





















## Impacts on Our People: A History Timeline of the Indian Act

- **1763** Royal Proclamation recognizes 'Nation-to-Nation' relationship
- **1850** A law of the colony of Lower Canada defines an 'Indian'
- **1857** *The Gradual Civilization Act*  
Death of the 'Nation-to-Nation' relationship  
Act sets up a way for Indians to lose status: devalues the identity of First Nations and sets the groundwork for public opinion in Canada
- **1867** *British North America Act* creates Canada, July 1, 1867 [renamed *Constitution Act* 1867 in 1982 amendment]  
Law-making power split between provinces and federal government  
S.91(24) law-making power of federal government includes "Indians and lands reserved for the Indians"  
Keeps authority away from local authorities with conflicting interests  
The concept of 'Nations' is replaced by the idea of 'Indian persons'
- **1869** *Gradual Enfranchisement Act*  
Interferes with First Nation politics and self-government  
Creates elected councils with authority controlled by government
- **1876** *Indian Act*  
'Indians' defined narrowly without regard to family, clan, nation; many 'Enfranchised' Indians go to provincial responsibility  
'Nation-to-Nation' has now become the government looking after individuals who are treated like children, or 'wards of the state'
- **1876-1920s** Amendments and also criminal code criminalize First Nations' values, family relations, spiritual practices
- **1884** Amendments are made to aid the starvation policy to subjugate the Plains Cree and break treaty promises
- **1894** Residential schools and compulsory education; children taken from their families; trespass laws keep parents away
- **1904** Taytahasung, ninety years old and nearly blind, sentenced to Regina jail for two months with hard labour for offence of practicing his religion
- **1951** *Indian Act* amendment  
Returning First Nation veteran's demand change and influence public opinion  
Sets up the Indian register in Ottawa  
Repeals law allowing investment of 'Indian moneys'  
Provincial laws made to apply to Indians  
Government regulation authority weakens Band bylaw authority
- **1982** New *Constitution Act* guarantees 'Aboriginal and Treaty rights'
- **1985** Bill C31  
Amendment required by sex equality in the charter of rights reinstates many women and others who lost status under previous acts
- **1988** 'Kamloops Amendment' allows property taxation on reserves
- **1999** *First Nations Land Management Act*  
Opt-in model of legislation to expand band powers  
Other opt-in legislation is introduced from this point on
- **2000** Modern treaties era: Nisga'a Treaty signed, first since 1975 James Bay and Northern Quebec agreement
- **2016** The constitutional principle of 'consent,' the political action of First Nations, and the duty to consult result in the requirement that the *Indian Act* be amended or repealed only with the consent of the First Nations being first obtained.

## Portraits of Our NCN Elders

### Jimmy Hunter Spence

#### Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (Nelson House)

"I learned the importance of hard work under the watchful of my grandmother. She provided many teachings with unconditional love. One was to thank the Creator every day for whatever blessings we receive."

Jimmy found residential school was not a bad experience for him. He left Grade 11, eager to join the workforce. A one year General Electrical course at Red River Community College led to several wiring jobs in northern Manitoba before landing Jimmy a position with Manitoba Telephone. Jimmy wired telephones throughout the north until retirement 27 years later.

Tradition is important to Jimmy. "I want to carry on what we were taught. If we lose our traditions, just like if we lose our language, we suffer the loss of our identity. Spiritually, I take every step with pride as a First Nation person. I respect everyone's beliefs and ways of worship."

He is proud to be deemed a positive role model for the youth. Jimmy commented after receiving a prestigious award in 2015 for his work as an Elder: "We need to instill self-confidence, motivation and pride in our young people. I want to help First Nations any way I can – to be part of the solution."



You can view all 11 portraits at our 2-1100 Waverley office in Winnipeg.

## NCN Council Member Elected to Manitoba TLEC

NCN Councillor Willie Moore has been elected as TLEC Board of Director at the recent Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba AGM held in Opaskwayak Cree Nation. Willie is familiar with the TLE process and 1997 Manitoba TLE Framework agreement.

The Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Agreement Committee represents 21 First Nations. The organization works to fulfill outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claims in Manitoba for Entitlement First Nations (EFN) represented by the TLEC. The TLE Framework Agreement attempts to settle the land debt that is owed to the First Nations that did not receive all the lands that they were entitled to under Treaties 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10.

Each of the 21 entitlement First Nation has an appointed representative. These representatives had the opportunity to cast a ballot and of the 15 in attendance, the majority selected Moore to be one of the five board members. Each elected director has the opportunity to serve a two-year term on the board.

Canada has set aside a total of 462,615 acres of land as Reserve for Entitlement First Nations that have signed their individual Treaty Land Entitlement agreements. NCN is entitled to 61,761 acres, of which approximately 33,820 acres have been converted to reserve, including the recent Mystery Lake Hotel Land additions of 4.21 acres.

Congratulations Willie!



TLEC Board (L-R) Councillor Johnny Anderson, Norway House Cree Nation; Chief Nelson Genialle, Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, President of TLEC; Councillor Willie Moore, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation; Councillor Hubert Watt, Gods Lake First Nation and Councillor Richard Dumas, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation.

# Back to School Will Have to Wait!

## Shared Schedule Planned for High school and Elementary classes at OK

The NNOC high school facility will be closed for repairs to start the school year until

possibly October or November. Classes will be done in shifts with the elementary school

**The OK school will be used for both high school classes and elementary classes during repairs.**

until construction is complete. School administration will notify students and parents of the schedule prior to the first day of school on September 6.



**During repairs, early and middle years classes will be from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and high school classes will be from 2:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.**

# Footprint Lake Water Levels

## Footprint Lake 60-Day Water Level Forecast

Revised Forecast  
 August 1 – September 30, 2016

On August 1, 2016 the level of Footprint Lake is forecasted to be 796.1 feet. The level of the lake is expected to rise 1 foot 6 inches to an elevation of 797.5 feet by the fourth week of the month and then remain fairly constant near an elevation of 797.5 feet until the end of August.

During the month of September the level of the lake is expected to remain fairly constant near an elevation of 797.5 feet until the end of the month.



**NISICHAWAYASIHK HOUSING AUTHORITY**

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## TENDER NOTICE

July 12, 2016

The Nisichawayasihk Housing Authority is accepting bids from General Contractors for the following Project:

**PROJECT: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 - 5 BEDROOM FCWC CENTER DWELLINGS (1425 sq. ft.)**

**Tentative Start Date: August 29, 2016**

Bid Details:

- a) Bids are for the site layout, & construction labour.
- b) Material supplied by Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.
- c) General contractors must provide names and certification of sub-trades (Plumbing, HVAC, Mechanical, & Electrical).
- d) General contractors are responsible for pick up and or delivery of all construction materials.
- e) General contractors are responsible for security, site cleanliness, safety, and all materials assigned to the project.
- f) Obtaining necessary permits (Electrical).
- g) Ensuring that sub-trades have proper qualifications (HRV) (Sewer and Water).
- h) Ensuring all work conforms to standards (Blueprints and Specifications) and National Building Code.

**Closing Deadline: Friday August 26, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.**

Bids submitted after the **Closing Deadline** will not be accepted.

**Lowest bids not necessarily accepted**

Tender Bid packages can be picked up from Kelvin Finnbogason at the NHA Housing Office (old fire hall) located at 8 OT Drive



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