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Windspeaker

QUOTABLE QUOTE

Aboriginals are realizing their entrepreneurial dreams, despite the hurdles thrown up by the Indian Act.

See Pages 12-14.

March 14 - March 27, 1994

Canada's National Aboriginal News Publication

Volume 11 No. 26

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Dina O'Meara

Leisure's for learning

Members of Team Alberta (left to right), Team Alaska and Team Yukon take time out from practising for their category at the Arctic Winter Games to learn how to play Inuit hand games. Thousands of competitors and spectators from across North America, Greenland and Russia gathered in Slave Lake, Alberta for the games, held every two years since 1970. See Page R5.

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James Bay Cree claim victory

By D.B. Smith
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Crees from Northern Quebec say they've won a major court battle against the development of future hydroelectric projects in the James Bay region.

In a unanimous decision Feb. 24, the Supreme Court of Canada overturned a Federal Court of Appeal's decision allowing Hydro Quebec to export power to markets in the United States without conducting an environmental assessment to National Energy Board specifications.

Hydro Quebec will now be required to conduct a federal environmental impact study on the effect of future hydroelectric generating facilities if it wishes to export an estimated

\$25 billion worth of power to the eastern U.S.

"Having a unanimous ruling certainly was for us a major victory," said Kenny Blacksmith, assistant grand chief of the Grand Council of the Crees of Quebec.

"There has to be some of our involvement in the environmental assessment to preserve our way of life."

In 1990, the National Energy Board granted seven export licences to Hydro Quebec on the condition that any construction of hydroelectric facilities undergo environmental impact assessments.

Hydro Quebec and the province won a petition to overturn that order when the appeal court ruled the board had exceeded its jurisdiction in imposing the assessment conditions.

But the Supreme Court ruled in turn that the energy

board did not exceed its authority under the National Energy Board Act.

"There's more criteria in place for Hydro Quebec to recognize and respect in any construction," Blacksmith said.

This ruling concludes a long and bitter battle between the 12,000 James Bay Crees and the provincial power authority, a battle that began almost 20 years ago, he said.

"We have not benefited from the project. We have not much of our hereditary lands."

The James Bay Cree have never been taken seriously by the province or the power authority, he added. The Natives were forced to negotiate under duress when they signed the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement with the provincial and federal governments in 1975.

Hydro Quebec maintained the ruling will not affect any of

the company's existing electricity exports, nor the environmental assessments now under way, including those on the Grande-Baleine (Great Whale) project.

While the Supreme Court overturned the appeal court's ruling, it also turned down all the other requests by the Grand Council of the Crees asking that Hydro Quebec's export licences be declared illegal and subsequently cancelled, a Hydro Quebec spokesman said.

The judgment will also not affect the utility's sales to export markets. Hydro Quebec currently has a 30-year contract with Vermont Joint Owners and is discussing a 20-year, 800 megawatt contract with ConEd, a power company based in lower New York State.

Both contracts are worth several hundred billion dollars to the province.

Budget increases funding to Natives

By D.B. Smith
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Ottawa's 1994 budget appears to be a "good news story" for Canada's Natives, Indian Affairs' finance director general said.

The main estimates in funding to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs in federal Finance Minister Paul Martin's Feb. 22 budget were slightly more than \$5 billion, a net increase of almost \$400 million, said Bill Austin.

The First Nations will also see an increase of about \$256 million to support Indian, Inuit

and Innu funding for essential services.

"That's in a world where the government's own growth is much less," he said.

Indian Affairs will see an eight per cent growth in funding between 1994 and 1995, whereas federal economic growth estimates for the next two years were pin-pointed at about one per cent.

A lot of the extra money awarded to the department will flow directly to Natives living on reserves, Austin said, mostly in the form of increased funding to education, social services, and tribal and band governments.

The Assembly of First Nations is still analyzing the document, said Grand Chief Ovide

Mercredi. But it appears there were no increases in social services payments to Indian peoples.

"They are transferring social services payments to programs like land claims. They are only moving money around," he said.

But a 10-per-cent growth rate in the Aboriginal economic community over the last decade has outstripped national rates, which were only half that amount, Austin said.

An additional \$70 million will go towards the further implementation of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut Land Claim Agreement.

The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation will see an increase in its statutory loans of about

\$28 million in accordance with the Western Arctic Claim Settlement Act.

And the territorial governments will also receive an additional \$51.1 million in transfer payments as a result of previous funding agreements.

Ottawa's Infrastructure Works Program also allotted \$18 million to upgrade transportation and local services in Indian and Inuit communities in the territories.

Additional funds may also be available mid-year for unforeseen costs such as new land claims.

Ottawa wants to boost total spending by two per cent in the next year to reach a total of \$163 billion.

Metis National Council fires director

By D.B. Smith
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

A struggle for financial control of the Metis National Council, which erupted early last month, has ended in the dismissal of one of the organization's regional directors.

Gerald Morin, leader of both the national council and the Saskatchewan Metis Nation, and Metis Nation of Alberta president Gerald Thom fired Pacific Metis Federation director Norman Evans Feb. 23 over what Morin called "administration and financial matters."

"It was necessary that we remove him as a director," Morin said.

Evans was not representing the interests of all the West Coast Metis organiza-

tions, he said.

Members from the Louis Riel Metis Association, the Vancouver Island Metis and the Kelly Lake Metis recommended during senate hearings in Vancouver last fall removing Evans for failing to represent them to the national council.

Evans said he was not given adequate notice of his dismissal as director and has consulted a lawyer.

Morin refused to give further details on the financial reasons behind the dismissal for fear of what he called "legal reprisals".

But a string of inter-office letters leaked to Windspeaker in mid-February indicate the organization is in a "serious deficit position".

The Feb. 7 letter to Secretary of State Native Citizens Directorate head Roy Jacobs detailed honorarium expenses to MNC executives in excess of \$105,000, which Evans,

as a director of the council's secretariat, said he was not apprised of.

Another letter by Evans to council chief administrative officer Marc LeClair requested photocopies of all cheques issued to the MNC between April 1993 and January 1994, council credit card account statements and business expenses.

LeClair subsequently sent a letter to Evans Feb. 10 requesting a variety of expense receipts for the Pacific Metis Federation for the years 1991 to 1993. He also asked for all details of banking transactions, including receipts, deposit slips and bank statements for all MNC monies, especially those flowing through Evans' own West Coast law firm.

LeClair said the national council is currently \$250,000 in debt, although estimates by other council members put that figure even higher.

Innu unhappy with relocation offer

Windspeaker Staff Writer

DAVIS INLET, Nfld.

The Labrador Innu are disappointed with Ottawa's most recent offer to relocate the community of Davis Inlet.

Innu Nation president Peter Penashue and Davis Inlet Chief Katie Rich said they were not completely happy with Ottawa's response to their demands to move the beleaguered community to a new site.

"We have sent a letter to the minister clearly setting out our

concerns with the document," Penashue said. "But even with our differences, we still want to get on with the work."

Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin's Feb. 25 counter-proposal to the Innu's own relocation plan failed to address some of the Natives' concerns, Penashue said.

The Natives are primarily concerned with Ottawa's reluctance to accept the Innu's comprehensive community plan prior to moving the village.

"The human rights commission was quite clear that it should be an Innu decision, that past

relocation decisions by government have been disastrous to our people," Rich said.

"So we are disappointed that Canada is insisting on something the Canadian Human Rights Commission was quite clear should not happen."

The federal government agreed to move the community of 550 Innu 15 kilometres east to a new location at Sango Bay Pond under several conditions.

The Innu must agree to adopt a long-term social and economic reconstruction plan and prove that Sango Bay will provide sufficient fresh water.

The land must be environmentally assessed and approved for the village, construction must meet with federal and provincial standards and Newfoundland must agree to provide the land.

Ottawa also wants to ensure that the move meets the needs of the Innu and will insure that the problems of rampant alcoholism, solvent abuse and violence are not simply transferred to the new site.

Irwin acknowledged that Ottawa's counter-proposal "reflects numerous changes" from the Innu's proposal, but he said

NATION IN BRIEF

Ottawa flubs Native inheritances

A 1992 audit obtained through the Access to Information Act shows the federal government poorly managed Indian estate accounts, with neither the interests nor the assets of their heirs properly protected. The audit shows there was no system of "national quality control", public servants were not equipped to handle their work, and there was no plan to eventually hand over administration of the program to Natives. The program itself handles \$26 million and involves about 2,500 estates of Indians who died on reserves. The audit also suggested that monies may have been handled inappropriately and inheritances might have been reduced over the years because the federal government did not administer the accounts properly.

Band rejects land claim - again

The Teme-Augama Anishnabai Band has rejected the province of Ontario's land claim settlement for the Temagami Lake area yet again. In a vote held March 1, 59 members of the band voted against the deal

while only 29 voted in favor of it. More than 85 per cent of the band's eligible voters turned out for the ballot. This rejection of the deal, the second in six months, means a third vote scheduled for March 19 may not be necessary. The province offered \$15 million in cash, extra land and shared control of the land around Lake Temagami in north-central Ontario. The band had originally asked for about 10,000 square kilometres.

Minister apologizes to Reform party - sort of

Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin issued an apology in the House of Commons Feb. 24 for any statements he may have made against the Reform Party during self-government negotiations with Indians in Edmonton last month. Members of the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Indian Council signed affidavits Feb. 20 saying the minister had referred to the Reform Party as the defenders of the white man and said they were opposed to Native self-government. The affidavits also said the minister stated the Reform Party did not like Indians. David Chatters, a Reform MP for Athabasca, asked Irwin during question period if he ever made those

statements. Irwin could not remember if he had made the comments, but apologized nonetheless. "The fact that Minister Irwin has never categorically denied saying the statements leaves Canadians believing that something was said," Chatters said. "And now with this affidavit, it is pretty clear that these hideous comments were said by the minister."

Claim may go ahead

A drawn out land claim settlement in northern Ontario may yet be worked out. Despite a legal challenge launched in February, the provincial cabinet will continue working on its approval of a deal for the Mississauga Band in northern Ontario. The Algoma Action Committee filed a court claim on Feb. 25, asking for a halt to a land transfer that would see the Mississauga's reserve expand from 1,200 to more than 17,000 hectares. The local citizens' group does not believe the band deserves that much land. Expanding the land base would help correct what the Natives called a survey mistake made in the last century.

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MUSIC RECOGNIZED

The Juno Awards have finally created a category for Aboriginal music, and this year's competition has five entrants. The only criticism of the new category is that it lumps traditional and contemporary music together when each should be judged on its own merits, says one of the nominee's producers.

See Page 8.

THAT SINKING FEELING

The Sechelt Band on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia is battling an application to have a second ship sunk off the shores of its nation. The first vessel was sunk in 1992 over the protests of the band. The artificial reef has created a natural environment for rock cod, octopus and other sea creatures. But the Sechelt say anything not natural to the environment puts Mother Earth in jeopardy.

See Page R1.

AD DEADLINES

The Advertising deadline for the March 28th issue is Thursday, March 17, 1994

News

NCC gets new name, new leader, new deal

OTTAWA

The Native Council of Canada's annual assembly ended with a new leader, a new name and an important political accord with the federal government.

Jim Sinclair, a past-president of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, was elected president of the council, renamed the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, at a convention in

Ottawa Feb. 26 to 28.

The 60-year-old Sinclair defeated former president Ron George and Native Council of Canada (Alberta) head Doris Ronnenberg in two ballots following an emotional speech before more than 200 delegates.

Sinclair said in his impassioned address that his eyes were opened to "a new reality" by the 1990 Oka standoff and promised a revolution in the way Ot-

tawa deals with Natives.

"(Oka) took the stereotype image away from Indians and Metis and made us into people, made us into soldiers and made us into revolutionaries," he said.

The election was Sinclair's second run at the presidency. The reformed alcoholic, who grew up on the edge of society in the "half-breed slums" of a Metis community near Punnichy, Sask., first ran on a

platform of militant Metis nationalism in 1981.

Shortly after his defeat, the council's board of directors named him chairman of their constitutional committee. Sinclair later became the principal spokesman for the MNC during ministerial conferences in the mid-1980s.

Federal and congress officials closed the annual assembly with the signing of a politi-

cal accord Feb. 28. The accord establishes a process for discussing promises made in "Creating Opportunities," the Liberal's agenda for action.

Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin and Federal Interlocutor for Metis and non-status Indians Anne McLellan signed the deal which also outlines a process to discuss treaty and Aboriginal rights and the inherent right to self-government.

Self-government talks serve Ottawa's agenda - Mercredi

By D.B. Smith
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Ottawa has its own agenda in the quest for Native self-government and can no longer be trusted, the Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations said.

In a surprising turn-around, Ovide Mercredi slammed Jean Chrétiens' Liberals for falsely recognizing Natives' inherent right to self-government during a speech against racism on March 3 in Edmonton.

"When we are told from another society that 'we recognize and respect your rights,' and then they turn around and say 'we have to define it and be comfortable with the definition before we grant it,' then I know that the assertion for the recognition is not a genuine assertion."

Mercredi has until now been generally supportive of Ottawa's attempts to begin self-government negotiations with bands and Indian governments across Canada.

The grand chief even went so far as to say he would consider abandoning constitutional reform as a path to self-government in February shortly after Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin announced Ottawa's plans to recognize Native self-government under Section 35 of the Constitution.

He also excused Irwin's



D.B. Smith

Assembly of First Nations Grand chief Ovide Mercredi (centre) and Elder Peter O'Chiese of Hinton (right) listen to a speech against racial tolerance at a gathering in Edmonton, Alta.

stormy withdrawal from negotiations with the Lesser Slave Lake Region Indian Council three weeks ago in Edmonton as fair tactics.

But he told a group of 300 people assembled at Edmonton

City Hall for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination that Ottawa's overall treatment of Native issues has not changed with the new Liberal government.

The Liberal government is

speaking out of "both sides of its mouth" when self-government is the topic, Mercredi said. Ottawa is only willing to recognize First Nations with municipal-style governments, not ones that have jurisdiction over issues like

gaming on reserves.

Ottawa would also rather enforce its rights under the Canadian Criminal Code when there's gambling on reserves rather than enforce Natives' rights under Section 35 of the Charter.

Reform MP for Edmonton Southeast, Ian McLelland, who was also on hand for the speech, said the question of Native rights is difficult because everyone has their own interpretation.

Defining self-government in the House of Commons is essential to "know what we're talking about," he said.

Determining Native rights to trade and commerce will also depend on the costs, he added.

Several bands across Canada, especially the three Mohawk communities near the United States border in Ontario and Quebec, have said Ottawa has no right to regulate how Natives move goods like tobacco.

Mohawks from Kanesatake, Kahnawake and Akwesasne have been at the centre of controversy for several months over the illegal smuggling of cigarettes from the U.S. More than 70 per cent of the contraband moves through the Akwesasne Reserve near Cornwall, Ont. Police estimates indicate a minority of the smugglers, only about five per cent, are Natives.

But McLelland said if the Mohawks got a bad rap, it was only because "they deserved it".

Coon Come wants reform of Cree economic efforts

By Alex Roslin
Windspeaker Contributor

MONTREAL

After a decade of sinking money into Cree economic development efforts, a controversial new study says the efforts are a failure and cost Crees millions of dollars.

Cree-owned economic development companies lost money in eight of the last 10 years and created relatively little employment for Crees, says the study commissioned by the Grand Council of the Crees. Crees could have made \$60 million more just by investing the money in mutual funds.

The study, now circulating among political leaders of the 12,000-strong James Bay Cree Nation in northern Quebec, has touched off a wrenching debate about the direction of Cree economic development efforts during the past 15 years.

"I believe that the status quo is not viable and that it is time for major changes," says Matthew Coon Come, Grand Chief of the Grand Council of the Crees, in a confidential Jan. 19 letter to Cree leaders. "We must be more accountable to the Cree people."

In the letter, Coon Come calls for a perestroika-like overhaul of Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Co., the holding company for the five biggest Cree-owned companies, including financially troubled Air Creebec,

which lost \$5.8 million last fiscal year. CREECO's overall deficit last year was \$6.1 million, based on revenues of \$93 million.

The last year CREECO made money was 1988. As well, according to figures from the Grand Council, Crees are outnumbered three-to-one by non-Cree employees at the largest three CREECO companies, Air Creebec, Cree Construction and Cree Energy. A disproportionate number of Cree employees are in seasonal jobs, while whites tend to hold down more higher-paying, upper-level permanent positions.

The study is a major blow to Crees who hoped that CREECO's economic development efforts would create jobs at a time of 30-per-cent unemployment in the nine Cree communities in the James Bay region. It was also hoped Cree society would become more prosperous and self-sufficient. Instead, CREECO has repeatedly dipped into heritage funds granted to Crees as compensation for hydro-development projects that flooded much of their ancestral lands.

The study says CREECO drew \$45 million from Cree heritage funds between 1984 and 1993. But due to chronic losses, the holding company was worth only \$23 million last year. If the \$45 million had been invested instead into mutual funds, it would be worth \$85 million today, the study found. If the money had been invested in pension funds, it would have yielded \$75 million.

"The analysis shows that we have not been very successful at creating Cree employment and that

CREECO is not profitable," Coon Come wrote in his letter. "It depends upon the heritage funds every year. This dependence weakens the Cree Nation."

CREECO president Abel Kitchen conceded in an interview that many of Coon Come's concerns are valid, and said discussions are scheduled between CREECO executives and Cree political leaders to discuss the problems.

"This is the kind of thing that needs to be said. It's true what is being said here."

But he cautioned that CREECO should not shoulder all the blame for the economic woes. The ultimate decision-maker in the distribution of Cree heritages, Kitchen said, is the Cree Board of Compensation, which manages the heritage fund.

"They're the people who disburse the money and make the policy."

The chair of the Board of Compensation, Roderick Pachano, was less receptive to Coon Come's criticisms. He dismissed much of the Grand Chief's letter as "old news", and said Cree-owned companies have already started restructuring to improve their fiscal situation. He noted that Air Creebec, in particular, has shed one-third of its employees over the last two years, and some top-level managers have been replaced at CREECO.

But he conceded that some of the disappointments over the economic-development efforts are valid.

"There's too much dependency on non-Crees to run these companies. When they started, it was supposed to be for the Crees, by the Crees. It didn't turn out that way."

Our Opinion

Relocation offer doesn't meet needs

The saga of government incompetence over relocating the people of Davis Inlet continues well into 1994 with Ottawa's most recent proposal to the Mushuau Innu.

Apparently unable to let Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells bear the brunt of public and media scorn for his pig-headed refusal to listen to the Innu, Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin has now made his move to become the epitome of government obstinacy.

Irwin's Feb. 25 offer to relocate the village falls short on numerous fronts. Incumbent in the document was the usual labyrinth of bureaucratic baffle used to avoid the Innu's best interest.

Davis Inlet Chief Katie Rich and Innu Nation president Peter Penashue have both criticized the federal government for failing to listen to their recommendation to move the community as they see fit.

One of the problems the two have with the proposal lies in Irwin's reluctance to accept the Innu's comprehensive community plan prior to relocation. Past relocation decisions by government have been disastrous. The Canadian Human Rights Commission was quite clear that the formula for relocation should be at the Innu's discretion.

The feds have implemented some of the Innu's comprehensive seven-point plan, developed more than a year ago. But many of the key elements, chiefly the Innu's right to go where they know their interests will be best served, were overlooked in favor of the government's apparent need to run the whole show.

The Innu might still get to Sango Bay, but only after Ottawa conducts several studies and assessments and comes to its own accord with the province of Newfoundland. That line of thinking flies in the face of the Innu's quest for autonomy and helps fortify the bureaucracy that landed the Natives in that desolate wasteland in the first place.

Irwin's counter-proposal seems to be based on the same rationale that Premier Wells has employed for the last 14 months - that the Innu are no more than children who need to be taken by the hand and shown what is best for them.

Rather than perpetuate the paternalistic attitude that has corrupted the Innu's way of life, Ottawa would be better off to listen more closely to what the Natives are asking for, chiefly their independence, and then do what it must to help them get it.

Ovide's opinion blowin' in the wind

Consistency is a wonderful thing.

But when it comes to an opinion on Ottawa's self-government policy, consistency seems to be eluding the grand chief of the assembly of First Nations.

Ovide Mercredi's evaluation of the federal government seems to swing from one extreme to the other without much visible rhyme or reason. When the schedule for negotiations was first announced in January, Mercredi refused to accept self-government unless it was constitutionally enshrined.

Shortly thereafter, he conceded to the government's Section 35 argument if it would help the process along. Now he says Ottawa cannot be trusted if it needs to define self-government before enacting it.

Guaranteeing a good deal for Natives will require someone at the national level to decide on a single formula for self-government and then tell Ottawa what we want, what we need, what it will give us.

The surest way to screw up the process is to continue to waffle back and forth. If the feds can't come up with a solution to the self-government problems, it's only because we haven't got the backbone to stand behind our convictions.

Mercredi would do well to find a single policy and stick to it.

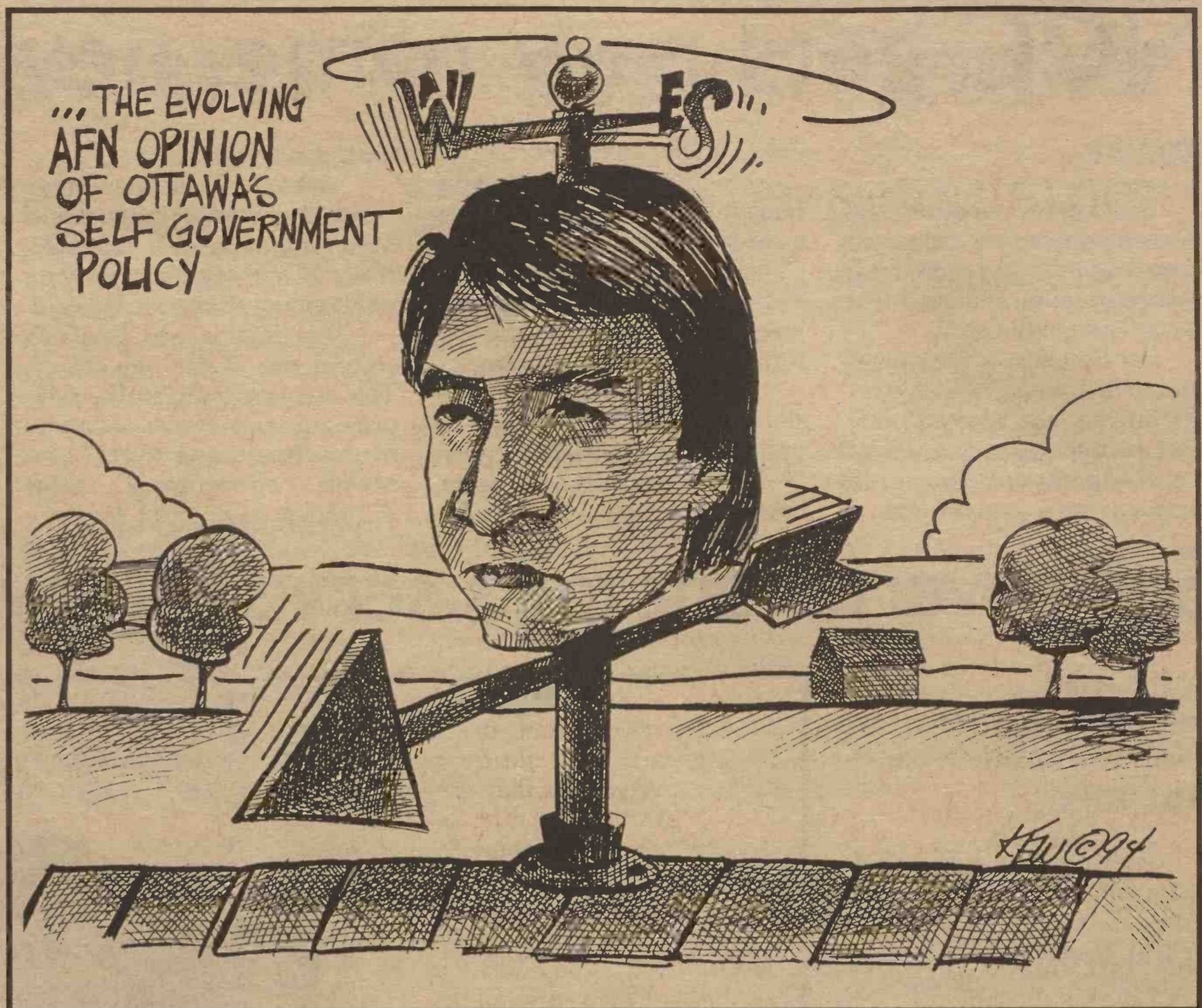


Illustration by Don Kew

Music out of context loses impact, meaning

Tuning in to CBC radio on my way home from work one day, I heard an interview with Ted Whitecalf, one of the Canadian Juno Award nominees for best music of Aboriginal Canada. During the course of the interview, I had the pleasure of listening to the actual musical talent—the Stoney Park Powwow Group, from Alberta.

Hearing powwow music on the radio outside its cultural or ceremonial context, I had many concerns and mixed emotions. At first, I thought, 'That's great — it's about time powwow groups are recognized and honored'. And, of course, Ted Whitecalf (of Sweetgrass Records) and Lyndon Smith (of Right Track Recordings) — two innovative pathfinders in the music industry — deserve the nomination.

However, thinking about the way CBC just patched the Stoney Park Group's powwow music into their program, I realized that when powwow songs are taken out of their cultural context, few can appreciate the drums, the songs or the singers.



JANICE ACOOSE

Then I thought about the Juno Awards' governing committee and its method of choosing a winner. How can the awards committee (a group of individuals with little or no knowledge of Native cultures) ascertain who is best? Or, how do powwow singers feel about being grouped in the same category as contemporary pop, country or blues singers?

After doing some digging, I learned that the "best music of Aboriginal Canada" will be judged by a panel of Native experts from across Canada. Having made up that list in consultation with her (all-Native) advisory group, Elaine Bomberly, the Chair of the best music of Aboriginal Canada category, assured

me that they were in complete control of their category.

Bomberly also explained that the Aboriginal music category incorporates all kinds of music. And while some people may have concerns about all Native musicians together, she said the advisory group carefully screens the music for content, fusion of traditional and contemporary, and reflections of unique Aboriginal experience.

While I still have reservations about segregating Native music or lumping all kinds of Native musicians together, I am pleased that the music industry, and Canadians in general, finally recognize the strength and beauty that is inherently part of our many cultures.

Wind speaker

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Your Opinion

Where have all the good men gone?

Female reader supports national listing of eligible males

An open letter to Drew Hayden Taylor:

I am writing in response to your article on Lonely Hearts Have Options in the Feb. 14 issue of Windspeaker. It was nice to know that I am not the only Native woman that feels there is a need for a national listing of eligible, emotionally and financially stable, healthy, educated, tall, physically fit, Native males with no dependents who aren't afraid of the two words faithful and commitment: and haven't left a trail of gossip behind them. (This sentence could be one of the world's longest run-ons, but it states the point.)

It's very eye-opening when you find out a non-Native friend used to be the ex of your current date. It can also make for a very uncomfortable dinner if she had been his one night stand at one of his many turns at a Native baseball tournament in his past, and her current boyfriend has no idea. This is what information women share when they excuse themselves from the table at the same time to go to the ol' powder room.

Well, the boyfriend was history, and the friend is no longer so close since I now know one of her sordid secrets. This seems to be a reoccurring theme with Native men, sporting events, and

pasts that really aren't in the past, so to speak. I am not so sure about your club being named after trees, hopefully that doesn't mean that the guys in your hypothetical club are about as sincere and thought-provoking as a piece of wood. It's a thought.

Even though there are those options of powwows, round dances, and sports events, if one is trying to make it in the non-Native world, there is no time to go to these events and even if you do, it's like one needs a resume card filled out on past history and a prayer that the potential date/victim has not been married or with one of my thousands of relatives, or is one of my many relatives I have never met until that moment. I was just talking to a colleague and he was joking that there needs to be a Native Dating service. That's like asking for today's Natives to interpret smoke signals from a fire where no one remembers the code! How many single Native men have the to admit they don't like being single?

Overall, I think your column is good for looking at things in normal everyday life with a good laugh, especially in the Native text of things.

*Pelican Brief Woman
Alberta*



So happy together. . . . Just like many singles would like to be, if what columnist Drew Hayden Taylor said in his Feb. 14 column is true. Perhaps a Guide to Indian Singles is in order?

Cigarette tax stance reveals corporate agenda

Dear Editor,

Flip-flops on cruise testing and NAFTA are important clues, but nothing reveals the essential pro-corporate, right-wing bent of the new Chretien/Martin Gritory federal government as much as the Liberal's policy on cigarette taxes/smuggling. Ethel Blondin, Elijah Harper and a couple of other government MPs could do worse than to cross the Commons floor to join the NDP, giving a more consistent anti-corporate party at least - suitably chastened? - official party status once again.

It is apparent that 'Uncle Jean' and 'Paul Jr.' do not give a damn about public health, since they cut the taxes on cigarettes. They are not willing to touch the death-dealing tobacco tycoons, for whom Jr. used to work - the biggest drug pushers before and since the murder of Pablo Escobar - but they are prepared, I fear, to now impose Canadian law, by force, on sovereign Mohawk/Six Nations territory.

Perhaps that is the real agenda - to try to finish the job that Mulroney couldn't at Oka and the Mercier Bridge. To try to keep all First Nations people

poor and powerless. Possibly one objective of Trudeau's disciples is also to create such a state of emergency in Quebec again that the imminent expected PQ election victory in that province can at least be postponed.

The most disgraceful performance to date, in my opinion, is the pre-emptive move by Chief Indian Agent Ron Irwin to dissociate himself in advance from any new invasion by his government. How can he genuinely believe in the self-determination of his 'wards', as he claims, if he will not even recognize and respect the historically

asserted and maintained political nationhood of the Six Nations? It is crystal-clear in this crisis why the Longhouse People - who must always survive in the North American economy by their wits - would never want to become part of the colonialist political and moral system.

Uncle Jean and his red-bookers already have a share of the blood of the Zapatistas on their hands. They remain complicit in the present day theft of northern Labrador. If the former author of the White Paper's objective now is to protect government revenue, he will not

do that by starting another billion-dollar war against the Mohawks, or by boosting cancer rates. The best thing he could do, and the only thing he should do, is come down hard on the corporate pushers (his sponsors or no). Forbid the export of Canadian nicotine, and ban all tobacco advertising of any and every kind in Canada!

But this would get Ottawa in trouble over NAFTA - wouldn't it - the treaty to end all treaties!

*Randy Lawrence
Edmonton*

Letters welcome

Windspeaker welcomes letters to the Editor. Submissions should be approximately 300 words or less in length. All letters must be signed with a first and last name or an initial and last name. A phone number and address must be included, not for publication but for verification.

All letters are subject to editing.

Please send letters to:
Linda Caldwell, Editor,
Windspeaker, 15001 112
Ave., Edmonton, AB
T5M 2V6.

Lost... and Found

Dear Editor,

My brother Aaron Douglas Quisess and I were separated when I was approximately two years old and I am trying to find him. At the time we were separated Aaron Douglas was five years old. Douglas was born in 1967 and today he would be 26.

In 1972, Douglas was adopted through the Toronto Children's Aid. When adopted he may have had his name changed. My adopted name is Tamara Brandenburg. My real mother was Sarah Quisess, who passed away in Calgary, Alberta 1985.

I have contacted numerous Children's Aid Offices who tell me they are unable to help me.

Should you have any information which would help me to find my brother Aaron, please contact me: Ms. Tamara Brandenburg (Tammy Quisess) at the Native Women's Centre, Hamilton, Ontario. (905)522-1501.

You may also write to me at my home address 85 East Ave., South Apt. 7, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 2T5.

*Tamara Brandenburg
Hamilton, Ont.*

Dear Editor,

Greetings from the North!

My name is Patricia Alice Isaac. I am the eldest of six children.

What I am seeking is information on a brother that was adopted out of our family when he was an infant. His birth name is Kevin William Isaac. He was born June 10, 1969 at Whitehorse General Hospital. His birth mother was named Lucy Isaac at the time of his birth.

When he was adopted out of our family, my mother's instructions were not to have him taken out of the Yukon.

There is no information on him in the Yukon. Therefore I am asking the public to help me in finding him or his whereabouts.

He is the third youngest and fourth oldest, that forms a gap in between us. In order to fill this gap (emptiness) we have to find our brother.

*Patty Isaac
Box 44
Pelly Crossing, Y.T. Y0B 1P0
(403)537-3331*

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for printing my letter and to share with you and other readers the outcome.

The letter was in regards to my search for my birth family. As a result, I was contacted by a woman who turned out to be a relative. Since this contact, I have talked with my birth mother and have also met two of my beautiful sisters.

It has been a long and emotional process, but it has been truly worthwhile.

*Corina Jaylee Mah
British Columbia*

Indian Country

Community Events

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE YOUR EVENTS IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE MARCH 28TH ISSUE, PLEASE CALL ETHEL BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH AT 1-800-661-5469, FAX (403) 455-7639 OR WRITE TO: 15001-112 AVENUE, EDMONTON, AB., T5M 2V6

- NATIVE ELDERS SOUP & BANNOCK**
Every Wednesday at noon, Edmonton, Alberta
- DENVER MARCH POWWOW**
March 18 - 20, 1994, Denver, Colorado
- SFIN HOCKEY & CURLING TOURNAMENT**
March 18 - 20, 1994, Regina, Saskatchewan
- CULTURE, HEALTH & HEALING SEMINAR**
March 18 & 19, 1994, Edmonton, Alberta
- CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY POWWOW**
March 19 & 20, 1994, Long Beach, California
- NATIONAL FIRST NATIONS MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING CONFERENCE**
March 21 - 24, 1994, Edmonton, Alberta
- 5TH ANNUAL WOMEN & WELLNESS**
March 21 - 25, 1994, Portland, Oregon
- THE SNO FESTIVAL OF PUVIRNITUQ**
March 21 - 26, 1994, Puvirnituk, Quebec
- FIRST NATIONS YOUTH SPORTS FESTIVAL**
March 22 - 24, 1994, Saanichton, British Columbia
- "PAINTED FEATHER" FASHION SHOW**
March 24, 1994, Kelowna, British Columbia
- NATIVE OLD TIMERS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
March 25 - 27, 1994, Enoch, Alberta
- HEALING OURSELVES & OUR COMMUNITIES**
March 27 - April 1, 1994, Vancouver, British Columbia
- TORONTO INTERNATIONAL POWWOW (see ad)**
April 1 & 2, 1994, Toronto, Ontario
- W. CAN. ABOR. CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS**
April 1 - 4, 1994, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- ANDREW WARD HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
April 1 - 3, 1994, Hobbema, Alberta
- BATTLEFORD HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
April 1 - 3, 1994, North Battleford, Saskatchewan
- SIFC 16TH ANNUAL POWWOW**
April 2 & 3, 1994, Regina, Saskatchewan
- ELDERS POWWOW**
April 3, 1994, Siksika Nation, Alberta
- AB NATIVE HOCKEY PROVINCIALS**
April 7 - 9, 1994, Calgary, Alberta
- ROGER GEORGE MEMORIAL ALL-NATIVE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**
April 7 - 9, 1994, Fort Hall, Idaho
- PRINCE GEORGE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
April 8 - 10, 1994, Prince George, British Columbia
- 17TH ANNUAL NATIVE OPEN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**
April 8 - 10, 1994, Pincher Creek, Alberta
- 3RD ANNUAL NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & MULTICULTURAL CONFERENCE**
April 8 - 11, 1994, Vancouver, British Columbia
- N. AMER. INDIAN BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
April 12 - 16, 1994, Norman, Oklahoma
- CELEBRATING ALL NATIONS POWWOW**
April 15 - 17, 1994, Chilliwack, British Columbia
- 8TH ANNUAL ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY SPRING POWWOW**
April 15 - 17, 1994, Tempe, Arizona
- HOBBERMA SENIOR 'A' HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
April 15 - 17, 1994, Hobbema, Alberta
- GATHERING OF NATIONS POWWOW**
April 22 & 23, 1994, Albuquerqure, New Mexico
- DOTC MINOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**
April 28 - May 1, 1994, Brandon, Manitoba

Oki. As the buds of spring blossom, speaking of buds, I have a bud that gave me her own comments on spring. Spring is cold, wet and full of mud and big puddles. Well, you can tell she doesn't like the season. Spring is my favorite season. It is a renewal of life not only for the animals and plants, but for everyone.



PEOPLE & PLACES

by Ethel Winnipeg

Poetry for you

I have three poems from the little people of our communities. I will tell you the titles of them accordingly. The Creator by Billie-Jo Wolfe; Winter Night by Naomi Thunderchild; Ode to Beothuks by R.W. Young Man.

Our Creator

All across God's heavenly place.
Lived many tribes of true human beings,
Hunting and riding on this land.
Praying to the spirits face to face.
To everything giving grace and meaning,
trusting it to Gods loving hand.
Living with purity and freedom.
Like the pounding of a drum,
Dancers would dance to the beat like never seen before,
Imitating the sacred eagle that soars.
Hoping and praying their grandchildren will never forget
what happiness and hard times they have met.
But as they have always feared our culture will somehow be smeared.
Grandchildren will have forgotten and lost,
The greatest gifts our ancestors have taught us.
Which is to love Our Creator
And what he has created.
(Hiy-Hiy; Meegwetch; Maci cho)

Winter Night

In the sky, on a distant night
I look up in a winter sky
The sky was clear, no stars in sight

up there on that cool winter night
In the sky it is bright,
I think of the past told to me
By a woman who knew the right
on that cool winter night
I look up to sky at night
And wonder if I just might,
See my grandmother that very night
During that cool winter night
There in the sky that night
Before she died on that special night
She said to me, "Watching me dance in the evening lights".
So now I watch the northern lights.
(A nice tribute)

Ode to Beothuks

Once a tribe of Beothuks existed
then White man came, "Kill me!" he insisted.
The Whites stabbed and shot the Natives,
White man thought he was being creative.
A Beothuk hid in the woods, but it was no use,
White man found her, like she was a moose.
They were hunting for her, night after night,
They found her in the morning, in the broad daylight. They took her up to a house on a hill,
She worked like she was in a mill. She worked, but she never got lazy, then one day, she went crazy.
She went in the woods, to hide and pray,
then she came back, White man yelled

"yay!"

She was never happy, not a single day,
she went into the woods, she went away.
She came back a few days later,
The White man was not a patient waiter.
He took away her Native name, then called her Nancy,
"Oh," said the white man, "isn't that fancy!"
A few days later, she suddenly died,
She couldn't be a slave, White man cried.
(The past sorrows we face today)

Now, here's a riddle

This was sent in not too long ago and I found it to be very sweet. It's by Kevin Belmore of Sioux Lookout, Ontario. I'll give you one hint, each verse equals one word. If you can figure it out, tell it to someone who stands out in your life.

It comes after H,
It comes before J,
when I finish,
It's something I'll say.

LEVER.

Replace the first E
with an O,
Remove the R,
and there you go.

It's not a male,
Yes, it's a sheep,
If you figured it out,
This secret won't keep.

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL POW-WOW

APRIL 1ST & 2ND 1994

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Why the butt stops here

No doubt Canada has now reached almost mythic proportions around the world for the way it can take simple little incidents involving Native people and try its damndest to blow them so far out of proportion that the eye can't even focus on them. If not for the want and greed of a nine-hole golf course, who would have ever heard of that small town called Oka?

And who would have ever thought a simple package of cigarettes would have been the first significant tax cut this country has seen in a long time? Only in Canada you say? Incredible.

Follow the news and you'll see what I mean. What's happening in Europe? More reports from the battle-plagued arena known as Bosnia-Herzegovina. In the United States, more bad movie plots surface in the Harding-Kerrigan spectacle in an admittedly over reported assault case. And in Canada, cigarette smuggling and Mohawks.

I suppose we should be quite delighted that we as a nation don't have nearly the problems the other two have but still, the lunacy of the subject matter makes it hard to be proud. Smoking can be hazardous to the health of the party in power. Especially considering that



**DREW
HAYDEN TAYLOR**

when you examine the issue, the Mohawks' case for their right to sell these well publicized cigarettes is quite valid. Just examine the justification.

1. What happens on Mohawk land is Mohawk business. The Mohawks say they are a sovereign nation not subject to the laws of Canada or the United States. And they evidently have the paperwork to prove it, too, including a number of wampums and signed treaties. Yeah, like those have ever been honored! You have to give these people and all Native peoples a round of applause for their constant belief that somebody somewhere will actually live up to those agreements. And someday the government will balance the budget, too.

2. The growing reluctance of all Native people to allow non-Native people to keep telling them what they can and can't

do. Everybody remembers what happened last time. We all went to bed and woke up the next morning living on reserves, speaking a foreign language, and practising a new religion. Borrowing a phrase from another greatly oppressed minority - "Never again!"

3. They have to make money somehow. It's a well known fact that many Native communities suffer from a very low level of economic growth. Partly because banks are unwilling to lend money for business because technically, individuals on the reserve don't "own" their land. It is held in trust for us by the government and therefore we don't have the collateral necessary to borrow and participate in the economic prosperity that is Canada. Give us the right to go into debt like the rest of the country.

4. Alanis Obomsawin needs

a new film to produce. How else can you follow up the success of her Kahnasatake: 270 Years of Resistance? I wonder if she smokes?

5. Mohawks, like the rest of Canada's Native people, don't recognize the imaginary dotted line that separates the Maple Leaf from the Stars and Stripes. The whole philosophy of this piece of land being different from that piece of land is a very bizarre concept. This could only come from the same people who invented coach, business, and first class for the same vehicle.

6. If you think the Mohawks are going to pay these cigarette taxes to support the government's pet projects like the James Bay 2 Hydroelectric project, which will flood out thousands of their Cree brothers, or pay the salaries of the S.Q., who have such a charmed relationship with Quebec's Aboriginal people, or help fund the low-level flying up in their northeast corner that is disrupting the livelihood of the Innu, then you just keep believing these problems will go away.

7. It's tradition. Didn't Native people introduce tobacco to the white man? There was no tax back then. And like always,

this tradition has been taken away and appropriated. I think they're turning into Caucasian-givers.

8. What else are they going to do? They could operate a bingo palace, but then again they'd have to apply for a gaming licence from the provincial government and that wouldn't be kosher for a sovereign nation. Then the police would come in and... Well, we've seen that all before. They could reap the benefits of the land and become fishermen. Nope, they couldn't do that after what happened at Restigouche back in '81 when the S.Q. stormed the place, arresting indiscriminately and confiscating salmon nets they felt were illegal. Geez, they're damned if they do, and damned if they don't.

9. The CBC needs new incidents in everyday Native life to dramatize. How about Conspiracy of Cigarettes? How about a TV series starring two undercover RCMP officers investigating the illegal smuggling of cigarettes across the Canada/U.S. border? It could be called Akwasene Vice.

10. And perhaps the best reason: It pisses Sheila Copps off. It's so much fun to watch her get angry.

Advertising Feature

Study helps communities capture lost income

Each year, many millions of dollars are spent on Aboriginal economic development. Despite these expenditures, most Aboriginal economies have failed to grow and expand, as it seems the money that is spent only lasts for a short while. Little is left behind in terms of long-lasting benefits.

According to Todd Tougas of the First Nations Resource Council, which has done extensive work in this area, persons living in Aboriginal communities and earning incomes spend their money off-reserve.

Most of the goods and services purchased by community members are bought in nearby cities and towns, largely because their own communities do not have many (if any) goods or services for sale.

"The analogy that is often used to describe this phenomenon is that of a rusty bucket," says Tougas. "Money pours in but there isn't much to keep it from flowing out again. When you compare this scenario to that of any major city or town in Canada where a person spends most of their income in the place they live and work, it's obvious why economic development is such a struggle in Native communities."

Community Economic Leakage is a measure of lost potential, of economic outflows, which prevent Aboriginal economies from growing. First Nations Resource Council, an Aboriginal-

owned and directed non-profit organization, has developed the Community Economic Leakage Study to help communities deal with these problems.

The study is specifically designed to produce valuable data showing communities how much leakage is occurring, what the sources of leakage are, and how much spending power the community has. With this data, communities are better able to establish strategies for economic development and planning, as well as explore the potential for community business ventures. The ultimate goal is to ensure that a larger amount of spending occurs at home. Leakage will be reduced, causing more money to circulate in the local economy, which will increase the total income of the community.

The Community Economic Leakage Study is a user-friendly, turn-key package enabling communities to administer the survey and interpret the results without the use of expensive consultants. Because the survey is community driven, residents can better identify with the value and importance of the study.

For more information on the Community Economic Leakage Study, or to order your copy, please contact Todd Tougas at First Nations Resource Council in Edmonton, phone (403) 453-6114 or Fax (403) 453-6150.

**First Nations
Resource Council**

**Community
Economic
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Study**

**A "How to" Guide
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Economic Outflows
from your
Community**

**Do you know how much
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The Community Economic Leakage Study . . .

- Provides a feasibility scan of your community to help you determine areas of economic opportunity
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- Can be done without the assistance of expensive consultants
- Was developed by an Aboriginal organization specifically for Aboriginal communities

The Leakage Study Package Includes:

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- *Easy to use Survey Tabulation Software*
- *Informational Video*

all for the low price of \$125!

For more information, or to place your order, please contact Todd Tougas at:

First Nations Resource Council
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Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4S9
Phone (403) 453-6114 Fax (403) 453-6150



It pays to advertise in Windspeaker, call:
1-800-661-5469

Arts & Entertainment

Junos to recognize Aboriginal music

SASKATOON, Sask.

Aboriginal music has at last gained a niche in the Juno Awards, which are governed by the Canadian Association of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Five songs have been nominated for the Best Music of Aboriginal Canada category. Two are by J. Hubert Francis & Eagle Feather of Sunshine Records; one is by the Stoney Park Singers on the Sweet Grass label; Sazacha Red Sky on Amxeyra and Lawrence Martin on Wawatay/EMI are the other two.

Sweet Grass Records owner Ted Whitecalf says the nomination of his group, the Stoney Park Singers, comes after more than 10 years of recording powwow bands. Last year he and Lyndon Smith of Right Tracks Recordings formed a partnership to record different powwow groups and provide them with a professional studio quality sound.

Recording nine singers and a single large drum is a major technical challenge, says Smith, especially at powwows.

"At a powwow, with 300 to 500 dancers, there is an intense



Ted Whitecalf

The Stoney Park Singers are one of the nominees for best Aboriginal music for the Juno Awards.

excitement. Acoustically, it's very demanding and difficult to record but we've developed special miking techniques to get a good sound."

About 90 per cent of Sweet

Grass' tapes are sold to American dance groups.

"American Indians like the music of the Canadian plains. It's probably one of the best. Saskatchewan, Manitoba and

Alberta have the best powwow bands," Whitecalf says.

Whitecalf's love of traditional music began in childhood, when his parents would leave the Sweet Grass Reserve

in Saskatchewan to attend powwows during the summer.

He worked for the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre in the audio-visual department for 20 years, where he was involved in many cultural productions, including the production of recorded Aboriginal music.

He started Sweet Grass Records as a hobby to preserve traditional Aboriginal music. Now, he distributes across North America and to Europe and Asia.

The Stoney Park Singers, from Morley in southern Alberta, was one of the first groups to record on the Sweet Grass label. The group has been host drum at powwows across North America, winning the world championship at Hartford, Connecticut.

Next year, both Whitecalf and Smith hope the Aboriginal music category of the Junos will be divided between traditional and contemporary artists. It's difficult to compare the sounds of pop-oriented Kashtin to the sounds of Stoney Park, Smith said.

The Juno winners will be announced at televised ceremonies in Toronto on March 20.

Advertising Feature

Southwest imports best for Native fests

For merchandise with that southwest flavor, there's only one name on the powwow circuit that stands head and shoulders above the rest.

Southwest Originals, owned and operated by Karla and Larry Scott of Agassiz, B.C., has been offering festival, powwow and rodeo crowds the finest in hand-crafted jewelry, Native beadwork and Native accessories for more than three years.

Southwest Originals also stocks a fine selection of mandellas, drums, hair and car ornaments, key chains, boot straps, bolo ties and T-shirts.

You'll find that Southwest Originals crafts have a strong Native influence, in addition to the unique appeal of their popular western flavor. Karla and Larry personally hand-craft all of the gifts themselves in their log home located in the peaceful mountain country around Hemlock Valley.

Having grown up with a strong country influence and a deep-rooted respect for the culture of the First Nations peoples, Karla and Larry have successfully bridged Native and non-Native heritages.

Their huge selection of goods, including pewter and turquoise jewelry imported from the finest craftsmen in Albuquerque, New Mexico, has proven immensely popular with rodeo and powwow crowds.

The Scotts also specialize in homemade silver and gemstone jewelry, much of which retails for between \$5 and \$20.

Southwest Original's product line is varied and has been personally market tested at Native festivals, powwows and art fairs across western Canada since 1991, and always in direct contact with the public.

Karla and Larry have listened to what the public wants and what the Elders have had to say. As a result, Southwest Originals supplies jewelry for both the contemporary and the traditional markets.

And this year, Southwest Originals is offering a wholesale catalogue to retail outlets interested in marketing this unique and precious merchandise.

Look for the Southwest Originals retail booth this year at rodeos, Native festivals and powwows across the west.



SOUTHWEST ORIGINALS

NOTICE TO ALL OF OUR CUSTOMERS:

Karla and Larry personally hand craft gifts themselves from their log home located in the peaceful mountain top known as Hemlock Valley, just outside of Harrison Hot Springs and Agassiz, B.C. You'll find the crafts to have a strong native influence, in addition to the appeal of the western flavour that also has a strong following! Having grown up with a strong country influence, and a deep rooted sense of respect for the culture of the First Nations people, they have been successful in bridging the two heritages, which is seen in the huge selection of goods available. The product line is varied and has been market tested personally for a period of three years as a result from direct contact with the public one on one. Having worked in this field, they have listened to the public and the Elders and have not only been able to supply to the contemporary market but also the traditional one!

LOOK FOR THEM THIS YEAR AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS OF RODEOS, AND NATIVE FESTIVALS AND POWWOWS IN THEIR RETAIL BOOTH.

The line also covers imported turquoise and silver jewelry from the south, in addition to t-shirts all with that "Southwest Flavour."

LARRY & KARLA SCOTT
PHONE: (604) 797-2311

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Women's rights activists sought

OTTAWA

Nominations for the 1994 Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case are now being accepted.

Federal Secretary of State for the Status of Women and Multiculturalism, Sheila Finestone, said the award pays tribute to those who have contributed immeasurably to the tremendous strides Canadian women have made over the past few decades.

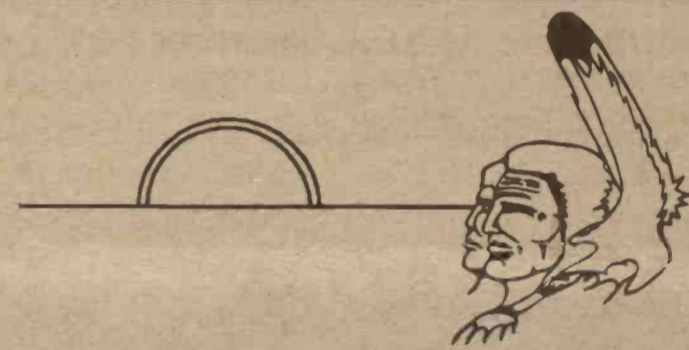
The awards were initiated in 1979 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Persons Case, the lengthy political and legal battle waged by Canadian women wanting to be declared as persons and thus be eligible for appointment to the Senate.

There have been 81 recipients of the awards to date, including Mary Two-Axe Early, the Aboriginal women's rights activist and Marie Hamilton, a champion of the advancement of black women.

Anyone can submit a nomination. The deadline for this year's awards is May 15. Nomination forms are available from Status of Women Canada, Suite 700, 360 Albert Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1C3, telephone (613) 995-7835.

"EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES"

Native Children: Empowerment/Self-Determination
8th International Native Education Conference
Sheraton, Winnipeg, Manitoba
May 4 - 6, 1994



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS - WEDNESDAY

- I. A) SUICIDE AMONG ABORIGINAL PEOPLES (AM)*
B) FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME:
CRITICAL ISSUES, EPIDEMIOLOGY, & PREVENTION OF
ALCOHOL-RELATED BIRTH DEFECTS (PM)*
Dr. Philip May - University of New Mexico
- II. HUMOUR & THE WORKPLACE: BE HAPPIER & CONTROL
STRESS*
Dr. Pier De Paola - Pitzel & Associates
- III. A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION FOR DIRECTORS OF
EDUCATION*
Mr. Randy Johnson - Peter Ballantyne First Nation
Mr. Robert Halkett - Lac La Ronge First Nation
- IV. A WORKSHOP FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS*
Mr. Steve Manlow - Learning Sources

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (THURSDAY MORNING)

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS - THURSDAY & FRIDAY

1. CELEBRATING DIVERSITY: CO-OPERATIVE
LEARNING AND STRATEGIES FOR INCLUSION (K-12)
Mr. Reid Dingwall - Kindersley School Division
Ms. Deborah Gibson-Dingwall
2. WORKING WITH ABORIGINAL SURVIVORS OF
SEXUAL ABUSE
Ms. Ann Charter - University of Manitoba
Mr. Wes Charter - Probationary Services

3. HISTORICAL TRADITION IN SAULTEAUX SOCIETY
Mr. Dan Pasqua - Resident Elder U of Saskatchewan

4. ANGER MANAGEMENT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
Mr. Vic Unrah - Winnipeg School Division #1
5. SELF-ESTEEM: TEACHING CHILDREN TO BELIEVE IN
THEMSELVES
Dr. Pier De Paola - Pitzel & Associates
6. DEVELOPING A FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION
SYSTEM
Mr. Kevin Tootosis - Federation of Saskatchewan Indian
Nations
7. IDENTIFYING & UTILIZING THE CREATIVE TALENTS
& ABILITIES OF NATIVE STUDIES
Dr. Nadine Corral - University of Arizona

8. FUNDS OF KNOWLEDGE
Mr. Tom O'Meara - University of Arizona

9. NATIVE EDUCATION FROM A TRADITIONAL PERSPECTIVE
Mr. Alex McComber - Kahnawake Survival School

10. INCORPORATING ABORIGINAL TRADITIONS INTO THE
SCHOOLS
Mr. Harvey Knight - Prince Albert Tribal Council
11. TRADITIONAL ABORIGINAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS
Mr. Campbell Papequash - Key Reserve, SK

12. LEARNED HELPLESSNESS
Dr. Fames Chalfant - University of Arizona
Dr. Margaret Pysh - University of Arizona

13. PARENTING FROM AN ABORIGINAL PERSPECTIVE
(THURSDAY ONLY)
Ms. Doreen Spence - Plains Indian Cultural Survival School

14. COUNSELING NATIVE STUDENTS (THURSDAY ONLY)
Mr. Roy Mason - Brandon School Division

15. CRISIS MANAGEMENT (THURSDAY ONLY)
Dr. Burt Sellick - Sellick & Associates

16. VISION QUEST (THURSDAY ONLY)
Mr. Steve Manlow - Learning Sources

17. A) GIVE PRE-SCHOOLERS A HEADSTART (THURSDAY)
B) PRE-SCHOOL METHODS: CHILDREN'S SONGS & STORIES
Ms. Yvonne De Paola - Sioux Valley First Nation

18. THE DEVELOPMENT OF POSITIVE INTERPERSONAL &
COUNSELLING SKILLS (FRIDAY ONLY)
Dr. Burt Sellick - Sellick & Associates

19. EDUCATION FROM A HOLISTIC PERSPECTIVE (FRIDAY ONLY)
Ms. Doreen Spence - Plains Indians Cultural Survival School Society

20. AIDS (FRIDAY ONLY)
Mr. Albert McLeod - Manitoba Aboriginal AIDS Task Force

21. METHODS FOR TEACHING NATIVE STUDIES
(FRIDAY ONLY)
Ms. Cindy Hanson - Brandon School Division

22. EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION FOR FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS
(FRIDAY ONLY)
Mr. Edwin Jebb - Opaskwayak Education Authority

* Pre-Conference Workshops (5 - 6 Hours Each)

Note: There are 17 workshops each day. All workshops are 5-6 hours long. Workshops #1-12 are repeated on Friday.

For additional information, contact:

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News

Vancouver casino may jeopardize gaming plans

By Susan Lazaruk
Windspeaker Correspondent

VANCOUVER

On-reserve gambling — the Great Red Hope for B.C. bands — could be in jeopardy before the first casino opens its doors.

The biggest problem facing bands planning to build casinos on reserves was persuading the province to change its laws to allow them to profit from gambling, which they claim as a right.

The First Nations Gaming Committee was negotiating with the government for a new law. But the committee now fears Natives have more to worry about after the B.C. government approved plans for a casino in downtown Vancouver.

The committee's Sharon Bowcott accused the province of a secret agenda to deny Natives the right to run casinos, a "divide and conquer" scheme to whip up pub-

lic sentiment against Native gambling.

In recent months, the odds looked good for bands running their own casinos.

The Kamloops Band struck a partnership with powerful businessman Murray Pezim for plans to build a \$25-million casino offering blackjack and slot machines on their reserve in the interior as soon as the province gave the OK.

And consultant Clark Chilton, who represents eight bands, said they have signed letters of intent with a European gambling company to open casinos, all outside the Vancouver area. He said they're awaiting approval by the federal Indian Affairs department.

And bands with reserves in Vancouver — the Squamish, Musqueam and Burrard bands — said they've been getting pitches from Las Vegas biggies such as Caesar's and Harrah's.

Other bands, most notably the Nanaimo band on Vancouver Island, said they'd open a Las Vegas-

style casino with or without the government's approval.

But then the province pulled a trump card with the \$750-million development on Vancouver's downtown waterfront that includes a Las Vegas style casino.

It will be run by Mirage Resorts Inc., one of the big players in Las Vegas, and it'll be huge — 11,250 square metres, compared with the Kamloops band's 5,400-square-metre house.

The casino is part of the proposed complex that includes a hotel, convention centre and cruise ship terminal and was selected by the site. It's backed by a development consortium called VLC Properties Ltd., in which the province owns a 15-per-cent interest.

Premier Mike Harcourt, who opposed legalized gambling when he was in Opposition, said the province's share would not be used for the gambling.

And he said he refuses to be rushed into changing gaming laws, which now limit gambling

to government-run casinos with games like blackjack and roulette. That, he said, would take six months.

But the Vancouver Port Corporation, a Crown corporation with authority over the port area and waterfront, called the casino central to the complex and said it would fail if the government didn't change the gambling laws.

When announcing its plan, VLC said 10 per cent of the casino would involve Native bands.

But that was news even to the Natives.

Pezim and his partners were unfazed, calling the Mirage casino good news that would pave the way for other gambling ventures in the province.

And band consultant Chilton welcomed the competition from the Mirage project, saying there was plenty of room in the province for all the proposed casinos.

But Calvin Helin, president of the Native Investment and Trade Association, called the proposal

bad news for Native gaming ventures because they would all be competing for the same gamblers' dollars.

Bowcott said she knew of no band that was approached by VLC or Mirage. She said she suspects the 10-per-cent proposal was tossed in for the "politically correct" reason of including Natives.

But the committee became alarmed after VLC and Mirage released a poll conducted to survey public support for legalized gambling because it included questions on Native gambling.

It showed 28 per cent of those surveyed believed gambling on reserves to be completely unacceptable, compared with 11 per cent opposing gambling at resort destinations.

"My initial reaction to this poll is one of anxiety and anger," she said. "The First Nations Gaming Committee is beginning to sense there is a conspiracy building to prevent us from succeeding in having our own gaming interests."

Peigan Lonefighter testifies at appeal

CALGARY

Peigan Lonefighter Milton Born With A Tooth took the stand in his own defence last week during his appeal on five weapons charges.

Born With A Tooth, 36, testified that he fired a rifle during a standoff with police because he thought he was entitled to a warning shot while protecting his land.

The standoff on Sept. 7, 1990 between the Lonefighters and RCMP took place when crews moved in to halt work on a channel dug by the Peigan to divert southern Alberta's Oldman River.

The Peigan dug the channel as part of a protest of construc-

tion of the Oldman dam, arguing it would damage sacred lands on the Peigan Reserve.

The incident began when several Lonefighters went to meet police while Born With A Tooth and Devalon Small Legs talked about what they should do.

Born With A Tooth took a loaded rifle and went to head off police, firing twice in the air. Alberta Environment workers and police ran for cover.

Earlier in the trial, RCMP Sergeant Raymond Gaultier testified Born With A Tooth levelled a rifle directly at him during the altercation. Gaultier said he heard a shot go off, but didn't hear the bullet go by him or see it hit the ground.



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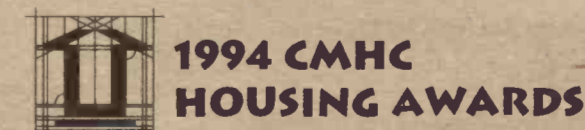
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Joel Johnstone/Coast News

And down she goes

RCMP and observer aboard the RCMP patrol boat Regina and demolition crew (right) watch the decommissioned 'Chandieré', a former Canadian destroyer-class naval vessel, sink to become the largest artificial reef in Canada; six nautical miles up Sechart Inlet, December 5, 1992.

Band vows to fight second artificial reef

By Don Anderson
Windspeaker Contributor

SECHULT, B.C.

The Sechart Indian Band is promising to take action if the Sunshine Coast is chosen for the creation of a second artificial reef.

"We were taken advantage of with the last application, this time we are going to be more prepared," said Calvin Craigan, councillor with the Sechart Indian Band. "If it's within our traditional boundaries we will have a lot to say."

Craigan's comments follow the Artificial Reef Society of B.C.'s announcement that it is investigating locations off the coast for the sinking of another vessel, despite the overwhelming negative response from the band and

"They've got to violate Mother Nature every time they do something like this . . . it's unnatural."

- Calvin Craigan, councillor with the Sechart Indian Band.

environmental groups.

Although the organization has not determined exactly where it intends to sink a vessel, sources within the society say it is considering South Thormanby Island and areas north and south of Fraser and Egerton Rocks.

Larry Baillie, owner of Georgia Strait Diving Charters, said the society has the HMCS Cape Breton in mind for sinking. The ship is 156 meters long, 18 meters wide and 25.5 meters high, and was previously used as a maintenance and supply ship

during the Second World War.

"If we get a second artificial reef we are going to be diving capital of the world," he said.

Baillie has made 20 trips down to the Chaudiere artificial reef and insists that the vessel has only had positive effects on the environment. Concerns were previously expressed by opponents of the sinking that the ship would negatively affect marine life.

Baillie said the ship is now the home of rock cod, octopus, sea urchins, giant mussels and

other sea creatures.

"There is nothing in there, in my eyes, that is environmentally hazardous," he added. "The Chaudiere has proven to me it is not harming a thing, it is improving sea life."

Nevertheless, the Sechart Indian Band has made it clear that sinking a vessel to augment recreation amenities on the coast is a violation of its beliefs.

"Anything that is not natural to our environment is putting it in jeopardy," Craigan said.

"They've got to violate Mother Nature every time they do something like this . . . it's unnatural."

The band fought against the sinking of the Chaudiere Dec. 5, 1992 but had its court injunction rejected by the B.C. Supreme Court one day before the vessel was sent to the bottom of Kunechin Bay.

Laurie McBride, a director with the Save Georgia Strait Alliance, was not overly impressed with the society's decision to seek a second reef and may propose that the alliance join with the band to stop it.

"I would hope that we could work together on it," she said.

McBride's concern is with the Ministry of Environment's policy of creating artificial reefs, and the timing of studies on the Chaudiere's impact on the environment.

"One of the things we had done with the last one was we had a marine salvage expert go on board and do a full report on the condition of the ship," she said.

"Along with the report we got 60 or so photographs that he took of the ship and it is very damning the condition that ship was in before it went down."

Prairies

Issue of double standards ignored in suit - nurse

By Dina O'Meara
Windspeaker Staff Writer

FORT MCMURRAY, Alta.

A Metis nursing practitioner who sued a provincial body for interfering with her right to practice has lost her legal battle.

But Joyce Atcheson believes that it is only a matter of time before the public of Alberta forces the College of Physicians and Surgeons to change what she calls its double standards on medical care for Aborigines and non-Aborigines.

"If this is doctoring, then it should be doctoring all the time and everywhere," said Atcheson, who was accused of acting "too independently" by the college.

"If I am good enough to to work with Native people in Fort Chippewan, then I'm good enough to work with anyone in the city."

But the legal issue at stake



Joyce Atcheson

was not whether Atcheson was practicing medicine in the clinic or not, said Dr. Larry Olhauser, college registrar.

"This was an issue of contract law. We believe the case showed we were not unfair," said Olhauser.

The clinic was ordered to stop billing the province for physi-

cians' services which in fact had been rendered by Atcheson. There was no intention of forcing the clinic to terminate her contract, he said.

Justice Ellen Picard ruled Feb. 23 in Edmonton the college "was not acting illegally or unlawfully in the actions taken and did not restrict (Atcheson) in the practice of nursing."

Atcheson has been a nursing practitioner in northern communities for 25 years. As such she supplied primary health care including examinations, testing, diagnosis and recommendation of treatments. In one community a doctor flew in for half a day every two weeks, leaving her virtually in charge of providing around-the-clock health care for the 380 residents.

In 1988 Atcheson started working under contract for the Thickwood Medical Clinic in Fort McMurray. Her case loads were reviewed regularly and she received 60 per cent of the Alberta

Health Care billings if they exceeded Atcheson's hourly rate of \$25.

But three years later, in 1991, following a written complaint by one of its members the college ordered the clinic to stop the billing practice and Atcheson's contract was terminated. She then initiated a civil suit against the college for \$50,000 in lost wages, adding \$25,000 for general damages in 1993.

Atcheson, 46, received her nursing diploma in 1968, then graduated from the University of Alberta nursing practitioners program in 1975. Atcheson returned to college, receiving her master's degree in health science, with a specialty in primary health care, from McMaster University in 1988.

She attempted to open her own practice in Fort McMurray following the termination of her contract with the Thickwood clinic, but encountered legal obstacles in attempting to obtain X-

ray and laboratory privileges.

Under Alberta legislation, lab requisitions need to come under a physician's name.

Leanne Dekker, AARN registrar, agrees that nurses are forced to work under double standards in those conditions. While her organization recognizes the College of Physicians was acting within its jurisdiction in ordering the northern clinic to stop the billing, the AARN also maintains the underlying issue of nurse practitioners' role must be addressed.

"We do not agree with the double standards for nurses working in isolated areas and nurses working in cities," Dekker said. "The full scope of their profession, like physician's practices, is regulated by legislation."

"The profession should not be determined by geographical location and access to physicians. Rather they should be governed by cost efficiency, quality of service and consumer need."

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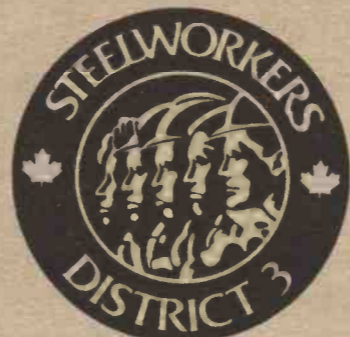
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Central Canada

Teenage suicides escalate on northern Ontario reserve

By Dina O'Meara
Windspeaker Staff Writer

PIKANGIKUM, Ont.

The chief of this beleaguered community has resigned in the midst of an epidemic of youth suicides.

Chief Gordon Peters said he is frustrated by the lack of government response to the crisis decimating his community, and wants to spend time with his wife and five children.

"When a situation like this occurs in Native communities, the government doesn't move on it. But if it happens in non-Native communities they would have responded immediately," said a bitter Peters. "As leader of this community, I can't feel anything but responsible for what is happening."

Peters will step down April 15, after 10 months in office.

Suicide attempts by youths on this northern Ontario reserve have skyrocketed, sending older members on a desperate search to find ways of containing the deadly trend.

During a 13-day period 11

"What does it take to reach government officials, does it take another life for them to realize that there's a crisis in Pikangikum? Or does it take another two or three young fellows to die to get the ball rolling?"

- Pikangikum Chief Gord Peters

teenagers have attempted suicide, two within hours of a peer's funeral. A 17-year-old was found hanged inside his father's shed the last weekend of February, raising the death toll to two teenagers. Several youths have made repeated attempts to kill themselves, keeping community members in a constant state of vigilance.

Peters is frustrated at the lack of response from federal and provincial agencies to the crisis which is throwing the community of approximately 1,600 into despair.

"What does it take to reach government officials, does it take another life for them to realize that there's a crisis in Pikangikum? Or does it take another two or three young fellows to die to get the ball roll-

ing," exclaimed a frustrated Peters.

The 38-year-old chief cannot explain what triggered this rash of suicide attempts.

"I think it's the lack of recreational facilities. The youths, they have absolutely nothing to do with their time," he said.

After the suicide death of a 19-year-old male and attempts by three youths within days of the deaths, crisis intervention workers from First Nations in the area came to Pikangikum Feb. 18. The 18 workers are still in the community but aren't trained to provide the intense counselling and prevention programs needed to stem more suicide attempts, said Peters.

The crisis team is a group of seasoned volunteers who work with Nodin, a health care

program run out of the Sioux Lookout Hospital in conjunction with the University of Toronto. The Native-run program is funded through the federal Medical Services Branch.

"We are trying to be as responsive as possible," said Frank McNaulty, regional mental health consultant for the Medical Services branch in Ontario. "We can't do it from the outside, and are working closely with community leaders.

Requests for emergency assistance go through a series of channels before reaching his office. Most common in northern Ontario is for a community mental health worker to apply to the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation mental health services for help "if there is a situation that is deemed to be of concern." The NAN office will then call a Nodin representative, and a team is sent out within a day, said McNaulty.

At the end of February, after the deaths of two teenagers, two suicide prevention and postvention workers were sent to Pikangikum to help the community. McNaulty, like Peters, is at a loss as to why the deadly attempts continue to plague the

reserve, and was unable to answer why the situation has been allowed to escalate to such proportions.

There have been at least 70 suicide attempts among this community's youth since 1992, four of which resulted in death.

The loss of traditional lifestyles resulting in high unemployment and boredom are some factors contributing to a sense of hopelessness among teenagers, said Peters. Crowded housing on the reserve which has a land base of approximately 18 sq. kilometres, is another factor, he said.

Elders in the community are currently meeting to organize some activities to deal with the situation face-to-face with Pikangikum youths. And although the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation youth forum is scheduled to visit the reserve later this month, Peters said the community cannot wait for consultants to come in, then report on what already is a desperate situation.

The forum is holding hearings for youths on reserves in northern Ontario to document their needs and concerns for use in developing programs.

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Sports

IRCA Rodeo opens '94 rodeo season

By Jim Goodstriker
Windspeaker Correspondent

STANDOFF, Alta.

The Indian Rodeo Cowboys Association (IRCA) officially opened their 1994 rodeo season here at the Memorial Agriplex with close to 200 rodeo contestants competing in all major events plus the junior events on February 26-27.

The cowboys battled for more than \$6,000 dollars in total prize money during the southern Alberta rodeo.

Sarcee Nation cowboy Richard Bisk went home with a big slice of the purse money, winning a total of \$516 in two events. The likable cowboy and rodeo bull fighter teamed up with all-around timed events specialist Andrew Hunt. They went on to win the team roping event, stopping the clocks in a rapid 5.1 seconds to share first place money of \$822.

Bisk then got together with a Shade and Son's bronc by the name of "Kicking Bird" for 65 points and a third and fourth place split in the saddle bronc riding for an added \$108.

Matt Bruised Head from Standoff and Browning's Joel Fenner tied for top spot at 67 points, pocketing \$200 each. Local veteran and farmer world champion Wright Bruised

Head won his share of the prize money, winning the calf roping event with an excellent run of 9.3 seconds, and a fourth place finish in the steer wrestling event, with total winnings of \$372.

Bid Shane Little Bear, at 6'5" and 235 lbs., flattened a steer like a piece of hamburger patty in a sizzling 3.8 seconds to win first place money of \$391.

Second place finishers in the other timed events were Clarence Black Water Jr., 3.9 seconds in steer wrestling, Slim Creighton, 12.1 seconds in calf roping and the team of Ted Hoyt and Dick Powell with a run of 7.6 seconds in the team roping.

Former INFR bareback and bull riding champion Kelvin Fox of Standoff finally found a good horse in "My Choice" after two previous re-riders, and raked him for 70 points. Bill T. Head was second at 67 points.

A pen of Big Country rodeo bulls gave 15 bull riders all they could handle. After the dust had settled, three twisters were tied for the top spot at 72 points. They were Byron Bruised Head and Tyler Little Bear from Standoff and Lorne Bell, formerly of Rocky Boy, Montana, now making his home at Peigan.

Kyle Black Water topped a field of 15 steer riders with a 63 point effort to win first place money of

\$124. Jarrett Monroe, Malcom Big Throat and Kevin Shade split the next three spots at 61 points, sharing \$186.

The barrel racing event saw Jackie Little Bear and Traci Creighton one-two in the senior event at 14.19 and 14.86 seconds and pay-offs of \$230 and \$173.

In the junior barrel racing Jany Day Chief came out the winner at 15.16 seconds and first place money of \$131. Carma Black Water was second at 15.19 and a return of \$98.99.

Chute Chatter

Shade and Sons and Big Country supplied the rough stock, while Bob Wilson and Eugene Creighton supplied the timed event cattle....Judges were Floyd Smith and Joe Bruised Head, and the timers were Lorraine Standing Alone and Dolly Creighton. The announcing chorus were handled by Floyd Big Head...Bull fighters were Scotty and Darrell Many Grey Horses...IRCA board members include chairman Byron Bruised head, Marcel Saulteaux and newly elected board members (elections were held during the rodeo) Andrew Hunt, Lewis Little Bear, Gus Vail & Clarence Black Water Sr.

The rodeo was the first of a four-rodeo series approved by the IRCA. The next one is scheduled for March 19-20 at Standoff, Alberta.



Dina O'Meara

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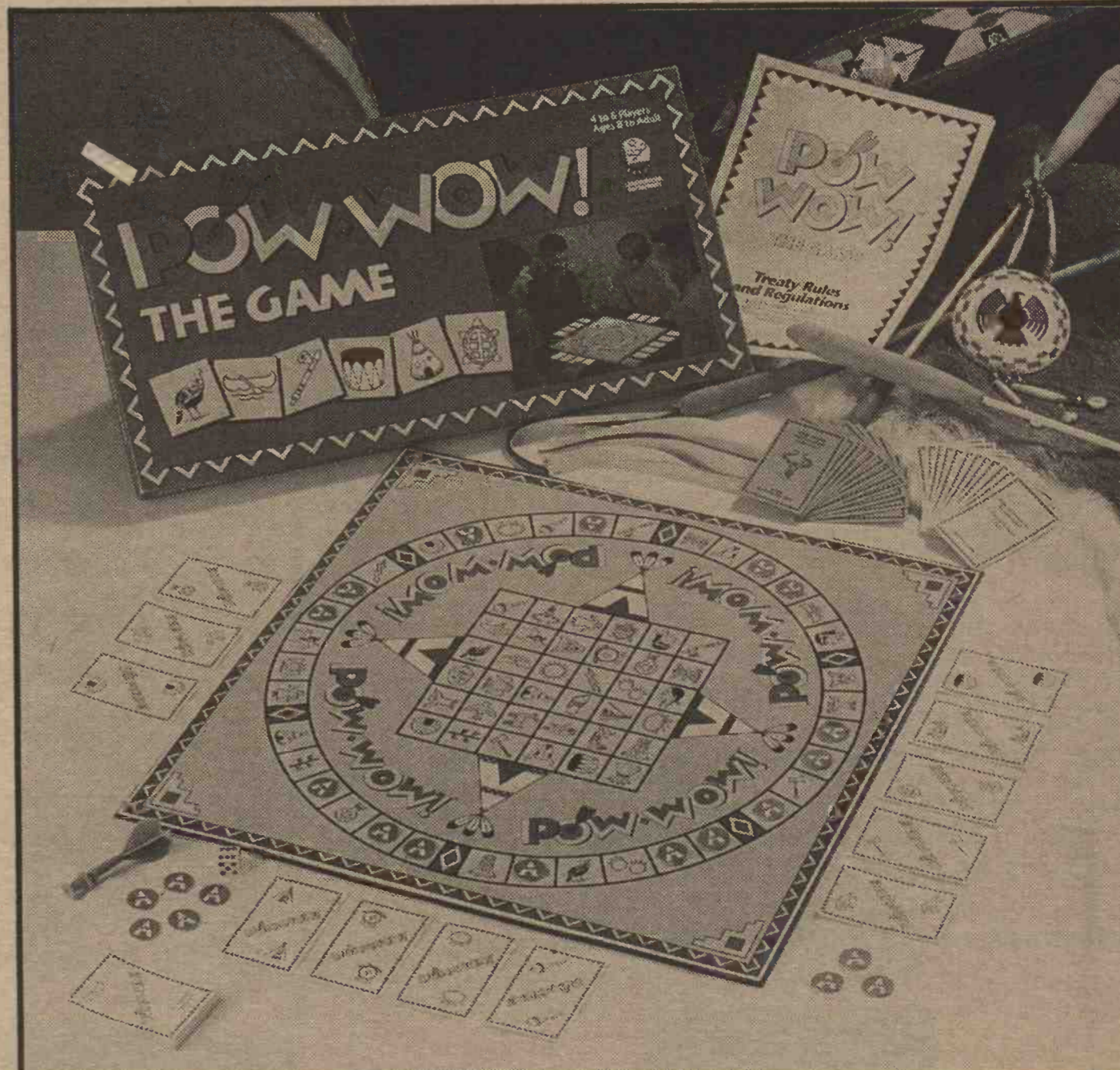
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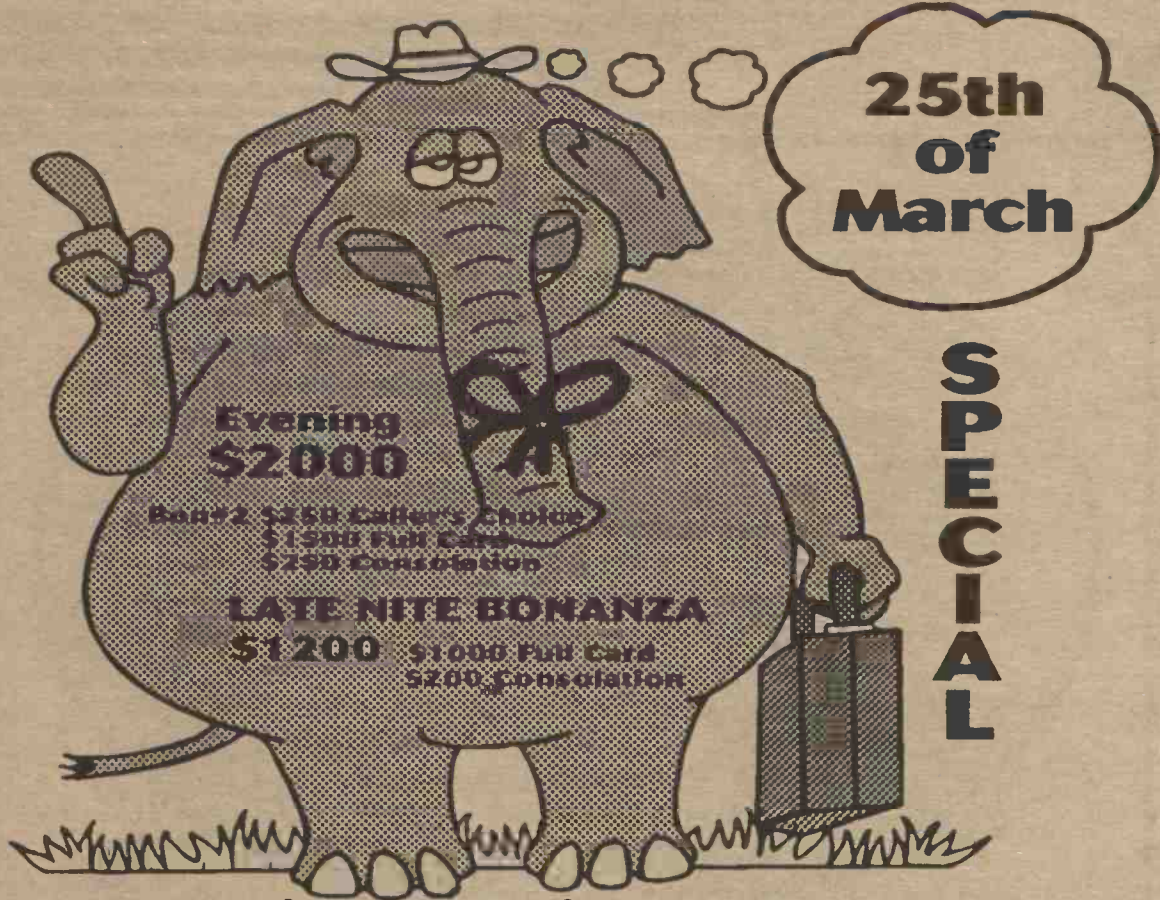
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Sports

Arctic Winter Games open with a blast

By Dina O'Meara
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SLAVE LAKE, Alta.

Rain and unseasonably high temperatures ranging in the 9C range had organizers of the 1994 Arctic Winter Games worried the event would turn into a mud bath.

They shouldn't have because the weather turned, and at the March 6 opening ceremonies 1,200 circumpolar athletes and friends made a jubilant, dry entry to the Sawridge Plaza parking lot in bracing -15C weather.

But the young competitors excitement would have taken the chill off a dog musher's nose. In fact, when two young mushers led the athletes into the arena with two Siberian huskies, the roar of approximately 2,000 spectators gave voice to the unofficial title of this event—the friendly games.

Waving banners and flags, contingents from Alaska, Yukon, N.W.T., Alberta, Russia and Greenland greeted the crowd in kind, shouting team slogans, some from the shoulders of their partners in competition.

The groups flowed around the arena, brightening the dull, cold evening with team jackets of purple, yellow, blue, green and black, waving hand-held flags of their country, in Greenland and the Russian team's case, and provinces and state.

The Arctic Winter Games have been held every two years

since 1970, each year increasing in size and scope. This year, the internationally-acclaimed event is being held for the first time in Alberta, a relatively new contender with only three games under its belt.

Athletes are competing in 19 events, including Inuit and Dene sports.

Once settled, the athletes stood to attention for renderings of national anthems. Renowned Inuit singer Susan Aglukark joined Lorraine Lyons, a Slave Lake singer, in a trilingual version of the national anthem, in French, Inuktituk and English.

Looking on were officials such as Canada's Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn, and Alberta's Premier Ralph Klein. Jack Anawak, MP for Eastern Arctic, was the only dignitary who attempted to address the audience in the three main languages of the games, making a valiant effort to pronounce the French portion.

He received a rousing cheer for his efforts.

Later in the evening, Aglukark showed the audience why she was awarded a National Aboriginal Achievement Award with a thee-song set that had teams on their feet, clapping and singing along. Singer-songwriter Buffy St. Marie rocked the crowd in a later set. The petite Cree, who now lives in Hawaii, commended the audience for sticking it out in the cold, and joked about being so bundled up, she could barely move.

Albertans must love the underdog, because the favorites of the crowd were the two teams from Russia, the 65-member contingent from Magadan and Tyumen, in Siberia and the Ural mountains of northern Russia.

This is the first year at the games for Team Magadan. All the athletes have competed in local events, but realize they face a different challenge in Slave Lake, said spokesperson Victor Polikarpov, through an interpreter. Their strongest members are competing in the cross-country ski events, he said, and that prediction was carried out when Olga Kazakoul won a gold Ulu in the Classic Cross-Country event on Monday March 7.

The overwhelming friendliness of the games has already made a lasting impression on the tall Russian.

"The people here have received with great warmth, we feel quite welcome. We will leave with sorrow, but look forward to participating again in 1996."

Another favorite is Team Greenland. The 81-member team have closer ties with Canada than with Europe, said Hans Peter Hansen, team official. Greenlanders are a mixture of Inuit and European, primarily Danish, immigrants and the language Greenlandic is a mixture of Inuit dialects.

So many of the athletes could converse more easily with their Canadian Inuit competitors than with their English-speaking counterparts.

Rapid City to host 1994 INFR Rodeo

By Jim Goodstriker
Windspeaker Correspondent

STANDOFF, Alta.

The 1994 Indian National Finals Rodeo will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota October 26 - 30.

Albuquerque, New Mexico, has been the home of INFR for 14 of its 18 years of existence. Salt Lake City, Utah, hosted the first finals in 1976, also the following year and 1979.

The INFR commission, including Chairman Clem McSpadden of Oklahoma, Mel Samson of Washington, Pete Fredricks from South Dakota, Bob Arington from Oklahoma, and Fred Gladstone of Alberta voted in February to change the venue.

The site for the finals is the Rushmore Plaza Civic Centre, situated in the heart of Rapid City, combining some of the most advanced convention facilities in the Midwest.

The seating capacity for the rodeo arena is 10,000, while the convention centre has over

10,800 square metres that would easily accommodate the trade show and powwow that go hand-in-hand with the rodeo.

The new format of the INFR Commission would be an added boost for the rodeo contestants, as one representative from the 10 recognized rodeo regions of North America will have a say in the 1994 production as an elected board member of the INFR. The representative will be re-elected on at least a two-year basis.

Moving the finals closer to the Canadian border should prove to be of added interest to rodeo contestants, pow-wow participants and vendors from the three western provinces of Canada.

IRCA board chairman Byron Bruised Head of Standoff, Alta., is excited about the involvement of the active rodeo contestants to the finals.

"In the past we've never really had any say in the actual production of the INFR. This time around the rodeo cowboy will have input into the finals," Bruised Head said.

One of the major concerns of the contestants in the past has been the quality of the rodeo stock. Recent history reflects that the stock is not championship quality and in fact, rough stock mounts have been chute-fighting horses, and have also been transferred from bareback to saddlebronc and vice versa.

Timed event cattle have continued to decline although the contestants have recommended that all cattle be run through at least one day prior to the first performance and that any which are not suitable be removed from the draw.

The region's representatives strongly recommended that Indian stock contractors from professional ranks be allowed and selected, among others, to provide stock to the INFR.

The format for the finals will remain the same, with a total of 22 contestants pre event representing 11 rodeo regions. They will be competing in four go-rounds of competition. Championships are to be determined by money won during the four performances.

Environment

Saving Mother Earth starts at home - speaker

By Dawn Adam
Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

Doing your part in ending waste reduction means starting at home and encouraging the community to join in, says environmentalist June Paton.

Paton was the guest speaker recently at the Centre For Self-awareness in Edmonton. Her purpose was to encourage Edmontonians to put together an eco-team to cut waste.

As part of the agenda for a green decade, Canada and 12 other countries set a global goal on pollution reduction. Reducing waste, using water wisely,

preserving the climate and atmosphere, preserving biological diversity and stabilizing humanity are the primary concerns.

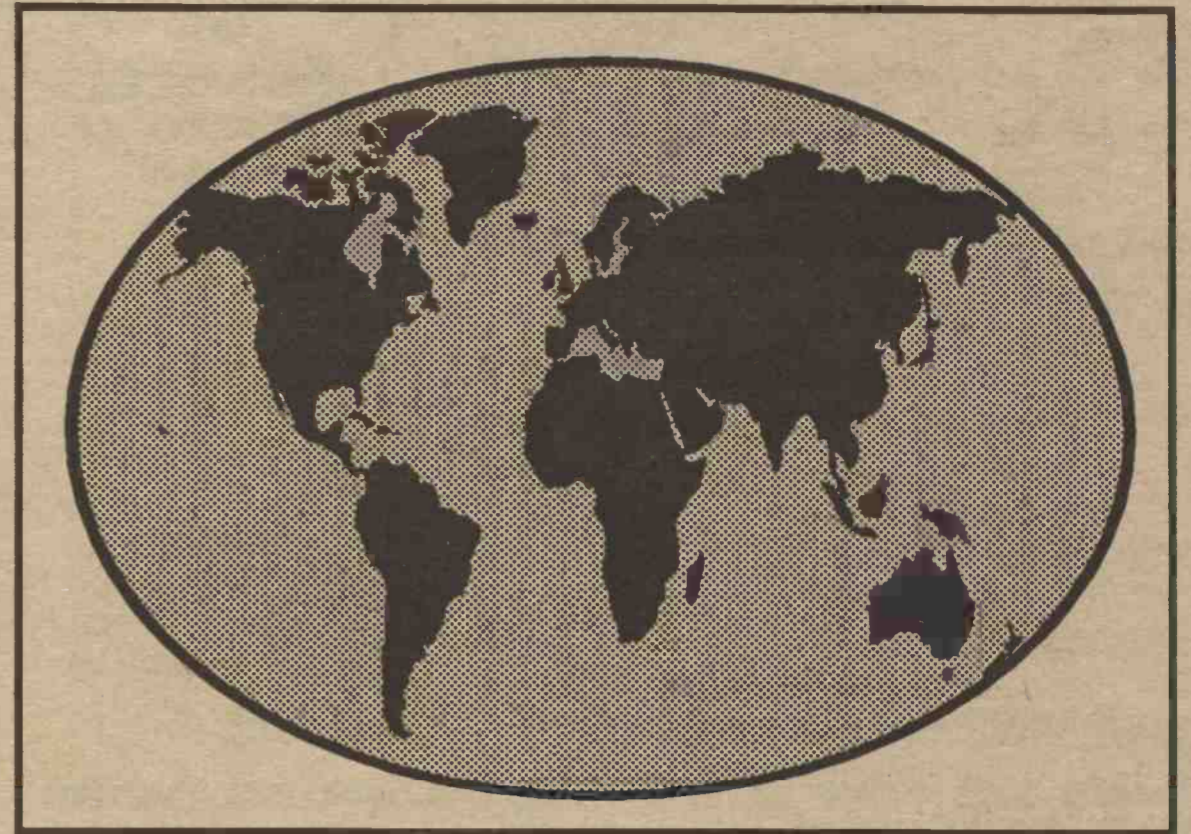
Paton was involved in putting together a waste reduction plan in Uxbridge, Ontario. As a test group, the participants carefully measured and recorded their waste and evaluated ways to further reduce it. The end result was a household eco-team workbook which, through trial and error, has been updated into something that Paton believes could be adapted and brought into use in most cities.

"The biggest challenge is to motivate people," said Paton. The waste reduction action plan

must start at a household level. In Uxbridge, participants worked on an issue a month and worked with other families for motivation and support.

"The city of Edmonton eco-team kit must tell the Edmonton waste story," said Paton. The kit works on one issue a month for six months and weekly evaluations take about half-an-hour.

In the first week the group or household looks at where they may be able to cut waste. In the few weeks they weigh what they put out to the curb to be collected. Through careful recording of results and evaluation, successes and failures can be used to improve the eco-kit for other cities that



may take on the challenge.

Fund-raising is necessary to put an eco-program in place, said Paton. The printing costs for the kits runs around \$30. Charging a registration fee for families who want to join in is one way to cover this expense. Local businesses may also be willing to donate goods or services to families who want to get involved, said Paton.

For instance, when a person registers, they might pay \$30 but they may also get environmentally friendly products donated by a local company. Leg-work will be one of the most important parts of getting the program in place.

Paton hopes that once Edmontonians take up the challenge, other communities, such as Red Deer, will follow.

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Environment

Cooperation key to wetlands project

By Lyse C. Cantin
Windspeaker Contributor

SHUSWAP LAKE, B.C.

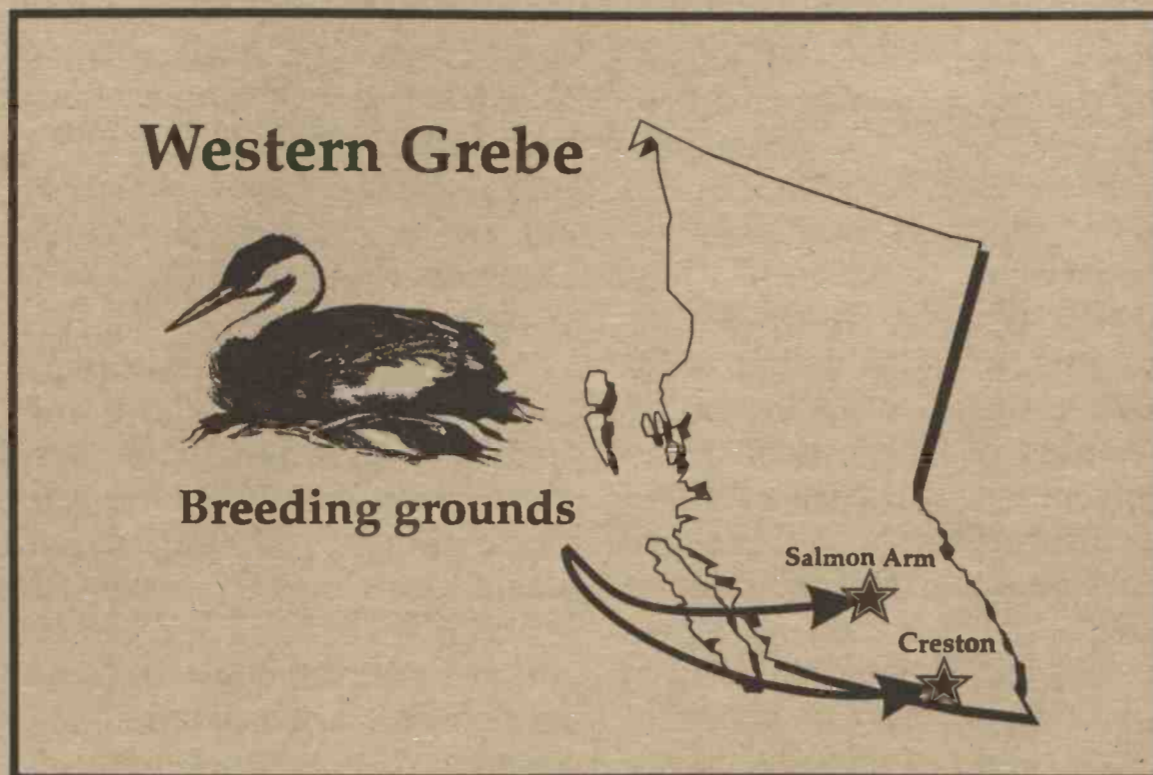
"It's because of the eyes," Mary Thomas told me. "When I saw the seagulls peck their eyes out, it made me cry."

Her tears fell for the thousands of salmon stranded at the mouth of the Salmon River — stranded because dredging changed the mouth of the river, not once, but twice. As the salmon became lost migrating into shallow dead-end channels, they became easy pickings for the opportunist gulls.

But Thomas, of the Neskonlith band, did more than just cry.

"When the townspeople changed the course of the river, I lost half my meadow," said Thomas. "But the fish and the birds lost more. They lost the food, the resting places and the homes that they have been using for thousands of years. I had to do something."

Thomas owns the land on Shuswap Lake at the mouth of the river. Over the years, dredg-



ing and overgrazing by cattle have dramatically altered the nature of the wetlands located here. In fact, they almost disappeared. And, as the wetlands receded, salmon and wildlife populations diminished, some to dangerously low levels.

Spearheaded by Thomas, cooperation became the flavor of the day. She petitioned politicians, environmental groups, Neskonlith and Adams Lake band members until getting results.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Environment Canada, the Ministry of the Environment, Lands and Parks, both bands, Ducks Unlimited and several other partners, the Salmon Arm Indian Lands Project has been heralded a tremendous success.

The project took three years of planning and on-site work to complete. The Canadian Wildlife Service, through the Fraser River Action Plan, contributed funding towards protecting the remaining marsh and estuary.

Two dikes, a juvenile fish exclusion screen, nest boxes, and several loafing logs are only a few of the improvements that have been made to enhance the wetlands habitat.

"The most important thing we had to do on this site was to manage the cattle," said Rick McKelvey, Head of Waterfowl and Habitat Management for the Canadian Wildlife Service.

"We put up almost three kilometers of smooth-wire fencing to keep the cattle from grazing down the cottonwood saplings and the various marsh grasses and bullrushes that grow there."

Ian Barnett, District Manager for Ducks Unlimited in Kamloops, agrees with Rick McKelvey that cattails and bullrushes are an important component of the project.

"Western grebes use this area. It is one of only two remaining areas in British Columbia where western grebes breed and raise young. The grebes anchor their nests to the reed canary grass. If we lose this wetland we may well lose one of the last two gene pools of west-

ern grebes. We can't afford that."

The District of Salmon Arm recognizes the high natural value of Salmon Arm Bay and has adopted the western grebe as its official bird. Salmon Arm officials hope that protected wetlands will increase grebe numbers. A spin-off benefit will be that bird and wildlife viewers visiting the wetlands will bring tourism dollars to the region.

But the wetlands do more than bring in tourism revenue and protect the western grebe. They also protect people.

"Wetlands help prevent flooding and erosion. They alleviate droughts and help recharge water tables," said Gail Moyle with the Fraser River Action Plan.

"They also act like environmental kidneys in that they can filter pollutants and toxic contaminants. That's why it is so important to protect them."

For information on other Fraser River Action Plan initiatives in the Salmon Arm area, please call: (604) 666-5900.

(Lyse C. Cantin is a Co-op student with the Communications Directorate, Environment Canada.)

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Education

SIFC's student radio station goes on the air

By Melissa Lerat
Windspeaker Contributor

SASKATOON

"Good morning, SIFC students. CFNU, Canada's First Nations University radio station, is officially on the air."

With these words, the first Aboriginal-run university radio station in Canada hit the airwaves.

CFNU has been in development since the summer of 1993. It involves 20 student volunteers from the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College at the University of Regina.

The students are getting hands-on experience producing and developing their own radio shows, which feature everything from classical and alternative music, to powwow music.

The host of the powwow show, Francis (Dickie) Yuzicappi says he hopes that his show will promote Aboriginal culture and languages to people who have not had the chance to hear it before. "CFNU is one of the few places where Aboriginal people can enjoy their own music and language," he says.

The station joined the air waves on Monday, January 31, 1994.

CFNU programming also features Indigenous music from all over the world. Native artists need a chance to be heard, said Darren Gowen, the host of the program Just Another Groove.

"There is no other station in Regina where they (Native artists) are played exclusively for any block of time. So, people are not receiving the messages these artists are sending," he says. "My

show is a medium for these ideas.

The students are also producing a dramatic radio program, a soap opera about the day-to-day operation of the radio station.

The person responsible for the idea of starting the radio station and most of the initial planning of CFNU is Shannon Avison, who is also the program co-ordinator of the Indian Communications Arts program at SIFC.

The INCA program is a two year pre-journalism program which qualifies students to apply to the University of Regina's Bachelor of Journalism program.

The idea for the radio station grew out of the first INCA Summer Institute in Journalism, held last June.

"The broadcast students at the Summer Institute spent a

wonderful four weeks working with instructors and working journalists developing their radio production skills. But after it was over, they had nowhere to practise because there was no campus radio station," said Avison.

"We had enough equipment to set up a simple studio and there was a carrier current system already installed on the campus that wasn't being used, so I started looking into the possibility of setting up a student radio station for the Indian Communication Arts students," she says.

The station is broadcast on a carrier current system at the University of Regina campus. Since they went on the air, CFNU has been broadcast from Avison's 10 by 15 foot office in the SIFC trailer.

"I think we're going to end

up pushing Shannon into the women's bathroom," joked Bird.

"At least there I'll have some privacy," says Avison, who sometimes has as many as eight students in her office co-ordinating their programs and cueing up songs.

Another concern is raising money. The station has been operating on a zero budget so far, with students bringing in their own music and equipment.

CFNU has received some welcome support from the Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation, which broadcasts out of La Ronge in northern Saskatchewan and which CFNU picks up on Cable Regina's FM radio service. MBC provided sponsorship for the cost of a wrap-around service that will be broadcast when CFNU is not on the air.



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Advertising Feature

Economic future of First Nations lies in the woods

Forested land in Canada is home to most Aboriginal communities.

For thousands of years, Aboriginal people have traditionally depended on that land for sustenance, both physical and spiritual. Since colonization by Europeans, Aboriginal people have been marginalized to small parcels of land. Our traditional livelihood pursuits such as hunting, trapping and gathering have been severely limited, although still recognized by treaties and by the Canadian Constitution.

Jurisdiction over natural resources was placed in the hands of the provinces. Over time, they leased large areas of lands to forest companies to exploit and manage in support of sawmills or pulp and paper mills. As the forest industry and governments prospered with the wealth generated for the forests, Aboriginal communities grew poorer and more alienated from their traditional dependence on forest land.

The forest industry plays a dominant role in natural resource management in Canada, holding tenure to lands considered by many Aboriginal communities as traditional territories. More than any other industry, it is the forest industry in Canada which has most impact on the land base and economies of Aboriginal communities.

It is the forest industry, therefore, and the processes put in place by governments to manage forest lands, which will play a key role in the future of Aboriginal communities in their efforts to find a balance between the tug to preserve traditional activities and the pull of economic need.

Recognizing that forestry in Canada has developed largely without our participation or due acknowledgment of our unique rights, the National Aboriginal Forestry Association is working to bring about change. The idea of a national forestry organization was first discussed by forestry-minded Aboriginal people at a conference held in Vancouver in the fall of 1989.

This landmark conference, entitled the National Native Forestry Symposium - Ethic To Reality, was attended by some 450 Aboriginal delegates. At the conference, there was a consensus of support from the delegates in favor of establishing a national organization to promote forestry as a necessary condition for Aboriginal economic development, the repair of environmental degradation and the restoration of cultural and community spiritual health for Aboriginal people across the country.

After a period of organization and planning, NAFA was incorporated in November 1991 as a non-profit, non-political organization. NAFA has a 12-member board of directors and has maintained an office in Ottawa since its incorporation.

The overall goal of NAFA is to promote and support increased Aboriginal involvement in forest management and related commercial opportunities. In working towards this goal, NAFA is committed to holistic or multiple-use forestry, the rebuilding and the sustainable development of the forest resource to serve a multitude of community needs.

The protection of wildlife and traditional food stuff habitat, protection of fur bearers, protection



Using the forest in a traditional way.

of clean and adequate supplies of water, establishment of forested areas for recreation and tourism attractions, traditional cultural and spiritual use, as well as the production of fiber for timber, pulp and paper and other wood by-products are all a part of that.

Key to the concept of holistic forestry is the idea of community-based strategies for transforming this resource ethic into reality.

Since commencing operations, NAFA's primary focus has been on building a policy framework to enhance the capacity of Aboriginal communities and groups to participate in forest management, consistent with self-government and self-reliance aspirations as expressed by our national organizations.

To this end, NAFA has co-operated with Aboriginal communities and organizations, governments, educational institutions, unions, industry and industry associations. To address the range of issues that must be dealt with to facilitate greater Aboriginal involvement in forest management decision-making, NAFA has established the following specific objectives:

- To assist Aboriginal communities in their quest to achieve a standard of land care which is balanced, sustainable and reflective of the traditional knowledge and forest values of Aboriginal peoples.
- To facilitate capacity-building through the development of models for increased participation in natural resource management decision-making and the implementation of human resource development strategies.
- To address the need for Indian forest land rehabilitation and increased Aboriginal control over forest resources through the development of appropriate policy and programming.
- To ensure that Aboriginal communities are made aware of ways and means by which they can extract the highest value possible from the forest resources they possess on-reserve and from tenures they may hold in traditional territories.
- To support Aboriginal peoples' aspirations regarding self-government and the exercise of

Aboriginal and Treaty rights as they pertain to natural resource management.

- To provide a network for information sharing and to act in an advocacy role that seeks out opportunities to promote forestry amongst and on behalf of Aboriginal peoples in Canada with governments and industry at all levels.

The objectives of NAFA are reflective of the systemic barriers that now serve to impede our effective participation in the forest sector. These barriers stem from the manner in which the forest sector has evolved in Canada and from the historic relationship that Aboriginal people have had with the federal government.

For example, with respect to Indian reserve lands, First Nations have no means by which they can exercise direct management control over their forest resources. The Indian Act and Indian Timber Regulations vest sole authority in the Minister of Indian Affairs. This archaic legislation is virtually silent on all aspects of contemporary forest management.

And, equally important, Aboriginal communities lack appropriate means of access to resources in traditional territories. Provincial regulations require the ownership of sawmills or pulp mills as a prerequisite to gaining access which puts the means of participating in the industry beyond the reach of most Aboriginal communities.

Furthermore, forest management policies, as they currently exist, have not encouraged multiple-use of resources; nor have they recognized the need to sustain the non-timber forest values of Aboriginal peoples. NAFA is attempting to address these major concerns in an incremental way through the identification of alternative models and the development of appropriate tools and processes to support Aboriginal communities in their quest to regain productive use of forest resources.

It is NAFA's view that a more conducive climate now exists for an expanded role for Aboriginal peoples in the management of forests. In Canada today there are

number of significant factors and developments taking place which are impacting on the forest sector and changing the way forest resources are managed.

For example, there is a coming together of minds on the broad concept of sustainable development which holds that natural resources use must be sustainable and the quality of the environment must be preserved for future generations. Canada's approach to sustainable forest use is contained in the new five-year National Forest Strategy, Sustainable Forests: A Canadian Commitment.

Strategic Direction Seven of the strategy adopts over-riding principles and a framework for action which recognizes the need to change forest policies and practices to accommodate issues of major significance to Aboriginal peoples such as self-government, land claims, the responsibility of the Federal Crown for Indian lands, and the Aboriginal Treaty rights in traditional territories.

With respect to Aboriginal and Treaty rights, courts have ruled that Aboriginal resource use takes priority over all other uses after provision for conservation. The

implication for forest management is that provinces have fiduciary responsibility to ensure that forest management plans are in place to integrate the traditional use requirements of the local Aboriginal people with the management objectives of the province and the forest companies.

According to the Sparrow decision, that fiduciary responsibility also includes the requirement to consult with the Aboriginal people involved to ensure that the negative impacts of forest use are kept to a minimum.

Forest companies and provincial governments, as a result of these developments and for good economic reason, are beginning to re-evaluate their relationship with Aboriginal peoples. Over the past few years, encouraging initiatives for the participation of Aboriginal peoples in the forest sector have been launched in the form of co-management agreements, joint ventures, and the establishment of Aboriginal-controlled enterprises with access to forest resources.

Situations such as these are as yet too few. Nonetheless, they are indicative of changing attitudes and of a willingness to consider Aboriginal aspirations in a more practical way.

Undoubtedly, forest management practices in Canada will have an ever-increasing impact on Aboriginal communities. Their effect will either be positive or negative depending on how we approach the subject and the extent to which we can influence decision-making to reflect our concerns.

If we, as Aboriginal people, are to protect our forest values, they must be incorporated in forest management policies and plans of government and industry. Rather than being a source of conflict, as we have seen in many parts of the country, forest management should be a vehicle for community stability and self-respect, environmental and cultural enhancement and an avenue out of economic depression.

In the broadest sense of economic and social development and environmental preservation, increased participation in the forest sector is, therefore, of the utmost importance to Aboriginal people.

For more information on NAFA initiatives or NAFA membership contact us at:



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Business

Financing Native dreams

Canada's Aboriginal people are pursuing their entrepreneurial visions, with some help from Canadian bankers. And they're succeeding despite, not because of, the federal Indian Act.

By Richard Wright
Windspeaker Contributor

Rhonda Longboat had a dream. She wanted to start a small business that she and her husband could run on their southern Ontario farm. What she had in mind was a stable of horses for riding lessons and trail riding in the summer; when winter drifted over the Walpole Island Reserve near Lake St. Clair in southwestern Ontario, she proposed to give hayrides for neighbors and other members of the Walpole Island Indian band.

A modest dream

It was a modest dream by conventional business standards, but unusually difficult to realize. Like most new entrepreneurs, Longboat needed start-up capital to get her business off the ground: about \$27,000 for horses, improvements to her barn, and fence posts and wire to enclose paddocks.

Under ordinary circumstances the numbers and the intangibles would have looked

good to a bank manager. But the circumstances were not ordinary. Longboat is a status Indian, part Mohawk and part Cayuga, living on a reserve. In the eyes of the business loan divisions of Canada's major banks, those factors have traditionally added up to a losing combination.

Longboat eventually got the money she needed. And at least a portion of it came from The Bank of Nova Scotia, thanks to one of several initiatives recently sponsored by Canada's financial community so that Aboriginal entrepreneurs can realize their dreams.

Band, bank partners

Dan Keeler, The Bank of Nova Scotia's Branch Manager in Wallaceburg, oversees a line of credit extended to the Walpole Island band. The line is in fact supported in partnership by the band, the bank, and the Calmeadow Foundation, a private non-profit organization dedicated to making credit and other financial services available to those who have traditionally not had access to them.

The money is administered

by the Native community, and is passed over to "circles" — groups of three or four Native entrepreneurs — to help them set up micro-enterprises. The amounts available to any member of the circle are small, maximum \$3,000. All members of the circle are responsible for loans extended to any other member, so peer pressure ultimately is the principal security for the total sum — \$40,000 — available for use.

Process complex

Circle borrowing made it possible for Rhonda Longboat to build paddocks for her horses. But the process was far from simple or direct as it might have been for another small business borrower. And her experience is repeated in Native communities across the country.

The reasons for this are complex, according to David MacDougall, Director of the Aboriginal Capital Corporations Program for the federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Technology. Aboriginal Capital Corporations give Native people assistance with all aspects of small-business management, particularly start-up and the ensuing difficulties Native entrepreneurs have in securing bank loans. The aim is to permanently change the equation by building a track record of success that will impress the banks. But it's an up-

hill battle, MacDougall says.

Banks cautious

Banks have some solid reasons for exercising caution. Statistics show that Native entrepreneurs are less likely than other Canadians to have accumulated business experience and are less prepared by the Canadian school system to make a go of a new business, even if they can get started.

Fewer than a quarter of Aboriginals 34 and under have completed high school, compared to more than half the non-Aboriginals in the same age group. Native people are also less likely to have access to "love money", the funds raised from private sources to support a new venture.

Less money available

Government transfer payments are the principal source of income for more than 30 per cent of Aboriginals, but less than 20 per cent for the Canadian population at large. And Aboriginal incomes are on average 25 per cent less than the Canadian average, so there's less family money available to help capitalize a start-up.

Geography also plays a role, MacDougall says. Banks like to keep an eye on their loans to fledgling businesses, but the remoteness of many Aboriginal communities makes that an unusually expensive proposition.

Taken all together, the numbers don't add up to a comfortable risk on an account manager's balance sheet. But in addition, says MacDougall, there's nothing to secure that risk.

Indian Act a hindrance

The single most significant impediment to Native entrepreneurs seeking bank loans is, ironically, a law intended to protect Native people. Section 89 of Canada's Indian Act says the real and personal property of a Native person living on a reserve cannot be seized or mortgaged by anyone but another Aboriginal.

"The intent at the time was probably well meaning, but the unintended effect has been to prevent lenders from lending money to Aboriginal enterprises," MacDougall says.

"The unanticipated result of the Act in recent years has been that an Indian on a reserve can't pledge hard assets as security for a loan," explains Ron Jamieson, Vice-President of Aboriginal Banking for the Bank of Montreal, and himself a Six Nations Mohawk. Jamieson was appointed only very recently - September 1992 - and his appointment represents a new direction for the bank, based on another set of statistics. On-reserve status Indians, urban Native people, Metis and Inuit comprise four to five per cent of the Canadian population.

Continued on the next page.

BANK OF MONTREAL • ABORIGINAL BANKING

Bank of Montreal has created eight new management positions in Aboriginal Banking. Currently four of these, known as 'Manager, Aboriginal Banking', are filled, all by Aboriginal people. The Managers, Aboriginal Banking have extensive connections within the Aboriginal communities in their province of residence and have either a Business Administration or Commerce degree or equivalent work experience.

The creation of these positions follows the initiatives developed from Bank of Montreal's Task Force on the Advancement of Aboriginal Employment. The Task Force report outlines the steps the Bank is taking to build understanding, trust and mutual respect between Aboriginal communities and Bank of Montreal. It also reinforces the Bank's commitment to create an environment that fosters the retention and advancement of Aboriginal employees.

TRENT BLIND



Mr. Blind is resident in Calgary and serves Aboriginal communities throughout the Province of Alberta. As a member of the Gordon Band in the Treaty 4 area he has

had the opportunity to work with many of the First Nation communities in southern Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Mr. Blind was previously with various Federal Government departments for five years. He is a member of the Canada Council for Aboriginal Business, Alberta Chapter; Canadian Aboriginal Science & Technology Society; and the Calgary Chamber of Commerce - Aboriginal Opportunities Committee.

Mr. Blind is a graduate of the University of Alberta (B.A. Special, Economics) and the University of Regina (B.Ad, Public Finance & Administration). He is currently studying to complete his CMA designation.

STEVE BRANT



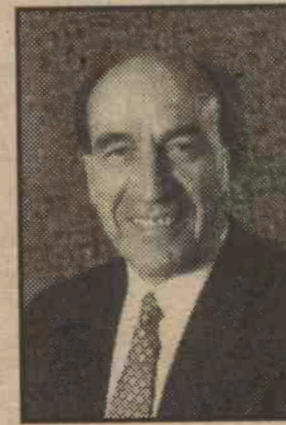
Mr. Brant is resident in Ottawa and serves Aboriginal communities throughout Northern and Eastern Ontario

and the Eastern Arctic. He is a member of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte First Nation.

Mr. Brant was previously the principal officer of a Native consulting firm. He has held senior positions within the trust and banking industries as well as in the fields of education, promotion, oil & gas and economic development. He is Chairman of the Canadian Native Arts Foundation and was formerly a member of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business and the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Brant is a graduate of the University of Guelph, Bachelor of Psychology.

PAUL LAFRAMBOISE



Mr. LaFramboise is resident in Quebec City and serves Aboriginal communities throughout the Province of Quebec. He is a member of the

Huron Wendat First Nation.

Mr. LaFramboise was most recently President of a leather tannery and has extensive experience in consulting, administration and marketing at senior levels. He has represented industry on numerous Federal and Provincial commissions and tribunals.

Mr. LaFramboise is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Bachelor of Business Administration.

MIKE TEES



Mr. Tees is resident in Toronto and serves the Aboriginal community in Metro Toronto as well as those located throughout

Central Ontario. He is a member of the Ojibway-Dokis First Nation.

Mr. Tees has held positions in both the private and public sectors. Most recently he worked as a consultant to the Ontario government in the fields of economic development and trade. He has extensive experience in the field of international market development for small and medium sized businesses. Mr. Tees sits on the Boards of several Toronto-based Aboriginal social service agencies.

Mr. Tees is a graduate of the University of Toronto holding an Honours B.A. (History & Political Science).

Candidates interested in a position as Manager, Aboriginal Banking are invited to apply by writing to Dennis Mogg, National Manager - Aboriginal Programs, Bank of Montreal, P.O. Box 1, First Canadian Place, Toronto, Ontario M5X 1A1.



Bank of Montreal

Business

Aboriginals comprise huge potential market

Continued from previous page.

"The major banks are forever fighting over minuscule points of market share," Jamieson says. "It stands to reason that if you've got 1.2 million unaccessed clients out there that the thing to do is to attract them to your institution."

Banks responding

Gradually banks are responding to this emerging market. In the five years up to 1992, Aboriginal employment at the six major banks in Canada rose 49 per cent to 1,093 full-time workers and 300 part-timers.

At the Bank of Montreal, Jamieson's initiatives have included the establishment of bank branches on reserves. Interest on on-reserve deposits is not taxable, Jamieson points out, so start-up capital for small enterprises accumulates faster. The bank also sponsors seminars in successful business practices, and he has set up an Aboriginal advisory group to guide the bank in its relations with Native businesses. But his biggest battle is with the double-edged sword of the Indian Act.

"Section 89 is, no question, our number-one hurdle. I have a clear mandate from the Bank of Montreal to go over, under and around that Act," Jamieson says.

Circumventing the Act

One way around the Act is to take a partial government guarantee to the capital markets and raise money against a guaranteed instrument, and then deliver it to on-reserve organizations, Jamieson explains.

"It still involves heavy government involvement, but it does deliver capital to the ground."

Another tactic is to appoint



Robin Wong

Rhonda Longboat realized her dream of owning a riding stable with a little help from banker Dan Keeler.

Native trustees in the community to act as bank agents.

"Status Indians on a reserve can take the security of other status Indians. It's been tested in court and it works."

Kamloops loophole

The Act also contains a loophole provided by a recent amendment known popularly as the Kamloops amendment. Passed in 1988, it allows Indian bands to designate a portion of reserve lands for commercial

development. In effect, the band returns the land to the Crown and leases it back. The land is therefore no longer subject to the Act, so the band can then offer it as security by way of a mortgage or leasehold interest for a number of years.

The Westbank band in Kelowna, B.C., slipped through the Kamloops loophole with the help of the Bank of Montreal. Stephen Kozey, the band's Director of Operations, says the band decided in a referendum

to designate a parcel of approximately 40 acres of reserve land, enough to build 250 houses. The Crown then leased the designated land back to a band-operated development company. The lease enabled the band to borrow from the Bank of Montreal enough money to service the prime housing lots, which then became marketable.

No guarantees

Unfortunately, even designation doesn't put all Aborigi-

nal projects on a level playing field with non-Aboriginal projects. Banks still have to consider the Aboriginal applicant's track record and the remoteness of the intended project, and here the creative application of federal government support may have to come into play.

In May 1993, the Bank of Montreal-sponsored Economic Development Project of the Year Award for British Columbia was handed over to a Native development financed by the CIBC. It was an unintentionally ironic gesture: BMO had earlier determined that the project wasn't attractive enough to warrant its participation.

Perseverance pays off

The etched glass sculpture awarded to the winner now sits proudly in the offices of Gwaalagaa Naay Corporation in the town of Skidegate, B.C., off the northwest coast in the Queen Charlotte Islands. The corporation's winning project was the Skidegate Commercial Centre, comprising a Petrocan gas bar and convenience store, a 7,000-square-foot grocery and hardware store and a final phase yet to come which will involve leaseable office and retail space.

In making the award, a jury expressed its surprise and admiration that such a small community could successfully finance and build such a significant project. After all, the jury noted, the Skidegate community consists of only 500 people.

"The financing was hellish," says Rod Campbell, CIBC Account Manager in Richmond, B.C. "Without a doubt this was technically the most challenging part of the project."

Continued on page 14.

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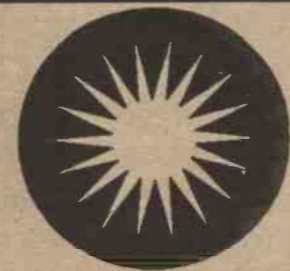
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Flexibility, creativity key to success

Continued from previous page.

Campbell says the two keys to success were the time taken to develop relationships of confidence and an unusual exercise of bureaucratic flexibility.

Creativity essential

"It took an extraordinary willingness on all sides to work through creative solutions to the unusual problems of securing Aboriginal loans. We were trying to do something that hadn't been done before," he says.

Like the Westbank band, the Skidegate band also designated land and set up a corporation to secure the necessary loans from several sources, including the bank. At the end of the process the bank's contribution amounted to about 20 per cent of the \$2 million required for phases one and two.

CIBC's loan was secured by a general security agreement, evidence of adequate insurance, a mortgage of lease on the designated development site and loan insurance under the federal government's Aboriginal Business Loan Insurance Program, which covers 85 per cent of the CIBC's losses should the project fail.

"That gave us the comfort level we required," says Campbell.

Safety nets reduce risk

Government safety nets of various descriptions make the creative acrobatics of account managers like Campbell a lot less risky. In 1989, the federal government committed \$873 million over five years to its Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy. That funding forms the basis of other insurance and loan guarantee programs as well as the network of 33 Aboriginal Capital Corporations administered by David MacDougall under the aegis of Industry Trade and Technology. (Aboriginal Capital Corporations make equity contributions of up to 40 per cent to Aboriginal projects.)

These programs are a short-term necessity, according to Ron Stevenson, Director of Apeetogosan Metis Development Inc., an Aboriginal Capital Corporation in Edmonton. Although his job is to see federal government loan and grant money gets into the hands of Native entrepreneurs, his aim is to reduce the need for such programs.

Banks, Natives need to deal

"There's a group in the Aboriginal community that has already matured to the point where they should be dealing directly with the chartered banking system," Stevenson says. "It makes no sense for Johnny Shot Both Sides to drive 600 miles from Ft. Vermilion to my ACC, passing 50 or 60 banks on the way."

Stevenson has developed a method for weaning bankers and Native business people off government sponsorship. His

favorite strategy applies best to off-reserve Aboriginals who don't have a track record to command a bank's interest. Stevenson's ACC issues a letter of credit from its bank (the Royal) to the lending bank (CIBC in all cases so far). The letter of credit provides the bank with a degree of comfort until the business has demonstrated its viability. At that point the bank margins the account fully and the credit letter collapses. The bank and the client are on their own.

Credit bridges gap

Al Calliou benefited from such an arrangement. Calliou is a Metis living in Athabasca, Alta. He runs a small company securing Native laborers for the Alberta Pacific pulp mill. Calliou pays his recruits 60 to 90 days before he is reimbursed by Alberta Pacific, and he needed a \$25,000 operating line to bridge the gap.

A letter of credit from Ron Stevenson's ACC for \$12,500 made the bank comfortable with the deal. In December 1992, the operating line was extended. By August 1993, the bank was comfortable enough with Calliou's track record to allow the ACC guarantee to collapse. Stevenson sees this kind of arrangement coming into greater use as Native business people gain experience and the financial community gains confidence.

Ron Jamieson, the Bank of Montreal's point man on Aboriginal affairs, says great strides have already been made. Between November 1992 and October 1993, the number of Native employees in the bank has increased 24 per cent, the number of institutional accounts has grown by six per cent, and loans by the Bank of Montreal to Native businesses have increased by 600 per cent.

"I'm a happy camper with those results," he says.

Act's influence fading

At the Wallaceburg branch of The Bank of Nova Scotia, section 89 of the Indian Act is gradually becoming a dead issue. Branch Manager Dan Keeler has developed the confidence to extend business loans to Indigenous people on character, past record, and cash flow. And he believes the micro-experience of borrowing circles will produce a generation of Native entrepreneurs with the skills, acumen, and pride of accomplishment to justify the risk.

Rhonda Longboat has built her paddocks with the loan she got through her borrowing circle. She'll fatten up her six horses, cut trails, develop her riding courses, and plan the menu for the grand opening party in the spring for Pottowatomie Stables.

"There'll be corn soup, fried bread, roast pig and wild rice," she says. "It's going to be a real Indian celebration."

(This article first appeared in *Canadian Banker* and is reprinted with their permission.)

Business Briefs

Education students to benefit

OTTAWA — Aboriginal education students from across Canada are eligible for more than \$20,000 in scholarships this year. The Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business will award the monies to students who show outstanding achievement in community or peer leadership and entrepreneurial or academic excellence. The Foundation for the Advancement for Aboriginal Youth, developed by Brenda Maracle-O'Toole to give young people the opportunity to learn from education and business mentors, will administer the awards. The foundation will also serve as a link for young Aboriginals by providing a regional youth conference series, an education journal for Aboriginal students, counsel-

lors and educators and a speakers' resource group.

Game to showcase Native culture

CHESWOLD, Delaware — The newly formed Lenapehoking Enterprises Inc. hopes to introduce Native American culture, history and philosophy to the toy industry by developing and marketing games. Company principals Alonzo Coker, Sarah E. Seoney Sullivan and Edward L. Durham are all members of the Lenni-Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware. Their hope is to present their history and culture in an entertaining, fun format that can be used as a learning tool for everyone. Their first foray into the games market is Powwow the Game, which combines skills and chance and can be played by children and adults.

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Business

Inuvialuit company wins two contracts

INUVIK, N.W.T.

The Department of National Defense is proving to be a lucrative ally to a Native-owned company in the North.

The Inuvialuit Development Corporation recently won two separate contracts with the DND, one to fly helicopters and the other to guard fighter jets.

IDC won a \$350,000 contract to provide helicopter services to the DND's North Warning System in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region of the northwestern N.W.T., company president David Connelly announced in February.

And on March 3, the company announced it had secured a second contract, valued at

\$170,000, to provide security and facility maintenance to the DND's CF-18 Forward Operating Locations at Inuvik Airport.

Oil and gas exploration and the defense department are the main economic drivers in the Western Arctic, Connelly said. With no oil and gas exploration this year, and a drop in the need for service along the unmanned

North Warning System, it was time to explore new ventures.

IDC had been offering a fixed-wing service to communities and business in the North for some time, Connelly said. Expanding into new regions like rotary-wing flight was the next logical step.

The benefits of the CF-18 contract, which was awarded by the DND through Frontec Logistics

Corporation of Edmonton, will be widely felt throughout the community, IDC chairman Eddie Dillon said. IDC was able to underbid the second lowest contract by 12 per cent.

"The benefits and potential future opportunities that the contract will bring to the community are what made this contract so attractive."

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Contract loss may mean extinction for Inuit company

By D.B. Smith
Windspeaker Staff Writer

YELLOWKNIFE

An Inuit-owned company in the Northwest Territories is facing economic extinction after Ottawa awarded a lucrative maintenance contract to a non-Native company.

Losing the \$4 million Departments of National Defense and Supply and Services contract to service the North Warning System may kill Avati Inc., said the fledgling company's president, Fred Hunt.

Avati was notified Feb. 18 by fax that Ottawa would not be awarding them the contract to provide accommodations, food and water services and site clean-up this year, despite requirements in the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement specifying Inuit business participation in northern business ventures.

Section 24 of the Nunavut agreement specifies increased participation by Inuit businesses, improved competition opportunities and appropriate Inuit employee representation in business ventures within the Nunavut Settlement area.

Avati, which is co-owned by the Inuvialuit Development Corporation in Inuvik and the Nunasi Corporation in Yellowknife, held the contract last year and expected to land it again this year, Hunt said. Lavel-Fortin, the Quebec company contracted to do the work on the 13 stations, does not have any Inuit representation.

"We were totally appalled at this. It's a total violation of Section 24 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement."

There's been no response from either the DND or the DSS about the contract award, he said.

"I'm not sure why they cancelled it. The only criteria I can

think of is a lower bidder. That goes against the Nunavut Land Claim agreement."

Under last year's contract, 12 to 20 Avati employees travelled between the 14 North Warning System camps across the High Arctic, providing essential services. The company was also responsible for shutting down and dismantling the old DEW Line stations along the Arctic Circle.

"Avati was formed to do environmental work on the land. We're hoping to be the contractor to do the clean-up of all the DEW line sites."

Avati originally won the contract on the premise that they would completely remove the old DEW line sites, rather than burn and bury them, said Inuvialuit president David Connelly.

That stipulation probably made Avati's most recent offer more expensive than Lavel-Fortin's, but it was the only way the Inuit company was prepared to dismantle the sites, he said.

Representatives from Avati and the Nunavut Tungavik Federation, the Inuit land claim organization, have both sent letters to Ottawa asking for meetings with the federal government, Hunt said. But no responses have been forthcoming.

A Department of Supply and Services spokesperson said she would look into the contract to Lavel-Fortin but was unable to provide details of the deal by press time.

Avati will wait and see if other contracts become available in the next six months, said Hunt. The cost of dismantling the old DEW line stations and construction and maintenance of the new, mostly unmanned system is about \$500 million.

"We're going into survival mode. If nothing changes, then we could fold."

More than 80 per cent of Avati's workers are Inuit.

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Peace Hills Trust a success story

Peace Hills Trust has entered its second decade of service and is looking forward to the challenges of the 1990s.

As First Nation's activity in the Canadian economy continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, Peace Hills Trust continues to generate steady progress as the financial institution of choice for Canada's First Nations.

The company has expanded its Branch Network with the recent opening of the Saskatoon Branch located in Veterans' Plaza on the McKnight Commercial Centre, a commercial facility on the Muskeg Lake First Nations Reserve.

Peace Hills Trust is also presently a member of Interac, Cirrus and Circuit A.T.M. Systems and delivered banking cards to its customers in late 1993.

Being small, western-based and First Nation-owned, the Samson Cree Nations' banking venture already had three strikes against it when the historical opening occurred on Nov. 19, 1980.

Once dubbed the "Samson Band's piggy bank", Peace Hills Trust has since firmly established itself as a truly national trust company. The year 1993 was another milestone for the company with record profits and growth. The company's total assets have grown to almost half-a-billion dollars.

Peace Hills Trust has become a leader in Native economic development since the company began a concerted effort to increase its profile nationally. The company has been managing First Nations-owned trust funds for more than a decade. Funds belonging to Native bands, organizations and individuals account for a large share of the company's business, totalling more

than \$214 million at the end of 1993.

Peace Hills Trust's loan portfolio has also increased substantially over the years. Their conservative lending approach has put the company in the enviable position of avoiding resale properties for the last four consecutive years. The bulk of the company's loan portfolio is made up of reserve projects such as housing loans, arenas, schools, shopping centres and band administration offices.

The company's understanding of financing on-reserve projects and its ability to structure alternative types of debt servicing packages are its major strengths. Peace Hills sole ownership group, the Samson Cree Nation, continues to remain committed to the growth and success of the trust company. Instead of paying regular dividends to themselves as shareholders, the band commits all profits back into the company.

As the competition to satisfy the growing financial needs of Canada's First Nations intensifies, Peace Hills Trust relies on an overall effort from a strong support network, comprised of the executive body, the corporate and branch staff, in realizing these objectives. Emphasis is placed on the training and development of staff to increase their knowledge of the trust industry and constantly update operating procedures.

Peace Hills Trust is also proud to share a part of its success with those who have been instrumental in contributing to its unparalleled growth. The company is committed to maintaining a positive community image by offering its continued support to a variety of deserving Native cultural and sporting events.

Business

McDonald's coming to Sechelt

By Don Anderson
Windspeaker Contributor

SECHELT, B.C.

The Sechelt Indian Band has made a deal with McDonald's Restaurants of Western Canada to build a franchise on the band's land.

"We have an agreement in principle and we will be meeting with them one more time in Vancouver. We've got a couple of legal constraints and highway access concern (to work out)," said band councillor Calvin Craigan, following a recent council vote.

Details of where and when the fast food chain will set up operations are still being negotiated, but the band is "90-per-cent sure" the deal is a go, he said.

The band has been discussing the possibility of the restaurant chain occupying one of two centrally located properties in Sechelt for the last six months. Craigan did not specify exactly where the properties were located,

but added that discussions have also been held with Dairy Queen over the last year.

"We seem to be getting inundated by fast-food order conglomerates," he said.

If McDonald's bid is accepted, the chain and franchise owner will be required to develop a restaurant that fits in with the aesthetics of neighboring properties and traditions of the band.

"Not that it is going to be a tipi," Craigan said.

The restaurant would also bring considerable job opportunities, "not just our students," he said, adding that the franchise should provide up to 60 new jobs.

It wouldn't be the first time the chain has formed a partnership with a band. McDonald's currently operates a franchise on the Waddling Dog Reserve outside Saanich on Vancouver Island.

Nevertheless, the imminent arrival of the golden arches on the coast has caused much consternation from local business owners and longtime residents either fearing the restaurant will nega-

tively affect their own business or inflict unnecessary change on the community.

"I wish it wouldn't come because it is going to kill all the small restaurants on the Coast," said restaurant owner Sue Hergott. "There's no way you can compete with a \$1.89 hamburger."

Ron Marcoux, CEO of McDonald's of Western Canada, has responded to residents' complaints that a franchise will disrupt life on the Coast by downplaying its impacts on the environment and local businesses.

"I've heard some of these arguments before but our proposal is to ask council for what we need to build a McDonald's restaurant and I'm sure council will make the decision of what is right or wrong," Marcoux said.

One of the main reasons McDonald's is beneficial to a community is its low prices, he added.

"Usually, for the young families that can't afford to eat at fancy restaurants that exist and can't afford to go out, this gives them a chance to do that," he said.



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FBDB works closely with aboriginal communities and provides customized management training and counselling programs that encourage business development and help entrepreneurs improve their management skills.

For more information on business programs
for aboriginal communities, call toll-free,
1 800 361-2126

Committed to your success.



Federal Business
Development Bank

Banque fédérale
de développement

Canada

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Best credit policy is no credit

By Heather Halpenny
Windspeaker Contributor

Your community has given you a place to run your business rent-free. The councillor comes in and wants to charge their gas on their account which they haven't paid for three months. They are over the limit you have set for credit. What do you do?

When you go to a money lender for financing, they will use the five C's of credit to decide if you or the business is a good bet for paying the money back. The five C's are:

Character: The lender wants to know something about your skills, previous work history and experience.

Capital: Banks are in the business of lending money and want to lend you the right amount. Lenders want to know that the amount of funds that you are asking for is enough.

Conditions of the Market: Although this C is for the most part out of your control, the lender must feel that the marketplace can sup-

port the business that you are proposing. If it is a personal loan, the lender wants assurance you have a stable job, with good prospects to remain stable.

Collateral: The lender must have sufficient security for the loan. Often, items that you are purchasing for the business may be sufficient to cover the loan in case the business does not work out. Be prepared to offer your car, house, boat, motorhome, or have your rich uncle co-sign the loan.

Capacity: The lender wants to know that you or the business make enough cash to repay the loan.

Did you consider the five C's of credit before you let the councillor sign? This is where the rubber hits the road — the reality gap between theory and saying "no" to your brother.

Who should get credit then? Probably no one. The best credit policy is no credit at all.

Many a good business has gone under because the owner could not say no. Or even worse for their business, they could not ask people to pay up their accounts.

What happens if a customer

runs up a big account? When they get their cheque, instead of paying off their account, they blow their money on something else. They don't come in to your business because they are embarrassed they can't pay the bill. So they go somewhere else and pay CASH.

Because you have not got the cash to buy more inventory, your shelves become empty. When your good cash-paying customers come in, there is no inventory, so they get mad at you and go elsewhere. Now you have lost good customers, too.

What is the bottom line on credit? First of all, the best policy is no credit to anyone, ever. The most successful stores, auto repair places, small contracting companies do not give credit ever. In a contracting business, you will need to allow some credit because that service is generally paid by invoice in 30 days.

At first everyone will be mad at you for your 'no credit' policy. Businesses that stick to it are much better off and continue to be in business. Be careful that 'no credit' means your family as well or people will find out.

If you already allow credit,

there are some strategies to making it work better for you. Allow credit on a person-by-person basis. Remember the five C's of credit. How much can they pay back?

You need to keep careful track. Each person who gets credit has to fill in an application with their name, address, telephone number, work number, bank etc. and this information goes in their account file.

Use a three-copy charge book. The slips are all numbered and the person signs their name in the chargebook when they put a charge on their account. One copy goes to the customer who wants to see what they have charged up if they can't remember. One copy stays in the charge book.

When it comes to collecting overdue accounts, there are a few approaches that might make this an easier job. The best way is to avoid a fight in the store. Meet the person privately and make sure they know how much money they owe. Ask them when they will pay up and how much.

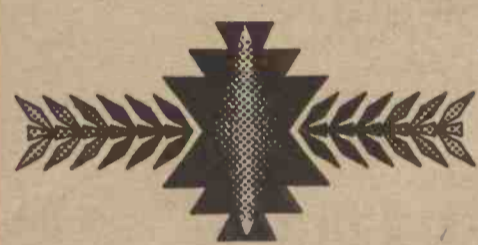
Your customer may be having hard times. You may ask them to

do some work around your place that you would pay someone to do and give them a way to work off their account.

The classic case which shows the effect of credit on a good business is the store that was owned by Margaret and Ernis. They had 200 accounts that only owed \$50 each. The total owed to them was \$10,000 and that's all it took to shut the doors. They had no cash for groceries or gas.

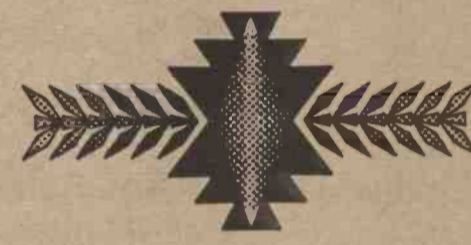
They found it difficult to ask the chief, councillors and relatives for the money. They didn't want to admit they were having a hard time. The band had given them the place rent-free. A good business had gone under. Now, the band has started the place up again and sales are \$1,600,000 per year. Guess what the credit policy is now?

(If you know of an entrepreneur, and that includes you, who has an entrepreneurial story to be told, contact me through Windspeaker by leaving a message at 455-2700. Call us at no cost with your questions or comments at Crocker Consulting Inc. The Edmonton number is 432-1009.)



WINDSPEAKER'S

CAREER SECTION



HEALTH PROGRAMS CO-ORDINATOR South Eastern British Columbia

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This position is of a co-ordination, creative, and supportive nature.

BASIC JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Support and providing creative assistance to the member Bands;
 2. Ensures the efficient and orderly management of the Community Wellness Program;
 3. Provides budget administration & guidance in conjunction with individual Band Councils;
 4. Development of culturally reflective programming, policy and procedures and standards of care delivery;
 5. Day to day functional supervision of staff as delegated by the Band Councils;
 6. Budget preparation and implementation;
 7. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting of program activities as required;
 8. On-going case/client consultation;
 9. Creation of staff development plans and ensuring the implementation of the same;
- The incumbent must be willing and able to work with a team at both the Tribal Council forum as well as with the community based teams.*

NOTE:

This position is developmental in nature with a primary responsibility to train a member to assume full and complete responsibility for the Wellness Program following two years of intense on the job and supplemental guidance. This position will be guided by the Human Resources Director

QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY:

1. Excellent supervision and guidance skills;
2. Ability to establish and maintain a comprehensive training program;
3. Ability to create and enhance community liaison relationships;
4. Knowledge and a minimum of two years experience with a culturally relevant Wellness Program;
5. Public health diploma or degree with administrative and program development experience or; Social work diploma or degree with administrative and program development experience;
6. Creative envisioning of a multi-faceted service delivery system and practical implementation skills.

SALARY: Negotiable, please state your expected salary.

SEND RESUMES TO:

Moir Management Systems Inc.
#310, 10534 - 124 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5N 1S1

CLOSING DATE: March 31, 1994

RADIO SALES CAREER



CFWE-FM "The Native Perspective" is looking for a professional, experienced account executive to service our growing list of advertisers across northern Alberta and northern Canada.

If you are creative, independent, and reliable then we have a great career opportunity for you. Preference is given to individuals with a background in radio sales. The position will be based in Edmonton.

Knowledge of Aboriginal language and culture is an asset.

Please forward your resume to:
Paul Macedo
Director of Marketing
CFWE-FM
15001 - 112 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 2V6

- WANTED -

*Counsellors - Psychologists
Mental Health Nurses/Caregivers
Social Services - Family*

Counselling Place

prefer someone with counselling experience
Phone: Alma or Bill
(9 am - 5 pm)
At: 403-352-9886

Do you have a register number? Are you register with Mental Health? We have counselling for Native people, travel to Native communities. Speak own language is an asset.
We specialize in Cree & English Counselling Services.
Phone: Alma Dressyman



WINDSPEAKER'S CAREER SECTION



CORRECTIONS WORKER PROGRAM

If you are interested in career opportunities in the field of Corrections, this program is for you!

The Corrections Academy, Justice Institute of B.C. is offering an Employment Readiness Program for Corrections Worker.

This five (5) week training program will be offered as follows:

FULL-TIME PROGRAMS:

- Vancouver:** April 18 - May 20, 1994
Application deadline: March 18, 1994
- July 11 - August 12, 1994
Application deadline: April 29, 1994
- October 24 - November 28, 1994
Application deadline: September 2, 1994
- Prince George:** September 12 - October 14, 1994
Application deadline: July 8, 1994
- Victoria:** January 9 - February 10, 1995
Application deadline: October 28, 1994
- Langley:** February 20 - March 24, 1995
Application deadline: December 23, 1994

PART TIME PROGRAMS:

- Vancouver:** October 3 - December 10, 1994
Application Deadline: August 12, 1994

COST: \$350.00

Each program will be offered to 24 carefully screened, qualified and motivated applicants.

We encourage applications from women, visible minorities and Aboriginal people.

FOR AN INFORMATION PACKAGE
PLEASE CALL: 222-7188

FORT LIARD ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM

requires a

ALCOHOL & DRUG COORDINATOR

DUTIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Monitoring the overall progress of the program
- Promoting and participating in prevention education, rehabilitation and referral followup programs in the community
- Counselling clients in the community
- Supervising and on the job training for staff members
- Performs other duties as required under the supervision and direction of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Committee

QUALIFICATIONS:

- In accordance with NWT Alcohol and Drug Counselling level 3, year 3
- graduate of a chemical dependency course
- minimum three years formal Drug and Alcohol counselling experience
- minimum 1 year supervisory experience
- slavey language and experience in a cross cultural setting would be an asset
- related qualifications and experience will be considered.
- sobriety and willingness to model non-drinking, non-drug use behavior

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 1994

Please send application and resume to:

**CHAIRPERSON, ALCOHOL DRUG COMMITTEE
YE DAH ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE CENTRE
GENERAL DELIVERY
FORT LIARD, N.W.T. X0G 0A0
OR FAX: (403) 770-3130
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: (403) 770-4536**

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICE PROGRAM CO-ORDINATOR South Eastern British Columbia

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This position is of a co-ordination, creative, and supportive nature.

BASIC JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Support and providing creative assistance to the member Bands;
 2. Ensures the efficient and orderly management of the Community Child and Family Service delivery system;
 3. Provides budget administration and guidance with individual Band Councils;
 4. Development of culturally relevant and reflective programming objectives, policies and procedures;
 5. Development of culturally acceptable and legally sound standards of care;
 6. Day to day support, guidance and supervision of staff as delegated by member Bands;
 7. Budget preparation & implementation strategies;
 8. Monitoring, evaluating and reporting of program activities as required;
 9. On-going case/client consultation;
 10. Creation of staff development plans and ensuring the implementation of the same;
- The incumbent must be willing and able to work with a team at both the Tribal Council forum as well as with the community based teams.*

NOTE:

This position is developmental in nature with a primary responsibility to train a Tribal Council member to assume full and complete responsibility for the Child and Family Services Program following two years of intense on the job and supplemental guidance. This position will be guided by the Tribal Council Human Resource Director.

QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY:

1. Excellent developmental and creative programming abilities;
2. Excellent supervision and guidance skills;
3. Ability to establish and maintain a comprehensive training program;
4. Ability to create and enhance community liaison relationships;
5. Knowledge and a minimum of two years experience with a culturally relevant Child and Family Social Service Program;
6. Social work/child care diploma or degree with administrative and program development experience;

SALARY: Negotiable, please state your expected salary.

SEND RESUMES TO:

**Moir Management Systems Inc.
#310, 10534 - 124 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5N 1S1**

CLOSING DATE: March 31, 1994



The University of Toronto Dean Faculty of Forestry

The University of Toronto invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the Faculty of Forestry. Recently renewed as a graduate faculty with a primary focus on research and teaching at the masters and doctoral level, the Faculty has a new academic plan which will tackle national and global forestry issues of the next century by integrating environmental, social and economic concerns into its curriculum and research agenda. The plan envisages the introduction of a professional masters program by the fall of 1996. With the adoption of the plan, the funding and academic renewal of the Faculty will be secure until the year 2000.

The successful candidate should have a forestry-related background but may come from a cognate discipline, should possess distinguished credentials as an educator and researcher, and have demonstrated ability to accept challenges and develop visionary opportunities for the Faculty. Extensive experience in teaching and thesis supervision at the graduate level is required. Excellent skills in communication and consensus-building with faculty, staff, students, alumni, industry, professional and government organizations and granting agencies are essential.

The appointment will be at an appropriate academic rank and at a salary level commensurate with experience. The preferred starting date is July 1, 1994. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of 3 referees by March 19, 1994 to Professor Adel Sedra, Vice-President and Provost, University of Toronto, 27 King's College Circle, Rm. 225, Toronto, Ont. M5S 1A1

This advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. In accordance with its Employment Equity Policy, the University of Toronto encourages applications from qualified women and men, members of visible minorities, aboriginal peoples and persons with disabilities.

**IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN WINDSPEAKER, CALL:
1-800-661-5469**



WINDSPEAKER'S CAREER SECTION



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY



THE PROGRAM: One academic year of preparation and skill development

PURPOSE: To become eligible for admission to university programs.

LOCATION: Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants of Native Ancestry, recommended by a Native organization, agency or First Nation

COURSES:

- Study Skills/Logical Reasoning - Native Access 1190
- English for Native Access Students - English 1867
- Mathematics for Native Access Students - Mathematics 1110
- Elective courses, chosen in consultation with academic advisor.

SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT: Tutoring, cultural and social support network.

PROGRAM LENGTH: September 1994 to April 1995

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Submit Native Access Application Form, official transcripts from previous education, one letter of recommendation from Native organization, agency or First Nation and resume

DEADLINE: Applications should reach Registrar's office, Lakehead University by March 25, 1994.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Access Program/Liaison Officer
Telephone: (807) 343-8084
Fax: (807) 346-7757

Department of Indigenous Learning
Telephone: (807) 343-8085

DIRECTOR - LAND & RESOURCES South Eastern British Columbia

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This position is of a co-ordination, creative, and supportive nature.

BASIC JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Supervision and motivation of staff and operations of the Land and Resource department;
2. Providing strategic planning for 1 year, 3 years and 5 years operational objectives;
3. Developmental planning and implementation of short term and long term financial resources;
4. Ensuring co-operation liaison between territorial leadership and departmental activities;
5. Ensuring complete research, documentation, and strategy issues are creatively addressed to form the foundation of a comprehensive land claim;

This is not a negotiable position, but a resource, research and developmental role to complement that of the negotiator.

The incumbent must be willing to work with a team and within a Tribal Council organization which is committed to fundamental wellness throughout its endeavors.

QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY:

1. A minimum of two years of land and resource development / maintenance / policy implementation management;
2. Experience with First Nations values and priorities;
3. Degree or diploma in lands management / geography / biology / environmental studies;
4. Ability to work as a team member;
5. Good research and report writing skills.

SALARY: Negotiable, please state your expected salary.

SEND RESUMES TO:

Moir Management Systems Inc.
#310, 10534 - 124 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5N 1S1

CLOSING DATE: March 31, 1994

Mature, female medical office assistant desires opportunity to work in medical field with Native people in South Western Ontario.

Please Call 519-453-9028

8th PACIFIC INSTITUTE ON ADDICTIONS STUDIES

May 15-18, 1994

University of B.C., Vancouver, B.C.

The Pacific Institute on Addiction Studies offers a stimulating and interactive learning environment where professionals share resources, information and experiences in the prevention, intervention and treatment of alcohol and other drug problems.

Topics at this year's conference include:

- Fetal alcohol syndrome prevention
- Lessons from native aftercare
- Youth addiction issues
- Women survivors of sexual abuse

Speakers at this year's conference include: Dr. Maggie Hodgson, Lorie Dwinell and Bob Findlay.

For conference information, please contact:

Alcohol-Drug Education Service,
212-96 E. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1V6
Tel (604) 874-3466 Fax (604) 874-0903



**INTERESTED IN A
NURSING CAREER?**

**THERE IS A SHORTAGE
OF NATIVE NURSES IN CANADA!**

The Keyano College Nursing Program invites applications from individuals of Aboriginal ancestry. Effective for the 1994-95 academic year, four positions in the Nursing Program and two positions in the University Transfer Pre-Nursing Program will be set aside for qualified applicants from Aboriginal ancestry. For more information contact the:

**Chairperson of Nursing,
Keyano College Nursing Program
Fort McMurray, Alberta T5H 2H7
Ph: (403) 791-4889**

KEYANO COLLEGE

Employment Opportunity

The Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council **CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM** and the Driftpile Band are looking for an energetic individual for the following permanent position:

REGIONAL CHILD WELFARE WORKER

DUTIES:

Under the direction of the L.S.L.I.R.C. Casework Supervisor and the Band, will provide a full range of child welfare services mandated under the Alberta Child Welfare Act; will work closely with the Local Welfare Committee and the Child and Family Services Worker; work in program and resource development with the Band.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor of Social Work degree (BSW) experience in working with Native communities and ability to speak Cree are definite assets. A valid driver's license is essential. Child Welfare Information System and Canadian Police Information Centre checks need to be completed and available at the time of the interview.

SALARY:

Minimum \$34,494. Negotiable and dependent on qualifications/experience. Temporary accommodations available at the Band.

PLEASE SEND OR FAX RESUMES IN CONFIDENCE TO:



**Judy Simmonds,
Director, Child Welfare
Lesser Slave Lake
Indian Regional Council
P.O. Box 1740
High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Fax: (403) 523-4406**

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: Friday, March 25, 1994

FIRST NATION GATHERING 1994 SAGKEENG MONSTER BINGO APRIL 2nd, 1994

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ARENA MULTIPLEX

SAGKEENG FIRST NATION,
MANITOBA

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- • 4 JACKPOTS • • \$5,000 EACH
- • • 14 MINI-JACKPOTS • • • \$1,000 EACH
- • • • 10 DOOR PRIZES • • • • \$100 EACH

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\$80 Advance Tickets • 500 printed

\$100 Door Entry

CARDS

\$25 - 9 ups • • • \$15 - 6 ups

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Early Birds • • • *Lucky 7* • • • *Odd/Even*
Speedo • *Last Chance* • *50% Payout*
Share the Wealth • • • *60%*
Break Opens & Canteen



For Advance Tickets
 or Information for The Gathering
 (which will be held on July 30th - August 7th, 1994)

Contact:

Elaine Courchene: (204) 367-8740
 Cynthia Bunn: (204) 367-8740
 Carol Fontaine: (204) 3672287

FOR ADVANCE TICKETS

Selkirk - Adeline Waytiuk:
 (204) 785-8079
 Hollow Water - Oliver Sinclair:
 (204) 363-7215
 Black River - Pat McPherson:
 (204) 367-2119
 Brokenhead - Karen Desjarlais:
 (204) 766-2677 Hm (204) 766-2645 Wk
 Cross Lake - Doreen Linklater:
 (204) 676-2655
 Winnipeg - Evelyn Lepensee:
 (204) 633-9679

All proceeds go to
 THE FIRST NATION
 GATHERING EVENT