

# BEAR FAX

FEBRUARY  
2011



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

Missanabie Cree First Nation

## Happy Valentine's Day!



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## Events/Gatherings:

### **AFOA Conference 2011 - Nation Building Keys to Success for the Next Decade**

February 15-17, 2011 Vancouver, BC  
[www.afoa.ca/conference/2011/index.html](http://www.afoa.ca/conference/2011/index.html)

### **NADA 6th Annual Conference - Diabetes and Aboriginal People**

February 15-17, 2011 Winnipeg, MB  
[www.nada.ca](http://www.nada.ca)

### **Great Moon Gathering Omushkego Education**

February 18-19, 2011 Cochrane, ON  
[www.greatmoongathering.com/](http://www.greatmoongathering.com/)

### **Seedy Saturday at Sault College** (gardening workshops)

February 19, 2011  
<http://cleannorth.org/kb/seedysaturday2011.pdf>

### **Chiefs of Ontario Forum: Our Health, Our Future**

February 22-24, 2011 Toronto, ON  
<http://chiefs-of-ontario.org>

### **NAN Treaty Symposium**

February 23-24, 2011 Thunder Bay, ON  
[www.nan.on.ca](http://www.nan.on.ca)

### **Mushkegowuk Challenge Cup**

February 25-27, 2011  
[www.mushkegowuk.ca/upcoming%20events.html](http://www.mushkegowuk.ca/upcoming%20events.html)

### **Gathering at the Rapids Pow-wow**

March 5-6, 2011 Sault Ste. Marie, ON  
[www.auc.ca](http://www.auc.ca)

### **AFN 2011 Planning and Dialogue Forum**

March 7-8, 2011 Vancouver, BC  
[www.afn.ca/index.php/en/news-media/events](http://www.afn.ca/index.php/en/news-media/events)

## Message from the Chief

### Wahchay, All my Relations,

I hope everyone is abiding by their New Year's resolutions, have adjusted to the holiday let down and are in good health.

I would first like to talk about the letter each member over the age of eighteen has received requesting contributions toward funding for our legal expenses in our Treaty Land Entitlement lawsuit against the crown.

Based on a review of recent case law in matters related to Advanced Cost Orders our lawyers felt it would be prudent for Missanabie to make this request to the citizenry of our first nation. We do not expect any of our people to have to go to extraordinary measures to contribute; we are simply asking if you would contribute.

Estimated costs of our court action with the potential for appeals could be as much as \$5,000,000.00. I personally feel the penalties our people have suffered have been tremendous; loss of language, impacts to culture, social issues many of our people faced with; family violence, issues with substance abuse, forced to leave the home of our ancestors to seek opportunity elsewhere, only to be marginalized and discriminated against. I will not contribute towards the costs of this litigation as I feel we have endured enough penalties as a result of the Crown's disregard of their obligation to provide reserve lands and proper funding to our community over the past hundred plus years.

Your responses or non-responses will be entered as evidence; that we did petition the community for support when the motion is heard in court at the end of April in Toronto.

In my last Bear Fax item I had talked about Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs funding for the Multi-purpose Facility. The Ministry has rejected our request for a preapproval

of funding; suggesting we reapply next year. The rejection from the Ministry jeopardizes an approval of matched funding from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corp for an additional \$500,000.00 to complete the building.

The challenges in moving this project forward to completion are not taken lightly, if the building were left to be completed next year there will continue to be costs incurred; inflation, cost of insuring an uncompleted building, potential deterioration of the structure, amendment of existing funding agreements, as well as reapplication to the funders, all of which will add costs.

Council has committed to completing the building as planned, continuing with the restructured two phase approach. We have been engaged in discussion with the Royal Bank of Canada to seek additional financing to replace the funding pre-approval rejected by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs.

We are looking to borrow an additional \$350,000.00 from RBC

with a contribution of \$150,000.00 from our RAMA investments totaling \$500,000.00. This commitment will ensure full consideration from NOHFC on our funding application when their Board meets next week, more on this in the coming newsletter.

We have included a call to form two ad hoc committees in this month's edition of the Bear Fax. We are hoping these positions will be filled with volunteers. One group will begin planning the celebrations for this summer's Gathering and the Land Transfer Agreement ceremonial signing, and the other group to amend the Rama policy to take into consideration the demonstrated needs of all community members.

In memory of our ancestors,  
Kim Rainville,  
Chief, Missanabie Cree First Nation



*Manitou Mountain*

## Messages from Council

### Wachay, Everyone,

I hope everyone had a pleasant festive season and things go well for you in the new year.

Since we have returned from our break I have been attending C&C meetings on a regular basis via conference calls.

I attended a meeting with MNR and Tembec dealing with their forest management plans. I also attended a Mushkegowuk Chief's meeting in Peawanuck. The reason I went was because Chief Rainville needed to attend court in Toronto to deal with our TLE claim.

I will be attending a governance session from Feb 17th-19th. As well I will be attending regularly scheduled meetings and working for our First Nation in our efforts to have our people move back to our land in Missanabie.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Gathering this year as I believe it will be a time for celebration with the signing of our land transfer.

I am also working with Councillor Jason Gauthier as we have profiles in forestry, mining and hunting and fishing. This is new experience for me and I look forward to learning as we get involved in the different things that come with the profile.

We will be looking for band members to serve on committees to work on these subjects. If anyone is interested feel free to call the office and talk with Jason as he is there quite often.

Until next month, hope everyone has a good year.

Roy Gideon  
Councillor, MCFN

### Watchay!

I hope this reports finds all of you well. I have been working on a stewardship strategy for MCFN (best practices model) with the Elders' Council, and as it is still ongoing I will have more to report on it later. I also have been working with Mushkegowuk Council on the land use planning process. I will be up in Timmins in February discussing how the development of this plan will benefit our First Nation.



*Jason Gauthier and Archie Nolan  
Manitou Mountain, May 2010*

I am still part of NAN's mining table to advise the NAN Chiefs on Bill 173 "Modernization of the Mining Act". This has been put on hold this month waiting for new direction from the NAN Chiefs.

The Manitou Mountain Draft Boundary plan is finished (the draft anyways). It's still evolving into the protection of a specific primary location, but still allows for the boundary to be flexible and changeable. Next steps include technological surveying and ground truthing.

I am starting to look at our forestry agreements, and the development of committees to advise Chief and Council on the best paths to the success of Lands and Resource management within the "Whole Earth" portfolio. Roy Gideon and I had a very productive meeting in the Sault regarding the development and strategic direction of the portfolio.

I will be going up on the Mountain again at the latest next month, (depending on weather) and I will be doing some GPS (Global Positioning System) work that could be used in GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping. Just got to get all the logistics of the trip worked out and I will be out on the Mountain again.

If you have any questions please contact me at [jgauthier@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jgauthier@missanabiecree.com)

Jason Gauthier  
Councillor, MCFN

## From the desk of:

### BAND ADMINISTRATOR

Dear members, friends and family:

Our language classes are underway and scheduled for the next 2 months. Maryjane Metatawabin is our instructor and classes will be held at 648 Queen Street East, main floor. See schedule in the February newsletter.



*Circle of Creative Arts initial organizing meeting, Nov. 24.*

Our preview of the Circle of Creative Arts Centre on February 1<sup>st</sup> was exciting and rewarding. With the help of volunteers and staff we worked very hard for the past few months to get the place operational. If you are in the area please stop in to see the artwork and exhibits that are on display at the centre. Shirley Horn will be spending most of her time during the day at the centre.

The brochures were created and delivered throughout the city and now we are waiting for participants to get involved in sharing their art/craft work. The main contact is Shirley Horn and, along with guidance from a committee, we will be forming a monthly calendar of events for all to attend. The address is 648 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie. For those who live in the area or, if you are visiting, please feel free to visit the centre.

This month has started off with a flurry of activities, conferences and workshops and March will be the same I presume, as it will be year-end for most First Nation organizations. Annual program dollars need to be spent before March 31<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested and have spare time to attend conferences, workshops etc. please call in and leave your name with June.

Chief and Council meetings continue on a weekly basis which I attend. Please contact Gladys Hawkins for the next scheduled meeting if you are interested in attending. Chief and Council have access to their voice mail and emails.



*Circle of Creative Arts Centre, 648 Queen St. E.*

We will be submitting proposals for summer student positions soon. We will be applying to METS for three (3) summer positions and HRDC for one (1) summer student position. Please watch for postings in upcoming newsletters.

### POST SECONDARY FUNDING

The deadline for post secondary funding is June 15, 2011. If you are looking at going to school in the fall then you should be going through the application process now in order to have all your paperwork received before our June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for funding. If you have any questions regarding this process please do not hesitate to call.



*Circle of Creative Arts Preview Evening, Feb. 1, 2011.*

### MCFN WEBSITE

We are currently looking at options for a new website that is user friendly for all. Please be patient while we work on this.

### MCFN GATHERING 2011

This year the Gathering will be August 13 – 20, 2011. So mark your calendars.

Lori Rainville

## Community News and Notes

### MIKE HOLMES AT SAULT COLLEGE

Mike Holmes was at Sault College to endorse a new program, the Home Inspection Technician Program, being offered in September 2011. Students who enrol in this program will gain the knowledge and practical skills relating to residential home construction with an emphasis on developing the ability to recognize deficiencies present in building structures and systems.

Mike Holmes became a household name by helping homeowners Make it Right® in their home renovations.

Mike Holmes also stopped by to visit students in the Electrical Apprenticeship Program. Dakota Souliere was lucky to have her picture taken with Mike Holmes.



Mike Holmes takes a moment to visit with electrical students [Left] Brandi Nolan [Centre] Dakota Souliere and [Right] Lisa Lidstone

*(from Scuttlebut January 2011, Sault College's campus newsletter)*

### A CONFERENCE ON THE JAMES BAY TREATY



Jackie Fletcher with AFN National Chief, Shawn A-in-chut Atleo



At the Treaty Conference in Fort Albany First Nation

A Conference on the James Bay Treaty held February 3 in Fort Albany First Nation examined James Bay Treaty - Treaty 9 and the negotiations that led to the Treaty, including long-hidden diaries kept by Treaty Commissioners. For more information, please read the Press Release from the Mushkegowuk Tribal Council on page 7 .



Happy 24th Birthday,  
Matthew  
Love, Mom and the Gang



Happy 21st Birthday,  
Brittany  
Love, from your family

MCFN band members are welcome to send in postings to Community News and Notes and the Birthday Greetings page.

The deadline for each newsletter is the **first day of that month**. For the March newsletter, the deadline would be March 1st.

So to get your news in on time, be sure to call or email on or before that date.

Email: [eangecone@missanabiecree.com](mailto:eangecone@missanabiecree.com)  
Fax: 705-254-3292 Phone: 705-254-2702 Ext. 230

## News Items



### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Office of the Grand Chief**

#### **Mushkegowuk Council**

**P.O. Box 370, Moose Factory, Ontario**

**Phone: 705 658 4222 Fax: 705 658 4250**

**February 4, 2011**

#### **The Omushkegowuk Will Seek Full Recognition of the Oral Promises and Agreements Made During the Treaty Making of the James Bay Treaty – Treaty No. 9**

At the James Bay Treaty – Treaty No. 9 Conference held in Fort Albany, Ontario on Feb 1 -3, 2011, Grand Chief Stan Louttit expressed his sincere appreciation to the Mushkegowuk Youth, Elders and community members for sending clear strong messages to the Office of the Grand Chief and the Council of Chiefs on what action needs to be taken to get our Oral Treaty Promises and Agreements recognized.

The Mushkegowuk Council with support from the Regional Chiefs were guests of the Fort Albany First Nation on a 3 day conference on Treaty 9, the James Bay Treaty.

Tina Williams, youth spokesperson for the Fort Albany youth said; “we don’t know anything about Treaty No. 9, we want something better for the future and we need to make things happen, enough talking”. The conference was strengthened and encouraged by a strong presence of youth throughout the three days. In fact, on the 3rd day, a kindergarten class of 10 students entered the conference room, seated themselves on a bench and observed quietly. “The presence of the youth and children at our conference signifies the extreme importance of our Treaty and brings significant meaning, inspiration and empowerment to the Chiefs, elders, and all present” Grand Chief Louttit said.

Among other important components of the treaty making process, the Treaty conference centered and focused on the section of James Bay Treaty that is now referred to as the “Taken Up” clause. This section basically states that “they shall have the right to pursue their usual vocations of hunting, trapping and fishing throughout the tract surrendered land (then later within the same clause) states; excepting such tracts as may be required or taken up from time to time for settlement, mining, lumbering, trading or other purposes. According to research, testimonies and understandings, the latter part of this clause was never mentioned to the Cree by the Government Treaty Commissioners. In fact, like the other Commissioner’s diaries, Treaty Commissioner Daniel MacMartin’s recently found diary contains all other information that was agreed to, but there is no mention of the latterpart of the clause in his dairy.

The conference delegates heard from legal, historical and international treaty experts. Dr. Sharon Venne, a Cree Lawyer and International Treaty Expert talked about her work at the United Nations and how International Law and the United Nations recognize Oral and Written Treaties. “These Treaties are recognized internationally and need to be implemented,” Dr. Venne says. Murray Klippenstien, a lawyer who has worked with the Omushkegowuk for the past 20 years and has been researching and advising the Mushkegowuk Council Chiefs on the Treaty file presented his findings and thoughts for consideration. “The Oral Promises and Agreements made when the Treaty was agreed to are as much part of the written Treaty.....educate the people and think about going to court,” Klippenstein said to the conference delegates. Dr. John Long, a professor and historian who

continues to work with the Omushkegowuk for 37 years presented historical evidence on the Treaty Making process. Dr Long stated: "I think they probably would have respectfully agreed, accepting the commissioners' gifts and trusting those promises of cultural continuity, prosperity and happiness. I think Kimooshooma would have humbly accepted the gifts and promises as a treaty of peace and friendship – not surrender."

In her presentation to the conference delegates, youth delegate Kerilee Nakochee of Fort Albany First Nation states: "Where was the Treaty when our people were taken away and sent to residential school? It wasn't around to help our people, the Whiteman had promised us a lot of things, they even promised us that they wouldn't change or add anything to the Treaty our people signed, but till this day it is still changing. We have to stand up as Aboriginal people and as a Great Nation"

In his address to the delegates, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations – Shawn Atleo acknowledged the strong presence of the youth and encouraged them to work with the leadership to get the Treaty Promises and Agreements recognized. "I can sense the power coming from you today....I am excited about the history that I am hearing and building today.... I believe your discussions are not only important in your territory, but will have implications for the entire country," National Atleo said. In his closing remarks, National Chief Atleo assured the Omushkegowuk that the National Chief's Office is committed to supporting the efforts to get the Oral Treaty Promises and Agreements recognized. In a Bulletin issued by the Assembly First Nations and Mushkegowuk Council on February 3, 2011, the National Chief Atleo stated: "We need to stand firm on our Treaties and Treaty rights, just as our Elders stood firm when making these agreements. Our Elders tell us and we pass this message on to our youth: our people did not surrender our land or our rights. This discussion has tremendous implications across the country in terms of the rightful sharing of resources. Now is the time for Canadians to learn the truth about our peoples, our Treaties and our historic and sacred nation to nation relationship so we can move forward in partnership."

The conference produced key elements that can be used by the leadership including legal, political, educational and public awareness that can be used in developing a strategic plan in the implementation of Omushkego Treaty Rights.

During the opening of the conference, Kashechewan First Nation Chief Johnathon Solomon proudly wore his traditional headdress to honour his Elders that protected and kept the Treaty Bundle for us to keep, implement and prosper. In his opening remarks he states: "We are tired of talking, it is time to take action on our Treaty Rights now."

Grand Chief Stan Louttit summarized the three day conference by stating "we have many challenges before us. But with the unity I have felt during the last 3 days and the commitment of the conference delegates especially the Youth, I feel very strongly that we can make a difference in moving the Treaty agenda forward. There will be challenges, yes, but we can make a difference."

Mushkegowuk Council is the regional political organization representing the Attawapiskat First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Moose Cree First Nation, Taykway Tagamou Nation, Missanabie Cree First Nation and Chapleau Cree First Nation.

For more information contact:

Grand Chief Stan Louttit

Phone: 705 658 4222 x. 223

Cell: 705 288 0157

Email: stanlouttit@mushkegowuk.ca

# MCFN Membership

## Ted Ouellet - Registration Administrator

174B Hwy 17East  
 Garden River, ON P6A 6Z1  
 Phone: (705) 254-2702 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	Craig Pelletier
Jason Fletcher	Natalie Pelletier
Steven D'arcy Fletcher	Daniel Rocheleau
Kaleb Jeffries	Iana Ruth
William Jeffries	Jayson Ruth
Jeremy MacDonald	Theresa Ruth
Julianne K.V. Macumber	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 <sup>nd</sup> Name	
ALIAS/BAND #	
DATE RECEIVED	
NEW ADDRESS	
CITY/PROVINCE	
POSTAL CODE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE #	
SIGNATURE	



## MCFN Membership News

### GENDER EQUITY IN INDIAN REGISTRATION ACT (BILL C-3)

The Governor in Council has announced that effective January 31, 2011, the *Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act (Bill C-3)* came into force.

Bill C-3 Applicants under the 2011 Indian Act Amendments - *Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act* may now apply for Registration and Secure Certificate of Indian Status.

APPLICATION FORMS, INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION are available:

**Online:** visit the Bill C-3 application forms section of INAC's website [www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/br/frms/index-eng.asp](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/br/frms/index-eng.asp)

**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  
At any Service Canada Centre or call 1-800-O-Canada 1-800-622-6232.

#### Important Notice to Band Members (clients):

As of October 19, 2010 I am NOT authorized to issue any status cards (CIS) by mail. You can apply in person, for a card, in the Missanabie Cree office or at any INAC office free of charge. (*See below for list of Regional Offices.*) Some First Nation offices charge a fee or they do not offer this service.

If you have any QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS regarding this mail in procedure, PLEASE CALL:

John Ross, Supervisor, Indian Registration  
Ontario Regional Office

1-416-954-6436. Toll Free 1-800-567-9604. Ask the operator to speak with John Ross, in the Toronto office.

Meegwetch  
Ted Ouellet, Indian Registration Administrator  
Missanabie Cree First Nation

<p><b>Ontario Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada 8th Floor 25 St. Clair Avenue East Toronto, ON M4T 1M2 (416) 973-6234 Fax: (416) 954-6329</p>	<p><b>Quebec Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Place Jacques-Cartier Complex 320 St. Joseph St. E Suite 400 Quebec, QC G1K 9J2 1-800-567-9604 1-800-263-5592 Fax: (418) 648-2266</p>	<p><b>B.C. Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Suite 600 1138 Melville Street Vancouver, BC V6E 4S3 (604) 775-7114 (604) 775-5100 Fax: (604) 775-7149</p>	<p><b>Alberta Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada 630 Canada Place 9700 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 4G2 (780) 495-2773 Fax: (780) 495-4088</p>
<p><b>Atlantic Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada P.O. Box 160 40 Havelock Street Amherst, NS B4H 3Z3 1-800-567-9604 (902) 661-6200 Fax: (902) 661-6237</p>	<p><b>Northwest Territories Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada P.O. Box 1500 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3 (867) 669-2500 Fax: (867) 669-2709</p>	<p><b>Saskatchewan Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Room 200, 1 First Nations Way Regina, SK S4S 7K5 (306) 780-5945 or 780- 5392 Fax: (306) 780-5733</p>	<p><b>Manitoba Region</b> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada 365 Hargrave Street Room 200 Winnipeg, MB R3B 3A3 (204) 983-4928 Fax: (204) 983-7820</p>


# MCFN Events Calendar



## FEBRUARY 2011

Great Moon (Hope of Spring)

Ki sha Peesim

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Circle of Creative Arts Preview 648 Queen E. 6:30 - 9:00 pm	2 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	3	4	5
6	7	8 Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	9 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	10 Circle of Creative Arts Fran Luther Water Colour Demonstration 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen E.	11	12
13	14 Valentine's Day 	15 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	16 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	17 Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration TBA Demonstration 1:30 - 4:00 pm	18 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration TBA 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen E.	19
20	21 Family Day Office closed.	22 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	23	24 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration TBA 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen E.	25 Circle of Creative Arts Storytelling Henry Angecone Fred (James) Fletcher 6:30-9 pm 648 Queen E.	26
27	28 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">           For information on our Featured Artists for March, see Facebook-Circle of Creative Arts or call Shirley at 705-971-0327         </div>		

## MCFN Events Calendar



## MARCH 2011

Eagle Moon

Mee Kisi Peesim

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm  Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	3 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	4 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	5
6	7 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	8 Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	9	10  Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm  Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 1:30 - 4:00 pm	11 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	12
13 Daylight Saving Time begins.	14 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	15	16 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm  Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	17 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	18 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	19
20 First Day of Spring	21 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	22 Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	23	24 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	25 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 6:30 - 9:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	26
27	28 Language Class 6-8 pm 648 Queen E.	29	30 Elders' Tea 1:30-3:30 pm  Craft Class 6:30-8:30 pm 648 Queen E.	31 Circle of Creative Arts Demonstration (TBA) 1:30 - 4:00 pm 648 Queen St. E	For information on our Featured Artists for March, see Facebook-Circle of Creative Arts, or call Shirley at 705-971-0327	

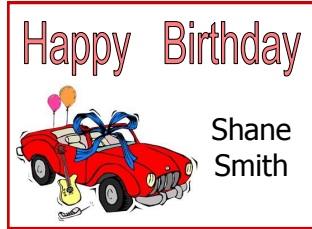
# February Birthday Greetings

FEBRUARY 1



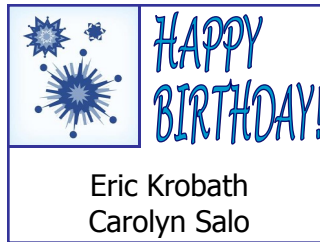
Happy Birthday!  
Jason Charette

FEBRUARY 2



Happy Birthday  
Shane Smith

FEBRUARY 3



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!  
Eric Kroboth  
Carolyn Salo

FEBRUARY 4



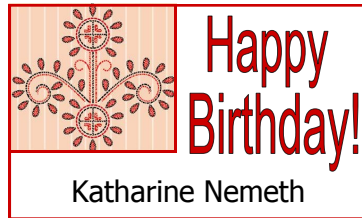
Happy Birthday!  
Cathy Lynn Clement  
Jeanette Petrie

FEBRUARY 5




Happy Birthday!  
Barbara Nyman

FEBRUARY 6



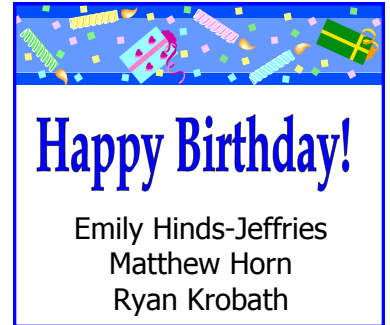
Happy Birthday!  
Katharine Nemeth

FEBRUARY 8



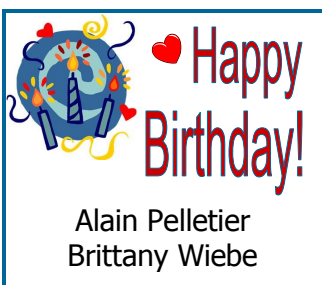
Happy Birthday!  
Clifford Bain  
Jennifer Fletcher

FEBRUARY 9



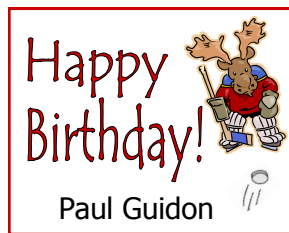
Happy Birthday!  
Emily Hinds-Jeffries  
Matthew Horn  
Ryan Kroboth

FEBRUARY 12



Happy Birthday!  
Alain Pelletier  
Brittany Wiebe

FEBRUARY 13



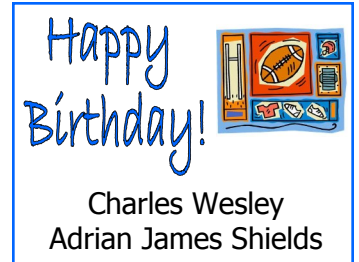
Happy Birthday!  
Paul Guidon

FEBRUARY 14



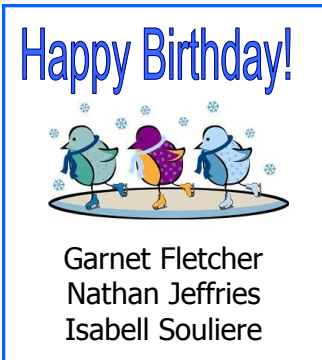
Happy Birthday!  
Makayla Fletcher  
Alexandra Langford-Pezzo

FEBRUARY 15



Happy Birthday!  
Charles Wesley  
Adrian James Shields

FEBRUARY 16



Happy Birthday!  
Garnet Fletcher  
Nathan Jeffries  
Isabell Souliere

FEBRUARY 20



Happy Birthday!  
Danielle  
MacDonald-Kaplun

FEBRUARY 21



Happy Birthday!  
Mildred Fletcher  
Zachary Jeffries  
Joel Stevenson

FEBRUARY 22



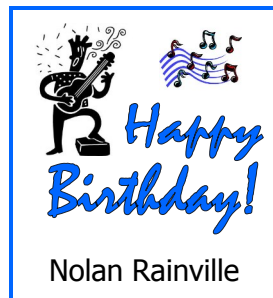
Happy Birthday!  
Elizabeth Rask

FEBRUARY 23



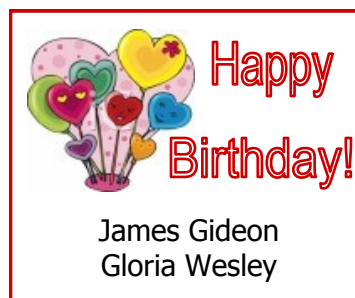
Happy Birthday!  
Kyle Fletcher

FEBRUARY 24



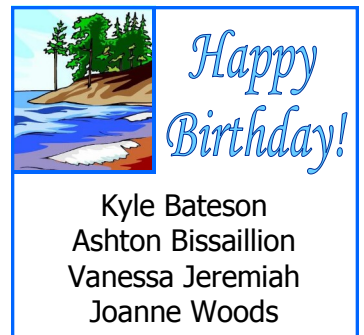
Happy Birthday!  
Nolan Rainville

FEBRUARY 25



Happy Birthday!  
James Gideon  
Gloria Wesley

FEBRUARY 27



Happy Birthday!  
Kyle Bateson  
Ashton Bissailion  
Vanessa Jeremiah  
Joanne Woods

## Opportunities

### RAMA ADHOC COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITY



Please be advised Chief and Council are proposing the development of an adhoc Rama Committee. The committee will review and amend the current Rama Policy to ensure it will be reflective of the needs and circumstances of all our members in a fair and equitable manner.

If you are interested, please send in your letter of interest to sit on this committee either by mail, email or fax. Contact information is provided on the last page of the Bear Fax newsletter. Please send your letter of interest to the attention of Chief and Council.

### GATHERING COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITY



This year the Annual Gathering is expected to be much larger, and we would like to present the opportunity for members to be a part of the planning for the celebration of the land transfer.

Missanabie Cree First Nation is forming a Gathering Committee this year to plan for the Gathering and the feast and celebration ceremony for the signing of the land transfer agreement. The committee will be responsible for planning celebration activities. The committee will meet through teleconference in order to give members the opportunity to participate in the planning.

If you are interested, please send in your letter of interest to sit on this committee either by mail, email, or fax. Contact information is provided on the last page of the Bear Fax newsletter. Please send your letter of interest to the attention of Lori Rainville and Gladys Hawkins.

Looking forward to working with you.

Miigwetch  
Gladys Hawkins

### EMAIL ADDRESS LIST



MCFN Members are invited to add their email addresses to our mailing list.

Those on our email address list will receive timely notice of any opportunities that may be of interest to our membership, as well as other items of interest to the community.

The information will still be made available in our monthly Bear Fax newsletter.

Please call or mail your email address to June Markie, Reception Office or Ted Ouellet, Registration Administrator. You may also send an email to [jmarkie@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jmarkie@missanabiecree.com) or [touellet@missanabiecree.com](mailto:touellet@missanabiecree.com).

Miigwech.

*so-and-so@such-and-such*

## Opportunities for Youth

**So You Want to Be an Artist** is a contest about art and you. Make an artwork about something you care about and post it here. Then it's up to your friends, family and other people to vote on the entries. The 12 artworks with the most votes will be displayed at the National Gallery of Canada, where our uber-cool judges will pick the best ones.

Check out our website at:  
<http://makeart.gallery.ca/index.php/about/>

[Contest is open to youth 16-19 years of age. Contest closes February 28, 2011]



This is your chance to get your art out into the world. It doesn't matter if you're thinking about art school or have never picked up a paintbrush in your life – show us what you've got.

## CANADIAN ABORIGINAL WRITING AND ARTS CHALLENGE

### Ready for the Writing Challenge?

Now in its seventh year, the Canadian Aboriginal Writing Challenge, presented by Enbridge Inc., has expanded to include Arts submissions. But we haven't forgotten our writing roots, just like you shouldn't forget yours. Enter the Writing Challenge today!

### Ready for the Arts Challenge?

After six years of the Canadian Aboriginal Writing Challenge, The Historica-Dominion Institute is thrilled to announce that this year we're expanding to become the Canadian Aboriginal Writing and Arts Challenge. Writing isn't the only way to tell your story. Enter the Arts Challenge today.

Are you an Aboriginal Canadian between the ages of 14-29? Showcase your talent and creativity, have your work reviewed by the foremost Aboriginal artists and storytellers!

You could win cash prizes and even have your work published in a national magazine or exhibited in a gallery!

Don't forget, the deadline is **March 31, 2011**.

Want to know more? Check out our Guidelines pages on our website: [www.our-story.ca](http://www.our-story.ca).

#### CONTACT US

Questions? Suggestions? Want to get involved?

Drop us a line: [challenge@historica-dominion.ca](mailto:challenge@historica-dominion.ca)

Find us on Facebook

Connect with us on Twitter.

Send us a letter: 43 Front Street E, Suite 301  
 Toronto, ON M5E 1B3

Give us a call toll free: 1.866.701.1867

Send us a fax: 416.506.0300

# Health Notes



## Don't Wait, Vaccinate!

Protect your child from many childhood diseases like whooping cough, chickenpox and measles by having them

**VACCINATED**

on time.



### Learn more!

- Talk to your health care provider
- Get your guide
- Hear what others have to say and share your story at [www.healthcanada.gc.ca/vaccinate](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/vaccinate)

## 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**

[kraenville@missanabiecree.com](mailto:kraenville@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)  
[erobinson@missanabiecree.com](mailto:erobinson@missanabiecree.com)  
[lrainville@missanabiecree.com](mailto:lrainville@missanabiecree.com)  
[jmarkie@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jmarkie@missanabiecree.com)  
[lcampbell@missanabiecree.com](mailto:lcampbell@missanabiecree.com)  
[lgagnon@missanabiecree.com](mailto:lgagnon@missanabiecree.com)  
[ghawkins@missanabiecree.com](mailto:ghawkins@missanabiecree.com)  
[touellet@missanabiecree.com](mailto:touellet@missanabiecree.com)  
[jhorn@missanabiecree.com](mailto:jhorn@missanabiecree.com)  
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