



# OKIMAHKAN OTY'AMIWIN FROM THE CHIEF Highlights and Recent Activities in NCN

# COMMUNITY The reserve A invested to

Thompson Airport to Receive Extensive Renovations

#### PUSIKONISOWINI ACHIMOWIN

#### BUSINESS

NCN Explores Inclusion in Exploration and Mining 13 Opportunities

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024

PROTECTION LAW

AND TICKETS

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# Community Protection Survey Results Are In

Over the last few weeks of February, Chief and Council put out a request to NCN Citizens to complete a short survey that gathered opinions about the Community Protection Law.

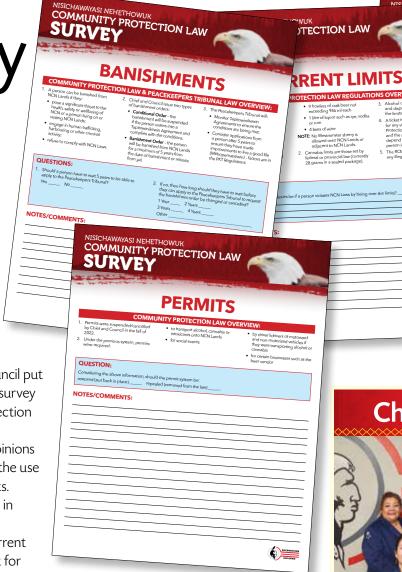
The survey had nine questions, and asked for opinions about banishment, alcohol and cannabis limits, and the use of fines, permits and community service agreements.

By March 1, 132 people had responded online or in person.

One question asked if people agree with the current law about banishment, in which people have to wait for five years before they apply to return to NCN Lands.

Over 75 per cent said they did not agree with this condition. When asked how long people should have to wait, amounts of time suggested ranged from one year to 10 years. The most common response was two years. Many people said it should be dependent upon the offender's rehabilitation.

More than 80 per cent of survey respondents agreed there should be penalties when NCN Laws are violated, and almost 55 per cent said fines should continue as a type of penalty. However, more than 60 per cent said the current range of



fines, from \$750 for providing illegal substances to minors up to \$5,000 for gang activity and human trafficking, is not OK.

In the fall of 2022, Chief and Council suspended the permit system, which required permits to transport alcohol, cannabis and intoxicants onto NCN

Continued on page 4

#### **Chief and Council**

OHE MEDIA



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



#### OKIMAHKAN OTY'AMIWIN

# From the Chief

#### Tansi Nitoteemak!

Greetings to you and your families on behalf of myself, my colleagues and the wonderful staff at the NCN Government Office. Kinanaskomitinawaw kapee for our staff and especially our Executive Management Team; you are the ones who make it all happen and we love and appreciate you all kapee!

#### **Recent Activities:**

Please refer to the "Where is the Chief?" document on www.ncncree.com for a detailed account of our activities over the last two months. My colleagues and I have attended many other portfolio-based meetings and conferences to discuss issues and to lobby and advocate for the nation that are not listed due to space constraints.

#### Highlights:

Some of the major highlights of the last two months have been as follows:

February 5th AGA on making amendments to the community protection law. This was a great meeting that was very well attended by our community members. Our Chief of Law Enforcement, Carol Kobliski gave an excellent and informative PowerPoint presentation on the checkstop, as well as the negative impacts of excessive amounts of alcohol, drugs and deadly weapons on our community. As Chief, I presented on behalf of Council to explain the law making process, law amending process, the Community Protection Law and our sovereignty as a nation. Our people gave a lot of valuable feedback, completed survey and also provided some insight into their experiences with our Community Protection Law. Overall, it was a very good meeting and a great discussion.

In other news, the Elders at the Nihitho Culture and Language Unit have been hosting Nihitho language classes on Monday and Thursday nights from 6pm to 8pm. Attendance has been very low and we would like to see it improve. Our Elders have a wealth of knowledge to share and our language is in serious danger of dying. Please come to class and bring a friend and five cousins! Even if you are a fluent speaker; come learn syllabics.

Other major events including a visit from the

Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Arctic College to Pewapun and ATEC.

Lorne Kusugak, Government House Leader, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation came with a delegation to tour our community in February and they were very impressed with ATEC and Pewapun!

Another honourable guest was Kevin McPike, Assistant Deputy Minister Municipal and Northern Relations Indigenous Economic Development. Mr. McPike came for a visit to NCN along with his counterparts from the provincial government. Interestingly, I was Mr. McPike's grade nine teacher in Winnipeg many, many years ago. We had an amazing visit and it was good to catch up!

Finally, we hired a new Chief Executive Officer for the NCN Development Corporation; NCN's own Ed Vystricl! Congratulations Ed and welcome aboard!

Ekosi, take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Stay warm and stay safe!

On behalf of Council:

**Chief Angela Levasseur** Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation

#### WHERE IS THE CHIEF?

Wednesday March 27, 2024: Meeting with RDG, RE: Multi-Use Governance Building/Revising CIRNAC Work Plan/Seal River Watershed Film Screening Event

Thursday March 28, 2024: Meeting on Governance/ Revising CIRNAC Work Plan

Friday March 29, 2024: Good Friday (Office Closure) Monday April 1, 2024: Easter Monday (Office Closure)

Tuesday April 2, 2024: Meeting with Minsiter Ian Bushie/Reviewing and Revising NCN Strategic Plan (Winnipeg Sub-Office)

Wednesday April 3, 2024: Reviewing and Revising Strategic Plan (Winnipeg Sub-Office)

Thursday April 4, 2024: 2024/2024 Budget Review (Winnipeg Sub-Office)

Friday April 5, 2024: 2024/2025 Budget Review (Winnipeg Sub-Office)

Monday April 8, 2024: Final Budget Review

Tuesday April 9, 2024: Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday April 10, 2024: Speaking at Manitoba Indigenous Housing Capacity and Mobilization Initiative

Thursday April 11, 2024: Speaking at Manitoba Indigenous Housing Capacity and Mobilization Initiative

Friday April 12, 2024: Mineral Exploration Agreement Signing Ceremony (NLMMP)

Monday April 15, 2024: Thompson Bus Lines Board Meeting

Tuesday April 16, 2024: RIRSD Table Discussions via Teams

Wednesday April 17, 2024: At the NCN Government Office

Thursday April 18, 2024: At the NCN Government Office

Friday April 19, 2024: At the NCN Government Office

For more information, please contact Rosena Lewis, Chief's Assistant at 431-354-2148 or rosenalewis@ncncree.com



NCN Leadership and Elders attended key meetings in Ottawa. More on Page 5



# Visit From Northern Affairs

In early March, NCN hosted representatives from Northern Affairs. Chief Levasseur, Council and NCN co-CEOS Joyce Yetman and Leonard Linklater spent the day in meetings and community visits with the reps. Discussions included strengthening our relationship with the Metis community, plans for the road to NCN, and more ideas for collaboration.

"It was a sincere pleasure to meet with Assistant Deputy Minister McPike and his staff," says Chief

Angela Levasseur. "We discussed many issues related to life in the North and strategized on how we as a First Nation can work in partnership with our Nelson House community council." The visit even turned into a mini-reunion. Kevin McPike was a student in

Chief Levasseur's grade 9 ELA class many years ago! As part of their visit to NCN, the Northern

Affairs reps had the chance to visit ATEC, NNOC, and the Pewapun build site to talk with students and see their progress. "It was wonderful to meet with the assistant deputy minister and his staff, and we were honoured to host them in NCN," says Chief Angela Levasseur. "We look forward to hosting the department again in the near future."















Lands and in other circumstances. The survey asked if Citizens believed the permit system should be restored or continue to be suspended. The results were very close, with 50.78 per cent of respondents believing the permit system should be restored and put back into place.

This survey confirmed to Chief and Council that beliefs about community protection are complicated and broad. For example, many people said banishments were too harsh, and many said banishments were not enforced well enough.

Chief and Council thank everyone who chose to complete the survey. Your concerns about the safety of NCN and its Citizens are appreciated, and this conversation will continue.

There have been some questions about the Community Protection Law, and how it operates and affects Citizens. A few common concerns are listed below. For more information, go to ncncree.com and search Community Protection Law.

#### Are RCMP enforcing these laws?

They are aware of the Community Protection Law, and are working collaboratively with FNSOs to enforce these laws.

### How did the Community Protection Law become a law?

NCN Citizens voted on the NCN Constitution and Land Code and approved them both. They outline how laws are developed and approved.

#### Where does this law apply?

The Community Protection Law applies to NCN reserve lands, excluding Mystery Lake. It may be

amended in the future to extend to NCN's traditional territory. Almost all residents of the Metis Community are NCN Citizens and they must also abide by NCN laws while on NCN lands.

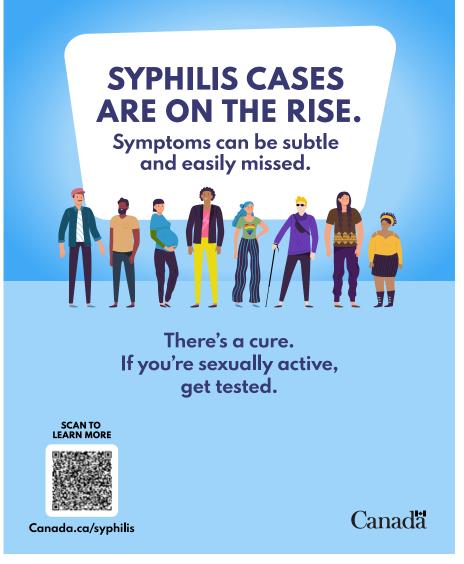
#### Are banishment orders legal?

The Community Protection Law gives authority to Councill to issue a banishment order. After five years, the person can apply to the Peacekeepers Tribunal to return to NCN. If they have met conditions, they may be allowed to return.

### Are FNSOs allowed to search your home or vehicle?

Chief and Council must grant a Search Order to FNSO to search a home. However, the Community Protection Law does allow for a vehicle search without a Search Order. If a Citizen does not want their vehicle searched, they may refuse, but they will not be allowed onto NCN Lands.







# NCN Leadership Returns to Ottawa

In mid-March NCN's Chief and Council visited Ottawa's Parliament for the second time to engage once again in two full days of back-toback meetings with key government officials, continuing conversations started in November 2023. This visit was focused on discussing and advocating for NCN's infrastructure priorities with offices across the Canadian government.

Chief Angela Levasseur, Councillor Jeremiah Spence, William Elvis Thomas, Director of the Nih tho Language and Culture Unit and Elders Morley Moore, Lydia Linklater and Elder Yvonne Hart were in attendance. The NCN representatives met with Minister's offices from Canadian Heritage to Indigenous Services Canada, continuing discussions initiated during last year's visit regarding infrastructure and culture and language revitalization. Additionally, leadership was able to meet with Health Canada and advisors to Prime Minister Trudeau to begin relationship building and advocating for the community.

This trip allowed for NCN's leadership to highlight the critical needs within the community and communicate their determination and perseverance in resolving these issues. Government relations meetings such as these allow the Nation to collaborate with the government to address needs that are not covered through the typical funding

Of high priority during last month's meetings was funding for the Healthcare Centre, Multi-Use Governance Building, new elementary school, and housing on-reserve. In addition to these key infrastructure projects,







leadership discussed language and culture revitalization, ATEC, and supports for offreserve members.

Government relations efforts like this are a unique opportunity for NCN to connect directly with policymakers and government officials, ensuring that our unique needs and concerns are not just heard but are a priority in governmental decision-making processes. The chance to connect in-person with federal decision-makers cannot be overstated, the human aspect of these meetings often is what drives change and opportunity for communities such as NCN.

Following these meetings, leadership will continue conversations with government to ensure action is taken on the many priorities discussed. With assistance from Strategies

North Advisory Inc, who provided support in scheduling and facilitating meetings, leadership will continue to engage virtually with government to follow-up on commitments made during meetings.

The ongoing efforts of NCN staff to advocate for NCN's interests at various levels of government is essential in securing real, tangible benefits for the community and its members. It is clear in this evolving world and political landscape that hard work at-home in community and in Ottawa with government is the key to resolving longstanding issues.

### NCN Gives a Voice to Thompson Airport Renos

Some two decades overdue, the Thompson Regional Airport is finally receiving extensive renovations.

On March 5, Chief Levasseur was invited to discuss cultural needs with Thompson Airport Authority staff Curtis Ross and Laura Finlay.

"I appreciated the opportunity to meet with them," says Levasseur. "I'm grateful that they involved NCN in the decision-making process and valued our insights in shaping the future of the new airport."

Once completed, the new space will be almost 50,000 square feet.

The priority is replacing the air terminal building, which is sinking

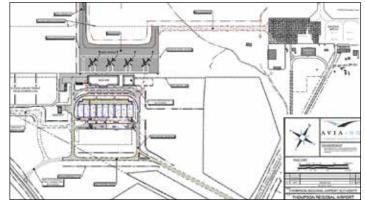
into permafrost. Existing infrastructure will be expanded, and new taxiways are also on the agenda.

Passengers can expect expanded dining options and shopping kiosks, special facilities for Medevac operations, and an Elders lounge.

The Thompson Regional Airport is a crucial component of transportation in Manitoba. It serves 37 northern communities. including 15 that are only accessible by ice roads and air.







# Nursing Station For Emergencies Only

Due to staffing shortages, the Nursing Station can only accept emergencies at this time.

Remember that there are other options for your healthcare needs when they are not emergencies.

QDoc is a free service that connects you to a doctor virtually, either online or by phone. These doctors can listen to your concerns, give guidance, provide sick notes, order lab tests, provide referrals and prescribe some medications.

Consider setting up your account now, before you need help. Go to qdoc.ca or call 1-833-736-2362. You need your email address and Manitoba Health Number to register. You will also create a patient profile with basic information.

Once your account is set up, when you need access to a doctor, click on "Start Visit." You will be put in line and once an appropriate doctor is available, they will text or respond online. Notes from your visit will be available later through your profile. All information is confidential and protected by two-factor authentication.

FNIHB is aware of NCN's medical staffing problem and is actively trying to recruit nurses for our community. Unfortunately, this is not a problem that is unique to NCN. There is a nursing shortage, at the provincial and national levels.

If you know a nurse who is currently not working but may be willing, please contact Councillor Kim Linklater at kim.linklater@ ncncree.com

# What is an emergency?

If you are fearful that someone will lose their life, it's an emergency.

Overdose, chest pain, seizures, head injury, pneumonia, uncontrolled bleeding, sudden severe headache.

If you have an emergency, go to the Nursing Station.

#### What is urgent care?

If it's not an emergency, but you don't want to wait to see your doctor at the office, call it urgent care.

Earache, cuts, minor burns, joint or muscle pain, sprains, UTIs, diarrhea, vomiting.

If you need urgent care, call the local ambulance at 204-484-2911.



# Protecting Our Ancestors: Learning and Leading

NCN Trust Office staff Kelly Spence and Eva Linklater attended a conference in February that discussed the actions required to protect Indigenous ancestors and materials.

Hosted by Sioux Valley Dakota Nation and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc, the conference featured Canadian First Nations, Inuit and Metis; Indigenous people from the United States and New Zealand; and non-Indigenous allies

The aim was to share experiences and concerns regarding heritage protection, including the protection and repatriation of Ancestors and their belongings that were in the custody of non-Indigenous institutions. Participants also shared their challenges of protecting unmarked graves and cemeteries of children who did not return from residential schools.

This was a timely conference, as NCN has been working towards a protection plan to cover its entire traditional territory, including sacred sites such as the Dancing Circles and vision quest sites.

"We are proud to report that NCN's Heritage Resources

Protection Plan for the Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects was mentioned as the first agreement in Manitoba to recognize a First Nation's exertion of custody, control and authority over the treatment of heritage objects and ancestral remains (that are not required for forensic purposes) in keeping with traditional beliefs, protocol and ceremony," says Linklater. "Hopefully, NCN will be able to contribute in the push towards national legislation of Indigenous heritage protection."



Dr. Jamie Metternich from New Zealand receiving star blankets after her presentation "New Zealand Case Study: First Government-Funded International Repatriation Program: Karanga Aoteara.



# NCN Citizen Attending Law School

Billie Berry set a lofty goal for herself and is on schedule to achieve it in 2026!

She has graduated Magna Cum Laude from Hamline University and will attend her graduation ceremony on May 11. She is now a Mitchell Hamline Law School student in her second semester.

"It truly feels like a dream. I never graduated high school, so this is a huge accomplishment for me and my family. I have kept my poor mother waiting for this for too long. She deserves this so much," Berry says. "I am deeply grateful to NCN for their incredible kindness in offering me a sponsorship for my studies this year. I would love to be able to give back to them for what they have gifted to me."

As part of her studies, Berry will be interning with Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures this summer.

"I grew up near the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe reservation and I was offered the opportunity to see how the corporate legal side of things works. I will be helping them with research and writing in several big business deals, including setting up a marijuana dispensary and the purchase of another hotel. I hope someday I will be able to help NCN with the skills I learn working with Mille Lacs."

As the eldest of eleven siblings, family has always been a cornerstone in Berry's life. Her history is deeply intertwined with the Sixties Scoop, as her father, James Berry, was one of the many taken from their families at this time.

Thankfully, in 1996, Berry and her family were reunited with extended family, including grandmother Dorothy Hart. They enjoyed a year in NCN in 1997, which allowed Berry to create close bonds with many relatives, including Aunties Angela Levasseur and Patti Spence.

Berry is the proud mother of Katelyn, aged 20, and Kaleb, aged 14.

"It is important to me to be an integral part of my children's lives as I endeavor to look through the lens of the next seven generations. I am committed to leaving the world a better place, and I firmly believe that nurturing my children to become compassionate, responsible humans is a vital step in this journey."

Berry has had her share of challenges. She was diagnosed with ADHD as an adult, and has had three back surgeries due to scoliosis in the last few years.

"This has strengthened my resilience and enriched my outlook on life. As I anticipate a future filled with potential, my dedication lies with my family, my community, and my

ambitions in the legal field. I aspire to contribute to NCN in any way possible as a gesture of thanks for their generous support and trust in me."

Congratulations, Billie! Your community is proud

If you or someone you know is interested in post-secondary study and would like to learn more about funding opportunities, call the NNCEA Post-Secondary Sponsorship at 204-484-2095.





# Carbon RX Announces First Ever "Land & Legacy" Conference for First Nations People in Manitoba



Winnipeg, MB - February **16, 2024** – Carbon RX Inc. ("Carbon RX") is thrilled to announce the upcoming conference, "Land & Legacy," set to take place June 4-6, 2024, on the sovereign lands of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation ("NCN"). This event will bridge the gap between First Nation values of protecting the earth and innovative carbon solutions, covering a range of topics such as land management, renewable energy, and the role of youth in environmental preservation.

Hosted by Carbon RX in collaboration with its major partner, NCN, "Land & Legacy" is expected to be a landmark gathering. The conference will be chaired by Chief Angela Levasseur, who has brought this vision to life.

Chief Angela Levasseur of NCN shared her perspective, highlighting the importance of the conference in promoting First Nation leadership in environmental solutions. "The 'Land & Legacy' conference is a testament to the power of partnership and respect. By coming together, we can create a future honouring our ancestors while protecting our land for generations. This is an opportunity to showcase the leadership of First Nation communities in

driving meaningful, sustainable change."

Neil Dobson, Vice President of Business Development at Carbon RX, expressed his enthusiasm for the event, stating, "The 'Land & Legacy' conference represents a unique opportunity to integrate the wisdom of First Nation stewardship

with cutting-edge carbon solutions. This event is more than just a conference; it's a commitment to actionable change, fostering partnerships that respect and uplift First Nation contributions to environmental stewardship."

The "Land & Legacy" conference will feature a mix of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and workshops, all designed to encourage dialogue and collaboration between First Nation communities, industry leaders, environmental advocates, and policymakers and promote healing amongst First Nation People. Attendees can anticipate gaining a comprehensive insight into integrating First Nation values with efforts towards achieving carbon neutrality and environmental resilience.

This event underscores Carbon RX's commitment to supporting Net-Zero strategies and showcases the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation's leadership in sustainable land management and environmental protection.

#### **About Carbon RX**

Headquartered on Treaty 4 Territory in Regina, SK, Carbon RX specializes in the origination and streaming of carbon credits. Backed by a team of agriculture, forestry, and hydrocarbon experts, Carbon RX provides high-fidelity carbon credits to the international voluntary carbon market, ultimately aiding Canada in the race to net-zero emissions.

For more information, visit carbonrx.com.

## About Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation – "Where the Three Rivers Meet"

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, based in Nelson House, Manitoba, is dedicated to nurturing a bright future through education and sustainable development initiatives. As partners in the Wuskwatim Project and investors in meaningful local businesses, they strive for minimal environmental impact while promoting economic opportunities. Emphasizing cultural preservation and ecotourism, NCN aims to showcase their heritage and the beauty of "Where the Three Rivers Meet" to the world, fostering respect and integration with global communities.

For media inquiries Carson Sinclair Cell: 306-690-9235 E-mail: carson.sinclair@carbonrx.com

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This news release contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation, which are based upon Delta CleanTech Inc. ("Delta") and Carbon RX (Delta's subsidiary), current internal expectations, estimates, projections, assumptions and beliefs and views of future events. All statements other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking information. Forwardlooking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "expect," "likely," "may," "might," "will," "shall," "should," "intend," "anticipate," "project," "contemplate," "continue," "potential," "proposed," "estimate" and other similar words, including negative and grammatical variations thereof, or statements that certain events or conditions "may," "would" or "will" happen, or by discussions of strategy. Forward-looking information include estimates, plans, expectations, opinions, forecasts, projections, targets, guidance, or other statements that are not statements of fact. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking information. No assurance can be given that these expectations will prove to be correct and such forward-looking information included in this news release should not be unduly relied upon. These statements speak only as of the date of this news release. Carbon RX does not undertake any obligations to publicly update or revise any forward-looking information except as required by securities law.

The CSE does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.



Back Row (L to R): Councillor Kim Linklater, Deputy Chief Marcel Moody, Councillor Jeremiah Spence, Councillor Ron Spence Front Row (L to R): Councillor Shirley Linklater, Chief Angela Levasseur, Councillor Cheryl Moore.

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**OSAWI NAMIKOS** 

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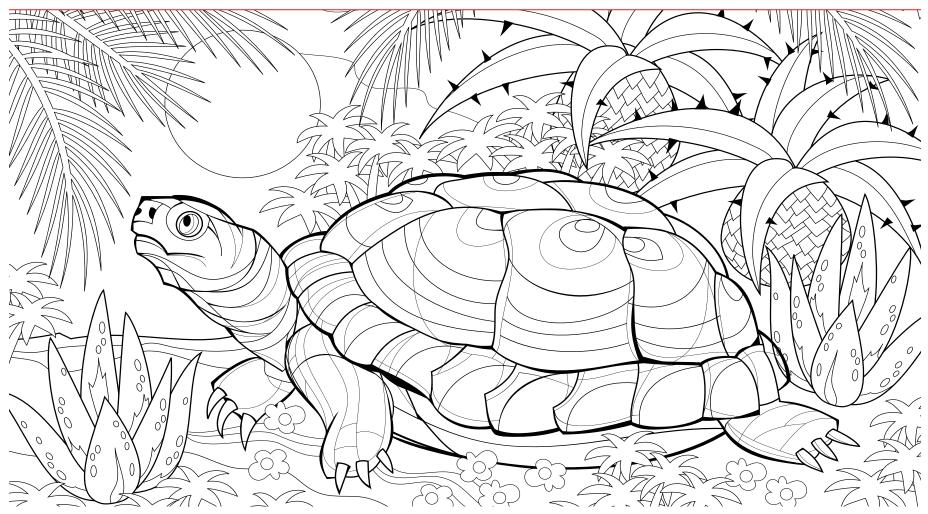
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**OSAWASKWAPIS** Northern pike; Jackfish ATĪHKAMIK White fish MISTATIHKAMIK Jumbo white fish OCONIPIS Tullibee WIPICISISAK Goldeye OKAW Pickerel; Walleye WITHIPASTI OKAW Sauger ASAWISIS Perch MĪHKWAMIPITH Red Sucker **ITHINTONAMIPITH Black Sucker MITHACOS** Mariah; Burbot NAMIW Sturgeon NAMIKOS Lake trout

Brook trout KINOSISISAK Minnow WAPAHAKISIW Shorthead Redhorse FROGS, AMPHIBIANS **AND REPTILES ATHIKIS** Frog **OSOWATHIKIS** Tadpole **OMĀHKĀHKIW** Bull frog **OSĀWASKWATHIKIS** Leopard frog OKISCOHCIW Turtle KINIPIK Snake OSIKITHĀS Lizard

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

#### **COLOURING PAGE**



# NCN Board Members Striving for Excellence checklist, lines of communication, strategic planning, and public policy self-assessment.

NCN is committed to good governance. An important part of that is ensuring everyone in decision-making roles understands the rules and responsibilities required to take on a leadership role.

On February 13 and 14th, 24 NCN Citizens attended

board training at ATEC.

The training was facilitated by Alfred Linklater, who travelled from Ottawa to offer his expertise on how to be an effective board member.

Topics included selfevaluations, financial management checklist, good governance

All attendees, who ranged from new to very experienced, appreciated the training.

Thanks to Alfred Linklater for sharing his time and knowledge, and to Shannon Yetman for accommodating the event and setting up lunch.









#### Notice to **NCN CITIZENS**

#### AMENDMENTS TO NNCEA BYLAWS

Chief and Council and the NNCEA Board of Trustees have approved in principle changes to the NNCEA bylaws to allow for the appointment of School Trustees and to update the bylaw originally approved in 2015.

Any NCN Citizen who wishes to comment on the proposed changes may make a written submission no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, March 15, 2024.

Written submissions should be delivered to Nic Campbell, Director of Education at the Alice Moore Centre or by email at nicc@

The School Board will meet on April 2, 2024 to finalize the amendments.

Authorized by Chief and Council and the NNCEA Board of Trustees this 29th day of February, 2024.

#### Solution below to puzzles on previous page

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#### Bunn Retires After 12 Years at School Board Trustee

Chief and Council give thanks to Wanda Bunn for 12 years of service on the NNCEA school board of trustees.

Bunn's passion, dedication, and tireless advocacy for NCN youth and children has positively impacted the NCN education system. Her admiration for NCN youth and children was evident in every action, driving her to become a strong advocate for their needs and aspirations.

Throughout her tenure, Bunn worked tirelessly behind the scenes, contributing to numerous decisions that have allowed our youth to thrive and succeed. She played a pivotal role in the successful completion of the new high school build. Her deeprooted Cree values guided her vision for our educational system, leading to the implementation of traditional Nihitho language and culture into the school curriculum. Today, thanks to Bunn's foresight and dedication, there are traditional teachings in all schools and Nihitho immersion in elementary classes, which enriches students' educational experience.

After 12 years of exemplary service, most recently as chair of the board, Bunn has decided to embark on new challenges and opportunities. Her departure marks the end of an era, but her legacy will continue to inspire and guide NNCEA education for years to come. She will be missed by all those whose lives she has touched.

"Wanda, on behalf of the NCN community, we extend our deepest gratitude for your unwavering leadership and passion for the betterment of our school system. Your contributions have made a lasting impact, and your presence and your laugh will be missed," says Chief Angela Levasseur. "We wish you all the best in your future endeavors, knowing that wherever your journey takes you, you will continue to make a difference."

#### NNCEA Policy 426: Donations to Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation

There will be certain times when the community members/organizations will seek donations from the NNCEA organization. To promote a positive, caring image, the NNCEA chooses to support the families and community with donations via cheque, electronic funds transfer and/or purchase order. NCN Citizens, normally resident, will be entitled to this support. Each year, funds will be allocated to the budget. Qualified applicants are only eligible for two donations per budget year. If the budget gets expended, donations cannot be provided. Rates for various requests will be determined by NNCEA Senior Administration.

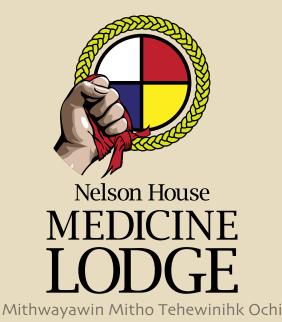
When a death occurs, the NNCEA will show its compassion by sending a wreath and/or flowers to the bereaved family. Upon occasion, support to NNCEA affiliates/partners will have to be extended.

Donation requests can be made for a wake and bereavement; travel off the reserve to attend a close family members' funeral/burial; for occasional/annual events for our children; for summer/winter festivals; for various traditional ceremonies in the community such as Sundances, powwows, etc. Due to the limited budget, private functions *like memorial events, etc., are not eligible*. Donation requests from people/organizations, off the reserve, are also ineligible.

#### **Procedures:**

- 1. Whenever a donation is needed, it has to be put in the form of a letter or email to the NNCEA.
- 2. The letter must be dated and provide the necessary details of the request: what it is needed for, when it is needed, what is needed (a cheque, purchase order or EFT) who the donation is to be made to, contact information.
- 3. The request will be reviewed as soon as possible by Senior Administration and a decision will be made and actioned. The family will be informed by the Human Resources Director.
- 4. Senior Administration will put the necessary details on the letter of request and NNCEA Finance will be notified so the request can be processed.
- 5. Letter will be filed accordingly.

Eligible Donations	Rates
a. Donation for individual Wakes/Funerals/Burial	\$300.00
b. Donation for travel to attend a family members' funeral/burial, per family, in Manitoba	\$300.00
c. Donation for travel to attend a family members' funeral/burial, per family, out of province	\$400.00
d. For occasional/annual events for our children	\$500.00
e. Summer and/or winter festivals	. \$2,000.00
f. Traditional/cultural ceremonies for the community:	
- Sundances	. \$2,000.00
– Pow-wows	. \$2,000.00
g. Support to NNCEA affiliates/partners (wreath/flowers, etc.)	\$300.00



#### Nelson House Medicine Lodge Intake Dates

Referrals and registration are being accepted now for alcohol and drug treatment, prevention and aftercare services. Intake dates and administration weeks are as follows:

#### **DEALING WITH ADDICTIONS?** Call 204-484-2256

#### **Treatment Schedule for 2023**

Monday, January 2, 2023 – Thursday, February 23, 2023

Monday, February 27, 2023 – Thursday, April 20, 2023

ADMIN WEEK: Monday, April 24, 2023 – Friday, April 28, 2023 Monday, May 1, 2023 – Thursday, June 22, 2023

Monday, June 26, 2023 – Thursday, August 17, 2023

ADMIN WEEK:

Monday, August 21, 2023 – Friday, August 25, 2023 Monday, August 28, 2023 – Thursday, October 19, 2023

Monday, October 23, 2023 – Thursday, December 14, 2023

**CHRISTMAS CLOSURE:** 

Monday, December 18, 2023 – Tuesday, January 2, 2024

#### **Treatment Schedule for 2024**

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 – Thursday, February 22, 2024

Monday, February 26, 2024 – Thursday, April 18, 2024

ADMIN WEEK:

Monday, April 22, 2024 – Friday, April 26, 2024 Monday, April 29, 2024 – Thursday, June 20, 2024

Monday, June 24, 2024 – Thursday, August 15, 2024

**ADMIN WEEK:** 

Monday, August 19, 2024 – Friday, August 23, 2024 Monday, August 26, 2024 – Thursday, October 17, 2024 Monday, October 21, 2024 – Thursday, December 12, 2024 CHRISTMAS CLOSURE: Monday, December 16, 2024 –

Thursday, January 2, 2025

# 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:

- 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 Employee is a New HR Graduate | Final League Standings

Nora Thomas recently graduated as a Certified Indigenous Human Resource Professional from Aboriginal Financial Officers Association Canada (AFOA).

The training involved ten modules, five in-person in Saskatchewan and five online. Demonstrating a commitment to excellence, Nora embraced the high standards of her program and achieved an outstanding final exam mark of 96 per cent!

"One of the best things about this course was the opportunity to interact with individuals from diverse backgrounds across Canada and learn from seasoned HR professionals," says Thomas. "Through my studies, I realized the critical importance of HR professionals in Indigenous communities, which made me more passionate about helping NCN in this way."

"I want to express my gratitude for the support I received from NCN. I was able to focus on my studies, without worries

about finances or family."

Thomas has recently transitioned from her position at the NCN Government Office as a human resources administrator into a new role as the HR Director of the NCN Personal Care Home and Finance.

"As Nora embarks on this new chapter of her career, we have no doubt that she will continue to support NCN in the field of human resources," says Chief Angela Levasseur. "We are proud of Nora's achievements and wish her continued success."



Standings as of March 11, 2024

#### Lyle 108 Murdock (PUR Player **Points** Drew Peters (OCN) 107 Brody McPherson (PJR) 79 Wilfred Mcleod roun 74 Albert Sinclair Jr. (NCN) 68 Ayden Daniels (PJR) 58 Dyson Pelletier (PJR) 56 Roger Houle Jr. (NHNS) 55 Dwayne McKenzie (NHNS) 52 Lucien Tait-Reaume (NHNS 52





# NCN Explores Inclusion in Exploration and Mining Opportunities

Councillors Shirely Linklater and Kim Linklater and I (Gord Dumas, Lands, Environment and Resource Executive Director) attended the Prospectors and Development Association of Canada (PDAC) Convention in Toronto on March 3 -6, 2024. The event is the "World's Premier Mineral Exploration and Mining Convention" and approximately 26, 900 delegates from around the globe attended this years event. PDAC is the leading voice of the Canadian mineral exploration and development community, an industry that supports 665,000 people with direct and indirect employment, and contributes \$125 B to Canada's GDP every year. This years Indigenous

Programs provided presentations and discussions on fostering co-operative, respectful and mutually beneficial relationships between Indigenous communities and mining industry.

Dumas said, "Opportunities in mining and exploration development could provide NCN with other sources of revenue and jobs. We are keen to explore opportunities that could greatly benefit our community while protecting our lands."

The NCN representatives met with

Manitoba government representatives and industry delegates to lobby and advocate for NCNs inclusion in exploration and mining activities that are occurring within our Ancestral lands.

		Nis Culture					
QÛ.	SC	202 HO CAL	OL ENE	YEA OAR	· '		
Month	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

								Wednesday, Novemb
Month	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Friday, November 10,
Aug 23	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	Friday, December 22,
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Monday, December 2
Sep	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Friday, January 5, 202
2023	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Monday, January 8, 20
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Friday, February 16, 20
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Monday, February 19,
Oct	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Monday, February 26,
2023	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	March 25-29, 2024 March 29, 2024
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	Monday, April 1 – Apr Friday, May 17, 2024
Nov	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Monday, May 20, 202
2023	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Thursday, June 27, 20
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Friday, June 28, 2024
	26	27	28	29	30	_1	2	
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OK School Term Da
Dec	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Term 1
2023	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Term 2
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Term 3
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	OK School Report C
Jan	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1
2024	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	2
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	3
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	OK School Report C
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Term 1
Feb	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Term 2
2024	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Term 3
	25	26	27	28	29	1	2	
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NNOC Term Dates
Mar	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Term 1
2024	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Term 2
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	NNOC Report Card
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	1
Apr	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	2
2024	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	NNOC Report Card
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	Term 1 – Part 1
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	Term 1 – Part 2
Mari	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Term 2 – Part 1
May 2024	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Term 2 – Part 2
_02 1	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	Kindergarten Gradu
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Grade 6 Farewell
l	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Grade 12 Graduation
Jun 2024	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Total School Days: 196
2024	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	330M x 196D = 64,680 360M x 181D = 64,160
	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	*School day extended b

DATE	SCHOOL CLOSURE
August 31 and September 1, 2023	Professional Development (2)
Monday, September 4, 2023	Labour Day Holiday
September 5, 2023	Professional Development (1)
September 6, 2023	First Day of Classes
Friday, September 29, 2023	Truth and Reconciliation Day
Monday, October 9, 2023	Thanksgiving Holiday
Tuesday, October 10 – October 13, 2023	Flex Days (4)
Wednesday, November 8-9, 2023	Flex Days (2) Aboriginal Veterans
Friday, November 10, 2023	Remembrance Day Observance
Friday, December 22, 2023	Last Day of Classes before break
Monday, December 25, 2023	First Day of Winter Break
Friday, January 5, 2024	Last Day of Winter Break
Monday, January 8, 2024	Classes resume
Friday, February 16, 2024	Flex Day (1)
Monday, February 19, 2024	Louis Riel Holiday
Monday, February 26, 2024	Flex Day (1) Aboriginal Justice
March 25-29, 2024	March Break
March 29, 2024	Good Friday Holiday
Monday, April 1 – April 5, 2024	Flex Days (5)
Friday, May 17, 2024	Flex Days (1)
Monday, May 20, 2024	Victoria Day Holiday
Thursday, June 27, 2024	Last Day of classes
Friday, June 28, 2024	Flex Day (1)
OK School Term Dates	
Term 1	August 31, 2023 to December 1, 2023
Term 2	December 4, 2023 to March 15, 2024
Term 3	March 18, 2024 to June 27, 2024
OK Cala ad Danasat Cand Width a Dana	
OK School Report Card Writing Day	Danambar 4 2022
2	December 4, 2023  March 11, 2024
3	June 14, 2024
3	Julie 14, 2024
OK School Report Card Night	
Term 1	December 12, 2023
Term 2	March 20, 2024
Term 3	June 20, 2024
NINGST D-4	
NNOC Term Dates Term 1	August 31, 2023 to February 2, 2024
Term 2	February 5, 2023 to June 28, 2024
	February 3, 2023 to June 26, 2024
NNOC Report Card Writing Day	
1	November 24, 2023
2	April 15, 2024
NNOC Report Card Night	
Term 1 – Part 1	November 30, 2023
Term 1 – Part 2	February 8, 2024
Term 2 – Part 1	April 23, 2024
Term 2 – Part 2	June 27, 2024
Kindergarten Graduation	June 24, 2024
Grade 6 Farewell	June 25, 2024
Grade 12 Graduation	June 26, 2024
Fotal School Days: 196 130M x 196D = 64,680 160M x 181D = 64,160 School day extended by 30 minutes to scount for 15 flex days.	Motion #2023-04-25-11: That the NNCEA School Board of Trustees approve the 2023-2024 Academic Calendar.



L-R, Gord Dumas, Councillor Kim Linklater, Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations and Indigenous Economic Development, Hon. Ian Bushie, Minister of Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources. Hon. Jamie Moses and Councillor Shirely Linklater.

#### **Employment Opportunities**

#### **CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL ACCCOUNTANT (2 POSITIONS)**

**Employer:** NCN Government Office Position: CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL ACCCOUNTANT X2 POSITIONS

Deadline: March 29, 2024 Start Date: ASAP

Wage Range: Negotiable Ref #: NCN 2024-03-15-002

#### **Position Summary:**

The CPA will play a critical role in developing and implementing the financial strategy of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. The CPA is responsible for the NCN's financial plans and policies, accounting practices, the conduct of its relationships with lending institutions and the financial community, the maintenance of its fiscal records, and the preparation of financial reports. This position involves supervision over general accounting, property accounting, internal auditing, and budgetary controls.

#### Responsibilities:

- Create, coordinate, and evaluate the financial programs and supporting information systems of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.
- Oversee the maintenance of books of account (including but not limited to preparing checks, coding and posting invoices, preparing deposits, journal entries, reconciliations).
- Provide leadership and support to the Finance Team to ensure records systems are maintained in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, including:
- Accounts Payable/Receivable.
- Monthly and Quarterly preparation of Finance Statements
- Payroll Functions
- Management of investments and cashflow requirements

- Oversee internal system of handling funds.
- Maintain year-end working papers and spreadsheets, and assist with preparation for any audits or independent reviews with CFO and Treasury Board
- Monthly reconciliations.
- Establish and maintain appropriate internal control safeguards.
- Maintain accounts and good relations with banks.
- Assist in maintaining policy and procedure documentation for complex financial and accounting issues.
- Maintain current knowledge of regulatory changes and impacts on the organization's books of account.
- Maintain an accurate and complete trail of supporting documentation for all financial and bookkeeping activities.
- Recommends training requirements to keep the staff at the highest level of skill necessary to meet company needs and objectives
- Analyze cashflow, cost controls, and expenses to guide the Treasury Board.
- Analyze financial statements to pinpoint areas of risk and/or potential weak areas.
- Engage the Finance, Executive Team, and Treasury Board around issues, trends, and changes in the operating models and operational delivery.
- Responsibility for providing effective financial controls for the organization; and
- Performs other accounting responsibilities as necessary.

#### Requirements:

- Minimum bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or related field required.
- CPA designation preferred.

- 5+ years of experience in financial management.
- Experience in accounting and computerized accounting programs.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Excellent communication skills both verbal and written
- Excellent working knowledge of MS Word, SAGE Acc-Pac and Excel.
- Assertive, comfortable communicating with various types of individuals.
- Strong problem identification and problem resolution skills.
- High level of critical and logical thinking, analysis, and/ or reasoning to identify underlying principles, reasons, or facts
- Ability to interpret and implement First Nations policies, procedures, and fiscal relationships with other levels of government.
- Good organizational, time management and prioritizing skills.
- Effective communication skills with individuals at all levels of the organization.

If interested, please email your resume and cover letter to:

#### Lorna Hart

Human Resources Director Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Email: lorna.hart@ncncree.com Phone: (204) 484-2604

We thank all who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.





# D-Mac Memorial Tournament A **Smash Success**

On February 28 and 29th, the fourth D-Mac Memorial Tournament brought together volleyball and basketball players from around the NCN community.

This annual tournament is one of the most spirited and popular competitions in NCN. Ten teams participated in

volleyball and five teams played basketball. All proceeds of the event go towards grade 12

NCN Chief, Council and Band Office.

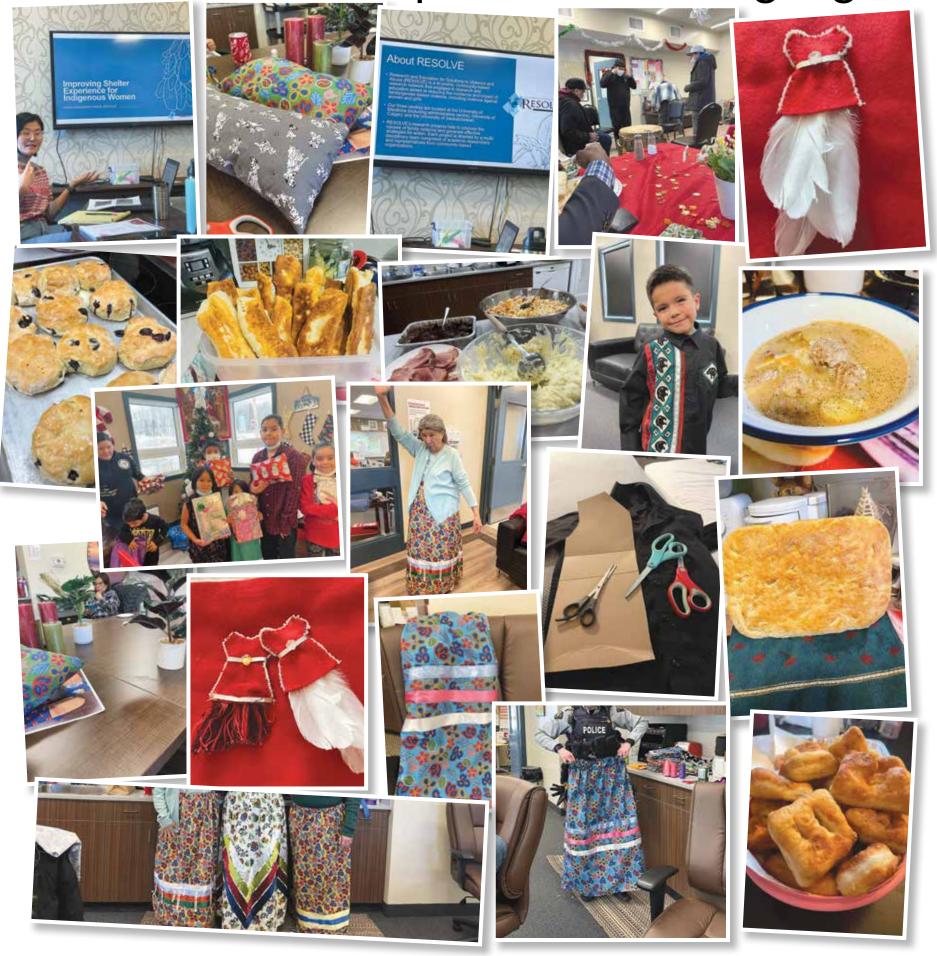
The Family and Community Wellness Centre team came out on top of the basketball tournament.

"As always, we had a great time," says organizer Nic Campbell. "Thanks to NNOC grads for assisting with the canteen, staff who helped with coordination and set-up, and to all participants for partaking in this event and making it successful. See you next year!"





Women's Shelter – A place where healing begins





# Just Say No to Bullying

Chief Angela Levasseur and Deputy Chief Marcel Moody stopped in at NNOC on February 28 to take a stand against bullying.

Anti-Bullying Day has been a recognized holiday in Canada since 2007. It began as a way to take a stand against homophobia, but since has broadened its focus to any kind of bullying. Pink shirts are worn to acknowledge the origins of Anti-Bullying Day, when a boy was taunted mercilessly







for wearing a pink shirt to school.

Levasseur and Moody enjoyed the chance to promote kindness, respect and inclusion.

"Let's celebrate all leaders, teachers, friends, and family

members in our community who uplift and make NNOC and NCN a beacon of positive change," said Moody.

# NCN Winter Festival Starts Strong

This year's annual winter festival takes place over three weeks of March and April.

Instead of cramming all activities into a few days, this more relaxed schedule allows for more families to participate and enjoy.

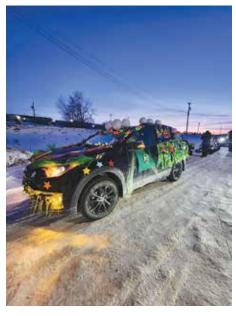
This year's theme is, "Family Time is the Best Time." Research shows that children who challenge themselves and overcome obstacles with family members learn to be more resilient and determined. Help your kids gain these valuable qualities by participating in some fun

activities. Modelling these characteristics are important, too!

There have been king and queen trapping events,

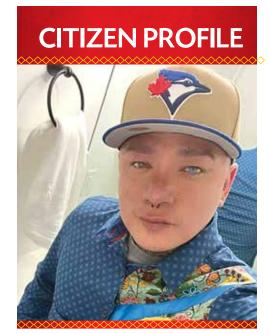








Continued on page 19



**Terrance Thomas** 

Terrance Thomas is an athlete, designer, cultural leader and world traveller. He is the son of Terry and Diane Linklater. His grandparents are the late Joseph and Elsie Linklater, the late Thomas and Dolly Linklater, and Elder Delilah Kobliski.

Thomas says big goals and discipline have created incredible experiences in his life. "Tae Kwon Do created my love of travelling, because I went to South Korea for three weeks. It helped me sober up when I was a teenage alcoholic."

He has competed in gruelling Spartan races in Hawaii, Greece, California and Georgia. His nephew, Aaron Kobliski, has joined in.

"I want to encourage young people to see the world and know that it's easy to go," Thomas says.

As part of his quest to live a healthy lifestyle, Thomas has turned to traditional teachings, ceremony and living off the land and its medicines.

"A few years ago, I was passed down one of the ceremonies and now I'm the sun dance chief out of White Wolf Medicine Camp. This will be my third year leading," he says. "Our ceremonies not only guide us, but connect us to the world through our mind, our bodies, our spirits and our emotions. Taking care of these aspects is important as we grow as a Nation and as a people."

He is thankful for the learnings he received from his late uncle, Darcy Linklater, and other knowledge holders. White Wolf Medicine Camp hosts weekly sweats and full moon ceremonies, and has hosted several round dances in Thompson. They are preparing for a sun dance in June.

Thomas appreciates how goals can provide structure to life. "I really wasn't planning on it, but I somehow managed to visit four of the seven world wonders, so now my goal is to get

He's seen Christ the Redeemer in Brazil, Chichen Itza in Mexico, Machu Picchu in Peru, and the Roman Colosseum in Italy.



Another passion is fashion and design. Thomas has travelled to Paris and New York to help his sister-in-law, Alyssia Sutherland from Peguis, at her fashion shows. In April, he will head to Edmonton to introduce up to 20 of his own creations at a show.

"I design my own ribbon skirts and ribbon shirts, and they've found their homes all over Turtle Island. These pieces fund most of my trips."

Thomas wants to encourage his kids, nieces and nephews, and other NCN youth to create big dreams and then work hard to achieve them.

"My goals continue to change with every challenge that I overcome. Consistency and discipline have taken me to many places," he says. "I want everyone to know that there's more in the world then just the rez. There's more to life than being stuck in drugs, alcohol and other forms of abuse. Learning our ways of life, and living without drugs and alcohol opens your eyes to a whole different aspect of living."



to the last three."







snowshoe challenges, adult jigging and road hockey for adults. Families have had the chance to compete in the toboggan



#### 27th Annual Richard Linklater Memorial Ice Fishing Derby **Pickerel Jack**

1st - Jonathon Bonner 2nd – George McKay 3rd – Kami Merasty 4th - Dustin Lepage

1st - Donovan Hart 2nd - Adam Spence 3rd – Aaron Kobliski 4th – Jim Bunn Mariah Side Bet – Brian Nicolas First Perch – Dave Moose

design and race, obstacle courses, backyard tunnels, talent shows and ice fishing.

> Prizes have included cash, gift cards and big prizes! The festival falls over the two weeks of school spring break, so be sure to check out the schedules on the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation page and the **2024 Winter Festival** page on Facebook so you can join in with your kids! A special thanks is extended to former event organizers Cheryl Moore, Lou Moodie and Terry Linklater for over 25 years of planning and working on the Annual Festival. The trio are stepping

down and are no longer involved with organizing the festival.

Our new team of organizers are updating Facebook as often as possible to inform of start times, postponements, etc, so check in often to keep up.

Let's have some fun, NCN!





# Haley Jo Braun: A Trailblazer on Ice



NCN Citizen Haley Jo Braun has had an inspiring journey in hockey, reflecting not only her dedication to the sport but also the support and commitment of her family.

From her early beginnings playing on reserve to her participation in various tournaments and her recent signing with the University of Saskatoon, Haley's story showcases the

potential for success that can come from hard work and passion.

Haley's journey in hockey ignited at the age of 6, when her passion for the sport blazed brightly on NCN, with frequent sightings of her dedication at the local arena. Rising through the ranks, she donned the NCN Flames jersey, leaving her mark at numerous tournaments with her skill and tenacity on the ice.

Seeking greater challenges to sharpen her talents, Haley's family made the bold move to Winnipeg, opening the door to new opportunities. There, she laced up her skates for the South Winnipeg Association and the Twin Female Bantam AA team.

It was on the international stage where Haley truly shined. Representing the Canada Cowboys, she ventured overseas to showcase her prowess in a European hockey tournament, leaving spectators in awe, as the number one female prospect under the of age of 18 in Manitoba.

Her involvement in multiple sports, including volleyball and basketball, underscores her athleticism and drive to excel. Haley's mom, Patricia, highlights the sacrifices and efforts required to support a young athlete's journey, emphasizing the importance of a strong support system and the need to be prepared as a parent.

"Hockey begins at 5 am. I remember waking up, driving Haley and her teammates to their practice, grabbing them breakfast, and then driving back for school. Having a hockey family is essential for your kid to do well in hockey," Patricia says.

Patricia attests to the positive impact hockey has had on Haley, providing her with a sense of purpose. Haley's ability to navigate the challenges of her sport while staying true to herself speaks volumes about her character and resilience.

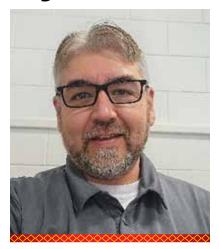
"Haley is a keep-to-herself type of person. Hockey has given her more confidence and happiness. Hockey has given me a peace of mind that I don't need to worry about her. I trust Haley will always do the right thing."

As Haley continues to pursue her dreams in hockey and beyond, she serves as a shining example for NCN youth, showcasing what can be achieved through determination, hard work, and unwavering support. In fact, she has just signed a contract with University of Saskatchewan.

Thank you, Haley and Patricia, for being the best you can be, representing NCN, and being a great role model for NCN youth and parents.



# Vystrcil Named Director of NCN Dev Corp



Ed Vystrcil, new director of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Development Corporation.

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Development Corporation has a new director. Ed Vystrcil started his new position in February.

"Ed is a visionary, and brings bigger picture thinking to the Nation," says Chief Angela Levasseur. "He understands the importance of securing lands and resources as a major vehicle of economic development and self-sufficiency for First Nations."

Vystrcil (Spence/Moody) is one of Manitoba's leading First Nation land, environmental and natural resource specialists, and has advocated for Indigenous and NCN's land rights for decades. He has worked for various regional and national government and industry organizations over the last 20 years.

"I am excited to lead NCN into a new chapter of sustainability and economic reconciliation," Vystrcil says.

"I foresee the need for modern economic initiatives, balanced with our culture and respect for the land. I look forward to exploring business ideas such as a major local employer for our youth. We must also capitalize on land development opportunities in the Thompson Market, as well as assert our place in Manitoba's economy. We have suffered in silence long enough and it's our time to diversify, grow and become a major economic player in the North."

Vystrcil replaces David Kobliski, who led Dev Corp for about 25 years, and retired last year.

The NCN Development Corporation was created in 1992 to build capacity, create employment for Citizens and generate revenue to fund NCN programs and services. It has become hugely successful, creating profits exceeding \$5 million and receiving the 2022 CANDO Community of the Year award.

# Footprint Lake Water Levels

# Footprint Lake 7-Day Water Level Forecast

Revised Forecast as of March 19, 2024

On March 19, 2024 the level of Footprint Lake was at an elevation of 791.6 feet. The level of the lake is expected to drop 8.4 inches to an elevation of 790.9 feet by the end of the



The 7-day forecasts are estimates, and subject to change. Northern forecasts are broadcast on local radio stations at the beginning of every month.



#### Nisichawayasi Nehetho Culture and Education Authority Inc. School Board Meeting Dates for 2023-24

Please see below dates for the NNCEA School Board Meetings for the 2023-2024 Academic Year as per Motion #2023-08-29-19

TIME	LOCATION
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
5:30 pm	OK School Gym
5:30 pm	Alice Moore Education Centre
	5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation General Delivery Nelson House, Manitoba ROB 1A0 Phone: (204) 484-2332 Fax: (204) 484-2392

www.ncncree.com

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

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

#### 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.

