

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN



MAGAZINE

Saskatchewan Indian
Summer Edition 2010
(July, August & September)
Volume 1. Issue 2.
2010

FSIN POST SECONDARY EDUCATION RALLY AT FNUC CAMPUS

**Inroads to Agriculture Institute:
"Next Generation of
Indian Farmers"**

**Sâkaw Askiy Forest
Management Inc.
"New Forestry Agreement"**

**Hon. Bill McKnight
Office of the Treaty
Commissioner**

**7th Annual Aboriginal
Music Festival (AMF)**

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NEXT ADVERTISING & MATERIAL DEADLINE

Advertising Deadline is Thursday, November 18, 2010
Material Deadline is Friday, November 19, 2010

Since 1970, the Saskatchewan Indian Magazine has been the official communication vehicle for First Nation communities and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN).

The tradition of the Saskatchewan Indian Magazine is to provide coverage of people, issues and events both entertaining and informative throughout First Nation communities. There is such an overwhelming number of First Nations community events and happenings that we are unable to cover them all. Therefore, we invite stories, photographs, artwork and letters from our readers.

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Editorial Message

By Eldon Henderson

The “Indian Summer” days of fall have been great for all of us to appreciate and enjoy! Its great timing for new and returning post-secondary students attending the First Nations University of Canada (FNUC), Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) and the First Nation high school and elementary teachers are back in the classrooms instructing future academic achievers.

The theme for this issue has been dedicated to Treaties and we received tremendous response for article submissions and requests.

We hope to see Sask Indian online and our readership will be able to read and follow their favorite

stories on the FSIN website in the weeks to come. The next Sask Indian Edition will be released on December 3, 2010 and theme will focus on our First Nation Veterans, FSIN Senate and the FSIN pow wow.

The next Sask Indian will also cover stories on the Prince Albert Grand Council Women’s Commission 20th Anniversary, SIIT’s new Regina Office and the grand opening of the Whitecap Trail Convenience Store owned and operated by the Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

We look forward to hearing from you as we move ahead.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The following is the viewpoint of National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, Assembly of First Nations (AFN).

To all the youth, educators and parents, welcome back to another school year! I know this a tremendously busy time of adjusting and getting into routine; I wanted to provide a short update on the Assembly of First Nations approach on education.

Education is a priority for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) as mandated by the First Nation leadership at our Special Chiefs Assembly and our Annual General Assembly. Education is an Inherent and Treaty Right we are committed to advancing our rights and confirming First Nation control of First Nation education through building our schools and confirming fair and sustainable funding for First Nation education systems.

We have learned from the due diligence the First Nations of Saskatchewan have demonstrated on the importance of education and using education as a tool for understanding what Treaty means. Classrooms across Saskatchewan, both on and off reserve are learning about Treaty.

Education is the primary means to strengthen our ability as First Nations to be self-determining. Where education was once utilized as a tool of oppression, it is now a means to renew our languages and cultures and to rebuild our Nations. I see this first hand when I visit communities and I talk to students; our commitment to our cultures, our languages and our Inherent and Treaty Rights are vibrant and alive.

All of us have a responsibility to improve First Nations education; it’s our Treaty responsibility.

National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo



Chief Guy Lonechild
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

This edition of the Saskatchewan Indian focuses on our Treaties, and more specifically, on our continued commitment to fulfilling their Spirit and Intent.

This past summer, the life of one of our original Treaty signers – Chief Payepot was commemorated with vibrant celebrations, including the unveiling of his statue on the Piapot First Nation and the City of Regina. The celebrations acknowledged the 135 Year Anniversary of Chief Payepot’s signing of Treaty 4 with the Queen’s representatives in southern Saskatchewan.

Protecting and implementing the Treaties is what led to the formation of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and its predecessor organizations more than 60 years ago. Today, the FSIN continues with the mandate to protect and implement our Treaty Rights into the 21st Century.

With Saskatchewan’s economy on the rise and heightened global demand for our natural resources, dealing with ‘unfinished Treaty business’ in the area of lands and resources is an urgent and outstanding issue for First Nations.

First Nations never agreed to surrender any Treaty Rights to any resources and the Treaties stated that we agreed only to share the land to the depth of a plough. The Chiefs of Saskatchewan are determined that decisions about land use must include the stewardship with First Nations, as set out in our Treaties. The rightful interpretation of the Treaties as recorded in First Nations oral history must also prevail.

Fulfillment of the Treaty Right to Education continues to be a high priority and we need to improve our First Nation graduation rates in this province, and to fill a booming provincial economy and national labour shortage. We need a First Nations education system modeled on the advice of our Elders that will better serve our children and grandchildren.

First Nations Leadership is continuing to protect our sole authority and jurisdiction over reserve lands, as set out in the Treaties. The Muskoday First Nation has recently taken the lead on this issue, by challenging the provincial government's unlawful tobacco quota. The Muskoday First Nation has launched a direct court challenge to this infringement of First Nation's jurisdiction.

Saskatchewan Chiefs continue to meet with other leaders from across Canada to discuss and develop strategies to advance, promote and exercise Treaty Rights. Most recently, the FSIN hosted the 6th Annual Treaty 1-11 Gathering in Regina in early October for this purpose.

In addition, the FSIN continues to work closely with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, to advance our Inherent and Treaty Rights. The Office of the Treaty Commissioner has made great strides in educating school children and their parents that "We are all Treaty People." This is a key message that must be shared with all Canadians, if the Crown is to acknowledge its rightful Treaty role and responsibilities.

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) continues to be a loud voice and active player on the national stage for the advancement and protection of our Inherent and Treaty Rights. Our challenge now is to come together to renew the Treaty reality for First Nations which our Elders tell us – will enable sound governance, livelihood and brother-to-brother relations with the Crown.

We must be prepared to assert our place in Canada by ensuring our "Spirit and Intent of Treaty" and "Sovereignty" is properly recognized alongside Canada's laws and constitution. This was the intention of Treaty when our Chiefs agreed to share the land and sovereignty—not have both stripped away from us through the *Indian Act* and the 1930 Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (NRTA).

As FSIN moves forward on the FSIN Revitalization Agenda, as directed by our 74 First Nations, we will continue to focus on education, health care, justice, and of course, dealing with the unfinished Treaty business concerning our interest in lands and resources.

First Nations in Saskatchewan continue to be excited and hopeful about the Treaty relationship, just as Chief Payepot was so many years ago.

Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC)

By Hon. Bill McKnight, Treaty Commissioner

This is an abbreviated version of a speech given on September 9, 2010 at the Treaty 4 Governance Centre

Good Day Chiefs. Thank you for inviting me to speak to you this morning. I am pleased to be in Treaty Four territory and I give thanks to the original First Nations inhabitants of this area for sharing their land. I am honored to have this opportunity to spend a few moments speaking with you about the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, what we have accomplished and what we hope to do. The Office of the Treaty Commissioner was established in 1987. The first Commissioner was the former Mayor of Saskatoon, Mr. Cliff Wright. The Commissioner from 1997 – 2007 was Judge David Arnot, and I have been the Treaty Commissioner since July 2007.

The OTC is an independent body created by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Government of Canada. Therefore, the scope of the Office is limited to the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner is about fostering dialogue, and promoting change and prosperity for First Nations people and all Canadians through treaty implementation. Typically, this has been accomplished through three main mandates or objectives for the OTC:

1. The first mandate is to facilitate discussions aimed at the resolution of outstanding treaty matters between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Canada.
2. The second mandate is to build greater social harmony in Saskatchewan by providing educational programs to schools and the general public about First Nations culture and the treaties.
3. The third mandate is to advance the First Nations treaty right to livelihood – prosperity – economic self-sufficiency and independence by supporting training, employment, and economic development.

Cliff Wright, the First Nations leaders and those from Canada, Saskatchewan, and municipalities made a great

contribution in 1992 by reaching the Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement. The TLE Framework Agreement recognized that over 30 First Nations in Saskatchewan did not receive the amount of land they were promised under treaty. It set up a process where the federal and provincial governments are fulfilling the treaty commitments of land to First Nations.

Judge David Arnot, the Treaty Commissioner until 2007, is known for his great educational leadership. Through the Treaty Education Program which he started, we can celebrate that as of September 2008, there are Kindergarten to Grade 12 treaty teaching resource materials in every First Nation and provincial school in Saskatchewan. And as a result of his efforts and our continuing efforts in this area, many more people in Saskatchewan are now aware that “We Are All Treaty People.” Currently, we are continuing our efforts in treaty education, through the schools, through Speakers Bureau and through advertisements on CTV.

On the livelihood and economic independence front we are working closely with First Nations, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, INAC, and others from across Western Canada to establish greater opportunities for education, career information and employment for First Nations people. Some examples of recent initiatives include:

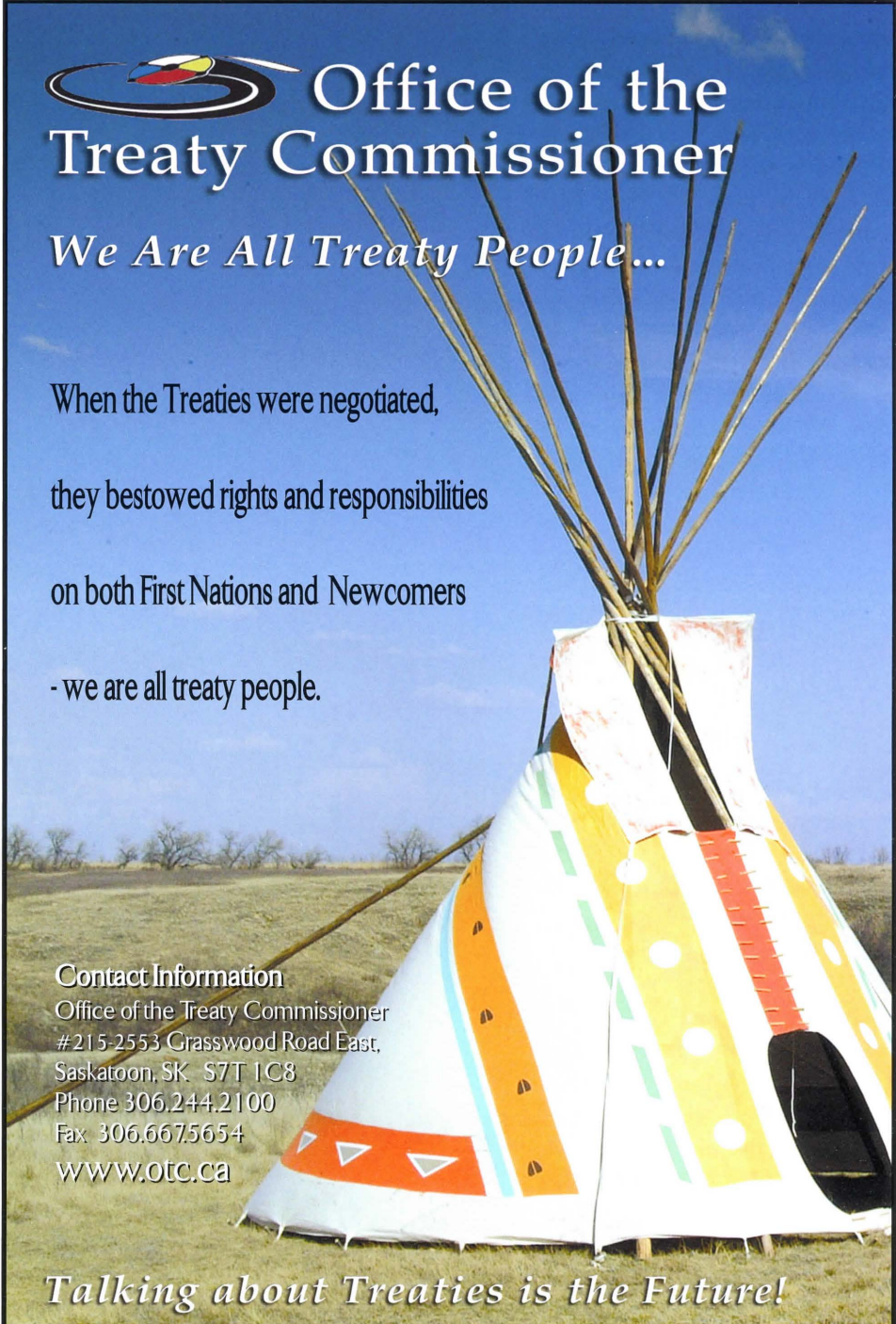
- In conjunction with SIIT and INAC, two buses are rolling into First Nations communities across the province. These buses house nearly a dozen computers which provide career planning and support to people in First Nations.
- During the past year OTC facilitated an innovative partnership between the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School division, and the private sector. A Ready-to-Move home project resulted in accredited carpentry skills training for First Nations youth and a much needed home for the Whitecap Dakota First Nation community.


Today, the representatives of the FSIN and Canada sit at the Treaty Table with a mandate to address Treaty implementation matters. I am very optimistic about the potential for those discussions. One reason for my optimism is that the Treaty Table builds upon the work of the communities and the comments of the Elders. The book "Treaty Elders of Saskatchewan" is a remarkable publication that identifies the messages of the Elders around treaties and Treaty Implementation. Based on these teachings and those of others, the Treaty Table is focused on the importance of the treaty relationship as part of treaty, the recognition of the spirit and intent of treaty, and the understanding that we must work in a modern context.

Educational Action Plan – Since the fall of 2008, we have been endeavoring to address the very important issue of the Treaty Right to Education. At that time, I asked the Treaty Table to consider the question what would First Nation's education look like if the treaties had been implemented appropriately. The Table's discussion has launched a series of efforts to improve the educational outcomes of First Nations children.

I am proud of the work of the past Commissioners and I am proud of the work we are currently embarked on with the FSIN and Canada and I have great hope for the future. Over the last twenty years, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner has set the stage for improved economic development oppor-

tunities by First Nations people through Treaty Land Entitlement and improved the understanding of treaties among First Nations and non-First Nation alike. In the next few years, I am confident we will resolve more issues impacting First Nations people, see improved educational outcomes for First Nations children and youth, and see further economic developments and greater wealth generated in First Nations communities. Let us work together in those directions.



 **Office of the
Treaty Commissioner**

We Are All Treaty People...

**When the Treaties were negotiated,
they bestowed rights and responsibilities
on both First Nations and Newcomers**

- we are all treaty people.

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Talking about Treaties is the Future!

Treaty Four Celebrated

By Cherish Francis

Hundreds of people gathered in the Qu'Appelle Valley from September 10-16 2010 to take part in the week long Treaty Four Gathering that is held annually to commemorate the signing of Treaty Four on September 15, 1874.

During the week, Chiefs and Elders from the Treaty 4 area gather to discuss the current treaty issues they are facing. Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Little Black Bear First Nation said it is important for both First Nations and non-First Nations people to know what the true spirit and intent of treaty is all about.

"We have an Elders meeting, so we can get some direction from the Elders. We have a Chiefs Forum, so we can bring unity from our Chiefs in the Treaty Four area," said Bellegarde. He further adds, "We have educational forums for the youth. If were supposed to be protecting and supporting our inherent treaty rights and no better process than educational awareness."

Students from the Regina Public School Division and Fort Qu'Appelle area attended the Treaty Four Gathering to learn about the treaties and get a first hand experience at what the treaties mean to First Nations people.

"Educational awareness and understanding can lead to action in the form of policies, legislatives changes and the ground work for First Nation rights and issues," said Bellegarde and explains, "Peaceful co-existence and mutual respect is what it is all about."

The Treaty 4 Gathering wraps up with a traditional powwow on the weekend. Elder Mike Pinay from the Treaty Four area said it was the vision of the elders to celebrate with song and dance. "The late Gordon Oakes from Nekaneet First Nation had a vision that we would dance here. Today we do that. We built an arbour and we now have a pow wow here every year," said Elder Mike Pinay.

Chief Bellegarde said, "I hope for those who attend the Treaty Four Gathering walk away knowing that our First Nation spirit, culture and the treaties are still alive and well. We're still waiting for the crown to fully implement them."

**Prince Albert Grand Council
WOMEN'S COMMISSION
20TH ANNIVERSARY**

"On behalf of the office of the PAGC Executive, 12 Chiefs, and Staff of the Prince Albert Grand Council, I would like to congratulate and recognize the PAGC Women's Commission on their 20th Anniversary Celebration for their outstanding services and contributions in making a difference for our First Nation women to be leaders and role models of tomorrow," PAGC Grand Chief Ron Michel.

PAGC Women's Commission ☿ Chief Joseph Custer Reserve ☿ #201, P.O. Box 2350
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan S6V 6Z1 ☿ Phone: 306.953.7200 ☿ Fax: 306.764.6272

Treaty Four Resource Council Stand United Against Resource Development

By Cherish Francis

The Porcupine Plain Provincial Forest, near Somme, Saskatchewan, is a traditional hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering area for the First Nations from the Treaty Four region. Recently, the forest has been under threat from industry searching for oil, gas and other resource sector development.

On August 11, 2010, Chiefs representing the Treaty Four Resource Council held a sit in at the Porcupine Plain Provincial Forest to discuss the issue surrounding the duty to consult and accommodate.

Chief Peter Nippi of the Kinistin Saulteux Nation, Chief Larry Cachene of the YellowQuill First Nation and FSIN Vice Chief Lyle Whitefish participated in the sit in. They wanted to demonstrate to industry and government that First Nations have inherent rights to the land.

"We need industry and above all government to understand that we occupied these crown lands long before treaties. If there is anything done to this land, let us know. Let us be stakeholders," said Chief Peter Nippi and further states, "These are our rights and these are

from the spirit and intent of treaty and those are still alive just as much as the trees are today."

The Chiefs of the Treaty Four Resource Council expressed that industry has gone onto the land without properly consulting First Nations. FSIN Vice Chief Lyle Whitefish believes government is failing the First Nations.

"We want to ensure sustainability. We want to be apart of the economy. We want to work with industry and if there is a way we can balance those elements together under the duty to consult, then we can have such prosperous communities," said FSIN Vice Chief Lyle Whitefish.

Bands from the Kawacatoose First Nation, The Kinistin First Nation and the Yellowquill First Nation held a cultural camp in conjunction with the Chiefs sit in.

Keith Nashacappo from the YellowQuill First Nation participated in the weeklong event. "Throughout Indian land we are losing our culture and our language. This gives us a chance to get in touch with the Elders and the stories behind this territory," said Nashacappo and explains, "I'm here because I am still learning and it's important for me to be in touch with my people, the youth and the elders."

The Provincial Government did not participate in the discussion held by the Treaty Four Resource Council. FSIN Vice Chief Lyle Whitefish indicated that Saskatchewan's Minister of Energy and Resources, Bill Boyd, told FSIN that crown lands are not First Nation lands and will continue to hand out permits to industry at their discretion.



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- Linguists
- School Administrators
- Parents

For more information contact:
Eva Lerat at (306) 244-1146 or
E-mail: conference@sicc.sk.ca
Website: <http://www.sicc.sk.ca>

Conference spaces are limited, Register early to avoid disappointment

Montreal Lake Cree Nation & Lac La Ronge Indian Band Move Forward on LRRR Timber Claim

By Eldon Henderson

In June and July of 1887, the Little Red Reserve was surveyed as a joint reserve for Montreal Lake and James Roberts (Lac La Ronge Indian Band). The reserve of 56.2 square miles was designated for 106B. It was not until 1948 that the reserve was divided between Montreal Lake and Lac La Ronge.

Under the provisions of the *Indian Act*, a surrender was required before timber on a reserve could be sold. A valid surrender required a vote to surrender by a majority of the male members of the band over 21 at a meeting held specifically for that purpose while the meeting had to take place in the presence of the Superintendent General or his agent. Only those band members that routinely resided on or near the reserve were allowed to vote, but there had to be proof of assent and the surrender had to be approved by the Governor General in Council.

In the case of the Little Red Reserve, the Deputy Superintendent General instructed Indian Agent Macarthur to take a surrender of the spruce timber on the Little Red Reserve in accordance with the provisions of the *Indian Act*. After the surrender was assented to, Macarthur was to have an affidavit executed by himself and the principle men of the Band. A surrender vote was taken on January 16, 1904 by local Indian Agent. The surrender document was signed by five individuals who resided on the Little Red Reserve.

Although though there had been some discussion with Chief and Council of Montreal Lake prior to the surrender vote about selling the timber on the Little Red Reserve, the evidence suggests that Montreal Lake did not consent to the surrender. The surrender was only taken from the few residents on the Reserve. The James Roberts (La Ronge Band Indian Band) was not aware that surrender had taken place. They only found out some time later that the timber on the reserve had been sold without their knowledge or permission.

The timber from the reserve was harvested by the Sturgeon Lake Lumber Company. Although the Company only had a license to take the spruce timber, the evidence suggests that the area was clear cut of all types of timber.

Although the reserve was a joint reserve, it appears the Department of Indian Affairs was confused about who the reserve was set aside for perhaps because the reserve was referred to as 106B. Initially, all the proceeds from the timber sales were credited to the accounts of Montreal Lake. Then when the error was realized money was transferred out of the Montreal Lake accounts to La Ronge. These errors affected the ability of both First Nations to use the proceeds to their advantage.

The claim was submitted to Canada in August of 2003. The claim was accepted for negotiation in December of 2005.

The basis of the acceptance was that Canada had failed to obtain a proper surrender by not obtaining the consent of both the Montreal Lake and James Roberts (Lac La Ronge Indian Band) in accordance with the provisions of the *Indian Act*.

LRRR Timber Claim Negotiations

Canada has agreed to negotiate the claim on the basis that a proper surrender was not taken. The first negotiation session was held on August 22, 2007 in Montreal Lake. The negotiations are joint negotiations between Canada, Montreal Lake Cree Nation (MLCN), and Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LRRIB) with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) facilitating the LRRR Timber Claim process.

A negotiation protocol has been signed by Canada, MLCN and LRRIB who are parties to the negotiations. The FSIN has been providing technical advice, coordinating and chairing all the sessions. Montreal Lake and



Lac La Ronge are also preparing an internal protocol agreement between the two First Nations. It has been agreed that any discussion on how the proceeds will be divided will be delayed until there is a satisfactory settlement offer on the table.

The main challenge in the negotiations will be arrive at a figure for the amount of timber that was taken and the value of the timber at the time. There was evidence that the Sturgeon Lake Timber Company that harvested the timber significantly under reported the volume of timber taken. Montreal Lake and Lac La Ronge retained two timber experts as consultants to determine the amount of timber on the Little Red Reserve and the amount of timber harvested.

These consultants have completed their report which has been presented to Canada. The next stage will be to negotiate with Canada the amount of compensation for a final settlement offer.

A settlement that is agreed upon will have to be approved and ratified by Canada and by both MLCN and LRRIB communities. Along with a settlement, Band members will also be required to vote on some sort of Trust or similar agreement that specifies how the money can be spent. It will not simply be at the discretion of MLCN and LRRIB Chief and Council. It should also be noted that

Canada is providing funding for the negotiations in the form of loan funding. This funding is then written off as part of the settlement so, it does not reduce the size of the settlement. It is hoped that negotiations can be concluded by March 31, 2011 and that MLCN and LRRIB Band Members can vote on a settlement offer shortly thereafter.

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Woodland Cree Gathering Pro

By Eldon Henderson

On August 10, 11 & 12, 2010 the Montreal Lake Cree Nation (MLCN) hosted the 2010 Woodland Cree Gathering "Promoting Ancestral Treaty Territory" held at Molanosa on the north end of Montreal Lake with more than 450 people attended this year's event.

A lot of hard work, energy and planning went into the 2010 Woodland Cree Gathering. People started setting up their tents on Monday and the program officially kicked off on Tuesday through Thursday and Friday was camp clean up. "We got up around 5 am and wrapped up our duties around 10 pm each day.

PA Northern Bus Lines and the MLCN Bus provided all the transportation for the Elders from Prince Albert and Montreal Lake," said Shirley Henderson, MLCN Councillor.

"The youth enjoyed their various sporting and competition and we handed out various prizes for their efforts. There were bingo and poker games, berry picking, hunting and fishing trips and traditional hand games and a moose tanning demonstration by Adam Charles and his wife Jean Charles from Lac La Ronge Indian Band. On the last day, there was a major fish derby event with great prize money and numerous anglers came from all over to try their luck," said Chief Roger Bird.

Chief Bird explained, "We built our camp ground close to the original site of the 1889 Adhesion to Treaty #6 that took place here 121 years ago



between the Crown representatives and William Charles Band (Montreal Lake Cree Nation) and the James Roberts Band (Lac La Ronge Indian Band). The Peter Ballantyne Band (Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation) sent representatives to the signing as observers, but were there as part of the James Roberts Band and recognized themselves as a separate band."



"Montreal Lake Cree Nation has a large traditional land base with enriched family stories (oral history) tied to their different tracks of lands from Little Red, Mahihkan-sakahikan, Waskesui (National Park), Thunder Hills, Narrow Hills, Big Sandy Lake, Molanosa, Candle Lake, White Swan, Clarence Lake, East Trout Lake, Birch Bark Lake, Emaline Lake, Bittern Lake and around Montreal Lake. It's this ancestral and spiritual connection to the land that makes our Treaties stronger and meaningful," noted FSIN Chief Guy Lonechild.

"I was listening to Noland (Edward) Henderson, Director of MLCN Lands and Resources as he shared some of Montreal Lake's oral history that dated back to the late 1700's and early 1800's during a river tour down Montreal River to the original Treaty signing site," said Chief Lonechild.

Supporting Ancestral Treaty Territory

"I would like to thank our many volunteers for their hard work and to our sponsors - Northern Lights Community Development Corporation, Areva and the Prince Albert Grand Council. I also want to acknowledge PAGC Grand Chief Ron Michel, PAGC Vice-Chief Ed Henderson and PBCN Chief Darrell McCallum and LRRIB Chief Tammy



Photos by Conrad Naytowhow

Cook-Searson, FSIN Vice Chief Dutch Lerat and FSIN Vice Chief Lyle Whitefish for attending the opening ceremonies. We also want to thank Chief Wallace Fox from Onion Lake First Nation, FSIN Chief Lonechild and Veteran Norman Henderson for making the event as well," stated Chief Bird.

Greetings to Saskatchewan First Nations!

For information on the Star-Orion-South Diamond Project proposal or a virtual open house tour, visit our website: www.shoregold.com (click on "community" to view open house materials).



Shore Gold Inc.

Inroads to Agriculture Institute

Blaine Favel, one of the founders of One Earth Farms



In May 2010, the Inroads to Agriculture Institute (IAI) officially signed their funding agreement with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) and Donna Kurtz was hired as the IAI Executive Director in July of this year and located at the One Earth Farm Head Office in Saskatoon.

This is a new agreement under the federal Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP) and the objective is to create 104 long term job opportunities in Saskatchewan and Alberta in the agriculture and agri-services sectors.

Blaine Favel, one of the founders of One Earth Farms and former FSIN Chief noted with approval, "The mandate of One Earth Farms is to increase the influence and employment of First Nations people in the agriculture industry sector. We believe these first 104 trainees are critically important in fulfilling our promises to our First Nations partners for employment opportunities, and that these first trainees will hopefully be followed by hundreds more. It's the genesis of the next generation of Indian farmers."

The Inroads to Agriculture Institute (IAI) appointed a Board of Directors and each director brings experience and vision to the table explained Kurtz.

Inroads to Agriculture Institute (IAI) Board of Directors

- Richard Gladue, One Earth Farms Corp.
- Randell Morris, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)
- Jerry Okanee, Thunderchild First Nations
- Balvinder Gill, Viterra
- Josie Van Lent, Lakeland College
- Joan Bellegarde, File Hills Employment and Training Center
- Steve Yuzpe, Sprott Resources Corp.

Richard Gladue, Chair of Inroads to Agriculture Institute said, "I am very pleased and honored to be part of a new and innovative training program that will allow Aboriginal residents of rural Saskatchewan and Alberta the opportunity to train and obtain skilled jobs working the land they grew up on."

The first order of business for IAI was to get trainees into the Green Certificate Agricultural Field Crop Training Program. "As part of the Field Crop Training Program, we were busy in July signing up students for Custom Combine Training which took place in South Dakota. This training prepared the trainees for the fall harvest season in Saskatchewan and Alberta," stated Donna Kurtz.

IAI is currently working out the details of the fall and spring training programs which will include such programs as Way2Work (workplace readiness) and Class 1A Driver Training. Kurtz said, "Working with the University of Saskatchewan, IAI hopes to provide support for Aboriginal students entering into the Post Degree Diploma Program in Aboriginal Agriculture and Land Management and this program is a one year program that will provide students who hold a Bachelor's Degree in a non-agricultural discipline with training in agribusiness and land management and commences in January 2011." Some of the training opportunities and services will include:

- Green Certificate Agricultural Training specializing in Field Crop Technician, Irrigated Crop Technician and Cow-Calf Technician
- Workplace Readiness
- Custom Combine and Seeder Training
- Class 1A Driver Training
- First Aid and Safety Training
- College Certificate Programs (Agriculture Machinery Technician)
- Post Degree Diploma Program in Aboriginal Agriculture and Land Management (University of Saskatchewan)



“Next Generation of Indian Farmers”

By Eldon Henderson

Working with SIIT's Career Coaches and SITAG'S network of employment offices and local career centre, the staff of IAI will ensure there is a consistent approach to assess the individuals in order to ensure that the Agriculture Industry is a good fit for their interests, skills and lifestyle. Once the individual becomes a student in one of the many training programs offered by IAI, an Education and Training Coordinator from IAI will work with the student to provide guidance and support as the student works towards successful completion of their training.

Upon completion of training, students will either become full time employees or seasonal employees. At this stage, the students will work closely with an IAI Employment Coordinator to ensure a smooth transition to long term sustainable employment. Individuals who are seasonally employed will have the opportunity for additional training in the 'off season.'

Our partners have dedicated a total of just over \$5 million in cash and in-kind support to the IAI Project said Kurtz that include:

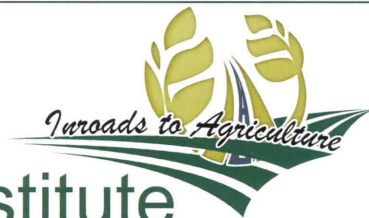
Government of Canada - \$2.08 million
Government of Saskatchewan - \$595,000 million
One Earth Farms Corporation - \$990,000 million
Other Stakeholders (First Nations, Industry Partners & Training Institutes) - \$1.43 million

Kurtz explained, "We have a broad and dynamic partnership involved in the IAI initiative that comprises of Viterra, Thunder Employment & Field Services, Wakayos Holdings Inc., Pfizer Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Canadian Wheat Board, Lakeland College, Thunderchild First Nation, File Hills Employment and Training Center, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Saskatchewan Indian Training Assessment Group (SITAG) and Sprott Resources Corporation.

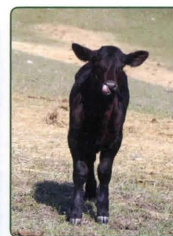
Contact Information

Donna Kurtz, Executive Director, Inroads to Agriculture Institute
#325 - 2555 Grasswoods Road East, Saskatoon, SK S7T 0K1
Phone 306.979.8055 Ext 451 Fax 306.979.2044 Cell 306.371.8523

Inroads to Agriculture Institute



Creating New Vital Training, Certification and Job Placement for Aboriginal people in the Agriculture and Agri-Services Sectors!



Inroads to Agriculture Institute will cover costs (as needed):

- Training and program costs
- Student living allowances including childcare expenses
- Counseling and mentorship services
- Wage subsidy during practical training (apprenticeship)

Training Opportunities Available

- Field Crop Production Technician
- Cow/Calf Production Technician
- Custom Combine Training
- First Aid
- Irrigated Crop Production Technician
- 1A Driver Training
- Workplace Readiness

Contact Information

Executive Director, Donna Kurtz, Inroads to Agriculture Institute
#325-2555 Grasswoods Road East, Saskatoon, SK S7T 0K1
Phone: 306.979.8055 ext. 451 Fax: 306.979.2044 Cell: 306.371.8523

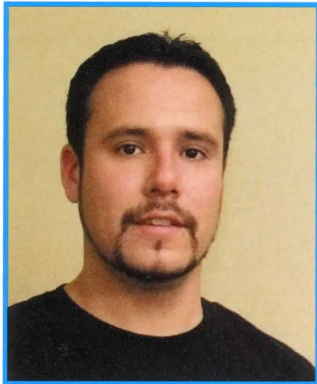


Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada



SIIT Alumni Success Stories

By SIIT Communications Department



David F. Bird

SIIT Department Trades & Industrial Program Graduated From SIIT Electrical Pre-Trades
(Later graduated a Journeyman Electrician from SIAST Wascana Campus)
Campus/Career Centre Location Regina, Construction Career Centre

Where are you working now and what position? I am working at Regina Pasqua Hospital, upgrading fire alarm system and security as a Journeyman Electrician.

What professional opportunities await you? There are a few things that I am undecided on. I would like to be a foreman for Alliance Energy in the future or work for Saskpower in distribution or even start my own residential or small commercial electrical company.

Did the SIIT Program help you in preparing for the work world? SIIT Program opened the doors for me and it gave me an opportunity to start my career. I am very thankful for SIIT Electric Pre Trades Program. I would not be where I am today if I had not chosen SIIT. The program helped me prepare for the work world with the knowledge I was taught and the hands on work in the field.

What stood out about SIIT for you? The dedication SIIT has for First Nations with starting their careers. Two years before the program, I applied at SIAST Wascana campus for 1st year electrical, but there was a 3 year waiting list. I also put my resume out to different electrical companies but no luck. Then the SIIT electrical program came along and that was an opportunity for me so, I applied and I am a Journeyman Electrician today.

What advice would you give potential SIIT students who are considering entering the trades? My advice to students Pick a trade you think you'll like, once you're in the program don't give up! There were times when I wanted to give up. I got shocked one time with 120 volts and was scared. I even had to deal with some stereotyping and when school got tough I wanted to give up but I didn't and I am so proud of my self for becoming a young First Nations journeyman electrician.



Davida Ryan

SIIT Department Business Administration & Information Technologies
Program Information Technology
Campus Saskatoon

I am a recent graduate of 2010 and currently employed by a Saskatoon software development company (2020 IT Solutions Corp.) as support technician providing service to clients across Canada and the USA. I chose SIIT because of the atmosphere of strength. It was clear that SIIT would provide nonstop education and support for their students. SIIT focuses on Aboriginal students but still maintains opportunity for Non-Aboriginal students and it respected my Métis heritage. I felt welcome and comfortable at SIIT and they helped guide me down the right path in life which gave me strength, wisdom, and courage that I can pass onto my friends and most importantly to my children. I have 3 boys Mitchell 10, Junior 7, and Tye 5 who look up to me. Being one of 9 siblings to graduate from a post secondary institution has provided me with a sense of achievement.

Mark Thompson, MBA, is the President and CEO of 2020 IT Solutions Corp. I was delighted to hear him say, "Davida, my staff has concluded that you are a great candidate to do the job that we have advertised. You have shown commitment to achieve an excellent education from SIIT. This combined with your credible references make you an excellent candidate. I want you to know that you have earned the respect of my team. I am delighted to advise you that our team has decided to offer you a job. We hope that you will accept."

Through SIIT I learned skills and knowledge in Java programming, networking, database management, and server maintenance. Now, I'm enjoying the experience of working with smart IT people of whom I can gain knowledge. Thank you SIIT for giving me the tools to enable me to succeed in the workforce.





Donna Lee Brown

SIIT Department Health and Community Studies
SIIT Program SIIT Practical Nurse Diploma
Graduated 2005
Campus Saskatoon
First Nation Mistawasis First Nation

I chose SIIT for my Practical Nurse diploma because of funding costs. I had seen that the program existed with other post-secondary organizations, but the costs of these programs were more expensive when compared to that of SIIT.

I enjoyed my experience at SIIT for two years and I got a chance to meet very nice people and the support network was key to our studies. Our class consisted of 16 students and that contributed in working closer together as a team. We had amazing nursing instructors who helped us out all the time. The instructors were always there to help with whatever they could. The facilities were also amazing! We had a lab space right inside the school with all the latest nursing "gadgets."

When I graduated, I began working casually at City Hospital Orthopedics in May, 2005. In same month, only one year later, I took a part-time position at Porteous Lodge, which is a long term care facility. I also continued to work casually at City Hospital during that time. In May 2007, I applied for a full time position at City Hospital in Orthopedics and I have been there ever since.

Donna Lee Ann Brown
Licensed Practical Nurse
City Hospital, Orthopedics



Marie Sand

SIIT Department Adult Basic Education
SIIT Program Adult 12
Campus St. Mary's School, Saskatoon (SIIT)
First Nation Buffalo River Dene Nation

SIIT offered a very supportive atmosphere where I felt motivated to learn and received encouragement from my teachers. There was always someone there to help me and I never felt alone no matter what obstacles I was going through in my life. The instructors and classmates really made me feel comfortable and confident in myself. It was in the classroom where I came to the conclusion that I wanted to further my education and pursue a degree as a Registered Nurse (RN).

I am very grateful for having had the opportunity to finish my grade twelve at SIIT and I would encourage other First Nations people to do the same. I am a single mother of two children and this journey has not always been easy but with lots of perseverance and determination, I have made it to my 4th year of Nursing at the U of S and will be a Registered Nurse by spring 2011. You have to start somewhere so why not start at SIIT. You can set goals and reach them with the right support. Remember you are never alone at SIIT.

Interested in a Career in Health and Community Studies?

SIIT offers the following programs:

- *Community Services Addictions*
- *Practical Nurse Prep*
- *Health Care Aide*
- *Educational Assistant*
- *First Nations Child Care*



Student Recruitment or Enrolment Management Centre
Phone: 306-373-4777 or Toll Free: 1-877-282-5622
Email: studentrecruitment@siit.ca

www.siit.ca

Educating & Training for Over Thirty Years

Pronto Airways Partners with Black Lake Denesuline First Nation



By Eldon Henderson

Northern Saskatchewan is a growing and expanding market for the aviation industry sector. On May 2010, the Black Lake Denesuline First Nation officially acquired 25% of Pronto Airways. “This will lead to economic growth for Black Lake Denesuline First Nation through this new and dynamic limited partnership model,” said Dennis Baranieski, Vice President and General Manager of Pronto Airways.

Edwin Boneleye, Economic Development Portfolio for the Black Lake Denesuline First Nation sees this new business venture as a long-term investment for the band membership, but also the communities Pronto Airways serves.

“It took about two years to seal the business agreement and complete the due diligence work. This was an opportunity that we could not pass up and something we wanted to achieve for several years. Our people have been flying the

skies with other aviation companies and there was no return. Today, we have a stake in the aviation sector,” explained Boneleye.

“First Nation economies need to keep pace with the Saskatchewan economic growth and part of this investment is to look at the future in terms of business spin-offs and the training of our own pilots, journeyman mechanics and administration,” says Boneleye.

Baranieski says, “Pronto Airways is a division of the West Wind Group of Companies and this new partnership is another example of how West Wind Group of Companies is building stronger alliances and sustainable business relations with First Nations.”

“In 2002, the Prince Albert Grand Council and Meadow Lake Tribal Council purchased the majority of shares from West Wind Aviation and made the aviation sector another attractive and



Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies



untapped business sector for First Nations in the Province of Saskatchewan,” stated Baranieski.

Pronto Airways operates 2 Beechcraft 1900C - Jet Prop Airliners which are known as the “Workhorses of the Sky.” Performance, safety and versatility make the 1900C the aircraft of choice in Northern Saskatchewan and seats up to 19 passengers with a pressurized air conditioned cabin.

Pronto Airways is currently flying regularly to Uranium City, Stony Rapids, Points North, Wollaston Lake, Prince Albert and Saskatoon. Seasonal flights include stops in Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake from Mid-May to Mid-September.



Proud to have Aboriginal Ownership

Pronto Airways

Hangar 10, Suite 201, John G. Diefenbaker Airport

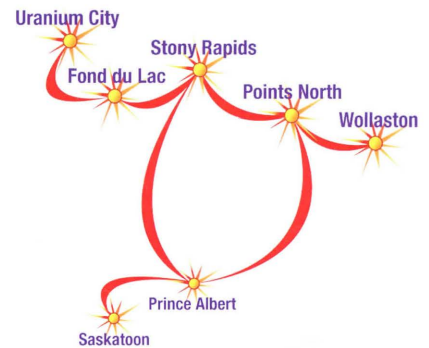
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7L 6S1

Tel: (306) 934-4270 | Fax: (306) 931-4421

Toll Free: **1-877-600-7999**



www.prontoairways.com



Chief Lonechild Looking Towards Youth for the Future

By Cherish Francis



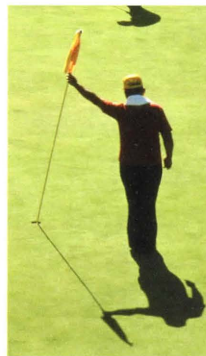
The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations is looking towards a New Era of Leadership. FSIN Chief Guy Lonechild believes in order to move towards that direction today's leadership must involve the youth. On August 18, 2010, Chief Lonechild held his first annual "Enhancing Opportunities" Golf Tournament at the Jackfish Lodge Golf and Conference Centre near Cochin, Saskatchewan.

The money raised from the tournament goes towards the FSIN Youth Foundation Fund. The newly created fund will provide scholarship and bursaries for First Nations youth taking post secondary schooling and training in the province. Chief Lonechild states that Saskatchewan has the fastest growing First Nations population in the province and they need to be educated to contribute to the provincial economy.

"We want to establish a renewed commitment to our youth, the next generation of leaders in the province," said Chief Lonechild. The FSIN Youth Foundation Fund is a commitment from Saskatchewan First Nations leadership to help out

financially struggling post secondary students to attain their dreams and aspirations.

The Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) was a major sponsor of the 1st Annual Enhancing Opportunities Golf Tournament. Robert Daniels is the SIIT Marketing Relations Coordinator and he believes the golf tournament and the money raised is an excellent way to support First Nations youth in the province.



"There is a limited pool of money for First Nations students. This golf tournament fundraiser is a good start to building a fund accessible to post secondary students," said Daniels.

Central Urban Metis Federation Inc. Director, Shirley Isbister suggests Chief Lonechild is showing strong leadership by supporting youth and the financial struggles they face. "The more dollars we can put into youth programs, the better of it is for our youth," said Isbister. "It keeps them active and it gives them opportunity to experience different things in life."



FSIN Post Secondary Education Rally

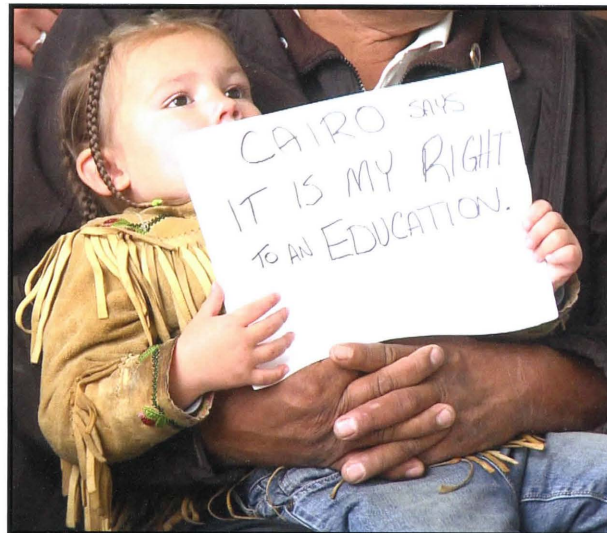
By Cherish Francis



Over 800 First Nations Post Secondary Students, Leaders and Supporters from across the province gathered at the First Nations University of Canada campus in Regina on September 22, 2010 to participate in the FSIN Post Secondary Education Rally. The rally was in response to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's potentially making changes to the Post Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP).

It's rumored INAC will be cutting post secondary education funding significantly or administering funding similar to the Canada Student Loan Process where students will eventually have to pay the money back.

Tamara Cameron from the Beardy's Okemasis Cree Nation is a single parent and relies on post secondary funding from her band to attend classes at the University of Saskatchewan. "To go back to school is a huge financial struggle and without financial support from my band, I don't think I'd be able to be in school," states Cameron. "It scares me to think of where I'd be without the opportunities I've been given with this funding."



FSIN Chief Guy Lonechild, said every First Nation has a Treaty Right to Education. The recent threat of INAC changing PSE funding is taking steps backwards in First Nations education.

Chief Lonechild said INAC should be looking at increasing post secondary education. "Now is the time to invest in our future. The Province of Saskatchewan future depends upon it," said Lonechild. "We need to ensure our First Nations students are a key priority and First Nations deserve a chance like anybody else."

Since 2000, Saskatchewan has seen over 4000 First Nation students graduate from post secondary institutions, but that number could be higher if INAC provided more funding for post secondary. Every year, over 1000 eligible First Nation students are denied funding in the province and 10,000 students are denied across the country.

Assembly of First Nations Chief Shawn Atleo attended the event in Regina and said the AFN will continue to push INAC to fund post secondary students across the country.

"Education is incredibly important for First Nations. It's important for the country to recognize that if we're to unleash our potential, that by 2026 First Nations can close the achievement gap in education and employment," said Atleo. "It would result in a 170 billion dollar contribution to Canada's GDP (Gross Domestic Product)."

Justin Sinclair, a grade 12 student from the Whitebear First Nation attended the rally with his school to show his support because he wants

to attend university to become a doctor without debt to pay back afterwards. "It's important to have funding because if we don't have it, we won't be able to get an education," said Sinclair. "It's hard enough for us to keep clothes on our back and food on the table. For those who want an education won't be able to for that reason, if it's not paid for."

Industry leaders at the rally spoke about the economic spin offs to having more educated First Nations people. It will decrease the need for costly social programs like social assistance, health care and unemployment services.

Indigenous Gaming Regulators (IGR)

Licensed Charities Benefit Community Initiatives

By Winnie Eagle

Indigenous Gaming Regulators (IGR) is happy to maintain the support of the majority of First Nations. We have obtained 71 'designation' BCRs for First Nations that have gaming on their lands. That translates into an incredible 97.2% of First Nations having their on-reserve gaming which are licensed with IGR. As of September 20, 2010, almost 65% of the active Bingos on the original 'Grandfathered Charities List' now have licenses with IGR or have applied for one. Almost 90% of on-reserve charitable gaming is licensed by IGR.

In the last several years, a greater number of First Nations communities have become more familiar with IGR and its mandate to license and regulate its on-reserve gaming activities such as Bingos, Break-opens, Raffles, Texas Hold'em tournaments and Monte Carlo activities.

Community Liaison Officers and Licensing Officers continue to provide assistance to charity groups that want to have their gaming events licensed. IGR staff appreciates the opportunity to travel out to First Nations communities to meet with the charities that are made up of volunteers who dedicate their time and energy to fundraising activities throughout the year to support and maintain on-going services and programs that are not typically funded.

An example of community dedication and commitment is the small community of Hall Lake that had over 500 members who demonstrate this enthusiasm. Several groups of volunteers devote their spare time to organizing and running bingos to fundraise for their children who attend the Sally Ross Elementary School.

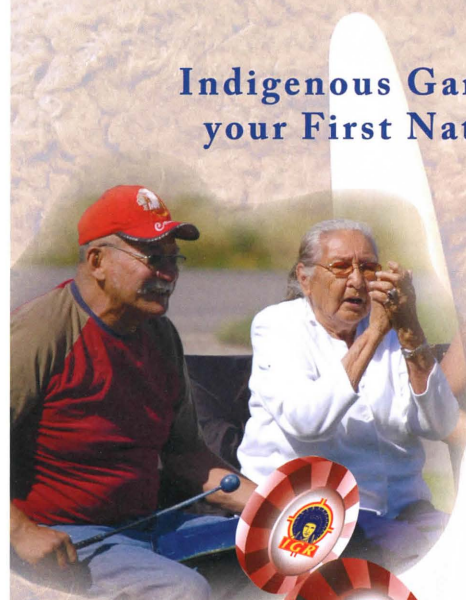
Tina Halkett and Harriet Ross are Special Ed. Tutors and members of the Sally Ross Grad "Commy" who participate in fundraising activities year round for their graduates. In 2010, Hall Lake had six students receiving their grade 12 diploma and celebrated by having a graduation dance and community feast. Some of these graduates are now pursuing post secondary education.

In addition to raising funds for school field trips and educational supplies, they also fundraise for sports and recreational activities, health awareness, cultural camps and community feasts. Dedicated volunteers also raise monies through bingos to help support community members with medical trips, gas for emergency trips, emergency food and funeral expenses.

These initiatives are a great source of support for the community and its membership. By having a license with IGR, the charities will benefit from a 25% grant awarded quarterly based on their reporting. These grants also provide a great source of support to the charities and their mandates.

REGULATING THE FUTURE TO PRESERVE THE PAST

Indigenous Gaming Regulators is your First Nations Institution!



Onion Lake Handgames Players
Photo by SIGA

By supporting IGR in regulating on-reserve gaming, you contribute towards our shared goal, helping achieve full jurisdiction over gaming.

Being licensed brings credibility to First Nations charitable gaming.

Licensed charities are eligible to receive provincial government grants equal to 25% of their net revenues on a quarterly basis.

IGR Licenses and Regulates
On-Reserve Charitable Gaming

- ∞ Bingos
- ∞ SIGA Table Games
- ∞ Breakopens
- ∞ Texas Hold'em
- ∞ Raffles
- ∞ Monte Carlo

Please contact IGR at:

Indigenous Gaming Regulators Inc.
400-203 Packham Avenue
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 4K5
Tel: 306-477-5700 Fax: 306-477-5704
Toll Free: 1-877-477-4114
www.igr.ca



Gaming Dice
Photo by Brad Harrison

Accountability Teamwork Respect Integrity Professionalism

2010 First Nations Circle of Honour Awards

By Cherish Francis

The 2010 First Nations Circle of Honour Awards were held at the Regina Conexus Art Centre on September 13, 2010. Hundreds of people attended the awards ceremony where 26 awards were handed out in nine different categories.

Warren Isbister from the Ahtakakoop First Nation received the Individual Health-Healing Policy Initiative award for the role he plays in raising awareness about Aboriginal Diabetes. He said it's his younger sister Neanna Sasakamoose who inspires him to raise awareness for Diabetes. Sasakamoose was diagnosed with Diabetes at the age of seven and now battles the disease on a daily basis.

Isbister biked from Ottawa to St. John's Newfoundland in the summer of 2009 with the Peacekeepers Pedalling for Aboriginal Diabetes (PPAD.) "I wanted to do as much as I could, not only live a healthy lifestyle but to show her that she can also do the same," said Isbister and adds, "Hopefully she can take that on and carry the torch and live a healthier lifestyle."

FSIN Chief Guy Lonechild said this year's recipients have attained outstanding achievements in many areas. "Opportunities can be had if we pursue education, pursue a better way of life in terms of healthy living," said Lonechild and explained that "One day, First Nations people will form a very strong leadership in this province."

Micheal Linklater from the Thunderchild First Nation received the Amateur Athlete Award. Linklater was the captain of the 2009/2010 University of Saskatchewan Huskies Men's Basketball team and led the Huskies to a CIS National Basketball Title.

"As human beings we set our own limitations. For myself, I didn't set limits. I did whatever it took to get me where I wanted to be," said Linklater. "So for kids out there wanting to do something with their lives and achieve something high, it's up to them to do that. Nobody is going to do that for them."

Deborah Chastis from the Ahtakakoop First Nation received the Women Leadership Award for the work she has done on an international level. Chastis was recently appointed as the Canadian Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam.

"It's a new time for us to take our achievements to the next level. We see a critical role for First Nations youth," said Lonechild. "To see what we can achieve more than what is in our own boundaries of our First Nations but also on a provincial, national and international level."

The First Nations Circle of Honour awards have been handed since 1998 and this year was another successful showcase of outstanding achievements by First Nations from across Saskatchewan.







"Spirit of Our Nations"

FSIN-SIGA POW WOW 2010

October 29, 30, 31

Credit Union Centre
Saskatoon, SK

Grand Entry
Friday, October 29
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 30
12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 31
12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

Registration
October 29
3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

October 30
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Admission
\$10.00 per day
5 yrs. & under FREE!

Head Staff
Announcers
Howard Walker
Sanford Strongarm

Guest Announcer
Jason Goodstriker

Arena Director
Kevin Haywahe

Whip Man
Milton Gamble

Head Drum Judge
Randall Paskiman

Head Drum Judge
Angelo Wasteste

Results
Clayton Crain

Miss FSIN
Amelia Badger



Photo: FSIN Archives

Education Symposium
October 25
Saskatoon Inn
Contact: Kim Quinney
956-1022

Trade Show Booths
Contact: Shelley Mike
667-1876

General Inquiries
Contact: Lorna Arcand
667-1874

\$100,000 Prize Payout

Adults & Golden Age
\$1000, 800, 600, 400, 200

Teen Categories
\$500, 400, 300, 200, 100

Junior Categories
\$300, 200, 150, 100, 50

Drum Competitions
\$5000, 4000, 3000, 2000,
1000, 1000, 1000, 1000

*Year of the Metis
Jigging Competition*
\$1000, 500, 300, 200, 100

Host Hotel
Saskatoon Inn
1-800-667-8789




For more information please visit www.fsin.com.

7th Annual Aboriginal Music Festival (AMF)

Building Pride in Sa

By Raul Munoz

Each fall the Aboriginal Music Festival (AMF) enriches and deepens the experience of community and culture with inspiring performances of blues, rock, traditional, hip-hop and diverse performers. Some of the past and notable performances included rock and blues sensation George Leach, Grammy Award Winner Star Nayera, Juno Award Winners Leela Gilday and Chester Knight, Canadian Aboriginal Music Award Winners Eekwol, Jay Ross, Winston Wuttunee and Reddnation, Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards Winner Billy Joe Green and rising-stars Tracy Bone and JC Campbell.

The 7th Annual Aboriginal Music Festival (AMF) will be held on Friday, October 29, 2010 at TCU Place and once again offers a luminous lineup of North America's TOP Aboriginal artists. The AMF will have more than 20 musical performances, 60-career fair booth, over 150 door prizes and 12 leadership workshops during a one-day celebration of art, music, culture and education. "The festival draws top musicians from around North America for an unparalleled combination of performances and music education," said Lindsay Knight (Eekwol), a current AMF committee member and past performer. The AMF is currently registered by WestJet as one of the TOP 100 festivals in all Canada.

The Aboriginal Music Festival originally established as way to raise funds for youth programming has grown over the course of seven years into a Category 1 event for the City of Saskatoon and the Province of Saskatchewan. According to the AMF Committee, the aim of the Festival is two-fold, one is to provide a platform for emerging Aboriginal artists to be recognized and share a program with well-known entertainers from all over the country. The second aim is to support Youth Development Leadership Programs, essentially programs designed to cultivate confidence and community spirit in Aboriginal youth.



Alex Munoz, co-founder of the Aboriginal Music Festival and Manager of the Indigenous Peoples Program at the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education, University of Saskatchewan explained, "When Dr. Pricilla Settee and I came up with the concept we had no idea of the pool of talent out there or the demand to see such a show. It's amazing to think that only a few years ago we started out with 15 acts at Amigos with maybe 150 people taking the show in. Today, we are packing the house with 3000 people at TCU Place bringing in the very best of today's Aboriginal Music Scene."

True to the spirit of the festival's theme this year, "Building Pride in Saskatchewan's Youth," the 7th Annual Aboriginal Music Festival will consist of leadership workshops and music entertainment. The morning/afternoon portion of the festival will have a Career Fair/Workshop component attached to it, "it's free for everyone, and we encourage interested employers to set up a booth, we also encourage schools to bring their students, attend a leadership seminar and learn about what's out there in terms of a potential career or learning opportunity," said Alex Munoz.

Saskatchewan's Youth

The AMF gala event will feature top aboriginal musicians and celebrities from all over North America. A night filled with exceptional music and a great crowd, "It is one of Saskatchewan's biggest music festivals that promotes your music and a great networking opportunity to help you in the future," said John J. Cook from the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation and who is a longtime performer at the AMF.

AMF Tickets are available at McNally Robinson Bookstore, University of Saskatchewan Kiosk (Place Riel) or by calling (306) 966-5539 for \$10.00 (advance) or \$20 (at the door) and youth (15 and under are free). Please visit the Aboriginal Music Festival (AMF) online at www.ccde.usask.ca/go/amf for more information on artists, performers, workshops or setting up a booth or exhibit.



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN
Centre for Continuing
& Distance Education

7th Annual

ABORIGINAL Music Festival

Career Fair • Youth Leadership Workshops • Music Festival Gala

Friday, October 29

Keith Secola • New Horizon • Billy Joe Green • Gabriel Ayala • Inez
Ed Peekeekoot • Eekwol • Black Rain • Just the Boyz • Violet Naytowhow • John J. Cook
Mykal Gambull • Kevin Arcand • Jason Chamakese (CD Release) • Robert Gladue • Krystle Pederson
Nosedive • Constant Reminder • Bass Invaders • Dory Cook • Wanita Bird • BLU
MC's: Cal "Crazy Legz" Arcand and Larissa Burnouf



TCU PLACE • SASKATOON, SK

CAREER FAIR: 9:00 am-2:00 pm • FREE

MUSIC FESTIVAL GALA: 6:00 pm-12:00 midnight • \$10 Advanced, \$20 at the Door

For tickets call 966.5539

ccde.usask.ca/go/amf



INDIAN WORDS

By Darryl Chamakese, Cree Language Developer,
Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre (SICC)

Our First Nations languages are integral to our distinctiveness as First Nations people. To speak any of the eight languages, néhiyawéwin, nihithawíwin, néhinawíwin, Nahkáwé, Dene, Lakota, Nakota or Dakota offers a special and unique look at our surroundings and our world. They are spiritual languages entrusted to us to transfer and transmit to the generations to come.

All First Nations languages are attached to the land, culture and ceremonies. When we speak these languages, we pay respect to these sacred gifts entrusted to us by the Creator. Elders remind us that our languages are spiritual and when we do not speak them that "spirit goes elsewhere." It is important to learn our First Nation languages so we can pass onto future generations and sustain our identity. This includes our ceremonies, prayers and songs.

"Iskotéw" (means more than just fire)

Very often we think in English, take for example the word "iskotéw." To explain the word we jump into English mode and say it means "fire." Ka-néhiyaw-mámitonéyihcikéyahk or "thinking in Plains Cree" the word takes on a deeper meaning. The word is two "néhiyaw" words collapsed into one. The first one is "iskwéw" (woman) and the second word is "otéh" (heart). "Iskotéw", literally means "woman's heart."

"Fire" provides comfort, warmth and security to us as a woman provides life, balance and security to her children, family and community.

Learning and speaking our languages is of the utmost importance. If you know some words, use them. If you do not know any, acquire them! "kiskinwahamáso, ápachitá, néhiyawátisi" (Learn it, use it and live it).



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Fun Sun VACATIONS



Bold Eagle Celebrates 21 Years of Success

By Cherish Francis

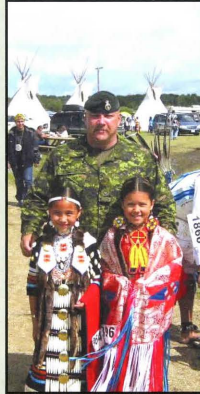


Bold Eagle is a unique summer program that combines military training along with Aboriginal culture and customs. The Aboriginal youth development program takes place over six weeks and focuses on four key principles; self-discipline, self confidence, team building and physical fitness.

The program was developed 21 years ago by the Department of National Defense in partnership with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The summer program consists of two parts: a week long culture camp followed by a five week Canadian Forces Army Reserve Basic Military Qualification course known as basic training.

Bold Eagle has graduated over 1000 recruits from the development program and added an additional 86 Aboriginal Youth graduates this past summer. Recruits graduated on August 19, 2010 at the Canadian Force Base in Wainwright, Alberta.

Cara Ladouceur is one of this year's Bold Eagle graduates and explained the program was a life changing process. "It's an amazing experience and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to try something different for the summer and just want to get out of the reserve," said Ladouceur.



At the age of 17, Ladouceur is on her way to completing her grade twelve on the Saulteaux First Nation this year. After graduation, she plans to attend the Military University in Borden, Ontario and become a psychologist with the Canadian Forces. "My experience was really amazing and really life changing. You could tell everyone was changing and everyone in my platoon grew on each other. We've become close," said Ladouceur.

Major Nolan Kemp is Coordinator for the Bold Eagle Program and said, "Many Bold Eagle graduates continue on from this program to join the Canadian Forces for a full time career or join a primary reserve near their home community. In 2009, we had 60% of the graduates move on to the Canadian Forces."

FSIN Vice Chief Dutch Lerat believes its important to have youth development programs like Bold Eagle. "At the end of the day, we have very focused young men and women who will be apart of the communities and hopefully provide some positive role models for the future and future generations. To be selected as a Bold Eagle program is not an easy process," said Vice Chief Lerat.

Contact Major Nolan Kemp, Bold Eagle Program Coordinator at 403.410.2320 Ext 3555 or email: nolan.kemp@forces.gc.ca or visit www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle for more

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Saskatchewan Indian

“Developing First Nation Entrepreneurs” By Terry Brodziak

SIEF will be marking 25 years of providing lending and business services to First Nations across Saskatchewan. Established in 1986, Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation Inc. (SIEF) offers commercial and agriculture lending and business consulting services to First Nations businesses in Saskatchewan. SIEF's mission is “Growing the First Nation entrepreneurial spirit by being leaders in providing innovative financial products and services”. The Saskatoon Head Office is based on the Asimakaniseekan Askiy Reserve and the Regina and North Battleford sub offices also provide business consulting services.

SIEF is committed to developing a strong economic base among First Nations in Saskatchewan and continues to assist in the creation of jobs and to foster economic growth for First Nations people. SIEF employs 11 staff. These well qualified and business minded individuals are dedicated to providing exceptional business lending and consulting services for their clients. SIEF is governed by a board of directors that consist of 7 board members, made up in the following manner (2) appointed by FSIN, (2) representing the business sector, (2) representing the agriculture sector, and (1) representing the financial services sector.

In 2010, SIEF has begun to offer business training i.e. accounting software courses and bookkeeping workshops to First Nation entrepreneurs that cannot attend courses offered at other colleges due to time constraints or other reasons that may interrupt their businesses. In addition to lending and business services, loans management and business service staff continually visit communities to ensure clients have the resources required to sustain efficient operations.

History

In the early 1980's, the need to establish a lending corporation was identified by the corporation's membership, the 74 First Nations of Saskatchewan. At the time, the First Nations, federal and provincial governments and the business community realized that a key component needed to generate economic development and jobs in the First Nations community was access to capital. Traditional business financing was not readily available for many First Nation people nor was it available to many First Nation bands. SIEF came from concept to reality in 1986 to fill this business financing need and serve a niche market for First Nation entrepreneurs.

SIEF was the first Aboriginal Financial Institution (AFI) of the 59 AFI's currently in existence across Canada. In terms of the number of loans provided SIEF leads this category in lending more than \$62 million to First Nation entrepreneurs creating more than 3200 businesses and generating approximately 7,000 jobs over 25 years of operations. As of March 31, 2010, SIEF has reached a milestone of being the first entrepreneurial based Aboriginal Financial Institution to surpass the 50 million dollar mark in loan repayments. This speaks well for the entire institution's client base in making this achievement possible. This is great news and accolades must go to the people who had the vision to make SIEF what it is today.

In 2003, SIEF underwent significant restructuring. There was a need to balance expenditures, streamline operations and expand the corporation's ability to compete in the lending and investment market. As a result, the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company Ltd. (SILCO) and Inpro West Investment Corporation (INPRO) were then amalgamated into SIEF. The overall goal of the amalgamation was to increase operational efficiency, formalize investment strategies, increase membership control, improve communications and marketing, and improve access to current and new capital markets.

Highlights

- Loan portfolio value of approximately \$6.1 Million;
- Since 1986 lent over \$62 Million and created approximately 7,000 jobs;
- Resource Centre;
- Business Services Office reopened;
- Built and moved into new office complex at Muskeg Lake;
- Administers the Youth Livestock Program, launched in 2002 through the initiative of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Agricultural Task Force and SIEF.

Equity Foundation Inc.

Entrepreneurial and Business Spirit..."

Our 25th Year Celebration

SIEF will be marking the 25th Anniversary in 2011 with special events, prizes, and business plan competition for youth wishing to become entrepreneurs. As part of the celebration, SIEF is planning a "Sustainability" conference, which will provide businesses with the tools and techniques necessary to improve operational performance. Speakers will be invited to discuss how to operate sustainable businesses and address issues such as the current economic climate. Other events will include a community barbeque and gala. Event details will be announced in the coming months. If you

would like to sign up to receive updates on events or contests, please submit an inquiry at info@sief.sk.ca.

For more information on the upcoming 25th Anniversary events, please visit our website at www.sief.sk.ca or contact our Saskatoon Head Office at:

Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation Inc.
Asimakaniseekan Askiy Reserve
202A Joseph Okemasis Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1
Phone: (306) 955-4550 Fax: (306) 373-4969

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Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation Inc.

sief.sk.ca

Kawacatoose First Nation Rebuild

By Cherish Francis



Life changed dramatically for the people of the Kawacatoose First Nation on July 2, 2010. A powerful F3 tornado touched down on the community destroying and damaging nearly 30 homes and leaving over 100 people homeless. Environment Canada estimated the wind hit 250 kilometres per hour. Fortunately, no one was killed but the destructive storm will stay with the band members of Kawacatoose for a long time.

Candace Rosling's house was completely destroyed in the tornado and said it was a complete shock to see the devastation left in the community. "When we came out of the house all we seen was destruction. The first thing we thought of was our neighbors and our family members that lived in the area," said Rosling.

Damage was estimated to be over two million dollars while the homes on the reserve were insured by the band, but the victim's personal items were not. Donations of clothing and household items poured into the community from across the country. "We were happy to be getting all of it and people have utilized it and will utilize it until our homes are built," said Rosling and suggested that, "We still need dollars for the overall infrastructure."

The Chief and Council of the Kawacatoose First Nation have worked tirelessly to help the community move forward. The First Nation set up the Kawacatoose Relief and Rebuild Fund with the Royal Bank of Canada. The goal is to raise \$1.5 million dollars to rebuild the community. So far, the community has received two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in donations.

Photos by Eldon Henderson

g its Community Infrastructure

"The cost of a home is pretty expensive to replace. So, the rebuild fund that is put in place will be used to cover the cost," said Chief Darin Poorman of the Kawacatoose First Nation. "Hopefully we can reach that goal and build good quality homes for our people."

Transitional housing for tornado victims has been acquired and clean up is complete, but the Kawacatoose First Nation is having issues getting cash in hand from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and their insurance company. Construction of new houses has yet to begin.

For Candice Rosling, she hopes someday her life returns to back to normal with a house to call home. "I've worked hard to put things in my house and I was very proud to call it my own. For it to be completely destroyed one day and you know that starting over will be difficult," said Rosling. "I know it will get done, but I want to go home. I want to have a home."

The Kawacatoose First Nation is still accepting cash donations through the Royal Bank of Canada.

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Phone: 306.979.8055 Fax: 306.979.2044 Cell: 306.551.9660 Email: dross@oneearthfarms.net
Address: #325-2555 Grasswoods Road East, Saskatoon, SK S7T 0K1

Sask Indian Role Models

By Eldon Henderson

Name: Jarron Yee

Date of Birth: January 23, 1978

First Nation: Wood Mountain First Nation

High School: Thom Collegiate, Regina, SK

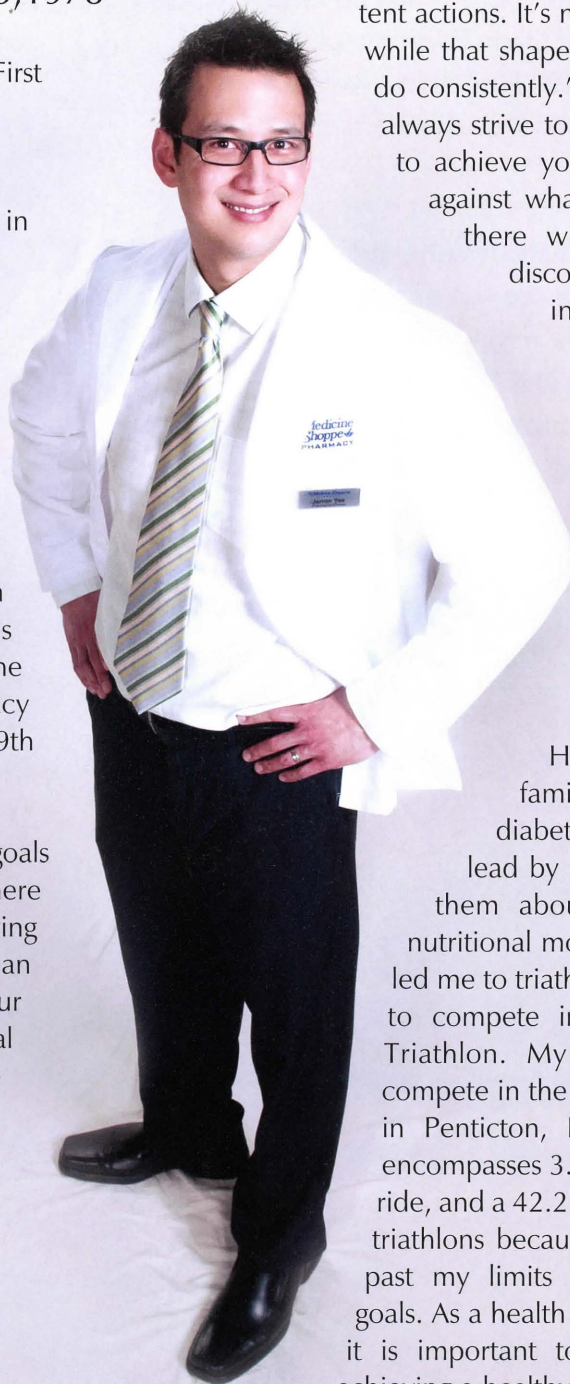
Education: Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, University of Saskatchewan

Favorite Food Restaurant: The Keg

First Language: English

Jarron Yee is 32 years old and graduated with Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Saskatchewan in 2006 and recently opened his own pharmacy store called the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy located in Regina on 2310 9th Avenue North.

Advice: Always set defined goals and continue to evaluate where you are with regards to achieving your goals. You must develop an action plan to accomplish your goal. It is one thing to have a goal in mind, but it is another to have a plan or a systematic approach to achieve your goal. A goal without a plan is called a dream, where as a goal with an action plan will be a reality.



I follow the quote, "In essence, if we want to direct our lives, we must take control of our consistent actions. It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives, but what we do consistently." I believe that you must always strive to constantly push yourself to achieve your goals, even if it goes against what others think. At times there will be people trying to discourage you and lead you in a different direction. Keep your goal in mind and persevere through the tough times and you will be rewarded. Nothing in life is achieved without a little self sacrifice, dedication and focus on the tasks at hand.

Hobbies: After witnessing family and friends live with diabetes, I made it my goal to lead by example and to educate them about proper lifestyle and nutritional modification. This path has led me to triathlons. My goal this year is to compete in the Calgary Ironman Triathlon. My long term goal is to compete in the Subaru Ironman Canada in Penticton, British Columbia which encompasses 3.8 km swim, 180 km bike ride, and a 42.2 km run. I am attracted to triathlons because I love pushing myself past my limits and achieving personal goals. As a health care professional, I think it is important to lead by example on achieving a healthy lifestyle.

Only a Matter of Time: Youth & Elder Summit

FSIN LANDS AND RESOURCES SECRETARIAT

On August 9-12, 2010, the FSIN Lands and Resources Secretariat hosted the “Only A Matter of Time: Youth and Elder Summit” at the Wanuskewin Heritage Park. First Nation youth and Elders from across Canada came together to discuss various environmental issues and challenges facing First Nations people.

A strong partnership was developed between the FSIN Lands and Resources Secretariat and the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC), National Centre for First Nations Governance (NCFNG), Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre (SICC) and Wanuskewin Heritage Park to make for a successful event.

The conference opened with an evening reception that featured two very interesting keynote speakers. The first was Tom Goldtooth from the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) that centers on the global awareness surrounding the devastation of the Canadian Oil Sands. The second feature was Don Burnstick, a well known comedian who reminded us that First Nations have always been humorous and caring people.

A tipi village was set up for the participants to camp out throughout the three days, while most of the conference was held under a main tent to accommodate the more than 100 delegates.

There was one conference theme that emerged to be the centre of discussion and that was how can “First Nations youth play a vital role in sustaining Mother Earth?” The Elders’ shared their teachings and concerns of their ancestral lands and helped guide the youth in building a sustainable path for generations to come. The youth were excited to participate in the workshops and some questioned the future and were not afraid to voice their opinions and offered great ideas throughout the sessions.

During the last day of the conference, participants heard from Chief Arvol Looking Horse who is the 19th Generation Keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe Bundle. He spoke about prophecies and stressed our way of knowing is the way of protecting Mother Earth and not to forget unity, peace and reconciliation are important elements of our First Nation’s Culture.

Chief Looking Horse’s presentation was a great way to wrap up the conference and he left participants with a sense of urgency and responsibility that has always been the role of Indigenous people as stewards of their traditional lands.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP SESSIONS

- First Nations, the Environment & Responsibilities
- Indigenous Knowledge & Research
- Environmental Protection
- Treaties and Treaty Rights
- Sustainable Best Practices

Sâkaw Askiy Forest Management New Forestry Agreement

On October 14, 2010, the Government of Saskatchewan represented by Energy and Resources Minister Bill Boyd and Environment Minister Dustin Duncan signed an agreement with Sâkaw Askiy Forest Management Inc. at the Forestry Centre in Prince Albert.

Sâkaw now has the responsibility to oversee the Prince Albert Forest Management Agreement (FMA) 3.3 million hectare that was previously managed by Domtar and held in the name of Weyerhaeuser. Almost two million cubic metres of wood volume from the FMA will be shared by the Montreal Lake Cree Nation (MLCN) and Agency Chiefs Tribal Council (ACTC) and six forestry companies.

Sâkaw Askiy Forest Management Inc.
Member Shareholders

- A.C. Forestry Ltd. (Agency Chiefs Tribal Council)
- Carrier Forest Products Ltd.
- Edgewood Forest Products Inc.
- L&M Forest Products Limited Partnership
- Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp Inc.
- Montreal Lake Business Ventures Ltd. (Montreal Lake Cree Nation)
- NorSask Forest Products & Tolko Industries

The FMA is being described as historic partnership by both the government and First Nations involved. "The cornerstone to this agreement is generating long-term training, employment and enterprise opportunities for our community membership and building a solid foundation with all the partners under the business entity of Sâkaw Askiy Forest Management Inc.," said Chief Roger Bird. "Sâkaw Askiy means 'forest land' in Cree and the naming of the 'Limited Partnership' was welcomed by all the parties," explained Chief Bird.



"Sâkaw's unique partnership structure melds the expertise of established players in the forest industry with the energy and investment interests of area First Nations," Boyd said. "With secure wood supplies, Sâkaw's member companies are well positioned to compete in new global markets with more value-added wood products, and First Nations will be more fully engaged in forest businesses and in the new opportunities that our evolving forest industry presents."

"Long-term agreements continue to be an important tool for forest management in Saskatchewan, to ensure sustainable harvest and full renewal while providing security of wood supply to the forest company," Duncan said. "The forest management agreement we're signing today confirms the commitment of both government and industry to maintaining both a healthy forest and a healthy forest industry."



Photos by Brad Fenty

Management Inc.

nt By Eldon Henderson

The ministers noted that the agreements assigning the FMA to Sâkaw will confirm wood supplies for seven mills in five communities, allowing those mills to operate close to capacity.

"Our vision was to create an innovative, made-in-Saskatchewan business construct that would position the Saskatchewan forest industry for success by leveraging the strengths of its shareholders with a world-class forest resource and a results-based regulatory environment," Sâkaw President Dave Knight said. "Today is truly a testimony of what can happen when government, First Nations and industry work together."

Bob Gerow, Executive Director, Agency Chiefs Tribal Council (ACTC) believes the FMA signing allows ACTC to become a major player in Saskatchewan's forestry industry. "Our leadership, Chief Morin, Chief Lewis and Chief Jim have worked very hard to bring this about. It will mean a new and brighter future for our children and grandchildren. There is a sense of pride, promise and opportunity for our band members in the forestry sector."

The next stage for ACTC and MLCN is to explore all the opportunities that will realize all the economic, employment and development from the new FMA acquisition. "The First Nation's culture,

traditions and Elders teachings must be embodied in all actions that happen. The Wall Government has shown that when First Nations and the Provincial Government can work together and be successful when engaging as equal partners," stated Gerow. "Having the Sâkaw office stationed in the City of Prince Albert adds value to the overall FMA business operations as PA is the gateway to the north," said, Gerow.

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- Aboriginal First Year Experience Program (AFYEP)
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WHAT WE DO:

- Inform Survivors and communities of all aspects of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) such as the Common Experience Payment (CEP), the Independent Assessment Process (IAP), the Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC), Commemoration, Appeals;
- Advise Government departments and stakeholder organizations on issues of concern for Survivors and communities;
- Outreach to the homeless, incarcerated and hospitalized populations;
- Personal one on one meetings with individuals and small office groups;
- Large group meetings and gatherings;
- Present information sessions and workshops for Survivors at First Nations and for frontline workers across the province;
- Participate on regional and national committees to advance issues of importance on behalf of survivors and communities in Saskatchewan.

Deadline for Common Experience Payment is September 19, 2011
Deadline for Independent Assessment Process is September 19, 2012

Please call our office if your legal fees are too high and the law office representing you has taken more than 1 or 2 years to process your Common Experience Payment (CEP) or Independent Assessment Process (IAP).



CURRENT OBJECTIVES:

- Continuing outreach to Survivors and strengthening outreach to remote communities;
- Assisting Survivors in the CEP appeals processes;
- Assisting communities to participate in the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and in Commemorative activities;
- Continuing to provide information to Survivors on the Independent Assessment Process, their rights, legal aspects, hearing, and future care;
- Continuing discussions on the impacts Survivors and communities experience as a result of participating in any aspect of the IRSSA;
- Advocating to ensure that adequate support systems are in place to support Survivors.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS:

Upon invitation, FSIN's staff will travel to First Nations Communities to provide information workshops, which are focused on;

- Independent Assessment Process (IAP)
- Truth & Reconsideration Commission (TRC)
- Commemoration
- Common Experience Payment (CEP)
- Reconciliation
- Appeals

Participants are engaged in discussions to identify locally relevant solutions to the impacts already experienced in their communities. Along with a Power Point Presentation, a resource guide is distributed to all participants. The guide was developed by the residential school staff to provide Frontline Workers and Survivors with the information they request most often. To request a community presentation or a copy of the guide, contact us at the information provided.

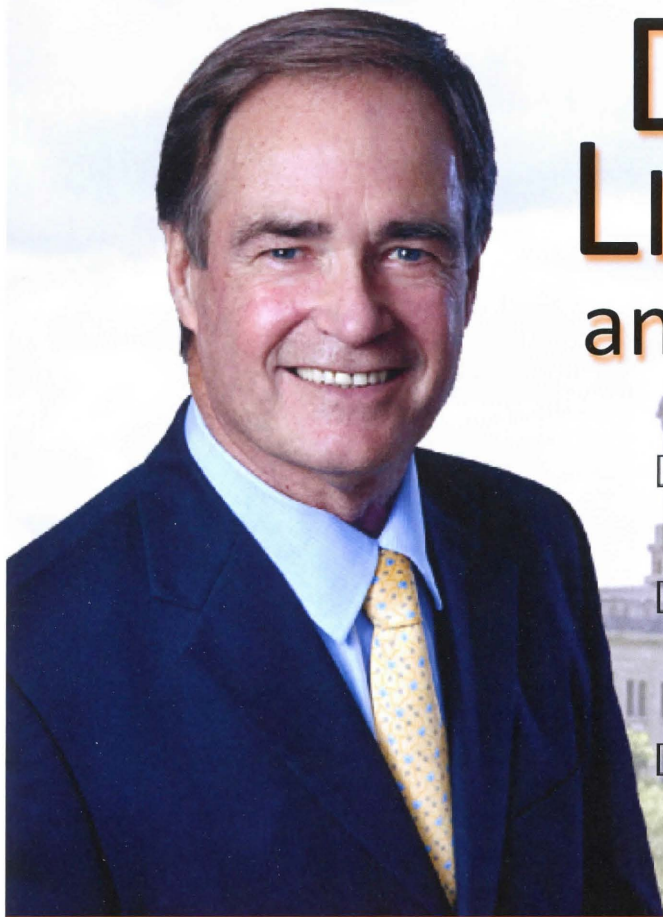
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• Photos courtesy of Philip Morin



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