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Windspeaker • Established 1983

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## Residential school compensation

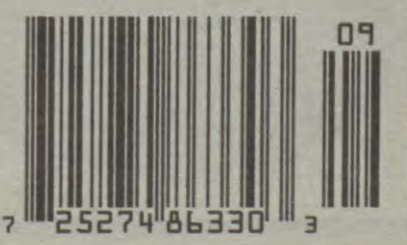
### — the wait is almost over

The government has announced plans to proceed with implementation of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, which means thousands of survivors will soon receive financial compensation for the time they spent in residential schools. While many of the survivors and their families wait for the cheques to arrive, organizations across the country are working to prepare for the impacts, both positive and negative, those compensation dollars will have within the Aboriginal community, and those survivors who chose to opt out of the agreement continue to wait for their day in court.

See stories, page 14 and 15.

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The National Screen Institute - Canada operates with ongoing funding from TELEFILM CANADA through Canadian Heritage, and Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. Additional support provided by Patrons: CTV, CBC Television and The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation. Also, financial assistance provided by the City of Winnipeg through the Winnipeg Arts Council.

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*Publisher*  
**Bert Crowfoot**

*Editorial*  
1-780-455-2700  
E-mail: edwind@ammsa.com

*Senior Editor*  
**Cheryl Petten**

*National News Editor*  
**Paul Barnsley**

*Staff Writers*  
Laura Suthers • Dianne Meili

*Intern*  
**Gauri Chopra**

*Production*  
**Judy Anonson**

*Advertising Sales*  
1-800-661-5469  
E-mail: market@ammsa.com

*Director of Marketing*  
**Paul Macedo**

*Alberta, N.W.T.*  
**Shirley Olsen**

*Toronto, Ottawa-Hull, Montreal,  
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**Keven Kantén**

*BC, Yukon, Saskatchewan  
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*Accounts*  
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**Canada****Features****Prentice out, Strahl in as INAC minister 8**

After a year-and-a-half on the job, Jim Prentice is leaving behind his role as minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians and making the jump to the department of Industry.

**Métis Nation of Alberta adopts own harvesting laws 8**

The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) has adopted its own policy to regulate hunting and fishing by its members. In a move to retain their Constitutional right to hunt, MNA members rejected the Alberta government's harvesting regulations at their Aug. 19 general assembly in favour of their own policy.

**MNC leadership uncertain 9**

Two people were claiming to be the leader of the Métis National Council (MNC) in early August. One of them attended the Council of the Federation meeting with Canada's provincial and territorial premiers in Moncton, N.B. from Aug. 8 to 10, while the other stayed home to avoid the embarrassment of having two national Métis leaders trying to sit in one chair.

**Aboriginal veteran forces issues back into spotlight 10**

Tom Eagle just wants Canada's new Conservative Party government to support the troop— and he wants a little help from the chiefs to achieve that goal.

**Residential school settlement 14 & 15**

The deadline for deciding whether or not to opt out of the Indian residential school settlement agreement passed on Aug. 20. Get valuable information on the next steps, the application process and tips on how to protect your settlement payment.

**Departments**

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[ what's happening ] 7

[ provincial news ] 18 to 21

[ radio's most active ] 23

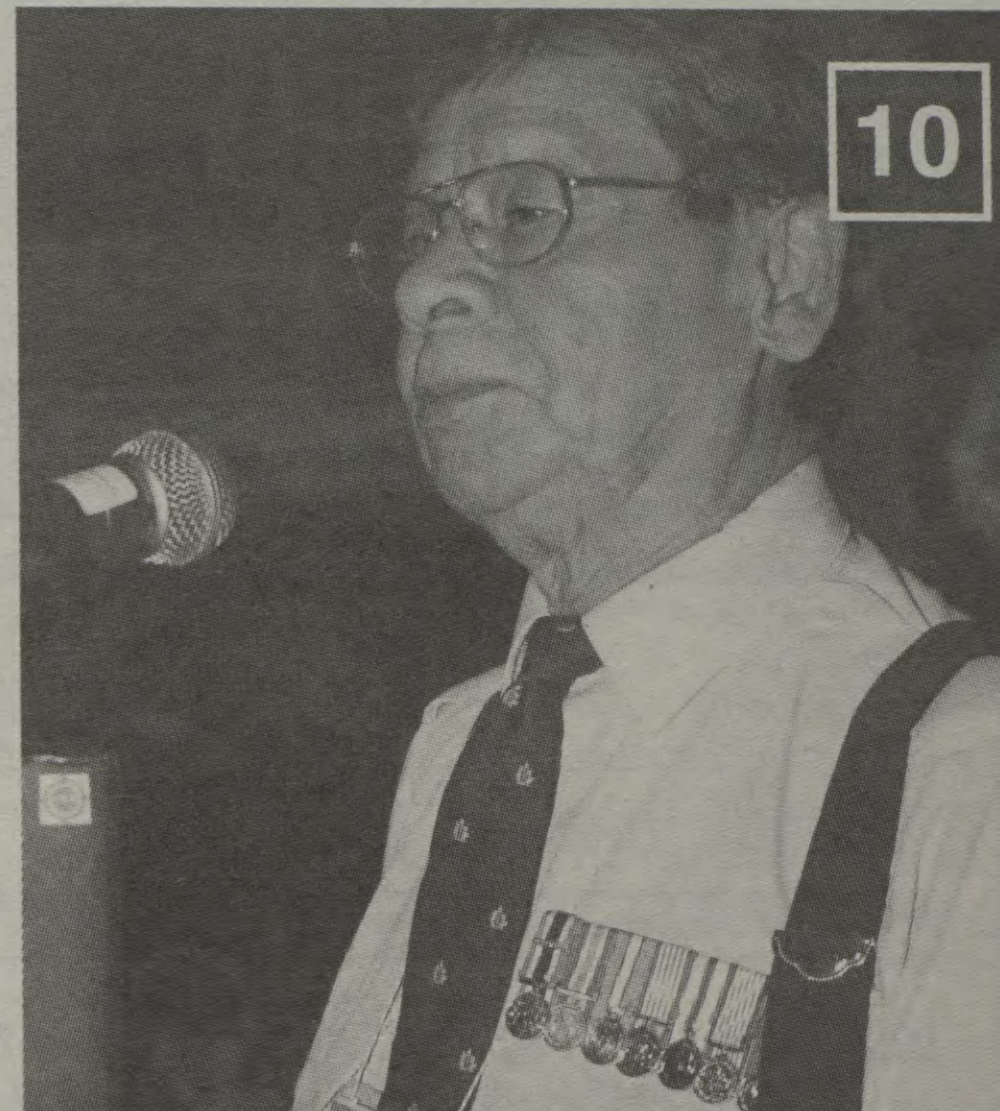
[ windspeaker confidential ] 24

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[ careers &amp; training ] 26 to 29

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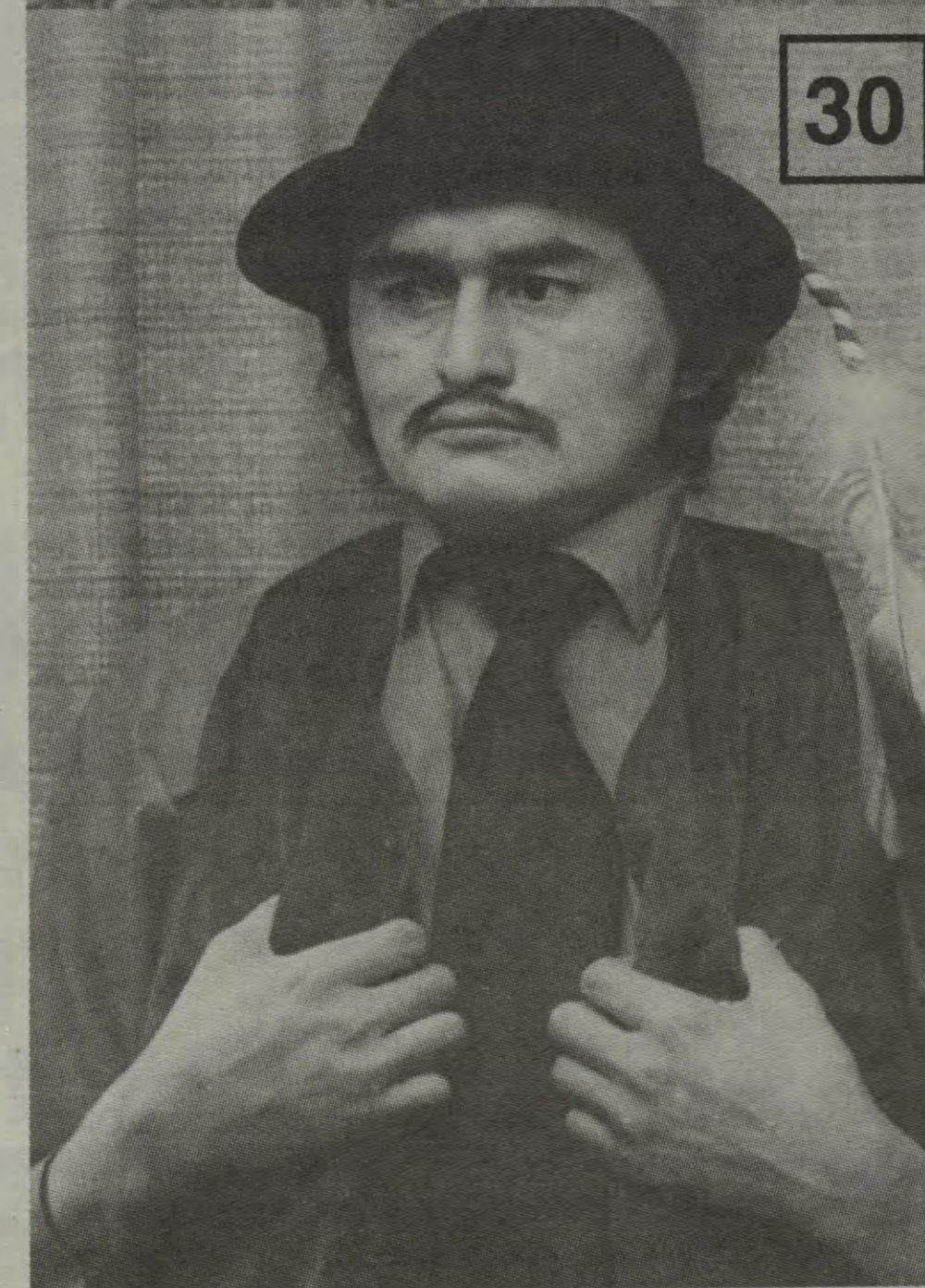
In 2006, five years after his death, Everett Soop was awarded the Meritorious Service Decoration (Civil Division) by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean. The award was given to 14 individuals whose work brought honour to their communities and to Canada.



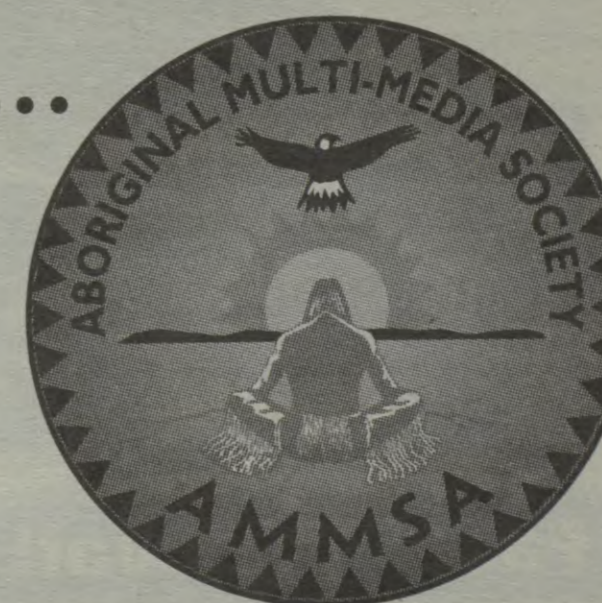
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# Giving the PM a helping hand

Dear Prime Minister Harper:

We know you're busy, what with running all the ministries and getting the Mounties to throw the media out of that Charlottetown hotel where the federal government's summer caucus was being held and making sure that nobody says anything that you don't want them to say and all. So we decided that must be why you haven't apologized to the Indigenous people in this country for all the bad things Canada has done to them. You just don't have the time. There's just so much to do!

So we decided to write the apology for you, to save you a little time. Heck, maybe you can even take in a period or two of a hockey game with the hour or so this frees up. If so, you're welcome. It's our pleasure.

Think of this as sort of a "modern day treaty" if you want. Just sign here, at the bottom, where it says "Steve." We've written it in Mohawk, by the way. But don't let that worry you. You trust us, don't you? Come on. Just sign. Be reassured that Canada's highest court has ruled that, since it's not in your language, in the event of a disagreement the deal would have to be interpreted broadly in your favour. And we don't have billions and billions of dollars to blow on lawyers that could find a way around the spirit of our part of the arrangement. What have you got to lose?

You don't want to sign something in a language you don't understand? Yes, we can see where that might be wise. And it's nice to have that choice, isn't it?

So here it is. Remember: just skip down to the bottom and affix your signature thereto. And then go and have a little fun. You've earned it.

Dear Indians,

I, Stephen, PM of Canada, just recently stopped daydreaming about disemboweling Garth Turner long enough to actually hear what some of you have been saying to me and, oh boy, is my face red!

Whoops, sorry. I meant to say I'm embarrassed.

You guys sure have gotten the poopie end of the stick over the years, haven't you?

Let's just start with the residential schools. Boy! When I read somewhere that quote about "have you ever heard a whole village cry" after all the kids had been dragged off to school, that almost brought a tear to my eye. Not that a big strong Christian guy like me would ever actually cry, mind you, but almost.

I wish that had never happened. I regret we have to take ownership of that bit of history. Aw heck, I don't care what the Justice lawyers say, I'm sorry it happened. Our bad, OK?

But hey, on the bright side, we didn't renege on that one Liberal promise and we did throw a couple of billion at that problem, so we can all move on now. And there's a whole bunch of non-Native lawyers who just might vote Conservative next time around, so it's a win/win, isn't it? And some of you even get a couple of bucks as well. Enjoy!

Oh, and about us trying to take away your language and culture. That probably could have been handled better, I'll grant you. We really thought it would work and there'd be none of you around to hold us accountable. Do we feel foolish!

Tell you what: Don't remind the voters how much us politicians and bureaucrats have blown trying to avoid being held accountable for that kind of thing and I'll work something out that you'll like. I promise. Shoot, I might even order the Indian Affairs guys to get First Nation administration salaries up to 1990 federal levels, if you all play ball. Talk about economic development on reserve.

And I hear your veterans still feel they got gypped. Did you know your veterans went over to Europe during the world wars and fought shoulder to shoulder with our guys but then when they came home they weren't even allowed in the legion? Wow. I don't know how that happened because everybody knows there's no racism in Canada, but a mistake was certainly made somewhere. I guess it's up to me to say sorry.

And as for all that other stuff, sincere regrets, yadda yadda, you know.

As for you Métis people, Flanagan tells me I should be about half as sorry for what happened to you, except for all that Riel stuff. Oh, and the Inuit . . . uh, you too.

Sincerely,  
Steve

# Aboriginal rights still not recognized

Dear Editor:

There is a highly ironic expression called "Indian time." I find it ironic because it implies that Native people are not punctual.

Look who's talking! The first Canadians have been waiting for three centuries for the rest of us, who have flooded their lands, to honour their human rights and land claims. Their tolerance and patience have been prodigious and almost incredible.

On this year's National Day of Action, "to put an end to First Nations poverty as the greatest social injustice in Canada," it was a privilege to walk with Native people and descendants of later immigrants of many national backgrounds and to join in a circle of solidarity committed to "achieving a brighter and just future for First Nations children and youth and honouring the wisdom of Native Elders."

This was a day of unanimity, harmony and hope. Days later, it was deeply disturbing to read that Canada has threatened to once again vote against the adoption of the United Nations Human Rights Council's Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples unless it is revised. Last year only Canada and one other country — Russia — voted against adoption of the draft declaration.

It is also shocking and shameful to read that the youth suicide rate in northwestern Ontario is 398 per 100,000 while the national average is 12.9. These children truly are our children, and I fear that we are failing them.

I once wondered how South Africans could deal with the shame of Apartheid. That was before I realized the magnitude of deprivation and suffering caused by Northern Apartheid on Canadian reserves. It is time for all Canadians to ask our federal government to take the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples off the shelf, blow off the years of accumulated dust, and begin the process of giving the First Canadians (the only true Native sons and daughters of this magnificent, wealthy country they have so generously shared with all late arrivals) the human and property rights they deserve.

Sincerely,  
Carol Winter,  
Peterborough, Ont.

# Aboriginal world view needs to be respected

Dear Editor:

My husband and I recently visited Jasper, Alta. I was impressed by the beautiful crafts and artwork of many nations all in one location. I was curious to ask about different items and their origins. My feelings changed to shock and disgust at a conversation I overheard between one of the shop owners and a foreign (European, possibly German) couple over an article for sale.

The exact comments were as follows, "You're an educated man right?" The tourist humbly denies and you continue, "Well you're probably more educated than I am! Anyway, look at the artwork. These people have no education. They are primitive in nature, yet it amazes me that they can piece together such beautiful art! They know nothing of mathematics and science, yet just look at this. It boggles the mind."

Define education. One world view, no matter how oppressive and progress hungry, has no right to define education while making a living of the original inhabitants of this land. Little did you know that my husband and I are Cree Indigenous people who are educated in both the Western and traditional Cree way, which, to us, neither are more superior than the other. We spent our whole

# [ rants and raves ]

lives feeling ashamed and stupid because of the oppressive and cold way in which European people think and educate. Look at the results of residential schooling. It never ends. Our understanding has been stripped from us with your "educated" missionaries and teachers who believe their way is the right and only way.

Our worldviews are extreme opposites. As Indigenous people, we respect other cultures and do not feel superior. Our ideas of primitive/civilized are different. We weren't "civilized" because the spiritual connection to the land meant that these relationships were what sustained us, and kept the overall balance. We did not destroy, horde or own anything. We see now what civilization is doing to the earth. The western way of thinking is to take until it's gone and then go somewhere else and take some more until there's nothing left. Nowadays we are forced to protect our Indigenous knowledge because some "scientists and mathematicians" are reconsidering their previous decisions. Yet we still are disrespected as those same people continue to take our plants and animals without ceremony. We think differently.

Our artwork represents what's left of each of our histories. The spirituality behind the creation of the piece is something that your worldview can try but never truly comprehend. It is so complex and powerful that it supercedes all that is material. The spirits attached to the artwork do not go away. This is why our people are still alive today. Our beliefs have kept us surviving amidst devastating circumstances. Respectfully, your science and math are simplistic compared to some of the stories I've heard and learned about our relationships with stars and the universe. It would leave your scientists and mathematicians reeling.

When we walked through Jasper with all of its focus on Indigenous people as relics of the past, I couldn't help but feel uncomfortable. My partner, who is unmistakably Cree looking, said that he was getting stares in some of the stores, which is not unusual but so ironic in a town that boasts a positive history of relationships with Indigenous people then gets cautious when some actual live Indians end up there. We're too safely tucked away in the reserves and inner cities to cause you problems, thanks to the successful Canadian government policies of assimilation, segregation and civilization.

I am only speaking for us as a Cree family and for our children who have a right to live in a place where they don't have to overhear someone speaking about them as if they are stupid, simple or worse yet non-existent.

I wanted to say something that evening but my husband gently guided me out of the store and said it's not right. He knew that it would result in an argument and that nothing would be resolved. This is why we decided on a letter. With hopes that you will reconsider your way of thinking as our people put food on your table. Indigenous traditional education is just as relevant, important and necessary as any other culture's education. Teach your children the same way. Hire an Indigenous person! Be mindful and treat the original inhabitants of this land as equals. You're on "Our Native Land"... respect that.

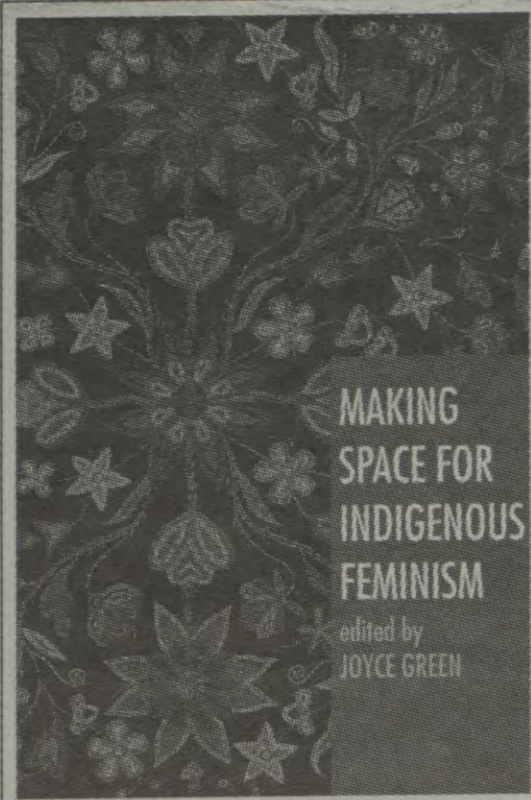
Sincerely,  
Lindsay Knight

# Facing problems the key

Dear Editor:

All of my 23 years I have seen pain. I have watched my people assault each other, hurt on the inside and outside. I've seen families fall apart only to come together when one of their members die. Then everyone feels bad, sad at the loss. How is it that we do this to ourselves? How is it that we can't look at the causes of our problems and deal with them? Where does the shame stop and the healing begin? I can only imagine how our Elders must look at us with regret and loathing at the state we have created for ourselves. Our Elders taught us to be at peace and harmony with nature and ourselves. I have rarely seen or done that like most of you. We call getting high or drunk fun, but is it fun to hurt our families, friends or our own people? We never really escape our problems, we just make more. Is that what we are to teach our children—that our lives are lies and hurt? We have created all of these problems nowadays. When, if you take the time to look at our lives, they could be simple like Grandfather's. Here's how easy it is to show love not hate. Don't hide from problems through getting high. Face them and grow/learn from the problems. You see, I have been down the same wrong path. Before this, I had my freedom taken from me for the troubles I've caused, only to be released and follow the same cycle, just like a tree grows leaves and sheds them.

(See Elders on page 11)



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- ABORIGINAL STUDENTS' ASSOC. BBQ & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**  
September 13, 2007, U of A, Edmonton, Alta. - 780-474-8850
- AFOA CANADA'S 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
September 13, 2007, Aylmer, QC - 613-722-5543; email: lhunter@afoa.ca
- SASKATCHEWAN BOOK AWARD**  
Deadline for entries: September 15, 2007 - www.bookawards.sk.ca
- GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP**  
September 15-23, 2007 - www.vanaqua.org/cleanup - 1-877-427-2422
- ABORIGINAL FUTURES CAREER & TRAINING PROGRAM**  
Starts September 17, 2007, Calgary, Alta. - 403-253-5311;  
Fax: 403-253-5741; info@aboriginalfutures.com
- MAKING SPACE FOR INDIGENOUS FEMINISM - BOOK LAUNCH**  
September 19, 2007, Regina, Sask. - 902-857-1388; info@fernpub.ca;  
www.fernwoodpublishing.ca (see ad on page 6)
- ABORIGINAL DIABETES INITIATIVES EVENT "WATER IS LIFE"**  
September 20, 2007, 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Cape Croker Indian Park, Ont.  
1-888-514-1370; www.soadi.ca
- INTRODUCTION TO SOAPSTONE CARVING**  
September 21, 2007, Devonian Gardens, Devon, Alta. - 780-987-2064
- CREATION OF AN ORIGINAL SCULPTURE - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
September 21, 2007 deadline, proposal documents may be requested on or after August 22, 2007 and must be received by September 21, 2007 - 306-966-2252; email lherrmann.cmorgan@usask.ca
- ABORIGINAL TEAM MB INDIGENOUS GAMES SOFTBALL TRYOUTS**  
September 22-23, 2007, Winnipeg, Man. - 204-589-4327, Ext. 240;  
email: masrc@sport.mb.ca; www.masrc.com
- BUSINESS LINK NETWORKING EVENT**  
September 25, 2007, Lethbridge, Alta. - 1-800-272-9675;  
email: absnolberta@cbcsic.gc.ca
- CCAB VANCOUVER GALA DINNER**  
September 25, 2007, Vancouver, B.C. - 416-961-8663, Ext. 222
- ABORIGINAL HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE**  
September 25, 2007, Thunder Bay, Ont. - 416-205-1341;  
moonah@oha.com
- BUSINESS LINK NETWORKING EVENT**  
September 27, 2007, Calgary, Alta. - 1-800-272-9675;  
email: absnolberta@cbcsic.gc.ca
- 3-DAY WORKSHOP - NATURAL DREAMTIME LAWS**  
September 28-30, 2007, Grande Prairie, Alta. - 780-505-2939
- JOB FAIR - EXPLORE CAREERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**  
September 29 & 30, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - MacEwan College,  
Edmonton, Alta. - Contact Dawn at 780-428-3660
- TEXAS HOLD-EM TOURNAMENT**  
October 1, 2007, Beardsy's & Okemasis First Nation, Sask. - 306-467-4844
- SASKATCHEWAN REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**  
October 3-5, 2007, Saskatoon, Sask. - 306-953-7234
- CASTS CONFERENCE**  
October 3-5, 2007, Calgary, Alta. - 306-281-4188
- MOOSE JAW CHARITY BOOK SALE**  
October 4-6, 2007, Moose Jaw, Sask. - Lorne at ljw@accesscomm.ca
- INTERTRIBAL POWWOW "HONORING OUR NATIVE VETERANS"**  
October 6 & 7, 2007, Honolulu, Hawaii - 808-953-0422; 808-734-8018
- NORTHERN LIGHTS CASINO THANKSGIVING POWWOW**  
October 6-8, 2007, Prince Albert, Sask. - 306-764-4777
- WOMEN & YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SYMPOSIUM**  
October 10 & 11, 2007, Saskatoon, Sask. - 306-956-6913/6917
- ABORIGINAL WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**  
October 11-13, 2007, Vancouver, B.C. - 250-652-7097;  
www.firstpeoplescanada.com
- DREAMCATCHER ABORIGINAL YOUTH CONFERENCE**  
October 12-14, 2007, Edmonton, Alta. - 780-497-4699; fax: 780-479-4715; chartrand@macewan.ca (see ad on page 26)
- VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE CONFERENCE**  
October 15-17, 2007, Peniticon, B.C. - 250-493-4902;  
email: ontheconference@shaw.ca
- ABORIGINAL LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**  
October 16-17, 2007, Vancouver, B.C. - 1-888-777-1707 (see ad on page 2)
- ABORIGINAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW**  
October 16-18, 2007, Yellowknife, NWT - 867-920-2764
- FSIN POWWOW**  
October 19-21, 2007, Saskatoon, Sask. - 306-667-1874; 306-332-3563
- CANDO CONFERENCE & AGM - 7<sup>th</sup> GENERATION ECONOMIES**  
October 22-25, 2007, Kamloops, B.C. -  
www.edo.ca; 1-800-463-9300; 780-990-0303 (see ad on page 20)
- EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES: EDUCATION CONFERENCE**  
October 22-26, 2007, Winnipeg, Man. - 204-896-3449 (see ad on page 6)
- EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES: HEALTH CONFERENCE**  
October 23-26, 2007, Winnipeg, Man. - 204-896-3449 (see ad on page 6)
- CCAB CALGARY GALA DINNER**  
October 23, 2007, Calgary, Alta. - cbowers@ccab.com;  
416-961-8663, Ext. 22
- A FESTIVAL FOR ALL NATIONS**  
November 1-4, 2007, Winnipeg, Man. - www.manitohabee.com;  
www.aboriginalpeopleschoice.com; 1-204-956-1849; 1-866-449-0251
- NIICHO ABORIGINAL HEALING PERSPECTIVES**  
November 16-18, 2007, Edmonton, Alta.  
450-632-0892, Ext. 21; www.niichro.com (see ad on page 10)
- AFOA CANADA NATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
February 12-14, 2008, Montréal, Que. - 1-866-775-1816 (see ad on page 10)

**INCLUDE YOUR EVENT**

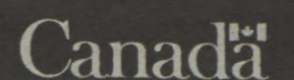
Fax: 780-455-7639

Email: market@ammsa.com



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire



## PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

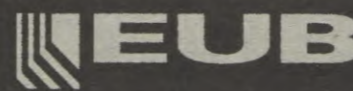
The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has issued an official Notice of Public Hearing, available at [www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca), that it will hold a two-day public hearing on the application by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for the renewal of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) operating licence. The hearing will be held in the CNSC Public Hearing Room, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario, on November 1, 2007 and January 10, 2008.

The public is invited to comment on the application on Hearing Day Two. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission by December 10, 2007 at the address below and include a written submission; a statement setting out whether the requester wishes to intervene by way of written submission only or by way of written submission and oral presentation; and the name, address and telephone number of the requester.

Hearing documents (submissions) are not available on-line and must be requested through the Secretariat at the address below. For more information, instructions on how to participate in this public hearing process or the complete text of the official Notice of Public Hearing, see [www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca), and refer to Notice of Public Hearing 2007-H-13, or contact:

L. Levert, Secretariat  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St., P.O. Box 1046  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Tel.: 613-996-9063 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
E-mail: [interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)



Alberta Energy and Utilities Board

640 Fifth Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

### FORT HILLS ENERGY CORPORATION FORT HILLS OIL SANDS PROJECT - AMENDMENT TO APPROVALS

ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD  
ATHABASCA OIL SANDS AREA  
APPLICATION NO. 1520897

### ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT APPLICATION NO. 003-151469 AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Take Notice that Petro-Canada Oilsands Inc. (PCOSI), on behalf of Fort Hills Energy Corporation (FHEC), has made application to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) and Alberta Environment (AENV) for amendments to existing approvals for the Fort Hills Oil Sands Project (FHOSP). The proposed amendments include a consolidation of the overburden and tailings facilities and an amendment of the project approval boundary. The extended project area is located on Oil Sands Leases 7598060T05 (Lease 5), 7400120008 (Lease 8), and 7281020T52 (Lease 52). These leases are located in Townships 96, 97, and 98, Ranges 9, 10, and 11, west of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meridian, approximately 90 kilometres (km) north of Fort McMurray and 20 km north of Fort McKay. Construction of the FHOSP began in 2006 under existing approvals. Bitumen production has been rescheduled to begin in 2011 at a full capacity of 30 000 m<sup>3</sup>/cd (cubic metres per calendar day) (190 000 barrels per calendar day). This Notice of Application is being distributed to advise interested persons that the application is available, and that the EUB, AENV, and other government departments are now undertaking their review.

#### Nature of the Applications

In support of the proposal, Petro-Canada has prepared and submitted the following applications:

- Application No. 1520897 to the EUB
  - Pursuant to Approval No. 9241 for construction, operation and reclamation of the FHOSP Processing Plant and Mine, granted on December 4, 2002, pursuant to sections 10 and 11 of the *Oil Sands Conservation Act* and sections 48 and 49 of the *Oil Sands Conservation Regulation*
- Application No. 003-151469 to AENV
  - Pursuant to Approval 00151469-00-00 for construction, operation, and reclamation of the FHOSP Processing Plant and Mine, granted on December 30, 2002, pursuant to Section 66 of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)*

These applications have the same content and share a common update to environmental effects that Petro-Canada has included in Volume 2, Environmental Effects Update. A new environmental impact assessment was not required by AENV.

#### Additional Information

To obtain additional information or a copy of the applications (CD version also available), contact:

Ms. Sheila Chernys  
Environmental and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
Oil Sands  
Petro-Canada  
P.O. Box 2844  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3E3  
Telephone: (403) 296-3193  
Fax: (403) 296-4767  
[schernys@petro-canada.ca](mailto:schernys@petro-canada.ca)

For information regarding EUB procedures, contact:

Carmalee Farn-Baker  
Fort Hills Application Coordinator  
EUB Fort McMurray Branch  
Telephone: (780) 743-7488  
Fax: (780) 743-7141  
[carmalee.farnbaker@eub.ca](mailto:carmalee.farnbaker@eub.ca)

Copies of the application are available for viewing at the following locations:

Alberta Energy and Utilities Board  
Fort McMurray Branch  
2nd Floor, Provincial Building  
9915 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 2K4

Alberta Energy and Utilities Board  
Information Services, Calgary Office  
Main Floor, 640 - 5 Avenue SW  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4

Fort McMurray Public Library  
9907 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 2K4

Fort Chipewyan Municipal Contact Office

P.O. Box 370

Fort Chipewyan, Alberta T0P 1B0

#### To File a Statement of Concern

Further Take Notice under Section 73 of *EPEA*, any person who is directly affected by the *EPEA* Application may submit a written statement of concern. Statements of concern under *EPEA* must be submitted by October 29, 2007. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Objection (on appeal) with the Environmental Appeal Board. Please quote Application No. 003-151469 (*EPEA*) when submitting a statement of concern. If no statements of concern are received, the *EPEA* Application may be approved without further notice. Please submit your statement to:

Director, Northern Region  
Alberta Environment  
Regulatory Approvals Centre  
Main Floor, Oxbridge Place  
9820 - 106 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2J6  
Telephone: (780) 427-6311  
Fax: (780) 422-0154

Note: In accordance with Section 12 of the *Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Rules of Practice*, all documents filed in respect of this application must be placed on the public record and are therefore available for review by the public.

Issued at Fort McMurray, Alberta on August 20, 2007

Douglas A. Larder, Q.C., General Counsel

## Windspeaker news briefs

### Feds agree to help rebuild Kashechewan First Nation

The federal government has committed to help Kashechewan First Nation build its community into one that is healthy and sustainable.

The ministers of Health and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) signed an agreement to that effect on July 30, alongside Kashechewan Chief Jonathon Solomon.

"My community is pleased to be moving forward," Solomon said. "We have faced a number of challenges and uncertainty in the past. Working in partnership with the government of Canada to create a safe and stable environment, we can now look ahead to a brighter future."

The small community of approximately 1,900 located on the shores of James Bay became the poster child for First Nations infrastructure problems in 2005 when national and international media focused on issues surrounding water quality, health problems and a lack of adequate housing in the community, with many comparing living conditions in Kashechewan with those found in Third World countries.

There had been some discussion about relocating the community as part of the solution to its many problems, but such a move wasn't what the community members wanted, explained Jim Prentice, minister of INAC at the time the agreement was signed.

"The decision to rebuild on the current site respects the wishes of residents to stay on their traditional land, and makes use of existing infrastructure," he said.

The government and the First Nation will work together to come up with a community planning and redevelopment process to deal with priority areas, including infrastructure development, housing, repairs and maintenance, improvements to schools, health and community facilities, health programs, public safety, skills development and socio-economic stability.

### First Nation ratifies treaty

At the end of July, Tsawwassen First Nation members voted to accept a treaty negotiated under the British Columbia treaty process.

Just under 70 per cent of the registered voters taking part in the ratification process voted to accept the final agreement, which will see the First Nation receive a cash transfer of \$13.9 million and a land transfer of 724 hectares. Funding will also be provided to help the First Nation become self-governing.

The treaty document also sets out the First Nation's rights and responsibilities within Tsawwassen traditional territory, an area taking in about 280,000 hectares of land and the waters of the southern Strait of Georgia.

"The treaty represents our final break from the Indian Act-through self-government, not assimilation," Tsawwassen Chief Kim Baird said. "Independent and self-defining, our government will be recognized as such when we join the Greater Vancouver Regional District, and will finally have access to water as well as autonomy over our land-use planning. We look forward to the real work that lies ahead and implementing our treaty and rebuilding our community."

Before the final agreement can be officially implemented as a treaty, it must first be approved by the provincial legislature and in the House of Commons. The provincial government plans to introduce legislation to approve the agreement in the next few months.

### Province makes good on its TLE obligations

The province of Manitoba has transferred more than 300,000 acres of land to Canada in order to meet some of its obligations under the 1997 Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Framework Agreement.

Under that agreement, the province is required to set aside just under 986,000 acres of land to be transferred to Canada. Those lands will be used by the federal government to meet its treaty obligations to provide land to First Nations communities in the province.

The land transfer, announced on July 31, includes 3,684 acres of land for Bunibonabee Cree Nation, 4,284 acres for Manto Sipi Cree Nation, 82,574 acres for Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, 20,780 acres for Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, 1,189 acres for Gods Lake First Nation, and 1,270 acres for Long Plain First Nation.

Under the 1997 agreement, a total of 1.2 million acres of land selected by the First Nation signatories is to be transferred to Canada over the next four years. About 78 per cent of the lands are provincial lands, while the remainder are private lands, purchased from owners who are willing to sell.

Twenty-one Manitoba First Nations are signatories of the 1997 agreement, while an additional seven First Nations have negotiated individual TLE agreements.

# Prentice out, Strahl in as INAC minister

After a year-and-a-half on the job, Jim Prentice is leaving behind his role as minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians and making the jump to the department of Industry.

Prentice is just one of several ministers switching responsibilities following Prime Minister Stephen Harper's decision to shuffle his cabinet.

Chuck Strahl, who up until Harper's Aug. 14 unveiling of the revamped federal cabinet had been minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and minister for the Canadian Wheat Board, will be taking over the reigns of INAC.

Strahl is from British Columbia and has represented the riding of Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon since 1993.

Unlike Prentice, who came to the position of INAC minister with quite a bit of experience dealing with Aboriginal issues Strahl's experience is limited, although he has been a member of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern

Development, as well as a member of the standing committees on Fisheries and Oceans, Canadian Heritage and Natural Resources.

Prentice had been the official opposition critic for Indian and Northern Affairs for a year-and-a-half prior to the Conservatives coming to power. Before that, he spent 10 years as a commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission of Canada and is seen as an expert on land claim negotiations.

Aboriginal leaders from across the country were quick to offer words of congratulations to Strahl and express their eagerness to build a good working relationship to the new minister. They were also just as quick to heap praise on Prentice, acknowledging how much he'd managed to accomplish in his short time as INAC minister and hoping the new minister would be able to quickly pick up where Prentice left off.

Other cabinet ministers affected by the shuffle include Peter MacKay, who leaves behind

his responsibilities for Foreign Affairs to take the helm of National Defence. Former National Defence minister Gordon O'Connor moves to National Revenue.

Bev Oda leaves behind her roles as minister of Canadian Heritage and minister responsible for the Status of Women and becomes the new minister of International Co-operation, while Josee Verner, the former minister of International Co-operation and minister for la Francophonie and Official Languages takes on Oda's old responsibilities.

Gerry Ritz makes the move from Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism) to minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, with Diane Ablonczy taking over his old portfolio. Maxime Bernier makes the switch from Industry minister to minister of Foreign Affairs and Carol Skelton, who has announced plans to retire from politics, gives up the post of National Revenue minister to sit on the back benches.

## Métis Nation of Alberta adopts own harvesting laws

By Dianne Meili  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

### EDMONTON

The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) has adopted its own policy to regulate hunting and fishing by its members.

In a move to retain their Constitutional right to hunt, MNA members rejected the Alberta government's harvesting regulations at their Aug. 19 general assembly in favour of their own policy.

"If members do decide to hunt, we're not sure how far this will go," cautioned MNA President Audrey Poitras. "If you're charged, your meat may be confiscated, maybe even your vehicle. But as far as your legal concerns go, the MNA has a legal defense fund to help you."

Harvesters eligible for this support must be acting within the terms of the MNA's policy. "We've turned away hunters who've come to us for help in the past if their charge stems from being irresponsible - like a safety issue," Poitras said.

"Our's is a good, responsible policy," said MNA's Métis rights expert Cecil Bellerose of the eight-page harvesting policy. "It clearly states who is Métis and where they can hunt, and it addresses responsibility and conservation issues."

Eligible harvesters must apply for identification stickers to be affixed to the back of their MNA

membership card. Members must be approved by the MNA to obtain this sticker.

"Our staff will be out checking harvesters as usual, just as we always have," said Sustainable Resource Development spokesperson Dave Ealey, who underlined the department is not trying to be unfair. "There needs to be an understanding out there we are merely upholding the law of the land as handed down by the Supreme Court, in the absence of having our own provincial agreement."

An Interim Métis Harvesting Agreement (IMHA) had been in place that gave Métis harvesters the same hunting and fishing rights as First Nation members, but the agreement came under severe criticism from the Alberta Fish and Game Association and other conservation groups who protested it had been developed without public or stakeholder input.

While the interim agreement was in place, the MNA and Aboriginal Affairs department worked to draft a long-term harvesting policy with the understanding that either party, with notice, could terminate negotiations. In April, Guy Boutilier, the provincial minister of Aboriginal Affairs, indicated the IMHA would be terminated within 90 days, giving the MNA and the province three months to hammer out a long term harvesting policy. When talks stalled, the MNA requested the

IMHA be extended for an additional 60 days to allow for continued negotiations. "We received a letter that no extension would be granted," Poitras said.

When the IMHA ended in July, the province replaced the agreement with the regulations that were in place before the interim agreement was finalized in 2004—harvesting regulations resulting from the 2003 Powley case, in which the Supreme Court of Canada affirmed the Métis right to hunt and fish under certain guidelines.

The government then posted a policy that, according to the MNA, contained none of the points of agreement the two parties had been working on.

"The Powley case sets standards for hunting, and since we haven't been able to agree upon a long term harvesting agreement for Alberta, we are bound—as the agency responsible for enforcing hunting laws—to go back and uphold the Supreme Court's stipulation," Ealey explained.

"The province has no say in this matter," Métis hunter Art Majeau said. "My hunting rights are a Constitutional right." He wonders exactly what kind of proof he will need to prove to the government he is an eligible harvester with an affiliation to a Métis community. Should he be charged, he will have 60 days to prove his eligibility.

"The details of that proof falls under the Aboriginal Affairs department," explained Ealey.



# MNC leadership uncertain

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

Two people were claiming to be the leader of the Métis National Council (MNC) in early August. One of them attended the Council of the Federation meeting with Canada's provincial and territorial premiers in Moncton, N.B. from Aug. 8 to 10, while the other stayed home to avoid the embarrassment of having two national Métis leaders trying to sit in one chair.

The problem started with Motion 219, which was put forward at the two-day MNC board of governors (BOG) meeting in Ottawa that ended Aug. 1. Métis Nation of Alberta President Audrey Poitras made the motion; the seconder was Bruce Dumont, recently elected leader of the Métis Nation of British Columbia. As a result of that motion, four of the five regional leaders that make up the BOG voted to remove their national president, Clem Chartier.

Dumont then issued a press release announcing he was now the interim president of the organization. But the next day, Chartier sent out a press release of his own, denouncing Dumont and others on his national executive for "illegal and unconstitutional" actions in replacing him.

The four members of the BOG who voted to oust Chartier set Oct. 13 and 14 for the MNC annual general assembly and election of the national president, but even that is being disputed.

Despite the very public disagreement suggested by the dueling press releases, Métis Nation of Ontario leader Tony Belcourt told *Windspeaker* on Aug. 7 that all is well.

"There's absolutely no crisis. One of the members of the board of governors disagreed with a decision of all the rest and that's all there is to it," he said. "Four out of five voted for some action to take place. The one who didn't agree is trying to make a stink out of it, I guess. When you've got things going your way. It seems to be fine."

That one member is Manitoba Métis Federation leader David Chartrand. Contacted later on Aug. 7, he said there was a carefully planned coup at the MNC that ran roughshod over the organization's constitution.

"They had a pre-planned meeting before they walked in. They met upstairs. They were late when they came in. The first order of business was to change the agenda and the second order of business was to remove Clement Chartier," Chartrand said. "It's not about Clement Chartier. It's about the constitution; it's about democracy. It's not about personalities. We have a constitution that we abide by and clearly the actions of this group—whether it would be 100 of them against me alone—is completely

illegal and unconstitutional. Nowhere do they have the right to appoint an interim president. Only the assembly can do that. So that's something that's unbelievable and unprecedented. I may be all alone but I know I'm right."

Belcourt disagreed with his colleague.

"We don't have a constitution. So there's nothing unconstitutional about what's going on. We've got bylaws. The Métis National Council has a secretariat. There are bylaws and the bylaws are very clear. Election of a president has to take place between the second and the third year of the mandate and that expired last October. The board at the time decided to extend Clem Chartier's mandate for up to another year and the board has now decided that the mandate's expired. The provision is that when the position is vacant that it be filled, until elections can be held, by one of the members of the board," he said.

Chartrand dismissed that comment.

"Tony can play all the semantics he wants. I'd love to debate these guys in public and one day I will—at the assembly—Mr. Belcourt included. Mr. Belcourt has turned to that constitution on numerous occasions during his time in politics. So for him to come along and say 'I don't think it's a constitution now, come on,' Chartrand said. "If you look at the constitution, it's very clear that the BOG, ourselves, we cannot appoint the president. We can't. Only the assembly can do that. So Clement did the right thing. He called an immediate assembly, recommending Sept. 8 and 9 in Saskatoon. Instead of them waiting for one month, they decided they're going to get rid of him and take over themselves. So I challenged them."

The political situation with the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan received a lot of attention last year as allegations of electoral impropriety led to criminal charges against a number of people. With the leadership situation in that region very much in turmoil last October as Chartier's term was coming to an end, Chartrand said the board knew having an election in the midst of those troubles would have been a recipe for disaster that would have led to expensive court challenges and chaos within the MNC. So the BOG voted to extend Chartier's term for a year in the hopes things would become more stable during that time.

"You can't leave your national leader in a grey zone. That was the entire and very important emphasis. We knew ourselves that we weren't following our own national bylaws to a T. But we asked our corporate lawyer to give us the best advice

possible. The lawyer told us that if we took it before a court, the court would understand our unique predicament," Chartrand said.

Chartier told *Windspeaker* he opted not to go to Moncton and force a showdown out of respect for his constituents. He said he wrote a letter to New Brunswick Premier Shawn Graham, who chairs the Council of the Federation, explaining his absence.

Chartier and Chartrand both now say a legal fight is inevitable.

"I have no choice, I'm sorry to say," said the Manitoba leader. "I pleaded with these people not to do what they have done but they just ignored any type of advice or warnings that they've been given."

On Aug. 23, Chartier and Chartrand issued a media release announcing they were seeking a court injunction to put an end to the controversy and have Chartier recognized as MNC president. A Sept. 6 court date has been set to deal with the matter.

Chartrand was asked if he was worried about how grassroots Métis citizens would feel as they watched their leaders squabble so publicly.

"Oh, very much so. The actions of these people not to wait a few weeks to have a national assembly to fix this issue of their discontent and settle the matter by a democratic process is going to cause nothing but shame and hurt to our nation. But it's also going to do something else, and what this little group better be prepared for is our Métis people are not going to be sitting by and watching this happen."

The MNC says there are between 350,000 and 400,000 Métis nation citizens in Canada, but only 55 of them will get to vote in October. Ontario and British Columbia will be allowed to send five delegates to the annual general assembly. Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba each get 15 delegates. Belcourt acknowledged that his region is not satisfied with having fewer votes than the Prairie regions.

Chartrand said he doesn't believe any of the reasons put forward justifying the removal. He said he suspects internal disagreements over the health agreements and delegate numbers may be at the root of the move to displace Chartier, who is from Saskatchewan.

"Ask yourself this question: If they truly believed they had the power to get rid of him, why didn't they wait a month to get rid of him? They don't have the support of the assembly and they know it," Chartrand said. "What they're trying to do as we speak is change the actual voting delegation because right now it's 15 for the three founding members and five for Ontario and B.C. It's been like that for ages. They know they don't have the support of the assembly so they're trying to change the actual voting system."

## Windspeaker news briefs

### Merasty resigns

Barely a year-and-a-half into his first term, Gary Merasty, the former First Nation chief elected as the Member of Parliament for Desnethé-Mississippi-Churchill River riding, will resign his position as MP on Aug. 31, "to pursue an opportunity in the private sector."

In a press release, Liberal leader Stéphane Dion thanked Merasty for his contributions.

"During his time as an MP, Mr. Merasty has been an extraordinary representative for his constituents in Northern Saskatchewan. His commitment to improving the quality of life for Canadians in Aboriginal and northern communities is outstanding. He has contributed greatly to raising awareness of the challenges facing these communities and working towards solutions, including through his impassioned defence of the Kelowna Accord," Dion said.

During his speech to the chiefs at the Assembly of First Nations, Dion took note of the resignation.

"Gary is the first status First Nations MP in Saskatchewan. He has been a true force for renewal in the Liberal Party, and though I was sorry to hear that Gary is moving into the private sector, I know that he will have tremendous success wherever he goes," he said.

### Fontaine urges support for UN rights declaration

National Chief Phil Fontaine issued a press release on Aug. 9—World Indigenous Day—with a former Conservative Party cabinet minister to criticize the Stephen Harper government's approach to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Government sources have made it clear that Canada will again oppose passage of the declaration. Last year, only Canada and Russia opposed passage of the declaration, which will be voted on by the UN General Assembly early in September.

"This declaration is overwhelmingly supported by many countries because it recognizes the rights of Indigenous peoples around the globe. These basic human rights include land, language and self-government."

Fontaine noted the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs promotes international rights on its Web site, but at the UN, Canadian government officials are actively lobbying other countries against the declaration.

Former Conservative Minister David MacDonald also expressed his disappointment over the federal government's position.

"I can't believe our own government would act this way," MacDonald said. "Our country should be setting a good example internationally."

MacDonald was a Conservative MP for nearly 20 years. He was also the Federal Interlocutor to Métis and Non-Status Indians between 1979 and 1980.

Fontaine said the government should accept the declaration as it is.

"The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is the result of more than 20 years of consultations with Indigenous people around the world," the National Chief said.

"The Canadian government has not been able to provide an adequate explanation as to why it reversed its earlier support for the document and is now actively opposing it," Fontaine concluded. "Canada's reputation as a fair and just country is suffering on the international stage. It is time for this government and Canada to do the right thing and support the declaration for the good of all Canadians and Indigenous people around the world."

### AFN motion calls for repatriation of canoe

A motion to support the repatriation of a birch bark Maliseet canoe was unanimously passed at this year's Assembly of First Nations (AFN) annual general assembly. The chiefs-in-assembly also supported, "a request for a public apology to the Maliseet Nation from Canada and officials of the Canadian Museum of Civilization [CMC]," according to the resolution.

The canoe, which has been at the University of Ireland, Galway since 1852, was built by Maliseet craftsmen in the early 1820s. It is currently on display at the CMC in Ottawa, and is being restored by canoe builders and craftsmen. According to museum officials, the canoe is the property of the University of Ireland, since there doesn't seem to be any proof of it being taken from the Maliseet people unlawfully. However the Maliseet community disagrees, and is still pushing to get possession of the historical canoe.

"The AFN's resolution was unanimous to get the canoe back to us. I hope this will bring us a step closer to get a part of our history back," said Kim Brooks, a member of the Maliseet community.

# Aboriginal veteran forces issues back into spotlight

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

## HALIFAX

Tom Eagle just wants Canada's new Conservative Party government to support the troop—and he wants a little help from the chiefs to achieve that goal.

The well-known Aboriginal veteran's advocate showed up at the Assembly of First Nations' (AFN) annual general assembly in July ready to steal the show, and in many ways he did.

Right after the opening ceremonies of the 28th AFN annual chiefs assembly, held this year at the Halifax World Trade and Convention Centre, AFN veterans' committee chair Ray Rogers introduced Eagle to the chiefs. Wearing his medals and veterans' uniform as he spoke at one of the floor microphones, the Yellowknife resident first turned on the charm.

"I was supposed to make my presentation to you in 10 minutes," he said, referring to the AFN's newfound emphasis on keeping speechmaking short and focused. "I was going to speak to you in my Ojibway language, but some of our words are that long, I'd probably say 20 words and my time will be up."

Then the 75-year-old retired platoon commander, who served as a peacekeeper in Cyprus during his 25 years in the military, got to the point.

"I'd like to draw your attention to some of the issues that have been outstanding since after the First World War, 1918, after the Second World War, 1945, and after the Korean War, 1953. We

have had so many outstanding issues and, ladies and gentlemen, it's time that we addressed these issues and it's time that we resolve these issues. They've been outstanding for too long," he said. "Our soldiers, men and women, were in the war. They fought side-by-side with their fellow Canadians. They were equal on the battlefield. The enemy didn't say, 'Don't shoot that guy, he's a treaty Indian.' And yet when they came back home, they were treated as second-class citizens—second-class citizens in a Third World."

He reminded the chiefs that the ministry of Veterans Affairs looked after the non-Aboriginal soldiers that returned from those three wars while First Nation soldiers had to deal with the Indian agents. And that was only the start of the different treatment Native soldiers received, he added, since non-Aboriginal veterans received close to \$7,000 each when they returned while Native veterans received less than \$3,200.

"Some didn't even get a penny," he said.

He noted also that many Native soldiers lost their status and treaty rights when they enlisted and were enfranchised.

"A lot of us have lost our treaty because we served our country and I sure gave an earful to the prime minister about this in Vimy on April 9 of this year. Something has to be done about this," he said.

Eagle said he cornered Minister of Veterans Affairs Greg Thompson in France as well, after the minister had given a speech praising Canada's veterans at the ceremony marking the 90th

anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge.

"The minister of Veterans Affairs got up to the podium and made a long speech about the contribution of the veterans. Before he even got off the podium, I went up—the whole delegation was there—and I said, 'I don't believe a word you said.' No government has ever recognized the contributions made by First Nations veterans. When are you going to do that?" he said.

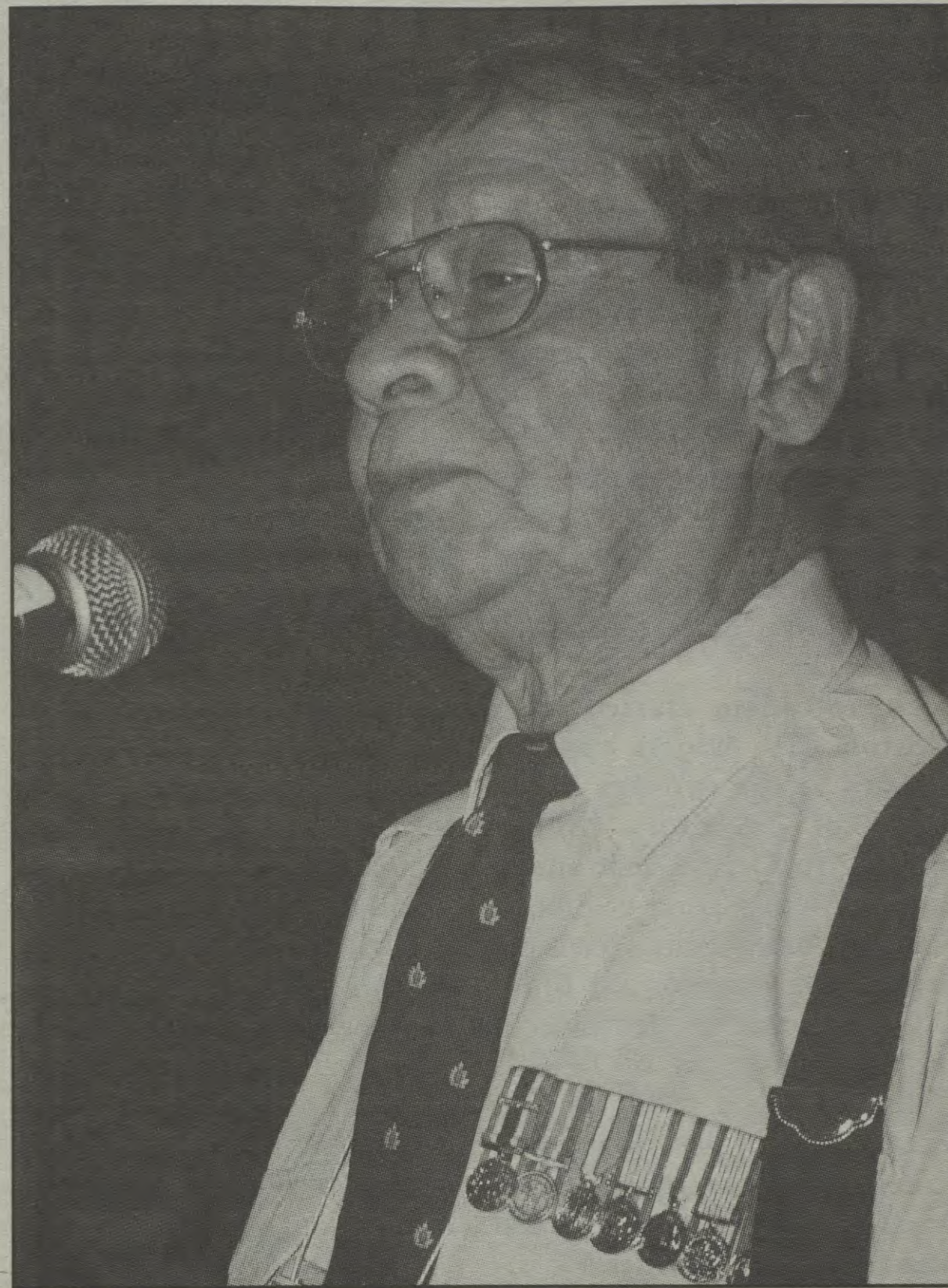
He said he asked Thompson that same question on three different occasions during the trip to France.

"After the third occasion, he said 'Tom, we'll have to discuss this.' I wrote four letters to him. I haven't heard anything back. But I will get it. I will meet with him even if I have to go to his residence. We would like to see these issues resolved."

Some veterans have already accepted a government offer, but Eagle said it was a low-ball number. In 2002, the federal government offered Aboriginal veterans a \$39-million compensation package. The deal offered around \$20,000 to each veteran, but did not admit to any wrongdoing on the part of the Crown. Many refused to accept it.

"They might say to you, 'We already paid \$20,000.' Our research came out with a different figure altogether. Because of the money and benefits that they didn't receive, it was something like, in today's money, something like \$420,000," he said.

He wants to have an agreement in place with the government in time for Remembrance Day this



PAUL BARNSELY

Tom Eagle makes a presentation during the Assembly of First Nations annual general assembly in Halifax in July, calling on the federal government to recognize the contributions made by Aboriginal veterans.

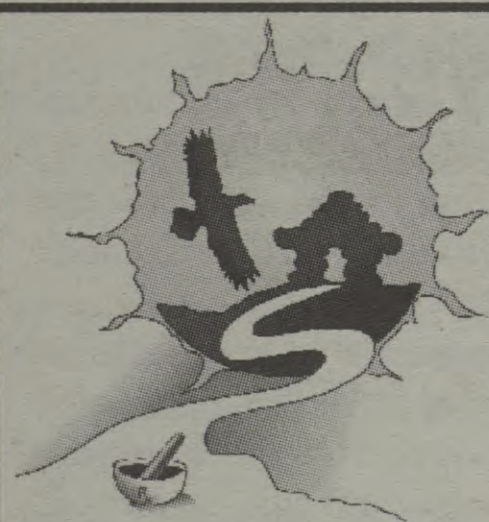
year.

"There is no resolution in sight. We are starting to forget why we are here as individuals. Who made that possible? Had Canada been taken over by a foreign army, I think we would have a different Canada today and perhaps we wouldn't be at this assembly," he said. "We need your help; we need your support. National chief, I think what's got to be

done here about these issues is we would ask you for your blessing. And I think it's about time that we veterans tried to resolve these issues."

Fontaine started his opening address, which followed immediately after Eagle's remarks, with a pledge to support the veterans in their efforts.

(See Eagle page 22)



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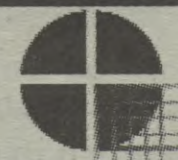
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## Elders' teachings part of solution

(Continued from page 5)

I want my family happy, I want my people proud. I want to be an Elder that children come to and learn that life is hard, but if you follow a true path, you'll keep our traditions, language and legends alive.

I've seen that old school is cool—always. By this I mean that maybe our Elders' teachings have ways of keeping us together. We really have to look at where our lives are going, and do everything in our power to clean our environments up and give something in the process back to our children and Elders. I want to make a difference to the community and Turtle Island.

I think that we, as Aboriginals, have to be responsible for our land and our society. So let this not only be a call for change, but a call to duty for our people. Let's start making the changes to better ourselves, to get our pride where it's needed to show us we are strong. Not just in words, but actions.

*Meegwetch!  
Peter Mattinas*

## Chief wants more action on issues

Dear Editor:

Oka. Burnt Church. Gustafson Lake. Caledonia.

Quite often when we hear about First Nations it involves another standoff or blockade. Issues and grievances that have dragged on for years escalate until desperate people take desperate measures.

We all know that there is a better way. For years and years, federal governments of all political stripes have made

commitments to improve the relationship between the Crown and First Nations. Processes are announced that are supposed to help us resolve claims in a less confrontational manner. The Indian Act is portrayed as outdated, holding First Nations back, and in need of replacement.

But nothing really seems to change.

Chemawawin Cree Nation has had a specific grievance against the federal government since the 1960s when our community was moved and our old homes and lands flooded to make way for the Grand Rapids Forebay hydroelectric project. We long ago settled our grievances with the province and with Manitoba Hydro, but 40 years later our claim against the federal government has not been addressed.

We want to move forward. A settlement of our claim would help heal outstanding wounds. The compensation we receive would help us better develop our community, improving living standards and creating opportunity for our young people.

A settlement of our claim will help us achieve our goal of a renewed and positive relationship with the federal government. Also key to this new relationship is negotiating our way out of the Indian Act. If Chemawawin is to thrive in the 21st century, we need governance structures that are relevant today, not relics of the 19th century.

During the last federal election, the Conservative Party platform made a commitment to replacing the Indian Act and to resolving specific claims. The prime minister recently announced a new independent body to address specific claims. Achieving this would be a major step in the right direction and a vast improvement over the adversarial system we have right now. Chemawawin supports an independent claims process but we hope that, until it is actually established, the government will be willing to negotiate with First Nations that prefer co-operation over litigation.

Since the 2006 election, Chemawawin has been seeking answers from the government on two specific issues: we

want to take our specific claim out of the courts in order to seek a negotiated solution, and we want to start the process of negotiating new governance structures and a new relationship with the Crown.

We have written repeatedly to the minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but we haven't received answers to our requests. We have met with and written to the Honourable Vic Toews in his role as senior minister for Manitoba. He gave us a commitment in January to find out the status of our claim, and our request to negotiate instead of litigate, but we haven't heard back from him yet.

I don't know how much longer our people can remain patient. For years, we were told we couldn't enter into governance negotiations because of the Manitoba Framework Agreement. That excuse is now gone.

The new specific claims body announced by the federal government will probably take years to get up and running. In the meantime, our case is in limbo.

We don't want confrontation. We know that our best hopes for the future lie in a positive relationship with the federal government. But I can't help wondering if we're taking the wrong approach.

In June, a First Nation community threatened to blockade the main CN line; within days, the federal government made a claim settlement offer. In Caledonia, a \$125 million offer was made after a long and bitter occupation of disputed land.

What are First Nations to think when elevated confrontation seems to lead to results, but years of patience and co-operation lead to nothing but silence?

The vast majority of First Nations, including Chemawawin, want to settle our grievances and move forward in a positive manner. We have made our choice.

And now the federal government needs to make a choice. Will it live up to its commitments and work together in a spirit of co-operation, or will it keep sending out the message that confrontation is the way to go?

*Chief Clarence Easter  
Chemawawin Cree Nation*

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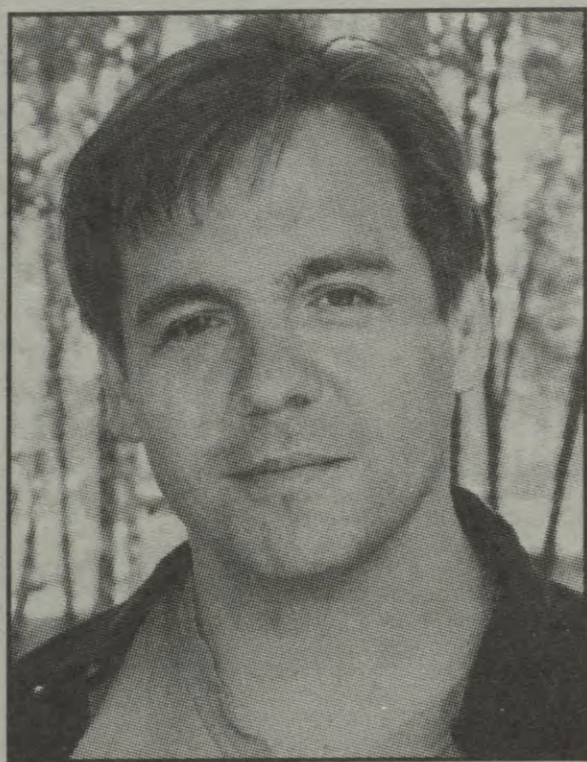
[ strictly speaking ]

## Dollars and cents or status cards and nonsense?

I admit it. I don't get white people, or as we call them in the 'hood, the colour challenged. More specifically, I don't get white business people. They and their ways confuse me. I'm sure they make sense, as much sense as does Canadian politics, the war in Iraq or the popularity of Canadian Idol.

For instance, reserves all over Saskatchewan have suddenly been flooded with sheets and sheets and sheets of faxes from local car dealers advertising their vehicular wares. This is because in the next few months, more than a billion dollars will be paid out to survivors of the residential schools. Some former students will get more than \$30,000 in compensation for what they had to endure in those institutions of debased learning. In total, we are talking about tens of thousands of Native people across Canada.

Like good entrepreneurs, most car dealers know that low-income people who suddenly get a large influx of cash tend to go on shopping sprees, like lottery winners or those who beat the odds at casinos. Thus the need to fax every faxable number in these Saskatchewan First Nation communities. This I understand.



### THE URBANE INDIAN

Drew Hayden Taylor

Capitalism. A little sleazy in this case, but understandable.

Why just Saskatchewan though? Who knows? One Saskatchewan car dealer claims he was completely unaware of the compensation packages. He just decided late June is a hell of a good time to paper the electronic Native world advertising his rock bottom price for a 2007 Kia Sportage. His prices just can't be beat.

What a coinkydink!

Here in Peterborough, a different battle between commerce and Aboriginalism occasionally takes place. In the Curve Lake newsletter a few weeks ago, it was reported that a

certain bath and bedroom store in town refused to honour status cards. That is to say they refused to subtract the provincial sales tax (PST) from goods purchased with the intention of taking them back to the reserve when presented with a valid certificate of Indian Status. The same has happened, I've heard, with other local shops and stores, including a well-known international perfume and bath company. I, myself, when visiting a store specializing in repairing and replacing glass, was told when whipping out my status card, "Oh we don't do that here. If you want to do that, you'll have to apply to the government yourself."

Needless to say, a lot of fellow Natives and I were and are disappointed by this attitude. When you consider the bigger picture, these companies could be losing a heck of a lot of money from irate and annoyed First Nations customers. Granted we may not be an overwhelming tidal wave of consumer force, but we can still give a good consumer kick in the shins when we want to.

Especially when you consider the other side of the coin. I am speaking of the flood of white people who storm the smoke shacks searching for low cost cigarettes in this and other Native communities, looking to save those precious few cents they will need as they toboggan towards a promising future of lung cancer and emphysema. I've been in some of those stores to buy less health inhibiting products and been absolutely amazed by non-Native people staggering out the door carrying 15 to 20 cartons of cigarettes in their arms. Thanks to these people for supporting our Aboriginal businesses, really, but there is such a thing as overkill. Literally.

So, do you see my dilemma? Some stores give us attitude for

requesting something that we are allowed as an inducement towards achieving a certain amount of economic success. Yet, average Canadians are so willing to take advantage of a particular loophole regarding the sales of carcinogens on reserve. Next week one of the smoke shacks is having a sale on Agent Orange and some home grown nuclear waste.

As for applying for reimbursement of the PST ourselves, I've read the Indian Act. Nowhere in it could I find any mention of us doing the paperwork to get money back that we shouldn't have had tagged on to the bill in the first place. Hey, you guys invented paper work. So you do it.


Or how about this? In order to keep a certain amount of commercial parity happening, everybody who has ever bought a cigarette on a reserve should boycott any store that charges Native people PST. Let's see what happens then. This might work because rumour has it that bath and bedroom place recently reneged on its no status card policy after some irate responses and feared a potential blockade of its pots and pans section.



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**Canada**

# Aboriginal post-secondary students: One-fifth of a person?

By **Karihwakeron Tim Thompson**  
Windspeaker Guest Columnist

TYENDINAGA, Ont.

"The education of Indians consists not merely of training the mind but of a weaning of the habits and feelings of their ancestors and the acquirements of the language, arts and customs of civilized life." Egerton Ryerson, 1847

"I want to get rid of the Indian problem. I do not think as a matter of fact, that the country ought to continuously protect a class of people who are able to stand alone ... That has been the whole purpose of Indian education and advancement since the earliest times ... Our objective is to continue until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic and there is no Indian question, and no Indian Department..." Duncan Campbell Scott, Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, 1920

The residential school system was the primary weapon to implement a federal policy designed to destroy the cultural identities of Aboriginal peoples. Despite the fact that academic

education was far from a priority of these institutions, the federal government of the day did consider the possibility that "civilized" Aboriginal people might be able to experience higher education. Under the Indian Act, an individual would be required to give up their identity and all rights as an Aboriginal person in exchange for the right to get a post-secondary education. This law did not change until 1951-for many of us, this is our parents' generation. Is it any wonder that there are significant gaps in education attainment between Aboriginal peoples and Canadians?

The First Nations Technical Institute (FNTI) is an Aboriginal controlled post-secondary institute that was created in 1985 to provide access to post-secondary programs for Aboriginal people. We are succeeding, and have since been joined by a number of other Aboriginal controlled institutions in Ontario.

FNTI offers a variety of degree, diploma and certificate programs in partnership with provincially recognized colleges and universities. On the basis of Aboriginal student population, we are one of the largest post-secondary institutions in Ontario.

The institute has gained domestic recognition for its community based education delivery approach and international recognition for work in Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) and adult education initiatives. Delegates from around the world attend our annual conference. This has led to our involvement in working with Indigenous nations, state governments, and industry in countries such as South Africa, Ecuador and Chile. Ironically, our international engagements are bringing us significant recognition while here in Ontario, Canada, we exist as the unwanted relative that neither jurisdiction wants to acknowledge.

The federal government has constitutional responsibility for "Indians" and acknowledges its responsibility for education on reserve. However, the federal government has attempted to limit its legal responsibility to Grade 12 and takes the position that post-secondary is a provincial responsibility. In Ontario, Aboriginal controlled institutions are not considered as colleges or universities but are instead treated as "Indians" which, of course, are a federal responsibility. FNTI is tired of being in the middle of an endless jurisdictional volleyball

game, wondering whether we will exist from year to year. Both governments are aware of the conundrum, but neither has taken the initiative to address the situation. The bureaucrats to whom we are consistently directed are very nice people who have no power to resolve this matter.

Last month we were informed that in the upcoming school year the government of Ontario values an Aboriginal student attending FNTI at \$1,677, approximately 20 per cent of the value of a student attending another college or university in this province. This is despite the fact that FNTI carries out all the program development and delivery functions of any other college and university, while delivering post-secondary programs that meet Ontario's approval requirements. We play by the same rules but not with the same equipment. For some reason I am reminded that for a long time the Indian Act identified a person as "an individual other than an Indian."

The premier of Ontario would like to be known as the education premier and established some impressive credentials to support this claim early in his term in office. The government of Ontario even created a post-secondary access and opportunities strategy

for Aboriginal peoples and historically disadvantaged populations. It should also be noted that the premier supported the Kelowna accord, which made significant provisions for Aboriginal post-secondary education. However, if the government of Ontario truly believes in creating post-secondary access and opportunities for Aboriginal students, then the half-measures (1/5 measures?) need to be replaced with long term commitments based on fairness, equity and justice.

So Premier Dalton McGuinty, will the legacy of your initial term in office be one of groundbreaking leadership in achieving equity for FNTI and Aboriginal institutions? Or will you simply allow the status quo to prevail where institutions, their programs and students face uncertain futures year after year? I think you have shown your good heart in education and I trust you will act quickly to address the inequities. With fairness and equity, I have no doubt that we can achieve significant accomplishments in Aboriginal post-secondary education in Ontario.

**Karihwakeron Tim Thompson is the president and chief administrative officer of FNTI.**



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# Few chose to opt out of settlement agreement

The deadline for residential school survivors to opt out of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement has come and gone, and it appears very few individuals have chosen to reject the federal compensation package.

A release posted on the settlement's official court Web site on Aug. 21—the day after the opt-out deadline—indicated that only 201 opt out forms had been processed so far, a good indication that the total number of forms received would be much lower than the 5,000 needed to keep implementation of the agreement from going forward. By choosing to remain in the settlement agreement, former students lose the right to sue the federal government or the churches involved in the settlement over their experiences in the residential school system.

Under the settlement agreement, some 80,000 former residential school students and their families will receive common experience payments, with the amount of those payments determined by how long the student attended residential school. Each former student whose claim is approved will receive \$10,000 for the first school year or portion of a school year they were in residential school, then \$3,000 for each subsequent year. It's estimated at least \$1.9 billion in common experience payments will be

awarded. The agreement also includes a process that will allow former students to receive additional compensation if they suffered sexual abuse or serious physical or psychological abuse during their time in residential school.

An additional \$205 million has been set aside under the agreement to support healing and reconciliation and for projects to commemorate the residential school experience.

The next step for the former residential school students who have remained in the settlement agreement is filling out a claim form. While some claim forms have already been circulating, the official forms that must be filled out will not be available until Sept. 19. Those who have registered on the settlement's court Web site will have the forms mailed out to them. To register, go to [www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca](http://www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca) or call 1-866-879-4913.

As of Sept. 19, the forms will be available on the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada (IRSRC) Web site ([www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca](http://www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca)) or on the Service Canada Web site ([www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca)) or by calling 1-866-699-1742.

Service Canada will be responsible for co-ordinating the common experience payment portion of the settlement agreement. On Sept. 19, the government department will

begin to provide application forms and help former students fill out the forms. Service Canada will also be responsible for receiving and processing completed forms and issuing payments once applications are approved.

Also starting on Sept. 19, the department will launch a toll-free common experience payment information line that people will be able to call to get help filling out their applications or to find out more about the common experience payment process. That number will be posted on the Service Canada Web site and will be included in the claim packages mailed out to people who have registered to receive the forms.

Applicants will also have the option of visiting a Service Canada office in their community to access assistance. A list of Service Canada centres across the country can be found on the department's Web site.

Service Canada also plans to bring its services out to some rural and remote communities, where staff will help applicants complete their forms and accept completed applications for processing.

According to Andrew Gowing, a communications officer with IRSRC, former residential school students have five years in which to fill out their forms and submit them in order to qualify for the common experience payments.

## Organizations preparing for impact of settlement payments

While many residential school survivors and their families wait for Sept. 19 to arrive so they can begin the process of applying for compensation under the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, organizations across the country are working to prepare for the impact an influx of \$1.9 billion could have within the Aboriginal community.

In order to better understand the impact the coming compensation dollars could have on recipients, the Aboriginal Health Foundation (AHF) undertook a study of how individuals who have already received compensation payments were affected. The study was released on Aug. 20.

What the study revealed, explained AHF executive director Mike DeGagne, was that, while receiving money through the settlement agreement shouldn't cause any major problems for the majority of residential school survivors, there are some for whom the payment could have negative ramifications.

"These former students, this is

their money. They'll use it according to their own judgment, and that judgment's just fine," DeGagne said. "But there is a small percent of people who may already be experiencing difficulties for whom money won't make anything better, and it may actually make things worse.

"And so, on the one hand, we have to give out the good news—that this money will do a great deal to assist the Aboriginal community and individuals in the Aboriginal community. But at the same time, we have to be pretty vigilant and make sure that we take a look at people who may be at risk if they have lots of money. Either they could be preyed on, be taken advantage of—the kinds of stuff that we've heard to a certain extent already—or this could feed addictions, that sort of thing."

DeGagne acknowledges that one of the negative affects of the settlement payouts could be the memories and emotions that are stirred up.

"This is called the common

experience payment very deliberately by government, because it's not a compensation payment. But no matter what happens when that money changes hands, it will be seen as compensatory. It'll be sort of like people will say, 'Is this compensation for my time at residential school?' Well, it definitely isn't. Even one day of pain or abuse can't be replaced by money. So I think it will get people thinking about those times, and that's why you have to have counselling. That's why you have to have healing programs and healing supports in communities that people can access if they get into real trouble."

A number of organizations are working to help communities prepare for whatever the settlement payments will bring, DeGagne explained. The Assembly of First Nations, for instance, has put on workshops to help prepare frontline workers, and a major frontline workers conference was held in Moncton, N.B. at the end of August.

# Critics of residential school agreement emerge

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

## VANCOUVER

The deadline for deciding whether or not to opt out of the Indian residential school settlement agreement passed on Aug. 20.

Tom Oleman has already said "no thanks." He and others are recommending that the children and grandchildren of those who attended the schools do the same.

He, along with two Gitksan Nation men, Sii' Haast (Willie Blackwater) and William Matthews, sent out press releases in early August in an attempt to get people that they believe will not be well-served by the agreement to keep their legal options open.

Blackwater was the lead plaintiff named in the Blackwater (Barney) case, launched in 1998 in British Columbia Supreme Court, which went all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

He said he has chosen to speak out for those who are hesitant to speak out. Matthews is the founding president of the Gitksan Spirit Survivor's group.

All three said they intentionally waited until close to the opt out deadline to speak out.

"I did not want to influence anybody who's going to be taking the money and I was desperately trying to find a human way to get to the children of survivors. That's my main focus," Oleman said.

"I myself am OK. I've already opted out and I've got my letter from Ottawa saying I will receive nothing for this and I don't have the right for healing, blah, blah, blah. But at the end of the day I can still have the lawsuit going, which I will do on my own behalf and on behalf of my children and grandchildren. This probably won't even get into court by the time I die. I'm 61 years old now. To start a Supreme Court action against the government and the church this late in the day, I'm hoping I can get enough stuff down on paper with a good law firm that some time in the future my children will be mitigated and there'll be a future for my grandchildren."

With an unmistakable tone of profound, soul deep sadness in his voice, Oleman said the attempts by the churches and the state to hide from accountability are the most painful and offensive parts of this ordeal for him.

"I tell my friends that," he said, pausing briefly to keep his emotions in check, "I would

*"We are truly devastated that there is no apology in this deal. That is what we were seeking when we initiated our lawsuit in 1998. It wasn't mainly about money. It was about acknowledgement, and making sure the abuses don't happen again to anyone."*

—Willie Blackwater

settle for one dollar. I would settle with a public, recorded apology from the prime minister admitting all of the things that I've lost ... and ensuring an economic recovery for my family."

Blackwater also emphasized the importance of an apology in a statement he issued jointly with Matthews.

"We are truly devastated that there is no apology in this deal. That is what we were seeking when we initiated our lawsuit in 1998. It wasn't mainly about money. It was about acknowledgement, and making sure the abuses don't happen again to anyone," he said.

"As the lead plaintiff in [the Blackwater (Barney)] case I demand, in the strongest possible terms, a full and formal apology from the prime minister as the political head of Canada."

Oleman said he will also seek an apology from the Catholic Church that ran the school he attended.

"I believe that the governments and churches who apprehended me and assisted in the removal of my identity and history owe me an apology. They both have the responsibility to assist my children, my grandchildren and the others who are coming, in the recovery of a sustainable and healthy lifestyle that was previously enjoyed by the grandparents and most certainly my great-grandparents. The government and the churches are accountable to the world for the irreparable harm that they have directly inflicted on me and on my family," he said.

The value of the residential school agreement is close to \$2 billion. Oleman said it's not nearly enough.

"A lot of people that I'm talking to now think it's a pretty low offer, to start. When you take a look at the damages suffered by many of the people that went, it wouldn't even be a year's salary. It wouldn't be tuition for a good school," he said.

"My amount, if I had chosen to go through with it, would be \$23,000. I'm telling my friends it wouldn't even be a good party for me when I was going hard.

But the reality is many of our people are older and they're desperate and they're just happy to get something and I support them. I don't know if they've really taken a look at what they're signing because we are giving Canada and the churches carte blanche on everything they've done."

The Assembly of First Nations has had workers travelling the country meeting with survivors. Oleman and the others said they've been promoting the agreement to survivors rather than, neutrally explaining it.

"[Survivors] are being pushed very quickly to accept something," he said.

All three men repeatedly emphasized that they do not judge anyone who accepts the offer.

"I believe we'll be lucky if we get 2,000 or 3,000 that will opt out because they've been waiting a long time," Oleman said.

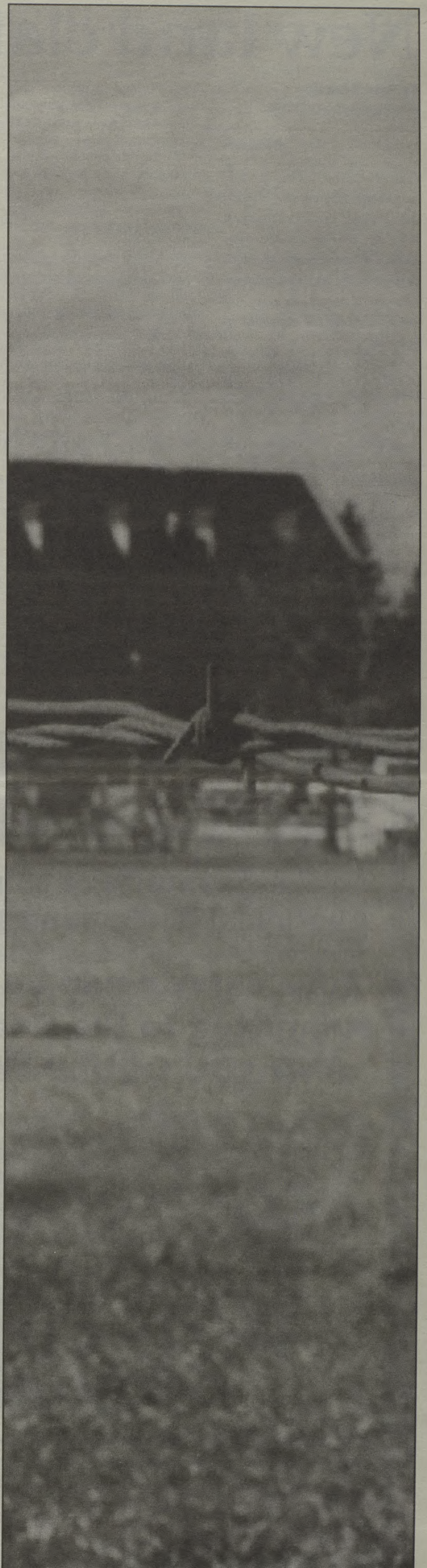
"We know some survivors may feel their compensation is blood money—paid to hush them up," Matthews and Blackwater said in their joint release.

"We want you to know that the money you will be receiving through the settlement agreement is not hush money: it is compensation for harms you suffered in residential school. We want survivors to know that you deserve to be compensated."

Oleman said that the children of survivors had to grow up without emotionally healthy parents and they will feel the consequences of that as the years go by, if they haven't already, and therefore they should be directly compensated for the damage the residential school policy did to them. He said the agreement doesn't do enough for them and doesn't do anything at all for others who were harmed.

"We never, ever addressed the issues of the ones who never made it. The ones that committed suicide; the ones that drank themselves to death; the ones that died in accidents; the ones that were murdered," he said.

The Assembly of First Nations did not respond by press time to *Windspeaker's* request for a response to the critics of the residential school settlement agreement.



# New land claims plan questioned

By Paul Barnsley  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

*Editor's note: This article originally ran in the August 2007 issue of Windspeaker, however, due to an oversight during the production process a portion of the text was omitted. In order to rectify the error, we are re-running the article in its entirety.*

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Phil Fontaine's support for the Harper government's new plan to break the backlog in specific claims settlement has many people across the country scratching their heads.

"This is an historic announcement, and a day to applaud the federal government on its commitment to resolving the growing land claims backlog," Fontaine said in a press release. "First Nations have been calling for a fair, independent, binding and just approach to resolving specific land claims for decades now."

But many backroom First Nation workers point out that

there's no land in the new land claims' settlement plan, only cash compensation. And the government-imposed parameters of the recently announced plan rule out loss of use payment and compound interest on cash settlements and punitive damages against a government that has stalled the process for generations.

Several First Nation technicians pointed out that the government is still not allowing First Nations to be equal partners in appointing adjudicators to a tribunal that will decide cases where the First Nation and government can't agree.

Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice said last month that the superior court judges the government will appoint to the tribunal can be trusted to be independent and weigh both sides equally.

One technician, who requested he not be named, said "If it doesn't matter who appoints the tribunal, why not let us do it?"

And since there's only \$250 million a year over 10 years put aside to settle claims that the government of Canada itself conservatively estimates have a total value of \$15.1 billion, and no claim worth more than \$150 million can be addressed by the

new process, the source called the new plan a "small claims' court."

Roland Pangowish did work for the AFN over the course of many years, including years toiling on the AFN/INAC joint task force on claims. That committee's work was rejected by former Indian Affairs minister Robert Nault in his First Nations governance Act (FNGA), and that led to the FNGA being rejected by the chiefs. Pangowish, and many of the other people who worked on the AFN side of that task force, urged the rejection of the FNGA because it did not call for a truly independent body that would resolve disputes in a nation-to-nation relationship.

The FNGA, a suite of four proposed government bills, was eventually defeated. Former prime minister Paul Martin refused to enact Bill C-6, the one piece of legislation that dealt with specific claims reform that was passed.

Pangowish sent *Windspeaker* his analysis of the Conservative Party plan announced by Prime Minister Stephen Harper on June 12. He wrote that "the measures merely modify the current system and add a federally-appointed tribunal. The recommendations of the joint task force are

completely abandoned here, even more significantly than Bill C-6 did in the sense that the concept of an independent claims body to manage the entire specific claims process is abandoned altogether." When he looked at the government plan, the claims specialist noted that the "long-standing objective of First Nations to eliminate the government's conflict of interest in judging claims against itself by establishing an independent claims body is not achieved. While these measures might marginally improve the rate of claim settlements, the limited increase in financial resources will not significantly reduce the growing backlog of specific claims."

Pangowish said mere consultation with First Nation leaders in the tribunal appointment process will not be enough.

"The lack of a defined role for First Nations in appointments to the tribunal, and in the five-year review process, is bound to call into question the fairness of the body and will maintain the perception of conflict," he said.

Senator Gerry St. Germain, chair of Senate's standing committee on Aboriginal Affairs,

said the proposed plan, which he acknowledged, "was as close to a mirror image as you can get" of the report his Senate committee produced on the stalled land claims process, insists a tribunal of superior court judges can be a truly independent body. He acknowledged that it was not truly independent in the sense that First Nations and the government would jointly appoint the tribunal members, but he did not think it would be a deal-breaking issue.

"I don't believe so because I think you're going to be relying on high level judges. This is not something that's going to be placed in the hands of a chicken farmer, cattle rancher like myself. They [First Nations] are going to be part and parcel of the appointment process. They're going to be consulted. You know, the final decision, logically will come down to the minister," he said, during a phone interview. "If the leadership of the government proves that it's sincere in what it's trying to do, it's not hard to see consensus. But as I say there's nothing perfect in this world, but I can assure people at the highest level of adjudication will certainly be chosen for the job."

(See Critics page 17)

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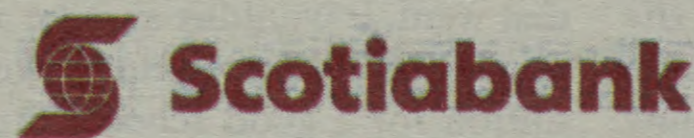


### ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Entries may be colour slides or prints (no Polaroids, please), not larger than 8" x 10". Subject of photos must be Aboriginal. A maximum of four (4) photo entries per person. Photographs that have been previously published or won a photographic award are NOT eligible. By submitting the photo(s) you confirm that you are the exclusive rights holder of the photo(s). Each entry must be labeled with the entrant's name. This information should be printed on the back of the photograph or on the slide frame (a grease pencil works best), or on an attached label. Hint: To prevent damage, do not stamp or write heavily on the back of your prints. Package your entries carefully in a protective cardboard sleeve. Entries must be accompanied by a list of the pictures enclosed. The list should include your full name, address and daytime phone number. Entrants under 18 must enclose permission of a parent/guardian. Sorry, submitted entries and photos cannot be returned. Windspeaker and Scotiabank are not responsible for lost or delayed entries. The selected winning photos shall become the property of Windspeaker. Professionals and amateurs may enter. Photographs will be judged on creativity and technical excellence and how they best capture the contest theme. A panel of judges will select the prize winners. Their decisions are final. Winner will be notified by phone. Photo contest rules are also available online at <http://www.ammsa.com/snap>

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# Critics compare process to small claims court

(Continued from page 16.)

When he was asked about the limits the government had put on the plan right from the outset, Gerry St. Germain said First Nation leaders would have to trust the government to behave well as things unfolds.

"What we were trying to do as a committee was to develop a process that would expedite the process itself. Not so much as to how these will be adjudicated. I think guidelines will be established, precedent will be set very quickly and I believe that fairness will prevail," he said. "And if we're not fair in dealing with these things we'll have not made any progress. Fairness and

expediency has to be the hallmarks of how this whole process goes ahead. If it is a genuine negotiation then the hopes are that these can be negotiated prior to going to adjudication."

He rejected the idea that the plan was a small claims court.

"The original C-6 had a \$10 million cap. This is \$150 million. There's not many claims over \$150 million," he said.

Liberal Party sources say that Canada puts \$15.1 billion on the books annually representing a contingent liability that Canada owes for land claims. St. Germain said it's one thing to put a hypothetical number on a page

and quite another to actually pay out real money settling claims.

"If it isn't assigned, it doesn't happen. This is clearly defined. These funds are for this specific use. You can have all kinds of contingency funds on the books, but if it isn't assigned and specified, what happens is it just doesn't happen and this is what's been happening for years," he said.

"The whole process had to be re-designed so that, number one, you couldn't continue on with having the government being the judge, the jury, the prosecution. That was one of the big things for implementing an independent body."

During a phone interview on June 19, New Democratic Party (NDP) leader Jack Layton said his party supports a nation-to-nation approach on settling land claims. Layton said the NDP had noted that the call for a truly independent tribunal had not been acknowledged.

"We have some of these same concerns as to how it's going to work. We know that the government is committed to be in negotiations and discussions with the AFN and other First Nations groups and we will be monitoring those discussions very, very closely and I will stay in touch with the negotiators and with the national chief and, of

course, we'll be at the AFN gathering in Halifax in July and we will hold government to account," he said.

"We believe that, as I've said time and time again, a nation-to-nation approach is what is required. That's what happened when those treaties were signed and that principle needs to be honoured. If we don't respect it then we're never going to get out of the downward spiral that we've been in.

"Canada is a wealthy country. There's no question the government hasn't allocated the funds it should. It has other priorities and we think that those priorities are misguided."

## Joint task force announced for new claims process

On July 25, the federal government and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) announced the names of the members of a new task force that will assist in the development of specific claims legislation.

"The work of this task force is integral to both the success and spirit of our plan to bring greater fairness, transparency and speed to Canada's specific claim process," said then-minister of Indian and Northern Affairs

Canada Jim Prentice. "Canada's new government is proud to be part of an historic move that will fundamentally change the way specific claims are handled in Canada."

"The AFN welcomes engagement in a process of joint legislative drafting and non-legislative discussions that will revolutionize Canada's specific claims resolution system," said AFN National Chief Phil Fontaine. "We know from

previous experience that using a collaborative approach to improving the specific claims process will effectively address concerns of both First Nations and Canada."

The chiefs approved the task force's mandate during the AFN annual assembly held in Halifax from July 10 to 12.

"This co-operative work is long overdue," Fontaine added, "and we commend Canada for wisely choosing negotiation with First

Nations, rather than engaging in confrontation."

The task force's co-chairs will be Bruce Carson, a legislative assistant with the Office of the Prime Minister, and Shawn Atleo, AFN regional chief for British Columbia. Other members include Roger Augustine, the AFN chief of staff; Sylvia Duquette, executive director of the specific claims reform initiative with INAC; Lawrence Joseph, the Saskatchewan AFN

regional chief; Willie Littlechild, the Alberta AFN regional chief; and Robert Winogron, senior counsel in the specific claims section of Justice Canada's INAC legal services unit. The chief of staff of the INAC minister is also a member of the task force.

The task force was scheduled to meet bi-weekly throughout the summer. The government plans to bring forward legislation for implementation of its specific claims plan in the fall.

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# Barge spill causes serious concerns

BY GAURI CHOPRA  
Raven's Eye Staff Writer

## ROBSON BIGHT

An accidental barge spill has caused serious concerns for surrounding Aboriginal communities and sea life.

The barge operated by Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd., that was said to be hauling vehicles, heavy equipment and diesel fuel when it dropped its load in Robson Bight Aug. 20.

The vehicles and equipment sank to the seabed in Johnstone Strait, and the diesel fuel created a visible oil slick that extended up to eight kilometres.

"In many ways, if you have to have a disaster, this is a good one. They figure that half of the volume of diesel that spilled may have evaporated in the warm summer days that we had," said Doug Aberley, director of the treaty and natural resources department at Namgis First Nation.

Aberley added that the Namgis community is directly affected by the spill as their people largely live off the sea.

Robson Bight is also feeding grounds for a pod of 200 killer whales, and is populated by loons, salmon, herring, sardines, cormorants and ducks.

Although fishing was not allowed this year in the area, some community members are concerned that the harmful hydrocarbons may be passed on to those who eat the fish in later years.

"There has been a strong concern over the disorganization of the response to the event. It appears that the Canadian Coast Guard is working more for the company that caused the spill than for the environment," said Aberley.

To rectify this the Namgis community has hired a biologist to advise the Coast Guard and B.C. ministry of Environment who are responding to the spill, from a First Nations perspective.



PHOTO BY: PTE. MALCOLM BYERS, BASE IMAGING SERVICES, CFB ESQUIMALT.

Seventeen year old Laurier Mathieu of Powell River, B.C. was awarded Top Male Athlete from Keith Martin, Member of Parliament for Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca, and Captain (Navy) Peter Avis of Maritime Forces Pacific at the Canadian Navy's 2007 Raven Aboriginal Youth Employment Program in Victoria August 24th.

# A new investment in language revitalization

Children and Family Development Minister Tom Christensen announced \$2 million in support of First Nation language initiatives in Victoria, Aug. 13.

The ministry investment is intended for early childhood development programming in British Columbia. The funds are to be used by the First Peoples'

Cultural Foundation in Brentwood Bay, and dispersed at their discretion. The non-profit organization partners with the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council in an effort to revitalize and preserve First Nations languages. The grant addresses the long-standing issue of a loss of traditional culture amongst First Nation

communities. The funds are intended to assist in instilling valuable Native language skills in children, with hopes that they use their mother tongue throughout their lives. British Columbia houses more than 60 per cent of Canada's Aboriginal languages, and many are understood to be on the verge of extinction or already obsolete.



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## Alberta Sweetgrass: Special Section providing news from Alberta

# Makokis selected as new national spokesperson

BY TENEIL WHISKEYJACK  
Sweetgrass Staff Writer

### SADDLE LAKE

This year the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) has announced a new national Aboriginal spokesperson and 12 Aboriginal Role Models from across Canada, represent the National Aboriginal Role Model program. The announcement was made during an award ceremony at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa in late June. NAHO is an Aboriginal-designed and controlled body committed to influencing and advancing the health and well being of Aboriginal Peoples. The organization reflects the values and principles contained in traditional knowledge and traditional knowledge practices.

The Aboriginal role models for the 2007-2008 period will be visiting Aboriginal communities across Canada. They will also attend celebrations and visit schools to talk about their experiences.

James Makokis from the Saddle Lake Cree Nation has been

named this year's national Aboriginal spokesperson for NAHO. He is 25-years-old and has quite the impressive education record thus far.

In 2004, Makokis graduated from the University of Alberta with his bachelor of science in nutrition and food science. His education continued at the University of Toronto, studying public health and nutrition.

Makokis said he attended the Uof T to develop a better understanding about how to improve the health of Aboriginal populations. He also wanted to learn about one-on-one-nutrition counseling as well.

He has just completed his first year at the University of Ottawa studying medicine. He will be returning this fall.

One of his ultimate goals is to finish his education in medicine and give back to his community of Saddle Lake. He said he wants to improve the health issues such as diabetes and heart disease that are "at an all time high amongst Aboriginal people."

"When improving the health of a community it starts with addressing peoples individual

health issues," he said.

When he visits his community he learns more of his Cree language and engages more frequently in traditional ceremonies, which seems to keep him grounded.

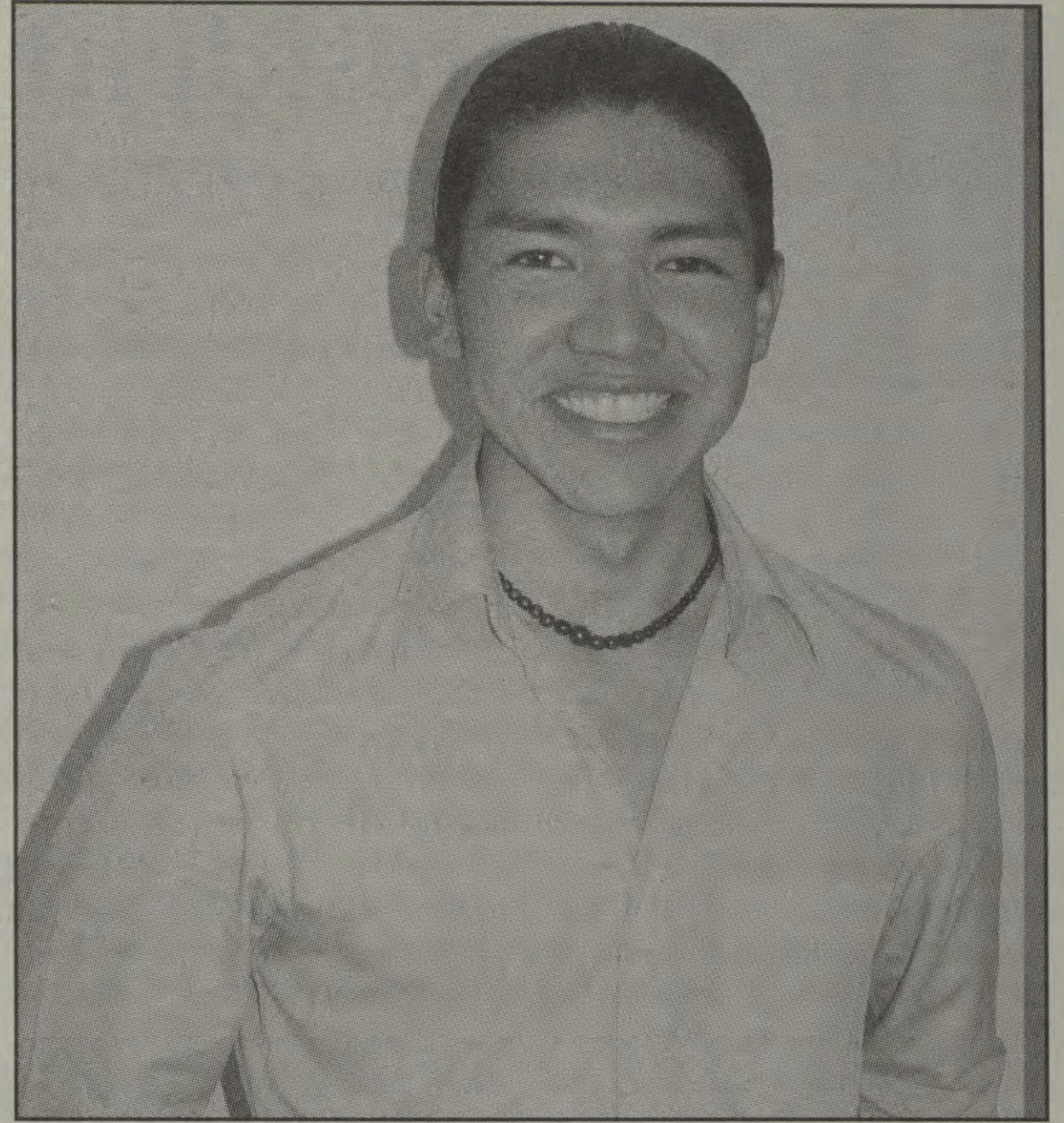
Tradition played a huge role in his life growing up, giving him the strength to follow paths that would eventually lead him to where he is today.

He feels that the youth of today don't speak enough of their First Nation language and "it's an issue that needs to be addressed to bridge a gap in culture so we all can preserve and pass on our language to our children to keep the tradition alive," he said.

He said his message is clear— "Try as much as possible to lead healthy lives and make healthy decisions for yourself."

"It's OK to abstain from life altering substances. Being a two-spirited person I feel there needs to be support amongst those who are on that path in their lives to have a voice, not just for two-spirited but for all youth," Makokis said.

"It's important to understand our roles as youth because we are



James Makokis

the future lead. If we understand our roles now, it will be a better tomorrow for our people," he said.

The national Aboriginal role models for 2007 include, Suzette

Amaya, Julie Bull, Carissa Copenance, Jessica Dunkley, Jordan Fluery, Gloria Kowtak, Shawn Kuliktana, Candice Lys, Anna Nelson, Charlie Tookaluk, Vanessa Webb and Alwyn Piche.



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## U of A program explores gang life

Native Studies 403 is a class that hits close to home for Rob Papin. He, along with Professor Chris Andersen from the University of Alberta have developed a course that focuses on Aboriginal gangs and violence. Papin is a reformed gang member who now uses his time to counsel others who still participate in gangs and illegal activities. Native Studies 403 is offered through the department of Native Studies at the university. It is believed to be the first course of its kind.

Positive feed back from the 16 students who completed the trial course last semester, is just one of the reasons there is a push to make the class part of the curriculum. The course focuses heavily on issues surrounding the ways in which gangs are formed; dealing with questions of how young Aboriginal people get involved in gang activities. Those in favour of having the class offered again see it as a way to tackle a potential explosion of gang violence in the community.

## New Google Earth feature launched

A new online guide to information about Aboriginal communities across Canada is now available, thanks to a program produced by the Aboriginal Canada Portal (ACP) that works in conjunction with the Google Earth mapping program. The program is available on the ACP Web site at [www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca](http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca). Just go to the ACP homepage, and click on the All Aboriginal Communities of Canada in

Google Earth link, then follow the instructions. The program shows the approximate location of all First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities in Canada.

Click on a marker for a community and a link will pop up that takes you to the ACP profile for each community. These profiles feature useful information, including a listing of the Aboriginal group the community is affiliated to and links to community homepages.

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**Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan**

## Doucette elected as MN-S president

It's been a long time coming, but Robert Doucette is finally, officially, the president of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S).

The MNS held its election on June 27 and, on July 4, the official election results showed Doucette had won his bid to become president of the provincial Métis organization. There was probably an element of *deja vu* involved when Doucette learned of his election victory. The unofficial results following the May 2004 MN-S election showed he'd been elected as president. Then a couple of missing ballot boxes showed up containing enough votes to change the results and give the presidency to Doucette's fellow candidate, Dwayne Roth.

It turned out missing ballot boxes were just the tip of the iceberg when it came to strange goings on surrounding the 2004 election. A report on the election commissioned by the province uncovered evidence of a number of irregularities and concluded they were enough to throw the legitimacy of the election results into question. As a result, both the provincial and federal governments cut off funding to the MN-S and refused to recognize the executive put in place through that election.

Now that a new executive has been put in place, elected through a process that was overseen by the province, it looks like relations between the MN-S and the federal and provincial governments could get back to normal.

There was no shortage of well-wishers wanting to congratulate the MN-S on their success in running a fair and democratic election. Press releases were issued by the federal and provincial governments and Métis organizations from across the country.

"Canada's new government is pleased to have partnered with the government of Saskatchewan in supporting the work of the Independent Oversight

Committee and the Chief Electoral Officer to deliver a fair and democratic election for the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan. We look forward to working with the new leaders," then-minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Jim Prentice stated in a media release issued the day after the election was held.

The release went on to say that, once the election results were confirmed, the federal government would begin discussions with the newly elected executive about renewing relations between INAC and the MN-S. The provincial government offered similar congratulations in its message, along with a similar assurance that talks would begin to restore relations with the provincial Métis organization.

Messages of congratulations were also issued by the Métis Nation of Ontario, the Métis Nation of Alberta and the Métis National Council.

Joining Doucette on the newly-elected executive are vice-president Allan Morin and treasurer Gabe Lafonde. The question as to who will fill the position of secretary is still up in the air.

The top two candidates for the position Max J. Morin and Tammy May (Fiddler)- had fewer than 50 votes separating them and, according to the Saskatchewan Métis Election Act of 2007, any difference that represents less than 2 per cent of the total votes cast automatically triggers a judicial recount. That recount is scheduled to take place on Sept. 5.

A dozen regional representatives were also elected in June. They include Lennard Douglas Morin, Helene Johnson, John Robert LaFontaine, Beverley Worsley, Pat Knudsen, Marlene M. Hansen, Louis G. Gardiner, Mavis Taylor, Billy Dean Kennedy, Darlene D. McKay, Bob McLeod and Karen LaRocque.



CHARLES HUERTO

Natasha Lewis (left) and Mariah Lewis (right) were all smiles as they enjoyed a summer weekend filled with dancing and drumming during the Onion Lake Powwow held July 20 to 22.

## Vice-chief resigns from FNUC board of governors

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Vice-chief Lyle Whitefish has resigned his chairmanship of the board of governors of the First Nations University of Canada (FNUC), a move a number of organizations have called for repeatedly over the past two years.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), of which FNUC is a member; the University of Regina Faculty Association, which represents academic staff and administrative, professional and technical employees at the university; and an all chiefs task force created to examine the future of the university have all stated that having the board chaired by an FSIN vice-chief impeded academic freedom at the university.

The AUCC even went as far as to place FNUC on probationary

membership-a first for the association giving the university until March 15, 2008 to resolve its governance issues or face removal of its membership.

"I believe that this change will serve the best interests of the university as we are all committed to working collectively toward achieving institutional autonomy and improving the lives of our First Nations at a post-secondary level," Whitefish said in a July 31 media statement announcing his resignation from the FNUC board of governors.

"Higher learning is not only a life-altering experience, but a catalyst that positively impacts the lives of students, their families and the wider community."

While he will no longer be a member of the FNUC board of governors, Whitefish will still be involved with the university, as his responsibilities on the FSIN

executive include handling the education portfolio.

Charles Pratt, president of FNUC, praised Whitefish for the leadership he had demonstrated during his time as FNUC board chair, but indicated he saw the vice-chief's decision as a positive move for the university.

"I believe that this decision will be instrumental in addressing the main governance issue in question," Pratt said.

"This change will mean we can focus on the most significant issue at hand, which is providing an excellent education for the students who walk through our doors."

Clarence Bellegarde, chief of Little Black Bear First Nation, who had been the board of governors co-chair, has since replaced Whitefish as the current chairman of the FNUC board of governors.



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Windspeaker's Special Section Serving the Aboriginal People of Ontario

# Veteran athlete qualifies for 2008 NAIG

BY GAURI CHOPRA  
Birchbark Staff Writer

## THUNDER BAY

The Ontario Aboriginal Summer Games in Thunder Bay hosted athletes from various Aboriginal communities across Ontario. One athlete in particular gained a lot of attention after receiving several awards at the Aug. 9 to 12 games.

Daina Stevens' participation in the summer games found her

studded with gold medals. She came first in all of her events including the 7.5 kilometre, 5,000 (approximately 12 laps), 10,000 (25 laps), and 3,000 (7 laps) metre races, as well as stealing gold along with her team in the 4 by 100 and 4 by 400 relay races.

"I was naturally exhausted, but I enjoyed it," said Stevens.

Stevens says she's been running ever since she was in elementary school. "One day we were asked to run laps in Phys Ed class, and

I guess my teacher noticed that I was doing really well," said 32-year-old Stevens. "I was encouraged to join the track and field team and I'm happy I did."

She has experienced a successful career as an Aboriginal athlete, which has helped her reach many goals. Stevens attended the 2002 North American Indigenous Games in Winnipeg and did her community of M'Chigeeng First Nation proud as she took second place in the eight kilometre cross country race. She said she hopes to do a little bit better the next time around in Cowichan, B.C.

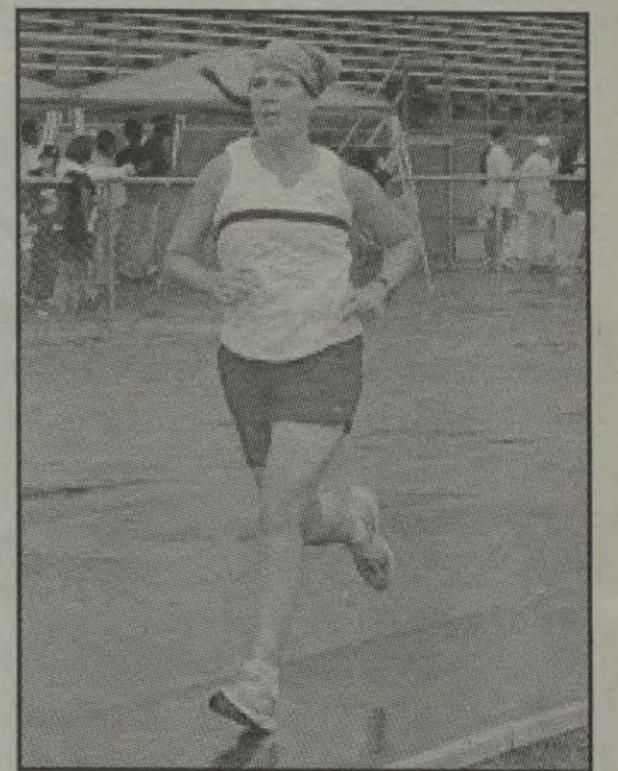
"Medals are nice to get but that's not what really matters. Ultimately, it's more of an inner-accomplishment for me to finish the race. I also hope kids are inspired to achieve what they

want. You don't necessarily always need to win, you just need to give it your best and that's what really matters," said Stevens.

When asked about her training regiment she says, "I try to eat healthy and stay healthy through regular training, though I focus more on my running during the season. I prefer to train on trails but while competing in Thunder Bay, I found that I excelled on the track and I kind of prefer that more."

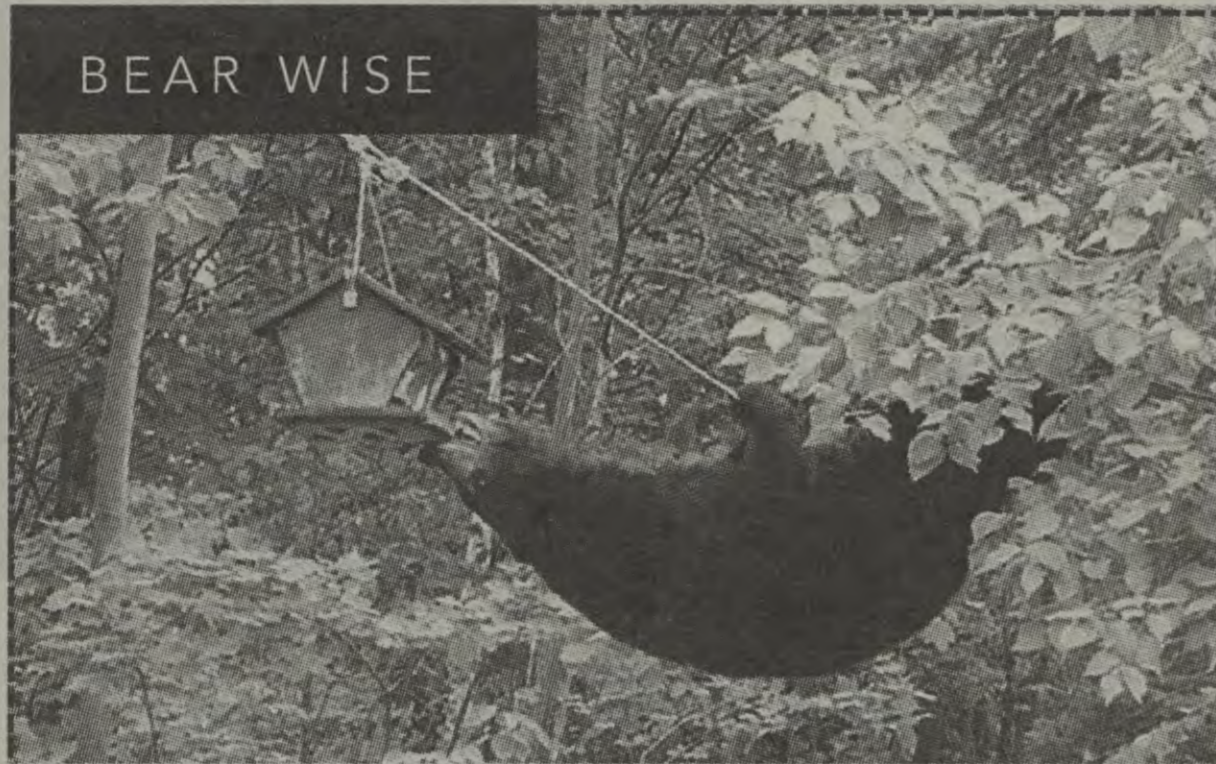
Stevens added that she owes a lot of her athletic success to the constant support of her parents, her fiancé and her brother and sister. "They are always there cheering me on. Even if they aren't present I know they are there in spirit."

When she isn't at work, Stevens



Daina Stevens

spends her time running and thinking about how to get people more physically involved with exercise. "I plan to eventually open a running program back home," she said.



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- Place garbage in containers that have tight fitting lids
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- Frequently clean garbage and recycle containers

#### Bird feed (including seed, nectar and suet)

- Feed birds during winter months only

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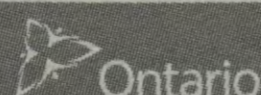
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BEARS CAN BE DANGEROUS



Ministry of Natural Resources



BY GAURI CHOPRA  
Birchbark Staff Writer

## OTTAWA

Five Carleton University graduate students have the chance to receive scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 per person. The New Sun Graduate scholarships are intended for Aboriginal and Inuit students in Canada. Eligible candidates must be pursuing either their masters or doctorate degrees in the fields of Aboriginal governance, public administration, environmental studies, architecture or social work.

The awards are made possible through a donation by Joy McLaren, a well-known philanthropist and repeated donor to post-secondary institutions across Canada. McLaren has worked to promote Aboriginal culture, the preservation of language and education throughout her life.

In honour of the work she has committed herself to, she was given the name of New Sun by Blackfoot, Ojibway, Akwasasne and Mowhawk Elders.

"I'd like to think of myself as a quiet activist," she said.

McLaren says she learned the importance of supporting Canada's Native people through her father. He too donated money and promoted awareness of Aboriginal issues in Canada.

"He opened a museum in Calgary [that contained Native artifacts]. He was given the name Old Sun by the Elders for it," said McLaren.

Unlike many awards the New Sun scholarship does not require the recipients to have high academic achievement but rather what they learn and utilize is an important factor.

"I didn't intend it just for egg heads," said McLaren, explaining that those who have good grades aren't always the only ones who make the best use of their education. "I hope [the recipients of the awards] take their knowledge and education back to their communities, that is what is most important," said McLaren.

McLaren also donates money to the Aboriginal studies program at Trent University, and to several institutions in Alberta and across Canada.

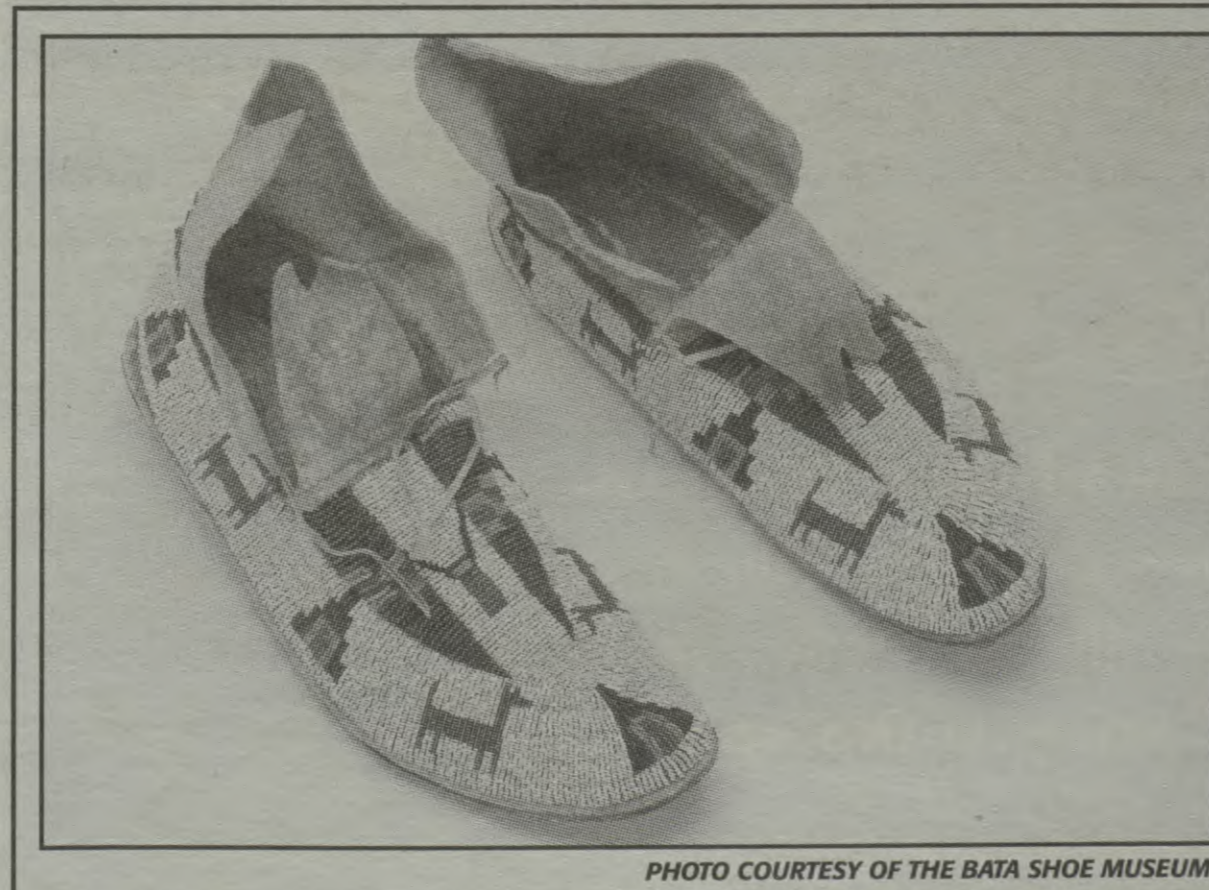


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BATA SHOE MUSEUM

This pair of moccasins from the Northern Cheyenne tribe is just one of many artifacts that are part of the Bata Shoe Museum's exhibition Beauty, Identity, Pride: North American Footwear from the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto. The exhibition showcases the different designs from different regions. The exhibition opens Oct. 24 and will run until the end of 2008. Some of the artifacts are too fragile and may not be on display for the entire exhibition.

# Eagle makes a plea on behalf of Aboriginal veterans

(Continued from page 10)

"Of course we extend to our veterans our full support," Phil Fontaine said.

After forcefully, but diplomatically, giving the chiefs what for on the first day of the assembly, Tom Eagle hung around for the next two days to buttonhole all the invited guests, which included federal party leaders and Rod Bruinooge, parliamentary secretary to the minister of Indian Affairs, several MPs and Nova Scotia Premier Rodney MacDonald.

Liberal leader Stephane Dion spoke to the assembly on the last day of the meeting, July 12. He ended his speech with an interesting and somewhat prophetic remark.

"A Liberal government will give First Nations and Aboriginal

Canadians the respect they deserve: as partners, as a source of pride to this great country, and as a reason for hope," Dion told the chiefs.

"That is my commitment to you. And like National Chief Phil Fontaine, I too hope that one day an eagle will cross my path and I can say: 'I saw a sign of a good day coming.'"

An eagle crossed the Liberal leader's path just seconds later, right at the bottom of the stairs leading down from the stage where he'd given his speech. The eagle's name was Tom.

While the leader's handlers quietly and discreetly panicked at the unplanned and very public change in plans, Dion agreed to leave the hall for a private meeting with Eagle.

*Windspeaker* caught up with

the veteran afterwards. He laughed out loud and said, "You're damned right," when asked if maybe an eagle had crossed Dion's path a little sooner than he expected.

The veterans sold 50-50 tickets throughout the assembly to pay their travel costs to Halifax, since they do not have access to funding for their work.

In a strange twist, the winner of the draw, holding a ticket worth \$1,502, was Sandra Lauren, a researcher for the Liberal Party of Canada caucus. Minutes after she learned she had won, Lauren passed a note to assembly co-chair Joe Miskokomon.

"Please give my winnings to the First Nations veterans and thank them for their efforts on our behalf," the note read.

# Community says goodbye to Elder and environmentalist

Mary Thomas, a Neskonlith Elder from the Secwepmec (Shuswap) Nation in British Columbia, passed away on July 30 at the age of 90.

Thomas was an educator and environmentalist who helped found the Salmon River Watershed Restoration Project, the Ecocultural Centre in Salmon Arm and the Central Okanagan

Interior Friendship Centre. Over the years, Thomas received a number of honours in recognition of her dedication to preserving and promoting traditional ways and working to protect the environment. In 1997, she received the Indigenous Conservationist of the Year Award from the Seacology Foundation, which works to

preserve the environments and cultures of islands the world over. In 2001, she was presented with the National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the environment category.

*Editor's note: A more in-depth look at the life and legacy of Mary Thomas will be featured in Footprints in the October issue of Windspeaker.*

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## GOLDRING

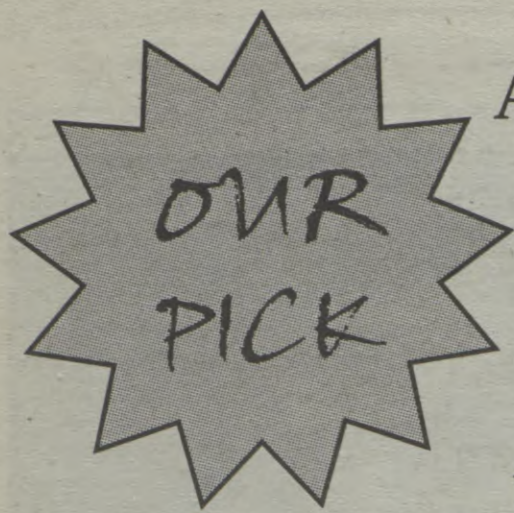
Alice (Faye Goldring's mother)

Me (Morning Star) in 1962 at age 10

I am seeking information regarding my mother **FAYE GOLDRING (Summer Sun)** or any of her surviving relatives, especially her son (my half-brother) **FEATHER GOLDRING** who was born in approximately 1957. Faye Goldring (Summer Sun) was born in 1935 in Regina or Moosejaw, Saskatchewan, Canada. I believe she was **CHEROKEE INDIAN FULL BLOOD** of the **DEER CLAN**. She was last known to be living in North Carolina in 1962 (Snowbird Community, Robbinsville, USA) and she died at age 27 in 1962 in USA.

If you have any information about my mother **FAYE GOLDRING (Summer Sun)** or any of her surviving relatives, please contact me:

E-mail: Sue Banks  
[Purplestar535@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Purplestar535@yahoo.co.uk)



Artist—Violet Naytowhow  
 Album—Wind of the North  
 Song—The Keeper  
 Label—Independent  
 Producer—Wayne Lavallee

## Singer/songwriter shines on inaugural album

Violet Naytowhow has been writing songs and performing for most of her life, and that experience shines through on her first album, *Wind of the North*.

The album features 10 songs, all written by Naytowhow, which showcase her range as a songwriter and performer. Her voice goes from sweet and strong in songs like *Wind of the North*, to soft and soulful in tracks like *Drummer Boy* and *Awita Noosisim*, then takes on a country feel in the album's final cut, *Freedom*. Some of the songs are written and performed in English, some in Cree, and some feature Naytowhow singing in both languages.

While Naytowhow's voice and song-writing talents alone are more than enough to carry the album, the Prince Albert, Sask.-based performer gets assistance on the CD from a list of friends that reads like a regular who's who of the Canadian Aboriginal music industry. Another Saskatchewan girl, hip hop artist Eekwol, lends her vocals to the title track, while Cheryl L'Hirondelle and Renae Morriveau of the British Columbia-based group M'Girl provide background vocals on a number of songs. Guitarist Jason Burnstick also performs on the album, playing acoustic guitar on *Awita Noosisim*. And Wayne Lavallee is also along for the ride, performing on almost every track and also serving as the album's producer.

# ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Percy Trapper	Strong & Beautiful	Songs From the Stone
Derek Miller	Stormy Eyes	The Dirty Looks
Donny Parenteau	Someone More Lonesome	What It Takes
Weaselhead	She's Still the Same Girl	Refugees of Romance
George Leach	Prairie Fire	Single Release
Kim Beggs	Bucko	Streetcar Heart
Gabby Taylor	Cool Me Down	Where I Feel Alive
Leela Gilday	One Drum	Sedze
Andrea Menard	Dance Old Friends	Simple Steps
Jared Sowan	Broken Wing	Eclectically Yours
Slidin' Clyde Roulette Band	No Time For You	Let's Take a Ride
Gerry McIvor	My Lady	Old Friend
Cheryl Bear	Your Joy	Cheryl Bear
Carl Quinn	Meena	Nimosom
Lawrence Martin	Bingo	Best of Lawrence Martin
Karen & Sara St. Jean	Can I Show You	Single Release
Star Nayea	Into the Depths	Single Release
Eagle & Hawk	The Way	Life Is ...
Shane Yellowbird	Pickup Truck	Life is Calling My Name
Ron Loutit	Bar Stool	Mine to Discover

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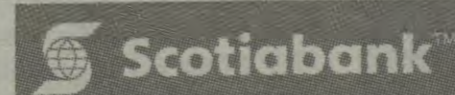
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CANADIAN ABORIGINAL MUSIC AWARDS

# [ windspeaker confidential ] — Kelvin Redvers

**Windspeaker:** What one quality do you most value in a friend?  
**Kelvin Redvers:** Humour. Someone who is always able to retain their sense of humour through all of life's many mishaps ... to be able to laugh at the world. My best friends are the ones that I am able to laugh ridiculously with, and make the most random jokes. Also, trust is an important value to have.

**W:** What is it that really makes you mad?

**K.R.:** When people don't live up to their word. They say something, and simply don't follow it up. It's just annoying. That is not to say that I have never done this myself, though usually I will get mad at myself for doing it. Otherwise, when people show blatant neglect or disrespect for the other people around ... like when someone swears when there are little kids around. Like, come on. As well, when people just don't act sensible.

**W:** When are you at your happiest?

**K.R.:** I am the most happiest when I have been working on a movie or video project for a long, long time, through writing, and filming and editing ... then sitting down watching it for one of the first few times, and coming to that realization that it is turning out good; that it is turning out how I had hoped, or better. When a movie is turning out good ... and I can see be good for those first few times around ... I tell you, it is hard to find me at a time when I am as happy as that. It is just sheer warmth of the soul.

**W:** What one word best describes you when you are at your worst?

**K.R.:** Unconquered. I think I just made up that word, but whatever ... When I am at my worse, you simply won't be able to convince otherwise from the deep dark, terrible thoughts that have enveloped my mind. It really sucks.

**W:** What one person do you most admire and why?

**K.R.:** Richard Van Camp. He is one of the most amazing

storytellers that I have ever met. He has the ability, with just the words coming out of his mouth, to engage large amounts of people into the world he creates with those words. Also fantastic is his ability to switch back and forth so effortlessly in his stories between typical everyday scenarios, or even dirty jokes, straight into deep meaningful, spiritual realms of metaphors and deeper meanings. He can tell a great story, and I admire that. It is definitely hard to pick just one person to admire. There are so many. Don Yeomans is pretty cool too. For film directors I think I admire Christopher Nolan the most.

**W:** What is the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

**K.R.:** Acknowledging my own personal faults, and trying to get a point where I can accept them on one level, but also work to change those faults. It's hard enough just to say: Yes, that's the way I am. And it's even harder to say: Yes, that's the way I am, and I am going to change that. I am not going to mention anything particular about myself, but just trying to work with those personal faults is a very, very difficult task. Try it sometime!

**W:** What is your greatest accomplishment?

**K.R.:** I think that so far, a movie I made in Grade 11, called Sheep, is my biggest accomplishment. It was so lucratively huge. It is a 35-minute long movie that has over 30 credited actors in it ... all just fellow students at my high school, and it cost me about \$500 to make. I thought of the concept of the movie in October 2003, wrote it through November, started filming in December, filmed through to June, edited it over the summer, got music for it at the end of the summer, finalized it in September, and had a big premiere October 2004. The amount of juggling of different people's schedules I had to do was ridiculous. It was often me on the camera and holding the boom mike. As well, I had to bandage up about 30 people's hands many times as a part of the

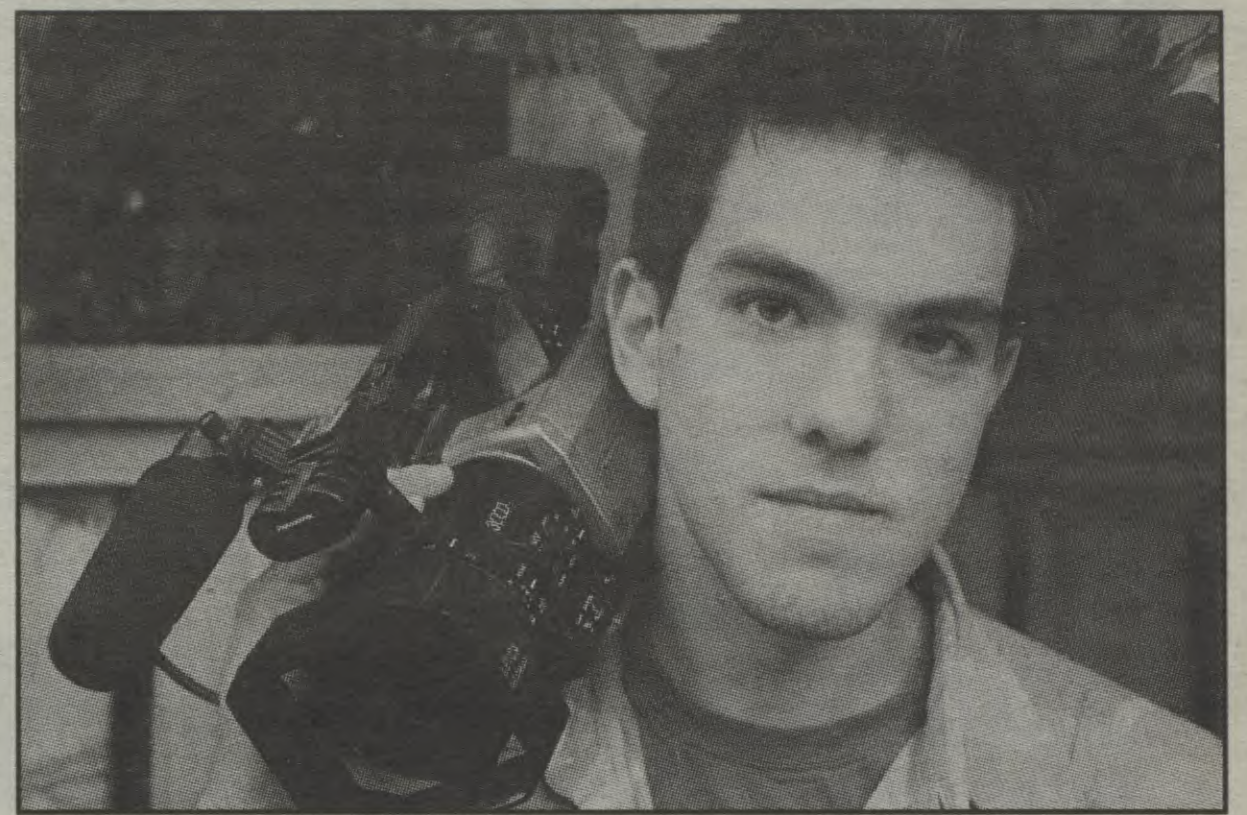
movie. In the end, the movie was exactly what I wanted it to be, and ended up winning The Golden Starfish Award for Best Young Video maker at the 2005 Hamptons International Film Festival in Long Island New York. I won the \$500 back, and a got free trip to the festival. Hooray! I started doing all this when I was 16, turning 17 during the process. So yeah, I consider Sheep my biggest accomplishment.

**W:** What one goal remains out of reach?

**K.R.:** Being able to spend enough time out in the bush as I want. Living in Vancouver now and trying to make it in the film industry-priority number one-it is getting harder and harder to be out on the land back home in the NWT where I am from, the place where I enjoy being out on the land the most. I have recently found myself very linked to being out on the land, and have made a goal of making that a large part of my life, but with the amount of other things I am trying to accomplish on this side of the country, it is becoming more and more out of reach.

**W:** If you couldn't do what you're doing today, what would you be doing?

**K.R.:** I would be either a) in front of a stove somewhere with a rack of spices, and a bunch of ingredients beside me, training to become the best damn chef in the whole world, or b) sitting on a canoe on a peaceful, isolated lake or river, paddling to the calmness of nature, and wondering how I



Nineteen-year-old film-maker Kelvin Redvers might be from a small town in the Northwest Territories, but he has big dreams of showing his films to the world and has already begun to make those dreams come true. He's done work on documentaries that are now on file at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., and he's made a 15-minute film documenting the creation of a Haida totem pole by carver Don Yeomans that will be put on display at the Vancouver airport alongside the finished totem pole. When he's not busy looking for funding for his latest film project, Redvers attends Simon Fraser University where he's in the third-year of the bachelor of Fine Arts program, majoring in film.

could make a living out of that.

**W:** What is the best piece of advice you've every received?

**K.R.:** I don't even know where I heard it ... but the biggest piece of advice that has stuck out in my head is: One day is a long time.

**W:** Did you take it?

**K.R.:** That may not sound like advice, but I have interpreted it as advice, and taken it in. Many people complain that there isn't enough time, and they want to finish something by such and such date, but it will be impossible with lack of time and

a whole bunch of excuses. I used do that, until I realized how much time there is actually in a day, if you use it effectively. You have more time than you think ... one day is a long time. So, I think that is the best piece of advice I have ever received. And yes, I realize this slightly contradicts my comments about not finding the time to be out in the bush.

**W:** How do you hope to be remembered?

**K.R.:** As someone who thoroughly, thoroughly, loved life ... and thoroughly, thoroughly enjoyed it.

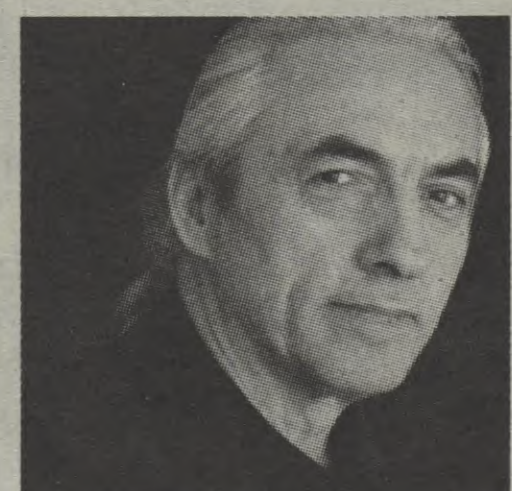


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## Windspeaker sports briefs

By Sam Laskaris

### National fastball champs crowned

An all-Alberta final materialized in the highest calibre men's division at this year's Canadian Native Fastball Championships.

The Horse Lake Thunder, featuring legendary Canadian pitcher Darren Zack, won the men's A division at the tournament, which concluded on Aug. 6 in Winnipeg.

The Thunder needed two straight victories over the Siksika Rebels to capture the double knockout tournament.

Zack, who was selected as the most valuable player of the men's A division as well as top pitcher, picked up the victories in both of the games against the Rebels.

Meanwhile, the Prince George River Kings from British Columbia placed third in the men's A division. A Saskatchewan-based squad dubbed The Tribe finished fourth.

As for the men's B category, it too was won by an Alberta-based club, the Goodfish Lake Keyano Pimee.

Louis Redmen, a member of the Goodfish Lake side, was named the division's MVP as well as the top pitcher.

The Winnipeg Northern Lights, led by MVP Deena Caplette, took top honours in the women's category. And Manitoba's McKay United won the men's masters division. Darrell McKay, a member of the winning side, was selected as the division's MVP.

### Six Nations teams win titles

Six Nations lacrosse fans have had plenty to cheer about this season. Both of its junior franchises were going to vie for national championships after winning their respective provincial crowns.

The Six Nations Arrows Express, a Junior A squad, captured its Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA) title. The Arrows Express defeated the Orangeville Northmen 4-2 in their best-of-seven OLA final series.

With that triumph, the Arrows Express advanced to the Minto Cup (Canadian championship) tournament. The nationals, being held in New Westminster, B.C., were scheduled to run from Aug. 24 through Sept. 1.

The four-team event was also scheduled to feature the Edmonton Miners, Burnaby Lakers and host New Westminster Salmonbellies.

The Arrows Express had played host to and also competed in the 2006 Minto Cup tournament. Six Nations was defeated by the Peterborough Lakers in the national final last year.

Meanwhile, the Six Nations Rebels won the OLA's Junior B championships this year. The Rebels swept the Clarington-based Green Gaels 3-0 in their best-of-five provincial final.

By winning the OLA crown, the Rebels earned a berth into the 11-team Founders Cup tournament held in Kamloops, B.C. from Aug. 22 to 26. The Rebels continued their winning ways at the national championship, finishing in first place.

### FSIN Chiefs earn silver

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Chiefs were hoping to duplicate the success they had at last year's Midget Boys Canadian Fast Pitch Championships when they competed at this year's event, but the team, which came in first at the 2006 championship, had to settle for a second place finish this year.

The championships were held in Saskatoon from Aug. 13 to 19 and saw action from 12 teams representing British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Chiefs made headlines and history last year when they became the first First Nation team to win a national softball championship. Their chance to repeat this year and retain the title slipped through their fingers thanks to a 7-0 loss to the Sooke Smoke from British Columbia in the final game of the tournament.

### Souray comes home

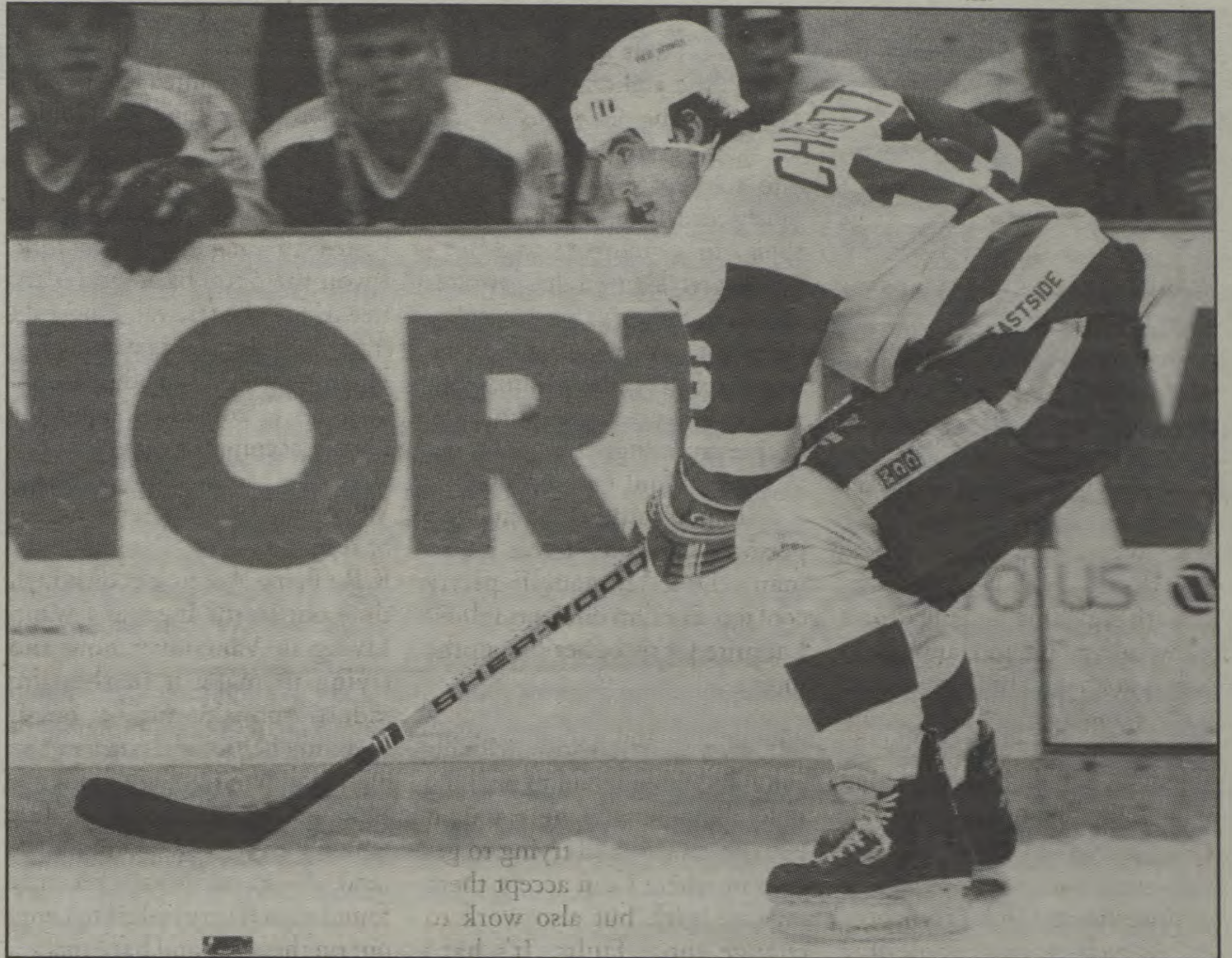
Sheldon Souray is returning to his home province.

Souray, who was one of the most coveted free agents during the National Hockey League (NHL) off-season, agreed to a five-year deal with the Edmonton Oilers in mid-July. The 31-year-old defenceman, who is Métis, was born in Elk Point, Alta.

Souray has played eight seasons in the NHL, two-and-a-half years with the New Jersey Devils and the remainder with the Montreal Canadiens.

A two-time league all-star, Souray led all NHL defencemen with 26 goals last season. He also had 38 assists for a total of 64 points in 81 games.

The 6-foot-4, 223-pounder is regarded as having one of the hardest slapshots in the NHL. And he has a mean streak to his game as well. He had a team-high 135 penalty minutes with the Canadiens last season. During his pro career Souray has appeared in 540 NHL contests and has earned 196 points (69 goals, 127 assists).



John Chabot, seen here during his days playing with the Detroit Red Wings, will be returning to the National Hockey League as an assistant coach with the New York Islanders.

## Chabot to join Nolan behind Islanders' bench

By Sam Laskaris  
Windspeaker Writer

### UNIONDALE, New York

Following a lengthy absence, John Chabot is returning to the National Hockey League (NHL), but this time it's as a coach. And he's going to create a bit of history in the process.

It's been 16 years since Chabot last played in the NHL as a member of the Detroit Red Wings during the 1990-91 season.

Chabot, 45, is returning to the league after agreeing to a three-year to serve as an assistant coach with the New York Islanders.

With the move to the Islanders, Chabot is being reunited with head coach Ted Nolan. The two were NHL teammates with the Pittsburgh Penguins during the mid-1980s.

Chabot and Nolan also share another bond—they are both Aboriginal. The Islanders are the first NHL club to employ two Aboriginal coaches on their staff at the same time.

Chabot realizes he'll probably be answering his share of questions about the coaches' Aboriginal backgrounds from reporters in the various NHL cities this season.

"It's going to be a topic at one point," said Chabot, who was born in Summerside, P.E.I.

"It's something we look at with pride. But it's also something you look at as we're capable of doing the job."

And that's why Chabot doesn't want to be viewed any differently than any other individual guiding squads in the world's premier hockey circuit.

"I want to be seen as an NHL

coach," he said. "Teddy didn't get rehired in the NHL by the New York Islanders because he's a Native coach. And Teddy didn't hire me as an assistant coach because I'm Native. It was because of our past history together."

Besides Pittsburgh and Detroit, Chabot also played for the Montreal Canadiens during his eight-year NHL career. A former centre, he appeared in 541 games and collected 338 points (90 goals, 248 assists).

Though he left the NHL in '91, Chabot continued to play pro hockey. For the next decade he toiled for squads in Italy, Germany and Switzerland.

And then, during the 2001-02 campaign, he began his coaching career when he was hired in mid-season to be the bench boss of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) Hull Olympiques, a franchise now dubbed the Gatineau Olympiques.

Chabot coached the Olympiques for four seasons, then spent the last two years coaching the QMJHL's Acadie Bathurst Titans. But he had yearned for a return to the NHL ever since he took up coaching.

"If you do any profession, you always want to do it at the highest level," he said.

Chabot said he was not willing to coach in the junior ranks forever, in large part because of the transient lifestyle he had as a pro player.

"We were going to give it five, six or seven years (to see if I could make it to the NHL as a coach)," Chabot said of a decision he made along with his wife Terry. "And if it didn't happen we were going to go in another direction."

The Chabots, who were living

in Ottawa, have three grown children, aged 27, 22 and 20. But after securing a three-year NHL coaching contract, John and Terry Chabot were house hunting in New York in mid-August.

Nolan, who was named NHL coach of the year for his work during the 1996-97 campaign with the Buffalo Sabres, is entering his second season as the Islanders' head coach.

He was looking for some help on the Isles' bench as his right-hand man last year, assistant coach Danny Flynn, opted to leave New York to return to the junior ranks. Flynn was hired as the head coach of the Moncton Wildcats, the QMJHL franchise Nolan coached for a year before his Islanders' job. Flynn had also served as Nolan's assistant coach while in Moncton.

The Islanders also brought in another former pro player, Gerard Gallant, as an assistant coach. Gallant had spent the past half dozen years coaching the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets, first as an assistant and then as head coach.

New York's coaching staff also includes another former pro player, Dan Lacroix, who is entering his second year as one of Nolan's assistant coaches.

Nolan is rather pleased with the staff he has assembled.

"I've always had the utmost respect for Gerard and John both as players and coaches," he said. "We have a coaching staff with a ton of experience, both playing in the NHL and coaching, and that will be a huge asset to our players. Along with the experience, the knowledge of the game Gerard and John bring is outstanding. Along with Dan, we'll have a well-rounded coaching staff for next season."

# Bartleman's efforts continue to benefit youth

By Laura Suthers  
Windspeaker Staff Writer

**TORONTO**

He's been a diplomat, an author and the 27th lieutenant governor of Ontario, but James Bartleman might just be remembered best as the person who created a wealth of opportunities for Aboriginal youth to learn and grow.

Although Bartleman's term as lieutenant governor comes to an end on Sept. 5, the work he's done to help bridge the gap between the Aboriginal population and education possibilities will continue long after he leaves.

Bartleman, a member of the Mnjikaning First Nation, has opened a big window of opportunity for the youngest members of Ontario's First Nations. With the help of local Ontario chiefs and many other organizations, he was able to set in motion a number of education programs, camps and book drives that would help change the lives of many youth.

During his time as lieutenant

governor, he paid numerous visits to the 49 First Nation communities within the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) territory to evaluate and assess educational problems, and he was affected and disturbed when he would hear about the many young people in the communities who had committed suicide. Learning of these tragedies pushed Bartleman to fight even harder to accomplish what he had set out to do, which was to help make a difference in the lives of the youth.

"When I travelled into the NAN territory, communities in the north of the province, especially the fly-in communities, the conditions were really deplorable. Children have continued to kill themselves at really horrible levels. They lacked hope in many cases. They have a mold in them," said Bartleman. "That was one of the big motivators to press ahead. Many communities didn't even have the basic means for providing a good education, and that meant primarily that there were no

books in the school library. And so how could you expect the children to do well? And so only a handful from those remote communities graduated from high school. It was just unacceptable."

Bartleman said the position of lieutenant governor came along at the right time in his life, when he'd just finished a distinguished career of more than 35 years in the Canadian Foreign Service.

"It was time to move on and now it's about time to move on again after five years on the job," he said.

"It was a complete shift of gears in a way because as a public servant one has to stay in the background and cast the light on the leader that you're working for. In my case I was Canada's ambassador for many years, providing advice, but always in the shadows. And then all of a sudden as lieutenant governor it was a public role. And I realized I had a great opportunity to promote social justice causes, which were very important to me."

Bartleman identified and broke down those social justice causes into three key priorities, and they defined his mandate as lieutenant governor—he wanted to eliminate the stigma of mental illness, fight racism and discrimination, and promote and encourage literacy and education amongst Aboriginal youth in Ontario.

"I think a lot was accomplished, specifically about Aboriginal children as opposed to the other two objectives," said Bartleman.

He developed a very close relationship with Angus Toulouse, Assembly of First Nations regional chief of Ontario, and Stan Beardy the NAN grand chief. With these partnerships in place, Bartleman was able to establish stronger ties with community members as he began visiting Aboriginal communities in 2002.

"I took Stan, 50 to 60 times at least, on trips into his own area on the Ontario government plane, so we could travel as a team to encourage young people," said Bartleman. "We went to suicide

conferences and embrace life conferences to try and help. We would go in to try to comfort the relatives after major suicides and deaths. I was very affected by the suicides."

He said he was able to go into places that most people never get a chance to go into because of the high cost of flying in commercially. With a "goal to sensitize and inform the population about the true state of circumstances in the (First Nation) communities," Bartleman invited national media outlets into some of the communities on a couple of occasions.

He remembers going into Kashechewan for the first time.

"A young girl was being flown out for an autopsy. She overdosed deliberately on Tylenol 3s," he said.

"I was very much affected by the suicides. Going into Mishkeegogamang First Nation for the first time, the chief was pointing out to me all the graves of kids who had killed themselves.

(See Literacy page 27)



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# Literacy awards part of legacy

(Continued from page 26)

I wasn't going to just ring my hands, so I got together with Stan Beady, the OPP and the military and others, because I had no budget for this. I began to just collect books and I used the media as a means of getting the message out," James Bartleman said.

The message was certainly delivered loud and clear in 2004, when Bartleman launched the first Lieutenant Governor's Book Drive and received a resounding response. During two book drives, he was able to collect 2.1 million books. The books were sorted down to 1.2 million good condition books and were then delivered to First Nations schools and friendship centres by many volunteers including the Ontario Provincial Police, the department of National Defence, the Canadian Rangers, NAN, the South Asian professional association Eiproc, Wasaya Airways, corporate donors and trucking companies.

"What really did a fantastic job in helping was Wasaya airlines. If they would've charged commercial rate, it would've cost over half a million dollars, so they did fantastic work in flying books into remote communities. The military even parachuted books into Fort Severn and Sandy Lake."

The lieutenant governor's book program ended on a high note, sending shipments of books to

northern Ontario, Nunavut and Quebec.

"I have now established well-stocked libraries throughout the NAN territory," said Bartleman. "We've put in \$20 to \$30 million worth of books into the communities at no cost to the taxpayer."

To continue with one of his major priorities-encouraging literacy in Aboriginal communities-Bartleman launched a twinning program for Native and non-Native schools in Ontario and Nunavut. He also created literacy summer camps in five northern First Nations as a pilot. With great success, the literacy summer camps were extended to 28 fly-in communities and the project secured funding for five years. A reading club for Ontario's Aboriginal children is another successful initiative Bartleman created in an effort to bridge the education gap.

"It's a reading club of 5,000 children. We have 28 communities at the moment receiving books. Starting in September, we'll raise that to all of the band schools, rather than the schools that are funded by the province because they're able to afford books. All of the children in the NAN territory from Kindergarten to Grade 6 are either members of the club or they'll be full members in September."

Bartleman said that, as his term

as lieutenant governor drew to a close, he was asked by Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty what he would like as a legacy gift from the province. Bartleman asked that the province establish creative writing awards for Aboriginal youth, and McGuinty obliged.

The James Bartleman Awards for Aboriginal Youth Creative Writing will recognize short story and poetry writing by Aboriginal youth. The awards, worth \$2,500, each will be handed out annually.

"I wanted this to be a good chunk of money so that the kids can be encouraged to do this," said Bartleman.

The outgoing lieutenant governor has received a number of awards and accolades throughout his distinguished career, but one of the honours he is most proud of is one he received just recently, during a ceremony in his community of Mnjikaning First Nation held in late August.

"I was presented with an eagle feather, which is the highest award to be given, I was very proud to receive it," said Bartleman.

Bartleman said he looks forward to seeing the initiatives he began as lieutenant governor continuing on. The incoming lieutenant governor, David Onley, has already indicated he wants to keep the programs running, and Bartleman has offered to help in any way he can.

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Posted: July 16, 2007 - Deadline to Apply: Monday October 15, 2007

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For more information about Ryerson and the School, please visit [www.ryerson.ca](http://www.ryerson.ca). Interested applicants should submit a letter stating interest in the position, teaching and research interests and professional practice, a curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference with contact information, by October 15, 2007, to: Departmental Appointments Committee, c/o Professor Linda R. Lewis, Chair, School of Fashion, Ryerson University, 350 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2K3. The search will continue until the position is filled.

Department of Psychology August 9 - November 2, 2007  
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Department of Psychology  
Posted: August 9, 2007 - Deadline to Apply: Friday November 2, 2007

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The Ryerson Psychology Department has undergone an important period of growth and diversification over recent years: a new MA and PhD (2007) in both Psychological Science and Clinical Psychology, a new BA (2006), a new certificate in Mental Health and Addictions (2005), 12 new tenured or tenure-track faculty hired since 2005, and over 10,000 sq. ft. of new laboratories and clinic space supporting a vibrant research and clinical training environment. The department is housed in the Faculty of Arts, an integral and thriving contributor to the education of approximately 22,000 students. Ryerson University as a whole has undergone significant growth and development in the past 5 years. We are located in the cosmopolitan core of Toronto, a city also noted for its cultural diversity.

Applicants should submit a letter of application, a curriculum vita, a research plan, three recent research publications, results of teaching surveys (or equivalent evidence such as a teaching dossier), and the names of three individuals who could be contacted for reference letters. Only those candidates selected for the short-list of consideration will be contacted for letters.

Please note that applications by fax or e-mail will not be accepted. Confidential inquiries can be directed to the Chair ([chair@psych.ryerson.ca](mailto:chair@psych.ryerson.ca)). Send completed applications by November 2nd, 2007 to: Dr. Jean-Paul Boudreau, Chair, Department of Psychology, Ryerson University, 350 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2K3.

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**Closing Date: This competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected.**

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### News Reporter/Photographer

**Location: Edmonton**

**Availability: Immediately**

**Closing date: Open until suitable candidate is found**

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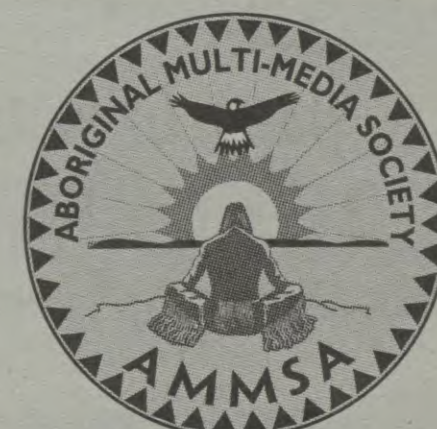
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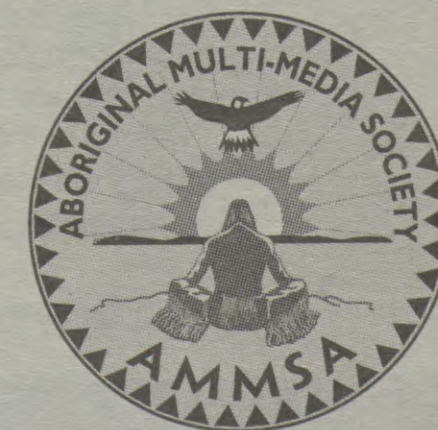
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Competition #07AU-78**

Bow Valley College is one of Alberta's fastest growing colleges with students enrolled in career programs, ESL training and academic upgrading. We have more than 20 locations across Southern Alberta, helping more than 11,000 learners each year. We are currently looking for an Aboriginal Student Advisor.

In this role, you will provide career, academic and financial advice to Aboriginal students, both at our Main Campus in downtown Calgary as well as our various off-site locations in Southern Alberta. You will be responsible for managing the student application process, including: answering student inquiries; providing career guidance; recommending student placements; assisting with student funding; and registering students in Bow Valley College courses and programs. Your strong background in working with the Aboriginal community will be the key to your success in this role.

**Qualifications:** You have a bachelor's degree in the Social Sciences, related experience and a solid knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal community and culture. Excellent written and oral communications skills and a strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications are required. Previous experience in a post-secondary environment would be an asset.

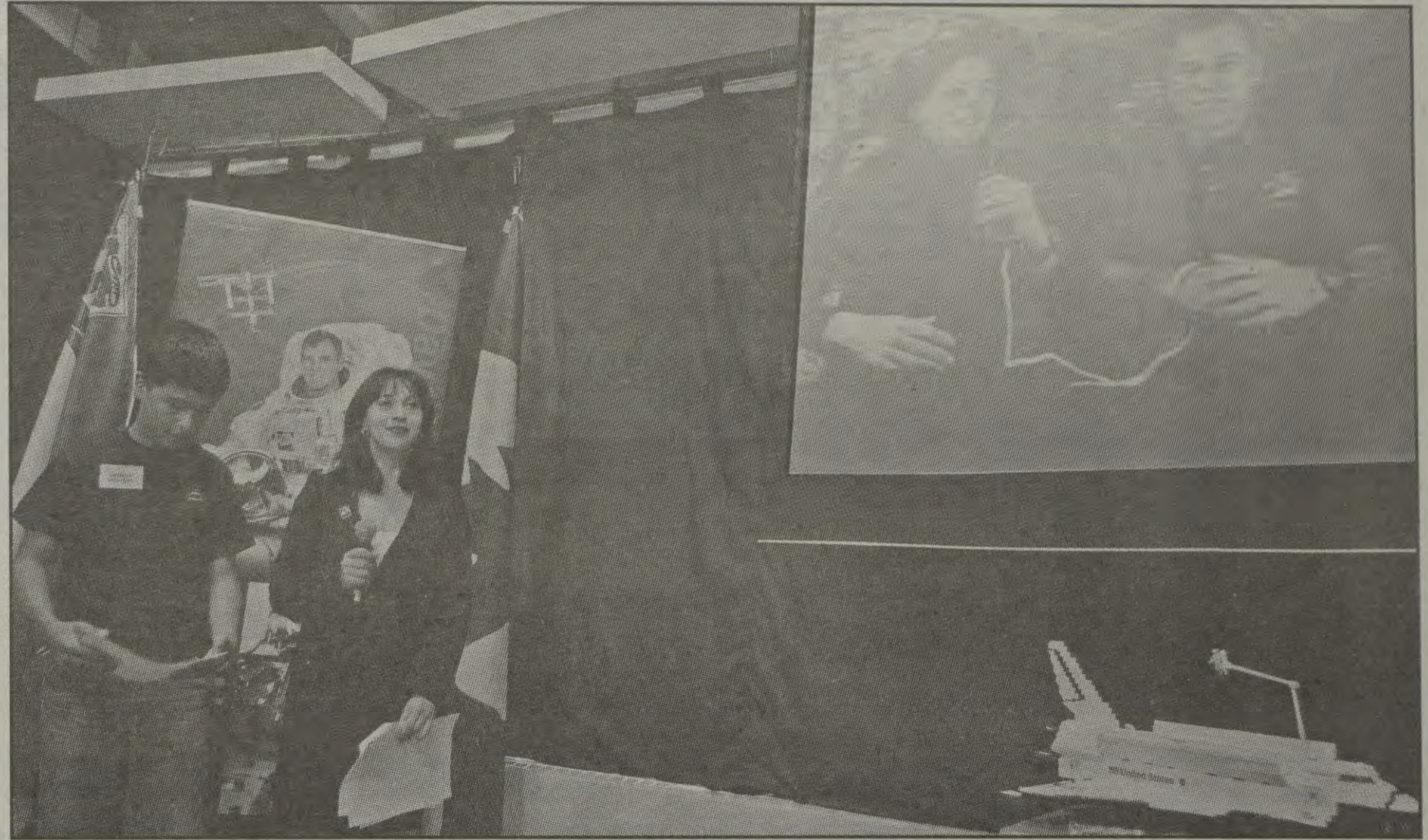
**Salary:** \$20,874 to \$27,258 per year

**Note:** This position will involve some travel and is a part-time position.

To apply for this competition, please submit your application on-line by visiting the **Employment Opportunities** section of our website at: [www.bowvalleycollege.ca](http://www.bowvalleycollege.ca)

**Closing Date:** September 24, 2007

Thank you for your interest in Bow Valley College.



CARMEN PAULS ORTHNER

Joshua Roberts, a member of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, is joined by Louisa Caporuscio, an education specialist with the Canadian Space Agency, during a question and answer session with the crew of the space shuttle Endeavor. Astronauts Barbara Morgan and Dave Williams (on screen) took time out of their schedule on Aug. 20 to field questions from students like Roberts who had gathered at the Northlands College program centre in La Ronge for a chance to learn about space travel.

**RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISOR  
Term Certain: 1 Year  
Competition #2536SUP  
(Excellent opportunity for extension)**

We are looking for a Residential Supervisor to oversee program delivery for individuals with developmental disabilities in an adult residential setting.

**Responsibilities** include providing direct care to individuals, supervising staff, participating in the development and implementation of personalized plans, training & budget management.

**Qualifications:** A Degree/Diploma in Human Services, Social Work or a related field, plus several years of directly related experience including supervision, medication administration, program development and behaviour management is required. Equivalencies may be considered. Must be in good physical condition; ability to perform lifts and transfers is required. Knowledge of First Nations culture would be an asset.

A valid class 5 driver's license, your own transportation, a current Criminal Record Check and Intervention Record Check is mandatory.

**Hours of work:** 40 hours/week Monday-Friday (day time hours)  
**Wages:** \$17.64 - \$18.04/hr.

This ad may be used to recruit other upcoming supervisory positions.

Forward resumés quoting Comp. #2536SUP to the address listed.

Competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

**LPN NEEDED! - Full time Nights  
Competition #2063LPN**

Parkland CLASS has a unique opportunity for an enthusiastic LPN within its School Aged Program. This position involves caring for physically and developmentally challenged children in a small group home setting. Experience with First Nations culture would be an asset.

**Hours of work:** Full-time (rotating schedule: 9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.; every other weekend off).

If you would like to practice your skills in a warm, home like environment, with on-site training and ongoing support; please forward your resumé, quoting Comp. #2063LPN, to the address listed below, or call Katrina Silbernagel R.N. at 403-341-3093 for more information.

**Parkland CLASS  
Human Resources  
6010 - 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 3M4**

**Phone: 780-347-3333  
Fax: 780-342-2677  
E-mail: [hr@pclass.org](mailto:hr@pclass.org)  
Website:  
[www.parklandclass.org](http://www.parklandclass.org)**



**PARKLAND CLASS**

**BLUEBERRY RIVER FIRST NATION**

Employment Opportunity

**COMPUTER/TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE INSTRUCTOR**

Closing date: September 7, 2007  
Term: Contracted - Approximately 30 hours per week  
Start date: September 17, 2007  
Location: Blueberry River First Nations  
Wage: To commensurate with education & experience

Reporting to the Community Services Manager, this contract position will provide instructional assistance to adult learners who are engaging in on-line academic and professional development courses.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- ✦ Provides classroom computer/tutorial support services working directly with Band staff who undertake on-line computer training courses
- ✦ Uses a wide range of equipment including adaptive technology, Microsoft Office suite, basic computer systems and software
- ✦ Collects and records data which will assist the employer in monitoring student programs
- ✦ Maintains supplies and security of computer room
- ✦ Performs other job related duties as directed in the classroom as the learning assistant

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- ✦ Computer instruction certification courses
- ✦ Experience in working with adult learners in a computerized environment
- ✦ Sensitivity to First Nations culture and traditions
- ✦ A Criminal Records check is required
- ✦ Level 1 First Aid certificate may be required

**SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO:**

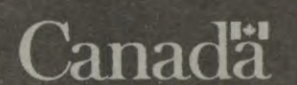
David Laird, Community Services Manager  
Blueberry River First Nations  
PO Box 3009  
BUICK CREEK, BC V0C 2R0

Toll Free: 1-800-988-3533 • Phone: 250-630-2584  
Fax: 250-630-2588 • Email: [dlaird@blueberryfn.ca](mailto:dlaird@blueberryfn.ca)



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire



**PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has issued an official Notice of Public Hearing, available at [www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca), that it will hold a one-day public hearing on the application by Cameco Corporation for an amendment to its Cigar Lake construction licence to extend the expiry date for an indeterminate period. The hearing will be held in the CNSC Public Hearing Room, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario, November 1, 2007.

The indeterminate licence period would allow Cameco Corporation to complete the mine remediation activities and subsequent construction activities. Cameco Corporation is also seeking modifications to its construction licence that are considered administrative in nature. Further amendments to the construction licence or an application for an operating licence would be subject to separate hearings.

The public is invited to comment on the application either by oral presentation or written submission. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission by October 2, 2007 at the address below and include a written submission; a statement setting out whether the requester wishes to intervene by way of written submission only or by way of written submission and oral presentation; and the name, address and telephone number of the requester.

Hearing documents (submissions) are not available on-line and must be requested through the Secretariat at the address below. For more information, instructions on how to participate in this public hearing process or the complete text of the official Notice of Public Hearing, see [www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca), and refer to Notice of Public Hearing 2007-H-14, or contact:

L. Levert, Secretariat  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St., P.O. Box 1046  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Tel.: (613) 996-9063 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: (613) 995-5086  
E-mail: [interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

[ footprints ] **Everett Soop**  
**Artist's legacy lies in cartoons**  
**reflecting realities of his time**

By Gauri Chopra

In 2006, five years after his death, Everett Soop was awarded the Meritorious Service Decoration (Civil Division) by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean. The award was given to 14 individuals whose work brought honour to their communities and to Canada.

"An advocate for Aboriginal people and physically challenged persons, the late Everett Soop, who personally suffered from muscular dystrophy, worked unselfishly for the cause of First Nations peoples living with disabilities. His efforts during his tenure with the Alberta Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities culminated in 1993 with the publication of a major report entitled, *Removing Barriers: An Action Plan for Aboriginal People With Disabilities*. Mr. Soop, who passed away in 2001, is remembered for his relentless quest for social justice for his people, as well as for his unique contributions to his province and his country," reads the description of Soop's contributions on the governor general's Web site.

Born 1943 on the Blood reserve in southern Alberta, Soop spent a large part of his life as a cartoonist for the local Aboriginal newspaper, *Kainai News*.

Soop lived until he was 58 years old, 28 years longer than expected by doctors. He was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy at birth and his parents were told that it unlikely he would live past his 30s. But there was no stopping Soop's passion for life.

"I think that the world is here for us to live, and that is what I'm going to do, is live," Soop said in *Soop on Wheels*, a documentary that focused on his accomplishments. "I'm not sick, I'm disabled, there is a difference."

The film was made in 1998, during a time when Soop's health

was failing him. He agreed to take part in the project in hopes of bringing light to issues facing Aboriginal people with disabilities.

As a young child, Soop spent a lot of time with Elders, and was very close to his grandmother. He was her favourite, and she would bring fruit for him whenever she visited. Part of that close bond came from the fact that the two shared a similar sense of humour.

Though his jokes were often snide and hurtful, Soop still had an uncanny ability to make people laugh. His satirical sense of humour was reflected in the cartoons he created. Much of his fame came from his ability to represent painful truths about society and life on the reserve through his art.

His cartoons commented on the social concerns of Aboriginal people at the time. With thick strokes from his pen, he depicted scowling faces that often represented anger, fear or injustice. Soop was known for his ability to depict irony and truth in just a single image. Through this he was able to evoke emotion within readers. As a result, there were many fans of his work, and equally as many who didn't appreciate his sense of humour.

During his time at *Kainai News*, he was often accused of calling out band members in his cartoons. Needless to say, his relationship with some of them was strained.

Once, the board of the paper asked him to write an assessment of himself.

"It is quite well known to those who know me that I don't have a pleasant personality, completely incapable of giving a 'Good morning' smile—until after midnight. As a matter of fact I am known as the 'office grouch' who takes sadistic delight in picking on the staff in turns and most often telling them what I

honestly think of them, sparing them only of the most cruel thoughts, which I save as ideas for my cartoons," he wrote.

This is who Soop truly was for much of his life.

But there was also a softer side to him, a side that he shared only with his family and close friends. He had a love of music, which he passed on to the younger generations of his family, who developed an appreciation for classical music, blues and jazz by listening along as Soop enjoyed songs from his music collection.

Soop worked at *Kainai News* from 1968 to 1986, drawing 2055 cartoons for the publication. But relations slowly went sour between Soop and the board of the paper, and Soop decided to leave.

His love for political satire, his interest in band issues and the popularity he gained through his cartoons lead him to run for a seat on the Blood band council. He won, but later said that it was the worst decision he had ever made.

Soop had entered into the political scene hoping to make changes, but was quickly frustrated by the lack of influence he as able to wield as a band council member. He served two terms, then decided to leave politics behind him.

He tried to return to his old job at *Kainai News*, but was not satisfied with the terms they offered. So he chose to remain unemployed as his health continued to deteriorate. By this time he was 43 and confined to a wheelchair, suffering from diabetes, and recovering from a broken hip.

But this still didn't stop him. He decided to shift gears and make advocating for the rights of people with disabilities his new focus. He began to travel and give talks on what it was like to live with a disability.

Near the end of his life Soop



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOOP FAMILY

During his lifetime, artist Everett Soop created more than 2,000 cartoons, drawing on his wit and humour to present a unique and often cutting perspective on society and life on reserve. Later in life, Soop, who was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy as a young child, turned his attention to advocating for the rights of people with disabilities.

was admitted to the extended care centre on the Blood reserve. He sold many of his cartoons to the Canadian Museum of Caricature in Ottawa, left others in the care of his trusted friend, author and historian Hugh A. Dempsey. The remainder he willed to his grandniece.

Through his life and work, Soop awoke the fighting spirits of many Canadians—Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, disabled and able-bodied. His cartoons commented on and questioned the structure of society, and his art reflected a passion for the

truth.

Soop passed away Aug. 12, 2001, but his spirit lives on through the many cartoons he created during his lifetime.

A collection of 2018 of the cartoons Soop created while working for *Kainai News* are contained within the archives of Calgary's Glenbow Museum, and an exhibition of his artwork, writings and personal artifacts is currently on display at the Nickel Arts Museum at the University of Calgary. The exhibit opened July 7 and will run until Sept. 28.

**be more informed for less**

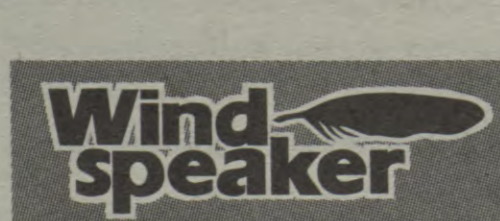
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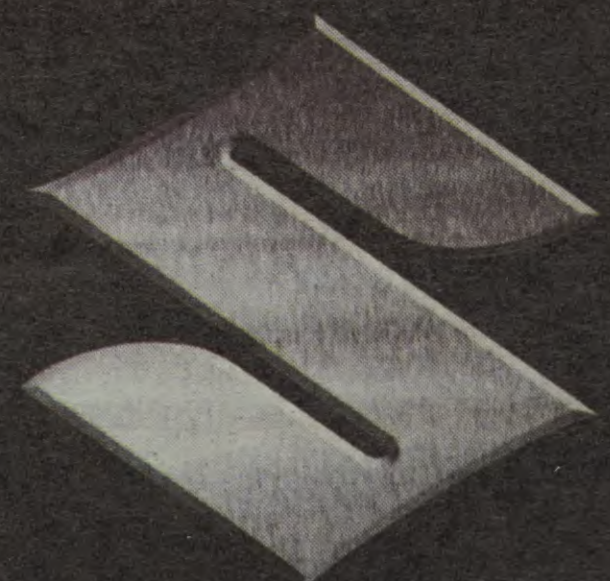
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