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**PUSIKONISOWINI ACHIMOWIN** BUSINESS Wellness Centre **AGM Recap** 

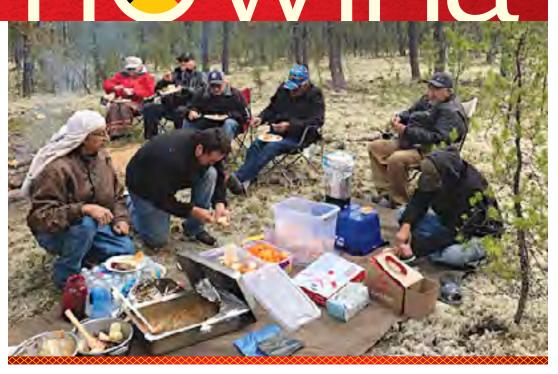
#### **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2019**

# AC Sacred Pipe Repatriated to NCN

Since the early 1990s, extensive archaeological surveys were conducted on Wuskwatim Lake to locate and recover ancestral burials and evidence of archaeological and historical kapisiwina - camp sites eroding into the water. The purpose of these surveys was to save our ancestors' remains and their tools and belongings from going underwater and becoming lost forever. From them we learn of our ancestors' acimowina - stories and kiskinwahamakiwina – teachings that have fostered our cultural identity as the nisichawayasi nīhithowak for many generations.

Many cherished items associated with NCN history were found during these surveys, one being a sacred pipe, approximately 150 to 200 years old, recovered by knowledge keeper Harry Spence on September 19th, 2009. Myra Sitchon, who was working on the survey at the time as a provincial archaeologist, witnessed the moment Mr. Spence found the





On September 27th, 2019, there was a special ceremony and feast as part of the repatriation process to return the pipe to NCN territory.

pipe. Being near his camp, Mr. Spence has searched the area many times but has never found much until this moment when the pipe was just sitting on the surface. The sacred pipe was sent to Winnipeg for studies with the intent to return it to the community.

On September 27th, 2019, there was a special ceremony and feast as part of the repatriation process to return the pipe to NCN territory. At

this gathering, Dr. Myra Sitchon, who now works with NNCEA and their knowledge keepers as part of their Culture and Language Resource Unit, formally returned the pipe. Witnesses were invited to partake in this momentous occasion including Councillor Jeremiah Spence. The pipe was officially handed over to Mr. Harry Spence during this ceremony and decisions



will be made as to how the pipe will be reintroduced to the community. The Elders in attendance agree that the pipe has come back to NCN for a purpose.

# From the Chief

Top from left to right: Jeremiah Spence, Jackie Walker, Willie Moore, Ron Spence, Bottom: Cheyenne Spence, Chief Marcel Moody, Vice-Chief Cheryl Moore

ISICHAWAYASIH

SEASON'S

Best Wishes from Nisichawaysihk Cree Nation Chief and Council Etatmiskatikwow Konikanimiwawok Okimakan Akwa Othusowethiniwok

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with peace and happiness. Epakosithimoahk – Kita – Metho – Makosikisikunsiik, Akwa Kiati – Oski – Askiwahk – Kitamiskamik, Piyatakithimowin – Mena – Mithwithitamowin



Tansi! I would like to take this time to wish all of our NCN Citizens, families and friends a safe and joyous holiday season. As we reflect back on the many accomplishments of the past year, I hope we can all feel pride in the progress that our Nation is making. I personally look forward to 2020 and the coming years as we work together to build on our momentum and make things even better for our community. Please take the time this holiday to enjoy the blessings of family and those near to you and also remember to share with those who may need your love or support at this time of year. On behalf of my wife and family, we hope the warmth of the holidays fills the hearts of the people you care about – both near and far. May the gifts of the Creator be shared with you this season.

Epakosithimoahk – Kita – Metho – Makosikisikunsiik, Akwa Kiati – Oski – Askiwauk – Kitamiskamik, Piatakithimowin – Mena – Mithitamowin. Etatmiskatikwow Konikanimiwawok Okimakan Akwa Othusowethiniwok.

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a 2020 New Year filled with peace and happiness. Ekosani!

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**Chief Marcel Moody** Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation



### **KITITAHWINAOW ACHIMOWIN** nin

# Lest We Forget

NCN Citizens and leadership took a moment to remember in silence the NCN Veterans and Northern Manitoba Soldiers of World War I and World War II on November 11.

The Remembrance Day service was coordinated by Violet Turner with the help of Shirleena Spence-Tait and Maryann Brightnose. Master of Ceremonies Natalie Tays welcomed attendees and the service included messages from Rev. Nelson Hart and Rev. Agnes M. Spence. Father Shantha from the RC Church and his assistant were also present for the service and were invited to do a scripture reading.

Gifts were presented to the representative family members of the Veteran's families as the veteran's are all deceased. Attendees also took part in lunch and refreshments.

It is important to reflect and honour our passed loved ones who fought for our freedom and those who gave their service or their lives. We remember soldiers like NCN's Frederick Moose, Tommy Linklater, George Spence, Lawrence Spence and John Charles Spence and other northern Manitoba soldiers who served during World War I and World War II.

#### **Frederick Moose**

Frederick Moose was a Cree member of the Nisichawayasihk



Let us never forget the contributions of Aboriginal Veterans and let us always pray for a world of peace.



Cree Nation who served in World War I on the 52nd Bn Reg. # 439548. He was wounded in the line of duty.

#### Tommy Linklater, George Spence and Lawrence Spence

Tommy Linklater, George Spence and Lawrence Spence are

listed in the Canadian War veterans honour list for serving in World War II.

John Charles Spence John was born in Nelson House in 1921. He was sent





to Brandon Residential School for numerous years. John enlisted in the Canadian Army in Brandon, service # H-75001. John served in the Second World War as a gunner in Canada, Britain and

We ask NCN members with loved ones that served or are currently serving to contact the Government Office with names and photos so we can make a record of their important contribution to our history. N.W. Europe until November 17, 1945. He was honourably discharged with medals and decorations: 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp and War Medal 1939-45.

IGN Christmas Cheer Boars

Know a Special Child Under 12 Years Old? Tell the NCN Cheer Board Now! The NCN Christmas Cheer Board wants to make sure every NCN Child in Nelson House gets a gift this Holiday Season. The board also wants to continue the Festive spirit by getting every NCN household in need a food hamper. NCN residents/Citizens only.

Be sure to give your Child's name, their gender and age (under 12) and your current address to the NCN Trust Office by calling 204-484-2604.

#### The gift of giving!

We also ask for volunteers from the community to call us to volunteer your time and help out.

### Highway Signage for Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Scrap the Old Nelson House Name

The governments of Canada and Manitoba entered into an

agreement last year to install directional highway and community boundary signage for Nisichawayasihk Nation. Those plans are one step closer to reality.

"We expect the signs in our Nation will be in place this year, Upgraded highway signs for First Nations communities located on Manitoba's all-weather highway network are expected to be installed later this year.

even as soon as December," said NCN Councillor Jeremiah Spence. "They are being manufactured now and will go in when ready."

The signs will mark PR 391 Access road, the area leaving Thompson and west bound on Wuskwatim Road. Spence added, "It's a big deal to recognize our language and sovereignty as a Nehetho people. This has taken nearly three decades to finally happen."

"The names we use have more than a symbolic value, and are an expression of our identity and our culture," said Minister of Indigenous Services Jane Philpott. The federal and provincial governments provided \$200,000 each for a total project cost of \$400,000. "This project will upgrade or replace highway signs for First Nations

communities located on Manitoba's all-weather highway network," said Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler.

↑ Thompson Nisichawayasihk → CREE NATION	Leaf Rapids 208 Lynn Lake 318 PR 391 WB leaving			
PR 391 EB at Access RD	Thompson (First Sign)			
Leaf Rapids     Nisichawayaslhk     CREE NATION	PR 391 WB leaving Thompson (Second Sign)			
Lynn L				
Access RD SB South of PR 391	Nisichawayasihk attended Access RD SB South of PR 391			

### NCN Citizen Tragic Loss



On October 1, Bobbie Lynn Lee Moose was dropped off at the Thompson Walmart by her sister.

Almost three weeks later, on October 17th, her body was found in a grassy, overgrown lot along Nelson Road. She was

last seen wearing black boots, black tights and a

black winter coat over a grey North Face jacket with red trim. Police believe she was staying with friends during those

weeks before her death, and they say someone in the community probably saw her in that time.

Bobbie Lynn was a 29-year-old NCN Citizen.

"Bobbie Moose was a kind, loving, caring person who would always have a smile and go on meeting new people either in Thompson or at home in Nelson House," her brother Roxy said at a press conference.

On October 23rd, about 150 families, friends and neighbours attended a candlelight vigil where she was found.

"We all know that Bobbie was a fearless and courageous woman," NCN vice-chief Cheryl Hunter-Moore said at the vigil.

Thompson MLA Danielle Adams, Mayor Colleen Smook and Churchill-Keewatinook Aski MP Niki Ashton also attended the vigil. They offered prayers for Bobbie Lynn, her friends and family, and talked about the sadness and frustration of another Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman's death.

On November 8, additional RCMP officers flew into Thompson to canvass the city for tips and information about Bobbie Lynn and her activities between October 1 and 17. Police have put up a billboard, handed out 4,000 flyers, and gone door to door to conduct more than 300 interviews, but

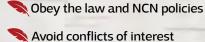
### Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation WORKPLACE CODE OF CONDUCT

#### What does a Code of Conduct mean to me as an NCN Employee?

All NCN employees must conduct themselves professionally and ethically at all times. They must:

- Respect democracy by upholding and implementing lawful decisions made by Chief and Council
  - Treat all people with respect, dignity and fairness
  - Complete duties honestly and with integrity
  - Discrimination, harassment, bullying, cyberbullying and violence including lateral violence are prohibited
- Use NCN resources responsibly in designing and delivering programs and services for the short and long term benefit of NCN
- Use NCN facilities, equipment, supplies and services for work related purposes only
- Maintain a working environment where all people treat each other with mutual respect

Let's work together to make sure all NCN workplaces are safe, inclusive and respectful for all employees and visitors.



- Be financially accountable
- Sensure every reasonable precaution is taken to provide a safe and healthy workplace

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- Sehaviour that may be considered offensive will not be tolerated
- Recognize the dignity and worth of every person
- Encourage dedicated, competent productivity in the workplace
- Avoid threats, reprisals, and retaliation
- Do not make reckless or malicious complaints or act in bad faith
- Protect workplace privacy and confidentiality

Want to know more? Have questions about your workplace rights? Contact HR for more information: Kim Linklater Executive Director of Human Resources Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Nelson House, MB ROB 1A0 Phone: (204) 307-2107 Cell: (204) 484-2604

NISICHAWAYASIHK CREE NATION

For more information contact:Nisichawayasihk Cree NationKim LinklaterNelson House, MB ROB 1A0Executive Director of Human ResourcesPhone: (204) 307-2107 Cell: (204) 484-2604

Visit **NCNCree.COM** for complete details on NCN policies

still do not have much information. Bobbie Lynn often lived without a home base, and spent time with friends from the Thompson Homeless Shelter, which may make it more difficult to determine what happened.

"Don't be scared to help by speaking up," said Roxy. "There is help for people who give information and who are worried about being caught up in any trouble." If you have information about this homicide, or Bobbie Lynn's activities, please call CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or send a secure tip to manitobacrimestoppers.com

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### NCN Church Lost in Fire

In the middle of the night on Saturday, October 5, 2019, the Native Evangelical Church in Nelson House was burned to the ground. The RCMP are investigating this heartbreaking arson.

We are thankful no one was hurt, but this is a devastating loss of our gathering place and valuable equipment.

The Native Evangelical



Church was built in 1999 through a community-wide fundraising effort, and with work from local tradespeople and volunteers. For the last 20 years it has been an important place for NCN Citizens to create community and to build strength. We aim to rebuild within a year, but we can't do it without your help.

Please donate whatever you can at our GoFundMe

page https://www. gofundme.com/ f/9qfk8s-nelson-housenative-evangelicalchurch, or at the NCN Finance Department. All donations will receive a tax receipt. Thank you.











Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation's faithful BAND TOGETHER to support our community and members in times of great need.

> PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY to support the rebuild of our church lost in a fire.

#### Nisichawayasi Nehetho ture and Education Authority Inc. Nisichawayasi Nisichawayasi Nehetho Culture and NISICHAWAYASIHK CREE NATION **Education Authority Inc.** School Board Meeting Dates for 2019-20

5:00 p.m. <sup>(a)</sup> Alice Moore Education Centre, Nelson House, MB. Supper to be provided.

Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 Tuesday, December 10th, 2019 Tuesday, January 14th, 2020 Tuesday, February 11th, 2020 Tuesday, March 10th, 2020

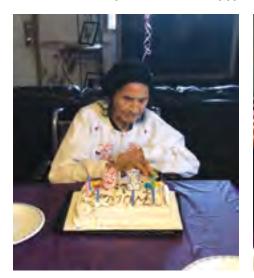
Tuesday, April 14th, 2020 Tuesday, May 12th, 2020 Tuesday, June 9th, 2020 Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 (Annual General Assembly date) Tuesday, August 13th, 2020

Approved by NNCEA School Board Motion #2019-06-11-05

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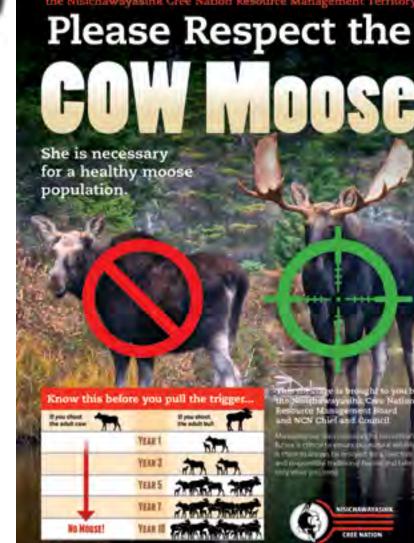
Friends and family celebrated a happy birthday with NCN's Arabella Francois.







Arabella with daughter Claudia and grandchildren Kashaye and Britania.



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### 72 Emergency Hour Preparedness Kit

The NCN Fire/Rescue Emergency Services recommends that you keep a aster preparedness kit in your home with enough supplies to meet your family's needs for at least 72 hours



#### **Additional Items:**

Crank or battery-operated flashlight with extra batteries Manual can opener Special needs items like formula, walkers... Personal hygiene items Change of clothes and footwear Scissors and a pocket knife Hand sanitizer Garbage bags and twist ties Multi-tools or basic tools Duct tape Sleeping bag or warm blankets Pet food and medication Whistle Plastic sheeting

### **Elder Delhia Kobliski Celebrates** Life's Achievements

This year NCN Elder Delhia Kobliski turned 82 years old. She is the daughter of late Susannah and William Thomas. The fulfilment of her life has been a very









rewarding life for her, as she has been blessed with 9 children, many grandchildren, great grandchildren and a family circle of numerous relatives who she acknowledges with sincere affection and unconditional love. She is a Residential School Survivor. She is still committed to her healing journey and many years of her walk of sobriety. Her effortless contributions

to her community consisted of being an interpreter for community members who were unable to speak English as in her days our language was very prosperous and Cree was the only language spoken. On many occasions, she was required to escort patients to Winnipeg, MB and other outlying municipalities, when the community members could only

fly out. In her days of younger womanhood, her beadwork and crafting of real beaver fur purses were very popular. She is known for her amazing sense of humour. Being given the grace of good health, she will ensure her presence is a reality when the community members have their funerals. During times of unbearable grieving, she is always present to pray, sing, support, and without being the center of attention, she somehow lets her community members know that she is there for them.

On October 2, 2019, Elder Delhia Kobliski was honoured

with a Feast and Give

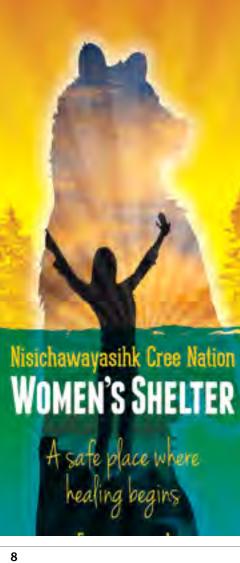
Away. The NCN Chief and Council were, as usual, very respectful and kindly supported the Feast and Give Away. A presentation by Councilor Cheryl Moore honoured Elder Delhia Kobliski with a Star Blanket. The intent, as spoken of, in the gathering was "to honour our Mother while she is still alive, not only by memorials when they have passed on to the Spirit World," said Susan Kobliski,

daughter of Delhia Kobliski. The gathering consisted of joyous spirit of people who came to show their love for her. The traditional food of moose meat, fish,



wild berries, bannock, and many other delicious dishes added the final touch to a memorable NCN community gathering.

### WOMEN: Need a Safe Place? Call us or Come in!



#### How do I loarn more about the Women's Shelter?

Contact us 24/7 at: Emergency On-Call: 204-679-1996 NCN Women's Shelter Landline: 204-484-2634 Executive Director: 204-679-2851

Or visit ncncree.com/ncn-womens-shelter Email: womensshelter@noncree.com

We'll keep you and your children sale while you make a plan for your future:

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger. call 911 (RCMP).



20 Otetiskiwin Drive, Nelson House, MB R0B 1A0

# It's a Scream with Parks and Rec

All the ghouls came out for an amazing Halloween monster mash!

Parks and Rec hosted an arts and crafts workshop and floor hockey at the multiplex on November 9, followed by a movie night with popcorn.

We're excited for our Family Fun Night on Saturday, November 30 at the NLMMP. Check out the Mom and Dad makeover, family air-bands, and the Nooscha competition. It starts at 2:00 pm and is \$5 at the door. NCN puppets Kakak and Chocheets will be there! Check out yoga classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 at the Tarck area of the NLMMP. Bring a towel and water, and gain flexibility and strength!

Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date schedules, new

activities and weather changes, or call Terry at 204-307-2246.



# ATTENTION: NCN CITIZENS PUBLIC NOTICE

**IN THE MATTER OF** 

**PUBLIC HEAL** 

AND SAFETY THE NISICHAWAYASIHK CREE NATION IS REQUESTING ALL NCN CITIZENS REPORT INFESTATIONS

#### **BEDBUGS, COCKROACHES AND OTHER INSECTS**

#### WHAT TO DO IF BEDBUGS OR OTHER INSECTS INFEST YOUR HOUSE?

If you suspect you may have bedbugs or think your home has become an ideal nest for inse you are responsible to contact the appropriate NCN departments for reporting bedbugs, cockroaches and other insect infestations when discovered in NCN housing units.

#### YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CONTACT BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS UPON DISCOVERING THESE INFESTATIONS:

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTRE – PUBLIC HEALTH Ron Wood, Community Health Representative (CHR) Work: 204-484-2341 Cell: 204-970-0205 Email: ron@ncnwellness.ca

NELSON HOUSE HOUSING Rhonda McDonald, Property Managei Work: 204-484-2422 Cell: 204-307-7098 Email: rhondamcdonald@ncncree.con



### NCN Winnipeg Receiving Home Nearly Ready to Open

The NCN receiving home on 610 Elgin Street in Winnipeg is over 90% complete. NCN is seeking a mangers position to help operate the home. This home will help our NCN members coming to the city for medical reasons. It is designed for short term stay. The 4-plex for family residences from Nelson House to Winnipeg is close to the Health Sciences Centre. The land has been purchased and construction has been worked on over





The construction of the home is nearly completed and is set to open soon.

the past several months on the facility, which will have an onsite caretaker. The plan is to provide transportation to and from the airport and to have a lounge for people to enjoy between their medical appointments and flight times. We are looking at other similar initiatives to house students in the future.

### **ConGRADuations!**



On behalf of Chief, Council and friends and family, we congratulate Cheryl Moore for graduating and earning her Bachelor of Arts Integrated Studies Degree from the University of Manitoba on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.



### **NNOC** Junior Chief and Council Honoured

By: Nic Campbell

NNOC would like to acknowledge our new Junior Chief Oliver Spence as well our Deputy Chief's Tanika Spence and Reagan Spence. We look forward to seeing what our school leaders as well as our council can bring to our school! We would also like to thank NCN Chief and Council for their acknowledgement of our Jr. Chief and Council at the Youth Forum.

#### A Focus on Improving School Attendance

Over the last few months we have seen a growth in attendance at NNOC from 52% in October in 2018 to 60% in October for 2019. We hope that our attendance is sustained or increases throughout the year. Student daily attendance



Painting in hallways by Kianna Hart.

and coaches during this season.

Currently at NNOC we have 212 students enrolled and have 9 classroom teachers and 2 resource teachers. We also have several staff within our school to assist with student success. Moving forward we hope that

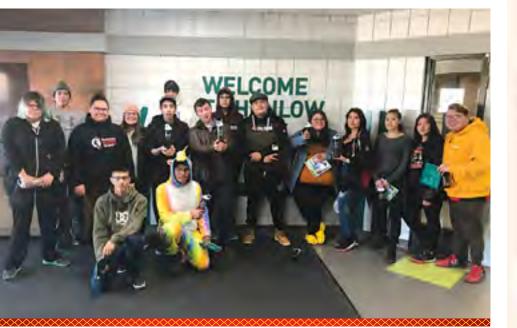


Junior Girls Volleyball.

our students are able to enhance their literacy, math, and practical application skills while in school. We also hope that our students are able to grow as individuals and learn to work as team players.

4-day trip which was funded by CAP/CIP. Here are our students at MITT!

During the month of October, we took 16 of our students to 5 different Post-Secondary Schools in Manitoba. This was a



We would also

like to thank our

to our students

throughout this

student athletes

season. Our

Volleyball coaches

for their dedication

NNOC would like to acknowledge our new Junior Chief Oliver Spence as well our Deputy Chief's Tanika Spence and Reagan Spence. We look forward to seeing what our school leaders as well council can bring to our school!



NNOC RECYCLING

### Children's Day Fun Fair

National Children's Day Day was November 20th and NCN celebrated in style. The Fun Fair was hosted by NCN Parks and Rec in conjunction with Jordan's Principal. Events included Face Painting, Puck Shoot, Wheel of Fortune, Plinko, Fish Pond, Basketball Shoot, Bean bag toss, Ring toss, 50/50 Draws, Healthy Snack Distribution and more! Big Thanks to



Jordan's Principal Staff, Rec Crew, day care program, Face Painters (Oshana and Keisha) and the Grade 6, 7 and 8 Girls Volleyball Team.



## Minor Hockey Hits The Ice 2019!

By: Nic Campbell

vce Brightnose, E

Minor Hockey has now started in NCN and we are excited to hit the ice. Minor Hockey practice will be Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7pm for atom/peewee and 7-8pm for bantam/midget. If you would like to assist with practices we are seeking helpers. Our NCN Midget team is looking to finalize a team merger with a different community and then will be ready to compete in their 8 team league (Midget A). Our bantam team will have their first tournament in Thompson

on December 6-8, 2019. Our younger skaters will be able to roster with Wabowden in order to fill a team.



Nisichawayasi Nethowi Piskituskan

### Otetiskiwin Kiskinwamakiwikamik Principal's Message

#### By: Matilda Gibb, Principle

I am happy to be returning for my third year as Principal. It has been an extremely busy time since school started on September 3rd. It was great to see returning teachers and staff relaxed and recharged with positive energy and ready to start a new school year. I am delighted that everyone is part of our amazing learning community. I appreciate your dedication and excellence in education and am looking forward to working with all my staff throughout this school year. I also am excited to see all our students return after their summer holidays and look forward to providing them with another incredible and productive school year.

#### New Staff

Each year brings positive change. This includes new additions to our teaching staff. We are thrilled to welcome the following teachers to our school: April Buck – Grade 1A Tracy Livesey – Grade 1B Lorette Bonner – Grade 1C Sukhpreet Ratten – Grade 2C Sukhbir Dherdi – Grade 3B Joanne Moose – Grade 3C Tricia Whitecalf – Grade 5B Gail Tatakanow – Grade 5C Matthew Garrick – Grade 6A George Isbister – Grade 6B Preet Dherdi – Grade 8A Flora Hart – Grade 8B Margaret Monias – Middle Years Vice-Principal Theresa Hartley – Student Services Administrator Diane Greene – Resource Teacher

Ashley Boutin – Resource Teacher Pierre Lirette – IT Supervisor Helen Hart – Social Worker

#### **Returning Teachers**

Tammy Long – Resource Teacher Ivy Bonner – Nursery AM/ Kindergarten PM Caroline Hart – Nursery Cree Full Day Susan Francois – Kindergarten Cree Full Day Josephine Baker – Kindergarten Cree Full Day Fay Flett – Grade 2A Sandra Montoux – Grade 2B Loretta Francois – Grade 3A Debra Duvall – Grade 4A Bernice Olsen – Grade 4B Ross Francois – Grade 4C Glenda Moose – Grade 5A Margaret Bird – Grade 7A Margaret Thomas – Grade 7B



Tara Van Segbrook – Certified Substitute Teacher Andrew Murphy – Early Years Phys-Ed Teacher Eric Champagne – Middle Years Phys. Ed/Outdoor Education Teacher Frederica Prince – Lifeskills Teacher Linda Linklater – Early Years Cree Language Teacher

#### **Returning Administrators**

Matilda Gibb – Principal Nadine Yetman – Early Years Vice-Principal William Spence – Special Events Administrator Natalie Tays – Literacy Specialist Administrator



#### **Nelson House Medicine Lodge Intake Dates**

The current residential intake program is for men and the next program starting is for women. Referrals and registration are being accepted now for alcohol and drug treatment, prevention and aftercare services. Intake dates and administration weeks are as follows:

2019 INTAKE SCHEDULE

Men: October 21 – December 13, 2019

#### **2020 INTAKE SCHEDULE**

Women: January 6 – February 28, 2020 Men: March 2 – April 24, 2020 April 27 – May 1, 2020 Admin Week Women: May 4 – June 26, 2020 Men: June 29 – August 21, 2020 August 24 – August 28, 2020 Admin Week Women: August 31 – October 23, 2020 Men: October 26 – December 18, 2020

#### 2021 INTAKE SCHEDULE

Women: January 4 – February 26, 2021 Men: March 1 – April 23, 2021 April 26 – April 30, 2021 Admin Week Women: May 3 – June 25, 2021 Men: June 28 – August 20, 2021 August 23 – August 27, 2021 Admin Week Women: August 30 – October 22, 2021 Men: October 25 – December 17, 2021

### Orange Shirt Day Shows Every Child Matters

Our school was invited to attend a special presentation in Thompson,

Thompson, Manitoba on Orange Shirt Day to commemorate all residential school survivors. Twelve of our students were in attendance along with Mrs. Tays, Ms. Gibb, Gavin Hughes, and Ashley Morris as chaperones. The event was held at the St. Lawrence Hall and sponsored by the organization K.T.C.



(Keewatin Tribal Council). The highlight was the presentation of a Star Blanket to honour the memory of Lyna Hart who was a Residential School Survivor. A documentary was made entitled We

Were Children. Lyna was an actress in the documentary as well as two other members of NCN. The Star Blanket was presented to her sister Lorna Hart who is the Human Resource person for the Nehetho Nisichawayasi Culture and Education Authority Inc. Lorna Hart kindly donated the Star Blanket to be



displayed at Otetiskiwin Kiskinwamakiwikamik. We were asked to display a picture of Lyna Hart alongside the Star Blanket.

MERCHANDISE BOODGO Fundraliser to raise money for

Snack, Breakfast, and Hot Lunch Programs)

#### DID YOU KNOW

Every Day Some Children and Students Go Through a Full Day of Classes Without Proper Food? Learning is extremely tough on an empty tumony and attention spans are shortened. You can help in a huge way! Support the Nisichawayasihk Gree Nation's NNOC and OK Schools' Breakfast, Lunch and Snack Programs.

Thursday, December 12, 2019 Time: 6:00 p.m. OK School gym.

The purpose of this bingo is to reise hands for our Breakfast and Hat Lunch Program.

For indust information cantail: Clutististic Kiskimaanakin kansik School ( (204) 484-2242

### NCN Staff Honour Children On Orange Shirt Day



NCN Staff show their support for children by respecting the residential school survivors and wearing an orange shirt on September 30th.

### Halloween SOOOO Much Fun ...

Many ghosts and ghouls, as well as witches, heroes and clowns made the classrooms and halls a wonderful place to be this Halloween. Mrs. Francois class came to surprise Mrs. Gibb in her office showing off their fantastic Halloween costumes.

The school held it's annual Halloween door decorating contest with the themes of Grandfather Sun (Nursery –Grade 3) and the Grandmother Moon (Grades 4-8). Students and staff once again had great and original ideas.

Congratulations to the winners of the

Halloween Door Decorating Contest ....

- 1st: Grade 5A Miss G. Moose Grade 3A – Mrs. L. Francois
- 2nd: Grade 5C Ms. G. Tatakanow Grade 1A – Miss A. Buck
- 3rd: Grade 6B Mr. G. Isbister





# Remembrance Day Memorial Service at OK School

The OK School honoured the veterans and families of

those who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. Framed photos were decorated with







poppies and a service was held on November 8, 2019 for staff and students on a day of remembering.

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation סרוסידע איזליע פיזע איזיע איזיע איזיע איזיע איזיע איזיע איזיע איזע

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### Schools Back in and Busy 2019

Tanisi, nitotemak! The 2019-2020 school year is well underway and new staff and activities are happening as usual. We've had the back to school orientation, attendance week, thanksgiving and another successful OK Remembrance Day Service that was well planned, well delivered and well attended. A thank you goes out to the OK Special Events Committee and to all who attended! Our OK students were well behaved and respectful!

The annual Christmas concert is scheduled for Dec. 17th, 2019 at 1:15 p.m. Christmas holidays will begin on Dec. 20th, 2019 – Jan. 5th, 2020. SEASON'S GREETINGS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

#### **NNCEA** Board Update

NNCEA Board of Trustees are: Wanda Bunn (Chairperson), Shirley Linklater (Co-Chair), Felix Walker, Jerry Primrose, Lou Moodie, Ron D. Spence and Cheryl Moore (NCN Education Portfolio Holders). NNCEA Board meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at AMEC at 5 p.m., and the public is welcome to attend.

The Board works on policies, NHTA negotiations, finances, the school calendar, strategic planning, O&M, and oversees the school system evaluation recommendations. We are pleased to announce the construction on the new high school is happening and the expected date of completion is September 2021. Negotiations with NHTA were set to begin on Nov. 5th, 2019 but NHTA had to postpone!

#### **Staffing Update**

NNCEA is growing and we now have approximately 160 people on staff. We finally have our full quota of teachers. More staffing is or will be fully in place to better meet the needs of students. This includes a HR contractor, more resource teachers, two social workers, more Education Assistants, a Network Administrator, and a Resource Program Administrator.

We thank Home School Coordinator, Arlene Smears for her time with NNCEA as she is no longer with NNCEA. She has moved on and we wish her the best! We also extend wellness wishes to teacher, Donald Hart.

#### **Education Programs and Curriculum**

Our PATH plan is still in effect and the Nehetho Language

#### **Upcoming School Events**

- Merchandise Bingo will be held on December 12th in the gym to raise money for our Snack, Breakfast, and Hot Lunch Programs
- Christmas Concert tentative date is Tuesday, December 17th at 1:15 p.m.

and Culture Team continues to progress. Phase one of the NNCEA Culture Camp, not too far from the junction, has begun. The Jack Moore Cultural Program or Grannie/Grandpa program will come under the umbrella of the Language and Culture unit by the end of this school year.

The Community Approach to Revitalizing Education (CARE) plan is working smoothly at the school. This new initiative has helped make the OK school

#### Continued on page 18

### Friendly Reminders to Parents and Guardians

- Our Breakfast and Hot Lunch Programs started October 21st
- We encourage parents to dress your children in warm clothes as the weather becomes colder every day
- Please speak to your children to stay off the ice because it is not safe to be on the lake
- We strongly encourage your children to attend school everyday. If your child is not able to attend school because they are sick, please contact the school and we will let their teachers know they are absent

Nisichawayasi Nehetho Culture and Education Authority Inc.							
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Month	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Aug	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2019	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sep	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2019	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30 7	1 8	2	3 10	4 11	5
Oct	6 13	14	o 15	16	10	18	12
2019	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	22	30	31	1	20
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nov	10	11	12	13	, 14	15	16
2019	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
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2020	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4

DATE	SCHOOL CLOSURE			
August 28-30, 2019	PD Days for Staff			
September 2, 2019	Labor Day Holiday			
September 3, 2019	First Day of School			
October 14, 2019	Thanksgiving Holiday			
October 15-18, 2019	Flex Days (4)			
November 11, 2019	Remembrance Day Holiday			
December 20, 2019	Flex Day (1)			
December 23, 2019	First Day of Christmas Break			
January 3, 2020	Last Day of Christmas Break			
January 6, 2020	First Day Back			
February 17, 2020	Louis Riel Day			
March 23 – March 27, 2020	Flex Days (5)			
March 30 – April 3, 2020	Spring Break			
April 10, 2020	Good Friday			
May 18, 2020	Victoria Day			
June 21, 2020	Aboriginal Day			
June 23, 2020	Last Day of School			
June 24-26, 2020	Flex Days (3)			
June 29-30, 2020	Flex Days (2)			
OK School Term Dates	A (20 N)   20 2010			
Term 1	August 28 – November 29, 2019			
Term 2 Term 3	December 2 – March 13, 2020			
lenns	Mar 16 – June 23, 2020			
OK School Report Card Night				
Term 1	December 11, 2019			
Term 2	March 11, 2020			
Term 3	June 18, 2020			
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
OK School Report Card Writing Day				
1	November 22, 2019			
2	February 21, 2020			
3	May 29, 2020			
NNOC Report Card Writing Day				
1	November 8, 2019			
2	April 17, 2020			
NNOC Term Dates				
Term 1	August 29, 2019 Japuany 29, 2020			
Term 2	August 29, 2019 – January 29, 2020 January 30, 2020 – June 23, 2020			
	January 50, 2020 - June 23, 2020			
NNOC Report Card Night				
Term 1 – Part 1	November 14, 2019			
Term 1 – Part 2	February 6, 2020			
Term 2 – Part 1	April 23, 2020			
Term 2 – Part 2	June 22, 2020			
Kindergarten Graduation	June 11, 2020			
Grade 8 Graduation	June 12, 2020			
Grade 12 Graduation	June 19, 2020			
Total Flex Days = 15 days (Oct. 15-18, 2019, Dec. 20, 2 Total School Days = 199 (Classroom: 184, Flex Day	/s: 15)			
Approved by NNCEA School Board Motion #2019-04-09-04 The above calendar is based on a 6 hour instructional day.				

climate safer and healthier. We offer our kudos to the OK school administration.

The Hot Lunch Program to continue for the full year this year. Rosie Moore is the school cook now.

Flex Week will be offered again this year, on March 23rd-27th, 2020 at OK. Keep posted for upcoming information. We also are pleased to report a NNCEA/ NHTA Liaison Committee has been developed.

#### **Finance and Budget**

NCN finance amalgamation is still happening and it is expected, in time, most NCN finance units will be located at the band office. CAP/CIP presentations for NNCEA were held

and are now under review. Currently

our school system is funded by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and in order for NNCEA

to get the education dollars to run our system, the child has to be in school. It's called the nominal roll. The dollars we get formulates the budget for NNCEA from ISC. This year, the nominal roll for NNOC was 211 and for OK it was 545, much lower than last year, which means we will get less dollars next school year. This could be avoided totally if every student in our community was sent to school daily. ISC was here on Nov. 12 and 13th to do a nominal roll review. Once compiled, their report will be forwarded.

#### Public Relations and Community Involvement

NNCEA continues to submit regular write-ups to Achimowina to keep community informed of NNCEA and school affairs. We conduct visits with people when they come to AMEC and listen to your feedback at community events. We continue to post current updates and events at school fuctions, at the hospital, and recreation events, etc.

AMEC and School Administration continue to attend meetings, gatherings, and funerals, etc. in the community to be involved in our community.

#### **Student Services**

A PSE meeting is overdue and will be happening in the near future. In addition to Bill Gamblin, we have another PSE Counsellor now. Craig Linklater began on Nov. 12, 2019.

NNCEA will be sharing/setting up the Winnipeg sub-office with NCN at 300-428 Portage Avenue. Craig will be based out of that

location for awhile. Craig can be reached at 431-373-0160. Both PSE Counsellors should make a difference and will continue to be in the community more (NNOC, ATEC).

#### Information Communications and Technology (ICT)

The ICT infrastructure at OK school is in dire straits. It will take thousands of dollars to remediate. The Network Assessment done by NCN revealed its needs and there is now a plan in place to fix many of the shortcomings. In time, our IT will be much better and we look forward to the new Fiber-optics in the school soon.

#### Facilities

The Community

Approach to

Revitalizing

Education (CARE)

plan is working

smoothly at the

school.

Reports show it is very costly to maintain NNCEA facilities such as the schools, especially OK, teacherages, the bus garage, cabins, and AMEC. There are major renovations needed at OK, like the roof replacement, and the 400 wing renovations that have been undertaken. Additional space is needed for the school and the IT infrastructure also added to expenses. Administration is doing their best to maintain the old, aging facilities.

The Printshop is now relocated at OK and operations are going smoothly.

#### Transportation

Bus service continues to be available for our students and the bus contractor will be providing a current bus schedule. Bussing personnel are expected to become NNCEA employees by next school year and the contractor expects to have additional back-up drivers to meet the needs of sporting events.

### Christmas Safety Tips:

Christmas is a magical time of year, but things can go bad quickly if caution is not taken during all the excitement. Here are some tips to help ensure everyone stays safe:

- \* Make sure candles/wood burning stoves are not left unattended.
- \* Make sure lights on trees are safe and
- unplugged when unattended. \* Keep items away from baseboard heaters.
- \* Take care not to overload electrical sockets.
- Keep smaller decorations safely out of the
- reach of children and household animals.
  Remind those shopping to keep items hidden in vehicles to prevent theft.

#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS:**

RCMP - **204-484-2288** Ambulance - **204-484-2911** Fire - **204-484-2047** First Nation Safety Officers - **204-307-0912** 

#### **Professional Development**

Staff had a one-day cultural day during orientation and a school-wide PAX training at OK in mid-September. The PAX has proved to be helpful. Two school administrators also had the opportunity to attend a conference in early November on trauma-informed schools and their findings were insightful. Language and Culture Unit Elders attended the Language Keepers Conference in Saskatoon in early November.

#### In the news...

Congratulations Maria Smith and John Cole Spence, NCN Youth Leaders! You will learn/do lots in the next 2 years.

Once again, we extend our sincere condolences to all our bereaved families. If you or a family member are not well, NNCEA extends wellness blessings and a speedy recovery!



Youth Leader Maria Smith with mom and Councillors.



\* When using a real tree, make sure that it

heat sources.

stays watered and keep it away from any

\* Don't burn wrapping paper in the fireplace

as some papers can cause a flash fire

\* Use unbreakable ornaments if they are

\* Though they look festive, poinsettias are

poisonous and should be kept away from children and pets.

within reach of children or pets

# Ice Safety Tips

**Everybody needs to** 

be careful around

frozen lakes, rivers

and streams during

the winter months,

no matter the

temperature.

At this time of year, winter activities increase and travel on the lakes and rivers becomes more common. The thickness and stability of ice is not always easy to see. This is why you are encouraged to be ice smart – know the basics and be sensible. Reports show that most winter drowning victims are snowmobilers and accidents occur on lakes in open water or ice holes. Everybody needs to be careful around frozen lakes, rivers and streams during the winter months, no matter the temperature. Remember, even thick ice may be weak so be sure to measure clear hard ice in several places or stay on safe ice trails. The quality and thickness of ice can change very quickly and its appearance can be misleading. Before you head onto any ice, check with someone familiar with the area.

There are several safety steps you can take to be ice smart:

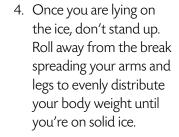
- Always check ice thickness before venturing out. Snowmobiles require at least five inches of clear solid ice and autos at least eight inches to a foot of clear solid ice.
- 2. Keep away from unfamiliar paths or unknown ice.
- 3. Avoid travelling on ice at night and try to stay on clear hard ice. Snow covered patches may not be frozen underneath.
- 4. If you must venture onto the ice, wear a thermal protection buoyant suit to increase your chances of survival if you fall

through. If you do not have one, wear a lifejacket/ PFD over an ordinary snowmobile suit or layered winter clothing.

- 5. Avoid slushy
  - ice, thawed ice that has recently refrozen, layered or rotten ice caused by sudden temperature changes, and ice near moving water (i.e., rivers or currents, and shorelines).
- 6. Never go on the ice alone; a buddy may be able to rescue you or go for help if you get into difficulty.
- 7. Before you leave shore, inform someone of your destination and expected time of return.
- 8. Assemble a small personal safety kit and include a lighter, waterproof matches, magnesium fire starter, pocketknife, compass and whistle. You should also carry ice picks, an ice staff, a rope and a cellular phone.

#### What to do if you break through the ice

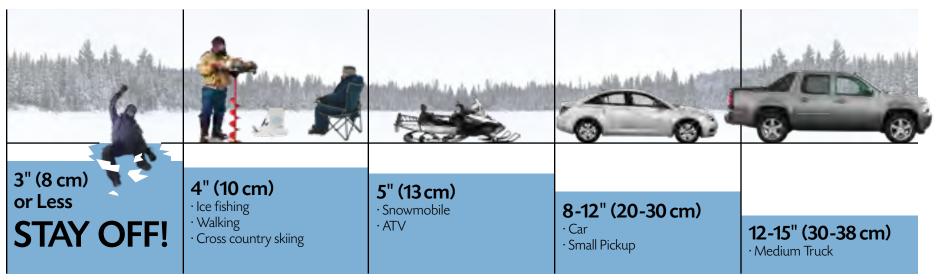
- Don't panic the clothes you're wearing will trap air and keep you buoyant.
- 2. Turn toward the direction you came from and place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface.
- 3. Kick your feet and try to push yourself forward on top of the unbroken ice on your stomach like a seal.



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If you see someone else fall through the ice, resist the urge to run out onto the ice where they were. Call for help, and attempt to perform a rescue from shore or safe area by extending a pole, rope or branch to the individual.

#### **Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness for New Clear Hard Ice**



Note: Slush ice is not as strong as clear hard ice. No ice is without some risk. Be sure to measure clear hard ice in several places.

### Be Safe – Wild Animals Spotted Near NCN

Safety is most important when it comes to wild animals in and around our community. Recently there have been more frequent sightings of wolves, wild dogs and other animals. Even skunks in the winter can be a hazard because normally they are in hibernation and an active skunk could be a sign of rabies infection among animals.

As the cold months of winter settle in, food sources become harder to find and animals can tend to move closer to town in search of food. Hungry or starving animals can be unpredictable and should be treated with caution.

Students and small children on their way to and from school should always be accompanied by an adult or picked up in a vehicle. Never let your child walk alone!

#### Nearly half of wildlife attacks are the result of human behaviour

In a study published on Nature.com, researchers found that "about half of 700 reported carnivore attacks in North America and Europe have involved risk-enhancing human behaviours."

Some of the main causes of these attacks included innocent activities such as accidentally walking close to a female animal with her young, or by a carcass with a bear nearby, or having an encounter with a foodconditioned animal. A food-conditioned animal is a wild animal that has developed a taste for human food due to food being left out where the animal can find it, or visitors intentionally feeding an animal.

Other attacks occurred when children were left unattended, dogs were walked off-leash, or people went

searching for a wounded carnivore while hunting.

#### Tips to Stay Smart Around Wild Animals

#### Keep food and other attractants securely stored

- Store food, garbage and dog food securely so carnivores can't get to it.
- Don't leave dirty dishes, pots, BBQs, empty pet food bowls or even dirty dish water out.
- Don't leave toothpaste, soap or other toiletries out.
- Protect children and pets
- Never leave children unattended outdoors.
- Never attempt to take a photo of your child with a wild animal.
- Walk with your dog on a leash.
- Don't leave dogs unattended outside. They can attract carnivores and may be attacked.
- View wild animals from a distance
- If you see a wild animal, stay quiet and as discreet and insignificant as possible.
- Stay at least 100 metres (or 10 bus lengths) away from the animal.
- If you see an animal while driving, pull safely out of traffic onto the shoulder.
- Do not leave your vehicle. Remember that most animals are faster than you are.
- Don't roll down your window and call the animal to get him to come closer.
- Drive carefully where the wild animals are
- Drive slower at dusk and dawn when animals are more active and visibility is poor.
- Drive even slower if you see an animal at the side of the road in case it decides to cross.
- Remember if there is one animal by the road, it's likely there are others nearby.
- Do your best to avoid a surprise encounter



Recently there have been more frequent sightings of wolves, wild dogs and other animals near NCN.

- Always watch out for animals or signs of their presence such as fresh tracks or droppings.
- If you spot evidence of an animal nearby, try to leave the area immediately.
- As you're walking, make noise, clap, sing or yell to announce your presence to animals that may be in the area.
- Travel in a group, on marked trails, only during the day.
- Hold your ground if a wild animal fearlessly approaches you
- Make noise and act aggressively by stomping your feet, throwing something or using bear spray.
- Pick up small children and pets immediately.
- Do anything you can to make yourself look bigger.
- Do not run, turn your back on the animal or play dead. Back away slowly.

If you see a wild pack of dogs or animals near residential areas, please notify the government office.



# Don't Be a Head Scratcher. Be Aware of Head Lice

Start by checking

the nape of the neck

and around the ears

and look closely at

the scalp and hair.

Kids are back in school and in childcare settings. They are going to play, and their play may lead to the spread of head lice. However, you can take steps to prevent the spread of lice among children and adults. NCN parents and caregivers are reminded to take the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of lice and take the time to periodically check children for signs of the critters.

#### What are Head Lice?

- Head lice are small grey or reddish brown bugs (1mm to 4mm).
- Lice live on the human head only not on pets or other parts of the body.
- Lice cannot survive off the head for more than 24 to 48 hours without a blood meal.
- Lice do not hop, jump or fly.
- Lice eggs are tear-drop shaped and glued to one side of the hair shaft on an angle.
- Viable eggs are typically brownish/yellow to caramel in colour - never white.
- Female lice lay 3 to 5 eggs per day and live for 30 days.
- Lice eggs take 7 to 10 days to hatch and another 7 to 10 days to mature and mate.

#### How to Know When You or a Child May Have Lice?

Look around the ears, at the crown of the head and at the nape of the neck. You may see red scabs caused by scratching, lice eggs and

lice crawling through the hair or sucking blood from the scalp. Lice lay their eggs close to the scalp but be sure

to look along the whole hair shaft.

Separate the hair into sections and begin by checking the crown of the head first. Then check the nape of the neck and around the ears.

If you find something that you think might be a lice egg or nit, try to remove it with your fingers. If it comes off easily, it's not likely a lice egg or nit. Lice eggs or nits are cemented on the hair shaft and can only be removed by sliding them down the hair shaft between your fingernails or with tweezers.

#### What if I'm not sure?

Before you run to the drugstore for a pesticide that may not be necessary, consider a professional opinion. A health professional may be able to accurately identify head lice or lice eggs. Contact the NCN nurses station.

#### Head Lice Prevention and Treatment Tips

Here are a few tips to keep your kids safe and help reduce the risk of spreading head lice:

#### **Teach and Practice Good Sharing Habits**

To reduce the chance of you or your child contracting a case of head lice, start by not sharing items that touch the head. Though it may be tempting to share personal belongings, doing so can lead to the spread of head lice. Avoid sharing:

- Combs and brushes
- Hair clips and accessories
- Hats and bike helmets
- Scarves, coats and towels
- Headsets and earbuds

#### Limit Contact and Don't Go Head-to-Head

When kids play, they may naturally place their heads close together. (Think about when they pal around with their arms around each other's shoulders.) But if your child's friend has head lice, your young one may come home with it. Ask your child to avoid games and activities that lead to head-tohead contact with classmates and other friends. Adults especially those who work with children – would be wise to follow the same principle.

#### Space It Out in Spaces

Shared spaces as well as shared belongings can be breeding

grounds for lice. Closets, lockers, drawers, and common clothes hooks can create an easy opportunity for lice to pass from one person's things to another's. Ask your child to keep their belongings - especially hats, coats, scarves, and other clothing - out of common areas.

#### How Can Head Lice be Treated?

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If you think you or your child may have head lice, contact the schools to let them know and visit the nurses office for the best treatment methods and insecticide shampoos or treatments.

Because head lice don't live long off the scalp, there is no need for extra cleaning in your home.

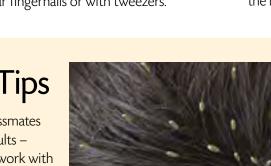
To get rid of lice or nits from items like hats or pillowcases:

- Wash the items in hot water and dry in a hot dryer for 15 minutes
- Store the items in an airtight plastic bag for two weeks.











#### Check your child's hair and scalp regularly for head lice.

### NCN Wellness Centre Reports on Past Year

The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre AGM was held on November 21, 2019 and the CEO, staff and managers reported on last year's highlights, accomplishments and challenges.

CEO Felix Walker thanked



CEO Felix Walker speaks at AGM.

a large crowd of attendees for taking part in the annual meeting. The Centre is nearing it's 20 years of operation and Walker mentioned changes are coming to community services.

In 2018-19 there were several highs and lows to report. The Centre received word from NCN elected leadership that the community will have a new Health Centre in the near future.

Walker says, "As we look toward the changes on the horizon, we will plan for a shift to have public health services delivered in the new centre, while child and family wellness services are expected to be provided at the existing Wellness Centre. The Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre Inc., as it has been known for nearly two decades will no longer exist in the same capacity."

The nationally recognized innovative model of excellence of integrated service delivery will also be transformed by the government and is expected to be managed by NCN constitution and laws. Many administrative, financial and logistical plans will be worked on in the coming years. These changes will mark a new era for provision of wellness services. In the meantime, the departments are collaborating more efficiently than ever, using the proven existing model and Circle of Care process to create healthy individuals and families.

Walker added, "We are hopeful that the expanded facilities will carry on the excellent services and programs, while maintaining the level of care NCN Citizens have depended on."

The Centre also handed out their printed reports to attendees and launched a new "Wellness Guide" that has details about all of the programs available "for free" for NCN Citizens. The guide is expected to be delivered to all households in NCN. "We hope to get more people involved in the Centre's excellent programs. We have something to offer every individual and family to help improve wellness

#### and health," says Walker.

#### Other Key Highlights and Challenges included:

The Bachelor of Social Work cohort has 23 participants this year who expect to graduate in June 2020.

Enrollment in Jordan's Principle decreased in 2018. This may mean eligible clients were not aware of the program, or that those in need were already ongoing clients, or perhaps had transitioned out of the program. Two Family Enhancement workers

completed

of study for

their 5th years



their Bachelors of Social Work, and two other students completed their BSW practicum hours with Family Enhancement.

- Awasis Agency pulled out of partnership for the Wecihitowin program in March 2018. Programming was not available from April through August, as the remaining team developed workshops and attended training. A third team member joined in November.
- The Fitness Centre is in need of funding to provide financial aid to competing athletes and to provide appropriate gym shoes and clothing for Citizens who would like to begin a gym routine.
- The Medical Transportation team safely provided 8,900 rides to medical appointments last year.
- The Maternal Child Health Program completed 137 home visits this year, but team members continue to deal with too many cancelled appointments and no-shows.
- This year, 83 people attended Anger Management workshops hosted by Counselling Services, which did not fully meet the community's needs. The department aims to provide more anger management resources next year, as this is a crucial skill for avoiding escalation of problems.
- A new funding model for CFS has decreased the number of children in care. There was very little staff turnover in CFS sub-offices of Winnipeg and Brandon, and a new manual for foster children and independent living has been rolled out.



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ning you a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled ith peace and happi

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nowina akwa sawithimiko isiwina kitisitisi

nd blessings from the students, staff, manager school board of the Nehetho Culture and Educa Authority Inc., OK, and NNOC schools!





### PUSIKONISOWINI ACHIMOWIN Business News



See what your community has to offer... BUSINESSES, SERVICES, ACTIVITIES AND MORE...

### NCN Thompson Bus and Freight

Now celebrating almost one year in business, NCN Thompson Bus and Freight connects the North through reliable transportation.

The company currently serves about 350 passengers every week with trips between Thompson, Cross Lake, Gillam, Winnipeg and stops in between. It has nine highway coaches that seat about 55 passengers, and two smaller passenger buses for small charters.

Freight trips to The Pas, Flin Flon and Snow Lake are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Visit the website to learn about rates and to track your shipment.

Follow the NCN Thompson Bus Facebook page for weather updates and Buy One Get One sales!

- Daily trip from Thompson to Winnipeg (not Saturday)
- Departs 10:00 p.m., arrives 7:10 a.m. at International Airport – \$100
- Winnipeg to Thompson return Departs 9:30 p.m., arrives 6:30 p.m.

Thompson to Gillam Tuesdays and Fridays Departs 10:00 a.m., arrives 3:30 p.m. – \$60 Gillam to Thompson return Departs 3:00 p.m., arrives 7:00 p.m.

Thompson to Cross Lake Monday to Thursday

Departs 1:15 p.m., arrives 4:10 p.m. – \$50

Cross Lake to Thompson return Departs 4:30 p.m., arrives 7:30 p.m.

### Go to thompsonbus.com for schedules and fares

Phone: **1-204-939-3991** 

thompsonbus.com Depot 5-725 Thompson Drive





**NCN Thompson Bus Lines** Connecting the North

cultural identity as an

asiniskaw īthiniwak

from nisicawayasi

nīhithaw language.

To fulfill these goals,

Language Resource

and their ability

to speak the

we established

the Culture and

Unit (CLRU) in

2018 to enhance

our programming

involving research,

through several

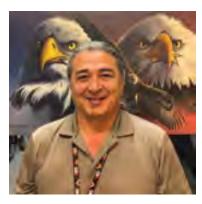
development

in immersion

curriculum and resource materials, wawanaskiwin (landbased education)

initiatives

### NNCEA's Update on Culture and Language Resource Unit Activities



One of NNCEA's main goals is to establish a strong path for our children by increasing and strengthening our language and culture programming. We strive to guide our students on their miskanaw (life journey) by nurturing their



The moons and their meanings of the asiniskaw ithiniwak - Rocky Cree

Six seasons - 13 moons poster.

### Employment Opportunities

#### STAFF NEEDED FOR 2019-20 AT NNCEA FOR OK/NNOC/AMEC (revised November 15th, 2019)

#### AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (OK, N–Gr. 8)

(Open till filled)

- Resource Teacher for Gr. 6–8 (January 2020 – June 2020)
- School Social Worker/ Counsellor for Gr. 5–8
- Home School Coordinator (deadline: November 29/19)
- Substitute Teachers
- Jordan Principle Educational
- Assistants
- Regular Educational Assistants
- Casuals for Maintenance
- Casuals for Custodians

#### FOR BOTH SCHOOLS (N–GR. 12)

N-Gr. 12 Math Specialist (new position)

#### FOR THE NNCEA AT AMEC

- Human Resource Manager (new position, open till filled)
- Attendance Improvement

Manager (new position, deadline: November 29/19, 12 noon)

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 Attendance Improvement Officer (new position, deadline: November 29/19, 12 noon)

If you are interested, fax and email a cover letter with resume/references ASAP to:

NNCEA Selection Committee Nelson House, Manitoba Phone: 204-484-2095 Fax: 204-484-2257 Email: hrunit@nncea.ca

Upon application, a clear Child Abuse Registry Check and a clear Criminal Record Check or Vulnerable Sector Check must be submitted.

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



and integrating Indigenous perspectives in the classrooms. The CLRU is a dedicated team who work out of the Alice Moore Education Centre consisting of knowledge keepers, resource developers, researchers, curriculum writers, administration and support staff.

This school year has been busy so far for the unit, as we continue our work to enhance language and culture programming for our schools and across the community. At the start of the school term, the CLRU offered workshops for the teachers on teaching language and culture in the early years' classrooms, cultural competency and a cultural orientation day. We continue to enhance our nīhithaw immersion programs by piloting immersion at the nursery and kindergarten levels and by writing a Grade 1 immersion curriculum this year. Our unit is also researching how other Indigenous communities are improving the cultural competency of educators in their schools to teach the local language and culture. This work will help in the creation of supports for the number of teachers who come outside of Nelson House to teach at our schools each year.

In our work, the CLRU recognizes that there is a large number of resources being developed and knowledge being gathered from the knowledge keepers and across the community on Rocky Cree history, culture and the nīhithaw language. Since these materials need to be properly stored and <u>Continued on page 26</u>

continued on page 20





CLRU knowledge keepers – wawanaskiwin.

archived for future generations and research on archive development is underway.

Our efforts continue in the creation of nihithaw resource materials featuring asiniskaw īthiniwak culture as based on teachings shared by the knowledge keepers such as thematic flashcards, posters and games. Last year, we released the first edition of the nisicawayasihk asiniskaw īthiniwak ītwiwīna, the Rocky Cree Wordlist featuring over 100 pages of nīhithaw words. A second edition is finished and will be released in the new year with edits and new word lists and will be eventually transformed into an e-book with audio pronunciations for availability in the near future. CBC news recently shared a long-term initiative of our unit on the development of a comprehensive nīhithaw syllabic dictionary which expands on the wordlist.

We also received an Aboriginal Languages Initiatives Grant from Canadian Heritage to develop a series of short videos featuring the nihithaw language and asiniskaw īthiniwak culture across the six seasons of the Rocky Cree. Learning Bird, a company which has developed similar resources with other Indigenous communities across Canada, is working with the CLRU knowledge keepers to develop these videos. Videographers came to record a series of videos in October featuring activities carried out during takwakin (fall). As part of this grant, we are also developing content for nīhithaw language lessons to be broadcast on NCN radio featuring basic vocabulary and simple conversation.

Our efforts to improve wawanaskwin – land-based education across NNCEA schools are well underway with the construction of our land-based education building outside of Nelson House. This facility will enable our students and educators to engage in wawanaskwin activities with knowledge keepers and community members throughout the six seasons of the Rocky Cree. To support these



Coordinator William Dumas conducting a workshop with wordlist.



Teacher Cultural Orientation.

activities as well as other community land-based programs, our team has developed a scope and sequence document



Language Keepers Gathering in Saskatoon.

for all grade levels in partnership with NCN Community and Family Wellness Centre that will be available in the new

year. In addition, we are currently writing a wawanaskiwin senior years curriculum guide to support educators at our high school.

In November, the CLRU attended the Language Keepers Gathering hosted by the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Over 700 people from around the world attended this gathering that highlighted how Indigenous groups use innovative language learning methodologies to promote their language and culture.

Our unit is also involved in partnerships with other organizations on consultation and translation work to enhance knowledge, policies and programming based on nisicawayasi nīhithawak values and teachings

because of our strong knowledge base. Outcomes of this work benefit NNCEA by creating materials and content featuring language and culture that we can use in the schools. Our translation work on the digital app featuring "Pīsim finds her Miskanow" with the University of Winnipeg was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press in early November. Overall, we are proud of what our unit has accomplished so far and look forward to another productive year.





### New Program Helps NCN Citizens Land Jobs

People who aren't employed sometimes need a guide to lead them into their future. The Pre-employment Supports Program is designed to do that for NCN Citizens who are on Income Assistance.

"We help people determine what their strengths are, what kind of job they would like to have, and then we figure out how to get them on that path," says Teresa Linklater.

Linklater coordinates the program with Marilyn Spence through the Government Office. She says the program currently has space for 50 people, between the ages of 18 and 64, who are on Income Assistance.

Once you're accepted into the program, you'll be assigned a case manager who will help with your resume, networking and anything else you need to find a job that suits your goals and lifestyle.

"The longer you stay on Income Assistance, the harder it can be to find a job, because you start to lose your confidence," says Linklater.

### Footprint Lake Water Levels

#### Footprint Lake 14-Day Water Level Forecast

Revised Forecast as of November 19, 2019

On November 19, 2019 the level of Footprint Lake was at an elevation of 798.0 feet. The level of the lake is expected to rise 1.2 inches to an elevation of 798.1 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. "We know there are jobs available in our community, and we know there are great workers here, too. Our job is to match them up!"

NFFD A

Interested in the Pre-employment Supports Program? Call the Government Office at 204-484-2332. Start your future today!

### WE CAN HELP

The Pre-employment Supports Program is a free service that helps you find a job that works for you.

#### We can help with:

Resume writing
Practice interviews
Job shadowing
Life skills training
Transportation
Child care

If you are currently on Income Assistance, and between the ages of 18-64, call us!

Government Office: **204-484-2332** Teresa Linklater, ext. 125 Marilyn Spence, ext. 122



#### 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.





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

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