

Bear Fax

Kakoekakee shi kak
Peesim 2013



www.missanabiecree.com

Missanabie Cree First Nation

Wishing you the Joy of this Special Holiday Season



Chief, Council and Staff

Missanabie Cree First Nation

Message from the Chief

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,



The holiday season is a great time to reflect on the importance of family and kinship, I am pleased to report that our Chief and Council have been working together and the commitment continues to be strong and focused. Many things in the last three months have come before our Council and they have been addressed and discussed with the utmost professionalism.

The goals of our First Nation and the needs of our community have been in the forefront of everything I have been doing, and I am looking forward to continuing as

much work as possible over the upcoming year.

We had some days of Strategic Planning over the last month and were able to discuss many of the aspects of our Nation's business. I have attended several meetings involving everything from the interests of our region to the directions of our Tribal Council. I am available at the Missanabie Cree Band office 9am to 5pm, and hope to hear from you.

As always, I am both accessible and available for any discussions regarding our First Nation.

In the Spirit of Community,

Chief Jason Gauthier

Events/Gatherings:

Menomaaajaawin Residential School Gathering

December 4, 2013

Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Treatment Centre, Thunder Bay, ON
www.nan.on.ca

Typhoon Haiyan Relief Concert

December 4, 2013 Sault Ste. Marie, ON

www.algomau.ca

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

December 6, 2013

AFN Special Chiefs Assembly

December 10-12, 2013 Ottawa, ON

www.afn.ca

Inside this Issue:

P. 3: Message from the Chief

P. 4: Messages from Council

P. 6: From the Desk of:

P. 7: Elders Speak

P. 8/9: Community News and Notes / Opportunities

P. 10: Opportunities for Youth

P. 11: Governance Project / NAN News

P. 12: Events Calendar

P. 13: December Birthday Greetings

P. 14: Birthday Greetings

P. 15; Concerning the Spirit

P. 16: Chakabesh and the Big Fish

P. 17: MCFN Membership

P. 18: Contact Information

The Joy of our Spirit

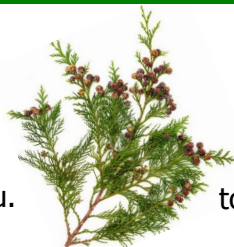
"...you came here spiritual.

You were born as spirit,
and Creator and spirit live within you.

Always have. Always will.

If you choose to believe and accept that
then being spiritual is easy.

It just means doing whatever moves your spirit.



Whatever makes you feel alive.
Whatever brings you joy.
Whatever moves you closer
to the truth about yourself and the truth is
that we are created to be joyful spirits.
Spirituality means expressing
the joy of our spirit. "

-Richard Wagamese

Messages from Council



Waachiyehkw (greetings to more than one person) ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ

Mikushaachiishikaaau (it is Christmas) ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ

Once again the Christmas season is upon us. Time for family and friends to share their hospi-

ality. On that note, from my family to yours I would like to extend our wish for everyone to make their Christmas a Merry one and to Health and Prosperity in the upcoming New Year.

This past month I have attended a number of Chief and Council meetings with some positive changes for our First Nation. Also I attended a 2 day Trust Workshop presented by Mattagami First Nation in Timmins. What an eye opening educational and learning experience. The workshop was designed to educate and engage participants in discussions on the fundamentals of First Na-

tions Settlement and IBA (Impact Benefit Agreements), trusts and investments.

The speakers discussed these important elements; Trust Vision, Conflict of Interest, Typical Limited Partnership Programs, Planning and Implementation of IBA, (Impact Benefit Agreements), Fiduciary Duty, Typical Trust Structures, Taxation Issues to Consider and finally actual case studies.

In addition Mattagami First Nation will also be sending more pertinent information on this subject. As I receive this info, I will forward the knowledge on to our administrative staff.

In short this workshop was to engage First Nations to invest their trust dollars more wisely for their future generations.

As always in spirit of our community, Chi-Miigwetch .

Leslie (Les) Nolan aka Red Bear



Hello Everyone,

The Chief & Council had a two day strategic planning and orientation in Sault Ste. Marie on November 2nd & 3rd 2013. We reviewed the policies that have

been put in place, roles & responsibilities by Council and, had discussions on portfolios each councillor would take the lead in. We discussed the committees & boards of MCFN and on assigning new board members to each of the committees discussed.

I attended two events in October in Sault Ste. Marie that were focused on the conditions and lives of Aboriginal Children. One was held at Algoma University which was short film by Andree Cazebon and was a documentary called, "Third World Canada." The documentary is focused on a family from Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug who's lives were affected by suicide and how the community were faced with the tragedy. The children were

left with no caregivers which was the result of the parents committing suicide and how the family had to be placed in separate homes. Cazebon spoke about our own third world conditions here in Canada and initiated discussions afterwards with the audience.

I also attended the Mushkegowuk People's Inquiry on Suicide Prevention that was held in Sault Ste. Marie and offered to Missanabie Cree First Nation. Band Members were invited to share with the Commissioners their stories so they can begin to understand the pandemic of suicides in the Northern Communities.

I also had the privilege of meeting the workers from Kuniwanomano who came to the band office to present information on services that they will be providing to Missanabie Cree First Nation.

I have been attending the Chief and Council meetings regularly and came to a realization that not having face to face meetings with all or some of Council is

Messages from Council



disheartening but this is the reality of having a dispersed community.

I am looking forward to meeting with Michipicoten in December to begin discussions on the overlapping territories.

Merry Christmas! to all the families and Happy New Year! if I don't see you over the holidays. Meegwetch and have a good Christmas!!

Isabell Souliere

Happy Holidays!!

Wishing all the families and friends of Missanabie Cree First Nation a festive holiday season full of happiness and laughter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Victoria Pezzo



Happy Holidays!

Happy New Year!



Wachey, Missanabie,

The leaves have all rested for the winter and the snow is falling. Beautiful days are in these stretches of season for me. I hope these days are good spells with you and your families all throughout the year and a well-deserved rest over our happy holidays.

Since the elections Chief and Council and Administration have been carrying out at least one meeting a week in which Chief and Council work to carry out Missanabie operations and develop options of moving forward with our priorities of Missanabie Cree. Our values of who we are as native people are in motion, we work in respect of one another, and we work with honesty to one another and trust one another. With this environment maintained within the operations of Missanabie there is room for growth together. I am happy that these values are being practiced by Chief and Council and Administration.

There have been extensive hours being devoted to policies and codes as well as the development of procedures for our codes and policies to be approved by a ratification process in the near future. The work done by

the Governance Coordinating Committee has been outstanding work in policy and codes. Gitchee-mee-gweetch for your work and dedication for our future.

I have attended all but one of the Chief and Council meetings to date and attended MCFN chief and council orientation, strategic planning sessions and North East Superior Group in Missanabie.

Hunting this year was different as our two younger ones went on a moose hunt with us. Our time spent was still priceless after a load of dollars was spent on the trip and a muffler, lol. We met up with a couple of members in the bush, literally and hunted for a day. Great memories, even if there was no moose mentioned, lol. There is some talk of members wanting to revitalize hunting practices of our native culture. A hunting camp would be a great idea for next season to bring hunters of MCFN to share their practices of our culture and their experience of hunting to those who desire to hunt.

I look forward to working with Chief and Council and Administration in the coming 2014 year.

Christmas Humor...What do you call an ELF that sings? - A Wrapper... Happy Holidays!

Cory McLeod

From the desk of:



There was a very large hole left by a previous item that had hung on the wall, so off I went in search of an item that would cover the damage, therefore, relinquishing me from the arduous task of having to repair the area.

It had to be a certain odd size and peculiar shape, and I really was convinced that this would be an exercise in futility.

With many doubts and not much hope, I began my quest to find the “**perfect patch.**”

I should have had more faith, because my very first stop at our local Dollar store rewarded me, with the “Perfect Wall Hanging”.



Merry Christmas
ᑭᓪ ᑭᑦᑭ



Old Christmas Traditions growing up I remember way back when I was just a wee little boy on Christmas eve that every one in my home community would go door to door dropping off little home made bags with names on

them, those bags would either be filled with candy or toys and to be picked up on Christmas morning. That was one of my favorite things to do growing up every Christmas holiday.

There in “**Glorious Black**” with “**Quilt like letters**” was my prize. The words were simple, but they touched the heart of this “Doubting Thomasina”, and they sum up all that is true for this First Nation as we work together to repair wounded past relationships and continue ever moving forward towards a glorious and harmonious future for all our citizens.

The words were “**FAMILY IS WHERE YOUR STORY BEGINS.**”

So during this festive season and beyond, I wish all my “Family” far and near, the best of what Creator has bestowed upon us.

In Spirit of Agape Love and Appreciation,
Louise Campbell


New Years Day
ᑭᓪᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭ

On New Years day, in my home community, groups of people, usually families or friends would gather and visit every house in town to say “Happy New year” and shake peoples hands, people would usually offer others some baked goods and such, and they move on to the next house, the community was so close this way and that they knew everybody. This old tradition still continues in my Home town of Kashechewan.

Matthew Wesley



*Happy Holiday
To all my friends
and family
from Leslie Gagnon*



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
To all my Missanabie Cree friends
and the families of
Missanabie Cree First Nation.
May the New Year bring you
peace, prosperity, and glad tidings.

Elizabeth Angeconeb

Elders Speak

Elders are given the responsibility to keep the memory, history and knowledge of our ancestors. Elders possess the knowledge and understanding of our ancestors teachings. Elders share life experiences and stories to help the people make decisions. Elders are important in the resolution of personal, family, community and First Nations matters.

Elders are a voice of moderation, experience and guidance. They preserve judgement as a People and look after the needs of a Nation. Elders are a bonding force as they have always acted to preserve unity.



*To All Our Relations:
May the peace and beauty
of this Christmas season
remain with you
throughout the New Year.
Merry Christmas and
all the Best in the New Year.*

- Missanabie Cree First Nation Elders.



Best wishes to my sons,
grandchildren, great grandchild,
all my sisters and brothers,
my nieces and nephews,
friends and families,
Staff, Chief and Council,
Elder/Youth Councils
of Missanabie Cree First Nation
for the month of December
and the holiday season.

We all need each other.

-Jackie Fletcher

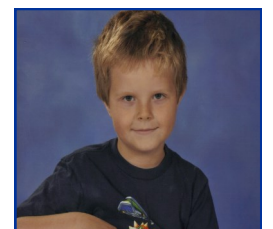
Looks like I am to be a great grandmother in July 2014 for the second great grandchild. Tiffany (Murray Fletcher's daughter) is going to have a baby. Tiffany is my first grandchild and quite ironic because I gave birth to four boys and she was my first grandchild and a girl. Wow!



Morgan (Mark Fletcher's daughter) was my first grandchild to give me a great grandchild. His name is Jayce and he is three now. Here is a picture of him. I have not been able to see him or hold him as he lives in B.C. I am so very blessed to have great

grand-children. Thank you Creator.

I am also very blessed to have two grandchildren, Madison and Logan (Mark's youngest children) living in the same city as myself. The pictures are from last year, 2012. I get to see them whenever I want. It is so awesome to have young ones around at all times and especially at Christmas.



—Jackie Fletcher

Community News and Notes



MCFN Community Potluck Christmas Dinner Toronto Area

Date: Saturday December 14, 2013
 Location: The Home of Les and Marion Nolan
 7318 Marion Rd
 Mississauga, ON
 Time: Supper 2 pm
 Please call Marion to register your children
 And your family dish
 Phone 905-672-5804



Winter Solstice
 December 21, 2013
 @ 7.11pm
 Season's Greetings
 Marion Nolan



To my husband, Leslie
 of 40 years,
 Happy Anniversary,
 Sincerely yours,
 Marion
 Dec 22, 2013



MCFN Community Potluck Christmas Dinner Sault Ste. Marie

Saturday, December 14, 2013
 SSM Indian Friendship Centre
 122 East St.
 Sault Ste. Marie, ON
 For more information,
 please contact:
 Leslie Gagnon, Ext. 226



MCFN Community Potluck Christmas Dinner Thunder Bay Area

Date: Sunday, December 15, 2013
 Time: 2-6 pm
 Location: CAW Hall
 Corner of Edward and Gore
 Contact: To register, please call Lesley
 at 705-254-2702, Ext. 226

Opportunities



ATTENTION!

Missanabie Cree First Nation Chief and Council is looking for interested Citizens to serve on the board of the Missanabie Cree Development Corporation.

Please submit an:

Up to date Resume
 Letter of Intent

By email: to jmarkie@missanabiecree.com or Fax to office marked "CONFIDENTIAL - MCDC"

The ending date for submissions is January 7th, 2014.

Meegwetch,

Chief Jason Gauthier

Opportunities



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION:	Species at Risk Project Officer
LOCATION:	Timmins, Ontario (preferred)
DURATION:	Full time till March 31, 2014 (extension based on approved funding)
SALARY:	As per salary grid
CLOSING DATE:	Wednesday December 11, 2013 @ 4 p.m.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

Under the supervision of the GIS/Information Manager and as a member of the Lands and Resources team, the SAR Officer will study the Woodland Caribou in the Mushkegowuk Territory. This position will primarily involve holding information sessions with Mushkegowuk First Nations and gathering traditional knowledge from the Elders and harvesters.

QUALIFICATIONS

- University degree or College diploma in Biology or Environmental Studies or related field AND/OR related work experience
- Knowledge of the Endangered Species Act and related regulations
- Knowledge and skills using computer hardware, software and printers
- Working knowledge of computer software packages i.e. Word, Excel, ESRI and ArcGIS programs
- Proven organizational and problem solving skills, attention to detail, writing skills for documentation & presentations
- Research & program design and writing skills
- Ability to speak Cree will be considered a valuable asset
- Must be willing to travel to the Mushkegowuk First Nation communities
- Must possess a valid Class G Driver's License
- A strong desire to develop a working knowledge of land and resource issues affecting First Nations
- Ability to work as part of a team and communicate effectively with a diversity of people including First Nation staff and members

Please submit resume & letter with three (3) recent work references & marked confidential to:

Carlene Hardisty, Human Resources
Mushkegowuk Council
P.O. Box 370
Moose Factory, ON
P0L 1W0
(705) 658-4222 Ext. 119

Faxed and emailed letters and resumes are also accepted at: Fax #: 705-658-4250

Email: hr@mushkegowuk.ca

COPIES OF THIS POSTING AND THE JOB DESCRIPTION ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Opportunities for Youth



**ENTER THE LARGEST AND MOST RECOGNIZED ART AND
CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
IN CANADA FOR ABORIGINAL YOUTH
WIN UP TO 2000 AND OTHER GREAT PRIZES!**

Competition Guidelines:

- This year's deadline is March 31, 2014
- Open to Canadians of Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, Inuit and Métis) between the ages of 14-29.
- New this year: our competition is open to emerging writers and artists between the ages of 11-13!
- Create a writing or art piece that explores a moment or theme in Aboriginal history or culture.
- A 200-400 word Artist's or Author's Statement that explains how your piece reflects or interprets the moment or theme you selected must accompany your entry into the Aboriginal Arts & Stories competition.
- You may enter online with your desktop computer, or by e-mail, mail or fax.

**For more information call 1-866-644-6195
Online at: www.GoToInfo.ca/WritingandArts
Email: WritingandArts@GoToInfo.ca**



ATTENTION MISSANABIE YOUTH - AGES 18 - 25

Missanabie Cree Chief and Council are seeking a Missanabie youth representative.

- Travel will be involved
- Reports submitted to Chief and Council when representing MCFN youth
- Newsletter article submitted to membership/youth monthly
- Work on communication development of youth involvement in MCFN
- Keep up to date of youth events of Missanabie and notify MCFN youth

There will be an honorarium paid monthly for these duties carried out for MCFN and a CPIC will be required of the youth who is chosen to carry out this important role for Missanabie Cree.

The selected youth will be contacted in the New Year.

Apply with letter of interest, intent or resume:

Deadline: December 20th 2013.
Attention: Chief Jason Gauthier
Please send Mail to: 559 Queen St. E
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
P6A 2A3
Email: jgauthier@missanabiecree.com

Miigwech, Missanabie Cree Chief and Council

MCFN Governance Project



Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year from the MCFN Governance Coordinating Committee.

Three new members have joined the 2013/14 Governance Coordinating Committee (GCC) as of Nov. 18, 2013.

A warm welcome is extended to Kyle Bateson, Terri Lou Fletcher, and James Nolan. Continuing members are Deb Ewing and Jackie Fletcher. A sincere thanks is extended to our former members, Louise Campbell, Jason Gauthier, Craig Gideon, and Victoria Pezzo. We honour and appreciate the hard work and commitment to the Governance Project that was demonstrated by all GCC members over the past two years.

Our first teleconference was held on Nov. 25, and a schedule of face-to-face meetings was drawn up. The GCC will be meeting in Sault Ste. Marie in 2014 on the following dates: Jan. 18-19, Feb. 22-23, and Mar. 29-30.

Our next teleconference is scheduled for Dec. 2. For this year, the GCC will focus on the development of policies relating to redress mechanisms, conflict of interest, and chief and council.

Regular updates on the Governance Project will continue to be posted to the Bear Fax newsletter. If you have any questions, please call Elizabeth Angeconeb, Governance Coordinator at ext. 230 or by email at eangeconeb@missanabiecree.com.

NAN News

NAN FIRST NATIONS DECLARE INHERENT AND TREATY RIGHT TO CONTROL THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2013 THUNDER BAY: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Harvey Yesno and Deputy Grand Chief Goyce Kakegamic stood in unity with Chiefs, Councillors, First Nation educators, Elders and youth today to confirm and declare First Nations Inherent and Treaty Right to control the future of education in NAN territory.

“Today we stand in unity to declare that the future of education in NAN will not be based on federal legislation but on our inherent right to self-government, including education jurisdiction,” said Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Harvey Yesno. “The Government of Canada has failed to meet its obligation to deliver education to First Nation students on par with the rest of Canada. No longer will we allow our children to be denied their inherent right to education.”

The ***Nishnawbe Aski Nation Declaration on Our Inherent and Treaty Right to Education*** was endorsed by Chiefs-in-Assembly following three days of meetings by more than 200 delegates at Chiefs Summit on Education in Thunder Bay. The Declaration rightfully claims that the Government of Canada shall:

- Acknowledge and respect our Inherent Right to Education.
- Respect the educational obligations made by the

Crown to our people through Treaty No. 9 and Treaty No. 5.

- Recognize our rejection of the imposition of the First Nations Education Act.
- Support NAN First Nations by recognizing our right to self-govern our education systems.

“This is a historic day as NAN leadership stands together to assert our inherent right to lay the path forward for education for the sake of our children and our children’s children,” said Deputy Grand Chief Goyce Kakegamic, who holds the education portfolio. “We have a sacred trust to our children and future generations to provide a quality education that respects our culture, values, and traditions while enabling them to live safe, healthy and productive lives, and today we are taking action to make that a reality.”

“We look forward to working closely with neighbouring municipalities to build and strengthen relationships and to look for ways to work together on regional education and economic development initiatives,” said Kakegamic. NAN will continue negotiations with the federal government through the self-governance jurisdiction process to secure control of education jurisdiction in Nishnawbe Aski.

For more information contact: Michael Heintzman, Director of Communications –(807) 625-4965 or cell (807) 621-2790 or by email mheintzman@nan.on.ca [Declaration: www.nan.on.ca/upload/documents/comms-2013-11-07-nan-declaration.pdf]


MCFN Events Calendar

DECEMBER 2013	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Beading MCFN Boardroom 1:30-3:30	4 Elders' Tea	5	6	7
	8	9	10 11 Beading MCFN Boardroom 1:30-3:30 pm	11	12 Healthy Snacks/ Kids Crafts Kunuwanimano Support Worker	13	14 MCFN Potluck Christmas Dinner 4 pm (See p. 7)
	15	16	17	18 Elders' Tea	19	20 MCFN Office closes 12 pm	21 Winter Solstice
	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28
	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	Kakoekakee shi kak Peesim Festival Season Moon			
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Kacha papi watakinum Peesim Tree exploding (by frost) Moon		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
	5	6 MCFN Office opens.	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14 Craft Class MCFN Boardroom 1:30-3:30	15 Elders' Tea	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28 Craft Class MCFN Boardroom 1:30-3:30	29 Elders' Tea	30	31		

JANUARY
2014

December Birthday Greetings

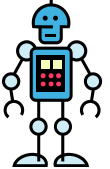
DECEMBER 1



Happy Birthday!

Dale Gideon-Krobath
Joan Pacione
Brandon Schofield
Jackie Correia


DECEMBER 3



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

George Ruth


DECEMBER 4



Happy Birthday!

Daniel Hould


DECEMBER 6



Happy Birthday!

Edward Fletcher
Marlene Jeffries

DECEMBER 7



Happy Birthday!

Stephanie Guindon
Alyssia-Breanna McDonald

DECEMBER 8



Happy Birthday

BG Fletcher
Marilyn Kerbrat
Kennith D. Nolan

DECEMBER 10



Happy Birthday!

Jesse James Lee
Carrie Nolan
Tracee Smith
Todd Campbell


DECEMBER 11



Happy Birthday!

Lara Marie Patrick


DECEMBER 12



Happy Birthday

Jackie Fletcher
Irwin Gideon


DECEMBER 13



Happy Birthday

Jason Gauthier

DECEMBER 16



Happy Birthday

Ryan Astle


DECEMBER 18



Happy Birthday!

Leslie K. Nolan
Maurice Lafontaine

DECEMBER 19



Happy Birthday

Holly Wesley


DECEMBER 21



Happy Birthday!

Carmella Laforte


DECEMBER 22



Happy Birthday

Phillip Cannon

DECEMBER 24



Happy Birthday!

Diane Nolan-Astle
Alethea Pezzo

DECEMBER 20



Happy Birthday!

Jordan Pezzo
Theresa Ruth


DECEMBER 26



Happy Birthday!

Codey Hardman


DECEMBER 29



Happy Birthday!

Karen Nolan
Natalie Pelletier
Charles Sheshequin


DECEMBER 31



Happy Birthday

Nolan Fletcher

DECEMBER 25



Happy Birthday!

Shawn D. Wilson

DECEMBER 28



Happy Birthday!

Sylvio Montgomery

Birthday Greetings



Belated Happy Birthday to
Cody Rogoschensky
September 15
From your sister, Amanda Lalonde



Happy Birthday
to my Sister Jackie
Dec. 12/13
Love, Sis June



Happy Birthday
to my Son Stacey
Dec. 25/13
I Love you Son, Mom

Happy Birthday
to my Grandson Aaron
Jan.03/14
I Love you Aaron,
Nanny



Happy Birthday
to my Brother Bill
Dec. 06/13
Love You Brother,
Sister June



Happy Birthday to my sons
Corey McLeod
November 10
Jason Gauthier
December 13



Much Love, xxxooo, Mom

Happy Birthday
to my Nephew Ted
Jan. 20/13
Love Auntie, June



Happy Birthday to all my Nieces
and Nephews
that I missed for January.
Love, Auntie June



Happy Belated
6th Birthday
Baileigh Nolan.
Nov. 20

Kahshe or Chicoutimi

If I lived in Temagami
Temiskaming, Kenagami
Or Lynx, or Michipicoten Sound
I wouldn't stir the whole year round
Unless I went to spend the day
At Bawk, or Nottawasaga Bay
Or Missanabi, Moosonee
Or Kahshe or Chicoutimi
- by Dennis Lee (from *Alligator Pie*)



Concerning the Spirit

Christmas is not a time nor a season,
but a state of mind.

To cherish peace and goodwill,
to be plenteous in mercy,
is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

-Calvin Coolidge

*Your body is not who you are.
The mind and spirit transcend the body.*

-Christopher Reeve

*All things share the same breath -
the beast, the tree, the man...
the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports.*

-Chief Seattle

We are not human beings on a spiritual journey.
We are spiritual beings on a human journey.

-Stephen R. Covey

Your spirit is the true shield.

-Morihei Ueshiba

Nature always wears the colors of the spirit.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Never be in a hurry;
do everything quietly and in a calm spirit.*

*Do not lose your inner peace
for anything whatsoever,
even if your whole world seems upset.*

-Saint Francis de Sales

I know now what this meant,
that the bison were the gift of the Good Spirit
and were our strength,
but we should lose them,
and from the same Good Spirit
we must find another strength.

-Black Elk

*And while I stood there
I saw more than I can tell
and I understood more than I saw;
for I was seeing in a sacred manner
the shapes of all things in the spirit,
and the shape of all shapes
as they must live together like one being.*

-Black Elk

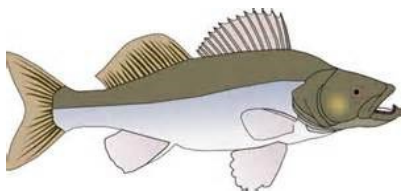
It is an understanding with the Great Spirit or Creator that we will follow these ways.

-Dennis Banks

Chakabesh and the Big Fish

A long long time ago, way before the first White Man reached this land, there lived a clever and often mischievous young man by the name of Chakabesh. Chakabesh was a very gifted young man; he was able to communicate with animals of all kinds. He usually lived with his older sister. He's usually in trouble with his sister for not listening.

One time they were low on food and, as Chakabesh was a good hunter, his sister asked him if he could go out hunting for deer early in the morning, so Chakabesh said that he would. Later that night as they were sitting by the fire, his sister told him if he came across a large lake, to under any circumstance to not go in it for in there lived a big fish the size of a large canoe.



So that night Chakabesh got his bundle ready for his hunt and couldn't help but wonder if there

was a real fish that big in a lake. He thought nothing of it after thinking that his sister was just trying to scare him. Morning came and he was up before the sun rose. He told his sister that he will be back before night fall. So off he went in the forest. He walked for hours and no sign of game anywhere, just squirrels running around, so he thought to himself, I should see if my shot is still good. He spots a Squirrel and takes his arrow and bow, takes aim, and his arrow flies towards the unsuspecting Squirrel. The Squirrel turns around and there goes the arrow flying by him. The arrow disappears from sight and he stands there and wonders what he should do. He proceeds to look for his arrow, he starts walking to where it went, he looked high, he looked low, but he could not find it, so he kept walking. He eventually came to a lake, a big lake. As he was looking out he saw something bobbing in the lake.

He remembered his sister telling him not to go in the big lake, but Chakabesh liked his arrow, and no story of a

big fish is going to scare him from getting his arrow. He bundled and folded his clothes and belongings on the rock on the beach and he walks in and starts swimming for his arrow. As he's swimming he felt something go by his feet. He thought nothing of it and kept swimming. Then there was a big splash in the water behind him, he did not see what it was when he turned to look. Then he really started to wonder if what his sister said was true. So he reached his arrow and started swimming back. As he was swimming he again heard a splash, but it was closer and when he looked back, he saw this huge mouth coming up from behind him and.....

Mean while back at camp his sister was starting to wonder about her brother, why was he taking so long she thought. The next morning she went out to look for her brother. After a few hours of looking she decided to go to the lake where she told Chakabesh not to go in. As she was walking on the beach she found a pile of neatly folded clothes and a box. She knew then that Chakabesh went into the water to get his arrow. She wondered what to do. Luckily she brought her fishing rod with her. She sat by the rock edge near the water and started fishing. A few hours went by and she caught some decent sized fish for camp. When she was about to give up, she felt a strong tug and a pull. It was the huge fish. She was tugging and pulling, trying to get the fish tired. When she felt that the fish had little fight in it she walked towards the beach where she could pull the fish in. As she pulls it in shore she whacked it on the head. She thought she killed it but it was still moving. She listened carefully and she could hear moaning coming from its stomach. She carefully cut the stomach open and out comes Chakabesh, somehow still alive.



[As told by Matthew Wesley. Originally told by Willie Stephen who is my great grandfather on my mom's side.]

MCFN Membership News

Ted Ouellet - Registration Administrator

174B Hwy 17B
 Garden River, ON P6A 6Z1
 Phone: (705) 254-2702, Ex. 228
 Fax: (705) 254-3292
 Email; touellet@missanabiecree.com
 Toll-free: 1-800-319-3001

Our **MISSING ADDRESS LIST** fluctuates as members move around and do not send in their new address. When a monthly newsletter is returned by the Post Office, the member's name will be deleted from the mailing list, until I/we receive their new address.

PLEASE NOTE: I CANNOT RECEIVE ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS FROM ANYONE ELSE; ONLY FROM THE PERSON INVOLVED, the reason being, anyone can call in and report an address

change without their knowledge. Please use the change of address form below and mail or fax it to Missanabie Cree First Nation or call or email Ted Ouellet at the address noted above.

Members, please keep your address up-to-date, by filling out the change of address form below so you don't miss out on pertinent information regarding band business.

Names of deceased members are not removed from the band voter's list unless the information is provided to Indian 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 Ted Ouellet at the MCFN Band Office.

Miigwech., Ted Ouellet

If your name appears on the Birthday Greetings page incorrectly, please contact Ted Ouellet.



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	

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.

Missanabie Cree First Nation

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
www.missanabiecree.com

MCFN Chief & Council

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

Victoria Pezzo, Deputy Chief, ex.504
vpezzo@missanabiecree.com

Councilor Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte
bfletcher-decorte@missanabiecree.com

Councilor Cory McLeod
cmcLeod@missanabiecree.com

Councilor Les Nolan
lnolan@missanabiecree.com

Councilor Isabell Souliere, ex. 505
isouliere@missanabiecree.com

Archie Nolan, Elder Liaison, ex. 236
anolan@missanabiecree.com

MCFN Staff

Bookkeeper/ Interim Administration Supervisor:

Louise Campbell ex. 224

Reception June Markie ex. 221

Program Development Lesley Gagnon ex. 226

Administrative Assistant Gladys Hawkins ex. 235

Post Secondary Counselor Lori Rainville ex. 222

Registration Administrator Ted Ouellet ex. 228

Cultural Coordinator Matthew Wesley ex. 225

Governance Coordinator:

Elizabeth Angecneb ex. 230

lcampbell@missanabiecree.com

jmarkie@missanabiecree.com

lgagnon@missanabiecree.com

ghawkins@missanabiecree.com

lrainville@missanabiecree.com

touellet@missanabiecree.com

mwesley@missanabiecree.com

eangecneb@missanabiecree.com