

# BEAR FAX

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2011



[www.missanabiecree.com](http://www.missanabiecree.com)

Missanabie Cree First Nation

## Celebrating!

*August 17, 2011*

*The Commemorative Ceremony  
of the Signing  
of the Land Transfer Agreement  
Between Missanabie Cree First Nation  
And Her Majesty the Queen  
In right of Ontario  
Executed on January 5, 2011*



*John Peluch, Ministry of Natural Resources  
Chief Kim Rainville, Missanabie Cree First Nation  
Doug Carr, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs*

## Events/Gatherings:

### **Town Hall on the Provincial Election**

September 21, 2011 Toronto, ON  
<http://chiefs-of-ontario.org/Events/Default.aspx?EventID=66>

### **Biindigaate Film Festival**

September 23-25, 2011 Thunder Bay, ON  
[www.biindigaate.ca](http://www.biindigaate.ca)

### **Mamohitowin of the Omushkegowuk**

September 26-30, 2011 Moose Cree First Nation, ON  
[www.mushkegowuk.ca](http://www.mushkegowuk.ca)

### **Indigenous Bar Association Fall Conference**

September 29– October 1, 2011 Ottawa, ON  
[www.indigenousbar.ca](http://www.indigenousbar.ca)

### **Training - First Nations Environmental Assessment Toolkit**

September 28-29, 2011 Toronto, ON  
<http://chiefs-of-ontario.org/Events/Default.aspx?EventID=67>

**Ontario Election Day - October 6, 2011**

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## A Day to Remember

On a misty, cool morning at the Island View Camp on Wa-wa-ke-gum-mau, at this year's Annual Gathering, the people of the Missanabie Cree First Nation were witnesses to an event that commemorated a significant milestone in their history.

On Wednesday, August 17, the Chief of the Missanabie Cree First Nation and representatives from the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, and the Ministry of Natural Resources, participated in a ceremony that commemorated the signing of Ontario's Land Transfer Agreement with the Missanabie Cree.

The day of commemoration began with the arrival by canoe of the Chief, Council and former chiefs and members of council. The Elders of the community came ashore in a pontoon boat, that came around the small island that gave the Camp its name, and landed at the dock. Community members stood on shore to greet them, while a bald eagle witnessed the proceedings from his perch in a nearby tree.



*Missanabie Cree Elders' Council*

A group of women and children from the Missanabie Cree First Nation honoured their arrival with a hand drum song. Constable Cindy Hourtovenko, of the Anishinabek Police Services, served as an honour guard, and flags, representing the First Nations, First Nation organizations, and the federal government, were flying proudly in the breeze. Everyone could feel the emotions rise as the day's events began to unfold.

Community members, led by the Chief Kim Rainville, and former Chiefs Shirley Horn, and John Fletcher, were accompanied by flag-bearers and the women drum singers, as they walked up the hill to the Pavilion, where the ceremony was to take place.

The Master of Ceremonies, Mike Cachagee, from Chapleau Cree First Nation, opened the commemoration with introductions and a brief address. Elder Archie Nolan gave the opening prayer, and was assisted in the sage smudging ceremony by Nolan Rainville. Lois McDonald provided a brief history of the Community Ties, the long string of tied-together leather that symbolizes the unity and strength of the MCFN citizenship.

Raising his arms high, to embrace all of the people, and to demonstrate his appreciation of the significance of this achievement, Chief Rainville spoke of the dedication and the commitment of the people to this task, of returning to their ancestral homelands, and of fulfilling their vision of a community once again established in their territory. He spoke of the commitment of the Land Transfer Advisory Committee, and of the work that had been initiated by former chiefs and councils. He acknowledged that the signing of the Land Transfer Agreement is

just the beginning of the process that will eventually see the establishment of a reserve for the Missanabie Cree. Community members listened closely, then cheered and applauded their approval.

Doug Carr, Assistant Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, and the official representative of the Ontario government, also addressed the community members. He spoke of the patience and commitment of the Missanabie Cree as they worked toward their goal of establishing a community in their traditional territory, and of his government's commitment to working with the MCFN to achieve their goal.

Dan Goodwin and Betty Wires who were Ontario's chief negotiators were also honoured guests at the commemoration. They presented a gift of a small quilt made of orange and yellow squares surrounding the MCFN logo and echoing its colours. The quilt wall-hanging, which was signed by the current and past members of the Ontario Negotiation Team, was hand made by Jennifer Griffin, the Implementation Coordinator for the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. The Ontario team also presented MCFN with a community bundle, which was a small wooden box, containing some tobacco, and engraved with Ontario's flower, the trillium.

John Peluch, District Manager, represented the Ministry of Natural Resources. He spoke of the continued support and respect that the Ministry has for MCFN as they build their community, and the good working relationship that has been developed between them.

Grand Chief Stan Louttit of the Mushkegowuk Council also gave a stirring speech, where he talked about the qualities of the people of MCFN as they worked toward securing a place in their homelands.

The MC, Mike Cachagee, then introduced the other honoured guests. David Fletcher, Executive Director, Nishawbe-Aski Nation, congratulated the Chief and Council on MCFN's achievement. Keith Corston, the Chief of the Chapleau Cree First Nation, was also in attendance at the ceremony and was asked to say a few words of greeting from his community. Regional Chief, Angus Toulouse, from the Chiefs of Ontario, also spoke to the assembled members, and brought his perspective on the achievement of the Missanabie Cree in securing a land

base. Chris McDonnell and Ron Martel, from Tembec, spoke briefly offering congratulations, and noting the good working relationship that Tembec and MCFN have developed.

Representatives from the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests were also in attendance. Grant Karwacki and Peter Lefebvre presented a framed painting depicting an eagle in tones of blue and grey.

After their speech, which were well-received by community members, each guest was presented with a handmade leather pouch containing tobacco, and a pin made from ribbons in the four traditional colours.

Audrey Bateson, Chairperson of Land Transfer Advisory Committee (LTAC), spoke on behalf of the Committee, and read a congratulatory letter from Dennis Jones, of the Garden River Community Trust. LTAC members were also asked to stand in acknowledgement of their contributions to the negotiation of the Land Transfer Agreement.



*Matthew Wesley, Nolan Rainville, and Kayla Church read the MCFN Vision Statement*

The Vision Statement of the Missanabie Cree is the guiding statement in their efforts to create a homeland for their community. The Statement was read out in English by Kayla Church and Nolan Rainville, the LTAC youth representatives, and then in Cree by Matthew Wesley. Although a solemn ceremony, Matthew Wesley, who comes from Kashechewan First Nation, added a little humour to the occasion, as is the custom of our people. After Kayla

read her part, and when it was his turn to say the words in Cree, Matthew imitated Kayla's distinctively feminine voice in Cree. The community members appreciated his humour.

Shirley Horn, a former chief, and the Elder for LTAC, also spoke on behalf of the Elders of the Missanabie community.

The Signing Ceremony began with a Pipe Ceremony, which was conducted by Elder Archie Nolan, who was assisted by Nolan Rainville. The Pipe Ceremony is an indication of the revitalization of ceremony that has been undertaken by the Missanabie Cree as part of their vision of building a community. Cree culture and language are considered crucial to the building of a strong sustainable community.

The Signing Ceremony followed. Three copies of a commemorative document were signed by Chief Rainville, Doug Carr, and John Peluch. The document was worded:

“In celebration of  
The Signing of the Land Transfer Agreement  
Between Missanabie Cree First Nation  
And Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario  
Executed on January 5, 2011”

Each signatory was given a copy of the signed document.

Ceremony is often followed by gift-giving. To mark this occasion, Doug Carr and John Peluch were presented with a commemorative medallion, made from moosehide, embellished with beaded fringes, and inscribed with the same wording as the signed document.

The Anglican Church of Canada also presented a gift to the Missanabie community. A large flag, the historic Union Jack, was presented by Shirley Horn on behalf of the Rt. Reverend Stephen Andrews. This flag is the only known treaty flag in existence in Ontario.

Stan Louttit, Grand Chief of the Mushkegowuk Council, presented the Missanabie Cree with a plaque in recognition of the Commemoration of the Land Transfer Agreement. The plaque, which was decorated with two feathers and both the MCFN logo and the Mushkegowuk logo, was inscribed with the following words:

*Witnessing and Acknowledging a Nation  
with Patience, Determination, Dedication,  
Leadership, Nationhood and Success.  
On behalf of the Omushkegowuk and the Council of Chiefs  
Grand Chief Stan Louttit proudly presents  
this Special Recognition to honour  
the Missanabie Cree First Nation  
for their Major Achievement in Securing  
a Treaty Land Settlement with the Crown.*



*Jackie Fletcher and Laura Lee Rawlyk  
hold the MCFN Community Quilt.*

One of the most moving parts of this ceremony was the presentation made by Elder Jackie Fletcher, also a member of LTAC. A Chief's quilt, which was hand made by Laura Lee Rawlyk, was draped as a cloak around Chief Rainville, who then proceeded to walk around the Pavilion, so that others would be able to see the beautiful handiwork, especially the bear appliqué work. A larger community quilt was also presented, that illustrated the

history of the Missanabie Cree and included cherished symbols of their land and community. This larger quilt, also hand made by Laura Lee Rawlyk, will be hung in the new Multi-purpose Facility.

Lori Rainville also presented a gift of a cedar tree from Claudette Chevrier-Cachagee and Larry Cachagee. Claudette, a close friend to the Missanabie Cree, also wrote a congratulatory letter, that Lori read out to the community. The cedar tree is to be planted at Island View Camp to mark this special day.

The closing prayer was offered by Lois MacDonald, and the closing song was sung by the Missanabie Cree Women hand drummers.

Attending the ceremony were other guests from neighbouring communities, the village of Missanabie, and the Chapleau Cree First Nation. Media present included the Wawatay News. The whole of the proceedings were recorded by Jesse Souliere, MCFN videographer. And of course, tons of pictures were taken.

Guests and community members were ushered out of the pavilion, and preparations for the feast moved forward. The tables were covered with white cloths and a runner down the centre in one of the four traditional colours of yellow, red, black, and white. Each table was also decorated with a glass jar containing cedar, cattails, and river rocks. These simple, yet elegant, decorations, con-

taining elements of earth and water, were designed by Shirley Horn, and the materials were gathered with the help of Jutta Horn, Kayla Church, and Jackie Fletcher, and assembled by many volunteers. The table cloths and runners were made by Dayna Rainville with the help of Chelsie and Rachel. It was a feast for the eye as well as the palate.

The feast was, as always, ample and included traditional fare, such as bannock and moose stew. While guests and community members were enjoying their feast, a power point presentation was made by Grand Chief Stan Louttit, and John S. Long. The topic of the presentation was the history of Treaty No. 9. John Long is the author of a book entitled, *History of Treaty 9 Making the Agreement to Share the Land in Far Northern Ontario in 1905*. He also presented Chief and Council with two signed copies of his book.

It was a fitting end to a day that marked the slow, but steady progress that the people of Missanabie have made in their quest for a homeland. The historical presentation reminded them of the strength of their ancestors, and their achievement of a land transfer agreement as the result of their hard work, perseverance and determination, while the vision statement provides the focus that is needed to achieve their vision of:

*"our community re-established  
on the traditional lands  
that were once the homelands of our ancestors."*

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## Messages from Council

Watchaye, MCFN Family and Friends

It's good to be back and I am happy to have had such a wonderful opportunity to relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings of Missanabie this summer. I have come back from this year's Gathering feeling happy, rested and inspired by the community direction given in the strategic planning sessions.

This year was one of the most memorable gatherings I have attended in many years. I felt a great sense of community pride and honour to be witness to and a part of the land transfer celebration, a day that brought much emotion and excitement. The weather was beautiful, the

energy was positive and the social opportunities were great, with less business on the agenda. I spent much more time visiting family and enjoying the great outdoors than I ever have. Aside from losing a toe -nail, I enjoyed every second.

During the week, I was pleased that we took the time to make important acknowledgements to the very special members and volunteers that helped make the Gathering a success. It shows how far we have come as a Nation and as a family.

I would like to again acknowledge these great people for all your help, commitment and effort.

Laura Lee Rawlyk – For the beautiful community quilt and Chief's quilt that left me breathless.

Robert Gideon – For your steadfast commitment to the sacred fire

Lori Rainville and All the Staff – For your hard work and dedication to pull it all together

James, Dayna and Isabell – For all your support and assistance in making the gifts and decorations.

Our Elders – For their wisdom and gifts of ceremony and prayer

Our Youth – For their wisdom, courage and vision

Jan and Virgil – For accommodating our community gathering, always being responsive to any and all emergencies, and for being the great hosts that you are.

Les and Kenny Nolan – For your commitment (despite inaccurate directions and sizes) to building our children a wonderful playground.

Woman's Hand Drummers – For the beautiful songs and heart that you bring through the drum

Guest Speakers, Presenters and Facilitators – For the kind words of support and encouragement that you bring to our people

To Chief and Council – For the dedication and support to see things through

And lastly,

To all the volunteers and participants – For your support and contributions that helped make the Gathering a success

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the Creator and the many gifts that we have been given. We have a land base, in which to build our future community, friends and neighbours that support our efforts and endeavours and a wonderful family of Missanabie Cree First Nation members that make up our great Nation.

Chi-Miigwetch,

Jutta Horn, Councillor  
Missanabe Cree First Nation

## From the desk of:

### GATHERING/CELEBRATION COORDINATOR

Watchay!

Another Gathering has come and gone, but that doesn't mean the work is over for some of us at the Band Office, but, unfortunately it is for me. I worked very hard with staff by my side assisting me, and showing me what I needed to do to be your Gathering and Celebration Coordinator. Although at times it wasn't easy, I can finally say I did it.

Missanabie Cree's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering was a huge success as well as our celebration of our land transfer!! I just want to congratulate everyone who has worked so hard to make this happen. We finally have our home land in Missanabie. I am so fortunate to have been able to witness and help plan this time of celebration, with my

family along side. We are strong people, we stood our ground, and finally made this happen!

I really hope everyone was happy with their accommodations, food, workshops, and everything else that took place. It was nice seeing the family so happy on the day of our celebration. It literally brought tears to my eyes, and what an honor it was to be able to stand on that stage and read our vision statement with Nolan by my side, and Matt Wesley translating in Cree. For Matt only being a guest up in Missanabie, we sure loved your sense of humor and have a lot of respect for you and, in my eyes, you are family.

Originally my position was supposed to end in November, but I was recently accepted into the Esthetician program at Sault College. Unfortunately, I will no longer be

able to work for Missanabie Cree, as my school schedule interferes with my working schedule.

I am in the process of furthering my education, not only for myself, but to also bring my experience into the Community of Missanabie in the near future.

It has been an absolute pleasure working for Missanabie Cree First Nation. I've learned so much working here, and gained the experience that our future generations need to know on the process of coordinating an annual gathering.

I hope to see everyone at our 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering next

#### CULTURAL ASSISTANT

Wachey, Everyone,

I hope everyone had a great time at the Gathering this year. I'm sorry I couldn't attend but I have a very sick loved one that I had to take care of. I'm happy that the medicine bags went over well. Dayna and I worked hard to get them done in time for the Gathering so I'm glad that you all liked them. Next year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering so I'll be there for that celebration.

We have been busy here at the arts centre. We have made a few partnerships that will help in the growth of the centre. I have set up a WIFI access point here at the centre so that members can access the internet. I am also working on setting up a computer for members to access if they don't have a computer at home. Our summer student has returned to school, but I do miss having Dayna here. She was a great help throughout the summer. I wish you the best of luck this school year, Dayna.

While she was here, Dayna changed the Elders Tea for the better and I'm continuing on with what she started. We are now making everything fresh and healthy for our elders. It does take more time to prep but it's a lot healthier and of course tastes a lot better than pre-made. We have gotten a positive response from our elders and they have enjoyed having something different every tea.

We hosted an Art in the Park preview Exhibition. The opening for the show was during Sault Ste. Marie's annual Rotaryfest and it was a huge success. We had over 150 people the first 2 days. Also that weekend Dayna

year. Hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer, and that everyone has a successful school year! Congrats to all of our first year students!!

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

Welcome home....We did it!!

In the spirit of our community  
Miigwetch, Kayla Church

and I set up a booth in front of the centre and we were teaching children how to make hemp bracelets and key chains.

I also made a children's activity booklet that had a little bit of everything in it including, how to make a dream-catcher, a word find, kids recipes, some storytelling. If you would like a copy of this, I can e-mail you the booklet so you can print it at home. It would be a great rainy day activity for the whole family to participate in.

One of the things that we have coming up is the Children's Water Festival that the Conservation Authority has asked us to participate in. There will be 700 children from grades 3-5 that will be taking part in this event. Our role at the Festival is to bring a First Nations presence into water conservation. Along with the water festival, we have also started up our workshops again. The first one is on September 10<sup>th</sup> and it is on crocheting, and then at the end of the month we have an acrylic paint workshop. There are also a number of great ideas that we are entertaining. If anyone is willing to be a volunteer here, just give me a call at 705-575-3455 or e-mail me at [jno-lan@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jno-lan@missanabiecree.com).

I will keep you updated on what is happening here through the newsletter and our facebook group which is Circle of Creative Arts. Please join the group to get regular updates and information on what's happening here. I'm also working on a webpage and I hope to have a basic one up by the end of September.

James Nolan

## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Another Gathering has passed and it was great to see all our family members new and old. I am presently working on new project for our next year's community garden. We are going to continue one here in Sault Ste Marie and possibly have one in Missanabie.

I had one member come up with a new fund raising activity for next year's Gathering. I require the help of everyone who would like to participate. I require a baby picture of yourself and one of each of your children, with birth dates and names. If possible, I would like to have the pictures with only one person in them. The amount of pictures will determine the number of opportunities

## HISTORY OF THE MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

The CPR passenger train from the west went to Toronto. Took the journey in the morning. In that train was Uncle Fred (6 years old). He attended a residential school in Sault Ste. Marie. The year, 1930, fixes the date he was heading home to Grandfather's home in Missanabie. The conductor announced the station name "Missanabie, next stop." Milepost number 57 measured from Chapleau, a divisional point, east of Dog Lake.

This episode will introduce the people of Missanabie through the eyes of James Frederick Fletcher. The Missanabie Cree branch stems from the James Bay group, Moose Factory, a known starting point. The early eighteenth hundred's (1800) put us on the map.

Through the years grandson James Fletcher has been known as Jim, Fred, Sonny and Oodah Machi. The employers call him Jim. The residential school named him Fred because there were too many Jims. The surrounding stations, where the relatives were making their mark on the world, knew him as Sonny. Oodah Machi, a name given to him by his grandfather.

In this journal of events, I will tell of the clan's occupations skills, everybody had a capable trade. Building a "Birch Bark" canoe was a community affair. This, I saw being staged at the east entrance with reference to the Missanabie CPR station on Dog Lake. A potato garden that James Fletcher had nurtured, an ideal spot to perform the project.

you have to guess. Please send your pictures to me, Lesley Gagnon at the Missanabie Cree Office or by email: lgagnon@missanabiecree.com.

As I was digging through my files this morning I came across this article in my history file which I used to assist me in writing a proposal. The paper was titled: *History of Missanabie Cree First Nation*, seen through the eyes of James Frederick Fletcher.

Lesley Gagnon, Program Development Officer

(Attached article:  
History of Missanabie Cree First Nation)

The women sewed the birch bark in place and the men using crooked knives shaped the cedar canoe ribs and the long strips that strengthened the watercraft. Spruce gum sealed the cover to make a waterproof birch bark canoe. Spruce roots were the sewing material that bound the birch bark together and fastened to the canoe frame. An eye pleasing work of art. The canoe was created by using material, nature contributed to the community existence.

Fishing, as I saw it, began in the kitchen. I saw Aunt Caroline make the fish net, the diamond shapes woven quickly, became a 50 foot length of mesh. Add to that, cedar wood floats shaped like a tapered stick. Small stones were anchored to the bottom side. The net was also rendered invisible by soaping the 50 foot length into a galvanized water pail that had boiled spruce cones. This also strengthened the thread composition. All this net and ties were put in a galvanized tub in such an order that the coiled net straightened into a line that blocked passage to any fish that happened to come that way.

More about the net scene. Our house, Grandfather's that is, was about 200 feet from the Dog Lake shore. The CPR rail line was 60 feet from the shore on an elevated railroad track, a double lane affair, with an extra siding thrown alongside the thoroughfare. A path from the James Fletcher house to the shore had to climb over the CPR railroad track. From the railway point of view,



I could see the shore beach. A row of canoes were in an upside position, ready to be used in the Dog Lake venture, be it fishing, hunting, or just travel to a favourite spot.

One morning, while I was standing near the track, I saw Aunt Caroline and Uncle Cephas heading for their canoe. Both were packing huge loads, pack strap head strap loads. They were going on a lake canoe trip, setting a net, and also going to gather blueberries at a favourite spot in the Dog Lake area.

Missanabie had two stores, DM Stuarts, it also had the post office. A Hudson Bay Company store also carried an array of dry goods and the regular grocery fare. The Hudson Bay store had a big wood stove to keep the place heated.

James Fletcher is a land mark in the Northern Ontario territory. His picture is in the history book entitled, "This

Vast and Magnificent Land". I lived with my grandparents most of my school years. They did all kinds of crafts. Memory has it that I rang the church bell on Sundays. I listened to Gramp read from the syllabic Cree gospels and the song books.

At an early age, James was trained to be a lay reader for the Anglican mission by the Moosonee bishop in the 1800 era. Bishop Rennison and Bishop Roxborough Smith were mentioned. James was fluent in both Ojibway and Cree. James cooked for the Fire Rangers. I remember the pies he cooked by open fire, very tasty. I heard he guided tourists over to Lake Superior.

The writer of this script continues to research the whereabouts of all the band members. Many people have come forward to shed more light on the historic background of the Missanabie Cree First Nation.



## News Items

### CHIEF CORONER RELEASES REPORT ON FIRST NATION YOUTH SUICIDES

Dr. Andrew McCallum, Chief Coroner for Ontario, today released a report entitled *The Office of the Chief Coroner's Death Review of the Youth Suicides at the Pikangikum First Nation 2006 - 2008*.

The report is a detailed and comprehensive review of the deaths of 16 children between the ages of 10-19 as a result of suicide in the years 2006-2008.

The Office of the Chief Coroner observed, with increasing alarm, the rising toll of teenage deaths on reserve.

The purpose of the review was to:

- Examine the circumstances of the death of each youth.
- Collect and analyze information about the deaths in order to prevent further deaths in similar circumstances.
- Make recommendations directed at avoiding deaths in similar circumstances or respecting any other matter arising out of the review.

Led by Deputy Chief Coroner Dr. Bert Lauwers, the review began in March 2010 and involved several parties, including health care professionals, the Provincial Advo-

cate for Children and Youth and child welfare providers. A total of 100 recommendations are offered to try to stem the loss of life of First Nations youth, not only in Pikangikum, but all across Ontario.

These recommendations target the areas of education, policing, child welfare and health care, focusing in particular on the development of suicide prevention strategies.

The Office of the Chief Coroner would like to thank all of the members of the multidisciplinary team who contributed their time and expertise to this enormous effort.

A special thanks to the chief, council and elders of the Pikangikum First Nation for their support and encouragement and to Grand Chief Stan Beardy of the Nishnawbe

Aski Nation for his guidance and wisdom.

### Quotes

"It is my hope that recipients of our recommendations will sincerely and thoughtfully consider this report and make every effort to implement what we believe to be effective strategies to prevent deaths of First Nation youth, both today and in the future." - Dr. Andrew McCallum, Chief Coroner for Ontario

### Learn more

The 215-page report is available at [http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/DeathInvestigations/office\\_coroner/PublicationsandReports/OCC\\_pubs.html](http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/DeathInvestigations/office_coroner/PublicationsandReports/OCC_pubs.html)

## FIRST NATIONS LEADERS JOIN KEYSTONE PIPELINE PROTEST

Indigenous people from across North America are joining the White House protest against TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL pipeline, which would carry crude oil from northern Alberta to Gulf Coast refineries in Texas. Several First Nations leaders from Canada are making the trip to join the protest Sept. 2.

Protesters have gathered outside the White House in Washington, D.C. since Aug. 20, with actors and scientists among those opposing the pipeline. Over 250 people have been arrested, including Canadian actors Margot Kidder and Fort McMurray, Alta.,-born Tantoo Cardinal.

The Indigenous Environmental Network is organizing the effort to bring indigenous people to the U.S. capital. Campaign organizer Clayton Thomas-Muller said they've seen a "tremendous" outpouring of support from across North America and Europe for local people in Northern Alberta.

George Poitras, former chief of the Mikisew Cree in northern Alberta, plans to join the protest. He believes the oil sands have already had a dire impact on people's health in his community of Fort Chipewyan. "We would like President Obama to hear our pleas; perhaps he will not approve this pipeline," he said.

### Chief concerned about water quality

Bill Erasmus, Regional Chief with the Assembly of First Nations in the Northwest Territories, plans to attend and has already written a letter protesting the pipeline to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Erasmus says he's concerned about water quality. "Everything that happens in Alberta is part of the Mackenzie water basin, all that water comes north," he said.

The pipeline passed a major hurdle on Friday when the U.S. State Department said there was no significant risks to the six U.S. states it would cut through.

The assessment moved the administration of President Barack Obama a step closer to a final decision on the pipeline. It now has about three months to determine whether the controversial project is in the national interest of the United States.

Keystone XL has become a lightning rod for the environmental movement in the U.S. in the aftermath of failed climate-change legislation last year.

Proponents, meantime, say the pipeline will create thousands of jobs and help end U.S. reliance on Middle Eastern oil.

*(Retrieved September 12, 2011 from: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/story/2011/08/30/indigenous-protest-keystone-pipeline-xl.html>)*

## NAN CALLS FOR COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE DEATHS OF SEVEN NAN YOUTH IN THUNDER BAY

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose is calling on the Government of Ontario to call a Commission of Inquiry into the deaths of seven NAN youth who have died under similar circumstances since 2000 while attending school in Thunder Bay.

The call for a Commission of Inquiry comes in the wake of last week's ruling by the coroner in the Bushie Inquest that the inquest cannot proceed as the 2011 jury roll is legally invalid.

"A Commission of Inquiry is the only way to fully investigate the circumstances surrounding these tragic deaths and to find ways to prevent similar tragedies from happening again," said NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose. "Last week's ruling confirms what we have suspected for years – that First Nations have been systematically excluded from the justice system. Even if an inquest into the death of Reggie Bushie could be convened, two more of our youth have died since 2007 and there is no inquest that is designed to address all seven deaths."

Reggie Bushie, 15, died in 2007 while attending school at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School in Thunder Bay. His body was recovered from the McIntyre River on November 1, 2007 and an inquest into his death was scheduled to begin in January 2009. The inquest was delayed, however, after NAN and legal counsel for the Bushie family questioned the validity of the selection process for the five-member jury.

While the death of Reggie Bushie was to be the focus of the inquest, the deaths of four other NAN youth who died in Thunder Bay under similar circumstances were to be considered as part of the overall context. Since then, two more NAN youth – Kyle Morriveau, 17, and Jordan Wabasse, 15 – have also died in Thunder Bay under similar circumstances.

"The patterns in these deaths are troubling and simply can't be ignored. It is clear that if the truth is to come out about the deaths of these seven youth nothing short of a Commission of Inquiry will suffice," said Julian Falconer, NAN's legal counsel. "Since 2008, it has become increasingly apparent that the problem of the systematic exclusion of First Nations from the justice system was far more serious than what the public were told. The truth is coming out and various proceedings are coming to a standstill. This makes the Iacobucci review all the more important. It is up to this government to provide First Nations with a process that will credibly look at all seven

deaths – the Inquest System can't do it."

On August 11, 2011, the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General announced the appointment of former Supreme Court Justice, the Honourable Frank Iacobucci, to inquire into and report on First Nation representation on Ontario jury rolls. The review will report on any relevant legislation and process including First Nations persons living on-reserve on the jury roll, from which potential jurors are selected for all jury trials and coroners' inquests.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty No. 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty No. 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario.

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### For more information please contact:

Amy Harris, Director of Communications – Nishnawbe Aski Nation (807) 625-4906 or (807) 252-2806 cell or by email [aharris@nan.on.ca](mailto:aharris@nan.on.ca) .

Dottie Goriah – Falconer-Charney LLP (416) 964-3408 ext. 243 or [DottieG@falconercharney.com](mailto:DottieG@falconercharney.com)

For more information on the exclusion of First Nations from jury rolls:

<http://fcbarristers.com/Falconer/index.html>

### UPDATE ON CALL FOR COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose has rejected an offer by the Government of Ontario to convene meetings instead of a provincial Commission of Inquiry into the deaths of seven NAN youth who have died under similar circumstances since 2000 while attending school in Thunder Bay. In a formal letter to the Government of Ontario, NAN Deputy Grand Chief Waboose wrote:

*"This call for an Inquiry is out of recognition for the disturbingly similar circumstances of the seven deaths since year 2000 and out of respect for the needs of the families and communities who mourn their losses. It is clear that the Coroner's Inquest process cannot accomplish what needs to be done. While NAN has often addressed issues through multi-lateral meetings, no amount of meetings will accomplish the goal of full and credible scrutiny of all seven deaths."*

### For more information please contact:

Amy Harris, Director of Communications – Nishnawbe Aski Nation (807) 625-4906 or (807) 252-2806 cell or by email [aharris@nan.on.ca](mailto:aharris@nan.on.ca)

## Community News and Notes

### A THANK YOU NOTE FROM CLIFF

Wachey, Missanabie Cree First Nation,

I wish to pass along my thanks to the Canoe and Water people. Also to the Chief and Council and speakers and the dignitaries that signed the Land Transfer Agreement. I wish to pass along my thanks to Lori for the accommodations for my wife, Marg, and daughter, Shirley of Sault Ste. Marie.

Our thanks to Constable Syndi in her dress uniform and Honour Guard presence.

So hopefully we will see each other at the future Gatherings. And a Happy Birthday to Audrey.

Meegwitch, Cliff Bain.

Birthday Greetings  
to Kyle, Sept 11 and Kasia, Sept 06  
and their new puppy.



Happy Birthday to David Ouellet  
on August 27



Love, Mom & Dad

**Deadline for Submissions:** Community News and Notes  
is the first day of the month.

Fax: 705-254-3292 Email: eangecone@missanabiecree.com

### A NOTE FROM NICK

I wish to congratulate the Missanabie Cree First Nation people on the signing of their Land Claim. It was a honour to be able to witness this historic event and share in the contagious feelings of joy felt by all. A great accomplishment, that is the result of years of dreams and hard work. Congratulations !

This was the second Gathering I have attended, and once again I was warmly welcomed to share the week with you. I have expanded my circle of friends, went swimming, canoeing and put a few pounds on, played family feud and learned a new card game, and took in the natural beauty around me.

I also sat in on a few of the workshops that were offered during the week. I didn't think these workshops could really offer me anything , but I was wrong. I took part in the tradition of a sharing circle. A beautiful, powerful tool. I was truly moved as the spirits touched me as we shared feelings and tears. And as we parted with hugs, I was particularly deeply touched by the words of one participant as it was said to me, " You are a no longer a stranger". I can truly say I have returned home a different person, and I will never forget the experience. All I can say is..... Miigwech, Miigwech, and again Miigwech.

Nick Oudshoorn



### Muskegowuk Land & Resources Land Use Planning Project Upcoming Workshops

September 27, 2011 - Land Use & Occupancy Mapping Building Awareness

September 28, 2011 - Introduction to Computer and Communication Skills

September 29, 2011 - Computer Syllabic Writing Skills

Time: 9 am - 4 pm (Lunch Break at Noon)

For location and more information, please call the Band Office.

**ALL MCFN MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

# MCFN Events Calendar


S E P T E M B E R  2 0 1 1	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	 <b>A o paoo Peesim</b> Birds start to fly Moon				1	2	3
	4	5 Labour Day	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm Circle of Creative Arts	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22 Healthy Snacks Day After 1:30 pm	23	24
	25	26	27	28 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm Circle of Creative Arts	29	30 Acrylic Workshop 6-9 pm Circle of Creative Arts Bring a pet pic.	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
 <b>Pi a oo moo Peesim</b> Migration south Moon					All events are subject to change. Please check our Facebook page - Circle of Creative Arts for updates.		1 Acrylic Workshop 1:30 - 4 pm Circle Arts
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10 Thanksgiving Day 	11	12 Elders' Tea 1:30 - 3:30 pm Circle of Creative Arts	13 Healthy Snacks Day After 1:30 pm	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Kids Halloween Party 1 - 3:30 pm Circle Arts Please register your kids.	
23/30	24/31 Halloween 	25	26 Elders' Tea 1:30 - 3:30 pm Circle of Creative Arts	27	28	29	
O C T O B E R  2 0 1 1							



# September Birthday Greetings

SEPTEMBER 1

*Happy Birthday!*



Hunter McLeod  
Adam Nolan  
Jennifer Nolan  
Jesse St. Pierre

SEPTEMBER 4


*Happy Birthday*



Gladys Hawkins  
Maggie Jeffries  
Darlene Sullivan

SEPTEMBER 5


Happy Birthday!



George Bergeron  
Faye Wesley

SEPTEMBER 6

Happy Birthday!



Richard Nolan

SEPTEMBER 11


Happy Birthday!



Kyle Ouellet

SEPTEMBER 12


Happy Birthday!



Tetyron Hourtovenko  
Verna Lacosse

SEPTEMBER 14


Happy Birthday!



Chandler Myers

SEPTEMBER 15

Happy Birthday!



Edward Fletcher  
Sam Hughes  
Cody Rogoschensky

SEPTEMBER 17

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Dakota Souliere

SEPTEMBER 18


Happy Birthday



Jason Scwenneker

SEPTEMBER 19


Happy Birthday!



Adam Fletcher  
Jordon Krobath  
Jeremy MacDonald  
Cynthia Nemeth

SEPTEMBER 20

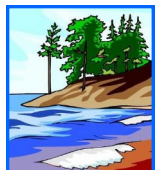
Happy Birthday!



Neil Ross

SEPTEMBER 21


Happy Birthday!



Wilfrid Sheshequin  
Vanessa Smith  
Drake Masotti-Stevenson

SEPTEMBER 22


Happy Birthday!



Roy Gideon

SEPTEMBER 23


Happy Birthday!



David Nolan

SEPTEMBER 24


Happy Birthday!



Wendy Delyzer

SEPTEMBER 25


Happy Birthday!



Julianne Macumber  
Brandon Paradis  
Barbara Pelletier

SEPTEMBER 28


Happy Birthday!



Maynard Jeffries

SEPTEMBER 29

Happy Birthday!



William Nolan

SEPTEMBER 30

Happy Birthday!



Harley McLeod

# Opportunities

## **Job Posting: Cultural Coordinator/Planner**

The Cultural Coordinator/ Planner will be responsible for the development of the Manitou Mountain Protection Plan and broader cultural preservation activities identified by the First Nation in association with the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs Forum.

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Engage NSRCF communities and third party interests to develop an MOU and a joint protection / management plan for Manitou Mountain.
- Coordinate the collection and cataloguing of geographical data to be incorporated into the protection plan
- Develop a video/digital log of the process including working table planning sessions and community engagements for archival and educational purposes
- Work with member communities in the development of a management regime for Manitou Mountain
- Coordinate quarterly meetings of NSRCF working table representatives
- Collect and record all feedback and recommendations and report back to administration, Chief and Council and community members
- Coordinate site visits to Manitou Mountain and other points of interest as identified by the First Nation
- Work in collaboration with the cultural coordinator of the NSRCF
- Develop supporting materials (information brochure, newsletter updates, web site)

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Familiarity with MS Word, MS Publisher and other associated software
- Familiarity with GIS mapping concepts
- Familiarity with video/digital recording
- Familiarity with policy/protocol development
- Experience in project coordination
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work with others
- Understanding and awareness of First Nations culture
- Ability to travel to carry out project activities
- Must have a driver's licence
- Must be physically fit

**Closing Date: October 31, 2011**

Please mail, fax, or email your resume and a cover letter to:

Lori Rainville  
Missanabie Cree First Nation  
174B Hwy 17 East  
Garden River, ON P6A 6Z1  
Fax: 705-254-2702  
Email: lrainville@missanabiecree.com

# Health Notes



## Working it Out Together: Aboriginal Wellness Goes Mainstream

### **Olympian Waneeq Horn-Miller launches Working it Out**

Together [www.workingitouttogether.com](http://www.workingitouttogether.com), a national multi-platform health and wellness movement in response to the increasing rates of diabetes and obesity in Canada, especially among the Aboriginal population.

Based on Aboriginal philosophy, traditional foods, and western medical practice, Working it Out Together, combines technology and social interaction, via a documentary series and interactive website to motivate Canadians and their communities towards health and wellness.

The six-part series documents the intimate stories of six Mohawk individuals as they embark on a challenging journey towards a better lifestyle -reclaiming their vitality through health, wellness, and fitness.

Read more at [workingitouttogether.com](http://workingitouttogether.com)

### **Watch WORKING IT OUT TOGETHER on APTN**

APTN East: Tuesdays at 8:30PM EST

APTN West: Tuesdays at 8:30PM MST

APTN HD: Saturdays at 12:00PM EST

## **Let's be healthy together!**



Preventing childhood obesity in Aboriginal Communities [www.letsbehealthy.ca](http://www.letsbehealthy.ca)

On this website you'll find all the parts of a "toolkit" that Aboriginal people worked to develop on the topic of preventing childhood obesity. These tools were developed to support and empower parents, communities and Ontario's service providers around the issue of preventing obesity in Ontario's First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children.

### 4 Toolkit Topics:

- ⊕ Eating the Right Stuff
- ⊕ Getting Active
- ⊕ Creating Healthier Communities
- ⊕ Prevent Childhood Obesity in Your Aboriginal Community: A Guide for Service Providers

Materials are available for download from the website. Or you can order the toolkit from Best Start resources at: [http://beststart.org/resources/aboriginal\\_health.html](http://beststart.org/resources/aboriginal_health.html)

**Check these websites for information and resources on healthy eating and healthy living.**

**Eat Right Ontario** [www.eatrightontario.ca](http://www.eatrightontario.ca)

**National Aboriginal Diabetes Association** [www.nada.ca/resources/resources](http://www.nada.ca/resources/resources)



# MCFN Membership

## Ted Ouellet - Registration Administrator

174B Hwy 17East

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

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

The following is a list of band members for whom we do not have a current mailing address:

Dorothy Bain  
(Bignucolo)

Lyle Copeland

Jason Fletcher

Steven D'arcy Fletcher

Kaleb Jeffries

William Jeffries

Jeremy MacDonald

Allan McDonald

Michael McDonald

Richard Donald McLeod

Cynthia Nemeth

Craig W. Pelletier

Natalie Pelletier

Daniel Rocheleau

Iana Ruth

Jayson Ruth

Theresa Ruth

Victoria May St. Amand

(Fletcher)

Catherine Wesley

Juliana Holly Wesley

Michael Wesley

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.



## MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM - - For Band Members

SURNAME	
First Name and 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 #17 East  
Garden River, ON  
P6A 6Z1

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

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

[www.missanabiecree.com](http://www.missanabiecree.com)

### MCFN Chief & Council + Staff

Chief Kim Rainville **ex. 236**  
Deputy Chief Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte **ex. 504**  
Councillor Jason Gauthier **ex. 235**  
Councillor Roy Gideon **ex. 505**  
Councillor Jutta Horn **ex. 227**  
Councillor Edward Robinson **ex. 506**  
**A/Band Administrator** Lori Rainville **ex 222**  
**Reception** June Markie **ex 221**  
**Bookkeeper** Louise Campbell **ex. 224**  
**Program Development** Lesley Gagnon **ex. 226**  
**Administrative Assistant** Gladys Hawkins **ex. 231**  
**Registration Administrator** Ted Ouellet **ex. 228**  
**Negotiations Coordinator** Jutta Horn **ex. 227**  
**Communications** Elizabeth Angeconeb **ex. 230**  
**Land Use Planner** Jason Gauthier **ex. 235**

[krainville@missanabiecree.com](mailto:krainville@missanabiecree.com)  
[bfletcher-decorte@missanabiecree.com](mailto:bfletcher-decorte@missanabiecree.com)  
[jgauthier@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jgauthier@missanabiecree.com)  
[rgideon@missanabiecree.com](mailto:rgideon@missanabiecree.com)  
[jhorn@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jhorn@missanabiecree.com)  
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[lrainville@missanabiecree.com](mailto:lrainville@missanabiecree.com)  
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[jgauthier@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jgauthier@missanabiecree.com)