

BEAR FAX

Ali kee shi Peesim
2011



www.missanabiecree.com

Missanabie Cree First Nation



Happy Mother's Day



Happy Mother's Day to all the Mothers, Grandmothers, and Aunties who make our lives so blessed with their love and care for our well-being.

Our mothers nurtured us when we were children, and their care and concern is unfailing. The same can be said for Mother Earth, yet her strength and capacity are being severely stressed by our thoughtless ways.

Modern society has separated the people from the Earth. Many do not even know where their food comes from, or where their garbage ends up, or how consuming so much of the Earth's resources impacts the air, land and water in so many negative ways.

Yet there are signs that the people are beginning to realize that there is another way to live, one that respects the Earth, and all the blessings we receive from her. The people of South America, led by the indigenous government of Bolivia, have put together a Declaration on the Rights of Mother Earth. The Declaration can be found on page 14 of this newsletter. Putting the rights of Mother Earth first, can only result in benefits to all of us, and the healing that is needed for the earth, sea, and sky.

Events/Gatherings:

Mother Earth Water Walk 2011

From the East May 7 Machias, Maine, USA
From the North May 10 Churchill, Manitoba
www.motherearthwaterwalk.com

Women, Water of the World Walk

May 7-21, 2011 Six Nations Traditional Territory
hill.patty@hotmail.com

World Fair Trade Day May 14, 2011

www.fairtradefederation.org

Vision Quest Conference - Promoting Aboriginal Business, Community, and Economic Development

May 17-19, 2011 Winnipeg, MB
www.vqconference.com/

NAN Education Awareness Week

May 24-27, 2011 Thunder Bay, ON
www.nan.on.ca/article/-687.asp

Raising Our Voices - Bi-annual Language Conference

May 25-26, 2011 Cornwall, ON
www.woodland-centre.on.ca/index.php

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Message from the Chief

Boozhoo, All my Relations,

I hope this month's issue of the Bear Fax finds you and your families well. We've managed to survive another winter. Not that long ago making it through the winter was a testament to efforts we put forth to ensure our survival.

Our efforts today are no different. We continue to pursue a just settlement in the land claim we filed so many years ago. Our lawyers were in court April 27, 28, to argue for an order to have Canada provide the necessary funding to continue our litigation. We expect the court will take a month or two to consider the arguments presented before providing a decision on an advanced cost order.

We have signed an agreement with Ontario which separates the issues of the coming trial. The first issue of the trial will determine the crystallization date of the treaty. The significance of this issue will determine if the Missanabie Cree were surveyed in 1906 or are yet to be surveyed. If it is determined we were not surveyed in 1906, the next significant issue is population. The size of population will determine the amount of lands owing to satisfy the terms of the treaty. Ontario agrees to an advanced cost order totaling 50% of the costs of the initial phase of the trial, conditional on the courts ordering Canada to provide the remaining 50% of the litigation costs. The remaining issues, compensation, damages are yet to be determined.

The basis of our claim is that the treaty was never crystallized in 1906, we were never surveyed, and we are owed lands based on our current population.

Messages from Council

Hello

I hope this newsletter finds you all keeping well.

I attended the governance meeting in Sault Ste. Marie at the beginning of March. Enthusiasm is contagious! While the meetings were informative and educational, we accomplished a lot through conversation and open communication. I am excited to present what was discussed at an open meeting in Thunder Bay. The date will be confirmed in the near future, and I will certainly let you know in the Bear Fax.

Chief and Council continue to meet on a regular basis (usually weekly). I enjoy attending these meetings and

The end of winter also brings with it the end of our fiscal year; our yearly calendar starts April 1 and ends March 31. The significance of this for this year is that we will no longer receive funding from the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs for the land transfer negotiations/process; funding which covered the expenses of our operations; Communications, Executive Assistant, Negotiations Co-ordinator.

We have received funding for the implementation of the land transfer agreement; however it falls short of the funding that the land transfer process provided. In order to make sure we can continue to function and provide the necessary communications as well as ensure we are able to implement the land transfer legal agreement, Council has committed the use of Rama funding to cover the costs of these critical positions, under the community development component of the Rama agreement.

We have only received two letters of interest for the adhoc Rama Review Committee. If you would like to be a part of this review committee, please forward a letter of interest as soon as possible. Also we have received 16 returned surveys to date. We require this information to assist in identifying our needs to develop the transfer lands.

As in the past, the efforts we put forth to prepare for our future will ensure the survival of our community, people and families.

Kim Rainville, Chief
Missanabie Cree First Nation

feel that we are contributing positively to our First Nation. As always, if you have a question, comment, or concern, please email me and I will certainly reply.

On May 2nd, our national election will occur. Please vote! We have a voice :) If you chose not to vote, then you forfeit your right to agree/disagree with any government decisions. Also, remember the veterans who served in WWI, WWII, and any/all of the other wars, some of whom were/are citizens of the Missanabie Cree First Nation.

Take Care
Bobbi

Messages from Council

Watchay,

In the course of the work I do in the office, I am assigned many roles and responsibilities and take each one of those duties as crucial to the overall success of each day by working within our First Nation and as a leader of our First Nation. I keep every citizen of our First Nation in my heart every day, and question "What is in the best interest of our people?". This becomes complicated on some days as there are many layers to problem solving when it comes to First Nation governance.

I keep in mind the Seven Grandfather Teachings and constantly ask for direction from the Creator, my Ancestors and my Elders. This course of action always gives me direction, and what the future holds for us as a progressive and visionary community.

I have a great working relationship with all of Chief and Council and believe that there are issues that have been addressed, and issues that will continually be addressed over the stretch of our term as Councilors. I think that having weekly meetings has given us the opportunity over the last while to do a lot of the work that had to be done and continues to be done within the portfolios that have been assigned to our Councilors. Most of my focus has been around the "Whole Earth" portfolio.

The Manitou Mountain Protection Plan has been ongoing for a while now and there has been growing participation by our elders and leadership on the relationship building strategy employed by a very dedicated working group. There has been continual forward motion on the designation of this Sacred Site within our traditional territory and the inclusion of the regional First Nations. We as a working group have dedicated our time and effort to work with Ontario to create a withdrawal of all mining claims and forestry work within and around a designated area identified by the working group. This process has been tedious at times, but always progressive. We have met with foresters within the area and regional Chiefs, MNR, and MNDMF to come together as partners in the sole goal to protect Manitou Mountain. Next are the mining claim holders within the area. We are withdrawing available areas for staking before talking to mining companies, the thinking is that we do not want to create an interest for other prospectors and developers before we could take the areas out of the equation.

This leads me to the next area that I have been actively working on. In a conversation around the mining industry, I was inspired to go through every claim within our traditional territory. There are hundreds of mining claims that have been identified. I have been going through them one by one, using resources like claim maps and the internet, to research what company holds each claim, where exactly they are and what they are looking at mining. As good information leads to good decisions, I feel that it is our priority to find out as much information as possible. I am actively initiating discussion with as many companies as possible.

Next, I have been working with Nishnawbe Aski Nation Mining Board. We have been addressing the issues around Sacred Sites identification and collaborative response to new mining legislation. I have been representing Mushkegowuk Council in this capacity, as I have been identified in the region as having the technical skills and knowledge to advise the NAN Chiefs.

As the Land Use planning representative on Mushkegowuk Council, I have been part of this group in the development of a definable process that will plan the use of our regional territory. Working at the table with Attawapiskat First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Moose Cree First Nation, Taykwa Tagamou Nation (formerly New Post First Nation) and Chapleau Cree First Nation, the relationships have been focused on a cooperative sharing model.

As one of its Co-Chairs, I have been working with the Governance Working Group on a proposal to INAC to develop codes and ratification of those codes. Between developing cash flow projections and yearly budgets, the proposal allowed for some funding that will move this process towards yearly work done on these important documents for our First Nation.

The Tembec/MNR review will be starting soon as Chief and Council have approved the recommendations I had made for the Committee. Although we are anticipating the review with MNR and Tembec will be held in September 2011, we will be meeting to go over the agreement and have a plan going into the discussion around the tripartite agreement. Those meetings will begin within the next 30 days.

The Missanabie Cree First Nations Environmental Protocol and "Best Practices" has been a topic for discussion

between Elder's Council and the Whole Earth portfolio holders. A proposal to the Wawa MNR District Manager was sent out to support this initiative through funding supports from the MNR. Jutta has been a great support with this process with proposal writing skills and conceptual frameworks.

As the Vice President of the Missanabie Cree Development Corporation, our work is around setting up the structures of the corporation and assigning the duties of the executive committee to the Island View board of di-

AN EAGLE STORY

Greetings MCFN Family and Friends,



Rather than diving right into an activities report, I would like to take a moment to tell you about an incredible experience that recently happened. Last week, my fiancé, Martin was working at the Landfill and stumbled across a dead eagle lying on the roadway of the packer.

Martin was surprised by what he found and thought that the band would be interested in harvesting its feathers for ceremonial purposes. I suggested that I would get a hold of someone who could advise us on the proper protocol and process for harvesting feathers and asked that he bring the eagle to my home so I could assess its size and see if it would fit in my freezer.

As Martin had mentioned, the smell was so bad that he suggested to place the eagle in a freezer to keep it from rotting any further. Later on in the evening, Martin arrived at my home with the box that contained the eagle and brought it into the house. Upon an inspection of the box, the eagle turned his head and looked us right in the eye. "He's alive" I exclaimed.

Without any delay, Martin attempted to contact the MNR and the police for information that would lead him to the appropriate authorities and caregivers that could assist in the life saving effort of the eagle. Unfortunately, no one could be contacted and Martin was advised to keep the eagle in his care.

Knowing that the eagle would probably not make it through the night he became increasingly concerned

rectors. The employee handbook was reviewed and the function of the board was discussed.

I would also like to let our citizens who are sick and injured know that I am praying for you and may the Creator watch over you in your time of need.

If there are any questions about this report please contact me at jgauthier@missanabiecree.com.

In the Spirit of Community,
Jason Gauthier

with the state of his pain and suffering and uncertain of what to do. Two hours had passed when finally a call was received from a gentleman who lived in Echo Bay and who claimed to be the only person who was able to handle birds in the area. He agreed to meet Martin right away as he felt the eagle deserved a fighting chance to survive.

The next day we had received a call from this gentleman advising us that the eagle was slowly recovering although it would be too soon to tell if he would survive as he was very sick. We have been monitoring the recovery of the eagle and had just received news that he has made tremendous improvements and was transferred to a bird farm so that he could continue to build up his strength and confidence to take flight once again.

I was so pleased to hear the news that I wanted to share this story with everyone. I am enlightened by this experience and believe there is a valuable teaching within. For when I think about our people and our nation, I see the similarities in our determination to overcome defeat, no matter what we have endured as First Nations people and the incredible will that we have to survive.

I am honoured to have been witness to such an occurrence and I am looking forward to his eventual release back into nature, which we have requested to be present for. In the meantime we will continue to monitor his progress and keep him in our prayers.

Chi-Miigwetch.
Jutta Horn, Councilor

Community News and Notes



Best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Fred, Louise, Lesley and Shawn
From Jackie Fletcher

And from the Chief, Council and Staff of MCFN

GET WELL SOON!



**MCFN ANNUAL GATHERING
AUGUST 13 - 20, 2011**



SHINGWAUK REUNION 2011
A Journey of Healing & Rebuilding
2011 Residential Schools
Gathering and Conference

Shingwauk Hall, Algoma University
in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
01-03 July 2011

More information and on-line registration for the Gathering will be posted to their website at: www.shingwauk.org

For more information:
Email: ShingwaukDG@algomau.ca
Phone: 705-297-0627

News Items

STUDENTS MARCH FOR FIRST NATIONS' EQUALITY



Inspired by [Shannen Koostachin], a Cree teen who dreamed of attending a safe, comfortable school in her isolated James Bay community, hundreds of Ottawa students march[ed] on Parliament Hill Wednesday [April 27] to demand the federal government provide First Nations

children on reserves with equal access to education. The Parliament Hill rally is part of a national day of action in memory of Shannen Koostachin, killed in a car crash last May.

For years, the children of her hometown of Attawapiskat, a fly-in First Nations community, have waited for the federal government to rebuild the elementary school, which was closed in 2000 after a large diesel spill contaminated the ground beneath it. A smattering of portables were installed as a temporary solution, but years of neglect have not been kind to them. Some have no heat, forcing students to wear winter coats inside. Others have fire doors that are warped or frozen shut in winter.

Frustrated and feeling abandoned, the children launched a letter-writing campaign, calling on the government to build them a new school. They also turned to Facebook and YouTube to reach non-aboriginal students across the country, urging them to support the cause.

In 2008, the Grade 8 class cancelled a trip to Niagara Falls and used the money to send three representatives to Ottawa to meet face-to-face with Indian Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl.

"They decided, rather than go on a class trip, they were going to go confront the government," said Charlie Angus, the Member of Parliament for Timmins-James Bay. Koostachin was one of them. The 13-year-old demanded action from Strahl, convened a news conference with national media and later gave a raw and rousing speech at a conference in Toronto. She was soon nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize and the campaign is the subject of a documentary produced by Heartspeak, a youth engagement organization.

In the days following her death -amid waves of grief - individuals and organizations from across the country began connecting. No one could let Koostachin's message die with her, so Shannen's Dream was born. The campaign's goal is to raise public awareness about the plight of reserve schools and address the lack of funding. "People need to realize what's been happening," Angus said.

More than 50 schools on First Nation reserves across Canada have been closed or condemned or are operating in substandard condition, Angus said.

*From the Ottawa Citizen, mpeason@ottawacitizen.com
Story posted on April 23, 2011.*


MCFN Events Calendar



MAY 2011

Ali kee shi Peesim

Frog Moon

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Circle of Creative Arts EMERGING ARTISTS SHOW	2	3	4	5	6 Circle of Creative Arts Jackie Fletcher VISIONING 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	7 Circle of Creative Arts Jackie Fletcher VISIONING 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E
8 Mother's Day 	9	10	11 Women's Drumming 7-9 pm	12	13 Circle of Creative Arts CROCHETING Artist TBC 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	14 Circle of Creative Arts CROCHETING Artist TBC 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E
15	16	17	18	19 Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm	20 Circle of Creative Arts COFFEE HOUSE 6:30 pm 648 Queen St. E	21
22	23 Victoria Day	24	25 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm 648 Queen E. Women's Drumming 7-9 pm	26 RESP Presentation YMCA Community Services 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	27 Circle of Creative Arts PHOTOGRAPHY Glad Hawkins 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	28 Circle of Creative Arts PHOTOGRAPHY Glad Hawkins 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E
29	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>All workshops are subject to change. Please check our Facebook page - Circle of Creative Arts for any updates.</p> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>For information on our Featured Artists, see Facebook-Circle of Creative Arts, or call Shirley at 705-971-0327</p> </div>	

MCFN Events Calendar



JUNE 2011

Sa Ki Pakum Peesim

Opening of Leaves Moon

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm 648 Queen E. Women's Drumming 7-9 pm	9 Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Aboriginal Day 	22 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm 648 Queen E. Women's Drumming 7-9 pm	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Circle of Creative Arts: For information on our Featured Artists for June, visit us on Facebook at: Circle of Creative Arts, or call Shirley at 705-971-0327</p> </div>	



May Birthday Greetings

MAY 2

Happy Birthday!

Crystal Laura Nolan

MAY 4

Happy Birthday!

Marta Elizabeth Harris

MAY 9

Happy Birthday!

Basilio Pezzo

MAY 11

Happy Birthday!

Scott Norman Guidon
Bradley Edward Nolan

MAY 12

Happy Birthday!

Janna Harris
Michael McDonald

MAY 13

Happy Birthday!

Mark William Fletcher
Judy Lynn Holunga
Jutta Horn
Threasa Nemeth

MAY 16

Happy Birthday!

Michael James Wesley

MAY 18

Happy Birthday!

Victoria May St. Amand

MAY 19

Happy Birthday!

Jason Fletcher
Paula Lynn Fletcher
Scott Vernon Nolan

MAY 20

Happy Birthday!

Leonidas Bergeron
Frederick Gideon

MAY 24

Happy Birthday!

Constance Emily Nolan

MAY 25

Happy Birthday!

Crystal Charette,
Karen Pezzo

MAY 29

Happy Birthday!

Hulbert Bain,
Louis Allan Bissillion

MAY 31

Happy Birthday!

Heather-Ann Gideon



Happy 1st Birthday
Kyna Sky Goodfellow
May 21
First child of Lisa Sky Jeffries
Grandchild of Lori Lynn Jeffries
Great-grandchild of
Margaret Frances Jeffries

Happy 1st
Birthday, Kyna



Love,
Auntie Maggie

Announcement:

My first great grandchild was born on February 22, 2011
His name is Jayce Michael Tyler Ritchie.
He was 9lbs. 6 ozs.
Welcome to the world, Jayce!
He lives in B.C. with his mother and grandmother.
-Jackie Fletcher



Belated birthday greetings
to my grandson D.J. (April)
Love, Nanny Fletcher



Belated birthday greetings to my son Murray.
Birthday Greetings to my son, Mark.
Love, Mom (Jackie Fletcher)

Opportunities



ART IS YOUR LIFE, MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

The Arts Council of Sault Ste. Marie invites all interested community members, especially artists, to a Business Workshop presented by Terri Chiarello, Business Development Advisor with the Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation and Nevin Buconjic, President of Digital Adventures, an Internet Consulting firm.

This interactive workshop will provide guidance and direction regarding business start-up, and marketing initiatives for any emerging or established entrepreneur. If you are an artist, who wants to make your art your business, this is the workshop for you.

The workshop will be held on:
Wednesday June 1, 2011
 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 at City Hall, Russ Ramsay Room.

We encourage pre – registration for this workshop. Please contact the Arts Council office at 705-945-9756 or ssmarts@shaw.ca for more information or to register.

SPIRIT MEMBERS PROJECT



We are reminding community members to send in pictures and bios of their relatives who have passed on to the spirit world. When the celebrations are happening at the Annual Gathering this summer, we would like all family members to be present in photos to remind us who and why we are remembering them on this wonderful occasion.

As putting together the photos together for presentation will require time and effort to do, we are asking that you do not wait until the last minute. Please help make this something we can all be proud of.

Miigwech, Shirley Horn

YMCA Community Services of Sault Ste. Marie, is offering an RESP Workshop



Date: May 26, 2011
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Location: Circle of Creative Arts
 648 Queen St. E

For more information:
 Chelsie Parayko
 RESP Outreach Worker
 YMCA Community Services
 Unit 1 - 681 Pine St.
 Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B 3G2
www.sault.ymca.ca

cparayko@sault.ymca.ca
 P: (705) 253-8431 ext 200
 F: (705) 253-6134

What is an RESP?

An RESP is a government registered savings account designed to save for your child's education.

Workshops Available

RESP Investing Made Easy

Participate in RESP workshops and learn how you can receive *FREE GOVERNMENT MONEY* for your child's future.

Budgeting 101

Overview of money, credit basics and creating a quick budget.

Free Government Money

Access *FREE GOVERNMENT MONEY* through two different programs that encourage and help parents save for their child's future.

Canada Learning Bond The maximum amount your child can receive from this bond is \$2,000.00, no contribution necessary.

Canada Education Savings Grant Your child can receive a maximum lifetime grant of \$7,200.00.

Things We Can Help With:

- Making RESP's make sense
- Referrals to RESP representatives
- One on one assistance with forms
- Budgeting
- Online access

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) | Cynthia Nemeth |
| Lyle Copeland | Natalie Pelletier |
| Jason Fletcher | Daniel Rocheleau |
| Steven D'arcy Fletcher | Iana Ruth |
| Kaleb Jeffries | Jayson Ruth |
| William Jeffries | Theresa Ruth |
| Jeremy MacDonald | Victoria May St. Amand
(Fletcher) |
| Allan McDonald | Catherine Wesley |
| Michael McDonald | Juliana Holly Wesley |
| Richard Donald McLeod | 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 nd Name	
ALIAS/BAND #	
DATE RECEIVED	
NEW ADDRESS	
CITY/PROVINCE	
POSTAL CODE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE #	
SIGNATURE	

MCFN Membership News

Registration Process for Bill C-3 Applicants

On December 15, 2010 Bill C-3 *Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act* received Royal Assent and is in effect as of January 31, 2011. Bill C-3 will ensure that eligible grandchildren of women who lost status as a result of marrying non-Indian men will become entitled to registration (Indian status). Because of this legislation, approximately 45,000 persons will become newly entitled to registration. Generally speaking, the key criteria to be newly entitled to registration are:

- Did your grandmother lose her Indian status as a result of marrying a non-Indian?
- Is one of your parents registered, or entitled to be registered, under sub-section 6(2) of the *Indian Act*?
- Were you, or one of your siblings, born on or after Sept. 4, 1951?

General enquires on *Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act* should be directed to:

INAC Public Enquiries Contact Centre
 Email: InfoPubs@ainc-inac.gc.ca
 Phone: (toll-free) 1-800-567-9604
 Fax: 1-866-817-3977 TTY: (toll-free) 1-866-553-0554

Bill C-3 applicants will be offered an improved service, whereby eligible applicants can expect to receive registration as an Indian under the *Indian Act* AND an [in-Canada Secure Certificate of Indian Status](#) (status card) in one step. The in-Canada Secure Certificate of Indian Status is an identity document issued by INAC to confirm that the cardholder is registered as a Status Indian under the *Indian Act*. (Please see page 14 for a detailed explanation.)

INAC is providing this service to Bill C-3 applicants as they do not currently have a status card. As INAC is moving towards fully implementing the Secure Certificate of Indian Status, it is more efficient for both clients and for INAC to provide these new first-time clients with the new SCIS at the time of registration. Both cards, the current Certificate of Indian Status and the new SCIS provide equal access to benefits and access to programs.

This service has resulted in the development of a specific registration form which must be used by Bill C-3 applicants when submitting their request for registration. **Application forms** are available at the following locations:

- **Online:** visit the Bill C-3 [application forms](#) section of INAC's website
- **By mail:** Call 1-800-567-9604 to request an application package.
- **In person:** At any [INAC Regional office](#) or call 1-800-567-9604, or at any [Service Canada Centre](#) or call 1-800-O-Canada 1-800-622-6232.
- **At the MCFN Band Office:** call Ted Ouellet, Registration Administrator, 1-800-319-3001, Ext. 228.

Due to the large volume of applications that is anticipated to be received in a short time frame, INAC will only be of-

fering a [self-service mail-in application option](#). INAC has set up a dedicated processing unit to handle in a timely fashion Bill C-3 applications. We therefore ask applicants not to send their application to INAC regional offices or Service Canada Centres, but rather to [mail it directly to the INAC Processing Unit](#) to ensure that their application is processed in an expedited manner:

INAC Application Processing Unit
 GD Stn Main
 Winnipeg MB R3C 0M2

Applicants will be required to include certain identification documents with their completed application form in order to be registered and receive an in-Canada SCIS:

- **Original** birth certificate listing the names of the applicant's parents (e.g. Long Form Birth Certificate)
- **Original** Registration and Secure Certificate in Indian Status Guarantor Declaration Form
- **Original** valid identity documents **OR photocopy** of the applicant's valid identity documents
- **Photographs** - Two (2) passport type photographs signed on the back by the applicant's guarantor.

And if applicable: Name Change Documents, Court Orders, or Statutory Declaration Forms.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide all required information and documentation at the time of application. This will avoid unnecessary delays in obtaining registration and the SCIS. Incomplete applications will be assessed for eligibility of registration, and if deemed eligible, clients will be contacted to provide any remaining information or documents

We also encourage applicants to use the INAC Public Enquiries Contact Centre (1-800-567-9604) for questions and mail-in their complete applications directly to the INAC Processing Unit to ensure optimal client service under the circumstances introduced with Bill C-3.

Confirmation of registration and receipt of the in-Canada format of the SCIS will occur in two stages. INAC has established an application processing service level standard, which takes into consideration the expectation of receiving large volumes of applications over a short time period. Applications which are complete will be processed for registration within 4-6 months. Individuals who are deemed eligible for registration will receive a letter of confirmation and providing them with registration number which will allow access to benefits and services until the in-Canada SCIS is issued.

If all the required documentation has been provided with the application, individuals will receive their in-Canada format of the SCIS within 10-12 weeks after the letter confirming registration has been mailed.

For more information, please visit the website at www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/br/is/bll/rpb/index-eng.asp. Or call toll-free INAC Public Enquiries Contact Centre at (1-800-567-9604).

[Information retrieved from the INAC website.]

SECURE CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN STATUS (SCIS) INAC has two formats of the SCIS cards in circulation:

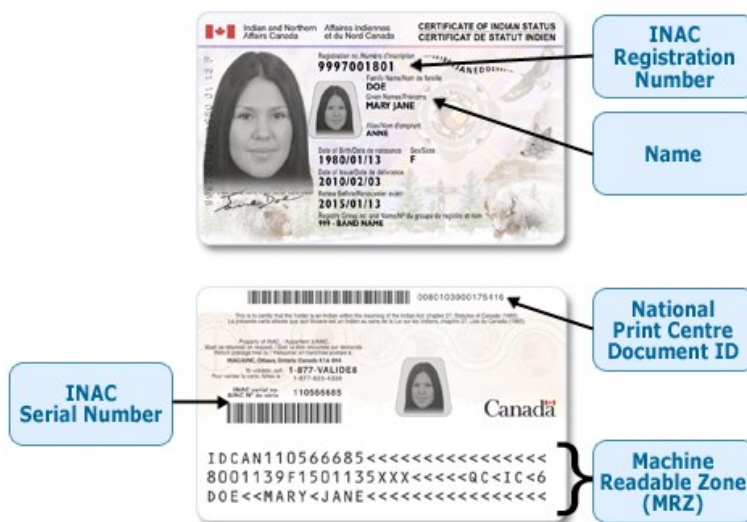
1. In-Canada Format: NO MRZ

- Denotes that the cardholder has registered Indian Status that provides the identified individual with access to a variety of statutory entitlements and program-based services in Canada.
- **Is not an acceptable document** when visiting the U.S. via land and water ports-of-entry.
- The only format that will be issued to a cardholder that is born outside the U.S. or Canada, regardless of Citizenship.
- Issued to cardholders that do not wish to have their personal data shared with Canada Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs Border Protection.



2. Border-Crossing Format: With MRZ

- Denotes that the cardholder has registered Indian Status that provides the identified individual with access to a variety of statutory entitlements and program-based services in Canada.
- **Acceptable document** when visiting the U.S. via land and water ports-of-entry
- Only issued to individuals who are born within Canada or the United States, regardless of citizenship
- Issued to cardholders who give consent to sharing information with Canada Border Services Agency, Passport Canada and, only when presented, to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection when visiting the US by land and water.



(From the INAC website: www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/br/is/scs/prtotp-eng.asp)

Concerning Mother Earth

World People's Conference on Climate Change and the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth
<http://pwccc.wordpress.com>

We, the peoples and nations of Earth:

considering that we are all part of Mother Earth, an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings with a common destiny;
gratefully acknowledging that Mother Earth is the source of life, nourishment and learning and provides everything we need to live well;
recognizing that the capitalist system and all forms of degradation, exploitation, abuse and contamination have

caused great destruction, degradation and disruption of Mother Earth, putting life as we know it today at risk through phenomena such as climate change;
convinced that in an interdependent living community it is not possible to recognize the rights of only human beings without causing an imbalance within Mother Earth;
affirming that to guarantee human rights it is necessary to recognize and defend the rights of Mother Earth and all beings in her and that there are existing cultures, practices and laws that do so;
conscious of the urgency of taking decisive, collective action to transform structures and systems that cause climate change and other threats to Mother Earth;

proclaim this Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, and call on the General Assembly of the United Nation to adopt it, as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations of the world,

and to the end that every individual and institution takes responsibility for promoting through teaching, education, and consciousness raising, respect for the rights recognized in this Declaration

and ensure through prompt and progressive measures and mechanisms, national and international, their universal and effective recognition and observance among all peoples and States in the world.

Article 1. Mother Earth

- (1) Mother Earth is a living being.
- (2) Mother Earth is a unique, indivisible, self-regulating community of interrelated beings that sustains, contains and reproduces all beings.
- (3) Each being is defined by its relationships as an integral part of Mother Earth.
- (4) The inherent rights of Mother Earth are inalienable in that they arise from the same source as existence.
- (5) Mother Earth and all beings are entitled to all the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as may be made between organic and inorganic beings, species, origin, use to human beings, or any other status.
- (6) Just as human beings have human rights, all other beings also have rights which are specific to their species or kind and appropriate for their role and function within the communities within which they exist.
- (7) The rights of each being are limited by the rights of other beings and any conflict between their rights must be resolved in a way that maintains the integrity, balance and health of Mother Earth.

Article 2. Inherent Rights of Mother Earth

- (1) Mother Earth and all beings of which she is composed have the following inherent rights:
 - (a) the right to life and to exist;
 - (b) the right to be respected;
 - (c) the right to regenerate its bio-capacity and to continue its vital cycles and processes free from human disruptions;
 - (d) the right to maintain its identity and integrity as a distinct, self-regulating and interrelated being;
 - (e) the right to water as a source of life;
 - (f) the right to clean air;
 - (g) the right to integral health;
 - (h) the right to be free from contamination, pollution and toxic or radioactive waste;
 - (i) the right to not have its genetic structure modified or disrupted in a manner that threatens its integrity or vital and healthy functioning;
 - (j) the right to full and prompt restoration the violation

of the rights recognized in this Declaration caused by human activities;

- (2) Each being has the right to a place and to play its role in Mother Earth for her harmonious functioning.
- (3) Every being has the right to wellbeing and to live free from torture or cruel treatment by human beings.

Article 3. Obligations of human beings to Mother Earth

- (1) Every human being is responsible for respecting and living in harmony with Mother Earth.
- (2) Human beings, all States, and all public and private institutions must:
 - (a) act in accordance with the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
 - (b) recognize and promote the full implementation and enforcement of the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
 - (c) promote and participate in learning, analysis, interpretation and communication about how to live in harmony with Mother Earth in accordance with this Declaration;
 - (d) ensure that the pursuit of human wellbeing contributes to the wellbeing of Mother Earth, now and in the future;
 - (e) establish and apply effective norms and laws for the defence, protection and conservation of the rights of Mother Earth;
 - (f) respect, protect, conserve and where necessary, restore the integrity, of the vital ecological cycles, processes and balances of Mother Earth;
 - (g) guarantee that the damages caused by human violations of the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration are rectified and that those responsible are held accountable for restoring the integrity and health of Mother Earth;
 - (h) empower human beings and institutions to defend the rights of Mother Earth and of all beings;
 - (i) establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing species extinction, the destruction of ecosystems or the disruption of ecological cycles;
 - (j) guarantee peace and eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological weapons;
 - (k) promote and support practices of respect for Mother Earth and all beings, in accordance with their own cultures, traditions and customs;
 - (l) promote economic systems that are in harmony with Mother Earth and in accordance with the rights recognized in this Declaration.

Article 4. Definitions

- (1) The term "being" includes ecosystems, natural communities, species and all other natural entities which exist as part of Mother Earth.
- (2) Nothing in this Declaration restricts the recognition of other inherent rights of all beings or specified beings.

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

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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**
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Program Development Lesley Gagnon **ex. 226**
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