

Bear Fax



Kakoekakee shi kak Peesim
Festival Season Moon
December 2019

January 2020

Kacha papi watakinum Peesim
Tree exploding (by frost) Moon

www.missanabiecreefn.com Missanabie Cree First Nation

Merry
Christmas

2020

Happy
New Year

MCEN Chief & Council & Staff

Messages from Chief and Council

Wace (Wachay) Hope everyone is doing well and healthy.

Christmas is upon us again and it is a time for family and community. Chief and Council have now had an opportunity to meet several times and discuss our plans to move the community forward.

We have discussed our roles and portfolios, and as a result, we have collective vision and direction. We will continue to push forward with the provincial claim, and hope to hear something in the new year.

The Business Corporation continues to sustain itself through both the joint ventures and the community benefits agreements. We are hoping to populate a new board for MCBC by the end of the year.

Last year ended on a good note, and we are hoping for new growth in the new year.

Meggwetch,

Mikwac,

Chief Jason Gauthier



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Events/Gatherings:

AFN Chiefs Assembly 2019

December 3-5, 2019, Ottawa, Ont.

www.afn.ca/special-chiefs-assembly-2019/

Mushkegowuk Health Summit

January 14-16, 2020

www.mushkegowuk.com

Mosaaaden Mino Bmaadiziwin (Walk the Good Life)

January 21 - 23, 2020, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

www.anishinabek.ca/event/mosaaaden-mino-bmaadiziwin-walk-the-good-life/

Climate Change Youth Summit

January 28-29, 2020, Kenora, Ontario

gct3.ca/events/climate-change-youth-summit/

Mith Makosi Kesikansi
Cree

Niibaa' Anami'egiizhigad
Ojibwe

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From my family to yours.

With this past year hopefully leaving us on a positive note, I hope the upcoming year will proceed in the same direction.

I am excited on the plans for the development of the Reserve areas. I look forward to working with our membership in the growth of our First Nation.

I look forward to the New Year and meeting on a regular basis to continue our important work for our community.

Proudly, Les Nolan Deputy Chief

Wachiaye



I'd like to extend a huge Miigwej to our MCFN staff who worked many hours the past couple of months on the per capital distribution process.

Your time and perseverance to ensure there would be a successful and smooth transition of the monies is truly appreciated by our families and extended families. MIIGWEJ

I attended the Mushkegowuk Annual General Assembly with Deputy Chief Les Nolan. It was a full 3 days of agenda items. A request was put forth to have the Cree language spoken throughout the assembly. Each of the Mushkegowuk programs and services provided a report with an opportunity for questions and answers. The Executive Director stated next year's assembly will be paperless and attendees will be provided a tablet along with a flash drive holding all reports.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation gave a presentation on the Education Jurisdiction. The Education Jurisdiction negotiations is a process which will give First Nations full control of their educational programs and services which will include language programming.

Mushkegowuk Deputy Chief Rebecca Friday presented on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls. It was a highly emotional presentation which resulted in Grand Chief Jonathon Solomon providing Mushkegowuk's full support.

Nishnawbe Aski Police Services provided their report ending with a call out to First Nation band members interested in joining NAPS.

I attended The Best Practices In First Nation Education Forum in November. Andrew Solomon, Education Director of Nishnawbe Aski Nation, stated, "education is needed to bring change to your community-positive change". The student panel spoke of the supports they need to succeed, the challenges they face, what they want non- Indigenous

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people to know about them. The teacher panel stressed the importance of knowing the community, to learn the stories and legends; utilize the resources which reflect identity, culture and language. One of the students stated, “our language is important, it defines who we are as an Indigenous person.”

One of the presentations I participated in was Starting an Immersion Language Nest. This program is designed for the younger children ages 0-4 with their parents/caregivers. The presenters described their program as land based with emphasis on culture.

There were a number of keynote speakers each day. Band member and former councillor Eddy Robinson shared his stories of his personal and academic journey from elementary to post-secondary. Eddy stated, “Stories are teachers, they are natural pedagogy.”

May the gifts of love, joy, friendship, family be yours throughout the Christmas season and they flow over into 2020. From our home to yours Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Wanting nothing but the best for all...take care and keep safe

JoAnn Pezzo

Band Councillor

jpezzo@missanabiecree.com



*Band
Administrator
Report:*

Holiday Greetings and a Great 2020 New Year to All!

The following are highlights of some of the administrative happenings in the Band Office.

Per Capita Distribution (PCD) Treaty Lands Entitlement settlement payout has consumed a considerable amount of staff time and has been the main focus for

a core group of staff in office. We have and are still working diligently with the bank and technical service team to finalize this initial payout. If members are receiving questions from Social Programs (i.e. Community Services; Ontario Disability Program; Ontario Works) regarding their Per Capita Distribution, please contact Shereena Campbell @ 705-254-2702 (Ext. 235) or 1-800-319-3001 (Ext. 235).

In the **Human Resources Recruitment** forefront, positions have been filled with the following successful candidates:

Family Well-Being position – Sally White

Governance Coordinator – Natalie Gauthier

Interim Post-Secondary Education Officer – Judy Syrette

MMIWG Event Coordinator – reposted

Recent Job Posting – Receptionist for Family Services
(posted on MCFN Website and Facebook)



Status Card Registration – Friday afternoons are dedicated for status card renewals; we ask that you please call ahead for an appointment. Both Shereena Campbell and Louise Campbell will be processing these for the interim.

We will be implementing upgrades to our communications for our membership, there will be efforts focused on migrating our Facebook platform from a Facebook Group to a Facebook Page. This shift will allow members of staff and council to post without having to utilize personal accounts. Pages will be more for information sharing, posting jobs, sharing links, creating events and can be interactive between Page Administrators/Contributors and viewers. **** Chief & Council and Staff will not be subjected or tolerate internet harassment or bullying. Please see page 8 for information regarding Cyberbullying.****

The Family Services Team will be working on events throughout the next two months, please see calendars that makeup part of this newsletter.

All the best to all and wishing good health now and for the upcoming New Year!

Doreen Boissoneau

Government
of CanadaGouvernement
du Canada

Internet Harassment or Cyberbullying

Why should a workplace look at Internet harassment?

Many workers do their work using the computer and the Internet. Increasingly Internet harassment is being identified as a concern at work, at home and at school.

Internet harassment, also referred to as “cyberbullying”, is the term used to describe the use of the Internet to harass, threaten, or maliciously embarrass. It can involve behaviours such as:

- Sending unsolicited and/or threatening e-mail.
- Encouraging others to send the victim unsolicited and/or threatening e-mail or to overwhelm the victim with e-mail messages.
- Sending viruses by e-mail (electronic sabotage).
- Spreading rumours.
- Making defamatory comments about the victim online.
- Sending negative messages directly to the victim.
- Impersonating the victim online by sending an inflammatory, controversial or enticing message which causes others to respond negatively to the victim.
- Harassing the victim during a live chat.
- Leaving abusive messages online, including social media sites.
- Sending the victim pornography or other graphic material that is knowingly offensive.
- Creating online content that depicts the victim in negative ways.

Chief & Council Portfolios

	PORTFOLIO DESCRIPTION	INCLUDES	PRIMARY/ ALTERNATIVE	DEDICATED STAFF
1	Lands and Resources	Mining – Prodigy, Alamos, Barrick, Wesdome Forestry – Tembec, Ministry of natural resources, non-timber forest products Wildlife – Ministry of Natural Resources, Wetlands and water - Ministry of Natural Resources,	Shawn Pine/ Cory McLeod	
2	Governance	Governance Committee Policies and Procedures	Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte/ Shawn Pine	Band Administrator Executive Assistant Governance Coordinator Bookkeeper Receptionist Band Administrative Assistant Post- Secondary Education Officer
	Administration			
	Government to Government Relations	Batchewana, Michipicoten, Chapleau Cree, FN to FN, etc.		
3	Child Youth	Child/Youth protection matters – CAS, Kunuwanimano, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care etc.	Les Nolan/ Jo Anne Pezzo	Family Services Supervisor Family Support Worker Choose Life Coordinator Addictions Councillor Program Development Family Well-being Worker
	Elders	Needs of the elders		
	Family	All encompassing		
4	Culture	Traditions – Encourage & practise of traditions Community Healing – Promote Community healing Artifacts – Care and storage	Jo Ann Pezzo/ Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte	CCP Coordinator Post-Secondary Officer Cultural Facilitator
	Language	Working with staff and community to bring the language of the Missanabie Cree Culture back.		
	Education	Needs of the Students		
	CCP	Community Comprehensive Planning – Sit on the steering committee		
5	Economic Development	Business Development for Members Joint Ventures Job Creation Economic diversification	Cory McLeod/ Les Nolan	CBA Implementation Coordinator; MCBC Executive Assistant



From the Desk of Shereena Campbell
Executive Assistant/Registration



Hello Everyone,

In the last couple months I have been receiving Band Change reports and have noticed that there have been quite a few category updates due to changes in the Indian Act under the Bill S3.

Many members that came in under Bill C3 were previously a 6 (2) and unable to pass status eligibility to their children. With these recent changes their category has been changed to 6 (1*) and they are now able to pass status along to their child. In speaking with some members INAC has not notified these individuals of their category change and they were unaware of their children's eligibility to gain status.

In an effort to keep you informed, I have received the most recent Band List and would like to encourage all members who were granted status through Bill C3 to please contact me via phone 705-254-2702 ext. 235. When calling, please have your status card handy as I will be verifying your information prior to issuing category information.

Furthermore, on November 23rd, we had a presentation from Nuclear Waste Management Organization on the Hornepayne borehole drill program, and another from Tulloch engineering on what they found during their land survey of the MCFN Reserve. The presentations are now available on the members only page of the www.missanabiecreefn.com website. If you do not already have access, please contact me and we can get that set up for you.

Wishing all the love, laughter and joy the holiday season may bring. Shereena, Todd and the girls.

RECEPTIONIST

I would like to wish everyone
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Have a Happy and Safe Holiday and
hope the New Year brings
good Health to you and your family
From the desk of June Markie



POST—SECONDARY EDUCATION OFFICER

Seasons Greetings to All Post-Secondary Students!
I wish you all success on your fall exams and look forward to the new year.

Please ensure that you forward your transcripts/ marks to education@missanabiecree.com as soon as they are available.

Miigwech,

Judy Syrette

Education Officer

Missanabie Cree First Nation

705-254-2702, Extension 227



ADDICTIONS COUNCILLOR

This year, National Addiction's Awareness Week (NAAW) is from November 25 to December 1 and the theme is, "Stigma Ends with Me". With your help, we want to increase understanding of the devastating stigma associated with substance use and addiction and its impact on the well-being of people touched by this health issue.

Many people with lived and living experience with substance use have shared their stories about stigma in various communities, workplaces and homes. I have learned from these stories. On an individual level, stigmatizing words or actions are harmful. Collectively, and over time, they have an even greater impact on people's health and well-being.

Ending stigma and breaking down barriers to recovery and wellness are key priorities for myself and my practice.

So What is Substance Use?

Substance use is the use of any psychoactive substance, which covers all legal and illegal drugs, including alcohol, opioids, methamphetamines and cannabis. The term substance use covers a broad range of behaviours. Some people use substances occasionally, others use more regularly. For some people who use substances, regular use can become a problem leading to harm and even substance use disorders or addiction.

Substance Use Disorder

Not all people who use substances will develop a substance use disorder. A substance use disorder is a health condition. It is diagnosed when a person's substance use leads to health issues or problems at home, school or work. A substance use disorder can be mild, moderate or severe. Evidence shows that repeated or prolonged use of

substances can make changes to the brain and impact behaviour.

Addiction causes a person to not be able to control the impulse to use a substance, even when the consequences are negative or harmful. This state is a characteristic of severe substance use disorder. Multiple factors influence a person's likelihood for developing a substance use disorder. These factors

include genetics, brain development, environment and individual experiences.

What is Stigma?

Stigma is any attitude, belief or behaviour that discriminates against people.

When it comes to substance use, stigma impacts people with lived and living experience, as well as their families. Stigma often emerges in the

**"What is Stigma?
Stigma is any
attitude, belief or
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discriminates
against people"**

form of derogatory language that shames and belittles people. Such language can lead to a cycle of behaviours and attitudes that isolate and marginalize people who use substances.

Stigmatizing Language

Stigmatizing language and disrespectful behaviour affect the way people see themselves and how they are treated by society. It's important to remember that a substance use disorder should be treated as a medical condition. Shifting language to more accurately reflect the nature of the health condition can lead to wider support of life-saving interventions. Some people internalize the stigma surrounding substance use, causing them to feel ashamed and to struggle with feelings of worthlessness. Other people's negative attitudes towards them can amplify and further reinforce these feelings. International studies by the World Health Organization show hazardous alcohol and drug use disorders are among the most stigmatized conditions.

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What Does Stigma Look Like?

Stigma isolates and separates people who use substances or have substance use disorders.

We reinforce stigma with the words we choose, how we treat others and how we view ourselves. Most of us encounter stigma in our daily lives and we can amplify or extend it without meaning to. The attitudes we hold without being aware of them include assuming people choose to live with substance use disorders.

Stigmatizing language and attitudes towards people who use substances can sound like:

- Prejudice towards a person's identity by equating that identity with substance use
- Belittling a person's value based on their use of substances
- Dehumanizing a person through labels

The communities and society we live in influence us, and we can internalize stigmatizing words and beliefs. Here are some examples of how stigma can make a person who uses substances feel:

- A sense of shame that stops you from seeking help
- Believing you, as someone who uses substances, will not receive help if you ask for it.
- You are not heard, seen or cared about stigma can make a person feel like their life doesn't matter.
- "Stigma can make a person feel like their life doesn't matter."

How Does Stigma Hurt People?

Stigma is a significant barrier to well-being and good health for people who use substances. This is not just semantics. Stigmatizing language and disrespectful attitudes have real-life consequences that can lead to blame and punishment. Stigma is both present and harmful at all levels of society, even among healthcare practitioners, law enforcement officers and social workers. It can create barriers to accessing treatment and other important services. Studies confirm that the use of

stigmatizing language can have negative impacts on people's well-being. Using person-first, non-stigmatizing language encourages people to seek help, increases the availability of and access to quality healthcare services, and encourages unbiased, effective policy.

Stigmatizing language:

DISCOURAGES PEOPLE FROM SEEKING HELP

- Even though substance use disorder is a health condition, people often do not seek help, not wanting to be labelled "an addict," even within their support networks.

AFFECTS THE QUALITY OF AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES

- Studies show that using words like "abuse" or "addict" can create negative opinions that lead to the refusal of healthcare services or their lower quality, even by well-trained mental health and addiction specialists.

POLICY THAT AFFECTS TREATMENT ACCESSIBILITY

- Elected officials make decisions about resources and policies that directly affect the availability of treatment services, funding of research and laws. It's important that we use non-stigmatizing terms when we speak to decision makers about substance use to encourage unbiased, effective policies and programs.

It's time to change our language. Let's get started.

*Person-first language is language that acknowledges someone as a person before describing their personal attributes or health conditions. Person-first language does not identify people by secondary or incidental qualities or conditions.

Instead of "druggie," use "person who uses substances." Instead of "addict," use "person with a substance use disorder."



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Stigmatizing language is inaccurate, hurtful and disempowering to vulnerable people and, when internalized, us. As a society, it's time that we shift our language to reflect the evidence and our understanding of substance use and substance use disorders. We can make a difference by using words that respect the dignity of all people who use substances, focus on the medical nature of substance use disorders and promote well-being. We need to stop using stigmatizing slang and too common expressions that are harmful. Instead, we need to implement person first language.

English vocabulary has evolved to include words that are accurate and relevant, while not being harmful to others and ourselves. The time has come for language around substance use and substance use disorders to change — in the healthcare field, our personal relationships and society. Calling someone an “addict” dehumanizes that person and can link a substance use disorder to their individual identity. A person is not defined by their illness or health condition.

Say this, not that!

By changing the words you use, you can help break down negative stereotypes one conversation at a time. Avoid using language like asking someone if they are “clean” or “dirty.” These terms can decrease self-esteem and effectiveness of treatment for someone suffering from a substance use disorder.

EXAMPLES OF: INSTEAD OF THIS / SAY THIS

Instead of this:

“You’ve been drinking a lot lately. Why can’t you just stop? You know I’m concerned.”

Say this:

“I notice you’re drinking more than usual. Have you noticed the change or do you have any concerns? If so, is there anything I can do to help?”

Instead of this:

“I have been clean for six months.” “I haven’t taken any substances in six months.”

Say this :

“Substance abuse affects Canadians from all walks of life.”
“Canadians from all walks of life are impacted by the use of substances.”

Instead of this:

“Relapse means you need to restart the recovery process.”
“They lied. They said they were sober but they’re using again.”

Say this:

“Life can be difficult. Emotional pain, trauma and changing life patterns can be challenging for a person navigating their recovery. I understand a person’s pathway to well-being is often not linear and recurrences can and do occur with some people as they work on change.” “Do you know what to do if you see an overdose?” “Do you know how to help a person who’s suffered an overdose?”

**“Stigma
can make a
person feel
like their
life doesn’t
matter.”**

Instead of this:

“I think they’re high on the job; they should be fired.”

Say this:

“I think they may have a substance use problem. We should explore whether there is anything we can do to help them get into a better space. Don’t we have a policy that keeps the workplace safe and cares for someone who is ill?”

Instead of this:

“I can smell alcohol on them. They’re in our emergency room all the time. They’ll probably feel fine soon.”

Say this:

“This person may have been using substances. They deserve a full medical assessment.”

How to Intervene when confronted with stigma

WHEN YOU HEAR... YOU COULD SAY...

“When I see those addicts downtown, I can’t imagine why they don’t do something about their lives. You’d think they’d show a little self-respect; it’s disgusting how they choose to live.”

“What someone suggested to me was to imagine a child in front of me who had done their very best.

Then ask myself what problems they must have encountered as they grew up, and be dealing with today, to be suffering so much. Once I started doing that, it struck me that they must be leading a life they never imagined. I wonder if there is something we can do to help? At the very least, we can offer our respect for their humanity and use person-first language.”

“Well, I see Fred’s finally back at work. It’s been 28

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Youth Speak

(Continued from page 12)



days, so it's a no-brainer where he's been. I wouldn't have the nerve to show my face if they had to send me to detox. He must be really desperate for money to have come back. Keep an eye on your stuff."

"I was worried about Fred's health as well. I read up on substance use disorders so I could have a better understanding of what he's going through. Did you know that stigma is one of the largest barriers to getting help? I think that's why the company has medical benefits that cover substance use disorders to support them in getting help, so we don't lose valuable employees to a health condition. I'm going to make a point of welcoming Fred back to work to help encourage him."

"I don't know what Suzy was thinking last night. The last thing she said to me before the party was that she had to get home early to get her kids. Then there she was smashed, refusing to leave and it was embarrassing to be seen with her."

"It sounds to me like Suzy was thinking about her family and responsibilities. I was concerned about her health. I read some material on substance use disorders and one of the indicators is losing the ability to act according to personal values. This inability may be a sign of a serious health issue. I'm going to share some information with her, as well as my concerns for her well-being."

You Can Make a Difference

Help end stigma surrounding people who use substances by using "person first" language in your day-to-day life. Talk with your friends, family and colleagues about how they can help too by starting conversations at the dinner table or bus stop, or by encouraging a workplace to introduce a person-first language policy.

It's December! Finally, I think we all can breathe this month after a whirlwind of a year, well once exams are done and Christmas break starts! I hope everyone has a full heart, clear mind and full bellies while they are reading this month's Bearfax.

I won't keep people reading for too long, since I'm sure gift shopping is on many of our minds at this time. I would like to encourage the young peoples reading this (& their family members) to be mindful of the present and the future. Enjoy the moments we have with family, friends & ourselves. As much as we should think about others, do not forget to take care of yourself first. Pamper yourself, take a moment to thank yourself for getting as far as you have this year and prepare yourself for what will be an amazing 2020 because we deserve to achieve every goal and dream we see.

Another quick reminder to all the young people, if you want to be more involved let me know! If you would like to travel and attend youth conferences, I will be more than happy to connect you. Want to learn more about something; Moccasin making, video editing, leadership, something completely different? The opportunities are waiting, so let me know what you want to see! My email is apezzo@missanabiecree.com

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas & Happy New Years to everyone!

**Your friendly neighborhood Youth Rep,
Alexandra**

Merry Christmas



From the Desk of the Family Support Worker

December is here and Christmas is around the bend and coming up fast, it has been an amazing end of the year. I think this will be an exciting Christmas for everyone. Christmas is a time of sharing, spending time with the family, telling stories and having fun, intertwining with the young and the old. Hearty laughter, singing Christmas carols, sledding and ice skating with family....are all parts of the winter spirit. I am looking forward to a nice quiet Christmas this year.

November 18th to the 22nd, I attended an excellent conference put on by Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services and the Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies of Ontario: Indigenous Child and Family Well Being Conference. There were many keynote speakers and workshops to attend. Some of the workshops I attended were about cultural competency and knowing yourself as a service worker; the tree of life program- this is an art program for children who have a hard time concentrating in school, this program is also for the youth, discovery of healing and therapy, and a cultural teaching from Liz Babin. These workshops were incredibly informative.



In December we have a few things going on, the winter solstice event, the community Christmas party December 15th, 2019 from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm, the children's Christmas party Sat Dec 7th, 2019 from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm, the cookie swap Dec 11th, at 6:00 pm, healthy snacks Dec 4th, and Elder's Tea Dec 18th, 2019.

I look forward to the new upcoming programs the Missanabie Cree Family Services Team will be providing to our members. We will also be facilitating some of these programs through web-ex as we do want our other members from outside the Sault to feel included.

I found this beautiful poem about the family tree and want to share it with you. Please have a safe holiday. Merry Christmas & Have a Happy New Year.

Bonnie Wiebe

Family Support Worker





The Family Tree

*Our family is like the branches
On an old but sturdy tree
The leaves resemble people
That make up our ancestry
The past has not been easy
And it could have made it fall
But the roots are cemented firmly
For this tree to stand so tall
As time goes by it's certain
That the leaves will wither and wilt
But new branches of the tree will thrive
On foundations they have built
Together we are stronger
It isn't hard to see
That every leaf is needed
To make this family tree*



From the desk of...Cultural Facilitator

Gloria Harris...Eagle Spirit Woman



Welcome December and the Winter Solstice –
December 21st at 11:19 pm EST in our Northern Hemisphere.

Sessions have been well received at Alamos for the Cultural Facilitation and weather does prevent me from attending some days when snow and road conditions are negatively prevalent. Other than that, it is always an interesting drive.

During the Winter Solstice Welcoming, I will oversee children's activities. If anyone would like to volunteer their ideas and time to assist, please let me or April Wesley know:

gharris@missanabiecree.com

705-949-6818

awesley@missanabiecree.com

705-253-36506 ext.201

2019 brought many changes, and has ended up being a terrific year. I am most proud of our inaugural pow wow..." Returning to our Homeland". It won't be long before last years committee starts the call out for pow wow volunteers. My self, and JoAnn Pezzo will make the calls to the former committee to see who wants to be involved for the upcoming 2020 powwow, and we will advance from there. Remember, you do not have to be living in Sault Ste. Marie to volunteer, as we do teleconferences to bring in out of towners.

In my world, I believe in telling the children the truth, and this year I am looking at teaching Old World Santa or Father Christmas. It is my understanding, that the red suit Santa we all know in this western hemisphere, is a character adopted from old world "Santa's". Coca Cola corporation expanded on the look and came up with the red velvet suit Santa. I have started steering away from the Coca Cola version and introducing Old World Santa in my home. I would love to share this our community.

My family is preparing to celebrate and honour my parents, their grandparents, Jim and Chris Wesley, for all the love they bestowed upon us, teachings and family traditions, and mostly about survival.

Sending my seasonal best wishes to all for a safe and blessed time with family, friends, furry, feathered, and finned ones. May love and laughter be plenty in your household or wherever you gather.



Gloria & Tim

Gloria & Kevin, Kortney, Ashely & Kyle, and baby Benjamin

Marta, Jacob & Alesha, Lauren and Dexter, Meagan

Colin, River, and Leighton

Jana & Andre, Hector, Jack, Link, and Grandpa Leger



Wace Everyone

This month, the Governance Team, Chief and Council, Administration, and I have been working diligently towards passing policies for our First Nation. To date the following policies have been approved

and posted to the www.missanabiecreefn.com website: Committee Policy, Financial Policy, and the Conflict of Interest Policy. Documents we are currently working on are the Communications Policy, the Financial Procedures Manual, the Administration Code, and Employment Policy. This past November 23rd–24th, the Committee, Elizabeth Angecone, Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte (Chief and Council Portfolio Holder), Shereena Campbell, Jason Gauthier, and I met for our first Governance Capacity Development Project

GOVERNANCE COORDINATOR

Committee meeting in Toronto. During this time, we were able to all meet in the governance capacity and discuss our future steps towards policy building. We have received our lands and our First Nation continues to grow. It's because of this that there are many policies, procedures, codes, and laws that will be in great need for development. This is why it is so important for those with knowledge in certain areas to join the governance committee as there is a lot of focused work that is needed in many different areas.

“This is why it is so important for those with knowledge in certain areas to join the governance committee as there is a lot of focused work that is needed in many different areas.”

On another note, Christmas is yet again just around the corner and we are all rushing around preparing for the holidays. Remember to take some me time and practice self care. Slow down and walk into that movie theater and watch something you want to watch. Kick back and relax over the holidays at least once or twice and give yourself a well deserved break.

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2020 New Year from our family to yours.

Natalie Gauthier

Governance Coordinator
Ext. 230

LNHL Update

Annii, hope everyone is enjoying good times with their families and preparing for the holidays. We are on track on making another appearance at the 49th Annual LNHL taking place March 16th-19th, 2020 in Mississauga. I would like to announce that we will have 3 teams this year, **Tyke (ages 4-5,6), Novice (ages 7-8), and Atom (ages 9-10)**. We have a few who registered at the gathering this year, but we are always seeking members to come play. Those who registered previously, are the only players we have to fill three teams. The Maskwa program is new, and I hope will last generations to come. I hope our tyke team is filled with all band members, which is a start for all our kids and members to become team members. They will learn to work together to achieve goals and most importantly, have fun and feel the culture. For this upcoming event, we will need volunteers, coaches, trainers and managers to help out. There are courses we have to take to be behind the bench as the tournament is sanctioned by Hockey Canada.

Courses include; Speakout Cert or Respect in Sports, Coach level, Transgender training. These courses are required for all coaches. Managers only require Speakout and Trans training if they are not on the bench. Trainers need Trainer level 1. I know we have members who have this training and I call upon you to help us in our quest to bring memories and success to our teams. Also, we have taken orders at the gathering for Maskwa hockey jerseys and we are hoping to have them soon. Not to worry, we will be taking another order in the near future for anyone who had missed out or didn't have the chance to order at the gathering. We are also looking at having Maskwa swag and gear to be made available soon to purchase as we were working out a price list.

Thank you all for your time and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and hope to see you all soon participating in this exciting event.

Miigwetch,
Coach Dominic Fletcher





MISSANABIE CREE MASKWA TEAM 49TH ANNUAL LITTLE NHL

Do you have a child between the ages of 4 and 10?

**Missanabie Cree First Nation is looking for kids to participate
in the following divisions**

Tyke (ages 4-5,6), Novice (ages 7-8) Atom (ages 9-10)

Date & Location: March 16th-19th, 2020, in Mississauga

We need volunteers, coaches, trainers and managers

**If you are interested in registering your child, volunteering, or have any
questions, please contact Dominic @ 1-705-920-4544 or email @**

FLETCHM1@HOTMAIL.COM



Cottom's Creek Story: by Jackie Fletcher

It was a beautiful morning in the summer of 1945, I was ten. Our Cree family awakened to the crows calling “get up, get up, it’s time to go”. My parents and grandmother, Gookum, made plans the day before to go fishing for speckled trout, as a family. They talked, planned, packed up a tent and fishing tools that day and would wait until we were almost ready to go before packing up any food. My mom would make cookies to add to whatever else went into the packsacks. My dad would go on ahead through interlinking waterways with a canoe to take the tent and blankets and any other bulky things we needed.

That morning my mom whispered in my ear, “it’s time to get up and go to Cottom’s Creek.” I immediately sprang out of bed and jumped for joy. I loved going fishing at that creek. I dressed quickly, ate some toast and peanut butter and then ran down the hill, over the railway tracks to my Gookum’s house to wake up my cousin, Butch (who was twelve). To my surprise he was already up and doing his chores. He was chopping wood out back when I came around the corner. I asked him if he was ready to go to Cottom’s Creek and he smiled wide and nodded. “I just have a few more blocks to chop and then I am ready,” he said. I waited until he was done and then we both went inside, each carrying an armload of wood for the wood box. Gookum was packing up fried bannock rounds, can of Klik and a can of beans. She added flour, lard, salt, pepper, sugar and tea in the packsack. She told us that she had a special surprise to give us when we got to the fishing site.

My cousin carried Gookum’s packsack and the three of us then walked to the railway crossing where we would wait for my family to arrive. Gookum carried a stick for balance when she walked but she also had something wrapped up that looked like her stick and insisted on carrying that bundle herself with no help from me. We sat on the ground to wait under some trembling aspens (at that time I only knew these trees as poplar) watching the leaves dance in the cool breeze. Then we could hear talking in the wind. We turned our heads to where the voices were coming from and could see my mom, carrying a packsack, and my little sister with her fly cap (cheese cloth tied in a knot in four corners, covering her head) to keep away the black flies. Her face was also very shiny from fly dope. She was five. She was frantically waving at us, like we were going to leave without her.

After my mom rubbed Butch and I down with fly dope, the five of us then started on our two and a half mile journey down the railroad tracks to the creek. Right away we had to cross a very scary bridge. When we looked down we could see the rapids flowing underneath between the ties and I always thought, “what if a train comes when we are crossing, what would we do?” The space between the ties looked so enormous that I thought I could fall through, which I later realized could not happen.

It was very hot and many times my mother had to carry my baby sister. What made this trip difficult is

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

walking on a surface that was very inconsistent. My cousin and I would balance and walk the rail itself just because we could. My sister would cry when she couldn't stay on the rail and would want to be carried again. We would look for a pattern where the ties laid but it was not to be. Sometimes it felt like we were walking two steps forward and one step back. My mom and grandmother would be speaking in the language and many times laughter would follow, especially when they would reference one of us. We never knew what they were saying, only to understand a word, here and there. For example, one of them would say "gillabee", which meant - hurry up or "ashameena", meaning - again, when we would stumble and then they would laugh.

All of a sudden the adults would stop, talk and then point to the side. We would follow them into the shrubbery and then know why we were there. At this point my mom would dig out some little lard pail containers and hand one to each of us. It was time to pick blueberries. My grandmother had a sixth sense for where the biggest berries would be. She was always right. My cousin and I would, for the most part, eat and pick. My mom would say to us, "if you want blueberry pancakes tomorrow morning, you have to stop eating and fill your containers." We always wanted blueberry pancakes! We were so proud of ourselves when our containers were full and if either of us finished first we would help the other.

From time to time we would all have to step away from the tracks to a bank to let a train pass. Sometimes it would be a freight train or the Budd car. We would hear a loud whistle on its approach, to warn us, but many times the conductor would know our family, especially my father. We had to make sure we were far enough away so we would not get any cinders in our eyes that may flow from the wind of the train. I still remember the smell of cinder. Passengers would wave to us and we would wave back.

I remember the familiar stretch of landscape that told me we were almost at our destination. When I looked down the long track, I could see heat wiggles forming which made the track look like it was moving like a ribbon. My family would rest for a bit under some pine trees and Butch and I would go and play in the sand craters that had pools of water in them. We would find pollywogs and frogs and chase them around with a stick. It was our own little water world adventure. This was part of the trip we always looked forward to, even if it was raining.

As we got closer to our camp site I could see the trail leading down the bank and then see the stones surrounding a fireplace that housed black residue of a recent fire. In between the pines would be a clearing for the tent. My dad was just arriving at the Cottom's creek site with his canoe and we were all very happy to meet up with him. He went into the bush and came out dragging poles that were cut and hid from time gone by. He opened his packsack and took out some "babeesh" - moose hide lacing to tie the tent to the tent frame. It would hardly be any time passed before the tent was up. This shelter was not only to sleep in but also respite from the hot summer sun or from the rain. There was a cool

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

breeze that would flow through the bottom when both ends were flipped up but most of the time the tent flaps would stay down to keep the flies out.

Now the fishing adventure would start. Near our campsite was Cotton's Creek, with an overhead culvert where the train would pass. My cousin and I would run up and down the creek bank to look for the best place to put our fishing poles in. My dad would cut some poles for us, help us tie on the line and a hook. Sometimes we would use a sinker. As he was about to do this, my Gookum said, "wait a minute, I have something for those two." She then unwrapped the bundle that she carried all the way and it was two collapsible fishing rods. Was one red and one was blue. I got the red one. It was so shiny and new and I couldn't believe it was mine. They also came with spinning reels and line. My cousin and I were so happy and hugged our Gookum until she could hardly breathe. We were vibrating with anticipation while my dad prepared the fishing gear. He demonstrated how the spinning reel worked and took turns teaching us the technique of pulling the clip over, letting go of the line and then turning the reel so that the clip would flip back over. It took quite a few turns before either of us could master the technique. The last thing left to do was bait the hook. My father took out some white looking strips out of his fishing tackle box. It was the tongue of a fish and cut to look like a worm. Just putting my rod in the water was breathtaking to me. I could almost see the pleased looks on the fish, anyways that's how I felt.

Both my cousin and I decided to fish near the culvert. He went up the bank, across the track culvert and down the other side until he was facing me. We both put out lines into the fast water that was pooling under the culvert. The pools were black, deep and swirling whereas the rest of the creek was shallow and clear. That was, through experience, our clue to a good fishing spot. We started to get nibbles but did not actually get any fish right away.

It was now five o'clock in the afternoon and we could smell the aroma of food. My Gookum was hunched over the blazing fire pit and pushing a stick in the ground. I told my cousin that I was going to see what she was cooking. When I got to the pit she was making tea in a black tea pail. The tea pail hung by rabbit snare wire from the stick and over the fire. She had placed a black cast iron frying pan, bubbling with fat, on the hot coals. (The frying pan and the tea pail were retrieved from the bush area where they were hidden sometime in the past). I asked Gookum what was she cooking and she said, "I am getting it ready for the fish". I looked puzzled at her and told her, "we haven't caught any fish yet." She laughed and said, "your father did". She then showed me six headless trout, cleaned, floured, salted and peppered laying in a dish ready for the frying pan. My cousin and I put our fishing rods down and came to the camp fire area to eat. We all had a portion of fish, boiled potatoes, beans and cold fry bannocks. This meal was so incredible and fulfilling for all of us.

The day was moving on into evening and the fishing continued. All of a sudden I got a bite that I knew was a good size trout. I jerked the line and I felt the tugging of the catch. I kept the line taut and started reeling in. As the fish got to the river bank I immediately started running up the bank dragging the fish

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

on land. It was flapping around so my cousin grabbed the fish by the head and removed the hook. He then put one piece of a Y stick into its gill so that it couldn't get away. The stick was then put into the water, anchored by a rock, to keep the fish fresh. By the time he did that I had another fish on my line. Butch then told me, "you have to take care of your own fish now, I want to catch my own!" I started to take care of the second fish when my cousin hollered, "I got one too". Inside of ½ hour we had caught 12 trout. We were so excited to show our family and they were all very proud of us. My baby sister was touching the fish and jumping away each time they moved. I told my Gookum, "your gift to us has been very lucky". She smiled and said, "you both did a good job with your new fishing rods."

My cousin and I then went exploring – looking under rocks for bugs and then we dug for worms. We got lost in the wonder of the exploration until I heard my mom call our names. We needed to have more bug dope put on us as the flies were getting thick. The family sat around the fire for a long time talking about the adventures of the day. Eating in the open air, with family, made the food take on a gratifying, satisfying and memorable flavour that I remember to this day. My mom brought out the cookies and we all had tea. Now it was time for bed. The tent was all set up inside with our sleeping areas. The floor had been lined with spruce boughs for a mattress and blankets were in place. We all turned in for the night and we children were told to stop talking and go to sleep for tomorrow was another busy day.

The next day I remember my mom waking us up to say that the blueberry pancakes were ready. What a wonderful sight to wake up to. She even brought syrup for the pancakes. We played a lot and didn't catch too many fish this day, only 3, but my dad was very happy about that. We now had 15 fish and he said this would be good for a ride home with all of our belongings. I didn't know what he meant.

We packed everything up and put all of our belongings along side the track. Of course, the poles and tea pails went into hiding for the next visit. I kept asking my dad, "what about our fish?" He told me that he was going to use them for a ticket home and that I was to keep watching when the train comes. In the distance we could hear the train whistle and when it got close my dad took the stringer of fish near the track. When the train reached us my dad held up the stringer of fish to the Budd car conductor as it was passing by. The train then slowed down, backed up and stopped. We all got on the train with the canoe and tent and we paid our way with speckled trout. My dad told the conductor that his nephew and daughter caught these fish and, of course, we were bursting with pride. I have taken many lessons from this trip.

Family structure so valued and important
Self esteem building exercise stays in my memory
Getting praise from people I love
Togetherness: Eating, sleeping, telling stories a way of life
Hearing the language
Seeing the cleverness, adaptability and creativity of family members
Experiencing what the natural environment can provide
Nature helps withhold negativity
Feeling secure, safe and happy

Community News

Christmas Office Closure

The MCFN Band Office will
be closed

from Friday December 20,
2019

until January 3, 2020.

The office will re-open on
Monday, January 6, 2019



December 21-23, 2019

Securing SSM location

Deadline to register December 13th, 2019

Email: awesley@missanabiecree.com

Emergency Food Support

For more information, please call
the MCFN Family Support Office
705-253-3506

477 Queen St. East, Suite 200
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario



Celebrate

the holiday season!

Let's welcome winter and
celebrate with family,
friends, great food and
love for all!

Gloria Harris and Family





Thunder Bay Hub Presents!

Christmas in January!

January 11, 2020

Dinner to be served at 2 p.m.

It will be a pot luck so bring your favorite dish.

We will be providing the turkey and ham, mashed potatoes, veggies, perogies, Coca-Cola ribs and fried rice, taco and Caesar salads, buns.

There will be a door prize. We will also be playing card bingo for more prizes.

We will be having an ugly sweater contest so don't forget to wear your ugly sweaters!

Please contact Debbie Ewing at: 807-632-2392 to rsvp and to let me know what you will be bringing.

I am also in the works of planning a tubing night in March but will finalize details as it gets closer.

I will also be starting up a committee to plan upcoming events.

Hopefully I will hear from you soon. MY email address is: robandneilsmom@yahoo.ca



Community Notes

To my brother Bill
Happy Birthday
Love you, Sis June



Happy Birthday to my handsome son Stacey
who was born on Christmas Day
Love you my son, Mom



Happy Birthday to my nephew Shawn Wilson

also born on Christmas Day

Love, Auntie June



Happy Birthday
to my grandson Aaron
Love you so much grandson, Love Nan

Happy Birthday to my niece Lorell Guindon
Love, Auntie Nat



Happy Birthday
to my husband Jason Gauthier,
Love,
Natalie Gauthier



Happy Birthday to Deputy Chief, husband, father and
Papa, Les Nolan Love Always from.
Marion, Ken, Neil, Jen, Jaime, Mackenzie,
Baileigh and Adam



There is no strength without unity as
always, in spirit of community

Marion Nolan



Happy Birthday, Margaret
You're always in my thoughts.
know you will be celebrating
your day with all the Angels.
Love, Auntie June

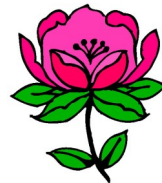
Happy Birthday to my
brother Jesse Souliere,
Love your Sis



Happy Birthday
to my Sweet Sister Jackie
Love you, Sis June



I would like to send
a Special Happy Birthday
to my Grandson Aaron Pine.
Love you very much, Nanny.



Happy Birthday
to my niece Dale Krobath
Love Auntie June

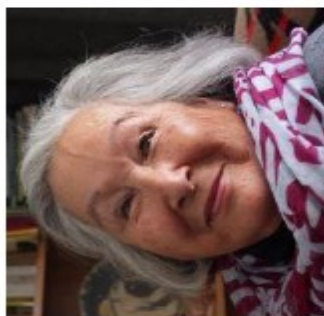
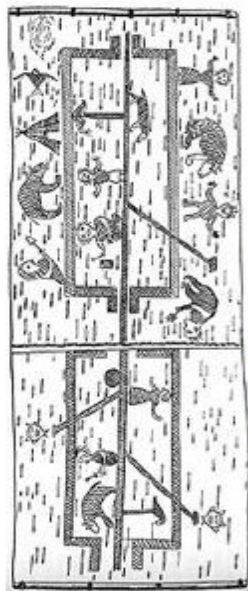


Happy Birthday to my nephew,
Ted Ouellet
Love, Auntie June

Happy Birthday to my niece and nephew,
Judy and Donald Wilson
Love, Auntie June



Grand Medicine Lodge Teachings



Edna Manitowabi

Midewiwin

Edna is invited to share about the Midewiwin Lodge as there are misunderstandings as to what Midewiwin is

December 4-5 at the Delta 8:30am-12pm

Morning and afternoon snacks and lunch on your own

This 3-4 hour presentation will be offered once on Dec.4 and once Dec.5

Seating capacity is limited, 150 seats per day

Sponsored by our Friendship Center and Maamwesying Health Services

SEVEN GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS



JAMES VUKELICH

Join us as we welcome James Vukelich to our community.

James will be sharing

"The Seven Grandfather Teachings".

James is known for his Facebook posting "Ojibway Word of the Day"

December 4-5, 2019 at the Delta from 1-4:30 p.m.

Morning and afternoon snacks provided; lunch on your own

This 3-4 hour presentation will be offered once on Dec.4 and once Dec.5

Seating capacity is limited, 150 seats per day

Sponsored by our Friendship Centre and Maamwesying Health Services

Hello,

My name is Denise Gallant and I am the forestry workforce advisor for the BC First Nations Forestry Council.

I wanted to let you know about our annual Internship opportunity for “youth” 19-35 years old. Once again we will be sending 14 Aboriginal youth to Uganda Africa (All expenses paid) for a 3 Month Internship. The group will experience Culture and life in Uganda. They will work together in the community while sharing ideas and learning about sustainability, conservation and international relations.

We are starting the recruitment process now. Applications are due by Dec.31/ 2019 , and we will be interviewing in January 2020 for the next departure date in May 2020.

I have attached the application form and our poster for those that want to secure their spot early. When returning the application, please follow directions on the application and include a resume and cover letter answering the questions provided.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Chosen applicants will be need to be available to travel to Uganda from May to August 2020.
- No criminal record
- Must be between 19-35 years of age
- Must have graduated high school or equivalent

Must reside in Canada

If this sounds like something you, or someone you know would be interested in, please feel free to share the information and poster. Please contact me for further information or any questions you may have.

Have a great day!

Denise Gallant

Forestry Workforce Advisor

BC First Nations Forestry Council

ph. 778-953-3408 | e. denise@forestrycouncil.ca

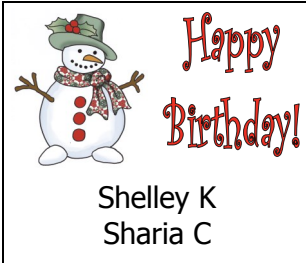
forestrycouncil.ca





January Birthday Greetings

JANUARY 1



JANUARY 7



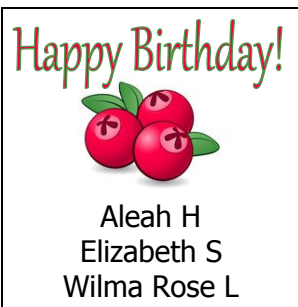
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JANUARY 9



JANUARY 11



JANUARY 14



JANUARY 15



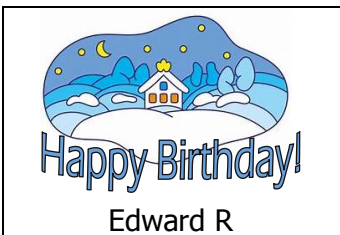
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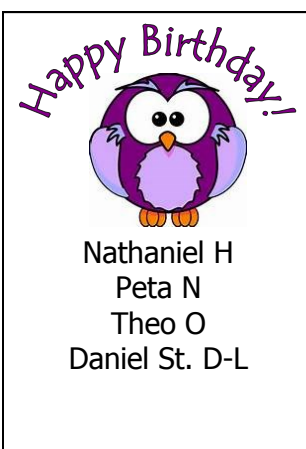
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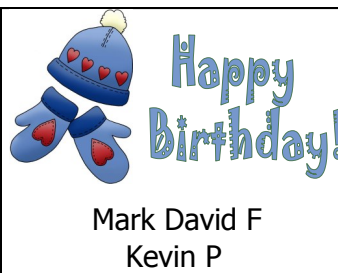
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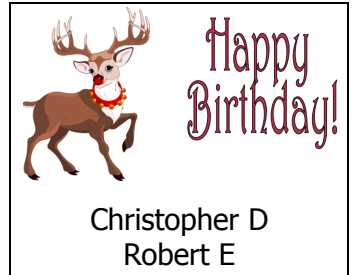
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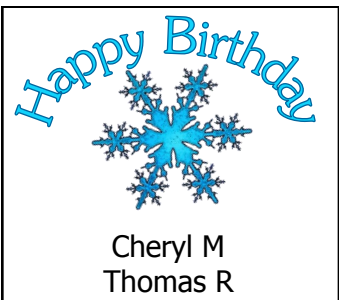
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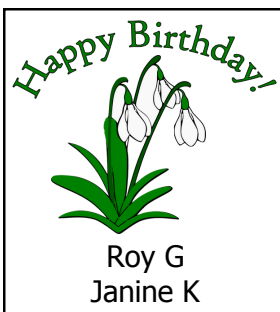
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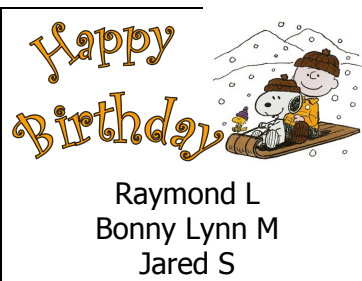
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JANUARY 25



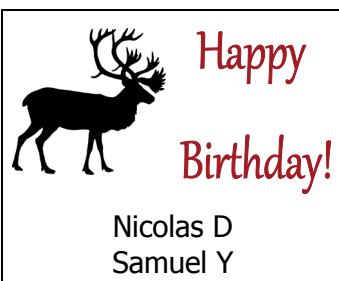
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JANUARY 27



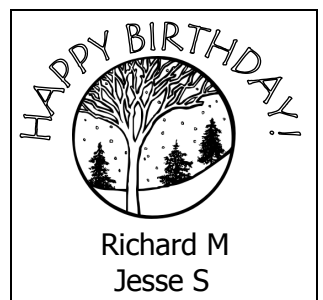
JANUARY 28



JANUARY 29



JANUARY 31



February Birthday Greetings

FEBRUARY 1



FEBRUARY 2



FEBRUARY 3



FEBRUARY 4



FEBRUARY 5



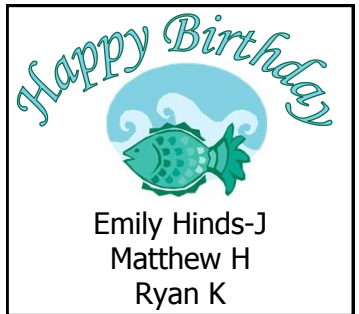
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FEBRUARY 8



FEBRUARY 9



FEBRUARY 12



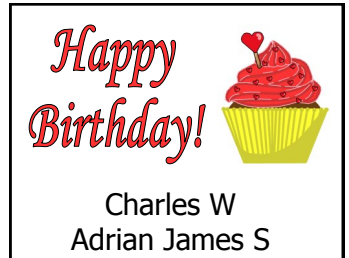
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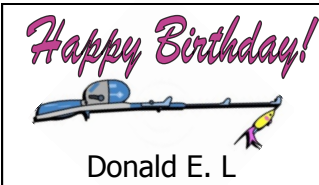
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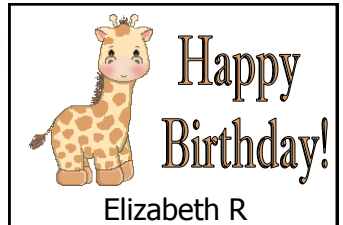
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FEBRUARY 21



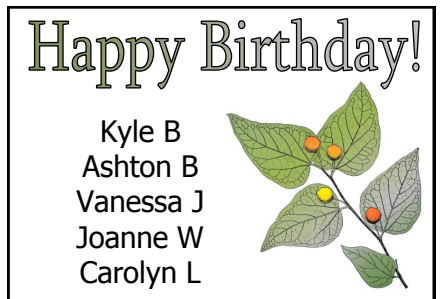
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FEBRUARY 20



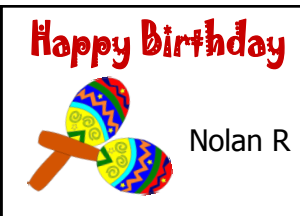
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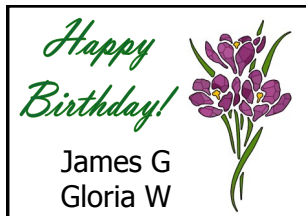
FEBRUARY 23



FEBRUARY 24



FEBRUARY 25



MCFN Events Calendar

DECEMBER 2019

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MCFN Events Calendar

JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY ᐱᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ayamihêwi- kîšikâw	MONDAY ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ oški-kîšikâw	TUESDAY ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ nîšo-kîšikâw	WEDNESDAY ᐱᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ âpihtawan	THURSDAY ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ nêw-kîšikâw	FRIDAY ᐱᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ahkwêšikani- kîšikâw	SATURDAY ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ mâtinawê- kîšikâw
<div> <div>Kacha papi watakinum Peesim</div> <div>Tree exploding (by frost) Moon</div> </div>						
			1 MCFN Offices Closed	2 MCFN Offices Closed	3 MCFN Offices Closed	4
5 MCFN Offices Closed	6 All MCFN Offices reopen	7 Job Ready Program 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	8 Healthy Snacks 1:00pm-5:00pm	9 Counselling 1:00-4:00pm	10	11
12	13	14 Job Ready Program 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	15 Elder's Tea 12:00-1:00pm	16	17	18 Understanding the Family Dynamics of Addiction 11:00a-5:00p Location TBA
19	20	21 Job Ready Program 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	22 Diabetes Seminar	23 Counselling 1:00-4:00pm	24	25
26	27	28 Job Ready Program 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	29 Elder's Foot Care	30	31	Calendar is subject to change

MCFN Membership

Card Renewals. The MCFN office can only handle in-person appointments. If you are unable to come in person to the Band Office, you can get your card renewed at a local First Nation or consider obtaining a Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS). You can request the Band Office to mail you the required forms. Shereena Campbell and Louise Campbell will be handling card renewals on a temporary basis.

Appointments for Card Renewals. Please call to make an appointment. There are 3 time slots from 1:30 to 3:30 pm on Fridays only. Please ensure you have all the required information before you come to your appointment.

Until further notice, Indian Status Card renewals will not be accepted from non-band members.

Updating Addresses. Members, please keep your address up-to-date so you don't miss out on pertinent information regarding band business. Please use the form below and mail or fax it to Missanabie Cree First Nation. You may also call the Band Office or email June Markie at jmarkie@missanabiecree.com.

PLEASE NOTE: A Change of address Can Only BE processed with information provided by the individual involved, not from anyone else.

Names of deceased members are not removed from the band voter's list unless the information is provided to Aboriginal Affairs. Anyone with funeral information (i.e. name of funeral home/location), date of death, a death certificate, or anyone who can be contacted for this information, please call or leave a message with Shereena or Louise at the MCFN Band Office.



MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM -- For Band Members

SURNAME	
First Name and 2 nd Name	
ALIAS/BAND #	
DATE RECEIVED	
NEW ADDRESS	
CITY/PROVINCE	
POSTAL CODE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE #	
SIGNATURE	

CONTACTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Missanabie Cree First Nation

www.missanabiecreefn.com

174B HWY 17B
Garden River, ON
P6A 6Z1

SATELLITE OFFICE:
559 Queen St. E
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2A3

Phone: 705-254-2702
Toll Free: 1-800-319-3001
Fax: 705-254-3292

Missanabie Cree First Nation Chief & Council

Chief Jason Gauthier, Ext. 231
jgauthier@missanabiecree.com

Deputy Chief, Les Nolan
lnolan@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Cory McLeod
cmcLeod@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Joanne Pezzo
jpezzo@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Bobbi Fletcher Decorte
bfletcher-decorte
@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Shawn Pine
spine@missanabiecree.com

Glad Hawkins,
Elder Liaison
gfletcher-hawkins
@missanabiecree.com

Alexandra Langford-Pezzo,
Youth Representative
apezzo@missanabiecree.com

Missanabie Cree First Nation Staff

Band Administrator	Doreen Boissoneau	Ext. 222	dboissoneau@missanabiecree.com
Bookkeeper	Louise Campbell	Ext. 224	lcampbell@missanabiecree.com
Reception	June Markie	Ext. 221	jmarkie@missanabiecree.com
Program Development	Lesley Gagnon	Ext. 226	lgagnon@missanabiecree.com
Executive Assistant	Shereena Campbell	Ext. 235	scampbell@missanabiecree.com
Band Administrative Assistant	Amber Lacrosse	Ext. 231	alacrosse@missanabiecree.com
Post-Secondary Education Officer	Judy Syrette	Ext. 227	education@missanabiecree.com
Governance Coordinator	Natalie Gauthier	Ext. 230	ngauthier@missanabiecree.com
Comprehensive Community Planning Coordinator	Jutta Horn	Ext. 245	jhorn@missanabiecree.com

Missanabie Cree Family Services

705-253-3506

Location: 477 Queen Street East, Suite 200, (2nd floor), The Queens Center, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6A 1Z5

Family Services Supervisor	Eva Dabutch	Ext. 203	edabutch@missanabiecree.com
Addictions Counsellor	Danielle Moore	Ext. 202	dmoore@missanabiecree.com
Choose Life Coordinator	April Wesley	Ext. 201	awesley@missanabiecree.com
Family Support Worker	Bonnie Wiebe	Ext. 204	bwiebe@missanabiecree.com
Family Well-being Worker (Elder Worker)	Sally White	Ext. 200	swhite@missanabiecree.com

Missanabie Cree Business Corporation

705-949-6818

CBA Implementation Coordinator	Stephen Hawkins	shawkins@missanabiecree.com
Cultural Facilitator	Gloria Harris	gharris@missanabiecree.com
Executive Assistant	Brittany MacLean	bmaclean@missanabiecree.com

Elders Council

Elders Liason - Glad Fletcher-Hawkins

Audrey Bateson	Bill Yerex	Bonnie Weibe	Carol Nolan	Cathy Clement
Cheryl Macumber	D'Arcy Fletcher	Debbie Ewing	Diane Astle	Gloria Harris
Jackie Fletcher	Kathy Beaudry	Kim Young	Laura-Lee Rawlyk	Lori Rainville
Marion Nolan	Shirley Bain	Shelly Fletcher	Shirley Horn	Terri Lou Fletcher
Pamela Rew				

Governance Coordinating Committee (GCC)

Kyle Bateson Jackie Fletcher Deb Ewing Victoria Pezzo

VISION STATEMENT OF THE MISSANABIE CREE

We are the Anishnabe of the Missanabie Cree First Nation
whose vision is to have a united and self-governing body
that will determine our destiny guided by the seven laws.

We have a vision of a leadership that is open, honest, trustworthy;
a leadership with conviction, accessible to the people;
a leadership that is progressive yet respectful of our traditions, values and beliefs;
a leadership with confidence, always watchful and assertive
in protecting and preserving the treaty and aboriginal rights of our people;
a leadership that is directed by our people
and with exclusive accountability to our people and our people alone.

We have a vision of our community re-established on the traditional lands
that were once the homeland of our ancestors
where institutions of our government, economy and education can once again thrive.

We have a vision of a people where individuals and families can stand strong
and find healing through tradition and spirituality;
individuals and families who are loving and compassionate.

We have a vision of a people who are bi-cultural and bi-lingual;
a people who can walk in both worlds contributing to our well-being,
the well-being of our brother and sister First Nations; contributing and competing globally.

We have a vision of a Nation of people who respect the dignity of all;
a people who find balance through equality of all ages, male and female alike.

We have a vision of people who respect the environment,
harvesting and reaping the resources of the land in a sustainable manner
as responsible stewards for the use of future generations.

We are the Anishnabe of the Missanabie Cree First Nation
whose vision it is to regain and restore our rightful place
and through the strength of our people, never again be denied our place in society.

September 20, 1998