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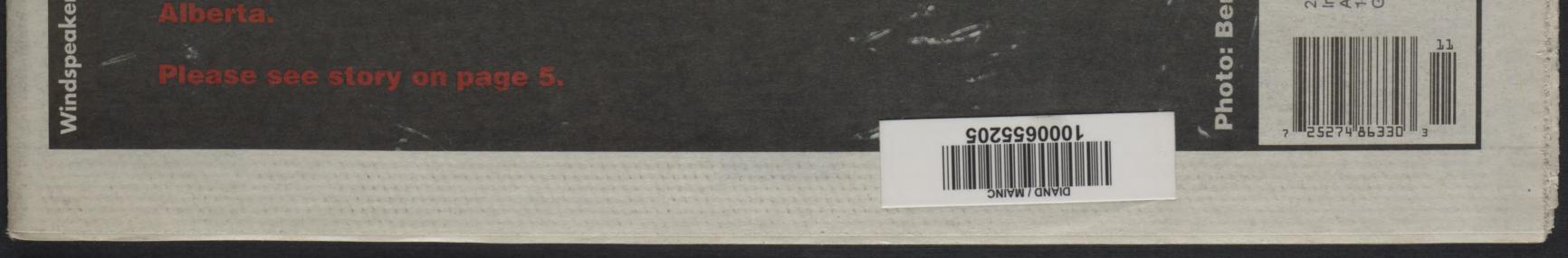


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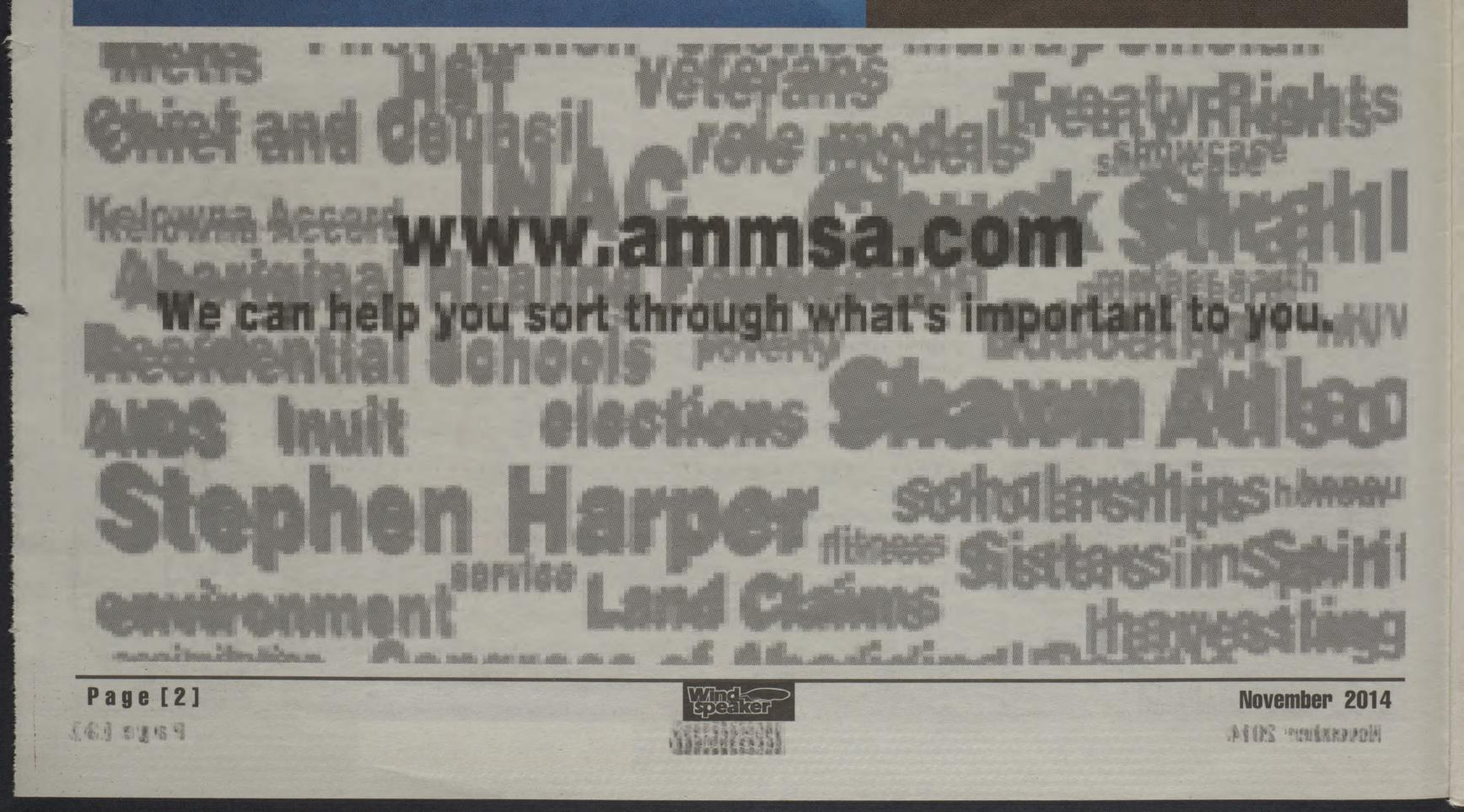
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#### Vollant takes on change one step at a time

On a windy and rainy Saturday morning in early October, Dr. Stanley Vollant walked east along the paved trail that hugs the shoreline of the Ottawa River, heading toward Parliament Hill. He had a message to share with the federal government and Indigenous people from across the country, but was taking the long way to get there.

#### **Klabona Keepers encouraged enforcement** order delayed

A delay in an enforcement order is a huge victory for those on the Red Chris Mine blockade. "Injunctions are the norm on how to deal with any type of Indigenous (action) ... when we're blocking access to any type of development or industry development.

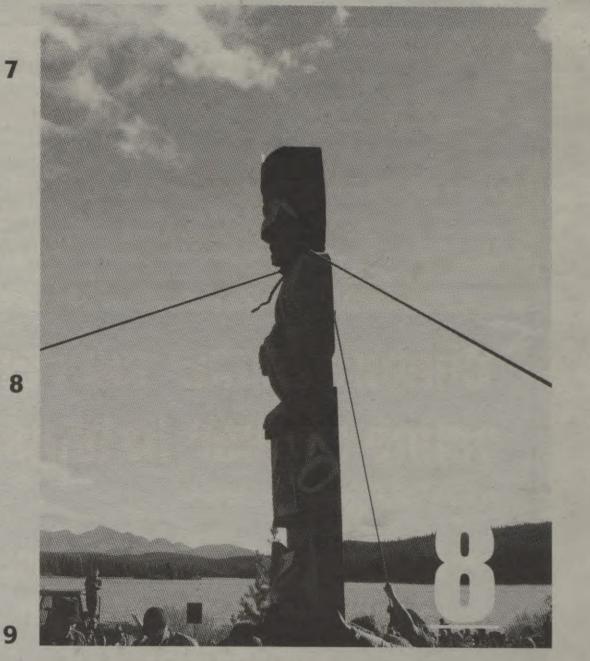
#### Personal security top of mind on college campuses

This year's Sisters in Spirit vigil was extremely personal for organizers and participants at the small New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) campus in Moncton.

#### Haudenosaunee artist in residence at Art **Gallery of Ontario**

**Toronto-based Mohawk artist Greg Staats** launched his three-month term as Artist-in-Residence at the Art Gallery of Ontario on Oct. 14 with an evening of reflection about the Haudenosaunee worldview.

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#### Blackfoot Elders spur on modern-day treaty 11

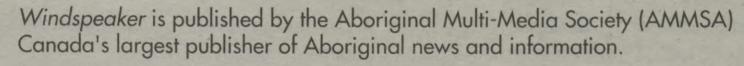
The Blackfoot Confederacy is experiencing a rebirth in their culture. Action undertaken by the Elders has led to the first treaty signed in more than 200 years between First Nations in Canada and Tribes in the United States. This one on buffalo restoration.

### Departments

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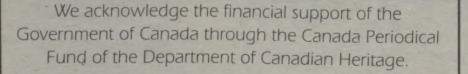
[footprints] Ovilu Tunnillie 22

Early 1990s art magazines deemed Inuit stone carver Ovilu Tunnillie "avant garde" and "a woman to watch." In a male-dominated industry, she pushed limits sculpting images that challenged southern buyers' sensibilities.



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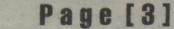


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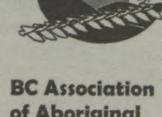
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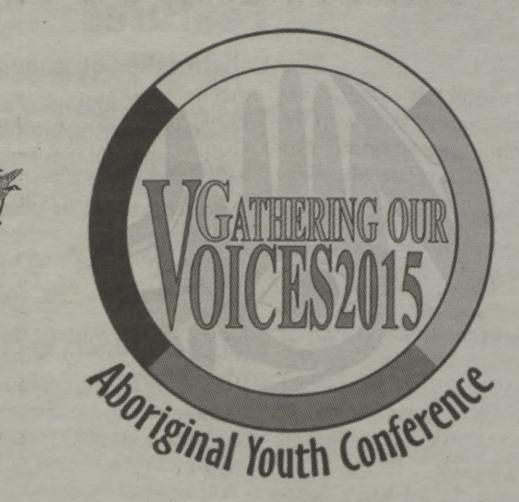
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## We don't know what's to come

Canada stepped through the looking glass Oct. 22 and has come face to face with the terrors of the world right here at home. Our lives just got a whole lot more complicated.

As we go to press, Ottawa is coming out from under cover after being locked down when a shooter opened fire, killing reserve soldier Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, who was guarding the National War Memorial. "Murdered in cold blood," said Prime Minister Stephen Harper, in a "brutal and violent attack." He was stricken literally standing guard at the place that honours the sacrifice of those who came before him, said Opposition Leader Thomas Mulcair. A sad, sad and terrible thing.

The gunman then entered the Centre Block on Parliament Hill where he died in a hail of bullets, shots that echoed through unusually empty halls. The suspect, Michael Zehaf-Bibeau, a Canadian citizen born in 1982, had recently been designated a "highrisk traveler" and his passport seized. The Prime Minister, in his speech to the nation that night, directly linked Zehaf-Bibeau to terrorism. Harper said it was a "grim reminder" that Canada is not immune to attacks meant to disrupt our peace, our values, and our confidence, upending the security of this country.

As we go to press, the Capital City of Canada, where many of our people live and work, is in a dynamic and unfolding situation, as described by the RCMP assistant commissioner. We don't know at this point what specifically motivated the shooter, but we do know that the sand has shifted underneath everyone's feet. MP Charlie Angus was one of the first to comment to media. He was in a caucus meeting when the shooting started. "People were getting under tables, trying to block the doors." He said "we felt like we were in Columbine." are being targeted. The order comes on the heels of an attack against two soldiers in Quebec where they were purposely run over, with one killed, by a vehicle driven by Martin Rouleau-Couture, who has been described as "radicalized".

Our people proudly serve protecting our homelands and our citizens. Many have seen unspeakable horrors in battle in foreign lands. But now there is no rest for them, not even in our ancestral lands. We need to pray that they will be protected, do ceremonies. Let the Creator know they are loved and ask to keep them safe. Because things are going to get tough for them, abroad and at home.

There will be some scary times ahead as security across the country is tightened. The Prime Minister has promised a redoubling of security efforts and the tools used to monitor threats to that security. Columnist Thomas Walkom in the Toronto Star wrote "The government wants to give its security agencies more power over citizens. The government wants to rally public support for its war in Iraq."

The net will surely be cast wide, and many groups, including Indigenous activists groups, will come under more scrutiny than ever before. We don't stop raising our concerns, fighting for our rights, but we must be mindful of this new reality and be careful about it.

We send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the fallen soldier and we wish a speedy recovery to all those who were wounded in the attack on Canada's Parliament today. And our wish for Canada is for a careful and considered response to today's events. Many have fought for the peace and freedoms we enjoy. We stand in solidarity with them. Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party of Canada, described the morning as senseless and horrifying. She said it has shaken all of those who work in Parliament. May said in a statement "Today is not a day that 'changes everything'." We think that's some wishful thinking and we hope that she will be proven right. What we do know for certain, however, this story has not been completely told and more will unfold in the days to come. Windspeaker

# [ rants and raves ] Page 5 Chatter

#### APTN National News reports Aboriginal Affairs is "playing politics" with project funding in the millions of dollars

for First Nations organizations and reporter Jorge Barrera said the Assembly of First Nations executive is planning a "counterattack". Minister Bernard Valcourt is said to be sitting on 14 proposals from the AFN, well past the department's own April 1 promised deadline for a response. Of \$7.1 million worth of proposals, only \$888,720 has been approved. In an email obtained by APTN News "widely distributed" to officials with First Nations organizations the AFN writes "The federal government has not kept its promise to respond to all funding proposals by April 1 and has politicized approval process, despite their assurances of transparency and accountability." The email also reports that the department rejected 16 proposals out of 34, including those dealing with murdered and missing Indigenous women, treaties, housing, emergency management and infrastructure, with 14 awaiting decisions. APTN writes "There is a widespread belief the department is playing hardball on project funding as a result of the AFN's rejection of the Harper government's proposed bill for First Nation education."

## The online news source durhamregion.com reports that a judge considering the case of a First Nation mother

seeking alternative treatment of their child's cancer questioned whether forcing chemotherapy would be "imposing our world view on First Nations." The mother of the girl wants to take her daughter to the U.S. for treatment that involves herbal medicines and a changed diet. "Who am I to say that is not appropriate?" the judge asked. McMaster Children's Hospital has taken Brant Family and Children's Services to court. The agency chose not to intervene when the girl stopped chemotherapy. The hospital says there is up to a 95 per cent chance of curing her acute lymphoblastic leukemia with the western medicine. The hospital's lawyer said the girl will die without it. The judge however wondered if society can respect First Nations while rejecting traditional cultural healing practices. "Yes, we accept your culture, but when it gets serious, not so much," he said. The lawyer said the court has heard no evidence of any child with leukemia saved by traditional medicine. "Are we supposed to wait and see what happens with these children?" she asked. "The need for treatment is now."

"There was a real air of unreality. You don't believe it's true."

"We're safe," he tweeted. "A group of MPs made it over to Sparks street. Thank you to hill security for putting their lives on line to keep us safe."

In the aftermath of today's shooting, Canadian Forces, in which many of our people serve, have been ordered to stay out of uniforms in public. Canada believes they

## **Remains reburied in final resting place**

#### **By Sandra Crowfoot** Windspeaker Contributor

#### MASKWACIS

On October 18th, 2014, the remains of 28 people from the Sharphead reservation were laid to rest after they were exhumed nearly 50 years earlier and held in storage at the University of Alberta.

A wake was held the day before at the Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre on the Samson Cree Nation in Maskwacis. The Government of Alberta, the University of Alberta, and 14 First Nation communities with direct descendants from the Sharphead band, worked together to repatriate and rebury the remains. Their new permanent final resting place is located within the borders of the Sharphead reserve, near Ponoka.

In 1965, Calgary Power (now known as TransAlta) discovered an abandoned cemetery during the installation of power poles on the former site of the Sharphead reserve. The University of Alberta's anthropology department excavated the site, removed the remains, and stored them until it was possible to return them to their descendants.

The Sharphead band's history is tragic. Formed in 1876 after the signing of Treaty 6, the band's population was decimated by multiple epidemics of smallpox, measles and influenza. The remaining people that survived left the reserve and relocated to neighboring First Nation communities. The reserve was officially surrendered in 1897.

#### Pentictonwesternnews.com reports the Penticton Indian Band has signed a non-binding letter of interest

with Kaneh Bosm BioTechnology Inc., to investigate the cultivation of medical marijuana in its territory. The process now is to talk with community members, do a feasibility study and examine costs of environmental assessments, and if all that is positive, move on to a community referendum. Chief Jonathan Kruger said he is surprised he is hearing more positive than negative comments about the enterprise. "I just can't believe how much support we have." He said band members are educating themselves on the rules of medical marijuana operations, as well as the healing properties of the plant.

#### The Globe and Mail reports that BC Hydro has "cleared major environmental hurdles for its Site C megaproject,"

but may end up in court as the dam could become a test case on First Nations title rights and so-called "veto powers" in regards to the legal requirement of consultation and accommodation. Site C is a proposed third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeast B.C. The mega dam would flood over 100 km of river valley. According to the Treaty 8 Tribal Association website, the first two mega dams—The WAC Bennett and the Peace Canyon dams—destroyed vast amounts of wetland and critical wildlife habitat and interfered with the lives of First Nations peoples. Site C, proposed since the 1970s and opposed by First Nations since that time "could impact up to 337 archaeological sites that have been recorded in its identified study area, and would impact Treaty 8 First Nations' constitutionally protected treaty rights."

#### Mike McKenzie, chief of the Uashat mak Mani-utenam, reminded Prime Minister Stephen Harper that Innu Nation

"is an indispensable partner when it comes to hydroelectric, forestry and mining resources." McKenzie said "In all development, First Nations must be consulted and accommodated. The time when only economic arguments justified the completion of projects is over. The people, especially those who will have to live with the direct consequences of various projects, must be consulted on their direction." The chief said Innu support economic development as long as it is partnered with the responsible and sustainable development of resources. The Innu are currently battling IOC/Rio Tinto for damages for over 65 years of mining without the company ever having paid any compensation to the nation, reads a release.

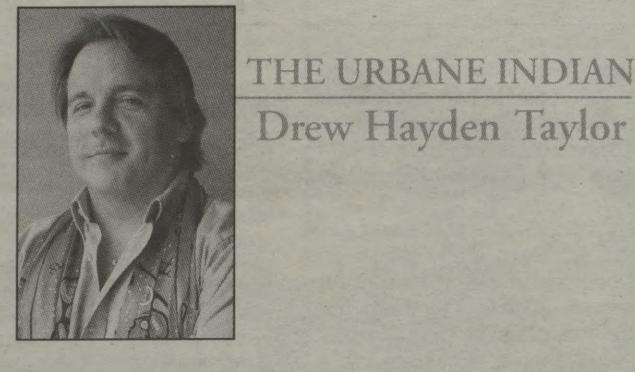


## [ strictly speaking ] Aboriginal evolution and yesterday's social movement

Recently my community held its annual powwow. Lots of celebrating and dancing Indigenous people. One of the delightful rituals is attending the community breakfast where I and many others enjoyed a hearty buffet of scrambled eggs, a potato patty, hash browns, baked beans, sausages, bacon, pulled pork and prime rib. This merely proved the ancient Aboriginal adage stating there are no calories on the powwow trail. Only meat.

While I was enjoying my week's worth of protein, I noticed a woman walking by wearing an Idle No More windbreaker. Was it only a year or two ago when this movement was in all the media, drumming up interest and publicity in a number of Native causes? Practically everybody in the Native community was joyfully participating in the flash mobs, including myself.

Protests, hunger strikes, marches, all in the spirit of trying to make the various levels of government, the federal government of Stephen Harper in particular, pay attention to pressing and frequently ignored social issues. It seemed like anything was possible even though the government viewed



gone, Idle No More?

Could it be the feds have won? They're still here, reminding the First Nations population where they stand in the social hierarchy of Canada, and I can't remember the last time I saw a social protest with an Idle No More label attached. I still see the occasional button or sticker, but that's about it.

For a brief moment I was sad, despite the tasty bacon. It was like remembering a forgotten friend that made you feel alive. Then, as the dancers and drummers milled around, fighting for a place in the line for the bathroom, I realized the true answer to my quandary. The Idle No More movement hadn't stopped. It wasn't defeated. It was alive, but evolved. Just like

to the origins of the powwow. Some say it was a celebration after the harshness of winter. A time of feast, and family, and of coming together and finding somebody to make a family with. Others say it was invented in the 1930s as a way of making money from tourists during the Depression.

Regardless, all the traditional outfits, drums and cultural paraphernalia have evolved over the years. Traditionally, we didn't have cotton. We didn't have steel or iron. Or plastic. Or credit card machines. Or port-a-potties. We adapted those new elements and many others to our society to better fit our needs. A powwow today would look vastly dissimilar to a powwow precontact, or even a few hundred years post-contact. On top of frequently mistreated to make that jacket might even be worth There are a lot of theories as everything else, there would them better people. Because of something on Ebay.

probably be less sausages and eggs for breakfast or line up for the nearest bush.

Same with Idle No More. It wasn't the big bang of Aboriginal social protest. It was one of the little bangs. Same with the occupations of Alcatraz, Oka and Ipperwash. Idle No More was the right protest at the right time, the first to really use social media to get its story across.

Today, possibly because of Idle No More, Native people are at the forefront of the fracking debate. They are calling for an inquest into the missing and murdered eleven hundred aboriginal women. It's sort of like Idle No More 2.0, or possibly Idle No More Some More. And when those issues are done and finished, something new and necessary will arise from it.

Native people have become well versed in the art of social evolution out of sheer necessity. It used to be illegal in the Indian Act for Native people to hire a lawyer. Now, there are more Native lawyers than there are chiefs.

It used to be that Native children were taken away by the authorities and sent to foreboding and oppressive institutions where they were removed from society and

this today, a few of those who did the mistreating are themselves being sent away to a different type of oppressive institution where they too are removed from society and frequently mistreated in the hopes it will make them better people. Those places are called prisons.

Several years ago, a production of Tomson Highway's "The Rez Sisters" opened in Peterborough, my neck of the Ontario woods. A local reviewer applauded the production, adding that -and I admittedly am paraphrasing western dramatic theatre was not an art form known to Aboriginal people.

As a fairly successful playwright, I responded in a follow-up article that the flush toilet is not an instrument formally known to Aboriginal people but we seemed to have mastered its intricacies.

In the end, I finished my rather large breakfast, and spent the rest of the day at the powwow. I saw that Idle No More jacket several times, weaving in and out of the crowds. Just like the Idle No More movement itself. Evolution, especially social evolution, can be an amazing thing.

Who knows, in a few years,

us as just another special interest group. Oh, whence have you

the powwow.

## Intertribal treaty gains momentum to protect Salish Sea

By David P. Ball Windspeaker Contributor

#### VANCOUVER

As the National Energy Board continues to hear oral presentations about the proposed expansion of Kinder Morgan's TransMountain pipeline to Burnaby, B.C., First Nations on all sides of the Salish Sea are pressing forward with an intertribal treaty to protect their waters from oil tankers.

On Nov. 9, backers of the International Treaty to Protect the Salish Sea — launched in late September with a feast — are meeting at Tsleil-Waututh Nation to strategize expanding the document beyond its original 11 First Nations signatories. Its endorsers so far include tribes south of the U.S. border in Washington State.

The treaty calls for unity to defend the traditional marine territories from oil pipelines and tanker traffic, based on Indigenous law, "the highest law of the land," said Jeri Sparrow of

Musqueam Nation, before signing the pact.

"This whole process has been led by our own people," Tsleil-Waututh elder and spiritual leader Leonard George told a large crowd attending a feast the night before the treaty's signing



Tsleil-Waututh language and culture manager Gabriel George (right) speaks at a feast to signatories of a treaty to protect the Salish Sea, cloaked in black blankets.

through B.C. carries a \$5.4 billion price tag. It would carry 890,000 barrels of diluted bitumen from Alberta's oilsands to the Lower Mainland, but opponents fear not only pipeline

Burrard Inlet, part of the Salish Sea.

The fact that the treaty is based on Indigenous law, not the Canadian legal system, is crucial as pipeline opponents turn to the ourselves since time out of mind," explained Tsleil-Waututh Sacred Trust's Rueben George in a phone interview. "We've been governing our lands, we have our laws around our lands, we've

other Tsleil-Waututh members addressed the National Energy Board, and representatives spoke of the nation's history in the region and the importance of a clean waterway to their way of life.

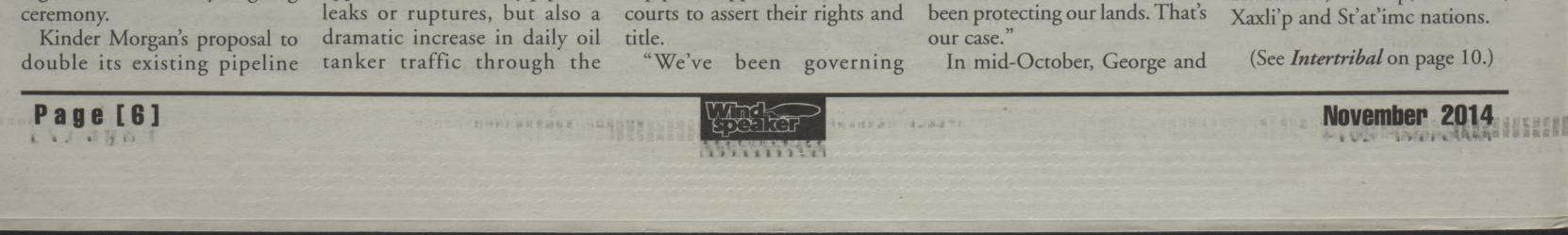
"We asked for consultation directly with the government," he recalled. "In our presentation at the NEB, we went there to say it's a flawed process and we left."

The nation's culture and language manager Gabriel George told the review panel that it has the power to make a decision on behalf of First Nations even though they have been living on the land for thousands of years. He was then joined in song by dozens of supporters from his nation, Rueben George recounted.

"All of our family sang," he recalled. "It was really strong, unifying and beautiful.

"The history (Gabriel) gave really solidified why we're doing what we're doing. It is unifying all the families on our nation Ö That's bittersweet. Through history, the good and bad, we're still here. We never moved off the land."

The hope is for the intertribal treaty to gather a growing number of backers beyond its initial signatories-Lummi nation in Washington State, in B.C. the Squamish, Sto:lo, Kwantlen, Tulalip, Sts'ailes,



#### [ news ]

PHOTO: DAN RUBINSTEIN

## Vollant takes on change one step at a time

By Dan Rubinstein Windspeaker Contributor

On a windy and rainy Saturday morning in early October, Dr. Stanley Vollant walked east along the paved trail that hugs the shoreline of the Ottawa River, heading toward Parliament Hill.

He had a message to share with the federal government and Indigenous people from across the country, but was taking the long way to get there.

Vollant, a surgeon from Pessamit, an Innu village on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, about 600 kilometres northeast on Montreal, is nearing the home stretch of a six-year, 6,000-kilometre series of walks between Aboriginal communities throughout eastern Canada. His Innu Meshkenu (Innu road) project - multi-week trips, sometimes with several dozen participants — demonstrates the importance of resilience and perseverance; of reestablishing a connection to the land, to the past and to each other; of taking control of your life, one step at a time.

The fall 2014 leg of Vollant's journey began near Temiscaming, on the Ontario-Quebec border, about 400 kilometres up the Ottawa River from the capital. Travelling on foot and, for the first time since the project began, in 26-foot-long rabaska canoes, 20 or so people with Anishinabeg, Atikamekw, Metis and Canadian ancestry made their way through Algonquin territory, with Vollant speaking to Aboriginal youth at schools and other stops. The group was supposed to paddle into Ottawa, but was hit by strong winds and dangerous waves while attempting to cross Constance Bay, west of the city. Vollant thought about a deceased friend of his from medical school - John Big-Canoe, an Ojibwe doctor whose canoe capsized as he was paddling to visit patients off Manitoulin Island 20 years ago — and made a beeline for the shore. He and the others walked 35 kilometres into Ottawa instead. "We had life vests," said Vollant, "but life vests in big water is not a fun experience." The next morning, after camping at a waterside park, Vollant set off to hike the final 11 kilometres to Parliament Hill. It was the National Day of Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, and he was due on the steps of Centre Block to address the rally. Although Vollant is well versed in both Aboriginal and mainstream politics, and is critical of the Harper government's dysfunctional relationship with Canada's First Nations and Inuit, he stresses that his project is not an act of protest.

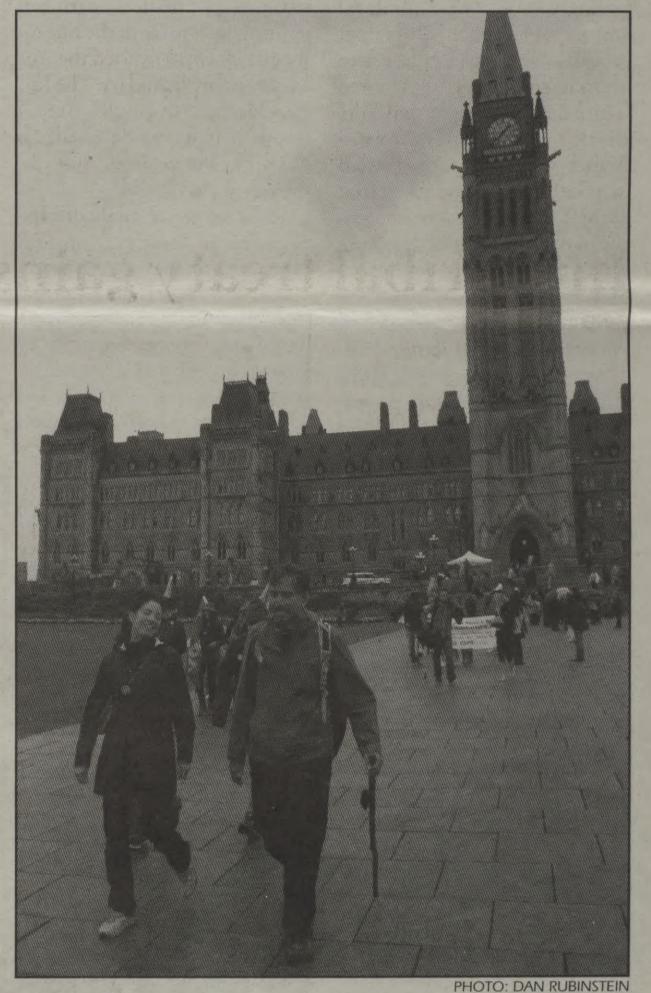


Dr. Stanley Vollant with Liberal leader Justin Trudeau and MP Caroline Bennett

dreams and never give up. I'm trying to provide an example."

In a sense, Innu Meshkenu began in Ottawa, and this day had brought Vollant full circle. He now lives in Montreal and makes a living doing locum surgeries throughout Quebec, but in 2008 he was living in the capital, working at a hospital and running the Aboriginal program at the University of Ottawa's medical school. Drained and depressed, Vollant went to Spain to walk the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route that fall, and one night he had a vision: he saw himself walking in the forest with youth and Elders, following the routes and rhythms of his ancestors. He knew what he had to do. Walking from reserve to reserve, wearing snowshoes and pulling his gear on a wooden toboggan during winter expeditions, sleeping in canvas prospector tents and eating meals of moose and salmon as often as possible, Vollant celebrates healthy activities and ancient traditions. To him, the problems that plague many Aboriginal communities and the violence faced by many Aboriginal girls and women have the same root causes. "The loss of so many Aboriginal women is just the tip of an iceberg, a much larger challenge — a lack of cultural, social, physical and economic health in our towns and villages," he said. "Most of the women who were murdered or went missing were fleeing an environment that was unsafe for them. They were unprepared for big cities. They didn't have the tools, the education, to deal with this world. They were easy prey. If we just deal with this problem at a

dreams, and a chance to realize their dreams, they need a good education," he continued, "and we have to invest the money and time and effort needed to create safe places where this can



"It's an affirmative walk," he said as ducks chattered in the happen."

Vollant believes that chiefs must be accountable for band finances, and that many leaders, especially in small communities, struggle to manage the complex and at times conflicting demands of elected office. But underlying these issues, he says, is a lack of funding for education. And he knows that all change, even if a new relationship with the federal government is essential, must start from within.

A small group was waiting for Vollant under a tent outside the Canadian War Museum, just shy of Parliament Hill. Ghislain Picard, interim national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, gave the doctor a hug. They're cousins.

Picard, who grew up in Pessamit, is inspired by Vollant's ability to balance conventional medicine with traditional knowledge, and his insistence that personal transformation is the path to societal change.

"He's sensitive to the issue of murdered and missing women and girls," Picard said about Vollant. "But at the same time, there's also the issue of ourselves as individuals, and what he's done over the last four years, on his walks, trying to get our people involved, shows that we need to be doing more in order to have a better understanding of the challenges we face.

"There are many things we need to reverse in order to address the social and economic conditions in our communities, including violence, and education is certainly key — as it is a key on our road to self-determination. Dr. Stanley Vollant leaves Parliament Hill, en route to Victoria Island for a ceremony to close the MMIW National Day of Remembrance.

self-determination is a collective goal, but at the same time, it needs the effort of everyone as individuals. No matter what position we're in, no matter what we do for our communities, every step or action is important."

Vollant and Picard led the Innu Meshkenu walkers to Parliament Hill, where other Aboriginal leaders, federal politicians,

vigil to begin.

"He is doing something deeply moving and powerful that inscribes itself into a long tradition, not just of Native activism but things that touch the breadth and scope of this land," Liberal leader Justin Trudeau said about Vollant.

"Incremental change — within ourselves, within our community,

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shallows beside the trail. "It's police and justice level, we won't meant to empower people, to show that we should pursue our "If we want our kids to have "If we want our kids to have the train of tr





## [ news ] Klabona Keepers encouraged enforcement order delayed

#### **By Shari Narine** Windspeaker Contributor

A delay in an enforcement order is a huge victory for those on the Red Chris Mine blockade.

"Injunctions are the norm on how to deal with any type of Indigenous (action) ... when we're blocking access to any type of development or industry development.

"Usually when that comes forth and a company applies for an injunction enforcement order, 99 per cent of the time it's rubberstamped approved and granted and it gives the jurisdiction to the RCMP to go make arrests right away," said Kanahus Manuel, who was named in the injunction order applied for by Imperial Metals Corp., which owns the Red Chris Mine.

Manuel contends that two planes of RCMP officers were flown to the blockade site anticipating receiving the legal nod to take action on Oct. 8, when Imperial Metals Corp. was heard in court.

Instead, Vancouver Supreme Court Justice Christopher Grauer ruled that Imperial had to wait until Oct. 14 before RCMP would be given the goahead to remove those blocking access to the nearly-completed Red Chris copper mine on Todahgin Mountain. Noted in the court order are two roads leading to the mine from Highway 37.



PHOTO: KLABONA KEEPERS FACEBOOK

The Estsu kun'desk'ke (grandmother's fire) was set in August as the Klabona Keepers and their supporters blockaded access to the Red Chris Mine.

Keepers and their supporters moved the grandmother's fire, which they had burning on the single road they were still blocking, to the side in order to avoid criminal charges. The fire continued to burn, said Klabona Keepers on Facebook, as "our members down south apply for a court hearing this morning." preventing Taseko Mines from conducting exploration work in an area that is now to be designated Dasiqox Tribal Park.

In the same court hearing, Taseko failed in its bid for an injunction to stop the Tsilhqot'in First Nation from blocking the company's access to the site.

This is the second roadblock put up at Red Chris mine by the Klabona Keepers. The first roadblock, targeting two roads, began Aug. 8 and ran for two weeks. After regrouping and educating the communities about the purpose of the blockades, a second blockade began Aug. 29 on one road. The day of the proceedings in the Vancouver court room, there were 40 people on the line, says Klabona Keepers spokesperson Rhoda Quock, who has been on site regularly.

"There are more people coming in every day," said Quock, who is also named in the Imperial Metals' court order. "It doesn't only concern us with what happens....It concerns everybody." There are people at the blockade from around B.C. and as far east as Ottawa. The concerns cross age groups and provincial lines, she said. mine on Aug. 4 in Secwepemc First Nation territory. Mount Polley mine is also operated by Imperial Metals. Manuel was involved in the Mount Polley encampment that began Aug. 18 and ran for two weeks, in which time the group monitored the area after the spill and collected information from the people impacted.

After breaking camp, Manuel and others traveled to different communities impacted by the Mount Polley disaster to supply information. They were called by the Klabona Keepers and Iskut First Nation to make a presentation, which occurred between the first and second blockades of the access roads to Red Chris mine. Among the concerns voiced was the contention that Red Chris tailings pond is already leaking, says Manuel.

Grauer also granted Klabona Keepers' application for change of venue. Court proceedings are now taking place in Terrace, BC, which is one-third of the 22-hour by-road travel time that Vancouver presented.

"That would make it totally impossible for the Elders and people to travel to Vancouver," said Manuel, who applauded Grauer's decision. While the fire has been set aside, the Klabona Keepers say on Facebook, "This action is being taken to protect the Elders and youth from RCMP action ordered by the provincial and federal system of government."

On Oct. 14, the Klabona

Joining the Klabona Keepers on the line are members of the Secwepemc First Nation and other environmental activists.

Manuel says that Klabona Keepers fought the injunction based on a precedent set by Grauer, who, in 2011, granted an injunction in favour of Tsilhqot'in First Nation

Spurring the Tahltan-Elder led group into action was the tailing pond spill of the Mount Polley

## Tsilhqot'in invites province to the table on land use

#### By Shari Narine Windspeaker Contributor

#### **TSILHQOT'IN TERRITORY**

A decision by the Supreme Court of Canada earlier this year that recognized Tsilhqot'in title has led to the designation of more than 300,000 hectares as a tribal park. The Dasiqox Tribal Park will be controlled by the Xeni Gwet'in and Yunesit'in Government.

"The significance of this (designation) is coming out of the title case in June this year," said Chief Russell Myers Ross of the Yunesit'in Government. "It's trying to get us a proper footing to engage the province in how we see the title case evolving.... The core of what the title case said is that Aboriginal perspectives need to be included, our values and our laws."

On Oct.4, in a totem pole raising ceremony at Teztan Biny, the Tsilhqot'in Nation announced its intention to create Dasiqox Tribal Park, the boundaries of which would connect the broader landscape to

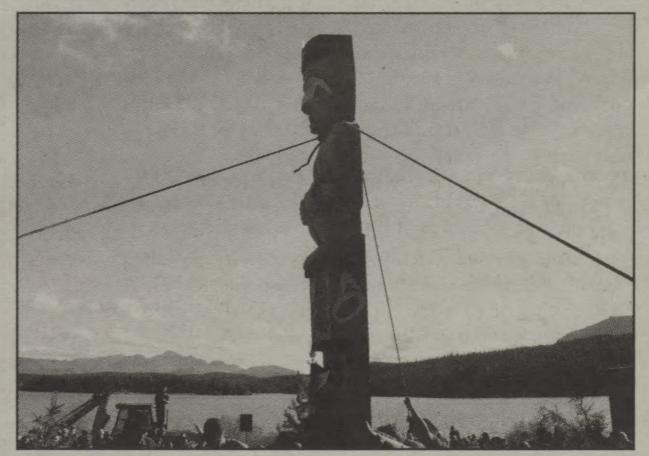
Provincial Parks.

The tribal park designation would not preclude economic development.

"Probably our biggest challenge, probably where our energy is going to be focused on the most, is trying to determine how we manage the area so that we're able to at least have ecological and biological standards for the area but also be trying to develop and market and put more value into the land," said Myers Ross.

The Tsilhqot'in National Government will be developing a position paper outlining Dasiqox Tribal Park, including "reflecting on key values" such as economics, biology, and culture. Feedback, which will focus more on "people's aspirations and yearnings," will be solicited primarily from local residents but also stakeholders, including businesses and local governments.

"I think the focus there is the aspect of sustainability because we know as First Nations we're going to be there forever and we want there to be an economy that is renewable and that we can



Tsilhqot'in National Government raised a totem pole at Teztan Biny, recognizing the protection of Tsilhqotin lands and culture.

Myers Ross also notes that the province has an important role to play.

"Part of the reason why we didn't want to get to the point where we implement (the park) is because we wanted to invite the province to be part of the process," he said. "What we want to do, the Tsilhqot'in Nation, is the two communities, we want to try to find a different way to conflicts that have existed in the past when it comes to logging and mining on First Nations traditional territory, including a recent unsuccessful bid by Taseko Mines Ltd. to continue exploration work in the region now to be designated a tribal park.

"Our biggest emphasis with the province will be trying to develop an accord, probably a land use Xeni Gwet'in and Yunesit'in First Nations on the area, wildlife biologist Wayne McCrory noted that the 2013 report by MP Paquet to the Friends of Nemaiah Valley, stated, "Tribal park' is not a legally recognised designation, either provincially or federally. The BC government has considered them to be Crown lands and will allow logging, mining, and other industrial uses of, and activities on, these lands."

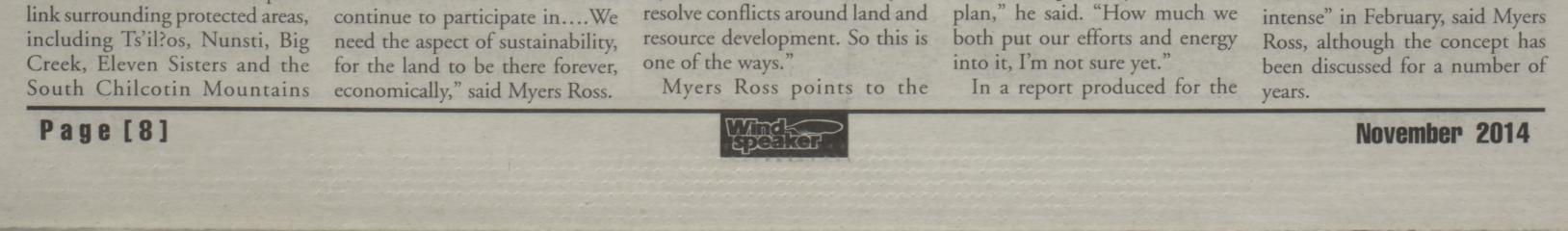
While that may be the case, Myers Ross says he knows that at least local governments have "recognized aspects of tribal parks."

And there has been precedent set. In 1984, the Tla-o-qui-aht established four tribal parks in Clayoquot Sound and stopped logging. Those tribal parks continue to exist three decades later.

In his report, McCrory stated, "Given the imminence of proposed logging plans and

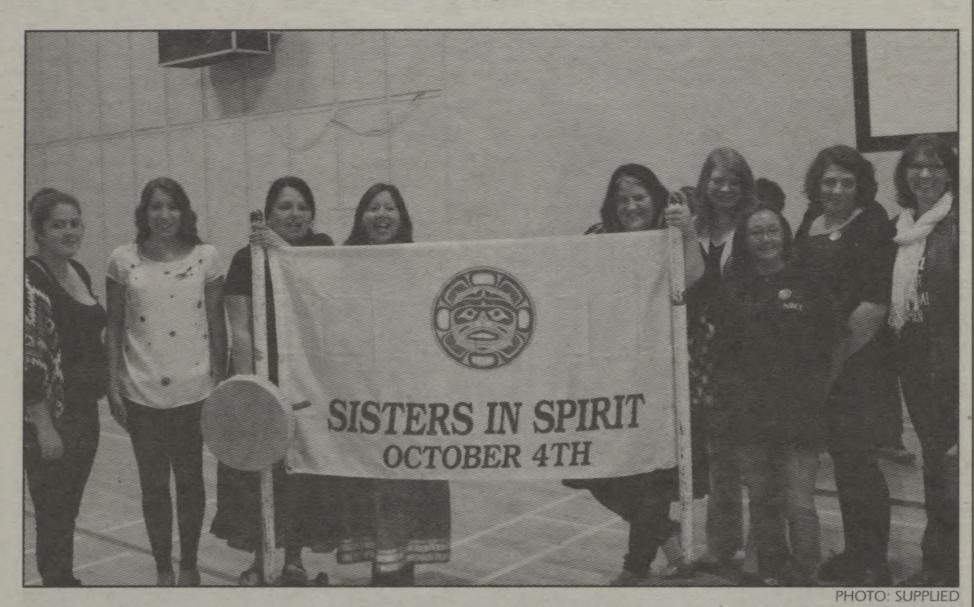
mining interests, declaration as a Tribal Park (Dasiqox) should be considered as quickly as possible."

The push to designate Dasiqox Tribal Park became "more



### news

# Personal security top of mind on college campuses



A vigil was held at New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) campus in Moncton Oct. 3 to help raise awareness of murdered and missing Aboriginal women across Canada.

#### **By Shari Narine** Windspeaker Contributor

#### MONCTON

This year's Sisters in Spirit vigil was extremely personal for organizers and participants at the Brunswick small New Community College (NBCC) campus in Moncton. Earlier this year, the body of Loretta Saunders, 26, originally from Labrador and attending university in Halifax, was found in a median off Route 2 of the Trans-Canada Highway west of Moncton. Saunders' two roommates were charged in her death. She was three months pregnant at the time of her disappearance and was writing her thesis on missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

For many of them, it is their first time away from home and their first time in an urban setting.

"They're disconnected from their communities to begin with and then they've come to this urban centre where there are malls and bars and all kinds of extracurricular things," said Musgrave. "For our girls it's important for them to attend and be aware of the entire initiative because it impacts them, it impacts all of us." Of the 1,200 students on the Moncton campus, 35 are Aboriginal. NBCC is committed to its Indigenous students, said Musgrave, pointing out that every campus has an Aboriginal advisor, Aboriginal students are fully engaged, and there are supports in place for them.

Saunders' death and the discovery of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine's body in the Red River, in Manitoba, in August.

The third annual Sudbury vigil had a larger turnout than previous years, with a similar mixture of participants as Moncton.

"There is a large (Indigenous) population here in Sudbury and the (issue) is growing to be known," said Recollet. The Sudbury vigil included women with hand drums as well as 50 photograph posters of women who have been murdered or gone missing. Those photographs are only a small number of the nearly 1,200 that a recent RCMP report identified. "It was really touching for everybody to see. When we got together, everybody was really grieving for the loss of the women," she said. Among the posters was a sign that asked the haunting question that has hit social media this past year, "Am I Next?" "It brought the awareness for the women. There were some women here who were really new to the city and they were really aware not to walk alone in areas in the park," said Recollet. The #AmINext campaign has Aboriginal women of all walks of life holding a sign asking the question. That question has now begun to be replaced by the statement "I'm not next." That's a powerful change, says Musgrave. "We are now so aware that we're not going to be next," she said. "We're empowered. We are gaining knowledge every day on how to take care of ourselves and how to protect ourselves. We're not going to allow that to happen to us."

## **Windspeaker News Briefs**

A woman from eastern Ontario was in court on Oct. 20 challenging the federal government after being denied Indian status in 1995 because she doesn't know the identity of one of her grandfathers. Lynn Gehl's grandmother and father have status, but she was denied.

"They made the assumption that this unknown grandfather was a non-Indian man, and through the process of that assumption I was denied Indian status registration."

Without status Gehl (Algonquin-Anishinaabe) cannot live on the reserve nor have a say in the decisions of her community. Technical arguments were heard in Ontario Superior Court to see if the case can continue in the court system.

#### The Save Our Seas and Shores coalition

wants the issuance of license extensions to Corridor Resources Inc. for its exploration site in the Gulf of St. Lawrence halted. The coalition told the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board it supports the Innu, Maliseet and Mi'gmaq Alliance in their call for a 12-year moratorium on offshore oil and gas development in the gulf.

"It is high time that governments started supporting First Nations and coastal communities over corporate oil interests," said Mary Gorman, a coalition representative, in a news release. "We want Corridor, unelected petroleum boards and federal and provincial governments to know that oil drilling cannot coexist in sensitive spawning, nursery and migratory waters in one of the most fragile ecosystems on earth."

The release said a requirement to consult First Nations on the process has not been upheld. First Nations called for the 12-year moratorium during the Assembly of First Nations meeting in Halifax in July.

#### **Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation has dropped**

a treaty land entitlement claim because the process is taking too long. The land claim process began following the arrest and incarceration of six KI leaders, including Chief Donny Morris, in 2008 as they protested Platinex Mining company claims near Big Trout Lake in KI traditional territory.

Saunders sister requested that vigils be held across the country in March.

"That atmosphere was very sad, but it was also very beautiful and it was very healing. But it raised awareness, which was huge," said Patty Musgrave, Aboriginal advisor for NBCC Moncton.

"This (October) vigil had an extremely hopeful atmosphere and one of the things that makes it hopeful, the more people who attend these vigils and know what Sisters in Spirit is, the more awareness there is."

Seventy-five people gathered on the Moncton campus on Oct. 3. This is the third year vigils have been held at all six NBCC campuses.<sup>†</sup>

The event took place the day before the nationally-scheduled Sisters in Spirit vigils. Musgrave says it was important that students be able to participate.

November 2014

"It's not just lip service," she said. "Our students are a priority."

That priority was underscored when Hannah Qaunaq, of Nunavut, a sheet metal student, received the Loretta Saunders Memorial Bursary at the Moncton vigil. The bursary, to be presented to a female student, preferably Inuk, was established with funds raised during the March vigil, which was attended by a number of agencies.

The high turnout in Moncton, as well as the attendance of both women and men, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, is an indication of the growing awareness of the issue, said Musgrave.

Ann-Marie Recollet, who coorganized a similar vigil in Sudbury on Oct. 4 on behalf of the N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre, says awareness is also centred around the federal government's refusal to hold a national inquiry into the murdered and missing Aboriginal women and girls, as well as

The entitlement claim was pursued soon after the KI members were released from prison, but since the Tsilhqot'in win in Supreme Court of Canada, KI will go a different route. They are putting together Land Use Documentation and will vote in early 2016 to pursue a legal challenge.

#### On Oct. 8, a small demonstration at the edge of a river

raised awareness about concerns regarding salt brine being released into the Stewiacke/Shubenacadie river system, reads the Truro Daily News. Mi'kmag representatives set eel traps as part of a protest to a natural gas storage project.

"Once we drop that first trap, then that is our treaty fishing grounds of the Mi'kmaq nation of the Shubenacadie district," said spokeswoman Cheryl Maloney. "Once we drop these traps, if they want to interfere and infringe with us they have to deal with the courts and they have to justify to a very high standard of justification why they're infringing on the rights of the Mi'kmaq First Nation," she said. Alton Natural Gas Storage has plans to pump salt brine into the river system to create three storage facilities for natural gas from underground salt caverns in the area.

Fresh water from the Stewiacke River will mix with the salt being removed to form brine that is to be pumped through a pipeline system from the caverns to holding ponds near the mouth of the Stewiacke and Shubenacadie rivers. Company president David Birkett said precautions are being taken to ensure no harm will come to the eco-system and fish stocks and the project will be extensively monitored.

#### The woman credited with negotiating B.C.'s first modern treaty

under the BC Treaty Process is partnering with EY (formerly Ernst & Young) to help their clients better liaise with First Nations on joint economic development. Kim Baird, former chief of Tsawwassen Nation, will share her insight into the best ways for companies to engage First Nations in future projects.

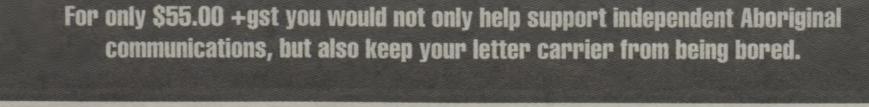
"Working closely with First Nations groups from across the province is an important step in defining B.C.'s economic future," said Fiona Macfarlane, EY's British Columbia Managing Partner. "Assisting proponents and public sector bodies pursuing and championing new opportunities in our energy, particularly LNG, mining and real estate sectors requires a deep understanding of our First Nations values and culture.

"That's where Kim's knowledge is unparalleled."

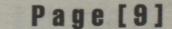
#### The OPP and the Nishnawbe-Aski Police

successful intercepted illegal prescription pills destined for the First Nation community of Attawapiskat. On Sept. 28, the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Drug Unit, Attawapiskat Detachment members, along with the assistance of the Ontario Provincial Police Drug Enforcement Unit seized Oxycodone prescription pills with an estimated street value of \$17,500 dollars. The First Nation is located 630 kilometres north of Timmins. Ont.

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## [ news ] Prolonged, entrenched human rights crisis right here in Canada

**By Dan Rubinstein** Windspeaker Contributor

#### OTTAWA

Aboriginal leaders and the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women repeated their calls for a national inquiry into the crisis on the steps of Parliament Hill during a National Day of Remembrance on Oct. 4, but the rally's first speaker, Cree elder Irene Lindsay, insisted that the vigil was about more than grief.

"Today we need to celebrate their spirits," she said, "and to honour these beautiful women."

Chief Gilbert Whiteduck of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg acknowledged the parents of Maisy Odjick and Shannon Alexander, who were standing behind him with pictures of their children on placards. The two teenaged girls from the large Algonquin reserve north of Ottawa vanished without a trace six years ago.

"I find it deplorable that in a wonderful country like Canada we continue to lose so many women," said Whiteduck, "and so few concrete things are being done about it."

"It is difficult to imagine the pain and sorrow that so many families have to go through every day of their lives," said Ghislain Picard, interim national chief of the Assembly of First Nations. Why does the federal government monitor human rights abuses around the world, he asked, and not pay attention to abuses in our country? "Justice is a fundament human right," he added, "even in Canada."

Alex Neve, the secretary general of Amnesty International Canada, recalled standing across the street in Ottawa's National Press Theatre 10 years ago as his organization launched its "Stolen Sisters" report. A decade later, according to the latest RCMP statistics, more than 1,000 Indigenous women have been murdered since 1980, and as of November 2013, at least 105 women and girls remained missing under suspicious circumstances.

"This is an entrenched human rights crisis," said Neve. "It's probably the most longstanding human rights crisis we've ever faced here in Canada."



Chief Gilbert Whiteduck of Kitigan Zibi stands with the parents of Maisy Odjick and Shannon Alexander.

## Intertribal treaty gains momentum

#### (Continued from poage 6.)

"Coast Salish people stand united by our ancestral ties to each other and to the Salish Sea," the treaty states. "Now the waters of the Salish Sea and the rivers that drain into it are threatened by proposals to drastically increase shipping of oil and bitumen and the inevitable risk of oil spills.

"By affixing our signatures hereto, we the undersigned commit ourselves to doing everything in our lawful power to protect our territories from the Kinder Morgan expansion project, and any other tar sands projects that would increase the transportation of tar sands oil through our territories."

According to the document, Indigenous peoples assert the "authority and duty to protect" the Salish Sea and its tributaries, and therefore tanker and pipeline plans are "illegal as a matter of our ancestral laws, Canadian constitutional law, and international law on the rights of indigenous peoples."

The assertion of ancestral law is bolstered by the Tsilhqot'in nation's recent Supreme Court of Canada victory, in which the top court upheld their title to a large swathe of their traditional territories. Other First Nations and aboriginal leaders portray the decision as a groundbreaking acknowledgement that

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consult with, First Nations before developing their territories.

Xaxlip nation chief Darrell Bob Sr. said his ancestors before him set the example for today's generation to defend and protect the land and his people.

"They stood up for the rights of our people ... to adhere to the laws of the land, to protect it," he said at the signing ceremony. "This is what we've dedicated ourselves to as spiritual people.

"We're here to sign this treaty on their behalf to protect the land and to stand up in front of the people to protect that in the best manner."

Outside B.C. — which is largely unceded territory not under any historical agreement with the Crown — treaties are common between the Crown and Indigenous communities. But a growing number of efforts are reviving the intertribal pacts common before colonization.

On Sept. 23, 11 bands in Alberta and Montana signed an historic treaty to protect bison populations — reportedly the first intertribal treaty since the 1855 Lame Bull Treaty on Aboriginal hunting rights.

A more recent example is the Save the Fraser Declaration against the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline, which has garnered more than 100 signatures and like the Salish Saa



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A

breaking acknowledgement that governments and corporations must obtain consent, not simply ancestral law.





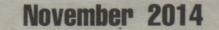


PHOTO: DAN RUBINSTEIN

#### news

## Haudenosaunee artist in residence at Art **Gallery of Ontario**

#### **By Barbra Nahwegahbow** Windspeaker Contribuor

Toronto-based Mohawk artist Greg Staats launched his threemonth term as Artist-in-Residence at the Art Gallery of Ontario on Oct. 14 with an evening of reflection about the Haudenosaunee worldview.

Fifty-one-year old Staats works in photography, performance, video installation and sculpture. Born and raised on Six Nations, he's lived and practiced his art in Toronto for the last 25 years or so. A recipient of the Duke and Duchess of York Prize in Photography and a past faculty member of the Banff Centre, Staat's work has been exhibited throughout North America.

Joining Staats at the AGO's Jackman Hall were two internationally-renowned Tuscarora historians. Dr. Jolene Richard and Rick Hill engaged in an on-stage conversation with Staats about art, cultural identity and the importance of place, using Staats' photographic work as the starting point.

Rickard is associate professor and director of the American Indian Program at Cornell University, as well as a visual historian, artist and curator. Hill, an artist and photographer, has worked with the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. He is currently Deyohah ·: ge: the with Indigenous Knowledge Centre located on the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

has been a journey of discovery – discovery of self, home and cultural tradition. He explores the significance of tradition, particularly the Haudenosaunee Condolence Ceremony, in his exploration of relationships, trauma and renewal. His intent for the evening's discussion was not only to offer a broader knowledge base through his guests, but also to challenge some of his own language about how he talks about his work.

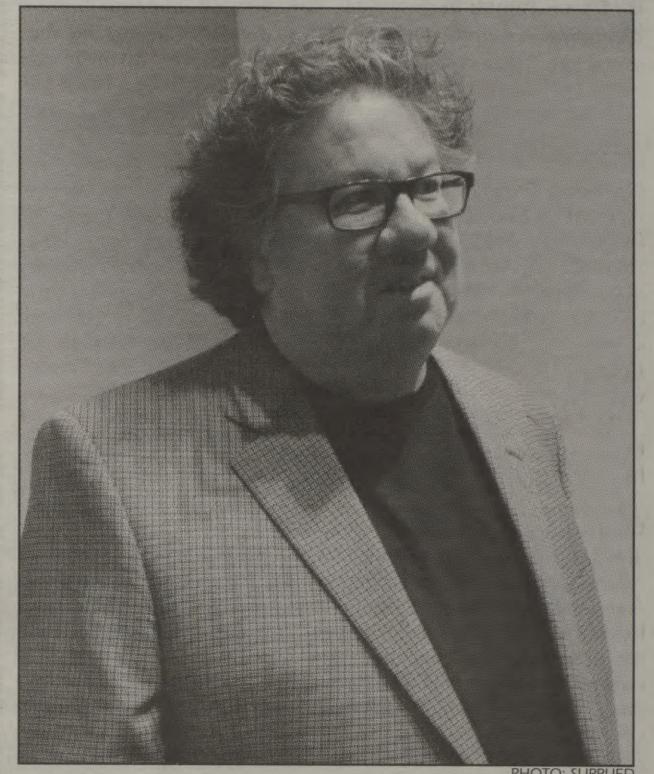
Describing his work in an artist statement of 80 words or less is challenging, said Staats because of the need to explain the cultural metaphors. Rick Hill agreed this does present a problem because cultural metaphors are big conceptual ideas, spiritual ideas and grand historical ideas. You can bring it down to a word or phrase in the Mohawk language which explains everything about the core thing, he continued, but the English language is constructed differently. "The best way to think about it is when you're talking in English, it's like you're watching a black and white TV from the 1950s. You can kind of see it, but it's fuzzy, it doesn't

at Six Nations. Staats manipulated the image, embedding phrases he had chosen from the Condolence Ceremony and the report about her murder. The resulting image was a fractured face. "The photo is emblematic of the condition of Indigenous women," said Rickard, "Not only in North America, but the world in that the face is fractured and not in focus." Rickard said people have begun to acknowledge the fractured status of Indigenous their own women in communities.

"This was a rupture that happened in the community," she said. "It was community member on community member assault."

Rickard commented that the image exemplified Staats' skillful use of Western modernist language and constructs combined with cultural metaphor.

Staats said he's been working with about 20 phrases from the Condolence Ceremony and incorporating them into his work since 2008. The concept of trauma and renewal within the what keeps our culture going, have much depth. But to think framework of shared experiences has been critical to his art. Rick Hill explained the Condolence is "a ceremony where we lay to rest an old chief who died and lift the individuals of his family up," through song and caring. When I see people doing ceremonies, said Hill, "it amazes me. It's out of the kindness of their heart they'll step up and do this. This, to me, is



Mohawk artist Greg Staats, Artist-in-Residence at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, October 14.

"We are people who are trying however it's going, wherever it's to recover that knowledge which was packed away for safety going." Staats has an installation in the purposes," said Hill. "But as the artists are bringing forth these gallery of Canadian art at the things, it's like they're presenting AGO. One of the pieces done in a mirror to our people and we 2009 is titled, For Leonard Peltier. It's a simple screen, have to talk about this because positioned where the wall meets look at our people. In many ways, maybe it's the visual artists who the floor, which displays the days, hours, minutes and seconds that will lead a new way of applying Peltier continues to be the culture to meet real human needs."

Staat's artistic work since 1979

in the Mohawk language or any of our languages, it's like being in the middle of a surround sound, technicolour, 3-D movie."

One of the works Staats showed sparked discussion about the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women. Staats took a found photograph of a young woman, Tashina General, who had been murdered

imprisoned.

## Blackfoot Elders spur on modern-day treaty

#### **By Shari Narine** Windspeaker Contributor

#### **BLOOD TRIBE, Alta**

The Blackfoot Confederacy is experiencing a rebirth in their culture. Action undertaken by the Elders has led to the first treaty signed in more than 200 years between First Nations in Canada and Tribes in the United States. This one on buffalo restoration.

"I think it's kind of a like a rebirth of the old Indian way of doing things," said Dr. Leroy Little Bear, talking about both the influence of the Elders in guiding the process and the restoration of the buffalo to the Northern Great Plains.

"Our people are coming together to find a common cause to work on."

Little Bear, who serves as a professor emeritus of Native American studies at the University of Lethbridge, said Elders began the Inni (Blackfoot for buffalo) Initiative in 2009, recognizing the need for cultural revival.

"We know the buffalo is not the only aspect of culture but it's a very important part of culture. It is used in religion and sacred societies. Stories revolve around the buffalo," he said. "If we were able to bring the buffalo back into our midst, if the kids were able to see the buffalo on a regular basis, that part of our culture would come back to life."

But buffalo goes beyond culture, said Little Bear. Buffalo are also about caring for the land, environment, and healthy eating.

Numerous "emissary trips" took place over the past years. Elders met with chiefs, councils and community members, as well as environmental groups, such as the Wildlife Conservation Society, in Bozeman, Mont., engaging in dialogue about the need to restore the buffalo.

"It took four or five years to

consciousness," said Little Bear.

The result was a treaty signed Sept. 23 on the Blackfeet Reservation in Montana by 11 Indians bands. Signatories in Alberta are the First Nations that comprise the Blackfoot Confederacy: Blood, Piikani, Siksika, and Tsuu T'ina; and in Montana, the Blackfeet Nation, the Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Tribes of Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Indian Reservation.

Keith Aune, bison program director for the Wildlife Conservation Society, chair of the IUCN Bison Specialist Group, and American Bison Society spokesperson, referred to the treaty as a "historic moment that we hope will translate into a conservation movement among Great Plains Tribes."

Little Bear admits that the get buffalo awareness, buffalo result of the Elders' talking all those years ago is a surprise.

"The notion of actually signing a treaty was not part of the original concept, but I am not surprised it came up," he said.

The treaty is multi-faceted and includes issues about health, environment, education, research and culture. It commits the First Nations and tribes to ongoing dialogue on buffalo conservation, introducing buffalo to the northern Great Plains, and strengthening and renewing "ancient cultural and spiritual relationships with buffalo and grasslands...."

The treaty leaves it up to each signatory to decide on how to approach buffalo restoration.

There are 58 tribes in the U.S. that are part of an Intertribal Buffalo Council, many of which have herds of differing sizes. The larger reservation sizes in the US allow for that, says Little Bear.

According to WCS, to ecologically restore the buffalo, the few remaining large intact

prairies, many of which are tribally managed, need to be preserved.

In Alberta, only the Tsuu T'ina First Nation has a buffalo herd.

"On the Canadian side, probably a good way to bring about buffalo roaming is to work with the national parks," said Little Bear.

Interest has already been expressed by the International Peace Park, which is a combination of Waterton National Park on the Canada side and Glacier National Park in the U.S., as well as Banff National Park.

"Banff is a step or two away from introducing a herd," said Little Bear.

He also said First Nations in Alberta will work with ranchers and farmers in the region, as well as the provincial government departments of Alberta Agriculture Rural and Development and Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development.



# SASKATCHEWAN

## Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

#### **Historic Treaty Four medal** returns

A long-lost Treaty Four medal, one of 21 original medals presented to each chief who entered into treaty on Sept. 15, 1874, was returned to Treaty Four territory. The medal was in a private collection held by the late Robert D.W. Band and consigned for sale with Jeffrey Hoare Auctions on Sept. 20, 2014. After learning about the sale of the Treaty Four medal, Paula Acoose and her husband Ray McCallum decided to use their personal funds to purchase the medal for the people of Treaty Four. They flew to the auction in London, Ont., and acquired the medal for \$40,000 (plus a 15 per cent fee), competing against four other bidders. "On behalf of the Treaty Four First Nations, we express our deep gratitude to everyone who played a role in assisting Treaty Four in bringing the medal home," said Treaty 4 spokesperson Chief Lynn Acoose. "Understanding the historical and spiritual significance of the medal, Wendy Hoare, from Jeffrey Hoare Auctions offered to personally deliver the medal to Treaty Four territory." Treaty Four Elders, leadership and membership met the medal at the Regina Airport Sept. 29 and conducted a reclamation ceremony.

a jury he probably would have declared a mistrial.

#### Canada goes to court for money owed by Catholic **Entities for IRSSA**

Canada had the Catholic Church in court Oct. 9 and Oct. 10 at Saskatoon Court of Queen's Bench for unpaid residential school money. The federal government said the Catholic Entities, which was one of four churches to sign the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, still owes \$1.6 million. The Aboriginal Healing Foundation, which ceased operation in September, was originally supposed to receive \$29 million from the Catholic Entities. That amount was dropped to \$18 million. The Catholic Entities claim the remaining \$1.6 million was spent on lawyers and legal fees and is a legitimate expense. In a submission to the court, federal prosecutors call the legal/consultant fees, "excessive, abusive and were paid for monies that were clearly destined to the AHF."

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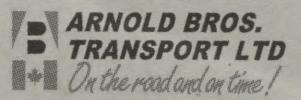
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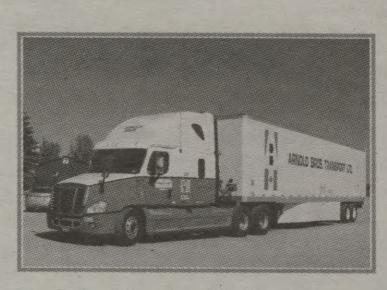
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#### Hales' trial in Bosse murder to continue

Despite a ruling from the Supreme Court outlining a new test for evidence acquired through the work of undercover police, Justice Gerald Allbright said there would be no mistrial in Douglas Hales' trial in the murder of Daleen Bosse. Hales' trial was in progress when the Supreme Court ruled on what is referred to as "Mr. Big" sting operations. Hales was recorded giving graphic accounts of killing Bosse and then setting her body on fire in an abandoned garbage dump near Martensville. He then led undercover police to Bosse's remains, believing he was showing his newfound gangster friends the scene so they could destroy the evidence. He was arrested two days later and again admitted to killing Bosse while under police interrogation. Previously, statements recorded in Mr. Big stings were treated the same as an admission made to a person on the street. +But, in overturning the conviction of Newfoundland's Nelson Hart, the Supreme Court declared the Crown would now be required to prove that any evidence obtained was of sufficient value to outweigh serious misgivings about the prejudicial effect of Mr. Big evidence at trial. Allbright said if the case were being heard by

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White Bear First Nation's attempt to operate an online casino has come to an end. NorthernBearCasino.com began operating in 2012. In October, CEO Bernie Shepherd released а statement saying the GEObetpowered site had suspended indefinitely. operations Shepherd cited economic conditions in contributing to the site's demise, describing the online gambling business as "very competitive." In February, Shepherd told CalvinAyre.com he was looking for outside investors to help fund a proper promotional campaign.

#### **Bellegarde to run for national** chief

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Chief Perry Bellegarde is the first to declare his intentions to seek the position of National Chief for the Assembly of First Nations. Bellegarde took Shawn Atleo to a record eighth round of voting in Calgary in 2009 before conceding. Atleo was re-elected in 2012. Bellegarde did not run. Atleo resigned on May 1, 2014. amidst complaints he was too friendly with the Harper government. Bellegarde was among Atleo's critics at that time. Bellegarde said as new AFN chief, he would focus on an "immediate action plan and inquiry" into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls; commitment to revitalizing and retaining Indigenous languages; establishing a new fiscal

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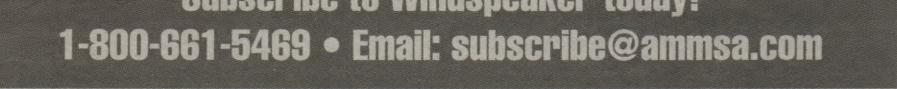
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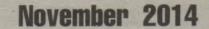
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#### relationship with the Crown; and "establishing processes for self-determination," including







## Saskatchewan Sage: Special Section providing news from Saskatchewan

#### revenue

environmental sustainability, and duty to consult. Bellegarde, a member of the Little Black Bear First Nation in southern Saskatchewan, has served three terms as FSIN chief. Nomination deadline is Nov. 4. The new AFN chief will be elected at an assembly in Winnipeg on Dec.10.

sharing,

#### Monument marking War of **1812 unveiled**

The "Spirit of Alliance," a monument marking the War of 1812, was commissioned by the Whitecap Dakota First universities and the National Nation. It was unveiled in Saskatoon on Sept. 19 by Prince Edward, †Earl of†Wessex.† Commemorating the relationship between First research interest include the Nations and the Crown at the time of the War of 1812, the monument highlights the history of the Dakota-Crown alliance. "We must remember our original veteran soldiers and warriors who together made the ultimate sacrifice and laid the foundation for our beautiful multicultural nation." Whitecap Dakota First Nation Chief Darcy Bear said. "We honour this spirit of alliance through this monument that we have built with our partners." The monument was designed

in collaboration with local artists Adrian Stimson, Jean-Sebastien Gauthier and Ian (Happy) Grove.

#### **FNUniv professor named** member of inaugural group

Dr. Carrie Bourassa, professor of Indigenous Health Studies, at the First Nations University of Canada, has been named a member of the inaugural cohort of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. She joins 90 other colleagues from 51 Canadian **Research Council to represent** Canada's emerging generation of scholarly, scientific and artistic leadership. Bourassa's impacts of colonization on the health of First Nations and Métis people; creating culturally safe care in health service delivery; Indigenous community-based health research methodologies; Indigenous end of life care; Indigenous dementia; HIV and AIDS among Indigenous women, Indigenous ethics and Indigenous women's health. Bourassa is Métis.



#### **Compiled by Shari Narine**



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November 2014



## PESTO Manitoba Pipestone: Special Section providing news from Manitoba

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#### **AFN pushes for independent** inquiry

The Assembly of First Nations is calling for an independent probe of how police handled the disappearance of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine, whose body was pulled from the Red River wrapped in a bag on Aug. 17. Fontaine had run away from home on the Sagkeeng First Nation in July. She was placed into the care of the Child and Family Services Agency and housed in a Winnipeg hotel. She ran away repeatedly. Police in Winnipeg are conducting an internal investigation after discovering two officers came across Fontaine during a traffic stop in August, a week after she had been reported missing, but did not take her into custody. The two officers have been put on administrative duties while the investigation is ongoing. It is also reported that paramedics picked up Fontaine by ambulance the same day police claim to have last made contact with her. "It is unfathomable that police officers would not take into their care a teenage girl who is reported missing," said Cameron Alexis, Alberta of residential schools in Canada Regional Chief with the lends itself well to the ballet Assembly of First Nations. "It stage, Keeper told the

appears to be a systemic failure from top to bottom Ö This is an example of what's going on across the country." Alexis is also a retired RCMP member. Along with the internal police investigation, Child and Family Services Agency is doing its own investigation, but the results aren't likely to be made public.

#### Ballet tells story of residential schools

On Oct. 1, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet premiered Going Home Star — Truth and Reconciliation, a ballet about Indian residential schools. The ballet, based on a story by novelist Joseph Boyden, follows the journey of a young, urban First Nations woman who discovers her ancestors and finds meaning in her own life with the help of a homeless residential school survivor. The ballet included appearances by Polaris prize winner and Inuk throat singer Tanya Tagaq, along with other Aboriginal vocalists. The performance was spearheaded by Aboriginal actress and former MP Tina Keeper, who sits on the ballet's board of directors. The history

Canadian Press. "At the heart of every ballet is a great story and that's what we have here," she said. "It is a great tragic tale and a love story, so in that sense, it fits perfectly." Truth and Reconciliation Commissioners and survivors met with those involved with the ballet throughout the creative process. It is hoped the ballet, choreographed by Mark Godden, will tour across the country following its premiere in Winnipeg.

#### **Government announces flood** management steps

A major investment will enhance water level regulation flood water and the management system along the lower Assiniboine River, including Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin. Greater flood protection will be implemented by enhancing Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin outflow capacities as part of the larger flood management system that includes the Portage Diversion and the Fairford River Water Control Structure. The government is also evaluating the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba watersheds to develop greater flood protection. The Red River Valley is protected by a combination of the floodway,

the primary diking system, and community and individual ring dikes. Flood protection in the Lake Manitoba and Assiniboine River watersheds will be enhanced with engineered flood management techniques. "This investment will require more than 30 steps and cost hundreds of millions of dollars to provide similar additional benefits," said Infrastructure and Transportation Minister Steve Ashton.

#### **Treaty education program** expanded in Manitoba schools

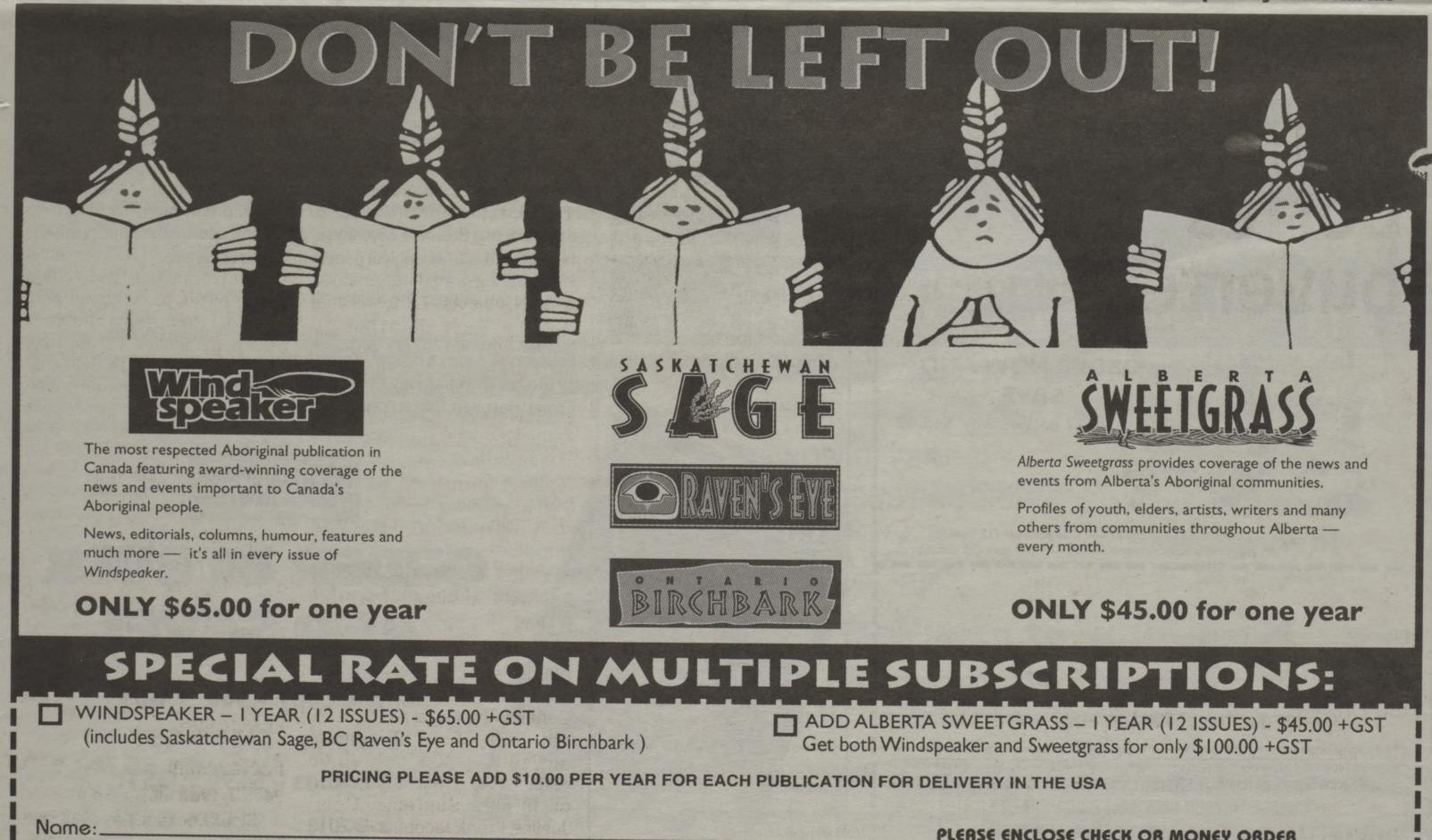
Treaty education, which started as a pilot project for Grades 5 and 6 in 2010, has been rolled out province-wide. Treaty education is not mandatory in Manitoba schools, however, presently700 teachers are delivering lessons in 200 different schools. Manitoba Education Minister James Allum says the province has taken steps toward full implementation. Treaty **Relations Commissioner Jamie** Wilson says the long-term goal is to get into every school and to get every teacher trained across the province. "The opportunity for young people to learn that treaties were made with Indigenous nations is going to absolutely change the way people think about historical

foundations of this part of the country," said Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Grand Chief Derek Nepinak.

#### Park designations recognize **Indigenous peoples**

Chitek Lake Provincial Park is the first land in the province to be classified and preserved as Indigenous traditional use. This new classification gives recognition to lands of natural or cultural significance to Indigenous people, recognizing them as traditional-use areas, said Conservation and Water Stewardship Minister Gord Mackintosh. However the park will still be open to licensed hunting, fishing and trapping. Chitek Lake Provincial Park is the province's 88th park. Walter Cook Caves Park Reserve was also named as an ecological reserve through work undertaken with the Misipawistik Cree Nation. The ecological reserve is located within Misipawistik Cree Nation's trapline. Chitek Lake Provincial Park contains Manitoba's only herd of freeranging wood bison while the Walter Cook Caves is the only known place where elk, moose, white-tailed deer, woodland caribou and wood bison share the same habitat.

**Compiled by Shari Narine** 



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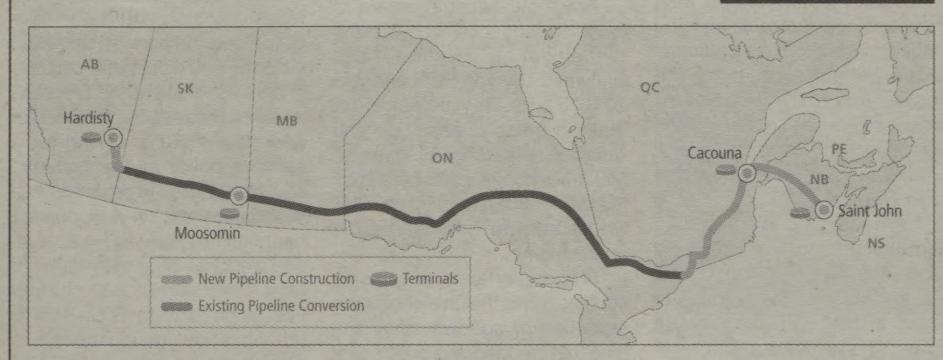
## **Ontario Birchbark: Special Section providing news from Ontario**

Energy

**Pipeline** 

East

# Open House



#### Questions? Let's talk.

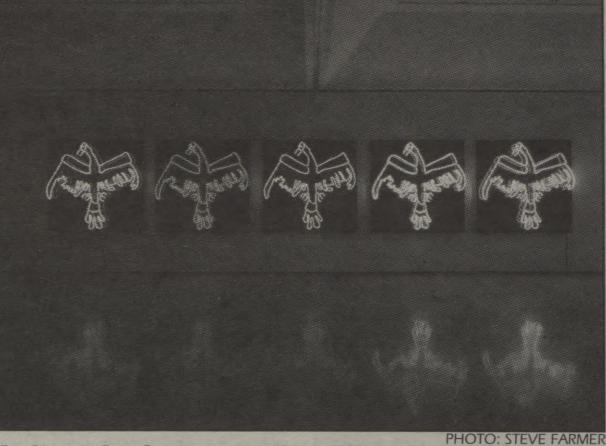
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Tuesday, November 18

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St. Mary's Centre

Thursday, November 20 Matilda Community Hall



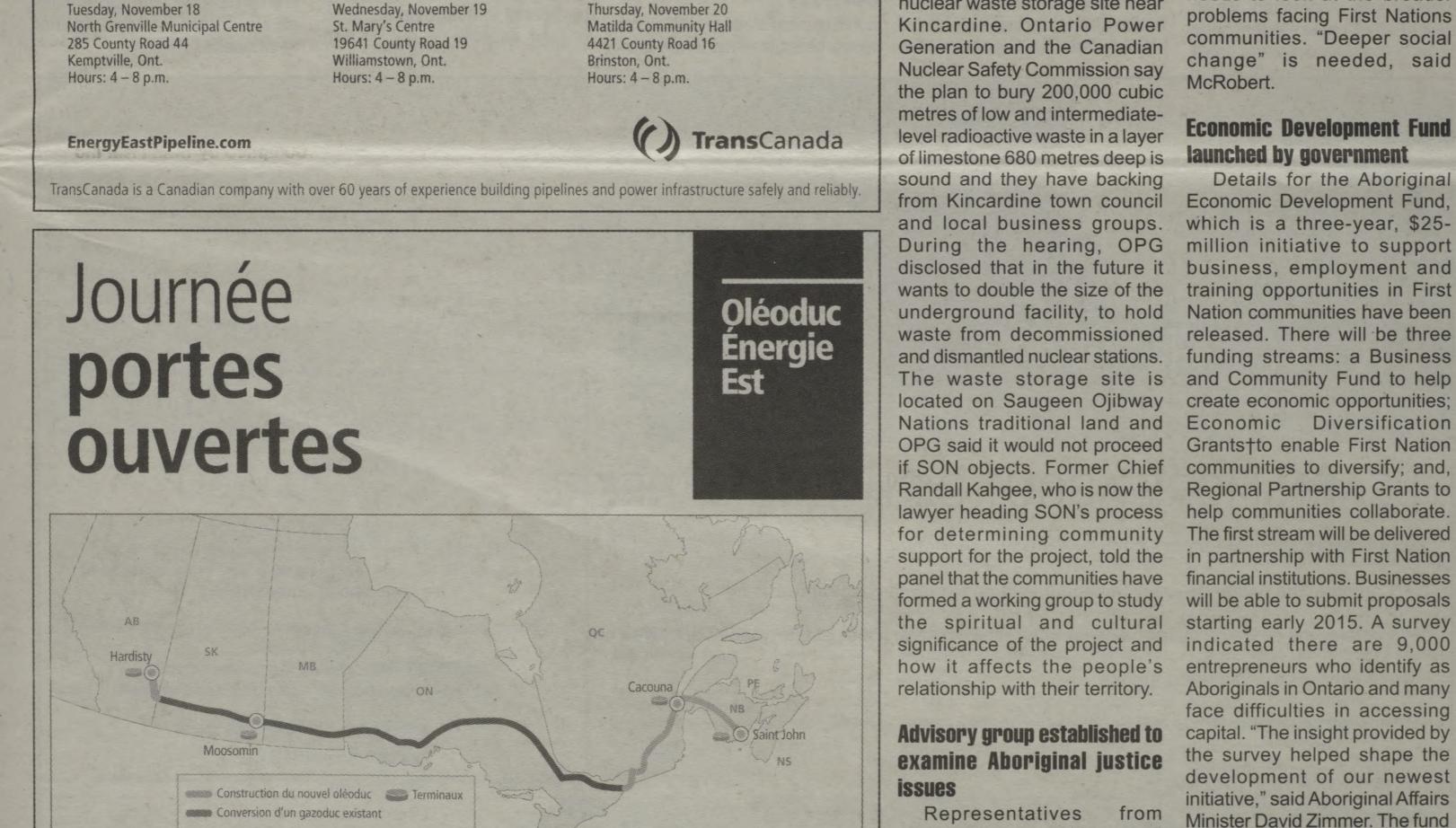
#### **MacLaren Art Centre uses York Wilson Award to purchase** work by Linklater

Aboriginal artist and 2013 Sobey Art Award winner†Duane Linklater's work Tautology was unveiled Sept. 25 at the MacLaren Art Centre, in Barrie. The gallery received \$24,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts through the 2014 York Wilson Prize, which enabled it to acquire Linklater's new work.

#### SON to study OPG proposed nuclear waste storage site

The Saugeen Ojibway Nations have made their opposition known to the panel considering a proposal for a nuclear waste storage site near

incarcerated at a much higher rate than the general population. David McRobert, a member of the Ontario Bar Association's Aboriginal law section, says for the committee to be effective it needs to look at the broader problems facing First Nations communities. "Deeper social



#### Vous avez des questions? Parlons-en.

Chez TransCanada, nous planifions la construction d'un oléoduc visant à transporter le pétrole provenant de l'ouest vers l'est du Canada. C'est un projet qui générera d'importantes retombées économiques. Si vous avez des questions au sujet d'Énergie Est, venez rencontrer les principaux experts de l'équipe Énergie Est de TransCanada, lors de la journée portes ouvertes organisée près de chez vous.

Mardi 18 novembre Centre communautaire de North Grenville 285, chemin de Comté 44 Kemptville, Ont. Heures: 16 h à 20 h

Mercredi 19 novembre Centre St-Mary's 19641, chemin de Comté 19 Williamstown, Ont. Heures: 16 h à 20 h

Jeudi 20 novembre Centre communautaire Matilda 4421, chemin de Comté 16 Brinston, Ont. Heures: 16 h à 20 h

report

Aboriginal communities, as well was announced by the as the Law Society of Upper provincial government in the Canada and Legal Aid Ontario, 2014 budget. are part of a 12-member advisory group set up in response to a recommendation of former Supreme Court Justice Frank lacobucci's 2013 Nation Aboriginal on representation on juries. lacobucci found the relationship between the justice system and First Nation was "guite frankly in

Partnership will help with health, food distribution Sioux Lookout, Lac Seul First and Kitchenuhmaykoosib will be collaborating on a joint project for a regional distribution centre to address issues of food insecurity and health in the far





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

#### On the morning of Oct. 17, the Guard Canadian Coast contacted the Council of the **Haida Nation**

to mobilize vessels to assist with a marine emergency. A 135-metre Russian registered container had lost power and was drifting 12 miles off the coast of Gowgaia Bay carrying 500 metric tonnes of bunker fuel and 60 metric tonnes of diesel. Based on calculations, the ship could run aground within nine hours.

"It's absolutely pristine out there," Guujaaw, former president of the Haida Nation, told The Tyee's reporter David Ball. "It's a world heritage site in that region."

Adding to the ship's difficulties was the condition of its captain, who had been injured. The Council of the Haida Nation set up an emergency command centre.

"The Haida Nation's worst fear is coming true," said President kil tlaats 'gaa Peter Lantin. "Our priority is to minimize the impact on our homeland and get our people on-site to start dealing with the grounding. We'll deal with the politics of the situation later."

A large U.S. oceangoing tugboat was dispatched, which took nearly 14 hours to reach the ship. In the meantime, the coast

guard attempted to take the ship further out to sea and away from the jagged rocky shoreline of Haida Gwaii. On three occasions the coast guard tried to attach a tow rope to the ship, and all three times the ropes snapped.

Said B.C. Premier Christy Clark "We're carefully monitoring the situation off Haida Gwaii, and actively supporting the federal response." The tug eventually was able to secure the vessel and towed the disabled ship to port in Prince Rupert after a number of tense hours. Tweeted Liberal MLA for Richmond-Steveston John Yap "#Ecofearmongers can stand down. Russian cargo ship towed away from BC coast ending disaster fears."

#### You're outta here, said the Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs,

returning a \$25,000 cheque to the province, a down payment on capacity funding for the Pacific Trail pipeline.

In seeking support for the pipeline that will bring natural gas to Kitimat for a planned LNG plant, BC's Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation department drew a line between the capacity funding and ongoing support for child welfare. The Globe and Mail

described the move as "hamfisted."

In a document presented to the Moricetown Indian Band, the ministry outlined "what B.C. has done so far" for the Wet'suwet'en, including "continued funding" for child welfare programs.

Debbie Pierre, executive director for the Office of the Wet'suwet'en, said "LNG is not the springboard to opening discussions around child welfare."

Minister John Rustad said there was no intent to tie ongoing funding for child welfare programs to the band's support for the pipeline and LNG. Rustad blamed divisions between the elected and hereditary systems in the area for complicating government's dealings.

"Internally, the Wet'suwet'en people need to work through those divisions of authority and power," he said. BC is trying to reach a deal with the elected council, he said, but the hereditary leadership have raised objections.

#### Wet'suwet'en Nation Elders worked with Simon Fraser University

and Russian Academy of Science researchers to name a new fossil

species. The green lacewing insect fossil, found in Driftwood Canyon Provincial Park near Smithers, is now known as Archaeochrysa sanikwa.

"The Wet'suwet'en word sanikwa refers to the transformation of insects and suggests the appearance of this very ancient insect in our time," said Bruce Archibald, a SFU biologist, who says collaborating with the Wet'suwet'en was "invaluable."

Archibald became aware of the deep connection between the Wet'suwet'en Nation and Driftwood Canyon Park during a 2010 Parks Day celebration, reads a press release. He and Russian researcher Vladimir N. Makarkin hoped participation by the Elders in the naming process would help to emphasize the connection.

"The importance of remains such as this is that this shows the evolution of species since the time that this land was created for the Wet'suwet'en," said Chief Na'Moks (John Ridsdale).

Green lacewings, insects of the family Chrysopidae, are found across much of the globe. They are considered beneficial by gardeners and farmers because of their appetite for aphids and other plant pests.

"We are very excited about the Wet'suwet'en name for this fossil," said John Howard with B.C. Parks. "It demonstrates the historical connection between the land and the people."

#### A new report from British **Columbia's representative for** children and youth,

reviews progress on 148 recommendations to government over six years and finds B.C. has repeatedly ignored calls to take action on child poverty, domestic violence and Aboriginal children in care. She called the progress made on these social issues "dim and slow". "We're asking for a sensible policy and a strategy," said Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond. "If you don't work on it, it doesn't happen. You have to work on it, and work has been very dim and slow." She said 93,000 children live in poverty in B.C. "We're talking about giving people a fighting chance," she said. "When it comes to child poverty, it's enough to fill BC Place and have people line up all the way down the street to Stanley Park. We're not dealing with small groups. We're dealing with significant issues, known populations, that have needs."

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

## Three exhibits tell the Musqueam story Three exhibits tell the Musqueam story

#### **By Stefania Seccia** Raven's Eye Writer

Tales drawn from 5,000 years of existence are woven together through audio, visual and modern technology to breathe life into the colorful history of the Musqueam First Nation community.

The Musqueam, Museum of Vancouver and the Museum of Anthropology have partnered on a series of three distinct exhibitions, opening simultaneously this coming January known as c-YsnaîYm The City Before the City.

Terry Point is co-curator of the Musqueam First Nation exhibition. He said visitors should expect a unique experience from each location that utilizes different forms of storytelling to shed light on a 5,000-year-old history.

"(Our Elders) really want people to understand our culture was sophisticated, a rich and thriving society here before contact," Point said. "I think we captured most of what we're trying to portray in the exhibit." Over the past 125 years, archaeologists have mined the Musqueam c-YsnaîYm village and burial ground for artifacts and ancestral remains, many of which are in museums and collections around the world. Historically, it was one of the largest villages of the Musqueam approximately 2,000 years ago

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where generations of families called home.

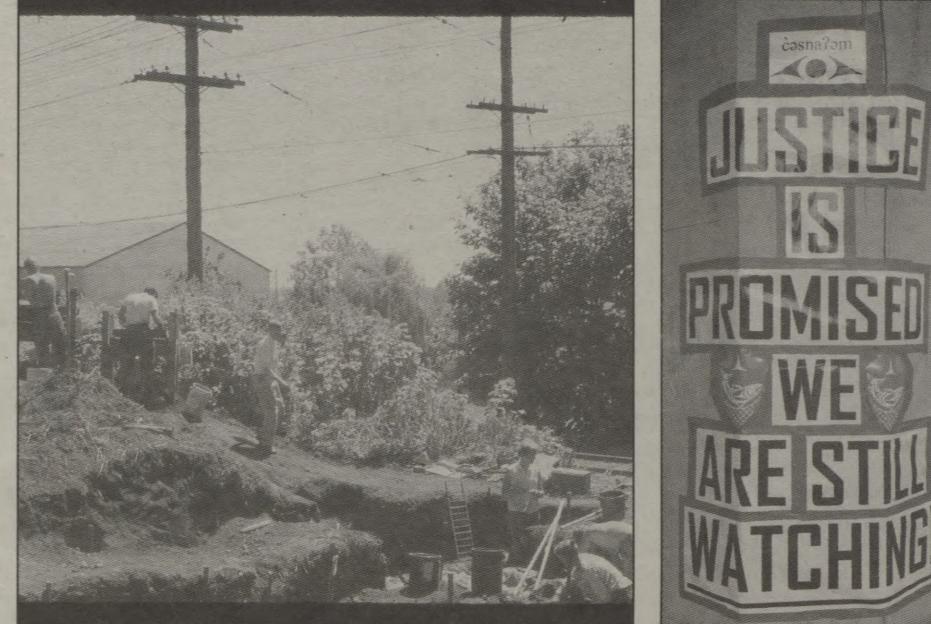
The land is located in the area now commonly known as the Marpole neighborhood in Vancouver.

The contested site has intersecting railway lines, roads and bridges to Richmond and a miscellaneous assortment of buildings and developments that tread on the Musqueam traditional territory.

In 2012, the community members held a 200-plus day vigil when ancestral remains turned up at the c-YsnaîYm village, which stopped a proposed condominium development in its tracks.

"We are still here and still have a thriving community," Point added. "Understand that there is a wealth of knowledge that comes from our Elders and that's what we are here to protect, is that significant culture and brilliance."

Now, the Musqueam has a were." population of 1,200 people. The three exhibits will run Nearly half live on a small portion of their traditional territory located south of Marine Drive near the mouth of the Fraser River, where their ancestors harvested the resources of the delta.



PHOTOS: SUPPLIED The Musqueam, Museum of Vancouver and the Museum of Anthropology have partnered on a series of three distinct exhibitions, opening simultaneously this coming January

belongings including a piece of simultaneously at the Museum of Vancouver, Museum of fishing net that is 2,500 years Anthropology and Musqueam old. Other elements include Cultural Education Resource comparing contemporary Centre and Gallery. medicinal pieces and tools with Point said the exhibits will their ancestral origins. have different features and "We're really trying to focus interactive displays to best tell on learning about the distant past and the way to do that is to the Musqueam stories. For instance, at the Museum of compare and contrast it with the Vancouver, the exhibit will show contemporary," Point noted. The exhibit was put together how the community would tell through an exhibit team time through the seasons. composed of curators and many "Also, within that section, there's going to be photos both community members, historic and contemporary of according to the Museum of Musqueam people," he said. Anthropology's curator Sue The museum is also creating Rowley. casts of what they think some "Each of the exhibits has very Musqueam people looked like different flavors to them but they're all one story," she said. from unearthed skulls. "We're going to have one of "Visitors are going to get three amazing opportunities to hear our traditional stories of the two-headed serpent illustrated and see the Musqueam and learn with a listening station to hear about the ancient past. So many the whole story," he added. people think Vancouver is a new There will also be a station city.' featuring the language spoken "It's the importance of by the Musqueam and visitors community," she said about the will get a crash course on it, exhibit's significance. "The fact according to Point. that it's not a show about the

At the Musqueam centre and ancient past. It's a really a show gallery, the exhibits will feature about ... today and the strength of the community today." The University of British Columbia's museum will feature no belongings, but instead tell the story through visual presentations and interactive displays. Some will feature community members talking about major issues, teachings, values and highlights of the vigil. One display is an interactive table with six replicas of ancient belongings and six contemporary ones. When a piece is placed on the table, it will generate content about that particular piece. "There will be an installation which is a very small one to six person experience of sitting as if you were at the kitchen table with an audio installation of the advisory committee talking about the kinds of things they would talk about at the kitchen table," she said. "It gives visitors a privileged aspect as if you were sitting at the ... table." For more information about exhibits, visit the thecitybeforethecity.com.

"We're trying to protect these little pieces of history that people have dismissed for such a long time," Point said. "A better understanding of where they are and who the first people



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## [ health ] **Councillor's death jolts** health services into action

#### **By Cara McKenna** Windspeaker Contributor

It has taken the tragic and seemingly preventable death of a beloved Skidegate Band councillor to shed light on what critics say is chronically unreliable ambulance service in B.C.'s remote communities.

Godfrey Williams (Didi), 48, died of a heart attack Aug. 2, following a series of blunders that caused what should have been a 10-minute ambulance trip to take nearly one hour.

It was something remote communities have been warning about for years: staffing shortages and significant coverage gaps causing undependable first response to emergencies.

Now, months after the tragedy, a working group has been formed in the Village of Queen Charlotte that will attempt to rework an outdated BC Ambulance Service model and is slated to be used provincially by other remote communities along the coast.

A medical report from Northern Health identifies that Williams probably could have survived if not for the wait. In Williams' death report, dated three days after the Aug. 2 incident, Dr. Tracy Morton wrote that ambulance service from Queen Charlotte, about 10 minutes away from Skidegate, was dispatched immediately after the Williams' family called for help. But a local crew was not available, leaving Williams' friends and family to helplessly watch him suffer, unsuccessfully attempting to revive him as ambulance service from another island, Sandspit, was dispatched — a 20-minute ferry ride away. It took the Sandspit crew another 20 minutes to find Williams' home, and despite resuscitation efforts, he died shortly after arriving in hospital. Morton said the Queen Charlotte ambulance station has had staffing shortfalls for nearly a year - on-call paramedics only make \$2 per hour unless called to an emergency - and

serious, delays.

"unacceptable."

"Though it is impossible to predict with certainty the outcome had [Williams] received defibrillation within a typical timeframe, I can say that his chances of survival would have been favourable," Morton's report reads, in part.

shockable rhythm well over an hour post-arrest suggests that he would very likely have responded positively to earlier advanced treatments."

Skidegate Chief Councillor Billy Yovanovich said in an interview that Williams' death has devastated his Haida Village, but the shock is wearing off and people are now trying to pick up the pieces.

Williams' three daughters are back at school, and leadership has taken on his usual duties on council.

"It's unfortunate that we've had to have such a tragic incident to bring this issue to light," Yovanovich said.

"It's obviously hard. It's quite an adjustment but nobody wants Authority, which provides to get stuck in the past and point fingers here or there. I'm feeling better that on a moving forward basis things will get better." Village of Queen Charlotte Mayor Carol Kulesha said Williams was a respected and well-loved community figure. "It takes a long time to get over things like this," she said. "It's on the forefront of everyone's minds.... This should not fall by the wayside. This is an essential service. We all deserve it. Everybody deserves a chance." BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) executive vice-president Linda Lupini said in an interview that the paramedic who was supposed to be on-call the afternoon Williams died was booked off. But to avoid future staffing mishaps, she said, a frontline supervisor has been sent to Queen Charlotte to recruit oncall paramedics.

there have been several other, less working group consisting of community leaders and on-He called the response time island paramedics to attempt to fix the broken care model for rural and remote communities.

> The group met twice and has come up with solutions, including working with local businesses so paramedics can work shifts and be on-call at the same time.

The working group's input "The fact that he had a will go towards forming a provincial working group that will develop new models for remote communities.

"[The current model] is an outdated model and a model we're trying to redesign now," Lupini said.

"We're going to launch the new model in spring/summer of 2015 and probably pilot four communities just to make sure it works properly, and if it does, we'll continue to add community after community."

There are plans to add 80 fulltime equivalent paramedic positions in B.C. over the next five years, but she could not elaborate on what level of training they will have.

The First Nations Health preventative services to Skidegate, is taking part in the working group and recently partnered with the Red Cross to train Emergency Medical Assistants as additional first responders in remote First Nations communities. It said in a statement that it is also "exploring a number of innovative alternatives for rural remote emergency and primary service care delivery" although "pre-hospital care continues to be provincially resourced and mandated." Mayor Kulesha, who has been advocating for better ambulance service since 2011, said she is just glad action is finally being taken. "We had a horrible emergency situation and the councillor's death really shored this all up but it's really something that's been happening for a long time," she said.

## **Health Watch**

#### HIV, AIDs among Aboriginal women to be examined

Digging Deep, a three-year community-based pilot project, will examine why Aboriginal women in Saskatchewan are disproportionately represented with HIV and AIDS. Co-principal investigator and First Nations University of Canada professor Carrie Bourassa hopes the research project will set the tone for provincial and national strategies aimed at reducing the incidence of this disease in Aboriginal women. "Too many times researchers go into communities and they stigmatize Aboriginal women, and what we want to do is work with Aboriginal women on their strengths rather than go in there looking at negative aspects," Bourassa told the Leader-Post. The project was spurred on by the increase of new cases from 2003 to 2010 with Saskatchewan having the highest rates of HIV at twice the national average, or 20.8 per 100,000 people. Aboriginal women under the age of 30 represent a disproportionate number of new cases.

#### Indigenous issues part of study on dementia

Indigenous issues will be included as the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging tackles the issue of the growing onset of dementia and related illnesses. The consortium, a national initiative, will receive \$31.5 million over five years from the federal government. Dr. Kristen Jacklin, associate professor at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine in the field of medical anthropology, is one of 47 principal investigators on the CCNA and is co-leading a research team called "Team 20: Issues in dementia care for rural and Indigenous populations." Its first two years of research will be spent working with Manitoulin First Nations health centres. Dr. Debra Morgan (University of Saskatchewan) is leading the rural research projects while Dr. Jacklin and Dr. Carrie Bourassa (First Nations University) are leading the Indigenous research stream. Jacklin's team will receive \$1 million in funding to carry out research that will focus on examining pathways to dementia care for Indigenous people and identifying effective cultural approaches to care; the development of culturally appropriate cognitive assessment protocols for use in Aboriginal communities; capacity building for age-related Indigenous dementia research; and regional incidence and prevalence, patterns of care, and multi-morbidities concerning dementia in rural and Indigenous populations. "The prevalence of dementia is rising faster in First Nations people," said Jacklin. Factors that likely contribute to this are an aging population and the fact that Aboriginal people are living longer than ever, higher rates of related illnesses, such as diabetes, as well as high blood pressure and heart disease.

BCEHS has now formed a

"Everything progresses really slowly unless there's an emergency."

#### First Nations adults need priority care for diabetes

A study of diabetes-related hospitalization of adults in Alberta has determined that older First Nations patients with diabetes are at greater risk for diabetes-specific hospitalizations than their non-First Nations counterparts. The study, undertaken by a group led by David JT Campbell, concluded that older First Nations patients with diabetes should be given priority access to primary care services as they are at greatest risk for requiring hospitalization for stabilization of their condition. The study identified 183,654 adults with diabetes, and followed them for one year for the outcome of hospitalization or emergency department visit for diabetes-specific ambulatory care sensitive conditions. Logistic regression was used to determine the association between First Nations status and the outcome, assessing for effect modification by age and multi-morbidity. The study was published in Diabetology & Metabolic Syndrome 2014.

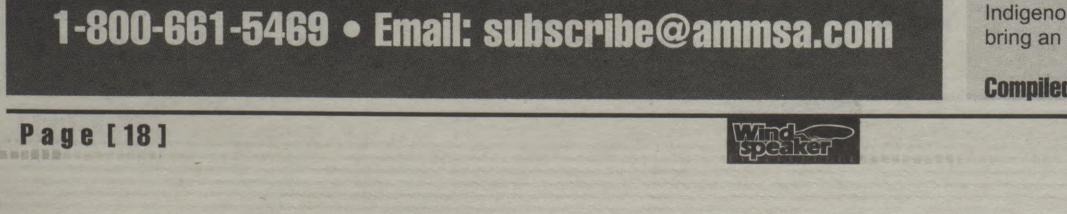
#### **FNHHMA, FNWACCB to work together**

The First Nations Health Managers Association and the First Nations Wellness/Addiction Counsellor Certification Board have signed a partnership agreement to undertake joint efforts in the development of strategies and initiatives to advance and improve First Nations' health status. "This memorandum of understanding is a commitment to professional development and to contributing to capacity building in all areas of health," said David McLaren, president FNHMA. The agreement will see joint initiatives in the area of strategic alliances, partnerships, and shared services.

#### Research on youth suicide to be presented on film

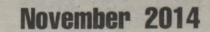
Sarah Abbott, associate professor in the University of Regina's film department, plans to capture on her film her research into why Indigenous youth are more likely to commit suicide compared to other Canadians. Abbott said according to the Centre for Suicide Prevention, suicide and self-inflicted injuries are the leading cause of death for First Nations youth and adults up to 44 years of age. She said she became interested in the subject matter after delivering an eight-week media literacy project for youth at the Rainbow Youth Centre. "I hope the information this film holds is of use to people --

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Indigenous youth, policy-makers, non-Indigenous people --- to bring an understanding," Abbott told the Leader Post.

**Compiled by Shari Narine** 



## **Sports Briefs**

#### **By Sam Laskaris**

#### **Attack Off To Solid Start**

The Batchewana Attack got off to an ideal start in the Canadian International Hockey League which is in its first year of operations. The Attack, coached by former National Hockey League player Denny Lambert, who is Ojibwe, won its first three regular season contests in the eight-team league.

The Attack is playing its home contests on First Nation land, at Rankin Arena in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

The CIHL's moniker is somewhat misleading. All eight of the entrants in the inaugural season of the Junior A circuit are based in Ontario.

Despite winning its first three contests, the Attack were in a three-way tie for top spot in the league standings. That's because the Collingwood ICE and the Colborne Hawks also both registered victories in each of their first three matches.

After winning its historic first contest 6-2 over the Espanola Rivermen on Oct. 4, the Attack then registered a pair of rather lopsided triumph. The Batchewana side thumped the Greater Sudbury Royals 11-1 on Oct. 11. Two days later the Attack then blanked the same Royals 11-0.

Lambert played a total of 504 NHL contests, splitting his time between the Anaheim Ducks, Ottawa Senators, Nashville Predators and Atlanta Thrashers.

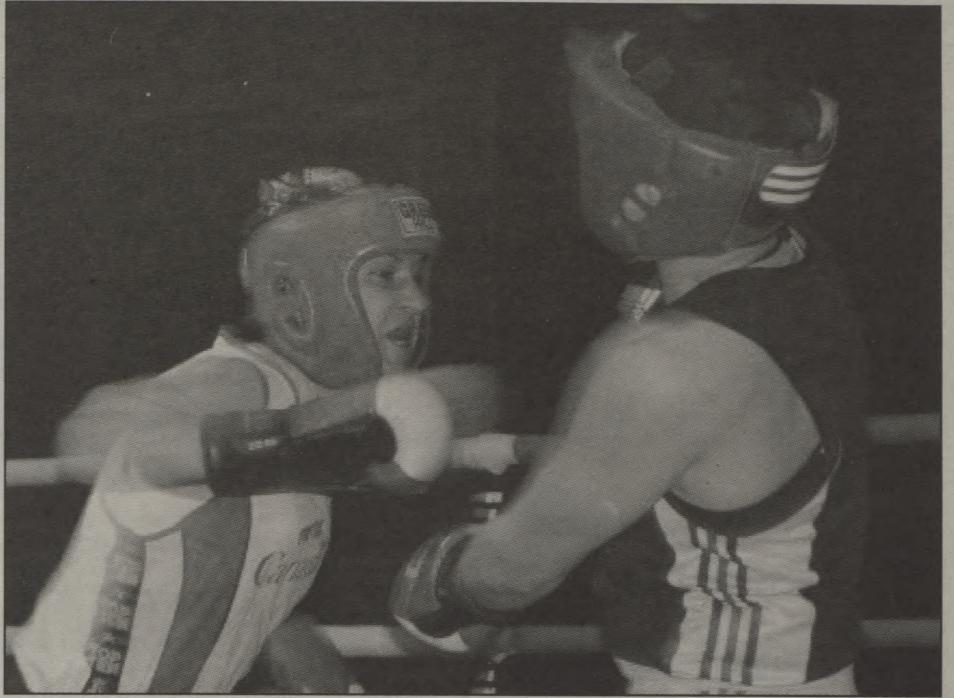
Lambert is no stranger to the junior hockey ranks in Sault Ste. Marie, his hometown. Before turning pro, he had played in the Ontario Hockey League with the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds. After his pro days he also spent eight seasons coaching the Greyhounds, including three years as head coach.

#### **Powless Traded To Vancouver**

One of the world's most exciting young lacrosse stars will now be playing professionally with a Canadian-based team. Johnny Powless, who had spent the past three seasons in the National Lacrosse League with the Rochester Knighthawks, was traded to the Vancouver Stealth last month.

Though he's just 21, Powless, a Mohawk Turtle who lives in Ontario in the Six Nations community of Ohsweken, already has an impressive lacrosse resume. He won three straight NLL championships with the Knighthawks, in his first three seasons in the pro ranks.

## [ sports ] Spencer still in the hunt for Olympic medal



Mary Spencer in action in the ring from 2009

**By Sam Laskaris** Windspeaker Contributor

#### WINDSOR, Ont.

Though the spotlight is not shining on her as it was a couple of years ago, Mary Spencer's main athletic goal remains the same. Spencer, a 29-year-old Ojibwe boxer who lives in Windsor, Ont., would love to win a medal, preferably gold, at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Spencer had been considered one of Canada's best medal hopefuls heading into the 2012 London Olympics, where women's boxing made its Olympic debut. Spencer was one of 12 entrants in the women's middleweight (75-kilogram) division. Her chances for a medal improved even before she stepped into the ring as she received an openinground bye and an automatic spot into the quarter-final round. But Spencer's medal hopes were thwarted when she was defeated by a Chinese competitor in her first and only bout in London. Spencer said she believes her outlook will vary if she is indeed fortunate enough to represent her country in Rio de Janeiro. "The biggest difference the second time around is that I won't be looking forward to the Olympics, I will be looking forward to performing in the Olympics," she said. "The difference is huge." Besides being considered one of the country's top medal hopefuls leading up to London, Spencer had received her share of attention. This included being a cover girl for CoverGirl, the massive cosmetics company.

to retire after the London Olympics. But since she did not get the results she wanted, she decided to remain in the sport at least another four years for a shot at Olympic redemption.

PHOTO: FILE

Spencer is also continuing her education now by taking an online university course. Back in 2009, when she was in her second year of Psychology classes at the University of Windsor, she had put her education on hold in order to train full-time after she discovered women's boxing would be included at the 2012 Olympics. Spencer is not sure when the next time she'll step into the ring after the upcoming nationals.

Powless was also still eligible to play in the Junior A ranks in the Ontario Lacrosse Association this past season with his hometown Six Nations Arrows.

He was the captain of the Arrows, who not only captured their league title but also went on to win the Minto Cup, the national Junior A championship.

After his season with the Arrows was over, Powless joined the Six Nations Chiefs, a Senior men's squad that captured their national crown, the Mann Cup, after winning their Ontario-based league called Major Series Lacrosse.

Powless was also a late call-up for the Chiefs last year, when they also won the Canadian title.

Powless will play his first game in a Stealth uniform on Jan. 3 when the Vancouver side kicks off its 2015 campaign on the road versus the Calgary Roughnecks.

The nine-team NLL also includes the Edmonton Rush, Toronto Rock, Colorado Mammoth, Buffalo Bandits, Minnesota Swarm and New England Black Wolves.

#### **Roy Returns To Brandon**

Though he'd obviously prefer to be in the professional ranks now, Eric Roy has returned to the Western Hockey League (WHL) for a fifth season.

Roy, who turns 20 on Oct. 24, had been drafted by the Calgary Flames in the fifth round, 135th over-all, in the 2013 National Hockey League's Entry Draft.

But the Flames' brass does not feel the Metis defenceman is quite ready to play pro. As a result, Roy, who attended Calgary's main training camp in September, once again finds himself playing in the WHL for the Manitoba-based Brandon Wheat Kings.

Roy had also been invited to the Flames' main training camp a year ago. Though he knew then he'd be returning to the junior ranks he was unable to showcase his skills as an abdominal wall strain kept him out of action.

Roy, who is in his final season of junior eligibility, is once again expected to be a key member of the Wheat Kings' defence.

After a 19-point rookie campaign back in 2010-11, Roy started to receive considerably more attention during a phenomenal sophomore season. He earned 53 points in 69 contests during his second year in Brandon.

Roy, who is 6-foot-3 and 208 pounds, then had a career high 17 goals during his third year with the Wheat Kings. He also chipped in with 22 assists to end up with 39 points that

While she's still in the sport, the spotlight on her has dwindled considerably, which is to be expected though since there is not much Olympic hype these days.

While capturing an Olympic medal remains her main goal, Spencer said that is not what occupies all of her thoughts.

"Right now I'm not focusing on that specifically," she said.

Her top priority right now is this year's Canadian tournament, which begins on Oct. 27 and runs until Nov. 1 in Mississauga, Ont.

Spencer is a nine-time Canadian champion. But she had to settle for the silver medal at the 2013 nationals in Regina, after losing to Quebec's Ariane Fortin in the final.

Spencer was not sure how many others besides Fortin would enter her category at this year's Canadian tournament.

"Some years in the past it was just the two of us in the 75kilogram division but this year there is a rumour that the 81kilogram champ is moving down (to our division) so we'll see," she said.

Since her Olympic heartbreak in London, Spencer has fought 12 times. She has a record of 7-5 in those contests.

But she believes she has become a better fighter, despite her various losses.

"I've got 12 years of experience behind me," she said. "The first 10 years of my experience I was winning constantly. And in the past two years I've had some big

"I have no clue," she said. "We don't find that out until early next year."

As for her biggest goal for 2015? She's hoping to compete at the Pan American Games next summer, which will be staged in Toronto.

"It would be great as I've never been able to have a major competition before close to home," Spencer said.

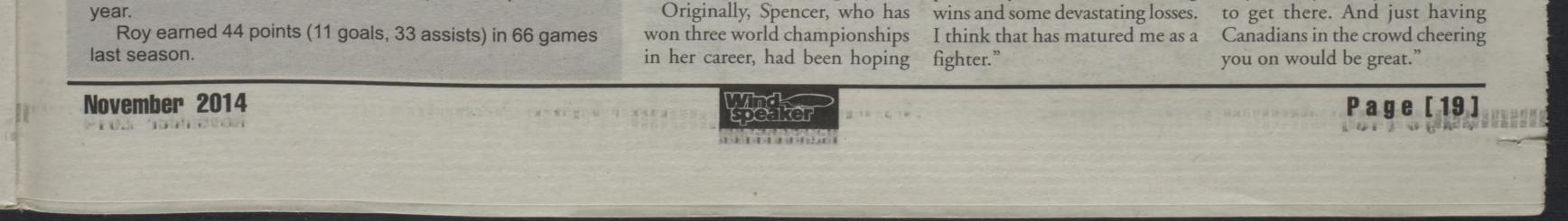
A while back Spencer thought she might have the opportunity to take part in the women's world championships in her home country. Edmonton had originally been awarded the rights to host the competition.

But when Boxing Canada officials could not find suitable dates and a venue, the tournament was moved to South Korea.

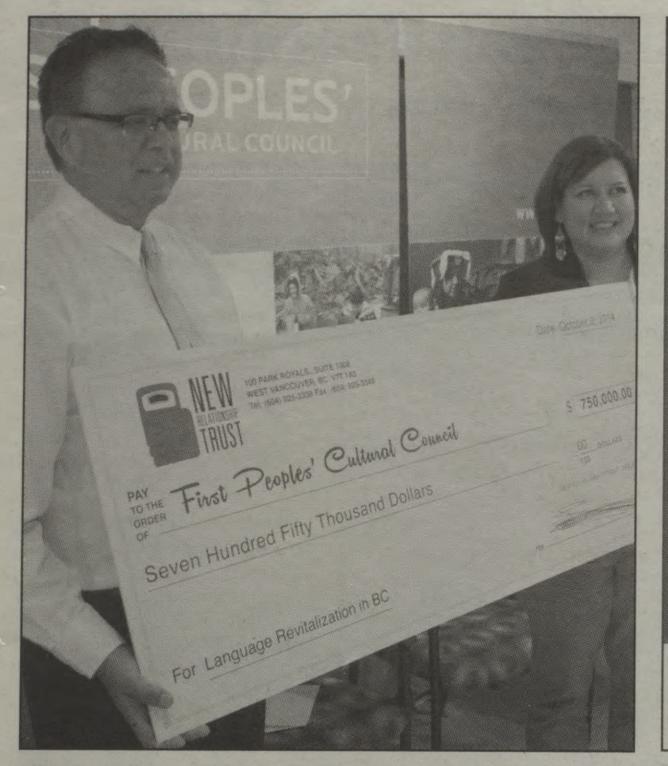
As it turns out, Spencer will not compete at the South Korean event in November.

Spencer, who won the gold medal at the 2011 Pan American Games in Mexico, believes taking part in next year's Games in her home province would be a career highlight.

"The Pan Am Games are huge," she said. "Windsor is three-and-a-half hours away from Toronto but it would be easy for my family and friends



## [education]



#### New Relationship Trust has contributed \$750,000 to First Peoples' Cultural Council to launch the First Peoples' Heritage,

Language and Culture Project. This contribution will support the delivery of services and programs to revitalize First Nations language, arts and culture in British Columbia.

The funding contribution will build capacity and increase awareness by providing 15 Mentor Apprentice programs to develop new fluent speakers in over 10 languages; training, technical, and linguistic support to allow educators to develop language lessons; salaries for coordinators to maintain community collaboration and development of curriculum; seven programs to build strategies and long-term goals in language and cultural revitalization within First Nation communities; eight Aboriginal Art Administers and Cultural Manager Internships and Mentorships; and 20 projects that support the transmission of traditional arts and related knowledge. Laurentian University supports Aboriginal Learners - 175 + programs to choose from - 8 programs at our Barrie location

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"NRT has been proud to be a funding partner of First Peoples' Cultural Council to promote the restoration of BC First Nations languages, which is an important step to rebuild strong First Nations," said Cliff Fregin, Trust CEO.

First Nations culture in B.C. is in a critical state, as many languages are endangered or nearly extinct. According to the Staus of First Nations Languages, only 5.1 per cent of the B.C. First Nations population is fluent in their language. Semi-fluent speakers make up only 8.2 per cent (8,948) of the population. First Nations language learners make up only 11.1 per cent (12,223) of the total population.

"The funding from NRT has been essential to the success of arts and language revitalization in B.C. communities. We are grateful for the support of the NRT board and their investment in the future of our BC First Nations art forms and languages," said Tracey Herbert, executive director of FPCC.

Since 2008, First Peoples' Cultural Council has administered language and art projects in B.C. First Nation communities. With NRT's contribution, FPCC can continue to provide grants to projects that create new fluent speakers, support immersion and language documentation, and develop resources and training.

#### A Regina high school will replace the name of its sports team,

a name that is viewed as racially insensitive. Balfour Collegiate is seeking recommendations from students, staff and the community for submissions online and will retire the "Redmen" nickname, which has been in use for decades. The logo of a headdress was phased out in the mid-90s. A new name is expected in the New Year and will be chosen by a committee which includes Balfour alumni.

#### **The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres**

and the Prince George Native Friendship Centre will host Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference from March 17 to March 20, 2015.

The 13th Annual Aboriginal Youth Conference will be held in Prince George on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh at the Prince George Civic Centre and other venues around the city.

Aboriginal youth ages 14 to 24 are invited to take part in the conference. It will focus on many issues including health, language, culture, the environment, employment, education, sports and recreation.

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education fair, a social enterprise "Dragon's Den," evening entertainment and afternoon sport and recreation activities will also be offered.





### [ careers & training ] **Birchbark Briefs**

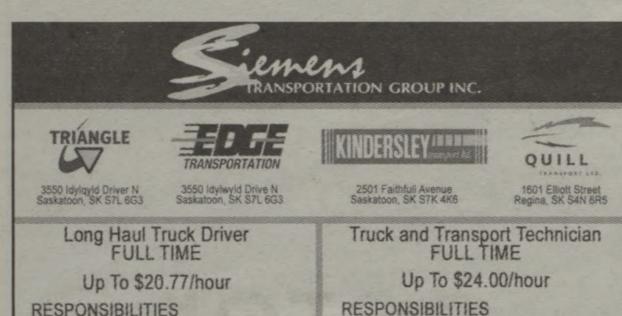


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(Continued from page 15.) facilitation supports through the First Nations - Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative. Through CEDI, the three communities will be able to enhance capacitybuilding, set up a study tour, and offset the travel costs involved in having a remote, fly-in community participate. "This tripartite partnership will greatly enhance the health and cost effectiveness of food distribution in our local and remote regions of Northwestern Ontario," said Lac Seul Chief Clifford Bull.

#### Anonymous donation to further Indigenous education at U of T

The University of Toronto has received an anonymous donation of \$5 million for the improvement of Indigenous education and research. The money is expected to contribute towards policy changes and a greater focus on literacy during its first year. It is also expected to aid new partnerships among Aboriginal communities, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to improve Indigenous education. Building on its work on literacy, the OISE Indigenous Education Initiative will also pursue research in related areas such as Indigenous languages and language revitalization, education governance and literacy infrastructure. The gift is the largest donation ever made to a Canadian faculty of education for Indigenous education research.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

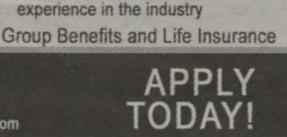
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**Compiled by Shari Narine** 

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## [footprints] Ovilu Tunnillie Sculptor broke through artistic/gender constraints

deemed Inuit stone carver Ovilu Tunnillie "avant garde" and "a woman to watch." In a maledominated industry, she pushed limits sculpting images that challenged southern buyers' sensibilities.

While traditional dancing Inuktitut." bears and hunters dressed in parkas turned gallery-goers' heads, Tunnillie took a gamble and worked from a more personal point of view, treating controversial subjects that others avoided - like alcoholism and domestic abuse. Quietly and successfully, she challenged tradition and brought a new kind of feminist expression to ignored northern realities.

It was around 1994 that she exudes loneliness' and separation. carved a sculpture of a reclining woman, one hand to her who survived to adulthood, forehead and the other covering her genitals, intending it to depict a woman who had just been raped. Gallery personnel organizing her show labelled it As the fur trade collapsed, James simply as "Nude", perhaps Houston, a young southern

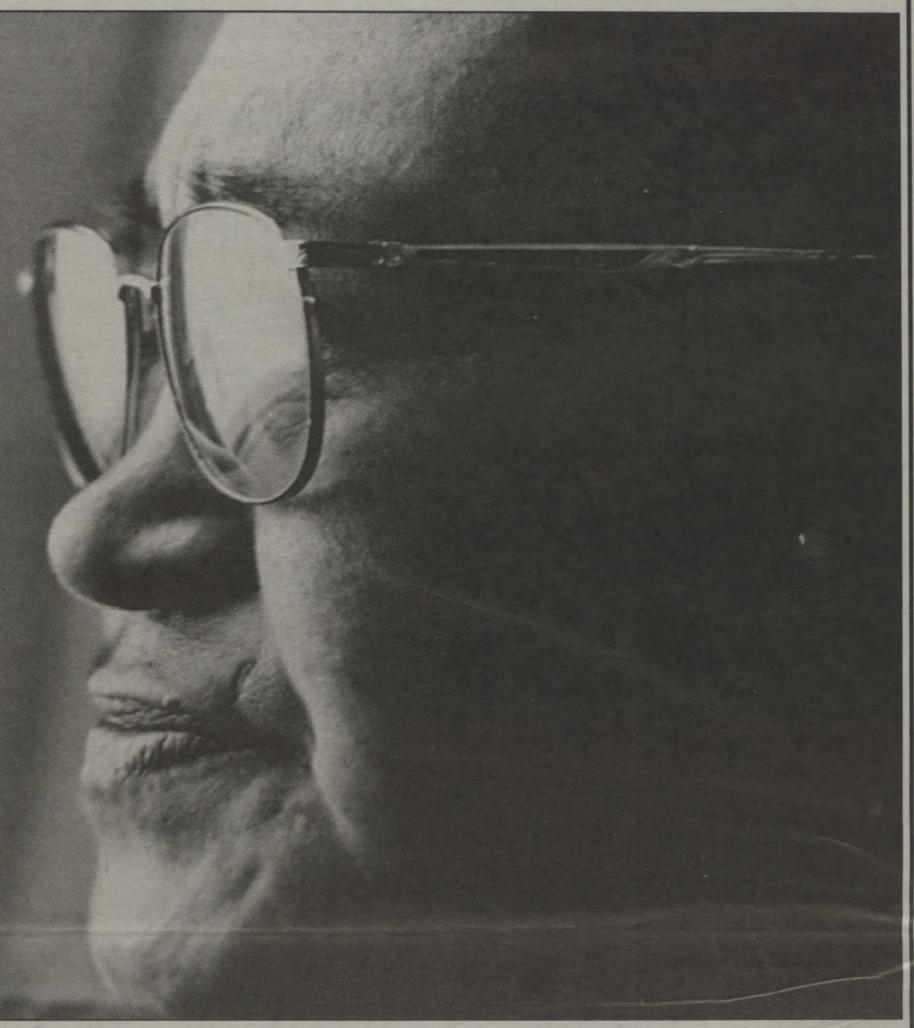
Early 1990s art magazines Gallery features Tunnillie's work, the artist reflected on the difficult re-entry she had to northern life.

"I had a hard time adjusting (to my parents' camp) because apparently I had adopted too much of the southern culture and I had lost some of my

The alienation that informs much of her work can be traced back to this experience, writes Kardosh. In a sculpture called "This Has Touched My Life" Tunnillie shows herself as a small girl, standing with three huge adult figures - a man wearing a suit and two women with big handbags, and hats with veils. Masterful in her ability to convey strong emotions, the sculpture

The oldest of three children Tunnillie was born in 1949 in Kangia, one of several small camps lining the south coast of Baffin Island near Cape Dorset. concerned about the impact her Canadian artist, helped establish

By Dianne Meili



original intention would have on a viable northern arts industry. viewers.

to the women up here," said her brother, Jutai Toonoo, also an artist. "She was a strong person and I think people looked up to her for doing what she did in art."

Toonoo recalled his older sister caring for him as a youngster, and that she often seemed sad. "Something happened when she was in the hospital for It affected her whole life."

removing children who had tuberculosis from their families "I was so happy to get things I to languish in southern hospitals wanted when I got paid" for had a profound effect on northerners, writes Robert until 1969, though, when she Kardosh in the Inuit Art married Iola Tunnillie that she Quarterly. In the absence of got serious. After the birth of her penicillin, the only cure was rest first child she began carving in various white sanatoria. At regularly, and the couple five, Tunnillie spent a year in a eventually moved to Cape Dorset Manitoba institution, and when to be close to the artist-run co-TB reappeared the following op. She eventually had six year, was heartbroken to be sent children and needed to support to a Brandon sanatorium for an her growing family with her art. additional two years.

conversation with Kardosh, doing. She thought women whose Vancouver Marion Scott should be just as able as the men.

Tunnillie's father, Toonoo "She made a huge contribution Toonoo, became a respected carver in the early 1960s and her mother, Sheojuk, participated in Cape Dorset's graphics program.

> "I watched my father carve," Tunnillie reports in a video on the Inuit Art Alive website. "My first carving was a woman with an amautik (large-hooded parka) but it didn't have any legs."

Only 17 and extremely shy at tuberculosis when she was little. the time of her first foray into art, Tunnillie was soon selling her The government's practice of sculptures to buy things like canvas material for sewing tents. them, she told Kardosh. It wasn't According to Jutai, his sister

In a 2008 telephone "basically did what the men were

Ovilu Tunnillie

I think she got that from my mother who raised a whole family by herself after our father died.

Up to this time, women rarely took up sculpture partly because, for ventilation purposes, it had to be done outdoors, even in winter. "Because of being female, I was meant to be indoors, so I had a hard time getting accustomed to doing my carvings outdoors, especially during the eight months when we have snow," she told Kardosh.

This initial decision to be a sculptor, alone, set her in a position to confront longstanding gender stereotypes and she continued to break through these constraints throughout her career.

Her star rose in the 1980s as she became one of the first Inuit

artists to create autobiographical works. Enjoying international success, she also became famous for rendering bold female nudes in stone, and her version of Sedna (the oft-depicted legendary Inuit sea goddess) had jutting breasts and unmistakable sensuality.

She made magnificent sculptures of a football player and a woman wearing high-heeled shoes - indicating southern influences - and didn't shy away from using new materials, sometimes expressing her ideas in quartz crystal and white marble. She rendered women in contemporary, long dresses and heavy boots, with one even brandishing a fat wallet in a playful gesture.

More often, though, the women she carved reflected her own personal history of grief and suffering and, in fact, many were meant to be Tunnillie, herself. Among the numerous carvings she sculpted over the years is an angry woman with fists on her hips, a tired woman resting her head on a pillow, and one who holds her hand to her forehead and her belly entitled "Surprise Pregnancy."

Over her career, Tunnillie was the solo artist - or was featured in – no less than 46 exhibitions and is considered to be the most accomplished female carver of her generation.

As she struggled with cancer, the artist became less productive, but continued to carve until she passed away on June 12 of this year. She is survived by her husband, three sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren.

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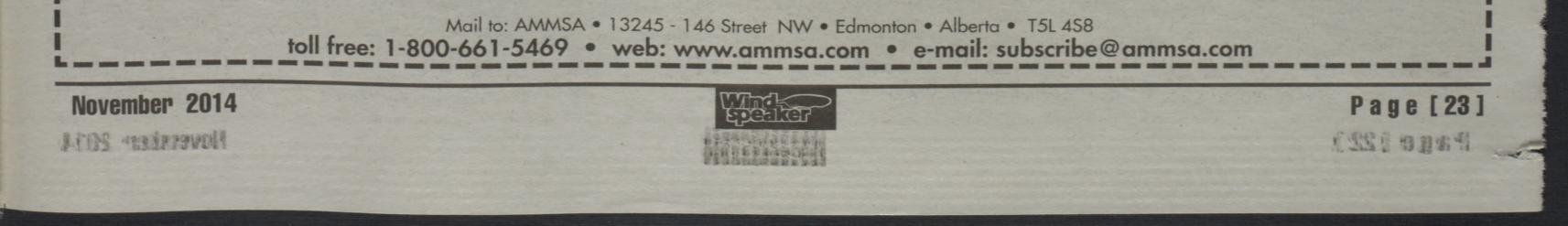
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