#### QUOTABLE QUOTES

"How would you like to be parachuted into a Native community, picked up by a Native policeman, tried in a Native court, they're all speaking the Native language and you just speak English? Put yourself in that picture." — Alberta Court of Queen's Bench Justice Allan Cawsey to reporters following the release of the report of his Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its impact on the Indian and Metis people of Alberta.

"Our people know something happened last summer. I don't know what this summer will bring. It's going to be hot. It's going to be another Indian Summer. There's still Oka. There's James Bay, the Lubicon in Alberta, the Native justice reports, the Oldman River fight, what's been happening in British Columbia...something has to give — something has to give for the good of the country -Elijah Harper.

"I am not afraid of what the police or the courts may do. I believe very strongly in what I'm doing and whatever is done to me in the process I don't think about. If at any point I get charged or thrown in jail, I don't care," says Lubicon Lake Nation Chief Bernard Ominayak. He says "it'll be an interesting summer. We have not given up yet." For more on Lubicon Lake Nation, please see pages 8-9 for a special report.

#### WHERE TO TURN:

News...2.3 Our Opinion...4 Richard Wagamese...4 Your Opinion...5 Droppin' In...6 Indian Country events..6 Lubicon Lake...8, 9 Education...10 - 15 Blue Quills anniversary...17, 18 Saskatchewan...19-26 Calgary... 27 AIDS...13, 19, 29 Grande Prairie & Area Profile...31-36 Sports...37 **Native Business** Directory...39,40 Careers...41 - 43

DEADLINES The advertising and copy deadline for the April 26 issue is 4 p.m. April 19.

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April 12, 1991

North America's Leading Native Newspaper

Volume 9 No. 2

### Province pulls plug on BANAC

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

Seventy Native people will hit the jobless rolls if BANAC can't survive a recent funding slash by the Alberta government, says the company's general manager.

Seven of the 20 businesses BANAC serves will go under if it can't find alternate sources of funding, said Johan Louw. "That means 70 Natives will lose their jobs and go back on welfare."

He said it makes poor economic sense not to renew funding for BANAC (Business Assistance for Native Albertans Corporation).

He said the government "gets a lot back" by funding BANAC because "people are taken off welfare and start paying business taxes to the government."

The department of Economic Trade and Development funded BANAC, giving it five years to become self-sufficient.

The agreement ended March 30. Economic Trade and Development Minister Peter Elzinga told Windspeaker his department informed BANAC "we would not extend beyond our obligation. We involved ourselves for a specific time period. The selfsufficiency didn't come as quickly as they would have liked, so we gave them \$50,000 to help in the transition."

Louw said the concept of selfsufficiency for BANAC "is just wrong." BANAC is a private, non-profit corporation.

"We have a proven track record. It seems as though when Natives get ahead, the government cuts funds. It's damn sad,"

Please see page 2

#### Hardy resigns

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

The president of the Alberta Metis Settlements General Council (MSGC), formerly the Federation of Metis Settlements, has resigned.

Randy Hardy has decided to run for the chairman's position at the Kikino Metis settlement where he's originally from. Elections for a chairman and four councillors are scheduled for mid-April.

Hardy was elected president of the eight Metis settlements in 1986 and was serving his second term when he resigned.

During his term he saw the establishment of a \$310-million funding package for the settlements and the protection of Metis lands entrenched in the Constitution.

MSGC vice-president Arnold Gauchier will oversee settlement affairs until an election for a new president can be held.



Loss of 70 jobs feared by general manager

"...our Native land..."

Dexter Young of the University of Alberta's Aboriginal Student Council wraps himself in the Canadian flag. Photographer Brad Callihoo says although Natives make up Canada's First Nations, their issues continually get wrapped up in government bureaucracy. Callihoo's work won the Personal Statement Award in photography at the recent annual conference of the Native American Journalists Association.

### Milton released on bail

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

The leader of the Peigan Lonefighters Society is out of jail on

The Calgary Court of Appeal granted Milton Born With A Tooth bail April 2. Born With A Tooth's lawyer Karen Gainer said she was worried her client would have to go through five bail hearings again before being released.

Following his arrest in Sep-

tember, Born With A Tooth sat through four bail hearings before finally being released on his fifth attempt in December.

Born With A Tooth will appeal a March 5 conviction on seven weapons charges and an 18-month sentence handed down in a packed Lethbridge courtroom March 25.

The charges stem from a Sept. 7 confrontation at the site of a diversion channel on the Peigan reserve downstream from the Oldman River irrigation weir.

Rifle shots were fired when RCMP attempted to escort environment officials on to the site to inspect a breach of the irrigation dike by the Lonefighters. The Lonefighters are protesting construction of the \$353-million Oldman Dam which is nearly

complete. Gainer said if "we win the appeal it'll mean a new trial

which will take a long time." His sister, Lorna Born With A Tooth, said she wasn't "expecting it at all. I thought it would be another five bail hearings because I don't have faith in the justice system."

Lorna said she's confident her brother will win his appeal, tentatively scheduled for May 27.

#### NATIONAL BRIEFS

Compiled by Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

Indians search for leader to fill Erasmus' shoes

OTTAWA - Native leaders have started lining up to replace Georges Erasmus, who steps down as head of the Assembly of First Nations later this year. Chief William Montour of the Six Nations reserve near Brantford, Ontario said he'll try to become head of the national organization which represents status Indians. He's the first to officially announce his candidacy. The election will take place in June at the assembly's annual conference in Winnipeg. Other possible candidates like Phil Fontaine and Ovide Mercredi, both of Manitoba, are expected to announce their intentions soon. The deadline for nominations is May 7. Erasmus is completing his second, three-year term as national chief.

Guns bought with cigarette profits — RCMP

MONTREAL - Mohawk warriors are still running a multimilliondollar trade in smuggling cigarettes and using the profits to buy weapons, says the RCMP. The money-making cigarette trade, which disappeared from the Kahnawake reserve after last summer's crisis, has shifted to Montreal Island, said Staff Sgt. Walter Wafer. Most of the smuggled cigarettes are legally exported to the U.S. from Canada, then sold to the Warriors who stock them in a half-dozen warehouses on the New York side of the Akwesasne reserve overlapping the Canada-U.S. border near Cornwall, Ont. The cigarettes are illegally taken across the St. Lawrence River or through any of about 40 Canada-U.S. border crossings unattended for part of the day, said Wafer.

Catholic brother admits sex acts with youths

WILLIAMS LAKE, B.C. — Oblate Brother Glen Doughty pleaded guilty to four counts of indecency April 2. The charges against Doughty, 52, involve young boys at a Native residential school in the Cariboo region of B.C.'s interior in the 1960s. He's the second Catholic official to be convicted of sexual offences at the school.

Satiacum's death raises questions by relatives

VANCOUVER — Relatives of American Indian activist Robert Satiacum are demanding an investigation into his death while in police custody, suggesting his heart problems weren't properly treated. Satiacum died April 1 after suffering chest pains at a Vancouver pre-trial centre. He was arrested on an outstanding warrant for jumping bail 16 months ago after being convicted of sexual assault in Vancouver.

'No More Secrets' on sex abuse

MONTREAL — Sexual abuse of children is a problem in Canada's North and badly needs to be discussed, says the first report of its kind to be published in Inuktitut. "The choice is ours," says the report, No More Secrets, published by the Ottawa-based Pauktuutit or Inuit Women's Association. The report says the problems can either be acknowledged or "we can deny we as Inuit have problems of child sexual abuse in our communities and thereby deny our communities the chance of being truly healed." It makes several recommendations for professionals and governments, but it's primarily aimed at Inuit men and women, said the association's president Mary Sillett. The most disturbing finding is the existence of the myth child sexual abuse was or is acceptable in Inuit culture, the report says.

Reform Party wants Indian Affairs scrapped

SASKATOON — The Reform Party has passed a resolution to scrap Indian Affairs. At the party's convention April 5 the resolution called for the department to be replaced by agencies run by Native people.

British Columbians 'most tolerant'

VANCOUVER — British Columbians are the least likely in Canada to show discriminatory attitudes, says a study by a University of Lethbridge sociologist. They are more likely than most Canadians to approve of a Protestant marrying a Jew, or whites marrying Asians, Natives or blacks, says the study by Reg Bibby.

Human rights officer charges discrimination

WOODSTOCK, N.B. — An investigator for the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission has launched a discrimination complaint against his employer. Dan Ennis' complaint is based on what he believes are discriminatory practices by his superiors because he's Native. In his complaint, Ennis said he was denied four days off, which he said was accumulated in overtime, to attend a spiritual ceremony. He also cited ongoing discriminatory behavior — "mail addressed to me at the commission is intercepted and at times kept by the directors with no explanation." Ennis said he must verify all his overtime while other employees operate on "the honor system." Janet Cullinan, director of complaints, is one of three people named in the complaint. She refused to confirm a complaint had been filed.

Major Indian health and water initiative

RAMA RESERVE, ONT. — The federal government will provide \$275 million over the next six years for a major Indian health and water initiative. As part of the Native agenda announced by the prime minister in September, Indian Affairs will provide \$250 million under the federal Green Plan to accelerate the establishment and improvement of water and sewage services on reserves, said a news release. Health and Welfare Canada will commit \$25 million, under the Green Plan, for water quality monitoring and training in water treatment on reserves. "One of the most urgent environmental problems for Indian communities is the lack of safe water and sewage services. It is a particularly pressing issue for many remote reserves," said Shirley Martin, minister of state for Indian Affairs.

Economic development initiative for aboriginal women OTTAWA - Ottawa has created an Aboriginal Women and Economic Development Steering Committee and Co-ordinator's Office as part of its recognition of International Women's Day. Various departments, including Indian Affairs will contribute on an equal basis to the initiative. A total of \$840,000 will be provided over the next four years.

### Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en chiefs appeal B.C. court decision

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

VANCOUVER

The hereditary chiefs of the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en are appealing a recent B.C. court decision quashing their land claim.

The appeal was filed April 2 in the B.C. Court of Appeal. In their lawsuit the chiefs asked for a declaration from the courts they still hold aboriginal title to 57,000-square kilometres of land they consider their traditional territory.

Chief Justice Allan McEachern dismissed the existence of aboriginal rights in his March 8 ruling. "The pre-Confederation colonial enactments construed in their historic setting exhibit a clear and plain intention to extinguish aboriginal interests in order to give an unburdened title to settlers and the Crown did extinguish such rights to all lands of the colony," he said in his 400-page judgement.

Fred Lennarson, adviser to the Lubicon Lake Indian band near Peace River, said the decision "can be fairly characterized as stupid and racist. When you say people don't have rights you are denying them their humanity, that's racist."

Lennarson said the judge "is saying to Natives 'you have no institutional recourse in this country, we'll crush you.""

McEachern said the difficulties facing Natives "will not be solved in the context of legal rights...it is for elected officials not judges" to deal with Native issues.

Bill Erasmus, chief of the Dene Nation, said the ruling borders on "racism and ignorance."

Erasmus said if the decision is allowed to stand it will strengthen the government's position at the bargaining table because it supports the status quo by saying if Indians had rights they were given up after contact."

Erasmus is certain the "appeal will surely succeed."

### Edmonton police use old solutions on new problems

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

Police are trying to use old solutions to cure new problems, says Edmonton's chief of police.

"In the past we have used incident-based policing. The emphasis has been on responding quickly and on treating each incident individually," Doug McNally told delegates to the Alberta Correctional Education Association's eighth annual con-

McNally says the trend has swung to community-based policing. "We see the same problems recurring at the same addresses, especially in the highcrime areas of our city and we need to work on what is happen-

"We will have more community-based police stations and two or three officers will be assigned to each specific area to get to know it intimately," he says.

New methods and revised attitudes to problem solving are also some of the findings which came out of the formation of Edmonton's Inner-City Violent Crime Task Force. Comprised of 18 agencies, the task force has attempted since its formation in Jan. 1990 to develop strategies to reduce violent crime in the inner city.

Since it was formed, crime has dropped 14 per cent in the target area — 96th Street between 102nd and 104th Avenues. "In comparison, in the city as a whole, the rate has gone up 16

per cent," says McNally. Since the majority of the violent crime is associated with the 96th Street hotels or the streets and rooming houses near them, the task force made a number of specific recommendations dealing with the hotels: • increased street and lane lighting to deter criminal activity and reduce the fear of crime, • a ban on possession of knives in beverage rooms and • the elimination of hiding places for drugs in beverage

Since many Native people live in the downtown core, planning will continue to address the issues affecting them, says McNally. "In recent years, a large percentage of victims of crime and a high proportion of the accused have been Native people," he notes.

University of Lethbridge protessor Leroy Little Bear said if



Heather Andrews

**Leroy Little Bear** 

educators are to reach Native people in conflict with the law, they must understand the differences between Natives and non-Natives and teach from both

"We have to tune in to Native people's viewpoints and cultural beliefs."

He pointed out that Native and non-Native thinking processes follow different patterns.

Native culture is based on cycles, he notes, while "the dominant society thinks in a linear way, that there are only two ways to see things such as bad and good or day and night.

'Another difference is the feeling of time. Non-Natives celebrate Christmas Dec. 25 no matter where they are. But our sun dances are held in the same place every year, not 10 miles away or 100 miles away," says Little Bear. And preparation for the sun dance happens in conjunction with the phases in nature leading up to it.

The March 13-15 conference was held to discuss correctional issues and to make recommendations for federal planners, says Hector Pothier, conference publicity chairman.

More than 136 people participated in the sessions, which included a presentation by Pat Mulgrew of the Drumheller Institution and representatives of Lethbridge Community College on the training of aboriginal people in wildlife and fisheries resources so they are effective and employable, says Pothier.

#### Province pulls plug on BANAC

From front page he said.

He said BANAC enjoys an 80 per cent success rate while most businesses have an 85 per cent failure rate during their first five years of operation.

BANAC helps Native entrepreneurs get rolling in their business and then tries to help them stay in business providing advice on investment opportunities, management and account-

Jane Hummel got such advice three years ago to set up Hummel's Gas 'N' Splash Ltd. She said BANAC's advice and support is not a one-shot deal. "They don't just support you during the initial start-up, it's ongoing. I can phone them at home if I have any problems. They care. I get my financial advice, personal advice, emotional support and hands-on assistance from BANAC."

Hummel said her business, which employs 14 people in Rimbey, about 50 km southwest of Edmonton, will survive if BANAC can't pull through. Peter Elzinga

"They taught me the ropes. But businesses just starting up will suffer."

Elzinga said the government won't renew BANAC's funding because the province "made a commitment to balance the budget."



### **Provincial Briefs**

Compiled by Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

Fatality Inquiry scheduled into death of Katie Cardinal EDMONTON — A fatality inquiry will probe the death of a Native woman killed outside a city tavern. Katie Cardinal died Feb. 10, 1990 after she fell backwards and struck her head outside of Truckers Saloon at the Kingsway Inn. She was physically removed from the bar by a bouncer who carried her outside. The bouncer attempted to let Cardinal down but apparently she began to struggle and pushed herself away, striking her head on the floor. Cardinal was removed from the saloon following an argument with a woman. The public hearing starts April 22 at the Edmonton Law Courts building.

Native cop under fire

CALGARY—A Native constable who won the right to wear braids is facing dismissal following a letter he wrote to Alberta Report . Norman Manyfingers will appear before an internal police disciplinary hearing later this month after being charged with discreditable conduct. The charge could result in the veteran cop being fired. Alberta Report printed a story about Manyfingers Dec. 3. Manyfingers wrote a letter, published Dec. 31, saying a quote was wrongly attributed to him. In talking to the reporter, Manyfingers said he quoted a supervisor who complained city police would lower their standards by recruiting more Natives. Manyfingers said he quoted the supervisor as saying: "What are we going to do? Go to the Sarcee reserve and wake up some drunk and ask him: 'Hey, you want to join the Calgary Police Service?"

NFB unveiling films

EDMONTON — In celebration of Earth Day 1991 the National Film Board of Canada has unveiled a series of environmental films called Green Screens. "Many of the films underline the complexity of environmental problems and how they are linked with other issues, such as aboriginal rights and culture," said a news release. Green Screens will debut Boyce Richardson's Blockade: Algonquins Defend the Forest, a hard-hitting documentary about the Native fight for survival in La Verendrye, Que. Green Screens opens in Edmonton April 18 at the AgriCom. All films are free of charge.

Costner could become Kainai chief

EDMONTON — Alberta chiefs are trying to woo Kevin Costner to Edmonton next month. Blood tribal elders hope to conduct a ceremony for the actor — whose movie Dances With Wolves won seven Oscars — at an economic development conference and trade show April 30-May 2 in Edmonton. "It's called the Kainai chieftainship," said conference co-ordinator Don Logan. "It was created by the Blood tribe in 1919 to honor people who have gone the extra mile in the interest of Native people." It's uncertain whether Costner, who directed and starred in the film, will attend the ceremony. Alberta actors Tantoo Cardinal and Jimmy Herman, who played supporting roles in the movie, will be presented with achievement awards in Edmonton.

Human rights commission holds public forum

EDMONTON — Canada's human rights watchdog is holding a public forum May 13 in Edmonton to hear concerns from the public on human rights issues. Commissioners will answer questions and provide information on a broad range of topics, said a news release. Under Max Yalden's leadership, the Canadian Human Rights Commission has identified the situation of Canada's Natives as the No. 1 human rights problem in Canada and a blot on this country's international reputation, said the release. The forum will be held at the Hilton Hotel.

Sturgeon Lake land claim signed

STURGEON LAKE RESERVE — The Sturgeon Lake Indian band and the federal government signed the band's claim to an outstanding land entitlement April 5. The settlement provides the 1,100member band with 6,558 hectares of land and a cash payment of \$5.5 million. Meanwhile, a \$4.1 million school on the reserve was officially opened the same day by Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon. The school, built by the band and completed late last year, has an enrolment of about 162 students from kindergarden to Grade 9.

Indian justice symposium to be held in Edmonton

EDMONTON - An Indian justice symposium will be held in Edmonton June 27 and 28. Questions about Natives and the justice system will be discussed by Native speakers, including lawyers and police and court workers. The symposium, sponsored by the Indigenous Bar Association, will be held at the Mayfield Inn.

ATA's highest honor awarded

EDMONTON — The Alberta Teachers' Association has presented Arthur Jorgensen with honorary membership, the association's highest award. Jorgensen, a retired teacher, developed an education upgrading program for Natives in Grande Cache. He has also contributed to the improvement of education abroad.

Forest fire hot line open for business

EDMONTON — April 1 marked the start of forest fire season in Alberta. The season runs to Oct. 31. The period is specified because of the increased risk to wildlife during the spring, summer and fall, said a news release. During this season fire permits are needed for lighting an open fire. In 1990 Alberta had 1,296 forest fires, 382 of which were caused by people. Alberta Forestry Minister LeRoy Fjordbotten said the "significant reduction...in man-caused fires indicates an increased level of public commitment to safe burning." In Alberta call 427-FIRE if you see smoke or fire in a forested area.

B.C. Native artist featured at museum

EDMONTON — The work of West Coast artist Mungo Martin is being featured at the Provincial Museum of Alberta. The exhibit includes many of Martin's traditional masks, rattles, drums, model totem poles and other wood carvings. The exhibit runs until May 10.

#### News

### Roaming van taking condoms and needles to the streets

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

A Canadian Native Friendship Centre van will soon be hitting the streets of Edmonton with free needles and condoms for those in need.

The federal government gave the National Association of Friendship Centres \$197,000 for the development of a national HIV/AIDS prevention program.

The Edmonton friendship centre, as the starting point for the initiative, received a good chunk of the funds to put the condoms and needles' exchange van on the road.

"As an aboriginal organization we're very excited. We hope we can make a difference," says Gerald Cuthbert, executive director of the friendship centre in Edmonton.

Natives have a rate of sexually transmitted diseases five times the national average.

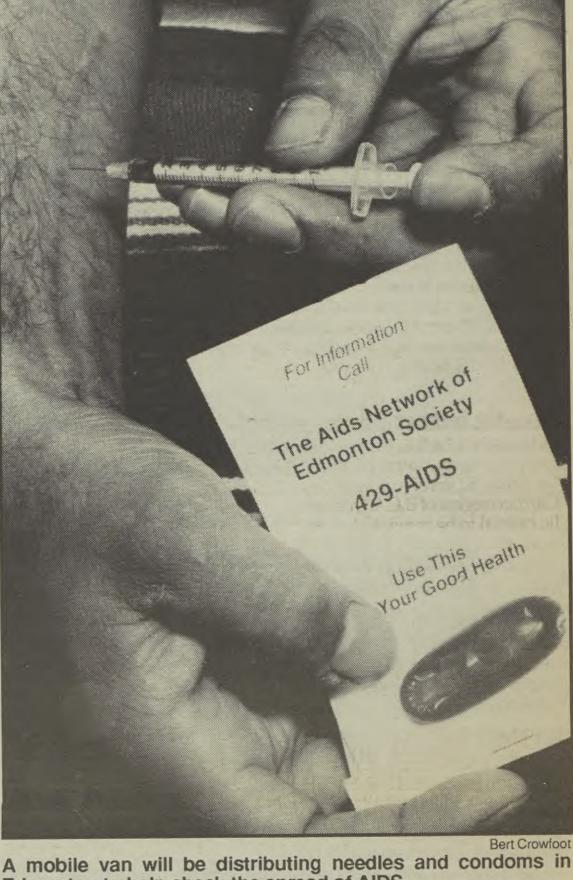
Cuthbert said he doesn't know how effective the program will be in reducing the number of AIDS cases but "the van is a positive step and it could lead to a reduction. I don't know what the guarantees are but at least we're doing something about it."

The World Health Organization has found 960 Natives in Canada have AIDS.

As a pilot project, the friendship centre has 18 months to prove its effectiveness at which time Ottawa will decide whether to renew the \$163,000 funding.

Cuthbert says the roaming van will make the current needle and condom exchange program accessible to more people.

"The van will be on the road in the evening travelling to the inner city, south, west and



Edmonton to help check the spread of AIDS

northeast Edmonton."

aboriginal community's contribution to the prevention of AIDS.

A recent survey of needle Cuthbert says the van is the exchange programs in Vancouver showed 40 per cent of those using the service were Native.

### Band bidding for prison

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

The Alexander Indian band is joining forces with two nearby communities in a bid for a women's prison.

Morinville, the Municipal District of Sturgeon and the band submitted a proposal to Corrections Canada to have the 40-bed facility located in their area northwest of Edmonton.

The precise location of the prison was not indicated in the proposal. The band's director of economic development, Henry Arcand, said he "doubts the federal government would build" the prison "on band land since they'll have a facility they can't take with them" if something should go wrong.

The band will witness economic benefits through employment opportunities even if the minimum-security prison is not located on the reserve, he said.

Arcand said Alexander Natives are concerned about "the actual programming at the prison because we've got our people there."

Aboriginal women make up 37 per cent of the inmates in Alberta correctional institutions and about half the inmates in remand centres.

Although the band supports the town of Morinville, which spearheaded the proposal, Native culture must be part of the

prison program, said Arcand.

Bea Fricson, Morinville's director of economic development, said if their location is chosen for the prison it'll be a perfect "opportunity for Natives to help Natives. They'll be rehabilitated back into their society rather than imposing white standards" on them during the reha-

bilitation process and then being dumped back into white society.

About 60 communities across the Prairie provinces are vying for the prison yet Fricson said they "stand a good chance."

A decision from Ottawa on the location of the prison is expected this month.

#### Women of Metis Nation given \$40,000 by Ottawa

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

SPRUCE GROVE, ALTA.

Metis women in Alberta will have a voice courtesy of the federal government.

The Women of the Metis Nation received \$41,000 to get the organization off the ground. St. Alberta MP Walter Van De Walle presented a cheque for \$16,000 to the group's treasurer Rachelle Langton April 5 at his Spruce Grove office.

The rest of the money will be given to the organization at the end of the month, he said.

President Marge Friedel said the money will be used to "organize Metis women provincewide because Metis women are not represented."

tion has 200 women in its ranks. Friedel said the group, which

has been together for three years,

wants to raise the awareness of

The Women of the Metis Na-

Metis women since they are either portrayed "as the beautiful princess or the drunken squaw."

The majority of the \$41,000 will be used to set up an office in west Edmonton. Friedel said the group plans to open a catering business to raise additional money. "We all love to cook so I think it'll work."

Last year the government slashed funds to 45 Native organizations and communications societies. This year's federal budget also was not heartwarming even though there were no substantial blows to Native groups.

Van De Walle said in times of economic restraint "we have to pick and choose what our priorities are." The Women of the Metis Nation was considered a priority by Secretary of State which provided the funding, he

The group received \$15,000 in March 1988 for management programs.

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Bert Crowfoot, Publisher

### AIDS figures chilling

The latest figures on AIDS in the Native community are chilling. They're scary even if you're in a monogamous relationship and you're faithful to your partner since they mean AIDS could claim the life of someone you care about.

The figures underscore the importance of learning what you can about this deadly disease and doing what you can to prevent it.

Official Health and Welfare Canada figures tell us 24 Native people in Canada have AIDS.

But the World Health Organization says those figures should be multiplied by 40 times! That would bring the number of Native people in Canada with AIDS to 960.

And as many as 1,500 more people carry the HIV infection, according to Health and Welfare.

Taking risks with AIDS can involve many people so it's not only wise but it's socially responsible to take precautions.

Native and non-Native organizations are doing a better and better job of getting the message out about AIDS.

In the Native community the Feather of Hope Society is playing a lead role, inspired in large part by Enoch Native Ken Ward, who had the courage to go public last year when he learned he had tested positive for the HIV virus.

In the last year he has shared his experience across Canada, bringing a message of hope, courage and caution.

Just recently the society held a conference in North Battleford to share the message of prevention with Saskatchewan young people.

Denise Lambert, a founding society member, didn't pull any punches. "The youth who are active sexually must be shown AIDS kills and it doesn't care who it kills."

In some respects AIDS presents a greater threat to the Native community than the non-Native community.

But the Native community is coming together to fight this common threat and is further ahead in many ways than the non-Native community in that battle.

The Four Nations of Hobbema realizing the threat to their community and their young people will hold a conference on AIDS April 24 and 25 at the Panee Memorial Agriplex.

And in Calgary the AIDS Calgary Awareness Association have outreach workers taking the deadly message of AIDS to the Native community.

Such efforts must be supported.

The fight must not let up against this deadly, invisible disease, which could explode in the Native community.

It is literally a matter of life and death.



### Missionaries used aboriginal symbol to convert Natives

There's a national tragedy simmering beneath the headlines about the Roman Catholic church's apology to Canada's Native peoples.

Everyone, of course, knows about the flagrant abuses aboriginal people suffered at the hands of residential school clergy. And while apologies are necessary and overdue, the reasons for that abysmal treatment have never been explored. Therein lies the tragedy.

Time and time again, when speaking to various groups I'm asked the big question: Why, if aboriginal peoples had, as they claim, such a strong and vital spiritual centre to their lives, would they abruptly abandon it for the ministration of the black

A valid question and the answer should be included in any history of the settlement of North America.

When the good fathers stepped ashore they came bearing their Book of Truth. With it they carried ashore the accompanying doctrines, philosophies and practices of their denomination. With typical missionary zeal they attempted to make



#### RICHARD WAGAMESE

converts of the seemingly simple folk already living here.

Surprisingly, converts were easy to win. Historians have often attributed this phenomenal spiritual migration to the kindness and gentleness of the priesthood. They have also, with encouragement from the church, attempted to reinforce the belief aboriginal people sensed the superiority of white man's religion over their own "primitive" beliefs.

Such was not the case.

For generations prior to the arrival of the white man there were many symbols in aboriginal iconography that were both intertribal in acceptance and ancient in their application. The circle, of course, is one that has been popularized, but there were more. The critical one consisted of two bold intersecting slashes: a horizontal stroke sliced through a vertical one.

European religion called such a symbol a cross or crucifix. In the much older North American context, the symbol was an honor bestowed upon the medicine shields et cetera of those who were perceived to be leading very spiritual lives.

The broad vertical slash indicated a person's relationship with the Creator. It denoted a prayerful, meditative, introspective and humble individual who placed the direction of his/her life in the hands of the Creator of all things. In other words, that person's primary relationship was with the deity.

The intersecting slash was evidence of that person's kind, honest, giving, forgiving and tolerant relationship with all creatures on this plane of reality. As a result of the strong primary connection with the Creator, such a person was capable of continuing spiritual relationships with all of creation.

Such a symbol was very rarely bestowed and was held in the utmost regard. When the

black robes arrived they won the trust of Native peoples almost immediately because they wore these strong spiritual symbols around their necks.

These people, they must have thought, have to be very, very spiritual beings and it was the resultant awe that enabled the missionaries to win the trust of the people.

This is the foundation of a very shameful part of Canadian history. With the blanket trust and quiet reverence bestowed upon them by the Indians, the churches, with the subtle urging of the government, began the process of cultural assimilation. The painful and tragic repercussions are only just surfacing.

The Old One shared this secret with me a few years ago at a time when I too wondered why the Indians would abandon the spiritual ways that had sustained them for generation after generation. It's not widely known mainly because of the spiritual leaders' understandable paranoia to give away such a vital part of themselves. Given the course of history, its protection is more than understandable.

So, as the churches begin apologizing for their past behavior towards Native people, perhaps they should begin with apologies for those first flagrant breaches of trust.

Apologies are empty without vigorous action. The denominations would do well to prod governments into accepting their formidable share of the blame in this story too, since it was the government that set up the residential schools and then assigned the churches to carry out their genocidal function.

Indians have always known there is no shame in mistakes. The shame lies in not accepting responsibility.

EAGLE FEATHERS: to the Roman Catholic Church for its symbolic, and much needed,

#### STAFF

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#### **Your Opinion**

### Natives are treated more harshly by justice system

Dear Editor:

In light of the recent release of the report of the Alberta task force on Native people and the criminal justice system and the Getty government's reaction, it is perhaps worthwhile to consider some decisions of Alberta courts to determine whether there is racial bias in the justice system.

Native activist Milton Born With A Tooth was recently sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for firing warning shots into the air over the heads of RCMP officers. Also recently the Alberta Court of Appeal handed down an 18-month sentence to one of the white supremacist skinheads who savagely beat and blinded an old man for an anti-Nazi radio broadcast some 30 years ago.

While there seems to be some discrepancy in the facts of the two cases, the sentences do not seem to correspond with the severity of the offences. The comparison is perhaps unfair as the two cases were decided by

different courts.

In another case the Alberta Court of Appeal ruled an unarmed Native man who robbed a convenience store of some miscellaneous groceries and \$20 deserved a sentence of three and one half years. There was neither violence or threats of violence involved in this young man's case. On the same day the same court ruled a rapist deserved a three and one half year sentence also. The accused was non-Native. Most people would consider the sexual assault more serious than the petty theft, yet the sentences are identical, handed down together, by the same court the same day. This same court sentenced the skinheads mentioned above.

While armed Mohawks at Oka were confronted by the Canadian army, armed neo-Nazis at Provost were unmolested. The Saskatchewan leader of those neo-Nazis was recently charged with shooting and killing a Native man in Prince Al-

The Alberta government denies there is racial bias in the court or justice system generally, but it is very difficult to conclude otherwise even on the basis of these few cases. When an in-depth review is conducted, that conclusion becomes irresist-

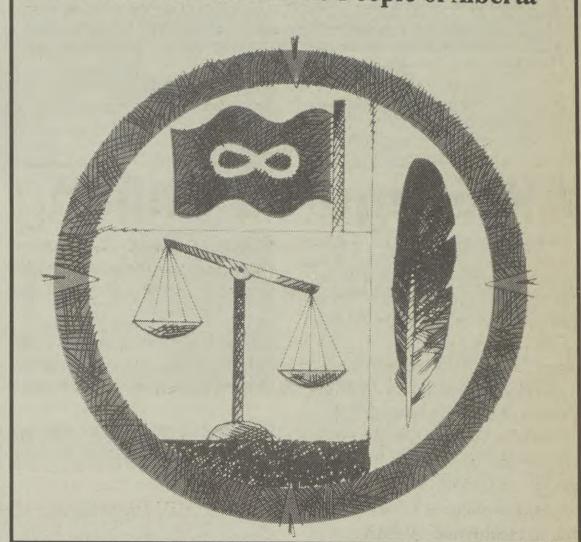
I have worked for many years in the area of Natives and criminal justice across Canada and have spent three years at law school. I know, as do most other Natives, that discrimination on the basis of race is not only common in the justice system, but it is virtually inevitable.

I applaud the fine work of the Cawsey task force and the commitment of its members. I am disheartened by the response of the government. Native leader Chief Billy Diamond recently warned this summer will see more violence than last. Sadly, I must concur.

Allan Price Hobbema, Alta.

### Justice on Trial

Report of the Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on the Indian and Metis People of Alberta



### The Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en decision McEachern judgement based on racist denial of rights

This is an edited excerpt from a statement released by the Lubicon Lake Nation following the recent Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en decision McEachern.

characterized as racist and stu- Canada's aboriginal people.

pid, because it slams the door of legal recourse for aboriginal people, leaving them with only extralegal means for protectby B.C. Chief Justice Allan ing their lands and rights. It bases the legitimacy of the Canadian nation squarely on a rac-The decision can fairly be ist denial of the human rights of

populations in racist societies always try to deny the humanity of racially distinct peoples whom they seek to exploit typically for rights continue to exist. self-serving economic reasons. Otherwise they would in effect be ceding it would be morally and legally permissible for someone else to do the same thing to

In this case the chief justice of the B.C. Supreme Court has decided British immigrants to what is now British Columbia didn't even have to follow their own rules for taking aboriginal lands. Normally those rules provided for negotiation of a treaty between the British Crown and the aboriginal population — a treaty negotiated effectively without choice on the part of the aboriginal population and commonly involving both deceit and duress on the Crown. Still, the treaty was an internationally recognized form of recording agree-

The B.C. chief justice argued the British Crown simply assumed the aboriginal population didn't have any rights to worry about and proceeded accordingly, "exhibiting" in the process "a clear and plain intention to extinguish aboriginal interests to give unburdened title to (British) settlers."

The B.C. chief justice was inescapably saying the British Crown didn't consider aboriginal people to have the same human rights as western Europeans or even the same rights as other aboriginal peoples with whom the Crown at least negotiated treaties. He was saying that at the time the Crown unilaterally proclaimed jurisdiction over what is now known as B.C. there were no human beings with human rights living there — only Indians and other wildlife.

The racism of western European colonization of North America, as horrific as any perpetuated anywhere in human history including the Holocaust in Germany under the Nazis, goes without saying. However it doesn't follow by any known rules of logic that racist ignorance of the human rights of

Representatives of dominant aboriginal people constitutes a clear intention to extinguish those rights. Rather what follows is that those aboriginal land

> The assertion Canada came into rightful and legal possession of Canadian lands through a racist denial of aboriginal people clearly contradicts the basic legal tenet one can't benefit from one's crimes — that a just end can't possibly result from unjust actions.

It's incredible the chief justice should in 1991 try to base the legitimacy of Canadian jurisdiction over such lands and resources on a racist denial of the human rights of Canada's aboriginal people. If a more acceptable base than that can't be be provided for Canada's continuing dominion over such lands and resources, Canada deserves the consequences which will almost inevitably follow.

### Family reunification prompted by Bill C-31

Dear Editor:

Thank you for sending copies of your newspaper to United Native Nations. I was especially pleased to read Heather Andrews' story, "Adopted twins find natural family."

Our family reunification program is an active adoption reunion registry. Our clients come from across Canada and the United States and are primarily of aboriginal descent. We do provide services to the non-Indian community although it is a limited service. We have been in operation as a separate program since Aug. 1989.

Our program grew naturally out of our Bill C-31 reinstatement legal assistance project which has been in operation since 1985. Family reunification was a natural response to the high number

of legally adopted and/or fostered individuals seeking more than their Indian status. Many were seeking to be reunited with natural family members and saw Bill C-31 as opening the doors to information that would lead back to their families.

Family reunification is operating without a budget of its own. Since Aug. 1989 I have been the sole staff member at United Native Nations to concentrate efforts at seeing this program become a permanent service to our community. Many clients have spent years and an extraordinary amount of time and money searching for family members.

Lizabeth Hall Family reunification coordinator **United Native Nations** Vancouver

#### **Letters Welcome**

Windspeaker welcomes your letters. But we reserve the right to edit for brevity, clarity, legality, personal abuse, accuracy, good taste, and topicality. Please include your name, address and day-time telephone number in case we need to reach you. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

### White man's law

The Canadian Bar Association's 1988 review of aboriginal rights in Canada said aboriginal people are seriously disadvantaged when trying to assert their rights in the courtroom. The reason is simple the report states: "They are effectively asking the courts to overturn 100 years of legal precedent that involved an entirely different view of Canadian history," during which they weren't allowed to participate in the legal process.

The recent decision of B.C. Chief Justice Allan McEachern regarding the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en land claim proves the accuracy of the bar association's statement better than any earlier decision.

The Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en people claimed jurisdiction, ownership and control of about 20,000 square miles in central B.C. Because few treaties were ever signed in that province, Indian tribes believe they have never relinquished title to their historic homelands. Therefore, the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en argue, the federal and B.C. governments must negotiate with them, and compensate them, if Canadians are to use that part of the province....

But Justice MacEachern decided the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en do not own the land after all. Their aboriginal rights have been superseded by law, he said. That term means aboriginal rights exist at the pleasure of the Crown, can be extinguished by the Crown and were extinguished by various pre-Confederation proclamations and ordinances issued by the governor of B.C. Georges Erasmus, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, describes the doctrine, "superseded by law," as tantamount to declaring an act of trespass in a person's house gives the trespasser rights over that property....

Aboriginal peoples are not the only ones with complaints about that particular doctrine. A 1985 federal task force review of comprehensive claims policy, established by former Indian Affairs minister David Crombie, said "the proposition aboriginal title can be implicitly superseded by law lacks a solid legal basis." The earlier-mentioned bar association review agrees with that view. It asks the federal government to either drop it or substantiate it.

Unfortunately, because the federal land-claims policy is so badly flawed, the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en were forced into court and because this peculiar doctrine was allowed to stand, Justice McEachern applied "white man's law," as he called it. The cost to the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en to be told the trespassers gave

themselves the key? About \$20 million.... At the very least, they are likely to appeal Justice McEachern's decision. At the worst, they may choose a less peaceful course that demonstrates the kind of frustration being felt in aboriginal communities all over the country.

15 March 1991 Lethbridge Herald editorial

### Droppin' In dines royally

Hi! Everyone was invited to a country music special April 7 at Curly's Corral at the Yellowhead Inn, but hardly anyone bothered to show up.

Priced at \$5 a person to listen to Harry Rusk and TradeWind; a great duet Vivian and Helen Heltman; and North America's top fiddle champion Alfie Myhre, only a small contingent of people were visible at the Sunday afternoon jamboree.

So where was everybody at bingo?

The country music show was held to raise funds for the Adrian Hope Youth Centre which is facing a financial crisis. Even though the event was publicized, only a handful of people (mostly non-Native) were pres-

And Gordon Russell was upset, Harry Rusk was upset and the few Native people gathered at Curly's could not believe people who have children using the centre, a centre that has food, coffee, juices and activities available, a place to go, forgot the

So many times Native people who should be supporting these Native activities say "I'll pass."

It's really sad.

I'm beginning to believe a person who once told me Native people are the first ones to pull down Native people. I'm beginning to believe it's "Everybody for themselves and to hell with the rest."



Flanked by two RCMP officers and Const. Perry Cardinal across, Droppin' In enjoyed a secure dinner

wrong. In the meantime, I think I'll buy another \$2 Adrian Hope centre chocolate bar.

Russell thanked the people who did show. Actually I thought it was a great affair. I mean after all how many times can a person watch great country singers perform live - as if they're singing only for you?

Write me a letter, tell me I'm ST. PAUL: The Mannawanis Friendship Centre has got a good thing going. A Talent Show April 27! Call Irene Cardinal at 726-3990 if you have a voice! If you have a frog in your throat. like me, I wouldn't advise you to enter because I understand there is stiff competition in St. Paul's "neck of the woods."

> Speaking of singing, it's time for a plug. I'll be in the studio recording some of my songs and cassettes will be available at Windspeaker shortly. How about When the Sun Sets Over Batoche, On the Hands of the Fiddler's Bow, The Refrigerator Song and The Hills of Missouri to mention a few?

There's all kinds of things happening in the music business right now — just no room to tell ya all about it, just yet.

EDMONTON: And to my friend Gary Boucher goes the John L. Haar Memorial Scholarship for overcoming hardship in life, achieving academic excellence and demonstrating a lifelong commitment to learning. Yeah Gary! Right on dude!

On March 20 Grant MacEwan Community College hosted its 11th annual scholarship awards ceremony at Jasper Place cam-



#### Droppin' In By Rocky Woodward

Other Native students who received awards were: Jody Dionne for top grade point average in legal secretarial studies, Randy Monkman, top grade point average in the music program, and the CKNG radio scholarship for a Native Communications Program graduate furthering his studies in the audiovisual communications or journalism program went to Kevin Ward.

Congratulations to all of you. BEAVERLODGE: And here's Droppin' In having dinner with royal company - Royal Canadian Mounted Police that is.

Wordpainter Native consultant Roy Inglangasuk's nephew, Clifford Elies, was the photographer who captured this great shot on camera.

Const. Perry Cardinal said to me at dinner he was going to tail me all the way to Faust. Why? I never break the speed limit? My war pony can't break the speed limit.

Actually, Perry was only kidding, but he shouldn't scare the public — so there.

DROPPIN' IN: This is for a great lady in Grande Prairie, Irene Loutitt, executive director of the friendship centre in that great

You see, I was supposed to do a story on Irene one year ago. I still have my notes about Irene (that wonderful lady) but time went by and I never got around to it, (you beautiful woman, you). So I promise I will be doing her story (That sweet rose of the Grande Prairie wheatfields) very soon. In fact probably next issue.

Irene (a super lady and very smart in business) was kind enough to let Droppin' In interview her, and so, I guess you can call this an apology from this egghead to you Irene (Queen of Queens) for not getting the job done I'm hired to do - write about (I'm on my knees) role models like you.

Have a super week Irene.



Gary Boucher

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Rocky Woodward

Harry Rusk, his wife Gladys and Trade Winds performed at Curly's Corral

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO IN-CLUDE YOUR EVENT IN THIS CALENDAR FOR THE APR. 29TH ISSUE, PLEASE CALL KAREN BEFORE NOON WED., APR. 17th AT (403)455-2700, FAX 455-7639 OR WRITE TO 15001 - 112 AVE., EDM., AB, T5M 2V6.

FLYING DUST FULL GOS-PEL NATIVE CHURCH; Sun. Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Biblestudy, 7 p.m.; SK.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL; Mon. & Wed.; 7-9 p.m.; Kikinahk Friendship Centre Gym; La Ronge, SK.

C.N.F.C. BOXING & FIRM-UP; Mon, Wed. & Fri. from 6:30 - 9 p.m.; Westmount Jr. High School, 11125 - 131 St.; Edm, AB. FLYING DUST AL-ANON MEETINGS; every Tues. at 7:00 p.m.; Flying Dust Health Clinic, SK.

OLD TIME SOBER DANCE; monthly; sponsored C.N.F.C.; Edmonton, AB. SOUP AND BANNOCK; every 2nd Friday; NAPI Friendship Centre, Pincher Creek, AB. SELF-SUFFICIENCY

NORTHERN JUSTICE IS-SUES; Apr. 14 - 18; sponsored by the Northern Justice Society; Centennial Building; Sitka, Alaska.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION "THE FUTURE IS OURS"; April 17 - 20; Convention Inn and Coast Terrace Inn, Edmonton, AB.

1ST ANNUAL ALL NATIVE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; April 19 - 21; Parkland Agriplex; Yorkton, SK.

PROJECT INDIGENOUS RES-TORATION; April 21 - 23; presented by The Artists' / Environment Forum; Toronto, ON.

CONFERENCE ON INDIAN **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** & TRADE SHOW; April 29 -May 2; Edmonton Inn; Edmonton, AB.

DEPRESSION: LET'S TALK ABOUT IT; Apr. 30, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.; Free; U. of Alberta, Edmon-

THE NATIVE AMERICAN MALE: LIVING IN TWO CUL-TURES; May 2 & 3; Holiday Inn Downtown, Minneapolis, Minnesota. PAY AND EMPLOYMENT

EQUITY: BREAKING

Indian Country

### Community **Events**

May 3 & 4; University of Calgary;

SAVE YOURSELF, SAVE YOUR KIDS: TRAUMA TREATMENT & INJURY PRE-VENTION; May 7, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.; U. of Alberta, Edmonton. WOMEN AND MENTAL HEALTH-WOMEN IN A VIO-LENT SOCIETY; May 9 - 12; Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, AB. **INDIGENOUS** PEOPLES CONFERENCE - "RECLAIM-ING THE PAST...CLAIMING THE FUTURE"; May 10-12; King's College, London, Ontario. SECOND ANNUAL SASK. NATIVE AIDS PROJECT CONFERENCE; May 15-17; Saskatoon Inn; Saskatoon, SK.

2ND ANNUAL NORTHERN

THROUGH THE BARRIERS; PROFESSIONAL CHUCK-

WAGON & CHARIOT RACES; May 18 & 19; Exhibition Park, Cold Lake First Nations, AB.

ECONOMIC DEV. TRADE SHOW; May 31, June 1 & 2; Saskatoon Jubilee Building; Saskatoon, SK.

INTERNATIONAL POW-WOW; June 14 - 16; sponsored by the Aboriginal Cultural Society Inc.; Winnepeg, MB. INTERNATIOAL ENVIRON-

MENTAL SYMPOSIUM; June 17-21; presented by Aboriginal Cultural Society Inc.; Winnipeg,

SAKIMAY POWWOW, June 21 - 23; Sakimay Reserve; Saskatchewan.

KINISTIN POWWOW; June 29-July 1; Saskatchewan.

#### Marlboro

### Trapper at descendent of rugged mountain people

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

MARLBORO, ALTA.

Russel Plante was raised in the Rocky Mountains. In fact he comes from a breed of rugged mountain people who have trapped and hunted in the mountain ranges and valleys near Hinton, Alta. since the early

He was born at a place called Entrance, appropriately named because it is the gateway to the western Rocky Mountains — the Grande Cache and Jasper re-

His eyes always alert, Plante slowly takes a puff from his cigarette in his home at Marlboro and

says "You want to interview me. ises of employment. OK, but remember. I speak on what I know, on what I feel. Nothing else," warns the quiet Metis man.

He says in the early years the area between Marlboro and Entrance was filled with animals to trap and hunt for meat and clothing. The air was mountain fresh and the only pollution came from the smoke chimneys of town houses and trappers' cab-

His father was a trapper and Plante is a trapper but he says the country he traps has changed greatly for the worse.

Plante says he witnessed oil and gas and logging companies cut away the forests with prom-

"I feel for the people in the north with Al-Pac and Daishowa (pulp mills) going in there. We went through that in the 1950s.

"Logging, poisonous gas, cutlines, they've destroyed the land around Marlboro and the animals have moved further into the mountains.

"Fish and wildlife says we don't need a trapline to subsidize our living. Heck, I couldn't make enough in the bush anyway to feed my family with all the activity going on. And where's all the work promised us? It's all lies," he says angrily.

Plante says broken promises are nothing new to him.

"They said they would do

'I'm concerned for our children but our voice only falls on deaf ears. We can't go on like this. Mother Earth must be given the chance to heal.'

wonders for us, jobs, a better living. But it ends up the educated, the experienced outsiders get the jobs. Then they're gone after the land is ruined and we're left with what? Nothing."

Plante says he is now involved with the aboriginal movement. But he says he'll have nothing to do with the Metis Nation of Alberta — formerly the MAA — because they took away his membership card.

"I started to be heard and got my card pulled. If you rattle the chain, you get it pulled," says Plante raising his hands in a 'what can I do?' manner.

Once the president of the Marlboro Metis local, he disbanded it because he was frustrated with the way the local was being ignored by the Metis Nation and their treatment of him, Plante says.

"I am an aboriginal member of the Cree Nation. I don't need a card to tell me who I am. I know who I am."

A father of five children, Plante worries about their future.

"When we start thinking about our future as one people and not about filling our hip pocket, we may have something left for the next generation. I want our children to benefit. But everytime we take money, we people in the Marlboro area, lose something, until the next generation ends up with noth-

"We have a white system that separates us. It says 'you're Metis, you're treaty, you're nonstatus' and it's sad. We're being torn apart with only a few who benefit while the rest of us suffer," says Plante.

He adds the breaking of treaties, present and past, and the way Native people in power sometimes treat their own "brothers and sisters" is why he has declared himself an aborigi-

"You know how important Mother Earth is to Indian people. Yet we're being robbed of everything the Creator gave us. It's always take, take, take."

eccepteces eccepteces

He cites an Indian legend that was said a long time ago when treaties were signed between the white man and Indians.

"As long as the grass shall grow, the sun shall shine and the rivers shall run, these treaties will not be broken. Well, the sun is still shining but the treaties have been broken many times. Why make agreements if they're not intended to be kept?" questions Plante.

When a pulp mill was built near Marlboro in the 1950s local people were promised everything, he says. But today, he says the timber is gone and his trapline is half-gone and filled with the criss-cross of cutlines.

"If logging continues, the fish will be poisoned and what will we be left with in this area — fish and game farms?

"Wild animals were never meant to be penned up. Look how they've all contacted tuberculosis. They have to be shot, buffalo, elk. What's happening?" he asks.

Like many other mountain Plante is deeply worried about the "death of the forests, rivers and mountains" that is their

Raising his cup of tea to his mouth he looks out his window towards the distant mountains. Then he slowly turns and watches his children playing in the living room. A long silence follows and then he says, "I'm concerned for our children but our voice only falls on deaf ears. We can't go on like this, Mother Earth must be given the chance to heal."

Did you know... Windspeaker is available in all friendship centres, band offices and metis settlements in Alberta and Saskatchewan?

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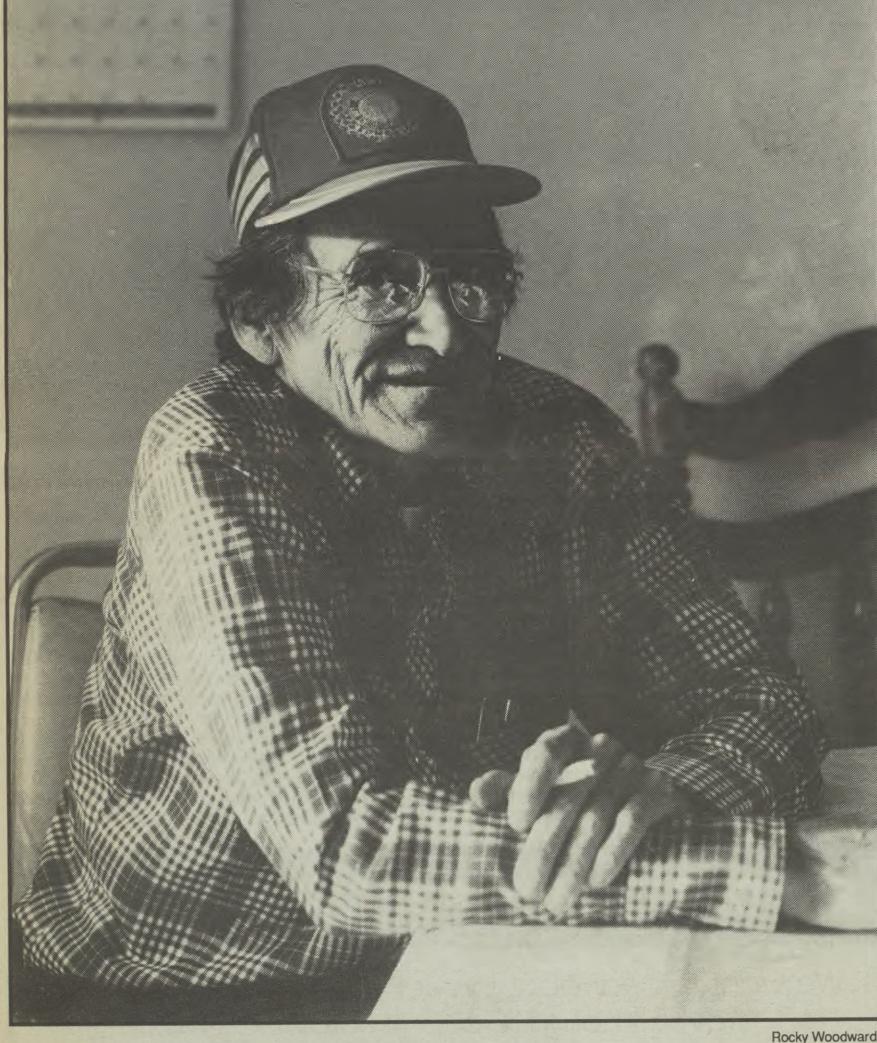
minds together and see

what life we will make

for our children."

ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL

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Rocky Woodward

Russel Plante...'I speak on what I know, on what I feel'

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#### Lubicon Lake Nation

### Logging company fled after equipment torched

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

LUBICON LAKE NATION, ALTA.

A logging company which had its equipment torched last November has fled Little Buffalo fearing additional sabotage attempts, says the chief of the Lubicon Lake Indian band.

"They are clearly worried," said Bernard Ominayak. Thirteen Lubicon Lake band members were charged in connection with the Nov. 24 torching of equipment used by Buchanan Logging Company.

But Brewster Construction, a Daishowa Canada subsidiary, and other logging companies continue working on Lubiconclaimed land. The companies supply spruce and aspen chips to Daishowa's \$500-million pulp mill operation in Peace River, 80 km from Little Buffalo.

In an interview at the Lubicon Lake band office, Ominayak said Daishowa "doesn't care about the Lubicons. They figure they've got the government in their pocket and they can do whatever they want."

In October, Daishowa, the Japanese-owned pulp giant whose Forest Management Agreement lies within the band's land claim, announced it would postpone logging in the disputed area until at least next year. Yet, Brewster Construction, Boucher

Lubicon-claimed land still logged for Daishowa

Brothers Lumber, Buchanan and others started logging as soon as the land froze in mid-November.

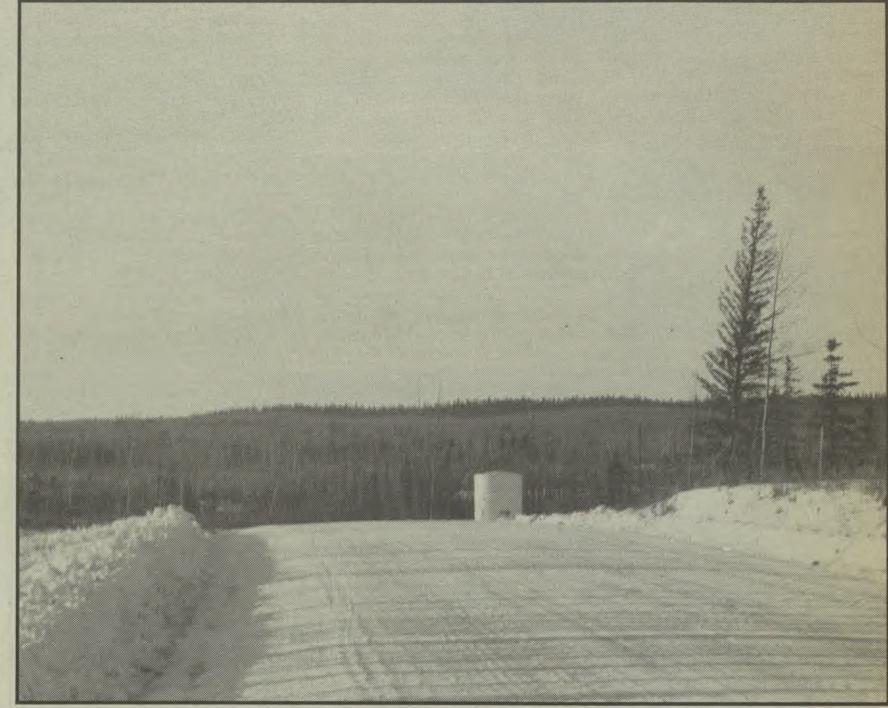
Ominayak then issued a final warning to developers working on unceded Lubicon land. He said unauthorized logging equipment "will be subject to removal at any time. They have to have the proper authorization permits from the Lubicon people if they want to continue. This is the only warning they'll get."

Ominayak said the operation permits would be similar to the ones issued by the Alberta gov-

"If they want to work here, they have to get permits. The real question is who's the proper authority to issue permits. The federal government had no business transferring our land to the Alberta government."

The Lubicons and the two levels of government have yet to reach an agreement as to whether Lubicon land rights are comprehensive or specific.

Comprehensive land claims are broad in scope and are negotiated with aboriginal groups usually in the north that continue to use and occupy traditional lands and whose aboriginal title has not been dealt with by treaty. Specific land claims, on the other hand, generally arise when the government has not fulfilled its obligations under treaties, the



Amy Santoro

#### Lubicon-claimed territory

Indian Act or other agreements. The Lubicons insist their claim is comprehensive since they never signed a treaty with jurisdiction over traditional land. Both levels of government say

the claim is specific. If the claim is indeed comprehensive, then the federal government transferred Lubicon lands to the province without first obtaining rights to the land. In this light it would seem the Alberta government doesn't have legal

jurisdiction over the resourcerich land.

But Bill Kilfoyle, manager of policy development for Indian Affairs, told Windspeaker the Lubicon case is neither specific nor comprehensive "but rather they are dealt with as a special case because of the difficult circumstances."

The three parties agreed to disagree on the matter in hopes of reaching an agreement in the federal government ceding other areas — like membership, reserve lands, financial compensation and economic develop-

> Negotiations between the Lubicons and Ottawa came to a halt in Jan. 1989 after the government's "take it or leave it offer."

> The government offered the 500-member band \$45 million and a 246-square-kilometre reserve as a settlement to the 50year dispute. The Lubicons want \$167 million in economic compensation.

> In early 1990 the band said it would not allow any sort of development activity inside the 10,000-square-kilometre territory it claims as its traditional hunting

and trapping area until it can settle its land claim with the federal government.

Yet in December the band reached an agreement with Petro-Canada allowing the company to do seismic work in Lubicon-claimed territory.

Band adviser Fred Lennarson defends the move saying the band has to decide which issues they'll take a stand on. "Do you make a stand there or with people who say they'll mow you down no matter what you do?"

In return, Petro-Canada has promised to pressure the federal government to reach a settle-

"If Petro-Canada wants to continue working in the area, they'd better start pushing the federal government like we've been pushing," said Ominayak.

#### Friendship Society (403) 328-2414 535 - 13 Street North, Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 2S6

We salute Education Week

April 29 - May 4, 1991

SIK-OOH-KOTOKI

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1991 POWWOW COUNTRY

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 ARTICLES are true stories about real people and events. Should not be more than 1500 words, and may be accompanied with photos or other illustrations.

• POETRY should be 25 lines or less.

• ILLUSTRATIONS may be in any two-dimensional medium which will reproduce in the newspaper.

• PHOTOS should include information on the subject. Children, adults and youth are encouraged to submit. Submissions should have a powwow theme.

For written material please type, write or print your contribution neatly.

Illustrations should be packaged carefully.

Photo contributions should include both print and negative, color or black and white.

Be sure to include your name, address, phone and age.

**DEADLINE: May 15, 1991** 

#### Lubicon Lake Nation

### Band plans to halt development—Ominayak

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

LUBICON LAKE NATION. ALTA.

Developers working on Lubicon-claimed territory this summer "will certainly know we're still alive," says the chief of the Lubicon Lake Indian band.

Winter in Little Buffalo, 360 km northwest of Edmonton, has been quiet, but Bernard Ominayak stressed "it'll be an interesting summer, we have not given up yet." Ominayak said a plan to end development work in the area is in place but he refused to discuss details.

As an example of the sort of development activity the Lubicons plan to stop, Ominayak pointed to Norcen Energy Resources. "They are not out of the woods yet," he said in a recent interview at Little Buffalo. Ominayak said the Lubicons won't "leave the matter alone but it's a question of when we'll move."

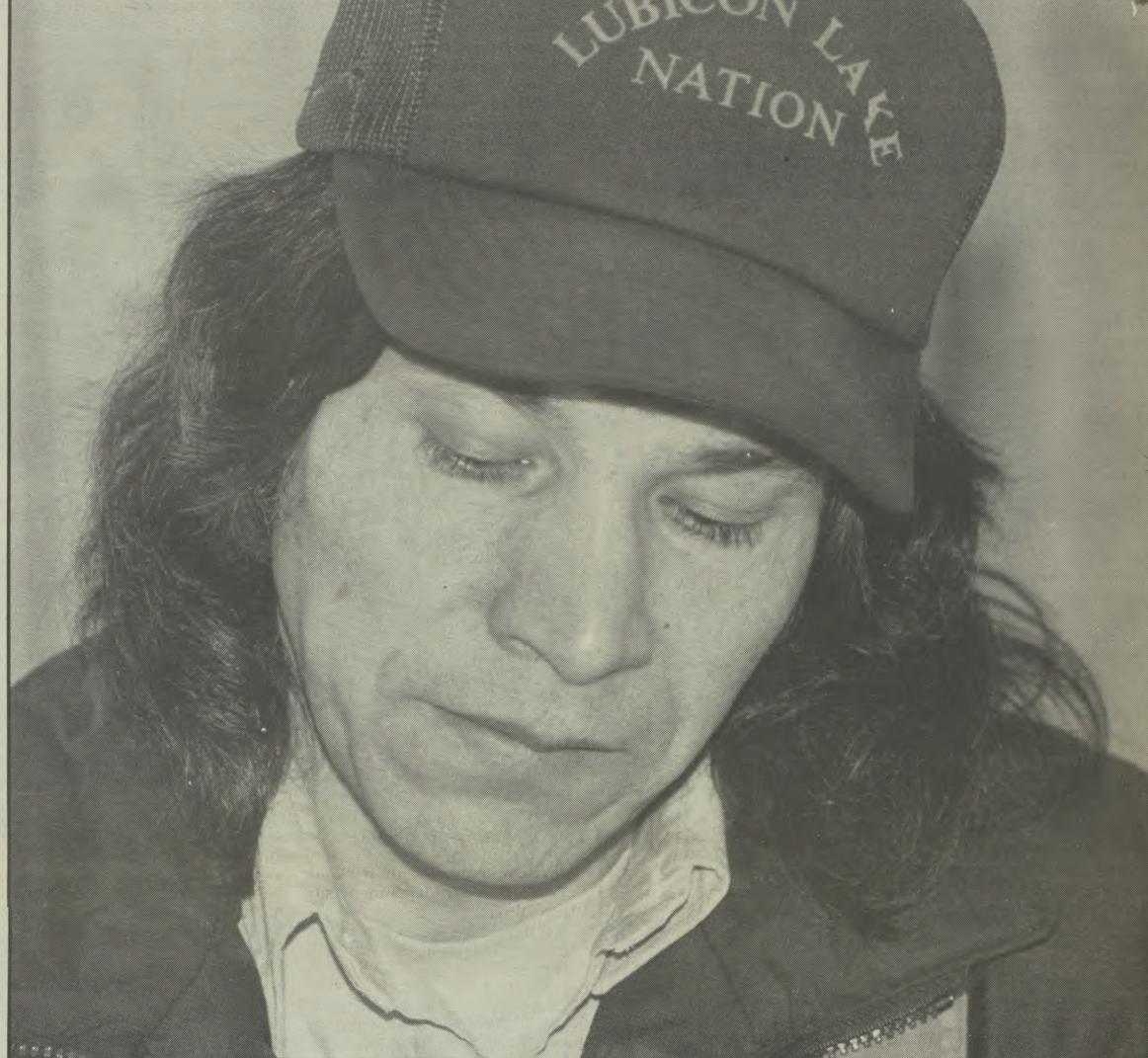
Norcen re-opened 18 oil wells, partly owned by Petro-Canada and Husky Oil, in early December. The wells had been shut in since Nov. 30, 1989 after threats of sabotage from Lubicon mem-

The Lubicons have been out of the headlines since December when 13 Lubicon members were charged in connection with the torching of logging equipment belonging to Buchanan Lumber. In December, prior to charges being laid, Ominayak stopped short of saying he ordered the firebombing.

"I believe in the cause and no RCMP or developer is going to stop me, they'll have to hang me. How can the Creator point the finger at me who has devoted his whole life to helping my people? How can anybody be wrong doing that?"

At the band office in Little Buffalo in mid-March, Ominavak said he's "not afraid of what the police or the courts may do. I believe very strongly in what I'm doing and whatever is done to me in the process I don't think about it. I try to keep my focus. If at any point I get charged or thrown in jail, I don't

Referring to the 13 band members charged in the Nov. 24 equipment torching, Ominayak said "I would have felt better if I



Lubicon Chief Bernard Ominayak...'a person gets tired and frustrated'

Amy Santoro

had been charged instead of my members."

Looking somewhat weary, Ominayak said "a person gets tired and frustrated with the attitude this government has toward Native people." But Ominayak said that in no way means he'll give up.

"I've made a commitment to my people and as long as I have their support I'm determined to keep that commitment. Whether I'm tired or not is not an issue at this point because I'm not at a point where I'm bound to give

Ominayak, who still retains the Indian culture he will "die with," said his vision is to give his people "a chance of building a future."

The Lubicon Cree have been struggling for over 50 years to reach a land settlement with the government but Ominayak said his people "will hang tight, we won't take an unjust settlement."

Last year the federal government offered the band \$45 million and a 246-square-kilometre reserve but the Lubicons turned them down. They want \$167million compensation for lost royalties on oil taken from Lubicon-claimed land.

Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon called Lubicon demands "vastly in excess" when compared to other settlements reached by the government with other Native communities.

But band adviser Fred Lennarson points to numerous settlements across the country which exceed Lubicon demands.

Ominavak doubts whether a settlement will be possible "while this particular government is in power. When Natives are prepared to give up or negotiate everything away, then they'll get a settlement. But if you're looking for a just and fair settlement, the government takes a hard-line position by saying 'no settlement'."

In the late 1970s a group of isolated Lubicons, used to a traditional way of life with little help from either level of government, were given a devasting blow when oil companies moved

The development brought few benefits to the Lubicons, but instead forced them to live a dependent way of life. It destroyed their once viable hunting and trapping economy, now the Lubicons need help producing a viable mixed economy, said Lennarson.

The Lubicons face an unemployment rate of 95 per cent, alcoholism is the most prevalent disease, families are falling apart and houses are crowded.

"We don't have any desire to move out of our area and yet the way of life is almost all gone. Oil development destroyed our hunting and trapping and now we've got this pulp mill wanting to clear-cut within our traditional area. And yet we can't come to an agreement with the federal government to turn to a different way of making a living," said Ominavak.

Daishowa Canada relies on logging companies in the area for spruce and aspen chips to run its \$500-million megamill in Peace River, 90 km from Little Buffalo.

Ominayak said if a settlement isn't reached soon, "the young generation doesn't have a future." But he said the Lubicons

won't agree to a settlement "if it's not going to benefit our younger generation, then there's no point discussing it."

Despite the poverty and array of social problems, Ominayak said his people are "still hanging in there trying to fight for survival."

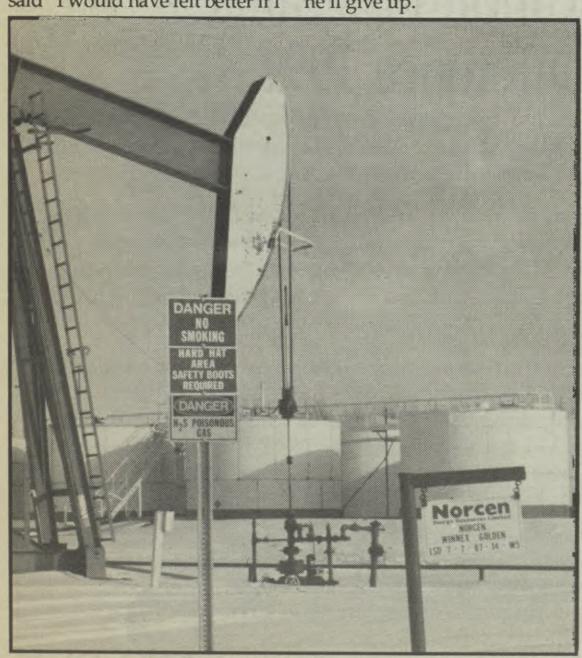
Lennarson said there's "no doubt in my mind the federal government is committed to their destruction. They don't want a settlement unless the Lubicons are prepared to accept anything they offer."

Lennarson said the government doesn't want the Lubicons "to serve as an inspiration to other aboriginal people to stand up for their rights." The government, said Lennarson, wants "to crush and destroy" the Lubicons and "anybody who challenges their jurisdiction."

Yet the Lubicons throughout their struggle have remained a peaceful and shy people. Although they have been waiting for half a century for a reserve promised to them by the federal government and a decade for economic compensation from oil and gas pumped out of their traditional lands, they have struggled to remain non-violent.

In 1988 when unarmed band members set up a roadblock, the confrontation, which ended in 26 arrests, was peaceful.

Ominayak said he hopes the situation doesn't get violent "but keep in mind people have to try to protect themselves as best they



Amy Santoro

Norcen's decision to reopen its wells in December angered the Lubicon chief. He says 'they are not out of the woods yet.'

#### **EDUCATION WEEK: April 29 - May 5**

### Annual powwow a tradition at Paul band school

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

DUFFIELD, ALTA.

When students at the Paul band school celebrated their third annual powwow recently, they were helping to establish a events in the school year.

new tradition in their school.

"This event just keeps getting bigger and better every year," says Barb Williams, kindergarten teacher and one of the organiz-

The March 21 day of celebration is one of the biggest cultural

### Youth turned corner in high school

**By Heather Andrews** Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

Anyone possessing the kindness of spirituality can pass it on to other people, says a Native

To live a wholesome, happy life people have to balance their spritual, physical, emotional and mental needs, notes Travis Dugas, who travels Alberta, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories conducting workshops with Native youths in their communities.

"We talk about everything from self-esteem to cultural awareness." Dugas, along with his employer, Edmonton-based Bear Woman and Associates, acknowledges the strong influence peer pressure can put on young people who often feel if they don't use drugs, drink and smoke, they won't fit in with their peer group. But he says it's their choice and it all depends on their attitude.

"If they feel good about themselves though, they won't need to belong to such a group to feel acceptance," he says.

One segment of the workshops Dugas conducts teaches young people to understand prejudice. "If they are proud of who they are, they can learn to handle racist remarks and attitudes."

Dugas started drifting aimlessly during his junior high school years. "I was hanging out with some pretty rough characters and trying to find happiness in unhealthy activities, drinking and partying," he remembers.

After a few years of not really liking himself and finding his life empty and meaningless, he took a good look at himself. "I was from a family with lots of troubles and I saw myself going the same way. I wanted to have a better life for myself."

By the time he entered St. Joseph's Composite High School in

Edmonton he was ready to apply himself to his studies and to become fit physically. "I concentrated on sports and weightlifting and it paid off," he says. Not only did he graduate successfully from Grade 12, he won the outstanding male athlete award for 1988-89 at St. Joseph's and the next year he won the Rita Houle Memorial award for Native male athlete in Alberta, presented by the Canadian Native Friendship Centre in Edmonton.

Dugas, 21, realized his education was still far from complete, however. High school had only given him academic learning. "We need the teachings and wisdom of our elders too," he

He started working with Bear Woman in January. "I'm comfortable with my position as facilitator and I hope I can help a lot of young people by my example and by what I have been through," he says. The sessions he leads are called You're Simply the Best. It's hard, he says, to convince young people they're not responsible for the cycle of abuse many of them see in their families.

But a child who is feeling good about himself can accomplish anything and this is his goal when working with young people. "That's where the spirituality is so important. We work to understand ourselves and where each of us belongs within the world," he says. Each person has a spiritual path to follow and it's up to them to choose if he wants to follow it.

Dugas also passes on knowledge gained when he travelled to West Berlin, Germany to attend an international conference on alcohol and drug addictions in

Dugas considers where Indian people have come from historically. "When you consider what we have been through over the last couple of hundred years, you realize we have it in us to overcome tragedies," he says.

ways behind events like the annual powwow. "Of the 10 councillors, all but one were in attendance," says the teacher. Parents participated as well helping with costumes and applauding encouragement as dancers whirled. Parent Wilson Bearhead took on the master of ceremonies duties. Jim Baylis from the federal department of Indian affairs, powwow chairperson Cathy Dyck and Coun. Irwin Adam also addressed the crowd.

The day included a grand entry, bannock and soup served to elders and dance demonstrations. A princess pageant, in which candidates were judged on many attributes including public speaking, was won by

The chief and council are al- Grade 6 student Debbie Bird.

Williams says more and more of the 190 children come in costume every year. "They have found they can dance and have a good time." The school also encourages the young people with different incentives. And that they are in touch with their traditions and culture is also exciting for them, she says.

The school teaches children from kindergarten to Grade 8. The building, located on the Paul reserve about 80 km west of Edmonton, is less than 10 years old. It sits across the street from the Gooderham school, its predecessor, which is now in use as an adult education facility.

Other activities related to the culture of the Stoney and Cree

children attending the school include weekly club meetings where cooking, games, beading and other crafts are done. "These are held during school hours and are really enjoyed by the kids," Williams says. As well the young people especially enjoy presentations by RCMP officer Michael Stewart of the nearby Stony Plain detachment. He tries to get the young people thinking of the police as their friends as much as administrators of justice and he discusses life skills with them.

Williams is pleased the school has Paul band member Velma Bird as a teachers' aide. "Velma has been with the school many years and her input is valuable. And this year two more Native aides began working with us."



Heather Andrews

Local band members joined in as drummers and singers at the Paul band school powwow. Left to right are Percy Yellowbird, Charles Bearhead, Josh Saulteaux, Billy Adams, Adrian Bull and Percy Rain

## Canadian Indian Teacher Education Programs Conference 1991

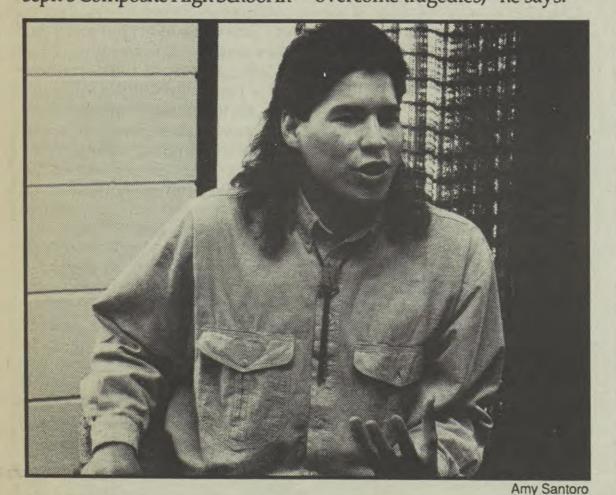
The Canadian Indian Teacher Education Programs (CITEP) Conference will be hosted by Arctic College and the N.W.T. Department of Education in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, from August 12 to 14, 1991.

The conference is designed for people interested in Inuit, Indian or Metis education. The conference will be of particular interest to graduates of teacher education programs or those presently in teacher education programs in Alaska, Canada, Greenland, the Soviet Union, and other countries.

People interested in conducting a conference session are invited to submit a proposal before April 30, 1991. Possible topics include culturally innovative teacher education programs, and the roles of language, community involvement and research in native education.

A pre-conference colloquium will be held for CITEP members August 10 and 11.

Anyone interested in attending as a delegate or submitting a proposal should contact Ellen Hatlevik, Conference Co-ordinator, Thebacha Campus, Continuing Education, Box 600, Fort Smith, N.W.T., Canada X0E 0P0, (403) 872-7519 (phone), Northwest (403) 872-5024 (fax).



**Travis Dugas** 

Did you know...Windspeaker is distributed in Alberta & Saskatchewan band offices, Metis settlements and friendship centres?

### Tables turned at former residential school

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

HOBBEMA, ALTA.

Singing and playing traditional Indian games isn't normally part of a language course, but students at Maskwachees Cultural College in Hobbema are the exception to the rule. "Language and culture are interwoven," says Louise Willier.

The Cree instructor plans outings and activities throughout the school semester in addition to classroom studies. "We go out in the country and learn how to make bannock and cook it on a stick over a fire. And we play traditional games, too," she adds.

The women's stick game, for example, teaches mathematical skills and how to adhere to strict rules while at the same time teaching students about an interesting aspect of their past.

Indian songwriter Brian MacDonald from Onion Lake developed material for the Maskwachees classes and teachers at the college have prepared their own programs geared to different levels of proficiency.

"We also teach proper protocol such as how to approach an elder for help with a personal problem or with a question about a health-related matter," she says. The time-tested importance of offering tobacco as a gift when asking for assistance from an elder is emphasized.

Teachers at the college go out into the community to teach Cree as well. Two days a week Willier travels to Bowden Institution and Winfield School to present classes there. "We will go wherever the need is," she says, adding that a series of lessons was recently requested by Wetaskiwin RCMP.

Willier has firsthand experience in seeing the evolution of teaching methods from those used in Indian residential schools, which she attended as a child. Maskwachees College is housed in the building formerly used as a residential school by countless generations of Hobbema residents.

"While times and methods have changed since those days there are still similarities," she

muses. The Ermineskin band member was a willing student and enjoyed learning, so she found by concentrating on her studies and following the rules, time passed quickly to the end of the school year each June.

Today's students still have to follow rules and adhere to the school system in place. "I guess the main difference is the use of English in the old days in comparison to the emphasis on using Cree today," she says.

Maskwachees has a special program to encourage people who speak Cree fluently to become instructors. "It runs for three weeks in the summer and prospective teachers attend three sessions. We help them with setting up programs, Cree syllabics and so on," she says. The only prerequisite is the ability to speak the language. The college has teachers and teachers' aides attending from all over Alberta and Saskatchewan.



Heather Andrews

Cree language instructors Linda Oldpan, left, and Louise Willier use the Women's Stick Game (Chikahkwanak) as a learning experience. The other Cree instructors at Maskwachees College are Linda N. Saddleback and Walter Lightning.

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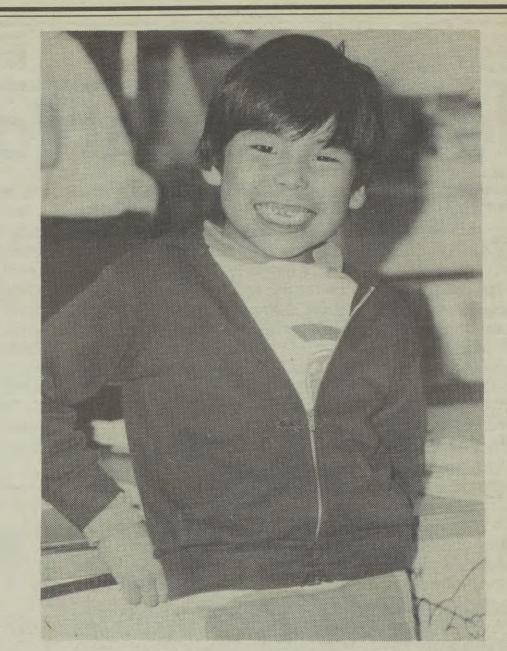
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**Grant MacEwan Community College** 

### 'Without an education your career prospects are bleak'

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

ALEXANDER INDIAN RE-SERVE, ALTA.

A young Alexander woman is out to prove she can set a career goal and then achieve it — with the right education.

Crystal Arcand has just graduated from St. Joseph's Composite high school in Edmonton and is now working at St. Paul's Life Values School.

In the fall she will begin a twoyear program in law enforcement at Regina's Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. Then she'll go on to train as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted

Police.

Arcand considers getting a good education the most important aspect of her life. "Without education your career prospects are pretty bleak. And it's boring, just sitting around or working at mundane jobs." Planning a career gives her life a focus, something to look forward to and a challenge to keep life interesting, she says.

The 18-year-old credits the Life Values School, which she attended for four years, with impressing the importance of career planning on her. "We were encouraged to think beyond graduation and to be honest with ourselves about what we wanted from life."

Arcand would be the first

female RCMP officer from her home reserve, located just north of Edmonton. "Our good family friend Raymond Arcand is an RCMP (officer) at Stony Plain and he has been a real role model for me," she says. Raymond was not only her mentor, but a source of information as she made her decision.

"Crystal has just the right personality and sense of determination to be an excellent officer. And she is very reliable," says Raymond, a 12-year-veteran of the RCMP. He says Crystal has the support of her family, which he has known for years, and the entire reserve in her career choice.

"Everyone recognizes the need for more Native constables and we all agree Crystal will be a good candidate for the job," he says.

The young woman is looking forward to the next few years. "I like being physically fit and I am looking forward to the training," she says. She feels being in the



Graphic by Ernest Gladu

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police services will give her a chance to help other Natives. "It's good for Indian people to

communicate with someone who understands their culture and their religion," she says.

#### **FACING AIDS**

A 13-part series on AIDS in Alberta began appearing on provincial television stations and in provincial newspapers last month. The campaign is intended to provide Albertans with information and models for changing behaviors which put them at risk of HIV infection. Since AIDS was first reported in 1981, 323 Albertans have been diagnosed with the illness. Of these 176 (54 per cent) have died.

AIDS, the last stage of infection of the HIV, affects all sectors of Alberta's population. So far more than 170 Albertans—men, died and an equal number are extremely ill. People with AIDS live in Edmonton, Calgary, smaller cities, towns and rural areas.

In Alberta over 1,000 men and women have tested positive for antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). These men and women are accepting numbers are only the tip of the iceberg. Educated guesses suggest there may be several thousand other people who are in- about our behavior, we can fected but don't know it. Of those now infected almost all will probably develop AIDS within lowing safer practices, we can the next 10 years.

Many people who are infected feel fine and may not be able to accept they have taken part in risky behaviors - unprotected sexual intercourse or sharing needles to inject drugs — the two practices that most commonly spread the infection. Of all Albertans with AIDS, at least 16 have injected drugs at one time or another and many of them have also been involved in risky sexual practices.

Right now in some countries, it is estimated over half the population is infected with HIV. The World Health Organization reports that as of October 1990, 60 per cent of all infections

worldwide occurred through heterosexual intercourse. While this picture doesn't yet apply to Alberta, the number of people becoming infected through heterosexual intercourse is rising. Preventing the spread of HIV infection is essential so infection rates here never reach that proportion.

Preventing the spread of HIV requires we recognize AIDS is not limited to any particular groups. AIDS does not recognize social status, provincial boundaries or good intentions. Today in Alberta HIV infection is almost women and children - have always spread through participation in specific, chosen behaviors. Anybody who participates in unprotected sexual intercourse outside a mutually monogamous relationship or shares needles to inject drugs may be

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> For more information about HIV infection in Alberta, call the health unit in your community.

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Watch Facing AIDS with Dr. Bryce Larke, medical director Alberta Health AIDS Program. For viewing times call 427-5266 toll free through the government of Alberta RITE number in your phone book.

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### Scholarship established in chief's name

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

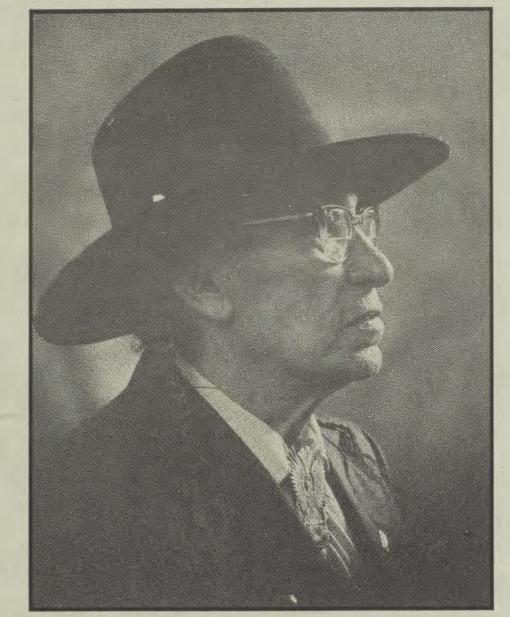
HOBBEMA, ALTA.

The dedication and contribution of a legendary Cree chief have once again been recognized, this time by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN).

Chief Robert Smallboy led his Ermineskin people from their Hobbema reserve into the Rocky Mountains south of Edson in 1968. "He was dedicated to preserving and nurturing the traditions of his people," said spokesperson Andrea Chrisjohn, director of the chiefs of Ontario. Smallboy, who was also awarded the Order of Canada, foresaw a bleak future for Indians living on reserves. By the time of his death in 1984, the settlement had become well established.

The Smallboy award of \$2,000 is just one of seven scholarships which will be awarded by the AFN to students from First Nations across Canada who show outstanding academic achievement at the post-secondary level, said Chrisjohn.

The awards are presented annually by the AFN and administered by the National In-



Chief Robert Smallboy

of our Time awards were established in 1989 to commemorate dian Brotherhood. "The Heroes renowned Native leaders of this

century for their contributions to society in a variety of fields," she

The Chief Smallboy award was added just this year as was the Jake Fire award in memory of the Mohawk Indian who was killed by the Canadian Dominion Police in 1899 for protecting his brother, grand chief of the Akwesasne Mohawks, during a police-led ambush.

The awards have been added to five existing scholarships already in place which acknowledge Manitoba's Tommy Prince, who was a Silver Star and Military Medal winner; Omer Peters, one of the founders of the National Indian Brotherhood; Tom Longboat, legendary athlete of the Six Nations reserve; Walter Dieter, one of the founders of the National Indian Brotherhood and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and James Gosnell of the Nisga'a Nation in British Colombia, a fearless advocate of aboriginal title and rights.

Nominations are being accepted for the 1991 awards. A selection committee reviews the applications, which must include two letters of recommendation, a record of volunteer experience in the community, extracurricular activities and a transcript of their academic achievements.

Deadline for submissions is May 31. The awards will be presented June 21.

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### Association helps keep heritage languages alive

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

Since 1978 the Northern Alberta Heritage Language Association has acted as an umbrella organization serving ethnic community schools in the northern part of the province.

According to Wendy McLachlin, projects manager for the community education division at Grant MacEwan Community College, the association provides support to instructors teaching about 30 heritage languages in over 70 different communityoperated schools.

"It is estimated this network is comprised of some 500 instructors and over 5,000 students," she says. A heritage lan- Multiculturalism Commission. guage is an ancestral language official language, says McLach- tional skills, knowledge and atti-

The teachers involved vary in their level of experience and training. Over the years the association has provided a variety of learning opportunities through workshops and conferences.

"Feedback from the instructors has indicated there still existed a need to improve the skills instructors bring to the classroom," says McLachlin.

As a result of this finding the association began to work with staff at Grant MacEwan to develop an in-service training program for instructors. Financial support was provided by the Secretary of State and the Alberta

"Grant MacEwan undertook which does not have status as an to develop a profile of occupatudes required by a successful heritage language instructor," McLachlin says. A pilot project begun in 1990 will be completed in December.

Ten courses and 120 hours of instruction include developing classroom materials, integrating language and culture, planning lessons and evaluating students. Upon successful completion of each course, students will be given a certificate and a further acknowledgement of completion will be given by Grant MacEwan and the association after all 10 courses are finished. "Attendance must be 100 per cent," says McLachlin.

Indian language instructors are welcome to participate in the program and the college has in the past used well-known Cree linguist Dr. Anne Anderson as a resource person. "We are the umbrella group for keeping language and culture alive. It's hard to keep young people involved in their traditional language and way of life when they are immersed in modern society," says Lyndall Young, of the associa-

Many people in northern areas are interested in the program and it's hoped it may be expanded beyond Edmonton. "It will be assessed next year and hopefully the funders will be encouraged by the academic researcher to continue the program," says Young.

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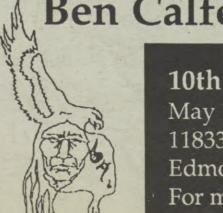
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### Project gets parents, students more involved

By Diane Parenteau Windspeaker Correspondent

ST. PAUL, ALTA.

Native students in the St. Paul school system have something going for them students a few short years ago didn't have. They're part of the St. Paul Native Education Project to improve attendance, increase Native parental involvement and raise students' marks.

One of 55 throughout the province funded by Alberta Education, the project is backed by a group of concerned parents, Native liaison workers and Native club members working towards these common goals.

"All schools are involved," said former project co-ordinator Andy Jackson, who doubles as the liaison worker for the elementary school. Each of the other three town schools also have liaison workers, two of which teach the Cree language as well. In addition, the project co-funds a family therapist who is used by Native students and parents on demand.

The 14 people on the parent advisory committee — which has subcommittees in the four schools — play an active role in the project through personal interest in their school and through group meetings to dis-

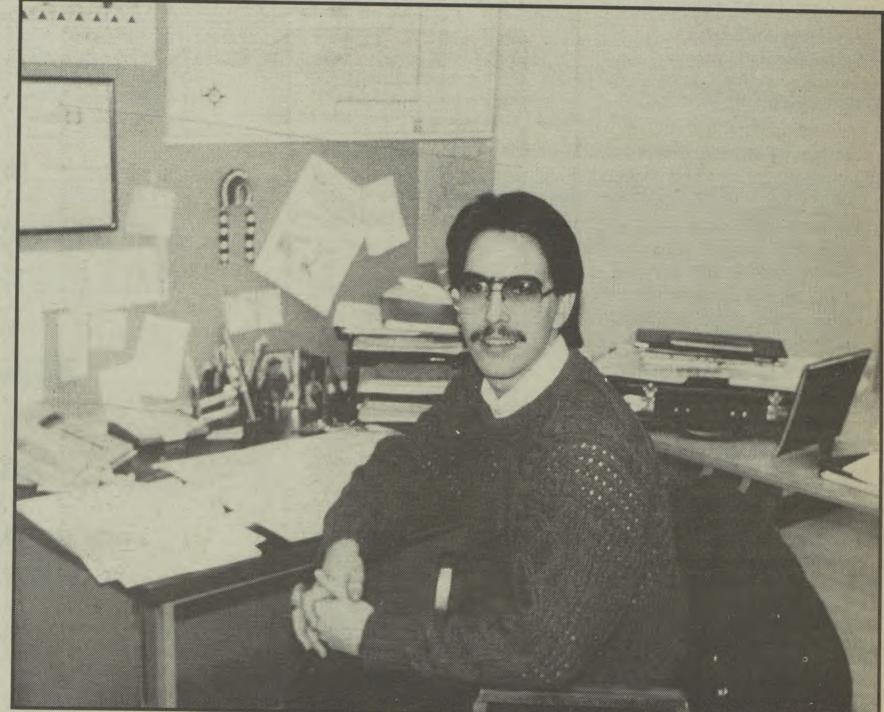
"They encourage other parental involvement by inviting participation to workshops and conferences," said Jackson. "As well, they are in charge of setting up extracurricular activities for the Native student clubs in the town schools. Seeing their parents come out, (the children) see they are really involved. It has an impact. A lot of the kids feel if their mom is in the school, they (themselves) are a part of the school."

The advisory group has been actively lobbying the town school board regarding the Native studies program that saw Cree taught at the regional high school for the first time this semester.

Three of the town's four schools have Native clubs open to all students, who work with their peers to increase Native attendance in extracurricular activities and to help them feel more at home in a non-Native school system.

"They do a lot of fundraising for things like educational trips," said Jackson. "We ask that they bring out their parents too and that's really been increasing. Involvement is one major indicator of support for the program."

Involvement has also increased for parent/teacher day over the years, according to Jackson. Liaison workers are



Andy Jackson

there to help bridge gaps between the school and parents sometimes caused by language barriers, especially when a child's guardian is an elderly

grandparent.

"Within the school it's a wellvalued program," he said.

Jackson is also working with the advisory group to plan a

parents' conference for this fall. It will deal with topics like Cree language instruction, the school system, career development and homework studies.

### Scavenger hunts, maze games used to teach Cree

Native people, this communica-

tion gap creates larger gaps within and between cultures.

For many Native and non-

The Mannawanis Multicultu-

By Diane Parenteau Windspeaker Correspondent

ST. PAUL, ALTA.

When non-Natives hear the rhythmic sounds of the Cree message lost.

language, they often listen closely hoping to make out a word or a phrase that will help them understand but eventually they tune out and quit. The words misunderstood, the meaning untranslatable, the

John Gray

ral Friendship Centre in St. Paul is committed to bridging those gaps by offering an evening Cree program unlike all others.

Developed and instructed by non-Native person, who doesn't speak Cree, the program uses guessing, card and blindfold games together with printed material and a Cree-speaking

language consultant. It teaches more than vocabulary which instructor John Gray feels adds to the effectiveness of the course. Gray, a retired language specialist, understands the mechanics of Cree but relies on the consultant for pronunciation and guidance. The students are also teachers listening, repeating

and correcting one another.

"Learning a language isn't just learning words, it's practising passing messages, practising getting messages across," he

Gray believes learning should be fun and he takes the students on scavenger hunts, horn-blowing games and through blindfolded maze games where they learn directions.

Much of the course is spent in small group activities or one-onone activities where Cree is used throughout. The consultant monitors and corrects.

Because the activities are fun and entertaining laughter is ever present which eases the embarrassment of mispronunciation which is a barrier for many.

"We laugh at the activities and not at the way the person is saying it," said Mannawanis

Centre president Sharon Steinhauer, who has lived in a Native community for 15 years and has just now begun to speak the language thanks to the course, which she participated in last

Mannawanis executive director Bob Harrison, who also participated, found the approach more effective than any other

"This is the place to wrap yourself around the words," he said.

Gray is developing an instructor's manual and hopes to eventually have the entire course on disk.

"My ultimate aim is to get other people doing it," he said.

Mannawanis is currently offering a combined beginners/ intermediate course and plans to continue the program in the fall.

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#### Advertising Feature \_\_\_

### Energy efficient wall systems popular in Indian country

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY, ALTA.

An energy-efficient exterior wall system is proving to be popular in numerous construction projects in Indian country. The Nascor wall system is in use in new buildings on the Peigan reserve, the Navajo reservation in Arizona, the Tagish Kwan Corporation in Whitehorse in the Yukon territory, the Sarcee reserve and in a housing project for the Indian people at Lilloet, B.C.

"The two basic components of the system are its unique wood and polystyrene columns and its solid polystyrene infill panels," says sales manager Cleve Stordy. These components combine to create a structurally sound, easily assembled load-bearing wall that's easy to install.

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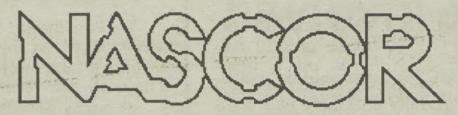
The system can be compared to the principle behind a thermos bottle. "There is almost no area where there is direct wood contact from inside to outside, thus there is no heat loss," he explains.

Extensive testing was sponsored through Alberta's Department of Municipal Affairs and the National Research Council of Canada. "Results indicated structural strength properties better than conventional 2 X 4 wood stud framing with excellent vertical load," says Stordy.

The polystyrene product comes out ahead in fire tests, too. Wood ignites at 500 degrees F whereas a Nascor wall will tolerate heat up to 925 degrees F.

Another important consideration is that the band can opt to purchase only the materials and use local labor to build their project. "Or if they prefer, we can do the whole thing. Either way we can help them from the design stage up," says Stordy.

Head offices are located at Calgary and local buyers are invited to call Cleve there at 279-1966. "People in British Columbia can call Ron Coates at Langley at 604-888-4133," says Stordy.



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Secwepemc Cultural Education Society

#### CURRICULUM/PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT



BACKGROUND

According to Article VI of

the Shuswap Declaration, the

Secwepemc Cultural Educa-

tion Society (SCES) initiated a

plan for the development of a

comprehensive Shuswap cur-

riculum program which

would be implemented in

those schools within Shuswap

Nation. Such a program will

serve to address the lack of

culturally based materials

available to Shuswap students

After a review of existing

resources for teachers and

students SCES wanted a prod-

uct comparable to the existing

curriculum. During the years

of 1982 to the present, through

a series of curriculum devel-

opment meetings, the grade

two and grade four social

study units were researched

and teachers.

and written.

and dry proofing, SCES undertook the project using Macintosh Desktop Publishing system and the Publishing Department was initiated.

The concept was to establish a

typesetting, design, formatting,

Publishing Department to produce publications on Native educational curriculum, oral histories, biographies and childrens' books. The language resource materials would also be a part of the publishing program to aid in the retention and revitalization of the Native language.

The B.C. Ministry of Education and local School Districts have supported SCES's endeavours in the curriculum development and publishing areas.

Other joint projects include Shuswap History—The First 100 Years of Contact, a Social Studies curriculum for Grade 9-10. We are presently working on a Grade 10-12 book, tentatively called Shuswap History—Times of Change.

Under the direction of the SCES Board of Directors and Curriculum Development Committee, the Curriculum/Publishing Department will continue to develop quality materials of high quality standards that is well researched and depicts Native people accurately and would include Shuswap history, language and culture.

#### DEPARTMENT GOALS

1. To establish a Native Print- ciency.

To save on production costs in ing Company.

2. To develop curriculum units and resource materials based on Shuswap culture for use in the schools of the Shuswap Nation.

3. To present accurate and factual information about Shuswap people that will serve to enhance their image and further aid the students of the Shuswap Nation in their development of positive self-concepts.

4. To provide Shuswap students with the skills and knowledge for a meaningful life in their communities.

5. To train and create employment for Native people in the areas of publishing, marketing, curriculum development, computing, book illustration and editorial development.

6. To produce educational and trade publications on Native educational curriculum, oral histories, biographies, childrens' books, as well as office stationary, brochures, business cards, newsletters/papers, flyers, poster, etc.

7. To market and distribute to schools, general public and interested institutions (gift shops).

8. To create pride among Native people using Native language in our publications to foster an understanding and appreciation of our culture.

9. To work towards self-sufficiency.

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DISEASE: Which decimated the Shuswap population, shifting the population balance in favour of the newcomers.

THE MISSIONARIES: Whose residential schools attempted to undermine the Shuswap culture and assimilate Indian children into white society.

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#### Blue Quills 60th Anniversary

### Native people gained more control after sit-in

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

ST. PAUL, ALTA.

In 1931 school principal Father Angin, his assistant Brother Lacroix and nine sisters of the Grey Nuns order moved 84 children to their new school, the Blue Quills Indian residential school.

On March 30, 1991 former students and staff of the educational facility, located on 160 acres of Crown land near St. Paul, gathered with local residents to celebrate 60 years of existence.

"Many students went on to become leaders in their Indian communities and others reached fame through their talents such as well-known artist Alex Janvier," says Jeanette Kakeesim, secretary at Blue Quills.

Most of the students came from local Metis settlements and the seven Indian communities in the immediate area — Saddle Lake, Goodfish Lake, Kehewin, Frog Lake, Cold Lake, Beaver Lake and Heart Lake. As well, there has always been a good representation from across Canada, Kakeesim says.

There have been many changes over the years. In 1946, 140 students were joined by other students from the area and high school students were bused to nearby St. Paul.

With fewer people entering religious orders, it soon became difficult to find enough Grey Nuns to staff the school and by 1970 the government was considering phasing out the school. The Saddle Lake School Committee proposed turning opera- lege. "We encourage students to tion of the school over to Native management. But the govern- commuities," says Kakeesim. ment ignored the demands of the community and there was a sit-

"I can remember my mom talking about it. What started out with about 60 people soon grew to 300," says Kakeesim. Non-Native supporters as well as Indian people from other provinces joined in.

In Dec. 1970 an agreement was signed between Jean Chretien for Indian Affairs and the Blue Ouills Native Education Council.

Since that historic agreement qualified Indian people have slowly taken over staffing positions wherever possible.

In co-operation with the Alberta curriculum development branch, Blue Quills has developed language books, teachers' guides, student texts and other material in the region's Native tongue, Plains Cree. As well, the focus of the school has changed as elementary schools were built on most of the reserves and fewer children attended.

Today Blue Quills has expanded into post-secondary education, vocational training and business education. Programs have been added from Athabasca University, Alberta Vocational College and Grant MacEwan Community College. Programs include teaching, teacher's aide, public administration, social work, Native nursing, pre-employment trades and secretarial arts.

Part of Blue Quills legacy is exemplified in the active role assumed by graduates of the colreturn to work in their Native

The 60th anniversary activities saw many students return mony, with emphasis on tradi-

to celebrate. "We even had some of the original people from the 1930s in attendance," she says.

A round dance and pipe cere-

tional procedures was held, followed by a feast. "We had lots of volunteers cooking up moose and deer meat and rabbit," says the former student.



Father Leo Balter (centre), principal in 1936 taught in Cree and Chipewyan, seen here with two of his colleagues

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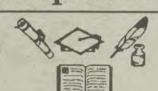
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#### Blue Quills 60th Anniversary

### Board member fought tirelessly to keep Blue Quills open

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

ST. PAUL, ALTA.

In 1969 the federal government told Blue Quills students and their parents it was about to shut down their school. Native people of the area were dismayed. With fewer people entering religious orders, the Oblate priests who operated the school were unable to rely on the Grey Nuns for staff. This and other changes in the Indian community convinced the government it should phase out the school.

The concerned parents immediately formed a committee to propose operating the school themselves. One of the organizers was the late Alice Makokis.

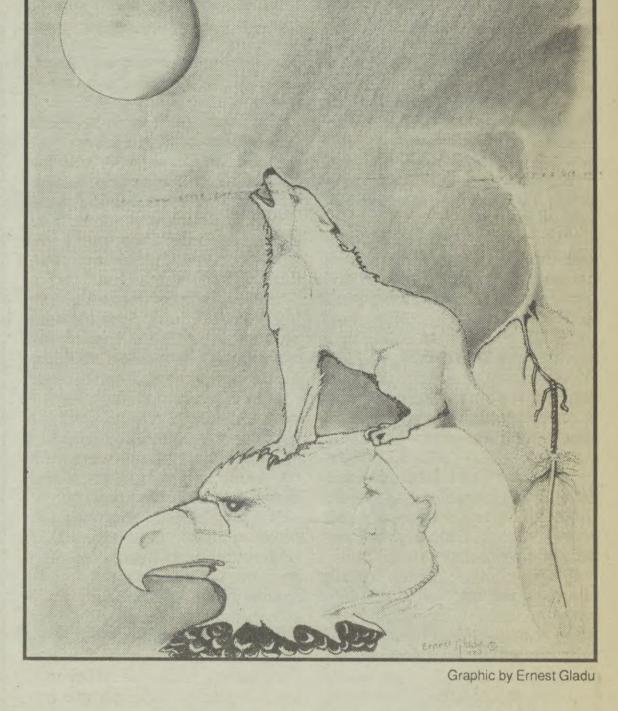
"Our mother took a stand on the issue and was tireless in her fight to prevent the school from being phased out," says Bernie Makokis, one of 11 children born to Alice Makokis.

The committee eventually won, but not until after a sit-in which eventually grew from 60 to over 300 people. "There were people from all seven reserves in the area, Native people from other provinces and non-Indian supporters, too," says Bernie.

Makokis served as secretary and as a board member for the Blue Quills First Nations College for more than 16 years. She process when local people first ing or what we were doing." began taking over administration of the school. "And she was in on the planning when the expansion into early childhood education and trades professions were begun, too," says Bernie.

All through her professional life, Alice Makokis encouraged the children and adults whose lives she touched to improve their education and to stay in their home communities to work. "Mom got a lot of adults back into the classroom and helped them regain their selfesteem."

He says his mother was a friend, mentor and counsellor to her children also. "She got all 11 of us through school and she challenged us to do our best no



Even though his mother was involved in her career she still lived a traditional way of life. "She was comfortable in both worlds and retained her culture completely," he says. Her positive approach to life won her awards and accolades all her life, among them an honorary award from Grant MacEwan Community College for her work in the field of education with Native and non-Native people of Al-

Today most Native schools in Alberta are operated by local bands or school boards. "It took the work of our mother to pave the way. She dared to chal-

lenge the system," says Makokis. Mary Michaels, an instructor

helped in the decision-making matter where we were work- at Blue Quills, worked with Alice Makokis for a long time. "Alice recognized the advancement of Native people was through education and she worked all her life encouraging people," says Michaels. Right from the onset in 1970 her goal was to assure educational programs were maintained for Native people.

When Alice Makokis passed away in 1988 she was 64 years old. Her 11 children and 42 grandchildren attended her burial, in the traditional way, at their family home at Saddle Lake.

Over the years Blue Quills has expanded to include post-secondary education, vocational training and business education courses. The institution celebrated its 60th anniversary March 30, 1991.

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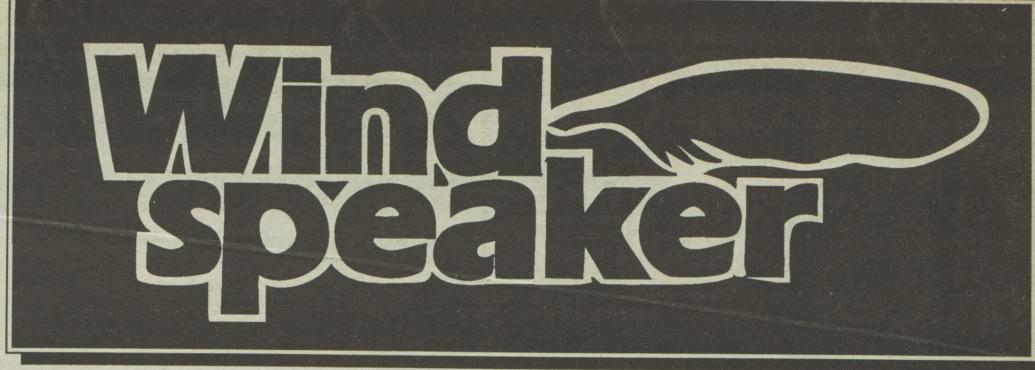
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#### SASKATCHEWAN SECTION



### Preventive measures needed to halt AIDS spread

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

NORTH BATTLEFORD, SASK.

A director at the Community Health Centre in North Battleford says Native communities across the country must take preventive steps to prevent the spread of AIDS.

Denise Lambert said although there's no known cure for the HIV infection, which causes AIDS and attacks and destroys the body's immune system, there are preventive measures that can be taken.

public's knowledge about AIDS. Especially the youth who are active sexually. They must be shown AIDS kills and it doesn't care who it kills," said Lambert, a founding member of Feather of Hope, an organization formed in Alberta as an AIDS-support sys-



Rocky Woodward **Denise Lambert** 

tem.

Speaking at a Feather of Hope conference in North Battleford, which had about 300 youth attend from across Saskatchewan, Lambert stressed the need for preventive measures.

She said Native people are usually "hit first" when it comes to an epidemic because history has proven "the First Nations of this country suffer first because our immune system is not as strong as non-Native people.

"The only way to fight AIDS is by informing the public what AIDS does and offering information on preventive measures that should be followed," Lambert said.

She said when people are sexually active and using drugs they should know measures can be taken to avoid being infected with HIV. She said Feather of Hope plans to travel to Native communities with a mobile service to distribute information on AIDS and to speak on preventing the spread of AIDS.

"The mobile will also target high profile activities like powwows. It will offer information on safe sex methods such as using condoms and clean needle use. Basically our aim is at the youth who in turn can become role models and teachers for

others once they've learned about AIDS and how to prevent

She said much of the responsibility must fall on Native communities. "Parents must become involved because it's their children who will be forming relationships some day," said Lambert, noting sexuality and substance abuse isn't talked about in the communities. "It must be brought more into the open if we are to fight against AIDS."

Lambert uses herself as an example about the "terror" of AIDS.

"Someone I know took a risk "One way is to increase the and slept with someone else without telling me. I could have contacted the HIV virus and instead of talking about prevention, I could have been telling my own story about how I should have prevented it," she said.

Lambert said women aren't assertive enough when it comes to their partners, when statistics show 25 per cent of AIDS victims among Native people are

"Women must become more assertive. They should be asking questions about their partner's business trips. Women should be able to say 'Do you have a condom?' We must speak out more," said Lambert, adding a preventive measure against contacting AIDS "boils down to trust and values between partners."

Presently the Feather of Hope Society is gathering easy-tounderstand material about AIDS for distribution in Native communities.

Feather of Hope originated in Alberta. Its founding members, Elsie Paul, David Nelson, Ken Ward and Lambert want to see an AIDS chapter in each province. So far only Alberta and Saskatchewan have chapters.

"Ken (Ward) has helped tremendously. He has done a lot of tours across the country speaking about AIDS, drumming up support. Many people are getting involved now and over 100 speaking engagements have been done by Feather of Hope," explained Lambert.

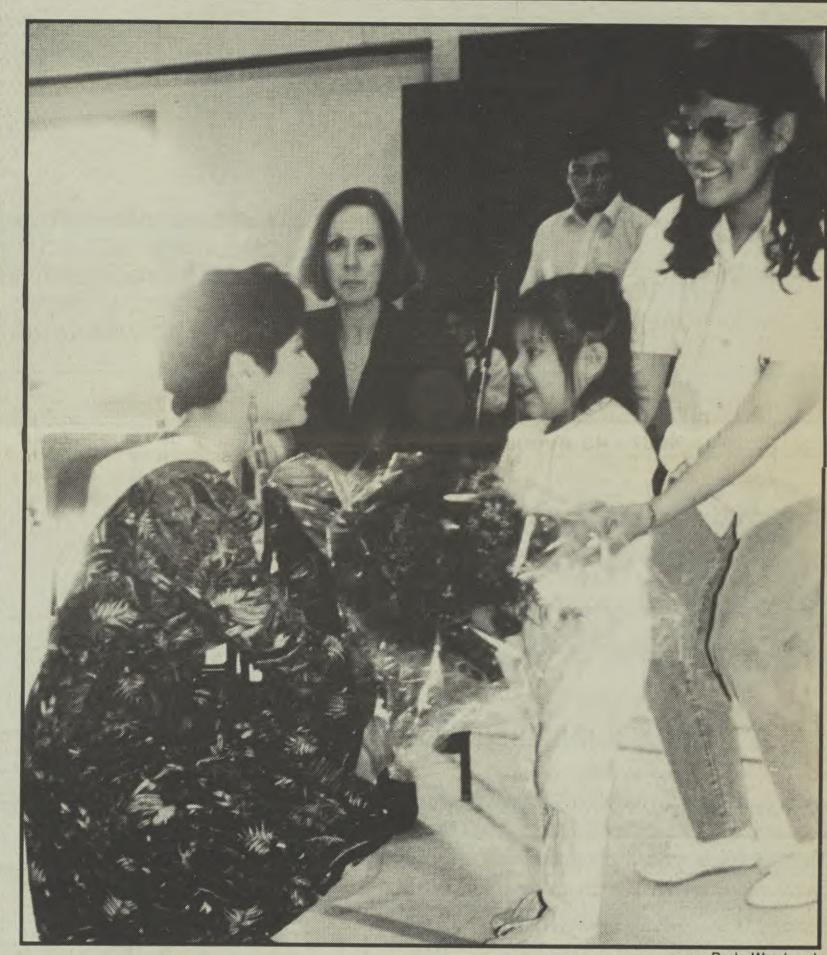
"Our focus is not only on youth but the parents as well because everyone is affected by AIDS in one way or another. We must prevent the spread of this deadly disease and I am positive one way to do it is by awareness, openness and preventive measures," Lambert stressed.

A Saskatchewan Native AIDS conference is being planned for May. Lambert said youth will be the main focus of the conference, but organizers are hoping for strong support from Native communities.

"Adults and youth will be split up at the conference. Among many topics that will be discussed will be the importance of meeting needs acceptable to Native communities regarding AIDS' prevention.

"Possibly after the conference kids will also be telling their parents AIDS is serious and they too are worried," Lambert hopes.

'The youth who are active sexually must be shown AIDS kills and it doesn't care who it kills'



Sweet little Serena Frank from Little Pine reserve hands Miss Canada, Leslie McLaren, a bouquet of roses at the Feather of Hope Conference in North Battleford

### AIDS a serious threat: Miss Canada

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

NORTH BATTLEFORD, SASK.

Speaking to a jam-packed hall of about 300 youths at an AIDS conference in North Battleford, 1991 Miss Canada Leslie McLaren said people, especially youths, must take preventive measures to ensure their safety against the virus that has killed thousands.

"There are a lot of scary things happening out there. In high school, if you don't deal with sex properly AIDS could happen to you. You must protect yourself," she said.

McLaren said the issue of AIDS must be addressed in schools and communities and preventive measures taken.

McLaren was crowned Miss

Canada last October. She will vie for the Miss Universe crown against 70 other women at the 40th Annual Miss Universe Pageant, which will be televised live from Las Vegas May 7.

"It will be an experience and I'll have a friend from almost every country in the world once it's over," she told the youths.

And McLaren had words of wisdom for those who wanted to succeed in the 1990s.

"You will need an education to succeed in the 90s. Education is important. It teaches us how to think, to solve problems. So if you're thinking of giving up, don't. You can do it," McLaren stressed.

Asked by one youth if she would ever marry an Indian, McLaren answered, "You bet!

"I believe in marrying someone you love and are compatible with," she smiled.

She said everyone should set new goals for themselves everyday. "My goal is to be a lawyer.

There are about 900 students in the university I attend and you must remember peer pressure is big, especially in high school.

"You must strive to be your own person. It may sound easy but it's hard. However, all you have to do is make up your own mind and do what you think is best for you. Remember, getting into trouble can stop you from reaching your goal. A criminal record, for instance, is bad for someone just 16 years of age."

McLaren added there is a happy side to everything.

You're young and you can chase any dream you want to. It's your choice and the choices are limitless," McLaren told the youths.





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#### Saskatchewan

### Sweetgrass society tackled bingo abuse

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

SWEETGRASS RESERVE, SASK.

Too many people look for other "bad habits" after overcoming substance abuse problems, says the director of the Red Pheasant reserve alcohol and drug abuse treatment centre.

"There have to be positive things that past substance abusers can become busy with. You may find this hard to believe, but I turned to bingo at one time," laughs Ben Weenie, who recently celebrated 10 years with the health centre.

ents taking up bingo in exchange for drinking, Weenie started an organization in 1987 called the Eagle Flight Society.

I love children, and playing bingo all the time takes parents away from their kids. I was doing it. I knew if I was to do something about the problem I had to be a role model.

"Playing bingo all the time creates empty fridges, less money for running a household and it can almost be as bad as drinking all the time," Weenie explains.

Weenie says the Eagle Flight Society is directed at social and cultural activities. At Sweetgrass reserve, where Weenie is from, and now because of the society's involvement, five evenings of the week are set aside for children/ parent activities.

"We began by bringing back our culture through cultural dance lessons. It's most important our children feel good about themselves," says Weenie. He adds more and more parents are involved because their children

He says Native children must their Native roots.

"So many kids grow up thinking it's bad to be Native. But when we as adults teach them their culture is something to be proud of, something to show the world, they learn good values

and pride in themselves."

Weenie says the Eagle Flight Society now performs for schools and at events in the North Battleford area. He says it's now the children who are the forerunners in spreading Native culture.

"We promote cross-cultural activities and soon non-Natives realize Indian people are a proud people with much to offer society.

"Our children have learned many Indian dances. Powwow is the wrong term to use. Our dances originated from grass dances and that's what we promote. Presently we have 18 dancers," boasts Weenie.

Weenie says the society first Concerned with so many par-started to promote Native awareness during winter months when there wasn't much to do.

> "The idea was to get our whole community involved, so we started dance lessons. Basically it's a community get-together. What we actually held were mini-powwows," he says.

> Weenie says he applauds the professional dancers who keep Îndian tradition alive. "We don't want our culture to die out so we're trying to maintain it by keeping our children involved."

> He says most Indian children are timid and shy, something he says needs to be overcome.

> "We teach them that dancing for a crowd only makes them stronger. Someday they will be the professional dancers. This is all good for the community. You know three years ago my family had nothing to do. Now I have four children dancing and our youngest is learning to dance," says Weenie, who also does workshops on Native awareness. "Our dancers are available for a reasonable fee. We are not in it for the money."

Every Wednesday dance lessons are held on the Sweetgrass learn not to be intimidated about reserve. "We need to be consistent. But the big thing we have found out from all this is our children love dancing and the parents are right there support'Playing bingo all the time creates empty fridges, less money for running a household and it can be almost as bad as drinking all the time'



Rocky Woodward

Ben Weenie and Denise Lambert

ing their children in our Native cultural activities," Weenie smiles.

Where once many parents were either drinking or playing bingo, Sweetgrass reserve is now overcoming its problem through community cultural activities — "and card games," laughs WeeDid you know...Windspeaker publishes 11,000 copies every two weeks and they are distributed all over North America?

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By Carlene Anne Carlson

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pieces of heaven. Swallowing them her heart slows, waiting for the death she craves.

But death has left her alone, needlessly unwanted. Sobbing in her silent misery, her body shrunken and shaken. Her eyes the bluest on this side of loneliness.

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From chief, council, staff and band members

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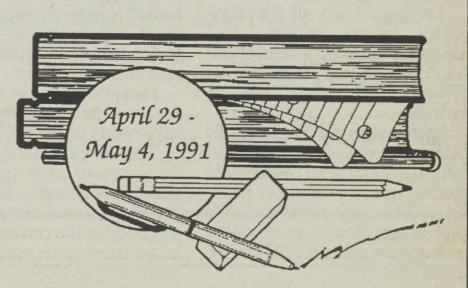
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#### Saskatchewan

### A close encounter...

Howdy! I swear I saw a bunch of flying saucers hovering above my war pony as I travelled through the night near Duck Lake last week.

Honest! Strange things happen under Saskatchewan skies.

There they were...honest. My lights began to blink and my war pony began to kick...I thought it was all over.

I pulled over to the side of the highway and said to myself, "This is it. I will finally get to meet E.T. and 400 hundred of his ugly little buddies," but suddenly the lights in the sky flashed away at an incredible speed.

I jumped back into my war pony (called Dodge) and had time enough to click the photo you see here in the column...honest.

And then they disappeared into the darkening skies.

I didn't want to share my close encounter of the third kind with anyone until I heard a saucer was spotted here in Alberta.

Come to think of it, I did tell a Saskatchewan farmer about my experience.

"Where did ya all say you were from?" he asked.

"Alberta," I said. "Figures," he said. "Ya all sure there ain't no saucers flying around your head right about now?" And then he and 42 other farmers laughed and laughed as

But I did see them...honest.

My editor just patted me on the back and said, "That's all right. How about we cancel you going to Saskatchewan for awhile? In fact, how about a nice little rest for Border Crossing, huh? We know of a great place where you can sleep and sleep...."

BEARDY'S RESERVE: Is only a short distance from Duck Lake and on April 19 a community dance will be held. Music will be supplied by Country Fiddling and the price is right! Only \$6 per person and \$3 if you're 12 years of age and under.

Look for the recreation centre five miles N.W. of Duck Lake on Highway 212 or call 467-4500.

It sounds as if a rooting, tooting time is going to be had by all.
MOSQUITO RESERVE: I was fortunate enough to meet these two gentlemen while travelling in Saskatchewan.

Left is elder Joe Tootoosis playing the drums who is originally from Poundmaker's reserve. Seated next to Joe is his friend Solomon Stone from the Mosquito reserve just south of



Rocky Woodward

Border Crossing's Rocky Woodward needs plenty of rest. He says these are the UFO's he saw

Battleford.

They were busy enjoying the round dance and speeches at the recent Feather of Hope confer-

Joe tells me he actually lives in Hobbema and does a lot of workshops as an elder in Al-What would we do without

our elders? I love them. STAR BLANKET RESERVE: I was lost. Hopelessly lost when I came upon these wonderful chil-

dren who directed me to their

band's administration office.

"I stopped my war pony and said, "Do you know the way to the administration office?"

And in harmony they all said "Aren't you the guy who keeps seeing flying saucers in Sas-katchewan?"

They didn't say that...just test-

Thanks for the directions girls. They are left to right: Lisa Benjamin, Vanessa Ahenakew, Jenny Benjamin, Tera Benjamin and Tina Benjamin.

BORDER CROSSING: See ya all next time.



Rocky Woodward

Left is elder Joe Tootoosis, originally from Poundmaker's reserve. Next to Joe is his friend Solomon Stone from the Mosquito reserve.



-7734

#### **BORDER CROSSING**



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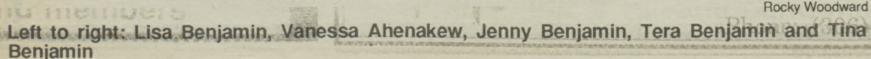
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Please call St. Michael's Indian Student Residence for further information.

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#### Saskatchewan

### Poundmaker's to open shop near famous battle site

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

POUNDMAKER'S RESERVE, SASK.

Poundmaker's reserve near North Battleford, Sask. has a history local residents are very proud of. The reserve is named after Chief Poundmaker, a great leader, mostly known for his peaceful tactics but he never oppossed war if he felt his people were threatened.

Muskeg given taxing power

SASKATOON, SASK. — Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon has announced the approval of a property taxation and assessment bylaw for the Muskeg Lake Indian reserve in Saskatchewan that will enable the band to exercise taxation powers over band property located within Saska-

Known as the Sutherland Property, the land covers about

#### Framework agreement signed

MEADOW LAKE, SASK. — Indian Affairs Minister Tom Siddon has signed a framework agreement with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council to begin selfgovernment negotiations.

"This agreement represents the start of a long-awaited process directed toward achieving recognition of our right to govern ourselves as well as a definition of our new relationship with the federal government," said Chief Percy Derocher on behalf of the tribal council and Meadow Lake First Nations.

"The involvement of our membership has been central to this agreement and they will continue to be involved in the important discussions that lie ahead," he said in a news release.

Siddon said "the signing of this framework agreement is a major step in our commitment to bring about a fundamental change in the relationship between Meadow Lake First Nations and the federal government."

Over the next year negotiations will focus on subjects like legal status, membership, structures and procedures of government and community constitu-tions. The tribal council also proposes to negotiate agreements on lands and resources, financial arrangements, education, health care, business and social development.

The tribal council is located in northwestern Saskatchewan.

In 1885 his people were threatened when a huge force of men from Battleford set out to attack his camp near Cutknife, Sask.

Poundmaker's warriors surrounded the army and after killing some of Col. Otter's troops, Otter retreated back to Battleford in disgrace.

Only Chief Poundmaker's intervention saved Otter's troops from receiving more casualties than what was recorded in his-

11 hectares and was obtained by the band as partial fulfilment of its overall treaty land entitlement claim. In Nov. 1988 a formal agreement between the band, Ottawa and Saskatoon completed the transfer.

"The approval of this bylaw is an important achievement for the Muskeg Lake Indian band, not only to promote its economic development objectives, but also to support greater self-sufficiency and self-reliance," Siddon

The land is presently designated light industrial, making it ideal for the band's intended use for office and warehouse development. Forty-nine serviced lots are expected to be available for lease shortly. The only tenants on the property are a band-controlled development company and an Indian consulting firm.

The grandfather of present day chief Ted Antoine fought in "the battle of Cutknife Hill."

"My grandfather was shot in the ear during the battle," Anto-

He said it is the reserve's intention to open a souvenir shop near the battle site to attract tour-

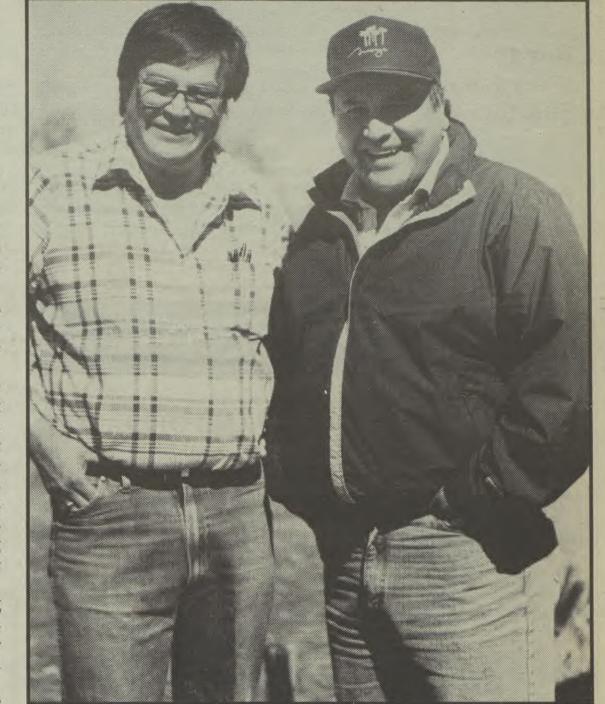
Chief Poundmaker's remains are buried on top the hill overlooking the battle site and the reserve named after him.

Antoine has been chief of the 800-member reserve for the last four years. He said he and his council are looking at economic growth for their members. "We have achieved some success towards our goal. We have a gas station and store that employs six people. And we're planning to build an extension onto the store as a service garage."

Antoine said the band is going through some internal problems, something he and his four council members hope to resolve in the near future.

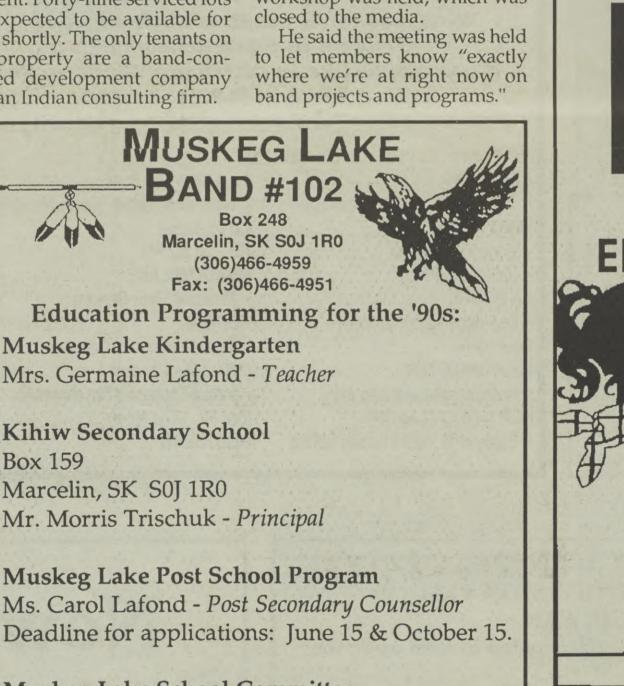
"Many of the things we are trying to accomplish takes time. It's always a slow process such as trying to have land that was taken away from us returned," said Antoine, only minutes before a community land title workshop was held, which was closed to the media.

He said the meeting was held to let members know "exactly where we're at right now on band projects and programs."



Rocky Woodward

Councillor Brian Tootoosis and Chief Ted Autoine of Poundmaker's reserve

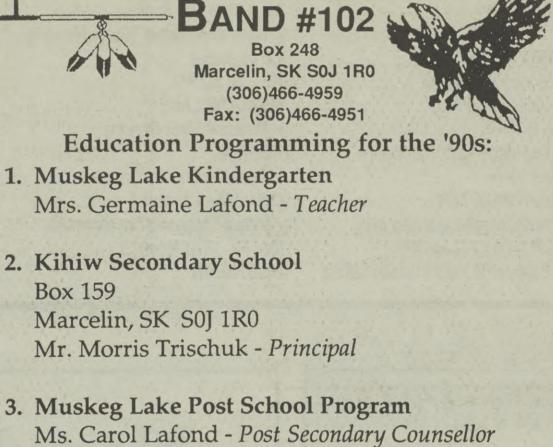


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#### Saskatchewan Advertising Feature

### Flooring, appliance store can meet every need

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

SASKATOON, SASK.

Frank Keshane has a good sense of humor and it will come in handy considering the business he's in. Keshane sells carpets and appliances.

"My brother once told me if I

ever fell over, I'd probably rock myself to sleep," Keshane says, ing off.
laughing about his weight. Keshane said he saw a need

Actually Keshane is a burly man and carries his weight well, but he loves to laugh.

Originally from Keeseekoose (Little Heaven) reserve near the Manitoba/Saskatchewan border, it wasn't until just recently he decided to get into business for himself.

for a Native business to offer housing material at better prices than what other companies were the offering.

"We have a large warehouse in Saskatoon and buy our material in bulk. Other companies usually order on a smaller scale so their prices are higher. One order can cost our company (First Nations Flooring) \$500,000. So I undercut the prices of my competition," smiles the entrepreneur.

Keshane knows his clientele, especially people living on reserves.

"Almost every band in Canada is building houses right now and we can serve their every need.

"I always promise my customers we can deliver anywhere in Canada in 24 hours. If they called today from the Yukon,

And his business is really tak- their material would be on their front door the very next day.

> "Shipping is no problem. We're dealing with the Black Lake band and the only way in to Black Lake is by plane, yet we deliver," Keshane says.

He said when material is delivered to reserves, taxes aren't charged.

"Basically, they buy from us on reserve, so they can't be taxed." First Nations Flooring offers any size and any color of carpet a customer may want. It also sells every appliance imaginable.

"And if a customer wants us to come to their reserve to talk about our prices, our delivery service or simply to choose carpets, we'll bring the store to them. We do presentations of our product," boasts Keshane.

Presently, on one project, First Nations Flooring is supplying insulation and other housing material for 400 units.

He's hoping to expand his business in the near future and when he does, Keshane said he will be hiring an all-Native crew.

"When we do business on a reserve, town or city, we always look to hire Native people," Keshane says. He adds in about two months he hopes to have 150 installers working. "And I would hope they're all Native."

He's always the businessman. "Carpet, tile, hardwood flooring, vinyl, dishwashers, stoves, refrigerators, you name it, we supply it," Keshane smiles.

It's First Nations Flooring's goal to expand across the country. "We can't look back now. I just hope Native people do business with us. We're here to offer them the best service, possible at the lowest prices," he says.

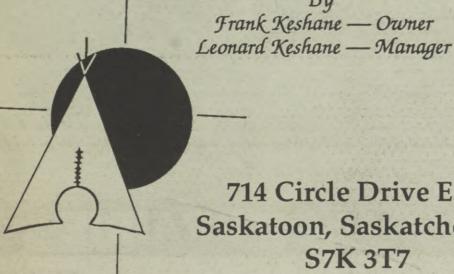
First Nations Flooring is located at 714 Circle Drive East, Saskatoon. Call (306) 244-7222. The manager is Leonard Kesh-

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Inc. (1022-102 St. N.)

- Battlefords Urban Native Housing
- Co-operative (61 - 22 St. W.)

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- Meadow River Service REGINA
- · Core Community Group (100, 1654 - 11 Ave.)
- Indian Economic Development (3rd Flr, 1870 Albert St.) ROSTHERN
- · Friesen's Shop Rite
- (1026, 1030 6th St.) Batoche Historic Sites
- SASKATOON
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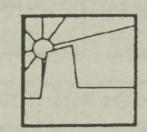
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#### Calgary

## Friendship centre honors volunteers and remembers those who passed on

By Wayne Courchene Windspeaker Correspondent

CALGARY

Chuck Nadeau was named 1990 volunteer of the year by the Calgary Indian and Metis Friendship Centre. He was honored along with all other centre volunteers at the annual volunteers' banquet March 22.

Nadeau was surprised to win the award but pleased. "It was really nice of the centre to do that for me. I appreciate the award and how the staff helped me when I needed help."

Minor sports program athletes — the youngest was five years old — were also recognized for their efforts through the year.

Volunteer coordinator Karen Calf Child said over 160 volunteers gave their time to the centre in the past year. Nadeau contributed the most hours.

Recreation director Justin Pooyak said "The banquet was an opportunity to recognize the kids who joined the teams we started at the friendship centre.

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You can make a world of difference.

They went to the winter games in Siksika, entered teams in the city league and challenged other teams in the Boys and Girls Club of Calgary.

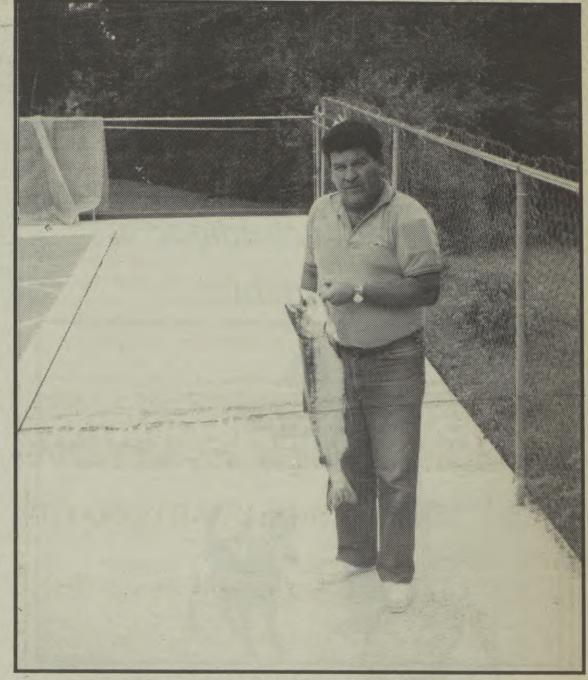
"Special recognition should be given to Cody Black Kettle and Tina Yellow Dirt for the promise they showed in basketball throughout the season," he said.

Guest speaker Jim Gladstone, one-time world rodeo star in calf roping and record holder in 1977, reminded Nadeau of the importance of setting and reaching goals. He captivated the audience as he recalled 49,000 people watching him rope calves in the Houston Astrodome in Texas.

Richard Wagamese, Calgary Herald columnist and the master of ceremonies, added humor to the proceedings and put everyone at ease, entertaining them with stories and jokes. The evening had its serious moment when board vice-president Keith McDonald asked Merle Lickers, wife of deceased Bob Lickers, former friendship centre president, to accept a plaque for his contribution. A moment of silence was held in memory of Lickers and Sharon Star Light, a trainee of the Life Skills Program, who died before she graduated.

About 60 people attended the banquet. "We had an excellent meal and excellent guest speaker, but not enough people. Last year the hall was packed," said executive director Laverna McMaster.

"We estimate over 180 invitations were sent out two weeks in advance of the event," said Gloria Boucher, program director and coordinator of the event. "I was disappointed with the attendance."



Former friendship centre president Bob Lickers, who passed away Feb. 25

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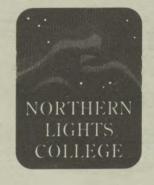
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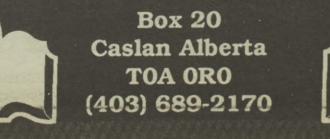
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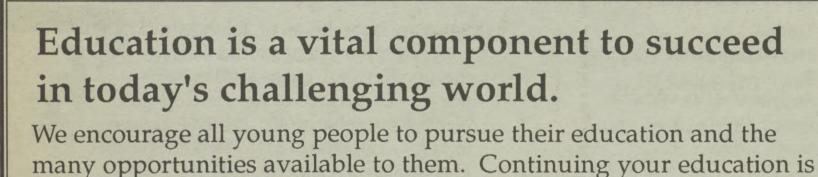
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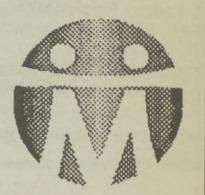
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#### **AIDS**

### AIDS could explode in the Native community

By Amy Santoro Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### OTTAWA

A chilling report on AIDS in the Canadian Native community says cases of the always fatal disease could explode.

There are 24 reported AIDS cases in the Native community but there are serious questions about the extent of underreporting. "Even if the reported number of cases is viewed as accurate, there may be as many as 6,300 Indian people infected with HIV, unaware of the fact and capable of spreading the virus," says the recently released federal report on aboriginal AIDS education and preven-

The World Health Organi- AIDS cases among Natives have is responsible for only a small

zation says the confirmed cases should be multiplied by 40 which would bring the number of Natives with AIDS to 960. The HIV infection, which causes AIDS, can lay dormant for eight to 10 years before there are any symptoms.

AIDS in the Native community seems to mirror mainstream Canadian society but the high STD (sexually transmitted disease) rates may increase HIV infections among Native heterosexuals.

The report says it's important Natives be made aware while current data indicates homosexual/bisexual activities and sharing needles "are the main factors in transmitting HIV, high STD rates may indicate spread into the heterosexual community."

Natives have a rate of STDs five times the national average. Sixty-seven per cent of current been reported as being acquired through homosexual or bisexual activity.

High alcoholism rates also put Natives at great risk of contracting HIV. Alcohol and other drugs are associated with highrisk sexual behavior.

While unsafe sex has resulted in the largest number of reported aboriginal AIDS cases, "there is fear substance abuse, specifically injection drug use, will emerge as a significant contributor to the spread of HIV in the near future.

What is especially frightening is that AIDS in the Native community is spreading through heterosexual contact. Twentyfive per cent of AIDS cases in the Native community are women, over twice the national average.

Typically in industrialized countries like Canada and the U.S., heterosexual transmission number of cases.

Many Natives deny the existence of homosexuals, bisexuals and lesbians forcing many Natives "to lead a double life," one on the reserve and one in the city "placing women and unborn children at risk," says the report.

And once a Native tests positive for HIV, their distrust of the medical system, lack of information, lack of access to health care and fear of discrimination may delay intervention of the disease,

says the report. Remote aboriginal communi-

ties do not have equal access to health information from television and high illiteracy rates place the value of printed material in question, says the report.

Aboriginals must start viewing AIDS as a threat to their communities, urges the report.

"Aboriginal people at the community level do not view AIDS education and prevention

as a priority due to lack of knowledge," concludes the report released in December.

Research indicates a need for "aboriginal-specific AIDS education and prevention activities" and the message would be heard if delivered by Native resource people.

The report indicates it's up to "First Nations to initiate aboriginal AIDS" education by stimulating community interest and concern. More visible social issues, like alcoholism, are occupying Natives, says the report.

AIDS prevention must focus on behavioral change and alternate lifestyles as "the ultimate goal of AIDS education."

The Joint Committee on Aboriginal AIDS Education and Prevention, which put together the document, was created in 1989. The report is also available in Inuktitut.

### Outreach workers intent on 'breaking the silence'

By Scott Ross Windspeaker Correspondent

#### CALGARY

For many Natives AIDS is an "invisible disease," according to a Calgary self-help health group educating "those who live on the street" and reserves.

"We are here to break the silence responsible for the sickness in some of our people," said Robert Welsh, a Native outreach worker who also leads a group of three social workers intent on educating Indians on the threat of AIDS in their community.

"The latest statistics we have show at least 24 Natives have the AIDS virus but I believe up to 100 are silent carriers and our role is to ensure all are educated that this killer is not just an affliction suffered by the gay or white community."

Welsh is joined by Connie Twin and Jo Ann Three Suns. They head up the small group under the guidance of Daniel Holinda, executive director of the AIDS Calgary Awareness Association.

Holinda said AIDS Calgary is sponsoring the project, which has been funded until Dec.

"The people on the street live for today and certainly don't think about what is going to be happening five years down the road. We hope through the work of these three dedicated Native workers to establish a rapport and trust with the street people and instil an awareness this killer disease is only a needle or sexual encounter away."

Welsh said the need for the project has been clearly proven and application for permanent

funding has been made to Health and Welfare Canada.

All involved in the awareness program concede it will take a lot more talking about AIDS to bring those who may be affected onside.

"It will be tough and it will take time," Welsh admitted. "But we who understand life on the street and the extent of the ignorance of this disease also believe we must do everything in our power to help and educate. In this regard we have received overwhelming support from the Native community.'

The group will be taking its message of precaution to all Treaty 7 reserves, he said.

"We have already set up committees at Morley and have had inquiries from Sarcee and Eden Valley. We are also now involved at Siksika. We work hand in hand with health units and the respective chief and council."

Despite the obvious mammoth hurdles involved in breaking down traditional hurdles between Natives and what is assumed to be an authority figure, members of the awareness group intend to bring the understanding of the deadly virus to those whose lifestyle encourages the spread of AIDS.

out there and the Native family is street." and always has been a caring,

healing family. In this regard we know we stand some chance of success," Welsh, a recovering alcoholic, emphasized.

"There is a verbal telegraph line out there and when people find out we are here to help, we will start to hear more from them but that takes time. In the meantime we must rely on Native leaders to reach out and inspire those in need to come in for help or listen to what we have to say "We know it's our children when we meet them on the

### **FACING AIDS**

A 13-part series of features on AIDS in Alberta began appearing on provincial television stations and in provincial newspapers last month. The campaign is intended to provide Albertans with information and models for changing behaviors which put them at risk of HIV infection. Since AIDS was first reported in 1981, 323 Albertans have been diagnosed with the illness. Of thse 176 (54 per cent) have died. Over 1,000 Albertans have tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS and it's estimated as many as 6,000 may actually be infected.

"I'm not worried. I've known him for years."

"Well, you look pretty healthy to

"She's lived in this town all her life — there's no way she could have AIDS."

If this is what you think when you assume someone is not infected with HIV, you may be risking your life.

Most Albertans understand HIV doesn't affect only gay or bisexual men and injection drug users. Yet, despite knowledge about HIV and AIDS, evidence shows our behavior continues to put us at risk. Both men and women can pass the virus to their partners through unprotected sexual intercourse or by sharing needles to inject drugs.

We can usually tell if one of our friends or family has a cold or flu merely by looking at them or by asking them how they feel. Also, people with chronic diseases often not only know they are unwell, but generally look ill. Infection with HIV provides no such tell-tale signs.

A person can be infected with HIV for up to 10 years and appear perfectly healthy. People infected with HIV show no obvious signs of illness in the early stages of infection.

The lack of signs, plus their denial of risk, may be why many have not had the specific blood test for HIV. They don't realize they are infected. And neither does anyone else.

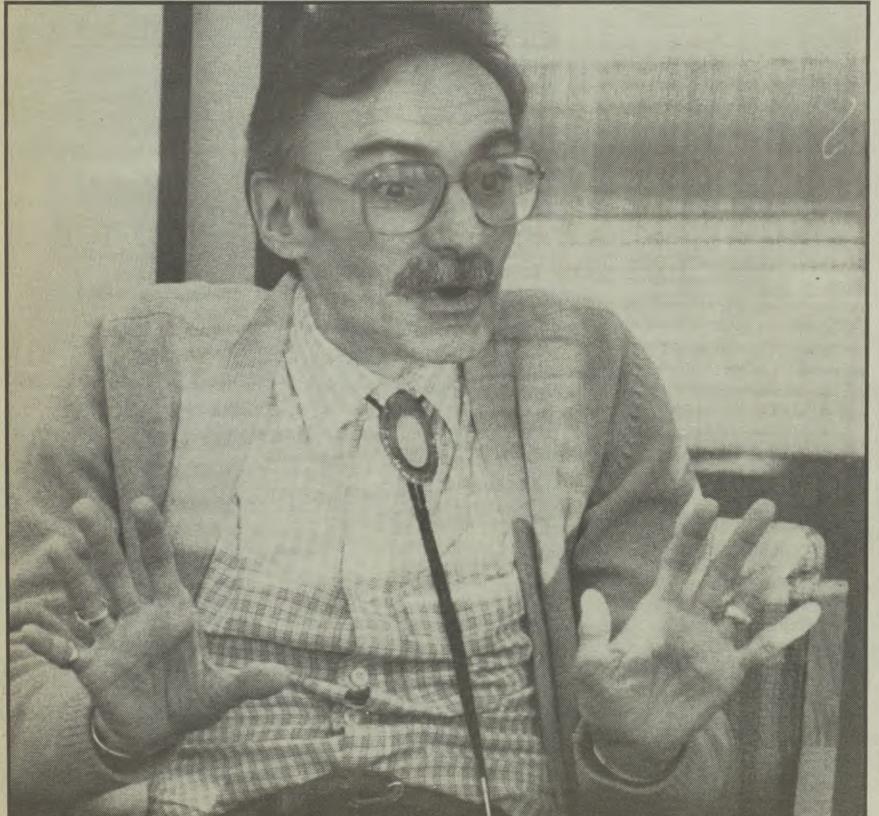
Our images of HIV/AIDS have evolved over time. In the past 10 years, science has provided a more complete understanding of how HIV spreads and how the virus affects people living with the illness.

With that understanding, more people are putting their knowledge into practice. We know someone with HIV infection may look well and feel fine. But trusting appearances doesn't work as protection against HIV/ AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. Practising "safer sex" and not sharing injection drug equipment does.

For more information about HIV infection in Alberta, call the health unit in your community.

If AIDS is affecting someone you love, help and support are available from your community AIDS organization: Calgary (228-0155), Edmonton (429-2437), Grande Prairie (538-3388), Red Deer (346-8858), Lethbridge (328-8186), High River (938-4911) and Jasper (852-5274).

Watch Facing AIDS with Dr. Bryce Larke, medical director Alberta Health AIDS Program. For viewing times call 427-5266 toll free through the government of Alberta RITE number in your phone book.



Native outreach worker Robert Welsh emphasizes the need to make an impact" on the aboriginal community about the threat of AIDS

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These may include engineering, geology, commerce, computer science, occupational medicine, secretarial arts and engineering technologist — to name a few.

There are also two \$2,000 awards available to women interested in attending post-secondary institutions leading towards non-traditional occupations such as engineering, geology, instrumentation or engineering technology.

To be eligible, Native and women applicants must have at least one-year residency in north-eastern Alberta or be former long-term residents of the region which includes Fort McMurray, Fort Chipewyan, Janvier, Conklin, Anzac and Fort McKay.

Criteria to be used in selecting award recipients include academic performance and potential, appropriateness of the discipline of studies to the oil sands industry, future aspirations, financial need and community/extracurricular activities.

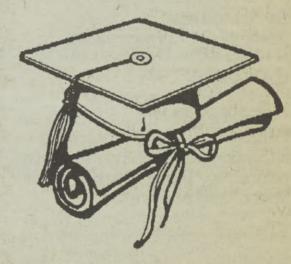
Deadline for applications is June 1, 1991.

You can obtain application forms or more information by writing to:



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### Native Awareness Week

### Liaison worker helping students succeed

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

BEAVERLODGE, ALTA.

Three years ago only one Native student graduated from Beaverlodge Regional High School, 40 km west of Grande Prairie. But that's all changed since a Native liaison worker was brought into the school to work with Native students.

Roxy Jones began working at the school in 1988 and although she's reluctant to accept any credit for students receiving better marks her co-workers say "it's all Roxy's doing."

"Roxy has worked hard with our students to help them suc-ceed," said teachers' aide Cheryl Willier.

Last year six Native students graduated from the school of 360 students — only about 30 of that number are Native.

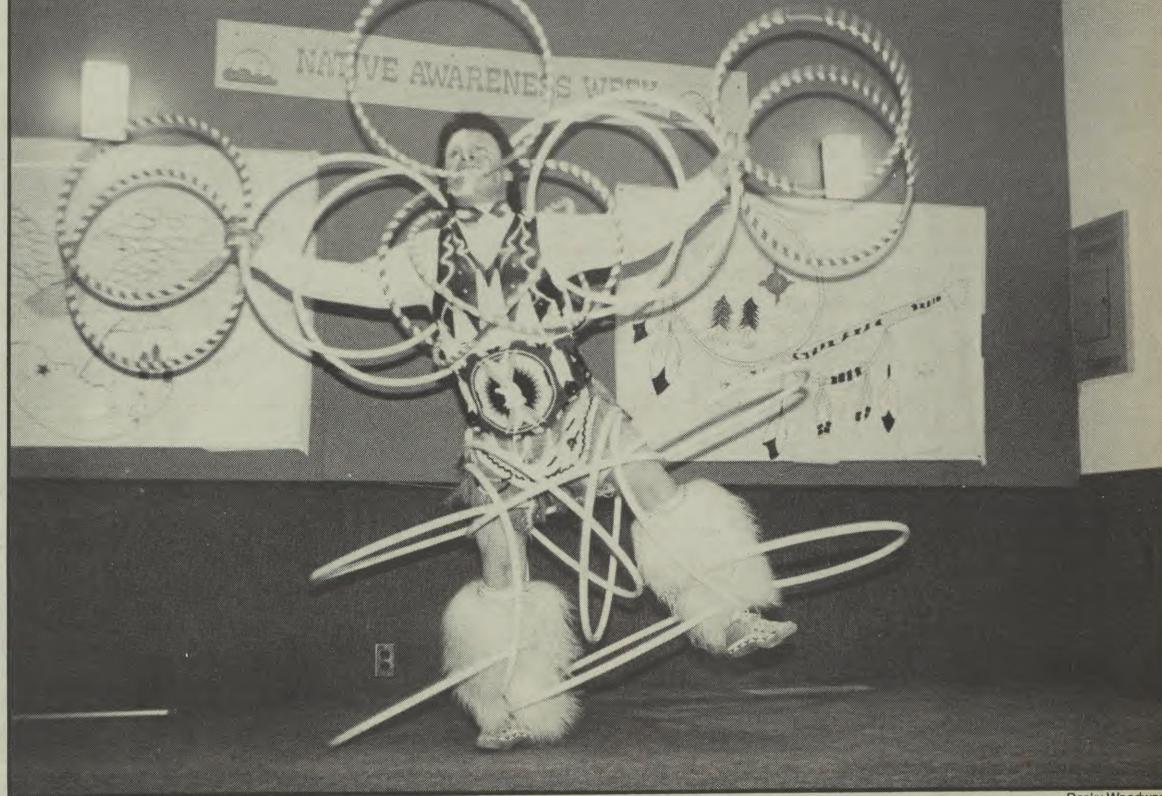
"Finally students are realizing that to get anywhere a Grade 12 education is needed. There is a problem in our community with Native students not completing their education but all that's changing," said Jones.

And she also sees a positive change in the Native commu-

"Parents are now becoming more involved and they're encouraging their children to stay in school. In fact whole Native communities are doing it," she smiled.

Another coup for Jones happened when she coordinated a Native awareness education project March 26-28 in the town of about 1,500. The theme was based on individuality and the project was a huge success.

Jones brought in top Native



Rocky Woodward

#### World champion hoop dancer Robert Bull was a huge hit at Beaverlodge Native awareness days

performers and speakers from across the province to talk about their careers.

Native role models like country singer Laura Vinson, champion hoop dancer Robert Bull, RCMP officer Perry Cardinal

and the cast of Four Winds Theatre offered their expertise and talents during the three-day event.

"It's our first stab at a Native awareness week and we're hoping it continues annually," said

Jones said she wanted to show students there are Native people with careers. She feels her students benefited from seeing role models and by listening to them talk about themselves.

And she believes bringing Native awareness projects into the schools helps educate non-Natives and helps them have a better understanding of Native

people.
Faust RCMP officer Perry Cardinal was asked during his speech by a non-Native student why Indian people receive land, free medical benefits and government funding.

Jones believes Native awareness projects helps answer such questions but her main concern is to help Native students feel better about themselves and to teach them "they can succeed if they want it bad enough."

Speakers visited classrooms but the school's gymnasium was also used. There students and the guest speakers sat together in circles "in a more friendlier atmosphere."

Speaking to about 100 students, Bob Romano, assistant pastor of the Alliance Church in Beaverlodge, said a commitment is needed for people to live in harmony. "Even to the point of putting the needs of others before your own," he said, while stressing "individuality is important but it does not mean someone different from you is unimportant."

Metis Children Services representative Brian Fayant spoke of

his own life experiences to show students anyone can be successful.

"I lived in life and death situations for three years on the drag when I was drinking, where people literally want to do you in. I hurt people and I regret that," he said.

He said he once thought little of himself until he faced his problem, which changed his life.

"I once felt inferior to others but after doing something about

it I now know I'm equal to everyone. I accept who I am," said the bachelor of social work university graduate.

Also in attendance were the Canadian Native Friendship Centre Metis cultural dancers; Native consultant, Roy Inglangasuk; Dale LeClair, Native counsel at Grande Prairie Regional College and Native education consultant, Bernadette McKee. And AVC Grouard had an arts and crafts display.



Rocky Woodward

Beaverlodge high school Grade 11 students Jennifer Friesen (L) and Tanya Funk view AVC Grouard Native arts and crafts



Rocky Woodward

Native awareness week was made successful by this lady, Roxy Jones

#### Proffile: Grande Prairie Area

#### Dreamstick: A five-star production by Four Winds simply to stare at students in actors finally see the direction laughter when he says from now

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

BEAVERLODGE, ALTA.

If ever a live play warranted top billing in theatres across the country Dreamstick does.

The cast of five wonderful and gifted actors from Hobbema's Four Winds Theatre left me breathless as each act unfolded during their live performance for Beaverlodge regional high school students March 26.

Dreamstick is a hilarious, yet inspiring, story about two tricksters who "magically" manipulate the lives of three negative thinking individuals to help them become better people.

The play is based on a trickster from Indian folklore called 'Wesakecha' in Cree or 'Napi' in Blackfoot — who was used by Indian people to teach their children proper values about life.

The play allows the audience to reflect on the human side of life — at its worst and best.

But mostly, everyone falls in love with the tricksters Granite, played by Cuban actress Rosa John, and Magpie, played by Six Nations actress Lori Wildcat.

Magpie and Granite caused quite a stir when they ventured into the crowd to look for "things" in the students' hair or

bewilderment only inches away from their faces — part of their act to raise awareness of what tricksters are like.

Actor Darrel Wildcat, leader of the group, portrays a nerd who no one seems to like while Connie Davey in a short skirt, is constantly combing her hair and chewing gun. Kehewin reserve's Melvin John is, in one word, hip. A baseball cap on backwards both he and Davey are of the "now" generation and they play their parts to the hilt.

While the three are waiting for a bus, the tricksters single each one out and go to work on the negative side of each character.

A better script could not have been written for Dreamstick. It is filled with Indian humor, applauding action and sharp lines that have you rolling in your

The actors play on human emotions everyone can relate to. Wildcat's wish is for everyone to take him for who he is, John is cool but wonders if anyone knows the sorrow in his song and Davey wants nothing less than fame and fortune and "to be 18 and away from home."

And then it's "Welcome to your dreamstick!" and the tricksters (whom the cast can't see) go to work by fufilling each character's dream.

The play continues until the

they wanted to take would have been disastrous, to both their spiritual and emotional beings.

each character accepting themselves for who they are and it changes their lives. As an example, Wildcat's dream of himself as a cool rock and roller is over and the audience roars with

on he just wants to be "A never ending radical nerd!"

It's lines such as those that In the end the tricksters have make Dreamstick a must see show.

> The acting hinges on brilliance. Words alone can't describe their dynamic portrayal of the characters they played.

If you're fortunate enough to

see Dreamstick, you will not easily forget the fine performance by the talented Four Winds Theatre troupe after the curtain comes down - especially Magpie and Granite who are mischievous yet huggingly lovable.

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#### Profile: Grande Prairie Area

### DOROTHY WALKER: A pillar of the community

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA.

Dorothy Walker is the most down-to-earth person you could meet. In one breath she will tell you she cans everything from vegetables to fruits and in the second breath she'll laugh and say she's now a criminal.

To many in the Grande Prairie area Walker is a pillar of the community. She is a lifetime member of the Grande Prairie Native Friendship Centre, she has worked for Native people in court as an interpreter and over the last 15 years she has run a group home for the disabled.

Last Feb. 15 she received an appreciation plaque from Alberta Health (mental health division) to mark 10 years of understanding and devotion to her special residents in the approved home program. "They lost five years along the way but it's OK, because now my

moccasin face has been on television," she laughs.

Walker loves children and it shines through when she says

Walker loves children and it shines through when she says the oldest child in her home is 80 and the youngest is eight.

Mike is her oldest.

"Mike's Polish and he's been with me for about 12 years. He once asked, 'Mom can I stay with you forever?' It's nice, but I think he's trying to outlive me, the old bugger," Walker chuckles.

She loves her youngest, Cassandre.

"I've had Cassandre since she was four. At one time she couldn't walk or talk. But now she puts herself on the bus and is beginning to talk. My Cassandre is doing so well now."

A doctor once told Walker he hoped to God someone rewarded her for looking after her children, especially Cassandre.

But running a group house comes easy to Walker. And she does it alone.

"I raised my own grandchildren and before my husband (Ernest) passed away we brought up our own foster child. I guess it all started from there," Walker says, while adding she's originally from Kinuso, Alberta.

"Everyone pitches in to help. They do dishes and keep the house clean. I'm fussy. Too fussy at times, but then again, there's never too much cleaning to do," Walker says.

And she's good at management.

"I always did my own thing. When my husband got paid, I would manage the money and pay the bills. I'm a widow yes — but I'm also proud and very independent."

It's hard to visualize Walker as a criminal but she says she is. She has a funny but true story to tell about her "life of crime."

"I had a fight with my best friend and assaulted her. She was jealous of me and started spreading rumors around the bingo hall about me.

"I let it happen for awhile but then at a bingo game I told her I had heard from the horse's mouth she was babbling about me. 'Who do you think you are?' I said to her. Then she swore at me, so I turned around and nailed her.

"Do you know no judge would listen to my plea because of my work with them over the years?" says the 60-year-old grandmother turned boxer.

"My lawyer said I was in trouble so I told her 'yeah? Then they can put me away in Kingston penitentiary. I need the rest,' "Walker laughs.

An Edmonton judge finally heard the case and granted her an absolute discharge after her lawyer explained the circumstances surrounding the charge and after hearing about Walker's work with the courts, doctors and group home.

"Now my kids say 'Granny's 60 and still boxing.' Hey, my reputation was at stake."

Today Walker is the only lifetime member of the friendship centre with a criminal record, she says. "They even took my fingerprints."

Walker was born in 1931 to Suzanne and Peter Dumont, both now deceased. Her roots run back to Gabriel Dumont, the Metis general for Louis Riel and the Saskatchewan Metis during the 1885 resistance movement against the Canadian government.

"Isadore Dumont was Gabriel's brother and Isadore is my father's

grandfather. I'm proud of that," she says.
She also takes pride in the "old days" when marriages lasted forever. Her mother and father were married for 62 years and only death separated them. Walker was married for 32 years and only death

"I miss him but life has to go on. He died eight years ago but he left me secure," Walker says with a gesture indicating her tidy home.

In another breath she adds, "not like my dad who left me with a

Walker's sense of humor has helped her overcome many obstacles in her life. And when you meet her, you suddenly feel an

unexplained friendship for her.

"Isn't she a wonderful person? Dorothy is everybody's friend,"
says Irene Loutitt, executive director of the friendship centre.

And her other love is her small garden back of her house and the flower beds that surround it.

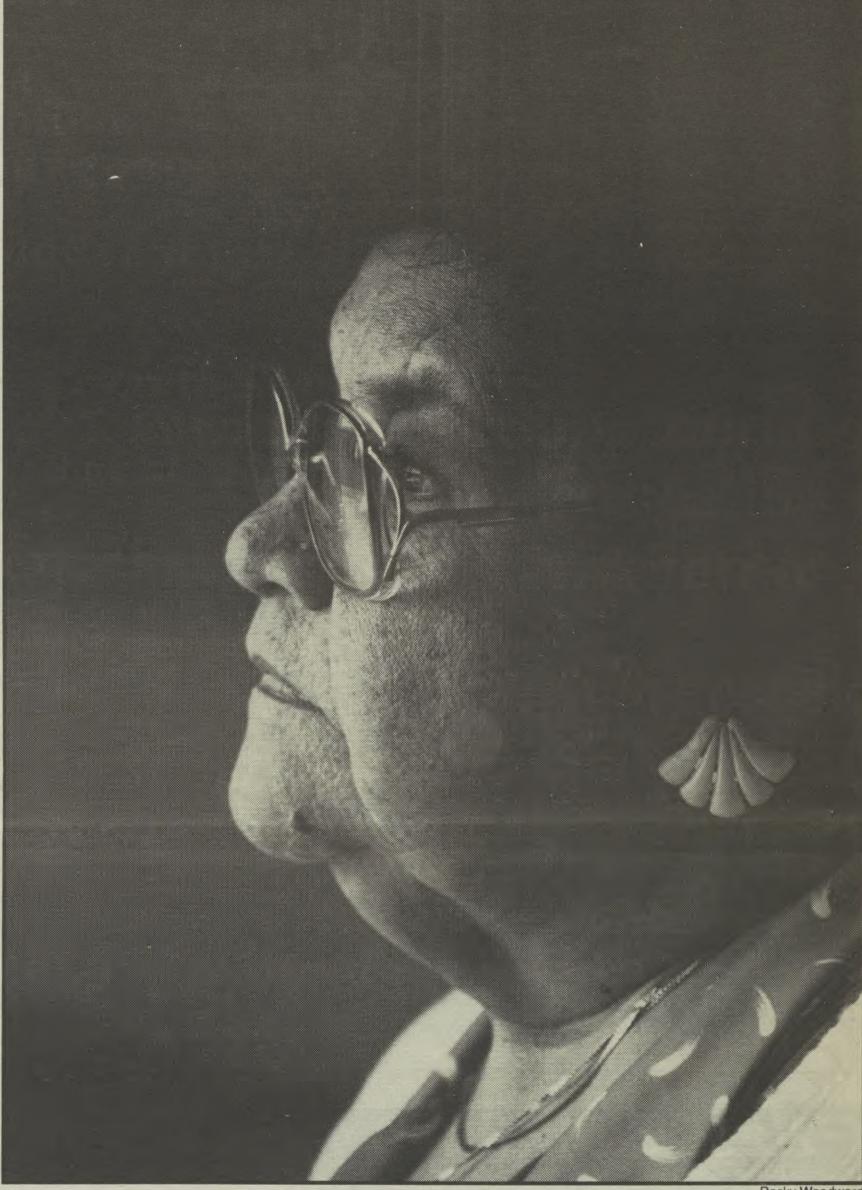
"I can my own rhubarb, strawberries and such. It's nothing for me to whip up a meal because I cooked for 18 years at a lodge in Kinuso. Damn tooting. For 18 years without a rest. Try one of my canned pickles."

"No thanks." (I don't like pickles).

"Try one!"

"OK. Maybe one...Dorothy."

Did you know... Windspeaker has been publishing since 1983 and recently won an award for Best Overall for a biweekly while competing with the best Native newspapers in North America?



Rocky Woodward

Wonderfully loving Dorothy Walker is a godsend to her disabled children

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#### Profile: Grande Prairie Area

### A warm welcome from Kelly Lake's Belcourt family

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

KELLY LAKE, B.C.

It's strange but although I had been to Grande Prairie on numerous occasions, I had never heard of Kelly Lake, a small hamlet about one hour's drive from the city.

Most people who live in the Grande Prairie district have heard of Kelly Lake but the hamlet of about 150 Native people isn't even on the official provincial road map. Nor would I have learned of its existence if not for attending the Beaverlodge Native awareness days March 26-28.

Kelly Lake is about 35 kilometres straight west of Beaverlodge and sits one kilometre inside the British Columbia border. Named after Francis (Kelly) Sunderman who moved there in the early 1900s from the Hythe area, local history says many of the early residents of Kelly Lake were draft dodgers who wanted no part of the First World War. Local residents still find humor in its history.

One of the first Indian people to settle at Kelly Lake was Celestine Gladue, the greatgrandfather of Barb Belcourt,

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whose family I was fortunate to meet and visit with.

With a smile, Barb says her great-grandfather took his sons to Kelly Lake so they could avoid being drafted into the army in the early 1900s.

"Most of the people who live here are from the Lac Ste. Anne area (near Edmonton). In the early days many were hunters and trappers who travelled long distances. Many settled here, she says, adding she's a staunch Indian.

"Metis is a white man's word tagged on us because they couldn't find a better word. It's controversial," she says.

Barb and her husband Curtis were raised at Kelly Lake. They have five children and one of them, Shannon Belcourt, who I met at Beaverlodge, was kind enough to direct me to Kelly Lake.

Most of the men in the community are loggers who sometimes have to travel great distances for work. Curtis travels about 90 kilometres to his job, "and then back again," he says, looking me directly in the eyes.

A broad-chested man, he carries two of his powersaws with ease. Just returning from his job, "slashing, bucking, skinning, felling, you name it," work

The giving begins with you.



Rocky Woodward

The Belcourts: (back) parents Curtis and Barb, Shannon, Angie and Lavina; (front) Andrea and Tyrel

doesn't seem to tire him. "I have about one hour to get ready for the Beaverlodge Native awareness community concert,"

he says.

The people at Kelly Lake, like the Belcourts, are a close-knit people. They have a smile for everyone and I could sense a friendliness with the first wave I received driving into the community.

At one family reunion over 400 people attended, a huge gathering considering the popu-

lation of Kelly Lake. The community is isolated but beautiful. Tall trees are everywhere, near houses which don't crowd each other, and a lake is

"I left here once in 1976 for one year and I cried most of the time I was gone. I love it here," Barb says, offering me a cup of coffee. "For a first-time visitor, we pour the coffee. The second time you pour your own. That's how we treat our guests, like family."

Kelly Lake is known for its open friendliness, as the principal of the kindergarten to Grade 9 community school, will testify.

Mike Simonsen and his wife Susan arrived at Kelly Lake last only minutes away for leisure August. Susan teaches Grade 4-6. They have about 40 students in school and nothing but good words to say about them.

"When we stepped out of the car I felt good. The students are enthusiastic, especially about sports and the community is unique.

"The school is really a community centre. It's used for all sorts of meetings. Just recently parents used it to discuss whether a telephone system should be installed in the community. We have craft nights and adult nights. People here are really community minded," says Simonsen, who was busy preparing an Easter egg hunt for school children when interviewed.

Before I left Kelly Lake, the Belcourts in good old country fashion invited me back to visit with them. Barb and Curtis and their family treated me with a friendliness I sometimes forget exists — until I'm assured it still does by a wonderful family as

the Belcourts.

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#### Profile: Grande Prairie Area

### Native cop gets mixed response from Natives



Rocky Woodward Const. Perry Cardinal offered high school students his expertise as an RCMP officer

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May 24, 25 & 26 - Unlearning Racism Watch for more information on this workshop.

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By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

BEAVERLODGE, ALTA.

It's a disappointment to the RCMP when people facing criminal offences sometimes receive a slap on the wrist and are out walking the streets again the next week a Faust, Alberta RCMP officer told an audience of Beaverlodge Regional High School students at a Native Awareness Week celebration March 26-28.

Const. Perry Cardinal said RCMP officers spend a lot of time investigating, writing reports and attending court only to find they're picking up the same guy a month later on the same charges.

He said he sometimes feels the criminal justice system isn't severe enough dealing with first time offenders in court. "It almost makes you want to quit. It's an ongoing thing we have to contend with." Originally from Fort Vermilion, Alberta, Cardinal has been sta-

tioned at Faust for about three years. On his way to Beaverlodge he said he passed another highway patrol car and worried if he was

"We all feel that way sometimes, even RCMP (officers)," he

Many students wanted to know why Cardinal chose the RCMP as

He told them that when he became interested in the RCMP as a career, he joined a special constable program and basically received the same type of training all new RCMP recruits go through.

"The special constable force is basically aimed at the Native community because Native people feel more secure dealing with someone who is Native. As a special constable about 60 per cent of my time was spent talking to students, attending community events

"I was raised in a town but I know the problems on reserves. I understand Cree although I can't speak it and I respect the elders of the community," he said to an interested group of students.

And Cardinal is a firm believer that education is the key to having a good life. But like any youth, Cardinal said he went through a time when nothing else but excitement was on his mind.

"When I was asked in Grade 10 what I wanted to be someday, my thoughts were on what I was going to do when the weekend arrived, never mind a career," he laughed.

In 1983 Cardinal graduated from Grade 12 and for the next four years he worked in a sawmill. "But the work was too cold. That's where education benefits you. I decided I wanted to join the RCMP and had the education to do it."

In 1988 he went through basic training at Regina, Saskatchewan's

RCMP depot.

He praises the training he received, which included physical and self-defence training and learning about the law including the Narcotics Control Act and the Young Offenders Act.

"Somedays could be very demanding. One of our programs was called flight or fight. You know, 'See you later and I'll be back with more guys,' "Cardinal said, adding over his humor that he takes his job seriously and is proud of the uniform he wears.

He said being Native and being a policeman changes the way

people look at him sometimes.

"I get heckled by Native people who sometimes say, I'll bet if I was a white guy you wouldn't stop me.' It's not true. I'll stop anyone breaking the law. I believe we have a fair system, it's just some people take different roads. Everyone has an opportunity," Cardinal explained.

Sometimes, he said, when he's on a reserve with a white officer I'll get no reaction from anyone. They'll say they didn't see anything, or 'Get the hell out of my yard.' If I'm alone, I'm invited in. It needs a lot of work and human relationship is the key," Cardinal believes.

Besides patrolling Faust and the surrounding area Cardinal said

part of his job is to stay involved with the communities.

"The RCMP are becoming more involved in the communities and the school system now. I think it's important we contribute to the education system. And I think it's important we work together," Cardinal said.

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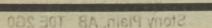
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Profile: Grande Prairie Area

### Friendship centre honors volunteers

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA.

Irene Loutitt has great admiration for volunteers. That's why each year the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre honors its volunteers with appreciation awards and a banquet, says the centre's executive director.

"They're the backbone of the centre. Without them it would almost be impossible to run all the programs we offer," says

Recently the centre honored over 130 volunteers — a large

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number by any standards -"who give of themselves to help others," says Loutitt admiringly.

Representatives from various organizations, political parties and the centre's board of directors attended the banquet in appreciation of the volunteers.

And one volunteer, Sue Ryan, received a special award for volunteering the most hours of service to the community, 155 hours.

"This year we gave our volunteers mugs with a message of 'Thanks 1991 Volunteers' inscribed on them. Every year we

honor their dedication to supporting the friendship centre with their volunteer service. I think very highly about all of them," says Loutitt.

A dance was later held in their honor.



Ruth St. Arnault receives a gift from centre board member Rita Easton after reaching 10 years as a staff member

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#### **Sports**

### 'I'm a pussycat out of the ring'

SPORTS FEVER

By Harvey Campeau Contributing Writer

Hockey fever is here and the Edmonton Oilers want it, don't want it, want it... Oh, make up your mind Muckler and boys!

Who do you think will take Lord Stanley's cup? I firmly be-lieve the Chicago Blackhawks are bound and determined to win it all.

By the way. We have a hockey draft going here at our west side office and after a week of NHL teams chasing the cup, yours truly is in third place.

I wonder if our counterparts over at CFWE are doing the same? Naw, probably not. I wonder if they'd have the nerve to challenge Windspeaker on who will win the cup? Naw, probably

not. We outdo them in sports.
Watch the phones ring.
PRINCE ALBERT: Just when you think they've been counted out, the (over the hill and all that jazz) senior hockey players from across northern Sask. are gearing up for a hockey tournament of their own.

The Dog Lake Raiders, Sturgeon Lake Selects, Muskeg Lake Blades, Willow Creek Chiefs, Gordons Goldenhawk Selects, Cumberland Cree, Patchinac Pats, SIFC Chiefs from Regina, along with Mistiwasis, Pelican Narrows, Little Pine, Red Pheasant and Canoe Lake are taking to the ice April 12-14 in Prince Albert to see who will win bragging rights as top team at the first annual Aboriginal Spring Fever Hockey Tournament.

A prize of \$2,500 goes to the top team. It will be interesting to learn what team is crowned "the champs!" Sports Fever will let you know next issue. For sure, for sure.

HOBBEMA: Samson band boxing coach and Canadian light heavyweight champion Danny Stonewalker is not ready to step down, quit, back out or walk away from boxing. In fact he wants the world title before he even thinks of retiring.

"I've got some good boxing years ahead of me and I'm no



Elizabeth Settlement Oilers

quitter," said the champ.

So far Stonewalker has defended his Canadian title three times and he went eight rounds for the world title against Michael Moorer before he lost by a TKO.

And what is Danny like away from the ring. Sports Fever has learned he's quiet, yet friendly,

enjoys life and laughing.

I'm a pussycat out of the ring — just don't get me mad," smiles the fighter.

ELIZABETH: The Elizabeth Settlement Oilers (Junior "B") hockey team is this year's Native Provincial Hockey Tournament champions.

Congratulations Oilers!

Held at Morley, Alta. March 23-24 the Oilers played five games without being defeated.

The Oilers can also take pride in their goalie Christopher Desjarlais, who won the MVP award, a big win, considering eight teams entered the round robin tourney.

Winning this year's tourna-

ment means the Oilers will host next year's tournament.

The team sends a special thanks to the Elizabeth Metis Settlement Council, Pimmee Development and Frank and Sons Bus Lines, "who made this tournament possible for the Oil-

Sports! Call us at 455-2700.

### Power fails and Hobbema curling team surges

By Heather Andrews Windspeaker Staff Writer

WETASKIWIN, ALTA.

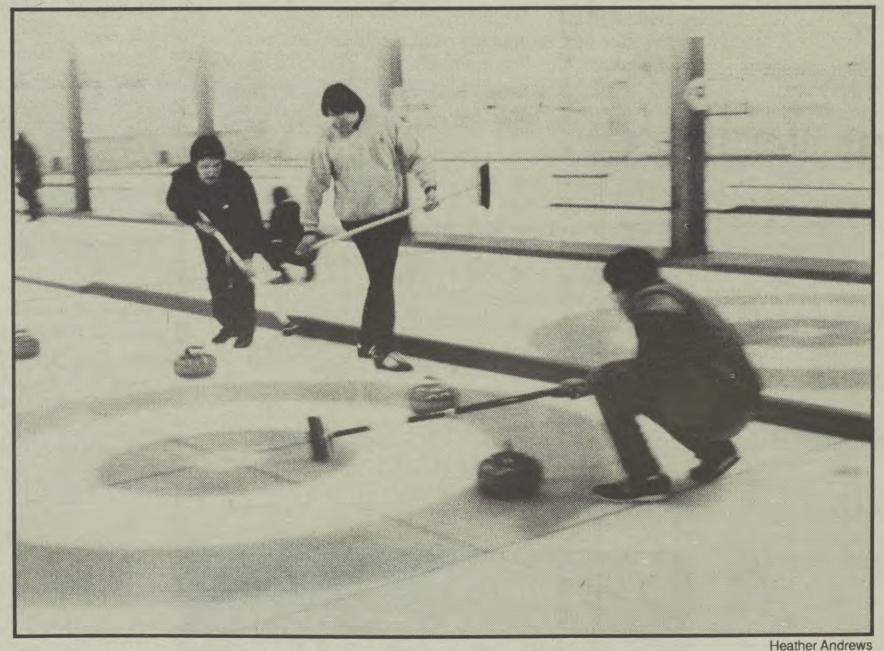
It was a tired local team which emerged victorious from the Western Canadian Native Curling Championships at the Wetaskiwin Curling Club last weekend.

"We didn't finish till 1:30 a.m. after a power failure put us several hours behind on Saturday," says Dale Spence, whose Hobbema team defeated Leonard Aubichon from Saskatoon in the final game of the April 5-7 bon-

spiel. Thirty-two men's teams and 12 ladies' teams attended the second annual event, which was sponsored by the Hobbema Curling Club. Indian people came from as far away as Fort Chipewyan, Slave Lake, Little Red River and Prince Albert, Sask.

"This was a smaller number of teams than we expected, but a lot had curled a major bonspiel in North Battleford just the weekend before. We'll plan next year's championship for earlier in the winter, maybe January, so teams can participate in both," says Spence.

His rink of third Eric Morin, second Howard Courchene and lead Derwin Buffalo defeated the



Action from the Western Canadian Native Curling championships

Rodney Wuttunee rink from the Red Pheasant Reserve in Saskatchewan in the quarterfinals.

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"Then we took on Dennis Okeymaw, last year's provincial competitors, in the semifinal. In that

game, we got ahead early. After two ends the score was already 3-0 and we came away with a win of 7-4," says Spence.
When the finalists stepped on

to the ice for the last game, it was a rematch of the competition in North Battleford. "We had lost to the Aubichon rink last weekend so we were anxious to meet up with them again," says Spence.

It was close, with the teams matching almost point for point throughout the game. "It was 8-6 coming into the final end and they just simply ran out of rocks," says the skip.

In the ladies' final Rose Okeymaw won over Sheila Courteille's rink with a score of 6-4. "It was a tight game with only one point between them coming home," says Spence.

All the good times didn't take place at the curling rink, however. Spence and the other organizers booked the local Corral restaurant Saturday evening. "We had a little private party there with a banquet, dance and fun auction with proceeds going to the Hobbema Curling Club. A \$1,000 draw was won by Flossie Cyprien of Fort Chip," Spence

says. Curlers were required to be of Native ancestry or have acquired status through marriage. Bringing Native people from different areas of Western Canada together is part of the fun of the annual event, says Spence.



4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. REGISTRATION

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. TRADE SHOW RECEPTION (Welcome Evening / Business Mixer)

Tuesday, April 30, 1991

8:30 a.m.

**OPENING CEREMONIES** 

Drum in Head Table

• Opening Prayer / Welcome by Mr. Joe Crowshoe, Sr.

• Co-Chairpersons / Introductions: Mr. Gregg Smith & Ms. Caen Bly **OPENING ADDRESS BY** Mr. Willie Littlechild, MP

10:00 a.m.

PLENARY SESSION

- ENVIRONMENTAL ENTERPRISE Moderator: Chief Leonard George Panelists:

• Indian Environmental Advocates: Lorraine Sinclair and Gilbert Cheechoo

· Academic Panelists: Mr. Jim Butler, U of A & Dr. Woodrow Morrison

• Business Opportunities: Mr. Roland Bailey, NWT Development Corp. United States Indian Perspective: Mr. Andrew Masiel

**QUESTION PERIOD** 

12:00 p.m.

Greene

NOON LUNCHEON Introductions By: Mr. Harley Frank Speaker: Honorable Tom Hockin, Minister of State, Small Business & Tourism, Aboriginal Economic Program (CAEDS)

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. WORKSHOPS:

1) Taxation & Legal Issues: Mr. Robert Reiter

2) Women in Business: Ms. Doreen Healy 3) Tourism (Attractions & Facilities): Jim Butler, Leo Jacobs & Barry Parker

4:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m. TRADE SHOW RECEPTION (Hosted) Displays / Business Mixer / Entertainment

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. FASHION SHOWS by Fashion Designers: Carol Starlight, Patricia Piche, D'Arcy Moses

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. DANCES WITH WOLVES ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS Tantoo Cardinal, Jimmy Herman & Graham

CONFERENCE ON INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PH: (403) 428-6731 TRADE SHOW FAX: (403) 425-9018 SOLD OUT Wednesday

Wednesday, May 1, 1991

8:30 a.m. **OPENING REMARKS / INTRODUCTIONS** by Ms. Caen Bly, Chairperson

9:30 a.m. PLENARY SESSION - YOUTH / ENTREPRENEURIALISM Welcoming Address: Ms. Regena Crowchild, President, Indian Association of Alberta Moderator: Mr. Dean Janvier, Cold Lake First Nation Panelists:

• Youth Representatives

• Education / Training: Mr. Justin Dahlen & Mr. Greg Hirtle

· Motivational Speakers: Mr. Jimmy Herman

12:00 p.m.

NOON LUNCHEON Introductions by Mr. Ray Fox, President, National Aboriginal Communications Society Speaker: Mr. John Kim Bell, President, Canadian Native Arts Foundation

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **WORKSHOPS:** 1) Human Resource Development: Mr. Howard Green, CEIC 2) Finance / Business Plans: Mr. Mike Phillips, Vencap & Mr. Don Hannah, Aboriginal Economic Programs, ISTC 3) Communications & Information Industry:

Mr. Frank Ogden (Dr. Tomorrow's Toy Shop -Special Workshop for Youth) 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Business Mixer / Entertainment

TRADE SHOW RECEPTION (Hosted)

6:30 p.m. COCKTAIL RECEPTION (Cash Bar)

7:00 p.m. BANQUET Master of Ceremonies: Mr. George Tuccaro Speaker: Mr. Frank Ogden (Dr. Tomorrow) "The Challenging Future"

9:00 p.m. DANCE Errol Ranville & The C-Weed Band

Thursday, May 2, 1991

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **BREAKFAST SESSION** Opening Remarks by Mr. Gregg Smith, Chairman Wake Up call by Mr. George Tuccaro & Mr. Ray Fox, Entertainers 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. PLENARY WORKSHOP - NEGOTIATIONS - CUTTING THE DEAL (An open session for input, sharing and planning) Moderator: Mr. Ray Fox, President, National

APRIL 29TH TO MAY 2 N D 1991 EDMONTON INN HOTEL EDMONTON, ALBERTA This ad sponsored by Syncrude and Indian Equity Foundation

Aboriginal Communications Society

SPEAKER PANEL

· Grand Chief Max Gros-Louis, Huron Nation

• Mr. Neil Sterritt, Gitksan-Wet'Suwet'En · Mr. Calvin Helin, President, Native Investment & Trade Association **QUESTION PERIOD** 

12:00 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS BY Mr. Fred Gladstone, President Indian Equity Foundation **CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS** WRAP UP **ADJOURNMENT** 

PRE-REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

**\* ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM** 

INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW APRII 29 - MAY 2 1991

711 KIL 25 - WITH 2, 1551
NAME:
TITLE:
ORGANIZATION:
ADDRESS:
PROV POSTAL CODE:
PHONE: ( )
Advance Registration Fee: \$175 / Person  Deadline Date: April 19, 1991 (includes agenda, meals, the banquet, dance, workshops and trade show

Registration at the door: \$200 / Person

Payable to Indian Equity Foundation #350, 10621 - 100 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 0B3 Cancellation Fee: \$25

Our official conference airline is: **\* CANADIAN AIRLINES INTERNATIONAL\*** Call your travel agent stating this conference for a discount or call Pacific Travel 1-800-661-6597 (in Alberta) or out of Alberta call (403)428-8251 (collect).

Contact the Edmonton Inn for special room rate - stating this conference 1-800-661-7264 (anywhere in Canada).

Please indicate workshops: (1, 2, 3) For organizers information only

TAXATION & LEGAL ISSUES

WOMEN IN BUSINESS

**TOURISM** 

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

FINANCING / BUSINESS PLANS

COMMUNICATIONS / INFORMATION \_

ANT OF WHILDDEAVED ADDIL 19 1001

#### **Business**



**Sharron Johnstone** 

Rocky Woodward

#### 1991 ONCHAMINAHOS SCHOOL POW-WOW

MAY 3-4, 1991 SADDLE LAKE ARENA SADDLE LAKE, AB

"IN HONOUR OF ONCHAMINAHOS, LITTLE HUNTER" CELEBRATING THE HISTORY OF OUR SCHOOL

GRAND ENTRY, Friday 7:00 p.m., Saturday 1:00 p.m. CARDINAL FAMILY FEAST — SUPPER BREAK (Saturday) 6:00 p.m. GRAND ENTRY TO FOLLOW AT 7:00 p.m.

HOST DRUMS: To be selected daily by drumkeepers, first 10 drums will be paid Trophies and prizes will be awarded to dancers

#### 

Late Bella McGilvery Memorial Jingle Dress Sponsored by the McGilvery Family 18 years & over

1st - \$300.00 Trophy & Jacket

2nd - \$200.00 Trophy 3rd - \$100.00 Trophy

Miss Onchaminahos School Princess Pageant for Onchaminahos School students only.

Giveaway will be on Saturday, Sponsored by Onchaminahos staff, students, and parents. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Giveaway for Past Princessess, Sponsored by

David & Elizabeth Cardinal \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Everyone is invited to attend this very important celebration.

STUDENT EXECUTIVE - President, Deanna Cardinal Vice President, Joanne Pasquayak Secretary, Cheryl Cardinal Student Arena Director, Bob White Drumkeepers, Aaron & Bradley McGilvery Committee not responsible for loss, damage, theft. For more information call (403)726-3730.

#### Alberta's loss B.C.'s gain

### Edson businesswoman pulling up roots

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDSON, ALTA.

Alberta is losing a great person in Sharron Johnstone, but Alberta's loss is British Columbia's gain.

For the last few years she has been operating Muskwa (Bear) Gallery, a Native crafts shop in Edson, and now she plans to open her shop in Hope, B.C.

"Hope is about one hour from Vancouver and it's easier and economically cheaper to get the supplies I need from California. I have a lot of good contacts there. The new location will be handier," says Johnstone.

The art of making Native crafts is not new to her. About 60 per cent of the crafts in her store are made by her. She also taught herself the ins and outs of running a business.

I started with no cash, just the crafts that I had made. Today, I make over 130 different Native items. The only things I've ever relied on were hard work, my son Justin to help run the shop and my Indian crafts."

purchased crafts from her shop. Some visitors have even sent her gifts from Europe.

"I have had foreigners tell me the best part of their visit to Canada was visiting my shop. Usually it's because they're interested in Indian culture.

"To run a crafts shop an entrepreneur should know what they're talking about. Many questions are asked by potential clients about a certain item they are thinking of buying. To know the item's history is usually a sure sale," Johnstone explains.

She's from the Mistawasis Cree Nation near Prince Albert. Sask. and has always classed herself as "traditional" and it shows in her art.

In the back room of her shop

over 100 different colored beads in plastic cases are stacked in cupboards that line the wall. Yards of cloth are folded over a well-used sewing machine, which was used last Christmas to make about 50 pairs of mukluks and moccasins.

"I know my culture. Last summer Justin and I set up a tipi and we shared our culture. It was incredible. Hundreds of people came," she says.

Johnstone learned the art of making Indian crafts from her grandmother.

"My kookum (grandmother Philomene Gambler) taught me how to make my first pair of moccasins and some basic beading techniques over 20 years ago. At that time she had over 100 grand and great-grandchildren, yet she still had time to teach me. I was adopted by her."

She adds that many of the things her grandmother taught her, "like beading the way the sun rises and sets," made no sense to her back then.

"But I find the only time I make mistakes is when I forget her teachings."

Justin, who's so helpful in Johnstone says many people, running the store, is "bilingual locally and from abroad, have and he knows where his roots come from. Many times he runs the store alone and he has made some great sales," beams the proud mother.

Johnstone leaves this month but she's hoping someone else will open a crafts shop in Edson.

"It would be worthwhile if Native people from this area would get together and open an Indian craft shop. Maybe they will, they know the business and that's what makes the difference," she says.

And Johnstone has a last word for all the friends and business acquaintances she'll be leaving behind in Alberta.

When you're vacationing in B.C. be sure to stop in at Hope and visit our shop," smiles the business woman.

#### **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

#### PEIGAN CONVENIENCE STORE & TAXI

\*\*\*\*\*

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HOURS: 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. 7 days a week

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Providing status Indian people with free, confidential counselling for

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  - addictions
- boarding school experi-
  - sexual abuse
  - and many more

We do home visits and workshops in many communities in Alberta

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Supplies, Kits, Music, Ready to Wear, Beads, Roachs, Feathers, and EVERYTHING YOU NEED!!! NEW CATALOG free with order!!! (For catalog

only send \$2 for shipping) \* U.S. Currency Only! \*

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#### Advertising Feature

### 'Wapanatahk is here to help people'

By Rocky Woodward Windspeaker Staff Writer

**EDMONTON** 

While John Gambler was working as an addictions counsellor back in 1987 he felt Native people seeking to maintain sobriety needed more than just counselling. So last year he started a human development consultant firm called Wapanatahk (Morningstar).

It was the beginning of something he always wanted to do, yet was afraid to try for two

"I really didn't want to leave the security of my job and actually use my own money to go out on my own," says the pipe holder originally from Calling Lake, Alberta.

Time went on and then Gambler says he had a vision. The vision told him it was now time to act on his quest to help Native people in another way than as an addictions counsellor.

"In my dream I saw my young son running towards me. His name in Cree is Morningstar, that's why I called my consultant service the same name."

He opened for business and even though the first year was very tough, Gambler says they survived. He gives thanks to the Wabasca Bigstone band for supporting him with his firm's first task.

research and study project. It gave me access to an office and

that now Wapanatahk has "made it over the hump" he's hoping for better days.

Gambler says Wapanatahk specializes in helping people through mind, body and spirit "in a holistic way.

"I find many Native people look to psychologists for help but a psychologist finds when dealing with Native people something is missing in their work.

"We work on the spiritual and cultural side with a client and it's something psychologists are not educated to handle," he

Louise Laboucan Smith started as a client with Wapanatahk before she was hired by Gambler to teach the Cree language and its syllabics to clients interested in learning it.

Smith says she was once seeing a psychologist, but after turning to Native healing and counselling, "I told him I could see him for the next 20 years and never get enough help."

"They use words and it's something, being a Cree Indian, I could not deal with. The real problems are inside and it's so much easier to talk in Cree to someone than in English," she

"It's something else we provide, counselling in Cree," Gambler notes.

Gambler says Wapanatahk is Native-owned and provides quality consulting, research and "They contracted me for a study services at a fast and efficient pace.



Rocky Woodward

Wapanatahk (Morningstar) consultants Louise Laboucan Smith and John Gambler - a holistic approach. Wapanatahk has Native consultants ready to help says Gambler.

comes from their Native cultural teachings passed down from generations of Native healers, elders and medicine men and

"There are also many therapeutic methods which the Indian people have been using for centuries, long before our white brothers' arrival. These methods have proven very effective to those in need of mental, emotional, physical and spiritual balance," Gambler explains.

Wapanatahk also provides Native awareness workshops and addictions workshops He says their method in work- "based on the Native insight of supplies," Gambler says, adding ing with human development alcoholism, substance abuse and

solvent abuse," he says.

Russell Auger, who is presently under contract work at the Edmonton Institution, also works for Wapanatahk.

"Russell does addictions workshops aside from counselling," Gambler says.

Gambler is married with two children and another baby is soon to be born. He is a firm believer in Native culture, traditions and Native spirituality. He makes no bones about it when he says "Wapanatahk is here to help

"My grandfather Pat Crow taught me his teachings. I'm thankful for that. And yes I am a

pipe holder, but I worked hard to be one," he said.

In reality Gambler says he lives by one rule, practise what you preach. "The same goes for Wapanatahk. We're available to people in need of help for one simple reason — we want to help because we care," said the pipe

One beautiful thing. The office of Wapanatahk was blessed by an Ojibwa woman elder, a Blackfoot male elder and a Woodland Cree pipe holder.

Wapanatahk can be reached at 471-6997. It's located at Suite 14, 6725 - 124th Ave., Edmonton,

### Morningstar Consulting

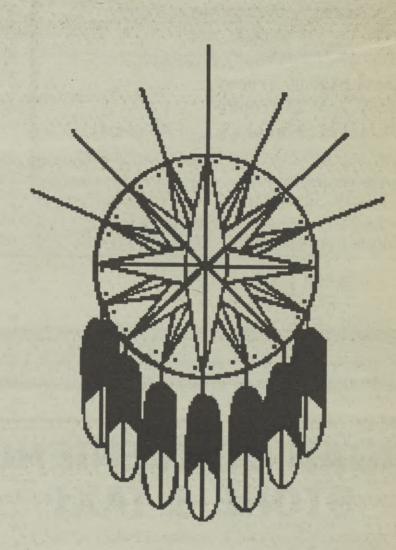
#### We provide Native Awareness Workshops

- Circle of Life
- Spiritual Awareness
- Cultural Identity
- Balance of Life
- Medicine Wheel
- Elders / Healers / Medicine Men and Women / Helpers
- Native Traditions
- Beliefs and Values System
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We provide Addictions Awareness Workshops based on the Native insight of alcoholism, substance abuse and solvent abuse. We have designed these workshops to be very effective especially for the Native person's point of view. For a non-Native to do such a workshop for Native people, you will find the impact of such a workshop to be very minimal to the Native person to totally understand clearly and walk away content from our workshop.

#### Services provided

- Native Cultural Awareness Workshops / Seminars
- Cross-Cultural Workshops based upon Native Culture
- Addictions Awareness workshops based on the Native insight of alcoholism
- Individual and Group Addictions Counselling
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- Natural Therapeutic Service / Human Development
- Native Cultural / Spiritual Retreat service
- Survival Skills based on Native **Cultural Teachings**
- Social Native Activity service
- Conference Project service
- Native Cultural Camp service
- Cree Language lessons / Cree Syllabic writing



For more information call John Gambler or Louise Laboucan Smith

#### Morningstar Consulting

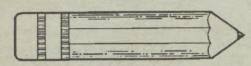
**Human Development Consultants** Suite 14, 6725 - 124 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T5B 4N5 Phone: (403)471-6997

### CAREERS

To advertise call (403)455-2700 or fax 455-7639

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Salutes Education Week



12325 - 127 Street EDMONTON, Alberta T5L 0Z9

**455-5533** 

#### Teaching Position

We are now accepting applications from K - Grade 9 for positions to begin September, 1991.

Send resumes to:
Little Red River Board of Education
P.O. Box 1830
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TOH 1Z0

#### **Windspeaker Advertising Pays!**



University of Alberta Edmonton

### **Director**School of Native Studies

The University of Alberta is seeking an academic and administrative leader for the School of Native Studies. The Director is responsible to the Vice-President (Academic) for the supervision and administration of academic programs, budgets and all activities of the School. The successful candidate will have appropriate scholarly and administrative experience and be committed to excellence in teaching and research. Joint appointments in related departments may be considered Ideally, the individual should have a Ph.D. in a related field, university teaching and administrative experience; a knowledge of one or more native languages would be an asset. The candidate should have demonstrated ability to carry on effective liaison with the Native Canadian com-

The University of Alberta has an enrollment of over 29,000 full-time and part-time students. The School of Native Studies is in the early stages of development and offers courses in Language and Culture; Land and Resources; Self-Government; and Community Based Research and Applied Skills. The School initiated a four-year undergraduate program in 1989 leading to a Bachelor

munities.

of Arts in Native Studies. Current enrollment is 55 fulltime students.

This degree program includes second areas of concentration in the Faculties of Arts; Agriculture and Forestry; and Home Economics. The academic staff are actively engaged in research, teaching, development of curricula sensitive to aboriginal perspectives, and community service.

The appointment will take effect on or before January 1, 1992 or when a candidate selected by the search committee and approved by the Board of Governors, is available.

Written nominations or applications for the position, accompanied in the latter case by a resume of qualifications and experience and the names of three referees, should be submitted by May 31, 1991 to:

Dr. Dianne K. Kieren Associate Vice-President (Academic) Third Floor, University Hall University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9

The University of Alberta is committed to the principle of equity in employment. The University encourages applications from aboriginal persons, disabled persons, members of visible minorities, and women.

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE PROGRAM Invites Applicantions

FROM: Native Adults (Age 21 and over)

FOR: English 90

Mathematics 90 Career Planning

Cree

TO APPLY:

Call the UCEP counsellor, Bonnie Young, at 479-8481 for a personal

interview.

Deadline for Applications June 1, 1991

English and Math are recognized as equivalent to English 30 and Math 30.

WHEN: September, 1991 - April 1992

WHERE: Concordia College

7128 Ada Boulevard Edmonton, Alberta T5B 4E4

(403) 479-8481



CONCORDIA

#### **Educational**

**Awards** 

**Program** 

for

**Natives** 

NOVA Corporation of Alberta will be presenting Educational Awards in 1991 to qualifying Albertans of Native ancestry.

Each award will consist of:

· a BURSARY of \$3,500 and

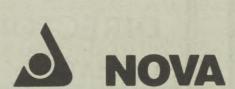
 an offer of SUMMER EMPLOYMENT with NOVA during the recess between first and second academic years.

To be eligible for an Award, a Native must be enrolled in one of the Corporation-approved two-year BUSINESS or TECHNICAL programs offered by one of the following:

Grande Prairie Regional College
Grant MacEwan Community College Lakeland
College
Mount Royal College
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
Olds College
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Applications, accompanied by high school or college transcripts, must be submitted by JUNE 14, 1991.

Further information and application forms may be obtained by contacting the institutes listed above or:



Native Affairs Department, 18th Floor NOVA Corporation of Alberta P.O. Box 2535, Postal Station M Calgary, Alberta T2P 2N6

Telephone: 290-7882

Applications are invited for the following position with the Sucker Creek Band

### JOB DESCRIPTION - BAND ADMINISTRATOR SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Band Council: administers the business affairs of the Sucker Creek Indian Band and carries out directives issued by the Council; attends Council meetings and advises Council on matters that fall within its jurisdiction; manages and reports to council on all matters pertaining to: Finance and Administration, maintenance, housing, and all capital projects as well as all other programs administered by the Band. Administers tenders for construction or maintenance work to be carried out on the reserve; compiles annual estimates of anticipated revenues and expenditures; supervises the activities of other administration employees and outside employees (as per personnel policies); drafts official correspondence as directed or required by Band Council; prepares agenda for regular meetings (in consultation with Chief and Council) and distributing previous minutes; and performs other duties as required.

CONTACT PERSON:

PHONE:

Chief Jim Badger Box 65 Enilda, Alberta TOG 0W0 (403)523-4426

SALARY NEGOTIABLE - DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 30, 1991 at 3:00 p.m.

### CAREERS

To advertise call (403)455-2700 or fax 455-7639

\*

#### **Consider Your Career Opportunities** in **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Lethbridge Community College has introduced a new career program designed to meet the increasing demand for Native criminal justice officers.

This two-year certificate program combines academic upgrading with regular coursework toward a certificate in Corrections or Law Enforcement. Graduates of the program will find employment with a variety of criminal justice agencies, or they may continue their education toward a Criminal Justice diploma.

Applications are now being accepted for September admission. For more information about your career opportunities in Criminal, contact lan Hepher, Instructor and Academic Advisor. at 329-7229.





(formerly Nursing Assistant Program) September, 1991 **Grouard Campus** 

The Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake is currently accepting applications for the 38-week Practical Nurse program scheduled to begin in the fall of 1991. The program follows a competency-based curriculum consisting of lectures, laboratory training, 14 weeks of clinical training and a 4-week practicum.

Graduates may find employment opportunities in activetreatment and extended-care hospitals, nursing homes, public health agencies, clinics and private homes.

Entrance Requirements: Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a Grade 12 academic standing or GED. Selection into the program is based on an entrance test and a personal interview. First Aid and CPR certification would be an asset.

Deadline for application: April 30, 1991

For more information, and or registration, please contact:

The Registrar or Pam Hawley, Practical Nurse Instructor **AVC - Lesser Slave Lake Grouard Campus** Grouard, AB Phone: 751-3915

Financial assistance, accommodation and day care facilities may be available. Inquire when applying.



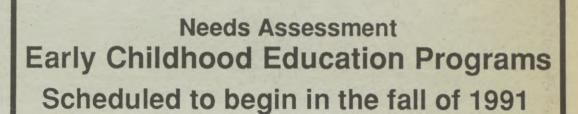
#### NOTICE OF **TEMPORARY GUARDIANSHIP TO:**

### DINAH ARCAND

Take notice that an application for Temporary Guardianship of your children born on June 8, 1987, April 20, 1988, May 5, 1989, will be made on May 3rd at 9:30 a.m. in Stony Plain Family Court.

Contact: Debra Mandamin Alberta Family and Social Services, (city): Spruce Grove Telephone: (403)962-8681

For all your advertising needs call **Sharon Barbeau** in Alberta and **British Columbia** or **Cliff Stebbings** for Saskatchewan and Manitoba at (403) 455-2700



The Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake is conducting a needs assessment to determine the possibility of offering a 1-year Early Childhood Education Certificate program in the fall of 1991.

If you are interested in working with small children, a Certificate in Early Childhood Education would provide you with more employment opportunities in day cares, day homes, playschools and kindergartens. In addition, by the year 1995, the Department of Social Services will require 1 out of every 4 staff in day cares to have a 1-year Certificate in Early Childhood Education.

Entrance Requirements: Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have sufficient reading and writing skills to meet program requirements. Grade 12 English would be an asset. Applicants must write an academic skills test and attend a personal interview.

If you are interested in attending a full-time or part-time program at either the Grouard, Slave Lake, Wabasca, McLennan or Valleyview campus, or if you are interested in a distance education program delivered in your community, please contact:

**Elaine Williams** Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake Slave Lake Campus P.O. Box 1280, Slave Lake, AB **TOG 2A0** Phone: 849-7372 (collect calls accepted)

Please respond by April 18, 1991. Note: Program interest does not guarantee program delivery.



Applications are invited for the following position with the Sucker Creek Band

#### JOB DESCRIPTION DIRECTOR FOR WOMEN'S EMERGENCY SHELTER

#### SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Project Haven Board, incumbent manages and directs the operation of the Emergency Shelter. The incumbent recommends new or modified programs and directs the operations of the Emergency Shelter. The incumbent recommends new or modified programs and policies to the Board and after approval establishes and directs the framework within which programs and services are made available to clients, ensuring that high standards of programs and service delivery are maintained. Establishing and maintaining contact with the various agencies, organizations and individual service providers in the community. The incumbent is a non-voting participant on the Board.

**OUALIFICATIONS:** 

 B.S.W. or B.A. degree or Community college diploma from a recognized university or post-secondary institution with majors in Sociology, nursing or Psychology or a related discipline suitable for the functions to be performed. A candidate with adequate field experience in lieu of the educational qualifications may be considered.

Several years proven experience in the field
Must be a self-starter with leadership and oral and written communication

Proven ability to supervise staff and interact with clients

Proven experience in program and staff development for a new centre

**CONTACT PERSON:** 

PHONE:

Chief Jim Badger Box 65 Enilda, Alberta TOG 0W0

(403)523-4426

SALARY NEGOTIABLE - DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 30, 1991 at 3:00 p.m.





T.9. LJ, 270 6,60 6,097

### A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN NATIVE EDUCATION

TRANSITION YEAR
UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE ENTRANCE
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APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 1991 NOW BEING ACCEPTED

This special one-year program assists mature (21 years of age or older) students to gain full admission to University or College.

#### Please apply in person by May 3, 1991

For further information please contact:
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Department of Academic Studies
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Phone: (403)585-3925



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Courses being offered:

CLITP 201: Curriculum and Instructional Methods

CLITP 203: Cree Language Development

CLITP 205: Cree Language and Social Studies Integration

CLITP 207: Cree Language and Fine Arts Integration

CLITP 209: Cree Language Development

**Note:** Interested applicants must be competent enough in oral Cree so as to be able to teach the language.

For further information please contact:
Henry Sutherland, Registrar
Box 360 Hobbema, Alberta ToC 1N0
Phone: (403)585-3925

#### Project Manager Industrial and Commercial Development

\$52,409 - \$67,134 Indian and Northern Affairs Ottawa, Ontario

Your Challenge

Your main responsibility will be to develop effective national strategies for enhancing native business and employment opportunities within the industrial and commercial sectors, on or near native communities. You will also undertake related large-scale business projects, and serve as an information broker and consultant to the business and native communities.

#### **Your Credentials**

You must possess a degree from a recognized university or a diploma from an approved post-secondary institution in commerce, economics, business administration, finance or accounting, plus appropriate experience in aboriginal economic development and in overseeing and/or undertaking major developmental and/or research projects. Knowledge of the federal and provincial legislative and program frameworks that support business development is required. You must also be familiar with small business operations and requirements, and with the principles and practices of project management. Proficiency in English is essential, as are excellent analytic and communication skills.

Please forward your résumé and/or application form before April 30, 1991, quoting reference number S-91-31-0204-16JL-D99, to:

Jean Lineger, Public Service Commission, 171 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M7.

To increase the number of native people working for Indian and Northern Affairs, this competition is open to native people only by virtue of exclusion approval order PC-1990-612.

Personal information is protected under the Privacy Act. It will be held in Personal Information Bank PSC/P-PU-040.



52 409 \$ - 67 134 \$
Affaires indiennes et du Nord
Ottawa (Ontario)

#### Votre défi

commercial

Vous serez principalement chargé(e) d'élaborer des stratégies nationales efficaces visant à améliorer les entreprises et le marché du travail autochtones dans les secteurs industriel et commercial au sein ou à proximité des communautés autochtones. De plus, vous mettrez en oeuvre des projets commerciaux pertinents de grande envergure et agirez à titre d'agent(e) d'information et de conseiller(ère) auprès des milieux d'affaires et des communautés autochtones.

Vos compétences

Ce poste exige un diplôme d'une université reconnue ou un diplôme d'un établissement postsecondaire approuvé en commerce, économie, administration des affaires, finances, ou comptabilité, ainsi qu'une expérience appropriée en développement économique concernant les autochtones et en supervision ou mise en oeuvre de projets majeurs de développement ou de recherche. La connaissance des lois fédérales et provinciales, de même que des programmes étayant le développement commercial, est indispensable. Vous devez, de plus, être familiarisé(e) avec les activités et exigences des petites entreprises, de même qu'avec les principes et pratiques de la gestion de projets. Une bonne connaissance de l'anglais et de fortes aptitudes pour la communication et l'analyse sont essentielles.

Acheminez votre curriculum vitae ou votre demande d'emploi avant le 30 avril 1991, en indiquant le numéro de référence S-91-31-0204-16JL-D99, à Jean Lineger, Commission de la fonction publique du Canada, 171, rue Slater, Ottawa (Ontario) K1A OM7.

Afin d'augmenter le nombre d'autochtones travaillant au ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord, ce concours est ouvert aux autochtones uniquement en vertu du décret d'exclusion 1990-612 du Conseil privé.

Les renseignements personnels sont protégés par la Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels. Ils seront conservés dans le fichier de renseignements personnels CFP/P-PU-040.

Canadä



Public Service Commission of Canada

Commission de la fonction publique du Canada



#### Miyo Wahkohtowin Community School Board Hobbema, Alberta

This Community Control School Authority is inviting applications from highly motivated educators. These positions will provide the educational team of this newly formed Community Controlled School Authority (formerly run by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada) and assuming of administrative control of the Kindergarten thru Grade 12 programs for September, 1991. The three school buildings serve approximately 1000 students with a projected staff of 105, with the challenge of plans for continued growth.

Applications are invited from individuals with:

 a total commitment to children and the quality of their education

- the ability to perform all educational
- · a high level of skills in educational systems
- proven educational experience and training
- effective communication
- · interpersonal skills
- commitment to community involvement in a Cree/English education setting
- University degree in a related area

#### - Teachers -

Applications are invited from teachers at all levels. Specializations in ECS, SPECIAL EDUCATION and departmentalized junior high levels as well as those striving for

excellence in teaching at the K thru 9 levels are needed for the 1991 - 92 school year.

Closing Date: June 30, 1991

An exceptional Salary Grid, and Benefit Package provided.

Send to:

Phone:

**Ermineskin Education** 

Box 219

Hobbema, Alberta

TOC 1NO

(403)585-4006

(403)420-0008

Fax: (403)585-2006

### AIDS PREVENTION



CHERISH WHAT IS LEFT

NATIONS AIDS AWARENESS CONFERENCE

> PANEE MEMORIAL AGRIPLEX HOBBEMA, ALBERTA

APRIL 24th & 25th 1991

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m Each Day

#### COME JOIN THE CIRCLE OF ACTIVITIES

- \* Youth Dance (Rock)
- \* Round Dance
- \* Art and Craft Displays
- \* Puppet Show
- \* Entertainment Galore
- \* Mini Pow-Wow
- \* Mini Teepee Village
- \* Kids Coloring Contest
- \* Door Prizes

- **\* Panel Discussions**
- \* Aid HIV Presentations
- \* Video & Pamplets
- # Elders
- \* Free Breakfast & Lunch \* Display Booths/Health Fair
  - \* Hoop Dancers
  - \* Prevention Workshops
  - \* Fashion Show
  - \* Food Services Available

\* SPECIAL \* **GUEST SPEAKERS** 

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