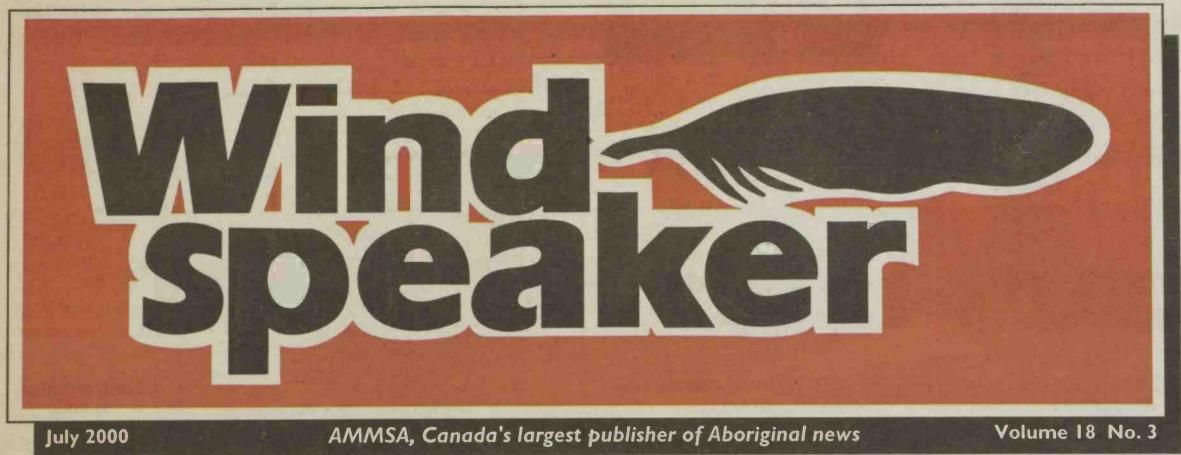
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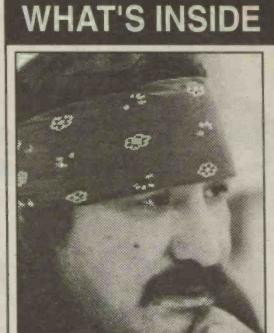
# Premier accused of racism

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.

Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin made remarks on June 8 that Indigenous leaders found very disturbing.

Speaking to the National Post, a newspaper that the Assembly of First Nations has criticized as anti-Native, Tobin said, "Alcohol isn't being openly acknowledged for the problem that it is, in significant part because members of the leadership of northern communities are themselves abusers of alcohol and are themselves in need of help. "I really believe that I have an obligation to say that publicly, in effect to speak on behalf of those who can't speak themselves — who feel, quite frankly, intimidated about speaking for themselves. I really spent a lot of time thinking about whether or not I would even do this interview. [But] I can not, in conscience, stay silent." Tobin claims he is genuinely concerned about the problem and not attempting to assign blame or use the issue to dismiss the legitimacy of Native leaders with whom he and his officials have been, and will continue to be, involved in very competitive land claim negotiations. Many Native leaders don't believe him. (see Premier page 13.)



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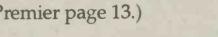
Political prisoner Leonard Peltier was disappointed again when, after 24 years behind bars, he was denied parole. Reaction was swift and the fight for his freedom continues with fervor. Windspeaker covers the parole hearing and speaks to members of a family devoted to the Peltier cause. .....Pages 9 to 11





### The beginning of the end?

Have we heard the death rattle of British Columbia's treaty process? Sechelt, the first nation to reach Stage 5, the final stage of negotiations, has abondoned its agreement-inprinciple and is heading back to court. A rally at the legislative grounds at the end of May focused on the discontent with governments over their requirement for extinguishment provisions in the treaties. Bad faith allegations against governments are the norm rather than the exception. Windspeaker takes a four-page look at the current state of treaty-making in British Columbia. See centre pullout after page 16.



## **Residential school, holocaust effects similar**

#### **By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff. Writer

#### MONTREAL

The psychiatric profession seems to be coming to some dramatic conclusions as it attempts to deal with mental health issues in Indigenous communities.

Three days of discussion at Montreal's Jewish General Hospital, sponsored by McGill University's Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, revealed that mainstream medical practitioners are realizing they're going to have to confront the painful realities of colonial history before they can begin to effectively treat Indigenous people and communities.

Psychiatric practitioners and professors from across Canada and around the world spoke at the conference.

Kirmayer, the director of the social and transcultural psychiatry division at McGill University's medical school, pointed out that statistical studies have shown that Indigenous communities have lower rates of psychiatric problems when they control their own government functions — the more control, the lower the rate of suffering.

The most contentious presentation was made by an Australian professor who has studied health problems in Indigenous people in his country.

Professor Ernest Hunter, a psychiatrist who is professor of public health (mental health) in the department of social and preventive medicine at the University of Queensland has studied the behavior of medical professionals during the Nazi years. He looked at physicians who collaborated with the Navictims and those who were in a position to speak up against the medical experimentation and the death camps but chose not to.

Having also studied mental health problems in Indigenous communities in Australia, he has seen similarities between the mental suffering of Indigenous people and holocaust victims.

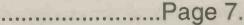
As he delivered his paper — ... the deep sleep of forgetfulness: Reflecting on Disremembering to a lecture hall filled close to capacity with his peers, Hunter felt the need to explain why he was making that comparison.

"To consider the holocaust and the experiences of Australia's Indigenous population in the same study seemed reckless. Well, that's how I felt in 1991 after returning from Yad Va-Shem (holocaust memorial) in

ing medical professionals as perpetrators during the Nazi years and where I'd begun to consider the relationship between doctors and Indigenous Australians," he said. "At that time I felt that associating these issues was unfair and unlikely to gain a sympathetic hearing amongst my medical peers. Well, that proved to be true; sensitivity was very close to the surface. In this paper I return to the original project — to consider medical professionals as perpetrators, bystanders and victims of the trauma of the holocaust and colonization. I argue that this history is critical to understanding the social and political context of professional work with these traumatized populations, and that to not do so may lead to complicity in rationalizing and trivializing the harm done."

#### THE OTHER SIDE

Who is Pierre George and what does he want? Just to tell his side of the story in the shooting death of his brother, Dudley.



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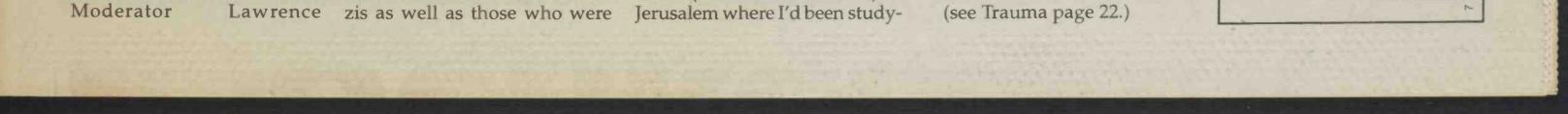
The advertising deadline for the August 2000 issue is Thursday, July 6, 2000 see page 4 for details.

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July 2000

Confrontation

at Oka

standoff in

the summer

of 1990.

# **OKA:** 10 years later

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

MONTREAL

world watched as Canadian soldiers rolled their tanks into a small town in Quebec, called into action to end a dispute between Mohawks and a town council that wanted to build a golf course on a Native burial site.

The Oka Crisis, or as Native leaders prefer to call the 78-day standoff in 1990, the confrontation at Oka, shook the entire country as activists took to the barricades and took up arms to defend their land rights.

sary, a panel of speakers gathered in a small cafeteria to discuss the legacy of the confrontation. The panel of five included Kenneth Deer, publisher of Kahnawake's Eastern Door, and Ellen Gabriel, whose face became the Canada-wide symbol of the Mohawk people in Oka, the person who explained the Mohawk position to the muter link — the Mercier press during those tense and Bridge - was blocked in supuncertain days. The panelists were asked if the federal and provincial governments have changed their ways in the years since the confrontation. "If you look at 10 years before the Oka crisis and the conditions and relationship that we had with government in 1980 and you compare it to the conditions and relationships in the year 2000, there's a definite differ-

of self-determination for Native people."

The newspaper publisher believes the ugliness of Oka, the It's been 10 years since the racial tensions that reached fever pitch between Native and non-Native, exposed attitudes in Canada that had previously gone unexamined and unchallenged.

"The Canadian and Quebec governments looked at us as subordinate, as dependent, as, perhaps, a lesser society. They were racist without realizing how racist they were. In 1990, what it did was bring out the racism within the general public. The racism that was always beneath the surface came to the To mark the 10-year anniver- surface and we all saw what it was like," he said.

A book about hate groups in Canada discovered that Ku Klux Klan organizers were responsible for creating and encouraging the hate and anger that led to rock throwing and other demonstrations directed against Mohawk people in Kahnawake, where a vital comport of the Mohawk community of Kanesatake (Oka), an hour's drive to the north. Deer believes the intensity of the hatred and anger scared government officials enough to back away from the hard line approach that saw Canadian military personnel ordered into action outside the picturesque town of Oka on the shores of Lac des Deux Montagnes (Lake of Two Mountains).

a difficult time with the concept include Native people in the constitutional process, which was the Charlottetown Accord." He noted that the Charlottetown Accord was a complete failure, voted down

WINDSPEAKER

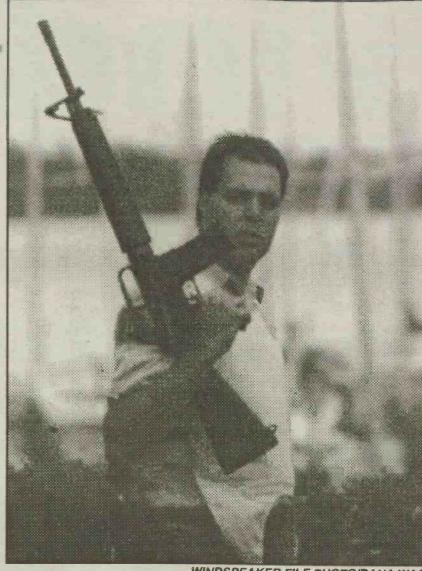
NEWS

in a national referendum in 1992.

There has been some progress on the promise to improve conditions on reserves, Deer noted.

"The Canadian government has increased and continues to brag around the world about how much money it spends on Native people. Canada does pay more per capita than any other country that has Indigenous people. But how much of that

"The Canadian and Quebec governments looked at us as subordinate, as dependent, as, perhaps, a lesser society. They were racist without



WINDSPEAKER FILE PHOTO/DANA WAGG

the Indigenous people are still not equal. However, they still try to disguise these things as treaties."

He noted that it was a provincial Liberal government in

Oka confrontation where Mohawk businessmen (called smugglers by Canadian authorities) used the Mohawk sovereignty issue to prevent authorities from stopping their lucrative trade.

Many traditional observers have said, during the last 10 years, that many of the armed warriors at Oka hijacked the sovereignty agenda for their own purposes and didn't represent the Mohawk leaders or people. Deer said there could be another confrontation if cigarette taxes go up.

"It's yet to be seen. Ten years is just a blink of an eye for us. We've been here for centuries

and we expect to be here for a

few more centuries. I'm not

convinced that Canada has

learned, that Quebec has

learned, the lesson of 1990," he

said. "Government memories

are short. They say one week in

politics is a long time; 10 years

is a longer time. There will be a

time when, because these agree-

ments do not recognize us as

equals, do not recognize us as

sovereign peoples, that sooner

or later it will come to confron-

Ellen Gabriel still lives and

works on the Kanesatake terri-

tory. She said nothing important

tation."

Chang

July 2000

(Continued from page 2.) "In the community Kanesatake, I think, in ma ways, we're still feeling li we're under siege. The physi barricades came down and army left. However, we're s oppressed. The issue of the la that we were protecting is s in question. The governme keeps saying, 'We have nego tions underway.' They have band council that they're ne tiating with. And the traditio people, the longhouse peo whose government preda European arrival on this co nent, is still not recognized a is still outlawed," she said.

Children of traditional peo who refuse to recognize band council's authority are sued temporary band numb until they reach the age of when they lose their status, said.

"Where I come from, it's o sidered Crown land. It's n reserve, which means Queen, in Canadian law, or the community where I co from. They're only letting live there out of their grac generosity," she said. "We not own our land. Yet a per who comes from anywhere in the world and buys land more rights than we do. So v has changed in 10 years? little and yet a lot."

Gabriel asked the audien they were familiar with the tails of the beginning of the frontation in her communi 1990. "Ten years ago, a group o decided to block a second road — a road which was used at all except by the l people --- because they were ing to expand a golf course,' said. She said the historic tudes of the French color towards Mohawk people unfriendly and antagon from the start. "They didn't look at Mohawk people living Kanesatake as human bei We were expendable and i died, who cared? The attitu still the same today." She said the residential so system is a clear example of attitude. "The whole point of the dential school system wa take away the identity of people. They were practi genocide against Aborig people and today we are with that legacy and we are ing to stop that cycle of a that exists in our commun she said. As in most Mohawk com nities and, indeed, to som tent in all Indigenous com nities, Gabriel's home is div between traditional people refuse to recognize the In Act system and those wh recognize it. That division i fault of the colonizers, she lieves, but non-Native pe use the division as and weapon to wear down the tive sovereignty activists. "That is why, when you s the news people talking al 'Why can't Aboriginal pe get together? Why can't speak with one voice?' Do Natives speak with one v

realizing bow racist they were.

--- Kenneth Deer

money is benefiting the Indigenous people? In general, we are still on the low end of the economic ladder; we still have the highest suicide rate in the country and we still are victims of a certain amount of racism," he said.

Deer agrees with Native leaders who say the Royal Commission has not lived up to its original promise.

"Basically, the Royal Commission's been ignored. It's not been activated by the government. Their solution was to pay us \$350 million as a healing fund. That was Canada's response to the Royal Commission, which is ludicrous. Canada spent \$500 million to cancel a helicopter contract."

He noted there has been some progress on speeding up the land claim process, although less than a week after the panel met, that process may have suffered a critical blow. Sechelt First Nation pulled out of the treaty process in British Columbia and threatened to force a total redesign of Canada's plan to solve land disputes, including government's insistence of extinguishment of Native rights in exchange for settlements.

"There has been some progress. A land claims commission was set up that was semiindependent but not truly independent," he said. "A treaty process was set up in British Columbia that was questionable to many people. It was a treaty process that wasn't really a treaty process. A treaty process recognizes the two signatories as equals. The B.C. process does not. Canada is still superior and

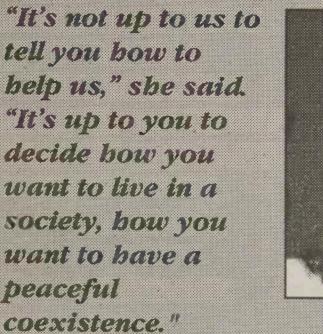
power in Quebec at the time of Oka and the Parti Quebecois has made agreements with Native leaders in the province in order to pursue its separatist agenda. But Deer pointed out the agreements have yet to be implemented and probably won't be until after the next provincial election.

Talk of raising cigarette taxes has been heard in Quebec in recent months and, Deer said, that could encourage a renewal of the cross-border traffic in cigarettes that played a role in the



WINDSPEAKER FILE PHOTO/DANA WAGO

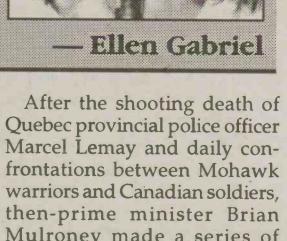
Mohawk activists took to the barricades to protest Oka town council's plan to expand a golf course onto a Native burial site.



ence," Deer said. "I think that 1990 was a wake-up call to Quebec, the Canadian government and to people in general about how non-Natives perceive Native people. Of course, how we perceive government hasn't changed. Our perception of government hasn't changed in the last 10 years, 20 years or 100 years."

Mohawk people still look to the Two-Row Wampum treaty which states that the relationship with the Crown is a nationto-nation relationship and that Mohawk people have a right to be sovereign on their traditional territory, he said.

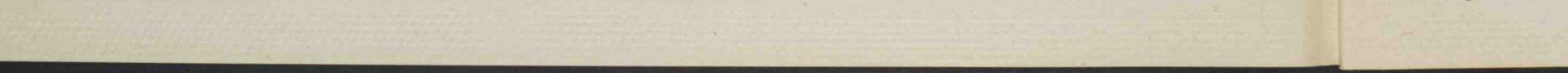
"That'll never change," Deer added. "It's always our stand. Governments, before 1990, had



Marcel Lemay and daily confrontations between Mohawk warriors and Canadian soldiers, then-prime minister Brian Mulroney made a series of promises that brought the impasse to a peaceful conclusion.

"Brian Mulroney referred to his four solutions to the quote unquote Indian problem," Deer said. "One was that he would strike a Royal Commission. The second was that he would speed up the rate of land claims because at the rate they were going it would have taken more than 100 years to settle them.

The third was that he would improve conditions on reserves and the fourth was he would



Confrontation

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### WINDSPEAKER NEWS

# Change comes grudgingly, if at all

(Continued from page 2.)

"In the community of Kanesatake, I think, in many ways, we're still feeling like we're under siege. The physical barricades came down and the army left. However, we're still oppressed. The issue of the land that we were protecting is still in question. The government keeps saying, 'We have negotiations underway.' They have the band council that they're negotiating with. And the traditional people, the longhouse people whose government predates European arrival on this continent, is still not recognized and is still outlawed," she said.

Children of traditional people who refuse to recognize the band council's authority are issued temporary band numbers until they reach the age of 18 when they lose their status, she said.

"Where I come from, it's considered Crown land. It's not a reserve, which means the Queen, in Canadian law, owns the community where I come from. They're only letting us live there out of their gracious generosity," she said. "We do not own our land. Yet a person who comes from anywhere else in the world and buys land has more rights than we do. So what has changed in 10 years? Very

little and yet a lot." Gabriel asked the audience if



Mohawk leader Joe Norton quiets a crowd of supporters during a rally held during the 78-day confrontation between activists and Oka town council. Hundreds of people came to the blockade site to show the public was watching as Canadian military were called to end the dispute.

How many political parties do you all have? How many cultures and how many races are living in our communities here on Turtle Island? Do you all speak with one voice? No. Yet we are expected to speak with one voice," she said. "If you look at this legacy that we have,

about you. It cares about big business," she said.

She told the audience that a toxic dump on her territory was only stopped because the trucks travelling to the dump were destroying the roads.

"Not because of the health

After listening to the speakers, Rob Murdoch, a 25-year-old would-be film-maker asked an important question.

Page 3

"This doesn't make the evening news every night and it should," he said. "There should be thousands of people here in this room. People should be packed in here like sardines. What do you have to do to get people to pay attention?"

He later told Windspeaker that his girlfriend is intensely interested in the abortion debate. She and her friends can talk for hours about that issue.

"She's an intelligent, educated person. If this was about abortion, she probably would be here. But as soon as I bring up the Native issues, you can see them all tune out," he said. "They don't care and I don't understand why not."

Kenneth Deer answered the question on behalf of the panel.

"It's not a new question," he said, obviously amused and even touched by the young non-Native man's passion. "In the days of Columbus the debate was whether Indigenous people were human. In the European view, because we weren't Christian, papal bulls [decrees] were issued that said we were fair game. That attitude of divine right still permeates the thinkeducation. Well, you don't un- ing of Canadians today. You can derstand anything about what see it still in the expression 'Crown land.' We're still a problem. Five hundred years after Christopher Columbus, we're still a threat because we have a legitimate claim. They really, really wish we'd go away." Murdoch, who recently moved from his home town of Toronto to Montreal, plans to work on a project that will show Canadians how inconsistent their attitudes towards Native people are when compared to professed Canadian values of tolerance and compassion. He believes there's a powerful form of denial at work in the Canadian public about an important part of the country's history and he wants to find a way to make regular people face up to that history and come to grips with it, he said.

WINDSPEAKER FILE PHOTO/DANA WAGG

motorists were more important

She challenged non-Native

"People talk about . . . oh, you

don't pay taxes, you get a free

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than people's lives."

issues.

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s to protest Oka town nto a Native burial site.

they were familiar with the details of the beginning of the confrontation in her community in 1990.

"Ten years ago, a group of us decided to block a secondary road — a road which was not used at all except by the local people — because they were going to expand a golf course," she said.

She said the historic attitudes of the French colonists towards Mohawk people was unfriendly and antagonistic from the start.

"They didn't look at the Mohawk people living in Kanesatake as human beings. We were expendable and if we died, who cared? The attitude is still the same today."

She said the residential school system is a clear example of that attitude.

"The whole point of the residential school system was to take away the identity of our people. They were practising genocide against Aboriginal people and today we are left with that legacy and we are trying to stop that cycle of abuse that exists in our community," she said.

As in most Mohawk communities and, indeed, to some extent in all Indigenous communities, Gabriel's home is divided between traditional people who refuse to recognize the Indian Act system and those who do recognize it. That division is the fault of the colonizers, she believes, but non-Native people use the division as another weapon to wear down the Native sovereignty activists.

"That is why, when you see in the news people talking about, 'Why can't Aboriginal people get together? Why can't they speak with one voice?' Do non-Natives speak with one voice?

"There should be thousands of people here in this room. People sbould be packed in bere like sardines. What do you have to do to get people to pay attention?"

how do you expect us to have unity? How do you expect us to unite once again the way we did in 1990? In 1990, it was easy to unite because we were all being attacked and it didn't matter what political faction you worked for. Our people stood together because the racism was against the red race and the racism is still against the red race."

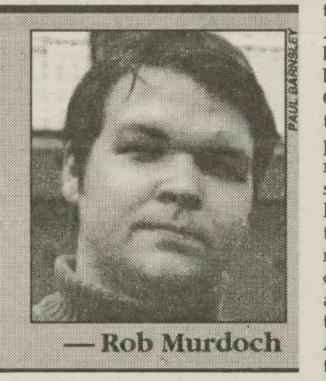
She noted that well-meaning people ask her how they can help her people.

"It's not up to us to tell you how to help us," she said. "It's up to you to decide how you want to live in a society, how you want to have a peaceful coexistence. Your governments definitely don't care. They've shown that many times. Do you live in a democracy? What does a democracy mean, can anyone tell me? It doesn't mean just voting. It means having a voice. It means having a voice in the decision-making process. You don't have that in Canada."

She said the Canadian system isn't designed to include all the people, no matter what politicians or others may say.

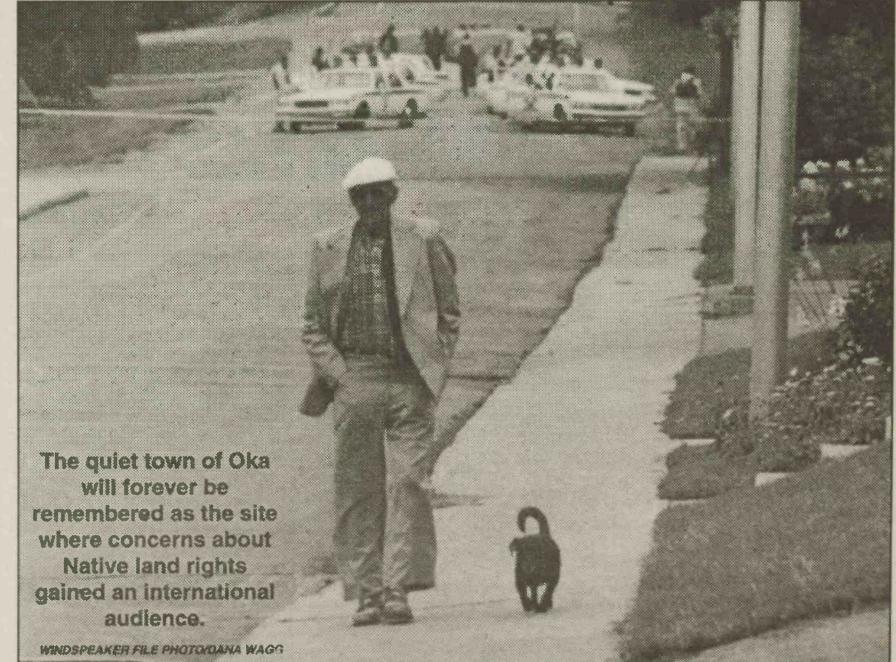
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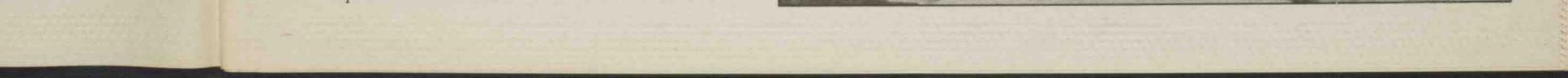
reasons, because of the roads,



she said. "So we see that money is more important than people's lives and in 1990 we saw the same thing, inconvenienced

being Aboriginal is if you say that to us. It's on the backs of Aboriginal people that Canada became a country. It's on the blood of Aboriginal people that Canada became a country. Until people understand this, until people start opening their minds and start trying to understand our points of view and not listening to just the skimpy little headlines you see in the newspapers . . . but actually come and meet us and talk to us and learn your history. Learn the history of genocide in the Americas," she said. "I would that you help yourselves at this time and make your country a true democracy like they say it is because they borrowed it from us, they borrowed it from the Iroquois people."





Page 4



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# **Canada shifts to the right**

Tobin feels it's OK to tell the National Post about his professed worries about the mental health of Native leaders and feel he's doing the right thing by tarring Native leaders as dysfunctional drunks, we know it's time to update all the labels that identify political parties.

WINDSPEAKER

EDITORIAL

We used to think that left meant tolerant as well as liberal and right meant intolerant as well as conservative, that archconservatives would, typically, engage in social Darwinism and conclude that they must be superior because the cream always rises to the top and, since they're at the top, they must be the cream. You know, "The poor are that way because they're inferior."

We didn't get a chance to discuss the matter with Premier Tobin (through no fault of ours), but we smell paternalism and social Darwinism emanating from his comments.

So what's happened to liberalism in this country? Has Preston

called this week) really shifted the political spectrum that much?

Commentators in Ottawa have accused the deficit-cutting Liberals of acting more like Tories than Tories, but we thought that was just a blip caused by successful lobbying by the wealthy who don't want to pay for the social safety net for others when they can afford to look after themselves quite nicely and probably will never need that net.

We now realize the shift to the right is firmly entrenched.

Chief Stewart Phillip sees it. He reminded us that former Tory Prime Minister Brian Mulroney gauged the public mood in the aftermath of Oka and, in his famous four pillar speech, promised a very sympathetic Canadian public that Native issues would be addressed. Mulroney even promised all land claims would be settled by the year 2000. But Phillip also said that the British Columbia treaty process, which was initiated to help did — scarier still.

When a Liberal like Brian Manning's party (whatever it's Mulroney keep that promise, was a stall. Phillip believes the bureaucrats advised that the public is fickle. Yes, Canadians were enamored with the romantic warrior figures staring down the army, but the bureaucrats said, "Give them time. That will pass." And oh boy has it.

The mood in this land now is more about resentment than sympathy and politicians don't feel any pressure to come up with real solutions to Native issues.

If Premier Tobin had spent a little time talking to any one of the dozens of specialists who attended the Indigenous mental health conference in Montreal, he would have been advised to keep his mouth shut.

Tobin is a representative of the system that caused the problems and now he is "bravely" drawing attention to it, "for their own good."

A provincial premier has ready access to any number of learned advisors. Why didn't he use them for this issue? Perhaps he



#### By E. Fredua-Kwarteng **Guest Columnist**

#### Cape Dorset, Nunavut

Teaching can be characterized as a process, not a terminal activity. Therefore, it should address of the natural environment on them participate in the dominant issues relevant to students. Periodically, every progressive educator should question what is worthwhile for students to learn and what the students find intriguing. Consequently, I have been thinking critically about what students should be taught in senior secondary school. course, there are official curriculum guidelines. However, this is not enough. Apart from math, science, social studies and English—for which Grade 12 students have to write an external examination—teachers have a lot of leeway in designing the contents of courses. Teachers also can use supplementary materials when the official textbooks are inadequate, and they can teach things they consider essential to students' future careers, motivation, self-esteem, conflict, time management, self-discipline and responsibilities. Given the leeway teachers have, what should they teach? The answers may vary, but my research informs me that students want to learn things that are relevant to their lives, their cultures and their communities. For example, recently a Grade 8 student wrote, "There are many teachers in Native schools who don't take time to help the students in their classes to find out who they are as Native people and what their nations and clans are. All they want to do is teach their lessons and get their day over with."

In Nunavut, where about 90 per cent of senior secondary students are Inuit, educators should think critically about the following:

•Inuit history and cultural achievements. Also, the influence lish language skills will help

gestion for reflection. It is up to individual teachers to find out their students' needs.

Certainly, Inuit students must be taught mathematics, science and English. As a minority, Engculture, so they can understand current socieconomic discourse in Canada and how it affects them. It will help them enter professional or vocational training. Nonetheless, English language instruction should offer them a range of opportunities to articulate their lived experiences, ontological beliefs and world view. Accordingly, English as a second language (ESL) should be taught until Grade 10. Furthermore, mathematics and science should be taught in such a way that he students can apply the skills and knowledge in their lives. Problem-solving in mathematics and science should be focused on things in Inuit communities. As well, Inuit names should be used in applied mathematics questions. In this way, students can conceptualize the practical applications of mathematics and science because they can relate it personally and culturally. This does not suggest that abstractions are irrelevant; rather, it suggests that concrete representations should be the entry point in any field of knowledge or inquiry. Without doubt, there are a number of educational issues to discuss, but these are just the beginning. The time is now for progressive educators in Nunavut and the rest of the North to engage in critical, reflective discussions of how we can make the education enterprise serve the people better; in particular, to improve teaching and learning and make education a developmental tool. Education should lead development. In fact, the task of development is not the responsibility of bureaucrats, but the people's responsibility, and they can ex-The above curriculum is not ecute it effectively with education.

# **Police** in about n

#### **Dear Editor:**

**July 2000** 

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In addition, a four-year research project published by the Ontario College Of Teachers in September 1999 revealed students are more engaged the more they work with concepts relevant to them. These examples are food for thought for progressive educators in Native education.

development.

•Inuit social history. Changes and challenges unfolding in their communities. Land claim agreements. Why land is essential to Inuit survival. The relationships between the territorial governments and provinces.

•Multiculturalism, bilingual-The answer is not simple. Of ism, difference, assimilation, acculturation. Preferential treatment and how Inuit are perceived by others inside and outside Nunavut. How Inuit perceive other Canadians. Differences and similarities between Inuit culture and other Canadians' cultures. The idea is students inevitably will interact with other Canadians. They will also learn to help create a racially harmonious country.

> •Awareness, uses and limitations of modern technology. This is to help the students make decisions regarding appropriate technology for their culture. Empirical studies show that imposed technology sometimes causes disruption of existing social structures, confusion, mistrust, or ultimate rejection.

•Geography and the physical environment. Traditional and modern conservation methods.

•Inuktitut should be promoted. For this reason, Grade 12 students should be required to write external examinations in Inuktitut. This, in my estimation, will give some academic legitimacy to the Inuktitut language.

•The supremacy of the community in relation to the individual. The community as a potent force in character formation as compared to biological influences. Values and principles such as sharing, co-operation, altruism, communalism, nonviolence, nonconfrontation, consultation, consensus.

written in stone; it is just a sug-

#### **Dear Editor:**

RE: Time to kill BC Treaty ess, Windspeaker, April edit

I have just read Mr. T. Alf diatribe blasting the BC Ti process and I am left some confused by his column wr After nearly 750 words damning thesis he event concludes that British Colu does, after all the verbal demnation, need a tr HELLO! What are we sa here?

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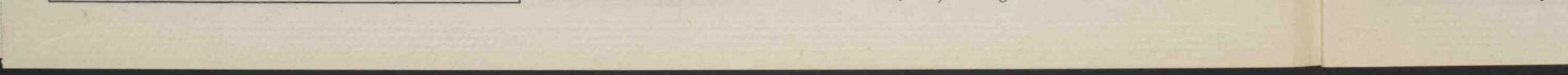
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# e right

ey keep that promise, tall. Phillip believes the crats advised that the s fickle. Yes, Canadians amored with the romanior figures staring down y, but the bureaucrats live them time. That will nd oh boy has it. nood in this land now is

bout resentment than hy and politicians don't pressure to come up with itions to Native issues. mier Tobin had spent a ne talking to any one of ens of specialists who atthe Indigenous mental onference in Montreal, he ave been advised to keep th shut.

is a representative of the that caused the problems w he is "bravely" drawntion to it, "for their own

vincial premier has ready o any number of learned s. Why didn't he use r this issue? Perhaps he carier still.

### ers' goal

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#### **July 2000**

### WINDSPEAKER OPINION

# **Police interrogate chiefs** about newspaper comments

#### **Dear Editor:**

As a result of comments made in a recent Vancouver Sun article (Old disputes cast dark shadow on land claims, May 1), RCMP in northwest British Columbia interrogated Gitanyow hereditary chiefs this past week.

The article by Stephen Hume pointed out the Gitanyow's connection to the Mid-Nass River Watershed in northwest B.C. and the Gitanyow's "fight" to protect its Aboriginal rights and title.

This past week, as the Nisga'a celebrated its modern-day treaty, Hazelton RCMP officers in bullet-proof vests interrupted a treaty negotiation de-briefing session to interrogate hereditary Chief Harry Daniels and chief negotiator Glen Williams, Hume article.

The officers are investigating comments the chiefs made about some of the feelings the Gitanyow have on the ratification of the Nisga'a Final Agreement and its profound impact on the Gitanyow peo-

6,500 square kilometres in the ments signing the Nisga'a Mid-Nass Valley.

Since the passing of Bill C-9, chiefs and community members — frustrated by a government that chooses to turn its back on blatant land grabs (competing claims) — expressed anger and came up with ideas to protect their traditional territory, something Glen Williams commented on in the Sun article.

Williams said that the only time the RCMP or government listens is when there's violence or someone gets shot. He was referring to an incident that took place in Gitanyow territory about five years ago when some Nisga'a hunters threatened at gun-point four members of the Gitanyow and told them to "get off our land." Charges were never laid against the offending intruders.

Williams says that had somewho were featured in the one been shot, government "may" have done something to resolve an 84 per cent overlap of Gitanyow territory by the Nisga'a and government.

The "fight" Harry Daniels referred to centres around court action against the Crown in Luuxhon vs. the Queen, which ple's right and title to about is a direct result of the govern-

deal without resolving the serious implications it has for the Gitanyow. The Crown appeal of the first declaration which legally and financially

> obligate the Crown to First Nations in treaty negotiations -will be heard in Vancouver later this month.

So as the Nisga'a and their political supporters celebrate, the Gitanyow continue to struggle with a government that is unwilling to get involved in "tribal disputes," something it denies having anything to do with, even though Gitanyow's traditional boundaries were exhaustively documented and presented to the Nisga'a and governments long before any agreements-in-principle.

It's the old divide and conquer tactic alive and well in the new millennium.

The Gitanyow will have their day in court to prove who occupied the land since time immemorial.... and will continue to do so even in the wake of Nisga'a celebrations. Sindihl (Robert Good)

Gitanyow hereditary chief

# What are they looking for?

#### **Dear Editor:**

It disturbs me greatly that CSIS thinks the activities in Indian Country are worth recruiting Native folks to monitor their fellow citizens ("Good times with CSIS and me" by Taiaiake Alfred).

Native activists don't need to hide their work to where it merits Canada's intelligence service looking into their affairs. I mean, it's all about being public and vocal anyway, isn't it? The goal is, after all, about getting noticed. It's akin to yelling on the street corner 'Hey, everybody, look at us! We have issues that need addressing now!'

The only thing that CSIS really needs to monitor is itself. I mean, what are their bosses admitting to when they think there is something so bad happening out there that it requires a clandestine operation of intelligence gathering?

What exactly are they trying to protect or uphold that would make Native people so pissed off as to start whispering amongst themselves? No signed treaties in British Columbia? The Indian Act? The comprehensive claims policy? Well, guess what CSIS? Everybody knows about these and how destructive these policies are. And Native folks aren't whispering amongst themselves in order to change them.

Page 5

They're in the courts, on the streets, in the politicians' offices, and in the media yelling at industry to change them.

Unless, of course, there is something else out there even -more sinister than these policies that people don't know about. Wait a minute. Maybe we should all be peering over Canada's shoulder to see into their subversive designs?

In any case, let this letter be a recruitment call to all people who know of sinister behavior in the Canadian and provincial governments of this country to reveal publicly any evil plans by those who possess too much power for anyone's good.

And to CSIS, if you want to help in this process, please do. Otherwise, leave people alone to make noise as they see fit.

> Kevin Ward Prince George, B.C.

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# Abandon rebellious lingo of the sixties

#### **Dear Editor:**

RE: Time to kill BC Treaty Process, Windspeaker, April edition.

I have just read Mr. T. Alfred's diatribe blasting the BC Treaty process and I am left somewhat confused by his column writing. After nearly 750 words of a damning thesis he eventually concludes that British Columbia does, after all the verbal condemnation, need a treaty. HELLO! What are we saying here?

arrival, the columnist tells people through an Alberta tabloid that a treaty process, built on the laurels of century-old principles, should be killed! What kind of sympathy are we to derive from such views? It sounds

to me more like the kind of rhetoric that one has come to expect from the REFOOOORM Party and not from someone who is, I am told, teaching at a recognized and respected Canadian university.

But I was further confused, and disappointed, when he referred to the "extra big salaries." What kind of pettiness is this? And what are we supposed to pay our leaders? Trade beads? Annuities of \$10 and a new suit every year? C'mon. Do we want Admitting that he is a recent our negotiators to travel by horse and travois, stay in tipis to illustrate their integrity?

Let's examine the column writer's proposal. His answer is to decolonize the process? OK. Whatever that means. Also, that we should make Canada "tran-

scend its own racist justifications of the white right to dominate." OK. No problem there either. Now, let's get on with it.

Yes, I, too, used the same rebellious and radical lingo in the late sixties and early seventies. Does that work now? Does it further the goal of mutual respect? Or, does it get doors slammed in our faces? In my humble opinion, you don't build new and lasting relationships through an adversarial approach, but rather through respect and reconciliation. If we don't like something then let's talk about it and see if we can't find a middle ground, a better way of living together.

When I read the headline to the above-mentioned column, my first thoughts were of the

late Joe Mathias, a great and hereditary chief of the Squamish nation. He fought hard for the treaty process to happen. He was a constant and voracious fighter for justice and fairness, in the process and in society at large. He was universally respected as one of our greatest orators and Chief Mathias championed the cause of fairness. He, too, was also critical of the treaty process. But would he agree with killing the treaty process?

I asked myself. After some thought, I could only guess that he might favor a more reasonable approach and seek a solution by bringing people together, just as the British Columbia Aboriginal population has attempted to do for the better part of the last 100 years. Chief Mathias, like his ancestors, would attempt to get the best deal possible.

It took the Nisga'a more than a hundred years to negotiate a final agreement. This week they are in court to defend it from a public referendum. As an Aboriginal person I am watching this development with a great deal of interest. I will be looking to see if there are any Native newspaper columnists peeking in on the work of lawyers and academics who will be called as expert witnesses, and all of whom must be collecting beads and trinkets for all of their hard work in defining a new process.

> Jeff Bear Vancouver

# No need to rush into treaty agreements

#### **Dear Editor:**

I am in strict agreement with this [Taiaiake Alfred's] views and beliefs [regarding Time to kill the treaty process]. I find all the talk about treaty negotiations frightening and, sure as God made little green apples, we are going to get shafted again. It is definitely another stab at assimilation.

If any British Columbia nation thinks they are on the winning side in any treaty process with the federal or provincial governments, then they are living in a fantasy world. Haven't our people learned anything from our history? What would make anyone think that it will be any different today?

It is sad that there are many "assimilated Indian" leaders out there negotiating in the "best inalmighty dollar.

My perception is that many of our educated young people who have not had the opportunity to be grounded in their families and culture (often through no fault of their own) fall victim to the false flattery of government officials. They wine them and dine them and eventually convince them they are "bettering" their communities by ensuring "equality" with other Canadians through the treaty process.

I have to believe that deep down these Native leaders know that it is not true, but once they get in too deep they are reluctant to lose face with their "benefactors."

It is not difficult to identify Indians who have become truly assimilated. You check out their terests" of our nations. There are values and principles. If money

people, you know they are truly assimilated. I have no problem with anyone who chooses to adopt a foreign value system. I just ask that they go live within that foreign country that supports that value system. Greed and ego have no place within the Native culture.

Respect for the land and all living things (yes, even those who are working against us) needs to be at the forefront of all of our daily actions and interactions. We have proven throughout the last couple of centuries that we have the strength to survive against all odds. The fact that many young people are seeking out the old traditions indicates that we will once again be a strong people.

My thoughts on the treaty process is that we leave it until cle can never get top heavy; the

grounded in their strengths, values and traditions as they will be clear thinkers and will have their priorities straight. We have a long way to go in order to be effective self government in our communities. I cringe when I see the hierarchical system being adopted by our leaders and in our own governing offices. This becomes a system where we have our own people enforce inappropriate government policies that promote racism and injustice on their friends and families. This is a system that provides "power" to a few individuals, promotes failure and poverty, divides and conquers, and will eventually fall because it always ends up being top heavy.

The traditional "circle" system is a system of equality, and a cirsame level. It is harder for the ego to take over if everyone is perceived as being at the same level, and decisions are based on "consensus."

The "treaty process" talks about equality with the rest of "Canadians." I wonder which ones? The ones that are down on the streets in the big cities? The homeless? That segment of society that lives in abject poverty? To whom do they see us as being equal to? You can be sure it is not Adrienne Clarkson living in the governor's mansion!

I have been rambling on here, but so many thoughts went through my head as I read this article I just had to add my comments. These are strictly my own thoughts and perceptions.

Keep up the good work with the Aboriginal news media.

Catherine Jean Wilson

#### some who can't see beyond the is their motivator rather than the these young people are leaders within the circle are at the

### WINDSPEAKER OPINION

### **July 2000**

## This is a battle worth fighting

#### **Dear Editor:**

I am a 23-year-old half-breed. I am writing you in regards to your May 2000 article of an anti-gang program coming to Edmonton.

challenge and took this complex issue on. Mr. Troy Rupert and Rob Pappin are just putting their foot in the door. But it's a hard issue to deal with. It will take some time to deal with it. The reason certain individuals join gangs is people want a sense of belonging to something or somebody.

Generations before us have had challenges but some have not stepped up to the plate, so to speak. Today's generation has a battle unlike any other battle our ancestors and Natives have ever faced. Maybe because, without knowing, our trol our hurt and pain and deal

parents and grandparents have passed a lot of issues on to us. It could be without them knowing or it could be they have never dealt with it or it could be any number of reasons. When we are I must say it is about time young, our parents, aunts and someone stepped up to the. uncles set certain standards for us. When we are young children we grow up thinking this is somehow a right way of life. But it is not.

> until we accept ourselves, all else is a falseness created. By building walls inside and wearing masks we begin to feel more and more lost.

We must break this vicious cycle. Everyone is different with different pains and memories most bad. As a nation, as a people, we let the hurt suffered control us, but we must not let this happen anymore. We must conwith it or we will create a jail within ourselves. This is a far greater jail than anyone could ever build. Because it's not created with hands or machines. It's created and made by ourselves.

We must start the healing process within, then, with our family and loved ones. Till then no amount of money, property or people can fill the gap and the pain found within. Soon we'll We all want to be accepted, but surpass our nations' hell to reach a Native heaven. I wish them the best on their work. I thank the writers and publishers for bringing this sensitive issue into the open. It is about time someone does. I thank you Mr. Paul Barnsley. Keep up the good work. We still have a hard and long road ahead of us as a people.

> **Barry Hill** Kitkatla, B.C. band member Edmonton, Alta.

# What message is being sent?

#### **Dear Editor:**

Darrell Night was kidnapped by Saskatoon police on Jan. 28, stripped of his jacket and abandoned outside the Queen Elizabeth power plant in sub-zero temperatures. Unlike five others, Mr. Knight was lucky and made it out alive.

Now, two cops are charged with unlawful confinement and assault. Seems a little weak, those charges.

During World War II, the Nazis conducted numerous macabre experiments using Jews as human guinea pigs. One such "test" was to see

how long humans could survive before freezing to death. I guess the NDP's Justice Minister, Chris Axworthy, is telling Saskatchewan and the world that the charges are appropriate, and never mind about those other guys who froze to death. They're just Indians.

What if Darrell Night was white? Would those cops still be charged with mere unlawful confinement and assault? I doubt it. A public inquiry is needed to clear the air.

Gordon Robert Dumont **Prince** Albert

# Being Native doth have its privileges

When I was in college, oh so many years ago, back in the era known as B.C. (Before Computers), I was always trying to make some extra money. One of the ways I found involved working as security in the college pub, all 165 lb of me. Much like in porno, size does matter in jobs like that. That's why I always thought I was rather hired. Sometime later, I was told by one of the waitresses, who happened to be in one of my classes, that somebody higher up the collegiate food chain responsible for the Native students had approached the pub manager and pointed out that there had never been a Native person hired to work in the pub. It was also pointed out how "advantageous" it would be to hire me. It was the first time in my life, and I think the only time (summer jobs on the reserve not included) that I was hired for political and expedient reasons.



unsuited for the occupation mental note to get friends in get away with, or try to get and I was mystified at being higher places. But it also exaway with. I say this with the plained why nobody on the staff full knowledge that many warmed up to me. Nobody likes things can go wrong on the path somebody who is hired by a of education and students must force, perhaps at the expense of not be afraid to fight for what somebody else. I left my mothey believe in. However, I must mentary career in security after have missed the class where a couple of weeks. they taught you how to inflate Almost two decades later, I your cajones and demand betrealized just how much things ter marks for the hell of it. have changed in terms of aca-My friend (who is Native) had demic pressure. A close friend of some difficulty recently dealing mine teaches Native Studies to with two particular Native stua wide variety of students dents who asked for higher (meaning both Native and nonmarks than the level they had Native). This person is also curperformed at. One opportunisrently educating me in the modtic student wants full marks for ern usage of flexing Indigenous attendance and classes, includmuscle to get what you want. ing one to attend a hockey It seems where I had people game. And it looks like she petitioning on my behalf withmight get those extra marks. I out my knowledge, in today's definitely went to school in the politically savvy environment, wrong decade. And this same Native students are pulling their student decided one day that strings on their own. And I am she was not going to hand in truly amazed at what they can two of the course papers simply

because she just couldn't get around to doing them. On top of that, the ones she did get around to writing would be submitted a month or two months later. And these students are wondering why their marks are not perfect?

The second student wants her marks raised simply because she didn't like the ones given her, citing the fact she's on academic probation and her funding from the band might be cut off (which turned out to be incorrect). So rather than earn them, why not just round them up a few extra percentages to make life a lot easier. Other reasons cited include such bizarre rationales as the student having lived a "different life" (who doesn't?) and the marking should reflect and be conscious of it.

"I am Native. A wolf ate my homework, but I still deserve better marks. Give it to me or I'll put a land claim on your student residence!"

During the last 30 or so years, particularly down in the States, there used to be (and still might be for all I know) a quota system for some universities. A certain percentage of enrolment was set aside for Afro-American students, Indian students and whatever other socially oppressed underclass might be apparent. There was a lot of public outcry from both sides. One side saying that people with marks not up to par with the normal entrance requirements were being promoted because of their race, reverse discrimination and that whole additional argument. Other parties argued it was the only way for the economically and socially disadvantaged populace to compete on an even level with mainstream society. Still more believed it set a lower mark for non-white students to aim for. I tend to believe the latter. But then I am not a teacher or a student.

# Ipperw protest

**July 2000** 

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### **CAMP IPPERWASH, OI**

Anger and resentment we still the dominant emotions Camp Ipperwash just da after the Ontario Court Appeal upheld the conviction of Warren George.

The 27-year-old began h six-month jail sentence May 18 in Sarnia's maximu security facility before bei transferred to Guelph's m dium security Wellingt County facility on May 31.

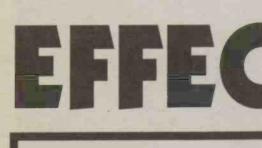
George was charged with criminal negligence in the c eration of a motor vehicle a assault with a weapon (mot vehicle).

The resident Aazhoodenaang (Ston Point), the occupied form CFB Ipperwash, located abo a half-hour's drive north Sarnia, was charged in conn tion with his actions on t tragic night of Sept. 6, 1995. that night, Acting Sgt. Kenne Deane shot and killed Dud George, another Ston Pointer and Warren Georg second cousin during a pea ful protest at Ipperwash P vincial Park, Deane was eve tually convicted of crimin negligence causing death. was sentenced to 180 hours community service and mains on the job. Warren George told the tr judge that he drove a vehi out of Ipperwash Province Park in an attempt to scat the police who were pour ing Kettle and Stoney Po band councillor Cecil Geor with clubs. When OPP S Lacroix stood in the middle the road and aimed l weapon at the vehicle, Geor said he ducked down behi the dashboard to avoid bei shot. His car swerved into ditch at a low rate of spe and struck and injured a p lice officer. Minutes after, p lice officers opened fire on protesters, killing Dudl George and injuring one otl male.

Though somewhat upset, I felt like quite an adult. However right or wrong, strings had been pulled in my favor, all for a minimum wage job where nobody liked me. I made a

Wouldn't that make it unfair to those who also had come from 'different lives,' (whatever the hell that means) but didn't find the need to use that as a crutch? So this poses an interesting question. Because somebody is Native, or comes from a Native background, does that mean their standards for success or the degree of their ability has to be calculated at a lower level than mainstream Canadians?

All things taken into consideration... I should have stayed in bar security. Life was more simple there.



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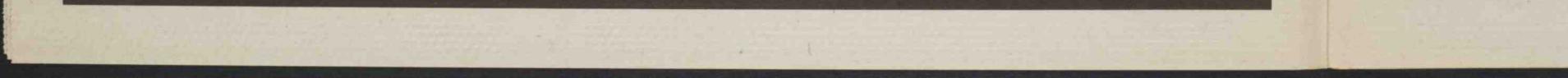
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# Ipperwash protester jailed

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

**July 2000** 

**CAMP IPPERWASH, Ont.** 

Anger and resentment were still the dominant emotions at Camp Ipperwash just days after the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the conviction of Warren George.

The 27-year-old began his six-month jail sentence on May 18 in Sarnia's maximum security facility before being transferred to Guelph's medium security Wellington County facility on May 31.

George was charged with criminal negligence in the operation of a motor vehicle and assault with a weapon (motor vehicle).

The resident of Aazhoodenaang (Stoney Point), the occupied former CFB Ipperwash, located about a half-hour's drive north of Sarnia, was charged in connection with his actions on the tragic night of Sept. 6, 1995. On that night, Acting Sgt. Kenneth Deane shot and killed Dudley George, another Stoney Pointer and Warren George's second cousin during a peaceful protest at Ipperwash Provincial Park. Deane was eventually convicted of criminal negligence causing death. He was sentenced to 180 hours of community service and remains on the job. Warren George told the trial judge that he drove a vehicle out of Ipperwash Provincial Park in an attempt to scatter the police who were pounding Kettle and Stoney Point band councillor Cecil George with clubs. When OPP Sgt. Lacroix stood in the middle of the road and aimed his weapon at the vehicle, George said he ducked down behind the dashboard to avoid being shot. His car swerved into the ditch at a low rate of speed and struck and injured a police officer. Minutes after, police officers opened fire on the protesters, killing Dudley George and injuring one other male.

The trial turned on whether Warren George intended to hit the officers with the car or not. The trial judge ruled he intended to scatter the officers and therefore was driving in a way designed to threaten them and thus intended to hit them if they didn't move.

George specifically denied that was the case, but the judge didn't believe him.

Lawyer Michael Code, acting for George, asked the appeal court to rule that his client's version of events wasn't that hard to believe. The appeal judges refused to consider the argument.

They also rejected an argument that Warren George's actions were justified because the police were using excessive force in apprehending Cecil George, who suffered serious injuries as a result of the incident.

The court also rejected a claim that the protesters were in peaceable possession of the park and used only reasonable force to protect their property against tresspass by the tactical unit.

During an interview at the occupied army camp on May 31, Warren George, Sr., the father of the convicted man, told Windspeaker the family will appeal the conviction.

# **Camp Ipperwash occupation** approaches seven-year mark

#### **By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

**AAZHOODENAANG, Ont.** 

WINDSPEAKER

NEWS

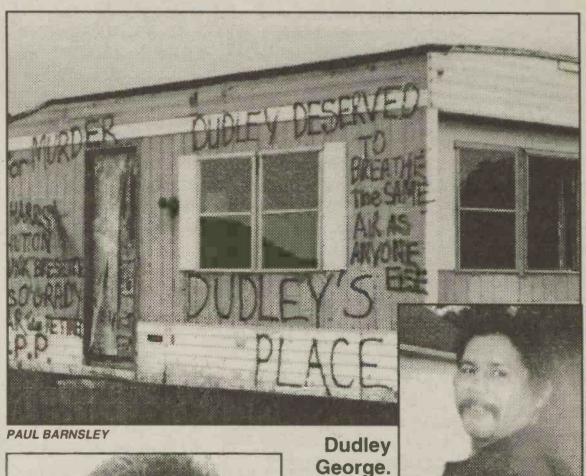
The Warrior Society flag now flies where the Canadian flag used to wave above the guardhouse at the main gate of the former CFB Ipperwash and, since 1993, it's been a kind of noman's-land in the cold war between traditional Pottawami protesters and Canadian authorities.

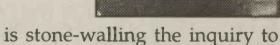
The world's attention was focused on this camp and on Ipperwash Provincial Park, just a kilometre down Army Camp Rd. to the west, on Sept. 6, 1995, when Dudley George was shot and killed by Ontario Provincial Police Acting Sgt. Kenneth Deane, an act Amnesty International has called an "extra-judicial execution."

Deane was convicted of criminal negligence causing death, but he was sentenced to community service and kept his job.

On June 1, the talk was about Warren George being in jail while Deane walked around free. None of the Stoney Pointers, as the residents call themselves, thought there was any justice in that.

Pierre George, Dudley's brother, lives at the camp. He creases the courage of non-Natold Windspeaker it's a place tive locals. where violence is frequently used to solve disagreements and where fear and suspicion is always in the background.





protect himself from justice.

But even the pursuit of the truth about the night of Sept. 6 can't unite the camp residents with their band council supporting friends and relatives. The George family itself is bitterly split.

Pierre George has asked his brother Sam to remove his name from the \$7 million wrongful death lawsuit that was filed against the premier, the attorney general, the solicitor general, the **OPP** commissioner and several police officers. He believes it's "blood money." The story has its beginnings in the early 1940s when the federal government expropriated the Stoney Point people's land under the War Measures Act in order to construct the base. It was war time and the people were expected to do their part for the war effort. The government promised the land would be cleaned up and returned when the military no longer had a use for it. The Stoney Point community was merged with the nearby Kettle Point community and the people were relocated. But, as former Indian Affairs minister Ron Irwin verified in the chaotic days following Dudley's shooting, there was a burial ground left behind. (see Ipperwash page 27.)

Page 7

"He'll be out of jail by the time that happens," he said, angrily. "He'll be out by the end of August, but we're still going to pursue it.

The Stoney Pointers can't believe that Deane received what Warren George's uncle, Glenn George, a key figure in the Stoney Point occupation, called a "paid vacation" for wrongfully killing Dudley George while Warren George was sent to jail.

"He was acting out of defence, just like the people here are living," Glenn George said. Dudley George's brother, Pierre, slammed the decision. "It's a totally racist decision," he said. "It's just like Leonard Peltier with the FBI, eh? Somebody's gotta pay."

It could be the only place in the country where there is true Native sovereignty but it comes at a price. Divisions between the residents of the camp and their relatives who live on the nearby Kettle and Stony Point reserve are bitter. Federal, provincial and local governments — as well as provincial police and federal intelligence agencies — watch closely, it seems, at all times, looking for an opportunity to end the seven-year-old occupation. Tensions exist between local residents and the Stoney Pointers. Late at night, bottles get tossed through windows of the barracks that are within throwing distance of Highway 21, especially on weekends when alcohol in-

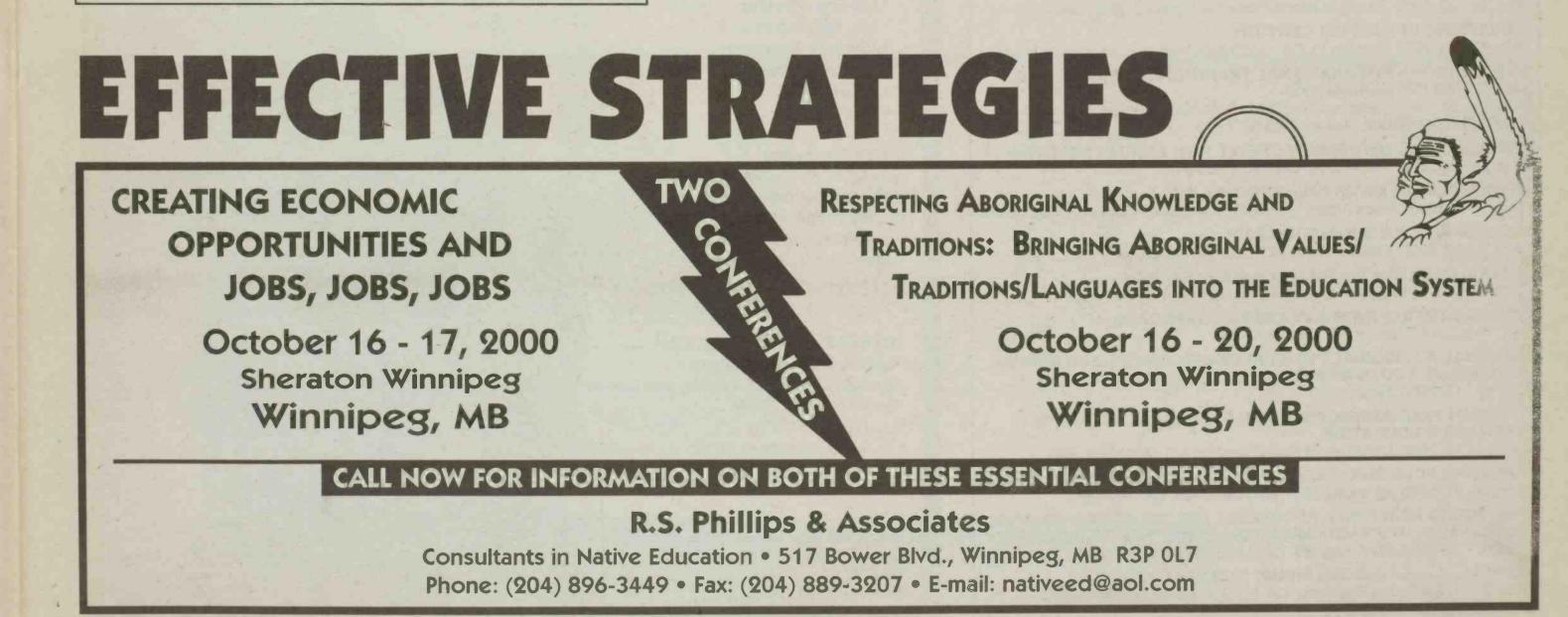
Pierre George.

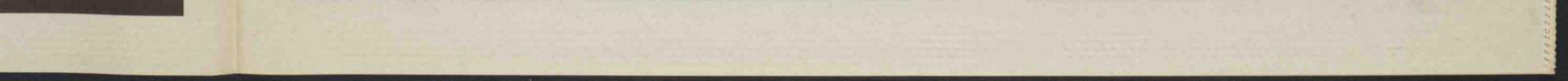
Everywhere along the main highway, the camp's buildings are decorated with spraypainted graffiti that reveals the rage that simmers within the hearts of Dudley George's surviving friends and relatives.

PAUL BARNSLEY

The place is a black eye for Ontario Premier Mike Harris, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Department of National Defence and the Department of Indian Affairs, which have all played a role in the events that led to the standoff.

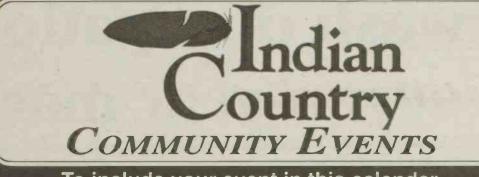
Harris continues to be haunted by the memory of Dudley George. Five years later, he has still resisted the call for a public inquiry into the events of the night of the shooting. Many people, not just Stoney Pointers by any means, believe Harris had a hand in the death of Dudley George. They believe he





### WINDSPEAKER NEWS

#### **July 2000**



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# Shoot-from-the-hip minister restores UBCIC funding

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### VICTORIA

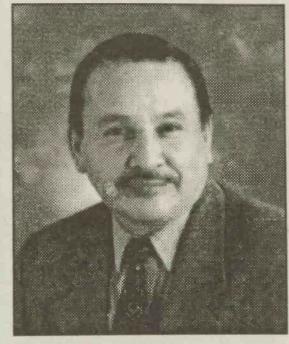
Exercising the right to free speech almost cost the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs a half million dollars last month.

The provincial government cut the First Nations organization's funding by that amount (\$250,000 in each of the next two years) because UBCIC President Stewart Phillip spoke out against the British Columbia Treaty Commission process and in favor of a political demonstration by the Cheam First Nation in south-central British Columbia.

Shortly after the UBCIC went public with the news of the funding cut, the province backed down. Phillip said he believes the Aboriginal Affairs minister, Dale Lovick, acted without thinking and was then convinced by his advisors and colleagues that the funding cut wasn't a move that could be defended.

The First Nation political organization has been involved in the Joint Policy Council with the province since the early 1990s. It uses the provincial funding it receives to participate in that council to pay for 67 per cent of its administrative cost.

Phillip, who is also the chief of the Penticton Indian Band, said their issue was covered exten- are hitting pretty close to the tarthe UBCIC office received a phone call from a senior Aboriginal Affairs official on May 1 who said the minister (Dale Lovick) was not happy with Phillip's public comments.



**Chief Stewart Phillip.** 

"It was a threatening phone call from one of their senior officials," he told Windspeaker.

Phillip and his staff met the next day with their lawyer.

"She saw it as an attack on freedom of speech," he said. "So we wrote a letter to Premier Dosanjh expressing our deep concern and we waited about two weeks for a response."

Eventually, the premier responded with a letter stating the matter had been referred to the Aboriginal Affairs minister.

Another week passed with no reply, Phillip said.

"In total, we waited three weeks and there was no response, so we decided to go public," he said.

out in private and not embarrass the government.

The UBCIC has never shied away from controversy or confrontation. Once the issue was out there, the Penticton chief said, Edward John, a Summit executive member, arranged a meeting with the deputy minister of Aboriginal Affairs.

"When we arrived, the deputy minister was taken aback that we were both there together because up until January of this year the First Nations Summit and the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs were definitely not on the same page," Phillip said. "At that meeting, the deputy minister basically was saying it was unfortunate this whole thing took place in the first place and he assured me the funding would be restored and everything would be back on track. Shortly after that, they issued a joint statement that basically said the relationship between the two of us through the Joint Policy Council was valuable and needed to be maintained. The whole funding matter is now back on track. I think Mr. Lovick is a very volatile, shoot-from-thehip kind of individual."

The UBCIC president believes the attempt by the province to muzzle his organization's critical comments about the treaty proc-UBCIC officials learned, after ess is a sign that their comments

Peltier a

July 2000

**By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### LEAVENWORTH PRISC

In a surprisingly swift decision the United States parole example iner has crushed the latest ho for freedom for Leonard Pelti recommending that Peltier's se tence be continued until his no full parole hearing in 2008.

The recommendation can during an interim parole heari held for Peltier June 12 Leavenworth Federal Penite tiary in Kansas.

Peltier, a activist with t American Indian Movement serving two consecutive l terms following his 1977 conv tion for the murder of two agents killed on the Pine Ric Indian Reservation in South I kota on June 26, 1975. The t agents were wounded durin gunfight between the FBI a Indian activists.

Peltier has been in prison in United States since 1977, when was convicted of two counts first degree murder, and s tenced to two consecutive sentences. Peltier was arrested Hinton, Alta. in February 1 and extradited to the U.S., un suspicious circumstances, in J 1976 to face the murder char Many human rights organ tions, including Amnesty In national and the Leonard Pel Defense Committee, have b calling for Peltier's release, s gesting evidence that wo have been favorable to his rele had been suppressed. Also j ing in on the call for Peltier's lease have been the Assembl First Nations, the National C gress of American Indians, the National Council Churches. The Canadian Lab Congress has also joined fight, and has launched a c paign among its members urging clemency for Peltier. Peltier last had a parole h ing in 1994, but the parole c mission must hold an inte parole hearing every two y to re-examine the case to se there are reasons to change t original ruling to deny parol According to information vided by the Leonard Pel Defense Committee, the pa examiner made the decisio continue Peltier's sentence w out examining any of the

July 21 - 23, 2000 Fort MacLeod, AB (403) 553-2731

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sively in the mainstream press, that the First Nations Summit had been hit with a funding cut the previous October and had not gone public. Instead, they waited patiently to work things

get.

"We're pretty good at getting the truth out there that the treaty process is ... well, toast," he said. "I think that's what's really bothering the province."

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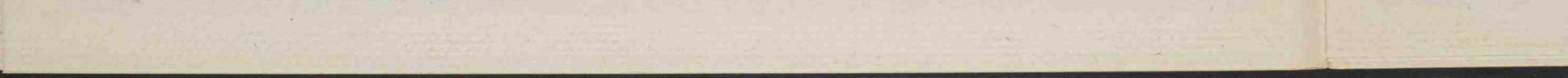
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### WINDSPEAKER FAMILY STRUGGLE

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he UBCIC president believes attempt by the province to zzle his organization's critical ments about the treaty procis a sign that their comments hitting pretty close to the tar-

# Peltier again denied parole

#### **By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

**July 2000** 

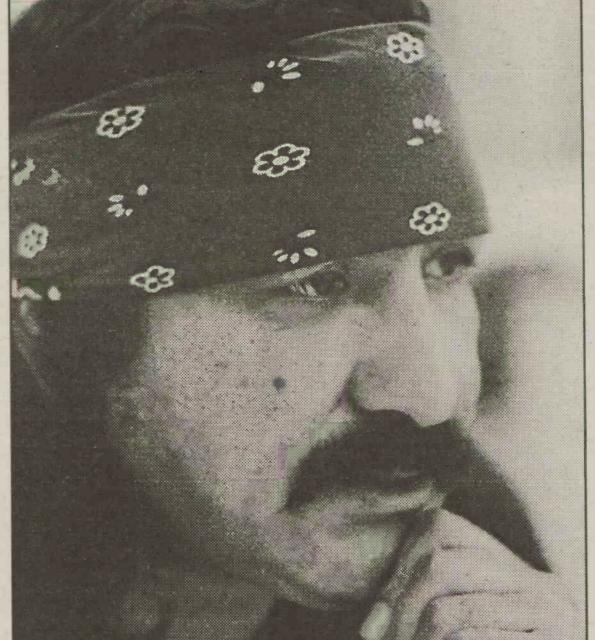
#### **LEAVENWORTH PRISON**

In a surprisingly swift decision, the United States parole examiner has crushed the latest hope for freedom for Leonard Peltier, recommending that Peltier's sentence be continued until his next full parole hearing in 2008.

The recommendation came during an interim parole hearing held for Peltier June 12 at Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in Kansas.

Peltier, a activist with the American Indian Movement, is serving two consecutive life terms following his 1977 conviction for the murder of two FBI agents killed on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota on June 26, 1975. The two agents were wounded during a gunfight between the FBI and Indian activists.

Peltier has been in prison in the United States since 1977, when he was convicted of two counts of first degree murder, and sentenced to two consecutive life sentences. Peltier was arrested in Hinton, Alta. in February 1976 and extradited to the U.S., under suspicious circumstances, in June 1976 to face the murder charges. Many human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, have been calling for Peltier's release, sug- Peltier Defense Committee of gesting evidence that would have been favorable to his release had been suppressed. Also joining in on the call for Peltier's release have been the Assembly of First Nations, the National Congress of American Indians, and the National Council of Churches. The Canadian Labour Congress has also joined the fight, and has launched a campaign among its membership, urging clemency for Peltier.



Leonard Peltier — Parole denied.

dence presented at the hearing, including a doctor's report citing problems with Peltier's health, 10,000 letters in support of Peltier's release, and eight parole plans offering Peltier housing and employment on his release from prison.

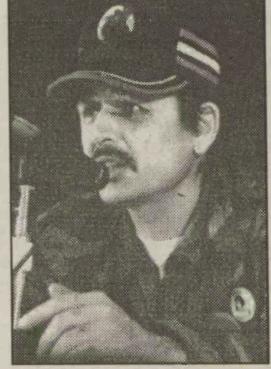
Anne Dreaver is national coordinator with the Leonard Canada.

Peltier's extradition, and inconsistencies uncovered in ballistics evidence used against Peltier during his trial.

"It's a continuous rubber stamping of denial, rubber stamping an existing position that they just don't want him out, despite all the growing evidence, including the government testimony in court, several times, that they just don't have any evidence linking him to those murders, to those killings," Dreaver said. Now that the interim parole hearing has failed to lead to Peltier's release, Dreaver said efforts by his supporters in both Canada and the U.S. will not focus their efforts on attempts to convince U.S. President Bill Clinton to grant clemency for Peltier. The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee of Canada will also be working to set up an independent inquiry into the Peltier case in Canada, which organizers hope to hold in Toronto in October. "People feel affronted by the fact that Leonard's rights are totally denied to him," Dreaver said. "They want answers. They want the truth to come out, and they want the Canadian government to be accountable for that truth."

### **Free Peltier** Man with a mission

**By Pamela Sexsmith** Windspeaker Contributor



Page 9

Frank Dreaver began to work for Leonard Peltier's release almost 20 years ago.

its maker, Ojibway Elder, the late Art Solomon, who together with the late Ethel Pearson, revered Elder of the Kwakiutl Nation and Leonard Peltier's adopted mother, were a tremendous support to and members of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee advisory council.

In 1986, Frank founded the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee of Canada with his wife Anne, an editor and journalist who took on the job of national administrator.

The Dreavers have been actively co-ordinating support groups fighting for Peltier's freedom since 1980, the year Frank was released from the Prince Albert, Sask. federal penitentiary after serving a nine-year sentence and heading for Toronto. "I had relatives in the AIM movement living in Toronto and that was the best opportunity open to me. Anne had been working for six months as editor of the centre's inhouse newspaper. Covering stories that came with the job took her into the provincial jails, meeting with inmates and Elders. When she learned that Frank had just been released from federal prison, it sparked her interest. "We had all these connections. We are still shocked today, call it fate and destiny. We say that God did it, brought us together," said Frank. (see Dreaver page 10.)

TORONTO

Frank Dieaver and Leonard Peltier have an extraordinary working relationship. Their destinies are bound together in a sacred trust, tied to a moral, spiritual duty that has become a life mission for one man seeking the freedom of the other.

Leonard Peltier, American Indian Movement activist, political prisoner and victim of Canada's most controversial extradition, has been behind bars in an American prison for 24 years.

Frank Dreaver, former prisoner and founder of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee in Canada, has been his lifeline to the outside world for 14 of those 24 years.

The relationship started with a powerful commitment. It was more than a promise, deeper than a vow. Frank Dreaver took an oath, sworn on the pipe in the sacred circle, taken before Elders, to never stop fighting until Leonard Peltier is free. A life sentence, willingly embraced, in the struggle to free all Aboriginal people from injustice and oppression.

We're pretty good at getting truth out there that the treaty cess is . . . well, toast," he said. hink that's what's really bothng the province."



Peltier last had a parole hearing in 1994, but the parole commission must hold an interim parole hearing every two years to re-examine the case to see if there are reasons to change their original ruling to deny parole.

According to information provided by the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, the parole examiner made the decision to continue Peltier's sentence without examining any of the evi-

"People are absolutely outraged," Dreaver said of the latest decision not to grant parole to Peltier. "They saw the parole commissioner writing his decision to deny parole before the evidence was even read or considered, and that is a denial of a fair hearing. It also constitutes a due process violation of Leonard Peltier's rights," Dreaver said.

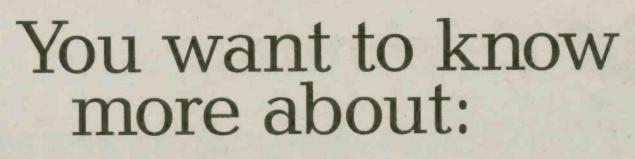
Dreaver explained the American justice system is continuing to keep Peltier behind bars, despite the fact that prosecutors have admitted in court they have no real evidence linking Peltier to the killings of the two agents.

In the time since his incarceration, the validity of much of the evidence used against Peltier has been called into question, with concerns raised about the credibility of a witness whose testimony was used to secure

"The oath that I made in Toronto in 1983 was to help organize and keep the struggle to free Leonard Peltier alive and take it to the people of the world. I made that promise and have stuck to it. It is a battle that many have given their lives for. How could I turn my back on that?"

Dreaver, a 46-year-old Plains Cree from the Mistawasis First Nation in Saskatchewan, is the great-great grandson of hereditary Chief Mistawasis (Big Child) of the Northern Plains Cree, who was one of the four original chiefs who signed Treaty 6 in 1876.

For 14 years, Dreaver has worked as the international spokesperson and Canada's national co-ordinator for the fight to free Peltier. He is also keeper of Peltier's drum, a position entrusted to him by



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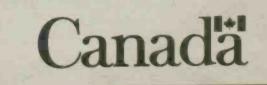
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### WINDSPEAKER FAMILY STRUGGLE

# Dreaver made a commitment and stands by it

(Continued from page 9.)

Frank had grown up in a broken family, losing his mother to drug and alcohol abuse in 1967. Raised by his traditional grandmother from 1953 until her death in 1967, Frank moved in with relatives at Mistawasis, before being sent to the All Saints Indian Boarding School in Prince Albert.

"The Indian boarding school was located just across from the pen in Prince Albert. I lasted until spring and was always hungry. I ran away after being caught stealing a sack of cookies from the school kitchen. Tracked down by the RCMP, I also escaped from the boys' school reformatory, ending up streetwise, living on my own and in trouble.

"I ended up serving nine years in prison. I was not a violent offender, but suffered racial abuse, survived several riots, shutdowns and lockouts, and being beaten and left in a coma for 18 days. On Aug. 27, 1980 I was released and left for Toronto," said Frank.

It was in Toronto that the healing began.

Dreaver became a dedicated activist, petitioning for prisoner's rights and reform, counselling young people, speaking out about the brutal, dehumanizing reality of the prison industry. He also gathered his two boys in Edmonton, who are now men with families and children, and with Anne began raising a family with three children. "Before his incarceration, Leonard was struggling to bring back our ways to the people, to the circle. It isn't about standing up with a rifle. Most people know about Leonard's case, that he stood up, defended his people and became a victim. They don't know him as a man who was going to sundances, talking to people in prison, working with youth in the streets. These are our traditional responsibilities, that's what I tell young people coming out of prison. We only have ourselves to blame for not being ready, not having the tools to support them," said Frank. For almost 20 years, Frank and Anne Dreaver have been immersed in the struggle for Leonard Peltier's freedom, seeking out avenues for justice



PAMELA SEXSMITH

Anne and Frank Dreaver established the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee of Canada 14 years ago and continue their work to free their friend from jail.

that would support clemency and Leonard's freedom. One of their most important achievements was to establish the LPDC Canada 14 years ago as one of two national defence committees, based on separate political and legal jurisdictions representing the two countries violated in this injustice. The U.S. international office is based in Lawrence, Kansas, close to Leonard who is confined in Leavenworth prison. The LPDC Canada took part in several European tours and projects each year from 1990 to 1997, involving more than a dozen European and former East Bloc countries. It was on the basis of international violation occurring in Canada, Leonard's extradition, that Frank, accompanied by Elders or Peltier's original defence attorneys, the late Lew Gurwitz and Bruce Ellison, lobbied extensively for international support. "If it could happen in Canada, it could happen to any other country around the world. What we are asking for is the Canadian government to intervene out of a responsibility for having authorized a false extra-

dition, being assured by American authorities he would receive a fair trial when he did not, and recommend the president grant clemency," said Frank.

"I have seen 'Free Leonard Peltier' banners painted across many walls in Europe. I witnessed the dismantling of the Berlin Wall and migrations of and can grant clemency. peoples coming across was part of the organizing of a multi-country European Freedom Run for Leonard Peltier and all Indigenous people in 1996, involving more than 70 different peoples, mainly youth from different countries who ran an estimated 2,500 km to conclude at a prayer vigil with world Indigenous delegates at United Nations hearing of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Switzerland. I have learned that through struggle that we are all equal. Outside of the struggle is a lost place. I hold people accountable. If you are not accountable to the struggle, you should not be here," he added. In the last few years, however, the fast and hard life of Frank's earlier years and prison abuse have taken an alarming toll on

his health. Hepatitis C, the deterioration of his liver, with related complications, has forced him to cut back on his international travel and focus on building a renewed Canadian campaign for clemency and freedom for Peltier while President Clinton is still in office this year

We invite all Aboriginal, justice, human rights, academic, labor and special interest groups to get in touch with us for more details," said Frank.

July 2000

The committee is interested in expanding and assembling lobby contacts for political lobby and outreach purposes in regions across the country. It is extremely critical to continue to pressure the Canadian government and hold it accountable for authorizing a false extradition, especially since Justice Minister Anne McLellend closed her department's review last October, concluding that Canada had done nothing wrong.

Opposition MPs have responded by calling for full public disclosures on all files, including a judicial inquiry.

"The circle won't be complete until Leonard Peltier is free, the only person from that time who is still imprisoned for defending the rights of our Indian peoples. With the Peltier case, we have the advantage of having all of the documentation that most issues like this in our history have never had. That's why the unions and non-Native groups supporting the issue are so particularly keen, because it's all there and they see their rights violated as well. The problem is that we've never been allowed to put it on the table," added Frank.

"As long as our people are oppressed and imprisoned and denied their basic human rights, I will never be free and neither will you. I will never give up the truth of my own experience and that's my passport in creation. That's how I fit in. Today I continue to set that example no matter how hard it gets. We can't give up. We don't have the right to give up and the struggle must continue. "We could never have accomplished so much over the years without the courage of our brother, Leonard, and all of those who have sacrificed their lives in this struggle and of those who continue to pick up where others have left off. It has been these peoples, with integrity, conviction and strong commitment, who have insured our survival and the continuance in our ongoing struggle for Leonard's freedom." said Frank.

July 2000

Young

By Pamela Sexsmith Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONT

Born into Mistawasis F Nation in 1976, Lorne Ho Duquette grew up street-v and nomadic, moving fi city to reserve and back ag serving time in residen school as a child and priso a teenager.

He is a young man whose journey has taken him fro boyhood spent in the wild Saskatchewan to the br lights of Montreal, and ther tional exposure as an acto Big Bear, the CBC television Two threads run thro

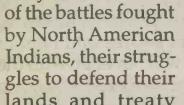
Lorne's transient life — his mother Bertha's struggle to raise five children on her own and the compelling stories of his family's commitment in the political struggle to free activist Leonard Peltier.

Lorne had been raised on the stories of the political struggle, oppression and deaths that took place in South Dakota at Pine Ridge and Wounded Knee. They were tales told

The Dreavers are working on setting up an independent Citizen's Commission of Inquiry one of the most important projects they have ever worked on with their legal advisor and support from trade unions across Canada, Aboriginal organizations, First Nation offices, student movements and other committed parties.

"Finally, Leonard would receive a fair and impartial hearing since no court or government in both Canada or the U.S. will give him one. It is the one avenue open to us in Canada with findings and recommendations sent to both Canadian and American governments in the demand for clemency. We are asking all Canadian people to support the clemency campaign and the independent inquiry scheduled for the fall of 2000.

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary



lands and treaty Lorn rights, their culture, language and traditional and to regain the sacred Hills of South Dakota.

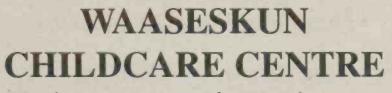
"The story of Pine Ridg always had a great effect of in the sense that throughout life, my family has always there, always a part of the s gle. I grew up listening t stories of our stand agains pression, the role my u Frank Dreaver is still playi that struggle. Over the ye asked myself, 'what can I young Native boy living o rez? How can I contribute plight of Leonard Peltier flecting on my experience actor, I realized that I coul my career choice as a tool. my proposal for a stage



For a leadership to re that relationship. Lav helped the Council to a third order of go establish this Aborigin a Partnership of Unity

Lawrence Martin brin winning entertainer, director and televisi Lawrence is commit sovereign rights. Law

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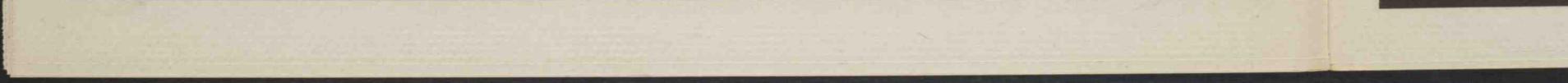
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# ds by it

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## Young Horse takes up the charge

**By Pamela Sexsmith** Windspeaker Contributor

July 2000

#### **EDMONTON**

Born into Mistawasis First Nation in 1976, Lorne Horse Duquette grew up street-wise and nomadic, moving from city to reserve and back again, serving time in residential school as a child and prison as a teenager.

He is a young man whose life journey has taken him from a boyhood spent in the wilds of Saskatchewan to the bright lights of Montreal, and then national exposure as an actor in Big Bear, the CBC television film.

Lorne's transient life — his mother Bertha's struggle to raise five children on her own and the compelling stories of his family's commitment in the political struggle to activist free Leonard Peltier.

Lorne had been raised on the stories of the political struggle, oppression and deaths that took place in South Dakota at Pine and Ridge Wounded Knee. They were tales told

about the life of Leonard Peltier, build my own fire, gather truth. present it to Anne and Frank and seek their approval and blessing," said Lorne.

In May, Lorne backpacked to Edmonton to visit the Dreavers, speakers at the International Human Rights Conference at the University of Alberta. As well as renewing family ties, Lorne presented his proposal to write a stage play based on the book by Leonard Peltier, Prison Writings — My Life Is My Sun Dance.

Frank Dreaver, political activist and head of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee of Canada, had also been born in Mistawasis First Nation. A resi-Two threads run through dent of Toronto for 20 years,

Hearing his life story, the 25year battle to free Leonard Peltier, all the good that has come from the all negativity in his life, I realized that Frank is a fire that will continue to burn long after we are gone," said Lorne.

WINDSPEAKER

FAMILY STRUGGLE

Like his uncle, Lorne's early family life had been disrupted by alcohol, drug addiction, the multi-generational effects of the residential school system and time spent in prison. Like his uncle, he has turned it all around.

As a youngster, Lorne experienced deep regret at having had so little contact with his father, Maxwell Horse, a band council-

something you only dream about. Standing on real gallows with a real wooden lever in place [clamped down to prevent the accidental real life hanging of actors Michael Greyeyes, Ben Cardinal, Michael Obey and Lorne Horse Duquette] was an almost unexplainable experience.

"When they tied those rope nooses and black

hoods around our heads, I felt an uncanny connection to the warriors hanged in the rebellion, to Round the Sky, who died fighting for something he believed in," said Lorne.

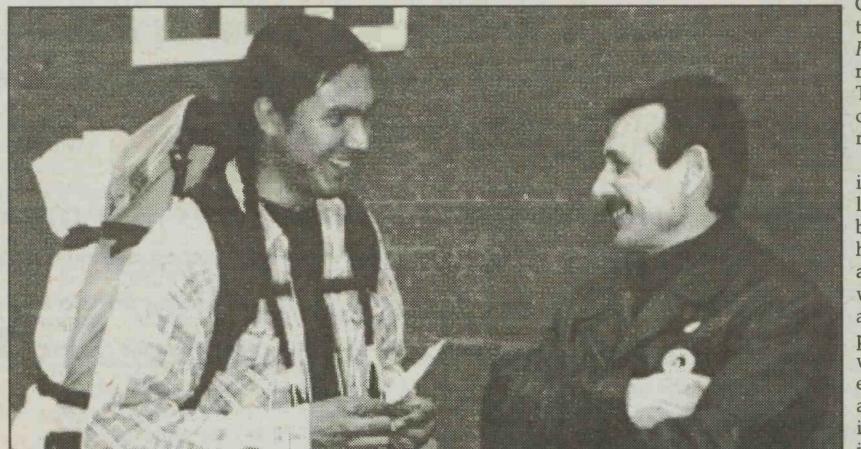
Success followed with the

CBC documentary, Big Bear History Series, music videos, TV commercials, and a stage role.

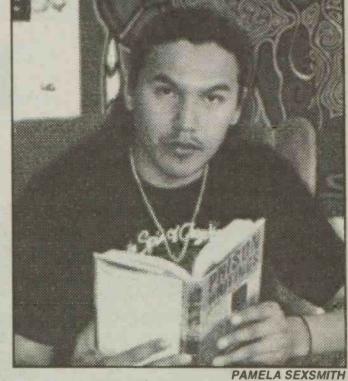
"Stage acting is a great way to leave the world behind for an hour or two, create your own world, realm atmosand phere; share it with the audience; give them a sense of what is in your mind,

plant of the people.

"It was during my visit to Pine Ridge that the stories told by my uncles Frank and Wally back at Mistawasis really came to life. I was in 'the place,' like reaching Mecca or the Taj Mahal. I was amazed to be there, to visit Wounded Knee, the Oglala people, the location of the Jumping Bull compound where the shootout [with FBI agents] took place 25 years ago. It was on my birthday, Jan. 1, 2000, that the vision came to me to pull it all together. Write a play about Leonard as a sacrifice and symbol of Indian people's rights to defend their lands and ancestral treaty rights, their culture, languages and traditional ways - Leonard as a wake up call. It could be you, it could be me or anyone who has the courage to stand up and fight for their beliefs. When in your words, Leonard is free, a lot of Indian

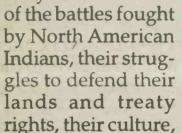


#### Page 11





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language and traditional ways and to regain the sacred Black Hills of South Dakota.

"The story of Pine Ridge has always had a great effect on me, in the sense that throughout my life, my family has always been there, always a part of the struggle. I grew up listening to the stories of our stand against oppression, the role my uncle Frank Dreaver is still playing in that struggle. Over the years, I asked myself, 'what can I do, a young Native boy living on the rez? How can I contribute to the plight of Leonard Peltier?' Reflecting on my experience as an actor, I realized that I could use my career choice as a tool. Take my proposal for a stage play



Lorne Horse Duquette back-packed to Edmonton to meet with uncle-activist Frank Dreaver.

Dreaver has always maintained strong ties with his family and band in Saskatchewan. Making the connection with Lorne in Edmonton was a case of fate kicking in for the young actor.

"Meeting up with the Dreavers has tied it all together, given me a powerful focus. Having an opportunity to hear Frank speak out about the political imprisonment of Peltier was amazing. I had been searching for a strong role model, someone who is true to what he believes in. No one has ever come across to me the way Frank Dreaver has. His fire, the warmth he emits and shares with people throughout the world, has encouraged me to

lor at Thunderchild First Nation and a well-known orator and Cree speaker.

It was only recently that he came to realize that he had received a real gift from his dad, the gift of speaking, of holding the attention and imagination of an audience.

An early interest in grass dancing and theatre led to acting classes, auditions and his big break, the role of Round The Sky in Gil Cardinal's production of Big Bear.

Playing the role of Round the Sky in Big Bear was a real eyeopener for Lorne.

"Landing the part, learning to deliver my lines, facing the cameras was totally mind-boggling,

how you portray your character. That's exactly how I'm PAMELA SEXSMITH hoping to take the struggle of

Leonard Peltier to the stage. Show what he has endured in prison. Help people to understand and take on a commitment to demand justice and freedom for Peltier. A play with a foundation of spirituality at the root for all of my Native brothers and sisters who are struggling to be free," said Lorne.

In April last year, Lorne was invited to visit the Pine Ridge Reserve in South Dakota by Lakota doctor, Sarah Jumping Eagle, to speak as a role model to youth at the Little Wound School. He talked about overcoming his addiction to drugs, alcohol and the terrible abuse and overuse of tobacco, a sacred

people will be free as well, within themselves, within their communities. Leonard's freedom will be a huge step for Indian people," said Lorne.

After meeting with Lorne in Edmonton, the Dreavers not only gave their permission and blessing for the stage play project, they also invited Lorne to come to Toronto to work on his vision.

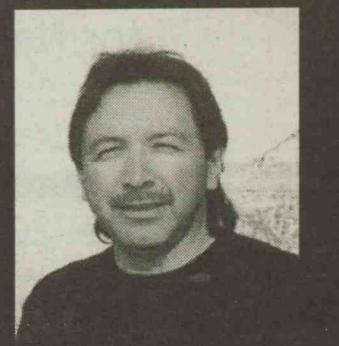
"To have Lorne come forward like this is very important, because youth have a clarity. They can see beyond the rigid mindset of the older generations and despite the fact that youth today is not rooted in any direct experience of the mobilization of those times, Leonard's political imprisonment has left a legacy that needs to be addressed today by all Aboriginal peoples of North America," said Anne Dreaver.

# awrence Martin Vision - Hope - Unity

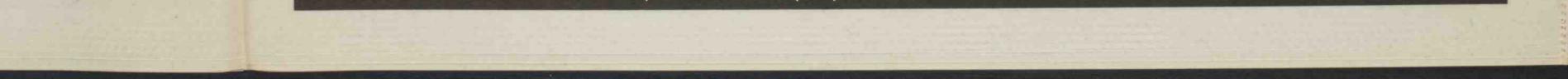
For a leadership to represent the people it must have a relationship at the grassroots level. Lawrence Martin has that relationship. Lawrence Martin is currently Grand Chief of the Mushkegowuk Council. As Chief, he has helped the Council to establish itself as a sovereign Cree Nation with its own Constitution, starting the process to a third order of government. Lawrence believes that the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) must also work to establish this Aboriginal Parliamentary process for all Aboriginal peoples. In doing so, Lawrence recognizes that a Partnership of Unity must be established with Canada's other National Aboriginal Associations.

Lawrence Martin brings a wide variety of experience from being Ontario's first Aboriginal mayor, a Juno Award winning entertainer, a Community Services Officer for the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, and executive director and television/radio broadcaster for Wawatay Communications.. As a father and grandfather, Lawrence is committed to the future generations. He stands for the preservation of Aboriginal culture and sovereign rights. Lawrence knows an Aboriginal voice in Canada's parliament can be a reality.

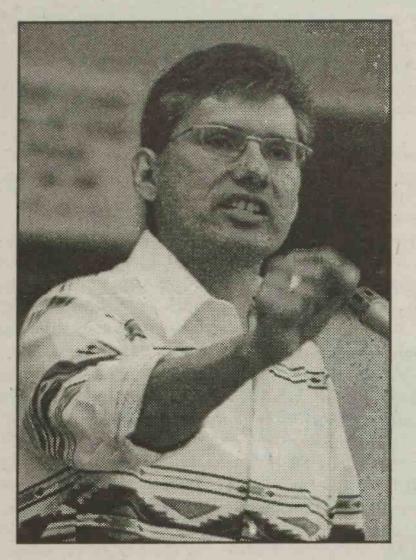
Call Lawrence Martin directly and lend him the power of your voice to becoming your next National Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. (705) 266-4775



Grand Chief Lawrence Martin Mushkegowuk Council



# First Nations Peoples Agenda



Matthew Coon Come for National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations

**Honoured with:** 

**66 I am not** in the Federal camp, I am not in the Provincial camp, I am not affiliated with any other political party, I am in the First Nations camp!

I am not anti-development. I believe we as First Nations Peoples should have a share of the wealth of the land, the resources that are extracted from Indian lands, whether it be forestry, water, mineral or oil.

We should define our relations in terms of the principles of the right to self-determination, to be in control of our natural resources, and to be able to maintain our own resources. **??** 

#### July 2000

### Premier

(Continued from page 1.) Interestingly enough, To made time to talk to a nation newspaper that caters to business establishment a other conservative groups make his inflammatory marks. He did not, however turn Windspeaker's numer phone calls during the six d between the time when his fice was first contacted and publication deadline to add the matter head-on with Windspeaker readership.

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"I'm really disappointed

The Goldman Prize, the "Nobel Prize of the Environmental Awards"

- Equinox Environmental Award
- Doctor of Laws Honoris Causa from Trent University
- National Aboriginal Achievement Award

# Accomplishments:

- Grand Chief of the Grand Council of Crees
- A founding director of the First Nations Bank of Canada
- Chairman of James Bay Native Development Corporation
- Chairman of the James Bay Eeyou Corporation
- Chief of Mistissini First Nation
- Executive Director of the Grand Council of the Crees

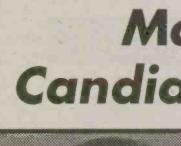
# **Matthew Coon Come**

for National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations

For more information: **Matthew Coon Come Campaign Headquarters** Phone (204) 943-3192 or (204) 943-3187 • Fax: (204) 943-3636 Website: www.cooncome.com • Email: info@cooncome.com

## 1-800-CHIEF-MCC

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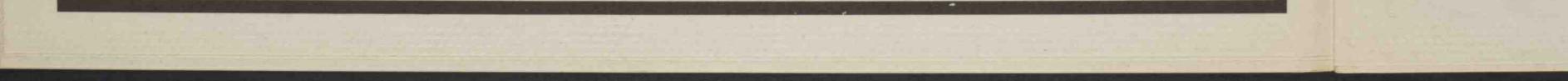
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Matthew Coon Come people to stop the pro

Matthew has been chi hunting territory and Quebec, to Canada and of where he came

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## Premier accused of playing politics with illness

WINDSPEAKER

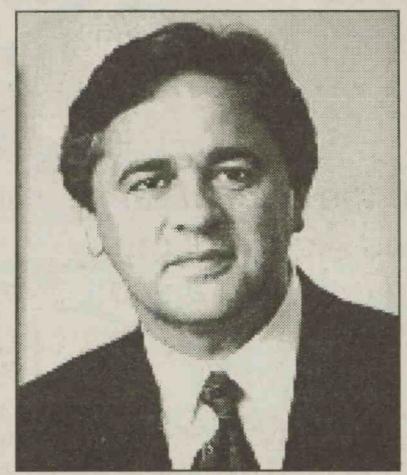
NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

Interestingly enough, Tobin made time to talk to a national newspaper that caters to the business establishment and other conservative groups to make his inflammatory remarks. He did not, however, return Windspeaker's numerous phone calls during the six days between the time when his office was first contacted and our publication deadline to address the matter head-on with the Windspeaker readership.

Assembly of First Nations Grand Chief Phil Fontaine accused Tobin of perpetuating racist stereotypes. He said Tobin's remarks were about blaming the victims. Some Native leaders say Tobin's remarks categorize them and could be - and probably will be - used in attempts to discredit them as they engage in negotiations with government officials.

Some observers who are familiar with the root causes of mental diseases such as alcoholism in Indigenous communities, including but not limited to trauma experienced at government residential schools, loss of control over community and self, forced relocation, and loss of dignity, say Tobin's remarks are like shooting someone in the head and then saying he is not competent to discuss the matter because he's suffered a head wound.



**Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin's** remarks are attempts to discredit leaders in land claim negotiations, they say.

coholics in a bid to undermine land claim negotiations. A Native leader in another part of the country said there's no way to justify Tobin's remarks but he still has mixed feelings about the issue.

"Number one, I'm a recovering alcoholic myself," said Stewart Phillip, chief of British Columbia's Penticton Indian Band. "Number two, I've been in this business for 26 years and I remember the heyday of Indian politics when conferences and conventions were notorious for "I'm really disappointed that the amount of drinking that ated a thriving drug trade. The someone like Mr. Tobin would went on. I remember those outside criminal element recogdays." But he said things have ties are difficult to police so changed a lot in recent years. "There's a greater sensitivity to the need to heal our commu-

**Matthew Coon Come** 

nities. A lot of the contemporary leadership has understood the need to act as role models for our communities and have clean and sober lifestyles," he said.

Ioan, a Penticton band councillor, went into treatment 13 years ago and have been sober since then. He said a majority of the adult population in his community has also taken that step. What Phillip finds encouraging is that, while people in his generation waited until they were in their 30s

labeled Aboriginal leaders as al-. or 40s to get help, he's seeing that the younger generation isn't waiting that long.

"We have a lot of young people around 20 years of age or thereabouts who are going into treatment. So the cycle is not as long. But there is a very serious problem with drugs and alcohol in communities, particularly with drugs with the younger people," he said. "It's something our leaders are not inclined to discuss publicly. They don't want to admit there's a lot of these problems in our communities and that's certainly gener-

knowledged but that hasn't happened."

But he doesn't believe Brian Tobin is the person to start the process.

"No, no, no. Absolutely not. It was a senseless racist remark. He made no distinctions. At the same time I do know this situa-He and his wife tion does exist and we're all very deeply concerned when we discuss the issue of teen suicide and that's one of the collateral issues with drug and alcohol abuse. It needs to be addressed but I don't support Tobin and his racist rhetoric," he said.

> Phillip added that poverty, being denied access to lands and resources, is the biggest contributing factor to social ills in First Nations, and outside governments, including the Newfoundland government, have had a hand in creating that situation.

Dr. Lawrence Kirmayer, the director of the social and transcultural psychiatry division at McGill University's medical school, thinks Tobin could have done a bit more research before he spoke if he really wanted to help.

"What he was expressing was what many people would think of stereotypically, but it's not in tune with things," said Kirmayer. "I don't really think that there's much to be done in terms of addressing him because this is a much broader issue. I just think it would be helpful to bring the message of the actual history to people."

Research by University of British Columbia psychiatrist Micheal Chandler reveals the best way to deal with the problem. Chandler studied coroner's reports of suicides and was able to identify a trend. He found that the more local control of governance there was in an Indigenous community, the fewer suicides there were. Phillip agreed. He said that real self government will restore dignity and get rid of many of the causes of the problem.

"What be was expressing was what many people would think of stereotypically, but it's not in tune with things....I just tbink it would be belpful to bring the message of the actual bistory to people."



Page 13

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put forward such outdated views of Aboriginal peoples," Fontaine said.

Inuit leaders in Labrador responded by saying Tobin has nize that Aboriginal communithey're attracted to our communities. It's a serious situation that needs to be addressed and ac-

Dr. Lawrence Kirmayer.

# In the premier's own words

appeared in print, Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin appeared on CBC-TV's The Journal to talk about his comments.

feeling of personal frustration ... when I hear upon waking in the morning that there's been another suicide, or another tragedy of some sort in an Aboriginal community.

"I spent several days earlier this winter travelling throughout northern communities. Travelling without press in tow at the request of the communities. They didn't want a circus; didn't want a show. I sat with many women in particular, I sat with many young people, who said to me that a substantial part of the problem, the root cause perhaps are social problems. They are poverty, they are unemployment, they are the lack of satisfied or concluded land claims, selfgovernment. All these things are legitimate issues, but at the end of the day alcohol had become a fundamental problem. When you're an alcoholic at that point in time, whatever the root cause initially, that becomes a very big problem.

"And many of these women and young people said to me

A few days after his remarks this is a problem that our community must confront, but it's very difficult for our community to confront the problem if our leaders them-"I despair. I have a great selves in some cases — not every case — are victims of alcohol abuse, themselves have a problem with alcohol. And if they haven't acknowledged in their own lives this problem with alcohol, how can they lead us, the community at large, to take on and challenge this problem?

"Look, we had one string of suicides: four or five in the space of four or five weeks in one small community... you can't deal with the problem, you can't confront it, you can't begin to take it on, unless you acknowledge it. There's nothing wrong... with acknowledging a problem. And if you don't acknowledge it, you certainly can't formulate a commitment personally or community-wide to confront it. And that's all I'm asking for.

"This is not about assigning blame. This is about saying let's publicly acknowledge what some of these challenges are - certainly alcohol's a big one — and let's work together to take it on."

# **Candidate for National Chief!**



"You Have My Support in Your

**Good Luck Matthew** 

Quest to be National Chief" Ted Moses

#### Grand Chief of the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee

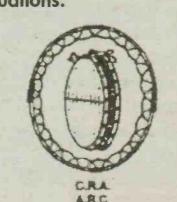
Matthew Coon Come is a leader of the people! In 1989 he took on the challenge of his people to stop the proposed Great Whale Hydro-Electric Project. He did not give in and he did not quit until the project was shelved.

Matthew has been chief of his community and Grand Chief. He has hunted on his family's hunting territory and knows the ways of the bush. He took the message of the Eeyouch to Quebec, to Canada and to the World. Walking with international leaders he never lost sight of where he came from or of what his people needed in order to live and prosper.

I believe that as National Chief Matthew Coon Come will fight for the rights of Aboriginal Peoples. He will take on the task of forging a new relationship between the Government of Canada, the Provinces and Aboriginal Peoples. He will take on the plight of the poorest communities and the challenges of the most difficult situations.

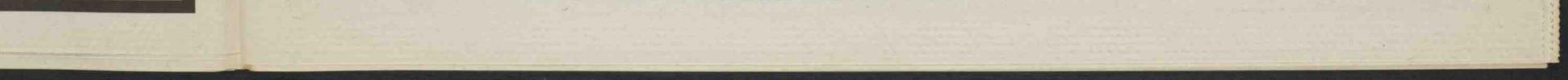


Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) Grand Conseil des Cris (Eeyou Istchee)



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# House nears

Windspeaker Contributor

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A professional carpenter the past 15 years, Herb Nel looks at the House of Huu aht, the first bighouse of structed in Huu-ay-aht terri in more than 100 years, as of his crowning achieveme

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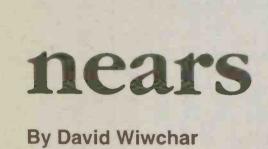
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July 2000

**By David Wiwchar** 



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## **Big Bear descendants seek reserve**

**By Joan Taillon** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### NORTH BATTLEFORD, Sask.

Alex Little Bear is disturbed by the slow response from Indian Affairs in dealing with his people's specific land claim. In the meantime, he and 20 descendants of Chief Big Bear who signed Treaty 6 will continue to occupy a section of Crown land 30 miles southeast of North Battleford they says belongs to them. The land is currently leased to somebody else.

Chief Big Bear signed Treaty 6 in 1882. Little Bear says the chief was his great-grandfather. Big Bear's people fled south of the border in the wake of the rebellion of 1885. Now about 300 people of mixed heritage who never joined a band want to get the reserve they say was promised to Big Bear. The majority now live in Montana.

On May 16, Little Bear's family members passed a resolution declaring the section of land they now occupy in the rural municipality of Glenside no. 377 as "Native traditional lands." Little Bear says the section is "a part and result of Treaty 6 signed during 1882 between Chief Big Bear and Her Majesty the Queen."

Little Bear says the federal government tells him they have to get recognition as a band before the issue of a reserve can be dealt with, but only 60 to 80 of his people still in Canada are eligible to apply for band membership. Canadian residency was one of the conditions attached to the \$20,000 Indian Affairs gave them to do genealogy research in 1993, Little Bear says. Since then, they have been getting the same form letter from the department every few months, saying their file will be reviewed. position is," Little Bear said of the federal government. "I can just go from the research that we've done. I can't see any problems. There might be some legal ones there if we go individually, but if we get recognized as a band, I can't see where there can be any

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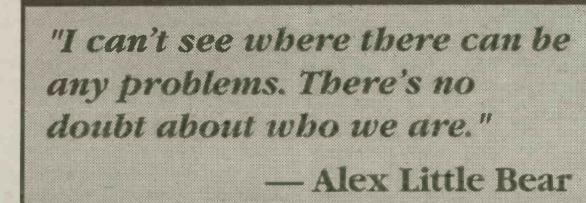
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problems. There's no doubt cial assistance and says most of about who we are."

Tevor Sutter, Indian and Northern Affairs communications manager, had a week of hard digging to find any record of their dealings with Little Bear.

On June 12, Sutter located a departmental media report stating they had advised a media outlet that Indian Affairs can't release information about Little Bear without his written consent.

On June 13, Sutter said the department will be writing Little Bear within the next couple of weeks about the claim.

Jim Miller, a researcher at the University of Saskatchewan, recalls that he "did a report" for Little Bear six or seven years ago. "I thought it appeared they had a legitimate claim," he said.

The land Little Bear is occupying is leased to George Pritchard, 94, who has kept up the rent but is in arrears with taxes. According to Little Bear, Pritchard's grandfather knew Little Bear's ancestors, he supports their claim to the land and he has unofficially turned the land over to Little Bear's group. But Gordon Hamilton, manager of leasing and sales administration at Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, says "There has been, as I understand it, some family disputes or what have you that have clouded the issue as far as [Pritchard's] use of the land." Little Bear says eight adults "I really don't know what their and 12 children have been living on the land "for about a year." They have a telephone, but no well, no permanent road and are extremely under-housed. They travel 15 miles to Cando for water and drive the children half a mile to catch a school bus. Little Bear, who is 57, is on so-

his family receives welfare or a pension. He has no money to pay for legal help with the claim, but Mike Riou, a lawyer from North Battleford, has undertaken some work for Little Bear's group.

WINDSPEAKER

NEWS

Riou says "in response to my two official inquiries, they are not a band, no money has been set aside for them, and I get the form letter saying their entitlement to Indian status under the Indian Act is going to be processed sometime during the next few months."

Little Bear says this is the same response he has been getting for 15 years. He adds he is unable to get support from the Assembly of First Nations unless he is supported by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The provincial organization won't support his efforts until the group is recognized by the federal government as a band.

No one can say how long it will be before the province tells Little Bear's people to move. Pritchard has been served with a notice of termination of his land lease. Lit-

Page 14

tle Bear says Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food knows his people are living there.

Hamilton says "We have no indication that there is a treaty land entitlement selection on this, or that whatever treaty land entitlement in the process, whether the band was going to satisfy the third-party interest."

He adds "unless the band qualifies under the framework agreement, Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food is not in a position to deal with them." That means, ultimately, that if Pritchard does not pay his back taxes, the province will put the land up for lease again, Hamilton said.



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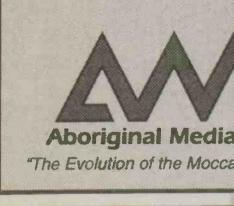
On June 14 the Huu-ay First Nation left the lawns of provincial legislature in Vic for the Journey Home wa Huu-ay-aht to raise additi funds for the bighouse cons tion.

The 301-km, week-long v run and bike will go thro Victoria, Duncan, Nanaimo Port Alberni before taking



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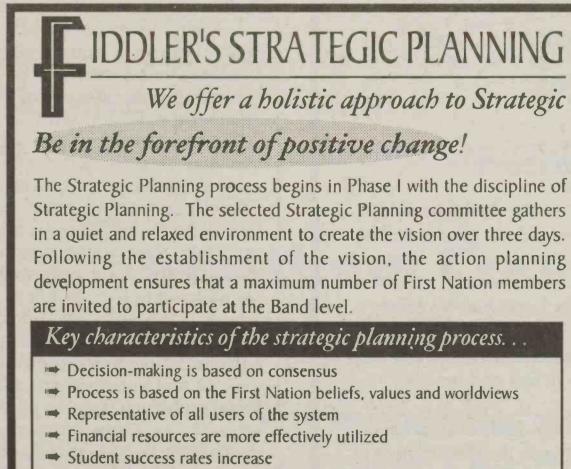
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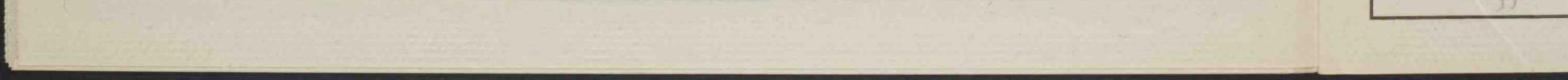




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Charles Fiddler has 23 years of experience in First Nation education. He has a Bachelor and Master's degree with certificates in strategic planning and Aboriginal business. For more information check out my website at http://aboriginaledplan.cjb.net You can email me at Fiddler@aboriginaledplan.cjb.net The mailing address is Charles Fiddler, 1144 - 42 Street S.W., Calgary, AB T3C IZI

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# House of Huu-ay-aht nears completion

#### **By David Wiwchar** Windspeaker Contributor

July 2000

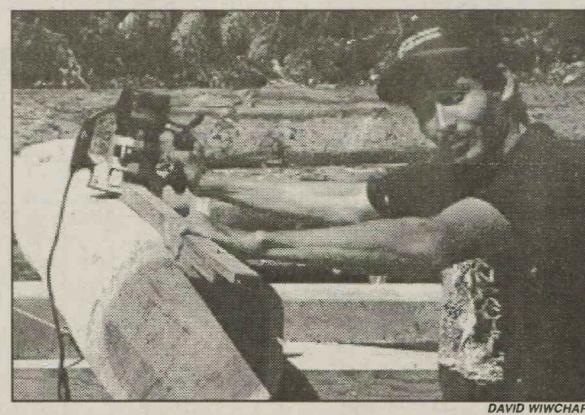
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Adopted out as an infant, Nelson only recently discovered his Huu-ay-aht ancestry and has returned to Anacla, B.C. to work on the mountain-top structure that will serve as bighouse, gymnasium and community centre for Huu-ay-aht.

"It involved a lot of mathematical theory to put the poles in the right places," said Herb. "The top four logs each weigh around 30 tons so everything has to fit just right to hold the 108- and 118-foot long Spruce logs up there."

With everything on schedule for the official opening on July 15, Nelson and four other Huuay-aht members with a crew from Knappett Construction are working feverishly to have everything in place for the celebration. "I've learned a lot from working on this one, and I think everyone else has too," said Herb. "Hopefully the next one can be all Huu-ay-aht built." As the finishing work on the new House of Huu-ay-aht nears completion, the final fundraising push has been launched. On June 14 the Huu-ay-aht First Nation left the lawns of the provincial legislature in Victoria for the Journey Home walk to Huu-ay-aht to raise additional funds for the bighouse construction. The 301-km, week-long walk, run and bike will go through Victoria, Duncan, Nanaimo, and Port Alberni before taking the



Herb Nelson is busy at work on the House of Huu-ay-aht.

walk.

100 km dusty road to Anacla for drives, and the Journey Home the June 21 National Aboriginal Day celebrations at the Pachena Bay campground.

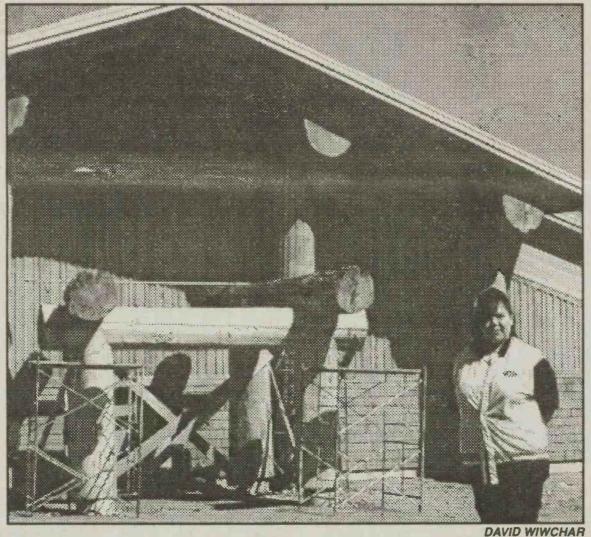
According to Huu-ay-aht fundraising co-ordinator Molly Clappis, organizers are hoping to raise \$50,000 over the next month through bake sales, garage sales, auctions, bottle

As of June 1, more than 25 people were signed up to walk the entire distance, including two-year-old Ayanna Clappis along with mom Crystal. Huuay-aht Chief Councillor Robert Dennis and his family were also

WINDSPEAKER

**CELEBRATING CULTURE** 

planning to go the distance.





**FILE PHOTO** 

Page 15

The talents of Métis Fiddlers will be showcased at Back to Batoche 2000.

# **Celebration of Métis** culture planned

**By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### **BATOCHE**, Sask.

Métis tradition and culture will be celebrated in grand style this summer during "Back to Batoche 2000, A National Festival in Celebration of Métis Culture" being held in Batoche July 24 to 30.

This year's event will feature an arts and cultural festival, sports and recreational games and children's and youth pro- ing competitions. gramming. The event will showcase Métis arts and artists working in a variety of media, including writing, theatre, visual arts, film and video, music and dance. Some of the highlights of this year's event include the staging of Gabriel at the Crossing, a Métis musical blending traditional and contemporary Métis dance, music and stories, a showcase of Métis fiddlers, and performances by contemporary performers. The celebrations will also feature traditional dance demonstrations, performances and competitions, and an arts lecture series presenting a retro-

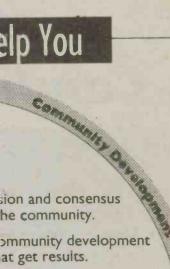
spective of Métis art and artists.

The works of Métis painters, sculptors and photographers will be showcased in an art show, and a mini-festival will be held featuring the works of Métis film and video artists.

Métis history and tradition will also be celebrated on the sporting front with the Voyageur Games, involving individuals and teams events including hatchet throwing, archery, sling shot, voyageur run, horseback riding and log carry-

d please contact, Gail Gallagher at 80) 488-5046

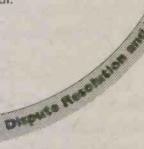
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Fundraising co-ordinator Molly Clappis stands in front of the House of Huu-ay-aht.

A number of ball tournaments will also be held, with participants competing in girls' softball, boys' softball, co-ed slow pitch and men's fastball categories. Also on the agenda is a rodeo and wagon racing. A running relay is also being planned as part of Back to Batoche 2000, with participants retracing the historic trail from Fish Creek to Batoche.

Children's and youth programming will also be offered as part of the week-long event.

For more information, visit the Back to Batoche 2000 website at www.backtobatoche.com, or call 1-800-343-6667.



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• Top of the World presents Skookum Jim's Folklore Show Thursdays @ 10 am, 7:30 pm & 1:30 am. Comedy, traditional Yukon dance and music combine with folk, opera, and rock music.

**Parts I, II & III** ):30 pm and 12:30 am. Is and at school and the of the Red Road. • Wawatay Presents Young Warriors, F Tuesdays, July 11, 18 & 25 @ 1 pm, 10:3 Stories of our youth learning from Elders importace of following the Indian ways of

• July 6 World Indigencus Television Lighting the 7th Fire This is an intensely emotional documentary about Native American Treaty Rights and the controversies resulting when they are finally enforced.

 July 13 First Film Series (NFB) The Great Buffalo Saga, Interviews. eve-witness accounts, archival photos and live action ar-annihilation. Interviews, eye-witness accounts, archival tell the story of the buffalo's revival after ne • July 21 APTN Presents Yuxweluptun – Man of Masks Interviews with Salish artist Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun, striking images of his paintings and a visit to his virtual reality longhouse provide a glimpse into contemporary First Nations art making and the politics of the artist.

July 28 Our People Broken Promises
 From 1953-55, the Canadian government relocated Inuit familie from Northern Quebec to the High Arctic. Instead of a promised better life, they suffered from hunger, extreme cold, sickness, alcoholism and poverty. This film tells of a people whose lives were nearly destroyed by the government's broken promises.

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Send in pictures of your community, friends, family and yourself for a monthly photo contest. Winners will be included in the next month's program guide and may be featured in APTN's 2001 calendar. Send colour or black and white prints to: APTN Photo Contest, 85 Albert Street, Suite 1110, Ottawa, ON, K1P 6A4. See contest rules on our website www.APTN.ca or call 1-888-278-8862.

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to change

# Is the fallin

July 2000

**By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

SECHELT,

The future of the treaty ess in British Columbia is in o tion, following a move by Sechelt band to pull out of r tiations and instead have claims decided in court.

The Sechelt band is the and only First Nation in th Treaty Process to reach stage during which a final agree is negotiated. The band pleted stage four with the ing of an agreement-in-prir (AIP) in April 1999.

Under the AIP, the Se band would receive \$52 m in cash, as well as almost 933 tares of new land, with the rent Sechelt land — just 1,000 hectares — redesignat Sechelt treaty land.

The proposed treaty w also give the band control gravel pit, ownership of su and sub-surface resources of land in question, and 14 ex commercial fishing licence

The AIP includes provi for future additions to treat tlement lands, and continu of Sechelt self-government The proposed treaty w also see band members lose exemption from sales tax eight years, and their exem from personal income tax or years. The Sechelt band has be the treaty process since 199 though negotiations broke briefly in 1998 when the started legal proceedings, o ing Aboriginal title to its tional territory. That legal a was put on hold when all p agreed to resume negotia but on May 31, the Sechelt served notice of its intent resume litigation. The leg tion is set to resume 90 days notice was served, giving a ties a three-month window portunity to get things ba track before heading t courts. Peter Smith, spokesperse the provincial Ministry of riginal Affairs said what S seems to be looking for is a tirely different type of treaty had been negotiated unde agreement-in-principle. explained that the band ha tially indicated it was looki a cash-only treaty, and that what guided negotiations. "It seems that what they'r ing now . . . they want a dif type of treaty. Obviously you work through the ne tions towards a final settle or a final agreement, you e that there be some room some movement on some provisions of the proposed ment. And that's expe through a process of neg tions. But what they seem talking about now is sub tially different than the a ment-in-principle that signed in April of 1999." S said. "This is different than



Il Movies in July th Franco, an Italian rock star village of Akiani in northern

June 30, July 1 Dancing North Franco, an Italian rock star finds himself in the remote Inuit village of Akiani in northerm Canada, They trade teachings about white music, e-mail, caribou hunting and a calmer, more deliberate way to live.
July 7, 8 Deep Inside Clint Star, Director Clint Alberta takes on the role of Clint Star and seeks out his far-flung buddies, young Natives like himself. They talk about sex and life... love and abuse... 500 years of oppression-with humor, grace and courage.
July 14, 15 Tecumseh: The Last Warrior, The life and struggles of Shawnee leader Tecumseh and his efforts in the early 1800s to unite all Native American tribes into a new Indian Nation.

14, 15 Tecumseh: The Last Warrior, The life and les of Shawnee leader Tecumseh and his efforts in the early to unite all Native American tribes into a new Indian Nation.

 July 21, 22 Isaac Littlefeathers, The moving and very funny story of a hot-tempered young Metis raised by a Jewish store owner, growing up in 1960s Alberta and his run-ins with the law iers, The n Metis ràise 121, of -

caus Jack well-versed in martial arts-champions the causechool where minority students are humiliated wnsfolk. Billy Jack's on a murder charge Billy veteran 0 inority students ar d white townsfolk. Vietnam down Half-breed ing hunted abused by bigoted school where Jack, sult in him be **29 Billy** of a progressive s and physically ab but soft-spoken, and racism. • July 28, struggles

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July 2000 Schedule

### WINDSPEAKER EYE OF THE STORM

Page 1 Special Pullout

# Is the BC Treaty Process falling apart?

By Cheryl Petten Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### SECHELT, B.C.

The future of the treaty process in British Columbia is in question, following a move by the Sechelt band to pull out of negotiations and instead have their claims decided in court.

The Sechelt band is the first and only First Nation in the BC Treaty Process to reach stage five, during which a final agreement is negotiated. The band completed stage four with the signing of an agreement-in-principle (AIP) in April 1999.

Under the AIP, the Sechelt band would receive \$52 million in cash, as well as almost 933 hectares of new land, with the current Sechelt land — just over 1,000 hectares — redesignated as Sechelt treaty land.

The proposed treaty would also give the band control of a gravel pit, ownership of surface and sub-surface resources on the land in question, and 14 existing commercial fishing licences.

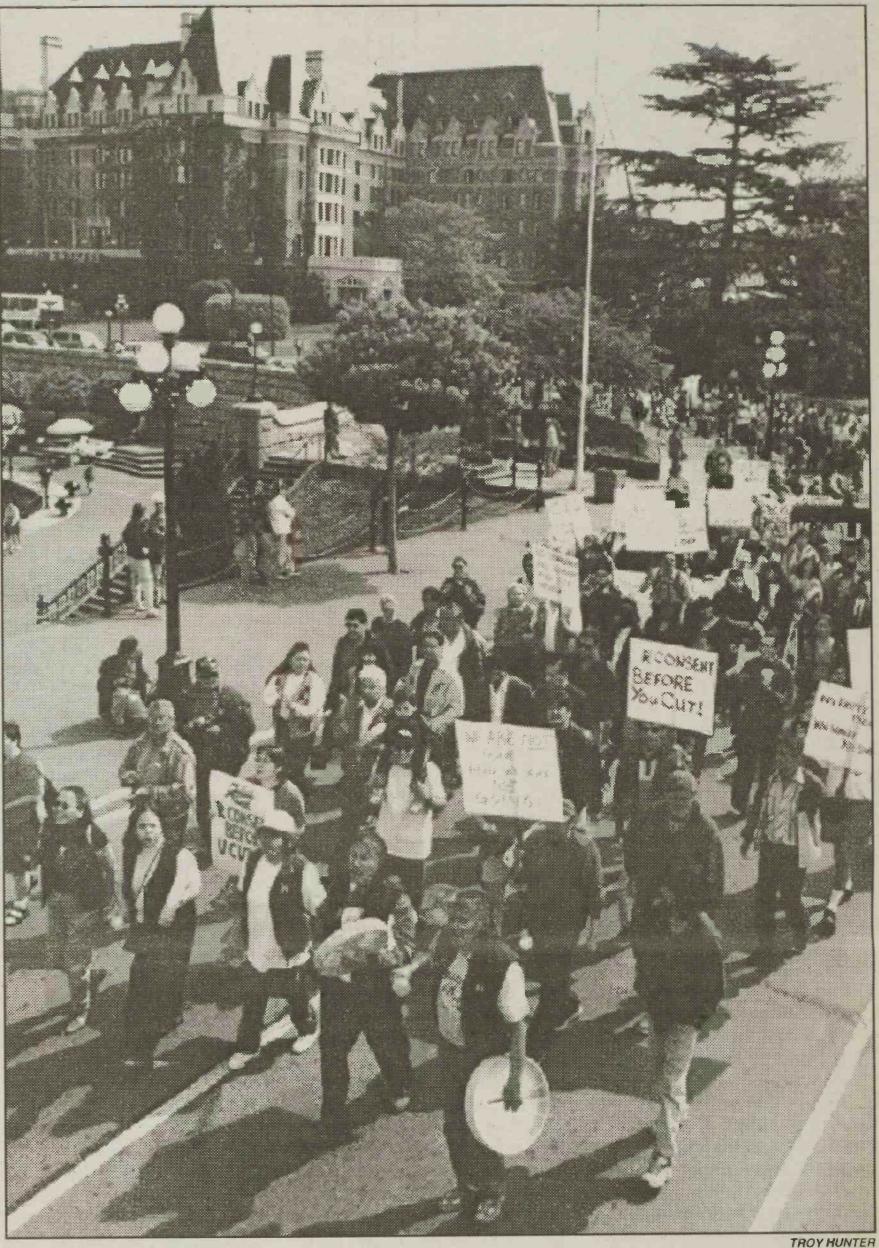
The AIP includes provisions for future additions to treaty settlement lands, and continuation other set of negotiations in the treaty process. We have a signed agreement. We have a deal here. We expected there would be some fine-tuning as we move toward a final agreement. But what they're talking about now is provisions and demands that are substantially different than the provisions that they agreed to a year ago," Smith said.

Robert Joe is a member of the Sechelt band. According to Joe, the main point in the AIP that band members object to is the amount of land being given up under the proposed treaty.

"We're giving up 99 per cent of our territory . . . all of our territory is 2,000 square kilometres, and that is the biggest issue that we really want people to look at. Everybody is looking at how much we're getting, but nobody is really looking at how much we're giving up," Joe said.

Another point raising concern is the elimination of tax exemptions. Joe said that, with elimination of tax-exempt status, any of the money received by bands through the treaty process will just be paid back to the government through taxation.

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4	1:30AM	Qaggiq	Heartbeat of the Earth	First Story cc	Nunavimiut
	2:00AM	Labradorimiut	Spirit Bay (English)		
	2:30AM	Cooking w/the Wolfman	Aboriginal Voices cc		
			* Changes I	* Changes to Sharing Circle on Monday, July 31	July 31

of Sechelt self-government. The proposed treaty would also see band members lose their exemption from sales tax over eight years, and their exemption from personal income tax over 12 years.

The Sechelt band has been in the treaty process since 1994, although negotiations broke down briefly in 1998 when the band started legal proceedings, claiming Aboriginal title to its traditional territory. That legal action was put on hold when all parties agreed to resume negotiations, but on May 31, the Sechelt band served notice of its intention to resume litigation. The legal action is set to resume 90 days after notice was served, giving all parties a three-month window of opportunity to get things back on track before heading to the courts.

Peter Smith, spokesperson for the provincial Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs said what Sechelt seems to be looking for is an entirely different type of treaty than had been negotiated under the agreement-in-principle. Smith explained that the band had initially indicated it was looking for a cash-only treaty, and that was what guided negotiations.

"It seems that what they're saying now . . . they want a different type of treaty. Obviously when you work through the negotiations towards a final settlement, or a final agreement, you expect that there be some room, and some movement on some of the provisions of the proposed settlement. And that's expected through a process of negotiations. But what they seem to be talking about now is substantially different than the agreement-in-principle that they signed in April of 1999." Smith said.

"This is different than any

ing to offer us the money, and they want to take taxation away, and other bands have figured they're going to pay the money back in eight years. I believe ours is up to seven years, and we'll pay all the money back, the \$52 million," Joe said.

Joe said the Sechelt band is taking its claims back to court in an attempt to prove title to its traditional lands, adding the band has more than enough physical evidence to prove its occupation of the land for more than 150 years.

"If we can do that, we know that'll put fear into the governments, and they talk about compensation, and that would be great for us," Joe said.

As far as the band's apparent turn-around from wanting a cashonly treaty to wanting a landbased treaty, Joe blames the band's former lawyer and financial advisor, who Joe characterized as "two consultants that were leading us down their paths, and not our paths."

"They've been with our band for 30 years. We believe that they weren't working for us. We believe that they were working for the government," Joe said.

Several attempts were made to contact Sechelt chief negotiator Chief Gary Feschuk for comment but none of the calls were returned by press time.

All parties involved should have a clearer picture of the future of treaty negotiations with the Sechelt band after June 15, when representatives from the band were scheduled to meet with federal and provincial representatives to look at whether or not there is a future.

"I know the governments are just going to come with sugar coating, sugar coating over a candy apple. It looks good. On the outside, it's fine, but what's on the inside could be rotten," Joe said.

The Celebrating Our Survival rally was held at the provincial legislature in Victoria on May 25, bringing together British Columbia's First Nations to protest the extinguishment clause in treaty negotiations and other matters of concern regarding land claims.

# Forever is a long time

#### By Troy Hunter Windspeaker Contributor

VICTORIA

May 25 was an historic day for First Nations in British Columbia when three provincial Aboriginal political groups came together in unity.

The Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council organized a rally that included a march to the steps of the legislative buildings in the capital city. The Union of BC Indian Chiefs, the First Nations Summit and the Alliance of Interior Chiefs were represented with much support from its members, including Elders.

Hundreds of First Nations people from across the province travelled to relay their concerns about treaty and land claim negotiations to the government.

"Some of the people here who came the furthest distance are from Takla," said Chief Rob Charlie of Burns Lake Band. "The Takla Band is way up in the North and is really remote; it's a

four- or five-hour drive up a logging road just to get to the nearest town."

The marchers walked past Victoria's inner harbor. They marched through the main intersection by the Royal British Columbia Museum, singing and drumming as they went. They marched past the large statue of Queen Victoria as they streamed onto the legislature grounds.

Chief Robert Sam of the Songhees (Lekwammen Nation) welcomed chiefs, Elders and supporter of the rally onto the territory of their people.

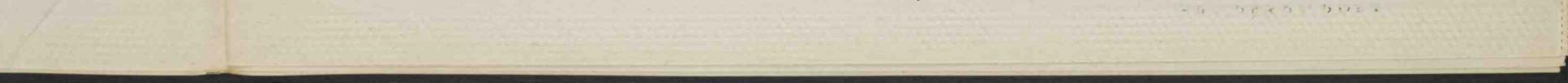
"You are welcome here; you are welcome to our land," he said. "This land, we did not forfeit to anyone. A treaty was signed for 147 Hudson's Bay blankets for borrowing this land. The blankets that were shared with the Lekwammen Nation have long since disintegrated. We have never sold our land."

Chief Mavis Erickson of the Carrier-Sekani said unity of all First Nations political groups was necessary to respond to the government extinguishment policy in treaty talks.

"We are here today to ask the government to stop the extinguishment policy that they are practicing on our people, since the inception of Canada and since the inception of British Columbia. We have always worked in our country to cooperate and be part of this country that we call our own. This is our country and we don't have a say in what is going to happen to it in the 21st century. We are tired of the assimilation and removal policies that have gone on quietly in Canada," Erickson said.

Hereditary Grand Chief Edward John is a Tl'azt'en band member and an executive member of the First Nations Summit, which is made of bands involved in the BC treaty process. John said the rally would send a clear message to the people of British Columbia that everything is not going well in negotiations.

(see Protest Pullout page 3.)



#### **Special Pullout** Page 2

### WINDSPEAKER EYE OF THE STORM



**ROXANNE GREGORY** 

What happened between April 1999 when Sechelt signed its agreement-in-principle, proudly displayed in the photo above, and May 25 of this year when the Sechelt negotiation went off the rails?

### Chief says treaty process a myth

**By Paul Barnsley** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### VANCOUVER

After investing many years and millions of dollars in the British Columbia Treaty Process and getting farther in the process than any of the 50 First Nations involved, the Sechelt First Nation decided on May 31 that the process just won't get them a fair and reasonable treaty.

After seven years of allowing the treaty process to unfold, the Sechelt leadership gave up hope

Native political organizations are united in calling for a drastic reworking of the treaty process.

The First Nations Summit, an organization comprised of the First Nations within the treaty process joined in the call for change during last July's Assembly of First Nations/National Congress of American Indians summit. That brought them together with the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (UBCIC), the organization that has opposed the process from the beginning. That call was renewed by the Assembly of First that it will be a vehicle they can Nations executive when they met ride towards a just treaty where in Vancouver in late January. "The fundamental flaw with the process is that it does not recognize title," said UBCIC President Stewart Phillip. "The B.C. treaty process, in my view, is a myth. There never was a treaty process. All there has been is an acceleration of the comprehensive claims process." Specific claims deal with land that was wrongfully or mistakenly alienated from Native control or ownership and deals with clearly identifiable parcels of land. The comprehensive claims process deals with larger and less specific claims. Phillip said the federal and provincial governments found it necessary to create a special process for the province of British Columbia because claims affected almost the entire province. He maintains the government simply opened up access to more negotiators, but did nothing to change the policy enmity, the province's two major which was formulated long be-

fore the many important Supreme Court of Canada decisions regarding Aboriginal title to unceded land.

"These are not treaty negotiations, these are comprehensive claims negotiations. Treaties are between sovereign powers and are bilateral in nature and not trilateral. And they refused to deal with title because in the comprehensive claims policy that exists today it says no court in the land has defined Aboriginal title," he said.

Of course, on Dec. 11, 1997, the Supreme Court of Canada did exactly that in the Delgamuukw

# Get it in the AIP

**By Dana Wagg** Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER ISLAND, B.C.

Pacheedaht/Ditidaht and Snuneymuxw, the only Vancouver Island First Nations to receive formal treaty offers, continue to negotiate towards agreements-in-principle despite Sechelt's recent withdrawal from the process and decision to go to court. Sechelt's choice gives Ditidaht and Pacheedaht, which swiftly rejected a treaty offer last October, hope that new life will be breathed into the treaty process, said Jim Christakos, Ditidaht/Pacheedaht technical negotiator.

Sechelt sent a "very, very powerful signal to government things have got to change. That should give hope to everybody that things will change. I don't believe the government can permit things to degenerate to the point where everybody goes to court," he said.

"If you get 50 Sechelts, the economy of this province is ground to a halt. If you get four Sechelts, the economy of this province goes to hell, because everybody else will, at this point, turn to direct action. There is enough unity now among First Nations that it would take very little or-

cerned. "We're hopeful we'll be able to get through this logjam, but the proof will definitely be in

the pudding. If we're able to make agreements, that will be based on the efforts of an awful lot of people who are involved in this process. I believe it will be contingent on government's willingness to be a little more creative in how we're dealing with some of these substantive issues at the table."

July 2000

Unprecedented unity among First Nations and instantaneous communications has given Pacheedaht and Ditidaht clout, said Christakos.

"We say 'when we talk to you now about these fundamental requirements of the treaty - certainty, lands and resources, Aboriginal rights - you're talking to every First Nation in the province, because the minute we walk out of this room, we go onto our computers and fan it out.' We have a network that goes to work right away. We tell our neighbors what happened, what the governments have said about various things, and they tell us, and the governments know that. The days of playing off the Indians and divide and conquer are finished. That's why we have confidence that maybe now the governments ganization to orchestrate have come to that realization that their strategy doesn't work, that we'll now get viable, honorable negotiations and that's why we're in it."

#### July 2000



First Nations members f provincial legislature in V

## Protest

(Continued from page 1.)

"We want to see results," John. "We don't need any pr ises. We don't need m protocols. We want to see ac in our territories and we w to see results in our comm ties. That is what the message here today."

John said the rally wasr way to complain to gove ments, but to express the vis First Nations people have the province. "We ask the people of Bri Columbia and Canada to h us, to listen to us, not to sim trot us out when the tourists around to sing and dance them. We have genuine and deep connections to our hist our lands, our ways of life we are proud of those. We sh those in a respectful way, don't exploit us," John said. The chief also called out to business community for h saying it was "too damn sile "The governments are c tinuing to walk on the back our people and we are ask the business community, the vironmental community, a the public to let the governm know their views. "These groups have been w too silent. I am led to beli that they don't support w we're doing. I want to challen you to start telling the gove

they are recognized as equals.

Many disgruntled First Nation leaders feel, now that seven years have gone by and the federal and provincial negotiators have had lots of time to show their real hands, that the process was a trap from the start.

Chiefs have said that negotiators persuaded them to talk about soft issues during the early days of negotiations and then, when it came down to the basic issues of extinguishment of Aboriginal rights and compensation for years of lost access to their lands, the government arbitrarily refused to deal with those issues. At that point, the First Nations, who conduct the negotiations with money they borrow from the government and that must be paid back out of any final settlement, were in too deep to walk away.

Politically, after years of bitter

decision.

"The treaty process, basically, was rendered null and void at that moment," Phillip said. "I think the governments understand privately that at the end of the day our legal arguments will prevail. What they're trying to do, in my view, is settle as many claims as possible to reduce their exposure when they have to face the reality of Delgamuukw.

Native leaders in the province and across the country are now calling for the comprehensive claims policy to be struck down and replaced with something which takes Delgamuukw into account.

With the new-found unity of the Native leadership in the province, it looks like that will be the only thing that will save the treaty process. Phillip said 90 per cent of the First Nations would walk away if they could and only their indebtedness is keeping the process alive at the moment.

-

-

massive province-wide disruptions. That's what lies ahead for the government if things don't change," Christakos said.

"God help Canada and British Columbia if all First Nations are going to do that. Think of what that would do to the economy of this province. Sacrifice and poverty and these kind of problems are familiar territory to First Nations' people, but the rest of the population would be joining them if this kind of thing happen. So, it can't, and for that reason I'm optimistic governments will, in fact, respond in a manner that will enable viable, workable, rational treaties to be negotiated," said Christakos.

Snuneymuxw senior negotiator Michael Rodger said, based on what they heard coming out of Sechelt, he's con-

He said either people are committed to the notion of diplomacy and negotiations or they abandon it.

"If you abandon that, you then go to direct action, confrontation and law. We think the investment that's been made in diplomatic process of treaty negotiation — and I think this represents the view of (Ditidaht Chief) Jack Thompson and (Pacheedaht Chief) Marvin McClurg — is too great to throw out the window yet," said Christakos.

Pacheedaht and Ditidaht could reach an agreement-inprinciple by year-end if government policies change, he said.

(see Hope Pullout page 4.)

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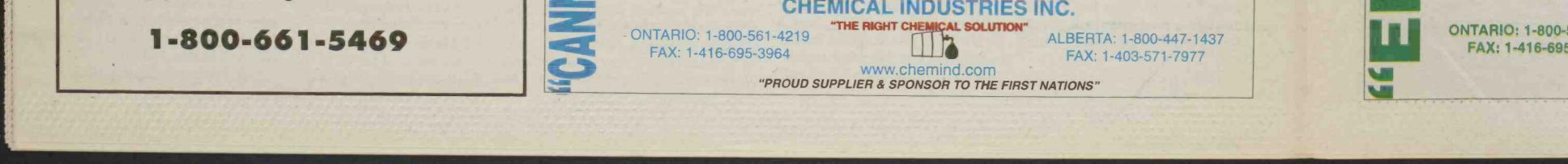
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#### **July 2000**

### WINDSPEAKER EYE OF THE STORM

#### Page 3 Special Pullout

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First Nations members from across British Columbia marched from Ship's Point to the provincial legislature in Victoria to air their concerns about the BC Treaty Process.

# **Protest unites B.C. nations**

(Continued from page 1.) "We want to see results," said John. "We don't need any promises. We don't need more protocols. We want to see action in our territories and we want to see results in our communities. That is what the message is here today."

John said the rally wasn't a way to complain to governments, but to express the vision First Nations people have for



# **Cheam watching** negotiations closely

**By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### **ROSEDALE, B.C.**

Although the Cheam band is no longer part of the treaty process in British Columbia, the band members will be watching ongoing negotiations closely.

involved in treaty negotiations as a member of the Sto:Lo Nation, but was dropped in May.

According to Sto:Lo Nation chief negotiator Clarence Pennier, the decision to remove the Cheam band from negotiations was done to respect the wishes of the band, while allowing other members of the Sto:Lo Nation to continue in the treaty process.

"Well, it wasn't a decision to in doing so." drop them. It was more a decision to respect what they've been saying, because they've been telling the governments that they're not in the process, so all the chiefs here did was respected that," Pennier said.

The Sto: Lo Nation, located in the southwest corner of the mainland, is made up of 18 bands including Cheam. The nation is currently in stage four of treaty negotiations, during

has been dropped from the Sto:Lo Nation claim, negotiations with the remaining members of the Sto:Lo treaty table have resumed.

Peter Smith, spokesperson for the provincial Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, said negotiations with Cheam will not resume until the blockades come down, although lines of The Cheam band had been communication remain open.

> "There's been communication . . . but there's been no negotiations, of course, because the blockade is still up and we can't negotiate with them on the issues while the blockade remains in place," Smith said. "But there's certainly been communication. We've been trying to set up meetings with the band, but so far haven't had any success

> Cheam Chief June Quipp said even though the band is no longer in the treaty process, members will be watching developments with interest.

"Well, the only thing is we still have a relationship with Sto:Lo," Chief Quipp said. "We'll certainly be keeping a close eye on what happens with the negotiations at Sto:Lo, because it certainly will have a major impact on Cheam First which parties work towards an Nation, and they're well aware that we'll be watching what will be taking place during the treaty talks. I'm just not sure, that even speaking to a couple of the other chiefs that are still within the process at Sto:Lo, they have a lot of discontent as well, with how things are going to happen. Like I said, we'll certainly be keeping an eye on what goes on there at the table." As far as renewed negotiations with the province over the land in question, Chief Quipp said there hasn't been any movement. "The government's been sitting very quiet, but as far as we're concerned that's fine with us. We have an island back, and I guess we'll just have to continue to move to another one fairly soon. But as far as any talks with them, they don't seem to be prepared to do much," Quipp said.

their strategy doesn't k, that we'll now get vihonorable negotiations that's why we're in it." said either people are nitted to the notion of diacy and negotiations or abandon it.

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"We ask the people of British Columbia and Canada to hear us, to listen to us, not to simply trot us out when the tourists are around to sing and dance for them. We have genuine and real deep connections to our history, our lands, our ways of life and we are proud of those. We share those in a respectful way, but don't exploit us," John said.

The chief also called out to the business community for help, saying it was "too damn silent."

"The governments are continuing to walk on the backs of our people and we are asking the business community, the environmental community, and the public to let the government know their views.

"These groups have been way too silent. I am led to believe that they don't support what we're doing. I want to challenge you to start telling the governwe want to see results in our

communities. That is what the message is bere today." --- Chief Edward John.

ments that these issues, the land question, need to be resolved clearly, not through policies of extinguishment but through policies of recognition and affirmation."

Union of BC Indian Chiefs President Stewart Phillip said his group rejects the comprehensive claims policy of the federal government.

"Clearly it's designed to extinguish our Aboriginal title and rights," he said. "It's the federal government's final solution to forcefully assimilate us into mainstream Canadian society. We reject that notion. We have a right to be who we are meant to be and we shall continue on with this struggle as long as it takes because we have an obligation, we have a duty to protect the birthright of our children and grandchildren and those unborn," Phillip said.

Former British Columbia premier Glen Clark, said he was impressed with the rally.

"It is the first time all Aboriginal groups have come together to take action. It's about justice, not just for Nisga'a but all Aboriginal people. This is a big step in coming forward to send the government a message and that message is heard loud and clear."

agreement-in-principle.

Negotiations with Sto:Lo Nation came to a halt this spring when Cheam set up a roadblock on the Rosedale Ferry Road, cutting off access to Ferry Island Provincial Park. The blockade was organized to protest the province's handling of negotiations regarding land along the Fraser River within the band's traditional territory. The land in question includes Ferry Island and three other islands in the Fraser River.

Among the band's concerns are plans to protect part of the land claimed by Cheam under the province's Protected Areas Strategy, which would interfere with Cheam's use of the land.

The province has indicated it won't resume negotiations with the band while the roadblock remains in place. However, now that the Cheam band

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**Special Pullout** Page 4

### WINDSPEAKER E OF THE STORM

#### July 2000

## Hope for negotiated settlement still there

(Continued from page 2.)

"We're still optimistic." The ground rules for federal and provincial government negotiators are changing daily, he said. "Some things they refused to talk about, even as recently as six months ago, like resource sharing, are now on the table." Compensation for lost resources, another sticking point, is also on the table.

Some headway has been made, but government negotiators are "in the swimming pool with their hands tied" with mandates that don't work.

He said the cookie cutter approach to negotiations has to be abandoned.

Nanaimo-based Snuneymuxw continues to negotiate. It, like Pacheedaht and Ditidaht, is one of the lead tables and is concerned about the limited mandate given to government negotiators, said Rodger.

the amount of time and money invested in negotiations.

process for them and they haven't seen substantive results yet," Rodger said. "They're anxious for results. They are committed to negotiations. Their hopes and dreams are attached to this," he said. "I'm a negotiator so I have to remain optimistic we'll be able to resolve these roadblocks over the next several months. I owe it to the community to make the best of these negotiations that I can." Rodger continues to hope an agreementin-principle can be reached by year-end, but concedes that would be a tough schedule to meet and means overcoming major obstacles like the issues of certainty and revenue-sharing. The lesson to be learned from Sechelt is to "get everything you want in the treaty in the AIP," said Rodger. "We'll want to make sure the agreement-in-principle represents everything the Snuneymuxw people want in a treaty. We're not willing to take that kind of chance that we'll be able to come back to it in stage 5 (final agreement) of negotiations. And, in fact, that is the message we received from (Sechelt) Chief Gary Feschuck, that if we want it in the treaty, make sure it's in the AIP." Reaching a treaty in an urban environment, where much of the land has already been privatized, complicates Snuneymuxw negotiations, making it more costly than trying to reach a treaty in a remote area, he said. Members have made it clear they want a land-based treaty. "They don't want to substitute cash for land. They want a fair land treaty and don't believe they should be penalized because their territory has been urbanized." Rodger said he was encouraged by recent comments made by provincial Finance Minister Paul Ramsey, one of three members of a high-powered cabinet committee set up by Premier Ujjal Dosanjh to try to find ways to break the treaty deadlock. Ramsey said the committee will recommend increasing the amount of money that negotia-

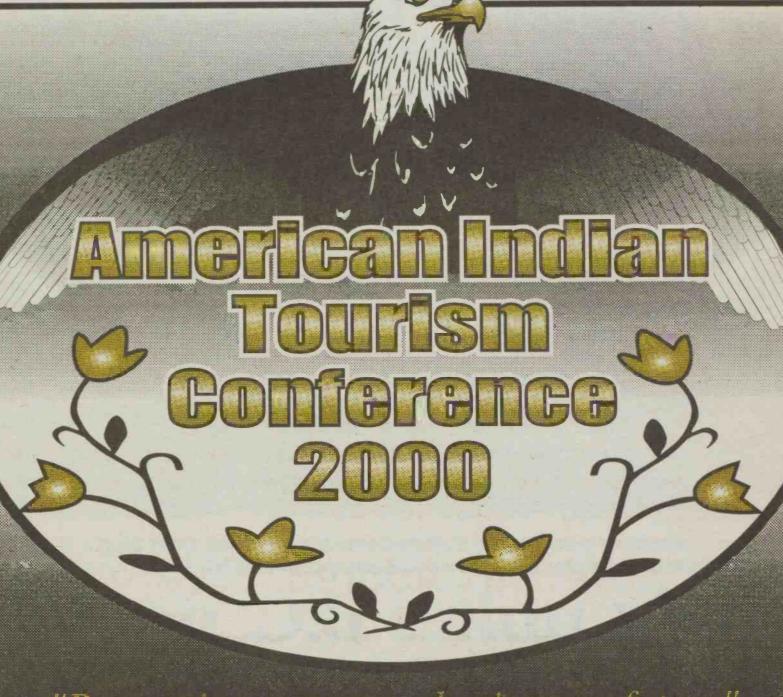
tors can offer its First Nations, which may lead to "refreshed offers" in existing negotiations, he said.

The Pacheedaht and Ditidaht chiefs, while having mandates from their people to negotiate a treaty, also have a mandate to pull the plug and walk away if they can't get one that achieves community objectives, said Christakos. Heartbreak and disillusionment have been part of the process. Last October when a land and cash offer was made to the nations, McClurg didn't hide his bitter disappointment.

"With the benefit of hindsight, we should have gone directly to the courts to protect and assert our rights and interests," he said.

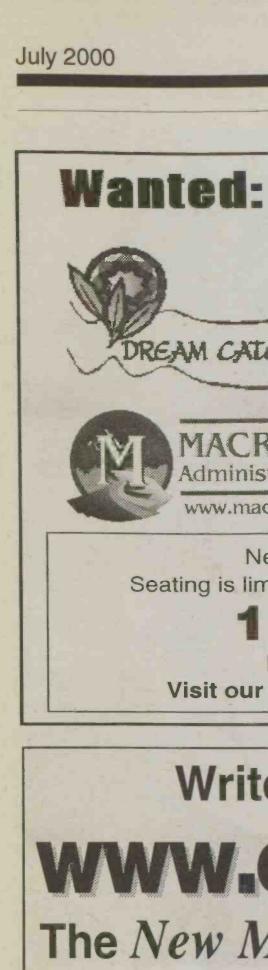
"In our analysis, in a worstcase scenario, if the treaty was accepted by Ditidaht and Pacheedaht, the government would have recovered all of its investments in the treaty in un-Members are concerned about der 10 years through taxation and other means. Others have done huge arithmetic on that sort of "It's been a slow, expensive thing. The Westbank people hired an actuarial firm to do an analysis and, in their view, the governments would make a fortune on the treaty in no time (if they were made a similar offer)," said Christakos.

The Pacheedaht and Ditidaht offers, like others made and re-



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jected about the same time, were based on the Nisga'a agreement and the costs to be borne by Canada and B.C., said Christakos. "They have simply made a per capita offer to every First Nation that is identical to the per capita offer to Nisga'a." The two nations, which have spent about \$2.5 million on their treaty negotiations, analyzed the October offer for several months, with the help of consultants, and concluded they would be "considerably worse off" than the status quo.

The five formal offers made to date to nations in the treaty process and rejected were also analyzed by Deloitte and Touche on behalf of the First Nations Summit and it's clear the offers weren't related to negotiations at any of the tables, he said. "They basically disregarded years of negotiations that dealt with all these other issues and simply reduced it to land and cash based on Nisga'a. That's why you've had these allegations of bad faith (negotiations). Every First Nation now alleges bad faith or has alleged it at one time or another."

"The public cannot relate to social issues, to cultural issues. What the public relates to is land and cash." Hearing the treaty offers made to First Nations, uninformed members of the public with a vested interest tend to respond with outrage, feeling the country is being given away along with tax dollars, he said. "The flaunting of land and cash by the government is tactical."

Government negotiators "have created a political environment that backlashes against First Nations' people and, in effect, put politicians in the position of saying to First Nations' people, 'The public won't tolerate any more," said Christakos, calling the strategy "underhanded."

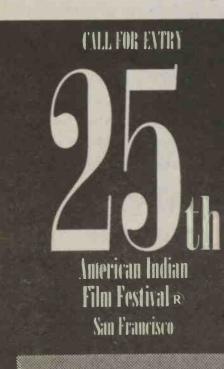
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# Family support key to dancer's success

Page 17

**By Trina** Gobért Windspeaker Staff Writer

WETASKIWIN. Alta.

She's taking her ballet slippers, tap shoes, and oxfords to Disneyland and she plans to proudly represent her people. Randi Lightning, 14, from the Ermineskin First Nation, will be performing in Disneyland from July 3 to 8 with her dance group from Andy and Tina's Dance FX studio in Wetaskiwin.

The group will represent the studio and Canada during their trip. But for Lightning, being the only Native dancer out of the 16member group

TRINA GOBÉRT Randi Lightning, 14, is off to Disneyland.



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#### **Call for Entry** 25th annual American Indian Film Festivale November 9 - 17, 2000

San Francisco-The American Indian Film Institute is currently seeking entries for its 25th annual American Indian Film Festival, the oldest and most prestigious festival of its kind in the world. Film or video to be entered for competition should be by or about American Indian or First Nation peoples that were produced in 1999-2000. The entry deadline is August 11, 2000.

The major categories for competition are: 
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 Documentary Short ◆ Commercial Feature ◆ Live Short Subject ◆ Music Video ◆ Animated Short Subject Public Service 
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Promotional materials including production credits, black and white publicity stills, and a typewritten narrative description of each entry not exceeding 250 words should be included and forwarded. Entrant is also responsible for shipment costs to and from San Francisco.

A Film Jury designated by the American Indian Film Institute will screen entries and issue recommendations to the final program and awards nomination. The week of September 25, 2000, entrants will be notified as to entrant selection into the 2000 American Indian Film Festival & Video Exposition. Recognizing outstanding Indian cinematic accomplishments, the American Indian Motion Picture Awards will be presented the evening of November 11th at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. Each entry must include: 
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> Entry forms may be abtained online or by writings American Indian Film Institute 333 Valencia St., Suite 322 S.an Francisco, CA 94103 Attn: Michael Smith, Director Phone (415) 554-0525 Fax (415) 554-0542 www.aifisi.com email: indianfilm@sifisi.com

means repre-

senting her Aboriginal heritage. "I'm proud of it and excited to

represent my Native people," said Lightning.

The group will do two performances in Disneyland and will receive dance training at workshops at Universal Studios during their stay.

"The girls will be videotaped and will be given pointers about their dancing," said Tina Swjed, owner and dance instructor of Dance FX. "It will help them for auditions later in their careers."

individual medals and group competition awards within her six-year modern dance career. Last year she won two dance scholarships from her studio and the Adjudicator's Choice Award for a lyrical solo performance. This year Lightning won a gold medal for her tap solo and a silver for her lyrical solo at the Dance Power competition in St. Albert, Alta.

"Randi is a wonderful dancer. She is really talented," said Swjed. "She is a natural and you can see that she dances with her heart. She glows out there and she could really do something with it in the future."

Lightning is planning for the future by considering universities to attend for her degree in her." dance.

"I want my degree so I can set up my own dance studio with an Aboriginal name," said Lightning. "I want to teach other Native kids dance. I want them to experience different things, to not get stuck on the reserve, but to show white society that we are just as good as them."

She is already on her way to teaching, assisting her own group at the studio for the last year.

"I feel very proud to be assist-

ing so there is someone to look up to and I want to be that person," said Lightning. "I think more Native kids should dance modern and I want to teach them."

With the endless support from her parents, Lightning can look confidently toward her future ambitions.

"Watching her in some of the competitions brings me to tears. We've told her whatever she wants to do to realize her dreams, that we would support her in whatever way we can," Lightning has won several said Perry Lightning, Randi's dad. "I know some younger girls look up to her as a role model. That is so good to see because I haven't heard anything on reserve to teach modern dance other than for the powwow circuit. You don't see a lot of Native girls dancing in white society."

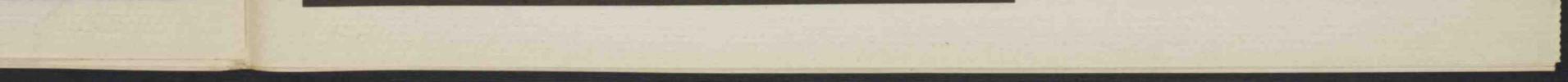
For 10 months of dance at about \$1,500, which doesn't include the extra expense for costumes and competition fees, Randi's family feels the investment is worth it.

"We've put a lot into it," said Trudy Lightning, Randi's mom. "But we don't count the money because it is all worth it. We've told her no matter how hard it is we will continue to support

"It's not recognized as a sport like hockey and baseball, and so there isn't a whole lot of funding we get from our band," said Perry Lightning. "The little we do get does help."

Randi is looking forward to the experience in Disneyland and the chance to receive more professional training.

"I'm excited to go," said Randi. "Dance is going to be my career."



July 2000

# WINDSPEAKER

#### By Dana Wagg Windspeaker Contributor

#### VANCOUVER

Perhaps we would not have heard of Aboriginal poet Molly Starlight (Morin) if it hadn't been for the Reform party's resident Canada Council basher, Inky Mark.

"Reform takes aim at grants for 'wacky' arts projects" was the Vancouver Sun headline that changed Molly's life. She had been included on a list of \$100 million in grants that Mark cited as evidence the Liberal government was throwing away the hard-earned money of taxpayers, although her share of the take came to a mere \$1,500.

A Sun story printed in the Ottawa Citizen story reported "An Aboriginal poet received \$1,500 to help write a small pamphlet of poetry entitled Where Did My Ass Go?, a title that came while Molly was pondering such things as "Why are we as First Nations in such a rough state? Why isn't anyone in my family a doctor or a lawyer? Why is there so much alcoholism among First Nations?... And where did our ass go? And why do we have flat bums?"

The Citizen's words about Molly's chapbook — a selection of her photocopied poems and short stories — woke a sleeping tiger. Starlight got much more than the proverbial 15 minutes of fame.

In British Columbia, the story began on the front page of the

### Ployed and I may not be doing what I want in my life, but that taken away by welfare and should be having problems with

what I want in my life, but that doesn't give you the right to start poking me around."

Nick Woolsey, who runs Vancouver's Fuzzy Hat Publishing, has posted some of Molly's readings on the web. He calls her story inspiring and says she's an example of the artists the Canada Council should be funding.

"She's opening up a lot of people to what life on the reserve is like; she's also encouraging literacy."

Canada Council's Donna Balkan said the council was concerned "because we felt the people who criticized the grant just took a look at the title of the poetry book and didn't ask or didn't investigate what this was all about and who Molly Starlight was.

Taking on Mark and the Reform party added to the stress in her life Molly says, but fighting back was what she had done all her life. It was instinctual.

"That's what I had to do as soon as I hit the school system. You either fought or you got beat up. There was no middle ground. I lost a few fights, because there was four on one mostly, or five or six. It was me against them. It was mostly non-Native where I went to school." Molly is the offspring of a Cree mother, Ethel Morin, from whom she takes her legal name, and a Sarcee father, Bruce Starlight, from whom she takes her writing name. Morin and Starlight were teenage sweethearts. Molly attended Kindergarten at Enoch school, located west of Edmonton, but in Grade 1 became one of the first Native people to be sent to a mainstream school. There, because of her accent, her braids and her skin color, she was targeted and called a squaw. She lived on the rez with her maternal grandparents until she was about 10 and then moved to the city to live with her mom and her step-dad. Culture shock hit her in the face then as it did in Grade 1. "On the reserve I was a relative and just normal, and when I went to the city I became an Indian and a squaw." She had to remind herself 'I know people like me, because back home there are people like me. I make them laugh, so I'm a likable person.'

taken away by welfare and should be having problems with alcohol. And they shouldn't be looking anybody in the eye. They should have their eyes down and they really shouldn't have an opinion and if they did have an opinion, they shouldn't actually express it, because we know all Indians are shy."

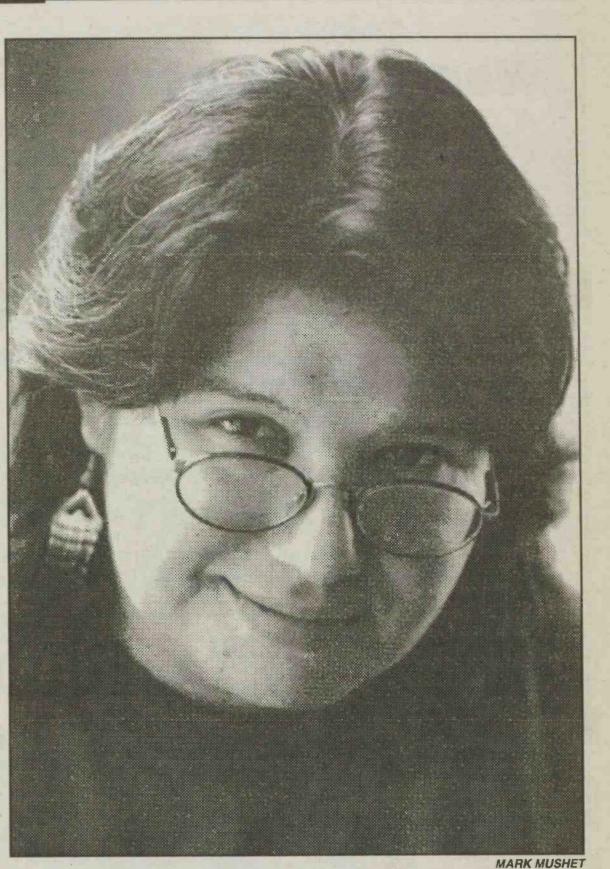
Adding to Molly's difficulties is the fact that she is dyslexic and gay.

"The First Nations' community is very closed to gay people. I can understand it from an historical reference. Because of residential schools, they equate being gay or homosexual with priests and nuns who got after their brothers and sisters."

Molly decided to go public with her sexual orientation at 22. Her mother and stepfather were living in Spain. Separated by thousands of miles and the great Atlantic ocean was a good time, Molly reasoned, to let her mother know her firstborn daughter was a lesbian.

"The only thing she could do when I told her was to call me back three times and hang up," she says, laughing at the memories. "My mom still doesn't take it well." Some of her relations do however.

Some find her partner, Susan Macrae, a non-Native writer, attractive. They give Molly thumbs-up and kind of nudge her and say 'Good snag, huh.'



Poet Molly Starlight (Morin).

studies in Grade 10 for about two months by renowned Holocaustdenier, Jim Keegstra.

"I never got good marks and I had a detention every day from Jim Keegstra," she recalls. "He

"Hove electronics. I like knowing what's happening, totally understand it. I can fix TVs and VCRs." She's working as an electronic assembly person, a job she got a month after the controversy

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July 2000

Sun, one of Canada's largest daily newspapers, with an oblique reference to Molly, not by name but as an unidentified "Aboriginal poet." She dashed off an angry response, which two days later became the Sun's letter of the day. It was headed: "Reform MP is missing the mark on 'red' humor."

Molly felt insulted. She'd been slagged as a free-loading Canada Council recipient and criticized on the basis of scant information. She suspected her grant was attacked not only because of the collection's unusual title, but also because she's Native since one article said "there are really no provisions put in place to keep track and make sure the money is spent to reflect Canadian values."

"I thought, 'Screw you, buddy.' I worked really hard to learn how to read and I worked even harder to learn how to write and I worked harder to get my college diploma than anything that guy has ever done in his life, I betcha," she said in an interview with Windspeaker.

Molly missed some of the sudden fame that came her way, not having seen the TV spoofs on CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and the *Royal Canadian Air Farce*.

"My cable was cut off. At the time all this stuff happened I was very much at a low point. I was on social assistance for a year. I'd been unemployed since I graduated with my-yeahhh!-college diploma and I was in a program I didn't want to be in. I was at a really depressed point and then to have some Reformer saying I'm unemployed and not even give my name in Parliament was really...,"she pauses to recall how she responded; 'Hey I'm somebody and I count and you can't just be bashing me. You don't even know me. I may be unemNow 35, life has not been easy for her.

"I don't think you can be Native Canadian and not have a rocky road growing up in Canada. It's impossible."

There are days, she confesses, she wishes she wasn't born an Aboriginal woman. It's the only conclusion she can reach for the poor treatment she sometimes gets even after looking for other explanations.

"I know it's because I'm an Aboriginal woman that this crap is happening to me. People are making preconceived notions of what an Aboriginal person is and trying to fit me into that peg, into that puzzle. I'm not some shy person who's scared to make eye contact with people."

She knows the stereotypes well.

"A Native woman who should be a single mom with five or six kids by now and her kids all Dyslexic people write or read p for q, b for d, was for saw, no for on. Spelling errors are common. It can be overcome with support and training. Letters are disordered by Molly on paper and also sometimes when she hears them. Telephone numbers are really difficult for her to absorb. She also has a difficult time remembering people's names and putting names to faces.

"It's like having a lazy Susan in your kitchen and spinning it around and grabbing something and going, 'Oh, that's not what I wanted.' It misses somehow."

Her chap-book contains 17 items, including seven poems and five short stories. From timeto-time she deliberately misspells, in part because she's a poor speller but also to give some poems double meanings or to vary the rhythm.

She says her disability played a large role in her acting up in school and being punished for it.

"I racked in more time in detention and suspension than I did actually being in school." In the early grades it was no big deal, but by the time feisty Molly got to Grade 5 being called on to read aloud was a problem. Rather than have the class see she didn't do it well, she'd slap a classmate on the head, light a cigarette, get up and walk out of the class or swear at the teacher: 'Shut up, I don't want to read the stupid thing. You read it. It's boring.'

In her mid-teens she spent some time going to a church in Red Deer and she attended their Christian Academy for about a year and upgraded her education. Her math and reading tested at about a Grade 1 to 3 level.

"I was very embarrassed. I was quite shocked." She was 16 years old and doing some schoolwork prepared for Grade 1 students. While there she was taught social was talking trash the whole time. He didn't say anything about the Holocaust, because he had said 'I can't talk about the Holocaust, but we will talk about other aspects of history that are in question.'"

Her involvement with the church and the laying of charges against Keegstra for the teaching of his anti-Semitic views confused the youthful Molly, but also helped prompt a spiritual awakening, leading her to reconnect with her First Nation spiritual beliefs. The church, though, did teach her how to have fun without drugs and alcohol by doing things like going for a jog or riding a bike.

"And if it wasn't for the church, I'd probably be in jail. I was quite hell on wheels."

Her current life started to take shape when, refused entrance to a Victoria college, she moved to Vancouver and started knocking on the doors of Vancouver Community College and its electronics program. She scored poorly on English and math entrance exams and was further tested. She was told she definitely had a learning disability. Dyslexia was suspected, but she had to wait four to five months to find out. "That was really hard." She wavered between fear and anger, fearful that if she wasn't dyslexic- "Maybe I'm just stupid."

Admitted to the electronics program she scored 42 per cent on her first exam. That was followed by a 35 per cent mark. College officials weren't going to let her continue.

She said she'd like to press on if she could get a passing mark. And she was able to do that with the help of a tutor and note-taker.

There were other setbacks and it took her three years to get her diploma, but she refused to give up and graduated in March 1999. involving her chapbook broke. Told by company officials she was overqualified for her job, she replied in her unique way:

"I'm really overqualified for welfare, too, and that's where I've been for the last year."

Molly has been a trailblazer, not only as one of the first Native children to be sent to a non-Native school but now, decades later, sparking a national debate about Canada Council funding for the arts while also, as an Aboriginal woman, being educated in an non-traditional field. It's a badge she wears proudly, admitting she does feel she has been a pioneer.

A model of perseverance, this is her formula for success.

"All this stuff happens because I only make one decision at a time. It's just making one decision and sticking to what you decide. Even if you don't get around to following through what you said, be gentle with yourself. Allow yourself to take time at following through."

Despite her fame she has yet to find a publisher.

"I've been waiting for a call for somebody to publish it. No one has." To meet reader demand, she produced a laminated, 40page draft, which sells for \$5. A friend has been selling it for her on the Internet, which has brought Molly letters from Virginia and South Dakota. It's also available in Vancouver through the Black Sheep Bookstore.

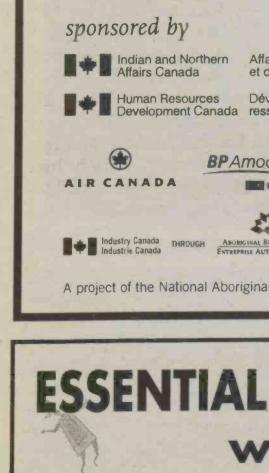
Her dedication includes a "thanks to the Reform Party for making me national." But she hasn't heard another peep from Mark or the Reform party or it's successor, The Canadian Alliance, even though she invited Reform officials to a reading.

A selection of Molly's reading can be heard on the internet at www.thevenue.org./

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MARK MUSHET

ve electronics. I like knowat's happening, totally unnd it. I can fix TVs and She's working as an elecssembly person, a job she onth after the controversy ng her chapbook broke. y company officials she erqualified for her job, she in her unique way: really overqualified for e, too, and that's where en for the last year." y has been a trailblazer, y as one of the first Naldren to be sent to a nonschool but now, decades parking a national debate Canada Council funding arts while also, as an Abowoman, being educated on-traditional field. It's a she wears proudly, admite does feel she has been a odel of perseverance, this ormula for success. this stuff happens because make one decision at a 's just making one decind sticking to what you Even if you don't get t to following through you said, be gentle with lf. Allow yourself to take following through." vite her fame she has yet a publisher. been waiting for a call for ody to publish it. No one lo meet reader demand, oduced a laminated, 40raft, which sells for \$5. A has been selling it for her e Internet, which has nt Molly letters from Virnd South Dakota. It's also ole in Vancouver through ck Sheep Bookstore. dedication includes a is to the Reform Party for g me national." But she heard another peep from or the Reform party or it's sor, The Canadian Allieven though she invited n officials to a reading. lection of Molly's reading heard on the internet at thevenue.org./



**July 2000** 

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# **Book challenges** women's roles

**By Joan Taillon** Windspeaker Staff Writer

A powerful new book by firsttime author Kim Anderson will help Native women resolve identity issues and renew their connection with their personal power.

**GUELPH**, Ont.

Although Anderson, 35, is a Cree/Métis academic with a social and health policy development background, she hopes her book, A Recognition of Being: Reconstructing Native Womanhood will be accessible to women outside of universities. She also sees it as "a gift to Native men, women and children," in her quest to help "decolonize" Native womanhood and promote a "healthier future for all Native peoples."

The book explores, through interviews with 40 prominent and respected Native women, the position of Native women in traditional Aboriginal cultures prior to European contact and after. Anderson points out that Native women became subjugated by the views of the colonizers who had made their own women subservient, with no right to property, decisionmaking or even self-expression. It was a model for womanhood that got transferred to Aboriginal men. A Recognition of Being examines how women keep their power and either maintain their identities or form new identities in the face of oppression, and how the negative feminine traits ascribed to them by the colonizers has affected their roles and their sense of self-worth. Anderson strives to "seek balance by reconnecting" women and men. She avoids the trap of male-bashing that has afflicted some other women's-point-ofview literature. While she has clearly heard and acknowledged the pain of colonization from the 40 women she interviewed, Anderson's conclusions point to a future of renewed Aboriginal society where co-operation rather than antagonism rules the day. This will result from a renewal of respect and admiration for Aboriginal women who increasingly are rejecting imposed definitions of womanhood and reasserting themselves at the heart of com- it." munity-building. Anderson has sought information about identity formation not only from Aboriginal women but from other oppressed peoples. She borrowed from the thought of a black woman writer, Patricia Hill Collins, whose agenda was re-empowering black women who are dealing with negative stereotypes of themselves. The four-fold "identity formation process" Anderson recommends for Native women is summed up as resist, reclaim, construct and act. That is, resist others' negative definitions of who you are; reclaim your Aboriginal tradition; construct a positive identity by infusing your tradition into contemporary life;

"I like the way the book is not suggesting a knee-jerk way of taking in the traditions .... - Bonita Lawrence

and act in accordance with the identity you have claimed in a way that sustains and uplifts your community.

"You have to construct (a new reality) in the year 2000 where you find yourself," said Anderson, "which for me means being a Cree person that's living in Guelph, Ont." Anderson said she started the book from her personal experience as an urban Native to ask questions about what it means to live outside her traditional territory and away from her people. She is not afraid to challenge ideas about what tradition means when filtered through a few centuries of grafted-on ideas of the dominant culture either. The final chapter of Anderson's book is an honest and revealing dialogue between herself and Bonita Lawrence, a scholar of Mi'kmaqand European heritage, wherein they explore the meaning of traditions and how they can be adapted to modern life. "I like the way the book is not suggesting a knee-jerk way of taking in the traditions ... There is a tendency now to follow the teachings so literally . . . do we have to follow traditions by rote?" Lawrence said. "When you're living a life that doesn't have much room for attending teaching circles or ceremonies . . . maybe it is more important to spend the time with your friends or family and build your family's strength together as you are....I like this book because it encourages that approach if you need Anderson said she made a deliberate effort to make the book for Native people, "because there's so little out there in the first place. There's very little that's written by our own people and very little written that's for our own people." She said most literature about Native people, including scholarly work, is still largely dominated by non-Native writers. Even so, Anderson hopes her book will have appeal to non-Native readers. "I think it could be a kind of interesting visionary piece for a lot of different people," she said, "because it offers a bit of a different vision of a society that is still by and large existing in a lot of our communities."

Page 19

# NOMINATE AN ACHIEVER for the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards

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July 2000

# Four days of fun in the Fraser Valley

NDSPEAKER

ENTERTAINMENT

**By Trina Gobért** Windspeaker Staff Writer

**MISSION, B.C.** 

"After the four days they will be all tuckered out and happy to leave us and go back home," said Bill Williams, head of the Mission powwow organizing commitee.

Visitors and participants will leave satisfied as the 25th annual Mission powwow in British Columbia's Fraser Valley has been extended to a four-day function. From July 4 to 9, visitors will enjoy the event amidst the view of the mountains and the mighty Fraser River on the historical grounds of the Fraser Regional Heritage Park.

"The people want more dancing. They never seem to get enough over the two-anda-half days that we normally hold it here," said Williams.

With five years of experience in organizing for the annual event, Williams and the Mission Indian Friendship



American host drum for the Mission Indian Friendship Centre powwow is Hay Stack, seen above. Canadian host drum is **McGilvery Singers.** 

Centre powwow committee Elders," said Williams. "We alare receiving plenty of support from local businesses.

"There will be lots of gifts given away to travellers and

ready have a lot of donations from different companies for our giveaways and prizes." Pay-outs for the adult and

tions will be \$2,000 for first place, \$1,500 for second, \$1,000 for third, and \$500 for fourth.

19 will compete for \$1,000 for adult passes will be available first place, \$800 for second place, \$500 for third, and \$300 for fourth place.

petitions age six to 12 will receive \$800 for first place, \$600 for second, \$400 for third, and \$200 for fourth place.

outs of \$10 on Friday and Sunday for their participation.

Competing drum groups will vie for \$2,000 for first staged events for different ethplace, \$1,500 for second, nic cultures like East Indian, \$1,000 for third, and \$500 for fourth place winnings. American host drum Hay Stack and and culture," said Williams. Canadian host drum McGilvery Singers will contribute their talent for the Saturday at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., event.

Head judge Elmer Balentyne from the Little Pine First Nation in Saskatchewan and master of ceremonies Keith Lapatak from the Saddle Lake

golden age dance competi- First Nation, Alta. will bring their years of experience to the celebration.

Admission for adults is \$12 per day and \$6 per day for Teen dancers from ages 13 to children and seniors. Four-day for \$40 and \$17 passes for children. Aboriginal Elders and children under seven years of Winners in the Junior com- age will attend free.

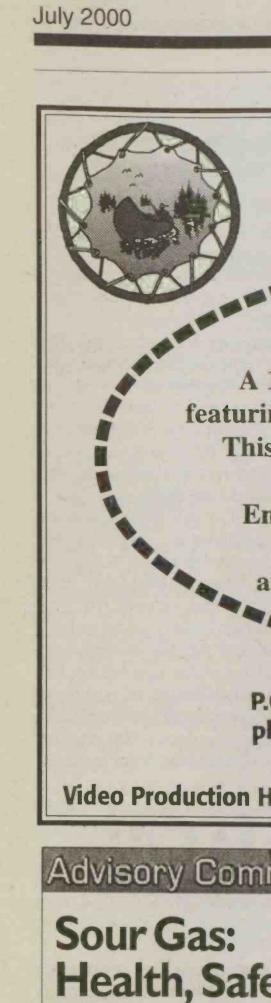
In addition, a princess pageant and 25-year princess reunion will take place. The organizing committee has also Tiny tots will receive pay- extended a multicultural invitation to encourage community unity and participation.

"We are hoping to have Chinese, and Philippines to show their traditional dance

Grand entry will be held Thursday at 7 p.m., Friday and and at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

"We are expecting a lot of people," said Williams.

For more information call (604) 826-1281 or email lorana@idmail.com.





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### Art Contest \$500.00 Prize

Nechi Institute and ARCH Psychological Services invite interested artists to submit a drawing suitable to appear on the front cover of a program manual. The drawing should reflect the program's goal of healing from sexual abuse. Themes: Hope, Unity, Strength, Sharing, Personal/Family/Community Healing Size: Black and White drawing, 8<sup>1/2</sup>"x11" on white paper Deadline: August 15, 2000 Submit drawings by mail only in 9"x12" envelope to: ARCH PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES #39, 9912 - 106 STREET, EDMONTON, AB T5K 1C5 Include your name, phone number, mailing address and email address Winner to be announced in September, 2000 All submissions become the property of Nechi Institute and ARCH Psychological Services

**ESSENTIAL ABORIGINAL** TERTAINM RESOURCE www.ammsa.com

# Káxláya Gvilás

"the ones who uphold the laws of our ancestors"

### AN EXHIBITION OF HEILTSUK ART AND CULTURE

Opens June 21, 2000 - National Aboriginal Day

Experience the rich cultural and artistic heritage of the Heiltsuk people of British Columbia's Northwest coast, in a unique exhibition that brings together traditional and modern-day works.

**Royal Ontario Museum** Bloor St. at Avenue Rd. Toronto, Ontario Museum Subway Stop 416-586-8000 www.rom.on.ca

This exhibition was co-organised by the Heiltsuk Tribal Council, the Heiltsuk Cultural Education Centre, the Royal British Columbia Museum and the Royal Ontario Museum.

#### RÖM ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

The ROM is an agency of the Government of Ontario.

### Participatio

A Call for

You

We invite you to share yo issues about Alberta's sou framework. Help us ident possible solutions to the safety issues related to so

The Mandate of the Co through public consulta we will evaluate existing standards and regulatio findings, and give recom EUB for implementatio

About the Review Process.. In January 2000, the Alberta E Board (EUB) initiated a review and safety requirements for A facilities. To receive input from stage of the consultation will Discussion Sessions to be hel communities this June. In add has initiated a consultation pr and Metis Settlements. In Sep the Committee will come bac participated in the June sessio review a "Directions" docume the Committee's proposed re

The scope of this consultation and public safety issues related not include: the review of pos chronic effects of exposure to gas on human or animal health grandfathering, large plant vers flaring; and, compensation rela with emergency incidents. The being dealt with by other orga committees.

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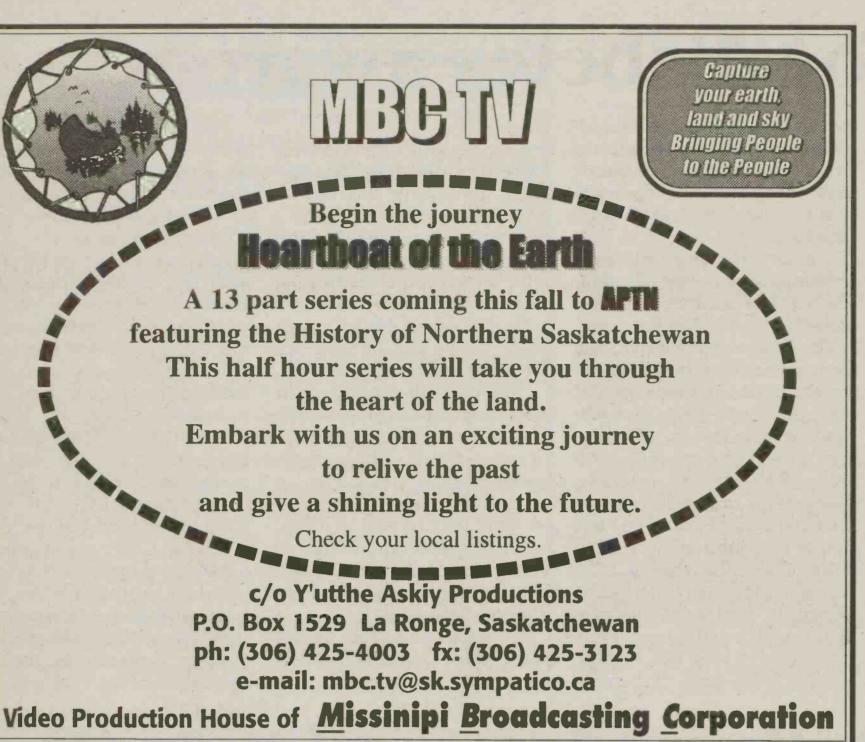
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RÖM

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July 2000



### Advisory Committee on Public Safety and Sour Gas

Sour Gas: Health, Safety and You A Call for

About the Advisory Committee ...

Our **Committee members** include representatives from the public at large; government; public health; industry; and experts in risk management.

WINDSPEAKER

SPORTS

#### Providing your Input...

You, or your organization, will have the opportunity to meet with and speak directly to members of the Committee. To arrange for a meeting time, we request that you contact ús to pre-register. Written submissions are encouraged and can be submitted in person at your Regional Discussion Session or by mail, fax or E-mail to the address below.

Rose Brass found her real talent in the water.

# Get to the Olympics one stroke at a time

By Marj Roden Windspeaker Contributor

#### PRINCE ALBERT, Sask.

For 14-year-old Rose Brass she wasn't always the championship swimmer that she is today.

"She tried hockey first of all, Sharks' swim team."

fer, and what benefits we would get out of participating in the program, and so it has carried on since then.

MARJ RODEN

Page 21

"That was about in January of this year."

The end result of the tryout in the New Year was that Rose earned herself a spot on the Sharks' swim team.

### Participation

We invite you to share your experiences and issues about Alberta's sour gas regulatory framework. Help us identify and suggest possible solutions to the public health and safety issues related to sour gas.

The Mandate of the Committee is that, through public consultation and analysis, we will evaluate existing sour gas policies, standards and regulations, report our findings, and give recommendations to the EUB for implementation by it and others.

#### About the Review Process...

In January 2000, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) initiated a review of the public health and safety requirements for Alberta's sour gas facilities. To receive input from the public, the first stage of the consultation will involve Regional Discussion Sessions to be held in selected Alberta communities this June. In addition, the Committee has initiated a consultation process for First Nations and Metis Settlements. In September and October, the Committee will come back to individuals that participated in the June sessions asking them to review a "Directions" document which will outline the Committee's proposed recommendations.

The scope of this consultation is focussed on health and public safety issues related to sour gas and <u>does</u> <u>not include</u>: the review of possible long-term or chronic effects of exposure to very low levels of sour gas on human or animal health; sulphur recovery (e.g. grandfathering, large plant versus several small plants); flaring; and, compensation relating to costs associated with emergency incidents. These issues are currently being dealt with by other organizations or committees. Locations and dates for the meetings are:

June 8	Millarville	June 22	Sundre
June 8	Vulcan	June 24	Grande Prairie
June 9	Pincher Creek	June 26	Edson
June 19	Red Deer	June 27	Hinton
June 20	Drayton Valley	June 28	Leduc
June 21	Rocky Mountain House	June 29	Calgary

To pre-register for the Regional Discussion Sessions in June, or request further information please contact us at:

Phone: 1-888-882-1286 Fax: 1-780-425-1423 Email: sourgas-review@praxis.ca On-line: www.publicsafetyandsourgas.org

If you prefer to **pre-register by mail**, please mail your request indicating the location, date and your name, address and phone number to:

Mr. Gerry DeSorcy, Chairman Advisory Committee on Public Safety and Sour Gas 640-5<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4

"Your input is important and will provide the foundation for our Committee's recommendations."

#### Mr. Gerry DeSorcy, Chairman

**Public Safety & Sour Gas** 

### ESSENTIAL ABORIGINAL SPORTS RESOURCE

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then soccer, gymnastics, dancing, and finally swimming," said Giff Brass of his daughter's athletic endeavors. "Swimming seems to be her thing."

Her mother Jean agreed with her husband, adding, "When she first started swimming, her dad would take her to the pool, get her in the water and stuff. She was two when she started.

"She's been in the water for a long time. A little water baby, they all call her, because she so likes the water. Thanks to one of her teachers, Rose joined the Special Olympics swimming program this fall, an avenue her parents were not aware of.

"This is her first year with Special O," said Jean. "It was actually because of an educational consultant, who moved her from the mainstream classroom into a specialized one. Her daughter also competed in Special O, and she just informed us of what was out there. We had no idea that [Rose] would qualify. I always thought Special Olympics was for [people with] severe physical disability. I didn't realize that she would fit into this category."

That was in the fall of 1999. The Special Olympics' swim coach, Cathy Hoffman, recognized Rose's potential, and recommended her to another team.

"Her coach for the Special Olympics team thought that Rose's talent would exceed the capabilities of the team she had there, and then she gave us the number of Gord Shields," head coach of the Prince Albert Sharks Swim Club.

"Her coach brought her here," said Shields, "and we had her try out at a practice and see what we thought. We had a chance to meet the parents and talk to the parents about the program and what we have to ofCoach Maureen Strathdee, who is also a triathlete and a high school teacher, said, "Rose is a really fun student to have in the class. She tries hard, she wants to learn, and is anxious to do well. She likes to do well, so in that aspect, it's nice to coach someone who is always looking to improve and do well."

Coach Shields said Rose listens, "and she does pick things up fairly quickly. She has the ability to develop because she does take what the coaches have instructed her and put it into practice with what she's doing in the water with her technique."

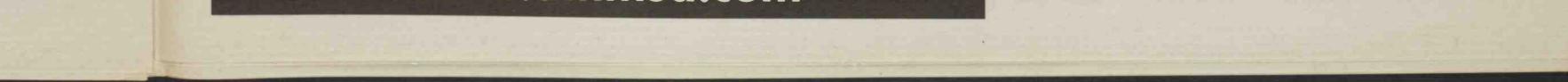
In a few short months, Rose has earned a lot about technique and has also improved her speed, said Strathdee.

"Rose has really improved because her freestyle speed is getting better and she knew the stroke quite well. For example, she's picked up the technique for the butterfly this year, which is a really hard stroke to learn. So as well as getting faster on the strokes that she did know, she was able to learn some more strokes, and also the racing turns, the starts, relays, and being part of a team."

Then came Rose's first swim meet with Special Olympics, and everyone — including Rose — was in for a huge surprise.

"I think she surprised the coaches, too," said Jean Brass. "They just timed her once, and realized they had never timed her before, so I think that she surprised them too that she already had qualified (for the Canadian ParOlympic Team trials). Nobody was prepared for it, it was sort of 'we've got this kid who can make it,' and no one knew."

(see Little page 27.)



### windspeaker HEALTH

# Woman walks for diabetes awareness

By Yvonne Irene Gladue Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### WHITEFISH LAKE FIRST NATION, Ont.

To walk 25 to 30 km a day can be a daunting task for anyone. For Delores Naponse, 50, who was diagnosed with diabetes in 1997, it will become a way of life from May 1 to July 18.

Naponse, of the (Whitefish Lake) Atikmegosheng nation near Sudbury, Ont., began the Walking for Life, Walking for the Future diabetes walk 2000 at the Manitoba border and plans to end the walk at the **Ouebec** border in Hull.

"My mother is walking to raise diabetes awareness because of the effect it has on First Nations communities,"



#### **Delores Naponse.**

manager. "She invites walkers to join her on the walk. Right now it is only my said Paula Naponse, walk mother walking every day.

My father drives the recrea- she said. tion vehicle. Some people from First Nation communities along the way do walk with her as far as they can," she said.

communities across Canada, diabetes is a concern in the walk or the ability to do so community of Whitefish Lake.

"It is a health concern in our area, something like in Native communities all over Canada. In our community we are making progress in self-management. The people who have diabetes are watching their sugar intake and things like that," said Paula. "I do not know everything there is to know about the disease. All I know is what my mother went tive strength we have to fight through. She feels that she wants to do something for our community and the Native people who have diabetes," arrives in Ottawa.

First Nation communities have donated towards the walk, including the Whitefish Lake First Nation, a number of local business and As in a lot of Aboriginal an insulin company. People who do not have the time to can send a 12 x 12 inch quilt piece to the Whitefish Lake First Nation.

> "We will be sewing quilt pieces together to form a large quilt or a wall hanging to have as a permanent example of how everyone participated with the walk," said Paula. "Eventually the quilt may be sent to different Aboriginal communities so that we could show the collecdiabetes," she said.

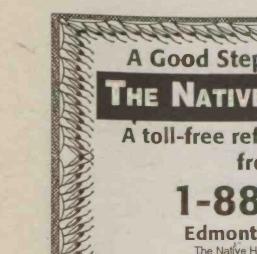
> A celebration is being planned for Delores when she

"We are starting to plan some sort of celebration. We are trying to get a bus to the community to take members to Ottawa to help her celebrate," said Paula.

July 2000

Delores is currently employed at the Shawenekezehik Health Centre as the patient transportation clerk. Since being diágnosed with the disease, she has worked on controlling her diabetes through exercise and diet.

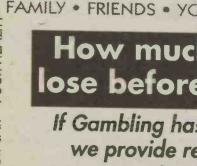
"I just think that it is a really positive message that my mother is bringing to everyone. This is the first walk of its kind in the community of Whitefish Lake," said Paula. "I hope that people everywhere would get involved in the cause of diabetes in whatever way they can to show their support towards the awareness of diabetes," she said.



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July 2000





#### outpatient For more inform contact: **Poundmaker's Gambling Pro**

# Trauma must be fully understood to treat

#### (Continued from page 1.)

Hunter argued the treatment of Indigenous peoples by colonizers in his country, a treatment that was similar to that received by Indigenous peoples in Canada, was extremely harmful and has created a legacy of psychological trauma that must be addressed. He said failure to harm done has and could continue to prevent physicians from successfully treating that trauma. He cited several disturbing studies to make his audience take the subject seriously. "I begin by considering the concept of genocide in Australia. Over the last decade this term has come into common use in Indigenous country, often with reference to the 1948 convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide in which subclause 2 e) includes forcibly transferring children of a group to another group," he said. "Thus, in Bringing Them Home, a recent Human **Rights and Equal Opportunity** Commission report on the removal of Indigenous children from their homes, the commissioners say the Australian practice of Indigenous child removal involved both systematic racial discrimination and genocide as defined by international law. It continued to be practised as official policy long after it was clearly prohibited by treaties to which Australia had voluntarily subscribed. "Well, allegations of genocide are now so common that there's a danger, ironically, of trivialization and denial. If these accusations are to be taken seriously, where are the trials? Can we really talk of genocide in living memory and not prosecute? Is it too late?" To make the point that denial is playing a harmful role he asked a series of questions to underline the point that not taking the allegations of genocide seriously is yet another symptom of the problems that continue to plague Indigenous peoples. He asked if it was too late to prosecute accused Nazi war

criminals, knowing full well there is a high-profile war crimes case pending in Australia at this moment and concluded that it isn't too late.

"Is it because the accused is above accountability?" he asked, rhetorically, before reminding the audience that war crimes trials have been concome to grips with the type of ducted in the international court in the Haig regarding more recent events in Rwanda and Yugoslavia. "Is it because the accused would insist that they were following orders and had good intentions? Well, remember Nuremberg, (where the court) dismissed such evasions in laying the foundation for crimes against humanity," he said. He noted that the international community of nationstates was motivated by the disgust and horror experienced when troops freed the surviving prisoners from the death camps. "The genocide convention, which was signed in Paris in December, 1948, the day after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, emerged in response to the events of the Second World War," he said. But even then, some nationstates were wary of putting too many teeth into the international conventions because of the programs they were using as they dealt with the assimilation of Indigenous peoples. "Many signatories were concerned about trouble in their own colonial backyards," he said. "Minority rights received no mention in either the charter of the United Nations or the Universal Declaration and were not seriously considered for several decades." Hunter said research has shown that irrational. unexamined racial biases were demonstrated by doctors, politicians and bureaucrats who designed the Lock hospitals and lazerets (segregated hospitals) established to house Aboriginal people in Australia who were thought — wrongly — to be responsible for outbreaks of sexually transmitted diseases. "How can the events now,



Australian silence by which the surviving Indigenous people of this land had disappeared from the consciousness of most Australians until recent decades. Silence certainly about the abysmal state of Indigenous health, something of which the medical profession should be ashamed."

- compensation for that which can never be given back — will ultimately be the most difficult and important matter."

Hunter ended by reminding his colleagues that Indigenous peoples didn't ask for the enormous complications that the horrors of colonialism have inflicted on their world. He cau-He said it is important for all tioned his peers to avoid blaming the victims by not being willing to listen to the patients and not striving to understand their pain from their point of view rather than from a western or European point of view. "Doctors can contribute to blaming the victim. They may do so because they are unwilling to deal with it or are unaware. Perpetrators have their remedy, it's called amnesia. Bystanders may surface only fitfully from the deep sleep of forgetfulness. The people that we work with, our patients, the victims, must live with this today and forever. Unlocking memory in the service of healing demands respect and both professional and personal reflection."

PAUL BARNSLEY **Professor Ernest Hunter.** 

that have been extensively documented, be overlooked? Well, despite this documented bloody history, many geneticists, anthropologists and psychiatrists have slipped from this dream into the deep sleep of forgetfulness," he said. "Forgetfulness or disremembering. In Australia, cult of а disremembering is how (one academic) describes the great at nearly every turn. Reparation

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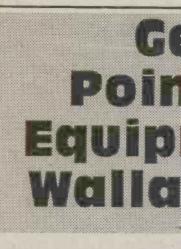
sides that there be "acknowledgement, restitution and reparation.

"A decade ago our prime minister acknowledged. He said, 'It was we who did the dispossessing. We took the traditional lands and smashed the traditional way of life. We brought the diseases and the alcohol. We committed the murders. We took the children from their families," Hunter said. "Restitution is restoration of that which can be returned, and in Australia it involved engaging with Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders around their just claims for land and resources. To date, this has been contested

Donna Kaskamin, Phone: (780) 458-Patricia Janiver, O Ph: (780) 420-6366 or

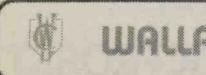
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### **IMPERIAL OIL COLD LAKE ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARD**

Imperial Oil Resources, Cold Lake Operations, offers a one time education award for local Aboriginal students entering a post secondary program (Technical or Community College) leading to a career in the petroleum industry.

The award will consist of:

- \$1,000
- · Students will be considered for summer or post graduate employment if opportunities are available

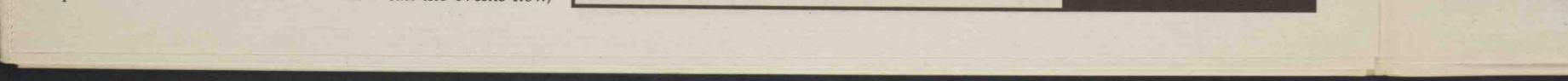
#### ELIGIBILITY

- Must be an Alberta resident
- Have grade 12 or GED equivalent
- · Have proof of acceptance into post secondary education program leading to a career in the petroleum industry
- · Be a member of one of the listed First Nations or Métis communities

Application Deadline is June 30, 2000 Brochures and application forms may be obtained from: The Education Coordinators at the listed communities or, Imperial Oil Resources, Box 1020, Bonnyville, AB T9N 217 Phone: (780) 639-5194 Fax: (780) 639-5102

LISTED COMMUNITIES ARE: **Beaver Lake First Nation Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement** Cold Lake First Nations **Elizabeth Métis Settlement Fishing Lake Métis Settlement Frog Lake First Nation Heart Lake First Nation Kikino Métis Settlement Kehewin Cree Nation** Saddle Lake First Nation Whitefish Lake First Nation Zone 1 & 2 Métis Association

**Imperial Oil** 



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#### July 2000

### A Good Step in Your Healing Journey THE NATIVE HEALING CONNECTION A toll-free referral line for help in healing from sexual abuse. 1-888-600-5464 Edmonton area: (780) 433-6286 The Native Healing Connection is a cooperative project of World Vision Canada's Aboriginal Programs, The Mars Hill Centre Heredered Southbackbackback

"Taking the Responsibility to Heal **Ourselves: The Kahnawake Schools Diabetes Prevention Project"** 

This 25 minute video shows how the Mohawks of Kahnawake created and implemented a school & communitybased health promotion project to educate and involve community members in diabetes prevention through healthy eating & physical activity. **ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!** 

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### **Use RICE to treat ankle sprains**

The ankle joint works like a hinge. It can move up and down freely and move a little from side-to-side. Tough ligaments work like straps to hold the ankle in place and strengthen the ankle joint. If your ankle is forced to move from side-toside, the ligaments may stretch or tear. This is an ankle sprain.

WINDSPEAKER

HEALTH

Ankle sprains are the most common sports injury. Basketball, football, soccer, cross-country running, volleyball, racquet sports, dance, and ballet have the most ankle injuries.

#### **Symptoms**

You may have pain in the ankle, swelling, bruising, and trouble moving the ankle after the injury.

Ankle injuries are not all sprains. Bones can be broken or other tendons can be injured. A physician should examine your ankle to help set up your treatment plan. If a broken bone is suspected, an X-ray may be ordered.

#### Treatment

FAMILY

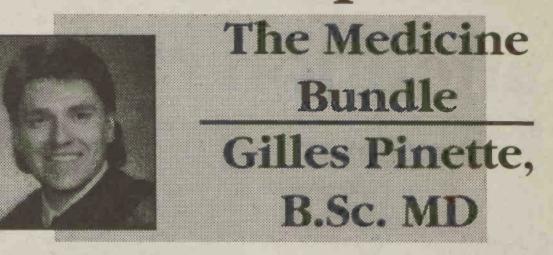
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YOUR

Initially your treatment should be RICE. RICE refers to the first letters of your treatments.

Rest — rest your ankle. No intense physical activities for the first few days. You may need crutches to help stay off the ankle.

Ice — apply an ice pack or bag of ice to the swollen ankle for 15-20 minutes at a time to reduce pain and swelling. A small bag of frozen peas or corn works well and can be reused. Reapply ice every two hours for the first two to three days after the injury. Don't apply ice longer than 20 minutes at a time or put ice di-



rectly on the skin. This will prevent frostbite injury of the skin.

Compression — an ankle wrap that applies moderate pressure to the ankle will help limit swelling. An elastic compression bandage can be used around the ankle for the first one to seven days.

Elevation — keep the ankle raised up as often as possible. This reduces the swelling.

If your ankle sprain is really bad, you may need to wear a cast for one to two weeks or wear a supporting ankle brace. These treatments keep the ankle stable and allow the ligaments to heal properly. Surgery is occasionally used for completely torn ligaments. Anti-inflammatory medicine (e.g., Ibuprofen) or acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol) can reduce pain.

#### **Returning to activity**

Generally, within two days of your sprain your doctor will advise you to gently move your ankle to keep it flexible. This may be done by drawing the alphabet with your foot while the foot is in warm water. Depending on how bad the sprain is, your time to heal may be from one to 16 weeks. A good exercise program or a referral to a physical therapist may help

your ankle recover more quickly. Strengthening the muscles around the joint can help prevent re-injury.

Ankle injuries cannot always be prevented. Good footwear, stretching, and warming-up prior to exercise may reduce injuries. High-top runners might help reduce ankle injuries during sports. Taping ankles with athletic tape can help stabilize the joint. However the strength of the tape (and its ankle protection) is gone after 20 minutes of activity. Your doctor may recommend a soft ankle brace during sports.

This column is for reference and education only and is not intended to be a substitute for the advice of an appropriate health care professional. The author assumes no responsibility or liability arising from any outdated information, errors, omissions, claims, demands, damages, actions, or causes of actions from the use of any of the above

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Dr. Pinette is a Métis family physician in Manitoba and current host of APTN's Medicine Chest. Contact Dr. Pinette care of this newspaper or email pinette@home.com.





**July 2000** 

### WINDSPEAKER AIDS AWARENESS

# Aboriginal women draw attention to HIV plight

#### **By Joan Taillon** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### TORONTO

Aboriginal women are at higher risk of contracting HIV and AIDS than Aboriginal men because of gender discrimination, compounded by sexual violence against women, and the lack of gender-specific research into appropriate drugs and treatment.

These findings were set out at the first national conference on women and HIV/AIDS held in Toronto in May. About 500 attended the four-day event, which began May 24 and was organized by the Canadian AIDS Society, the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, the Canadian Treatment Advocates Council and the Community **AIDS Treatment Information** Exchange. The programs committee consisted of about 50 women of varying backgrounds from women's organizations and AIDS service groups across Canada.

Arlo Yuzicapi Fayant, an Aboriginal AIDS consultant from Regina who spoke at the opening plenary session, said the time had come for women to hold their own conference.

"Until there is a vaccine, women need better prevention tools to give them more control over their sexual bealtb." - Sharon Baxter, **Canadian Aids Society** 

AIDS.

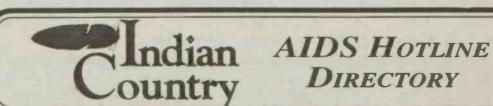
"Women who use injection drugs may have to trade sex for money or drugs, putting them at risk for HIV infection, said Diane Gobeil-Soirilus, a spokswoman for the Canadian AIDS Society. She also slammed Canadian drug laws and policies, which she said made it difficult to help injection drug users who have HIV.

The third theme delegates focused on was prevention, where it was determined the realities of partner abuse, prostitution and other violence may prevent women either from protecting themselves against infection or from revealing their HIV status. Finally, delegates discussed

treatment strategies. They con-

inject drugs, 58.5 per cent have tor of the Canadian Aids Society.

> Aboriginal people are five times as likely as other Canadians to have AIDS, a bulletin released by the Canadian HIV/ AIDS Legal Network states. In addition, Health Canada data from April reveals the proportion of women among Aboriginal AIDS cases is 22.2 per cent, compared with 7.7 per cent among non-Aboriginal AIDS cases. AIDS has more than doubled among all women since 1994 and is now 16.3 per cent of reported AIDS cases. Among new HIV infections reported in 1999, 24 per cent were women. AIDS manifests with numerous health complications including pneumonia and kidney failure that usually occur several years



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**AIDS - PRINCE GEORGE** 



**July 2000** 





"For years, our particular needs as women, regardless if it's treatment, research, prevention, support, have not really been served in a way that was helping us cope with the epidemic. It's been predominantly very generic or male-oriented, because that seems to be where the disease manifested originally, but over time it became apparent that women were fastly becoming the more infected population."

Delegates explored four major areas of concern. Yuzicapi Fayant said they got "hundreds" of recommendations out of the workshops.

One of the four issues was the question of how to support women who are dealing with sexual violence, sexual exploitation and the spread of HIV in these circumstances.

For example, said Yuzicapi Fayant, "sex trade workers, women in prisons."

Another theme was public policy. Issues included the socio-economic problems that are rampant among people living with AIDS now that AIDS is no longer primarily a disease of single, white males. Women in the sex trade and injection drug users are especially vulnerable, delegates heard. Among Aboriginal women who

cluded researchers are neglecting women, who are sometimes affected adversely by a drug regimen designed for men.

"We've been under-represented in terms of research for sure. There's never been any quality research as to how our needs are different; our biophysical requirements for some of the treatments have never been studied adequately," Yuzicapi Fayant said.

**Recommendations** arising from the conference included a call for effective HIV prevention programs in prisons, more studies of women's treatment issues, and greater inclusion of women in clinical drug trials. The women urged both private and public sector financial support for research and development of an HIV vaccine.

They also want governments and the pharmaceutical industry to move faster on developing microbicides, which they compare in action to spermicides. Microbicides look promising for reducing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections; however, public funding for this initiative is lagging.

"Until there is a vaccine, women need better prevention tools to give them more control over their sexual health," said Sharon Baxter, executive direcafter a person is diagnosed with an HIV infection.

Jake Linklater, executive director of the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, said the AIDS epidemic among Aboriginal people can't be stemmed as easily as just presenting information about the disease in a culturally appropriate way.

"That's usually the perception of people, Linklater said. "How you present it is one thing, but with Aboriginal folks in Canada, there's one thing called the determinants of health.... It comes from housing, economic status, gender, genetics, education. All those determinants seem to highlight HIV infection. It's not the same for a non-Aboriginal person. If you take the average and you weigh it against those social determinants or health determinants, you'll see the person who is more at risk is the Aboriginal person."

Yuzicapi Fayant said these factors are even more critical for Aboriginal women, who usually have less money and less mobility than men and may be dependent on abusive or nonsupportive partners.

"Racial discrimination against Aboriginal women is made worse by gender discrimination," she said.

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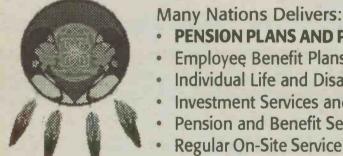


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# Ontario bands step closer to resolving logging dispute

#### **By Joan Taillon** Windspeaker Staff Writer

TIMMINS, Ont.

It took a hunger strike, a road blockade, a province-wide solidarity caravan, plus the direct intervention of the Treaty 9 grand chief, but two First Nations in northeastern Ontario finally may see the end of a logging dispute that has been escalating for weeks.

As a result of their very public stance on treaty rights, Wahgoshig and New Post First Nations got a mediator this month to help settle logging concerns.

Abitibi Consolidated Inc. is clearcutting near burial grounds and traplines on their traditional territories. They also contend Abitibi has been stalling their attempts to develop a "co-operative partnership framework agreement" with the company.

The bands say they are not opposed to environmentally sound tree harvesting, so long as Abitibi respects their treaty rights and guarantees them some of the economic spin-off. Nevertheless Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, the umbrella organization of 50 northern Ontario bands, released a statement May 30 reporting that Abitibi walked away from the negotiating table May 23. "The forestry industry needs to understand that although First Nations are willing to enter into partnerships with the private sector to promote economic self-sufficiency for First Nations and surrounding communities, logging practices must respect First Nation land values associated with cultural and traditional gathering activities," said Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Grand Chief Charles Fox. As a result, the two bands opted to continue protesting, "until the company has accepted to resolve these issues in

a fair and equitable manner," said Wahgoshig's Chief Paul McKenzie. As well as speeches and blockading roads, the protest included alternating days of fasting among four of the six caravan participants and some of their people at home.

Abitibi isn't saying anything about the protests, and treaty rights do not seem to be under consideration by the company.

Its position is that the First Nations had already been consulted in the provincially mandated 27-month-long forest management planning process, according to Woodlands Manager Dave Chown.

Chown, as Abitibi's desig-The bands complain that nated spokesman, is responsible for "the management of the forest and the supply of appropriate species and quality of wood to various mills in the area," he said.

> In Chown's view the two issues at stake are the "economic one" (resource sharing), which he says Abitibi has taken steps over the past five years to remedy, and the provincial forest management process, which he said has to be dealt with by government. He said his firm has had logging contracts with New Post for five years and has been involved in "cultural projects" with Wahgoshig for the past two years. Relations between Abitibi and the two bands has been good until the past couple of months, he said. Asked what had caused the present conflict and the strong efforts by the First Nations to publicize it, Chown replied, "I don't know." He said the company is surprised that new areas of concern arise now. "We had a meeting about two weeks ago with the chiefs," Chown said June 8. "We arranged to look at one of the sites in the field to review each others' concerns.... It's an area that was approved in our five-year management plan and went

through the whole consultation process. However, we're not saying that maybe for some reason or other something may have been missed."

Page 25

Chown said Abitibi also met with the two First Nations on three separate occasions during the consultation period and "at that time nothing specific came up." In addition, he said, "fairly extensive archeological reviews of the area had taken place, and the areas of concern that were identified were excluded from the harvesting plan."

According to New Post Chief RoseAnne Archibald though, only the unions showed up at the last meeting, while Abitibi decision-makers stayed away.

Chown said the most recent site visit with about 12 members of the two communities and representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources occurred May 25 at Hospital Point on the north shore of Abitibi Lake, at Eades. That's a Wahgoshig burial ground and ceremonial site.

"Subsequent to that, we felt that all the parties had an understanding of what could take place, and I sent our understanding of the results of that meeting to the chiefs . . . however I haven't heard from them whether we had the common understanding," said Chown. Chown also said June 8 that it was his understanding that as of the previous day a mediator-Paul Emond and Associates-had been agreed upon. Emond is a law professor at Osgoode Hall with a background in dispute resolution. Chown said as a result of the current disagreement, Abitibi is proposing that a steering committee be developed to hold monthly meetings among the parties to avert further problems. He indicated Abitibi was talking about expanding the First Nations' role in harvesting operations. Jobs and training opportunities are also on the table he said.

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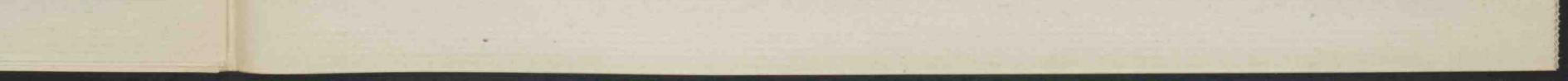
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### WINDSPEAKER **EMPLOYMENT EQUITY**

## Working to improve hiring within the federal government

#### **By Cheryl Petten** Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### **OTTAWA**

Hiring of Aboriginal employees within the federal public service should see an increase in the future, with the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) keeping a watchful eye on the government's employment equity initiatives.

Up until 1996, the federal government was tasked with regulating itself when it came to employment equity, with government departments reporting to Treasury Board on progress towards creating a workforce more representative of the Canadian population. That changed, however, in 1996, when a new employment equity act came into befederal government.

According to Joan Bishop, chief of the statistical analysis unit with the CHRC's employment equity branch, only about 10 per cent of the total Canadian workforce is covered by the Employment Equity Act. In addition to the federal public service, the act also covers Crown corporacial borders, communications, and other federally regulated organizations.

that way," Bishop said.

act in 1996, they basically included the public sector, and for the first time, there is actually an audit process that goes on," Bishop said, adding that the commission is currently in the process of trying to audit all the federal government departments and private sector employers covered under the new act.

"Ultimately, at the end of the day, they're obliged to put in place hiring goals, assuming that they don't have as many Aboriginal people as they should have working for them . . . and we evaluate them, and then we are going to be monitoring, over the next two or three years, to see if they are meeting their goals, and if they're ing, expanding to cover the not, then the commission would have the right to go back in and . . . begin a new audit to see what's gone wrong," Bishop said.

With the CHRC audits still underway, it's still too early to say whether the changes to the employment equity act will actually translate into more jobs for Aboriginal people within the federal public servtions, banks, transportation ice or within the federally companies that cross provin- regulated private sector, but ments working with Aborigi-Bishop is hopeful. "It's going to take a while, I think, before we see whether this actually results in changes in practice. It'll be harder, I think, for the public service, it will be harder for them to avoid action than it was before, because there are very clear goals . . . they actually Bishop said, but until 1996, have to have a plan . . . they there were no enforcement have to look at their systems to see, are there obstacles there "I think the thinking at the to people, and to remove them, and all that is informaployers basically report on tion that is going to be much more available to employees or to unions or others who there would be public pres- want to look at it. So, I think, said.

sure and things would change in that way, it will be much harder for them than it was in "So, with the change in the the past when things were very vague. It was kind of a hopeful thing. They were hoping to do better, but they hadn't actually said how they were going to get there. And now there are going to be specific plans and . . . if they don't meet their hiring goals, then the commission will be able to go back in and look."

> In order to meet the requirements of the revised Employment Equity Act, Bishop explained, each department will have to do an analysis of its workforce, then set reasonable goals for hiring of Aboriginal employees. Work will also have to be done to eliminate any obstacles to hiring, looking at everything from ensuring that tests aren't discriminatory, to looking at the attitudes of members of management.

> "They're also supposed to put in place very positive, special kinds of measures, because it's recognized you can clean your system up, but it might take a long, long time before that translates," Bishop said.

Some of those special measures will likely include targeted recruiting, with departnal organizations to reach potential candidates. Departments will also have to look at developing initiatives designed to help retain Aboriginal employees once they are hired, Bishop added, such as mentoring programs and other support systems. "I think that's been a problem all along, is that even when they've been successful in hiring people, the public service isn't the friendliest place, and people get in and find themselves feeling very isolated or very lost, and they tend to leave quicker," Bishop



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#### THE CITY OF CALGARY **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS FOR** ABORIGINAL URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Each year at its Organizational Meeting in October, City Council appoints citizens to its various boards, commissions and committees.

Applications from persons who would be willing to sit on The City of Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee for the year 2000/2001 are requested.

In some instances City Council may re-appoint members who wish to continue to serve, therefore the number of appointments shown does not necessarily reflect the number of new appointees.

Applicants may be requested to submit to a brief interview by City Council. Particulars on the Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee are as follows:

Number to be Appointed	Eligibility Qualifications	Term of Appoint- ment	Total Number of Members	Meetings Held	Approximate Length of Meeting	Regular Time of Meeting
12	50% plus one of total members shall be aboriginal people and one of the aboriginal members shall be a youth	1 year	12	Monthly (First Wednesday)	2 hours	4:45 p.m.

#### July 2000

(Continued from page 7.) The Stoney Pointers new got where home was and half a century of waiting government to keep their about returning the land took action and reclaim camp in 1993. Things s more or less peaceful fo years until the Stoney Po in an attempt to force the g ment to deal with them, ex their occupation into the p cial park to the west of th tary base.

"A lot of people might:



Another change to the act in 1996, Bishop explained, was the inclusion of a method for enforcement, giving that role to the CHRC.

The first employment equity act came into being in 1987, mechanisms in place.

time was that if they had ememployment equity and people could see their bad record,

	member, 16-25. If applying for the	IF R	
IJ	youth position, state age in letter.		

Your application should state your reason for applying and service expectations. A resume of no more than two 81/2" x 11" pages should be attached stating background and experience. Your personal information will only be used by City Council in consideration of committee appointments. If you have questions about the use of this information, you may contact the Deputy City Clerk at 268-5861.

#### DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 4:30 P.M., 2000 SEPTEMBER 15.

Applications should be forwarded to: City Clerk (#8007) The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Postal Station "M" Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5	Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., applications may be dropped off at: City Clerk's Main Floor, 700 Macleod Trail South Calgary, Alberta
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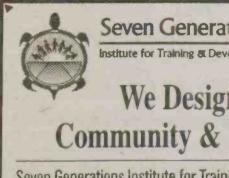
Should you require any further information, please telephone (403) 268-5861. Diana L. Garner, City Clerk

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**Rose Brass poses with** 

# Little v

(Continued from page 21.) Thanks to some last-r fund-raising done on Ros half by the Special Oly and the Shriners of I Albert, Rose was able to for a spot on the Can ParOlympic team that w competing in the ParOlympic Summer Ga Sydney, Australia. ParOlympic games im ately follow the main Ol Games this September. "They raised the money Jean Brass on Rose's first



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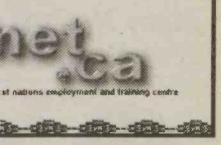
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to increase Aboriginal nt in the oil, gas, and ndustries; and will it the activities that are eing implemented in the communities to provide nowledge pertaining to gas industry.

nal people by ensuring and relevant learning yment inititives within

bAdministrator at (403) w.fnet.ca



### OTICE

IONS FOR COMMITTEE Council appoints citizens to its

to sit on The City of Calgary 1/2001 are requested s who wish to continue to serve. necessarily reflect the number of

iew by City Council. are as follows:

etings Held	Approximate Length of Meeting	Regular Time of Meeting
onthly First nesday)	2 hours	4:45 p.m.

# Ipperwash protesters still camped out

WINDSPEAKER

CAREERS

(Continued from page 7.)

July 2000

The Stoney Pointers never forgot where home was and, after half a century of waiting for the government to keep their word about returning the land, they took action and reclaimed the camp in 1993. Things stayed more or less peaceful for two years until the Stoney Pointers, in an attempt to force the government to deal with them, extended their occupation into the provincial park to the west of the military base.

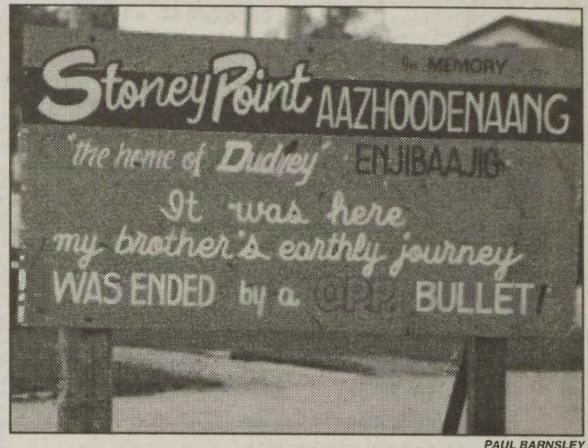
legal standpoint, there's that color of right defence. We know we belong there. And that stood up down at the park, too. They know they can't remove us, we belong there." "A lot of people might say the The police and the army have Ad and go

government owns that [the milistayed away, saying they don't tary base]. Well, I say they don't want a confrontation. The state because in 1993 the people of limbo caused by the lack of moved on there and they never recognition of the traditional peotried to move 'em off. They harple, whose claim to the land is disputed by the band council, has assed us at different times. They must know," Pierre George said. left things hanging in a very un-"We have a birthright to be there. settling way. The band council And I would also say that from a claims that many of the occupiers are opportunists who have no legitimate connection to the land. George claims that's a smokescreen designed to ensure that any payment related to the restoration and return of the land will go to the band rather than the Stoney Pointers. He said it wouldn't be that hard to trace the family ties and decide who has a

legitimate claim to the land. "They know who belongs there. Some of the people in Kettle Point say, 'Well everybody's intermarried and all that.' Well, that's still not hard to figure out. You just go back to the grandfathers who were there at that time," he said.

Meanwhile, the impasse continues. The toxic waste and other debris that accumulated from half a century of military training exercises remains in the woods that form the majority of the expansive base's grounds. And the question of legitimate ownership remains undecided.

"That's the sad part about it," said Pierre George. "Nothing's been resolved. If the government would have returned it to the



Stoney Point sign at Ipperwash Camp is a constant reminder for a brother still in mourning.

their backs on the traditional ways.

"Our people have endured this nightmare for more than 500 years," he said. "We were promised these people would be made peaceful and I know that will happen."

Pierre George shares the distrust of the band council and that's one reason why he won't support his brother's lawsuit against the premier. The lawsuit was financed in part by the band council and he strongly resents his brother for taking that money. He, along with his sister Caroline, drove his fatally wounded brother to Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital on that fateful night. A half-hour drive in a 1977 Chevy with only three tires — they suffered a blowout early in the journey and had no time to fix it — during which they were shadowed by police officers who did not step in to help. He feels that Dudley would not have approved of accepting the band council's help and he can't bring himself to look the other way. "Sam and them do not recognize what Dudley was doing there," he said. Sam George's supporters say he made the decision to get justice for his late brother by forcing the government to be accountable and that kind of a struggle isn't cheap. Members of the coalition pushing for an inquiry into Dudley George's death say Pierre is angry and traumatized by the events of that night but he will eventually reconcile

with his siblings. Sam George could not be reached for comment.

Pierre believes the Stoney Pointers have a right to the land and he'll fight anyone who tries to deny them.

"I have a brother who died for that land," he said.

Glenn George is furious that the band council has been engaged in talks with the government to settle the land question.

"They're treating it like it's a land claim when it's a repossession," he said.

He said he's confident it will eventually come down to talks between his group and the Department of National Defence, who took the land from the original residents so long ago and made the promises about its eventual return. "When you have an argument it's between two people and in this case it's the people here and DND," he said. Since the federal authorities only recognize band council governments and have a big political stake in continuing that practice, that face-off with DND isn't going to happen anytime soon. Asked if he and the others are willing to continue to stare down the government and deal with the constant threat that someone in authority somewhere could at any time decide things have gone on long enough, he shruggs off that risk. "You take a risk driving down the road these days," he said. And nobody knows how it will all end.

Page 27

and service expectations. be attached stating will only be used by City f you have questions about y City Clerk at 268-5861.

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ribal Operations, and Filian Land & Jurisdiction; m the Grassroots to Washiness; Access to Capital in of a Tribally Owned Bank;

CE,



Rose Brass poses with mom Rose and dad Giff.

# Little water baby

(Continued from page 21.)

Thanks to some last-minute fund-raising done on Rose's behalf by the Special Olympics and the Shriners of Prince Albert, Rose was able to try out for a spot on the Canadian ParOlympic team that will be competing in the World ParOlympic Summer Games in Sydney, Australia. The ParOlympic games immediately follow the main Olympic Games this September.

"They raised the money," said Jean Brass on Rose's first day of

workshops and registration form

the team tryouts in Montreal. "It was pretty fast. We were told Wednesday and had to leave Thursday."

MARJ RODIN

Her first event on May 29 was the 100 metre backstroke, and she surprised many people there.

"She took just about 20 minutes off her backstroke time," said Jean in a phone interview that evening. "She made it through all the heats and made it right to the final."

Results of the competition were not available by press time.

people they took it from, things would have been different."

Stoney Pointers know the band council didn't approve of them in 1995. Glenn George, one of the leaders of the occupation, accuses former Kettle and Stony Point Chief Tom Bressette, now the Ontario regional sub-chief for the Assembly of First Nations, of allowing the OPP build up that led to Dudley George's death. Like most traditional people, he sees the people who participate in the band council system as government employees. He said the government rewards loyalty to that system with money and, likewise, punishes those who won't conform to the system.

"They're sellouts. They speak on behalf of whom? I never elected them. They weren't given no right to speak for nobody," he said.

Glenn George believes that the spirits will exact their form of justice on those who have turned

	Deliver to your vidual Wellness Plan	Edmonton, Alberta	Are A Life Ski offered for ove unique people.
Seven Generations Institute for Training and Development offers skill development, wellness workshop(s) and consulting services to manage the current issues that face Aboriginal Communities today. These services are provided by Aboriginal Professionals.	<ul> <li>Services Include:</li> <li>Deliver at any location(s)</li> <li>Vary in length, intensity or focus</li> <li>Cultural Content</li> <li>Resource Material with Aboriginal Perspective</li> </ul>	Foster Care Support Worker Fountainhead Community Services is a small, dynamic company providing services in the Edmonton area. We require a Foster Care Support Worker to work within our Foster Care Program. The successful applicant will hold a	experie skills in: • Humar • Creati • Family • Process Gradua counsell mental h
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Community Caregivers this one is for you! Call Today! To receive locations of scheduled	Phone: 250-546-3077 Toll Free: 1-888-257-5415 Fax: 250-546-3227 Email: SevenGenerations@bc.sympatics.ca	Connie Campbell, Executive Director	TRAI (C Call 1

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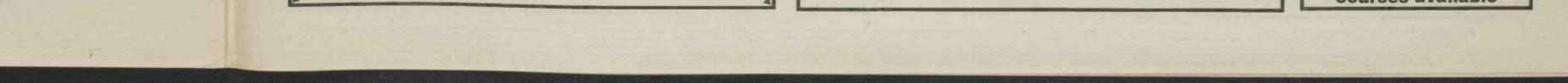
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### WINDSPEAKER CAREERS

### A.O. Management Services Ltd. requires a **BAND ADMINISTRATOR**

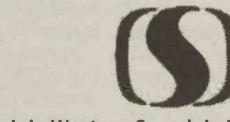
A First Nation in the Slave Lake area of Alberta requires a Band Administrator. Qualification preferred are: Post secondary education in commerce, accounting, or business administration; knowledge or experience in First Nations' programs and computerized administration systems; ability to prepare funding proposals; a self starter with good organization and communications skills; and a working knowledge of the Cree language would be an asset. Please provide a resume to:

A.O. Management Services Ltd. 43, 3311 - 58 Street, Edmonton, AB T6L 6X3, phone (780) 461-3154, fax (780) 465-1035, or e-mail: aomgnt@telusplanet.net no later than June 30, 2000.



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### **GLOBAL TELEVISION NETWORK CHAIR IN JOURNALISM**

The School of Journalism invites applications and nominations for the position of Visiting Chair, effective January 4, 2001, to spend one term (approximately 13 weeks) on campus during the winter semester. S/ he will teach one course (at the fourth year level) which will focus on one of the following: Aboriginal issues in journalism; international indigenous issues; the changing face of the Canadian population; or minority concerns for journalists. In addition, the visiting professor will act as a resource in the School of Journalism and the Indian Communication Arts program at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. The person would also organize seminars and act as a guest lecturer.

Candidates should be familiar with the study and practice of journalism and have extensive knowledge of Aboriginal issues, and/or minority rights and cultural diversity. Candidates for the position should have experience in journalism and/or the teaching of journalism, or in a related field. However, life experience and background of each candidate will be considered.

This is a new position within the study and practice of journalism and candidates are invited to submit a short summary outlining their vision for the course. As well, a curriculum vitae and three letters of reference should be mailed not later than August 1, 2000 to: Dr. Murray Knuttila, Dean of Arts, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan S4S oA2 or by E-mail to: murray.knuttila@uregina.ca. Further inquiries may be directed to Jill Spelliscy, Head of Journalism (phone: 306-585-4420 or E-mail: jill.spelliscy@uregina.ca).

The University of Regina is committed to equity in employment. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.

# THE MEDICINE WHEEL **FACILITATOR TRAINING**

We will be offering Medicine Wheel Facilitator Training in Vancouver on the following dates:

#### July 2000

**July 2000** 

### **First Na**

#### The Fourteenth Annu **Course for Princ Nations Schools**

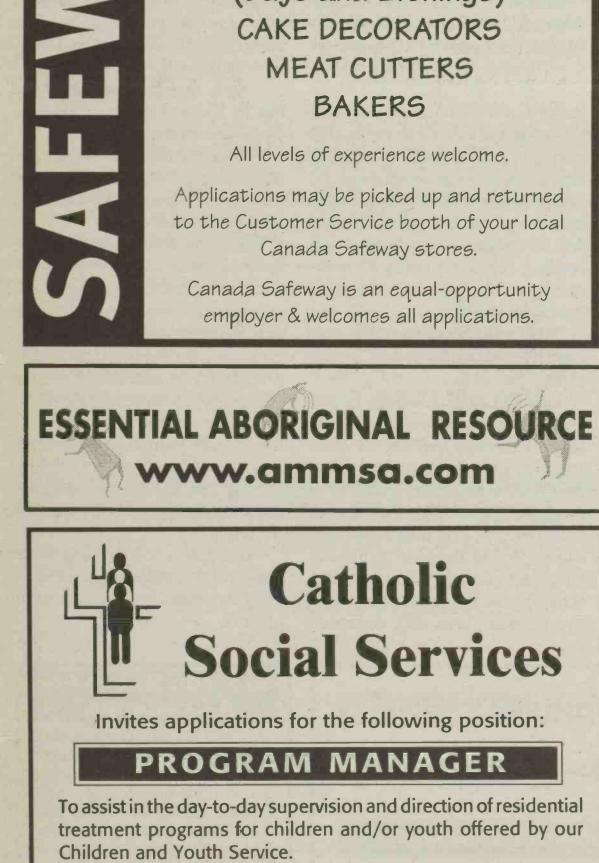
Short Course for Prin Nations Schools is a planned for principa head teachers and a **First Nations Schools** 

#### **TOPICS:**

- **Goal Setting**
- Professional Dev
- Aboriginal Lang
  - School Assessme

INFORMATION =>





#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Master's degree in Child Care, Social Work or equivalent
- Three years experience working with emotionally and behaviourally disturbed children, supervisory experience preferred
- Experience working in an Aboriginal treatment context preferred
- Eligible for Certification with the Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta

LOCATION: Edmonton, Contract (Six months, Full-time)

CLOSING DATE: June 30, 2000

#### **PLEASE SEND RESUMES TO: Catholic Social Services** 8212 - 118 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5B 0S3

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

### JULY 24 - 28, 2000 August 7 - 11, 2000

#### Some of the topics we cover during the week include:

- \* Smudging and opening and closing prayers
- The role of a Medicine Wheel facilitator
- The history of Aboriginal people since European contact
- Visualizations, how and when to use them
- Residential schools and their impact
- The story of Turtle Island
- The significance of the Eagle landing on the moon
- The legend of the White Buffalo Calf & our Sacred Pipe
- **Explanation of the Sweat-lodge ceremony**
- Journey around the Medicine Wheel
- What is an Elder?
- **Sharing Circles**
- Learning to jig, drum and sing
- Sharing a traditional feast

To register contact: Kakakaway & Associates Phone: (604) 251-7081 Fax: (604) 251-7051 or for more information visit our web site: w3.to/medwheel

The course fee is \$500.00. Seating is limited to 12 participants per session.

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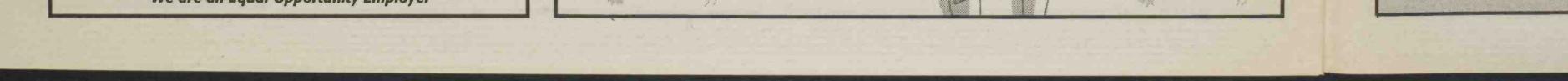
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of Visiting Chair, effective of the winter semester. S/ the following: Aboriginal e Canadian population; or a resource in the School of Indian Federated College.

nave extensive knowledge es for the position should lated field. However, life

tes are invited to submit a vitae and three letters of a, Dean of Arts, University tila@uregina.ca. Further 906-585-4420 or E-mail:

with Canadian Immigration of Canada.

# HEEL

r Training :

contact

d Pipe

#### July 2000

### WINDSPEAKER CAREERS

# First Nations House of Learning

The Fourteenth Annual Short Course for Principals of First Nations Schools

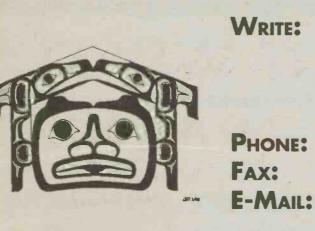
Short Course for Principals of First Nations Schools is a practical one, planned for principals, vice-principals, head teachers and administrators of First Nations Schools.

#### **TOPICS:**

- Goal Setting
- Professional Development
- Aboriginal Language Immersion
- School Assessment

Cost:

DATE:



The Eighth Annual Short Course for Board Members of First Nations Schools

The Short Course for Board Members is a basic one, directed toward community members responsible for managing First Nations controlled schools.

#### **TOPICS:**

- Goal Setting
- Personnel Policies
- Aboriginal Language Immersion
- School Assessment

July 24 - 28, 2000 at the University of British Columbia (both courses) \$650.00 (per course)

First Nations House of Learning The Longhouse, UBC 1985 West Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 http://www.longhouse.ubc.ca/ Angie Oleman at (604) 822-8940 (604) 822-8944 coleman@interchange.ubc.ca

### **COUNSELLOR TRAINING**

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### Ma'mowe Capital Region Child and Family Services

**Request for Proposals** - Family Intervention Services

Ma'mowe Capital Region, Child and Family Services Authority, invites proposals from interested agencies for the provision of Family Intervention Services for children, youth and families residing in the City of Edmonton, St. Albert, Leduc, County of Leduc and Strathcona County.

Applicants must be familiar with the Ma'mowe Capital Region "Working Together for Children, Youth and Families" Service Plan dated March 1998 and the Proposed Service Delivery Framework Consultation Draft, June 2000 (copies are available at the Ma'mowe Capital Region Child and Family Services Regional Office - (780) 422-3355).

Sealed proposals must be received by 1:00 p.m. local time on August 25, 2000.

Late proposals and faxes cannot be accepted.

Agencies wishing to submit a proposal may request an information package after June 23, 2000 from:

Jori Hunter, Administrative Coordinator Regional Support Unit for Prevention, Early Intervention and Family Services 10<sup>th</sup> floor, Baker Centre, Room 1001, 10025-106 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1G4 Telephone: 1-780-415-4550

Page 29

### Social Work Program

Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track)

Assistant Professor: Child Welfare (Tenure-Track)

Assistant or Associate Professor (Tenure-Track)

> UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN

BRITISH COLUMBIA

(TENURE-TRACK)

Social Work education at the University of Northern British Columbia provides BSW and MSW degrees and is committed to a program of studies informed by a central concern for human rights, personal empowerment, community change, social justice and anti-oppression. Incorporating critical social thinking, the program emphasizes social work in northern and remote communities, aboriginal issues, women in human services and community practice and research through courses that recognize the integration of practice, policy and research.

The College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences has exciting opportunities awaiting creative, energetic, and adventuresome social workers who are comfortable working with people from a variety of backgrounds and cultures and who want to contribute to the development of social work education in the three regions served by UNBC. Tenure-track positions are available at the Assistant Professor level in the Social Work Program beginning September 1, 2000 or earlier.

The successful candidates will teach a range of courses in the Social Work Program, as well as be responsible for developing field education opportunities in the regions served by UNBC (Northwest-based in Terrace; the Peace-Liard based in Ft. St. John; South-Central, serving Quesnel and area).

Applicants will possess a graduate degree in Social Work with extensive practice experience, although a doctorate (or a doctorate near completion) with practice and research experience is preferred. Applicants must be able to teach in a range of practice/policy areas including for example child welfare, substance use, aboriginal issues, community development, communications, group work, etc. They must also have demonstrated experience in field education instruction and supervision at the BSW level. Preference will be given to candidates with post-degree experience in social work practice in northern and remote settings and who have taught at the BSW and MSW levels.

Preference will be given to applications received by **June 15, 2000**, however, the competition will remain open until the position is filled.

The Social Work Program in the College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences at UNBC will be offering a Child Welfare specialization within the BSW degree. Applications are invited for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor to commence on September 1, 2000. The focus of this position will be on child welfare teaching, research and community service.

Applicants will possess a graduate degree in Social Work with recent extensive child welfare practice, policy and research experience, although a doctorate (or a doctorate close to completion) in these areas is preferred. Applicants must be able to teach in a range of practice/policy areas such as child welfare, substance use, aboriginal issues specific to child welfare, community development, communications, group work, field education, etc. Preference will be given to candidates with post-degree experience in social work practice in northern and remote settings and who have taught and developed curricula at the BSW and MSW levels.

Preference will be given to applications received by **June 30, 2000**, however, the competition will remain open until the positions are filled.

The College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in the Social Work Program beginning September 1, 2000.

The successful candidate will possess a doctoral degree in social work or related discipline and have at least one degree in social work. Preference will be given to candidates with post degree experience in social work practice and policy in northern and remote settings and who have taught a range of subjects at the BSW and MSW levels.

Preference will be given to applications received by **June 30, 2000**, however, the competition will remain open until the positions are filled.

The Social Work Program is committed to increasing cultural and ethnic diversity in its complement of academic staff and therefore encourages applications that would support this commitment.

Please forward your letter of application, curriculum vitae and the names and oddresses of three references (including telephone and fax numbers) by the appropriate closing date to: Dr. Deborah Poff, Vice President (Academic), University of Northern British Columbia, 3333 University Way, Prince George, BC, V2N 4Z9. Fax: (250) 960-7300. Inquines may be directed to Dr. Barbara Herringer, Program Chair, Social Work Program, at (250) 960-6629. E-mail: barbara@unbc.ca.

For more information, visit our website: WWW.UNbc.ca

In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian Citizens and permanent residents of Canada. The University of Northern British Columbia is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities.

# ESSENTIAL ABORIGINAL RESOURCE

The lowest bid tendered will not necessarily be accepted. Ma'mowe Capital Region, Child & Family Services Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all submissions in whole or in part.





Ma'mowe Capital Region Child and Family Services Authority

### Child Welfare Social Worker 2-4

Alberta Children's Services, Edmonton – Ma'mowe Child and Family Services Authority is responsible for providing services to children, youth and families in Edmonton and the surrounding communities of Sherwood Park, Leduc and St. Albert. We are currently recruiting Child Welfare Social Workers.

The role of a Child Welfare Social Worker is challenging and requires individuals with a commitment to protecting children, preserving the family unit and participating in community development. This role will give you the opportunity to use your professional skills and knowledge while helping children, youth and families reach their full potential. As a Child Welfare Social Worker your responsibilities may include intake, child abuse and neglect investigations, family support and case management. You may also be responsible for providing foster care and adoption services.

**Qualifications:** Ideally, you hold a BSW/MSW, however, we will consider a degree/diploma in Social Sciences supplemented by considerable related experience. Experience delivering services to Aboriginal populations will be considered an asset. Candidates who possess post secondary requirements but require additional experience may be considered for developmental opportunities as case aides or trainees.

As the Ma'mowe Authority is committed to delivering culturally appropriate services to Aboriginal populations, we encourage applications from Aboriginal candidates.

Successful applicants will receive a comprehensive orientation. If you would like an information package please call us at (780) 422-7157. Salary: \$32,088 - \$47,508. Classification currently under review. This competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

Please submit your resume quoting competition number 7770-WDSP to: Child Welfare Selection Committee, Shared Services Support Centre, 3rd Floor, Centre West Building, 10035-108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3E1. Fax: (780) 427-1018; E-mail: hre-edm@fss.gov.ab.ca (Word formats only). Reference the competition number in the e-mail subject line.

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RY ON-LINE ...



WINDSPEAKER GRADUATION

# The importance of showing you care

By Carla Robinson **Guest Columnist** 

"Blessed is the influence of one true, loving human soul on another."

- George Eliot

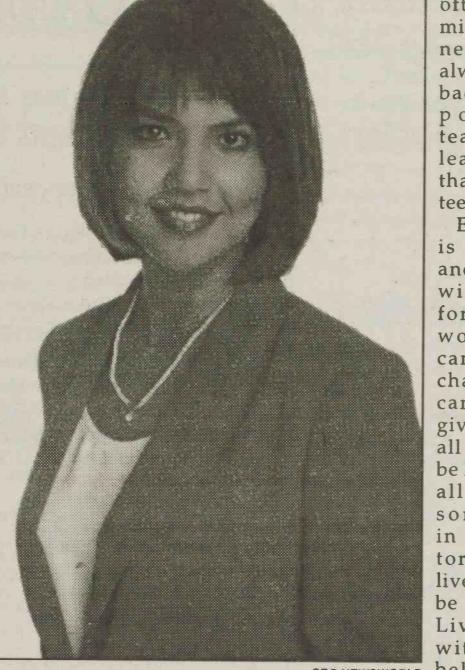
How many times have you been told how wonderful. unique or talented you are? How many times have you complimented a loved one with these words? Probably if you're like most people, not that often, if ever.

Yet these are exactly the words we need to hear, and thoughts that we need to believe about ourselves.

When I was about 15 years old, I was lucky enough to persuade my father to come to a self-esteem class with me at the local community college. It changed our lives.

I went in a young, shy Native woman who thought she wasn't worth much, and who couldn't do much either. My 50-something father had been brought up to believe that most things for folks like us were impossible.

started on my dream path —



truly love another.

Fortunately, I've had a few Less than 10 weeks later, I wonderful people touch and

and white, often pessimistic world news, is to always come back to the positive teachings I learned in that self-esteem class. Everyone is unique, and is born with a gift for the world. We all can change. We can all forgive. We can all love and be loved. We all have something in our history and lives we can be proud of. Living life with these

CBC NEWSWORLD beliefs just takes a little work, faith, time and patience.

Another tool that helps me enrich my life, mostly Native stay grounded is rememberto become a respected Cana- and mostly family, but some- ing the down-to-earth stories of the many funny, loving, and spiritual Native people I've come across in life. While a few of these people But I've also learned to were Elders or healers, most were just ordinary people, getting through life with humor and a few grains of salt. They are the true survivors. So for those of you wondering why should we be positive in this seemingly unfair world? It's that if you love and believe in yourself, and pass that faith onto othdifference.



We would like to take this opportunity to say Congratulations to all our Post-Secondary Graduates of 2000 We wish you much success in the future

OLD SUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOX 1250 SIKSIKA, ALBERTA TOJ 3WO

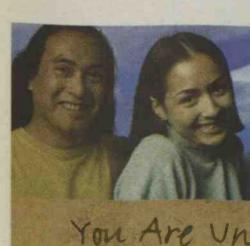
### Congratulations "Graduates of the Millennium 2000" OF ALEXIS FIRST NATION

On behalf of the Alexis First Nation Council and Community Members, I would like to send Special Compliments to our Graduates of 2000: High School, College, University and Trade Schools Graduates.

May your journey in continued learning be successful and may your future be complete with great blessings from Our Creator.

#### July 2000

**July 2000** 



If you'd like to explore a opportunities with Ban Montreal, an organizati that will recognize your unique talents and abili please forward your res and covering letter to:

The Post-Se

wishes to

Congrate

Gradue

Success



dian journalist, and my father learned to let go of his fear and support his children's dreams whole- support. heartedly.

live my life, without fear, so wonderful people we and with lots of love. It meet in life. Like how to rehasn't always been an easy path. Like many young Native people, I had lots of baggage passed onto me that I had to sort through and deal with.

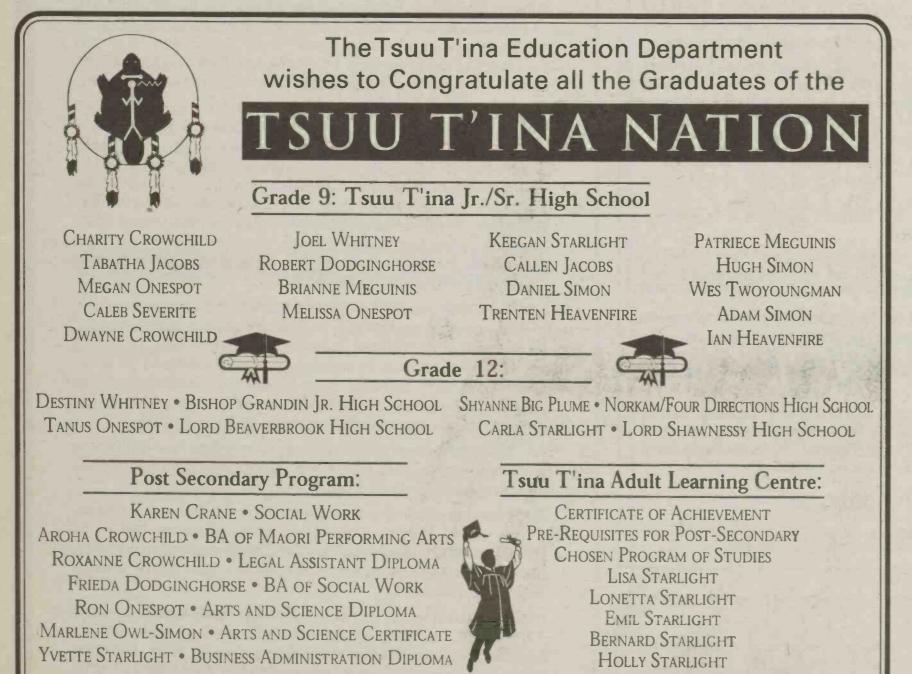
sons. Among them the need to accept responsibility, the freedom forgiveness can bring, and that I'd have to love myself before I could

times people with roots from far off lands who were genuine in their friendship and

Today, that's how I try to value the lessons of those not main true to myself in the face of prejudice and jealousy, why it's so important to defend myself. It's not only my rights and dignity that I'm fighting for, but for I had to learn a lot of les- those of my unborn child and all the younger ones ers, it can make a world of coming up behind me.

One of the survival tools that's helped keep me on end evening news anchor, CBC track in my work of black Newsworld

Carla Robinson is the week-



9911 CHULA BLVD., TSUU T'INA, AB T2W 6H6 PH: (403) 281-4455 FAX: (403) 251-9833

Congratulations!

Chief Francis Albus

Chief, Francis Alexis Alexis First Nation

# Congratulations

Windspeaker salutes all graduates.

All of you are role models!



POST-SE STE. 200 -MONTREAL.

### Consider in Poli Cor

There is a strong employment demand for First Sations in Canada's Criminal Justice System. Lethbridge Community College offers a two-year certificate program in Corrections or Policing.

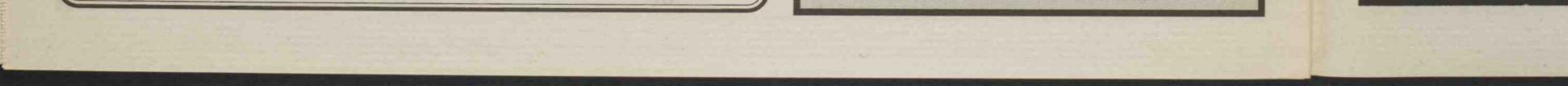
The programs are individuall designed to meet each student needs and combine regular course work with intensive academic assistance.

Employment opportunities are excellent or graduates could continue into diploma or degr options. Call today.



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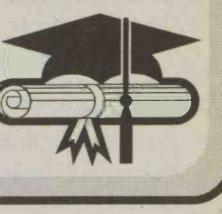


#### July 2000

### WINDSPEAKER GRADUATION

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Nation Council and like to send Special f 2000: High School, chools Graduates.

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### You Are Unique. SO ARE WE.

If you'd like to explore career opportunities with Bank of Montreal, an organization that will recognize your unique talents and abilities, please forward your resume and covering letter to:

Workplace Equality, Human Resources Bank of Montreal, 55 Bloor Street West 6th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3H5 Fax: (416) 927-5555 Or call us at (416) 927-5560 or TTY at (416) 927-5626.

My Bank"

The Post-Secondary Program wishes to extend their Congratulations to all Graduates of 2000.

Success to Everyone.



# Bank of Montreal

# **Success for Aboriginal** college in Vancouver

By Yvonne Irene Gladue Windspeaker Staff Writer

#### VANCOUVER, B.C.

The Native Education Centre in Vancouver is a private post-secondary Aboriginal college. From the beginning of a one-room school in 1967 the school is now taught in a West Coast longhouse that holds up to 250 students.

"They developed this school to help Aboriginal people who had a Grade 5 level or whatever to graduate and get a decent job after graduating. It was obviously a good thing, especially with a lot of Aboriginal people coming from the reserves and moving into the city. The attendance grew so about 15 years ago they built this West Coast longhouse and this is where our present day college is," said Christine Piche, marketing director. "As Aboriginal people our history has been that we have never finished high school. A lot of Aboriginal people back then came out of a residential school and a majority of them could not make it in a mainstream school or a uni-

for Aboriginal people to get their Grade 12," she said.

From its basic upgrading course, the school now offers skills training and a number of university transfer programs.

Other courses include office administration, family and community counselling, Native criminal justice; a course in parole and probation, Aboriginal tourism management; a diploma and university transfer program, Aboriginal land stewardship; courses on environmental issues; sun mask tours; a youth training program and a course in digital video production. Students can also take courses in drum-making, button-blanket making, Aboriginal art history; West Coast art or held at the University of Aboriginal language. To date, graduates from the school have totaled more than 3,000. Many have gone on to be leaders in their communities as teachers, police officers or counsellors. Many have left with a certificate or a diploma in hand.

"The majority of the instructors are Aboriginal and our board of directors are all graduation dresses and

proud of this. It is having Aboriginals teaching Aboriginals. It is not unusual for you to see Elders coming in to bless the school. The other day there was a ceremony here with people drumming and singing," said Piche. "Lots of students get to learn about their culture here. Some of them did not get a chance to learn any traditions while growing up because they were either in foster homes or raised in a non-traditional family. Students are so much stronger when they leave here. They get so much pride after they've learned about their background and traditions," she said.

Plans are underway for a graduation ceremony on July 15. The ceremony will be British Columbia.

"I would say that we have about 70 students graduating. Some of the courses are longer than others, so it varies. We are still going through the final count of the graduates," said Piche. "They really look forward to the ceremony. A lot of the graduates make their own

Page 31

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POST-SECONDARY OFFICE STE. 200 - 277 DUKE STREET MONTREAL, QUEBEC H3C 2M2

### Consider a **Career** in Policing or Corrections

There is a strong employment Commissio store bieren alle michen sie Canada's Criminal Justice System. Lethbridge Community College offers a two-year certificate program in Corrections or Policing.

The programs are individually designed to meet each student's needs and combine regular course work with intensive academic assistance.

Employment opportunities are excellent or graduates could continue into diploma or degree options. Call today.



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versity. So there was a need Aboriginal and we are quite wear," she said,

A Family Event for the New Millennium

Fulling Square Dancing Banneck Baking Tug-o-war Youth Thight Show Gelebration of Mictis Whiter Multis Film and Video Festival Molis Art Exhibition Introductory Michie Workshop Educational and Display Pavilion Cultural Workshops Craft Market

Parks Canada Tours Live Entertainment Nightly Dances

GIVICES" 24 Hour second Gunning and Mator Home sites available Washeennys and Showers **Qod Booths** Site First and & A

#### The Métis Voyageur Games

Action And Extreme Sport with the 450 pound flour sack carry, horseback riding, hatchet throwing and many more skills of the MØtis Voyageur of the 1800's. Individual men's and women's **Competitions and Provincal Team competions** 

Children's Mini Festival

A week-long festival for the kids. Workshops, music, drama, activities and much more.

The Batoche Musical

Metis Fiddlers and traditional Jiggers in a story of two young lovers caught in the Battle of Batoche.

Rodeo and Wagon Races Three days of exciting rodeo events with Wagon and Chariot Races on the Batoche Rodeo Grounds.

**Ball Tournaments** 

Three-day tournament for Youth Boys and Girls and Co-ed Slow-pitch as well as Inter-provincial Men's Fastball.



#### **Gate Admission**

Festival Pass Individual \$20.00 Senior/Under 16 \$10.00 Under 12 Free

Individual Senior/Under 16 \$3.00 Under 12

\$5.00

Free

**Contact Info:** 

For further information Contact Batoche 2000 at Saskatoon 343-8285 or 1-888-343-6667

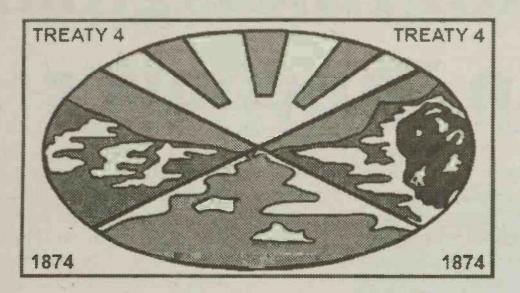
Or visit our Web Site at

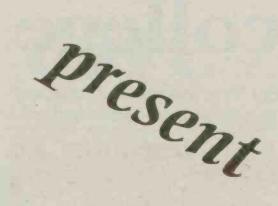
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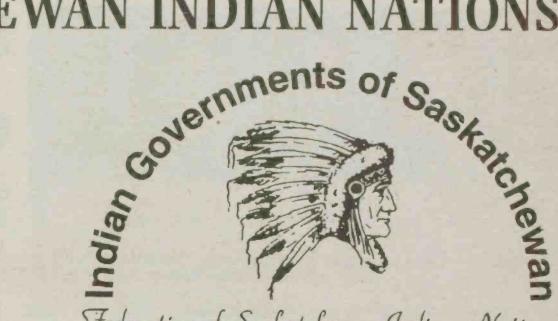
**NO ALCHOHOL OR DRUGS - STRICTLY ENFORCED** ee assumes no responsibility for personal injuries



## NEKANEET FIRST NATION & THE FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS







Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

# FIRST NATIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL HEALING & MEDICINES GATHERING 2000

# AUGUST 21 - 24, 2000

#### BACKGROUND

Many First people are at risk to a broad range of health problems. As an alternative to contemporary "western" treatment, more and more First Nations people are turning to alternative treatment and, in particular, to First Nations traditional healers and spiritual teachers.

First Nations healing and treatment is based on a "wholistic" balance of physical emotional, mental and spiritual healing, use of herbal medicines and the services of traditional healers.

The goal of this Nekaneet First Nation/FSIN is the wellness of the current and future generations of all First Nations peoples.

This project will provide wholistic/traditional healing to First Nations

people as a option utilizing the beliefs of the Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Dakota and Assiniboine traditional cultures as well as those of neighbouring First Nations in Canada and the United States - possibly even extending to traditional healing practices of Indigenous peoples from Central and South America.

The quality of life for First Nations people through traditional treatments and teachings will be enhanced and a broad range of alternative medical options will be made available for each individual to consider as a result of the gathering.

All activities during the gathering will be strongly oriented to indigenous treatment, culture and spirituality.

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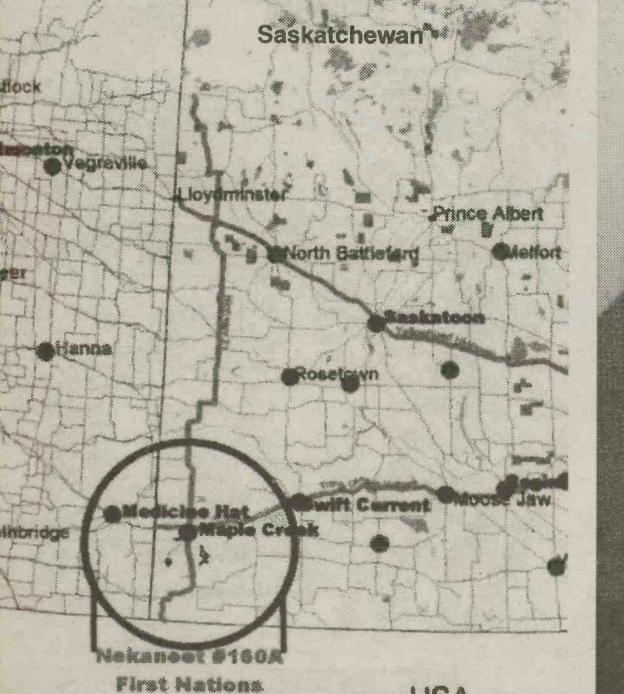
Time	Day 1
Sunrise	Pipe ceremony
8:00	Breakfast - Site #2
9:00	Sweats - Gordon
	Oakes (others will follow)
10:00	Exchange of medicines
	(Gymnasium)
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
2:00	Interpretive Tent begins
5:00	Rattle Ceremony
6:00	Supper
8:00 - 12:00	Mini Powwow
	(welcoming of all guests)

Day 2 Pipe ceremony Breakfast Sweats

Exchange of medicines (Gymnasium) Lunch Interpretive Tent begins Chicken Dance Ceremony Supper Mini Powwow (dedicated to all residential school survivors and in honour of those who have passed on) Day 3 Pipe ceremony Breakfast Sweats

Exchange of medicines (Gymnasium) Lunch Interpretive Tent begins Horse Dance Ceremony Supper Round Dance & Give away dance. Day 4 Pipe ceremony Breakfast Sweats

Exchange of medicines (Gymnasium) Lunch Interpretive Tent begins Ghost Ceremony Closing Feast



#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Nekaneet First Nation P.O. Box 548, Maple Creek, SK S0N 1N0

Contact Personnel: Chief Larry Oakes (306) 662-3660 or (306) 721-5177 Lesley Francis (306) 662-5022 or Fax (306) 662-4160

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Suite 200 - 103A Packham Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7N 4K4

Contact Personnel: Vice Chef Lindsay Cyr (306) 790-4101 Sharon Longjohn, Traditional Gathering Coordinator (306) 222-9747 Cheryle Brazeau (306) 956-6926 or Fax (306) 244-4413

