

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2023

Nisichawayasi ᓂᑭᓴᓴᓐᓴᓐ ᓂᑭᓴᓴᓐᓴᓐ  
Achimowina

# Celebrating the Holidays with NCN Chief and Council

Citizens gathered to meet and greet newly elected Chief Angela Levasseur and her Council at Christmas dinners in NCN, Thompson and Winnipeg on the 19th, 20th and 22th of December.

Everyone enjoyed a feast, jigging and even a visit from Santa. People also had the opportunity to fill out surveys, to share their thoughts and recommendations for making NCN an even better place to raise families and make dreams come true!

On the last day of the year, Chief and Council invited everyone to a New Year's Eve celebration.

The festivities started at 4 pm with a skating party at Gilbert McDonald Arena. The music was popping, and



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contests, snacks and prizes. The party moved to the Multiplex at 8 pm for music, dancing and you guess it, more prizes!

Fireworks finished off the night and promised a great new year to come.



## Chief and Council



**Back (L to R): Kim Linklater, Vice-Chief Marcel Moody, Jeremiah Spence, Ron D. Spence.**  
**Front: Shirley Linklater, Chief Angela Levasseur, Cheryl Moore.**











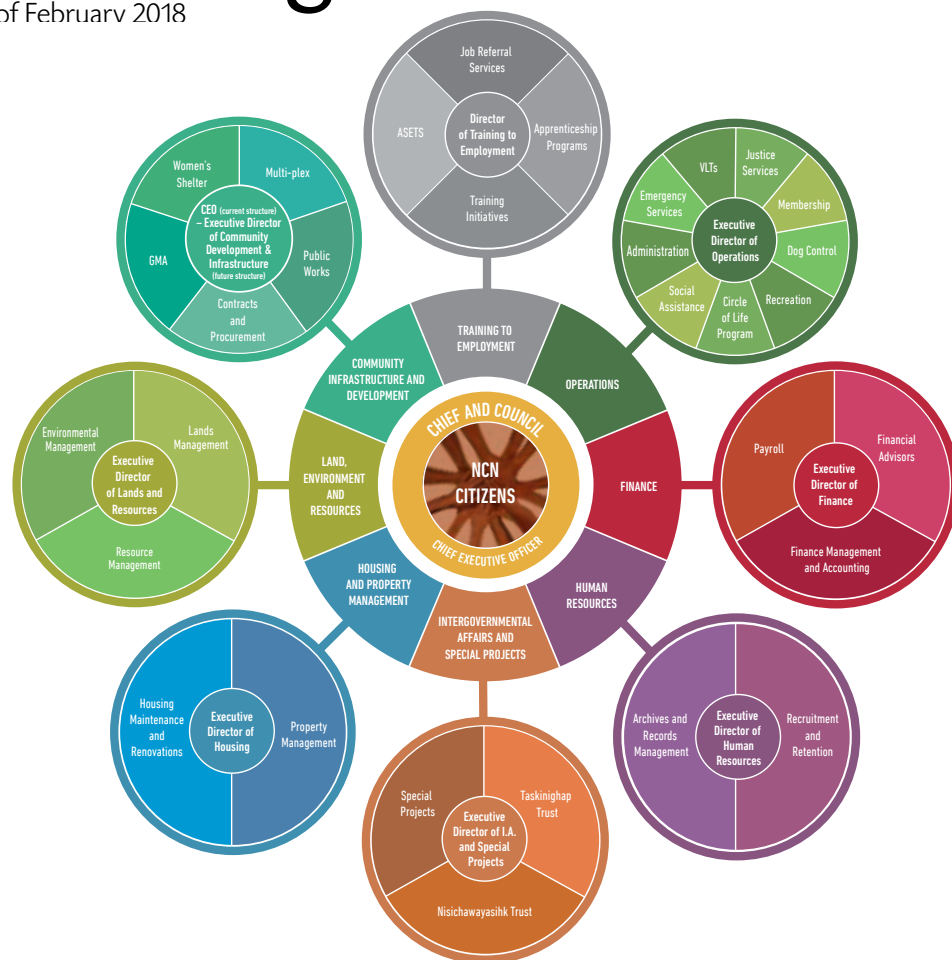








As of February 2018



# A New Celebration for Ribbon Skirts

This January 4th was Canada's first National Ribbon Skirt Day.

Indigenous people were encouraged to wear their ribbon skirts to celebrate the culture, strength and connection of First Nations across the country.

In Winnipeg, dozens of people gathered at Polo Park Shopping Centre to celebrate with their aunts and cousins. They shared stories, participated in a round dance, and honoured their ancestors in a sea of swirling, cheerful ribbon skirts.

Many boys and men were in attendance, too, proudly wearing their ribbon shirts.

National Ribbon Skirt Day has recently been acknowledged by the federal government thanks to Senator Mary Jane McCallum, from Manitoba, who put forward Bill S-219. She has said that the bill was important because of the experience of Isabella Kulak.

Kulak, from the Cote First Nation east of Regina, wore her ribbon skirt to a formal school event when she was 10 years old. A staff member told her that her outfit wasn't formal enough, not understanding the significance of her ribbon skirt.

On January 4th, Kulak, who is now in grade 7, said, "Honour this day. I'm really excited."

Ribbon skirts are a symbol of identity and resilience for Indigenous women of many Nations. They are a tradition that has evolved over centuries, incorporating design and materials from many different traditions.

The skirts are made of colourful material, with brightly coloured ribbons sewn on. Each colour may have a special significance to the wearer, and often symbolizes specific causes, such as red for missing and murdered Indigenous girls and women.

Most people save ribbon skirts for sacred ceremonies, such as sweatlodge and powwows. After so many years of oppression, the ribbon skirt is a joyous way for Indigenous people to reclaim our culture.

"I invite everyone to learn from indigenous Peoples about their cultures and histories—from languages to traditional ceremonies and regalia to ancestral ties to the land," said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on National Ribbon Skirt Day.

A Message from the NCN Housing Department

# WINTER IS HERE

*Some tips for your home.*

The winter cold can be hard on our homes. Be sure to winterize your home to keep you safe and to reduce costly repairs. These simple maintenance tips are quick and easy do-it-yourself essentials:

## CHECK YOUR HEATING SYSTEM

- ❖ **Replace the Furnace Filter** – Make sure it is clean or new
- ❖ **Make sure all heat vents are clear of debris and dust** – Remove objects on or near vents and have ducts cleaned or vacuumed
- ❖ **Clear around Furnace** – For safety, clear a five foot area around your furnace
- ❖ **Clean chimney** – Make sure furnace exhaust is clean
- ❖ **Keep Safe Space around Wood Stoves** – Makes sure flammable like wood, paper, fabric and other combustibles are far from the stove. Remove ashes immediately.
- ❖ **Check Alarms** – Check your smoke detector and batteries are working

A close-up photograph showing a person's hand holding a white, rectangular furnace filter. The filter has a black grid pattern. The hand is positioned to insert or clean the filter, which is being held near a dark, possibly metal, furnace unit.

## INSULATE WINDOWS, DOORS AND CRACKS

- ❖ **Check all windows and doors for drafts** – Use weather stripping and door snakes
- ❖ **Add plastic weather film barrier to inside of windows** – Plastic window weather kits and bubble wrap on the interior of window can save plenty of heat, adhered with 2-sided tape all the way around to seal all window drafts
- ❖ **Hang thick drapes or curtains** – Curtains can insulate windows
- ❖ **Caulk Cracks** – Insulated sprayfoam for larger gaps in foundation and walls, or caulking for smaller cracks will prevent heat loss. Find all drafts and fill them.

A photograph showing a person's hands using a red and white caulk gun to apply sealant into a gap in a white door frame. The person is wearing a brown jacket. The background is slightly blurred, showing an indoor setting.

A photograph showing a person's hands installing a door sweep. The person is using a screwdriver to secure the sweep into a slot in the bottom of a dark wooden door. The floor is visible in the background.

### Install new

**Door Sweeps** – A door sweep along the bottom of an exterior door can block out cold air. Ensure exterior doors close and latch properly.

For more information please contact William Linklater

Email: [williamlinklater@ncncree.com](mailto:williamlinklater@ncncree.com)

The logo of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. It features a stylized black and white profile of a person's head facing left, enclosed within a red circle. To the right of the circle are three horizontal red lines.

NISICHAWAYASIHK

CREE NATION

The logo of the Nisichawayasihk Housing Authority. It features a stylized illustration of a person's head and shoulders, facing left, with a feather in their hair. The person is wearing a traditional garment. Below the illustration are three horizontal black lines.

NISICHAWAYASIHK  
HOUSING AUTHORITY

A stylized illustration of a house. The house has a red roof with a white chimney on the left side. The main body of the house is light blue. There is a white window on the right side. The house is set against a background of stylized yellow and orange flames or smoke rising from the right side.



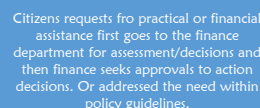
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Adapted from the NNCEA niscawayasihk asiniskaw īthiniwak ītwiwīna (NNCEA Rocky Cree Wordlist)

CIPŌHKWAN (Parka)	PIPONASKISINA (Winter boots)	PIPON ASTŌTIN (Winter hat)	MITĀSIYAPI ASTISAK (Woolen mitts)	KISKIPITONI ASĀKAY (Vest)	MISKOTAKAY (Dress)
MIKISA SAKAY (Beaded jacket)	PĪHTAWISIKANAK (Boot felts)	MITĀSIYĀPI ASTOTIN (Toque)	MITĀSIYAPI ASIKANAK (Woolen socks)	PĪHTAWĪSKIKAN (T-shirt)	MISPISKWAN (Blouse)
PIPONASAKAY (Winter jacket)	ĪTHINTWASKISIN (Moccasin)	ĀHTAYI ASTOTIN (Fur hat)	KISOWĀHPISON (Winter scarf)	MITĀSIYAPIWAYAN (Sweater)	AKWANAHONAN (Shawl)
AKWIHTAWĪTASAN (Ski pants)	TAPĀWASKISIN (Moccasin slipper)	KISŌHTIHONA (Ear muffs)	KISOWĪKWAYĀPISON (Neck warmer)	MISIWITĀS (Coveralls)	ISKWIYITAS (Woman's pants)
PĪHTAWITĀSAN (Underwear)	SIPIKASKISINA (Rubbers [footwear])	PIPONASTISAK (Mittens)	PIPONITHITHIKASTISAK (Winter gloves)	APAHKWĀSONĪ MITĀS (Jeans)	ĀHTI ASAKIY (Fur jacket)
PIPONASIKANAK (Winter socks)	MIKISASKISINA (Beaded mukluks)	MIKISASTISAK (Beaded gloves			



- My need is practical or financial assistance



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graph TD
    Citizen[Citizen] --> Intergovernmental[Intergovernmental (Joyce Yetman)]
    Citizen --> HumanResources[Human Resources (Nora Thomas)]
    Citizen --> Justice[Justice & public Safety (Wayne Spence)]
    Citizen --> Operations[Operations (Leonard Linklater)]
    Intergovernmental --> CEO[CEO]
    Intergovernmental --> Chief[Chief & Council]
    Intergovernmental --> Citizens[Citizens]
    HumanResources --> CEO
    HumanResources --> Chief
    HumanResources --> Citizens
    Justice --> CEO
    Justice --> Chief
    Justice --> Citizens
    Operations --> CEO
    Operations --> Chief
    Operations --> Citizens
  
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**Citizen**

- Intergovernmental** (Joyce Yetman)
  - Trusts (CAPCIP)
  - Law Development
  - AOL
- Human Resources** (Nora Thomas)
- Justice & public Safety** (Wayne Spence)
  - FNSO
  - Community Patrol
  - NisiCourt
  - Peace Keeper Tribunal
- Operations** (Leonard Linklater)
  - Lands (Gord Dumas)
  - Parks & Recreation (Lou Moodie)
  - Public Works (Greg Tays)
  - Women Shelter (Stephanie Cullen)
  - CFS (Debbie Francios)
  - Public Health (Lynda Wright)
  - HRDA (Mandy Spence)
  - ATEC (Jim Moore)
  - Language & Culture (Elvis Thomas)
  - Arena (James Warren)
  - Finance (Crystal Linklater)
  - Multiplex (Trevor Linklater)
  - Bereavement (Myrna Dumas)
  - Social Assistance (Marilyn Spence)
  - Medical Receiving Home (Kennedy Braun)
  - Administration

**Organizations/Boards/Committees**

- FWCW (Felix Walker)
- NNCEA (Gail Gossfeld-McDonald)
- Housing (Eleanor Brockington)
- Medicine Lodge (Marilyn Linklater)
- Economic Development (David Kobliiski)
- Mystery Lake Hotel (Bruce Hickey)
- NCN Thompson Bus lines (Sid)

**CEO**

**Chief & Council**

**Citizens**



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY  
Wellness Centre™

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# News from NNCEA Director of Education for January–February 2023



Tanisi nitotimak! Prior to the Christmas break, the NNCEA had their annual Staff Christmas dinner on Dec. 15th, 2022 at the NLMM which was much appreciated and well received. Cheers to a Happy New Year 2023! Christmas break is now over and we are all back. Weather during the break was super mild and super pleasant. Covid has not disappeared and precautions are still advised. It's a relief to have limited closures now.

## School Board Operations

- Regular NNCEA School Board Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month (except in Dec. and July) at 5 p.m. at AMEC. We have lots of seating and community member are welcome to attend!
- The next regular NNCEA School Board will be held on Tuesday, January 31st, 2023 at the AMEC at 5 p.m. Please join us.
- This past year, much effort has been devoted and is being devoted to creating a draft of a NCN Education Law. So far, the following are on the team: Councillor R. D. Spence, J. Yetman, Elder Wm A. Spence, NNCEA Chair W. Bunn, C. Linklater (PSE Counsellor), E. Thomas, Lawyer V. Matthews-Lemieux and your NNCEA Director. Once a draft is finalized by NCN Chief and Council, the community will be informed/consulted.
- Revision of NNCEA policies continues. Policies haven't been updated since 2011.
- School evaluation recommendations are still a work in progress.
- Contract negotiations between the NNCEA and NHTA are still outstanding and should be settled soon.
- Unofficial nominal roll count for 2022-23 funding purposes totaled 861 (476 at OK and 385 at NNOC). Once Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) reviews the Nominal Roll info, they will inform us of the official NNCEA count.

- The issue with the Manitoba Health and Tax Levy should be resolved soon.

## Personnel Management

- NNCEA also welcomed Myrna Spence as the new HR Assistant and along with a host of other new staff!
- NNCEA's Nic Campbell is now a certified Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Trainer. In the fall, sessions were held with staff.
- This past year, due to a teacher shortage nation-wide, the recruitment of teachers has been an unexpected challenge! We still need an Industrial Arts/Automotive teacher!
- NNCEA/NHTA Liaison Committee meetings are held regularly.

## Education Programs and Curriculum

- Work at the Culture Camp continues. The main building is now done and has temporary power! Permanent power should be hooked up in near future. Construction on the six cabins is progressing well. Once construction is finished and the site is safer, land-based activities can happen. A grand opening for the NNCEA Culture Camp is on the horizon too.
- Work on a Culture Camp Safety Protocol and Cultural Practices Protocol will be developed too.
- The high school is not totally ready yet. The Industrial Arts area and the signage package need completion. A

grand opening of the new school was held on October 18th, 2022 and it was a huge success.

- Due to the effects of so much absenteeism with Covid, MB Education is revisiting the Early Developmental Instrument (EDI) and wants it administered in Feb/March 2023 in all MB schools. The EDI measures what incoming skills young ones possess.

## Finance and Budget

- The NNCEA budget for 2022-23 balanced and was approved by NCN Treasury Board. NNCEA's budget is now \$22,129,042.00. Lots of money with lots of expenditures!
- The revised surplus spending plan for NNCEA

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was approved by NCN  
Chief and Council.

- NNCEA Finance meetings are held at noon on the Monday prior to the evening Board meeting on the last Tuesday of the month.
- Budget preparations for 2023-24 will commence shortly and is usually finalized by the end of April if not sooner.
- Thanks to ISC and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), a proposal submitted by Sr. Administration for \$300k was approved for a community based teacher training program for next fall. Implementation plans will start soon.

## Public Relations and Community Involvement

-  NNCEA continues to tap into TFC's teacher database whenever we can to recruit more top notch teachers. There's four rounds when the teacher database opens: March, April, May and June until all are matched. NNCEA will continue to use this valuable teacher pool! The Knowledge Exchange happens in May. An Advisory Council session and a Meet the Teachers who've been hired is usually held in July via Zoom. New recruits usually participate in the Summer Enrichment Program that TFC hosts.
-  Two teacher development workers visited NCN/NNCEA in early December 2022. Their visit was well overdue and well

received. Thanks to the new NCN Chief and Council for hosting a noon hour luncheon for them!

- The final report of the research project on The Next 40 Years of FNC of Education at Nisichawayasihk, 2021-2061 from TFC has not yet been received.

## Student Services

- Craig Linklater is now the Post-Secondary Administrator/ Counsellor for the South. As of September 2022, Pipon Moose is NNCEA's PSE Counsellor for the North. Welcome to NNCEA Pipon!
- Besides the Winnipeg sub-office, NNCEA has another sub-office at North Centre Mall in Thompson as of Sept. 2022!
- A PSE Committee meeting will be held on January 18 and 19th, 2023 to discuss general business, tentative grads and other matters.
- Good news! The Attendance Improvement Officer has relayed that student attendance for our schools is not 100% but is improving. This pace needs to continue. Thanks to all parents/caregivers for ensuring your child(ren) attend regularly.

## Information Communications and Technology (ICT)

- The Assistant Director of Education and Network Administrator are working on revising the NNCEA web page. So, in the near future our NNCEA web page will be updated and much improved.

## Facilities

- The NNCEA records and storage room in the lower level of AMEC is now organized with limited access to authorized personnel. Another school evaluation recommendation that is completed.
- NNCEA has not forgotten that a bigger bus garage is needed to house all NNCEA buses.

## Transportation

- FYI: During break times, NNCEA buses get serviced.
- A 10 bay bus garage is needed.

## Professional Development


- NNCEA staff (all teams) needs assessment of PD needs has to occur: UDL; Cultural Competency, Computers, Lateral Violence, First Aid/CPR, D2L, etc.
- NNCEA Administration, teachers and EA's need to tap into free sessions of interest on-line when they can.

## General Comments

- Our Guidance Counsellors are available. If supports are needed, help is a phone call away. For NNOC gr. 7-12 students and families, they may call Sherene White at 431-354-0408 for OK students and families, N-gr. 6, Patrick Miller can be reached at 204-679-3803 and Susan Kobliski is available for all students at 431-354-1099.
- FYI: Two granite statues carved by 70 year old artisan, Stewart Steinhauser, from Saddle Lake, Alberta were


erected at NNOC on September 28th, 2022 in the afternoon. These statues (one of a bear and the other of a mother holding her child close) were gifted to NNCEA. They were gifted to NNCEA as a permanent reminder/symbol to remember and never forget the impact of residential schools, all residential school survivors and all the little ones who never returned home and those who were sent to sanatoriums. Never again should NCN/NNCEA allow the horrors of residential schooling to happen in our First Nations education system! The initiative was spearheaded by Felix and Jackie Walker and the Residential Schools Committee with a generous donation from the FCWC and other entities like CAP/CIP, the NNCEA and others. It was a powerful and emotional experience to witness the statues being erected on the front lawn of our new high school! NNCEA thanks all those who made this project possible!

- Wellness wishes to all those who are having issues with their health, take care and hoping for your speedy recovery.
- Sincere condolences to all our families who've lost loved ones in the past while, we know it is not easy!
- Special thoughts/prayers for those who are alone/troubled, unemployed, homeless and may have relatives or roots in Ukraine.
- A big thank you to all our staff, parents/caregivers/grandparents, leaders and community for making education a priority!



Nisichawayosin Cree Nation  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY  
Wellness Centre

# Monkeypox Vaccine



**Monkeypox is a viral infection with symptoms similar to smallpox.**

Symptoms include: fever, headache, muscle & back ache, chills, exhaustion, and swollen lymph nodes.

Several days later, a rash or lesions (blister/pus) may appear.

**PROTECT YOURSELF  
WITH THE  
MONKEYPOX  
VACCINE**

**Talk to your public  
health nurse  
for more info.  
204-484-2341**

**Current eligibility criteria are:**

- Cisgenders, transgender or two-spirit people who self-identify as belonging to the gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) community and who meet at least one of the following criteria:
  - Have received a diagnosis of a sexually transmitted infection in the past six months.
  - Have had two or more sexual partners in the last 90 days.
  - Have attended locations for sexual contact (e.g. bath houses or sex clubs) or are planning to.
  - Have has anonymous sex in the past 90 days (i.e. using apps, online sites, formal/informal gatherings) or are planning to.
  - Engaged in sex work or plan to, as a workers or client; or
  - Any sexual contacts of the individual described above.



# Looking Back at 2022 What a Year! NCN Stories That Made Headlines in 2022

Though the COVID pandemic continues, over the last year Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation began to resume normal activities, with sports, celebrations and advancements throughout the community.

Here are a few highlights that got Citizens excited!

## First Female Chief Elected in NCN

In a historic win, Angela Levasseur was named NCN's new chief at the end of August. She has said she was inspired to run after female Elders encouraged her to do so, and she reminded us of the matriarchal and matrilineal history of NCN. At her inauguration ceremony, she called housing one of her first priorities, as well as education and training, reconciliation and self-sufficiency. Former Chief Marcel Moody became Deputy Chief and councillors Jeremiah Spence, Cheryl Moore and Ron D. Spence were re-elected. Shirley Linklater and Kim Linklater are newly elected councillors.



## NCN Named Community of the Year

The Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO) acknowledged NCN at a ceremony at Whitecap Dakota First Nation, SK, in May. It highlighted NCN's Otohewin gas bar, grocery stores, hotel, and the Wuskwatim Project. David Kobliski, from the Nelson House Development Corporation, accepted the award for NCN and said it would give our community recognition across the country. Kobliski reminded us that 25 years ago, NCN was on the verge of third-party management. Just a few decades later, we have been recognized for our



economic initiatives and sustainable self-sufficiency. He said the achievements of NCN are thanks to our leadership and our Citizens.

## NCN State of Emergency Comes to an End

Just before Spring Break in March, Premier Heather Stefanson announced that all provincial COVID restrictions were over. Chief Moody and Council ended the state of emergency that had been in place for a full two years, acknowledging it was time to step into the next phase of the pandemic, while reminding Citizens that certain measures were still a necessity in NCN. At that time, NCN was gaining control of the large outbreak that had started in late December 2021 and had led to a full, complete lockdown in January. The community continues to care for one another by staying at home when sick, wearing masks in public, and an incredible vaccination rate. Way to go, NCN!



## Federal Minister Visits NCN

In November, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller came to NCN. He visited the new water treatment plant and the new NNOC, and discussed the need for a new elementary school with NNCEA director Gail Gossfeld-McDonald. Deputy Chief Marcel Moody talked about the need for financial support for future development and infrastructure, such as the urgently needed Health Centre. Elder Andrew Wood mentioned the need for a local dialysis centre, while Housing Board member Carol Kobliski outlined the housing crisis. Councillor Cheryl Moore explained that our traditional territory must be respected and pointed to Vale revenue that NCN does not see benefit from. Chief and Council believe it was a successful visit.



## Ancestors' Remains Return Home

On July 18, a delegation left Winnipeg to repatriate the remains of NCN ancestors, after a transfer of custody, lighting of the sacred fire, pipe ceremony and song. Citizens met the remains at the Junction to form a vehicle procession. There was a sweat ceremony, sunset pipe ceremony, stories and drums, and a Chicken Dance and teachings. After the burial, everyone gathered for a feast. Eva Linklater was presented with a star blanket to acknowledge her hard work in bringing home these ancestors, who had been disinterred by the flooding and shoreline erosion of the Churchill River Diversion.



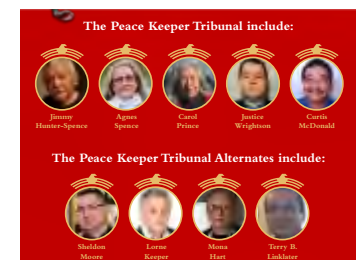
## Powwow and Summer Festival Enjoyed by All

NCN Citizens and friends and family from near and far gathered at the end of August for the annual powwow. Dance categories included Fancy Shawl, Jingle, Traditional and Golden Age for women, and Fancy Bustle, Grass, Chicken and Traditional and Golden Age for men.



At the Summer Festival, Citizens rocked out with classic band Trooper, and cheered on the canoe races, marathons, chili cook-offs, dancing, jigging and more!

## New Peacekeeping Initiatives for NCN



No longer waiting for other levels of government and taking matters into their own hands, Chief Moody and Council announced new projects that implement recommendations from the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. They include the NCN Community Protection Law, the Nisi Court, Peace Making Programs, and the Peacekeepers Tribunal, which includes Jimmy Hunter Spence, Carol Prince, Agnes Spence, Curtis McDonald and Justice Linklater. Justice portfolio councillor Jackie Walker said the initiatives would ensure safety of NCN Citizens in the future.

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## Sundance Is A Powerful Journey



In July, a sundance was held at Mile 35. Participants danced for four days without food or water under a beautiful hot sun. The Sundance requires a lot of preparation and teachings because of the dangers that can arise from such physical exertion. Dancers offered tobacco and cloth to receive their spirit names. Medicine people supported with spiritual healing and vision interpretation. Jackie Walker, one of the organizers, reminded everyone that the Creator gave many gifts to people, including sacred ceremonies, and that they offer the power to heal bodies, minds and spirits.

## **NNCEA Celebrates Milestone at AGM**

The Nisichawayasi Nehetho Culture and Education Authority celebrated 40 years of First Nations control of education in NCN by looking forward to the next 40 years. At its AGM in August, attendees enjoyed a Grand Entry, prizes and a barbeque while hearing about the goals and aspirations for the next four decades of self-determined education in Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.

## Elders Attend Sacred Memorial Ceremony

In June, the Agnes M. Spence family travelled to Red Deer, Alberta, to attend a ceremony at the grave site for students from the residential Red Deer

Industrial School. Spence's grandfather's siblings, Issac and Sadie Bonner, are buried there. With other distant cousins able to join them, it was an emotional reunion. Having Nisichawayasihk Elders and Pipe Carriers at the ceremony was especially meaningful and a blessing.

## MKO Cup Event Celebrates Sports

After almost three years of the pandemic, a joint effort from NCN and MKO brought together young people for sports and fellowship. Former Chief Moody said the pandemic had slowed progress for Indigenous communities and kids, many of whom were struggling with mental wellness. Sharing supports, resources and ideas among communities while youth enjoyed some healthy competition was a great way to spend an extended weekend in April. There were hockey, volleyball and basketball tournaments, a gala and talent show, monster bingo, Texas Hold'Em, and games and prizes for all.

## FCWC Hosts its AGM Online

Due to rising COVID cases in the community in November, the Family and Community Wellness Centre cancelled its popular evening event and invited people to join them online. CEO Felix Walker outlined highlights such as the return of family retreats and parenting sessions and the re-opening of the Fitness Centre. Department managers talked about challenges such as rising gas costs, and increased addiction, violence and mental health issues because of pandemic stresses.



## NCN Infrastructure Projects

After years of delays due to government funding and then the pandemic, our community finally celebrated some incredible infrastructure successes! NNOC held a grand opening celebration in October and spirits were high. We have secure, consistent water, thanks to the new water treatment plant near Industrial Road and Otetiskawin Drive. Many areas of NCN were upgraded to paved roads over the summer, which improve traffic flow and safety, and make it easier to maintain vehicles. Thanks to \$11 million in federal funding, work continues on the new subdivision, which will eventually include 75 new homes.



## Two New FCWC Films Celebrate NCN

The Family and Community Wellness Centre introduced two short documentaries about life in NCN. One film features a group of NCN men at John Wood's camp at Baldock Lake, smoking fish, trapping rabbits and harvesting chaga. It includes beautiful time lapse video and



drone shots. The second film shows locals exploring our culture. Xena Spence shows her costuming talents, Thomas Moore teaches youth to stretch a moose hide, and Elder Agnes Spence explains that becoming comfortable with our traditional ways is essential. Watch the films at [ncnwellness.ca](http://ncnwellness.ca) or on the FCWC page on Facebook.

## NCN Mourns the Passing of D'Arcy Linklater

On August 9, NCN Elder, Knowledge Keeper and member of the Wapiski Mahekun Clan, D'Arcy Linklater passed away. He was one of NCN's longest serving leaders and was instrumental in many community initiatives over the last two decades. His wisdom was helpful in everything from taking control of our education and election processes; retaining our Nehetho culture, language and ceremonies; consultation protocols for resources development; and outlining our land code and constitution. He fought tirelessly for our beliefs, knowledge and ceremonies to be treated with respect, and he was a great teacher. Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation is grateful for his leadership and his spirit.

## CFO Hart Retires

After more than 40 years serving NCN, Yvonne Hart retired. She began working for the Nation in 1981 in the Social Services department, and worked her way up to Chief Financial Officer. She had worked under Chiefs Linklater, Primrose, Moore and Moody. She enjoyed a retirement social where many colleagues, friends and family shared memories and celebrated late into the night.



## Citizen Awarded for MMIWG Work

Hilda Anderson-Pyrz receives the Empower Women Award for her tireless advocacy work on behalf of MMIWG and 2SLGBTQIA+. Families Minister Rochelle Squires presented the award, and said Anderson-Pyrz demonstrates what is possible when we work collectively, and all play our roles in the journey towards truth and reconciliation. Anderson-Pyrz established the MKO Liasion Unit for MMIWG and was its director for five years, and is now chair of the National Family Survivors Circle.



## Citizen's Acting Career Gaining Speed

Marylou Mintram lived in NCN until she was nine years old. She eventually entered film school in Toronto, and has appeared in the popular show *Outlander*. In 2021, Mintram produced the educational program for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to celebrate the first federal holiday on September 30th, which more than 1.1 million people across the country participated in live.





# Housing Strategy Report 2020-2025

## Executive Summary

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation has taken extensive steps in working towards long-term and sustainable housing with due consideration to land, infrastructure, population, and financial factors.

In 2015, Chief and Council established strategic targets for Housing and Infrastructure as a means of achieving a high standard of living for NCN Citizens. Further to this, the Chief and Council commissioned the development of the Community Master Plan in 2018, which provides Road Map for Community Development.

Over the past two years, NCN Chief and Council have initiated the implementation of the Land Code to support Home Ownership, initiated plans for surveying of community lots and have secured government funding to build a new Water Treatment Plant to sustain ongoing community development. These steps have set the foundation for NCN to achieve a goal of 250 homes in 5 Years.

Achieving this goal will require extensive collaboration amongst all government departments including Lands, Environment, and Resources (LER), NCN Housing Authority, ATEC, Pewapun, O.K. School, NNOC, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and the Government Administration. It will also require accessing support and resources from external partners and initiatives such as CMHC and First Nations Market Housing Fund.

UN Special  
Rapporteur on  
Housing, statement  
October 4, 2005:  
“... the human right  
to adequate housing  
is the right of every  
woman, man, youth  
and child to gain and  
sustain a safe and  
secure home and  
community in which  
to live in peace and  
dignity ...”

Through research, community discussions, and Housing Forums, the NCN Chief and Council have clearly defined the need and priority for housing in NCN. It remains a top priority for the current leadership. This Housing Strategy presents a high-level approach of how we will work together to take action.

Together, we will assert our sovereignty by taking responsibility to provide safe and secure homes for all NCN Citizens to live in peace and with dignity.

## Introduction

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation has taken extensive steps in working towards long-term and sustainable housing with due consideration to land, infrastructure, population, and financial factors.

In 2015, the Chief and Council endorsed a Strategic Plan which highlighted the following goals and objectives:

**Strategy 5: Targeting Housing and Water System Crisis with Steps Toward Immediate Action as part of Goal 1: Improving our Standard of Living:**

- A) Improve home maintenance – Use PDA Supplement 2 monies and our ability to forward commit under Taskinighap Trust to renovate houses;
- C) Educate members about housing shortage and work jointly with ATEC to encourage Citizens to train to build and maintain houses;
- F) Refine strategies to construct new homes – we want to build new housing units over the next several years using our ability to forward commit under Taskinighap Trust. First Nations home ownership funding and other sources of funding such as CMHC housing may be obtained. We will also need to pass and implement our own laws to help achieve this goal;
- K) Clarify and develop a mandate for public works, NCN Construction LP and the Housing Authority;
- L) Ensure new houses and renovations of existing houses are

completed to national standards/code; and  
N) Address challenges of getting insurance for houses.

Further to this, the Chief and Council commissioned the development of the Community Master Plan in 2018, which provides Road Map for Community Development.

## Community Need

Using the population projection, the housing shortfall can be calculated for the next 20 years.

To reduce housing density to the recommended value, the required number of new houses required annually is calculated.

## Housing Inventory

According to the Asset Conditioning Report from 2011 there are 451 housing units in NCN. Based on an infill analysis completed in 2018, there are now 430 existing homes in the community. Using a 2018 population of 3128 residents, the housing density equates to 7.2 residents per housing unit.

Continued on page 14





***"Progressive,  
Innovative and  
Sustainable Housing  
for every family;  
providing a safe and  
beautiful environment  
to live and grow."***

The recommended goal for housing density for the community is 4.5 residents per housing unit. This will prevent overcrowding and ensure that homes last for longer periods. This Strategic Plan will consider density as an important factor in working towards the strategic housing goals for the next 5 years.

Using the growth rate of 1.20%, population projections were estimated



for the next 20 years. Based on these projections, the Chief and Council estimated the Required Housing Needs for NCN over the next 20 years. This provides the big picture of what we need to build at the very minimum.

### Table 1 – Housing Required based on Population Growth

Housing					
Year	Pop.	Expected	Required	Shortfall	Density
2018	3128	430	687	257	7.2
2023	3314	556	736	180	6.0
2028	3501	661	778	117	5.3
2033	3687	766	819	53	4.8
2038	3873	871	861	0	4.4

## Required Housing

Based on the research that has been completed, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation has a shortfall of 257 housing units as of 2018. In order to reduce the housing density to the recommended 4.5 residents per housing within 20 years, 431 homes will need to be built.

This equates to about 110 new homes required every 5-year period at a minimum in order to reach the goal housing density by 2038. However, we know that many NCN Citizens would like to build or purchase their own homes. We believe that we can build 250 homes in 5 years with a combination of rental units, rent-to-own homes, and privately-owned homes.

There are currently 430 existing homes within the community. There is also space for approximately 78 infill lots. However, with 250 new homes in 5 years, the 78 infill lots are not enough to support the growth of the community. Of the 431 homes accounted and the 78 infill lots available, 172 new lots will be required within the next 5 Years.

## Land Requirements

The lot sizes for the 250 new homes is recommended to be 100 ft x 200 ft, similar to the typical lot size in R.C. Point. This is the lot size assumed for detached single family homes. This size of lot is adequate for most residential

trailers as the dimensions will accommodate a double-wide unit with dimensions of 30 ft x 80 ft.

In addition to these typical lot sizes, a new sub-division plan will consist of other sized lots such as high and medium density apartments, 6-plex and 8-plex units, and family pods.

The preliminary plan requires a gross area of 356.2 acres of development area to accommodate On-Reserve residential development over the next 20 years.

## Vision

The NHA Board holds a vision of NCN as a modern residential community. Affordable good quality homes will be available on a rental basis for all NCN residents. There will be opportunities for NCN members to buy their own homes located on land leased from NCN.

All homes will be built in accordance with National Building Code standards. The overall environment will enhance the value of homes. Streets will be paved and well lit and kept clean through civic support and individual efforts. Home standards will be maintained through an active NHA program of home inspections, repairs and renovations.

Individuals will assume increasing responsibility for the care and maintenance of their homes so that the life span of houses can be expanded. All rental units will be occupied under Tenancy Agreements and rental fees will be collected on a regular basis. Provisions will be made to meet the housing needs of Elders and handicapped NCN members.

The NCN community will establish a reputation for having quality, affordable, energy-efficient homes and for taking pride in the appearance and upkeep of their homes and property.

## Mission

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Housing Authority will empower all NCN Citizens to take responsibility and ownership of their homes; and ultimately their community by:

- Operating an Efficient Housing Administration for the benefit of all NCN Citizens
- Developing, enforcing, and evaluating Property Management and Home Maintenance policies designed to empower NCN tenants and their families;
- Implementing a Universal Rent Regime that is fair and establishes a housing market for NCN;
- Implementing a Home Ownership Program that provides sustainable options that will lead to success for NCN Citizens;
- Leading collaboration with public services, lands management, economic development, and social services for the development, upkeep, and beautification of NCN; and
- Coordinating opportunities for capacity enhancement through education, and training for all tenants and community members.

## Core Values

The Core Values and Principles were derived from community







### Strategic Priority #3: Increase Home Ownership and Reduce Housing Density

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Establish Land Tenure (leasehold)
- Established Market Housing – Rent-to-Own and Mortgage
- Home Ownership Program
- Planning and completion of 250 New Builds

**Strategic Priority #4:  
Promote higher quality  
of life for NCN Citizens  
through Collaborative  
Community Beautification**

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Appealing yards and community spaces
- Tenant Incentive Program
- Animal and Pest Control

**Strategic Priority #5:  
Prioritize education and  
training for Housing  
Staff, related services,  
community education, and  
educational opportunities.**

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Certified Housing Manager
- Certified Landscapers

- Trained Housing Counsellors
- Minimum 2 Journeymen in all trades by 2022
- Reclaimed Responsibility for All Homes
- Health and Safety Training
- Youth Build

## Implementation – Starting Point

Key stakeholders from all NCN entities came together to prioritize key elements of the strategic plan. Each strategic goal and objective that was identified as the highest priority will serve as the starting point for implementation. These activities will be initiated and carried out within the next three months.

## Building Internal Capacity

- Board Governance Training – aligned with Regional Working Group
- Housing Management and Coordination – Recruitment of NCN Home Ownership Manager and Housing Inspectors
- Establish and maintain an Electronic Systems Reporting

## Working Together

- Establish partnership table with key stakeholders to build on collaborative strategies:
  - a. ATEC Training Centre – Youth Build
  - b. Pewapun Construction
  - c. Fine Option Program/Work Opportunity Program

## Effective Planning and Preparation

- Produce a 5 Year Plan for New Builds
- Education Strategy

## Preparing for Change – Look of Housing and Community

- Increased playgrounds- parks, rinks and benches
- Implement Waste Management Plan with garbage bins in areas and annual garbage pick-up schedule



Don't miss the next NCN  
Flames game! Upcoming  
schedule and stats below!

(as of January 4th, 2023)



## LEAGUE STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	D	OTL	PTS
Juniors	19	15	3	0	1	31
Flames	21	15	5	0	1	31
Storm	22	14	7	0	1	29
Selects	20	8	9	0	3	19
NorthStars	21	7	12	0	2	16
Islanders	21	3	18	0	0	6

## SCORING LEADERS

Player	Points
Chavez Constant	60
Henry Muchikekwanape	60
Albert Sinclair Jr.	58
Wilfred Mcleod	56
Harlan Jacobson	53
Keisten Saunders	50

## GOALIE LEADERS

Player	SV%
Odin Chruich	.907
Tyrese Bear	.898
Linden Gamblin	.896
Freddy Martin	.893
Braedin Melsted	.888
Logan Grenier	.875

## SCHEDULE

Time/Result	Date	Away	Home	Location
3:30 PM	Jan. 7, 2023 🕒 3:30 PM	Cross Lake Islanders	NCN Flames	C.A Nesbitt Arena
4:45 PM CST	Jan. 20, 2023 🕒 4:45 PM CST	Peguis Juniors	NCN Flames	Iceplex – Subway
9:15 AM CST	Jan. 21, 2023 🕒 9:15 AM CST	NCN Flames	OCN Storm	Iceplex – MB Building Trades
6:30 PM CST	Jan. 21, 2023 🕒 6:30 PM CST	NCN Flames	PBCN Selects	Iceplex – MB Building Trades
12:15 PM CST	Jan. 22, 2023 🕒 12:15 PM CST	Peguis Juniors	NCN Flames	Iceplex – ACU
8:00 PM	Feb. 4, 2023 🕒 8:00 PM	PBCN Selects	NCN Flames	C.A Nesbitt Arena
1:30 PM	Feb. 5, 2023 🕒 1:30 PM	PBCN Selects	NCN Flames	C.A Nesbitt Arena
7:30 PM	Feb. 8, 2023 🕒 7:30 PM	Cross Lake Islanders	NCN Flames	Gilbert McDonald Arena
7:30 PM	Feb. 11, 2023 🕒 7:30 PM	NCN Flames	Norway House North Stars	Norway House Kinosao Sipi Recreation Centre
7:30 PM	Feb. 14, 2023 🕒 7:30 PM	NCN Flames	OCN Storm	Gordon Lathlin Memorial Centre
7:30 PM	Feb. 16, 2023 🕒 7:30 PM	Norway House North Stars	NCN Flames	Gilbert McDonald Arena
7:30 PM	Feb. 18, 2023 🕒 7:30 PM	NCN Flames	Peguis Juniors	Peguis Multiplex
1:30 PM	Feb. 19, 2023 🕒 1:30 PM	NCN Flames	Peguis Juniors	Peguis Multiplex

For the full schedule and statistics, please visit <http://www.keystonejr.ca/>



# NCN Youth Earns Spot at National Junior Air Gun Competition in Truro, NS

Coming from a hunting family, it was important for Zerick Dysart-Waterman to learn firearm safety and how to correctly use a firearm. Zerick went out on many family hunting trips for ducks, geese, grouse and deer before he started using a firearm. Zerick got his Hunter Education Certificate in March 2020 and although he had taken the course and was taught about firearm safety by his family, he had little experience handling a firearm and was a little nervous about shooting.

To help increase his comfort level and gain some experience shooting, Zerick enrolled in the Brandon Junior Rifle program where participants aged 10 to 21 years old shoot .22 calibre rifles at targets, learn proper shooting techniques and firearm safety. Zerick did very well in the Junior Rifle program. At the end of his first season he was awarded the top new shooter award – an award given to a new shooter with the highest score. In the following year, Zerick also enrolled in the Brandon Junior Shotgun program (trap shooting). Zerick earned 3 provincial championships in this discipline, he will be entering the 3rd year of this program in the spring.

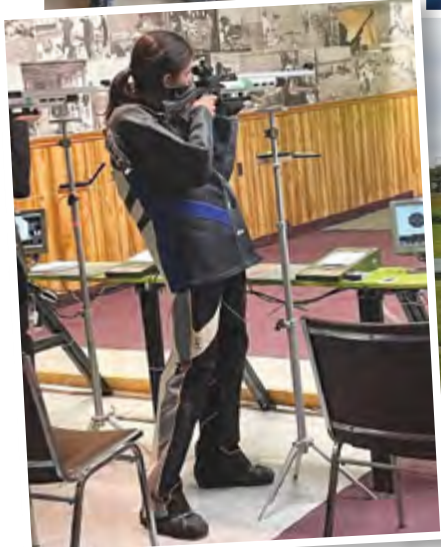
The Junior Rifle program runs from May to September, with a tournament and a team wind-up to close the season. At the 2022 wind-up Zerick was awarded the Grand Aggregate award, Tournament Champion and Novice Champion. Following the end of the season, 15 year old Zerick was among a select few who received invitations to train in the Air Rifle category. He was among a group of 3 male and 3 female youth to train for a chance to qualify for the Canadian National Air Gun Competition for Team Manitoba.

Zerick and his teammates have been training in Brandon and Winnipeg since November 2022. The National qualifiers were held in December and January in Winnipeg. One male and one female shooter with the top scores between both qualifying events were selected to represent Team Manitoba. Zerick won his matches and qualified for the Canadian Junior National

Air Gun competition in Truro,  
NS on March 23-26, 2023.

Information on the event can  
be found at:

<https://sfc-ftc.ca/CJNC>





# NNCEA Policy 803B: School Closure Due to Cold Weather

**Background:** The Board intends that its schools operate in accordance with the laws and the annual school calendar. Students cannot afford to miss school. Year after year, there have been multiple cold weather school closures. In an effort to reduce lost school days and lost instructional time, it has become necessary to repeal all previous versions of NNCEA Policy 803B. At a duly convened meeting of the NNCEA School Board, as noted above, it was decided

that both NNCEA schools will remain open. Central office and NNCEA schools will remain open. Buses will continue to transport students. All staff are to be at the workplace. Assigned staff will be on duty and classes will be held.

Parents must decide if sending their child(ren) to school is in their child(ren)'s best interests when temperatures are -40°C or colder with the wind chill. This is called parental discretion. Parents are encouraged to dress children appropriately for weather conditions. Any child(ren) not dressed properly will be taken home.

Should the temperature and/or weather become an endangerment during the school day, the School Principals will:

1. Make a recommendation to the NNCEA Director of Education (Assistant Director if the Director of Education is unavailable) who will make the final decision.
2. The Director of Education or delegate will inform the NNCEA School Board Chair, the NNCEA Board of

Trustees, educational leaders, bus supervisor promptly via text, email and/or phone call.

3. Prior to the school closure, notice will be posted on the local websites (NNCEA) AND social media (Facebook) by ICT personnel and/or School Administration so the community/staff/bus drivers are informed/aware.
4. All NNCEA students will be transported home safely.

## Student Awards Not Affected by Cold Weather Closures

Student's attendance will not be affected by these decisions since year-end awards will be issued for excellent attendance. Students whose attendance range is between 90 – 100% for the school year will qualify for excellent-attendance awards. This process takes into consideration absences due to unforeseen circumstances.



**NCN Chief and Council met with File Hills Police services to discuss ideas for future services and how they may function in the future.**

**GUARDIANS OF HOPE**

**ICE FISHING DERBY** **\$75,000**  
**IN PRIZE MONEY!**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2023**  
**11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**LOCATION:** Nelson House  
**ENTRY FEE**  
**\$150.00** ADVANCE  
**\$200.00** REGULAR TICKETS

<b>JACK FISH</b>	<b>PICKEREL</b>	<b>PERCH</b>	<b>MARIAH</b>
\$15,000	\$10,000	\$3,000	\$5,000
\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$5,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
\$3,000	\$2,000		\$1,000
\$2,000	\$1,000		\$500
\$1,000	\$500		

For more information please contact:  
**Carl Young** at **431-354-1565** or email at **carl@ncnwellness.ca** or  
**Vernon Moody** at **204-307-1566**



# New Strategic Plan for NCN

Chief Angela Levasseur and her council have many tasks ahead of them. One of the first is to create a “strategic plan,” which is a list of priorities that serves as a path to meeting those objectives for Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.

As Chief, Council, and the executive management team lead the community through the next five years, they will be guided by the Strategic Plan, update it as required, and refer to it in their decision-making process.

“This is an exciting time for us, as we determine how to structure our goals and lay out effective steps to meet them,” says Chief Levasseur. “We will make this plan available to all Citizens soon, so they can share in our excitement, and

**As Chief, Council, and the executive management team lead the community through the next five years, they will be guided by the Strategic Plan, update it as required, and refer to it in their decision-making process.**

actively join us as we dream big for NCN.”

In planning sessions, the group focused first on their purpose. They agreed on several reasons for their hard work:

- We are the future ancestors of NCN, and our actions will dictate the future of our children, grandchildren, and unborn.
- To demonstrate strong, resilient leadership that is transparent and accountable to our Citizens.
- We love and care for our community; therefore we are community-driven and action-oriented.

They discussed at length the factors that can contribute to the future success of NCN and those that could create problems.

**Strengths:** teamwork, leadership, and progressive foundation

**Weaknesses:** communication, funding and finances, and capacity

**Opportunities:** lands and resources, economic development, people, and partnerships

**Threats:** external forces, community resistance, and internal oppression, systemic racism, paternalism and colonialism

So far, the strategic plan for NCN has been distilled down into three main objectives, or “Three Big Goals.” Several smaller “step goals” have been created that will build upon each other as

Continued on page 21



NCN strategic planning meeting. Joyce Yetman and Councillor Ron Spence also celebrated their birthday's during the meeting with the team.

Chief and Council at Strategic Planning meeting with Invision Edge to map out future goals for NCN community and government.

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre Inc is a

# LATERAL VIOLENCE FREE ZONE

If you are experiencing Lateral Violence please contact Human Resource by phone: 204-484-2341 or by email: [hrrassistant@ncnwellness.ca](mailto:hrrassistant@ncnwellness.ca)

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation FAMILY AND COMMUNITY Wellness Centre





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*Nisichawayasi Nehetho  
Culture and Education Authority Inc.*  
NISICHAWAYASIHK CREE NATION



**More Information Contact The Public Health Office: 204.484.2341**



204-484-2341 [ncnwellness.ca](http://ncnwellness.ca)



# Belated Congratulations to Fawnda Neckoway From NNCEA!



On November 10th, 2022 from 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., at the Manitou a bi Bii dazilgae at 319 Elgin Avenue in Winnipeg, Nikawiy Productions and RRC Polytech presented the debut screening of *Kita kiskithihtahkwaw: So They Will Know* directed by NCN Citizen, Fawnda Neckoway, youngest daughter of Isabel and Raymond Neckoway.

Fawnda's inspiration to create *Kita kiskithihtahkwaw: So They Will Know*, a 20-minute film, came from the writings

of David Robertson and 9 year old son, Tyrell. He who came home one day and wanted to know if he was Indigenous and was wondering about residential schools.

Initially, Fawnda was a bit perplexed, but eventually answered her son's inquiries accordingly. Knowing that other parents could encounter the same experience, led Fawnda to create the film so other parents could have more accurate information to discuss residential schools with their children. Interviews with author David Robertson, Wab Kinew, Bobbie Jo LeClair, Kim Giswein and Dr. Ramona Neckoway are featured in the film as well.

Fawnda graduated from the *Digital Film and Media Production* program on June 13th, 2022 at Red River College in Winnipeg. She is applying her education and skills and is actively involved in the film industry and has become an award winning filmmaker! NNCEA is proud of our NCN relative and her many accomplishments! We wish her continued success! We encourage all our readers to view her film, *Kita kiskithihtahkwaw: So They Will Know*! We look forward to her next film entitled *Language Keepers* and others she may direct!



## Ensuring Elders' Health and Wellness

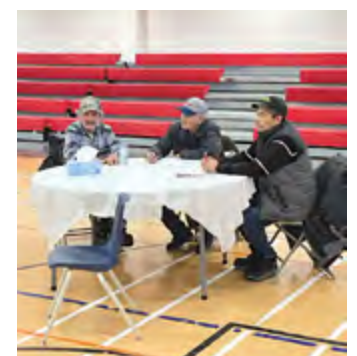
On January 16, NCN Citizens attended an Elders Forum at the multiplex.

They spent the day discussing issues that affect our Elders, and influence the ways in which they can lead happy, healthy lives. Some of the topics included violence, housing and language. They talked about the specific needs that must be addressed for older Citizens to continue living in NCN, such as an Elders' lodge and assisted living.

The event ended with lively bingo and a lot of laughter.

"The Elders are very knowledgeable, and there was some great discussion on our topics," says Elders portfolio holder Jeremiah Spence.

These meetings will be conducted on an ongoing basis. Watch the NCN page on Facebook and this newsletter for more details.









## A black and white portrait of an elderly man with glasses, wearing a patterned scarf and a jacket with floral patches.

**KA-KAH-NUH-WAYN-TUM**

Joseph Keeper of Norway House Cree Nation, passed peacefully on January 9, 2023, at age 94 with his family at his side.

A man of deep commitment, Joe worked most of his life towards justice for the Cree on the hydro impacts, he was an IRS Survivor, a Korean War Veteran, and in his final years an adviser.

On behalf of NCN Chief and Council, we extend our condolences to Joseph's family and those close to him.



**1B ATEC Road • Nelson House, MB • R0B 1A0 • 204-484-2359**

To date the LER department has developed a Land Use Plan and Environmental Management Plan. Some leasing documents are in the process as well such as Commercial/Residential/Industrial land leases to help gain revenue for the Nation. This is a very good start to exercise sovereignty that sustains a prosperous socio-economic future for the Nation.

LER department and McKercher LLP are also in the process of developing Land Laws and Environmental Protection Laws to better manage the Lands within IR170. The Lands department will present these documents at a community engagement meeting as soon as they are in the final stage to do so.

LER is currently working with Public Works Department on remediation decommission plan for the existing landfill and accessing funding. The landfill site has been deemed a significant environmental concerns due to its proximity to the New Sub-Division with the new High School and residential areas. Chief and Council is in support of new waste disposal site off IR170 onto adjacent Crown Land north of the Metis Community.

As for the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) it has been very difficult to transfer TLE selections to reserve due to the consultation process with the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF). The Treaty Land Entitlement Committee (TLEC) are in the process of filing a claim against Canada and taking Canada to court due to their breach in the Framework Agreement. For Citizens that would like to use land on reserve there is a process to come to the lands department to fill out a Land Use application form. The Lands, Environment and Resources department continue to work on planning implementing the Land Code.



# Employment Opportunities

## ATEC TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER

**DEPARTMENT:** Atoskiwin Training Education Centre

**POSITION:** Training and Employment Officer

**DEADLINE:** January 25, 2023

**START DATE:** ASAP

**SALARY RANGE:** To be determined

**REF #:** NCN-2023-01-11-01

### POSITION SUMMARY:

The ISET Program Employment and Training officer employs a high level of expertise in the areas of counselling clients, career planning and administrative responsibilities.

### DUTIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Meet with clients to prepare an action plan, needs assessment and career planning.
- Job search assistance, counselling, including resume writing, interview preparation techniques and cover letter preparation.
- Access to labour market and academic program information.
- Referral and sponsorship to education, skills training and employment programs to enhance Employability.
- Assisting clients with applications for Employment Insurance and Social Insurance Numbers.
- Data input: Accountability Resource Management System (ARMS) ensuring updated files are in system for all clients utilizing the Training Camp; Employment Services.
- Assisting clients with the completion of Employment Insurance applications certificates, marriage, and death certificates (minimal levels of service).

- Refer clients to local employers seeking workers with matched qualifications, experience and transferable skills for possible local and nation-wide employment.
- Maintain a local community job bank.
- Monthly reporting of program activities.
- Monthly financial reporting to FPD.
- Supply FPD with statistical information of local community trainees and results when required.
- Assist FPD with their local community labour market information when required.
- Attend local and Partnership meetings on behalf of the First Nation that pertain to Training and Employment initiatives. These partnerships related to post-secondary training, Apprenticeship Manitoba, Workplace Education, and local construction activities and placements.
- Other duties as assigned.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to pass a security clearance check.
- A valid driver's license, class 5.
- Ability to manage a budget.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills.
- Familiar with post-secondary educational institutions, funding and training initiatives.
- Familiar with all Federal/Provincial Government Income Security Programs.
- Familiar with Employment Social Development Canada (ESDC)/ISET Program.
- Ability to handle more than one client simultaneously and provide satisfactory assistance.
- Ability to assist clients with barriers, issues and/or challenges to achieve their career goal/plan

- Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills.
- Strong Mentorship skills.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Certificate/diploma/ degree in a related field and/or equivalent experience.
- Experience working in the employment and training sector an asset.
- Proficient in Microsoft word, excel, power point, email, internet research.
- Work with minimum supervision.

### WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Willing and able to travel as required (must have own vehicle) and valid Manitoba Driver's License.
- Work in an office environment but may also perform worksite or field visits to training and practicum sites, or similar location.
- Work a standard work week, but additionally may work evening, weekends, and overtime hours to complete tasks.

### SALARY:

- Negotiable depending on qualifications, experience and expertise.

If you are interested, please forward your cover letter, child abuse and adult abuse record, Criminal Records Check and resume to:

**Nora Thomas**

Human Resource Administrator

Phone (204) 484-2604

Cell (204) 307-1178

Email: norathomas@ncncree.com











# NNCEA Sends Thanks for Xmas Goodies and Gifts



An assortment of Cards, chocolates, candies, miniature sized Sequoia scented products: hand/body lotion, a candle, a bar of soap, lip balm were gifted to staff and management at NNCEA. Thanks for the generosity! NNCEA appreciates all the friends and businesses that sent cards and gifts! Kinanaskomitan!

The NNCEA is thankful for the gifts of Christmas and generosity given during the holidays. The gifts of goodies and treats that came in were for many to enjoy.

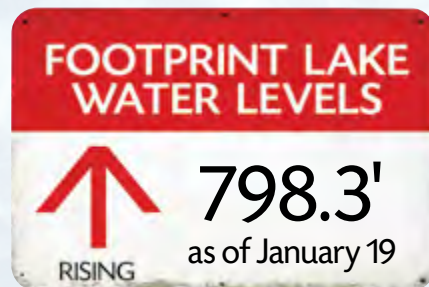
Gail McDonald, NNCEA Education Director sends a huge thanks on behalf of staff, management and students to the organizations that forwarded Christmas cards and/or Christmas gifts to the NNCEA. These goodies were received from the staff and management at Meetah Building Supplies, TM Lawyers in Winnipeg, Number 10 Architects, PennCo and Teach for Canada partners in Toronto, Ontario.

# Footprint Lake Water Levels

# Footprint Lake 14-Day Water Level Forecast

Revised Forecast as of January 19, 2023

On January 19, 2023 the level of Footprint Lake was at an elevation of 798.3 feet. The level of the lake is expected to rise 1.2 inches to an elevation of 798.4 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.

# MISSING PERSON

## \$10,000 REWARD



A reward of \$10,000 (matched donation funds) is being offered for useful information that leads to finding Rico Cody Linklater. He was last seen on October 21, 2021.

**Anyone with information can submit an anonymous tip by calling the local RCMP at 204-484-2837, ask for Ryan Linklater.**



# RICO CODY LINKLATER



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)

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