

# Wind speaker

November 1997

Canada's National Aboriginal News Source

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ROB MCKINLEY

New to Alberta high school's Wheatland League are the Lac La Biche Huskies. Half of the team is made up of Aboriginal athletes from First Nations and Métis Settlements around the northern Alberta town. The Huskies didn't manage to win a game in their fledgling season, but they gained the experience needed to make an impact next season. It has been 30 years since Lac La Biche has fielded a league-level football team.

## Cases of diabetes expected to triple

By Louise Elliott  
Windspeaker Contributor

SAN DIEGO, California

Fear about the spread of diabetes in Canadian Aboriginal communities and hope for their prevention were served up in equal measure by participants at the Fourth International Conference on Diabetes and Indigenous Peoples held Oct. 8 to 11 in San Diego.

Medical experts from Manitoba sounded the alarm about the number of Aboriginal adults with diabetes, which in that province is expected to triple by the year 2016. They stressed the disease is also starting to appear in children as young as six years old.

Type 2 diabetes — non-insulin dependent diabetes — is showing up in First Nations children in Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan at an increasing rate, and health experts are not equipped to address the problem, said Dr. Heather Dean of the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. The disease had traditionally been thought to affect only

adults, she said, and the new development has physicians and health care workers baffled as to how to treat it.

"Most physicians are disbelievers. It's important to help them understand this exists," she said, adding she saw her first child patient with Type 2 diabetes in 1983. Since then provincial health records show 58 cases have been detected in children under 14 in Manitoba. The number of new cases has risen from one or two per year to 11 in 1996, she said.

Type 1 diabetes patients display dramatic symptoms which are treatable by insulin injection, Dean said, while Type 2 cases go undetected or are often misdiagnosed by physicians. The error can lead to blindness, amputations, kidney failure and heart disease in young adulthood.

Bertha Flett, a First Nations registered nurse from Manitoba, described the experience of her daughter, who was misdiagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in 1981 at the age of eight. In 1995 at the age of 22, the woman went blind and de-

veloped end-stage renal disease (kidney failure).

"She always says, 'now I'm in dialysis, I'm going to die,'" Flett said. Flett is now working with Native children in Manitoba to try to develop better prevention and treatment strategies.

Another report, presented by Winnipeg epidemiologist Chris Green, estimated that the number of Native people with diabetes in Manitoba will triple to 20,000 from 6,700 by the year 2016, or from 16 to 27 per cent. A similar study cannot be conducted in other provinces, Green said, because most provincial patient records do not designate whether a patient is First Nations or non-First Nations.

The conference, which included 600 delegates from Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, featured solutions ranging from successful community-based programs like Canada's Kahnawake Schools Prevention Project, to medical intervention programs such as the American Indian Health Service's staged management sys-

tem, an American nationally-standardized care program. Canadian presentations dominated the conference agenda, occupying two full days of plenary sessions.

A presentation by representatives of Ontario's Sandy Lake First Nation focused on that community's efforts to stop the spread of the disease. Sandy Lake First Nation Deputy Chief Harry Meekis described how his community initiated a diabetes study which found Sandy Lake to have a diabetes rate of 26 per cent — the third highest rate in the world.

"The fact that Sandy Lake holds a record, of sorts, as having the third highest prevalence of diabetes in the world is more a tragedy than a source of prestige," Meekis told more than 250 delegates. "It is imperative that we salvage the next generation from the ravages that are plaguing this generation. The preventable nature of this complex combination of physical and social calamity demands action." (see Type 2 diabetes page 19.)

### WHAT'S INSIDE

#### QUOTABLE QUOTE

"... we cannot decolonize peoples by relying on the rules and standards that were used to colonize them in the first place. . . Ultimately the federal government must act in good faith if there is to be a just resolution of the Federation of Newfoundland Indian's claim. . ."

— Retired Queen's University law professor Noel Lyon in a report written for the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

.....Page 5.

#### IT'S A CRIME

Children are being abused on the streets of Canada's largest cities. The abusers are getting away with their crimes because society views the children as the criminals, not the victims. But Saskatchewan is taking a closer look and trying to curb the problem with a new initiative that some hope will end the occurrence of child prostitution. ....Page 2.

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#### AD DEADLINES

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#### ADDRESS:



# Province anxious to curb child prostitution

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

REGINA

The Saskatchewan government is trying to rescue girls — some as young as eight years old — from the streets.

Armed with posters, \$250,000 in funding and a commitment to wiping out the growing business of child prostitution, the Saskatchewan departments of Justice and Social Services are letting the people closest to the problem find the answers.

"We are working with the community," said Saskatchewan Social Services spokesperson Virginia Wilkinson. "The philosophy is that the community knows best what is needed."

Since May of this year, the government began striking out at the people involved in the street-level abuse of children.

"Children involved in the sex trade are victims of child abuse," said Social Services Minister Lorne Calvers. "The people who purchase their services are child abusers. This is an extremely serious issue that we as a society must not tolerate."

Working groups in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina are meeting to discuss the best ways to eliminate the problems on their streets. Although the government says there is no one race or group that makes up the majority of children on the streets, Rick Kotowich, the chairman of the community group set up in Regina, said he feels the majority of victims are First Nation children.

"The kids we are dealing with are Aboriginals," said Kotowich speaking for the Regina Action Committee for Children at Risk.

It is not known, however, exactly how many Aboriginal children there are on the streets.

"We know the kids exist. We know they are out there even though they exist in shadows of secrecy and shadows of shame. . . We'd like to think that 100 is an exaggeration."

Children involved in the sex trade are not all prostitutes either, he said. There are a number who are actually 'pimping' other children.

"The pimp could be another 16-year-old girl [who is] putting a 10-year-old onto the streets because she's attractive, vulnerable and scared of being beaten if she doesn't."

He said it is hard to track individual cases, since some children run away from home for a few weeks at a time and end up on the streets before returning home or winding up in youth detention centres.

Whatever the number, the north central area of Regina, known for the prevalence of child prostitutes, already has the ominous handle of "The Kiddy Stroll."

How many kids, why they end up on the streets and where they go afterwards are just some of the questions the group set up in Regina needs to address, he said.

"We need to have a better understanding of this problem."

To do that, the Regina working group hopes to reach out to families, as well as the children, about the

dangers of street life. The Regina group is made up of several agency representatives who work with street level people in the area. There are Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal members in the group.

Although early in the development stages, Kotowich said one plan being discussed by the action group is to have a store-front centre set up in the downtown area. He said letting the kids know there is a place they can go to get help, rather than "scooping the kids from the streets," is a better alternative.

Once a child approaches the outreach centre with their problems, then a hands-on approach can begin, he said.

"We want to get to the kids and their family and say, 'Look, we understand the lifestyle you have chosen, but it is bad. Do you want to try and make a change?'" he said. "If they say, 'Get away from me,' we just have to let them go."

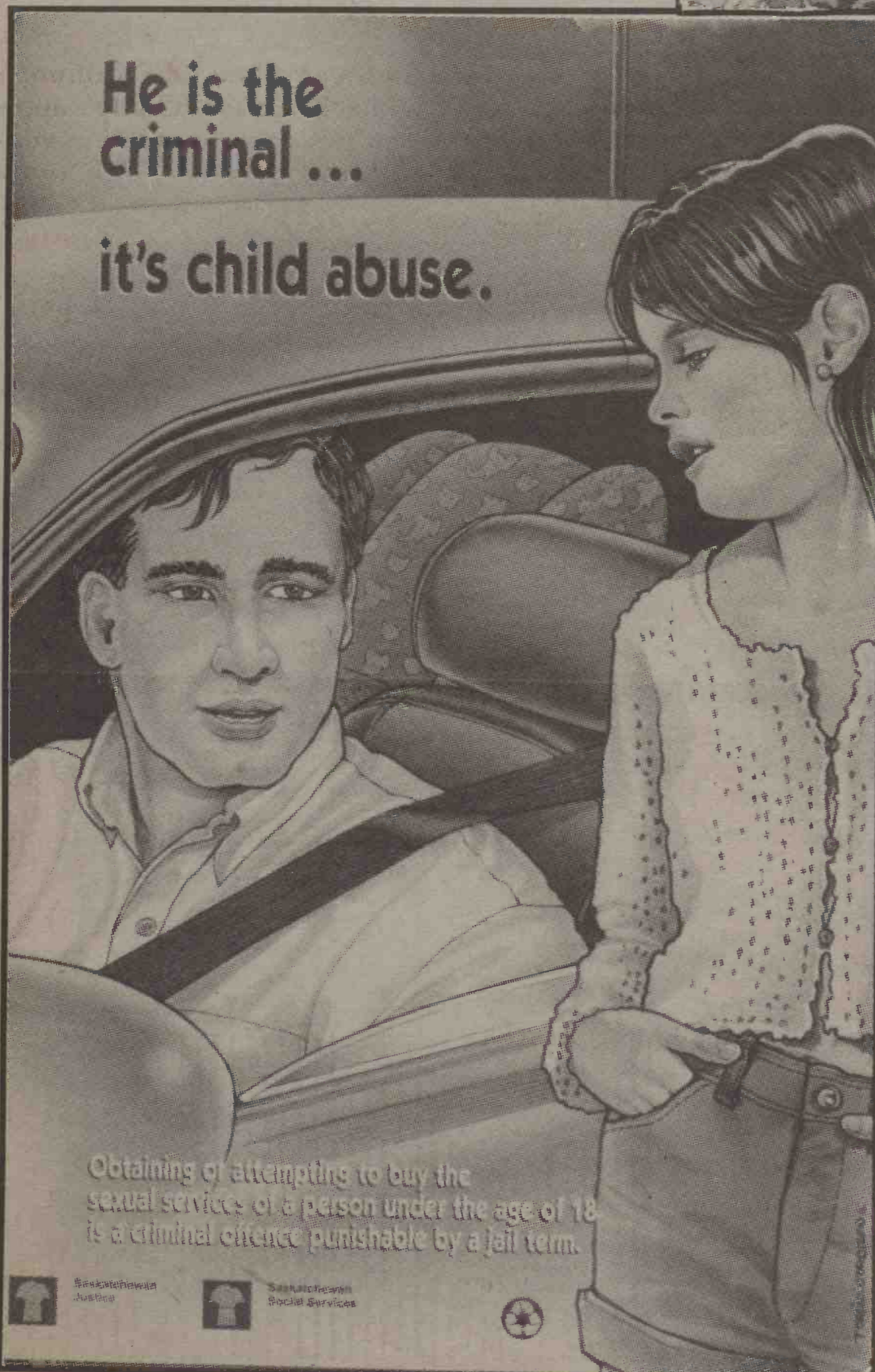
The whole idea is to let the kids decide for themselves. Strong-arm tactics could send the child back onto the streets for good.

Once they do accept help, Kotowich said the group has the capacity to refer them to any number of treatment programs or services.

Although there is little documented evidence, Lynn Mouro, a representative of the Prince

Albert group working to end the child sex trade, said a good hunch about why kids end up on the streets is they are coming from troubled homes where they have been victims of verbal, physical or sexual abuse.

(see Children at risk page 24.)



*"Children involved in the sex trade are victims of child abuse. The people who purchase their services are child abusers. This is an extremely serious issue that we as a society must not tolerate."*

—Saskatchewan Social Services Minister Lorne Calvers

## Ex-prostitute sheds light on sex trade

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

MOOSE JAW, Sask.

While working groups and government officials try to determine reasons why so many young children are on the streets of Saskatchewan, one former prostitute believes she has some answers.

Donna-Lynn, now 32, has been off the streets for three years. She spent half of her life working the streets of the major cities of Saskatchewan.

Donna-Lynn was first paid for sex when she was 12. She was on the streets, running from

trouble at home. Being on the streets wasn't so bad, she said. The night of her first encounter with a child predator, she was "just wandering around, waiting for the morning. . . It wasn't safe for me to be at home."

During the night, what she described as "a nice fella" asked if she had some place to stay.

"He fed me, let me sleep in a spare bedroom and then he crawled in with me. . . He gave me some money after he was done."

Donna-Lynn's life leading up to her first attack reads like a text book on dysfunction.

Her mother was working the streets and was a drug and al-

cohol abuser. Donna-Lynn was taken away from home when she was seven and spent years in and out of foster homes. When she came back home, it didn't take long for things to get bad again. By the time she was 11 years old, she was on the streets. She was picked up several times by social services and spent a total of two years (on and off) in youth detention centres in Regina.

She started drinking when she was 11. Before she was 12, she was working the streets for a guy and his sister who told her she had to make money if she was going to stay with them.

(see Drugs and alcohol page 27.)

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By David S  
Windspeak

A spokes Ontario time to deal with policies of Government.

Glen Har Bay First Nations chief of the Indians, to Days of Adventure, Ont. power and down" Ontario.

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By David S  
Windspeak

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working to end the trade, said a good reason why kids end up on the streets is they are coming from homes where they are victims of verbal, physical, or sexual abuse. (Children at risk page 24.)



maintaining or attempting to buy sexual services from a person under the age of 18 is a criminal offence punishable by a jail term.

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Social Services for Lorne Calvers

Sex trade

user. Donna-Lynn was away from home when seven and spent years out of foster homes. She came back home, it took long for things to get on. By the time she was 16, she was on the streets. She was picked up several times by social services and spent a total of two years (one in a youth detention center, one in Regina). She started drinking when she was 11. Before she was 12, she was working the streets for her sister who told her to make money if she was going to stay with them. (Sex trade and alcohol page 27.)

# Time to shut down Ontario

By David Stapleton  
Windspeaker Contributor

NORTH BAY, Ont.

A spokesman for the Union of Ontario Indians has said it is time to do whatever it takes to deal with the anti-democratic policies of Ontario's Harris government.

Glen Hare, the chief of West Bay First Nation and regional chief of the Union of Ontario Indians, told participants at a Days of Action rally in North Bay, Ont. on Sept. 27 that Premier Mike Harris abuses his power and it is time to "shut down" Ontario.

"It's time we came together on this," he said. "We have to do whatever it takes or live with it," he told 20,000 teachers, nurses and public sector unionists.

While acknowledging Ontario residents gave Harris a strong majority, Hare said Native people are joining with others over rights.

"We have to fight together his government's plan to taking away the right to strike. We've been fighting for our rights for a century. Now the rest of the province is fighting for theirs."

Hare, who has had his own disputes with Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources re-

**"One man has too much power. There is no consultation or negotiations on anything."**  
**Glen Hare, regional chief of the Union of Ontario Indians**

cently, said the premier has too much power. "One man has too much power. There is no consultation or negotiations on anything."

Hare was very vocal last summer during a trial regarding poaching on Manitoulin Island where 21 Native accused each got two years probation for illegal hunting. The chief was so angry about the trial and at ministry officials who, he contends, used entrapment to establish a case, that he warned them to stay out of his community or their vehicles would be impounded and burned.

Hare viewed it as one of an endless series of government attacks on treaties and inherent rights.

"Regardless of what happens here," he stated "we will stand behind our guys who exercise their hunting and fishing rights."

He was backed in his stance

by the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin and seven other First Nation communities.

West Bay's 70 teachers will also be affected if a province-wide teacher's strike occurs due to unhappiness over Bill 160, the Education Quality Improvement Act. It will give the province power to set class sizes, and replace teachers with other non-certified personnel who do not hold teaching certificates.

Bill 160 and Bill 134 were two reasons North Bay's rally heard Ontario's unions warn of a massive walkout.

The Harris government has since backed down on Bill 134, legislation which would have removed the right to strike and gutted any union power at the collective bargaining table. That legislation now stands vastly amended and public servants have accepted it.

But Bill 160, continues to move through the legislature.

Ontario's 200,000 teachers are balking at this and warn they will walk out if the legislation isn't withdrawn.

The North Bay rally is one of a series of labor gatherings being held across Ontario as protests over Harris' policies. The cities of Toronto, Hamilton and Sudbury have experienced them, with Windsor next.



Glen Hare.

DAVID STAPLETON

# Union president supports public inquiry

By David Stapleton  
Windspeaker Contributor

NORTH BAY, Ont.

An Ontario labor leader has pledged provincial union support of calls for a public inquiry into the shooting death of Anthony (Dudley) George at Ipperwash Provincial Park in September 1995.

Gord Wilson, president of Ontario's Federation of Labour, said Ontario's unions may hold a Toronto rally at the Ontario legislature to join Native people demanding the inquiry.

Wilson spoke at one of Ontario's largest rallies in North Bay, Ont. on Sept. 27. He told some 20,000 public service employees,

teachers, nurses and students, that Dudley George's death and the manner in which the subsequent investigation was handled is a basic human rights issue.

Both Wilson and Dudley's brother, Sam George, spoke at the province's latest Days of Action protesting Premier Mike Harris' government policies. The rally occurred just prior to possible province-wide strikes by the unions.

Anthony Dudley George, 36, died after an OPP tactical response unit dressed in full riot gear opened fire on a school bus Dudley was in. The bus, driven by a Native teen was moving through OPP barricades at the park located outside Sarnia, Ont. Native protesters were in the park to bring attention to the location of a burial ground.

OPP Acting Sergeant Kenneth

Deane was convicted of criminal negligence for discharging a firearm which resulted in Dudley's death. Deane was sentenced to two years community service.

During the internal police investigation prior to Deane's trial, calls came from the Native community and then federal Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin for a public inquiry.

Irwin called for the inquiry believing police credibility as peacekeepers in the area was jeopardized. But calls for an inquiry stemmed too from questions over how much the premier's office and other cabinet ministers were involved in the events prior to Dudley's shooting.

Sam George believes the Ontario premier has much to hide. "We believe it's a cover-up, said Sam. "The notes and documents we get under Freedom of Information are all whited-out,

but other documents have been leaked."

Sam said Native people are convinced Harris won't call a public inquiry because his hands are "dirty."

"We believe the premier gave the orders to get the Indians out of the park. Our lawyers have subpoenaed the solicitor general, attorney general and the premier who will now have to go through the legal process of discovery." That is the process in which the matter is examined to see what evidence exists to warrant further action.

The governing provincial Conservatives have said a public inquiry would be too time consuming and expensive. But that doesn't satisfy Sam George.

Originally, a press adviser in Harris' office said no inquiry could be held until all criminal legal issues were resolved.

"No one thought of costs before, so why is it a factor now?"

Sam asked.

Besides possible involvement by the Ontario cabinet and premier, the George family wants to know why the OPP did not get their brother an ambulance, why OPP were using alcohol during the standoff and why some officers used racist slurs against Dudley and others.

The case of OPP racism grows stronger given OPP Commissioner Thomas O'Grady's apology for "inappropriate memorabilia" ordered by OPP officers present at Ipperwash.

Unit members had coffee mugs emblazoned with the slogan "Team Ipperwash 95" and bearing an arrow over the force's crest. T-shirts were also ordered with the letters ERT (emergency response team) and TRU (tactical response unit) printed on them along with a horizontal white feather which symbolizes dead warriors.

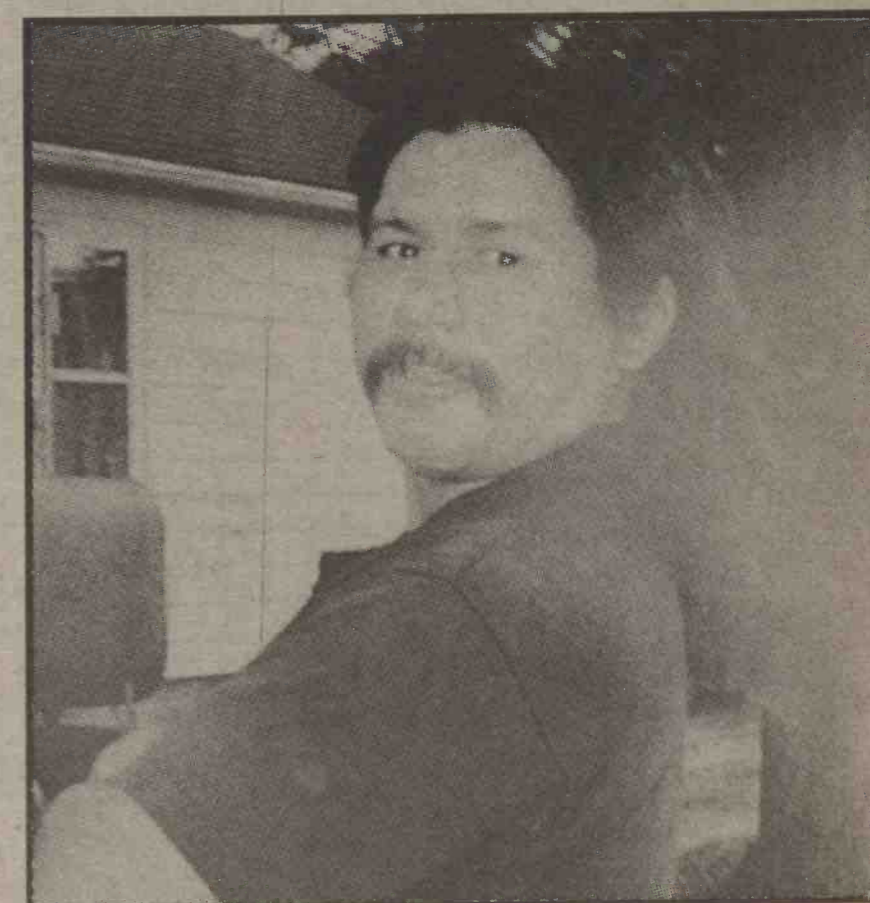


Sam George.

TED SHAW

**"He was defending his community and their rights."**

**— Sam George about his brother Dudley.**



Dudley George.

# Two-year-old could be taken

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

VANCOUVER

A British Columbia Supreme Court judge's written reasons for choosing to grant custody of a two-year-old child of Aboriginal ancestry to his non-

Aboriginal adoptive grandparents make infuriating reading for workers and activists who seek to stop cross-cultural adoptions.

During hearings in early September, both the biological grandfather and the adoptive grandparents were in court trying to persuade Justice Robert Bauman that the child should reside with them.

The judge handed down his decision on Sept. 26. That decision would have allowed the non-Aboriginal adoptive grandparents to take the young boy back home to Connecticut with them. But any action has been ordered stayed until an appeal is heard. The court granted the stay during a hearing on Oct. 14 so that members of the child's biological family could apply for legal aid and prepare their appeal. The appeal is scheduled to be heard on Nov. 10.

The child's story is a complicated tale that stretches from coast-to-coast through two countries. His mother was taken from her home by Winnipeg area social service workers soon after her birth in 1976. After spending her first five years in a variety of foster homes, she and her sister were adopted in 1981 and raised by a couple who were living in Montreal at the time of the adoptions but now reside near Hartford, Connecticut.

The girls' natural parents had severe alcohol addiction problems at the time. The father, now 42 and a Vancouver area resident, is a member of the Sagkeen First Nation, the Manitoba Aboriginal community (formerly called the Fort Alexander reserve) of which the Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine is a member and former chief.

The father had been sober for 12 years when his daughter sought him out and visited him in Vancouver shortly after her son was born. In November 1995 she and the boy travelled across the continent by bus and moved in with her biological father, the two-year-old's grandfather.

The adoptive parents informed authorities in the province that they were concerned about their daughter's ability to care for her child. She has led a troubled life;

there was a suggestion during the trial (that was not documented as true) that she suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome. She has been institutionalized on several occasions. She does not get along with her adoptive parents.

The young boy was apprehended by British Columbia



Viola Thomas.

Ministry of Children and Families officials within days of arriving in the province and placed in foster care. The adoptive parents then applied to the British Columbia court for the right to take their adopted grandchild back to the

United States. A preliminary ruling by Supreme Court Justice Janice Dillon placed the boy with the biological grandfather while the case was being prepared for court. In making that decision, Justice Dillon relied heavily on a recent change to the province's Child and Community Services Act which prohibits the adoption of Aboriginal children by non-Aboriginal people.

The change in the law (enacted last fall) beefed up what had previously been a government policy which had evolved over the last 30 years as it became more and more evident that cross-cultural adoptions involving Aboriginal children just didn't work.

Those who have advocated for the end of cross-cultural adoptions in British Columbia read the 20-page decision and see suggestions of racial or cultural insensitivity.

Viola Thomas, the president of the United Native Nations, British Columbia, the province's off-reserve residents association, is especially angered by the decision because it appears to ignore a hard-won legislative victory which was supposed to stop cross-cultural adoptions in the province.

"It is law!" Thomas said. "How can a judge ignore that?" Thomas pointed out that the province has a sordid history in handling the placement of Aboriginal children who are taken from their families.

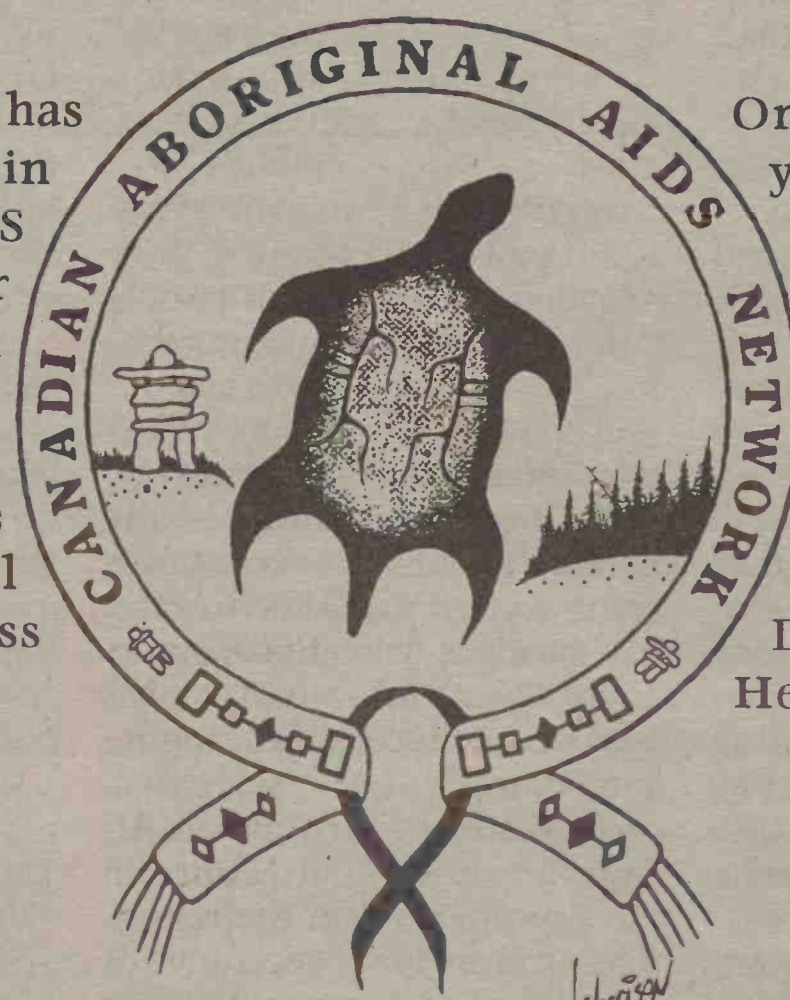
"In B.C. in the 1960s there were at least 16,000 status children adopted out to non-Native families," she said. "That number is based on DIA records. It's probably a lot higher because Métis and non-status people aren't included. They called it the 'Sixties Scoop.' There were cases where the babies were sold for \$10,000 a shot and exploited, used virtually as slaves."

In his decision to award custody to the adoptive grandparents, Justice Bauman wrote that he was impressed by both sides. (see Custody battle page 18.)

# Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Day

DECEMBER 1, 1997

The past decade has seen a steady rise in Aboriginal AIDS cases. This year the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network will be promoting the first Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Day.



Organize events in your community. Stand up with us. For additional information call any AIDS organization near you and come out on December 1, 1997. Help us in the fight.

## "WALK MY RED ROAD"

The Red Road signifies the experiences and struggles of Aboriginal people with HIV and AIDS.

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By Rob Mc  
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By Paul Ba  
Windspeake

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# Human rights commission defends status claim

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ST. GEORGE'S, Nfld.

For almost 50 years, the status of Mikmaq people in Newfoundland has been in question, but with the recent release of a report from the Canadian Human Rights Commission, some light may be shed on their plight.

Since Newfoundland joined confederation in 1949, the Mikmaq people in the province have been refused status under the Indian Act and their communities have not been recognized as bands. It wasn't until 1984 that one of the 12 Mikmaq communities became a legal band in the eyes of the federal government.

Since then, the remaining communities have been fighting for the opportunity to be officially recognized under the Indian Act.

The communities united under the Federation of Newfoundland Indians and, through the federation, sued the federal government in 1989 for breach of fiduciary duty and for the unfair treatment. The case is still before the courts.

With the Human Rights Commission report, the group has what FNI president Brendan Sheppard called a document that "could help the entire Mikmaq community in the future. . . I would consider this report one of the better [pieces of evidence] so far for our people."

The report calls for the federal government and Mikmaq leaders to negotiate outside of a courtroom and come up with a solution.

The most persuasive part of the 27-page document, compiled by retired Queen's University law professor Noel Lyon, is that the government has already recognized one group — the Conne River Band — as a status group under the Indian Act. If one group is recognized, others should also be allowed to be registered and recognized, the report states.

Letters from then-Indian Affairs Minister John Munro in 1982 are quoted in the report. They show the government's intent at that time was to bring other Mikmaq communities under the Indian Act. The report is highly critical of succeeding governments because to date nothing has happened.

"The eligibility of the resi-

dents of other communities for the registration as status Indians under the Indian Act, will and could be, determined within the life of the present agreement," wrote Munro in a letter to the NFI.

The agreement referred to was the Canada-Newfoundland Native Peoples Agreement, a special arrangement for the province of Newfoundland only that provided special federal programs outside the Indian Act for the Mikmaq people. The agreement began in 1981 and had a life of five years. Nothing changed for the Mikmaq people within those five years, contrary to Munro's promise that it would.

Sheppard said the people have been waiting too long, and he hopes the Human Rights Commission's report will bring that promise back to the table.

"Right now, the main focus is recognition," said Sheppard. "We want the opportunity to be placed in the Constitution of Canada, along with the programs and services [we should be receiving]."

Sheppard wants the federal government to return to the bargaining table and make an effort to reach a deal with the

4,500 Mikmaq people now living in Newfoundland.

"There's so many things that can be negotiated here and both sides have to be willing to compromise."

John Hucker, the secretary general of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, said the report specifically stayed out of the legal realms so it could focus on the human rights aspects of the Mikmaq people.

"We are saying, 'Let's get it out of the courts and sit down together,'" said Hucker.

Although the report is aimed toward the federal government, Hucker admitted the commission has no real power to demand the implementation of any of its recommendations. He hopes the backing of the commission will be enough to bring the government back to the table with the Mikmaq people.

"We have no direct power to order anyone to do anything," he said. "We can't force them to do anything."

The report is not intended as a complaint to the government of human rights violations under the Canadian Human Rights Act, he said, but it is hoped to be considered as a form of leverage.

"We are pleased that we have been able to come in and take some initiative," he said. "I hope it will be a persuasive document."

The recommendations in the document call for an alternative system to help Aboriginal communities establish forms of self government. The report cites a need to use international law to negotiate with Aboriginal people. Under international law, all groups recognized as 'peoples' have the right to self determination. International law would better suit the needs of the Mikmaq people in their battle for recognition and rights.

The report has been forwarded to the Minister of Indian Affairs Jane Stewart, but neither the Human Rights Commission nor the Federation of Newfoundland Indians has had any response.

The Indian Affairs department said an internal review committee has been selected and will be going through the report.

Stewart could not be reached for comment, but a department spokesman said the matter may be held up because of the pending court case. Any recommendations may have to wait until a decision from any legal proceedings is released.

## Feds criticized

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Retired Queen's University law professor Noel Lyon wrote his report on the Newfoundland Mikmaq situation for the Canadian Human Rights Commission in a respectful, scholarly fashion but his conclusions nonetheless are a scathing indictment of the federal government's approach to self government issues and a vindication of objections voiced by Aboriginal leaders.

Since Newfoundland joined Canada in 1949, the Mikmaq people have been denied status as Aboriginal people. Professor Lyon studied the history and concluded "these Mikmaq communities have been denied recognition as human communities and their fundamental right of self determination, the very foundation of human rights law, has been systematically suppressed."

He points out that the deputy minister of Justice informed Cabinet in 1950 that the federal government had a legal obligation to fund Aboriginal groups in all parts of the country including Newfoundland. His research reveals the government of the day chose to ignore that advice.

"This means we are faced with nearly 50 years of failure on the part of the federal government to fulfill its Constitutional obligation to the Aboriginal peoples of Newfoundland," Lyon wrote. "If a fiduciary relationship has existed between the federal government and these people, there could be a substantial legal liability arising from the continuing breach of fiduciary duty over a period of nearly 50 years."

Lyon compared the govern-

ment's actions in Newfoundland to the federal inaction in 1972 when the James Bay Crees were fighting against Quebec's plan to construct its hydroelectric mega-project on their traditional lands. He pointed out that having the law on their side didn't do the Crees any good and he predicted similar problems for the Mikmaqs.

"So here, if the government of Canada can't find the political will to do its Constitutional duty, the Newfoundland Mikmaqs will have no choice but to spend 15 to 20 years in our courts hoping for justice. I would expect any such legal claim to lose out to European versions of history and law," he wrote.

After soundly thrashing the approach that Canada has taken, Lyon urged the application of principles of international law.

"It is fair because it frees us from the reliance on the law created by and for one party to the dispute," he wrote. "As long as the process continues to be defined by rules and standards set by the dominant society, no measure of real self government is possible because the process itself is a denial of the inherent rights of self government of Aboriginal peoples."

"In other words, we cannot de-colonize peoples by relying on the rules and standards that were used to colonize them in the first place. . . Ultimately the federal government must act in good faith if there is to be a just resolution of the Federation of Newfoundland Indian's claim, and for that no court order is necessary or appropriate. What is required is the political will to do what is right by contemporary standards, which can be found in international human rights law."

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EDITORIAL

# A question of bias

Aboriginal people involved in the day-to-day workings of the justice system were eagerly awaiting the Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Corrine Sparks case. Judge Sparks is the first black female judge in Canada's history. She sits on the provincial court bench in Nova Scotia. During a case she was hearing, which involved testimony from a white police officer and a 16-year-old black young offender, the judge remarked that she had doubts about the police officer's version of events. She acquitted the youth, saying police officers have been known to make faulty decisions based on race when dealing with minorities and then mislead the courts when called to account for those mistakes.

In Canadian law, there are not a lot of ways to get a judge's decision overturned. One of those ways is to prove bias. The Crown tried to get the acquittal reversed on appeal by arguing Sparks' comments showed bias against white police.

In late September the Supreme Court, knowing the legal community inside and outside Canada was watching closely, issued a complicated series of reasons why Sparks' comments were close to, but not over, the line that constitutes bias.

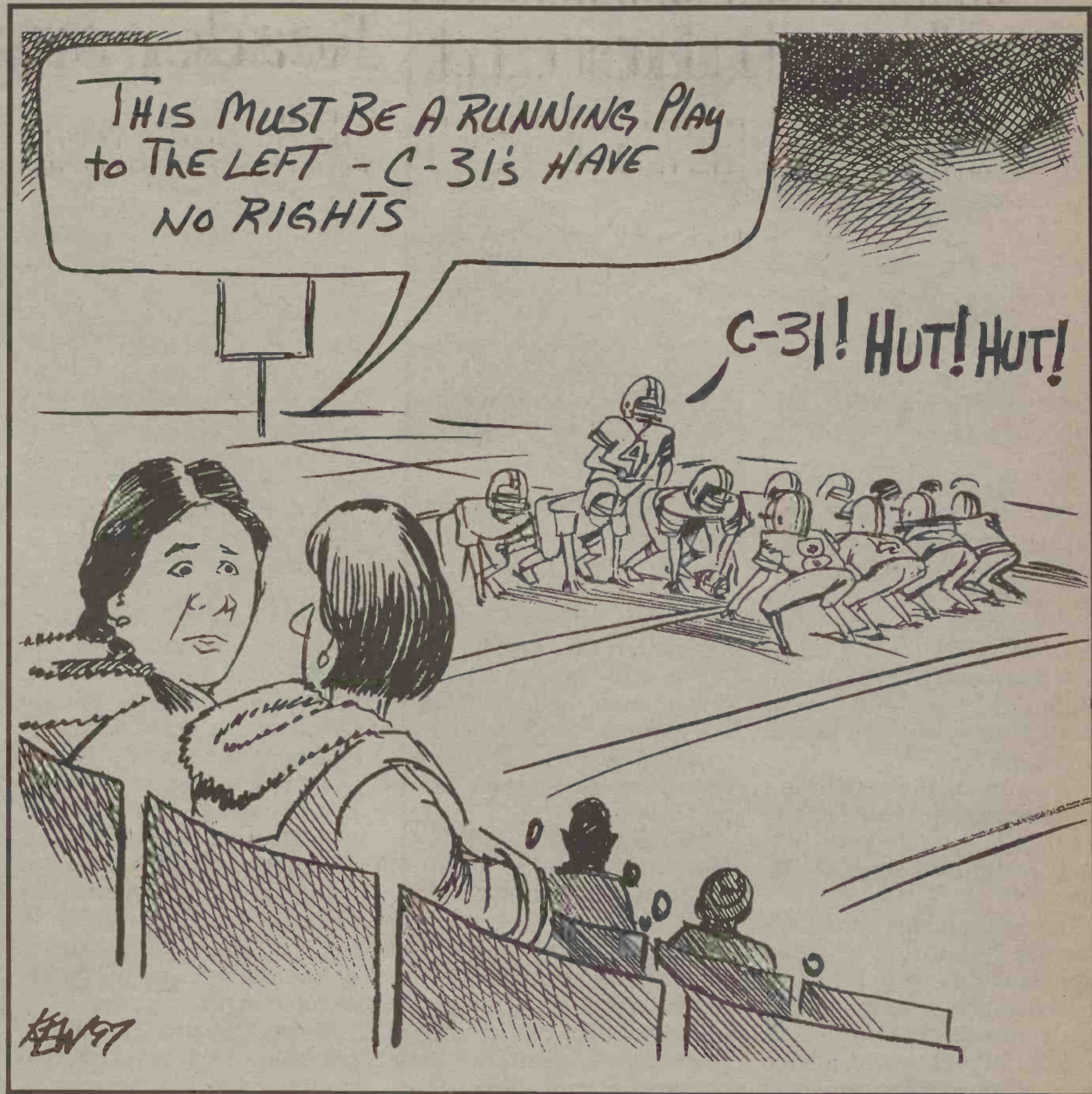
This is really a story that almost happened. Had the Supreme Court reversed Sparks, the future of all minority judges would have been clouded. The high court avoided a step that would have been a retreat into the days when only white, Anglo-Saxon Canadians mattered. What was revealing about the decision, Aboriginal people with an intimate understanding of the law believe, was that three of the nine Supreme Court justices dissented with the decision that, in a sense, was a green light for judges who aren't white, male and Anglo-Saxon to bring their life experiences into the courtroom with them and apply them.

The fact the case made it to the highest court and the court treated it so gingerly was a recognition that all judges are biased and, to paraphrase Orwell, some biases are more equal than others.

Many Aboriginal rights or land claim lawyers were sort of hoping the court would go the other way. They were hoping to be able to subject the biases of white mainstream judges to the same scrutiny which Judge Sparks' decision was exposed to.

Which may be why the court ruled as it did.

PB



# Former medic praises 'real' veterans of war

I was once in the army. Okay, it was really the militia, but 13 years ago I was a member of the 15th Edmonton Medical Company of Canadian Armed Forces Reserves.

It was hardly an illustrious career. I didn't go overseas. I barely got out of Edmonton. In fact, I didn't even make it to full private after one year. But to be fair to myself, that was due to scheduling problems and conflicting job commitments. I was unable to take my summers off like the other "weekend warriors" to participate in the full-time training.

Even so, I received field medical training on top of my basic military training. If you were hurt, I could fix you. Well, fix you enough to get you to a hospital where you could really be looked after. It was my job to stop your bleeding, to stop your yelling, and load your carcass into an ambulance. Fortunately, I never really had to do those things.

My medical training exposed me to what a mine, a bullet, a grenade, an artillery shell or poisonous gas could do to a body. We were also trained to treat the casualties of a nuclear war on the assumption that someone could actually survive such a thing.

It was an experience that changed my life. An experience a lot of people couldn't figure out. Some things about the army bothered them, like all the yelling and verbal abuse the recruits would be subjected to.

To be honest, it wasn't that bad. In fact, there was one sergeant in my basic training course who would try and make you laugh. He was really funny, but laughing was forbidden on the parade square. So a great battle of wills



## Kenneth Williams

would ensue with this sergeant cracking jokes every two seconds and 30 of us soldiers biting our tongues. If any one of us so much as cracked a smile then it was push-ups for all.

I grew to love the traditions of the Canadian Armed Forces, as well as garner an incredible respect for the First Nations veterans who served before me.

I don't consider myself a veteran because I never served in any conflict. The only sacrifices I ever made were a bunch of my weekends and Wednesday afternoons. I'm thankful I never had to see a war up close. My training, however, was bad enough and I'm happy I've never really had to patch up someone who'd been wounded.

It's hard for me as a writer to come up with the words to express the great admiration, love and respect I have for the veterans who fought for Canada. That respect is even more so for the First Nations veterans who fought and died for a country that insisted they give up their treaty rights to put on a uniform.

Despite serving honorably in two World Wars, First Nations veterans came back to discover that they couldn't return to their home reserves because they were

no longer "Indians." Racist attitudes meant they couldn't even go into some of the legions that their fellow veterans were welcomed into. Very few of them realized that loans were available to veterans to help them buy farms and equipment, and that money was available for university educations.

In short, they sacrificed everything and Canada turned its back on them when they returned. Despite all this, however, the vast majority of them would do it all again.

As soldiers, we honored the veterans. We knew that, at a moment's notice, Canada might call upon us to make sacrifices similar to those brave soldiers before us. It could have been in an all out war, like the one in the Persian Gulf, or as United Nations' peacekeepers.

It doesn't take much to say thank you for these veterans and you don't have to be a former medic to appreciate their sacrifice. Buy a poppy and on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m., take a minute to reflect on the courage and sacrifice of all veterans. And then add another minute for the First Nations veterans who had to fight another war when they returned from Europe.

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**Rac**

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LETTERS

# Racism inherent

Dear Editor:

Re: Reform Party attacks on First Nation government.

Reform Party intellectuals such as Myron Thompson have proposed that no more funding be provided to First Nation governments to provide services on First Nation lands. Instead they propose that all these funds be distributed directly to individuals, because people like Mr. Thompson feel that all First Nation governments are corrupt, citing the financial problems at the Stoney First Nation as proof. This is akin to saying that because numerous cabinet ministers in Saskatchewan have been charged and convicted of fraud or that because Don Getty's administration pissed away billions of dollars through rampant mismanagement, overspending and cronyism that democracy has failed in Canada; that government should be done away with; and that all tax and resource revenues should be distributed directly to citizens of every province on the basis that the governments can-

not be trusted. While it may in fact be true, it is an idea so ridiculous that no one would give it any thought.

That people are even discussing such a concept with regard to First Nations demonstrates the inherent racism of Canadian society in general and the Reform Party in particular. Where we have an instance of financial problems on one or even several First Nation administrations out of more than 600 such administrations in Canada that this should be used as an excuse to deny the rights of self government and self determination to these people. In the Canadian context, citing Saskatchewan and Alberta as examples, the incidents of corruption, incompetence, and mismanagement among provincial governments is demonstrably higher than 20 per cent.

Would the Reform Party seriously propose abolishing the spending powers of all Canadian provincial governments on this basis?

Yours truly,  
Jeffery R.W. Rath

# Reader suggests plan of attack

Dear Editor:

The past Assembly of First Nations National Chief Ovide Mercredi and the current Chief Phil Fontaine have both suggested some form of direct action without being very specific. Mercredi favors a full frontal revolution while Fontaine seems to prefer a tiptoe diplomatic dance of some sort. A war dance or a sneak-up?

Both Mercredi and Fontaine desire unity among tribes, chiefs, and reserve and off-reserve Aboriginals. Maybe we can have both types of direct action so we don't end up squabbling like seagulls. We have to think big and small at the same time, so here's the plan.

The first step is for every band to try to locate and invite its members back and also include those relatives who may be non-

status and non-members. We need all the bodies we can get. Every Aboriginal person should be given a choice if they want to go back to their traditional territory regardless of status. It is even more difficult for those of us who have tribal members on both sides of the Canadian-American border.

The next step is for every band to reclaim all adjacent unoccupied Crown land and authorize members to move in at the risk of arrest. No price is too high. The price we have been paying is higher.

After the tribal and band members have been notified of the action, then we have to ask all the supporters of Aboriginal people to put up or shut up. We must invite them to help occupy our traditional territories and also risk arrest. Anything less would not be enough.

The artificial boundaries of time and space on Indian country are too restrictive and strangle the Indian soul. Sometimes it's the little things that derange human beings. The unnatural calendar that everyone uses puts us out of sync with nature. Our brothers to the south, the Maya, have a calendar which is more in sync with the rhythm and cycles of life and the universe. Maybe the Maya would be willing to let us use their calendar to replace the current crazy-making Roman calendar.

The next thing is to get rid of the imaginary by-products of the economy, e.g. interest rates or interest altogether, but that's another story. Shall we dance? All my relations.

Meegwetch,  
Daniel George  
Burnaby, B.C.

## Windspeaker would like to publish your opinions!

Letters can be sent to: Debora Lockyer, Managing Editor,  
15001-112 Ave. Edmonton, AB. T5M 2V6

# You don't look like one' syndrome remembered

Dear Editor:

I just finished reading your October edition, and while I found a number of things to commend in it, Drew Hayden Taylor's column in particular got my attention.

As an Aboriginal woman with a light complexion, I've been there, done that too. In my home community — to which I relocated last year, after 21 years — I am accepted for myself, but I had to deal with the "Funny, you don't look like one" syndrome for much of my career in

print journalism.

In most cases, being blessed with a strong sense of cultural identity and self-esteem (colleagues who know me well might say a healthy ego), I merely laughed it off. I even began collecting a list of my alter-ethnic identities. This was based on people's wildly inaccurate guesses about my vaguely "exotic" looks (the most original one was Magyar). Moveover, Zsa Zsa!

At other times and in other places, I found my camouflage

to be rather helpful. People would drop their guard and make comments they would never have made otherwise, had they known there was an Aboriginal person present. As you can well imagine, this phenomenon can be very career-enhancing for a journalist.

However, the one thing that invariably got under my skin were those white pseudo-liberals who, having known me for oh, say, five minutes, would come up with my

favorite groaner:

"Oh, you're Native? I probably know a lot more about Natives than you do."

Unfortunately, by the time it took me (years, actually) to come up with a few snappy comebacks, people stopped saying stuff like this to me. Go figure. Maybe they see me coming and realize they don't stand a chance.

I have come to accept that until our education system is drastically changed, these people will always be with us. This

is why I feel compelled to express my appreciation of Mr. Taylor's hard-earned wisdom and advice to his correspondent "Linda." The double discrimination encountered by light-skinned Aboriginal people isn't going to go away any time soon, but I'd like to wrap up with this final thought for the Lindas of the world: What doesn't kill us will only make us stronger.

Sincerely,  
Lynne Jorgesen  
(Danish/Okanagan)  
Merritt, B.C.

By Karl Terry

# OTTER



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Nov. 16 - 19, 1997 Oakland, CA (206) 467-7686

MANITOBA ABORIGINAL ARTS PEOPLES' FORUM

Nov. 17 - 18, 1997 Winnipeg, MB (204) 947-1916 see ad page 14

NATIVE ARTS & CRAFTS CONFERENCE

Nov. 19 - 20, 1997 Edmonton, AB (403) 486-0069 see ad page 28

6TH ANNUAL HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIOLOGY CONFERENCE

Nov. 19 - 22, 1997 Quebec City, QC (613) 941-3155

5TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE/MINERAL INDUSTRY & ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY-MAKING THE GRADE

Nov. 20 - 21, 1997 Whitehorse, YK (416) 925-0866 or 1-800-443-6452

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Nov. 21, 1997 7 pm - 1 am, Canadian Native Friendship Centre, 11205 - 101 St., Edmonton, AB (403) 429-5990 Alfred or Bev

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Nov. 21 - 22, 1997 Penticton, BC (250) 493-7181 ext. 29

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ABORIGINAL YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SYMPOSIUM

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# Ontario girl finds her calling

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ATIKOKAN, Ont.

Kisani Frechette is an Ontario girl who has the call of the wild.

Frechette, from Atikokan in northwestern Ontario, recently won the coveted loon calling trophy at Loon Days in Mercer, Wisconsin.

Frechette is the only Canadian entry in the national event and took first place in her age category and first place over all.

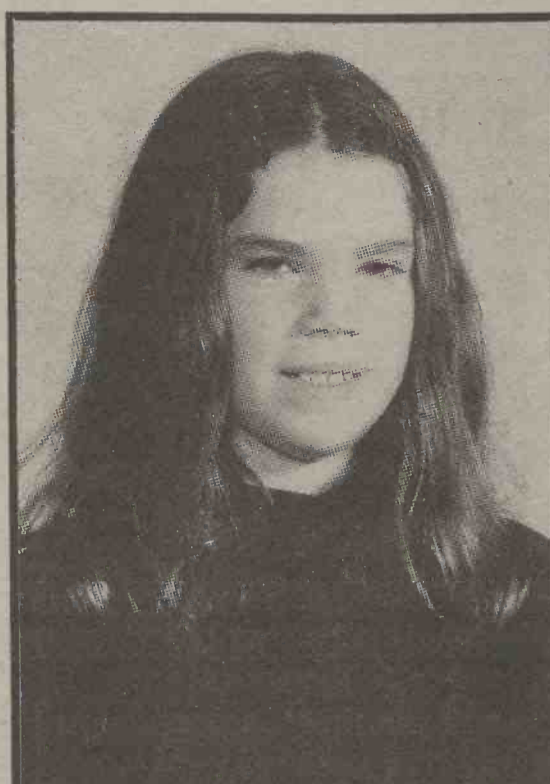
Frechette is only 10 years old, but is already a seasoned mimic of the wilderness' most noted birdcall, said her dad, Glen Nolan.

Kisani has spent years fine-tuning her talent, and has had the best teachers — the loons themselves.

Nolan and wife Carrie Frechette are park rangers at Ontario's Quetico Provincial Park and their daughter has spent many summers living with them at the ranger station. Living hand-in-hand with the wildlife and the ceaseless calls of the loons, Kisani just began to copy it, said Nolan.

"She's actually very good. I'm not just saying that as a parent, but as someone who is blown away by her ability," he said.

Kisani has become somewhat of a celebrity in her community and especially at the park because of her calls, said Nolan, a member of the Missanabie Cree First Nation. "It comes in handy in the



Kisani Frechette.

sense that some people have never heard a loon before," he said of visitors and tourists to the park.

The real mark of her talents isn't from the judges at the Loon Day competition, or the tourists she performs for, it is the reaction from the loons themselves. Her call is so life-like, the loons actually respond.

"I can bring them right into the dock," she said.

Kisani can make *all* the sounds of the loon. Yes, there's more than one loon call.

"There's the hoot, the wail, the yodel and the tremolo," she said.

The wail is her favorite. Starting when she was only six, Kisani said she still isn't sure how she has been able to duplicate the sounds of the loon.

"It's like a howl or something. I don't know where it comes from," said the shy Grade 6 student.

The loon talent runs in the family, Kisani said. Both Kisani and her dad have taken home prizes for loon calling.

In a competition in Ely, Minnesota, Kisani won first place in the girls' category, and dad came out with a second place finish in the men's event. Father and daughter don't share many secrets of loon calling, as each has a different technique. While Kisani uses her mouth, Nolan uses his hands to duplicate the loon-song.

You'd think the father and daughter duo of bird callers would drive mom 'loon-y,' but it was Carrie Frechette who encouraged her daughter to compete. Frechette was the one who found the big competition in Mercer. After several people suggested the young girl should be in a competition for her talent, Frechette started looking around.

"I took her down to Mercer because we didn't find any competitions in Canada, and that's where they have this big loon calling competition," said Frechette.

Kisani beat out more than 60 other competitors from across the states to take the championship at the Aug. 6 event.

While she loves making the sounds of the birds, she is a little shy when it comes to the attention she is now receiving.

Already the young girl has had offers from American television shows and several radio and television interviews. (see Loon calls page 19.)

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— VIOLA THOMAS, PRESIDENT, UNITED NATIVE NATIONS

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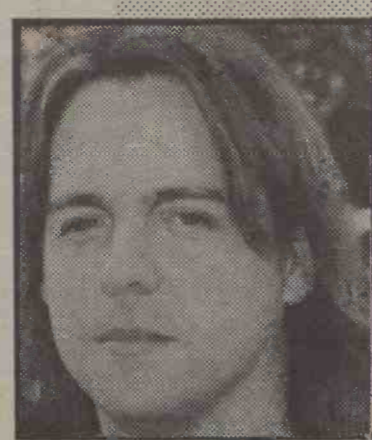
# The theatre files: the money is out there

Although it has been said many times before, and in many different ways, the federal government's current war against the tobacco companies has the potential to cost the entertainment and sports industry plenty. And in more ways than one. While this is early on in the battle, there is the potential for some very serious and bizarre side effects.

As a former artistic director of a small Native theatre company, a non-profit one at that, a large part of my responsibilities included the never-ending, constant beating of the bushes for funding, grants, and endorsements to help feed, clothe, and house all the staff that we called family. We love them and want to take care of them.

But in recent years, the constant cuts in municipal, provincial, and federal moneys allocated to the arts has limited our ability to provide the necessities of life for our growing family. Add to that the sudden attack on the tobacco industry, who have always been sympathetic to our cause (albeit for reasons of their own), have left us in a bit of a pickle. It's the equivalent of your Mom feeding you only half a sandwich, then telling you that you can't grab a bite at Macdonalds.

It became more apparent when we received a much needed grant from one of the major tobacco organizations to sponsor one of the mainstage productions. We were very delighted that our actors wouldn't have to put off those long awaited operations until



**Drew Hayden Taylor**

we read the line "... The Tobacco Act (Bill C-71), which may impact on our ability to fulfill our undertaking to sponsor numerous Canadian arts endeavors, possibly including yours. Please understand that our grant as outlined herein may be subject to this." The federal government had been there, peeing in our Rice Krispies.

It's been said that nature abhors a vacuum. I believe people will still want to write, act and see plays regardless of how much money is available to produce this noble work, and there are only so many one-person plays on a totally black set with a single light bulb as atmosphere that the audience will tolerate. People and theatre companies will find a way to finance their productions.

As a consequence, I was forced into a position of finding, shall we say, alternative sources of funding. I have pursued avenues that, until recently, would never have occurred to me or my peers. We found ourselves weighing ethical and moral dilemmas resulting from the search for money. Ones that far outweigh

the tobacco issue.

For instance, as a Native theatre company, there would be certain problems should we consider approaching Labbatts, Molsons, Seagrams or any number of liquor organizations. An understandable difficulty, but when you reach your second or third cash flow problem in a season, those moral difficulties begin to carry less weight. Always remember, there's nothing scarier than hungry costume designers. I myself wouldn't have a problem taking money from these organizations. I personally am delighted that they would be interested in putting money back into the Native community, but unlike most other theatre companies, Native Earth must answer and be responsible to it's community. Again, a pickle. Feed your actors or be sensitive to the concerns of the community.

Ironically, I was once approached by an intermediary, acting on behalf of some cigarette smugglers, back when there was still some profit in it. They were interested in putting some money back into the community. Would Native Earth like to be a part of that commu-

nity? My beloved general manager shrugged for a moment, simply saying "all money has blood on it, if you follow it back far enough. Sure, we'll take it." She then added quickly "as long as they're not drug smugglers." I assured her they weren't. But as things turned out, we never heard from them again anyway.

Last year somebody who shall remain nameless approached me about a rather unconventional sponsor. I was asked if I would have a problem taking a donation/grant/sponsorship from a strip club. Again, an interesting dilemma. Should we, as a socially responsible theatre company, take money from a business that has been accused of exploiting and degrading women? Then, as I hear grumbling coming from the stomachs of several stage managers I know, I can't help but think that many of these women (and men I might add) make more a week than I or the average stage managers make in a month. I personally could handle that kind of exploitation.

I could also do the Sister Theresa route. This paragon of virtue has rubbed elbows with such questionable luminaries as the Duvaliers, formerly of Haiti, Charles Keating, currently under the hospitality of the American penal system, and the Hoxhas, former rulers of Albania. All in the pursuit of raising money to fund her orphanage in India. Would I have brunch with Moammar Gadhafi to finance the first all Native production of *Henry V*. Good question. I don't know.

One could always imitate little league baseball I suppose. You've seen kids playing on baseball diamonds across North America, all wearing shirts listing the team sponsor on the back. Picture a production of *Chorus Line* with all the dancers wearing Petro Canada jackets (not that I have anything against Petro Canada). Or *Julius Caesar* with togas courtesy of Honest Ed's (again, not that I have anything against Honest Ed's.) But in this changing economic environment, anything is possible.

For a brief moment I also thought about stealing an idea from the film industry. The concept of product placement. For a small investment fee, use a particular company's product in the actual show. Putting a strategically placed can of Coke on the stage of *The Glass Menagerie*. Having Willy Loman in *Death of a Salesman* actually sell something on-stage, like Second Cup Coffee, the logo plastered all over his brief case and car. Maybe eating Pizza Pizza during *A Long Day's Journey into Night*. Then again, maybe it wouldn't work. Please keep in mind there are dependants to feed.

The last image I would like to leave you with is from the movie *Rocky*. Remember him walking into the ring for the crucial fight with Apollo Creed at the end of the movie. On the back of his robe was a small advertisement for a meat packing plant. His brother-in-law, Pauly, got \$2,000 for placing it there.


Oh my God, will we be reduced to that?

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Mr. Shirt has been with Peace Hills Trust since 1989, most recently as Manager of our Saskatoon Branch.

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# Summit chiefs to meet with Minister Stewart

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Extinguishment will be at the top of the agenda when Indian Affairs Minister Jane Stewart sits down face-to-face with representatives of the First Nations Summit in a meeting scheduled for early November.

The Summit is the organization that is made up of chiefs of First Nations who are participating in the British Columbia Treaty Commission negotiation process. Those chiefs sent letters to the Indian Affairs minister, the prime minister and the provincial premier in early October which called on Canada to abandoned plans to include extinguishment of Aboriginal rights as a condition of any modern-day treaties.

The issue became prominent when the first final offer under the treaty process was made to the Sechelt First Nation in September. The terms of the offer included a requirement that the Sechelt people give up their tax-exempt status in exchange for a land claim settlement treaty with Canada and the province.

At a Summit session on Oct. 3, the chiefs harshly criticized the policy.

"This policy is absolutely a non-starter for First Nations taking part in the B.C. treaty negotiations process," said Summit Grand Chief Edward John. "We will continue to reject any thought on the part of the government that the extinguishment of Aboriginal rights is a means of achieving certainty. This federal policy clearly violates the principles of a fair negotiations process. Canada must show First Nations involved in this process that they are committed to fair negotiations by overturning this abhorrent policy."



Minister Jane Stewart.

Summit staff say several chiefs will travel to Ottawa for a meeting with the Indian Affairs minister during the first week of November. They hope to get an answer to their letter at that time.

Indian Affairs sources told *Windspeaker* there has not yet been any official reply to the demand for assurances that extinguishment will not be required for the treaty process to continue.

Peter Baird, a spokesman for the Federal Treaty Negotiation Office, said the trouble is that the parties haven't been able to agree on how to achieve certainty.

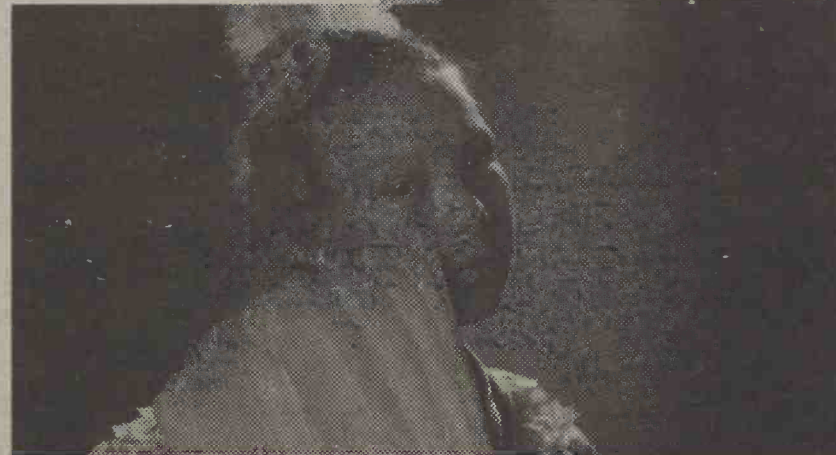
"It's an on-going discussion. I don't think Canada has an extinguishment policy," he said. "The parties are looking for a way to establish certainty without using the cede, release, surrender language."

Certainty, when applied to the modern-day treaty process, is a word which has a very specified meaning. Baird defined how the word is used during treaty talks.

"It's a way to establish the rights and authorities of the First Nations," he said. "What the parties want is a way to clarify the Aboriginal rights to land and resources. That will lead to investor comfort or certainty."

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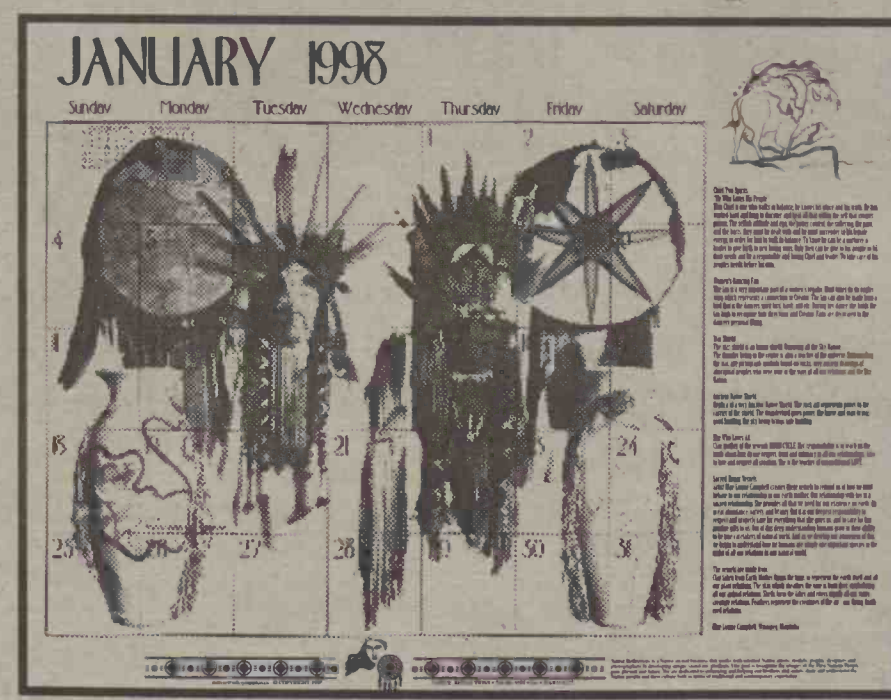
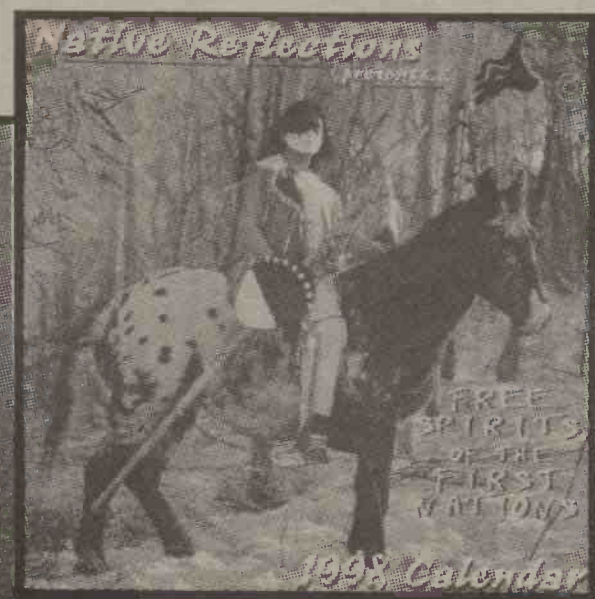
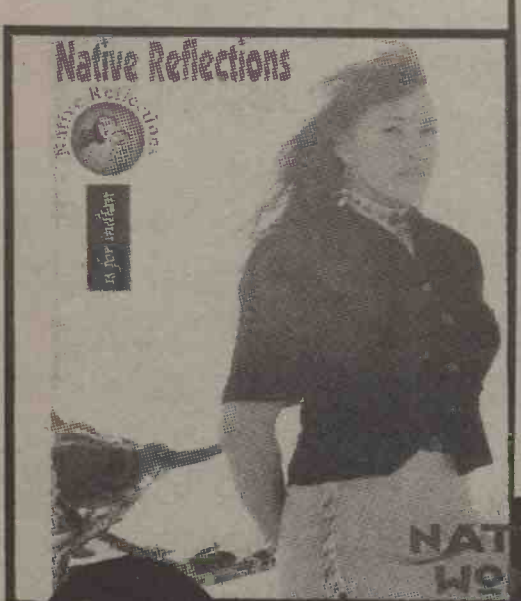
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# Bridge the gap

By Crystal Blain  
 Windspeaker Contributor

REGINA

On Sept 2, the RCMP welcomed four Aboriginal men onto the force. Darrell Stranger, David Aglukart, Brian Harris and Chris Rothecker were also participants in the Aboriginal Cadet Development Program.

The program is aimed at assisting Aboriginal people who may not meet the RCMP minimum requirements. Disadvantages in various aspects include: driver training, education and/or physical ability. These drawbacks are due, in large part, to the isolated areas in which Native people live and their inaccessibility to academic and other facilities.

Aglukart, for example, lived in Arviat, N.W.T. and did not have the need for a valid driver's license as most of his commuting was achieved off road by snow mobile or four-wheelers. Stranger, from Peguis, Man., needed help upgrading his communication skills.

Asked if he thought the government was "playing favorites" to minority groups, Stranger replied, "If anyone thinks that, I'd tell them to go live on a reserve and see what it's like to live there."

Traditionally, Native representation on the force had been low. Up until 1989, a "special constable" status was given to Natives who were not required to meet the regular standards of RCMP officers. Their duties were that of peace officers. In 1990, the Aboriginal Cadet Development Program was implemented as government officials realized the need for Native representation on the force. In 1993, due to lack of funding, the program was terminated. Then, in 1995, the program was resurrected. RCMP Assistant Commissioner Cleve Cooper admits, "We were not always graceful or successful in dealing with minority groups."

Through the partnership between

Human Resources Canada and the RCMP, \$2 million was made available to the program. Since 1995, the total number of cadets is 141. An impressive 52 cadets have graduated, 13 are in basic training, 44 are currently on the program and 32 have been released for various reasons.

The program consists of a three week assessment at the RCMP depot in Regina. Then, time permitting, the applicant is recommended back to his or her community for RCMP shadowing. This training helps the individual understand the logistics of a regular detachment and what is required of an RCMP officer. Here, the candidate gains knowledge through ride-alongs, office work and general community involvement in order to attain the RCMP's basic entry requirements. After successfully completing this portion of their training, the candidate is sent back to the RCMP Training Academy for the full cadet training.

The RCMP has reached their 5 per cent goal of Native representation on the force. Assistant commissioner Cooper notes, "This percentage is significant when you consider that Canada's total population of Natives is 4 per cent." Currently, the RCMP's aim is to surpass this percentage, and their recruitment concentration is in more remote areas such as the Northwest Territories.

Assistant Commissioner Cooper adds, "We owe it to our families and communities that they (Natives) are able to police themselves in our country."

Aglukart echoes the program's success, "When Natives see a familiar face policing in their community, it helps them as a whole to feel comfortable with the police instead of feeling shut-out or separated."

For more information on the program, contact Corporal Doug Reti, on ROSS@dreti, phone: (613) 998-2405 at Aboriginal Policing branch, Room B-500, 1200, Vanier Pkwy, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0R2.

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# Book filled with colorful visions

## REVIEW

By Kenneth Williams  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

*Norval Morrisseau: Travels to the House of Invention*  
By Norval Morrisseau and Donald Robinson  
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I remember when I first saw a Norval Morrisseau painting up close. I was in an art gallery in Edmonton, casually looking over the paintings and sculptures, when I rounded this little corner and saw his painting. It was breathtaking. What struck me right away was the fantastic array of colors. I was overwhelmed by the colors. I couldn't take my eyes away from it. The images, the forms and lines started to register in my eyes later, but nothing was as impressive as the colors in this painting.

Morrisseau at the time had become something of a cause celebre in Edmonton. He had been seen on the streets, selling his paintings for bottles of booze. Sadly, that was just another battle he was losing in his war with alcohol. A photo of him sitting on the sidewalk with a small canvas on his lap ran in one of the local newspapers. To be honest, he did not look very good. That image of him, drunk and

homeless, contradicted with this glorious painting that was mesmerizing me with its color.

Now, many years later, Key Porter books has published a book filled with his paintings, both recent and archival, as well as some essays he's written about his art. The 66-year-old Ojibway artist, who now lives in Vancouver, is just as prolific as ever.

Once again, the power of his colors struck me. The paintings are well reproduced in the book, but they're much smaller and lose some of the power of the originals. These prints will impress you, but they are just a small taste of Morrisseau's talent.

His paintings are full of lines, connecting all the forms and images together. The beings within the paintings, whether animals, humans, plants or spirits, are either emerging from one another or connected by the lines.

The philosophy is very simple: all things are connected and are full of life.

But his essays about the House of Invention that give us some other insight into his art.

*"Before the settlers and priests came from the Old World in Europe, the Native people all over America used their imaginations freely. There was a vast amount of culture. I believe the people were going to the House of Invention. By being unconditioned they were able to travel easily on the inner highways, right to the source of all knowledge and invention."*

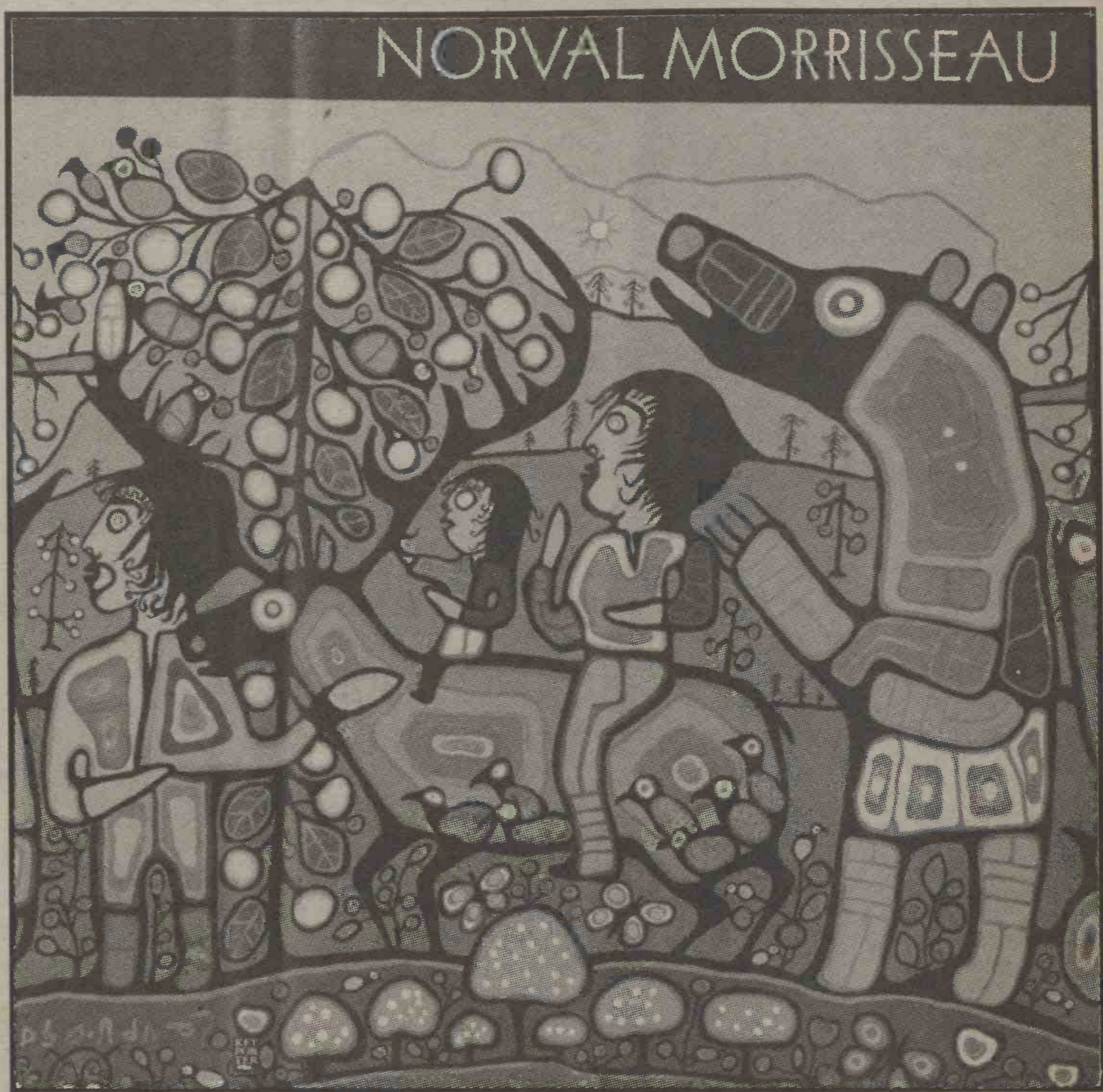
Morrisseau is not just an artist, he's a Grand Shaman. He's depicting dreams and visions that he's had whenever he visits the House of Invention. To him, this is the place where all human creativity comes from—it is the source of all the inventions and works of art that humans will create.

The House of Invention also determined his incredible use of color.

"Color will make things brighter. We can learn how to heal people with color. The

House of Invention gave me the color... All the color spectrum was there. So this is soul imprinted or imbued with all these colors. That's how you come to be a master of color. My art reminds a lot of people of what they are. They heal themselves."

As someone who's seen one of



his original paintings, I can testify to the "healing" aspect of his work. His work warms you, calms you and mesmerizes you. Recent discoveries in psychology have determined that colors can affect mood. As far as Morrisseau is concerned, colors can also physically heal you.

Morrisseau is one of the most gifted artists this country has ever produced. As far as I'm concerned, the raw emotional power his work conveys rivals Picasso and Van Gogh. If they don't enrich your soul, then there's something really wrong with you.

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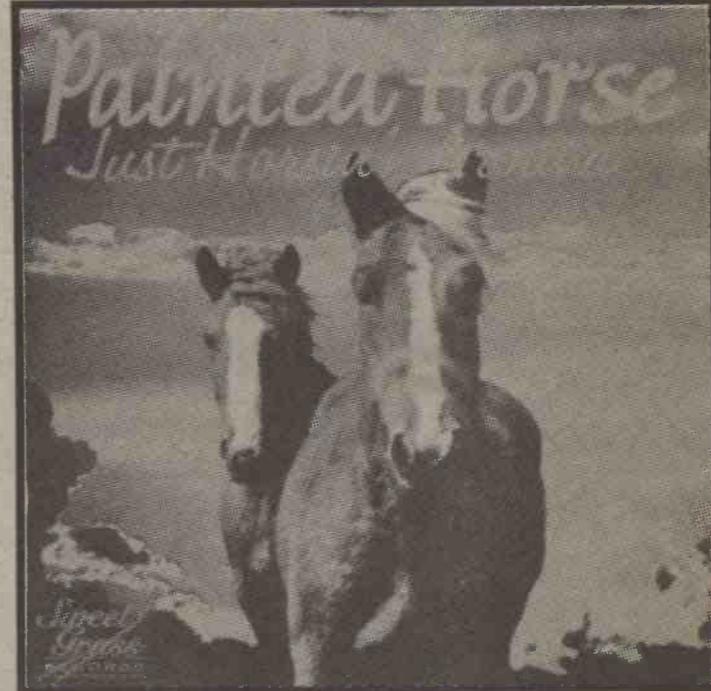
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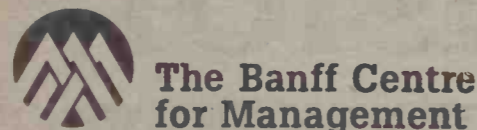
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### Canada's Centre for Aboriginal Leadership and Self-Government Programs

November 1997 Programs

#### Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Aboriginal Lands Management

Important Aboriginal issues of land claims, self-government and economic self-sufficiency are driving the need for the increased use of appropriate technologies to help sustain development in those areas and to integrate their use in strategic planning, negotiations and research.

**Introductory GIS:** This Program will demonstrate the uses and benefits of this powerful technology and will show how GIS will help your community address research and technology issues in a practical and cost-effective way without the need to go to expensive outside consultants.

November 2 to 4, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Jhon Goes In Centre - Tuition: \$645\* + GST

**Advanced GIS:** The Advanced Program will explore more sophisticated concepts and applications and will delve into the more technical aspects of implementing a GIS in your community for the management of Aboriginal lands, natural resources and infrastructure development.

November 2 to 4, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Jhon Goes In Centre - Tuition: \$995\* + GST

**Combined GIS:** November 2 to 7, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Jhon Goes In Centre - Tuition: \$1,595\* + GST

#### Tribal Council & Board Governance Development from an Aboriginal Perspective

This program will examine the issues surrounding the business of governing an Aboriginal community or organization. It will explain how to structure and manage your board, council or committee for maximum efficiency and effectiveness, thus improving your governing body's decision making and accountability. This becomes increasingly important as Aboriginal leaders are faced with the critical issues of self-governance, accelerated change within their organizations, land claims agreements, the dismantling of DIAND and the increased involvement of the provinces in Aboriginal affairs.

November 16 to 19, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Ted Fontaine - Tuition: \$1,150\* + GST

#### Building Aboriginal Community-Controlled Justice Systems

This program is for Aboriginal community leaders and officials in the Canadian criminal justice system. It will be delivered by faculty who represent both the current Aboriginal and Canadian justice perspectives. Highlights of the program include an evaluation of how the Canadian system can accommodate the Aboriginal justice perspective; the difficult questions that must be addressed by Aboriginal community justice systems, such as assistance for abuse victims, community healing, and rehabilitation versus incarceration; and how the Canadian criminal justice system can be restructured to make it more "Aboriginal friendly" and less adversarial.

November 24 to 29, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Tony Manadamin - Tuition: \$1,595\* + GST

#### Jurisdictional Arrangements Between Aboriginal & Canadian Governments

This program will deal with the complex legal issue of negotiating jurisdictional arrangements with the federal and provincial governments under the "inherent right of Aboriginal self-government" policy now recognized and affirmed by the Canadian government. Using case study and legal analysis, the establishment of bona fide Aboriginal jurisdiction under Canadian law will be critically examined. Program participants will also assess the best possible routes for the negotiation and implementation of self-government within Canada - that is, the Aboriginal rights route, the treaty rights route, the land claims route and the constitutional amendment route.

November 30 to December 5, 1997 - Faculty Leader: Catherine Bell - Tuition: \$1,595\* + GST

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\* Special Grants up to \$600 are available to Aboriginal people and those working for Aboriginal organizations.

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## House attacked

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

North of 60 star Dakota House is listed in stable condition in Edmonton's University Hospital after he was found in a hallway of a river front apartment building.

Early Sunday, Oct. 19, Edmonton police report they were called by ambulance officials to the Riverside Tower apartments, north of downtown Edmonton, after ambulance attendants picked up a badly beaten man from the building.

Police spokesman Kelly Gordon said a 23-year-old unconscious man was taken to hospital after what appeared to be a beating.

Since then, police have spoken to the victim and established that it was an assault.

"The person or persons responsible [for the assault] are still at large," said Gordon. "A file has been opened."

Gordon did say that from the hospital bed interview with the victim, progress is being made. He said the victim was co-operative and coherent.

Police also combed the apartment block looking for clues.

"Based on information gathered from other residents [of the apartment block] and other sources, we are in a position to say we are making progress," Gordon said.

Information gathered so far by police indicate that the victim may have known the attackers, or they may have known him.

"This was not a random incident and it was not gang related," cautioned Gordon.

Police officials are tracing the steps of the victim leading up to the attack.

So far, all they are releasing is that the victim lived in the apartment building and went to visit another suite in the building.

Police believe a weapon was involved in the attack, but would not say what kind of weapon.

Other reports have indicated that up to four people may have been involved in the beating of House. Those reports state that the actor was beaten with a large piece of wood.

### PERSONALS

#### NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP TO: LISA DAWSON

Take notice that on the 7th day of November 1997, at 9:30 a.m., at Edmonton Family and Youth Court, Room 441, 1A Sir Winston Churchill Square, Edmonton, a hearing will take place. A Director, under the Child Welfare Act, will make an application for permanent guardianship of your child born on November 23, 1993. You are requested to be present at the hearing. You have the right to be represented by legal counsel. An Order may be made in your absence, and you have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made. Contact: MARIA GULLI, Alberta Family and Social Services, Edmonton, Alberta. Phone: (403) 422-3985

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# Jackson helps the homeless

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

The latest album for Native recording artist Tom Jackson is literally designed to be food for thought.

That Side of the Window is an album about homeless people and all proceeds from the album are going to the Canadian Association of Food Banks.

"It was going to be purely a commercial venture for me, but I spoke to my wife and realized I didn't feel comfortable doing this as a commercial venture," said Jackson.

Part of Jackson's decision to donate the proceeds from the album come from his own past.

"I've always been very close to it (homelessness). For three years I lived on the streets of Winnipeg," said. "This [album] is certainly an awareness created out of that period of time."

The process leading up to this album has been brewing for some time, he said, recalling times when he would see people huddled on top of subway grates in the middle of Toronto winters as pedestrians walked past them.

"I realized how scary that would be to have people just walk by and knowing that it could have been me there. It caused me to want to create some kind of a change. I de-

cidated that I would use what I knew best," he said.

He used his voice. The release of That Side of the Window coincides with Jackson's annual Huron Carole concerts, which also raise funds and donations for food banks.

From rocky beginnings in 1988, the concert tour has turned into a national event which raises thousands of dollars for food banks across the country.

Starting out with a show in Toronto that didn't go over too well, nine years later, the Huron Carole concert series stops in 14 cities across Canada.

The tour starts with a November 27 show in Victoria and winds its way through the prairies with stop-overs in Calgary on Nov. 30, Edmonton on Dec. 1 and Fort McMurray on Dec. 2. The tour winds up in Halifax on December 22.

Jackson said he loves to sing live.

"It's more fun to play for them live because the feedback is instant."

With the albums, and especially with That Side of the Window, he just has to hope that the message of the songs gets through.

"I just hope that as much as they tap their feet, they also get to listen to the lyrical con-

tent of the CD," he said.

Despite it being focused on street people and homeless situations, Jackson said the it is not a dark album.

"As much as the subject matter is about homelessness, they are happy songs. They aren't songs about depression," he said.

Many of the songs, he said are up-beat and even humorous portrayals of the people on the streets.

"A lot of people on the streets have a tendency to laugh a lot," he said. "People with less gave got a great sense of humour. It's one of the things they cherish."

Jackson hopes the new CD will heighten the awareness to the situation of homeless people and help the public to understand them a little more.

"It's designed to bring more flesh onto the skeletal parts — to give a life and soul to the homeless folks . . . because they live and breath also."

This is Jackson's seventh album, and the third based on a theme which is close to him. The Huron Carole Christmas album in 1988 has a yuletide theme and Sally Ann, released in 1990, was dedicated to the work of the Salvation Army.

For upcoming projects, Jackson plans to continue to record songs based on the lives of people he has come in contact with.

# Hollywood to Calgary

By Rob McKinley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

Actor and recording artist Tom Jackson has just returned from Hollywood. He wasn't adding another film to his long list of accomplishments. He was actually trying to rope in several production ideas all at once for his own movie studio.

Jackson went to 11 major film studios in California trying to find support for his own soon-to-be-constructed studio in Calgary.

"It's definitely happening," said Jackson. "The only thing left before we put the spades in the ground is to dot the 'i's' and cross the 't's.'"

Jackson said his trip to California was a successful mission for possible film leads coming to his new Calgary studio.

"There is a growing necessity for them in Canada," he said.

More and more, American movie and series creators are looking to Canada for production areas. Exchange rates and tax breaks are a good lure, and the growing experience and maturity of Canada's film industry is an incentive to many south of the border producers.

Jackson said Calgary is a perfect spot to open up his studio. There are film stages in British Columbia, but next to Edmonton's Allarcom Studios, there's

nothing across the prairies.

Without giving an exact cost, Jackson said the multi-million dollar, 75,000 sq. ft. facility will feature sound stages as big as 25,000 sq. ft.

"That's as large as a facility in any part of the country," he said.

Production work at the new studio will vary, he said, explaining that full length films, television series or small filming projects will be handled at the location.

Jackson is also expecting the new studio to maintain and increase the pool of talented film industry people in the province.

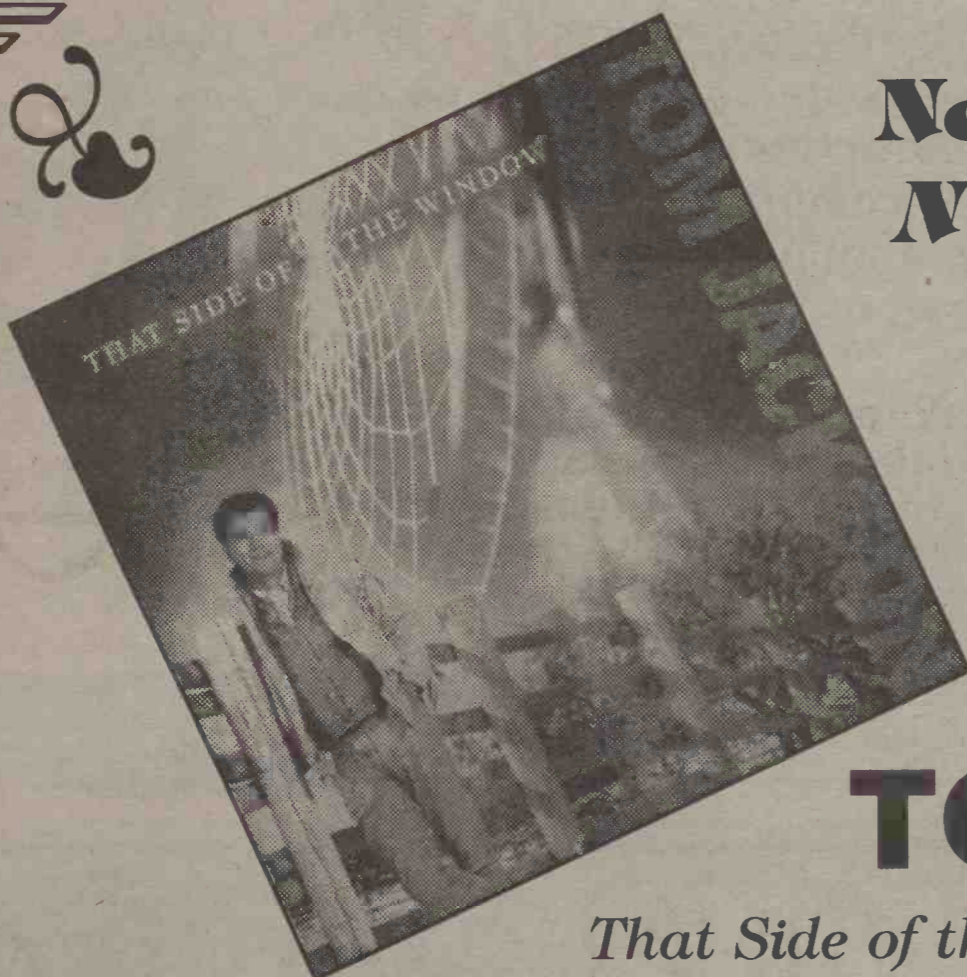
Even at minimal returns, Jackson said the studio could bring money "equated in the millions" to the Calgary area.

Jackson is planning on building the new facility in a southwest Calgary industrial area owned by the neighboring Tsuu T'ina First Nation.

Born on the One Arrow Indian First Nation in Saskatchewan, Jackson never forgets his Native roots.

He made sure to note that Aboriginal workers would be getting the lion's share of business during the building of the new studio.

Early May or June of 1998 is when the lights are to go on, the cameras to start rolling and the action to begin at Jackson's studio.



*That Side of the Window*



*Home This Christmas*

*Tom Jackson's proceeds from these two recordings go to the Canadian Association of Food Banks*

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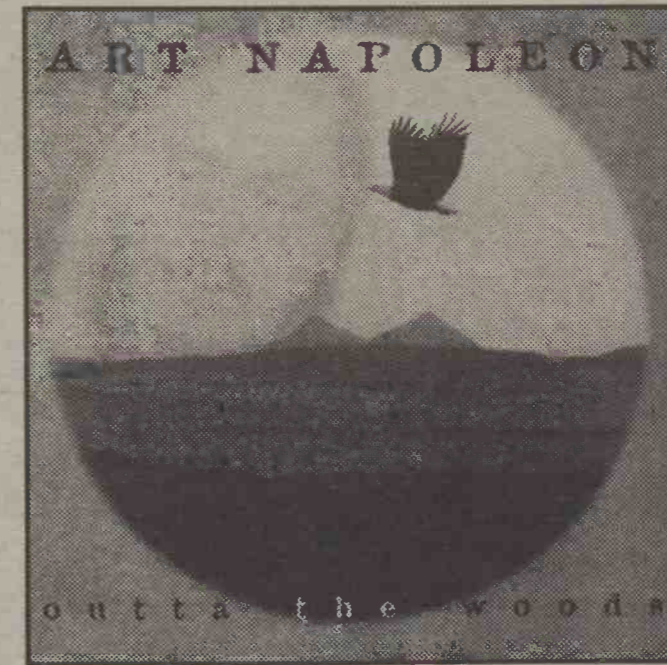
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# Calgary

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# CONGRATULATIONS!

## CN congratulates the winners of its Native Educational Awards Program for the 1997-1998 academic year:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Freda Bastien</b><br>Master of Administration<br>University of Calgary | <b>Nicole Ducharme</b><br>Geological Engineering<br>University of Manitoba |
| <b>Joanne Martineau</b><br>Chemical Engineering<br>University of Alberta  | <b>Susanne Beriault</b><br>Science<br>University of Winnipeg               |
| <b>Alain Fafard</b><br>Arts and Sciences<br>University of Saskatchewan    |  |

Each winner receives a \$1,500 academic scholarship from Canadian National to help cover the cost of their post-secondary education.

Established in 1988, CN's Native Educational Awards program provides scholarships to assist and encourage First Nations students who are studying for a career in transportation. Applicants must be Status Indians, Non Status Indians, Inuit or Metis enrolled in a Canadian post-secondary educational institution.

For more information about CN's scholarship programs visit our web site at [www.cn.ca](http://www.cn.ca)



CANADIAN NATIONAL

# Grace of dancer captured

## REVIEW

By Dawn Karima Pettigrew  
*Windspeaker Contributor*

*Maria Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina*  
By Maria Tallchief with Larry Kaplan  
NY: Holt, 1997, 351 pages

The name Maria Tallchief is synonymous with the grace, elegance and art of ballet. The book, *Maria Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina*, is a stunning autobiographical account of a spectacular life lived by a one-time Osage reservation resident.

"My father was a full-blooded Osage Indian," writes Tallchief, "... I felt my father owned the town." Maria Tallchief grew up in Fairfax, Oklahoma on the Osage reservation. Her father and family prospered because of the location of oil on the reservation. Tallchief tells of the Osage his-

tory, even its "Reign of Terror," as intruders murdered Native people for their headrights to oil and natural resources. Her history of her family's prosperity, pain, and participation in powwows and Aboriginal ceremonies offers insight into the prima ballerina's background and worldview.

Tallchief's Scot-Irish mother enrolled Maria and her sister Marjorie in ballet classes when Tallchief was three.

"What I remember most," the prima ballerina writes, "is that the ballet teacher told me to stand straight and turn each of my feet out to the side, the first position. I couldn't believe it. But I did what I was told."

Tallchief progressed to ballet auditions and a small role in Judy Garland's *Presenting Lily Mars*. Her dedication to dance prepared her for her move to New York, where she embarked on a glittering life filled with dance, ro-

mance, and art.

George Balanchine, ballet master, found inspiration in Tallchief's angular form and grace. He created roles and rhythms for her and with her launched the New York City Ballet. As Tallchief became Balanchine's muse, his creations made her his superstar.

Maria Tallchief shares moments in her love life, from her first flirtations to her final marriage, but it is her union with Balanchine which dominates the pages, as well as her art.

"He was the personification of music and dance, which were my all consuming passions," she writes.

*Maria Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina* is a tale of devotion, dedication, and dance. Tallchief speaks of a life lived on stages and in spotlights with revealing warmth. Her autobiography is a celebration of excellence and story of interest to readers interested in art, Native America or women's history.

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### Leadership for Environment and Development Canada

Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) is a unique international program that seeks to identify tomorrow's leaders and prepare them to manage the transition to a sustainable economy. Each year, LEAD Canada selects approximately 15 promising Canadians to take part in an intensive training program that builds leadership skills and explores environment and development issues.

The program extends over two years. In that time participants, called Associates, take part in four to five national and international training sessions. Sessions focus on economic and environmental issues of importance to this country and its peoples. Training also seeks to enhance leadership skills.

#### What the Program Involves

Participation in the LEAD program requires a serious commitment by Associates and their employers.

- Associates are responsible for arranging leave to attend four to five national and international training sessions amounting to approximately eight to ten weeks over a two-year period.
- Associates must be prepared to undertake a course of readings and research according to LEAD Canada guidelines and to establish personal study objectives within this framework.
- Associates are encouraged to work with their employer to devise a course of study that reflects both their personal interest in the environment and development and complements their professional activities.

#### Application Requirements

Canadian residents between the ages of 30 and 45 years are eligible to apply to the LEAD Canada program. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be employed full time.
- Demonstrate leadership skills such as: professional or academic achievements; community or public service; and participation in labour, political, or non-governmental organizations.
- Demonstrate interest in environment and development.
- Be able to travel and participate fully in national and international sessions.
- Provide written confirmation of employer cooperation with regard to leave and development of study program.
- Be able to work comfortably in English.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 1998.

For further information or an application form contact:  
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ABORIGINAL PEOPLES GALLERY

# 500 years of Aboriginal history on display

It's but a few minutes til curtain time as the Provincial Museum of Alberta prepares to unveil its most recent and exciting exhibition in years. The long-awaited Aboriginal Peoples Gallery, largely funded by Syncrude Canada, is ready to open its doors to the public on Nov. 30.

The exhibit spans 11,000 years or 500 generations of Aboriginal history in Alberta, beginning with the Ice Age and continuing through to the present day. And it's the contemporary part of the display that makes it so unique when contrasted with other museums.

The Aboriginal Peoples Gallery takes up 900 sq. m of museum space. It includes thousands of artifacts, documents and photographs, as well as films and interactive computer technology which all bring to life the traditions, culture and history of Alberta's Aboriginal populations.

Upon entering the gallery, visitors will encounter archaeological information and artifacts up to 11,000 years old. These pave the way for other displays that incorporate man, animals and nature in a variety of settings and situations. One scene depicts a form of buffalo hunting that goes back 6,000 years. Another displays the dart and throwing stick (atlatl) used 8,000 years ago.

Other displays include a scene of a Dene northern fishing camp and a buffalo pound on Canada's western plains. Along a hallway is a magnificent array of arrowheads and spear points contained in glass cases. In addition there is an array of stone and bone tools, pounders, awls, cutting and scraping tools, some pottery and much more.

Three large dioramas follow, the first being the (Anthony) Henday Diorama in which the Hudsons Bay Company trader is shown bartering with people from the Blackfoot First Nation. This colorful reproduction is so real, visitors will feel like they are actually present because it is truly a scene that jumps to life.

The next scene is the Northern Trapping Diorama painted by

this year's winner of the Peace Hills Trust Art Contest, Rocky Barstad. It depicts an age when the people lived off the land and includes audio of many of its current inhabitants.

"The land provided everything people needed," says Andrew Campbell of Fort Chipewyan. "Food, clothing, shelter, and medicines all come from the land."

Catherine Yatsaillie, a Dene Tha' from Meander River recalls, "we were always on the river with a boat." And, Evelyn Thunder from Gift Lake remembers, "women would do beadwork all winter."

Before moving on to the Giveaway Diorama, one can amble slightly off-course, through the Yellow Otter Painted Tipi and enter a separate area containing the priceless Scriver Collection which includes beaded and quilled buckskin clothing, feather bonnets, weapons such as knives, spears, arrows and clubs made from stone, bone, antler and wood, as well as beaded pouches, baby mossbags, bark baskets, a grass necklace, bone ladles and much more. Horse regalia, much of it beaded, include collars, head pieces, saddles, cruppers and so forth.

There are men's and women's fancy garments, full-beaded vests and leggings, beaded and embroidered gauntlets, women's collars, cloth ribbon dresses and buckskin dresses adorned with cowrie or dentalia shells, elk teeth, thimbles, hawk bells or basket beads. Much of the material displayed stems from various tribes as far back as the mid-1800s.

As one moves on, they come to the Giveaway diorama, a scene set in southern Alberta where a Weasel Tail Shirt is being handed down the family line to a young privileged child. Even a horse that once belonged to Elder Rufus Goodstriker is part of this scene.

A central area that focuses on some of the sacred and spiritual customs of Aboriginal people is also designed for the use of small



TERRY LUSTY

The Grand Opening of the Aboriginal Peoples Gallery is Nov. 30 from noon to 4:30 p.m.

discussion groups, or for sleepovers by students or youth who may wish to combine this with their education in an experimental way.

The final sections to the gallery give visitors a peak into the lives and the events of treaty making, scrip commissions, the Riel Resistance, the Indian Act and the power of Indian agents, destruction of the land and it's resources, the notorious residential school system, fishing, hunting, war veterans and the more recent developments and evolution of organizations which assist the Aboriginal people today.

As for those who may wish to take in the Grand Opening, it goes noon to 4:30 p.m on Sunday, Nov. 30 with Dale Auger hosting and performances by singer Laura Vinson, flutist Eagle Child, and many other artists..

As well, there will be several arts and crafts booths on site. The museum is located at 12845-102 Avenue, Edmonton (phone 453-9100).

Admission is \$6.50 for adults, \$3 for children 7 to 17, 6 and under enter free.

## Congratulations to the Aboriginal Gallery on your opening!

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# VICOM

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Vicom Multimedia was contracted by the Provincial Museum to provide multimedia presentation support for the Aboriginal Peoples Gallery. A total of 12 presentations incorporating video, sound and projected images will contribute to the experience guests receive as they make their way through the gallery. A diverse and talented group of Native performers and storytellers highlight the audio presentations with stories that are entertaining, gripping and funny. Along with the multimedia support, VMI provided technical design and consultation for the gallery's lighting and presentation hardware. Our intent from the outset was not to overpower the visitor with technology, but rather enhance the gallery's striking overall presentation. One highlight we are particularly proud of is a four monitor video presentation that introduces the gallery to our guests by tracing the history of Aboriginal peoples through the past 11,000 years.

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CANDO COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NATIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS RECOGNITION AWARDS

# Delegates offered tools for success

By Kenneth Williams  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

## MONTREAL

The Delta Hotel in downtown Montreal was the scene of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officer's Fourth Annual National Economic Development Conference. Running from Sept. 24 to 27, the conference attracted more than 300 delegates from across Canada.

The theme of this year's conference was "Building Capacity for Economic Development, Building Hope for the Future" and was hosted by Grand Chief Joe Norton of the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory. The conference had more than 20 workshops on various aspects of Aboriginal economic development, with 50 speakers and presenters, and was capped off with a bus tour of the Kahnawake Mohawk territory which is just south of Montreal. This was the first year the conference had been fully sold out.

"This is a very special occasion for me and my community," said Norton, as he welcomed the delegates on the morning of Sept. 25.

Norton described a dilemma that Aboriginal communities face because of years of contact with Europeans.

"We're caught in two ways of looking at things," he said. "We're encouraging our young people to get an education — to help us with our [economic] development. It's part of the changing we have to go through. It's not something we should be afraid of."

But Norton also admitted that there must be a balance so that traditional Aboriginal values and culture are not lost in the modern world. Those traditions, he said, will give Aboriginal people the anchor they need to be successful and create a better economy for themselves and Canada.

"We are realizing that we

have an important role in the Canadian economy," continued Norton. "If nothing else, Native people are a valuable resource to Canada."

Throughout the conference there were other keynote speakers, such as Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come of the James Bay Cree, and Chief Billy Diamond of Waskaganish.

Coon Come, who gave the lunch time keynote address on Sept. 25, warned the delegates to keep a watchful eye on the federal and provincial politicians trying to hammer out a new constitutional deal without any participation of Aboriginal people.

"It would be unfair and wrong for the premiers to cook up a new constitutional framework that did not include Aboriginal people," he said.

He also said that the issues of land rights and resource control must be ironed out before any real and lasting economic development can be realized.

"As I speak, most of my people are out on the land. Our main economic base is still the land," he said. "Our people still hunt. They still support themselves."

The newly-elected Assembly of First Nations Chief Phil Fontaine, Jane Stewart, minister of Indian Affairs, and last year's Economic Developer of the Year winner Chief Manny Jules were all unable to attend and give their keynote speeches. The absence of Fontaine and Stewart was due to a hastily called meeting with chiefs in British Columbia.

John Kim Bell, Mohawk composer and founder of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, gave the keynote address at the president's dinner on the evening of Sept. 26, when the economic developer of the year and recognition awards were presented.

Bell was asked to speak about the recently released Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report. His talk emphasized



KENNETH WILLIAMS

The CANDO conference provided an opportunity to recognize the important work of four of the country's most successful Aboriginal corporations.

need for Aboriginal people to keep up with the radical changes that were occurring in the world.

"The world is evolving from an industrial-based society to a technology-based society," he said. "New technologies are creating new world markets, eroding old barriers and natu-

ral borders."

He then outlined 10 key recommendations of the commission that pertained to change.

"Never doubt the power of a dream," said Bell as he ended his speech.

All of the awards were created by Mohawk sculptor, Steve McComber.



KENNETH WILLIAMS

The Keepers of the Eastern Door Singers and Dancers of Kahnawake performed during the recent CANDO conference in Montreal.

*"The success of Kitsaki Development Corporation can be attributed to the hard work and dedication of many. We are all proud of KDC's success and congratulate this outstanding achievement."*



Prince Albert Development Corporation



Prince Albert Grand Council



Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority

# Kitsaki Development Corporation economic developer of the year



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Chief Harry Cook receives the Economic Developer of the Year Award from Angie Stewart, president of CANDO.

By Kenneth Williams  
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

MONTREAL

It was the moment the 300 delegates to CANDO's annual conference had been waiting for: to see who would be named economic developer of the year.

The honor would go to one of the four recipients of the CANDO recognition awards. They included Chief John Louis Stevenson of the Peguis First Nation located in Manitoba; the Paskwayak Business Development Corporation, also from Manitoba; the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation from British Columbia; and the Kitsaki Development Corporation from Saskatchewan.

On the evening of Sept. 26 the delegates cast their ballots, and with that the Kitsaki Development Corporation was voted 1997 CANDO Economic Developer of the Year Award winner.

Harry Cook, chief of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band and president of Kitsaki Development Corporation, accepted the award from Angie Stewart, the president of the council.

"It's a privilege and an honor," said Cook about receiving the award, but quickly added that this type of news needed to be broadcast through the media to prove that "Indians are doing a lot of positive things."

Cook learned a month before the conference that the Kitsaki Development Corporation would be receiving a recognition award. But it was only in Montreal during the conference did he realize the prestigious company he was sharing in receiving that award.

During his acceptance speech, Cook emphasized that Kitsaki Development Corporation was willing to do business with any level of government, and any other business organi-

zation, whether Aboriginally run or not.

In a later interview, Cook spoke about the value of CANDO's national conference and how he found it informative.

"I think its unique and very informative for Native people to get together from time to time to share information so maybe some doors could be opened," he said. "It was a good way to find out what's going on in different parts of our country."

He identified several business opportunities available to his people, such as tourism and forestry, and how the other delegates at the conference were a good source of information.

Kelly Lendsay, a member of CANDO's board of directors, as well as director of Aboriginal Business Programs at the University of Saskatchewan, nominated Kitsaki for the recognition award. He felt it deserved the award because of its perseverance and vision.

"When you look at the way Aboriginal economic development is emerging, Kitsaki is the story of perseverance," he said. "We're looking at a 20-year story here. We're looking at vision."

"There's a story of how politics and business work together," he continued. This award "is really a credit to their chiefs and councils, as well as their managers."

"They do all the things that we need to do to make economic development successful. I felt they deserve the [recognition] award for the maturity they've show in the industry. It's an award that is long overdue for an Aboriginal economic development corporation that's been doing well for over 20 years."

"These people work hard and they care and you just want to tell everyone else about it," Lendsay added.

More about Kitsaki on pages SS4 and 5.



Congratulations to the four recipients of  
 1997 CANDO Recognition Awards

**Kitsaki Development Corporation**  
 1997 CANDO Economic Developer of the Year

Chief Louis John Stevenson  
 Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation  
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CANDO Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers  
**RECOGNITION AWARDS**

# Chief an economic visionary for community

By Kenneth Williams  
*Windspeaker Staff Writer*

PEGUIS, Man.

Louis John Stevenson, chief of the Peguis First Nation since 1981, was the only individual winner of a recognition award from CANDO this year. There were many reasons why.

Since he's become chief, employment on the Peguis First Nation has risen 30 per cent and the number of businesses has increased from five to more than 50.

On top of his many accomplishments, Stevenson received a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Outstanding Community Development in 1995. He was also nominated for the National

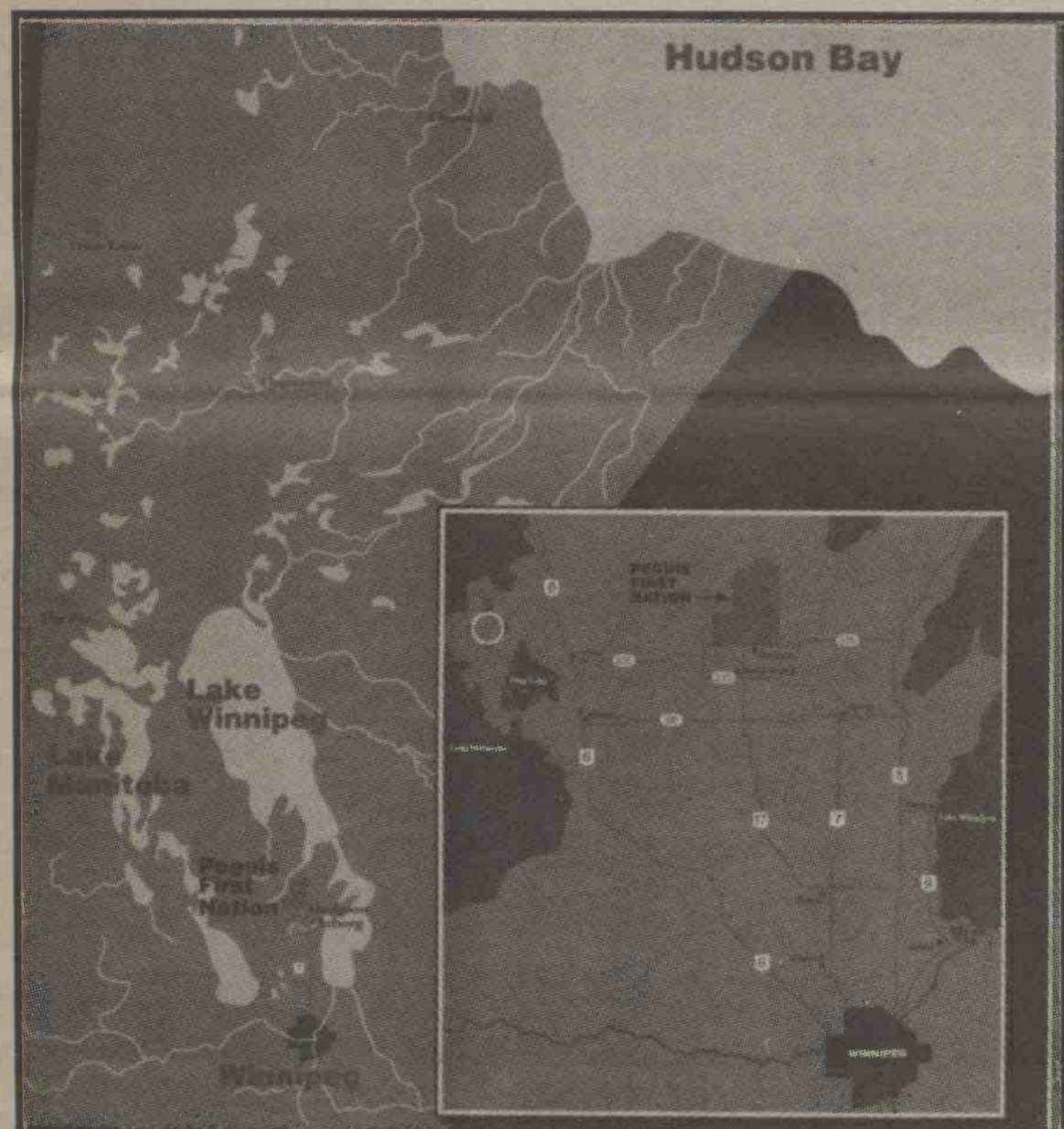
Royal Bank Award in 1996, an honor that is given to Canadians who have made important contributions to human welfare and the common good.

The Peguis First Nation consists of three reserves that are spread out north of Winnipeg. The largest one is located 170 km north of Winnipeg. The original reserve, formally known as St. Peter's, is located near Selkirk, on the coast of Lake Winnipeg. The third reserve is located 26 km northeast of the largest reserve, on the shores of Fisher Bay.

As chief of the Peguis First Nation, Stevenson oversees the operation of the Peguis Development Corporation, which was established in 1984.

The goals of the Peguis Development Corporation are: to establish and operate an economic development program which will encourage, stimulate, promote and assist a wide range of business development initiatives; to incorporate and facilitate the founding principles into the planning processes and activities of the economic development program; to provide assistance, resources and financial support to band members, the council and related corporations through contributions to business and human resource development projects; to co-ordinate and elicit support from government programs and services, and professional-private industry organizations for community economic development; and, to assist with identified areas of employment and training services such as mobility to employment, employment assistance, apprenticeship programs, training on the job, small business starts and Pathways projects as identified by community need.

In 1989, the 2,700 sq. m Peguis Mall was completed. It is now home to Irene's Flower and Gift Shop, Peguis Sports Zone, Sarah's Salon, Peguis Post Office, H & R Block, Peguis Shop Easy, Royal Bank of Canada, Peguis Laundromat and Lottery Centre, Annette's Family Diner, and the RCMP community office. The mall also provides office space for the Peguis school board, health centre, and band administration. Expansion plans that will more than double its existing space.



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Louis John Stevenson, chief of the Peguis First Nation was the only individual winner of a recognition award from CANDO this year.

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CANDO Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers RECOGNITION AWARDS CANDO CANDO



**Congratulations to all nominees for the CANDO 1997 Economic Developer of the Year Award.**

*Windspeaker is proud to share with our readers just four of the many Aboriginal economic development success stories.*

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**Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations**

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Executive, Senate and staff extend congratulations to the Kitsaki Development Corporation, recipient of the 1997 CANDO Economic Developer of the Year Award.

This achievement demonstrates the strength of leadership of Chief Harry Cook and the Council of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. The development of the trucking, mining, forestry and harvesting enterprises of this growing business have proven rewarding in terms of revenues and employment options for Band members.

The Kitsaki Development Corporation is a proven leader in capitalizing on northern industry to benefit the members of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band.

*The Future of Aboriginal Development is Success!*

*Economic Developer of 1997*

*Congratulations*

**to Kitsaki Development Corporation  
and to the Success of Chief Harry Cook  
and the people of La Ronge.**



**THE CREES OF THE  
WASKAGANISH FIRST NATION**

*The Future of Aboriginal Development is Success!*

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By Kenneth Will  
Windspeaker Sta

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Ralph Randhile

## Kitsaki is built to last... and prosper

By Kenneth Williams  
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

LAC LA RONGE, Sask.

The Kitsaki Development Corporation grew out of the dream of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band to take control of its own economic future. In 1981, that dream started to become a reality when Kitsaki was incorporated. There were some early disappointments and mistakes, but perseverance prevailed.

Since 1981, the Kitsaki Development Corporation has grown so that it owns or partly owns such diverse operations as Northern Resources Trucking, the Lac La Ronge Motor Hotel,

Kitsaki Meats Inc., Keethanow Bingo North, La Ronge Industries Limited, First Nations Insurance Services Inc., Northern Lights Wild Rice Inc., Athabasca Catering Company, Woodland Cree Resources, Keewatin Mining Corporation, Canada North Environmental Services Limited, and First Call Inc., plus a joint venture with Minolta to supply photocopiers and servicing to First Nations and institutions in northern Saskatchewan.

Harry Cook, chief of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, said Kitsaki Development Corporation is also looking at mining opportunities in Saskatchewan and British Columbia, as well as

other business opportunities involving manufacturing and forestry. More than 400 people are now employed directly or indirectly by the corporation.

"I think the need was to take advantage of our region in terms of the business opportunities that were arising in mining, forestry, tourism, and transportation," said Cook, explaining why the corporation was created by the band. "The council of our band saw that there were numerous business opportunities in Saskatchewan."

But Kitsaki's success didn't happen overnight. Kelly Lendsay, a member of CANDO's board of directors, as well as director of Aboriginal Business Programs at the University of Saskatchewan stated, a lot of work and determination was necessary to get Kitsaki to this point in its development. Cook feels that the success was determined by building on a solid foundation.

"No one person can do it for themselves. It's very important to have that proper mix of experience, desire and education," said Cook. "That has to be kept in focus at all times. It's very important that politicians should be supporting their particular arms of economic development and not be the directors."

"One of the things that came out was that Kitsaki's approach is that they try to implement a structure that allows for the business decisions and strategies to evolve along with the political developments. There's always overlap, but they've been able to come up with a process to balance this," said Lendsay.

Sharing their management experience and training future employees are also important to Kitsaki Development. Part of their profits go back into train-



YVON LEBEL

(Top) Kitsaki Meats produces a variety of products. (Left) Kitsaki Development Corporation puts money into training so people don't have to leave the area to find work.



YVON LEBEL



Northern Resource Trucking Ltd. Partnership, based in LaRonge, owned by Kitsaki  
 Ralph Randhile, employee

## WAY TO GROW!

In only 15 years Kitsaki has grown from an idea to a solid company that stands among Saskatchewan's most successful businesses. The people behind Kitsaki did it by having confidence in themselves and in their dreams.

This year the LaRonge, SK company was recognized as the CANDO Economic Developer of the year.

And while the award is exciting, the fact that Kitsaki continues to invest in the community, create employment and give others confidence, is an even greater accomplishment.

There are more than 34,000 businesses in Saskatchewan, and that number is quickly growing. Congratulations to Kitsaki for its continued commitment to creating growth and jobs in Northern Saskatchewan.

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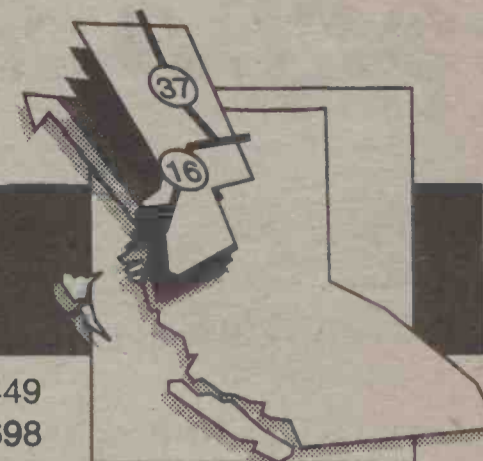
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## Corp

By Kenneth Wil  
Windspeaker Sta

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# CANDO Recognition Awards

## Corporation fills needs of northern B.C.

By Kenneth Williams  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

HAZELTON, B.C.

The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation was the smallest organization to receive a CANDO economic development recognition award at the national conference. It was precisely this reason that Angie Stewart, president of CANDO, nominated them for the award.

"The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation is a company that is, at the grassroots level, practicing all aspects of community economic development," said Stewart. "Mainly they're addressing unemployment and their programs reflect their concerns of social well-being.

"Their decision-making is strongly reflective of the way they culturally make decisions and their programs are all the result of careful planning of each of the needs of each of the nine communities," she added.

This development corporation, which was just incorporated in 1991, serves six Gitksan and three Wet'suwet'en communities in northern British Columbia. The combined nine communities have about 8,000 members in an area of about 57,000 sq. km.

Darlene Morgan is the current director of the corporation. A board of directors is made up of nine members, all of whom hold the economic development portfolios within their own band councils. Anne Howard and Darlene Morrison are the other two employees of the corporation.

"On behalf of the nations of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en, we appreciate the award that

CANDO has given us," said Howard, in a later interview. "It gives you a very good feeling inside to see what progress our people have made compared to the barriers they have had to endure."

She then said that a national conference like CANDO's inspires her because she's able to network with other Aboriginal economic development officers and that receiving an award drives her to accomplish better things for her community.

The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation's mission statement declares: *All the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en people have the opportunity to achieve economic independence and self-reliance by means of life-long education and skills training, and by capitalizing on economic development opportunities that preserve and enhance the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en economy.*

The mandate of the corporation is to encourage increased participation by Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en communities and individuals in the development of a sustainable economy; to assist in the initiation, expansion, improvement and promotion of viable business opportunities that provide employment, training, business experiences and general income for Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en people; to facilitate, sponsor and/or contract training to improve managerial, entrepreneurial and economic self-reliance skills; to liaise and provide marketing and research information; to administer the corporation's funds identified under Indian and Northern Affairs funding; and to pursue federal, provincial and other sources of funding to enable the corporation to carry out its mandate.

The corporation currently administers four programs:

the Loan Guarantee Program; the Community Venture Program; the Microbusiness Grant Program; and, a program for workshops and trade shows.

The loan guarantee program is designed to provide easier access to bank or credit union loans for individuals and communities.

"It's the only way a charter bank will want to work with someone in this area," said Howard. "It's a pretty good opportunity for our people to access funding to start business ventures."

The community venture program is a grant giving program for bands, or band-owned corporations and organizations that will increase employment and help keep locally generated money within the community. The Kispiox band council opened a gas bar, that now employs 10 people, under this program.

The microbusiness grants were created for individuals in the communities to start up home-based businesses. These grants are usually no more than \$2,000, said Howard, and have been given out to people starting up a hair salon, a clothing retail outlet, a book-keeping business, a portable sawmill, a repair shop, convenience stores, a trapping business, a karaoke service and craft shops.

"We found out that they really didn't need too much to start up a home-based business," said Howard. "It's the community members telling us what they like and what their business ideas are."

The workshops provide training for the entrepreneurs and the trade shows allow them to show off their businesses.

Stewart was impressed with how the corporation was able to meet the needs of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en communities with a much smaller budget

than the other economic development corporations that received recognition awards.

"The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation does have less of a budget but they're doing really exemplary things with the resources they do have," said Stewart. "They're doing with what they can whereby profit is not the main concern — the main concern is employment and social well-being."

Darlene Morgan is the current director of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en Economic Development Corporation and was on hand to receive the recognition award.



KENNETH WILLIAMS

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**RECOGNITION AWARDS** CANDO CANDO

# Corporation leads way to self-sufficiency

By Kenneth Williams  
 Windspeaker Staff Writer

THE PAS, Man.

The Paskwayak Business Development Corporation serves the needs of the 3,000 members of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, which is located near The Pas, Man., about 600 km northwest of Winnipeg. The motto of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation is *Nekano-otawinek* — *Tipanimisowin* which means *Progress — Independence in Cree*. The development corporation has seen that it lays the foundation for economic stability and self-sufficiency of the community that will allow it to fulfill the goals of its motto.

Warren Wain, a business program instructor at Keewatin Community College, nominated the development corporation for the recognition award. He wrote in his nomination letter that the: *Paskwayak Business Development Corporation and its management have consistently worked to further the role of economic development officers in their community and in rural and Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. The umbrella of Paskwayak Business Development Corporation covers eight band-owned businesses and employs approximately 225 band members. This figure, added to the other 200 plus employees, makes the Opaskwayak Cree Nation the second-largest employer in the community.*

"Personally, I felt honored and privileged to be among the other [CANDO] recipients there," said Bill Kadachuk, director of business operations for the corporation. "We're all winners. And to be recognized for doing a good job is always something gratifying."

The Paskwayak Business Development Corporation was incorporated in 1987 to oversee the business and community economic development of the

Opaskwayak Cree Nation. The corporation immediately took over the Cree nation's existing businesses, the Otineka Mall, the IGA, the Timberland Trailer Court and the Chimo Building Centre. Prior to 1987, these enterprises were managed by their own individual committees.

"It was under chief and council that we created one business development corporation, so that all the band-owned businesses were overseen by one entity, which is the Paskwayak Business Development Corporation," said Kadachuk. "We not only wanted to provide business and management services to band-owned businesses, but to provide business and management services to band members at the business and private level. And we've added a training component to our list of responsibility areas."

By providing financial support and business expertise through its business development wing, the corporation has helped 50 band members start their own businesses.

The 60-room Kikiwak Inn is one of the newest and largest accomplishments of the Paskwayak Business Development Corporation. Costing about \$8.5 million the Kikiwak Inn provided employment for band members during its construction, as well as longer term employment for its operation.

The IGA was given a \$750,000 renovation during the construction of the inn, that was financed entirely by the band. As Wain stated in his letter: *With all the loans and renovations being paid through cash flow generated from the store sales, [this] is just one outstanding example of self-sufficiency and of what can be accomplished through extraordinary teamwork, solid management and powerful planning.*

The band now has a sawmill operation, a gravel and sand de-

livery service, a video production company that produced a promotional video for the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, and a junior hockey franchise, the OCN Blizzard, who play in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

Kadachuk said that one of the problems facing the development corporation is just trying to keep up with its own growth and success.

He also said that the national conference co-ordinated by CANDO is an effective tool for all First Nations working towards self-sufficiency.

"CANDO is a good organization for that," he said. "I'm glad that they do recognition awards organizations that deal specifically with economic business development."

"It was a good networking experience. It's good to know that we're not isolated when it comes to the problems we're experiencing," Kadachuk added. "No matter what tribe, or band or region, problems and barriers are similar... The information sharing is important because it's good to know that there are different ways of doing things."



Joe Partridge left, accepts the CANDO recognition award for the Paskwayak Business Development Corporation.

KENNETH WILLIAMS



Bill Kadachuk, director of business operations.

## Nisga

By Kenneth Williams  
 Windspeaker Staff

PRINC

It wasn't exactly the executive of the the Advancement of Native Development Officers as CANDO, shifted... dle of last year. T Myron Sparklingey... dent, had to resign... because of his new... the Department of... fairs. The departm... ing to avert any pos... of interest. Angie S... was the first vice-p... to step in. But in t... ple change of posi... was quietly ma... Stewart became the... president of CAN... Stewart is the cur... nity economic d... program manage... which is a tribal... vestment corporat... Rupert, British Col... a proud member o... Nation of the Kinc... nity in the Wolf Tr... background in ec... ended up working... development in F... and just never loo... is currently co... Nisga'a language... program through t... of Northern Britis... As acting presic...

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**KEEWATIN**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE



# Nisga'a first woman president of CANDO

By Kenneth Williams  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

## PRINCE RUPERT

It wasn't exactly a crisis, but the executive of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, also known as CANDO, shifted in the middle of last year. That's when Myron Sparklingeyes, the president, had to resign his position because of his new employer, the Department of Indian Affairs. The department was trying to avert any possible conflict of interest. Angie Stewart, who was the first vice-president, had to step in. But in this one simple change of position, history was quietly made because Stewart became the first woman president of CANDO.

Stewart is the current community economic development program manager of Tricorp, which is a tribal resources investment corporation in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. She's a proud member of the Nisga'a Nation of the Kincolith community in the Wolf Tribe. She has a background in education, but ended up working in economic development in Prince Rupert and just never looked back. She is currently completing a Nisga'a language and culture program through the University of Northern British Columbia.

As acting president, she had

to oversee programming for CANDO's annual conference in Montreal this September. During the conference she had to decide if she wanted to seek the presidency or step aside. This was a decision made difficult. The hectic schedule of the conference, combined with the competing desires to step down to spend more time with her daughter, battled against her love for the CANDO organization.

In the end, she decided to run and was elected president for another term.

"The reason I continued to stand as the president for this year was because I really wanted to see the certified economic developer designation running smoothly in a defined process that will allow for very little or no wrinkles," she said. "Being on the board at the beginning of the process has been exciting and to see it come to fruition on my term as president would be very exciting for me."

She has great respect for the previous presidents she's worked for, Sparklingeyes and Darrell Balkwill, but she feels that she can bring an important perspective to the presidency that wasn't there before because she is a woman and a single parent.

"I have a really strong cultural presence as president. I'm very proud to be a Nisga'a woman,"



KENNETH WILLIAMS

Angie Stewart participates in a crocodile dance with a member of the Keepers of the Eastern Door Singers and Dancers of Kahnawake during the recent CANDO conference in Montreal.

she said. "Being a single parent who grew up off-reserve, and yet has maintained a very strong cultural tie to my heritage, I feel that I bring to the presidency a constant mindfulness of our First Na-

tions spiritual values [and] our sense of a unique culture.

"For our membership and potential membership, the economic development practitioners need to believe in CANDO, and need to ratify, by their sup-

port, the direction that CANDO is going. In order for that to happen, we need really strong leadership. I believe that's what I bring in my presidency."

Her involvement in the organization began three years ago. She was first elected to the council's board of directors in 1995 and then gradually rose up the ranks.

"The president's position is not hands-on in the administration of CANDO, but rather oversees the administration or the operation of CANDO at an arm's length," she said.

Even so, she wants the conferences to benefit community economic development officers in a direct way.

"At our [CANDO] strategic planning session board meeting, we developed a list of topics and how we wanted them delivered," she said. "The main thing that I heard coming back from the conferences was, 'it was all fine and good to meet people and powerful contacts, but if I don't come back with skills or useful information that will help me do the best job I can in my community, it's just another conference.' As far as my contribution to the conference, I feel that the topics ought to fall in that line — that the economic development officers attending the conference have to come back with meaningful information."

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# Trial stalled when witness freezes

By Roberta Avery  
Windspeaker Contributor

OWEN SOUND, Ont.

Violence came at the height of the tension that flared up in the summer of 1995 between Natives who fish Georgian Bay commercially and sports anglers.

Two young men from the Cape Croker reserve north of Owen Sound were stabbed while police, some witnesses say, watched from behind a fence.

Two years have passed since the attack, but the Chippewas of Nawash will have to wait at least until next year to see some justice. The trial of Kelly Kirkwood, 25, and his cousin Darrell McGregor, 26, both of no fixed address, ground to a halt on the second day when a key prosecution witness froze on the stand.

It took almost a year, and a lot of pressure from the Nawash band, before any charges were laid, though there were dozens of witnesses to the incident. Three weeks ago it appeared the Crown, citing a lack of evidence, planned to drop the case against the two suspects.

On Sept. 29, Ralph Akiwenzie, chief of the Chippewas of

Nawash, and about 80 supporters gathered to begin a protest outside the Owen Sound courthouse. But just as the protest was begun it was announced a trial would start on Oct. 6.

Kirkwood and McGregor each face two counts of aggravated assault and one count of possessing a dangerous weapon in connection with the stabbings.

Their cousin Rebecca McGregor, 27, fell silent while telling the court that she was with Kirkwood and McGregor on the night in question.

After much prompting by Judge B. Fraser, McGregor said she had been subpoenaed to testify, but feared repercussions from her family if she testified against her cousins.

When it became evident she was unable to continue, Crown attorney Owen Haw asked that a statement she gave police nine months after the incident be entered as evidence. This prompted protests from Kirkwood's and McGregor's defence.

Judge Fraser adjourned the trial until Jan. 12, but said he will rule on Haw's application in late November.

Jeff Keeshig, 21, was stabbed four times, three times in the back

and once in the shoulder, in the 1995 incident. His cousin Aaron Keeshig, also 21, was slashed in the face and will bear the scar for life, said Akiwenzie.

Jeff Keeshig's fiancée, Amanda Proctor from the Osage reservation in Oklahoma, was studying at Harvard University when she heard about the stabbings.

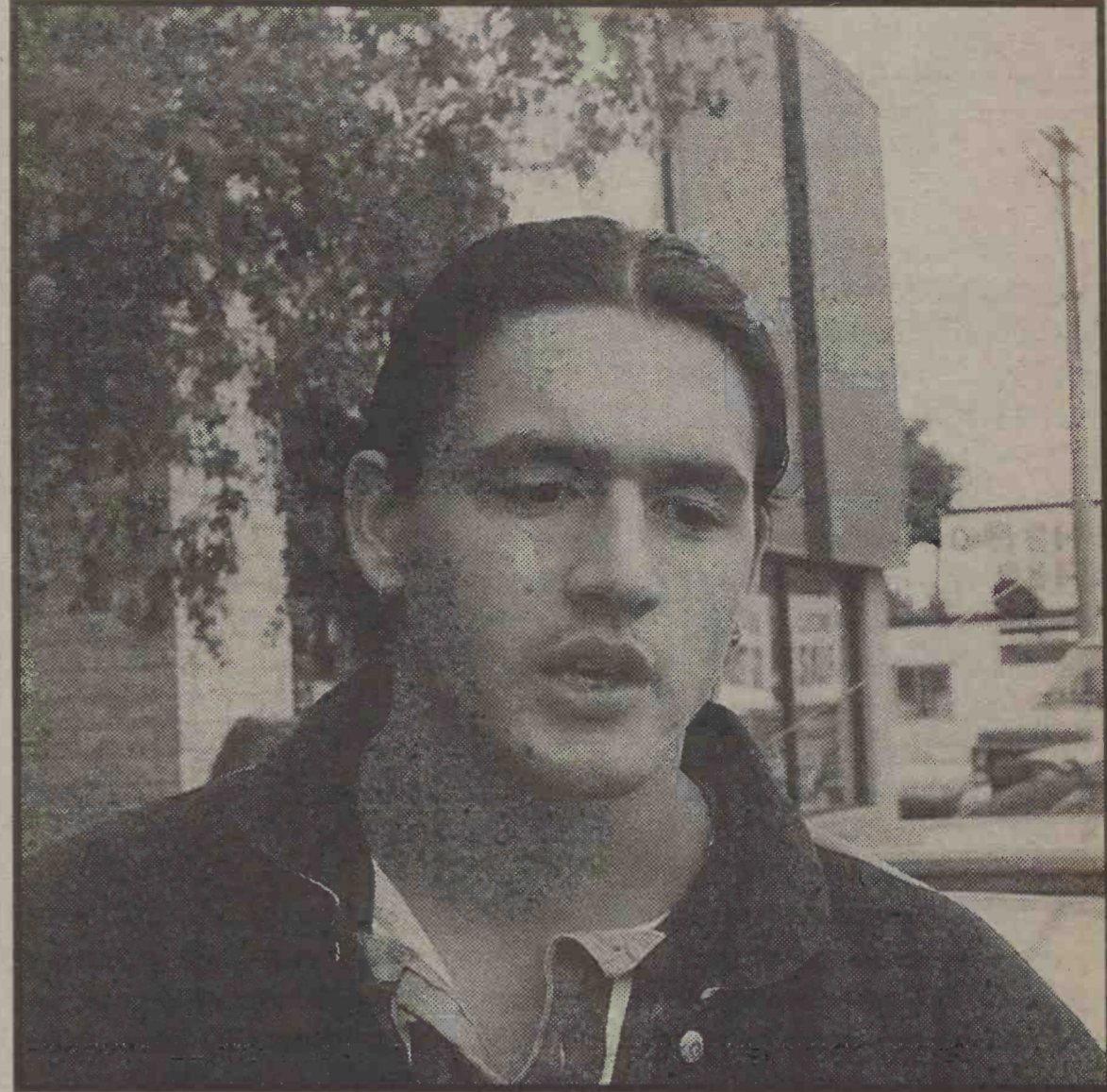
"It was a terrible shock, I couldn't believe it had happened," she said. She decided to attend the trial because she knew testifying would be very difficult for her fiancée because it made him relive the incident.

Jeff Keeshig told the court he thinks the fight in that dark alley was fuelled by racism. He questioned why police, who watched for as long as 20 minutes some witnesses say, didn't intervene.

Owen Sound police said they were badly outnumbered partly because 10 minutes earlier two officers had been assaulted in another incident.

About two dozen members of the Nawash band supported by non-Native people from the Neighbors of Nawash group attended each day of the trial.

During the summer of 1995, the backlash against Nawash fishing rights took a nasty turn,



TED SHAW

Jeff Keeshig was stabbed four times during fishing tensions.

said Akiwenzie. Thousands of metres of Nawash fishing nets were stolen or vandalized, their boats were also vandalized and one was sunk, and a week after it was salvaged, it was set afire.

"No charges were ever laid in

the many incidents of property damage against Nawash fishermen. The Nawash community sees the stabbings as part of that backlash," he said, adding that it is important that his people get some closure to this incident.

## Custody battle ruling ignores current law

(Continued from page 4.)

"Having weighed all of these factors, and the evidence before me, I have concluded that while [the biological grandfather] offers a suitable parenting and family environment for [the boy], that offered by [the adoptive grandparents] is superior and better serves [the boy's] best interests," the judge wrote.

There are references to the relative income of the two parties all through the judge's reasons for his decision. The amount of money earned by the adoptive grandparents is noted, as is the intention of the American residents to send the boy to a local prep school. The judge also notes that the biological grandfather had not worked for

several years.

"In favor of [the biological grandparent] are ties of blood, his obvious love and affection for [the boy], his Aboriginal heritage, his demonstrated ability to provide a home and care for his family."

"In favor of [the adoptive grandparents] are the ties of adoption, their obvious love and

affection for [the boy], their desire and demonstrated willingness to encourage [the boy] in the appreciation of all facets of his heritage, the stability of their home and their apparent economic ability to provide [the boy] with many advantages."

Thomas is outraged the judge seemed to feel it was right to take a child away from his biological

family and his culture because the adoptive grandparents have a higher income.

"What is the definition of 'superior?'" she asked, referring to the judge's remarks. "[The biological grandfather] has gone through his healing journey. He is providing for the child — his own blood relation. Is this all about money?"

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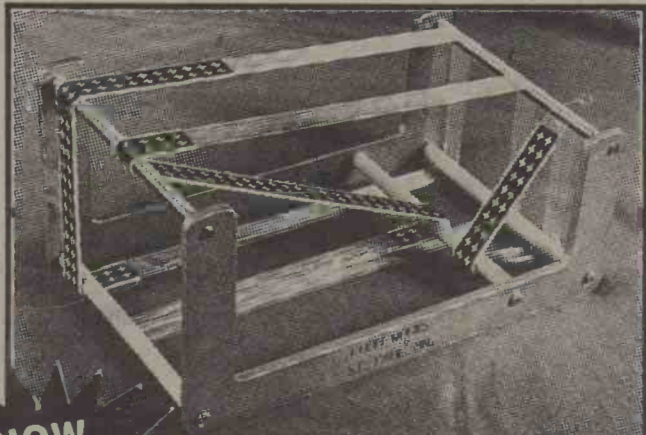
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### Environ

By Kenneth V  
Windspeaker

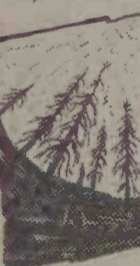
VOISE

The Innu Labrador won a court order to delay the construction of a temporary airstrip at Voisey's Bay, Newfoundland, until an environmental assessment is done on the site. The Newfoundland Appeal overruled the decision by the Supreme Court, which had allowed the Nickel Company to build the airstrip without the environmental assessment.

The court also ruled that the nickel company must build these tailing piles for exploration by this summer. The road and the tailing piles meant to be tested by exploratory projects at Voisey's Bay, Newfoundland, felt that they should have a separate environmental assessment of the construction. The company was already conducting a comprehensive environmental assessment for the tailing piles and mill site. The temporary road would cause environmental damage.

The Labrador Innu, however, though Winston White, chief of the Labrador Innu, said the company tried that a m

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## Environmental assessment needed

By Kenneth Williams  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

VOISEY'S BAY, Nfld.

The Innu Nation and the Labrador Inuit Association won a court decision that will delay the construction of a temporary airstrip and road at Voisey's Bay, Nfld., until a full environmental assessment is done on the site. On Sept. 22, the Newfoundland Court of Appeal overturned an earlier decision by the Newfoundland Supreme Court that would have allowed the Voisey's Bay Nickel Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Inco, to build the airstrip and road without the environmental assessment.

The court actions stem from the nickel company's desire to build these temporary structures for exploratory purposes by this summer. Because the road and the airstrip were meant to be temporary and for exploratory purposes only, the Voisey's Bay Nickel Company felt that they didn't have to have a separate environmental assessment of that site of the construction. The company was already doing a comprehensive environmental assessment for the proposed mine and mill site and didn't think the temporary construction would cause a problem.

The Labrador Inuit Association and the Innu Nation, however, thought otherwise. Winston White, a spokesman for the Labrador Inuit Association, said the Inuit were worried that a memorandum of

understanding that had been signed by the federal government, the Newfoundland government, the Innu Nation and the Inuit would be in jeopardy. This memorandum of understanding outlined a protocol for which environmental assessments would be undertaken. The Inuit and the Innu felt that the Voisey's Bay Nickel Company was trying to sidestep the memorandum with the complicity of the provincial minister of environment, who was responsible for determining whether or not an assessment was needed.

The minister determined that an assessment of the construction of the airstrip and road was not necessary. The Inuit, then the Innu, went to court to challenge that ruling. But the court ruled in July that the memorandum didn't apply to the construction. The following day, the minister issued a statement saying that he would allow the construction to proceed without an environmental assessment.

"It was a mood of great disappointment that the province had in fact been a signatory to an agreement called the memorandum of understanding back in January, and then to find that the minister tried to sidestep a document that he'd been a signatory to," said White. "It raised questions that his actions would put the [memorandum] into jeopardy. If he could move on one thing when he felt it was outside of the [memorandum], and under the Newfoundland Environmental Assessment Act, we felt he could try to do this with the whole project piece by piece. Then the environmental assess-

ment process would be a mockery.

"It made many of our members consider how serious the Newfoundland government would be about land claims," he continued. "We were approaching everything in good faith and then they do this."

On Sept. 22, the Newfoundland Court of Appeal ruled that the proposed construction was within the bounds of the memorandum of understanding and that it would have to wait until the comprehensive environmental assessment was complete.

White said the Inuit felt great relief about the ruling and it restored their faith in the memorandum and future dealings with the provincial government.

Rick Gill, executive vice-president of Voisey's Bay Nickel Company, was disappointed by the ruling but said that an appeal of that decision wasn't likely.

Gill asserted that Voisey's Bay Nickel is not trying to rush things but must respond to different economic and mining concerns. Temporary construction was usually allowed without first completing the comprehensive environmental assessment, he said, and the environmental concerns of the Innu and Inuit are similar to the company's. But Inco competes with other international suppliers of nickel and if the company feels that the Voisey's Bay project is taking too long or becoming too expensive, it might have to look to other nickel mining projects for its supply.

## Type 2 diabetes

(Continued from page 1.)

Meekis stressed the importance of prevention measures such as a change toward lower-fat, lower-sugar diets and more active lifestyles, in order to decrease the impact of the disease on both older and younger generations.

"The most cost-effective approach to addressing the issue of declining health of a population would be to fund changes in lifestyle through early counselling and support," he said. "Treatment facilities alone are not sufficient to address the complex problem."

The prevention stage of the project is now underway, Meekis said, after having received funding in July. It will include a Grade 4 education

program as well as an adult education program.

In a keynote address, Brenda Thomas of the Assembly of First Nations emphasized that only a combined effort by all members of Canadian Native communities would stop the spread of the disease to younger generations.

"As First Nations people, we have a responsibility to ourselves, our loved ones and our children now and in future generations, to help each other in our journey to wellness," she said. "We can do this by informing and educating each other, sharing information, healing strategies, and re-gaining the traditional knowledge of our forefathers."

## Loon calls bring girl international attention

(Continued from page 8.)

"Everyone is asking her to do loon calls in town," Nolan said. "She just loves doing it. She did enjoy being in the competition, she just doesn't like being the centre of attention," Nolan said.

Kisani said the fame isn't so bad, but she is a little uncomfortable performing for people who just stop her on the street and ask her to make the bird sounds.

"I like it sometimes, but not usually. I don't like doing it on the streets or in stores," she said.

Her school friends all think it's great to have a national

champion in their classes. "My friends think it's pretty cool," she said.

Kisani is looking forward to next year's competition. She likes the idea of being the returning champion.

"I think my chances are pretty good," she said. "I just want to go back there."

Kisani will get lots of practice before the next Loon Days event. Despite not liking it when people stop her on the street and ask her to make the loon call, she said she doesn't want to disappoint anyone. So she'll make sure she sounds good each time she is asked to make the call of the wild.

## Aboriginal Peoples Restoring the Land



Aboriginal peoples are ensuring that the land they have borrowed from their children will be returned in better shape through environmental improvement projects undertaken in communities across Canada.

From Newfoundland to the Queen Charlotte Islands and north to the Arctic Circle, Aboriginal peoples are participating in **ACTION 21**. This Environment Canada program encourages community efforts to support a healthy environment.

**ACTION 21** provides financial support to community non-government, non-profit organizations taking on projects involving such things as biodiversity, ecosystem conservation, climate change, air pollution and household hazardous waste. Deadlines for funding submissions are February 1, May 1, and October 1 of each year.

To be considered, proposals must promise a positive, measurable impact on the environment and the applicants must at least match the Environment Canada funds with financial or in-kind support.

There is a deep spiritual relationship and connection Aboriginal Peoples have with the land, and a belief each generation does not inherit the land but borrows it from the next. That philosophy is reflected in various **ACTION 21** projects:

Along the watershed of Pinchgut Lake in Newfoundland, members of the Benoit's Cove Indian Band removed debris that impeded waterflow and the upstream movement of fish on the way to spawn.

The Seton Lake First Nation Community in the Chilcotin Mountain Ranges, between Vancouver and Williams Lake, has worked to remove noxious weeds infiltrating sensitive wildlife habitat. The Liard River Reserve #3 at Watson Lake saw an opportunity with **ACTION 21** to clean up about 15 sites on its land strewn with garbage, abandoned vehicles and harmful chemicals.

For more information about how your group can take part and to order your free applicant's guide, contact the **ACTION 21** Regional Office nearest you.

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*Bill Marion is just one example of how people in communities are taking a lead in protecting the environment. As water and wastewater operator at the James Smith Cree First Nation near Melfort, Saskatchewan, he has set standards and precedents for all First Nation water and wastewater operators by increasing awareness about the importance of providing safe drinking water and sanitation in First Nation communities.*

The **ACTION 21** Network wants to know about environmental citizenship action by individuals, groups, municipalities, corporations, youth or children.

These leaders are officially recognized for their efforts and their projects are often used as examples to inspire others.

Deadlines for submissions are February 1, May 1 and October 1, however, submissions are welcome throughout the year.

Forms are available by:

Phoning: 1-800-668-6767 or at  
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/action21/hero/english/index.html>

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# Cree soccer player off to play in England

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Bernie Half made his third trip of the year across the Atlantic Ocean earlier this month.

The 17-year-old Cree whose family roots are in the Saddle Lake First Nation in Alberta will join the Liverpool Junior Football Club as the team completes its exhibition season this winter. He will remain in England for the regular season which begins after the World Cup this coming summer.

Half was playing for the provincial all-star Alberta Selects in a tournament in Florida last July when he was approached about signing on for a year with the junior (18-years and under) affiliate of the English Premier League Liverpool Football Club.

He attended try-outs in Europe later that month, made the team and then came home to Edmonton. He returned to Liverpool in September and spent almost a month with the club before once again returning home to spend a couple of weeks with his mom, Linda.

It's extremely rare for a North American-trained soccer player to perform in such elite company, but the modest six-foot-tall, 160 pound centre-forward isn't getting a swelled head.

"There's lots of players better than me in my high school," Half said.

Apparently, the scouts don't agree.

Half was playing for a team

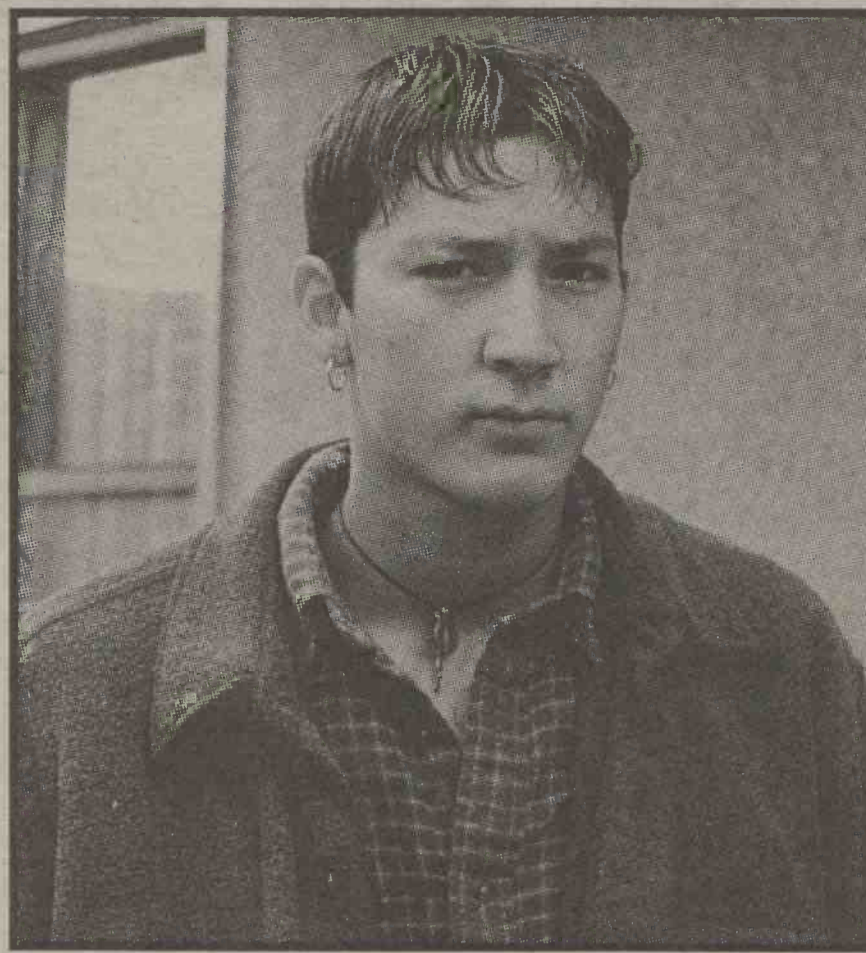
that had access to all of the best soccer players in the province of Alberta when he was spotted in Florida. Of all those excellent players, only Half and one other were invited to play in England.

The Liverpool junior club can only be called a soccer factory where the talents and skills of the best players the scouts can find are finely honed. The intensity of the team's year-round training regime would be wasted on a player of inferior ability. The recruits begin their six-day-a-week workouts at 8 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. Frequently, an evening game follows. Sundays are the players' only day off.

The level of play that Half experienced during his first month was like nothing he'd ever seen before, he reports.

"It's way different from here," he said. "It's very challenging. They play it real rough, a lot rougher than we play it here. It's more like rugby."

Playing for Liverpool — a perennial Premier League club — is the kind of thing that English school-boys dream of in the same way that Canadian kids dream of playing for the Montreal Canadiens or the Edmonton Oilers. Playing for the juniors is similar to playing Major Junior hockey. Getting the kind of coaching one receives while playing in one of the hottest of the world's soccer hotbeds is a rare experience, especially for a Canadian player. Seeing how serious they take the sport in that part of the world was a real



PAUL BARNSELEY

Bernie Half is no doubt the only Cree player in the top English junior soccer league. The 17-year-old plays centre-forward for Liverpool.

eye-opener for the youngster who grew up in Lac La Biche, Alberta.

"It's like life to them," he said, sounding more than a bit in awe of his new playing environment.

Half said that the biggest lesson he learned during his first exposure to top level European football was just how much 11 men can do when they play as a well co-ordinated team.

"The way they play as a team is so different," he said. "The way they do it, everything has to be perfect."

The club picks up all of the junior players' living expenses and also provides tutors who travel with the team so that the

high school players can combine their studies with the very demanding schedule. Soccer is a truly global sport and, during his first month with the Liverpool club, Half got to see a lot of the world.

"We play all over. I was in Italy, Greece and El Salvador," he said.

And he has already done something that most serious soccer fans can only

dream of: a couple of his team's games in England were contested before packed houses in London's venerable Wembley Stadium.

The new Liverpoolian must aggravate a lot of his English teammates who've labored hard throughout their young lives for a spot on this elite team. Half says he just started fooling around with a soccer ball in Lac La Biche when he was seven years old. He was a natural. He didn't even start playing organized soccer until his family moved to Edmonton when he was 11.

"I guess I just sort of taught myself how to play," he said.

The soccer coach at M.E.

LaZerte Composite High School in the Alberta capital might be a little upset to hear where the former LaZerte student is playing now because Half didn't even try out for his high school team. He has, however, spent the past several seasons playing on as many as three different men's teams at a time.

The junior team is designed to be a feeder system for the Liverpool professional club, but Half said he doesn't ever expect to play in the English Premier League. Part of that is his genuine modesty. But there's one other reason.

"It's just too far away," he said, admitting he gets homesick when he's so far away. "I know I'm going to learn a lot playing there and then I'll come back home and play closer to home, maybe Mexico or something like that."

The fans in England don't realize he's a Cree Indian from North America. Marcel Cardinal, an active Edmonton-area sports figure who knows Half's family, told *Windspeaker* the English fans have given him a Spanish nickname, assuming him to be Hispanic. Half laughed when he heard that Cardinal had let that particular cat out of the bag and verified the story.

Cardinal wants him to make a stand and proudly tell the soccer world that he's a Cree from Alberta. The quiet, unassuming teenager doesn't seem to want any part of that.

"I just play soccer," he said. "That's all I do."



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# Iroquois hockey hopeful follows Orr, Lindros

By Sam Laskaris  
Windspeaker Contributor

OSHAWA, Ont.

The storied junior hockey franchise where legends Bobby Orr and Eric Lindros matured from boy wonders to all-time greats has landed one of the hottest athletic prospects to come out of Indian country in recent memory.

Oshawa is a tough industrial town where the Ontario Hockey League team is named after the biggest employer — General Motors. Junior hockey has been the biggest game in town in Oshawa for a long, long time.

While it wouldn't be fair to put Drew Bucktooth in the same class as the two previously mentioned superstars who launched their careers in the motor city, if the young man fulfils the promise he has shown the fans back home, the Oshawa Generals could soon be adding another distinguished graduate to their already impressive list.

The 16-year-old right winger is only receiving a handful of shifts each game so far in the early stages of his rookie season, but the Generals have high hopes for the full-blooded Iroquois.

"We're going to pick our spots when we play him," said Wayne Daniels, the Generals' director of hockey operations. "He's a fine young man and wants to be a hockey player. He's got a good work ethic and good background."

Bucktooth was born in Nedrow, New York and raised on the Onondaga First Nation near Syracuse. Last year he starred with the Syracuse Jr. Crunch of the Metro Junior A Hockey League, a Tier 2 league where the then 15-year-old could compete against players up to age 20. In 26 appearances with the Crunch, Bucktooth showed he's got the touch around the net. He scored 19 goals and added 20 assists for 39 points.

Last June in Toronto, the Generals selected Bucktooth in the third round of the OHL priority selection draft. They showed their high regard for his abilities by gambling one of their precious early round picks on a player who won't technically be eligible for the draft until next year. As an underage player, Bucktooth could only be selected in one of the first four rounds.

"He wanted to be a General. He definitely wanted to be drafted by the Oshawa Generals and we're very pleased to have him on," Daniels said. "He's not going to be out there on a regular basis but he's definitely going to get his chances. And in most cases when you give him a chance, he scores. What more can you ask for?"

Bucktooth had considered an offer to play for the United States national under-18 team this sea-

son. This is the first year that hockey officials in the States have organized a full-time elite team in that agegroup. The club is based out of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

But, in the end, Bucktooth decided the OHL would be best for his development. The Major Junior league — and the Generals in particular — have a proven reputation as a top feeder system for the National Hockey League.

"To play for any OHL team has been my goal since I was about seven years old," Bucktooth said.

Though he never attended an OHL contest, Bucktooth kept up on league events by watching as many games as possible on television.

And he's just thrilled that he's now occupying the dressing stall used by former General and current Philadelphia Flyers' captain Eric Lindros.

"He's somebody I really looked up to," Bucktooth said of the NHL superstar.

Although the Generals intend to bring Bucktooth along slowly, Daniels believes he, too, will eventually become a fan favorite.

"Coming into the OHL is a big jump, especially for a minor," Daniels said. "Because of his determination, though, I think he's going to be a very good hockey player."

Another reason — aside from being a first-year player — that Bucktooth is receiving limited ice time so far is because he's still recovering from an injury. He separated his right shoulder in the Generals' first exhibition game and missed the remainder of training camp and the first couple of weeks of the season.

"It doesn't feel that bad now," Bucktooth said on Oct. 12, following the Generals' 5 to 4 overtime victory over the Belleville Bulls, a game in which Bucktooth scored once. "But I'd say it's about 70 per cent."

Bucktooth scored his first OHL goal one week earlier against the North Bay Centennials. That puck will soon find a special home.

"They're taking care of it for me," Bucktooth said of the Oshawa team officials. "It's going on a little plaque."

As the defending OHL champions, the Generals lost the majority of their key players from last season to graduation. The new, younger version of the club lost its first six games this year. But the Gens then registered three consecutive victories.

"It just took us a while to start meshing because we've got so many new people," said Bucktooth, who started skating at age three and playing organized hockey a year later. "The team is really pulling together in the last few games, though, and we're starting to turn it around."

Generals' rookie head coach John Goodwin has been impressed with his under-age rookie.

"He's really shown a knack around the net," he said. "Every chance he's had, he's put in. He's got two goals already. Some 16-year-olds go the whole season without getting two goals. It's nice to see he's taking advantage of his chances."

Since he's considered a fourth-line player with the team now, Goodwin said he'd be very satisfied to get 10 goals out of Bucktooth this season.

"He may take it to the next level and jump up to the third line," Goodwin added. "But that's up to Drew. He's got to get stronger. But he's certainly a good kid. He's willing to listen and he works hard."

As with most OHL players, Bucktooth aspires to make it to the NHL. But Goodwin said it's far too early to be talking about Bucktooth's chances of fulfilling that goal.

"Everybody has got pro potential in this league," he said. "It depends how much you improve in those three years between 16 and 19. Some kids go up and some kids go down. So it is really too early to tell."

Goodwin though is confident Bucktooth will gradually move up the Gens' depth chart.

"I don't expect him to stay on the fourth line forever," he said. "He's a very talented kid."

Bucktooth realizes it's best to be patient.

"I'm just proud to be wearing the Oshawa Generals' sweater," he said. "If the playing time comes, that's good. But I'm just happy to be part of the team now. Hopefully I'll come back next year and be more of an impact player when I have a sea-

son under my belt."

Besides being a talented hockey player, Bucktooth also excels in lacrosse. Though he was just 15 at the time, he was named to the all-star team at the world junior (20 and under) field lacrosse championships in Japan last year, playing for the Iroquois Nationals.

He was also a member of the Iroquois Lacrosse Association side which placed third at this year's Founders Cup (Canadian Junior B box finals) tournament in Etobicoke, Ont. in August.

Goodwin said the Generals' brass likes the fact Bucktooth is a standout lacrosse player.

"That's a very tough sport so that doesn't hurt you when you're a 16-year-old and can make the jump up to this league," he said.

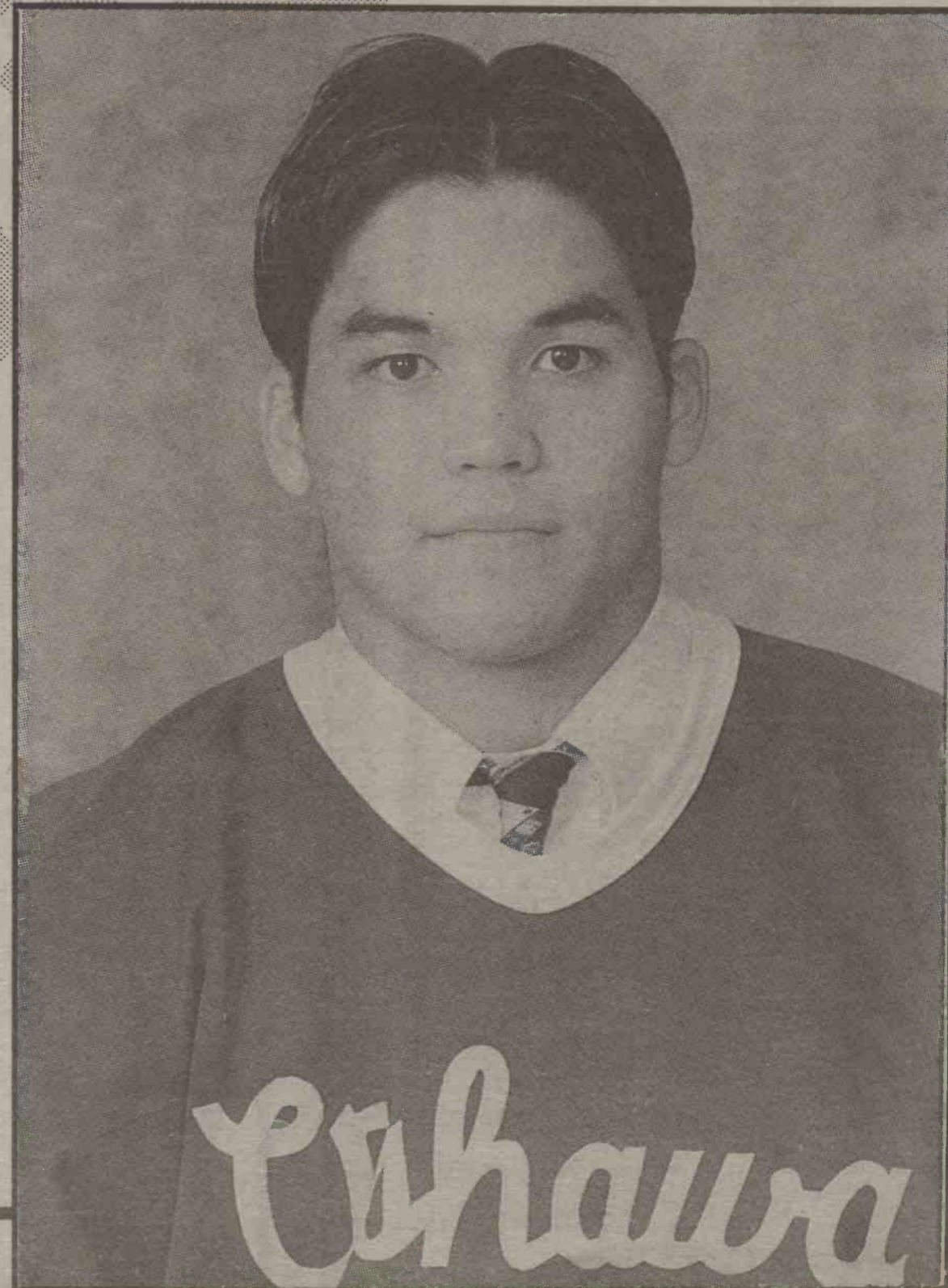
Though he's playing about four hours away from home, Bucktooth is still getting plenty of family support. His father Freeman and mother Joni plan on driving to most of the Generals' home games.

The Bucktooths also expect to attend road matches in centres east of Toronto, including Kingston, Ottawa, Peterborough and Belleville, Ont.

Over the years Freeman Bucktooth has coached Drew on various hockey and lacrosse teams. He's well aware his son is a talented athlete, but he said he's never really wondered how far his athletics could take him.

"To tell you the truth I never thought of it," said the elder Bucktooth. "It's his dream and his mom and I just kind of point him in the right direction and let him go. And then he's off and running."

If he keeps improving that dream could someday take him all the way to the NHL.



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RED CROW

Students attending Red Crow College in Cardston, Alta. are going to have some pretty fancy living quarters to hang their hats and do their homework.

Renovations have recently been completed on the old St. Paul's residential school. The building, which has been abandoned for over 10 years, now resembles an up-scale apartment complex. The building has also had a name change.

The Ninastako St. Paul's Student Residence can easily accommodate 70 students. "Ninastako" is Blackfoot for 'Chief Mountain,' an honorary name given to Archdeacon Middleton, one of the first clergymen at the old Anglican residential school.

The new residence is located 16 km south of Red Crow College. Transportation from the new housing complex to the college is available for all students.

Designer Garry Milton, with BCMP Architects in Calgary, said the project was an enjoyable challenge.

The building was originally constructed in 1924 and is still structurally sound. Officials with the Blood Tribe wanted to keep the face of the building the same while the inside was to be completely remodeled.

The design work on the new layout began in late 1996 and construction crews finished up the project almost a year later. The results should impress even the most critical student.

The original brick walls have remained intact, so have the interior structures. The new materials were all fitted within the existing space.

"We fit, squeezed, poked and pushed to make sure it all fit into the configuration of the building that existed," said Milton.

Because each of the 39 living units had to be specially fitted into the existing floor plan, there are very few floor plans that look the same.

"Very few are repeats, and essentially there were major differences in a lot of them," said Milton.

The apartments in the four floor building come in bachelor,



Red Crow College has an enrollment of approximately 200 students, the majority coming from the Blood Reserve.

one, two, and three bedroom configurations. There is even one apartment that boasts four bedrooms. Each suite is equipped with all the appliances needed to make any student feel at home. The suites are all well lit and feature open floor plans that emphasize the large space offered in each apartment.

The total area of the building is 3515 sq. metres (37,815 sq. ft.).

Filling in the spaces not occupied by the bright new suites is a children's day-care centre, a Headstart program and a multi-purpose room.

Milton said the multi-purpose room was actually converted from a church chapel in the original building.

All plumbing and electrical circuits are new, with a heating system which can be adjusted for each apartment within the individual suite. That way, students cramming for finals can turn down the temperature in their apartment if their brains start to overheat as they study.

The inside of the building isn't the only place where changes have taken place. The entire site has been developed with parking and grass-covered boulevards constructed to set off the new residences.

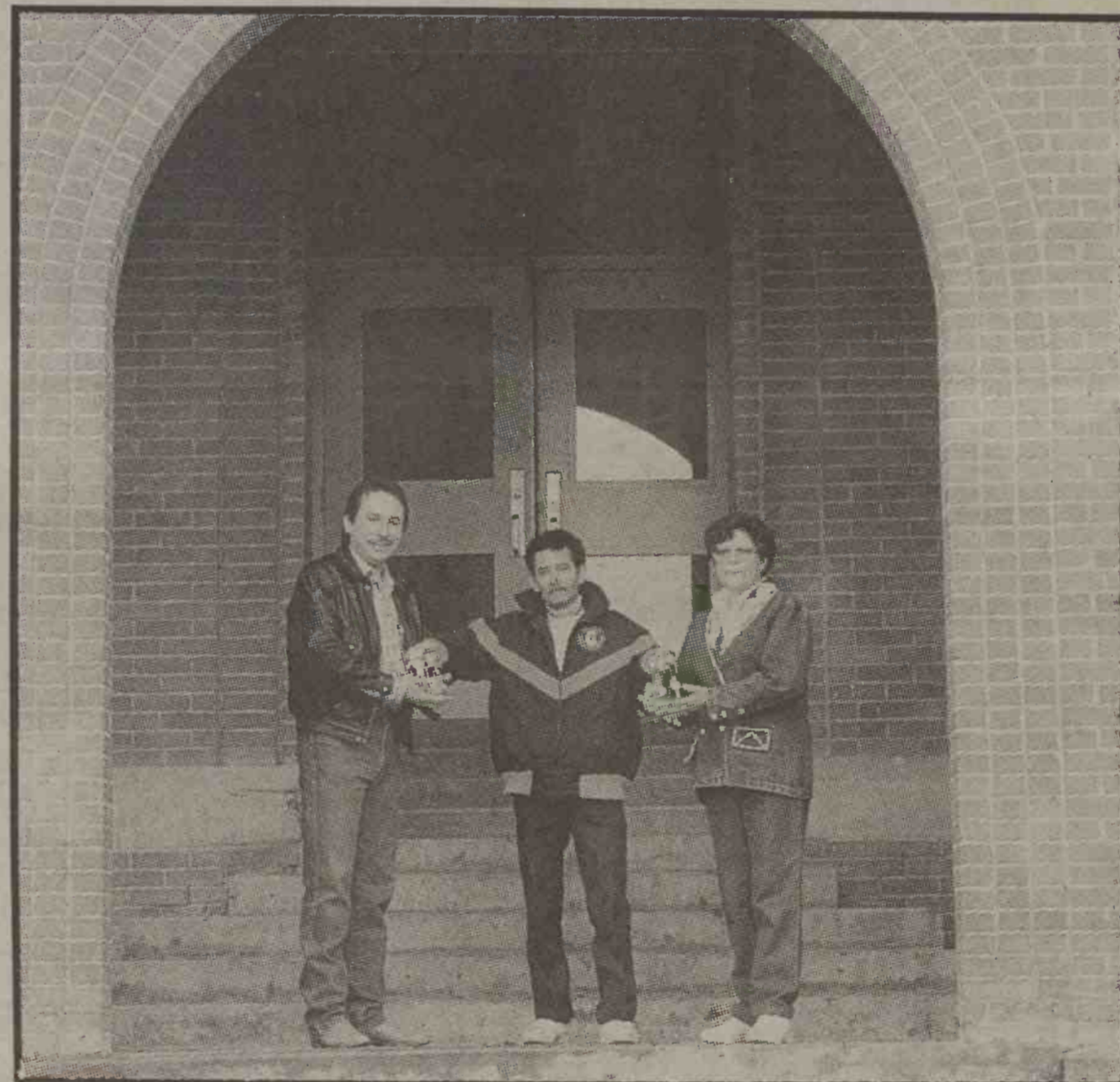
The overall impression is one of comfort, safety, and beauty all wrapped up into one tidy package.

Ninastako is sure to be enjoyed by thousands of students attending Red Crow College in the years to come.

The cost to construct the new

interior design was \$2 million.

Red Crow College has an enrollment of approximately 200 students, the majority coming from the Blood Reserve. Programs offered at the 10 year old school include Upgrading, Life Skills and General Arts and Science.



Handing over the keys to the new student residence for Red Crow Community College.

SOMETHING TO 'CROW' ABOUT

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# Children at risk come from abusive homes

(Continued from page 2.)  
She said the posters created for the provincial campaign are examples of how the children should not be the focus.

"We tried to make them so they focused on the perpetrator instead of the victim. We don't want to re-victimize the victims."

The posters illustrate young, vulnerable girls on street corners being approached by men in vehicles. In the one poster, a clean cut man has rolled his car window down and is talking to the one young girl. In the back seat of the car is a baby seat.

Mourot said the posters show the public that anyone can be a predator of young girls.

The Prince Albert group is also in the process of making a game plan to deal with the growing concern of child prostitution.

Their program is expected to be operational by the end of October.

Mourot hopes to have outreach workers on the streets of Prince Albert before Christmas to help the children on a one-to-one basis. The children need to speak to people they trust, said Mourot.

"The police aren't going to be the ones these kids trust and the social workers won't gain their trust either. There's going to have to be people who get out on the streets and establish a rapport with the kids," she said.

Mourot said there are a large number of Aboriginal children who are victims on the street, but added that any child forced into this way of life is unacceptable.

"Any child who is on the street is one too many," she said.

She said the working group is hoping to make a difference on the streets one person at a time.

"If you stop one perpetrator from picking up one girl then it's a success. It's a small success, but still a success."

The Saskatchewan initiative is believed to be a good start to eventually get all children off the streets.

The government's initiative has five steps. Future plans in-

clude developing stricter law enforcement against anyone who exploits children, creating a tracking and monitoring system for perpetrators and enhancing the services available to victims. Federal laws will also be examined to make sure they do not hinder the prosecution of pimps and anyone who has sex with children. The program will continue until the problem of child prostitution is eliminated totally.

The Saskatchewan initiative is a large step forward in the war against child prostitution. But the province is but one fighting the battle. Child prostitution is an issue across Canada.

In January of this year, a report by the task force on children involved with prostitution was forwarded to Alberta's Minister of Social Services. The report calls for changes in the legal aspects of people accused of soliciting children, changes and improvements in education of children about the dangers of the streets, and the social support available for children to rely on if they do become victims. The report focuses on the need for the entire community to come together to help fight the problem.

The underlying theme of the report is that children involved in prostitution are victims and anyone involved in the solicitation of a child is committing child abuse and should be penalized accordingly.

One of the report's recommendations has already been acted on by the government. Changes were made early this summer to the Child Welfare Act. The new law recognizes that a child involved in solicitation is a victim of sexual abuse.

The new law gives the police and social service agencies a clear mandate and ability to "go onto the streets and pick up the kid," said Heather Forsyth, the author of the report and task force chair.

Forsyth, the Calgary-Fish Creek MLA, said the change in law is a major step in combating child prostitution.

She saw the response to the new law immediately in Calgary's prostitution area nicknamed "Popcorn Alley." In fact, every time a story is published in a paper, reported on the television or broadcast on the radio, it has an effect.

"Every time a story comes out, the streets go dead," she said.

The task force report has been a major factor in the awareness toward the often over-looked problem of child prostitution, she said.

The next step for the task force is to work on the implementation of the recommendations within the report.

To implement any or all of the recommendations in the report, the co-operation of the federal government is essential.

"A lot of the recommendations we made are to do with the feds," she said. "We need to get them on side."

The federal government has recently created a federal-pro-

vincial task force to gather information from across Canada on the child sex trade.

Forsyth hopes it won't be a duplication of work Alberta has already done. She said time is short and there is still a long way to go.

"I can see the light at the end of the tunnel, but the tunnel is very long."

In Edmonton, a city believed to be a national model for the work it has done to tackle the problem of child prostitution, it has been the community involvement which helped to shorten the length of the tunnel, said Maureen Reid, a street outreach worker with the Crossroads Outreach Program, a group dealing specifically with child prostitutes in Edmonton.

Reid said Edmonton's problem is on a much smaller scale than cities in Saskatchewan, but it is still a major concern.

She said the number of Aboriginal children on Edmonton streets is also small compared to Saskatchewan's situation. She estimates that 30 per cent of child prostitutes in Edmonton are of Native origin.

She said Saskatchewan is at the beginning of a process that Alberta has been working on for the last year.

The work done by the provincial task force, and the work still to be done, is a shining example of what can happen when the community rallies around a problem, she said.

"The task force has brought the community together to be part of the solution," she said.

Coming back from a recent conference in Ottawa on prostitution, Reid said Edmonton is recognized for the work it has already done and for the efforts it continues to take on the issue.

"They were talking about outreach programs, safe houses and john schools," she said. "Edmonton already has all that."

The city has two prostitute safe houses, one for children and youths, and the other for adults. There are a number of agencies providing outreach services, including Crossroads. The city also has a john school which takes people arrested for soliciting a prostitute and educates them about the law they have broken. The cost of the course is \$400 and it is endorsed by the provincial justice department.

All of this is due to community collaboration, said Reid. She said people have to realize that the problem is out there, no matter where they live.

"These are just kids and they are at risk. We have to quit putting our head in the sand," she said.

Reid is interested to see how and when the other recommendations of the Alberta task force report will be implemented in the months to come. She is also watching the Saskatchewan initiative with interest.

"Things are changing for the better — slowly" she said. "There's been a small reduction but what's better is there are now resources available for people who want to come off the streets."



## CALGARY NATIVE WOMEN'S SHELTER SOCIETY

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The prevention of family violence is a community responsibility.

### • WHO WE ARE

The Native Women's Shelter offers safe accommodation, counselling, support, and referrals to women and their children who consider themselves to be physically, emotionally, or sexually abused.

The program has been specifically designed to meet the unique needs of Native women and families.

### • WHAT WE OFFER

We offer a holistic approach to healing that includes traditional Native spirituality concepts and ceremonies, and emphasizes the role of Elders in the development.

### • OTHER SERVICES

Outreach services are available to women who do not reside in the Shelter. Support groups are run on a weekly basis.

### • FUNDING SOURCES

We are presently funded by Alberta Family and Social Services, United Way of Calgary, Family and Community Support Services, and private donations. We are located in the City of Calgary at a confidential address. Our mailing address is: Box 6084, Calgary South Postal Outlet, Calgary, Alberta T2H 2L3. Please call (403) 531-1970 or fax us at (403) 531-1977 for more information.

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The Eagle's Nest logo symbolizes a family of eagles representing the strength of the eagle and the strength of the family. The logo shows family unity, and that all members of the family must be involved in preventing family violence.

Virginia Wesley, Co-ordinator  
Eagle's Nest Shelter  
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Tel: (403) 881-2000

IN THE GROWING nation-wide movement toward the prevention of family violence, it is apparent to us that because men are often the perpetrators, they are overlooked and likely to be ostracized from contributing to the prevention of family violence. We have a negative stereotyping of abusive men and are slow to understand that, unless we begin to care for our men, we can never fully solve the problem of family violence.

With this understanding, Eagle's Nest Family Shelter decided to involve males in the prevention of family violence through employment. Since its opening in January 1992, Eagle's Nest Family Shelter for battered women has employed men. Four of our 14 member staff are men. Three are full-time crisis counsellors who work on the frontline, and one man works as the Outreach worker. The outreach worker works with the perpetrators and their families, providing counselling in the home, support for the family, and does referrals to other agencies if required.

Our philosophy for hiring men is that unless we involve our men in the solutions, things would not improve. Our male staff are viewed as role models. We believe that it is important for women in the shelter to see that not all men are violent, and that some can be trusted. It is our hope that women will learn that men can be caring, kind, and not abusive. Our male staff also provide a sense of safety and security for our clients who fear for their lives.

There are only minor disadvantages concerning male staff. For example, a client may develop a crush on a male staff member but our staff are trained to stop such matters and we have had no major problem with this. Further, some clients may wish to discuss "female problems" or are uncomfortable being counselled by a man. When this happens, the male counsellors refer clients to a female counsellor.

To truly prevent family violence, men must be encouraged to be part of the solution.

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I'm in La Ronge, Sask. now. God's beautiful creations — what colors! I can feel a beautiful fall coming in Saskatchewan.

A lot of thoughts entered my heart while picking sage by Whitecap.

Little do they know that I too struggle. I'm faced with the reality of deterioration — weight loss. I notice some veins are becoming noticeable. For a couple of days I stayed in bed feeling a sense of self-pity. I could choose to go out and drink myself to death or shove a needle in my arm and call it quits. But, I do not thanks to my first and precious partner. Comments like "I won't let you give up," encouraged me. There was no pity offered. I realized just how precious a relationship can be. I also realized how precious life is and how important it is to not give up. I realized that I must place my health before my relationship. Creator, health first. The relationship would follow.

I chose to get out of bed and eat the proper foods and walk to build up my muscle tissues.



**Ken Ward**

I love my previous partner for teaching me. And yes, I may not have this person near when I die. Who knows?

Being on the road does take away some of this loneliness. I can imagine how many out there who have this disease struggle with loneliness. I have seen many who are diagnosed filled with anxieties because of their desires, or should I say, craving for a mate. They will go to extremes, which is in itself destructive. Be careful.

Speaking of loneliness, I heard on CBC Radio on Sept. 29 that prostitutes (silent voices) are no longer using condoms. Johns are paying twice the amount for fees. And yes, some of these johns are well-respected husbands, celebrities, movie stars and corporate executives. . . influential beings

and pillars of the community. What of your wives and children who must bear the shame?

Recently, I was in Edmonton to do an on-the-street interview with some Aboriginal male prostitutes (silent voices) to understand why they hustle? Bottom line — it's called work and survival. Hepatitis B and C is on the rise. Also HIV and AIDS. There is no vision beyond that mighty dollar when it comes to lust, greed and selfishness.

Other than this Creator, at least I always look forward to life itself and I do look forward in meeting new faces and warm hearts. I just wanted to let you know where I was at this day.

Time to carry on with my illness in my moccasin miles for freedom.

Eagle Boy  
Ken Ward

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# Man determined to keep medicines from becoming extinct

By Carrie Regenstrief  
Windspeaker Contributor

WIKWEMIKONG, Ont.

The sun is barely up, but Derick Pitawanakwat has been awake for hours. Every second Friday he rises at 4 a.m. and builds a huge fire near his home on the Wikwemikong reserve in northeastern Ontario.

Two huge cast-iron cauldrons are suspended over the fire by heavy chains attached to a wooden tripod. Inside the cauldrons, small bits of wood, roots, bark and leaves float in a bubbling, reddish brown liquid. You could call it herbal tea, enough for an army. But Pitawanakwat calls it medicine.

He's reviving an ancient tradition of healing taught to him by his grandmother. Today, he's making two types of medicine, but he knows how to make a few dozen others.

In one cauldron are 13 ingredients, along with water from a nearby spring. He adds a maple log to help weigh down the pot and also to sweeten the mixture.

Pitawanakwat never uses tap water because the chlorine would interfere with the plants' medicinal effects. Before he starts

making the medicine, he thanks the Creator for the plants with a prayer and a tobacco offering.

The mixture needs to boil for about seven hours before it will be ready for use as an immune system booster. It cleans the blood, fights certain infections, boosts circulation and improves vision, Pitawanakwat says.

In the other pot, five medicinal ingredients are simmering. That combination lowers blood cholesterol. Pitawanakwat doesn't like to tell just anyone exactly what ingredients he uses, because that is sacred knowledge. In earlier times, healers were chosen to learn the craft by tribal Elders. He started learning when he was about eight years old.

"A lot of knowledge was lost," since modern medicine was introduced to Native people in the 1920s, he said. "There's only a few people left with knowledge of the medicine."

That's why, three years ago, he started a program called Save Our Medicines. Students work with him each summer, helping to gather medicinal plants. Together they have produced a catalogue of the plants he uses and recipes for the medicines.

Wikwemikong is on

Manitoulin Island, which Pitawanakwat said is an especially good place to find medicinal plants.

"Once, all our ancestors gathered here. It's known as the Great Spirit's Island. They all brought their seeds and planted them here and this is why we're rich in medicines."

Throughout the morning he tends the fire, stirs the mixtures occasionally, and adds water when the level gets low. Just before noon, the immune booster is finally ready. He scoops out the plant material with a pitchfork and places it on the fire.

"Everything goes back to the Creator," he explains. "That burns and the smoke goes back to the Creator."

Once the large pieces are out the mixture is poured through a strainer and, once it cools, into one-gallon jugs. Each jug contains about a one-month supply for a single patient.

"I don't say my medicine is better than the drugs the doctor gives you. It's their choice," he says. "And the same as with modern medicine, it's better if the illness is in the early stages." Sometimes, people come to him after they've tried everything else and it's too late to help them.

When the medicine is completely cool, he'll refrigerate it over the weekend. On Monday, he'll deliver some of the bottles to people who don't have a car or are too ill to go out. Others will pick theirs up at his house.

And then there will be other people, not regular patients yet, who will phone or come to see him.

"People come at all hours. There's no Monday to Friday hours here. They come during the night and you've got to do the work," he said with a laugh.



CARRIE REGENSTRIEF

Traditional healer Derick Pitawanakwat removes plant material from finished products. He will put this on the fire, so that it will be returned to the creator through the smoke.

# Drugs

(Continued from page 25)  
"They gave me some pills and told me to take them and do what they wanted to do and as she said.

She soon began using "Coke or Ritalin" longer to keep me longer so I could work she said.

When she was 18 pregnant. She became self-abused.

"I tried to beat the hell out of me... I thought of trying to kill myself."

She had the baby and believed that she could be a mother.

"I tried to be a mother, but I couldn't do it because of drinking," she said.

She left the baby with her mom and went to the streets. The baby was children that Donna-Lynn had during her time on the streets.

Looking back on Donna-Lynn said she was as addicted as she was to drugs.


"I became obsessed with money and being in an addiction in itself. I realize the addiction in recovery."

For Donna-Lynn, to leave the streets was a struggle. She ended up in jail, eaten up by drugs. She needed to see a psychologist for her mental state.

"I had hit bottom that I couldn't go on the streets," she said.

But the lure pulled her one more time. She went back she was with a man, and had to get self out of a moving. Her legs run over in the street. The man fled as she began to pass the scene.


"I was lying through my teeth and I started cause I didn't want to go away," she said. "I got back out and stand on the street just couldn't do it."



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DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

# Drugs and alcohol numb the senses to street life

(Continued from page 2.)

"They gave me some condoms and told me to get into cars and do whatever they wanted to do and ask for \$30," she said.

She soon began using drugs. "Coke or Ritalin kept me up longer to keep me drinking longer so I could work longer," she said.

When she was 15 she got pregnant. She became depressed and went back home. She became self-abusive.

"I tried to beat the baby out of me. . . I thought of every way to try to kill myself," she said.

She had the baby and believed that she could be a good mother.

"I tried to be a mom, but I couldn't do it because I was drinking," she said.

She left the baby with her mom and went back to the streets. The baby was one of six children that Donna-Lynn has had during her life on the streets..

Looking back on it now, Donna-Lynn said the streets were as addictive as the booze and drugs.

"I became obsessed with the money and being in control. It's an addiction in itself. . . I didn't realize the addiction until I was in recovery."

For Donna-Lynn, the decision to leave the streets came in 1994. She ended up in jail. She was eaten up by drugs and she needed to see a psychologist for her mental state.

"I had hit bottom and knew that I couldn't go back to the streets," she said.

But the lure pulled her out one more time. Shortly after she went back she was abducted by a man, and had to throw herself out of a moving car, getting her legs run over in the escape. The man fled as other motorists began to pass the scene.

"I was lying there in the gravel and I started praying because I didn't want to die that way," she said. "I tried to go back out and stand there, but I just couldn't do it anymore."

Almost 20 years after it started, she began her recovery. Donna-Lynn discovered a lot of things about the reasons she was on the streets once she was in recovery.

With the street life now behind her, Donna-Lynn said her reasons for being there are clear.

"It all came down to the fact that I thought God was against me," she said. "I knew abuse very, very well."

Donna-Lynn even said her Native ancestry was a part of the problem. She didn't feel accepted in society.

"I'm a half breed and in the city I was too dark and on the reserve I was too white. On the streets it didn't matter. As long as you had something to offer, it didn't matter," she said.

Control is the biggest factor, she said. Coming from a broken home, and having a long history of being a victim, being in control of who you are with, when you do it and what you do is a strong draw, she said.

"Standing in the street was OK for me because I could tune the whole world out," she said.

Donna-Lynn is now looking at the Saskatchewan government's attempts to wipe child prostitu-

tion from the streets with a little skepticism. She said the children need to be treated like adults by the agencies that are trying to help them.

"Just getting them off the streets and throwing them into a home isn't going to do squat," she said. Most of the kids on the streets don't trust anyone, especially the social services system, she said.

Instead of support groups, and outreach workers with

their diplomas and certificates, Donna-Lynn said the kids need to be helped by people who have been in the same situation.

"You can't do it without people like me," she said.

She said people who have gone through the system themselves can help to determine what brings kids to the streets, what keeps them out there and what eventually makes them stop.

The problem of child prostitution has grown in Saskatchewan, she said. When Donna-Lynn was working the corners, she said there were very few young girls. The ones that were out there were quickly dealt with at a street level.

"It seems like it was more controlled in my day. They had rules about kids being out there. In my time, there were our own groups who watched out to make sure that there were no kids out there."

When a child is ready to come off the streets, there is only a small window of opportunity for outreach workers to deal with. Too much pressure can send the child back, and not enough won't help.

Donna-Lynn said experienced people can make a difference if they let the child make the first move.

If things are to improve, people need to combat family violence, and start changing some of the lifestyles of children.

"Kids are angry today. We are building more recreation centres, but there's no money in them, so kids just stand around.

Donna-Lynn still has ties to the street. Her oldest daughter is currently working the streets and while Donna-Lynn fights to stay on the straight and narrow, her mother is also in the recovery process.

Donna-Lynn has turned many things in her life around, including the pride of her Native ancestry. Instead of using it as a reason to be out on the streets, she now uses her ancestry to inspire her.

"I'm a Native person and I danced for the first time in 1995 at a powwow," she said. "I like [powwow dancing] and it's the best high that I've had ever in my entire life, and I don't get a hang-over after, just my feet get sore."

Donna-Lynn has been traveling to communities in Saskatchewan telling school-aged children about her experiences. She hopes that her stories will make a difference.



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# Native run casinos thriving side by side

By Francine Silverman  
Windspeaker Contributor

LEDYARD, Connecticut

A proverb states that "The devil goes share in gaming."

While some may agree, profits from two tribal-owned casinos in southeastern Connecticut benefit several deserving partners. Tribe members are guaranteed jobs and free education for life and the state of Connecticut gets \$200 million annually, representing 25 per cent of the slots. This region of the state was severely hit by defence industry cutbacks and the casinos have been a major lifeline for Connecticut as well as the tribes.

The Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, which opened Foxwoods Resort Casino five years ago, is the largest revenue provider to the state after the federal government. Employing 11,000, it also contributes to local schools, inns, businesses and arts organizations. Foxwoods remains the most profitable casino in the nation, despite the opening of Mohegan Sun in October 1996 just 16 km away.

Remarkably, both casinos appear to be thriving. One explanation is they are the only two legally authorized casinos in the northeast besides Atlantic City. The other reason is demographics — roughly 22 million people live within a 250-kilometre radius.

Foxwoods was never concerned about its close competitor, insisted spokesman Bruce MacDonald. "What we are finding is we have a loyal customer base," he said. "This summer we had 47,000 people a day. Some holidays we've seen 74,000 in a 24-hour period." He added that while "most people scratch their heads," about this lack of concern "there's enough business to go around."

Jayne Fawcett, vice chair of the Mohegan Tribe, agreed.

"I don't see that we compete — we support each other," she said. "We think it would be a mistake to think we focused on them at all. Our facilities are very different. Mohegan is making a strong cultural statement."

Fawcett, 60, is a former social worker and school teacher who was taught to value culture by her aunt Medicine Woman Gladys Tantaquidgeon, now 98, and her uncle, the late Chief Tantaquidgeon.

While her aunt was "lukewarm" to the idea of a gambling casino, she changed her mind after walking through it with her sister and seeing all the authentic Mohegan artifacts.

"This is the most heavily themed Indian casino in the United States," proclaimed Fawcett. "Her sister said to Gladys, 'We thought you would lose your culture. Now we see that you have not.'"

The two casinos have certain

similarities. Both are among the four largest in the United States and both are governed by a tribal council of under 10 members. Both provide jobs in the casino to any tribal member who wants one — although the Mohegans have 1,200 members and the Pequots 400.

One measure of the heavy customer base at Foxwoods was the opening of another 4,500-square-metre casino in July and an 832-room hotel tower and conference centre that's opening next spring. The rationale is that too many patrons have been lost to Mohegan because of packed gaming floors and restaurants.

"We have had trouble accommodating everyone," MacDonald acknowledged. "That's why we are expanding. Some people come here and have gone over there."

Also scheduled for completion in mid-1998 is the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Cultural Research Center. The \$130 million, 27,700-square-metre facility will be the largest of its kind in the United States. Through photographs, sculptures and diaries, the tribe will tell its own story about its thriving culture before European contact. A 20-minute film will recall the 1637 Pequot Massacre in which English soldiers killed up to 700 Pequots in less than an hour and nearly destroyed the region's most powerful tribe.

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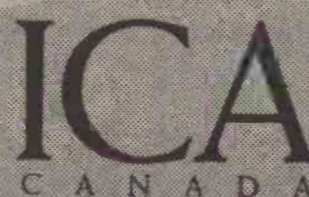
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The Specialist, Aboriginal Education, works collaboratively with the School, Student and Parent Services staff and other Calgary Board of Education staff providing leadership to improve learning and the teaching environment for Aboriginal students.

Major Responsibilities include:

- 1. Works with school administration and staffs to meet the learning needs of Aboriginal students. 2. Provides leadership to the Aboriginal Education Team. 3. Provides leadership to policy development addressing Aboriginal needs. 4. Liaises with the Calgary Catholic Board of Education and city agencies. 5. Consults with and uses expertise of Aboriginal communities through Elders and other Aboriginal leaders. 6. Evaluates programs and initiatives currently in use and recommends changes as appropriate. 7. Develops parent and peer support groups for Aboriginal young people. 8. Works collaboratively with staff at Plains Indians Cultural Survival school. 9. Keeps informed of developments and trends in learning and teaching. 10. Performs other related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Valid Alberta Teaching Certificate. A Bachelor's degree or its equivalent. Graduate qualifications required. A minimum of four years successful teaching with involvement in Aboriginal education. Administrative experience an asset. Current knowledge of and relationship with the Aboriginal communities of southern Alberta. Ability to speak an Aboriginal language would be an asset. The ability to relate well with staff and to communicate effectively in a variety of settings. Knowledge of current programs and processes in Aboriginal education. Personal suitability.

Submit written application by November 6, 1997, to:

Joe Frank Coordinator, Administrative Staffing/Leadership Development Calgary Board of Education 515 Macleod Trail S.E., Calgary, AB T2G 2L9 Fax: (403) 294-8454

Check out what Drew has to say... on page 9!



OIL SANDS

Suncor Energy is a unique and sustainable Canadian integrated energy company dedicated to vigorous growth. The company is a world leader in oil sands development, a high performing oil and gas producer and one of the top petroleum refiners and marketers in the country.

Suncor Energy Oil Sands, a producer and marketer of custom-blended refinery fuel, is launching new growth initiatives, including a major \$600 million dollar expansion. The Oil Sands division currently seeks the following skilled individuals to join their team in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

## Extraction Maintenance Supervisor

**Competition No. 97-101** - Reporting to the Assistant Superintendent, Extraction Maintenance, you will be accountable for supervising a multiskilled unionized workforce within the context of the collective agreement. This will entail developing and implementing continuous improvement programs, assessing and implementing new maintenance technologies to improve equipment reliability, developing and revising applicable standards and procedures, as well as ensuring a structured approach to managing safety performance and environmental diligence. Shift work will be required.

A highly motivated leader with good interpersonal, communication and organizational skills, you hold a technical/mechanical journeyman certification and 4 to 6 years of millwright/welding or pipefitting maintenance experience in a heavy industrial setting. This will include 3 to 5 years supervising a multiskilled maintenance workforce, at least 2 of which are in a unionized environment. You possess a good working knowledge of Occupational Health & Safety regulations and an understanding of Loss Management techniques. A college/university education in Mechanical Engineering, and maintenance planning experience within the mining industry would be assets.

## Mechanical Engineer (Senior/Intermediate)

**Competition No. 97-076** - Reporting to the Manager, Reliability and Engineering, Energy Services, you will contribute to the design integrity and continuous improvement of mechanical systems in our utility plant. This will involve applying mechanical engineering principles and practices to the design, construction, inspection, operation and maintenance of the facility. You will be responsible for developing and maintaining standards and specifications, as well as participating in plant expansion initiatives.

Along with holding a Mechanical Engineering degree, you should be eligible for, or have, membership in APEGGA. Senior designation denotes at least eight years of experience; Intermediate status, a minimum of five years. You must possess a working knowledge of design-related regulatory codes and standards as they apply to boilers, pressure vessels and high-pressure piping systems.

The utility plant consists of a combination of coke-fired and gas-fired boilers, turbine driven electric generation, flue gas desulfurisation plant for emissions control and reverse osmosis water treatment plant. The facility is presently undergoing growth with boiler upgrades and the addition of gas-fired boilers.

## Process Engineer (Senior/Intermediate)

**Competition No. 97-110** - Reporting to the Supervisor, Process Engineering, and operating within the Bitumen Production Group, you will be responsible for providing process engineering support to achieve budgeted production in a safe and efficient environment. Your mandate is to establish optimal technical strategies for extraction process/equipment use, monitor performance relative to those strategies, solve process problems, identify opportunities to improve profits, safety, environmental compliance, as well as provide process designs for approved projects. Additionally, you will be expected to provide input to strategic process changes, and participate in some aspects of long-range plan development.

Along with a BSc in either Mineral Processing or Chemical Engineering, you will bring to this role proven process engineering experience in an operating plant, with demonstrated excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Membership, or eligibility for membership, in APEGGA is also required.

## Senior Technologist (Maintenance/Reliability Specialist)

**Competition No. 97-125** - Reporting to the Manager, Reliability and Engineering, Energy Services, you will be responsible for the definition, implementation and evaluation of equipment maintenance procedures and practices to meet production objectives, and participate in the development of solutions to reliability and maintainability issues. Challenges of this role will also include assisting maintenance and operations personnel in the enhancement of equipment reliability by providing technical expertise in the development of programs, procedures and performance-tracking systems.

To qualify, you must be a certified Instrumentation Technologist, hold or be eligible for ASET membership, and possess a Journeyman Instrumentation Certificate along with five to ten years of experience in utility steam generation/refinery process maintenance. You are experienced with process Analysers, CEM and Nuclear device applications, and have a demonstrated track record in the development of instrumentation maintenance programs as well as the application of process measurement and control instrumentation. Proven troubleshooting skills will be your key to success in managing each of the above functions.

Energy Services is Suncor Energy's utility plant providing water, steam, air and generated electrical power to its on-site customers. The utility plant consists of a combination of coke-fired and gas-fired boilers, turbine-driven electric generation, a Flue Gas Desulfurisation plant for emissions control and a Reverse Osmosis water treatment plant. The facility is presently undergoing a control system retrofit to TDC3000.

## Plumber/Gasfitter

**Competition No. 97-118** - An immediate opportunity exists for a full-time permanent journeyman (Class A) Plumber/Gasfitter with five years experience in an industrial setting. Experience in the following areas would be considered an asset: • Building Controls • Pipefitting • Air Make-up Units • Refrigeration.

Suncor Energy offers above-average compensation, top benefits and genuine opportunities for professional growth. If you have what it takes to succeed, please forward your resume, quoting the appropriate Competition No., to:

Employment Department  
Suncor Energy Inc.  
Oil Sands  
P.O. Box 4001  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 3E3  
Fax: (403) 791-8333  
Email: bcartwright@suncor.com

For additional information on employment opportunities at Suncor, visit our web site at: [www.suncor.com](http://www.suncor.com).

Suncor Energy is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from all qualified individuals. While we sincerely appreciate the interest of all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Capital Health Authority (CHA) has employment opportunities including health professionals, clerical, technical, and others. For a list of available positions, please call the CHA JOB HOTLINE: (403) 493-9000 ext. 2525



OFFICE/BUSINESS MANAGER

THE POSITION

Friendship Inn's Office/Business Manager is primarily responsible for the organization's bookkeeping & clerical duties. This person is also actively involved in the organization's fundraising activities...

Office/Business Manager's specific duties include issuing donation receipts, preparation and recording of bank deposits, preparation of financial statements, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and bank reconciliations.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Grade 12 or equivalent, plus secondary education in the Accounting field or in a recognized business school;
Excellent AccPac Accounting skills are essential;
Two years related experience, or experience equivalent to above combined requirements;

Friendship Inn is a smoke-free work place. Interested individuals should submit their resumes before 4:00 pm November 7, 1997 to:

Executive Director
Friendship Inn
619 - 20 Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0X8
Fax (306) 242-1291

Employment Opportunity

Aboriginal Program Coordinator

3 Month Contract

The Fort Smith District Education Authority is seeking a highly motivated individual for the contract position of Aboriginal Program Coordinator. This is a three month contract position with the D.E.A. only.

The successful candidate will be responsible for gathering and identifying relevant resources, establish and maintain a communications network within the community, evaluate cultural kits, liaison with schools and the community, and set up an implementation process.

Candidates should be knowledgeable of the cultural background in Ft. Smith and the Western N.W.T. Effective written and verbal communication skills, as well as computer skills are requirements. Preferred qualifications are Post-Secondary in Native Studies, educational background experience in program development.

For further information please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

A criminal record check is a prerequisite for employment.

Salary: \$2,500 per month

Closing Date: Wednesday November 19, 1997 at 3 pm (mountain standard time)

Only those candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted.

Please submit resume to: Secretary-Treasurer
Fort Smith District Education Authority
P.O. Box 131, Fort Smith, NWT X0E 0P0
Phone: (403) 872-2011 Fax: (403) 872-3039

PROFESSOR IN SOCIAL WORK (Grant-funded position)

The Department of Health and Social Services of Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (UQAT) is looking for applicants to fill the grant-funded position of professor in Social Work in the program outlined below. This is a one year, renewable contract.

At the request of the Cree Board of Health and Social Service of James Bay, UQAT has developed a B.S.W. program for 60 Cree Board employees working in CLSCs, Youth protection, NNADAP, Group Homes and a Reception Centre. This exciting community-based First Nations Program offers four courses a year in the communities and is in its second year of a six-year duration.

UQAT is a French-speaking institution serving about 1,200 students in Rouyn-Nranda, Val-d'Or and others centres in northwestern Quebec. UQAT also provides continuing Education programs in James Bay Cree and northern Quebec inuit communities.

The successful applicant will teach in the program, conduct research in social work, organize and supervise the Field Practicum courses, offer academic and personal student counselling support, and eventually manage the program.

Applicants with the following profile will be considered:

- M.S.W. or B.S.W. and Masters Degree in a related field.
Knowledge of Cree or other First Nations culture and life experience in Native communities.
Undergraduate teaching experience and Social Work experience in Native communities.
English language proficiency.

First Nations ancestry and/or the knowledge of French is considered an asset.

The Work Place is between Val-d'Or and the James Bay communities.

The working conditions are governed by the collective agreement in effect. The salary is determined according to the qualifications and experience of the applicant.

This position is intended for Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada in compliance with the existing laws and regulations.

Date of Commencement of Work: As soon as available.

Application Deadline Date: First screening begins December 1, 1997. But application will remain open until we find the right candidate!

All applications will be treated in confidentiality and should be sent to the following address.

Sarah Shidler, Directrice
Département des sciences sociales et de la santé
Université du Québec en abitibi-Témiscamingue
445, boul. de l'Université
Rouyn-Noranda (Quebec) J9X 5E4
Tel: (819) 762-0971 ext. 2337



...a definite career progression opportunity for the right person!

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Suncor Energy Inc. Oil Sands has an immediate full-time opportunity for a recent graduate from an Accounting, Business or Commerce degree program.

Suncor Energy is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from all qualified individuals.

While we sincerely appreciate the interest of all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

For additional information on employment opportunities at Suncor, visit our web site at: www.suncor.com.

Responsibilities include: interpreting and analyzing performance management measures; developing spread sheets for presentation in performance management reporting, budgeting and long range planning; auditing of budget plans and related variances; providing administrative support to the Administration Department in areas such as: Document Management System, record retention, meeting co-ordination, information reporting and information flow.

Qualifications: demonstrated ability to handle multiple demands; excellent organizational, interpersonal, oral and verbal communication skills; high level of computer competence in a Windows 95 environment (i.e. Microsoft Office). A professional accounting designation (CA/CGA/CMA) would be a definite asset.

If you meet these requirements and are looking to grow your career with a company offering excellent advancement potential and an above-average compensation package, please submit your resume, quoting Competition #97-111, to:

Employment Department
Suncor Energy Inc. Oil Sands
P.O. Box 4001
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 3E3
fax: (403) 791-8333
email: skendel@suncor.com



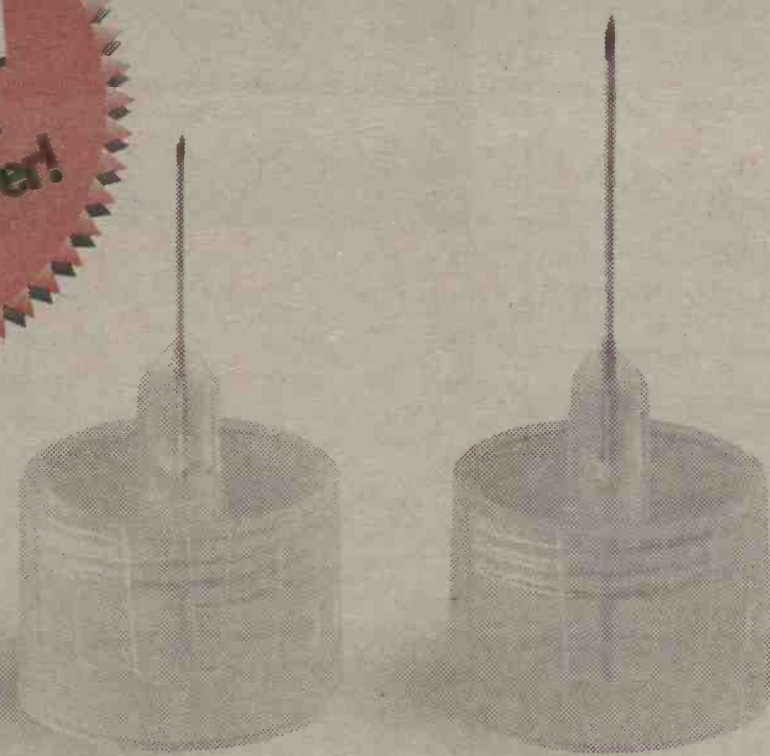
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