

Eagle Feather NEWS

FREE

SaskTel honouring youth for 15 years

Gayle Morris, widow of Randell Morris and Ken Keesey, VP of Business Sales and Solutions for SaskTel presented Jarrod MacDonald with the Randell Morris memorial Award at the SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Awards of Excellence. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)



Awards recognize 120 exceptional young people

By Andréa Ledding
For Eagle Feather News

The fifteenth annual SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Awards, presented by the Wicihitowin Foundation, once again recognized the province's highest achieving young people.

Over 900 people attended to witness the record number of nominees — 120 exceptional youth.

"We have had a record number of nominees and the momentum leading up to gala each year is growing," noted committee chairperson Colleen Cameron, adding that the awards were important not only to the youth but their families and communities, "for the inspiration the awards and recipients generate."

The Awards were presented May 24 at TCU Place in downtown Saskatoon.

Every youth is highlighted on the stage with a bio before the winners are announced, so after supper, the nominees were all applauded and lauded before the final

winners were presented with their awards, scholarships, and custom star blankets, made each year by Eva Lizotte.

Donny Speidel was emcee for the program, including a half-time dance interlude featuring three of his daughters, and three other male dancers, all in a variety of styles.

Winners of the Community Service Award this year were an entire group, the Chief Paskwa Education Centre High School from Pasqua First Nation, who created a film on the after-effects of drinking and driving.

Zachary Thomas from Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, who attends the Reindeer Lake School in Southend, took home the Culture Award.

The Education Award was presented to Logan Sanderson of James Smith First Nation, who attends Carlton Comprehensive in Prince Albert.

Skylar Meechance of Red Pheasant First Nation, attending North Battleford Comprehensive, won the Enterprise Award.

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INSIDE



SHE'S A PRINCESS!

FNUC held its 35th annual Spring Pow Wow in May. Attendance was down but the enthusiasm remains high. - Page 16



TIPS FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Anne-Marie Cey has been there and done that and now she's sharing her experiences as a business owner. - Page 19



RESPECTING THE HAIR

Jen Dubois has opened a new salon in Regina and its all about providing service with a traditional touch. - Page 20



PROUD RIDER

Neal Hughes is hoping the Riders can bring the Grey Cup back to Saskatchewan at this year's big game in Regina. - Page 30



SHARP SHOOTER

INCA grad Richard Agecoutay has carved out a great career as a CBC Hockey Night in Canada cameraman. - Page 32

Welcome to our
National Aboriginal Day Edition
Coming In July - Graduation Issue

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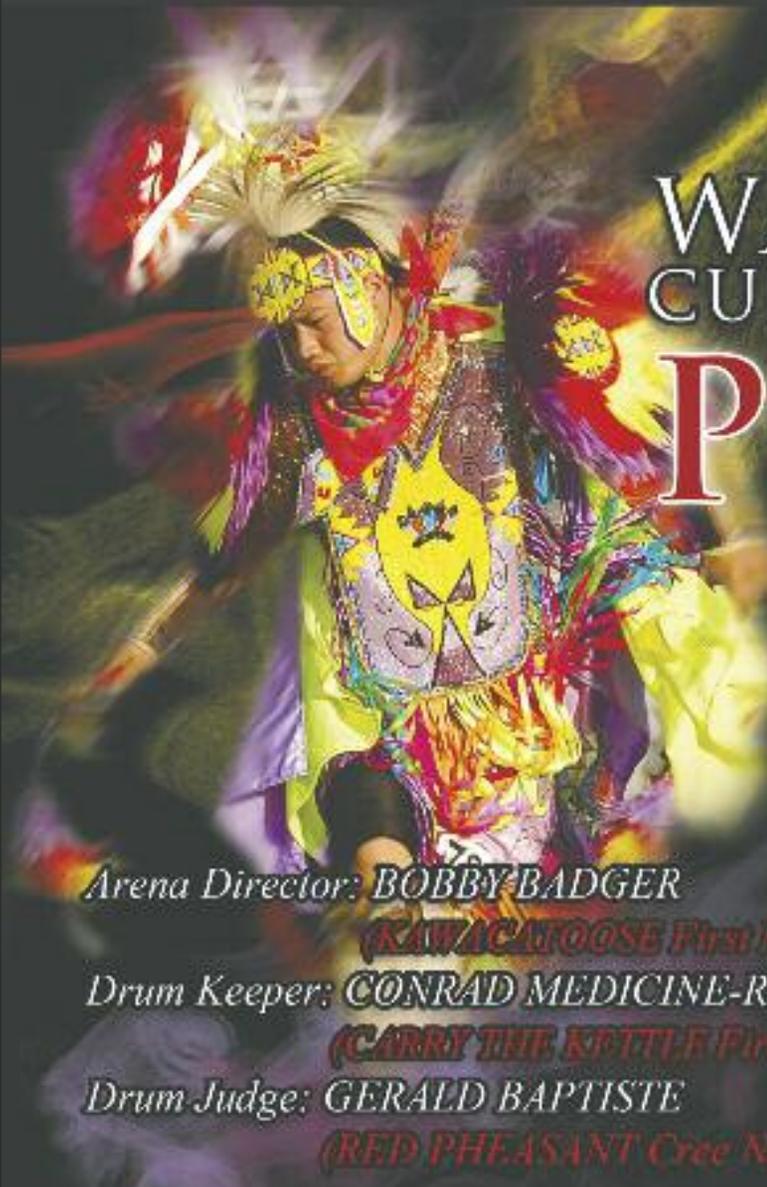
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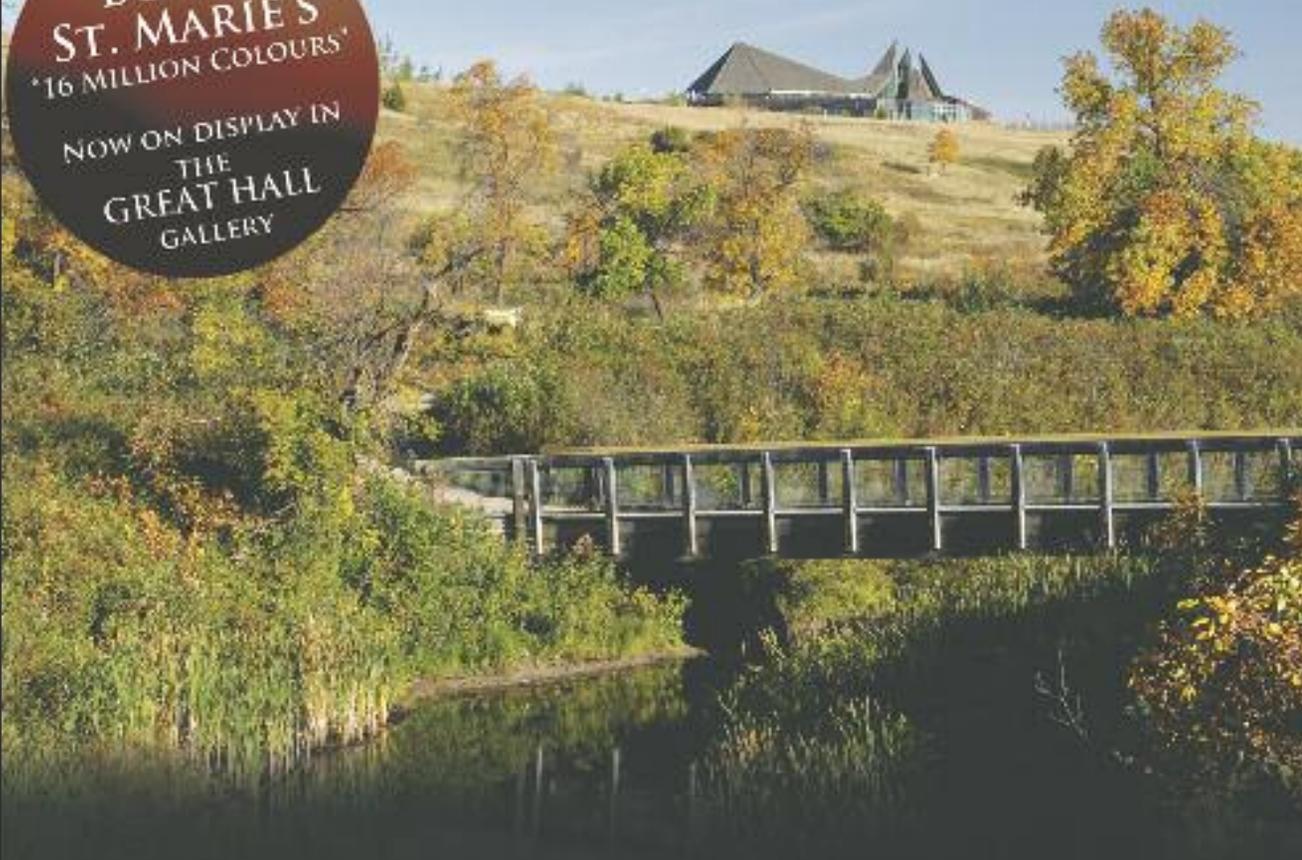
Arena Director: **BOBBY BADGER**
(KAWACATOOSE First Nation)
Drum Keeper: **CONRAD MEDICINE-ROPE**
(CARRY THE KETTLE First Nation)
Drum Judge: **GERALD BAPTISTE**
(RED PHEASANT Cree Nation)

Canadian MC: **ERIC TOOTOOSIS,**
(POUNDMAKER Cree Nation)
American MC: **RUBEN LITTLEHEAD**
(TONGUE RIVER, MI, USA)
Canadian MC: **HOWIE THOMSON,**
(CARRY THE KETTLE First Nation)
Arena Director: **RON McNAB**
(GEORGE GORDON'S First Nation)



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New award honours Randell Morris

• Continued from Page One

Darien Kequahtoway of Sakimay First Nation took the Leadership Award home to Yorkton Regional High, while Bailey Pelletier of Cowessess First Nation and Regina's Michael A. Riffel Catholic School brought home the Technology/Science Award, and Branden Bear of Muskoday First Nation and Saskatoon's E.D. Feehan Catholic High School, won the Spirit Award.

The Fine/Performing Arts Award went to Cecelia Lumsden of George Gordon First Nation and Saskatoon's Evan Hardy Collegiate.

Delaney Ross of Canoe Lake First Nation and Bishop Lloyd Middle School in Lloydminster won the Female Sports & Recreation.

Male Sports & Recreation was shared by three young men who formed the basis for an award-winning lacrosse team together: Damien Daniels of Muskeg Lake Cree Nation and Blaine Lake Composite High, Ryan Wahobin of Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation and Saskatoon's Bethlehem High, and Jack Okanee of Thunderchild First Nation and Saskatoon's Aden Bowman Collegiate.

Timara Fontaine of Clearwater River Dene First Nation and La Loche Community School was the Female Outstanding Achievement Award Winner, while the Male Outstanding Achievement Award went to Dmitri Kaypeaysewat of

Moosomin First Nation and Sakewew High School.

The final award was a special category, named for the late Randell Morris, president of SIIT. Jarrod MacDonald of Muskeg Lake Cree Nation and Marion Graham Collegiate, who had been nominated for an Education Award, was very honoured to receive it.

"It was really surprising, I had assumed I just wasn't going to win one and when they chose me it was exhilarating," said MacDonald in a phone interview.

"It's an awesome event to have that many people that come and support just the youth, it's really special."

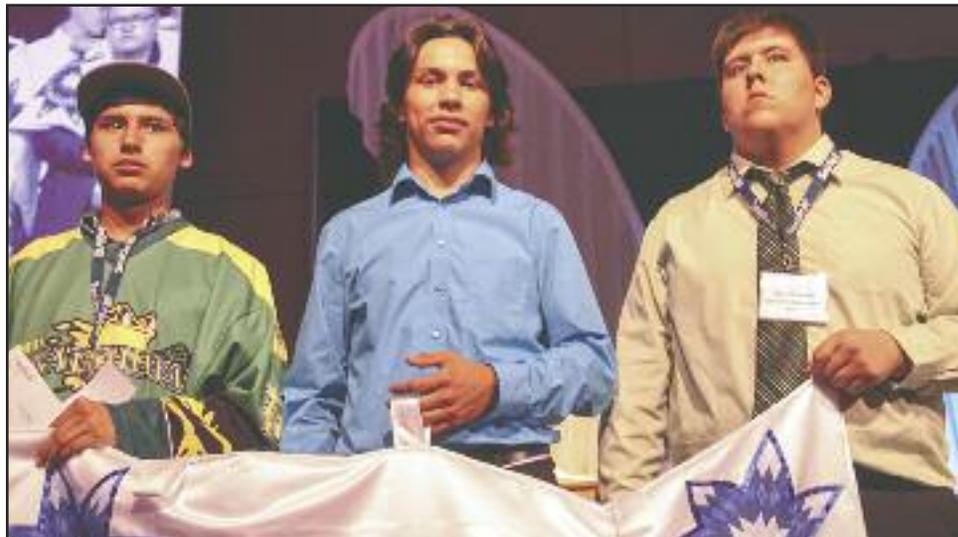
MacDonald says he believes in working hard at whatever comes your way, whether it's sports, education, or other opportunities, and the support of his family is also very valuable to him.

His older sister, Debrah, won the Female Outstanding Achievement Award in 2010 and is succeeding at the University level now. MacDonald intends to go to Montreal's McGill in the fall, where he will study biology and life sciences.

"My parents have been really good for keeping me focussed on what's really important," he added.

"It was such an honour, out of all these amazing youth, to be selected for this award.

"I know Randell Morris was a really



Jack Okanee, Damien Daniels and Ryan Wahobin received the Sports and Recreation Award at the SaskTel Youth Awards. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)

exceptional person, and I went to school with his daughter who graduated last year, and she is an awesome person too."

The Wicihitowin Foundation was created as a legacy to First Nations Veterans, 50 years after the Second World War, to honour their service by nurturing

Aboriginal youth to rise to the responsibility and leadership of the future generation as tomorrow's leaders, physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Wicihitowin is Cree for "helping each other." Veterans were present and were honoured in the Grand Entry.

June is *National Aboriginal History Month*

<p>Week 1: Celebrating PAST stories and triumphs of Canada's Aboriginal peoples</p>	<p>"We Were Children" film screening on two stories of residential school survivors. Saturday, June 1 2:00pm - 5:00pm Royal Saskatchewan Museum - 2415 Albert Street, Regina, SK Cultural Activity: Beading</p>
<p>Week 2: Celebrating PRESENT stories and triumphs of Canada's Aboriginal peoples</p>	<p>RAPA & Saskatchewan Anti-Racism Committee proudly present Keynote Speaker, Dr. Alexandria Wilson: "Sakihiwawin: Creating Change through our Loving Actions" Saturday, June 5 2:00pm - 5:00pm Albert Scott Community Centre, 1264 Adell Street, Regina, SK Cultural Activity: Bamook Bake-DE Contest, soup provided</p>
<p>Week 3: EMBRACING Our Culture & Traditions</p>	<p>3rd Annual RAPA & Farm Credit Canada's Aboriginal Talent Showcase Friday, June 21 11:30am - 1:30pm Cornwall Centre - 2162 11th Avenue, Regina, SK Cultural Activity: Juggling & Powwow Dance-Off</p>
<p>Week 4: Celebrating FUTURE stories and triumphs of Canada's Aboriginal peoples</p>	<p>RAPA & National Aboriginal Indigenous Games present 1-Day Archery & Lacrosse Youth Camp & Community BBQ Saturday, June 29 10:00am - 4:00pm First Nations University of Canada - 1 First Nations Way, Regina, SK Cultural Activity: Tipi Teachings</p>

National Aboriginal History Month "Photo-A-Day" Challenge

Two prize packs to be won!
From June 1 - June 30, take a description from each day and just take a photo of something you think fits that NAHM weekly theme! Use the hashtag on social media sites #NAHM2013PhotoADay

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Thank goodness for the youth in these trying times

It is going to be difficult to put on a happy face for National Aboriginal Day this year. Times are tough in Indian and Métis country right now. Some of it can be blamed on government, the rest we own as a community.

The federal government under Prime Minister Stephen Harper should take responsibility for much of the current situation we face. Here we are few days past the fifth anniversary of the Government apology for the Residential Schools and we have not seen any sincerity or intent to change.

Funding has not increased for education or housing, the government has stalled and protested releasing Residential school documents to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, government bills have been rammed down the throats of Canadians and most Aboriginal political organizations are facing 20 to 40 per cent cuts to their budgets.

The cuts to the political organizations are brilliant strategies for the government and their mandate. What better way to continue status quo than to cut at the knees the very organizations that are fighting to improve things in our communities?

...

The federal government doesn't have to worry about running the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan out of business. Some Métis politicians are doing a good enough job of it on their own.

I had the opportunity to host the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan State of the Nation public gathering in late May and the sickness in the community erupted in a meeting full of anger, malice, disrespect, bullying and backwards politics. It was truly a sad day.

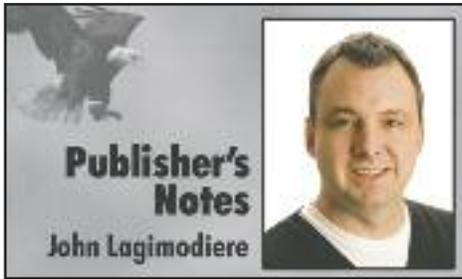
As a sign of things to come, when I arrived for breakfast before the event, the police were already there removing a disruptive person who had threatened MN-S Secretary May Henderson.

Then a report created by the consulting firm, Delloite, was presented on the State of the Nation. It is scary.

Only 30 of the 130 Métis Locals

actually hit the criteria to be a Métis Local in the MN-S. There was a 43 per cent decline in voter turnout last election and 40 per cent less attendance at the last MNLA. The report called for a renewal of governance and change.

Regardless of the pressing issues, the meeting was attack and defend all around. There is a select group of leaders in the MN-S that are deliberately attacking those they oppose and no dirty tactic is off limits. Underhanded meetings, lawsuits, malicious rumour spreading, attempts by individuals to take over the MN-S bank account and signing authorities are all nasty moves in play here.



dated, lied to and when they couldn't break her, the 'others' made up stuff about her and spread untrue rumours about her personal life and relationships. This

was just one person's experience, but as she spoke, dozens of people were nodding their heads in agreement.

The event erupted into a near brawl as a table of people were challenged by an Area Director. Fingers were pointed, voices were raised and eff bombs rained. I had to channel my dad's voice as I called for order. It didn't help.

The Provincial Métis Council was then told by the people to go into another room and come out with a meeting date for

take action. Sadly, even if this meeting is called, the governance is so messed up that it would not matter.

Lateral violence and bullying have taken over the politics of the Métis Nation. Many folks that have been around a long time say relations in the Nation are the worst ever. All this at an important time when we are negotiating hunting rights and with huge court wins with the Manitoba Métis Federation land claim and the Daniels Decision that deemed Métis Indians under the Constitution, the timing on a political collapse couldn't be worse.

On behalf of all Métis people in Saskatchewan, we beg of the Métis leaders to get to the table and work for the best interests of all Métis people, not just some. If that doesn't happen, people will turn their backs and you can almost bank on the fact that funding will be withdrawn.

Oh, and by the way, representatives from the provincial and federal government were in the room witnessing the entire gong show that day. For those that set out to sabotage that event, job well done. It could not have gone better for you. Shame.

...

One shining light that makes us forget the political nightmares that abound is the SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Awards of Excellence. This annual gala that recognizes and rewards our outstanding young people celebrated their 15th anniversary this year.

They had a record number of nominees and guests this year as TCU Place in Saskatoon was packed. Just watching the young people and hearing their stories of success and triumph over adversity always puts a spring back in our step ... always.

So, dear friends, do us all a favour and take a young person out to National Aboriginal Day festivities in your community. Encourage them in their culture and education and help them stand proud.

We do, as Aboriginal people, have much to be proud of and we must continue to build up our children so that some ways of the past become just that.



The future leaders of Saskatchewan were honoured at the SaskTel Youth Awards.

Marlene Hansen took the microphone and she spoke eloquently about women in the Métis Nation bullying each other beyond belief. She was harassed, intimi-

ated, lied to and when they couldn't break her, the 'others' made up stuff about her and spread untrue rumours about her personal life and relationships. This was just one person's experience, but as she spoke, dozens of people were nodding their heads in agreement.

Eagle Feather NEWS

Box 924 Saskatoon, Sk S7K 3M4
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Publications Mail Agreement No.: 40027204 OSSN #1492-7497

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: EFN Circ., P.O. Box 924 Saskatoon SK S7K 3M4

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Subscriptions: Annual Canadian subscription rate is \$25 per year, \$26.25 with GST. Bulk subscriptions are also available, call our office for details. Subscription requests can be mailed or faxed to our office. Forms are available on our website.

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This issue printed on: June 12, 2013 Next issue to be printed on: July 10, 2013

Missing good friends; finding moose nose in T.O.

The thing about getting old, older is that good friends start leaving us. The circle that sustained and nourished our spirits and intellect for years starts to get smaller and the world feels lonely more often.

Yes I know it is all a part of the cycle of life but it still sucks! I am going to miss Terry Boyer and Elijah Harper. They were great storytellers, fun to be around and kind and gentle friends.

Good men who loved their land and people and who worked tirelessly for their common good. Much love goes to Susan and Kate Boyer and to Anita Harper. Kinannaskomitinowow.

Thank you for sharing your loved ones with us.

I am one of those busy kokums, chapans who multi-tasks all the time. Among my many projects, is producing a show and catering a 10-course dinner of wild food for an upcoming conference. In other words I am re-creating an "Aen ball Metif," or in English a "Halfbreed Ball."

The show, which will be woven between each course of food, is being performed by some of Saskatchewan and Canada's most talented artists. People like Gilbert Anderson who is both an opera and a folk singer, Yvonne Chartrand, a contemporary and traditional dancer, Rajan Dorner, a classical violinist and Michif fiddle player and there are many more.

The evening will end with three hours of old time dancing with music by Juno Award Winner Donny Parenteau from Prince Albert. As our nokoms would have said "ah bah, kah moochikun."

I am not doing it alone, of course. There are 20 wonderful men and women coming from around Saskatchewan and across Canada to help me cook it and stage it.

Yummy food like Candy Coated Beaver Tail, Muskrat Pate, Rabbit in

Chokecherry Sauce, Moshom's Old Time Pemmican, Dandelion and Fireweed Salad, Steamed Burdock to name but a few.

Thanks to nearly every trapper and hunter in Saskatchewan, the call for food has been answered and my freezer is overflowing.

By the way, did you know this food is full of all those good things those health people keep telling us to eat. Vitamins, minerals, iron, protein, good carbs and it's organic too.

All the food those creatures eat is medicinal. On top of all that, this food is full of good stories.

Muskrat, for example, was one of several creatures that were saved along with Elder Brother when the world was destroyed by water.

When all the other bigger animals had tried and failed he was sent down to the bottom of the huge lake to find a handful of mud so they could try to rebuild the earth on Turtle's back.

He went down twice and the last time down they were sure he had died it took him so long to come back up.

But come up he did with a tiny handful of mud and Creator taking pity on them gave Elder Brother the power to recreate the earth that we know today.

An old, old kiyas ago story. But, you know, often-new stories are also made.

For example a young woman learning from an old lady to clean and cook a moose nose in modern times can be interesting. Imagine you are eavesdropping.

YW: Oh my god Nokom, this nose has snot in it!

OW: Most noses do, my girl, and don't turn yours up. That nose is clean, that old moose used it to dig up lily pads so he could eat the roots and those roots



are full of medicine.

A handful of them and a handful of other things boiled up can cure diabetes.

YW: If that's the case how come so many of us have diabetes?

OW: Cause we're too lazy to go into the water to dig them up that's why!

YW: Nokom that's not a very nice thing to say.

OW: But it's true. Not just us, but everybody. All this talk about good health hah! We'd all be healthy if we just put some effort into helping ourselves. This food is good for us. These animals are clean. They are vegetarians, not full of goodness knows what kind of food and shot full of penicillin. No wonder we're always getting sick.

YW: Oh Nokom there you go getting all political and preachy again. There, the nose is clean I burned all the hair off, its as smooth as ... Hey do you think anyone will eat it?

OW: Of course they will. I'm

dressing it up. Didn't I tell you that Bing Crosby use to come north to fish and he always asked for moose nose and my mother, your great grandmother, always dressed it up for him.

YW: Who on earth is Bing Crosby?

One last funny story and its about a moose nose, too. I could not find a single one in Saskatchewan.

So while I was doing a conference in Toronto I mentioned that I had everything for this dinner but... Well guess what? A lady bank manager stood up and said, "I have one I can give you. It's all clean, I'll bring it in the morning."

Next morning as I watched her walk toward me I thought, "no one is going to believe this."

A lady banker in a business suit and high heels handing over a tightly wrapped moose nose on Bay Street in front of the Royal Bank of Canada."

I brought it home on the plane praying it wouldn't melt and drip down from the overhead onto anyone. Can you imagine having to explain that to an Air Canada Stewardess? LOL.

My friends Terry and Elijah would have loved that story. Have a good day.

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ELDERS GATHERING

Displays of traditional crafts, and medicinal plants were shared with visitors at the Northern Saskatchewan Elders Gathering held in the historic Métis community of Pinehouse. Many of the plants, all harvested near Pinehouse are used in teas and medicines for centuries by elders. Also at the event, youth learn how to traditionally prepare wild game from elders. Several moose, beaver, ducks and varieties of fish were harvested and prepared in traditional styles for those attending the gathering. The cultural program also featured keynote speakers and entertainers including Eekwol, Dallas and Phil Boyer, The Outlaws, The Asham Stompers, Maureen Belanger aka Kookum Ernestine and Alphonse, the inspirational Shannon Loutitt, Clay DeBray, Guy Lonechild and Chief Clarence Louie.

(Photos by Gaylene Poulin)

Summer stories

They say there are summer stories and there are winter stories. And, traditionally, the story-telling was done in accordance with certain protocols.

I love summer and I love the summer stories, even as I admit my ignorance of all the protocols. Stories are formally known as 'history' when they are all put together, and this monthly paper has set this month as 'history month'.

Some of my favourite stories are summer stories about summer sports: baseball and golf in particular.

Everyone knows that golf is now a 'traditional' summer sport: there are 'Indian Golf Tournaments' everywhere, in Canada and in the U.S.A. Not everyone plays but many do, including some well-known Saskatchewan and national personalities amongst the indigenous crowd.

Some familiar names who may be caught enjoying a day on the links include Joe Quewezance, Wayne Morris, George Peace, Chief Darcy Bear, Frank Royal and Guy Lonechild, the latter following into the category of a real player.

Del Riley was the best golfer, hands down, amongst the national Chiefs of the AFN, even as Ovide Mercredi deserves a nod for his occasionally magic short game.

Willie Littlechild can handle himself alright on the course as he can in politics and law as well as 'Masters' competitions in swimming.

Grand Chief Nepinak in Manitoba would be the best swimmer, of course, and be able to acquit himself decently with a golf club as well. A posthumous nod must surely be given to Jim Sinclair and his son Kenny.

So, dear readers, chalk up golf up there in the traditional stuff, in the same way that 'Matrimonial Cake', elsewhere known as 'Date Squares' has become a traditional dessert right up there with Rice Pudding. Oh, and Chinese food, too, is a traditional food, is it not?

At the big league level we had Notah Begay of New Mexico, who played college golf at Stanford with Tiger Woods and who has now become a TV commentator after a decent PGA career.

My son, Dan, won the Canadian Junior title at Moon Lake when it was played here in the '90s, and he has

had a sniff in pro golf up to the PGA level, as has my youngest daughter, Leila, as an alumnus and captain of the USC college golf team, on the women's golf side.

Following them around took me to many amazing golf destinations including one in Nagoya Japan for the Junior World Golf championships.

In the baseball world my favourite Indian player at

the big leagues is still Boston's Jacoby Ellsbury, who recently stole five bases in one game. I suspect he may be just as good and good-looking as the fabled first Indian to play major league baseball, Lou Sockalexis.

His story is told in Brian McDonald's "Indian Summer: The Forgotten Story of Louis Sockalexis the First Native American in Major League Baseball" published in 2003. It is a must-read, along with the biography of 'Satchel Paige' the African-American legend who played on touring teams before the days of Jackie Robinson and the major leagues allowing Black players to participate.

Western Canada has had some legendary tournaments, run in places like Indian Head, Sask. and Lacombe, Alberta. In the days before television, this sport was much more popular in towns across the West, who absorbed Black players where the major leagues would not. I was told that the Cuban team once played in Lacombe, where I had a chance to play many years ago when I was on the pitching roster for the Saskatoon Liners.

North America does not monopolize the love of sports among indigenous people.

My friend, Murri Elder, and statesman Bob Morgan who is an occasional visitor to Canada and Saskatoon, is the co-founder, along with indigenous Aussie Rules legend Syd Jackson of the Australian Aboriginal Golf Association, which is still running national championships after 30 years of operation.

Bob and some mates from USA and Australia recently teed it up at Pebble Beach, a place to which impecuniosity barred my attendance. I hear rumours they will be headed this way again soon.

May you have the joy of our short summer, and make some stories for telling: cobbling our social history story by story.



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**National Aboriginal Day is
Friday, June 21
--- Let's celebrate! ---**

Important Public Safety Notice

To meet the growing need for electricity in northern Saskatchewan, SaskPower is building a new overhead transmission line to run from the Lindsay Lake switching station to Key Lake.

Construction is now underway and will continue until June 2014. Please stay alert to work crews and heavy equipment in your area and keep well clear of construction zones at all times.

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Lots in store for National Aboriginal History Month

By Carla Ardell
For Eagle Feather News

The name of our province is a story in itself. It was a choice between Buffalo, a source of life, and the Cree word meaning swift moving water. Both choices were linked to the lifeblood of aboriginal existence.

Ultimately, the name Saskatchewan was chosen to represent the two main rivers flowing through our territory.

This little known fact is one of the reasons why June has become important to Canadians.

Joely BigEagle-Kequahtoway, founder of National Aboriginal History Month, says this month is all about “raising the social consciousness of people” and it has been a success so far.

During her term as President of the Regina Aboriginal Professionals Association BigEagle-Kequahtoway took the initiative to start National Aboriginal History Month because she saw the need for it.

“If we don’t do it, no one will,” said BigEagle-Kequahtoway.

National Aboriginal History Month has grown in the last six years – from a local Regina initiative – to a cross-Canada celebration.

As National Aboriginal History



Board members of Regina Aboriginal Professional Association at a planning meeting for June’s National Aboriginal History Month

Month is now upon us, there are plenty of activities for everyone.

The Regina Aboriginal Professionals Association is planning different events for each week in June.

This year, the events were developed to engage youth in a more practical way.

For example, First Nations University (FNU) is hosting a Tipi Teachings event.

Elders will teach values to youth, the most important being respect.

“If you have respect for yourself, you stay out of trouble,” says Roland Kaye,

FNU’s Elders’ Helper.

Relationship building is another goal for Cherish Deegan, current president of the Professionals Association.

“That component is critical in the success of not only Regina, not only Saskatchewan, but all Canadian Aboriginal people,” she said.

Other partners such as North Central Family Association and Standing Buffalo Fighting Sioux Lacrosse Team are bringing in youth to take part in events.

The Regina Aboriginal Professionals

Association emphasizes that National Aboriginal History Month is for all Canadians because it brings to life Canada’s past, changes the present and empowers the future.

New this year is the Association’s social media launch. People are encouraged to take pictures each day for a photo contest and post them with the hashtag #NAHM2013PhotoADay.

For further information on activities in your area see <http://www.rapanetwork.ca/>.

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New partnership aims to increase number of First Nations foster homes

By Kristine Scarrow
For Eagle Feather News

A new partnership between Saskatchewan Foster Families Association (SFFA) and Foxvalley Counselling Services Inc. in Regina aims to increase the number of First Nations foster homes.

Since February 1, with funding provided by the Ministry of Social Services, Foxvalley is focusing on recruitment in the southern part of the province, specifically Treaty 4 territory.

"There are a high number of Aboriginal children in foster care," Foxvalley Counselling Services Inc. Executive Director Mark Fox says. "Aboriginal homes are needed."

In addition to providing multiple preventative programs aimed at supporting families, Foxvalley provides counselling services and training to the community.

"Meeting with the SFFA, we came to the decision to work together," Fox says.

"We've attended powwows, Treaty Day events, and have visited the First Nations University of Canada.

"We're putting the word out with other community based organizations, the school boards, and through a Facebook page specifically created for recruitment," Fox says.

This new initiative to recruit foster families will be in addition to the recruitment work that is already being done by the Saskatchewan Foster Families Association. The two organizations will work in partnership, something that Fox believes is important.

"We are new at this. The SFFA has been very helpful. They've given us support, encouragement, and materials to aid in recruitment.

"We couldn't do it alone. By us working together, we can accomplish more than we could if we worked at recruitment individually."

The Saskatchewan Foster Families Association provides resources, training, and advocacy for foster families throughout the province to support their work as caregivers.

"We are excited to partner with Foxvalley with regards to recruitment," says the Association's executive director Deb Davies.

"The recruitment of First Nations foster families is crucial because currently 66 per cent of children in out-of-home care are Aboriginal (Status, Non-status and Métis).

"Becoming a foster parent is so much more than providing food, clothing and shelter. It's the opportunity to



Mark Fox of Foxvalley Counselling Services and Deb Davies of the Saskatchewan Foster Families Association at the signing of their agreement.

provide life skills, love and guidance," says Davies.

"It also means being part of a professional team that has the ability to make a remarkable difference in the life of a child."

Those interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent can contact Foxvalley Counselling Services Inc. directly at (306) 757-5100 or call the foster parent recruitment line at 1-888-276-2880.

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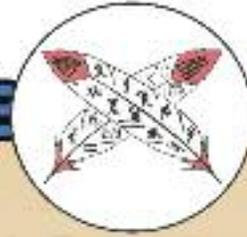
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Automotive Service Technician



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29th Annual Native Graduate Recognition Night



Honouring our Aboriginal grade 12 Graduates and encouraging the pursuit of post secondary education is a priority for our Saskatoon Aboriginal Community. This year the Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre hosted with excellence the 29th Annual Native Graduate Recognition Night. With 129 Graduates in attendance, a banquet and ceremony was held in their honour to recognize their achievements, making this our largest celebration over the past 29 years. To encourage lifelong learning and post secondary education; 19 scholarships were handed out. Next year, we are pleased to announce that the 30th Annual Native Graduate Recognition Night will take place.

29th Annual Native Graduate Recognition Night Scholarship Recipients:

Alexis Bornyk	BHP Billiton Scholarship	Rachel Simes	GDI Scholarship
Cheyenne Norton	BHP Billiton Scholarship	Gunner McAdam	SIMFC Award
Serina Tanton	GSCS Métis Legacy Bursary	Serina Tanton	CUMFI Local #165
Rachel Corrigan	GSCS Spirit Award	Kieran Johnston	CUMFI Local #165
Cheyenne Norton	GSCS Academic Award	Dakota Rabbitskin	Scotiabank Scholarship
Sally McKenzie	SPSD Spirit/Resiliency Award	Amber Irvine	Scotiabank Scholarship
Jared MacDonald	SPSD High Achievement Award	Creedance Nighttraveler	Saskatoon Police Service Award
Leze Pewapsonias	Les Bird Memorial Scholarship	Ashley Louis-Whitehead	Saskatoon Police Service Award
Victoria Daniels	Sturgeon Lake Scholarship	Cheyenne Norton	AFCS Scholarship
Shelby Larose	Dept. of Native Studies Scholarship		

Our community would like to thank and recognize our title event sponsor, **BHP Billiton**, along with our other event sponsors: **Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation, SIGA, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Eagle Feather News, First Nations Bank of Canada, Camponi Housing Corp., Scotiabank and Tourism Saskatchewan.**



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 Science & Wellness • Entrepreneur •
 • Portrait of Honour/Lifetime Achievement • Youth (Under 25) •
 Journalism • Most Honourable Métis Woman • The Arts

For Nominations & Sponsorship please email wearehelpers@gmail.com
 For tickets contact Ashley Norton at 306-550-8938



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Lots to celebrate, lots to deal with on National Aboriginal Day

There is only one day a year when Canadians come out to celebrate Aboriginal culture. June 21 is National Aboriginal Day. The other 364 days of the year are not so much of a celebration.

Aboriginal people still fill the prisons and provincial jails, our children are dying in foster care and our women go missing from the streets in many Canadian cities and still there is no public outcry. But we will celebrate your regalia, dancing and artwork June 21.

Did you know that the fastest and youngest growing population in Canada is the Aboriginal population? Yet we also have the highest unemployment rate compared to any other ethnic group in Canada. Why?

Saskatchewan is apparently in an economic boom. There are so many jobs that companies have to hire people from Ireland or the Philippines to fill those positions. The Saskatchewan government says it doesn't have the qualified people to keep up with the demand. The First Nation population in Saskatchewan is over 120,000 and that is not including the Métis and Inuit. Surely the government could fill those positions with qualified Aboriginal people before looking outside of the country. Really!

According to the Saskatchewan

Bureau of Statistics, the unemployment rate for Aboriginal people is about 12 per cent, compared to about four per cent for Saskatchewan as a whole. According to the politicians, the problem with much of the Aboriginal population is that we are not qualified to fill the vacant positions, therefore they can justify looking outside Canada for skilled workers. They say we need to stay in school and take the training



inal peoples in Saskatchewan. Myths and misconceptions about Aboriginal workers fly around many work places.

We have a co-worker who remarks about "Indians" never showing up the day after a pay day and it seems like every "Indian" has the nickname, Chief.

Aboriginal people often have to work with people who make no bones about their dislike for "Indians". Who

June is also the month when we celebrate Father's Day so Happy Father's Day to all the dads that participate in the children's lives and show respect to the mothers of their children.

Shame on those men that deny their children and abuse their women. Shame on those men that have multiple children with different women and don't support these children in any way. For goodness sakes use a condom or some other form of birth control. Why do some men think its okay to walk away from their children? You can leave a relationship but you should never leave your children.

To be fair, why do some women refuse to let the fathers see their children? If he is supporting his children (and he's not abusive) he has every right to see his kids and spend time with them. Parents have got to stop using their children as weapons when they split. Think of your children and do what is best for them.

Until next month, take care and be kind to one another. Your children are watching. Ekosi.

Thank you for your emails, and letters. Always nice to hear from the readership. You can write to me at Eagle Feather News c/o Sandee Sez PO Box 924 ST Main, Saskatoon, S7K 3M4 Saskatchewan or send me an email to sandra.ahenakew@gmail.com

When we leave a job because we don't feel comfortable we are called lazy and told that we don't want to work. Really? We just don't want to work with jerks!

needed to apply for these vacant positions. Will they really hire us if we're qualified? Depends who you ask I guess.

Obviously, geographic isolation and transportation needs play a significant role in the unemployment rate of Aborig-

wants to continue working in these toxic environments? When we leave a job because we don't feel comfortable we are called lazy and told that we don't want to work. Really? We just don't want to work with jerks!



Chep Good Food Inc

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday June 26th 11:30 to 1:30

Multipurpose room Station 20 West

11:30 Business Reports

12:00 Lunch, Guest Speakers

Displays



June 21 is a special day in Saskatchewan.

More than the first day of summer, it is National Aboriginal Day, a day of culture and community — the perfect day to demonstrate our provincial motto, "From Many Peoples, Strength."

As Saskatchewan welcomes more newcomers than ever before, let us all celebrate the first peoples of this land; who helped make our province the success it is today and who will proudly help to shape an even stronger shared future.

Jim Reiter
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for
First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs



Running has my body going in right direction

I've been running since this last April. I haven't run in over 30 years and because the life of a writer is a seated life, I'd allowed myself to get very out of shape.

So the process of getting back into healthy shape was hard. But now, I'm running over five miles at a time. I've lost a lot of weight and find myself sleeping more, eating less and owning a lot more energy than I have for a long time.

I'm never going to be a champion. But I didn't set out to be. No, I'm content to be able to do the distance I set out to run regardless of how long it takes me. My goal is to run and finish my first marathon sometime in the fall of 2014. I'll be 58 by then.

The challenge of running 26 miles is what my running is all about. Or at least it was in the beginning.

I've discovered that there is more in it for me. I've come to eagerly await my runs. Every morning when my training says that this is a running day, I am filled with expectation.

Gone are the dreaded days when my breath was hard in my lungs and my legs like concrete. Nowadays, beyond a few age-related injuries, I have run pain free. I've come to love it.

It's not just because I live in the mountains and the views where I run are spectacular.

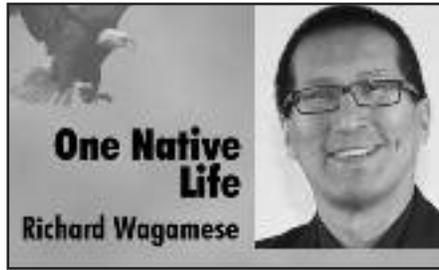
It's not because I get that whimsical, elevated 'runner's high', though I do and it's awesome. It's more because when I run I am in my body. Every foot fall centers me in the now.

Every breath, laboured at first, smoother later, becomes a union with the earth, the sky, the road, myself. When I run I am grounded in who I am. I am 57. I am a runner.

When I feel connected to my body I feel better. Exercise gets me to a place where I feel peace. I run without an iPod or a music gadget of any kind. I prefer to hear the sound of my breathing.

I prefer the sound of birds, the wind, the slap of my feet on pavement or gravel. That's music to me. I want to experience myself running because it feels so good to be in my body.

See, I am a survivor of trauma. When I was young I was subjected to all kinds of abuse. Later in my life, when all that went unhealed I learned how to abuse



myself, and I created even more trauma on top of what I already carried.

So for decades I banked a whole lot of negative energy and it had nowhere to go. It just sat inside me. Waiting.

Trauma lives in the body. It's more than a mental and emotional burden.

My trauma resides in different places in my body and when I would get triggered and re-experience events and feelings, it expressed itself somewhere in my body. I used to ache with it. I shook. I cramped. I wasn't comfortable in my own skin.

But when I run and exercise I get in touch with my body. I feel centered in myself.

The old wounds and terrors that used to live in parts of my body are replaced with a joy in expressing myself physically. I like the feel of my body moving and I like feeling connected to myself.

Why is this important? Well, many Aboriginal people in Canada carry trauma of one kind or another.

Many of us have been abused and/or

abused ourselves. Our bodies have become wounded places and the echoes of our trauma live in them.

We need to get in touch with them again.

When we do, we heal. Not everybody needs to become a runner but we do need to exercise. We need to honour our bodies.

We need to address the trauma we carry through therapy and then through a healthy relationship with our bodies.

We can learn to exercise our own freedom.

We can run, walk, swim. Bike or dance toward it. I know this to be true.

My body always tells me when something is not right with it. That's true for the trauma I still carry as well.

When I am connected to it, there's something I can do about it. In the old days my emotional triggers seemed to come out of nowhere and I would be gone. Nowadays, I am centered on my physical self. From that place I can use therapy tools to deal with discomforts.

I will always carry trauma. But I can learn to manage it so it never overwhelms me again.

That's the whole secret.

Being in my body keeps me safe.



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TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES – OSKĀYAK HIGH SCHOOL

Oskayak High School is an urban First Nation's school funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, governed by the Kitotiminawak Parent Council and operated by the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division. With a growing student population of about 300, the school provides a progressive learning program, a dynamic culture and Cree language program, and a full slate of student support services. If you are highly skilled, innovative and possess excellent relational skills, apply to become a part of one of the most successful First Nation's schools in Canada.

We are currently seeking teachers who are:

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- have knowledge of and experience of language and ceremony
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- are able to integrate technology into the learning process
- are highly effective at engaging students.

Grade 9 Teacher: Primary role is to collaborate with the other grade 9 teacher to implement an engaging learning program for half the day, and teach a variety of grade 10 elective courses (Art, Life Transitions, Native Studies) for the other half of the day.

Career Guidance Specialist: Primary role is to implement the grade 9-12 Career Strategic Plan, in collaboration with school Elders, Student Support Team and teachers.

To apply please complete and submit a teacher application form found on the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Website on or before June 19, 2013.

www.gscs.sk.ca

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SOCIAL WORKER

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools invites applications for a Social Worker at Oskayak High School.

Oskayak is an urban First Nation's High School located in the heart of the Broadway district in Saskatoon. With a growing student population of about 300, the school provides a progressive learning program, a dynamic culture and Cree language program, and a Student Support Team that operates within the medicine wheel philosophy of balance, healing, achievement and wellness. If you are highly skilled, innovative and possess excellent relational skills, apply to become a part of one of the most successful First Nation's schools in Canada.

The Social Worker is responsible to work as a member of the Student Support Team to provide counselling and support services for student and families, particularly in the area of addictions.

Please visit the Employment Opportunities section of our website @ www.gscs.sk.ca for a detailed description of the responsibilities and required qualifications. Application forms are available on the website. Please make specific reference to the posting number as it appears on the website.

Submit written applications and resume by 4:30 p.m., June 19, 2013 to:
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Human Resource Services
420 - 22nd Street East Saskatoon, SK S7K 1X3, Fax: 659-2012

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is committed to achieving and maintaining a workforce, which reflects and affirms the diversity of our school division. Applications are encouraged from First Nations and Métis candidates.

www.gscs.sk.ca

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New book honours FSIN's first 65 years

By Fraser Needham
For Eagle Feather News

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations has come a long way over its first 65 years and it is celebrating this period in a new book.

Our History is a collection of stories,

facts and photographs that chronicles the years 1946 to 2011. The book was officially launched on June 4 in Saskatoon.

FSIN Chief Perry Bellegarde says the book is dedicated to First Nations veterans for the important work they did in getting the organization up and running



The FSIN executives Dutch Lerat, Bobby Cameron, Kim Jonathan, and Chief Perry Bellgarde as well as Minister Jim Reiter and Zane Hansen of SIGA pose with veterans at the launch of the FSIN book, "Our History."

(Photo by Shelley Mike Photography.com)

in the post Second World War period.

"We always say our First Nations veterans saw what it was like to be equals when they were fighting in World War One and World War Two with their non-Indigenous brothers and sisters," he says.

"But when they came back to Canada, they became Indians again and they came under the jurisdiction of Indian Affairs, the Indian agents, they didn't go to Veterans Affairs. So they felt and saw that injustice and inequity and they wanted to change and do something about it – getting organized – so they laid the foundation, they started working together, they started hosting meetings."

Bellegarde adds the FSIN has lots to be proud over in its first six and a half decades of existence whether it be jobs and revenues generated by the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority, the First Nations University of Canada

or its work with the Saskatchewan government in promoting treaty education. He says the key to the organization's success has been its ability to remain unified.

"The FSIN has been around for 65 years and it's that strong unity, that collective voice, that keeps us together," he says. "You always have differences but people see that vision about keeping the collective strength together. In unity there is strength."

The FSIN head says First Nations people have long learned that they need to tell their own stories and that's what this new book is all about.

"It's worthwhile to tell that story," he says. "It's worthwhile to lift up our heroes and our leaders. It's a very important history that can't be forgotten."

"So, having this book launched is a way of education and awareness."

Celebrating Aboriginal Heritage

Members of BHP Billiton's Potash Aboriginal Engagement Team, University of Saskatchewan, Fortin, 29 May 2013.

National Aboriginal Day is celebrated on June 21. BHP Billiton is pleased to honour Aboriginal people's achievements, unique heritage, rich cultures, and outstanding achievements.

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Gabriel Dumont Institute offers range of scholarships

Through the Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation II (GDSF), the Institute has been administering scholarships for Saskatchewan's Métis since the early 1980s. The scholarship fund is based on a \$2.5 million dollar capital investment. Scholarships are awarded on the interest earned on the fund's principal. A Scholarship Trustees and Selection Committee awards scholarships twice per year.

NAPOLEON LAFONTAINE SCHOLARSHIPS

Napoleon LaFontaine was instrumental in organizing the Association of Métis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. Over the years, he devoted himself to developing social and educational policies for Aboriginal people. These scholarships are named in recognition of his many contributions.

The Napoleon LaFontaine Economic Development Scholarship Program was established to encourage Saskatchewan Métis to pursue full-time education and training that enhances social, cultural, and economic development. The Napoleon LaFontaine Scholarships are awarded as follows: Entrance, Undergraduate, Graduate, Graduation, Loan Remission, and Special.

GDC GRADUATE STUDENT BURSARY PROGRAM

The Gabriel Dumont College Graduate Student Bursary Program is designed to provide financial support for full-time graduate studies at the Masters or Doctorate level. The intent is to encourage Saskatchewan Métis to pursue full-time graduate studies and conduct research in fields relevant to Métis people.

SASKENERGY — MÉTIS INCORPORATED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 1998, SaskEnergy made a five-year commitment to GDI to fund annual scholarships. Since then, SaskEnergy continued to provide the scholarship funds on an annual basis. In 2009, SaskEnergy and GDI signed a new five-year, \$50,000 agreement. Under the new agreement, Métis students entering or continuing undergraduate degrees or diplomas in select fields of study will be eligible for the scholarship funds.

SASKTEL MÉTIS SCHOLARSHIP

The SaskTel Métis Scholarship is a three-year pilot project that began in May 2009. The scholarship represents a partnership between SaskTel and GDI for the joint funding of Métis-specific scholarships. The scholarship distributes \$16,000 annually to Métis students pursuing post-secondary accreditation in fields of study related to telecommunications.

GDI-CAMECO SCHOLARSHIP

The GDI-Cameco Scholarship, established in 2010, is a four-year pilot project aimed at supporting Métis students studying in fields related to Cameco. The scholarship is cost shared and provides five annual awards of \$1,300 each to Métis post-secondary students in trades, business administration, commerce, computer science, and other fields related to Cameco's operations.

GDI-SASKATOON HEALTH REGION SCHOLARSHIP

GDI and the SHR have partnered to provide 17 scholarships of \$1,000 each to Métis students in pursuit of post-secondary education leading to health careers in a number of targeted fields. The scholarship assists the SHR to build a representative workforce for the health region, and it supports Métis students to pursue post-secondary accreditation in targeted health careers – both key SHR outcomes.

BASIC EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2009, the Basic Education Scholarship supports Métis Basic Education students in their transition from school to work and/or further training. GDI T&E initiated this scholarship because students often struggle with the transition from school. Awarded based on a number of criteria, the scholarships are available to DTI students who are enrolled in level 3 or level 4 programs.

SASKATCHEWAN INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

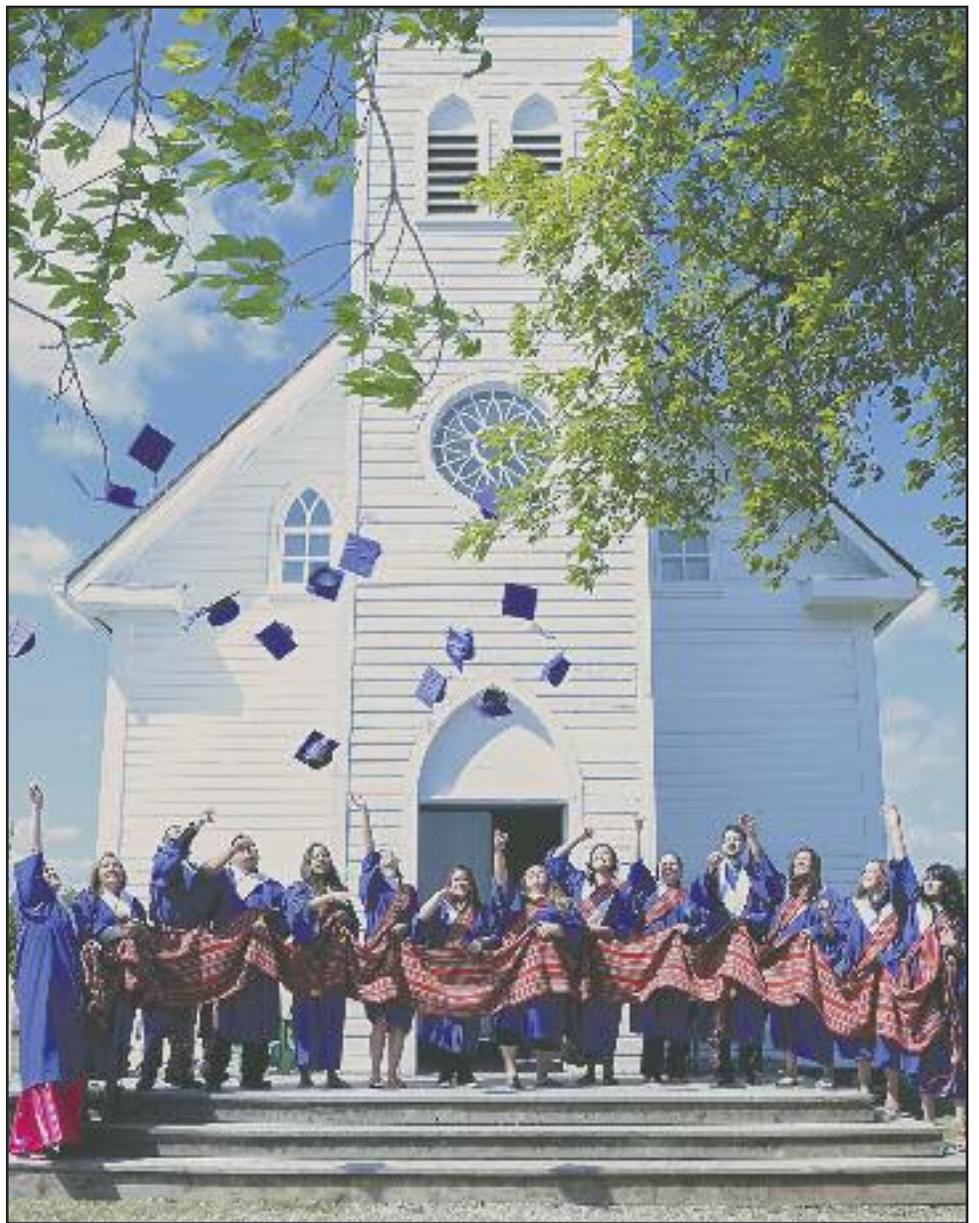
Introduced in 2011-2012, the Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship Fund combines contributions from the province with private, corporate, not-for-profit, and fundraised donations to award as much as \$100,000 in scholarships to GDI students each year. Award priorities are in the trades, health, education, business, transportation, and other programs that have a direct link to employment.

BHP BILLITON-GDI SCHOLARSHIP

GDI's newest scholarship offering comes from a partnership created with BHP Billiton in 2013 which will provide \$20,000 in new scholarships for Métis students. BHP made a \$10,000 donation that was matched by the GDSF. Eligible students will be Saskatchewan-resident Métis, will demonstrate academic success and financial need, and will be enrolled full-time in an accredited post-secondary institution pursuing a degree, diploma, certificate, or apprenticeship in Trades, Business Administration, Commerce, Computer Science, or any other field related to the industry of BHP Billiton in Saskatchewan. Eight awards of \$2,500 each will be awarded over the course of 2013 under GDSF deadlines and processes.

GDI is also proud to announce that the 2nd Annual GDSF Golf Tournament raised around \$21,000 which will be matched by the provincial government under the Advantage Scholarship program to bring the total to \$42,000 to support Métis students! Thank you to all the sponsors, participants, and staff who made the tournament such a success!

For more information, deadlines, and application forms, please visit www.gdins.org/scholarships.



Congratulations to all 2013 GDI graduates!

(Photo by: Alexandria Powalinsky of Eye of the Beholder Photography by Alex)



Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation

The Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation administers scholarships to Métis students twice per year. There are a number of different scholarship opportunities available to post-secondary students, including:

- Napoleon LaFontaine Economic Development Scholarship Program
- GDC Graduate Student Bursary Program
- Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship Program
- SaskTel Métis Scholarship
- SaskEnergy Métis Incorporated Scholarship
- GDI Cameco Scholarship
- GDI Saskatoon Health Region Scholarship
- BHP Billiton GDI Scholarship

For scholarship details including eligibility, academic criteria, deadlines, and application forms, please visit our website at:

www.gdins.org/scholarships

or contact:

Scholarship Foundation Coordinator
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
2-604 22nd Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7M 5W1
scholarships@gdi.gdins.org








National Aboriginal Day history quiz - How smart are you?

Good luck!

1. What historic land settlement agreement that involves 26 Bands celebrated its 20th anniversary this past September?

- a. Treaty 6
- b. Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE)
- c. Powley Decision
- d. Treaty 4

2. This First Nations actress recently walked the Red Carpet with Benicio Del Toro at the Cannes International Film Festival to promote their new film Jimmy P?

- a. Jennifer Podemski
- b. Andrea Menard
- c. Michelle Thrush
- d. Tantoo Cardinal

3. This musician, best known for playing in the band Sylvie with her husband Joel Passmore, recently finished law school.

- a. Tessa Desnomie
- b. Riva Farrell Racette
- c. Kinnie Starr
- d. Berlene Snakeskin

4. Who wrote the Buffy St. Marie biography 'It's My Way'?

- a. Joseph Boyden
- b. Kenneth T. Williams
- c. Blair Stonechild
- d. Louise Halfe

5. This play by Kenneth T. Williams was inspired by Canadian Senator Lillian Dyck.

- a. Thunderstick
- b. Bannock Republic
- c. Gordon Winter
- d. Cafe Daughter

6. In May, Dolores Sand sang the Canadian National Anthem in Cree, French and English at this major national sporting event held in Saskatoon.

- a. Stanley Cup Playoffs
- b. Memorial Cup
- c. Calder Cup
- d. World Junior Hockey Championships

7. This Métis hockey player from Meadow Lake won a Stanley Cup with the L.A. Kings last year.

- a. Jordin Tootoo
- b. Dwight King
- c. Jordan Nolan
- d. Jon Mirasty

8. The North American Indigenous Games will be held in what Saskatchewan city in 2014?

- a. Saskatoon
- b. Elbow
- c. Regina
- d. North Battleford

9. Wapeton's Kim Jonathon became the first woman elected to this organization last year?

- a. FSIN
- b. CSIS
- c. APTN
- d. CBC

10. This recent court ruling established Métis people as 'Indians' in Canada.

- a. Sparrow Case
- b. Daniels Decision
- c. Powley Decision
- d. Lagimodiere's Ruling

11. This historic figure best known for helping stop the Meech Lake Accord recently passed away.

- a. Harry Daniels
- b. Elijah Harper
- c. Gordon Tootoosis
- d. Rene Highway

12. The government's Omnibus Bill sparked this worldwide Aboriginal movement in late 2012.

- a. American Indian Movement (AIM)
- b. Idle No More
- c. Eagle Feather News Rebellion
- d. Occupy Regina

13. This late great actor's first movie was Alien Thunder in 1974.

- a. Gordon Tootoosis
- b. Floyd Crow Westerman
- c. Russel Means
- d. Charles Bronson

14. The Idle No More movement was initiated in this Canadian city.

- a. Vancouver
- b. Toronto
- c. Montreal
- d. Saskatoon

15. This award-winning supernatural crime drama TV series starring Andrea Menard was shot in Saskatoon and Duck Lake.

- a. Blackstone
- b. Cashing In
- c. Wynter
- d. Rabbit Fall

16. Bernard Fowler performed with Stevie Salas at last year's National Aboriginal Day Live concert in Regina. With what famous rock band did he sing back up vocals for over 25 years?

- a. Chester Knight and The Wind
- b. Rolling Stones
- c. The Tragically Hip
- d. Jellyroll Kid

17. Saskatchewan's first paranormal TV series is coming soon on APTN and was shot mostly in and around Saskatoon. It is called:

- a. Right Away, More Unsolved Mysteries
- b. The Other Side
- c. Cha! Just Thinks He Sees Dead People
- d. Ghost Stories From the Rez...

18. This Saskatoon lacrosse player currently has a full scholarship to Lake Erie College in Ohio.

- a. Riel Lagimodiere
- b. Reagan Harding
- c. Delby Powless
- d. Alex Collins

19. This Mohawk blues musician is most often compared to Robbie Robertson of The Band.

- a. George Leach
- b. Eagle and Hawk
- c. Derek Miller
- d. Stevie Salas

20. National Aboriginal Day Live is broadcast live from two Canadian cities every year. Last year it was Winnipeg and Regina. What cities are hosting the celebration this year?

- a. Winnipeg and Whitehorse
- b. Winnipeg and Yellowknife
- c. Winnipeg and Iqaluit
- d. Winnipeg and Fort St. John

CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNUAL SASKTEL ABORIGINAL YOUTH AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2013

Thank you to all of our sponsors!
Each year our generous sponsors help us create this memorable event and for that we thank you wholeheartedly.

Sponsors include: SaskTel, K+S, SaskEnergy, Office of the Treaty Commissioner, MGM, and others.

Here are the answers. No peeking!

1. b	2. c	3. b	4. c	5. d
6. b	7. b	8. c	9. a	10. b
11. b	12. b	13. a	14. d	15. d
16. b	17. b	18. b	19. c	20. c

2013 First Nations University Spring Powwow

By Brayden Benjoe
For Eagle Feather News

Theodore Bison says he was proud that he had the opportunity of dancing his heart out for those who are unable, because they are unhealthy, disabled and elderly or incarcerated, at this year's 35th Annual FNUniv Spring Powwow Celebration.

Bison began dancing powwow at the age of two and carried on his traditional lifestyle by the good influence of his parents Roy and Carla Bison from the Ocean man First Nation.

"When I became a teenager I started realizing that I was getting a lot of responsibilities as a young man, I wanted to be a good role model."

Not only does Bison see the powwow trail as a way for youth to stay out of trouble, as a father, he says, "I want my kids to know that their father stayed away from those kinds of things (drugs and alcohol). I want to be a good role model for my children."



sents all aspects of healing and each jingle represents each day in a year."

Oakes says the FNUniv powwow is one of her favorite powwows, and she looks forward to representing the University this upcoming powwow season.

Behind the scenes, Richard Missens, Chair of the FNUniv powwow committee had concerns about the powwow's attendance after the change in their schedule.

"My biggest concern was to let the people know (about postponing the powwow)", said Missens. "They travel from all over."

The FNUniv Spring Powwow Celebration opened up doors to dancers and singers from all across the country on the weekend of May 11.

"This is the longest-standing powwow in Saskatchewan and hit a milestone this year, being the 35th Annual Powwow. It is the kick off to the powwow season," Missens said.

"The attendance was down this year, as well as the dancer count was down. Last year we had a little over 600 and this year we had 478 dancers."

After the change in schedule, the powwow committee did what they could to reassure everyone that the powwow would still go on.

"To have faculty, staff and students as part of the University engage with the powwow, it really adds something different to us. It really shows our pride as First Nations University, celebrating culture, song and dance," suggests Missens.

"This year we celebrated something I think is pretty unique. We had on Friday (the day before the powwow) the first Alumni homecoming. We welcomed representatives from our 4,000 Alumni."

The Alumni Association hosted a Round dance Friday night before the powwow, which welcomed the Alumni and people from all over.

"That was really unique. They brought a lot of people in and the place was just jumping."

Alumnus

and dancer Robyn Morin is a Contemporary Women's Fancy Shawl Dancer and participated in the powwow event.

"It was still a good a powwow. It's not the amount of people that make up the powwow.

"It's the vibe, the singing and the dancing. Everybody still came together in a good way and enjoyed their selves."

From left going clockwise, newly Crowned FNUniv Princess Whitney Oakes, Women's traditional dancer and FNUniv student Emery-Rose Assiniboine, Elder Eula Hotomani catching up with friends, Tiny Tot Lilyanna Thomson and Crazy Horse Bison. (Photos by Mike Dubois)

Bison feels a strong connection with his style of dance, which is a representation of a horse. This style of dance is inherited through the Southern Oklahoma tribes such as the Cheyenne.

"When you see the men's fancy dancers dance they're lifting up their arms and their legs and they're trying to have perfect posture doing these moves," Bison explains.

"What that represents is when a horse shows off. It starts bucking. It starts puffing out its chest. It starts rocking its head or kicking out, dabbing the ground with its hoof. That's what those dance moves represent. It is a very masculine dance."

Another proud participant was Whitney Oakes, who just completed her first year at the FNUniv in the Faculty of Arts. She was chosen as the 2013 Miss FNUniv Princess. She feels that her role as the new Miss FNUniv is to assist others to identify with the importance of post-secondary education.

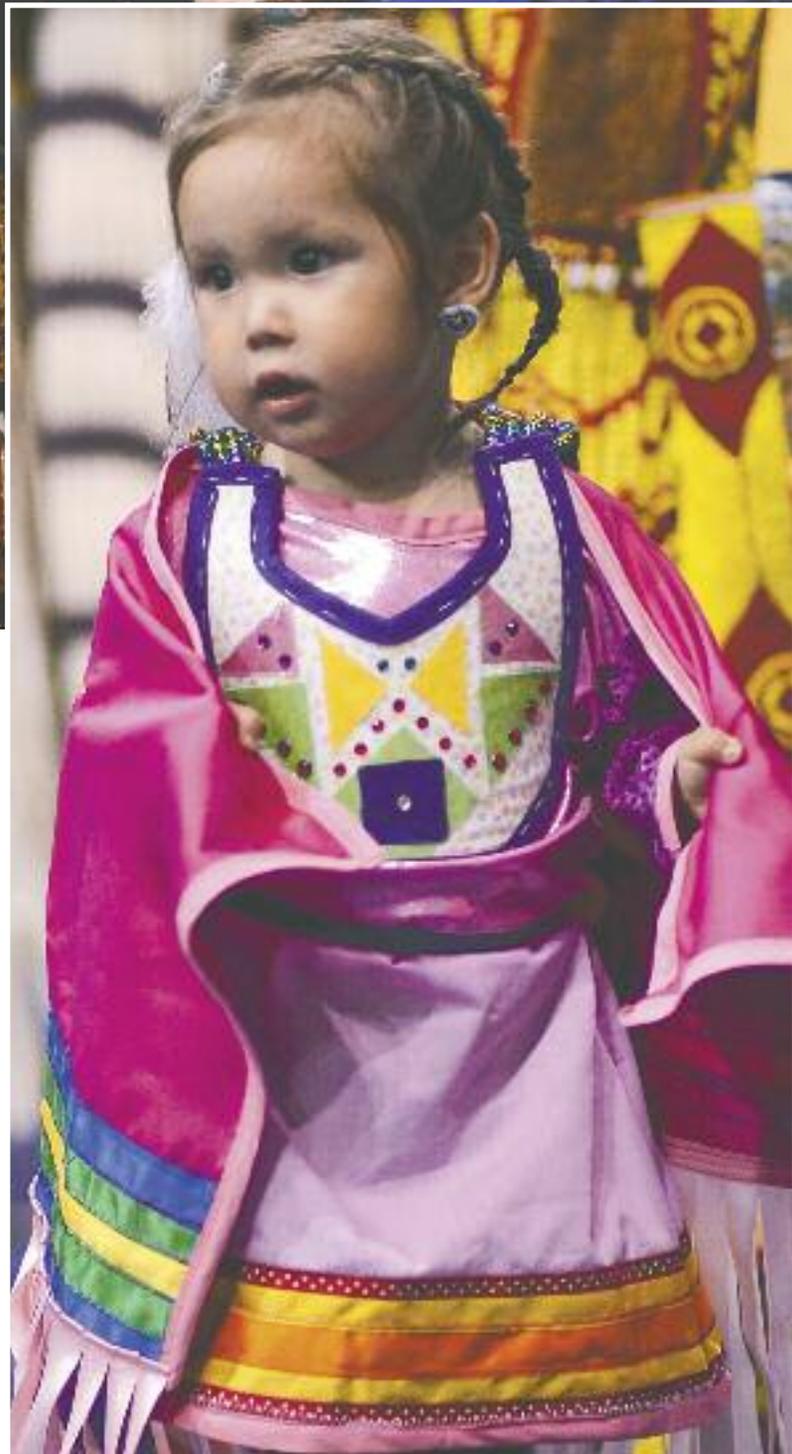
"In this day and age we need education to survive. We can no longer rely on high school diplomas," Oakes says.

Oake's, who is an old style Jingle dress dancer, respects her style of dance.

"Old style jingle is more about being graceful. It is a healing dance. It repre-



Powwow Celebration



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CBC special asks: What Do Indians Want?

By Diane Adams
For Eagle Feather News

You're going to want to lock your radio on CBC for National Aboriginal Day. Students from the Indian Communication Arts Program (INCA) at First Nations University and CBC Saskatchewan have produced a radio special for June 21 called What Do Indians Want?

Merelda Fiddler, Current Affairs Producer at CBC Saskatchewan and INCA instructor is behind the student special. She says the show is a response to Idle No More.

"I decided I wanted to do What do Indians Want? when Idle No More started, because everyone kept saying 'I don't understand what they want!' she said.

Fiddler says the confusion around it really bothered her.

"Why are they protesting? Why are they round-dancing in the mall?" It was something that really stuck with me," Fiddler added.

Months passed, and Fiddler says she waited for the right opportunity to put together the show. She knew the moment had come when she walked into this year's INCA Summer Institute.

"When I saw that we had almost a 50/50 split of Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal students, I thought, what a great idea to show people that what Aboriginal people want," she said.

"There are some specific things – but in the long run, Aboriginal people want the same things everybody else wants, which is to be equal to be everybody else in Canada," she added.

Fiddler says she hopes the show will help listeners understand what Aboriginal people want for themselves, but that

the students take that away from the experience, as well. She paired Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal students in pairs to put together each part of the show.

"It was a good way to show the students (what Indians want), but also a good way to send that message out to others: 'Look our stories aren't that different!'" Fiddler said.

The show tackles what Indians want in a whole variety

that surprise them," she added.

Fiddler says the show is less about differences, and more about what brings us all together.

"(People will hear) stories about language, stories about culture, but not just Aboriginal culture because the whole point of the show is to show that everybody has a culture, everybody has a language, everybody wants those things," she said.

"Everybody wants an education, everybody wants a better future," she added.

Kristy Auger and Liam Avison are the student hosts of What Do Indians Want?

Auger, originally from Fort St. John, British Columbia, says it was surreal to sit in the hosting chair, put on the headphones, and hear her own voice behind the show's funky upbeat theme music.

"I kind of felt like I couldn't really believe it!" she added.

Auger says she learned a lot from working on and hosting the show. She hopes others will take something from hearing it, as well.

"I hope that (non-Indigenous listeners) are able to understand Indigenous people better," Auger said.

She hopes the stories inspire Indigenous people to take action.

"(I hope it) Inspires them to continue doing good things in their community and learn new things," she added.

People can hear What Do Indians Want? on CBC Radio One in Saskatchewan from 4-6 pm on June 21. That's on 102.5 FM in Regina, 94.1 FM in Saskatoon, and 540 AM across the province.

People can also hear a one-hour version across Canada on during CBC Radio One's Network Show, The Story from Here, on June 19 and Wednesday, June 26 at 11 p.m.



FNUniv INCA students Liam Avison and Kristy Auger surround CBC producer Merelda Fiddler.

of areas—from sports, to health, to education and language.

Some students put together short, emotional documentaries about their own personal stories, while others booked interviews. Listeners can even expect to hear from Wab Kinew, one of the heads of Idle No More and a former CBC Reporter.

"People can expect to hear some really excellent students," Fiddler said. "They can expect to hear stories

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Play Responsibly

Seminar heard from front line Métis entrepreneurs

By Fraser Needham
For Eagle Feather News

Starting your own business can come with both financial and personal costs. Just ask Anne-Marie Cey.



ANNE-MARIE CEY

Her first foray into the world of private entrepreneurship was a digital photography business. Not only did Cey eventually leave the business but it also cost her a

first marriage. Too much time spent at work took a toll on her personal life.

Now, a few years later and a job at the University of Saskatchewan in between, she is back with a new business. This time around it is a gym called Snap Fitness located in the Lawson Heights area of Saskatoon.

Cey says the reason she ventured back into the world of private enterprise is she likes the flexibility that comes with owning your own business. Plus, she admits she has never been very good at taking marching orders from others. In other words, she enjoys being her own boss.

“I learned a number of things from owning my first business,” she says. “I learned you can’t do everything yourself and you need to bring other people in. I have brought in a bookkeeper to help with this business so I can concentrate on the things I am trained in and am good at – marketing and communications of the business.”

Cey was one of the keynote speakers at Inspire 2013 in Saskatoon, a one-day seminar for Métis women and youth who may be thinking about getting into or expanding an existing business. The June



Inspire 2013 offered tips for Métis men and women entrepreneurs.

5 event was hosted by the Clarence Campeau Development Fund.

One of the other featured speakers was Shelley Keyes of S.K. Transitions. Her company focuses on helping people make both life and career changes.

Keyes says once people have taken the time to think about and decide what they really want to do with their lives, the rest usually falls into place.

“I spend lots of time talking with people, and not talking, listening with people about looking to create meaning and fulfillment in their life,” she says. “And when you do that, sometimes it takes you in business avenues, sometimes it doesn’t.”

“And for me, following that passion I had led to a business, it’s kind of hard to believe.”

Monica Brunet is the economic

director of the Clarence Campeau Development Fund. She says starting a new business can certainly be a daunting task but one of the goals of the seminar is to provide information to people and let them know that there are a number of options available to help get a fledgling business off the ground.

“That’s the biggest thing, is that they’re somewhat at a loss on where to go for help or assistance,” she says. “And we have ten different programs and services that we are trying to let everyone know that we have available and they’re not alone.”

“There are some great programs out there, all they have to do is ask and we can give them a hand.”

About 75 women and youth from all over Saskatchewan registered for the seminar.

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Miyosiwin Salon makes Cree beautiful

By Nicole Akan
For Eagle Feather News

Jen Dubois says her dream of opening a salon that follows First Nations protocols for hair is now a reality. Miyosiwin Salon opened in Regina on May 1.

Dubois chose the name Miyosiwin, which is a Cree word meaning beauty.

"I have that strong connection now, showing people First Nations culture," she said. "That's what makes me feel good, staying true to my roots."

Dubois learned about hair traditions from her husband, Mike, who was raised with the teaching that only his family members could touch his hair. When he and Jen started dating, he waited seven years before he would let her see him with his hair out.

"Having my hair out in front of someone other than my family was a big step for me," he said.

"Hair is a source of power," he says. "It's a connection to your spiritual side. It teaches you a lot about being patient, learning to care for yourself. Take time



Jen Dubois, owner of Miyosiwin Salon in Regina and her son Eagle in her home based hair salon.
(Photo by Mike Dubois)

every day. It's part of being a healthy person."

Jen Dubois takes 30 minutes every morning to braid her five-year-old son

Eagle's hair. Mike says this is an important time for mother and son.

"There is at least one portion of the day when they are interacting with each

other, one on one, teaching Eagle about himself."

One of Dubois's clients is Chasity Delorme.

"I trust her," says Delorme. "I'm very protective of my hair and she understands that."

"To another hairstylist, they wouldn't understand the spirit that is attached to hair. 'To them hair is hair,' says Delorme.

"Now people have somewhere to go," says Delorme. "I would recommend it to anybody but definitely to Aboriginal men and women. (Now) they have a salon that understands cultural sensitivity."

Jen Dubois has female clients who are trying to grow their hair and will only cut it on a full moon. She always asks her clients if they want to keep the hair, to dispose of in their own way.

"It's about reclamation," says Dubois. "Bringing back our (cultural teachings) and making them mainstream."



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Cree teachers see increasing interest

By Kristy Auger
For Eagle Feather News

Stats Canada says indigenous languages are declining, but the experience of Cree language instructors tells a different story.

The 2011 census says that 17 per cent of those who identified as Aboriginal could speak their languages fluently, down from 21.5 per cent in 2006. Although census results have been criticized, due to low participation of Aboriginal people, the results are still alarming.

But according to some Cree language instructors, an opposite trend is emerging and interest appears to be rising.

Robert Cote is a teacher at Ochapowace First Nation who started teaching Cree four years ago at Kakisiwew School.

"I have a couple of students that are really doing well in Cree," he says. "You're starting to see more of it in our school."

Cote says it was a proud moment when their Grade 1 students sang O Canada in Cree for a presentation.

"The ability to know your language and your culture, that's what makes us Cree and Saulteaux," says Cote, who attended Origins of Cree Syllabic's Conference on June 4-5 in Edmonton with a group from Ochapowace.

Angel Scott was one of the students who attended. "It was very interesting," she says.

Taking students to language conferences is just one thing Cote is doing to build interest in learning their language. He also took them to the First Nations University to experience a class with Cree instructor Bill Cook.



Robert Cote's students Ashley Bear and Jalynne Sparvier, practicing their Cree.

"The students did a Tansi song, puppet show and played Cree charades," says Cote.

Cook has been teaching Cree for seven years.

"It is our identity," says Cook. "A lot of our words come from our culture and come from the environment."

He agrees with Cote's assessment that interest is actually growing.

"I do see a lot of people enjoying it and I think that's the key. It is our identity. Without it, we're not ourselves."

Cree language workshop to be offered in July

Belinda Daniels will be hosting a Cree language workshop at Oskayak High School in Saskatoon on July 22 -25.

"When you have that connection to language, you also have that connection to land," says Daniels. "And when you have language and land, you have a complete, whole identity,"

Daniels has been teaching Cree professionally for 14 years and doing the Cree language programming at the University of Saskatchewan for seven years.



BELINDA DANIELS

She says language is culture and tied to the land.

"When I teach or travel or do workshops, I introduce myself as a Nehiyaw and I am of the Nehiyaw peoples of this land, this land we call Canada or Turtle Island."

You can register for the workshop by going to the University of Saskatchewan languages department website. Participants will receive a certificate from U of S upon completion.

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Mentors must be experienced artists. Trainees must be adults and not registered as students. Mentors and trainees must be Saskatchewan residents. Mentors are compensated for their time & both mentors & trainees receive a travel allowance if required.

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Mr. Answer Guy on 'when men's IQ's drop'

Shirley Nautsbegone of Crutwell writes, "Mr. Answer Guy, when we fight, I can see my husband turning into a moron. Explain."

We men tend to be lousy at conflict in relationships, and

as time passes we can become more moronier as time passes. There are perfectly good, science-like reasons for this.

Let's say your husband is emotionally available and ready to listen to you with an open heart 50 per cent of the time. Some women will say that is way too high, and guys might agree. But let's say 50 per cent.

Now let's say you are emotionally ready and willing to listen to him 50 per cent of the time. Some women will argue that is way too low. The dudes will mumble differently – quietly, because we are really not that stupid.

That means the chances you are both ready for a healthy, rational conversation is 25 per cent. In other words, 75 per cent of the time neither of you has much of hearing what the other is freaked out about.

It gets worse: Some sciency-types say couples are emotionally available only 9 per cent of the time! So 91 per cent of the time, the odds that they will agree on the colour of snow are pretty slim.

The chances for miscommunication is astronomical.

There are extra reasons why your husband is getting dafter and dafter, and they have to do with how we are constructed, evolution-like.

As humans we come equipped with a general alarm system to help us cope effectively with emergencies that could cause injury.

The heart speeds up, adrenaline is pumped into the body, blood pressure rises, especially to the areas of the brain devoted perceiving and dealing with danger. Attention becomes very focused with tunnel-vision and tunnel-hearing.

Some people call this the lizard brain hi-jack: the higher functions of the brain shut down while the simplest, instinctive parts kick into overdrive. IQ levels plummet.

In the old days when men and women were startled by, say, a razorback squirrel, they both reacted

with the lizard brain hi-jack, though for men it is much more intense. And they both responded with anger, contempt and disgust at the squirrel's primal roar.

Interestingly enough, women come down from this fight or flight response faster than men. In fact, this system makes us fellas so focused we can become bonkers, longer.

Why? In the cave-man days, dudes had to maintain a state of vigilance for extended periods of time, to keep our fabulous looking babes and the yard monkeys safe. Mothers-in-laws were optional. But I digress.

Today, in times of stress, or distress, we still rely on our cave-man wiring. We may even perceive you as a sabre-toothed elk or something. We may stonewall, run away, or get upset, and angry.

Rumour has it some men entertain fantastic thoughts of erecting stadium sized slingshots to fling their woman to the moon. Of course, real men never, ever raise their hand to their woman. Real men honour their women, which explains the absence of slingshots in the countryside.

Of course, you know you are often the first to calm down from a fight, but your husband is still stewing and doesn't want to talk about anything. And if he does talk, he may end up escalating the situation, moronilly.

While this is natural, it is not healthy. We need time to shift our gears down. Docticians say guys need at least 20 minutes or more to come down from the trees we happen to be swinging from.

By now you are wondering, "Ok, smart guy, how I do help my idiot husband?"

First, he needs a man-cave. It must be festooned with his favourite sports team and feature a messed-up 3D big screen TV and recliner. Send him in there for some peace, because damn, woman, we crave peace!

Second, slip on your slinkiest negligee or fanciest flannel cape. Slap on some makeup and stink-good. After 20 minutes, flounce into his man-cave doing your best imitation of Britney Speers or Christina Agriculture and give your warrior some giddyup.

I mean, if our IQs have to drop, let's make sure they are dropping for the right reasons.

Dirk says, Never start something you are never going to fin...



Hunt is on for summer jobs

By Taryn Riemer
For Eagle Feather News

With only a month of school left, high school students are wondering where to look for summer jobs. After conducting a quick survey of what kind of employment services there are for Aboriginal high school students it was clear there are options all over Saskatchewan.

For students at White Bear First Nation their high school has developed a relationship with the businesses in the community and surrounding towns.

"I like to say the community sees a need for the students to be active in some sort of good way," said Murray Bird, Principal of White Bear Education Complex.

Bird said students who want a summer job often approach him for help.

Students can find employment in the community, at the golf course and the school, he said.

As for students in the city, there are also options.

In Saskatoon, the Central Urban Metis Federation Inc. (CUMFI) has been hiring Métis students for summer positions for more than five years. CUMFI hires two Métis students each summer to do numerous jobs like working in supported living homes or in wellness centres.

"We try to give them a variety of work so they have lots of things to put on their resume," said Shirley Isbister, CUMFI President.

• Continued on Page 23

WANTED WEBSITE EDITOR

Eagle Feather News is redesigning its website to be a regular online news source for Saskatchewan's First Nations and Métis communities. As website editor, you will be responsible to update the website content regularly, attend media events and write news stories for the on-line edition.

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We are accepting applications until July 31, interviews will be in August and the position starts September 1, 2013

Eagle Feather
NEWS



Youth Employment Training Initiative participants are looking for work.

Program broadens students' horizons

• Continued from Page 22

For Regina students looking for jobs, the First Nations Employment Centre has a program called Youth Employment Training Initiative (YETI).

The three-year program is for high school students who have completed Grade 11.

Over the next couple years, students can return to the YETI program to advance their work skills and experience.

The first summer, students get certificates including First Aid and safe food handling followed by two weeks of

employment in a job.

The next summer students will be placed in a government-based job for eight weeks.

During the final summer in the YETI program, students will be placed in a job that is in the area of their post-secondary education.

"A focus of the program is getting a view of a world that they may have previously been intimidated to apply to," Erica Beaudin, Urban Service Manager of Regina Treaty Status Indian Service.



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Selecting a Site for Canada's National Used Fuel Repository

Canada's plan involves the construction of a national repository for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. Used nuclear fuel is a solid material produced from the generation of electricity in nuclear power plants. The plan also involves the development of a used fuel transportation system and construction of a centre of expertise that will be a hub for national and international collaboration. In implementing Canada's plan, an important decision is where to locate this national repository and centre of expertise.

Q. How will a site be selected?

A. The NWMO is leading a site selection process to identify an informed and willing host community for the national repository and centre of expertise required by Canada's plan. This site selection process was developed over a two-year period in dialogue with Canadians, and reflects their ideas, experience and best advice on what an open, transparent and fair process for making this decision would include. The process also builds upon the best knowledge and experience within Canada and internationally.

Q. When will a decision on a site be made?

A. The site selection process will require between seven and 10 years of study to identify a preferred site for Canada's plan. No decision will be made before these studies have been completed and the project has been the subject of formal regulatory review and environmental assessment.

Q. What are the goals of the site selection process?

A. The site selection process will ensure:

- any community that is selected to host the facility is both informed about the project and willing to host it;
- any site that is selected to host this facility will safely contain and isolate used nuclear fuel for a very long period of time in an appropriate geological formation, and that there is an acceptable way of transporting used fuel to the site;
- surrounding communities affected by the project and the transportation of used fuel are involved in planning how the project will be implemented;
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit potentially affected by the implementation of this project are involved in learning, assessment and planning of the project.

Q. What factors will be considered?

A. Any potential community and site will be assessed against a number of factors, both technical and social in nature. First and foremost, the preferred site will be one that can safely contain and isolate used nuclear fuel, protecting humans and the environment over the very long term. Secondly, locating the facility in the community must help foster the well-being, or quality of life, of the local community and region in which it is implemented. Through the site selection process, the community and site will be assessed in a series of steps, with each step designed to evaluate the site in greater detail than the step before. A community will proceed from one step to the next only if it chooses to do so and if the work to assess the suitability of the site supports it. Ultimately, a compelling demonstration of willingness will be required, involving residents of the community, in order to host this project.

Q. Are some communities being targeted?

A. No. Only communities that are interested in the project, and expressed this interest by contacting the NWMO, are being considered.

Q. Can communities leave the process at any time?

A. Yes. A community that enters the site selection process can leave the process at any time up until signing a formal agreement many years in the future.



Jo-Ann Facella is the Director of Social Research and Dialogue at the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. She has worked for prominent public opinion firms (Gallup Canada and Goldfarb Consultants) and as Senior Advisor at Ontario Power Generation before joining the NWMO in 2002. Over the past 20 years, her work has focused on public involvement in policy making, and in particular, societal needs and expectations concerning the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. Ms. Facella has a master's degree in Political Science.

"Ask the NWMO" is an advertising feature published regularly in this and other community newspapers to respond to readers' questions about Canada's plan for managing used nuclear fuel over the long term and its implementation. The Nuclear Waste Management Organization welcomes your questions. Please forward your questions to askthenwmo@nwmo.ca.

For more information about the site selection process or other NWMO activities, please visit:



www.nwmo.ca

Full story of Métis in southern Sask. will soon be told

By **Andréa Ledding**
For **Eagle Feather News**

Untold stories of historical Métis communities and families are the focus of a collaborative project between the Swift Current Museum, Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), and Métis artist/curator George Gingras.

Rachel Wormsbecher explains that between her museum, Heritage Canada, and Parks Canada, a lot of research had been done on the Métis communities and it was a good time to pull it all together.

“We contacted GDI for a partnership,” said Wormsbecher. “George is a visual artist who will do paintings that depict the history — places like Fort Walsh, Val Marie, Saskatchewan Landing, Maple Creek, Cypress Hills, Eastend.”

The paintings, along with an artist’s statement and curatorial panel with historical terms, regional history, and families, will tour the southwest corner of the province with stops in Swift Current, Maple Creek, Shaunavon, Sceptre, Eastend, and Medicine Hat in 2014 and 2015. Grants and support have come from Heritage Canada, Sask Heritage, and SaskCulture, along with extensive support and research from GDI, in particular Darren Prefontaine and Karon Shmon.

“The previous work GDI was contracted to do by Parks Canada was to ensure the Métis story in southern Saskatchewan was being told in their parks — Grassland and Cypress Hills/Fort Walsh,” explained Shmon of GDI’s involvement researching regional history.

“This was an extension of that knowledge that that story really hasn’t been told,



George Gingras and Métis Elder Cecile Blanke in front of Lac Pelletier, (formerly known as Lac La Plume).

and that it’s critical it be added to the province’s history.”

The Métis cart trail went all the way to Battleford, Shmon added, and is still visible today. Added to the physical history was the work of Darren Prefontaine, known for his quality research and knack of pulling it into a cohesive package as with his award-winning book on “Gabriel Dumont: Li Chef Michif.”

“This is going to round it out and bring life to it, to focus on a few lesser known places and show Métis lifestyles, the essence of Métis culture,” said Shmon.

One element George Gingras will be including is the Métis philosophy of the infinity sign, which he describes as “our relationship to time neither linear nor circular, but looped: the past, but the future, too.”

Another element present in each of his ten site research visits was the Prairie Hawk.

“I wanted to get a feel for the travel that our ancestors did some 200 years ago, walking that land with their oxen and their Red River cart and the supplies they brought,” said Gingras.

“The distance they went and the connection they had with land, how do you put that in words? Even looking at the prairie sky. The vastness.

“Knowing I stood in the trail of this Red River Cart that was made 200 years ago and was still there.”

Ahtahkakoop continues to pass on its rich history

By **Andréa Ledding**
For **Eagle Feather News**

Ahtahkakoop School has just published a book that was a collaboration between the youth and the community Elders, an Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership Project with support from SaskCulture.

“The kids sat with our Elders, and the Elders spoke about some of the ceremonial things and transferred that knowledge to the kids. Then the Cree teacher and the Elders translated it into Cree,” explained principal Shaun Sasakamoose, adding that the book also features artwork from the young people, between ten and 20

high school students in the Cree 10, 11, and 12 classes who spent time with five Elders.

“Our kids loved it, they were asking questions that we never even thought of. You never know what kids are thinking and some of the responses from the Elders you’d never think of, either.”

One example was how convenient life is now with instant everything and central heating, but some youth wondered how people kept warm and stored food in winter, in earlier times and in traditional ways.

• Continued On Page 25

National Aboriginal Day

Recognize and support the ongoing contributions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada.

Funding support to plan and hold cultural activities taking place anywhere in Saskatchewan, available through the:

- Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Leadership Program
- Métis Cultural Development Fund
- Multicultural Initiatives Fund

For these and other funding opportunities, visit www.saskculture.sk.ca or call Damon Badger-Heit at (306) 780-9251 or toll-free at 1-866-476-6830.

Cultural Activity

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Transfer of Anishnaabe culture a long process

By **Andréa Ledding**
For **Eagle Feather News**

Key First Nation, with support from SaskCulture, has been targeting knowledge transfer of Anishnaabe culture, language, and traditions from their Elders to their youth all while acknowledging the challenges and intergenerational effects of Indian Residential Schools, but focusing positively on reclamation and the overall importance of the Anishnaabe identity.

“Down here we’re Saulteaux people, we do things differently from the Cree. It’s good to watch other cultures also,” noted Chief Clarence Papequash, who has been integral to bringing the programming to his community through the Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership Project.

“But there are a lot of kids that, it seems to me, if they don’t learn the language they run to another culture, speak English. We’re Anishnaabe people, language is identity.

“Like some communities, like Yellowquill First Nation, they’re strong in the language, you see little kids talking

the language. That’s good you know,” Papequash suggests.

“In Cree country you see kids talking the language. But here on my reserve there’s very few that speak the language and we need to really, really focus on that.”

They ran a winter weekend program with teachings responding to questions asked by the young people – sweats and round dances and feasts, all built around Anishnaabe language and culture – and a two-week culture camp takes place August 15 to 25.

Papequash explains how closely culture/language loss is linked to the Residential Schools. His own parents spoke their language at home, but in his generation, he and his brothers were scared to, and had to come home and learn it later in life, often after dealing with many lost years under addictions.

But now they have Elders coming in to the community to teach, people like Peter Nippi, Myles Musqua, Frances Bird, and Campbell Papequash.

“My oldest brother, Campbell, he’s

78. When he straightened out he had to come home and relearn the language and I’m glad he did that. I speak very little, me, but I’m learning,” said Papequash in a phone interview.

“Residential school, that’s a dark cloud over us. I did a lot of healing on myself and I understand what happened – rough times, trauma. I see a lot of people quit drinking and using, and that’s the farthest they go, and that’s good in a way but also not good because there’s not enough healing going on.

“Look inside and start there. It’s our own stuff inside that divides us.”

Papequash adds that Key First Nation has no gangs, lots of good positive role models, and violence, drinking, and drugs, all problems in the past as part of the Resi-

dential School legacy, have all decreased significantly as the community works together, acknowledging individuals along with the collective strength of their culture, the identity in their language, the vision and importance of ceremony.

“We need to start coming together and healing together and live like one big happy family. But yes, we have to acknowledge the past and what happened to us, too. The Residential Schools left a big grey area over us and continue to harm us,” he said.

“But what’s number one is the wellness of the people. If people aren’t well, how are they going to do anything— work or anything? You can have all kinds of jobs but if you’re not well, how does it help?”

History for ‘children’s children’

• Continued from Page 24

The interview, transcription, and translation process went on for several weeks, ending with a book launch on June 6 with a lunch and public viewing, with the book being a real community project and art object.

“We’re binding it ourselves — it’s not a real traditional book, it looks like it’s all rugged from the 1800s,” noted Saskamoose.

“It’s a huge endeavour for our staff, it took a lot of time.”

Personal time was given by the principal, vice-principal Charlotte Campbell whose idea it was initially, and Emily Weenonis, the Cree teacher.

“It was (Charlotte Campbell’s) idea to try and get some of that knowledge written down, and not in English but in our own language so we’d have something to transfer to our kids,” he added.

“Our community motto is: Let us not think of our children but our children’s children — to leave a legacy behind.”

This is not the first book Ahtahkakoop

First Nation has published. Their community created and published a history and archive book of what has gone on since treaty times entitled, “Ahtahkakoop: The epic account of a Plains Cree Head Chief, his people, and their vision for survival, 1816-1896” which was launched in 2000 by Ahtahkakoop Publishing, so they are continuing a trend-setting literary tradition that perhaps others will follow.

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SaskCulture provides funding to support the development and implementation of cultural activities in communities throughout Saskatchewan. Non-profit groups, on reserve or off, interested in engaging First Nations and/or Métis peoples in a particular cultural activity are encouraged to check out the following funding programs:

Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership Fund
Aims to increase capacity in Aboriginal communities through the development of arts and cultural leadership opportunities involving youth and mentors.
Deadlines: October 15, April 15

Capacity Building Grant Program
Supports capacity-building opportunities in existing, new and emerging cultural organizations.
Deadlines: October 15, May 7

Métis Cultural Development Fund
Offered in partnership with Gabriel Dumont Institute, this program supports community-based cultural activities and initiatives that preserve and pass on the Métis culture and traditions.
Deadlines: October 31, April 30

Multicultural Initiatives Fund
Supports multicultural, ethno-cultural, and Aboriginal cultural initiatives activities and initiatives that contribute to the advancement of cultural understanding in Saskatchewan.
Deadlines: September 30, January 31, March 15

For more information on these programs, call Damon Badger Heit at 787-9251 or email: d.badgerheit@saskculture.sk.ca. For applications and more details visit: www.saskculture.sk.ca.

Funding available thanks to proceeds from Saskatchewan Lotteries.

Cultural Activity

storytelling, Choral Archæology, Diversity, Playwrighting, Craftmaking, Band, First Nations culture, Anti-racism Awareness, Sound Recording, Elocution, Built heritage, Filmmaking, Métis heritage, Debating, Festivals, Languages, Folklore, Songwriting, Elocution, Heritage Conservation, Museums, Dance, Orchestra, Book Publishing, Sound Recording, First Nations Cult, French Heritage, Writing, Music, Art Galleries, Craftmaking, Diversity

SaskCulture LOTTERIES CULTURE BUILDS COMMUNITY

Métis artist Baerg aims to push new boundaries

The first thing I noticed when I went to the Mendel to see the Jason Baerg: Returning series was the palette. Bright cheery yellows and lively blues immediately struck me as the perfect colors to give life and movement to the seemingly celestial-inspired artwork.

I prefer to view art before I learn about it, to make my own observations and guess what the artist is trying to convey before the mystery is forever stunted by truth. So, I was happy when I interviewed Baerg and he praised the relationship between artwork and audience.

"My work is constructed with the audience included. Art is a dialogue and the conversation between the producer and observer are a chance for change. Intensions in all productions are to leave the viewer with more to consider, be it directly related to the formal aspects in art, or how the work affects them on cerebral levels," said Baerg.

Baerg is a Métis artist who was born in Sarnia, Ontario but grew up in Prince Albert. He is currently doing a one-year Aboriginal Curatorial Residency in Sarnia at the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery.

Baerg leaves room for the audience to gather their own interpretations, which I think is an incredibly mature approach to art. And the blend of traditions and technology reverberates throughout the room,

creating an electric fusion of past and future, a feat difficult to achieve in a harmonious way. But he succeeds.

On one wall are 13 tondos, or round canvases of wood, painted in acrylic, which make up the series, Relations. Across from this, on another wall, sits a large assembly of various colorful shapes including stars and thunderbolts which join together to create a gigantic eagle feather, also known as the Nomadic Bounce series. Both are arresting displays of his creativity and reflect the unique way he gathered his inspiration.

The tondos from Relations reflect the research he spent in residency at the University of Lethbridge where he studied prophecies concerning 2012. Through a combination of abstraction and computer-generated elements he arrived at the 13 circular tondos, which resemble a galaxy of planets.

"It was through a lot of research that I came to discover traditional knowledge and our indigenous understanding of the relationship between the sun, the moon, the earth and ourselves," said Baerg.

Nomadic Bounce, his latest installation, covers a huge expanse of space, immediately drawing in the viewer for closer inspection.

"The Nomadic Bounce Series supports the notion that we have been travelling since the dawn of time," says Baerg. "This work is inspired by various 33-second video loops that I shot on my numerous journeys. Paintings

were created from these video loops; one set went under the lasers to create the multiples. Thematically, the work evokes emotional reactions to the relationships we have with the people and places that created our constitutions – our families and the land we are born of."

With his exhibit on tour across Canada, Baerg could insist each gallery conform to his series, but instead he takes a flexible approach and assembles his art in unique and interesting ways, according to the gallery. Other locations on the tour include: Mann Art Gallery, Prince Albert; Gallery@501, Strathcona (Edmonton);

Urban Shaman, Winnipeg; Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre, Medicine Hat; and Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery.

Baerg spends a great deal of time researching and gathering inspiration from around him.

"We have responsibilities as artists to drive our disciplines forward; for example, as a dancer or a choreographer. How are you advancing your craft or your art?" asks Baerg.

"Formally I aim to push new boundaries in digital interventions in drawing, painting, and installation. Experimenting with innovative media is critical to my creative vitality," said Baerg.

He has just opened a new exhibit in Ontario called Kisci-Okima-Achak. It is a series of laser-cut metal works associated with Cree cosmology. He has also opened an exhibit, along with nine other artists, called: Aboriginal Expressions: National Capital Commission Confederation Boulevard Banners 2013. Also, Baerg is excited to have been selected for a summer residency at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

If there's an artist, entertainer or event that you think should be featured in Eagle Feather News, give me a shout at:

snazzyjess@hotmail.com.

See you next month!



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Three Greats and an Uncle

My great, great, great, uncle is Gabriel Dumont who, according to Wikipedia, was a great hunter, fighter in the Métis Resistance and a keen military strategist and if his pictures are accurate – owner of a prodigious beard.

According to the laws of genetics, therefore, I must be as awesome as him or at least have the potential to be as awesome. Take the great hunter part: I've never technically been hunting but I'm pretty sure I'd be good at it. For instance, I'm stealthy.

My roommates often walk into the kitchen, where I'm standing in the dark, and then scream, "Holy sh*t! Where did you come from?" (Why am I standing in the dark? Because I'm stealing their corn chips but that's not relevant right now)

Hunting also involves the ability to stay completely still and camouflage oneself into your surroundings. I watched the entire first season of Game of Thrones in one sitting and at one point, my roommate accidentally sat on me. Check and check.

Hunters are also known for their good eyes. I wear glasses and have since I was six years old but it hasn't stopped me from being an able marksman.

I can walk into a crowded pop wow or hockey tournament and I can tell you how many good looking guys are in that room in less than 20 seconds flat.

Within 30, I can tell you which ones are attached (that's because the safe guess is always – all of them.) Check.

Now let's talk about the warrior part. I trained as an infantry soldier for one summer in the Reg forces (Bold Eagle III – booyah!).

I was hoping to leave the army as a lean mean fighting machine. After eight weeks of training,

I was exactly the same weight but I could do 20 push ups with a minimum of tears.

I also joined the army because I thought there would be cool obstacle courses to run like in the movie Stripes. There weren't any because this was the low budget Canadian army.

We actually used potatoes for grenade training: "Incoming! It's a Yukon Gold! It has eyes!"

However, there were physical challenges, like ten-mile long rucksack

marches through sand on hot days which were about as fun as getting a massage from Edward Scissorhands.

Still I distinguished myself as a warrior. I was digging a trench with a fellow soldier.

He was being lazy so he said he had to go to the bathroom. Two hours later, I found him hiding in the woods polishing his rifle.

Since I had already dug three quarters of the trench by

myself and had sweat pouring down my sunburned face, I was a little perturbed. I gave him the tongue lashing of his life.

I'm pretty sure he had PTSD by the time I was done with him. Check.

Gabriel Dumont was also known as a military strategist. During his battles at Batoche, he employed some guerilla techniques like stringing a wire across the river to destroy the smokestack on the Canadian military's boat.

As his great, great, great niece, I've been known to throw out some genius military strategy as well.

Like once I set up two of my girlfriends with the same guy (within six months of each other) and they found out while we were walking through Ikea together.

It went down something like this: one girl was like, "Jack is such a funny guy." And the other replied, "Oh you know Jack?" "Yes we dated, Dawn set us up." Then they both looked at me.

I was on the spot, too far from the exits, clearly out-numbered and smack dab in the middle of the knife aisle.

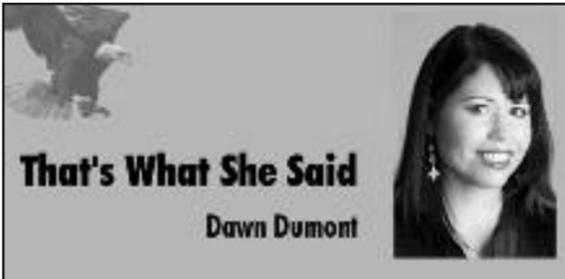
So in a moment that probably made my ancestor plenty proud, I made myself throw up, claiming that the Swedish meatballs were bad.

Now this doesn't reveal me so much as a military strategist as it does a liar (and a jerk, I guess) but I'm going to count it as a half point since I managed to leave Ikea with both friendships intact and only slightly smelling like puke. Check.

Clearly if Uncle Gabe and I were in the same room, we would basically be indistinguishable, except for the facial hair part.

Thanks to my First Nation ancestors, I've managed to save literally thousands in waxing.

Meegwetch.



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Northern kids enjoy on-ice experience with ex-NHLer

By Fraser Needham
For Eagle Feather News

A hockey camp led by an ex-NHLer followed by a chance to watch the best junior hockey players in Canada compete against each other the same night – sounds like a pretty good deal.

And that is exactly the deal about 45 students from the far northern Saskatchewan communities of Fond du Lac, Black Lake and Wollaston Lake got when they flew into Saskatoon on May 22 for a one-day hockey camp with Rich Pilon, a gritty defenseman who played more than 600 NHL games. That was followed by tickets to Memorial Cup action hockey between the Saskatoon



RICH PILON

Blades and Portland Winter Hawks that night. Northern All-Stars Day was paid for through a cooperative effort between the companies Cameco, Areva, SaskPower and West Wind Aviation.

Jonathan Huntington, who works for Cameco and was also the director of volunteers and sponsorship at the Memorial Cup, says the idea behind the event was to give the students a memorable day that they normally wouldn't have been able to take part in.

"I hope that the students, when they come, experience a few things," he says. "One, they get to experience the hockey camp and the feel for the Memorial Cup but I also hope that they see maybe a dream sparkle within

them that they might want to attain something like this as they grow up and continue their careers as hockey players."

Steven Thatcher, principal at Father Porte Memorial Dene School in Black Lake, adds the school used the trip as a reward for students who have been working hard and improving throughout the year.

"Most times you select students, you always go for the best ones but this time we went for students who had good attendance, good marks, but also the students who are improving in the year and some are average students who never seem to get to go anywhere," he says.

"We thought we'd bring them down and let them experience a day trip to Saskatoon."

Pilon played 15 seasons in the NHL, most with the New York Islanders. Pilon originally hails from St. Louis, Sask.

He says the idea behind the day was for the students to learn some hockey skills while having fun at the same time.

"You don't want to challenge them to the point that when they get off the ice, they feel crappy," he says. "So,



A good effort in the classroom earned 45 students from the North a trip to Saskatoon to participate in a hockey camp and watch a Memorial Cup game.

just give them something to push themselves a little. When it comes to skills, and this is what it is, a skills day, the only person you are competing with is yourself. And that's life."

The Northern All-Stars Day was just one of a number of events targeted toward Aboriginal people during Memorial Cup week. Prior to the May 19 game between the Blades and the Halifax Mooseheads, Dolores Sand sang the national anthem in English, French and Cree. A number of Aboriginal war veterans were also on hand for the event.

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Lacrosse star shoots for law career

Name: Reagan Harding
Sport: Lacrosse
Current Club: New Westminster Senior Salmonbellies
U.S. College: Lake Erie Storm
Position: Forward
Shoots: Right
Favorite Number: 11
Nickname: Reags
Other competitive sports played: Hockey, Football, Track and Field

Reagan 'Reags' Harding is a Métis lad from Saskatchewan currently tearing up lacrosse rinks and fields all over Canada and the U.S. He's on a full scholarship to Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio where he was named All-American by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association, All-ECAC First Team All Conference and the ECAC All-Tournament Team.

Reags was also drafted 17th overall by the Western Lacrosse Association's (WLA) New Westminster



Salmonbellies, for whom he plays in the offseason. Despite his busy schedule, Eagle Feather News caught up with Reags for a little Sports Chat.

GOZ: First off, how are you enjoying the Wet Coast?

REAGS: It is a beautiful place to live as long as its not raining. And the people are great.

GOZ: Lacrosse is huge in the Lower Mainland. Do you find it more 'lacrosse crazy' out here as compared to other places you've played?

REAGS: It's crazy out here! Vancouver is a hotbed. In places like Coquitlam and New Westminister, kids start when they are toddlers. Where I come from it's only sports like hockey (that start early). It's nice to see.

GOZ: Aside from the obvious, what are the main differences between box and field lacrosse? Is field faster because there's more room to move?

REAGS: Field is actually slower. It's a game of strategy because there is no shot clock, as apposed to box where everything is tight passing, scoring and physicality. The floor is also smaller with a 30 second shot clock

GOZ: Do you prefer one over the other? If so, why?

REAGS: I prefer field because I can use my athleticism more. I learned to play with both hands, making me more ambidextrous than most people. So field favors my playing style a bit more

but I still love box lacrosse.

GOZ: Having been a standout football player who could've at least played CIS and possibly pro, why did you choose to pursue lacrosse after high school?

REAGS: I don't know about pro, but in all honesty my heart is in lacrosse. Football is a great game but also extremely physical where your career can be done within seconds from an injury. I wanted to stay healthy and play the game that I love at a college.

GOZ: Did competing in other high level sports make you a better lacrosse player?

REAGS: Of course other sports help with athleticism, but playing hockey was an easy transition into lacrosse because they are such similar games.

GOZ: Educate those of us not lacrosse savvy ... who's the best Aboriginal lacrosse player of all time?

REAGS: Delby Powless.

GOZ: All indications are you'll be playing pro before you know it. Where would you like to end up in a league like the National Lacrosse League if given the opportunity?

REAGS: It would be a great opportunity, but I imagine somewhere out East.

GOZ: Knowing lacrosse isn't going to last forever, what are planning to do with your education?

REAGS: I plan on pursuing a career in law.

GOZ: Okay, here's the scenario. You're tied in the waning seconds of the big game. You get fed a nifty a pass in the slot and you're one on one with the goalie. And ...

REAGS: If I had a step on a opponent I would probably just throw a fake and shoot for where the goalie is weak, nothing fancy.



REAGAN HARDING

ABORIGINAL Coaches & Officials Program

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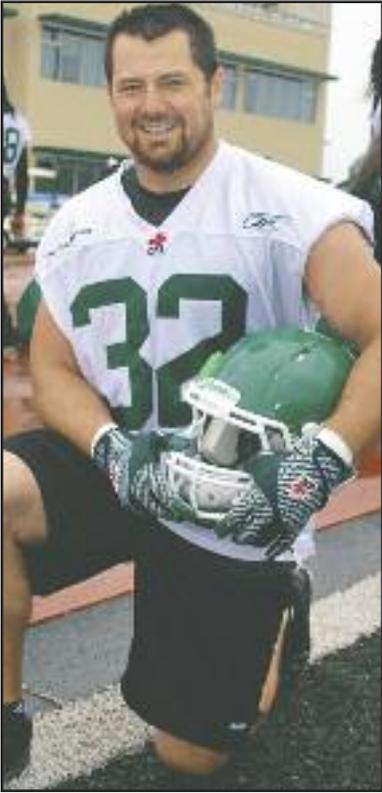
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NEAL HUGHES

Veteran Rider hopeful 2013 will be a Grey Cup year

By Fraser Needham
For Eagle Feather News

Neal Hughes is hoping the Saskatchewan Roughriders can recapture the spirit of 2007.

That's the last time the Roughriders won the Grey Cup and the CFL team is hoping to do it again when it hosts the league championship in Regina this November.

The Regina-born Hughes was in his fourth year with the Riders in 2007 and he says he remembers both the year and the Grey Cup well.

"My favourite play of all time was in the Grey Cup," he says. "It was victory and that's at the end

of the game when the quarterback takes the knee and the clock ran out and it was almost surreal that we did it. I remember standing there, looking at the scoreboard in awe."

Hughes says what made the Riders so special in 2007 was that it was all about the team and there were no individuals. He says last year's Rider team had a lot of talent but was also inexperienced. Nevertheless, with most of the 2012 squad returning to training camp in Saskatoon this year, Hughes says he sees the right balance between younger players and veterans for the team to make a potential run at a league championship.

"Learning the Canadian game isn't easy when you're coming straight from the American game," he says. "And it definitely takes some time, it's a learning curve, so we're looking forward this year as those guys come out as veterans and showing us what they can do."

Hughes knows his own family, at least, would go "absolutely crazy" with a home field championship

trying not to think that far ahead but admits he knows his own family, at least, would go "absolutely crazy" with a home field championship.

The tenth year Rider is also one of a few Aboriginal players in the CFL. His Métis heritage comes from his grandmother who grew up in Lebret, just east of Regina.

Hughes says through part of the Riders' outreach work, he has visited many First Nations reserves and Aboriginal communities throughout Saskatchewan where he encourages young people to do positive things with their lives and tries to show what is possible if you put your mind to it. He adds he recently visited La Ronge where the community has started a football program.

Just shy of his thirty-third birthday, which is considered senior in the rugged game of professional football, Hughes says he is still having lots of fun playing the game and has no immediate plans of retiring. He admits there are a few more aches and pains

after games and practices than there once were but he has learned a lot about lasting in the league from another Saskatchewan boy – former teammate and all-star offensive lineman Gene Makowsky.

"You can't miss too many workouts or you'll fall behind," he says. "And that's something I learned from Gene Makowsky who stuck around for years. He's got the most games played ever, so you learn from a guy like that and he definitely showed me the way on how to take care of myself."

The Saskatchewan Roughriders open the season at home on June 29 against the Edmonton Eskimos.



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For more information please visit www.sak10020.com

Volunteers needed for 2013 Summer Games

By Rafique Bhuiyan
For Eagle Feather News

Muskoday hosting Games from July 15 to 19

Rob Cote remembers what it was like to compete at the Saskatchewan First Nations Summer Games, and the importance of volunteers to support young athletes. That's why, as an adult, he's doing his part.

"My dad, Tony Cote, started the Games," says Cote, a volunteer for this year's summer games. "I was an athlete, I was a coach, and now my kids are involved."

It is a great chance to get involved with community and do something for First Nations youth, he says.

His whole family will be volunteering at this year's summer games.

The Muskoday First Nation is hosting the 2013 games in partnership with the city of Prince Albert and the town of Birch Hills.

From July 15 to 19, Prince Albert is expecting approximately 5,000 people, which includes 3,500 athletes between the ages of 11 to 18.

They will compete in six different sports including archery, athletics, canoeing, golf, soccer and softball. All the events, such as the opening and closing ceremonies, concert, and many other events require hundreds of volunteers.

"It doesn't matter, if it's an hour, or a day, or an entire week, we love to have people come and be part of our legacy," says Dean Bear, games marketing and promotional co-ordinator.

In 2011, about 400 volunteers and 3,000 athletes were actively involved in the games which were



ELWIN BEAR

hosted by the Thunderchild First Nation. This year, Juno award winner Crystal Shawanda will be performing to bring cultural diversity to the games, says Bear.

"This year we need approximately 500 volunteers to make the event a success," says Elwin Bear, games volunteer co-ordinator. "We are putting a volunteer booth in the city of Prince Albert Gateway Mall".

The Games office is recruiting volunteers by calling out to the public and contacting volunteer groups in Prince Albert and Birch Hills to explain how to become a volunteer.

Although people are signing up every day, more volunteers are still needed, says Elwin Bear.

"Anybody who wants to be a volunteer should go to Prince Albert City Police or their local police or RCMP office across the province to do the criminal record search," says Dean Bear, adding volunteer criminal record checks are free.

Being a volunteer does have its rewards, he says.

The Games will end with a volunteer appreciation night banquet in Prince Albert. Volunteers will receive gifts that reflect how much time they dedicated. A volunteer jacket is one of the nicest gifts, Bear says.

Volunteer application and other information about the Summer Games are available on the website, www.2013fnsg.ca.

Making a difference

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He shoots, he scores! A chat with a CBC cameraman

By Paige Kreutzwieser
For Eagle Feather News

Richard Agecutay has always loved hockey. He played as a kid growing up in Regina. When he enrolled at Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (now First Nations University) in the 1980s, he played hockey for the SIFC Chiefs.

He left Saskatchewan to pursue a career in television. After working in Calgary, Banff and Whitehorse, he got a job at CBC. Agecutay has worked for CBC for 13 years—three years in Iqaluit and ten in Toronto. Since arriving in Toronto, Agecutay has worked for shows like Marketplace, Dragon's Den and Fifth Estate. But, for the hockey lover, shooting for Hockey Night In Canada (HNIC) is a dream come true.

How did you get the opportunity to work for HNIC?

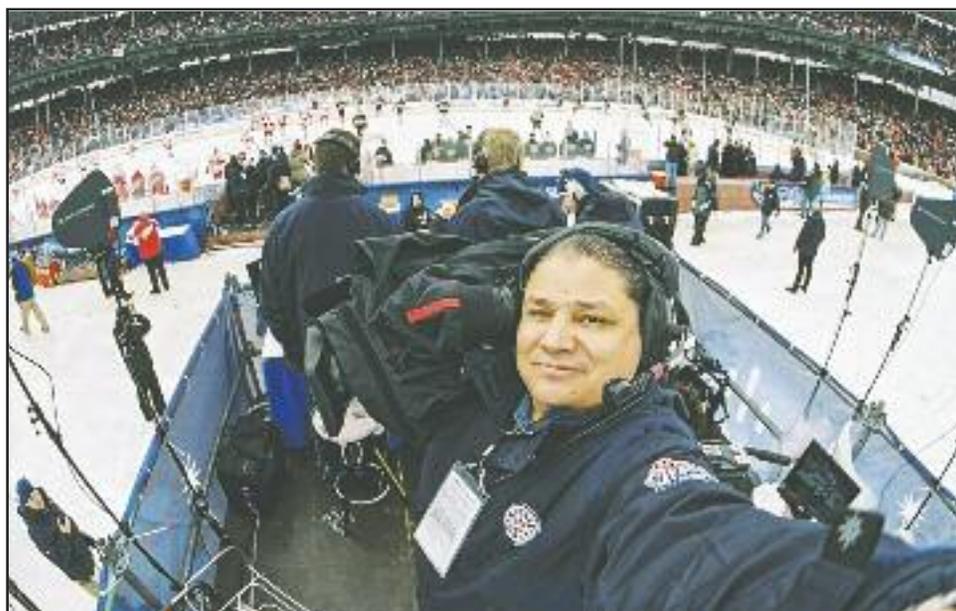
One of the senior camera operators said, "Hey Richard, do you ever shoot hockey?" I said I did hockey for Cable Regina (now Access) but, that was 30 years ago. He passed my name onto the sports producers and I started doing in between the benches.

How long have you been shooting for HNIC?

I've been on the road with hockey for almost seven years. Really intensely in the last three years, since I've been doing playoffs.

So, what's an average day for you during playoffs?

It's a 14-hour day. I get to the rink at 8:30 a.m. I'm assigned to shoot both skates—home and visitors. Then run into the dressing room, grab clips, and then grab the press conference with the coach. Once that's done, the cycle starts again with the next team.



CBC cameraman Richard Agecutay behind the camera at the Winter Classic.

And shooting the game?

On any game, we have up to 28 cameras, each with an assignment. There's the main game camera. There's net cameras operated robotically by guys with joysticks. Basically, they're playing video

games. We've got robotic cameras high on the glass. There's a camera following the hero when he scores and one on the guy in the penalty box, or who coughed up the goal. There's cameras assigned to shoot the benches and coaches, and cameras that zoom up to the general managers' boxes.

If there's a shift in the game, our assign-

ments change. If Crosby is on the ice, someone shoots Crosby. We have six cameras that follow the top three players on each team. I'm in the bottom left corner, so I'm containing the action on the ice and looking for goals. If the goal is

scored at the far end, I spin around and get fan reaction. If it's scored at my end, I'm going to the hero.

Whenever I get an opportunity, I try to be innovative. I started hanging the camera over the boards during line shifts and goals. The producers were saying, "Wow, this guy loves his job. He's giving us looks we've never seen before." That elevated to a players' walk during the anthem, where we march up and down the teams. These are all part of enhancing the viewers' experience. You're showing interesting things. Instead of just wide shots, you're showing the players concentrating or praying.

What's the biggest challenge of your job?

Some people think we're just following the puck. I say, "Try following a puck shot by Zdeno Chara." These guys are professional athletes. It's the fastest sport in the world. I did the all-star game in Ottawa when Chara broke the record shooting 108 miles an hour. My camera was directly behind the net and I'm standing right behind the glass. My shot is him shooting, then zooming into the radar... and I've seen him shatter glass.

Where do you see yourself going from here?

I've yet to be on the ice for the final Stanley Cup interview. This year I want to be crossing that off my bucket list.

An advertisement for the St. John's IceCaps. The background shows a hockey game in progress on an outdoor rink at night. In the foreground, two fans are seen from behind, wearing green jerseys. The fan on the left has the number 83 on his back, and the fan on the right has "METZLAF" on his back. The text "THIS IS WHERE MEMORIES ARE MADE" is overlaid on the right side. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the St. John's IceCaps and the text "TICKETS AS LOW AS \$25" and "RIDERVILLE.COM • 1-888-4-RIDERS". A small CFL logo is in the bottom left corner.