







CARLA WOODWARD

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Rob Johnston, Vice President, Diverse Markets, RBC Royal Bank®, is pleased to announce the appointment of Carla Woodward as the new National Manager of Aboriginal Banking. Carla succeeds Keith MacDonald who recently retired.

Carla is a Métis woman from Alberta. During her 14-year tenure with RBC Royal Bank she has held positions in business and commercial banking, human resources and risk management. These positions have taken her from Edmonton to Calgary and then in 2002 to Toronto where she will be located in her new position as National Manager of Aboriginal Banking.

While completing her MBA at the University of Alberta, Carla did project work for the Indian Association of Alberta, the Métis Association of Alberta and the First Nations Resource Council.

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Windspeaker **

September 2004

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for more

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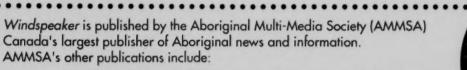
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Set an examplefollow the rules

It's a little ironic, and more than just a bit hypocritical, for the Northwest Territories vice-chief for the Assembly of First Nations to be pooh-poohing a thing like the AFN charter. (See *Windspeaker's* story on page 8 for details.) It is, after all, the rulebook for an organization that has kept Bill Erasmus and many of his colleagues gainfully employed and well fed for a great number of years.

Yes, the AFN charter is a quarter century old, and yes, it will probably be changed based on recommendations brought forward by the organization's renewal commission, but until that day comes the charter is not optional. And it's not something to be manipulated or ignored depending on its impediment to the agenda of the players

We remember a day in August 1994 when Chief Erasmus disrupted a public appearance by Queen Eliza-beth in Yellowknife to warn her that Canada was dragging her name through the mud with its treatment of Aboriginal peoples. He was taking advantage of a high profile public event to draw attention to what? To the often-repeated lament of First Nations' leaders that Canada doesn't follow its own set of rules-the Constitution, the treaties,

Fast forward a decade and hear Erasmus in Charlottetown decry getting caught up in the minute details of the AFN charter. Then hear him tell that small crowd of chiefs gathered there he is pushing the federal government to define-in detail-its obligations to First Nations in regards to the health provisions as set out in those troubling relics of history, the treaties. (See story page 12.) If this executive member of the AFN is to have credibility on any subject, surely he must see that consistency

Should Canada's 1982 Charter of Rights and Freedoms, an essential tool in the protection of Aboriginal rights, be set aside because it is a document that will soon reach the ripe old age of 25? If the ideals set out in that statement of Canadian values become a challenge to live up to for some of this country's citizens, should we just ignore it, give it up? What of those "ancient" agreements that we have asked the Supreme Court of Canada to use to define Aboriginal rights, like in Marshall on the East Coast, for example; are they of no use to the people of today to provide the guide for our modern behavior?

Now some of you reading this will say there is no comparison between the AFN charter and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms of Canada, there is no comparison between the AFN charter and the treaties or a royal proclamation. But there is. All of these documents find their roots in a promise, a promise that states that until these rules are replaced by others negotiated by all sides, they are the agreed upon code by which we will govern our conduct.

No, these codes of conduct are not always convenient or expedient for all people at all times. Just ask the Canadian Taxpayers Association. That group believes that the tax-exempt provision negotiated on our behalf by our ancestors, one that is still written down in Canadian law, should not apply in this world today. 'Scrap it, post haste.' Just ask the rump of the former Canadian Alliance Party that still exerts its influence over the new Conservative Party of Canada. That group would have us assimilated and our rights as first peoples under section 35 of the Canadian Constitution extinguished to put the "Indian problem" to rest. 'Ignore that section; it's become a detail in-

It would be unfair of us to allow the reader to believe that Vice-chief Erasmus is alone in his lackadaisical observance of the AFN charter. Erasmus was simply the one who opened his mouth and opened the door for this editorial. The simple truth of the matter is that all ideological and political sides within the organization are blamewor-

It may be a Canadian tradition that the élites in this country don't think they have to follow the rules, but it is not an Indian tradition. The AFN exists-and absorbs millions of dollars every year-because First Nations people have a different way of looking at the world. If First Nations leaders want to act like Canadian élites, they've

If Canada simply said 'Yeah, the rulebook states we have an obligation, but we're going to follow the AFN lead and just ignore inconvenient rules' Eramus and his cronies would howl. But if the AFN leaders think they can get away with that same kind of behavior, what makes them

-Windspeaker

Investment needed

Dear Editor:

I've always listened to people about the negative actions of their chiefs and councils, and I must say that these accusations are true, but our people must understand that they put these people in office, mostly by being bribed or given false promises. And these communities' heads seem to forget the people and the things they promised when they get the votes they wanted.

Our leaders must understand that they must make the best investments for our communities to help benefit our people, especially our youth who are our future voices. A lot are losing touch with their culture due to our chiefs and councils not investing in our culture or people to teach it.

Our communities are being taken by drug and alco-hol abuse and no one's doing nothing 'cause they're a part of it or aren't raising their voices to be heard.

I think chiefs and councils should invest in their people and communities, not their wallets and bank accounts. I hope to become a chief of my reserve, 'cause I care for my fellow Aboriginals and I hope people choose their leaders with good credibility.

Daniel Napesis Horse Lake First Nation, Alta.

There will be time to pay taxes later

Dear Editor:

Recently, I was informed that the Canada revenue agency would revise its existing law to change the Aboriginal education system in Canada. Aboriginal students are going to be paying some heavy taxes on their education endeavors.

The Liberal government plans to fully tax students based on their tuition, living allowance, books and other

supplies. It's bad enough the average Aboriginal student has to survive on Corn Flakes, Asian noodles and fried bologna. After these changes I would not be surprised if an Aboriginal student could even afford the bologna. Some students may not be able to afford rent simply because this government forces Aboriginals to resume a lifestyle that rolls in the slums. These taxed students will be forced to rely on inner-city food banks and soup kitchens.

In times like these many Aboriginal students must take a stand for their education as I did. They should contact their chiefs, grand chiefs, the national chief, members of Parliament and the minister of Indian Affairs.

These taxation reforms are unjust based on the fact that a majority of students will have lived away from the First Nation for the first time. It will take their entire education to adjust to urban life. Should they stay in the city like many of us afterwards, they will be working in full-time jobs and contributing taxes then.

This Liberal government must lend an ear to those who are seldom given a voice. Even the one voice behind these words will never rest. I will assure you that. Daniel I. Townshend

Sagamok First Nation

Editor's note: Canada Customs and Revenue Agency planned to bring in the new tax in 2005, but that has been pushed forward to 2006.

Future looks bright

Dear Editor:

It's interesting to note that anyone convicted of committing atrocities against Aboriginal women and children, such as former judge David Ramsay [see "Ramsay sentence disappoints Aboriginal leaders" July 2004 Windspeaker], get to serve out their sentences at minimum security facilities. Even though Mr. Ramsay once held the power of the judicial process in one hand and with the other hand he assaulted minor Aboriginal youth, he is privileged by the system and placed in the most elegant federal facility. In no time at all he will enjoy escorted temporary absences to attend church services and to go shopping. He will most likely be re- terests. vered by some of his peers and keepers and eventually he will be allowed to retire with his pension.

It's unfortunate that Mr. Ramsay's future looks brighter than the youth that he victimized and left traumatized. Moreover, it's disheartening for all Aboriginal people who are working to regain trust in the judicial process to see more examples like this.

Davey Maurice

[rants and raves] Elite need to know

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading the article "Grassroots network prepared to fight 'collaborators'" (August 2004 Windspeaker). You let Mr. Taiaiake Alfred know that there are many here in Saskatchewan that are prepared to join the movement

We do not have much use for our present so-called leaders of the First Nations people. They are more department of Indian Affairs' lackeys than leaders. You do not stand alone. You go ahead and print this letter. Let the elite know that Mr. Alfred is not alone.

> Victor Mispounas Beauval, Sask.

Pensions a sham

Dear Editor:

I whole-heartedly disagree with the exorbitant pensions and severance packages that our retired and defeated MPs receive. I agree with a letter writer to the Saskatoon Star Phoenix who asks how Jim Pankiw, Saskatchewan's most infamous federal parliamentarian, could receive a \$70,000 severance package (this on top of his healthy pension) for stirring division and pandering to society's most base prejudices?

We will reward Maurice Vellacott for the same thing for arguing that two disgraced Saskatoon police officers were somehow wrongly prosecuted for taking a young Aboriginal man outside of city limits to possibly freeze to death. We will also reward Rick Laliberte for spending more on travel than any other MP and for not fully taking on his parliamentary duties.

It's unconscionable that 50 retiring MPs could receive \$3.5 million annually in pensions or that the taxpayers will pay a further \$2.9 million in severance for 29 defeated MPs.

MPs' pensions surely don't mirror my reality or the Canadian reality. I worked for 17 years with the Smoke Jumpers, the most effective fire suppression team in Saskatchewan's history. I know that I did more useful work in one summer than all those MPs I mentioned earlier did in their entire parliamentary careers. This was my reality as a civil servant-no severance package and no pension. I am sure my story is quite common. I guess I should have been elected to Parliament. Frank Tomkins

Saskatoon, Sask.

Suicides to continue

Dear Editor:

For years now there has been a suicide epidemic devastating our northern communities. The last estimate of successful suicides is well over 200. I believe without proper support or resources, suicides will continue and this will be utterly shameful for Canadians as a whole

I believe this issue has everything to do with an underlying worldview and treatment of people who are different. It's my opinion First Nations in this country are dealing with the intergenerational impacts of residential schools, continued oppressive acts, such as racism and incarceration, and the present-day colonialism policy as propagated by anti-Aboriginal groups like the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, who insist our people have it easy.

This ties in to my next concern-the closing down of a nationally funded Aboriginal-operated youth treatment centre in this community. Is this wise to close the doors of this centre? I believe one issue of the centre's closure has to do with the "Not in my back yard approach" society is known for in dealing with marginalized and oppressed people.

The last issue has to do with our land. As Canada's first people, why does our First Nation-operated agencies and organizations have to purchase land for use and pay taxes on land we already own? In addition, some of our sacred ancestral lands and lodges had to be moved or dismantled to accommodate society in-

In closing, if we're talking about nation building and developing trust with Aboriginal people, first assist in building our youth treatment centre. Secondly, share the land with the original inhabitants of Canada. Third, provide our northern First Nations with resources to deal with the serious socio-economic situation.

> John Fox, Thunder Bay, Ont.



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Assembly of Vice-chiefs? HOOKY PLAYING CHIEFS DISRUPT ANNUAL MEETING

By Paul Barnsley Windspeaker Staff Writer

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

The Assembly of First Nations' habit of not playing by its own rules has caused trouble again, this time in Charlottetown at its annual general meeting held July 19 to 22.

Only two of the more than 60 resolutions filed by chiefs concerned with a variety of pressing matters were dealt with over the course of four days. A golf tournament was fit into the schedule, however, as was a banquet and dance in honor of New Brunswick and P.E.I. Vice-chief Len Tomah

Of the resolutions dealt with, one concerned child and family services matters. The other approved a proposed "framework for advancing the recognition and implementation of First Nations governments.

The second resolution was of central importance to National Chief Phil Fontaine's plan to work jointly with Indian and Northern Affairs on policy issues.

The other resolutions did not get debated because, late in the afternoon of Day 2, the question of quorum was raised. Once the voting delegates present were counted, it was clear that a significant number of chiefs or their proxies had gone AWOL. Since the body could not function without a quorum, despite the fact that as much as half-a-million dollars was expended to hold the meeting, the resolutions were referred to the national executive for action, a decision that caused some sparks.

It has become accepted practice that resolutions are referred to the

"If people want to come here and try to control the meeting, where are we as nations? We want to work with you, but if we're going to keep getting caught up in the minute little details of a charter that was designed 25 years ago, I don't know."

> -N.W.T. Vice-chief **Bill Erasmus**



"This is our time and we have to take advantage of it. We have to move with new speed, with faster speed."

> -National Chief **Phil Fontaine**



Dave General

He urged that the special assembly be called to "focus on the work of the renewal commission." The renewal commission is working on recommendations that will allow the AFN to end the procedural squabbles that have plagued the organization over the last few years.

As the assembly began, Fontaine and other speakers stressed that lumbia, said that suggestion left AFN infighting had to stop. One reason, according to highly placed government sources, is that the organization received \$2 million for its renewal process with the expectation that it would transform the AFN into a group that could make and keep promises in dealings with the government.

In his opening address, Fontaine appealed to all factions within the assembly, saying the of British Columbia Indian AFN could accommodate all the regional differences and need not have one overarching position. He suggested solutions could be vice-chiefs of Canada," he said. worked out that allowed "not a

(Time is now page 12.)

By Paul Barnsley

Windspeaker Staff Writer

A proxy from British Columbia squared off with the national chief on July 21 over the role being played by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) in the compensation process for survivors of Indian residential schools.

promise from Phil Fontaine to seek a "full and open apology from the prime minister" for Canada's residential school system and the abuses suffered by Aboriginal people who experienced it.

It all began after Fontaine presented a detailed report on residential school issues to the chiefs in assembly at the AFN's annual general meeting held in Charlottetown. After Fontaine's report, David Dennis, carrying the proxy for a Vancouver Island Nuu-chah-nulth Nation chief, got the floor. Dennis, well known in B.C. as an activist member of the Native Youth Movement, said the survivors are demanding to play a much bigger role.

"I'm not sure where you got direction to look into the [alternative dispute resolution] ADR," he told Fontaine. Dennis said the Nuu-chah-nulth survivors met in a longhouse and threw the ADR da's true regret for its actions.

Youth council to help next generation

By Paul Barnsley Windspeaker Staff Writer

CHARLOTTETOWN

A program developed by members of the Assembly of First Nations' youth council is designed to help young Aboriginal people deal head on with the damages of the past.

It's called CEPS-Cultural, Economic, Political and Socialand it's intended to create a healthier next generation. Wesley Hardisty, 23, explained

the program to Windspeaker during an interview at the AFN's annual general meeting in Charlottetown in July. He had just been elected co-chair of the council three days before. Ginger Gosnell from British Columbia is

"We as a youth council have there for our other youth that are tion." undertaken certain initiatives to going to follow in our footsteps," make sure that youth will be Hardisty said. "They're not going raised on the truth and won't have to look at our leaders and say, taught through colonization and does that.' They're going to look said

CEPS is an "issue training that he's like that. There's all these Canada, he said.

Hold chiefs to account

the charter rules on voting. Kelly

said the charter allowed only a

limited number of chiefs from

each region to vote at confederacy

meetings. Many chiefs, led by Six

Nations Chief Roberta Jamieson,

arguing the charter had been ig-

fought back against that motion in Saskatoon.

11-member executive body for

during the assembly.

proval if they are not dealt with

Dave General, a councillor with

Six Nations of the Grand River

(Ontario) and proxy for Chief

Barbara Allison of the Lower

Similkameen First Nation (British

Many Assembly of First Nations meetings end with not enough chiefs present to attain quorum. When it happened in Charlottetown, several chiefs felt the need to chastise their colleagues. Sowalie Chief Doug Kelly, also a member of the First Nations Summit executive task force, suggested that having a quorum is not the only way to do business.

He said the Summit gets around that problem by letting those delegates who stay to the end make the decisions. If you Chief Doug Kelly want to have a say, you better plan on being there for the whole meeting, he said.

He blasted his fellow chiefs for their casual approach, saying a good first step for a more business-like approach would be for meetings to "start on time and end on time." The chiefs need to be held more accountable for their actions at expensive out of town meetings, he added.



this assembly to all the people. That'll make some of us behave, if they can watch us," he said.

He also called for "a national executive that has been elected by the people," instead of the present situation where chiefs in a region appoint or elect their vice-chief. Mnjikaning First Nation Chief per week and they either had to Sharon Stinson Henry asked the leave on that flight or pay for an-

a report on attendance.

eral meetings.

We have to all be accountable to our communities when we get back," she said. "We spend a lot of money to be here.'

In response to that argument, all

the chiefs were allowed to vote at

the Ottawa confederacy, but were

put on notice that the charter

would rule at the next confederacy

When General argued in

Chief Harold Sault of the Northern Ontario Red Rock First Nation suggested that some regions intentionally register a lot of delegates and then make the strategic decision to stay away from the meeting if they don't agree with the way things are going. He alleged that the threshold for a quorum can be artificially raised and the meet-"Open up the membership of ing hi-jacked by any group that employs that tactic.

"We all know that some regions register lots of delegates and then don't show," he said. "It's a trick that's been used for years."

But others said chiefs from remote communities were in a difficult position because there might Later, Chippewas of only be one flight to their region executive to compile and send out other entire week on the road.

Windspeaker **

the unresolved resolutions to the executive committee, meeting co-chair Luc Laine ruled against him and the AFN charter saying that it was the accepted practice to do so. No announcement was made as to whether ignoring the charter for that decision would be a this-time-only action.

The fight revealed once again the deep divide within the assembly

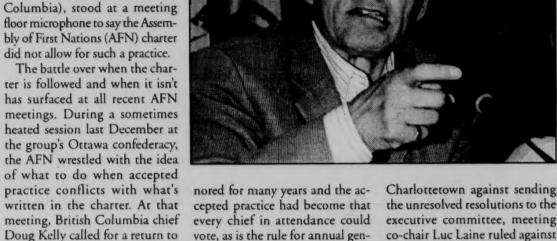
General, loyal to the chiefs who oppose Fontaine, was trying to keep the decision-making power with the chiefs in assembly and away from the executive members who, for the most part, are loyal to the national chief.

Jamieson, who finished second to Fontaine in last summer's election, called for a special assembly to deal with the resolutions. Chief Kelly, recently elected to the threemember First Nations Summit executive task force in British Cohim "extremely frustrated." "We're talking about calling a

special assembly because we can't get people to show up and do their job," he told the chiefs. "I have faith in my [B.C. representative on the AFN executive] to represent the interests of B.C. That's why we put him there."

Chief Stewart Phillip, a B.C. chief who belongs to the Union Chiefs and not the Summit, disagreed.

"This is not the assembly of "This is the assembly of chiefs single goal but many goals." of Canada."



Young activist speaks for survivors

CHARLOTTETOWN

The debate resulted in a public

applications into the fire as a sign of their displeasure with the treatment they were receiving at the government's hands.

Dennis told Fontaine he had been directed to say that "any objections to the ADR should be developed in conjunction with survivors" and that survivors insisted on "overseeing the process." He said the survivors also were

dissatisfied with the so-called apology issued by the government of Canada in 1998. At that time, then minister of Indian Affairs Jane Stewart handed down a statement of regret for physical and sexual abuse experienced in the schools. The statement sought to limit the government's legal liability to just the physical and sexual abuse some students suffered in the schools, but others are suing for the loss of language and culture. Canada has so far refused to consider such claims, but if a national class action lawsuit is certified by an Ontario judge in the coming months the government will be forced to defend

Dennis told Fontaine the survivors want the same apology the Japanese Canadian internees received from then-prime minister Brian Mulroney. Dennis also talked about a national monument to residential school survivors as a lasting symbol of Cana-

"I think it's going to be revolu-

ing and our kids are really going

As a way of trying out the pro-

gram, 20 young people will travel

to four cities in various locations

across the country and attend

workshops. Each of the four is-

sue areas will be dealt with sepa-

rately. The workshops will look

at issues from a national prospec-

tive and then the program will be

tailored to meet the specific needs

out on a regional basis, he said.

It's expected a report on the ef-

"The manual is phenomenal.

just all agreed. I'm so glad this is

that he's being. It's not his fault

fectiveness of the process will be

completed by the end of Febru-

to be able to bond to it."

tionary. We've already put out our

Fontaine justified AFN's involvement in the residential school issue, saying that when he and his executive and staff see something that is clearly wrong, they feel they are obliged to act.

Fontaine said that "only four" Aboriginal people have been hired to adjudicate ADR cases and that the Office of Indian **Residential School Resolution** Canada (OIRSRC) "should hire more."

Windspeaker has learned that OIRSRC will spend more than \$5 million hiring adjudicators to work in the ADR process. Adjudicators hearing cases involving sexual or physical abuse that resulted in lasting injuries will be paid \$1,000 a day. Adjudicators who hear cases involving physical abuse that resulted in no lasting injuries, or cases involving allegations of wrongful confinement, will be paid \$600 a day. The request for applications to fill adjudicators positions closed on Aug. 17.

When new Indian Affairs Minister Andy Scott was in the audience at the AFN meeting on July 22, Dennis raised the subject of the ADR again.

Fontaine quickly moved to the microphone at the head table to respond



David Dennis

opportunity and I will do as requested. We will pursue a full and open apology from the prime ninister if that is your wish."

In his report to the chiefs in assembly, Fontaine said the "snail's pace" of the compensation process has meant that about 22,500 survivors have died without receiving justice for their pain and suffering.

"When this issue first became public 14 years ago there were 110,000 survivors. Today, there are 87,500 and many are in poor health and elderly," he said.

Fontaine said there have been 1,244 claims settled across the country for a total of \$71 million. "I'm prepared to apologize to But the government has spent your group," he told Dennis. "I'm \$200 million fighting against the prepared to go there at the first claims in court so far. He pointed

N.W.T. resident attended the ex-

ecutive meeting on July 19.

Hardisty found it quite interest-

"I was really there more to lis-

ten and kind of figure what their

sides are on certain issues. You can

always figure out who's pushing

what issue and who's pushing an-

other issue. I was listening in to

figure out how the work is going

on at the executive table of the

highest national level for Indig-

enous peoples in Canada. It was

pretty interesting to see and lis-

talk about and how they present

was what he expected it would be.

high expectations. I knew that

they all make lots of money.

They get to travel all across the

country and a lot of people

get the meeting started and lis-

when they were brought for-

wasn't going to take a lot of

time. They went over making

possible a lot. So it really made

hard behind the scenes to make

possible," he replied.

"It was. I didn't have really

things."

out that OIRSRC has a \$1.7 bil lion budget but only \$950 million-less than half-has been set aside to pay out settled claims. OIRSRC has budgeted \$740 million for operations and \$335 million for the ADR process set up for out-of-court settlements.

Fontaine also told the chiefs that OIRSRC had originally budgeted \$280 million to pay lawyers who defend the government in disputed claims.

"And they've already spent \$200 million to settle 1,200 cases," he said. "The litigation costs are already considerably higher than what they estimated.

The 1,200 cases represent only 10 per cent of the total number of anticipated residential school claims. That number could balloon if a court rules that survivors can seek compensation for loss of language and culture.

The national chief compared the situation in Canada, where people working for church-operated residential schools sexually and physically assaulted large numbers of Native people, with that of Ireland where similar events occurred in church-run boarding schools. Ireland is compensating a much smaller number of victims with a much larger sum of money, Fontaine said.

Ireland has set aside \$1 billion to compensate 8,000 people. Canada has set aside \$1.7 billion for 90,000 people, he said. Ireland's number is five times higher.

OIRSRC has accepted the AFN's offer to write a report on what's wrong with the alternative dispute resolution process currently in place. The national chief said the report will aim to "fix a very flawed process" and will be presented to the government in September.

Survivors complain that the 50page application form just to apply for entry to the ADR process is intimidating and exclusionary. They also complain that compensation amounts are too low and the process takes too long.

Fontaine noted that in a similar situation, where Canada comten to exactly what they want to pensated Japanese Canadians who were placed in internment camps during the Second World War, He was asked if the meeting the application form was one page long and 23,000 cases were set tled in one year.

> "But there are 300 lawyers working for the government fighting our claims," he said.

The national chief also took a

"We know there are lawyers out ten to the national chief's direc- there that have far too many clition that he wanted this assem- ents," he said. "You have to wonbly to go and which issue he der how some of them can possithought was going to be big bly serve all their clients."

He also said the AFN had alward and what was going to most convinced the former fedtake a lot of time and what eral government to continue funding the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, an organization that the meeting run as smoothly as received (and spent) for healing projects \$350 million at the time me feel that they are working of Stewart's statement of regret.

"We were close to convincing sure that this goes on as well as them and now we'll have to start all over again with the new cabi-(see Behind the scenes page 13.) net," he said.

draft curriculum and all on the youth council have seen it and they've all agreed that it's amaz-

of each region and will be rolled ary.



Wesley Hardisty

with all those contributing factors to make sure that our kids tomorrow won't have to worry about it."

The idea is to arm the next generation with the information they'll need to combat the stereotypes and ignorance directed all the other co-chair. The youth After it was all said and done we too often at Aboriginal people. In council has a male and female sat down and we looked at it. It some cases, the youth themselves don't. But it was pretty neat to shot at some of the lawyers who member for each of the AFN's 10 was just like-wow! Then to have will need to revisit false or erro- actually sit down with them and represent survivors. regions. There are currently five our peers comment on the draft neous attitudes they may have vacancies on what should be a 20- and see the direction and why absorbed about their own people member council. They meet we're going this way, to see what and themselves. It will allow twice a year, in December and we wanted to accomplish, they young people to get rid of what experts call "internal coloniza-

Hardisty may be young, but he's already experienced one thing only very few people in this counto deal with the lies they've been 'Oh, he drinks. He does this. He try can say they've experienced; he knows what goes on behind the residential schools and all at it and say, 'I understand. I can't the closed doors that shield an those kinds of issues," Hardisty hold him responsible for the way Assembly of First Nations executive meeting from public view.

As the newly elected co-chair model" funded by Health other contributing factors and of the recently revived AFN this is how we are going to deal youth council, the Fort Simpson,

Page[9]

Lisa Meeches | Ted Nolan

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[news] Mitchell gone, Scott on scene

By Paul Barnsley Windspeaker Staff Writer

FREDERICTON

Another Andy is setting up shop in the Indian Affairs minister's office.

When Prime Minister Paul Martin revealed his new cabinet on July 20,

Andy Mitchell was shuffled out of Indian Affairs to become the new minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, leaving Andy Scott to become the Indian Affairs minister.

Scott, the former Chretien-era solicitor gen- Andy Scott eral who re-

signed from Cabinet in 1998 after he was overheard discussing sensitive material on a commercial flight, was also named the federal interlocutor for Métis and non-status Indians. The two jobs have never been held by one person at the same time before. And since an Inuit secretariat is also being established within the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Scott is the first person with responsibility for all three constitutionally recognized Aboriginal peoples.

Ethel Blondin-Andrew, minister of state for northern development, and Susan Barnes, appointed parliamentary secretary to the minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and federal interlocutor for Métis and non-Status Indians, are the two other cabinet members who will play direct roles in Aboriginal is-

Barnes, MP for London West (Ontario), in 2003 was named parliamentary secretary to the minister of Justice with special emphasis on judicial transparency and Aboriginal justice. She is also a former chair of the standing committee on Aboriginal affairs and northern development.

Anne McLellan, the deputy prime minister and minister of Public Safety and Emergency nadian who wants to make a dif Preparedness, will take over responsibility for the Office of Residential School Resolution Canada.

The new Indian Affairs minister called Windspeaker on Aug. 12. cated and I'm looking forward to He was in his home riding in the challenge." Fredericton. Scott seems to favor an informal approach with the media. His communications staff, sounding somewhat uneasy about it, informed us he would make the call himself without the benefit of watchful functionaries.

"It's the nature of these organizations to protect their ministers, he said, chuckling as he discussed the ground rules for the interview. "Look, I'll do as much as I can. It would be pretentious, I think, for me to pretend that in three weeks I've got anything figured out. I do look forward to the opportunity. I do believe that the prime minister is seriously committed to

advancing the file here. And certainly, when asking me to do this, he expressed that. Every indication is that this is something that he believes is a priority to the country.

As the minister responsible for infrastructure and housing, Scott attended the April 19 Aboriginal roundtable

hosted by the prime minister. He came away from that meeting thinking there was a chance to make some progress.

"I believed at the time, and came home and told my wife, I think it was really quite historic, an opportunity to advance on a number of fronts files that are very difficult to move. I guess l was challenged to put my money where my mouth was," he said.

He didn't know at that time that he would soon be right in the middle of the process. He was asked if he sought out the top Indian Affairs job.

"The quick answer is no. Did I request this? I did not. But neither did I request anything. Am I happy to have this position? Very much so. I'm a sociologist by education. I've spent most of my life since graduating from university as a sort of social activist on disability and literacy and related subjects like regional economic development.

"I've spent some time as solicitor general and unfortunately when you're solicitor general you're faced with the terrible reality that our correctional system is home to far too many Aboriginal Canadians. I'm quite driven to take advantage of this opportunity," he said. "If you're a Caference, this is the department where you can have the largest impact, I think, in government because I think that the needs are great, the issues are very compli-

Every minister receives written instructions from the prime minister when he or she is appointed. The "mandate letter" is confidential but Windspeaker asked Scott what he could tell us about it. (see Roundtable page 28.)



Windspeaker =

[news] Aboriginal leaders get seat "near the table"

By Paul Barnsley Windspeaker Staff Writer

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE,

Three national Aboriginal leaders were invited to the provincial premiers' preparatory session on health issues on July 28. Two others were not

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Phil Fontaine, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) President Jose Kusugak and the Métis National Council (MNC) President Clement Chartier were invited. Native Women's Association of Canada President Terry Brown and Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) national chief Dwight Dorey were not. Dorey attended anyway.

Each of the Aboriginal leaders in attendance was asked for input and then briefed by the premiers on what they plan to propose to Prime Minister Paul Martin when the first ministers meet in Ottawa from Sept. 13 to 15. The hope is that the leaders will be able to bash out a new federal/ provincial arrangement for health funding.

Dorey was asked if he got an answer about why he was not invited.

"It's the same old games. AFN stuff," he said, adding that he was longer will we in Ottawa develop told that the chiefs' organization policies first and discuss them

(Continued from page 8.) Phil Fontaine told the chiefs

the government was prepared to

look at proposals that it had re-

fused to consider in the past, that

opportunities for First Nations

"This is our time," he said,

"and we have to take advantage

of it. We have to move with new

Both sides blame the other for

the gridlock that currently paraly-

ses the AFN. The opposition complained the meeting agenda

was designed to take the chiefs

out of the process. They said the

word on what will and will not

be on the agenda—were designed

to use up time and allow the ex-

ecutive to keep from addressing

matters the chiefs in assembly saw

Fontaine's supporters say those

who supported Jamieson in her

unsuccessful bid for the national

chief's job last year are interfer-

seeking to hi-jack the agenda for

Earlier that day, Jamieson had

day," she said, "with presentation know.

complained on the floor about

their own political purposes.

how Day 1 had played out.

as priorities

various reports to the assembly ions.

speed, with faster speed."

needed to be seized.

Time is now, says chief

scheduled by the national execu- Later, N.W.T. Vice-chief Bill

tive members-who get the last Erasmus, a longtime Fontaine

ing with Fontaine's mandate, and try to control the meeting,

"Yesterday was a very long designed 25 years ago, I don't

resents the people CAP purports collaboration will be the cornerto represent-off reserve and non-status Indians.

"I got wind that [the other Aboriginal organizations] were at the premiers' meeting so I informed them I was coming and expected to get equal treatment," he said.

"I was taken aback when I learned through the media that AFN, ITK and MNC had gone on their own, excluding myself and NWAC," he said. "Now I'm hearing that, in relation to the upcoming meeting of the first ministers on health, that AFN in particular is trying to scuttle the participation of CAP again."

As of Windspeaker's publication deadline on Sept. 1, AFN officials had not received a formal invitation to participate in the first ministers' health meeting, despite a promise from the prime minister that first peoples would have a full seat at the table on issues of concern to them.

If the Aboriginal organizations are not invited to the meeting, Martin will have some explaining to do.

"From our vantage point, we will ensure a full seat at the table-as we have ensured todayto all Aboriginal communities and leaders," Martin said in his opening speech at the Aboriginal roundtable on April 19. "No

after presentation after presenta-

tion. I would ask that the chair

have some input."

sentiments.

adjust things so that the chiefs can

Chippewas of Nawash Chief

"I am in favor of direct contact

"The executive is extremely

sensitive about the views, wishes

and opinions of the chiefs in as-

sembly," he said. "We've accepted

your guidance. There is nothing

that we want to do that will go

against your wishes and opin-

loyalist, launched a spirited de-

"If you want to criticize, step into this man's shoes," he said.

"This man works and works and

works-day and night. I can't

He chastised the opposition for

"If people want to come here

trying to disrupt the proceedings.

where are we as nations?" he

asked. "We want to work with

you but if we're going to keep

getting caught up in the minute

little details of a charter that was

fence of the national chief.

keep up to him."

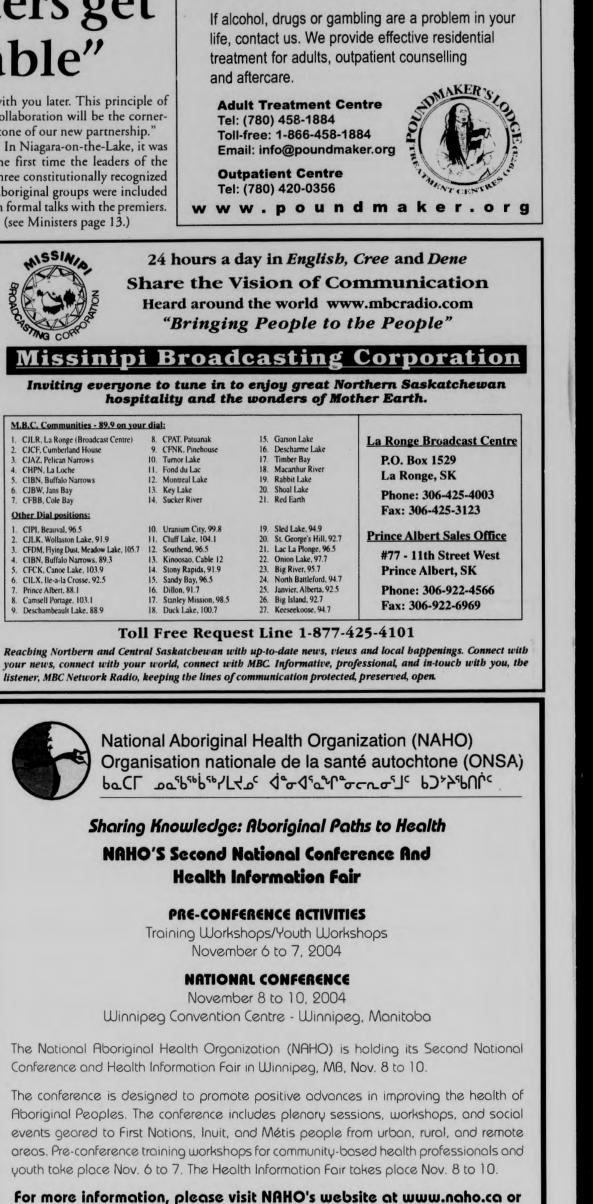
Ralph Akiwenzie echoed those

with the floor," he stated.

Fontaine responded.

is telling the premiers that it rep- with you later. This principle of stone of our new partnership."

> In Niagara-on-the-Lake, it was the first time the leaders of the three constitutionally recognized Aboriginal groups were included in formal talks with the premiers. (see Ministers page 13.)



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. Windspeaker .



Page [12]

September 2004

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(i.e., all oil and gas producing First Nations). In addition, Council Members, First Nations Dil and Gas/Economic Development Officers, as well as members of industry who are involved with Aboriginal oil and gas businesses are welcome to

Behind the scenes at the AFN

(Continued from page 9.)

"They're concerned that some people have agendas that aren't going to be working for everyone else at this conference, that they're pushing their own personal agenda on this assembly. And that's not right. Everyone has to have a chance to say what they want to say but in a respectful way. That's what they're trying to ensure, that no one gets disrespected," Wesley Hardisty

Getting behind the closed doors is fine, he said, but if he sees something he thinks is wrong, he won't remain silent.

"My loyalty is to the youth. The youth develop what I have to say. I'm not pushing my agenda on anybody. It's what the youth council has to say that I'll have to say.

can't just sit there and take it. ern community and our issues Tony Delaney, Alberta.

You're going to have to tell them are a lot different than, say, sion that the youth council has to make," he said.

After working on a bachelor of the first year of an engineering degree, he became interested in geographic information systems (GIS) and now works in that field for his home community.

"I [also] work with troubled youth in high risk so I really feel a strong connection to the issues. I see it on an everyday basis in my home community, what's wrong with our youth today and things that have worked and things that haven't worked when dealing with these issues. I also do a lot of work on a volunteer basis, so I really try to live it as much as I can so I know what And if I tell them, this is what I'm talking about," he said. "Also, I saw and they say, 'Well, you I know I'm from a small north-

that you're going to start expos- someone from Saskatoon or ing these things.' That's a deci- Regina, and I recognize that but I'm willing to work with them to try to find a middle ground on what would work best bescience degree and completing tween us. As much as they hate it, we're not going to be able to provide specific youth initiatives just for rural kids and urban kids, you know, something that's going to fix everything.

The other members of the AFN youth council are Tiffany Dionne Kloncl'aa Smith and Mark Rudyk. Yukon; Stephanie Paul and Andy Rickard, Ontario; Kathleen J. McKay and Albert Cater, Manitoba; Winona Polson, Jean-Claude Therrien, Quebec and Labrador; Patricia Duncan, Northwest Territories; Terry Young, New Brunswick and P.E.I.; Jaime Battiste, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland; Terin Kennedy, Saskatchewan; and

Ministers to meet on health

(Continued from page 12.)

In the past, Aboriginal leaders-most notably former national chief Ovide Mercredi in the early 1990s-have protested their exclusion from such meetings outside the doors that were closed to them. AFN political staffers are claiming that Phil Fontaine has broken new ground in convincing the premiers that he and the other Aboriginal leaders should be at the table. Fontaine and his executive members have met with and lobbied just about every provincial premier over the last several months. Two premiers, P.E.I.'s Pat Binns N.W.T.'s loe Handley, attended the AFN's annual general meeting in Charlottetown in mid-July.

"This is a major, major victory for Phil Fontaine," said one AFN official. But Dwight Dorey said the plan is to have Aboriginal leaders meet with first ministers the day before the health meeting, thereby excluding them again from the main stage.

"It can only be seen as "a seat near the table," one technician admitted.

nouncements coming in a month but I'm not convinced that money or two about major changes to is spent in the best way." Canada's health system. A meeting at the official level has been scheduled for January 2005 in Yellowknife that could lead to changes for First Nation and Inuit health care provision. Northwest Territories Vice-chief Bill Erasmus reported to the chiefs in Charlottetown on July 20 that he and other AFN officials will sit down with repre-First Nation and Inuit Health Branch to, essentially, take a look at reconstructing the entire process from scratch.

"The federal government has agreed to sit down and do a financial analysis of the First Nation and Inuit Health Branch. I'm convinced the money can be spent in a better way. The system is flawed but we're not the ones and Aboriginal rights as they perchiefs.

Erasmus said the AFN sits on First Nations and the federal 38 health-related committees.

way to deal with the funding," he added. "And there's huge money involved in pharmaceuticals and Still, there may be political an- transportation and other areas, allow progress in other areas.

It may well be that an increase in spending is not required if the system is made more efficient, he said

"I'm not convinced we need more money," he said. "I think we have to analyze how services are being provided, then we can identify any possible shortfalls.'

He said the envelope system used by Health Canada-where sentatives of Health Canada's each region gets a set amount of money each year to provide health care-is not working.

"It's not based on need. It doesn't work. It just doesn't make sense. It's almost like it was designed to fail," he said.

Saying health care is the AFN executive's first priority, Erasmus added that he sees it as very important that the extent of treaty who designed it," he told the tain to health care be defined in detail.

government disagree on the gov-"It's not the most productive ernment's obligation to provide health care to First Nation people. Erasmus said coming to a final agreement on that item would

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By Carl Carter Windspeaker Staff Write

On Aug. 14, Kathy King dedicated a garden to the memory of murdered women, those whose remains were found on Robert Pickton's pig farm in Port Coquitlam, B.C. and those whose lifeless bodies were callously dispatched to the fields and ditches surrounding Edmonton, Kathy's daughter among them. Cara King was found dead in a canola field in September 1997. Kathy wears Cara's picture on a pin fastened to her dress.

Tulips and irises and wild roses will grow in the memorial garden located behind Alex Taylor School. The garden will be a reminder of the tragedies that, in King's words, "cast a shadow over our society."

Along with the dedication came a proclamation from city hall that Aug. 14 was as a day of mourning in the city. King told the group gathered, many whose loved ones were lost to similar violence, that the garden was "a welcome step in restoring a dignity that was often denied in [the women's] lives and even in their deaths." "They were our daughters, our

sisters, our nieces, our cousins, our friends and, for some, even our mothers. They were part of a world many of us do not understand, a world where we could not follow." Many of the victims were drug

addicted or working as prostitutes, vulnerable on the streets of big cit-

Kate Quinn, executive director of the Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton, said the group had gathered to mourn every year for the past five years. This year they wanted to do something special.

Quinn hopes that the family and friends of the murdered women will be able to find solace at the garden and that other cities will join



Aboriginal Banking, Regional Manager Human Resources, Consultant

September 2004

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September 2004

[news] Dignity blooms in murder's shadow

EDMONTON



Kathy King

them by planting their own memorial garden or having their own day of mourning

"We hope that it provides [family members] with two kinds of comfort. One, the comfort of

Kathy Hamelin is comforted by a friend. knowing that the larger commu- for them." they are not alone," said Quinn.

Kathy Hamelin wasn't expecting the day to be so emotional. She lost two people to murder: both woming numerous counts of murder in

"I'll walk away feeling a little fer that guidance and support.

better and knowing that there are people who actually do care enough to try and do something about what's going on with the women, these young women, all the women who were victims. I don't know too many that haven't been touched in the Aboriginal community," said Hamelin. "There's been too many. We've lost way, way too many. Way too many for too long."

Elder Rose Martial blessed the garden. "It's very emotional because know that it includes our women, our girls. And very, very emotional because a lot of our girls are taking the wrong path and we need to make them understand that it's not part of our culture to be on the street, to live that dangerous, risky lifestyle, and as an Elder I am very concerned. We would like to help in any way that they may want. ance from the Elders."

Martial said she would like to see a group of Elders organized to of-

nity of Edmonton cares and that "Often they feel so alone and so stigmatized by the rest of society en's remains were found on They just have to ask and seek guidand we want to uphold the dignity Pickton's pig farm. Pickton is facknowing there is a beautiful place of each person who has been lost and that their daughters are not and the dignity of the family mem- a Vancouver court. forgotten. And also the comfort of bers and friends who are grieving

More money may mean more answers

By Carl Carter Windspeaker Staff Writer

FORT NELSON, B.C.

Chief and council of the Fort Nelson First Nation are offering \$100,000 for information that leads to a conviction in the 1997 murder of Loretta Capot-Blanc.

The decision to increase the reward (it was originally set at \$10,000, then \$20,000) comes after a visit from Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) president Kukdookaa Terri Brown. She stopped in Fort Nelson in July to talk about the the Sisters in Spirit campaign, a movement designed to bring attention to the Aboriginal women who have been murdered or have gone missing over the last two decades in Canada.

Brown met with Capot-Blanc's family and said it was time leader- a lot of affection towards her fam-

ship started getting more involved. We're getting more and more interest from chiefs, chiefs across the country, and it's important that they do speak out. They are very critical to creating safety for Aboriginal women," said Brown. "It does haunt you as a leader to know that women are disappearing and women are dying and there's very little we can do. And we've created a lot of awareness on this issue."

Roberta Dendys, who was Capot-Blanc's cousin, said that by offering the reward the family is hoping to get some closure on a violent episode that has haunted it for the past seven years. Capot-Blanc went missing during Treaty Day celebrations Aug. 11, 1997. Her remains were found on Sept. 1 of that year, her death ruled a homicide

"She was very loving, she showed

ily and she always had a smile on her face," said Dendys. "She was just a person that never did any harm to anybody and that's what makes it so strange. Why would somebody hurt somebody like this?

Chief Liz Logan said that by raising the reward they could entice somebody who has some information about the death. The band also wants to put to rest one of many mysteries. This is the fifth person from the reserve of 420 people whose murder has gone unsolved.

to bring the closure for the family. we have to do," said Logan, who assured Windspeaker she hadn't heard any complaints about band funds being used this way. "Hopefully this will bring some closure, get something done.

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Anyone with information on the murder can contact the Fort Nelson RCMP at (250) 774-2777, or the Crimestoppers Tip Line at (250) 774-TIPS.

NWAC estimates that about 500 women have been murdered or gone missing over the last 20 years.

Brown said that it's "an outstanding issue, it's an historical issue, as well as a very current issue, where women's lives are in danger.

"I don't know if a week goes by when we don't hear of someone who's gone missing," said Brown. "It's over seven years and we want "It's very concerning because the safety of all women are at risk, par-I could not imagine being in that ticularly Aboriginal, and in particusituation. So, we have to do what lar young women. Of course we want to save lives, as well as create safety for all as it is a human right to have safety and have dignity and be able to move about freely in this country, which we have not en-

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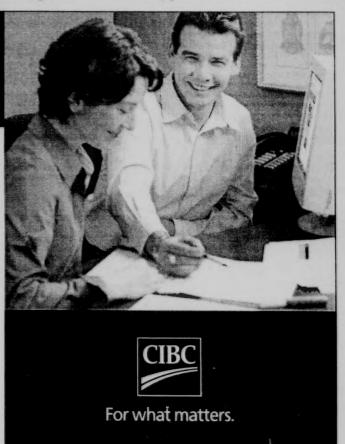
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FIRST NATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Sharing the lessons learned by other communities for the betterment of all First Nations

First Nations planning for the worst

By Cheryl Petten Windspeaker Staff Writer

VANCOUVER

Emergency plans are like having insurance-preparing them isn't seen as being priority until you find yourself needing them.

Last summer, many First Nation communities in B.C. learned firsthand the importance of having emergency plans in place. The province experienced its worst year ever for forest fires. By the end of the summer more than 2,500 wildfires had been recorded.

In all, more than 260,000 hectares of forest were destroyed, along with a number of houses and businesses. More than 45,000 people were evacuated when advancing flames threatened their communities.

Paula Santos is general manager of the First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS) of British Columbia, which has been operating in the province since 1983. For the first decade or so, it was a society of Native firefighters, but by the mid-1990s the society had expanded its focus to include a broader spectrum of emergency services and began working to raise awareness within First Nations of the need to prepare for any emergency. Then last June, with funding from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), FNESS began helping First Nations develop those emergency plans.

So far, there has been a very



Being prepared for an emergency means making a plan and then practising it to work out the problems. It's a community affair, but there is help available from the outside. Do you know what your role is in the event of an emergency in your community?

good response from First Nations wanting to take advantage of the services offered by the society.

"Especially with the forest fires last summer, people have just been coming out of the woodwork looking to do emergency plans for their communities," she said.

What FNESS does for a community is send an emergency planner in to guide them through the process—making sure chief and council are on board, helping to determine who the emergency co-ordinator should be and doing an assessment of the risks or hazards in the community and the resources available to respond to those hazards. Then they take all the information and put it together into a plan. Once the plan is in place, the society helps train the people responsible to respond to emergencies and educate community members about how they need to react in an emergency. Then come the drills or exercises to make sure the plan works.

"You don't have to wait until an emergency happens," Santos said. "You can do a test of it and see, 'Okay, are there any gaps, or are there any things that we need to think about differently based on how the test went or how the drill went?""

Each emergency plan can be created to meet the specific needs of the community, and with input from community members, she said.

"The plan is better accepted if everyone buys into it through the process, rather than just somebody coming in from the outside and doing it for them. And so we like to make it a community-type process."

The level of emergency preparedness that already exists when FNESS is called in to help develop a plan has varied from community to community.

"It depends on the size of the community and how busy they are with other issues as well. You know, if they're fairly small and they're dealing with a lot of other issues, it may not be the top of their list of priorities. And they can only do so much with the people that they have," Santos said.

"Most have a good awareness of what it is and why it's needed. It's just a matter of getting it done and finding the time to get it done, because it can be a long process. You do need a lot of input from the community at large, from Elders... it's not just you go in there once and write a report and that's it."

But, thanks to last year's fires, having a plan in place to deal with emergencies has become a bigger priority than it once was, Santos said.

"It's suddenly raised everyone's awareness of 'Oh, what would I do if I needed to evacuate?' and 'Does my community have a plan in place?' So I think everybody in the province is kind of going, 'Oh, my God, are we ready?'"

This summer's forest fires, while nowhere near as widespread and devastating as last year's, have served as a test for some of the communities that have put emergency plans into place.

(see Make it a priority page 18.)





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. Windspeaker ..

September 2004





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MONDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2004

NOVENIBER 15, 2004

- 8:15 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 Welcoming Remarks from Insight Information Co.

9:05 Co-Chairs' Opening Remarks

William B. Henderson Barrister and Solicitor

Nancy J. Kleer Partner Olthuis Kleer Townshend

9:15 Opening Keynote Address

The Honourable Andy Scott (invited) *Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians*

9:45 Coffee Break

10:00 Practical Challenges From Consultation – Haida Nation versus British Columbia and Weyerhaeuser, 2002

> R. Martin Bayer Lawyer Weaver Simmons LLP (Sudbury)

John J. L. Hunter, Q.C. Partner Hunter Voith Litigation Counsel (Vancouver)

E. Ria Tzimas Counsel, Crown Law Office - Civil Attorney General of Ontario

- The legal duty of consultation from an Aboriginal perspective:
- brief examination of the socio-economic demographic conditions
- scope and nature of the legal duty of consultation and the expectations of Aboriginal people
- recommendations on how all stakeholders can work together to meet everyone's interests
- · What is Industry obligated to do?
- Questions and challenges for governments
- What are the competing demands on governments and what are the options in the context of resource development?
- Where do we go from here?

11:15 Historic Resolution: The New Co-operation Spirit for James Bay Hydroelectric Development

M. Réal Courcelles Senior Advisor, Relations With Aboriginal Communities Hydro-Québec

John Paul Murdoch Gowling Lafieur Henderson LLP

There is a new relationship based on trust and mutual respect between the Québec James Bay Crees and Hydro-Québec. Despite disagreements in the 80's and 90's, agreements were reached, projects built and benefits gained by the Crees. The landmark, Nation-to-Nation Agreement on a new relationship between the Crees and the Québec Government (La Paix des braves), instills a new spirit of collaboration for all parties in the area. Current issues will be discussed in this session along with the status of the Eastmain-1A/Rupert project, a new model for stakeholders involvement in the draft design phase and environmental impact assessment of a hydroelectric project.

12:15 Networking Luncheon

1:15 Keynote Luncheon Address Charles Fox Ontario Regional Chief Chiefs of Ontario

1:45 Land Development Court Case: Sanford versus Ontario Realty Corporation

David Grey Eagle Sanford Representative of Huron Nation

Timothy Gilbert Partner Gilbert's LLP

- First Nation's perspective for developments on Aboriginal Settlements
- Duty of Crown to consult before sale or development
- Overview of decision
- Scope of consultation duty
- Discussion of informed consultation
- · Fiduciary obligation of Crown
- Requirement to conduct consultation on Nation-to-Nation basis
- 2:30 Refreshment Break

2:45 Getting In the Loop: Negotiating Regular Consultation Arrangements With Your Neighbours

Michael Coyle

Professor, Faculty of Law The University of Western Ontario

- How to establish permanent consultation on land developments in your area
- The role of municipalities, conservation authorities and the Crown
- Protecting burial grounds, archaeological sites and the environment
- Ensuring that the process is without prejudice to Aboriginal rights
- A look at two recent consultation protocols
- 3:30 Aboriginal Title on Land and Water: Selected Issues Raised in *R. v. Bernard, R. v. Marshall* and *Walpole Island First Nation v. Canada and Ontario*

Scott Warwick

Counsel Department of Justice (Ontario Regional Office)

Senior Counsel

Department of Justice (Ontario Regional Office)

- Applying the *Delgamuukw* test for Aboriginal title: coming to terms with the concepts of "exclusivity", "occupation" and "sovereignty" in *R. v. Bernard* and *R. v. Marshall*
- The "cognizability" of Aboriginal title to the Great Lakes: the juxtaposition of Aboriginal "exclusivity" and the public right of navigation in *Walpole Island First Nation v. Canada and Ontario*
- 4:30 Conference Adjourns for the Day

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2004

- 8:30 Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 Co-Chairs' Opening Remarks

William B. Henderson Barrister and Solicitor

Nancy J. Kleer Partner Olthuis Kleer Townshend

9:15 Evidentiary Issues in Recent Court Cases

Heather Treacy Partner

Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP (Calgary)

- Principle of *Delgamuukw v. B.C. (1997)* traditional oral histories of Aboriginal peoples on equal footing with other types of historical evidence
- Evidentiary issues from *Benoit v. Canada (2003)*, a treaty rights case
- Substantial discount for the "hearsay" nature of evidence
- Court applied "silence is relevant" principle
- Strategies regarding evidence who should give oral history evidence?

10:00 Coffee Break

10:15 Against the Current - Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Title in the "Commercial Mainstream" -Mitchell v. M.N.R. and the Petition of Grand Chief Michael Mitchell to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 2003; R. v. Marshall, 2003 and Bernard v. The Queen, 2003

Peter W. Hutchins Partner Hutchins Grant & Associés (Montréal)

- Hutchins Grant & Associes (Montreal)
- Developments in Canadian and International law
- Is economic activity part of culture?
- Economic/commercial activities and the Van der Peet test
- Economic/commercial activities and reconciliation with Crown sovereignty
- Economic/commercial activities should Aboriginal and treaty rights be distinguished?

11:00 Update on Historic Tlicho Land Claim and Self-Government Agreement

John B. Zoe (invited) Chief Negotiator Dogrib Treaty 11 Council (NWT)

- Historical background an overview of objectives
- Negotiating Tripartite Agreements
- What does the Agreement include to differentiate between Tlicho First Nation and Federal Government responsibilities?
- The issue over tax revenue, diamond mining and resource royalties
- · Lessons learned from negotiating with Industry

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Expiry Date:

Date:

12:00 Networking Luncheon

1:00 Keynote Luncheon Address: David versus Goliath: Grassy Narrows First Nation's Fight For Survival

> John A. Olthuis Partner Olthuis Kleer Townshend

1:30 Update on First Nations Gaming in Ontario

Mike Sherry

Legal Counsel Ontario First Nations Limited Partnerships

- Brief history of the Ontario First Nations (OFN) Casino at Rama
- Nature of the OFN Casino revenue sharing model
- Summary of major litigation associated with the OFN Casino
- Lessons and prospects
- 2:15 Refreshment Break
- 2:30 Fiduciary Obligations Under the *Indian Act* and the Challenges in Governance for First Nation Forestry

Lorraine A. Rekmans

Executive Director National Aboriginal Forestry Association

Jurisdiction for Indian Reserve Lands, including reserve forests is described under the Indian Act. Unless specifically excluded through legislation. all reserve lands are subject to this Act. Section 57 of the Indian Act makes specific reference to forest management and timber utilization and empowers the Governor in Council to make regulations authorizing the Minister to grant licences to cut timber on reserve lands (with consent of the Band Council), to impose terms, conditions and restrictions on these licences, to set penalties and to provide for seizure of timber taken in contravention of the regulations. Under this authority the Indian Timber Regulations have been promulgated. Also, the First Nations Land Management Act (FNLMA) was passed in 1998 and provides signatory First Nations with authority to establish their own land management regimes, under the terms of a Framework Agreement that was developed and approved in 1996. The agreement allows First Nations to "opt out" of the Indian Act and into the FNLMA.

"T F c ii b

Session highlights include:

- Federal Government's jurisdiction and legal responsibilities for First Nation Forestry Under the *Indian Act*
- Indian Act limitations of First Nations governance to effectively manage First Nations lands and create appropriate capacity
- Creating corporations and implications for Aboriginal and Treaty Rights
- The Auditor General's Report and Funding Programs to support First Nations Forestry Development (FNFP)

3:15 Specific Claims and the Indian Claims Commission

John B. Edmond (invited) Commission Counsel Indian Claims Commission

- Specific claims historic legal obligations
- · History and role of ICC inquiries and mediation
- · ICC process oral history community evidence
- Economic benefits of speedy claims resolution
- Future of ICC and the Specific Claims Resolution Act

4:00 Closing Remark From Co-Chairs and Conference Ends

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COMMENTS FROM PAST DELEGATE...

"The presenters were all balanced from First Nations, Federal Crown, Provincial Crown, and resource corporations. A forum to share view points on current issues from all directions is extremely interesting and broadens all attendees' views on the issue"

Douglas Faulkner, Department of Justice



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- Federal and Provincial Government Representatives
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- Business Developers and Entrepreneurs
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- In-house Counsel, CFOs, VPs, Directors and Managers of Aboriginal Relations from:
 - Aboriginal Banking
 - Oil & Gas and Pipeline Corporations
 - Forestry, Mining and Fisheries Corporations
 - Land Development
 - Property Developers

Dear Colleague,

Whether you are involved in Aboriginal governance, business, legal services or community development activities, you need to have the latest information and sound analysis on current Aboriginal legal developments. Over the past year, the field of Aboriginal Law has evolved significantly with new cases before the courts and historic agreements between Aboriginal/First Nations and Industry paving the way for a more co-operative environment in which to do business.

Insight Information Co. has developed a conference program that focuses on the most recent legal updates in Canada that have an impact on Aboriginal communities, governments and business. You will hear from leading legal experts on topics that include: land development; update on first nations gaming; evidentiary issues in recent court cases; fiduciary obligations and limitations of governance to manage lands under the *Indian Act* in forestry management; Aboriginal and treaty rights and title in the commercial mainstream; and effective solutions for negotiating regular consultation arrangements with key stakeholders. Also, by the conference date, the Supreme Court of Canada's Duty to Consult decision in *Haida Nation v. British Columbia and Weyerhaeuser, 2002* should be rendered which will finally set forth the parameters for First Nations, Industry and Government obligations.

At these sessions, attendees will have the opportunity to address their questions to speakers and they can also dialogue informally with them, and with other attendees, during breaks. The conference materials will prove to be a valuable resource long after the conference date.

Please join us, and your colleagues at this event and gather valuable information that will be of immediate benefit to your legal, resource development and economic objectives. We look forward to seeing you in Toronto, "the meeting place"!

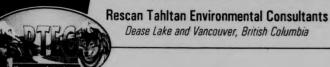
Sincerely,

Dundum

William B. Henderson Barrister and Solicitor

Nancy J. Kleer Partner Olthuis Kleer Townshend

Delegates will receive a set of original materials that will serve as a valuable reference source after the program.



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[infrastructure] **Organization wants certification**

By Cheryl Petten Windspeaker Staff Writer

LONDON, Ont.

Keith Maracle has been working in construction all his life and has been inspecting houses in First Nation communities for close to 25 years. He's well aware of the problems that exist with on-reserve housing, and he and other inspectors have joined together to try and make improvements.

Maracle is a Mohawk of the Bay of Quinte and is technical building advisor for the Southern First Nations Secretariat based in London, Ont. He is also co-chair of the First Nations National Building Officers Association (FNNBOA), a newly formed organization that hopes to provide building inspectors on First Nations with a network through which they can share information and improve the way houses on reserves are built and renovated.

The main way the association plans to accomplish this, Maracle explained, is by developing national occupational standards for inspectors and a process by which they can be certified as meeting those standards.

One of the problems that currently exists for building inspectors on First Nations is that their skills, training and experience are only recognized by the First Nations they are working with, Maracle said.

"I myself have probably gotten 15 or 20 courses that I've taken over the years, and none of them are recognized other than on the reserve," he said. "So that was one of the reasons for us to start [FNNBOA], because we wanted to get ourselves in a position where our skills were transferable, not only from onreserve to off-reserve, but from province to province, reserve to reserve, across the country."

Certification will also provide inspectors with a higher degree of professionalism, because all certified inspectors will have had to meet the same standards in terms of skills, knowledge and experience.

Under the current set-up to be designated as a building inspector for First Nation communities, all a person has to do is pass an exam based on Part 9 of the National Building Code, which deals with housing and small buildings.

The idea of mandatory certification has so far been a hard sell to inspectors, Maracle said, because they don't see any problems with the status quo, but the association's goal is to bring in certification for its members before certification is forced upon them by the federal government.

"What's a designation? I can designate you. Anybody can designate anybody. So yes, you wrote a Part 9 exam, but was it a sanctioned exam? Was it a certified exam? No it wasn't. It was an exam that we made up," he said.

"We have no certification, and the auditor general questioned that in the auditor general's report on housing. And we feel that within the next three to five years ... they're going to make it mandatory that we be certified. And what we're trying to do is be proactive instead of reactive," he said.

The association will also help to improve the quality of housing on reserve by providing members with networking opportunities that hadn't existed previously. Through that network, inspectors can keep up-todate on the latest developments in the construction industry, Maracle said. That opportunity will be especially beneficial to inspectors in remote communities, where exposure to new ways of doing things has been limited.

The network will also provide a way to get information directly to the people who need it. Many times when conferences are held dealing with housing issues it's the chiefs and councillors who attend, but the information doesn't filter down to where it will do the most good, Maracle said.

"A lot of the information about how to make changes never gets back to the grassroots person, the person with the hammer in this hand."



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Contact Drew Hill, B.Sc (Bio), P.Eng,

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Offices across Canada



September 2004

Windspeaker =

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[infrastructure] Make it a priority–plan now, plan well

a provincial jurisdiction would

have it, any other town or city in

community to deal with their ju-

risdiction as far as their local au-

thorities. So they're in control of

the whole process. We simply al-

low them the guidelines to say,

'Okay, here's what we should fo-

cus on for disaster services. Here's

what our reality is," Parenteau

said. "Then you take their admin-

istration or department heads or

those directors or managers or a

services will do this, health will

do this, education will do this.'

You know, what kind of resources

do we have? How can we all work

• (Continued from page 16.) "This year was a lot better than last year, for sure," Santos said. And some, actually, they'd just finished their planning, then they were on evacuation alert. And their plan worked beautifully and they were really, really happy with nity. It's your jurisdiction. You it. So it was good to see that it know the culture. You know all was something that they felt, the other issues that go on. Here's 'wow, we're so glad we got that done.'

As part of the emergency planning process, FNESS acts as a you'd need this?" he said. bridge between First Nations and the provincial agencies whose responsibility it is to respond to emergencies. The society also helps create working relationships between First Nations and neighboring communities if those relationships don't already exist.

In Alberta, the responsibility for co-ordinating emergency planning for the province falls to (EMA), part of the public safety division of the department of municipal affairs. Working within EMA are two disaster services officers who, under an arrangement between the province and INAC, work specifically with First Nations.

Rudy Parenteau is the disaster services officer for northern Alberta who works out of the EMA regional office in St. Paul. Though come up in the past.

he works on contract for the province, he makes it clear to First Nations who he really works for.

"We tell them, 'We're here as consultants. We work for the First Nations. How do you want to make that plan? It's your commuthe focus. Here's the experiences that other First Nations have had in the province. Why do you think

"We essentially are their liaison to the provincial and the federal Emergency Preparedness Canada. We do not make the plans for them. We do not take any jurisdiction or authority for them. When the events occur, we go in and give guidance and help in saying, 'Okay, here's maybe what you could do, what you should do, but it's up to you to do that. How Emergency Management Alberta do you want to do that? Do you want to declare it a local state of emergency? Here's the appropriate action to take."

The approach Parenteau takes is pretty much the same as the one managers, depending on what titaken by the FNESS-get the tle they give them, and utilize support of chief and council, have the community appoint a director committee to say, 'Okay, social of disaster services and look at the community's history in terms of major emergencies that have

"A community can set up an evacuation centre, they can evacuate people, they can get people out of harm's way. And that's the priority behind the plan and the services, is saving lives. The buildings and everything else, through negotiation and other issues and fundraising, those things can be replaced. But lives can't."

-Rudy Parenteau

"The way this is all structured together in the process in the event is pretty much in line with the way something happens?"

The First Nations also receive training in basic emergency prethe province. So that allows the paredness, evacuation, setting up an emergency operation centre and site management. "So we take them through what

policies and procedures should unfold when an event happens," he said.

Parenteau is in his eleventh year working to help First Nations prepare for emergencies, and he's seen the difference having an emergency plan in place can make to a community during a crisis.

"I have had 13 experiences with First Nations and major events, whether they be floods, fires, evacuations. And in 10 of the cases, they've had a plan and it can be replaced," Parenteau said. has worked. Like everything else, "But lives can't."

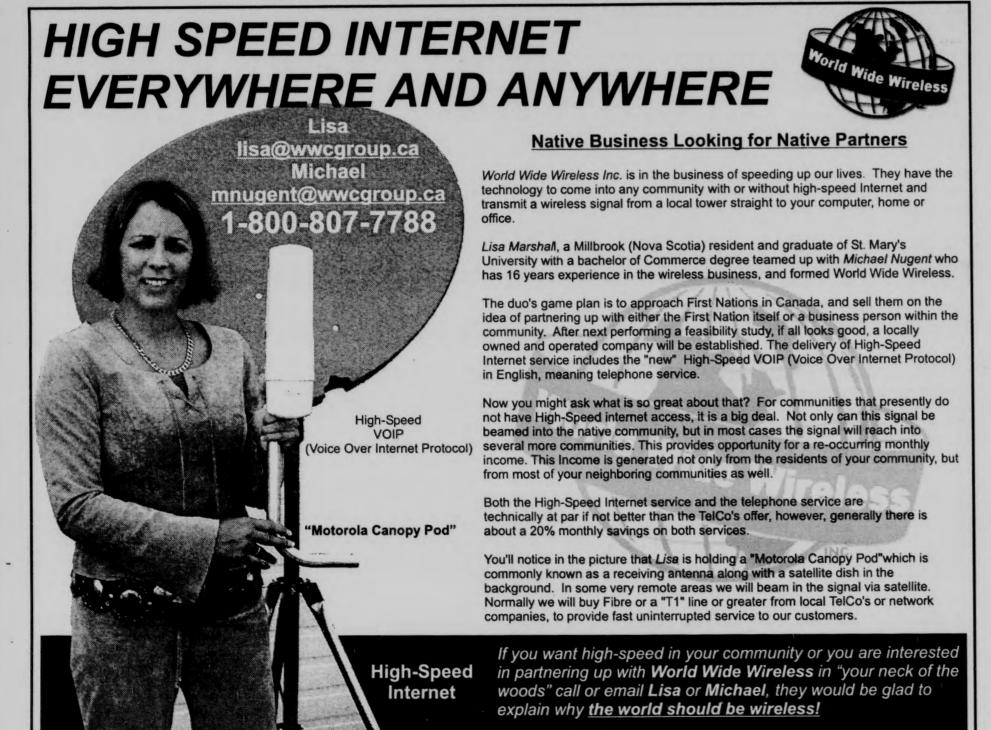
it takes practice and we do exercises with them, but it depends on who's there on a given day. So it's not always 100 per cent, because nothing ever is," he said.

"There was a lot more organization and communication, and communication is a big issue when it comes to disasters, about who calls who, who should be called in. So you predetermine where the committee is going to meet, so all your administration [is gathered together]. You're going to predetermine where an evacuation centre's going to be, for example, or a reception centre where people can go to ... so it definitely helps," he said.

He estimates that about 80 per cent of Alberta's First Nation communities have developed and implemented emergency plans.

In the end, having an emergency plan in place can better prepare a community to do what has to be done when an emergency arises. "A community can set up an evacuation centre, they can evacuate people, they can get people out of harm's way. And that's the priority behind the plan and the services, is saving lives. The buildings and everything else, through negotiation and other issues and fundraising, those things

September 2004



I have to do in order to adopt them? Grandmama

Dear Grandmama: A non-Indian child adopted by Native parents can now be registered as a status Indian under the Indian Act. There are some conditions though and the most important one is that the child is either a minor or an infant at the time of the adoption. In addi-

Dear Tuma:

Barbie doll has triggered some questions within me. It has also reminded me of the vivid, plain, uncomplimentary descriptions of

is a great leap by any measure.

mined that Barbie is a typical name for an Inuk woman? Will its body proportions merely follow the standard tall, slender, ideal of beauty? Or will Inuk Barbie be reflective of bodily re- ter from the gale." ality, and therefore be more

September 2004

Windspeaker **

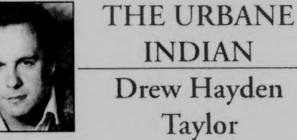
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[strictly speaking]

Thrust onto centre stage by circumstance

On July 12, an official Ontario inquiry into the death of Native protester Dudley George opened. Dudley was an unassuming Ojibway man who was better with a joke than with a political manifesto. From what I understand, he was not the type of man who made a regular habit of upsetting the status quo or rocking the political boat. He was more interested in visiting with his family than having guns pointed at him. That's easy to understand. But as the old adage goes, sometimes you just gotta do what you gotta do. And it killed

It was nearly nine years ago when the unarmed Kettle and Stony Point First Nations resident came



park on the shores of Lake Huron. The end result being one less living Native protester to annoy the authorities. He had been there in support of his community's attempt to convince the authorities government during the Second World War. The demonstration was peaceful. Dudley was peaceful.

INDIAN Drew Hayden Taylor funeral was peaceful.

As the long anticipated inquiry approached, I couldn't help pondering this man's brief existence. 1 never met the man. Never met the family. Never even been to Kettle to return land appropriated by the and Stony Point. But there was something achingly familiar about the whole situation. The scenario had a familiar ring of sadness about quality of the writing in her diary, face to face with the Ontario Pro- The morning everything happened it, something about a man who but had she lived would the diary thers. vincial Police at Ipperwash, a small was peaceful. A few days later, his became more famous in death than be recommended reading in (see Dudley's page 27.)

not for the accuracy of a trained police sniper, probably would have very ordinary girl with ordinary been more than content to live in relative obscurity. That's how I thought of Anne Frank.

On one hand, they are strikingly dissimilar-age, race, geography and cause of death. Yet, it occurred to me, they are sacred kin. People in far away places had decided their fates without having met them. And, it could be said they died because of their race.

If Anne Frank had not perished at the hands of the Nazis, would she still be a household name today? Hard to say, but unlikely. A good friend of mine praised the

in life. This was a person who, if school? Or was it her death that made it so memorable? She was a problems thrust onto centre stage by events beyond her understanding. In fact, it was her ability to remain a typical young girl in an atypical situation that cemented her fame

> Same with Dudley. In reading One Dead Indian by Peter Edwards, I get the impression Dudley George was not meant for greatness. I do not say this to be malicious or cruel. Dudley seemed to be just one of the thousands upon thousands of gu's that were born on the reserve and were content spending their lives being good sons, brothers, husbands and fa-

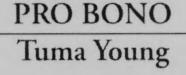
Being an Indian is about more than just status

I am a 65-year-old grandmother who lost her status through marriage. My son and I regained status in 1985 (under Bill C-31), but now my grandchildren do not have status. I am thinking of adopting them so they can have status and preserve their rights to medical care and education. The parents will still take care of them and raise them. but I will only adopt the children so they can be Indians. What do



only customary adoptions that happened after 1985 will be considered. The process for registration is the same: it depends on whether the parent is registered under 6(1) or 6 (2) of the Indian

Now, it seems like you can adopt your grandchildren and they will be granted status but there are other significant issues both the natural parents and you need to consider. For the natural parents, it means a complete severance of all and any parental rights they have to the children.



and Indian Affairs' position is that asked to raise children when you are close to or have become an Elder

> Adopting a child is a major event and you really should consider it for purposes that are in the best interests of the child, not just for passing on status. In fact, I will be surprised if a judge will approve of an adoption strictly for the purposes of passing on status.

Your son, his spouse and you need to think long and carefully before allowing you to adopt their children. For your son and his spouse, this means losing control over any decisions on raising their tion or health benefits, there are dian and not a band number. tion, it refers to a legal adoption For you it means now you will be children. Major decisions such as other ways to do so rather than

religious instruction, language, taking the drastic step of adoptments plus everyday "minor" de- a Registered Education Savings cisions such as what and when they will eat, what television shows to watch, movies to see, places to go, whether to take whether the child should be extra health and dental insurance friends with another child. Adopting your grandchildren decisions, not your son or his

Even if the children still live and are raised with your son and his spouse, you can legally take them home with you, discipline them and raise them because they will be yours and not your son's or his spouse. No matter how well you get along with your son and his spouse, I can safely predict that there will be disputes over how you can learn it along with your to raise the children.

As for preserving their educa-

NASIVVIK

Zebedee Nungak

education, and over health treat- ing them. You can contribute to Plan (RESP) for the children, provide for them with an educational trust in your will, or help pay for the tuition bills when the hockey or ballet lessons and even time comes. You can help pay for while they are young or even offer to help pay part or all of the means you will be making those bills. Only do this if you have the extra money to do so.

Remember, Indian status is a western legal concept. You do not need the Indian Act to consider your grandchildren Indians. Offer to teach them their language, culture, songs, stories, art, dances, customs, history and games. Teach them what it means to be an Indian. If you do not know your history, culture or language, grandchildren. You will find that this is what makes them an In-

(see Tell creditors page 29.)

From wretched ugliness to glamour doll-dom

The recently announced crea- Isn't Eskimo beauty good enough tion and marketing of an Inuk for export outside Canada?

Now, consider what some Qallunaat explorers in the Arctic had to say about Inuit women:

British explorer Sir John Ross, Inuit women by a series of visiting an Eskimo encampment Qallunaat (white) explorers who on Boothia Peninsula, Jan. 10, first encountered Inuit in their 1830, wrote: "The females were natural "uncivilized" state. certainly not beautiful; but they From the raw, unadorned im- were at least not inferior to their pressions of Inuit women as husbands, and were not less well wretchedly unattractive to the behaved ... one girl of thirteen was glamour of mass market doll-ery even considered to have a pretty face."

uniquely contradictory description of one particular Eskimo woman: "Six Esquimaux, three of them women,-that ugly beauty, leggy Barbie of the Qallunaat Nessark's wife, at the head of them, -had come off to the boats for shel-

American polar explorer Robert chunky? Will there be an Inuk Ken Peary had this to say about Inuit doll to follow? Why will Inuk women in 1909: "The accomplish-Barbie be available only in Canada? ments of the Eskimo woman are of



tal kind As the Eskimos are not highly romantic, a woman's skill in largely determines the quality of First, though, the questions: American explorer E.K. Kane, husband she is likely to get. The Will the doll's name still be in High Arctic Greenland in Eskimo men have not a very critihusband she is likely to get. The Barbie? And, if so, who deter- 1853-55, came up with a caleye for feminine beauty, but they are strong in appreciation of domestic accomplishments."

scribed a woman who was the subject of duels of strength among some Inuit men: a walrus. Her glistening face was resembling a number of stuffed considerably broader than it was long, she stood about four feet six of this is anywhere near talking inches high, and weighed about about future Barbie dolls!

the useful rather than the ornamen- three hundred pounds, her figure woman, and he certainly was not resembling a number of stuffed pillows fastened together. To my mind, dressing skins and in making clothes her curves were a trifle heavy, but she evidently realized the Eskimo ideal of beauty, and being a widow besides, she was irresistible. Many

were her suitors." So here we have a teenaged girl noted for possessing the unusual Earlier, in 1894, Peary de- novelty of a pretty face, a woman specifically described as being an 'ugly beauty", and an irresistible Eskimo beauty ... who had the pillows fastened together! None

Peary and most of the Qallunaat who made first contact with Inuit went out of their way to take note of the perceived lack of physical beauty among Inuit women. Contrary to this impression, though, some Inuit women were desirable enough to conceive children with. Peary himself fathered children by an Inuk the only one. In Canada, about 40 to 45 per cent of Inuit can trace some Qallunaat ancestry, which is plentiful testimony that not all Inuit women were repulsive in appearance.

Beauty, it is said, is in the eye of the beholder. And ugliness, where observed, must definitely be relative. Why do we now have so many Qallunaaq ningauk's (sons and brothers-in-law), who have taken Eskimo wives? Has "Ahtooksungwah ... had a form like form of a walrus, with a figure there's been a beauty evolution among our women in the 400plus years since Qallunaat have been around?

(see Northern page 29.)

[radio's most active]

ABORIGINAL RADIO MOST ACTIVE LIST

ARTIST	TITLE	ALBUM
Rerri Anne Strongarm	Who I'll Be	Anymore
Los Lonely Boys	Heaven	Los Lonely Boys
Eagle & Hawk	Sundancer	Mother Earth
Inside Out Blues Band	Little Lessons	A Full Deck Of Blues
Burnt	Blue Skies	Project 1-The Avenue
Donald Bradburn	From the Reservation	Single
Akua Tuta	Katak	Maten
Dawn Marquis	Choosin' To Lose You	Single
Conrad Bigknife	Run Where You Want To	This World
Crystal Anne	Bye-Bye	Single
Jay Ross	Tough On The Outside	Old Town
Martin Klatt	It's Not Your World	Single
Wayne Lavallee	Sacred Journey	Green Dress
Wees Jaguar	Ain't Gonna Cry Anymore	Single
Kimberley Dawn	Retun To Madawaska	Healing Jane
Indigenous	Want You To Say	Indigenous
Killah Green	Eagles Fly	Single
Bruce Bell	The Real Me	Single
Remedy	Freedom	When Sunlight Broke
Rodney Ross	Proud Indian	Single

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Artist-Winston Wuttunee Album-When The Sun Sets Over The World Song—Powwow Dancer Label-Turtle Island Music Producer-Kelly Parker

Fans will love this new offering from Winston

The latest album by wellknown and loved entertainer Winston Wuttunee has everything you could expect from this seasoned veteran of the stage. Wuttunee is known for his performances of traditional and country songs, as well as for his songs for children and contributions aimed at sharing his Cree heritage with his audiences. Wuttunee explores each of these facets within the 11 tracks on the CD, a combination of song and storytelling that is bound to delight his many fans.

From a traditional version of Happy Birthday to a county song celebrating the powwow dancer to a story about nature's gifts to mankind, Wuttunee shows off the talent and versatility that has kept him in demand as a performer at festivals across the country.

For his younger fans, Wuttunee Villebrun on bass, turning the has included a bouncy version of the Alphabet song performed in both English and French, fol- recording industry.

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lowed by the Indian Alphabet, in which a group of children join him to sing their ABCs in Cree. A number of other well-known performers join the award-winning Wuttunee on this recording, including Andrea Menard on vocals, Jay Ross on guitar and Ray album's credits into a virtual who's who in Saskatchewan's Aboriginal Windspeaker: What one quality do you most value in a friend?

have friends that I haven't seen for ence. 20 years, sometimes. I see them friend, you accept that friend for what they are. You don't try and change them. they don't try and change you.

W: What is it that really makes you mad?

ways made sure Georgie Porgie ran away

W: When are you at your happi-

R.B.: With family, I think. If I'm part of a happy crowd, I like that, because I'm a mixture of both an extravert and an introvert. So I also love bird-watching or walking in wild places. And I'm happy in all those situations.

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

R.B.: Uncentred

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

R.B.: Nelson Mandela, I would

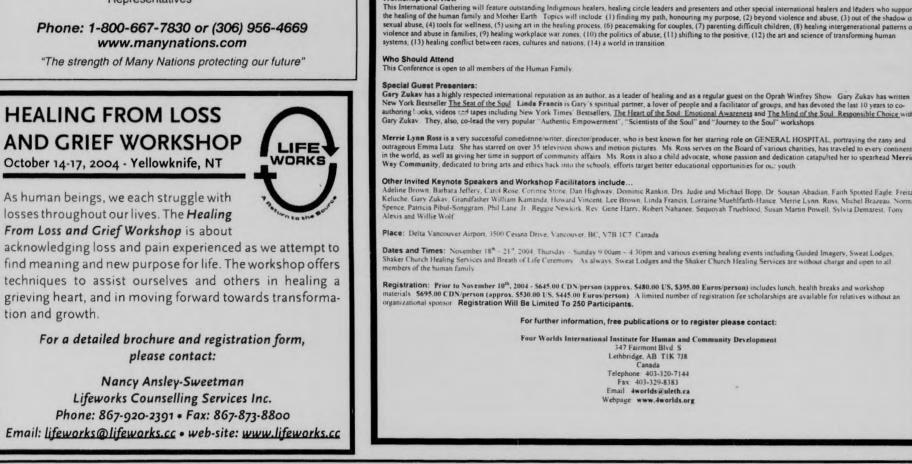


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Roman Bittman-[windspeaker confidential]

Roman Bittman: Acceptance. I

somebody that was very principled, of reach? fought for what he thought was right, persevered and was patient and in the end made a big differ-

suddenly and it's like I've never W: What is the most difficult thing been away. When you have a you've ever had to do?

R.B.: Fire somebody I hired. It means two things: it means that someone's dream wasn't realized or someone's ambition wasn't fulfilled. That, I suppose, on a personal level, that I made a bad decision or a wrong decision. On R.B.: Bullies. I was the guy that al- the positive side, that it's best because that person would probably thrive in a different place. So it's like moving someone from the wrong environment to the right environment. But nonetheless it's always difficult.

> W: What is your greatest accomplishment?

> R.B.: Making a difference. I think it has to be developing a film funding system that has caused, it caused hundreds of jobs to happen in the province of Nova Scotia and when it was rolled out into the rest of Canada it's probably caused, every year, a couple of billion dollars worth of jobs to be happening in the media business that would otherwise perhaps not be happen-

think. And why? Because he's W: What one goal remains out R.B.: Fondly.

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R.B.: A hole in one. The law of averages is on my side, though. I keep doing it and I'll do it.

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

R.B.: I'd be sailing around the world. I love to sail.

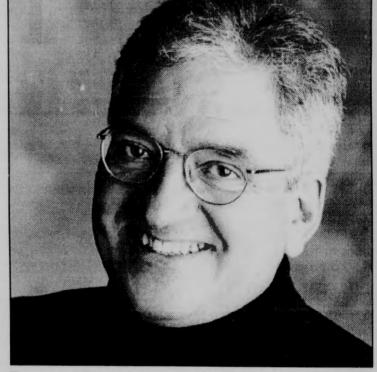
W: What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

R.B.: It was given to me by Lister Sinclair when I was a very young producer just out of the woods and producing The Nature of Things. And he said to me when I was worrying over something, "Remember, Roman, you're not building a cathedral. And what it meant was, really, what really matters? You are not building a cathedral. You're part of a process, you're part of a system, you're doing your 15 minutes on the treadmill ... to keep perspective

W: Did you take it?

R.B.: Oh, yes. And I believe everything is process. And entropy lurk for us all and is our destiny.

W: How do you hope to be remem bered?



Roman Bittman was named acting chief executive officer of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation in July. Bittman is a Métis film-maker and businessman with a distinguished career and more than 40 documentaries for CBC's The Nature of Things to his credit. One of Bittman's many contributions is the creation of a labor-based tax credit system that fueled growth in Canada's film and television industry.

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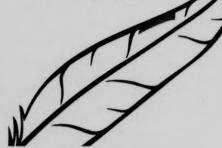
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[arts & entertainment] Traditional tattoo designs appropriated

By Suzanne Methot Windspeaker Contributor

TORONTO

Three experts on Aboriginal tattoos and body art took part in a panel discussion on Aug. 21 during the Planet IndigenUs festival at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre.

Trish Collison (Haida), Riki Manual (Maori), and Makerita Urale (Samoan) spoke about the cultural meaning of tattooing, traditional and contemporary tattooing practices, and whether culturally specific designs should be protected and their use restricted. The panel was moderated by artist and film-maker Kent Monkman (Cree).

"The rituals involved in [Samoan] tattooing, as well as the patterns used, help us memorize cultural concepts," said Urale, a playwright and the director of Savage Symbols, a documentary film about Samoan tattooing. "The traditional male tattoo, which extends from the waist to the knees, embodies the concept of serving the people. It's also a rite of passage and a symbol of bravery, because it's very bloody and it sometimes takes an entire moko as a form of trade with foryear to complete.'

In Haida culture, tattoos represent animal totems, lineage, and identity.

that person is," said Collison, a parlor in Seattle, Wash. B.C.-born anthropologist curoffice of the Assembly of First off someone else's lineage, some-

"The traditional male tattoo, which extends from the waist to the knees, embodies the concept of serving the people. It's also a rite of passage and a symbol of bravery, because it's very bloody and it sometimes takes an entire year to complete."

family

Makerita Urale—Samoan

only supposed to exist within my

"I appreciate that tattooing is

ple obviously appreciate Haida aesthetics. But it's difficult to see

my grandmother's design on

someone who doesn't know what

Urale doesn't mind seeing non-

Native people wearing Native

body art. But she draws a line

between those who wear it for

personal reasons and those who

"I think it takes on a different

meaning when non-Aboriginal

it means," Collison said.

use it to make money.

it tells the stories of where our mothers come from, where our families are from."

Manual, an artist and carver from Christchurch, New Zealand, said when tattoos are applied to a Maori person "we have to consider that person's lineage. Some patterns are only used for women, and some patterns only for men.

Manual saw traditional Maori body art-which in the Maori language is called ta-mokowhen he was a child. By the late 1960s, he said the practice had died out. It resurfaced again during the cultural resurgence of the last two decades.

"Ta-moko is pretty trendy now," Manual said, "especially for non-Maoris. We used to do taeign sailors. But I wonder sometimes whether it's appropriate."

Collison wonders the same thing. She once found her great-"A Haida crest represents who great-uncle's designs in a tattoo

"I find it offensive when I see rently working in the environ- Haida-inspired art used for tatment department at the Ottawa toos," Collison said. "It's ripping Nations. "Since we're matrilineal, one else's art. Those designs are



people wear Aboriginal designs," Urale said. "If they appreciate the art, that's a good enough reason. popular. It's a compliment; peo- But when it's used for commercial purposes, that's a different thing. Then it is a misappropria-

> Manual, who has been a tamoko artist since 1979, says it's interesting to work on non- few years ago. Maoris, because he can mix and match the patterns.

But Maori Elders haven't always been pleased by the re-emergence of ta-moko and the changes younger artists have made to the

"There are prayers that should be said at the beginning and at the end," Manual said. "We try to abide by the traditional practices, so the Elders are happy."

Manual uses traditional tamoko tools and ink. He ties a piece of albatross bone to a piece of wood from the Kauri tree and taps it with an albatross-bone hammer to insert the ink one millimetre beneath the skin

The ink is made by boiling gum from the Kauri tree, and gets its distinctive green-black color from the soot of the fire."

Collison is currently developing a Haida tattoo kit that uses the same tapping technology. She's basing the design on a Haida kit that was found in the Smithsonian Instite collection a

Collison believes that Haida art should be protected by intellectual property rights or some form of copyright. Then individual artists could choose whether or not to allow their art to be used, and for what purposes.



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September 2004

My name is Annie Parker and I am a Shuswap Native. I come from Kamloops. I've been a drug and alcohol counsellor since 1984 ...

I've learned quite a bit about the youth. My main interest was in the youth, especially the young ones that come to me and say ... 'What is hate?' It's a big problem with some of the young ... 'What is hate?' ... Tell us what hate is and how we can overcome hate and we can help. Can you tell us what hate is and to learn not to hate and to change the hate into love. . . . They are being told they are

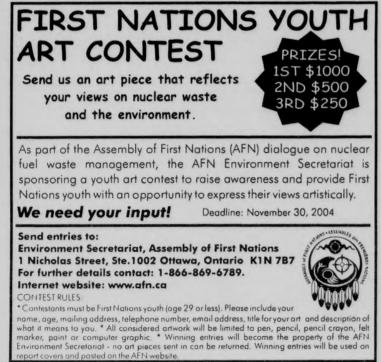
hated. Like seven, eight, [years old] they are being told that they are being hated and they don't know why, why they are being hated?

It wasn't so much hatred in my time; it was mostly survival when I was younger. When they took us away from our homes and we went to the residential school and we were wondering why we had to leave our home ... I had a beautiful outfit that my granny made me...regalia... I had two, so if one got messy then I had another set because we thought that was the way we were supposed to be dressed in school and so, low and behold, it wasn't so. They took gave me the school clothes.

When I first saw the nuns I just screamed because I thought it was some kind of spook or something. Because she came with all black... it scared the dickens out of all of us... It was always the strap to look forward to, the strap, and for us we learned religion more than we learned grammar and arithmetic and stuff. The more we learned of the religion, well, if we got 100 [per cent] we were treated really good. We were rewarded with three or four candies, which was really good ... but the worst thing that I can remember is they de-flea-ed us...it was awful. That was in my generation. That was in the '40s, early '40s I guess. The nuns right away on the second day they give you the school clothes and then they deflea-ed us, whether we had it or not. We didn't know why and so they poured coal oil on our heads and, lucky for us, we survived that. But we sure jumped around because it was burning our scalps, our heads.

And then we couldn't speak our language and, if we did, our mouths were washed with carbolic soap. Thank goodness I never see it anymore. I think the school used to make their own carbolic soap. And so our mouth was washed to make sure we didn't speak our language and that was a catastrophe. They took away so much, because I felt, even now, that we could have learned so many languages, you know, with one another, because they





[buffalo spirit] **Elders begin to realize the** importance of their role



Annie Parker

could have learned so much

When I first started [to work as a drug and alcohol counsellor] was terrified, how to start it. So you help me out? This is my first time.' And they said, Oh, that's easy, Elder.' So they started talking to me, and from there it's been

had the Okanagan and all the lan- tween [middle aged], and even guages out there amongst us. We Elders. Even some chiefs and councillors come when they have a burn out ...

One that sticks out in my mind, I was talking to some I asked the clients, 'Please, can young ones, around 16 [years old] ... I was having a workshop and this little girl came and she was 10 years old ... She came to the door and she asked if she could away my two outfits and they a breeze since '85 ... I believe I've come and talk to me, and of

she couldn't come in. And I said, you and this young child. What she's got to say could be involved with you, what you are doing at home, what's happening.' So I asked her to come in and she said, 'Can I call you auntie?' and I said Yes, you may.' So she sat on my lap and she proceeded to tell me to see if we can stop the cycle ... her story, when she goes home.

opened her fridge there was just booze in there. And every time she opened the cupboard, there was no food in the cupboards. She would find booze on the floor ... I asked the other children if they were experiencing the same thing. This child was asking me for help. Can you tell me how to help my mom and dad? I hate the booze. I hate the smell of it. Can you help me please? Tell somebody to help the next generations to help me?' I said I would see what I could do. She looked at me and I felt ... she wanted it now. I told her I would get on to it right away. So I asked this Elder man if there was any way the children could be helped, and he said 'We'll see about that, and we'll talk. And we've got to put a vote and see how we can help the children.' I said 'These children need help now, because if they get help now they won't become alcoholics and helped a lot of children, in be- course the children told her no, druggies when they grow up.' I

think it took them a year before 'no, this is my session and it is for they were able to do anything ... Like they say, it takes a com-

munity to help a child ... all we can do is give advice...I am able to talk to [the chief] and I'm going to get him to speak at the Elders to put more input into the children. And those in between, The Elders should get more to-She hated to go home from tally involved with what is going school because every time she on. Not just be heard and go home. They should stop and look at the children and look at themselves, and this way if they can start looking within themselves and look into the child ... it's our future. The children are our future, the future generations to come. This way, if the children learn and then when they grow up they can be free from drugs and alcohol and this way they can come. But to get to there is another big question.

You have to start from the home, the parents, the aunts and uncles to take a reading of themselves and see what they are doing in the home. When you walk in your home you want it to be drug and alcohol free. And you want to feel the love and compassion in the home to be totally relaxed and to start showing love for one another. And to learn to [provide] lots of hugs for the child. And to pray is the most important thing.

Like before you eat, you start to teach your children to start from the table ... That's what I do with my grandchildren. I get them to sit at the table. They've been listening to me when they are younger and now they're starting to pray along ... they are saying a prayer with you. I have hope there for my grandchildren, because they are starting to learn to pray. They listen to you and they learn the love for the home and their love for their [grandmother]. And that's where it starts, in each home ...

The Elders are starting to realize how important their role is. The Elders are going to disappear. They have the younger [people] coming up and they aren't going to know anything. So the Elders have a big role and to start telling the next generation of Elders-tobe how to start being good teachers and good examples to the young ones.

It only takes a minute to grab your child and give him a hug. Let them know how much you care for them. And your brothers and sisters are showing the same compassion, the same love for one another. There is so much the Elders can do to help the young, but the Elders have to learn how to get together first and to be able to be good teachers and show their wisdom to all the young. This way it's full of encouragement for them that are coming up.



Lewis Twoyoungman of Morley, Alta. dances with his infant daughter Aaliyah during the Tiny Tots component of the Tsuu T'ina powwow held July 23 to 25.

Page [23]

[canadian classroom] Native theatre: More than just 'Poor me' stories

By Jennifer Chung Windspeaker Staff Writer

TORONTO

When Cree playwright Tompson Highway began shopping his play the Rez Sisters around to theatre companies in Toronto almost 20 years ago, the response was always the same: Who would be interested in a story about seven women on their way to play the world's biggest game of bingo? Frustrated, Highway decided to produce the play himself.

The story, as Ojibway play-wright Drew Hayden Taylor tells it, is that when the play premiered at the Native Canadian Centre in 1986, attendance was sparse, save for a few theatre critics. After the reviews came out, word spread and after weeks of giving away free tickets to get burns in the seats, the Rez Sisters captured the attention of theatre-goers who came out in droves to see what all the fuss was about.

Shortly thereafter, the production embarked on a national tour and became a huge success, going on to win prestigious indus-try awards, including the Dora Mavor Moore Award for best new play of 1986-87. The *Rez Sisters* continues to grace the stages of theatres around the globe.

For many people, including Taylor, whose list of impressive works include the plays Only Drunks and Children Tell the Truth, Toronto at Dreamer's Rock and the Buz'Gem Blues, the Rez Sisters marked the beginning of the Aboriginal theatre movement.

Even though there had been what Taylor describes as "the occasional flare-up of Native performance in the theatrical community"—The Ecstasy of Rita Joe by non-Native playwright George Ryga in 1967 and October Stranger by the Association for Native Development at a theatre festival in Monaco in 1979what made Highway's play unique was its fresh approach to storytelling.

"For one thing, there's no central character. It's an ensemble piece, coming from the concept of the Native community where the community's more important than the individual," Taylor told characters are equally imp and have equally valid and he explained the situation storylines...so it was that concept, and the money and then I said and also concepts of different per- 'Yes.' And I think I'm probably ceptions of conflict and just the one of the few people you'll meet full-fledged, interesting, larger- that went into theatre for the Ont. was created in 1984. Sasthan-life characters that were very money." rich and very full."

He said Canada perceives Native people as being oppressed, rector for the Native Earth Per- Centre for Indigenous Theatre Nolan seems to think differently. depressed and suppressed. High- forming Arts. She is the author in Toronto had opened their they were sassy, they were clever Movement, Job's Wife and Video. really developed in the '90s. and they were fun."



Playwright Tompson Highway addressed his support of casting

non-Native actors in Native roles during a visit to Edmonton in June. He said there is a double-standard in theatre, saying all other groups can cast the way they wish, but in Native theatre, producers are forced to cast in a racial way.

artistic expression.

Taylor said that in 1988 when he was offered the job of playwright-in-residence at Torontobased theatre company Native Earth Performing Arts by Highway, who was the artistic director at the time, there were only "two working Native playwrights in Ontario." Daniel David Moses had left the post. Taylor had only a few television writing credits to his name-including an episode

theatre craft.

"It was inspiring, of course. It's such accomplished work. Like there's such complex, multi-layered and fantastical stories that it was like, 'OK, I can do anything," said Nolan Nolan began her writing career

in 1990. After working for the Winnipeg Fringe Festival, Nolan saw an opportunity for her to create her own work.

"It was bizarre. I had no role

I did a performance in Holland two years ago and I did three pieces of my own... one was a short piece of mine called Video, which is about a bride in a wedding dress... Someone came up to me and they went, 'Well, that was really great, but that wasn't very Indian.' And it's like, well, it has to kind of be Indian, because I'm who I am. - Yvette Nolan

of the Canadian classic the Beachcombers-but was given the job because Highway didn't want to return the grant funding the company got for the position.

"[Highway] was desperate, so he did what a lot of desperate people do. They go to the bottom of the barrel, and there I was different kind of reality." think, at first, I turned it down,

to the theatre as a venue for their infinite possibilities of Aboriginal ades for Aboriginal theatre.

models in town. There were no other Aboriginal playwrights in Winnipeg All of the plays that I saw were really traditional ... western European plays, so there's been a kind of journey that way, knowing the rules of that play writing, but also speaking to a

ng names for themselves, Aboriginal theatre companies began springing up. Respected companies like the De-ba-jeh-mu-jig Theatre in Manitoulin Island, katchewan Native Theatre was Algonquin playwright Yvette established in 1999. Professional like "there's no particularly Na-Nolan is the current artistic di- development programs like the tive way to boil an egg." But

where it was offsetting to a lot of people. I remember on several occasions bumping into Native people coming out of a play who would tell me that they weren't going to see any more Native plays because they were tired of being depressed. And I just felt the need for the flip side ... there Windspeaker. "Each of the eight passed out," joked Taylor. "I As Taylor and Nolan started are positive aspects to the Native That's fine, that's valid, but that being addressed now," said Taylor. Still, there are expectations that

depressed.

nal existance.

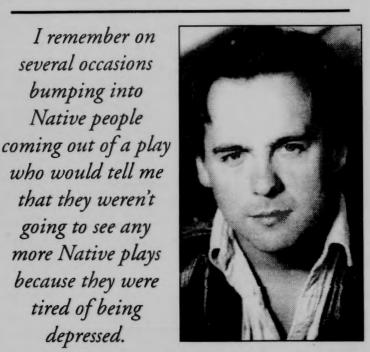
of the Native psyche.

the darker aspects to the point

need to be addressed. What makes a Native play Native? Taylor said "there's no particu-

lar form of Native theatre" much

way's characters were "vibrant, of acclaimed plays Annie Mae's doors in the early 1970s, but Aboriginal theatre is that Aborigi- nal women. Having seen many nal people write it, Aboriginal For Nolan, seeing the Rez Sisters, And the Aboriginal Arts Pro- people make it, Aboriginal peo-Despite Highway's success with and Highway's follow-up Dry Lips gram at the Banff Centre in Al- ple are telling the stories." Nolan Rez Sisters, it would take a while Oughta Move to Kapuskasing, berta was launched in 1995. It has experienced what the reaction Highway felt there was a double to tempt Native writers to look helped to open her eyes to the was an exciting couple of dec- of an audience is like when they standard for Native theatre. don't get what they expect.



-Drew Hayden Taylor

But Taylor soon discovered that "I did a performance in Holland two years ago and I did three many Native plays he was seeing pieces of my own and one of them concerned themselves with the was a monologue from Annie darker, historical side of Aborigi-Mae's Movement and one was a The nature of drama is conflict, short piece of mine called Video, which is about a bride in a wedhe said, so it made sense that most plays would deal with that aspect ding dress... Someone came up to me and they went, 'Well, that was really great, but that wasn't very "But it was my observations Indian.' And it's like, well, it has that most Native plays were preoccupied almost completely with

to kind of be Indian, because I'm who I am. It's like I'm not allowed to talk about what a woman's life is like when she's getting married. 'That's what you think is not Indian? Is that it?' It wasn't very Indian," said Nolan.

When Native Earth presented the Art Show directed by Alanis King about the work of Odawa painter Daphne Odjig, the production was criticized by some for not delivering what was expected.

"[It] was really a play that animated the actual creative act of painting, of creating the work, so the actors played the paints ... and they became characters in Daphne's life and there was dance and it was hugely visual. And critics said 'Where was the Indian part of this? We never got to see the struggle of her losing this husband.' It was like their expectation precluded what they actually saw. They weren't interested in what they were seeing on the stage. They wanted to see how the Indian overcame her struggle. That's what they wanted to see. nunity, and that's wasn't what the play was about."

Casting is another minefield for those producing Native plays. Highway has had to live with the harsh response to his casting choices for his most recent play Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout. He was criticized for casting two non-Native women to play Native characters. Critics felt they " I think a lot of what makes were "unconvincing" as Aborigiplays where the actors cast are of racial backgrounds different from the characters they are portraying,

(see Double page 26.)



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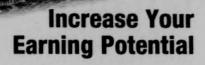






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[education] Work hard, plan for the long haul

By Cheryl Petten Windspeaker Staff Writer

WINNIPEG

Shawonipinesiik Kinew is only 18 years old, but her list of accomlishments would be impressive for someone twice that age.

Kinew is a member of the Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation in northern Ontario but was born in Winnipeg.

In May, Kinew graduated from the University of Winnipeg Collegiate, the only high school in Canada located on a university campus.

"It's a great school," Kinew said. "It runs on a university-length year and you have the opportunity to take university courses. And it's a very independent environment."

Kinew excelled academically in high school, earning a number of awards, but also found time to take part in many of the school's extracurricular activities. While in Grade 11 she was co-editor of Mindscape, the school's literary magazine, and contributed to the school's annual fashion show as a designer and a

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In addition to her interests in fashion and writing, Kinew is partial to film. She attended the Gulf Island Film and Television (GIFT) school in 2001 and 2002, where she made two films, acting as writer, director, editor and camera and sound crew on both projects. One of those films. The Girl Upstairs, won an award at the school's annual EyeLens Film and Video Festival. She also took courses offered by her high school, during which she created two more films.

Kinew said she's always enjoyed movies, but didn't think about getting involved in making films until she took part in a camp put on by the Women's Television Network

"They had this girls' camp, and it was on, I think, video and digital editing and that sort of thing. And so I think that was my first real introduction to film-making or video-making, I guess. So after that, I sort of pursued more film courses and things along that path

It's the storytelling aspect that Kinew likes most about film-making. "I've always liked writing, and so that appeals to me," she said. It's not something she sees as a potential career, however.

"It's just a very interesting way of expressing myself."

Kinew had another interesting experience in film-making last year when she volunteered as costume designer's aide during the produc-tion of Guy Maddin's film The Saddest Music in the World, starring Isabella Rossellini and Mark McKinney.

"My friend is really good friends with the costume designer, so I just started going down to the set and helping her iron things," she said of her infiltration of the production. "We made some fun things for the movie. Like we made some garters. I don't know if they actually made it into the movie, but I know Isabella Rossellini wore them. It was pretty exciting for us." (see International page 26.)

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[education] **International experience**

(Continued from page 25.)

This year, Shawonipinesiik Kinew was one of four high school students from across the country chosen to participate in The Hague International Model United Nations Conference, held to educate young participants about the role and structure of the UN while helping them develop skills in re- it was also really reassuring because thinking about post-secondary search, writing, organization, de- I realized how good my education bate and negotiation.

nity," Kinew said. "There were really interesting to see, just to see 4,000 students and it was in The Hague, so that was pretty amazing get a feeling for it," she said. because the conference centre where it took place was right across McGill University where she'll from some real United Nations courts. So it felt real.

ing because, I mean, there were so and literature.

many students there. And there were students speaking, you know, English was their second language or third language or fourth language. And pretty much everybody was working at the same level. I was surprised with that, and I was intimidated because a lot of these kids come from amazing schools. But was. I didn't feel like these kids were Grade 12. "It was a really great opportu- smarter than me. I felt fine. It was how the United Nations works and

This fall, Kinew will attend work towards a bachelor of arts degree. She'll study French and "At first it was really intimidat- maybe take some courses in history

Kinew will be getting some financial assistance to pursue her studies, thanks to the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation. She will receive a Local Excellence Award worth \$4,000.

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Kinew said she's often asked what advice she has for other students. and she says they should start studies long before they get to

"For me, it was always something that I knew I would do. It wasn't my dream to go to university. It was something I knew I'd have to do to get somewhere. I mean, I think you need to start young and work hard," she said. "I don't think that I'm extraordinarily brilliant or anything. I just think that, you know, I work hard."

Double standard irks author

(Continued from page 24.)

During a speaking engagement at the Magnetic North Theatre Festival held in Edmonton this past June, Tompson Highway posed the question: "Why allow the Italians and the Danes and the Scots and the Australians, etc., etc. to cast shows any old way they want and you specify that this Native playwright, it's not just me, has to cast their shows only in a certain specific racial way?"

While Yvette Nolan believes in the idea of "color-blind casting," she said she is torn because she wants to keep Native actors work- very limited training as an actress, and theatre ensembles like the Toing in Toronto.

"For me, it's a double-edged sword. Part of me wants colorblind casting, but I want all our I wouldn't go with a person with said. Native actors, all the Native ac- a status card. I would go with tors I use, I want them to be cast somebody who can read a line on all the stages of this town that I'm working in and I don't ever see them cast. Nobody casts them body who happened to be born complex, really moving play...It's a unless it says prostitutes, drunks, and then the Indians get cast...Tompson and I would love definitely prefer a Native actress it to be color-blind casting every- or Native actor, but you can't alwhere, but I don't think we're at ways get what you want," he said. that point yet."

finds himself "mellowing" on the Sisters was introduced as a fresh rule of hiring Native people to play new concept that explored a cul- story we've got. We've got all kinds Native roles. While Taylor believes ture unfamiliar to the theatre-go- of other stories to tell," she said.

tors because they may better un- is the great unknown, said Taylor. derstand the nuances of Aboriginal culture, he has been in situations where a Native actor has cancelled and a non-Native person was to the rule, and I think maybe, hired instead

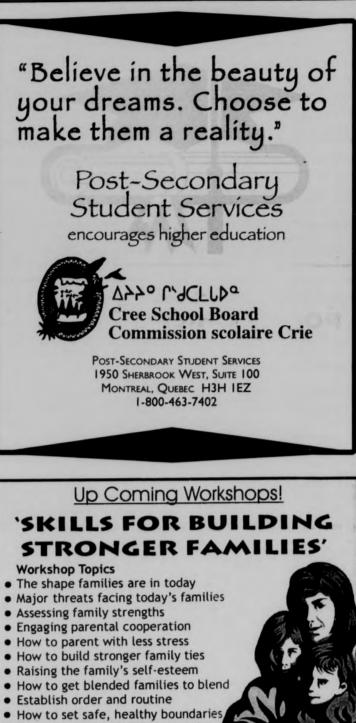
"In one production it was a Jewish woman. In another production it was a Chinese woman. They both did fabulous jobs and I have absolutely no criticism of the production. So, in that situation, given a choice between hiring somebody who does not have the training as an actress, or has but is Native, over somebody who is an absolutely brilliant actor or actress, but is non-Native, with authority, confidence and knowledge rather than just some- tal Woman, which is a huge, really into the right family. But in a perfect world though, I would

Laurentian Laurentienne

it's a good idea to hire Native ac- ing public. How far it can travel

"I think with the success of the Native theatre, we've now become part of the rule, not the exception maybe Native theatre's gotten a little comfortable and we're just waiting for that second wind to start shaking things up again." Nolan has faith in a new crop of talent on the scene. With Darrell Dennis (Trickster of Third Avenue East, Tales of an Urban Indian), Penny Gummerson (Wawatay), Dawn Dumont (Stalker, Little Brother) ronto-based Turtle Gals, Native theatre will continue to grow and become more sophisticated, she

"The first show we're doing [at Native Earth] next season is Marie Clement's Unnatural and Accidenvery complex theatrical piece and that's the kind of place I think we're going. Turtle Gal, they're doing really complex dense work that is not just about 'Poor me, this is my Native theatre has come a long obstacle and I overcame it and now Drew Haydent Taylor said he way from the time Highway's Rez I'm on the road to healing.' That's a valid story, but that's not the only



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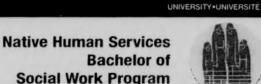
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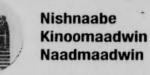
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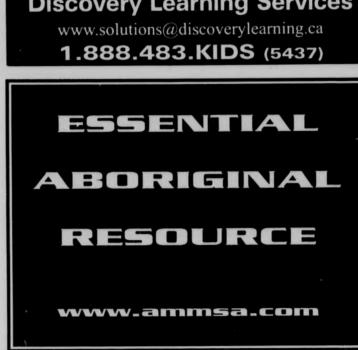


Offered through Laurentian University located at Sudbury Ontario where the four roads meet. This is a Professional degree which is accredited by the Canadian Schools of Social Work. The program recognizes and validates First Nation culture and values. Native Human Services is one of two Bachelor of Social Work Programs in Canada. The program duration is four years. There are ten Native Social Work courses and seven Native Studies courses along with a first year Psychology, Sociology and English.

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For more information on how you can achieve a career in native social work or to purchase any of the Native Social Work Journals, please feel free to contact the Native Human Services Department by telephone at 705-675-1151 extension 5082; by fax 705-675-4817 and by email at frecollet@laurentian.ca.

On behalf of the Faculty and staff of the Native Human Services Program, we wish to extend our warm wishes of success to all students in their educational endeavors.



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The successful applicant will be required to provide support, direction and leadership in developing and improving community partnerships, improving police and law enforcement services to a growing community, and in developing programs to prevent crime and protect life and property for people who live, play or work in Mnjikaning First Nation. The ability to generate, impart and achieve a clear vision and meaningful strategies to support that vision is paramount.

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Candidates should have at least five years of experience working in the Communications field a a senior level in a First Nations corporate or government working in the Communications field a Journalism, Communications, Public Relations or Public Administration, a Bachelors Degree in Journalism, Communications, Public Relations or Public Administration. Candidates should also be aware of and have respect and sensitivity for Aboriginal culture, heritage, traditions & protocols Experience and knowledge of Gaming in and working with Aboriginals would be an advantage

Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. This is a one-year contract position with the possibility of an extension. A detailed Job Description is available on request. We thank and appreciate the interest of all applicants, but must advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Interested persons should submit a résumé and covering letter with three current letters of reference no loter than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 24 to: Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership Attention: General Manager New Credit Commercial Plaza, Mailbox 10 4453 1st Line Road, Suite 204 Hagersville, Ontario NOA 1HO

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COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST POSITION (One-Year Contract Position)

[careers & training] Dudley's unlikely comrade

(Continued from page 19.)

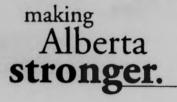
Instead Dudley George's name has become a rallying cry for busloads of social and political advocates, and a royal pain in the back end for Mike Harris, the former Ontario premier, on whose watch Dudley's days were ended. Many claim the blood from the policeman's bullet splashed onto Harris' hands, and so the inquiry.

Dudley George and Anne Frank, two names you don't normally ex-

pect to see linked together. Yet they years apart, have their roots in govof ordinary people who's very World War. deaths have vaulted them into the larger mainstream consciousness. died. In many ways, both died beboth their deaths, more than 50 Anne Frank didn't.

have joined the prestigious ranks ernment policy from the Second

Who knows what's going to happen with this official inquiry? Dudley George's and Anne Frank's Cynicism about inquiries in gencommitment to history came not eral and a serious scepticism in govfrom how they lived, but how they ernment's commitment to dealing with Native issues have made me a cause of what they were, their little jaded over the years. We can names becoming synonymous with only hope Dudley George didn't tradegy and injustice. It's ironic that die in vain. I think it's safe to say



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Senior Interpreter Program Services 2

Alberta Community Development, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Interpretive Centre (UNESCO World Heritage Site) Fort Macleod - Reporting to the Head of Interpretation, the Senior Interpreter is responsible for interpreting and presenting Blackfoot Culture as well as undertaking general subject matter interpretation at the Centre. The successful candidate will work with junior interpreters, lead the interpretation of subordinate interpreters for large visiting groups, and act as the alternate supervisor of the Interpretation Unit for the delivery of on-site programs. In the absence of the Head of Interpretation, as this is a seven day a week operation, you will design interpretive programs and lead demonstrations relating to Blackfoot history, cultural beliefs and traditions. You will ensure the public is provided with visitor experiences that are educational, enlightening and entertaining on values and traditions of the Blackfoot people, Aboriginal societies in general, and Canada's cultural diversity and history. You must apply department policies and procedures as well as generally accepted interpretive methodologies and policies of the National Historic Sites system and UNESCO. Duties will be performed demonstrating sensitivity and understanding of the cultural beliefs, philosophy and religion of Blackfoot Elders, Ceremonialists and Traditionalists, Excellent communication and organizational skills are necessary.

Qualifications: A University degree in History, Social Sciences, Native Studies or Museum Studies is required. Previous experience developing and delivering interpretative programs within a museum setting is preferred. Equivalencies may be considered. Knowledge of values and cultures of Aboriginal people of Canada, specifically Aboriginal Plains people (especially the Blackfoot) is required. Must be able to speak and write the Blackfoot language fluently. Fluency in other languages besides English, including sign language, is an asset. Experience working with the Microsoft Office Suite is required. This position will be required to work irregular hours including evenings and weekends. A valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License is required. Note: Final candidates for this position will be asked to undergo a security screening. Salary: \$41,976 - \$52,644. Closing Date: September 30, 2004.

Competition Number 24357-WDSP

Site Marketing and Special Events Coordinator

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Qualifications: A related diploma (i.e. Marketing) including experience in public relations and project management is preferred. Experience supervising staff is an asset. Equivalencies may be considered. Knowledge of Blackfoot traditions. rituals and culture as well as the ability to speak and comprehend the Blackfoot language is required. Experience working with Microsoft Office Suite and the Internet, as well as a valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License, is required. This position may be required to work irregular hours, including evenings and weekends. Note: Final candidates for this position will be asked to undergo a security screening. Salary: \$35,700 - \$43,968. Closing Date: September 30, 2004.

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[careers & training] **Roundtable commitment**

(Continued from page 11.)

tents of my mandate letter I can prime minister has made the desay that the prime minister was cision that this will be brought very alert, at the time of the into one place is so that in movchoice of his Cabinet and the ing forward someone is looking drafting of instructions, to the at all of these issues through the roundtable in April. So clearly, if same lens, but I'm not seeing one looks at what the roundtable the same things. That's possible was designed to do and what the and I'm quite confident that I roundtable identified as the six can achieve that in a way that priority areas, that figured prominently in this," he said. "I was the various organizations that specifically, as minister for Indian and Northern Affairs, charged with two of the six tables as a lead. I was familiar with housing because I was charged with the lead in housing before I became the minister of Indian and Northern issue. Affairs as the minister responsible for housing. So I knew the by the prime minister, the lanprocess and I knew where we were moving on this. My intention is to not only lead in the tables I've been asked officially to lead, but also as an advocate for the interests of a community. To sort of push my colleagues, work with them to cial problems that need to be make sure it's getting the level attended to independent of of attention in other very busy portfolios that it deserves."

When it was announced that Scott would have responsibility for all three Aboriginal groups, National Chief Phil Fontaine said he was concerned that the lines with some of the more challengwould become blurred and the unique requirements of First Nations would get lost in the shuf- believing instinctively in a refle. Scott said he was aware of the concerns

He said he understands the logic in "depositing the responsibility for the broad series of issues that confront the commu- ority areas identified at the Abonity" with one person and the riginal roundtable-lifelong learnchallenge of not "confusing the ing, housing, accountability, ecodifference in the nature of the re- nomic development, health and lationship that exists in each land claims-will drive the agenda.

"Without revealing the con- "I think the reason that the respects the unique nature of

> we speak of." Ottawa insiders say there are two kinds of government officials: those who believe in self-government and those who don't. Scott was asked where he stood on the

"I believe, as was articulated guage of nation to nation. I believe that we would be starting out this relationship in a respectful way of recognizing that there is value in moving forward from that premise," he said. "I think that there are serious sowhere you stand on those other legal/political positions. So, to some extent, the pragmatist in me would like to be able to make sure that we attend to those issues while we struggle ing political/legal issues, but I would characterize myself as spectful relationship with other governments."

Scott said he does not plan to introduce any governance legislation. Instead, talks on the six pri-



The Assembly of First Nations/National Indian Brotherhood (AFN/NIB) is seeking a highly committed professional to oversee the Human Resources functions of the organization. The Human Resources Director will work with a strong team to lead the AFN/NIB in its effort to reorganize and restructure the entire Secretariat.

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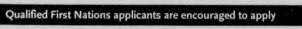
Applicants should be self-directed with excellent interpersonal, managerial, presentation and writing skills, as well as strong analytical thinking abilities. The successful applicant must have extensive management experience as well as direct experience working with First Nations personnel at a band, tribal council or other level of First Nations administrations or governments.

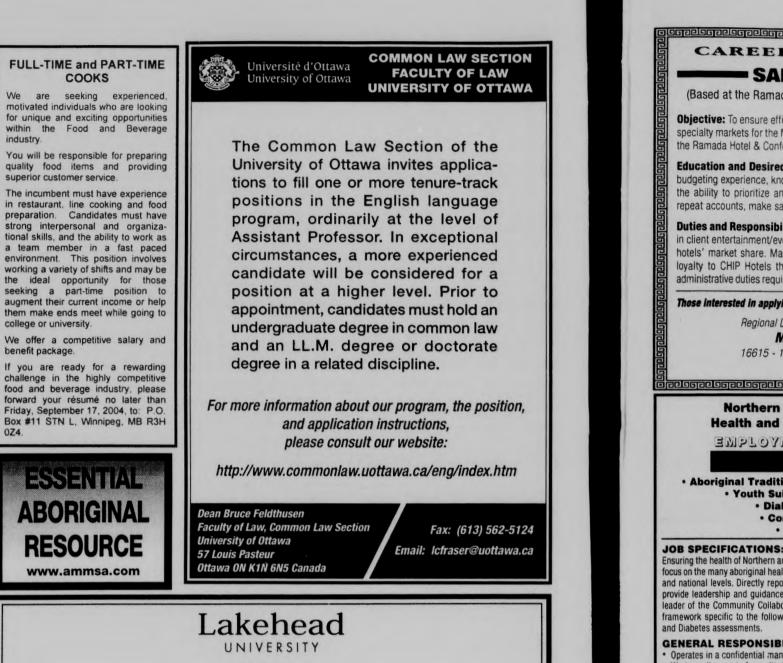
Applicants must have a post-secondary related education with a ninimum of ten years experience in the field of Human Resources. A CHRP designation is required. Remuneration will be dependent on qualifications and experience.

To apply for this exciting opportunity, please forward a résumé and covering letter, including three references, to:

> Assembly of First Nations Human Resources Suite 1002, One Nicholas Street Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7 Fax: (613) 241-6870 Email: humanresources1@afn.ca

Closing date for applications will be September 12, 2004





SSHRC Tier II Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies

The Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Program was established by the Government of Canada to foster world-class centres of research excellence in the global, knowledge-based economy. Lakehead University is seeking to fill one Social Sciences and Humanities Research (SSHRC) Tier II Chair in Aboriginal Studies beginning in Fall 2005 or Winter 2006.

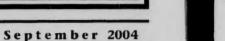
Lakehead University is dedicated to working with Aboriginal peoples in furthering their educational aspirations. A significant mandate of the University is to serve the vast region of northwestern Ontario and the Aboriginal community through on-campus and community-based programming, part-time studies and distance education. For almost two decades it has been providing national leadership in developing programs that meet the needs of Canada's Aboriginal peoples. In 1994, Lakehead University established the Department of Indigenous Learning, which now features some 29 indigenous learning courses and 5 courses within associated programs/departments. In addition, courses with an Aboriginal focus are taught in many traditional disciplines (Anthropology, Art History, Education, English, Forestry, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Social Work, and Sociology). We have the highest university enrolment of Aboriginal people in the Province of Ontario. The Lakehead University campus of the Northern Ontario Medical School provides a unique opportunity to achieve a positive impact on the health of Aboriginal Canadians (rural/ remote/northern) by training physicians to address Aboriginal health care needs. Our location in Northwestern Ontario and our concentration of research expertise place us in a strong position to undertake significant studies of great importance to the Aboriginal community, particularly in the areas of (a) Aboriginal health [both traditional and contemporary], (b) native education and distance delivery, and (c) indigenous knowledge. For additional details regarding the proposed research concentrations in Aboriginal Studies, interested candidates are directed to Lakehead University's CRC Strategic Research Plan at www.lakeheadu.ca/~researchwww. Tier II candidates must be acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead their research fields.

Lakehead University is located at the head of the Great Lakes in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, and offers a comprehensive array of programs in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Arts, Sciences, siness, Education, Engineering, Forestry, Kinesiology, Nursing, Social Work, Environmental Studies, and Outdoor Recreation. Lakehead is a national and international institution and the majority of its approximately 7,300 students come from outside northwestern Ontario. The University has over 265 faculty engaged in teaching and research. For more information about Lakehead University, please visit our web site at www.lakeheadu.ca.

Lakehead University is committed to Employment Equity, welcomes diversity in the workplace and encourages applications from all qualified applicants, including women, individuals within visible minorities, Aboriginal persons, and persons with disabilities. The Canada Research Chairs Program imposes no restrictions on nominees with regard to nationality or country of residence.

Applications and nominations including a curriculum vitae, five year research plan and three (3) confidential letters of recommendation sent under separate cover by the candidate's referees should be forwarded to Dr. Frederick F. Gilbert, President, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 5E1, Review of applications will begin on November 15, 2004.

Please note that all positions are subject to review and final approval by the CRC Secretariat in Ottawa. For additional information on the CRC Program, please visit the program website at: www.chairs.gc.ca.



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SALES MANAGER -(Based at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center on Kingsway)

Objective: To ensure efficient and effective selling of the Aboriginal and other pecialty markets for the Mayfield Inn & Suites, the Delta Edmonton South, and the Ramada Hotel & Conference Centre.

Education and Desired Qualifications: Hotel sales experience preferred, budgeting experience, knowledge of Delphi Sales & Catering system an asset, the ability to prioritize and manage accounts, prospect and solicit new and repeat accounts, make sales presentations.

Duties and Responsibilities: Set up and pursue target accounts, participate in client entertainment/events. Identify and maximize opportunities to broaden hotels' market share. Maintain customer and community relations and build loyalty to CHIP Hotels through client partnerships and strategic alliances, administrative duties required and strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Those interested in applying are invited to forward a resume in confidence to:

Regional Director of Human Resource Services Mayfield Inn & Suites

16615 - 109 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5P 4K8 Fax: 780-489-6396 اووى وووى وووى وووى وووى وووى

Northern and Aboriginal Population Health and Wellness Institute (NAPHWI) EWSTOAMENA Obbostnulles

TEAM LEADERS

Aboriginal Traditional Healing Information Team Leader • Youth Suicide Information Team Leader Diabetes Information Officer Community Liaison Worker
 Information Gatherer

Other duties as required

Diabetes Projects

free lifestyle

or Diabetes respectively

uring the health of Northern and Aboriginal people is a priority, NAPHWI will provide a specific focus on the many aboriginal health issues that need to be addressed at local, regional, provincial and national levels. Directly reporting to the Project Coordinator, all Information Team Leaders provide leadership and guidance to the information gathering and collaboration team. As the eader of the Community Collaboration Teams, the Leaders devise a community collaboration framework specific to the following projects; the Aboriginal Traditional Healing, Youth Suicide

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES - ALL POSITIONS:

Operates in a confidential manner in accordance with a professional code of ethics Works well as part of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals

Ability to implement Community Collaboration Framework

· Ability to work in both the Aboriginal Traditional and Western perspectives

Willingness to participate in Ceremonies or other team building activities Participation in gathering information

 Experience in community development and understands health related and social implications. mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually of youth suicide, diabetes and Aboriginal

Has excellent written, interpersonal and oral communication skills Participates in meetings, discussions, collaborations in writing draft interim and final reports in conjunction with appropriate teams and/or workers as is required Ability to translate Cree and English is considered an asset

INFORMATION TEAM LEADERS

· Ability to take direction from the Project Co-ordina

 Ability to supervise other staff in conjunction with the Project Co-ordinator Creation of community collaboration framework in conjunction with Community Collaboration Team specific to community issues regarding Aboriginal Traditional Healing, Youth Suicide and

Provide leadership and culturally based guidance to the Information Teams Initiate the compilation and interpretation of data Possesses specific knowledge of health issues in relation to Traditional Healing, Youth Suicide

Has previous office experience including competency on computer and internet Has a valid class 5 license, access to a reliable vehicle and is willing to travel

Education and Experience: Must produce proof of apprenticeship to a recognized, accredited Elder, maintaining a substance

Will have been facilitating Traditional Ceremonies in the community

Must be willing to be evaluated by a Circle of people

· Must have a valid Youth Care Certificate; related degree from an accredited facility or is established as a Traditional Teacher, Healer or Counsellor, or a combination of education and experience will be considered

COMMUNITY LIAISON WORKER Acting as a linguistic translator wherever required Ability to take direction from the Team Leaders

· Excellent coordination skills for scheduling appointments, information sessions, gathering and feasts with community members and Information Team

Has extensive knowledge of community families and community protocols Education and Experience:

Desk Top publishing and computer skills are required to develop promotional materials Has valid class 5 license, access to a reliable vehicle and is willing to travel

INFORMATION GATHEREF

Acting as a linguistic translator wherever required · Ability to take direction from the Team Leaders

 Ability to investigate, study, explore, examine and make inquiries into community health issues Ability to prioritize, complete and follow up on work tasks until completion Ability to process data and do data entry into a computer data entry system in accordance with the community collaboration framework

Education and Experience: Possess a business certificate or a combination of education and related experience with a minimum of 2 years working in a functional office with proficiency on computer To facilitate and clarify information responses from communities and other respondents Has valid class 5 license, access to a reliable vehicle and is willing to travel

Salary for all positions is dependent upon qualifications and experience. A complete job description can be obtained by calling (204) 677-7360. Interested candidates are invited to submit in confidence, a resume with references and a letter of application stating salary expectations. The ideal candidate will facilitate the work of the Institute through professional and ethical practices, and will be able to work independently as well as in a team environment

REFERENCES ARE MANDATORY

Executive Director: NAPHWI

204-83 Churchill Drive, Thompson, Manitoba R8N 0L6 Phone: (204) 677-7360 Fax: (204) 677-7394 Email: jwiebe@naphwi.ca

[careers and training] **Tell creditors to back off**

(Continued from page 19.)

membership is one of most signifi- always tell her to make arrange- bill collector identify himself or cant issues facing our communities. Bill C-31 did not eliminate the dis- been told by other family members and provide a licence number upon crimination, it pushed it one gen- to change my phone numbers, but request. Once you have this inforeration away and the problem is still there. Bill C-31 has affected every single family in one form or another. If we continue to ignore this issue, we may find that our grandchildren are no longer Indians.

Dear Tuma:

I just had a question about some for my sister? phone calls that I have been receiving. My sister lives next door to me and was not able to keep up with Dear Not My Sister's Secretary: her bills which resulted in her losing her phone. I have asked her re- call you, ask for the name and the peatedly not to use my phone licence number of the person. number as a contact number be- Under most provinces there is a cause I am the one who has to deal creditors remedies act, which pre-

with the bill collectors when they vents harassment of creditors. The The issue of status and band call. She just ignores them, and 1 ments with these people. I have herself, the company they are with as you can see, this is not my problem and I should not have to by that name (who they are calling change my number. If I ask these for) lives at this number. Tell them bill collectors not to call my home any more, do they have to stop? Personally, I am tired of taking messages for my sister. So, can I tell the bill collectors to not call my home call.

Not My Sister's Secretary

The next time the bill collectors

Northern beauty

(Continued from page 19.) Or, Qallunaat standards have shifted and corrected themselves to a reality more accurate than the times when ugliness of Eskimo women was grossly mis-defined to be the rule and not the exception

On the other hand, not an ugly Qallunaat woman appeared in the Arctic for ages! Arnaapik, or (those who study Qallunaat fair woman, was a common nick- ways). name for many of them. It has many more than a handful of

them, all lovingly called ukuak (daughter-in-law)!

The transformation of Inuit women from savage ugliness to Barbie doll-dom should be tracked in documentary detail. This work would be a perfect opportunity for collaboration by Eskimologists (those who study Inuit ways), and Qallunologists

taken a longer while for Qallunaat reality resides somewhere be- rently studying for a PhD in law at women to be "wife-able" by Es- tween all Eskimo women being kimo men, but there are now ugly and all Qallunaat women being beautiful.

law usually requires that a bona fide mation, tell him or her that no one that if they persist in calling, you will be making a complaint to either the credit bureau or to the better business bureau. Then end the

Make sure you have a scribbler next to the phone along with a pen so you can write down the time, date, name, company and licence number of the bill collector. Be firm but polite. Do not get into a conversation with the person; do not offer any information about your sister, where she lives or how they can find her. Just tell them that no one lives there by that name and if they keep calling, you will report them. If they keep calling, report them

You are lucky that your sister is only giving out your phone number. She could have stolen your identity and caused a whole lot of trouble for you. Don't give anyone your social insurance number or any personal information, not even family members.

This column is not intended to provide legal advice but rather highlight situations where you should consult They will likely discover that with a lawyer. Tuma Young is curthe University of British Columbia and questions can be sent to him via e-mail at: puoin@telus.net





FIRST NATIONS

UNIVERSITY

The First Nations University of Canada is a First Nations-controlled University with approximately 2000 students currently enrolled. Since our inception in 1976, The First Nations University of Canada has earned an international reputation as a visionary academic leader.

Following the leadership of the Vice-President (Academics) and as a member of the Academic team, the Dean is responsible for the operations of the eight academic departments on the Regina Campus. Under the

direction of the Vice-President (Academics) and in consultation with Elders, Faculty and Administration, the Dean is responsible for all aspects of the Regina Campus operations. Responsibilities include promoting the First Nations University of Canada mission; participating in the budget process; planning, developing and implementing of short and long range goals for the campus; participating in unit reviews. The Dean also serves as a member of the University of Regina Deans' Council and is responsible for implementing policy set by the SIFC Board of Governors.

The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. or Terminal Degree (LL.M., M.F.A.) or a Master's degree in an appropriate discipline and a record of achievement in First Nations University education, demonstrated commitment to advancing the goals of Indigenous people, strong administrative skills or experience in an academic setting, outstanding human relations and leadership skills. As well, the successful candidate will have superior communication skills, proven skills in budget management and control, administrative decision-making and proven skills in policy development. Proficiency in a First Nations language is desirable.

The successful candidate for this position will commence duties November 1, 2004. Salary will commensurate with experience and qualifications. Preference will be given to First Nations candidates (S.H.R.C. E93-13); therefore, please indicate your First Nations status on your covering letter. Applicants interested in the position should submit their résumés with a covering letter as soon as possible to:

Dr. Eber Hampton, President First Nations University of Canada **1** First Nations Way Regina, SK S4S 7K2

Closing Date: September 17, 2004

Phone: (306) 790-5950, Ext. 2100 ~ Fax: (306) 790-5999

[footprints] Will Sampson documentary ensures actor is remembered

Will Sampson's last remaining sibling, Norma Sampson Bible, wants people to know there was much more to the Muscogee Creek man than the 22 films he made between 1975 and 1986. mother has spent 10 of the past Jack Nicholson. 17 years writing his biography.

For one thing, her book Beloved Brother reveals that Sampson, who died in 1987 at couldn't speak Native languages what he was." age 53, was recognized for his and who didn't care about culpaintings and drawings long be- tural authenticity. fore he achieved notoriety as the first Native actor to break the lent, sharp, supposedly catatonic over the years. His image stands surely, he was mold of demeaning Native film mental patient Chief Bromden is tall enough on its own without actor stereotypes.

was his first love," said Bible.

As a young man, Sampson, known as "Sonny" to his friends and family, had numerous commissions, sales and public exhi- Italians or Mexicans got the parts, not a navy pilot." bitions to his credit. His paint- as bad as the parts were. ings and sketches of Western and traditional Native themes are dis- spectful way Native people were tributed across the United States in the Smithsonian Institute, the Denver Art Gallery, the Gilcrease ple generally, his sister said. Institute, the Philbrook Art Museum in Tulsa, Okla., the Creek Council House in Okmulgee, vocate and rolling stone. Okla. and in private collections.

time he could hold a pencil in his hand, that boy drew," his sister said. "When he didn't have no paper and pencil, he'd draw on to support them, though, before the ground.

"Before he even went to school, me and my sister would bring our linesman. Bible said that while books home, and if he couldn't find any clean paper, he'd draw everyday (tribal) activities, he just they had found their Indian. So he on the covers of our books. We'd get mad, and take his pencils away he was a Muskogee Creek. He was Over the Cuckoo's Nest." from him. I never dreamed that a full-blood, and he built them later on I wouldn't even be able to afford one of his paintings af-

to highlight all of her

ments, it's likely it will be "He was in the navy from 1953 about their Sampson's unique contribution to 1955, I believe it was ... and the movie industry that most peo- after he got out he was gone again ple remember, beginning with his the 1975 production of One Flew he was painting, drawing. That's why this great-grand- Over the Cuckoo's Nest alongside

by non-Native actors who

credited with changing the pre- any embellishment, she figures. "First of all, before he was ever vailing Hollywood images of Inanything else, he was an artist. It dians. Up to then, Native Americans were portrayed as illiterate sidekicks, self-effacing non-selfstarters, and otherwise cast in servile or unsavory roles. Usually, how to pilot a plane, but he was Grade 9 and

Sampson rankled at the disreportrayed in film and he had a

In her book, Bible talked about her brother's roles as activist, ad-

man, although he had nine children. He worked at a lot of jobs he got into acting. He was a construction worker, oil field worker, always was proud of the fact that up just every chance he could."

During his sporadic visits home ter I used to wad his pa- "he would go to the stomp dances, pers up and throw them go to church with us and visit and then something else would come Despite Bible's efforts up and off he would go.

"Then in between there, of brother's accomplish- course, he had marriages.

By Joan Taillon

... doing whatever he could to begun to read portrayal of Chief Bromden in earn a living. And all the time, up on tribal

"Some of his paintings sold and he'd have a high old time. And Up to then, most Native then use that up and he'd be look-American film parts were played ing for work again. You've heard of starving artists; I guess that's

Bible's book also strives to clear still had his wild up false stories about Sampson moments, etc., Sampson's film debut as the si- perpetuated by various media but slowly and

> For instance, one newspaper to say that reported Sampson was a navy pilot, Bible said, "which he wasn't. He was in the navy and some- completed where along the line he learned

She said her brother became an actor by happy chance.

"What he told me, he was up there in Yakima, Washington, lot of anger towards white peo- somewhere up there in the mountains painting and drawing and coming down once in a while. He said he had a friend in town. He came down to check his mail or She admits he drank, and that something and his friend told him "He was self-taught. From the he had a hard time staying in one that they were in town casting for place long enough to be a family a movie and said they needed 'a tall, ugly Indian.' Those were his words... So my brother thought, 'Why not?' He was always one to take a gamble anyway.

"So he walked to this casting office ... they said the minute he "he was never involved in any walked in the door, they said, boy, was the mute Indian in One Flew

Bible said he had a serious side. Sampson demonstrated against the oppression Native Americans experienced every day, not just in

"In between his movie roles, Sonny also found time to travel to other Indian reservations and towns to speak on their behalf

problems. He told me he had politics and government... His lifestyle was slowly beginning to change. He would still drink and he letting up."

Bible went on Sampson, who she believes school only to who started out as a rodeo rider at age 14, struggled one time to

decide whether he should accept a speaking invitation at an Indian school graduation in South Dakota.

He told her, "I get all mad again when I think about how the Indians have been mistreated all these years, and I can give them hell, but I never even finished school myself, so what can I tell these kids?"

"By the very fact that you didn't finish school and had a rough time of it, that should make them realize that they need all the peoples ... There remains much schooling they can get," Bible advised him.

Sampson became a founding member of the American Indian Registry for the Performing Arts, which helped American Indian performers and technicians get work, and which pushed for cultural accuracy in scripts in the last decades of the 20th century.

Sampson also worked to promote accurate on-screen portray- Alanis Obomsawin and als of Native Americans by join- Wishelle Banks



Will Sampson may well be remembered for his role in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, but he was an accomplished artist long before he played the silent Indian opposite Jack Nicholson in the 1975 film.

> ing the board of the American Indian Film Institute (AIFI). That non-profit organization

> > also wants Sampson's legacy preserved, which is the reason it is chronicling his "life, art, and love of adventure" in a documentary.

Michael Smith, founder and president of AIFI, stated in a publicity release that "Will's legacy is the path he cleared for non-stereotypical roles for Native work ahead to clear the world of misconceptions and misrepresentations of Native Americans in film. Will's life challenged the status quo. We are proud to begin the process of making this documentary film."

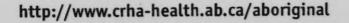
Sampson's sister and his son Tim are creative consultants on the documentary. Others on the team are Smith, Phil Lucas,

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