



OKIMAHKAN OTY'AMIWIN
FROM THE CHIEF
 Alcohol Ban Continues
 in NCN Community **2**

KITITAHWINAOW ACHIMOWIN
COMMUNITY
 Vigil Honours
 Marcus Spence **3**

PUSIKONISOWINI ACHIMOWIN
BUSINESS
 NCN Construction
 LP Receives COR
 Certification **15**

MARCH 2019

Nisichawayasi Achimowina

Official Grand Opening of the Norman Linklater Memorial Multiplex

NCN Citizens gathered on March 13 to celebrate the community's brand new multiplex. As they crowded through the lobby and into the open gymnasium space, people were pleased by the size and quality of the new building.

With tears from the family and a countdown from the crowd, a beautiful wall mural in the lobby was unveiled. It includes a write-up of Chief Linklater's accomplishments and his headdress in a glass case.

In part, the mural reads, "Norman dedicated his entire life to preserving Nehetho culture and pushing our Nation towards self-



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sufficiency, with his tenacity, wisdom and savvy political skills.

He was a steadfast leader and a great champion of our Nation. It was during Norman's years of leadership that

NCN began its first steps towards self-government and economic sustainability. His legacy can be seen in our Land Code and Constitution, developed with his guidance 25 years after he held office."

Chief Linklater passed away on October 17, 2017. He served as Chief of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation from 1990-1994, and also served as CEO

and a councillor for ten years.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious feast and musical entertainment.

"Right on, guys, way to go, NCN. You should be proud," said Councillor Jeremiah Spence, who served as emcee for the evening. Chief Marcel Moody and Norman's family officially marked the opening of the facility with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

In honour of Chief Norman Linklater, let's use our new multiplex with pride and respect, so that it can serve our community for years to come.



Chief Marcel Moody and Norman's family officially marked the opening of the facility with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

Figure 4

Student Attendance is Improving

- Student attendance is still lower than we would like but is improving slowly year to year

2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Month	Attendance
September	65%
October	52%
November	51%
December	40%
January	59.6%
February	53%
March	49%
April	53%
May	57%
June	55%

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Month	Attendance
September	59%
October	52%
November	55%
December	54%
January	62.5%
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	

Figure 5

Student Absenteeism Can Influence Violence Levels

Enrollment drops over 60% from Grade 9 going into grade 10 from 2017 to 2018.

Student retention and graduation rates continue to be a challenge.

Teens without purpose or direction are more prone to violence.

Students registered in 2017		Students registered in 2018	
Grade	Number of Students	Grade	Number of Students
9	130	9	135
10	61	10	43
11	28	11	30
12	23	12	17

Students Graduated	
Year	Number of Graduates
2017-2018	17
2016-2017	13
2015-2016	31
2014-2015	20

Types of Violence, Abuse and Neglect

There are many types of violence. A preliminary review of the statistics and the survey results indicates that all of the following are taking place in our community:

- Violence and Abuse of Women
- Violence, Abuse and Neglect of children and youth, particularly female youth
- Violence and Abuse of Elders
- Violence and Abuse of Men
- Lateral Violence Against Everyone
- Bullying and Intimidation
- Gang-Related Violence
- Self-inflicted violence (Suicide and Self-Injury)
- Intergenerational Trauma

Violence Normalization in our Community

Violent patterns of behaviour are learned. Unhealthy relationships increase the risk of violence. Violence is often passed from one generation to another. Socio-economic conditions can lead to violence. Substance abuse exacerbates violence by impairing judgment and behaviour. People without purpose or direction are more prone to engage in violent actions.

There is a general acceptance

that violence is a normal part of life. We have become desensitized to violence on a daily basis and we only react when something horrific shakes us up. Last year it was when three young boys in our community were killed. Now it is when a young man is beaten to death.

Violence is not normal. It is abnormal and we must reject the idea that it is an acceptable part of our daily lives. We must stop accepting the existing culture of violence. As a community we must acknowledge some very hard truths:

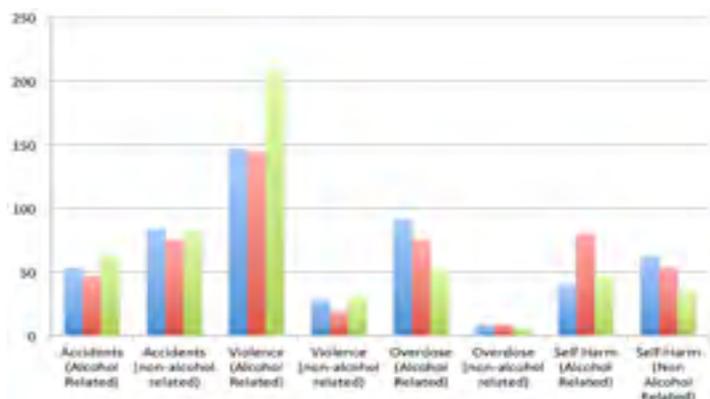
- Violence is destroying our community and many of our Citizens
- Violence causes health issues – physical and mental
- Violence is negatively impacting our youth and children – we are destroying their futures
- Violence is a community problem, not a Chief and Council problem
- Violence is not part of our culture or traditions

As a community we must agree violence is not acceptable and we can eradicate it. We can and must take action to stop the violence before someone else gets hurt or dies.

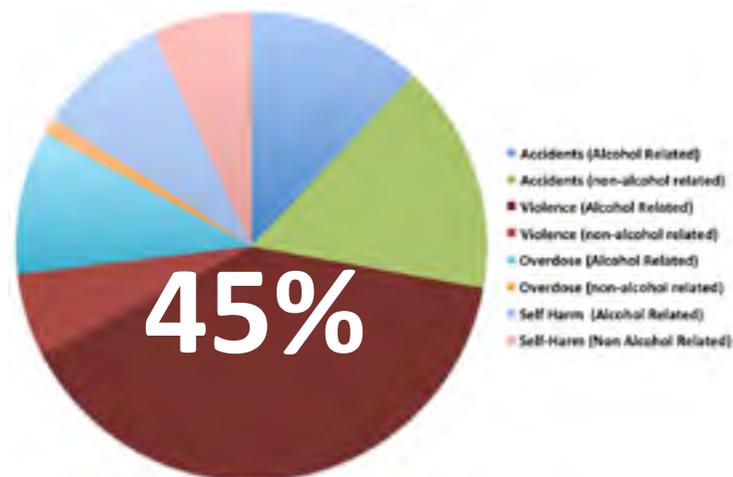
Figure 6

Nursing Station Statistics Reveal Violent Cases are Increasing

- Violent incidents related to alcohol were up nearly 70% in 2018 with 144 cases in 2017 and 207 cases in 2018



- 45% of reported incidents involve violence in 2018



GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Questions for the Focus Group Discussion – Banishment for Illegal Activity

1. Ways you think banishment can be dealt with (specific to illegal activity).
2. What do you think are causes for the need of banishments for illegal activity?
3. What ideas you think will work in NCN to deal with banishments for illegal activity?

Questions for the Focus Group Discussion – Community Socials – Link back to Harm Reduction

1. Ways you think violence can be eliminated when holding community socials.
2. What do you think are the causes of violence when holding socials?
3. What ideas do you think will work for NCN to hold community socials without incidence?

Questions for the Focus Group Discussion – 24/7 RCMP Hours of Operation

1. How do you think violence can be eliminated with 24/7 hours of operation of the RCMP?
2. What do you think are causes of violence in the community without the 24/7 RCMP hours of operation?
3. What ideas do you think will work for NCN and the 24/7 RCMP hours of operation?

Questions for the Focus Group Discussion – Possible Community Sanctions

1. Ways you think violence can be reduced using community sanctions.
2. What possible community sanctions can NCN use to reduce the violence?
3. What ideas do you think will work for possible NCN community sanctions?

Contact Bonnie Linklater at the NCN Trust Office to submit your survey.



NCN Community Violence Survey

In an effort to identify ways to reduce violence in Nisichawayasihk, our leadership has engaged in some fact-finding within our own community. Part of that process is reaching out to the community citizens and identifying issues related to violence. It is also important for us to get an understanding of the services that are available and accessible to members of our Nation. To help us with this process, the Executive Management Team and NCN's Senior Policy Analysts will be responsible for analysing the data gathered. Your choice in participating in this survey is completely voluntary. Your answers will remain anonymous and confidential. The information gathered from this survey will be used to try and improve our community's capacity to reduce violence.

1.) What types of violence do you see occurring in Nisichawayasihk (please do not provide names)?

2.) Why do you think violence happens in our community? What is the cause of the problems that occur?

3.) Do you know of any support for NCN Citizens exposed to violence?

4.) In what ways can NCN Citizens like yourself contribute towards helping victims, providing support to families, and stopping violence in Nisichawayasihk?

5.) What support do you think Chief and Council, Family Community Wellness Centre, Justice Program or NNCEA can provide, that would help reduce violence in Nisichawayasihk?

NCN Local Sale of Liquor and Cannabis Survey

1. Local Sale of Liquor

Should Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Chief and Council authorize an NCN Business to apply to become a licensed liquor vendor on reserve?

Yes _____ No _____

2. Times for the On-sale of Liquor

Shall the on-sale of liquor be permitted 7 days a week?

Yes _____ No _____

What hours should the sale of liquor be permitted Monday through Saturday?

Shall the on-sale of liquor be permitted on Sundays?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes what hours? (e.g, 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

3. What types of Liquor should be sold?

- Beer
- Beer and wine only
- Beer, wine, and limited spirits (375ml only)
- All types

4. Restrictions on Purchases

Should a liquor vendor on reserve restrict how much one individual can purchase on a daily/weekly basis?

Yes _____ No _____

5. Limitations on Growing Cannabis Plants for Personal Use

Should NCN Citizens living on NCN lands be allowed to grow no more than four cannabis plants for their own personal use even though Manitoba's legislation currently prohibits growing any cannabis plants for personal use?

Yes _____ No _____

6. Cannabis Dispensary

Do you think that alcohol and cannabis should be sold in the same store?

Yes _____ No _____

RCMP Fishing Derby the Biggest Yet

After a few cancellations due to strong winds on the ice, the 10th annual Nelson House RCMP youth ice fishing derby was held on Sunday, March 10 at Church Point.

"We're so happy this fun family event is still happening. Everything is free. We provide the lines, hooks and minnows. We've got hot dogs, hot chocolate and juice boxes for everyone. It's great to see everyone come out and enjoy," says Constable Ryan Linklater, who co-founded the derby 10 years ago.

"The weather was beautiful and we definitely had the biggest crowd we've ever had. Hundreds of people, kids, parents and grandparents. We couldn't have asked for a better day."

There were amazing prizes, including tablets, game consoles, laptops, sports equipment, Pokémon cards and

lots of toys. Participants with the longest pickerel, longest jack and most unusual had first dibs at the prizes, but Linklater is happy to report every single child left with something.



Protect your child, yourself and loved ones from harmful diseases by getting immunized on time.



DON'T WAIT, VACCINATE

Vaccination, also called immunization, vaccines, shots, or needles mean the same thing. They prevent diseases spread easily from person to person, through coughing and sneezing from harming your body. These diseases like measles, polio or whooping cough can be serious enough to cause severe health complications or even death. Vaccines work best when they are given on time, beginning when your child is very young. Getting your children vaccinated on time gives them the protection they need to stay healthy and could save lives.

Remember to check that your own vaccinations are up to date. Vaccination is part of lifelong care.

Getting immunized is fast, easy and FREE.

If you have any questions regarding your child's immunization status, or your own, please call:

**Public Health Office
204-484-2341**

or visit the Family Community Wellness Centre.



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
Wellness Centre

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
ELDERS:

DO YOU NEED A HELPING HAND WITH TASKS IN YOUR HOME?

- Rearranging Furniture
- Taking out the trash
- An extra bit of help

Free HOUSE WORK FOR THE ELDERLY

I have spare time from **10AM TO 1:30PM - MONDAY TO FRIDAY** to volunteer and help out.

**CONTACT ME: BISHOP DEN
PH: 204-670-4278**

or call the NCN Government Office (204) 484-2332



BISHOP DEN
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NISICHAWAYASIHK
CREE NATION



NCN's Vern Anderson Recipient of the Frontier Achievement Award 2019

Frontier School Division is pleased to announce that Vern Anderson is this year's recipient of the 2019 Frontier Achievement Award.

The Frontier Achievement Award was established by the Frontier School Board in 1998 to recognize and honour the achievements of a Frontier graduate as well as those who have attended a Frontier

school or Home Placement. Candidates demonstrate outstanding career or lifetime achievement in a variety of fields such as community service, sports, law, education, health and business.

Vern attended school at Oscar Blackburn School in South Indian Lake. He moved to Cranberry Portage where he graduated from Frontier Collegiate in 1984. Vern furthered his

education by attending Brandon University through the P.E.N.T. Program. He held various positions including Instructional Assistant at the Dakota Collegiate, Child Care Worker with Tumbler Ridge Family Support Society, and a Life Skills Instructor for New Directions and then graduated from Red River College Diploma Program in Child and Youth Care.

Vern is currently the Student Advisor in Frontier School Division's Work Education Program working with students that go through the Work Education, Student Leadership, University Tours and Mini University Programs.

Vern spends many hours volunteering his time to organize and fundraise for Rossbrook House, South Indian Lake Winter Fun Day, Siloam Mission, Volunteer Canadian Ranger and Board member in Co-op Housing, Youth Task Force, Cultural Competency at New Directions, Project Neechewan and

Booth University College member of the Indigenous Advisory Council.

Vern initiated and continues to raise funds for the Arnold Dysart Bursary which is awarded to a South Indian Lake graduating student from Frontier Collegiate.

Vern is proud of his Indigenous Heritage and language and shares his

Vern is proud of his Indigenous Heritage and language and shares his knowledge of the Cree Language and Culture with students and adults.

knowledge of the Cree Language and Culture with students and adults. He has taken time to accompany students on canoe trips, he brings his experience to teach students about Indigenous Culture and Way of Life.

Mr. Vern Anderson was announced as the award winner at the 41st Annual School Committee Conference on February 6, 2019 during the Celebrations of Achievements event.

Vern also served NCN as a community consultant and assists with off-reserve communications to Citizens in Winnipeg. Congratulations Vern!

Footprint Lake Water Levels

Footprint Lake 14-Day Water Level Forecast

Revised Forecast as of March 19, 2019

On March 19, 2019 the level of Footprint Lake was at an elevation of 798.8 feet. The level of the lake is expected to rise 1.2 inches to an elevation of 798.9 feet by the end of the month.

The 14-day forecasts are estimates, and subject to change. Northern forecasts are broadcast on local radio stations at the beginning of every month.



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 We would like your comments, feedback or news stories. Please contact achimowina@gmail.com

NCN on Facebook!

Stay current with NCN's latest news, events and updates on your computer, smartphone or device from our official NCN Facebook page @nisichawayasihk.

