-8481
to arrange an appointment for testing
and to set up a personal interview.

THE MUSKOKA-PARRY SOUND NATIVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM, B'SAANIBAMAADSIWIN has an opening for a PROGRAM COORDINATOR

to facilitate the development of a community and culturally based service for healing and wellness in seven First Nation communities. This is a Ministry of Health funded initiative, sponsored by Muskoka-Parry Sound Community Mental Health Service and directed by an area First Nations Advisory Committee.

If you have:

- a Master's degree in the social sciences
- a solid foundational knowledge and understanding of First Nations
- knowledge and experience in program and community development with First Nations
- knowledge, training and experience in helping and counselling practice with Native individuals and groups
- administrative skills and experience
- a valid driver's license and reliable means of transportation

You are invited to submit your resume by Friday, February 23, 1996 to:

**The Hiring Committee
B'saanibamaadsiwin
7 James Street, Suite 1
Parry Sound, Ontario, P2A 1T4**



This is a full time position. The starting date is negotiable. Inquiries and requests for an information package can be directed to the Executive Director at 705-645-2262.

We thank all applicants but wish to advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



EXPERIENCED CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES SOCIAL WORKER required for TSUU T'INA NATION CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES SOCIETY

Tsuu T'ina Nation Child and Family Services Society is seeking a motivated, mature, responsible individual to provide training and supervision for social workers in a developing program. Responsible to the Director, the successful applicant will be required to:

- provide clinical supervision for two social workers, and family support workers.
- provide on-the-job training in child abuse investigations, case management, and follow through.
- ensure foster home approvals, training and support for caregivers.
- training in legal and ethical requirement of documentation
- administrative duties as assigned by Director
- "After-hours" duty on a rotating basis.

Requirements: Minimum B.S.W., M.S.W. preferred, and eligible for registration with Alberta Association of Social Workers, Extensive Child Welfare experience, preferably in a Native community. Sound social work practice skills in assessment, intervention and prevention. C.P.S. training. Demonstrated organizational and communication skills. Some knowledge of computer systems.

This is an 8 month term position, with the possibility of extension (depending on funding). Tsuu T'ina Nation is a caring, supportive, dynamic community located on the outskirts of Calgary, with lots of opportunities for recreational and cultural activities.

Please forward resume, names of three references, salary expectations and other relevant data to:

**Doris Chabot, Director
Tsuu T'ina Nation Child and Family Services Society
9911 Chula Blvd.
Tsuu T'ina, Alberta (Sarcee) T2W 6H6
Fax: (403) 251-0368**

Closing date: February 5th, 1996

Only candidates selected for an interview will receive a response. We thank all others for the interest shown and wish you success in your search.

The First Nations Centre - A spectacular environment for learning

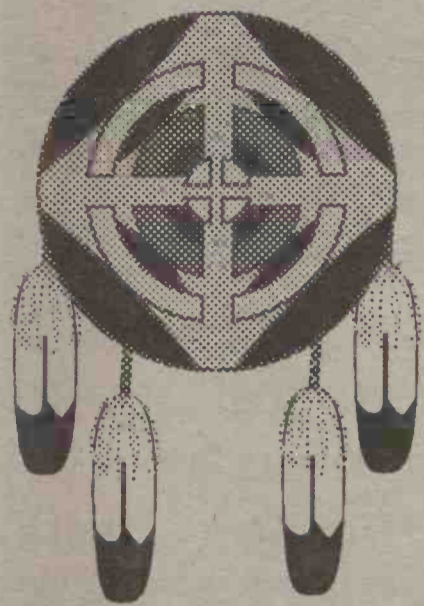


The University of Northern British Columbia is located in the territories of 16 Tribal Councils and 76 bands, and is developing a prominent presence in First Nations Programmes and Studies to work in partnership with these groups. The University of Northern British Columbia is now in our second full year of operation, and we continue to plan for expansion of First Nations programmes and studies. The programme in First Nations Studies is the hub of UNBC's signature areas. Our environment at the First Nations Centre is geared to providing you with the focus on learning and personal attention that you need to make going to UNBC a positive step in your journey.

For more information, please contact Dr. Lee Morrison, Director, Office of First Nations Programmes at email address leem@unbc.edu, (office) 604-960-5517, or by fax at 604-960-5547. Please write Dr. Morrison at The Office of First Nations Programmes, University of British Columbia, 3333 University Way, Prince George, BC, V2N 4Z9.

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICE OF CANADA WANTS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT SEX OFFENDERS



- *About 40% of Aboriginal men serving sentences in federal correctional institutions are serving sentences for illegal sexual acts.*
- *Whether or not they receive effective treatment for the problems which led to their offending, those men will complete their sentences and return to the community.*

Treatment for sex offenders is available in federal correctional facilities, and the Correctional Service of Canada wants to develop and offer Aboriginal sex offenders effective treatment that is based upon Aboriginal cultural values. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee and others have encouraged the Correctional Service to find a treatment program which utilises traditional Aboriginal ethics, values and healing principles to meet the needs of aboriginal sex offenders.

The Correctional Service of Canada wants to act in partnership with Aboriginal communities, organizations and individuals in developing such a program. To that end, the Service will hold a Conference on the Treatment of Aboriginal Sex Offenders March 21-23, 1996, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. People with the knowledge and experience required to help the Correctional Service of Canada to develop treatment programs for Aboriginal sex offenders will be invited to participate in the Conference.

The Service would like assistance in identifying persons who could contribute to the Conference. If you can assist in that effort, please call, fax or write to:

Teresa Nahanee, B.A., LL.B., LL.M.
Corporate Advisor
Aboriginal Programming
The Correctional Service of Canada
Room 2E, 340 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P9
Tel: (613) 996-7715 Fax: (613) 996-8964

Please forward resumes of persons treating Aboriginal persons for sexual offending and a description of your program. Also indicate your interest in attending this national workshop.

Windspeaker Classroom Edition

COMING MARCH 1996

AN INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

There is no question that Aboriginal youth need to access information and news on issues that will impact their future. As tomorrow's leaders and decision makers, our youth needs to be exposed to a variety of viewpoints, so that they may be better capable of making informed decisions for themselves and their communities.

Windspeaker's Classroom Edition will provide information critical to making informed decisions. The Classroom Edition will be useful to youth and adults, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

The Classroom Edition will showcase the viewpoints and opinions regarding critical issues being faced by Aboriginal people today.

The information contained in the Classroom Edition can play an instrumental role in breaking down barriers and increase understanding between individuals, communities, and cultures.

The Classroom Edition will feature 17 full editorial pages dedicated to exploring key issues impacting Aboriginal people and their communities. Various views on a single issue will be presented. Each topic will also include thought provoking questions to encourage dialogue and open communication. Editorial cartoons and photos will be utilized to further stimulate thought and dialogue.

Order your free copies of *Windspeaker's Classroom Edition* today.

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