NAN holds Education Jurisdiction Summit

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Keewaywin Chief George Kakekagumick and Murray Waboose recently shared their comments on education issues at the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Education Jurisdiction Summit, held at Delta Hotels Thunder Bay.

"We've lost a couple of our high school students here in Thunder Bay (Robyn Harper in 2007 and Kyle Morrisseau in 2009)," says Kakekagumick, who represents Keewaytinook Okimakanak on the NAN Chiefs Committee on Education. "I just want to mention that to the people that work for our communities, you need to hear the voices of the communities, people in our communities, the concerns that they have. Some of them might be outrageous but still we need to listen to their voices."

Kakekagumick says his community only has a school for students up to Grade 8.

"We have to send our students out to municipalities to continue," Kakekagumick says. "That is something as chief that I don't like to do, knowing the struggles that our students have out here. Some of our communities have a wish list I would say, things that we would like to see happening in our communities, and that is one of my wish list is to be able to have high school in my community, to go up to Grade 12. I don't want to send my students to Thunder Bay, Sioux Lookout, Winnipeg or wherever."

Waboose highlighted the importance of a photograph of Indigenous youth on the hunting grounds during the beginning of his presentation, which he delivered on behalf of Deputy Grand Chief Bobby Narcisse, who was

not available and who had asked him to do a presentation in his place at the summit.

"This is what it's about, it's not about in a classroom, it's not about what the ministry wants, it's not about being dictated what we should learn," Waboose says. "If you look at the photo, look at the expression of the kids, they feel free because they're out on the land, and this is land-based learning and it's an example of what we're doing within our own education system."

Waboose says the provincial school system is competency based with students having to learn skills.

We still can do that but I think our students learn best when we also add land-based learning, language and culture as well as learning pride within their community and who they are as individuals and feeling proud about where they come from, which is Nishnawbe from their own communities off the land," Waboose says. "So this is an example through land-based learning, they have a bunch of geese and the guide or the teacher there is thanking the Creator for the gift of the abundance of geese that they were able to harvest during that time. That is a memory that they will take, each one of them, into whatever journey they move

Waboose says the presentation outlines the beginning of the NAN-Canada Education Reset Table process, the purpose, the timeline to date, the NAN Chiefs Committee on Education, the Education Reset Table Relational Reporting Framework, the Education Reset Table Terms of Reference Highlights that Canada and NAN had agreed to and the Education Reset Table Recent Work and Next Steps



Murray Waboose delivered a NAN-Canada Education Reset Table Update to kick off the first day of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Education Jurisdiction Summit, held at Delta Hotels Thunder Bay.

"Think back to that picture of those children and those students that we geese hunting, they didn't have any constraints, they learned a lot about life, who they are, where they come from and what the Creator has given them," Waboose says. "I just wanted

to ask you this, think of you when you were that age, how lucky you would have been to be involved in that and to still get an education. Rather than looking at four walls or a fence, you were able to be on the land and do the things that you love, and you had free-

dom, and that's what I hope education for NAN will be, is freedom to learn, freedom to be your own person, freedom to be the best that you can be and to be proud to be a person that's from Nishnawbe Aski Nation."

ϤΦʹͿʹϼϘ ϘϭϧϘϹϹϤʹ ϘΡϧϭͿϹϭϤ· ͰϧͽϹϥϘ· ϒͿͿϤϘ· ϷϭϤ·<ͿϥϘ·ϭ϶

≽Δ' b≥Δ'

bΔ·∇·> ⊳bΓP, Γ·≥- PbdPL, Lo $\Gamma_{>}\nabla$ $\triangleleft\cdot>_{\cup}$ \lnot qLd $b\nabla\cdot\mathsf{C}\Gamma$ d $\triangleleft\cdot,$ $d\sigma$ $\nabla \mathcal{N} b \alpha d \cdot \langle C J d \cdot \neg P P D L Q \Delta \cdot$ Dbrpa, **ს**Ρታσ⅃ՐხՍ՝ ۰۵۹م۹۹ 23 δΔΦΡ~ ΔL U≤C δΥ√6Γd C>>> V.

ρρΛ ρροΓ∇C.<> "Δ> υq≤ PΓ Ե₽L₫∙Ր"Ճ⊃₫∙¯. "ახ⊄С∆∙Сა $\Gamma \Delta \cdot C \Gamma d \cdot b \cdot \ d \Delta \cdot b \cdot \ b d \Phi P C \Gamma d d \cdot \overline{}$ ΡοαλΔισαιι. ραονισαια. Γ_D C7' P Γ_D D Δ · σ 4· 9d $_0$ 2 Φ DD4· PC Γ 9 Δ · σ 4· 9d $_0$ 2 $bC\sigma C\Gamma''\Delta d\Delta \cdot \overline{}$. $\Delta \Omega'$ $9da^{3}$ $D\Gamma Cb \cdot a^{3}$ ωd^{-} C^{0} Δd $\Delta r \Gamma C \sigma \Delta d$ ΓΡΛΦϽϹΔ•C•<> 9Φ 6ΔΡϽΦ•-.'

ΡΡΑΡΟ ΔΙ ΡΟΦΛΔ·σ' $\Delta \nabla \sigma \Delta \Delta C \Delta Q_0 P P D D \Delta \Phi \nabla \Phi \nabla \Phi$ **βΡΡΩΙΔ∙C∙ ΡΡΩΙ⊲∙βα`.**

" Γ C" ∇ C ∇ Z'\\ Γ L Γ G ω A \cdot \forall PC \cdot ρροΓα.ραΓσα, $\triangle \cdot \cup$ $\Gamma \triangleleft C \triangle \cdot$ $\Delta \cdot \mathsf{LU} \, \mathsf{q} \, \mathsf{L} \, \mathsf{\nabla} \cdot \mathsf{D} \, \mathsf{\Pi} \, \sigma,$ ρρομΔ·ς·," Δρο ∇Ь סיכי ρΔ٠٥, Σρηςιν αλν υρροια·δοσί $\Delta \Gamma \cap \Delta \Gamma$ ΔU_{λ} $b \subset \sigma V \nabla V \sigma_{\lambda}$ $b \subset q \wedge C \sigma \Delta V$ $\Gamma \Gamma \Delta \cdot CL \Delta \cdot b \cdot$, $\Gamma \Gamma \Delta \Gamma \Delta \Gamma \Delta C \nabla \cdot CL \Gamma < 0$ ∩d≤ ρCαΛΔ·ασ`, Γ"▷∇· L⊲·-P<9/Li> ⁿd≤, CCb·\ PPΦΓd∇·σ> ddσ\ $\Delta \nabla \cdot \Gamma \cup \Delta \wedge \Delta \cdot A \cup \Delta \wedge \Delta \wedge A \cup \Delta \wedge A$ Γωα· C>>> V, Δ·σαΔ·b', Δ·σV' م،ر له کام،"

 $4\cdot >^{\circ}$ $PP4\cdot \Delta \cdot C^{\circ}$ $bP\Gamma \sigma Cb \cdot \sigma'$ ρρα·- γρ·ςδ, ΔσσςΔ·ιδασ.- $\Delta\Lambda$ bolu U
 $\Delta \Lambda$ bolu U

Vρ ΓΡΛωσ-م≽۲۰, $P\Gamma PP PL PQ V \sim V$ $<\cdot \land$ $PPPJ\cdot LLQ < Q_3$ **∟**Ь<Ь∪σ, PU<UV

 $\text{``}\Gamma\text{''} \triangleright \nabla \cdot \quad \text{QPD} \mathcal{J} \circ \text{b} \cdot \text{P} < \text{'}, \quad \text{b} \Delta \cdot \text{'}$ $\Delta C \quad \nabla C$ $CP\Delta'$ $\rho \nabla \cdot$ Lo $\rho \nabla \mathcal{L} \sigma \subset \Delta \cdot \mathsf{C} \Gamma \mathsf{Q}$, $\rho \mathsf{b} \nabla \mathcal{L}$ $PP \triangle L d \wedge \Gamma$," $\Delta P \supset A \cdot >$ ". " $\Delta \Pi b$ $b \triangle A \cdot < \Gamma$ $b \triangle A \cdot < \Gamma$ $\Delta A \cdot \lambda e$, $\Delta \lambda e A \cdot A \cdot e^{-1}$, $\Gamma A \cdot e^{-1}$ $\Lambda CdQ Td - \Delta P dq \Delta \Delta V PV P q d$ $d\sigma^{\circ} d\theta \cdot \Gamma^{\circ} \nabla_{\theta} d\cdot \overline{\ }$, $\Gamma_{\Phi} \Lambda_{\theta} \cdot C_{\theta} \cap \overline{\ }$ $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{A}$ bedesigned on $\mathsf{A} \mathsf{P} \mathsf{G}$ PPPσ<0.<C"∇ΔΓP, d⊃CΓb<> ραΔ. Δ. Σα Σ Υ Γ Γ Ρ Γ Ρ Γ Ι Ι Λ⅃Ր۹Δ·σͼͻ."

 $\triangleleft \cdot >_{\cup} \quad \nabla b \supset \quad \triangleright b \Gamma \nabla \cdot \flat \quad \nabla \cdot \flat$ • ΔΡΊΛ • ΔΡΙΦΡΡΟ (CΦΟΛΠΟ CV₀4_ L⊳L Pd·

Loup-loup -0-

Loup-loup $PPoLd\cdot ba'$ 9or $Arpacyd\cdot -$.

" $P + \Lambda^- \Delta \cdot \sigma d \Delta \nabla \cdot P C P C C \Gamma$ " ωd- Δ9·σσ· ρ ρροLσ·ρσο· ρ·ኦ, Cb⊳ι Vlbdch

-**.**PLJ@19 ▶ρρωLdΔ·σ $\bigcup \bigvee \sigma \triangle \cdot$ ΔL **Ρ**CαΛΔ·σ**4**· $\neg \cdot \triangleright \cdot \triangle \, \sigma \, \sigma \cdot \nabla$ $\neg PLJP4J$ $bb\sigma q \cdot < C \cdot \nabla \Delta \cdot \nabla \cdot$ √۵۵۵۲ $PP \triangle L9 \triangle \cdot$), $PP \triangle L9 \triangle \cdot$ $PP \triangle L9 \triangle \cdot$ bΓσd⊲፦ Γ√ን σbን b₽σ५⊲፦ ٦b፦ $\Delta \nabla \cdot \ \, d\Lambda$. $\Gamma" \triangleright \nabla \cdot \sigma \ \, \Gamma$ $\Phi \ \, \nabla \circ \Delta \cdot \delta$ **ላ**σσ₽ **9**σΛ**L**∩**ረ√**-."

የь<bUσ, bαγьο α·γ·ιρηα·) ₽₽۶σLC⊅bCJd·¯ ₫σ∿₫V $4^{\circ}P$ Lo poc Dbr bbora ∇_{\cdot} $9\sigma P \nabla \cdot \Lambda \Gamma P P P \Phi P D V, 9 \Delta C V,$ Γσσ' δλισδυ, σσσαν σορ ▶ΡΓρσ, ₽Ь▷αας. LανςΓδα. DL $PPDL9\Delta \cdot \Lambda J \Gamma 9\Delta \cdot \sigma'$, ρδογογισού σαρδινι ρας ρσυρη, $d\nabla \nabla \sigma \rho \cdot$, $\nabla \sigma \nabla \delta \nabla \cdot$, $\nabla d \cdot \Delta d \cdot$,

bac dpla.) La dalan dub ⊳ρ∟Δ∙, ρδσq∟⊃α. ∂∇σΩα, Γσ ΦαΓΑ ρδγστρη, Lσα· C_α 9σ√LCΔ6U\.

"ף∇ירנטסכט ס∆י פריס הים **₫₫∙√%՝ Γ₫ ▷⁰₽በ५՝ ₽₽₽**σ¶₫∙-, $b\Delta$ 0 9d σ ∇ P Λ 0 bd Δ 0. Γ Γ 0 9d Δ 0 $PPPC PQC Q \cdot \Lambda L \Pi \land \Delta \cdot \sigma PC$ ∇·οσΔ·d·-, d>Λ δρΛδρα·- Γα 9σο L>Ο δρρσσα·-, ΔΡΟ $\triangleright \triangledown \cdot$ $\sigma\sigma\rho$ C $\Delta\cdot$ C γ , bργνсυτίδος» σας δυγγν $b\Delta \cdot$ C' $\Gamma^{\circ}b \cdot$ $\Gamma^{\circ}\Delta \wedge$ $\Lambda \Gamma^{\circ}d \cdot b \Delta$ ΛΛρι, σος γυσρα, δρ<<ιρ bP5P27, $b\Delta$ 0 $PPPPCd^{\circ}bd7$ P PPDLd $\Delta \cdot \sigma$ ', P σd D Δ \mathcal{N} \mathcal{N} d \mathcal{N} \mathcal{N} bonfpacly aday pryav proldn, prnvac rpracly advav apv vdryy."



Safe. Affordable. Reliable SERVING NORTHERN ONTARIO & BEYOND

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





Culture

LUNSA hosts first in-person Powwow since 2019

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

The Lakehead University Native Students Association's (LUNSA) 33rd annual Powwow featured about 270 registered dancers and 15 drum groups from March 10-12 at Lakehead University's CJ Sanders Fieldhouse in Thunder Bay.

"It went really well," says Jordan Thompson-Vankoughnett, president at LUNSA. "We had a wonderful turnout and it seems like everyone enjoyed themselves. It's the first in-person (LUNSA powwow) since 2019 so it's incredible to have everyone back here again in-person. We had the amazing drummers, Hope Lake was our host drum, we had the amazing dancers going around, we had wonderful craft tables and there was so much to do."

The powwow also featured warmups on Friday evening and a traditional feast on Saturday.

"It was fantastic to see the community come together from all across northwestern (Ontario), Manitoba and just south of the (U.S.) border as well," says Denise Baxter, vice provost Indigenous Initiatives at Lakehead University. "We had little one-year-olds dancing, the nicest sight I saw was a young girl about three holding her great grandmother's hand during the Elder's dance today."

Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek Elder Jim Mishquart, emcee at the powwow, says the powwow was "awesome" and an "overwhelming success."

"It's been an awesome two days here, warmups were good Friday night," Mishquart says. "You can tell how much people enjoyed getting back together socially. The committee did an awesome job, we're just finishing the give away. We've had people here from Wiikwemkoong, Minnesota, Manitoba and northwestern Ontario. Everybody is looking forward to a nice full powwow season, no more virtual."



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Long Lake #58's Narcisse Kakegabon drums with a group of drummers on the final day of the Lakehead University Native Students Association's 33rd annual Powwow, held March 10-12 at Lakehead University's CJ Sanders Fieldhouse in Thunder Bay.

Marten Falls Elder Wanda Baxter says the highlights of the powwow were the singers and the drums.

"And the Elder when he speaks about his dreams, what the songs mean and the songs that he's singing," Baxter says. "I almost danced to every song, the powwow fever is on. It's really good to see the people and meet new people."

Lac Des Mille Lacs Elder Audrey Deroy says it was nice to see all the people at the powwow

"It was just nice to see all the faces coming out and hugging people," Deroy says. "I love it."

Dustin Gagne, a drummer with the Rolling Thunder drum group and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg citizen, says the powwow was "very spiritually fulfilling."

"To see all the people with their smiles and having a good time, it was really heartwarming," Gagne says, noting that the powwow was super full on Saturday. "It was like shoulderto-shoulder dancing, and the singing too was very energizing. I'm glad to be back."

Narcisse Kakegabon, a drummer from Long Lake #58, says it was great to see all the people at the powwow and to be singing again.

"It was good to see all the people coming and all the drums coming back into the circle," Kakegabon says. "We have a lot of (drum) groups from all over and we have a group even from Manitoba, that's how anxious we are to get back into the circle."

Fort William Elder Sheila DeCorte says the powwow was "amazing."

"Yesterday (Saturday) this place was packed — there were so many people here yesterday, a very good turnout," DeCorte says. "This is the first time in more than three years that I've been here, so it's nice to be back dancing here. It was just nice to



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

A group of dancers perform their styles.

see many of the young people that came out, more and more young people are coming out and dancing now. It was nice to see a couple of hoop dancers

Fort William Elder Rita Fenton says it was a "great" powwow with the gathering of

people after the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It was just so amazing to see friends and people that I haven't seen for a while," Fenton says. "It was awesome even to see the young children, there was a lot of children in the powwow. It was amazing." Beverly Bannon, a Fort William citizen, says the powwow was "great."

"It's hard for me dance on the solid floor so I come up and I love listening to the drums, it's so healing," Bannon says. "And I love listening to the stories and the Elders, it's healing."

Thank You, Airlines!

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













Culture

ΡΓΡΡΔΙΠΙΚΑ' ΡΡΔΙΔ' ΡΡΡΦΟΦΟΦΙ ΑσΓσσΔ' σΓΔ')

≽Δ\ **b**≥Δ\

D9·σ4·\ $P\Gamma PP$ LUPLA, $\Delta \alpha \lambda \alpha \Delta \nabla$ ροισονος βαγιασης --(LUNSA) Δω 33 C ΡϽΓΛΓΔ·ϽαΦ· ΦσυσσΔ· $\sigma\Gamma$ " $\Delta D\Delta \cdot \sigma$ $\nabla \nabla \cdot$ Δd^{c} bρΛ>σ' ∇b· α³C Λd 270 ΡΛσΓ⊲·՝ Γα 15 ⊳LU·"Δ9՝ $Lb \land \nabla \cdot \nabla \land c$ 10 $\Delta q \sigma$, 15 $\nabla \Gamma$ ער הרטף דUPL9, אט דער אַ ϞͽϽ≥^ϙ ΡΓϤ·b"Δbσ՝ CͽϽ≥ V.

"PΓΔ\ ?NσC>," ΔP) ·>N> C·C\> <>do', Մ∙≽∩յ $C \cdot c + 2$ bσbσ°b` ⊳L LUNSA. PP^3CJ^- DL PP^4V^4 . $\Delta L \Delta \partial \cdot \sigma$, $L \sigma \Delta \cdot \Delta b \Gamma \Gamma \nabla \cdot$ $\Delta \rho \cdot \sigma V_- b L \rho \cdot C \rho \cdot$ $\rho b \sigma$ $\Delta \Delta \cdot \beta$ $\Delta \Delta \cdot \beta$ L4- PLPC9544, PFN...78, ᠘᠘ᠵᡠ᠘᠘ᠰᢆ <∀, ρ6σJΓ6C. $\Delta \cdot \alpha \Delta \cdot$ Γσοσυρίασι− Σίνιπας, Δρ· Lσ Γα·_ bbιLpσq\α·, bρΛσΓ⊲·⁻, Γο bρΛ⊃⊲·⁻ ⊳ςς√.Δ.σ9Δ.σ⊲. Γο ۲٫۲۵۰٬ ۹۵۵، ۵۵۲۰ ۱٬۵۳۱

 $\nabla Pb \cdot \forall \Gamma d \cdot \neg \Gamma d PLd \nabla d \sigma d \cdot \neg$

Ե₽∧⊳⊃५₫∙⁻ UN<"A ρ∇·∩Δ' ⊳᠈U≥Δ₹, Lσ⊃< Γα ∇·Λ ∽Δ·Δ' ΡΓΙσΓσЬ'," DPI A. 4σ√σσΔ· Γ∪C"∇Δ·∇·3 ∇Γ ≤Δ/"Δ\ PՐΡΡ⊅L∩bΓd\. "Δ٩·σ√·\ -^ბ*თ*∙∆9⊀ხ∿∨ძ 64 ΡΛσΓΦ. $\Delta 9.55$ ϙϼϹϭ·ϒʹͿϹϥϟͻ 1 4.-

690⊳Cσd ⊳dL> Jb.- Pſ"d\

ለንቦርላ・ለ` ኣዖ` ላσፓቂV` Γºb⋅≥′, L.⊲∆. bρλΓ⊲ϧΓ- ΔL σΓ"ΔΠΔ·σ\, ⊲Γ ЬΡΔΡϽ− L4.

∇ΡΓͽ·Ϲϧ·\ Γϭ ρ.۶, Ь∇Υ." "ዖΓዾԿ ▷∇٠ ႨႱ·⁻ $\sigma \sim P \mathcal{S} b$ bρσΓασ**4**·\. bσ∩Λb\," ΔΡϽ Γυο⋅≥΄. "ΡσረርΔισάζαι, ΔΔιλ, Γαι->9·σ4·\ Γα βρραγ94· b·ታ\ ΡΡϽCΦ</br> ΡΛΟΣΣΥΦΑΝ ΤΟ ΔΟΘΟΓΙΟΝ, Γσζς, Lσ⊃< Γα ₽∇∙Λο ⊳,∩≽∇4. ρδσ ⊲∇.λ, $PC \sim < C \sigma d \cdot \sigma L = \nabla U \nabla \cdot \sigma$

ספט, טנטי סיזנ <'^⊃> PΔP⊃ Δ∇·σ L<-−b∆"ገጋσባባ ባժ σΓ"ΔΛΔ∙σ` δρσδͿά∙- Γα LU∙"Δbα\.

"\dagger beapt- $\Delta V PU< L^{-} P< \Delta \cdot TV = 0$ $\Delta \phi \phi$ $\Delta \phi \cdot \Delta \phi \cdot \Delta \phi = 0$ ∇ροιδρο Γα σοιαο bσbJ)-," Δρ) <\^)>. "9b′ Ch. phapparad, abac, appac, appaced at the contraction of the contrac $\mathsf{bPNLL}\Delta^{\mathsf{ou}}\mathsf{bd}^{\mathsf{o}}$ $\mathsf{d}\Delta^{\mathsf{o}}\mathsf{b}$ Ld^{o} Ad $\Delta^{\mathsf{o}}\mathsf{d}\mathsf{d}$ $L_{\Omega \cdot CP \cdot J}$ $P_{\Omega \cdot CP \cdot J}$ ΓΦ ∇ρ Φ.ρ ρδ∢<Γρ."

<α, ጋ L<α, bι.α α·\>∇ Δ PO N σ^{α} <\^O>, b $d\sigma^{\alpha}$ N> d^{β} P Δ PO DPF σ ·C> σΓ"ΔΠΔ·σ\.

> ΔΔ·γ` ∇ρΛ <ΛΛηΦ- ΓΦ ∇Φ·Γ4ΓΛΦ--," Δρ⊃ Λ>Φ'.αν· Γα . απί41 Παντ," ΔΡΟ Π≥αν. "Lαντορργονος."



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Marten Falls Elder Wanda Baxter danced to most of the songs.

C^∩> b>4, ▷LU·"△9 ∇·N 6▷Γ⊲·-σων', ρΔρο bCρ.− VU4, ▷∇· σΓ"ΔΠΔ·) ▷Cld' $PPPLJ^{P}D^{D}D^{O}$

"b₽⊲·<Lb· ρρου"∇υραν," Δρο ρο4, Ь∇ЬϽ <u>၂</u>ρ._ PΓ∪σΔ·bጊρ, Γጋσ ΡΡΥ>Ό ΒΡΟΛ σΓ"ΔΝασα·). "Γጋσ Λα $\mathsf{bPC}\mathcal{S}$ ΡΥΥΓΎΟΟΝΟΝ ΒΡΌΓΟΝ. Γα Ե₽σЬJQσ√\ РՐР^оЬ9LЬ). γρΓσ·C) ΓαΦ· DL βρΛωγν."

ϭ≥ϒ૦ ϧϤϧ>϶, ⊳ϲϢ·ϭϤ ∇.೧ ₽₽₽Ĺ, #28 ₽⊳८-ΡΔΡΟ ∇ΡΓο⋅Ο' ϧΡ⊲⋅<Lbρα αΔ·ϧ، ρΓ α<u>L.Αυ</u>Ψ.«

Γα ΓαΦ βρσυ]-.

"²ρΓ₂ο·C² βρ4·<Γρ· βρα αΔ·γ' βρΛωα·− Γα βρα LU·"Δbα` bΡΛΓΔ·σC· ΔL $P\sigma b \cdot \Delta \Lambda \Delta \cdot \sigma$," $\Delta P D b 9 b > 0$. "ΦΛ- L∿Φ σο∪ σCΔ·ζĽν Γσ∢∙ $\Gamma P \sigma b \cdot \Delta \Lambda " \Delta \Omega$ ነ."

<.≥, ∇.≤∇.pc bl...< PLLbUCb.."

"⊳od ρΓ∪σ∆∙Ь∿ρ, La. PPresado, La. Λ d Γ Γ Δ Δ \cdot \cdot \cdot Δ Δ \cdot \cdot \cdot Δ Δ

 $\triangle d \cdot \sigma$, $\forall d \cdot \nabla d$ **δρΛωϧ<϶ ▷L, ▽b· L⊲·**σΓο·C› Γσ</ Ισ ΓΛσΓ₂ν. νρΓ₂ν·Cν δρα·<Lb· $\Gamma \mathcal{N}$ $b \mathsf{D}^{\mathsf{U}} b \mathsf{D}^{\mathsf{U}} \mathsf{D$ dσΓ√ρα· βΛωα· Γα μα· ρΓο·Cb·)." $\nabla \sigma \Gamma d \cdot \overline{}$. $\Gamma \sigma \qquad \Delta \theta \cdot \sigma d \cdot {}$ bσΓ⊲·۹⊲·⁻ b⊲·Δ·4♭Λbσρ> ⊅qc ρb∿ρ, ኃb⊲·<Γ/"

<·>′ ∆·<∆♭c p∩"⊲ >ΔC √2Ω2 Γα√- $P\Gamma \circ \mathcal{N}$ $P \circ \sigma \Gamma \circ \Delta \cap \Delta \circ$ ρьν<u>ι</u>ρρος δισαγσο αν, - 19.

">PLLPAC> Pb4.<\P. δρΛω⊲·⁻," ΔΡΟ Πδ•≷U. ΡΟUL՝ Γα ΦΔ·γ' ρα·δυ

∇υ βρογαίκου." Δρο V>Ω>. ">PΓΦ·C> bP</br> 44·√∽¹. L4·⁻
PLLbUCb·³."

∨>>≤∆ <a>, <⋅>′ ∆⋅≤∆५c b⊳∩⁻, ρΔρ⊃ σΓ"Δ∩Δ∙³

"b∆.> ¬> ρΛο ΔΓος∢.ρ. ραρηα.-Γα bLU·"Δ94, ΡΓΓΔ5σ40 ▷L," ΔΡϽ <Φ³. "ΓΦ $\begin{array}{lll} \text{bcn} < \text{right}, & \text{fide } \text{fo} \\ \nabla \text{dotal} \cdot \text{dotal}. \end{array}$



Apply Today!

- · Bachelor of Social Work Degree Program (Post-diploma transfer program)
- · Business Diploma
- · College Access Program
- Early Childhood Education
- Personal Support Worker
- Police Foundations
- Practical Nursing Program
- Pre-Health Sciences Program
- · Social Service Worker -Indigenous Specialization

To learn more about enrolling in one of our exciting programs please contact our Recruitment Office

Toll Free: 1-866-636-7454 | P: 1-807-626-1880 | E: recruitment@oshki.ca



oshki.ca



2022 RENEGADE 570 H2432

MSRP \$ 10,749



2023 OUTLANDER MAX LIMITED 1000R H2690 MSRP \$19,899



2023 MAVERICK TRAIL DPS HD7 H2662

MSRP \$18,899



2023 COMMANDER XT 1000R CAMO H2699 MSRP \$26,599

IN STOCK AND AVAILABLE NOW, **CALL OR BUY ONLINE**

Half-Way Motors POWÉR SPORTS

1230 Carrick Street, Thunder Bay • 807-622-2626 halfwaymotorspowersports.com

HST and license extra.

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 δΡLC⊅δU՝ 1974 ∇▷Ր◁⊅δUΡን Ρ∙∇∩⊅՝ ▷᠈∪≯Δ₹ CΔς√9.ΔΦ). C₹σ∾ΛΓάΦρ ▷√ΓρΟ .∢.∢Ο

Commentary

Stand Up For Public Healthcare



grew up in my home community of Attawapiskat
First Nation on the James Bay coast and there were a lot of challenges living in the far north. As a matter of fact there still are. We have had a hospital in place for a long time but never really had a local full time doctor or dentist. However, we have had a lot of great nurses and midwives over the years. Thankfully because we have had a good public health care system in place for so many decades remote Indigenous communities across the country have had the benefit of some degree of health care. I can only imagine the disaster it would have been for our Indigenous First Nations if a private health care system like the one in the United States would have been in place.

Today remote Indigenous communities have access to some form of health care and if there is a serious problem then people are flown out of the community to a full service hospital in the south. When a specialist is needed or critical checkups have to happen people are also flown out to first class hospitals in city centres to the south. At least we have some degree of health care that we certainly would not have if it were not for all those politicians, activists and fair-minded people that fought for our public health system.

For decades right wing governments have been eating away at funding for our public health care and that has caused many challenges in terms of services and staffing. Recently more and more private health care is creeping into our system and that is a result of constant lobbying by huge health care and health insurance corporations to our Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament. How could anyone think that we should have a health care system similar to the unfair and private profiteering system in the United States is beyond me. Some say that it would be good to have a system where some services were offered by private health care services but that does not make sense. This move to incorpo-rate private health care into our system only serves to further weaken our public health care by taking money out of it and providing it to corporations that are only interested in making big profits and satisfy-ing their wealthy owners and board members.

How does that make any sense?

According to the Commonwealth Fund, an institution that has been around for over a hundred years and is dedicated to promoting an equitable health care system, the United States spends nearly twice as much on private health care as a share of its economy compared to other first world countries. Even with all this spending, when compared to other first world nations, the US has the lowest life expectancy, the highest suicide rates, highest levels of chronic disease and the highest rates of obesitv.

Any kind of two tier health system would end up being detrimental for our public health care sys-tem. It is up to us the public to take a stand and make sure our public health care system stays in place. The Liberal Party supports this idea to a degree and the New Democratic Party believes strongly in our public health system. To quote one of the founders of the concept of medicare, Tommy Douglas "Unless there is a concerted effort to apply pressure on the Federal and Provincial governments, the erosion of Medicare will continue unabated and might even be accelerated. Our best hope lies in the Canadian Health Coalition ... for the preservation and extension of Medicare."

You can find information how you can support those who advocate for public health by going to their websites including the Canadian Health Coalition at www.healthcoalition.ca The Ontario Health Co-alition at: www.ontariohealthcoalition. ca The Council Of Canadians at www.canadians.org The Canadi-an Union of Public Employees at: www.cupe.ca The Ontario Public Service Employees Union at: www. opseu.org and the Ontario Nurses' Association at www. ona.org

We owe it to those dedicated politicians, activists, health care professionals, patients and everyone who fought for public health care to keep it alive. I've heard it from my parents and my Elders that public health care was one of the greatest services that assisted our people. We don't need any movement to pri-vate health care to serve those who have more money than others, those who feel entitled or those who want to profit from something as necessary and important as universal medicare here in Canada. Our pub-lic healthcare system is a major reason that we are considered as a leading democracy and a great country to live in. Support our great health care workers so they can continue to care for all of us in a fair and equitable system open to all.

www.underthenorthernsky.com

Close to 200 dancers attended the 2023 Family Day Powwow



The Family Day Powwow 2023 was a successful continuation of a Family Day celebration initially started by Raven Linklater many years ago in Thunder Bay. Head female Elder Sheila Decorte and head dancer Cheryl Suggashie danced their styles at the Family Day Powwow 2023 at the Victorian Inn in Thunder Bay.

On To The Next Season



here were some remarkable contrasts in temperature across the region in February this year. After a brief cold spell in the first days, temperatures rebounded to several days with daily high records. A broad band from Thunder Bay to Timmins set new records, and a few locations in Northeastern Ontario exceeded 10°C.

Unusually warm conditions persisted into the third week of February and many locations had multiple days with temperatures of 0°C and higher during this prolonged warm spell. Temperatures then plummeted to colder than normal, especially in the far North where several overnights were between -30°C to -40°C. This cold resulted in slightly below average temperatures for February overall in the far north.

Areas from Thunder Bay to Timmins had slightly above average temperatures in February. Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie had no days of -30°C and

Most of the region had less snowfall than normal and snow on the ground declined during February. This was most pronounced in areas around Kenora and Timmins. A corridor from Lake Superior to Hudson Bay had near average precipitation but a prolonged rainstorm on Valentine's Day set some records in the Thunder

Winter 2022-23

Meteorological winter begins on December 1 and ends on February 28 at midnight. Most readers are well aware that winter conditions are not confined to these 90 days, but we will return to the March part of winter in a moment. The average temperature this meteorological winter was the 8th to 10th warmest on record across the region. (The precise rank depends on the length of temperature records at different locations.)

Oher ways to assess winter include counting the number of days with melting temperatures (0°C and warmer) and minimum temperatures at -30°C and colder. There were extended times with melting temperatures in December, January and February throughout the region. In Thunder Bay, this winter had 27 days with afternoon temperatures at or warmer than 0°C. This compares to 10 days in the previous winter $(202\dot{1}-22)$

There has been an overall trend to warmer winters for the past 70 years. The average temperature of this winter was nearly 3°C higher than the average temperature 70 years ago in the mid-20th century.

In our part of the world warmer winters do mean reduced heating costs. Of course, it is one of those "be careful what you wish for" trends. The additional heat energy at the global, regional and local levels contributes to more volatile weather - more

extremes and severe weather consequences. Let's save this topic for another time.

At the global level, the Dec-Feb period ranked as the fifth warmest winter for the Northern Hemisphere.

Storm tracks and winter weather

Low pressure storm systems often begin and travel in regions within relatively narrow corridors known as storm tracks The intensity and location of storm tracks varies seasonally and can be influenced by distant features such as changes ocean sea surface temperature.

Areas of low pressure often form next to the Rocky Mountains. "Alberta Clippers" and "Colorado Lows" often reach Ontario in the winter season. Alberta Clippers originate in southern Alberta and move to the east, usually quite quickly, hence the term "clipper". They often maintain a latitude of between 48° and 50° north and pass over southern parts of this region of Ontario.

Colorado Lows typically form in the state of Colorado east of the Rocky Mountains in a similar manner to Alberta Clippers. They move east, but once they reach the middle of the United States they turn north and then veer more to the east again usually reaching Southern Ontario and sometimes into Quebec. If the systems track a little more to the north various areas of Northern Ontario are affected.

Both Alberta Clippers and Colorado Lows are common in the winter season in Ontario. This winter did feature fewer than average Colorado Lows in

the north. In contrast, southern Ontario experienced multiple Colorado Lows. By early March an area from Minnesota to southern Ontario and Quebec had recorded much more snow than average. As mentioned earlier In there was less snow than usual on the ground in Northern Ontario at that time.

This changed in mid-March. A major storm system centred on St. Patrick's Day took a more northeast track and delivered major precipitation amounts to first to Northwestern and then Northeastern Ontario. In many locations precipitation began as freezing drizzle or snow grains (frozen drizzle). It then changed to mixes of rain and freezing rain and then extended times of snow and, towards the east and south, rain.

March is a winter month

Various meteorological summaries have made their conclusions about the 2022-23 winter. Calendars, which follow the astronomical seasons, declare that spring officially begins on the Spring Equinox, March 20 (5:24 pm EDT and 4:24 pm CST). However, residents of Northern Ontario will each likely have their own definition of when spring begins, such as when the Canada geese return or when the pussy willows bloom.

In any case, both Environment Canada and the Weather Network are forecasting a nearnormal spring (March, April, May) with more precipitation than usual.

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

> DESIGN AND LAYOUT Through the Sky Studio

CONTRIBUTORS Lindsay Cote Rick Garrick Xavier Kataquapit

Graham Saunders

ters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of Wawatay News. vickya@wawatay.on.ca

<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.

Guest editorials, columnists and let-

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.

Miss World Canada speaks at NAN women's gathering

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Miss World Canada Emma Morrison highlighted how she began reconnecting to her culture after the discovery of 215 potential burial sites at the Kamloops Indian residential school during the 2023 Nish-nawbe Aski Nation Women's Gathering. Morrison, a Chapleau Cree citizen who was crowned this past November and previously represented Canada at the Miss Teenager Universe pageant in Mexico City after being crowned Miss Teenage Canada in 2017, delivered her presentation on the second day of the gathering, which was held Feb. 21-23 at the Best Western Plus Nor'Wester Hotel and Conference Centre in Thunder Bay.

"I heard of these schools growing up, I had family members who (went) to these schools and I knew how horrible they were but just this news of 215, it's such a big number," Morrison says. "My kokum went to residential school but so did my kokum's brother and sister, and they also never returned home and because of this I was feeling so sad. It still really affects me, but this is when I began reconnecting to my culture to honour those who never made it home from these schools but to also honour the survivors."

Morrison says she taught her-

self to bead by watching online tutorials.

"I really fell in love with sewing ribbon skirts because whenever I wear a ribbon skirt I receive feelings of empowerment and resiliency and connection," Morrison says. "I knew I wanted to share these feelings with other Indigenous women and two-spirit people, and this is when I began an initiative called Reconnecting through Ribbon Skirts. I sew ribbon skirts for other Indigenous people so they'll have that physical link to their culture to remind them to stand strong in a country where their culture was once torn apart. So far I've made around 30 ribbon skirts for other Indigenous people."

Deputy Grand Chief Anna Betty Achneepineskum says the gathering featured presentations and information based on what is happening in NAN territory and across the country.

"For example, this afternoon we're going to be hearing from individuals who had lived through being homeless," Achneepineskum says on the opening day of the gathering. "They're going to be sharing their story as to how they got to be in that place and were able to move out of it, because those kind of stories are very impor-

Achneepineskum says there were also opportunities to have good laughs and to hear good stories during the gathering.

Miss World Canada Emma Morrison, a Chapleau Cree citizen, delivers her presentation on the second day of the 2023 Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women's Gathering, held at the Best Western Plus Nor'Wester Hotel and Conference Centre in Thunder Bay.

"You hear laughter now, that's really important, that needs to be part of any gathering we have," Achneepineskum

Achneepineskum says the gathering also featured presentations by National Chief RoseAnne Archibald and Hilda Anderson-Pyrz, chair at the National Family and Survivors

who will lead us back into balance, it is the women who play a key role in decolonization and reclamation of our rightful place in this country," Pyrz says. "We have a shared responsibility to take action and our stories are sacred, our stories as Indigenous women have been silenced for over 500 years and we are awakening."

Pyrz says Indigenous women "I often say it is the women are the life-givers of their nations.

"We care, we love our families, we have a right to selfdignity, we are human, we are sisters, aunties, mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers, nieces, cousins and friends," Pyrz says, adding that Indigenous women bring balance into their nations. "We see our women rising, we're here together, we're rising together to create that impact and it's

really powerful to see because we have to build pathways for future generations so they don't have to have the same lived experiences as I've had, as our mothers had and grandmothers had and great grandmothers had, so we're doing the work to build those pathways, we're doing the work within ourselves, in our communities, in our nations to build those path-

ONWA launches new campaign on human trafficking



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Ontario Native Women's Association executive director Cora McGuire-Cyrette, pictured at an event on 2021, recently highlighted the launch of ONWA's new Educate Yourself, Educate Others campaign to encourage Canadians to learn more about human trafficking on National Awareness Day for Human Trafficking.

Rick Garrick

Wawatay News

Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) recently launched a new Educate Yourself, Educate Others campaign to encourage Canadians to learn more about human trafficking on National Awareness Day for Human Trafficking.

"We're really trying to address a very complex issue like human trafficking through ... education and recognizing that

Indigenous women and girls are exploited," says Cora McGuire-Cyrette, executive director at ONWA. "There's kind of this myth out there and perception that Indigenous women and girls are choosing to live this lifestyle, so that's why we really need to educate people. The average age for trafficking victims is the age of 13, and when you're looking at an average age you know that there's victims that are younger than 13. Children cannot consent to being exploited, so that is one of the key messages that we're getting out there as well as looking at educating people on what is human trafficking and what does it look like."

McGuire-Cyrette says a better description of human trafficking is exploitation.

"Breaking this cycle and ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people shouldn't just be an aspirational concept that gets talked about," McGuire-Cyrette says. "It should be an expectation of every Canadian, backed up by supports that will contribute to real change in this unacceptable

Jennifer Richardson, senior director of strategy and communications at ONWA and a survivor of human trafficking, says human trafficking and sexual exploitation are happening in every community in Ontario.

"Everyone needs to know the signs, so they can be a part of the solution," Richardson says.

"...I think having that perspective in the campaign led by Indigenous women and their leadership is really important..."

- Jennifer Richardson

"It's important that this camign is being led by an Indigenous women's organization because we know in Canada and Ontario for sure that Indigenous women are overrepresented in sex trafficking, so I think having that perspective in the campaign led by Indigenous women and their leadership is really important and something that hasn't always been the norm in Canada and Ontario."

ONWA's province-wide campaign includes billboard, subway, metro and social media messaging and it allows anyone with a smartphone to scan a OR code and instantly connect to ONWA's Human Trafficking resource page at: www.onwa.

ca/learning-resources-ht. "Some messaging is more geared to general populations that might see or encounter in their work folks being trafficked," Richardson says. "Other parts of the messaging are really more geared to people that might be being trafficked now seeing those ads or billboards and having a number to call."

ONWA has developed 14 recommendations in its Journey to Safe SPACES Report, which was based on extensive engagement with more than 3,360 community citizens and an ongoing relationship with 250 self-identified human trafficking survivors who have shared their stories. The report is posted online at: www.onwa.ca/_files/ ugd/33ed0c_1a2b7218396c4c 71b2d4537052ca47cd.pdf.

"Thunder Bay has always been a hub for trafficking long before governments started paying attention to trafficking," Richardson says. "I was trafficked at 13, so that was 30 years ago. Thunder Bay was a hub where traffickers brought me to force me to sell sex in hotels and in strip clubs and escort services, so it's been happening for a very long time. In the last decade or so people have been raising more awareness, police have really been trying to educate folks on the criminality that's being done to often women and young folks or two-spirit people for profit. The profit is large and the risk of being caught is quite low."

Richardson says traffickers can get people addicted to drugs or alcohol as a way to manipulate them or control their behaviour.

"Sometimes they can take naked pictures of people, put them online, take ... these types of videos of people and threaten that they're going to show those to their family," Richardson.
"The repeated kind of psychological messaging to people being trafficked is that you won't belong, no one is going to accept you, there's something wrong with you for this happening to you."



MOOSONEE CAMPUS Award Recipients Winter 2023

Congratulations!

Anne Neill Health Sciences Bursary

Lynore Rickard

Academic Upgrading Bursary

Keira Koosees Bradley Moore Clayton Wesley

The Francis Pegahmagabow Memorial Scholarship

Lynore Rickard

Northern College Moosonee Campus Commitment and Dedication Award

Donna Echum Nicole Quachegan Nova Gull Megan Paul

Student Assistance Bursary

Lynore Rickard Nicole Quachegan Nova Gull Megan Paul Donna Echum

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Because of the generosity of those who give to us, Northern College students receive close to **\$2 million** on average in scholarships, bursaries and awards each academic year.





ONWA's executive director participates at UN commission

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Ontario Native Women's Association executive director Cora McGuire-Cyrette enjoyed participating along with National Chief RoseAnne Archibald and Women and Gender Equality and Youth Minister Marci Ien at the United Nations 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67). McGuire-Cyrette was selected as a member of the Canadian delegation at CSW67, which was held March 6-17 in New York.

"Some of the highlights for me definitely was being able to join our National Chief Rose-Anne Archibald in her press conference that she had coordinated down there," McGuire-Cyrette says. "She had some strong Indigenous women advocates around looking at MMIWG (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls) as well as looking at calls to action around ensuring that Indigenous women have space within future CSWs (Commissions on the Status of Women) kind of going forward, so that was one of the highlights showing strong Indigenous women leadership particularly within the forum.

McGuire-Cyrette says she also participated in Ien's roundtables at CSW67, one with civil society organizations and another with Indigenous leaders from around the world.

"We were able to talk about the kind of issues we are collectively facing and building that relationship going forward," McGuire-Cyrette says. "So that was a pretty powerful meeting in collaboration."

McGuire-Cyrette says she was "truly honoured" to meet and build relationships with Indigenous leaders from around the world at CSW67.

"We do face a lot of similar issues just because I think colonization has the same tactics for all Indigenous people," McGuire-Cyrette says. "Some of those relationships are working out where we're planning to hold a side event at next year's CSW. We're collaborating with Aboriginal women from Australia, Mexico and a couple of other countries where we're seeing who's interested in joining us to hold our own side event. We really want to see an Indigenous women's theme at a future CSW."

The priority theme for CSW67 was innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

"Indigenous women really need to be involved in all these forums, in looking at accountability of systems that continue to fail us," McGuire-Cyrette says. "They have this event every year in New York."

McGuire-Cyrette ONWA is committed to empowering and supporting all Indigenous women.

"Ending violence against Indigenous women and their families, along with ensuring equal access to justice, education, health services, environmental stewardship and economic development ... sit at the cornerstone of what we do," McGuire-Cyrette says. "My focus is to ensure that the voices of Indigenous women are represented at international forums like the CSW67 to keep Indigenous women safe. Improving Indigenous women's participa-



Ontario Native Women's Association executive director Cora McGuire-Cyrette met with National Chief RoseAnne Archibald and other dignitaries at the United Nations 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held March 6-17 in New York.

tion and leadership in key sectors like technology and science is critical to support equity for Indigenous women and girls and must be part of Canada's reconciliation journey."

McGuire-Cyrette says they were also planning to attend the United Nations 2023 Water Conference, which was scheduled for March 22-24 in New

"We really want to be able to bring forward recommendations here and bring forward issues that Indigenous women

are facing here in Canada to the Water Conference, particularly looking at Grassy Narrows and the mercury poisoning happening in the community there and the effects on women," McGuire-Cvrette savs.

"And then we've got the

UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous (Issues) that will be happening in April as well, so just being able to participate in them and for us to speak on our own behalf (is important) because a lot of times if we are not at these forums you can

have non-Indigenous people speaking on Indigenous peoples' issues and I think we've had enough of that in colonization. We have capacity as Indigenous people to speak on our own behalf now in reclaiming our leadership."

INSPECTION

MNRF-Approved Forest Management Plan Inspection for Wabadowgang Noopming 2023 -2033 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), NorthWinds Environmental Services and the Armstrong Local Citizens' Committee (ALCC) would like to advise you that the 2023 - 2033 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest has been approved by the MNRF Regional Director and is available for inspection.

The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public and First Nation and Métis community involvement are provided. The fourth opportunity (Stage Four) for this FMP occurred on July 11, 2022 - September 9, 2022 when the public was invited to review and comment on the draft FMP.

This 'Stage Five' notice is to advise you that the MNRF-approved FMP, including the supplementary documentation, and FMP summary are available electronically for inspection for the 10-year duration of the FMP through the office of NorthWinds Environmental Services and on the Natural Resources Information Portal at https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online.

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange a remote meeting with MNRF staff with the Thunder Bay-Ignace District or Area Office to discuss the approved FMP.

For further information, please contact:

Mitchell Legros, R.P.F.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay Work Centre

435 James Street South Suite Boo1

Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-620-0478

e-mail: mitchell.legros@ontario.ca

Jeffrey Cameron, R.P.F.

NorthWinds Environmental Services 195 Park Avenue

Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1B9

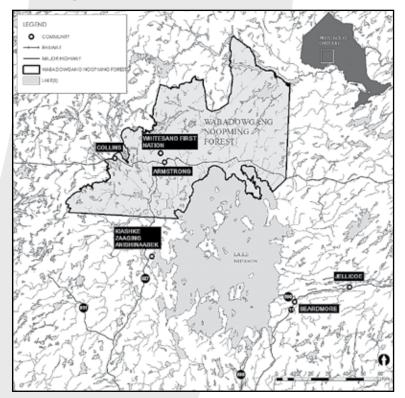
tel: 807-631-8744

e-mail: jcameron@northwindsenv.ca

Bruce Hyer

Armstrong Local Citizens' Committee c/o Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 435 James Street South Suite Boo1 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7

The approved FMP will be available for the 10-year period of the FMP at the same locations listed above.



Stay Involved

Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit:

https://ontario.ca/forestmanagement

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or NorthWinds Environmental Services to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may also be used by the MNRF to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Kelly Hilliard, MNRF, District Business Coordinator, at kelly.hilliard@ontario.ca

Renseignements en français: Mitchell Legros, F.P.I., au courriel: mitchell.legros@ontario.ca



BEING INFORMED IS YOUR BEST PROTECTION

We regulate the social work and social service work professions in Ontario to ensure you're working with people who are accountable to standards of professional and ethical conduct.

or social service worker, make sure their name is on the Online Register. Find their name. Get peace of mind. Check the Online Register, or contact us at info@ocswssw.org.

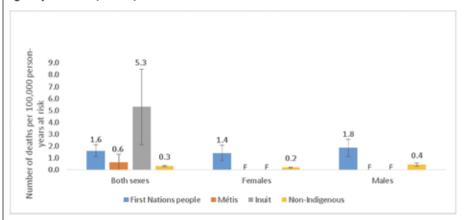


PROFESSIONAL ETHICAL QUALIFIED ACCOUNTABLE

Check the Online Register at ocswssw.org

Community

Figure 1. Age-standardized fire-related mortality rates (ASMR or number of deaths per 100,000 person-years at risk) among First Nations people, Métis, Inuit and non-Indigenous people, by sex, household population aged 1 year or older, Canada, 2011-2018



F: too unreliable to be published

Notes: 7.6 years of follow-up period: May 10, 2011 to December 31, 2018

Excluded from data: institutional population at time of census collection (e.g. nursing homes, jails), population living in collective households (e.g. motels hotels, rooming houses), persons not enumerated by the 2011 National Household Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort integrating the 2011 National Household Survey with Canadian Vital Statistics Canadas (2011-2018).

For Canada as a whole, the age-standardized fire-related mortality rate among First Nations people living on reserve was 3.2 deaths per 100,000 person-years at risk, over 10 times higher (RR=10.5) than the rate among non-Indigenous people in Canada (figure 2). Fire-related mortality rate among First Nations people was five

screenshot

A Statistics Canada report commissioned by the National Indigenous Fire Safety Council found that First Nation individuals living on-reserve are about 10 times more likely to die in a fire than non-Indigenous Canadians.

DGC Achneepineskum calls for more action after Pikangikum fire

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Deputy Grand Chief Anna Betty Achneepineskum is calling for action from the federal and provincial governments after three Pikangikum citizens died in a house fire in the community of 4,000 on Feb. 22. Vernie Turtle, 44, Kirsten Moose, 38, and Kendriyanna Turtle, eight, died in the house fire.

"It is outrageous that we must plead with our treaty partners every time an innocent life is lost," Achneepineskum says. "Nice words are said, but very little is done. We do not need condolences or sympathy from the governments of Ontario and Canada. We need action. Immediately. Before any more lives are lost."

The Ontario Provincial Police confirmed that three bodies were recovered on Feb. 25 and that the investigation is ongoing

"How many more house fires do we have to go through before the government gets serious," says Pikangikum Chief Shirley Lynne Keeper. "The impacts of these losses are long lasting and triggering for the community."

Pikangikum previously lost a family of nine in a house fire in March 2016.

"Our community is devastated to have yet another loss due to a horrific house fire," Keeper says. "It was almost seven years ago that we lost a family to a fire in our community. We should not be experiencing this again. We have never felt so hopeless. Our ability to fight structural fires has not improved since 2016. Our fire trucks were frozen because we don't have an adequate building to keep them warm."

Jonathan Gregg, technical manager and acting CEO at Independent First Nations Alliance (IFNA), says it was very cold on the evening of the fire with a wind chill of about -30



"With the limitations of the weather and fire fighting capabilities, it just made it very difficult," Gregg says. "The house was fully engulfed, the fire fighters did their best but with the cold temperatures it made it hard to fight the fire. They protected other assets around there, they contained the area and it was unfortunate there was the passing of three people."

Statistics Canada report commissioned by the National Indigenous Fire Safety Council found that First Nation individuals living onreserve are about 10 times more likely to die in a fire than non-Indigenous Canadians...

Gregg says a Statistics Canada report commissioned by the National Indigenous Fire Safety Council found that First Nation individuals living onreserve are about 10 times more likely to die in a fire than non-Indigenous Canadians. The report, Mortality and morbidity related to fire, burns and carbon monoxide poisoning among First Nations people, Métis and Inuit: Findings from the 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort, is posted online at: https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2021/statcan/CS2-54-2021-eng.pdf.

"That just tells you again we have a long ways to go," Gregg says. "Over the past few years

there's been fires in other First Nations with fatalities, young children, and we have to work with government to bring change and improve our services in our First Nation communities."

Achneepineskum says the number of individuals who have perished in house fires across Nishnawbe Aski Nation in the last decade is "very disturbing." A total of 11 children and seven adults have lost their lives in house fires in Pikangikum in 2016, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug in 2019, Sandy Lake in 2022 and Peawanuck in 2023.

"Many of them are children — it's time now that we assess the services or the lack of fire prevention and also fire responses that we have within our First Nations," Achneepineskum says. "We're lacking the resources and infrastructure to protect ourselves from house fires and also to fight a fire when it does occur."

Achneepineskum says the government needs to work with First Nations to ensure they have a fire truck and a fire station that is up to standard.

"We're not going to accept these small little garages right now, which exist in a few of the communities," Achneepineskum says. "In some places where they have provided a fire truck, there's not even a building to house that fire truck. The government needs to ensure that we have the buildings, that we need to train the fire fighters and ensure that there is sustainable funding to include salaries for the fire fighters and to maintain the equipment including the fire truck."

Wake the Giant announces culture and training course

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Wake the Giant, along with the Thunder Bay Regional Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) and St. Joseph's Care Group, recently introduced the Wake the Giant Indigenous Culture and Inclusivity Training course. In development since early 2021, the training course was developed by Northern Nishnawbe Education Council (NNEC) leaders in collaboration with Elders, knowledge keepers, educators and the Wake the Giant committee and support from healthcare partners. It provides an online learning experience to support businesses, companies and organizations in creating more inclusive spaces, free of racism, where Indigenous people are welcome.

"The initiative today that was launched is cultural sensitivity and inclusivity training and it's going to be available for businesses (and organizations) that would like to utilize the training," says Dobi Dawn Frenette, director of education at NNEC. "At the launch today we were able to partner with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Care Group who are going to make the training mandatory for their staff. The intent is that by providing this cultural sensitivity and inclusivity training, that when our students are requiring services from these organizations their staff will be more aware of the culture, the history, the background of Indigenous

dents and where they come from."

The online training module will become mandatory for all staff at the TBRHSC and St. Joseph's Care Group as of April 1 with participants learning to identify racism and engage in anti-Indigenous racism strategies while exploring Indigenous history, culture and traditions. Upon successful completion, each participant will receive a special Wake the Giant decal for their employee badge. The decals will be visible to patients, students and others to help identify that staff have completed the training.

"Students have indicated that hospitals can be very triggering," says Greg Chomut, Wake the Giant co-founder and committee member. "Our hope is that having the Wake the Giant symbol worn by staff will help students and their families feel more at ease, as the training will support individuals to be more receptive and empathetic to the challenges that Indigenous peoples face, particularly when they come to the healthcare organizations for help.

The Wake the Giant movement was created to provide the Thunder Bay community with awareness and tools to better respond to racism and help celebrate the enduring cultural diversity of Indigenous peoples. The training will be incorporated into the Wake the Giant Decal Program, which has more than 350 local businesses and organizations involved to date.

"Wake the Giant is com-



Wake the Giant, which held the 2022 Wake the Giant Music Festival last fall including a group of Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School jingle dress dancers, recently introduced the Wake the Giant Indigenous Culture and Inclusivity Training course along with the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Care Group.

mitted to continue to engage in the important work of challenging racism to create a more welcoming and inclusive city," says AJ Haapa, Wake the Giant co-founder and committee member. "We know Indigenous peoples face a wide array of barriers and challenges, and this is an opportunity for people to invest in capabilities that will help individuals and organizations thrive on being better - to create meaningful change and help continue to build a more vibrant and supportive commu-

More than 5,900 employees and volunteers from the healthcare organizations are expected to participate in the training by March 2025. The training includes a wealth of crucial information that helps participants to understand the harmful processes of colonization in Canada, including the residential school system, the 60's Scoop and Indian hospitals. This approach will incorporate assessment quizzes, a complete glossary of "need to know" terminology, videos and case study scenarios.

"Our frontline staff are committed to providing the best possible health care experience for everyone in northwestern Ontario, and as such have been asking for this kind of Indigenous Culture and Inclusivity Training," says Dr. Rhonda Crocker Ellacott, president and CEO at TBRHSC and CEO at Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute. "This partnership is much needed and long overdue, and I am hopeful it will help our region further establish itself as a national leader in this regard."

Kelli O'Brien, president and CEO at St. Joseph's Care Group, says St. Joseph's Care Group is honoured that the students and staff of Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School have entrusted them as partners in Wake the Giant.

"Through their guidance, in

harmony with our own journey of Walking With Humility, we are committed to a healthcare system where Indigenous peoples can expect to be welcomed with respect in an environment that supports care for body, mind and spirit through traditional healing and spaces for ceremony," O'Brien says.

The fourth Wake the Giant Music Festival is scheduled for Sept. 16 in Thunder Bay, with further details expected in the early spring. Information about the Wake the Giant Indigenous Culture and Inclusivity Training is posted at: wakethegiant.ca.



Did you attend a Federal Indian Residential School where some children slept there overnight but you did not?

Are YOU a Day Scholar eligible for compensation?

justicefordayscholars.com



If so, go to www.justicefordayscholars.com to check the list of schools and eligibility dates or call 1-888-222-6845



Tikinagan celebrates foster parent month

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Tikinagan Child and Family Services is reaching out for more foster parents as they honoured more than 370 foster parents across the 30 First Nations they serve in northwestern Ontario.

"With our expansion to our urban areas such as Thunder Bay and Dryden, we're looking for of course more foster homes in the urban areas," says Greg Moe, Tikinagan service manager. "But we're also looking for more homes in the north in the communities we serve."

Moe says Tikinagan currently needs up to 10 homes in every community, or 450-500 homes across the region they serve, which is the size of France.

"Once children become teenagers, they experience new life challenges," Moe says. "They want to test new limits, become independent, learn new things. Providing a safe space for them to explore life as a young person and come back home at the end of the day, knowing they are grounded and loved, is so important."

Moe adds that the need for Indigenous foster parents is particularly growing in urban areas such as Thunder Bay, Dryden and Sioux Lookout.

"We are looking for someone who genuinely cares for our children and wants to make a difference," Moe says. "Every child, no matter their age or life history, deserves the right to succeed in life. Our foster parents play a big role in helping them get there."

Tikinagan equips and collaborates with foster parents to provide them with the resources and worker support they require, including handson training. Foster parents who support high-risk or specialized youth homes also receive higher daily pay rates.

"We need the help of individuals and couples who have a desire to make a difference," Moe says. "We need Indigenous foster families who want to help raise children while assisting them in maintaining their connections to their family, culture and community."

Tikinagan states that their foster parents are everyday people who come from all walks of life, including homemakers, band councillors, grandparents, uncles and aunties. The foster parents often have their own children and they work at the community store, the nursing station or the school and can be married or single.

"It's in our service model as well, Mamow Obiki-ahwah-soowin, everyone working together to raise our children," Moe says. "We wrap everything we do around that service model, so that's the reason we want more foster homes in the communities so we don't have to remove children from the community. It's always our goal to keep children within their



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Tikinagan Child and Family Services, which recently held the Niigaanshkaawin Breaking Trail Forum in Thunder Bay, is reaching out for more foster parents as they honoured more than 370 foster parents across the 30 First Nations they serve.

community, within their families if we can."

Moe says the recruitment of foster parents has been a slow process over the past few years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We're looking to get up to the communities and do our recruitment drives in each community," Moe says. "So hopefully that number will go up."

Moe says they will be holding a virtual Honour the Foster Parents Night on March 31 featuring foster parent stories and performances by Ron Kanutski and Shabistik.

"We're going to be also giving away a couple of nice prizes that we purchased here at Tikinagan for the foster parents," Moe says. "It's just a night that we can have to sit down and share with the foster parents and thank them for all the hard work and dedication that they put into caring for our children and nurturing and loving our children. It's a fun night and it's for the foster parents."

Moe says they will be hosting events at Tikinagan's offices

in Sioux Lookout, Thunder Bay and Mishkeegomang for foster parents to watch the virtual Honour the Foster Parents Night together with the foster care worker on a big screen.

"The rest will able to participate via (Microsoft) Teams on their computers," Moe says.



This March celebrate

FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION MONTH

Foster Parents offer a calming and caring role in the lives of our children and youth during some of their most stormy times of life. They are an essential part of the circle of care that provides for our children and delivering our services in your community. They help raise our children while assisting them in maintaining their connections to their family, culture, and community.

In honour of their commitment, we are excited to celebrate our more than 370 foster parents across our 30 First Nations during Foster Parent Appreciation Month.





Go to **TIKINAGAN.ORG** for more info!









Tikinagan reimagines the future of child and family services

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Tikinagan Child and Family Services held the Niigaanshkaawin Breaking Trail Forum at Delta Hotels Thunder Bay as a first step to reimagine the future of child and family services in its 30 communities.

"The Niigaanshkaawin Forum was a good, first step in helping shape the pathway for Tikinagan's future and our 30 First Nations in deciding and implementing the right path for their child welfare systems," says Robin Bunting, Niigaanshkaawin project manager at Tikinagan. "Our Niigaanshkaawin project began just over a year ago with a BCR that was passed at our AGM in Lac Seul — our project has three main objectives as passed by the chiefs and those are to assist and support our First Nations with their child welfare law development, .. to assist and support our First Nations with their band rep services, currently known as First Nation representative services, and also to reimagine the role Tikinagan will have in the

future in our First Nations."

Bunting says 29 of the 30
First Nations served by Tikinagan were present at the forum, including more than 150 participants such as chiefs, councillors, band reps, social directors and other key representatives in child welfare for the communities

"Our forum had a number of presentations, presentations were presented as ideas





Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

The first day of the Niigaanshkaawin Breaking Trail Forum, held at Delta Hotels Thunder Bay, featured a presentation on the Niigaanshkaawin project by Robin Bunting, Niigaanshkaawin project manager at Tikinagan.

and options," Bunting says. "We know that First Nation communities are unique and autonomous and as always they will take the lead on how best to protect their children, youth and build their families. We presented ourselves as wanting to support and assist if and when required, we will take direction from each of the First Nations that we serve as we continue with this project."

The Forum included a presentation by Kitchenuh-maykoosib Inninuwug (KI) on their experience with the development and implementa-

tion of their Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug Dibenjikewin Onaakonikewin law, which was passed in November 2019 by KI Chief and Council.

"Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug has demonstrated how much work is required to do this work," says Esther McKay, Niigaanshkaawin project manager. "It's a long process, but they remained committed to their community and their people to establish a way of caring for children and families. They have helped break trail for many of our communities who are eagerly ready (to)

follow in their footsteps, and Niigaanshkaawin is ready to support them."

The forum also included presentations on Tikinagan Child and Family Services, First Nation Representatives, An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children, Youth and Families and

First Nations Law Making Processes and Service Delivery Options.

"This forum gave community (citizens) the opportunity to be heard as they begin to determine their path," McKay says. "We heard from the Elders,

from community (citizens), and it's clear: the answers lie within the communities, which is the original vision of the chiefs and the focus of our forum."

Bunting says the third day of the forum focused on what role Tikinagan will play in the future.

"Three questions were asked; feedback, comments, suggestions were gathered by our participants," Bunting says. "Chiefs and councils, band representatives and other key players in child welfare were in each of our breakout sessions, so we documented everything they said and we valued every com-

ment and feedback that was received."

Bunting says information was gathered throughout the forum and the Tikinagan communications team also video documented some of the questions during the forum.

"We wanted to make sure we were capturing everything that we could," Bunting says. "A report will be created by the Niigaanshkaawin team and that will presented to our Tikinagan chiefs as well as to the board. Along with that, we will be releasing that to all the participants that attended."

AVAILABLE 24/7 1-800-465-3624

LL° DΛρ" MAMOW OBIKI-AHWAHSOOWIN



How will you work together to raise our children?



Become a Foster Parent?



Start a career?



Protect our children?

Connect with us and find your role!







A Holistic Perspective on Vaccines





Immunizing ourselves against diseases when possible helps us prioritize all parts of our well-being along with our entire community.



Our bodies work hard for us, fighting off infectious diseases that can cause irreversible damage. Vaccinations help protect us from harm by imitating an infection without the risks of the illness, so our bodies can prepare diseasefighting tools. Therefore, we can stay healthier and feel better quicker.

Spiritual 🟀

The seventh-generation principle is the belief that our decisions impact the future for the seven generations to come. Immunizing against diseases promotes community bond, health equity, and the cultural values of the seven Grandfathers.

> If you have any questions about vaccines contact your healthcare provider.

> > Financial contribution from Avec le financement de



Public Health Agence de la santé Agency of Canada publique du Canada

Created in collaboration with Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff, working together to promote mino bimaadiziwin (a good life); Shaylene Restoule, Azeria Telesford, Lauren Szucki



When infectious diseases spread, feelings of stress and vulnerability can damage our mental well-being. Knowing we have taken steps to bring safety to ourselves and others can strengthen community resilience.

Emotional

Your feelings about vaccination are valid. When the emotional being is unbalanced, it can impact the rest of one's well-being and can be addressed by smudging or speaking with an elder or community member.



sciencenorth.ca/vaccines





Trent University hosts 2023 Elders gathering

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Trent University's 47th Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering and Indigenous Insights pre-conference featured keynote speakers Rebecca Sinclair, Thosh Collins, Zhaawnong Webb and Mitch Case as well as an Authors Panel and an Indigenous Women's Panel. The March 10-12 gathering and pre-conference also featured a panel discussion on Weaving (K)new Connections to Address Climate Change: Indigenous and Western Ways of Knowing for the 21st Century with Sinclair, Dan Longboat, Deborah McGregor and Joe Pitawanakwat; a social event with DJ Shubb; a variety of concurrent workshops; a trip to Curve Lake for on-the-land workshops; and a film screening of Ever Deadly.

"My presentation today is about decolonizing and where we start with reconciliation, Indigenizing and decolonizing," says Sinclair, executive director of the Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research Centre in Winnipeg who is from Barren Lands First Nation in northern Manitoba and is now a Little Saskatchewan First Nation citizen, during her Weaving (K)new Connections to Address Climate Change: Indigenous and Western Ways of Knowing for the 21st Century pre-conference keynote address. "I think people are really trying to figure out what all of these words mean and how we implement them. I like to think of decolo-



nizing as if you had a house and were renovating this house and inside the house it was all dilapidated, and you have to think about renovating the entire house. That's a huge feat to renovate a whole house, do you have the capacity, do you have the resources to do this. Often no, so you think smaller — I'm going to renovate the bathroom."

Sinclair says decolonization is about thinking about those first steps, looking back and seeing the progress that you've made in that one little room and then expanding into the whole home.

"When we think about this house analogy, we're really thinking about what that is for individuals, for ourselves, which is the important part of

decolonizing," Sinclair says. "We can't think of decolonizing the whole of Trent University (or) the whole of Canada - capacity wise that would be impossible. So I like to think about decolonizing as an individual term, and that's actually a young Métis woman who had said this to me, Breanne Lavallée-Heckert,: 'Decolonizing is just an individual process.' So anything I say here today to you is a collective of knowledge that I've gathered from many different people, and I want to honour that as well. I'm not the holder of all of this knowledge but I'm sharing it back to you from what I've learned."

This was the first year that Trent University held the Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering in person after two years of gathering online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering offers a unique opportunity for learning, ceremony and connection for students, community citizens and Elders," says Dawn Lavell-Harvard, director of the First Peoples House of Learning at Trent University. "This year's gathering feels more significant as we're able to come together again in person. Our theme, Returning to Ourselves: Reclaiming Indigenous Identities and Weaving New Connections, lends itself well to many of the hands-on workshops and presentations covering topics like hand drumming, fish smoking and health and wellness."



screenshots

Trent University's 47th Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering and Indigenous Insights pre-conference began with the opening ceremonies as well as presentations and panel discussions on March 10 and continued with other presentations, concurrent workshops and a trip to Curve Lake for on-the-land workshops on March 11-12.

David Newhouse, director of the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies at Trent University and professor at Trent University, says the Indigenous Insights pre-conference held on the morning of March 10, featuring Sinclair's keynote address and the Weaving (K) new Connections to Address Climate Change: Indigenous and Western Ways of Knowing for the 21st Century panel dis-

cussion, and the wider Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering showcase the value of Indigenous knowledge in a modern context.

"Indigenous knowledge is rooted in our history and in our stories, but it is not a relic of the past," Newhouse says. "Instead, Indigenous ways of knowing can provide valuable insight and guidance to our modern world and the many issues we face."



Concerns over the Northern Road Link raised

Rick Garrick

Neskantaga has raised concerns about the Northern Road Link project that would potentially connect the Webequie Supply Road and the Marten Falls Community Access Road after the project received approval to proceed with a provincial environmental assessment (EA). The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) approved the project's Terms of Reference (ToR), which will serve as an essential framework for the EA, following an extensive two-year consultation and technical planning process.

"If Premier (Doug) Ford wants to get on a bulldozer, if the CEO of Ring of Fire Metals wants to get on a bulldozer, they're going to have to run me over," says Neskantaga Chief Wayne Moonias. "That is how important this river system, and the sturgeon, are to our community. Even if it is to risk our

own lives, we intend to protect our homelands."

The proposed all-weather Northern Road Link, which is estimated to be about 117-164 kilometres in length depending on the chosen corridor, would have to cross the Attawapiskat River in order to connect the Webequie Supply Road, which is a proposed 107 kilometre all-season road connecting Webequie's airport to mineral exploration activities and proposed mining development in the Ring of Fire area, and the Marten Falls Community Access Road, which is a proposed 190-230 kilometre all-season road connecting Marten Falls with the provincial highway network.

Neskantaga, which has the longest running boil water advisory in the country, at 28 years, raised concerns that the Northern Road Link would fragment sensitive carbon-rich peatlands in the Attawapiskat River watershed — the lifeblood of Neskantaga homelands and vital habitat for threatened lake

sturgeon

"But despite all the trauma and grief," Chief Moonias says, "the land sustains us. It provides the balance, it is what connects us. We intend to stand firm on our position and to remain strong and united."

Marten Falls and Webequie signed an agreement with the MECP for the Northern Road Link project to follow the individual environmental assessment process under Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act in 2020. The Northern Road Link would enable economic activity by facilitating the transportation of goods, services and people.

"The Northern Road Link has the potential to become a critical transportation linkage for remote First Nations in Ontario but these opportunities must also be balanced against the potential environmental and socio-cultural risks associated with building a road," says Webequie Chief Cornelius Wabasse. "Our Indigenous-led approach has been designed

to study the project's potential impacts and effects, as well as alternatives and possible mitigations, and most importantly, to allow First Nations people to make informed decisions about the future development of their traditional lands."

'ToR approval has been several years in the making but taking the time to do it right has been worthwhile," says Marten Falls Chief Bruce Achneepineskum. "It has been a tremendous amount of work to develop a comprehensive and community-led framework to guide the environmental assessment. Today's approval follows two years of consultation with neighbouring Indigenous communities, the public, government agencies and other interested parties, on all components of the environmental assessment. Our First Nations are grateful to community citizens for their participation and direction, our advisors, and everyone who has participated in this planning work. We look for-



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Neskantaga Chief Wayne Moonias, pictured at a Matawa event in February, has raised concerns about the Northern Road Link project, which would have to cross the Attawapiskat River in order to connect the Webequie Supply Road and the Marten Falls Community Access Road.

ward to continued engagement and input as the environmental assessment activities advance."

The ToR for the Northern Road Link was submitted to the MECP for approval in 2022, as required under the Ontario Environmental Assess-

ment Act, RSO 1990, c. E.18. As part of the approval process, Indigenous communities, the public, agencies and other interested parties were encouraged to review the ToR proposal and submit comments to the province for consideration.

ISWO delivers Treaty 3 trapping course

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Indigenous Sport and Wellness Ontario (ISWO) delivered a Treaty 3 Trapping Course with Kaaren Dannenmann in partnership with Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig from Feb. 13-17 in Washagamis Bay.

"For the full week the youth were out on the land setting traps, learning how to skin marten, getting traditional teachings from Kaaren and just interacting with youth and older generations who actually were trappers themselves too," says Cami Carpenter, northwest regional coordinator at ISWO. "So it was really great to see them interacting and actually getting the trapping lessons and fully diving into the teachings and into the practice."

Carpenter says the trapping course was "really empowering" for the participants.

"My shoomis was a trapper as well so it was really cool to be there," Carpenter says. "I had siblings that were also taking the course so it was really empowering to do and to reclaim that knowledge for the youth and our generations coming up."

Carpenter says the trapping course participants ranged in age from 13 to 29-years-old.

"All of them had such a fun time," Carpenter says. "It was cool to see the different interests at the different ages, because the 13-year-olds were getting it as much as the 29-year-olds were getting it and they were working together to collaborate. I think they had a great week — there was nothing but smiles and laughs, it was really great to see."

Carpenter says Dannenmann was "so enthusiastic" during the trapping course, noting that she has offered many trapping courses before. The trapping course emphasized conservation, safety and humaneness, as required by the Agreement of



International Humane Trapping Standards, and it was focused on teaching the Anishinabe perspectives, with the teachings based on respect, rights and responsibilities and reciprocity.

"You can just tell that she loves what she does and she has a lot of knowledge to share," Carpenter says. "Her partner Phil came out and helped too,

he helped to skin the animals and he was just a great support to have there."

Carpenter says ISWO has also been holding tryouts over the winter for the upcoming 2023 North America Indigenous Games (NAIG), which is scheduled for July 15-23 in Halifax, Dartmouth and Millbrook First Nation in Nova Scotia.

"We've had a lot of tryouts regionally, we had one in Kenora on the weekend of Feb. 4-5 and then we had another one in Sioux Lookout on Feb. 11," Carpenter says. "In Kenora we did basketball, volleyball, badminton, canoe/kayaking, soccer, softball and baseball, and



submitted photos

A group of youth recently participated in Indigenous Sport and Wellness Ontario's Treaty 3 Trapping Course with Kaaren Dannenmann in Washagamis Bay.

then in Sioux Lookout we had volleyball and basketball. We had a lot of participants, in the Kenora one we had just about 150 and then for Sioux Lookout a little less than 100. It was such an empowering weekend just to get all the youth together for the tryouts."

Carpenter says the youth were excited to participate in

he trvouts.

"When I was a youth going to those tryouts was enough, even if you didn't make the team," Carpenter says. "It was fun just to be there and to have that opportunity."

NAIG will be featuring 15 contemporary sports competitions, including three traditional Indigenous sports, box lacrosse, 3D archery and canoe/kayaking

"At ISWO, we are honoured to select, coordinate and lead the Ontario contingent to compete at NAIG 2023," says Marc Laliberte, president at ISWO and past chef de mission for Team Ontario. "I can say with conviction that NAIG is an incredibly special event. Youth across Turtle Island will have the chance to compete and connect with their peers through sport and culture. It's always a daunting task to host tryouts that are accessible to youth and families across Ontario, as it's such a large province, with so many remote and northern communities, and that's why we're trying so hard to level the playing field. So many of our youth have incredible talent, it's amazing to see them tryout and compete, and open their eyes to new possibilities and pathways."

Information about ISWO is posted online at: https://iswo.ca/.





Commentary

Follow The Money



recall years ago when I had lunch with a couple of experienced journalists where the conversation was mostly about how the media landscape was changing and that the big changes happened first during the U.S. led Gulf War of the early 1990s and then again after the September 11, 2011 World Trade Center attacks. It was getting more difficult to report stories that had to do with war, industry, government, envi-ronmental or conservation issues and anything positive about Indigenous news.

Over the years many newspapers have had to close down or downsize as the trend was more to social media and on line content. Some very good independent media developed on line and many of these were started

by journalists who lost jobs with the downsizing or closing of so many print media. These days all of the mainstream media in print, broadcast and online are owned and controlled by huge corporations and that has limited the ability for journalists to tell many stories from all sides. Money is generated for the mainstream media by advertising coming from most of the major industries involved mainly in resource oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, consumer products, automotive companies, armament corporations and govern-

The independent media that is mostly online has to depend on funding by people who contribute in one way or the other directly from their pockets. Obviously these independent media do not have the backing of the billionaires, multi millionaires and business interests that support the mainstream media. Still they do survive and serve an important function in that they abide by the old journalism rules to cov-er all sides of a story, provide in depth news and they don't have to

answer to the wealthy corporate own-ers.

Indigenous media is more along the lines of independent news and is supported mostly by Native advertising from businesses and government. These print, broadcast and online media provide at least a voice for Indigenous people and are more free and independent.

Here are some examples of media I trust: pressprogress. ca; www.readthemaple.com; thetyee.ca; canadiandimension.com; www.nationalobserver.com; therealnews.com; ricochet.media; rabble.ca; www. canadaland.com; newrepublic.com; rsf.org (reporters without borders); miningwatch.ca; democ-racywatch.ca and www. counterpunch.org I also follow individuals including seymourhersh.substack.com a pulitzer prize winning journalist.

I also follow Indigenous news outlets including Aboriginal People's Television Network (APTN) and their national news service at www.aptnnews.ca as well as Indigenous news services including wind-speaker.com; wawataynews.ca; nationnews.

ca; theturtleislandnews.com and www.albertanativenews.

One of the things I recall about my discussions with journalists has been the consensus that most stories that involve issues with resource extraction, pharmaceuticals, government and business in general have to do with finances hence the golden rule that for any news story, always follow the money.

It is easy to spot the issues in our world today where money has to be followed to tell the entire story from all sides. Wars are always claimed to be fought for good reasons but we know and understand this is never the case and the only ones who benefit from these tragic conflicts are the very wealthy who sell the armaments, jets, missiles and all types of technology and hardware that amounts to billions of dol-lars. Lobbyists for

these companies are constantly pushing government leaders congressmen and women and members of parliament to fall into line when war is concerned. In the end millions of people die, cities and towns are destroyed and in the case of modern day conflicts we could be faced with Nuclear War and that would mean the end of our civilization.

When it comes to pharmaceuticals the same is true as there is very little transparency in covering stories from all sides. Pharmaceutical corporations are huge and have billions and billions of dollars in profits while also lobbying members of government to do their bidding and providing huge amounts to mainstream media in advertising dollars.

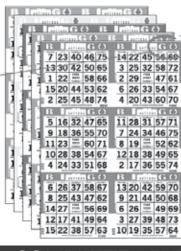
So when it comes to most stories a good journalist will always follow the money but

that is also a good thing for everyone to do. If there are initiatives in your First Nation or your municipality, town or city it is important to look at what the advantages are for people. If you can see that only a small number of people pushing an initiative are the ones benefiting financially then that is a problem and should be ad-dressed. Our Indigenous leaders are constantly having to deal with business people and governments wanting to work with our communities as it involves funding and support from government. Our Chiefs and council members have to keep a balance of moving ahead with good projects and making sure everyone benefits. It is a good idea to always follow the money.

www.underthenorthernsky.com

BINGO BLOWER







- COMPLETE LINE OF BINGO SUPPLIES
 - BINGO 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

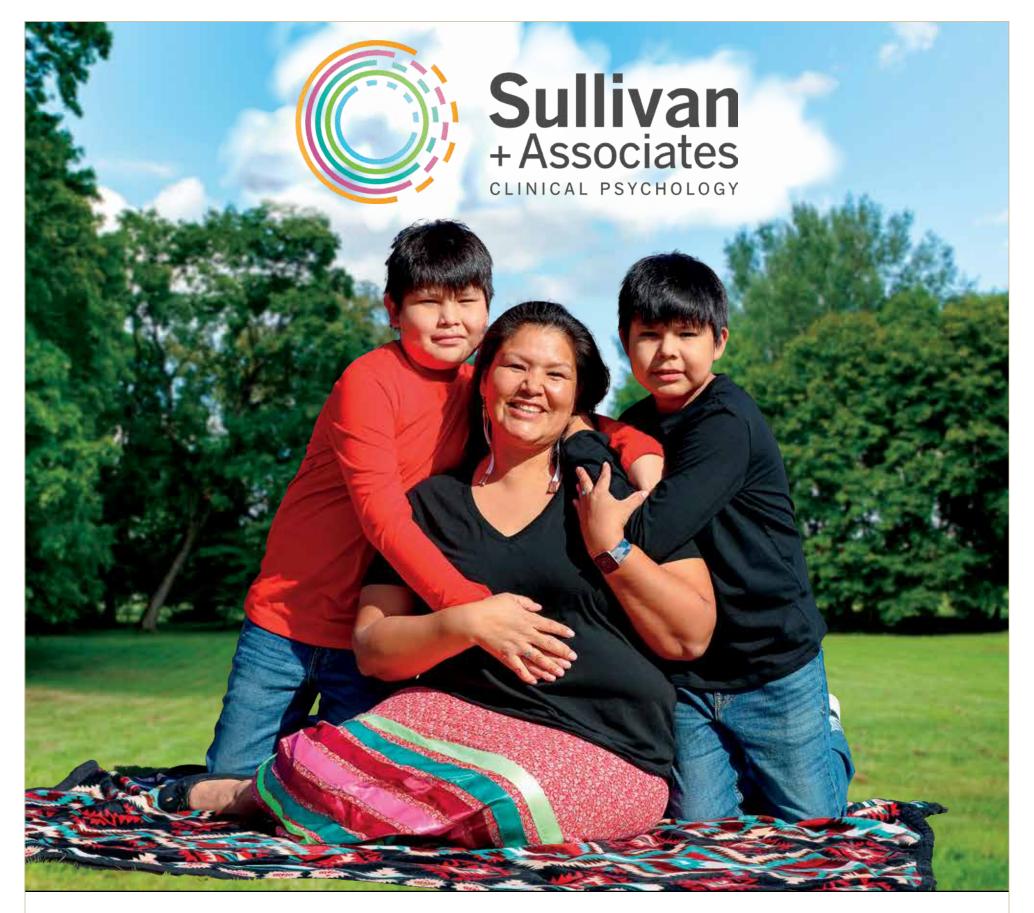
Book your ad for the Next Edition of Wawatay News today!

To book your ad contact our Sales Representative:

Tom Scura, Phone: 807 622-6000 Fax: 807 622-6010

toms@wawatay.on.ca





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

Prosperity Northwest features tradeshow and panel discussions

Rick Garrick Wawatay News

Prosperity Northwest featured a tradeshow and a range of panel discussions and presentations on Feb. 15 at the Valhalla Hotel and Conference Centre in Thunder Bay. Prosperity Northwest was presented by the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Anishnawbe Business Professional Association (ABPA) and with support by NADF.

"It's the first event that we collaborated with the Chamber on related to economic development and opportunities in northwestern Ontario," says Jason Rasevych, president at the Anishnawbe Business Professional Association and partner, national Indigenous client services lead at Deloitte Canada. "It's a change in not just the mindset but how we think of hosting these events in northwestern Ontario, and we're

glad to be partnering with the Chamber on this."

Rasevych says there was a wide range of groups at Prosperity Northwest, including 50-plus exhibitors that had a key role to play in northwestern Ontario's supply chain, adding that ABPA members had opportunities to be a sponsor, exhibitor and speaker at the gathering.

"I made remarks regarding Jason Thompson (president at Superior Strategies Inc. and Warrior Engineering Ltd. and board chair at Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce) for what he's been able to accomplish as far as working with us as the ABPA, but also now being elected to chair the Thunder Bay Chamber really shows where we're making strides as far as inclusion and to consider where we need to have an Indigenous voice throughout events like this where we haven't been visible in the past," Rasevych says. "We've got former (Fort William) chief Peter Collins who is going to be on a panel today talking about some of the projects that he's been involved in related to his role with leading Fort William."

Rasevych says it was great to see the Prosperity Northwest event in person after going through the COVID-19 pan-

"It's really important for the ABPA to be visible as far as collaboration and working with the Thunder Bay Chamber," Rasevych says. "We look forward to not just this event but in the future working more closely with the Thunder Bay Chamber to bring these topics related to development in northwestern Ontario.'

Collins participated in the Partnership Successes panel discussion along with Brian Davey, executive director at NADF.

"We took all the tools we learned on the East-West Tie (transmission line) project and enhanced them on the Waasigan project," Collins says, noting that his job as CEO at Chi Mino Ozhitoowin, which is the sister company of the Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership, which represents Fort William, Eagle Lake, Seine River, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Wabigoon Lake, Lac La Croix, Lac Seul, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen and Lac des Mille Lacs in an agreement with Hydro One Networks Inc. on the Waasigan Transmission Line project from Shuniah to Atikokan and Dryden in northwestern Ontario, is to fulfill the obligations under the agreement and to work with Valard on the project. "The relationship has to be strong, it has to be positive. I always say your success is our success and our success is your success, and that's the mindset

Davey says NADF has been seeing more activity in the acquisition stage with compa-

I have."

NADF executive director Brian Davey speaks during the Partnership Successes panel discussion at the Prosperity Northwest event at the Valhalla Hotel and Conference Centre in Thunder Bay.

"For example we just did a tool rental business that was bought out by a First Nations corporation," Davey says. "I'm noticing there's a lot of succession planning, owners wanting to sell their businesses, and they're looking to other owners to come in and take over. Some of these businesses are related to the resource sector, some are

not, some are related to health particularly in the Thunder Bay region, it's very strong health economy. So we're seeing a lot of that type of activity where they're asking is there First Nation corporations or even individual owners that are interested in acquiring businesses that are owned usually by ... people that want to sell as part of their succession plan."

Origin holds women in trades gathering



Rick Garrick/Wawatay News

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Deputy Chief Leah Michano Leduc spoke about her career and opportunities for women in trades during Origin's Women in Trades gathering, held on March 8 to celebrate International Women's Day at the Origin office in Thunder Bay.



presents

The Fabric of our Community

Our 50th Anniversary FOLKLORE FESTIVAL 2023

A WORLD TOUR OF NATIONS







Sat. Feature Entertainers The Chain

Children's Area FREE Facepainting, Inflatable, Arts, Crafts, PRIZES

ADMISSION Adults \$5 Students/Seniors \$3 **Children 4-12 \$1**

Imported Beers & Wines International Foods & Entertainment

A Sizzling Journey across North America Blues, Soul & Rock Sat. 7:30pm

Sat. May 6 - 12 noon to 11pm Sun. May 7 - 12 noon to 7pm Fort William Gardens & Curling Club 901 E. Miles Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario

www.folklorefestival.ca

Wawatay News

Origin held a Women in Trades gathering with a group of Matawa Education and Care Centre students to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8 at the Origin office in Thunder Bay. The gathering featured guest speakers sharing stories about their successful careers in trades and engineering as well as opportunities for participants to learn more about career opportunities in a variety of trades and supporting programs and the chance to test out Origin's Dozer Simulator and ImmersiveLink Careers.

see TRADES on page 18

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

COMMUNITY APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

SIOUX LOOKOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE ON TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

Residents interested in becoming a member on any of these committees are requested to submit an Application Form, indicating the reason for your interest, any related experience and contact information (mailing address, email and telephone) to:

Jackie Trenholm, Deputy Clerk Municipality of Sioux Lookout, P.O. Box 158, Sioux Lookout, ON, P8T 1A4 E-mail to: deputyclerk@siouxlookout.ca

Drop-off at: Municipal Office, 25 Fifth Avenue, Sioux Lookout

Phone: 807-737-2700, ext. 2223

Fax to: 807-737-3436

Application Forms are available on the Municipal Website: https://www. siouxlookout.ca/en/your-local-government/ boards-and-committees.asp

Business

Trades day gathering about inspiring Indigenous women

from page 17

"The Women in Trades day is really about inspiring young Indigenous women to become part of the trades," says Charmaine McCraw, manager of Indigenous engagement and training at Origin and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg citizen. "We know there is a huge opportunity within the next five years for new apprenticeships and this is a really great way for people to really get their foot in the door and start learning about the opportunities prior to finishing high school.

McCraw says they brought in role models and mentors for the group of students so they could see themselves in the roles.

"We will be using our ImmersiveLink system to help the girls explore through 45 trades today," McCraw says. "So they'll kind of get an idea of everything from underground mining to flight aviation to being a chef or a cook. It's going to be an exciting jampacked day."

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Deputy Chief Leah Michano Leduc, mining supervisor at Pic River Development Corporation who has been in the mining industry since 2008, says she stressed that trades are in "really high demand."

"In the next five years we're going to need over 100,000 new trades apprentices because there's going to be a big (cohort) of men and women retiring in the trades industry," Michano Leduc says. "Over the past 10 years that I was in the electrical industry, I was first the only woman and now there's four-five women in the electrical department (at the Barrick Gold Hemlo mine). (It's) amazing to see the women that are now

coming into the industry knowing that we do have a place there.'

Caitlyn Rampersad, engineer in training with North Rock Engineering who has a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Civil Engineering from Lakehead University, says she spoke with the students about her career in engineering.

'We told our stories and what brought us to the field," Rampersad says. "I think it's very important to know that it's not hard and if there are hurdles, there are building blocks to what you can achieve - it

can just make you stronger and better at what you do."

Rampersad says she spoke about how she is working on projects that involve protecting the environment during her talk with the students.

"We'll do a site assessment and we are going to see if there's anything impacting the land or the people around it," Rampersad says.

Canada's Building Trades Unions also joined organizations and people around the world to mark International Women's Day.

"I am proud of the many sis-

ters that go to work in demanding jobs to build Canada each and every day," says Sean Strickland, executive director of Canada's Building Trades Unions. "And, through various programs, we're working hard to make every job site inclusive of all. International Women's Day should remind us all that there's still a lot of work to do, to make every job, job site and industry open to women and we all play a role to ensure supports are in place to increase the success of women in the construction industry. The skilled trades and Canada will be better for it."

Business Directory



Trade in to Trade up!

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."



PROUDLY OWNED & PRODUCED IN NW ONTARIO Thunder Bay & Dryden ♦ Since 1981

Your BRAND, Your COMPANY, Your TEAM, Your SAFETY.

Call: 807-346-4445 or 800-376-6665



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** Personal Protective Equipment

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!



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



Licensed Service & Repair Facility Automotive, Truck & Coach Heavy Equipment

807-737-4643

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



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



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



Book your Wawatay News ad today!

Contact our Sales Representative:

Tom Scura, Phone: 807 622-6000

Fax: 807 622-6010

toms@wawatay.on.ca

Cartoons











budget indicates that I just might make it to the coffee shop

getting old, when you get cold just opening the fridge









There was a time when you guys washed my windows and checked my oil



I guess when the radio lyrics plays "let's twist again..." I really shouldn't twist again.











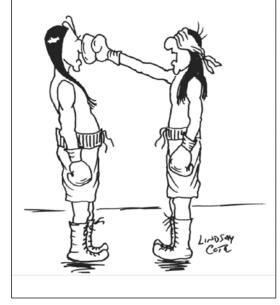


Cartoons





You'll be ok, if you stay a little further away than this.



No, you're not using that on my drum



DE BEERS GROUP

RESPONSIBLY CLOSING ONTARIO'S FIRST DIAMOND MINE

Closing Victor Mine is a complex and multi-layered process that began long before the mine began production. The approved closure and reclamation plan that guides our work was developed with participation and input from regulators and local Indigenous communities.

We're proud of the work we're doing and look forward to securing Victor Mine's positive legacy by ensuring the land and water are safe for people and wildlife long after we have left the site.

Want to know more? Scan this QR code to download a copy of our latest community update newsletter.



