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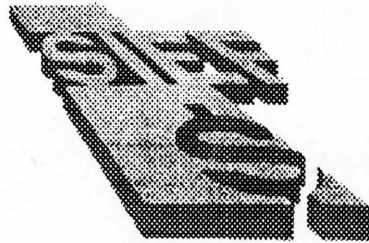
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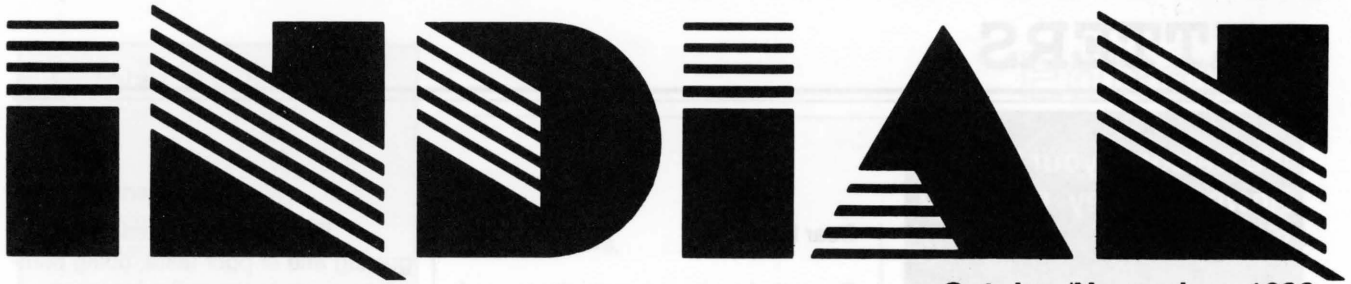
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# SASKATCHEWAN



October/November, 1988

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRE  
 120-33rd STREET EAST  
 SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN  
 S7K 0S2

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### Alcohol & Drug Abuse

- 4A .....INDIAN SUICIDES: Its relationship to Drugs and Alcohol  
By Sid Fiddler
- 11A ..... How Do You Say No?
- 11A .....DRUG FREE? Tips for Teens
- 11A .....ADOLESCENTS and Why They Should Not Use Alcohol
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## On The Cover

Jerry Whitehead, from the James Smith Reserve, holds two university degrees in fine arts. This month's cover, entitled "Vibrations" incorporates bands of beadwork on the otherwise two-dimensional drawing.

Jerry is currently completing a commissioned 7' x 8' painting using this beadwork device for the University Hospital in Saskatoon.

# LETTERS

**We welcome your letters. However, they must be signed.**

**You may withhold your name from the publication if you wish.**

Dear Editor,

In a recent trip to Ottawa, for the Canadian Council for Native Youth Business Workshop, I crossed paths with a person from Regina who introduced me to your magazine, the *Saskatchewan Indian*.

Since I've received it, I've read it thoroughly from cover to cover. It is a truly interesting and informative magazine.

What caught my interest was the fact that the communities in the Saskatchewan district are involved in similar activities that we in south-western Ontario are involved in.

From sports to pow-wows to land claims to self government, we as natives share the same aspiring goals in life.

Kelly Nicholas  
Southwold, Ontario

Dear Editor,

I would like to say thank you for a very informative newspaper. All that has been printed has excelled the value of any other Indian Newspaper ever written-Canadian or American. The articles are rare and excellent. Thank your staff for their hard work.

Ms. Shirley Gamble  
Duck Lake, Sask.

Dear Editor,

Recently I had an opportunity to read the April '88 issue of the Saskatchewan Indian which contained an interesting letter on native handicapped people.

While the article tried to relay the anger and frustration of the author's inability to live a normal lifestyle in view of his disabilities, the cartoon pictured on page fourteen did nothing to win support for his cause.

The caption under this cartoon, which showed a man in a wheelchair exposing his genitals to a female said, "He tries so hard to be normal".

The activities of this particular wheelchair-bound man are not normal and should never be considered normal.

The cartoon was certainly disgusting and of poor taste, doing nothing to promote the author's viewpoint. In fact, it did a great disservice.

Disabled persons do have the same sexual desires and needs that all people have. To portray these needs in such a crude, insensitive manner lowers, in my estimation, the artist, author and in fact, you the editor.

I think it is time you re-examined your own ideas about disabled persons and realize that while you may have thought it appropriate, it certainly was not.

By displaying this cartoon you have done a great injustice to all disabled people.

Cynthia Merriman  
La Ronge, Sask.



October, 1988

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# Editorial

Dear Readers,

The *Saskatchewan Indian* is managed and directed by a Board of concerned citizens who recognize the need for communications in Indian country.

As you know, since a Conservative government was elected in Saskatchewan in 1982, provincial money was pulled for Indian communications and your paper was shut down for lack of funds. Since that time the *Saskatchewan Indian* was published only once in a long while or not at all.

But last year a small group of people said, "Enough is enough. Let's try and find some money." Well, they did. For the first time in the history of the federal government's Department of the Secretary of State, funds were released to the interim board of the Saskatchewan Indian Media Corporation to publish twelve issues of the *Saskatchewan Indian* per year.

In June of this year, the interim board was dissolved and the permanent board was set up. A condition of the funding agency is that the Board be "at arms length" from our political body. What this means is that Chiefs, FSIN Executive and district representatives do not sit on the board. Instead, districts appoint non-elected people with a personal interest and/or experience in media communications.

What this doesn't mean is that the *Saskatchewan Indian* is apolitical or non-political. Magazines and newspapers reflect the society they serve: *McLeans*, *Saturday Night*, the *Star Phoenix*, the *Regina Leader Post* all report on politics. And they report on a whole lot of other issues which are of concern to the people who buy their publications.

The *Saskatchewan Indian* strives to reflect the Indian society it serves. But in order to continue, we need your support. Our paper has had a long tradition of being distributed free to all Saskatchewan Indians. But traditions change out of need or because they have outrun their usefulness.

The Saskatchewan Indian Media Corporation received \$100,000 this year from Secretary of State. We employ only two people full time - an editor and one reporter. It is costing us \$196,000 to publish twelve issues this year, pay the rent, printing costs and salaries.

We are operating on a 'shoestring'. We squeak by from month to month. We want very much to put the magazine out on a regular basis. It's good for business. It's good for our collective reputation as Saskatchewan Indians.

The way we can succeed is with your support. We need your subscriptions or if you operate a business or institution, we need your advertising.

We will be developing a subscription strategy and arranging bulk sales of the *Saskatchewan Indian* to bands.

We need you. Will you support the *Saskatchewan Indian*?

Beth Cuthand  
President  
SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN MEDIA  
CORPORATION

# Crowe Re-Elected for Second Term

By Gloria Ledoux

This month, Chiefs and councillors of the 72 Saskatchewan Indian Bands went to the polls to elect the chief, second vice, fourth vice, and the treasurer positions of the FSIN.

Chief Roland Crowe, from Piapot was re-elected for a second term as chief of the FSIN.

Crowe campaigned on his track record and the respect he has shown for leaders. He also urged Saskatchewan chiefs to build a solid foundation for our children, so that the FSIN may better represent, fight and stand for treaties.

Crowe stated that he believes in meetings with the district and band

levels to better understand our frustrations and problems. The downsizing of the executive will also be seriously considered. The first vice-chief position vacated by Vern Bellegarde, PTNA chief will not be filled.

Crowe is married with five children. He served as chief of his band for three terms and one term as band councillor. He also served as second vice-chief of the FSIN for two years.

Chief Crowe defeated Incumbant, second vice-chief Wayne Ahenakew by polling 187 votes to Ahenakew's 133.

In his speech, Ahenakew called for unity "We are weak as we are. It is

very crucial that we stand together and place our treaties where they should be. Let us not let our treaties die, let us not step back, let us not compromise. To the contenders who did not win, let us help in strengthening the organization that is vastly recognized in the strength and unity that we have carried and prevailed over the years."

Ahenakew says we have to be loud, we have to be powerful and we can't be powerful unless we stand together, united.

As Chief of the Federation, Crowe's responsibilities will include the office of the chief, senate, past presidents, Indian government commission, federal and provincial relations, urban Indians, PTNA and communications. □

## NATIONAL NATIVE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM

### *A Health & Welfare Canada Initiative*

NNADAP activities are targeted towards Native status Indians on Reserve  
 NNADAP activities include:

#### **A Community Based Approach to Prevention and Treatment**

- ✓ Community Prevention Program
- ✓ In-patient and outpatient treatment services
- ✓ Training of project workers in prevention and treatment
- ✓ Initiatives in Research and development
- ✓ Contributions for the construction of treatment facilities

**The NNADAP Program was established in 1982 to deliver Community based and Culturally Appropriate Abuse-Prevention and Treatment Services to Indian and Inuit Communities.**

Bernice Thall, NNADAP Project Officer (NPO), Prince Albert Zone

#### **Providing services to Prince Albert & Saskatoon Districts and Shellbrook Agency**

- ✓ Provide consultation
- ✓ Act as a resource person
- ✓ Assist in Coordination of program activities
- ✓ Assist in planning workshops, conferences, meetings
- ✓ Provide updated material and information in the area of alcohol and drug abuse
- ✓ Act as liaison between band projects and medical services
- ✓ Assist in coordinating training activities for community workers and developing curriculum
- ✓ Reviewing project proposals and advising on appropriateness
- ✓ Monitoring operational and financial reports
- ✓ Networking between projects and other relevant agencies

**(306) 764-9111**

### **Prince Albert and Saskatoon District Reps Elected**

In addition to the election for the FSIN executive, two districts, Saskatoon and Prince Albert, held elections for district representatives at the same time.

In the Prince Albert district Allan J. Felix from the Sturgeon Lake Band defeated Milton Burns from the James Smith Band, in his bid for re-election. Felix topped the polls at 50 to 33. Southern assistant district representative will be Art Roberts polling 43 votes. Roberts' contender, Malcolm Sanderson of James Smith had 30 votes.

For the Athabasca Representative, a tie between Joe Bigeye and Marie-Rose Yooya will go to a second ballot at a later date.

Saskatoon District Chiefs Tribal Council held their elections on September 4 in Saskatoon. Lester Lafond from Muskeg Lake, was defeated in his bid for re-election to Joe Quwezance from Nut Lake Band.

Joe Quwezance polled 20 votes to Lafond's 15. □

# Daniels, Bellegarde and Peeace New FSIN Executive Members

By Gloria Ledoux

Dan Bellegarde was acclaimed to the position of second vice-chief, while Henry Daniels and George Peeace emerged victorious for the positions of fourth vice-chief and treasurer respectively.

James Whitehawk and incumbent Henry Daniels squared off for the position of fourth vice-chief with Daniels emerging victorious.

In his campaign speech, Daniels says it has been a privilege and honor to serve Indian people of Saskatchewan. His priorities are the principles of treaties and treaty rights; the principles of Indian self government and of grassroots leadership.

Daniels topped the polls with 243 to Whitehawk's 77.

Undaunted by his defeat, James Whitehawk claimed he would be back to run again.

Daniels, 38, is from the Sturgeon Lake Band. He is married with four daughters. Daniels served in the capacity of band councillor for eight years, four years as a chief of his band and the last two years as fourth vice-chief of the FSIN. Whitehawk is from the Cote Band. He is married with two children.

His experience includes six years as a courtworker and program director for the Yorkton Friendship Centre, a child care worker, community health representative and a band councillor.

Dan Bellegarde was acclaimed second vice-chief. He was nominated by chief Henry Naytowhow from Montreal Lake.

Bellegarde, from Little Black Bear stated that he felt honored and somewhat confused by the fact that he got in by acclamation on his first at-

tempt in the political arena. Bellegarde stated he would like to end conflict and fragmentation among the districts, bands, the provincial organizations and national organizations. He also believes in a negotiated approach to develop and protect our treaty rights. "I hope we can work together in an atmosphere of mutual trust and cooperation for the betterment of our people, the protection of treaty and growth of the Indian nations."

Bellegarde will work with the North Battleford district. His portfolio duties will be: treaty rights and research, lands, membership, the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre, and international affairs.

## Daniels Resigns

Henry Daniels resigned his position as FSIN fourth vice-chief after his election as chief of the Sturgeon Lake band on October 21.

He defeated incumbent chief Wesley Daniels by eighteen votes.

The six successful candidates for council are: Darryl Kingfisher, Gary W. Daniels; Sandra Longjohn, Leslie Badger, William John Turner and John Naytowhow.

Electoral officer, Earl Ermine of Sturgeon Lake said there were 609 eligible voters; 387 voters cast their ballots for a sixty-four percent turnout. Sturgeon Lake Band is under Band custom and they have their own election act. □

Peeace campaigned for "protection of treaty". Peeace said, "Let's get land entitlement back on the table and start transferring lands to reserve status."

In the area of health, Peeace says band clinics are not being replenished with their supplies as they should be. Medical transportation is being regulated not to fit the need, but to fit the restraint policy. If something is not done soon, the medicine chest will be no more than a first aid kit.

Economic development, taxation, education, Indian government are some of the issues Peeace will be tackling.

Newly elected treasurer, George Peeace by polling 207 votes over incumbent Gerald Wuttunee with 110.

Peeace was nominated by Chief Lyndsay Cyr from Pasqua Band. He is from the Nut Lake Band, is married and has an adopted daughter. He is a grade twelve graduate and has been a band administrator, councillor, district representative, former chief of his band and more recently, a community health liaison officer for the Saskatoon District Chiefs Tribal Council.

As treasurer, Peeace will send quarterly reports to the bands. George's area of responsibility will be Saskatoon and the Willow Cree Tribal Council.

Portfolio duties will include the following: treasury and treasury board, financial affairs, operations, control accounting, personnel, contracts, auditing, taxation, planning and priorities, executive functions, Saskatchewan Indian Housing Commission, and the Saskatchewan Indian Roads Commission. □

# McNabb Re-Elected President at 1988 STIWC Conference

By Gloria Ledoux

Elections for the Saskatchewan Treaty Indian Women's Association (STIWC) were held on October 27 in Saskatoon.

Executive positions contested were the president; first vice-president; second vice-president; treasurer and secretary.

Isabelle McNabb once more topped the polls to win the presidency for the next two years.

McNabb from Gordons, re-elected for a second term pledged her service and hard work for another two year term. McNabb said she had announced she would step down, but enough ladies urged her to run again.

Annie Sanderson from James Smith and Doreen Pooyak from Sweetgrass were the unsuccessful candidates.

Mary Kehler from Poorman's band won the first vice-president position. A single mother of 17 children including three sets of twins said she survived through hard work and prayer.

Mary beat contender Brenda Standingready from Whitebear in a second ballot. Flora Mike from Beady's lost in the first ballot.

Georgina Thunderchild from the Thunderchild reserve was elected second vice-president over contender Francis Thomas from Beady's. Georgina, a former STIWC executive and district representative for the North Battleford district is well known by the ladies across the province. Former second vice-president Sheila Roberts-Ross did not seek re-election.

Myrna Fineday from Sweetgrass was elected to the position of treasurer. Myrna is new to the STIWC executive but brings with her experience. Donna Smokeyday from Kinistin Band ran unsuccessfully as treasurer.

Georgina Musqua won by acclamation for the position of secretary. She was born and raised on Keeseekoosewane reserve and is a mother of four daughters. Georgina worked for the Department of Social Services for eight and one-half years; two years for Saskatchewan Government Employees Union; and Department of Justice as a corrections worker before joining the RCMP as a Special Constable.

Georgina says, "I understand the problems that confront Indian people, especially Indian women. I

know I can deal with any problems that may arise."

Elected district representatives for each district are as follows: TFHQ, Pearl Jack from Carry the Kettle; Saskatoon District, Delores Kennedy from Muskeg Lake; North Battleford District, Mary Thunderchild from Thunderchild reserve; Shellbrook Agency, Laura Bear from Big River Reserve; Meadow Lake District, Alma Kytwayhat from Makwa-Sahgaiehcan and Yorkton District, Bonnie Lavallee from Cowessesewan.



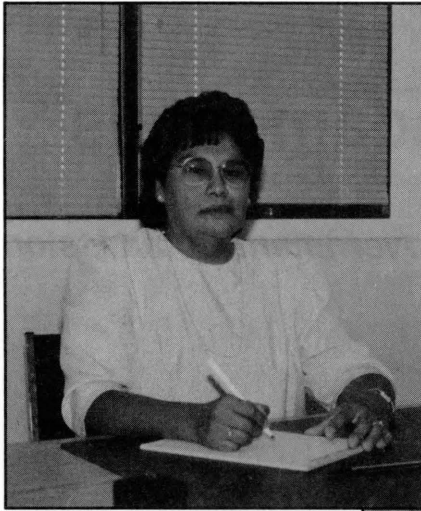
## Who Is This Man?

He was quite prominent in photographs taken at the Fort Carlton Commemoration ceremonies in August of 1936.

Some people have suggested that he may be Sioux or Assiniboine.

This photo is printed with the permission of Donald Smith, author of Sacred Father.





Chief Elizabeth Royal (above) and the Sioux Travellers Singers (right) from Pipestone, Manitoba



# New Community Facility for Moose Woods

By Gloria Ledoux

"My dream has finally come true after five long years," Chief Elizabeth Royal told guests, visitors and band members at the official opening of the combined band office/health clinic facility.

Opening ceremonies included a pipe ceremony and blessing of the building by Elder, Antoine Sand from the Saskatoon District Chiefs Tribal Council office.

A flag raising ceremony of both the Union Jack and the Canadian Flag was performed by Chief Phillip Ledoux from Mistawasis and Councillor Donald Royal while the Sioux Traveller singers from Pipestone, Manitoba sang the honor song. The flag raising ceremony and ribbon cutting ceremonies concluded with a round dance where everyone was invited to participate. Elder Paul Littlecrowe a veteran and former championship cowboy, cut the ribbon to officially open the band office/health centre complex.

Presentations of plaques and gifts were made by Joanne Myers on behalf of medical services, Joe Quewezance, newly elected representative of the Saskatoon District Chiefs Council, George Peeace, Treasurer of the FSIN, Chief Wadidika from Wahpe-

ton Band, Chief Albert Scott for Kinistin Band, alternate chief Herman Crain from John Smith Band.

In her closing remarks Chief Royal thanked the funding agencies; for the combined effort by Indian Affairs and Health and Welfare services for "being able to work together and achieve positive solutions"

Elder Louis Chaske from Pipestone, Manitoba blessed the food. Chief Royal presented Harvey Smith, a recently retired Band Management Office from the Saskatoon District office, with a token gift of appreciation.

The Moose Woods Band also known as Sioux Whitecap is a 20 minute drive from Saskatoon and a band population of 155. Band staff are guidance counsellor, Calette Eagle; NNA-DAP worker, Verna Royal; CHR Victorine Royal; Consultant Randal Martin; Principal, Doris Sparvier; Teacher Associate, Loretta Whitecap; Security personnel, Lorne Bear, Allan Buffalo, Floyd Royal; Maintenance Person, Willis Royal.

Moose Woods also houses the accounting offices of FSIN, SIIT, SICC and the Saskatoon District Tribal Council. □

## FLYING DUST Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Program

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- Design/Deliver Alcohol and Drug Education Services to Students within the school administration staff
- Promote more positive health related behaviors

**AA MEETINGS**  
Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.  
Flying Dust Health Station

For further information contact

**Darlene Moore**  
Alcohol/Drug Coordinator  
P.O. Box 2410  
Meadow Lake, Sk. S0M-1V0  
**236-4437**

# "FSIN Must Return to Fundamentals"

-- Indian Government Commission

**G**overnment pressures and conflicting agendas have taken the FSIN off the course of fundamental issues, according to a paper tabled by the Indian Government Commission at the recent Chiefs Legislative Assembly.

The document entitled, "The State of the Indian Nations, Indian Rights ... Indian Treaties" was prepared to provoke thought and discussion on the current condition of the bands, leadership roles and the organization and institutions.

The report states that while the fundamental purpose of the FSIN is to protect the treaties, the emphasis on treaties appears to be diminishing.

"Reference to Treaties or Treaty Rights rarely enter, anymore, into positions or resolutions that are adopted by the Chiefs in Assembly or are advanced by the executive council or the district councils.

Treaties and Treaty Rights are poorly understood by many of the Indian leaders - there is an uncertainty as to how to argue for what the spirit and intent of an individual treaty right really is and to press the Canadian Governments and the Canadian people to recognize the Indian position and honor Treaty obligations."

"There are few unified positions in the organization - possibly because a variety of agendas have been introduced or imposed into the organization which do not advance treaty rights as the main focus and, in fact, diminish treaties either by ignoring them or compromising them.

The sincerity of the Indian leadership is not in question - what is called into question is the failure to place

treaties and Indian political rights at the heart of all issues, discussions and positions and instead to reduce the role of the Federation to that of begging for favorable considerations from federal and provincial government program administrators."

"The federal and provincial governments, especially the current administrations, are determined to convince Indian leaders and the Canadian public that the treaties do not exist - either in policy nor in law.

Among the Indian leadership there is an apparent lack of understanding of individual treaty rights or the ability to itemize them and persuasively advocate for them - hence, the ground is made fertile for the opponents (federal and provincial) to challenge specific rights, to claim they are not clearly defined, or to call upon the

'quasi-legal' documents or social obligations which are not binding on government but are simply provided by a beneficent government policy.

Federal policy represents the treaties as an unnecessary 'umbilical cord' which must be cut to eliminate the drain on the federal treasury."

"There is not absolute support to any of the individual treaty rights and in particular, hunting, fishing and trapping rights will soon be extinguished through a system of land privatization and licensing/regulating access to these resources."

Perhaps the most serious breach of treaty has come in the area of treaty land entitlement. The federal government originally had agreed to over a million acres of land entitlement to Saskatchewan bands based on the land population as of December 31,

**"The Position of the Chief and Council has been clearly diminished both by non-Indian governments and by internal differences and in-fighting."**

Indian leadership to "prove" a right exists by making reference to the specific articles of treaty instead of the Spirit and intent of the agreement which was reached during negotiations."

The federal government has abandoned its fiduciary trust to Indian and treaty rights and instead is implementing policies to extinguish the treaties and treaty rights.

"Treaties are referred to as

1976.

However, the federal policy now is to determine land entitlement as of the date of first survey which reduces the land quantum to a little over 100,000 acres.

The report states, "federal and provincial policies towards Indian lands and land entitlement are consistent and clearly described in the most recent policy documents. These include:

1) no new reserves and not one acre of land transferred to reserve status under the 1976 formula;

2) negotiation of compromise settlements with individual bands will-

subjected to constant abuse and challenges to the stands they take.

The results are often personal 'burn out' or a withdrawal from leadership in frustration."

**"The organizational structure of the FSIN is seriously flawed ... and contributes to reducing the effectiveness, authority and ability of the executive council."**

ing to break the 1976 formula and in fact, the treaties;

3) extensive use of the courts;

4) professional publicity campaign to non-Indians to describe Indian land 'interests' as a threat to land owners and contrary to national interest; and,

5) use of individual Indian leaders and officials to persuade Indian leadership to lower expectations and accept compromises."

"Some bands have now compromised the entitlement process by accepting 'date of first survey' settlement arrangements."

The report states that the roles of the Indian leadership is under attack and strain at all levels including chiefs and councils, the district representatives and the executive.

"The position of the chief and council has been clearly diminished both by non-Indian governments and by internal differences and infighting. Many chiefs and councils are 'locked in' to a program and administration agenda wherein there is neither a political will nor a place for advancing Indian government, Indian treaty rights or the Indian political agenda."

"There is a fear that by taking Treaty rights positions which are unpopular with the non-Indian governments, it will immediately bring down retaliation and punishment, either personal or on the band. Individual chiefs and councils who are insisting on standing on the Indian rights principals and the Indian political agenda are

"The effectiveness of the executive council both in terms of ability to act and to show results is seriously compromised by many factors.

There are very few mandates or directions given by the legislative assembly based on treaties. They are mostly in the areas of program and administrative matters. Attempts by individual executive members to exert leadership on fundamental matters of treaty rights (land, economic rights, education, etc.) are immediately compromised by those fearful of 'rocking the boat', those who are comfortable in their current positions or climate, or those who for often undefined reasons, are in opposition to the executive coun-

ignoring 'grass roots issues'. Although this fear (and accompanying accusations) is very realistic, it should not be a hindrance to individual and independent initiative by the executive, if it can be clearly defended on the basis of treaty rights, nothing should be more 'grass roots' than the treaty rights.

The organizational structure of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations is seriously flawed in many ways and this contributes to reducing the effectiveness, authority and ability to act of the executive council."

"The district representatives (and assistants) are sitting as full voting members of the executive council and on boards and commissions where the nature of their position often dictates that they will be forced to place local concerns and program/administrative matters ahead of the provincial and national mandates and principals of the FSIN."

"The federal government in particular, the department of Indian and Northern Affairs, has placed most of the resources in the hands of the district/tribal/agency councils. In controlling these resources, district personnel are in position to use district council funds and programs to advance local initiatives which often have little to do with the essence of the FSIN

**"Boards and Commissions have become comfortable 'nests' made up of appointments based on ... political appointments."**

cil on a purely personal basis."

"The executive council, who are supposed to act as a unified 'cabinet' often have difficulty presenting a united front because of lack of clarity of position or direction to take, a result of unclear mandates from the legislative assembly and no clear action plan.

Executive council members may be reluctant to provide visionary leadership for fear of being accused of

as a political body or to barter for influence and support from other district personnel and/or executive council members in ways which totally ignore the mandates and the principles upon which the FSIN as a whole is supposed to represent."

"It is quite possible, common and does in fact occur, that district personnel who are supposed to be 'ex-  
(Continued on page 10)

## Indian Government Commission Report

(Continued from page 9)

officio' at executive council meetings, boards and commissions, will in fact participate in the voting and can influence and control decision-making. District, tribal and agency councils were 'jumped on' immediately by the federal government as the ideal vehicle to facilitate the dismantling of the central bodies and institutions of the Federation.

District councils have developed 'territorial' positions and policies which often prevent unified decisions on fundamental Federation positions and prevent the executive council from securing mandates to take the offense on political issues affecting treaties.

District, tribal and agency councils have become administrative arms of the department of Indian and Northern Affairs. None are required to table political agendas to the Federation General Assembly or to demonstrate how the district is supporting the advancement of treaties and treaty rights protection."

"The resources required to coordinate an effective executive council body are being systematically drained and redirected to the district council. The executive members and the required support officials are not able to afford and display the dignity,

powers and authorities of their office required to carry out successful face to face political negotiations with non-Indian government leaders."

"Boards and commissions have become comfortable 'nests' made up not of appointments based on professional qualifications, experience and demonstrated leadership in the mandates that the Institution has to carry out, but by political appointments.

The danger resident in political appointments is, that the boards and commissions can exercise a considerable degree of independence and distance from the executive council and the legislative assembly without being required to account to the Indian lead-

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Coordinator  
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## Muskeg Lake NNADAP Program

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- AA Meetings
- Youth Programs
- School Presentations

### Promoting Cultural Awareness

Contact  
Daryl Greyeyes  
(306) 466-4959

leaders should direct the political agenda and the professional manager should manage.

"It is evident that the majority of the daily agendas and meetings of the Federation at all levels is overwhelmingly administrative.

A quick way to determine the accuracy of this statement is to examine the written agendas of every meeting at the executive, district, and band level and the boards and commission involving the Indian political leaders and pick out those items which deal with program and administration or discussions with non-Indian government officials compared to those items which deal with treaty rights, Indian government policy, and meetings with non-Indian governmental political leaders.

Formal meetings with non-political representatives of federal, provincial and municipal departments and agencies by elected Indian leaders on a regular basis, places the Indian leadership in the same category in the eyes of the public and the government officials, as nothing more than civil servants themselves."

Commission members were quick to point out that the paper was a discussion document designed to make people think and return the political agenda to the treaties and other fundamental principles.□

ership or citizens but only to the funding agencies. There are no new initiatives being developed.

Many boards are actively assisting to promote and implement federal guidelines and policies. Many board members are forced into a heavy reliance on the income provided by sitting on board or commission meetings. It is draining a considerable amount of political leadership from the bands and the Federation at a time when that leadership is both overworked and spread far too thin."

The report is highly critical of the emphasis on administrative matters of the political leadership. The commission states that the elected

## CANOE LAKE BAND Alcohol Project

- Referrals, Counselling, Home Visits •
- School program which includes films on alcohol & chemical abuse for children
- Facilitate workshops/banquets •

**YOUTH MEETINGS**  
Tuesdays/Thursdays  
**AA MEETINGS**  
Wednesdays  
**ALANON MEETINGS**  
Mondays

For further information contact  
Mary Iron at  
829-2150

# Northern Chiefs Meet with Senior Health Officials

By Gloria Ledoux

The recent trip to Saskatchewan by Dave Nicholson was not all spent at official functions. Several bands took the opportunity to present their concerns and requests in the Health Care field.

The Athabasca Chiefs and Councillors presented Nicholson with a proposal outlining suggested changes to the funding formulas for capital and program operations in northern communities.

The National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP) does not give northern projects any more money for either capital or program budgets. Indian Affairs has funding formulas that recognize that capital and operating costs are higher in the north and gives bands different amounts of funding based on remoteness. For every dollar of program operation cost, Indian Affairs gives Athabasca bands \$2.10.

Building in the far north costs twice as much money as in the south. The NNADAP capital budget of \$225,000 will buy twice the number of square feet of building space in Saskatoon as it will buy in the far north. The main problem is the high cost of freight and travel. Specific problems outlined were cutbacks of board meetings to two per year.

To stay within funding, treatment workers are on a half time basis instead of full time. Workshops are limited, as well as training for staff.

The Athabasca Bands include Fond Du Lac, Black Lake and Wollaston Lake. Their spokesman at the meeting was Hector Kaidether, an NNADAP worker for the Bands.

A/Chief James Linklater of the Peter Ballantyne Band concerns centered around the Deschambault Lake Nursing Station.

A new station has been committed to this band community for project development, design and some capital funds of \$222,000 for the 1988-89 fis-

cal year. The balance of the funding of \$600,000 for the 1989-90 fiscal year will receive approval by Ottawa when the design is complete. The Peter Ballantyne Band requested officials in both Regina and Ottawa review these plans as quickly as possible in order that the project may continue into the final phase without delay.

Family violence, child abuse and neglect, continue to pose serious problems. The band will be requesting a highly skilled professional social worker to be employed full time for the band through the "Family Violence and Child Care Initiations" program administered through the Medical Services Branch.

A submission to establish a day care centre and special care home are also being prepared.

Peter Ballantyne band has a band population of over 3,400, the geographic area covers three major and three smaller communities: Pelican Narrows, Southend, Sturgeon Landing, Denare Beach, Sandy Bay and Deschambault Lake.

The Red Earth Band also presented a summary of medical services issues to Nicholson.

A family violence proposal to develop a community based aware-

ness, education, training and response system was presented to the Department of National Health and Welfare was requested to direct financial support and provide advisory services to the project.

A Health Pre-Transfer project to establish administration and locally managed health care programs was also proposed. The Community health representative is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The band is requesting an additional CHR to service the band members. Floods in the spring restrict access to and from the community of up to six weeks and the budget does not reflect the additional costs incurred during this period.

Most professional medical services and facilities available to Band members are in the communities of Nipawin and Carrot River, a distance of 85-70 miles respectively. Rates to and from these communities are fixed on a mileage basis and do not provide for waiting and down time. The Band requests a review of the rates to include \$25.00 per hour waiting time.

The response to medical transportation rates has been a problem area for MSB they stated that they are attempting to establish a provincial rate.

## Ten Graduate Pre-Employment Carpentry Class

By Betty Ann Adam

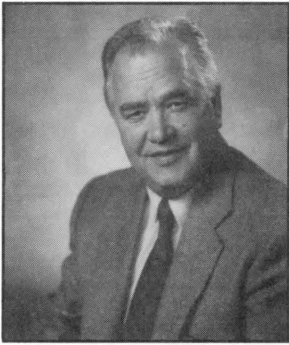
Ten students recently completed a thirty-one week accredited Pre-Employment Carpentry course at the Gordon's Reserve. The course was offered by SIAST Palliser Campus in Moose Jaw and involved both technical theory and practical shop projects.

The students were Dayle Hunter, Marvin Pratt, John Anderson, John McNab, Jerry Nashacappo, Ron Bird, Bill Bird, Elaine Cyr, Gerald Cyr,

and Richard Cyr.

Dayle Hunter received the Palliser Campus Instructor's Award for the highest marks awarded to a student in the Pre-Employment programs in Saskatchewan.

The Chief and Council arranged for the students to work on actual projects in the community which gave them valuable practical experience. □



The true face of the classical Progressive Conservative attitude toward native problems has been shown in the past few months by two startling events.

The first occurred when the boundaries of the new federal constituencies were revealed and, behold, the new boundary of the riding of the Conservative Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs quite neatly excluded all Reserves from his riding. Such concern, such care for the problems of the peoples for whom he is supposed to be responsible - that he has none of them in his own riding!

Could this be so that after the next election he would be free to do as he and his government wish with natives without fear of losing votes for himself personally?

The second event was the shameful action of October 20, when the two Conservative governments of Alberta and Canada used the armed force of the RCMP as an instrument of negotiations with the Lubicon, forcefully removing peaceful barricades and arresting sixteen natives. This, brute force against unarmed and peaceful people, is the negotiating style of Mr. Getty and Mr. Mulroney. This is what to expect from Mr. Mulroney's government when his Minister responsible for Indian affairs no longer needs native support to be elected.

Chief Ominayak was attempting only to force talks to begin yet again after endless delays and false starts but Mr. Getty had first to attempt to humiliate Chief Ominayak. It didn't work, for the dignity with which the Chief and his followers have con-

ducted themselves under continuous and long provocation defies humiliation.

As a very recent entry into the political arena, I immediately confess that there is much that I do not know about native problems. But this I do know - there are terrible problems which must be eased and my style and the style of the Liberal Government will not be to approach them behind Mounties.

I was born and raised in Turtleford but I have been away for many years. I recently completed 30 years with the Government of Canada in our foreign trade service, working in our embassies in foreign countries as a trade promotion officer. I retired five years early in November, 1987, in order to return to Turtleford to enter this election. I now live on a farm with my wife three miles south of Turtleford.

I should explain why I entered politics in the first place.

My interest arises from the great imbalance of political power in Canada between Central Canada on the one hand and the rest of Canada - in my case, the West. The only political institution through which this might be corrected is the Senate - an elected Senate with equitable distribution throughout the regions. And the only political party through which this might be corrected, I'm convinced, is the Liberal party. That's why I'm running and that's why I'm a Liberal.

Now that I'm in the battle, I realize that more is involved than the imbalance between Central Canada and the regions. There are such questions as the Natives and the Yukon and the Territories. I believe that my service outside of Canada, some of it in third world countries, gives me a perspective that I did not have while living in Canada.

Our promise as Liberals is to deal with natives with respect, with an open mind and in good faith, in a sincere desire to assist in the solution of destructive problems which effect us all, native and white alike.

Neil Currie  
Liberal

The Battlefords-Meadow Lake

## NEW DEMOCRATS

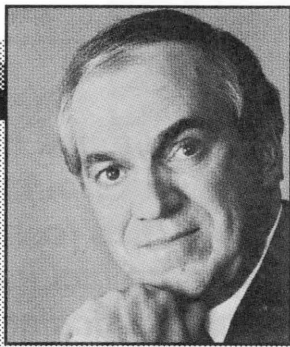
The Indian people of Canada are recognized by the New Democrats as the original citizens of this country. The contribution that Indian people have made to Canada's modern development has been a very important one, in economic, social and cultural terms. Unfortunately, even though Indian men and women make up a very substantial part of the population, many of the needs and rights of Indian people have been ignored by successive governments.

Never has this been more true than in 1988. Brian Mulroney promised action on Indian concerns. But even though Mulroney says he agrees with the ideas of self-government, his conservative government has failed to make it a reality. Mulroney did not follow up after he and the premiers failed to agree on self government. The Meech Lake Accord does not institute any guarantees that they would pursue this goal. When a United Nations human rights committee wanted to look into the conditions of aboriginal peoples everywhere in the world, the Conservatives fought against it.

A previous United Nations study showed that Canadian governments had discriminated against Indian women for nearly a century. But Mulroney's Conservatives acted reluctantly and made inadequate resources available to bands to deal with the changes that were required to right this historical wrong.

While the federal budget has tripled over the past ten years, funding for Indian Affairs has remained unchanged. Successive Liberal and Conservative governments have let spending stagnate, even though the needs of Indian communities for better housing, improved education, economic development opportunities and health care continue to be unmet.

Ed Broadbent and the New Democrats believe Indian people have waited long enough. The time for fairness is long overdue. The time for self government is now. Indian people must be partners in all



future decisions involving them. If not, we will repeat the mistakes of the past. This cannot happen. New Democrats have fought for action on self government by the first ministers. As well, New Democrats have worked to get land claims settlements speeded up.

New Democrats believe that it is a priority to assist Indian organizations in developing programs to generate employment opportunities, providing training and education and stimulate economic activities at the Band and Tribal Council levels.

Ed Broadbent and the New Democrats are committed to:

- Providing adequate funding for native education including post-secondary education, housing and essential community infrastructure like water and sewage to the bands and appropriate native organizations;

- Settling outstanding land claims on the basis of the 1976 agreement; • Calling a first minister's meeting on self government; and,

- Recognizing decision-making powers for development programs belong to the bands and tribal councils. New Democrats acknowledge and support the special and unique status of Indian people and Indian governments in Canada.

New Democrats are committed to assisting Indian people and Indian leaders in their struggles to have their special status and special rights honored and respected.

A New Democratic Party government will work with Indian governments at the Band, Tribal Council and national levels in order to ensure that its actions are consistent with Treaty Rights, and the plans and aspirations of Indian people. All actions of the government will be preceded by full consultation, through processes developed in cooperation with Indian governments.

The PC Party has worked hard to ensure normal community services for Indians on reserve, to encourage Indian self government and to settle native claims.

#### LOOK AT OUR RECORD

Highlights of this record of achievement with an eye towards Saskatchewan include:

- **Treaty Land Entitlement** - We have settled entitlement claims up to date of first survey. Negotiations are underway with several bands, on a without prejudice basis. Since 1984, some 43,261 acres have been moved in Saskatchewan. Recently, Muskeg Lake Band received as an addition to their reserve a 35.3 acre site in Saskatoon as partial settlement of the Band's treaty land entitlement. **Constitutional Talks** - Prime Minister Mulroney chaired meetings in April 1985 and March 1987 involving aboriginal leaders and premiers, debating the issue of entrenching a right to aboriginal self government. While no agreement was reached, another conference will be called when the possibility of success exists. **Self Government** - Various Indian communities are interested in negotiations which would remove them from the Indian Act. In 1984, the Cree-Naskapi Act established a form of self government in northern Quebec. In 1986, the Sechelt Act enacted a self government regime favoured by one band in B.C. Since that time, some 60 groups representing 225 bands have submitted proposals. **Alternative Funding Arrangements** - A means to give bands or tribal councils flexibility in managing funds available to them. 16 agreements have been signed to date. Two are in Saskatchewan: Ochapowace and John Smith; another seven are underway. **Devolutionary Downsizing** - The Indian Affairs department has been shrinking steadily while the "Indian Public Service" employed by bands and tribal councils has grown. **Economic Development** Since 1984, we spent \$1.2 billion on native economic development. That money assisted training, business start ups and the creation of native owned

and controlled capital corporations. The target was status and non-status Indians. Amendments to the Indian Act strengthened the power of band councils to levy property taxes and to control development on Indian land received Royal Assent. **Post Secondary Education Support** - Nationally, funding grew from \$49 million when we took office to \$130 million this year. In addition to supporting Saskatchewan Indian students, the SIFC received \$900,000 from the Native Economic Development Program in 1987 and in 1988, they received \$4.7 million towards operating costs. **Bill C-31** - In June 1985, the Indian Act was amended to remove sexual discrimination, restore lost rights and enable bands to assume control of their band membership.

**THE MONTHS AHEAD** During our next term in office, we will continue to work closely with native communities to increase self government, resolve outstanding land claims and devolve responsibilities to native communities. Measures will include:

- Pursuing our efforts to reach settlements of outstanding land claims and achieving justice for Canada's first people;
- Pursuing constitutional amendments to entrench the rights of native communities to self government;
- Creating sustainable and viable economic development opportunities;
- Continuing to implement programs to increase self reliance and emphasize commercially-viable businesses and enterprises;
- Increasing community based education and social services which can be provided by native communities in accordance with traditional culture and values;

The development of Canada's native peoples will enrich Canadian culture and contribute to the development of unique Canadian values and institutions. We will work closely with native groups to achieve these goals.



*The conference broke into seven groups. Louis Oakes (centre) was group facilitator for this particular group.*

## Youth Business Conference a Success

Eighty-seven Indian youth from across the province participated in the first ever Indian Youth Business Conference held at the

Rayner Centre on Lake Diefenbaker from October 13-16.

The conference got under way on October 13 with welcoming remarks from the Honorable Grant Hodgins, representing the province of Saskatchewan as Minister of Indian and Native Affairs; and chief Roland Crowe representing the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

Co-chairmen for this important conference were Morley Watson and Perry Bellegarde.

Morley is a co-owner of Watson's Sporting Goods Limited in Melville, Saskatchewan. He served for six years a band councillor and four years as chief of his band.

Bellegarde is the district representative for the chiefs of the Touchwood File Hills, Fort Qu'Appelle District. He was the assistant district representative for four years.

Other guest speakers were Hollis Stabler, a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Barbara Bruce, who operates the Manitoba Chapter of the Canadian Council for Native Business; Dan Bellegarde,

second vice-chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations; and Darcy Littlepine, a business man from the Beardy's Reserve.

In addition to the business agenda, the conference also had recreation provided by the Recreation Technology course staff and students. The group did an excellent job at organizing a recreational program that included events such as the Twenty-Third and a Half Olympiad; a Las Vegas play night; and a murder mystery to find out who "gunned down" Les Ferguson.

The conference was coordinated and sponsored by a number of agencies and individuals including: the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program; the Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation; the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College; the Fort Qu'Appelle District Chiefs; the Department of Indian Affairs and the Saskatchewan Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat.

Matt Bellegarde played a big role in the conference planning and the development of the conference workbook. □

### CLERK TYPIST WANTED

Under the general supervision of the Program Manager and the Credit Advisor, the successful candidate will: Assist in all general office procedures; Collect and maintain statistical information on agricultural clients; Prepare charts to represent areas such as budget, acreage, number of clients, etc.; Coordinate the collection based on agricultural data and compile graphs; Assist in maintaining all SIAP files; Take and transcribe dictation; Type loan summaries, correspondence and other various reports; Record and transcribe minutes of SIAP Board Meetings; Assemble documentation for SIAP Board Meetings; Receive and assist callers and refer to appropriate person; Maintain records of all incoming and outgoing mail in log book; Place calls on request; and other duties as required.

**Qualifications:** Ability to type 60 w.p.m. and the ability to take shorthand. Experience in the use of an IBM Computer would be a definite asset.

**Salary:** Starting range \$14,000-\$16,800 per annum to be reviewed after a six month period.

**Deadline:** December 1, 1988.

Applicants should apply in writing with complete resume to:

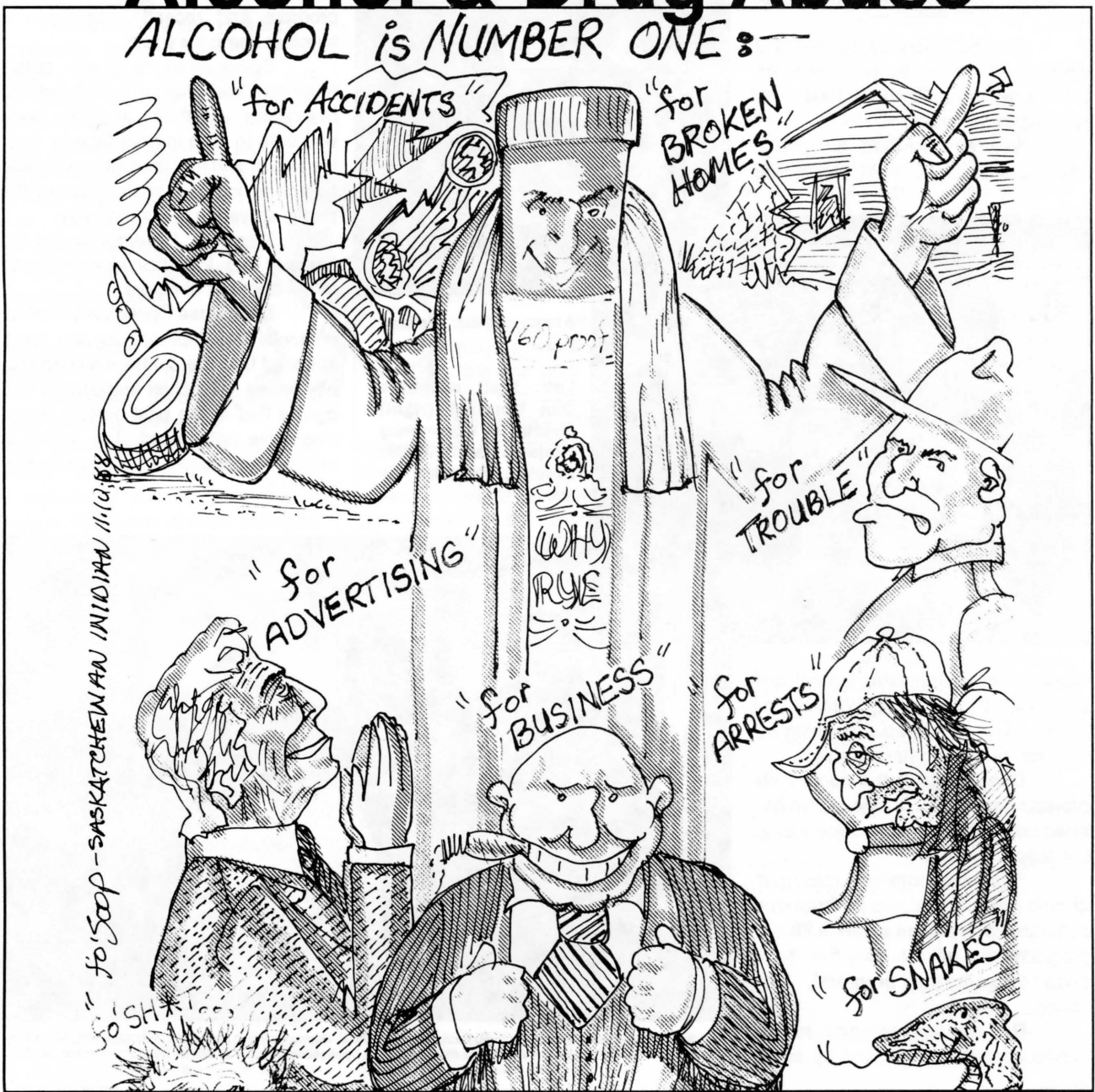
Kenneth C. Thomas  
Program Manager  
SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN  
AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, INC.  
1410 Chateau Tower  
1920 Broad Street  
REGINA, Saskatchewan  
S4P 3V2





# Alcohol & Drug Abuse

ALCOHOL is NUMBER ONE :-



# Ekweskeet Centre Serves the Community

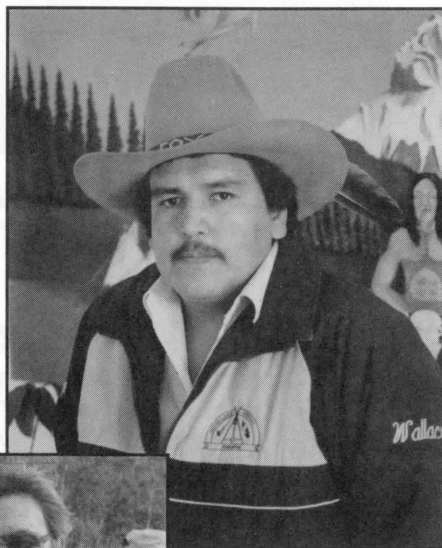
By Doug Cuthand

In Cree, Ekweskeet means to improve a persons condition or lifestyle and that is the aim of the Ekweskeet Centre in Onion Lake.

The centre has been operating for almost a year and was established to cure individuals of their alcohol problems.

On September 28, the board of directors of the Ekweskeet Centre on the Onion Lake Reserve held their opening ceremonies.

"We already had an official opening with the District chiefs and



**Above: Chief Wallace Fox.**



**Left: Staff members Don Cardinal (right) director of Community Projects and Walter Lavalee, Program Director.**

workers, while a few come on their own initiative.

Don Cardinal outlined some of the programs the centre carries out in the community.. "The centre assists in youth development on the band, conducts home visits, assists in the sports program and recently completed a summer camp for youth.

Speaking to the guests at the opening, Chief Wallace Fox stated that the centre was theirs and they were welcome to stop in from time to time. He also stated that the centre was built by a band company so the jobs and the profits stayed in the community.

Master of Ceremonies for the opening was Joe Stick, vice-chairman of the board of directors.

Mary Rose Opekokew, director of social development for the band stressed that the centre was community based. "The chief and council recognize that in the past outside agencies have not helped. The centre is unique because it is community based."

representatives from the federal and provincial officials," Chief Wallace Fox stated. "This is a special opening for the local people on the reserve."

Don Cardinal, the community projects coordinator for the centre has been involved since the centre was in the proposal stage.

"We have room for a maximum of nine patients and two or three out-patients. Each patient enters a 28 day program and so far sixty-five have gone through the program", Don stated.

Patients are referred to the centre from the courts and by social



**Some of the board members: (L-R) Back Row: Joe Stick, Hector Quinny, John Wolf, Ed Warlowth. Front Row: (L-R) Vivian Whitebear and Mary Rose Opekokew, Director of Social Development for the Band.**

# Inhalants

Inhalants are a diverse group of chemicals that produce psychoactive (mind-altering) vapors. Most people do not even think of them as drugs because they were never meant to be used that way. They are principally commercial products such as cleaning or beauty agents, glues, paints, fuels for motor vehicles, and some office products such as certain felt markers and typewriter correction fluid. Most contain warnings against inhaling too much of the chemical fumes.

Generally, the sprays are concentrated by spraying them into a can such as a "pop top" soft drink can, and then inhaling the vapors through the small hole in the top of the can. For non-sprays, the chemical vapors are accumulated in a plastic bag, such as a sandwich bag or a garbage bag, and then the vapors are inhaled from the plastic bag—a particularly dangerous method of inhaling the chemicals.

## General Effects

Inhalants fall into three main categories: aerosol sprays, solvents, and anesthetics. Although different in chemical makeup, nearly all of the abused volatile (vaporous) substances produce effects similar to anesthetics, acting as central nervous system depressants. At low doses, users may feel slightly stimulated; at higher amounts, they may feel less inhibited, less in control; at high doses, a loss of consciousness can occur.

Inhalants' effects are immediate, and they can last from 15 to 45 minutes after inhaling has stopped. Drowsiness usually follows. Headache and nausea can also occur. Some users experience partial amnesia for the period of intoxication, similar to the effects of several alcoholic drinks.

Sniffing moderate amounts of inhalants for even a relatively short time can disturb vision, impair judgement, and reduce muscle reflex control. Even just one sniffing episode can provoke such effects. Although disturbances resulting from short-term sniffing are usually temporary, some dam-

age may be difficult to reverse. The majority of chemicals sniffed for their intoxicating effects are "fat soluble", that is, after entering the body, they will be retained in fatty tissues, such as the brain, the reproductive organs, the lungs, kidneys, liver and bone marrow. Because the chemicals are fat soluble and not water soluble, it takes the body substantially longer to purge itself of the chemicals, and the toxicity remains much longer than the high.

## Death from Sniffing

Deaths directly related to inhalant abuse remain inaccurately documented due to lack of reporting, lack of investigation and unrecognized accidental deaths. Research states that while inhalant users are "high" they think, feel and act in an "invincible" way. For instance, they may believe they can fly, they may see monsters and therefore panic and run or turn on the monster violently, they may believe they are invisible and walk in front of a car. High concentrations of nonaerosol inhalants can cause death from suffocation by displacing oxygen in the lungs. Other types of inhalants produce suffocation by depressing the central nervous system so much that breathing slows down until it stops.

Because the dose of inhalants is not easily controlled, a sniffer can never be sure when he will be inhaling a fatal dose. And, he can never be assured of the chemical make up of the drugs he is inhaling. A mini-epidemic of paralysis broke out in Florida when a manufacturer substituted one solvent for another in a popularly abused product. Death from inhalants is usually caused by a very high concentration of inhalant fumes. Deliberately inhaling from a bag greatly increases the risk of suffocation. Even when using aerosol or volatile products for their legitimate purpose, ie, painting, cleaning, etc., it is wise to do so in a well-ventilated area. □

*Reprinted with permission from the National Native Association of Treatment Directors*



## Combatting Alcohol and Drug Abuse

### A Message from the Minister responsible for SADAC



Alcohol and other drug abuse are serious problems in our communities, especially among our youth. Native peoples have suffered considerably from the ravages of substance abuse. However, in recent years we are seeing progress in tackling these problems and giving hope and health to Native youth and adults. Progress is being made because Native people are working together to address the problems and develop their own solutions. The provincial and federal governments are helping with increased funding for education, training and treatment.

Various treatment centres, operated and staffed primarily by Native peoples, now operate in all major urban centres and throughout the north. There are many more training opportunities at the university, college and community level to provide skills in combatting substance abuse and related issues.

Major gains in the future lie in the promotion of healthier lifestyles at the community, family and individual levels. Awareness and skill programs to promote health and prevent problems are growing with parents, teachers, youth workers and other community leaders.

A rekindling of spiritualism and family values are important parts of this positive change. As we continue to work together in this direction, I am confident we will begin to see the world we really want for our children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'McLeod'.

Hon. George McLeod  
Minister responsible for  
Saskatchewan Alcohol and Drug  
Abuse Program

# ALCOHOL & *and its relationship to*

*Alcohol and Drug Abuse and its resulting affects on suicide and violent deaths is a subject that is a cause of serious concern among Indians. Sid Fiddler, a member of the Waterhen band and a masters student at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College wrote his masters thesis on this very serious issue.*

*The following are excerpts from Fiddler's paper:*

## **UNDERLYING FACTORS**

Racism has been the underlying factor in the institutional dominance and cultural oppression that continues to function against the Indian people, culture and nations. Racism has meant denial of their rights to self determination and a lack of access and opportunity to power and resources to change and

resolve their own problems. It has resulted in negative psycho-social effects characterized by the relative deprivation and socio-cultural disintegration of Indian people.

## **POOR EDUCATION**

"Education attainment levels are low with eighty percent of the adult population having no more than a Grade 10 education. Unemployment rates are incredibly high at approximately seventy percent. Of those that are employed, most are grouped in low income occupational categories such as general labour, office and clerical, and sales and service. Many who are employed are underemployed or work only part time or on a temporary basis.

Average family income levels are approximately one-half that of the

general population with a substantial proportion of that income derived from social assistance. Approximately 60-65 percent of the adult population receive some type of transfer payments from I.N.A.C. This does not take into account those living off reserve for more than one year who may be receiving provincial social assistance.

The number of single parent families is very high, particularly in the off-reserve population where a figure of 48 percent has been suggested by one study. On-reserve single parent families represent about twenty to twenty-five percent of the family units. Many families are newer families. Intervention in these family situations through child apprehensions and temporary or permanent wardship is a frequent event.

The relative deprivation and demographic characteristics of the Indian youth (15-29) is one factor that contributes to Indian youth suicides, which are suggested by the following:

1) Indian youth (15-29 years of age) represented 31.6 percent of the total registered Indian population, the second largest age grouping of the Saskatchewan registered Indian population; and this age group comprises 32.6 percent of the off reserve population of their particular age group.

2) This age group represents the highest unemployment age grouping in the present total unemployment rates estimated to be 75 percent for on reserve occupants and 45 percent in the urban areas.

3) The Indian dependency ratio is 2.3 times that of the general provincial population is probably higher among the Indian adolescents and young adults.

4) The drop out rate before completion of Grade XII is approximately 95 percent.

5) Another characteristic of this age group includes the highest probability of incarceration in federal and provincial prisons. About 70 percent of status Indians can be expected to be incarcerated in a provincial correctional centre by the age of twenty-five. About 14 percent of all status Indian women can expect to be incarcerated by the age of twenty-five.

6) The number of single parent families is very high, particularly in the off reserve populations where figures of 24 percent to 48 percent have been suggested. (FSIN 1984).

## **HIGH RATES OF INCARCERATION**

The incarceration rates for Indians are overwhelming. One in eight Indian men and one in fifty Indian women are likely to be incarcerated in a given year. Indian men are 25 times more likely and Indian women are 88 times more likely to be incarcerated than their non-Indian counterparts. It is not surprising that in this kind of social and economic environment alcohol and drug abuse are widespread."

The typical Indian child, whether urban or rural, spends his/her formative years in essentially an Indian world. The child's frame of reference, comparative process and evaluative framework is provided by the Indian community to which he/she belongs. When an Indian child's world begins to enlarge, especially when he/she is thrown into interaction with the larger white society such as starting school, the self esteem that an Indian child

# DRUG ABUSE

## Indian Suicide Rates

generated in a basically Indian context can be threatened. This is particularly true in a society where Indians are perceived as belonging to an inferior subculture.

### **DAMAGE FROM BOARDING SCHOOLS**

For many of the Indian people their first exposure to the larger white society began with the boarding industrial and residential Indian school system. Two to four generations of Indian families in Saskatchewan have been exposed to this residential school system. The fourth and fifth generations of Indian people have also been institutionalized and/or caught in a contemporary paradox resulting in psychosocial effects that parallel those of the residential school system. Many of the present Indian children and youth have grown up in urban centres and/or in white adoptive or foster homes, in institutionalized group homes and holding units as long term care and repeating offenders, and have been affected in the same way as the residential school system.

Psychologists have shown that the residential school system has caused serious emotional disturbances and personality disorders. The enforced separation of Indian children has resulted in the absence of extended family support, guidance, love, warmth, security, feelings of belongings and alienation from the Indian tribal belief systems, which supported the integrity of the individuals. The prolonged loneliness and the lack of emotional support has resulted in withdrawal and isolation among Indian children. The parenting skills, responsibility, knowledge and ways of relating communication skills have also de-

creased with each succeeding generation that have been in the residential school system. The incidences of child abuse among Indian people has been in part attributed to the early experiences of physical and psychological devaluation of many Indian parents who themselves grew up in these authoritarian institutions. The use of punitive discipline, child neglect and abuse and the lack of parenting skills have been traced to these early experiences in residential schools.

The history, philosophy, world view and the Indian cultural way of life expressed through art, music, dances, literature and other forms of expression are omitted in the white institutional systems as are the Indian perspectives of realities of the present

Indian situation. It severely limits the Indian people's ability to understand, create and maintain their own version of reality.

### **IDENTITY PROBLEMS**

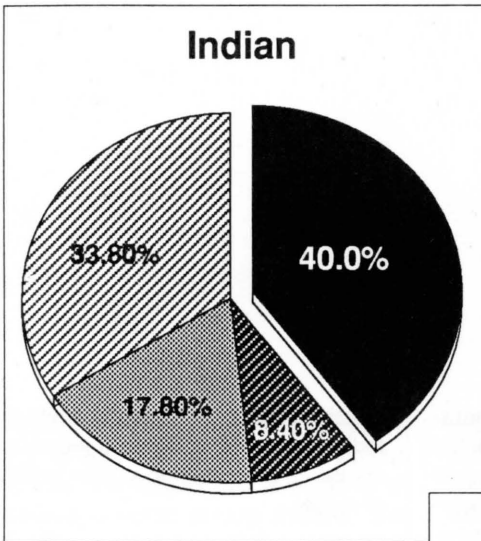
A contemporary paradox that faces many Indian people particularly in the third, fourth and fifth generations, since white contact is the process of being caught between two cultures. This cultural confusion is especially acute during the adolescence and young Indian adult phase of life.

The identity conflict increases especially in Indian youth who attain higher academic education without knowledge and experience of their culture. For some, these "successes" lead to attitudes that perceive their

**The FSIN study into Alcohol and Drug Abuse Among Treaty Indians in Saskatchewan reveals the frequency, rates and patterns of alcohol, drug and substance abuse among Saskatchewan Indian adolescents. A sample of 385 Indian adolescents aged 15-19 revealed the following results.**

- 1) The pattern of drinking in the adolescent sample parallel those of the adult groups (82.1%), albeit at a reduced frequency.
- 2) Although adolescents do drink less frequently and in lesser amounts, they tend to binge and problem drink rather than indulging in chronic alcohol abuse.
- 3) Multiple drug abuse is very common. 85.5 percent of drug abusers used street drugs, which translated to 45.9 percent of the total adolescent sample. Solvent abuse seems to be very high at 10 percent of the total adolescent population.
- 4) 22.6 percent of the 15-19 age group have been drinking for three or more years.
- 5) 14.5 percent have been using drugs for three or more years.
- 6) Approximately one in ten adolescents are abusers of alcohol and/or drugs.
- 7) 70.6 percent of adolescents consume drugs (15-19), and the rate of drug consumption decreases with age.
- 8) "Sex of the respondent seems to be a significant factor. Females are less likely to consume (79.8% as compared to 87.1%) alcohol. They are also less likely to consume frequently (24.6% compared to 42.4%). The pattern continues with drug use. 50.3% of the female respondents reported using drugs in the last year compared to 61.6 percent of the male respondents. Frequent consumption was reported by 32.1 percent of the males and 19.7 percent of the females."

FSIN. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Among Treaty Indians in Saskatchewan: Needs Assessment and Recommendations for Change. WMC Research Associates, 1984, p. 78.



to blame that they have believed this "blaming the victim" ideology and behave like victims.

#### **MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM**

"Alcohol and drug abuse among Saskatchewan's Indian population represents the most serious and pressing social and health problem faced by Indian communities. The range and severity of negative social, economic and health factors that are known to be associated with alcohol and drug abuse are overwhelming. Alcohol and drug abuse has been

and crisis problems and situations that would affect Indian people in later generations.

Some of the Indian elders feel that the alcohol problems started when the second generation of Indian people (1920-1930) who went through the residential school system reached adulthood. This generation did not have the opportunities to practice the traditional Indian ceremonies and lifestyle because of the enforced ending and legal prohibition of Indian ceremonies and dances that started in the 1915-20 era. The decreasing traditional economic independence, length of socialization within the residential school system and increasing access to alcohol all contributed to the growing consumption of alcohol. Since alcohol was prohibited to Indian people up to 1951, the pattern of drinking until the supply of alcohol was exhausted and/or members passed out developed. Alcohol gradually replaced other Indian forms of social interactions as the focal point of socializing.

The third generation of Indian people is already affected in that they have grown up witnessing alcohol abuse and related problems in their families and/or communities and where alcohol abuse is a socially acceptable mechanism for positive interpersonal functioning and where the western dominant culture does not provide substitute outlets.

### Leading Causes of Death in Saskatchewan

- ACCIDENTS/VIOLENCE
- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Other

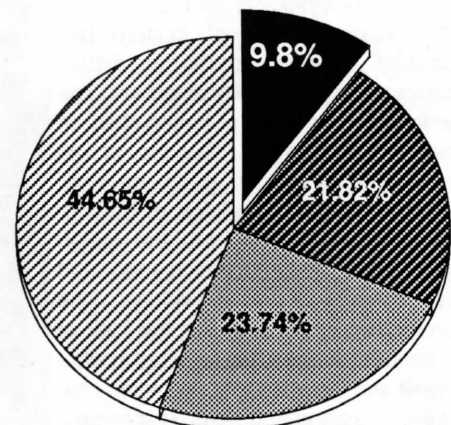
Indian culture as backward, irrelevant, uncivilized, all in the past, and/or as a sub-culture. These Indian people may see being an Indian in negative terms such as the poverty, low socio-economic lifestyle, powerlessness, alcohol/drug abuse and other manifestations of a weak and inferior subculture. They may adopt feelings of superiority and knowledge because they attained a higher standard of education and "white" lifestyle. Consequently in the process of trying to be "white", the traditional Indian knowledge, worldview, wisdom, experience and the way of life which could foster positive identity eludes them.

Many Indian people who are being caught between two cultures and lack the knowledge, opportunity and skills to survive or balance and integrate the two cultures, experience anomic depression. Anomic depression among Indian people is characterized by feelings of disorientation, confusion, lack of positive Indian identity and self image, insecurities, powerlessness, anger, shame, humiliation, pity, inferiority, apathy, fear of change and dependency. These feelings are especially heightened during the critical adolescence and young adult phase of life. If these feelings are not dealt with and faced, they develop into a pattern of negative behaviors, that are acted out internally and/or externally. In most cases, these feelings are internalized because Indian people have been told for so long that they are

correlated with negative socio-economic conditions, availability of alcohol/drugs, familial and peer group pressure and cultural conflicts resulting in anomie."

The Indian Elders feel that as a whole, the first generation of Indian people that were exposed to the industrial and residential school system were felt to be minimally influenced compared to later generations. The relative socio-economic independence, cultural intactness of the traditional Indian way of life ... and little exposure to the white society and alcohol were all factors that minimized chronic

### Non-Indian





# SIAP

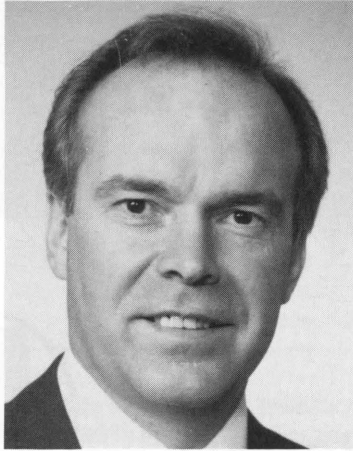
## Annual Report

### 1987-88





## Premier Grant Devine



On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I am very pleased to extend sincere congratulations to the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program (SIAP) for another prosperous year.

The history of our province, is a story of people getting together to help develop, improve and build for Saskatchewan residents. Your program is proof that this tradition is still strong and plays an extremely important role in assisting farmers to expand their agricultural technology.

I am proud of the agricultural accomplishments in Saskatchewan, and confident that the innovation of Saskatchewan farmers will continue to benefit agriculture.

I commend the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program for the high level of support you generate and extend best wishes for another successful year.

Grant Devine  
Premier

## Bill Cooke-Regional Director General, INAC

Agriculture in Saskatchewan offers major challenges and rewarding opportunities for Indian people in this province. SIAP has displayed wisdom and insight in many agricultural developments and plays a vital role in assisting Indian farmers to develop and expand their agricultural skills and operations. SIAP's commitment to Indian youth leadership and skill development is also commended.

On behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Saskatchewan Region, I congratulate those involved in SIAP and the Saskatchewan Indian farming community. We wish the program and its clientel continued progress.

Bill Cooke

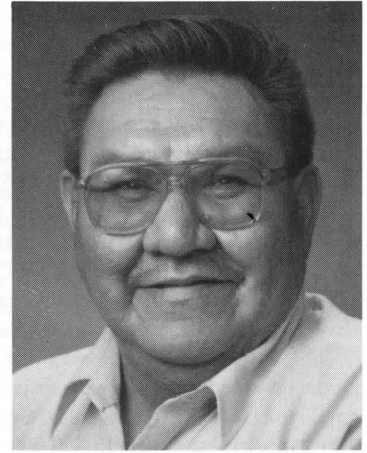




## Gerry Starr-Chairman

We are nearing the end of the challenge of the eighties. Drought, inflation, low commodity prices and water shortage are some of the problems still with us. However, between the money problem areas evident in the past year, the Program is encouraged to note some highlights as well - notably: 1) A first ever Indian Youth Business Conference; 2) A closer working relationship with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations through the development of an Indian Agriculture Act; 3) Strategic investment financing with SIAP joint venturing proposals; 4) Wild Rice and northern products market investigations abroad; 5) An agreed upon effort to help existing farmers survive these difficult times; 6) An inaugural equity financing plan to access off reserve land for experienced Indian farmers; 7) Continuing direct loan and loan guarantee assistance through SILCO and other lending institutions; 8) Continuous discussion and revamping of policy regulations to accommodate prudent use of budget funds; 9) Maximum realistic cost benefit ratios for development extension and training activities; 10) A concerted, determined and comprehensive approach, involving all governments to resolve problems as they crop up; and 11) We are still involved in the formation of the northern agriculture program.

From a general standpoint, these endeavours are happening, the resolutions are just a matter of time. Continued good farming!



*G Starr*

Gerry Starr

## Ken Thomas-Program Manager



SIAP has responded to the farm debt problem by developing the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company and our success rate in repaying loans is better than the national average.

SIAP also sees a bright future in diversification of agriculture beyond regular farming into agriculture, an example is the seed cleaning plant planned by the Starblanket band. Over the past year, prices have rebounded and in some cases have doubled. This is due largely to the drought and the laws of supply and demand. But many Indian farmers are well positioned to take advantage of higher prices.

The SIAP Northern Program did very well this year with good harvests in blueberries, wild rice and trout. We hope to see strong growth in this sector.

In response to the rapid growth in Northern products, SIAP Marketing has responded by seeking out new markets in the United States, Europe and Japan.

In the future, our program of diversification in agriculture should see continued growth on all fronts as SIAP continues to respond to the Indian farmer's changing needs.

*K Thomas*

Ken Thomas

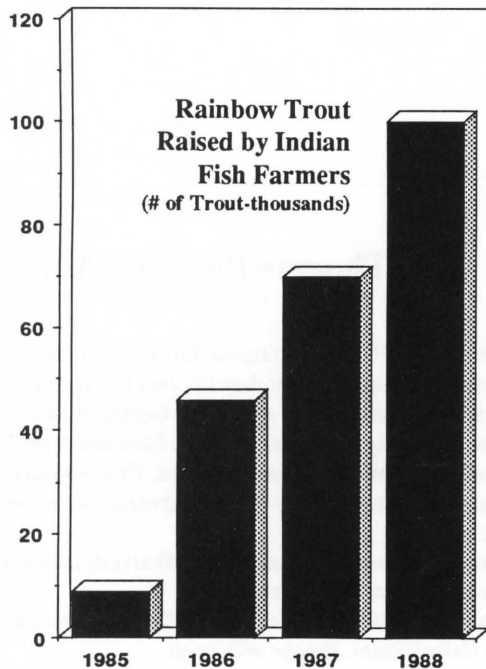




## Northern Agriculture Report

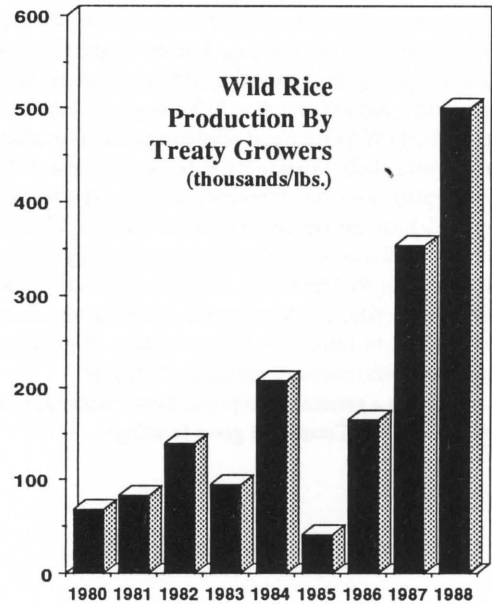
**WILD RICE**-SIAP is continuing to work with wild rice growers in an effort to establish viable commercial production. In 1987, fifty-two Treaty growers harvested a record 353,890 pounds of green rice. SIAP assisted 25 Treaty growers get harvesters in 1986-87 using the Saskatchewan Wild Rice Council's Half-Grant Program and Harvester Construction Program. A SILCO loan helped the Peter Ballantyne Band purchase the wild rice improvements on the Mokoman River which will be used as a seed bank by band members.

The wild rice processing plant in La Ronge which is 70 percent owned by northern Bands processed 657,000 pounds of rice, employed twenty-six people, had a payroll of \$51,142 and finished a very successful season with \$50,000 in a savings account.

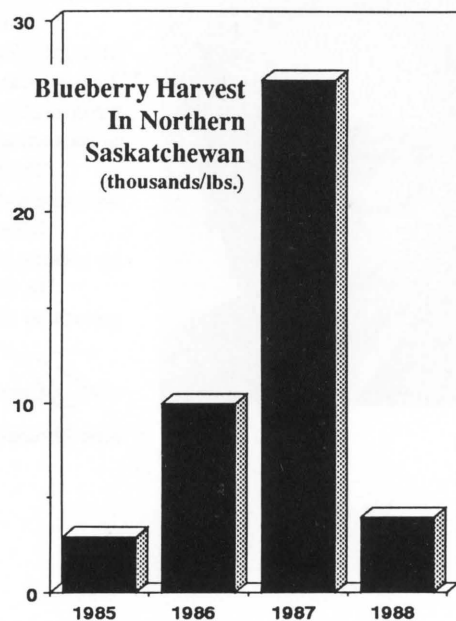


**BLUEBERRY HARVEST**-SIAP help set up twenty blueberry purchasing depots across the north and northern native people harvested a record 27,000 pounds of berries.

**MUSHROOMS**-In a small area south of La Ronge, 50,000 pounds of mushrooms worth over \$100,000 were harvested in 1987.



**FISH FARMING**-The SIAP Aquaculture Project helped ten people purchase and raise 70,000 rainbow trout in net pen enclosures located on seven lakes in northern Saskatchewan. By year end, less than twelve percent of the fish had been lost and their average weight was nine ounces.



## Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company (SILCO)

The Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company is now in its third year of operation and have granted over one hundred seventy loans totalling \$2.8 million in this period. In spite of a poor agricultural climate, loan repayments have been fairly good. Arrears on loans as at year end were running at approximately five percent which is below the industry average. During the fiscal year 1987/88, fifty-seven loans were made for capital and operating purposes.

Plans for the coming year are to expand our capital base to meet the increased demand for credit by Indian farmers. We have also finalized a study on Equity Financing for the acquisition of farm land for Indian farmers. Negotiations are now underway with the province and other investors for funding. We are hopeful that the two initiatives will be successful in the year ahead.

### Summary of Extension Activities by Districts For the period April 1, 1987-March 31, 1988

Activities For The Year	Fort Qu'Appelle	Meadow Lake	North Battleford	Prince Albert	Saskatoon	Shellbrook	Yorkton	Northern	TOTAL /YEAR
<b>GROUP ACTIVITIES ATTENDED BY DISTRICT STAFF</b>									
•Band Council Meeting .....	17	12	12	1	8	34	3	4	91
•Ag. District Board Meeting .....	7	2	6	5	8	8	10	2	48
•Other Adult Meeting or Activity .....	122	37	20	4	20	15	42	40	300
•4-H Meeting or Youth Activity .....	5	5	58	14	10	18	8	23	141
•Staff Training Activity .....	23	2	16	3	10	9	8	8	79
•Attended as:									
Organizer .....	66	13	27	1	12	2	8	11	140
Resource Person .....	77	29	61	1	18	71	49	24	330
Observer .....	27	2	13	0	25	11	14	8	100
<b>TRAINING ACTIVITIES HELD</b>									
•Short Courses .....	4	0	2	0	5	4	3	1	19
•Workshops, Field Days, Tours, etc. ....	7	4	15	10	10	8	20	6	80
•Total Client Attendance .....	51	11	97	6	161	90	191	54	661
•Fairs, Shows, Seminars, etc. held .....	0	0	3	3	12	2	3	1	24
<b>INDIVIDUAL CONTACTS AND FAMILIES</b>									
•Established Farmers .....	545	70	198	65	242	293	174	72	1,659
•New Farmers .....	329	21	201	45	109	133	110	82	1,030
•Band Farm or Enterprise .....	49	29	18	3	10	40	44	13	206
•Home Calls .....	78	0	83	47	76	0	23	2	309
•Reserve Visits .....	255	86	104	24	84	198	76	45	872
•Other Visits .....	193	55	89	39	41	42	36	87	582
•Phone Interviews and Contacts .....	454	627	355	292	87	456	72	99	2,442
•Phone Calls: In .....	1,205	1,332	1,081	499	537	590	627	344	6,215
Out .....	1,990	1,177	1,058	684	949	846	819	189	7,712
<b>OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED</b>									
•Group Applications (SIAP Board) .....	11	1	0	2	4	7	17	2	44
•Individual Applications (SIAP Board) .....	188	10	21	25	26	22	73	0	365
•Other Applications .....	117	7	53	34	32	7	79	22	351
•Ag. Rep. Letters .....	0	0	2	315	3	0	0	2	322
•News, Articles .....	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	5	13
•Radio, TV, Other .....	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	7	26
•Number Written Materials Sent .....	832	398	460	294	2,012	32	211	54	4,293
<b>PERCENTAGE TIME</b>									
•Office .....	48%	40%	53%	63%	44%	51%	47%	53%	50%
•Field .....	52%	60%	47%	37%	56%	49%	53%	47%	50%





## SIAP Marketing Co.



Northern Saskatchewan had a bumper crop of blueberries in 1988.

Wild Rice harvester on a northern lake.



SIAP Marketing Company has continued to strive towards supporting a comprehensive northern Saskatchewan agricultural development program. This strategy is based on using the natural resources of the north to the maximum extent in concert with the experience and capabilities of the northern people.

### WILD RICE

To this end, the initial support has been to the wild rice enterprise. The major expansion in production has required the development of new markets. SIAP Marketing Company has completed negotiations with firms in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands and France and has initiated contact with Japanese firms. These external markets are in addition to market developments in Canada and USA.

### WILD BERRIES

The strategy also includes maximizing the markets for fresh berries picked in the north. The enthusiasm of pickers in the north has encouraged the organizing of buying depots and the marketing of these berries.

Longer term strategies involve the marketing of these products into the larger city centres of Saskatchewan. Other products such as wild mushrooms, herbs and medicinal plants are receiving close scrutiny.

SIAP Marketing Company is considering marketing strategies in support of other ventures such as fish farming and blueberries.

## Farming To Win

Some of the most successful farm families were amongst the thirty-five SIAP farm units who enrolled in Farming to Win (FTW). The farm families enrolled in the program come from the following districts: Four from the Fort Qu'Appelle District; Twelve from Yorkton; Four from Saskatoon; and Fifteen from the North Battleford District.

At these courses the families evaluated and clarified their farm and family goals. Farming to Win also served as a method of planning for their best possible results in the future. It's a program that helps families make tough decisions required during these changing times.

The families who took FTW rated it highly. This program gives farm families a better understanding of financial planning and management. It also gives them the opportunity to use what they learn. After each classroom session, there is an opportunity to apply the newly learned theories to one's own family farm. This proved to



**Above: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neapetung from Nut Lake.**



**Instructor Cyril Laforge works with students Gloria Rediron and Clarence Gardipy.**

be an excellent program for families in the business of farming and for families planning to make farming their business.

SIAP families did as well or better than the 1700 families who took the course provincially. Goal setting, financial statements and computerized farm business planning was well accepted by SIAP farm families.



# 1987-88 Annual Report



## Prince Albert Report



Velma Longjohn from Sturgeon Lake with her Greenhouse tomatoes.

The harvest of 1987 provided reasonable yields in the Prince Albert District, but financial expectations were suppressed due to extremely low grain prices. As a result, many of the farmers experienced financial difficulties. However, they managed to pull through.

The livestock industry has expanded to another reserve with a member from Little Red River (Lac La Ronge Band) receiving ten-cow policy. Individuals from the Sturgeon Lake and Red Earth Bands also received 10-cow projects. The Community Pasture at James Smith has started a 10-cow project. As well, they handled over 900 cows with calves over the summer. Winter feed supplies were enhanced by a drainage project of hay meadows at Shoal Lake. Many reserves will be increasing their forage base by the spring seeding of additional acres into hay. Cattle operations seem to be doing well.

Extension services have continued as other years, with emphasis on cattle management and record keeping. Our two market gardens seem to be progressing quite well. One has recently set up a greenhouse and plans to sell plants and vegetables from her operation. Over the winter our district

sponsored a Pest Control Officer Course. Results were successful with over ten people receiving their Class 4-A, Rodent Control Certificate. Training courses in cattle and pasture management were also attended over the winter. The PFRA Shelterbelt Trees and the Strawberry project appear to be popular and ongoing programs. Again we had another successful 4-H summer with our garden and poultry projects and Indian 4-H Camp at Lake Diefenbaker. Our harvest year end was highlighted by the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program's Annual Meeting that was held in Prince Albert, followed by the well-attended Farmers Day Ball.

## DISTRICT

## North Battleford Report

The farmers and those interested in agricultural development had to mark time a bit this past year. Low commodity prices and drought were the factors that none could control.

Contributions did make an impact on eighteen farmers with a total investment of \$100,000. SIAP loan guarantees afforded \$125,000 worth of leverage for producers needing to arrange for spring inputs. SILCO also became involved in our district by arranging \$140,000 in long term machinery financing.

The ten cow policy was well used with five families purchasing their starter herd.

Land development was the other major investment of SARDA contribution dollars.

Our district board, led by Garry Albert of Sweetgrass, sponsored events and guided extension education activities. Some highlights are: Wills and estates need to be better understood and our board invited Gail Potts from Indian Affairs to outline legalities and answer questions; Farmers studied a proposal for financing the purchase of off-reserve land. Their questions and recom-

mendations were incorporated into the final report; Farming to Win - A goals directed farm management course was well received again this year.

All participants were starting farmers and they developed their own proposals as part of the course; and, The 4-H Program was again innovative. Summer projects such as gardening were aided by the input of workers from the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).

The staff complement changed. Ken Sten, Farm Financial Advisor since April 1980, moved to the Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan. Our district board gave him a nice farewell supper and wished him well. Caroline Maze was hired to fill the vacant position, in April of this year. Caroline was the unanimous choice of the district board hiring team. She is known to many families for her contract work with SIAP in the gardening and landscaping area.

Several reserves are wanting to develop more comprehensive agricultural development plans and our extension staff is looking forward to assisting with that planning process.

## Shellbrook Report

Grain farmers had another tough year in that yields were only fair and prices were low. Pasture and hay crops were fair to good.

SIAP has emphasized livestock and tame forage crops. With the help of Special ARDA and SIAP, there were 230 cows purchased by Indian farmers during 1987-88. SIAP staff helped farmers to purchase good quality young cows.

SIAP, over a three year period, financed the breaking, working down and seeding of 500 acres to brome and alfalfa for winter feed supplies for the farmers on the Big River Reserve. This source of hay, along with native hay and farmers seeding forage on their land will mean that farmers can expand their herds. On all four reserves,

SIAP purchased forage seed for 6 farmers to increase their pastures and feed supplies.

Tractor repair and maintenance courses were held on the four reserves. These are hands-on courses in that farmers work on their own tractors with the guidance of qualified mechanics.

SIAP staff helped farmers purchase good used machinery. They were mainly tractors with front end loaders and haying machinery. Rainbow trout production by one farmer is doing well and working towards viability.

Another project helped by SIAP is blueberry production. The crop was poor this year.

# REPORTS

## Touchwood File Hills-Qu'Appelle Report

This past year has been busy but very rewarding for our Staff and District. Staff additions included Vince Bellegarde, additional extension worker; Gil Watson, accounting consultant and Jim Halford, farm management specialist. Crops in the district varied. The southern portion of the district experienced severe grasshopper infestations accompanied by drought while the northern portion realized more average crops.

Land development still continues to be a large component in our district through the use of Special ARDA. Interest for landscaping and PFRA trees increased. The Yorkton Horticulturalist again provided valuable information and guidance on these projects.

The Band farms continue to successfully diversify into special crop production such as mustard and canary seed. Livestock interest is increasing with six new applicants on the ten cow programs and 8 farmers expanding their existing herds.

SILCO continues to provide a valuable source of financing for expansion, operating and equity loans. SILCO has also been very active in bridge-financing of Special ARDA projects. The poor harvest in some portions of the District placed heavy financial pressure on farmers trying to repay their ACS production loans. Wascana, in conjunction with SIAP District staff, provided training programs such as the combine clinics. SDA's Farming to Win Program seems successfully implemented into our district.

There was an excellent response to the fuel rebate program. The bulk permit number sign up is proceeding well towards its 100 percent completion date in February, 1989. The computer profiling of clients reached its one hundred percent goal of completion. Bookkeeping awareness strengthened with 145 clients keeping records.

Through our extensive farm call program we were able to provide farmers with management, planning and budgeting advice. The 4-H interest was high and the poultry, hog and garden projects were successful. The year has been very active for our staff and farmers and we look forward to working closely with the farmers and wish them well in their endeavours.



Clayton Cyr, Wheat Pool Rep. calibrating Valmar Granular Applicator at Millet Control Field Day on a Pasqua Band Farm.





## Yorkton Report

### SIAP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following projects took place in the Yorkton District: Seventeen individual projects and four band projects received contribution assistance in Yorkton District for agriculture operations; Four individuals and band operations had SILCO loans; and four individuals received assistance under SIAP's 10-cow policy criteria.

The Saskatchewan provincial government contributed monies towards the following projects which took place on Yorkton District Indian Reserves: Rat Control-Fieldworker Policy; and Agriculture Development Fund-Eight projects.

### DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

District staff maintain farm calls and active one-to-one extension activities; Horticulturalist on staff as a part-time position and held

several horticulture related workshops; District staff organized 2 Farming To Win groups during the winter months. With the 2 groups, 12 farm couples participated in the course; Held a soil conservation workshop on Sakimay in cooperation with the Sakimay Land Authority office; Sponsored individuals for training courses at Wascana Institute in Regina, as well as local workshops/seminars in the area.

The 4-H Program had an active year in the areas of poultry, swine and gardening projects. The poultry and swine projects proved to be the most popular.

The district staff have been actively promoting a rat control program for reserves in Yorkton District. Band pastures have also had a good year. The demand for pasture is high and grass conditions have been relatively good. Grain operations have been hit hard by poor prices, however, the Western Grain Stabilization Program and Canada Special Grains programs have helped to average out farm income on most operations.

## DISTRICT

### Meadow Lake Report

Good grain and forage crops were produced in the district in the summer of 1987. All livestock producers were able to put up sufficient feed supplies.

The depressed grain prices put great pressure on grain farmers to manage in such a way as to keep their operations alive. With the various assistance programs and good crops, all grain operators remain in business.

Triple J. Ranch finished 174 head in McQueens Feedlot at Tessier. Gains and prices were good, and costs reasonable. This completes their first six year contract with the Saskatchewan Beef Stabilization Board.

Three fish farms at Patuanak, Loon Lake, and Ministikwan raised trout with good success. One cage at Patuanak produced fish weighing an average of forty ounces at 18 months of age. One individual at Ministikwan suffered a great loss with the theft of 5,000 one-pound fish. The Keeley Lake Wild Rice Seed Bank produced a record crop in excess of 30,000 pounds which were distributed for seed.

Three individuals acquired wild rice harvesters and did their first commercial harvest. The five fur farmers in the district remain in business. One fitch operation is showing good results. The Derocher fox operation sold feeder foxes to an established ranch for finishing.

One cattleman at Waterhen expanded by 45 cows utilizing Special ARDA funding. The District Board sponsored a Pest Control Project which is showing good results with the Pest Control Officer, and becoming well-known and utilized on all reserves. 4-H was active in the district with clubs operating on five reserves, and a full contingent attending 4-H Camp at Camp Rayner.



Silver Fox owned by the Clarence Durocher Fox Farm at Meadow Lake.



## Saskatoon Report

In the 1987/88 crop year, farmers in the Saskatoon district harvested an average crop. With low grain prices and high input costs a sharp drop in net farm income occurred. As a result, farmers relied on Western Grain Stabilization Payments, crop insurance and the federal government deficiency payments, in order to survive.

On the other hand, livestock producers enjoyed good prices for their cattle due to the availability of cheap feed and grain. Farmers in the district diversified and this year we saw a large number of farmers looking at speciality crops as a source of cash. With that in mind, workshops geared towards the marketing and production of special crops were held in the district. Some farmers planted small acreages of peas and canary seed.

SIAP extension services provided by the district staff continued to play a major role in farm planning in the development of successful farm units in the Saskatoon district. There is no doubt that timely information and high quality extension is the key to a successful extension program in reaching farmers on reserves. SIAP is also high on training. For that reason, short courses, field days and farm

tours were held to help farmers improve their skills. The Saskatoon District Board attempted to put on courses as requested, especially those that will most fill the needs of farmers.

SIAP/Special ARDA financial assistance was available to

farmers leading to the start up of four new livestock producers on Beardy's, Mistawasis, and Kinistin Reserves. The expansion of four existing livestock operations to a viable stage on One Arrow and Beardy's Reserve took place. Land development projects totalling nine hundred acres were developed on Beardy's, Kinistin and the Nut Lake Reserves.

SIAP/SILCO loan guarantees were available for farmers to secure spring operating expenses from local banks and credit unions. Also, SILCO provided a number of farmers with direct operating loans which were secured by assignment of the farmer's Crop Insurance, etc.

Eight campers from five reserves in the Saskatoon District participated in the 14th Annual 4-H Camp at Rayner Centre on Lake Diefenbaker, August 18-22. In total, 56 campers from across the province participated in social, agricultural and recreational activities. One goal of the camp is to encourage campers to participate in 4-H Club activities on their return home.

Thirty seven gardens, 25 poultry projects and 4 swine projects were completed involving 80 members from 5 different reserves in the district.

Finally the district board would like to acknowledge Mr. Walter Bear for his contribution and leadership in the development of agriculture in the Saskatoon district as well as the provincial level, and to congratulate Bryan Bear for his graduation from the School of Agriculture and becoming the first winner of the Henry Favel Memorial Scholarship.

# REPORTS



Leona Burnette with her Llama Project.





## 4-H Report

Over twelve hundred showed the true spirit of 4-H by using their:

Head	...	to learn new things;
Heart	...	to work well together;
Hands	...	to do things for themselves and for neighbors; and
Health	...	to become a better person.



Shelley Tootoosis (above) from Poundmaker at Indian 4-H Camp.

The Indian 4-H Program took a lead role in the Indian Youth Business Conference held in the fall of 1988.

Shown right, is one of the five working groups.



Youth from over thirty reserves took the 4-H motto "Learn To Do By Doing" to heart with 549 gardeners; 241 with poultry; Fifteen were pilot members of the new swine project; and 56 campers took part in 4-H Camp.

Important to the participation of these young people were more than sixty adult volunteer 4-H leaders.

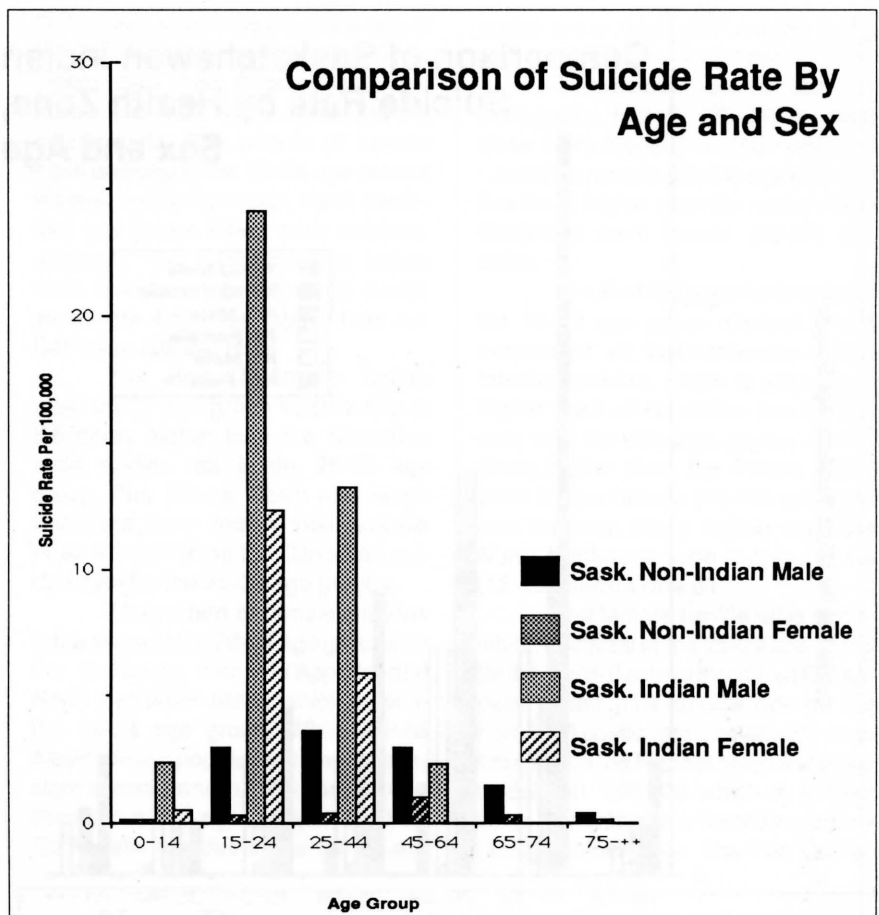
Other activities included: The second annual 4-H Communications Weekend which attracted 23 youth from 11-13 years of age; Curling teams from Dillon and Poundmaker took part in the 4-H Provincial Bonspiel; Three leaders from the T.F.H.Q. District attended the Montana 4-H Leader Forum and two volunteers from Sweet Grass 4-H Club took part in the Western 4-H Leader Forum in Alberta; and, initial planning was started towards the first ever Indian Youth Business Conference.

Good cooperation continues between this program and the Saskatchewan 4-H Program. SIAP 4-H Designated Staff continue to spend a portion of their time on 4-H including: George Tourangeau from the Yorkton District; Paulette Bear from the Touchwood File Hills-Fort Qu'Appelle District; Doug Homer, La Ronge District; Erland Sten, Meadow Lake; Louis Jouan, Shellbrook; Harold Greyeyes, Battleford District; Betty Marleau and Mal Sanderson from the Prince Albert District.

Moreover, this generation is increasingly caught in the paradox of two cultures, in that one to two generations of their parents and grandparents have been socialized in the residential school system, missionary schools and the paternalistic policies, practices and attitudes of institutional racism within the reserve level.

Among the fourth generation of Indian people there is an increasing majority of Indian youth and young adults caught between two cultures to a greater degree than the third generation of Indian people. In addition to the similar lifestyle problems and issues of the third generation, this generation of Indian people has been institutionalized in residential schools, correctional centres, juvenile detention and holding institutions, foster and adoption homes. The frequency and use of alcohol and drugs are more widespread in the fourth generation. In the FSIN study on alcohol and drug abuse among Treaty Indians in Saskatchewan, the findings indicated that "there is a very high probability that alcohol abuse levels are between thirty-five and forty percent of the adult population; similarly, drug abuse levels are between 20-25 percent of this population. Alcohol abuse among the adolescence population 15-19 years of age is in the ten to fifteen percent range, while drug abuse is in the five to ten percent range. The use of alcohol and drugs is widespread and patterns of "binge" consumption are a rule."

The Indian people who reside in urban areas experience institutional racism. The location of their homes, the racial composition of their neighborhood and schools, their social degradation and experiences of racial discrimination are a few examples. Drinking among off reserve Indians is often attributed to ease feelings of loneliness, rejection and anomie. In this generation we also see the greater prevalence of Indian women who are subjected to tensions which result from an alcoholic husband which results in the women starting to drink as well. However, Indian women, because of their traditional roles as caregivers, are generally less at risk in developing an alcohol/drug abuse lifestyle.



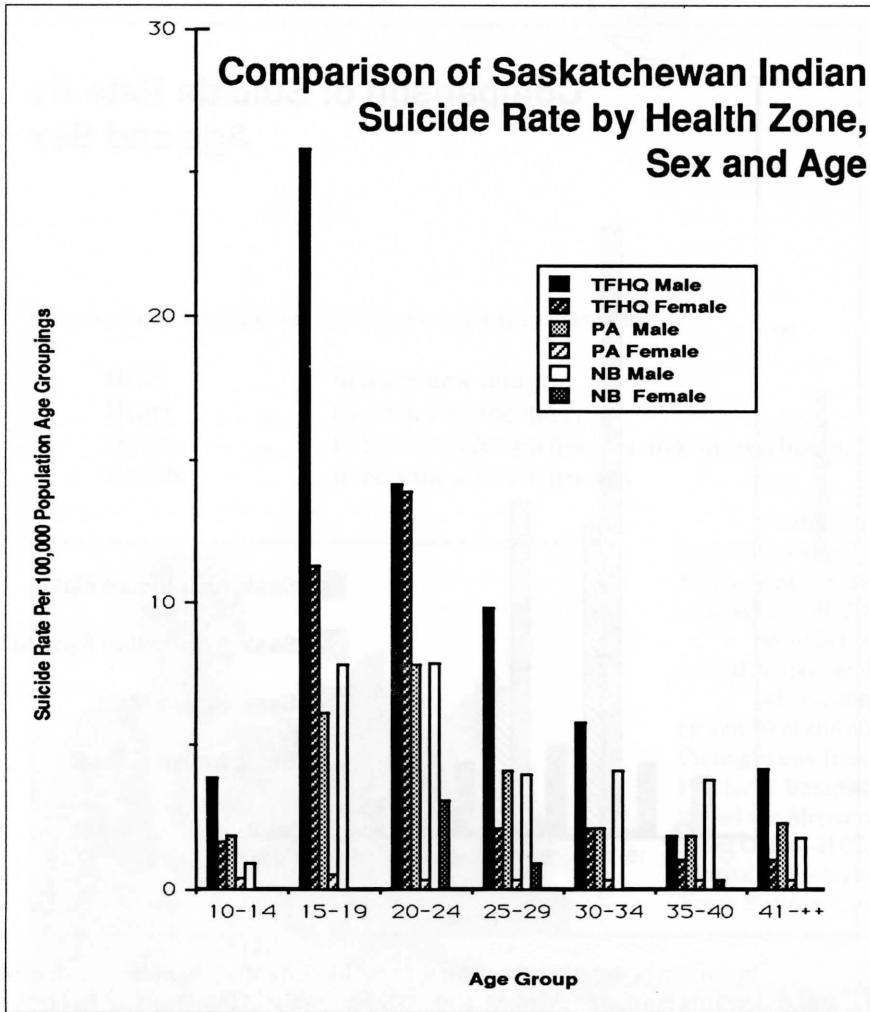
In the fifth generation, there are trends towards the use of chemical and solvent abuse among Indian adolescents. These observations parallel findings in research into chemical and solvent inhalent among American Indian adolescents which showed that the highest rates of current use of inhalents to be under 13 years of age, with the average age of first exposure to inhalents being eleven years old.

#### LIFESTYLE CHANGES NEEDED

Once Indian people are caught in an alcohol/drug/solvent abuse situation, it becomes increasingly difficult to change their lifestyle. In most Indian communities, there are social and peer pressures exerted by friends and others to continue in that negative lifestyle. The social function of alcohol/drug use and abuse along with personal insecurities, self-concept and identity problems, are factors which contribute to reinforce the lifestyle. If some individuals should stop they can lose or be

avoided by their friends and families who are still in that lifestyle. The lack of alternative programs and services through social, recreational, educational, cultural and economic endeavors also contribute and often forces people back into the alcohol/drug abuse lifestyle. The fear of being alone, apprehensions about accusations of trying to be superior and feelings of shame and "false pride" often prevent many Indian people from seeking help and assistance from their own people or programs.

As a result of alcohol abuse and its associated problems, Indian children are considerably more likely to experience more disruptions including loss of significant others, i.e. parents, relatives, siblings, friends through family breakups, desertions and through suicides and alcohol related violent and accidental deaths. These combine to make the experience of significant and repeated loss of significant others a common phenomenon



tality rate due to suicidal, violent and accidental deaths. Among the Saskatchewan Indians, over 40 percent of the deaths were caused by accidents, violences and suicides. The accidental, violent and suicidal death rate for the non-Indian population in 1980 was 9.8%. Accidents, poisoning and violence causing 40.6 percent of all Saskatchewan Indian deaths in 1980.

In another statistical comparative research into Indian youth (15-29) suicides; research into British Columbia's Indian youth (15-29) suicides showed that this age group accounted for 62 percent of the total British Columbia Indian suicides in 1977, 81 percent in 1978 and 75 percent in 1979. These comparisons would suggest that the problems of Indian youth suicides in Saskatchewan are not unique to this province, but national in scope.

The Saskatchewan Indian suicide rates reveal the abrupt elevation of suicides from the 0-14 age category, peaking at the 15-24 age group, declining less steeply in the 25-44 and 45-64 age groupings, and disappearing in the 65+ age groupings. This compares to a rather gradual decline in suicide rates in both the Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian populations, which peaks at the 25-44 age grouping. The Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian suicide rates then descend just as gradually through to the age 75+ age grouping. The comparisons of suicides between the Indian and their Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian counterparts is also disproportionate after the age of sixty-five years, as it is in the adolescent and young adult age groups.

In comparing the populations' suicide rates by age groupings, marked contrasts appear from the 0-14 age grouping is 27.5 times higher and 33.6 times higher than the Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian counterparts respectively. In the 15-24 age grouping, the Saskatchewan Indian suicide rate is 11.5 times and 10.5 times higher than the Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian counterparts. The 25-44 age groups show a Saskatchewan Indian suicide rate of 3.6 times and 4.7 times higher than their respective Canadian and Sas-

for many Indian adults and children, especially in the third, fourth and fifth generations. Indian children are more likely than their non-Indian counterparts to experience the loss of parents, relatives, siblings and friends. In some instances, children witness violence leading to death, thus being directly traumatized.

Many of these behavioral problem children are sent off to boarding schools because of their home situation at an earlier age and as a result of losses caused by death, desertion or divorce, many other children have more than one caregiver in their lives, i.e.: foster homes.

#### **SUICIDE AND VIOLENT DEATH**

All too often the result of behavioral problems created by racism both overt and institutionalized is suicide. Indian people, particularly young Indian

people have rates of suicide and violent deaths that far exceed the rates for non-Indians.

An inspection of the comparison of mortality by leading causes of deaths among the Saskatchewan Indian and non-Indian populations brings out several peculiarities.

The most common cause of death for the Saskatchewan non-Indian population for the year 1980 is heart disease. It claims 23.5 percent of all those who died in the province. Neoplasm (cancer) is the second most common cause of death, which claims 21.6 percent of Saskatchewan non-Indian deaths. This compares with the Saskatchewan Indian population's heart disease deaths which claimed 17.8 percent and cancer which claimed 8.4 percent in the year 1980.

Another striking contrast between the two populations is the mor-

katchewan non-Indian equivalents. The suicide rate per 100,000 is about equal in the 45-64 age group for all the populations. The Saskatchewan Indian suicide rate after the age of sixty-five is non-existent in this five year time period, while the Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian suicide rates continue to recede to approximately 10 per 100,000 in the 65-74 age group and six per 100,000 in the 75+ age group.

The statistics also indicate that the male to female suicide rates of the Canadian and Saskatchewan non-Indian and Indian populations varies. The Canadian male to female suicide rate is 3:1, while that of the Saskatchewan non-Indian populations is 4:1, and Saskatchewan Indian population's male to female suicide ratio is 2:1. This indicates that the suicide discrepancy between sexes among the Saskatchewan Indian population is narrowed compared to the Canadian and Saskatchewan male to female suicide ratio. This difference could be generalized to the importance of racism and its overall impacts on Indian people versus socio-economic status and sex within the population.

**SUICIDE RATES VARY GEOGRAPHICALLY**

When the Saskatchewan Indian suicide rates by Indian health zones and sex are compared to each other and the Canadian suicide rates; and by breaking down the 15-29 age groups into 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29 age groups; the rates, patterns and variances by the age grouping reveal the following information. The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian male in the 15-19 age are the highest risk group for the Saskatchewan Indian youth population. Their male suicide rate is 24 times higher than the Canadian male aged 15-19 group and four times and 3.5 times higher than their Prince Albert and North Battleford Indian male, aged 15-19 counterparts respectively.

The male suicide rate continued to be the highest in the 20-24 age group in the Fort Qu'Appelle zone, where the suicide rate is nine times higher than the Canadian suicide rate for the 20-24 age group. The Fort

Qu'Appelle Indian male suicide rate in the 20-24 age group is also two times higher than their Prince Albert and North Battleford India male (20-24) counterparts. The pattern of suicide rates peaking in the 20-24 age groups is similar in the Canadian, North Battleford and Prince Albert male suicides, although, the Saskatchewan Indian male suicide rates in the two health zones are 4.5 times higher than the Canadian (20-24) male.

The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian male 25-29 age group suicide rate is 6.6 times higher than the Canadian male suicide rate in the 25-29 age group. The Prince Albert and North Battleford zone Indian male suicide rates are 3.3 times the Canadian suicide rate for the 25-29 age groups.

The pattern of female suicides is the same in the 20-24 age groups for the Canadian, Fort Qu'Appelle and North Battleford zones which peak in the 20-24 age group. While Prince Albert female population remains constant at about one suicide per 100,000 throughout the age groups, the Fort Qu'Appelle females in the 20-24 age

group are a "high risk" suicide group with a suicide rate of 13.8 per 100,000.

This suicide rate for the Fort Qu'Appelle female (20-24) is forty-three times higher than the number of Canadian female (20-24) suicides and five times higher than the rate of North Battleford zone female (20-24) suicides.

The Fort Qu'Appelle females in the 15-19 age group account for 92 percent of all Saskatchewan Indian female suicides, which is sixty times higher than all Canadian female suicide rate for this age group; eleven times higher than the Prince Albert zone Indian female (15-19) rate, and one hundred times higher than the North Battleford zone Indian female (15-19) suicide rate.

The female suicide rates diminish distinctively in the 25-29 age group for the North Battleford and Fort Qu'Appelle zones. The suicide rate for the Fort Qu'Appelle females (25-29) continues to be the highest at a suicide rate of 5.7 per 100,000 which is sixteen times higher than the Canadian female (25-29) suicide rate. The Fort Qu'Appelle

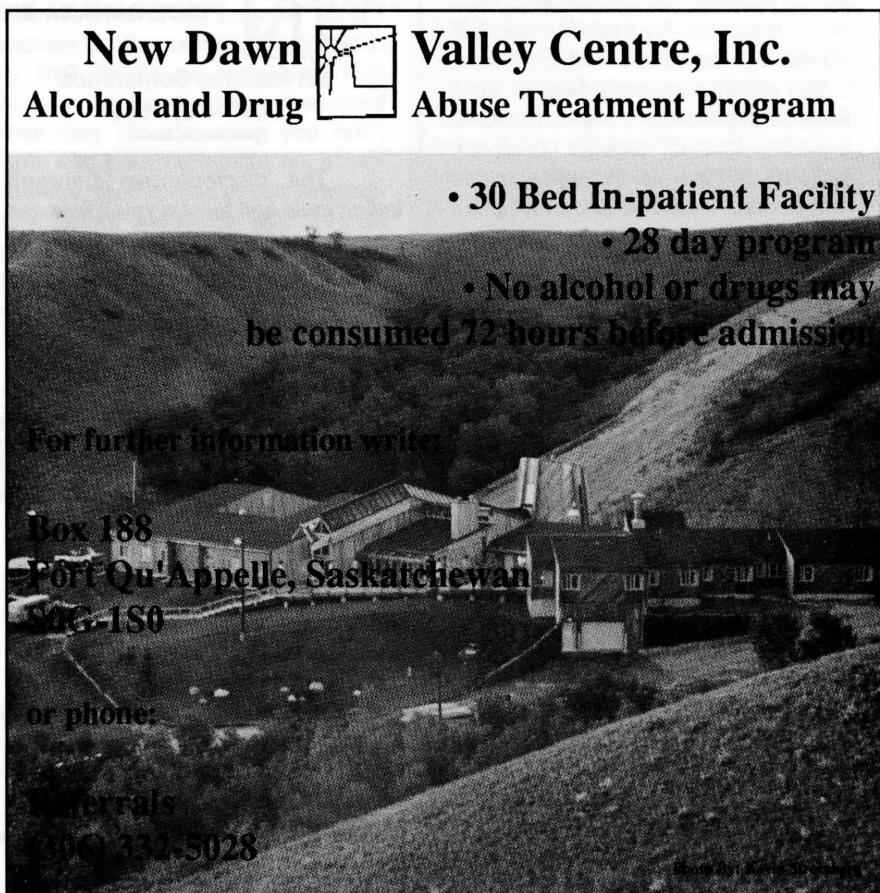
**New Dawn Valley Centre, Inc.**  
**Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Program**



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pelle females (25-29) are 6.4 times and four times more likely to commit suicide than the Prince Albert and North Battleford zones' Indian females in the 25-29 age group.

The socio-cultural disintegration of Indian people appears to have a marked effect on Indian youth (15-29), who represent the fourth and fifth generation, since enforced assimilation was implemented. In general, socio-cultural disintegration factors such as Indian self concept and identity, family disruptions, high drop out rates, alcohol and drug abuse and the length and frequency of Euro-Canadian contact can lead to suicide attempts and actual suicide. It has been found in studies on Indian adolescent suicide that the suicide victims tend to come from backgrounds where they have experienced many more disruptions in the early formative years of their lives. These disruptions include marked family discord, threat of an actual breakup of the family, loss of support of a significant other and extensive alcohol misuse by the family. Alcohol abuse has contributed to numerous family and social problems, including child and spouse abuse, child neglect and desertion and family break up. As a result of alcohol abuse and its associated problems, Indian children are considerably more likely to experience more disruptions, including loss of parents, relatives, siblings, and friends, through suicides and alcohol related homicides, violent and accidental deaths.

## CONCLUSIONS

The paradox of being caught between two cultures and its related identity crisis problem and psycho-social effects on Indian adolescents manifests itself in feelings of low self worth, alienation, isolation causing Indian adolescents to be more prone to alcohol, drug and substance abuse. These feelings with alcohol and drug abuse may lead to suicides appear to have a more marked effect on southern Indian adolescents in Saskatchewan. Some possible explanations about this phenomenon include: 1) Longer and more frequent exposure and contact with the Euro-Canadian populations in the south in all areas, have resulted in greater upheavals in the cultural confusion. Indian communities in the north

tend to be more isolated and are able to pursue traditional lifestyles on a seasonal basis. 2) The on and off reserve Indian population is another factor. In the Fort Qu'Appelle zone, the on and off reserve percentage is 50, while the Prince Albert zone has approximately 75% on reserve and 25% off reserve. The North Battleford zone has approximately 66.6% on reserve and 33.3% off reserve. The off reserve Indian population in southern Saskatchewan has migrated to urban areas much earlier and in greater numbers than in the northern reserve communities. It has been found that Indian people living in or near urban areas are 80 percent more prone to commit suicides, and on the Indian reserves where clustering occurs. These factors would explain the higher suicide rates of both male and female victims in the south.



**PRIDE**  
CANADA INC.

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**MAY 4-6, 1989**  
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The discrepancies between Indian male and female youth suicides may be generally related to sex roles within tribal societies. Indian women in general can and do retreat into the prescribed roles as mothers and caregivers which can explain the lower female suicide rate. Women in the northern communities also have the additional advantage of aboriginal language retention, along with traditional roles of tanning hides, crafts and other traditional responsibilities. The differences of suicide rates between the sexes could be further explained in terms of the greater loss the male has experienced in the erosion of the economic and traditional structure of the Indian society. The loss of role, male identity, self esteem and power have profoundly affected the Indian male adolescents going through this phase of development and growth. This might also explain why Indian males have an

earlier age suicide and more frequent and greater rate of alcohol and drug abuse.

Associated with alcohol and drug abuse among the Indian adults are its related social problems. Among the 20-29 age groups, alcohol related loss of significant others through separation, divorce or death appears to be the triggering suicide factor, especially among males. Poor quality of interpersonal relationships account for most of the immediate stress preceding the suicides.

This may explain suicide epidemics consisting of two, three or even more cases together in time and place for many of the Indian male youth suicides, especially in extended family groups. That is one suicide may "trigger off" other suicide attempts. These clustering of suicides are also known to be higher at certain times of the year, especially in March, April, July or August.

The methods and timing of the Indian suicides also provides some information about the characteristics of Indian suicides. Most of the completed suicides in this research were by firearms and hangings, by both male and female victims. It gives one indication, that the victims did not have any intention of seeking help. This applies to both the male and female victims, especially in the adolescent population where firearms and hangings were the most preferred methods of suicides. In the adult and older Indian suicides, although firearms were the most common method, other methods such as alcohol and drug overdose were just as common. In addition to the method is the timing of suicides. In the United States, research findings indicated that most of the recorded suicides were alcohol and/or drug abuse related and occurred on the weekends in the hours between 2:00 and 6:00 am in or near the victim's residence.

The extremely high rates of suicide, violent and accidental deaths among the Saskatchewan Indian population indicates one measure of the lack of well being among the Indian population. These high mortality rates are the result of the psycho-social impacts of relative deprivation and socio-cultural disintegration, rooted in racism.□

# TEENS: Tips on Being Drug Free

By Shelley Porter  
(Youth Coordinator, PRIDE Canada)

Here are a few pointers on living a drug-free lifestyle. If you make these tips a part of your life, then you'll find it easier to say no to the pressure of drugs. The first and most important tip is ...

1) Make a personal commitment to live drug-free. This can be a silent pledge to yourself or a formal pledge between you and a group of your peers. 2) Find friends who want to live a drug-free life. Establish friendships with those people. Join a drug prevention youth group or if one doesn't exist in your community call PRIDE CANADA to learn how to start one. Seek support for your choice and help others. 3) Find a good role model who doesn't use drugs. It can be a family member, a popular celebrity or someone in your community such as your favorite teacher or a sports coach. Role models must believe in a no use rule about alcohol and drugs for minors and also model appropriate behavior themselves. 4) Saying No to drugs means saying yes to drug-free alternatives. Look for alternatives: something positive and drug-free especially during weekends and holidays. 5) Develop a strong relationship with your parents. Let them know what concerns you have. Talk about the drug issue.

They want to be part of your lives so let them. 6) Learn up-to-date and accurate adverse health effects of alcohol and drugs (non-medical purposes) on the body. Being well informed will make it easier to say no to drugs. 7) Practice techniques on resisting peer pressure. Role play these with a younger brother or sister, a friend or an adult. This will help you to react negatively without hesitation in a real life situation. 8) Look at the long term reality and consequences of your actions; take responsibility. If you find yourself in a negative peer pressure situation take time out to visualize the consequences of your choice.

Ask yourself these two questions which will help you to say no: 1) Would my saying yes to my friend's request break a law? 2) Would I do this action in front of my parents, school teachers or other responsible adults in my life? 9) Be an individual. This means not going along with the crowd when they do something you don't agree with. Be a thermostat, not a thermometer; grab control of your environment before it controls you. 10) Be proud of your drug-free choice and realize that you are great just the way you are. □

## How Do You Say NO?

How many ways can you say no when approached to use drugs and/or alcohol. Drop a short line to PRIDE CANADA and tell us.

Here are a few reasons given by youth:

- 1) *I might forget where I parked my mind;*
- 2) *I don't need to loosen up ... I just got it together;*
- 3) *I'm saving all my brains for science.*

Printed with permission from PRIDE Canada, 210-112 Research Drive, Innovation Place, Saskatoon, Sask., S7N 2X8 □

## Why Adolescents Should NOT Use Alcohol At All

A hard line approach? You bet! There are some very good reasons why adolescents should not drink:

1) They get addicted more quickly than adults because their bodies are still growing. It takes an adult five to 15 years to become physically addicted to alcohol. It takes an adolescent six months to 2 years. (The growth process continues until approximately 24 years of age).

2) Kids admit that they drink to get buzzed or drunk and this is one of the early warning signs of an impending drinking problem ... Yes, two beers will give a person a buzz.

3) When parents allow their kids to drink, they are communicating, "I don't care about you" message. They know it's harmful, yet they allow their children to indulge. As a result, the child feels unloved and uncared for.

Parents are supposed to set limits! That's their job! Kids expect it and deep down they want it.

4) Parents give kids the idea that it's OK to break the law when they let their children drink. Drinking for minors is illegal whether at home or not.

5) Alcohol is a sedative drug and as little as one or two beers begins to put the brain to sleep. Coordination, judgement and reflexes are impaired. When driving, that can be the difference between an accident and a near miss. When studying for an exam, it can be the difference between an A and a B. □

Reprinted with permission from PRIDE Canada. (Adapted from Rhode Islanders for Drug Free Youth, February, 1986)

# Possible Signs of Drug Use

It is often very difficult to tell if your child is using drugs. Very little evidence can be found in the initial stages of drug and alcohol use and parents should be cautious not to jump to conclusions as many signs can be confused with normal adolescent behavior.

However a combination of the following signs should be cause for concern and investigation. There are

four watch areas, these include:

1) Physical Symptoms-acting intoxicated, redness of eyes or droopy eyelids, wearing sunglasses at inappropriate times, change in sleep patterns like insomnia or napping at unusual times, repressed physical development, appetite for 'munchies', unexplained weight loss or neglect of personal appearance.

2) Behavioral changes-becoming more irritable, less affectionate, secretive, unpredictable, hostile, depressed, uncooperative, apathetic, easily provoked, oversensitive, loss of interest in hobbies, unwillingness to introduce friends, disappearance of valuable items from home.

3) School changes-a decline in academic performance or drop in grades, reduced memory, concentration or attention span, loss of motivation, no longer participating in school activities, frequently late or absent, sleeping in class, change in peer group.

4) Physical evidence-odor of marijuana in room or clothing, incense or room deodorizers, eye drops or mouthwash, marijuana joints, powders, seeds, leaves, plants, mushrooms, capsules or tablets, cigarette rolling papers, pipes, alligator clips (roach clips), scales, small spoons, straws, razor blades, unfamiliar containers, drug related books, blackened or missing kitchen knives.

When home and school life is disrupted, it's possible the use of alcohol and drugs has been going on for one to three years. The child may be already chemically dependent, even though he may only be using alcohol or marijuana.

If the parent finds that strict rule enforcement, close surveillance or professional counselling doesn't solve the problem, then treatment may be necessary.

Drug and alcohol abuse must be treated as serious health issues. Untreated, the disease could be fatal. □

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**FSIN Chief Roland Crowe presents Chief Harry Cook with the Award for Indian Businessman of the Year.**

# Chief Harry Cook Named Indian Businessman of the Year

By Gloria Ledoux

Chief Harry Cook of the Lac La Ronge Band was named Indian Businessman of the Year at a banquet co-hosted by the Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation and the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program on September 28.

Chief Cook is a director of the Kitsaki Development Corporation (KDC), the corporate arm of the Lac La Ronge Band.

The KDC is a holding company that has interest or full ownership in a wide range of companies. Some of the businesses include: the Northern Resource Trucking Company, Keethanow Bingo North, La Ronge Wild Rice Corporation, Northland Processors, First Nations Insurance, the La Ronge Band Marina, and the Hall Lake Store.

In presenting the award, FSIN chief Roland Crowe commended Chief Cook on his hard work and complimented him for the success of the KDC.

KDC has received three awards this year including: the "Award for Business Excellence" (ABEX) from the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce for Northern Resource Trucking; the "Indian Business of the Year" award from the Saskatchewan Business Magazine for overall business

success; and the "Ivan Ahenakew Award" from the Inter-Provincial Asso-

ciation on Native Employment for native employment creation. □

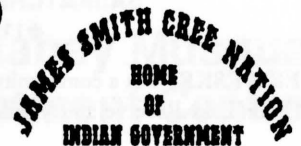


Office of the  
Prince Albert District Chiefs

**SAKWATAMO**

**LODGE INC.**

**JAMES SMITH BAND**  
Box 3917  
Melfort, Sask.  
S0E 1A0



Phone # 864-3631

**SAKWATAMO LODGE IS** an Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centre owned by the Chiefs and Bands of the Prince Albert District, located on the James Smith Reserve.

**SAKWATAMO LODGE** will be opening **November 7, 1988** for client intake.

**SAKWATAMO** is a Cree word meaning *Red Tail Hawk* symbolizing in our Indian way, "*Keeper of the Place of Healing*".

The Board of Directors for the **SAKWATAMO LODGE** are Angus Stonestand, President; Shirley Bighead, Treasurer; Charlie McKay, Secretary; Peter Sanderson; Oliver Constant; and, Steve Ballantyne.

For further information contact  
**Art Fourstar, A/Executive Director**

**864-3631**

or

**864-3632**

By Stan Cuthand

**A** long time ago there was a tribe living near the mountains, who were ruled by an old chief who was famous for his war exploits and who, as a result, had become rich. He had many horses which he had received from his warriors who had ventured into enemy territory. The chief supported many relatives and his four wives. His young brother helped him conduct certain duties expected of a chief.

The chief had enough horses to support his relatives, so it was not necessary for him to go on scouting trips. His brother did not have to go either. But life without action and a sense of achievement in the art of war

and becoming a warrior as expected by the tribe was sadly missing for the young brother. "How is it that Napi can do all these things and the women like him for it? They sing about him, they dance with the scalps he brought home. I can be like him and become a great chief," he thought. "My brother will have to pass on the chieftainship. He is not young anymore."

One day the young man went for a walk to get away from the chief and his pipes and smoke. He wandered into the woods just in case he met another lonely person like himself, who would have common feelings. "How can I be a leader if I do not belong



to a society? I must earn it somehow" he thought. "My brother keeps me as a servant and does not allow me to join my fellows, who are earning for themselves a place in ceremonial rites. They learn to sing their society songs, and they are learning to tell their own stories; maybe my brother does not want me to be successful."

As he paced himself slowly, stealthily over fallen trees and shrubs he heard the sound of an axe chopping wood; there in the open was his brother's wife. The young woman stopped to look around, as they usually do when they are alone.

"E-ee!" she exclaimed when she saw him there. "Why are you so sad?"

"I am thinking that ... perhaps .. I am not a warrior, I never go anywhere! I prepare the fire, the pipes and serve my brother, but I never sit with the council as one who can talk and be like them."

"I know you are a good listener and you have a good memory. I know you are not encouraged to travel with others who go on vision quests or who are out for adventure and show their bravery. You are kept at home like a child. But you are not alone, my husband is getting old and he does not bother with me. I too, sometimes feel I am only his servant. When I visit he does not want me to stay too long. He sometimes becomes jealous and mean, but nobody knows that, he is so discreet. He can cut me to pieces quietly; his whispering madness often makes me so lonely. I know you to be quiet and good natured and I admire your devotion to your work for the chief.

## EKWESKEET CENTRE

THE ONION LAKE BAND  
SASKATCHEWAN/ALBERTA  
#119 & 120

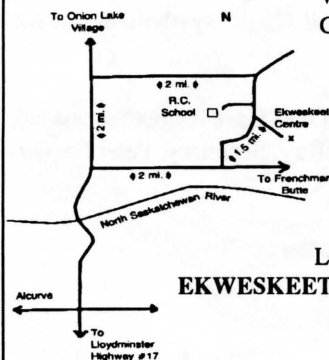


EKWESKEET is a community based program located on the Onion Lake Reserve, thirty miles north of Lloydminster.

- Offers a twenty-eight day treatment program
  - Blends modern counselling skills with traditional healing practices
  - Outreach program at the old Drop-In Centre

### Prevention/Intervention

- Community development for employment and training opportunities
  - Development of recreation and cultural activities
  - Development of a culturally sensitive substance abuse curriculum for the Onion Lake school system
  - Workshops, Referral services, Home Visits, Individual Counselling, Networking with other community programs



- Aftercare:**
- Discharge planning (individual plans for recovery)
  - Aftercare counselling (family and individual)
  - Support of Alcoholics Anonymous and community involvement

Located on the south side of the Onion Lake Reserve, the EKWESKEET Centre has been built in a natural setting overlooking a beautiful lake. For further information phone:

**(306) 344-2094 or (306) 344-2380**



This cannot go on. You must follow another trail, and be your own self. I want to help you because I like you."

The young man felt a chill coming up from his back to his neck, such a frightening thought that one should voice support with so much understanding.

"Let us plan an escape. Towards the rising sun. We can do it if it is your wish."

"We will go tomorrow," she exclaimed. "When I go for wood, I will sneak away with his best clothes and you can bring yours. We will meet here. The chief is out with the hunters tomorrow. He is hungry for warm kidney."

The following day everything went as planned. The two walked following a river to the land of the Blackfoot and the Crees who were a fighting force pushing other tribes to the mountains. They wanted to escape to this area for safety from their own people. It was a manly thing to take a trophy; a beautiful woman captured or taken away from another was not frowned upon; it was like a trophy.

Following the river for many days they found themselves on the open prairie with buffalo in every direction. Prairie wolves were waiting for an old bull to drop dead or for a sick animal to stray from the herd to die. At intervals they waited in a safe place until the herds had moved on after drinking from the river. They were forever on the watch for other wild animals.

Finally they found shelter in a bluff of willows on the bank where the river curves around. Here they became lovers and promised each other to stay together; they found they had many

common feelings and thoughts.

Early one morning they heard someone singing approaching their camp. They crept slowly and looked over the bank. There below them was a horseman leading a string of three horses with saddles loaded with bundles of goods. The rider wore a beaver hat.

"I'll jump on him as he passes by below and you slide down and hold the horses while I overcome the rider" the young man whispered to his wife. "Ehi" she replied.

As the stranger passed below, he made a flying leap and knocked the man off the horse and stabbed him. Meanwhile the woman held the horses to calm them as they were quite startled. The beaver hat rolled down towards the water's edge. The young man picked it up and examined it. He found small bundles of medicine attached inside the hat.

"It is time to go home. The ghost of this person who is probably a Cree will haunt us if we stay. We will place him on the bank."

They rearranged the horses so that each one would have a horse to ride. "This is the day I have looked for. All my childhood dreams have been realized," said the young man.

"Do you know what this means?" the woman asked. "Your name will be Medicine Hat. We do not know what power it has. A medicine man is the only one who can open these little bundles and tell us what they are. It is Cree Medicine. They are noted for their power. You have won yourself fame."

"Yes. I have captured the horses and this medicine inside this hat must have been dedicated for a warrior."

"Yes. We have been led to this place by the spirits; they are kind to you."

So the lovers returned home to their people, leading the horses laden with bundles of goods, taken from

some tribe.

As they rode into the camp, the people were astonished but happy for the couple who brought horses and goods from a raid. When the young man had described the adventure and that the hat contained small bundles of medicine it was understood that such a prize was the will of the spirits. The old chief declared that his brother would now be named Medicine Hat (Maskihki-wastotin). The young man was then proclaimed the chief of the tribe. They sang the welcome song and lifted high the scalp of the slain.

This is how Medicine Hat, Alberta got its name as told by the storytellers. They never knew exactly what tribe this story came from, or what tribes were near the mountains at that time in history. □

## Mistahey Musqua Treatment Centre

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5-Bed In-Patient Treatment Centre

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\*  
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Marilyn Sinclair  
Director  
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Meadow Lake Tribal Council

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(306) 236-5654

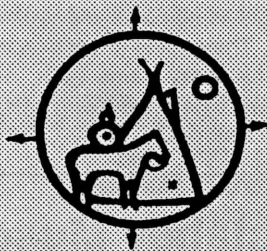


# "Join the Circle"

Keep  
The  
Circle  
Strong

## National Native Association of Treatment Directors

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November 13-19

## Women's Council Taps Federal Funding Agencies

By Betty Ann Adam

Indian women are those best suited to deal with the social problems of Indian people. This is the main idea behind four proposals the Saskatchewan Treaty Indian Women's Council (STIWC) have recently submitted to Federal Government agencies.

The STIWC (formerly known as the Saskatchewan Indian Women's Association) is led by Isabelle McNab, who explains that many drug and alcohol treatment centres and emotional treatment centres are not reaching the Indian population. Programs designed to deal with social problems have failed to reduce the drug and alcohol abuse, family violence, and high suicide rate among Indian people. The STIWC can be a valuable resource in making these programs work. Indian women are at the centre of family life and can greatly influence family members. They can bridge the gap between the troubled individuals and the agencies that can help them. With proper training, Indian women can counsel their own people in familiar surroundings, backed up by the support of family and the community.

The elderly and the disabled are often neglected, at home and in the social programming budgets. The STIWC however, has given them priority by proposing to train women on reserves to serve their special needs.

They have proposed that each district have a crisis unit where victims of family violence can be sheltered and counselled. Another proposal would fund STIWC to combat drug and alcohol abuse.

Perhaps the key to success for each of these programs will be the proposed training package. Women will be trained in counselling and as liaisons between the people of the community and the off reserve agencies.

To this end, workshops and a newly formed task force are finding ways to

bridge the gap between the home and the organizations.

They are developing a public awareness program to attract troubled people to shelters and treatment centres.

Earlier this year, Health and Welfare Minister, Jake Epp and Barbara McDougall, the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, announced that six federal departments will spend \$40 million over the next four years to address the problems of family violence. Although, statistically, these problems are highest among the Indian population, little of the money has been directed specifically at Indian people. Isabelle McNab and the STIWC set out to change that fact.

Armed with their well researched proposals, the women travelled to Ottawa, where they met with representatives from four federal government departments. The meetings were positive and the women returned feeling encouraged. They modified the proposals to better suit the funding criteria and have submitted them for final approval.

The possible funding agencies include: National Health and Welfare Canada; Canada Mortgage and Housing; Indian and Northern Affairs; the Justice Department and the Solicitor General.

They successfully initiated the Saskatchewan Indian Women's Association Business Advisory Services Incorporated in Prince Albert, which offers an entrepreneur training program for women.

McNab says that STIWC has received strong political support from the chiefs in Saskatchewan and from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

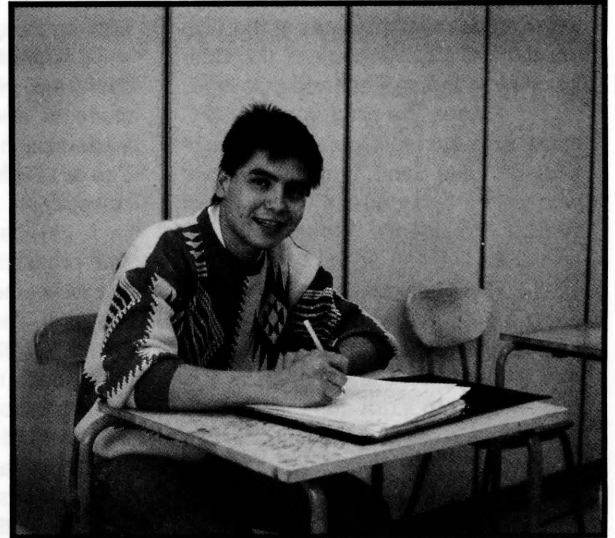
The STIWC strives to provide support and services for Saskatchewan Indian Women and their families. □

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Darren Okemaysim is from Duck Lake and is in his 2nd year majoring in Indian Language, Literature and Linguistics.

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December 15, 1988**

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## 25 To Receive Degrees at Fall Convocation

Twenty five students will be presented with degrees and diplomas at the 12th annual Fall Convocation of the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College.

Among the graduates is SIFC social work student Doreen Johnson of Williams Lake Band, British Columbia, who will be awarded the University of Regina President's Medal and the University Prize in Social Work.

The President's Medal recipient is a graduate who has achieved a minimum 80 percent average and who has shown major leadership in and commitment to extra-curricular activities while a student at the University of Regina.

Johnson is one of eight SIFC students who will be presented with Bachelor of Indian Social Work degrees. Ten SIFC students will receive Bachelor of Arts degrees, two students will receive Bachelor of Education degrees, four students will receive Certificates of Indian Social Work and one student will receive a Certificate of Indian Communication Arts.

SIFC is one of three federated colleges at the University of Regina. Students receiving degrees and certificates are joint graduates of SIFC and the University of Regina.

A student at SIFC's Saskatoon campus, Johnson is the first College graduate and the first Social Work student to be presented with the President's Medal.

Johnson's average in Social Work is 87.4 percent. Her overall weighted percentage average is 85.6 percent. She graduates with Great Distinction.

A 35 year old, born into the Alkali Lake Indian Band in British Columbia, she is now a member of the Williams Lake Band. She is employed as a social worker with provincial social services in High Prairie, Alberta.

Johnson is a single parent with four children ranging in age from seven

to 19. She also has a 13 year old nephew living with her.

Johnson tutored fellow students and was often approached by students and instructors to provide leadership in resolving internal issues. She was also editor of the student newspaper.

While a student, in Saskatoon, she organized a support group for Native women who were victims of battering. The organization, based in a church parish, is flourishing. She has conducted numerous presentations and workshops on battering. Johnson also helped to establish a Native women's Alanon group.

Johnson's leadership style "is one of gentle strength", Edgar Epp, Acting Dean of the SIFC Saskatoon Campus said. "Her approach is one in which everyone affected by changes is involved in the process."

SIFC's Fall '88 Convocation was held at Empringham's Friday, October 14.

### GRADUATES

#### SIFC-ARTS

##### Bachelor of Arts

Carolyn Frances Acoose, Sakimay Band

Judy Linda Arcand, Muskeg Lake Band

Ronald M. Crowe, Piapot Band

Eli Martin Kahnpace, Pasqua Band

Lois L. Lafond, Muskeg Lake Band

Gloria Ann Short, Rainy River Band, Ontario

Valerie A. Stout, Saskatoon

##### Bachelor of Arts (With Distinction)

Leanne Susannah Bellegarde, Little Black Bear

Qun Hu, Inner Mongolia, China

Ronnie Kathryn Wesley, Moose Band, Ontario

##### Certificate in Indian Communication Arts

Erroll James Kinistino, Ochapowace

#### SIFC-EDUCATION

##### Bachelor of Education-Elementary (Indian Education)

Brenda Kingfisher, Sturgeon Lake Band

Jennifer Frances Turner, Sturgeon Lake Band

#### SIFC-SOCIAL WORK

##### Bachelor of Indian Social Work

Ethel Ahenakew, Ahtahkakoop Band

Arthur John Jardine, Red Rock, Ontario

Virginia Ledoux, Mistawasis Band

Greta Neepin, Fox Lake Band, Manitoba

Delores Pooyak, Sweet Grass Band

Verna Saulteaux, Carry the Kettle Band

Loretta Jane Worm, Poorman Band

##### Bachelor of Indian Social Work (With Distinction)

Doreen Marie Johnson, Williams Lake Band, British Columbia

##### Certificate of Social Work

Remi F. Murray, Buffalo Narrows

Wendy Sticles, Oneida Band, Ontario

Eleanor Pearl Stonestand, James Smith Band

Alana Gail Tootoosis-Baker, Poundmaker Band □

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**837-2102**



# INDIAN 4-H PROGRAM

By Les Ferguson

## Why Start a 4-H Club?

People are usually too polite to ask that question.

It's also one that takes some time to answer.

First things first. A 4-H club takes some planning, effort, and work to get going. You won't do it in an hour and then forget about it.

Starting a club has several benefits: 1) 4-H can provide a worthwhile activity for young people. For example, the Muskowekwan Education Centre utilizes 4-H to complement their child care program; 2) 4-H can have a positive impact on the community. Roadside ditches have been cleaned at Sweet Grass. Some reserves have found less vandalism when 4-H is active; 3) 4-H has had an agricultural focus (as well as many other areas). Since agriculture is an important industry in Saskatchewan, boys and girls can receive basic training in areas such as gardens, poultry and swine; 4) 4-H teaches leadership. Today, there are band leaders who received early training as 4-H Club Presidents, Secretaries or Treasurers.

## Who Can You Call On to Start a 4-H Club?

You may wish to start a new club or revitalize one that has had a beginning.

However, you may feel like throwing up your hands and saying, "I can't do this by myself".

Help is nearby. First call your friends or colleagues for their support and ideas.

As well, the Indian 4-H program is part of the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program (SIAP ) Inc. Be-

cause of this, you can call on a staff of helpers to assist you at your nearest office.

Erland Sten, Meadow Lake  
236-5243

Harold Greyeyes, North Battleford  
446-7498

Bryan Bear, Saskatoon  
933-5088

Louis Jouan, Shellbrook  
747-2627

Doug Horner, La Ronge  
425-4403

Betty Marleau, Prince Albert  
922-7800

George Tourangeau, Yorkton  
786-1534

Paulette Bear, Fort Qu'Appelle  
332-5681

Les Ferguson-Indian 4-H Office  
933-5088

## New 4-H Projects

**Babysitting**-This project is written by the Canadian Safety Council and is already used by CHR's on many reserves. The members manuals are attractive for the young person in the project.

**Small Pet Project**-Would you like to raise a gerbil or hamster? A bird or cat? How about fish or frogs? These are all possibilities. A 4-H manual helps the 4-H'er learn about animal nutrition, grooming, breeding, and handling care for their pet.

## Open House Canada Travel Program

-Young people (14-22 years) are invited to discover and better understand other parts of Canada. Groups of 10-40 exchange with a group elsewhere in the country and spend about one week in each other's community. Bands such as Peepeekisis, Waterhen and Onion Lake, as well as the Prince Albert Indian Student Residence have travelled from British Columbia to Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Open House Canada is sponsored by the Federal Governments' Secretary of State. Call the Indian 4-H Program for more information. □

## Financial Help to 4-H Clubs

Mega bucks don't make a super 4-H Club! That's been shown many times. Some effective 4-H clubs have operated on only a few dollars. Other groups have sputtered with special equipment purchases or a bank full of money.

However, money can help .. as we all know! The Indian 4-H Program provides some help:

- 1) Start up Grant-This 4-H grant can get a group going to purchase supplies.
- 2) Transportation Grant - This money will help to pick up 4-H members or make that big trip to the bowling alley possible.
- 3) Special Equipment Grant - This assistance is towards a one-time only items purchase. Each application is judged on its own merits.
- 4) Project Completion Grant - This 4-H Grant supports clubs who have finished their projects.

For more information contact the Indian 4-H Program at 933-5088. □



# Sexual Harassment

*This is one article in a series on human rights issues and provisions of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code. Written by Human Rights Commission Staff, this article deals with sexual harassment.*

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination. It is against the law.

More than twenty percent of complaints received by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission are about sexual harassment on the job.

The harasser (most often a man), is usually someone in a position of authority who uses his power to intimidate another (most often a woman).

Sexual harassment is any unwanted sexual conduct that interferes with rights guaranteed by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code. Sexual harassment is not allowed in the workplace, at schools or universities, or in the provision of a public service. Customers in a restaurant for example, or patients seeking medical attention, or tenants renting an apartment also have protection against sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment may be verbal or physical. It may be one incident or a series of incidents. It is always behaviour that is unsolicited and unwelcome.

Sexual harassment can take many forms. Some of them are: 1) making remarks of a sexual nature that are intended to embarrass the victim. They might be suggestive, insulting or derogatory; 2) "Jokes" with sexual overtones; 3) Unwelcome invitations or requests to participate in a sexual act; 4) Displaying offensive pictures or photographs; 5) threats; 6) leering at a person's body; 7) physical contact

such as touching, patting, pinching or brushing against; and 8) sexual or physical assault.

Where the unwanted behaviour takes form of a physical advance or a direct proposition, one incident may be sufficient to constitute harassment, particularly if it is behaviour the harasser knew, or should have known, was unwanted.

The Code's provisions against sexual harassment do not rule out office romance or flirtation, or good-natured jesting that is enjoyed by both parties. Sexual harassment refers only to behaviour which is unwelcome, and which the harasser knew, or should have known, would be objectionable.

In a recent case, a 19-year-old waitress complained to the Human Rights Commission that she was being harassed by her employers on an almost daily basis. They made sexually offensive remarks, touched her breasts and her buttocks, and kissed her.

The case went to a board of inquiry. (A board of inquiry is an independent tribunal appointed by the provincial justice minister to resolve the complaint).

The board decided there had been sexual harassment and awarded the complainant \$2,400 to compensate her for the humiliation and loss of self-respect she suffered. She was also awarded \$1,088 to compensate her for lost wages ... she had quit her job because she could not tolerate the

harassment.

**The Employers Responsibility:** It is up to the employer to provide a discrimination free workplace. Employers, whether they are aware of sexual harassment or not, will be held responsible for the actions of management and supervisory personnel.

They will also be held responsible for harassment by non-supervisory personnel in certain circumstances. If, for example, an employee is being harassed by a fellow employee and the employer knows about it but fails to take reasonable steps to intervene, the employer may also be at fault.

For further information, contact the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission at one of the following locations:

## **Saskatoon**

802, 224-4th Avenue South  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7K 2H6

(306) 933-5952

or for hearing impaired persons

(306) 933-2119

or

## **Regina**

1819 Cornwall Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4P 3V7

(306) 787-2530

or for hearing impaired persons

(306) 933-2119





# SIAP Northern Agriculture Tour

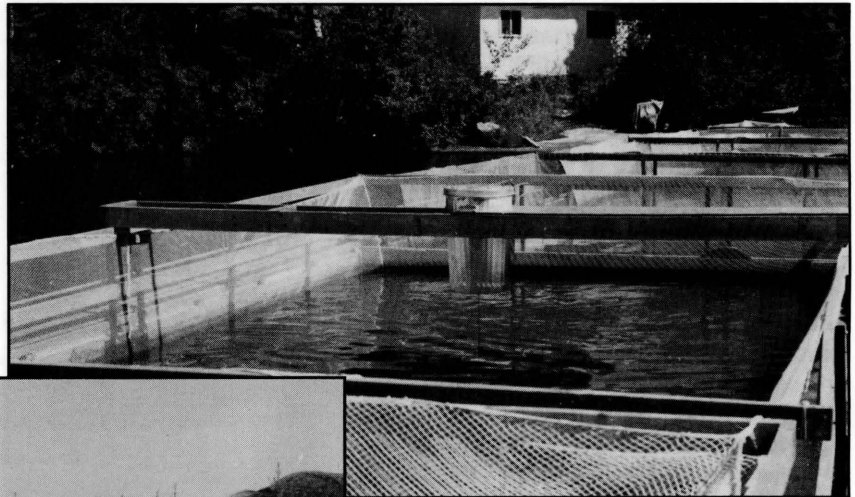
*This is the first of a regular column provided by the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program*

On September 15, 1988, SIAP and the La Ronge Indian Band sponsored a tour of some of the agricultural projects they are working on in northern Saskatchewan. Indian Affairs Economic Development officials from across Canada and many local residents took advantage of this opportunity to see "first hand" the progress being made in these new agricultural developments.

The tour started at Besnard Lake where several La Ronge band members are raising Rainbow Trout in floating cages anchored in a quiet bay. The cages contain fish ranging in size from small four inch fingerlings weighing less than an ounce to large three year old fish weighing over ten pounds. The fish are fed every day and are harvested and sold year round. The next stop was at an abandoned air strip

to check for blueberries. 1988 was a record year for berries with over 200 people harvesting more than 45,000 pounds of blueberries. Everyone was surprised to see just how thick the berries can grow in such a good year.

The group then travelled to Sikachu Lake, a rice lake located on the Hall Lake Indian Reserve which is part of the La Ronge Band. Band members harvested over 120,000 pounds of wild rice on this reserve this year. John Charles demonstrated how he harvests rice with his Rotax powered airboat. When the rice is "falling" he can collect over a hundred pounds in about five minutes in the aluminum tray attached to the front of his flat



**Above:** Fish cages at Besnard Lake where La Ronge Band Members are raising rainbow trout.



**Left:** Jim Hemstead from SIAP and Bill Cook from INAC sample this year's crop of blueberries.

**Below:** Murdock McKay, SIAP Regional Coordinator checks maturity of wild rice curing at the La Ronge processing plant.

bottomed boat.

The last stop was at the Wild Rice processing plant in La Ronge. The plant is over 70 percent owned by northern Indian bands and processed over one million pounds of rice in 1988. There were rows and rows of wild rice curing at the plant and everyone was quite interested in how the rice is dried, hulled and graded before it is off to markets around the world.

The day ended with a delicious meal of baked trout, fried whitefish and wild rice provided by the La Ronge



Band. Chief Harry Cook thanked everyone for coming and invited them to come back and share economic development ideas any time. □

# Elder's Perspective

Joe Iron Sr. is an elder from Canoe Lake reserve and has a lot of memories from his childhood and later life that he would like to pass on to the readers of the Northwest Eagle.

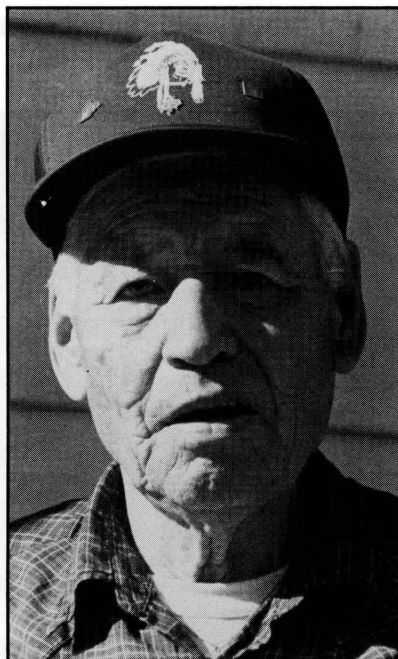
He lives with his grandson Jason. His wife passed away a couple years ago. Talking with Joe, it is easy to see why that he would like to tell his memoirs to the younger generation; he has a lot of old pictures.

Joe pauses and lights a cigarette, then after a couple of puffs, he starts by saying that life was poor and it wasn't easy at all. It was lucky, he adds, that his dad was self-sufficient and was a real good hunter. Joe doesn't remember being hungry—there was food on the table at all times and compared to others, his family ate pretty good.

In those days, a person had to work in order to survive because there was no form of assistance as there is today, with social assistance, social security and family allowances. Working in those days meant a person had to go hunting, fishing, trapping or looking for seasonal work that sometimes paid as little as \$1 per day.

In those days, there was nothing to distract a person from his work or family. Not like today, Joe laughs, saying "such as bingo" which he notes is played every night. He adds that past years, there was hardly any alcohol to create family splits or general ill feelings towards one another. Joe says 'kayas', a Cree word that means yesterday or long time ago and is quite often used by elders who want to relate a story, "I didn't drink in (kayas) my early years. Not till after I got married did I take my first drink."

But he adds, "I knew I had to work in order to support my wife so I went looking for work." He was to find work at the mission (now known as the Beauval Indian Education Centre) during the summer and continued to work till fall. At this time, he decided to quit working for the winter and concentrated on trapping which was a com-



## An Interview with Joe Iron, Sr.

By Ruth Iron  
with permission from the  
*Northwest Eagle*

mon occurrence for a lot of people back then. He would move his family to Durocher Lake and spend the winter there, where his parents would also join them to winter at the small lake located a couple of miles west of the Canoe Lake junction.

Back then, there was an abundance of wildlife which made it easier to hunt and ensure the availability of moose meat for their diets. On top of this were the ducks, geese and fish which gave the native people a variety of meat to choose from. Joe reminisces that they didn't have much in a materialistic sense but they were able to enjoy life for the natural rewards.

He recalls that no one ever said they were too lazy to work and that people toiled day after day to survive without complaining; while in comparison today people are at times too lazy

to work. As he continues talking, he notes that people were nomadic and that moving was done regularly depending where their food supply could easily be available. People moved all over, he adds. His family would winter in Durocher Lake while others would move to Keeley Lake and other places. People who moved to Keeley Lake would spend their time fishing at Whitefish Lake or the creek. He recalls that when people fished, they wouldn't use nets but would just spear the fish at the creek when the fish were in their migrating patterns.

Once a large amount of fish was caught, people would smoke or dry the fish and construct small sheds in which the fish could be stored so they wouldn't spoil. One other advantage was these sheds would prevent animals from sneaking into camp and stealing the food that had been so painstakingly prepared by the women of the camp. Thus, the storage and preservation of food meant the people would have enough food to last through the winter months with no fear of starvation. Here Joe stops, lights a cigarette and states, "people lived to survive, nothing more."

Joe remembers it was hard trying to obtain work and that one winter he had to go to Waterhen Lake for logging and that he went with this other feller Tom Derocher from Canoe Lake. He recalls that there were no power saws back then and they had to use cross cut saws for logging. At that time, the going rate for logs was ten cents each, and if they happened to cut 100 logs, then they'd make \$10 which would have to be split between them. Even while working, they would have to hunt to ensure they'd have enough to eat.

Come spring, both men realized that it was time to move on and Tom went back to Canoe Lake, while Joe, needing more work, moved to Dorintosh. He was able to obtain work with a farmer who needed to clear land for crops so Joe, along with others from

the Waterhen Lake Reserve, worked for the farmer for a couple of months.

At this time, Joe was joined by his wife and parents who had travelled up to the Dorintosh area to also look for work. They must have worked for at least a couple of months until it was time for the Stampede in Meadow Lake. At the Stampede they met up with people from Cold Lake, Alberta who invited them to visit Cold Lake. Since summer had arrived, the Iron family went on to Cold Lake.

He mentions that the time period he is talking about was in 1945, so, the method of travel to Alberta was by horses since he recalls there were no trucks or cars back then. They stayed in the Cold Lake area for a while since Joe was working in the hay fields. At the end of August, it was time to go home to Canoe Lake, so they started travelling back, and on the way, stopped at Joseph Bighead Reserve to visit with relatives who lived there. The Iron family arrived back in Canoe Lake just in time to start the preparation of

preserving food for the winter months.

After that story about the days of yesteryear, Joe sat back and had another cigarette while he continued to reminisce about his youth which was gone but not forgotten. Once he finished smoking, he started in on another story which is actually a brief history of the Iron's. Before getting into the tale, he pointed out that his grandmother had told it to him when he was young and that some parts are not quite clear and he's unsure of the events or names of the people concerned.

He also mentions that along with this story, some of the factual information he received is from a book he read on Poundmaker and Big Bear.

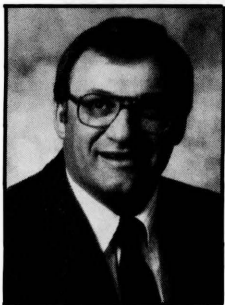
As the story goes, Joe believes his great-grandmother was the wife of Big Bear. And apparently Big Bear was an abusive sort of man who blamed his wife for any misfortunes that occurred. The lady in distress realized that she should escape, so one dark stormy night she packed her belongings and

got her five sons and daughters ready to go along. The lady packed her belongings into the canoe and headed north on the Loon River.

It is important to note it was spring when the lady made her bid for freedom so it was quite convenient for her to use the waterways.

The woman continued on the Loon River to where it connected with the Beaver River then she followed that to Ile a la Crosse. After she arrived in this community, she moved to Canoe Lake where she was to remain for the rest of her days. So, the children of this woman were to remain in the Canoe Lake area and marry into other families. During this period of time he speaks of, Treaty Ten was not yet signed. When a survey or census of the people was taken, one of the men was called "Pewapiskos" meaning Iron.

Thus, the agent at that time decided that Iron would be easier to speak so the agent wrote that name in the book. With that, Joe Iron Sr. ends his narration of past times. □



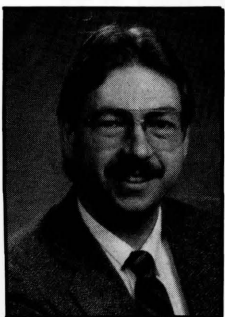
**Ray Funk**  
Prince Albert-  
Churchill River  
922-6996

### ***New Democrats believe:***

- Treaty Rights must be honoured and respected.
- Land Claims and Entitlements must be settled.

### ***New Democrats are committed to:***

- Adequate funding for Indian Education, removing the cap on post-secondary education.
- Increased funding for housing and essential services for Bands and Councils.
- The development of Indian Self-Government.

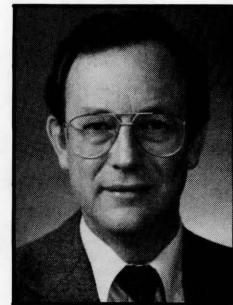


**Len Taylor**  
The Battlefords-  
Meadow Lake  
445-8855



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*Authorized by Joe Campbell, Nadine Sandercock, John Welykocy, and Lorna Bright, Official Agents.*



**Simon de Jong, MP**  
Regina-Qu'Appelle  
569-3315



**Lorne Nystrom, MP**  
Yorkton-Melville  
786-6511

# Indian Diploma Nursing Program Officially Opens

By Gloria Ledoux



**Elder Henry Beaudry (above) blesses each room with Sweetgrass.**



On Friday, September 30, Ron Albert, President of the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies cut the ribbon to officially open the Indian Nursing Diploma Program (INDP) (at the Don Ross Centre in North Battleford). North Battleford Mayor Glen Hornich said, "The program is appropriate since we have facilities such as the Battlefords Union Hospital, Battlefords Indian Health Centre, the Saskatchewan Hospital and Regional Care Centre - your success will be ours".

Elder Henry Beaudry offered opening prayers and blessed each

room with sweetgrass.

Battlefords-Meadow Lake MP John Gormley brought greetings from Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs.

Battlefords MLA, Doug Anquish, Harry Nicotine, Assistant District Representative of Battleford Treaty Number Six Tribal Council, Lloyd Legare, A/Manager of Canada Employment and Immigration, Merce Montgomery, Program Head for Diploma Nursing at Kelsey Campus; Bonnie Graham, Class President and second year student of INDP and Lila Freysteinson, Program Manager and MC for the official opening were platform guests and all brought greetings and best wishes from their respective programs.

After three years of intense negotiations and hard work, the program secured funding in 1982. In 1986, the program, in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association got underway. On March 30, 1987 the first twenty students enrolled in the preparatory class. Nine students have gone on to second year classes at Kelsey. They will be returning to finish their last two months in North Battleford during May and June.

On February 29, twenty-four students enrolled in the second preparatory class. 22 students began the nursing program in August.

The Indian Nursing Diploma Program (INDP) is one of the satellite colleges of the SIIT that provides various programs to Indian, non-status and Metis throughout the province.

FSIN Executive Member, "Dutch" Lerat said, "Native people will hold specialized skills in the future, having doctors, nurses and clinics is the first step toward development of hospitals and health science buildings on reserves." □

The Indian Diploma Nursing program is an accredited two year nursing program with a five month preparatory phase. The preparatory phase classes are designed to prepare students academically, socially, and personally for entry into the Indian Diploma Nursing Program.

The Indian Diploma Nursing Program will prepare graduate nurses who:

1) Will meet the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association's (SRNA) standards for licensure as

registered nurses with quality nursing practices;

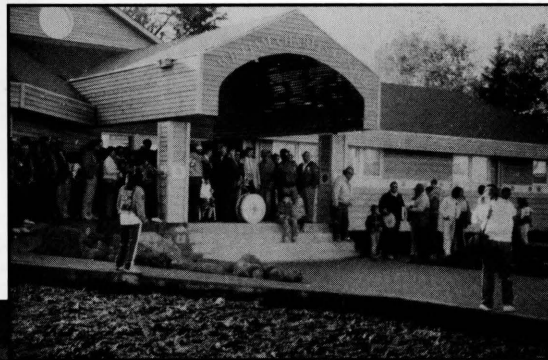
2) Will be able to provide direct nursing care to patients of all ages in hospitals and other structured health care settings under the supervision of qualified personnel.

3) Will be able to provide culturally acceptable nursing care to clients of Indian ancestry.

Upon graduation, students receive a Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Applied Science and Technology (Kelsey campus) Diploma. □

# William Charles Health Centre Officially Opens

By Gloria Ledoux



***Rosie Bird, Chief Henry Naytowhow, Dave Nicholson and Allen Bird cut the rawhide officially opening the health centre.***

"Band members will no longer have to go all the way to Prince Albert for medical services," Band councillor Lionel Bird stated at the official opening of the new health centre for the William Charles Band

The William Charles Indian reserve (formerly the Montreal Lake Band) has taken control of delivery and administration of health care services for its 1,300 members, the first Saskatchewan band to do so. There are 900 members living on the reserve.

Chief Henry Naytowhow of the William Charles Band and his council signed a one year agreement on September 1, with Assistant Deputy Minister Dave Nicholson.

The signing ceremony held at the William Charles band office marks an historic event for the band. FSIN Chief Roland Crowe commended Chief Henry Naytowhow and his council for taking the initiative to run their

own health programs. Chief Naytowhow says a copy of the agreement will be kept in the chiefs' office to ensure treaty is not broken in any way.

The contract also calls for delivery of extensive community health education and prevention programs, including addictions, education and referrals for treatment.

The band is in the process of developing a program to combine traditional Indian medicine and spiritualism with modern medical treatment.

Approximately 200 guests, friends and relatives witnessed the ribbon cutting ceremony by chief Henry Naytowhow assisted by Dave Nicholson. Assistant District Representative Allan Bird and Elder Rosie Bird also assisted.

A banquet hosted by the Montreal Lake Band members with traditional buffalo meat and wild rice concluded the ceremonies. □

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Prince Albert, Saskatchewan  
S6V 2A7**

**(306) 763-4712**

# Band Office/Health Clinic Opens in Cumberland House

By Gloria Ledoux



"It is with a lot of thank you's that I stand here this morning to celebrate the official opening of the 'Pine Island Cree Nation Band Office/clinic'" Chief Pierre Settee stated as he cut the ribbon to officially open the bands new facility on September 22.

Settee also appealed to Dave Nicholson, the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Medical Services Branch of National Health and Welfare to provide a federal field nurse to work on the reserve, for the newly constructed health facility. He presented Nicholson with a Band council resolution supporting his request. Nursing services are

being provided by the province through the Cumberland Village which Chief Settee says is contrary to Treaty.

Settee also requested the transfer of medical transportation services to the band. Medical transportation is authorized by the village nurse and administered by La Ronge Social Services, which is contrary to treaty according to Settee. He acknowledged former Chief Joe Laliberte for starting negotiations between the Band and medical services and Indian Affairs.

Opening prayers were offered by Reverend Kaufmann and Elder Joe Turner from the Prince Albert District

Chiefs Office. Duane Adams, Regional Director of Health Services introduced special guests and took the opportunity to commend Chief Settee "When negotiations first started it was for a health clinic only which quickly expanded to include a band office".

Nicholson and Ray Gamercy, District Manager of Indian Affairs each presented the band with a plaque. The Prince Albert district representative Milton Burns, on behalf of the PADC Tribal Council presented the chief with a framed picture.

As a token of appreciation, Chief Settee made presentations to Dick Wall, Zone Director of Medical Services, Cathy Moss, Assistant Superintendent of Band management, Indian Affairs. Gamercy accepted the plaque on behalf of Chief Bowman and August Kolen, both of Indian Affairs. Elder Lena Stewart was assisted by Chief Settee, Ray Gamercy and Nicholson in cutting the rawhide to officially open the band office/health clinic.

The Cumberland House Band has a population of 433 with 252 living on the reserve. It is expected an additional 600 people will acquire band membership status under Bill C-31. The band moved to Cumberland House 23 years ago from Pine Bluff. The name "Pine Island" is derived from its former homestead.

Guests were invited to a luncheon prepared by the band members. Each visitor also received a cap bearing the name Cumberland House Cree Nation and a piece of rawhide as a momentum of the occasion. □

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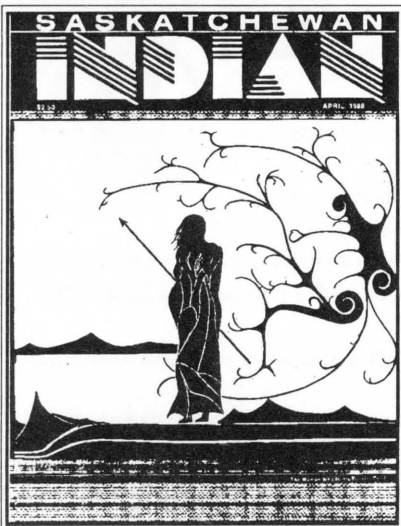
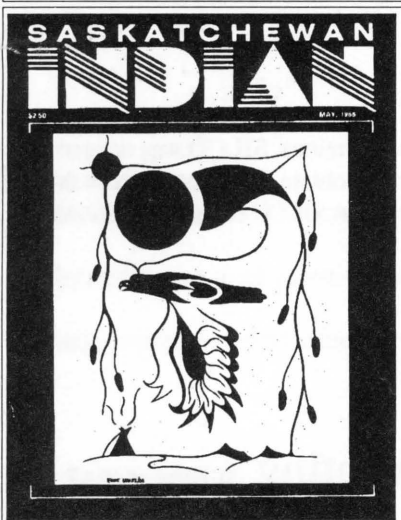
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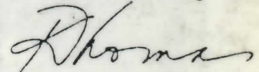


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Ken Thomas  
Program Manager

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