

RELIGION BEHIND BARS

See Page 10

Referendum: Which way should I vote?

See Pages 6-7

wisdom See Page 8

Elders

share

NJ. OB. NA. 40

June 16, 1989

Indian and Metis News...Every Week

Volume 7 No. 15

Crowfoot wary

\$874M may have strings

By Jeff Morrow Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

The federal government has committed \$874 million to bolster Native economic development in Canada.

But all that will be gained from the funding is another step by the government to dismantle its obligations to Treaty Indians, insists Blackfoot band Chief Strater Crowfoot.

Funding for the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development strategy (CAED) was announced June 12 at the Sarcee reserve near Calgary.

Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Pierre Cadieux and Minister of State Tom Hockin were on hand to unveil the five-year funding arrangement they believe will help Native communities become self-reliant through the development of businesses on their reserves.

Crowfoot, an advocate of on-reserve business diversification, charges the government with "lumping" bands together in an effort undermine Native individuality.

He said the government's plan to give bands business

funding is a positive first step, but could have an impact on future assistance.

seems like another step to the Buffalo Jump of the 1980s. Treaty Indians are losing the status they have,"

The Buffalo Jump was a term coined by an Indian Affairs official to describe the 1985 Neilson Task Force report which directed government policy in dealing with Native people.

ing Treaty rights of the First Nations.

ment's ultimate purpose then, as now, was to have Native's give up their natural status as Aboriginal people and assimilate into Canadian society.

assimilation.

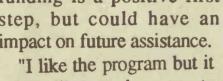
ply \$474 million.

drawing board for two

spokesman for the DIAND, said the federal government is committed to developing Aboriginal self-government through economic diversification.

He claims the plan will foster a stronger relationship between the Native and non-Native business communities and will result in more jobs on reserves.

Stephenson said they will be In Fort McMurray June 27, High Level June 28, Spruce Grove June 29 and St. Paul June 30.



he said.

Native leaders have viewed the policy, outlining self-determination initiatives, as a way of reducing federal expenditures on Indian programs and limit-

They claim the govern-

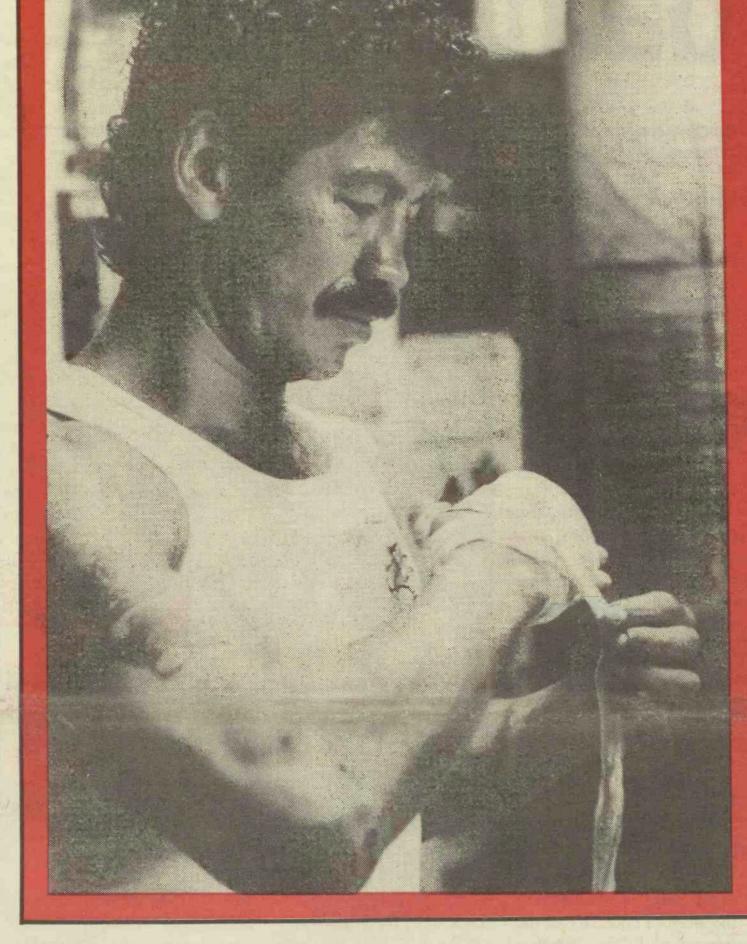
Crowfoot believes the latest cost-sharing initiative between Industry, Science and Technology Canada (ISTC) and the department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DIAND) is an attempt to mask the government's on-going process of

The ISTC has kicked in \$399 million and the DIAND has agreed to sup-

The plan has been on the years.

Doug Stephenson,

Government officials will be travelling throughout the province in June to announce the strategy.



Fighter's dreams in jeopardy

Cliff Gunpowder is a 34-year-old professional middleweight boxer fighting out of the Panther Gym of Edmonton and has dreams of competing for the Canadian middleweight crown in the very near future.

But now, those plans are in jeopardy as Gunpowder sits in the Edmonton Remand Centre after missing a May 3 court appearance for driving under suspension.

He believes that he is in the best shape of his life and is confident about the upcoming

get a shot at the Caradian middleweight Gunpowder title, admits it might be time to hang up his gloves as a professional.

See story by Keith Matthew on page 14.

Cadieux's hasty departure infuriates Ontario chiefs

By Jeff Morrow Windspeaker Staff Writer

TORONTO

The chiefs of Ontario threatened the Canadian government with militant action last week during a disruptive meeting in Toronto with Minister of Indian Affairs Pierre Cadieux.

Anger erupted when Cadieux left the meeting early and chiefs were denied a question period.

After his abrupt departure, the chiefs passed a resdemanding olution Cadieux's resignation.

"I told him (Cadieux) I should jump across the table and shake him," Chippewa Chief Ether Deleary said in a telephone interview from the Thames band near London, Ontario.

He criticized Cadieux for

being ill-prepared in his address to the delegates. He also blasted the minister for his hasty departure from the session as chiefs were lining up at a microphone to ask questions on a number of Native issues.

"I got so angry, I told the chiefs we have to get off our asses and do something. I'm angry, and when you're angry, you get militant. We should organize. You have to do something that makes the federal government know you're there. We should never rule out civil disobedience," he added.

Deleary said chiefs also became frustrated when Cadieux read a prepared speech, in French, outlining his plans to open up better lines of communication between bands and Indian Affairs.

If Cadieux wants to com-

municate with the chiefs of Ontario, Deleary said, he will have to do it in English.

"There are only a few chiefs in Southern Ontario that know French. We speak Ojibway and Cree. He might as well have talked Chinese. . . And somebody else wrote his words. It proves he doesn't know the issues," he said.

The chiefs also seized the opportunity to attack the Meech Lake constitutional accord.

The accord, which recognizes Quebec as a distinct society, is opposed by Ontario Chiefs because they say it could weaken Aboriginal rights claims.

After Cadieux left the session to attend a meeting in Saskatoon, the delegation voted to send a letter to Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney demanding

Cadieux resign as Minister of Indian Affairs.

But Deleary said their action, done in the heat of anger, may be fruitless.

"We just don't support federal government policies. And Mulroney is his (Cadieux's) boss. What does that say? We have to spell out what we want ourselves and not rely on the government," he said.

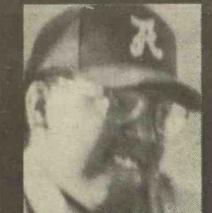
Cadieux's press secretary, Maryse Pesant, said the chiefs' delegation was aware the minister had engagements and was on a time constraint.

Because of his tight schedule, she said he must restrict his presentations and address all bands in the same manner.

Over 100 delegates attended the annual assembly of Chiefs of Ontario held from June 6-8.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK



LaFort lead **Crawlers to** victory See Page 16



Favel gets confidence from acting See Page 13



Wuttunee wins \$5,000 art prize See Page 12

NEXT WEEK

PROFILE: ATHABASCA, LAC LA **BICHE AND** ARDA

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I told him (Cadieux) I should jump across the table and shake him."

- Chippewa Chief Ether Deleary, about a Toronto meeting with Indian Affairs minister Cadieux.

Indians sue over water rights

Peigan fight dam project

By Gary Gee Windspeaker Staff Writer

PEIGAN RESERVE

In a last-ditch effort, the Peigan Indian Band plans to solicit nationwide support from Native groups in their fight to block the Oldman River dam.

The \$350-million dam, estimated one-third completed, is expected to begin operation by 1990, to provide irrigation for farmers in the Lethbridge area.

The band is suing the provincial government in a landmark Indian water rights case over Aboriginal rights to the Oldman River which flows through their reserve, about 150 km southwest of Calgary. They claim those rights are included in Treaty 7.

The Peigan also are seeking a court injunction to stop construction of the dam.

In their suit, the band claims construction of the Three Rivers Dam, located three miles upstream from the western boundary of the reserve, will cause irreparable damage to the reserve.

They claim flooding of 24 km of valley will destroy wildlife, trees, marshland and an ancient tribal burial ground.

The band is presently appealing an earlier decision in January when an application to hear their case was denied in provincial court. The appeal was filed last month.

Peigan Chief Leonard Bastien is optimistic the appeal will be successful.

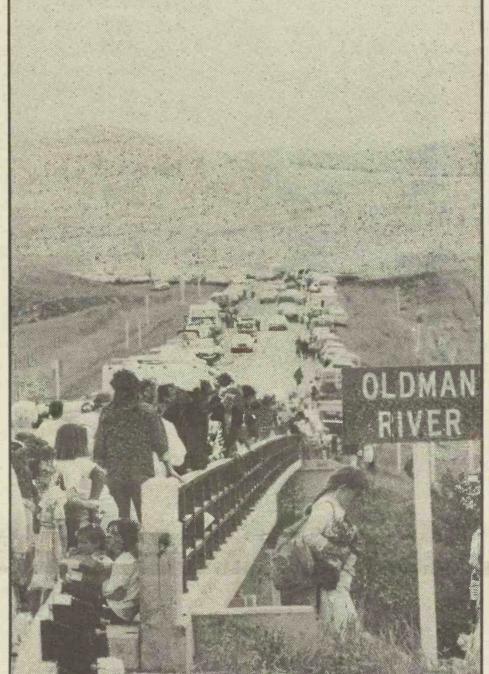
"I have to believe in it. It's all we have," said Bastien.

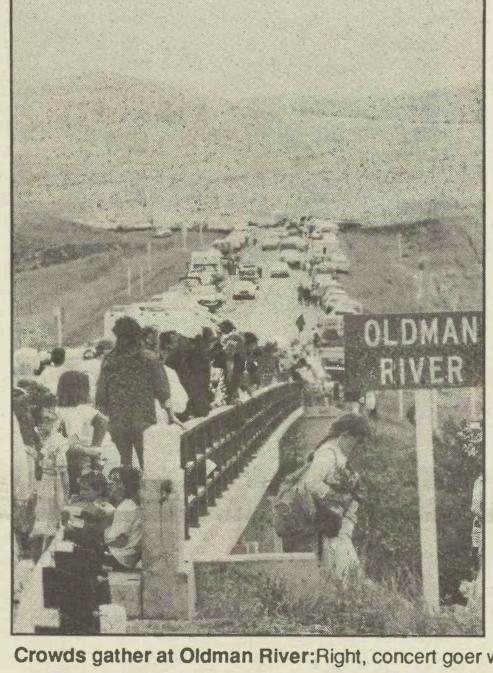
"We believe we have a case and we will fight them in court, based on their laws. And it is their laws which have not given us an opportunity," he said.

A decision on the appeal is expected within weeks.

Bastien said support. both financial and moral, is needed by Native organizations across Canada because any decision on the lawsuit will be a landmark affecting other Indian bands.

Although American Indian tribes have won court battles in water rights cases, there have been no Canadi-





Crowds gather at Oldman River: Right, concert goer wearing protest T-shirt

an Indian tribes who have filed a water rights case until the Peigan band launched their suit last August.

"It's probably the most important issue case of all for native organizations. So we plan to solicit support across Canada. And there's a proposal to set up a support network in Alberta," said Bastien.

The band has hired Thomas Berger, former commissioner of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline inquiry and Native lawyer Louise Mandell to represent them.

Bastien says the band has limited resources to fight the case and is at the mercy of the provincial government which has said it will build the dam despite intense opposition.

Last Sunday, 8,000 people gathered on the banks of the Oldman River at Maycroft Crossing for a free rock concert to protest construction of the dam.

Bastien believes the event sent a strong message to the provincial government but he is not optimistic they will stop construction.

Last week, Premier Don Getty said in the Legislature the strong turnout had not changed his mind about construction. Environment minister Ralph Klein said that the issue is still before the courts.

"Building the dam was always a political decision," Bastien charged.

"One of my beliefs is that it will be selling water to the United States because of the Free Trade Agreement. Shortage of water is Andy Russell agreed with an issue there right now."

The federal and provincial government refused to conduct an environmental, social and cultural impact study requested by the band before proceeding with construction.

"The government has total and blatant disregard for any of our values," charged Bastien. "If we had to take all the books away from Western Culture, where would they be? It will have the same impact on the traditional beliefs and spiritual life of this band."

Ancient burial grounds which have been there for thousands of years will be washed away.

And Bastien says because waterflow will be regulated by the dam, there will be none of the spring

runoff needed to carry nutrients to the flora and fauna of the river valley.

A whole valley of cottonwood and willow trees, which are used by band elders for sundances, sweatlodges, and pipe ceremonies, could be lost.

"Basically, in a few years, life in the river valley will be dead," he predicted.

Noted environmentalist that assessment.

"The Peigans will have no trees in their valley. There will be a big impact for a long period of time, not just a few years, but for-

On June 15, the Friends of the Oldman River, an environment group formed to oppose the dam's construction, had their federal court challenge adjourned for one month to allow the province time to prepare a defense.

Spokesmen for the group say their chances have been enhanced by a recent court injunction stopping construction of the Rafferty-Alameda dam project in southern Saskatchewan.

The group plans to argue that, as in the case of the Rafferty-Alameda project, the federal license for the Oldman dam construction was issued without proper environmental studies being

The group will be back in provincial court June 19 to begin a civil suit, regarding what they believe is a violation under the Federal Fisheries Act.

New Democrat environment critic John McInnis believes it's possible the courts will side with opponents since no public hearings were conducted before a decision was made to build the dam.

"It was a political decision and nothing else mattered. Every other issue, the environment, Aboriginal entitlement, didn't matter," McInnis said.

"The taxpayers are paying for a project that will benefit about 100 farmers. A lot of people are paying but few are benefiting," he said.

In 1979, the Environment Council of Alberta recommended the dam not be built, saying it was not required "at this time, nor in the forseeable future".

The report said the site for the dam was not wellchosen and would likely cause extensive social and environmental damage.

Vote injunction held until deal reviewed

By Susan Enge Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

The Metis Association of Alberta will hold off filing a court injunction to block the Federation of Metis Settlement's June 20 referendum on hold until further review.

The association is holding a general meeting in Athabasca to discuss the provincial government's proposed land, cash and self-government package deal.

Metis from on and offsettlements across the province are being invited to the workshop session.

"We think the deal is being improperly sold in terms of it being communicated. Everybody's confused," said Larry Desmeules, president of the association.

Desmeules said Metis from the settlements need more time to consider the government's offer before they go to the polls next week.

Frantic telephone calls from across the province from members are flooding the MAA office.

Whether or not the association seeks an injunction will depend on the outcome of the weekend meeting, he said. Desmeules plans to reserve his final decision until then.

Desmeules believes the government's financial settlement is adequate, although a bit low. He said the constitutional protection of Metis settlement lands is one of the deal's best features.

Most Metis in Alberta

don't think it is an unrealistic offer, he added,

Last week, the Metis Association of Alberta announced they wanted to be included in the referendum.

Desmeules recommended the opinion poll be conducted provincewide and include all Metis people in the province, not just settlement members.

"What we're trying to do is shake out some of the cobwebs, get some dialogue to a basic level," said Desmeules.

If the association wanted to challenge the referendum, they could question whether the federation is qualified to negotiate anything beyond subsurface resource ownership.

"They (Federation of Metis Settlements) are way

out of their jurisdiction.
They don't have the mandate from the Metis people," said Desmeules.

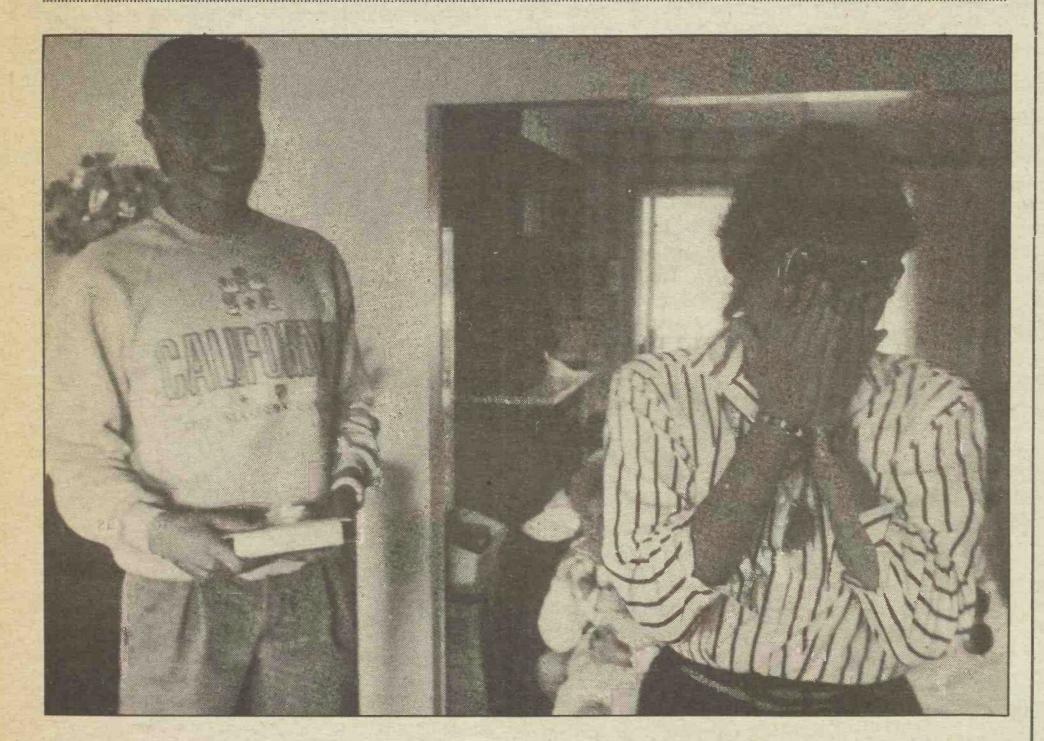
Randy Hardy, president of the federation, was unavailable for comment.

Out of the 5,500 settlement members, only 2,500 will vote on June 20. There are 52,000 Metis living in Alberta.

They must decide whether to accept a 17-year deal providing \$310 million to upgrade housing and community facilities, title to 1.3 million acres of land, and new self-government legislation.

In return, the federation would drop a \$350 million lawsuit against the Alberta government for alleged failure to deposit oil and gas royalties from settlements in the Metis trust fund.

EXPRESSIONS



Mother and son reunite after 12 years

Ada McLain, at right, is overwhelmed with emotion after seeing her son Sheldon, 18, for the first time in 12 years.

McLain, originally from Cold Lake, had the tearful reunion with son Sheldon and George in Idaho recently. The mother was attending George's wedding.

The 40-year-old mother hadn't seen nor talked to her son since a family breakup in 1977.

After the breakup, McLain went to Canada while George and Sheldon remained in the U.S. with their father. Then in 1983, after their father died, the two boys were

sent to an Idaho foster home.

At the wedding reception, McLain and her sons' foster mother stood together in the receiving line and introduced themselves as the two mothers.

McLain is now remarried. She is a teacher's aide at a Calgary school.

Sheldon will be attending a Los Angeles college on a \$50,000 basketball scholarship this fall.

George, 20, will live and work in Kellogg, Idaho, with his wife. The newlyweds are expecting a child and are undecided about whether or not to return to college.

Leaders slam tear gas attack

Native leaders lambasted police and the Quebec government Wednesday for using tear gas on 30 Indian protesters blocking RCMP from leaving their reserve at Les Escoumins, Que.

The tear gas attack came after a 10-hour standoff when RCMP officers tried to investigate alleged unemployment insurance fraud on the reserve, located 200 kilometres east of Quebec City.

Quebec Labrador Vice-Chief Konrad Sioui said the brutal attack was unwarranted.

"It's like killing a fly with a bazooka," Sioui said.

RCMP officers and inspectors were trapped when they tried to leave with band documents and computers.

The 12,000 Montagnais Indians living between Labrador and the reserve have been trying to reach a land-claim settlement with the Quebec and federal governments for the past 10 years.

Manitoba revives justice probe

Manitoba MLAs pushed through a law last Wednesday to revive the province's derailed native justice inquiry.

The legislation was quickly drafted after the Manitoba Court of Appeal ruled two weeks ago the inquiry was invalid because it was established by cabinet orders written in English only.

But other roadblocks loom in the horizon for the commission.

The Winnipeg Police Association has launched a court challenge to try to stop the inquiry from recalling police witnesses to the stand who have already testified at an inquest into the fatal shooting by police of Indian leader J.J. Harper. Police fear their officers, who have been cleared of wrongdoing in the death, may come under further public scrutiny.

However, the commission can now proceed into hearings on the Helen Betty Osborne case. Osborne's brutal 1971 in The Pas, Man. was unsolved for 16 years.

The former NDP government established the inquiry after a public outcry about the Osborne and Harper cases.

Jet flights upset Natives

Native leaders are rankled by Defence Minister Bill McKnight's decision to allow low-level military flights over Canada's North.

The minister granted permission to the U.S. Air Force to conduct four one-day flights a year to train nuclear bomber pilots. Canadian and American fighter jets will try to intercept the bombers.

The flights will take a 1,490-km route along the northeastern shore of Great Slave Lake south to Alberta and northern Saskatchewan to the Canadian Forces Base at Cold Lake. The exercises will involve between 15 and 25 bombers and up to 12 interceptor aircraft, with planes cruising at altitudes between 400 and 2,000 feet.

Natives fear the low-level bomber flights will scare away wildlife and disturb the migratory patterns of caribou they hunt.

Dene leaders have not ruled out restoring the same kinds of blockades and protests that the Innu of Labrador have used to protest similiar low-level military flights.

B.C. unearths Indian burial site

A team of archeologicals is racing against time to recover bones from an ancient Indian burial site unearthed in a B.C. highway expansion project.

Last Monday, the team discovered the dusty skeleton of a child buried between five and 15 centuries ago. It appears the child's remains may be just one of up to 10,000 skeletons at the artifact-rich dig.

The excavation is on land the province's Highways Ministry is using to expand a right-of-way through the Tsawwassen Indian reserve.

The site was once a Salish summer village home to ancestors of both the Musqueam and Tsawwassen bands

It remained virtually untouched until last year, when the B.C. Highways Ministry approached the 150-member Tsawwassen Indian band about the throughway. Scientists believe the site was abandoned after the first great smallpox epidemic that wiped out Natives of B.C.'s coast in the 1770s.



Windspeaker is published by the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) each Friday to provide information primarily to Native people of northern Alberta. Windspeaker was established in 1983 and is politically independent. Indexed in the Canadian Magazine Index and indexed on-line in the Canadian Business & Current Affairs Database and Canadian Periodical Index.

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Windspeaker welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be brief and include the name, address and telephone number of the writer. We will not print unsigned letters unless there is a good reason for withholding your name and even then the editor must know the identity of the writer. Windspeaker reserves the right to edit letters for length, taste and libel.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK
By Kim McLain

Walk the talk

It's one thing to say you're a role model, but quite another thing actually being a role model.

Someone should tell that to Cliff Gunpowder, 34-year-old pro boxer (See story this week on page 14).

The Metis boxer's plans to fight Nevada's Stan Ward at Calgary later this month are in jeopardy. The ex-con is sitting in Edmonton's Remand Centre after missing a court appearance for driving under suspension.

The law breaker turned jaw breaker said he wants to tell kids not to flirt with the law, or they'll end up spending a lifetime in jail like he did.

Unfortunately, Gunpowder's actions might be speaking louder than his words.

I'd prefer to see Gunpowder succeed in setting a good example for our children, but that's not going to happen right now. We'll just have to wait and see how serious he is about turning his life around.

If we can forgive Ben Johnson, surely we can forgive Gunpowder.

Jailhouse flock

Sometimes, we do things backwards.

Some of us mix self-will with alcohol and sooner or later we find ourselves in jail. Once behind bars, we get turned on to Indian religion. The rehabilitation begins as we focus our growth on the spiritual aspects of ourselves.

The irony is that we probably would have avoided incarceration if we have sought that spiritual growth in the first place.

But I doubt the trend to commit crimes first, than seek help after, will ever change.

It seems we avoid painful change unless we are forced into it. Things like landing in jail, losing a job, breaking up a family, are all just attention getters. The crises are the tangible results of of our psyche saying: "There's something with my attitude that doesn't jive."

Still, I'm glad our brother and sisters behind bars are finding the spiritual healing they need. (See story on page 10)

Celebration announced

Dear Editor:

The eight Metis settlements of Alberta are 50 years old this year. To commemorate this milestone occasion, Fishing Lake Metis Settlement is hosting a 50th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration on June 24 and 25, 1989 here on the settlement.

We have tried to notify and invite past residents through our local members, however it is difficult to reach everyone. If there are any readers within your distribution area who have ever

lived in Fishing Lake, please accept this as your invitation to come and participate.

There is camping spots available and activities planned throughout the weekend.

For more information, please call Diane at 943-2365/2202 during business hours.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Diane Parenteau
Anniversary Committee Member

Peltier symbol of struggles

Dear Editor:

Greetings my brothers, sisters and friends. Tansi.

I am sending you my voice and requesting your support for Leonard Peltier, our leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM) who has been unfairly treated by the United States justice system and Leavenworth Prison in Kansas.

Leonard is a symbol of our peoples' struggles, as Nelson Mandela is in South Africa.

He is a political prisoner held unjustly by the United States government because of his strength as a true leader and warrior of our people.

The United States government is afraid of Leonard Peltier because of he speaks from his heart and has a great love for our ancestors and our people.

Leonard has lost all his appeals for freedom and a new trial in the United States justice system. That same justice system helped the United States government try to silence Leonard's voice by wrongfully convicting him of the murder of two FBI agents who were found dead on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota after a shootout, which our people claim was started by the agents.

However, a team of lawyers,

headed by the well-known Clayton Ruby, has won a bid to bring oral arguments on an appeal of his 1976 extradition hearing before the Supreme Court of Canada.

If the court rules in his favor, then U.S. officials may release Peltier to Canada through diplomatic channels or agree to release him completely.

What I am requesting is that rallies and ceremonies be held in support of Leonard Peltier on the day of his hearing June 12.

I also urge readers to write to their members of Parliament for their support for Leonard Peltier's freedom and return to Canada.

I ask all our people and supporters inside the prison system, those living in the cities and those on reserves to do all they can by way of support.

Pilayama (Thank you) for hearing my heart.

Free Leonard Peltier. Free the People. Free Nelson Mandela. Free all political prisoners.

Honor Mother Earth. Support the People's Struggles. Respect the Elders' Circle.

> In the Spirit of Crazy Horse, Larry Carlston Interim President National Native Brotherhood Sisterhood Council

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Hunger strike over, but E-12 fight goes on

By Jeff Morrow Windspeaker Staff Writer

OTTAWA

The hunger strikers have ended their fast but not their struggle, said the spokesman for the First Nations Student Network.

The Ottawa-based group, which spearheaded the nationwide campaign to halt the federal government's education cutbacks, has disbanded but hasn't given up its fight for recognition, said Beverly Scow.

She said the E-12 policy changes are as contentious as ever and are being handled on regional levels.

The hunger strike in Ottawa lasted almost two months and included more than 50 people. Scow said they were able to feed Native anger long enough to get protests going in local communities.

"We made an effort to get things going. The students came together and were committed. Now we are depending on strong community support," she said.

Network members from Native groups accross the country are continuing to communicate through the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) office.

"They (NWAC) have been really good to us while we were there. Now they are letting us continue to contact each other by phone. It's not over," she said.

She blames the group's demise on depleting finan-

cial support but said it was able to show the public how devious the federal government could be in dealing with Native people.

"After Cadieux (federal minister of Indian Affairs) made his present stand known there would be no delays in the cutbacks, we said our protest will go on," Scow said.

Other projects are under way that Scow believes will give Native concerns even more publicity.

Scow said she will be taking the Native education

issue to a youth student festival held in South Korea at the end of the month.

Scow said she will be operating a booth where she will be handing out information about the cutbacks.

Over 150 countries will be participating in the international conference which Scow said will enable her to tell the world of the problems Native Canadians have to face.

The Assembly of First Nations has called on network members to stage a nationwide caravan to Parliament Hill to protest postsecondary cutbacks.

Scow said the network was able to achieve a strong unity among Natives, indicating their will to stand up for Aboriginal rights.

"We feel what we did was create a national movement and public awareness. Our Ottawa group wasn't enough to cause a change (in government) so we'll go about it a different way," she said.

Calahasen appointed to development group

EDMONTON—Lesser Slave Lake MLA Pearl Calahasen has been appointed to the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC).

The NADC is a 10-member committee that promotes social and economic development in Northern Alberta. It deals with topics ranging from industrial development to education issues.

Al Adair, minister responsible for northern development, chose Calahasen through a nomination process held in December.

Calahasen will be replacing John Drobot, MLA for St. Paul.

Bob Elliott, MLA for

Grande Prairie, will be returning as chairman.

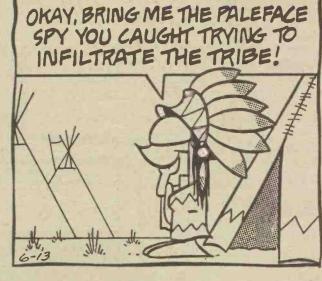
"The Northern Alberta Development Council has proven itself to be one of the most valuable communication vehicles for northern residents. The newly-appointed council will undoubtedly continue the work of previous councils to promote practical measures to develop northern Alberta," Adair said upon making the announcement.

Gilbert Balderstone, of Sexsmith, Harold Junck, of Swan Hills and Earl Dionne of Fort McMurray, were also appointed to the board.

The NADC will be holding its first public meeting in Wabasca June 20.

Tumbleweeds

By Tom K. Ryan











THAT AIN'T SO! I WANT TO

MARRY YOU ZAUSE YER FINE



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sober Dance, Last Saturday of the month, Poundmaker/Nechi. Admission \$6/person.
- Co-ed Slow-Pitch Tournament, June 23, 24, & 25, Hobbema, AB, For more information call Marjorie at (403) 585-3744.
- Powwow, June 23-25, Saddle Lake. For more information call 726-3829.
- ☐ Enoch Golf Classic, June 23-25, Indian Lakes Golf Course (20 minutes west of Edmonton). For further inquiries phone Jerome Morin at 470-3555.
- Dance, June 24, 9:00p.m. Admission-\$6 (Except Graduates), Nechi/Poundmaker Lodge, St Albert, AB
- Peewee Fastball Tournament, June 24 & 25, Howard Buffalo Memorial, Hobbema. Interested teams please call Vaughn at 585-3012.
- The Metis Settlements of Alberta, 50th Anniversary Celebrations, June 30-July 2, Kikino Metis Settlement, AB, Call George LaFleur-1-800-282-9902.
- ☐ Faust Homecoming, June 30-July 2, Faust, AB, Contact: Cindy Sheets (403) 355-3877
- Prince Albert Indian & Metis Friendship Centre Jamboree, June 30-July 3, Prince Albert, Sask. Contact Eugene Arcand 1-306-764-3431.
- Poundmaker/Nechi Powwow, June 30-July 1 & 2, St. Albert, Alberta. Call 458-1884 for more.
- ☐ Treaty Day, July 1 & 2, Beaver Lake. A men's and ladies fastball tournament true double knockout will also be held. Entry fee: \$500 for both. Call Eric Lameman at 623-4549 for more. ☐ Eagle Flight '89, Elder/Youth Conference, July
- 4-7, Alexander Reserve. Contact: Bob Cardinal

- 962-0303 for more.
- ☐ Yellowhead Tribal Council Youth Conference, July 5, 6, & 7, Alexander, AB
- ☐ Indian Days Celebrations, July 7, 8 & 9, Alexis Reserve. Contact: Dan Alexis 967-2225 (office) or 967-5762 & Dennis Cardinal at 967-5344 (home).
- Cold Lake Treaty Days, July 7-9, English Bay, Contact: Bernice Martial, Rick Janvier or Harvey Scanie at 594-7183.
- ☐ Yellowhead Tribal Council, Powwow, July 7, 8 & 9
- □ Louis Bull Annual Golf Tournament, July 7-9, Wetaskiwin Golf Club, Wetaskiwin, AB, Contact: 585-4075
- ☐ YTC Non-Competition Powwow, July 7-9, Alexander Reserve. Contact Tony Arcand 939-5887 for more.
- ☐ Thunderchild Powwow, July 13-16, 9 Miles Northeast of Turtleford, Sask., (306) 845-3425 for more.
- ☐ 3rd Annual Summer Gospel Music Festival,
 July 14-16, Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement Camp
 Site, Caslan, AB. Contact Mike Sigurdur 470-0746
 for more.
- Survival Powwow, July 20-23, Onion Lake, Sask. For information call Joe Waskewitch at (306) 344-2107.
- ☐ Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Powwow, July 21-23, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, AB. Call 265-0048.
- □ Lac Ste. Anne Annual Pilgrimage, July 22-27, Alberta Beach. For information call (403) 459-7177. □ Spiritual Unity of Tribes, July 23-29, Ashams Beach, Pasqua Reserve. Sask. Contact the

- Spiritual Unity of Tribes Committee, Box 37, Edgeley, Sask. S0G 1L0.
- ☐ Sarcee Powwow, July 27-30, Sarcee Reserve.

 Call 281-4455 for more.
- ☐ The Alberta Indian Arts & Crafts Society,
 1989 Alberta Native Handcrafted Doll
- Competition—Call for Entry, Deadline for entry-August 4, For more information call 426-2048.
- Paul Band including a men's and ladies fastball tournament. Host drum Blackstone from Sask.
- Canadian Native Men's Fastball
 Championship, August 4-7, Charlie Krupp
 Memorial Stadium, Winnipeg, Man. For more
 information contact: Terry Bone-(204) 942-0228
 (days) or (204) 633-0629 (evenings).
- Cultural Days, Aug. 4 7, Beaver Lake. A men's and ladies fastball tournament to be held—entry fee \$400 for both. Call Eric Lameman at 623-4549 for more.
- ☐ Peigan Band Indian Days, Aug. 4 7, Brocket, AB. For more info contact Brian or Joanne at 965-3939.
- ☐ Little Cree-ations 1st Annual Red Eye
 Slowpitch Tournament, August 11-13, Hobbema,
 Call Derwin or May at 585-2447.
- Powwow, Aug. 15-17, Prince Albert, Sask.

 Hosted by Prince Albert Indian & Metis Friendship

 Centre. Contact Brenda 1-306-764-3431.
- ☐ Kehewin Powwow, August 25-27, Kehewin Reserve. Call 826-3333 for more.
- ☐ Tribal Arts '89, Sept. 22-24, Sioux Falls, S.D. Contact: Shirley A. Bordeaux, 311 N. Phillips Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57102 Ph: (605) 334-4060.

The Metis Referendum

Boyd: Deal not self-government

By Susan Enge Windspeaker Staff Writer

PADDLE PRAIRIE

An independent lawyer hired by a Paddle Prairie resident says the historic cash, government and land agreement the Federation of Metis Settlements negotiated with the Alberta government falls short of self-govemment.

Angus Boyd said if the settlement councils think they are creating a homeland for Metis people with independent decision-making powers, they're fooling themselves.

"In fact, it's my contention that this legislation even falls short of a municipal government," Boyd told. a packed community hall at the settlement, 70 km south of High Level.

City and town councils wouldn't stand for any kind of interference or direct involvement by provincial government department ministers, said Boyd.

He said the Minister of Municipal Affairs would control power over the membership criteria, review and approve policies on membership, hunting, and fishing and still hold a lot of power over settlement councils.

The ordinary Canadian citizen does not have to undergo similar screening to live in cities, towns or rural centres.

Bills 64 and 65 provide for governing the eight settlements and for a general council that would set policy and hold title to the 1.2 million acres of land.

Boyd also drew attention to the power the minister has over land matters.

Under Part 7 of Bill 64, the Minister can make regulations respecting the management of land in settlement areas, establish a land registry, settle disputes, subdivide land and transfer

rights to land.

"You don't have to suffer Ministerial control outside the settlements so why should you have to suffer inside?" he questioned.

"If that's all you want I don't know why this (Alberta-Settlements Accord) was created. The government is not giving up a whole lot," he said.

"If it's such a good deal, why is the (provincial) government retaining so much control?" Boyd asked the crowd.

What is especially worrisome is the fact that the settlements will not own land, said Boyd. Title to settlement lands will belong to the federation's general council.

If self-government means something more than gaining fee-simple title to land, the Metis were not acquiring anything more land rights than the ordinary citizen.

"You're not being treated any differently than any others," said Boyd.

As a note of caution, he told Paddle Prairie residents they could theoretically lose their land to the federation if they carried out their threat to pull out of the Metis union.

The Metis stand to lose any kind of self-governing powers and recognition of Aboriginal rights in the agreement.

sparked angry comments from a few federation employees and executive.

But, organizers of the workshop wanted a second opinion.

'We think the federation has been giving us the wrong interpretation. We wanted to get another point of view," said Arthur (Skipper) Villeneuve, a Paddle Prairie resident.

Paddle Prairie may decide to boycott the vote until they have had more time to review the complicated deal.

THE METIS SETTLEMENTS - ALBERTA GOV'T DEAL

Which way should I vote?

On one hand . . .

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Ownership of the land will be projected by the Canadian Constitution (Alberta Act).

On the other hand . . .

a The settlements would SSE THE CONTROL OF TH against the provincial (CYCHINICAL)

> minister ean ve o Selienen Follie **egesions**

Milesellenens Wolly own shiethleses rights — like oil, gas, mines and minerals.

The agreement doesn't mention Aboriginal rights.

Macdonald: Take deal, lawsuit unsure

By Susan Enge Windspeaker Staff Writer

PADDLE PRAIRIE

The lawyer for Metis settlements caught members by surprise last week when he advised a packed community hall in Paddle Prairie to drop their natural Boyd's presentation resources lawsuit against the province and settle their claim out of court.

> Angus Macdonald told the crowd June 7 if they won the 21-year-old court case, they would stand to gain as much as \$350 million. But that could take another three years to reach the Supreme Court of Cana-

He said the government's offer of a 17-year \$310 million financial agreement is too much money to gamble

"Take the offer...I can't guarantee that I can get

ownership of land for you," Macdonald told the meeting at the settlement, 70 km south of High Level.

The government has promised to transfer 1.2 million acres of land over to the eight Metis settlements.

Macdonald warned the Metis not to depend on the goodwill of the government for land title. If they did, their communal way of life could be jeopardized and their political clout as a unified group would disintegrate.

"If the government really wanted to destroy (the Metis), they would simply transfer the (settlement) lands to the individual occupants," noted Macdonald. The move would divide the Metis people, he said.

He said the government wouldn't dare take land away from the Metis, even if the lawsuit was contin-

"I don't think the government would be that stupid. The Metis leaders are better politically organized. And, it wouldn't be a politically sound decision." he said.

The Metis who live on settlement currently pay an annual levy of \$10. But they are ineligible for government programs available to the ordinary tax-paying Alberta citizens.

However, if the Metis endorse the government agreement, they would become eligible for government programs, said Macdonald.

The Federation of Metis Settlements, a union of eight settlement councils, took the council to court in 1968 and again in 1974.

They wanted the oil and gas royalties the province collected from settlement lands to be placed in the Metis Trust Fund set up in 1938 under the Metis Betterment Act.

The province claims the Metis own surface rights only and were not entitled to any royalties.

If a Metis Settlement opts out of the June 20 referendum, rejects the government offer and decides to sue for royalty rights, Macdonald predicted the federation would not supply their information.

The court cost would have to be paid by the settlement, he added.

Since Macdonald began the Metis' litigation case in 1975, his fees have amounted to \$300,000.

Paddle Prairie's settlement council voted to opt out of the referendum unless the vote was delayed. They need more time to examine the deal and are unhappy with its provisions for selfgovernment.

Paddle Prairie to hold last-minute meeting

By Susan Enge Windspeaker Staff Writer

PADDLE PRAIRIE

Paddle Prairie's Metis leader promises to hold one last general meeting this week before any decision to withdraw from the June 20 referendum is made.

... "We're going to decide ... power being held by three ... But, he said the issue

whether we go for the referendum or not," said chairman Mervin Bellerose.

After a three-day marathon workshop session in his community, Bellerose recommended some major structural changes to the

One of the proposed changes is to redefine veto

settlements to one, forcing unanimous decisions.

He told the assembly of leaders to start handing out more information to their members.

A land allocation policy which is acceptable to all settlements still need to be hammered out, Bellerose told the group.

was never resolved and remains one of the most controversial and most difficult issues facing the council.

"It's like opening an old wound. That issue was tabled, nothing was resolved," said Bellerose.

However, Bellerose's requests comes almost too

The other settlement leaders were ready to proceed with the referendum and were not prepared to change any features of the Accord.

"We were not getting any reaction back," said Bellerose.

In fact, Bellerose said other leaders "never said a word," but consented to discuss amendments only after the referendum. "People view the deal as

an opportunity to help determine their destiny instead of being dictated to. We don't want to wait another 20 years. There's too much to give up," said Peavine's settlement administrator, Dennis Cunningham.

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allows other students to work at a slower pace and master the topic. Teachers can direct several

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5. Advancement by Competency

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leaming.

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The Metis Referendum

Sub-agreement proposed

Settlements may get partial control over oil-gas development

By Susan Enge Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Metis settlements would gain partial control over oil and gas development and exploration on their land if they accept the historical land deal with the Alberta government.

"While we do not have the title to the mines and minerals, we will be controlling them jointly with the province," states Federation president Randy Hardy stated in a news release June

According to the final version of Co-Management of Subsurface Resources document, a sub-agreement to the finance package, settlement councils will have the opportunity to negotiate up to 25 per cent share on any project.

"Settlements can work with the industry rather than just place boundaries around them. This means direct involvement in the development of oil and gas," said Hardy.

The agreement allows the Metis the chance to advise industry on each settlement's development plans and needs.

"The agreement...ensures that (the settlements) unique land priorities are considered in oil and gas development," said Hardy.

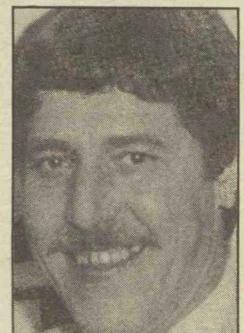
A Settlements Access Committee would be set up to control industry's encroachment on to settlement's oil-rich lands.

The review committee would be made up of commissioner who would smooth the transition of power to settlements, the Energy Resources Conservation Board and a Metis.

They would ensure development plans are sensitive to each particular settlement.

"Each settlement will be able to ensure that development will be guided by their priorities and needs," said Hardy.

Not only will settlement councils have the chance to negotiate an access fee with industry but also they will have the opportunity to



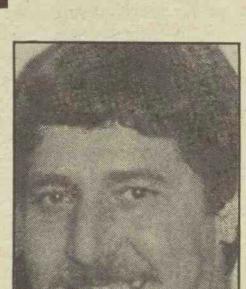
Settlements' prez: Hardy

negotiate their own oil and gas royalties.

If access to develop resources on settlement lands is denied, the province and the general council will reimburse costs incurred by the developer.

The Alberta government has offered the Federation of Metis Settlements a 17year \$310-million financial compensation package.

The Metis, however, must agree to drop their \$350million lawsuit against the province and give up their fight for subsurface resource ownership rights.



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N • V • I • T "Winds of Change"

Elders gather at Bonnyville, share wisdom

By Diane Parenteau Windspeaker Correspondent

BONNYVILLE

Surrounded by the natural beauty of jack pines, fresh water lakes and wideopen skies, hundreds gather to hear the wisdom of elders last week.

The second annual Elders Gathering, hosted by the Bonnyville Canadian Native Friendship Centre, was held June 6 to 9 at the Moose Lake Pentacostal Youth Camp.

For four days, participants from many walks of life, both Native and non-Native, shared camping facilities, meals and their thoughts and feelings during numerous workshop sessions.

Workshops were held on

a range of topics from family violence, suicide, and alcohol abuse to youth and the counselling wheel.

Elders from as far away as Ontario and southern Alberta joined local elders to promote a better understanding of Native culture.

"Elders gatherings have always been popular in the East and we thought it was time to bring them here to help instill the Native culture to our Native people," said organizer Laureen Mury.

"It also educates the non-Native population to promote better understanding."

The leader of the Friendship Centre's elder council hoped that people would learn to get along better with the help of elders gath-

"This is a learning experience for the participants to appreciate the difference in people and respect them," said 74-year-old Morris Lewis, of Onion Lake.

Between the drumming of an evening round dance, Lewis spoke about the dif-

Send resumes to:

ferences between tribes and even within tribes.

"By these gatherings, we learn a lot, we exchange talk, we exchange ideas. It's a great thing to have a gathering like this," said the grey-haired Lewis.

"Some of these elders are really good speakers, explaining about life. Us elders explain the ways our forefathers told to us." Lewis said, his frail brown hands gesturing while he spoke.

"I thought I knew a lot, but I'm still learning," he concluded.

Gerald Cuthbert, manager of the Nistowoyou Fort McMurray Friendship Centre, came to the gathering to meet the elders and learn from their teachings. He hopes to incorporate what he has learned into his programs.

"We came to see traditional elders and have these elders become a part of our culture. To find out what influence they have on the lives of others," Cuthbert

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Driftpile River Band #450

Ann Jock, a 58-year-old elder from the Akwesasne Reserve on the St. Lawrence River near Montreal, was invited back to host the gathering for a second year.

Jock cited a noticeable difference in the atmosphere of this year's event.

"I think the spirits of the people are starting to wake up...it's a lot stronger," said Jock, an extremely solemn woman whose voice is soothing as she speaks.

She believes Native people are the natural people of the world and hold the key to mankind.

Many participants who attended the week-long session were white-collar professionals who deal with Native people while others were school children curious to learn more about their past.

Evening activities provided another perspective on the Native way with sweatlodges, traditional dancers and ceremonies performed by the elders.

Elder's vision urges return to spirituality

By Diane Parenteau Windspeaker Correspondent

BONNYVILLE

Since she had a vision more than 20 years ago, Ann Jock has dedicated her life to teaching the ways and traditions of Native people.

"I was gifted with a vision to help my people go back to reality and be real again spiritually and accept the oneness of oneself and the Creator," said Jock, a 58-year-old Mohawk Indian from the Akwesasne Reserve near Montreal.

Jock grew up on a farm with the traditional way of life but after she went back to school and had to learn a new culture, she turned to self-destructive behaviors like drinking.

'I had to go back to the old ways," said Jock.

Then, she had a vision. A star.

"He stood before me, it was probably the Creator himself," she recalls. "I was told to help the people, the children, the elders, all the people, all human beings.

"All the things I was told, I had to do in my vision. All the happenings have happened. And he also told me that time is running out for the people.

"I'm worried that if tomorrow was not to come. if I've done enough."

She said the elders are a tool used by the Creator to spread the word.

"We are used as a messenger to bring that awareness to the people."

Yet Jock sees positive things ahead for her people; she sees hope.

"We are trying to bring back those sacred ways. Our children have drifted away. We're living miles apart but we're going back to the same drum. Slowly, but surely, it's coming."

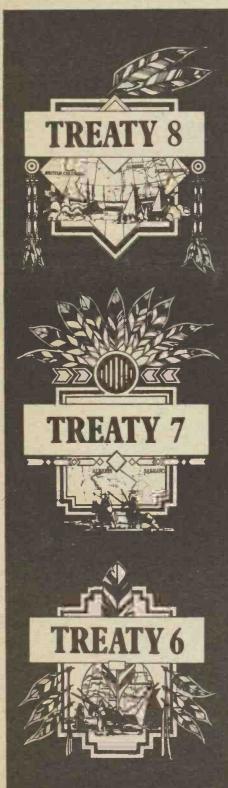
Charges dropped against Fiddler

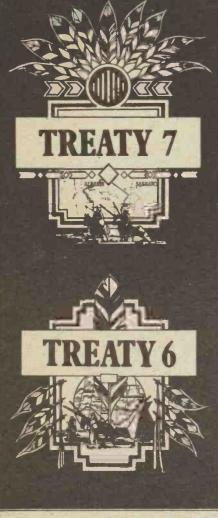
EDMONTON—After a three-day preliminary inquiry, charges of theft and fraud over \$1,000 were dropped against Harriet Fid-

Provincial Court Judge Jim Campbell dismissed charges against Fiddler June l on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to

Fiddler, who served for 12 years as bookkeeper for the Canadian Native Friendship Centre, pleaded not guilty and appeared in court to contest the charges.

The centre hosted a number of events such as bingos, dances, dinners and wedding receptions to raise money.





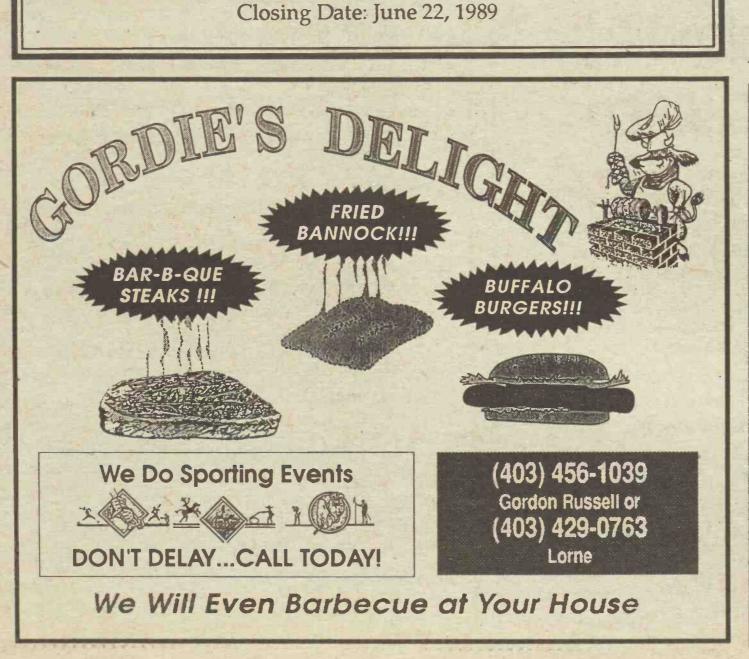


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EDMONTON, AB T5M 0J8





Graduations galore

Tansi? Gla ne ttou? Hello everyone.

Summer is finally on our doorstep. Ultimately, the school kids will be rushing home for the holidays. Are you ready for them?

Remember then: "Give the kids a centimetre and they will take a kilometre."

Sunchild Band: The following is a list of the

students who are currently taking the six-month silk-

screening course taught on their reserve. (See story in

the Droppin'In Special Feature, May 26, page 14.)

Rueben Goodrunning, Gerald

LaGrelle, Roger Gopher, Vivian

Goodrunning, Ruth Yellowface, Rita

Frencheater, Liza LaGrelle, Calvina

LaGrelle, Eugene LaGrelle and

Then, it's up to them if they wish to

implement this kind of work in their

communities," said instructor Mick

Marrison, who is currently

negotiating with Red Deer College to

expand the satellite course to a full

Samson Band: Graduation

ceremonies are slated for June 22 at

the Cree Tribal Administration office

to honor the 44 band members who

completed the life-skills training

program offered on the reserve.

"All I can do is guide them through the industrial methods.

Donald Goodrunning.

year.

Now, the news ...



DROPPIN' IN By Bea Lawrence

Telephone (403) 455-2700 to put your community happenings considered here free of charge...no news is too small.

ceremonies begin at 3 p.m. followed directly by a banquet, according to Life-Skills coach Hazel Potts.

to congratulate the

members for completing the three-month course.

their upgrading courses.

The graduation

Potts said the group's ages vary from anywhere between 15 to 56. On behalf of the other trainees, she would like

Ben Calf Robe School: Four Adult Education Program grads were recently honored for completing

The graduates include David Yellowbird, Kathy Calder, Vivian House and Rudy Chalifoux.

A special graduation ceremony was held in their honor June 13.

Peace River: Educational development worker Bernie McKee has resigned from his post with the local Sagitawa Friendship Centre.

"Many thanks to the people of the Peace River area who helped make the last 10 years here one of the happiest times in my life," McKee said in his farewell letter.

Provincial Museum: The Provincial Archives of Alberta is always interested in acquiring artifacts

from around our province. Any individual, group or organization who might have original documents or photographs to donate is

> asked to contact Claude Roberto at 427-1750. View the manuscripts and photographs documenting the "Missionary Oblates in the West", now on display at the Provincial Archives.

> The display is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, June 1 to September 4 at 12845-102 Ave. in Edmonton.

> The exhibition is commemorated by the book A Guide to the Archives of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Province of Alberta-Saskatchewan, published by the Missionary Oblates with funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

> That's a wrap for the week folks. Do have a wonderful week everyone and take heed from this old Metis quote.

> "Each and every person who crosses our path has something to teach us, if we will only listen."



Better late than never: Claudette Rendell and student David Yellowbird

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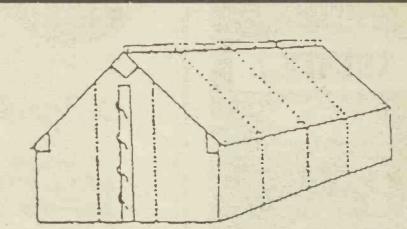
For further information, please call: 473-9124

Important Message for Al Dion

Formerly of #202, 10847-112 St. and #301, 10712-109 St., Edmonton, Alberta.

Would you please contact the NCC(A) office at 429-6003 or 479-4533 and leave a message where you can be contacted. The society is holding funds owing to you; and requires the (11) ticket stubs from the raffle, which you sold.

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BOOKNOTES

MARIE ANNE — By Grant MacEwan

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IJFESTYLE

Rehabilitation through spirituality

RELIGION BEHIND BARS

By Jeff Morrow Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

No one knows better how to cope with Native problems than Indians themselves, says Sylvia Novik, special advisor to the Solicitor General.

That's why the Alberta government is helping jailed Natives escape their troubles through spirituality.

Novik was appointed in February as the liaison between Alberta Corrections and Native communities. She has been corresponding with Native communities around the province to find out how they believe Native prisoners should be handled.

Because of the disproportionate number of Native prisoners in Alberta penitentiaries, the Solicitor General's office hired Novik to find out what could be done to uncrowd Alberta jails.

Natives make up 25 per cent of Alberta's prison population while Indians account for only six per cent of Alberta's total population.

Novik says her research has proven beneficial for both the government and her people.

The introduction of Native programs to Alberta prisons has been her proudest achievement.

Novik, a Metis from Lac Ste Anne, believes society is entering a new era of understanding the ways of Natives in Alberta.

Realizing that Native affairs can't be handled the way they have been in the past, she says, is important to the advancement of relations between Natives and non-Natives.

Novik lauds the government for its willingness to accept that Native rehabilitation is a far cry from the standard methods used in Alberta prisons. She says it has taken a step toward reducing the total prison population by addressing Native problems separately.

After extensive research, Novik found the Native Counselling Services of Alberta (NCSA) had the ideal plan for rehabilitating Native offenders by allowing them to practice their religious beliefs and confer with band elders.

Through the Native religion program band elders are permitted to visit inmates on a regular basis to offer spiritual guidance.

"We wanted to look at a program that would enhance their (Native inmates) lives and address their needs. It is a significant step toward rehabilitation," she says.

Novik says the new programs also give Native communities the opportunity to get involved in the rehabilitation of their own people.

"There are so many positive things happening in the Native community. There's a light at the end of the tunnel. The non-Native society is becoming sensitive to



the plight of our people," she said.

Eight of the 14 prisons in Alberta now have a sweatlodge where Native inmates can worship. More jails are now allowing them to burn sweetgrass to cleanse their souls.

She says Native spirituality is only the beginning of a initiative that could put Native rehabilitation entirely in the hands of the Native community.

The government wants Native prison programs to be controlled and administered by Natives. And, depending on the size of the band, there will be more on-reserve cor-

rectional facilities.

The building of a community corrections centre was recently announced by the Blood reserve in Southern Alberta.

"It's really making a difference. Our people are really getting actively involved. I can see a lot of success in the programs to come," she says.

Natives make up six per cent of Alberta's total population. Over 25 per cent of Natives make up Alberta's prison population.

Novik says a strong rapport between her office and Native communities could result

in a decrease in the number of prisoners and a more trusting relationship with Native inmates.

Over the next three years, Novik says her department will be hiring more Natives for management positions in prison programming and will introduce more community-based corrections programs.

Chester Cunningham, director the Native Counselling Services of Alberta (NCSA), says the reason it has taken so long to get Native programming introduced is because the government overlooked the need for Native inmates to worship.

The Grierson Community Corrections Centre was handed over to the NCSA last year and has adapted Native programming to fit the prison's population, which is 80 per cent Native.

Cunningham says there was a lot of convincing that had to be done to prove that Native spirituality was not pagan worship.

"Everybody had a preconception. We had to demonstrate what everything was all about. We had to show them what sweetgrass was, for instance, so they would understand," he said

The Solicitor General has been considering Native programming for three years but has only recently started such programs, Cunningham says.

"Now the province is making an honest effort to allow spirituality."

Saddle Lake band member Joe Cardinal worked with the Solicitor General's office to help get the plan in motion.

He understands the government's initial apprehensions about establishing the program and credits the decision on a changing attitude of government officials.

"The government is always hard to deal with. It was a matter of changing the whole system. They are now making significant headway," he said.

The NCSA has been working with the Solicitor General in the probation and parole counselling of Native offenders for the past 16 years.

It has developed an extensive programming package at Grierson which includes job readiness train-

ing, family consultation and substance abuse counselling, as well as cultural and religious practices.

Doug Seitsinger, director of public education at the John Howard Society, sees Native religious programming as a responsible way of dealing with Native problems.

Seitsinger says it has always been hard for non-Native society to understand how important religion is to Native culture.

"Native people have a culture that is intertwined with religion. So anything that enhances culture is a positive step toward rehabilitation," he says.

Elder Crowshoe: Dam threatens ancient heritage

By Gary Gee Windspeaker Staff Writer

MAYCROFT CROSSING

"As long as the grass grow, the sun shines and the river flows."

That credo, which begins Alberta's Indian treaties signed more than a century ago and has been passed on to generations since, summed up the sentiments of thousands who gathered on the steep banks of the Oldman River last Sunday at this southern Alberta junction.

About 8,000 opponents, among them environmentalists, politicians, entertainers, ranchers, and Native people, stood and voiced their opposition against the Three Rivers Dam, a \$350-million man-made structure of steel and concrete.

It has served as a rallying point against an environmental legacy left by former premier Peter Lougheed, which critics charge is ecologically unsound.

Peigan Band elder Joe Crowshoe gazed intently across the expanse of rolling plains, remembering a time when no one would dare question whether this great southern Alberta river would flow wild and free.

Crowshoe fears those times could be gone forever and a still proud heritage and culture could be vanquished overnight.

"We (the Peigan band) don't want the dam. When you want rain, the good Lord will give you rain for nothing," said Crowshoe, dismissing arguments that the dam will help irrigate farms in southern Alberta,

who have suffered drought in recent years.

Crowshoe's descendants, according to archeologists, have lived on these rolling plains for thousands of years.

His great-grandfather, Brings Down The Sun, was one of the foremost ceremonial Indian leaders of his time, a legacy passed on to Joe Crowshoe's father and himself.

At 81, he has performed the traditional Blackfoot pipe ceremony and sweatlodge for the past 56 years. For the sweatlodge, which he builds behind his house, he gathers willows from the river valley.

He is a medicine bundle owner, which according to tradition, requires his medicine pipe to be wrapped in willows and animal skins.

When the first lightning of the season has struck, it signals the time to open the bundle. As bundle owner, he must feed everyone he invites. According to Indian legend, the ceremony in which he opens the pipe and dances with it brings new life to everyone.

Tradition dictates that Crowshoe find the materials for his spiritual practices on sacred Peigan land as his descendants have always done.

But he's worried that the flooding of the 24 km of valley will destroy thousands of cottonwood and wolf willow trees.

"They want to take my paint, my sweetgrass for nothing," laments Crowshoe, whose family has farmed and cultivated the land for generations.

As the last of the Peigan

elders to continue spiritual and religious ceremonial rites, Crowshoe wonders where a new generation can learn the old ways of the elders.

"Today, the young generation is caught in the modern world, forgetting their culture and heritage that is supposed to be preserved for Native people," said the father of eleven children.

"If we lose part of our land, we also lose touch with the younger generation. When our elders are gone, that tradition and culture is gone. It will be a lost tribe," Crowshoe said.

"I hope someday our young people will come back to the lodge. But I don't think I'll see that day," he said sadly.

His eyes burn with anger as he mentions the sacred burial grounds of the Peigan

NOTICE OF

TEMPORARY

which Indians and environmentalists expect will be washed away if a dam is built.

"We have a right to our burial grounds. It is in our treaties. But we have a treaty that is like an old shirt, which is full of holes."

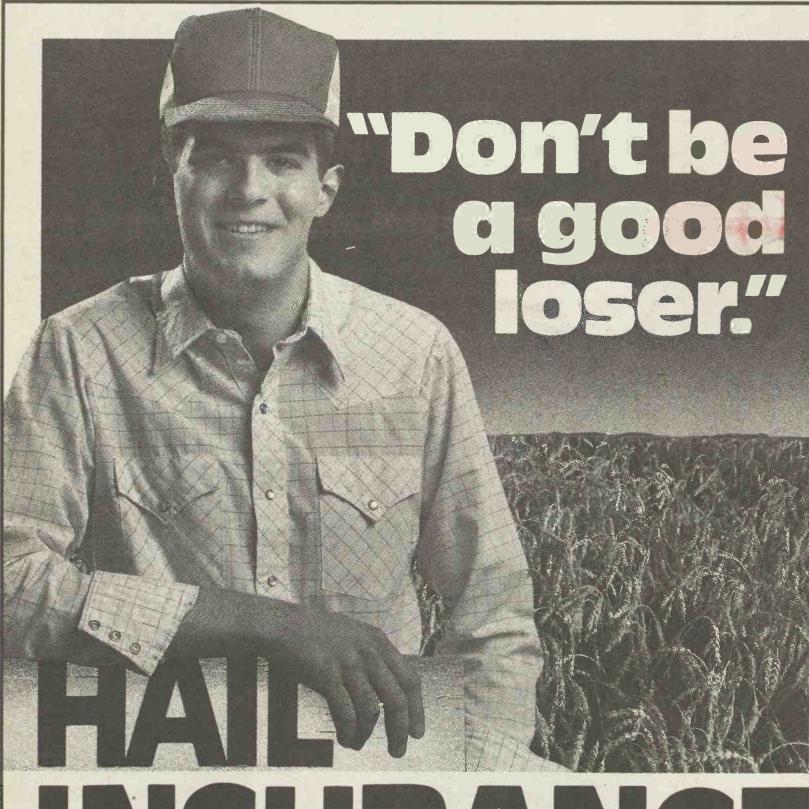
"I hope this rally will let some people carry in their hearts and minds what this river is supposed to be."

With resignation, he looked toward the horizon where the project is under way, with an estimated one-third of the work completed.

"The dam is in the wrong place. The only thing we can do is hope that nature looks after itself," he said, looking up at the sky.

Then he smiled and recounted the 1923 flash flood of the Three Rivers.

"There will be no dam then. It will be gone."



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Ceremonial Procession, prize painting: Artist Lauren Wuttunee

Asum Mena

Wuttunee wins \$5,000 art prize

By Bea Lawrence Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Artist Lauren Wuttunee spent four months working on her winning entry to the 1989 Asum Mena Juried Native Art Festival.

Wuttunee's colored pencil drawing entitled, "Ceremonial Procession" caught the eye of the sponsors, the Alberta Indian Arts and Crafts Society, who announced her win June 5.

"It requires a lot of concentration. What you are, reflects in your work," Wuttunee said.

Her work was selected from among 381 pieces of artwork submitted for the annual \$5,000 scholarship award. Seventy-one artists vied for first-place this year.

"The winning piece was done from a black and white photograph," said the young Native descendant, who is originally from the Red Pheasant reserve in Saskatchewan.

"At first I was going to put them into a landscape, but I liked the mystical quality of the image. It forces the viewer to focus on the figures," the artist said, explaining the technique used for her winning entry which depicts the forms on one edge of the picture's plane.

Wuttunee said she submitted 28 pieces of art to the 1989 Asum Mena art competition.

She is currently working at the provincial attorney general's civil law office, two blocks from the downtown AIACS office.

"I have a law degree from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver," said Wuttunee, who completed her studies in 1983.

Recently, Wuttunee returned from Mexico where she is working on her master's degree in Fine Arts at the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende.

The young artist and mother feels the Mexicans have very strong Native artistic traditions which will influence her future art.

Wuttunee plans to return to her studies in late August. She has recently begun working in sculpture.

"In fact," says the artist,
"I've submitted a little
bronze sculpture of dogs for
the show," she said, referring
to an upcoming art festival at
the Front Gallery July 28 to
September 2.

First runner-up in the Asum Mena competition was Ann McLean, from Edmonton, who won a \$1,000 art supplies gift certificate for her abstract photo etching entitled, "Dreamstate II."

Jacinta Wostenberg from

Red Deer took third place for her three-dimensional bronze piece entitled, "Triangular Embarkment." She was awarded a \$500 art supplies gift certificate.

The sculpture received the highest marks in the three-dimensional category for which Wostenberg was awarded a special \$750 cash award.

Honourable mentions went to Le Arnold, Edward Harpe, Cliff Jacko, Daniel Weisgerber, Marilyn Fraser-King, Elizabeth Hardy, Melvyn Benson, Donald Good Running, Gail Duiker, Louise Feit and Bruce Omeasoo.

Works by previous Asum Mena scholarship winners will be featured at the gallery throughout the summer.

Previous winners include Kim McLain, George Littlechild, Roy Salopree, Jane Ash Poitras and Faye Heavyshield. Recent works by acclaimed Native artists Alex Janvier and Joane Cardinal-Schubert will also be featured.

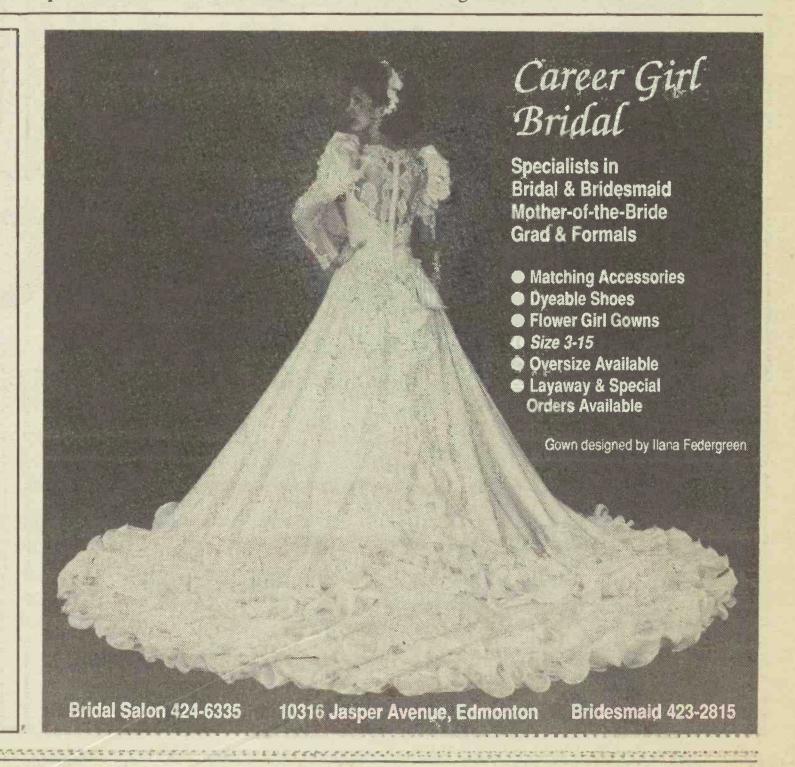
The 1989 Asum Mena jury members were Elizabeth Kidd, Head Curator for the Edmonton Art Gallery, Dan Bagan, an active Edmonton artist and Front Gallery owner Lynn Fahlman.

Asum Mena is a Cree word meaning "Once Again."

Best Wishes to all powwow participants.

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Confidence and hope: Actor Floyd Favell

Confident actor dares to dream

By Bea Lawrence
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Native actor Floyd Favell dared to carry out his dreams.

As a result, he has found his niche in a career which he devotes toward the betterment of Natives and youths.

"My teachers always told me to, 'Dare to dream, and dare to achieve your dreams,' " the young Native actor said, recalling his childhood dreams of acting out the stories he had heard from his mother.

"Acting is a valuable medium for carrying across messages and instilling hope and confidence," said Favell, referring to his recent drama workshops with youth groups in the Edmonton area.

The 24-year-old actor says he finds teenagers are

more outspoken and confident today.

"I really believe it (workshops) has kept them out of trouble and has given them strength to enhance their own creativity and personalities. It enhances good oral skills, too."

Favell began his acting career in 1983, soon after he dropped out of Grade 12.

"I had completed a couple of Grade 12 subjects before I left school," he said.

Since then, the aspiring young Native actor, who is originally from Cut Knife, Saskatchewan, has studied drama in Denmark and Italy.

Favell studied at the Inuit
Theatre Company on the
West Coast of Denmark for
two years and spent another
two years at the Tukak Theatre in Pontedera, Italy.

Currently, the actor is preparing to perform with his "closest colleagues," Tantoo Cardinal and Rhon-

da Cardinal, who is tentatively scheduled to appear in the play All My Relations.

"Tantoo is like a sister to me." Favell added.

The young Native Cree

says he wrote the script for All My Relations which will be staged in Edmonton this fall.

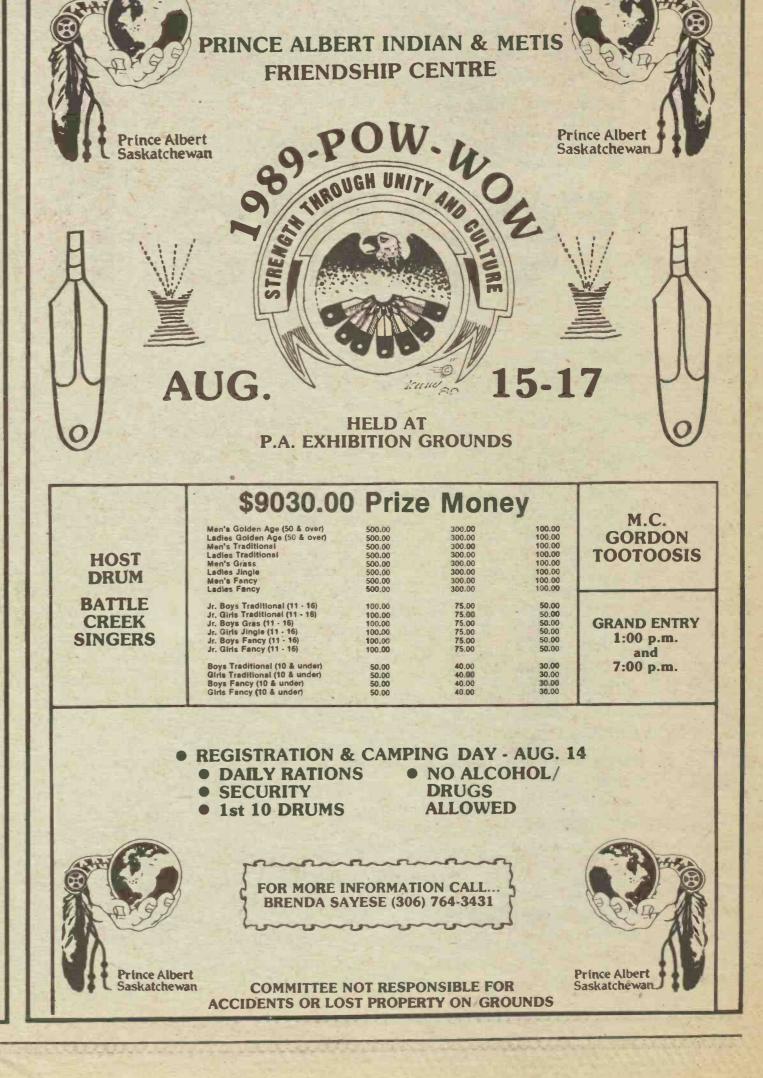
"We had the first reading May 3," he said.

"The reading was done on the first draft and the response is supportive. Canada Council is very supportive and they have approved the funding for this play."

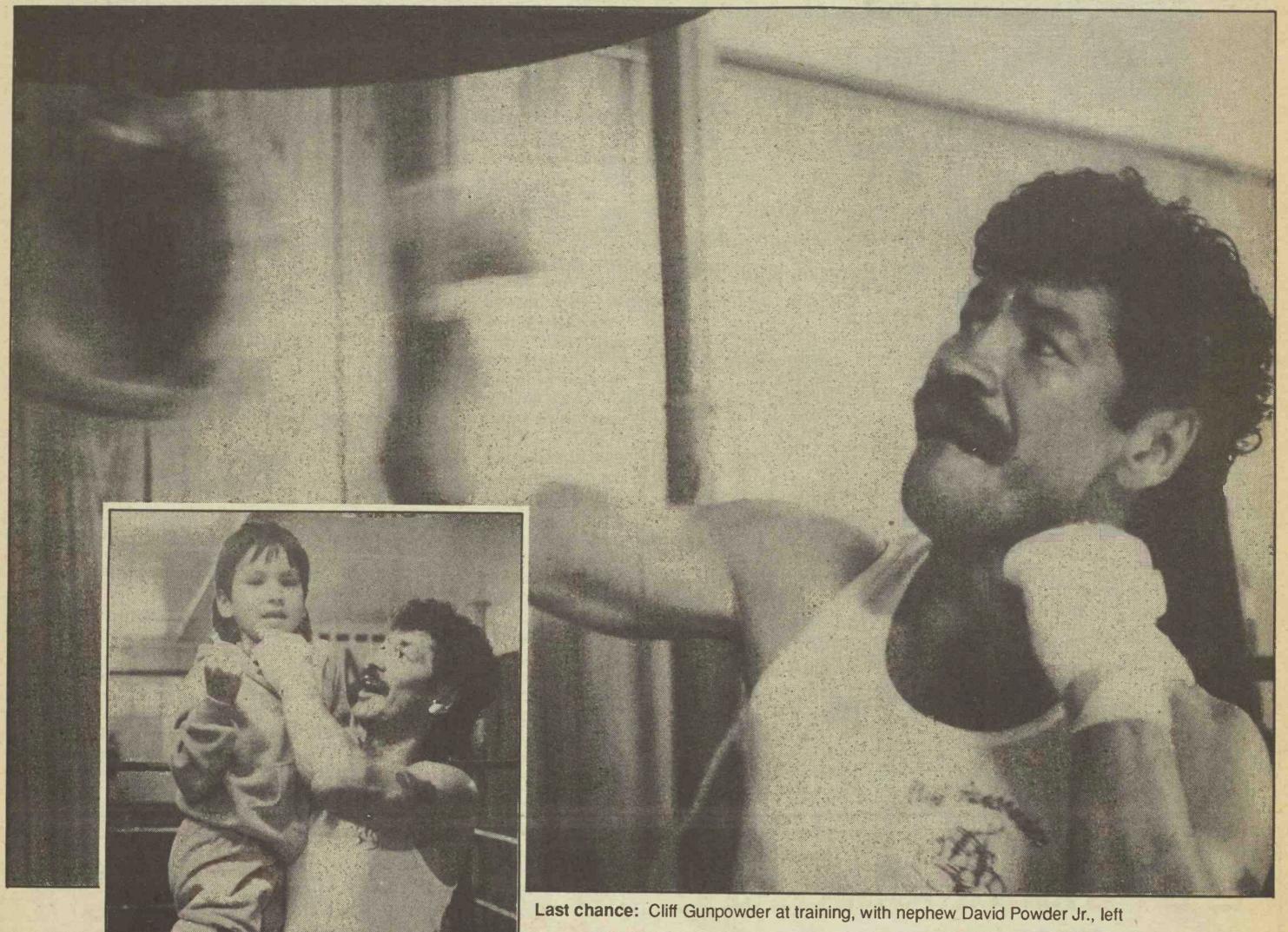
Favell has been working at the Catalyst Theatre in Edmonton since September, 1988.

One of his first tasks was to work on a script for a performance at the Convention Centre during last November's Education Conference week.





SPORTS & LEISURE



Metis Boxer Behind Bars

Dreams in Jeopardy

By Keith Matthew
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

To Cliff Gunpowder fighting and getting into trouble with the law are things he has grown up with, but now he would like to warn kids about flirting with the law.

Gunpowder is a 34-year-old professional mid-dleweight boxer fighting out of the Panther Gym of Edmonton and has dreams of competing for the Canadian middleweight crown in the very near future.

But now, those plans are in jeopardy as Gunpowder sits in the Edmonton Remand Centre after missing a May 3 court appearance for driving under suspension. Manager Mark Sinclair said that no bail has been set, putting plans for

an upcoming fight in Calgary June 24 in doubt.

Gunpowder readily admits that this will be his only shot because of his age. Most world champions are peaking in their early 20s and are retiring by the age of thirty.

Gunpowder, a Metis, was born March 31, 1955 to Silda and Jimmy Powder of Fort McMurray. He is the fourth oldest child in a family of six sisters and five brothers. His father died in a car crash in 1987.

It was his father and uncle George Sanderson who got Gunpowder into boxing at the age of seven because he fought too much in school.

He enrolled in the Fort McMurray Clearwater Boxing Club under trainer Mike Woodward.

"I learned footwork, how to throw a punch, how to

throw a left hook, how to throw a combination. After I learned that, I started to have some amateur fights in the ring," said Gunpowder.

• He then had his first amateur fight at nine years of age. It was the start of what has been an extraordinary number of fights. Gunpowder has amassed 366 fights over his amateur career.

"The reason I have so many fights is that my trainer put me into every boxing tournament in Western Canada. I fought the best fighters in the world, fighters that I shouldn't have even fought, but I surprised a lot of people when I beat guys that I shouldn't have beat," he said.

"I was 15 years old when I won the Canadian Junior Featherweight Championships. I knocked out a guy in one minute and three seconds in 1971," said Gunpowder.

He went on to accumulate seven amateur titles, but then the roof caved in on his career because of his penchant for getting into trouble.

"When I was 16 years old, I broke into a school just for the hell of it with my friends. I just followed them into the school. After that I went to jail and then I got out of jail and I went back to boxing. I stayed out of trouble for a while," he said.

"After that, I was charged with arson and I got sentenced to nine years in Stoney Mountain Prison. When I was in prison, I used to box out of there too," he explained.

Although it was against prison rules to box while in jail, prison authorities still allowed him to fight

because fighting was his whole life, explained Gunpowder.

Prison authorities discontinued boxing programs in the 1960s because once inmates got out, they would use the skills they learned in prison on the streets, he said.

"I felt bad going to jail because I could have become a world champion back in the 1970s. At the time, when I got sentenced to jail I was supposed to go to London," he said.

Gunpowder feels remorseful because he feels he could have become something other than an exconvict.

"It all comes back to me and I say, 'well, serving all of those years I could have been something'," he said.

"I talk to my nephews and I tell them not to get into trouble. When I was young, I thought I was a macho man and I knew lots; but here I didn't know shit. All I knew was how to get into trouble," he said.

But, as he sits in jail again on his latest charge, his gruelling training schedule has been put on hold.

He was doing 1,000 push-ups, sparring up to eight rounds and running up to 15 miles a day in preparation for a fight with Stan Ward from Carson City, Nevada at the Max Bell Arena in Calgary June 24.

He believes that he is in the best shape of his life and is confident about the upcoming bout.

But if he doesn't get a shot at the Canadian mid-dleweight title, Gunpowder admits it might be time to hang up his gloves as a professional.

A little reminiscing about fastball adventures

SPORTS

ROUNDUP

By Keith Matthew

Hello, sports fans.

Summer vacation is just around the corner.

The advent of summer reminds me of the times when I was just a youngster (I won't say little because people still call me that) and my father was the manager of our reserve fastball team, the Chu Chua Chiefs.

Those were the glory days

when playing for the team was an honor and you grew up wanting to play for a team with a proud tradition.

How the times have changed. Nowadays, a really good pitcher in the all-Native tournaments can get paid up to \$3,000 for just one tournament.

But, anyway, back to that original thought.

It was fun travelling to all of the tournaments back then. You got to travel to different places on weekends, eat hot dogs, go swimming, stay in motels — all of those exciting things when you are a youngster.

The biggest perk of being a manager's son was that after our annual tourney on our reserve we got to keep all of the leftover pop, chips and candy in our basement. It was heaven.

Those were the good old days. Not like today, when tradition no longer means a heck of a lot to most of the players you see in tournaments.

Sucker Creek: The Sucker Creek Bearpaws are on the prowl for teams for their mixed slowpitch tourney June 24-25.

The tournament will be played at the Joussard Mission Diamonds and they are looking for 16 teams. A minimum of three girls must be on the field at all times for this tour-

Entry fee for this tournament is \$200 per team and can be paid by certified cheque or money order to the the Sucker Creek Bearpaws. Prize money (on 16 teams) will be: first \$1,500; second \$800; third \$600; and fourth \$400. The entry deadline is June 21.

There will also be a dance on Saturday night.

No fastball teams or fastball players allowed. For more information, contact Steve at 523-4426 (day) and 523-2993 (evening) or Rod at 523-2545.

Alexander: Jerome Yellowdirt dropped by Windspeaker's offices to tell me about the upcoming Alexander Centennial Celebrations July 3-16. Some of the scheduled events are fastball and slowpitch tournaments, a rodeo and a youth conference.

The annual Bob Kootenay Memorial Golf Tournament is also being planned for Aug. 26-27 at the J.R. Golf Course, located 10 km west on Meadowview Drive from St. Albert.

The entry fee for this golf tourney is \$80 for men and women and \$50 for juniors. For more information about this annual event, contact the BKM Committee at 939-5887.

Brandon, Man.: All of you single Indian women, listen up, my home phone number is...just kidding. Now that I've got your attention, the Canadian Native Ladies' Fastball Championships has been confirmed by Erla Cote.

Erla phoned to say that Winnipeg will be the site of the championships along with the Native men's championships Aug. 5-7 at the Charlie Krupp Memorial Stadium.

The entry fee for this tournament is \$400 by certified cheque or money order to the Selects Ball Club. The deadline for entries is July 15.

They are planning for a 16-team tournament, so get your entries in as soon as possible. (Prize money and trophies are being offered but are dependent on the amount of teams that show up.)

For more information, phone Erla at (204) 855-2536 during the day or at (204) 725-0128 in the evenings.

Edmonton: Wally Janvier, of the Edmonton Eagles fastball club, says they are looking for sponsors. The Eagles are playing in the Edmonton Major Men's Fastball League, which also includes other local Native clubs the Alexander Teepee Crawlers and the Hobbema Spirits. The are looking for help.

"The goals of the team are to develop a fastball team made up of Native players from Edmonton and the surrounding areas and to take them to the Canadian Native championships in Winnipeg and the North American Native championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico," said Janvier.

The Eagles will be playing 26 league games and 10 playoff games to determine the city champions. The city champs would then advance to the provincial championships at the same level, said Janvier.

The Eagles would continue to compete in Native and non-Native fastball tournaments through Western Canada on the weekends to raise money for the club.

If you know a sponsor or would like to help the Eagles, contact Wally at 452-4330.

Rodeo: Alberta Professional Championship Rodeo circuit standings as of June 12 show two Native cowboys doing well.

Bruce Labelle, of Chiniki band in Morley, is third in the standing in steer wrestling with winnings of \$3,694.

In boys steer riding, Shawn Buffalo of Hobbema is in second place with \$686 to Kelly Armstrong, of Water Valley, Alberta, who leads the event.

Louis Bull: The annual Louis Bull Golf Tournament is set for the Wetaskiwin Golf and Country Club July 7-9.

Entry fee will be \$100 for seniors and \$40 for juniors. Cash, money orders or certified cheques will be accepted for this event and can be made out to Louis Bull Golf Club. Registration deadline is June 30.

For more information, contact Gina Raine at 585-4075.

SUCKER CREEK BEARPAWS

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Steve-523-4426 or 523-2993 Eve.

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Rod-523-2545

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TEE TIMES: Friday, July 7th: Practice Round begins at 10:00 a.m. Call Golf Course to set tee times at (403) 352-5342 (Al). Saturday, July 8th: Begin 9:00 a.m. from 1st hole & 10th hole -Horse race to begin after tournament. Sunday, July 8th: Begin 8:00 a.m. from 1st hole & 10th hole-Awards &

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LaFort earns Sarcee victory

By Keith Matthew
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

Although half of the first day of Sarcee's fastball tourney was rained out, the final day's competitions went off without a hitch June 10-11.

Alexander Teepee Crawlers played seven games to capture first place and \$1,100 over such teams as Columbia Lake (Invermere, B.C.), Kinbasket Indians (Invermere), M & M Eagles (Blood), Hobbema Spirits and host Sarcee.

On the women's side of the draw, Calgary's Toyota Forkers narrowly beat Edmonton's Bad Company 6-4 in the women's final.

Other ladies' teams came from Columbia Lake, Hobbema, Blackfoot, and host Sarcee.

Alexander Teepee Crawlers weren't tested too severely throughout the sixteam round robin. They went through preliminary rounds without a loss before advancing to meet Hobbema Spirits in the final game of the men's draw.

"Probably a 5-0 game against Columbia Lake was our hardest game," said player and manager George Arcand.

"I thought it was an interesting format, there were a lot of games. I guess that is good if a team is going to travel that far. It is good to play a lot of games," Arcand said.

Alexander's pitcher Earl
LaFort pitched his team into

the final by knocking off six straight teams.

"Earl is coming into his own. He is working on some new pitches and once he gets them going, he will be even better," he said.

The final game saw the Teepee Crawlers jump out to a quick 2-0 lead after the first inning and then steadily build an insurmountable lead.

"We got a jump on Hobbema right away, I think the final score was 9-2, and they seemed to give up," explained Arcand.

Earl LaFort was the winning pitcher with Chris Rattlesnake taking the loss.

Sarcee was just one stop on the tournament trail for the Crawlers who would like to play at least 80 games this season and have set some lofty goals for themselves.

"We have scheduled everything for Prince George, then the Canadians. In between that, we have our tournament here in mid-July and then the Nationals (in Albuquerque in Sept.)," he said.

The team is well on its way to meeting its goals and has compiled an impressive 21-win and five-loss record up to date.

However, Arcand points out that he has some concerns about the Native circuit in Alberta.

"At the Sarcee tournament, there were some good players. I thought if we could keep promoting fastball as much as we can and try not to eliminate teams because they are good, Native fastball will go a long way," he said.

"I think Alberta has a lot of good players and we should be a force to reckon with all of the time. It seems like we split up when we go to these big tournaments and we end up having 10 teams there when we should have one or two that are going to be competitive," said Arcand.

The women's final saw Edmonton Bad Company jump out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning. But, Toyota Forkers would show what

they were made of by battling back in the third inning to tie the score at two runs apiece.

The Forkers scored two runs in the fourth inning to take the lead 4-2. Bad Company made one last try by scoring two runs the next inning to tie the score at 4-4.

But Calgary scored three runs in the sixth inning to deep six any hopes Bad Company had of winning first-place and the \$1,100 prize money.

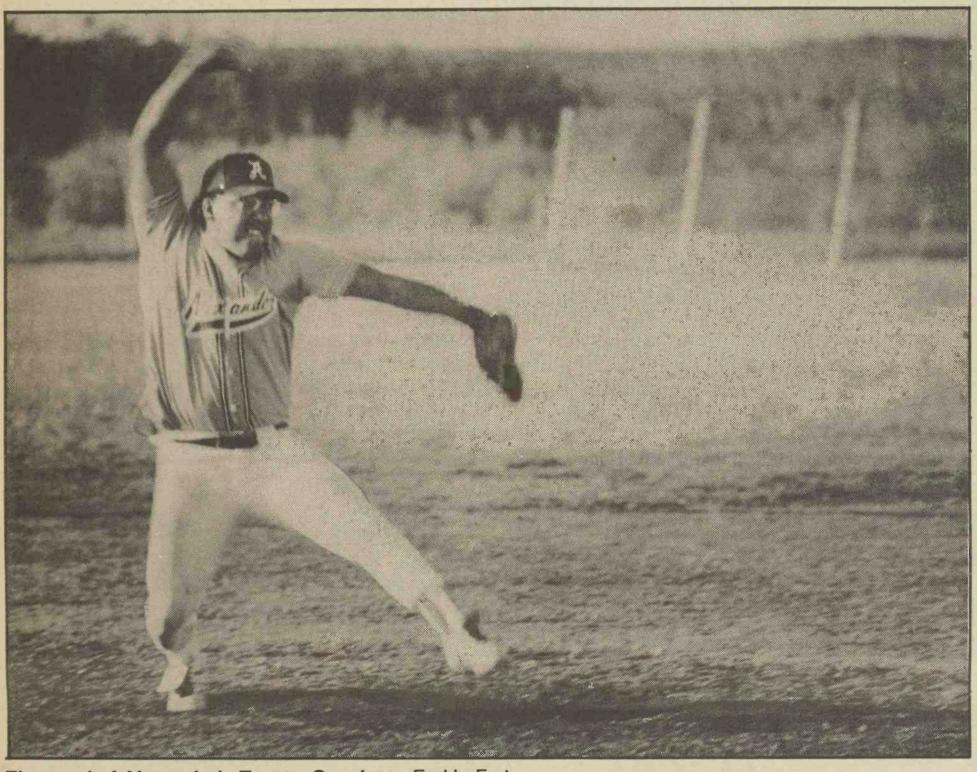
Bad Company showed determination by getting to final game because they were carrying just nine players and had five players who had pulled muscles going into the final game.

Toyota Forkers team captain Bev Klaassen was impressed with the way her team played and the way the tournament was organized.

"I thought it was quite good," said Klaassen. "We had a lot of close games, especially with the Edmonton team. The only game that was uneven was with Sarcee, that score was 21-1, but other than that, the calibre was great.

"It was the best tournament that we have played in, it was very well organized," she said. "The hospitality by the Sarcee Nation was really good. The effort put into sponsorship for the prizes was just outstanding.

"The individual awards, like jackets for the players, is something we have never seen before and that was a really nice added touch to the tournament," she concluded.



The pearl of Alexander's Teepee Crawlers: Earl LaFort

LAC LA BICHE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 51

Invites applications for the following position

PRINCIPAL

Verna M. Welsh Elementary School

The Town of Lac La Biche is a growing and prospering community located approximately 220 kilometers northeast of Edmonton with a current population of approximately 2,500.

At the commencement of the 1989-90 school year, the Vera M. Welsh Elementary School will serve the educational needs of 600 students in Grades ECS-4 with a staff of 30.55 FTE teachers.

The successful applicant for the position will have successfully completed a minimum of five (5) years of teaching experience at the related level of application and be in possession of a permanent Alberta Teaching Certificate. Post-graduate work in Educational Administration and demonstrated skill and potential in administrative leadership will be a definite asset.

Please submit applications to the undersigned by 4:30 p.m. on June 21, 1989: Mr. Peter Ponich

Superintendent of Schools
Lac La Biche School Division No. 51
Box 870
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0



Native Counselling Services of Alberta

RESEARCHER

This position will be reponsible for planning and conducting research for use in the development of databases on Natives and the law. The position will collect, analyze and report research findings to individuals and groups within the agency and community.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A minimum of three years in an undergraduate university program which included research design and statistical methods.
- Previous experience working in the Criminal Justice and Social Service systems.
- Well developed writing and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge of Native culture & language an asset
 Working knowledge of micro-computers an asset:
 MS-DOS,, SPSSX, MS-Word an asset.

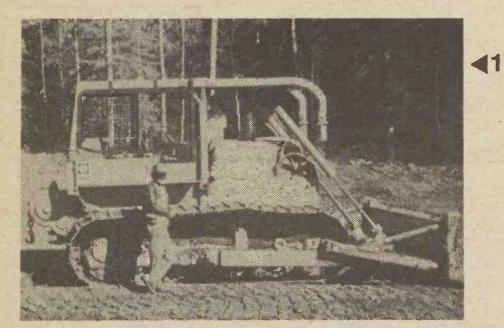
Salary: \$21,600 One Year Term: Aug. 1, 1989 to July 31, 1990 with

possibility of renewal.
Submit your resume to:
Jim MacDonald
Research Co-ordinator

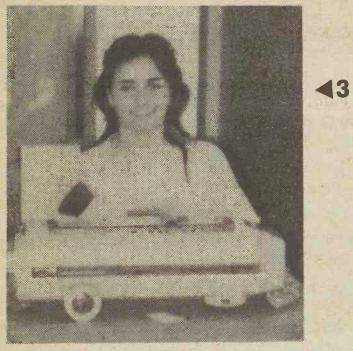
NCSA,, #800 Highfield Place 10010-106 St. EDMONTON, Alberta T5J 3L8 Deadline: July 7, 1989

APEETOGOSAN PICTORIAL FEATURE

CURRENT PROJECTS BEING FUNDED BY APETOGOSAN



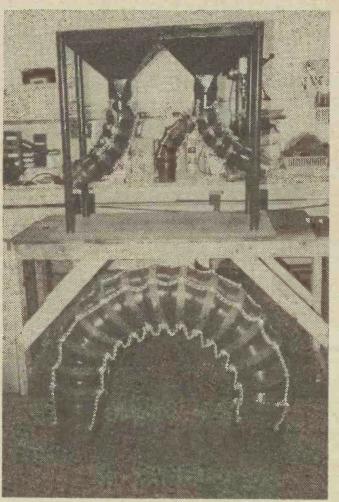
LARRY CARDINAL, Calling Lake, AB



ROBERT DESMARAIS, Duchess, AB

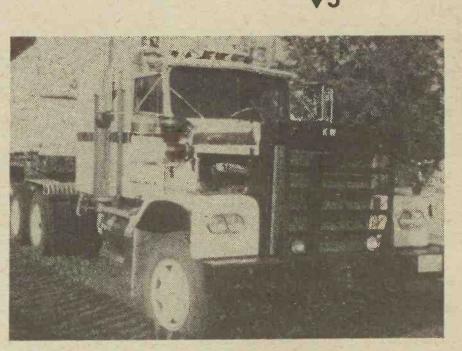


JAMES A. CARDINAL, Hondo, AB



2

ROLAND MAJCAW-Owner, St Albert, AB



DURWIN SMITH, Fort Vermilion, AB

Editorial Information & Details-Photos

1. Larry's Cat Service Ltd. and Construction -(Zone 1)

2. James Cardinal lives with his family on a small farm. James is a Trucker as well as owner of J. Cardinal & Son Enterprises and usually drives for various companies in the area. Apeetogosan assisted James purchase a 1980 Belarus 611 60 H.P. dual wheel Tractor along with two rotary mowers for highway grass cutting.

3. Brooks Electrolux Canada Inc.-(Zone 3)

4. Manufactures flexible spouts for grain elevators etc.-(Zone 4)

5. Durwin and his family live in one of the oldest Settlements in Alberta.

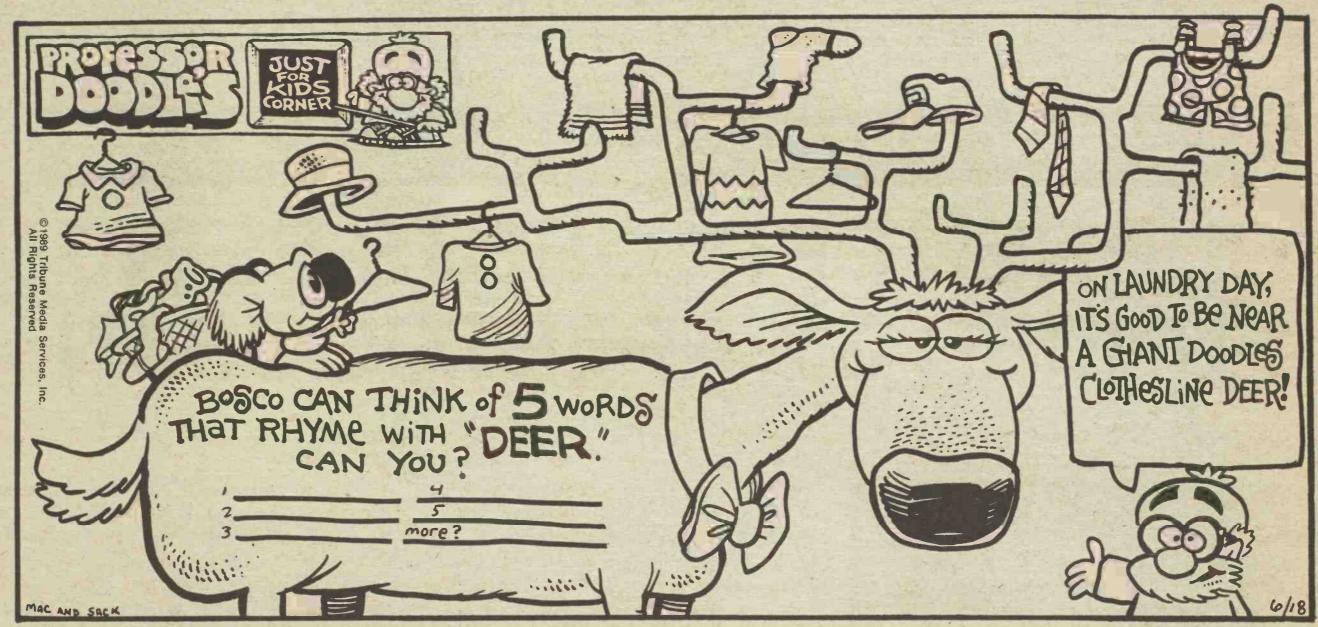
Apeetogosan assisted Durwin purchase a 1980 Kenworth and sleeper along with a log and tank trailer. Durwin usually hauls for Herman Penner Trucking out of Grande Prairie.

-FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & FULL DETAILS ON THESE OR ANY OTHER PROJECTS, PLEASE CALL-(403) 452-7951/TOLL FREE-1-800-252-7963/FAX 454-5997

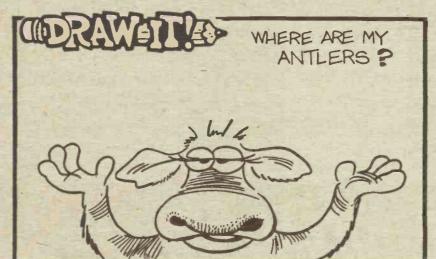


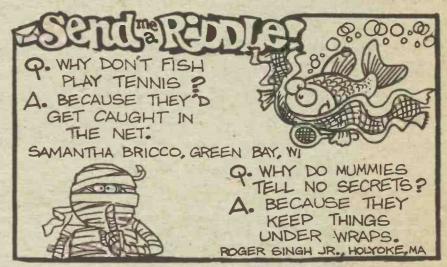
304, 11808 St. Albert Trail Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4G4

ACTIVITY PAGE











ST. PAUL EDUCATION

Box 5000 St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0

TEACHER

ST. PAUL EDUCATION is seeking a teacher of Cree programs for the 1989-90 school year effective August 24, 1989.

This position includes the following tentative assignment: Cree 15: St. Paul Regional High School (1/4 time) Cree 4-9: Glen Avon School (1/2 time) Cree 6-9: Racette School (1/4 time)

Candidates for this position must hold a valid Alberta Teaching Certificate.

Complete resumes and curriculum vitae should be forwarded to:
Mr. Paul E. Boisvert
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
St. Paul Education
P.O. Box 5000
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A0
(403) 645-3323

The deadline for receiving applications is June 19, 1989.

Job Opportunity
Bonnyville Indian-Metis Rehabilitation Centre

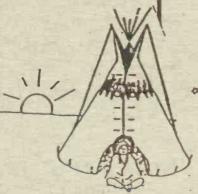
ADDICTIONS COUNSELLOR

BONNYVILLE INDIAN-METIS REHABILITA-TION CENTRE requires a full-time experienced addictions counsellor. The successful applicant will:

- Care and maintain a caseload of clients
- Work under the supervisor of the Program Co-ordinator
- Require adequate writing and speaking skills
- Have an understanding of community agencies and the services they render
- Have a minimum of Grade 10 education or compensating experience in the addictions field

Resumes are being accepted until the deadline date of June 23, 1989. For any inquiries, please contact:

Mr. Emile Ward
Executive Director



*BONNYVILLE INDIAN-METIS REHABILITATION CENTRE
Box 8148, Bonnyville, AB T9N 2J4
(403) 826-3328

Metis Settlement News

Settlement members to vote June 20 on land agreement

This is the sixth and final article in a series of the Alberta-Settlements Accord — the proposed agre ement between the Metis Settlements and the Albert a government on Settlement land, government and finance. The Accord is subject to approval of the Settlement members in a referendum to be held on June 20. This article summarizes the Accord and the Settlements' lawsuit for the proceeds from the mines and minerals.

On June 20, Metis Settlement members have the opportunity to vote on the Alberta-Settlements Accord. The Accord is a negotiated agreement with the Province that includes constitutionally protected Metis land, a form of local self-government, and secure finances over the long term. If approved by the Settlements, the Accord would resolve the lawsuit the Settlements and the Province have over the proceeds from the sale of mines and minerals. At the Referendum on June 20, Settlement members decide whether they want the land, government and finance package in the Accord or if they wish to continue with the current Metis Betterment Act and the lawsuit.

Previous articles in this series have dealt with various parts of the Accord. This article summarizes the Accord as a whole and focusses on the choice facing Settlement members in the referendum. We start with

the problems the Accord is designed to solve. Under the current Metis Betterment Act passed in 1938, all legal power lies in the hands of the Minister. Under the Metis Betterment Act, the Minister claims the authority to set up and close down Settlements, to administer the Settlements, and to make rules on membership, land allocation, hunting, fishing, etc. Over the past decade, much of this authority has passed in practice to the Settlement Councils. This has created problems in terms of Councils having authority in practice but without clear legal power or guidelines in the form of controls or restrictions on that authority.

Until now, it has not been possible to change the legal system to recognize Council authority and put controls on that authority. The Settlements and the Province agreed that as long as their lawsuit continues, the Metis Betterment Act would not be changed until both sides agreed to the change. The lawsuit was first brought in 1968 and is still in the stages preliminary to the actual trial. Essentially, the lawsuit is a dispute over the proceeds paid to the government from the sale of oil and gas from under the Settlements. This is the royalty payments as well as the money from the sale of the rights to explore the subsurface. The fundamental issue is the interpretation of a 1951

regulation that the Settlements argue that requires the Province to put these monies in the Settlements Trust Fund. The Province recently produced figures showing that the value of these monies since the Settlements were set up totals \$120 million (or \$140 million if government incentives are not excluded) plus the interest that money would have earned.

The Alberta-Settlements Accord offers a resolution to the 21 year old lawsuit and an end to the unclear legal system under the Metis Betterment Act. The Accord is essentially land related — providing a framework for protecting it, governing it, and building on it.

The most important component of the Alberta-Settlements Accord is the land. It includes the Province transferring the title to the land (Bill 65) and the protection of the land in the Canadian Constitution (Amendment to the Alberta Act). The land title is held by the General Council on behalf of the members but the control over land allocation is at the local level. Basically, the current rules on land allocation will apply until the Settlements and the Minister agree on new rules to replace them. Also, all current land holdings are protected by the new Act as long as the land is being used.

The local government part of the Accord (Bill 64) sets up a system of government based on the current practice. The Settlements are the basic local government unit within the provincial system. One difference from the current Act is that under the Accord the Minister gives up his power to make rules on the trust fund, on hunting, on fishing and other areas. In these areas, the Settlements make their own rules together as General Council and the Minister has a 90 day period in which he can veto (or in some cases approve) the new rules. In other areas such as making new rules for Settlement land and membership, the Minister keeps his authority to make regulations but they must first be proposed in writing by the Settlements. While the Settlements are working out new rules on these issues, the current rules will continue to apply.

The other important difference between the proposed Bill 64 and the current system is that there are specific legal controls on Council by the Settlement members. Council makes its important decisions, including budget and spending decisions, in the form of by-laws. Under Bill 64, the people must approve these decisions at General Meetings before Council can pass them.

The finance part of the Accord deals with both short and long term finance arrangements between the Settlements and the Province. For the first 7 years of the finance agreement, the Province transfers to the Settlements \$25 million per year — this replaces the \$7 million per year that the Settlements currently receive. This is funding to build up the communities - for housing, community recreation facilities, roads, economic development projects, etc. For the 10 years following, the Province will transfer \$10 million to the Settlements and will match funds contributed by the Settlements. Also during this period, the Settlements will be eligible for municipal grants similar to ID's, MD's, etc. in the Province. This is funding to ensure that the Settlements continue to develop and maintain the facilities they build over the first 7 years.

For post 17 year finances, the Settlements will have a future fund. From an initial contribution by the Province over the first 7 years, this fund should grow to at least \$140 million over the 17 year period. With the interest from that fund and continuing municipal grants, the Settlements can continue to meet their needs into the future.

Settlement members vote on the Accord on June 20. The choice is clear: the people can stay with the current Metis Betterment Act and the lawsuit for \$120 million plus interest or they can opt for the Alberta-Settlements Accord on Settlement land, government, and finance.

Settlements to celebrate 50 years

EDMONTON — The Metis Settlements are gearing up for a birthday party. 1989 is the 50th Anniversary of the Metis Settlements in Alberta.

The Metis Settlements were established in 1939, following the passing of the Metis Betterment Act in 1938. The Act enabled the setting aside of land after the Ewing Commission of 1933 reported on the living conditions of Alberta Metis. Today, there are eight Metis Settlements spread across Northern Alberta: Buffalo Lake, East Prairie, Elizabeth, Fishing Lake, Gift Lake, Kikino, Paddle Prairie and Peavine.

Four others (Marlboro, Touchwood Lake, Cold Lake and Wolf Lake) have been closed down by the Provincial Government.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration are scheduled for the weekend of June 29-July 2, 1989 at the Kikino Metis Settlement.

The Big Celebration will start with a parade on Friday afternoon featuring floats from each of the Settlements and some from communities surrounding the Settlements.

The highlight on Friday will be the multi-cultural performance which will feature the traditional dances of different ethnic groups.

The White Braid Society of Edmonton and the Wasesquan Cultural Society Dancers of Driftpile will perform traditional Indian dances, while Les Bles D'or Society of St. Paul will do the dances of France. Also featured will be groups performing Scottish, Ukrainian and Metis dances.

The slow-pitch tournament will also get under way on Friday with local teams playing the first two games. An oldtime dance and fireworks display will round off Friday's events.

Saturday's events will start with a pancake breakfast. Competitions in slow-pitch, horseshoes, jackpot rodeo, and the king and queen contests will go on throughout the day.

The slow-pitch tournament will feature two teams from each of the eight Settlements in a single knock-out tournament, with the teams that goes through the competition undefeated being declared champion. If time permits, players from the losing teams will form an all-star team to challenge the champions in a special exhibition game.

Horseshoes will be played in three categories —

mens, ladies and mixed-doubles, there is no limit to the number of entries and all age groups will be eligible to compete. Kids games and a puppet show will be put on for children between the age of 0-12. The jackpot rodeo feature the traditional rodeo events such as bareback riding, saddle bronc, calf roping, bull riding, team roping, barrel racing as well as novelty events such as wild horse racing, wild-cow milking, donkey riding and mutton busting. Settlement cowboys will be competing for trophies, bragging rights and whatever cash they decide to throw in the pot in a winner take-all situation.

The king and queen contests will comprise of timed events such as firestarting, tea-making, bannock making, log sawing, nail pounding, and log throwing.

The event that is expected to attract the most attention is the Metis triathlon. The Metis triathlon will be a severe test of stamina, with the first leg being a three mile canoe race, the second leg a three mile run and the third leg a four and half mile horse race. Teams can have a minimum of three and a maximum of four people. A shorter course has been planned for the ladies and junior men's and ladies teams. The Metis triathlon combines canoeing, riding and running skills in a tribute to the modes of travel of the early Settlers. It is also a test of endurance and adaptability-attributes the pioneers of the Metis Settlements had to have in order to survive. The Metis triathlon symbolizes the long hard road of Metis Settlements over the past 50 years.

The evening activities will be highlighted by a talent show featuring the singing, jigging and fiddling talents of the Metis. A banquet and dance will cap Saturday's activities. The main course at the banquet will be roast buffalo.

The Prime Minister of Canada Brian Mulroney and Don Getty, the Premier of Alberta have been invited to attend the Celebrations. Confirmation has not been received whether both or one of the dignitaries will attend.

Finals in all events will be held on Sunday with an awards presentation and closing ceremonies to bring the 50th Anniversary Celebrations to an end.

For further information contact: George LaFleur at 428-6054 or 1-800-282-9902.



The Metis Settlements of Alberta

50th Amniversary Celebrations

June 30 - July 2, 1989 At: The Killino Metis Settlement Admission: Free

Join The Fun

Slo-Pitch Tournament King & Queen Contests Talent Show Metis Triathlon

Multi-Cultural Performance
Puppet Show
Parade

Fireworks

Kids Games

Pancake Breakfasts 6-10 a.m.

Non-Denominational Church Services Country - Gospel Singing

Horseshoes

Jackpot Rodeo

Wagon Train

Dance: 10:00 p.m.

Old Time - Friday

Country Rock - Saturday

"OUR LAND - OUR CULTURE - OUR FUTURE"

For Further Information or to Register Call: George LaFleur 1-800-282-9902 or Organizers are not responsible for loss or damages