Jason Rasevych wins Premier's Award for Business

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Ginoogaming's Jason Rasevych was honoured and humbled to be recognized with a Premier's Award for Business by Colleges Ontario at the Colleges Ontario Higher Education Summit in Toronto.

"When I won the award on Monday night, I fell off my chair — this was some of the best talent not just in the province but where these individuals are located in the U.S. and across Canada doing major things," says Rasevych, partner, national Indigenous client services lead at Deloitte Canada and board member at the Anishnawbe Business Professional Association, "I'm still reflecting on my journey, it's been a whirlwind of emotion thinking of where I've come from, Ginoogaming First Nation, and the lessons learned from my father, Elders, First Nation leaders across the journey that has helped give me opportunity to lead certain projects but also to teach me about Indigenous knowledge and the relationship with the land and the culture and the identity of who we are."

Rasevych says he was encouraged by his father to pursue business education at Confederation College more than 20 years ago. Rasevych has also studied at Lakehead University, Dalhousie University, University of Waterloo and Rotman School of Management.

"He encouraged me to also think of the traditional ways of life, so living out on the land, all of the experiences of what he taught me on the trapline about work ethic, of what you put into your day is what you get out of it," Rasevych says. "He brought me to the Oka rallies back in the early 1990s exposing me to that as a youth, to hear the leaders speak about the rights back then, helped shape my world view. So definitely I give this award out in recognition of my father on what he has been able to do as far as teachings and passing down that thought process to

Rasevych currently manages close to \$1 billion in accounts for 20 First Nations and provides business advice to more than 230 more in his role at Deloitte Canada.

"I learned a lot from the Matawa chiefs during my time working with the tribal council on Ring of Fire negotiations, on helping them also secure ownership of broadband fibre optics to the remote communities," Rasevych says, noting that many of the initiatives he worked on were David versus Goliath-type projects. "Now with Deloitte, I'm taking on another David versus Goliath-type project with decolonizing the corporate mindset of the biggest professional services company in the world, and that is no easy task because Deloitte has been in business for over 175 years. We are working day in and day out in advancing our reconciliation action plan in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, specifically Call to Action 94 which asks corporate Canada to adopt the principles of UNDRIP (United

Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), Free, Prior and Informed Consent and provide opportunities for Indigenous people within the context of the corporate setting."

Rasevych says he also does work with Deloitte Canada on advising First Nations on their nation building aspirations around the pillars of people, land, economic independence or sovereignty and governance.

"Within those four areas there is quite a bit of activity that is happening on helping communities own infrastructure, helping communities develop the case to access capital to partner with resource companies so that they can be a part of the decision making that goes on related to projects," Rasevvch savs.

Rasevych was one of four Confederation College alumni who were nominated for the 2022 Premier's Awards, including Tricia McGuire Adams, Goro Koyoma and David LeMay.

"Jason Rasevych and our other nominees are all wonderful examples of where a college education can take you," says Kathleen Lynch, president at Confederation College. "Each individual began their post-secondary studies at Confederation College, where they built a solid foundation for success."

The other 2022 Premier's Award recipients are: Shereen Ashman, from Centennial College for Community Services; Murray Brewster, from Niagara College for Creative Arts and Design; Mark Cameron, from Humber College for Health Sciences; Steve



Jason Rasevych, partner, national Indigenous client services lead at Deloitte Canada and board member at the Anishnawbe Business Professional Association, was recognized with a 2022 Premier's Award for Business by Colleges Ontario.

DeRoy, from Fleming College for Technology; Jennifer Green, from Conestoga College for Apprenticeship; and Erica Williams, from Niagara College for Recent Graduate.

'Ontario colleges are critical in providing students with the career-focused education they need and in addressing the labour requirements of key sectors

driving the province's economy," says Premier Doug Ford. "The winners of the Premier's Awards are perfect examples of the potential our college students hold and why I have such confidence in our future. They are making a lasting impact and we are so proud of what these incredible Ontarians are accomplishing."

≽Δ' b≥Δ'

₽₽₽₽, ∆₽₽- ₩₽₽ \$Δ₽₩ρργοςς Γα ρςζίς βργαβρ-⊳,∩≽∇4 Ь∪ЬЬ□Γ₫∇., ₽ЬЬ□Γ∇.- $\ensuremath{\texttt{DP}}\Delta \cdot \sigma$ $\ensuremath{\texttt{Tb}} \cdot \ensuremath{\texttt{-}}$ b $\ensuremath{\texttt{-}}$ b $\ensuremath{\texttt{D}}$ b $\ensuremath{\texttt{D}$ P>∩>∇4 P∇n b∪bb¬Γd∇·σ> Γ⊲.∪..∇υ∇.Φ, ⊃≥⊲.Σ.

'ላለ የረьσፊትን ቴቴσፈ・ሁ...\\ PP_nb , PQPQP $^{9}U5\Lambda\Delta\cdot\sigma$ '. $\Gamma^{"}D\nabla\cdot$ $^{"}V$ ' $^{"}L$ bunger, La nu<"y pac **ხ**სმძთა •סרכן מכלם ΔΡϽ ≯∇ԿΛ-, ϧΔ⋅ϹϼΡΓ∇·-, ΔL ΓΥΟ·ΡΙ, σαλαα συδςΓάφισ δ⊲οδυρ[,] ΔL ∪≤ρυ δαC Γα δγΛCL9- ΔL ⊲σ√αV **⊲**ϼρΛͿՐ۹Δ∙ LL**⊲**∙ϼρΔ∙σ`. "ρϧΛ− γΛΓΡ∇·ΦΦΡCΔ·CΦλ ΡΕΝΑΦΡΟΓΓΩ. $\Delta \Gamma \Delta C \Gamma_3 = \rho V \nabla V \Delta V$, $\delta \Phi V \Delta V \Delta V$ Δ° d σ b σ ', Fo bps bppsl Δ . \int d \cdot)CC, $P\Gamma$ " Δ ', $\Delta\sigma \mathcal{L}\sigma \Delta \Delta$ $\sigma b\sigma CL9$ Ͻϧ·⁻ ϧϒϹϟϼϼϧͻ Ϫϭ^ͺ ϧϧϧϭϧϧͺ ∇ΡՒՐ bρηcl> ∢σ√σσΔ· P9CLQ.¢) L¢ d\p¢q.<CT, d.b Γα ΓσγC∇·CL³ δΡΛΦCδσγγ'."

≥Δ5V- ∇6⊃ ⊳6VL⊲·∇·CΓq₀ $\mathsf{LPCV}\sigma_{\prime}$ Δ و Δ \cdot

ΡΡΔL9Δ·σ ∇Γ ρ∙λ∧⊃≽Δ∿ℷ $C \wedge P \Delta \cdot P \Delta \cdot$ ΔL ₹∇\"∇' PՐΡΡωLΛЬΓď\, C≤"DY Proplo Lord', ·d⊃≥≤D δυδυστυρια, ισ ≥α·√γ αυδυν ΡΡΩΕΟΔ∙σ\ ΡΟ√ ΡΡΩΕ⊲∙δΩ.

 $V\Gamma$ **Δρ. Υρ. ΕΣ. ΡΕ. ΥΓΙΝΤ Φ Φ Φ.,** ορο Δο·σσι βρλι σι<ςς PVPC פארן הא $4 \cdot \sigma$ " Δ 96 α ' $9 \cdot \sigma$ 6 α 0
<CL) $4 \circ \rho \Delta$ 0 Γ"ΔL 9ΡΛαL' Ρυλσ9Δ·)," ΔΡΟ $\nabla P \triangleleft \cdot < C " \triangle \mathcal{J}^- \exists b \cdot \neg b \land D \neg b \cup b \cup c \wedge,$ $\mathsf{LVLQ} \cdot \mathsf{P} \cdot$ bσbσCL94∙⁻ ρ∇·▷<ΛαΙα·- ▷LυδΔ·νΔ·σα·. 3660×10^{-1} $9da^{3}$. $3D^{6}$ $\sigma^{2}C\Delta^{3}\sigma^{9}CL\Delta^{3}$ 3CC $P\Delta \cdot PbLQq_2$ $bb\sigma q \cdot U_{\square} P \nabla \cdot LQq_2$ $\rho \rho \Lambda \Lambda$ $\rho \rho \sigma \Gamma \nabla \Lambda$ $\rho \sigma \Gamma \Delta \Gamma \Delta \Gamma$

>∇\Λ- \b·- ▷ΛΓΔ·⊃> 9b′ \$1 Γυλοιο αυν αρραιος Γο Λεδρς Οιινι ναραινημάνος b⊳Ր⊲໑bUPን 29 Δυdσbαν Γα Λ J Γ 9 Δ \cdot σ \cdot .

"ΓС"Δ ሰ**ሳ**ወን ኃ<mark></mark> ኃ ነ ΔΓ ΓC⊲· ⊳δΓρσ, ეხ∙− $\rho \rho q \cdot \nabla \cdot C \sigma \rho \Gamma \rho \cdot < 0$ bPΛΓ ΔDCJ_{4} ΔV_{4} ΔPCJ_{4} ΔV_{5} $\Gamma\Gamma$ ΔΛΙΦΓ' CΦΛΔ·Φ' ΓΦρΓΡΑ," ΔΡϽ ≯∇ΥΛ-, ΓΦ ⊳Ρ⊳ΓΦ∙Δ•CΦ϶ $\Gamma \cup \Gamma \cup \nabla \cdot \sigma_{0}$ იმ ეძ დ Р С Р პ $CV_0q_ NV_1$ $Pbbl_0p\nabla\cdot p < \nabla\cdot Cq\cdot$ PPF5V) $P\Delta DCb$. " ∇b . Δd^{C} $D\nabla$. $U^{c}DU$, $\Delta \omega$ Γd . $\mathsf{U}\mathsf{\Lambda}'$ $\mathsf{\Gamma}\mathtt{a}$ $\mathsf{P}\mathsf{\Gamma}\mathsf{F}\mathsf{V}$ $\mathsf{b}\mathsf{\Delta}\mathtt{v}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{b}\mathsf{\cdot}\mathsf{'}$ $\label{eq:continuity} \begin{picture}(10,0) \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}} \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}}$ 110010.0.0. PbU 263 $\rho \nabla \cdot$ Lace, $\rho \Delta \cdot$ Leolph, $\Delta \alpha_n$ D∆. ∩<DN V76JFV N4.NJ $babCd7d^{-}$ $bP7\sigmaJCJd^{-}$ $bP69^{\circ}$ 175 $C77P\Delta^{\circ}$ $PCACD^{\circ}$. σ ΛΓ Δ ·C $_{\Delta}$ ΡΓ Ω Γ 3 $\mathsf{C}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{P}\mathsf{D}\mathsf{D}$ ⊲∘δ∇∙ ⊳σι∂∇∙) Δ∇∙ΓC∘ρCΓ, $b\Gamma \mathcal{J}$ $LLd \cdot \Lambda \Delta \cdot$, $\Delta \nabla \cdot Ld \cdot$ radou, 84 pbd.lpp_ pac PDPVO PDVO $P\Gamma\Delta \cdot CL9\Delta \cdot O$ $DU<9Cd \cdot \Delta \cdot \sigma < O$ σρι Γσ υρασαιρη, Φιστάσι $\Delta \Gamma + \Delta \Gamma = \Delta \Gamma \Gamma \Phi \Gamma \Phi$

 $C \nabla \cdot \sigma \Gamma \partial \nabla \cdot \sigma$ **⊲σ**√σσ**⊲**·\ ΔL $P\Gamma L\Gamma C\Delta \cdot \sigma \cdot ."$

≥∆≀∨- Δ PD $PV \cdot C \circ PL$ N≼⊳N P⊄C ∆⊳U -PJoopLq $\forall \sigma \mathcal{S} \sigma \sigma \Delta$. $C\sigma V \nabla \cdot \sigma_{2}$ bσ√ ΛΓLՐCL94· ΡσΔ ΔΔ DCPF4. ⊳Cσ√σσΓ⊲·`, 9⊅Γ∾σኑ9Γ∢∙- Γσ 9⊅Γ ΠΛσΔ∙ Λ Ј σ በረ $^-$.

"dr $\nabla \sigma \cdot \sigma d \cdot \nu$ $\sigma \Delta \cdot \nu$ $\Delta \sigma q$ ьΛГ የቦلامول сорб ₽₫∙₯∙₧₽₩₽ $C\sigma V \nabla \cdot \sigma_0$ $\mathsf{LP}\sigma\mathsf{CF}\mathsf{CFPb}$ $P\Gamma\Gamma\Gamma\Gamma \Phi \Delta \cdot \Phi^{3}$, $\rho V T L d \Gamma \rho b_3 \ d \rho \cdot U, \ b L d \nabla b \nabla \cdot \sigma_3$ Δ.σα. θαλρως Ια. $9\sqrt{ab\sigma}$ ⊳C⊅ρΛJΓ9Δ·Φλ"," Δρ⊃ ≥∇ΥΛΞ.

≽∇ԿΛ- ΔΡϽ V√' ΔL σΔ·) ρ.₃ΛϽ≽Δ∿, bυδδ⊽Γ∪ρLq, ρδ -100049 (.7pT0444 -CJ4 $9\Gamma\sigma^{-}$ 2022 $PPL\Delta^{,0}$ $PPad\cdot\Gamma\Delta d\Delta^{,0}$. ▷9·σ
σ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ
Λ</p b·√L, ΓΦ UΛ′ ₹Δ٦.

"ባ♭५ን ≥∇५Λ− Γ쇼 ძርዖϧ\ ρδουνας· δση· δρσησση· σω ΡΓΡΡΔΙΘΑΟ ΘΟΓΔΟΘΙΑΝ," ΔΡΟ ρ√≼∇ͻ ≼∇ͻ-, ρ⊳ρΓ∇-- ρ∙ͻΛ⊃≽Δ∿ͻ

 PΓΡΡΦΙΠΦΓΑ΄.
 "bΔΛ<V√d-</td>

 PPΓLΓСΑ·
 DL
 PPΦΙΑΟ·σ΄

 ∇Ρͻϭ ΡΛαΙΦΩ- ΓΣΕυβΔυβ<ΔυΦ-**▷**CϼβΔ·σ⟨ς δΛΔ⟩⟨ς."

Δρ. qCb, **5055 ⊳bΓ∇·** ρρασ·<u>Γ"</u>ΔσΔ·) βρΓσC· δ9·σσ·,

S>D> dors pecr bepran-ለንበወ4 bubbarupla, doby. $\Delta \cdot \Gamma'' \Delta \nabla \cdot \Delta \cdot \alpha$) PPDL9 $\Delta \cdot$) bPDC $\Delta \cdot$, L≥V ¬≥D∪⊃≥, PPC√ PPDLd√σρ,≥ΔυθροΓυρια, Γλαιθ∇ο Γο Γζολ"Δ9Δ0 ΡΡοΓ9Δ0 Γ bppcad', noi o≥d>, bpcs לאסרקץ- י≼ענאי לענאי לענאי דערטףעלי' LLC4·Λd ΡΡοL9Δ· bPDCΛα', 1σ>> \>Δ), bρC√ ρρΔLd/- $PJP\sigma$, $PJQUJ\sigma ddJd$ $\Delta \rho$ Lo $\Delta \rho$ $\nabla \rho$ $\nabla \rho$ $\nabla \rho$ $\nabla \rho$. ხРСЈ לאסרקל - סל,≽ס לנטטסרטףנף, $\Delta \Phi = \nabla \nabla \Phi = \nabla \Phi$

᠂᠐᠂ PL6b¬TUPLq3 bLσ<LLPПQ·3 Δ DLC Γ ∇ ·C· δ D Γ ∇ · ρ σ , L Γ ∇ VLρροιδίου σοράν ρροισόνος Δρ⊃ Þ>U≥Δ< ÞÞΓΦ·> C, <·≥. " $PQ \cdot \sigma d \cdot \Lambda$ PP $\Gamma \sigma C \cdot PP \circ d \cdot C \cdot \Lambda d \Lambda \cdot o \Lambda$ ργοροιαία Γα b>∩ U<9σJ>> ∇·Λ ⟨σσδ⟩. ▶ρьчροα
• ρα·৬
• σσ√Λ
• σσ√Λ
• σσ√Λ
• σσ√Λ
• σσ√Λ
• σσσ
• σσσ Δρ. Γα. → νδιραΓι, ▷διαδι, **ϧϧϧϧϧͺͺͺͺͺͺͺͺ**



Safe. Affordable. Reliable SERVING NORTHERN ONTARIO & BEYOND

> Toll Free: 1-844-633-6294 Website: northstarair.ca





News

Advertising Sales Associates

Wawatay Communications Society is currently looking for dynamic and results-driven **Advertising Sales Associates (multiple positions)** who enjoys working independently and within a team.

As a Sales Associate, you will be given the opportunity to grow, develop, and make an impact while achieving your financial objectives. Using your superior interpersonal, organizational and timemanagement skills, you can successfully grow a client base which would earn you a highly competitive income by selling advertising for our newspaper, website and radio stations.

We offer: the opportunity to work at your own pace and your own hours; commission-based remuneration; assistance from a highly experienced sales professional; and the satisfaction of helping to grow and further develop Indigenous media in northern Ontario.

Your main responsibilities would be to identify new potential advertising clients and to develop mutually rewarding business relationships with them.

Successful candidates will have the following:

Basic computer and office skills, an ability to work from home or from their own office, a strong desire to succeed, an interest in developing Indigenous media and communications, a passion for high-quality service, and superior working habits. A proven sales experience background, an ability to speak an Indigenous language, and being of Indigenous descent are assets but are not necessary.

We are looking for representatives to be based in northwestern Ontario (Sioux Lookout, Dryden) and representatives to be based in northeastern Ontario (Timmins, North Bay). As well as Sault Saint Marie.

Sales leads, advice and training will be provided. This is a commission-based position.

Please send your cover letter and resume to toms@wawatay.on.ca.

These positions will be open until filled.



www.wawataynews.ca

Eli Baxter wins Governor General's Award

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Marten Falls' Eli Baxter was recognized with a 2022 Governor General's Literary Award for English-Language Nonfiction for his book Aki-Wayn-Zih: A Person as Worthy as the Earth.

"It was my first book actually, and it was almost like writing it in a storytelling fashion," Baxter says. "Some of my book reviews were commenting on the fact that this has never been done before. I made it sound as if I'm telling a story to somebody right in front of me."

Baxter says the book is about the land, living off the land and a term used for Elders who are held in high esteem.

"They're given that term because they know the secrets of the Earth, the plants and the animals, learnings that they've had just living with the land," Baxter says.

Baxter says he wrote the book after initially translating some poems from the early 1900s into Anishinabemowin for a museum curator.

"This was the first time that he'd ever heard anybody speak (Anishnabemowin) and he was really interested in it, so I started talking to him about my experiences of being born into a hunting and gathering society and only learning the language out on our ancestral lands up north," Baxter says. "He was really interested in the stories, so I said I'll write them down and that's how it began. I wrote the stories down and then we found a publisher."

Baxter says the book includes stories on what life was like on Turtle Island before European contact

"I talked about me growing up way out in the wilder-

ness with my parents and all my siblings for the first seven years up north, and then I talk about going to residential school," Baxter says. "One of the reasons I wrote this was the fact that there really aren't that many books out there in Canadian literature about stories like ours when we were growing up before residential school."

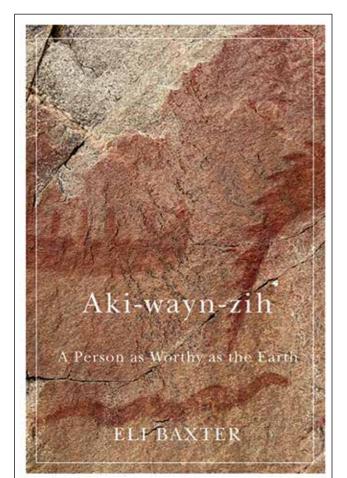
Baxter says the book goes up until he finished residential school at Grade 10.

"I tell the story about me leaving Shingwauk in Sault Ste. Marie and then going back to my mom and dad up north," Baxter says. "I went and lived with them up north for a couple of years, so that's where this story ends."

Book reviews by David Paul Achneepineskum, CEO at Matawa First Nations Management, and Isaac Murdoch, storyteller and traditional knowledge keeper at the Onaman Collective and Serpent River citizen, are featured on the McGill-Queen's University Press website, located at www.mqup. ca, which published Baxter's book in 2021.

"Aki-wayn-zih will educate not only Canadians but the world as to what my people went through during this tragic part of history," Achneepineskum says in his review. "I recommend this book wholeheartedly, and I hope that it inspires our young people and the public to learn more about Indigenous peoples, our history and why we remain strong in our culture, our languages, our lands and our nations."

"Eli Baxter eloquently weaves us through his life on the land," Murdoch says in his review. "This is not just a book, but also a record of (Anishinabe) customs and beliefs. What also makes this an incredible treasure



screensho

Marten Falls teacher and knowledge keeper Eli Baxter was recognized with a 2022 Governor General's Literary Award for English-Language Non-fiction for his book Aki-Wayn-Zih: A Person as Worthy as the Earth.

is the fact that it is expressed in the language. No doubt a language resource for many generations to come, the information in this book is sacred and will transform lives."

Baxter says he has had a great response to his book, noting that one friend in London, where he lives, ordered 10 books for him to sign.

"She's going to give those books to her family and friends," Baxter says. "She said one of the books went to Sweden, so I've had a good response regionally, nationally and internationally."

Baxter adds that he is currently writing a second book about what happened after residential school.

Thank You, Airlines!

Your fast, courteous delivery of Wawatay News to our northern communities is appreciated.













Community



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Children painted their hand prints on the signs that were installed in the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden project at St. Joseph's Care Group in Thunder Bay.



Rick Garrick / Wawatay News

The Minogin Gitigaanis team installed some signs with art and syllabics.

Memorial Garden adds signs in syllabics

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Minogin Gitigaanis youth Myla Jacob and Kieran Beardy recently added signs with art and syllabics to the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden project at St. Joseph's Care Group in Thunder Ray

"The signs are great, they look great," says Jacob, a Webequie citizen. "They're a different form of art, it's not like a picture or a drawing or a painting, it's on wood. And I like the syllabics on them also."

Jacob says they developed the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden to honour the potential unmarked graves discovered at a former residential school in Kamloops, B.C.

"We chose flowers because it was something we were doing and because it was like a new form of life," Jacob says. "I just hope we are able to put more Orange Flower Memorial Gardens around the city."

Beardy, a McDowell Lake citizen, says it was fun to develop the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden, noting that they planted a variety of orange flowers and native plants in the garden, including sweetgrass, sage and different yarrows.

"It was nice to be able to do this with my family and have my grandmother involved," Beardy says. "The signs mean a lot it's nice to have our own signs on our garden, but especially now that we've put our own hand prints on them, like it's nice seeing my son's hand print on there."

Beardy says her goal with the project was to spread awareness.

"And we can definitely do that if we get more opportunities to plant gardens within the city," Beardy says.

Laura James, Elder and language and cultural teacher with the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden project, says she enjoyed watching her grandchildren doing the different activities during the project.

project.
"It helps them to feel good that they can express their thoughts and ideas or an activity," James says. "This is what I

think mainstream society should be able to come and look at and to maybe learn something from it."

Verlin James, program coordinator at Alter Eden and McDowell Lake citizen, says St. Joseph's Care Group provided them with space to plant two garden beds with orange flowers and native plants for the Wezaawimini waabigwani mikwedaamowin Orange Flower Memorial Garden project.

"We did the planting on June 21, so we did it on National Indigenous Peoples Day," Verlin says. "Some of the youth grew some of the plants and we used local suppliers, so we used Vanderwees (Garden Gallery), which supplied a lot of these native plants."

Verlin says native plant gar-

dens generally need little to no maintenance because the plants are adapted to the local climate.

"We've had a lot of help from Kyla Moore," Verlin says, noting that Moore is the representative from St. Joseph's Care Group that they worked with on the project. "She has been very instrumental in maintaining its upkeep when we've been unavailable."

Verlin says they would like to have more Orange Flower Memorial Gardens developed across Canada and the United States.

"This is a concept developed by two young Anishinabe-kwe and it's something that is really important," Verlin says. "I believe it's something that can be attributed to a cultural revitalization amongst our people." A group of nine Minogin Gitigaanis youth had previously planted a memorial of orange flowers at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School in 2021 to commemorate the 215 potential unmarked graves discovered at the former Kamloops residential school.

"It is important to me that we're planting these orange flowers in our garden to honour all of the children who never got to go home and to the survivors of residential schools," Jacobs says in 2021. "My hope for these orange flowers is that they'll bring more awareness to residential schools and symbolize resistance that this is something that can't just be forgotten."



Sioux Lookout Airport

Feburary 8, 2023 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

See us at our booth and ask about our upcoming programs!

We will have applications on site for those who want to apply!

For more information contact:
Archie Mekanak, Recruitment Officer
amekanak@oshki.ca
807-626-1901



الاا٠٥٥،

16-5th Avenue North P.O. Box 1180 Sioux Lookout, ON P8T 1B7

Serving the First Nations in Northern Ontario since 1974. Wawatay News is a politically independent monthly newspaper published by Wawatay Communications Society.

σ^CC δΡΕCΦδΟ΄ 1974 ΦΡΓΦΦδΟΡΟ ΡΌΠΦ΄ ▷᠈∪≯Δ₹ CΔς√9.ΔΦ). C₹σ∾ΛΓάΦρ ▷√ΓρΟ .∢.∢Ο

Commentary

The Trickster Is Online



Xavier Kataquapit

UNDER THE ORTHERN SKY

n James Bay Cree mythology and legends, one of the recurring characters that comes up is the story of the trickster or wandering spirit. This a mysterious character that wanders around our world and takes on any form it wishes. It could be a man, a woman, a child, an Elder, or calls itself an older brother or a younger sibling. Sometimes it's an animal, a bird or a tiny creature. It could just be a spirit that blows in the wind, that speaks from the forest or inhabits the earth or stones or water. Sometimes it's a monster and sometimes it is a helpful being that saves people. Sometimes it is all intelligent, wise and all knowing and other times, it is as silly as child or as clumsy as a clown. In many of the stories, it could be a saviour or a bringer of death and destruction. We call him or her or it many things - as a spirit / god like being we have stories of Cheekapesh or Nanabush, and as a monster we call it Ochaskeechoo or Windigo.

I like to imagine the dawning of Artificial Intelligence or AI as this legendary trickster step-ping into our world again. Instead of wandering into our world through the water, the trees or as an ani-mal, it is visiting us through the digital

Artificial Intelligence software and systems are now actively affecting our everyday lives in many ways whether we would like to admit it or not. Much of the effects of AI can be felt every time we log on to our favourite social media app on our phones, our tablets and our computers at home.

All the content we see is fed back to us in a systematic way to make sure we see only the things we like, agree to or are entertained by. AI algorithms actively collect as much information about us as possible by record-ing what we like, what we say, what we post, what we watch, how long we watch it, what time of day, in what location, with which people and a whole bunch more personal information. All that information is fed back to AI systems which then figure out what posts, pictures and advertisements to send back to us automatically.

An example of some current AI technologies that you can interact with are being done by the research laboratory OpenAI through its two projects Dall-E, which creates new images from

your de-scriptions and Chat-GPT, an automated chat that you can create in words with.

For those at work, AI is now helping workforces to arrange, collect and process all sorts of data into readable formats to make it easier for people to understand complex and large amounts of infor-mation. AI is used in what is known as Natural Language Generation which takes information and automatically turns it into readable formats like charts or graphs.

In my work as a writer, I often use a speech to text recognition software to make my work easier when interviewing. This is automated software which can take a recording of a person's voice and convert it into text.

All of this is done automatically with an app on my phone and the internet. Whenever we go online to deal with a problem with a service by a major company or cooperation, we'll often be di-rected to a chat service to talk to someone. More often than not, that chat window will have an automated AI service answering your ques-

AI services to varying degrees are used by companies to manage all sorts of systems and processes in order to help major corporations to make fast decisions. These types of AI services are wide-ly used in the financial sector, health care sector and insurance companies. Another system that has taken hold over the past few years is peer-to-peer networking of systems and computers to share data. This is a system of connected computers that share their abilities to solve complex problems together. This type of system is most famous for making cryptocurrencies possible.

The reason why I like to imagine AI as the trickster is that this legend is there to remind us of a basic lesson in

This lesson reminds us we are never fully in control of the world, its animals, the environment or even of each other. Any decision we choose to make can either help us or hurt us and we should always be careful. AI is already affecting the lives of people all over the world and the work that researchers are doing with the support of major governments and corporations is set to make this technol-ogy even more powerful and pervasive in our lives. There are benefits to AI, however, I can also see the dangers of what it can do in creating, maintaining and increasing wealth inequality or in deadly advances in automated military software and hardware.

The legend of the trickster is alive and well here today in AI.

www.underthenorthernsky.com

Nadya Kwandibens: The Red Chair Sessions exhibition



Animakee Wa Zhing #37 artist Nadya Kwandibens highlighted how she photographed people on red chairs during her artist talk for the Thunder Bay Art Gallery's Nadya Kwandibens: The Red Chair Sessions exhibition. An award-winning portrait and events photographer, Kwandibens initially developed the idea for the The Red Chair Sessions, which is an ongoing open-call series that places importance on acknowledgement and reclamation of Indigenous lands and revitalization of Indigenous languages, in

First Half of Winter: Warmer than Usual



ecember's temperatures averaged above normal across Northern Ontario. However, averages often downplay extremes. In Northwestern Ontario very cold temperatures occurred early in the month. Between December 3 and 9, numerous stations reported daily minimum temperatures colder than -30° C. Fort Severn, next to Hudson Bay, recorded -37° C, the coldest in Northern Ontario for December 2022. More southerly locations also experienced the chill, like Fort Frances at -33° C. This cold spell was followed by an abrupt shift to well above normal temperatures. For about one week (between December 10 and 18), large areas of northern Ontario had temperatures that were about 12° C above normal. This extended period of warmer than normal temperatures was followed by a week of cooler seasonal. Records for the warmest December 30 were established in Sioux Saint Marie (9.3° C), Timmins (8.1° C) and many other locations in Northeastern Ontario.

I talked about temperature

thresholds last month. When afternoon temperatures of 20° C occur in November in this region it is newsworthy and supplies weather trivia. The thresholds are different in December. Now we are interested when the temperature is above 0° C. The warmer temperatures are welcomed by most people but extended times of freeze/ thaw can do considerable damage to streets and highways. Snow melt can also dimmish snow on the ground (if any) and reduce its insulating capabilities. At the other end of the thermometer the number of days with low temperatures of colder than -30° C. Environment Canada used to count the number of days less than -30° C. While nothing special happens at -30° C it does indicate a significant cold spell and higher costs for heating fuels. Environment Canada will issue an Extreme Cold Warning in Northern Ontario when "the temperature or wind chill is expected to reach - 40°C for at least two hours". Thunder Bay had a warmer

than usual December according to several measures. The month was 2° C warmer than the longterm average, temperatures were warmer than 0° C on 10 days and coldest recorded during the month was -28° C, i.e. it was never colder than -30° C.

Blizzard conditions

Last month, in the days

just prior to Christmas, Environment Canada was issuing weather warnings from coast to coast to coast. A frequent warning was for blizzard conditions. Blizzard and winter storm conditions did prevail for some days. Travel plans were disrupted, airports and roads were closed and trains marooned because of weather conditions.

The criteria for defining a blizzard has changed over the decades. Environment Canada and the American Weather Service now warn of blizzard conditions "when winds of 40 km/hr or greater are expected to cause widespread reductions in visibility to 1 km or less, due to blowing snow, or blowing snow in combination with falling snow, for at least 4 hours and temperatures colder than

The older definitions included a persistence period of 6 or more hours with winds of 50 km/hr or more, visibility of 400 metres or less, windchill values colder than -25. Readers are correct - the new definition makes it easier for a storm to be classified as a blizzard.

In any case, the winter storm last month qualifies as a blizzard, the Christmas Blizzard of '22, over most of Ontario. Strong and sustained winds with wind gusts more than 60 kmh were common across the province. Peak winds exceeded 90 kmh in some locations in southern Ontario. Several places next to Lake Superior recorded

winds stronger than 75 kmh (Thunder Bay, 85 kmh, Sault Ste.Marie, 83 kmh).

Duration is an essential part of defining a blizzard. A variety of precipitation types took place during this three-day storm. In Southern Ontario this often featured a change from snow to hours of rain with subsequent flooding. In Northern Ontario snow was widespread. Sault Ste. Marie provides the best (or worst) example of duration. Snow, or blowing snow, or both was reported for more than 72

Outlook for late January and **February**

Temperatures have been warmer than normal in the first two weeks of January for much of Northern Ontario. The warmest area in the region has been around Lake Superior. Thunder Bay, communities on the North Shore of Lake Superior and Sault Ste. Marie are about 5 to 8° C warmer than average this month. Lake Superior is currently at 3° C. Yes, I know it is absurd to talk about how warm Lake Superior is in January. Typically the warm lake moderates nearby air temperatures. The effect appears particularly pronounced this year.

However, temperatures are precast to be seasonal for the final week of January and then continue into February.

CONTACT US

Sioux Lookout

Office Hours: 8:30-5:00 CST

Phone:(807) 737-2951 Toll Free:1-800-243-9059 Fax:(807) 737-3224 (807) 737-2263

Timmins Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 EST

Phone:(705) 360-4556 Toll Free: 1-877-929-2829 Fax:(705)360-1601

CEO/PUBLISHER John Gagnon johng@wawatay.on.ca

MANAGING EDITOR Chris Kornacki chrisk@wawatay.on.ca

NORTHERN LIGHTS BAN-NER Dan Russell http://NorthernLightsNow.com

SALES REPRESENTATIVE Tom Scura

Phone: 807 622-6000 Fax: 807 622-6010 toms@wawatay.on.ca

CIRCULATION/PRINTING Safeguard Business Systems

Thunder Bay, ON TRANSLATION Vicky Angees vickya@wawatay.on.ca

DESIGN AND LAYOUT Through the Sky Studio

CONTRIBUTORS Lindsay Cote Rick Garrick Xavier Kataquapit

Graham Saunders

Guest editorials, columnists and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of Wawatay News.

<u>Disclaimers:</u> All submissions to the Managing Editor must be in a Microsoft Word document, double spaced, and must adhere to Canadian Press style. Wawatay reserves the right to refuse to publish any unsolicited submissions.

Wawatay Communications Society and all its affiliate media outlets are intended to provide general information and news to the public. The material expressed within is given for general information only and does not constitute professional, legal or medical advice. Where appropriate users should seek their Where appropriate, users should seek their own professional advice. Wawatay accepts no responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from acting as a result of material published or broadcast. Wawatay accepts no liability in respect of material contained on other sites which may be linked to from time to time.

ONWA hosts 7th annual poetry night



Juno award-winning singer Susan Aglukark sings one of her songs.

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Poetry by Al Hunter, Mary Black and other poets and music by Susan Aglukark and Sara Kae (Kanutski) were featured at the Ontario Native Women's Association's (ONWA) 7th Annual Poetry Night. The Poetry Night was part of ONWA's Strong Hands Stop Violence project that also includes a Poetry Book that highlights poetry written by Indigenous women and an ongoing collective Art Project.

"This gets better and better every year and I think next year is going to smash the record because people need to communicate, people need to express themselves and people are starving for this," says Hunter, a poet and former chief from Rainy River First Nations. "People have been isolated for too long, there's been a lot of illness and people just want to break out and come back together and be with one another."

Hunter says he shared some poetry that he thought would fit the moment at the Poetry Night, which was held at the Chanterelle on Park in Thunder

Bay.
"While there's a lot of hard
" " about it's stuff being talked about, it's important to remember love, it's important to remember forgiveness and all of those things," Hunter says. "All of the poetry was great."

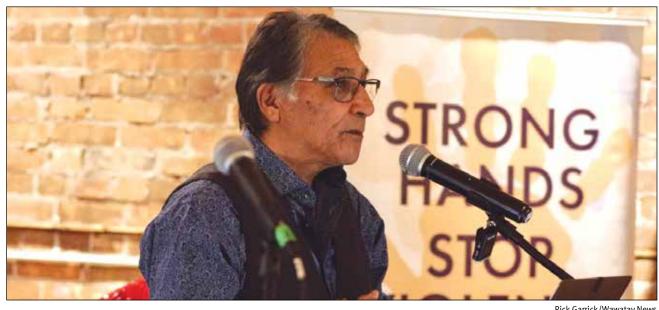
Aglukark, a three-time Juno award winner whose first album, The Arctic Rose, was released in 1993, says the Poetry Night was a powerful evening.

"It was a great opportunity they offered to poetry writers to share, this is how they express so it was a very powerful evening," Aglukark says. "I've just been very fortunate these last 30 years that I stumbled into a great life that's also been my healer, and I feel very fortunate to have that."

Kae, a Red Rock Indian Band citizen who released her single Rise this past June, says the Poetry Night was a great eve-

"It felt really nice to gather and to share and to heal in a lot of ways," Kae says.

see POETRY page 6



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Rainy River First Nations poet Al Hunter shares some of his poetry at the Ontario Native Women's Association's 7th Annual Poetry Night at the Chanterelle on Park in Thunder Bay.



The Matawa Health Co-operative is hosting:

Walk-in Clinics

Where: 101 Syndicate Avenue North 5th floor

When: Every Tuesday and Friday

Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Many people come to urgent care walk-in clinics to be treated for illnesses. These illnesses are not life-threatening. Usually they can be treated with antibiotics or other medications. Some of the most common illnesses that are treated in an urgent care facility include:

Allergies, sores, rashes, itchiness	Head lice
Pregnancy testing	Headaches
Asthma/bronchitis/pneumonia	Pink eye
Colds and flus	Sinus issues
Dehydration - diarrhea	Sexually transmitted infections/birth control
Earaches	Sore throat
Foreign bodies	Urinary Tract Infections, yeast infections
Mild stomach issues	Prescription refill (must bring old bottle)

^{***}There will be no refills or prescriptions given for narcotics or controlled substances. ***

QAM: CO-OP TEM 010 Depart: Matawa Health Co-Op Issue Date: January 23, 2020 Approved by ED: Frances Wesley





Red River Indian Band singer Sara Kae sings one of her songs.

Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Poetry helps healing

from page 5

"I hope (the Poetry Night) continues to grow and just give more space for Indigenous poets and artists. My songs that I shared today are pieces I've written in the past, they've helped me heal. I especially love my one song Rise that I wrote which is about the empowerment of Indigenous youth and people, and every time I sing it I just feel like I'm healing for myself but also hopefully sending those healing vibes out to everybody else as well."

Cora McGuire-Cyrette, executive director at ONWA,

says the Poetry Night was fabulous, inspirational, healing and empowering.

empowering.

"Women (were) speaking about their trauma, speaking about their empowerment, their journey and being in that collective community healing space," McGuire-Cyrette says.

"We really wanted to look at how we can ensure that we are incorporating and being inclusive of all First Nation, Métis and Inuit cultures and artists and also bringing in role models who have been leading their healing journey to help inspire the youth and part of their jour-

ney in the arts world."

McGuire-Cyrette says they provided a virtual stream for people to watch and join in with their own poetry over the Zoom platform.

"We really want to look at how we can have as many people join in as possible," McGuire-Cyrette says. "It's not a perfect system as we continue to keep working on it but at least it's a more inclusive system so that people who may not be able to join in person or who can't travel in for events are still able to participate from their home and in their communities."

▷᠈U≥Δ₹ ΦσσΦΛΑ·, ΥΣΦ·Δδ•ο δΓΓΦ•ρΩΦ•Φ. 5055

≽Δ\ ρ≽Δ\

>∩<∩1 d√· d≤ "d>)>. J≽V '≤d, Lơ qCb>, DU<UT, L σ $D^{\alpha}PT$, D^{β} ۲۲۶ ۵۱۶۵۱ ۲۵ ۲۵ d_{ρ} ($\rho \nabla_{\sigma} b$) $d D D \cdot Q \cdot Q \cdot \gamma$ $d\sigma \mathcal{S}_{\alpha} V_{q}$ (ONWA) VLVVLVV $\mathsf{DVLJC} \sigma \mathsf{d} \cdot \ \mathsf{\Delta\Gamma\Gamma} \nabla \cdot \mathsf{n} \mathsf{p} \mathsf{n} \nabla \mathsf{C} \cdot$ ላላ የ_^ የሀካህ 25. Þ∇· C˙ Δ√σbU $\cup < \cup \cup > \cup$ bσ∩Λb\ Ρ⊳Γ<ΡΩσЬU ⊳∇·σ ONWA ρΓ₀ΡΟ·VΊΟ- ΓЬΥ ΠΦΡΠ, $\mathsf{LPQ} \triangle \mathsf{V}$ Lo $\mathsf{VQ} \mathsf{VU}$ ∇Ρ<ΡΛσ6U DL/σΛ"Δbσ4·.

 Γ_{Δ} \ Δ_{V} \

C)> V.

Procb. $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$ $rb_0q^3rbu^4$

Δ'*Db*', σ"\• bP<PQq¬

JD σbJΔ·) <PQQΔ·) σCC

bPD√J<> DσbJσQΔ·2,

d>∩*Do, Tb- 1993, ΔPD

D∇• bPΔ√Pbσ4·*PDP

L"bΔ·γ"Δ∇·Lb².

 $\begin{array}{lll} & \text{PPPOPS}, & \text{COPDPS}, \\ & \text{POPOSO}, \\ \\ & \text{POPOSO}, \\ & \text{POPOSO}, \\ \\ & \text{POPOSO}, \\ & \text{POPOSO}, \\ \\ & \text{POPO$

∇ΡΡΓΓΩΝΗΡ ∇ΡΝΛαΙν."

"᠈ΡΓΟΟ ΒΡLLΔ· υσ σι. **ρ**Ρ**Φ·Δ·**CLΛ**ΦΦΦ•**Λ $\Delta b D C$ Δ·Γ"ΔΠασ4· ۵۰۹٫" ρηΔ.σ, P9 $\Delta \cdot \sigma$ \ $\Delta \sigma$ 9," Δ P)
95. "><d4C> $\nabla \nabla \cdot$ D5 LLΔ·^obΔ·³ ΓΔ·³σ ΛΓ^obLb, Γα ΓΓσC· bασ√σσΔ·α·->D<</p>
L¬
D
L¬
< ΡΓ ὑνοι-΄. ααρησ $\rho_{V}<\rho_{U}\sigma_{\Gamma}$, ∇_{Q} $\rho_{V}\rho_{r}$ $\mathsf{LPP} \quad \mathsf{PbVP} \mathsf{VJP} \quad \Delta \cdot \mathsf{U}$ $PC\sigma'$, $PN\Delta \cdot P''\Delta d^{3}$ $^{\circ}$ የታወቦባታን. $\Delta \nabla \cdot \mathsf{L} \Delta \cdot \mathsf{L}$ ⊳սե∩հչ **4σ**√σσΔ·

Le deroad., Le che party, Le che party, Le sunception $\Delta D \cup \Delta U = \Delta U \Delta U$

"Δ٩·σ4·\

▷Ρ\σ1Ca4· ▷CσΓ\Δ·σ4·,

▷Ρ\σ1Ca4· ▷CσΓ\Δ·σ4·,

▷Ρ\σ1Ca4· ▷L□bΔ·γΔ·σ4·,

▷ΛΓ\σ4· Γα

▷CαΛΔ·σ4· Γα

▷CαΛΔ·σ4· Γα

▷CαΛΔ·σ4· Γα

□CαΡασ-,"

ΔΡΟ Γ'Δ·δ* \

"`P<δ\σ1Cr

□ Γασραφον

□



John Ferris creates cultural objects for the Smithsonian

Rick Garrick

Wawatay News

Constance Lake artist John Ferris is looking forward to the upcoming exhibition of three cultural objects he made for the Smithsonian Institution's Knowing Nature: Stories of the Boreal Forest travelling exhibition. Ferris, owner of Ed-Digenous Traditions and organizer of the Annual Christmas Aboriginal Fine Arts and Crafts Gift Show and Sale in Thunder Bay, created a pair of snowshoes, a three-foot birch bark canoe and a birch bark basket for the exhibition, which opens at the Michigan State University Museum from April 15-July 30, 2023. The exhibition focuses on the biodiversity and global importance of Turtle Island's northern-most forests through first-person stories, commissioned objects, interactive experiences and photography from leading nature photographers.

"They said they were exquisite," Ferris says about the Smithsonian's response to his cultural objects. "I'll be sending them images of my process of building the artifacts.

Ferris says it was a great opportunity to be involved with the Knowing Nature: Stories of the Boreal Forest exhibition.

"It's informative about our culture up here in the north, for people to really understand how the Anishinabe lived and survived up in this area," Ferris

Ferris says the people at the Smithsonian contacted him

about creating the cultural objects after discovering his website, www.ed-digenoustraditions.ca/.

"They're going to have a link to my website in return as well," Ferris says. "They said they were fascinated with my business they thought it was a good idea to connect with me."

Ferris says he followed the design of a Cree-style snowshoe that his mother had to create the snowshoes.

"I used to watch people put them together, and my grandfather, I used to watch him put them together," Ferris says. "I studied the snowshoes I had in my shop and I started drawing out the pattern of the laces, and I did that about 10-12 times until I was familiar with the weaving."

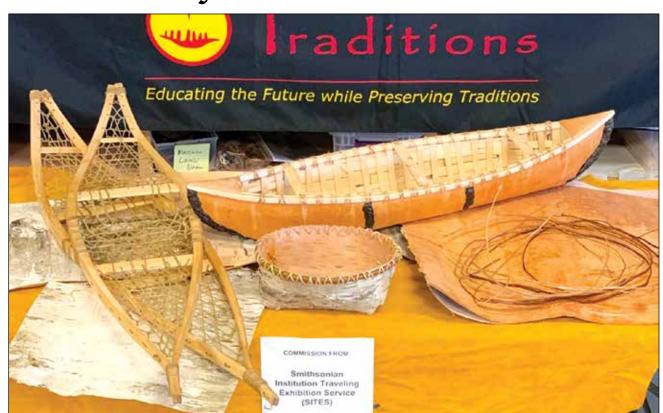
Ferris says he made the snowshoe frame pieces from a tree that he had harvested in the for-

"I split them and I cut them and I steam heated them and I bent them to their shapes," Ferris says. "I had to leave them for 15-20 days so they would keep their curvature.

Ferris says he carved out notches for the two cross pieces to fit and then tied the frame together with the cross pieces in place.

"Once they were tied together, I spread the tips of them so they would curve out," Ferris says.

Ferris says he cut the laces with his lace cutting equipment and soaked them in water before weaving them into place on the snowshoes



Ed-Digenous Traditions owner John Ferris created three cultural objects for the Smithsonian Institution's Knowing Nature: Stories of the Boreal Forest travelling exhibition, which opens at the Michigan State University Museum from April 15-July 30, 2023.

"I let it sit and dry for about a week," Ferris says. "Everything tightened up, everything pulled together."

Ferris says he harvested the birch bark for the canoe and basket in early July.

"We had a late spring, so what I had to do was wait until the first or second week of July," Ferris says. "That's when it really started sapping, so that's

when I did the harvesting, and it worked out well."

Ferris says he previously made birch bark canoes while working with youth at the Kairos Community Resource Centre in Thunder Bay.

"We did a lot of canoes and working with raw materials, so we would go and harvest together," Ferris says. "We would collect all the raw materials and even split our (black spruce) roots that we picked out. They were really engaged with the process of building these little canoes, so that's how I knew how to work with the materials and build a larger canoe."

Ferris says he used split pieces of red willow for the frame on the birch bark basket.

"A lot of my inspiration came from my grandparents that I learned as a young boy," Ferris says. "I trapped with my grandfather at a young age off and on until I was 15, and was fortunate to be the last one to go with him to check his traps. I also used to help my grandmother with the process of tanning hide, and still have her tools that she used such as the leg bones for scraping the hair off the hides."



WHY WORK FOR

Child & Family Services

- TIKINAGAN? Rewarding Career
- Competitive Benefits
 - Inclusive Culture
- Training and Development

CAREERS EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

 $\forall \sigma P \Delta \cdot \sigma$ $b \Delta \cdot \Gamma'' \Delta \nabla \cdot L b P$ $C \mathcal{L} Q \Delta \cdot \sigma'$

We value our employees' education, skills and most importantly their cultural awareness and respect for our service model, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin. Employment opportunities at Tikinagan are vast. There are opportunities to work directly with children and families, in what we call frontline work, or to work "behind the scenes" in areas such as management, administrative support, information technology, data entry, finance or human resources. Our opportunities are full-time or casual and often are great stepping stones to a very fulfilling career.

THE COMMUNITIES We serve

We have more than 30 offices throughout our region. While we have many opportunities in city/town based locations, we also have many community-based positions in the First Nation communities. Our formal head office is located in Sandy Lake First Nation. The administrative office is based in Sioux Lookout, because it is a major transportation centre for the Tikinagan communities. The agency continues to increase the numbers of community-based staff in order to provide more responsive services at the local level.







TIKINAGAN.ORG

HOW TO APPLY

We ensure that our hiring process is accessible as possible. As a result, there are a few ways to apply for a job at Tikinagan:

Email

Emailing your resume and cover letter to hr@ tikinagan.org

Mail your resume and cover letter to:

Tikinagan Child & Family Services Hiring Committee PO Box 627 Sioux Lookout, ON P8T

Faxing your resume and cover letter to (807) 737-4550.

In Person

You can drop by any Tikinagan community office/unit and bring your resume/ cover letter to the receptionist. Let them know you are applying for a job and ask them to fax it to Human Resources.

Keewaytinook Okimakanak eHealth Telemedicine Services and the Ontario Telemedicine Network

MANAGED SERVICE MODEL

Connect to healthcare professionals through video at your local health centre.

TIMELY ACCESS. EASY TO USE. CARE THAT'S SENSITIVE TO YOUR NEEDS

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



 Request a video visit through your local health centre, or call the Regional Telemedicine Navigator (RTN) at 1-800-387-3740 Ext. 1380.



 The RTN will identify a healthcare provider for you, process a referral and schedule an appointment.



 Receive a appointment card with the time and date of your video appointment.



4. Arrive at your health centre in time for your appointment.



Attend your video visit securely and privately at the health centre.

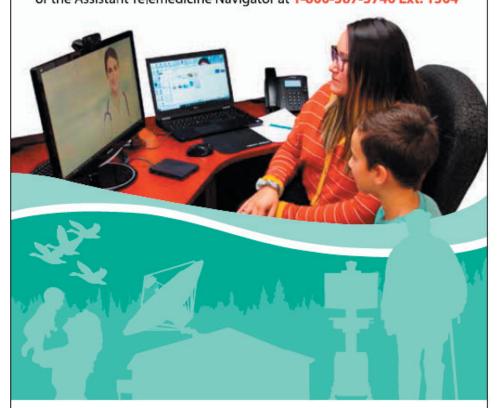
OTN's videoconferencing service makes health care better by enabling you:

Quick access to healthcare providers and specialists anywhere in Ontario. Receive care closer to home – in the right place, and at the right time for you. Reduce disruptive and time consuming long distance travel.

Make your next appointment a telemedicine appointment by contacting your doctor.

CONTACT THE MSM TEAM:

To book a video visit with a health care professional call: Regional Telemedicine Navigator at 1-800-387-3740 Ext. 1380 or the Assistant Telemedicine Navigator at 1-800-387-3740 Ext. 1304



Keewaytinook Okimakanak eHealth Telemedicine Services 8 Eric Radford Way, PO Box 340, Balmertown, ON POV 1C0 Phone: 807.735.1381 | Toll Free: 800.387.3740 | Fax: 807.735.1123 Website: telemedicine.knet.ca | Facebook: Keewaytinook Okimakanak







Arts and Entertainment



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Moose Cree artist/rapper Shibastik performs one of his songs at Fort William's first annual Fall Festival at the Fort William First Nation Community Centre.

Shibastik releases new album 'The Braid Remains'

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Fort William featured Moose Cree artist/rapper Shibastik sharing his connections to the land during his performance at the Fort William First Nation Community Centre. "I was so blessed to have a father who took me out on the land and friends who I would always be out on the land hunting with and fishing with," says Shibastik, who grew up in Moosonee before leaving at 18-years-old. "I was very connected to the land and that's

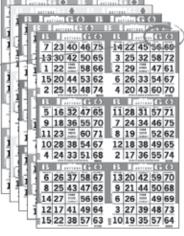
what I share with my music."

Shibastik also shared some of his artwork, including a painting of a camp where he goes fishing and goose hunting on the land but with a city background.

con't on next page

BINGO BLOWER







- COMPLETE LINE OF BINGO SUPPLIESBINGO BOOKLETS & EQUIPMENT
 - DABBERS & BINGO BAGS

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR COMPLETE LINE OF PRODUCTS!

Toll Free



1-800-465-3930
Bazaar & Novelty
612 Squier St
Thunder Bay, On



www.bazaarandnovelty.ca



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Marten Falls' Denise Baxter helped with the moose hide preparation.

Science North displayed a variety of natural items and held a variety of activities.

New album shares a connection with the land

from page 8

"This painting is called River Road and you see the city in the distance and it's like the river is turning into a highway and all these cars are coming," Shibastik says. "I just feel that the cities are spreading, how much longer are we going to have pristine wilderness like we have up in the north. We have to appreciate it, we have to protect it."

Shibastik says his father had very strict rules when they were out on the land hunting.

"We had to leave it how it was when we got there," Shi-

bastik says. "We didn't want to leave a single piece of garbage, a little sign that we were there. He was very strict about that." hour of music," Shibastik says about The Braid Remains. "Ninety per cent of it has been totally unreleased — usually I

Shibastik also highlighted his new album The Braid Remains, which was released on Oct. 26, and his song Flow ft. Bradley A.J. and Deanne Rose Moore from his Land Bass album, which is up for the Native American Music Awards on Nov. 19 at the Seneca Niagara Hotel and Casino in Niagara Falls, NY during his performance.

"At 19 songs, it's a whole

hour of music," Shibastik says about The Braid Remains. "Ninety per cent of it has been totally unreleased — usually I would release my songs one at a time and then finally put them on an album so by the time the albums came out people would have heard it already, but for this one no one has heard it yet so I'm really excited about dropping it."

The festival also featured traditional crafts and teachings, live demonstrations, including hide preparation, and bouncy castles and activities for children.

"I'm here visiting and helping Jean (Marshall) with this moose hide demo, so right now I'm just fleshing a moose hide," says Amber Sandy, a Chippewas of Nawash citizen. "We flesh it and then we'll flip it over and cut all the hair off. Then it'll be ready to go when we want to string it up and scrape it. We just got started today but typically people are really excited to see moose hides being tanned because it's been a long time since we've had people doing this. It's just a really beautiful way to continue building a rela-

tionship with the moose and to honour them because they give so much to us."

Emily Kerton, project lead for the Northwest Expansion Project at Science North, says they had a variety of natural items, including bones, skulls and antlers, and "different activities to get people excited about the natural world and the science in nature."

"Everybody loves it, they think it is so fun and there's lots of people who learn something new," Kerton says. "There's also a few pieces here for younger kids to build with and a musical instrument set up over there for people to play music with."

Other activities included gillnet making by Fort William Historical Park, which is part of a program they developed for Matawa First Nations Management; a canoe building kit for children by Coast Salish wood carver George Price; and bannock, fried bread and moose stew preparation by Mishkeegogamang Elder Maxine Baer and Muskrat Dam citizens Isabel Beardy and Brenda



Education

Mastercard Foundation invests in Indigenous youth

Rick Garrick

Wawatay News

The Mastercard Foundation plans to invest \$500 million and to collaborate with 45 partners to support 100,000 Indigenous youth through its EleV program, which has already enabled 10,700 Indigenous youth to pursue educational and career

"The Mastercard Foundation seeks a world where everyone has the opportunity to learn and prosper," says Reeta Roy, president and CEO at the Mastercard Foundation. "Through EleV, we are partnering and co-creating with Indigenous young people and communities to transform education and employment systems based on their visions and values, in ways that revitalize their languages

and cultures."

The EleV program's vision, which was co-created and confirmed by Indigenous youth and communities, was for Indigenous young people to be living Mino Bimaadiziwin, a good life. The V in program name, which was co-created with youth and Elders, refers to a flock of migratory geese flying a long distance and how different members of the flock take a turn in the lead position.

"One of the things that we've been trying to do with this initiative as well is really find flexible ways in which education meets where young people are at," says Jennifer Brennan, director of Canada Programs at the Mastercard Foundation. "We're seeing communities right across the country come forward and talk about the need to create a learning hub or some kind of community centre where young people can learn and study in a culturally supported way where there's Elders and then also tutors and other supports that can address some of the areas where young people may need a little bit more sup-

Brennan says these types of community centres or learning hubs can provide an opportunity for people to begin their post-secondary education journey without having to leave their community and family

"We've got a responsibility and an opportunity to demonstrate some of the innovative things that work and are really inspiring change," Brennan says. "We've heard that these community learning hubs now

become a place where young people are like: 'I can see myself going through there' and 'I need help in this one course, I now know where to go, it's straight forward, it's clear and I can now chart my own path."

"I now know where to go... and I can now chart my own path..."

- Jennifer Brennan

The Mastercard Foundation has partnered with the Seven Generations Education Institute on a five-year commitment to help augment and expand opportunities in communities and support the transition to meaningful employment, including teachers and health care workers. The partnership includes an overall goal of supporting 3,000 Indigenous young people through postsecondary education and on to meaningful work.

"What Mastercard (Foundation) did was fund an idea and the idea was taking our fluent speakers and pairing them with other fluent speakers who have experience teaching," says Shannon King, Gaa-niigaanishkang Anishinaabemodaa Anokiiwin at Seven Generations Education Institute. "So they built this relationship between the ones who come from experience of passing on their language and teaching their language in many different settings and engaging the other fluent speakers who are interested in passing on their language, so it gives them tools, methods.'

King says the fluent speakers who took the six-month program now have a basic foundation on how they want to teach their language.

"They had the ability to take the methods that spoke to them, the things that they liked and they can then utilize those tools to pass their language on, which really helps in our programming because we needed speakers to get involved," King says. "We needed speakers to work alongside with in our early years programs, in our mentor learning program which is a program that incentivizes our high school students to learn language after school."

Information about the EleV program is posted at: mastercardfdn.org/elev/.



GOOD CREDIT/BAD CREDIT/NO CREDIT - WE CAN HELP!

Apply Online today at: www.truevalueauto.ca

SLMHC welcomes first baby of 2023



Wawatay News

Sioux Lookout Meno Ya Win Health Centre (SLMHC) welcomed its first newborn of

Frenchman's Head residents Kasha Kakekagumick and Alex Southwind welcomed the arrival of their son Kreeo Southwind-Kakekagumick on Jan. 5 at 2:52

Kreeo weighs 2.89 kilograms (six pounds, six ounces) and is 49 centimetres long (19.3 inches).



Health



submitted photos

The Canadian-made Possibilities by Baycrest memory care model was launched by Baycrest in Toronto to improve the care of people living with dementia.

Baycrest launches Canadian-made memory model to fight dementia



Rick Garrick Wawatay News

A Canadian-made memory care model was launched by Baycrest in Toronto to improve the care of people living with dementia. The Possibilities by Baycrest memory care model was first introduced last spring at Baycrest Terraces. Baycrest has a 104-year history of caring for older adults across a full continuum of dementia care services and programs.

"Baycrest recognized a number of years ago that the care that is being provided to older adults in residential settings is inadequate and that we really need to move away from a task based approach to daily living to one that is more reflective of the values we all have as we age, which includes things like having choices, being as autonomous as we can be, continuing to have purpose and to have connections to the communities and the people around us," says Faith Malach, executive director, care innovations and transformation at Baycrest. "So what we did is embark on a strategic project to develop a new model of care, one that would be delivered in residential settings, whether it's long-term care settings, retirement home settings, even possibly community settings.

The Possibilities by Baycrest model is based on a core philosophy of maximizing the potential of each person while revealing new, inspiring and fulfilling interests and abilities.

"We really wanted to shift the focus away from that traditional task-based (model) and instead commit to a new philosophy that recognizes there are more than 600,000 people living with dementia and that those people do face losses and some of their abilities absolutely do change but that they still have potential," Malach says. "We see dementia care as more than just a place to live, we see it as a place where you can thrive and where we can still help people

to achieve their abilities and achieve possibilities and start to change some of the misconceptions around living with dementia."

Malach says there has been a "very positive" reaction to the Possibilities by Baycrest program by the families.

"We have had families who have of course come into this new residential community very concerned about leaving their loved ones in a new community setting and living environment," Malach says. "But we've seen remarkable changes and transitions in a very short period of time — this new community has only been open for about eight months now but we have had residents who have come in and have been very withdrawn, very isolated, lacking social connection, who now join their neighbours and friends for breakfast every morning at a shared dining room table."

Malach says they also provide opportunities for people living with dementia to revisit old skills and hobbies.

"We have people who used to do art who gave up on that after many years and are now painting and drawing again," Malach says. "We have a gentleman who came in and loved photography but hadn't done it in years — he now is responsible for taking pictures and does so. Families have reacted quite positively recognizing that with dementia comes fear and loss, but this program Possibilities by Baycrest is offering hope because we don't see their loved ones as a diagnosis or a person with a label, we see their loved one as a person first."

Debbie Kapp, whose motherin-law was diagnosed with dementia in 2020, says her mother-in-law has been doing activities she used to do since moving into Baycrest Terraces

earlier this year.

"The program is individualized at the Possibilities by Baycrest so before she came into the program they interviewed my husband and I at length

about her and her life and her activities, things she was interested in, things she did before she got dementia so they could create activities for her that were reminiscent of the things she used to do," Kapp says. "They created card games that she can play now because she used to play bridge a lot and poker. She

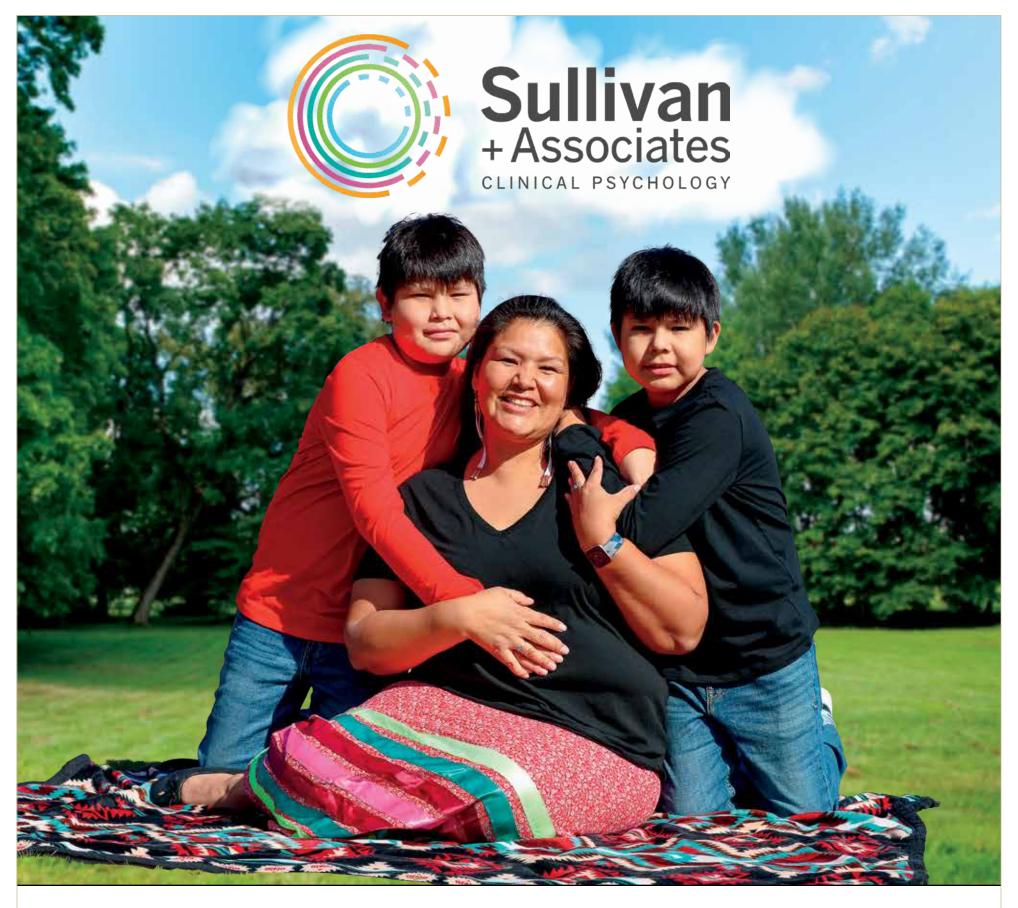
used to love to bake so they create opportunities for her to bake once a week in the kitchen. She loves music so they take her to concerts."

Information about the Possibilities by Baycrest program is posted online at: possibilities. baycrest.org and www.baycrest.org



GOOD CREDIT/BAD CREDIT/NO CREDIT WE CAN HELP! Apply online today at:

VEHICLES MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS SHOWN



HOW CAN AN ASSESSMENT BE HELPFUL?

Assessments can be helpful when there is an answer needed for an important question, such as:

- What mental health issue am I dealing with?
- Why is it hard to learn in school?
- Why is it hard to remember things?
- Is that fall making it harder for me to think properly?
- Is there a problem with my attention?

Assessments can help you figure out what the issue is and make recommendations to improve issues such as challenges with mental health, improve learning issues, or help with attention and memory issues.

At Sullivan + Associates Clinical Psychology, we offer assessments for:

- Mental health
- Learning
- Attention
- Behaviour
- Autism
- Neuropsychological issues
- FASD

For assessment services for children and adolescents, we are happy to help families access funding through Jordan's Principle.









www.drsullivan.ca

Email: admin@drsullivan.ca

Toll-Free: (888) 269-0237

Fax: (807) 683-7167

Business

TKG Group acquires Oshtugon Computers



The ThawiKayhiGan Group (TKG Group) held a signing ceremony on Jan. 6 to celebrate the acquisition of Oshtugon Computers Inc. from owner Frank Head.

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

The ThawiKayhiGan Group (TKG Group) held a signing ceremony on Jan. 6 to celebrate the acquisition of Oshtugon Computers Inc., which has stores in Sioux Lookout and Dryden, from owner Frank Head. TKG Group, which has a head office in Thunder Bay, is owned by Kingfisher Lake, Kasabonika Lake, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, Wapekeka, Wawakapewin and Wunnumin Lake.

"This is our first business

acquisition that will directly service our First Nations," says Ionathon Mamakwa, president at TKG Group. "This is key in our overall plan in contributing to the development of healthy First Nation communities with vibrant economies that support future generations."

Mamakwa says the ownership communities have a vision to acquire businesses through the benefits they received from the Wataynikaneyap Power project that is being constructed to connect 17 remote First Nations to the provincial electrical power grid during a web-

"(Oshtugon) is a key acquisition for them because it allows them to get their goods and services that Oshtugon supplies," Mamakwa says. "Oshtugon will operate now as Oshtugon Computers LP."

Mamakwa adds that the acquisition of Oshtugon is what reconciliation looks like.

see ACQUISITION page 14

NORTHERN NISHNAWBE EDUCATION COUNCIL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



NNEC is non-profit educational organization. Under the direction of the Sioux Lookout District Chiefs, NNEC delivers secondary and post secondary education programs and services for First Nations people. NNEC operates Pelican Falls First Nations High School and Centre, Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School, Wahsa Distance Education Centre, and has offices in Lac Seul (head office), Sioux Lookout, and Thunder Bay. NNEC welcome applications for the following positions:

Pelican Falls First Nations High School Administration SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

- 1 Student Success Lead
- 1 Student Achievement Officer
- 1 Special Education Teacher
- 6 Teachers
- 1 Athletic Director
- 5 Education Assistants 10 Elders

Pelican Falls Centre, Wellness Centre SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Youth Residential Workers Wellbeing Workers Multipurpose Workers On-Call Staff **Booking Clerk** Elders

Pelican Falls Centre SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

- 1 Female House Counsellor
- 2 Multi-Purpose Workers
- 1 Receptionist
- 1 Trainer

Casual House Counsellor

4 Sick House Counsellor Elders

Wahsa Distant Education Centre SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Principal

PFC O&M SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Weekend Security

SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Financial Controller, Sioux Lookout or Thunder Bay Finance Officer

Receptionist Senior Policy Analyst

Communications Officer Inquest Assistant

Recruitment Officer Personnel Officer Casual Staff

Secondary Student Services Program THUNDER BAY ON

Casual On-Call On-Call Supervisor On-Call Workers 3 Foot Patrol Supervisors Shared Nurse with DFCHS Boarding Home Assistant Casual On-Call Sioux Lookout

Tech Services SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Head Technician IT Support Sioux Lookout IT Support Thunder Bay

Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School THUNDER BAY ON

Supply Teachers

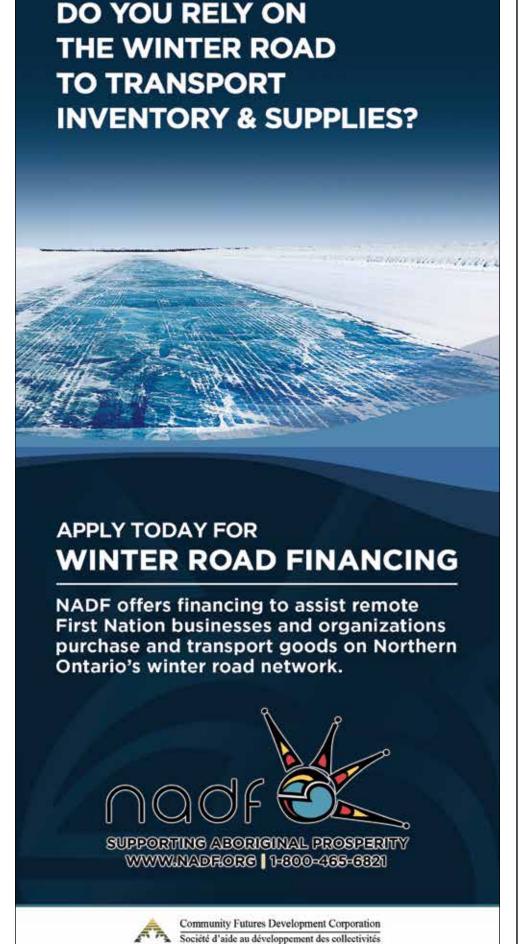
Post Secondary Program SIOUX LOOKOUT ON

Post-Secondary Education Counsellor

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. NNEC requires Criminal Background and Vulnerable Person Check from those offered positions.

OPEN UNTIL FILLED: Fax your resume with written permission for NNEC to contact three employment references and a brief cover letter to Human Resources at NNEC Admin Office, mail to Box 1419, Sioux Lookout, Ontario P8T 1B9; Fax (807) 582-3865 or email humanresources@nnec.on.ca.

For more information about the positions, please contact Betsy Ledger, Human Resources Manager, at (807) 251-2481.



Business

Acquisition will directly service First Nations communities

from page 13

"This is what it looks like, non-Native businesses helping out First Nations (to) get on their feet and to reinvest in themselves," Mamakwa says. "I think our communities are well on their way in doing that, and it is my hope that they continue to do that and it is also my hope that other communities follow in our path too."

Archie Wabasse, chair of the TKG Group, says the TKG Group was formed about four years ago

"The vision of our First Nations is to look into what business opportunities we can take as a group," Wabasse says. "So that vision, the first step has been realized, which is the acquisition of Oshtugon. We are closing off this deal (with) the owner of Oshtugon and then we are going to be taking over this business. One of the expectations from our chiefs and the communities is to pursue these opportunities that will benefit our communities and our business operation as well. We are not going to be stopping here,

"...we're going to be continuing on looking at other business opportunities where our communities can benefit from..."

- Archie Wabasse

we're going to be continuing on looking at other business opportunities where our communities can benefit from. We'll look into business opportunities everywhere in the region, wherever we can find that would kind of meet our mandate and our expectations to benefit our First Nations."

Wabasse says they do not foresee any immediate changes with how Oshtugon operates after the acquisition.

"We're going to continue operating the way Oshtugon is," Wabasse says. "We look forward to doing business to the region and to other First Nations.'

Head says he is thankful that some of his best customers have bought the business from him.

"We're very happy with this and we feel it fits in well with the aspirations of TKG Group," Head says. "I think it's going to do very well within that group as a buying partner for the group and for the communities. I think this is a wonderful purchase by them and as long as I'm here we're going to be striving to make everything work together as it should."

Oshtugon Computers Inc. was originally incorporated in 1997 as a computer store located in Sioux Lookout that served the region. In partner-

ship with Superior Wireless and tbaytel, Oshtugon became the number one provider of cell phones and accessories and now has three stores, including the Appliance Solutions and Furniture store in Sioux Lookout and a retail store in Dryden. Oshtugon is located online at: www. oshtugon.com.

The TKG Group's future plans are to open a distribution centre in Pickle lake and create jobs in each ownership community for procurement of goods and services.

Business Directory



Trade in to Trade up!

www.playitagainsportsthunderbay.com

HOCKEY · BASEBALL · FITNESS · GOLF

Are you feeling lonely? Depressed?

Need to talk? We're here to *listen*.

We-Chee-Way-Win

is a 24-hour Telephone Answering Service.

Why not give us a call?

1-800-465-2600

"All calls are kept strictly confidential."



Your BRAND. Your COMPANY. Your TEAM. Your SAFETY. Call: 807-346-4445 or 800-376-6665



Personal Protective Equipment

105-229 Pearl St. P.O. Box 10175 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T7

HERMAN HANSCHKE

herman@safeguardthunderbay.com

Business Printing Computer Services Filing Systems **Promotional Materials**

Tel: (807) 344-2983 Toll-Free: 1-877-544-2983 Cell: (807) 627-6414 Fax: (807) 344-1581

Ask us about our new and improved apparel decoration services!



Phone: 807-468-7878 1221 HWY 17 West, Keewatin | Toll Free: 1-888-893-6488



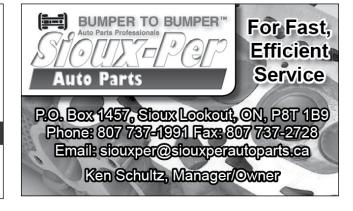
MTO Safety Inspection Station • Napa Autocare Centre Tires • Manuli Hydraulics Authorized Dealer Flatbed Towing • Welding • Linde/Praxair Depot 1-877-337-4643



www.oneca.com

oneca@oneca.com

705.692.2999





Information About Health, Healing & Family Violence For Aboriginal Communities In Ontario

1-800-669-2538 | http://zicresources.ca





Phone: 807-738-8888 e-mail: info@alconastorage.ca Web site: www.alconastorage.ca 140 Alcona Drive, Sioux Lookout, ON



DONALD M. PELLETIER Life and Health Insurance Advisor Mutual Fund Representative Financial Security Advisor Offering Life, Health, Group Insurance and Investments

180 Park Ave. Suite 118 Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 6J4. Phone: 807-623-6400 | Toll-free: 1-888-626-1530 Cell: 807-708-5632 | Fax: 807-623-6465 Toll free: 1-888-626-1530 donald.pelletier@dfsin.ca | www.dfsinocr.ca

Desjardins Financial Security Desjardins*

Financial Community

The property of the pro Financial Security



Purple Camel

Grace Parker

www.purplecamel.ca 977 Alloy Drive, Unit #18 Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5Z8

Phone: 807-623-2871 Toll Free: 1-888-704-7382 Fax: 807-623-2872

Email: info@purplecamel.ca



Contact our Sales Representative:

Tom Scura, Phone: 807 622-6000

Fax: 807 622-6010

toms@wawatay.on.ca

Cartoons



















At my age, I need sticky notes to find my sticky notes



BACK IN MY DAY, THE NEW YEAR BROUGHT HOPE...NOT BILLS



ATE SO MUCH OVER THE HOLIDAYS, I THOUGHT I'D AT LEAST COME AND LOOK AT THE GYM



000



Claim your compensation. Apply before March 7, 2023.

If you lived on a First Nation that had a long-term drinking water advisory for more than a year, you may be eligible for compensation.



Cartoons















The Matawa Health Co-operative is providing Physician, Nursing, Social Work and Dietitian service assistance through telephone support:

Health Services:

Monday - Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Toll free number:

It might be stormy right now, but rain doesn't last forever.

1-833-625-3611

Please call

807-346-2370 to Book a Covid test

- Mental Wellness Assistance and Counselling
- Community Support and Guidance
- Questions about Covid-19 and isolation times
- Testing daily from 8:30am 12:00pm by appointment only
- Urgent care matters need to talk to a Doctor?

I fink your New Years
Eve suif needs a liffle alfering



know who goes ice fishing when there's no ice

You're the only person I

QA#: CO-OP TEM 010 Department: Matawa Health Co-Op Issue Date: June 12, 2019 Revision Date: Oct/4, 2019 Approved by: Frances Wesley