

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"If it isn't me fighting to stop the dam, then it will be someone else. Up until the day they are kicking dirt on my coffin, I'll do whatever I can because it's what we leave after we die that concerns me most."
- Milton Born With A Tooth

INSIDE

Windspeaker's Birthday

It's been a year of recovery for *Windspeaker* following federal budget cuts last year that left the newspaper struggling to survive. For an inside look and to meet *Windspeaker* staff face to face, please see pages 13-16.

Self-Government

Windspeaker reporter Amy Santoro has just returned from a conference at Morley where this issue was tackled by Native leaders from across the country. For an in-depth look at the issue, please see page 9.

Good grief

Unresolved grief can be destructive, says elder Art Holmes, the 70-year-old author of the *The Grieving Indian*. For a moving account on his life and beliefs and a review of his book by *Windspeaker* correspondent Dianne Meili please see page 11.

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DEADLINES

The advertising and copy deadline for the March 29 issue is 4 p.m. March 22.



March 15, 1991

North America's Leading Native Newspaper

Volume 8 No. 25

Born With A Tooth defiant

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

FORT MACLEOD, ALTA.

Lonefighters Society leader Milton Born With A Tooth says it will take more than sending him to jail to stop determined Lonefighters in their fight to halt the Oldman Dam.

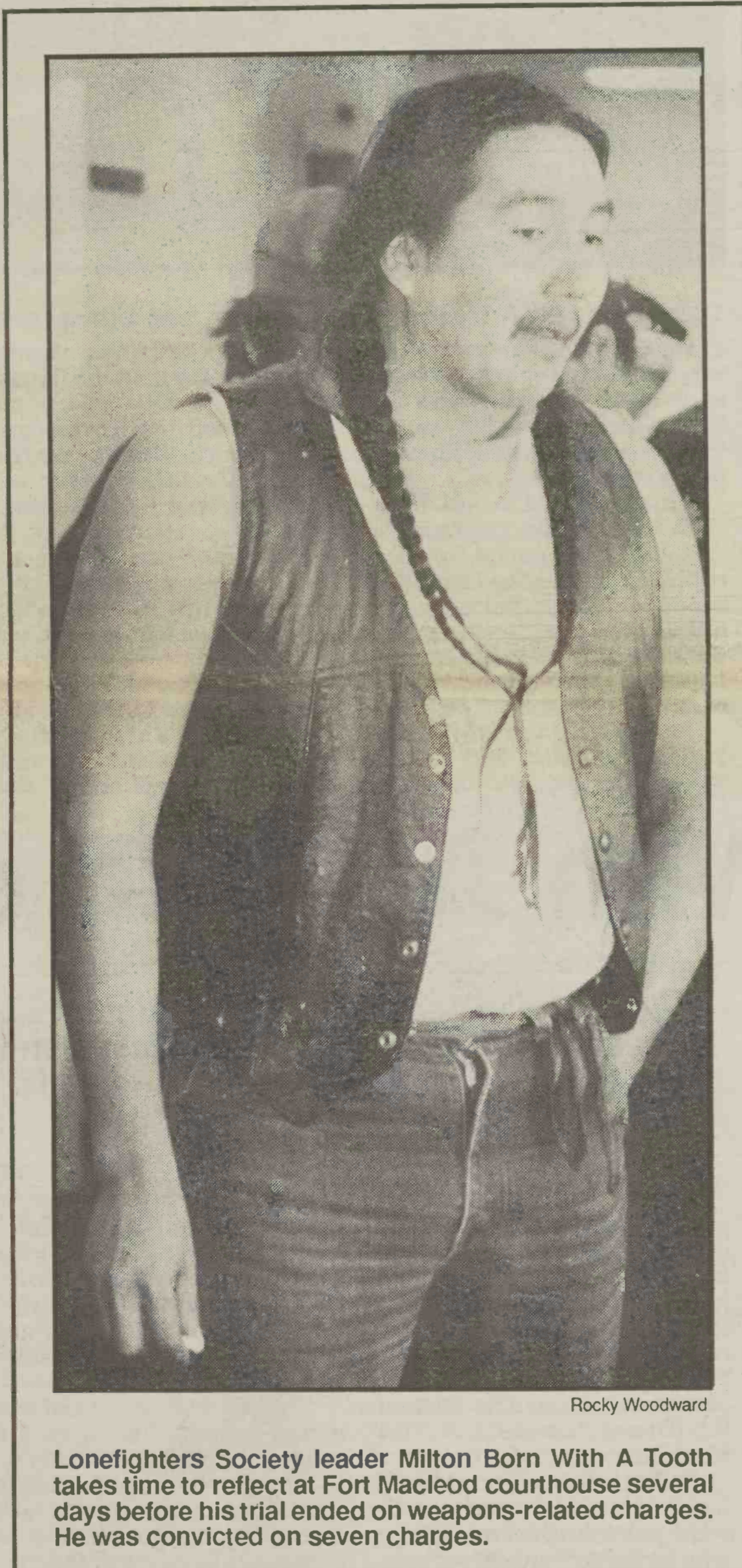
"If it isn't me fighting to stop the dam, then it will be someone else. Up until the day they are kicking dirt on my coffin, I'll do whatever I can because it's what we leave after we die that concerns me most," said Born With A Tooth, in an interview prior to being found guilty March 5 in Court of Queen's Bench on seven weapons charges relating to a Sept. 7 Lonefighters confrontation with the RCMP on the banks of the Oldman River.

Born With A Tooth said he's been "railroaded" into jail, but knew that would happen ever since he began his campaign to stop the \$350-million Oldman Dam project in southern Alberta.

"What other way could they stop me other than shooting me to death?" asked Born With A Tooth, who is being held in custody until he's sentenced March 25 in Lethbridge.

Many observers who attended the two-week court proceedings

Please see p. 2



Rocky Woodward

Lonefighters Society leader Milton Born With A Tooth takes time to reflect at Fort Macleod courthouse several days before his trial ended on weapons-related charges. He was convicted on seven charges.

Born With A Tooth lawyer to appeal

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

FORT MACLEOD, ALTA.

The militant leader of the Peigan Lonefighters Society has been found guilty of seven weapons charges.

Milton Born With A Tooth has been remanded in custody until his sentencing March 25 in Lethbridge.

His lawyer Karen Gainer will appeal the conviction by the six-man-six-woman jury in Fort Macleod Court of Queen's Bench March 5. In a telephone interview from Calgary Gainer said she will file an appeal on grounds of judicial interference and refusal to allow the jury to hear the defence of property argument.

Gainer's defence centered around section 41 of the Criminal Code which gives Canadians the right to defend against intruders on their property.

"He pointed a gun, big deal. You are entitled to point weapons in defence of your property. If the jury had been able to hear that defence, they would have had no choice but to find Milton not guilty."

Born With A Tooth faced eight weapons-related charges in connection with a Sept. 7 incident at the site of a diversion channel on the Peigan reserve at the Oldman River irrigation weir. One count of pointing a firearm was dropped. Shots were fired when RCMP escorted environment officials onto the site to inspect the breach of an irrigation dike by the Lonefighters. Born With A Tooth warned the RCMP they were trespassing on Peigan land.

The group opposes construction of the \$350-million Oldman Dam on environmental, spiritual and treaty grounds.

Gainer said she's confident Born With A Tooth will be granted an appeal. "I've never had such a good appeal basis in all my nine years as a lawyer."

His sister, Lorna Born With A Tooth, is outraged by what she sees as the mistreatment of her brother by the justice system. "The trial was unfair. The judge's remarks were one-sided. The prosecution didn't have to work, the judge did it all."

Because the case was found to be high profile, Justice L.D. MacLean was assigned by the chief judge of the Court of Queen's Bench in Calgary to preside over the trial. High profile cases are those which may be of great interest to the media or

Please see p. 2

Happy Birthday, *Windspeaker*!

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Since 1983 *Windspeaker* has filled its pages with Native news, sports, community events, entertainment, cultural activities and stories about elders and children.

This month *Windspeaker* celebrates its eighth anniversary — that is eight years of commu-

nicating with our readers throughout Alberta and beyond.

A survey held across Alberta last year showed that the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta continues to provide a newspaper that is appreciated by its readers.

It is something the staff and management are very proud of.

Windspeaker has won many national and international awards over the last eight years. Much of the credit has to go to

the newspaper's staff and management — past and present. Their dedication and professionalism made *Windspeaker* the leading Native newspaper in Western Canada.

For those who have not had the opportunity to meet the *Windspeaker* crew, we are proud to introduce them to you in this, our eighth anniversary special edition.

Windspeaker looks forward to serving you, our readers, for many anniversaries to come.

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Born With A Tooth lawyer to appeal

From front page

the general public.

Dana Andreassen, executive assistant to Attorney General Ken Rostad, said the department "had nothing to do with the assignment of the judge." She said the "judicial system is independent from politics."

MacLean is from Lethbridge,

a southern Alberta city often criticized for its racist attitude toward Natives.

Peigan Band Councillor William Big Bull said Born With A Tooth had been "given the due process of law." Asked if Born With A Tooth would be supported by the chief and council, Big Bull said "Milton made it clear he didn't recognize the chief and council and he declared himself honorary chief, so what support does he want?"

But Lonefighters' spiritual leader Devalon Small Legs said Feb. 23 that forcing Born With A Tooth to face a Fort Macleod jury was setting him up to be "crucified."

A Calgary judge denied Born With A Tooth a change of venue Feb. 15.

Gainer said the case has political overtones because of the excessiveness of the charges. Originally Born With A Tooth was charged with two weapons offences — dangerous use of a firearm and pointing a firearm.

In December he faced an additional six charges — two counts of pointing a firearm, two of obstructing a peace officer and two of assault with a weapon. Born With A Tooth was arrested in September and after being denied bail four times was released on his fifth attempt Dec. 19.

During jury selection Gainer approved two Natives but Crown prosecutor Bruce Fraser rejected them.

A member of the Canadian Association in Alliance with Native People said his group and other church and environmental organizations plan to take the Born With A Tooth matter to the Alberta legislature.

"The facts have led us to believe the justice system is acting



Rosemary Snead

Lorna Born With A Tooth (r), Milton's sister, with former Lonefighters lawyer Drew Galbraith

towards Natives in a prejudiced way," said Jim Penton, a Lethbridge Metis. Penton, who attended the trial, said the "whole trail of events surrounding the trial is strange."

Penton said it's odd Born With A Tooth was not granted a change of trial location "in view of the fact Fort Macleod and all of southern Alberta holds an extreme prejudice towards Natives. It's difficult to understand how a fair trial can be held in this area."

Penton said a farmer in the Fort Macleod area told him "if the government didn't deal with

Natives, local farmers would take up guns and deal with them."

Lorna said the Alberta government set her brother up "because they're afraid Milton will expose the real reasons behind the dam."

She said the dam is not being built simply to upgrade and better facilitate irrigation. Since 1922 farmers "have had enough water," she said.

The government's hidden agenda is "water transfer to the U.S., Mexico and Japan. It will make the federal and provincial governments millions of dol-

ars." She also claimed the province plans to build an underwater museum and an underwater wilderness trail for divers.

Rod Love, executive assistant to Environment Minister Ralph Klein, said Lorna's assertions were "all absurd." There are "no plans to export water," he said.

The dam, nearly complete, is being built because "municipalities downstream require a more stable supply of water," said Love.

Andreassen refused comment on whether the government wanted to silence Born With A Tooth.

Provincial

Compiled by Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SUICIDES PROMPT JAIL RENOVATIONS

LAC LA BICHE - The RCMP will pump \$100,000 into renovating a rural jail following the suicides of two Metis men. The Lac la Biche jail cells, 170 km northeast of Edmonton, will be renovated. Construction is scheduled to start in June. The move comes after a provincial court judge called for the force to tighten supervision at the detachment following the deaths of inmates Marty Collin and Jack Thompson three years apart. Thompson, 29, was found hanged with a T-shirt in April 1987. Collin, 28, hung himself with a T-shirt July 15, 1990 in the same cell. Both men were from the Buffalo Lake Metis settlement. The new design for the cells "is such that there will be very few spots where prisoners can attempt to harm themselves," said RCMP spokesman Sgt. Loran Thiemann.

MIDGET HOCKEY IN NORTHERN ALBERTA

COLD LAKE - Hockey teams from across the province will take part in the Provincial Hockey Championship Games March 29-30. Elizabeth Metis settlement is sponsoring the event at the Cold Lake Community Arena. The arena's recreation director, Audrey Cardinal, is asking all teams still interested in the games to call 594-5031.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CERTIFICATE TO MEET NEEDS FOR MORE NATIVE STAFF

LETHBRIDGE - The demand for Native staff in the criminal justice system has prompted Lethbridge Community College to offer a criminal justice certificate. "As a Native student this new program has given me more options to pursue within the criminal justice program," said Lori Manyfingers of Stand Off. Melody Scout, another Stand Off student, said the program can only improve relations between police and Natives. Seven students are enrolled in the program which will be expanded to accommodate 18 students in September.

ACTION CANADA CALLS FOR RESIGNATION

EDMONTON - The Action Canada Network (Alberta), a coalition of Native, environmental, women and other groups, is demanding the resignation of the federal government. "This budget is the last straw," said spokesman Lucien Royer. He said the government of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney "has no mandate left. We say and we are urging the people of Alberta to say: 'Mulroney and the Tories must go'."

held at Fort Macleod, also said Born With A Tooth was railroaded.

Milton's sister, Lorna Born With A Tooth, said Court of Queen's Bench Justice L.D. MacLean continued to make "nasty remarks" about Indian culture throughout the trial.

"The judge said and did whatever he wanted to. At one point he even winked at the Crown prosecutor. Everyone saw it. People took pages and pages of his uncalled-for remarks," she said.

Born With A Tooth's lawyer Karen Gainer requested a video taken by a *Windspeaker* reporter during the Sept. 7 confrontation between Lonefighters and RCMP be shown as evidence for the defence. But after viewing the tape MacLean turned down her request, saying it was irrelevant to the charges against Born With A Tooth.

"This film occupied a great deal of time with singing, chanting and pounding of tomtoms, but has absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with the charges in this court," MacLean said.

He also said a video shot showing the Lonefighters praying with church members and spiritual elders "was staged and irrelevant."

Born With A Tooth's request to have his trial moved to Cal-

Born With A Tooth defiant

From front page

'When Indian people use the mountains, birds and wind to describe their beliefs and concerns, white people see it as romantic, but we are actually citing our own constitution'

gary to ensure a fair trial because of strong feelings in the south in favor of the dam, had been rejected by a Calgary judge.

Milton said MacLean was not representing the court system but the province, the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District (LNID) and farmers in the Fort Macleod area.

"What chance did Milton have? He was facing an all-white jury from this area, a judge who by his own unbelievable re-

marks totally railroaded Milton and eight charges? It was a great example of overkill," Lorna Born With A Tooth protested.

Milton said he is sick and tired of living in a racist situation worse than in South Africa.

"People say the judicial system is working fine. It isn't. It needs to be educated.

"We didn't write the laws, so why should we recognize laws that allow the government to build dykes that destroy the envi-

ronment and the land we live on, when we were never a part of writing those laws?" Born With A Tooth asked.

He attacked the judicial system for unfairly dealing with Native people in court.

"When Indian people use the mountains, birds and wind to describe their beliefs and concerns, white people see it as romantic, but we are actually citing our own constitution.

"We didn't decide one day to sit on the prairie and make it all up. We dealt with honesty and respect and didn't need someone to come down from a mountain to give us laws. We are and always will be a part of creation," Born With A Tooth said, adding that when he stood in court with a feather in his hand "I stood for my culture."

Metis minister given Native affairs

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Having a Metis MLA responsible for Native affairs is nothing for Natives to cheer about, says a Peigan Nation band councillor.

Lionel Crow Shoe said Solicitor General Dick Fowler's Native background "doesn't mean anything since it hasn't meant anything in the past."

Fowler was handed his new duties March 5 by Premier Don Getty, who made changes to his cabinet involving four ministers.

Crow Shoe said "Natives are not jumping up and down over this because Fowler is a Conservative first, not a Native."

The chief of the Sturgeon Lake band, 300 km northeast of Edmonton, said making Fowler responsible for Native affairs "might just be a political move."

Ronald Sunshine said it's hard to speculate how well Fowler will represent Natives. "I don't know if he appreciates the issues even though he's Native."

Fowler was not raised in a Native culture, putting him at a disadvantage because "he doesn't understand reserves," he

said.

If Fowler is willing to take on federal Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon, "we may see some land claims resolved," said Sunshine.

Fowler said only time will tell if "my ability to listen to Natives and deal with them" will be enhanced by his Native background.

Attorney General Ken Rostad, who had been responsible for Native issues, said he feels he accomplished his goals.

Rostad had Metis self-government and land-claim settlement legislation passed in November.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Compiled by Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

UPROAR ENDS OKA HEARING

OTTAWA - Bitter accusations, name-calling and the walkout of a group of Mohawks brought an end to a hearing into events last summer at Oka. The Mohawks called the parliamentary hearing a waste of time, accused the Canadian government of genocide, called Quebec Conservative MP Lise Bourgault "hateful" and said other Tories on the panel were biased and racist. "This committee has no political power," said Ellen Gabriel, one of the Mohawks. "It's a farce. They're going through the motion." Bourgault shot back by likening Mohawk Warriors to outlaw motorcycle gangs.

OTTAWA RENEGES ON PROMISES FOR NATIVE SELF-RULE - CHIEF

TORONTO - The national chief of the Assembly of First Nations accuses Ottawa of renegeing on promises of Native self-rule made during last summer's crisis in Oka. "The promises made during Oka were never lived up to," Georges Erasmus said after participating in a panel on Native issues in constitutional reform at the Royal Ontario Museum Feb. 10. "From the prime minister down to virtually every cabinet minister who spoke, they said once the guns were down we'll talk about these substantial issues. The substantial issue was Native sovereignty." Erasmus said more Native roadblocks and violence are possible if Ottawa doesn't make real progress on Native self-government and land claims. Meantime, Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon announced Feb. 19 the government accepted a framework agreement to guide ongoing negotiations at Oka. The agreement has yet to be ratified by the Mohawk community of Kanasatake. He says internal power struggles at Oka have stalled negotiations.

SIDDON RENEWS FUNDING FOR SEHELIT SELF-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

VANCOUVER - Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon renewed funding for the Sehelit band to continue with its self-government arrangement. The funding agreement, covering a five-year period, begins April 1. The annual transfer payments from Ottawa will support the band in the delivery and administration of local government services. Siddon said the Sehelit band "has clearly demonstrated community self-government can be achieved successfully through sincere and co-operative negotiation." The Sehelit band achieved self-government under the Sehelit Indian Band Self-Government Act in 1986 replacing the provisions of the Indian Act relating to the band. Under the agreement the band has the authority to design and administer local government programs and is accountable to its constituents, says a news release.

PROBE OF JUSTICE SYSTEM DEMANDED

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK. - The Aboriginal Women's Council of Saskatchewan is calling for an inquiry into how the justice system is failing Natives. The organization is demanding an inquiry because of the high incarceration rates of Natives. "The justice system and its lack of understanding of aboriginal people is definitely part of the problem (with Natives)," said Vicki Wilson, a council representative. Her comments come after a corrections conference in P.A. Statistics revealed at the conference indicate more aboriginal people are jailed in Saskatchewan than anywhere in the country. The aboriginal prison population can be as high as 95 per cent.

MOHAWK WOMAN APPOINTED AS JUDGE

ST. CATHARINES, ONT. - A Mohawk lawyer from St. Catharines, Ont. will be Canada's first female Native judge, said Ontario's Attorney General Howard Hampton Feb. 20. Terry Vyse, 38, is a status Indian who grew up in St. Davids, north of Niagara Falls. Vyse took office March 1.

NATIVES' SECOND BLOCKADE REMOVED

VANCOUVER - A second Native blockade on a secondary highway has been removed a day after RCMP arrested Indians from another blockade at a different site. The Natives were blocking Duffey Lake Road north of Vancouver Feb. 10 to keep loggers out of land they regard as sacred burial grounds. There were no reports of injuries when loggers moved in to tear down the obstruction. About 10 Natives were arrested Feb. 9 when police moved in to dismantle a blockade set up by some members of the Lil'wat Peoples Movement on a logging road near Pemberton.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. - The government signed an agreement to set up a \$50-million economic development program for the Northwest Territories. The framework agreement outlines the negotiating process for a five-year economic development agreement. The cost-shared plan will include ventures in a variety of areas such as tourism, arts and fisheries. The federal government will contribute 70 per cent of the funds with the territorial government providing the remaining 30 per cent. Tom Siddon, minister of Indian Affairs, said the agreement "will provide opportunities to strengthen and diversify the Northwest Territories' economy."

NATIVES IN OKA CASE ARRAIGNED

ST. JEROME, QUE. - Forty-one Mohawks were arraigned in Quebec Superior Court to answer charges stemming from last summer's confrontation in Oka. The Mohawks are facing over 100 charges on 28 counts, including participating in a riot, assault, possession of a dangerous weapon and obstructing police. The group refused to enter pleas Feb. 28. Mr. Justice Jean-Guy Boilard automatically entered not guilty pleas for them and ordered a trial by judge and jury. The 78-day standoff began July 11 when Quebec provincial police staged a raid to remove a blockade the Natives had built to stop expansion of a golf course onto land they claim as sacred. The accused will go directly to trial without a preliminary hearing - a rarely used legal process called a preferred indictment.

News

No chance funding lost in 1990 will be restored

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

A senior Secretary of State official says there's no chance 1990 funding cuts to Native organizations, newspapers and communications societies will ever be restored.

"There are many ethnic newspapers and organizations that don't get funding. Why should Natives? How can they be objective media if they're funded by the government?" asked Len Westerberg, a press agent for Secretary of State, which financed the groups.

Finance Minister Michael Wilson's 1990 budget slashed funds for 30 Native organizations, including the Assembly of First Nations, 11 Native newspapers and four communications societies. The Native communications program provided funding to Native communications societies - including *Windspeaker* - to produce media services in print and radio.

Organizations affected by the cuts were given over \$1 million to help them become self-sufficient.

Wilson's 1991 budget, released Feb. 28, included increases for family violence programs, friendship centres, the Northern Native Broadcast Access Program and language services for the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

But there was no money for the organizations, which had their funding slashed last year.

Georges Erasmus, grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations, said he was upset the lost funds weren't reinstated, but noted "all in all, we're in good shape compared to last year."

He said the 1991 federal budget proved the government has no commitment to Native people.

"The 1991 budget should have provided a clear signal to First Nations the federal Native agenda is a top policy priority of the Mulroney government," said Erasmus, who called on Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to reinstate the funding lost last year.

Meanwhile, the Department of Indian Affairs had its budget boosted by \$315.7 million, bringing its budget to \$3.8 billion.

The money is needed for the government "to settle more land claims, which is consistent with the prime minister's commitment to Natives," said Helen Fisher, a media relations official in the department. She said the budget was consistent with Mulroney's commitment to Natives.

In September, Mulroney announced his "four-pillars" policy. He promised to speed up land-claim settlements, improve social and living conditions on reserves and improve the government's political relationship with First Nations.

Meanwhile, special one-time \$20,000 grants to help Native newspapers feeling the crunch become independent have expired, said Westerberg. He said he didn't know how many newspapers applied.

A Secretary of State task force recommended the grant to help Native newspapers with restructuring, developing their business and marketing.

The Canadian Centre of Inter-



Dana Wagg

Georges Erasmus

national PEN recently released a report condemning government cuts to Native communications saying "the government silenced

the voice of Native people" with its 1990 budget cuts. The study said the cuts were a violation of international law.

Friendship centre mourns passing of White Eagle

By Wayne Courchene
Windspeaker Correspondent

CALGARY

The Calgary Native friendship centre staff mourned the passing of Bob Lickers, president of the board of directors, who died of heart failure Feb. 25 on his way to a meeting at the centre from the Stoney Nation reserve.

Lickers, 50, a Mohawk from Brantford, Ontario served as a board member since 1987, first as treasurer and then as president since May 1990. Active in the community, he also served on the boards of the Provincial Association of Friendship Centres and the John Howard Society.

Laverna McMaster, executive director of the friendship centre, said "it was a pleasure to have him serve on the board of directors. We had a good working relationship during the time he was on the executive."

Vinnia Van Overdyk, secretary of the board of directors, feels the Native community suffered a great loss "because he had many plans that will remain unfulfilled both in private and professional life." However, she noted, he fulfilled one of his dreams recently when he finally met Elijah Harper and invited him to the friendship centre. He wanted to meet Mr. Harper for a long time.

Last year Lickers was nominated for the David Crowchild Award, an award given annually in Calgary to a person or organization for outstanding service to Native people. The Calgary friendship centre received the award but Bob happily accepted the award on behalf of the centre. The acceptance speech he gave at the awards banquet was a memo-

orable one as he spoke of the need to bridge the gap between aboriginal people and other groups in Canada.

"It was a very good speech," said his wife Merle. "It was a strong and dynamic speech and I was so very proud of him."

Lickers worked for the city of Calgary's Police Department when he discovered the friendship centre - the staff fondly recall inviting him to the centre for coffee. Shortly afterwards he and his wife volunteered to co-ordinate the Beavers group at the centre.

Lickers also had a distinguished career with the Canadian Armed Forces for 20 years before he retired in 1977. He served on two tours of duty to West Germany and Cypress.

He was employed with the Stoney Nation in the social services department for close to a year at the time of his death. Previously he was employed as a member of the Stoney Tribal Police where he gained the respect and admiration of local residents.

Working with the friendship centre and the Stoney Nation, Lickers began his search for his roots as an Indian. He regained his Indian status in 1986 after giving it up to join the army when he was 16 years old. He commenced his journey to recover his spiritual traditions when he was given the responsibility as keeper of the tipi at the friendship centre.

"I saw such a change in him. He was more content and happy once he was with his people," said Merle.

He was given his Indian name, White Eagle, posthumously by the Stoney elders.

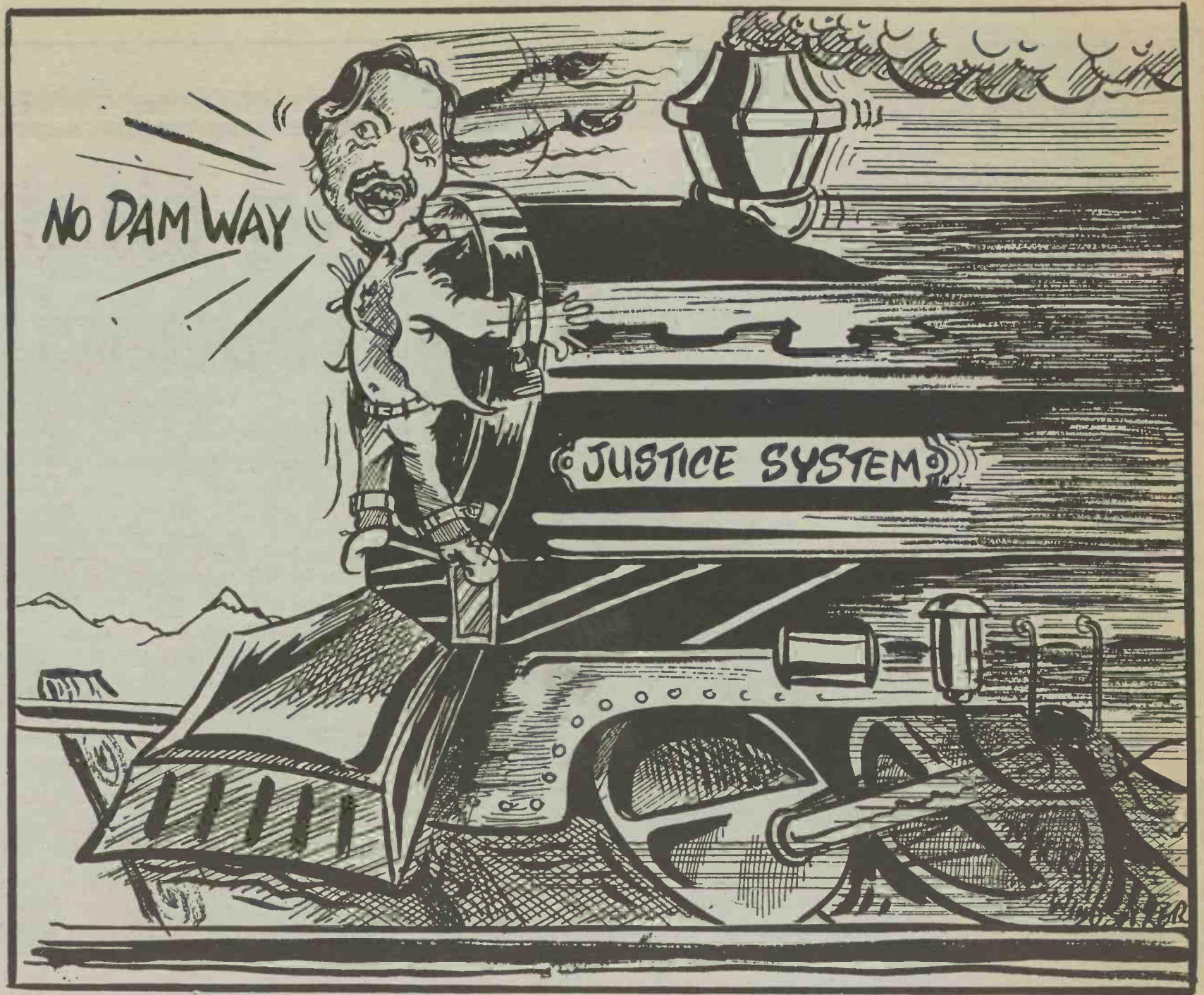
Members of his family from Brantford, the friendship centre, the Stoney Nation and the Armed Forces attended the services held in Calgary.

Wind speaker

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Bert Crowfoot, Publisher



Mother Earth wept

Deeply troubled by a violent attack against Mother Earth and the changes that would come about, a group of Lonefighters Society members set up a camp last fall along the banks of the Oldman River.

All those who love Mother Earth are angered by the daily assaults against her by mere mortals, who seek, for their own ends, to correct the course of nature.

The wind, the sky, the earth, the sea, the animals, the birds, are all seen as objects to be used by these interfering mortals and not as part of creation, not as part of the circle of life.

The Lonefighters heard the sounds of a higher law than man's calling to them as they made their stand on the banks of southern Alberta's Oldman.

There they dug and dug to return the Oldman to its natural channel under the watchful eyes of mothers, children, fathers, husbands, elders and spiritual advisers.

There they dug under the watchful eye of provincial government workers and heavily-armed police officers intent on carrying out man's law — that the Oldman will be dammed and her water conserved for the farmers and families downstream.

As the Lonefighters prayed and waited on the Oldman, Father Sky and Mother Earth smiled.

But their joy was short-lived.

And soon Mother Earth groaned again as she saw the men carry out their plan, to stop the Lonefighters from freeing the Oldman.

And Mother Earth wept as she thought of the loss of her cottonwood trees, her fish, her birds and her river valley.

Hearing her hurt and seeing her pain, a Peigan man grieved and lashed out in anger.

"When Indian people use the mountains, birds and wind to describe their beliefs and concerns, white people see it as romantic. But we are actually citing our own constitution," he said.

"We didn't decide one day to sit on the prairie and make it all up. We dealt with honesty and respect and didn't need someone to come down from a mountain to give us laws. We are and always will be a part of creation," said Milton Born With A Tooth.

In court at Fort Macleod he stood and clutched an eagle feather. "I stood for my culture," he said.

"We didn't write the laws, so why should we recognize laws that allow the government to build dykes that destroy the environment and the land we live on, when we were never a part of writing those laws?" he asked.

He will be sentenced at Lethbridge March 25.

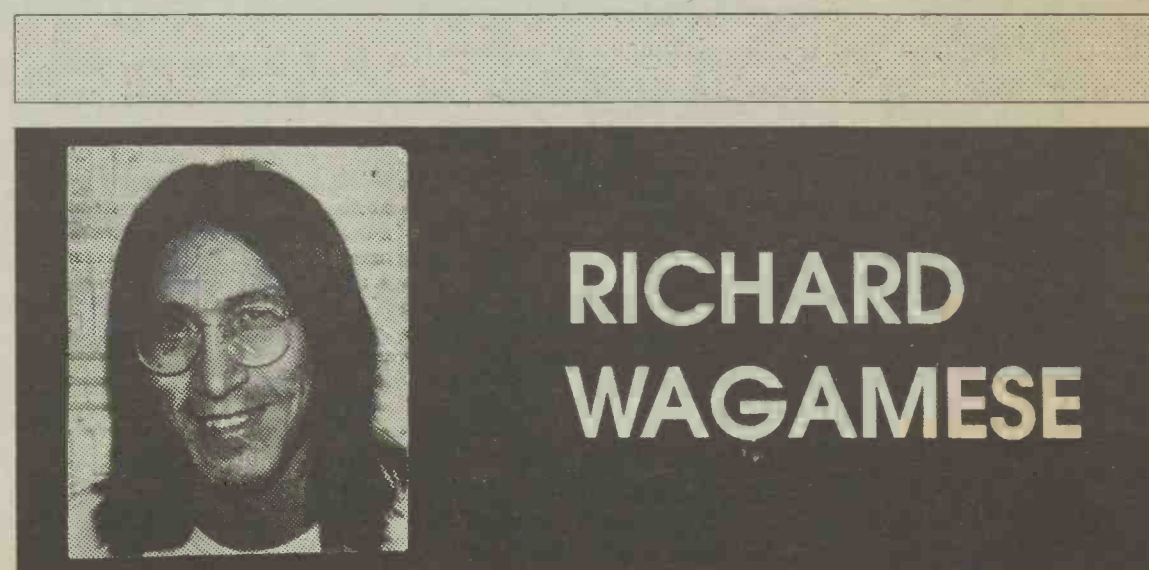
Introduced to myself atop a hill

I grew up on a hill in Montana. Over the course of four days and four nights, in what has romantically been referred to as a vision quest, I confronted the essential nature of myself and stepped forward. Alone on that hill, with nothing more than a blanket and a canteen of water, I was introduced to my place in the world.

The Old One sent me there. I'd come to him again, as I had over the course of years, confused, angry and willing to do almost anything to change. My marriage had disappeared, my writing well appeared to have dried up and various attempts at relationships with women had ended in turmoil. Most days were spent wishing I was anyone other than myself.

He listened as he always did, smoked his pipe and watched me. After what seemed like an interminable period of silence he described the ritual he was about to send me on.

I was to go out alone and stay within a prescribed circle atop this pine-covered hill. With no fire and no company I would pray and ask humbly for guidance and for the strength to follow the directions he promised would come. I was given a sacred pipe, some tobacco, sweetgrass and water. Within that circle, which represented the universe, I was to sit and contem-



**RICHARD
WAGAMESE**

plate the questions that churned within me.

He told me the answers were within me and they always had been. By confronting myself for four days and four nights, much would be revealed, provided I was willing to look within and to greet the fears as guides to the correct path. A hug, a look I will remember forever for its depth of understanding, a wave and he walked away down that hill.

I'd like to be able to say I was granted a sweepingly romantic vision like the ones described in novels and movies. I'd like to say I saw the answers to all the questions in my life. Just as I'd like to say I walked away from that experience totally healed, fulfilled, directed and pure. But I didn't.

Over the years I made many wrong choices, hurt more people and suffered more at my own hands. Still, something was granted to me then that lives with me today. Something that enabled me to survive the mistakes, grow and heal myself.

As I sat there alone, shivering and prayerful through nights that seemed as full of hidden terrors as they did full of obvious fears, I learned my basic nature. All my life to that point I'd considered fear and vulnerability as weaknesses. Denial was strength and the warrior spirit I sought to project did not include emotional displays or confessions of doubt. But there on that hill I was introduced to the part of myself I'd hidden from.

As the Old One walked me back down the hill he listened as I explained the feelings I'd confronted. He listened as I explained how I'd come to realize that denying my fears and inadequacies was basically a denial of myself. He smiled when I said the reasons I'd been unable to deal honestly with women was because I'd been unable to deal

with what I saw as the female part of myself.

When I left him the next day to drive back into my life, he gave me two eagle feathers bound together with a deerhide thong and a red ribbon. They were to be both an honor for enduring an ordeal and a reminder I would always have two sets of gifts within me. The gifts of the father, represented by my male characteristics, and the gifts of the mother, represented by the feminine side of my nature I'd denied all my life.

The gifts of the father — like independence, aggression and strength — and the gifts of the mother — like nurturing, compassion and humility — needed to work alongside each other if I was to live as a fully functioning human being. This was spiritual, this was traditional, this was Indian. The feathers hang in my living room today as constant reminder of the true Indian way I strive to live.

The Old One has departed this reality. He left with grace, dignity and a characteristic lack of fanfare. There is much fear in knowing my spiritual teacher who enabled me to change my life is no longer within reach. But as I stand on that Montana hill-top he will always be a part of the breeze. He lives as all grandfathers live. He lives in ceremony, in ritual, songs, dances, prayers. He lives in the kindness and dignity we human beings grant to each other in our comings and goings and it is my hope he will continue to live in these words and in this newspaper space for as long as they and it are mine to fill.

Meegwetch, my friend, Meegwetch. **EAGLE FEATHERS:** to all believers who turn to their elders for guidance, knowledge and reconnections. They are our greatest resource.

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Your Letters

Nepoose article slanted and unskilled

Dear Editor:

The Feb. 24, 1991 *Edmonton Journal* article — Nepoose Verdict by Tom Barrett — is a typical example of media inaccuracy and stereotyping of Native people. The article represents a slanted and unskilled examination of the Wilson Nepoose case.

To suggest witnesses can't be believed because of a criminal record does a great disservice to Indian people. Many young Native individuals get involved with a system of law which is foreign to their culture and understanding and end up with a criminal record which stays with them for the rest of their lives. This doesn't detract from their personal integrity nor should it destroy their credibility.

I have had my experiences with the law, yet I have the sufficient respect and support of my people to be elected to band council where I have worked hard to serve their needs and interests. Even Elijah Harper has had difficulties with the white man's system of justice. The degrading of the reputation of Indian people because of a criminal record is a common but contemptible practice.

The Barrett article states the Mackinaw vehicle was an Oldsmobile but the trial record clearly shows it was a Plymouth. If Mr. Barrett cannot get a detail



Rudy Haugeneder

Debbie and Lester Nepoose and investigator Jack Ramsay

as simple as this straight, it is understandable how the more complex issues would elude him.

Referring to the new alibi evidence Mr. Barrett states "First of all, why wasn't it called during the original trial? Where was the evidence of Durocher and Okeynan, who supposedly paid for the room? And what about the other people who were supposedly there? Were the room records ever checked by the defence and if not, why not?"

The onus rested with the Crown to ensure the murder of Marie Rose Desjarlais was thoroughly investigated and that all available evidence was produced. The Crown failed in this important responsibility.

The complete alibi evidence, including the AGT phone bill, the registration card for Room 205 of the Rancher's Inn and the testimony of the individuals Wilson Nepoose claimed were with him, was available to the Crown. The decision to charge

Wilson with the murder of Desjarlais was based upon an incomplete investigation devoid of facts, which a thorough investigation would have provided.

That this evidence was never produced, either by the Crown during the investigation of the murder or by defence council during the trial, reveals what Native people are up against in dealing with the criminal justice system.

We hired the best defence council we could find to defend Wilson. As with almost all cases involving Native people, Wilson had no say in the way the defence council handled his case. Regardless of the failings of the defence, the Crown cannot abdicate its responsibility to produce all available facts of a crime to the defence council. To ignore the Crown's responsibility in this area reduces Mr. Barrett's remarks to meaningless meandering and conjecture.

Barrett indicates the Crown prosecutor stated a prisoner has been found to whom Wilson confessed. From the time Wilson was arrested to the present he has maintained his innocence. While in custody, first in the RCMP cells in Ponoka and then in the Edmonton Remand Centre, individuals were put next to Wilson, who attempted to elicit statements from him that would incriminate him in the murder of Desjarlais. No incrimi-

nating statements were obtained. Following his incarceration in the Prince Albert penitentiary, he wrote two letters to the Samson band council proclaiming his innocence and requesting help to clear him of the conviction. His denial of the murder of Desjarlais has been consistent.

It is irresponsible for the Crown prosecutor at this stage to speculate Wilson confessed to the crime without evidence to support such a claim. It is equally irresponsible for Mr. Barrett to make the statement that "if commission evidence is heard, it's likely the mystery prisoner will testify for the Crown."

If such evidence existed, it would be in the possession of the Crown and would have been stated as fact and not mere speculation by the prosecutor. It is also reasonable to assume Wilson's attorney would be provided with this evidence if it existed. No such disclosure has been made.

Why did Mr. Barrett not verify his so-called "mystery prisoner" evidence with the Crown prosecutor or with officials of the attorney general's department before publishing an incriminating statement which has not been established in fact? This kind of irresponsible reporting does nothing to aid the ends of justice.

Lester Nepoose
Hobbema, ALTA.

Give your parents the roses now

Dear Editor:

Not long ago a couple of friends said to me, "Harry, we are so blessed and thrilled. Our children just handed us airplane tickets and the whole works for us to take a good trip and holiday. They say we sure deserve a treat like this. They also did this a few years ago and gave us a wonderful trip to Hawaii!"

I lost my parents to TB many years ago. Oh, if they were around today, I'd do all in my power to give them the best life can offer. I'd shower them with whatever good I could.

I will shortly record a song that goes like this: "Wonderful things of folks are said when they have passed away. Roses adorn their narrow grave, over this sleeping clay...give them the roses while they live, trying to cheer them on, useless are flowers that we give, after the soul is gone!"

Yes, how true! Roses can't be seen or smelled by the dead.

So children, give your parents the best while they are still around you. Whether near or far, distance means nothing. Let me share this story.

It was a neighborhood tradition to always buy a car for a son who was graduating. Bill was graduating so he and his father went from car lot to car lot and finally picked out a car Bill liked. His father was in agreement about the purchase.

On his grad day Bill was very disappointed at first when his father handed him a Bible in gift wrap! Bill tore open the wrapping — anger (see what anger will do) set in — and in a rage he threw the package on the floor and stormed out of the house, saying "I'll never be back in this house for as long as I live." He moved to a faraway town and never made contact with his

parents.

A year later his father died suddenly. Bill was named in the will to take charge of all matters in place of his dead father. While going through his

dad's papers and belongings, he saw the package he had thrown on the floor over a year ago under the pile of paper. He picked it up, unwrapped the rest of the gift wrap he had torn open in a

rage and began looking through the Bible. There tucked in a middle page was a certified cheque made out to Bill. It had the same date as the day he and his father picked out the car Bill

chose for his grad gift. So, give them the roses now while they live.

Harry Rusk
Edmonton

Inmates and institution at loggerheads

Dear Editor:

We, a recognized society functioning from Atlantic Institution at Renous, are confronted with a serious crisis that violates both our aboriginal and constitutional rights to practise our spiritual ways.

The revival to practise one's spirituality and traditional ways is strengthening, but as long as there is disrespect, racism and plain disregard for our traditional ways, confrontation will continue.

The Sacred Circle Society, like any other Native organization, supports the struggle on all Native issues like the confrontation over Mohawk territory at Oka, the struggle of Leonard Peltier, the Meech Lake accord, and all issues dealing with our existence as an organization.

Although the Canadian Constitution and the policies of Corrections Canada guarantees our freedom of religion and freedom to voice our concern, it has been rejected by the administration of our institution.

Individual members of our group are subjected to abuse for voicing Native concerns. They have been denied medical treatment and segregated. The abuse of authority goes as far as jeopardizing the safety of inmates and creating mixed feelings and mistrust within the population.

The administration denies the mismanagement of hundreds of dollars for social and other support programs beneficial to Natives incarcerated within the

institution. A request for an audit was rejected before reaching the finance and solicitor general's departments in Ottawa.

An already-out-of-control blaze has been fuelled that is creating serious confrontation

between the Natives and the administration.

Like any other organization we like to avoid confrontation but if necessary we will resort to any tactic to have control of our spiritual and traditional

ways.

War Chief, Joe Macdonald
Atlantic Institution
P.O. Box 74
Renous, New Brunswick,
E0C 1X0

Politicians don't understand the needs of Calling Lake people

Dear Editor:

We, the members of the Calling Lake Community Association, are writing on behalf of all of the people of Calling Lake to express our extreme disappointment and displeasure at once again being left out of the decision-making process particularly as it relates to the well-being of our community.

On Feb. 25, without any warning or indeed even the courtesy of a telephone call from the appropriate officials or politicians, we were informed that decisions relating to the Opportunity Corp. had been completely taken out of our hands.

Prior to this the Opportunity Corp. was engaged in the much needed task of building new homes and upgrading and repairing existing homes in Calling Lake. It worked under the direction of the Calling Lake Community Association which is in the best position to assess local needs and priorities. This control has now been completely taken from

our hands. Furthermore, we understand the corporation will now be involved in such "critical" projects as improvement of the Athabasca golf course.

The hard lessons of last summer have obviously too soon been forgotten by the "powers that be". It was also — you will recall — a golf course that started all the trouble at Oka. Government should have learned long ago it is critical in an open and caring democracy to involve

constituents in decisions that so directly relate to their material well-being.

We, the people of Calling Lake, DO NOT accept this unilateral exercise of arbitrary power by bureaucrats and politicians who so clearly do not understand our needs.

Clifford R. Cardinal
Calling Lake Community
Association
Calling Lake, ALTA.

Windspeaker refreshing

Dear Editor:

A friend loaned me a copy of *Windspeaker* to look through and I'd like to subscribe.

It's frustrating not to find news of Native affairs in the regular media and the bit that does get in is often slanted to the views of the gobbledygook that surrounds us — the govern-

ment/system/corporate world.

Your paper is a refreshing wealth of information shining through the propaganda machine. Thank you very much and I hope all is well for you all and your relatives.

Al Muckle
Winlaw, B.C.

What's Happening?

'I was honored and then taken to the cleaners'

Hi! And...well I'll be darned! At this time I would like to extend a very big thank-you to the Canadian Native Friendship Centre staff and its board of directors for honoring Droppin' In for its contribution to Native people.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend a banquet in Edmonton, where many others were honored as well for their volunteer service towards Native activities.

Want to know what was given to Droppin' In? A book published by Dr. Anne Anderson with my name inscribed in gold on its cover.

Dr. Anderson, do you remember how hard your centre tried to get the money out of me to pay for that book? And now I receive it free! I am a lucky man. It's a book I will cherish forever.

And Henry Bedard! So this is why you wanted me to attend the dinner but wouldn't tell me what for? I love you Henry. It really has been an honor, especially when it comes from a



Droppin' In By Rocky Woodward

centre that has such a splendid history in helping Native people, a place where the welcome mat is never taken for granted. Thank you.

Seen in this picture is *Windspeaker's* general manager Bert Crowfoot (far left), Grant MacEwan Community College student Lyle Donald (next to Bert), his mother and CNFC worker Georgina Donald (far right) and the many others who were honored at the "Volunteers are the Greatest" banquet.

PEIGAN NATION: Hey everybody! The Peigan Nation will be hosting the second annual Treaty 7 "Be Happy" Youth Conference

March 22-24. And it's expected over 400 youth will be attending.

Many workshops are scheduled concerning health and youth. And topics like substance abuse will be on the agenda.

Way to go Roberta Yellow Horn and everyone else involved with our future — the youth.

EDMONTON: Oh Dr. Anne Anderson, you sweet, sweet woman. Alberta loves you, including Droppin' In.

And now...Happy, Happy Birthday Sweetheart! From everyone in Droppin' In land, the *Windspeaker* staff and all your admirers. Dr. Anne Anderson turned 28 years of age last month.

We had them fooled for awhile Dr. Anderson. Actually Dr. Anderson is 85 years young.

A note for a Droppin' In reader. I would love to run the marriage picture of you and your husband Mrs. Ironchild, but I need his name. Please send.

BEAVERLODGE: Is near Grande Prairie and Roxy Jones tells me a Native awareness three-day shindig is scheduled there for March 26-28.

"There are lots of activities planned," smiles Roxy.

Roxy says champion hoop dancer Robert Bull will be performing and so will many more people.

"Country singing recording artist Laura Vinson will be here and a Metis dance group," says Roxy.



CNFC honored these individuals for their volunteer work

There'll also be a social function for parents and teachers and arts and crafts booths will be set up. It's all happening at the Beaverlodge High School. Be there. GIFT LAKE: She did it! She won the \$10 big ones in the "Who are those Guys?" contest!

Recently I ran a pic of four students from Gift Lake who were part of a larger group cleaning a highway of filth, filth filth! And Michelle Badger, you are the winner!

Small wonder she won! Michelle was one of the "who are those guys" in the picture! Droppin' In has been taken to the cleaners!

Michelle, \$10 is one week's pay here!

But, you did it. You won and the money is in the mail. Just remember Droppin' In and his four ugly dogs when you're buying goodies. The others in the picture are: (left to right) Jody McDonald, Michelle (the champ) Badger, Harvey Anderson and Merve Anderson.

BOWDEN: Howdy Lorne Bruce. We at *Windspeaker* sure appreciate your Rez-toons (cartoons) you've sent us, especially the one on Droppin' In and his ugly dogs travelling Saskatchewan.

Also this poem you sent. You are talented Bro.

"From the vast and endless plains to the coast of Turtle Isle, Floating on those open veins carved by Mother Nature's file, Majestic mountains on the loom untouched by anything but sky The singing of a sombre loon I'd like someday to ask him why? You're so lovely in the spring in your blossoms I would sleep And though I know not a thing I'd give you my life to keep Bring forth your precious food. I have known nothing sweeter Than those moments of interlude with you my sweet Windspeaker."

What a wonderful poem to close with. Thanks Lorne.



Rocky Woodward

The "Who Are Those Guys" contest was won by Michelle Badger

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE YOUR EVENT IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE MAR. 29TH ISSUE, PLEASE CALL KAREN BEFORE NOON WED., MAR. 20TH AT (403)455-2700, FAX 455-7639 OR WRITE TO 15001 - 112 AVE., EDM., AB,

FLYING DUST FULL GOSPEL NATIVE CHURCH; Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Biblestudy, 7 p.m.; SK.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL; Mondays & Wednesdays; 7 - 9 p.m.; Kikinahk Friendship Centre Gym; La Ronge, SK.

C.N.F.C. BOXING & FIRM-UP; Mon., Wed. & Fri. from 7 - 9 p.m.; Westmount Jr. High School, 11125 - 131 St.; Edmonton, AB.

FLYING DUST AL-ANON MEETINGS; every Tues. at 7:00 p.m.; Flying Dust Health Clinic, SK.

SOUP AND BANNOCK; every 2nd Friday; NAPI Friendship Centre, Pincher Creek, AB.

COLD LAKE 1st NATION WINTER FESTIVAL '91; Mar. 15 - 17; Cold Lake 1st Nation Administration Bldg., AB.

BAKE SALE & USED CLOTHING SALE; Mar. 16, 10 - 2 p.m.; Concordia College Braemar Campus, Edmonton, AB.

NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN SENIOR HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS; Mar. 15-17; Buffalo Narrows Lakeview

Complex Arena, SK. BOB GOTTFRIEDSON & CLINT JOHNSON MERLE TEMPLE RODEO SCHOOL; Mar. 18 - 20; Harry Dodging Horse Memorial Agriplex; Sarscee Reserve, AB.

SMALL POWER PRODUCTION IN ALBERTA; Mar. 18 at 7:30 p.m.; sponsored by Solar Energy Society, Northern AB Chapter; Rm. 141, Old Arts Building; U of A Campus, Edmonton, AB.

METIS WOMEN'S COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING; March 19, 7 p.m., potluck at 5:30; 11821 - 78 St., Edm., AB.

HOBBEMA VOLLEYBALL ASSOC. TOURNAMENT (MEN'S & LADIES); Mar. 22 - 24; Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre; Hobbema, AB.

FOUR NATIONS ANNUAL NATIVE SENIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Mar. 22-24; Four Nations Arena; Hobbema, AB.

ALBERTA NATIVE JUNIOR HOCKEY PROVINCIAL PLAYOFFS; March 22 - 24; Morley Recreation Centre, Morley, AB.

NATIVE SERVICES OF ALBERTA DANCE; Mar. 22, 7:30; Victoria Community Association, 1302 - 6th St. S.E., Calgary, AB.

LADIES' BASKETBALL TOURNEY (OPEN); Mar. 23 & 24; Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre; Hobbema, AB.

SASKATCHEWAN INDIGENOUS GAMES COMMITTEE

Indian Country Community Events

TRACK & FIELD; Mar. 23 & 24; Field House, Saskatoon, SK.

MISS BUFFALO JUMP PRINCESS PAGEANT; March 24; Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Interpretive Centre; Fort Macleod, AB.

TREATY 6 FIRST NATIONS HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS; March 29, 30 & 31; R.J. Ross Arena; Elk Point, AB.

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN WINTER GAMES; April 1 - 6; Prince Albert, SK.

WESTERN CANADIAN NATIVE CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS; Apr. 3 - 5; Wetaskiwin Curling Club, Wetaskiwin, AB.

P.G. LUMBER KINGS 7TH ANNUAL ALL-NATIVE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; April 5 - 7; Prince George Coliseum, Prince George, BC.

1991 SIFC VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT; April 6 & 7; University of Regina, Physical Activity Centre; SK.

ADRIAN HOPE YOUTH CENTRE FUNDRAISING BENEFIT; April 7, 2 p.m.; admission \$5; Yellowhead Hotel,

Edmonton, AB. NATIVE PROV. VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS; April 13 & 14; Frog Lake School Gym; Frog Lake, AB.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION "THE FUTURE IS OURS"; April 17 - 20; Convention Inn and Coast Terrace Inn, Edmonton, AB.

1ST ANNUAL ALL NATIVE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; April 19 - 21; Parkland Agriplex; Yorkton, SK.

PROJECT INDIGENOUS RESTORATION; April 21 - 23; presented by The Artists' /Environment Forum; Toronto, ON.

CONFERENCE ON INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE SHOW; April 29 - May 2; Edmonton Inn; Edmonton, AB.

THE NATIVE AMERICAN MALE: LIVING IN TWO CULTURES; May 2 & 3; sponsored by the American Indian Health Care Association; Holiday Inn Downtown, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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News

Dam will worsen mercury problem: scientist

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

An Edmonton fish biologist says "token government studies" justify Peigan Indian concerns about mercury levels associated with the Oldman River Dam.

Completion of the dam, northeast of Pincher Creek, will make an already existing problem worse, says Wayne Roberts.

The Alberta government "has always taken the mercury problem more lightly than it should."

Roberts is concerned about the impact mercury, found naturally in Alberta soil, will have on fish and on the Peigan Indians who eat them.

The Peigan Lonefighters Society has opposed the \$353-million dam since 1984 when the Alberta government announced its plan

to build the water storage and flow regulation structure.

The group has spiritual, jurisdictional and environmental concerns, including mercury poisoning in fish.

They say the dam, upstream of the Peigan reserve, will have disastrous effects on the entire eco-system.

"The government has known about the possible effects but has failed to communicate them," says the biologist.

High level consumption of mercury causes neurological problems and liver ailments.

Federal surveys indicate at least 60 per cent of Peigan Indians living near the dam eat fish regularly.

A study compiled in October last year by the province indicates some fish may contain "mercury levels greater than those considered safe for human

consumption" but it is "not known if this contamination is related to construction and operation of the dam."

An increase in mercury levels is not anticipated "in fish tissue as a result of the construction and operation of the dam," says the study.

Health and Welfare Canada consultant Dr. Richard Musto says federal studies show mercury will quickly leach into the river and its fish if the dam is completed.

In January he told an independent panel struck by Ottawa to review the controversial project that Alberta ignored studies into potential health risks after deciding most Peigans don't eat fish.

Roberts agrees with Musto's assessment saying, "the government has the information. But even if only one Indian ate fish,

they would be negligent in not seeing it as a serious problem."

Christine Purvis, communications manager for reservoir projects, says it's untrue the Alberta government decided most Peigans don't eat fish.

Dr. James Moore, a consultant to the province, says "after completion of the Oldman Dam and filling of the reservoir, there would, in my opinion, be little or no increase in mercury in fish below the dam."

But Roberts claims scientists "working for the government are businessmen, they're not doing real science. The few dedicated scientists are not consulted by the government."

The government, says Roberts, is afraid of doing strict scientific analyses "because they would find an increasing number of reasons why they should be cautious when proceeding with these developments."

If the dam is completed, says Roberts, the mercury naturally found in the soil will eventually find its way into the Oldman River and its fish.

Roberts says if the government decides to push ahead with the dam, which is more than 90 per cent completed, it has an obligation to educate Peigans about what fish to avoid.

There is a direct relationship between the size and age of a fish

and the level of mercury found in it, he says.

Roberts hopes legal reasons will be found to cripple the project, "even if it's finished. The dam is scheduled for completion late this year."

"The government will go ahead with the dam unless the courts stop them."

The federal government appointed a panel to review the project after Alberta refused to halt construction on the dam, despite a court injunction quashing federal construction permits on the project.

Landmark jurisdictional arguments were heard Feb. 19 and 20 in the Supreme Court, which heard from Alberta and six other provinces that Ottawa has no authority to conduct environmental reviews of provincial projects.

Ottawa is involved in the Oldman Dam case because the river is considered a navigable water and the dam will affect Indian lands downstream and fish.

Under federal guidelines an environmental review can be launched if a project touches on any area of federal jurisdiction. Navigable waters and Indian lands are federal responsibilities.

The Supreme Court decision is pending.

Program will increase access to science-based faculties

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

A new program will give Native students greater access to science-based faculties at the University of Alberta.

The Science Access Transition

Did you know?

SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Former Gov. Bill Janklow has decided to drop his multimillion dollar libel suit against the author and publisher of a book on the American Indian Movement. Janklow thinks his case should be appealed, but he doesn't want to invest anymore time or money in the seven-year-old suit, said his lawyer Brent Wilbur. The primary factor in the decision was the expense of taking the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, said Wilbur. The former governor filed the \$24-million suit against Viking Press and Peter Matthieson, author of the 1973 book *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*. Janklow sought damages for accusations against him in the book he raped an Indian girl in 1967, drove drunk and nude from the waist down and shot dogs while driving a motorcycle on the Crow Creek Indian reservation. Janklow's decision ends one of the longest and most expensive libel suits in publishing history.

- Native Nevadan / Feb. 1991

Year Program will attract Native students to science-related fields where their participation has been traditionally low, said the program's co-ordinator June Kaida.

It's been hard to get Native people to enter the sciences because "there's never really been a push for it and it's easier to go into education or the arts," she said.

There are only six Native students enrolled in the science faculty. Kaida said the program, which will accommodate 25 students, should draw 15-20 Natives - "a big jump from six."

The one-year program will help students "overcome inadequate educational backgrounds and prepare them for admission into the competitive science fields."

The program will involve small classes of about 20 stu-

dents. They will be provided with tutorial assistance and support counselling.

Kaida said helping Natives get into the sciences "has never been a priority but with Native communities taking over their own governments, they need qualified Native graduates."

Native communities are demanding qualified Native employees in engineering, business, health and computer fields, she said.

The entrance requirements for the new program are tough because "we don't want to set them up for failure."

Academic qualifications, a letter of intent by the student and a personal interview will be part of the admission process.

So far, Kaida said, 60 applications have been received. The deadline for applications is June 1.



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Interest Survey Business Administration Program

Slave Lake Campus



The Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake is conducting a survey to investigate the possibility of offering a 2-year Business Administration program. The program would be brokered through the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) and would be offered at the Slave Lake Campus beginning in September 1991.

Graduates of the program may find employment opportunities in business, industry and government.

If you are interested in attending this 2-year program, please contact the following office before April 1, 1991.

Bernie Riddell, Student Services Office
Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake
Slave Lake Campus
P.O. Box 1280, Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A0
Phone: (403)849-7140



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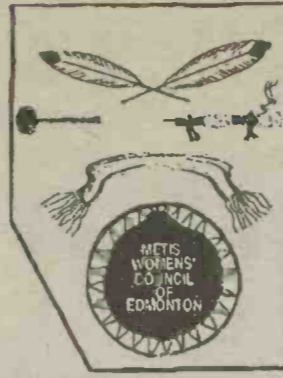
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Native Self-Government

Indians want nation-to-nation status

AN ANALYSIS

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

MORLEY, ALTA.

At the end of the road to Indian self-government will be the victory of God-given rights over government-granted rights, says the vice-chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

At a conference on self-government in Morley, Ovide Mercredi said Natives "must persuade the government to abandon its agenda based on contingent rights."

For the past 200 years, Britain and then the federal government, established the "new rule of law where rights are granted to Natives only if the government tells us we have this right — it is contingent," says Mercredi.

Contingent rights have strings attached and can be taken away anytime. God-given rights or inherent rights have no conditions and can never be taken away.

Natives believe they have pre-existing rights "which have survived giving us the right to culture, language and government." Winning the struggle for inherent rights is the key to self-determination, says Mercredi.

Before European domination, Natives chose their own leaders according to customs and followed rules defining their institutions.

A return to pre-Confederation times when Indians were treated on a nation-to-nation basis must happen if Natives hope to get what they believe the Creator has given them since their existence, says Mercredi.

Mercredi says the Canadian government is afraid to "go back to a pre-Confederation relationship because they're paranoid — they're afraid of breaking up, they're afraid of staying together."

"Treat us like people with power — with mutual respect. Until we convince someone in power to embrace a nation-to-nation relationship, we'll have to struggle with Indian Affairs."

The right to self-government is given by the Creator so "we don't need a definition, we don't need the Indian Act to tell us what powers we have."

Ottawa and the provinces are demanding a definition of self-government from Natives before any steps are taken to imple-

ment the idea.

But Natives say to arrive at one definition of self-government would be giving in to an "Indian Affairs mentality of what self-government is," said Native consultant George Calihoo at the conference attended by about 200 Natives and non-Natives Feb. 22-24.

"Maybe Indian Affairs should have Canada define what Canada means," says Calihoo. He says self-government is simply defined as the "right to control our lives and the acceptance by the federal government that each Indian nation will deal with the concept differently."

Calihoo says a return to nation-to-nation relations would mean each Indian band would be free to define self-government according to its particular needs.

The government, however, is afraid of dealing with Natives on equal terms because "it would mean a loss of power for them," says Calihoo.

As a solution to the Indian demand for self-government, Ottawa developed a devolution policy 20 years ago. Indian bands, under this policy, were permitted to administer their own programs.

Although the devolution policy allowed Natives to control the delivery of services like education and social assistance, the government didn't provide them with the necessary administrative training. But after trial and error and budget deficits, band administrators learned to master their newfound responsibility.

Yet the government's attempt at appeasement failed. Natives are still demanding full control over their affairs. They don't want to be merely a service arm for Indian Affairs.

But achieving self-rule doesn't necessarily involve dismantling Indian Affairs or scrapping the Indian Act, passed in 1876.

Calihoo says the department could serve as a Native secretariat "on equal footing with Native governments."

The delay in creating Native self-government is based on jurisdiction. The federal and provincial governments say Natives don't have the power to establish laws and institutions.

Natives say they want to be on par with both levels of government. Natives don't want to be reduced to municipalities



Amy Santoro

Ovide Mercredi

with limited powers, says Native adviser Russel Diabo.

The time has come for Natives to assert their rights, says Bud Morris, executive director of the Mohawk council in Kahnawake. He says Indian culture has been eroded and the government, with its devolution policy, is attempting to strip Natives of their divine right to control their destiny.

He says Natives have been denied official recognition of their unique role in Canadian society in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, where Natives were given a sketchy provision. But during Meech Lake accord negotiations, which collapsed with the quiet utterance of the word "no" by Native Manitoba MLA Elijah Harper in June, it was proposed to give Quebec distinct society status.

Strangely enough the government was unable to define the term distinct society. In the 1981 constitutional negotiations, Native concepts of self-government were not included in the charter because Ottawa and the provinces said the term was not

specifically defined.

Mercredi says Indians must "stop waiting for constitutional permission to assert their right to self-government." He says Indian leaders have become "too preoccupied in administering Indian Affairs services," while the government cites the Constitution as a means of denying Indians self-government. Eventually, he says, "the government will have to amend its laws to catch up with us."

Along with the pursuit of self-rule, Mercredi said Indian bands must also try to get "access and control of our land and resources because self-government without the resources to make it work means nothing."

But the federal government has made it difficult to unite the issue of self-government with land and resources. When a band signs a community self-government agreement with the government, treaty entitlements are relinquished and when comprehensive claims are signed, self-government can't be linked to the agreement.

Mercredi made it clear he isn't

suggesting Natives separate from Canada, rather he's proposing "a strategy to become a fundamental part of Canada with recognition and respect for our inherent rights as distinct peoples."

He also stressed his opposition to violence as a means of achieving self-determination.

But some Natives, like the spiritual leader of the Peigan Lonefighters Society in southern Alberta, are growing impatient. Devalon Small Legs infuriated Mercredi when he advocated the use of arms to achieve Native self-rule.

Small Legs said civil disobedience and violence may be necessary to reach the end of the road to self-government while Mercredi insisted he'd have "nothing to do with it (guns)."

The 78-day standoff at Oka last summer may have taught that civil disobedience, and perhaps violence, may help Natives get the recognition from Canada's government and public they have been peacefully fighting for since Canadian history began...or did it?

Morley delegates agree to set up a commission

By Amy Santoro
Windspeaker Staff Writer

MORLEY, ALTA.

Aboriginal people will take charge of their own destiny by setting up an aboriginal nations commission, says a delegate to a First Nations conference on self-government.

Conference delegates agreed the commission will enable Natives "to take matters into their own hands," says Walter Rudnicki.

"Nobody is looking after Native interests, so we'll do so ourselves," Rudnicki told *Windspeaker* following the reading of the resolution to the conference Feb. 24 in Morley.

He says "federal termination initiatives of the past and present are unacceptable."

Delegates issued a halt order to the federal government. "We have given notice. We want these initiatives to stop," Rudnicki told

delegates who applauded wildly.

"Federal termination initiatives" involve cultural genocide — initiatives like Indian Act amendments — conducted "without the consent" of aboriginal people and the failure of government to live "up to its legal obligations as set out in treaties," says Rudnicki.

Devalon Small Legs, who participated in the proposal, says it's time Ottawa stops imposing its agenda on aboriginal people.

"We want to set up our own commission to go to each and every reserve in Alberta and Canada to identify specifically where we want to go as aboriginal people," he says.

Rudnicki, an aboriginal policy analyst, says the commission will be designed to work towards a consensus and "the federal government will be informed of the results."

Although the commission details haven't been fleshed out,

"it's better than working within the Indian Act system where people have been redefined into bands and reserves and as a result have been fragmented."

The commission, which will be made up of elected representatives on a treaty basis, will "work out its own method of resolving where Natives want their place in Canada to be" by mobilizing and informing the community, says Rudnicki.

The first step for the commission, says Rudnicki, is fund-raising because "we don't want the federal government to fund us." Corporate donations may be considered.

The conference held at the Nakoda Lodge on the Morley reserve, 50 km west of Calgary, was sponsored in part by Petro-Canada and Norcen Energy Resources Ltd. Both companies are currently conducting development activities on unceded land claimed by the Lubicon Lake Indian band in northern Alberta.



Amy Santoro

Devalon Small Legs

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As more and more Albertans look for safe ways to dispose of hazardous waste, the Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre finds itself hard-pressed to meet demand. So much so, that the operator of the Centre, Chem-Security (Alberta) Ltd., has proposed the expansion of its Swan Hills facility as a matter of immediate importance.

• Despite Alberta's success in waste reduction, re-use, recycling and recovery, these practices will never completely eliminate the need for a comprehensive special waste treatment facility.

For these reasons, expansion is considered a necessity. It will not proceed, however, without the input of Albertans.

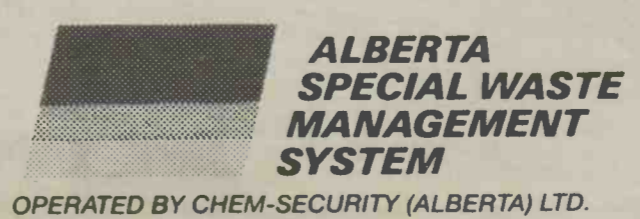
In making the proposal, Chem-Security points out that:

- Environmental regulations requiring proper waste treatment are now in place and will inevitably result in more waste flow and a greater demand on the treatment centre;
- Individuals and communities are demanding more access to specialized treatment — thereby increasing domestic and small business waste streams;
- Business and industry continue to identify new waste streams requiring special treatment;

Open Meeting

During April and May, you are invited to attend an Environmental Impact Assessment Information Exchange on the proposed expansion to the Swan Hills Treatment Centre. The date, time and location of the meeting in your community later this spring will be announced in this newspaper.

To provide background information prior to the information session, the draft Environmental Impact Assessment document will be available for your review at the central library in your community.



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Native Culture

Emotional expression essential for healthy life

By Dianne Meili
Windspeaker Correspondent

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA.

Art Holmes, an Ojibwa author, stands before a crowd of about 60 people and raises his tightly-clenched fist. All eyes are on his hand as he opens his fingers and explains the symbolic gesture.

"Ourselves, our families and our reserves will remain dysfunctional as long as we don't open up and talk about our feelings. When we open up, unclench that fist, our reserves will be exciting places to live again."

With those words the 70-year-old elder from the St. Croix band in Minnesota — who wrote "The Grieving Indian", a book about his own recovery from alcoholism — introduced a "first step" to help fragmented people become whole again.

Holmes explains the arrival of European settlers in North America spawned an earthquake of "trauma" and Native people are still feeling the aftershock. As the fabric of their belief systems and lifestyle was torn apart by governments seeking to "civilize" them, they experienced untold grief.

"The United States sent qualified psychologists to help families deal with the shock of losing loved ones who died when the Challenger rocket blew up, but who is dealing with the special nature of the Native peoples' shock?" Holmes asks.

Many have turned to the churches for help, but most pastors and priests are unqualified to deal with dysfunctional people. When encouraged to "forgive and forget" as Chris-

tians should, they think they have healed, but having not dealt with the anger and hurt in a long drawn out process of expression and healing, the anger can fester.

"Unresolved grief is a destructive horror because it can develop into rage. People become irrational and resort to delinquent behavior, alcoholism, sexual abuse..." Holmes says. As a product of a government Indian school himself, and as an alcoholism counsellor, he's spent years gaining insight into the root of Native grief.

"In the United States, Indian culture was at its best in the 1870s. We were responsible, carefree, nurturing people. We maintained our lives by working to make clothes and our shelters and to get food. But we were made dysfunctional by the government! The blame doesn't lie with us. Our freedom was taken away and our children put in government schools.

"Look at the high moral standards we had. In our Ojibwa culture, dad and mom had their places by the doorway of the wigwam and next to them sat grandmother and grandfather. The kids were at the back. If a boy came to court one of the girl children, he was under the eye of the parents and grandparents. A girl's virginity was protected by her extended family.

"Now we have dating and anything goes. You should hear the abusive language young men use when they talk about women on my reserve. When we legalized abortion in the United States, we rejected our children. We opened up to sexual perversion, pornography ... children must be made the important assets they once were."



Dianne Meili

Elder Art Holmes

The last vestiges of Native culture vanished from communities after the First World War, replaced by an alcohol culture, Holmes claims. Society became more and more permissive and the traditional extended family network was smashed entirely as governments educated children away from their parents.

In the strict regimentation of residential schools, children were not taught how to love, Holmes stresses.

Emotional expression, especially of grief, is essential to a healthy life so it doesn't become rage. Mourning for a lost relative was once extremely important to Natives, Holmes explains.

"Ojibwa women in mourning for dead husbands cut off their braids, painted their faces and wore old clothes to make themselves unattractive so prospective suitors would leave them alone. After a year, the grown-back hair was braided and she was given bright clothes to mark her return to normal life.

"Traditional mourning customs, ceremonies and dances served a purpose so grief could be expressed and, finally, relatives could rebuild their lives.

"Death is such a big thing. Look at all the phobias we have about it. If someone has a fear of heights or of being closed in, they're really afraid of death. Yet, what are our attitudes toward death today? On my reserve, if someone dies, the windows are closed and the children are totally left out of mourning, yet they have feelings, too. Then we cry for four days and after that no one mentions the dead person's name again."

Since so many deaths in Native communities are violent or the result of suicide, the shock factor is extremely high and could lead to uncontrollable rage and abusive behavior if unduly dealt with. Staff and facilities to help individuals "melt down" rage in group therapy until emotional forgiveness and peace of mind result usually aren't available.

According to Holmes four emotional reactions to unexpected death — panic, denial, numbness and rage — can be applied to most traumatic experiences. Most Native people are in the denial stage, he says.

"Alcoholics and child abusers

ride roughshod over our families because no one wants to talk about it and stop them. We know 80 per cent of our people turn to drugs and alcohol to solve their problems because they haven't tried other ways to let it all out."

Holmes offers his reserve's approach to healing grief and helping band members to "begin to talk" as an example other communities might wish to follow.

"First, we got together to make a mission statement as to our course of action to stop behavior on the reserve that was threatening our social life. This behavior involved just about everyone and a group of us decided we would not condone it anymore.

"We decided to parade

through the village with signs saying "stop abuse" and our posters are up everywhere. No one will be able to look at those signs or posters and not think about what's going on. It should bring everything to the surface. The men on the reserve are walking on eggshells now that they know things are about to be broken wide open. They're feeling like they will be exposed."

Support systems are required to allow abusers and the abused to work through their grief and the reasons for their behavior. Holmes says it generally takes close to three years for individuals to heal, but time and therapy are a small price to pay to stop unnecessary deaths and restore Natives to the contented, responsible nation they once were.

The Grieving Indian

A MUST READ

If you haven't yet read Art Holmes "The Grieving Indian", it's a must — and when you're finished with it, give it to a friend.

The paperback costs only \$4.95. Holmes has written an "eagle feather of wisdom" that could save Native people as a nation. In his easygoing, easy-to-understand style, he offers readers his own life story as an abused child and abusing adult to lend credence to his words of advice.

Acknowledging the problem is the initial step to repairing it. Holmes gives detailed instruction to help readers go back and understand where Native life began to run off the rails from the holistic and generally happy existence our ancestors experienced. The book is tailored to what has happened historically and Holmes assures us we are not to blame for the decline of our culture.

He offers helpful, realistic steps to move out of denial and deal with the hurts we've experienced in our lives, the catalyst for abusive behavior. He guides the reader through the stages of grief and says it's OK to depart from the strong, warrior-type "Indians don't cry" attitude. In fact, he says, we must express our grief and cry and scream in a supportive environment until we can cry no more. Then, the forgiveness and rebuilding can begin.

Oh, and don't be put off by the book's heavy "Christian" undertones. Holmes spiritual approach is neither preachy nor pushy and he gently introduces religion to the healing process in a way that is easy to swallow by his audience, a deeply spiritual people by nature.

Holmes offers the sobering thought many Native people will be lost before they can be helped. But he asks readers to reach out to as many people as possible and use his book to focus on the grieving 80 per cent. God will take care of the rest.

The book is available from Indian Life, P.O. Box 3765, Station B, Winnipeg, R2W 3R6 for \$4.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling and 7 per cent GST.

- Dianne Meili

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Calling Lake

Teacher an inspiration for her students

By Heather Andrews
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALLING LAKE, ALTA.

Students in this northern Alberta community need look no further than local teacher Clarice Cardinal for encouragement and inspiration when planning their careers.

The Grade 2 teacher has experienced teaching in one-room schools, having to live with boarding house rules, commuting from Edmonton to her Calling Lake home and juggling studies with full-time employment to achieve the equivalent of four years in university and an education degree.

Born and raised in Calling Lake, Cardinal was one of 13 children. As one of the eldest, she started working with younger children early in life.

"Although we lived in town, my dad earned his living off the land, trapping and growing a huge garden," she remembers.

After finishing high school at Athabasca, Cardinal worked for several years as a secretary and then as a teacher's aide. When she decided to pursue her lifelong wish to be a teacher, she began by attending a University of Alberta program at Blue Quills College in St. Paul.

Later she enrolled at Athabasca University, completing several courses by the distance-learning method while living and working at home.

"Then a few years ago, I decided it was time to complete my degree. I headed for Edmonton, stayed with a sister who was also attending university and finished my studies in about two years."

She finds being a teacher satisfying and enjoys the sense of accomplishment she gets as she sees her Grade 2 students mature and learn over the school year. The newly-completed school at Calling Lake is a modern, up-to-date structure which makes for an enjoyable place in which to work. "My class has only 15 children, which is an ideal size."

She encourages students to consider careers which will give them a university or college background. "Soon after they begin their studies, they will begin to feel increased confidence. We as Native people are often afraid we can't succeed at jobs that are usually filled by non-Natives," she says.

Her husband Clarence works for the Alberta government in Calling Lake as a Native liaison officer. He's also a councillor with the local improvement district and is very involved in community affairs.

"I often spend extra hours at the school doing preparation work for my classes and he's out at committee meetings, so we don't see a lot of each other," she laughs.



Teacher Clarice Cardinal with some of the Calling Lake students

Heather Andrews

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Happy Birthday, Windspeaker

A year of recovery for Windspeaker

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

It's been one year since a federal budget cut slashed funding to Native communications societies across the country, forcing some societies to close their doors, while others made cutbacks to continue operating.

Windspeaker was forced to make cutbacks last March after a 100 per cent loss of federal funding — six employees were laid off. "We had to change gears to meet the challenge," says Bert Crowfoot, general manager of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA).

Windspeaker went through a period of adjustment during the first few months following the budget cut, he says.

He says a five-year goal to become self-sufficient was cut short by two years when *Windspeaker* lost its federal funding and "we were forced to become self-sufficient in five weeks.

"We also lost valuable people. We cut staff by 50 per cent and for the first two or three months it was a struggle trying to deal with the people we lost.

"We could have sat back and whined and complained but it wouldn't have changed anything. We took stock of our position and reorganized," says Crowfoot, adding that the past year was a time of recovery for the newspaper.

It's Crowfoot's belief *Windspeaker* can become self-sufficient. However, he says, the sudden cut in funding did not help the newspaper in attaining that.

"It could have been handled differently. The province gave us fair warning funding would be slashed over a three-year period. The federal government forced us to seek self-sufficiency in five weeks."

Windspeaker also suffered a drop in sales. Revenue dropped by about \$100,000 in the last year, but Crowfoot says there were several reasons for the downward trend.

"There are now seven Native publications in Alberta. Last year there were only three or four. We're all going after the same advertising dollar and it makes it a little more competitive," he says.

Over the last year a large turnover in sales staff also hurt the paper.

"There has been a lot of head-hunting going on. Sales representatives have been lured away from *Windspeaker* with the promise of higher salaries.

"Just when we make some headway in sales, we lose someone and we have to start over. But we have learned from this," Crowfoot adds.

However, he believes *Windspeaker* is now sitting on solid ground.

"We're holding our own. We were down in sales over the past year but we've turned the corner and I see nothing but good for our organization."

And about six months ago *Windspeaker* expanded its distribution into Saskatchewan.

"We're looking at growth. Our distribution is expanding and we have that well under way. We're definitely looking at new markets and Saskatchewan is one of them. The response we've received is very favorable," Crowfoot says.

A recently completed survey



AMMSA general manager Bert Crowfoot with his sales team (l-r): Cliff Stebbings, Sharon Barbeau and Gy Morin

Rocky Woodward

on how the paper is received in Native communities drew a good response.

"It tells us people are willing to support their paper. The feedback was very positive."

Crowfoot is very optimistic *Windspeaker* will succeed even though its success now largely depends on revenue generated from advertising.

"You must remember we were one of the first publications to turn to advertisements and subscriptions as an alternate source of revenue. We began our first year with about \$85,000 in advertising. Since then that figure has risen substantially.

"I see the future for AMMSA in the next five years as excellent. Our newspaper will survive

with a good advertising base and we're also expanding our radio and satellite distribution system. This summer we will be putting in 22 additional systems in northern Alberta.

"But our focus is on marketing and we have excellent people now in the position to make it work.

"We have excellent people,

loyal and dedicated to the cause of Native communications. These people have stuck with AMMSA through hard times and its good times. They are committed to making *Windspeaker* and the Native Perspective successful. I'm quite confident we will accomplish what we set out to do," says Crowfoot.

"Congratulations as you celebrate your 8th anniversary, and wish you many more to come."



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY,

From smoke signals to satellite

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

On March 18, 1983, the first edition of *Windspeaker* rolled off the presses to serve and meet the communication needs of aboriginal people across Alberta. It was the beginning of a new dawn in Native communications.

But faced with a loss of its federal funding in 1990, *Windspeaker* was forced to lay off half its staff. However, a year later, *Windspeaker* continues to fulfill its mandate to its readers in Alberta and, for the last six months, in Saskatchewan as well.

Windspeaker has seen many changes over the last

eight years. It grew from a small operation housed in a temporary office at the Secretary of State building in the downtown to its present two-storey home in west Edmonton.

Although the federal budget cuts weakened, and in some cases destroyed Native communications across the country, *Windspeaker* has continued to grow and continues to be a voice for aboriginal people everywhere.

In fact, *Windspeaker* is tradition.

Its tradition as a communication link between Native communities began a long time before *Windspeaker* was actually incorporated as the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA).

It dates back to the early

1970s and the days of *The Native People* newspaper. Native leaders like Ralph Steinhauer and Larry Desmeules were the forerunners of today's Native communications scene in Alberta.

But when the Alberta Native Communications Society (ANCS) folded in 1982, the *Native People* newspaper also folded. It left a gap that needed to be filled.

Past staff members from ANCS began working on a new plan for a Native newspaper and after months of negotiations with the provincial and federal governments, their proposal for a new order of communications was accepted and AMMSA was formed.

Windspeaker has gone through growing pains, faces

have come and gone and federal funding was slashed, but still the newspaper has never looked back. Instead, it continues to flourish. And it continues to bring its readers an objective view of what makes the news in the Native world.

The "little paper" that once was is now being read on a regular basis as far away as Europe, South America and the United States.

Windspeaker's other arm in communications is the Native Perspective (CFWE-FM) radio in Lac la Biche. Between both media outlets a communications service is offered which completely covers Native communities across the province.

The Native Perspective continues to broadcast on CBC/TV. And it continues to broadcast 24

hours a day on its CFWE satellite radio network.

Past *Windspeaker* president Joe Couture said in 1983 that AMMSA proposed to pick up on a tradition of meeting Native media needs that had begun over a decade before.

"I know for I was there when that tradition began," he said.

Windspeaker has never faltered in carrying on that tradition.

Since its beginning it's been the intention of the staff and management to make sure the paper was printed according to the highest professional standard and to serve its readership, you the First Nations of this country.

It's a tradition *Windspeaker* is proud to live up to.



Rocky Woodward

Windspeaker accounts clerk Joanne Gallien



Rocky Woodward

Reporter Heather Andrews



Rocky Woodward

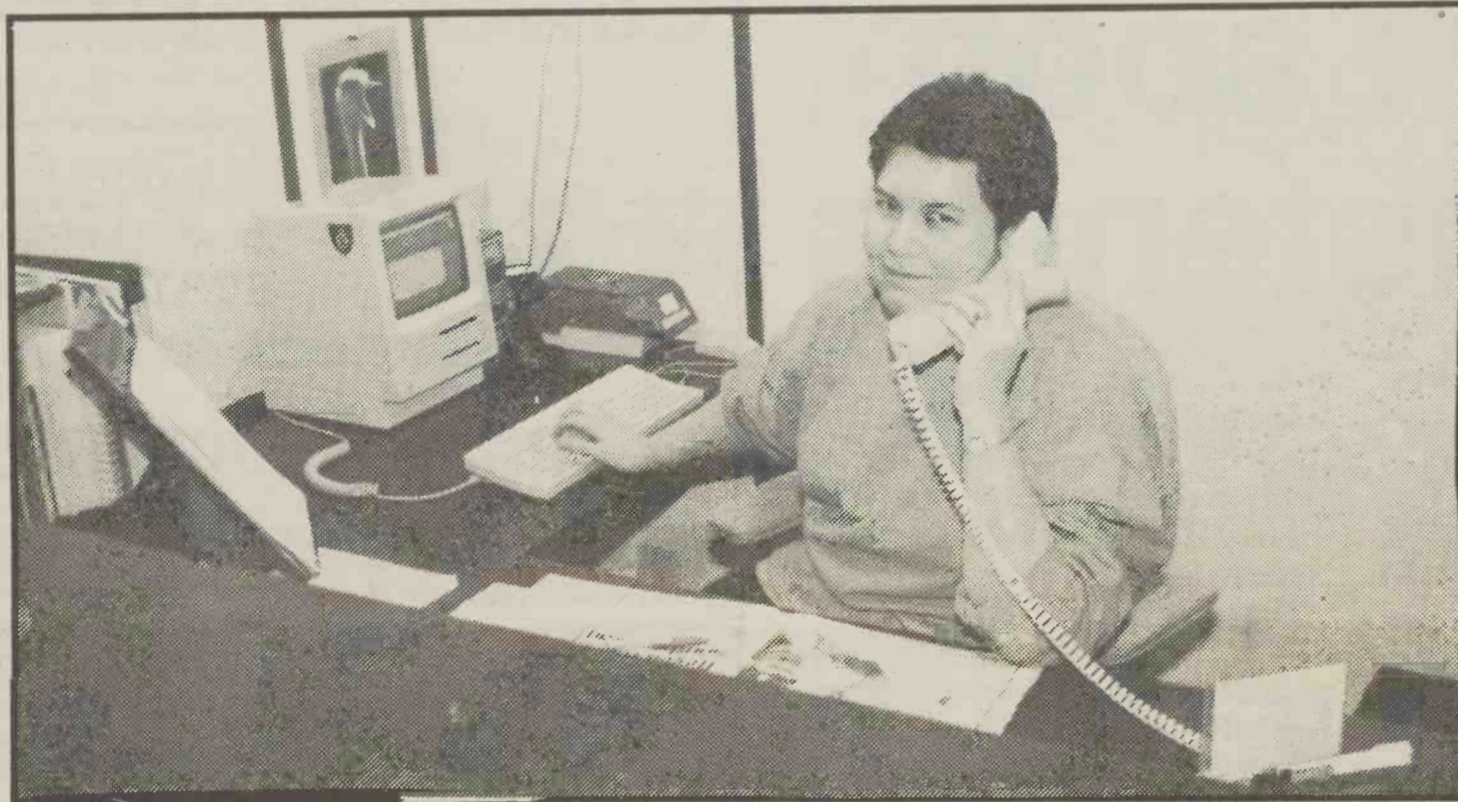
AMMSA sales consultants (l-r): Sharon Barbeau, Gy Morin and Cliff Stebbings

WINDSPEAKER!



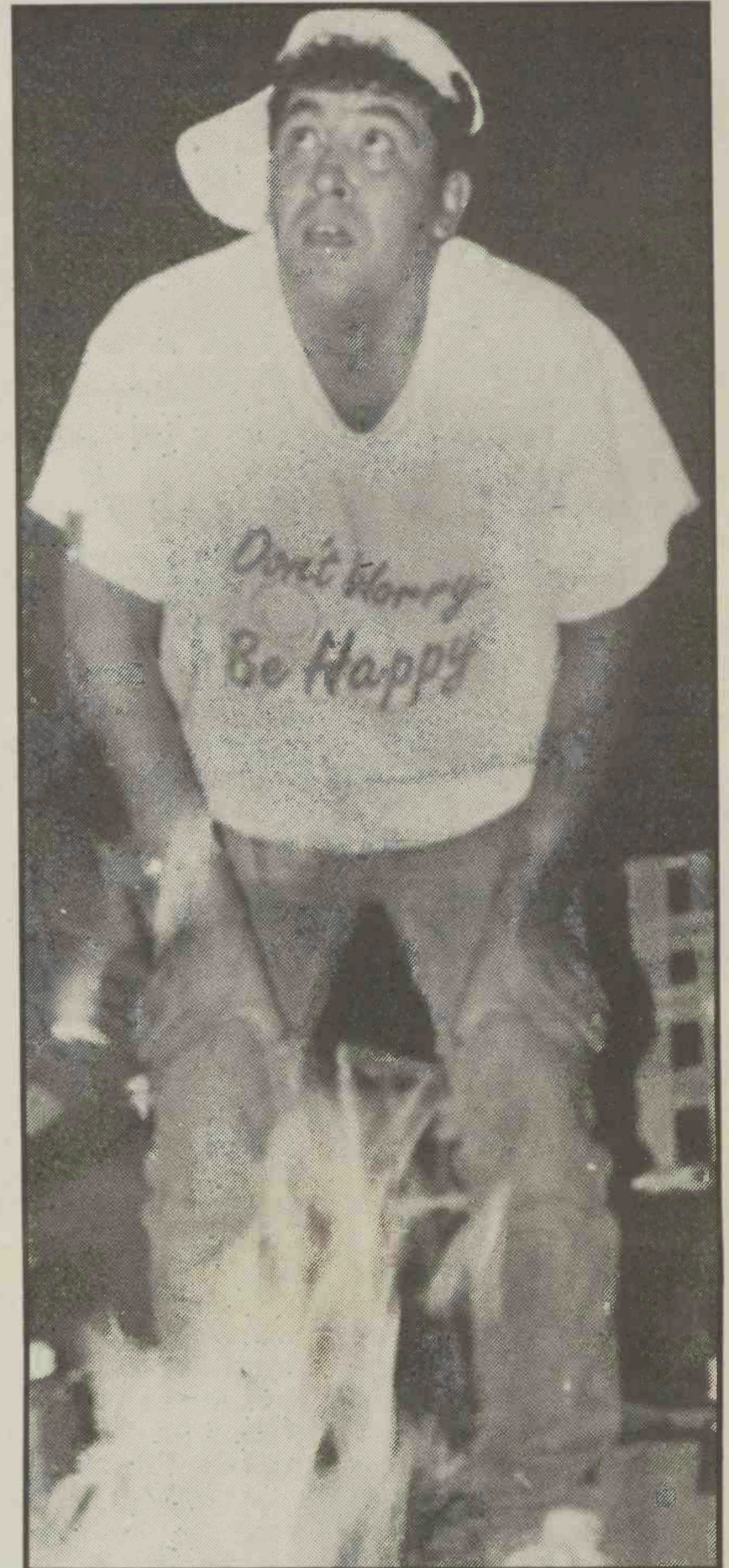
Rocky Woodward

Production Co-ordinator Tina Wood

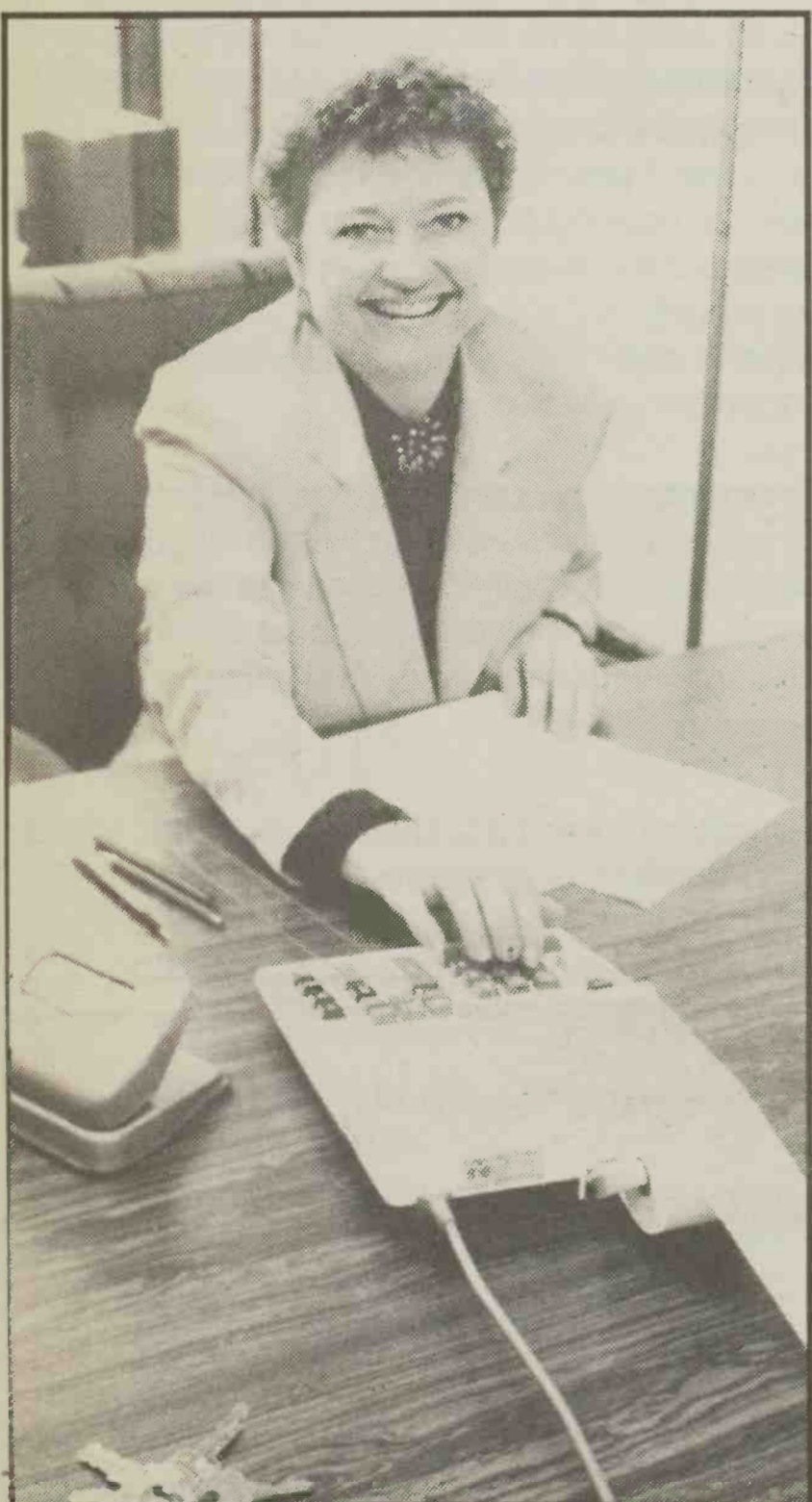


Rocky Woodward

Receptionist Karen Powless



Reporter and Droppin' In Rocky Woodward



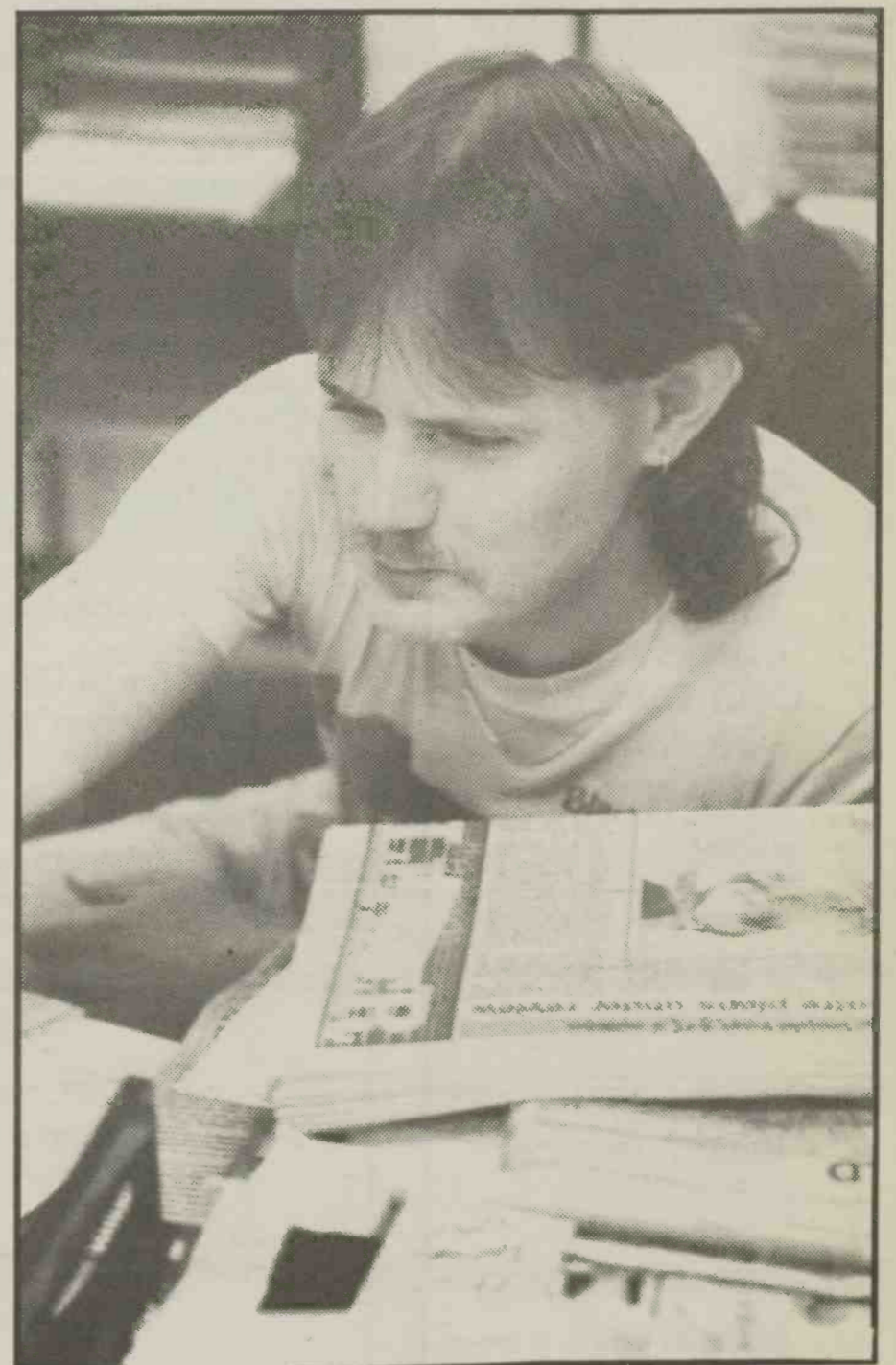
Rocky Woodward

Accountant Dianna Dickinson



Rocky Woodward

Reporter Amy Santoro



Rocky Woodward

Editor Dana Wagg

Happy Birthday, Windspeaker



Ray Fox (far left), director of radio at CFWE-FM in Lac la Biche

CFWE-FM will soon reach 1.5 M listeners

By Heather Andrews
Windspeaker Staff Writer

LAC LA BICHE, ALTA.

Radio station CFWE-FM will soon reach 1.5 million listeners in northern Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The station broadcasts over the FM band in the Lac la Biche area and by satellite to 10 communities. "We are planning to expand that number by 22," says Bert Crowfoot, general manager of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA), CFWE's parent organization.

CFWE has developed from a

modest half-hour program, aired Friday evenings on CKUA radio in 1984, to a 24-hour radio service. As well, CBC television has broadcast the Native Perspective program, heard from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., over local TV channels since 1986.

"Listeners not in the range of our satellite dishes or those who don't live in the Lac la Biche broadcast area can listen to the station for three hours a day," explains Crowfoot.

AMMSA also produces the award-winning biweekly newspaper *Windspeaker*. Funding for the publication is almost exclusively from revenue gener-

ated through advertising and subscription sales, although until the 1990 federal budget, the paper had received some operating money through the Native communications program of the federal government.

The radio station still receives partial funding from the Secretary of State under the Northern Native Broadcast Access Program and from other government agencies.

"AMMSA is dedicated primarily to meeting the information and understanding needs of aboriginal people and to reflect aboriginal society to other people," concludes Crowfoot.

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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

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EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

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3. Work experience in supervision and administration
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Social Work Program Slave Lake Campus August 1991 to April 1993

The Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake is now accepting applications for the SOCIAL WORK program to be held at the Slave Lake Campus beginning August 19, 1991. The 2-year diploma program is brokered through Red Deer College.

The program emphasizes knowledge, skills and attitudes that are required for employment in social services positions. Social workers with the 2-year Social Work diploma can expect career opportunities in both public and private social services agencies. Graduates of the 2-year diploma program may be admitted to the University of Calgary's Faculty of Social Work on a competitive basis and may complete a Bachelor of Social Work degree in approximately two years.

Entrance Requirements: Applicants must be at least 19 years of age. All applicants are tested for written language skills and reading comprehension. Selection into the program is based on previous academic work, a personal interview, related work and/or volunteer experience and personal, academic and work references.

Deadline for application: April 26, 1991. Late applications will be considered if space is available.

Accepted students must attend a Student Orientation Session on May 14, 1991.

For more information and/or registration, please contact:

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Native Business

Yukon band planning \$43 M complex

WHITEHORSE, YUKON

Yukon's Champagne-Aishihik Indian Band will bring new tourism and convention opportunities to Whitehorse with the construction of a \$43-million hotel, convention centre and office complex. Commonwealth Hospitality Ltd., the Canadian affiliate of Holiday Inns International, is currently negotiating a management contract with the hotel to be part of its chain.

Tom Hockin, minister of state (small business and tourism) announced plans for the facility jointly with Chief Paul Birckel of the Champagne-Aishihik Indian band.

"I am pleased to announce the government of Canada will invest \$5 million towards the planned \$43-million costs for the new complex," Hockin said. "This contribution will be made to 9003 Yukon Ltd., a corporation set up by the band to manage its involvement in the hotel project and will be provided through the Aboriginal Business Development Program, administered by Industry, Science and Technology Canada."

Chief Birckel explained that the development will be located on a nine-acre waterfront site, bounded by the Yukon River and 2nd Ave. in Whitehorse.

"Construction of this development and ownership of the complex will offer the Champagne-Aishihik Indian band many benefits," he said in a government news release. "A very important feature of the project will be the training provided to aboriginal people in areas such as building trades, the hospitality sector, property management and maintenance and administration. These skills will help to expand the growing number of qualified aboriginal entrepreneurs and managers in the North."

Hockin said an estimated 100 jobs will be created during construction and a further 125 employees will be required to manage and operate the hotel/convention facility.

"In keeping with the objectives of the government of Canada's Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS), a serious effort will be made to encourage many aboriginal individuals to benefit from the employment opportunities offered by this project," Hockin said.

"Obviously this centre brings with it the possibility of significant income-generating opportunities for the Champagne-Aishihik Indian band," he said. "But it also represents a major boost to the overall economy of Whitehorse. I expect increased sales will result for local suppliers to the complex and that long-term tourism and convention business will provide spin-off benefits as well."

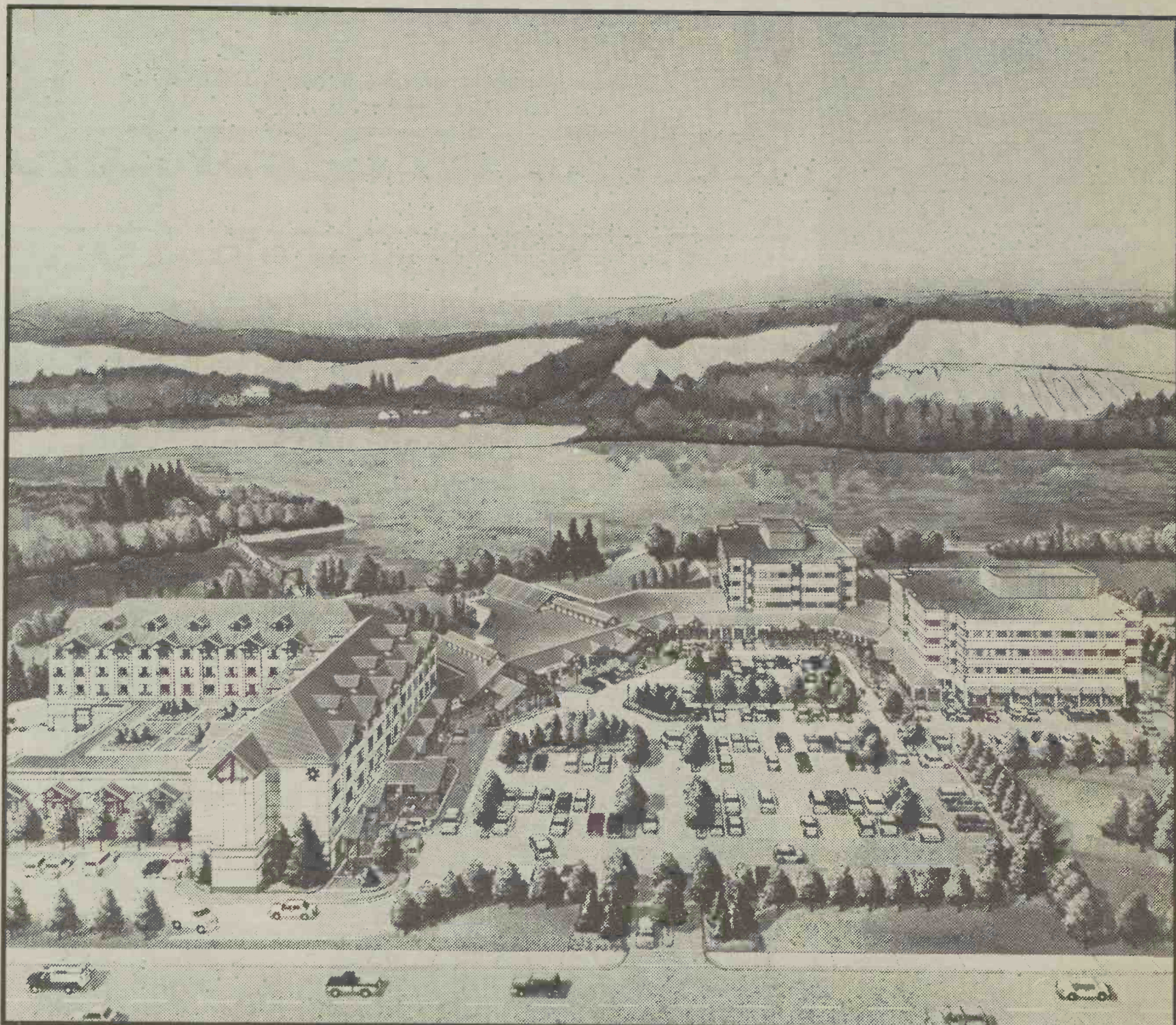
The Aboriginal Business Development Program is one element of CAEDS, which is designed to foster increased aboriginal self-reliance through the development of a strong aboriginal private sector.

The Champagne-Aishihik band includes over 700 members, living in and around Whitehorse, primarily in Haines Junction, Yukon.

The hotel will have 150 guest rooms, a 120-seat restaurant, an 80-seat formal dining room, a 120-seat bistro/pub and a business centre. The banquet area of the convention facility will accommodate up to 500 people.

Yukon aboriginal culture and history will be promoted at the hotel through exhibits, art and artifact displays, signage and the overall themes incorporated into the complex.

Construction is expected to start in the spring of 1991 and be completed by the winter of 1992.



Conceptual drawing of the new \$43 million hotel, convention centre and office complex launched by the Champagne-Aishihik Indian band in Whitehorse, Yukon



Minister of State Tom Hockin announces the construction of the hotel / convention centre / office complex facility with (l to r): Leo Hardy, chairperson of the Aboriginal Economic Development Western Board, Chief Paul Birckel of the Champagne-Aishihik Indian band, Yukon Minister of Economic Development Maurice Byblow and Lorraine Joe, member of the Aboriginal Economic Development Western Board.

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*a message from Chief Pat Marcell, Council,
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Alexis



Rocky Woodward

Josephine Alexis (l) and Anthony Potts (r) share a cup of tea with RN Chris Countryman

Alexis elders' lodge a home away from home

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ALEXIS, ALTA.

Walking into the elders' lodge at Alexis reserve is like walking into a modern day tipi.

The building is circular in shape and its centre reaches to the sky like a tipi.

Warm and cozy, the elders' lodge has a perfect view of Lac Ste. Anne. "We are planning to build a path down to the lake for our residents so they can enjoy all the sounds of nature during summer months," smiled the lodge's registered nurse Chris Countryman.

The lodge opened last April and has eight spacious rooms, four with double beds and four with single beds. The uniqueness of the lodge lies in its location.

Only 45 minutes northwest of Edmonton, 15 minutes from the Lac Ste. Anne pilgrimage area and situated among large poplar trees which overlook a beautiful lake, its friendly atmosphere offers the perfect setting for an elders' lodge.

Just ask Anthony Potts. Potts is in his twilight years and was one of the first elders to move into the lodge. "In fact Anthony moved in two weeks before the official opening," laughed Countryman. And he likes it there.

"We use traditional foods as much as we can for those who want it. And we are on 24-hour call for the elders for whatever they may need," said Sophia Lefthand, a homemaker whose job is to visit the homes of Alexis elders to make sure their needs are met.

One lady would prefer to be home but not because of the people who run the lodge or its friendly openness.

Josephine Alexis thinks she's "90 or 93" years of age. "But just because I'm not sure does not mean I'm crazy, yet," she laughs.

"Many of the elderly would prefer staying at home because they want to do things themselves," Lefthand said.

"We visted Josephine and

asked her many times to come and stay with us at the lodge but she refused. Finally, she broke her leg and moved here but she's happy now. Many just don't want to lose their independence and we assure them they won't," said Countryman.

Josephine said she is happy except she would like to get out more often.

Countryman said in the summer months there is much more for residents to do like "powwows, nice walks and visits to other events."

The lodge offers residents physical therapy and an occupational therapist deals with everyday living for the residents.

A doctor visits the lodge weekly and nearby is a medical centre.

"Some residents have doctors elsewhere but we have a van at our disposal for driving them to Stony Plain or Edmonton for checkups," said Countryman.

Countryman has been send-

ing letters to various hospitals informing them of the lodge, because filling the rooms has been a problem.

"I think a lot of people don't even know we exist," she said.

Another uniqueness of the centre is it has become more than just a senior citizens' lodge.

"It started off as a seniors' lodge but some of the people we have here are nursing home people. In fact one of our residents is extended care. But we have the capacity to take care of them," said Countryman.

"It works three ways. We can take care of all our residents," added Lefthand.

With its large cooking facility, a bathroom that is made for people in wheelchairs, its bright decor and friendly staff, the Alexis elders' lodge is definitely "home away from home."

Countryman said the monthly rate of \$420 is "very reasonable. It includes everything. Our only requirement is no alcohol."

Did you know that Windspeaker publishes 11,000 copies every two weeks?

Happy 8th Anniversary Windspeaker!

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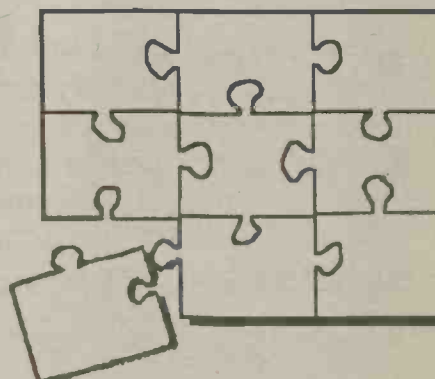
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to everyone from the management and staff of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta - Windspeaker, Native Perspective and CFWE-FM

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Police help youths say 'no' to drugs

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

A different kind of police program was introduced into Alberta's school system last March.

Called PACE (Police Assisting Community Education), the program, which is aimed at Grade 5-9 students, involves peace officers talking to students about problems with drug use, student attitudes to using drugs and the effect of peer pressure on their decision to use drugs or not.

A PACE training program has been preparing police to deliver the lesson plans and it's the hope of police departments across the province that by providing officers with the skills and knowledge necessary to deliver effective lessons, it will lead to a greater understanding of substance abuse by students and also enhance the image of the officer in classrooms.

The program began about four years ago in Nova Scotia when addiction personnel and RCMP officials met and developed a 20-lesson resource package for trained officers to use in talking to school children about drugs.

The package deals with various aspects of life, including the law, youth drug usage, peer pressure and alternatives to drugs. "We have lesson plans for each grade level we may be asked to speak to," said RCMP Sgt. Clare Gill at a three-day police PACE training session in Edmonton Feb. 22.

Gill said almost all Native police detachments in Alberta have a member who has already received PACE training. And 10 Inuit and Dene officers from the N.W.T. have also been trained.

Blood reserve police officer Dan Chief Moon sees PACE as a positive step towards prevention of substance abuse among youths.

"When I was with the RCMP we went through a similar program, but this program will be more beneficial for us to use in the schools. It offers us more tools to work with," he said.

In December about 25 regular RCMP officers and special constables attended an all-Native PACE course.

Although the demand for the program is somewhat weak, Gill said it's only because the program is in its early stages.

"I'm confident it works. It just needs more time and teachers have to become aware of it," Gill said.

He adds the officers already trained are ready and willing to begin talking with children in schools. "It's a good opportunity for children to get some facts about substance abuse and to make some positive decisions about the illegal use of drugs."

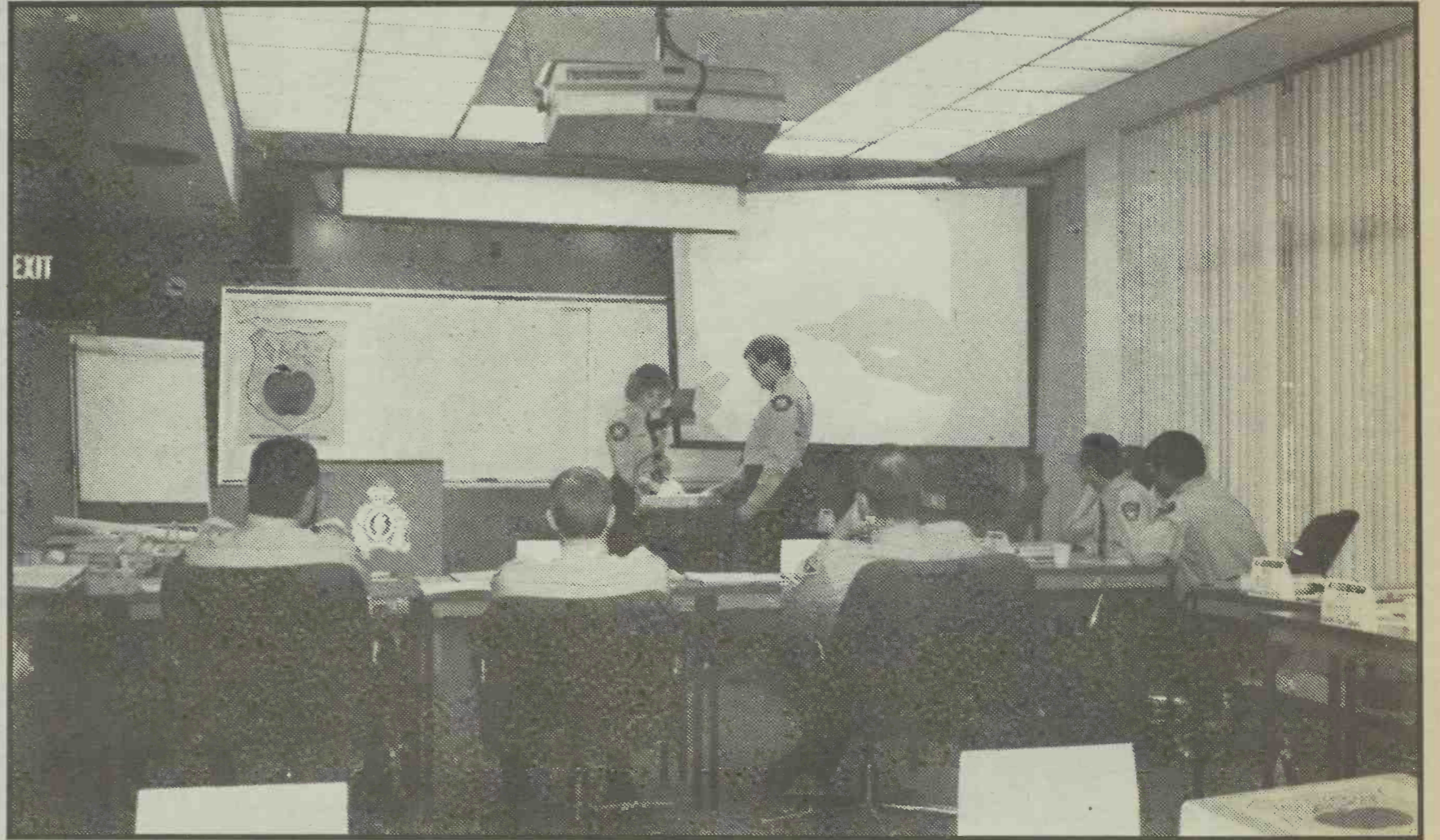
The Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC) and Alberta Education are both strong supporters of the program.

Gill said the RCMP intends to have at least one of its members in every detachment across the province trained in PACE so they can be effectively used when called on to talk with youth in schools.

"Hopefully by the end of the fiscal year (1991/92) we will have someone trained in every community in this province," he said.

The Calgary Police Department will hold a PACE training program for its members in April.

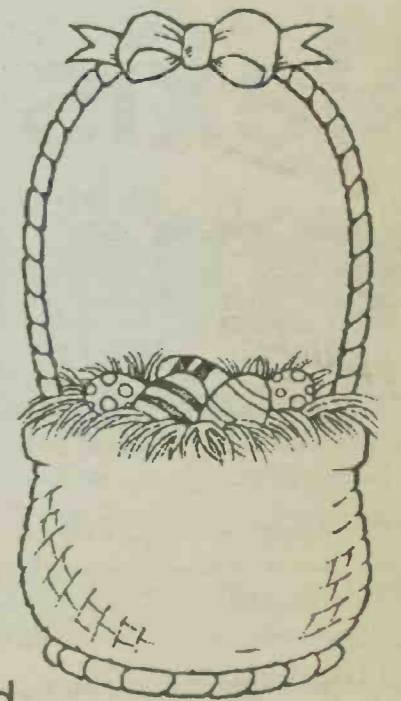
Teachers interested in bringing PACE into their classrooms may contact their local police detachment.



Police from across the province attended PACE training sessions at RCMP K Division in Edmonton Feb. 20 - 22

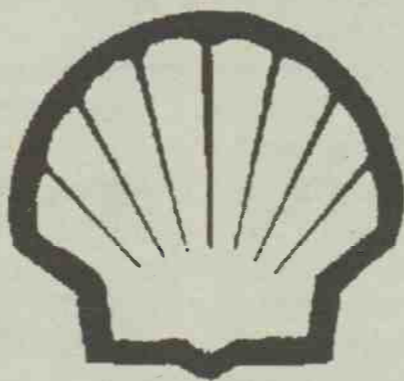
Rocky Woodward

Happy Easter



We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and happy Easter weekend.

Happy 8th anniversary to *Windspeaker* - we hope we will enjoy your publications for many years to come.



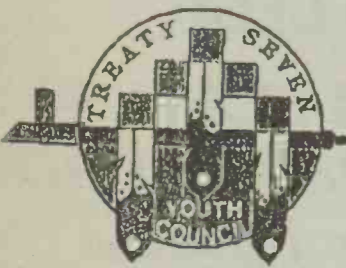
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The Cree Indian Band requires the following Water Delivery and Sewer Disposal Service which is to be awarded under Contract:

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- Contractor will be provided with training on the operation of the equipment;
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Ray McKenzie
Economic Development Officer
Cree Indian Band

Saskatchewan

Native dentist a first for University of Saskatchewan

By Heather Andrews
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON, SASK.

Dr. Ron Martin doesn't mind at all that his new job is in a northern Ontario settlement accessible only by plane or train.

He is now one of the dentists serving the needs of people in the Moose Factory area, 300 miles north of Timmins.

"I had no trouble getting accustomed to living here," he laughs, noting he grew up in Fond-du-lac in northern Saskatchewan, which was excellent preparation since it was similarly

isolated.

Last year Martin became the first Native student to graduate from the college of dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan, having completed a B.Sc. in anatomy and a BA, before he tackled five years in the college.

"Ron worked hard while he was here," says the dean of dentistry Dr. Innis, who commends Martin for writing a handbook which helps Native students get oriented at the university.

Innis says Martin was very involved with the other Native students and was active as a group leader. "He encouraged the other students and was a real role model." Innis hopes Martin comes back to Saskatchewan before too long, although he admits the young dentist's new position will give him excellent experience.

Martin is on a one-year contract at Moose Factory's general hospital. "One other full-time dentist and I look after the needs of the 2,500 residents here as well as in other nearby communities," he says. The dentists take turns flying in to other remote settlements on a rotating basis.

The hospital is operated as part of the outreach program of the University of Toronto. The dentists are accompanied on occasion by dental students from the university. "We see 95 per cent Native people, although we also look after the needs of the non-Natives in the area," he says.

The Chipewyan Dene man was one of nine children and they were all encouraged by their parents to pursue an education. "They sent us to high school in nearby Uranium City and

wouldn't take 'no' for an answer if we threatened to quit our studies," he says.

Martin advises Native people to become informed about available scholarships and other

sources of funding they may use in developing a career.

"There's lots of opportunity out there. Make up your mind what you want to do and then go for it," he says.

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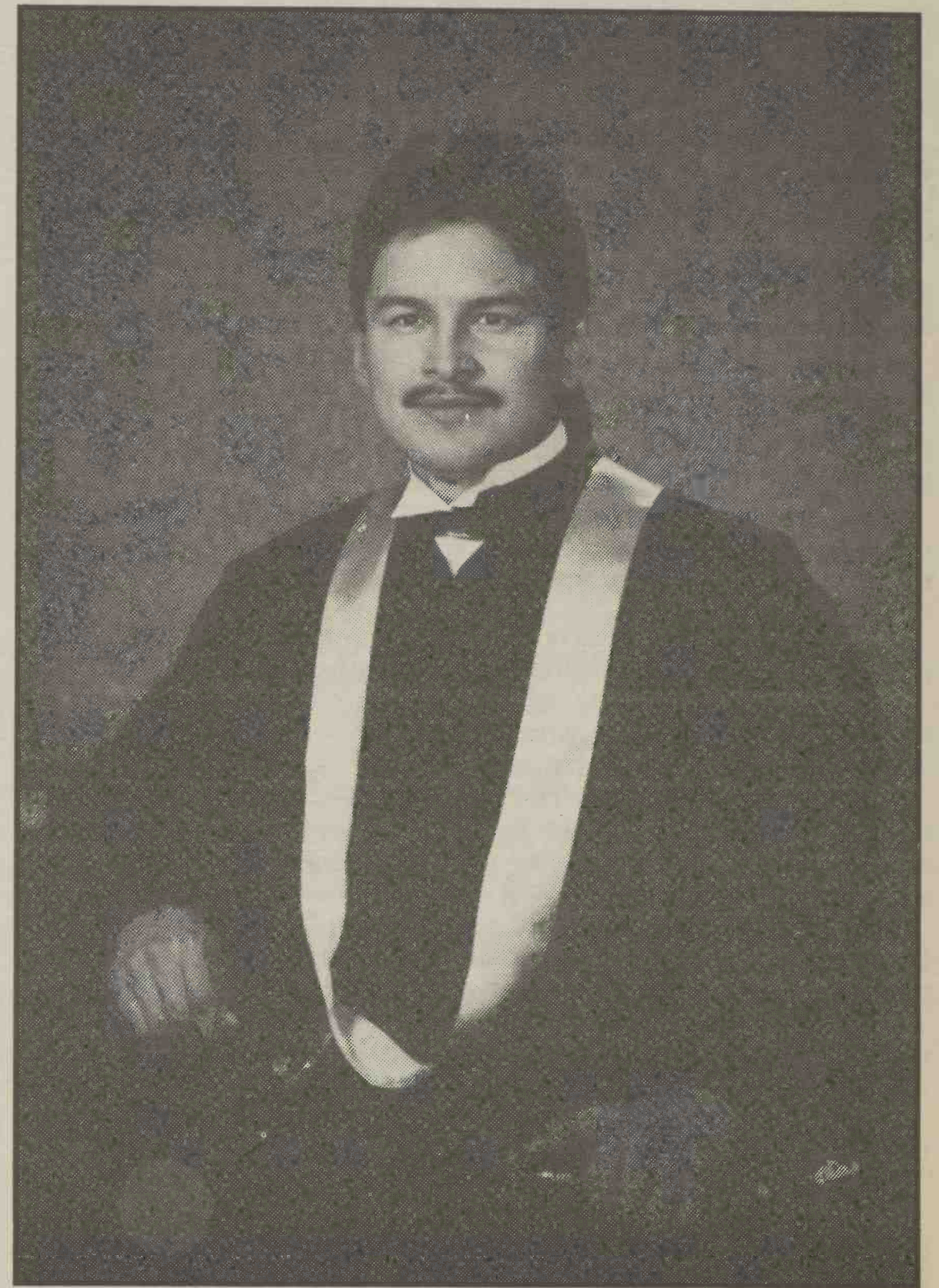


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Happy
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Dr. Ron Martin

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Advertising Feature

FSIN planning its biggest trade show ever

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON, SASK.

It's being billed as the biggest economic development trade show ever organized in Saskatoon by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), says show manager Milt Burns.

"We've held other shows in Saskatoon before but never one of this magnitude," he says.

Last year the show had 25 exhibit booths, but this year Burns says the Saskatoon Jubilee Building will be filled to capacity with everything from recreation boats, educational supplies, office and equipment supplies to home items.

"It looks as though we'll have to expand judging from the huge response we've received. Presently, we're looking for another building to house some of the booths," says Burns.

All 72 bands and Indian district offices in the province are involved with the trade show, scheduled to be held May 31-June 2.

Burns says the trade show will offer information to bands and tribal councils on new products in the marketplace. He sees it as beneficial to Indian bands in the province.

"The trade show is actually being held to help bands looking for new ways to upgrade economic development in their communities. It's a chance for them to see how equipment is purchased for less dollars."

He says the trade show is not only open to Saskatchewan businesses, but those from outside the province as well.

"We go to Native trade shows and conferences in Alberta and Manitoba. Basically our portfolio is we help - they help. I think it's important we support each other," Burns says.

He says there has been tremendous interest already in attending the trade show, which will feature Native cultural activities in addition to all the booths offering the latest in business and recreation supplies.

"The Prince Albert and Gordon Lake powwow groups will perform. Native singers will entertain and other cultural events are presently being billed for the show," says Burns.

He adds it will be a definite plus for everyone to attend. "So much is being offered on a grand scale. And we have an open invitation to all businesses to participate."

The trade show is sponsored by Pepsi and Labatt's. For more information on the FSIN economic development trade show call (306)665-1215.



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Executive Office
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ROLAND CROWE AND THE FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS

At this time of the year we reflect upon sacrifices that others have made on our behalf. The treaty Indian nations have made, and continue to make, sacrifices on behalf of Canada.

The world is in a state of flux and today, more than ever, it is necessary for treaty Indian nations to set aside their differences and work together. In our quest for equality and justice, unity will be our best ally.

Historically, our peoples stood together when our nations faced common adversity. Today, more than ever, we need to continue this spirit of co-operation in order to secure our future, and the futures of those who will come after us.

Chief Roland Crowe
Federation of Saskatchewan
Indian Nations
Indian Governments of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan

The Woodward's roots are in Saskatchewan

Howdy. How are all our brothers and sisters in Saskatchewan, home of my roots. That's right. My sister Jane (she's older than me) says our roots are in Saskatchewan.

I said, "You mean we're related to Gabriel Dumont! Possibly Chief Poundmaker, Thunderchild!" I gasped.

She said, "No...I think his name was Little Smoke. A long time ago he took care of the horses when other men of his village went on war parties or to buffalo hunt."

I said, "You mean...no one famous?"

She said, "Just the guy whose last words were..." Oh look! A buffalo stampede!"

How many of you know where Winston Wuttenee comes from?

The Red Pheasant reserve near North Battleford right?

Well, Winston and I have been great friends for many years.

I mention my friend Winston because his songs are in demand here but we don't have any!

Requests by mail, people dropping in, everyone is asking for tapes.

I told them I sing, but the word is, "We want Winston!" Help!

PRINCE ALBERT: Did you know Eugene Arcand, executive director of the Metis and Indian friendship centre, was contacted by Brian Sobie, who has put together a half-hour documentary called "In Search of Dreams."

The documentary is based on aboriginal hockey players and will appear on TSN (The Sports Network) March 18.

Eugene played hockey, the reason he was approached by Sobie, I think.

The show will air across the country so watch for it. But you will probably not see Eugene because, "I think I'll be the guy on the cutting room floor," Eugene laughs.

He wouldn't tell me if he's in the program or not. I guess I'll have to glue myself to the boob tube to find out.

And don't forget the Saskatchewan Indian Winter Games will be held in P.A. April 2-7. Be there!

Want to know who will be there? The beautiful Miss Canada Leslie McLaren!

McLaren, a Native studies student at the University of Alberta, was named Miss Canada last October.

I guess you could say McLaren is the true Miss Canada. Her grandmother hails from the Cree Nation in Fort Chipewyan.

ISLAND LAKE: "May I suggest your paper send out more copies than at present to both the Island Lake band and the Makwa Sahgaiehan band? It is impossible to obtain a copy of your paper the day after it arrives.

BORDER CROSSING



Rocky Woodward on the road

People must enjoy your paper as I do," says Sharon Ludwig, instructor for the Native Opportunities Program training centre.

And Sharon continues, "I would like to commend you on the article you did on Ordean Goulet. (Border Crossing's Saskatchewan buddy). I'm sure he's pleased with it. Take care of yourself on the road and be sure to visit Island Lake if you are ever travelling near our beautiful

and all sorts of booths will be set up offering the latest in education, housing, recreation and sports items.

I understand the 72 reserves in the province will have participation in the event.

I'm down on my knees begging my boss (Ironhorse) Dana Wagg to let me go.

BORDER CROSSING: Is your way of telling our readers what is happening, has happened or will

happen in your community. Call me at (403) 455-2700.

Isn't Sharon nice? And she's right about Island Lake being a beautiful community. In fact the whole area is simply beautiful. Why, I'm thinking of vacationing there this summer.

By the way Sharon, the newspaper articles from the Christmas party I attended (Yeah! It was fun) are on the way...I promise. **SASKATOON:** Get ready for the biggest trade show ever!

From May 31-June 2 an economic development trade show at the Saskatoon Jubilee building will draw business people from across the country.

Native singers and powwow groups will perform

nally ran out of air," he responded.

"That's awful," I said, "but how many people did you take on?" again I asked. "You should have seen me. For awhile I was winning," he said.

Again I asked how many. "About one!" came the reply. Have a great month. Border Crossing luvs ya.

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Wishing everyone a happy Easter and all the best to Windspeaker on their 8th Anniversary

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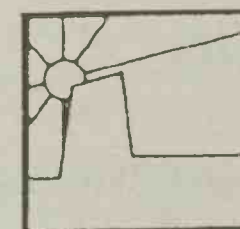


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Saskatchewan

Pelican members charged with wildlife violations

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

PELICAN LAKE, SASK.

Six northern Saskatchewan members of the Pelican Lake Indian band have been summoned to appear in provincial court on 11 counts of wildlife violations.

Ron Chamakese has been charged with six counts of trafficking in wild meat and unlawfully hunting wild meat, but he says he's innocent.

"I'm not a hunter and I don't hunt wild meat. I don't even own a gun," Chamakese told *Windspeaker*.

Chamakese believes the charges stem from a possible "sting operation" by the Department of Natural and Renewable Resources (DNR).

He says a person he befriended last summer claimed he had Native blood and wanted to find his roots "so I took him to powwows and other

traditional gatherings. Now I hear he was probably an undercover conservation officer. I liked him and thought he was my friend.

"I didn't believe it for awhile until six of us were individually charged. Now I believe he is," commented Chamakese.

Chamakese is a school bus driver for the Pelican Lake band. He says he was picked up during a school run and driven to the DNR office for questioning.

When he refused to answer any questions he was told he would have to face the consequences.

"It was after that I received the summonses to appear in court," says Chamakese.

But Chamakese says there's no basis for the charges against him. He says he is a traditional person and always holds a feast in the spring and fall which many people attend. He believes the charges could have originated from the feasts.

"Once I was asked by a local farmer to hunt ducks on his property because he was having a

problem with them during the fall.

"And some of the guys charged dropped off meat at my mom's place in preparation for a feast, but that's all. The guy I befriended was there. Still, I can't understand why I'm charged with six counts of wild meat violations," he says.

Chamakese chuckles when asked if he's respected in his community.

"I ran for chief four years ago. It was a tie so we tossed a coin and I lost.

"I live my life in the traditional way and many of the children see me as a role model," Chamakese says, adding that he has the privilege of sitting with the four head elders at sundances because of his status in the community.

He says the summonses he received were unsigned. "I've spoken to Legal Aid and they say I have no obligation to appear in court because they were not signed."

However, Chamakese says he is seeking another opinion on the matter from Legal Aid.

"The charges are just not true," Chamakese claims. Chamakese and the other five Pelican Lake members were to appear in court March 13.

Happy Easter to everyone and congratulations to
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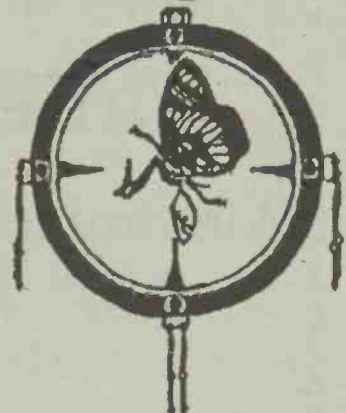
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Sports

Wrestler dreams of making Alberta team

By Rocky Woodward
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Brent Courtorielle, 15, loves to wrestle freestyle and he dreams of someday joining the Alberta wrestling team.

It's a dream which can become a reality because Courtorielle is good at wrestling — so good in fact his coach had to put him into the 87-kilogram division. Courtorielle was winning all his matches in his regular 77-kg division.

Then on Feb. 16 Courtorielle won four consecutive wrestling matches to win the Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association championship in the 87-kg division in Edmonton.

His coach at school, Wes Creig, believes he has the ability to make the Alberta wrestling team.

"I've said to other teachers Brent is the only guy I'll wrestle against. I'm six feet tall and 220 pounds and he always gives me

a full-scale match."

Courtorielle, a Grade 9 student at Steele Heights school in Edmonton, who is dyslexic (he reads backwards), says he always liked wrestling. "I spend a lot of my spare time at home lifting weights and working out physically."

He's loved to wrestle ever since he was a young boy.

"His aunt is 10 years older than Brent. Years ago the two of them always wrestled against each other. I guess it's one reason why he's so good at it," smiles his mother Barb.

It wasn't until Grade 7 that Brent began to wrestle as an amateur. When his teacher noticed many of the boys in class liked to wrestle during physical education class, a wrestling team was formed.

"We started wrestling (against) other schools. Last year I came in second in the Edmonton championships," this year's champ says proudly.

"Most of our wrestlers are 200 pounds plus and Brent always gives them a hard time,"

Creig says.

Courtorielle's dream of joining the Alberta wrestling team may not be far off.

Edmonton Wrestling Club coach Jerry Derewonka says if Courtorielle is willing to put the time and effort into practising, he could go to the Nationals, scheduled for Prince Albert May 2-4.

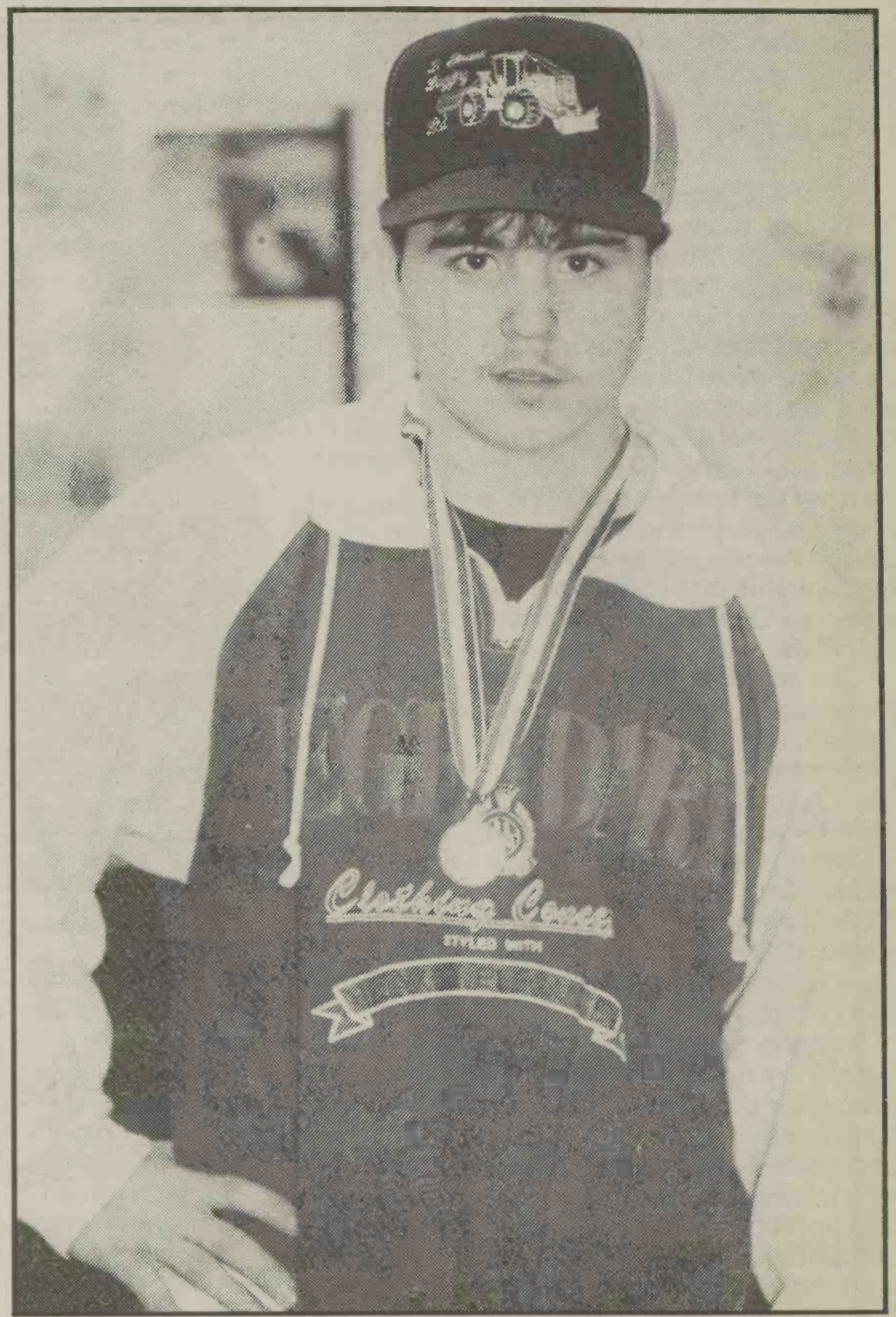
"We hold practices at the University of Alberta every Tuesday and Thursday. If Brent comes to practise and the coaches feel he'll benefit from the trip, he's welcome," says Derewonka, who is also assistant coach for the U of A wrestling team.

The only drawback Derewonka sees for Courtorielle and the other wrestlers is the cost for the trip to the Nationals.

"It costs a few dollars to make the trip."

But Courtorielle's dream is to be part of the Alberta team and he has set his sights on being at the Nationals.

"It's a dream I want to turn into a reality," he says.



Freestyle wrestler Brent Courtorielle

Rocky Woodward

Peigan's Pe-Kun-Nee Oldtimers win Harvey Plain Eagle Memorial Hockey Tournament at Brocket

By Jim Goodstriker
Windspeaker Correspondent

BROCKET, ALTA.

The hosting Pe-Kun-Nee Oldtimers from the Peigan reserve captured the 1st Annual Harvey Plain Eagle Memorial Oldtimers Hockey Tournament at the Crowlodge hockey arena.

The tourney, which was held on the Feb. 23 weekend, featured teams from Enoch, Alexander and two teams each from Morley and Kainai. Prince Albert from Saskatchewan entered but failed to show, putting a damper on the two-division playoff format.

The Red Division included Kainai Ole Yeller, Morley Tomahawks, Prince Albert and Pe-Kun-Nee.

The Blue Division had Kainai Bullhorn, Alexander, Enoch and Morley.

Peigan certainly had the luck of the draw in the two-division format. They only played one game in their division in reaching the final, an easy 16-6 win over Ole Yeller in their opening game as Greg Smith and Norm Grier each scored a hat trick. They then won by default over Prince Albert and the Tomahawks, who left after playing only one game, a 12-9 loss to Ole Yeller.

Alexander on the other hand had a tough schedule and had to win three tough games to get to the finals.

They defeated Enoch 7-6, after falling behind 5-1 after the first period. Norm Kooteney scored the tying and winning goals in the final period.

They edged Morley 7-6 in their second game, with Kooteney again scoring the winning goal.

In their third game they edged Bullhorn 6-5 after falling behind 2-0 early in the first period. This was probably the best game of the tourney with good action back and forth for the full 60 minutes.

The game was tied 2-2 after one and 5-5 after two. Leroy Paul proved to be the hero for Alexander as he scored the winning goal on a great individual rush

with only six minutes remaining in the game.

In their final game against Peigan, they gave it their best shot, but ran out of steam against the fully-rested Peigan team.

The game was tied at one after the first, Peigan went ahead 5-2 after 40 minutes and the home team scored the only two goals in the final frame.

Tom McNabb and Norm Grier led the winners with two goals each. Singles came off the sticks of Gregg Smith, Floyd Provost and Dan Kaji. Replying for Alexander were Leroy Paul and Wally White.

Peigan goalie Eric Crow Shoe was named the most valuable player of the tourney. "I really didn't expect to win the award, but the team really played well in front of me, not allowing any rebounds. The whole team deserves credit for our win, it was a good tournament. It's just too bad Prince Albert didn't show but everyone had a good time and that's what these oldtimers' tournaments are all about."

Veteran Ray Arcand of Alexander said "The committee did a

good job and everyone had a good time. That's what these oldtimers' games are for, to talk about the old days, good times and just get together and have fun. It's too bad when a team doesn't show, it screws up the draw. It is not an excuse for losing but we played five tough games, while Peigan only had to play two throughout the tourney.

"These tournaments are for the fun of the game and it's not good when teams go home, knowing they won't be in the money like Enoch and Morley did. You should just play out your remaining games and give your team a good reputation," he added.

In the battle for third place Bullhorn waxed the Ole Yellers 15-6 as Bert Mistaken Chief and Keith Tailfeathers scored four and three goals respectively for the winners.

The all-star team included Joe Yellow Horn and Norm Grier from Peigan, Leroy Paul and Norm Kookney from Alexander, Dexter Healy from Ole Yeller and Bert Mistaken Chief from Bullhorn.

Ice Chips

By Jim Goodstriker
Windspeaker Correspondent

BROCKET, ALTA.

The tourney was held in memory of Harvey Plain Eagle, who played for the Peigan Oldtimers for a number of years. He passed away last year...the tournament will be an annual event...a grand opening was held on Saturday complete with the Indian Flag Song, an official opening by elders Joe and Elise Crow Shoe and a welcoming speech by Audrey Plain Eagle...."We had a good tournament and everything was on schedule. We had good crowds. We hope to draw at least 10 teams next year and improve every year from there," said director Les Plain Eagle...Keith Tailfeathers of Bullhorn had to go to the hospital in Pincher Creek after jamming his thumb into the boards. His team kept on him after he missed on a breakaway against Alexander that would have put them into the championship final....the top three teams each received trophies...team sweaters went to the first-place team, the MVP and the all-stars, grip bags were given to second-place team members and caps were presented to third-place finishers. The prize money was \$700, \$500 and \$400 respectively for the top three places....players gave a rough time to former enforcer and fighter Floyd Provost of Peigan, asking him whether he'd taken any lead off his hockey gloves.

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Careers

NOVA's recruiting policy dates back 20 years

By Heather Andrews
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

NOVA Corporation of Alberta has long had a Native employee recruiting program.

Don Courchene, adviser with NOVA's Native affairs department, said the policy was in place for more than 20 years, which was "long before any other kind of employment equity program came into being." The idea to increase the number of NOVA's Native employees to reflect more closely the proportion of Native people in the population was the vision of chief executive officer Bob Blair.

One of NOVA's Native employees is John Rodgers, a Blood Indian from southern Alberta. A professional engineer with a B.Sc. in mechanical engineering from the University of Calgary, Rodgers has been with the corporation for four years. He's NOVA's project engineer and has expertise in the operational concerns of natural gas pipelines and metering facilities.

Rodgers says Native people should try to take what's best from their culture and the non-Native culture. As an engineer he appreciates the importance of technology, but as a Native he also appreciates the importance of traditional Native values.

"Native people have always had a strong sense of family and a special closeness to the land," he says, noting he and his wife Ernestine, also a Blood Indian, make frequent trips to their reserve to maintain family ties.

"I am an avid outdoorsman. I



Heather Andrews

Marcella Robinson

love nature and I have a deep respect for the environment," he says.

Rodgers feels fortunate to be comfortable in both worlds. "We as Indian people have to recognize we can learn to prosper in modern society while maintaining our Indian identity," he says urging young people in school to strive for excellence, which he says is a key to success. "Acceptance into post-secondary institutions is highly competitive. Good grades are essential."

Marcella Robinson, who started with NOVA full time in 1985, agrees education is impor-

tant. After graduating from Archbishop O'Leary Catholic High School in Edmonton she took business administration courses at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) for two years.

"I won a scholarship through another NOVA incentive, their educational program, which really helped out while I was attending NAIT, and they gave me summer employment each year, too," she says.

But Robinson isn't finished learning and she plans to further her education by taking night courses. People are often held back from advancing in their career because they lack skills or education, she notes.

Robinson, who was born and raised in Edmonton, is glad NOVA focuses on the individual employee's abilities. "If you do

well, you'll go places with this firm." She has just begun a new job in the gas supply division, where she's working with customers to maintain integrity of the pipeline gas supply.

Robinson left NOVA for several months when she accepted a position with the Tallcree reserve near Fort Vermilion. "I was a director of social development there. It was great to get in touch with my culture," she says. She came back to Edmonton to be nearer to her family and closer to

educational resources. "But it was a great cultural experience," she concludes.

Courchene hastens to assure potential employees there is a great diversity of positions available within NOVA. "They don't all require university or college degrees," he says. NOVA is actively recruiting on settlements and reserves in the province.

"Right now about 3.9 per cent of our 2,900 employees in the gas transmission division in Alberta are Native."

Family and Friends

By Violet Haggerty

HIGH PRAIRIE, ALTA.

To some people money is the most important thing in their lives. But it is the one thing that can cause you a lot of misery, it can also blind you from the ones who love you the most...

We often forget just exactly what is important in our lives. Not very often we open our eyes and heart to what is in front of us. We tend to take the people who mean the most to us for granted. And the one gift God gave us is priceless, which is our family and friends, for they are the ones who are there whenever we need a hand, a shoulder, strength or someone to laugh with, not at.

So the next time, you feel you're having money problems, stop and think about all the things you already have that money can't buy. Take a good look at your family and all the friends you have and thank God for the biggest miracle - life.

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We expect that qualified and experienced teachers will be required for September, 1991 in all subject areas and grade levels, Kindergarten through Grade 12. We would particularly like to hear from teachers who would be qualified to teach Religious Education, French or Special Education. A valid Alberta Teaching Certificate is required. This invitation for applications covers the following School Districts:
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Sexsmith R.C.S.S.D.#51
Spirit River R.C.S.S.D.#36
Application forms are available on request. Complete applications, accompanied by curriculum vitae, should be submitted to:

Patrick S. Maguire
Deputy Superintendent
Catholic Education Centre
10715-102 Street
Grande Prairie, AB T8V 2X1
Phone: (403) 532-3013
Fax: (403) 532-3430

ADMINISTRATOR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

Old Sun Community College is a dynamic Native institute serving the educational needs of both Native and non-Native populations alike for the last twenty years. Located on Siksika Nation, the college is 100 km. east of Calgary on the Trans Canada Highway.

As a result of continued growth of Old Sun, the college is seeking the services of an experienced post secondary administrator. Reporting to the Old Sun Post Secondary Committee, the ideal candidate will have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in education, counselling or social work. Preference will be given to candidates with a master's degree. Salary up to \$40,000 annually.

Duties will include designing and implementing the post secondary guidelines, rules, regulations and procedures and overseeing two or three other staff members.

The candidate, a team player, must be a self starter with excellent communication and inter-personal attributes. Ability to communicate in the Blackfoot language will be a definite asset.

Apply to: Chairman

Old Sun Post Secondary Committee
Old Sun Community College
P.O. Box 339
Gleichen, Alberta
T0J 1N0

**Closing Date:
March 18, 1991**

Phone: (403)264-9658 Calgary Direct
(403)734-3862

Fax: (403)734-5110
Attention: Old Sun College

Applications are invited for the following position
with the Sucker Creek Band

JOB DESCRIPTION DIRECTOR FOR WOMEN'S EMERGENCY SHELTER

SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Project Haven Board, incumbent manages and directs the operation of the Emergency Shelter. The incumbent recommends new or modified programs and directs the operations of the Emergency Shelter. The incumbent recommends new or modified programs and policies to the Board and after approval establishes and directs the framework within which programs and services are made available to clients, ensuring that high standards of programs and service delivery are maintained. Establishing and maintaining contact with the various agencies, organizations and individual service providers in the community. The incumbent is a non-voting participant on the Board.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- B.S.W. or B.A. degree or Community college diploma from a recognized university or post-secondary institution with majors in Sociology, nursing or Psychology or a related discipline suitable for the functions to be performed. A candidate with adequate field experience in lieu of the educational qualifications may be considered.
- Several years proven experience in the field
- Must be a self-starter with leadership and oral and written communication skills
- Proven ability to supervise staff and interact with clients
- Proven experience in program and staff development for a new centre

CONTACT PERSON:

Chief Jim Badger
Box 65
Enilda, Alberta T0G 0W0
(403)523-4426

PHONE:

SALARY NEGOTIABLE - DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: March 25, 1991 at 3:00 p.m.



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issue is Friday,
March 22nd at
4:00 p.m.

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Applications are invited for the following position
with the Sucker Creek Band

JOB DESCRIPTION - BAND ADMINISTRATOR

SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Band Council: administers the business affairs of the Sucker Creek Indian Band and carries out directives issued by the Council; attends Council meetings and advises Council on matters that fall within its jurisdiction; manages and reports to council on all matters pertaining to: Finance and Administration, maintenance, housing, and all capital projects as well as all other programs administered by the Band. Administers tenders for construction or maintenance work to be carried out on the reserve; compiles annual estimates of anticipated revenues and expenditures; supervises the activities of other administration employees and outside employees (as per personnel policies); drafts official correspondence as directed or required by Band Council; prepares agenda for regular meetings (in consultation with Chief and Council) and distributing previous minutes; and performs other duties as required.

CONTACT PERSON: Chief Jim Badger
Box 65
Enilda, Alberta T0G 0W0
(403)523-4426

PHONE:

SALARY NEGOTIABLE - DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: March 25, 1991 at 3:00 p.m.



Consider Your Career Opportunities in CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Lethbridge Community College has introduced a new career program designed to meet the increasing demand for native criminal justice officers.

This two-year certificate program combines academic upgrading with regular coursework toward a certificate in Corrections or Law Enforcement. Graduates of the program will find employment with a variety of criminal justice agencies, or they may continue their education toward a Criminal Justice diploma.

Applications are now being accepted for September admission. For more information about your career opportunities in **Criminal Justice**, contact **Ian Hepher, Instructor and Academic Advisor**, at 329-7229.



Program Director, Native Teacher Education



Appli-
cations

are invited for the position of Director of a new Native Education Program. In collaboration with Trent University, Department of Native Studies, Queen's University will offer a Native specialization within a diploma in education and a Bachelor of Education degree. The Director will provide leadership in the continued development and implementation of a program designed and approved by a Steering Committee made up of Ontario Native representatives and personnel from the two universities.

Qualifications: Masters, doctorate or equivalent in experience, in education or related area. Experience in community-based Native education, strong cross-cultural communication and administrative skills. Native language an asset.

This is a tenure-track position, rank to be determined on the basis of qualifications and experience. Starting date is July 1, 1991 or earlier if possible.

Duties will include: co-ordination of program development for two models - community and campus based; direction of curriculum development; direction of initial program implemen-

tation; policy development; administration, personnel and funding responsibilities; academic and selected teaching duties. The Director will be responsible to the Dean of Queens University Faculty of Education and a Native Education Council representing the Ontario Native community and the two universities.

In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Queens University has an employment equity program and encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including women, aboriginal peoples, people with disabilities, and visible minorities.

Send applications, with curriculum vitae and names of three references, to:

Professor Paul Park
Dean, Faculty of Education
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 3N6
Closing date: March 31, 1991



Miyo Wahkohtowin Community School Board Hobbema, Alberta

This Community Control School Authority is inviting applications from highly motivated educators. These positions will provide the educational team of this newly formed Community Controlled School Authority (formerly run by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada) and assuming of administrative control of the Kindergarten thru Grade 12 programs for September, 1991. The three school buildings serve approximately 1000 students with a projected staff of 105, with the challenge of plans for continued growth.

Applications are invited from individuals with:

- a total commitment to children and the quality of their education

- the ability to perform all educational tasks
- a high level of skills in educational systems
- proven educational experience and training
- effective communication
- interpersonal skills
- commitment to community involvement in a Cree/English education setting
- University degree in a related area

Director of Educational Programs
Director of Personnel/Student Services
Teachers

Applications are invited from teachers at all levels. Specializations in ECS, SPECIAL EDUCATION and departmentalized junior high levels as well as those striving for

excellence in teaching at the K thru 9 levels are needed for the 1991 - 92 school year.

Closing Date: June 30, 1991

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Send to:

Ermineskin Education
Box 219
Hobbema, Alberta
T0C 1N0

Phone: (403)585-4006

(403)420-0008

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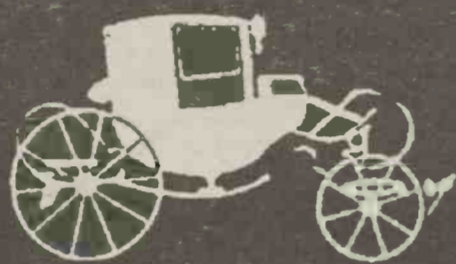
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 - Valid Health Care Card or equivalent
 - Completed admission form which includes referral and medical report. This form can be brought in by either the patient or mailed prior to patient's admission date
 - Prearranged and completed transportation arrangements to and from Kapown Centre
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NOTICE OF POSTING OF SETTLEMENT MEMBERSHIP INTERIM REPORT

Pursuant to the Transitional Membership Regulations, Metis Settlements Act S.A 1990, c. M-14.3, please be advised that the Settlement Membership Interim Report for the Paddle Prairie, Gift Lake, Peavine, East Prairie, Kikino, Buffalo Lake, Elizabeth and Fishing Lake Metis Settlements is available for viewing at the following locations:

**Alberta Metis Settlements
Transition Commission**
Mayfield Business Centre
10525 - 170 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5P 4W2
Phone: Ms. Margaret Pietersma at
1-800-661-8260

Metis Settlements General Council
2nd Floor, Western Building
11104 - 107 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 0X8
Phone: (403) 428-6054

Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement Office
General Delivery
Paddle Prairie, Alberta
T0H 2W0
Phone: (403) 981-2227

Peavine Metis Settlement Office
P.O. Box 238
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0
Phone: (403) 523-2557

Gift Lake Metis Settlement Office
General Delivery
Gift Lake, Alberta
T0G 1B0
Phone: (403) 767-3894

East Prairie Metis Settlement Office
Box 1289
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0
Phone: (403) 523-2594

Kikino Metis Settlement Office
General Delivery
Kikino, Alberta
T0A 2B0
Phone: (403) 623-7868

Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement Office
P.O. Box 20
Caslan, Alberta
T0A 0R0
Phone: (403) 689-2170

Elizabeth Metis Settlement Office
P.O. Box 420
Grand Centre, Alberta
T0A 1T0
Phone: (403) 594-5026

Fishing Lake Metis Settlement Office
General Delivery
Sputinow, Alberta
T0A 3G0
Phone: (403) 943-2202

and in four public locations throughout each Settlement.

The Settlement Membership Final Report will be prepared by March 31, 1991. If you are dissatisfied with your membership status under either the Interim or Final Report, you may:

- 1) Contact the Metis Settlements Transition Commission to determine why your membership is of "uncertain status". Call, at no charge, Margaret Pietersma 1-800-661-8260.
- 2) File a written Claim of Membership with the Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal, Room 610, 10405 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3N4 on or before Friday, June 28, 1991. For information call, at no charge, 1-800-661-8864.
- 3) Apply to Settlement Council for Membership under the new Metis Settlements Act.

Dennis C. Surrendi
Commissioner
Alberta Metis Settlements Transition Commission
Mayfield Business Centre
Edmonton Alberta T5P 4W2



Alberta Metis Settlements
Transition Commission



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