



SEPTEMBER 2017

# Nisichawayasi Achimowina

## NCN Votes YES to Land Code

After years of tireless work and cooperation, NCN Citizens voted YES to our Aski Pumenikewin Land Code. In the future, our children and grandchildren will remember this as a time that NCN Citizens made a choice to create our own path forward for our people, our land, our community and our resources.

The voting statistics are impressive, and can be reviewed in the chart (on page 3). For example, almost half of all eligible voters living in NCN (44%) made their voices known!

In fact, voter participation to adopt our land code was one of the highest ever seen across Canada among reserves working to create self-sufficiency. Of the 1,326 people who voted, almost 90 per cent voted YES for our Land Code. It is obvious that self-governance is essential for NCN Citizens.

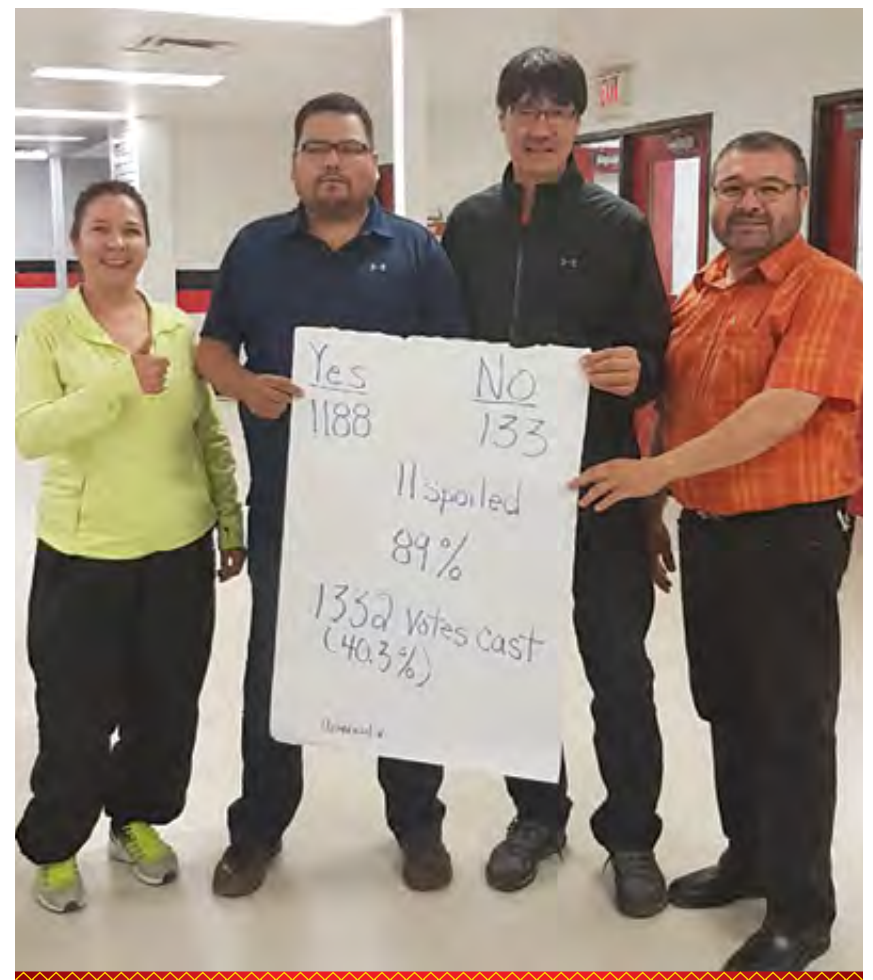
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**After years of tireless work and cooperation, NCN Citizens voted YES to our Aski Pumenikewin Land Code. The road to achieving this important step in our sovereignty was difficult and long. The consultation process included workshops, public meetings and home visits throughout Nelson House, Thompson, Leaf Rapids and Winnipeg.**

Nelson House, Thompson, Leaf Rapids and Winnipeg. Drafts of the documents were revised several times with suggestions from NCN Citizens incorporated. The land code committee, Elders and other volunteers put in so much of their time, effort, minds, hearts and souls into this process. Chief and Council are very thankful for the hard work of all those involved.

To celebrate our Land Code victory, please join us on October 18, 2017 (tentatively). Our community has many new developments to celebrate. Our Land Code is a clear victory, and it will lead the way to more programs and services for our Citizens.

During the coming month, there are a few steps for the Land Code to be formally and finally approved. Chief and Council will sign the individual agreement on behalf of NCN, and will provide a council resolution confirming the land code and four copies of



NCN Chief and Council tally the unofficial Land Code vote count.

the approved document to the Verifier.

In the next few months, Chief and Council will pass a resolution that confirms the effective date for the Aski Pumenikewin, and begin planning and implementation.

Congratulations, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation!

Continued on page 3





RESULTS OF RATIFICATION VOTE BY COMMUNITY

	Eligible Voters	Voters Registered	Ballots Cast	% Voting	Number of Yes Votes	% Yes	Number of No Votes	% No
LEAF RAPIDS	138	41	41	30%	40	29%	1	1%
THOMPSON	339	122	122	36%	114	34%	8	2%
WINNIPEG	336	59	59	18%	53	16%	6	2%
NCN	1,582	702	702	44%	602	38%	95	6%
MAIL-IN	-	7	7	-	7	100%	0	0%
E-VOTE	-	395	395	-	372	94%	23	6%
WITHIN MB, US, CA	912	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3,307	1,326	1,326	40%	1,188	36%	133	10%

Notes: 1 – There were 5 spoiled/rejected ballots and 2 ballots with no registration  
2 – All percentages have been rounded  
3 – Some voters registered in a different location than they live so their ballots are included where they registered in-person

The Next Step: an NCN Constitution

These are exciting times at NCN. The Land Code gives us formal and sole authority to determine the future of the lands and resources of our home. The next step is to establish our very own Othawowewin, also known as “Supreme Law” or constitution.

A constitution created specifically by NCN community and Citizens, to address our goals and needs, is a dream our Citizens and leaders have held for a long time. It will allow us to regulate our own policies in the areas of housing, community infrastructure, culture and education. It will not affect areas such as criminal law or international trade, defence or security, which will remain federal jurisdictions.

Many other First Nations have adopted their own constitutions, by entering negotiations with the federal government about the wording of their document. We will learn from them, but already we see a difference.

Our Elders have always believed the NCN nation is best served when we work together to protect our community and dream for the next seven generations.

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Therefore, we plan to collaborate, create and approve our Othasowewin within our Nation first, and then approach the Canadian government to assert our sovereign rights. To do this, we need your support. We will hold a vote in November to approve the creation of our own constitution. Please join us at the open houses listed here to learn and ask questions about the importance of our own Othasowewin.



OPEN HOUSES  
& Vote

Upcoming Dates:

**Open Houses**

October 5 – Winnipeg  
October 11 – Leaf Rapids  
October 12 – Thompson  
October 19 – General Assembly  
October 24, 25, 26 – Small group workshops NCN

**Voting Dates are:**

November 1–29 – E-vote  
November 20 – Leaf Rapids  
November 21 – Thompson  
November 23 – Winnipeg  
November 28-29 – NCN

All polls will be from 12:00 to 8:00 instead of 9:00 to 8:00.







# Know the Health Risks of Wildfire Smoke

Wildfire season affects everyone in different ways. People are worried about their homes, their family, their jobs and their health. In particular, smoke exposure and poor air quality can cause health problems for many people.

- You may be affected by wildfire smoke, depending on several factors:
- How heavy is the smoke in the air?
  - How long have you been exposed to the smoke?
  - How much air have you breathed in?
  - What is your health status?

## What to Watch For

Exposure to smoke can cause headaches, sore eyes, tears, coughs and runny nose. If you (or someone you know) has a cough that is getting worse, significant weakness, chest pain or tightness, or shortness of breath, you should go to the Nursing Station.

Smoke levels can change a lot, due to fire conditions and wind directions. People who are healthy should take precautions when smoke is heavy, when visibility is less than 2 miles, and/or lasts longer than a day. At these times, we should all limit or avoid time outside. Keep windows and doors closed.

## Who is at Risk

Vulnerable groups are especially susceptible to the dangers of smoke exposure. Elders, young children, pregnant women, and those with heart or lung conditions (such as asthma, bronchitis, emphysema and congestive heart failure) should be especially careful. When visibility is less than 4 miles, it is time for these groups to limit time outside.

If you have specific heart or lung issues, make sure you are taking your medication properly and on time. Keep a week's supply on hand. Write down your typical medication schedule (how much of what, how often). Review it with the people who live with you, and keep it in a prominent place.

Be a good neighbour. Check on Elders and vulnerable people you know, especially those who live alone.



There are currently more than 100 active wildfires in Manitoba. About 85 of these are in the northeast portion of the province. We must all be responsible citizens to ensure everyone's safety.

Be very mindful when you are working or playing in forested areas. Open fires are prohibited until November 15th, unless you have a burning permit. If you are using an ATV, stay in authorized areas and stick to developed trails.

Stop often to check your engine and its surrounding area for debris. Carry an axe, shovel and fire extinguisher at all times. Stay safe!

## NCN EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

Please cut out this contacts card and ensure the phone numbers are in an easy-to-find location in your home or office.

<b>RCMP:</b> 204-484-2288	<b>Health Links:</b> 888-315-9257
<b>Fire Hall:</b> 204-484-2047	<b>NCN Government Office:</b> 204-484-2332
<b>Nursing Station:</b> 204-484-2031	<b>NCN Toll Free:</b> 1-888-323-7658
<b>Ambulance:</b> 204-484-2911	<b>Housing:</b> 204-679-7723
<b>Manitoba Suicide Line:</b> 1-877-435-7170	<b>Plumbing:</b> 204-307-6435
<b>Teen Touch:</b> 1-800-563-8336	<b>Electrical:</b> 204-679-1482
<b>Sexual Assault 24-hour Line:</b> 1-204-292-7565	<b>Public Works:</b> 204-484 2597
<b>Crisis Line:</b> 888-322-3019	<b>Radio Station:</b> 204-484-2065

## ATTENTION NCN CITIZENS: WANT TO BE ADDED TO THE NCN VOTING LIST OR ACHIMOWINA NEWS DELIVERY LIST?



There will be several important votes in the near future that will require your vote. Be sure to let us know your contact information to be eligible to vote. Your input matters!

**DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE ACHIMOWINA NEWSPAPER AT HOME EACH MONTH?**  
If you are a NCN Citizen living in Nelson House, Leaf Rapids, South Indian Lake, Thompson, Winnipeg or Brandon, we want to get news to you. WANT AN E-COPY? You can always find the latest Achimowina online at ncncree.com!

**Send your contact information and address to Joyce Yetman by phone (204) 484-2604, or joyceyetman@ncncree.com.**











# High School Starts with New Plans For Year Ahead

By: Nic Cambell, NNOC Principal

Tansi, and welcome to the 2017-2018 academic year!

NNOC is thrilled to be back in their original home for this school year. All teachers and staff are looking forward to an exciting year with students as we achieve many goals and overcome challenges.

Some highlights for NNOC as we start the first term are a few additions to our team. Our new Principal for NNOC is Mr. Nic Campbell, who has been in NCN for the previous two years teaching. We now have our own Resource Teacher at NNOC, Mrs. Angela Levassuer who will be consistently working to meet the needs of our students. NNOC would like

to welcome all returning teachers back to their classrooms, and some new staff members:

Robert Gallant – Teaching Mathematics and Accounting

**Maurice Montreuil** – Teaching Science and First Nations Studies

**Susan Kobliski** – School Guidance Counsellor

During this school year we will be implementing several new programs and initiatives. NNOC will be offering open gym once a week to students to participate in organized sports such as: Basketball, Volleyball, Dodge Ball, and more. Mrs. Roseanne Lambert will be implementing hands on art therapy for students, staff, and community members. NNOC will hold elections for Jr. Chief and Council in September and look forward to the events this group will plan. As well, NNOC will be hosting events throughout the year for students to showcase their skills and accomplishments – more to follow on this program.

As students continue to progress through high school, their ultimate goal is graduation. Our first initiative for graduation will be our "Staff Karaoke" which will be a fundraiser for

students to donate for a staff member to do karaoke over the PA system. Throughout the year we will hold different events and activities to fundraise for our 2018 NNOC Graduates.

For this school year we will have two different start times for OK and NNOC. The purpose of this is to create more room

on buses for the safety of our students and staff. A big thanks to NNCEA for purchasing 3 new buses for our schools, one which is wheelchair accessible. As well, a new Bobcat has been acquired in order to combat the snowfall in the winter and spring months.

NNOC will begin classes at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. for the 2017-2018 school year. With our extended day we will be offering 5 courses per term for students. We will also have a week off in October commencing after the Thanksgiving holiday October 9th until October 13, 2017. Both OK and NNOC will also enjoy a two week March Break this year to enjoy the NCN festival and to recharge for the

remainder of the school year.

For more information on OK and NNOC please view our 2017-2018 information booklets which can be picked up at both schools or around the community.

During this school year we will be implementing several new programs and initiatives including a hands on art therapy for students, staff, and community members.



# KAKI PI ISPATHIK AGWA ISI TWAWINAH

# History and Culture

# Hunting: A Privilege To Hunt Moose

"The 2017 moose season is now upon us," says Gord Dumas of the NCN Resource Management Board. "Hopefully, some of this hot weather will pass soon, and we'll have a few good frosts to get some bulls moving."

Dumas says it's a good time to review our understanding of the moose in our culture and our community, and the way we hunt it.

The Wildlife Society says Manitoba's moose population in 2015 was about 20,000. That's less than half of what it once was.

There are many reasons for this decline in population.

Disease, such as bovine tuberculosis and chronic wasting disease, is becoming a larger problem for moose. Their habitat is under threat too, losing land base to development, to increased roads, more traffic, and more recreational vehicles off-roading.

But many Elders, locals and officials say the real problem is non-traditional hunting methods and poor harvesting practices.

It is important to use safe, proper techniques to ensure the preservation of the herds. If you have friends, family or neighbours who invite you to hunt at night, use spotlighting,

kill cows or calves, or bag more than can be used, you have a responsibility to speak up.

It can be difficult to stand up to people. It may help to consider your children, grandchildren, and our next seven generations. They deserve to have a healthy moose population



so that they can remain an important part of our culture.

“Please remember that cows produce the herds,” says Dumas, suggesting hunters only kill bulls. “Take only what you need, try make a quick clean kill, and above all, stay safe out there.”

The Moose Hunt Can Connect Us to Our Elders and Culture

The magnificent moose gives us an excellent opportunity to remember our ancestors and their traditional ways, embrace our culture, and honour our next seven generations.

The magnificent moose gives us an excellent opportunity to remember our ancestors and their traditional ways, embrace our culture, and honour our next seven generations.

Use the moose to initiate relationships with your Elders, and to become closer to them. Ask an Elder to teach you how to properly butcher without waste, and how to prepare and serve moose meat. In recent years, people are hunting cows because they are believed to be better meat. But killing cows and calves is the fastest way to destroy the moose population. The truth is, bull meat can be prepared in a delicious way.

Ask an Elder how to use other parts of the animal. The hide, rack and bones are traditionally used for crafts, tools and clothing. It has always been our way to ensure every part of the animal is used and consumed with no waste.

Ask an Elder to tell stories about the moose hunts of their youth. Learn about traditional hunting spots, techniques and celebrations. When we fully realize the importance moose played in our past, it is easier to act properly in the present.

Our Obligation to Our Wildlife and Lands

NCN Chief and Council urge all Citizens to consider our recent

Land Code success, and what it means to our role as protectors of the land and its creatures. We must be responsible for proper moose conservation and management.

Moose meat has always served as a traditional First Nations food, and we should ensure it remains so for years into the future. It is important to take only what we need and to share the bounty of the hunt with others to ensure nothing is wasted. Killing for sport is not a concept our ancestors would appreciate, nor our generations to come.







All hunters and Citizens are encouraged to share ideas with the NCN Lands and Resource Department to ensure herds thrive and prosper.

“We are still able to enjoy some pretty stable moose numbers in the North,” says Dumas. “But we have to be careful in our practices to make sure they’re here for a long time.”

It is disrespectful to our ancestors, to the land, and to the Creator when we waste these precious animals. It is not the Nehetho way.




# Wiser Choices for Tomorrow and the Future

If you shoot the Adult Cow!		If you shoot the Adult Bull!
	YEAR 1	
	YEAR 3	
	YEAR 5	
	YEAR 7	
	YEAR 10	
NO MOOSE		

Managing our own resources for tomorrow’s future is critical to ensure our natural wildlife is there to always be enjoyed. Be a selective and responsible traditional hunter and take only what you need. Please respect our land and resources.

**This message is brought to you by the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Resource Management Board and NCN Chief and Council.**

*Building a Brighter Future for Our Nehetho Nation*



**NISICHAWAYASIHK**  
**CREE NATION**

## Employment Opportunities

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – FULL TIME PERMANENT

**JOB SUMMARY:**

**Employer:** Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation – Trust Office

**Position:** Administrative Assistant – Full Time Permanent

**Deadline:** Friday, September 22, 2017

**Start Date:** As Soon As Possible

**Wage:** To Be Determined

**Competition #:** NCN-2017-09-11-001



**Summary:**

Under the supervision of the Director/Assistant Director and Finance Comptroller, the administrative assistant will be responsible for all general office procedures of the Trust Office.

**Duties:**

- Will answer all incoming calls in a professional and courteous manner and forward calls to the appropriate personnel and will take messages.
- Will greet visitors, ascertain nature and directs visitors to appropriate person.
- Will maintain a record of all incoming and outgoing correspondence including faxes;
- Will pick up Trust Office mail from Post Office and parcels from Bus Depot.
- Will maintain an adequate and updated filing system for the Trust Office that ensures easy and quick access to files that may be needed or retrieved.
- Will ensure all confidential files and equipment and storage rooms are locked at the end of each day.
- Will maintain inventory of all Trust equipment

- Will file all doctor slips, application for leave and personnel correspondence in employees file
- Will record and type minutes of staff meetings and distribute to all staff prior to the next staff meeting.
- Will maintain and update staff's daily sign in sheets, request for all timesheets to be submitted.
- Will assist the finance staff with such duties as issuing approved purchase orders, matching purchase orders to invoices, invoice entry, cheque requisition preparation, payroll and provide coverage when a staff member is on vacation or sick leave.
- Will ensure office and coffee supplies are adequately stocked at all times.
- Will perform other duties such as managing and controlling the use of Trust vehicles
- And all other duties as assigned.

### Skills and Abilities:

- Communicate effectively with members, staff and other individuals;
- Good Verbal and Written Communication Skills;
- Experience working with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, etc.)
- Ability to communicate in Cree an asset;
- Problem Solving;
- Organizational Skills;
- Experience an asset.

Please provide a Current Criminal Records Check, Cover Letter, Resume and References to:

Kim Linklater @ the NCN Government Office

Phone: 204-484-2332 ext. 2245    Fax: 204-484-2392

E-mail: kimlinklater@ncncree.com

*\*Please note, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.*

**BOARD VACANCIES – NISICAWAYASIIHK HOUSING AUTHORITY – BOARD OF DIRECTORS (6) SIX POSITIONS**

**JOB SUMMARY:**

**Employer:** Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Local Government

**Position:** Nisichawayasihk Housing Authority – Board of Directors (6) Six Positions

**Deadline:** Friday, September 22, 2017

**Start Date:** To be announced

**Wage:** Monthly Honoraria

**Competition #:** NCN-2017-09-22-001

The purpose of the NHA Board is to enhance the housing allocation process, improve communication and planning of housing strategies, oversee positive tenant engagement, and assurance of transparency and accountability.

**The NHA Board of Directors serves the following functions:**

- Establish policies for the selection, criteria, and process for housing allocations
- Recruit, supervise, and provide advice to the Director of Housing
- Prepare and approve an Annual Budget for submission to Chief and Council for approval
- Regular monitoring of the approved operational budget for the fiscal year
- Provide leadership insight into the Housing Program
- Administer the Housing Rental Program
- Ensure all reporting and accountability requirements are met

**To be eligible to apply for NHA Board of Directors, the applicant must:**

- Be a Band Member resident of NCN and eligible to vote
- Be available to meet for regular and special meetings
- Be willing to provide a Criminal Records Check, as a form of disclosure, not to preclude individuals from being considered.
- Be committed to acting honestly, with integrity and high standards of personal conduct both within and outside of their Board role.
- Be committed for at least a 3-year term.

**Qualifications and Criteria (these are not required but will be considered to recruit the broadest scope of skills and experience on the Board):**

- Previous Board experience
- Understanding of housing shortage factors and challenges
- Understanding and experience in policy development
- Knowledge of CMHC
- Management skills
- Strong communicator

Form of interest must be filled out and can be picked @ front desk of Band Office. Criminal Records Check is also mandatory and is to be submitted to:

Kim Linklater, H.R. Specialist @ the NCN Band Office

Phone: 204-484-2332 ext. 2245    Fax: 204-484-2392

E-mail: kimlinklater@ncncree.com





**Nisichawayasi Nehetho Culture and Education Authority Inc.**

School Board Meeting  
Dates for 2017-18,  
5:00 p.m. @ Alice Moore  
Education Centre,  
Nelson House,  
Manitoba

- Tuesday, September 12th, 2017
  - Tuesday, October 10th, 2017  
(flex days week)
  - Tuesday, November 14th, 2017
  - Tuesday, December 12th, 2017
  - Tuesday, January 9th, 2018
  - Tuesday, February 13th, 2018
  - Tuesday, March 13th, 2018
  - Tuesday, April 10th, 2018
  - Tuesday, May 8th, 2018
  - Tuesday, June 12th, 2018
  - Tuesday, July 10th, 2018
  - Tuesday, August 14th, 2018



# Footprint Lake Water Levels

# Footprint Lake 60-Day Water Level Forecast

## Revised Forecast

### September 1 – October 31, 2017

On September 1, 2017 the level of Footprint Lake is forecasted to be 797.1 feet. The level of the lake is expected to rise 1 foot 7 inches to an elevation of 798.6 feet by the end of September.

During the month of October the level of the lake is expected to rise 3 inches to an elevation of 798.8 feet by the end of the month.

Arrangements have been made to broadcast the above forecast on September 1–4, 2017 both inclusive on NCN Achimowin TV/Radio Communications; and at 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Arctic Radio C.H.T.M. Thompson.



**Keep Our Community Safe. Get to know  
NCN Dog Control By-Law#2**

# Be Responsible for Your Pets!

## Chief and Council and the Animal Control officer reminds Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation pet owners:

- Your dog must be tied or penned at all times.
- Your dog must be on a leash if it is off your property.
- You must be able to control your dog when it is on a leash.
- You must keep your dog fed, watered and healthy.
- Your dog must not bark, growl, yelp or disturb the peace at any time.
- Your female dog in heat must be penned at all times.

The Dog Control Officer is able to take a dog from anyone who has violated, is violating or about to violate this by-law. The Dog Control Officer has full authority to destroy a dog that is running at large; or attacking a person, or animal that is tethered; or a dog that is injured or diseased.

**If you have been bitten by a dog, go to the nursing station, and call the Band Constables at 204-679-0057 or 204-307-0912, and file a complaint with RCMP at 204-484-2837.**



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation  
General Delivery  
Nelson House, Manitoba R0B 1A0  
Phone: (204) 484-2332  
Fax: (204) 484-2392  
[www.ncncree.com](http://www.ncncree.com)

**Do you have a suggestion or an Achimowina story idea?**

We would like your comments,  
feedback or news stories. Please  
contact [achimowina@gmail.com](mailto: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.

