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Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards

Inez Jasper performs at the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Awards held on Sept. 12 at the MTS Centre in Winnipeg.

Photo: Bert Crowfoot

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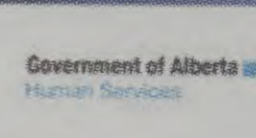
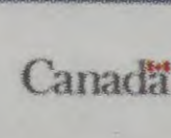
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"Our actions are for everybody, unlike this government of Canada," said Rueben George, to a small but passionate crowd gathered on the steps of the Alberta Legislature on Sept. 5.

Former premier inspired to do even more 9

Former Northwest Territories Premier Stephen Kakfwi was "moved by the energy" of Idle No More; quietly worked behind the scenes asking former prime ministers Joe Clark and Paul Martin, and former Nunavut premier Paul Okalik to visit Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence during her hunger strike; and asked by his children to do something more.

Two-time Hall of Famer contemplating a return to lacrosse 10

David General is getting inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame. General, who lives in the Six Nations community of Ohsweken and has Oneida/Mohawk ancestry, was inducted into the hall via the team category back in 2008. He had served as a coach for the Six Nations Chiefs, who won three consecutive Mann Cup championships from 1994 to 1996. The Mann Cup is annually awarded to the Canadian senior men's lacrosse champs.

Sto:lo Business Match coming in October 11

Sto:lo Community Futures (SCF), an Aboriginal non-profit organization in British Columbia, has set its sights on becoming the leading centre of Aboriginal business in British Columbia.

Aboriginal students seeking higher education in greater numbers 20

An increase in Aboriginal attendance at post-secondary schools across the country is reason to celebrate, but the challenge to hold on to those students still remains.

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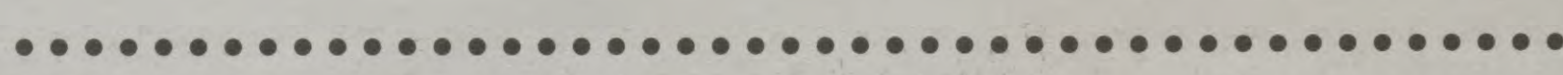
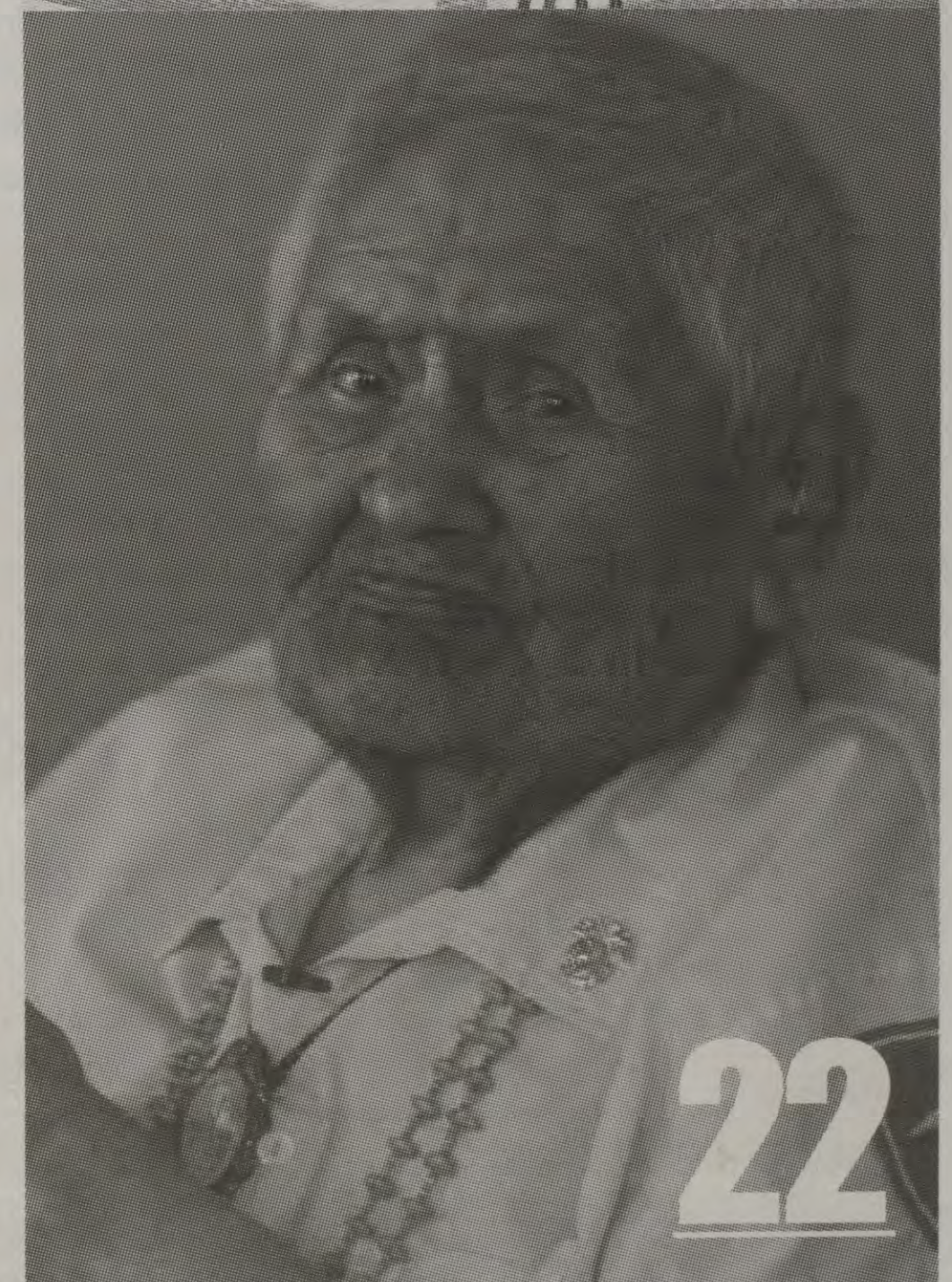
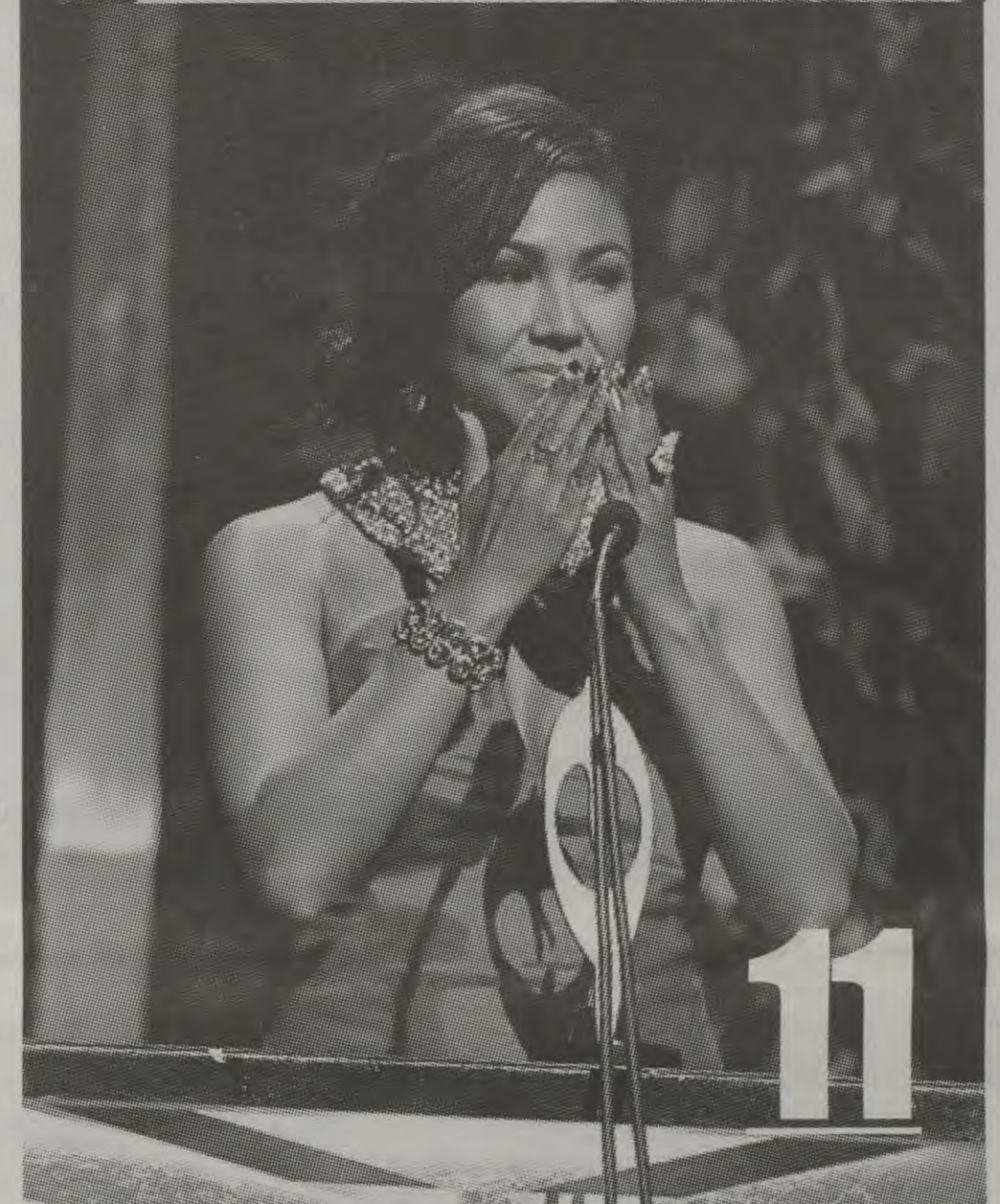
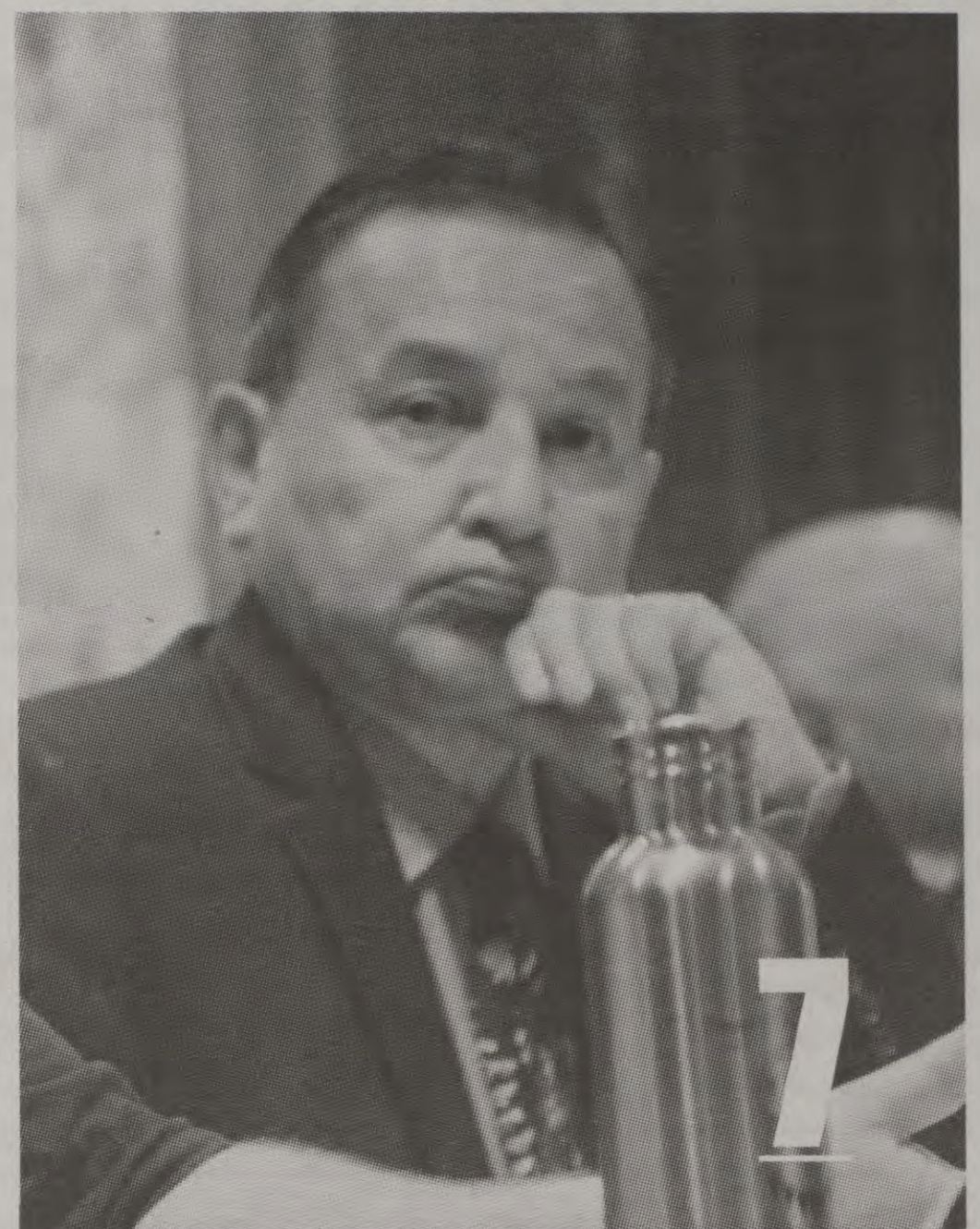
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Code talker Chester Nez's Navajo (Diné) tongue helped pave the way to an allied win in the Second World War. Though unmistakably proud of his ability to serve the United States in such a unique way, he was cognizant of the irony in what his wartime work involved.



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

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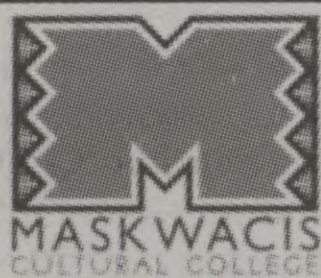
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Bill will bring tanker talk to the House

Hat's off to Nathan Cullen, Member of Parliament for Skeena-Bulkley Valley, who has tabled a private members bill in the House of Commons called An Act to Defend the Pacific Northwest. It's a piece of proposed legislation that will ban supertankers from transporting oil across the North Coast of British Columbia, a rugged and infinitely beautiful part of the world that could be left dripping in bitumen and chemicals if even one of these transports bursts a seam, runs ashore or afoul of the jagged rocks in a storm.

The act will "fully and finally stop the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline in its tracks," reads a backgrounder provided by the MP. No sense running 1,100 km of pipe from Alberta's oil sands to the coast, if you can't ship it off to foreign buyers by tanker.

The pipeline will be built through rivers and streams and sensitive rainforest. It will carry, if built, 525,000 barrels of bitumen per day. The act would legislate protection of the BC North Coast from oil tanker traffic and, from what we have been reading, Cullen seems to have a widely diverse group of supporters for it.

"This region is one of the most environmentally, culturally and historically important areas in our country – and some of the most difficult waters in the world, with waves up to 26 metres high and winds up to 185km/h." Once the pipeline reaches its end point, 11,000 supertankers will collect the product and carry it through B.C.'s waters for export.

A declaration signed by 130 First Nations states opposition to this pipeline/supertanker mix. Municipalities along the coast have also been opposed. "Thousands of people wrote letters and testified before the Northern Gateway joint review panel, municipalities and the province of British Columbia formally declared their opposition." Cullen says 60 per cent of all British Columbians are opposed to Northern Gateway, and all their voices have been ignored by the Harper Conservatives in their push to open new markets for the oil sands.

"By shutting out and insulting First Nations and BC communities, the Conservatives have made a complete mess of this process," said Cullen. "They're failing to look at the long-term economic and environmental impact of Northern Gateway, and that's what this bill aims to finally fix."

The people of this region are no stranger to the long-term impact of oil spills, having to clean up their shorelines after the Exxon Valdez spilled 257,000 barrels of oil when it struck Prince William Sound's Bligh Reef in 1989. "Big globs of oil—they call them patties—arrived on our beaches," reads one account from a clean-up crew more than 1,700 km away from the spill. "We had to use shovels and had to pick some of them up by hand." The patties were put into special bags and airlifted out of the community by helicopter. That's the thing about oil spills. They tend to spread widely when the response time is not immediate.

In August, 400 plywood drift cards stamped with "This could be oil" were thrown into the Fraser River to demonstrate how far oil might travel if it spilled out of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline, and within 50 minutes the cards had travelled three and a half kilometres downstream. Last October, a drift card, dropped along an oil tanker route that runs from Burrard Inlet at Vancouver as part of similar exercise, was picked up in Haida Gwaii, more than 1,000 km from where it was dropped.

The remote location of the Exxon Valdez spill made response complicated. And things haven't changed for this part of the world.

During meetings of municipalities on the west coast a year or so ago, delegates were told that there were just 13 people in the province trained to respond to oil spills, and the response time to an oil spill in the north (think Hecate Strait between Haida Gwaii and mainland BC) would be 72 hours from when the spill was detected. There were no details given as to what that response would be.

Beginning mid-October, Cullen will be travelling B.C. on a "Take Back Our Coast" tour. A pipeline spill or tanker accident would be disastrous, with 45,000 fisheries and tourism jobs in British Columbia affected "or wiped out forever," reads Cullen's web material for the tour.

This tour will allow people to have a say on the private members Bill "and the future of our coast and country."

This is what an election issue looks like folks. And with this Bill, Cullen is standing MPs up to record which side of history they will be on. Clever Mr. Cullen.

Windspeaker

[rants and raves] Page 5 Chatter

The Toronto Star reports that a committee tasked with getting more First Nations people on the rolls for jury duty

is set to recommend that volunteers from the Aboriginal community become part of a list to hear inquests. The solution is meant to address the lack of Aboriginal people in the make-up of juries within Ontario, though it doesn't address the imbalance on juries in civil and criminal proceedings. Former Supreme Court justice Frank Iacobucci wrote in his report First Nations Representation on Ontario Juries that Aboriginal people are reluctant to sit on juries because of a lack of trust in the justice system. But, the way inquest juries work, asking questions and providing recommendations, would be a good fit, from a traditional perspective. "My experience in speaking with First Nations individuals was that, while they expressed reluctance to engage in the 'judging' involved in being on a criminal jury, they were interested to learn about how the coroner's jury process works and expressed interest in becoming involved," the former chief justice said.

The federal government has ignored proposals

submitted by the Assembly of First Nations to address the issues surrounding murdered and missing aboriginal women and girls, says interim National Chief Ghislain Picard, and he's frustrated. "We are representing over 600 communities across the country, and certainly one of our mandates is to find a way to engage the government, whatever government we have in Ottawa, and that's what we've been attempting to do. If we can't do that on an issue such as this, of course it's frustrating," Picard said, reports CBC News.

A government plan to tackle violence against aboriginal women and girls was tabled by the Conservatives in mid-September. The government budgeted \$25 million over five years to support the development of community safety plans, "to break intergenerational cycles of violence and abuse," to work with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders, as well as Aboriginal men and boys, to denounce and prevent violence against Aboriginal women, to help victims and their families through the Victims Fund and the Policy Centre for Victim Issues.

"I feel kind of saddened that all of the proposals and suggestions that we made were just tossed aside and Canada has decided to go on its own," said Picard. "This is almost a repeat of the kind of relationship we've had over time, and it's sad, but now that the action plan is out, and intentions seem to be clear, hopefully we will be part of the process as First Nations."

Alberta's newly-minted premier, Jim Prentice, says

there is strong support of pipeline construction by First Nations. Getting oil and gas out of province is critical and First Nations, who are heavily invested in the industry, are among "the strongest allies" and "passionate about achieving West Coast access. Prentice wants to show progress on pipelines and will use his position as premier and as minister for Aboriginal Affairs and international and intergovernmental relations, to advocate for construction.

A communications officer with the Museum of Civilization

in Quebec City said there was no damage to First Nations artifacts after a fire Sept. 15. It took 40 firefighters hours to contain the fire. The artifacts are out of the exhibit and are being examined, said the spokesperson. Staff had time to cover the artifacts in a recent exhibit with a tarp before leaving the burning building. There is smoke and water damage to the museum, however. The museum was undergoing renovations, and the fire broke out during repairs to the exterior. About 200 employees were in the building when fire broke out, but the museum was closed to the public at the time.

A Vuntut Gwitchin man has been fined for hunting

without permission outside his nation's traditional territory. He has been ordered to learn about the rights of First Nations hunters, and their responsibilities. The hunter had told conservation officers he had permission from the Champagne Aishihik First Nation to hunt moose or bison, the latter of which requires a permit. But the hunter didn't have a permit and he did not receive the permission of the Champagne Aishihik, which supported the prosecution of the 49-year-old man. It is the first time Yukon has enforced rules that govern hunting in the territory of another First Nation. The hunter was fined \$1,000 and is barred for two years from licenced hunting. Further, he must take the government's hunter education course before being issued a permit.

Do you have a rant or a rave?
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[strictly speaking] How did their skin get so red?

Just recently, several sportscasters in the United States have voluntarily opted to stop using the name of the National Football League's Washington team in their broadcasts.

Of all the Aboriginally-named teams that populate the American sports pantheon—the Braves, the Indians, Blackhawks etc.—few have been more problematic than the Redskins. It seems only the team owner still thinks it's a great and fabulous name.

Instead, broadcasters Phil Simms from CBS and NBC's Tony Dungy will probably just refer to it as Washington, rather than its more problematic nickname. This is a good thing, for those not versed in institutionalized racism. Other announcers however say it's not their job to make a stance.

This is an old argument. For years now there have been numerous complaints about the name of the Washington Redskins. In June, the U.S. Trademark and Patent office cancelled the team's trademark, which signalled the beginning of the end.

Last October, during a game's halftime, NBC sports personality Bob Costas said in an essay "Think for a moment about the term 'Redskins,' and how it truly differs from all the others. Ask yourself what the equivalent would be, if directed toward African-Americans, Hispanics,



THE URBANE INDIAN Drew Hayden Taylor

Asians, or members of any other ethnic group. When considered that way, 'Redskins' can't possibly honor a heritage, or noble character trait, nor can it possibly be considered a neutral term. It's an insult, a slur, no matter how benign the present-day intent."

But still, its billionaire owner, Daniel Snyder, refuses to budge on the issue. The man believes in tradition. But there's tradition and there's tradition. For example, it seems to be a tradition in America for white billionaire owners of sports teams to get into trouble regarding racist issues.

Donald Stirling was the owner of the basketball team, the L.A. Clippers, who told his then girlfriend, who was black, that she should stop associating with black men. The following outcry resulted in him being banned from participating in the sport and being forced to sell his team.

And some time back there was Marge Shott, the one-time owner

of the Cincinnati Reds baseball franchise who once ran into trouble for comments about the Japanese, Jews and African Americans. Canadian sports, by comparison, almost seems boring.

However here in Canada, we do have our own fights to deal with. The Edmonton Eskimos still seem perfectly happy being called 'eaters of raw meat,' which is the literal Cree translation of the now considered pejorative word.

Perhaps the CFL players are big fans of sushi or tartar. Or maybe its those Eskimo pies. Don Cherry probably doesn't even know there's a nation of people once called the Eskimos, or more likely, they were probably named after the football team.

In the town near my reserve, there is a junior C hockey team called the Lakefield Chiefs, which I don't think was a conscious decision to honour local Police or

Fire Chiefs, seeing as their logo is that of an Indian head wearing a feathered war bonnet.

Let's not forget the plethora of Braves, Warriors, Indians and other such team names that populate arenas and rinks across the country. I remember the controversy over the famous Atlanta Braves Tomahawk chop, which should not to be confused with an old fashion First Nations kick to the crotch.

Perhaps this is one of those issues that if it doesn't affect you personally, the average citizen might not care. After all, how many redskins could there possibly be in Washington anyways?

I've been there a couple times. Didn't really see many, outside the National Museum of the American Indian, of course. And I don't know how many Canadian fans there are of American football. Again, we have our own problems with derogatory names up here.

In these politically correct times, there has been an effective movement to rename the surprisingly popular geographic name of Squaw, as in Squaw River or Squaw Creek. Coincidentally, I don't remember seeing any White Bitch Mountain or White Slut Valley on googlemaps.

The usual refrain you hear from people on the other side of this issue is "it's just a name." It only hurts if you let it hurt. True,

I suppose. It's just a sport where big men dress up in funny outfits and spend several hours chasing an oddly shaped ball around a massive field where lots of people pay obscene amounts of money to watch.

A fellow playwright named Shakespeare once wrote "A rose by any other name would still smell as sweet." So these two broadcasters won't call the team Redskins any more, but the team will still probably smell the same.

It should also be noted that some descriptive words are frequently viewed as being passé, obsolete and rightfully have gone the way of the dodo. Obscure and forgotten terms like mongoloid, mulatto, crippled or progressive conservative.

There is one theory of thought that says the term 'redskins' came from Newfoundland's Beothuks. They used to cover their bodies with a red pigment, giving rise to the name. Pretty soon the name spread to mean all Native people across the continent. And in 1932, it was chosen as the name of an American football team.

For a nation mired in the concept of manifest destiny towards its Indigenous population, it seems like an odd choice for a team that wanted to be victorious and supreme.

Still, things could be worse. They could have been called the Senators. These days, who'd want to be called that?

Countess of Wessex earns affection of First Nations on Canadian tour

The Countess of Wessex, Sophie Rhys Jones, daughter-in-law of Queen Elizabeth II, has become a royal rock star in some First Nations communities across Canada. She charmed people in little remote communities on the West Coast of Canada and endeared herself completely to the people of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) in an isolated part of northern Ontario where she spent two days.

She was the first member of the British Royal family to visit the community since its treaty with the Crown was signed in 1929. She was accompanied by Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Lieutenant Governor-designate Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ruth Ann Onley, wife of outgoing Lieutenant Governor David Onley, and Vicki Heyman, wife of the U.S. ambassador to Canada.

It was a tight squeeze for the delegation, with the countess taking one of only two rooms in the only inn in KI, and the others bunking with community members. A fairly ordinary occurrence when visitors travel into such communities, but for the royals, a fairly unusual situation.

She had breakfast with the

Canadian Rangers, who made her an honorary member of the group. The Rangers are a component of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve operating in northern, coastal and isolated areas of Canada providing patrols and national security and public safety missions.

The youth of the community were filled with hope and dreaming of the next possibilities for their community and school after the royal visit, said Andree Cazabon, filmmaker of 3rd World Canada. The film follows the community of KI over two years and reveals the many factors that lead to the marginalization of First Nations people in hopes of closing gaps in living conditions.

"Now that they pulled off this Royal visit, they feel that they can pull their efforts together and make change happen within KI," Cazabon said. The youth want to travel south to share their story and love for community and build bridges.

And 13-year-old Raven Chapman says she misses the Countess and hopes she will see her again.

Later, the delegation attended Nipissing University in North Bay and the First Nations Education Symposium where the

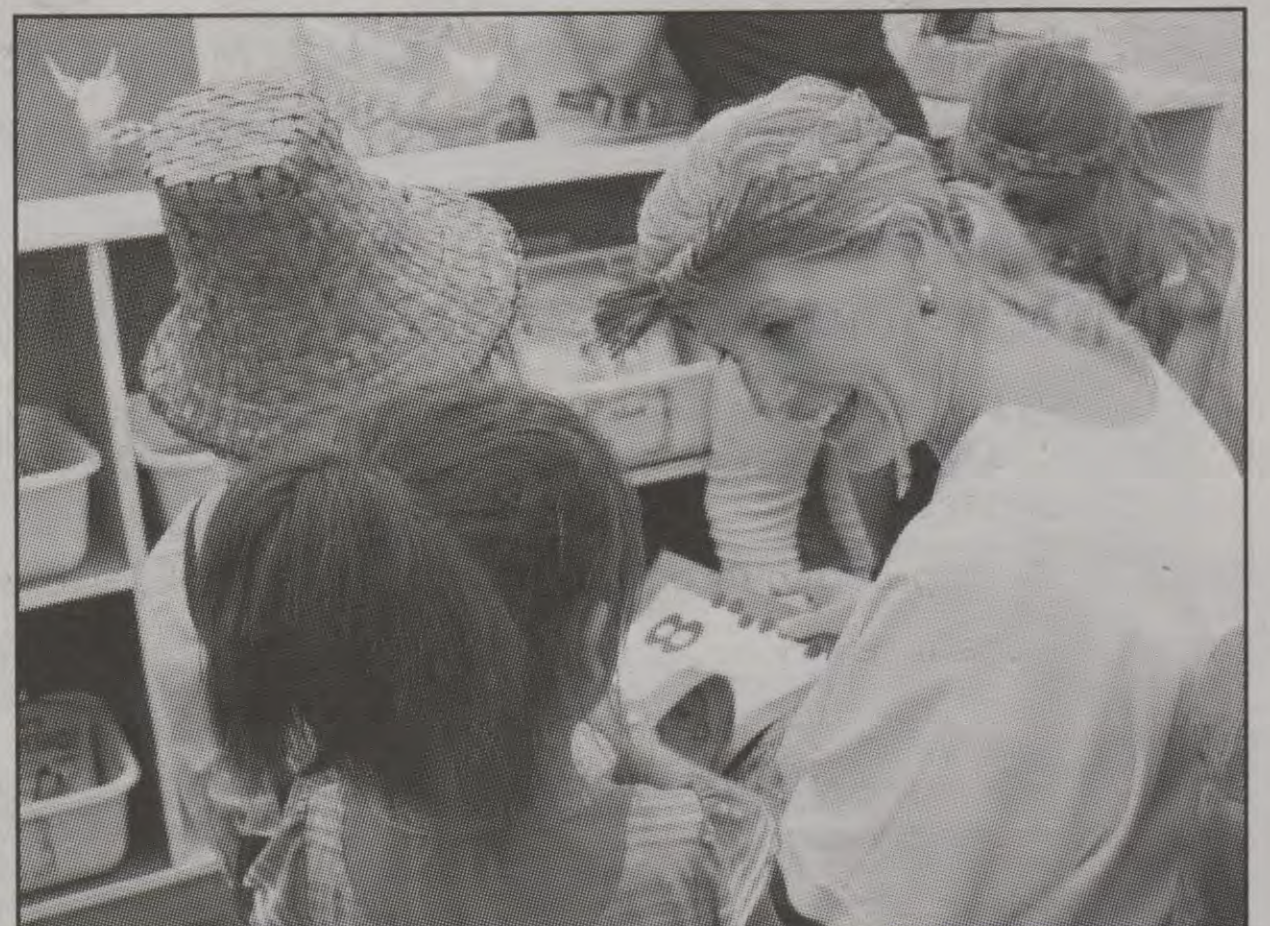


Countess of Wessex, Sophie Rhys Jones, paddles with the Ditidaht Paddle Club on Nitinat Lake, B.C.

Countess addressed 400 people, and talked of the importance of saving Aboriginal languages and culture.

"Language is what often defines us as a people. It is part of our history and who we are. And especially within communities where language is not being documented, but passed from generation to generation verbally, it is vital that we ensure survival of these dialects. This is not a move to create division between people but a celebration of difference and a way of enriching all the people of Canada and its heritage."

(Continued on page 18.)



After cutting the ribbon to the new library at Ditidaht, the Countess of Wessex, read to some of the children.

West Moberly nation vows lawsuit over Site C dam

By David P. Ball
Windspeaker Contributor

A First Nation has promised a court battle if B.C. approves plans to flood a swathe of its territories for the province's long-sought-for 1,100-megawatt Site C hydroelectric dam.

West Moberly First Nation Chief Roland Willson announced the threat to apply for a judicial review in the province's courts at a briefing on Sept. 9 in Vancouver, less than two months before a provincial decision is expected on granting a green-light to the project.

The band worries about the impacts of submerging traditional territories, but Indigenous leaders also raised the spectre of another dam wall failure on the scale of the massive Mount Polley tailings pond collapse in August. Both dams feature an earthen design.

"If we have to, we will litigate," the chief said. "If they get an Environmental Assessment certification, we will file for a judicial review on it immediately.

"We will go to court, and if court doesn't work, we'll do other things. This is a ridiculous proposal. In light of everything else that's out there right now, we shouldn't even be contemplating something like this."

BC Hydro's proposal to flood



PHOTO: DAVID P. BALL

West Moberly First Nation Chief Roland Willson speaks at a Vancouver press briefing on Sept. 9 alongside Union of BC Indian Chiefs president, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip and municipal leaders.

10,000 hectares of land in the Peace River district — more than 40 per cent of it classified as

farmland — comes three decades after an earlier version of the plan was rejected by a provincial

regulator, the B.C. Utilities Commission (BCUC), as being unnecessary.

Now, however, the province says the dam is needed to power the hoped-for boom in liquefied natural gas (LNG). BC Hydro boasts on its website that the dam "would be a source of clean, renewable and cost-effective electricity for more than 100 years."

"The decision to propose Site C was made after careful consideration of all available options to meet future electricity needs," wrote the Crown corporation's president Charles Reid in defence his project.

"BC Hydro's conclusion is that Site C provides the best combination of financial, technical, environmental and economic development attributes, compared to alternatives. Site C would have a relatively small footprint for the amount of electricity it would generate."

In May, a Joint Review Panel made up of federal and provincial reviewers granted its blessing to the nearly \$8-billion dam as long as it satisfied 50 recommendations to mitigate its impacts. If the province follows the usual six-month timeline following a JRP ruling to approve the project's environmental assessment certificate, that would mean a decision is forthcoming by Oct. 22.

Municipal and regional district

elected officials, at the same press briefing in a posh Vancouver hotel, issued a call for the province to instead push the decision to the BCUC, as it did in the 1980s.

"If you have any kind of review, you have to make sure that whatever it's called and under whatever jurisdiction it is ... it has to be transparent," said Gwen Johansson, mayor of the nearby District of Hudson's Hope. "It has to be accountable, it has to be independent.

"The current process that we just went through, BC Hydro wrote the environmental assessment statement, it [went] then to the province, which the Premier at one point described the government as a proponent for Site C ... The process has just been simply very flawed."

Willson, whose band is a signatory to Treaty 8, disagreed with that suggestion.

"The Joint Review Panel was very clear that the impacts of Site C cannot be mitigated on First Nations rights," he said. "... Because of that, you have to stop this process.

"It should not go to the BCUC at all. It should be stopped dead in its tracks just on the fact that they cannot mitigate the impacts on First Nations of Treaty 8. From the First Nations point of view, Site C is not an option at all."

(Continued on page 9.)



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Totem represents fight against further oil sands development

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

EDMONTON

"Our actions are for everybody, unlike this government of Canada," said Rueben George, to a small but passionate crowd gathered on the steps of the Alberta Legislature on Sept. 5.

George, of the Tsleil Waututh Nation, is head of the Kinder Morgan Sacred Trust, which is leading the battle against the oil company's proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

Members of the Tsleil Waututh Nation accompanied Lummi Nation Elder and master carver Jewell James on his trip from Washington State to Beaver Lake Cree Nation, where a totem pole carved by James was erected as a symbol of solidarity in the community's struggle against oil sands development.

The group's stop in Edmonton came one day after the National Energy Board concluded its first Aboriginal oral traditional evidence gathering in its hearings to make recommendations on the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

Oral presentations were made between Aug. 27 and Sept. 4 by the Samson Cree, O'Chiese, Sunchild, and Michel First Nations, along with the Gunn Meris Settlement. NEB heard that the proposed pipeline construction in the Alberta portion would occur close to Aboriginal homes, as well as cross waterways, ceremonial grounds, and possible burial sites.

Presenters also made it clear that boundaries, which marked their lands and reserves, were artificial. They talked about how they once gathered medicines, hunted, fished, and camped in areas that are no longer available to them because the lands have been impacted by industry or now sit as private property.

They talked about how their people were buried where they died and there was concern that construction could unearth graves. They talked about their spiritual connection to the land and about advocating for the fish and the wildlife, about leaving something good to pass on to the next generation.

The \$5.4-billion Trans Mountain Expansion project would roughly triple the capacity of an existing oil pipeline between Strathcona County in Alberta, and a Burnaby, B.C., marine terminal to 890,000



PHOTOS: SHARI NARINE

The totem pole, a symbol of solidarity, was erected on the Beaver Lake Cree Nation.



Laying hands on the totem pole carved by Lummi Nation Elder Jewell James, which travelled from Washington State on a flatbed truck and stopped in front of the Alberta Legislature.

barrels per day.

Approximately 994 km of new pipeline will be built and 193 km of pipeline reactivated. Twenty new tanks will be added to existing storage terminals. The proposed new pipeline will carry heavier oils. The Trans Mountain pipeline first began operating in 1953 and since then has seen a number of expansions.

The protest on the steps of the Legislature also singled out Enbridge and Keystone. Enbridge's \$6.5 million Northern Gateway Pipeline, which will see crude oil transported from Bruderheim, in Alberta, to an expanded terminal in Kitimat, BC, was approved but subject to over 200

conditions.

TransCanada's Keystone XL Pipeline will cover a 1,897 km route from Hardisty, AB, west and south to the Gulf Coast and is awaiting U.S. approval. TransCanada is also seeking regulatory approval for its \$12 billion Energy East oil pipeline, which is expected to transport 1.1 million barrels a day of crude oil from Alberta to the Irving Oil refinery in Saint John.

"These owners of the pipelines and this government are too dysfunctional, something is wrong with their mind. They can't even see the spirit ... that we're carrying in the totem pole or in the water or in the land. They can't see it. They're too

dysfunctional because what they see is money, what they see is greed, what they see is power ... they can't even make good choices for their own children, for their own baby," said George. "Because they're too dysfunctional to do it for (their own children), we will. We will stand up. We will do it together. We will commit together."

The totem pole, which has travelled nearly 8,000 km, is a symbol of that commitment. The pole was hauled by flatbed truck through northwestern Washington to Alberta via Idaho, Montana, South Dakota and BC.

"The people here, how we all come here together, is a reminder

that the work that we do has never been about the environment or the economy. When people make it about that then they too are part of the problem," said Crystal Lameman of the Beaver Lake Cree Nation. "It has and always will be about the health and longevity of Mother Earth, the integrity of our people, our right to a sovereign nation, our right to free, prior and informed consent."

The NEB is scheduled to hear more Aboriginal oral traditional evidence in BC, with hearings scheduled in Chilliwack (Oct. 16 to Oct. 24), Kamloops (Nov. 13 to Nov. 20), and Victoria (Nov. 24 to Nov. 28).

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Former premier inspired to do even more

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

YELLOWKNIFE

Former Northwest Territories Premier Stephen Kakfwi was "moved by the energy" of Idle No More; quietly worked behind the scenes asking former prime ministers Joe Clark and Paul Martin, and former Nunavut premier Paul Okalik to visit Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence during her hunger strike; and asked by his children to do something more.

Kakfwi responded. "I'm 63 and I spent my whole life doing this and I feel like I can do more," he said. "I can't change the past, but I can start fresh today."

Kakfwi is the guiding force behind Canadians for a New Partnership, a group of well-established and well-known men and women, who want to forge a strong relationship between non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal peoples. He says putting together the group took a year-and-a-half of phone calls.

"What will make this work is the personal commitment from each (member) to try and overcome the diverse views we have to work together. To lead by example, to show Canada and Canadians it is really possible and still a Canadian thing to do, it fits in with Indigenous governance to seek consensus, respect differences and try to do a good few things together," said Kakfwi.

The group includes Martin and Clark; former Governor General Michaëlle Jean; and former heads of Aboriginal organizations, Mary Simon of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Phil Fontaine and Ovide Mercredi of the Assembly of First Nations.

"It's hard not to be excited because of the level of people who

are involved in it. It's quite a broad selection of Canadian and Aboriginal elite," said Trent University Professor David Newhouse, who lectures on Indigenous politics and Aboriginal governance.

Newhouse points out that many of the non-Aboriginal people involved have already demonstrated their commitment to furthering Aboriginal causes, with Clark and Jean honorary witnesses for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission established through the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, Martin's foundation, the Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative, works in the schools to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal students. In her position, former auditor general of Canada Sheila Fraser continually criticized the conditions on First Nations reserves.

"It's a very powerful group. It's hard to ignore people like this," said Newhouse, who was surprised not to see Wab Kinew, University of Winnipeg director of Indigenous Inclusion, as one of the younger voices in the partnership, which includes Métis writer and teacher Chelsea Vowel, K'asho Got'ine First Nation and University of Victoria law student Daniel T'seleie, and Gwich'in Nation member Nina Larsson, who serves as executive assistant to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Kinew said it was a "question of timing" and he is talking to Kakfwi.

"It is in line with my vision and my message for people," said Kinew, who has also expressed interest in becoming the new AFN National Chief. However, Kinew has not decided yet whether he will run to replace Shawn Atleo.

Kinew, who has also been a

supporter of the grassroots Idle No More movement, does not see Canadians for a New Partnership, which has been described as an "educated and elite group of people," running counterproductive to INM.

"This is an evolution," he said. "It's one part of what's come out of those previous movements and processes. This is how former politicians, public servants and some younger people ... are going to work together."

Newhouse sees Canadians for a New Partnership as another avenue to move Aboriginal concerns forward.

"I think the issues are so complex and so longstanding, it needs a very broad-based set of approaches," he said. "A group like this tries to mobilize the Canadian elite."

Kakfwi plans to grow the youth involvement in Canadians for a New Partnership "so they can lead and give direction to this group" and increase the spiritual leadership, which includes Elder Dave Courchene, as well.

"It's my view that without ceremony, without seeking guidance from our Elders and spiritual leaders, this is just going to be another mechanical exercise," he said.

Kakfwi speaks from personal experience, recognizing the value spiritual leadership and guidance from Elders played in his journey in healing from the sexual abuse he suffered after seven and a half years in residential school.

Kakfwi has been homeless, an addict, violently angry and was a militant presence against the N.W.T. government in the late 1970s. Finally he, and a number of others, listened to the wisdom of the chiefs and were elected to government.

"I've lived it and I'm trying to provide that kind of hope and leadership to this group," said Kakfwi.

West Moberly nation vows lawsuit over Site C dam

(Continued from page 7.)

Arguing against the dam, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) pointed to June's landmark Supreme Court of Canada ruling in favour of the Tsilhqot'in.

In that groundbreaking case, judges declared that a government must gain Aboriginal consent for infringing on their lands — unless it can demonstrate "both a compelling and substantial governmental objective" that is not "outweighed by adverse effects on the Aboriginal interest."

For Phillip, the case represents

a total shift in how Indigenous Peoples will assert their rights over their traditional lands, particularly in B.C. where the majority of the province was never ceded through treaties. The political and legal landscape, he said, "has been dramatically altered" by the court victory.

"We are moving from a paradigm of consultation to consent," the long-time UBCIC president said. "The collective First Nations leadership in the province of B.C. stands in solidarity with Treaty 8 and the good people of the Peace River Valley, as does our national organization the Assembly of

First Nations.

"Clearly, we've heard that there's no good reason to proceed with this ill-considered, ill-conceived project, that the economics are suspect, that the provincial government has not established any good reason for this proposal to move forward."

In the wake of B.C. passing its Clean Energy Act four years ago — legislation which encourages BC Hydro to pursue hydroelectric projects over fossil fuel ventures — the provincial mines and energy ministry granted the proposed dam an exemption from going to the BCUC for a green-light.

Windspeaker News Briefs

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

says a national plan to address family violence and violent crimes against Aboriginal women and girls is not being implemented quickly enough and will lead to more untimely deaths. The federal government has announced the National Action Plan will not be implemented for another six-and-a-half months.

"According to current statistics where an average of approximately 38 Indigenous women and girls have been murdered or gone missing annually, that is potentially another 20 Indigenous women and girls that will be murdered or missing before this action plan is implemented and that is not acceptable," said Vice Chief Kim Jonathan. "The question remains how many more Indigenous women will fall victim to violence before governments implement a full national inquiry."

The FSIN, which represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan, has continued to call for a national inquiry to address the issues around missing and murdered Indigenous women. The action plan, the organization reports, falls short on addressing the sociological factors that lead to racialized, sexualized violence against Indigenous women in Canada, especially on-reserve. The action plan does not propose to address nor examine institutionalized racism in the justice system, for example.

The FSIN has much cause to worry. Ten RCMP detachment areas across Canada are identified as having the highest risk for violence against women, and six are in Saskatchewan, though RCMP are not identifying the communities to avoid "stigmatizing" them. "They know (about the violence), we know it, and we're having discussions now with respect to the challenges within their communities," said Supt. Tyler Bates, the RCMP's director of national Aboriginal policing and crime prevention services.

FSIN Grand Chief Perry Bellegarde said he's glad Canada is acknowledging the national crisis of violence against Aboriginal women, but says "actions need to be immediate." He said having six out of the top 10 communities at risk in the province says First Nations have been "marginalized in the economy" and "living in poverty for far too long." Bellegarde said "It is alarming and we've got to start working collectively together because there's high social costs to poverty," Bellegarde said.

Frog Lake First Nation, led by the grandmothers

of the community, held a march Sept. 19 to shine the spotlight on drug and alcohol use. Each participant, about 200 in all, was provided with a purple light bulb that would illuminate outside their homes to signal the household would not tolerate drug and alcohol use in their homes, said Lourraine Hosack. "It's marking your house as a place of safety." Organizers chose family allowance cheque day to hold their march to encourage people to be responsible when spending the money. Elders are concerned with the choices younger people are making and want to stand up for the changes they wish to see.

RCMP is investigating an online comment from one of their officers in a northern Saskatchewan

First Nations community. It was a Facebook post about an incident at Sucker River reserve. Allegedly, the post by Constable Anthony Setlack said "all drunk uneducated animals shooting at each other" in response to a report of shots fired at the reserve. RCMP spokesperson Craig Cleary said the force is looking into the comment. But the damage is done, said a retired First Nations police officer. "If you are getting that feeling that the people in your areas are animals, you need to leave it," said Ernie Louttit. "If you are a frontline officer and you begin to hate the people you police, you need to move because that's not why you signed up," added Louttit, reads a report on News Talk 980. Cleary said the RCMP has a policy that governs the use of social media and conduct. "The RCMP itself is held to a higher standard by the public that we serve, and the use of the Internet for social networking and social media applications must align with those same standards. Our policy covers members' conduct both on and off duty."

Cliffs Natural Resources, the largest company hoping to develop mining in the Ring of Fire in Ontario,

says it intends to divest itself of its \$3.3-billion project. Marten Falls First Nation was sent a letter by the company, under the economic pressures of high debt and low commodity prices, to say it is seeking "strategic alternatives," including the sale of the Black Thor chromite project. The 5,000 square kilometres known as the Ring of Fire is believed to contain \$50 billion in mineral deposits.

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Two-time Hall of Famer contemplating a return to lacrosse

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

OHSWEKEN

David General is getting inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

Again.

General, who lives in the Six Nations community of Ohsweken and has Oneida/Mohawk ancestry, was inducted into the hall via the team category back in 2008. He had served as a coach for the Six Nations Chiefs, who won three consecutive Mann Cup championships from 1994 to 1996. The Mann Cup is annually awarded to the Canadian senior men's lacrosse champs.

Anybody that was a member of the Chiefs' teams during any of those three years was inducted into the hall in 2008.

As for this year, General, 64, will be inducted into the hall, via the builder category, for his extensive coaching accomplishments.

The induction ceremony will be staged on Nov. 8 in New Westminster, B.C. The hall of fame is relocating to the Anvil Centre, a four-floor, multi-purpose facility which opens this month in New Westminster.

"Being recognized as an individual is an honour," General said. "But because lacrosse is a team concept, I think it means more to me being inducted as a team."

General, however, is still anxiously anticipating this year's induction ceremony. He is planning to fly out west for the gala along with his wife Mary.

General's son Miles, who was a member of the Chiefs' championship squads in the '90s and is thus a hall of famer himself, is thrilled his father is getting some additional recognition.

"This is something that is long overdue," he said. "Six Nations is the most successful lacrosse community around these days and he's one of the main reasons for that."

Three Six Nations teams captured national championships in 2014.

The Chiefs won their second consecutive Mann Cup. Also, the Six Nations Arrows won the Minto Cup, awarded annually to the top Canadian Junior A lacrosse side. And the Six Nations Rebels captured the Founders Cup, the national Junior B crown.

Also, the Six Nations Rivermen were finalists for the Presidents' Cup, the Canadian Senior B title.

"I think we've reached that point as a community we always wanted to be at," General said.

General had first been nominated (as an individual) as a potential inductee into the national hall about a decade ago.

"I was too young to be inducted back then," he joked.

Nominees who do not get inducted right away have their names placed on a list during which they are considered again in future years. Hall officials deemed General worthy of induction this year.

Prior to his accolades with the Chiefs, General also had his share of other coaching successes.

His first major accomplishment was coaching a Six Nations' Peewee team to a provincial championship in 1983.

"It scares the hell out of you when you think if these kids won a provincial title when they are 12 what the heck is in store for them as you move up through the different levels as a team," General said.

As it turned out, there was plenty more success in store.

Two years after winning an Ontario championship with the Six Nations Peewee squad, he guided a Bantam team from the community to a national title. And in 1987 he led a Six Nations' Midget club to an Ontario crown.

Powless then spent the next five years coaching at the Junior A level. For starters he guided the Bay Area Bengals, primarily comprised of Hamilton and Burlington players, for two years. And then he made the switch over to the Arrows.

During his third and final season with the Arrows, in 1992, the club won the Minto Cup.

Six Nations then opted to enter a Senior team, the Chiefs, into the Ontario Lacrosse Association and General moved up to coach at that level.

After a respectable inaugural campaign, in season two the Chiefs won their first of three national titles.

"We were very fortunate at the time to accommodate the interest of playing who were coming to Six Nations," General said, adding many of the game's top stars at the time were keen on suiting up for the Chiefs.

Though he hasn't coached since the Chiefs' successes in the mid '90s, General is contemplating a return to the sport.

"I wonder with grandchildren coming up through the different levels now of getting back into it," he said. "I might want to just go to some practices. I might want to be involved in some capacity just to be a teacher."

General has eight grandchildren (two of which have started playing lacrosse) and two great-grandchildren.

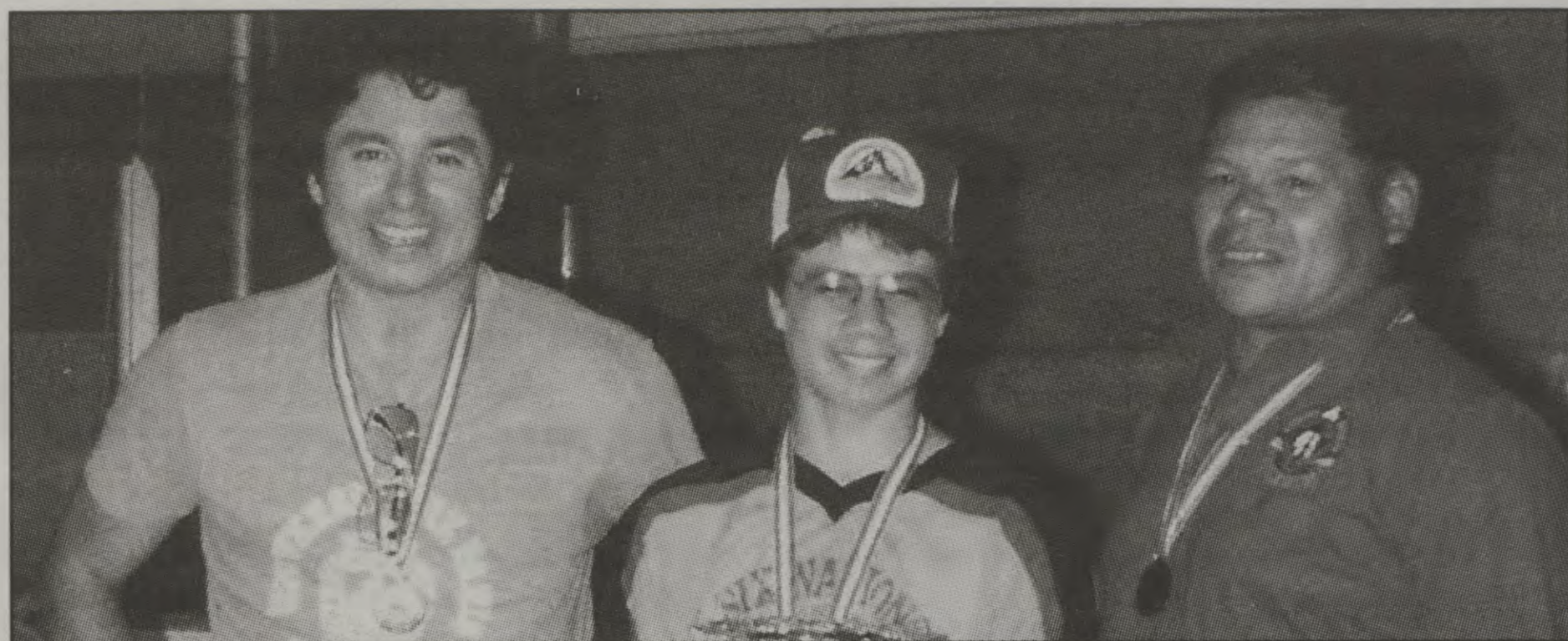


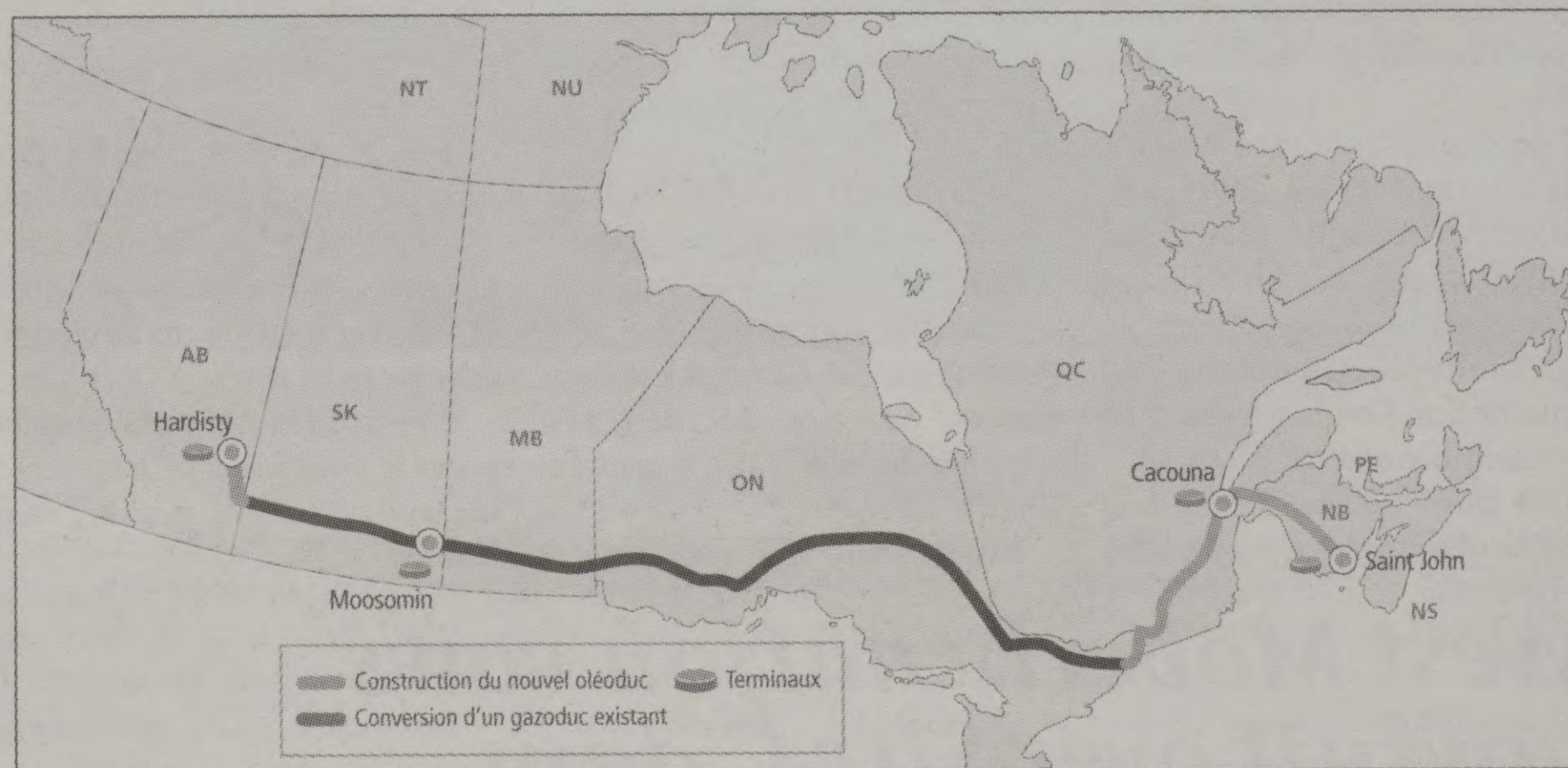
Photo is from the 1985 Bantam Nationals held in Kitchener, Ont. Pictured is Dave General, Arlie Laforme and Cap Bomberry.



The Six Nations Arrows, 1992 Minto Cup champions.

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Jeudi 16 octobre
Légion et salle communautaire de Cabri
103, 1^{ère} rue, sud
Cabri, Sask.
Horaire : 16 h à 20h

Mardi 21 octobre
Légion et salle communautaire de Whitewood
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Whitewood, Sask.
Horaire : 16 h à 20h

Mercredi 22 octobre
Légion royale canadienne
Filiale 59
268, rue High, ouest
Moose Jaw, Sask.
Horaire : 16 h à 20h

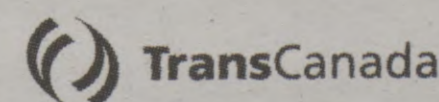
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Sto:lo Business Match coming in October

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

CHILLIWACK, B.C.

Sto:lo Community Futures (SCF), an Aboriginal non-profit organization in British Columbia, has set its sights on becoming the leading centre of Aboriginal business in British Columbia.

The organization has been around since the early 1990s, but this year launched a new five-year plan to a new board, said SCF spokesperson Francine Douglas, who is also the tourism coordinator for Sto:lo Tourism, one of the businesses in the territory.

SCF provides support in community economic development and business growth to Sto:lo people. The Sto:lo territory stretches from Langley to Hope and currently has about 6,000 Sto:lo people that live in 24 communities in the Fraser Valley.

Right now there are more than 200 Sto:lo and Aboriginal businesses in the territory and several of them are garnering

national and international attention.

Douglas is hoping the SCF and its plan gains more traction during the Sto:lo Business Match, which is scheduled for Oct. 28 and Oct. 29 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre in Abbotsford.

This event is modelled after the successful Aboriginal Business Match. It was held twice in 2014, in Saskatoon and in Penticton, B.C.

The tradeshow aims to connect Aboriginal communities with the private sector in order to create business opportunities.

"It is based on the speed-dating idea," Douglas said of the upcoming Sto:lo Business Match. "You have 20 appointments and they are 20-minutes each."

Business owners make the same presentation to groups that they can possibly work together to enhance their companies.

"We are expecting over 200 individual delegates," Douglas said of the Abbotsford event.

The SCF offers business counselling and loans for

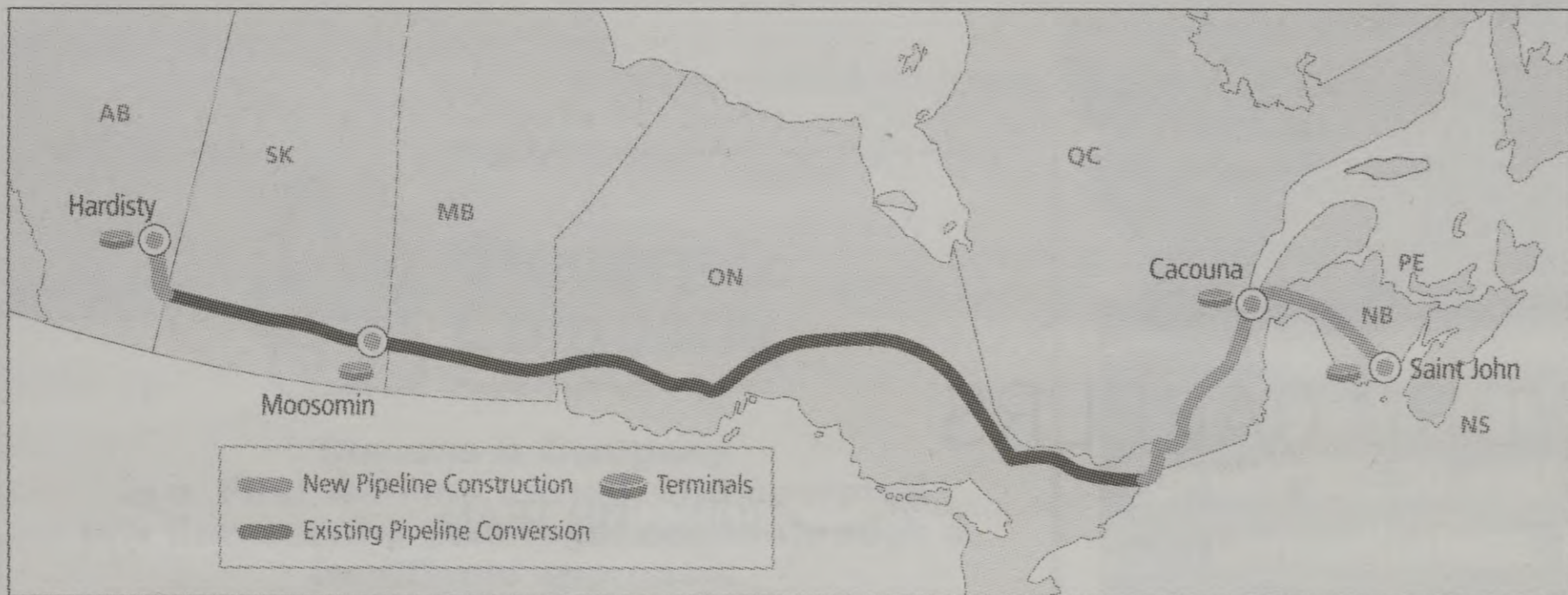


Seven Generations Environmental Services is pictured outside of the Sto:lo Resource Centre. SGES provides environmental and monitoring services.

Aboriginal businesses, ranging from small to medium-sized, that are just getting off the ground or

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Royal Canadian Legion #208
207 5th Avenue East
Oyen, Alta.
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Wednesday, October 15
Burstall Community Hall
951 Railway Ave.
Burstall, Sask.
Hours: 4 – 8 p.m.

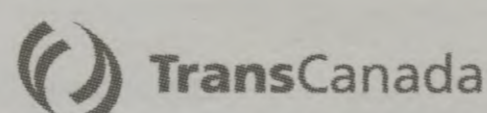
Thursday, October 16
Cabri Community Legion Hall
103 1st St. South
Cabri, Sask.
Hours: 4 – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, October 21
Legion Community Hall
738 Lalonde St.
Whitewood, Sask.
Hours: 4 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, October 22
Royal Canadian Legion #59
268 High Street West
Moose Jaw, Sask.
Hours: 4 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, October 23
White City Community Centre – Hall C
12 Ramm Ave. East
White City, Sask.
Hours: 4 – 8 p.m.

EnergyEastPipeline.com



TransCanada is a Canadian company with over 60 years of experience building pipelines and power infrastructure safely and reliably.



Singer Inez Jasper was commissioned by Sto:lo Community Futures for the song Go Sto:lo, which speaks about the rising spirit of entrepreneurship in the territory.

are looking to maintain or even expand their business.

Douglas said the SCF has made some significant strides since its five-year plan was launched this past spring.

"I know they have bigger plans than this though," she said.

Though some Aboriginal business owners believe they are doing just fine on their own, Douglas said an increasing amount of owners are discovering the numerous benefits of working with others to make their companies prosper.

"We have several strong capable leaders," she said. "They have gone to business schools and universities and they want to take the next steps (in helping to grow Aboriginal companies)."

Douglas herself is included in

this group. The 36-year-old, a member of the Chehalis First Nation who lives in Chilliwack, owns four businesses.

"A lot of the (Sto:lo) owners are operating one or more businesses," she said.

Among those who are receiving significant attention are Lyn Kay Peters, who is a fashion designer. She has staged shows in New York and also signed a recent contract to do a bridal display with Luxe Magazine.

Seven Generations Environmental Services is also receiving national exposure. The Chilliwack-based company is keen to become one of the leading Aboriginal-owned providers of environmental monitoring and related site restoration services in B.C.

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Raven's Eye: Special Section providing news from BC & Yukon

The Okanagan Nation Alliance and the Arrow Lakes Tribe

of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville reservation in Washington took responsibility for the reburial of 10,000-year-old bones considered to be remains of an ancestor to the Sinixt people, considered extinct in Canada. First Nations gathered on the banks of the Kootenay River for the burial. The remains were found in February and sent by police to the coroner in Burnaby and then to the BC Archeological branch. The site of the reburial was blessed with sage and tobacco. The remains of the woman were placed in a box and wrapped in a blanket. A procession of drummers and singers led the way down a forest path to the site of the reburial. Canada has considered the Sinixt extinct since 1956, but locally there are a few who claim to be descendants. The Nelson Daily newspaper said the group watched the reburial from a distance.

Westbank First Nations will co-manage the new Black Mountain/Sntsk'il'ntYn

Regional Park

with the Regional District of Central Okanagan. The 1,260-acre park runs from Tower Ranch through to Highway 33. Sntsk'il'ntYn is a syilx/Okanagan word that means "the place where arrowheads/flint rock is found". The area was important to First Nations for gathering tools. It has four sensitive ecosystems, including species that are either endangered or threatened. "I think it's going to offer a lot having Westbank First Nations on the actual title and having the co-management as a responsibility," said Chief Robert Louie. "Anytime an area within our traditional territory is protected, we are pleased," said Louie. The park will remain closed to the public until a management plan is created, and signage is developed.

RCMP Const. Andrew Curtis says an important historical mask was stolen

from a shed in Alert Bay on Cormorant Island off the northern tip of Vancouver Island. The piece depicts the supernatural bird Huxhukw, and is one of three bird masks used

by the Kwakwaka'wakw peoples during winter ceremonies. RCMP are concerned that the thief will attempt to sell the mask to a private collector or gallery and are urging anyone with information to contact them. It is a brightly painted piece with a beak five feet long.

Kinder Morgan may have a change of heart on the route of its pipeline

if Burnaby City Council delays survey work on Burnaby Mountain. The city is seeking an injunction to stop the survey work in the conservation area. The company wants the National Energy Board to force the city to allow the work. "This work is planned and necessary in order to meet the deadlines from the National Energy Board," said Kinder Morgan spokesperson Ali Hounsell. "We have to have the information from the studies, to find out if this route is feasible by Dec. 1. If they continue to delay the work, we'll have to consider whether we abandon the option of going through Burnaby Mountain, which, as you know, we believe is a less

disruptive route." Kinder Morgan will drill through Burnaby Mountain to connect a tank farm with the Westridge Marine Terminal. The plan was not in the company's original application to the NEB, so the company was given the deadline to complete an assessment of the proposal. When Kinder Morgan cut trees in the city-owned conservation area, Burnaby issued a stop-work order. The city ticketed the company for damaging a city park. The city also asked the B.C. Supreme Court for an injunction to deal with the question of jurisdiction: Does the federal government or the city control the mountain?

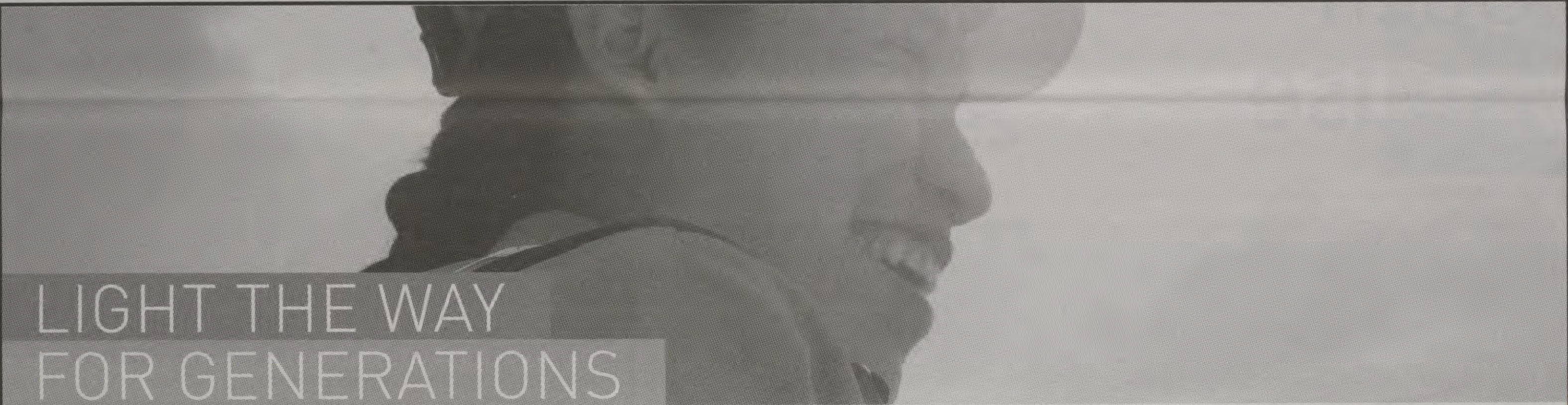
The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers cancelled meetings

with the Terrace City Council and the Terrace Chamber of Commerce, because the representatives the company had sent for the meetings wouldn't be able to answer questions from people who had planned protests. "We have been focused most recently on LNG and the natural gas value chain. That's what we were

prepared to speak to today," said Geoff Morrison, the BC Manager for CAPP. "And we understand that we probably should have come with a wider scale of skill sets available to answer the wider questions people may be having." Northwest Watch co-chair Anne Hill said she was disappointed by the choice to back out of the meetings and avoid the protesters. "They're claiming they want to speak to the public, but, in fact, they only want to talk to certain people, a certain select group. They don't want to hear any opposition," said Hill.

Hupacasath First Nation is shocked and disappointed

that the federal government has ratified the foreign investment treaty with China, considering the matter is still before a Canadian court to decide if government should have consulted on the controversial 31-year agreement with the nation first. The Canada-China FIPA will come into effect on Oct. 1. "The Canada-China FIPA will help ensure that Canadian companies doing (Continued on page 13.)



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Premier, BC Cabinet meets with BC First Nation leaders

It was described as a historic meeting of First Nations leaders, the Premier of British Columbia, Christy Clark, and her Cabinet, who gathered Sept. 11 to “dialogue” on transforming the First Nations-Crown relationship.

The meeting was spurred on by the new legal landscape facing the province since the Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Tsilhqot’in case which recognized, for the first time in Canada, that Aboriginal Title exists beyond the reserve. It’s a game-changer, First Nations leaders believe, because much of British Columbia is unceded territory.

Unfortunately, that’s about all that was accomplished at this “first political meeting on these fundamental political and legal questions”—a dialogue.

They couldn’t even come up with a joint communique on the meeting.

In a statement from the First Nations Leadership Council, which hosted the gathering, the organization said it was disappointed that the province declined to commit on any of the four key foundations set out by the First Nations for the work they see ahead.

1. Acknowledgement that all our relationships are based on recognition and implementation of the existence of Indigenous peoples’ inherent title and rights, and pre-confederation, historic and modern treaties, throughout British Columbia.

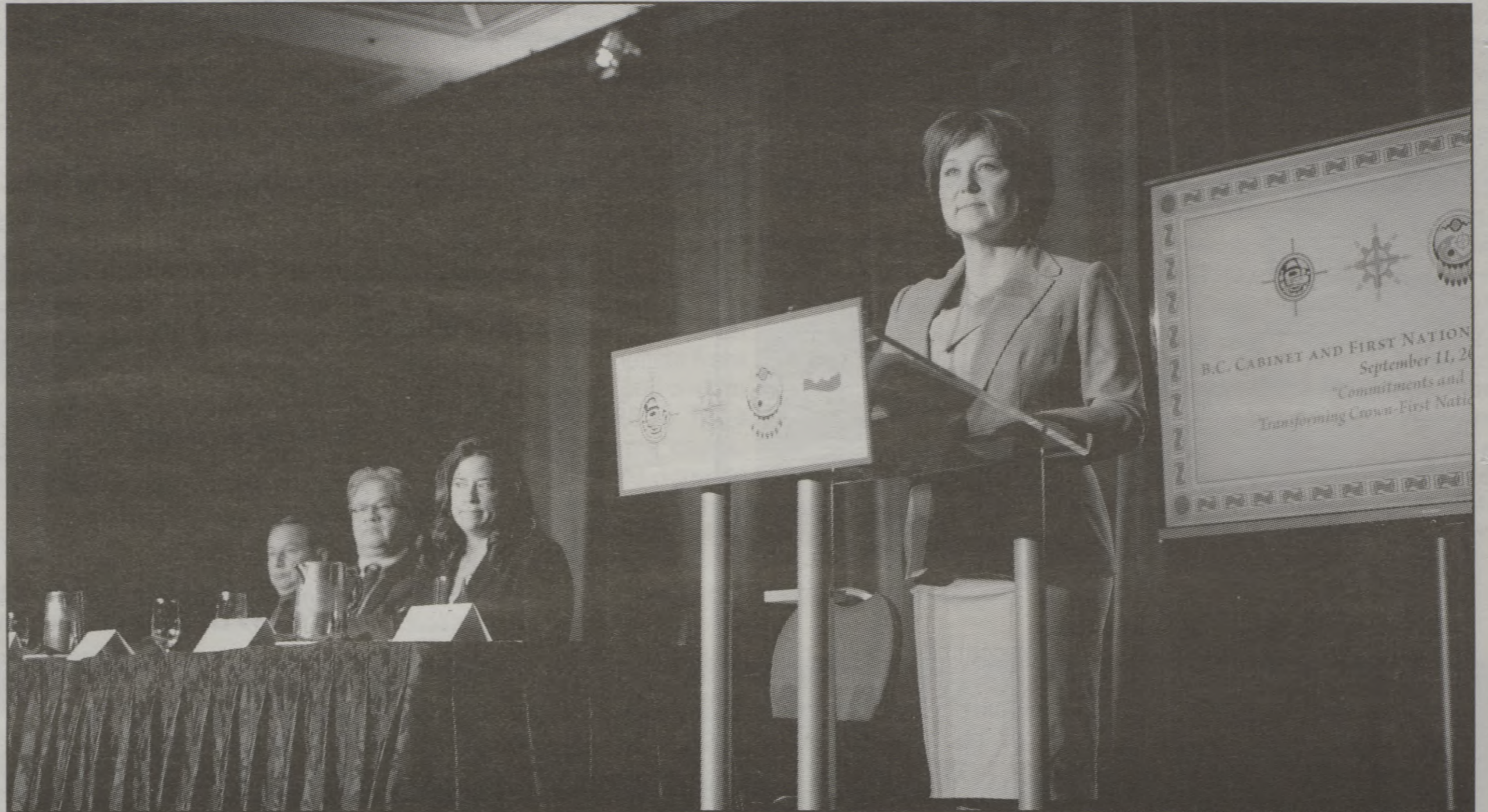


PHOTO: GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

GC Stewart Phillip (UBCIC), GC Ed John (FNS) and RC Jody Wilson-Raybould looking on as Premier of British Columbia, Christy Clark speaks on transforming the First Nations-Crown relationship.

2. Acknowledgement that Indigenous systems of governance and laws are essential to the regulation of lands and resources throughout British Columbia.

3. Acknowledgment of the mutual responsibility that all of our government systems shall shift to relationships, negotiations and agreements based on recognition.

4. We immediately must move

to consent based decision-making and title based fiscal relations, including revenue sharing, in our relationships, negotiations and agreements.

“This work is too important to delay, and the First Nations Leadership Council and First Nations in BC await and look forward to a timely response regarding the foundations of our work together,” wrote the council.

In the statement from B.C., the government “acknowledges” the Tsilhqot’in decision is an “opportunity to work together to

build a new path for recognition and reconciliation in the province.”

BC said it is without question and dispute that Aboriginal title in the province exists.

“The challenge and opportunity is how to implement title across British Columbia given that a diversity of views exist on how best to achieve this in the most collaborative and timely way.”

The government has “acknowledged” the four foundational principles set out by the BC First Nations, and has

committed to an annual gathering and ongoing “government-to-government” engagement.

The Leadership Council says “First Nations remain resolute in exercising our respective title and rights, and treaty rights according to these foundations for the benefit of the current and future generations.

“We will steward our lands and ensure that they are responsibly managed and work toward building strong First Nations governments, communities and economies.”



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Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan



PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY PARKLAND COLLEGE

Formal agreement between Treaty 4, Parkland College

Treaty 4 Student Success Program Inc Executive Director Lori Whiteman (left) signed the MOU with Parkland College President Dr. Fay Myers establishing a formal relationship to improve pathways to post-secondary education for First Nations students in the Parkland Region. T4SSP is an educational organization that serves 11 First Nations in east-central and southeast Saskatchewan: Fishing Lake, Cote, Keeseekoose, Sakimay, Ocean Man, Kahkewistahaw, Ochapowace, Cowessess, White Bear, Muskowekwan, and Kawacatoose First Nations. Parkland College has long partnered with First Nations bands and tribal councils in the region to develop and deliver education and training programs on-reserve.

Implementation underway on recommendation on youth-on-youth death

Saskatchewan Social Services and the Yorkton Tribal Council Child and Family Services are reporting progress

on 18 recommendations made after a 10-year-old boy killed a six-year-old boy in August 2013. The boy's body was found in a wooded area not far from the Kahkewistahaw First Nation community centre. The recommendations came in May from the province's children's advocate Bob Pringle, who found there were significant gaps in aid provided to the 10-year-old by the tribal council. Pringle's first recommendation is "That the Government of Saskatchewan develop and implement well-resourced early childhood development and poverty reduction strategies to advance the goals of its Child and Family Agenda." Pringle noted that the 10-year-old boy had behavioural issues and said he probably should not have been in the community unsupervised. Among the steps taken by Social Services includes joint training session with First Nations child and family services on safety plans, and yearly program reviews on First Nations child welfare agencies rather than the former practice of every three years.

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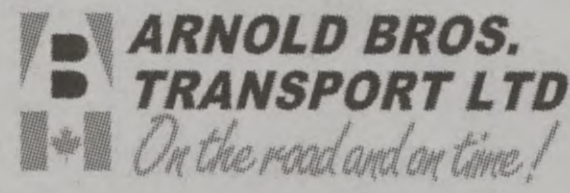
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Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

INM organizer calls for women to lead inquiry

Alex Wilson, an Idle No More organizer as well as an associate professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and the Academic Director of the Aboriginal Education Research Centre at the University of Saskatchewan, recently told CBC News that not only is a national inquiry needed into the issue of missing and murdered Aboriginal women, but that it must be led by Indigenous women. "I think Indigenous women should direct and lead and every step of the way be a part of any kind of academic research community or otherwise inquiry investigation, or commission, that examines this issue," Wilson said. She

explained that any investigation into the murders and disappearances must be focused around the inclusion of input and direction from the victims' families.

Specific Claims Tribunal hears arguments from Beardy's & Okemasis

The Specific Claims Tribunal heard the final arguments in the Beardy's & Okemasis claim regarding the wrongful withholding of annuities by the federal government. "Finally, after 14 years of waiting since we first filed our claim, our position that the Government of Canada was clearly in breach of its duties by punishing selected First Nations through the withholding of funds owed will

be heard by the Tribunal. We are very confident of our position on this issue and we are of the view that the decision on the Beardy's & Okemasis claim will impact the claims of the other 13 First Nations who also had annuities withheld," said Chief Rick Gamble. Following the 1885 Riel Rebellion, Canada instituted several measures to control and punish 14 First Nations labelled as "rebel bands". One of those measures was to withhold Treaty annuities from every man, woman and child in the band from 1885 to 1889 even though, in some cases, only a few, or perhaps none, of those band members may have actually participated in Riel Rebellion activities. In 2000, Beardy's & Okemasis

First Nation filed Specific Claims with the Canada alleging the government breached its lawful obligations. In 2008, the Specific Claims Tribunal was formed with the power to make binding decisions on Specific Claims, which cannot be settled through negotiations.

Support for ILMI at U of S

TD Bank of Canada has provided a gift of \$500,000 to the University of Saskatchewan for the Indigenous Land Management Institute in support of education, scholarships and research in the area of Indigenous economic development. The funding will support the work of the ILMI with half of the money going directly toward

internships that support student work and research in Saskatchewan. "Today's donation continues to support the research being done at the ILMI and ensures our centre remains a leader in Indigenous land and resource management, both nationally and internationally," said David Natcher, director of the ILMI. Since opening in 2008, the institute's researchers have worked on projects that examine food security, investigate sustained economic growth for Saskatchewan First Nations and work to create more meaningful and informed Aboriginal engagement with large-scale development in Northern Saskatchewan.

Compiled by Shari Narine

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Manitoba Pipestone: Special Section providing news from Manitoba

Group works to dredge Red River

Sparked by the discovery of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine's body in August in the Red River, a group, which includes Bernadette Smith, whose sister Claudette Osborne went missing six years ago, has organized the dredging of the river's bottom. The group is called Drag the Red and has volunteer crews, who will use boats to pull metal bars with dragging hooks along the bottom of the river to pick up anything, including bodies. A pipe ceremony was held on Sept. 14, with 100 people in attendance, many of whom have missing family members. Dredging began a few days later. There are approximately two dozen volunteers on the boats, which include Aboriginal people with experience dragging Manitoba lakes for remains, said Smith. The Drag the Red has 700 members on Facebook. While the Winnipeg Police Service has done dives, and recently had the Edmonton Police Service's Missing Persons Unit conduct a search of the shoreline through visual observation, there has been no dredging. Critics say dredging will only pull up garbage.

APCA takes on political flavour

The Aboriginal People's Choice Awards quickly became about more than honouring Aboriginal talent Sept. 12. Rappers Winnipeg Boyz opened the show in Winnipeg wearing t-shirts that read "Where are our women?" It was in reference to the more than 1,100 missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada. Indigenous rapper and University of Winnipeg director of Indigenous Inclusion Wab Kinew talked about the long history of misogyny in rap music. "I would like to challenge all of the hip hop and rap artists in our community to stop making music with language that's disrespectful and demeaning to Indigenous women." An open letter from activist Clayton Thomas-Muller questioned the role of corporate sponsorship for the awards. Thomas-Muller pointed out that much of "the APCA show was sponsored by some of the biggest violators of Indigenous/Treaty Rights in this country..." Thomas-Muller challenged the night's recipients to post on Facebook their thoughts about the operations of the companies that sponsored the APCA.

Threat curtails Aboriginal hunting in western Manitoba

In mid-August, the province extended a ban on feeding deer, elk and moose in western Manitoba to Aboriginal hunters to better control the threat of chronic wasting disease. Officials say the ban was enacted after consultation. The new regulation recognizes Aboriginal hunting rights have now been taken into consideration. "The communities we talked to, the hunters we talked to, they're very much in favour of the work we're doing to prevent the spread of the disease," said Manitoba Big Game Health Program manager Richard Davis. He said subsistence hunting is not widely practised in western Manitoba. CWD is a fatal disease of the central nervous system of deer and elk. The theory behind a ban on feeding is infected animals probably transmit the disease through animal-to-animal contact and/or contamination of feed or water sources with saliva or bodily waste material, possibilities that increase greatly when animals gather at a single source of supplied food. The new regulation comes about two months after the province made

amendments to the Wildlife Act's general hunting regulation.

Protest moves into hands of youth

In early September, a group of youth took over a protest camp in Winnipeg that's calling for a national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women. The original camp in Memorial Park since late August folded its tents because it saw the call by Canadian premiers to hold a roundtable on the issue as a positive first step. "Our biggest complaint right now is 'cause all the missing and murdered Indigenous women, they're mostly young people and we want to get action taken on to why people aren't listening to the youth and why they're letting this happen," Corey Bruce of the youth camp told CTV News. The group says they plan to camp for 12 days before making a trip to Ottawa.

Second annual Burt Award to be handed out

Winners of the second edition of the Burt Award for First Nations, Metis and Inuit Literature will be announced on Sept. 27 at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People in Winnipeg. Nominated are The

Girl Who Grew A Galaxy by Cherie Dimaline (published by Theytus Books); The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America by Thomas King (published by Doubleday Canada); They Called Me Number One by Bev Sellars (published by Talon Books); and, Tilly, a Story of Hope and Resilience by Monique Gray Smith (published by Sono Nis Press). In 2013, more than 7,500 copies of the first three winning titles were distributed to 980 locations in all provinces and territories. The reaction from community workers and educators who received the books to use as part of their curriculum or programming with First Nations, Metis and Inuit youth was overwhelmingly positive. Prizes of \$12,000, \$8,000 and \$5,000 will be awarded to first through third placing authors. In addition, publishers of the winning titles will be awarded a guaranteed purchase of a minimum of 2,500 copies, which will ensure that First Nations, Metis and Inuit youth across Canada will have access to the books through their community's schools, libraries, or friendship centres.

Compiled by Shari Narine

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Ontario Birchbark: Special Section providing news from Ontario



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Graduates celebrate success, jobs

The Indigenous Line Crew Ground Support graduates were honoured in a ceremony Sept. 12, after completing 15 weeks of training through the Wabnode Centre for Aboriginal Services and Cambrian College. Eighty per cent of the graduates have secured employment.

10 First Nations with decade-long boil water advisories in place

Nearly half of the 133 First Nations in Ontario currently have boil water advisories, and it has been more than 10 years since 10 First Nations in northwestern Ontario had clean drinking water. In an email response to a CBC interview, a spokesperson for Health Canada said, in part, "In addition to the measures regarding water quality sampling, monitoring and surveillance programs... Health Canada Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) regularly visit First Nations communities to conduct public health program activities and provide training as necessary." Neskantaga First Nation is one of the First Nations that has had a boil water advisory in place for more

than 10 years. Chief Peter Moonias said he has been approached by charities and private companies offering help, but "we don't want to leave the government off the hook...when they have the obligation to do that. The government is responsible to provide that service."

Legal action taken to uphold Robinson-Huron Treaty

Chiefs from the Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, acting on behalf of 30,000 beneficiaries of the 1850 Robinson-Huron Treaty, filed a Statement of Claim Sept. 9 naming Canada and Ontario in the longstanding failure of the Crown to raise annuities as agreed under the Treaty. "Our people have exhausted their patience waiting for the Crown to act honourably, they want their fair

share and they want the Crown to honour its promises," said spokesman Chief Dean Sayers. He said the Robinson-Huron Treaty "anticipates and provides economic benefits for us in perpetuity. The annuity was intended to be our revenue stream, our share of the wealth generated by revenues from our territory, yet many of the beneficiaries live in poverty. This is not what our ancestors and the Crown agreed to."

Wabauskang asks Court of Appeal to clarify lower court decision

Wabauskang First Nation has asked the Ontario Court of Appeal to hear its challenge of the recent decision dismissing Wabauskang's lawsuit against the Ontario government over its approval of Rubicon Minerals' proposed Phoenix Gold Mine near Red Lake. "Our Treaty rights and our relationship and responsibilities with our lands and territory must be respected," said Wabauskang Chief Martine Petiquan. "The lower court's decision ignores fundamental aspects of our Treaty relationship and Ontario's constitutional obligations to our First Nation. We're ready to take this fight to the Court of Appeal to make sure that Ontario honours our

Treaty the way it is supposed to." Wabauskang filed the lawsuit in 2012 opposing Rubicon's proposed Phoenix Gold Mine in Treaty 3 territory. Wabauskang asked the Court to cancel Ontario's approval of a closure plan, which allows the mine to go into production, because Ontario delegated consultation to Rubicon. In a decision released on Aug. 28, the Court sided with Rubicon and Ontario and upheld the closure plan.

Senate Committee hears from Spence and other chiefs

Attawapiskat First Nation Chief Theresa Spence was among those First Nations leaders to appear before the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples, which is conducting a study on challenges relating to First Nations infrastructure on reserves. In October 2011, Spence declared a state of emergency in Attawapiskat in response to dropping temperatures and the health risk presented by inadequate housing. It was the third declared state of emergency in as many years. The government responded, in part, by saying they were unaware of the crisis and by putting Attawapiskat First Nation under third party management.

Spence went on a six-week hunger strike and her actions helped fuel the Idle No More movement. Other chiefs to present to the Senate Committee included Les Louttit, Deputy Grand Chief for Nishnawbe Aski Nation, and Chief Gordon Beardy of the Muskrat Dam First Nation. Senate hearings took place Sept. 15 in Thunder Bay.

Carleton continues to forge strong relationship

Carleton will be the first university in Canada to offer an Aboriginal research ethics program in 2015. Organizers recently conducted a two-day pilot that brought Aboriginal community members, researchers and representatives of granting organizations together. The result will be a 10-day institute to help academics and others implement ethical practices when working with Aboriginal communities. As well, Carleton recently established the Aboriginal Education Council. With more than 40 faculty at Carleton directly involved in Indigenous research and an administrative Strategic Integrated Plan that supports Aboriginal communities, Carleton is on its way to positioning itself as a university of choice for Aboriginal students.

New poverty funding programs in place

Ontario's new Poverty Reduction Strategy is focused on ending homelessness and providing a stable foundation to help people rise out of poverty. The strategy will invest in initiatives that are evidence-based and measurable, so that Ontario can track its progress and get the best possible results for people. Realizing Our Potential recommits to reducing child poverty by 25 per cent. It will also help in accessing jobs, education and training opportunities, while continuing to maintain income security for vulnerable Ontarians. Through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative, \$42 million will be invested to enable local governments to develop programs tailored to their community's unique needs, bringing the investment to a total of almost \$294 million per year.

Compiled by Shari Narine

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First Nations people have a long history of using tobacco in ceremonies, rituals and prayer. When tobacco is used in a traditional way, it benefits the spirit and strengthens the ties to one's culture. However, when tobacco is used in a non-traditional manner, like smoking cigarettes or chewing tobacco/snuff, it causes lung diseases including lung cancer, heart disease, cancers of the upper respiratory tract, and pregnancy risks.

Never Give Up

It generally takes at least three serious attempts at quitting before a person becomes a lifetime non-smoker, and for many people it takes six or more tries. If you are not successful the first time you try to quit, don't give up. Learn from the experience and get back on track right away.

Youth

Since 85 per cent of smokers start before their 16th birthday, if you do not start smoking by 19 you are more likely to never become a regular tobacco user. However, if you are a young person looking to quit and you want youth-friendly material, the following websites have information on tobacco addiction, quitting tips and support from others sharing their stories: www.quit4life.com and www.quittersunite.com

"Traditional tobacco has been used by many Aboriginal people in ceremonies, rituals and prayer for thousands of years," said Elder Leonard Ward of Stellat'en First Nation, Fraser Lake, BC. "Using tobacco in non-traditional ways like smoking cigarettes or chewing tobacco or snuff is abuse of its traditional purpose."

"For me, I had a hard time health wise. I used to be able to run no problem. The challenge I faced was a lot of negative energy that came whenever I smoke. My father was a traditional healer and he said to give up smoking to the Creator for the purpose of healing. When I started my fast I put four [cigarettes] on the sacred mount in front of the sweat lodge and when I came out I didn't feel like smoking after that."

Non-traditional Tobacco Use in BC

British Columbians have made tremendous strides in decreasing smoking trends over the years. BC now has the lowest per capita rate of tobacco use at 14 per cent, however, because of the larger population in the

province, it has the fourth highest number of smokers at 550,000 people, with 59 per cent of First Nations adults smokers, which is three times higher than the national average.

Most alarming is among Aboriginal youth with current rates for 15 to 19 years olds ranging from 47 per cent to 82 per cent in some areas, according to the Canadian Pediatric Society.

Smoking is a primary risk factor for the top three causes of death in Canada—respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Also, smoking is associated with adverse outcomes for infants and children.

Traditional tobacco use creates positive energy and non-traditional tobacco use creates negative energy.

Ready to put smoking behind you?

Get support from those around you. When you have a good support network of non smokers or others that are trying to quit, you are more likely to succeed. Set a quit date and tell your family and friends so that they can encourage you along the way. For those that are not smokers, think about your loved ones that smoke and make a plan for helping them to quit in a positive way.

Keep a tally sheet on your smoking behaviour to gain a better understanding of patterns, moods, and triggers for cravings. Control cravings using the 4 D's – Delay by waiting five minutes and seeing if the craving passes. Use deep breathing – in through your mouth and out through your nose for seven seconds. Drink a glass of water slowly. And finally, distract yourself by participating in another healthy behaviour.

Calculate the amount of money you will save by quitting using of non-traditional tobacco. For example, after one month of quitting, you could save approximately \$200. What could you do with an extra \$200?

Countess of Wessex earns affection of First Nations

(Continued from page 6.)

The Countess of Wessex also spoke about the need to help heal the wounds and "painful memories" of the residential school era.

"We need to ask about what can be done to ease their suffering," she said.

The Earl and Countess of Wessex, Prince Edward and his wife Sophie, don't garner the same attention as the luminaries that are Prince William and

Princess Kate, for example, but Edward's and Sophie's visit to Canada Sept. 12 to Sept. 19 was a triumph in their work of reconciliation and repair of the tattered relationship between the British Royals and First Nations people.

On Vancouver Island in British Columbia the couple opened a small library as part of the Write to Read program initiated by former Lieutenant Governor Steven Point, a member of the

Sto:lo Nation.

They were very down-to-earth people, said elected Chief Jack Thompson. They had time for everybody and didn't leave anybody out, he added.

Sophie even got into a traditional canoe with youth from the local paddle club and took a spin round the lake. Later that day the couple was in Mangis at Laert Bay for an evening display of cultural song and dance.

Health Watch

Nunavut suicide rate well above Canadian rate

In 2013, there were 45 suicides in Nunavut, almost entirely among the Inuit population of 27,000. That's a new statistical peak since the founding of the territory in 1999. That rate comes to 166 per hundred thousand. The suicide rate in Nunavut is almost five times the world's highest national rate of 35 per hundred thousand in Lithuania. There, many of the suicides derive from financial problems among older and working-age people. But among Canada's Indian and Inuit, the incidence is concentrated among male youth, with one suicide, in 2013, of a boy of 11 in Repulse Bay. The overall suicide rate in Canada has been holding fairly steady at about 12 per hundred thousand, with the Nunavut rate running 14 times the national average. Food insecurity, malnutrition, poor health and overall deprivation of children are a serious problem in these communities, as well as lack of education and employment.

Métis baseline cancer report outlines challenges

A new report measures baseline data for cancer control in the Métis population. It shows patients, their families and caregivers face common issues in cancer care. They include challenges in access to care for rural and remote communities in relation to treatment centres; financial burden; lack of trust and confidence in the cancer care system; the need for emotional support for the patient and their family; and the need for preventative health and cancer awareness education at the community level.

"In order to reduce the overall burden of cancer amongst Canada's Métis population, we first need to understand what the cancer landscape looks like: where the greatest risk factors are, how we can mitigate them, and where we can improve the experience for cancer patients, their caregivers and their families," said Pam Tobin, director, Strategy Implementation, First Nations, Inuit and Métis Cancer Control at the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.

The report also found that Métis patients could benefit from a greater blend of western and traditional approaches to cancer management. The report spotlights some promising paths forward, including greater use of telehealth to keep patients in their home communities; mining health insurance client registries for data specific to the Métis community; greater use of mobile screening programs; employing Aboriginal patient navigation liaisons; and improving discharge planning.

In March, with partners from across First Nations, Inuit and Métis organizations and the health sector, the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer launched a \$10.2 million, 3.5 year initiative to improve the quality of the cancer journey for Aboriginal peoples residing in remote and isolated communities in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Québec, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. This report offers a baseline of data to measure progress and improvement.

Anti-poverty projects move ahead in N.W.T.

The Government of the Northwest Territories' Anti-Poverty Action Plan has received \$500,000 and will provide for projects and initiatives to help reduce poverty at the community, regional and territorial levels. "The successful proposals demonstrated ingenuity and respect for culture and tradition. The GNWT is proud to assist these 14 organizations in realizing the objectives they have outlined in their proposals and to ultimately improve the lives of people in the territory," said Minister of Health and Social Services Glen Abernethy. The range of initiatives covers every part of the territory and addresses a variety of aspects of poverty. The initiatives are partnership between the GNWT, Aboriginal and community governments, Band Councils, NGOs and other groups.

Food insecurity connected to slow growth rates

A paper published in the Journal of the Canadian Public Health Association says the height discrepancy in Arctic Quebec implies that food insecurity is a long-running problem and not something that happens occasionally. "The observed association between food insecurity and linear growth suggests that the diet quality and quantity of children from food-insecure households had been compromised for a long time," the paper said. The study by researchers affiliated with Laval University is believed to be the first to look into the physical consequences. They examined 294 children between the ages of eight and 14 from several villages in Nunavik. About half of those children came from homes considered food-insecure. They found a high correlation between slow growth rates and food insecurity.

Funding for proactive Healthy Kids approach

The Ontario government will be putting money into a Healthy Kids Community Challenge, which will provide support over the next four years for training, community kitchens and gardens, and physical activity and recreational programs. Receiving funds are 45 communities across Ontario, of which there are four Aboriginal Health Access Centres and two Aboriginal Community Health Centres, which will be funded directly to provide this program to their Aboriginal communities. The selected AHACs centres are De dwa da dehs nye's Aboriginal Health Centre, Noojmowin Teg Health Centre, Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre and Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health. Centre de santé communautaire CHIGAMIK Community Health Centre and Misiway Milopemahtesewin Community Health Centre are the selected Aboriginal CHCs.

Find more of everything online: www.ammsa.com

Sports Briefs

By Sam Laskaris

Defenceman accepts university scholarship

Though he will have to cross the Canada/U.S. border, Owen Headrick will not be travelling that far to continue his hockey career. Headrick, who is from the Garden River First Nation near Sault Ste. Marie in northern Ontario, recently accepted a scholarship offer from Lake Superior State University.

Headrick, a highly-touted 17-year-old defenceman, is currently in his sophomore season with the Sault Ste. Marie Thunderbirds, members of the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League. Headrick will continue to play for the Thunderbirds this season before heading off to join the Lake Superior State squad, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, starting with the 2015-16 season. He is 5-foot-11 and weighs 190 pounds and had an immediate impact with the Thunderbirds during his rookie season.

He appeared in 53 regular season matches and collected 31 points (eight goals, 23 assists). His efforts resulted in him winning the NOJHL's rookie-of-the-year award. Headrick was also a force in the post-season, averaging close to a point per game, with 13 points in 15 contests.

The Lake Superior State Lakers are an NCAA Division 1 squad. They compete in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. Headrick had also been chosen by the Pennsylvania-based Erie Otters in the 2013 Ontario Hockey League's Priority Selections draft.

He opted not to sign with the Otters in order to retain his NCAA eligibility. Those that play in the OHL, or any other Major Junior league, are not eligible for scholarships from American schools afterwards.

MVP goalie makes move to WHL

Goaltender Rylan Parenteau has made the jump to the Western Hockey League this season. The 17-year-old, who has Metis ancestry, is one of two netminders that cracked the opening day roster for the WHL's Prince Albert Raiders.

Parenteau will battle Nick McBride for some playing time with the Raiders. McBride, who is also 17, also suited up for the Prince Albert squad last season, appearing in 27 matches.

Parenteau had spent the past season in the Junior A ranks toiling with the Weyburn Red Wings, who compete in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League, a step below the WHL.

Despite being a rookie with the Red Wings, Parenteau became the team's Number 1 puckstopper. He appeared in 41 games last season and had an impressive 2.72 goals-against average and a somewhat respectable 16-22-2 record.

Parenteau, who is from Saskatoon, also competed at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships (NAHC), held this past spring in Kahnawake, Que. He backstopped Saskatchewan to the gold medal in the eight-team boys' division at the national event. Parenteau was selected as the top goaltender at the NAHC. Parenteau, who turns 18 on Nov. 16, is eligible to be selected in the 2015 National Hockey League Entry Draft.

New sports TV series

A new series for youth about Aboriginal sports is now airing on the Aboriginal People's Television Network (APTN). The 13-episode series, which began airing on Sept. 6, is called Warrior Games. The 30-minute episodes are broadcast on Saturday afternoons. The series follows host and producer Steve Sxwithul'twx, who travels to various parts of Canada and the United States to explore how Aboriginal youth embrace both traditional and modern sports.

During the episodes Sxwithul'twx trains with local athletes. He also talks to Elders about the cultural and historical significance of the sport. The host also plays the sport with local athletes. Viewers also learn about various young Aboriginal athletes who are training for local and international competitions in their sport. And they also get to learn about some sporting activities that their ancestors participated in but are no longer widely recognized. Sxwithul'twx currently lives in Victoria, B.C., but he is a member of the Penelakut tribe of the Coast Salish Nation.

He is a former tribal police officer and liquor inspector. Later on he worked as both a reporter and producer for various television networks. In 2009 he founded his own company, Kwassen Productions. Sxwithul'twx also works as an Aboriginal employment co-ordinator for the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Halifax to host Nationals

Halifax will be hosting next year's National Aboriginal Hockey Championships (NAHC). The 2015 tournament will begin on April 27 and continue until May 2.

The NAHC, which has been held annually since 2001, features elite Aboriginal Bantam and Midget players from across the country. The tournament features both girls' and boys' divisions. The NAHC was held in Kahnawake, Que. in each of the past two years.

Saskatchewan won both the girls' and boys' categories at this year's nationals.

[sports]

Second consecutive Mann Cup for Six Nations Chiefs



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Six Nations Chiefs are now the two-time defending Mann Cup champions

By Sam Laskaris
Windspeaker Contributor

OSHWOKEN

The Six Nations Chiefs are now the two-time defending Mann Cup champions. The Chiefs captured their second consecutive national senior men's lacrosse crown on Sept. 12.

The Six Nations side hosted this year's Canadian finals. The Chiefs wrapped up the best-of-seven national championship with a 9-4 victory over the Victoria Shamrocks in Game 6.

Six Nations also defeated the Shamrocks in the 2013 Mann Cup final, which was staged in Victoria and also lasted six games.

Chiefs' assistant coach Duane Jacobs, who also doubles as the team's general manager, said this year's national championship was perhaps a bit more significant.

"I guess it's a bit more special winning in your own community," he said.

Early on it appeared it might be the Shamrocks who would be celebrating at the conclusion of the series.

Though the Chiefs did win the series opener, the Victoria side rebounded to win the next two contests.

For starters, the Shamrocks registered a 6-5 double overtime victory in Game 2. Victoria then eked out a 12-11 overtime win in the following match.

"As coaches we were a little bit worried," Jacobs said. "(The Shamrocks) played hard. And they played pretty good defence."

The Six Nations side, however, was able to rack up three straight wins to claim the series. This included a pair of lopsided wins, 12-6 in Game 4 and the series clincher (9-4).

"I just think we were the better team," Jacobs said. "I think our goaltending was better. And I

think our offence was better."

Chiefs' goaltender Brandon Miller, who played all of the Mann Cup games, was selected as the event's most valuable player.

And offensively the Six Nations side was led by Cody Jamieson, the 2013 Mann Cup MVP. Jamieson led all tournament scorers this year by racking up 26 points (12 goals, 14 assists).

The Chiefs have now captured five Mann Cup championships during their franchise history. They had won three straight national titles from 1994-96.

The club's current head coach, Rich Kilgour, and Jacobs are the only two individuals who have been part of all five Mann Cup winning teams. Kilgour and Jacobs played for the Six Nations championship teams during the '90s.

Earlier this year it appeared the Chiefs would not be defending their national crown. The club had its share of struggles during regular season action and only had a 9-9 mark.

Six Nations placed fourth in the standings of its six-team Ontario-based circuit called Major Series Lacrosse (MSL).

"We always believed in ourselves," Jacobs said. "We didn't have the regular season we wanted. But we looked at our lineup on paper and asked 'how can we can better.' We felt we didn't need to."

Jacobs added the team's mediocre regular season record can be attributed to the fact the club had some injury troubles and also to the fact 12 of its players missed some action as they were participating at the world field lacrosse championships, which were held in July in Denver.

The Chiefs got their act together in the post-season. They started off by upsetting the top-

ranked Brooklin Redmen in five games in a MSL best-of-seven semi-final series.

Then they earned the right to host the Mann Cup by edging the Peterborough Lakers 4-3 in their league championship series.

The Chiefs were not the only Six Nations lacrosse team to enjoy their share of success this year.

Two others also captured their national championships. The Six Nations Arrows won the Minto Cup, awarded annually to the top Canadian Junior A lacrosse side. And the Six Nations Rebels captured the Founders Cup, the national Junior B crown.

The Arrows won their Minto Cup on Aug. 23 in Langley, B.C. They defeated the host Coquitlam Adanacs 4-2 in their best-of-seven national final.

The Arrows were led by captain Johnny Powless, the tournament MVP who earned 29 points, including eight goals, in six matches.

Afterwards, Powless joined the Chiefs and helped them win the Mann Cup.

Powless, who is 21, had an unbelievable lacrosse year. He also won a National Lacrosse League championship earlier this year with the Rochester Knighthawks.

As for the Rebels, they won their seven-team Founders Cup tournament, which was staged in Halifax. They defeated the Seneca War Chiefs 14-7 in the gold-medal game, staged Aug. 24.

Meanwhile, another Six Nations team, the Senior B Rivermen, just missed out on winning a national championship. The Rivermen were downed 9-7 by the Onondaga Redhawks in the championship final of their seven-team Presidents' Cup tournament, which ended Aug. 31 in Coquitlam.

[education] Aboriginal students seeking higher education in greater numbers



PHOTO: SHARI NARINE

Wab Kinew, University of Winnipeg director of Indigenous Inclusion, says post-secondary education means being able to give back to the community.

By Shari Narine
Windspeaker Contributor

WINNIPEG

An increase in Aboriginal attendance at post-secondary schools across the country is reason to celebrate, but the challenge to hold on to those students still remains.

Figures released by both the University of Winnipeg and University of Saskatchewan show an increase of more than 10 per cent for first-year enrolment for students who have identified themselves as Aboriginal. Part of that increase can be attributed to a larger number of students self-declaring, and the universities doing a better job of tracking their Aboriginal students, as well as to a growth in that particular demographic.

But other reasons for the increase are both more specific and deliberate.

"We've done a lot to reach out to Indigenous students directly in terms of access programs," said Wab Kinew, University of Winnipeg director of Indigenous

Inclusion. He notes the increased enrolment of just over 10 per cent is consistent with the last few years.

The U of W has a wide variety of bursaries and scholarships, including a number which are specific to Indigenous students. The university also waives the tuition fee for children of the child welfare system, covering those costs internally.

U of W offers a high school on campus, which helps with the transition into university, as well as a site off campus on the north end of Winnipeg, making university access easier.

Work on the ground is complemented by work undertaken at the governing level, which includes Indigenous people in senior executive roles and an Indigenous Advisory Circle, which considers policies and decisions that affect Aboriginal people.

"That combined with a lot of other work on campus has created a more inclusive environment and that has encouraged more people to consider the University of Winnipeg," said Kinew

(Continued on page 21.)



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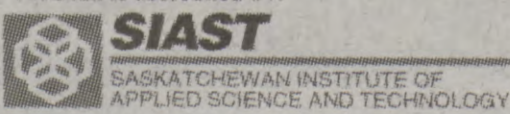
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At the request of the Attorney General and in accordance with the *Justices of the Peace Act*, the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee invites applications for vacant Justice of the Peace positions in the Province of Ontario.

A Justice of the Peace is an independent judicial officer who presides in court over various proceedings under federal and provincial statutes. Applicants must meet minimum qualifications as set out in the *Justices of the Peace Act*.

The Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee reviews and evaluates applications and classifies candidates as "Not Qualified", "Qualified" or "Highly Qualified". Classifications are reported to the Attorney General, who recommends candidates for Order-in-Council appointments to the Ontario Court of Justice.

In addition to reflecting the diversity of Ontario's population, applicants should also display the fundamental skills and abilities, personal characteristics and community awareness attributes set out in the Committee's General Selection Criteria.

Bilingual positions require a high degree of proficiency in English as well as a superior level of oral and written proficiency in French. As First Nations people comprise a large percentage of the population in the areas being serviced by the courts in *Cochrane and *London, we especially encourage people of Aboriginal heritage and people with an in-depth understanding of Aboriginal communities and the issues affecting those communities to apply for these vacancies.

For detailed information about the vacancies noted above, minimum qualifications and the General Selection Criteria, the required application form, and the Committee's process, please visit the website of the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac.

Applications for current vacancies must be submitted on the current prescribed application form and received by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2014. Applications received after this date WILL NOT be considered.**

PLEASE NOTE: Future vacancies and deadlines for applications will be posted on the Committee's website as they occur. Interested individuals can receive e-mail notification of vacancies by registering at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac/advertisements/vacancy-postings.

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



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Mamowe Opikihawasowin TRIBAL CHIEF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES WEST SOCIETY

Competition Number: 17092014-05
Position: Receptionist/Filing Clerk – Sub-Office
Position Type: Permanent, Full-Time – Sub-Office
Deadline: October 17, 2014
Location: St. Paul, Alberta

Job Summary:

Reporting to the Supervisor, the incumbent is responsible for reception duties, in person and by telephone assists visitors, refers clients to appropriate Staff and community resources. Receives and process all mail, deliveries and faxes; sorts and tracks all items and distributes to the appropriate staff mailbox. Identifies correct location of client files, making sure that all previous history is requested all information on client files is available in a timely manner.

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Answers all incoming phone calls, transfers calls and records messages; couriers, records all incoming and outgoing mail; maintains a filing system as set out by the Record Management standards and Financial Filing systems; must ensure that the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Services Master files are maintained and update; ensures that a list of closed Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Services Case files is established and up-to-date; assists the executive directors with keyboarding and performing word-processing as required; takes employee attendance and record itineraries; receives clients and answer routine inquiries at the front desk, direct clients to staff for scheduled appointments; refers all media inquiries to the East and West Director; participates in on-going professional development/training as required and/or identified in the performance evaluation.

- Ensures all appropriate forms are available to Staff at all times. Order and maintain requested forms; ensures that all documentation arriving in the office is properly date stamped received, and distributed to the staff mailboxes; xeroxing and facsimiles as required and/or requested; Manual coordinator – ensure that all policy manual are updated on a regular basis; must ensure that the main office is adequately supplied and equipment maintained; must perform janitorial duties, pick-up/purchase supplies as necessary; ensures that the office is secured and locked at the end of each working everyday; maintain confidentiality of all records at all times; promotes a positive image of the agency and seeks to improve and enhance it at all times and performs other duties as assigned by the Executive Directors

Qualifications:

A High school diploma, Administration office training, standards filing training; supplemented by relevant courses and several years of progressively responsible related administration support experience is required; strong computer skills, must have a solid proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, Word, Power Point, is required. Must be prepared to learn additional skills if required; mandatory recent clean Criminal Record Check and CYIM Check are required; must be honest, dependable, creative and a self-starter; Must own transportation and a Valid Driver's License and the ability to speak Cree a definite asset.

Please forward your resume, references, a clean Criminal Record Check and a CYIM check to:

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Attention: HR Department

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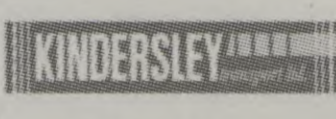
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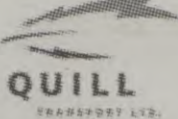
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Aboriginal students seeking higher education

(Continued from page 20.)

The University of Saskatchewan can also brag of a more inclusive campus, said Graeme Joseph, team leader of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Success.

"The university is making great strides in supporting Aboriginal students and providing lots of interesting programs for them to enroll into," he said.

The Aboriginal Students Centre "creates a sense of community," says Joseph, offering social, cultural and academic supports, including Elder services, pipe ceremonies and sweats. There is also soup and bannock Wednesdays, which include both off and on-campus service presentations.

But as excited as Joseph is about the increased first-year enrollment for Aboriginal students, he says holding on to those students is a challenge.

"Retention is the bigger piece," he said. "It is an issue and that's something we have to work through."

Aboriginal students have been historically under-represented in post-secondary institutions, says Joseph, for a variety of reasons including social, cultural, academic, housing, childcare and financial.

"So when universities are thinking about encouraging and

supporting Aboriginal students and going on to pursue a degree at their institution, they have to develop specific types of approaches in order to support them, ones that meet those specific challenges," he said.

Joseph, who has only been in his position for four months, said he is working with the different services on the university to develop an integrative approach to provide proactive measures to address the issues facing Aboriginal students from the time they are recruited to the time they graduate.

"The big focus of my work is to address these systemic issues at the root so that when students do come here they have a really good experience and they have supports that are there to catch them before they fall," he said.

While it doesn't fall within his job description, Kinew says there are times he will "physically just sit down with a student," who is ready to leave and hammer out a solution. He notes that the attrition rate for Aboriginal students is higher than other students. "It is a challenge we want to improve on, but it's not a crisis. It's a fairly narrow gap."

Considering the burgeoning number of young Aboriginals in Canada, post-secondary education, whether university or trade school, is an important step.

"It's increased prosperity," said

Kinew. "The other thing we know is that university grads are more likely to have children who go to university and be successful. It becomes a multiplier effect."

Higher education means increased earnings over a lifetime which translates to an increase in the quality of life.

"The reason that's important to me in the community isn't just so we help people have a good quality of living," said Kinew. "Once people are financially independent... then they're free to pursue the things I think are really important to Indigenous Nations, like language revitalization, cultural resurgence, volunteerism in their community, helping out those who are less fortunate than them. Once you have a good income you can afford to spend time giving back."

Joseph says today's post-secondary education leads to empowerment.

"We need more leaders in community to have this higher level of education, not only within traditional areas like education, social work and law, but also within the sciences so that when opportunities arise and issues arise... people within community can speak to them at many different levels and represent themselves, their communities and their Nations," he said.



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[footprints] Chester Nez

Last of codetalkers fought war of words

By Dianne Meili

Code talker Chester Nez's Navajo (Diné) tongue helped pave the way to an allied win in the Second World War. Though unmistakably proud of his ability to serve the United States in such a unique way, he was cognizant of the irony in what his wartime work involved.

"All those years, telling you not to speak Navajo, and then asking for help with that same language ... it still kind of bothers me," he told USA Today in 2002.

Nez's parents were barely considered citizens by mainstream society when he was born in 1921. Their sheep were slaughtered in the 1930s by a government that deemed Navajo herds were overgrazing the region. He recalled in *Code Talker*, a 2011 memoir written by Judy Avila, his family was reduced to subsistence farming and stretches of days when they had no food.

Nez's mother died when he was three, and at nine he entered the first of a series of boarding schools where students had their language beaten out of them. Assigned the English name Chester, after President Chester A. Arthur, his Diné name was lost over time.

He was intrigued by army recruiters who visited his high school in 1942. They were looking to recruit young men bilingual in English and his forbidden Diné. He left for basic training later that year, becoming one of 29 Navajos assembled for a special assignment – devising a code based on their mother tongue.

In the months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941, American military planners faced enemy interception of radio transmissions. Elaborate codes which took more and more precious time to decode, were being cracked.

The plan to use Navajo was the brainchild of First World

War veteran Philip Johnston, who had grown up amongst the Diné as a missionaries' son and spoke the language fluently.

Nez recalled in a New York Times article "being put in a room and told to make up a code from our language related to military equipment. The officer left the room and we could hear the click behind him when he locked the door."

At first, the task seemed insurmountable "because even amongst ourselves, we didn't agree on all the right Navajo words," Nez said.

But over 13 weeks, they came up with words that represented the letters of the alphabet. "Wol-la-chee", the Navajo word for "ant", represented A; "na-hash-chid", the word for "badger", was B, and so on. They also invented words for the most frequently used military terms, and in a stroke of brilliance, used poetic circumlocutions for some of them: America, for instance, became "our mother"; a submarine was an iron fish; a grenade, a potato; a battleship, a whale. Adolph Hitler became "Moustache Smeller", while Mussolini was "Big Gourd Chin".

The result was a system that sounded nothing like Diné, yet could be employed with ease by those trained in its use. The crew memorized their code and practiced sending and receiving messages to each other.

When the Marines found that the Navajo needed only 20 seconds to send messages which had taken a coding machine 30 minutes to do, reservation recruitment went wild. Eventually, about 400 Navajo followed Nez's group into war.

Amongst the items Nez took with him when he entered battle were medicinal herbs, a bearskin and corn pollen with which to bless himself. He was in some of the most brutal



Chester Nez

engagements in the South Pacific, like Guadalcanal and Guam.

"When bombs dropped, generally we code talkers couldn't just curl up in a shelter," he recalled. "We were almost always needed to transmit information, to ask for supplies and ammunition, and to communicate strategies. And after each transmission, to avoid Japanese fire, we had to move."

Not permitted to take leave, the Navajo were considered "hardened by the rigours of reservation life – we often outperformed our white peers. In basic training, Marine sergeants bragged about the prowess of Platoon 382, the Navajo recruits," Nez said in *Code Talker*.

Because the army kept the platoon secret, they were often taken for Japanese by their fellow American servicemen. Once held captive at gunpoint for two hours, Nez said his skin colour and black hair identified

him as the enemy, until guards were assigned to protect his crew from American riflemen.

Participating in every Marine assault in the Pacific between 1942 and 1945, the Code Talkers were given credit for the Americans taking Iwo Jima.

Nez came home to an unfriendly America and little glory. Sworn to secrecy in case the code was needed for another war, he wasn't able to speak of his service. Even after the Navajo operation was declassified in 1968, he and others weren't recognized for their work until 60 years later, when in 2001, the original 29 Code Talkers received congressional gold medals.

Nez was unable to vote and when he went in uniform to register for his Indian Identity card, he was reminded by a Caucasian civil servant that he wasn't a full citizen of the United States.

And then there were the nightmares. Plagued by

disturbing dreams, he spent five months in a military hospital.

"My condition was so severe I went psycho. I lost my mind," he said in a 2005 lecture, noting some other returned code talkers turned to drinking or "just gave up." His father came to his rescue, explaining he was being haunted by the spirits of dead Japanese. He underwent a traditional healing ceremony and the dreams largely ceased.


After working as a maintenance man in a hospital, Nez turned to art. He studied at the University of Kansas, later finding work as a painter and muralist at what is now the Veterans Affairs hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

He married, and had six children, four of whom died before him. His wife, Ethel Pearl Catron, passed away in 1984.

Nez passed away on June 4, 2014 and was 93 years old.

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