

Eagle Feather NEWS

FREE

Exhibit honours Aboriginal women

A photo of Amber Redman and painting of Daleen Bosse are part of the exhibit *The Recognition of Place: Strength and Endurance of Aboriginal Women*. (Photos by John Lagimodiere)



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Welcome to our
Arts & Entertainment Issue
Coming In May:
Sports & Youth Issue
CPMA #40027204

By Darla Read
For Eagle Feather News

A new travelling, pilot exhibit is highlighting the many contributions and achievements of First Nations and Métis women.

It also honours the lives of two First Nations women who were murdered.

After many years of dreams and planning, Sasipenita officially opened last month.

The idea for the exhibit, *The Recognition of Place: Strength & Endurance of Aboriginal Women*, came about when Monica Goulet was working on her Master of Business Administration in 2005. She was working on an exhibit about Anne Frank, and says many people asked her why there wasn't an exhibit telling the stories of Aboriginal people.

Goulet says that's exactly the intent of this exhibit by Sasipenita.

"It is hoped that this pilot exhibit will spark a movement, a collective heartbeat that will inspire and instil a sense of pride and profound respect for Aboriginal women," explains Goulet.

She says the exhibit features female leaders.

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Lieutenant Governor Gordon Barnhart presented flowers to Monica Goulet and Val Arnault Pelletier.

(Photo by John Lagimodiere)

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"They are the pipe carriers, the dreamers, the healers, the herbalists, the peacemakers, and the community leaders."

Eight women are featured in the exhibit and include scholar and Cree linguist Freda Ahenakew; Laura Big Eagle, a former chief of the Ocean Man First Nation who has since passed on; FSIN Senator, healer, mid-wife and Elder Marie Merasty, who is also being recognized posthumously;

Exhibit raises awareness about violence

educator Alvina Poitras; Prince Albert community leader Bernice Sayese, posthumously; Elder and student mentor Bette Spence; health care leader Wendy Swenson, posthumously; and Shannon Loutitt, honour distance runner.

Five artists did the work: Leah Dorion, Louise Halfe, Roger Jerome, Mary Longman and Linda Young.

The word Sasipenita means "never give up" in Swampy Cree, a message that fits well with a tribute to the late Amber Redman and Daleen Bosse, both of whom were missing before found murdered.

Pauline Muskego is touched her daughter's story is included in the exhibit and says it's an honour to see their daughter's life can still impact people even though she has left the Earth.

The tribute features a painting of Bosse alongside one of her own paintings as well as her Education degree, which the University of Saskatchewan awarded her posthumously.

Muskego says Bosse's own artwork shows her creative side, and the degree shows she had goals and aspirations to reach for her dreams.

"Hopefully people will see no matter what you're going through, no matter how hard it may seem, you just keep on reaching for your dreams, whatever they may be. If a young woman is inspired by that, that's what it's all about now, to help other people."

Jerome chose the photo of Bosse that he would paint.

"Whatever meaning that it can give to the person looking at the picture ... to me, that's good," says Muskego. "The people who did talk to me, they just felt there was something in that picture, the way she looks, that's just like they captivated her spirit."

"Because when you stand there and you look at it, it's

almost like her memory's alive in that picture. Whether it's a teacher they see her as, whether it's as a mother, or whether it's as a First Nations woman, it doesn't matter to me, as long as they see that she was our daughter, the mother of Faith, the sister of her brothers."

Bosse's daughter, Faith, was able to attend the opening.

"She just realises her mother's not here anymore but she has to go, on her mother's memory," says Muskego, noting Faith has the love and support of both sides of her family and is pursuing lessons in ballet, baton and music.

"I guess you can say she's carrying on the legacy of her mom's life."

As for Muskego, her husband, Herb, and the rest of their family, they of course still miss Bosse.

"We'll never stop missing her, but yet she would want us to carry on with our lives and make sure Faith is looked after."

Muskego he says this exhibit is an example that there is more than one way to raise awareness around missing and murdered Aboriginal women. She says it doesn't only have to be through marches and walks.

"Those are all really good, but as time goes by, her memory is still kept alive through art, which was one of her passions. In a still, quiet way, the message is still going forth."

"You can't suppress it. We hope it would go away and that our women would stop being murdered and going missing, but as long as it's still going on, you still have to send the message, one way or another."

It is the hope of Sasipenita's board that this exhibit will eventually travel the province and perhaps the country and beyond.

It is on display at Wanuskewin Heritage Park outside of Saskatoon until July 4.

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Versatile LocalOnlyz one prolific band

By Michael Bell
For Eagle Feather News

Spring is flirting with us here in Regina, but she just doesn't seem ready for a serious relationship yet. So it was still cold the night I went down to get a photo of the Local Onlyz.

I pulled up to The Club in my rusty but trusty '85 Corolla. The band's guitarist Thomas Roussin was at the entrance having a smoke. Emcee Brad Bellegarde, who goes by the stage name InfoRed, was also at the door.

We shook hands, went inside to get DJ "Merky Waters" Chris Merk for the photo. They lined up against the wall, and I fired away.

The reason I was there taking photos is because the Local Onlyz are smart about self promotion. Their first album, Kings Among Clowns, comes out in June, but they want to generate some excitement about it. To get the media buzzing, they just released an online video called Next To You, a track from the upcoming album.

"It's our most pop driven song," Bellegarde explains.

Next To You is a song about the longing of separated lovers. The beat is relaxed, the guitar is smooth, and Bellegarde's rhymes land confidently in your ear. The video was shot during one long

day in the summer of 2010. The scenes alternate between Bellegarde rapping, Merk spinning and Roussin singing in various outdoor locations in Regina. A beautiful woman also appears in the video,

backdrops in the video.

But don't be fooled by the breezy summer vibe of Next To You. Roussin and Bellegarde wrote the lyrics to the 13 tracks on the upcoming album Kings Among

Bellegarde said he's unafraid to talk about politics and social issues.

"As an artist, that's the only way I know how to speak on stuff is through music," he said.

The Saskatchewan art scene is small enough that Roussin, Bellegarde and Merk knew each other from "way back." Roussin used to perform in the Nancy Ray Guns. Meanwhile Bellegarde and Merk had their own musical collaboration happening. Sometime after Roussin left the Ray Guns, he suggested they meet to try writing a song together. The collaboration worked.

"We pumped out a massive amount of songs within a short amount of time," Bellegarde said.

The Local Onlyz have been performing for about a year. Their first show was in March 2010 at the Sakewewak Storytellers Festival. Live performances occasionally feature Nathaniel Bowen (also of the Nancy Ray Guns) on drums.

Since then the four man band has performed regularly in Regina while completing the album. Once the album drops in June, Bellegarde says the Local Onlyz hope to tour in the fall.

The video Next To You and other songs by the Local Onlyz are searchable on Facebook.



Thomas Roussin (left), Brad Bellegarde and Chris Merk pose for a photo an hour before their show at The Club, March 24. The smooth rhyming hip-hop trio call themselves the Local Onlyz. Missing from photo is Nathaniel Bowen.

(Photo Michael Bell)

representing one of the lovers about which the lyrics speak. Various Queen City landmarks, like First Nations University of Canada and the Plains Hotel, feature as

Clowns. It will feature boiling, socially relevant tracks ranging from environmental themes (Tar Sands Casino) to the legacy of colonialism (Ground Control).

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Editorial

Time for apologies

Last month we ran an unsigned letter from a Warrior Society that weighed in on the Chief Guy Lonechild controversy by asking him to resign. Unfortunately, there was no one person's name tied to the letter and it seemed as though the letter was supported by the First Nations listed in calling for Chief Lonechild's resignation. That is not correct.

It must be clear that the Warriors Society letter was not endorsed by the elected leadership of the Ocean Man First Nation, the Pheasant Rump Nakota First Nation or the White Bear First Nation.

It was an unsigned letter that should not have been printed. We apologize to Chief Guy Lonechild and his family for the harm done to his character by the publication of this letter.

John Lagimodiere
Publisher and Editor Eagle Feather News

Elder Peter Bigstone of the Nakota Society also gave us a call from Harlem, Montana where he resides. As a member of the Nakota Society, he asked around to see who sent the above mentioned letter. He could find no one who accepted responsibility. He was concerned that we ran the unsigned letter without checking around.

He also believes that Chief Lonechild can use this situation to become a role model who can go and talk about this issue in the community and turn a bad situation into a good one. It was interesting to talk to Elder Bigstone about his work at Ocean Man First Nation and the preservation of his language and his time down in Montana. While we talked he told me to go to his web page if I needed further information.

Sure enough, he had a great web page with lots of information. We are sorry we let Elder Bigstone down.

While we are at it, we owe an apology to Elder Maggie Poochay. She was interviewed about the opening of the Old Peoples Program at the Saskatoon Tribal Council in January. During the interview, there was some joking around. One of those joking comments was misquoted in the article and it came out in the wrong meaning causing Elder Maggie some concern. We apologize for the confusion. Maggie is a wonderful lady who has done much for the community and we are sorry for the mistake.

There was also an error in the story on Jennifer Campeau's nomination to run for the Sask Party (*March 2011, page 7*). A sharp eyed reader pointed out that Eileen Gelowitz, who ran for the Sask Party in Saskatoon Fairview in 2007, was the first Aboriginal female candidate for the Sask Party. Also the quote attributed to Dani Herman on the front page of the March edition was a quote from Karen LaRocque.

Lastly, the family of Ian Andrew Gamble was upset with a comment in our editorial about how the community treats women. It was a reference to his court case that wound up with him being convicted of two sexual assaults. The family has been in contact with us and have submitted to us some serious concerns they had about the case, the evidence and the court appointed lawyer. Expect more on this case in the future.

Coming next month

Coming in May is the ultimate youth and sports edition. We will have photos of the FSIN Youth Hockey Championships, as well as coverage of the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships. Also expect profiles of young First Nation and Métis people that are making a difference out there.

Oh, and we hear there will be an election ... insight on the future of Aboriginal people in Canada living under a minority government, next edition. Remember to vote.

Rank Comix

Adam Martin

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THIS ISSUE...LAST ISSUE...PAST ISSUES.

The secret's out; our artists were subversive

Aloha!

I am writing this in Hawaii and it is warm and sunny with the most wonderful tropical wind blowing off the ocean. A soft moist wind that makes your hair curl and your skin feel like silk.

I love it here and to think I have to come back to all that snow and ice. I am in a small community and staying with family in a private home with a beach a block away. The landscape is spectacular with rugged mountains and a turquoise ocean with huge waves that surfers ride from sun up till sundown.

This morning I sat on the beach and watched the sun come up. I ate mangos, papayas and pineapple for breakfast and drank coconut milk, all growing in the backyard of course.

I am going to start writing historical romances to make money so I can keep coming back cause I'm sure not making any writing about us! Just kidding, I love us and I don't mind being poor but it is beautiful here.

I have seen lots of art since I arrived and so I've been thinking about our own artists and wondering how many people know what an important role they have played in all the changes we have come through as Aboriginal people.

Like many of you, I have been privileged to have always been surrounded by artists, artisans and craftspeople. My nokoms, mom and aunties created bark and willow baskets, tanned hides like soft velvet and beaded, quilled and embroidered beautiful floral designs on jackets, moccasins and gloves. They made quilts from worn out scraps of family clothing and hooked colourful stories on old burlap potato sacks and braided rugs for front doors.

My dad and uncles made snow shoes,

dog harness and sleds from local wood and rawhide. One uncle carved the animals that lived in our territory and my aunty made dolls. These were the toys we played with as children and some of us still have and treasure them today. It was these people in our family who inspired me to write, my brother to make films and another brother to paint.

All this beautiful work supplemented our income and paid for food, clothing and other necessary things. Without this art we would probably have gone hungry many times especially when the price of fur was down. No one ever thought about it as "art" but the people who did it were respected and loved.

These people were also exceptional storytellers and often the most culturally knowledgeable. Priests were not afraid of them, nor Indian agents or the Hudson Bay Company cause they were just creating "Indian stuff" to sell. Who could possibly have thought they were subversive? But they were.

While creating "Indian stuff" they were passing on cultural traditions and sharing knowledge. They were, as an old Marxist said to me one day when we were talking about the "radicals and revolutionaries." And long before them were the artists who created petroglyphs, medicine wheels, pictographs and effigies: who painted dreams, visions and heroic deeds on tipi's, red river carts and winter counts. Yes the lives of aboriginal people have always been rich with art, stories, music and dance, even during the darkest times.

The 1960s were an exceptionally exciting time culturally, spiritually and

politically for aboriginal people across Canada. This was the decade that produced artists like Daphne Ojig, Jackson Beardy, Norval Morreseau, Alex Janvier, and many

others. These artists explored new mediums in which to work, blending western technologies with aboriginal ideas and concepts.

They put on canvas or sculpted on stone cultural images and stories that had been kept hidden for too long. Through their art they addressed issues of colonization, the political and cultural tensions between Aboriginal and European traditions. They created controversy and dialogue among their own people and forced us to do some critical thinking and they introduced the country and the world to "Native Art."

Following these artists, came writers, poets, singers, musicians and dancers. The ceremonialists, artisans and craftspeople who had kept it all alive watched old ways merged with new and changed again. At first there was fear at what was happening.

"We can't mess around with those things," they said. "They are secret, sacred, mysterious."

And there was fear, too, on the part of the new artists, for who wants to be shunned by their people? But there were teachers and old people like Stan and Adam Cuthand, Smith Atimoyo, Ernest Tootoosis, Ernie Benedict, Art Solomon, Mariah Cardinal, Lizette Ahenakew, Ida and John MacLeod. The list is long, but they gave support and courage, reminding us that culture is not static, that we can respect it by taking it up and giving it life. And that is what has happened.

One would have to look hard today to

not find art and books or hear music, see dance and theatre created by our people. Names like Allan Sapp, Judy Anderson, Louise Halfe, Neal Macleod, Sherry Farrell Racette, Gerald MacMaster, Marlyn Dumont, Leah Dorian, Eekwol, Christi Belcourt, Mary Longman, Randy Lunday, Gregory Scofield, Jay Ross, Tomson Highway, Andrea Menard, and the Cuthands, not just one or two or three, but the whole family. Can you imagine!

Rita Bouvier, Kenneth Charlette, Gary Farmer, Tantoo Cardinal, Marjorie Beaucage, Shane Belcourt, Gilbert Anderson, Kim Anderson and the list goes on and on. Thousands of artists, sculptors, writers, poets, singers, songwriters, film and video makers and musicians. Traditional, contemporary and classical. My goodness, we even have blues and jazz singers and would you believe there are 10 opera singers and at least five classical composers with a distinct aboriginal sound, of course.

Names that are not just "rez," "community," or "hood" but are national and international. Not bad, I would say, for a people who were supposed to be dying 50 years ago.

I will risk you throwing something at me and remind you again that it was Riel who said, "my people will sleep for a 100 years and then it will be the artists who will lead them."

And lead us they always have. No stealing of band funds here, or counting the votes of dead people on election day or selling our children's resources. Our artists have always led us in an honourable way, given us pride in who we are and courage to face the future with excitement and hope.

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Democratic deficit?

As we read and hear about the violent upheavals that are now convulsing several states in the Arab world we are subjected to many journalistic commentaries about democracy and its virtues. But how often are we similarly reminded of the failures of democracy in our own country?

Now that a federal election has been called, it is a good time to reflect upon our political institutions. How democratic is Canada? How do indigenous people and political institutions factor in?

It is the consensus of the tallest foreheads amongst the political scientists that Canada is about the least democratic of the Western democracies. The main culprit is the centralization of power in the office of the Prime Minister. The PM appoints the head of the RCMP; all the justices of not only the Supreme Court of Canada, but also controls all judicial appointments above the lowest rank of provincial court judges.

He controls the government agenda. With party discipline your MP is as useful as a trained seal unless he happens to be the Prime Minister or the Minister of Finance. Canada needs Parliamentary reform but there seems little hope of achieving it. Perhaps the political parties are the only bodies with the capacity to change the trappings of Prime Ministerial power, by demanding it of their leadership candidates. Don't hold your breath.

Canadians are notoriously complacent about politics. For the first time in Canadian history, a government has fallen from power because it was found to be in contempt of Parliament. The journalistic commentary largely overlooks it. I suspect most voters don't know or care. Instead we are fed a running report on childish accusations.

The Liberal leader, instead of blazing his own path of political rhetoric for the campaign, (... i.e. by showing contempt for our democratic system, every member of this government has disqualified himself from ever running from public office in Canada ... blah blah ...) falls into the trap of letting Harper determine what is argued over.

The top experts tell us our taxation system is hopelessly vague and unfair; not comprehensible to even the bureaucrats who are charged with its administration, but how much debate can we expect on such issues?

We are reminded here of the most stunning of all comments ever in this context, by Kim Campbell who is reported as having said that 'election time is no time to discuss policy ...'

Where do the indigenous voters and organizations fit in? There is plenty of opportunity for political activism amongst the representative institutions, but there is little public evidence of its practice. Immigrant groups are able to exert political influence by delivering votes. Check off your list of recent Cabinet appointments of

Indians and see how many First Nations names you see on that list.

A report led by Senator Len Marchand in the 1990s showed that there are quite a number of ridings where indigenous people can, if they get together, determine who



wins. There were 12 at that time. The preferred route of the political representative organizations, which are often mired in the work of administering government programs, seems to be to work with the government of the day, and not rock the boat.

It seems that the two remaining factors that give Canadians a bit of political influence are the free vote that is unconstrained by party discipline and calls governments to account, and the existence of a formal Opposition in government. The latter is being weakened in Canada by the tactics that Harper has employed such as dismissing Parliament, making the vote even more crucial.

In the case of indigenous people's own political organizations, there is usually no formal Opposition through which debate can be channeled, and office-holders are often not elected by popular mandate.

It must be kept in mind, however, that contemporary indigenous political organizations have emerged out of the shadows of a very long period of political oppression and suppression by Canadian policy and practice, with some of it backed up by law, such as outlawing the status Indian vote from federal politics until 1960 and from provincial politics until the period running from the 1940s to the 1960s, the last province to grant the vote being Quebec.

If we look into the traditional practices of First Nations and Métis people in the Prairie region, there are many practices and ideas that can suggest modern versions of truly democratic institutions; institutions that dilute and de-centralize power, and give voice to everyone.

The Elders can give lessons on that. What we see today in Saskatchewan, however, are newly-created indigenous political institutions that try to mirror Canadian institutions, complete with the same labels.

Is it time to look inside for inspiration on how to work towards our collective political aspirations? Or is what we see in the Canadian system the best that we can do?

As we ponder the lessons from the politics of the Arab world and approach a federal election, these are worthwhile questions, are they not?

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CBC honours “that which is going right” in Métis world

By Diane Adams
For Eagle Feather News

CBC Saskatchewan is celebrating the year after the year of the Métis with two special Métis shows.

The First, ê-miywahkamikahk, is a live concert and comedy show. It was recorded on February 25, 2010 at CBC's Galleria in Regina. It is hosted by John Lagimodiere and produced by the broadcaster's Merelda Fiddler.

“(The year of the Métis) was an ironic kind of declaration,” Fiddler said. “Because 2010 marked 125 years since the resistance at Batoche, and people's hopes and dreams for what they had wanted for a Métis community were kind of dashed.”

Fiddler says she, and the CBC, want to celebrate the successes of Saskatchewan's Métis people through ê-miywahkamikahk. The name loosely means “that which is going right.”

Fiddler says it's a play on the way First Nations and Métis people often refer to the 1885 Battle at Batoche: “that which is going wrong.”

The show features Métis comedy skits by aboriginal funny-men The Bucknaked Neechies. Comprised of Neal McLeod, Ed Doolittle and Robert Hoek, the neechies will take listeners on a time-travel journey through Batoche, with the help of a Bannock Grease wormhole.



Bill Cook rocked the joint with his original music. (Photo by CBC)

“What I think people are going to hear when they hear the show is there's all this energy and laughter when the Bucknaked Neechies are performing,” Fiddler said. “They're giving us a really good taste of their comedic talents.”

The showcase will air on National

Aboriginal Day (June 21) on CBC Radio stations across the country and regionally several times. Listeners can also expect to hear musical performances from First Nations and Métis talent from around

nected as they might think.

“We're all living in the same space, we all have a lot of the same goals and values, we want to have good families, we want our kids to go ahead,” Fiddler said.



The comedy Troupe Bucknaked Neechies and the musical talent gathered for a shot to commemorate the evening. (Photo by CBC)

Saskatchewan.

“During some of the musical portions the room that was packed with almost 300 people in it is silent listening to these amazing musicians,” Fiddler said.

Fiddler says the CBC was amazed at the talent available right here in Saskatchewan. The show features performances from Riva Racette, The Aboriginal Talent Lounge, and the Local Onlyz.

“Their songs and the things that they had to share and say were so powerful,” Fiddler said.

The second show, Wahkootowin, is a regional special that will focus on the value of family in Métis culture. Wahkootowin means “All My Relations.” It will be hosted by Merelda Fiddler and Sharon Gerein.

“The idea behind this show is that Métis people really are people who absorb other people and bring them in. And we all just become part of a bigger and bigger family, she said. “(It's) about those bigger families and those Métis stories and how they draw us all in.”

The name, Wahkootowin, comes from renowned Métis researcher, Brenda MacDougall and her research into family dynamics in Métis communities.

Wahkootowin will air on CBC Saskatchewan on Easter Monday, April 25 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. Listeners can expect to hear stories on Métis people and elders from across the province.

“We interviewed people who remember back in the forties when Metis people from the south were forcibly moved to Green Lake,” Fiddler said.

Fiddler will also take listeners on a journey to her hometown of Meadow Lake. While there, she changes the town's official history.

“I realized when I was doing my masters degree, our town history says it was founded by a guy from France,” Fiddler said. “I knew that wasn't true. I knew that my ancestor who founded the town was not from France.”

Fiddler hopes Wahkootowin's stories will bring Canadians together. She says people in this country are not as discon-

Fiddler says CBC stories have the power to help define our identity as Canadians.

“If we just understood our stories a little better, we'd see that there's much greater connections between us,” she said. “That's what I think CBC can do, is show all of these connections and how we're all related.”

Fiddler says she thinks Métis values will resonate with listeners, especially as Canada becomes increasingly diverse.

“We're actually all part of one big story that's Canada, and this big family that's Canada,” Fiddler said. “The way it works is very much like the Métis people. You just continue to add everybody in because it's better to be together than it's better to be alone.”



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Cancer patients need support of family, friends

Fighting cancer is about more than taking tests and undergoing treatment. It is about trying to stay positive, finding relevant information, making the best decisions and maintaining strength at all levels; emotional, spiritual, physical and mental.

It is also about surrounding yourself with family members and friends to walk with you during the surgery and treatments and afterward as people living with cancer.

We have to also acknowledge that some patients won't survive and it's crucial that their end of life care or palliative care allows the dying cancer patient to spend their last days with dignity, free of pain and in a place of their choosing.

According to Donna Zeigler, director of Cancer Control for the Canadian Cancer Society in Saskatchewan: "Right now in Saskatchewan the quality of care and services depends on where you live which means some patients and their families may not be getting the support they need during a difficult time. This is not acceptable."

Most people would prefer to die at home surrounded by friends and family, but this is not an option in many parts of the province, particularly on reserves.

That support is simply not available in many places because of a shortage of health-care workers trained in end of life care.

The healthcare system has made improvements to the treatment of cancer with many patients living more than five years after their initial diagnosis.

That said we have an aging population that is growing in numbers and we will see more people dying of cancer and other chronic illnesses. That's just the

"... the quality of care and services depends on where you live which means some patients and their families may not be getting the support they need."

way life is.

Corinne Sandstrom, President of the Saskatchewan Hospice Palliative Care Association says, "There will be an increasing need for palliative care services in Canada.

"These services will need to be better

coordinated so that high quality support is available for every patient, no matter where they live."

Throughout May and June the Canadian Cancer Society will be holding Relay for Life events throughout the province. The events provide an opportunity for friends and family to raise money to assist the Canadian Cancer Society in providing support to cancer patients. Check out their website for events in your area.

It is very challenging and stressful caring for a loved one at the end of their life. It's okay to ask for help and I would encourage you to look for respite care.

We can't prevent cancer but we can make healthier choices that can decrease our risk of getting cancer.

If you are dealing with a cancer diagnosis try to surround yourself with positive people.

There are many good reasons for talking about your emotions, but if you feel that the best way for you to cope is to just get on with things, you can ask others to respect your wishes not to talk. Let them know that is you want to discuss anything you will bring it up.

You may find it difficult to talk about your feelings with people close to you. You may find it helpful to talk to people who aren't family or friends. You might want to talk to a counsellor or someone who had a similar cancer experience.

If you need help finding someone to talk to call the Canadian Cancer Society at 1-888-939-3333.

Do you have a health question or concern? You can write to me at Eagle Feather News P.O. Box 924 St Main Saskatoon SK S7K 3M4 or email sandra.ahenakew@gmail.com



Sandee Sez

Sandra Ahenakew

Prostrate problems for men

By Flo Lavallee
For Eagle Feather News

Many men require prostate support. This small walnut sized gland near the bladder often needs attention as men grow older. Common systems of inflamed infected prostate gland under the testicles are frequent painful to pass their water and only a small amount passes at a time, lower back pain and leg pains, no desire to have sex and feeling tired.

A high fat diet with fried foods and poor diet, too many over-acid or spicy foods, too much alcohol and coffee. Poor circulation, lack of exercise, a zinc deficiency and sexually transmitted diseases are some of the causes. Example: A white discharge from the penis.

But men can manage problems of the prostate with prevention and lifestyle support. Having sex during a prostate infection will irritate the prostate. After the infection has passed normal sex life can continue.

As a man gets older the male hormone called testosterone will get lower. These are changes in a man's body that happen also for the circulation, bones, muscle, mood and the ability to remember. These concerns for men about their prostate and sex drive are age related concerns for men. There

are natural ways to maintain prostate health and to prevent prostate disease and to maintain a healthy prostate.

Some ways of having a healthy prostate are by not drinking hard liquor, especially beer and pop. Avoiding fried foods, sugar, white flour and foods with additives preservatives, and alcohol. Spicy foods irritate the bladder which holds the urine (water) sitting on cold surfaces

Some remedies to consider are eating pumpkin seeds (raw) unsalted. They are very high in a mineral called zinc. Drinking cranberry and Pomegranate juice with no sugar added, eight glasses of water are helpful. Horsetail and nettle tea helps reduce the swelling of the prostate.

Herbs called Saw Palmetto, licorice, grape seed, green tea extract are very helpful. Evening of Primrose Oil is also suggested to normalize the hormones.

Therapies- Reflexology is a treatment that helps to stimulate the reflexes to prostate, helps to relax the bladder by stimulating the reflexes on the bottom of the feet. This treatment will also help the kidney and improve the flow of urine.

I recommend consultation with your physician to correct the prostate situation from getting more serious.



good food bites

LOCAL SUPER FOODS

Did you know that locally-grown foods are good for your health, good for the local economy and good for the environment? Buying locally also helps build strong communities ... and doesn't have to be expensive. Looking for more bang for your buck? Here's a list of nutritious, economical and delicious Saskatchewan foods:

BEETS are a great source of folate, which guards against birth defects. Beets may also help prevent cancer and relieve inflammation. And beet greens help maintain good eyesight, so be sure to eat them too!

RAINBOW TROUT are packed with protein. They are low in saturated fat and contain heart disease-fighting omega-3s. Trout, especially wild trout, is also a great source of Vitamin D. Besides all this, it's delicious!

CABBAGE is an excellent source of sulforaphane, known to help prevent cancer, especially colon cancer. Cabbage is also loaded with Vitamin C.

OATMEAL is good source of soluble fibre that helps lower cholesterol as well as insoluble fibre that promotes regularity. Oatmeal also provides vitamin B to help the brain & nervous system. Try Oat bran too! It is high in soluble fibre, protein, iron, vitamin B and vitamin E.

LENTILS have many health benefits; one serving provides more than half your daily needs of fibre and folate and 1/3 of your iron. Lentils are also a good source of complex carbohydrates, protein, and vitamins & minerals. And they are very versatile. Check out next month's CHEP Good Food Bites for some delicious lentil recipes!

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National Energy
Board

Office national
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National Energy Board

Notice of Public Hearing on the Enbridge Bakken Pipeline Company Inc. (Enbridge Bakken) Bakken Pipeline Project Canada (Bakken Pipeline Project)

The National Energy Board (Board) has scheduled an oral public hearing on an application from Enbridge Bakken under the *National Energy Board Act* to construct and operate the proposed Bakken Pipeline Project. The proceeding will also consider matters required by the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. Copies of the application are available for viewing on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "View" Regulatory Documents then "Quick Links" and scroll down to the application), at Enbridge Bakken's office (10201 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton); the Board's library (1st floor, 444 7th Avenue SW, Calgary); Regina Public Library – Central Library (2311 12th Avenue, Regina, SK); Alameda Community Library (200 5th Street, Alameda, SK); Redvers Public Library (53B Railway Avenue, Redvers, SK); and Border Regional Library, Virden Branch (312-7th Avenue, Virden, MB).

Project Details

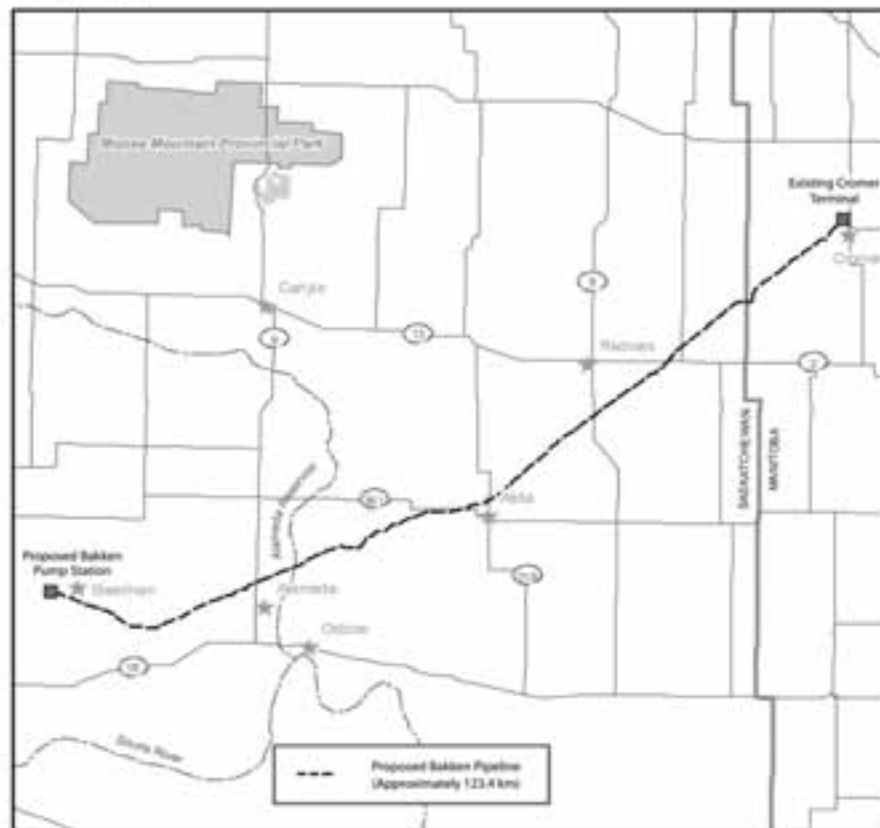
The Bakken Pipeline Project would transport crude oil from the Bakken Formation in North Dakota and Montana to refinery markets in North America via a connection with the existing Enbridge Pipeline Inc. (EPI) mainline at the EPI Cromer Terminal near Cromer, Manitoba. The Bakken Pipeline Project will include:

- the transfer of Line EX-02 from the current owner, Enbridge Pipelines (Westspur) Inc., to Enbridge Bakken Limited Partnership;
- construction and operation of a new 406.4 mm (NPS 16) outside diameter (OD) crude oil pipeline (Bakken Pipeline), approximately 123.4 km in length, from the new Bakken Pump station near Steelman, Saskatchewan, to the existing EPI Cromer terminal;
- construction and operation of the Bakken Pump Station to be located near the existing Enbridge Westspur Steelman Terminal; and
- construction of facilities at the existing EPI Cromer Terminal, including a new NPS 16 pig receiver.

The Bakken Pipeline will be alongside and contiguous to an existing Enbridge Westspur pipeline right-of-way (RoW) and other linear disturbances for approximately 77.3 km of its entire length. With approximately 46.1 km of new RoW, the Bakken Pipeline Project is subject to a screening level environmental assessment.

Enbridge Bakken is proposing to begin construction in the first half of 2012 with an in-service date of early 2013.

Project Map



Oral Public Hearing

The oral portion of the hearing will start at **10:00 a.m. local time 4 October 2011, at a location to be determined**. The hearing will obtain the evidence and views of interested persons on the application. Any person interested in participating in the oral portion of the hearing should consult the Board's Hearing Order OH-01-2011 for further background and instructions. The deadline for filing applications to intervene is **29 April 2011** and for providing a letter of comment or to register to provide an oral statement on the application is **30 June 2011**. Federal or provincial government authorities may participate by filing a letter of comment, providing an oral statement, seeking Intervenor status or by filing a declaration that they will be a Government Participant by **29 April 2011**. Further details can be found in the Hearing Order.

Information for Intervenor

Any person wishing to intervene in the hearing must file an application to intervene by **noon, Calgary time, 29 April 2011** with the Secretary of the Board and serve a copy on Enbridge Bakken and its counsel at each of the following addresses:

Ms. Lisa Anderson
Team Lead,
Regulatory Affairs
Enbridge Pipelines Inc.
10201 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 3N7
Facsimile 780-420-8749

Ms. Ramona Salamucha
Regulatory Counsel
Enbridge Pipelines Inc.
10201 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 3N7
Facsimile 780-420-5166

Ms. Laura Estep
Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP
15th Floor,
Bankers Court
850-2nd Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0R8
Facsimile 403-268-3100

You may use a form on the Board's Internet site to file an application to intervene. Go to www.neb-one.gc.ca and click "Submit" under the "Regulatory Documents" heading, click "Submit Documents Electronically" – then "Application for Intervenor Status". Enbridge Bakken will serve a copy of the application and related documentation on each Intervenor.

Letters of Comment and Oral Statements

Any person wishing only to comment on the application should file a letter of comment with the Secretary of the Board and send a copy to Enbridge Bakken and its counsel by **noon, Calgary time, 30 June 2011**.

The Board will also set aside time, at the commencement of the oral portion of the hearing, to hear comments on the application. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement must file a letter with the Board requesting the opportunity to make an oral statement and send a copy to Enbridge Bakken and its counsel by **noon, Calgary time, 30 June 2011**. You may use forms on the Board's Internet site to file your letter of comment or request to make an oral statement. Go to www.neb-one.gc.ca. Click "Submit" under the "Regulatory Documents" heading, click "Submit Documents Electronically" – then "Letter of Comment" or "Request to Make an Oral Statement".

Information on Hearing Procedures

You may access the Hearing Order through the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Regulatory Documents" then "Quick Links", scroll down to the "Enbridge Bakken Pipeline Company Inc. – Bakken Pipeline Project Canada (OH-01-2011)" application, then "Hearing Order" at the top of the screen). You may obtain information on the procedures for this hearing or on the *National Energy Board Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1995*, as amended (Rules) SOR/95-208, governing all hearings (available in English and French) by writing to the Secretary of the Board, or by contacting Mona Butler, Regulatory Officer at 403-221-3292, or Sharon Wong, Regulatory Officer at 403-299-3191, or at 1-800-899-1265. You may also go to the Board's Internet site and click on "Acts and Regulations" to access the Board's Rules and other legislation.

Anne-Marie Erickson, Secretary of the Board,
National Energy Board 444 Seventh Avenue SW,
Calgary, AB T2P 0X8 Fax 403-292-5503

Scary side of photography motivates Palidwar

By Michael Bell
For Eagle Feather News

Three young women stand in a line, each looking over her shoulder toward the camera. They look happy and relaxed. They wear graduation dresses, and they're pretty as flowers. The blonde wears pink, the redhead wears purple, the dark-haired woman wears green. Their frilly beauty contrasts with the hard grey of the covered iron bridge upon which they stand. The contrast makes the image work.

The three friends were from different towns, from different high-schools and had different graduation dates. They wanted grad photos taken together to commemorate their friendship. That's when they asked Kymber Palidwar, an amateur photographer, to help them out. It was June 2010, Palidwar's first official booking. Since then, she's taken on photography in a much more serious way.

It started as a hobby. Palidwar, who calls Nipawin home but recently moved to Saskatoon, had a simple point-and-shoot digital camera. She would shoot whatever struck her as an interesting image. Her international travels gave her chances to document people and landscapes in Thailand and Peru. After one such trip, a woman from Choiceland said to Palidwar: "Your pictures are awesome, can I buy some?"

The woman wanted to enlarge the images to use as decoration for her home. Palidwar agreed, and sold her first print.

A few months later, she put photos on Facebook, to a warm reception from the online community. Then Palidwar decided to shoot her sister's graduation as a gift. And then the grad girls called, and she found herself on an iron bridge taking photos on her first paid booking. Her hobby was about to upgrade to "part-time business."

Since June of last year, Palidwar has done about 30 photography gigs, ranging from weddings and family portraits, to photojournalistic coverage of events (she was the official photographer for the Batoche 125th Anniversary celebrations), to conceptual art. Not bad for someone with no formal photographic training. In fact, if you survey

www.kymberrae.ca, you might ask yourself how she managed to throw herself into such varied lighting and people situations and still produce good results. For instance, her first wedding. What was that like?

"So scary," she says. She felt the pressure of documenting the event, but it did not overwhelm her. If anything, she fed on the pressure, and she recalled that day as "a blast."

Or another first: a portrait session of girls at a skating tournament. Palidwar paints a chaotic scene of setting up lights, hanging the backdrop, posing the girls (as young as five years old), setting up the shots and all the while sports moms hovering around waiting for perfect results.

It was a high pressure situation, but she made it through.

"Every time I pick up the camera there's always something new to learn, every single time, and I hope that never ends," she said.

During our half hour phone interview, I heard the voice of a confident, energetic person.

And despite the good start Kymber Rae Photography has had in its first year, it is not a full-time job for Palidwar. Nor does she want it to be. I do it because it's fun and it's a creative outlet, she said.

"I find that every time you accept an opportunity that comes your way, every time you accept the chance to grow or learn, I think that's always a positive thing."



Kymber Palidwar isn't looking for a full-time gig; just a chance to learn and have fun

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No place for censorship like that tried by Poundmaker

Nothing could keep me from Poundmaker to see a play that was banned by Chief and Council. I was shocked, utterly shocked. Who bans a play? Since when did elected leaders become absolute rulers, censoring art as they see fit?

With all the controversy, I just had to see Antigone, by lawyer, playwright, and Poundmaker band member, Deanne Kasokeo. Kasokeo adapted Antigone from Sophocles' play and placed her setting on a reserve, with a corrupt chief and council denying Antigone the right to bury her deceased and banished brother at their reserve.

However, days before show time, Chief and Council intervened.

"It was apparently banned by a motion at a meeting two days before it was to be shown in Poundmaker for the reason that the Chief thought the play was about him," said Kasokeo.

Kasokeo insisted the play had nothing to do with them.

"It was first performed at the Globe Theatre in 1998, produced by Red Tattoo Ensemble. It was also published in 2002 by Coteau Books in Regina in an anthology of plays called The Great Gift of Tears."

Both occurred long before the present-day leaders were ever elected.

When Kasokeo and the director of Antigone, Floyd Favel, learned of the motion, they consulted the RCMP and discovered that

Chief and Council had no right to ban them from a community hall, so they made plans to go ahead as scheduled, and planned to use police escorts in and out of the building if necessary.

Yet, as of March 31 at 3 o'clock, hours before curtain time, they were locked out of the community hall. Panicked, and awaiting the arrival of guests, they had to improvise and quickly find another location.

I arrived at the reserve at 7:00 p.m., baffled to discover everything had been secretly moved to the school. How exciting, I thought – a clandestine play! Kasokeo greeted me and led me toward the gymnasium where they had set up a makeshift stage in the center of the room. Mats and chairs marked the square stage outline and rows of chairs were set on two sides of the 'stage'.

Gordon Tootoosis, a band member and renowned actor, was even in attendance. He stood and said a few words of encouragement in favour of the arts before the play began.

The play's tragedies are almost exactly on par with Sophocles' Antigone, just with an edgier, more modern spin. Sophocles wrote his play in 442 BC, and Kasokeo

adapted it to make it contemporary using characters that were believable, passionate and eloquent.

"The original is a beautiful play, and when I read it I saw a lot of parallelism with First Nations culture," said Kasokeo.

A few toddlers even sat quietly, captivated by the story. One little girl in a purple sweat suit watched, completely enthralled during the hour-long performance. I don't blame her. I've also never been to a more thrilling play. The story was engaging and easy to follow but what moved me the most was the sense of spirit in the crowd, a spirit that could never be denied.

Embracing and attending the play would have been the perfect opportunity for Poundmaker's Chief and council to poke fun at those stereotypes of corrupt chiefs. Unfortunately their insecurities took over and they acted in what can only be seen as a Fascist manner. Their reaction to Poundmaker's debut play was not only unsettling and a trifle humorous, it left me wondering if they indeed had something to hide.

I thought the days of Indian Agents were over, but who needs Indian Agents to block culture and spirit, when you have Chief and Council, right? Thank you Canadian Charter

of Rights and Freedoms, for the freedom of speech. It allowed me to enjoy a small and intimate play, and to revel in the spirit of a passionate theatrical troupe and its incredibly supportive audience.

"I want the audience, particularly First Nations, to think critically about how we govern ourselves," said Kasokeo. "Especially since the imposition of the Indian Act on our people. Prior to colonization traditional forms of governance were non-existent to most First Nations. It is time to realize the imposed governance principles are not our own and we need to reflect our beliefs and values as First Nations people."

Censorship does nothing but enhance the illustriousness of art. After all, good art gets people talking. Great art changes people. Antigone's debut could not have come at a better time, when many First Nations communities have begun to question the motives of their leaders.

As of press time, Poundmaker Chief and Council could not be reached for comment. If you would like to book Antigone in your community, contact Floyd at: floyd_favelstarr@hotmail.com (306) 481-6341 or Deanne at: dee.kasokeo@hotmail.com (306) 390-7754.

If you have an artist, entertainer or event that you think should be featured in Eagle Feather News, drop me a line at: snazzy-jess@hotmail.com. See you next month!



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Candidates courting Aboriginal vote in North

By Barbara Woolsey
For Eagle Feather News

In Northern Saskatchewan, the Aboriginal vote will be powerful in the upcoming federal election.

The majority of constituents in the Desnethe-Missinippi-Churchill River riding are of Aboriginal descent, with 23 First Nations bands and numerous reserves located in the area.

An election could have a huge impact for the electoral district. In Northern Saskatchewan, social issues such as poverty and crime are prevalent. Some communities do not have running water or road access, leaving them isolated and facing high costs of transportation and goods as a result.

NDP candidate Lawrence Joseph is frustrated by the lack of infrastructure development, which he considers to be a failure of the Conservative government.

"The issues that face us in this riding are much bigger than partisan politics," said Joseph, former FSIN chief and a member of the Big River First Nation Band.

"While this government was contemplating a \$6 billion tax break for corporations, what that money would be able to do for Northern Saskatchewan is a dream."

For Joseph, who grew up in poverty, the reality that others continue to exist under such conditions is painful.

"I can't remember sitting down to a meal at anytime as a kid, I can't remember any new clothing," he said.

"I see people today that are struggling with their lives and I've been there, done that. To still see that happening in our rich country and province is totally unacceptable."

Conservative MP Rob Clarke defends the government's 2011 budget that was voted down, pointing to the Children's Arts Tax Credit and the Family Caregiver Tax Credit.

"This is, in fact, a great budget for Northern Saskatchewan," he said in a statement.

Liberal candidate, Gabe Lafond, disagrees.



ROB CLARKE



LAWRENCE JOSEPH



GABE LAFOND

"What I hear from community members and leaders (in the area) is that the issues in Northern Saskatchewan have mostly fallen on deaf ears in Ottawa," said Lafond, originally from Green Lake.

"That is what has motivated me to get out there and decide to run for office."

What the rural riding needs is affordable housing and further employment and education opportunities, he said.

"Young Aboriginal people growing up in the North face all sorts of challenges such as the high unemployment rate," explained Lafond. "(Lack of) running water is an issue in many communities, even in this day and age. We need to address growth productivity and infrastructure deficits in the North so that these communities can live under the same standards as the rest of Canadians."

The challenge in the upcoming election is to overcome barriers that may prevent voters from getting to polling stations in the rural riding.

"A lot of the people in my riding don't have the means to get to polling stations," said Joseph.

"And if they do make it, sometimes they are turned away because of not having the proper identification or proof of residency."

"It's amazing how many people wanted to vote for me (in the last election) but couldn't."

He is urging Elections Canada to make an extra effort to spread awareness about the voting process in remote northern regions.

The Aboriginal vote is crucial in picking a candidate to address the issues in Desnethe-Missinippi-Churchill River.

"It's an opportunity for First Nations and Métis to have their voices heard within the Canadian system," said Lafond.

"It's important for them to be represented in Ottawa and this is the only way for them to pick a candidate that represents their interests."

Vote Patricia
ZIPCHEN
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

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Patricia Zipchen for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin Authorized by the official agent for Patricia Zipchen



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**Please remember that
these dates fall on Good
Friday and Easter Monday!**

Authorized by the CFA
of Rob Clarke's campaign



ANOTHER TERM

Tammy Cook Searson was sworn in again as Chief of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. Chief Cook Searson received 1,045 votes out of 3,302 voters. She beat her nearest competitor by 385 votes. On her Facebook Page she sent a message to her supporters. "Thank you to all the Lac La Ronge Indian Band membership for the overwhelming support. I am looking forward to continuing to serve you and work with the elected council members. We had a historic number of people who came out to vote, which shows that our people have an interest in the governance of our strong and proud Woodland Cree First Nation. "wīcātoskīmitōtān mīna sītōska-tōtān" "Let's work together and support each other." (Photo Carmen Pauls Orthner)


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SaskTel Métis Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
Basic Education Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
GDC Graduate Student Bursary Program	Deadline October 6th and April 6th
GDI/Cameco Scholarship	Deadline May 1st

For scholarship details including eligibility, academic criteria, and application forms, please visit our website at www.gdins.org or contact:

Secretary, Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation
 c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
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 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
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GDI Mission: To promote the renewal and the development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and the distribution of those materials and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.



**For a strong federal
representative
Vote Gabe Lafond**

**Your Liberal Candidate for
Desnethe-Missinippi-Churchill River**


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Authorized by the Official Agent for Gabe Lafond



Dylan Genaille interviews a University of Regina student about homelessness.

(Photo by Leisha Grebinski)

Young reporters find homelessness a cause worth writing about

By Leisha Grebinski
For Eagle Feather News

Students at Sacred Heart Community School in Regina have been honing their reporting skills to learn more about the city's homelessness issue.

The Grade 3 and Grade 6 students went to the University of Regina to interview students who were camping outside campus for five days to raise awareness about homelessness.

The elementary students prepared a list of questions to ask the university students such as: "Tell me about the five days for the homeless project?" and "Do you miss your family?"

Teachers Angie Sazyinski and Terri Cote were thrilled to see the student-reporters hard at work.

"This provides them with a real opportunity to use their speaking skills, ask what we call 'fat questions' to get lots of information. And really, just for them to have the confidence to find out what's going on in their community," says Cote.

"The students are going above and beyond too," says Sazyinski.

"We came up with a questionnaire but they are saying 'I have my own questions' so they are flipping over the page and coming up with their own questions."

The university students were also pleased to see young kids interested in the issue of homelessness.

"It's so great to see these little guys

running around here," says 19-year-old Ezekial Steve.

Thirteen-year-old Joshua Mawien loved talking to the university students.

"It was exciting to see them helping people. I'd like to help others and help the homeless and stuff."

Courtney says this project has motivated her to do more to help the homeless, such as give money to people who are asking for it on the street.

"They gave us an opportunity to come all the way here and interview them," says 11-year-old Courtney Bacon. "I thought it was great and exciting. They took the time to answer my questions."

Back in the classroom, the Grade 3 students are using their interviews to make brochures with photos and drawings to help raise awareness about homelessness. The Grade 6 students are writing speeches about why homelessness is an important issue to them.

The students have also been raising money for a non-profit organization called the Ladybug Foundation that helps the homeless.

The organization was started by an eight-year-old girl named Hannah Taylor. The students were so inspired by Taylor that they have raised money by selling cookies, cupcakes, bannock, Christmas cards, and used toys.

So far the students have raised \$611.12. Their goal is to raise \$1,000.



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Dawn Fleming: (306) 765-1782

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 **SIAST**

Turning blank canvases into cash

By Andréa Ledding
For Eagle Feather News

People of all backgrounds and ages in Saskatoon's core neighbourhood responded to Dean Whitebear's "canvassing" to raise funds for charity and inner city citizens through donated works of art.

Close to 60 blank canvases have been donated by Integrated Community Ministries, painted by citizens and displayed at Meewasin Valley United Church, and will be moved to Amigo's for silent auction bidding by the middle of April. On Sunday, May 14 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., the final bidding will close at 4 p.m. But the unique part is sharing all proceeds evenly between each volunteer artist and Meewasin Valley United Church.

"This is our second year and we call it the 'Ten By Ten' (10 x 10) Art Project,' because that's the size of the canvases we hand out," explained Whitebear.

"We handed out 58, got 52 back, starting in November this time. Half the proceeds goes to the artist, and half goes to the charity."

So it's win/win for artists, community, and art-owners. Last year, the first time they tried the project, canvases went out in January, and Whitebear, who works two part-time and one full-time position based out of the Food Bank and Learning Centre, ran the project along with Janet Clark, his director. But it was a lot of work – this year they have an assistant, and a committee.

"Janet and I were running ourselves ragged, doing everything, it was very tiring – fun and a lot of positive response but I was really tired at the end of the project," noted Whitebear.

This year was a lot more manageable – and his two-year old daughter painted one of the pieces.

"She picked her own colours and did her own little thing on it, it has an abstract look to it. I filmed her doing it."

Already there is someone interested in bidding on it, Whitebear said, adding Integrated Community Ministries is part of the United Church congregation working with innercity projects, and partnering with downtown organizations.



Dean Whitebear and one 10 x 10.

• Continued on Page 23

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Minister Ken Cheveldayoff, MLTC Chief Eric Sylvestre, Minister Rob Norris, Minister John Duncan, STC Chief Felix Thomas, YTC Chief Gilbert Panipekeesick, ACTC Chief Steven Jim, FHQTC Chariman Edmund Bellegarde and MP Rob Clarke were all on hand for the signing ceremony. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)

Agreement will boost First Nations employment

By Darla Read
For Eagle Feather News

Five of the province's tribal councils have signed an agreement to work with government to increase First Nations participation in the province's labour force.

The chiefs of Saskatoon Tribal Council, Meadow Lake Tribal Council, Agency Chiefs Tribal Council, Yorkton Tribal Council and File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council were joined by then-Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, John Duncan and Saskatchewan's Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration, Rob Norris in Saskatoon last month to sign the "Active Measures" Memorandum of Understanding.

As one of the young chiefs in the province, Agency Chiefs Tribal Council Chief Steven Jim says he sees the importance in looking for answers within First Nations communities and says education and training are key, as well as finding and creating jobs on-reserve.

"Bringing those employments home to our communities – a lot of our people don't want to leave our communities, and I think it's important we recognize that," says Jim.

The goals of the MOU are to provide more access to career planning, skills development and employment counselling; more access to literacy and adult education through providing training allowances, transportation and child care; and to work with industry to make sure skills training meet the demands of the labour market.

Saskatoon Tribal Council Chief Felix Thomas says there are major cost savings to investing in First Nations youth now to ensure they get good jobs rather than being dependent on income assistance.

"When we look at the cost savings of getting a young person off Social Assistance, you know we save four or five thousand dollars a year. But, you know what our benefit is?

"Forty to fifty thousand dollars a year when that young individual participates in the economy."

Norris says this MOU is of benefit to the whole province, not just First Nations.

"First Nations participation in our economic development is not an option: it's an imperative."

Meadow Lake Tribal Council Chief Eric Sylvestre says leaders haven't found all the answers on how to break the cycle of dependency, but says different levels of government working together is a good start.

But, he says there still needs to be a closer look at on-reserve education.

"If we are expected to deliver curriculum to meet provincial standards, then we need to be funded at the provincial funding levels."

Not all of Saskatchewan's tribal councils signed the MOU, but it remains open to others. Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Chief Guy Lonechild expects others to sign soon, particularly the Prince Albert Grand Council.

An Active Measures Steering Committee will be formed to ensure the implementation of this MOU.

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Métis leaders take positive business message to the grassroots level

By John Lagimodiere
Of Eagle Feather News

Métis community and business leaders from Northern Saskatchewan joined industry and various levels of government to engage in open and frank discussions about economic development opportunities and challenges.

The bull pit session in P.A. saw topics discussed ranging from forming partnerships and procurement to community economic development.

This was the first of a series of Economic Development Forums being planned across the Métis Nation homeland by the Métis National Council, Governing Members and Ledcor Industries. The forums follow on the heels of a highly successful Métis Economic Development Symposium last January in Vancouver. Now, the accomplishments achieved at the national symposium are being shared at the grassroots level.

Clarence Campeau Development Fund Director, Roland Duplessis highlighted the many successes Métis businesses have had in Northern Saskatchewan although, he indicated there's much more work to be done. The Clarence Campeau Development Fund and SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation help to provide financial assistance or start up capital for aspiring or existing Métis entrepreneurs.

Métis National Council President Clément Chartier sees the role of the MNC in economic development as helping through the creation of policy.

"The MNC has been very involved with the Federal government on a Métis Nation specific process and trying to carve out a Métis allocation. We have, I think, been doing a good job," said President Chartier.

"The process at the policy level is often slow, but we are making processes available for interaction. So here today, we have involved industry.

"If we are to begin making a difference in our communities, we need to host frank, open discussions between business and grassroots. It was encouraging to hear industry leaders say they are eager to do business with our people but need their expertise to open the way."

Corporations such as world Uranium giants Cameco and Areva, SaskEnergy, SaskPower, SaskTel, Shore Gold and Federal Public Works were a few of the presenters to offer insight and guidance on topics areas such as partnerships, procurement and community economic development.

There are four more regional forums to take place across the northern parts of the Métis homeland in the next fiscal year.

"These forums help us share what is happening at the national level with folks at the regional level," added President Chartier.

"And it engages industry in those regions. This is branching out and getting everybody involved. These are the opportunities we want to offer."



Steve Danners, Director- Métis Energy and Resource Program at the Clarence Campeau Development Fund presented at the Métis National Council Economic Development Forum as Richard Gladue of Areva, Darwin Roy of Cameco and Buffalo Narrows Mayor Bobby Woods looked on. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)



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Generating economic development

The Government of Saskatchewan, SaskPower and the newly established First Nations Power Authority have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will help the province's First Nations advance their power generation projects.

"This MOU highlights the efforts of the Government of Saskatchewan to actively engage First Nations in the province's growing economy," Premier Brad Wall said.

"Many Saskatchewan First Nations are already pursuing economic development opportunities through potentially owning and operating power generation projects. The MOU sets out a partnership framework for a more streamlined process to help First Nations move their projects forward for consideration."

The provincial government was looking for opportunities to engage First Nations in developing power generation projects, which led to the formation of First Nations Power Authority (FNPA). Supported by various First Nations with existing or imminent power projects, FNPA will be a non-profit, membership-based corporation.

"This partnership is clearly an important milestone for Saskatchewan's First Nations," Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Chief Guy Lonechild said.

"We are pleased to continue to support FNPA as it develops," he said.

"SaskPower will need new projects to meet Saskatchewan's growing demand for electricity," Minister responsible for SaskPower Rob Norris said.

"This is a once-in-a-generation chance to create new



First Nation and provincial political leaders gathered in Regina for an historic MOU signing that will see First Nations engage with SaskPower in future power development.

jobs and opportunities for First Nations people and communities."

SaskPower is making a multi-year, multi-billion dollar investment to renew the province's electricity system. The demand for electricity in the province is expected to increase by about 2.4 per cent annually over the next decade.

Each of the 74 Saskatchewan First Nations will have the opportunity to hold membership in FNPA and participate in the governance of the organization through its board of directors.

"This MOU opens the door to significant opportunities for Saskatchewan First Nations to partner in the development of power generation projects," FNPA Board Chair Ben Voss said.

"This will result in a higher probability of viable, long-term sustainable First Nation economic development opportunities while helping SaskPower meet the province's electricity supply needs."

Discussions will continue between the Government of Saskatchewan, SaskPower and FNPA over the coming months to formalize the FNPA's relationship with SaskPower.

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SG
Take care out there.

IANE honours business achievers

By Andréa Ledding
For Eagle Feather News

The very best of Aboriginal business achievers were honoured at a recent gala event. Inter-provincial Association Native Employment (IANE) held its 2011 National Conference in Saskatoon in March, including an awards gala and leadership award in March.

Held at the Radisson Hotel, the banquet featured hosts Gilles Dorval and Angie Merasty, as presentations, a speaker's panel, and the Ivan Ahenakew and Bill Hanson Awards were given out.

These awards are highly respected, identifying one business and individual each year to recognize and honour their contribution and commitment to Aboriginal advancements. Recipients and nominators do not necessarily need to be members of IANE.

The prestigious Bill Hanson Award, named after a founding member of IANE, is granted to an individual within Canada who has been successfully involved in training and employment initiative promoting Aboriginal employment for displaying commitment, effort and success while facilitating employment opportunities.

This year's award was presented posthumously to the late Agnes Brass, and accepted on her behalf by Darcy Tourangeau and David Gwilliam.

"I would run into her at different career fairs, representing SaskPower where she worked as their Aboriginal Sourcing Consultant," said one of the many speakers who shared words about her. "Agnes worked hard to build relationship and trust."

She also encouraged Aboriginal education, and many approaches to employment – giving Aboriginal applicants encouragement with practical tips, assistance with resumés, upgrading advice, and how to interview well. More than a resource for SaskPower, Agnes was a community resource – she was the originator of the innovative approach in bringing employer booths to pow wows.

Applications increased over 50 per cent as a direct

result of all her efforts and networking attempts, and there was a 60 per cent increase in Aboriginal hiring at

and Gaming Authority. The award, given to any business, company, government department or Aboriginal organ-



The Bill Hanson Award was presented posthumously to the late Agnes Brass, and accepted on her behalf by Darcy Tourangeau and David Gwilliam.

SaskPower, which is one of the Crown corporations best known for its active recruitment of a representatively Aboriginal workforce.

The fact that 25 to 30 per cent of all apprentices are Aboriginal was directly due to Brass and her hard work and determination as she developed a best practice for other Canadian employers to follow.

The national recipient of the Ivan Ahenakew award, named in honour of another founding member of IANE, was Saskatchewan's own Saskatchewan Indian

ization that has shown results in the areas of Aboriginal employment initiatives, was proudly accepted on SIGA's behalf by Human Resources Vice-President, Shauna Bear.

The banquet also featured a Leadership Panel which included SIGA's Shauna Bear, Randell Morris of SIIT, Sean Willy of Cameco, and Bonnie Blakely of SHR.

The evening was rounded out with entertainment by the Hughston Band.

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Kawacatoose First Nation	Adult Day Program
Kawacatoose First Nation	Injury Prevention, Infant Car Seats
Kinistin Saulteaux Nation	Engaging Elders, Elder's Van
George Gordon First Nation	Day Care
George Gordon First Nation	Head Start
Mistawasis First Nation	Income Assistance Enhancement
Muskoday First Nation	Action for Change Community Events
Muskowekwan First Nation	Muskowekwan Staff Training
Pleasant Hill Community Assoc.	Families Keeping Active
Saskatoon Friendship Inn	Friends In Deed Campaign
Vancouy Early Learning Centre	Fence and Play Areas

Justice Initiatives

Mistawasis First Nation	Peace Keepers Program
Muskoday First Nation	Muskoday Security Program
Yellow Quill First Nation	Peace Keepers Program
Yellow Quill First Nation	Peace Keepers Program

Educational Development

Catholic Family Services	Circle of Courage Workshop
Day Star First Nation	Mini University Summer Camp
Kawacatoose First Nation	Computers for Students
Kawacatoose First Nation	Home Economics Appliances
Muskowekwan First Nation	Feeding an Education
Nutana Community Association	100th Anniversary Celebration
One Arrow First Nation	School Lunch Program
READ Saskatoon	Alphabet Soup Program
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Saskatoon Public Schools	Nutrition Program
Saskatoon Student Child Care Services Inc.	Knowing Our Potential for Excellence
Saskatoon Tribal Council Inc.	Parent Program
STC Urban First Nation Services	Super Saturday Program
Yellow Quill First Nation (NEC)	Urban Conference
Yellow Quill First Nation (NEC)	Gym Equipment
Yellow Quill First Nation (NEC)	Television Purchase

Recreational Facilities Operation & Development

Day Star First Nation	Gym / Community Center Equipment
Fishing Lake First Nation	Sports Grounds Maintenance
Hague Parks & Recreation Inc.	Playground Development
Hub City Boxing Club	Operation/Development of Boxing Gym
Meewasin Valley Authority	Meewasin Skating Rink
Muskoday First Nation	Tables for Community Hall
Muskowekwan First Nation	Ice Dogs Hockey
Muskowekwan First Nation	Muskowekwan SnoHawks Snow Derby
Pike Lake Community Assoc.	Renewing Sports Park
Shields Community Green Space & Beach Committee	Green Space & Beach Development

Senior & Youth Programs

Day Star First Nation	Elder's Lever Door Handles
Day Star First Nation	Sports Camp Project
Day Star First Nation	Passenger Van Purchase
Day Star First Nation	Minor Hockey
Fishing Lake First Nation	Elder Walker Chairs
Fishing Lake First Nation	Disabled and Elder Beds
Fishing Lake First Nation	Youth Development & Workshop
Fishing Lake First Nation	Youth Hockey Initiative
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George Gordon First Nation	Life Alert Program
George Gordon First Nation	Minor Sports and Recreation
George Gordon First Nation	Meals on Wheels
George Gordon First Nation	Unity of Nations Youth Conference
George Gordon First Nation	Youth Sports and Recreation
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Muskowekwan First Nation	Ball and Soccer League
Muskowekwan First Nation	Elder Prevention of Isolation
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One Arrow First Nation	Equine Assisted Learning Program
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Saskatoon Youth Development Complex	Summer Camp
Touchwood Agency Tribal Council	FSIN Youth Softball Championships
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	2010 Winter Games
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Karate Program
YMCA of Saskatoon	Summer Day Camps

Cultural Development

FSIN	Powwow Celebration/Youth Symposium
Federation des Francophones de Saskatoon	Winter Carnival
George Gordon First Nation	2010 Pow Wow
George Gordon First Nation	3rd Annual Gospel Jamboree
George Gordon First Nation	Drum Making
George Gordon First Nation	Grey Buffalo Singers
George Gordon First Nation	Prairie Gospel Fellowship
George Gordon First Nation	Youth Powwow Group 391 Singers
George Gordon First Nation	Folk Fest 2010 (India Pavilion)
India-Canada Cultural Association	Kawacatoose Elders Book
Kawacatoose First Nation	Kawacatoose Powwow
Kawacatoose First Nation	Treaty 4 Elders
Kawacatoose First Nation	Youth Cultural Camp
La Troupe Du Jour	Access Vehicle
Muskeg Lake Cree Nation	2010 Pow Wow
Muskeg Lake Cree Nation	Muskeg Lake Cree Nation Symposium
Muskoday First Nation	Miyo-Pimatisiwin Program
Muskowekwan First Nation	Community Pipe Ceremony
One Arrow First Nation	Traditional Pow Wow
Outlook & District Heritage Museum & Gallery	Storage Building
SK Indian Cultural Centre	First Nations Youth Symposium

SK Indian Cultural Centre
Saskatoon Fireworks Festival
Saskatoon Opera Association
Saskatoon Opera Association
Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
Whitecap Dakota First Nation
Whitecap Dakota First Nation

First Nation Language Keepers Conference
Cultural Showcase
"La Traviata-The Women Who Strayed"
"The Marriage of Figaro-A Zany Marriage"
Quarterly Pipe Ceremony
Treaty 4 Pipe Ceremonies
2010 Parade Float
Traditional Song and Dance

Community Infrastructure Development & Maintenance

Day Star First Nation	Admin. Complex Door Replacements
Fishing Lake First Nation	Backhoe Tires Project
Fishing Lake First Nation	Band Hall Bathroom Renovations
Fishing Lake First Nation	Furnace Room Renovation
Fishing Lake First Nation	Grader Blades
Fishing Lake First Nation	Store Signage
George Gordon First Nation	Power Mower Purchase
George Gordon First Nation	Waste Management Project
John Arcand Fiddle Fest	ROOF Fund
Kinistin Saulteaux Nation	Band Hall Renovations
Kinistin Saulteaux Nation	Administrative Infrastructure Upgrade
Muskeg Lake Cree Nation	Spiritual Gathering Centre
Mistawasis First Nation	Public Works Dept. Enhancement
Muskowekwan First Nation	Band Hall Appliances
Muskowekwan First Nation	2011 Computers
Royal Canadian Legion, Outlook Branch #262	Roof Repairs
St. John Bosco Camp	Roof for Nurses Station
Yellow Quill First Nation	Bison Ranch, Fence Replacement
Yellow Quill First Nation	Bison Ranch, Handling Facilities
Yellow Quill First Nation (NEC)	Snowblower Tractor

Health Initiatives

CNIB	Visions Luncheon 2010
Day Star First Nation	Client's Therapeutic Footwear
Day Star First Nation	Electric Beds
Day Star First Nation	Good Food Boxes
Day Star First Nation	Gym Sports Equipment
Day Star First Nation	Weight Loss & Diabetic Health Equipment
Fishing Lake First Nation	Diabetic / Therapeutic Shoes
Fishing Lake First Nation	Elder Beds
Fishing Lake First Nation	Women Are Talking Support Group
George Gordon First Nation	Gordon Hawks Fastball Club
George Gordon First Nation	Orthopedic Footwear
Kawacatoose First Nation	Life Line Personal Response System
Muskowekwan Health Services	Honouring Our Women 2011
Muskowekwan First Nation	Life Line Personal Response System
Student Wellness Initiative	SWITCH Programming, Women's Health
Toward Community Health	
Touchwood Agency Tribal Council	Staff Wellness Initiatives
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Health Fair
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	School Nutrition Program
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Health Centre Fit Up
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Whitecap School Nutrition Program

Other Charitable Purpose

Day Star First Nation	Gym/Community Center Grand Opening
Federation des Francophones de Saskatoon	Newcomer Welcome Community Celebration
Fishing Lake First Nation	Annual Sports Days
George Gordon First Nation	2011 Communication Strategy
George Gordon First Nation	Community Events
George Gordon First Nation	Electronic Communication Strategy
George Gordon First Nation	Veteran's Memorial Monument
Kawacatoose First Nation	Christmas Programming
Kawacatoose First Nation	Remembrance Day Celebration
Kinistin Saulteaux Nation	Christmas Activities
Muskeg Lake Cree Nation	Canadian Fastball Championships
Muskoday First Nation	Community Shuttle Bus
Muskowekwan First Nation	Family Summer Camp
Saskatoon Tribal Council	Canadian Fastball Championships
Wake Ride Association Inc.	Wake Ride 2010
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	2010 Dakota Dunes Casino Open
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	2010 Sports Days
Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Canadian Fastball Championships

Vermette urges UAS committee members to seize opportunities



PEGGY VERMETTE

Peggy Vermette opened the Saskatoon Urban Aboriginal Strategy Community Consultation with a straight message to the participants.

"The opportunities are there. Go get them," said Vermette, the Labour Force Development Project Coordinator for the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

"We have our own answers to community development. We know what we need and we have the answers and skills in the community to get it.

A hundred people had gathered on a chilly spring Saturday to discuss the strategic pillars of the local Urban Aboriginal Strategy Committee.

Following Vermette's inspiring speech, everyone took part in a world cafe where people moved from table to table to hear from a group that had received funds from the Urban Aboriginal Strategy Committee.

People were then split into groups to hear presenta-



From left, employment specialist Peggy Vermette, entrepreneurs Eva Lizotte and Curtis Isbister, and educators Della Anaquod and Gord Martell show off the gifts they received from the committee for sharing their stories.

(Photos by John Lagimodiere)

Arts project makes artists out of almost anyone

• Continued from Page 15

"We use the '10 by 10' to partner with people off the streets as well, not just organizations, a lot of people have come and made contributions even though they don't consider themselves to be artists," said Whitebear.

"Any background or walks of life, from age two, up to seniors."

Last year the project partnered with AKA Art

Gallery and Art Placement, as well as Amigo's, raising more than projected and winning the Merv Harris award for community partnerships.

"It's really great I think. From the abstract ones like my daughter's to other themes picked up.

"None of the artists work together or know each other and yet there were quite a few that had similar themes – the same thoughts of what they want to put down."

tion on education, entrepreneurialism or employment. The participants were then asked their thoughts on the assigned topics.

The conversation was captured by committee members who will use the feedback to decide where to invest several hundreds of thousands of dollars that can help make Saskatoon a better place for Aboriginal people.

Dale Ahenakew introduced Don Bear as the new co-chair of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy in Saskatoon.

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Ruth Cuthand: BACK TALK

(works 1983–2009)

A retrospective of a Saskatchewan artist whose multi-media practice is marked by political invective and humour.

Curated by Jon Ralston, Mendel Art Gallery



Ruth Cuthand, untitled from the Indian/Photo: Early 21st Century Series, 2007, colour photograph on paper, image courtesy of the artist

Mendel Art Gallery
Saskatoon, SK www.mendel.ca



AFFINITY CASH FOR CORE

Affinity Credit Union Senior Vice President of Corporate Development Linda Moulin and Carol Cisecki, Labour Community Representative for Affinity, present a cheque to Christian Bear for \$20,000. Christian was accepting the money on the behalf of the Core Neighbourhood Youth Coop in Saskatoon. Affinity Credit Union is a regular supporter of grass root initiatives in the community through their Community Economic Development committee made up of board members, staff and credit union members. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Canadian Diabetes Association

Traditional Living in a Modern World

Aboriginal Gathering on Diabetes



Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2011
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Special Guest Speaker: Rod Bruinooog, MP
Dr. Veronica McKinney
Location: Cosmo Civic Centre
3130 Laurier Dr
Saskatoon, SK
Contact Information: For more information or to register, contact Heidi Estrada at 1-800-996-4446 (ext. 231) or email heidi.estrada@diabetes.ca. Register online at diabetes.ca
Admission \$20 (Please register by April 28)
Cost will not be a barrier to attend
Includes lunch & conference materials

This Aboriginal Gathering is an annual event organized by the Canadian Diabetes Association with many partners from the health sector and Aboriginal communities. It provides an opportunity for Aboriginal people affected by diabetes to come together for networking, information and support, and to find out about the kinds of resources available to help them manage their disease.

Presentations include:

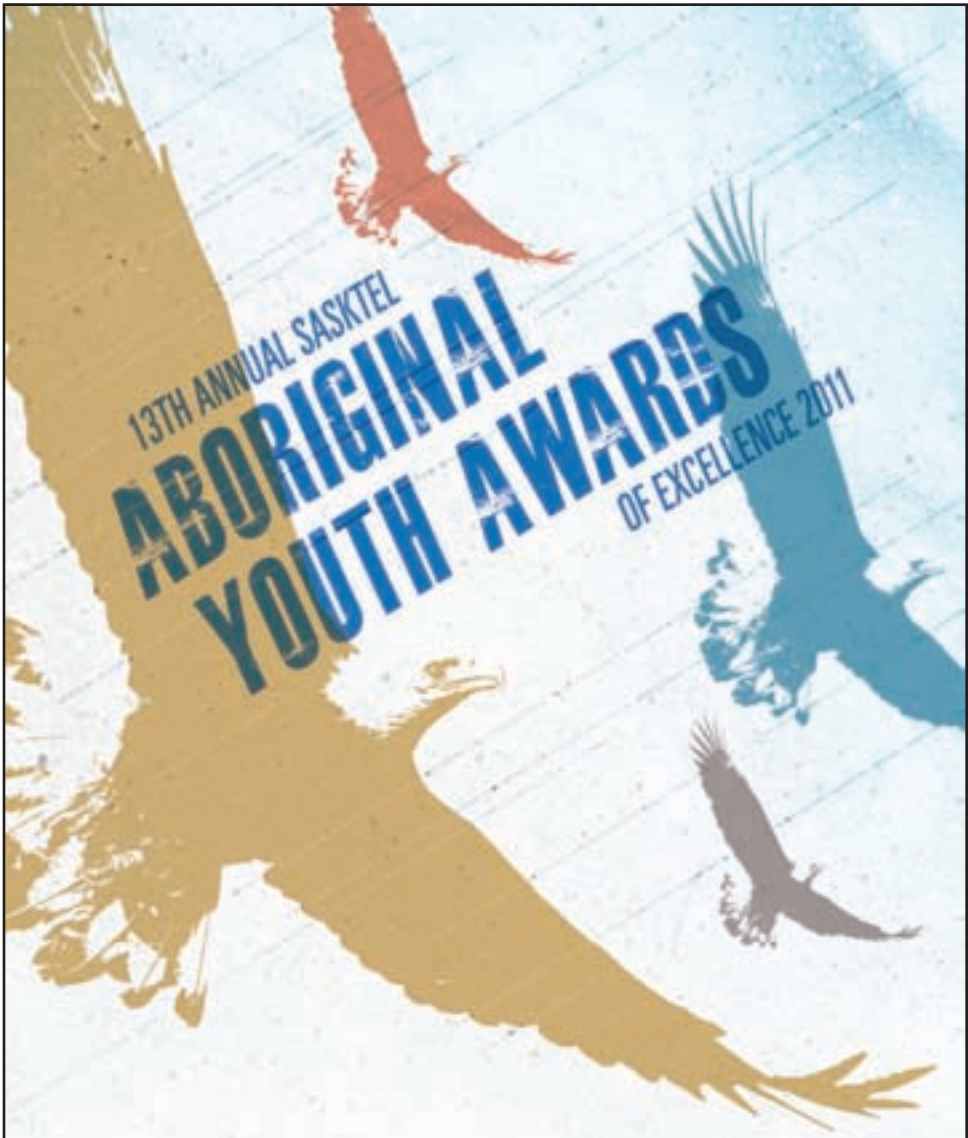
- Traditional Practices in a Modern World
- TAR: Tobacco Addiction Recovery Program
- Cooking Using Traditional Ingredients in a Modern Way
- Health Benefits of Traditional Foods
- Traditional and Western Medicines: How to make them both work for you

Sponsors:

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diabetes.ca 1-800-BANTING (226-8464)

13TH ANNUAL SASKTEL ABORIGINAL YOUTH AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2011



Gala Evening May 27, 2011
TCU Place, Saskatoon

Nominations must be postmarked no later than midnight, April 8, 2011

For more information and nominations visit www.sasktel.com or contact aboriginal.youthawards@sasktel.sk.ca or call toll free 1.866.931.6205

 **SaskTel**

PCN Raiders, Red Pheasant rally to win Weenie Cup

CUTKNIFE, TREATY SIX TERRITORY – Lawrence Weenie Cup Tomahockey hosted six masters and six recreation teams in the old barn in Cut Knife on the weekend of March 5-6.

The event was marked with a special tribute on Saturday evening to Freddie Sasakamoose, the first treaty Indian to play in the NHL.

The masters teams included entries from Kanatinak Store Old Skins, Little Pine, PCN, Thunderchild and Big Island Lake.

Sasakamoose recalled playing in the Cut Knife Civic Centre back in the day when it was a new facility and had natural ice. He remembered the days when four Indian teams and four white teams would compete for the coveted Tomahockey trophy back in the '70s.

"It's nice to see the name Tomahockey has been kept alive and to see fitness and active lifestyles is going strong in our community," Sasakamoose said.

Tournament organizer and founder of the Lawrence Weenie Cup, Milton Tootoosis added: "It was also time to bring the event back closer to the Poundmaker Cree Nation, home of the late Lawrence Weenie."

The Lawrence Weenie Cup was established in 2000 and played out of North Battleford, Red Pheasant and

Moosomin reserves in the past. Then it was relocated to Saskatoon for two years before moving it back closer to home.

"The Lawrence Weenie Cup will remain in the Battlefords region from here on and will become one of the annual traditional tournaments for the guys in the area" said Tootoosis.

The PCN Raiders had victories over Thunderchild then lost to Kanatinak Store Old Skins before clawing their way back on the B side to reach the final and rematch with the Old Skins.

Veteran Lou Gardiner of the Raiders almost single handed led the pace by scoring and setting up goals to edge the Old Skins in a very exciting A-B final. Big Lou was honoured for his efforts and presented with the MVP trophy. Third place overall went to Little Pine.

In the younger recreation division, Red Pheasant Nationals took the championship trophy the hard way also by fighting their way back from the B side after losing their first match versus Thunderchild.

The Nationals defeated Poundmaker

Jr. Raiders, Foster Creek, Thunderchild and then the A side winners Sweet Grass Aces.

The MVP trophy went to Tyson

press time. The Nationals, likely the hottest rez team in the province, lead by brothers Sheldon and Tyson Wuttunee and Drew Rose, Ryan Baptiste and great goal-



The Red Pheasant Nationals, captured their fifth tournament of the season, making them early favourites at the upcoming FSIN Championships. (Photo supplied)

Wuttunee (Red Pheasant Nationals). The squad from Red Pheasant had captured their fifth tournament of the season at

tending by Jordan Nightraveler, will be favourites heading into the FSIN All rez championships.

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Tourney for Youth
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OSKANA facebook

Regina makes bid for NAIG

By Jennifer Dubois
For Eagle Feather News

A bid to host the North American Indigenous Games was presented by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the City of Regina on March 11. Charter busses toured the city's venues to impress the NAIG Site Evaluation Committee. Regina is one of three cities that have a bid in for the 2014 Games.

"I think it's an opportunity for us to showcase our city, our province, our culture and our athletes as well and bring the rest of North America here and see what else we have to offer," says Courage Bear, Director of Sports, Culture, Youth and Recreation with FSIN.

He says even though the last two bids were not successful in previous years, he is still adamant Regina is a strong candidate.

"We are comfortable and confident that we have a



Team Saskatchewan was unbeatable at the 2008 Games held in Cowichan, British Columbia.

strong bid package and a good committee."

Some aspects of the NAIG committee selection process has recently changed. Bear feels these changes provide better clarity for Regina's bid.

"They have more of a detailed process that outlines the expectations at each stage and they've developed some other governing documents that kind of guide and assist how those decisions are made," he said.

Norman Ettawacappo, Executive Director of the NAIG Council, says the final decision will be made in Moncton, New Brunswick in May.

"That is when the final host candidate cities will be making their final bid presentations to the council. Our bid committee will be making our report to the council as well."

Halifax, Nova Scotia and London, Ontario also have bids against Regina. The winning host city for the games

will generate up to 10,000 people.

"We are looking at about 5,000 junior participants, 1,000 coaching, support staff, and probably another 1,000 staff that goes along with the teams, but because it's an amateur event, it's grass roots competition for a lot of people.

"A lot of the families come with their athletes, and the city just swells upwards of 10,000 people just for the week during the games," said Ettawacappo.

Bear said the increase in people to Regina for the games will only add positive opportunities to the city and local Aboriginal athletes.

"Beyond the economic factors, there are great social benefits this event brings to our community.

"The benefits of building bridges between different cultures and to provide opportunities for our young," said Bear.



COURAGE BEAR



NORMAN ETTAWACAPPO

The Good Medicine Show

Artifacts and contemporary work from the collection of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, honouring the culture and history of the Métis.

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Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B5
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Gallery hours: 1-5 pm daily

SASKATCHEWAN CRAFT COUNCIL
www.saskcraftcouncil.org

GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Painting by: Christi Bulmer

Death, injury, fire hit Ochapowace

Good life lessons says Watson

By Barbara Woolsey
For Eagle Feather News

For the Ochapowace First Nation, 2010-2011 has been one tough hockey season.

In December, the community's Prairie Junior Hockey team, the Ochapowace Thunder, lost player Myles Cameron in a fatal car accident. Last



MORLEY WATSON

been very difficult," said Morley Watson, team governor and FSIN Vice-Chief.

"We said we could carry on both times, play on and honour the memory of

those players. We gave it our best but, unfortunately, it was just not meant to be. But that's hockey."

The injury was the result of a check, where Cyr fell awkwardly across the boards. According to family members who were at the game, it happened after the whistle was blown and play was finished.

"It wasn't a fair hit," said Wayne Pinay, Cyr's grandfather.

"This didn't happen because he threw himself against the boards; it was the result of a hit that he was not expecting because the puck had already left."

Cyr suffered three cracked vertebrae, strained neck tendons and must spend the next several months in a back brace. Doctors have advised him to never play hockey again.

The player who delivered the check was given a five-minute penalty plus a game misconduct. The family is meeting with a lawyer to decide whether to pursue legal action.

"Right now, hockey is under

tremendous scrutiny because of violent and reckless hits that are endangering the lives of athletes," says Cheryl Thomas, team president.

"A five minute penalty and a game misconduct for severely injuring a player is not the kind of message you want to send to the rest of the league. We believe the league and the Saskatchewan Hockey Association need to set an example that this kind of dangerous play should not be tolerated."

Now, the First Nation has suffered another devastating blow to the game of hockey, losing its ice rink and community centre to fire only days ago. The Fred Bear Communiplex was destroyed in only minutes from a fire traced to damaged gas line.

While the Thunder only plays there twice a year, it's regularly used by the Ochapowace Minor Hockey Program, with players participating from the surrounding First Nations of Kahkewistahaw, Cowessess, Sakimay and White Bear.

Hockey is a popular past-time for local youth.

"There are not so many things for kids to do on the reserve," said Watson, who facilitated the building of the Communiplex as Chief.

"If the kids are really going to participate in sports in our community, it's normally hockey and fastball. It's terribly important, because the kids realize that if they're going to be on a hockey team, they have to do well in school."

The Ochapowace council will meet next week to discuss the facility. In the mean time, the Thunder looks forward to next year's hockey season and a fresh start.

"Young men are so full of life and energy that to lose a teammate, reminds our players how fragile life can be," said Watson.

"Having lost Myles and also Wyndan having a serious injury, it's a good life lesson for our hockey players to appreciate every day, life, family and friends in the game of hockey."

TITAN AUTOMOTIVE

 2008 CHEV AVENANCE LTZ WON'T LAST	 2007 SATURN ION 3 SPORT APPEARANCE PKG.	 2007 VOLKSWAGEN GTI 2.0T NO. 146 OF 150	 2007 DODGE RAM 2500 LARAMIE DIESEL	 2007 FORD F-150 F4 LEATHER, 4X4	 2008 FORD F-350 KING RANCH DIESEL	 2008 SATURN VUE XR FULLY LOADED	 2008 FORD F-150 F4 LEATHER, SUNROOF, FX4
 2009 SUBARU IMPREZA WRX LIKE NEW!	 2008 CHRYSLER ASPEN LIMITED EXTRA CLEAN	 2007 BMW X3 3.0Si EXCELLENT SHAPE	 2008 SATURN OUTLOOK XL SUPER CLEAN	 2008 GMC SIERRA DENALI JUST ARRIVED	 2007 HUMMER H3 \$29,987 H3X PACKAGE	 2006 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED PST PAID! LOADED!	 2008 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON 6 SPD MANUAL - PST PAID
 2008 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD MUST BE SEEN!	 2007 DODGE RAM 1500 ST MUST SEE!	 2008 TOYOTA TACOMA SPORT HOT SPRING DEAL	 2008 DODGE RAM 1500 SRT LOCAL TRUCK. PST PAID!	 2008 PONTIAC G6 GT READY FOR SPRING	 2007 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR AFFORDABLE LUXURY	 2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL EVERY OPTION	 2008 FORD F-150 XL RARE TRUCK

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FSIN CELEBRATES 65 YEARS

FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS MILESTONES

February 24, 1946 – The League of Indians of Western Canada, the Protective Association for Indians and Their Treaties and the Association of Saskatchewan Indians unite to become the Union of Saskatchewan Indians, the precursor to the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The first executive of the Union consisted of:

John Tootoosis – President	John Gambler – member-at-large
William Bear – member-at-large	Ernest Goforth – member-at-large
Joe Iron Quill – member-at-large	John Skeeboss – member-at-large
Angus Merasty – member-at-large	Alan Ahenakew – member-at-large
Gladys (Dreaver) Johnston – member-at-large	

1946 to 1958 – the Union of Saskatchewan Indians undertook:

- Establishing an investigation into the conditions that Indians were compelled to live in;
- Lobbying to improve social services through the provision of pensions to the aged, and assistance to the poor;
- Improving reserve day schools, medical services and assistance, and reserve roads;
- Expanding and mechanizing reserve farming;
- Determining membership and adoption; and
- Opposing the proposed transfer of the control of Indian Affairs from the Federal Government to the Province.

1958 – The Union of Saskatchewan Indians undergoes renewal to become the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI).

In subsequent years... the FSI established a number of unique and successful institutions including:

- Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program
- Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre
- Saskatchewan Indian Federated College later the First Nations University of Canada
- Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation
- Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies

October 19th, 1982 – The FSI becomes the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and the FSIN Convention is adopted. The first Indian Legislative Assembly is created.

1992 – Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement is signed

1994 – Gaming Framework Agreement is signed

1996 – Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority is established

2007 – Saskatchewan First Nations Prevention Services Model and Accountability Framework Agreement. First Nations Child and Family Services Institute is established

2008 – Memorandum of Understanding on First Nations Health and Well-being in Saskatchewan is signed

2009 – Saskatchewan First Nation Resource Centre of Excellence is established



Tansi, Edlanete, Ahneen, Hau Koda to the Elders, youth, Veterans, Chiefs and Councillors and community members of the 74 First Nations of Saskatchewan.

I am pleased to announce that the FSIN is celebrating its 65th Anniversary this year.

The celebrations officially kicked-off this past February with a Pipe Ceremony, Feast & Round dance at Wanuskewin in honour of the day – February 24th, 1946 – when First Nations from across Saskatchewan met in Saskatoon and united to form the precursor to the FSIN, the Union of Saskatchewan Indians.

Our founders recognized the importance of standing together in unity to protect and promote our Treaty rights and advance the social, economic and cultural aims of First Nations people.

Today, as a collective, we can all look back with pride on our strong and unified foundation and unwavering commitment to bettering the lives of our children, families and communities.

For many of our Elders, now is truly our time to realize the vision of our Treaties and share the pride in our identity and heritage.

We have a great responsibility to continue working together in the best interests of First Nations people in our Treaty territories, guided by our Elders and governed by the democratic laws, customs and policies of our institution.

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations has been actively carrying out the mandate of the Chiefs-in-Assembly to revitalize our organization and renew our commitment to promoting, protecting and honouring the Treaties.

This Revitalization effort has built on a Strengthened Treaty Agenda, with the FSIN Executive focusing on a Rights Based Approach to Education, Health and Wellness, Restorative Justice and Economic Opportunities. This Era of Reconciliation also includes the fulfillment of Canada and Saskatchewan's commitment to stronger and more respectful relations with First Nations governments, and by leadership that stands shoulder to shoulder for a principled approach on equitable funding for K-12, post-secondary and life-long learning education.

In recognition of the accomplishments of our First Nations leadership, the FSIN plans to host many more exciting commemorative events throughout this year, in which I hope all First Nations people of Saskatchewan will be able to share.

With the continued input and direction of our Chiefs-in-Assembly, and the guiding wisdom and knowledge of our Elders and youth, we are charting a better future for First Nations people.

As Chief of the FSIN, under the New Era, New Leadership mandate, we are promoting a more respectful Treaty relationship between all First Nations, Canada and Saskatchewan.

Chief Guy Lonechild,
FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS
Indian Governments of Saskatchewan



65TH ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

First Nations Leadership Forum on Governance

Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre Pow wow

Launch of a Commemorative Anniversary Book 'FSIN - 65 Years'

'Honouring Our Founders' FSIN Feast & Rounddance

FSIN Youth and Elders Gathering



Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
Protecting Inherent and Treaty Rights since 1946