

# SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN

FALL 1995





# SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN

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The Saskatchewan Indian is the official publication of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. An Editorial Board has been established to start publishing this paper quarterly and in the magazine format. In keeping with the past award-winning tradition of the Sask. Indian, we will feature a different artist on the cover of each issue.

This issues' cover artist is **Denis Okanee/Angus** of the Thunderchild First Nation. Dennis is a photographer, specializing in

black and white hand colored prints. He can be reached at 845-2431 or at P.O. Box 603, Turtleford, Sask., S0M 2Y0.

There are an overwhelming number of First Nations community events and happenings that we are unable to cover as much as we would like to. We therefore encourage everybody to send in stories of First Nations community happenings and events to us. We also encourage signed letters of interest to our readers. Please address them to the following:

**Editorial Board**  
*The Saskatchewan Indian*  
 Suite 200 - 103A  
 Packham Avenue  
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
 S7N 4K4

**Phone: 665-1215**

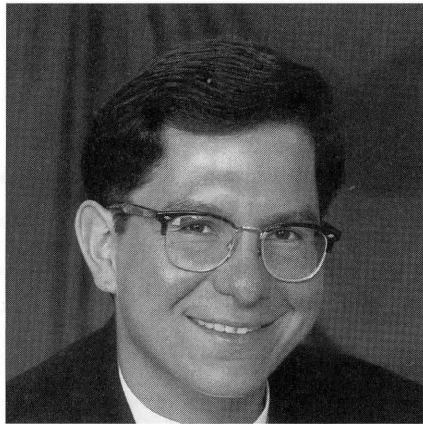
**Fax: 244-4413**

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# A Message from the Office of the Chief



*Chief Blaine Favel*

During the past eleven months, I have had the honour of meeting Elders, Chiefs and Councils, and members from across our territories to discuss important issues in the ongoing development of First Nations people. I have been reminded in every community of the importance of upholding, maintaining and strengthening our Treaty rights. In order to accomplish these objectives, the FSIN, with the cooperation, participation and support of First Nations governments, has been successful in initiating a number of significant developments.

At the provincial level, the FSIN and Government of Saskatchewan signed a path-breaking agreement on gaming. This agreement calls for the establishment of a minimum of four First Nations owned and operated casinos. It commits the Provincial Government to a partnership arrangement with First Nations regarding the utilization of gaming

revenues and recognizes First Nations jurisdiction over gaming.

The FSIN and the Government of Saskatchewan have also been in discussions to develop a new bi-lateral accord. The accord is intended to formalize relations between First Nations Governments and the Provincial Government and eventually lead to the Province vacating areas currently under its jurisdiction such as in education, social services, and natural resources. One important feature of the bi-lateral process is the development of FSIN/Government of Saskatchewan strategies to address ongoing Federal off-loading.

Nationally, the FSIN has been pursuing the establishment of a First Nations Bank with the assistance and cooperation of the Toronto Dominion Bank. Considerable research and work has been undertaken to develop a comprehensive proposal which will outline the goals of a First Nations owned and operated banking institution.

When the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) was established its priority was the settlement of outstanding treaty land entitlement, along with a mandate to establish a similar process on the development of a comprehensive position on the treaty right to education. The FSIN has received the commitment from Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Ron Irwin in regard to renewing and expanding the mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. If the OTC mandate is expanded, the FSIN anticipates that it would eventually include a broad range of treaty issues such as housing, health, and social development.

The FSIN has embarked on developing a reorganization strategy intended to meet the ongoing and changing requirements of First Nations governmental development. On September 20, 1995 the Chiefs in Assembly approved a two year time-frame for the reorganization to take occur. It will include a one year consultation process and a one year implementation process and is scheduled for completion by October, 1997. Overall, the reorganization will be guided by the fact that the inherent right to self-government and treaty protection must be implemented.

In addition to the initiatives I have addressed, there are also a number of ongoing developments intended to further strengthen First Nations governments and our treaty objectives. As the work of the FSIN and that of the First Nations governments continues, we hope that all First Nation individuals, families and communities will benefit from the legacy that is our responsibility to uphold.

# Team Saskatchewan Three-Peets

As expected by most Team Saskatchewan athletes, Team Saskatchewan has come up on top again at the recent 1995 North American Indigenous Games in Blaine, Minnesota.

Team Saskatchewan entered the opening ceremonies with over 1000 athletes, although Team Alberta had approximately 500 more athletes than Saskatchewan, it was apparent from the start that Team Saskatchewan would be a major contender for a third overall championship.

Team Saskatchewan basically dominated every sport, from the first day of the Games. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were very evident around the necks of Saskatchewan athletes. It was about midweek of the Games that Team Saskatchewan were destined to be champions. It was overwhelming by then of the amount of medals won by the Saskatchewan Team. In all, approximately 400 medals were awarded to Saskatchewan athletes, bringing pride and well deserved

congratulations from all across our province. Team Saskatchewan is represented by athletes from the far north as well as the south and all points in between.

The success of Team Saskatchewan could not have been accomplished without the support of our elders. Team Saskatchewan brought a delegation of elders as part of the team to provide spiritual guidance as well as discipline when needed. Although incidents were few, the elder's role was integral to Team Saskatchewan wholistically.

Team Saskatchewan were not only visible on the medal podiums but were extremely well behaved and very respectful when it was called for. From a Team Saskatchewan perspective, our team displayed an air of confidence as well as camaraderie that could not be matched by any other team at the games. ***Team Saskatchewan was definitely a first class team.***

Team Saskatchewan organizers, coaches and chaperons should also be congratulated as without their

assistance the success of the overall Games would not have been achieved. When disorganization was at the forefront many of these people stepped in and took the lead role in assisting the host community with much needed experience and expertise in those venues. They also did a superb job in looking after and caring for the Team Saskatchewan athletes.

It is important to note that Team Saskatchewan were the only Province from Canada that received full and complete support from the First Nation and Aboriginal political leadership.

In closing, a well deserved congratulations are in order for every athlete, coach, chaperon and organizer of Team Saskatchewan. Winning for the third time in a row is extraordinary, but winning for the fourth time will be something else. A dynasty in the making? We will see when the next North American Indigenous Games go to Victoria, British Columbia in 1997.

**Medal Standing Results on pg. 16**





# Summer Science Camp '95



*University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine - checking for vital signs.*

The Office of Education, FSIN has now completed its fourth annual First Nations Summer Science Camp. The Office of Education is proud to announce that 126 First Nations students successfully completed the one week science camps held throughout the province. A total of three different math and science camps were offered to First Nations youth who will be entering grades six to twelve this year.

The Saskatoon Camp was held at the University of Saskatchewan from July 3 to 7. The Regina Camp was held at the University of Regina, Luther College, from July 17 - 21, while the South East Treaty 4 Camp was held at the Ochapowace First Nation on August 13 to the 18th.

The Office of Education, FSIN, has taken the initiative in assisting First Nations youth in achieving parity in the field of maths and sciences. The First Nations Summer Science Camps is one alternative in taking a proactive educational approach for First Nations youth who have a desire to be Engineers, Doctors,

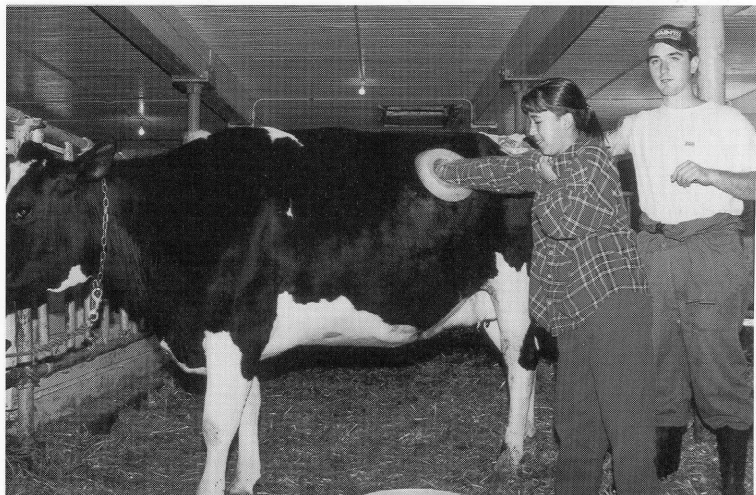
Dentists, Accountants and so on. This educational approach provides a format for students to "peak an educational interest in maths and sciences" in a fun and relaxed environment. As a result, this facilitates a support system for those students who display an early interest in maths and sciences to continue and obtain a solid background in these areas while in elementary and secondary school.

The summer science camps also assist in alleviating any apprehen-

sions about post-secondary institutions as the students reside at these institutions during the course of the camps. As is evident from the photos the students also are provided a hands-on approach to the sciences.

The Office of Education, prior to the summer camps, made various presentations to Directors of Education and Board Meetings as a way of promoting and updating the Bands and Tribal Councils on the Science Camps '95. They also visited numerous schools and did presentations to students.

Once again, the Office of Education, FSIN has taken a proactive approach in terms of initiating and coordinating math and sciences related camps for First Nations youth. The Office of Education would like to thank all the co-sponsoring organizations that have volunteered their services in assisting their office in making these camps a reality. Without their expertise and time, these camps would not be possible.



*At the University of Saskatchewan, College of Agriculture.  
"I think I dropped my ring down here."*



# Launching of the First Nations School to Work Transition Project

**Regina, Saskatchewan, May 1995**

Lloyd Axworthy, federal Human Resources Development Minister, and Chief Blaine Favel of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, announced an innovative initiative to help First Nations youth successfully make the transition from school to work. The initiative, which will be coordinated by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, was developed with the full cooperation of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, Training and Employment and a range of community and industry partners. The announcement was made at Scott Collegiate, was co-hosted by the Regina Public School Board, one of the partners in the project.

The Saskatchewan initiative is the first announcement under Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives (ASI), a unique national program aimed at testing innovative approaches for reform in areas such as labour market training, social services and education including better welfare-to-work and school-to-work transitions. The ASI Program has a budget of \$25 million, over the 1995-99 period, to facilitate the development of more flexible and effective uses for existing resources. Eligible initiatives are those designed and implemented by Aboriginal organizations.

First Nations youth face particular difficulties and limited opportunities as they strive to complete their education and move into the labour force. The FSIN First Nations School to Work Transition project introduces an educational approach combining culturally appropriate in-

school and industry-based training, and is adapted to individual student needs.

The new approach honours the sacred world view, traditional values and the teachings of the five First Nations cultural-linguistic groups. First Nations curriculum writers will develop materials that incorporate the perspectives of elders and build on oral traditions.

"Students thrive in an environment which offers them choice, practical training and the real expectation of qualifying for good jobs," said Mr. Axworthy. "The integration of school with work sets meaningful goals for Aboriginal youth, giving them real hope for the future."

Initial funding for the project will go towards curriculum development, preparation of school sites, and formal linkages with industry partners. Enrolment of the first 100 students in the pilot program will begin in September, in one urban and two on-reserve school settings. The three selected pilot sites are: Waterhen Lake First Nations, Buffalo River Dene Nation and Scott Collegiate. Over the course of the four years, 400 First Nations youth are expected to participate in the program.

Once tested, the program - which has the full support of First Nations - has strong potential for application in other First Nations communities across Canada. "By capitalizing on the willingness of an array of community partners, this project can set First Nations education on a

strong footing," said Chief Favel. "It will provide First Nations youth with the skills and contacts to participate fully in the labour force. At the same time, it will help strengthen First Nations culture and identity."

"We are pleased to be full partners in this project," added Keith Goulet, Saskatchewan's Associate Minister of Education, Training and Employment. "It offers a unique opportunity to test new approaches to high school education and school management. It also holds real promise for improving completion rates and transitions to work for Aboriginal students."

"This project takes the best elements of school to work programming, and adapts them to reflect the unique aspects and strengths of aboriginal culture," said Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State for Youth and Training, Human Resources Development Canada, from her office in Ottawa. "I feel confident the FSIN School to Work Transition model will help First Nations youth meet the challenges of today's changing economy, to become independent and productive members of their own communities."

For more information, contact:

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FSIN, Saskatoon  
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**Tina Eberts**  
Human Resources Development  
Canada, Regina  
(306) 780-8736



# Treaty Roundtable Forum

April 5 & 6, 1995, Regina, Sask.

In the true Spirit and Intent of the Canadian Numbered Treaties as negotiated and signed by our Forefathers, this gathering of Treaty Elders, Chiefs and Councils and Technicians was called by the FSIN Chief Blaine Favel.

The opening of Treaty Roundtable Forum was done in the traditional protocol of the pipe ceremony. Within this sacred circle, our Elders reminded our leaders of our forefather's worldview, in the need to prepare our next generations and learn to live and walk our First Nations values. They also echoed their oral teachings from our Forefather's Treaty perspective and advised the present leadership not to forget the Elder's role in First Nations Society.

The significance of the Roundtable forum were as follows:

- to provide open dialogue to current Treaty territory issues and concerns at the grassroots, regional and national levels,
- to re-establish a process/forum to move forward with the treaty implementation agenda, and identifying representation from the "Numbered Treaty Areas",
- and to establish "Numbered Treaty locations and a schedule of follow-up meetings, to ensure a united national Treaty position.

The rationale of why a Treaty Roundtable Forum were discussed

as follows:

- to determine specific concerns and issues where there can be unified effort and action on clarifying and implementing our Treaty Rights,
- to discuss suitable political arrangements (i.e. alliances, protocol agreements, etc.) to govern joint action and communication,
- and refocus on the large group of inherent rights which were silent during the Original Treaty

negotiations (i.e. Self-government, Judicial systems, Natural Resources, and Revenue Sharing ,etc.) which need to be discussed and resolved with the Crown.

This will require unity and harmony from all Treaty territories.

In closing, the following exchange of ideas at the Treaty Roundtable Forum are highlighted in "concept" format to give you, the reader, a general conception of what was discussed by our own Treaty Elders and leaders.

- "To Treaty First Nations, when we operate as Bands, we are like the lame buffalo of old. We lose the protection of the herd and easily fall prey to the wolves. And the vision is clear today - the full realization of coming to the edge of the Buffalo Jump, in hand with our future generations, if and when we continue to over-graze in one area of the Federal Government's buffalo pound of regional pilot projects, proposals, transfer agreements, etc. which decays our sacred trust of the Treaties."
- "The need for our political and education leadership to return to the sacred circle of the pipe for guidance and strength to work in unity and harmony amongst our First Nations and the Non-First Nation governments in respect of the Spirit and Intent of the Treaties."
- "The time has come to make a unified stand for our people; the Crown has been given plenty of time to correctly manage and address our Treaty grievances. In our own Treaty territories, it is also time for us to stop reacting to the Crown's hidden agendas and negotiating with the minor government ministers. In mutual respect, we must discuss face to face with the Crown's top Cabinet Ministers about the Treaty implementation process."
- "For far too long, and often too often, the Federal and Provincial governments understanding and implementation of the Treaties are done without First Nation involvement and consent."
- "When we observe our surroundings carefully, we see how the Federal/Provincial governments are predetermining our Treaty Rights. They are digging in their heels on the control of how First Nations will implement the Treaties on their own agenda."



# The First Nations School Access Project

The First Nations School Access Project has, as its objective, to connect all First Nations K-12 schools under federal jurisdiction to SchoolNet - a gateway to the Internet developed for Canadian schools. The Internet is the information superhighway of the present day. SchoolNet is an on-line system available through the Internet, which provides users the capability to access Canadian and International information databases, as well as other schools around the world.

The Saskatchewan Indian Federated College serves on the national advisory subcommittee to this project.

This project will provide basic Internet connectivity for First

Nations K-12 schools and cover basic telecommunications costs for three years. The basic connectivity provided will be a modem and, if required, computers if the schools do not have one. The telecommunications costs covered are the telephone bills for the three years to a reasonable limit. It is planned that all Saskatchewan First Nations K-12 schools will be connected this year.

In addition to connectivity, this project will provide for the development of suitable content for First Nations K-12 school-children. As well, the project will provide for the training of teachers utilizing this system.

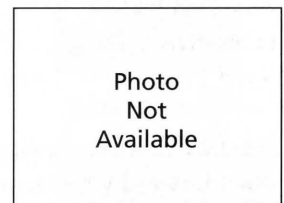
## Outstanding Employees

(Regina Office)



Lorraine Delorme

Lorraine, who is from the Cowessess First Nation, commenced working for the FSIN in 1992 as the secretary/receptionist and PSSSEP coordinator for the Office of Education. Lorraine currently is the Administrative Assistant to the Sask Indian Housing Commission under the Third Vice-Chief and the Office Manager for the Regina Office. A very busy lady. Previously she was the owner/operator of a coffee shop for three years. In her spare time, when she has any, Lorraine is a volunteer for support groups and recreational groups in Regina. She also is an aspiring fashion designer creating ribbon shirts and pendelton jackets. Key to her well-being is her belief in a traditional, cultural and spiritual lifestyle. These values are more important when it comes to raising her children.



LuWayne Bitternose

LuWayne Bitternose is a member of the Gordon First Nation. She recently started employment at the FSIN in January of 1995, as the receptionist/secretary. Prior to the FSIN, she was a member of the R.C.M.P for 6 years. LuWayne is recently married and has four children. She enjoys working for First Nations people and looks forward to a career with the FSIN. LuWayne is deserving of this award as she is a very hard worker and is punctual.

### Preliminary Announcement

#### First Nations Education Authorities Symposium

Sponsored by the FSIN Office of Education

Theme:  
"First Nations Education beyond 2000"

Dates:  
November 28 - November 30, 1995

Place: Saskatoon Inn

# Outstanding Employees

(Saskatoon Office)



Brenda Manitoken

Brenda Manitoken is a member of the Muskeg Lake First Nation and has been working for the FSIN for the past 3 1/2 years. Brenda is currently working in the capacity as executive secretary to the office of Vice Chief Eugene Arcand. Brenda's ability to "get things done" is extraordinary. Balancing a busy home life with four school age children is a task in itself. With that and the ability to excel within the federation is something to be applauded. She is a well deserving candidate of the award.



Eva Marie Lerat

Eva Marie Lerat who is from the Cowesses First Nation has been the Admin Officer/Assistant to the Director in the Treaty Land Entitlement office since July 1992. Prior to that Eva was the receptionist of FSIN. Eva was also employed at the Canada Immigration Centre for a number of years. She has attended the University of Saskatchewan taking classes through the College of Commerce. Eva's future plans are to attend the U. of S. to complete her commerce degree beginning in the fall of 1995 and eventually would like to own her own business.

## Eligibility for Executive Positions

There shall be an election of the following designated Executive positions at the Fall Session of the Legislative Assembly on October 11th and 12th, 1995 at the Centennial Auditorium in Saskatoon:

- (a) **Second Vice-Chief**
- (b) **Third Vice-Chief**
- (c) **Fourth Vice-Chief**

In accordance with the FSIN Election Act, Section II, Eligibility for Executive Position:

1. Must be of the age of eighteen (18) years.
2. Must be a recognized member of one on the Saskatchewan Indian Nations Convention.
3. Each eligible person shall file with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly a declaration of intent to seek an Executive Office to be hand delivered or post marked thirty (30) days prior to the nomination date.
4. The Declaration of Intent must:

- a) specify the Executive position that is being sought;
  - b) have signatures of elected persons from ten (10) different First Nations;
  - c) submit a Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00) performance bond by certified cheque that shall be refundable providing the candidate has a minimum of 15% of the votes coast on the first ballot;
  - d) include a copy of the credentials of the candidate;
  - e) be kept confidential and cannot be released.
5. The Performance Bonds which are not refunded, pursuant to 4(c) above, shall be donated to the Treaty Rights Protection Fund.
  6. The Credentials Committee shall verify the eligibility of candidates seeking Executive office.

### CANDIDATES SEEKING AN ELECTED POSITION WITH THE F.S.I.N.

The positions available for election at the October 11-12, 1995 Fall Assembly are Second Vice-Chief, Third Vice-Chief, and Fourth Vice-Chief. Each person listed has met all eligibility and deadline requirements.

#### Second Vice-Chief

- (1) Arcand, Gary
- (2) Daniels, Henry H.
- (3) Lerat, E. (Dutch)

#### Incumbent: E. Dutch Lerat

- Beardy's
- Sturgeon Lake
- Cowesses

#### Third Vice-Chief

- (1) Cyr, Lindsay
- (2) McLean, Winston
- (3) Standing, Curtis

#### Incumbent: Lindsay Cyr

- Pasqua
- James Smith
- Wahpeton

#### Fourth Vice-Chief

- (1) Bird, Lionel
- (2) Fineday, Clayton
- (3) Iron, Tom
- (4) Scott, Albert Donald

#### Incumbent: Tom Iron

- Montreal Lake
- Sweetgrass
- Canoe Lake
- Kinistinn



# Honouring the Veterans



In June 6, at the Chiefs Spring Assembly the Indian Veterans of the Second World War were honoured for their selfless contribution and sacrifice.

The event was staged to coincide with other events commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the second world war.

Saskatchewan Indians have an impressive record of service to the country. In total 626 Indian men and women have volunteered for service

in the three theatres of war this century including: 107 in the First World War, 463 in the Second World War and 56 in the Korean War.

Sadly only 67 of the second world war veterans were able to attend the commemoration in June. Of the total seven were women.

The commemoration was held at two locations, at the RCMP barracks and the Regina Centre for the Arts.

First a march past was held

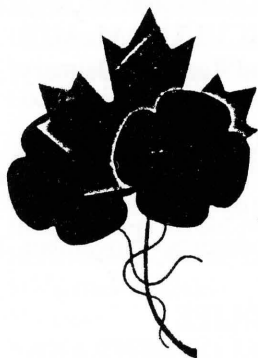
at the RCMP barracks which included the Veterans, members of the Royal Canadian Legion, the RCMP and Cadets from Gordon's Student Residence.

In addition the Airforce honoured the veterans with a fly past.

Following the march the ceremonies moved to the Centre for the Arts and a banquet was held where the veterans were further honoured. Senator Raynelle Andrechuk represented the Federal Government, Premier Roy Romanow represented the province and Chief Blaine Favel represented the First Nations of Saskatchewan.

Overall the event was very well organized and each veteran received gifts including a 50 year medal, a crest and a suit jacket.

This will probably be the last time that these veterans will have the opportunity to gather in such numbers. We must never forget the sacrifice that they, and those that did not return, made to our freedom.



FSIN  
REMEMBERS



*Saskatchewan First Nations Veterans*

# Office of the Legislative Assembly

The membership of the Legislative Assembly, as outlined in the Convention Act, are the First Nations in Saskatchewan signatory to the Convention.

Each member of the Legislative Assembly has one vote. The only exception to this is the Fall Session whereby a voting formula is implemented as set out in the **F.S.I.N. Election Act** for the purposes of Executive elections.

There are normally three sessions of the Legislative Assembly held annually - fall, winter, and spring. As well, Special Assemblies are held as required.

The Assemblies deal with a variety of issues of mutual concern to the member First Nations of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The Legislative Assembly is entrusted with the legislative powers including the passing of laws, ordinances, statutes, regulations and codes, and the supervision of the activities of the Executive power.

The Legislative Assembly objectives are, but not limited to, the following:

- promote the protection and implementation of Treaty Rights;
- consultation with member First Nations on issues of mutual concern;
- determine action plans for resolution of issues;
- develop and ratify policy documents;
- develop and ratify Indian legislation;
- development and supervision of institutions to implement its powers;

- establishment of boards/commissions which have their powers and functions set out in legislation;
- determine the number and powers of the Executive.

Since the establishment of the Legislative Assembly a number of First Nations legislation have been adopted. This Indian Government legislation includes:

1. **CONVENTION**

Adopted - April, 1982  
Amendments - June, 1989

2. **CONVENTION ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
January, 1985  
Amendments - June, 1989

3. **RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Adoption - May, 1984  
Amendments - June, 1989

4. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
January, 1985  
currently under review

5. **PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
January, 1985  
Amended Act - August, 1992  
Regulations (through Executive authority) - June, 1990  
Amendments to Regulations -  
Sept., 1994

6. **EDUCATION ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
January, 1987  
Amendments - October, 1990

7. **SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
January, 1985

8. **SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE**

Third Reading & Adoption -  
May 26, 1994

9. **SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRE**

Second Reading - October, 1990

10. **SENATE ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
May, 1993

11. **INDIAN CHILD AND FAMILY SUPPORT ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
October, 1990  
Amendments - August, 1992  
Amendments - 1994

12. **HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ACT**

First Reading - October, 1990

13. **SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN AGRICULTURAL ACT**

Second Reading - January, 1988

14. **ELECTION ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
July, 1989  
Amendments - November, 1993

15. **WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION ACT**

Third Reading and Adoption -  
May, 1993

Continued Next Page



# Office of The Legislative Assembly

Cont'd....

**16. INDIAN GOVERNMENT  
COMMISSION ACT**

Drafting Instructions - October, 1990

**17. ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT ACT**

Second Reading - May, 1995

**18. SPORTS, CULTURE &  
RECREATION  
COMMISSION ACT**

Third Reading & Adoption - July, 1994

**19. OFFICIAL INDIAN  
LANGUAGES ACT**

Second Reading - January, 1993

**20. THE POLICE SERVICES  
(FIRST NATIONS) ACT**

Second Reading - January, 1995

**21. STRUCTURE**

Amendments adopted in principle - October, 1990  
Old structure to stay in place until consultation and clarification done with Tribal Councils

**22. AN ACT RESPECTING  
FIRST NATIONS GAMING**

Second Reading - May, 1995

**23. NON-RENEWABLE  
RESOURCES ACT**

Drafting Instructions - May, 1995

**24. FIRST NATIONS  
FISHERIES ACT**

Drafting Instructions - May, 1995

**25. FIRST NATIONS  
FORESTRY ACT**

Drafting Instructions - May, 1995

## Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies

# Graduation 95'

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies Board of Governors and staff, congratulations to all graduates from the following programs:

### *Diploma Programs*

Business Administration	June 2
Indian Business Management	June 2
Diploma Nursing	June 23
Integrated Resource Management	September
Local Health Administration	June 28

### *Pre-Technical/Vocational Preparation 11-12*

Canoe Lake	June 30
Health Careers Access, North Battleford	June 27
Health Careers Access, La Ronge	June 29
Moosomin/Saulteaux	June 26
Mosquito	June 27
North Battleford	June 27
Saskatoon	June 28
Pelican Lake	June 29
Yorkton	June 30
Gordon	July 1

### *Certificate Programs*

Administration 1	June 27
Automotive Service Technology	June 30
Chemical Dependency Worker	June 22
Integrated Land Management	June 28
Office Education	June 2
Plumbing	June 30
Welding	June 30

### *Adult Basic Education 8-10*

Flying Dust	May 5
Ahtahkakoop	June 26
North Battleford	June 27
Witchehan Lake	June 29
Yellow Quill	June 30
Okanese	July 21

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# Executive Portfolio Assignments

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF



**Chief Blaine Favel**  
**Tribal Council Assignment:**  
**PAGC**

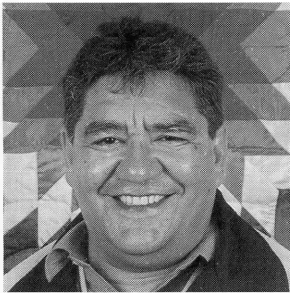
- Constitution Review
- Education (Elementary/Secondary/Post-Secondary)
- Executive
- Executive Council
- Indian Government Commission
- Inter-Governmental Affairs
- International Affairs
- Justice
- Legal Counsel
- Media, Communications, Data & Information
- Office of the Legislative
- Assembly
- Office of the Treaty Commissioner
- Senate Advisory Council & Past Presidents
- Treaty Protocols

### **Commissions/Boards:**

- Executive/Executive Council
- Indian Government Commission
- Indian Justice Commission
- Saskatchewan Indian Education Commission

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## FIRST VICE-CHIEF



**Vice-Chief Dan Bellegarde**

### **Tribal Council Assignment:** **TFHQ**

- Gaming
- Membership/Citizenship Policing
- Self-Government
- Specific Claims
- Treaty Land Entitlement
- Treaty Rights & Research

### **Commissions/Boards:**

- Assembly of Entitlement Chiefs
- Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Commission

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## SECOND VICE-CHIEF



**Vice-Chief E. (Dutch) Lerat**

### **Tribal Council Assignment:** **STC**

- Economic Development
- Economic Development Strategy
- Economic Development Commission
- Economic Institutions
  - National Indian Financial Corporation
  - Saskatchewan Indian Agricultural Program
  - Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation
  - Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company
- Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) & SITAG

### **Commissions/Boards:**

- Saskatchewan Indian Economic Development Commission
- National Indian Financial Corporation
- SIAP Board
- SIEF Board
- SILCO
- SIIT & SITAG Board



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# Executive Portfolio Assignments cont'd

## THIRD VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief Lindsay Cyr

### Tribal Council Assignment: YTC

Finance & Administration  
Fiscal Relations  
Housing, Roads & Public Works  
Personnel  
Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre

### Commissions/Boards:

Saskatchewan Indian Housing & Roads Commission  
Saskatchewan Indian Personnel Commission  
Treasury Board

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## FOURTH VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief Tom Iron

### Tribal Council Assignment: BTC

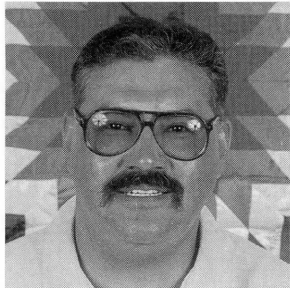
Child Welfare & Family Services  
Health & Social Development  
Seniors & Adult Care  
Treaty Health Rights

### Commissions/Boards

Health & Social Development Commission

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## FIFTH VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief Eugene Arcand

### Tribal Council Assignment: SET4TC

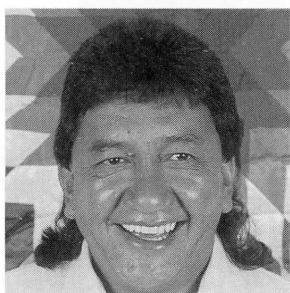
Corrections Canada (Provincial/Federal)  
Off-Reserve Treaty Indians  
Sports, Recreation & Culture  
Youth Development  
Young Offenders

### Commissions/Boards:

Saskatchewan Indian Sports, Culture & Recreation Commission

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## SIXTH VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief Ernie Cameron

### Tribal Council Assignment: ACTC/FCTC

Bold Eagle  
Re-organization (FSIN)  
RCMP Summer Training Program  
Saskatchewan Indian Veterans Association

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples  
Social Policy Reform  
Women's Issues

# Executive Portfolio Assignments Cont'd

## SEVENTH VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief Allan Adam

**Tribal Council Assignment: Dene First Nations, MLTC**

Natural Resources Transfer Agreement  
 Northern Economic Issues  
 Co-Management Issues  
 Fishing  
 Forestry  
 Hunting, Fishing, Trapping & Gathering

Mining  
 Saskatchewan Indian Federated College  
 Tourism  
 Environment

### Commissions/Boards:

Hunting, Fishing, Trapping & Gathering Commission  
 Environment Commission

## AFN REGIONAL VICE-CHIEF



Vice-Chief A.J. Felix

AFN Portfolios:

Taxation  
 Treaties  
 Sports & Recreation  
 AFN Re-Organization

FSIN Portfolios:

Taxation  
 Treaties (shared with Chief Favel)

### Commissions/Boards:

Saskatchewan Indian Taxation Commission

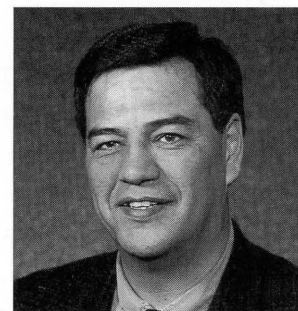


*A Unified voice of the Saskatchewan First Nations, we are committed towards the advancement and protection of Treaties and the inherent right to Self-Government.*

*Honouring the Saskatchewan Roughrider Organization, and loyal fans, we are proud supporters of "Grey Cup '95".*

## Chief **Blaine C. Favel** & Executive

- 1st Vice-Chief **Dan Bellegarde**
- 2nd Vice-Chief **E. Dutch Lerat**
- 3rd Vice-Chief **Lindsay Cyr**
- 4th Vice-Chief **Tom Iron**
- 5th Vice-Chief **Eugene Arcand**
- 6th Vice-Chief **J.E. Cameron**
- 7th Vice-Chief **Allan Adam**
- Assembly of First Nations Vice-Chief **A.J. Felix**



Clerk of the Legislative Assembly - **Rick Gamble**



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# The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

The Elders of the First Nations in Saskatchewan long ago predicted the resurgence of the traditional alliance of the Cree, Saulteaux, and Assinboine which was known as the Iron Nation.

During the 1920's a grandson of Poundmaker and, a past president of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, influenced the birth of the Indian League of Canada, a national forerunner to the National Indian Brotherhood.

In 1930, the Saskatchewan Treaty Protection Association was formed under the leadership of Andrew Gordon and John Gambler to protect the Treaty Rights of Indians in the Fort Qu'Appelle area.

During the 1940's it became the Protective Association for Indians and their Treaties. The 1940's also saw the late Senator Tootoosis involved in the formation of the Queen Victoria Protective Association and the North American Indian Brotherhood.

In 1943, the Association of Indians of Saskatchewan became the largest organization in Saskatchewan.

During this time period (1930's - 1950's), there was also a Protective Advisory Council

established in the Fort Carlton Agency, headed by the late Senators William Joseph and Joe Dreaver.

In 1946, a conference was convened by the Government of Saskatchewan at which 60 representatives of the Cree, Sioux, Saulteaux and Assinboine Tribes of Saskatchewan discussed the feasibility of forming a single Indian organization. A resolution was passed favouring such establishment.

Follow up meetings of Saskatchewan Indian leaders representing all Saskatchewan Bands were held at Duck Lake and Saskatoon. This resulted in the formation of the Union of Saskatchewan Indians under the Presidency of John Tootoosis and with a Constitution.

The aims and objectives were towards:

- the protection of Treaties and Treaty Rights;
- the fostering of progress in the economic, educational, and social endeavours of Indian people;
- co-operation with civil and religious authorities;
- constructive criticism and thorough discussion of all

matters;

- the adherence to democratic procedure; and
- the promotion of respect and tolerance for all people.

In 1957, a conference of Saskatchewan Chiefs and Councillors laid plans for a new organization.

A second conference in 1958 resulted in the **Federation of Saskatchewan Indians** being duly constituted with John Tootoosis as its first President. In succeeding years the presidency was held by David Knight (1961-1964), Wilfred Bellegarde (1964-66), Walter Deiter (1966-68), David Ahenakew (1968-1978), Albert Bellegarde (1978-1979), Sol Sanderson (1979-1986), Roland Crowe (1986 - 1994) and Blaine Favel (1994 - present).

By the late 1970's, the swift pace of the political developments of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians led to the drive for reorganization of the structure and Constitution of the Federation. Under the old structure and Constitution, there were a number of weaknesses in the system.

A primary concern of the Senate and Bands, in the reorganizing process was that the Executive Council, whether by accident or design, were in a paramount position, and the authority of the bands was underlined. The old structures and constitution also centralized programs and services to the provincial level, not the tribal council or band level.

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**By the late 1970's, the swift pace of the political developments of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians led to the drive for reorganization of the structure and Constitution of the Federation.**

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Continued on Page 16

## The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations... Cont'd

Another feature of the old F.S.I. was that it was incorporated under the Provincial Society's Act as a non-profit charitable organization which somehow did not conform with the drive for recognition and implementation of Indian Government and the Treaties by the First Nations of Saskatchewan.

In order to correct these deficiencies in the structure and constitution of the F.S.I., any new reorganization had to seriously address these concerns.

At the 1980 January Chiefs Policy Conference a resolution was passed to establish a committee to review and provide

recommendations for the review of the F.S.I. constitution.

On January 26, 1981, the proposed structure was adopted in principle. The recommendations and concerns of the Elders and the member Bands of the F.S.I. were addressed in the new structure and Convention of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

On April 16, 1982, the Saskatchewan Chiefs agreed to form Canada's first Indian

Legislative Assembly. The political convention they signed re-structured the F.S.I. so that the provincial governing body is no longer a non-profit society but a true federation of nations. Now known as the **Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations**, the Chiefs control the executive and administrative functions of government at the band, tribal council and provincial levels of Indian Government.



### Past Presidents of the FSIN

**David Knight (1961-1964)**

**Wilfred Bellegarde (1964-66)**

**Walter Deiter (1966-68)**

**David Ahenakew (1968-1978)**

**Albert Bellegarde (1978-1979)**

**Sol Sanderson (1979-1986)**

**Roland Crowe (1986 - 1994)**

**Blaine Favel (1994 - present).**

## North American Indigenous Games Medal Standings

Finish	STATE/PROV	Gold	Silver	BRONZE	TOTAL	POINTS
1	SASKATCHEWAN	48	31	21	100	5802
2	ALBERTA	29	26	25	80	4326
3	MANITOBA	15	5	3	23	1431
4	ONTARIO	14	11	5	30	1764
5	MINNESOTA	11	10	9	30	1632
6	NORTH DAKOTA	10	4	2	16	991
7	NEW YORK	6	7	2	15	879
8	ARIZONA	5	4	6	15	776
9	BRITISH COLUMBIA	5	4	4	13	708
10	WISCONSIN	6	2	2	10	599
11	OKLAHOMA	8	2	1	11	706
12	YUKON	1	6	4	11	540
13	QUEBEC	2	3	5	10	476
14	SOUTH DAKOTA	2	3	2	7	375
15	NW TERRITORIES	2		7	9	375
16	MAINE	2	1	2	5	263
17	OREGON	2			2	140
18	COLORADO	1	1		2	126
19	GEORGIA	1	1		2	126
20	NORTH CAROLINA	1			1	70
21	CONNECTICUT		1	1	2	90
22	FLORIDA	1			1	70
23	UTAH			2	2	67
24	MISSISSIPPI			1	1	34
25 26 27	WASHINGTON, IOWA, NEW MEXICO				0	0
28	NEW BRUNSWICK	1			1	20
		172	122	104	398	22,366



# Gaming Industry Will Increase Economic Development



Saskatchewan Indians are about to embark on a new form of economic development. Negotiations with the provincial government have resulted in the development of a casino gaming industry. A segment of which will directly benefit the First Nations.

The negotiations resulted in an agreement with the province, agreeing to work together with First Nations to achieve full jurisdiction for all forms of gaming on reserves. The agreement further allows for the development of four and possibly five casinos controlled by the First Nations.

This agreement was approved by the Chiefs Assembly on February 10, 1995. The Chiefs Assembly unanimously passed the First Nations Gaming Act on June 7, 1995.

This legislation created a Gaming Commission to provide the political direction. A Gaming Authority was further established to work under the direction of the Commission and conduct the business of the casino industry.

Saskatchewan First Nations have entered into the gaming industry with three goals in mind. First, casinos will provide

employment for Indian people. Unemployment levels for Indian people both on and off the reserve are the highest in the province. The result is a high level of frustration and poverty. Casinos will provide an opportunity for both direct and indirect employment.

Second, casinos will provide a fund of cash that will be recycled into the First Nations economy

and result in additional economic and employment opportunities.

And third, the casinos will create additional business opportunities through the provision of support services to the casino.

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations is now working to staff up the Authority and proceed with the start up of the casinos.

## Interim Steps Taken to Implement Casino Operations

Steps to establish the casino business plan have gone ahead while the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA) board formalizes its policies and hires permanent staff.

Ken Thomas has been on Loan from SIAP to serve as team leader on an intern basis. In the early stages Ken was supported by Hollis Stabler, a gaming consultant and Leifa Buffalo. Together they advanced the political and business plan through the final stages.

The Western Canadian Lotteries Corporation (WCLC) has been retained as the prime consultant. The WCLC is responsible for the slot machines, the accounting system and surveillance system procurement.

Bear Claw Consultants from the States have been retained to set up the "live Games" such as blackjack, roulette, etc. Bear Claw Consultants are an Indian owned company with extensive experience in casino management and design.

The accounting firm of Ernst and Young has been retained to validate the internal controls and procedures.

Construction and leasehold improvements are ongoing at the new casino locations. In all cases these sites are temporary with larger casinos planned once the cash flow is established.

The financing to build the interim facilities has been obtained from traditional banking sources without any loans, grants or guarantees from governments.

Staffing is proceeding and training programs have been developed by the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT). The organizers expect to complete the hiring and training by the end of October.

Another factor that has contributed to the success this venture has been the cooperative environment that exists between the FSIN institutions such as the SIIT, the Tribal Councils and the Province and local communities.

# First Nations Pass Gaming Legislation

The First Nations Gaming Act is a piece of legislation that was created by the First Nations Governments of Saskatchewan in Legislative Assembly.

This legislation lays out the orderly procedure that will be followed to develop a First Nations Gaming industry consistent with FSIN's economic development plan. The process will be driven by The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Commission.

The Gaming Commission is empowered to, "develop guidelines and regulations for the further definition of any provision of the Act". In addition to the Gaming Commission the legislation allows for the establishment of several institutions that will provide support to the gaming industry. Among these are:

Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Licensing. This entity will be a five member subcommittee of the Gaming Commission. The subcommittee will develop the licensing standards, fees and protocols for the operation and management of charitable lotteries on reserve. The subcommittee will further be responsible for the registration of gaming employees and event suppliers.

The subcommittee will report to the Gaming Commission and take direction from the Commission.

The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA). This corporation will also report to the Economic Commission on a regular basis. SIGA is mandated to conduct all business, marketing and management functions related to casino and VLT operations. SIGA's mandate includes the following:

(a) develop market strategies and plans for First Nations casinos

(b) work with the Gaming Commission on community approval requirements for casino site selection

(c) oversee the negotiation of operating agreements for casinos, and

(d) ensure that casino and VLT operations are profitable and meet all reasonable business and market requirements and good business practices in the industry.

While SIGA will report to the Gaming Commission and the Economic Commission, it will have a board of directors of its own.

The First Nations Addictions and Rehabilitation Foundation. An addictions rehabilitation fund will be established to work in cooperation with existing agencies and charities to ensure that effective and accessible prevention and treatment programs are available to First Nations people.

The foundation will: coordinate and develop partnerships with existing agencies and programs and to make recommendations for

funding of other charities or foundations which provide First Nations citizens with addiction prevention and treatment.

The First Nations Trust Fund. A board of trustees will be appointed to manage the proceeds from gaming. The board will consist of five members and a chair appointed from the membership of the Gaming Commission.

The board will have the mandate to invest some of the moneys and make payments, based on submission to community spirited projects.

The Trust Fund will provide payments for the following purposes:

- economic development
- social development
- justice initiatives
- educational development
- recreation facilities operation and development
- senior and youth programs
- cultural development
- community infrastructure development and maintenance
- health initiatives
- any other community development and/or project

The Gaming Commission will report annually to the Chiefs Legislative Assembly on behalf of all the institutions listed in the Gaming Act.

## THE FSIN ECONOMIC VISION

The move to develop a Saskatchewan Indian gaming industry is consistent with the vision created by the FSIN for economic development. The FSIN vision is as follows:

**"Our vision is of healthy individuals, families and communities, developed through a First Nations governmental, social, cultural and economic structure, supported by coordinated economic development."**



# Historic Casino Agreement Negotiated

The foundation for a First Nations gaming industry was laid with the negotiation and acceptance of a gaming agreement with the province and a slot machine agreement with the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) and the Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC).

These two historic agreements combined, addressed the issues of jurisdiction, lotteries, casinos, Video lottery terminals and implementation and enforcement issues.

The FSIN takes the

position that the First Nations have the right to self government which is confirmed by the Treaties, which includes full authority over gaming.

In relation to jurisdiction the FSIN and the Provincial Government agreed to work together and present proposals to the Federal government which will allow First Nations full jurisdiction over all forms of gaming on reserves.

The profits from the casinos will be divided up as follows: If the casino is on the reserve than 50% will go to the

First Nations fund, 25% to First Nations charities and 25% will go to the Provincial Government.

The gaming agreement also recognizes the authority of the First Nations to regulate Bingos, lotteries and other forms of gaming on-reserve. All proceeds from these undertakings will be exclusive to the First Nations charities or sponsoring government body.

The agreement calls for the establishment of four First Nations casinos in addition to an option of one in Saskatoon. The people of Saskatoon had previously rejected casino site development in a municipal referendum.

The profits from video lottery terminals located on-reserve will be divided up with 85% going to the First Nations and 15% to the Provincial Government.

The slot machine agreement calls for the Western Canada Lottery Corporation to play a lead role in the procurement of the slot machines and the computer operating systems.

SIGA will then assume the operation of the computer system

The Gaming Agreement was approved by the Chiefs Legislative Assembly February 9, 1995. The First Nations Gaming Act was passed June 7, 1995. In both cases the consent from the Chiefs was unanimous.

## Members of the Gaming Commission

Chief Amanda Louison, Kahkewistahaw

Chief Wayne Standinghorn, Sweetgrass

Chief Richard Poorman, Kawacatoose

Chief Joe Fourhorns, Piapot

Chief Barry Ahenakew, Ahtahkakoop

Chief Henry Neapetung, Yellowquill

Chief Cyrus Standing, Wahpeton

Chief Terry Sanderson, James Smith

Chief Ron Thunder, Little Pine

Chief Pierre Settee, Cumberland House

Chief Harry Lafond, Muskeg Lake

Chief Felix Thomas, Kiniston

Chief Brian Standingready, White Bear

Chief Guy Lariviere, Canoe Lake

Vice-Chief Alphonse Bird, Prince Albert Grand Council

Vice-Chief O'Neil Gladue, Flying Dust

Tom Bear, Agency Chiefs Tribal Council

Bruce Standingready, South East Tribal Council

Perry Bellegarde, Touchwood, File Hills, Qu'Appelle

Tom McKenzie, Lac La Ronge



# Gaming in Minnesota

## - Economic Bonanza

A few years ago the United States passed legislation to allow the First Nations to enter into the gaming industry. The result has been an economic bonanza for those Tribes that are strategically placed.

First Nations people from Canada have travelled down to the States and have been impressed with the level of the wealth, jobs and independence that casinos have created.

A study done in Minnesota in 1992 describes the economic impact that gaming has had on First Nations communities.

At that time there were 13 gaming operations in the State that employed a total of 5,700 people. In addition Indian casinos had added an estimated 3500 jobs to state and local economies in the previous two years.

In 1992, Indian gaming operations were paying wages at the rate of \$78,227,000.00 annually.

In addition estimated construction costs of \$68,820,000.00 had been spent in 1991 and 1992. An additional \$27,150,000.00 was planned in the short term.

Indian casinos were also spending \$3,000,000.00 annually for advertising and promotional expenditures to attract out of state patrons. It was estimated that Indian casinos were attracting about 360,000 out of state patrons on an annual basis.

But most important was the impact on the state and tribal finances. The 13 existing Indian casinos were generating over \$11,800,000.00 in Social and Medicare tax revenue annually. In addition they were also contributing \$2,100,000.00 in combined federal and state unemployment compensation.

Indian casinos were also contributing about \$700,000.00 in additional payments to state or city governments.

In terms of the impact on Indian people the welfare roles reflect a definite decline. The 11 counties with Indian casinos saw a decrease of 3.2% in the number of Indian families receiving welfare.

By comparison, the number of Indian recipients in the remaining counties increased 14.6%. One must keep in mind that this was during a recession and employment was in decline. The only sector that saw real growth was the Indian gaming sector.

The future for Indian gaming in Minnesota remains very positive and it continues to be the engine that drives the First Nations economies.

We must keep in mind, however that the Minnesota example is unique to that state. The population levels are much higher than Saskatchewan with over three million people in the Twin Cities area alone.

But Minnesota stands as an example of what Indian people can accomplish by operating and controlling the gaming industry.

### **FIRST NATIONS FUND PROCLAIMED**

**Sections of the Saskatchewan Gaming corporation Act which establish the First Nations Fund have been proclaimed by the province. The Board of Trustees have now been appointed to manage and operate the fund.**

**The fund was established as a part of the agreement reached between the FSIN and the Provincial Government. Proclamation of the section is a step in the implementation of the agreement.**

#### **Board of Trustees**

**Dan Bellegarde, Chair, FSIN  
Wayne Stanginhorn, Sweetgrass  
Alphonse Bird, P.A.G.C.  
Perry Bellegarde, T.F.H.Q.  
Harry Lafond, Muskeg Lake  
Laura Big Eagle, Ocean Man.**

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# Pasqua Children Present Land Claim To Canada

by Percy Gordon

Land Claims Coordinator, Pasqua Band

On Friday, September 1, 1995, the Pasqua Band presented their 1906 Land Surrender Claim to officials from Canada.

The presentation program began with a pipe ceremony that was conducted by Elders James Ironeagle, Willie Peigan and David Obey. Attending the ceremony were officials from Canada and Band legal advisors.

There were also a drum singing group and traditional dancers that provided a feeling of

well being prior to the presentation.

Chief Todd Peigan gave an electrifying speech concerning the claim. "The whole document is like a crime has been committed. And that crime is being justified today," said Chief Peigan.

Chief Todd Peigan then called Shayla Maureen Cyr -aged 4, and Theodore Gordon Agecoutay - aged 7, to the front of the hall and handed them two claims documents. These children accepted these documents in their

arms and walked toward the government officials. As the children approached, the government officials stood up and accepted them with a hand shake. A loud applause and drum roll was heard from everyone at this historic moment.

By selecting two children from the Band to present the claim illustrated the fact that the Pasqua children and their future generations are important and that the Band would not do anything to hurt them.

After the presentation everyone enjoyed the feast and gift-giving. The Creator gave us a beautiful sunny day for the presentation.

## Special Claim Settled at Treaty No. 4 Grounds

**Fort Qu'Appelle** (September 14, 1995) ---Representatives of the Government of Canada and the Treaty No. 4 First Nations announced the signing of a full and final settlement of the Treaty No. 4 grounds claim today. The settlement ends a long-standing disagreement over the interpretation of a treaty which dates back more than 100 years regarding Treaty Grounds, located at Fort Qu'Appelle.

Bernie Collins, Member of Parliament for the Souris-Moose Mountain Constituency, on behalf of the Honourable Ron A. Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Indian Development, said, "This agreement honours Canada's obligation under Treaty Four signed in 1874. It also further emphasized

the federal government's Red Book commitment to the resolution of outstanding Aboriginal land claims."

"This agreement represents a significant step towards execution of a Treaty commitment that has been unresolved for over 114 years," said Perry Bellegarde, on behalf of the Treaty no. 4 First Nations. "Over 100 years of discussions have led to this historic day. Members of the Treaty No. 4 First Nations look forward to the day when our people can once again hold the grounds that was initially set out as promised for the Treaty Grounds".

Treaty No. 4 First Nations will receive a monetary settlement of \$6.6 million under this agreement, \$5.8 million of which will be placed in trust for the use and benefit of

their members. The remaining amount of money will be used for repayment of funds received by Treaty No. 4 First Nations to cover negotiation costs.

As part of the Settlement Agreement, the Treaty No. 4 First Nations can obtain up to 526 hectares of available and undeveloped land within a 10 km radius of the Treaty no. 4 Reserve Grounds, which the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has agreed to recommend to Cabinet be set apart as reserve upon the fulfillment of certain conditions.

This agreement is unprecedented in the sense that any reserves created, pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, for the use and benefit of Treaty No. 4 reserves, will be joint reserves.



# Treaty Land Entitlement Ratifications Now Complete

On September 22, 1992, First Nation, federal and provincial governments signed a historic agreement to settle Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claims in Saskatchewan, establishing a process to fulfill hundred year old land debts owed under treaties. In signing the agreement, however, First Nations were only agreeing in principle. The real work then began for each First Nation as they were responsible for negotiating a Band Specific and Band Trust Agreement with Canada and ratifying them with an absolute majority. The First Nations were given until September 22, 1995 to ratify these agreements. If they had not ratified by then, the settlement proposal would be withdrawn.

As of August 31, 1995, all of the 26 TLE First Nations who had adhered to the Framework Agreement, with the exception of Joseph Bighead who opted out of the proposal, have now ratified their

agreements. The **Pelican Lake**, and **Keeseekoose First Nations** were the latest, and the last under the 1992 Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement, to do so.

The Pelican Lake First Nation had their ratification vote on August 30, 1995, while the Keeseekoose First Nation had their vote on August 31, 1995. Of those who came out to vote for both First Nations, ratification results were overwhelmingly in favour of the proposal. The chart below shows the results of the ratifications.

Overall, there has been an impressive support for the settlement proposal negotiated in the Framework agreement. With the successful ratification of the settlement at the First Nation level, the real work begins now in fulfilling the outstanding land debt. Getting land transferred to reserve status quickly and efficiently is a must now for those First Nations who have

waited far too long for justice.

First Nations have selected an estimated 1.3 - 1.4 million acres to date, but only 4,380.91 acres have been designated as reserve status. It is evident that the TLE First Nations are experiencing problems in getting their selections through to reserve status. The FSIN along with the TLE First Nations have begun to identify these issues and started working with the Federal and Provincial governments in "streamlining" the reserve creation process.

It is also known that there are more than 27 First Nations in Saskatchewan with valid Treaty Land Entitlements. The Cowessess and Carry-the-Kettle First Nation settlements have modelled their agreements on the 1992 Framework Agreement. Other first Nations are in the midst of being researched for potential settlements or are in the process of making their cases.

Ratification Requirements	Pelican Lake First Nation	Keeseekoose First Nation	Results to Date (all Bands)
Ratification Date	August 30, 1995	August 31, 1995	August 31, 1995
Eligible Voters	392	802	17,987
50% + 1	197	402	8,994
"yes"	227	455	10,821
"no"	87	117	1,819
Spoiled Ballots	0	5	254
<b>Total Voted</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>12,894</b>

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# HE HAD WHAT HE BELIEVED TO HAVE HAD...

BY TERESA MARIE LINKLATER

*In his hands he was carrying the most precious and sacred gift he had ever received. He couldn't stop thinking about the words that the Elder had chosen to say to him. He could hear them over and over again as he came back home. He swung open the door to his sanctuary and placed his sacred bundle in a safe place. He felt balanced for the first time since he didn't know when. He had decided to have a sweat since everything was ready. He would be the only one in there and it will help him be stronger spiritually, emotionally, mentally and have a more clearer understanding of his life here on Mother Earth.*

*He took his sacred bundle and placed it on the floor in front of him. He smudged himself, then he started to smudge and purify his bundle. First his pipe, his drum, eagle feather then the cloth and next the rocks. He began to pray and give thanks to the Creator*

*guidance from the Creator as he starts his journey for a better life. He finished up and started to get ready for his sweat. The rocks were as hot as hot can be. He brought in twenty four rocks and placed them in the pit. He had gathered all that he needed to perform his very own spiritual sweat. He covered up the doorway, sat down cross-legged and began praying. He splashed twenty four times and start to sing his sacred song he was given. As he prayed aloud he felt the warmth of the Turtle Spirit. He had said "you don't have to go through life too fast, just take one step at a time at to get to where you want to go in life."*

*He finished one round, it was not as hot as he thought it would be. He continued on to the next round, but first he put some tobacco onto Grandfather Rock. He brought in twenty four more rocks, making sure it was going to be a bit hotter than the first.*

*While in the sweat he took out a rattle that his mosoom had made for him*

*on would become very useful in his life. He shook the rattle and sang a song. He felt another spirit, it appeared to be the spirit of a White Tailed Deer. She had said in a soft voice "always look for the good in all human beings and treat them with dignity and most of all with respect because you never know anyone until you lived their life."*

*He finished yet another round and began to feel stronger about his spirituality. He lifted up the tarp to the front door and got some water. He then gave some water to the Grandfathers for an offering. He was just about ready for the third round when he suddenly felt this tremendous feeling of belonging and well-being with himself. He got thirteen big rocks instead of twenty four because it took him thirteen years to open his eyes and realized that the way he was living was not the way he had wanted his life to be.*

*He pulled over the tarp, closed the sweat and threw pieces of cedar, sage and medicine over the rocks. He inhaled the quickly rising smoke and spoke gently "thank you oh Creator for watching over me, protecting me and guiding me along. I know that I am nothing without you. I have my spirituality and my faith in you to guide me along on the rocky road in life". The young man began to pray for all the people who helped him when he started his healing journey.*

*When he man opened his eyes he saw the spirit of the grey horned owl. The owl had a message for him*

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**HE REALLY HADN'T THOUGHT MUCH ABOUT IT BACK THEN, BECAUSE HE NEVER THOUGHT IN A MILLION YEARS THAT HE WOULD EVER NEED OR USE THIS BECAUSE OF THE WAY HE WAS LIVING.**

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*for everything in his life. He was ever so grateful for his life that he was given. He smoked his pipe and rose it and blew smoke towards Mother Earth then he smoked it again and blew smoke towards the Creator. Each time he did this he said a little prayer. He gave thanks to the four sacred directions and asked for strength and*

*when he was a young boy. He really hadn't thought much about it back then, because he never thought in a million years that he would ever need or use this because of the way he was living.*

*As he looked back on the time now, he realized it was from the good of his mosoom's heart that he was given something that later*

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**HE HAD WHAT HE BELIEVED TO HAVE HAD... CONT'D**

*from Grandfather Sun. He said "always wake up with me each morning and you'll have no problems, you'll have all day to think about them and figure them out and Grandmother Moon will come out and watch over*

*a song, a song that was passed on to him from generations before. After he was done singing, tears filled his eyes and softly rolled down his face. When he wiped his tears, he looked up and envisioned a beautiful eagle. He felt the eagle say "the beauty of the sunrise is you opening your eyes, the beauty of rain are my tears of pain, the beauty of hope, faith, and love are words of wisdom from above." The eagle*

*white buffalo. The white buffalo had yet another message and he said "my son, you have experienced your first powerful, sacred, spiritual awakening. You'll find that there are two roads in life, one road will be straight and narrow. It will be so easy to want to walk on, but don't let it fool you because you will lose everything you have ever accomplished and gained and much more. The other road will be a bumpy, winding road that will seem to go nowhere. This one will be a harder route to follow because of all the obstacles in the way, which you will have to overcome to get you to your destination. It won't be easy and with that my son I leave you with this, there is always hope".*

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**HE COULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT HE WAS GIVEN BY THE CREATOR. IT SEEMED LIKE HE WAS WAITING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO HAPPEN BEFORE HE COULD GO BACK AND RE-LEARN HIS SPIRITUALITY,**

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*you in your time of need".*

*With that the spirit left him with a sense of accomplishment.*

*The man was getting extremely tired but, he knew he had to continue on with his sweat. He carried twenty four rocks into the sweat and placed them gently inside. This was no ordinary drum, on it had a turtle, white tail deer, owl and the most sacred of animals, the eagle. He knew that in this last round the eagle would come to him bearing words of wisdom. He felt a bit unsure because he didn't know what was going to happen while he was performing his sweat. The young man offered tobacco and he splashed twenty four times and prayed "thank you Great Spirit for everything you've given to my family and me, thank you for giving me a second chance at life. I know now that I was put on Mother Earth for a reason. I will always be grateful for everything that happens good or bad." He held his drum in his hand and began to sing*

*continued on saying "I'm going to be your protector and no matter how hard life gets, just keep on going my friend, just keep on going."*

*When the Eagle Spirit left, the young man was filled with a feeling of wholeness. He opened the door to the sweat only to see through the steam and haze all the spirits he encountered. Each of them had a little something extra to say. First the Turtle Spirit, "I'm teaching you to lead a good life", then the spirit of the White Tailed Deer, "I'm teaching you to care", next the spirit of the great horned White Owl, "I'm teaching you that it is alright to love, but to love yourself is even better", finally the Spirit of the Sacred Eagle "I'm teaching you that it is good to be grateful, but show gratitude".*

*The turtle, deer, owl and the eagle were all side by side to show equality. As the steam and haze slowly disappeared, all the animals came together as one, the precious*

*The tired young man crawled out of the sweat lodge and sat down by the fire. He couldn't believe what he was given by the Creator. It seemed like he was waiting for something like this to happen before he could go back and relearn his spirituality, culture and traditions. He got some food for a feast and sat down to eat, but first the young man put some food away for an offering that was to be put out first thing in the morning. As he was ready to eat he said a prayer of thanks to the Great Spirit. He carried on with his day enjoying his precious, sacred life and by respecting Mother Earth and all that dwell on it. He looked around and saw a white tail deer as if she was welcoming him back. The humble man accepted who he was and now know he was given a culture to cope with life.*

*The End.*

