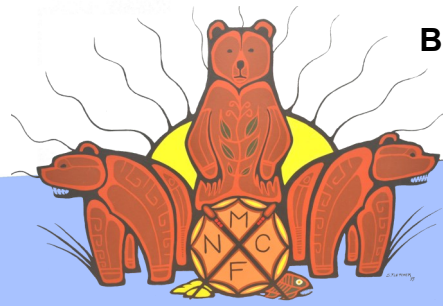


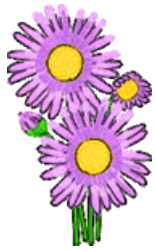
Bear Fax

A o pao Peesim
Birds start to fly Moon
September 2015



www.missanabiecreefn.com

Missanabie Cree First Nation



September, like the month of January, always seems to be about beginnings and endings. In January, one tends to reflect on the past, and look to the upcoming year for its promise and possibilities. This September, we look both to the past and to the future of the Missanabie Cree First Nation.

This issue holds two special reports. One concerns the past and the impact of residential schools on our people. The other report concerns the future as MCFN moves toward the development of a community in Missanabie and a strengthening of the bonds of community that we have tried to build over the years, particularly at our Annual Gatherings.

We encourage all of you to read both reports, and to become more actively involved in the development of our Comprehensive Community Plan as well as other committees and boards that support the work of MCFN Chief and Council.

The CCP report was prepared by the Four Worlds Centre for Development Learning and can be found as an insert on pages 21-23 at the back of the newsletter. Information and resources related to residential schools can be found on pages 4-8.



Events/Gatherings:

Exhibition 'Walking Together' Mohawk Institute residential school experience

September 24 – November 18, 2015
Mackenzie House, 82 Bond St., Toronto, ON

Spirit of Our Sisters - A gathering to honour murdered and missing Indigenous women

September 28-30, 2015 Edmonton, AB
<http://www.sosgathering.ca/>

Northern Ontario First Nations Environmental Conference

September 29– October 1, 2015 Thunder Bay, ON
www.nofnec.ca

Sisters in Spirit Vigils

October 4, 2015 Anywhere, CA



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Message from the Chief

Wachay,

There are so many things that I would like to talk about in this report, but my heart tells me that I must first address the tragedy that has befallen our community. This year we suffered the loss of a life at the Annual Gathering.

I would like to send out my deepest condolences to the family and close friends of Stewart Gideon. Stewart was a much loved member of our community. He had a larger than life personality, loved to laugh and spread laughter whenever he was able to. He loved coming to Missanabie and spending time in our traditional territory, on the water, in the bush, and with our people. He will surely be missed by all that knew him.

I would like to thank everyone that was involved in the search for Stewart including Island View staff, members and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Thank you to Liz Babin of Kunuwanimano, Michael and Judy Bopp, as well as Leo and Teresa Binda for helping our members through this time with healing circles held at the Gather-

ing. Also, thank you, Teresa Binda, for performing a Travelling Song for Stewart.

With respect for the family and our community, Chief and Council decided to postpone the business agenda and planned activities for the remainder of the Gathering.

I understand there were some presentations that the membership had interest in attending and Missanabie Cree First Nation Staff are working to get the presentations out to our membership. We will be posting the presentations along with feedback/question forms on our website www.missanabiecreefn.com.

I would like to announce that the Healing Lodge is nearing completion. The final work is being done over the next two weeks. We will be sure to add pictures in the next Bear Fax.

Miigwetch,
Chief Gauthier

Messages from Council

Hello Everyone,

I would like to send out my deepest sympathy to the Gideon family for the passing of their family member during the Annual Gathering.

I want to apologize for not making the Open Band Meeting. I did make calls to Island View and left messages with the Chief to please announce that my flight was cancelled 2 days in a row due to weather conditions. I have not received the open band meeting minutes as of yet so once I receive them I will review and make comments in the next newsletter.

What I heard from the members when I arrived was it was stated during the open band meeting that the mandate was not to move to Missanabie. I don't really understand this statement and I believe it was in the strategy to create a community on the reserve lands once the reserve lands have been designated with reserve status. I was also informed by community member students of the education cut on all student allowances. I was not involved in the decision so I could not explain the cut. As far as I know the decision was made by one council member, the Band Manager and the Education Coordi-

nator at the time. This issue was not discussed at a meeting until after the cut was made. The council did not have a meeting since July 28th and the issue was not discussed until September 1st.

The last report I received from the Band Manager was on June 18th during a Chief and Council meeting and that everything was going well and that the new Education/Gathering Coordinator was in training. The report also stated how many students were accepted and that they were over budget and would carry out the C&C's directive to cover costs from Rama Funds. This report to council also stated that no student will be penalized.

I also want to say thank you to Elder Archie Nolan for retrieving the Artifacts from the Ojibway Cultural Foundation. He was able to pick up several boxes to add to our collection while everyone was at the Gathering. These artifacts are being temporarily stored at the Algoma University and Professor Julig will be coming in near the end of September to see if the spear point can be aged and will take scrapings of the organic material on the spear point to be sent in for testing.

If anyone has questions regarding my report in this newsletter or any other questions regarding my annual report please call me at 1-807-442-2535 or send me an email. Emails are on the back of the newsletter.

On a lighter note, hope everyone is enjoying the last days

of our summer and you're all spending time with the kids before school....pretty soon you'll be doing the happy dance before you know it!

Meegwetch,
Isabell Souliere, Councilor, MCFN

Whachay,

It is with heavy heart to write about the past month and not sadly think about the sudden passing of Stewart Gideon. I cannot recall a gathering where he was not at Island View, and it will not be the same without him. We usually ended being cabin neighbours, and no doubt he usually ended up at our campfire at some point when he wasn't fishing. His loud laugh and huge smile was his trademark, and he will be missed. At his brother's request, fireworks were still lit at the Gathering, and even though it rained that evening, some were fired off and some were saved for the last night of Gathering in his honour.

Talking circles were held the next day, and I joined the circle in the teepee to share with friends and family. It was nice to hear Bill's stories about when they were younger and it allowed for some moments of laughter. My thoughts and prayers continue to the Gideon family, and I will be at his memorial.

Although the Gathering was touched with heartbreak and sadness, there was some council business conducted in the first two days. The open band meeting was held and immediately opened to membership for comments and questions. In regards to Education, there was notification that all post secondary students received a small decrease in living allowance in order to approve funding for as many students as possible. This school year, 24 out of 26 applicants were funded to attend school.

On Tuesday, the other formal band business conducted at the Gathering was the audit presentation. I was cognizant that a couple of questions were in regards to the education budget, and because education is a matter consistently on the minds of the membership, please be patient as Cathy, Debbie and I will coordinate and provide a separate article about education in the next newsletter.

In unity, Victoria Pezzo, Deputy Chief

From the Desk of:

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Canada Ontario Resource Development (CORDA)

Missanabie Cree First Nation will be submitting an application to CORDA to conduct a needs assessment to construct a solar operated green house to advance the community's food sovereignty and security initiatives this fall.

A previous application that was declined several years ago written for the community for non-timber forest products has been revitalized. There were a number of solid ideas within the content of that application deemed significant to the growth of the community. Additional research has been conducted by the Economic Develop-

ment Department within the last six months to complement the application to fit the parameters of the newly established guidelines of CORDA due to recent program changes.

The Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA) is an agreement between Canada, Ontario and First Nations' members in Ontario. The Agreement promotes resource and economic development initiatives of First Nation's members by providing financial assistance to develop and utilize renewable natural resources.

-Janet Esquimaux

Special Report on Indian Residential Schools



Drummers pass Parliament Hill as they lead the Walk for Reconciliation, part of the closing events of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on May 31, 2015 in Ottawa. A poll conducted by the Angus Reid Institute found that Canadians are cautiously optimistic about the far-reaching impact of the TRC report. (Justin Tang/Canadian Press) (Photo forwarded by Lori Rainville. MCFN member, Eddie Robinson, is walking in the centre.)

THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION COMES TO A CLOSE



Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission has drawn to a close. Closing ceremonies were held in Ottawa at the end of May. The Commission's "overarching mission is to tell Canadians about the history of residential schools and the impact those schools have had on Aboriginal peoples, and to guide a process of national reconciliation. The ap-

pointment of this Commission marks not the end of the residential school story, but recognition by a growing number of Canadians of the need to address the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canada. Most importantly, it marks a growing understanding of the opportunities that such a relationship can create for the whole country." (Source: Truth and Reconciliation Commission, *They Came for the Children*, 2012, p. 83)

THE GOALS OF THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION WERE TO:

- a) Acknowledge Residential School experiences, impacts and consequences;
- b) Provide a holistic, culturally appropriate and safe setting for former students, their families and communities as they come forward to the Commission;
- c) Witness, support, promote and facilitate truth and reconciliation events at both the national and community levels;

- d) Promote awareness and public education of Canadians about the IRS system and its impacts;
- e) Identify sources and create as complete an historical record as possible of the IRS system and legacy. The record shall be preserved and made accessible to the public for future study and use;
- f) Produce and submit to the Parties of the Agreement a report including recommendations to the Government of Canada concerning the IRS system and experience including: the history, purpose, operation and supervision of the IRS system, the effect and consequences of IRS (including systemic harms, intergenerational consequences and the impact on human dignity) and the ongoing legacy of the residential schools;
- g) Support commemoration of former Indian Residential School students and their families in accordance with the Commemoration Policy Directive (Schedule "X" of the Agreement).

THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION RELEASES ITS FINAL REPORT

At least 6,000 aboriginal children died while in the residential school system, says Justice Murray Sinclair, the chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Sinclair, who has been tasked with studying the legacy of the residential schools, says that the figure is just an estimate and is likely much higher. Residential schools were established in the 19th century and the last ones closed in 1996.

"We think that we have not uncovered anywhere near what the total would be because the record keeping around that question was very poor," Sinclair told Rosemary Barton of CBC's Power & Politics. "You would have thought they would have concentrated more on keeping track."

Sinclair offered the figure of 6,000 in a later interview with Evan Solomon to air Saturday on CBC Radio's The House - much higher than earlier estimates that put the number of school children who died in the system at less than 4,000.

Sinclair, who was Manitoba's first aboriginal judge, estimates 24 to 42 per cent of aboriginal children who attended the residential schools died at school or shortly after leaving school.

Most of the children died from malnourishment or disease. Some children who attended the schools in the 1940s and 1950s were even subjected to science experiments in which they were deprived essential nutri-

ents and dental care.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, struck in 2009, is writing an exhaustive history of the residential school system. The commissioners interviewed over 7,000 people, and the final report, which is expected to be released on June 2, will span six volumes and include over two million words.

'Cultural genocide'

The new death toll comes in the wake of comments made by Beverly McLachlin, the chief justice of the Supreme Court. At an event on Thursday, McLachlin said that Canada attempted to commit "cultural genocide" against aboriginal peoples.

"The most glaring blemish on the Canadian historic record relates to our treatment of the First Nations that lived here at the time of colonization," McLachlin said. She was delivering the fourth annual Pluralism Lecture of the Global Centre for Pluralism, founded in 2006 by the Aga Khan, spiritual leader of Ismaili Muslims, and the federal government.

Canada, she said, developed an "ethos of exclusion and cultural annihilation."

Sinclair said he agrees with McLachlin's characterization of the country's history.

"I think as commissioners we have concluded that cultural genocide is probably the best description of what

went on here. But more importantly, if anybody tried to do this today, they would easily be subject to prosecution under the genocide convention," Sinclair told Evan Solomon of CBC Radio's The House.

"The evidence is mounting that the government did try to eliminate the culture and language of indigenous people for well over a hundred years. And they did it by forcibly removing children from their families and placing them within institutions that were cultural indoctrination centres.

"That appears to us to fall within the definition of genocide under the UN convention," Sinclair said.

The United Nations' convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide does not address "cultural genocide," but it says genocide may include causing "mental harm" to a racial or religious group.

A spokesperson for Bernard Valcourt, the minister of aboriginal affairs, would not comment on the chief justice's remarks, but issued a statement saying, "While we cannot undo the past, we can learn from it and we have taken the steps necessary to bring closure to the legacy of the Indian residential schools."

Policy of 'aggressive assimilation'

In the 19th century, the Canadian government developed a policy of "aggressive assimilation" calling for aboriginal children to be taught at church-run, government-funded residential schools.

The government felt children were easier to mould than



adults, and the concept of a boarding school was the best way to prepare them for life in mainstream society.

Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, was a strong proponent of the system.

"When the school is on the reserve, the child lives with his parents who are savages; he is surrounded by savages, and though he may learn to read and write, his habits and training and mode of thought are Indian. He is simply a savage who can read and write," he told the House of Commons in 1883.

The last residential schools, St. Michael's Indian Residential School and Gordon Indian Residential School, both located in Saskatchewan, closed in 1996.

In 2008, Prime Minister Harper made a historic apology for the harm caused by the residential school system.

*(By Paul Taskar, CBC News, posted May 29, 2015
www.cbc.ca/news/politics/residential-schools-findings-point-to-cultural-genocide-commission-chair-says-1.3093580?cmp=rss)*

GENOCIDE AND ABORIGINAL POLICY (FROM THE TRC REPORT)

For over a century, the central goals of Canada's Aboriginal policy were to eliminate Aboriginal governments; ignore Aboriginal rights; terminate the Treaties; and, through a process of assimilation, cause Aboriginal peoples to cease to exist as distinct legal, social, cultural, religious, and racial entities in Canada. The establishment and operation of residential schools were a central element of this policy, which can best be described as "cultural genocide."

Physical genocide is the mass killing of the members of a targeted group.

Biological genocide is the destruction of the group's reproductive capacity.

Cultural genocide is the destruction of those structures and practices that allow the group to continue as a group.

Cultural Genocide	Did Canada Do This?	What Canada Did
Destruction of their political and social institutions	Yes	Passing of the Indian Act; forced attendance at residential schools
Theft of land	Yes	Negotiated written treaties not in accordance with oral agreements. Did not fulfill treaty agreements. Seizure and occupation of land.
Forced removal from the land	Yes	Forced relocation to poorer or marginalized lands
Restriction of movement on the land	Yes	A "pass system" that was intended to confine First Nations people to their reserves.
Banning of language	Yes	Children in residential schools were forbidden to speak their language
Persecution of spiritual leaders	Yes	Replaced existing forms of Aboriginal government with relatively powerless band councils whose decisions it could override and whose leaders it could depose.
Outlawing of spiritual practices	Yes	Through the Indian Act
Confiscation and destruction of objects of spiritual value	Yes	Through the Indian Act
Disruption and separation of families to prevent transmission of cultural values and identity from one generation to the next	Yes	Separated children from their parents, sending them to residential schools, not to educate them, but primarily to break their link to their culture and identity

THE IMPACTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM ON ABORIGINAL FAMILIES

On the Children Taken:

- Loneliness
- Terror
- Sadness, Grief, Depression
- Hunger and thirst
- Sickness
- Anger
- Hate
- Isolation from siblings
- Witnessing abuse
- Physical and sexual abuse
- Emotional neglect
- Corporal punishment
- No possessions or pets
- Not allowed to express emotions

On the Families Left Behind:

- Loneliness
- Sadness, Grief, Depression
- Helplessness
- Guilt
- Addictions
- Loss of purpose



Intergenerational Impacts:

- Loss of cultural and spiritual values
- No place in non-native society
- Continuation of sexual abuse

and physical violence

- Drug and alcohol addictions
- Depression and mental illness
- Suicide
- Distance between families

FACTS ABOUT RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS (Dennis Gruending)

<http://rabble.ca/blogs/bloggers/dennis-gruending/2015/05/truth-and-reconciliation-commission-ends-hard-facts-about-re>

- In 1883, Canadian government minister Hector Langevin said, "In order to educate the [Indian] children properly we must separate them from their families."
- Also in 1883, the Canadian government began to provide funding to church-run residential schools.
- 132 residential schools in total were created.
- An estimated 60% of church-run residential schools were operated by Roman Catholics; 25% by Anglicans and 15% by the United Church of Canada. Several others were operated by Presbyterians and other churches
- 150,000 children were removed from their families and communities and placed in residential schools.
- More than 4,100 children died of disease or by accident while attending a residential school. (*6000 according to the TRC*)
- In 1920, the Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs predicted that within a century, Aboriginal people would cease to exist as an identifiable cultural group.
- Also in 1920, the Indian Act was revised and attendance at residential schools was made compulsory for all children up to age 15.
- In 1996, the last residential school was closed.
- An estimated 80,000 residential school survivors were accounted for in 2012.



FROM THE FINAL REPORT OF THE TRC

"Without truth, justice, and healing, there can be no genuine reconciliation. Reconciliation is not about "closing a sad chapter of Canada's past," but about opening new healing pathways of reconciliation that are forged in truth and justice. We are mindful that knowing the truth about what happened in residential schools in and of itself does not necessarily lead to reconciliation. Yet, the importance of truth telling in its own right should not be underestimated; it restores the human dignity of victims of violence and calls governments and citizens to account. Without truth, justice is not served, healing cannot happen, and there can be no genuine reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in Canada."

Source: www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Exec_Summary_2015_06_25_web_o.pdf

RESOURCES

Aboriginal Healing Foundation archives: www.ahf.ca (Our vision is of all who are affected by the legacy of physical, sexual, mental, cultural, and spiritual abuses in the Indian residential schools.)

Children of Shingwauk Alumni: www.childrenofshingwauk.ca (Within this site, you will find information about CSAA, the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre, housed in Algoma University. (Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario)

Healing Journey Home - a film by MCFN - a description of life and residential school and its effects. Digital Media Productions 2004

National Residential School Survivor's Society: www.irsss.ca (The IRSSS is a provincial organization with a twenty year history of providing services to Indian Residential School Survivors.)

Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre: www.shingwauk.ca (Within this site you will find information about the events, projects, archives, and initiatives undertaken by the SRSC.)

Truth and Reconciliation Commission: www.trc.ca (mandate is to learn the truth about residential schools and to inform all Canadians)

We Were Children - a film by Tim Wolochatiuk, National Film Board of Canada www.nfb.ca/film/we_were_children

Elders Speak

Hello:

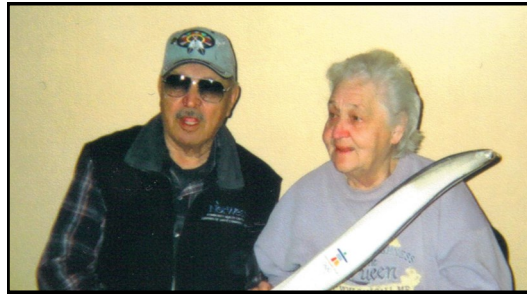
My name is John E. Fletcher, Sr. and I was the first chief of the Mis-sisnabie Cree First Nation 1992 - 1995. This is my story.

I went to Shingwauk Residential School in 1939, I was 10 years old. While I was there I learned a lot of

life skills. Yes it was rough and tough but I got through it. When I finished high school in Sault Ste. Marie I went to work on farms in the States. I also sailed the inland lakes with the A.C.R. ships collecting grain and potash from the Thunder Bay area for other ports.

In 1952 I went to visit my father, Gilbert, who was a signal-maintainer for the railroad, stationed in Nipigon. This is where I met and married Hazel. I worked different jobs like driving taxi, trucks and even fixing TV's, and radios. Hazel and I had 5 children at this time. We decided to move the family to Fort William (now Thunder Bay) in 1963.

Again I worked different jobs to make ends meet. I finally took the exam to be a post man. I passed this exam and became the first native post man in the city and I was very proud of that. To this day people on my old routes say that they wish I was still their post man. They would at least know they are getting their mail as I was there every day at the same time. I do admit this is



John and Hazel Fletcher

good to hear that people still remember me. I must have made an impression on them because they would say that I was always friendly.

We moved around a lot before buying a house and settling in the East End of Fort William. This

area was mostly Italian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Greek and Polish. We were the first Native family to live in this area. At first it was difficult because there was this Native family with a bunch of kids moving in. A lot of people were nervous that my kids would go into their gardens and ruin them or damage the apple trees in the area. My children never went into these gardens or damaged the trees. Now I can say that it's the best move we ever made. We have a lot of friends in the area. We consider some of our neighbours family because we have lived on the same street with them for over 45 years.



I belong to St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus 1447, the Ogden East End Health- Seniors Club, Ducks Unlimited, Bird Watchers and the retired Postal Workers Union. I enjoy my retirement doing carvings on the side. I have a band and we play at all the senior homes in the city. I get a lot of enjoyment doing this.

When I was younger it was a long hard climb for me as I had no one to teach me love and understanding. I am very happy that Hazel is a strong woman who was always there for me and my family. I am very proud of my family. Everything turned out well for me. I am glad that I went to Shingwauk because this is where I received an education. This is where I learned that no one was going to help me but me.

This is my glimpse of my story and I am now 86 years, married 62 years and have 8 children, 15 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. Yes, I say my life is good.



Chief John Fletcher, with Councillors Roy Gideon and Jackie Fletcher 1992-95

Community News and Notes

Our Condolences to the Family of Stewart Gideon From the Jeffries Family

To my fishing buddy in the sky
And our many good memories
on Dog Lake
From 'Marlo'



Forever loved
Forever dear
Walking with angels
Forever near
- Will and Marlo

I would like to thank
Chief, Council,
Band Manager and Staff
for the beautiful necklace
I was given
for 20 years of service
and I enjoyed every year
I worked for Missanabie Cree.
June Markie/Receptionist



My condolences to Roy Gideon and sons
for the loss of
a beautiful Wife, Mother and
Grandmother and Aunt.
May the Creator be with you and
your loved ones.

June Markie and Family.

I would like to extend
my Deepest Sympathy
to the Brothers and Sister
on the passing of Stewart Gideon
who I'm going to miss dearly.



Every time Stewart would call the office he would
say to me: Do you know whose voice this is, and I
would say to him how could I ever forget your
voice and your laugh.

June Markie and Family

Your MCFN Communications Survey

The Governance Coordinating Committee has developed a communications survey as part of the development of a Communications and Community Engagement strategy for MCFN. This strategy is the focus of the work of the Governance Committee for the next year.

This survey was also made available to all band members as part of the registration package for the Annual Gathering. A limited number of surveys were returned. We encourage all band members to fill out the survey included with the newsletter and return as soon as possible to Elizabeth Angeoneb, Governance Project Manager.

The survey will also be available online beginning September 14, and ending September 28. **Miigwech for your support to this project!**

Submit your Stories

Community members are invited to submit stories, and pictures to the Bear Fax newsletter. Please submit your items by the 25th day of each month for posting in the next month.

Send your items by mail or fax to the Band Office, or by email to: eangeoneb@missanabiecree.com

Miigwech!

Looking for pictures of the Gathering for our October issue. Please submit if you are willing to share your pics.

Community News and Notes

*Calling on all Missanabie Cree young adults
25 and under!*

LOGO CONTEST

for
Missanabie Cree Business Corporation
Letterhead

Be creative, resourceful, original, just have fun!

*Deadline for submission is: Monday, September 14th, 2015
(The winner of the contest will agree to give copyright to MCFN)*

*Prize in the amount of \$250 will be awarded to the
best submission chosen*

GOOD LUCK!

Any further questions please contact:

Janet Esquimaux, CEDO

1-800-319-3001 Ext. 237

Muskegowuk Council News



Press Release August 21st, 2015

Moose Factory, Ont. Mushkegowuk Council held its election for Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief on Saturday, August 15, 2015. The Council of Chiefs and staff welcome the newly elected Grand Chief, Jonathon Solomon and Deputy Grand Chief, Rebecca Friday.

The election process of Mushkegowuk Council is unique in that all eligible community members in each member First Nation are allowed to vote in this process. Mushkegowuk Council is comprised of seven First Nations; Attawapiskat, Kashechewan, Fort Albany, Moose Cree, Taykwa Tagamou Nation, Chapleau Cree and Missanabie Cree.

Jonathon Solomon is the former Executive Director of Kashechewan First Nation, former Chief of Kashechewan First Nation and formerly held the Deputy Grand Chief position of Mushkegowuk Council from 2004 to 2006.

Grand Chief Solomon said, "I am honoured and humbled by the calling and will work diligently in my capacity as the Grand Chief for the Mushkegowuk people. I would like to thank my mover, James A. Wesley and seconder, Jean C. Wesley. "

Mushkegowuk Council of Chiefs will be meeting next week as an introductory session with the newly elected Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief.

Newly elected Deputy Grand Chief Rebecca Friday, will be in the office beginning Wednesday August 19th, 2015. Rebecca Friday comes from Kashechewan First Nation, and was employed as the Mental Health Counsellor of Weeneebayko Area Health Authority in Kashechewan, Rebecca Friday also held the position of Deputy Chief of Kashechewan from 2004-2006.

Grand Chief Jonathon Solomon will be in the office beginning on Monday, August 24th, 2015.

For further information, please contact: Grand Chief Jonathon Solomon by grandchief@muskegowuk.ca , at 705-658-4222, ext. 102 or by cell at 705-363-7122 and Deputy Grand Chief Rebecca Friday at deputygrandchief@mushkegowuk.ca or by calling 705-658-4222, ext. 106, or by cell at 705-363-7928

NAN News



Nishnawbe Aski Nation

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100 Back Street, Unit 200 Thunder Bay, ON P7J 1L2
Tel: (807) 623-8228 Fax: (807) 623-7730

NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday August 12, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALVIN FIDDLER ELECTED NAN GRAND CHIEF

AROLAND FIRST NATION: Chiefs and proxies from Nishnawbe Aski Nation's (NAN) 49 First Nation communities elected Alvin Fiddler, of Muskrat Dam First Nation, as Grand Chief this afternoon during the XXXIV Keewaywin Conference.

"I am honoured to be elected Grand Chief and it is humbling to receive such a strong mandate from our Chiefs. I am inspired by the leadership of our Chiefs and the spirit of our citizens and I believe that by working together there is nothing we cannot achieve," said Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, who has previously served three terms as Deputy Grand Chief (2003-2006, 2006-2009, 2012-2015). "There are many expectations of this Executive Council and I look forward to hitting the ground running to address the many issues facing our communities. We will ensure that all NAN members, especially our youth, are fully engaged as we work together for a better future for people and our communities."

Grand Chief Fiddler was elected along with three Deputy Grand Chiefs who are responsible for specific portfolios at NAN including education, health, justice and governance. Elected as Deputy Grand Chief are:

- Anna Betty Achneepineskum
- Derek Fox
- Terry Waboose

The Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chiefs were sworn into office immediately.

For more information please contact: Michael Heintzman, Director of Communications – Nishnawbe Aski Nation (807) 625-4965 or (807) 621-2790 mobile or by email mheintzman@nan.on.ca



September Birthday Greetings

SEPTEMBER 1

Happy Birthday!

Hunter McLeod
Adam Nolan
Jennifer Nolan
Jesse St. Pierre

SEPTEMBER 3

Happy Birthday!

Lorrie Anne Clark

SEPTEMBER 4

Happy Birthday!

Gladys Hawkins
Maggie Jeffries
Darlene Sullivan

SEPTEMBER 5

Happy Birthday!

George Bergeron
Faye Wesley

SEPTEMBER 6

Happy Birthday!

Richard Nolan
Rayna Fletcher

SEPTEMBER 7

Happy Birthday

Natasha Trozzo

SEPTEMBER 11

Happy Birthday!

Kyle Ouellet

SEPTEMBER 12

Happy Birthday!

Tetyron Hourtovenko
Verna Lacosse

SEPTEMBER 14

Happy Birthday!

Chandler Myers
Chyla Nolan

SEPTEMBER 15

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Edward Fletcher
Sam Hughes
Cody Rogoschensky

SEPTEMBER 17

Happy Birthday!

Dakota Souliere

SEPTEMBER 18

Happy Birthday

Logan Fletcher
Jason Scwenneker

SEPTEMBER 19

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Adam Fletcher
Jordan 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

MCFN Events Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
For updates, please check our Facebook page: Missanabie Cree First Nation		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labour Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Elders Tea 12 noon Band Office	17 Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm	18	19
20	21	22	23 Fall begins.	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	 A o paoo Peesim Birds start to fly Moon		

OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Pi a oo moo Peesim Migration south Moon				1	2	3
4 Sisters in Spirit Vigils 	5	6	7	8 Healthy Snacks After 1:30 pm	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day	13	14 Elders Tea At Noon Knitting Workshop 6:30-8:30 pm Band Office	15 Knitting Workshop 6:30-8:30 pm Band Office	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Knitting Workshop 6:30-8:30 pm Band Office	29 Knitting Workshop 6:30-8:30 pm Band Office	30	31 Hallowe'en

Employment Opportunities



MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL LANDS AND RESOURCES PROGRAM

36 Birch Street South
Timmins, ON P4N 2A5

Tel: 705-268-3594

Fax: 705-268-3282

www.mushkegowuk.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Mining Exploration Advisor

LOCATION: Timmins, Ontario
CLOSING DATE: 5:00pm September 09, 2015
DURATION: To March 31, 2016 (possible extension based on approved funding)

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

Amendments to Ontario's Mining Act have introduced new regulatory requirements at early exploration stages of the mining sequence (plans and permits). These requirements include formal notice and consultation with Aboriginal communities whose rights may be adversely affected by proposed mineral exploration activities.

Information about early exploration projects will require review and comment within certain prescribed timelines. Mushkegowuk Council is supporting Mushkegowuk First Nations in the Plans and Permit process. Under the supervision of the Director of Lands & Resources and as a member of the Lands & Resources team, the incumbent will support the Mushkegowuk First Nations in their responses to mining exploration issues.

Communication and presentation skills and the ability to speak Cree are considered an asset as the incumbent will be interacting and supporting the First Nations.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- College Diploma or University Degree in GIS, Geography, Environmental Studies, Mining and Exploration or related field and/or related work experience
- Familiarity with ESRI GIS software and GPS units is an asset
- Good writing skills - for documentation, training, processing and report writing
- Knowledge and skill using computer hardware, software and printers
- Organizational and problem solving skills, as well as attention to detail
- Willingness to travel extensively to Mushkegowuk First Nations
- Knowledge of the culture of First Nations, along with an understanding of their aspirations, socio-economic needs, stewardship values, and history
- Knowledge of the mineral exploration and development sequence and its challenges and opportunities
- Technical knowledge and expertise with regard to mineral exploration methods, terminology, etc.

This posting is a summary only; a full job description is available at www.mushkegowuk.ca

Please submit a resume and covering letter with three (3) references to:

HR (marked "confidential")
 Mushkegowuk Council
 36 Birch Street South,
 Timmins, ON P4N 2A5
 Phone: (705) 268-1150
 Fax: (705) 268-3282
 Email: hr@mushkegowuk.ca

Employment Opportunities

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**
Immediate Supervisor: Band Manager
Location: Missanabie Cree First Nation
Sault Ste. Marie, ON

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

Under the supervision of the Band Manager, the Community Economic Development Officer shall be responsible for planning, organizing, developing, and monitoring of economic development and employment strategies for Missanabie Cree First Nation that will maintain a healthy level of engagement of members and support employment, cultural, social, political and economic progress.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Post-Secondary diploma in business/economic development field or an equivalent combination of education and related work experience in this field may be considered;
- Minimum of three (3) year's related work experience with proven management, negotiation, analytical and organizational skills;
- Excellent research skills
- Must possess proposal writing skills;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Must possess initiative, tact, discretion and effective interpersonal skills;
- Good working knowledge of relevant programs, services, government legislation and policies and procedures;
- Must have a good working knowledge and experience of relevant computer programs;
- Good understanding of Missanabie's traditional ecological knowledge;
- Must be able to work under minimum supervision;
- Must possess a willingness to travel and work flexible hours;
- Class "G" Driver's License.

Closing Date: **November 30, 2015 at 4:00 pm**

Please provide resume and covering letter with three work related references and mail to the following address:

Missanabie Cree First Nation
174B Hwy 17B
Garden River, ON P6A 6Z1

Or email to cclement@missanabiecree.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cathy Clement, Band Manager at 705-254-2702

MCFN Membership

Our mailing list for the Bear Fax newsletter is being revised so that only one newsletter is sent to one address, and is part of an effort to reduce costs. However, if you wish to receive your own personal copy of Bear Fax, and you are part of another household, please send me a request and I will add your name to the mailing list.

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Wednesdays, 9 am to 5 pm.

Indian Status Card renewals will now be accepted from non-band members. A fee will be charged up-front for this service. Notices will be forwarded to local native organizations.

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.

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.

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

Miigwech., Ted Ouellet



MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM -- For Band Members

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

CONTACT AND OTHER INFORMATION

MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

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

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

Phone: 705-254-2702
Toll Free: 1-800-319-3001
Fax: 705-254-3292
www.missanabiecreefn.com

MCFN Chief & Council

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

Councilor Cory McLeod
cmcleod@missanabiecree.com

Laura Lee Rawlyk, Elder Liaison
lrawlyk@missanabiecree.com

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

Councilor Les Nolan
lnolan@missanabiecree.com

Neil Ewing, Youth Representative
newing@missanabiecree.com

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

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

MCFN Staff

Band Manager Cathy Clement **ex. 222**

Bookkeeper Louise Campbell **ex. 224**

Reception June Markie **ex. 221**

Program Development Lesley Gagnon **ex. 226**

Administrative Assistant Shereena Campbell **ex. 235**

Registration Administrator Ted Ouellet **ex. 228**

Post-Secondary Officer Deb Clement **ex. 227**

Governance Coordinator Elizabeth Angecone **ex. 230**

Community Economic Development Officer Janet Esquimaux **ex.237**

Communications Assistant Michael Tremblay **ex.223**

Land & Resources Assistant Terri Nolan **ex.229**

Events Coordinator Terri Montgomery **ex. 234**

ccllement@missanabiecree.com
lcampbell@missanabiecree.com
jmarkie@missanabiecree.com
lgagnon@missanabiecree.com
scampbell@missanabiecree.com
touvellet@missanabiecree.com
dclement@missanabiecree.com
eangecone@missanabiecree.com
jesquimaux@missanabiecree.com
mtremblay@missanabiecree.com
tnolan@missanabiecree.com
eventscordinator@missanabiecree.com

ELDERS COUNCIL

Diane Astle	Fran Luther
Audrey Bateson	Cheryl Macumber
Margaret Bergeron	Archie Nolan
Cathy Clement	Carol Nolan
Broderick Fletcher	Marion Nolan
Darcy Fletcher	Ted Nolan
Jackie Fletcher	Jo Ann Pezzo
Gloria Harris	Laura-Lee Rawlyk (Chair)
Shirley Horn	Faye Wesley

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE (CCPSC)

Neil Ewing (Youth Representative)	Broderick (BG) Fletcher
Glad Fletcher-Hawkins	Shirley Horn
Jackie Fletcher	JoAnn Pezzo
Terri Lou Fletcher	Isabell Souliere (Councilor)

GOVERNANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (GCC)

Kyle Bateson	Jackie Fletcher
Debbie Ewing	Terri Lou Fletcher

MCDC BOARD

Cathy Clement	Cheryl Macumber
Dave Easton	Carol Nolan
BG Fletcher	Marion Nolan
Gloria Harris	JoAnn Pezzo
Shirley Horn	

VISION STATEMENT OF THE MISSANABIE CREE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

September 20, 1998



Newsflash! Missanabie CCP

The first draft of our Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) is ready for community feedback!



NEWSFLASH!

Missanabie Cree First Nation is in the process of making a long-term (10 to 20 year) Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP). If it's going to be a true Community plan, then community members have to be part of plan making. What follows tells the story of how this has been done so far.

In this issue:

Steps Already Taken

What's Next?

How You Can Give Feedback

What Happens After?



Steps Already Taken

- (1) Chief and Council appointed a CCP Steering Committee, which is overseeing the process, made of members representing all major family groups, ages, genders and points of view.
- (2) From May to June 2014 community consultation meetings were held in Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and Toronto.
- (3) An open community consultation was held at the 2014 Missanabie Summer Gathering.
- (4) From these consultations, a situation and needs assessment document was produced called "The Missanabie Cree Community Story." This document was distributed to community members, and after extensive feedback and

Steps Already Taken (cont)

(4)... (cont.) revisions, was approved by the CCP steering committee.

(5) Based on the Community Story document and extensive consultation within the Steering Committee, a first rough draft starter-planning document was produced by Four Worlds to serve as a basis for community consultation to leading to the preparation of a first draft plan - which is now ready

What's Next?

Every community member is invited to read the draft plan, and to give your feedback.

Questions

(1) Do you like about the plan? What do you not like?

(2) What needs to be changed? Added?



Ways to give feedback:

(1) Speak in person or on the phone to any of the following:

Michael or Judie Bopp
 Four Worlds Center for Development Learning
 Telephone: 403 – 932 – 0882
 Text: 403 – 852 – 8283
 Email: anyone@fourworlds.ca
 [Just ask and we will call you if you leave a number]

JoAnn Pezzo
 Telephone: 647 – 989 – 0172
 Email: jo.pezzo@hotmail.com

"Participation is to development as sound is to music or movement is to dance. No participation; no development."

(2) Write on the document

You can type your comments by downloading the draft plan from the Missanabie Cree website (missanabiecreefn.com) and using the program "track changes", or by just adding notes in the spaces provided at the end of each section.

Then you can email your completed comments to "anyone@fourworlds.ca".



Photo: Spirits are lifted during a community story consultation by Brunswick House Youth Singers at the 2014 Annual Gathering.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Alternatively, you can write directly on the printed copy and send that copy to the following address: Four Worlds, PO Box 395, Cochrane, Alberta, T4C1A6
Or, you can give a written copy to any member of the CCP Steering Committee.

(3) Participate in feedback sessions

Feedback sessions will be held by conference call as well as in-person. If you want to participate in a feedback session, contact the Band Office or email to "anyone@fourworlds.ca". A number of different sessions will be held to accommodate the needs of members. Just let us know and we will find a time that is good for you.



The Deadline for completing community feedback (in this phase) is October 15, 2015.

Our goal is to begin Phase 2 by January 2016!

WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

Once all feedback is received and collected, a revised and refined draft of the CCP will be developed, finalized and sent to Chief and Council for approval. After approval, Chief and Council will move immediately into Phase 2 (implementation and training). Our goal is to begin Phase 2 in January 2016 (pending receipt of Phase II funding).

Prepared by: the CCP Steering Committee and Four Worlds Centre for Development Learning, August, 2015.