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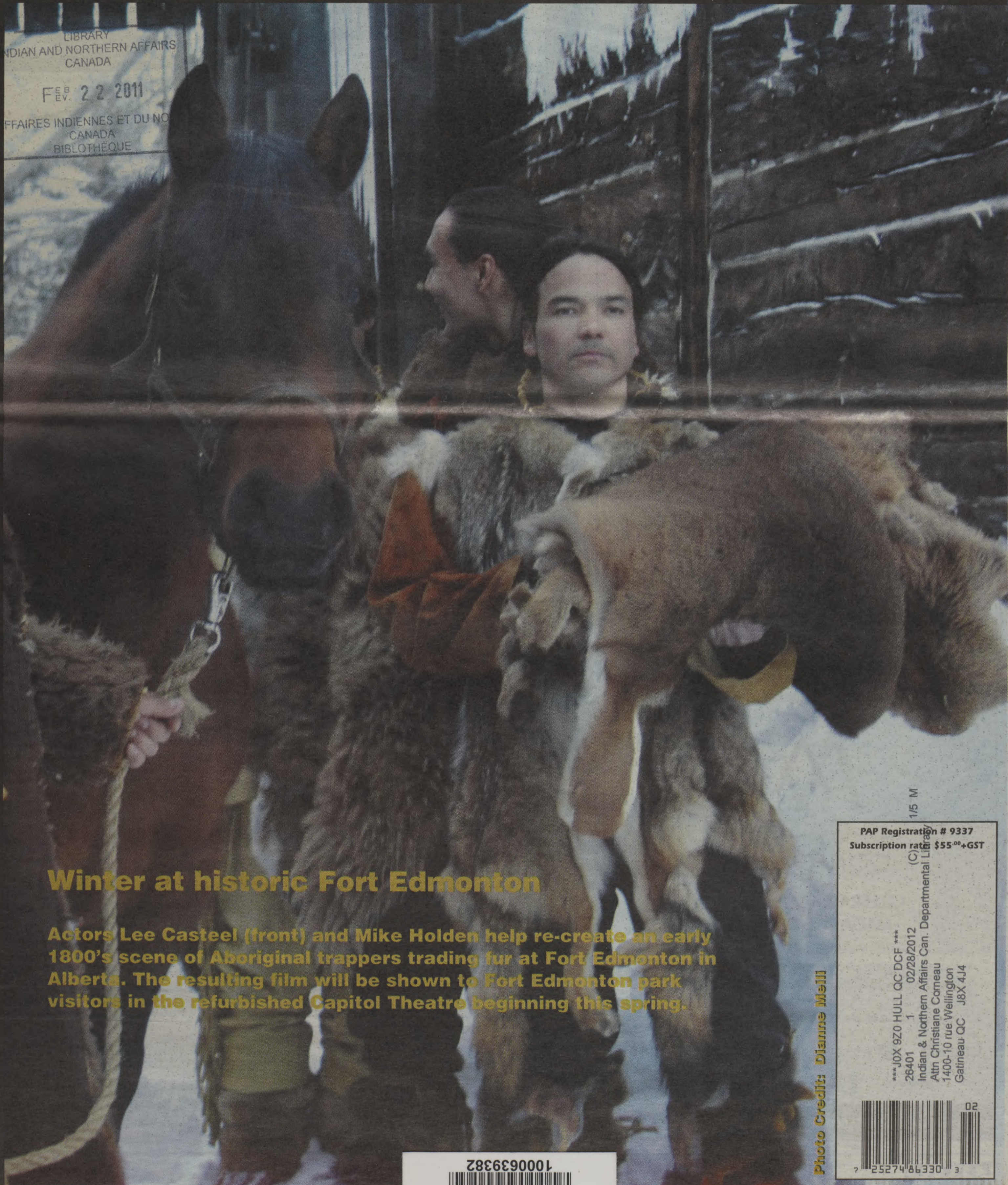
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Winter at historic Fort Edmonton

Actors Lee Casteel (front) and Mike Holden help re-create an early 1800's scene of Aboriginal trappers trading fur at Fort Edmonton in Alberta. The resulting film will be shown to Fort Edmonton park visitors in the refurbished Capitol Theatre beginning this spring.

Photo Credit: Dianna Meili

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Ruth Williams
Chief Executive Officer,
All Nations Trust Company, BC

Chief Clarence Louie
of Osoyoos Indian Band, BC



The **success** of these two Aboriginal business leaders and the impact of their initiatives on the prosperity of Aboriginal communities will be celebrated on **February 15, 2011** at a Toronto Gala Dinner.

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all of the laureates
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Canada

Features

A First Nation-to-Nation embassy established for the Cree 8

The Cree Nation now has its own embassy in the heart of historic Québec City. "We are working with the government of Québec on various projects and we felt it was necessary that we establish an office here," said Matthew Coon Come of Mistissini, Grand Chief of the Grand Council of Crees (Eeyou Istchee) since 2009.

Sensitivity needed when dealing with student Persons of Interest 9

An unexpected category of abusers is resulting in the continued re-victimization of former residential school students.

Northern survivors accommodated in new TRC office 10

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has taken critical steps to ensure that northern survivors of Indian residential schools are given every chance to tell their stories in a setting that is comfortable for them.

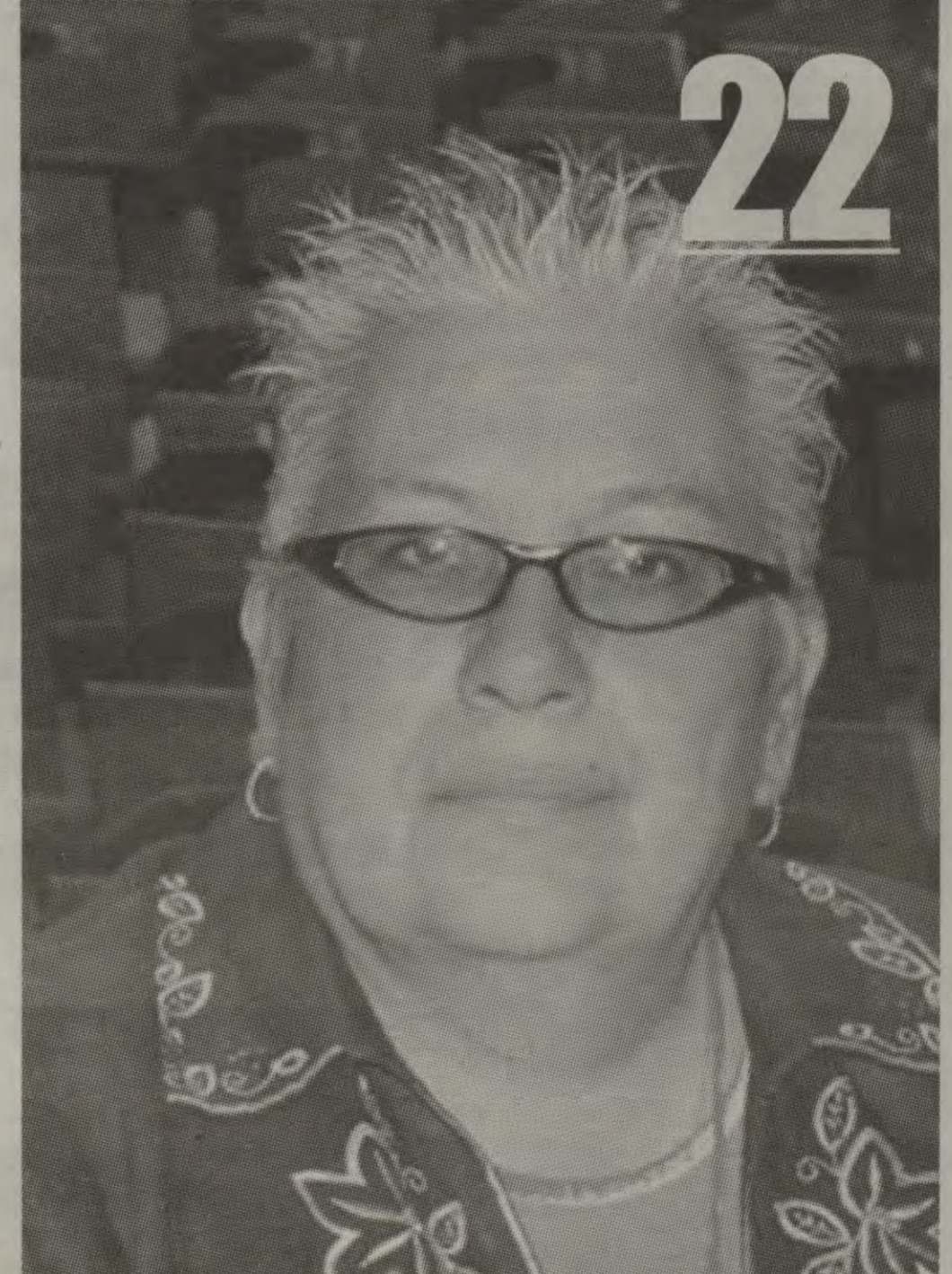
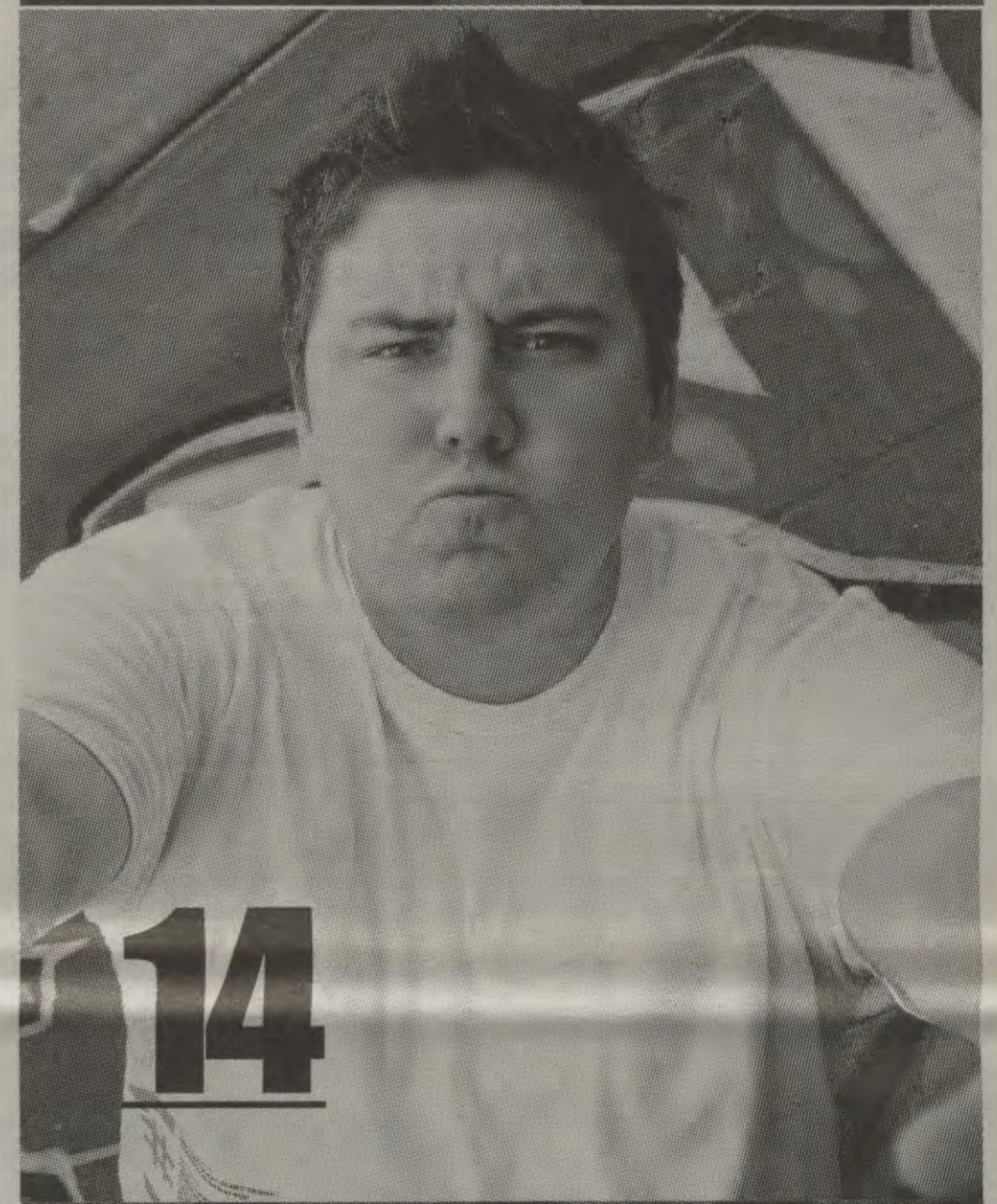
Survivors of survivors will be responsible for reconciliation 11

Reconciliation is a major concern for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, according to chair Murray Sinclair. "So long as this settlement agreement is being implemented in the way that it's being implemented, reconciliation is going to be very difficult for us," Sinclair told a group of chiefs, day scholars and residential school survivors on Dec. 13, 2010.

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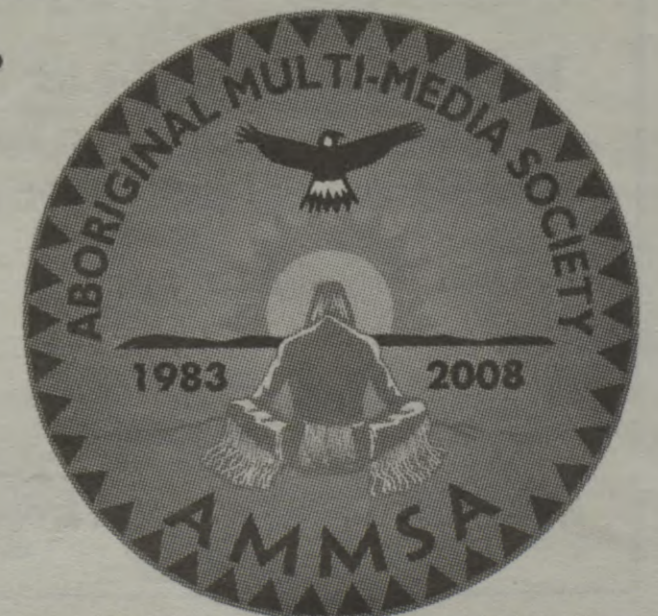
"She led the way on ideas involving Indigenous theory, governance, law, responsibility, and social and political inequality," said Martin Cannon, University of Toronto assistant sociology professor, in yet another of the public accolades that poured onto the Internet after Monture died at 51 on Nov. 17 after a period of illness.



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

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Applications are currently being accepted for Youth Workers and Arts Mentors to work within Alberta's Future Leaders program (AFL) – for more information about the AFL program and a detailed job description, please follow this link: <http://tpr.alberta.ca/asrpfw/programs/sports/abfuture/index.asp>

Positions will be located in First Nations & Métis communities throughout Alberta for the summer. Successful candidates will:

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- Work with local recreation directors, community organizations, leaders, schools, band councils and volunteers
- Develop meaningful relationships
- Work and live with another Youth Worker or Arts Mentor
- Be part of significant "life-changing" experiences

The Alberta's Future Leaders program is co-sponsored by the Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.

Compensation: The contract period for youth workers and arts mentors is from April 30 to August 26, 2011 (INCLUSIVE), with irregular and occasional long hours, including evening and weekends as required. Maximum of 40 hours per week. Total Compensation for the contract period is \$10,800.00. **Application deadline:** February 28, 2011.

Please apply for one of the following positions:

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Youth Workers will be contract employees of the community in which they are placed.

Please forward a letter of application along with your resumé in confidence to:

Shannon Ford or Scott Grevlund, Recreation Consultant
Alberta's Future Leaders Program
903 Standard Life Centre
10405 Jasper Ave.
Edmonton, AB T5J 4R7

Phone: 780-422-9254
Fax: 780-427-5140
Email: Shannon.Ford@ga.ab.ca
Scott.Grevlund@gov.ab.ca

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Mentors will be contract employees of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.

Please forward a letter of application
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Marie Burke
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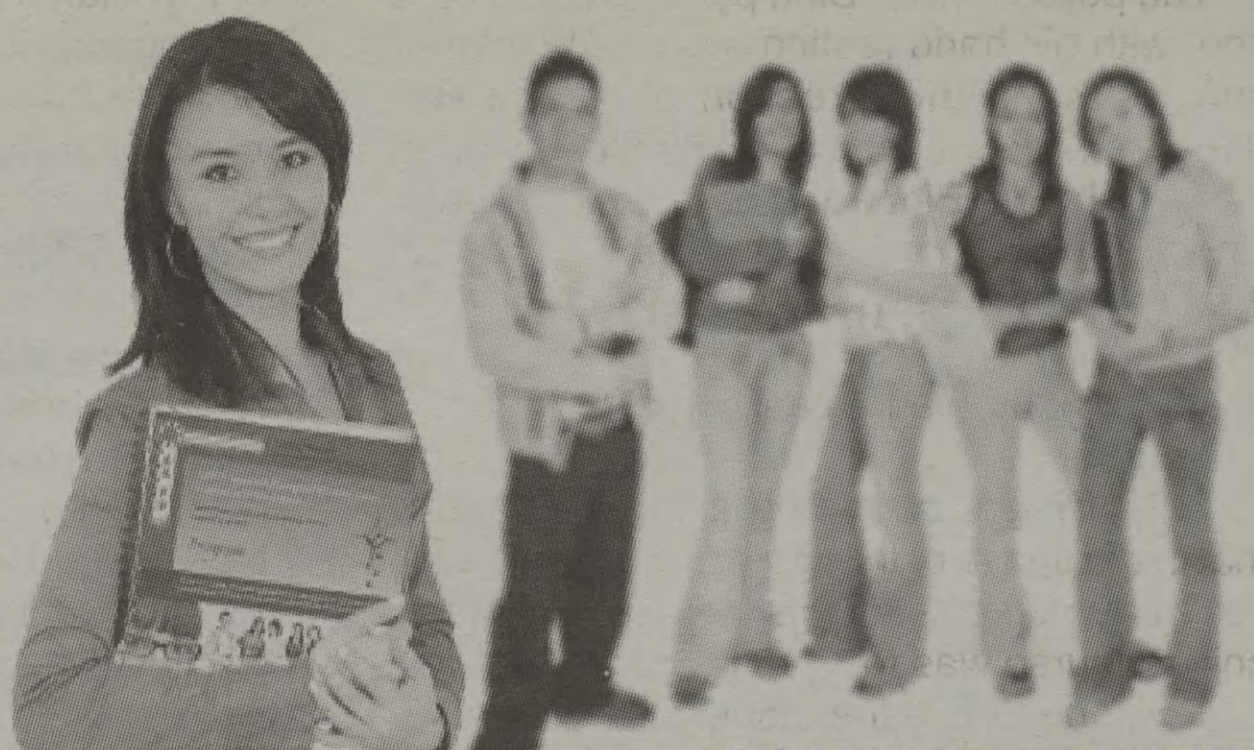


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Aboriginal Women
March 7 - 8, 2011

Both workshops are two (2) days in length and will provide participants with a broad understanding of maintaining good values and ethics within the Aboriginal workplace. The workshops will examine business ethics and how they relate to Aboriginal traditions. Participants will learn the fundamentals of human resource management and how to develop a code of ethics for an organization.

Aboriginal women and youth who are interested in enhancing their professional development are encouraged to apply. Seating is limited. Participants outside of Ottawa will be responsible for their own hotel and travel arrangements and cost. A block of hotel rooms will be made available for travelers.

Registration deadline for the Aboriginal Youth Workshop is February 9, 2011 and for the Aboriginal Women's workshop is February 21, 2010. For more information on how to access this sponsorship opportunity or to submit your application please contact: **Michelle McGuire**
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Will Officer Ian Birk face charges?

If readers haven't yet viewed the video of carver John T. Williams' shooting death at the hands of a Seattle police officer, be forewarned, it's jaw-dropping in the most profound way. Not in the graphic nature of a Tarantino movie, because there is no blood. We don't even see Officer Ian Birk unholster his gun, nor do we see him fire five rounds from his police revolver into Williams' small frame.

The stunning thing about it is how quickly a man can go from enjoying the sunshine of an end-of-summer day to being dead, and how quickly a man can decide to end another's life—mere seconds from the time that Birk exits his police vehicle, calls out to Williams, who was walking away from the officer along the sidewalk, to shots ringing out on a Seattle street.

The inquest into Williams Aug. 30, 2010 death concluded in January, and the results are stunning, if not a little confusing. The jury, which sat day after day listening to the testimony from both sides of the event, came back split on a couple of important points. Still, when one considers that juries typically come back in situations of police shootings solidly on the side of police action, Ian Birk, who before the results hoped to remain an officer of the law, must now be worried, not only for his career, but for a future facing criminal charges.

If you're unfamiliar with the story of John T. Williams, it is on its face a simple tale. A street person who is Native and a wood carver is walking along with a block of wood cradled in his arm and a legal carving knife in his hand. One can see from the dashboard camera of an approaching police vehicle that the carver is touching up his carving as he crosses at the intersection and steps up onto the curb and goes out of view.

The police officer, Birk, puts his car in park and, with his hand resting atop his holstered gun, walks in the direction of the carver. "Hey... hey," we can see him call out to Williams before Birk walks out of the camera's view. "Hey," we hear. "Put the knife down. Put the knife down. Put the knife down," we hear Birk say.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang.
That's it.

Or is it? Not according to Birk who says that in the space of those few seconds he was so threatened by Williams' demeanor that his only recourse was to take the carver's life.

Now, the jury of the inquest is not so sure what to make of this event. Here are the questions they were charged with answering:

1. On Aug. 30, 2010, did Seattle Police Officer Ian Birk observe John T. Williams crossing the street?

The jurors' answer to that was unanimous. Yes.

2. Was John T. Williams holding an open knife at the time he was first observed by Officer Birk? Again, a unanimous yes.

3. Did Officer Birk get out of his patrol car to contact John T. Williams?

Yes, the eight jurors responded.

4. Did Officer Birk gesture to John T. Williams to come back to Officer Birk's location?

Seven said yes, and one juror didn't know.

5. Did John T. Williams have a knife in his hand when Officer Birk contacted him?

Again eight said yes.

6. Did Officer Birk order John T. Williams to put the knife down? And 6 a.) Did Officer Birk order John T. Williams to put the knife down more than once?

Yes times eight to both questions.

Here's where the jury began its divide.

6b: Did John T. Williams have sufficient time to put the knife down after Officer Birk's order?

One juror said yes. Four said no, and three just didn't know.

6c: Did John T. Williams try to put the knife down after Officer Birk's order?

Eight said they did not know.

6d: Did John T. Williams put the knife down before Officer Birk began to fire his weapon?

Again eight jurors said this was unknown.

7. Was the front of John T. Williams' upper body partially turned towards Officer Birk when Officer Birk began to fire his weapon?

Two said yes. Five said no and one did not know.

(A King County medical examiner's autopsy report shows that Williams was shot four times in his side, indicating that the carver was not facing Birk when the officer opened fire.)

7a: If no, was John T. Williams turning towards Officer Birk when Officer Birk fired his weapon?

Five said yes.

8. Did Officer Birk fire his weapon at John T. Williams on August 30, 2010? Yes, said all.

9. When Officer Birk fired his weapon, did John T. Williams have a knife in his hand?

Yes, again.

9a: If yes, was John T. Williams' knife blade open when Officer Birk fired his weapon?

Four said no, and four did not know.

10. Did Officer Birk believe that John T. Williams posed an imminent threat of serious physical harm to Officer Birk at the time Officer Birk fired his weapon?

Four said yes, and four did not know.

11. Based on the information available at the time Officer Birk fired his weapon, did John T. Williams then pose an imminent threat of serious physical harm to Officer Birk?

One juror said yes. Four jurors said no. And three did not know.

12. Did John T. Williams die in King County, Washington on August 30, 2010?

Well, the answer to this was most certainly yes.

13. Did John T. Williams die from the gunshot wounds caused by Officer Birk?

Oh, yes.

John T. Williams was 51.

R.I.P.

Windspeaker

[rants and raves]

Page 5 Chatter

THE LAKE OF THE WOODS ENTERPRISE

reports that a residential school exhibit at the Lake of the Woods Museum has been nominated for three Ontario Historical Society Awards. The "Bakaan nake'ii ngii-izhi-gakinoo'amaagoomin (We Were Taught Differently): The Indian residential school experience" exhibit ran at the museum between Sept. 1 and Nov. 29, 2008. It then traveled to Ottawa in June of 2010. The nominations are for the Scadding Award of Excellence, which is awarded to a historical society or heritage group that has made an outstanding contribution to the field of history; the Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming is awarded to a non-profit public museum in Ontario showing excellence in community involvement and programming; and the Dorothy Duncan Award is given to a non-profit organization which must be nominated by a First Nations Council or a Municipal Council for outstanding service to its region. "First Nations and First Nations people factor prominently in the history of Kenora and Northwestern Ontario, yet our contributions are rarely if ever included in school curricula and are conspicuous by their absence from public venues in this area," wrote Waasegiizhig Nanaan'Dawe'lyewigamig (Kenora Area Health Access Centre) executive director Anita Cameron in a nomination letter. "The information presented through this exhibit is an important contribution to filling this gap, as well as to facilitation of cross-cultural understanding within the community."

A GROUP OF FIRST NATIONS AND SPORTS

fishermen say a pilot project aimed at stemming violence amongst people who fish the Fraser River is a promising start, reports the Abbotsford Mission Times. People gathered at the Sumas First Nation Community Health Centre in Abbotsford for the first two days of the four-day seminar, "Making peace and decisions in the salmon fishery: building our capacity to work better together." The goal is to help build skills and understanding to dissolve conflict on the river. "There is a commitment amongst the parties to help build peace on the river," said Dave Moore, executive director of the Fraser River Salmon Table Society. "By pulling in some experts, specialists in peace making, it gives [people] the opportunity to learn skills and perhaps validate the kinds of things they've experienced in the last year as they've worked their way through conflict." The newspaper reports that most of the violence on the Fraser River—rocks and weights being thrown at boats and fishermen, and knives being pulled—has been racially driven, said Rodney Clapton, president of the British Columbia Federation of Drift Fishers. He said most of the issues have been between First Nations and "white anglers."

WESTCOASTER.CA REPORTS THAT

Sna'naw'as First Nation manager Brent Edwards is frustrated about misinformation surrounding the Vancouver Island community's intention to log IN a 64-hectare parcel of land known as Nanoose Ancient Forest. "What ancient forest? There's 12 trees," he is quoted as saying. Environmentalists and politicians are protesting the logging of the forest, saying it's part of Mount Arrowsmith United Nations Biosphere Reserve and should not be touched. NDP MLA Scott Fraser and Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party of Canada are among those expressing concerns. "It's not an ancient forest. It was logged 40, 80 and 100 years ago," said Edwards. He said the nation is not logging all of the forest, only 16 hectares. He said Sna'naw'as would not harvest old growth trees because other good timber is available on the lot. Sna'naw'as is one of the smallest reserves in B.C. E&N Railway and Highway 19 run through it. Edwards said natural resources worth millions of dollars are moved over the territory each year by others. "And here we are getting the book thrown at us."

DARCY BEAR, CHIEF OF WHITECAP DAKOTA

First Nation in Saskatchewan, has endorsed Conservative MP Kelly Block's private member's bill to make chief and council financial statements public. "Everything she's talking about in her bill we actually practice," said Bear, reports the Saskatoon StarPhoenix. "We've had 19 straight unqualified audits, and we present our audits to our community members every single year," said Bear. Bear is the chief of a band with only 434 member, and is among the highest-paid chiefs in Saskatchewan. Salaries on Whitecap Dakota First Nation are determined by a third-party commission in co-operation with the federal government. Block says her bill is not about how much a chief or councilor makes, it's about making First Nations governments transparent and accountable to the people they govern.

CHIEF CAROLYN BUFFALO WAS SUSPENDED

without pay for her role in storing 75,000 cartons of cigarettes on the Montana First Nation, and she is challenging the suspension. On Jan. 7, Hobbema RCMP and the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) seized about 14 million cigarettes from a Quonset on the Montana nation because they weren't marked for sale in Alberta, an alleged violation of the provincial Tobacco Tax Act. "I am challenging (the suspension) because it was not done properly in my views," said Buffalo, reports the Edmonton Sun newspaper. Buffalo and another council member were suspended for not disclosing to council their involvement with the cigarettes. The cigarettes were manufactured by a company in Kahnawake, Que. called Rainbow Tobacco.

Do you have a rant or a rave?

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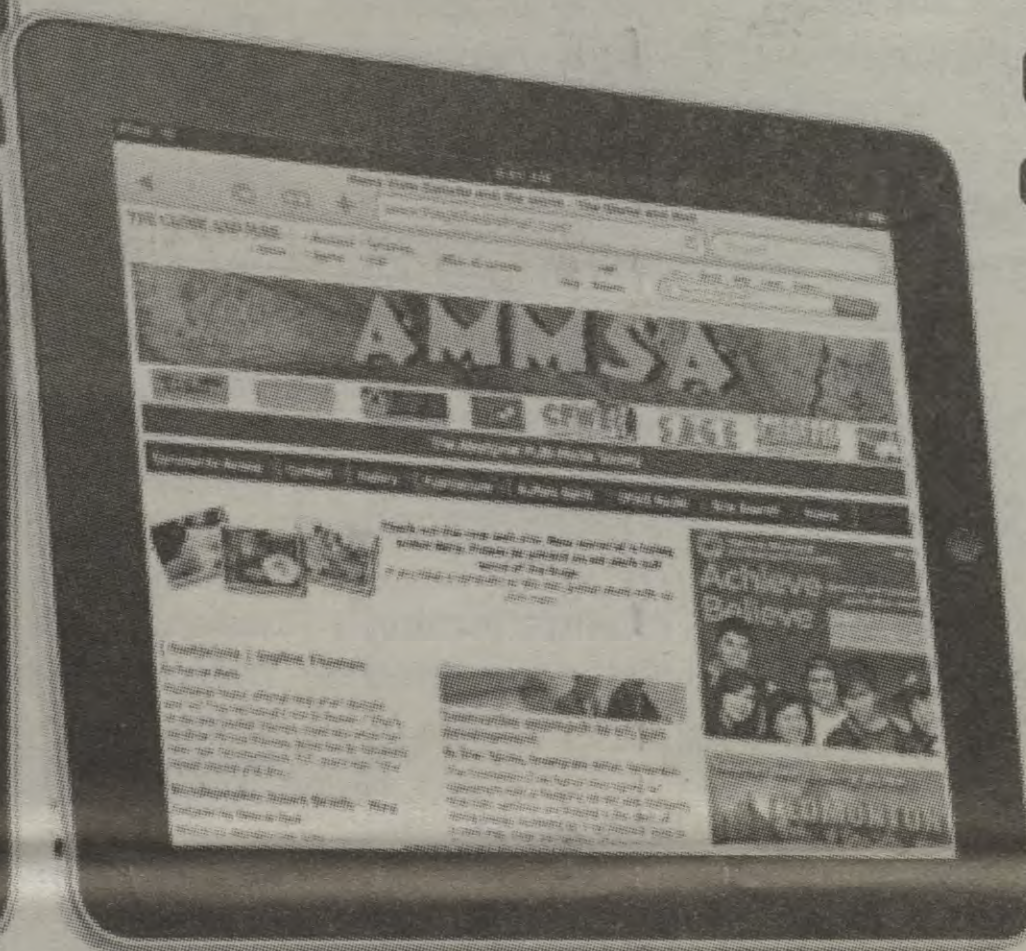
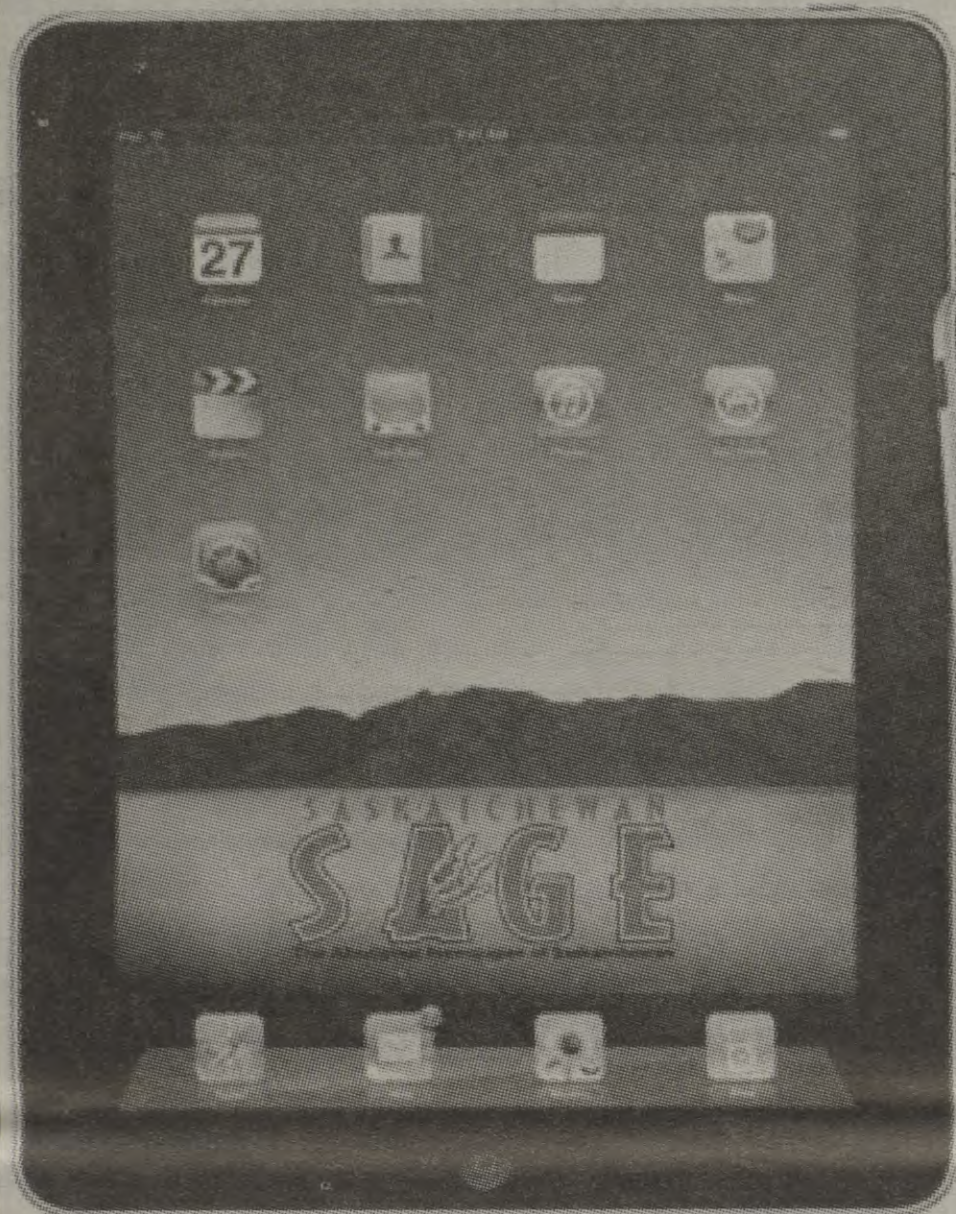


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March 16 & 17, 2011, Saskatoon, Sask. - 250-514-1570;

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April 2 & 3, 2011, South Porcupine, Ont. - 705-235-2233 or

wesley@northern.on.ca (see ad in this issue)

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April 6 & 7, 2011, Regina, Sask. - 250-514-1570;

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INSIGHT - ABORIGINAL HOUSING FORUM

April 11 & 12, 2011, Calgary, Alta. - 1-888-777-1707;

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COMMUNITY EVENTS • COMMUNITY EVENTS • COMMUNITY EVENTS

A First Nation-to-Nation embassy established for the Cree



PHOTO: GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC (PROTOCOL)

Matthew Coon Come, Grand Chief of the Grand Council of Crees (Eeyou Istchee), and Quebec Premier Jean Charest cut the ribbon to open the new Cree embassy that will be the headquarters of negotiations in which the Grand Council and the province are engaged.

By Marie White
Windspeaker Contributor

QUEBEC CITY, Que.

The Cree Nation now has its own embassy in the heart of historic Québec City.

"We are working with the government of Quebec on various projects and we felt it was necessary that we establish an office here," said Matthew Coon Come of Mistissini, Grand Chief of the Grand Council of Crees (Eeyou Istchee) since 2009.

Coon Come is now in his fifth mandate as leader of the Grand Council, and is a former national chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

"We call it a Cree embassy. It's only right, because it's a nation-to-nation relationship and we take that relationship very seriously," added the leader of the 18,000 Cree in nine northern Quebec communities.

It is the Grand Council that rents the office building it has designated as an embassy. The Quebec Crees established its first embassy in Ottawa about 25 years ago as a meeting ground for

federal government negotiations. The new Quebec City site is expected to serve a similar purpose on a provincial level. Each embassy is strategically located just blocks away from federal or provincial parliament buildings.

As a means of commemorating the 35th anniversary of the signing of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement, Canada's first modern treaty which also involved a provincial government, the Cree nation inaugurated the new headquarters at 200 Grande Allée in the presence of Coon Come, Quebec Premier Jean Charest, Parti Québécois leader Pauline Marois, Quebec Native Affairs Minister Pierre Corbeil, former grand chief of the Grand Council of Quebec Crees Ted Moses, who led the way for the signing of the Paix des braves agreement in 2002, and former minister John Ciaccia, who had represented the prime minister during the original negotiations.

"The officials of the grand council, that is the grand chief, the deputy grand chief, the executive director, our chief negotiator, and myself, assume

the diplomatic relations with the Government of Quebec," explained Romeo Saganash, director of Governmental Relations and International Affairs for the Grand Council of the Crees. "Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come has an office within the embassy."

When the James Bay Agreement was signed, the Crees and Inuit of Northern Quebec were the first Aboriginal Nations to accept provisions for education and health and social services provided by Cree institutions set up under Quebec law.

Since the November 1975 signing, "the Cree have gained much experience and wish to further develop their nation from that milestone foundation," added Saganash.

Presently, the Quebec government is developing its Plan Nord aimed at tapping the north for wind energy. The Cree are gearing up for Charest's Plan Nord as a means to develop the economy in Quebec's northern areas. Under that plan, Quebec expects to develop 300 MW of wind energy along with 3,000 MW of hydroelectric power.

"We are working hard together

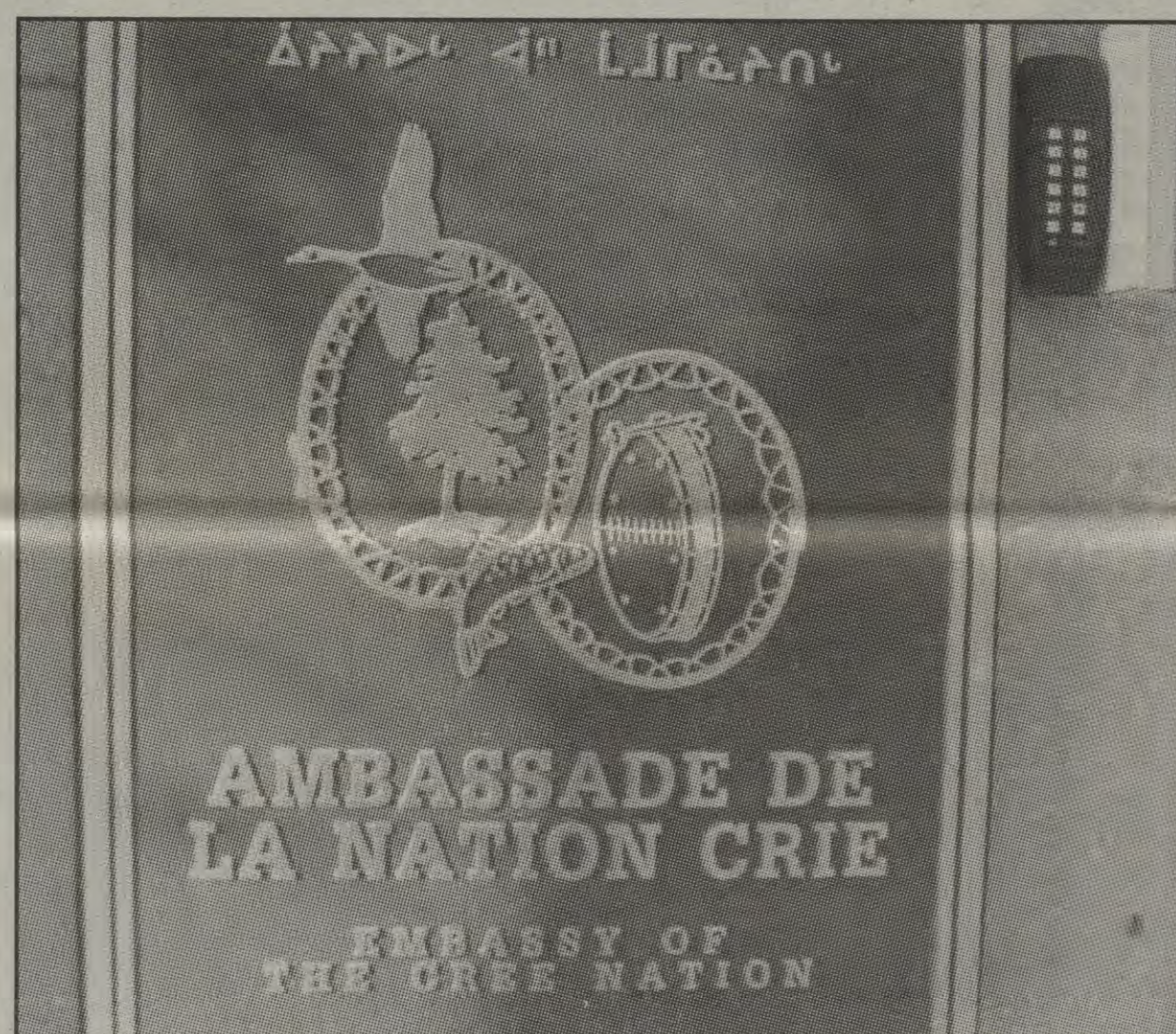


PHOTO: MARIE WHITE

The plaque for the Cree embassy in Quebec City sports three languages and the logo of the Grand Council of Crees.

with the Cree on the Plan Nord," said Minister Corbeil.

So is the embassy expected to be a permanent part of Quebec City?

"Yes," said Saganash.

"The implementation of our numerous agreements with Quebec require that we maintain constant presence and relations."

The Cree embassy significantly bears a trilingual Cree-French-English plaque at its high-security street entrance. Poised at a prestigious address in the provincial capital, it is steps away from Parliament and related government buildings which will allow it to be used for joint work tables for current negotiations.

\$20 M available for commemoration

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

Money available for residential school commemoration projects cannot be used to replace lost funding from the Aboriginal Healing Foundation," said Justice Murray Sinclair, chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

While there may have been some similar commemorative

events that the Aboriginal Healing Foundation funded as part of what they were doing, Sinclair said commemoration money is "not intended to be a source of core funding for organizations. It's intended to be a way in which survivor communities can put together a commemoration project."

A call has gone out for proposals that meet the criteria established for the commemoration initiative fund, which is administered through Indian and Northern

Affairs Canada (INAC). However, the TRC, along with the Indian Residential School Survivors Advisory Committee, will make recommendations on projects to INAC.

The fund has been set at \$20 million, with \$10 million available in this round. Project proposals are due by March 18. Approved projects will begin to receive funding in April.

As many as 10 communities may come together to access up to \$500,000 for a single project.

Individually communities are limited to \$50,000 in funding. Up to \$2 million is available for national commemoration initiatives.

"The commemoration initiative is part of the TRC's mandate," said Sinclair. "The commemoration is intended to be about honoring, educating, remembering, memorializing and paying tribute to residential school former students, families and their communities, and acknowledging the experience

and broad systemic impacts of residential schools."

Commemoration initiatives can take on a variety of forms, including creation of or improvements to existing memorials, commemorative structures, or ceremonies.

Proposals can be submitted by communities, Aboriginal organizations representing a group, groups of residential school survivors, churches or charitable organizations dealing with residential school issues.

Sensitivity needed when dealing with student Persons of Interest

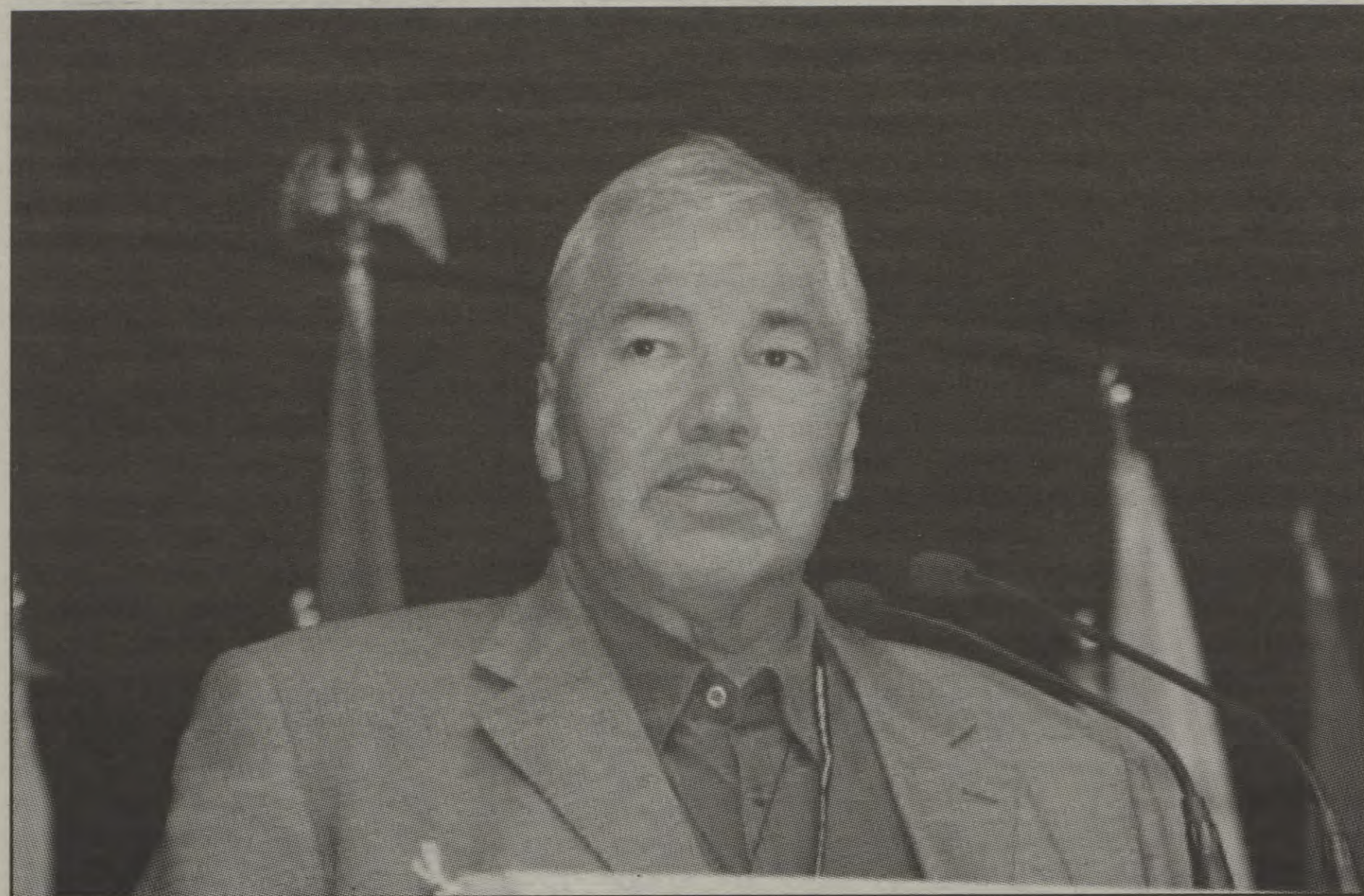


PHOTO: FILE

Justice Murray Sinclair, chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

YELLOWKNIFE

An unexpected category of abusers is resulting in the continued re-victimization of former residential school students.

"The issue of student-on-student abuse was one, I'm fairly certain with discussion with the parties to the settlement agreement, that was not on the minds of the negotiators of the settlement when the agreement was reached," said Justice Murray Sinclair, chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

The commission was one of the results of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement which was signed in May 2008 by the federal government, representatives from the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit, and the general synods of United, Presbyterian, Anglican churches and Roman Catholic Entities.

Former students who attended a prescribed list of Indian residential schools are entitled to compensation under the Common Experience Payment program. Students who claim sexual abuse or serious physical abuse can make an additional claim under the Independent Assessment Process (IAP).

As part of the IAP, the claimant must name the person who inflicted the abuse. The person named, or person of interest, is contacted and asked to attend a hearing in order to offer his version of the events recounted by the claimant. Based on the information gathered, an adjudicator determines if IAP payments are to be made.

The IAP process is "non-adversarial," said Luc Dumont, director general with the Dispute Resolution Operation

Directorate, with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. He noted that the former student and the person of interest never appear at the same hearing. However, the person of interest is told who has named him.

Persons of interest are commonly church or school officials, employees or representatives. However, persons of interest are also turning out to be residential school students. Some times, the person making the IAP claim and the person named live in the same community or are members of the same family.

There are no statistics available, said Dumont, as to how many persons of interest are former residential school students. He pointed out that less than one per cent of the calls received on the crisis line operated through the resolution health support program, which was created as part of the settlement agreement, dealt with the issue of student-on-student abuse.

"We have heard about this, but it's more anecdotal evidence so far," said Dumont.

In a recent *CBC News* story, a claimant, who asked not to be identified, said she met up with the former student she named, not realizing he had been told that she had named him. She said his attitude toward her was "aggressive and scary."

In a separate case reported by *CBC News*, Charlie Thompson, a former student at Port Alberni Residential School, was named as a sexual abuser. He defended himself at a hearing.

"When I got the call, it was like I was just left hanging, and I'm just thankful I'm OK," Thompson told the *CBC*. "I didn't feel good. I felt like a criminal.... But I told my truth. That's all I can do."

Thompson was sexually abused by staff at the Port Alberni school. How named students are being

contacted is a concern, said Sinclair.

"I think the manner in which they're contacted, what they're told when they're contacted, needs to be dealt with sensitively because often the person of interest in the case of student-on-student abuse situation is also him or herself a survivor," said Sinclair.

Sinclair believes that people named by claimants have the right to speak out in their defense and need to be given that opportunity.

Student-on-student abuse is a concern that continues to be spoken about by survivors, said Sinclair.

"The issue raises itself, because when it comes to discussions about reconciliation, the commission has to be concerned about what the impacts are for the future of reconciliation within those communities and sometimes within families," said Sinclair.

He said the commission is researching the issue as well as talking to experts as to how to deal with this particular form of abuse and how it impacts communities and families.

The resolution health support program offers counseling and other health services to all former residential school students, said Dumont, whether claimants or named as persons of interest.

"We advise them to use this as much as possible because this is a resource available to them, this is part of the settlement agreement," said Dumont.

Sinclair said when the commission meets with communities and when the statement gathering team meets with survivors, both ask what can be done to assist communities and families in dealing with this unique situation.

"It is an ongoing concern. I think it's one we have to be prepared to address when we give our final report," said Sinclair.

Windspeaker news briefs

THE CANADIAN FORCES WILL

offer an official apology for listing the Mohawk Warrior Society as a potentially violent insurgent group in a draft manual in 2006. The listing angered many who claimed Mohawks were being compared to such terror groups as Hezbollah and the Taliban. The draft document singled out the Aboriginal traditional group as an example of "radical Native American organizations" that can be "viewed as insurgencies with specific and limited aims." Military officials are working on the wording of the apology. A spokesman for the Canadian Forces has called the apology important, and said it will be heartfelt. "We want to make sure that it's [the apology] delivered in a proper format with a proper amount of respect and from the proper level," said Maj. Martell Thompson.

CONST. GENNIFER FURKALO,

an RCMP officer serving a remote northern community in Manitoba, is working to save a population of wild dogs in a First Nations community. The dogs are located in Shamattawa, located about 700 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg. Residents have regular "shoot days" to control the feral dog population to prevent them from forming packs. Furkalo transported five puppies to adoptive families in Winnipeg, Brandon and Portage la Prairie. And word of her efforts quickly spread. Animal welfare agencies are involved and other groups are trying to raise money to spay and neuter dogs too wild or old to be adopted out.

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo has called on all governments to respect First Nations' jurisdiction over tobacco sales and distribution in their communities. "First Nations leaders and governments are legitimately asserting their authority and jurisdiction regarding tobacco sales and distribution in their communities based on their authority over health, commercial activity and economics and trade," said Atleo. The statement was in response to tobacco products seized on reserves in Alberta and Ontario. "It is obvious that there is no consensus regarding the jurisdiction issue since the tobacco products seized come from federally licensed First Nation tobacco manufacturers and, generally, provincial jurisdiction on reserve is limited, according to Canada's own constitutional law." Atleo said the consumption, sales and regulation of tobacco in First Nations communities is not a new issue, but recent events in Alberta and Ontario indicate that jurisdictional disputes regarding tobacco may be an emerging priority. "Federal, provincial and First Nations governments need to reconcile their interests and authorities through intergovernmental dialogue and agreements, and the AFN is willing to assist in this matter in any way that is helpful," the national chief stated. "First Nations are in the best position to locally address and regulate health and safety concerns regarding tobacco, particularly since it is a sacred substance. The bottom line is that First Nations' jurisdiction must be respected."

THE NEW TOP MOUNTIE

in Saskatchewan is RCMP Chief Supt. Russ Mirasty, a member of the Lac La Ronge Indian band of northern Saskatchewan. He has taken over as the commanding officer of F Division, and is the first First Nations person to lead an RCMP division in the force's history. Mirasty joined the RCMP in 1976. He was one of only two First Nations cadets in his troop at Depot Division, the RCMP's training academy in Regina. He worked his way through the ranks working in general detachment policing, highway patrol and police dog services and was stationed in areas across the country, from Gander, N.L., to Prince George, B.C. Cree is Mirasty's first language and his background helps him understand people better, he said. Mirasty started full-time duties in mid-December but the official change of command won't happen until February. He's glad to be back in Saskatchewan, he said.

NEARLY FIVE YEARS AFTER

Judge Ted Hughes issued his report into B.C.'s child protection system, the Ministry of Children and Families' own reviews point to "systemic" failures that played a role in the deaths of several children over the past three years. "The B.C. Liberals have shown that they aren't interested in protecting this province's most vulnerable kids. The cuts to budgets and services have been too deep, there is confusion throughout the ministry about a vague new framework that no one understands, and we have a minister who just doesn't seem to understand the impacts all of it has had on children," said New Democrat children and families critic Maurine Karagianis. † Twelve case reviews were posted to the government Web site in compliance with the recommendations made by Hughes intended to bring about improvements in policy, practice and public accountability. Karagianis pointed out that in November the independent children's representative reported that half of the recommendations made by Hughes in 2006 were still incomplete, including several regarding case reviews. The representative stressed the importance Hughes put on improving child death reviews, but went on to say the changes implemented by the ministry are "inadequate in meeting the intent of the Hughes Review in the key areas of continuous system-wide improvement, public accountability, and clarity and consistency." One of the child death reviews says "systemic barriers such as competing caseload demands, staff inexperience, and availability of supervisory consultation impacted service quality."

Northern survivors accommodated in new TRC office

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

YELLOWKNIFE

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has taken critical steps to ensure that northern survivors of Indian residential schools are given every chance to tell their stories in a setting that is comfortable for them.

Not only is the next national event planned for Inuvik, but the TRC will be visiting 19 northern communities prior to the event, which will be held June 28 to July 1.

The announcement was made on Jan. 12, the same day the TRC's Yellowknife office was officially opened.

"This is a very huge region, a very huge part of Canada, and this puts us closer to the region that we need to get to," said TRC Commissioner Marie Wilson, who noted that the Yellowknife office would be her home base.

It will also be a place for survivors to have their statements taken. Language support and health support will be available

in the northern office.

From March 15 through to May 27, the TRC and statement gathering team will be visiting two communities in Nunavik, Que., six communities in Nunavut, seven communities in the Northwest Territories, and four communities in the Yukon.

"The commissioners travelling into these northern communities during this particular schedule of hearings will not be the only time that the TRC will be available to northern communities," said TRC Chair Murray Sinclair.

The communities to be part of the TRC's northern tour were chosen in conjunction with the Inuit sub-commission, said Wilson. She noted that the sub-commission has been involved in the planning of the Inuvik national event, which has been in the works since late last summer.

"There is also a general template for the plan that we were able to develop based on the first national event, which was in Winnipeg...How do we revise and adapt that and make that appropriate to the particular location, region and cultural context of Inuvik," said Wilson.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has developed a community events strategy to financially support organizations that are planning residential school survivor gatherings.

"We have been challenged in the statement-gathering process, quite frankly, because of the capacity issues we have faced as a commission... and issues surrounding the loss of funding by community and survivor groups because of the loss of funding to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation," said Sinclair.

Last year, amidst much controversy, the federal government announced that it was cutting federal dollars to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. The AHF funded activities and programs throughout Canada that allowed survivors to receive counseling and other support.

"It's our view as commissioners that every person who wants to give a statement to the commission has the opportunity to do so," said Sinclair.

To help survivors tell their stories, Sinclair said the TRC's statement gathering team is

developing a plan to visit at least 150 communities.

"We want to ensure there are facilities provided in those communities for people to come forward, rather than expecting they will be going to communities or events outside of their area of residence," said Sinclair.

The second tour in 2011 planned will be of Atlantic Canada and will lead up to a national event to take place in Halifax, Oct. 27 to Oct. 30. Commission staff will work with regional liaisons and survivor communities in both areas to plan the tours, which could include regional events.

The first of seven national events took place in June in Winnipeg last year with an average of 10,000 people attending each day.

"We were overwhelmed quite frankly by the number of people who attended," said Sinclair. "It just indicated to us the significance of the issue for the public, as well as the survivor population."

Two national events are planned for 2012: Spring in

British Columbia and summer in Saskatchewan. In 2013 there will be two more national events, which will take place in Quebec in the spring and in Alberta in the fall. A closing ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Ontario in 2014.

The TRC has a five-year mandate.

Commission staff is also developing a plan to help survivors travel to national events. Travel costs have been an obstacle to many survivors.

The TRC is working with the government, the private sector, churches and community organizations to put funding in place to help with travel.

"Statement gathering is a major part of our focus and we are hopeful we will be able to be up to capacity for doing that in the next several months," said Sinclair.

Statement gathering will also take place in senior citizen and personal care homes, which have been identified by TRC staff. A statement gathering process is also being developed to talk to people in prison and living on the streets.

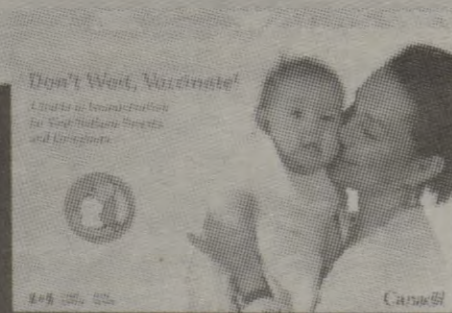
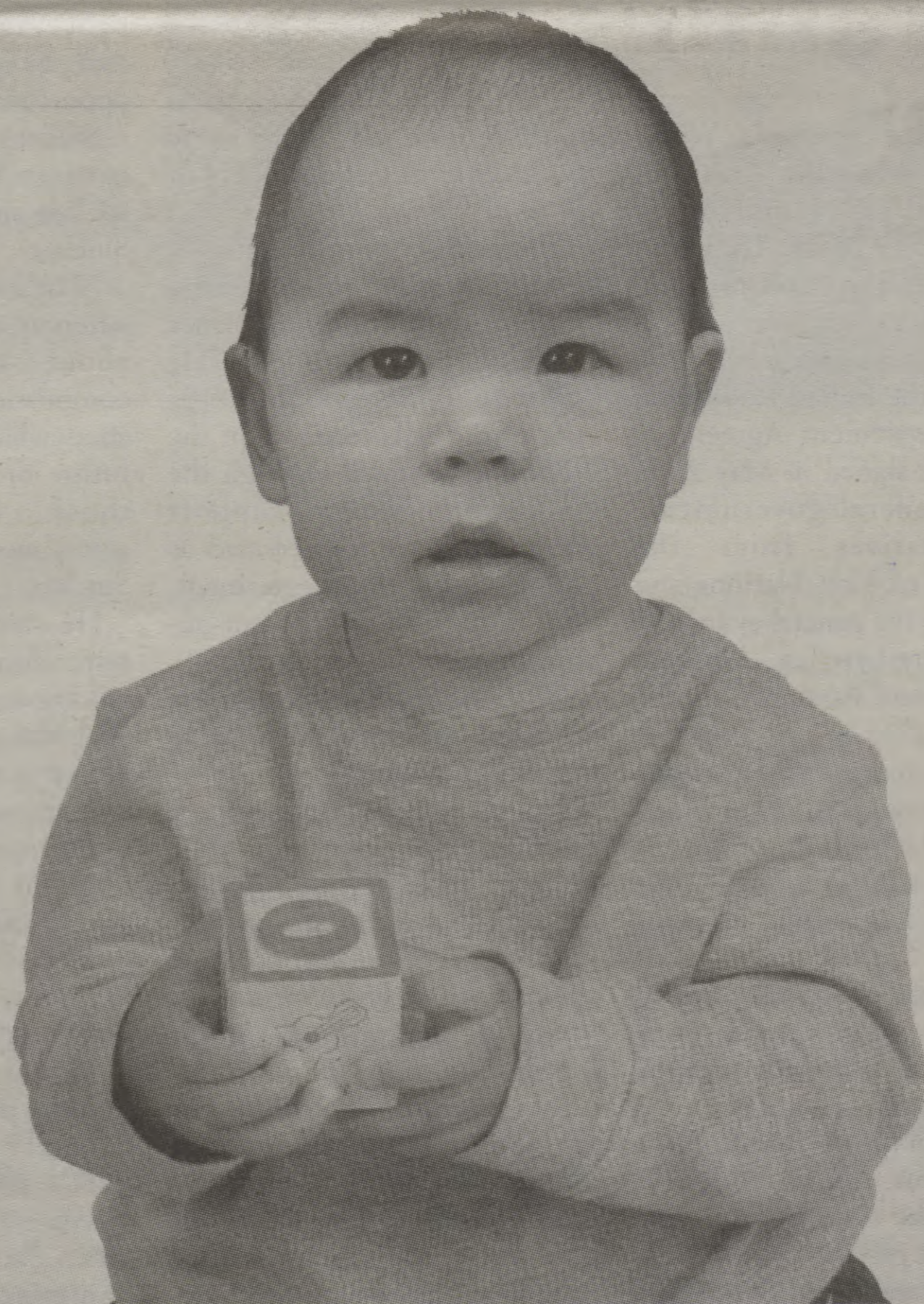


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Survivors of survivors will be responsible for reconciliation

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

GATINEAU, Que.

Reconciliation is a major concern for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, according to chair Murray Sinclair.

"So long as this settlement agreement is being implemented in the way that it's being implemented, reconciliation is going to be very difficult for us," Sinclair told a group of chiefs, day scholars and residential school survivors on Dec. 13, 2010.

Focus, he said, is being directed in other areas when it comes to the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement to the exclusion of discussion about what reconciliation means to the parties who negotiated the settlement and how that reconciliation can be reached.

The issues that are taking precedent include how the agreement is being implemented, conflicts over the way the compensation is being paid, lack of information regarding how

claims are being processed, and the exclusion of day scholars, numerous Indian residential schools and Métis residential schools.

"As a result, whenever we engage in a process of discussion about reconciliation, it is generally at a pretty superficial level," said Sinclair.

The TRC is hoping to address that issue with a series of forums to be held across the country with survivors, their children and grandchildren and the general Canadian population.

Focusing on descendants of residential school survivors is critical, said Sinclair.

"We know that issue of reconciliation is very important for young people, because they are the ones who have spoken to us that they are constantly living with the impacts of residential schools in their lives," said Sinclair.

Sinclair also said that youth do not fully understand the residential school experience and, because they don't, youth have a hard time understanding that the experience is a contributing factor to the dysfunction that

permeates Aboriginal society.

Residential schools are also a contributing factor to the loss of culture, language and Aboriginal identity. The impact can be seen in the high school drop-out rate for Aboriginals, and the high rate of incarceration and child welfare apprehension.

"I have said on many occasions we will not achieve reconciliation within the lifetime of this commission. What we hope to achieve as a commission is a framework for discussion for going into the future. And at the very least by the end of the term of this commission's mandate, we will agree on what the end object of what reconciliation should be so that everything that we do, and with, each other in the future keeps in mind what the entire objective of the whole process has got to be about," said Sinclair.

If the objective of reconciliation is to move toward mutual respect between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, that is the discussion that needs to take place, he said. That discussion needs to include how to enable Aboriginal people, in particular young Aboriginal



PHOTO: FILE

Wilton Littlechild, Murray Sinclair and Mary Wilson of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

people, to gain self-respect.

"We are going to be challenging each of the parties of the settlement agreement what reconciliation means to them, and ask them if they are prepared to talk publically about their objective insofar as to what reconciliation is about so reconciliation at an institutional level can proceed forward as well," said Sinclair.

As important as it is to come

to an agreement about reconciliation at an institutional level, it's just as important to keep the discussion focused at the personal level.

"Survivors of survivors have to be a major focus of our efforts when it comes to reconciliation because they are the ones to whom we are going to give the responsibility to bring about reconciliation in the future," said Sinclair.

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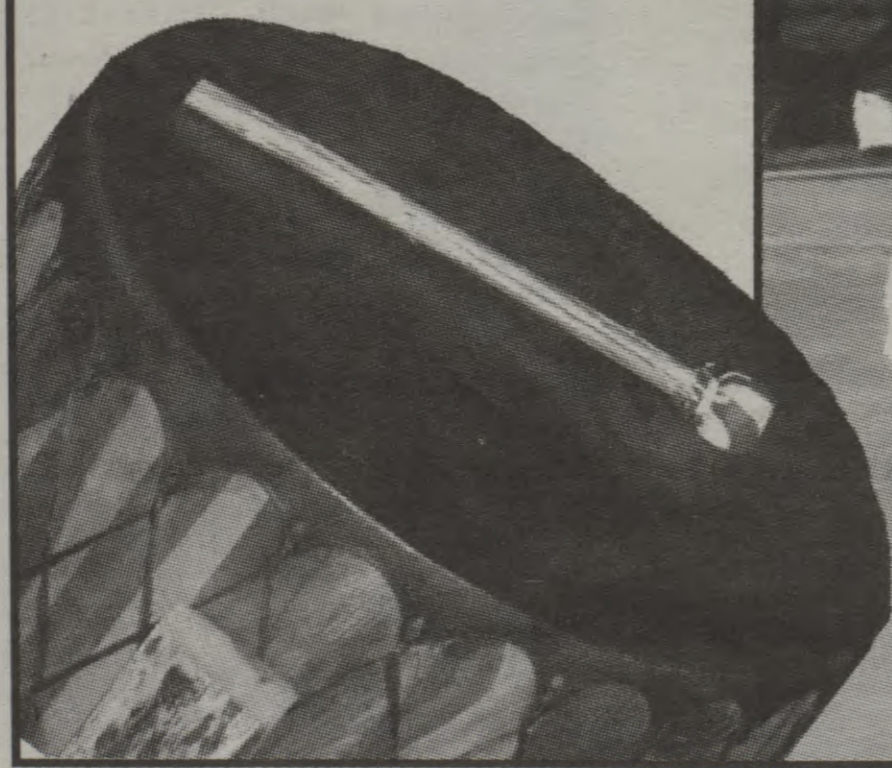
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Theme: Honouring our Children, Past, Present and Future

Date: April 2 & 3, 2011

Your College. Your Community.

Pow Wow Highlights

Host Drum Group:
Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Drum
Co-Host Drum Group: Otterhead
Invited: Highridge Singers
Invited: Nigwaskun

Head Male Dancer: Eddy Robinson
Head Female Dancer: Helen Kataquapit
Head Child/Youth Dancers TBA
Invited Dancer: Dallas Arcand,
World Champion Hoop Dancer

Porcupine Campus
4715 Highway 101 East,
South Porcupine, ON

Contact for more information:
Lisa Wesley, Native Student Advisor,
1-705-235-2233 or wesleyl@northern.on.ca

[strictly speaking]

Looking for rights in all the wrong places

It's official. We got rights. That's good to know, considering for three years Canada and a number of rather significant other countries thought Indigenous people didn't deserve them (of course I'm paraphrasing). But on Dec. 16, 2010, President Obama announced that the United States will sign the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It was one of the last countries to do so.

A little over a month before, another 'better late than never' country called Canada agreed to do the same. Now the party can really start. I haven't felt this way since Status Indians got the right to vote back in 1960 and therefore became citizens of our own country. Of course, that was two years before I was born, but you get the point.

Basically the Declaration is not a legally binding instrument under international law, but it does "represent the dynamic development of international legal and norms and it reflects the commitment of the UN's member states to move in certain directions."

Native people as a whole are all for moving in certain directions. It also sets "an important standard for the treatment of



THE URBANE INDIAN Drew Hayden Taylor

Indigenous peoples that will undoubtedly be a significant tool towards eliminating the human rights violations against the planet's 370 million Indigenous people and assisting them in combating discrimination and marginalisation."

That's just what I wanted for Christmas. Isn't it wonderful that this happened just before the holidays? Obama obviously didn't want to be on Santa's naughty list.

The declaration also says Indigenous people must be equal partners in all negotiations on self-determination, lands and resources, culture, identity, language, employment, health, education and other issues. It also "emphasizes the rights of Indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their own institutions, cultures and

traditions, and to pursue their own visions of economic and social development." Pretty cool words. Heck, I'd vote for it. Who knows, we might even be able to get the Band council to give it a thumbs up.

It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during its 62nd session at UN Headquarters in New York City on Sept. 13, 2007. There were a number of abstainers (bad Bhutan, Azerbaijan, and Bangladesh), but it was immediately endorsed by 145 countries worldwide (yeah Bermuda and Iceland). But there were four very noticeable rejections of the declaration. And can you guess which four? A little hint: They were originally colonies of a large island nation off the western shores of Europe, and have a spotty history in

dealing with the Indigenous populations of those same colonies. They were the United States, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada.

Originally, Canada had problems with the document as a whole, citing that "portions of the current Declaration do not help in providing practical guidance to States, Indigenous peoples and multi-lateral organizations as part of the text are vague and ambiguous, leaving it open to different and possibly competing, interpretations", and that the document was "fundamentally incompatible with Canada's constitutional framework." Of course not. The Canadian government is still wrestling with the interpretation of some treaties signed 150 years ago. I can already tell its going to be a long 21st century.

But that's all old news now. Canada did an about face and joined the club. On Nov. 12 of last year, the government of Canada pledged to support the Declaration, a good month before the Americans. I guess that's something to be proud of.

A spokesperson for the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs said "the concerns that were expressed in 2007 do remain. But Canada

does support the spirit of the declaration and believes it should be supported as an aspirational document."

In practical terms, this means the federal government will have to incorporate the Declaration's principles into current and future laws, policies and programs affecting Aboriginal people. Well, we hope and pray. How many more Christmases till then?

I can't help but wonder what the bottom line is here. So Canada and the U.S. signed this thing. In the end, what does that mean for the average Indigenous person drinking their Tim Horton's double double? Will it put more bannock on the table? Will it bring down the disproportionately high levels of Aboriginal incarceration, suicide, diabetes, and school drop-out rates? Will it bring more White customers to our smoke shacks? Will it address the fact that the biggest gamble in many Native communities is not gambling or casinos, but can they drink the water?

I guess the best, and probably only, answer is to take a 'wait and see' stance. Still, it would have been so much nicer and yes, cooler, if Canada had been at the forefront, instead of the second last country to sign.

Hereditary leadership takes a stand on food fishery

By Debora Steel
Raven's Eye Writer

TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

The hereditary chiefs of the Nuu-chah-nulth territories stood together on Jan. 19 and spoke with one voice to send a message to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

It said the Nuu-chah-nulth ha'wiih (hereditary leadership) will take care of their resources within their ha'houlthees (chiefly lands), and they will ensure that their people get the fish they need.

"There is no way we are going to let our people starve," said Ahoushat Tyee Ha'wilt (head chief) Maquinna Lewis George.

The statement of solidarity sprang from DFO's continued mishandling of the Aboriginal food and ceremonial fishery over many years, the ha'wiih told representatives from the department who attended the final day of a Council of Ha'wiih meeting, and particularly from events last year when, despite the record runs of sockeye in the Somass and the Fraser River systems, some communities were only given a food and ceremonial allotment that would provide six sockeye for each of their members for the year.

The food and ceremonial fishery is a priority, which comes only after conservation in Canadian law. The commercial and sport fisheries come after the Aboriginal food fishery, and the ha'wiih told DFO that if commercial and sports fishers are out on the waters,



PHOTO: ISTOCK IMAGE

then Nuu-chah-nulth will continue to be provided for and will have fish on their tables.

"We need you to know that come this summer we are not going to let those fish go by. We are not asking. We are telling you that we are not going to let our people starve. We have been too passive," Maquinna said.

The problems surrounding the food and ceremonial fishery has persisted over many years, but came to a head last summer when DFO enforced what it calls an "adjacency policy."

The Princess Colleen, owned by the Charleson family from Hesquiaht, is one of the few Nuu-chah-nulth fishing vessels working in the territories. It is often used by the nations to conduct their food fisheries. For example, when Yuu-tluth-aht needed to fill their food fish needs last summer, it was the Princess Colleen and her crew that fished for the nation in the Barkley Sound.

Skipper Con Charleson explained that the fish were so plentiful in the sound last year it

took only one five-minute drift set to catch more than what Yuu-tluth-aht required. The extra fish were distributed to other Barkley Sound nations.

But last summer when Ehattesah, whose territory was depleted of the sockeye resource, wanted the Colleen to food fish for its members, DFO stepped in. It threatened the Colleen with seizure if it attempted to get Ehattesah's allocation from the bounty the Barkley Sound could provide.

The difference between Yuu-tluth-aht and Ehattesah is that Yuu-tluth-aht has territory in the sound, but Ehattesah has not. What that nation had, however, was permission from the ha'wiih of Hupacasath, whose territory is in the sound, to get the fish required to fulfill Ehattesah's food and ceremonial needs.

The ha'wiih asked Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council President Wickinnish Cliff Atleo to speak on their behalf. Speaking in his language, Wickinnish said the ha'wiih have been taught how to

take care of their resources. He explained that both traditionally and today, the ha'wiih of one nation does not go into the territory of another without permission and they respect this protocol. It is not uncommon for a ha'wilt to ask another to take some resources out of his territory and trade what was available within his own, Wickinnish said. This is the time honored tradition of the ha'wiih. It was offensive to the hereditary chiefs that DFO did not respect the ancient laws and protocols of the ha'wiih.

The ha'wiih then presented DFO with a set of principles by which they would stand.

1. In the absence of conservation restrictions, First Nation's Food, Social and Ceremonial needs have priority over all other harvesters (Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples).

2. First Nations will define their Food, Social and Ceremonial

needs seasonally based on the needs of their communities and the abundance of available resources.

(Another frustration for communities was that DFO was using population numbers from the mid-1990s to determine allocation. Hesquiaht's population numbers, for example, have increased by 30 per cent since that time.)

3. First Nations prefer to harvest their Food, Social and Ceremonial needs from their own territories using their own fishermen. Harvesting will be monitored and reported.

(Resources in some territories have been so depleted through commercial over-fishing or destroyed by industrial activity that the ha'wiih wanted to know how DFO was going to work with Nuu-chah-nulth leadership to restore the territories, lost due to no fault of their own.)

4. If First Nations territories will not support their Food, Social and Ceremonial needs, then First Nations will enter into protocol agreements with other First Nations to meet their Food, Social and Ceremonial needs.

And,
5. First Nation's protocols will be respected to ensure that the First Nations meet their Food, Social, and Ceremonial needs.

Brigid Payne, a Senior Policy Advisor with DFO, addressed the ha'wiih's statement. She said DFO acknowledges "the critical job of doing things better" in regards to the food and ceremonial fishery.

See *Hereditary* on page 16.)

Tournament too costly for nations to host

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

SASKATOON

After some doubt, there will be a National Aboriginal Hockey Championship (NAHC) this year after all, but the tournament will not be as big as in previous years.

For a while it appeared there would be no national championship in 2011. That's because no suitable group had offered to host the tournament, which traditionally attracts about 10 female and 10 male squads from across the country.

Since no group had submitted a bid to host the 2011 tourney, the Aboriginal Sports Circle (ASC) extended the bid deadline in December. But even that did not bring any hosting offers.

As a result, officials from several provinces indicated they would not send any players to this year's tournament because of the ASC's delays in announcing a host city.

When it appeared the

tournament might be scrapped altogether, a Saskatoon group stepped up during the second week of January and offered to host the event.

ASC board members voted on Jan. 21 to accept Saskatoon's offer. And the city was awarded the tournament, but because of the relatively late announcement, only four provinces—Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario—have indicated they would be sending teams to the tournament.

Norman Ettawacappo, the ASC's Major Games Liaison, believes that is not necessarily a discouraging fact, even though previous tournaments have had more than double that number of entries.

"This isn't that bad," he said. "The less teams you have the easier it is for the hosts to service them."

Ettawacappo said now that a host site has been announced, some others might also register to take part.

Even if they don't, Ettawacappo said various other

national championships have been held in several sports that have only attracted representation from a few provinces.

Ettawacappo explained it was not a shock that a host for the 2011 NAHC had not surfaced earlier.

"I'm not surprised, because of the challenges faced by previous hosts," he said. "Most of them have broken even or they've lost money."

Though they do receive registration fees from participating squads, the hosts are obligated to buy jerseys for all participating players in the tournament. Plus they have to organize a banquet for all entrants.

Tournament expenses also start to pile up when considering ice rental costs and officiating fees.

Ettawacappo said some previous hosts have also paid for some of the meal expenses for participants. Or they've subsidized their accommodations during the tournament.

A host for the 2010 tournament was also difficult to find. Since there was no group interested in hosting that event, the ASC was forced to step in and organize the tourney with its own officials, staging it in Ottawa.

Ettawacappo said that was a scenario that could not be repeated this year.

"We just had a change in management," he said. "We didn't have the manpower to do this."

No doubt it would have been a dark time if the ASC had cancelled this year's NAHC. Even more so considering the 2011 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), which were slated for Milwaukee this summer, were previously cancelled.

The NAIG Council nixed those games after Milwaukee pulled out as host and a suitable replacement site could not be found.

Ettawacappo said having to cancel another major Aboriginal sporting event would have been disappointing.

"That's been a fear for some of the board members and hockey committee members," he said. "It wouldn't look good for the ASC, even though we're separate from the NAIG Council."

ASC Chair Tex Marshall is thrilled the NAHC was not cancelled.

"I think it would have been very disappointing," he said. "Especially for those who are in their final year of eligibility in this age group."

The NAHC features bantam- and midget-aged players. The female division, however, also allows some over-agers to compete.

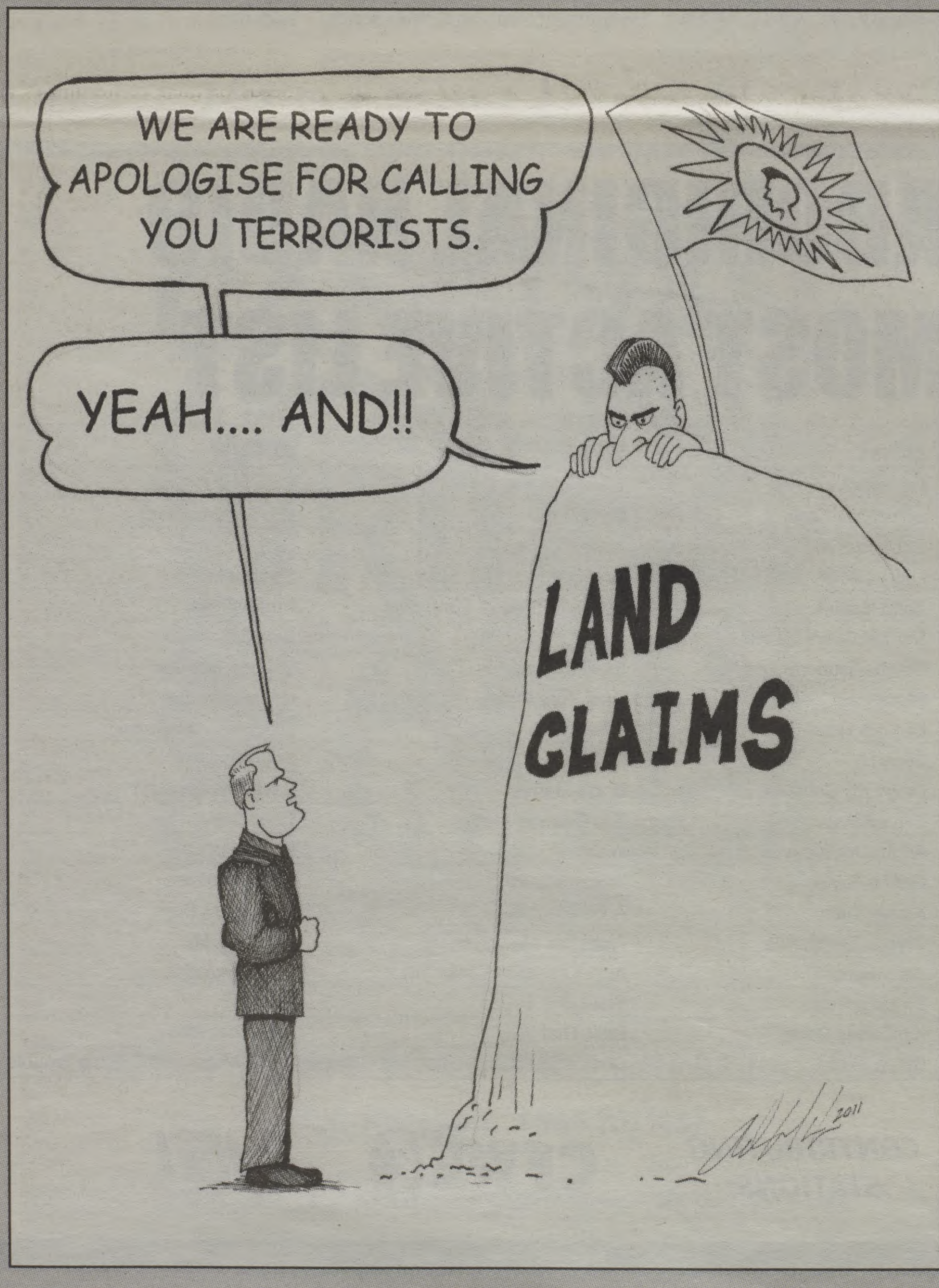
Marshall said he too is not surprised groups are unwilling to stage the tournament in their cities.

"I think it's a championship that has a lot of costs associated with it," he said. "That's probably why regions are hesitant to host it."

The tournament is usually held in late April to early May. Dates for this year have not yet been set.

Rank Comix

by Adam Martin



Ready to be counted?

By Stefania Seccia
Windspeaker Contributor

Statistics Canada is readying the new 2011 Census which will be distributed to all communities across the country to collect information about the people who live in Canada.

The federal organization has sent out information to Aboriginal communities to promote full participation and increase accuracy in data collected in the Census short-form questionnaire this May.

"Accurate data helps First Nations, Metis and Inuit leaders make informed decisions to improve the quality of life for the people who live in their communities," reads an Aboriginal network newsletter published by Statistics Canada's Western Region and Northern Territories.

Statistics Canada has also implemented the Aboriginal Liaison Advisors Program. An agent can provide 2006 Census information to the community and meet with community leaders, or, "give you the tools to encourage complete participation in your community, including promotional materials such as posters and Web buttons and articles for use in newsletters and with local media," according to the Regina-based newsletter.

"The 2011 Census is less than a year away," the newsletter states. "Your support is critical to ensuring that everyone in your community is counted and that the data collected for your community is as complete and accurate as possible."

From now until the Census

applications are complete, liaison officers will attend meetings, host trade booths and meet with community leaders and Aboriginal organizations for discussions regarding job recruitment and participation.

The same eight questions from the last 2006 Census short-form will once again appear on this year's mandatory form, but two questions about language have been added.

The questionnaire asks for the applicant's name, address, the name and list of people living in the same residence of the applicant and "activities of daily living," among others.

Following the Census, the voluntary and long-form National Household Survey (NHS) is expected to cover the same topics as the 2006 Census, including demography, activity limitations, education and immigration, among others.

The information collected by the voluntary survey provides information to support government programs for target populations. It also gives provincial, territorial and local government the opportunity to make more informed decisions.

"We are counting on Canadians who receive this survey to recognize the importance of this information and to respond to the survey," the newsletter states.

About 4.5 million households will receive the National Household Survey within four weeks of the mandatory Census form. The first National Household Survey data is expected to be released by December 2012.

Clarence Two Toes — [windspeaker confidential]

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

Clarence Two Toes: It's that they have their own wheels to go to the powwow or round dance with. Sometimes my war pony breaks down and I need a lift; it's not cool that my friend Bob has to borrow his ex-girlfriend's car to get to the powwow.

W: What is it that really makes you mad?

C.T.T.: I get really mad when my cat just stares at me, like I have something hanging from my nose. That cat makes me feel insecure. I hate that.

W: When are you at your happiest?

C.T.T.: When I have breakfast — bacon in particular. If I could marry a pig, or just a pack of bacon, actually, I'd be in heaven.

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

C.T.T.: Lost. I feel like a bad Indian when I get lost. I can hear my kookum's voice saying, "Just look for the sun, dummy." What the hell do I look for at night, when it's snowing, and my GPS has me all turned around?

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

C.T.T.: I admire me the most because I'm the best. Whoops, I'm supposed to keep it humble. Uh, God. Or. Tom Jackson. Or. Elvis...he's pretty cool.

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

C.T.T.: The most difficult thing I've ever had to do was dance a

third song at a contest in Ontario. Damn, I went all out on that second song and there was a tie. That third song I was damn near a statue, I tried to make it look cool and wave my fan and dancing stick around a lot, but I couldn't breathe.

W: What is your greatest accomplishment?

C.T.T.: Beading my own regalia. It took me four ex-girlfriends, three trips to the pawnshops in Saskatchewan, and six years, but I did it.

W: What one goal remains out of reach?

C.T.T.: Beating this one guy named Charlie Red Tail at the local karaoke bar. That damn guy sounds just like that singer from Bon Jovi and I just don't sing CCR songs like I used to.

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

C.T.T.: If I couldn't do what I'm doing today I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing today because I'd be doing something that I'm not doing right now but would be doing in the future because I'm not doing it right now because I'm doing something else that I'm not doing because in the future I might do something different that I've never done because I'm doing something else that isn't the different thing that I'm doing or have ever done.

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

C.T.T.: "Pack extra underwear

because you never know where you're gonna end up."

W: Did you take it?
C.T.T.: Always. Check my suitcase and you'll find extra shorts all balled up in the little outside, zippered compartment.

W: How do you hope to be remembered?

C.T.T.: I want to be remembered as the second best looking Indian to ever live. First best looking Indian to ever live, of course, is Cher.

Clarence Two Toes is the alter ego of Ryan McMahon, an Ojibway comedian/actor/writer and community educator who loves working with young people. Born in Fort Frances, Ontario, he is a member of the Couchiching First Nation in that province. He currently makes his home in Winnipeg but finds himself away a lot as he carves out a name for himself across Canada and the United States.

One of the first ever Aboriginal graduates of the prestigious Second City Toronto Conservatory, and armed with a degree in Theatre, McMahon mixes a traditional stand-up comedy sensibility with a loose, improvised, slacker-style that is meshed together with characters, multimedia, music and hilarity, plus good old-fashioned fart jokes. Steering clear of tired, cultural stereotypes onstage, instead he combines stand-up, improv, and sketch comedy, weaving stories and characters in an original style of comedy he calls Indian



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Ryan McMahon

Vaudeville.

A performance by McMahon is fast paced, brutally honest, and unlike most live comedy shows. Reviewers have noted his style is loose, the characters are wild, and he constantly works new material as an active producer and performer.

Over and above his comedy, and leadership and empowerment workshops with youth and their communities, he owns a production company called Indian and Cowboy Productions Inc. Constantly in a state of comedic creation, McMahon regularly writes treatments for various sitcoms and Web series,

including *A Mile In My Moccasins*, which has turned heads and landed him in a couple of development deals for film and television. His improvised comedy podcasts have been featured on iTunes Canada and have opened the door to a record deal with Canyon Records in the United States.

If you book McMahon, he vows to drive, paddle, swim, fly, or hitchhike to your community to make you laugh. And finally, while he admits to being slightly overweight, happily, he claims to be coming to grips with his ridiculously unhealthy love of bacon.

[radio's most active]

OUR PICK

Artist—Kristi Lane Sinclair
Song—Chinese Radio
Album—I Love You
Label—Independent

Kristi Lane Sinclair starts her debut CD release *I Love You* with the 'Last Song', which one might have thought by the title, should have been at the end of this song set. But Kristi Lane proves to be somewhat unpredictable. Kristi's guitar playing is crisp, with clean acoustic picking and it complements her sometimes soft spoken



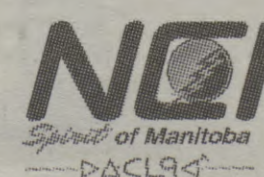
and moody singing style. *Chinese Radio* switches things up and is a romping fun two-stepping song, the sort you don't hear too often on new music releases. *Chinese Radio* will beg you to go get your dancing shoes on looking for a partner to swing and twist with; like our past generations did (it was called a square dance.) Kristi easily makes it cool again. In addition to the backing instrumentation, I generally find Kristi's melodies, voice and guitar playing to be rather calming, the sort of performance you might come across at a trendy coffee shop where you halt your conversations to listen. Or fitting for a quiet night at home when you're in a contemplative mood by yourself, perhaps.

Review by Keven Kanten

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Art Napoleon	Wild Flowers	Creeland Covers
Samantha Crain	Santa Fe	You (Understood)
Chrome 204	Meant To Be	Single Release
Lucie Idlout	Lovely Irene	Swagger
Anita Issaluk	Healing Through Song	Arctic Wind
Nathan Cunningham f. P. Morin	Stray	Single Release
Colette Trudeau	Ex-Girlfriend	Colette Trudeau
Black Rain	One More Time	Under The Gun
Eagle & Hawk	What If We Could	The Great Unknown
Segweh	Open Eye	Segweh
David St. Germain	Don't Matter	David St. Germain
Evan Reeve	You Deserve Better	Evan Reeve
Angus Jourdain	Waiting	Single Release
Gabby Taylor	It Spells Love	Single Release
Kinnie Starr	A Different Day	A Different Day
Crystal Shawanda	Fight For Me	Fight For Me
Jerry Sereda	Ain't Learned Nothin' Yet	Single Release
Digging Roots	Plant The Seeds	We Are
Kimberley Dawn	Built That Way	Built That Way
Derek Miller	Something Bad, Something Good	Derek Miller with Double Trouble

CONTRIBUTING STATIONS:



[business] RBC sticks its neck out on consultation

By Jennifer Ashawasegai
Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO

The Royal Bank of Canada has made some changes to its corporate social/environmental policy. Perhaps the most impressive change includes the free, prior and informed consultation (FPIC) clause to ensure that big business clients in the mining and energy sectors are socially responsible by meaningfully consulting and accommodating Indigenous communities affected by their operations.

The policy change was a pleasant surprise for Terry Teegee, vice-tribal chief of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council.

"First Nation groups, the Rainforest Action Network and other environmental groups have been lobbying the Royal Bank of Canada to adopt the FPIC into its social/environmental policy."

The FPIC is laid out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. While most countries in the world have adopted the declaration, only a handful have implemented FPIC into their domestic legal framework. Canada is not one of them.

The bank is certainly pleased with its inclusion of the FPIC

reference in its policy on Environmental and Social Risk Management for Capital Markets.

"One of the important things in the CEO's statement, of the new policy, is that we kind of codify the consultation we require our clients to do with First Nations," said RBC spokesperson Geoff Owens, "because obviously, many natural resource companies are on First Nations land, so it's important to properly consult with them."

But, the wording in RBC's policy differs from the UN's FPIC reference. The last word in the official term is Consent, and in the bank's policy, the 'C' stands for 'consultation.' Owens says "the bank will continue to monitor Canada's position on FPIC and if it chooses to implement FPIC into domestic law."

So for now, Owens says, "The policy refers to FPIC, but does not require clients to be consistent with it, but if or when it becomes law, we will re-evaluate the policy."

Tony Andrews, the executive director of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) says RBC's policy is par for the course as the global social conscience grows.

"It makes sense to me that a bank of that stature would

occasionally be evolving its corporate approach to corporate responsibility, because the whole field of (corporate social responsibility) is evolving and public expectations are evolving. It's a highly complex area and there's no standard or international standard of the definition of it, let alone how you deliver on its expectations."

As far as Aboriginal consultation goes, Andrews says, most companies have policies of their own to address consultation and promote partnerships in the industry.

Andrews thinks RBC's policy exceeds other similar corporate policies.

"It's a commitment and they have set standards that they'll expect their clients to meet, if not exceed." He said the policy is in line with IFC (International Finance Corporation) standards which everyone looks at when developing policies for their operations.

There are many mining/gas and oil projects operating in Canada right now, including Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline project.

The Carrier Sekani Tribal Council has been opposed to that project for nearly six years. It will be keeping an eye on RBC when Enbridge will be looking for financial backing for its project.

(See RBC on page 20.)

Business Briefs

FIRST NATIONS POSE THE

biggest hurdle to the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline, says Enbridge president and CEO Pat Daniel. He made the comment at an investor conference in Whistler Jan. 20. He said First Nations may lack the numbers, but their opposition to the twin pipeline is vocal and influential. "As we all know in Canada, First Nations have got a lot of power and the opposition is primarily to the tanker traffic, not so much to the pipeline, but to the tanker traffic off the West Coast." Daniel did say, however, he is still optimistic that Northern Gateway will go ahead. Enbridge just needs to follow the consultation process and present its arguments in a logical manner, and Ottawa will play a role, he said. "As long as we've got the very strong federal government and, I think, general Canadian support of broadening out our markets then we will ultimately be successful. But it's going to be a challenge." In November 2010, Enbridge offered a 10 per cent equity stake in the project to First Nations and Daniel says that is starting to generate interest.

THE DENINU K'UE FIRST NATION

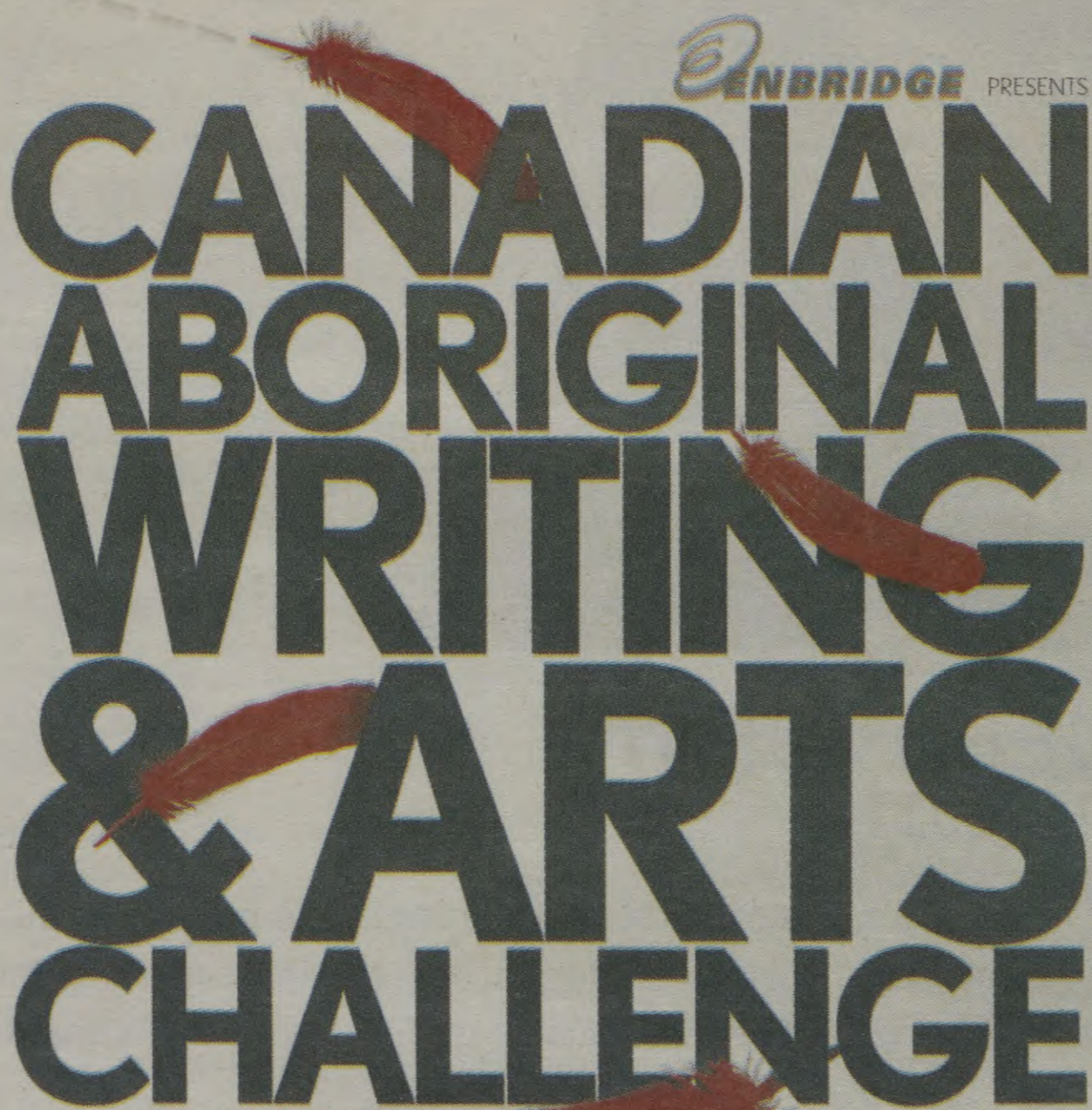
wants De Beers to pay them for the Snap Lake Mine operation in the Northwest Territories. Deninu K'ue are members of the Akaitcho Dene Treaty 8 First Nations and the only one without an Impact Benefit Agreement. This may be because they are located too far away from the mine site, located 220 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife. Chief Louis Balsillie believes the First Nation, located northeast of Fort Resolution, still has the right to compensation. Anthropologist Linda Vanden Berg agrees. She spent two years researching the history of Deninu K'ue and concludes the nation is entitled. "Lutsel K'e (which has a benefits agreement) and Deninu K'ue band members are descended from the same ancestors," she said. "Identical ancestors. How do you say that you're going to do an Impact Benefits Agreement with one and not the other group?" De Beers bases its decision on which communities to enter into agreements with on many things, including historical occupancy of the land, treaties, land claims.

THE MUNSEE DELAWARE NATION

is taking a big step forward in its bid to establish an accredited First Nations Forestry Training Program after receiving start-up funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Future Fund. The First Nation community located southwest of London will receive a four-year, \$531,000 grant from the foundation to help cover the costs of developing and delivering the forestry program. "This funding is going to help us give our young people the foothold they need to take advantage of today's emerging green economy," said Munsee Delaware Chief Patrick Waddilove. "Without (the foundation), we could not have raised the kind of seed capital needed to get this project off the ground," he added. The two-year forestry program will help 25 First Nations students from across Ontario become accredited forester technicians, enabling them to secure highly skilled jobs in the bio-mass, carbon credit and sustainable forestry industries. It will be delivered from two locations: the Anishinabek Educational Institute at Munsee Delaware and the Seven Generations Education Institute at Couchiching First Nation, near Fort Frances. Classes are expected to begin this fall.

MATAWA FIRST NATION IN ONTARIO

has hired a co-ordinator to ensure its 8,500 members don't miss out on developments in terms of employment, long-term human resource development in a variety of sectors, business opportunities and revenue sharing in the Ring of Fire mining zone. The Ring of Fire zone, about 200 kilometres north of Nakina, is believed to host enough chromite and nickel to employ hundreds of miners for at least 30 years. Cleveland-based Cliffs Natural Resources is planning to begin mining three major deposits of chromite, a main ingredient in the manufacture of stainless steel, by 2015. The province has announced plans to hire an "Aboriginal stakeholder relations director" to identify partnership opportunities in the Ring of Fire zone.

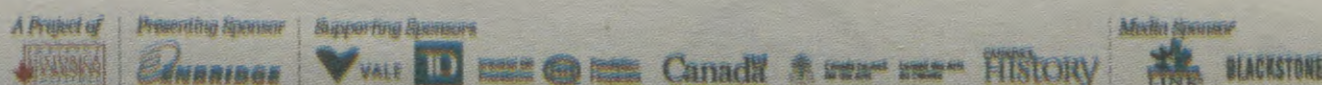
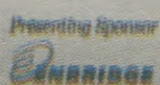




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Hereditary leadership takes a stand on food fishery

(Continued from page 12.)

Food fisheries issues are not easy topics, she said. There were many factors that contributed to the food fish allocation.

When DFO enters into a food, social and ceremonial allocation it takes it as a solemn commitment to deliver that fish, she explained.

"And we will change the way we manage other fisheries to keep that commitment."

There is recognition from DFO of the problems First Nations are having with access to the resources, she said. "We have heard the concerns and we take them seriously."

Gerry Kelly, Acting Aboriginal Program Officer with DFO, told the gathering that what was missing from the relationship between DFO and Nuu-chah-nulth was the "time and space to have these discussions."

"It seems as though we are always urgently reacting to issues."

He said it was important to find some concrete ways "to identify and put into action some of the general principles to deal with things that cause us frustration."

Kelly said what was needed was

time to think, strategize, and effectively work together.

He said the adjacency issue was one that, in a timely way, Nuu-chah-nulth and DFO could sit down with the appropriate people and ask questions, not impose each other's views, and learn the best way to achieve the interests of both parties.

But DFO's comments only seemed to exacerbate the frustration in the room. It would seem, from all accounts, there would be no plan of action on the issues of concern to the ha'wiih that day.

NTC's Fisheries Manager Dr. Don Hall said the issue was not as complicated as some would like to make it.

First Nations' needs are a priority in law, he said. That is not being practised the way it should be.

"If there is a fishery, then there is no conservation concern," he said.

DFO has put in place a restriction on First Nations to access the needed food and ceremonial fish, and it remained unclear why that restriction is in place, he said.

Huu-ay-aht Ha'wiih Hupinyook, Tom Happynook, had the day before suggested facetiously that DFO make all the commercial and recreational fishers harvest fish from waters adjacent to their own home territories, just to make things equitable.

Hall told DFO "We don't need further meetings. We have all the right people in the room to make things happen."

Tla-o-qui-aht's Francis Frank described himself as a practical man, not prone to taking a strident tone. But he said it was difficult to work "when the other party doesn't bring solutions to the table."

"I'm looking for answers for this coming season. Our people want to know. We had trouble this summer because of your phantom policy. It's something (DFO officers) are obligated to enforce."

Frank directed his comments to members of the Nashuk Youth Council, who had earlier made a presentation to the ha'wiih and DFO about how important traditional foods are to Nuu-chah-nulth young people.

"All we've heard is platitudes this

morning," Frank told them. "We've had enough of that." He said he really wanted the youth to understand that in Canada today it was not the ha'wiih that had the control anymore.

"We have to go to them to access fish, not the ha'wiih... (DFO) have control and they don't want to let it go. They are talking about an adjacency policy. It's a policy they created. Not the ha'wiih. The ha'wiih have their protocols. It isn't that simple anymore because the control lies with the department... no matter how nice they speak to us this morning they come with no solutions..."

The ha'wiih, however, were making it clear that that situation wasn't going to be allowed to stand anymore.

Carol Anne Hilton, who has been appointed by the Hesquiaht ha'wiih to the position of CEO of Rights and Title Coordination, told DFO they had two jobs—to conserve and to accommodate.

"Your limitations are not our problem."

She told DFO that the ha'wiih will make their own access plan.

"Today we saw the re-insertion

of ha'wiih into the access for food and ceremonial."

The time and space DFO suggests and the organization's acknowledgement that it needs to improve "expresses itself as infringement on the rights of our ha'wiih," said Hilton, authority protected within Canada's own Constitution.

She said all conditions, restrictions and limitations on Nuu-chah-nulth food and ceremonial access is an infringement on the ha'wiih.

"It is this infringement that is an insult to our ha'wiih, on the responsibility to provide for our people."

The ha'wiih will make an access plan based on the current numbers of Nuu-chah-nulth people and not the outdated DFO numbers, she said, adding DFO should expect and plan for food and ceremonial access by ha'wiih authority.

"We have equipped our boats with nation-to-nation protocols. DFO needs to educate itself on this equipment."

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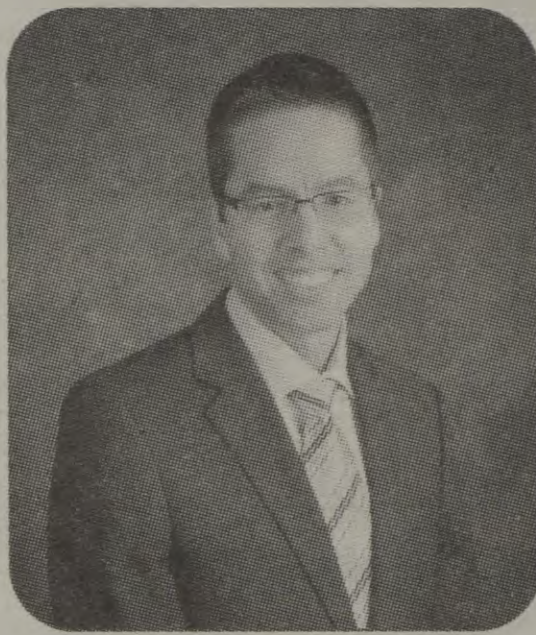
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Fulton & Company LLP is pleased to announce that Aaron Sam has joined the firm as an Associate. Aaron was called to the Bar in 2006 and continues to practice in Kamloops. Aaron was born in Merritt and completed his Bachelor of Laws degree in 2004 at UBC, and completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1999. Aaron brings to his practice knowledge and insight acquired while working with Aboriginal communities for over 10 years.

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National Energy Board Office national de l'énergie

Public Notice

Funding Available to Participate in the NEB's Regulatory Process for Nova Gas Transmission Ltd.'s Ekwan, Northwest Mainline, and Tanghe Creek Loops Project

The National Energy Board (NEB) is making available \$50,000 under its Participant Funding Program to assist landowners, Aboriginal groups, as well as incorporated non-industry not-for profit organizations and other interested persons to participate in the regulatory process for the proposed Ekwan, Northwest Mainline (NW), and Tanghe Creek Loops Project (the Project).

The Project is being proposed by NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL), a wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TransCanada). The Project involves an expansion of portions of NGTL's existing Alberta System located 70 kilometres (km) southeast of Fort Nelson, British Columbia, 55 km southwest of Rainbow Lake, Alberta, and 40 km northwest of Manning, Alberta. The purpose of the Project is to increase capacity to transport natural gas supply from northeast British Columbia and northwest Alberta.

The Project involves the construction of three pipeline loops and related facilities. The proposed Ekwan Loop is approximately 29.1 km of pipe and related facilities extending east from the Sierra Gas Plant to a point on the Ekwan Pipeline. The proposed Northwest Mainline loop is approximately 49 km of pipe and related facilities extending south from a point on the existing Northwest Mainline approximately 30 km southwest of Rainbow Lake, Alberta near the Snowfall Creek Meter Station. The proposed Tanghe Creek Loop is approximately 32 km of pipe and related facilities extending east from a point on the existing Tanghe Creek Loop approximately 104 km northwest of Manning, Alberta, to a point near the Chinchaga Meter Station. The proposed in-service date for the Project is the second quarter of 2013.

Funding is being made available to help interested parties review and comment on the facilities application to be submitted by NGTL. Funding must be used to prepare for and participate in the hearing process which will be announced at a later date.

If approved for funding, recipients must register as an intervenor in the NEB's regulatory process for the Project. A funding review committee, independent of the regulatory process, will consider all applications for funding and make recommendations on the allocation of funds.


If there is sufficient interest, the NEB will hold public information sessions to explain the Participant Funding Program and the Board's hearing processes. Please contact Sharon Wong, Regulatory Officer, to register your interest in a public information session by calling 403-292-4800 or by using the toll free number at 1-800-899-1265 no later than 28 February 2011.

The deadline to submit a funding application is 31 March 2011. Funding applications received by the Board after this date will not be considered.

Interested parties are encouraged to review information on the proposed Project, as well as the NEB's Draft List of Issues and the Draft Scope of the Environmental Assessment before submitting an application for funding. This information, as well as the *Participant Funding Program Guide*, the *Application for Funding Form* and the *Standard Contribution Agreement* can be found on the Board's website (www.neb-one.gc.ca) under Public Registries / Anticipated Applications.

For more information about the Participant Funding Program, please contact:

Patty Cooper
Participant Funding Program Administrator
Tel: 1-800-899-1265, ext. 3659
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Mothers talk about harmful effects of tobacco misuse

By Nancy Doukas
Windspeaker Contributor

LANTZVILLE, B.C.

Lillian Jones was sure that she had dodged a bullet when her second child Samantha was born at a healthy 7 lbs, 6 oz. and continued to eat and grow well. But at six months old Samantha caught a cold. She didn't have just the usual symptoms of a stuffy, runny nose, crankiness and loss of appetite. Samantha also developed tremours.

Jones, concerned that something was seriously wrong, took Samantha to the hospital emergency department. Samantha spent the next month in hospital in an oxygen tent fighting for every breath and losing weight.

The nurse had difficulty inserting an intravenous tube due to dehydration. The baby's little veins kept collapsing. It was on the tenth try that they finally got one in her foot.

Samantha was diagnosed with the common cold complicated by Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). Most children are infected by RSV before the age of two, but don't usually suffer anything more than the symptoms of the common cold.

Children who have compromised immune symptoms are the ones most likely to develop complications of the virus. Jones believes that Samantha developed the complications due to her smoking during her pregnancy.

Jones shares her story with viewers in a video entitled "A Mother's Message." The video was made through the involvement of residents at Tsow-Tun Le Lum treatment centre with the hope of helping other pregnant women deal with the long-term effects smoking has on the infants they are carrying.

Jay Niver, the communications director for the Alcohol-Drug Education Service in B.C., hopes that the video will eventually be shown across Canada in all First Nations treatment centres,



Lillian Jones

PHOTO: SUPPLIED

friendship centres and health authority clinics.

"The producers are hopeful that the video will be adapted to reflect the resources available to each province," Niver said.

As of now, distribution of the video will include being shown in supervised sessions on the reserve, in friendship centres and with support groups in clinics across B.C. only.

Ideally, it will be viewed anywhere young women and mothers meet in a health-related environment.

"The video is designed to promote awareness and provoke discussion," said Niver, "and ultimately help mothers who smoke seek the assistance they need, be it online or elsewhere through programs and resources."

Men also shared their stories of smoking in the video.

"We had anticipated involving only women," said Niver, "after all, it's about pregnancy and maternity. But when we arrived for the shoot, numerous Tsow-Tun Le Lum residents had come forth voluntarily, anxious to share their stories, including two men. It hadn't occurred to us that they could contribute. After all, men don't carry babies. But these gentlemen spoke to the topic of

tobacco misuse in their own families, growing up as children, and continuing in their new families, via their own smoking," he said.

What the men talked about was the message they were sending to their children, telling them through their actions that smoking was OK, and they talked about the impact their smoking was having on their children's environment through second-hand smoke.

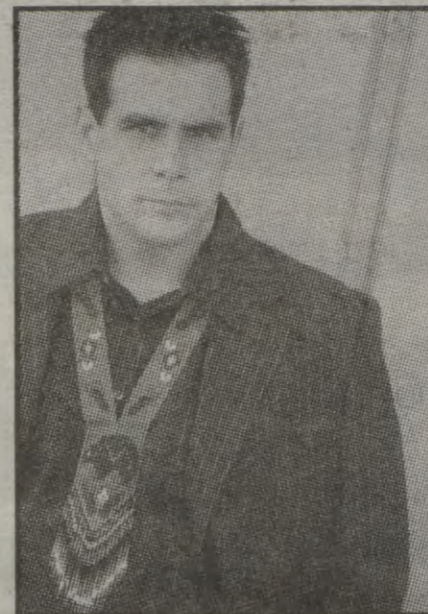
"It made us quickly realize that the smoking dynamic can be a family challenge with many interrelated factors, and all of them come to bear on the health of newborn and older children in the home."

Marvin in the video speaks of his two children and how his eldest daughter has asthma. He tells us he smokes up to a pack and a half of cigarettes a day and that he used to smoke in the house and in his car with the children present.

The impact that smoking has had on his family has been difficult.

"We almost lost my eldest daughter three or four times because of asthma," Marvin says. He smokes outside now.

(See *Mothers* on page 20.)



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Windspeaker sports briefs

By Sam Laskaris

Player dies in crash

An Aboriginal Junior A hockey player died in a car crash on the Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation during his Christmas break. Myles Cameron, a defenceman with the Yorkton Terriers of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League, died on Dec. 23. He was 20. Cameron was a passenger in a vehicle involved in a rollover. He was the only one of five people in the car that died.

Cameron was in his first season of playing in Yorkton. He appeared in 26 games for the Terriers and had scored one goal. Cameron had returned to the Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation as the Terriers did not have any games scheduled between Dec. 19 and 29, during the Christmas holidays. Cameron had also played four games this season with a Junior B squad, the Ochapowace Thunder of the Prairie Junior Hockey League.

Tootoo enters program

It remains to be seen when and if Jordin Tootoo will return to the National Hockey League. The 27-year-old, the first Inuit to play in the NHL, voluntarily entered the league's substance abuse program in late December. Tootoo has played a total of 411 NHL games, all with the Nashville Predators, since breaking into the league during the 2003-04 season.

Tootoo had appeared in 32 matches this season. And he had recorded 10 points (four goals, six assists) in those contests. A fan favourite because of his rugged play, Tootoo was anointed with a catchy moniker during his junior days—The Tootoo Train. He spent four years starring with the Western Hockey League's Brandon Wheat Kings before turning pro.

Tootoo registered 71 and 74-point seasons during his last two years with the Wheat Kings. Also of note is the penalty minutes he collected those two seasons, 272 during the 2001-02 campaign and 216 the following year.

The Predators had chosen Tootoo in the fourth round of the 2001 NHL Entry Draft.

Nashville's general manager David Poile issued a statement saying there was no timetable for Tootoo's return. Though he is not playing, Tootoo will continue to receive his full salary as long as he stays enrolled in the substance abuse program. And if he does so he will not face any punishment from the NHL. Tootoo had signed a two-year contract extension, worth \$2.5 million, with Nashville this past February.

Curling program expands

An introductory youth curling program expanded to include four Aboriginal elementary schools in northern British Columbia. The Capital One Rocks & Rings program is designed to expose children to the sport in the hopes that they decide to take up curling. There is no participation fee required.

The expansion of the program into the B.C. schools was made possible through a partnership between the KidSport Aboriginal Youth Program, Curl B.C. and the Canadian Curling Association's Discover Curling program.

In mid-January the program went to Aboriginal schools in Greenville, Kincolith, Canyon and New Aiyansh. During the school sessions, the program participants are not actually curling on ice. Instead they utilize unique floor curling equipment, where they get a sense of the nuances of the sport. These sessions are held in school gyms. Those who were interested did have an opportunity later on during the week to have some on-ice instructions at the Terrace Curling Centre.

The program also sees various high school students and adults from the community trained to become instructors. And since the program leaves equipment behind with each community, games can be played at any time.

Aboriginal company honoured

An Aboriginal company was thanked by the B.C. government in early January for donating wood that was used to build the medal podiums at last year's Vancouver Winter Olympics and Paralympic Games.

Pat Bell, the Minister of Forests, Mines and Lands, presented officials from the Iisaak Forest Resources with a shadow box. It contained a wood tray similar to the ones utilized during the presentation of Olympic and Paralympic medals.

It also included a photo of athletes celebrating on the podium and a book featuring all of the podiums.

Iisaak Forest Resources is owned by the five First Nations in Clayoquot Sound. Those First Nations are Ahousaht, Hesquiaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Yuu-tluth-aht and Toquaht.

Among those who celebrated their medals on the Coastal Western Red Cedar podium harvested in Clayoquot Sound were three Canadian freestyle skiers. Alexandre Bilodeau and Ashleigh McIvor won gold medals in the men's moguls and women's ski cross, respectively. And Jennifer Heil was a silver medalist in the women's moguls.

A total of 23 podiums were produced for the two Games. They were made from 18 wood types donated from across B.C.

[sports] AHL all-star to be a hall of famer



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Mitch Lamoureux

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

HERSHEY, PA.

Though he's small in stature, Ottawa native Mitch Lamoureux is about to earn one of the biggest honours around. He's becoming a Hall of Famer.

Lamoureux, whose mother is Ojibway, will be inducted into the American Hockey League's Hall of Fame. Induction ceremonies will be held Jan. 31 in Hershey, Pa.

The ceremony will be held in conjunction with the AHL's all-star game.

"I'm very, very honored," said Lamoureux, who played just 73 games in the National Hockey League but became one of the biggest stars in the AHL, considered the top minor pro hockey league in the world.

Lamoureux, who retired in 1999, appeared in 802 AHL games and collected 816 points, placing him ninth in the league's all-time list for points.

Though he earned most of his notoriety while suiting up for the Hershey Bears, Lamoureux also toiled for three other AHL franchises during his career, the Baltimore Skipjacks, Maine Mariners and Providence Bruins.

The AHL hall of fame, however, is not located in an actual building. Instead, it's a virtual hall, located on the league's Web site www.theahl.com. It can also be found at www.ahllhalloffame.com.

"I knew it existed and I was hoping one day I'd go in," Lamoureux said.

So does he mind that hockey

fans do not have a physical building they can go to and see perhaps a plaque of him and perhaps a display of his accomplishments?

"Heck no," said Lamoureux, who is now 48 and works as the director of business development for the P.A. Central Credit Union in Hershey. "This is a big deal. You've got to think that this league has been around for 75 years. And this is only the sixth year of inductions. I'll be going in as one of the Top 26 inductees."

Lamoureux had called Hershey home since 1986, when he first played for the Bears.

No doubt Lamoureux had his share of critics over the years who thought he wouldn't go far because of his size. He's only 5-foot-6.

Yet he managed to excel, first in the junior ranks with the Ontario Hockey League's Oshawa Generals and then later during his 17-year pro career.

Lamoureux put up some whopping numbers with the Generals. During his third and final season in Oshawa he averaged almost two points per game, racking up 121 points (43 goals, 78 assists) in 66 games.

Since he was starring in the Ontario junior ranks, it wasn't much of a surprise the Pittsburgh Penguins selected Lamoureux in the 1981 NHL Entry Draft.

He went on to play just 70 games with the Penguins. He played just three games in the NHL after that, with the Philadelphia Flyers during the 1987-88 season.

In the AHL though, Lamoureux was clearly a star, right from the beginning. He won

the AHL's rookie of the year award after piling up 107 points in 80 during the '82-83 campaign with the Skipjacks.

More than a decade later he surpassed the 100-point total again, earning 105 points with the Bears during the '93-94 season.

Since its inception six years ago, the AHL hall of fame ceremony is held in the same city at the same time as the league's all-star match.

Lamoureux is unsure whether hall officials were keen to induct a former Hershey player this year.

"I don't want to speculate," he said. "But I think it might have had something to do with it. They were probably looking to put a local guy in."

Lamoureux will become the sixth player from the Bears' organization to enter the hall. Two other AHL greats with Hershey ties - coaches Bruce Boudreau and John Paddock - are also in the hall but they entered via the coach's category.

Though he stopped playing for a paycheck in '99, Lamoureux still dons the blades. During hockey season he plays a pickup game every Thursday night at an outdoor rink in Hershey.

And he plays anywhere from five to 10 games per season with the Flyers' alumni squad. Driving to Philadelphia is not that long of a trip for him, about 90 minutes from Hershey.

Lamoureux will have a large contingent join him for the induction ceremony. His wife Renee will be there. So too will be their only child, Corey, who will also bring his wife. And there will also be 13 family members from Ottawa, including his parents.

Cree language learning goes high tech

By Susan Solway
Windspeaker Contributor

VANCOUVER

Documentary filmmaker Loretta Todd (*Today is a Good Day, Forgotten Warriors*) came up with an idea five years ago to do something great that would serve and promote the Cree language to those living in the urban setting, more specifically, to the Cree kids living off reserve in the city of Vancouver.

What grew out of this is the children's television series- *Tansi! Nehiyawetan*, that is in its third season on the Aboriginal People's Television Network (APTN). The new season kicks off on Feb. 15.

"I think it is all our responsibility to...learn and become fluent. I think television is just one part of it, but the bigger part has to definitely stay in the community and within the

families. There are so many choices kids have now to be entertained. It's a good way for the kids to learn without feeling like its work," said Todd on the importance of using this particular medium to reach the children.

The series brings the audience into the positive and inviting world of culture, everyday experiences, and entertainment.

Todd began her own language journey in the early 90s in Vancouver, where she "was always aware of how important language is to culture, to governance, to imagination, to art, to all aspects of life.

"Whenever I could I found a way to incorporate some aspect of language into my films," she said.

Years later, Todd decided that as a producer and filmmaker she could create a television show geared towards children and their families that would not only teach

the language but at the same time help the kids make healthy choices about their lives.

"The idea was to encourage the kids who live in the city, but we are also being conscious to the fact that it should be relevant to the kids who don't live in the city too...you can't replace learning from the home. We can only enhance it and contribute to it," said Todd.

The influence of the series stems from Todd's admiration for the people who kept First Nations languages alive, despite the residential schools and all efforts of assimilation. She feels that she owes them a lot and this project is a small way of giving back to her grandparents, ancestors and relatives.

Tansi! Nehiyawetan is based on educational and interactive games, stories, songs and adventures that take the audience around the city, while the repetition of the Cree word, that associates with the activity of that episode, is being delivered.

Cree teacher Josephine Small,

also known as Aunty Josephine on the show, and cast member/Cree student Kai Todd-Daniels have both been with the series since the beginning. Kayla Dakis, also a cast member/Cree student, has been with the series for two seasons, explained Small.

"In this new series coming up it was as if the kids knew the words and I'm not teaching them. It's kind of like a progression from the very first series," said Small. "It's as if the kids are learning more as they are going."

Growing with the kids is a way that will help address life lessons to be learned when it comes to bullying, friendships, and family, she explained.

Josephine Small is from the Ermineskin Reserve in Hobbema and teaches grades 4 to 9 at the Kisipatnahk School in Louis Bull.

With an education in Linguistics from the University of British Columbia and an overall focus on language retention, she believes that this interactive teaching benefits far better than what is traditionally used in the

classroom as teaching tools.

"You have to go high tech with the kids because that's what they are interested in...the visual stuff. The workbooks or whatever, don't work anymore. You can preserve it (language) by having elders on there and I really like the way she (Todd) uses songs to recreate the Cree," said Small.

One aspect of the show is the inclusion of live music that teaches different songs sung in the Cree language. This season's list of performers includes Jason Burnstick, Cheryl L'Hirondelle, and the Travelling Spirit Drummers, to name a few. As well, actress Tantoo Cardinal, and former astronaut Commander John Harrington make guest appearances.

From the animated cartoon graphics by Aboriginal animators Chris Auchter and Stephen Gladue to the music composers Sandi Scofield and hip-hop artist Ostwelve, *Tansi! Nehiyawetan* is both eye catching and sing-along appealing to viewers from all age groups.

Mothers talk about harmful effects

(Continued from page 18.)

The discussion of smoking is also dealt with by elders. Karen tells us the story of going outside for a smoke and having her grandson ask her why she does that. He pointed out to her that the cigarette package has an "X" on it, and that the "X" means poison.

He wanted to know why she was putting poison in herself. Karen has since quit smoking and credits her grandson in helping her to make the decision to do so.

The video has had some minor revisions since the initial filming in 2010, including a name change from "Now You HAVE to Quit" to "A Mother's Message." Niver tells us that there may still be more minor revisions coming with a possible introduction being made by an elder Aboriginal spokesperson.

All changes and distribution of the 1,250 copies will be completed before the end of March.

The video was made through a funding agreement with Health Canada and was written and edited by Ross Friesen and Jay Niver and produced by Alcohol-Drug Education Service and Letsgo Productions.

As for Samantha, she was diagnosed with asthma at the age of five and is on daily asthma medications to help control the disease. Running and exertion gets her winded and she has to rest. She also has to be vigilant against catching any colds and flu.

The video ends with the names of two agencies that are available for those wanting to quit smoking. Quitnow.ca is for those who reside in B.C. and quit4life.com is available to anyone in Canada.

RBC sticks its neck out

(Continued from page 15.)

Enbridge has proposed a \$5.5 billion project to build 1,172 km of twin pipelines from a location northeast of Edmonton to Kitimat in British Columbia. The proposed pipeline is to pump 525,000 barrels of oil a day, while importing 193,000 barrels of oil a day. There are 61 First Nations that have voiced their opposition to the project.

Teegee thinks RBC's policy will help give First Nation opposition to the Northern Gateway Pipelines proposal some leverage because, "RBC will have to take a second look at Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline and see that they have consent with local First Nations and also the social risk, whether the municipalities and peoples of British Columbia want the

pipeline. And if there's a lot of opposition, I don't think RBC would want to invest in the Northern Gateway Pipeline."

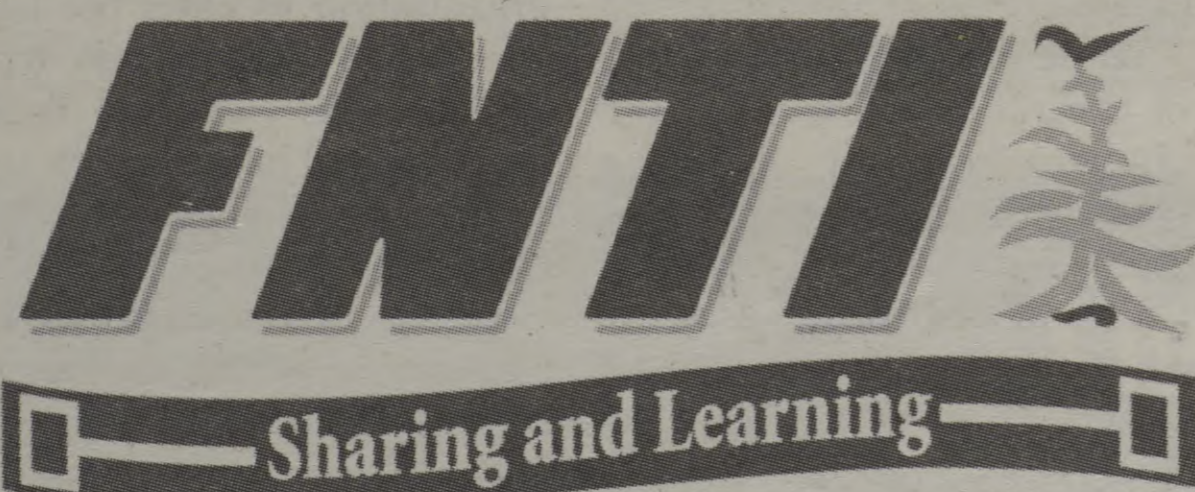
According to Andrews, RBC's new policy won't have much of an impact on the industry. He says, "the mining industry is already affected by IFC standards. Companies follow those standards as well as many other international agreements...The mining industry itself has guidelines in terms of corporate social responsibility. PDAC has developed a very comprehensive international guideline for exploration and development."

"A policy evolution from a bank doesn't have a huge impact on our industry and probably not on many other industries that the bank lends to because

basically that policy has existed for a while, and really it's just a refinement and an enhancement," Andrews said.

Impact on the industry or not, Teegee said the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council will be watching to see if RBC will adhere to its own policy when it comes time to help finance the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline Project.

"If RBC approves and gives the green light to hold the bonds for this project, then we'll have to either make them more liable about their own policies and make them live up to it by doing a media strategy or just boycotting their services and let the international community know RBC is not living up to its own policies."



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Yellowhead Tribal Council

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

DIETITIAN

The Yellowhead Tribal Council is recruiting to fill the position of 'Dietitian' at our Administration Office located on the Enoch Cree Nation. This position is responsible to provide professional services, support, advocacy and networking for the Yellowhead Tribal Council and member First Nation communities.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

- A Bachelor of Science (BSc.) degree with major in Nutrition/Dietetics or equivalent
- Eligible for membership with the College of Dietitians of Alberta and Dietitians of Canada

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Plans, directs and implements a wide variety of programs on Nutrition and Healthy Living in collaboration with community health teams
- Plans, implements and evaluates health promotion nutrition activities
- Advocates for health food policies within communities
- Conducts nutritional assessment and provides diet counseling
- Participates in the community diabetes programs
- Monitors clients' progress and evaluates the outcome
- Participates with community Health Teams to plan, implement and evaluate Chronic Disease Prevention programs

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Experience as practicing Dietitian at community level
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Good organizational and time management skills
- Ability to work independently and to demonstrate initiative
- Skilled in using a wide range of strategies concerning nutrition, diet/lifestyle and to apply them in the community settings
- Competency with computer applications, i.e., Microsoft Office, etc.
- Valid driver's license and use of vehicle is required
- Flexibility to travel that may require overnight stay
- Knowledge and experience of First Nation culture is an asset

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Services delivered at Health Centres, schools, Elders' Lodge, clients' home and other designated areas.

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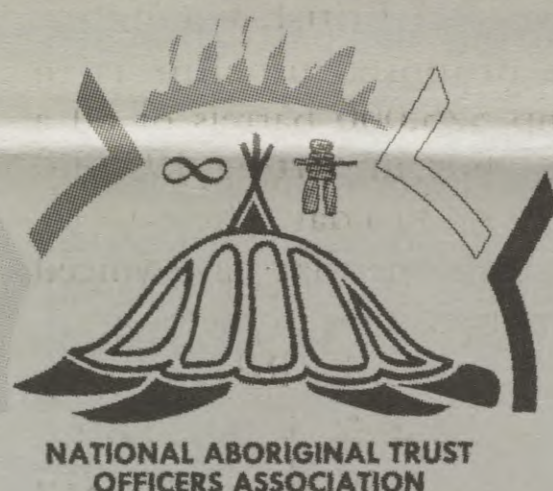
DEADLINE: February 11, 2011

Please forward your resumé and cover letter to:
Yellowhead Tribal Council: c/o Carollyne Robertson
 PO Box 150, Enoch, AB T7X 3Y3
 Fax: (780) 470-3541
 Email: crobertson@ytcadmin.ca

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[footprints] Patricia Monture

Mentor and activist led the way on ideas of justice and equality

By Dianne Meili

"A needle points the way, pokes and prods and lets the air out of overstuffed people and things ... binding together fabrics and materials of varied textures and sources."

In a tribute to his colleague and friend Patricia Monture, Terry Wotherspoon, head of the department of Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan, used this metaphor to describe the sharpness of her intellect and profound awareness.

"She led the way on ideas involving Indigenous theory, governance, law, responsibility, and social and political inequality," said Martin Cannon, University of Toronto assistant sociology professor, in yet another of the public accolades that poured onto the Internet after Monture died at 51 on Nov. 17 after a period of illness.

Right from the start of her professional career, the lawyer, academic and writer established herself as a significant promoter of Aboriginal sovereignty. Newly graduated from Queen's University law school at the age of 29, the young Haudenosaunee woman made headlines in 1988 when she refused to pledge allegiance to the Queen before being called to the bar. As a member of the Mohawk Nation, a sovereign people, she contended she should not have to swear an oath to a "foreign" monarch.

In the media, Monture insisted she had nothing against the Queen, but found the concept of taking an oath offensive.

"In my culture, we do not distrust people and make them swear to tell the truth," she is quoted as saying in *The Globe and Mail* at the time. "My people carry an eagle's feather to symbolize that they will tell the truth."

Monture won her case against the attorney-general of Ontario

and the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1992 and was called to the bar, though she opted to teach law at Canadian universities instead of practising it. Her knowledge of, and passion for, Aboriginal rights – especially those of women – quickly cemented her authority on contentious subjects.

Monture was never a stranger to controversy, as the offspring of a union between a white bishop's daughter, Eleanor Townshend, and Mohawk Harold Monture. It was a liaison considered scandalous in 1958 when she was born. Her young life was further complicated by the death of her mother when she was only six, and the passing of her father when she was nine. Orphaned, she was raised by her stepmother and lost herself in books to combat her loneliness.

"She first wanted to be a writer," said close friend and fellow lawyer Beverly Jacobs, who relied on Monture's counsel when she headed up the Native Women's Association of Canada between 2004 and 2009.

"As a teenager, Trish started rebelling and doing her own thing. She was able to use writing as a tool to resolve hurtful issues in her life as she confronted them and healed later on."

As a half-white, half-Aboriginal woman, Monture spent her early years struggling with her identity, feeling she didn't belong in either culture and becoming a somewhat solitary figure on the streets of London, Ont. She managed to graduate from high school, and enrolled in university after a guidance counsellor told her she wasn't smart enough to attend. She took economics and sociology classes, surprising herself by getting good grades, and followed up her honours bachelor's degree in sociology with a law degree from Queen's,

and a master's degree in law, on full scholarship from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1998.

As Monture learned more and more about law in Canada, she saw how it had been used to disempower and marginalize her people. She wrote about her personal story and the impact of colonization on her people in her book: *Thunder in my Soul: A Mohawk Woman Speaks*, published in 1995, and again in her second book, *Journeying Forward: Dreaming First Nations Independence*, released in 1999.

"What I learned long after my law school graduation was that Canadian law is about the oppression of Aboriginal people," she wrote.

First teaching law at eastern universities, Monture eventually switched to sociology as a full professor at the University of Saskatchewan in 2004. She specialized in penology, the study of punishment of crime, and Native justice; her contribution to the advancement of women in the university being recognized with a Sarah Shorten Award from the Canadian Association of University Teachers in 2007.

During the past 20 years, Monture was a favoured participant in major inquiries, and on commissions and panels convened on Aboriginal issues, including the pivotal Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples of 1993 and 1994. She also served on the Task Force on Administrative Segregation, which examined and made recommendations on the use of solitary confinement in Canadian prisons that house men serving two years or more.

An academic whose resume boasted an exhaustive list of publications, appointments, lectures, and consulting work, Monture was one of the most authoritative and respected voices for criminal justice reformation



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Patricia Monture

and equality in the country – for Aboriginal people in particular.

Of all her accolades, she was especially proud of her honorary doctorates from Athabasca and Queen's universities, which she laughingly said allowed her to be referred to as "doctor, doctor" or "D-squared."

"She was a true visionary, yet she always had time to help others whenever she could," said Jacobs. "We both came from the Six Nations Grand River Territory, so we shared a special

bond, but I saw she cared about all of her students with passion." She was an academic, but she was traditional, too, and visited the longhouse back home as often as she could.

"She was also an amazing mother to her children."

Monture is survived by her three sons, Justin, Michael, and Jack, and her adopted children Leonard, Leith, Lionel and Genine.

"A heartbreak in her life was when she lost her daughter, Kate, in 2009," said Jacobs.

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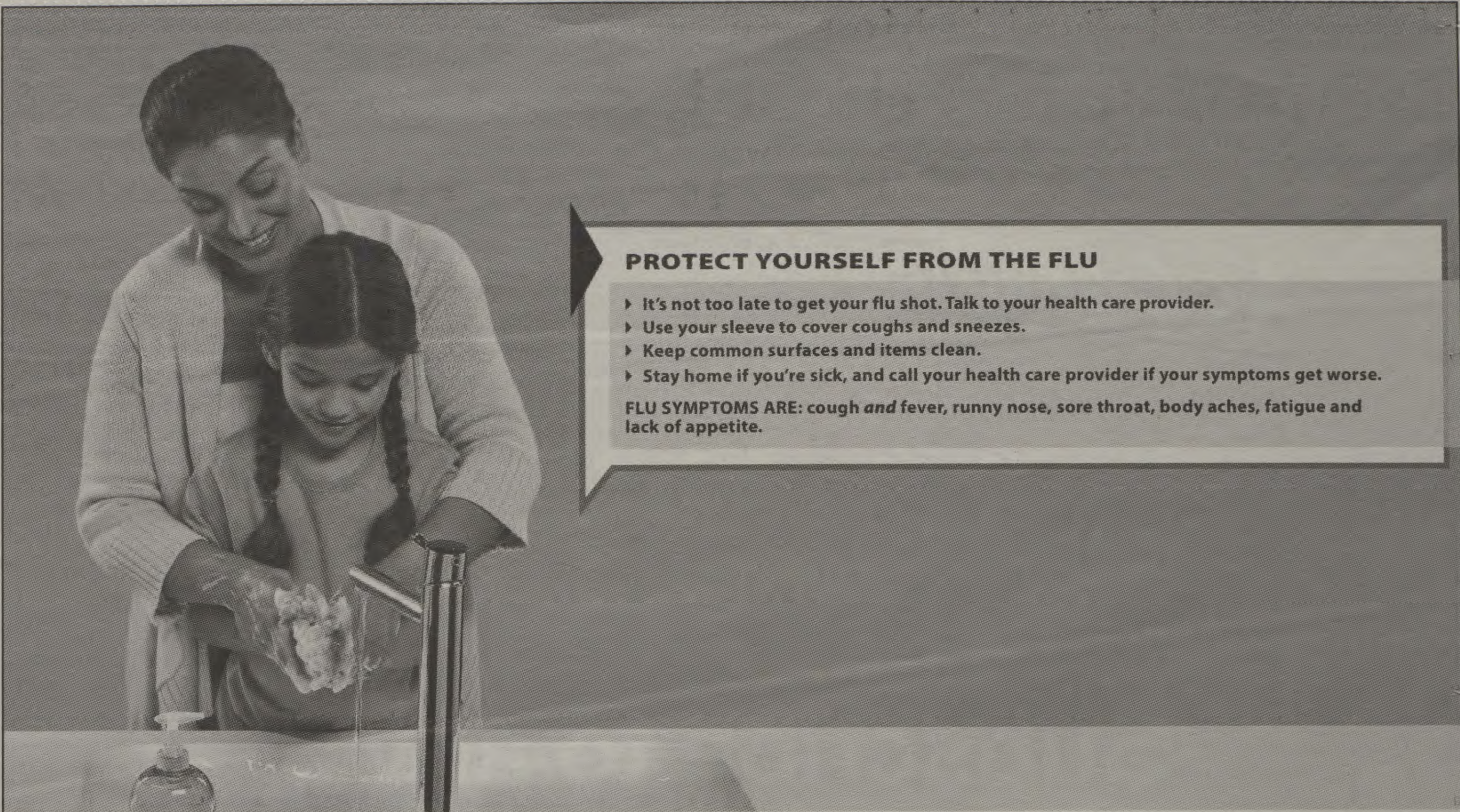
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