

# **Community** Newsletter

SUMMER 2015

Volume 8 Issue 3



## CULTURE CAMP 2015—CAN'T WAIT FOR NEXT YEAR!!



Wachey! Fox Lake Ney-hwee-nee-no-wuk !

# CHIEFS REPORT

#### Wachay!

Just as a number of animals prepare for Mother Earth taking a well earned winter rest by building up their food stores, the Chapleau Cree First Nation leadership is gearing up for a hard autumn push to move our community forward before taking a break over the holiday season.

Many of the strategic targets set by Chief and Council at the beginning of our term are coming to a head at the same time and this is keeping us particularly busy.

For example, the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) process is in its final stage, many of our community economic partnerships are ramping up, our cultural renewal agenda was recently given a financial shot in the arm and our environmental guardianship program recently achieved a major milestone. Some of these projects are interrelated and this makes it difficult to explain in an easy way just how much work is being done. Here is a snapshot of the work currently under way either at the community level or at the regional level by the NSRCF, presented in bullet form to keep it short, and divided into the following Medicine Wheel categories:

#### Governance

- CCFN governance and administrative continual improvement review underway
- CCFN looking at developing a community development corporation
- CCFN TLE community ratification procedures under development
- Regional Enhanced Sustainable Forest License (ESFL) underway
- Regional development corporation being created

#### Fiscal

- NSRCF forestry sector resource revenue sharing pilot project initiated
- NSRCF mining and energy sector resource revenue sharing modeling underway
- NSRCF sector-based profit sharing modeling underway

#### **Economic Development**

- CCFN signed a Community Relationship Agreement with Tembec
- CCFN developing an Impact Benefit Agreement with Gold Corp.
- CCFN advancing a number of joint venture partnership agreements
- Regional Mining Strategy under development
- Regional Energy Forum scheduled to take place before end of year
- First Nations Forest Resource License requested for the Magpie Forest
- A number of regional business-to-business agreements underway

#### Lands and Land Stewardship

- CCFN hosted a comprehensive forest management planning training session
- CCFN TLE Environmental Assessment Notice of Completion has been filed
- Regional guardianship program launched, with youth and Elders working together
- Regional environmental mapping process underway
- Regional legacy and abandoned mines agenda initiated
- Regional Guardianship Initiative completed phase one, ongoing into the new year to secure our rightful place on the land

#### **Capacity Building**

- CCFN looking at hiring a new economic development officer
- A project coordinator was hired for the GoldCorp/Borden Lake project representing the three area First Nations
- Regional, community based, centres of excellence process advancing
- Regional learning centre under consideration
- Regional mentorship program to transfer strategic capacity to communities

#### Culture

- CCFN annual Pow Wow held
- CCFN Youth cultural camp held at Racine Lake
- Residential School Graveyard Commemorative Ceremony held
- Funding secured to support CCFN cultural programming
- Regional Manitou Mountain Protection Plan agenda continues to advance

These points provide only a snapshot of the real work being advanced as part of the CCFN community development agenda, as outlined in our Community Development Strategy. I trust that the membership will agree that the leadership is overseeing important work that will serve to advance our collective community objectives in a balanced and culturally appropriate way. While I cannot predict the rate at which some of these projects and activities may advance over the next few years, I am confident that progress will continue to be made towards rebuilding our governance autonomy if we continue to invest in the community development agenda, especially if we continue to work together.

Meegwetch.

Chief Keeter Corston



Chief Keith "Keeter" Corston, Kathleen McFadden, Assistant Deputy Minister, Forest Industry Division, OMNR Chief Kevin Tangie, Brunswick House First Nation Chief Jason Gauthier, Missanbie Cree First Nation Signing of the Forest Sector Resource Revenue Sharing Agreement







WEBSITE IS NOW UP... www.chapleaucree.com

#### Wachey;

Upgraded lighting at the Public Works Garage (PWG) building and at the band office are helping us to be more energy efficient and have a cost savings advantage regarding the use of energy for our buildings. We will progress with this approach with the goal of becoming energy efficient and thus more cost effective in all of our energy use. Qualifying residents on reserve participated in the Aboriginal Conservation Program and we were able to complete 15 energy home audits, basic and extended measures installed in 15 homes, weatherization installed in 6 homes, 12 new appliances installed in 11 homes, thermostats installed in 6 homes and post weatherization audits to follow up on efficiencies.

The new CCFN webpage has been completed and is now online. The page is an on-going work in progress and will be a conduit from the CCFN to its members worldwide. The page will be updated on a regular basis to keep the members informed of new and ongoing business of the CCFN. We have also included a gallery of photographs and ask that if any members have photos of past members to make them available to us for display. We invite you to check out the page at <a href="http://www.chapleaucree.com">http://www.chapleaucree.com</a>

Currently the CCFN is working with Zarex Business Centre to perform an assessment of the CCFN businesses with the intent of developing a 5 year economic strategic plan. With the input of council, staff and membership the goal is to establish a framework to move forward and take advantage of proposed resource based economic development ventures in the area as well as create opportunity for small businesses to be incubated for our members. We will be inviting comments and input from our members for this project.

The CCFN has retained the services of a provincially licensed small engine mechanic certified with many of the major small engine manufacturers. Michael Lasante will be the technician providing repair services at the newly developed Chapleau Cree Small Engine Repair. Michael brings over 20 years of experience with him. Currently, this new venture is the only licensed repair shop of its kind in our area. There is a demonstrated need for this service as is apparent with Michael's schedule. The grand opening of the shop will be October 3, 2015 with regular business hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday to commence October 5, 2015.

# What is a Band Council Resolution (BCR)

BCR's are required to initiate, authorize or approve numerous transactions under the Indian Act; they are a First Nation's means of providing instructions and/or approvals for the individual First Nation and sometimes to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANAC).

They may, for reference purposes, be defined as a record of a First Nation council decision made by a majority of the councillors of a First Nation at a meeting of the council.

To better serve the day to day operation at the band office a storage garage has been constructed. This will allow us to store our files for the required 7 year period. The garage will free up space in the band office building and allow us to bring the building up to the newly formed fire regulations as implemented in 2014.

We have also constructed a new garage/change-room building at the outdoor rink area. This garage will house the necessary maintenance equipment for the rink including our Zamboni as well as provide a changing area for patrons to put on skates, equipment and warm up on colder days. Our next project for the rink area will be the installation of outdoor lights for the playing surface area.

Work for the addressment of the elevated THM's and HAA's in our water system is progressing with our funder Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). We are committed to complete the engineering design stage of the project with the construction phase estimated to begin in the spring, contingent on our funder's commitment to provide the necessary funding for the project.

The fiscal year end for the CCFN will once again demonstrate a positive financial outlook for the operation. The CCFN has received a positive response from our funder AANDC. We have been commended on our liquidity ratio, the sustainability ratio and our capital to revenue ratio. All hallmarks that the CCFN is able to meet all of its operational requirements both in the short and long term.

Meegwetch Brian Edwards Band Administrator

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." -Mahatma Ghandi

Shingwauk Gathering and Conference 2015 Held at Algoma University—Celebrating Resilience



## **Education News** ~ Lynn Turner, Education Counsellor

I am happy to report that once again we were able to fund all students who applied for funding through CCFN's <u>Post-Secondary Student Support Program</u> for the 2015/16 academic year. To ensure that all funding is in place for the beginning of the academic year, I encourage anyone who is interested in post-secondary studies to apply for funding prior to the set deadlines. Our funding has not increased in at least eight years yet the post-secondary education costs continue to rise. I encourage potential students to be proactive and to plan accordingly when considering a post-secondary education.

## Did You Know?

CCFN receives funding from AANDC for post-secondary students at the beginning of the fiscal year only. Once these funds are expended there are no options for additional funds from AANDC. CCFN only receives enough funding for 14 to 16 students,

depending on the students' programs of study.

Most colleges and universities now have Aboriginal centres on campus. These centres offer a variety of services such as academic program services; peer mentoring and tutoring programs; academic supports; emergency food cupboards; community meals such as soup and bannock; and academic counselling services. They also offer cultural supports such as Elders on campus, counselling, talking circles and cultural teachings.

I encourage post-secondary students to take advantage of this little community within their campus.

The summer was pretty quiet this year in the Education Department.

Unfortunately we did not have a Summer Science Camp as our funder, Omushkego Education (Mushkegowuk Council) did not receive enough funding this year, however the Education Department did provide our youth and their families with a trip to Science North in Sudbury.

Once again, this year we will be providing an <u>After-School Program</u> and various evening programs for families funded through our <u>New Paths for</u> <u>Education proposal.</u>

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at <u>lynn.turner@chapleaucree.ca</u> or via telephone 705-864-0784 extension 227.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Chapleau Cree First Nation (CCFN) receives funding from Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for on reserve students attending Provincial schools in Chapleau. Tuition costs for the on-reserve students range from \$12,000 to \$14,000 per student per academic year, depending on the level of education and the school board. On-reserve students are added to our yearly <u>Nominal Roll</u> submission to AANDC and only those students are entitled to services provided by this funding which includes transportation to the provincial schools and special education needs. This funding is specific to on-reserve students and cannot be used for those who live off-reserve, as per our funding guidelines.



A BIG "THANK YOU" goes out to our Summer Students... Tim Raposo, Dylan Cachagee, Jaime Fortin, Tamara Weeks, Deanna Bennett and Nat Redwood... (absent Conner McAuley) You did a magnificent job...looking forward to working with you next year!

Did you know?.. Chapleau Cree First Nation supports Chapleau Minor Hockey and donates towards one HOME and AWAY Jersey. \*Pictured Hallee Moreau



In Appreciation for your generous support of Chapleau Minor Hockey through the

2014 - 15

**Jersey Sponsorship Program** 



Congratulations to Corrina "Queenie" Brunette, she caught the big one on her recent visit to Chapleau...131b Pike... anyone feeling homesick?? Health Centre Report –September 2015

Greetings Band members,

As fall approaches we see the temperatures drop, days seem to become shorter and schedules become the mainstay of most of our lives, we too at the Health Centre are busy with our fall scheduling. Please keep your eye on the mail as we are introducing new programming for both seniors and community members, various workshops dealing with lateral violence, bullying and cyber bullying, compassion fatigue, overcoming grief and Mental Health First Aid to name a few.

Over the past few months we have successfully hosted the Youth Cultural Camp for a week in July at the Racine Lake site. We also hosted a successful fun day to bring together the community and guests in a mix of social activities before the Traditional Gathering. In addition we have continued with our regular programming and services to our clients and community.

Our foot care program which is a very successful program; had been put on hold over the course of the summer, since our Foot Care Nurse was recovering from surgery. We anticipate this valuable program re-starting within the month of October and clients will be contacted with scheduled appointments. If you are not currently a client and require this service, please contact us for additional information.

As mentioned previously, we were a designated contingency site for the Northern Ontario School of Medicine; however, we were not required to be activated as a contingency site. We are anticipating the arrival of two first year medical students in our community the spring of 2016 for a 4 week placement.

We have applied to a variety of sources to obtain additional funding to offer various types of new programming within the community and are still awaiting approval on the funding decisions. Once again, new programming information will be made available in mail-outs, pamphlets and on our Facebook page.



#### FESTIVAL OF HOPE (formerly Relay for Life)

## **Congratulations**

to our participants... Peggy Domingue, Steve Domingue, Amanda Domingue, Marjorie Lee, Debra O'Brien, Laura Barker, Lynn Turner, and Payton and Keenan Domingue *"WAY TO GO"*  We are pleased to welcome to our team Terri McAuley, as our new Personal Support Worker (PSW) as we bid farewell and good luck to our long time PSW, Carla. We also bid farewell to our Meals on Moccasins Cook, Amanda Domingue, our loss was the gain of the administration office and we wish her well in her new position. We currently have two vacant positions which we will have filled prior to the end of September.

#### AS A REMINDER

If you require funding assistance under the First Nation Inuit Health Branch's (FNIHB) long distance medication transportation program; they will require a minimum of two weeks for application processing.

For members within the Chapleau and surrounding area, please submit your requests directly to the Health Centre.

For members outside our catchment area, please contact FNIHB, Ontario Region directly at 1-800-331-3921 for assistance.

## Iron Kids Program—Healthy Eating and Exercise





Drum Bag and Skirt Making



Hallee Moreau



**Evangeline Barsalou** 



Marjorie Cachagee Lee



# **OUR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS**

#### The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 'NATIONAL'



The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is a national advocacy organization representing First Nation citizens in Canada. This includes more than 900,000 people living in 634 First Nation communities and in cities and towns across the country.

First Nation leaders (Chiefs) from coast to coast to coast direct the work of AFN through resolutions passed at Chiefs Assemblies held at least twice a year.



Grand Chief

The AFN National Executive is made up of the National Perry Bellegarde Chief, 10 Regional Chiefs and the chairs of the Elders,

Women's and Youth councils.

Regional Chiefs are elected every three years by Chiefs in their regions. Chiefs, who are elected by the citizens and members of their respective communities, elect the National Chief every three years.

The role of the National Chief and the AFN is to advocate on behalf of First Nations as directed by Chiefs-in-Assembly. This includes facilitation and coordination of national and regional discussions and dialogue, advocacy efforts and campaigns, legal and policy analysis, communicating with governments, relationship building between First Nations and the Crown as well as public and including facilitating private sectors and general public.

For more information on the (AFN) go to: www.afn.ca For more information on the National Chief www.perrybellegarde.com

#### \*The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) emerged from and replaced the Canadian National Indian Brotherhood and is an assembly of First Nations represented by their Chiefs.

#### THE CHIEFS OF ONTARIO (COO) 'PROVINCIAL'



The Chiefs of Ontario is a political forum and secretariat for collective decision-making, action, and advocacy for the 133 First Nations communities located within the boundaries of the province of Ontario. Guided by the Chiefs in Assembly, they uphold self-determination efforts of the

Anishinaabek, Mushkegowuk, Onkwehonwe, and Lenape Peoples in protecting and exercising their inherent and Treaty rights. Keeping in mind the wisdom of our Elders, and the future for our youth, we continue to create the path forward in building our Nations as strong, healthy Peoples respectful of ourselves, each other, and all creation.

The activities of the Chiefs of Ontario are mandated through and guided by:

- Resolutions passed by the Chiefs in Assembly of the 133 First Nations in Ontario •
- The Political Confederacy made up of the Grand Chiefs of Political territorial organizations (PTO) and Independent First Nations
- The elected Regional Chief for the Chiefs of Ontario

For more information on COO and Grand Chief Isadore Day go to: www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/



**Grand Chief Isadore Day** 

### Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) 'NORTHERN'



Nishnawbe Aski Nation (known as Grand Council Treaty No. 9 until 1983) was established in 1973. It represents the legitimate, socioeconomic, and political aspirations of its First Nation members of Northern Ontario to all levels of government in order to allow local self-determination while establishing spiritual, cultural, social, and economic independence.

NAN is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities within northern Ontario

with the total population of membership (on and off reserve) estimated around 45,000 people.

These communities are grouped by Tribal Council (Windigo First Nations Council, Wabun Tribal Council, Shibogama First Nations Council, Mushkegowuk Council, Matawa First Nations, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, and Independent First Nations Alliance) according to region. Six of the 49 communities are not affiliated with a specific Tribal Council.

NAN encompasses James Bay Treaty No. 9 and Ontario's portion of Treaty No. 5, and has a total land-mass covering two-thirds of the province of Ontario spanning 210,000 square miles. The people traditionally speak four languages: OjiCree in the west, Ojibway in the central-south area, and Cree and Algonquin in the east.

For more information about (NAN) and Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler go to: www.nan.on.ca/

#### Mushkegowuk Tribal Council 'REGIONAL'



The Mushkegowuk Council is the senior representative for 7 First Nations in the Western James Bay and Hudson's Bay. These include Attawapiskat First Nation, Taykwa Tagamou First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Moose Cree First Nation, Chapleau Cree First Nation, and Missanabie Cree First Nation. A board of 8 Directors governs the Mushkegowuk Council.

These members include a Chief or Counselor from each First Nation, plus the Chair of the Council. Their goal is to ensure the member First Nations work together to meet the needs and aspirations of their citizens.

Mushkegowuk can mean two different things. One refers to the Mushkego. The word Mushkegowuk is a reflection of our traditional culture, where we use powerful spirits to protect ourselves. The people who lived there were very strong and powerful and that is the second reason we are given the name Mushkegowuk. Our grandfathers unloaded the Hudson Bay Company ships when they came in. The Mushkegowuk Council is accountable to its members through the Directors, and through an Assembly of Chiefs, Councilors, Elders, Women and Youth delegates.

\*Unlike the AFN, COO and NAN where the Grand Chief is elected by each First Nations "Chief", the Grand Chief of Mushkegowuk is elected by the people every four years.

For more information about Mushkegowuk Council go to: www.mushkegowuk.com/



Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler



Grand Chief Jonathon Solomon

























# Meet your Pimii Kamik Gas Bar and Chi– Bannock Chip Wagon Staff



Jennifer Fitzgerald Gas Bar Attendant/ Customer Service





Sue Lecuryer Chi-Bannocks Manager Customer Service



Claude Lortie Gas Bar Attendant/ Customer Service



Thunder Panamic Gas Bar Attendant/ Customer Service



Belinda Landry Chi-Bannocks Cook/ Customer Service



Kevin Paquin Gas Bar Attendant/ Customer Service



April Zimmerman Gas Bar Attendant/ Customer Service

## Our oldest Elder and Band Member Robert Donald Pennycook White Passed away peacefully Friday September 25, 2015 Pictured here with brother Ian (left) John "Jokie" (right) and sister Jean



Donald who was 102 years old was the son of Dinah Potts and Robert White He has 3 children, Norma, Linda and Robert And many, grandchildren, great grand children and great-great grandchildren and nieces and nephews He will be sadly missed!

#### What You Shared With Us!!



Ashley Lemon Margaret Gagnon Merit Award **CITIZENSHIP** DP Todd Secondary School \*Daughter of Veronica Potts





Kaitlin Ritchie Called to the Bar \*Daughter of Brian and Loreen Ritchie

Jacob H. Todd Called to the Bar \*Son of Michael and Dolores (nee Espaniel) Todd



**Membership Information** ~ Lynn Turner, Indian Registry Administrator

### What is your Status Number?

Your status number is the same as your registry or registration number on your status card. It is a ten digit number that starts with 221. A breakdown of the numbers is listed below:

#### First 3 digits – 221:

Registry group number assigned to Chapleau Cree First Nation by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC).

All First Nations have their own Registry group number.

#### Set of the next 5 numbers:

This your band number within the Chapleau Cree Registry.

These numbers are assigned consecutively by AANDC when there is a new person added to CCFN's Registry List.

#### Last 2 digits:

There have been 3 stages of evolution of the registration policy regarding these last 2 digits:

- **Stage 1:** The "head of household" was assigned a registration number ending in "01". The spouse was assigned the same middle five numbers to signify a family but the last 2 numbers would be "02". The children registered under this household would be assigned the same middle numbers and, in order of registration, the last two digits "03", "04", etc. When the child reached the age of 18, a new registration number would be generated for the member of the family to indicate that they have reached the "age of majority" and may be starting their own family.
- **Stage 2:** At registration, all adults and children received a registration number ending in "01" and there were no longer duplication of the middle 5 numbers signifying a "family". As children who were previously assigned numbers other than "01" grew up and eventually reached the age of majority, the Indian Registry Administrator would send in a request to generate a new registration number for the member.
- **Stage 3:** As of 2010, new registration numbers at the age of majority are no longer issued unless there is a unique circumstance to do so.

## Why did they stop the family grouping of numbers?

In the past, these numbers were important because it was associated to the individuals' family lineage but this association by number no longer exists in the Indian Registry System.

Furthermore, since modifications of the Indian Act in 1985, the inscription numbers are no longer based on family lineage. That is, women who married native males no longer obtained Indian status by becoming a member of their husband's band. Accordingly, when applying for Indian status, the children of this union would be affiliated to either parent's band.



## Chapleau Cree First Nation Status Children's Activity Fund 2014-2015

A Youth Activity Fund has been created to help families with the cost of youth activities.

Parents are encouraged to submit copies of original receipts for sport/cultural/extra-curricular activities their children have participated in. Receipts must be dated between December 1, 2014—November 30, 2015 to be eligible for this program.

Please send a letter with name of child(ren) and copies of your receipts before Friday December 4, 2015.

> \*<u>Only cost for fees associated with youth activities are eligible;</u> equipment and supply costs will not be considered.

\*This lottery process is based on number of submissions received. A maximum of \$500.00/per family is available for reimbursement.



If you have any questions or concerns please contact Brian Edwards, Band Administrator at (705) 864-0784.

#### CHAPLEAU CREE FIRST NATION TLE POLL RESULT



We received 278 eligible responses to the poll! The average of all 278 votes is: 23% invested in a community trust and 77% divided equally among community members.

#### What happens next? -

Now that CCFN has clear direction from members about how to distribute the claim, the next step will be a ratification vote

Once the ratification vote day is scheduled, a notice of vote will be sent out by mail and e-mail. The notice will include the following information:



The time and place of at least one information session that members can attend to learn more about the TLE claim and ratification process.



How to participate in the ratification vote or advance poll. Options will include vote by mailin ballot or in person.





Information about the settlement and trust agreements.

The CCFN's goal is to complete the entire TLE settlement process, including the ratification vote and mailing out the distribution cheques, before January 1, 2016. But they can't get started until the Government of Ontario completes its Environmental Assessment process (EA) and makes an 'official' offer. CCFN is hoping that the EA will be done very soon, within a month or two at most. Once the EA is complete and Ontario makes its offer, then a ratification date will be set, and a notice of vote will be sent out.

#### What happens with the information we shared?

Any personal information that was

status number, birthday) has been

destroyed to protect your security.

#### How was the average calculated?

#### Step 1: all of the responses were added together.

For example, imagine we received only four responses: One person said 80% of the money shared to confirm your eligibility (name, should be put in a trust, another said 10% should be in a trust, a third person said no money should go in a trust, and a fourth person selected 30%. In this example, we would start by adding all of those responses together:

80% + 10% + 0% + 20% = 110%

#### Step 2: the result was divided by the number of people who voted

Using the same example, we would divide the result of all the choices added together, by the number of people who voted:

110% / 4 = 27.5%



In this example the average vote would be 27%

Ministry of Community and Social Services

#### Minister's Office

Hepburn Block Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1E9 Tel.: (416) 325-5225 Fax: (416) 325-3347

#### Ministère des Services sociaux et communautaires

Bureau du Ministre

Édifice Hepburn Queen's Park Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1E9 Tél. : 416 325-5225 Téléc. : 416 325-3347



June 15, 2015

Hon. Bob Rae Olthuis, Kleer, Townshend LLP 250 University Avenue 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, Ontario M5H 3E5

Dear Mr. Rae:

Thank you for your letter dated May 21, 2015 regarding Aboriginal land claim settlement payments and social assistance eligibility.

My ministry has considered the existing policy and I am pleased to inform you that effective immediately, future Aboriginal land claim settlement payments will be exempt as assets (in addition to the current income exemption) for the purposes of social assistance. The exemption applies to the capital amount of a settlement payment, and not to any additional amounts that may result due to interest earned.

My ministry is committed to continuing to support all vulnerable Ontarians, including First Nations, on social assistance. Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

Dr. Helena Jaczek Minister



# Chapleau Cree First Nation Annual General Meeting Saturday November 7, 2015 10:00 a.m. Band Office Community Hall

Band Administration Reports

- Audited Financial Report presented by KPMG
  - Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Update
    \*Lite lunch will be provided



SEE YOU THERE!!

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