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**Citizenship issue
continues to split
Alberta Métis
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**Harvesters
push boundaries
of provincial law
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**AFN wants to distance
itself from federal
government
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Bonnet Transfer Ceremony

National Chief Shawn Atleo of the Assembly of First Nations was honoured with the Cree name, "Ki Chi Ki Kamow Kihew" or Great Water Eagle in a the ceremony held at Hobbema, Alta on Aug. 6, 2010. Chief Atleo was bestowed this honour by Elder Cecil Nepoose from Hobbema.

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The Aboriginal Financial Officers Association (AFOA) of Canada is a non-profit organization that contributes to Aboriginal social and economic prosperity through a focus on enhancing management practices in Aboriginal communities and organizations.

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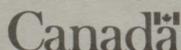
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Features

Haudensosaunee team denied by British authorities 8

Members of the Iroquois Nationals senior men's field lacrosse team suffered one of their most disappointing losses. But not on the field. The squad, comprised of players from both Canada and the United States, was considered a medal contender heading into the world field lacrosse tournament in Manchester, England. But the Iroquois Nationals side never boarded their flights from New York City.

Sleeper of a case receives national attention 8

The Métis National Council (MNC) is seeking intervenor status in an Alberta case that has been appealed by the Alberta government to the Supreme Court of Canada.

AFN money woes are shown the door 10

Despite working with a 15 per cent decrease in revenue from 2009, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) say they have worked hard to stretch their dollars and even managed to end their fiscal year with a surplus. With a year-end of March 31, the AFN recorded revenue of \$212,095, which is a stark contrast from the organization's 2009 year-end deficit of \$1,629,402.

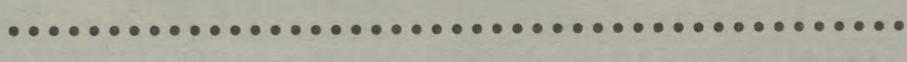
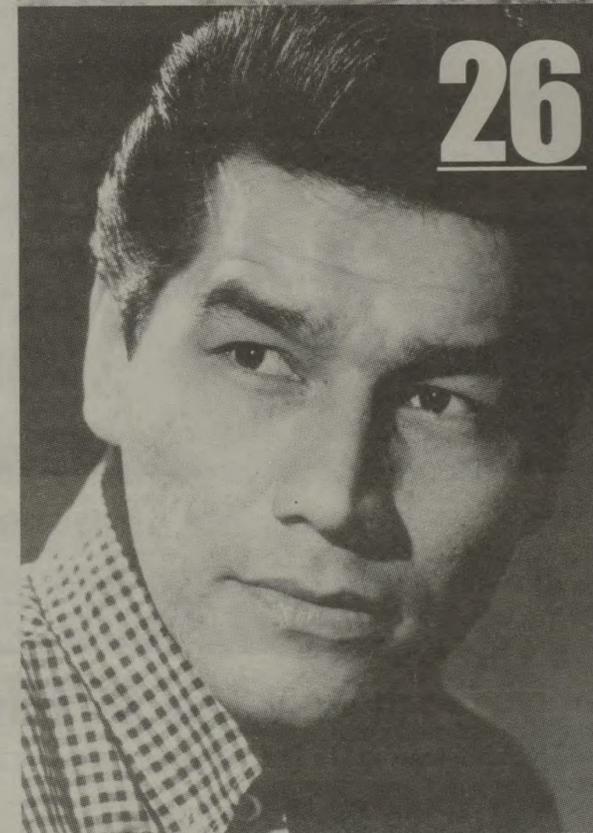
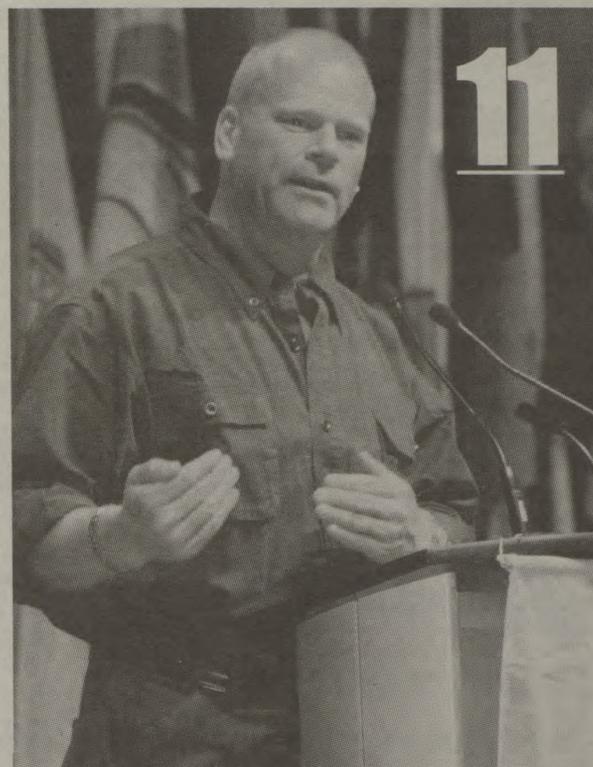
Welcome news as Mike Holmes weighs in to housing issue 11

Fred MacDonald, Dean of Trades and Applied Technology at the Vancouver Island University, said he was thrilled to hear that the Assembly of First Nations and celebrity contractor Mike Holmes were teaming up to help First Nations communities build new schools and homes using green technology.

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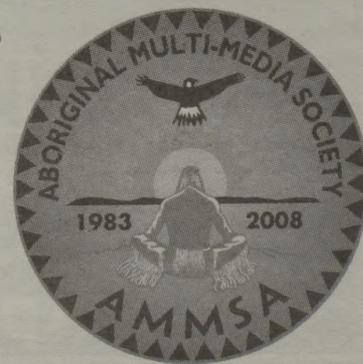
Though Ojibway Obediah Johnny Yesno had a name his peers made fun of in high school, his self-confidence remained intact, and, along with his natural good looks, served him well in a career that played out in the public eye.



Windspeaker is published by the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA) Canada's largest publisher of Aboriginal news and information.

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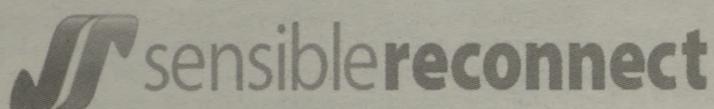
The site includes a link to the application packages, which contain detailed information about the various positions.

For more information contact Sylvia Molella, Board Resources and Development at: sylvia.molella@gov.ab.ca or (780) 422-5679; to be connected toll free, dial (780) 310-0000.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. The closing date is September 30, 2010.

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DFO makes the worst of a good situation

When we think about the Department of Fisheries and Oceans we picture that scene in King Kong when the big gorilla makes his way to the top of the Empire State Building and swats around at the attacking airplanes like they were swarming black flies around a hitchhiker in Wawa, Ont. Pesky little buggers, capable of taking a chuck out of a guy, but not likely to kill you, right?

If you remember the movie, you'll concede that it wasn't the barrage of bullets from those planes that killed Kong, it was the fall from a great height, and the beast just didn't see the end coming. So, that got us to thinking. Perhaps DFO is equally oblivious to the dangers of its lofty perch as well. The edicts from on high from that behemoth government entity just aren't cutting it on the fish stock management front anymore, and the lowly fishers in the regions are not being too shy about saying so. First Nations fishers, in particular, are saying "we're just not going to take it anymore," and it seems that every management decision DFO makes these days has a black buzzing mass hanging over it.

Take the two Nuuchahnulth nations on the Somass River on Vancouver Island. The sockeye run there topped all predictions and the First Nations wanted a taste for commercial purposes. One even negotiated an agreement with DFO, which later walked away from it because it would be too much work to manage the dozen boats that would be harvesting there. Much to the chagrin of the local regional district, DFO insisted on upping the quota of fish for the mainstream commercial fishery that sailed out of the territory with boatloads of valuable sockeye, spending nary a dime of the bounty in the local economy. Had the First Nations fishers been allowed access to that catch, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District contends, it would have benefitted everyone in the territory. A fact that seems lost on those creating policy from thousands of kilometres away in Ottawa.

Recently we also heard from the Osoyoos region where they are seeing a record return of salmon to Osoyoos Lake. The Okanagan Nation Alliance has been working for a decade to restore the fish stock, and this year, DFO unilaterally decided it was going to open the lake to a limited recreational fishery. First Nations in the territory were allowed a commercial fishery, and they were hoping that it would be a trial for a viable industry for First Nations people. But because commercial and recreational fisheries are placed on an equal footing after conservation and food fish needs for First Nations, DFO disregarded First Nations considerations and let the anglers have at 'er.

Now let's eyeball the issues surrounding the Fraser River sockeye, a fish stock that is flowing in the multi-millions and raising the question at DFO headquarters, to fish or not to fish. We are usually writing stories about where the sockeye have disappeared to, but this year the fortunes on that river are mightily reversed. In 2009 it was so bad on the Fraser, with only 1.5 million fish returning, that it

prompted an inquiry (which won't begin until the end of October).

This year, however, DFO was happy to announce at the beginning of August that Fraser River returns could top 11 million, a number upgraded from an earlier forecast of five- to eight million. It was an unexpected turn of events for the valuable fish. Industrial fisheries would get their share, after, of course, ensuring that conservation and food fish for First Nations needs were met. For the commercial fishery, it was time to untangle nets, dust off the sonars, and expect this year, at least, to make a few bucks. It was to be a vast improvement over the 2008 commercial allowable harvest of 17,000 sockeye.

But wait, in mid-August DFO announced they had underestimated the run by about 15 million fish. In fact, what was expected was a record return of sockeye not seen in a century. Fisheries Minister Gail Shea was positively bursting with pride, as if she had spawned the little ones herself four years ago. But what wasn't explained in her press release of Aug. 24 was how the forecast could have been so far wrong. According to CBC in a report in early August, the DFO seemed to be frustrated by one Native guy in Prince George who had been occupying the DFO office making it impossible for them to dispatch workers to count fish. This fellow is claiming that the office is on his traditional land, and has been confrontational in the past. DFO had to satisfy themselves with only undertaking a partial fish count, but surely the Prince George protester can't be blamed for DFO underestimating the run by millions upon millions of fish.

So, who is responsible for estimating the run?

"Each year, the department estimates the sockeye seasonal returns for the following season for planning purposes," the backgrounder on the management of the Fraser River sockeye fishery read. "Then, the Fraser River Panel of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) sets the in-season run sizes using science-based procedures, as well as information obtained from test fisheries, counting devices, fish wheels and other sources." Apparently the panel meets twice per week during the summer and fall to update the run sizes. There must have been quite a group of shocked faces around that table when by Aug. 31 they estimated 10 million more sockeye were going to choke the Fraser with a run now estimated at 34 million pieces.

There are so many salmon now that the price for the fish has plummeted to 70 cents a pound. Hardly worth getting out of bed for.

And now there is concern that the department's management plan on the Fraser will muck up the waters, not only in the lean years, but in the boom times as well. The squabbling over what to set the allowable catch at is constant, with opinions varied and diverse. And we're all just standing on the banks of the river with our fingers crossed, hoping that at least on this crucial component of this year's Fraser River sockeye run, DFO will get it right.

Windspeaker

[rants and raves] Page 5 Chatter

BILL CURRY OF THE GLOBE AND MAIL

is reporting that Ottawa has ordered a study of First Nations that have achieved economic success, "raising the prospect of a new approach to developing businesses on reserves while sparking fear among some Native leaders that their rights to land and resources are at risk." He writes, the Globe and Mail has discovered that a high ranking public servant in Indian Affairs has commissioned a special project to determine why 65 reserves, mostly in or near cities, are doing well. Thirty-three chiefs are being interviewed. Some fear that it is a move to turn reserves into private land ownership, carving up reserves, undermining political structures and frustrating natural resources claims on traditional territory. There are even warnings of reviving elements of the 1969 White Paper.

"It's going to place a majority of First Nations across the country on their heels," Shawn Atleo is quoted in the story. The Assembly of First Nations National Chief said Indian Affairs should be working with all chiefs on land issues "rather than fuelling mistrust. The chiefs have already rejected the private property plan, he said.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM ENBRIDGE'S

Northern Gateway Pipeline Project made a presentation to Smithers Town Council on Aug. 24, reports the Pacific Free Press, while outside protesters against the project were dressed as oil spill cleanup workers. They handed out leaflets. Wet'suwet'en First Nation members were in attendance carrying large banners.

Enbridge suffered an oil spill in Michigan in July, which the Enbridge representative, Michele Perret, described as a leak that the company was still attempting to clean up. She did say however that the situation was creating jobs. Perret also talked about the jobs that the Northern Gateway project would create. Part way through her presentation, reads the Press report, Perret "sounded a bit like former BP CEO Tony Hayward" who famously stated "There's no one who wants this over more than I do. I'd like my life back" about BP's massive oil spill in the Gulf Coast. Perret said that her holidays were supposed to have started on the same day the Michigan spill occurred. A member of the Wet'suwet'en said the community opposed the Enbridge pipeline, and told Perret and her colleague Kevin Brown they were trespassing on Wet'suwet'en territory.

"He then handed Brown an eagle feather, which he explained was a traditional warning that a trespass had occurred, and said that if they trespassed again they would be dealt with according to traditional Wet'suwet'en law.

IN A RELATED STORY,

three Pipedreams Project kayakers from Ecomarine Ocean Kayak Centre will paddle 900 km from Kitimat to Vancouver to trace the tanker route that is most at-risk to an oil spill, raising awareness about the risks posed by the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Project. "Recent spills on the Gulf Coast, Kalamazoo, Michigan and Dalian, China, demonstrate the urgent need to evaluate our oil industry and the planning of the pipeline," said Curtis White, one of the kayakers. The Pipedreams Project press release says the Enbridge's proposed pipeline would open the door for an oil industry that endangers special places like the Great Bear Rainforest. "We need to review not only the proposed pipeline, but the weakening state of our national environmental policy," said Pipedreams team member Ryan Vandecasteyen. For more information go to www.thepipedreamsproject.org.

KUMI NAIDOO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

of Greenpeace International, writes "Much of what I used to know about Canada stands in stark contrast to the devastation I found in the tar sands of northern Alberta." At a time when the solutions to averting catastrophic climate change are all around us, Canada and multinational oil companies are recklessly promoting a dirty oil that only exacerbates the problem, he writes in a blog featured on The Huffington Post. Naidoo said he met with community leaders in Fort Chipewyan, situated on the Athabasca River, downstream from the tar sands, who believe they are being poisoned by toxic chemicals. "The people I spoke with told me they were afraid to drink the water, scared about its impacts on the wildlife and fish they eat. Many are justifiably fearful for their very lives." Naidoo asks, 'how can we stop the tar sands?' And his answer is to come to terms with our addiction to oil. "Canadian politicians have abdicated their responsibility for Alberta's land, water and people. They have walked away from Canada's positive international reputation on the world stage by talking about the climate and acting against it. "I cannot believe they represent the people of Canada," he said.

Do you have a rant or a rave?

Criticism or praise?

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The number of Community Fund Trustees shall be five (5) of which Peguis First Nation Membership must elect five (5) persons to sit as Community Fund Trustees. At least four (4) Community Fund Trustees shall be Peguis First Nation Members. At least three (3) shall ordinarily reside on Reserve during their term of office; at least one (1) shall reside off Reserve during their term of office.

In addition to the elected Trustees up to three (3) alternate Financial Trustees and up to two (2) alternate Community Fund Trustees with the next highest number of shall be alternates.

Application forms and additional information can be obtained from the Peguis First Nation website at www.peguisfirstnation.ca or by contacting the Peguis Indian Band.

If further information is required you may contact Nathan McCorrister toll free at 1-877-482-4613. All completed applications may be mailed, faxed or dropped off at the Peguis Band Office to the attention of Nathan McCorrister C/O Trustee Nominating Committee. Applications can also be mailed, faxed or dropped off at the Peguis TLE Implementation Selkirk office at 339-B Main Street Selkirk, Manitoba R1A 1T3 and the fax number is 1-204-482-4682.

The closing date for applications is **Friday September 24, 2010 at 4:00p.m.** Resumes along with all references should be included with your application.

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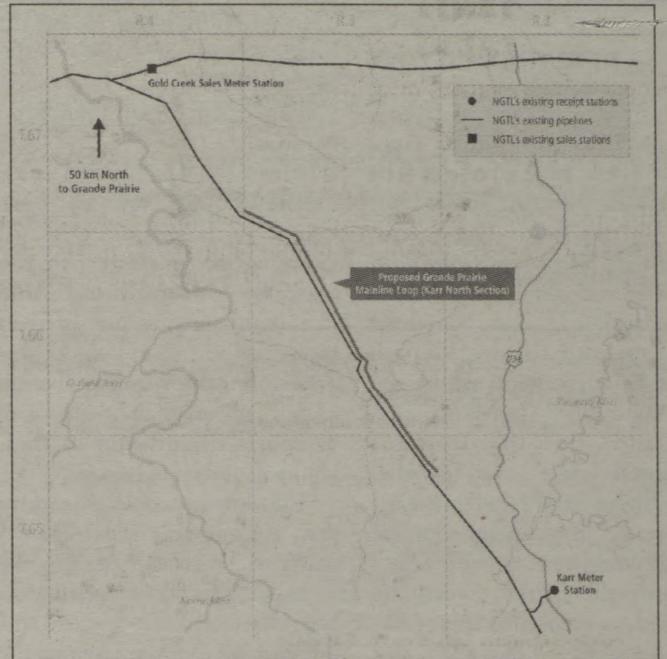
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An application to construct the pipeline is expected to be filed with the National Energy Board by the second quarter of 2011. Pending regulatory approvals, construction of the pipeline is expected to commence in the fourth quarter, 2011 and in-service by the second quarter, 2012.

TransCanada encourages public input on these proposed plans. Anyone having an interest in this project is invited to contact us.

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Haudensosaunee team denied by British authorities

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

NEW YORK CITY, NY

Members of the Iroquois Nationals senior men's field lacrosse team suffered one of their most disappointing losses. But not on the field. The squad, comprised of players from both Canada and the United States, was considered a medal contender heading into the world field lacrosse tournament, which ran July 10 to July 24 in Manchester, England. But the Iroquois Nationals side never boarded their flights from New York City. As a result, they did not compete in the world tournament. That's because the British Consulate refused to recognize the team's Haudensosaunee passports and would not grant travel visas allowing Iroquois Nationals' members to enter England.

The move stunned team members as people have been travelling the world with Haudensosaunee passports for a few decades.

The Haudensosaunee is an Iroquois confederacy consisting of people from both sides of the border made up of Oneida, Seneca, Mohawk, Tuscarora, Cayuga and Onondaga First Nations.

British officials insisted those on the Iroquois Nationals must travel with either U.S. or Canadian passports as their visa process did not list Haudensosaunee as one of their categories.

Not all team members though had either Canadian or American passports in addition to their Haudensosaunee ones.

"I do know people who carry the (Canadian or U.S.) passports," said Percy Abrams, the executive director of the Iroquois Nationals' squad. "But in this instance, we were representing the Haudensosaunee people. They were funding us. And it was one of our duties to carry their passport." Abrams said American officials did offer to supply passports to U.S.-born players on the team who did not have them.

"We never even got to the point

of talks with (officials from) Canada," Abrams said, adding there were rumors circulating that all team players who did not have them were offered either Canadian or American passports.

The Iroquois Nationals club spent six days in New York City while waiting to see whether their passport fiasco would be sorted out. When it didn't make it to England on time, the squad forfeited its first game of the tournament.

At that point there were hopes the issue would still be resolved, but when it wasn't, the team withdrew from the tournament.

The United States ended up winning the gold medal at the tourney, while Canada took the silver. Australia captured the bronze.

Seeing these results just added to the disappointment for members of the Iroquois Nationals.

"This was our best chance at a medal," said Delby Powless, a player who helped the club to a fourth-place finish at the 2002 world tournament in Australia

and at the 2006 event in London, Ont.

"I'm good friends with a bunch of the guys on the Canadian team and they said we'd easily have won a bronze medal."

Powless said his friends on the Canadian team were also upset the Iroquois Nationals did not get to compete in Manchester.

"Even they were disappointed we weren't there because they would have had a better game (against us)," he said. "The teams from Australia, England and Japan were apparently not that good."

Germany also competed in the highest calibre six-team division at the world tournament. The Germans had originally been placed in another lower-calibre division, but took the Iroquois Nationals' spot when it was clear they would not be heading overseas.

Though he will only be 34 when the next world field tournament rolls around in 2014, Powless said this was his last chance to win a medal at the event.

"I'm not going to be trying out for it in four years," he said, adding veteran Iroquois players often allow the younger players the opportunities to compete in prestigious events like the world championships once they have already experienced it themselves.

Abrams was also obviously disappointed his side did not get a chance to see how it would have performed in Manchester.

"I can say we had one of our strongest teams ever," he said. But whether that would have resulted in a Top 3 finish for the Iroquois Nationals will now never be known.

"Things happen in lacrosse," Abrams said. "We could have taken the whole thing or maybe not even gotten a medal. It's hard to speculate."

Abrams also said the Haudensosaunee government has a committee in place to work on their passports to avoid a similar situation from happening in the future.

"We may very well be travelling on the same passports," Abrams added.

Citizenship issue continues to split Alberta Métis

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

WABASCA, Alta.

The goal to advance Métis citizenship took a blow at the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) annual general assembly Aug. 6 and 7.

A resolution to amend the existing MNA bylaws was defeated. The resolution would have allowed only MNA members holding Métis citizenship cards to be eligible to run for office in the association or to vote.

The resolution was defeated by 11 votes. A bylaw amendment needs 75 per cent approval to pass.

The resolution was to encourage MNA members to pursue citizenship registration. Only 15,000 members of 40,000 hold citizenship cards, despite efforts to push the citizenship issue over the past

five years.

Audrey Poitras, president of the MNA, believes Métis citizenship is important.

"You can't develop a constitution if you don't know who your citizens are," Poitras said.

Alberta adopted the definition of citizenship from the Métis National Council (MNC) a number of years ago, and has been encouraging registration of citizens ever since. The definition of "Métis" means a person who self-identifies as a Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation ancestry, and is accepted by the Métis Nation.

"Citizenship is the very key for us," said Clement Chartier, president of the Métis National Council. "That's why leadership ... is moving citizenship because it's only citizens of the nation that have the rights of that community...our rights are based on being Métis, not based

on being part Indian, part this, part that. It's based on our nationhood."

Between 2002 and 2004, the five Métis governments operating in Alberta, Manitoba, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan adopted the MNC definition, and all started moving toward implementing citizenship registries. To qualify, a person has to meet a set criteria, including proving genealogy back to the mid-1800s.

Dean Lindsay, a Métis from Slave Lake, Alta., has been vocal in his opposition to the proposed changes in the MNA's bylaws. He claims that people with the red and white membership cards have lived as Métis and should be grandfathered in as Métis citizens.

"They're trying to segregate a nation of people," said Lindsay.

Chartier said, however, that Métis governments are attempting to identify their citizens so that, as the rights for

Métis are won, whether through negotiations with the government or through court decisions, it is only Métis citizens who will get to practice those rights.

While there is trouble with citizenship in Alberta, in Manitoba the problem does not exist.

"We're doing very well. We have unanimous support," said David Chartrand, president of the Manitoba Métis Federation.

With two years left until the federation's 2012 deadline to have members obtain their citizenship cards, the group is almost two-thirds of the way through with 45,000 registered members (18 years and older) having proven their genealogy.

Another 3,000 to 5,000 people are in the process of getting their cards, and about 25,000 members are left to do the work.

Critics of the process say it's costly, but Chartrand pointed

out that only one family genealogy is needed and then relatives can use birth certificates to prove their own connection.

The 2012 deadline was established as part of a five-year plan that kicked in three years ago, and in that time, said Chartrand, membership has been educated to the importance of citizenship, with multiple pre-consultation meetings and pre-planned strategies.

"At the end of the day, I think that's why our membership is strongly in support of it," said Chartrand. He also noted that having 3,000-plus people coming out to annual general assemblies, being involved in the process and passing resolutions unanimously, then taking the information and direction back to their families, is beneficial.

In August, the Métis Nation of Alberta held its annual general assembly in the northern part of the province and attracted only 150 members.

Sleeper of a case receives national attention

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO

The Métis National Council (MNC) is seeking intervenor status in an Alberta case that has been appealed by the Alberta government to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Cunningham v. Alberta is a sleeper case, said Jason Madden, counsel for MNC. "This issue has crept up; and while it's

specific to the Métis settlements, it has broader implications for the Métis nation as a whole," he said.

The case was sparked when long-time members of the Peavine Métis Settlement in Alberta voluntarily obtained Indian status and were removed from the settlement's membership list.

The authority to remove the individuals fell under the Métis Settlements Act, but according to the facts of the case, the list of

those to be removed from the membership roll did not include all Peavine members who had registered as Indians. Only the appellants were removed, all of whom were members of the Cunningham family.

In June 2009, the Alberta Court of Appeal ruled that two sections of the Métis Settlements Act were unconstitutional. The court struck them down, effectively allowing Métis who are registered under the *Indian Act* to maintain their

membership in their settlement.

Section 75 of the act prohibited anyone with Indian status from obtaining Métis settlement membership, while Section 90 called for the removal of membership from the settlement of individuals who have voluntarily registered as Indians under the *Indian Act*.

David Dear, spokesperson for Alberta Justice, said his department was limited in what it could say because the case was before the court.

"Our position under Alberta law is that Métis settlements should indeed have the right to exclude status Indians from membership in Métis communities as they had before the Alberta Court of Appeal ruling," said Dear.

Clement Chartier, president of MNC, said the executive made the decision this past June to apply for intervenor status.

(See Sleeper on page 9.)

Harvesters push the boundaries of provincial law

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

MEDICINE HAT, Alta.

A decision by the Alberta Provincial Court could give Métis the right to hunt and harvest across provincial borders.

"(The case) deals with the issue of: Can Métis move between different parts of the Métis nation and still have harvesting rights," said Jason Madden, co-counsel for the Métis Nation of Alberta.

The trial of Ron Jones and Gary Hirkeson wrapped up after three days of closing arguments in late June at Medicine Hat Provincial Court. Because one of the two Métis men involved hails from Manitoba, Madden said the judge's decision could do away with borders on the Plains in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba when it comes to Métis rights for hunting and harvesting. "That could be a pretty significant new dynamic to the case," said Madden.

The two men were charged with hunting without a license in the Cypress Hills and Pincher Creek areas in 2008.

The verdict was to be rendered in late October this year, but the decision has been delayed until Dec. 1.

Madden presumed the delay was due to the length of the trial, which lasted 45 days. There were more than 1,000 documents presented, and a high number of expert witnesses who testified.

Madden noted that he and co-counsel Jean Teillet have represented Métis harvesters in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, but this is the largest case they've handled.

The MNA argued that throughout history, Métis have followed and harvested buffalo across the Plains, including central and southern Alberta.

"We are saying that Sect. 35 (in the Canadian Constitution) as we understand it, or what Powley says for Métis is what is protected in Aboriginal rights, is the customs, practices and traditions," said Madden.

The Crown, Madden said, has a two-fold argument. First, that the Blackfoot, which inhabited the southern part of Alberta, were so fearsome that nobody, including the Métis, tracked buffalo in that area.

"The province (is also) saying that a Métis community has to be a dot on the map," Madden said.

At issue is a Sustainable Resource Development policy which recognizes eight Métis settlements and 17 communities. Permission to hunt and harvest can be obtained from the government, but is restricted to 160 km in any direction around the Métis harvesters' community. There are a number of other limitations set under the policy.

"Based on all the evidence put forth at trial, we believe that our history and Canada's Constitution, support our

harvesting rights," said MNA President Audrey Poitras.

Poitras' sentiments are echoed by Métis National Council President Clement Chartier, who said at the recent MNA annual general assembly, "I'm very confident the Jones/ Hirkeson case will be a tremendous success when the decision comes down."

A ruling in favor of the Métis argument by Judge Ted Fisher has the potential of making new law.

"We're recognizing that we're asking the court to go further in this case than they have in past cases," said Madden.

Whatever the decision, Madden doesn't expect it to be clear cut.

"There will be nuances in it and we'll have to go review it to understand what the court is saying," said Madden.

If the court finds for Jones and Hirkeson, it will be a "huge win for the Métis," said Madden, who wouldn't speculate if the Crown would appeal.

However, Madden was adamant that if the ruling went against Jones and Hirkeson, MNA, who has paid the legal bill for the two harvesters, will appeal.

"If the trial judge doesn't feel the law supports where we believe the law needs to go, our clients will definitely have to appeal this case to have these issues resolved," said Madden.

There are 25 other Métis harvesters who are up on similar charges and who are awaiting the result of this case.

national and provincial Métis registries.

If the MNC and MNA are granted intervener status, they will provide written arguments to the court and may also be given the opportunity to present oral arguments. Madden is optimistic MNC will obtain intervener status as the organization was granted similar status in the Powley case.

"We want to put forward a strong Métis nation position regarding who gets the right to be identified as Métis by our (people), who has the right to participate in benefits that flow from being part of the Métis nation," said Chartier.

Also applying for intervener status are the Métis Settlements General Council and the Elizabeth Métis Settlement.

"Métis settlement membership is a critical and complex issue. It's at the heart of preserving Métis culture and identity in Alberta and our decision to appeal took that into account," said Dear.

The case is scheduled to be heard in Ottawa in mid-December.

Windspeaker news briefs

AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AUG. 30

between Brokenhead Ojibway Nation's chief and council and Manitoba's minister of conservation to develop a co-management agreement on the petroform sites in Whiteshell Provincial Park without prejudice to Brokenhead's existing Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) selections in Whiteshell. Petroforms are human-made shapes and patterns made by lining up large rocks on the open ground. At Whiteshell, rocks have been laid out on the bedrock in the shapes of snakes, fish, and turtles.

"Our First Nation wants to have a say in maintaining these sacred sites, and that's why our people instructed us to select these sites under our TLE agreement in 1998," said Chief Deborah Chief. "These sites are important to the people of Brokenhead. As a result, we agreed to work with Manitoba Conservation in developing a proposed co-management agreement in managing these sites. Under this process, our people, and other interested First Nations, will be involved and consulted in developing this government-to-government co-management agreement between Brokenhead and Manitoba."

Conservation Minister Bill Blaikie said he welcomed the agreement to work together on a proposal for the protection and management of the petroform sites.

"These sites are culturally important to Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, and other First Nations, and it is critical that a process get underway to address that reality."

FIRST NATIONS LEADERS HAVE CALLED

for a public inquiry into the murders of convicted killer Robert Pickton, a former pig farmer in Port Coquitlam, B.C. Pickton was charged with murdering 26 women, but convicted on only six of those counts in 2007. The other charges were stayed. The provincial government is to decide sometime in September whether to hold an inquiry or judicial review into the case of the missing and murdered women, many of whom were Aboriginal and from Vancouver's poor Downtown Eastside.

Vancouver police recently released a report that stated mistakes were made in the Pickton investigation. Some family members of the murdered say they would like the review or inquiry to be independent of the police service.

"I don't think a cop-on-cop review is going to cut it," said Ernie Croy of the Sto:lo Nation, reports the Vancouver Sun. "Or they won't hear the end of it from many of the families who have lost loved ones down here." Ernie is the brother of Dawn Croy, one of 33 women whose DNA was found on the Pickton farm.

What has been made clear, however, is that First Nations leaders must be a part of any investigation. They want to ensure that this situation could never repeat itself, and despite government and police assurances that say that appropriate changes have been made to make a repeat impossible, they are skeptical. They point out there are many communities across Canada where First Nations women have disappeared or have been murdered and there has been no solving the cases.

THE HURON-WENDAT NATION WANTS A

ban on the bulldozing of important Native sites without the consultation or notification of First Nations people. Luc Laine, the Ontario spokesperson for the Wendake First Nation in Quebec, said the Crown has a duty to consult.

The comments came after it was discovered that an archaeological excavation had been undertaken of a historically and culturally significant Huron village site dating back to the 13th and 14th centuries, all done without the knowledge of First Nations.

The area at the northeast corner of Teston Rd. and Jane St. in Vaughan, Ont. is only metres away from the burial site of about 400 remains of Huron people, which was discovered when Teston Rd. was being widened in 2005.

There are no regulations in Ontario about consultation when Native sites are found on private property, said a spokesperson from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture. "The ministry is updating the standards and guidelines for archaeology to bring more consistency and predictability," Danelle Balfour said. "Aboriginal engagement will be a key part of the new standards and guidelines."

The *Toronto Star* reports the archaeologist was informed by landowner Gold Park Homes that the company was proceeding with the dig because "they wanted to make sure there was nothing on the site to impact development." Best practice, the archaeologist said the company was told, dictated that First Nations should be notified of the dig, but Gold Park refused.

"They didn't want anything to hold this up. They wanted to go fast," said archaeologist Keith Powers, even after the ministry requested a halt to the dig. "They didn't want to contact Aboriginal groups. That is clear. But I don't want to be the bad guy here. I did what my employer said to do."

Sleeper case

(See Sleeper on page 8.)

"The Court of Appeal didn't look at Métis as a people. They said they should be happy to have people there, but your rights and culture come from the Indian people. They totally disregarded the Powley decision We are a distinct people and our rights are based on being Métis and not (being) part Indian," said Chartier.

Madden conceded there was an "abuse of process" when Barbara Cunningham, John Kenneth Cunningham, Lawrent Cunningham, Ralph Cunningham, Lynn Noskey, Gordon Cunningham, Roger Cunningham and Ray Stuart were removed from the Peavine Métis Settlement's membership roll in May 2001, but striking down sections 75 and 90 of the settlements act was "not an appropriate remedy."

What the Alberta Court of Appeal has effectively done, said Audrey Poitras, president of the Métis Nation of Alberta, is take the decision of who can be considered Métis out of the hands of the Métis people.

"This issue goes to the heart

of who is Métis, and the Métis nation needs to be there to make our point," said Poitras. Her organization is also seeking intervener status.

If it's discriminatory for a Métis settlement to exclude registered Indians from the settlement, then problems could arise when Métis nation governments attempt to negotiate programs and services specific to Métis people. Discrimination can be claimed by others in order to seek those services.

"It could remove the ability of Métis to say we're negotiating for Métis-specific funds and we don't include registered Indians because we don't represent them," said Madden.

Since the Powley decision, Métis have moved forward as a distinct people with a distinct culture. In 2002, a definition of Métis was adopted at a national level, and by 2004 had been accepted by all five Métis associations in Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia. All these Métis groups are at varying stages of putting together

[news]

AFN wants to distance itself from federal government

By Isha Thompson
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

At the 2010 Assembly of First Nations General Assembly, National Chief Shawn Atleo announced his plans to achieve the ambitious goals of Canada's First Nations.

Priorities include independence from the federal government and the empowerment of First Nations to become sovereign people, said Atleo in his opening address in July.

As the one-year mark of Atleo being elected as national chief passed, he committed to leading First Nations out from under the Indian Act within five years. He also vowed to gradually cut ties from the federal government and lobby for funds from corporations.

"I am not in this role to just protect the status quo," stressed Atleo, who admitted his goals are ambitious, but far from impossible.

"It is indeed our time to act," said Atleo to the assembly of 2,000 chiefs and observers in attendance. "We must find the confidence and commitment to take action."

AFN Regional Chief for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Rick Simon echoed Atleo's statements and said the AFN has given the Canadian government notice of their plans. He stressed the role

of the organization to represent bands from around the country and advocate for them at a national level.

Atleo admitted that the AFN often experiences a conflict of interest when standing up for changes of policy on behalf of the First Nations population, while supporting the organization from funds funnelled from Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada (INAC).

In 2010, the AFN received almost 43 per cent of its funding from INAC.

"The resources are coming from the people who would like to see things stay the way they are or to not change to the way we are envisioning here today," said Atleo in a press conference on July 20.

"It feels like we just go from conflict to conflict...you wonder about a day where there won't be such conflict for future generations."

Atleo said he hoped the AFN's funding structure would one day resemble that of The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), an organization based in Washington, DC tasked with the role of protecting the treaty rights of American Indians.

NCAI receives no monies from the United States government and supports its programming and initiatives from corporate grants and contributions from members.

NCAI President Jefferson Keel addressed the 31st annual

assembly and said both he and Atleo have agreed to work closely with one another to unite their nations in order to promote success for Natives in Canada, the U.S. and even internationally.

Keel admitted the AFN's goal of stepping out from the wing of Canadian government will not be an easy task, but NCAI plans to help with the transition.

"It's very difficult. It's a matter of reaching out to private foundations for support," said Keel to Windspeaker. "We're going to be working with [Atleo] to try and develop a partnership with how to do that."

Enacted in 1876, The Indian Act is administered by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and outlines certain legal rights of registered Indians. Specific portions of the act, such as section five, which defines who is legally considered a status Indian, has aroused heated discussion surrounding the control the Canadian government has over such things as citizenship and the rights of citizens.

Atleo received a roaring applause from the crowd at the assembly when he compared the Indian Act to a house that was falling apart brick-by-brick. The national chief, who has been vocal about his dedication to encouraging Aboriginal youth and promoting better access to education, attributed the high rates of suicides, addictions and poor graduation rates to the act.



PHOTO: ISHA THOMPSON

National Chief Shawn Atleo announces lofty goal of financial independence from Canadian government.

AFN money woes are shown the door

By Isha Thompson
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

Despite working with a 15 per cent decrease in revenue from 2009, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) say they have worked hard to stretch their dollars and even managed to end their fiscal year with a surplus.

With a year-end of March 31, the AFN recorded revenue of \$212,095, which is a stark contrast from the organization's 2009 year-end deficit of \$1,629,402.

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Regional Chief Rick Simon, who is the co-chair of the AFN management committee, said the AFN made a conscious effort to decrease spending, which included cutting down on salaries and

benefits by \$756,952.

"We have worked hard and come a long way," said Simon to delegates that took part of the 2010 AFN General Assembly on July 20 at The Winnipeg Convention Centre.

Simon added that the AFN is on path to retiring their longstanding debts.

AFN Financial Chief Ruth Jackson said the surplus is a result of a 25 per cent reduction in expenses to help pay down on the accumulative deficit.

The financial statements show that the organization is on track to paying off their long-term debt, which currently rests at \$478,361, within the next four years.

The organization, which represents over 600 First Nations, tightened its belt by scaling down the travel and meetings budget at more than \$2

million. Jackson said travel expenses were significantly trimmed by taking advantage of conference calling instead of in-person meetings.

Promotional materials and advertising expenditures was nearly cut in half from 2009.

Cutting back was a necessary step for the AFN, which experienced a \$3.2 million decrease in revenue from Health Canada and no contribution from Canadian Heritage, who was responsible for \$374,721 of the revenue in 2009.

"We've been very successful in changing the dynamic of our government despite less money to work with," said Simon.

Simon co-chairs the management committee with Manitoba Regional Chief Bill Traverse, who was absent from the 31st annual general assembly due to a death in his family.

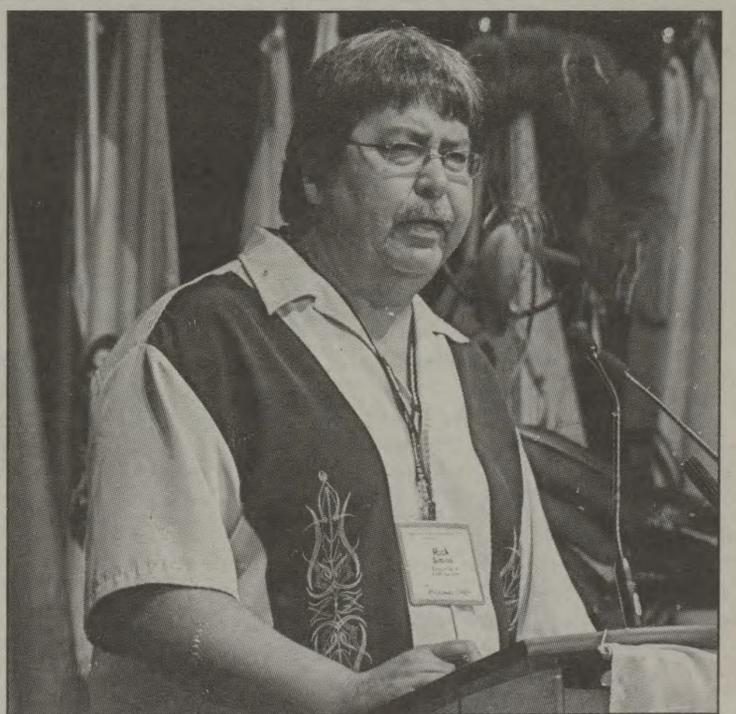


PHOTO: ISHA THOMPSON

Chief Rick Simon reports to delegates at the Assembly of First Nations general assembly.

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Welcome news as Mike Holmes weighs in to housing issue

By Isha Thompson
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

A Vancouver Island man is supportive of a star-powered new partnership as it could affect the longevity of his newly-launched Aboriginal construction program.

Fred MacDonald, Dean of Trades and Applied Technology at the Vancouver Island University (VIU), said he was thrilled to hear that the Assembly of First Nations and celebrity contractor Mike Holmes were teaming up to help First Nations communities build new schools and homes using green technology.

"I am really excited about this initiative to roll-out," said MacDonald.

AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo, who is also the chancellor of VIU, made the announcement on July 21 at the 31st annual AFN General Assembly held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre in Manitoba.

The AFN and The Holmes Group will select one First Nations community as a pilot project for renovating homes and community buildings that will showcase industry-leading green technologies.

Helping to train First Nations students to go back into their communities and help build

sustainable housing is exactly what MacDonald strives to do in his program, which was launched in April 2009.

Education is a large component of the new partnership that will also establish a First Nation Centre of Excellence, using an eco-friendly design.

The first project is designed as a teaching tool that will guide other First Nations about how to take the initiative and build the necessary infrastructure in their own communities.

"Once the first one is done, it is a pebble in the pond; a ripple effect follows," said Holmes. He added that this would be the beginning of a new way First Nations housing is built.

Celebrity contractor Mike Holmes could have been mistaken for a pop star the way crowds crowded around him to take his picture and get his autograph during the three-day assembly.

Spectators who travelled from around the country to be a part of the assembly crossed their fingers that the television star would choose their home community for the pilot project.

"I hope my reserve is picked. I just love watching him tear down those homes on TV," said Bev Whitehawk of Kamsack, Sask.

Holmes, who is best known for his television show *Holmes on Homes* and his commitment to

"make it right", aroused excitement when he promised to improve the sub-par living conditions many Aboriginal communities have been dealing with for decades.

"This is unacceptable, totally unacceptable, and there is ways to do something about it," said Holmes, referring to the lack of housing in communities and the deplorable living conditions that are responsible for the high rate of illness in First Nations, such as tuberculosis seen on-reserve.

Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada (INAC) has been the recipient of much criticism for First Nations that suffer the consequences associated with overcrowding. On-reserve housing is one of the main responsibilities of INAC, which has been accused of providing insufficient funds and attention to some of the poorest communities in Canada.

According to the 2006 Census, Aboriginal people are four times more likely to live in crowded dwellings than non-Aboriginal people. Likewise, an Aboriginal person in Canada is three times as likely to live in a home in need of major repairs.

Regardless, Holmes stressed that placing blame isn't helping the communities to move forward.

The Ontario-born contractor said money could no longer be an excuse for remote

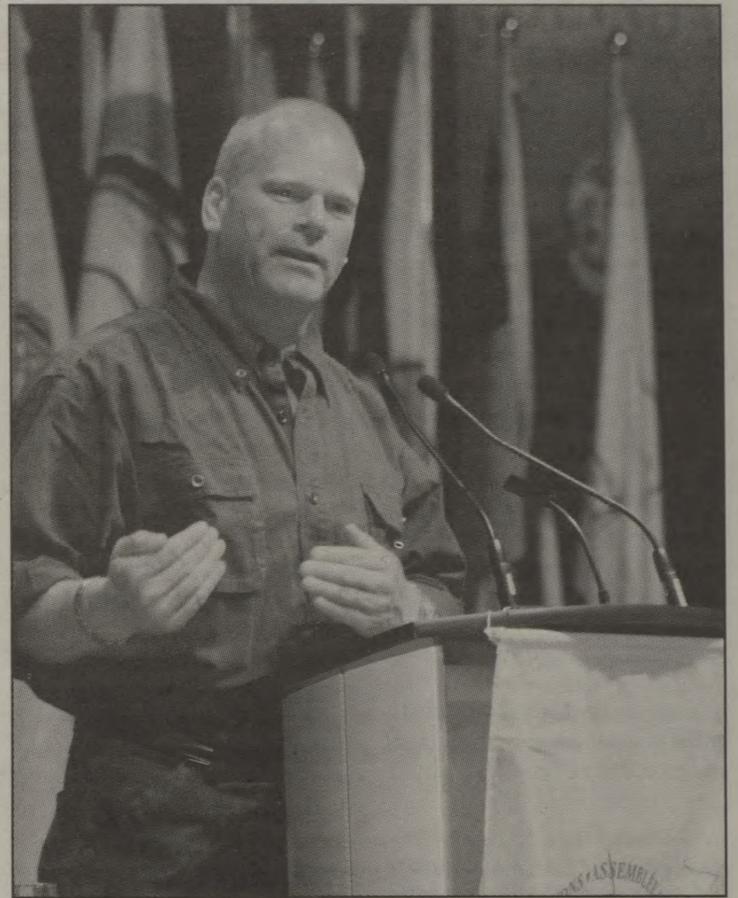


PHOTO: ISHA THOMPSON

Celebrity Mike Holmes addresses annual gathering of First Nations delegates in Winnipeg.

communities not to have access to the best technology when building.

"This is not hard. I think everyone has this misconception that it's going to cost way too much money...It's the easiest thing I have done in my whole

life," said a confident Holmes.

Both Atleo and Holmes shied away from giving the specific cost estimated for the project, but they did say some of the funding would come from The Holmes Group. Other financial partners are still being sought.

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[strictly speaking]

Reconciling differences: The triumphs are spectacular, but few

This has been an unusual time in the world of Aboriginal reconciliation. It's no secret that there's a lot out there in the First Nations community to be reconciled, and sometimes the process is fraught with sudden difficulties and unexpected surprises.

It's been that way since 1492, or 1497, Newfoundland time. We've had recent examples of both the good and the bad.

June 11th was the twentieth anniversary of what became known as the Oka Crisis. The little Mohawk community of Kahnésatake, in a dispute with the town of Oka, the province of Ontario, and the Government of Canada, blockaded an area of the town known as the Pines, severely inconveniencing several dozen potential middle-class white golfers who were anticipating an additional nine holes to be built over a traditional burial ground.

These people should have spent less time on the golf course and more time watching movies like *Poltergeist*. Native burial grounds and White developers don't mix. Check out section 666 of the Indian Act.

The unfortunate outcome was a 78-day siege, the tragic death of provincial police officer



THE URBANE INDIAN Drew Hayden Taylor

Corporal Marcel Lemay, an army invasion, and an estimated bill for the taxpayers somewhere in the six digits. That's one hell of a green fee. Two decades later progress has been made, but not all the wounds have healed completely.

And then there's Francine Lemay, sister of the Corporal Lemay. There's a lot of healing and reconciliation in that woman. By all rights, she should be the last person wanting to mend relations, yet, she has done something fabulous. A translator by trade, she has personally translated the book *At The Wood's Edge* into French, which details the Mohawk community's history and struggle for justice.

Before the incidents at Oka, she knew very little about the Mohawk people or their history,

but a chance meeting with some Mohawk women a year or so ago at a local Church proved pivotal. Francine Lemay talked with those women, read the book seeking to understand their perspective, and afterwards offered to translate it so other French people could understand what had led up to those tragic events. It was truly an amazing gesture by a woman, who by all reckoning, should be very angry. That sounds like true reconciliation.

And then there is the recent revelations about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Indian Residential Schools. It seems the last thing on their personal agenda is reconciliation, at least within their own organization. More people have left the organization amidst bad publicity. Originally set up in

2009 to record and research the events and abuses that occurred at the dozens of residential schools scattered across the country, the Commission got off to a bad start almost immediately when the three original commissioners resigned due to internal squabbling. This set the Commission back almost a year, endangering the completion of their five-year mandate.

Now two more individuals have decided, or have been told, too much truth is not necessarily a good thing in their lives. Dr. John Milroy, the research director, has opted to seek greener pastures. Only a few months into his job, he came under fire for making some controversial remarks over his frustration at the pace of document negotiations. He thought the Catholic Church was taking too long releasing diaries, lest they reveal details about "buggering boys in the basement and that sort of thing."

An apology by Commission Chair Mr. Justice Murray Sinclair to the Church soon followed. Though still an official adviser on research to the Commission, Dr. Milroy's contribution to 'reconciliation' has been downgraded. About his departure, both the Commission

and Dr. Milroy blamed the unexpected amount of administrative work involved.

Add to that, executive director Tom McMahon has been replaced by Kim Murray, a lawyer from, ironically, the Kahnésatake First Nation of Oka. Mr. McMahon will also stay on in an advisory capacity. Granted there is a fair amount of shuffling that goes on in any large organization, but all these exits and entrances seem a little too frequent and a little too high up the ladder.

All this changing of the guard takes the focus away from the important issues of detailing and recording the many unfortunate stories that come from the thousands of former students forcibly enrolled in the schools where, in many cases, they were physically, mentally and sexually abused. There is a saying in the world of Native theatre, 'before the healing can take place, the poison must be exposed.' Physician, heal thyself. As things stand now, a report the Commission is scheduled to deliver at the end of its second year on its 'historic findings' is looking less and less likely.

Maybe they should bring Francine Lemay in to have a good talk with them. It wouldn't hurt.

Support the call to abolish the Indian Act

By Marc Storms

Guest Columnist

Director and Senior Advisor

GMG Consulting

On July 20, 2010, at the Assembly of First Nations Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg, AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo gave a keynote address entitled "It's Our Time: a Vision for the Future".

The speech, filled with passion and determination, is a call to action for all Canadians to work to improve the lives and future of Canada's First Nation people, and encourages First Nation people to step forward and "turn words into action and ideas into clear results."

The tone, intent, and focus of Atleo's speech reminded me of a similar vision articulated more than 40 years ago on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC. Martin Luther King Jr.'s seminal "I Have a Dream" speech was a call to action and an articulation of the need for the end of an era of oppression, to an attainable future of hope and equality.

The parallels to Atleo's speech are uncanny, and, I would think, fully intentional.

Read King's words, and

imagine changing the word "Negro" to "First Nation", and "discrimination" to "Indian Act" (and discrimination!). It's easy to recognize the state of Canada's First Nations today:

One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land.

King's vision and efforts helped lead to the creation of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, and abolishment of legislated bigotry and racism in the United States. Grand Chief Atleo has thrown down the gauntlet to the Harper federal government to eliminate the Indian Act within three years, as part of his vision to see the end of more than a century of legislated discrimination and oppression in Canada.

The Indian Act—an old and nasty piece of legislation—is, in Atleo's words, "clearly designed as an instrument of oppression, control, paternalism and assimilation, [and] continues to

permeate and constrain daily First Nation government operation and function."

The elimination of legislated discrimination is absolutely essential. The Indian Act is a disgrace to all Canadians. It is a chain hindering progress towards equality for Canada's original and fastest-growing population.

But getting rid of the Indian Act will not be a silver bullet to end oppression and discrimination, and its eradication is not Atleo's sole objective. His vision includes a call to action on education, federal recognition and implementation of First Nation governments, development of economic partnerships, greater environmental stewardship, and end to discrimination and violence against women, and—as articulated as recently as Aug. 9—Canada's endorsement of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Critics who suggest Atleo is merely engaging in platitudes need to recognize that the hereditary chief of the Ahousaht Nation knows that much more work will need to follow to close the economic, education, health and social gaps between the First Nation and non-First Nation

populations in Canada.

In my experience, there are some critical actions that need to occur:

Canada's First Nations need to be encouraged and supported to build skills, knowledge, and capacity to thrive in a brave new world without the federal government's paternal handcuffs. This means that communities, organizations, and—yes—the federal government need to increase their focus and investments in ways that meet the needs and desires of First Nations people.

Top-down approaches that create and perpetuate unhealthy dependencies should be replaced with full engagement and participation by First Nations. Government programs and policies must be based on local and regional realities and cultures, including capacity building among all community members.

First Nations parents, families and their support networks need to be provided with the resources, tools and freedom to raise their children in a healthy, nurturing and culturally-connected environment. This means building strength and capacity from within families and communities themselves.

First Nations and non-First Nations alike need to engage in more cross-cultural information sharing programs, to increase understanding, reduce conflict and build bridges of support across cultures.

Colonial and non-traditional governance and bureaucracies imposed by the Indian Act must be replaced by traditional models that incorporate the strengths and systems that served Aboriginal people long before the Indian Act was ever conceived. The US Constitution was founded on the Great Law of Peace which the Iroquois Six Nations Confederacy followed for centuries prior to European contact.

We should applaud and support Atleo's drive to eliminate this apartheid-like legislation. And we should recognize that, like the continued struggles of African Americans since King's famous speech, Atleo's challenge to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the citizens of Canada will undoubtedly require much more hard work if the great vision is to be achieved.

Marc Storms is a founding director of GMG Consulting Services and of the Good Medicine Health and Wellness Programs.

If you would just go ahead and order a Windspeaker subscription then you could get Windspeaker delivered right to your office or home. For only \$55.00 +gst you would not only help support independent Aboriginal communications, but also keep your letter carrier from being bored.

Eekwol (Lindsay Knight) — [windspeaker confidential]

Windspeaker: What one quality do you most value in a friend?

Eekwol: Humility. I love people who are talented and gifted, but don't go around bragging with a big ego. I have a couple of friends like that and I respect them for being humble. It's very Indigenous of them!

W: What is it that really makes you mad?

E: The impact of colonization on our Indigenous communities and how difficult it is to wake up and smell the reality. We need more awareness of the history of this land in order to heal and create a healthy and positive environment for our people.

W: When are you at your happiest?

E: When I'm out with my two-year-old son and thirty-year-old husband, just chillin' out, having Timmies and watching them play ... my two kids ... lol, just jokes.

W: What one word best describes you when you are at your worst?

E: Sad. Sometimes I can get pretty emo about stuff.

W: What one person do you most admire and why?

E: My mom because she came through so much struggle raising three kids while still getting an education and being a great role

model for us by keeping on a straight path. She's also very humble about it.

W: What is the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

E: Become a new mom! Although it was, and is, the most rewarding thing, too.

W: What is your greatest accomplishment?

E: My son, Keesik! Also, being given so many opportunities to share my words and music. I'm truly blessed.

W: What one goal remains out of reach?

E: To be completely at peace with myself. I have inner demons that I'm fighting everyday, just trying to be a better woman. Maybe it's a never ending struggle, but I do believe it is achievable.

W: If you couldn't do what you're doing today, what would you be doing?

E: I would probably be working somewhere that I can't stand and wishing that I could make a living off of music! Either that or something to do with preserving Mother Earth.

W: What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

E: That would be from my mom. She said that you can't love anyone else until you learn to

take care of and love yourself. So true.

W: Did you take it?

E: Yes, I can now look in the mirror and say, "Boy, you're pretty awesome and deadly, girl! Aweeee-AH!"

W: How do you hope to be remembered?

E: As a lover of, and fighter for, truth.

Saskatchewan's Eekwol says she's been producing beats since 1998 and, obviously, loves her musical life of writing and hip rapping. For her, creation brings growth in all aspects of life, and the way she's going, she'll have a library of albums to her name before she's done. She has a lot to say about colonialism, healing, and the preservation of Mother Earth, just to name a few of her favorite topics.

As a dedicated hip hop emcee, Eekwol astounds her listeners with honest, direct and revolutionary words that come from places both original and groundbreaking. With a lifelong background of Plains Cree Indigenous music, she gives her audiences a balanced and healthy taste of experimental hip hop that comes from her land and place, while always respecting the history and place of original hip hop.

With the birth of her son,



PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

Eekwol

Keesik, her music is rendered with an even more soulful and meaningful touch than ever.

In 2010, Eekwol released *Niso*, a solo EP dedicated to showcasing different producers and styles of sound while keeping true to her bold words and message. Eekwol had an

awesome summer performing in shows and festivals all over the west and beyond, performing her latest compositions. Her most recent accomplishment is a music video produced in collaboration with Mils, producer, rapper, brother, for the song *The Gauntlet*.

to spotlight the Indian Act [radio's most active]

OUR PICK

Artist—Wayne Lavallee
Song—Trail of Tears
Album—Trail of Tears
Written by—Wayne Lavallee
Label—Independent



Like each of Wayne Lavallee's album releases, *Trail Of Tears* leads with the strongest song musically though few songs on this outing could be considered weak. Wayne's new CD is a bit more somber than his first two releases but it also shows a maturing as an artist from subject matter and most certainly in the music layering in each song. Wayne continues to mix traditional Aboriginal rhythms with his folk, roots, rock music

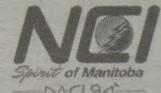
style and each song builds up to a variety of musical climaxes as they develop. Wayne has no fear in using a variety of musical instrumentation, as his rhythm guitar is accentuated by tasteful use of banjos, fiddle and even a trumpet. All this lends itself to an original rich sound. This is one of those CDs where the songs are strong enough to stand on their own, but is best listened to in its entirety. Better yet, for a serious listen, this is a good album to tune into with headphones. Wayne's high octave voice, the likes of mainstream singers like Geddy Lee of Rush or Jon Anderson of Yes, is singularly unique and he relays his lyrics in a way that communicates the emotions of both the words and the melodies. Of the ten songs on the CD, Wayne writes all but two. He proves he is a more than competent song writer as well as performer, and the two cover songs — *Codine* by Buffy Saint Marie and Bob Marley's *Buffalo Soldier* — are done in such a way that if the listener didn't know the cover songs, you'd have thought they were originals. Whether competing with other Aboriginal or mainstream artists, this cd can hold its own as a quality music production that is worth the praise from listeners and critics both.

Review by K. Kantan

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Jay Gilday	Edge Of The World	All That I Can Give For Now
Nap & The Boys	Hey Girl	Single Release
George Anderson	She's A Keeper	Forgotten Warriors
Donny Parenteau	Turn It Up	Single Release
Bob Richards	The Pine River Song	The Montrose Project
The Mosquitoz	Holding A Heartache	Single Release
Kimberley Dawn	Built That Way	Built That Way
Art Napoleon	Ready To Go	Siskabush Tales
Desiree Dorion	Soul Back Jack	Soul Back Jack
Wayne Lavallee	Tear Filled Fields	Trail Of Tears
Digging Roots	Plant The Seeds	We Are
Donald Bradburn	Beautiful Indian Lady	Single Release
Diyet	The Breaking Point	The Breaking Point
Sam Tutuak	The Three Musicians	Utiqungaa
Shy-Ann Horvorka	Can't Change The World	Pseudo
Lori Kole	Bare Feet & Butterflies	Lori Kole
Bonnie Couchie	Stupid With You	Feather For An Elephant
Los Lobos	I Wanna Be Like You	Los Lobos Goes Disney
Jade Turner	Thanks To You	Single Release
Howard Nepinak	What You Wanted	Second Chance

CONTRIBUTING STATIONS:



[piapot tinfoil special]



Oh baby! Now that takes guts!

There's a new trend emerging at powwows lately. It's called the Tinfoil Special. Dancers must construct costumes to incorporate, you guessed it, tin foil. Here's some photos from the Tinfoil Special at the Piapot Powwow in Saskatchewan.

We're not going to mention any names to protect the innocent and allow the guilty ample time to construct an explanation. So about this trend...still not sure it's a good thing!

ALL PHOTOS TAKEN RELUCTANTLY BY: BERT CROWFOOT



No words to explain this really.



Yo, yo - you're a wearin' tin-fo.



[enoch tinfoil/ duct tape special]



The theme here involves plenty of caffeine for Michael L'hirondelle.



Maybe more glitter will help Randell Gadwa. Maybe not!



Harlem Saulteaux

We now present the Enoch Powwow Drummer Tinfoil and Duct Tape Special...

The special was held in memory of Jack "Cojak" McDonald who passed away in 2007.

First place went to Shelvin Smallboy from the Thunder Lake Drum, who was resplendid KFC bucket and Timmies cups.

Second place went to Harlem Saulteaux from Soaring Hawk Drum, while third place went to Jacob Faithful of the Young Spirit Drum.

Winners received pendleton blankets and a cash prize and the knowledge that their images would haunt young and old forever online and in print.

The audience was rewarded with a good laugh and great memories...



Colonel Sanders would have been proud of Shelvin Smallboy!

**ALL PHOTOS TAKEN
RELUCTANTLY BY:
BERT CROWFOOT**



Greyeagle Cardinal puckers up.



PHOTO: DIANNE MEILI

Loretta Bird has been working all summer on her winter supply of smoked salmon. She's a member of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation near Prince George, B.C., and her specialty is making salmon candy, a canned version of the preserved fish sweetened with brown sugar.

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A portrait of a young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a solid blue color.

Letter supports First Nations commercial fisheries



PHOTO: DEBORA STEEL

The Somass River sockeye run in the Alberni Inlet topped one million fish, but despite the great return, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans failed to reach an agreement for the commercial sale of salmon with one area First Nation, and walked away from an agreement with another. The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District said DFO's failure cost the local economy dearly. Still, First Nations harvested their food fish allocations and took part in a road-side sale of fish despite threats of prosecution.

By Debora Steel
Windspeaker Contributor

PORT ALBERNI, BC

Hupacasath Chief Councillor Shaune Casavant says "it's absolutely terrific" that the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District is giving the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) a dressing down for its mismanagement of this year's Somass sockeye run.

In a letter to federal Fisheries Minister Gail Shea Aug. 11, Regional District Chair Hira Chopra called for a resolution to the "long-running disagreement" over the formula by which the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations are allocated a commercial catch.

Fixing that formula should have been a top priority for DFO prior to this year's record return of sockeye, wrote Chopra, but because the formula was not given the required attention, the economy in the regional district took a significant hit.

Tony Bennett, regional district director for area "C" (Long Beach), brought the issue before his fellow directors because of the heightened rhetoric he was hearing from DFO surrounding First Nations' roadside sale of fish.

He said it was the kind of "almost slanderous rhetoric" heard more than 20 years ago. He was particularly concerned about the tone of the discussion in local newspapers around food safety, as if the product the First Nations were selling was "dirty fish", not properly treated.

If there was a concern around safety, DFO could have discussed and worked in concert with the First Nations to resolve that issue, he said. Instead, what might have been a legitimate concern was exploited.

He also called the DFO's seizure of the catch of the

Hesquiaht seiner The Princess Colleen antagonistic. The Princess Colleen was fishing the sockeye run in Ucluelet's Alberni Inlet territory for Nuu-chah-nulth nations' food fish allocations.

"It shouldn't have happened," said Bennett, considering that the abundant run would have choked out the river systems had the fish passed into them. "There were more fish than we've seen in years," added Bennett.

Today is a different time, he said, with court decisions that have recognized First Nations rights to a commercial market, and relationship building that has changed the seascape on fish sales forever.

Or should have.

The management of the unprecedented numbers of sockeye returning this year could have been done much better, Bennett told the directors. The directors' response was unanimous support of the First Nations' position.

There was "huge recognition" from Port Alberni Mayor Ken McRae regarding the economic losses seen in the city because the fish were shipped out of the region with the transient commercial fleet, rather than kept at home benefiting First Nations, said Bennett.

The district has calculated that a First Nations catch of 100,000 pieces of sockeye translates into a \$3-million economic benefit to the region, a benefit that is particularly important to Alberni-Clayoquot, which "consistently ranks among the lowest of all British Columbia districts when socio-economic indices are measured," the letter reads.

Bennett said it's recognized that dollars from a First Nations fishery goes back into the local economy. The boats are bought locally, the motors. Grocery and retail businesses benefit.

"The Somass salmon fisheries are one of the best opportunities the local First Nations currently have to leverage for economic benefit," wrote Chopra. "Our communities [Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet and Bamfield] can in turn derive significant economic benefit from the fisheries as the First Nations members spend locally."

The letter states that while Hupacasath and Tseshaht re-invest the revenues generated by the Somass fisheries into resource management and enhancement activities, watershed stewardship, fish habitat restoration, stock assessment and such, the same cannot be said for commercial interests that live outside the region.

"Virtually no local benefit is experienced from the commercial fishery as most seiners and gillnetters are based elsewhere, arrive just in time for their respective openings and depart as soon as they have their quotas."

Casavant said it's telling that First Nations are starting to see this kind of support in the wider community. She believes the district is beginning to understand the frustration that First Nations have experienced as they watch their resources leave the territory without any benefit at home.

She's hopeful that, as the greater community speaks out about the injustice of that practice, it will wake up Ottawa to a simple fact: When First Nations do better economically, the larger community does better.

The regional district said the policy, which dictates that First Nations cannot have economic access to the Somass salmon unless there is a mainstream commercial opportunity for the same fish, should be revised.

Chopra and the district directors want to see a declaration made by DFO that the allocation

issue will be resolved "in a 'win-win-manner' before the end of the calendar year.

Casavant said she has received a commitment from the local DFO that, come October, they will sit down with Hupacasath to discuss how next year's sockeye fishery will play out.

Despite disappointment that DFO walked away from a negotiated commercial agreement with the First Nation this year, Casavant said she must remain optimistic.

She said the nation operates from a very strong perspective: "Thank you very much, but we have our own management plan." She said that the plan is sensible one, with conservation and sustainability concerns kept top of mind.

Casavant said the situation this year was discouraging, in that the relationship between the local DFO and Hupacasath went from being very positive, with negotiations leading toward a commercial fisheries agreement, to things falling apart, and in the end DFO not speaking with the nation at all.

She cites engrained attitudes higher up within the DFO bureaucracy that have historically been more about retaining power and control than about managing fish to the benefit of the local populations.

She said the decisions that come down the chain from Ottawa to the DFO in the region create a tension that doesn't need to exist.

Chopra and the district seem to agree.

"Ottawa's positions on these matters... put local DFO staff in an extremely uncomfortable situation when they are tasked with explaining and enforcing the position."

Bennett said that there are generally good relations on fisheries issues locally, so it must

be frustrating in some cases to deal with the policy directives from Ottawa that make no sense on the ground in the region.

Chopra notes too some hypocrisy in the way Canada goes about its business at home in regard to fisheries management compared to what it promotes internationally.

"We find the situation ironic, when we are aware that the government of Canada is funding and promoting Indigenous non-industrial scale fisheries in developing countries because they recognize the rights of traditional harvesters there. That is the opposite of what is being done here."

Casavant said there is a huge disconnect between what Canada says, and what it does. She said Canada has an international reputation for being generous and helpful, and yet it doesn't operate that way in its own backyard.

Casavant said she called Chopra to thank him personally for sending the letter to Minister Shea. The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Board of Directors has recently appointed Casavant to represent them on the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District board and she's excited about the opportunity.

She said she has attended a number of the meetings and found the regional district members to be very thoughtful and generally onside with the Nuu-chah-nulth on many issues.

In fact, she's noting a more respectful tone around many local tables. People are coming to the discussion with open minds and in a spirit of cooperation.

"All we've got is us," said Casavant, and what is smart and constructive is working together for the benefit of all the people in the district.

Reprinted with permission from Ha-Shilth-Sa Newspaper

Paddle to the Premier promises to be a noisy affair

By Debora Steel
Raven's Eye Writer

Victoria

Break out the barbecue Premier Gordon Campbell. Company's coming. Expect them to arrive by water, and probably pretty cranky after the long trip.

They are coming to deliver a message, one that's been three decades in the making: 'Put a halt for once and for all to your plans to construct yet another dam in the Peace Country. Northern BC has suffered enough.'

The fight over the Site C dam is heating up and a coalition of environmentalists, First Nations and pioneer families are taking it to the BC legislature on Sept. 19.

Paddle to the Premier will attempt to draw attention to the concerns around building a third dam on the Peace River. Treaty 8 Tribal Chief Liz Logan says the

place still hasn't recovered from the construction of the first two dams as Site C heads, prematurely she believes, to stage three in the review process, the environmental assessment.

The dam will destroy First Nations values and attachment to the land, fishing and hunting traditions, spiritual sites and wildlife habitat, she said. And for what? To supply California with energy and to continue the exploitation of oil and gas deposits like the one at the Horn River Basin?

The province doesn't need the energy that will be produced from Site C for anything else, she said. It's not clean energy and the cost to the area is just too rich.

Logan has long said that the Peace Country in the northeast portion of the province is the cash register of B.C. They have the biggest dams there, the biggest gas plants and the people in the rest of the province don't seem to understand the cost of these things to the territory.

Gone will be hectares of class one and two agricultural land if Site C is built. Caribou and grizzly migration routes will be cut off. Mercury in fish stocks is a by-product. Currently there are warnings not to eat the fish from the lake at the two existing dam sites. Logan also says her pioneer family neighbours, who have been in the valley for many decades, will also be displaced by a third dam.

And Logan said the First Nations in the area are being railroaded yet again by the lack of serious consultation about the plan, how it will impact their treaty rights, and the issues that remain outstanding for First Nations after the first two dams were constructed.

That's why they have decided to take their message to Victoria and make a public statement. It's going to be a loud affair, she promises, and she invites coastal nations and anyone else that supports the Treaty 8 position to join them in solidarity.

Tria Donaldson is the Pacific Coast Campaigner for the Wilderness Committee, Canada's largest membership-based, citizen-funded wilderness preservation organization. She said the group will stand with the First Nations and members of the Peace Valley Environmental Association at Paddle to the Premier. She tells us that Dr. David Suzuki is scheduled to speak, and she's hoping for a turnout of one thousand people, many of whom will travel from Fort St. John.

Many will paddle into Victoria Harbour in canoes, a spectacle that was inspired by Chief Matthew Coon Come's paddle to Manhattan in 1990, a protest to halt the export of electricity from the dams known as the Great Whale Project in Quebec.

Paddle to the Premier will be the first big rally on the issue of Site C dam, said Donaldson, who says it will be a very big deal. She said the project impacts treaty rights, land issues, and the

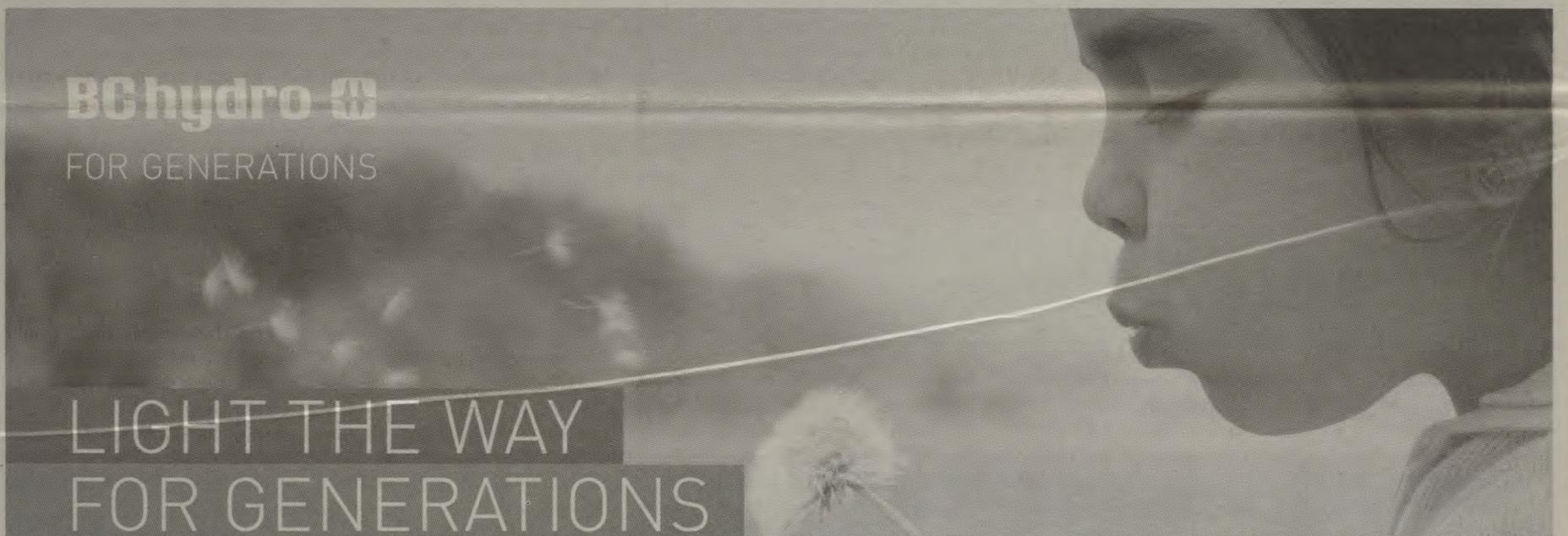
wildlife corridor.

"The proposed 60 meter high Site C mega dam would flood over 100 km of river valley, drowning a land area equal to 14 Stanley Parks, and causing landslides as the banks of the reservoir erode over time," reads a press release from the Wilderness Committee. "The flooding of the valley bottom would destroy old growth boreal forests that stores climate change-causing carbon dioxide, submerge over 7,000 acres of agricultural land, and wash away several people's river-side homes."

Both Chief Logan and Donaldson encourage support from southern people on the issue, and invite them to attend the rally at the legislature. Logan said the issues around Site C are not just a northern issue. It affects residents from all over the province.

For more information visit www.peacevalley.ca or wildernesscommittee.org

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Tragic end for young rodeo rider

By Sam Laskaris
Raven's Eye Writer

VALEMOUNT

A promising bull rider from the Okanagan First Nations died at a rodeo in Valemount in early July.

Makwala Derickson-Hall was killed on July 9 when he was stomped on by a bull after being bucked off at the Valemount Rodeo. He was 18.

Derickson-Hall's cousin Chad Eneas, who was also competing in the same rodeo, was the lone family member who witnessed the incident.

Eneas, 33, said Derickson-Hall was more like a little brother to him. The pair were living together in Penticton at the time of his death.

"It was just a freak thing," Eneas said of the way Derickson-Hall fell and ended up in front of the bull. "You have no control in bull riding. That's how it is in life, too. We think we have control, but we don't."

Eneas said he didn't immediately know Derickson-Hall's fate.

"He jumped up and ran to the chute," he said, estimating Derickson-Hall ran about 15 feet, in all likelihood on adrenaline alone. "He jumped up and got to the top of the chute. But then he fell off the top of the chute."

On-site emergency personnel quickly came to help Derickson-Hall, but there wasn't much they could do. "It wasn't very long," Eneas said. "They were working on him, but I don't think there was anything they could have done. They were just chasing their tails. He still had vital signs, but he just wasn't responding to anything when they were working on him."

Derickson-Hall was transported to the Valemount Health Centre where he was pronounced. Eneas then had the tough job of making a pair of phone calls to Derickson-Hall's parents. His mother lives in Westbank while his father is an Oliver resident.

"I was the one who called them both," Eneas said. "You just have to say it the way it is. That was the hardest thing I have ever had to do outside of watching my little 'bro die."

Derickson-Hall had graduated



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Makwala Derickson-Hall

from Mount Boucherie Secondary School this past June. And he was keen on making a living in rodeo.

"He was living with me for a couple of months," Eneas said. "We were training for this every day. He wanted it bad."

Eneas added that being a bull rider is something that Derickson-Hall had wanted for a long time.

"It's what he talked about doing since he was 12 or 13 or maybe even earlier," he said. "He just wanted to ride bulls."

Eneas believes his cousin would have gone on to a stellar career had his life not abruptly ended.

"He would have been a champ," he said. "He had all the signs of being a world champ."

Derickson-Hall's father Ron also believes his son might have gone on to be the world's best.

"I would say that's a fair statement," he said. "He trained very hard. And he was a naturally gifted athlete."

Derickson-Hall was only in his first year of competing in bull riding events. His father had seen him take part in two rodeos and was not planning to watch any more.

"I watched him twice," he said. "But I couldn't bear to watch him."

But he did not try to dissuade his son from bull riding.

"It's a dangerous sport," he said. "But you try to support your children. You try to support their dreams."

Peace Hills Trust Native Art Contest Entry Form

ENTRY DEADLINE: September 17, 2010

FULL NAME _____ AGE _____
PRESENT ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ PROV/TERR _____
HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____
BAND/HOME COMMUNITY _____
TITLE _____
MEDIUM(S) _____
DESCRIPTION _____
 YES, you may release my phone number to interested purchasers. Selling Price \$ _____
I hereby certify that the information contained in this Entry Form is true and accurate. I hereby further certify that I have read and understand the Entry Procedures and Regulations of Peace Hills Trust "Native Art Contest", as stipulated by the following, and I agree to be bound by the same.

REGISTRAR'S USE ONLY

Number _____
IN Mail Del. _____ Date _____
OUT Mail Del. _____ Date _____

- All entries are restricted to "2 dimensional art", that is work done on a flat surface suitable for framing
- Works are restricted in size - no larger than 4 feet by 6 feet
- The contest is divided into the following categories:
 - Adult (18 and over)
 - Youth (14 to 17)
 - Youth (10 to 13)
 - Youth (9 and under)

Mail to:
Peace Hills Trust NATIVE ART CONTEST
Peace Hills Trust Tower
10th Floor, 10011 - 109 Street
Edmonton AB T5J 3S8

For more information:
780-421-1608 or 1-800-661-6549 Fax: 780-426-6568

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

Peace Hills Trust "Native Art Contest" Rules and Regulations

- Peace Hills Trust "Native Art Contest" (PHT Contest) is open to Aboriginal Residents of Canada, except employees of Peace Hills Trust who are not eligible.
- Entries shall consist of a complete and signed Entry Form and an "UNFRAMED" two dimensional work of art in any graphic medium (not larger than 4 feet x 6 feet), must be received **no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 17, 2010**. Entries will be judged by a panel of adjudicators arranged through Peace Hills Trust whose decision will be final and binding on the entrants.
- By signing the Entry Form, the entrant represents that the entry is wholly original, that the work was composed by the entrant, and that the entrant is owner of the copyright in the entry; warrants that the entry shall not infringe on any copyrights or other intellectual property rights of third parties. Each entrant shall, by signing the Entry Form, indemnify and save harmless Peace Hills Trust and its management and staff and employees from and against any claims consistent with the foregoing representation and warranty; waives his Exhibition Rights in the entry for the term of the PHT Contest, and in the event that the entry is chosen as a winning entry, agrees to waive and assign the entrant's Exhibition Right in the winning entry, together with all rights of copyright and reproduction, in favour of Peace Hills Trust; agrees to be bound by the PHT Contest Entry Procedures and Rules and Regulations. All entries complying with the Rules and Regulations will be registered in the PHT Contest by the Official Registrar. Late entries, incomplete entries, or entries which do not comply with the PHT Contest Entry Procedures and Rules and Regulations will be disqualified.
- All adult winning entries will become the property of Peace Hills Trust and part of its "Native Art Collection." Unless prior arrangements are made, non-winning entries will be returned as follows: entries hand delivered by the entrant should be picked up by the entrant, all other entries will be returned by ordinary mail. Peace Hills Trust assumes no responsibility for entries which are misdirected, lost, damaged or destroyed when being returned to the entrant.
- Youth entries **will not** be returned.

Entry Procedures

- Ensure that all spaces on the Entry Form are filled in correctly, and that the form is dated and signed, otherwise Peace Hills Trust reserves the right to disqualify the entry.
- Adults may submit as many entries as they wish however, a SEPARATE entry form must accompany each entry. In the Youth categories only ONE entry per youth is permitted.
- All entries must be "UNFRAMED" paintings or drawings and may be done in oil, watercolor, pastel, ink, charcoal or any two dimensional graphic medium. All entries will be judged on the basis of appeal of the subject, originality and the choice and treatment of the subject, and the creative and technical merit of the artist. (Entries which were entered in previous PHT Contest competitions are not eligible.)
- Peace Hills Trust will not acknowledge the receipt of any entry. If the entrant requires notification, the entry should be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped postcard which will be mailed to the entrant when the entry is received.
- Should you wish to sell your work while on display at the PHT Contest, please authorize us to release your telephone number to any interested purchasers. Should you not complete that portion of the Entry Form, your telephone number will not be released.
- Peace Hills Trust at its sole discretion reserves the right to display any or all entries during the PHT Contest.
- Adult category Prizes: 1st - \$2,500.00, 2nd - \$1,500.00, 3rd - \$1,000.00. Youth Prizes: 1st - \$150.00, 2nd - \$100.00, 3rd - \$75.00 in each category.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ART IS PROPERLY PACKAGED TO AVOID DAMAGE.

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Respect and understanding core to medical philosophy

By Jennifer Hansford
Windspeaker Contributor

SUDBURY, Ont.

The Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) held an Admissions Information Session on Aug. 16 for Aboriginal students who may be interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

The session focused on Aboriginal people who are interested in applying to medical school, and highlighted some of the services and resources the school makes available to them. It also included information about the application process and some of the important deadlines students must meet in order to

be considered for admission.

"It is a lengthy process," said Miriam Lappala, director of Admissions and Learner Recruitment. Her advice is to start early because there are no exceptions to these deadlines.

Students must create an online application account with the Ontario Medical Schools Application Service (OMSAS) by Sept. 15, and the deadline to submit the application and supporting documentation, such as transcripts, proof of Aboriginal ancestry and letter of recommendation from a community leader is Oct. 1 by 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

The school is the newest medical school in Canada in the

last 30 years and has been open since 2005. Since the programs are four years in length, the school has seen only one graduating class pass through its doors. It has campuses in Sudbury (sharing a campus with Laurentian University) and Thunder Bay (sharing a campus with Lakehead University).

The school has an Aboriginal Reference Group, which advises the Dean about what the concerns of the Aboriginal communities are, and also gives students access to Elders who may be able to offer some guidance.

"There are Elders on campus every Friday," says Lappala. "If they so choose, they can go see an Elder and receive counsel, or

learn from them." This service is also available to all students who would like to learn more about Aboriginal culture.

The school designates two places per year for Aboriginal students, however, "This is by no means a quota," says Lappala. Each year since 2005 they have exceeded those designated spots and "we will admit as many qualified Aboriginal students as possible."

With the Aboriginal stream type of application, the school "aims to reduce the barriers that exist for Aboriginal students."

In the first year of enrollment, there is a four-week placement, which is not a clinical placement, said Lappala, but a cultural one, where the students visit an

Aboriginal community in northern Ontario to learn about the people, the community and what their health care needs are.

While participating in the cultural placement, the students still have the opportunity to work with the health care providers within those communities and work within their clinics.

NOSM is designed to promote respect and understanding for Aboriginal culture, and having Aboriginal people who are very involved in both the governance of the school and the development of the curriculum, "is an important aspect," said Lappala. "Something that we are really proud of."

Native American scientist discovers ancient stress hormone

University of British Columbia Professor David Close has discovered a steroid hormone in the Pacific lamprey that may help in the conservation of this eel-like fish, which dates back 500 million years and is culturally important to the tribes of the Columbia River.

The identification of the stress hormone also provides insight to evolutionary science about the development of stress hormones.

"This corticosteroid hormone is a clinical indicator of stress and is important for monitoring environmental impacts causing stress on the lamprey," said Close, who is director of the Aboriginal Fisheries Research Unit at UBC's Fisheries Centre.

"If the Pacific lamprey are stressed because they are going down the river in barges or because they are trying to negotiate fish ladders designed salmonid, we can now monitor that stress using this finding."

UBC's Aboriginal Fisheries Research Unit is dedicated to training Indigenous students to conduct cutting-edge research that is of importance to Indigenous communities in North America. The unit currently has two Aboriginal students from Canada, and is seeking to recruit more First Nations and Native American students from Canada and the U.S.

Close published the finding of his research, supported by the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla and the Bonneville Power Administration, in the Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences Early Edition in July.

The research is receiving international attention because it provides evidence of the origin and evolution of stress hormones in vertebrates.

The implications of the findings are significant to the study of the evolution of stress hormones and their receptors.

The lamprey, as one of the oldest living vertebrates, has a single corticosteroid and a single receptor for that hormone, while more modern vertebrates, including humans, have two corticosteroids and receptors which function to balance ions and the stress response.

"Through evolution, eventually these ancestral functions for responding to stress and ion balance diverged after a genome duplication event that produced two corticosteroid receptors," Close said.

"That's how we think complexity in organisms has increased through time. When these functions diverged it allowed vertebrates to exploit more diverse habitats. It is about the co-evolution of steroids and receptors and eventual divergence of ancestral functions."

Close also intends for the findings to have a practical application in the efforts to save the Pacific lamprey in the Columbia River, where the clinical monitoring of stress hormones in salmonids has aided conservation efforts for decades.

He began his career in the fisheries program at the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation in Northeastern Oregon. A Cayuse enrolled in the Umatilla Tribes, he published oral histories of tribal Elders, who helped him to understand the biology of the Pacific lamprey, and they charted its decline starting in the 1970s.

Like other lamprey, the Pacific lamprey has been historically viewed as a pest rather than a culturally important subsistence and medicinal fish to the Umatilla and other tribes on the Columbia River.

The Pacific lamprey is native to the Pacific Coast from Baja California, Mexico, to the Pacific Northwest of the U.S., and to Japan. Like salmon, it is born in the freshwater, travels to the ocean

for its adult life, and then returns to the upper reaches of rivers where it forgoes food for a year before spawning.

Before construction of the dams, the Pacific lamprey were abundant, and tribal peoples fished for them in the falls along the Columbia and its tributaries. But now there are only an estimated 11,000 Pacific lampreys left in the Columbia River, Close said.

The Umatilla have been at the forefront of calling for restoration of the Pacific lamprey, but have not been able to get the fish, which has no commercial fishery, targeted for conservation, as are many salmonid populations listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The lack of information about the Pacific lamprey, which Close calls "living fossils," has contributed to the lack of U.S. federal and state efforts to protect them. It would take the Pacific lamprey's cousin, the sea lamprey, to make Close's research possible.

"We needed to get a lot of blood

to isolate the steroids, and we couldn't use the Pacific lamprey because we didn't want to kill this delicate population," Close said. "We used the sea lamprey which is very abundant in the Great lakes, as a model for Pacific lamprey which are located on the West Coast."

The findings are important not only for the conservation of the Pacific lamprey, but also for the control of the sea lamprey. An exotic fish in the Great Lakes, it is blamed for decimating the fish population.

For Close, the findings also indicate the importance of Indigenous knowledge to science. He considers traditional knowledge to be just as important as Western science to the management of tribal resources.

"By getting more Native peoples into the sciences with masters' degrees and doctorates,

we can work through the political tool of self-determination to protect our tribal resources," Close said. "Most of the time we have been hiring people to come in and do this science for us. They can miss important insights into natural processes that are known to our cultures, because of their cultural biases."



Professor David Close

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Windspeaker sports briefs

By Sam Laskaris

Major funding received

It's a win-win situation for British Columbia's Scowlitz First Nation. It was announced in early August that the Scowlitz First Nation, located northeast of Chilliwack, will receive \$300,000 in funding through the Recreational Infrastructure Canada program, which is a major job-creating investment from the country's Economic Action Plan.

The country-wide program will invest a total of \$500 million in recreational facilities during the next two years. With its funding, the Scowlitz First Nation, a community with just over 200 people, will replace its playground equipment and also construct a skateboard park, basketball court and soccer field.

The First Nation currently has limited recreational options for its residents. Besides the improved and new facilities, the First Nation is expected to benefit from the program as jobs will also be created for local workers.

Aboriginal jump added

One of the country's top equestrian facilities is getting an Aboriginal flavour as part of its major renovations. The Thunderbird Show Park is located in Langley, B.C., dubbed the Horse Capital of Canada. The park is considered one of the continent's top equestrian facilities. The Thunderbird Show Park is undergoing \$625,000 in renovations.

As part of the changes, Kwantlen carver Drew Atkins was commissioned to create a jump for the park. The Coast Salish design he chose includes salmon, representing tenacity and waves. The design depicts the Fraser River, which provides both a means of transportation and a source of food for First Nations people, making it a vital part of their lives. Park officials had asked Atkins for a design that would incorporate the history and culture of the Aboriginal peoples from the area. Besides the salmon and waves, the jump rails are in the shape of a canoe, representing the importance of travel on the river.

Program gets city funding

Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz has announced his city has pledged \$60,000 to an Aboriginal athletic program. Katz made the announcement on Aug. 23 at the Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, a facility which since 1984 has worked to support families by creating opportunities for community and family involvement.

The pledged money will go towards an inner-city program called Positive Athletic Cultural Experiences for Youth (PACE). This program is geared towards at-risk children between six and 17 with athletic, cultural and recreational activities.

Capitals acquire King

D.J. King is now hoping to revive his National Hockey League career with the Washington Capitals. The 26-year-old Metis, who is from Meadow Lake, Sask., was dealt from the St. Louis Blues to Washington in late July in exchange for prospect Stefan Della Rovere. King appeared in 101 NHL contests with the Blues over four seasons, but he has suffered through a couple of injury-plagued seasons the last few years. King played just 12 games with St. Louis last season. He also suited up for 10 games with the Peoria Rivermen, the Blues' American Hockey League affiliate.

Injuries also limited King to just one game with the Blues during the 2008-09 campaign. King, a scrappy 6-foot-3, 230-pound left winger, enjoyed his best NHL season during the 2007-08 year. He appeared in 61 games that year collecting six points (three goals, three assists). He was also assessed an even 100 penalty minutes that year.

National lacrosse tournament

A pair of Ontario teams will be looking to defend their titles at the National Aboriginal Field Lacrosse Tournament. This year's event will be staged Sept. 3 to 5 in Saskatoon. The boys' tournament will feature under-16 and under-19 divisions. Besides Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, it will also field entries in both divisions. All squads will play four round-robin matches at the tournament. Those that place first and second in both divisions will then square off in the championship final. Bronze-medal matches will also be staged in the two categories.

Both of the Ontario teams will open the tourney on Sept. 3 against their B.C. counterparts. Those in the under-16 will be vying to capture the Alumni Cup. And those at the under-19 level will be attempting to win the First Nations Trophy.

New plan for NAIG competition

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

It's official.

There will be no North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in 2011.

But the Aboriginal Sport Circle (ASC), the governing body for Aboriginal sports in Canada, has stepped up and offered to help organize a variation of the games in 2012.

The 2011 NAIG had originally been awarded to Milwaukee, but the host organization announced in late June that it was withdrawing as host. As a result, members of the NAIG Council held a meeting in Winnipeg from Aug. 11 to 14 to determine their next steps.

Heading into the Winnipeg meeting, NAIG Council President Harold Joseph had said two groups—one from Saskatchewan and one from California—had expressed interest to take over the 2011 NAIG. But there was no need to vote on possible alternative sites for the 2011 NAIG as there were no presentations made at the Winnipeg meetings from any group.

"Nothing formal was received by council," said Norman Ettawacappo, the ASC's Major Games Liaison. "The interest was always there (from the Saskatchewan and California groups) but it was always just verbal."

"They did not come forward offering to host," said Marcia Trudeau, the proxy for the Ontario rep on the NAIG Council. "You can't vote on hearsay. And we weren't going to vote on an email. Nothing was presented to us. We need something in front of us."

Since there would have been less than a year to prepare,

Ettawacappo believes it might have been unreasonable anyway to ask another city to take over the 2011 NAIG.

"The reality of brining in another city to host it is too much to ask for," he said. Officials at the Winnipeg meeting, therefore decided it would be best to concentrate on exploring other competitive opportunities for those who would have been eligible to participate next year. The result is that ASC is planning to ask for submission bids this fall from cities that would be interested in hosting North American Indigenous Sport Championships in 2012.

Submission bids are expected to be open Sept. 30 and close by the end of November. Ettawacappo said ASC officials are then hoping to announce the host sites by Dec. 31.

Both Canadian and American cities will be allowed to submit bids to host the various sports, but Ettawacappo said that does not necessarily mean officials will try to award an equal number of events to cities in both countries.

"It will just depend on the applications we receive," he said.

Ettawacappo added American cities interested in hosting a sport will still have to submit a bid to the ASC and not to the American-based sports body, the Indigenous Peoples Sport Circle.

ASC officials will be looking for as many as 15 hosts to include all of the sports offered at the NAIG, which are traditionally held every three years. Those sports are archery, badminton, basketball, baseball, boxing, canoeing, golf, lacrosse, rifle shooting, soccer, softball, swimming, track and field and cross-country running, volleyball and wrestling.

It is believed that organizers will slightly alter some of the traditional NAIG-age groupings to enable those that would have been eligible for the 2011 games

to take part in the 2012 events.

The 2012 North American Indigenous Sport Championships will not necessarily be staged in 15 different cities. That's because a city will be allowed to submit bids to host more than one sport.

In fact, that's something ASC officials would welcome.

"If we could have fewer sites it would be easier to co-ordinate," Ettawacappo said.

There's also a chance, Ettawacappo added, that some sports may not find a host. If that is the case, then they simply would not be held.

"We hope to get all of the sports covered," he said.

Though Milwaukee will not host the 2011 NAIG, some Aboriginal athletes from both sides of the border could still be competing in the Wisconsin city next year.

About three weeks after they withdrew as NAIG hosts, organizers from that city announced plans to stage a smaller event—called the U.S. Indigenous Games—in Milwaukee next year.

The North American Indigenous Games generally alternate between a Canadian and then a U.S. host, but controversy has surrounded the event in the past. Cowichan hosted in 2008, but Buffalo had originally been awarded the games in 2005. After plenty of uncertainties about the event planning, NAIG was moved to the state of Colorado and held in 2006.

As for the next NAIG, it is now scheduled to be held in 2014 in Canada. So far groups from four provinces—Alberta, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan—have expressed interest in hosting those games.

A site is expected to be chosen at a NAIG Council meeting, at a yet-to-be-determined location, next spring.

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[education]

Seven steps to a finer First Nations education program

By Isha Thompson
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Shawn Atleo is prepared to fight for parity in education outcomes of First Nations youth. He wants to see the graduation rate of First Nations students on par with its non-Aboriginal peers.

Education was one of the main discussion points at the 31st AFN general assembly. On July 22, the last day of the three-day conference, the AFN released First Nations Control of First Nations Education 2010.

"This is a blueprint for change," said Atleo about the 48-page document, as he held it up for chiefs and delegates at The Winnipeg Convention Centre.

The paper is a guide for the changes chiefs across the country want to see within the education system for their youth. The paper not only calls for First Nations to have control over their education, it also lists traditional languages and values to become a permanent component of educating First Nations youth.

"First Nations lifelong learning systems must be founded on First Nations languages, cultures, histories, philosophies, worldviews and values, as these are the heart of our identity," reads a portion of the vision statement.

"Education has been used as a weapon against our people," said Atleo, referring to the impacts that government-run Indian residential schools have had on the First Nations community.

The AFN is calling for a partnership with the federal government to support the proposal, which will give First Nations control over the curriculum of their children. If the federal government doesn't get on board, Atleo said, he is prepared to take direct action.

AFN Youth Council Co-chair Ashley Julian addressed the assembly in her ancestral language of Mi'kmaq. The Dalhousie University student explained how important her family's language is to her and how her peers are struggling to hang on to their culture without the knowledge of their people's mother tongue.

"As a Mi'kmaq, I feel it is highly important for me to speak in my language," said Julian. "Our children are having a hard time speaking our mother tongue and we as leaders need to address this issue."

Julian emphasized that her generation has a desire to learn from their Elders and are prepared to fight for what they feel they deserve.

The entire AFN Youth Council expressed that leadership amongst First Nations youth is crucial in order to make change. Members of the council did a tribute to 15-year-old Shannen Koostachin, who died in a collision in June.

A total of \$4,628 was collected in a blanket dance around the assembly that gathered donations for a scholarship in Koostachin's name, to honor the teen who was an advocate for equal access to education for First Nations communities.

She is fondly remembered as a brave soul who freely told former Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada (INAC) Minister Chuck Strahl that she wished her home community—Attawapiskat First Nation—could have a school as nice as his office, while she was on a class trip to Ottawa.

"A young girl at the age of 15, she wasn't afraid to speak up," said Julian. "She stood toe-to-toe with the federal minister."

Even though high school and post-secondary graduation rates have improved over the years for Canada's first peoples, Atleo said they still have a long way to go to catch up.

According to the AFN, 65,000 university graduates are needed to close the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal academic success.

A month prior to the three-day assembly, the AFN released a separate discussion paper that focused on the needs in First Nations post-secondary education.

Taking Action for First Nations Post-Secondary Education: Access, Opportunity, and Outcomes, released June 21 as part of the AFN's Call to Action on revamping the current education systems, was also distributed and discussed amongst the 2,000 annual general assembly participants.

The document is meant to get the attention of newly-appointed INAC Minister John Duncan by outlining seven steps that would reconfigure the Federal Post Secondary Education (PSE) program.

INAC's Post-Secondary Student Support Program has been criticized by a right-wing "think-tank," the Macdonald-Laurier Institute, who reports that some students have been denied funding due to a lack of responsible fund management by some bands.

Days following the general assembly, Atleo pushed the provincial premiers and territorial leaders of Canada to understand the urgency behind reconstructing First Nations education when he spoke at the Council of the Federation on Aug. 4.

Atleo said it was time to put pressure on Ottawa to increase funding for Aboriginal education that routinely receives fewer dollars than non-Aboriginal education programs.

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, who also spoke at the AFN General Assembly days, said he would write Prime Minister Stephen Harper to request a meeting on the issue.



PHOTOS: ISHA THOMPSON

AFN Youth Council Co-chair Ashley Julian



A blanket dance at the Assembly of First Nations general meeting collected more than \$4,000 for a scholarship in the name of the late Shannen Koostachin, a 15 year old girl who fought for a school to be built in Attawapiskat.

A First Nations garden in France

By Katherine McIntyre
Windspeaker Contributor

METZ, France

In a significant corner of a century-old garden in France, a First Nations garden holds a place of honor.

Ohtehra, (meaning root) happened as the result of a friendship between two directors, Gilles Vincent of Montreal Botanical Garden and Pascal Garb of Jardins Fruitières de Laquenexy in Metz, France.

"It has been a three-year journey and much human energy before the spring opening in 2010," commented Vincent.

When the two directors first

discussed a garden in France, they agreed that a First Nations garden would provide a fresh perspective on Quebec's Aboriginal people and create plenty of public interest.

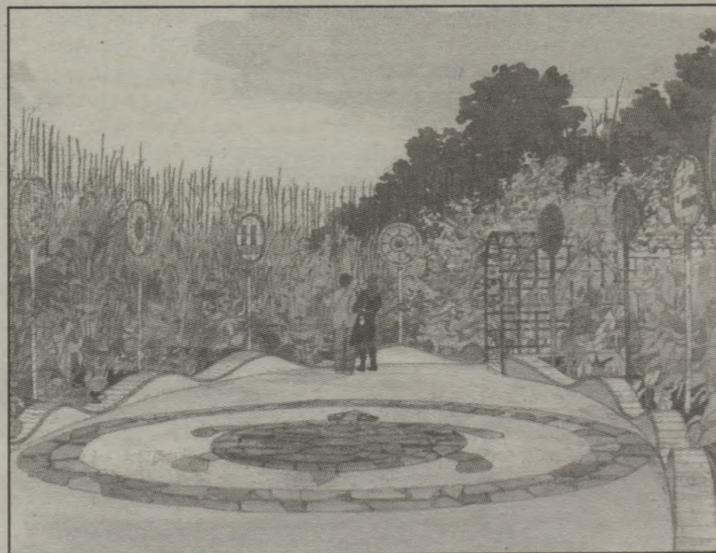
But the question was, how to design the garden? French gardens are formal and feature art and sculpture, whereas the First Nations garden within Montréal Botanical Garden is just as nature intended. It is close covered with plenty of mature trees that extend from a stand of Laurentian maple hardwood, to a coniferous soft wood forest of pine and spruce, to a Nordic zone of tundra and a peat bog.

Plants indigenous to their specific zones grow among the

trees. Meandering through this Aboriginal garden, visitors discover how Quebec's 11 First Nations harvested and used their forest plants for food or medicine.

When it came time to design Ohtehra, the only First Nations garden outside of Canada, the two directors agreed that their garden should reflect the First Nations way of life. "But," Vincent stressed, "our goal was not to stress the folkloric aspect of Native life. We wanted to include their history and the modern day Indian's role in our ordinary world."

(See Garden on page 23.)



RENDERING BY AQUARELLE FABRICE MOIREAU.

An artist's rendering of Ohtehra, a First Nations garden in France.

Garden in France

(Continued from page 22.)

An enthusiastic team in Montreal, including members of the Aboriginal community, took over to plan the garden. Size restraint of 1,000 sq. metres, precluded a vast forest with a sparkling stream similar to the Aboriginal Garden in Montreal. In consultation with First Nation artists their unique design evolved.

Entering the garden you walk along a passageway through an existing alley of hazelnuts to a pathway partly covered by branches of willow. This creates a buffer zone from the French garden and a mood of an Algonquin longhouse. Then the scene changes with palisades of tall poles, nearly five meters tall and similar to the poles that surrounded an Iroquois encampment, which surround the garden. In the centre is its heart: 'La Place de la Grand Tortue,' or the 'Square of the Great Turtle.' This oval represents the creation story of the Iroquois nation, a turtle rising from the sea.

The turtles' body is made up of 13 stone scales representing the 13 moons of the First Nations calendar.

The oval is rimmed by a low, slightly undulating stone wall representing the sea. Thirteen moons of woven basketry suspended on slender poles were created by Abenaki artist

Christine Sioui Wawanoloath and French artist Laurent Weiss. Plants and shrubs, indigenous to native gardens in Quebec, have been carefully chosen. In the middle of summer it will be ablaze with bright yellow sunflowers.

On the afternoon of its opening, Chief Kapiteotak of the Algonquin tribe described First Nation traditions to a fascinated group of French children. Then, in the evening, he discussed spiritual traditions, including the 13-month lunar calendar of the Iroquois and Algonquin nations to an adult audience. And he smoked a peace pipe with Mme. Penelope Fillion, wife of the First Minister of France.

During the time that the garden is open, special events are planned. Young First Nation tour guides from Montreal Botanical Gardens will take guided tours through their Canadian garden in France. Familiar with their own ancestral history, they will tell the First Nations' story, that back in time their tribes were conservationists and ecologists before the words had been invented.

They point out that Algonquin and Inuit in the northern areas were hunters, but the Mohawks and the Huron-Wendat, whose territories were in a moderate climate, farmed their land.

The guides describe their staple crop, tended by the

women, the Three Sisters: beans, corn and squash. Why sisters? They work together. The beans put nitrogen into the soil, cornstalks provide bean poles and the squash leaves protect the soil and keep it moist. Tobacco used in sacred ceremonies was cultivated by the men.

Besides being a garden of plants, Ohtehra has had on its list of performers, the Sandowka (Wendake) dancers. The Welcome Centre displays contemporary First Nations art from Quebec.

The gift shop carries the work of Aboriginal artists such as woven wood fibre baskets made by the women from Odanak. The restaurant is serving meals flavored with produce from Quebec gardens.

Ohtehra reminds the world that Jacques Cartier was not the first person to set foot on Canadian shores. When he arrived, he found there was already a thriving Aboriginal population that had been living in this "new country" for thousands of years.

Today there is still a thriving Aboriginal population in Quebec's cities, on farms, in artists' communities and working in business.

Ohtehra is spreading the word about Quebec's rich Aboriginal culture to the people of France. The garden has been such a success that it will continue for the next two summers.

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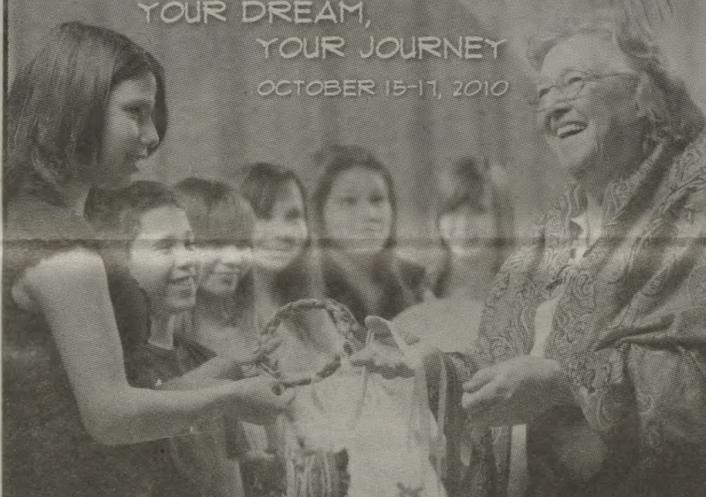
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CORPORATE AND INTERNATIONAL TRAINING



Countdown begins to close of nominations

Nominations are set to close on the BC Aboriginal Business Awards, administrated by the British Columbia Achievement Foundation.

As Sept. 24th approaches, all the stops are being pulled out to encourage as many Aboriginal business in the province to participate in the second year of the awards program.

Nora Newlands is the executive director of the achievement foundation. She said the awards are designed to recognize excellence in business achievement, and points out the award categories, seven in all, were chosen to serve everything from the small business and home business to large joint ventures.

An independent jury of Aboriginal business experts will review the nominations and select the recipients in accordance with the awards' criteria. The selection process is swift, and winners are to be announced by Nov. 1, she said.

That's when the real fun begins, because the next step is a public display of acknowledgment for the winners' business acumen. A gala dinner and evening will be hosted in Vancouver and the recipients of the awards, and the runners up, will be showcased.

Last year the event, in its inaugural year, was a sold-out affair with leadership, both Aboriginal and from the wider political spectrum, and senior business leaders from across the province in attendance.

The awards were the brainchild of former Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Michael DeJong. He recognized that there was already a surge of economic activity at all levels in Aboriginal business, but he wanted to encourage more.

He reached out to the foundation and seven categories of business excellence were chosen.

Business of the Year Awards have three subcategories: a one to two person enterprise; a two to 10 person enterprise, and a 10 or more person enterprise.

To be eligible for a business of the year award, the enterprise must be at least 51 per cent Aboriginal-owned and operated.

There is also the Young Female Entrepreneur of the Year and Young Male Entrepreneur of the Year Award categories.

These awards recognize achieved success in the start-up and operation of a

new or existing business. Nominees must be under 30.

There is a Joint Venture Business of the Year Award which promotes and celebrates efforts that contribute to the economic well-being of the area; increase the employment of Aboriginal people; provide learning or training opportunities to Aboriginal people and businesses; and show a commitment to the community in which they operate. The joint venture can be with either an Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal partner.

To be eligible for the Community-Owned Business of the Year Award businesses must be 100 per cent community-owned. This award celebrates the contribution the unique business undertaking has made to capacity building and strong economic foundations in British Columbia's Aboriginal communities and the wider economy.

To be eligible for any of the awards, nominees must be Aboriginal people or businesses (First Nations, MÈtis, or Inuit).

Business may enter only in one category. If someone is nominating a business or a business person for an award approval from the business or business person must be sought.

If unsuccessful, an entrant may apply again in the next or future years.

Non-profit or charitable groups, government agencies and institutions are not eligible for these awards.

During the gala, lifetime achievement awards will be announced. Last year's winners were Dorothy Grant, a fashion designer situated in the Vancouver area, and Angelique Merasty Levac of Prince George, who operates a Native Arts and Crafts store.

The purpose of all the awards, said Newlands is to showcase business role models, to inspire others in the ways to accomplish a goal, or overcome challenges.

If you are thinking about nominating a business, but you're intimidated by the paperwork involved, reach out to the foundation. Newlands said the foundation is ready to help out.

People can nominate a business or self-nominate their own business. What is important, she said, is that they get a good selection of nominations from around the province.

Visit www.bcachievement.com for more details.

Windspeaker business briefs

THE ATLANTIC POLICY CONGRESS HAS PARTNERED

with the federal government to see new investments to support Atlantic First Nations fisheries enterprises. The announcement was made on Aug. 31.

"I am pleased to see that First Nations people and communities in the Atlantic will continue to be key players in the Atlantic fishery," said Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo. "The fisheries have sustained them for generations and continue to provide employment and economic opportunities for their people."

The announcement, made in Truro, N.S. by chiefs Jesse Simon and Lawrence Paul of the Atlantic Policy Congress (APC) and John Duncan, the newly-appointed minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, will see the government invest \$7.7 million over three years to help Mi'kmaq and Maliseet First Nations in the Maritimes and Gaspé Region of Quebec pursue economic opportunities in new areas of the fisheries sector, including aquaculture, seafood processing and marketing.

"First Nations believe that partnerships are an important part of the way forward to building stronger First Nation communities and governments," said AFN Regional Chief for Nova Scotia-Newfoundland Rick Simon. He is also a member of the APC executive, in attendance for the announcement.

"In the Atlantic, revenues from fisheries contribute to better infrastructure for First Nation communities, help First Nation governments provide services for their people, and support education and training. This is about working together to build sustainable economies that allow our communities to thrive and chart their own direction forward. I want to congratulate Chief Paul and Chief Simon, the Atlantic Policy Congress and all their member First Nations and Minister Duncan for forging an important partnership for success," Rick Simon said.

THE INDUSTRY COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL BUSINESS (ICAB)

and the Aboriginal Tourism Association of British Columbia (AtBC) hosted 122 guests at Klahowya Village in Stanley Park on Aug. 27 to celebrate British Columbia's Aboriginal business growth. The evening included networking opportunities, a barbecue salmon dinner, musical entertainment and dancing. Guests included Phil Fontaine, former national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, and Squamish Nation Chief Ian Campbell.

ICAB President Marlane Christensen noted that the organization "is dedicated to providing opportunities for dialogue among leaders already dedicated to economic prosperity for all." She said ICAB looks to its members to guide and grow the organization, as well as promote Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses opportunities.

"It is important that ICAB continues to build programs with balanced input from leaders who are dedicated to building healthy, respectful relationships."

ICAB has also announced another event for Sept. 29; a dialogue forum entitled "Asking the Unasked Questions: Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Peoples as Business Allies."

INTERNATIONAL LOTTERY & TOTALIZATOR SYSTEMS, INC.

announced on Aug. 27 that it has signed an agreement to supply an online lottery system and terminals for the Ohwistha Community Lottery, which will be operated in the Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Territory. Under the terms of the agreement, ILTS will deliver a turnkey system, including central system hardware and software, and terminals. In addition, ILTS will also provide a number of services, including installation, training and technical support.

President Jeff Johnson said, "We are extremely pleased to have Ohwistha Community Lottery as a new customer. We look forward to a long-term relationship and providing them with a quality online system to make this lottery a success."

International Lottery & Totalizator Systems, Inc. provides computerized wagering systems, equipment and services to lottery and racing organizations worldwide.

OTTAWA HAS BEEN ORDERED BY THE

Federal Court to produce all documents relating to the development of a program that threatens the viability of Aboriginal financial institutions (AFIs), said the Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corporation (TWCC) on Aug. 30. The federal government has also been ordered by the court to produce all documents related to any consultations with any First Nations organizations in relation to the program. The court order was made at a Federal Court hearing in Winnipeg on Aug. 10 in connection with an application for judicial review made by the capital corporation, a Manitoba AFI, in January.

Alan Park, Chief Executive Officer of TWCC, said the order represents a major victory for TWCC and all 57 AFIs operating in First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities across Canada.

"We are particularly gratified that the court is demanding the government produce documents that show Aboriginal organizations were consulted. We believe this is required under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*."

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada decided in 2008 to give loan guarantees to five selected non-Aboriginal banks and credit unions to stimulate lending to Aboriginal businesses in a program called the Loan Loss Reserve (LLR) Initiative. AFIs were deemed to be ineligible for the LLR Initiative even though they have been writing business loans in Aboriginal communities for two decades.

TWCC is arguing in court that the LLR Initiative represents unfair competition because AFIs can't offer the same interest rates as their subsidized competitors. Continued existence of these one-sided subsidies will threaten the viability of all AFIs, TWCC asserts. Since their inception 20 years ago, AFIs have provided 35,000 loans to Aboriginal small business worth \$1.4 billion with a success rate of 58 per cent. This compares to a success rate of 35 per cent among mainstream lenders.

The AFI is also arguing that Indian Affairs ignored its constitutional obligations to consult Aboriginal groups before implementing the LLR Initiative.

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For further information about the position, including qualifications and General Selection Criteria, the regions of the province, and the filing requirements for submitting an application, please visit the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee's website at www.ontariocourts.on.ca/jpaac/en/

Applications must be submitted on the **current** prescribed application form and received by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 22, 2010.**

Pour voir cette annonce en français, consulter le site Web du Comité à www.ontariocourts.on.ca/jpaac/fr/advertisement.htm

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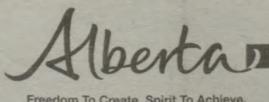
Ideally, you hold a Bachelor of Social Work with some directly related responsible experience working in the human services field preferably including experience providing services to children and families who have had involvement with Child Intervention. Equivalent combinations of education and experience will be considered such as a Degree in the Social Sciences or a related Diploma and considerable related human services experience. The Authority is committed to delivering culturally sensitive services to First Nations and Metis populations and we encourage applications from qualified First Nations and Metis candidates. Experience communicating and working with First Nation and Métis communities, organizations and relevant professional groups would be an asset.

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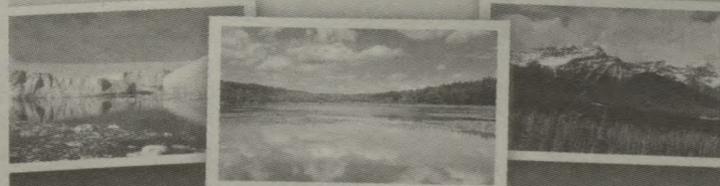
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[footprints] Obediah "Johnny" Yesno Part-time gig turns to full-time fun for radio personality

By Dianne Meili

Though Ojibway Obediah Johnny Yesno had a name his peers made fun of in high school, his self-confidence remained intact, and, along with his natural good looks, served him well in a career that played out in the public eye.

Some might remember him as an actor starring alongside Chief Dan George in the Canadian movie *Cold Journey*, a part that led to other stage and film productions, including the Walt Disney classic "King of the Grizzlies."

Others might more easily identify him as the smooth-voiced host of his own Native affairs program on CBC Radio, entitled *Our Native Land*. He shared celebrity status on CBC with the likes of Peter Gzowski and Bruno Gerussi.

The isolated Ojibway-Cree community of Fort Hope on the Albany River in Ontario that Johnny grew up in was like many back in the 1930s, without a school and populated with individuals who hunted, fished and trapped for a living.

In stepped the government to civilize the savages, and off went Johnny to the Pelican residential school just outside of Sioux Lookout. He was only five and he was terrified.

Packed with other children into a noisy train, Johnny had an identification tag hung around his neck, and, as he was often heard to say, had no idea how he survived those awful years.

His school memories are hazy, but the sharp edges emerging from that merciful cloud revealed images of physical and sexual abuse.

"Some supervisors just liked to beat up kids," he said.

Things were bad enough for Johnny and a friend to decide to run away in the cold of winter when they were nine years old. The pair got lost and found themselves in Kenora, where they were rounded up by police and

handcuffed.

As soon as they were returned to the school, the headmaster informed them they would have to have their heads shaved. But in a rare show of Indian against Authority, Johnny's father, John Cooper Yesno, stepped in to put a stop to the punishment.

Instead, in a stroke of good luck, Johnny was banished from the school and sent to Shingwauk in Sault Ste. Marie.

The transfer was good for the young boy because institution staff treated students better than those at the Pelican residential school. At Shingwauk, individuals really tried to help and support the students make their transition into the fast changing white world.

Johnny outdid himself in his new placement and proved to doubters that he could be academically successful. He carried on with his studies at the University of Waterloo, electing to enter the engineering faculty. It was the 1960s, a time of open expression, and Johnny soon found himself with a wife and a son on the way.

He found work with an engineering firm in Toronto, and found a creative outlet for himself with a dance group that performed at a city tourist spot. It was just a spare-time gig, but it gave Johnny his big break.

A CBC producer saw the young man's star-power on-stage and offered him a screen test for a part in a drama he was going to shoot. Johnny won the role and portrayed Joe Smith, an angry Aboriginal man who commits suicide in a Toronto jail cell.

The scene was from the popular *Wojeck* series and it won Johnny an acting award. Later, he would win several more mainstream acting awards in both Canada and the United States.

Bitten by the acting bug, Johnny gave his notice at the

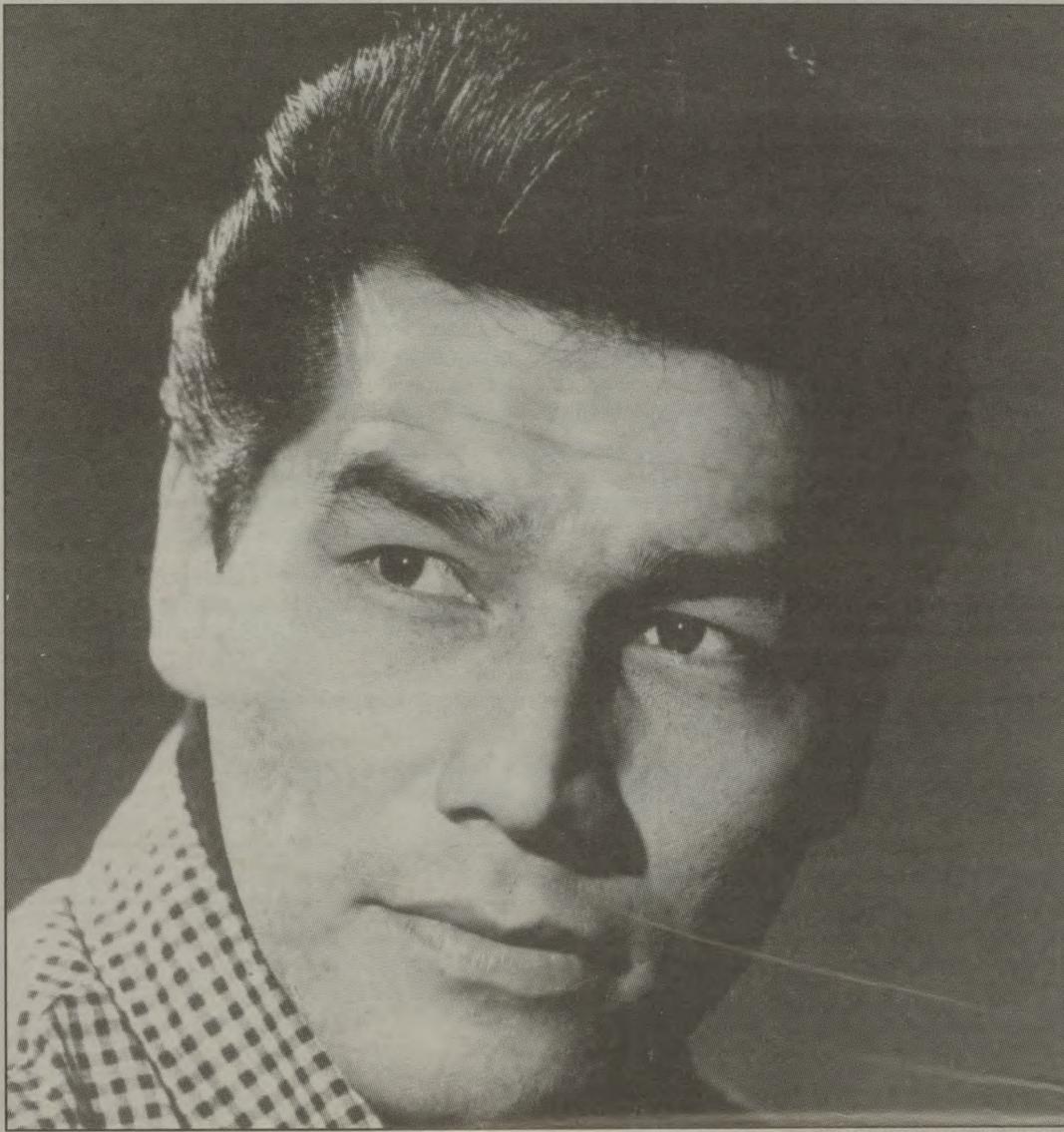


PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY SAULT STAR

Johnny Yesno in a 1969 publicity photo.

engineering firm and was soon studying acting at Toronto Workshop Productions under George Luscombe.

The next years of his life were filled with stage and film productions and the radio work for which he became so well known.

In the prime of the Indian movement in the early 1970s, Johnny interviewed the prime minister, Indian Affairs ministers, and celebrities throughout North America.

At the peak of his career Johnny succumbed to the malaise attributed to many a

successful artist. He admitted he "drank and partied way too much" with his "actor friends" and lost his edge. Too many missed appointments and absences from film sets took their toll and the acting jobs dried up.

Eventually, Johnny returned to northern Ontario and worked as a civil servant until his retirement. He lived with his companion Rosemary King, whom he met on a blind date, for many years and the two loved to travel Ontario, often returning to her home community of Wikwemikong to visit. Johnny loved nothing more than to sit

around a campfire and tell stories of his acting career.

Always humble, Johnny commented "it was nice" to receive the coveted Order of Canada in 1976 from Governor General Jules Léger. He also returned numerous times to Fort Hope to promote education and encourage students there to go to school.

Johnny took his last breath on March 20, 2010 at the age of 71, with his beloved partner Rosemary holding his hand. He is survived by his daughter Wanda, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

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- Environmental Managers and Consultants
- Aboriginal Law Lawyers
- Regional Health Officers
- Engineers and Building Inspectors

- Construction Industry and Suppliers
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- Policy Advisors and Analysts
- Federal, Provincial and Municipal

HEAR FROM

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- Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment, McGill University
- Constance Lake First Nation
- Douglas Cardinal Architect Inc.

- First Canadian Title
- Fort William First Nation
- Metis Nation of Ontario Housing Investments Inc
- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
- National Aboriginal Housing Assoc.
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NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

Notice of Public Hearing

on Westcoast Energy Inc., carrying on business as Spectra Energy Transmission (Westcoast) – Dawson Project

The National Energy Board (the Board) has scheduled an oral public hearing on an application from Westcoast under the *National Energy Board Act* to construct and operate a natural gas processing plant and to construct, acquire and operate associated pipeline facilities (Dawson Project or Project). Copies of the application are available for viewing on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (go to "Regulatory Documents", click on "View" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to the application), at Westcoast's Vancouver office (Suite 1100, 1055 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC), Westcoast's Calgary office (Suite 2600, 425-1 Street SW, Calgary, AB) the Board's library (1st floor, 444 Seventh Ave. SW, Calgary, AB), the Dawson Creek City Hall (10105-12A Street, Dawson Creek, BC) and the Dawson Creek Public Library (1001 Mckellar Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC).

Project Details

The Dawson Project would include the construction and operation of a gas processing facility (Dawson Plant) with a nominal processing capacity of 5 670 103m³/d of raw gas. The Plant would be constructed in two stages and would have an initial processing capacity of 2 835 103m³/d of raw gas with a planned in service date of 1 October 2011.

The Dawson Project would also include the construction and operation of an approximately 1.5 km 406.4 mm outside diameter (OD) liquids handling loop to facilitate the separation of natural gas liquids from the raw gas stream delivered to the inlet of the Dawson Plant. The Dawson Project would also include the construction and operation of an approximately 1 km 406.4 mm OD pipeline (Bessborough Pipeline) from the proposed Dawson Plant to the NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. Groundbirch pipeline for transport of processed sweet gas.

In addition, the Dawson Project would include the purchase of a 4.1 km section of a 33.5 km 406.4 mm OD pipeline (Bissette Pipeline). Spectra Energy Midstream has applied to the British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission to construct and operate the Bissette Pipeline. The 4.1 km section of the Bissette Pipeline that Westcoast would purchase from Spectra Energy Midstream, which would be renamed the Willowbrook Pipeline, would allow a mixture of raw gas and acid gas to flow from the Dawson Plant to the Westcoast South Peace Pipeline.

Oral Public Hearing

The oral hearing will start at **9:00 a.m., local time, 30 November 2010** at a venue to be determined by the Board in Dawson Creek. The hearing will obtain the evidence and views of interested persons on the application. Any person interested in participating in the oral hearing should consult the Board's Hearing Order GH-3-2010 for further background and instructions. The deadline for filing applications to intervene in the hearing is 16 September 2010. Alternatively, you may provide written comments on the application or register to make an oral statement at the hearing by 19 October 2010.

Federal or provincial government authorities may participate by filing a letter of comment, providing an oral statement, seeking Intervenor status or by filing a declaration that they will be a Government Participant by 26 August 2010. Further details can be found in the Hearing Order.

Information for Interveners

Any person wishing to intervene in the hearing must file an application to intervene by **noon, Calgary time, 16 September 2010** with the Secretary of the Board and serve a copy on Westcoast and its counsel at the following addresses:

Mr. Garth Johnson
Director, Regulatory Affairs
and Services
Spectra Energy Transmission
Fifth Avenue Place, East Tower
Suite 2600, 425 – 1st Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 3L8
Facsimile 403-699-1585
gjohnson@spectraenergy.com

Mr. Peter Spicker
Assistant General Counsel
and Director
Legal Affairs Western Canada
Spectra Energy Transmission
P.O. Box 11162
Suite 1100, 1055 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 3R5
pspicker@spectraenergy.com

You may use a form on the Board's Internet site to file an application to intervene. Go to www.neb-one.gc.ca and under the "Regulatory Documents" heading, click "Submit", then click "Submit documents electronically", and then click "Application for Intervenor Status". Westcoast will serve a copy of the application and related documentation on each Intervenor.

Letters of Comment and Oral Statements

Any person wishing only to comment on the application should file a letter of comment to the Secretary of the Board and send a copy to Westcoast and its counsel by noon, Calgary time, 19 October 2010.

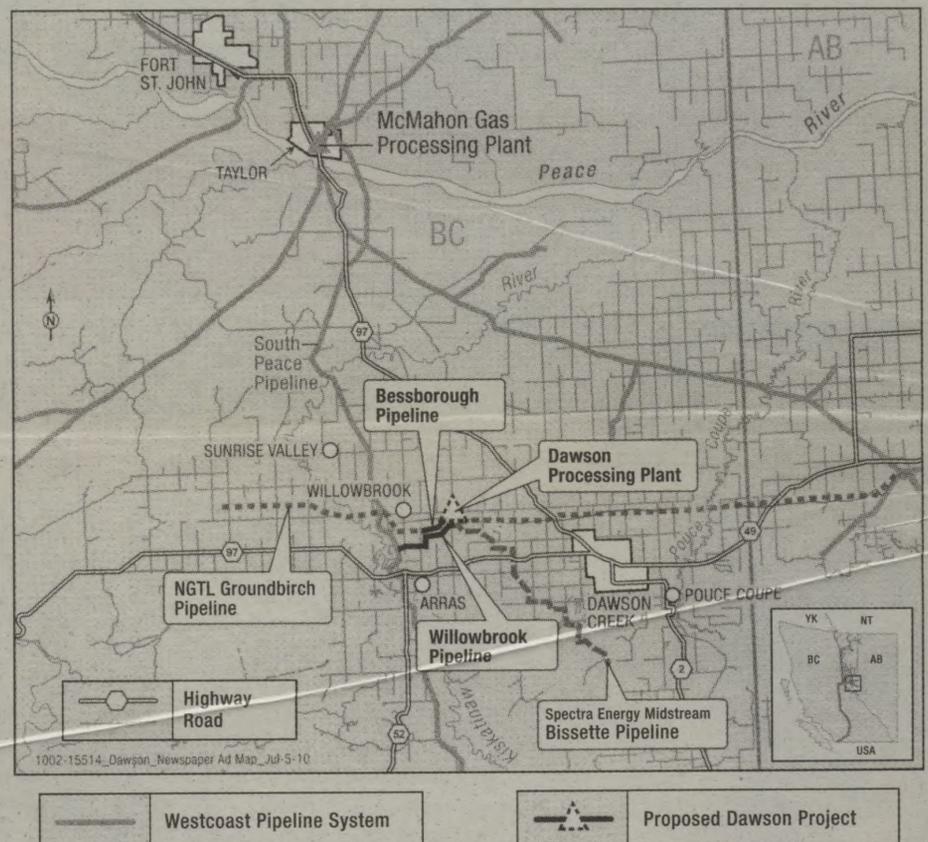
Any person who does not wish to intervene or to file a letter of comment may provide his or her views orally to the Board at the oral hearing. The deadline for filing your request to make an oral statement with the Secretary of the Board and sending a copy to Westcoast and its counsel is noon, Calgary time, on 19 October 2010.

Information on Hearing Procedures

You may access the Hearing Order through the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (go to "Regulatory Documents" click on "View" then "Quick Links", scroll down to Westcoast application, then click on "Hearing Order" at the top of the screen). The Link includes an 11 minute video describing the role of the Board and how to participate in the public hearing process and a publication entitled "The Public Hearing Process – Your Guide to Understanding NEB Hearings".

You may obtain information on the procedures for this hearing or on the *National Energy Board Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1995*, as amended, (Rules of Practice and Procedure) governing all hearings (available in English and French), by contacting Carrie Randall at 403-299-3714 or Louise Niro at 403-299-3987, Regulatory Officers or at 1-800-899-1265. You may also go to the Board's Internet site and click on "Acts and Regulations" to access the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure and other legislation.

Anne-Marie Erickson
Secretary of the Board
National Energy Board
444 Seventh Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0X8
Facsimile 403-292-5503



Canada