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Pride and excitement rumbled out of each of the 22 teams as they paraded through crowds during the 2008 North American Indigenous Games held in Duncan located from Aug.3 to 10. With the Cowichan Tribes and Cowichan Valley host of the games, it wasn't a surprise when the crowd grew louder with excitement as Team B.C. (above) marched in.

For more games coverage and photos turn to pages 15 - 18.

Photo credit: Laura Suthers

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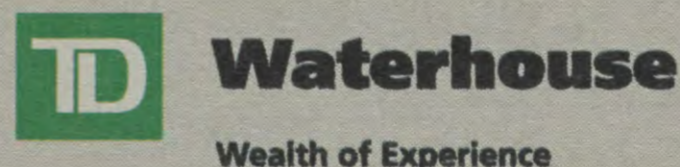
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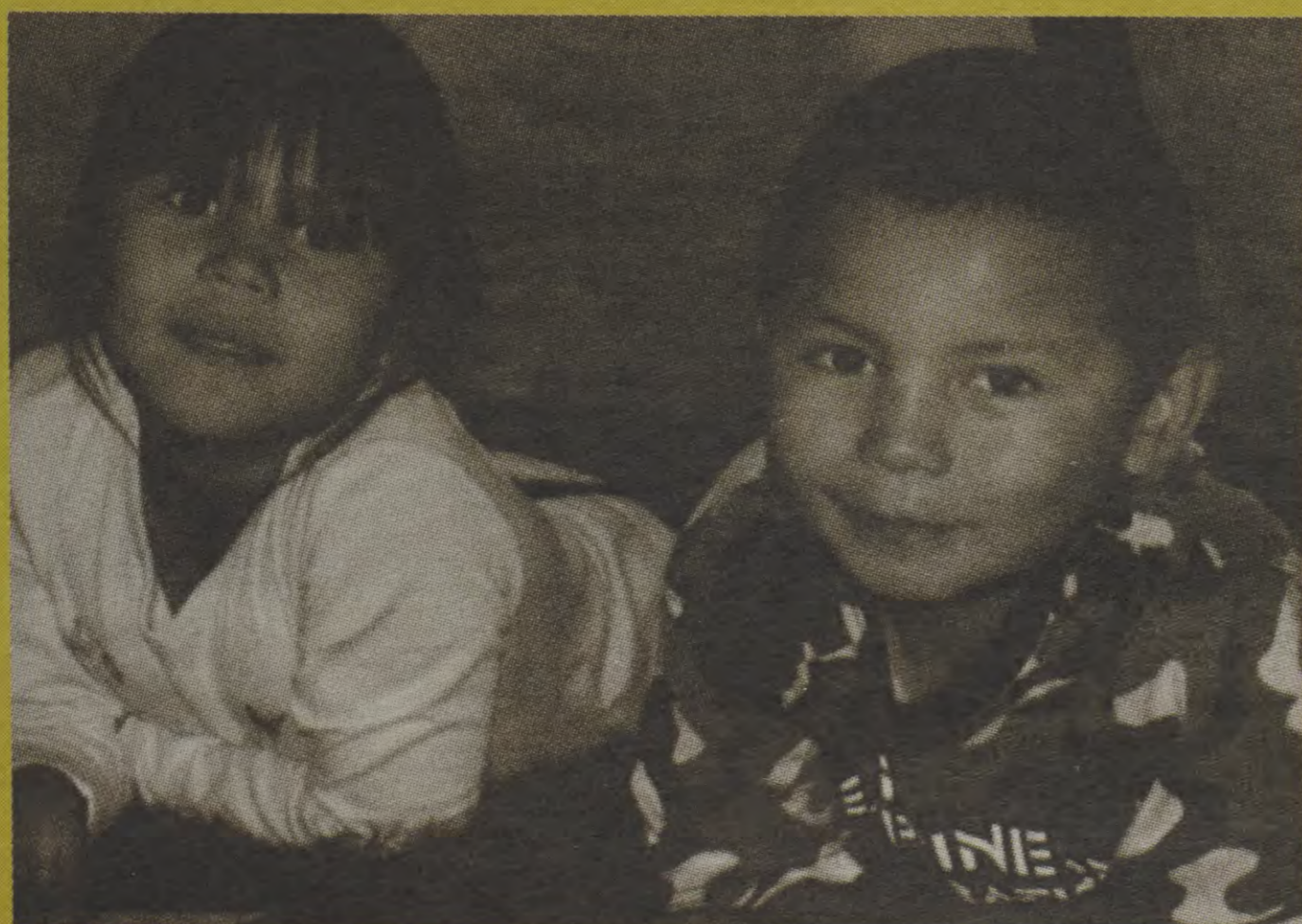
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Canada

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Government lifts Aboriginal economic development out of obscurity 8

The federal government, through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), is seeking input on Aboriginal economic development with the goal of designing a new framework by year's end.

Webique and Cyr Drilling to benefit from venture 10

With a huge opportunity for both parties, the Webique First Nations and Cyr Drilling International have united in their goal for prosperity. It's a unique coupling that offers Cyr Drilling access to the land, and Webique potential to become major players in the drilling

First Nations and SkyPower to benefit from wind project 13

Having the highest elevations in Saskatchewan, Beardys and Okemasis were approached by SkyPower wanting to test the wind on their land. Permission was granted by Chief Rick Gamble and when the test results came back positive, the planning for a new wind park began.

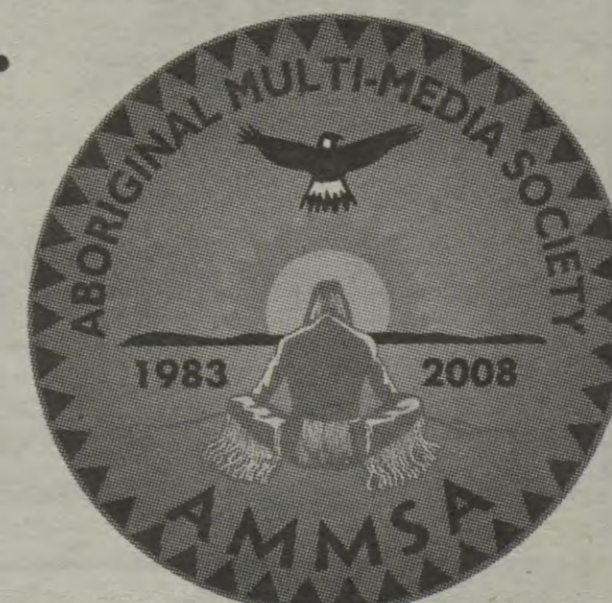
Program puts students on the ladder to success 14

The First Nations Natural Resources Youth Employment Program hosted 30 young people this summer from reserves in Ontario. The goal was to develop their professional and personal skills.

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- [footprints] Shanawdithit 30

A portrait of Shanawdithit, painted by William Gosse in 1828, shows a stolid, mature person with a penetrating and reproachful look. And why wouldn't she look disapproving? Her people had been wiped out and she'd been made a servant in the household of the man responsible for her uncle's murder.

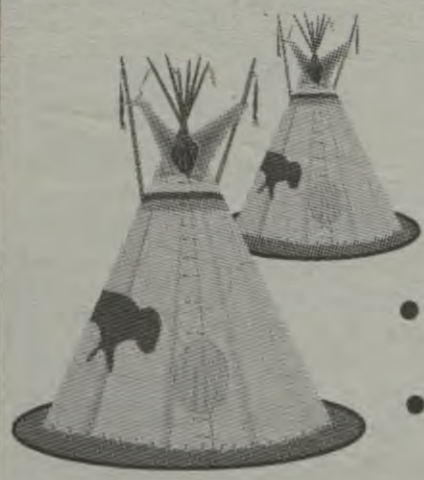


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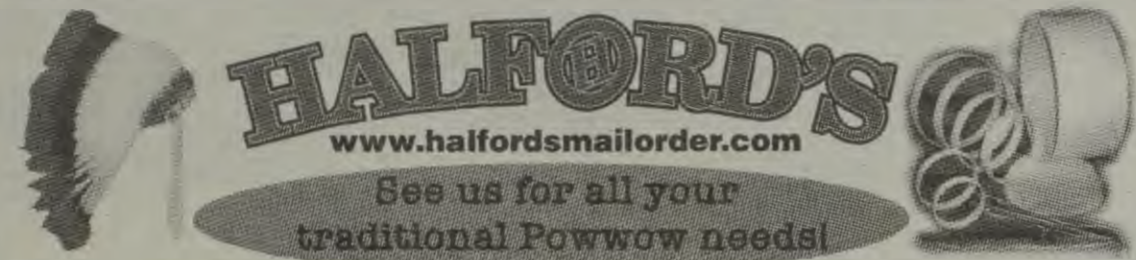
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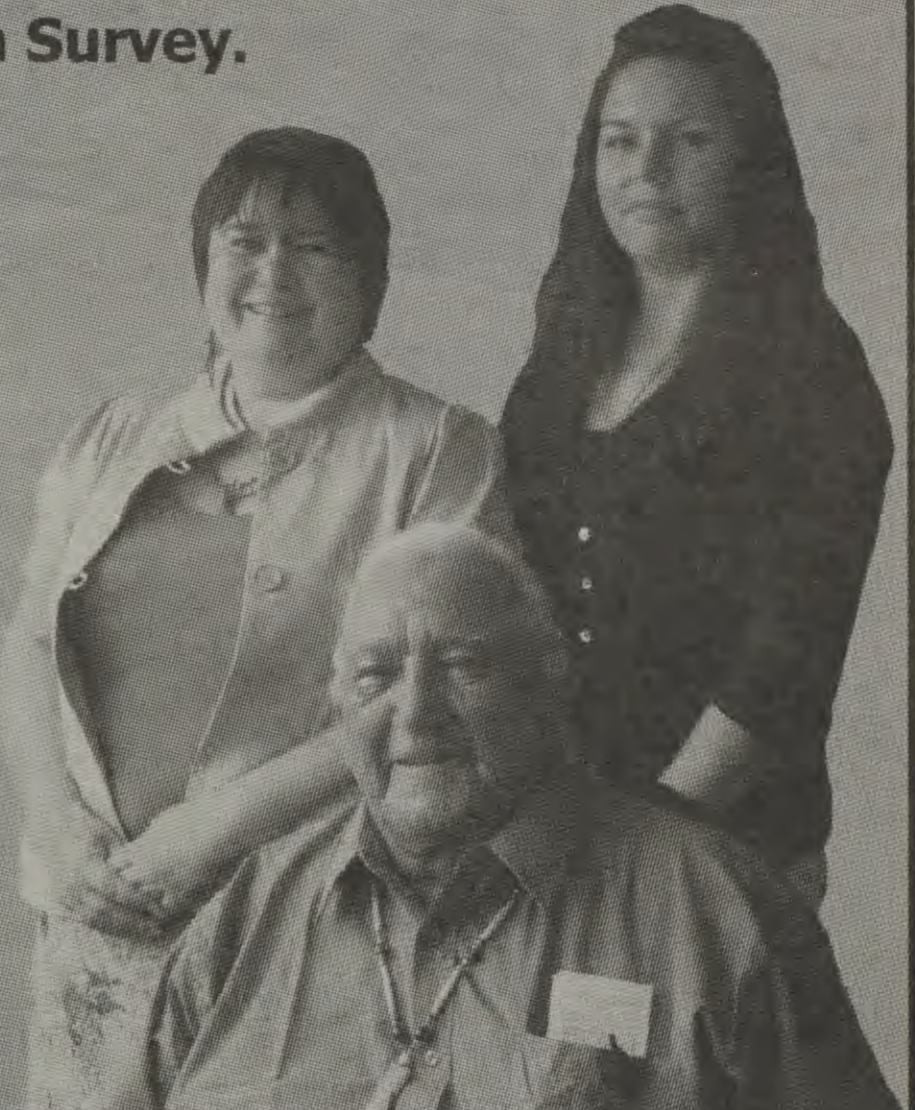


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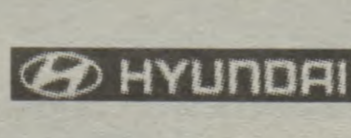
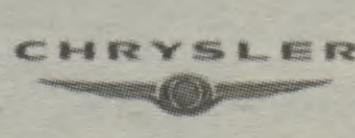
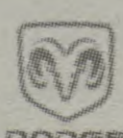
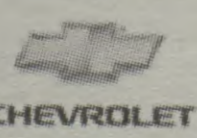


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ALL MAKES AND MODELS



Rowe will face more charges

By Thomas J Bruner
Windspeaker Staff Writer

THUNDER BAY

Relief is the general emotion felt by the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, as more charges of rape will be tried against convicted pedophile, Ralph Rowe. Rowe will be facing 15 more charges of sexual abuse involving 12 individuals, though a trial date has not been set.

"Our focus now is to support the survivors as we prepare for trial. Justice must be served before the survivors and their families can focus on healing and rebuilding the communities that were devastated by his abuse. It will take a long time to erase the long-standing impacts caused by Ralph Rowe," explained Fiddler.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is one of the sexual abuse effects that plague sexually abused children and adult survivors of child abuse. Symptoms experienced are similar to those experienced by Vietnam veterans and may include sleep disturbances, anxiety and depression, which negatively impact on their daily psychosocial functioning and for which many seek professional help.

"The impact of Ralph Rowe has been devastating to our people and communities, but victims of sexual – and any type of abuse – must feel confident that they will be supported when they come forward to bring justice to these atrocities," said Fiddler, noting that high rates of suicide and jail time have been connected to Rowe's years of abuse.

The NAN Men's Healing Initiative, formerly known as the Ralph Rowe Survivor Network is setup as a supportive network for men who are survivors of sexual attacks committed by Rowe.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario.

There was a preliminary hearing from Aug. 19 to 22, and some of the members of the Men's Healing Initiative indicated they would attend the trial.

Previously in an attempt to overcome the pain of the past, the Initiative took part in a CBC documentary entitled Faith and Disbelieving. In the documentary they demolished an Anglican mission house that embodied their tragic past. They had the blessing of the church.

"The magnitude of his abuse is becoming clearer with each new charge, and it is imperative that we bring this predator to justice," said Fiddler, who attended the Rowe trial in Kenora last year.

That trial resulted in Rowe's conviction of 20 counts of sexual offences involving First Nations boys in northern Ontario between 1977 and 1987.

Rowe, a former Anglican minister and Boy Scout master, worked in at least 18 NAN First Nation communities between 1971 and 1986. He served four and a half years of a six-year sentence in 1994 for indecent and sexual assaults involving boys aged 6 to 16.

He is currently serving a three-year sentence in a federal penitentiary in British Columbia. With this appalling amount of abuse conjugated with likewise cases, it is paramount to continually put the issue on the forefront.

"Breaking the silence around this kind of deep trauma is an important part of the healing process, and while some of the survivors may never reach that point, I acknowledge the courage new claimants have displayed in coming forward with their allegations," illustrated Fiddler.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding the events, the survivors understandably declined to comment on the matter any further.

Grassy Narrows youth show signs of poisoning

By Kate Harries
Windspeaker Writer

Asubpeeschoseewagong

Are Aboriginal children in North Western Ontario still paying the price of a 46-year-old environmental crime?

Cerebral palsy, developmental delays and seizures are symptoms of mercury poisoning, and they are conditions that community members at Asubpeeschoseewagong (Grassy Narrows) are noticing with concern among their young.

"A lot of children are being born with epilepsy," said Maria Swain-Korshever, who has a grand-daughter and a nephew who suffered seizures in their first year.

Her granddaughter Robin was rushed to hospital in Kenora when she suffered her first episode at the age of eight months. Hospital staff initially suspected abuse by the parents, but were quickly set straight by the family doctor.

There was no diagnosis. "They didn't even really bother to check her out, they more or less just sent her home, oh, she's going to be okay," Swain-Korshever recalled.

The next time the child went into seizures, the family was in Thunder Bay. "I'm glad that it happened there," she said. Hospital staff "got on top of it right away, they did all kinds of tests and they found that one side of her brain wasn't fully developed."

Medication that Robin may have to take for the rest of her life now controls the condition. But her case isn't isolated.

Another mother tells of waking in the middle of the night to find her baby son shaking and unresponsive. He was rushed to a hospital and is presently on medication to keep him stable.

Swain-Korshever believes a variety of health problems at Grassy can all be traced back to one culprit – mercury.

The Dryden Paper Company started dumping mercury waste into the Wabigoon River in 1962. The practice went undetected for eight years and wasn't stopped until 1975, by which time an estimated 20,000 pounds of inorganic mercury had entered the English-Wabigoon River system, with another 20,000 pounds discharged to the air.

It took until 1986 for Grassy Narrows and Wabaseemoong (Whitedog) to obtain a \$16 million settlement, and the establishment of a fund, overseen by the Mercury Disability Board, to make payments to those whose health had been damaged by the mercury.

Community leaders thought the funds would bridge the gap to the future; a future in which natural processes would have cleansed the land and waters and healthy new generations could rebuild their shattered communities.

"The scientists at the time said this is not going to affect your children, it's going to be out of the system in 30 years," said Leanne Simpson, a biologist who specializes in indigenous knowledge.

"Here we are 30 years later and our research is showing that it's not out of the system."

Simpson is the principal investigator in a multi-year contaminants study funded by Health Canada that is being coordinated by Judy DaSilva of Grassy Narrows.

The latest study, to be completed next year, includes for the first time the two other communities that were hit by the mercury contamination - Whitedog and Wabauskang First Nation.

Now part of Wabauskang are the survivors and descendants of a small Aboriginal community of about 60 people that lived in Quibel, just north of Vermilion Bay. They were the first hit by the contamination but didn't learn of it and the ensuing compensation to Grassy Narrows and Whitedog until 1987.

A Toronto law firm is presently looking into the compensation issue but it will come too late for Elders like Bertha Petiquan, who died of cancer last year at the age of 89.

Her daughter, 69-year-old Betty Riffel, coordinates the contaminants study for her community. The work is the fulfillment of a promise she made 60 years ago as a nine-year-old girl when she watched her baby brother Donald die at the age of nine months.

"He lived longer than the other babies," she recalled. "I counted 11 babies that died there. They all died the same way, they had seizures. I always remember my little brother having seizures until he died."

[news]

DaSilva said concern for the children in her community was a major trigger in her push to get information. She said there have been miscarriages, abnormal births, cancers and, most visibly, the seizures.

"I worked in a day care and I used to see it right there and I'd hear parents saying that their child was having seizures."

"It's very difficult from a scientific perspective and from a medical perspective to demonstrate a cause and effect relationship," Simpson said.

Another issue is that, in a community where fish has traditionally been a central part of the diet, not everyone follows Health Canada's fish consumption guidelines. Some, by contrast, are so fearful that they avoid traditional foods, leading to other health problems related to Western-style diets.

This is a community where fish is a central part of the diet. Contaminant levels vary – some fish (the higher end predators) and some lakes are more contaminated, all pointing to the need for caution and continually updated information.

There are many unanswered questions at Grassy Narrows and its neighbouring communities, and one is whether there is a higher incidence of illness among children.

"What the community is saying and what those Elders are saying is that there is," Simpson noted. "and I think what I haven't seen is science and government being able to demonstrate scientifically that there isn't a problem."

"One of the things that the so called resolution to the mercury problem didn't touch on is long-term health studies that would indicate the community is healing or the community is not healing."

Instead, monitoring of the after-effects of a major industrial disaster has been left to the community, she said.

Health Canada was unable to provide responses to questions about mercury levels and the incidence of health problems among children in the affected communities by press time.

NWT will advance in labour market

On Aug. 27, it was announced that the future of the Northwest Territories' economy and mining sector would be stronger and more prosperous. Chuck Strahl, minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, declared two key investments that will assist in fortifying and diversifying the economy of the Northwest Territories. Furthermore, it will support Aboriginal workers to capitalize on local labour market opportunities.

During the press conference, Strahl announced \$9 million in funding to the Mine Training Society on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. As a result, 500 Aboriginal people will receive training over a three-year period that will lead to 288 long-term jobs in the NWT's mining sector.


Strahl went on to proclaim a \$2.1 million helping hand to the Pooled Capital Fund that will enable NWT's seven Community Futures Development Corporations to expand their ability to provide local businesses and entrepreneurs with lines of credit, business loans and loan guarantees. Strahl believes the investment will unleash the tremendous economic potential that exists within Northern communities.

This announcement is the culmination of the Building On Success: New Directions for Mine Training in the Northwest Territories project. This project was operated by the Northwest Territories' Mine Training Society and funded by the federal government. Recently, 18 individuals completed the Mine Training Society's Underground Miner program.

"Today's new funding builds on our government's 2004 investment in the Mine Training Society – an Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership program that is already showing results," said Strahl.

Strahl wrapped up the press conference with a compliment to the endeavor, "While this announcement is about investing in business, it's really a vote of confidence in the people of this territory. And as businesses succeed and grow, it will mean jobs and opportunities for many others."

These two announcements reinforce Canada's commitment to promoting sustainable economic development in the North as part of an integrated Northern strategy.



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Email amacisaac@bowvalleycollege.ca

ALTA. ABORIGINAL BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM & GALA

October 20-21, 2008, Enoch, Alta. - 1-866-592-4827;
info@acc2008.ca (see ad on page 27)

ABO. BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP & ECONOMIC DEV.

October 20-22, 2008, Vancouver, B.C. - www.insightinfo.com

EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES: 23rd EDUCATION CONFERENCE - LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER/BUILDING SUCCESSFUL FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS

October 21-24, 2008, Winnipeg, Man.
204-896-3449 (see ad on page 7)

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October 21-24, 2008, Winnipeg, Man.
204-896-3449 (see ad on page 7)

FIRST NATIONS INNER CHILD WORKSHOP

October 29-31, 2008, Prince Albert, Sask.
1-888-455-6229; 780-455-6229;
www.fourdirectionsconsulting.com (see ad on page 24)

FARMAIR INTERNATIONAL

October 31 - November 8, 2008, Edmonton, Alta.
780-471-7309; www.northlands.com

CANADIAN FINALS RODEO

November 5-9, 2008, Edmonton, Alta.
780-471-7309; www.northlands.com

EMBRACING THE SPIRIT WITHIN WORKSHOP

November 8-10, 2008, Vancouver, B.C. - 604-351-6224 or
778-378-5113 (see ad on page 27)

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November 28-30, 2008, Toronto, Ont. - Phone 519-751-0040;
Fax 519-751-2790; www.canaba.com (see ad on page 18)

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Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has issued an official Notice of Public Hearing, available at www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca, that it will hold a one-day public hearing to consider the *Environmental Assessment Track Report* (Track Report) regarding Cameco Corporation's proposal for the Vision 2010 project, which involves a comprehensive redevelopment of its Port Hope Conversion Facility located in Port Hope, Ontario. The Commission will also consider the *Proposed Environmental Assessment Guidelines* (EA Guidelines). The proposal is being reviewed as a comprehensive study under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. The public hearing will be held on **October 8, 2008** in the CNSC Public Hearing Room, 14th floor, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario and will be webcast live on the Internet via the CNSC Web site.

The public is invited to comment on the proposed Track Report and the EA Guidelines. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission by September 8, 2008 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, and refer to Notice of Public Hearing 2008-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

National Energy
Board



Office national
de l'énergie

Notice of Public Hearing for the TransCanada Alberta System

The National Energy Board has scheduled an oral public hearing on an application from TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TransCanada) under the *National Energy Board Act* to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to effect recognition that the TransCanada Alberta System is within Canadian federal jurisdiction and subject to regulation by the Board. The hearing will also consider matters required by the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

The TransCanada Alberta System

The TransCanada Alberta System is an existing natural gas pipeline system comprised of approximately 23 500 km of pipeline and associated compression and other facilities located within Alberta. The TransCanada Alberta System is owned directly by NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of TransCanada, and is presently regulated under provincial legislation by the Alberta Utilities Commission.

The Application

Copies of the application are available for viewing on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "View a Regulatory Document" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to the "TransCanada PipeLines Limited - TransCanada Alberta System"), at the Applicant's office at 450 1st Street SW, Calgary, AB, and the Board's library (Ground floor, 444 7th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB). The application is also available at Wood Buffalo Public Library (9907 Franklin Avenue), Grande Prairie Public Library (9910 - 99 Avenue), Peace River Municipal Library (9807 - 97 Avenue), Edson Public Library (4726 - 8 Avenue), Camrose Public Library (4710 - 50 Avenue), Lethbridge Public Library (810 - 5 Avenue S) and Medicine Hat Public Library (414 - 1 Street SE).

Public Hearing

The public hearing will start at 9:30 a.m., local time, 18 November 2008 at a location to be determined. The proceeding will obtain the evidence and views of interested persons on the application. Any person interested in participating in the hearing should consult the Board's Hearing Order GH-5-2008 for further background and instructions.

Information for Intervenor

Any person wishing to intervene in the process must file an application to intervene by noon, Calgary time, 22 August 2008 with the Secretary of the Board and serve a copy on TransCanada and its counsel at the following addresses:

Ms. Linda Angus
Regulatory Analyst
TransCanada PipeLines Limited
450 First Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 5H1
Facsimile: 403-920-2347

Mr. Patrick M. Keys
Vice President, Pipelines
TransCanada PipeLines Limited
450 First Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 5H1
Facsimile: 403-920-2347

Mr. C. Kemm Yates, Q.C.
Stikeman Elliott LLP
4300 Bankers Hall West
888 Third Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 5C5
Facsimile: 403-266-9034

There is an on-line application to intervene form available on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Submit a Regulatory Document" then "Submit documents electronically" and scroll down to "Application for Intervenor Status"). TransCanada will serve a copy of the application and related documentation on each intervenor immediately after the Board issues the List of Parties.

Letters of Comment

Any person wishing only to comment on the application should file a letter of comment to the Secretary of the Board and send a copy to TransCanada and its counsel by noon, Calgary time 12 September 2008 for the Jurisdiction Process and 10 October 2008 for the Facilities Process. There is an on-line letter of comment form available on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Submit a Regulatory Document" then "Submit documents electronically" and scroll down to "Letter of Comment") which you may use to file your letter of comment.

Oral Statements

The Board will also set aside time, at the commencement of the hearing, to hear comments on the Facilities Process. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement must file a letter with the Board requesting the opportunity to make an oral statement and send a copy to TransCanada and its counsel by noon, Calgary time, 10 October 2008 for the Facilities Process. There is an on-line letter of comment form available on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Submit a Regulatory Document" then "Submit documents electronically" and scroll down to "Request to Make an Oral Statement") which you may use to file your request to appear for an oral statement.

Government Participants

Federal authorities, or provincial agencies with an environmental assessment responsibility for the Facilities Process, may participate by filing a letter of comment, providing an oral statement, seeking intervenor status or by filing a declaration that they will be a Government Participant by 22 August 2008.

Information on Hearing Procedures

You may access the Hearing Order through the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Regulatory Documents" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to the "TransCanada PipeLines Limited - TransCanada Alberta System", then click on "Hearing Order" at the top of the screen). You may obtain information on the procedures for this hearing or on the *National Energy Board Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1995*, as amended, governing all hearings (available in English and French) by writing to the Secretary of the Board, contacting Ms. Erin Dutcher, Regulatory Officer at (403) 299-2782 or Ms. Jane Morales, Regulatory Officer at (403) 299-3933, or either Regulatory Officer at 1 800 899-1265. You may also go to the Board's Internet site and click on "Acts and Regulations" to access the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure and other legislation.

Claudine Dutil-Berry
Secretary of the Board
National Energy Board
444 7th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0X8
Facsimile: 403-292-5503 (toll free 1-877-288-8803)

Canada

Windspeaker news briefs

Earth continues to weaken from human activity

There is no doubt the world will be a different place in 500 years, however some scientists are suggesting that this generation should prepare for it now. New findings released in Nature Geoscience have suggested that the frozen arctic soil holds quite a bit more greenhouse gases than previously anticipated, which can severely speed up the global warming process.

After 13 years of studying the arctic, Chien-Liu Ping and a research team from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks have estimated that there is possibly 100 billion tons of carbon just in the first meter of soil. These numbers actually double previous estimations on the land. Furthermore, these numbers equal 10 years worth of global emissions from human activity.

Currently, the carbon-laden soil is dormant for now in the permafrost of the Arctic. That will not always be the case as scientists have already reported changes in the climate, and as a result - changes to the environment. Dying trees, deteriorating highways, landslides and sinkholes, which are signs of climate change, have increased. What is more troubling is the fact that the permafrost is noticeably melting.

Already established wildlife are feeling the change as well. Habitats are either growing or shrinking exponentially. Walrus's are forced to travel further and dive deeper to gather food to sustain them. Grizzlies are waking from their hibernation earlier, which in turn forces their prey to survive for longer periods. Inuit have reported changes in the distribution of wolves, musk, oxen, and rabbits. They've also noticed new species such as robins, barn swallows, red foxes, sand flies, salmon, and herring—the names for some of which weren't even in their language.

"Permafrost temperatures in Alaska have gone up about one degree centigrade over the last 50 years," Ping said, pushing soils to within a fraction of a degree of freezing temperature. "In Russia, they've been monitoring permafrost for over a century. It has warmed two degrees Centigrade, so almost five degrees Fahrenheit."

Many scientists report that substantial, widespread changes will obviously not be felt or noticed immediately. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that in a worst-case scenario, arctic temperatures could climb by six degrees at the end of the century, at most. It is the long run that has experts concerned. The year 2400 or even 2500 would dramatically illustrate the effects.

However, other scientists have gone as far as to suggest that the warming process may not be entirely negative. In theory, warmer temperatures would encourage plants to grow more rapidly, and through photosynthesis absorb large amounts of the carbon. Perhaps even so much to the point that it would completely remove the threat of greenhouse gas emissions from the soil in question.

Due to the inhospitable climate, gathering definitive measures of the soil, as well as long-term results are a difficult task, and in many cases reports are from an educated guess, or computer simulations.

FN sues Ottawa

Ermineskin First Nations, Alta., is suing the federal government of Canada and has named Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl as one of the defendants.

One part of the claim is based on alleged "famine and pestilence" as the reserve is having some serious problems with diabetes, gangrene and kidney disease. The statement of claim was filed in Edmonton Court of Queens Bench in late August.

In general the lawsuit states that the government has not upheld the treaty by denying them the most essential needs in life, such as fresh water. There is a Treaty 6 quote in the claim: "A medicine chest will be kept at the house of each Indian agent in case of sickness amongst you."

The specific complaints against the government are numerous. The band has no pipes to carry water so they are forced to import water from nearby communities when needed. Suggesting that the governments fishing and hunting laws have resulted in significant changes in diet contributing to the diseases mentioned. Alleging that a comprehensive funding arrangement reached last year is not being upheld as the government still has not reimbursed Ermineskin with the \$4.5 million used for social assistance programs.

Finally the lawsuit also claims that 300 to 400 children in social assistance programs are not being provided with schooling.

Ermineskin First Nations is one of the four Hobbema reserves in central Alberta and has many troubles like drug and gang related violence, homicides and drive by shootings. Perhaps some of these problems have also stemmed from a lack of life necessities.

Gov't lifts Aboriginal economic development out of obscurity

By **Andréa Ledding**
Windspeaker Writer

OTTAWA

The federal government, through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), is seeking input on Aboriginal economic development with the goal of designing a new framework by year's end.

Some First Nations leaders see the initiative as welcome and long overdue; others "too little, too late." There is, however, consensus that economic development needs to be a First Nations' focus.

Spokesperson Patricia Valladao of INAC said First Nations, existing networks, stakeholders and others have been invited to take part in the process in guiding the federal government. Meetings will be held with economic development experts. The public at large can deliver its perspective through the INAC Web site, direct mail, or by phone until Sept. 30.

"All Canadians will benefit from a self-reliant, strong and healthy Aboriginal community," Valladao said in a phone interview, adding the government believes that increasing participation in a healthy economy is the most effective way to address gaps faced by Canadian Aboriginal people.

Chief Clarence Louie of the Osoyoos Band in British Columbia agrees. Aboriginal economic development has been one of INAC's lowest funded programs at two to four per cent of its budget. Louie calls that "a formula for poverty." Economy is an obvious number one issue for any organization or government.

Louie remembers a phrase he once heard: The economy is the horse that pulls the social cart. If that is true, then economic development should not be funded by discretionary dollars, he said.

"Looking at the hundred-year-old system, it's all been social spending, and where has that gotten us over a hundred years; people talking about Aboriginal poverty," Louie said. "Year after year, economic development hasn't even been on the radar screen of the federal government, or the governments of most First Nations, who have been chasing more money for under-funded social programs."

"Countries with the best education and health statistics, housing statistics, the lowest drop-out rate, these are all countries that focus on economic development. Most people don't realize—they scream about health and education—but where does the money come from to operate those expensive programs?"

Louie believes business taxes and economic and natural resource development is key to overall prosperity. Even education relies on economic development, while supporting it with relevant skill-sets.

"The healthiest people are obviously working people."

Educated people don't want to live on welfare; INAC's historical approach, said Louie.

As a chief for 21 years, he describes band offices as a funding trough, government controlled and federally dependant. Business has to be the biggest employer, not the band office, he said.

The Osoyoos First Nation owns the most businesses per capita in Canada: a golf course, resorts, a winery, a hotel. It holds land leases, is in construction and operates stores.

"Every meeting, we start with economic development. It's at the top of our list. That's what funds all our programs."

Osoyoos employs not only band members, but hundreds of non-Natives as well as First Nations people from more than four provinces. Back in the 70s, most band members left to work in the United States.

Louie said that relying on the federal government for funds is a non-starter for Osoyoos, because there is simply never enough money to go around.

"Never has been and never will be. The provinces are all screaming after every federal budget. Native people, they're down on the list. The government doesn't have an endless supply of money," said Louie.

So what's the solution?

"Start creating business and making money and you're in the driver's seat; and there are a handful in every province doing that."

Saskatchewan's White Bear First Nation would count itself in that handful, according Chief Brian Standingready. He lists natural resources, a casino, a golf course and resort development as economic initiatives in his community that are backed by private funding or bank loans.

"White Bear has never in the past been involved with any federal programs or initiatives, as far as economic development is concerned," said the chief of 27 years, adding that his nation gets about \$60,000 annually, of little benefit or use in economic development.

"I think, as far as the government, INAC, is concerned, they should stay out of economic development because it's not their place."

In fact, they are out of it, no matter what the intention.

First Nations have long been studied and restudied, commissions have made recommendations, and the government continually fails to follow through, he said.

And when they do get involved, the red tape and government bureaucracy is counter-productive to good business practice, Standingready said.

"The opportunity that was

there is gone by the time you've negotiated all the obstacles. That's through experience, my experience in dealing with Indian Affairs. Their priority is not economic development. It's welfare," he observed. Increasing the welfare budget has long appeared their number one priority, he said.

Louie agrees. He said if the government really wanted to show goodwill it would scrap or change sections of the Indian Act. The time-frame to complete transactions for leases or land designation on reserve is five times longer than off, at double or triple the cost, he said. Non-Natives shake their heads in wonder at the bureaucracy and centuries-old paternalism.

"It's not business friendly," Louie said of government involvement. "In fact, it's anti-business. Nobody can believe the stupidity and ignorance of the Indian Act. And the extra cost and burden it puts on investment and First Nation lands."

Louie said that non-Native politicians think they can wave their magic wands and produce solutions, and the new framework the government is developing may be more of that. He hopes it's not.

Louie is willing to believe that INAC Minister Chuck Strahl, like his predecessor Jim Prentice, doesn't "want to be minister of Aboriginal poverty."

Standingready has his own framework for success. He said human resources, youth, and industry need to be each band's focus, especially on reserves with no natural resources.

"We have to be involved in the international market, meeting the demands out there," he said, citing global markets for food exports and First Nations products. "There's opportunity out there in different countries. What we need to do is more trade missions and so on. We need to expand beyond the reserve. I know there's a lot of interest—Asia, Germany, the rest of Europe—for First Nations business and goods."

Standingready said Saskatchewan has the fastest growing Aboriginal population in Canada, a labor force that, if given the training, could fill jobs and opportunities in all sectors and industries.

He is skeptical about where new funding for the new government framework on Aboriginal economic development might come from, saying it inevitably will be created through cutbacks to other programs somewhere.

Valladao said INAC is looking for "a comprehensive opportunity-based plan to guide federal policy, policy-making, and programs in years to come. [The framework] will reflect the current realities, opportunities, and self-reliance of Aboriginal business leaders, institutions, and

Switzerland to host first session

Room XIX of the Palais des Nations, at the United Nations Office in Geneva, Switzerland will play host to the first session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the Expert Mechanism) taking place from October 1 to 3.

The Expert Mechanism is a creation of the Human Rights Council (HRC), and its mandate is to assist the HRC in providing thematic expertise on the rights of Indigenous peoples.

The primary focus will be on studies and research based advice, however the Expert Mechanism is permitted to suggest proposals to the HRC for its consideration and approval.

While the Expert Mechanism will not put forth resolutions and decisions, it will determine its own methods of work.

Based on a large and extensive criterion, five experts were chosen in accordance with a resolution created in June 2007. The experts will serve a term of three years with an option for one more term.

For the first session, the Expert Mechanism will assemble for three days, and the meetings will be a mixture of public and private discussions. In the years following, the sessions may last up to five days.

Furthermore, a Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Indigenous Peoples, and a member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be invited to attend and contribute in the annual meeting. The meeting can be attended by Indigenous Peoples organizations and non-governmental organizations whose aims and purposes coincide with that of the Charter of the United Nations.

The meeting will also be open to: United Nations mechanisms, bodies and specialized agencies, funds and programmes; Intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and mechanisms in the field of human rights; National Human Rights Institutions and other relevant national bodies; Academics and experts on Indigenous issues and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

The Expert Mechanism will receive technical and financial assistance from the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner, and the High Commissioner will act as the Secretariat of the Expert Mechanism.

For more information on this session, visit, www.ohchr.org.

Documentary to focus on survivors

The Bandwagon, will be a two-hour documentary if all goes well will be released in 2010. Co-produced by Jannica Hoskins and Randy Bezeau the documentary is made in the hope of giving a voice to the thousands of First Nations who were forced to endure residential school in the 1960s and into the 80s and make positive changes to the way Canada handles child apprehension.

This summer the pair is traveling cross-country interviewing residents, politicians and policy-makers in order to examine Aboriginal adoption and the so-called 60's scoop. The thousands of children taken from their homes some without even their parents knowledge and forced into residential schools will have their story told.

The first part of the documentary will be on the root motivations of why forced adoption policies were created.

Next on the agenda is to study traditional methods of raising children, focusing on the variations offered by each territory. Lastly, the documentary will look at how Aboriginal territories are coping with foster care and Native adoptions in this modern day.

The project has been flourishing along with Hoskins own path of self-discovery.

"I started asking questions and looking for answers as to why my parents, primarily my father, raised us to pretend we weren't Cree. I realized this was quite common," said Hoskins.

While Hoskins was on her journey, trying to comprehend why her family had denied they were Cree, she began to examine the origins of the many social problems plaguing Aboriginal peoples realizing they were closely linked if not almost the same.

"That is when we started to unravel this huge question, which eventually led us to residential schools and the whole mindset of the government during the time of confederation that really influenced genocidal policy," explained Hoskins.

Instead of waiting for possible funding, Hoskins and Bezeau have financed this project on their own and opted not to have ownership of the final project.

"We wanted to share all of the ownership with all of the individuals that are on camera," said Hoskins.

entrepreneurs."

Chief Louie said "It's nice that economic development is off the bottom of the list, even if it's only for a brief period of time."

He said there's a simple reality check for this endeavor.

"Show me the budget."

The federal government will fund every band a full-time social worker to hand out welfare cheques, another full-time drug and alcohol counselor to deal with all the dysfunction that's come out of poverty, but no economic development officers. "To me that's totally psychotic. That's just whacko. It's crazy. How did they break down First Nation societies? They reduced them to dependency, took away their ability to look after themselves."

Louie said the inter-tribal economy of former days "wasn't a

hand-out system. Our nations traded amongst each other. I'm not saying social programs aren't important. Of course they're important. Look what's been done to our communities over the past 100 years. But there are conferences every week on social programs, healing and wellness."

Louie said the ball is beginning to roll in the right direction. He would rather be contributing to the economy in traditional territories than sitting on the sidelines.

"Up to 50 per cent are leaving the reserve. Who wants to stick around poverty?" Louie sees educated people—future leaders—going where the jobs and better pay are. He said they're not going to come back and fight over under-funded government-

controlled band office jobs. Economic development will bring back youth who will have opportunities to be company managers.

"Most Native people want something to get up for in the morning. And that's a job. A job defines who you are. I know a lot of people who will say "I love my job." Take away a job and what's going to happen to them? Social dysfunctions," said Louie. "There's no such thing as a free lunch. Even traditional foods—berries, fish, salmon, deer, elk, moose—it costs money to put that food on the table. Gas and bullets aren't free. Or a cultural event: It takes money to put on a powwow. It's not a money maker. It's the business side of the community. Businesses fund cultural events and programs."

Videos could determine claim

By Elizabeth Huber
Windspeaker Writer

CORNWALL

A month before Kahentinetha Horn suffered a heart attack following her detention at the Cornwall border crossing she was warned she may be in danger.

In response, the 68-year-old grandmother said she established surveillance around her home in Kahnawake Quebec near Montreal and purchased a cell-phone.

Now, the well-known Kanion'ke:haka/Mohawk activist, has filed a law suit against the attorney governor of Canada and sent a complaint to the United Nations for injuries and abuses against herself and First Nations people.

"For a while there I was being stopped 10 out of 10 times and being hassled," said Horn. "Now I do not cross," she added.

The border crossing divides the community of Akwesasne that resides under five different colonial jurisdictions: Canada, United States, Ontario, Quebec and New York State.

Katenies, also known as Janet Davis, another activist detained at the border, was travelling with Horn to visit family in the Ontario portion of the community, which requires travelling through the US.

According to the letter of demand addressed to Robert Douglas Nicholson, the minister of justice and attorney governor of Canada, the vehicle holding Horn, Katenies and a third passenger, Sakowaiaks, was stopped at the Cornwall crossing on June 14.

"Katenies was dragged violently from the back seat of the car, they knocked her down, pinned her to the ground, and forced their knees into head and back. They handcuffed her and smashed and rubbed her face into the pavement," the letter described.

Following the alleged assault on Katenies, a 48-year-old grandmother, Horn said she became concerned for her own life.

"(Kahentinetha) was handcuffed, assaulted and

imprisoned. Once in the cell, the attack continued. Some of the officers deliberately tightened the handcuffs she was wearing several times. The pain shot up her arms and she experienced flashes of light and pains in the middle of her chest and back," continued the letter.

Justice Canada would not address the contents of the letter when questioned since all correspondence with the minister is treated according to the private nature of the information, said Carole Saindon, Justice Canada spokesperson.

Saindon directed all other questions to the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA), which would also not comment on the matter.

"They had to force her because she wouldn't voluntarily leave the vehicle, at no time was anyone ever beaten or injured to our knowledge," an Ottawa Citizen journalist quoted Chis Kealey, CBSA communications manager, as saying on June 27.

Katenies is scheduled to appear in Alexandria court on Oct. 21. She is charged with hindering, providing false statements and willfully evading compliance with legislation and failure to present person upon arrival under the Canadian customs act and criminal code charges for not appearing in court.

Horn is facing charges for obstructing justice and assaulting police, a scheduled court appearance has not yet been set.

Frank Horn, Kahentinetha's brother and criminal lawyer, arrived at the border crossing and immediately called for paramedics to help his sister.

Kahentinetha was rushed to the Cornwall hospital and then transferred to Ottawa when it became apparent she had suffered a heart attack, explained Frank Horn.

The women's description of events and letter to the United Nations are posted on their Web site, Mohawk Nation News.

This news service first began during the Mohawk/Oka crisis of 1990 to provide updates on the resistance.

"I know that there is no way this was not contrived and done deliberately because (the border guards) knew who they were dealing with, they knew what was going on, and they came and created a situation," said Frank Horn.

"This is a pattern of behaviour, a provocative attitude toward the Indians, they knew what they were doing and knew exactly what message they were going to send," he continued.

The activists repeatedly fight to be recognized as a sovereign nation with their own chiefs to judge them.

"Right now we are realizing that if we put our lives at the mercy of the justice system out there, which is not our justice system, we are not treated equally," said Horn.

When Kahentinetha was asked if it was frustrating that she had to go through the colonial system in order to seek justice, she compared herself to any other non-Canadian within the country.

"If you are Japanese and are over here and get beat up, you have the right to sue them and get justice and not give up your Japanese citizenship and identity," she said.

Kahentinetha and Katenies are demanding that the individuals who assaulted them be charged, tried and punished, full disclosure of all files and official communications, \$10 million for physical, psychological and punitive damages and complete un-doctored copies of the border check point video footage of the alleged assault.

According to the federal crown, if a request for disclosure was made they (videos) would have to be released, however, the federal crown said that they could not disclose to *Windspeaker* who is in possession of the videos.

"The videos tell the whole story, everything is on those videos," said Kahentinetha.

Webique and Cyr Drilling to benefit from venture

By Thomas J Bruner
Windspeaker Writer

Webique First Nation

With a huge opportunity for both parties, the Webique First Nations and Cyr Drilling International have united in their goal for prosperity.

It's a unique coupling that offers Cyr Drilling access to the land, and Webique potential to become major players in the drilling milieu.

But perhaps what is most intriguing is that this is a story that strays away from the norm of First Nations fighting with big businesses.

Webique First Nations is a small community situated in northern Ontario, roughly 520 kilometers north of Thunder Bay. With a population of 647 and no summer road access, opportunity doesn't come knocking very often. But that all changed when Chief Scott Jacob was approached by an investor from Toronto.

The impromptu meeting could not have come at a better time.

"We've been actively seeking strategic and willing business partners to increase employment and training prospects for our people," admitted Jacobs.

Cyr Drilling International is a mid-sized international drilling company partnered with Ian Brodie-Brown and several private investors to create a company known as Cyr Drilling Ontario. The company was formed to take advantage of new discoveries made in the James Bay Lowlands, which happen to be the traditional lands of the Webique First Nations.

After quick negotiations, a

partnership was born. It is a partnership with massive potential for the Webique.

"When our investor group was first looking at it as a business opportunity, one of our investors had a chance meeting with the chief of the Webique, Scott Jacobs. In those discussions it was talked about to see if the First Nations were looking to branch into the service providing industry within the mineral resource sector."

"Our investor came back and talked to us, we took it to the board and discussed it and it made good business sense. So we sold 20 per cent of the new venture to the First Nation Webique, and they have the right in five years to buy the remaining 80 per cent, once they're trained. So really in a nutshell, they have the available workforce and the willingness to participate. So that led to our partnership with the Webique," explained Brodie-Brown.

Jacobs also explained his motivation and interest to join as beneficial to his community.

"Actually we've been attending a lot of the mineral activity workshops and there was interest in our membership that this was a possible opportunity to pursue a diamond drilling career because we've heard that the average age of a diamond driller is 55-years old and there's going to be a shortage of people in that particular area."

"This was an idea from a few years ago, and I guess that's one of the reasons why we were able to get this deal done so quickly after, when we were approached by investors from Toronto and Cyr Drilling International. We

had already talked about this for a couple of years."

Negotiations, from start to finish, only took approximately eight weeks and Brodie-Brown believed it showed willingness by both parties.

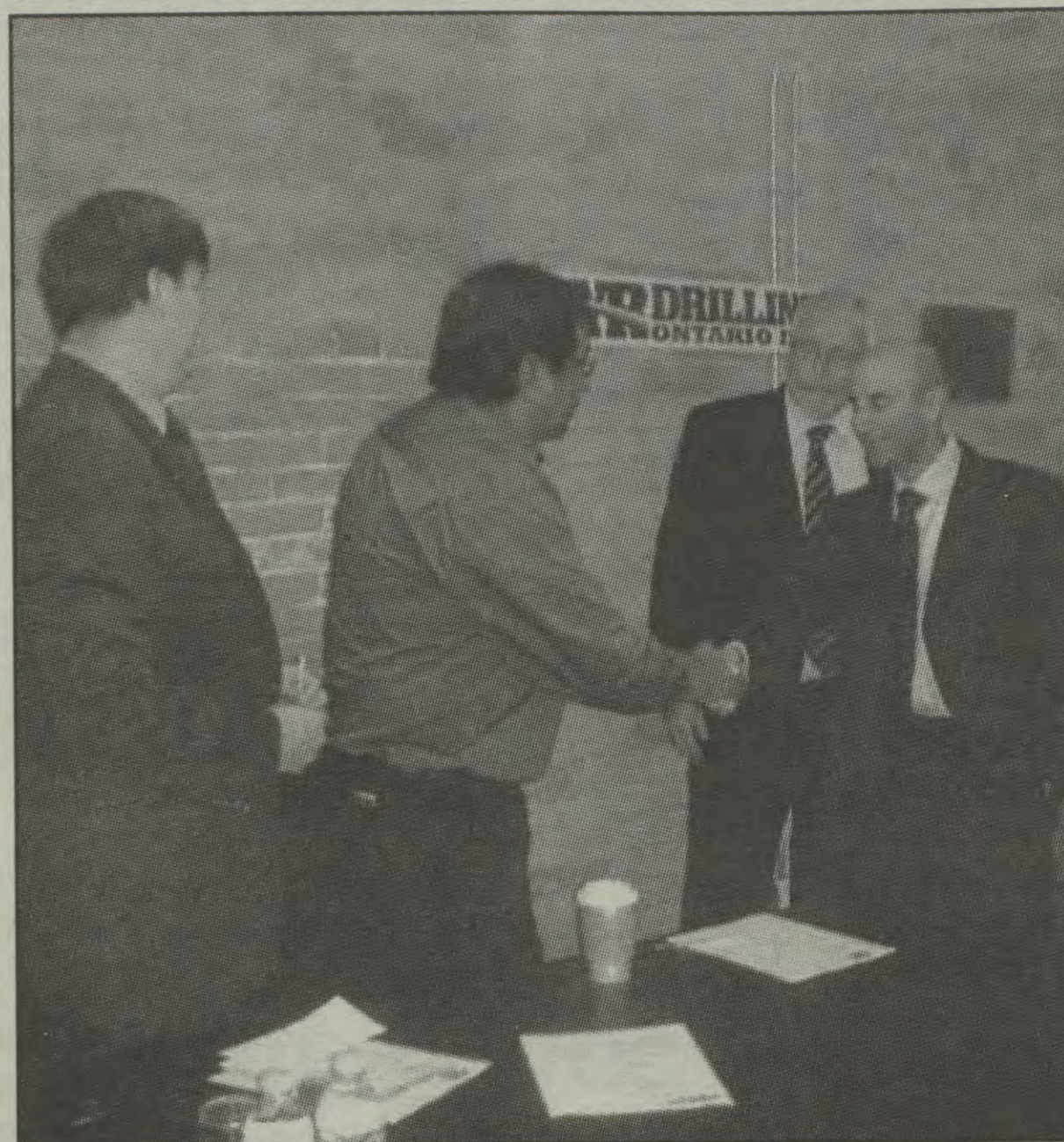
"With our participation, from the financial side and the expertise that Cyr Drilling International brings on the training side, and Webique's local knowledge and understanding of what it takes to run a company in northern Ontario, and their available labour force, we're very pleased. We see it as a win win situation, which we hope will become a model for future private sector companies wanting to partner with First Nations," Brodie-Brown stated.

After years of losing with the government, a "win win situation" was something that Jacobs was relieved to hear.

"The unemployment rate is so high, and we have to look at other areas in terms of trying to give hope to our members and to look forward to the future as well, because we've talked to a lot of our Elders from the community and there's something that they have mandated us to pursue. Trying for securities and look for training opportunities for the young people, because I think we haven't gotten anywhere with the governments over the last hundred years in our area so we got to start thinking of the future of our communities."

With a reported 95 per cent unemployment rate, Brodie-Brown declared that was one of the main reasons for creating this partnership.

"We see the James Bay Lowlands as a very explosive area



Webique First Nation and Cyr Drilling International came together at a press conference to seal a deal to benefit both parties in the long run.

in the exploration business due to some significant discoveries over the past 11 months and the work force is right there. There is the Webique, and there are other First Nations bands that are where we could draw employment from, and it gives the opportunity for a self-sustained corporation when the Webique buys 100 per cent of the company."

Brodie-Brown also proclaimed that the proverbial gravy train would not stop at this particular expedition.

"If this area were to diminish, they would be trained and able to take their skills anywhere in Ontario, Canada, or in fact the world as Canadian drillers are known as the best at what we do."

In a press release, the president of Cyr Drilling International, Gordon Cyr announced that they have been very impressed by the proactive and open approach of the Webique First Nation to do business, build partnerships and develop training and jobs for their people.

"We can't afford to be waiting for things to fall out of the sky and land before you. You've got to be able to pursue and try and capture some of these opportunities," Jacob said.

With a large percentage of companies going head to head with First Nation groups, Webique and Cyr Drilling are certainly walking the road less traveled.



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Attawapiskat students await a new school

By Chereise Morrise
Windspeaker Staff Writer

ATTAWAPISKAT

Shannen Koostachin's Grade 8 teacher was planning a field trip to Niagara Falls this year until a student requested they cancel the excursion and go to Ottawa to plead for a new school instead.

This dedication and willingness to sacrifice fun for duty is uncommon in children so young, so it's not surprising it has earned the youngster international attention.

Koostachin, a 13-year-old member of Attawapiskat First Nation in Ontario, has been nominated for an International Children's Peace Prize for her efforts to get a new school built. The prize is awarded yearly to a child who has made an important contribution to children's rights.

The prize is an initiative of the Kids Rights Foundation, an international children's aid and advocacy organization, and was established in 2005. It is overseen by the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

In July, the government of Canada, through Indian Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl, was put on notice by Koostachin and three other Attawapiskat students that it was their intention to challenge the decision to renege on a promise to build a school in the poor northern community. Their forum would be the upcoming review of Canada's obligations to the UN Rights of the Child Convention.

Koostachin's public campaign to shame the government on this issue was demonstrated on Parliament Hill on May 29 when

she gave a speech about the school during the National Day of Action.

"We went to Parliament Hill to go ask Strahl for a new school. He said he didn't have the money for the new school. He said there are other things going on in his hands right now. He looked really uncomfortable. Before he left, he shook our hands and when I shook his hand I looked at him straight in the eye and told him 'We are not going to give up.' That just made him nervous and he just walked right out," said Koostachin.

The Attawapiskat First Nation has been waiting eight years for a new school. In December 2007, the plans were cancelled by Canada, which sparked the awareness campaign.

"They have been promised by about three or four different ministers that told them 'Yes, you can get your new school,' but recently they were told they had to wait at least another five years," said Stan Beardy, the grand chief of the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation (NAN).

Currently, the school is comprised of small portable structures that, according to students, leak and are unsuitable for learning.

"When it is 40 or 50 below during the winter time they have their gym somewhere else and soaking from sweat they have to run across a few hundred feet to their classroom, and I don't think that that is healthy at all. When it's 40 below, children that are five, six and seven years old, run across in that weather to some other building," said Beardy.

The classroom doors and window shutters do not close very

well, said Koostachin.

"We always have to walk back and forth just to go to gym class, computers and library. We walk probably 100 feet just to go there," she said.

Beardy shares Koostachin's feelings and determination to improve the educational infrastructure in her community. NAN has long been a supporter of Attawapiskat's battle for a new school, Beardy said.

"We have brought in media, we have arranged meetings with the federal government, and we will continue to advocate on her behalf. I think the next step for NAN is that we will go international and make our case known because it just isn't fair for Canada to deny its First Nations children the right to education," said Beardy.

"I feel that the children of Attawapiskat are being denied the opportunity to learn in safe, clean and comfortable surroundings," said Beardy.

Koostachin was nominated for the Children's Peace Prize by Cindy Blackstock of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society.

"I first heard of the inspiring story of the students of Attawapiskat during the debate on Jordan's Principle in the House of Commons in the fall of 2007, and then saw her eloquent speech on the steps of the House of Commons during the National Day of Action," said Blackstock. "She was clear in her message, respectful and committed. She did not believe the minister of Indian Affairs when he said he had no money to replace their school. This is not surprising given that the government is



Students from the Attawapiskat First Nation wait to hear from the government about a new school.

recording record surplus budgets. And she committed not to stop until the children of Attawapiskat had a school they could feel proud of and she has not.

"Shannen and the other students plan to take their case to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and to continue to reach out to other Canadian children and their families."

Blackstock was very impressed with Koostachin and her potential to impact her community.

"An Elder once told me that to change the world in a good way you need three things: knowledge, commitment and spirit. Shannen has all of these in abundance," said Blackstock.

"Shannen is a moral and visionary leader and under her leadership, hundreds of non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal Canadian school children have written letters to the Canadian government to ask them to give a

new and nurturing school to the children of Attawapiskat and other First Nations children in need. Shannen goes past the rhetoric of reconciliation to actually putting the principles in action, bringing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children together to ensure their government honors its promises and commitments on child rights."

Koostachin is thrilled about being nominated for the prize, but didn't see it coming. "I was expecting to get a school, but I never expected to get a prize," said Koostachin. "I didn't do this for a prize and I didn't even know there was a prize. But I feel excited about the nomination."

A video to create awareness about the Attawapiskat school situation is posted on Youtube. It's called Eight Long Struggling Years.

The video shows footage of the current portables and many of the children of Attawapiskat holding signs and asking for a new school.

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People prefer seriousness over humour?

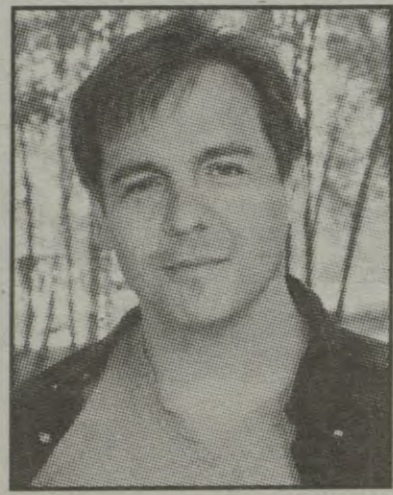
Comedy is a very serious business. I know, I've been in the business for over 20 years, with the occasional foray into what could be referred to as serious drama. It's like living on Italian food but ordering in Chinese occasionally. I was once told by an Elder from Alberta's Blood Reserve that "humour is the WD40 of healing." Intriguing. Messy but intriguing. Humour is also, in my humble opinion, the best way to deliver a message - the proverbial medicine with a spoon full of sugar. And who doesn't like a good laugh.

As a result, I've spent my life studying and practicing the art of humour, with varying degrees of success. I've even written a book and directed an NFB documentary about the wonders of Native humour. To me, Native humour honours our culture in ways bannock never can (and a humble apology to all the bannock lovers out there). Think of it as a pow wow of the mind, and/or funny bone

"What do you call an Indian with a Ph.D?"

A doctor, you f***** racist!"

But lately, there seems to be, and I could be paranoid, this sort of subversive plot to turn me



THE URBANE INDIAN

Drew Hayden Taylor

towards I guess what can be called, the Dark Side of the Farce. I've been getting more and more requests to write, dare I say the word, serious stuff. Material and stories that ring with Aboriginal angst, First Nation anguish, and Indigenous agony. And it's beginning to scare me. Oppression, depression and suppression of a culture have been known to give me hives.

Often it always starts with an innocent question like "do you ever write stuff that isn't funny?" or a statement like "I prefer your more serious stuff better." It is a well known fact that humour and comedy is known as the illegitimate cousin of writing. Look how rarely comedies are nominated or win any of the major movie awards.

With that being said, I am at a crisis of career. Last year my first

novel came out. Just your average Ojibway vampire story (write your own joke). Not a comedy per se but with lots of funny bits scattered through out the book. Just telling people the very fact it's a First Nations vampire novel alone will often make them smile. For my next book, the publisher kindly hinted that she would love me to write a Residential School novel, from the Native student's perspective. As we say in funny business, "and the jokes just write themselves." I don't think the world's ready for a residential school comedy, any more than a musical about the Holocaust. So I turned down the request, hinting that perhaps I wasn't the right person for the job.

Just last year, I was a writer in residence for a popular Native theatre company, and was about to start work on a new play for

them. It was then the Artistic Director that told me directly and rather strongly that she would prefer something of a more serious nature from me. Paraphrasing, she wanted me to write something depressing that celebrated the dysfunctional Aboriginal. "We know you can be funny, Drew. Let's see you be serious."

I've been serious. But the novelty wears off after a while. And being funny is more fun. And who's to say the two cannot go hand in hand. Some of the best humour I've seen resonates with pain, reality and darkness. And there are already so many people out there who excel at presenting the darker side of First Nation existence. Why should I eat from their plate?

I've just finished my second novel - no, not the Residential School story, instead a comedic tale about a contemporary legend. My agent, upon reading it, said "it's a lot more comedic then literary." Again, why can't the two be intertwined? Ever read Green Grass, Running Water or Catch 22? Still, she wants that serious novel from me sometime. Maybe, in a fit of depression, I'll write one, just to get these people off

my back.

Granted I did give into the Artistic Director's challenge. I did write that serious play for the theatre company. After much soul searching, I wrote about a Residential School survivor seeing his abuser on the street and following him to work. IT was difficult to write. Unsettling. Not my usual material. I did manage to slip in some black humour, because in my experience, that is the Native way. Even when facing tragedy, we still laugh. Hopefully those will slide by the A.D.'s notice.

Whether it will ever get produced, who knows. It may not even be any good. And people might not want to see it because, again, I'm known for my humour. In the States I have been called the Native Neil Simon so many times. That is both a good and bad thing. Admittedly, its hard to envision him doing that Holocaust musical I mentioned earlier. Still, I'm glad I wrote that play, just because I wanted to see if I could. Now I know I can. So that means I can get back to my first love.

"What do you call 64 Métis in one room?"

One full blood."

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First Nations and SkyPower to benefit from wind project

By Chereise Morris
Windspeaker Staff Writer

BEARDY FIRST NATION

Having the highest elevations in Saskatchewan, Beardys and Okemasis were approached by SkyPower wanting to test the wind on their land. Permission was granted by Chief Rick Gamble and when the test results came back positive, the planning for a new wind park began.

SkyPower, a Lehman Brothers company and Beardy's and Okemasis First Nations have agreed to develop the land and are naming it the Willow Cree Wind Project.

When completed this project will hopefully generate "green" energy for more than 30,000 homes annually.

This new development is hoped to have many benefits including a possibility of tourism, jobs and job training programs. As well as the expected boost in the economy and finances to be garnered from the partnership in

the long term.

"One of the leading reasons for us opting into it, is a source of revenue, we want to start doing as many projects as we can as a First Nation to increase our own source of revenue so we can supplement what we get from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and serve the needs of our people," said Gamble.

Infrastructure is always important to any community and with this deal in the makings, Beardys and Okemasis will have an upper hand.

"That (wind park) would enable us to marry those monies with INAC funding for maybe capital projects or administration," said Gamble. "If the amount of power we sell is enough that it garners a fair amount of money for us, it will mean we can do additional things that we can't do now. Maybe housing, maybe roads or maybe just administration whatever the case may be, but certainly it is much needed revenue that we

"One of the leading reasons for us opting into it, is a source of revenue, we want to start doing as many projects as we can as a First Nation to increase our own source of revenue so we can supplement what we get from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and serve the needs of our people."

—Chief Rick Gamble

would be able to get and hopefully work with in the future."

The construction of the wind energy project may start as early as 2010. The plan will develop a 100MW wind park in Big Quill, Sask, and cover approximately 12,000 acres of land. The farmer's with land in the area will not be overly inconvenienced.

"A lot of the farmers... are being compensated by SkyPower for the lost of revenue for the amount of area that they are going to take

so there is no problem there," said Gamble.

"In fact the option that the farmers around there have is that if they want to opt into the project they are more than welcome to do that. They would get a share of the revenue as well, if they wanted to establish wind towers on their land adjacent to ours that option is there."

For Beardys and Okemasis this opportunity will not only give them a few acres in future hands but it resonates with something

deeper and more spiritual.

The role First Nations people have had for generations as cultural stewards and protectors of the land is being strongly reflected in this partnership.

"Its always been the same thing for our First Nations people, our access to the land respecting mother earth respecting what you get from mother earth and the wind, the environment that's all part of the equation and that's how its going to be working, our Elders are always foremost in this area,"

SkyPower is a leading renewable energy developer and Canada's largest, as well as having over 200 wind and solar energy projects in various states of completion and development across Canada and a few U.S. states.

These developments have the potential capacity of 11,000 MW. Not to mention the partnerships SkyPower has made with other companies developing wind parks in India and hydro projects in Panama.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UTS ENERGY CORPORATION/TECK COMINCO LIMITED FRONTIER AND EQUINOX OIL SANDS MINE PROJECTS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS

UTS Energy Corporation (UTS) and Teck Cominco Limited (Teck Cominco) are proposing to develop bitumen resources in oil sands leases located in Townships 100 and 101, Range 11, west of the 4th Meridian in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The leases are approximately 60 kilometres north of Fort McKay. The proposed Frontier Oil Sands Mine Project (the Frontier Project) will involve the construction of an oil sands mining and bitumen extraction facility with expected production of 100,000 – 160,000 barrels of bitumen per day over 40 years. The Frontier Project will also include the construction and operation of co-generation facilities, reclamation and tailings storage areas, and associated infrastructure.

UTS and Teck Cominco are also proposing to develop the bitumen resources in their jointly owned oil sands Lease No. 7400120014 located in Township 98, Range 10 and 11, west of the 4th Meridian also in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. This lease is approximately 38 kilometres north of Fort McKay. The proposed Equinox Oil Sands Mine Project (the Equinox Project) will involve the construction of an oil sands mining and bitumen extraction facility with expected production of 50,000 barrels of bitumen per day over 20 years. The Equinox Project will also include the construction and operation of co-generation facilities, reclamation and tailings storage areas, and associated infrastructure.

The Director responsible for Environmental Assessment, has directed that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report be prepared for each project. Accordingly, UTS and Teck Cominco have prepared one Disclosure Document and identical Proposed Terms of Reference for each Environmental Impact Assessment Report, and through this public notice, invites the public to review both Proposed Terms of Reference. Copies of both Proposed Terms of Reference and the Disclosure Document can be viewed at the following locations:

- Fort McMurray Public Library
- Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation Band Office (Fort Chipewyan, Alberta)
- Mikisew Cree First Nation Band Office (Fort Chipewyan, Alberta)
- Register of Environmental Assessment Information, Alberta Environment, 111 Twin Atria Building, 4999 – 98th Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T6B 2X3, Attention: Melanie Daneluk, Phone: (780) 427-5828

Copies of both Proposed Terms of Reference and the Disclosure Document can be obtained from the UTS website (www.uts.ca) or the following:

Cam Bateman
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
and Stakeholder Relations
UTS Energy Corporation
1000 – 350 7th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3N9
Phone: (403) 538-7024, 1-(866) 538-7030,
Fax: (403) 538-7033
Email: cbateman@uts.ca

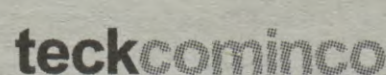
Mark Edwards
Director, Environment and Corporate Affairs
Teck Cominco Limited
600 – 200 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3L9
Phone: (604) 687-1117
Fax: (604) 640-5387
Email: mark.edwards@teckcominco.com

Individuals wishing to provide written comments on the Proposed Terms of Reference should submit them prior to October 17, 2008 to:

Director, Environmental Assessment,
Northern Region, Alberta Environment
111, Twin Atria Building, 4999 - 98th Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Fax: (780) 427-9102
Email: environmental.assessment@gov.ab.ca

Comments on one Proposed Terms of Reference will be considered for the other Proposed Terms of Reference. Any comments filed regarding these projects will be accessible to the public.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Reports prepared pursuant to these Terms of Reference will be reviewed as co-operative assessments under the Canada-Alberta Agreement for Environmental Assessment Co-operation. Alberta will be the Lead Party for the co-operative assessments.




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Public Notice

Japan Canada Oil Sands Limited Hangingstone SAGD Project Proposed Terms of Reference Environmental Impact Assessment

Japan Canada Oil Sands Limited (JACOS) is seeking approval to expand its Hangingstone Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD) Project. The project is located within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and situated approximately 50 kilometres southwest of Fort McMurray, Alberta within Township 84, Ranges 10, 11 and 12 W4M.

The expansion will utilize SAGD thermal technology for the recovery of bitumen within the project area. The expansion will be designed and built to produce up to an additional 35,000 barrels of bitumen per day (5,500 cubic meters per day) for 25 to 30 years and will include a central processing facility and multiple well pads. Additional infrastructure will include roads, a pipeline to supply fuel gas, an electrical power line, a diluted bitumen sales pipeline and a diluent supply pipeline.

The Director, responsible for Environmental Assessment, has directed that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) be prepared for this proposed project. Accordingly JACOS has prepared a project Public Disclosure Document and a proposed Terms of Reference for this EIA, and through this public notice, invites the public to review the Proposed Terms of Reference.

The Proposed Terms of Reference and Public Disclosure Document can be viewed at the following locations:

- Fort McMurray Public Library
- Metis Local #1935 Office
- Chipewyan Prairie Dene IRC Office
- Fort McMurray First Nation IRC Office
- Heart Lake First Nation IRC Office
- Alberta Environment's Register of Environmental Assessment
111 Twin Atria Building, 4999 98th Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta,
Attention: Melanie Daneluk

Further information or copies of the Proposed Terms of Reference and Public Disclosure Document can be obtained from:

Bill Rennie
Japan Canada Oil Sands Limited
2300, 639 - 5th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0M9

Tel. (403) 668-5223 Fax (403) 264-9102
E-mail: bill.rennie@jacos.com

Or from the web site: www.jacos.com

Persons wishing to provide written comments on the proposed Terms of Reference must submit them by **October 15th, 2008** to:

Director Environmental Assessment
Northern Region - Alberta Environment
111, Twin Atria Bldg.
4999 98th Ave
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Fax (780) 427-1902

E-mail: environmental.assessment@gov.ab.ca

Any comments filed concerning the proposed Terms of Reference will be accessible to the public.

Program puts students on the ladder to success

By Chereise Morris
Windspeaker Staff Writer

THUNDER BAY, Ont.

The First Nations Natural Resources Youth Employment Program hosted 30 young people this summer from reserves in Ontario. The goal was to develop their professional and personal skills.

The program was established to encourage young people to pursue post-secondary education, employment into forestry and mining, to increase their knowledge of the natural resources industry, and to create energy awareness. A week is spent in the science camp at the Confederation College in Thunder Bay.

The participants, ages 16 to 18, are paid to spend the summer tree planting, training in fighting fires techniques, including chain saw and brush saw use, and prospecting. This year the program lasted seven weeks.

Some of the certification earned while attending the summer program includes: Emergency First Aid, WHIMIS, Bear Aware, OH+S Awareness, helicopter safety, Workplace Hazards and, more to specific to forestry, the Environmental Management System and SFL License Holder Standard Operating procedures.

The program has been building bridges to success by providing summer employment, job skills training and the education needed for meaningful work, especially specific to forestry.

"I could go on forever about how good it is; just the youth themselves, their personal growth. They are going to be the future chiefs, counsellors, administrators and business people in the communities providing opportunities for the next generation," said Brian Kurikka, the general manager of the forestry centre at Confederation College.

"It is a very rewarding program

for everyone involved. Not everyone moves into the natural resources field, but they move on to something. That's very important and that's great with us."

Some past graduates have returned to the program in a mentorship role as crew bosses.

"Over 60 per cent of the camp staff this year are past graduates of the program, so they are continuing on," said Kurikka. "Some of the people involved have been with the program the last seven years."

Matt Norris, who wants to be a lawyer, attended this year as a crew boss. It is his sixth year involved with the program. Another participant is Marco Bebassige from Thunder Bay. This is his first year with the program. He's had nothing but good things to say about it.

"I have been working at Tim Horton's for three years and wanted to try something else. All my family, they are in the forestry business, so I wanted to try it out. I really liked it (forestry) and the training, all the certificates that I got. It is a great opportunity to get all of those and to be working," said Bebassige. He's spent his time thinning and planting trees. "It was a great program this year and I really enjoyed it."

The impact this program is having on First Nations youth goes beyond keeping them out of trouble for the summer. It offers something more lasting and personal.

"The best part is definitely seeing them progress from year one through to very extremely independent hard workers at the end. Especially to see how their goals have progressed and how much more elaborate they have gotten over the years for their future goal setting," said Kurikka.

One challenge the program organizers continue to face, said Kurikka, is getting appropriate funds and currently are without permanent funders.

"Each year the program length

and the number of students in the program is dependent on the funding we get for the current year. So, this year we had a seven-week program with 30 youth. Last year we had a five-week program with about 20 youth, because we were short on funding. In 2005, we had 57 youth for nine weeks because we had sufficient funding to do it. Every year it is a struggle.

"We just completed our ninth year, but every year we have been able to have a program, and I think that's the important thing. We are not going to roll over and die here. We are going to try and put something together, to keep the momentum going," said Kurikka. "It is very difficult to get long-term sustainable funding from anybody it seems."

Despite the lack of funding consistency, Kurikka said it is not for lack of willing participants. In fact, 70 per cent of first year graduates return for a second year and perhaps its only 70 per cent because of the constant flux in funding.

"If we had the funding for 150 students, we wouldn't have any problem getting the 150 students. It's very well received by the communities and the youth," said Kurikka.

The 2008 program partners include the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Canadian Forest Services: First Nation Forestry Program, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, AbitibiBowater Inc., Buchanan Forest Products Ltd, Domtar Inc., Marathon PGM, Tembec Inc., Weyerhaeuser Company Ltd., Eagle Lake First Nation, Fort William First Nation, Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, Confederation College / Confederation Forestry Centre, Outland Reforestation Inc. and 16 participating First Nation communities.



The 2008 graduates of the First Nations Natural Resources Youth Employment Program (FNNRYEP)

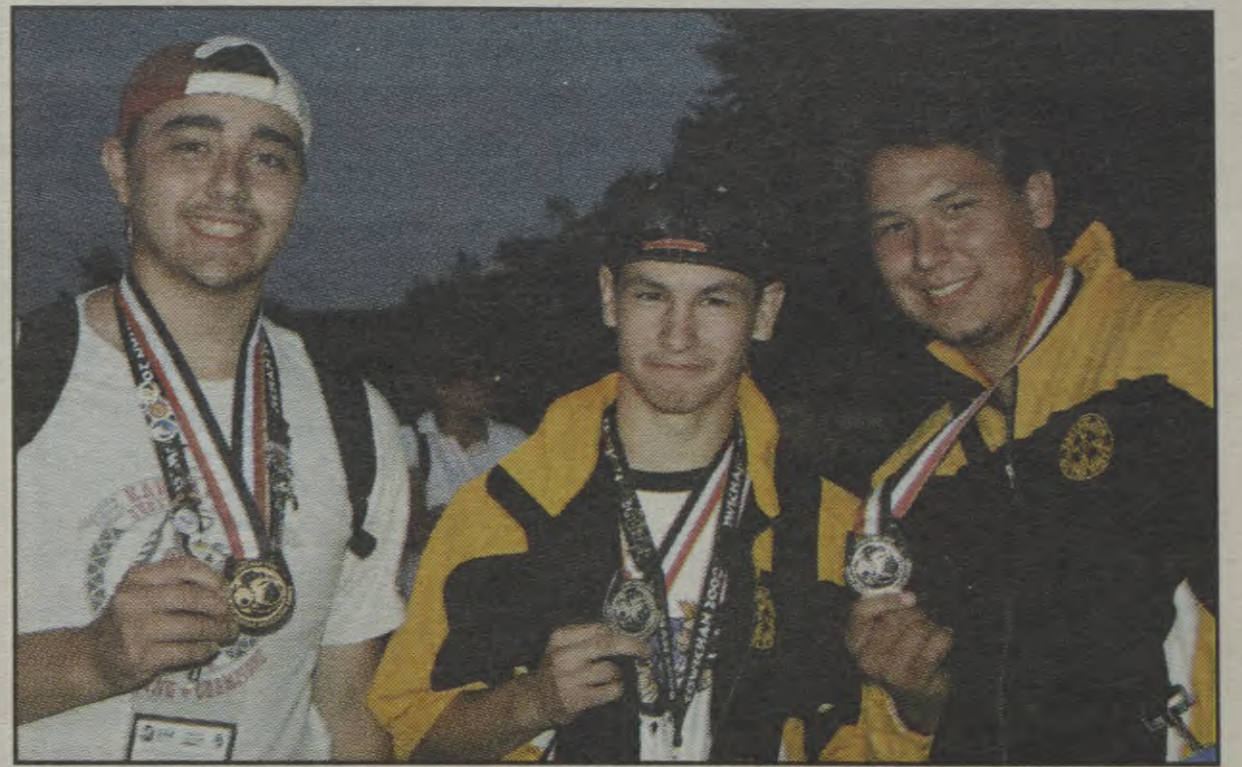
Games instill a sense of pride among athletes



Juvenile women race for a medal win during the 3,000 meter canoe race on Aug. 5 on Lake Cowichan.



Fifteen month old Gavin Moses from Victoria watches a soccer game with his mom on Aug.5 in Duncan.



From left to right, Aronhiatekha Jacobs wrestled his way to a gold medal win, while Devin Kirby (middle) and Karonhiaktatie Moses picked up a silver medal in wrestling. All three represent Team Kahnawake Mohawks of the Eastern Door, which placed fourth in the medal standings, with a total of 53 medals.



Team Arizona juvenile girls win against Alberta's girls, The Angels on Aug. 4.



George Leach a Canadian musician and actor from Lillooet, B.C., performed Aug.5 in the cultural village.



The coach of team Wisconsin shows the midget girls a game play against team Washington on Aug. 5.

PHOTOS BY: LAURA SUTHERS

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[naig-cowichan 2008]



National Chief Phil Fontaine enjoys a laugh during the North American Indigenous Games opening ceremonies on Aug. 3 in Duncan.

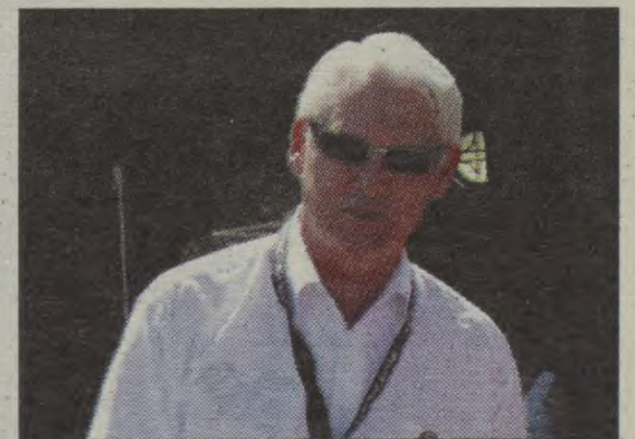


(Top right) Athletes representing each team helped raise The Cowichan 2008 Spirit Pole as master carver Carey Newman (Inset-top right) looked on. (Left) Korean veteran, Reginald Nelson attended the VIP reception on Aug. 3 and talked about his time in the war and told Windspeaker that, "I wasn't proud of it, (being in the war)." Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Steven Point (bottom left) shares a laugh with some young dancers during the opening ceremonies.

PHOTOS BY: LAURA SUTHERS



The hot 35 degree weather wasn't going to stop Team Nunvaut from wearing their traditional regalia during the opening ceremonies on Aug. 3, in Duncan, B.C.



(Above) British Columbia's 34th Premier, Gordon Campbell pictured outside of the Si'em Le'lum Gym after the VIP reception, an hour before the opening ceremonies on Aug. 3.



(Bottom right) Shauna and Shannon Baker also known as the Baker twins stand in front of their booth at the Cultural Village.





The juvenile girls softball team from Saskatchewan pitched their way to a win against Eastern Door/The North on Aug. 4



(Top left) An unforgettable performance with traditional drumming and singing lifted everyone out of their seats during the opening ceremonies at Si'em Le'lum field in Duncan. (Left) Fay a fan and volunteer of the games cheered for every team that entered the field during the opening ceremonies.

PHOTOS BY: LAURA SUTHERS



Katrina Lee from Arizona crossed the finish line first in the Sr. women's 5,000 meter earning her a gold medal followed by Daina Stevens from M'Chigeeng, Ontario taking silver and Samatha Caribou from Manitoba taking home a bronze medal.



B.C.'s midget soccer boys played hard and beat out NWT in a 12-0 win on Aug. 5 in Duncan.



Team Washington wins 75-54 against Team Wisconsin on Aug. 5. Tracy Jones (# 3) from Yakima, Wa, tells Windspeaker that they weren't really worried about any of the other teams in their division.



M'Girl got the crowd moving during the opening ceremonies.



(Bottom right) Francis Seward (canoe 2) from B.C. and Jared Ballentyne from Team Sask. go head to head in the Senior mens 3,000 meter canoe race on Aug. 5.



(Above right) Kimberley Custer from Sask. completed the 3,000 metre juvenile women's canoe race on Aug. 5.

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2008 PHOTO CONTEST WINNER: LAURA STEVENS

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>

Your picture should show a portrayal of Aboriginal culture and people.

Internet website address for more details - <http://www.ammsa.com/snap>

Submissions deadline: October 2nd, 2008

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NOTICE OF HEARING

NRCB APPLICATION NO. 0602
ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION APPLICATION NO. 1485454
CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AGENCY REGISTRY NO. 04-05-2996
PEACE RIVER AREA

GLACIER POWER LTD., DUNVEGAN HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY

Take Notice the Government of Canada entered into an agreement (the Agreement) with the Natural Resources Conservation Board and Alberta Utilities Commission to conduct a joint public hearing of Applications numbered NRCB 0602 and AUC 1485454. The Agreement established the mandate and authorities of the Joint Review Panel, its composition, and project review procedures. The joint review will satisfy the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, *Natural Resources Conservation Board Act*, *Alberta Utilities Commission Act* and the *Hydro Electric Energy Act*. On July 16, 2008, a joint federal-provincial panel was established to review the Project.

The Joint Review Panel has determined the Applications materials to be complete. The joint hearing of the Applications will commence on Monday, **September 22, 2008** at 10:30 am at the Dunvegan Motor Inn (9812 – 113 Street) in Fairview, Alberta. All interveners to this proceeding must be present at the commencement of the hearing to register their appearance. The Joint Review Panel anticipates that the hearing may take five days to complete.

NATURE OF THE APPLICATIONS

Glacier has made applications under the *Natural Resources Conservation Board Act*, *Alberta Utilities Commission Act* and the *Hydro Electric Energy Act*, to construct and operate a 100-megawatt, run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility (the Project) on the Peace River approximately 2 kilometres west of the Highway 2 bridge crossing at Dunvegan Historic Park (Dunvegan). Dunvegan is located 80 kilometres north of the City of Grande Prairie and 20 kilometres south of the Town of Fairview.

In support of its proposal and as part of the applications to the NRCB and AUC, Glacier Power Ltd. prepared and submitted an environmental impact assessment (EIA) report to Alberta Environment. In January 2008, Alberta Environment's designated director under the Act declared that the EIA report was complete pursuant to section 53 of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*. The Project is subject to the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), since the Project will require a permit under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* and an authorization under the *Fisheries Act*.

TO FILE A SUBMISSION

Any person intending to make a submission to the Joint Review Panel with respect to the hearing of NRCB Application 0602 and AUC Application 1485454 shall file a submission on or before **September 10, 2008**. Send one copy of your written submission to the applicant (Glacier Power Ltd.) at the name and address listed herein. Also send 15 paper copies of the submission and one copy in electronic format, to:

Susan Schlemko, Manager, Board Reviews
Natural Resources Conservation Board
4th Floor, Sterling Place, 9940 – 106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2N2
Phone: (780) 422-1977; Fax: (780) 427-0607
Toll-free in Alberta by first dialling 310-0000.
Email: susan.schlemko@gov.ab.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Glacier Power Ltd.'s application documents, including the environmental impact assessment report and supplemental filings are available on its website at: <http://www.canhydro.com/projects/dunvegan>. To obtain additional project information or a copy of the application, contact:

Ms. Kelly Matheson, Manager, Environmental Affairs
Glacier Power Ltd.,
500, 1324 – 17 Avenue SW,
Calgary, Alberta, T2T 5S8.
Phone: (403) 209-3398
Fax (403) 244-7388.

Copies of the application, EIA report, and other materials related to the joint review are available for public viewing at the Alberta Utilities Commission: 10th Floor, 10055 – 106 Street, Edmonton, Ph: (780) 427-4901. The Joint Review Panel Secretariat will also maintain a Registry pursuant to the Agreement. The Registry will be available at the same location as the hearing during normal business hours. It will also be available at http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/index_e.cfm online under registry number 04-05-2996.

For further information regarding the joint review procedures, contact Bill Kennedy (403) 297-4304 or Susan Schlemko (780) 422-1977.

NOTES

Any submission filed shall include the following information:

- a. a concise statement indicating
 - i. the manner in which the intervener's rights may be directly and adversely affected by a decision of the Joint Review Panel on the proceeding,
 - ii. the nature and scope of the intervener's intended participation,
 - iii. the disposition of the proceeding that the intervener advocates, if any,
 - iv. the facts the intervener proposes to show in evidence,
 - v. the reasons why the intervener believes the Joint Review Panel should decide in the manner that the intervener advocates, and
 - vi. the intervener's efforts, if any, to resolve issues associated with the proceeding directly with the applicant;
- b. the name, address, telephone number, fax number and, if available, e-mail address of the intervener;
- c. if the intervener is represented by a representative, the name, address, telephone number, fax number and, if available, e-mail address of the representative; and
- d. if the intervener is an unincorporated organization, the nature of the intervener's membership.

In addition to the submission, an intervener must also file a copy of all reports or other material (other than material that summarizes the submission) that the intervener intends to enter into evidence at the hearing. Material not filed in accordance with this requirement may be excluded from the hearing record at the Joint Review Panel's discretion. If you have an interest in this matter, you are required to make a submission with respect to this application even if you have previously filed a submission with the NRCB, AUC or with Glacier Power Ltd. regarding this application.

In accordance with Section 13 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Rules of Practice*, all documents filed in respect of this proceeding must be placed on the public record unless otherwise ordered by the Joint Review Panel, subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. In accordance with Section 40 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Rules of Practice*, hearing witnesses must give evidence under oath or affirmation.

Issued at Calgary, Alberta, on August 18, 2008.

William Y. Kennedy, Counsel for the Joint Review Panel

Raven's Eye: Special Section providing news from BC & Yukon

Team B.C. place fourth in medal standings



The largest-ever Tribal Journeys Canoe Voyage marked the beginning of the 2008 North American Indigenous Games. Over 100 canoes, some of them travelling from as far away as Alaska, Washington and Oregon, as well as several from the B.C. Nations pulled into Cowichan Bay on July 28. Team B.C. was among 23 teams from across Canada and the States to participate in the NAIG from Aug. 3 to 10 on Cowichan territory. (Below) Randeana Jack paddles hard in the mid-30 heat during the juvenile womens 3,000m canoe race on Aug. 5 in Lake Cowichan.

PHOTOS BY: LAURA SUTHERS



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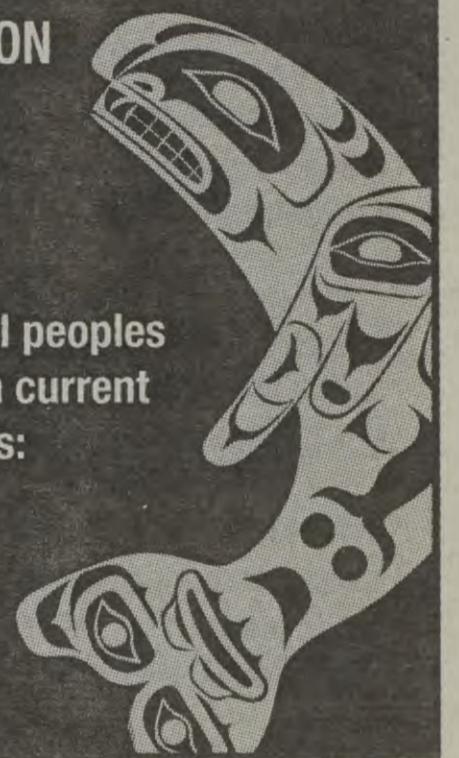
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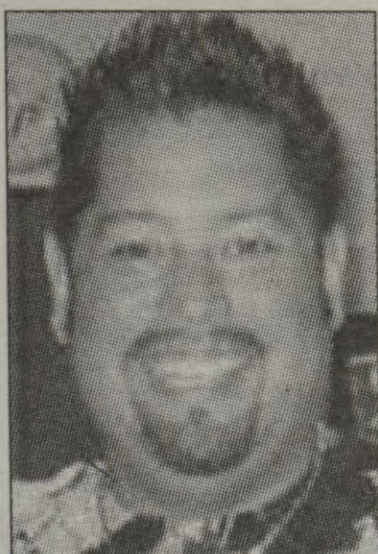
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Thousands gather to take in the yearly Lac Ste. Anne pilgrimage

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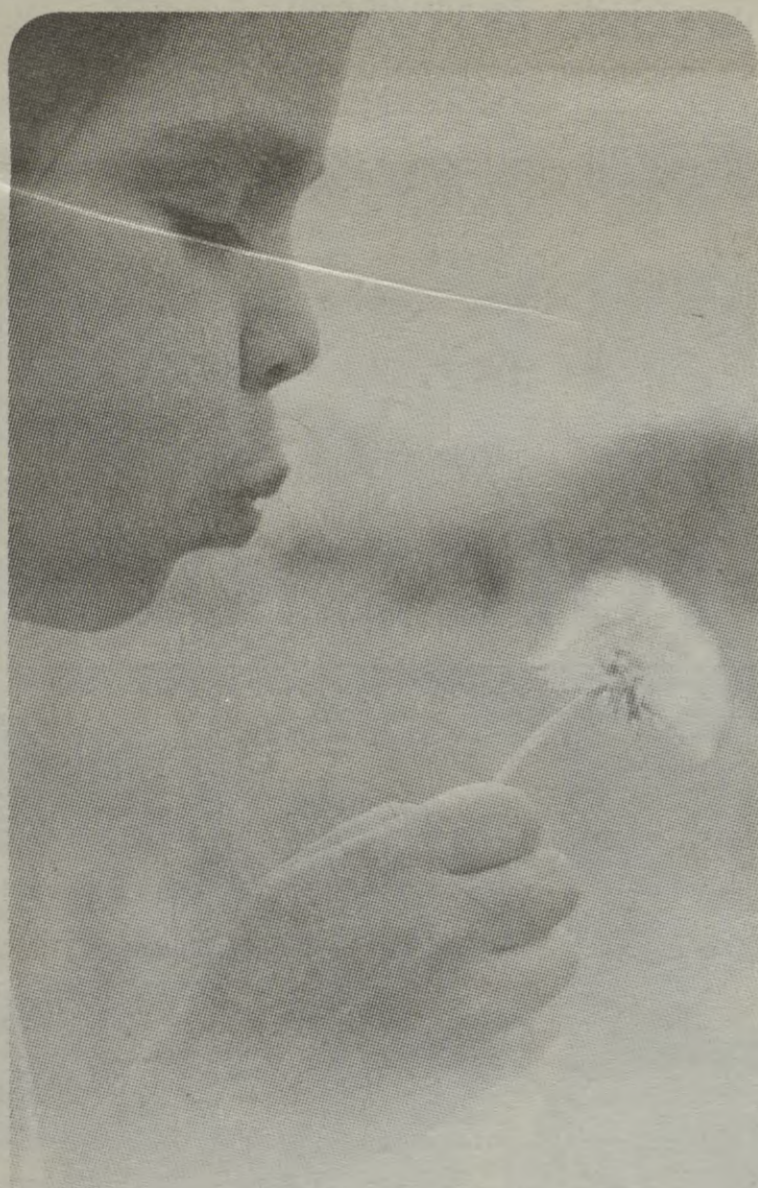
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JOANNE REDIRON

Lac Ste. Anne, which is located approximately 70 kilometers west of Edmonton is the hallowed location of a yearly pilgrimage that takes place every year in the last week of July. Tens of thousands of people from around the world come to the site to witness and take part in the healing powers of the lake, along with spiritual awareness. In 2004, the Lac Ste. Anne Pilgrimage was named a National Historic Site of Canada for its social and cultural importance.

During the event, people will walk barefoot for miles up to the lake as a penance to witness or be a part of the miracle of healing. Priests have recorded as far back as 1889, testaments of various healing. It is reported that ailments such as general sickness to tuberculosis, gout, or paralysis have been cured. Within the shrine, one can find crutches and sight canes left behind as another testament to the miracle of Lac Ste. Anne.



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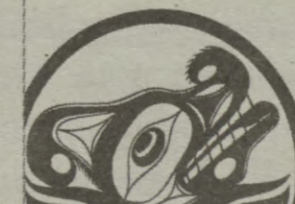
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FOR GENERATIONS

Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

Local artist proves that old ways are still alive

By Pamela Sexsmith
Sage Writer

THUNDERCHILD FIRST NATION

Fifteen honoured guests, contributors and Aboriginal celebrities were given a rare and beautiful gift during the closing ceremonies of the 2008 Treaty Six Medicine Chest Gathering of Nations.

Each received a hand crafted, smoked moose-hide medicine bag decorated with porcupine quillwork, filled with authentic Native medicines, gathered from traditional lands by Cree healers, Elders, Medicine men and women.

Thunderchild artist and regalia maker Norman Moyah had been contacted by TCFN Director of Health Linda Okanee a scant two weeks before the gathering, hosted by Thunderchild, with a request to complete a commission of fifteen traditional medicine bags.

"Creating the medicine bags became a huge undertaking because I thought that it would be fitting that each of the bags should be decorated with porcupine quillwork done in the Thunderchild's traditional colors, green and yellow," said Moyah.

"I wanted to use materials and techniques that would be symbolic of the Medicine Chest Gathering and bring home the meaning – we are not changing and are going to hang onto our old ways and what is real."

Moyah cut out the patterns and then laced and fringed the fifteen bags from a large, smoked moose-hide provided by the Health Committee.

The more difficult and time-consuming work began with the ancient quill working techniques, painstakingly done one-quill-at-a-time.

"Quilled strips are done on a loom and most of the bags also had a disk, each with a unique design and pattern," said Moyah.

"I get all my quills from road-kills and then clean and wash them, ready to dye in large batches. This project took a lot of time and a lot of quills, with twelve days to make fifteen bags similar to pipe bags, but I wanted Thunderchild to look really good in the gift giving ceremonies. They were surprised because they had originally wanted simple little pull bags and were not expecting quillwork."

In ancient Plains, Parkland and Woodland Cree cultures, the porcupine carries powerful medicine.

"The rarity of quillwork symbolizes a strong stance, on not losing touch with the old ways. It is a containment unit for our Native medicines and contains a person's life force and connection to the Spirit world, through sacred plants and healing."

Highly decorative, lightweight and easily transportable, quillwork was an essential part of nomadic life among ancient hunter gather societies, an honorable gift and excellent trade

item.

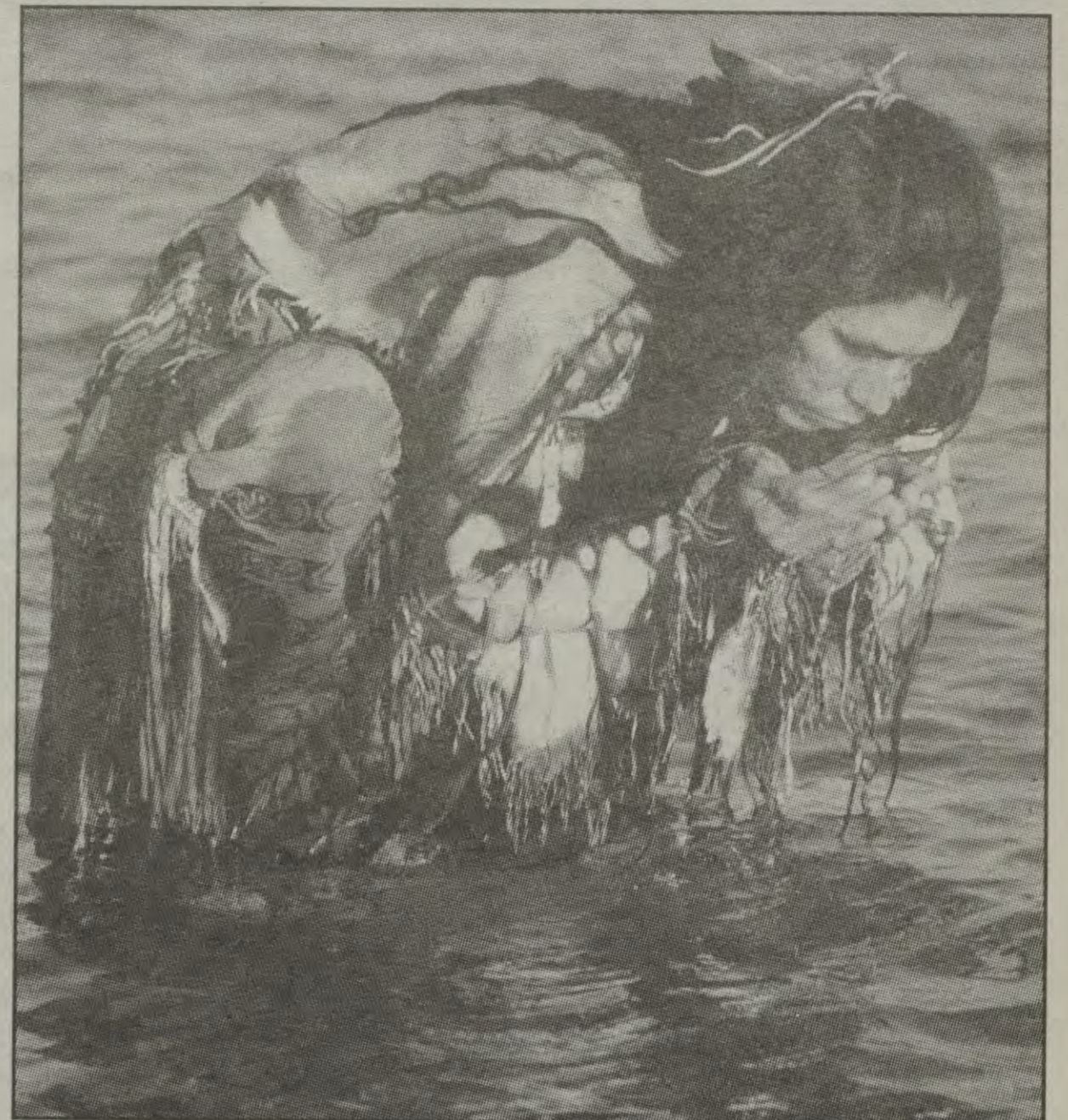
"In ancient times, a person's medicine bag was tied onto their belt or carried next to their heart and for a solitary hunter, could mean the difference between life and death. Each tribe would have their own colors based on access to their own local berries, roots, bark and minerals."

After the completion of these unique works of art, the bags were given over to the Thunderchild First Nation, healers and Elders, which they filled with hand gathered, carefully prepared Native medicines then passed through the smoke, blessed and smudged.

"There were some very special medicines that cannot be revealed and traditionally, the sacred contents of a Medicine Bundle or Bag are for no one's eyes or ears except for the owner of the bag. They are made to be worn with dress clothes or regalia," said Moyah.

One of the gift bags was presented to Dakota House, celebrity and actor from 'North of 60' while another traveled overseas, to be worn by a traditional Hawaiian Medicine Man.

"Our visitor from Hawaii received a Medicine Bag and I wondered how he fared taking it through the Canadian/USA customs, the leather, the quillwork and special sacred medicines, many unknown and undocumented except by oral tradition through our healers," said Moyah.



PAMELA SEXSMITH

Norman Moyah searches for artifacts in the sacred waters of Frog Lake.

Dwayne Noon, TCFN cultural co-coordinator for the gathering (and last seen picking wild berries, deep in the bush) was also thrilled to receive what he called, a traditional 'Muskimoor' made by Norman decorated with 'Kakwa ochikayoowin'

"It was an honour, an introduction, a starter kit if you will, to a traditional first aid kit," said Noon.

"Every medicine has a teaching and is an introduction to getting back into the balance of life. Made with natural materials,

quilled, fringed and laced up the sides, it has my cold medicine in it, ready to make into a tea to knock out colds and fevers. I have all the medicines I need to stay healthy, right here in Saskatchewan."

"A powerful argument can be made for preserving the ecological diversity and integrity of our traditional lands in order to preserve our natural medicines. You cannot use our medicines unless you are willing to live the life and respect the teachings that come with it," said Noon.

Carriere honoured to be called a role model

By Andréa Ledding
Sage Writer

CUMBERLAND HOUSE

John Carriere of Cumberland House describes himself as "just a regular guy" – a guy who happened to be selected by the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) as one of 12 Aboriginal youth role models from across Canada.

"One of my friends nominated me for the program, and I'd seen the posters around before," said Carriere in a phone interview, adding that he was very surprised to find out he'd been selected.

And he wasn't the only one – he didn't even tell his family he'd been chosen, let alone nominated, until the week before he was to fly to Ottawa to receive recognition from Governor General Michaëlle Jean, and

other leaders such as Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine.

The National Aboriginal Role Model Program celebrates the accomplishments of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit youth between the ages of 13 to 30.

He has competed nationally in canoeing and dog-sledding, plays basketball, and enjoys hunting, fishing, and cycling. Next month Carriere will travel to San Francisco for a conference on hemophilia, a medical condition he was born with which can be life-threatening. Hemophilia is where the blood doesn't clot and excessive bleeding can occur.

"People were very guarded of me and afraid I might get hurt," said Carriere of his youth, adding that as a result he had an unhealthy lifestyle and gained a lot of weight. "I had an older cousin who was a real mentor to me and took me aside, helped me

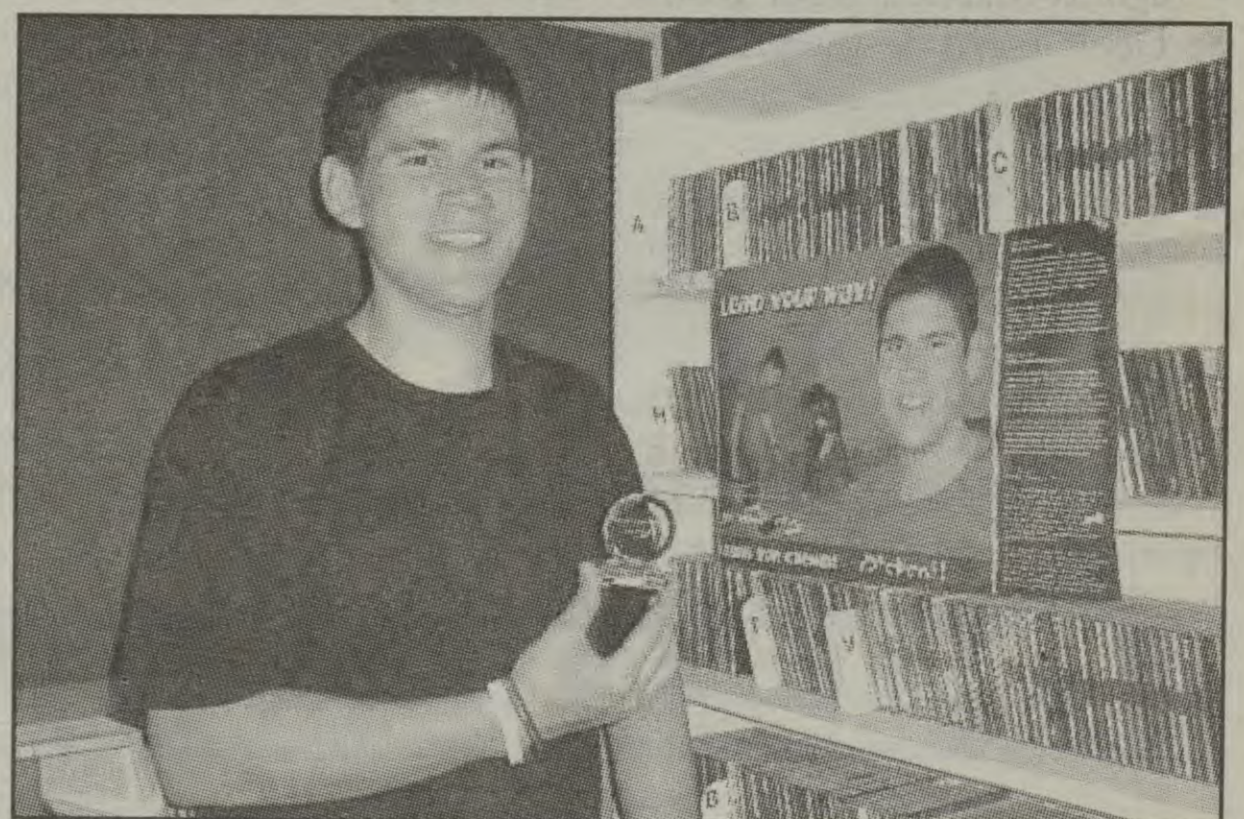
out to learn the game of basketball."

As a result, his confidence increased and he changed from a self-described "shy awkward kid who was picked on for being overweight and a hemophiliac" to a leader and athlete with a heart for helping others.

"Sports helped me to overcome many of my difficulties," he said, stressing the importance of health and education as well.

The 22 year-old has recently finished a Bachelor of Arts from the Northern Professional Access Program, and hopes to continue a career in working with youth and sports.

"One thing that really helped me is to seek out others who are role models, people that can help you out, listen to you, and give good advice," said Carriere, adding that people who live and promote healthy lifestyles make good role models. He is thankful



John Carriere

to his family and friends for their support, and adds this recognition helps him to hold himself to a higher standard as a role model for others.

He continues to work with youth at the Kikinahk Friendship Centre and sporting pursuits. Aside from the trip to Ottawa in

June on National Aboriginal Day, he has spent most of the summer working, but will continue to be available for media and speaking engagements, youth conferences, and other community events and gatherings. For more information about the award and role model program, go to, www.naho.ca.

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Excitement mounts as members from Walk4Justice inch closer to Ottawa

By Margo Little
Birchbark Writer

Espanola, Ont

The courageous souls on the Walk4Justice mission have walked through many rain drenched days on their trek from British Columbia to Ontario. Aug. 23 was no different. Scattered showers blessed their arrival at the junction of Highway 17 and Highway 6. A delegation from Manitoulin Island was on hand to provide refreshments, encouragement and monetary support.

The Walk4Justice began in Vancouver June 21 with the goal of reaching Ottawa by September 15. The contingent will present a petition on Parliament Hill calling for a full investigation into the thousands of women and children deemed missing or murdered during the past ten years along the Highway of Tears.

The United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin contributed \$1,000 to the cause during the Northshore stop. In addition, M'Chigeeng artist Stan Panamick donated a painting entitled Highway of Tears to raise funds for the walkers. Also a hand drum painted by Panamick was presented to the group by Patricia Migwans and the M'Chigeeng ladies hand drum group.

Algoma-Manitoulin MP Brent St. Denis joined the gathering to listen to concerns and prepare for their arrival in Ottawa.

For Gladys Radek, one of the initiators of the trek, each milestone on the journey brings renewed hope.

"It's getting very exciting the closer we get to Ottawa," she said. "We have walked through three provinces of thunder storms and rain but it didn't slow us down. We are getting lots of support. The politicians are starting to understand the issues and are starting to acknowledge the issues. Some of us have worked for twenty years to bring these issues to the forefront."

Rhoda Michel of the Shuswap Nation also expressed excitement about the progress of the group.

"It feels awesome that we made it this far," she said. "It's an honour to be here. Every step closer to Ottawa is a step closer to justice."

As a resident of the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver, she is intimately familiar with the realities that inspired the Walk4Justice. "Some of my friends are still going missing,"



MARGO LITTLE

Two year old Angel (left) accompanies her grandmother Gladys Radek on the Walk4Justice 2008 from Vancouver to Ottawa. Angel is the youngest walker on the trek. Here Angel and Gladys take a break in Espanola and raise their hands in unison to chant "justice for all."

she reported. "And nothing is being done about it by the police or the justice system. If a First Nations girl goes missing it does not make the papers. We want closure and help for the families of the missing. We see grandmothers crying and our hearts go out to these people."

These observations were echoed by Willie (aka Free Willie) a Queen Charlotte Islands Elder accompanying the walkers.

"We hear a lot of talking but I'd like to see more action," he said. "They should look further into what is happening to these people who are missing and murdered. If it's a First Nations person, they don't take much interest. In B.C. when a non-Native goes missing it gets on TV and radio, but when it's a First Nations person that goes missing, they don't get all that attention."

The Walk4Justice has attracted men and women from many diverse nations united by a sense of responsibility. For example, Sook Stepetin, from the Nisqually Makah nation in Washington State, joined the group to demonstrate that the fight for human rights has no borders or boundaries. He pointed out that six more women have disappeared since the walk began.

"It's an issue that affects all nations," he suggested. "In fact, it is the most important issue in Canada today. We have to

demand action from the Canadian government; we need to address the ongoing violence. It affects all the people on Turtle Island. It doesn't just affect women. In order to stop the violence, men and all people have to pull together to ensure that it doesn't continue. It's a matter of standing up for our people. It is an international crisis and it is simply unacceptable."

Diana Lariviere of Aundeck Omni Kaning identifies with the heartache experienced by the B.C. walkers. She too has waited twenty years for answers. Her foster daughter Gloria Jean (Martha) Abbottsaway went missing in Toronto.

"She would be 46 now," Lariviere said. "We think of her all the time. We are under the assumption that she has been murdered and that's why we can't find her. I feel that there was violence done to her."

Martha is also remembered by her cousin Mary Dantouze. She and other members of the M'Chigeeng ladies drum group travelled to add their voices to the lament for the lost.

"I think it is totally necessary to bring attention to these women; they have disappeared and no one has noticed," she said. "It takes generations for the hurt to be eased. We need to make the hurting stop and to send a message of hope."

Artist stays true to authentic creations

By Margo Little
Birchbark Writer

M'CHIGEENG FIRST NATION

Although his eyesight no longer allows him to produce his extraordinary works of art, Gordon Waindubence of Sheguiandah First Nation will long be revered as a master carver. During a highly productive period in the 1980s, he fashioned over four hundred finely detailed pieces, many destined to become collector's treasures.

Today his intricate wood and ivory creations are on display at the Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec, the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Lillian's Museum in M'Chigeeng and in numerous private collections in Canada and overseas.

Recently, the Manitoulin Elder presented a slide show and lecture on his carving legacy at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation (OCF). Although it has been twenty years since he set down his tools, he has contributed a remarkable body of work that cannot be duplicated and set high standards for those who would follow in his craft.

Like many artists, Waindubence faced many hurdles in his youth and experienced many setbacks. And like many other creative individuals, he eventually discovered that art was a vehicle for self-examination and personal growth. Today, he freely shares the struggles he went through as a young man searching for meaning and a sense of purpose.

"In the 1970s, I worked in the mines in Sudbury for seven years or so," he told the OCF gathering (July 24, 2008). "At that time I was in a different lifestyle; you wouldn't have wanted to know me back then. You needed alcohol to work in the dark, wet mines."

However, two significant life events would serve as a wake-up call and lead him to sobriety. The birth of his youngest son inspired him to make some positive changes. Also a catastrophic mine accident left him shaken and searching for answers.

"There was a rock burst at the mine; people tried to hide under the scoop tram to avoid being hit by rocks the size of this building," he recalled. "I lost friends; they didn't have a chance. I'm glad they went quick."

By 1979, he had left his work in the mines and embarked on a phase of intensive soul-searching. At first, he sought guidance from a mentor in Manitoba and during the next few years he would find helpers in Saskatchewan and Alberta as well. He listened to the stories; he immersed himself in

the ceremonies and he received many gifts along the way.

"I had no identity at that time," he confided. "I didn't know who I was. In fact, I was just roaming around and I didn't know what I was looking for. It is really hard to find yourself."

During his spiritual quest, he was introduced to carving in 1981 by one of his mentors. Over the course of four days he watched and listened as the Elder shared his knowledge. Although it was not readily apparent to him at the time, he would soon perceive that a new path was opening up for him.

"I came to realize that the most valuable gifts come from the heart," he said. "The man had promised to give me a gift that no one could take away from me."

Gradually, he began to get his bearings and to this day he often meditates on the teachings shared with him during those troubled times. For him, it is very important to listen to as many different advisors as possible in order to learn and grow.

"I had six mentors over the years and they have all passed on," he said. "But I can still hear them."

Wood seemed to speak to him early on. Another prairie friend engaged his help to cut truck loads of wood to take to a sweat lodge. In the process of harvesting trees, Waindubence learned to use timbering equipment such as chain saws and grinders. His friend showed him how to visualize images in a tree and fashion a rudimentary totem pole.

"The one I made was pretty darn rough," he laughed. "I wanted to take it home, but I couldn't. So I gave it away."

He remembers experimenting with carving in the early 80s and giving away the first twenty five pieces he made. His philosophy hasn't changed much over the decades. He still believes in giving it away, his gift, his knowledge, his hope. He has spent time in prairie prisons offering guidance to inmates serving life sentences and introducing them to the ceremonies. And he often counsels youth who are in conflict with the law and tries to steer them on the right path.

"We have to give people breaks," he said. "If we don't, they take the long way around. As one of my mentors told me, the road you cannot see runs between the mind and the heart. It might take you a very long time to see where you belong in the circle of life."

His first totem pole may have been "rough" in his estimation, but over the years he honed his skills in both wood and ivory. (See Waindubence page 24.)

[culture] Waindubence's work seen in many galleries

(Continued from page 23.)

Before long he had gained a reputation for remarkably polished and refined artworks. During the 1980s he journeyed to Hudson's Bay to hunt Narwhal whale with some friends. He described an outing in a huge freighter canoe which netted a five foot tusk that would provide the foundation for one of his most memorable pieces.

Carving is a physically and mentally challenging art practice. To achieve the fine detail that characterizes his work, one needs excellent eyesight, a steady hand and extreme patience. Viewers still marvel at the finesse required to sculpt everything from intricate flowers and fish scales to tiny dancers and warriors. How did he possibly carve the miniature teeth in the narrow mouths or the realistic ribs in the bear figures? To say the work is labour intensive is putting it mildly.

"When you work with ivory and bone, you have to get past the smell," he said. "You have to have proper ventilation and proper lighting. And then you have to cross your fingers (and toes, and eyes) to ensure that it doesn't get broken."

Most of his artworks are very fragile and need to be handled with extreme care. Only by

holding them up and turning them, can the viewer fully appreciate the extent of the detail and precision. Every one is unique right down to the specks of dried blood on the antler or the bone. To cope with the demands of carving, he often worked on several pieces simultaneously. For instance, he would shape a fish and then set it aside for a while and go on to chisel a serpent or a turtle image elsewhere. As with all great art, there is an element of magic involved in the process. If he sets a project aside for a few weeks, he may find a new image calling to him when he returns. He's always surprised when people want to buy the carvings even before they are finished.

Undoubtedly people are attracted to his work because it is completely original and in harmony with nature.

"I always aim to leave things the way they are and retain the natural shades," he said. "I don't use shellac because that would turn yellow. And I don't use preservatives, just elbow grease."

In addition to being an exquisite craftsman, Waindubence is also an inventor. He has been forced to make his own tools and modify others for the detailed work in his sculptures.

He has set aside his tools, but he has never set aside his desire to help others. For example, the Manitoulin Elder assisted with the building of a roundhouse in his home community of Sheguiandah in 2003. He oversaw the milling of 40,000 board feet of cedar for the structure. In 2005, he led a ceremony during which traditional sacred pipes from the Métis Nation of Ontario and the Anishinabek Nation were brought together. And in 2006, he served as the regional Elder for the Union of Ontario Indians and provided guidance to the youth Action Alliance of Manitoulin in their campaign to teach First Nations youth about traditional tobacco uses. Then in 2007, he gave an official Eagle staff to the Métis people of Ontario. In 2008, Waindubence continues to share his life experiences and Midewiwin protocols at youth and Elder gatherings as well as healing and wellness conferences.



MARGO LITTLE



LAURA SUTHERS

Stella Strong (left) of Little Current attended the lecture and slide show presented by Anishinaabe carver Gordon Waindubence July 24 at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation. Mrs. Strong brought along a magnificent turtle carving she had purchased from Mr. Waindubence at the Sheguiandah powwow. Samples of the master carver's work are difficult to find since they are either in private collections or in museums.

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Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centres Programming Element ABORIGINAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Canadian Heritage is seeking Aboriginal youth as volunteer committee members who provide assistance to the Department by reviewing proposals and making funding recommendations in both Edmonton and Calgary for local Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centres Programming Element projects. Honoraria will be provided.

Interested individuals must be:

- ◆ an urban Aboriginal youth;
- ◆ between 18-24 years old;
- ◆ a resident of the City of Edmonton or the City of Calgary for a minimum of one year;
- ◆ interested in Aboriginal Youth issues/needs; and
- ◆ willing to commit weekends during assessment cycle (Nov. weekend: 1 all-day training, Dec: review/reading of proposals, Jan. weekend: 2 day assessment) ~ Training will be provided to all members.

Interested individuals must include:

- ◆ a completed application form;
- ◆ a completed conflict of interest declaration form;
- ◆ a letter of interest from the youth applicant; and
- ◆ a reference letter from an Aboriginal community organization.

Application forms are available from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Deadline: October 15, 2008 at 4:30 pm

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and selected applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Applications may be mailed or faxed to the following:

Edmonton

Mrs. Chantelle Favell-Rubenstahl, Program Officer
Aboriginal Peoples' Program
Alberta District, Western Region
Canadian Heritage
Suite 1630, 9700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 4C3
Tel: 780.495.6944 • Fax: 780.495.4873

Calgary

Mrs. Lorraine Pelletier, Program Officer
Aboriginal Peoples' Program
Alberta District, Western Region
Canadian Heritage
Suite 310, 138 - 4th Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 4Z6
Tel: 403.292.6079 • Fax: 403.292.6004

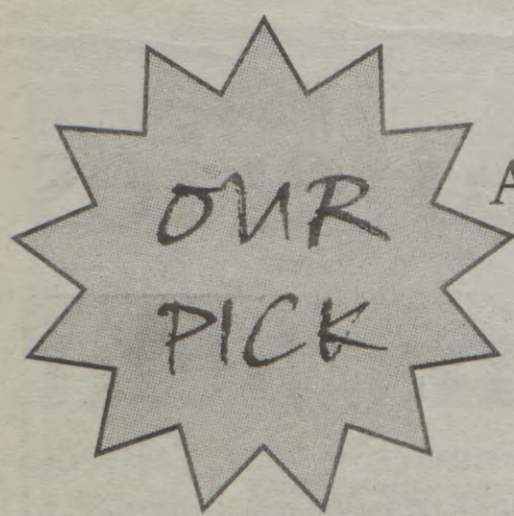


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Artist—Mitch Daigneault
 Album—Driving All Night
 Song—Cry Like Rain
 Label—Independent
 Producer—Mitch Daigneault

Daigneault's solo projects captures nominations and wins

Mitch Daigneault will be featured at the New Artist Showcase at this year's Canadian Country Music Week to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba from Sept. 5 to 8.

The Saskatchewan Native is anything but new, having been part of the music scene for over 10 years now. He entered a lot of the showcases and competitions around Saskatchewan and in some of them finished successful. But it was the experience of performing live on stage that was rewarding for him.

Daigneault began to put more effort in his own singing and songwriting and those skills really shined through on his solo efforts. In 1997, he began a seven-year stint with the group C-Weed Band. He sang and played lead guitar for their 2,000 Juno nominated CD "Run As One." "Driving All Night" released in May of this year was the second solo CD for Daigneault. His first CD, "Keep On Believing" came out in 2003 and captured three trophies from the Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards. His latest Cd has been entered into four categories for the 2008 Canadian Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards that will be held in Toronto, Nov. 28.

According to Daigneault, "Driving All Night" is a collection of songs that came with a lot of hard work and soul-searching. During that time he's taken some time off from the road and has been spending a lot of time at home as a new dad and he reflects that new experience in one of his songs, "Rescue Me".

"Cry Like Rain" is one of 10-self penned songs from Mitch's new CD. It's a ballad that'll have you reaching to turn the volume loud and have you singing along. For more about Mitch Daigneault go to, www.mitchdaigneault.com www.myspace.com/mitchdaigneault.

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Leela Gilday	Time Rushes By	Sedze
Buffy Saint-Marie	Cho Cho Fire	Think Global: Native American
Pappy Johns Band	Calling For You	Single Release
C-Weed	Redemption	Redemption
Yoza	Beat Of The Drum	Family Tree
Rayne Delaronde	Ripple	Forgiveness
Black Rain	Marlena's Song	Hundred Dollar Hickey
Donny Parenteau	Belly Up	What It Takes
Jace Martin	What I Need	Jace Martin
Sierra Noble	Possibility	Single Release
Phyllis Sinclair	Lost For Words	Fathomless Tales from Leviathan's Hole
Priscilla's Revenge	That's What I'll Say	Roadworthy
Teagan Littlechief	Bring It On	Rising Above
Christy Neveau & Mother Groove	So Sorry To Complain	Single Release
Uasheshkun	Eshakumitshiku	Ninan
Michelle Boudrias	I Like It Like That	Single Release
Ray St. Germain	Like Ain't Hard	Life Ain't Hard
Robert Mirabel	Brave New World	In The Blood
Lester	Life Flies	Day One
Cake Walk Into Town	Jordan Dunning Band	Roots At Hand

CONTRIBUTING STATIONS:



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Fax: 403-965-3713

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Applications available on-line at www.pyef.org

For further information, questions or concerns, please contact our office at:

Piikani Youth and Education

P.O. Box 3179

Brocket, AB T0K 0H0

Phone: 403-965-0005

Fax: 403-965-3713

All of the above is based on availability of funds, provided to registered Piikani members only.

Windspeaker sports briefs

By SAM LASKARIS

Aboriginal entrepreneur new owner of pro team

Curt Styres was hoping to one day own a National Lacrosse League (NLL) team in Canada.

Well, that dream didn't quite work out the way he had originally envisioned.

The Oshweken, Ont. resident had discussed the possibility of putting a NLL franchise in London, Ont.

While that plan did not become a reality, Styres did not give up hope. And now he's got a bit more than he originally bargained for, albeit south of the border.

During the off-season Styres purchased the NLL's Rochester Knighthawks for a reported price of about \$5.5 million. As a result, Styres became the first Aboriginal to own a major professional sports franchise in North America.

Styres also bought the American Hockey League's Rochester Americans for an undisclosed price. The AHL is one step below

the National Hockey League.

Styres is one of the partners of Grand River Enterprises, a hugely successful cigarette manufacturing company. But he's no stranger to the sporting world. Through his company Arrows Express Sports he built the lacrosse arena in Oshweken.

And he helps operate the Six Nations Arrows Express, a Junior A lacrosse squad.

Styres' partner in Arrows Express Sports, Lewis Staats, has been named president of both the Americans and Knighthawks.

The Americans are one of the AHL's most storied franchises, having operated since 1956. The Rochester squad has won six league championships.

The Knighthawks have been a member of the NLL (formerly Major Indoor Lacrosse League) since 1995. They've won the league title twice, most recently in 2007.

Native Coach Promoted

The Ontario Hockey League's Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds once again have an Aboriginal serving as their head coach. But, Denny Lambert, a former NHL player, is no stranger to the Greyhounds' franchise.

During his junior days, the native of Wawa, Ont. played three seasons, 1988-91, with the Greyhounds. Lambert, now 38, also spent the past five seasons in Sault Ste. Marie, working as the Greyhounds' assistant coach.

Lambert's junior coach was Ted Nolan, arguably one of the top Native hockey coaches. Nolan coached the Greyhounds for six seasons, from 1988-94.

Nolan then went on to coach in the NHL where he worked for the Hartford Whalers, Buffalo Sabres and the New York Islanders, the squad he was recently fired from.

The Greyhounds' head coaching position became available when Craig Hartsburg left the

squad to become the head coach of the NHL's Ottawa Senators.

Lambert inherits a squad that posted an impressive 44-18-2-4 mark last season and placed atop the league's West Division. The Greyhounds also enjoyed some playoff success advancing to the league's semi-finals.

During his NHL playing days, Lambert toiled for four different squads; Anaheim Mighty Ducks, Ottawa Senators, Nashville Predators and Atlanta Thrashers. He appeared in a total of 504 NHL games.

During his pro career, Lambert also suited up for two American Hockey League franchises, Milwaukee Admirals and Baltimore Bandits. He also toiled for the International Hockey League's San Diego Gulls and the Colonial Hockey League's St Thomas Wildcats.

Wanted: Aboriginal role models

Aboriginal role models are being sought for an athletic poster campaign.

Nominations are being accepted for athletes to be featured in the second series of the Find Your Passion in Sport campaign.

The campaign is a joint effort between the Four Host First Nations (FHFN) and the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The Find Your Passion in Sport is a poster campaign celebrating the feats and dreams of young and talented Aboriginal athletes from across the country.

The first series of the program features snowboarder Chelsie Mitchell, biathlete Marek Beaudoin and speedskater Peter Aqpiq.

The second series of the poster campaign is expected to be launched in early 2009.

Nomination forms are available at www.vancouver2010.com. Nominations are being accepted until Sept. 12.

All nominees must have Aboriginal ancestry. Both able-bodied and athletes with a disability are eligible to be nominated.

And nominees must be currently active in an amateur or elite level sport, preferably a sport that is part of the winter Olympics.

Nominees should be between the ages of 13-30. And they should already have some great sporting achievements and have demonstrated leadership in either their sport or community.

Those being nominated should also be leading healthy lifestyles and already be considered role models by their peers or community members.

The poster campaign is part of the goal of FHFN and VANOC to have unprecedented

Aboriginal participation in the planning and staging of the 2010 Winter Olympics. Both groups are also keen on encouraging greater Aboriginal participation in sport.

Scouts expected to attend tournament

By SAM LASKARIS
Windspeaker Writer

AKWESASNE

Besides some bragging rights and prize money, younger players at this year's Iroquois Nations Cup Tournament will once again be out to impress for perhaps a more important reason.

This year's event, expected to attract eight teams from Ontario, Quebec and the state of New York, will be staged Sept. 18 to 21 at the A'nowara'ko:was Arena in Akwesasne, Ont.

Talent seekers not only from the professional National Lacrosse League, but also from American universities, who offer athletic scholarships, usually attend the all-Aboriginal tournament. Thus, younger performers in the tournament have added incentive to play well.

"This is their big opportunity," said tournament director Mike Mitchell, who lately has taken a preference to using his Iroquois name Kanentakeron. "They try to make the most of it."

The tournament usually features numerous Aboriginal players who already toil in the NLL. Teams rosters also include players that usually suit up for squads at the Senior A, Senior B or junior levels.

Since summer box lacrosse leagues are over by September, the majority of those that compete in those circuits are available to represent their communities in the Iroquois Nations Cup tournament. And for those that do also play in the NLL, there's no worry about possible conflicts as the pro league usually does not begin its season until December.

Akwesasne and Six Nations, a pair of lacrosse hotbed communities, are both expected to have two entries each in the tournament.

"I don't know if there's any other tournament like it,"

Kanentakeron said. "For the younger players it's a chance to play with and against the pros and the older guys. And it's a big cultural event as well as a big lacrosse tournament."

Kanentakeron is anticipating capacity crowds upwards of 3,000 people for some of the tournament matches.

And he believes participants take this event extremely serious because they are representing their community.

"I think it's more serious (than other leagues they play in)," he said.

A team from Six Nations won last year's championship final.

As for this year, squads will be playing for a share of the \$10,000 in prize money up for grabs.

The winning team will take home half of the purse - \$5,000. And the other club that also advances to the championship final will win \$2,500.

Meanwhile, the two teams that end up losing their semi-final matches will also be presented with \$1,250 each.

As a result, four of the participating clubs will win back more than double their team registration fee of \$500.

The Iroquois Nations Cup Tournament was originally held in the 1960s and '70s and organized by legendary lacrosse player Ross Powless.

Kanentakeron revived the event in 1997 in Akwesasne. The second running of the revived tourney was staged in 1999 in Oshweken. Since then the event has been held annually.

Akwesasne has also played host to the revived tournament in 2000, '01, '04 and '06.

The current plan is to stage the annual tournament in Akwesasne in even number years.

And in odd number years the event will be rotated among the communities of Six Nations, Kahnawake, Onondaga and the Senecas at Cattaraugus.

Nationals take bronze

The Iroquois Nationals had their hands full with North American rivals, however, the Aboriginal squad was still able to capture the bronze medal at the world men's under-19 lacrosse championships, which attracted 12 teams.

The Iroquois Nationals easily defeated England 19-10 in the bronze-medal game at the tournament, which wrapped up July 12 in Coquitlam, B.C. In the gold-medal match, the United States downed Canada 19-12. The U.S. has won the gold medal all six times the tournament has been contested.

The Americans beat the Iroquois Nationals 20-15 in their round-robin contest. The Iroquois Nationals were also downed 15-12 by Canada in round-robin action.

In their other round-robin matches, the Iroquois Nationals registered victories over England, Australia and Japan.

The Iroquois Nationals also posted a convincing 28-2 triumph over Scotland in their quarter-final game. But their gold-medal aspirations ended when they were beaten 23-12 by Canada in their semi-final battle.

For the Iroquois Nationals, this marked the second time they've won a medal at the world under-19 tourney. They also won the bronze at the 1999 event.

The Iroquois Nationals also had two of their players named to the tournament all-star team. They were defender Jason Johns and Emmett Printup, who plays the attack position.

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Something good come from something bad

By Chereise Morris
Windspeaker Staff Writer

THUNDER BAY

The Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service (NAPS) has brokered a deal with the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) that will see the liquor seized from bootleggers operating on the dry reserves in the Nishnawbe-Aski territory exchanged for money that will then be used to enhance the police service's annual baby formula and diaper drive.

"There is a lot of alcohol seized in the north due to band council bylaws," said Const. Jackie George, the community initiative coordinator for NAPs and the organizer of the formula and diaper drive. "Possessing alcohol in the north is prohibited, so we seize it and instead of dumping it, which is what we normally would do, we return the intact liquor for a refund. It is a positive spin on the alcohol that we seize."

The drive started in 2007, but this is the first year that the funds from confiscated liquor will be contributed.

Last year the drive was funded internally, advertised throughout the NAPs many offices and to a few Provincial Ontario Police officers. The amount raised was \$930. This year, the contributions to the drive has changed considerably. NAPs received a cheque from the LCBO for \$4,352.50.

The idea for the drive came from Chief of Police Paul Trivett, and was met with enthusiasm and

determination by his officers. "He asked me to get it going," said George. "He basically gave me the initiative and I just ran with it. What better way to benefit (the community) than to make sure the babies have some diapers and some formula if needed to help their parents bring their children up in a healthy lifestyle?"

NAPs is proud that they can contribute to the communities in this way.

"It is an original NAPs concept. We never had any kind of community program or charitable program that we could call our own," said George. "But when Chief Trivett approached me with the idea, I'm thinking 'Here is something good for our community that is often overlooked for things.' We got it going originally from our employee contributions and now, from the proceeds from the LCBO, it is going to grow. And it is going to be well-established. It is going to be something our employees can be proud of in terms of contributing to our communities and knowing that it is going to be a healthy contribution."

Last year NAPs was able to distribute to four First Nations communities, two from the northwest and two from the northeast.

"We distributed diapers to Bear Skin and Deer Lake First Nations. On the northeast side we distributed to Attawapiskat and Kashechewan First Nations. And this year we will pick several new communities," George said.

New endowment fund to benefit Métis students

A new fund has been established for First Nations students attending the University of Winnipeg called, The Saul and Claribel Simkin Bursary.

As well as financial support an internship completed upon graduation, in one of their own northern communities must be agreed to as part of the financial support.

Registering or registered students can apply for the fund, which is valued at \$14,000 and the internship is worth up to \$32,000.

The objective of this bursary is to assist First Nations students to graduate from UWinnipeg; encourage graduates to live in the northern communities; increase knowledge of climate change in Northern Manitoba and Canada; and help increase education and

training in regards to climate change.

"We are deeply grateful to the Simkin Bursary for this generous bursary," said Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, University of Winnipeg President and Vice-Chancellor today in a press release.

"This bursary covers tuition, books, bus passes and housing for a deserving Aboriginal student from the North. It will also support research on various aspects of climate change in northern Manitoba and Canada, and encourages University of Winnipeg graduates to live and work in the North. This is designed to keep bright minds in northern communities, such as Churchill, to ensure the sharing of knowledge and community growth."



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Students excited about new rule

By Thomas J Bruner
Windspeaker Staff Writer

Toronto

While most schools will be entering the new school year with the same agenda, one school will be markedly different. York University students will be permitted to hand in their thesis in one of at least 50 different Aboriginal languages.

York University is located in Toronto and is Canada's third largest university. They boast a community of 50,000 students and 7,000 faculty and staff. They will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2009. Known for their unique, interdisciplinary approach to learning, this new endeavor certainly makes York U a cut above the rest.

PhD student, Fred Metallic who helped spearhead this initiative, was positive about this change that is taking place, but at the same time it seemed bittersweet.

"Something that we're celebrating is not necessarily a celebration because we should not be in this situation. We should not be in the situation where we only have two masters thesis written in an Indigenous language in Canada. That's all we have. It's nothing to celebrate," Metallic explained.

Although Metallic expressed his displeasure with the current situation, where Aboriginals have been forced to fight for their language; he spoke fondly of the initiative of York U.

"I applaud them for recognizing there's an institutional gap and there needs to be changes to policies to protect Indigenous languages. I applaud them, at the same time we have to go beyond recognizing the validity of our languages and take some serious action to support them. Hopefully when the dissertation is written by next

summer or spring, it will be a celebration and not something that traditionally is a defense."

Dean Barbara Rahder of York U expressed the potential for a better learning environment.

"I think that one of the things that was quite persuasive to me was the idea that the relationship between language and knowledge and culture, and the fact that their ideas and the way you express them are intimately related to the language and in fact there are concepts in some languages that can't be translated into other languages and that knowledge can only be transmitted in its original form."

Rahder also explained the importance of taking on these languages, if only to keep them alive.

"There are many living languages, cultures and knowledge that are on the brink of extinction. This is one way of helping preserve that knowledge. If we're talking about trying to preserve diverse cultures in Canada - Native language is part of that."

Rahder illustrated the logistics of allowing dissertations to be handed in with the huge array of Aboriginal languages available in Canada.

"The way it works is that first of all the student already has to be fluent in the language so we have to know that they can do the work in their language to begin with. Then we have to make sure they can get adequate supervision for the research in their language and the hope is that once they've done this, they will in fact be able to help the next students that come along after them. So there is no particular language, other than they have to be Native languages of Canada."

Metallic explained that the whole process took about three years for it to come to fruition.

"It started to occur around year two or year three of my residence

at York University. After doing my course work and my comprehensives, it was discussed by my supervisor and I that it would be very difficult to conclude my studies in the English language around the research that I was going to be conducting. We realized that if this is going to strengthen the relationship between the institutions and Indigenous communities changes would have to be made around policies on dissertations and what languages they could be written in."

After being approached by a couple graduate students, Metallic being one of them, Rahder was convinced it would only be a matter of time.

"I was persuaded that their logic was good, they had good reasons for doing this and I let them know that it would take a while for the regulations to be changed but I then set upon consulting with faculty, and making proposals, developing proposals, and consulting with people and the change in regulation was passed."

Metallic repeatedly offered a nod to Eleanor Johnson; an old supervisor from Trent University whom he claims originally carved out the path for this new initiative.

"I go back to my Eleanor Johnson in 1999. And when I questioned her on governance, she automatically raised the issue of language and said - how can you understand governance if you don't understand the language? Work in your language and you might understand the relationship that we have with the state today and why it is the way it is."

Metallic has taken that advice to heart. "There's something in the language that I think if people could tap into, I think they would understand what the struggle is about."

The first dissertation written in an Aboriginal language at York University should be completed in the spring/summer of 2009.

The Saul and Claribel Simkin bursary available to students

A new fund has been established for First Nations students attending the University of Winnipeg called The Saul and Claribel Simkin Bursary. As well as financial support an internship completed upon graduation, in one of their own northern communities must be agreed to as part of the support.

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Some of the prerequisites for

this bursary include, youth must be of Aboriginal descent; be from a Northern community; demonstrate financial need; demonstrate leadership qualities and commitment in their home community; be pursuing a degree program at The University of Winnipeg in one of the following areas: Aboriginal Governance, Administrative Studies, Environmental Studies, Education, specializing in 'environmental education', Geography, with a concentration in climate studies courses. The applicants must register for full-time studies; agree to a three-month to one-year internship in a northern community upon graduation. For more information on the bursary email Jennifer Rattray, j.rattray@uwinnipeg.ca.

Northern College gets boost to expand

By Thomas J Bruner
Windspeaker Writer

TIMMINS

With exciting new developments in northern Ontario, one college will receive a boost of \$8 million to accommodate their opportunities. Northern College, the revered choice of students in Ontario's far north, provides important post-secondary training, along with a special focus on Aboriginal programs.

With the newly discovered diamond mines, a resurging forestry industry, and the Five Nations Energy project, the government came to a decision to invest in the future. With \$8 million to work with, the future most certainly looks bright.

"It's something we've been working on for a long time, and we're really happy of course that the Ministry allocated the resources for it," explained Michael Hill, the President of Northern College.

"We have been working with the James Bay Coast and the First Nations communities up there for a lot of years now and one of our frustrations is been that we haven't been able to do as much skills training, trades training and getting enough apprenticeships going as soon as we wanted to."

"We've made an application now, about four and a half years ago and have been making the pitch ever since so we've finally succeeded in getting them to allocate resources so that we can do some top-quality training in the trades particularly in skills for the Cree folk up on the coast."

Hill went on to express why this windfall was so important.

"The way I always look at it is the people of the region are the owners of the college and so we work in service to them. And although I think it's best they speak for themselves; what I understand to be true is we need to make sure that the people of the region get a chance at the jobs that are arriving as a function of the new economic initiatives that are happening up the coast, and that means that we've got to make some skills and credentials available to them."

Obviously the diamond mine is the perceived golden goose, however, Hill mentioned that there are at least two other big initiatives looming; one of them being the forestry industry, and the other a new energy project.

"Forestry is trying to reinvent itself, I guess across the country; certainly in this region so we've got to help with that and a big part of it is some new training and education opportunities, and so

yeah that's a very big part of that. Another one that's particular to our region is there's an energy project, a Five Nations energy project that's looking at the whole issue of energy delivery along the coast of James Bay on the west, and so that's something that's coming and we've got to be training for it now in order to be able to make sure that people of the region get access to the jobs that are going to be made available because of it."

Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI) is the corporation behind the Omushkego Ishkotayo project (Western James Bay Transmission Line project), a 270 km long transmission line that services the remote First Nation communities of Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, and Kashechewan. Attawapiskat Power Corp., Fort Albany Power Corp. and Kashechewan Power Corporation own Five Nations Energy Inc. equally.

Northern College will invest the \$8-million in building the Nor Tech Trade Centre for Trades and Technology. The Centre will include Wi-Fi labs and state of the art classrooms with projectors and wireless hotspots. Also, satellite trade centres will be built at their Moosonee campus. Furthermore, the school will be able to accept an additional 120 new students every year.

Hill thought it was 'fantastic' that they can accept that many students, but also confessed he is ambitious to try and get more.

He also illustrated the major benefits of the trade centres.

"It's a mix of both trade centers in a traditional sense at a campus here in Timmons as well as us building the capacity at our campus in Moosonee."

"Plus what we've done is we've changed the model for delivery of the curriculum so that people can spend most of their time in their home communities doing their studies. There's a minimal amount of time for them to come out and access the equipment in the shops."

"Basically we're working from the strategy of delivering the education where people live rather than asking them to come to us. So we're developing some capacity to offer trades training up in our Moosonee camp that we didn't have before, and we're also going to be opening up some new trades training here in the Timmons campus."

"We've set up a model where a lot of the curriculum is delivered up on the coast and then they may come down for a few weeks for intensive shop and lab stuff."

The money comes from the Ontario governments \$1.5-billion Skills to Jobs Action Plan. Northern College expects to be completed with the new developments in Sept. 2010.

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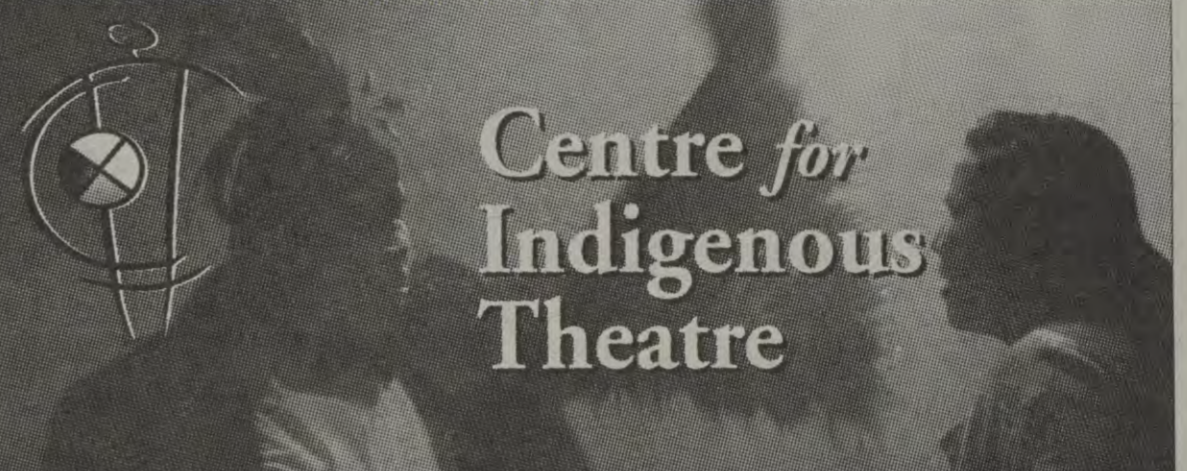
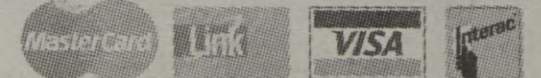
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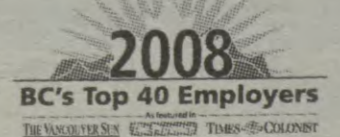
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[footprints] **Shanawdithit**

Shanawdithit lived a life of sorrow and misfortune

By Dianne Meili

A portrait of Shanawdithit, painted by William Gosse in 1828, shows a stolid, mature person with a penetrating and reproachful look. And why wouldn't she look disapproving? Her people had been wiped out and she'd been made a servant in the household of the man responsible for her uncle's murder.

Before 1500, Shanawdithit's Algonkian-speaking Beothuks lived a bountiful life in Newfoundland, hunting caribou inland and venturing to the coast to harpoon whales and seals, spear fish, and collect mussels and other shellfish. They developed ingenious methods of food preservation to live well in all seasons: drying lobster tails, boiling and drying bird's eggs, packing boneless frozen or dried caribou meat in bark boxes, and storing sausage pudding in animal intestines. Large, permanent villages were established on main caribou migration routes for a steady food supply.

Shanawdithit's people honoured caribou in the *mokoshan*, a great feast of caribou bone marrow cakes, and buried their dead in elaborate funeral rites similar to those of ancient Egypt in the second and third millennia B.C. The people smeared their clothes and skin with red ochre and polished tools and personal effects with a mixture of red mineral and oil.

Peace-loving and gentle, the Beothuks were unprepared for the assault laid upon them by the first Europeans arriving upon their shores. There were probably less than a thousand of them at this time, but skirmishes and wars between the two races resulted in Beothuk extinction within three years.

Born on the rugged shore of a large lake in the interior of Newfoundland in 1801,

Shanawdithit's birth was cause for celebration as her people had dwindled to only 200. As a child, she helped her mother and sister to gather berries and birds' eggs, but her father did most of the food gathering. This was no small feat as all the Beothuk hunting and fishing techniques required large numbers of men; they had once built huge wedge-shaped deer fences many kilometers in length and, after beaters waving skins and tree branches drove them into the small enclosure at the apex, they were easily killed.

But now their numbers had dwindled and Shanawdithit's father was forced to find new food gathering techniques which were not always successful. Starvation became a constant threat. Shanawdithit would have traveled with her parents on the last seasonal migrations for food, venturing to the coast down the River Exploits in a birch bark canoe.

Shanawdithit soon learned her life was in constant danger and one terrifying incident scarred her for life. One morning she went down to the edge of the river to wash two pieces of venison. Suddenly, a shot sounded from across the river. She felt a burning sensation in her leg and fell to the ground. On the opposite bank she could see a European trapper reloading his long-barreled musket. Frantically, she scrambled up the bank, only to hear another shot and to see blood gushing from her hand. She found the strength to run to the trees and make her way back to the village.

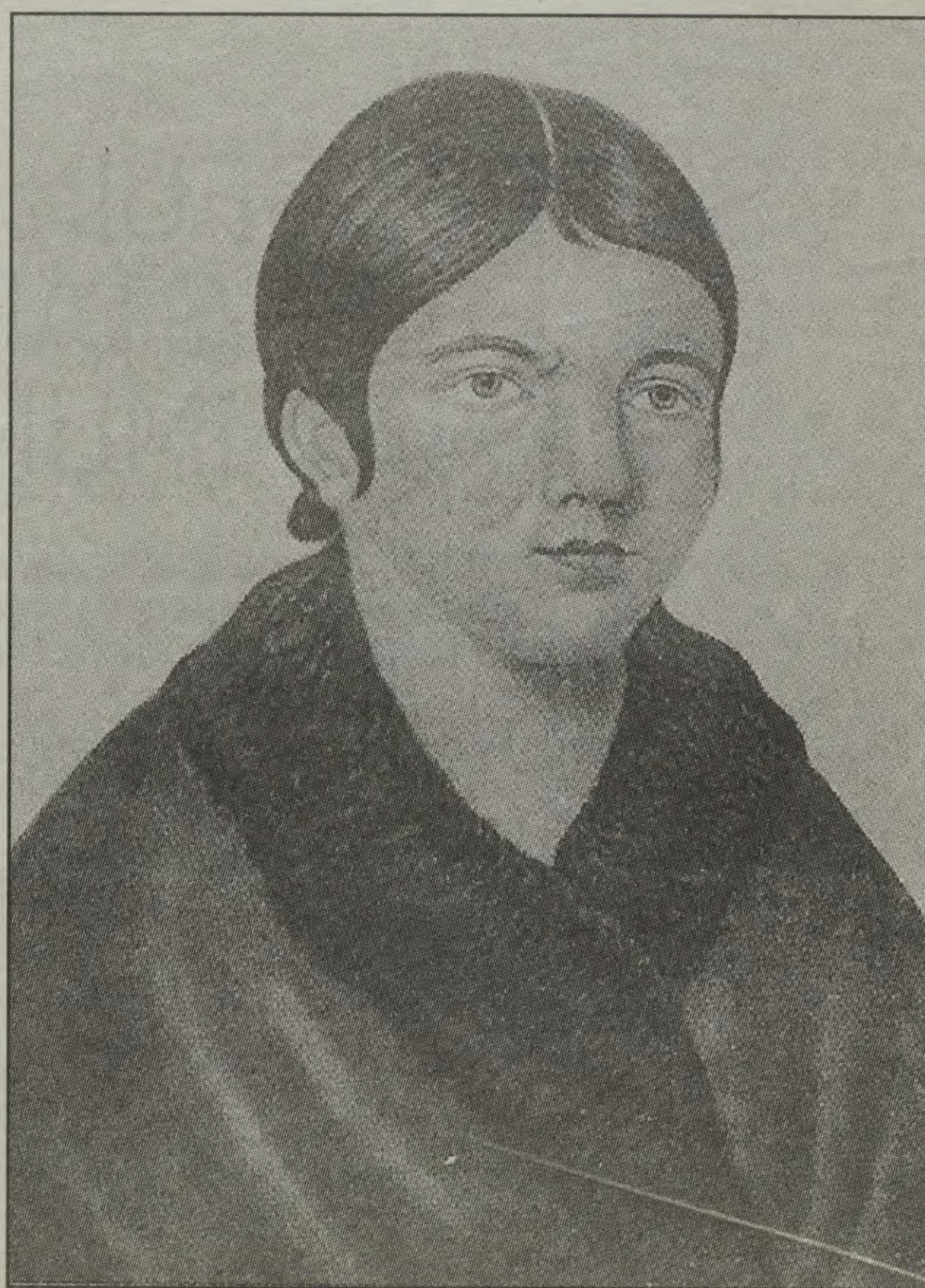
This unprovoked attack was one of many. Trappers and fishermen boasted openly of their brutal exploits and many kept running tallies of their kills. Noel Boss, for example, was deeply disappointed because he had only killed ninety-nine Indians and not an even hundred.

The winter of 1823, when Shanawdithit was 22 years old, could not have been bleaker. She had been shot and wounded, had seen her uncle, Chief Nonosawat, murdered; had seen her aunt returned in a coffin; and had stood by helplessly while their baby died. Old men and women perished because they refused food so that the younger ones might live. There were no men left for her to marry and no new babies would be born. Her father had left to hunt deer on his own, had not returned, and was feared dead.

Accompanied by her mother and sister, Shanawdithit ventured to the coastline; where she subsisted on blue mussels pulled from the rocks on the beach. Finally, thin and weak, the women decided to give themselves up – even if they were shot it would be better than starving to death in the brutal cold.

Coming upon a trapper skinning a beaver, the women were horrified to realize they'd stumbled upon William Cull, whom they recognized as the murderer of Shanawdithit's mother's cousin 20 years earlier. They knelt to receive bullets from the musket aimed at them, but instead, a miracle of sorts occurred. They were saved, for the government was offering an award for the delivery of live Beothuks in an attempt to save the dying race.

The women were marched overland, finally boarding boats bearing them to Twillingate and then to St. John's. There, to their astonishment, they were given gifts and supplies for their 13 remaining tribal members, and returned to the forest. When they couldn't find their families, they returned to John Peyton's fishing station, where Shanawdithit's mother and sister soon died of tuberculosis. The young woman,



Shanawdithit

having buried her remaining family, found a small flat boat and paddled many miles across a bay to Burnt Island and became a servant in John Payton's – who had murdered her uncle – household.

Rather than yielding to bitterness and sorrow, Shanawdithit shared in daily chores and began to learn English. When she was occasionally overwhelmed by painful memories of her past, she became gloomy and stopped working. Another servant reported she then went off into the woods to have a "talk" with her mother and sister, and generally came back singing and

laughing. She drew and carved in her spare time.

For five years Shanawdithit lived in obscurity on Burnt Island until explorer William Epps Cormack discovered her as the sole survivor of an ancient culture. In 1827 he took her into his St. John's home where she made a series of sketches depicting early encounters between her people and the white man. She also drew pictures of clothing, canoes, food, utensils and chief's emblems, leaving an invaluable record of a vanished people.

Sadly, Shanawdithit contacted tuberculosis in 1829 and died in St. John's. She was 29 years old.

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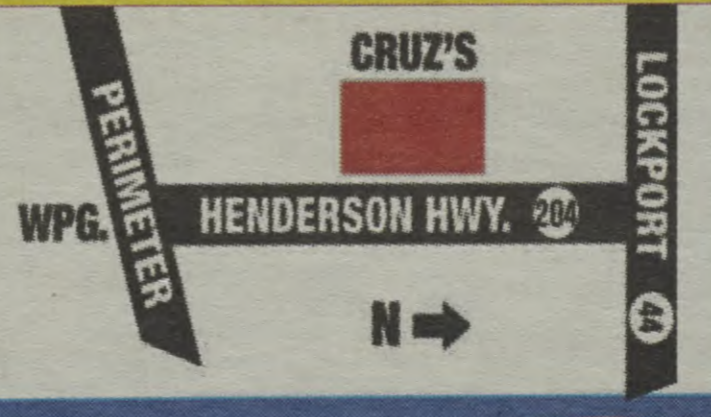
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The KingQuad has been getting riders dirty for 25 years and loving every minute of it. All that mud has taught us a lot about what you demand in a quad and the KingQuad line of 4-Wheel-Drive ATVs delivers under the toughest conditions Canada has to offer. Featuring selectable 2 and 4-Wheel Drive and a host of other class leading features, the KingQuad has everything you need to show mud just who the boss is. Check out the complete line of KingQuad models at you local authorized Suzuki dealer and see for yourself.

Mud is a Badge of Honor. Wear it with Pride.

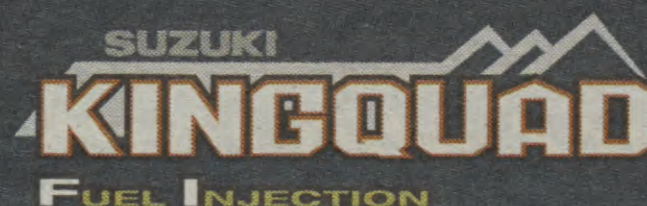
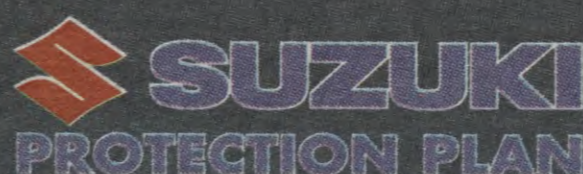


**FREE Warn Winch PLUS
1 year Suzuki Protection Plan**

OR

**FREE Warn Winch PLUS
5.99% Fast Buy Financing**

**Discover the Performance.
Discover the Reliability.
Discover the Suzuki Way Of life!**



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Suzuki Canada Inc. is pleased to offer 5.99% financing for 24 months with a maximum amortization period of 36 months and a maximum amortization of 84 months (CAC) using "Fast Buy Suzuki" through Metavest Lending Solutions. Available on all new 2009 (K5), 2008 (K6) and 2007 (K7) models of Suzuki 4WD ATVs with finance amounts over \$6,000.00 (CAC). Offer valid from June 1st, 2008 to December 31st, 2008. Finance example: Amortization period of 24 months with a unit cost \$1500, interest rate guaranteed for 24 months at 5.99%. Monthly payment for 24 months: \$135.76. Total cost of borrowing: undetermined due to unknown or registration fees. Free Warn 2.5t winch available on all 4WD model Suzuki KingQuad, Vmax, Eiger and QuadRunner models comes complete with safety solenoid, 80 ft cable, roller fairlead and genuine Suzuki Mounting Bracket. Approximate retail value of Warn 2.5t with kit is \$577.99. Installation costs extra. 1 Year Suzuki Protection Plan coverage on top of the 12 month Suzuki New Vehicle limited Warranty on all 2009 model Suzuki ATVs. Non-current Suzuki models come with a 6 month factory warranty. Available on all new 2009 (K3), 2008 (K6) and 2007 (K7) Suzuki 4-Wheel Drive models. This offer is valid from June 1st, 2008 to end of lock term, December 31st, 2008. See your dealer for complete details on the 12 month Suzuki Protection Plan coverage. Coverage of the 12 month SPF offers from the New Vehicle limited Warranty coverage provided for the first 6 months. Suzuki Protection Plan provides mechanical and electrical coverage on your eligible motorcycle or ATV and begins immediately after your Suzuki New Vehicle Warranty period expires. Suzuki Protection Plan is easily transferable should you decide to sell your ATV at no additional cost. The Suzuki Protection Plan is underwritten by Motor Insurance Corporation. Financing offers cannot be combined. Offers apply to retail deliveries of new and in stock models only. PDI charges from \$132 to \$440 and freight charges from \$110 to \$175 are extra dependent on model. Specifications, product features and colours are subject to change without notice. Read your owner's manual carefully and always wear a helmet and protective gear when operating your Suzuki Quadrunner and remember to observe all safety regulations, be responsible, take a rider training course and always respect the environment. See your participating Authorized Suzuki dealer for complete details. Suzuki. Way of Life!