



# CHAPLEAU CREE FIRST NATION NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2022 - KASKATINISIW

For the latest news, visit us online at [chapleaucree.ca](http://chapleaucree.ca)

Volume 14 Issue 2

# *Wachay, Fox Lake, Neyhweeneenowuk!*

# Autumn Mikiskaw ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

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# Okimah Report ▷PLb<sup>a</sup> - Chief Keeter Corston

**Wachay,**

**Wachay, my fellow Band Members!**

Nipin, or summer, has passed since we had our last news update, and we are now approaching the end of autumn, or mikiskaw (freeze up), and will soon once again be into pipon, winter. We are at the beginning of a new 3-year term, and we are once again looking forward to focusing on economic development, housing, and culture.

**The Cumulative Impacts Case:**

After many months of preparation, I am happy to report that the statement of claim for our Cumulative Impacts Case launched by Brunswick House, Missanabie Cree, and Chapleau Cree First Nations was successfully issued and served to the Ontario Government. This means that the case will be moving forward, and it also has the full support of Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Mushkegowuk Tribal Council. The outcome will give us more sovereignty and jurisdiction over our traditional territory and has been getting a lot of attention lately from media and politicians, with many interviews being given.

For years, our First Nations have worked to develop our Treaty relationship with Ontario. Yet Ontario continues to make unilateral decisions without honouring our Treaty relationship and ignoring Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution. We are the original stewards of this Boreal Forest and have the right to continue this role. We want shared decision-making in our territories, and we need real protections for the lands and waters. It is our sacred responsibility to safeguard these things for the next seven generations. For example, the Treaty 9 Nations have been calling for the aerial spraying of glyphosate to stop for decades, and we need to take action now to make

this happen. All life in the forest is interconnected and glyphosate is killing all life except conifers; and the forest is growing silent. We must stop this harmful practice at long last.

We have very recently made some small steps forward in our Treaty relationship with Ontario on forest management. This claim will only move that relationship forward by ensuring Ontario recognizes the mistakes of the past and commits to fully meeting its Treaty obligations today and going forward as a matter of law. As the traditional stewards of these lands, we must be equal partners in industrial development and forest management. We must be involved in all key decision making.

**St. John's Indian Residential School Update:**

Chapleau Cree, along with Brunswick House First Nation, will be working with Narratives Inc. from Treaty 1 Territory, to acquire funding to perform a forensic search of the St. John's Residential School site for possible unmarked graves, in the near future. Narratives Inc. is a consultant firm from the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples, and they will be assisting us in getting funds from the federal government to investigate the former site. We will likely need to perform ground penetrating radar mapping, and any other technically detailed analysis required to ensure that we have done our best to account for all children who did not make it home from that place. Again, this is a very important project as the effects of these institutions can be felt intergenerationally today.

### **“Issue with Tissue - A Boreal Love Story”:**

On September 18th, 2022, myself and members from Wahkohtowin, Brunswick House First Nation, and Mushkegowuk Tribal Council attended the 2022 Cinefest Sudbury International Film Festival to watch the world premiere of “Issue With Tissue: A Boreal Love Story”. This two-hour documentary by Los Angeles/Montreal filmmaker Michael Zelniker focuses on the destruction of the Boreal Forest, and the breaking of Treaties made between First Nations and the Crown. Michael Zelniker approached us here at Chapleau Cree a few years ago, travelling with his camera man, and we did interviews with him regarding the unsustainability of current forest management. The film was 1st runner up for the Audience Choice Award at the festival, and I believe it will help get the message out to a wide audience that our Boreal Forests are in peril.

### **New Homes & Public Works Garage:**

The new Public Works Garage has been completed and will now store our fleet of Public Works vehicles and equipment. This 7000 square foot, two storey garage was much needed to provide more space for our Public Works team to work with. Other projects include the extension of the watermain along Margaret Ann Road, and the construction of more homes along that road in the near future. Families have already moved into the two new houses completed earlier this summer, and we have also moved tenants into the two triplex apartments recently completed at the end of Margaret Ann Road. It is good to see our community grow, and hopefully will continue to do so into the future.

### **Grassy Lake Camp Lots:**

Fourteen campsites have been cleared at Grassy Lake (Mushkwashewee Saakaaekaan) and are now available to Band Members. Please contact the Band

Office for inquiries and to find out the protocols necessary to acquire a campsite next summer for your family at Grassy Lake.

### **Powwow & Cultural Harvest:**

In August, we resumed our annual Pow Wow after two years of COVID restrictions. And in October, we had our annual Cultural Harvest out at Grassy Lake. Both events were a success and yielded great turnouts, with great weather, and was very good to see the community celebrating with one another.

In closing, I want to thank all Band Members for your continued support to the council, and I can assure you that this council will work diligently to pursue our vision for the nationhood of Chapleau Cree First Nation.

### **Chi Miigwetch!**

**Chief Keeter Corston**



# Band Administrator Report - *Edith Larocque*

*“Spirituality is having your own experience.”*

Chapleau Cree First Nation remains dedicated in providing quality, equitable, and accessible support to respond to the social, economic, health, cultural, educational, spiritual, and political needs of Chapleau Cree First Nation, thereby improving the quality of life of our members.

COVID-19 continues to effect individuals sporadically throughout the year with variations of severity and symptoms. We continue to monitor COVID and are committed to do our utmost in keeping the risk of exposure to a minimum for the safety of our staff and members. With this in mind, we have decided to cancel our Annual General Meeting and mail out the reference material to all band members. I wish everyone good health and spirit.

We are now on winter hours with our offices and businesses operating from 8:30AM to 4:30PM Monday to Friday. Gas Bar hours also have winter hours with their closing hours at 9:00PM seven days a week.

Year end is complete with Indigenous Service Canada approving our Financial Audited Statements for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Renovations are now complete and Life Sacred Journey has relocated to the lower portion of the former Sacred Tree building. Maamweysing has taken occupancy of the entire first floor.

Our Water Plant upgrade is now complete. Please see Water Treatment Plant Operator's report included in this Newsletter.

The Public Works Department remains busy with road and housing maintenance along with assisting programs in every department when required.

Our Economic Development Coordinator has had a busy year with housing and developing proposals for the economic benefit of our First Nation.

Housing applications have increased in the past couple of years. This fiscal year, we had 8 units filled with an additional 3 units ready for occupancy in the new year.

The former Racine Campground owned and operated by Chapleau Cree has quite a few lots available for members free of charge. Please contact the office should you be interested in accessing one of the lots. Our newly developed sites adjacent to the Racine boat launch are not ready for occupancy as of yet. Plans are to create a committee in developing a policy for the benefits of all campers. We currently have one site left. Please submit letter of interest should you be interested.

The Lands Department continues working on protecting our aboriginal treaty rights on the land.

Our 7th Annual Harvest was a huge success with a surprising number of more than 165 participants in attendance throughout the week. It is wonderful to see the increase in members participating in our events and joining us in our gathering. Hope to see you all again next year.

Chapleau Cree has had a few changes to our staff in recent months. We welcome Marlene Kapashesit as the Health Care Coordinator, Connor McAuley is the successful Water Treatment Plant Operator in Training , Charnelle Kapashesit Prevention/Jordan's Principle Coordinator, and Charleston Spence Jr, Housing Intern. A fond farewell to Dakota Soulierre, Kara Dupuis and Padriac Taaffe. We wish everyone the best of luck in their career choices.

If you have any ideas of suggestions on changes or additions to our Newsletter, please feel free to contact me. For further information on any one of our projects, policies, or First Nation business, I can be reached by email at [bandadmin@chapleaucree.ca](mailto:bandadmin@chapleaucree.ca) or telephone **(705) 864-0784 ext. 226.**

*Mena kaa waa pah miten*

*Till we meet again*

**Edith Larocque**



# CHAPLEAU CREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

*Attire: Semi-Formal*

## DEC. 17, 2022

Doors Open at

# 5:30 PM

for Appetizers

4 Maple St.,  
**Chapleau Arena Community Hall**

**Please confirm attendance** by  
calling **705-864-0784** Ext. **221**, or  
email **[reception@chapleaucree.ca](mailto:reception@chapleaucree.ca)**

For Kris Kringle visit, please bring gift(s) for your child(ren).

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE



DAVID G. ARMSTRONG

January 2, 1982

-

September 29, 2022

*Our sincerest condolences to family and friends on the passing of your loved one.*

# Membership Report - *Stephanie Scott*

The recent changes with Indian Registration, Bill S-3 and removal of 1951 cut-off, has increased our membership by an estimated amount of 150 individuals.

Indian Status applications under Bill C-3 and S-3 can take up to 2 years for processing.

To resolve some of those remaining inequities, the Government of Canada is working on introducing amendments to the Indian Act.

## **These proposed changes will include:**

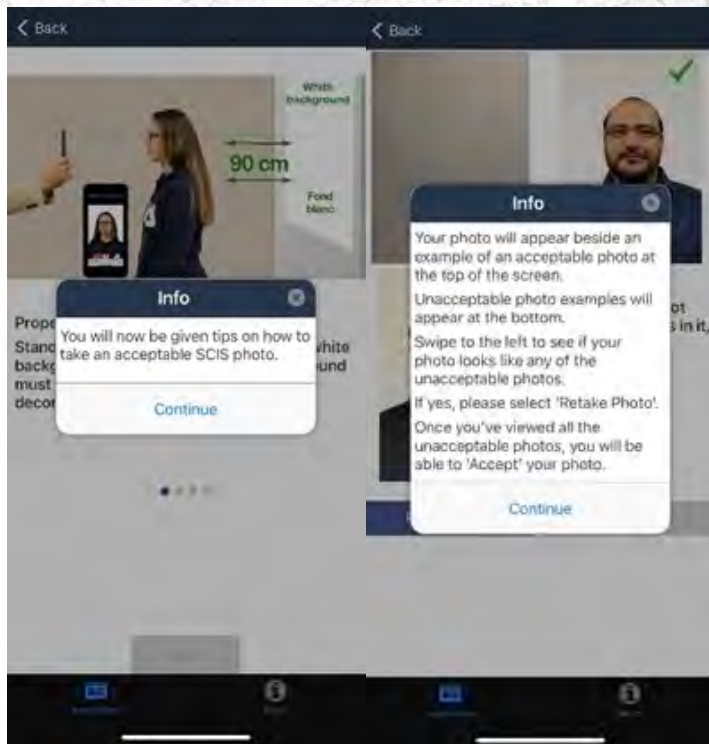
- enfranchisement
- deregistration
- natal band re-affiliation of women impacted by the 1869 legal changes that automatically made them members of their husbands' bands
- the removal of dated references to mentally incompetent Indians

Chapleau Cree is a Section 10 First Nation, this means that we have control over our own Membership List through our own governed code. Individuals receiving status under the 221 number does not automatically grant CCFN membership. Individuals must apply through a letter along with a completed application. Once received it will be reviewed by the membership committee and forwarded to Chief and Council for final approval.

If any of your family members need an Indian status application or CCFN membership application, please feel free to share my contact information at the end of this report.

Indigenous Services Canada has a shortage on Certificate of Indian Status, (the older red border laminated cards) that are sent to First Nations for processing. The Secure Certificate of Indian Status application through the mail is another option and may take 6-8 weeks for processing. Two passport style photos are required along with a Guarantor. ISC developed a SCIS photo app for iPhone/Android to download for free. The app will walk you through step by step instructions and allows the applicant to submit the photo with your guarantor's name, email address and signature directly from your smartphone.





Chapleau Cree Community Trust recently launched a website to reach members and keep them up to date on projects at [iamcree.ca](http://iamcree.ca).

The Trust is now open to community projects that follow their mission “...to preserve and promote the health and wellbeing of the Members of the First Nation and to preserve and promote the cultural heritage and sustainability of the First Nation, both for those Resident On-Reserve and for those Resident Off-Reserve.”

Members are reminded to call or email in their change of address as soon as they are able. If a return notice is sent by the Post Office, your mailing address will be removed until the office receives the updated address. Please contact the band office **705-864-0784** for address changes or Indian status inquiries or email me, **Stephanie Scott**, at [education@chapleaucree.ca](mailto:education@chapleaucree.ca) or call my direct line **705-864-5082**.

#### [Deceased Family Members](#)

We have many band members who have passed on to the Spirit World who remain on our Registry List as a Death Certificate has not been submitted. Please contact Stephanie Scott, Indian Registry Administrator if you are unsure if a certificate has been submitted for your loved one.

# Education Report - *Stephanie Scott*

**Congratulations to our former summer student with Small Engines as he completed his program as their Assistant!**

Unfortunately, we didn't receive many Summer Student applicants this past fiscal, however; we were able to fulfil the Work Experience program enabling young adults to help guide them in a career path. Chapleau Cree First Nation has many training program opportunities through administration, health, maintenance and Customer Service representative through our businesses. Summer Student Applicants must be currently enrolled in school (full-time) and returning to school in September and be between the ages of 15 to 29 to qualify for funding.

NewMont Gold has an estimated workforce of 221 including 42 First Nation members from the surrounding three First Nations. When applying for a job at the mine, please reach out to the **Impact Benefits Coordinator, David Courtois 705-904-4999** or email at [bordenfnc@wabun.on.ca](mailto:bordenfnc@wabun.on.ca).

Reminder, Band Members can access Mushkegowuk Employment and Training Services (METS) which provides funding for individual initiatives through a combination of programs and services with the goal to improve the applicants' employment skills and facilitate their entry into the labour market. Applications for funding are available at my office.

## **METS provides funding for:**

- Programs, courses and training opportunity of one year or less;
- Programs, courses and training that provide direct entry into the labour force;
- Funding may include course costs &

materials, books & supplies, income support, travel costs, accommodation costs;

- Pre-Employment Support such as travel costs for interviews;
- Mobility – relocation costs for employment;
- Licences, certificates etc. needed for employment.

Note that funding is limited, and the process may take six to eight weeks depending on the amount of funds requested.

Post-Secondary studies has three successful sponsored students completing their programs. Two students completed their BSc Nursing and one student completed their BSc-Honors-Biology.

Congratulations to all our 2022 Elementary/Secondary and Post-Secondary Graduates!

**Stephanie Scott,  
Education Clerk**



# Economic Development Report - *Peggy Dominigue*

## Greetings Band Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you well! We have just finished a lovely “Indian Summer” and are now, in the early stages of winter as things begin to freeze up. The economic development office continues to be a hub of activity, and I will highlight a few of the activities undertaken or currently on the go.

We have completed and provided housing for two families this summer in two of the newly constructed homes which were approved through CMHC. The two 2-bedroom apartments at Mukeso House are currently under construction, and we anticipate completion in early spring. Additionally, we have been further approved for five additional housing units through Indigenous Services Canada, two 3-bedroom houses and three 2-bedroom smaller homes (suitable for single/couple). We anticipate most of these homes will be completed by fall 2023.

I am pleased to announce that we have received a recognition award for our Rapid Housing Initiative from the First Nation Housing Community. Under this program an application was submitted to the Rapid Housing Initiative which was an extremely competitive process between municipalities and First Nations across Canada. We received approval for our 2.7- million-dollar project which provided 6 rental units in the form of 2 triplexes. Triplex A & B are both completed and are currently all filled with tenants. This project from ground-breaking to completion has taken under 6 months with our first tenant moved in the building

on September 24th.

On our Resilient Community project, technological upgrades to improve our ability to participate in and host virtual meetings has kicked off in July with the materials currently in the process of being procured for this project, once these have been sourced and deliver the on-site upgrades will begin. As with most supplies these days resulting from Covid are shortages and longer delivery times. We are confident we will have this project completed successfully in the coming months. This project was made possible with proposal driven funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Ecolodge project is moving forward with the implementation of Phase 1 which consists of the construction of 2-3 chalets. Our construction management team have issued all the required RFP's for this project and we anticipate this project commencing November 12-15th. We are still in the process of applying for full funding for the Phase 2 of the project. We are working to minimize our footprint on the land and ensure the project is as eco-friendly as possible.

We have created new camping sites at Grassy Lake; we have currently 14 new waterfront sites ready for the upcoming camping season. As part of the expansion of the camp areas, we purchased the existing Racine Lake Campground and have designated sites in this area also available for members. Please contact us directly should you have any interest in any of the camping areas available for our members

or for more information.

- We have begun the assessment progress for proposed expansion of the existing gas bar/gift shop to potentially include a grocery mart. Survey's are available in paper copy at the band office or online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCREEFN> The next phase of this project will be to access funding for the actual construction of the project, once the scope of the project has been identified.
- Our second-year application submission successfully received funding for Cree language to rejuvenate the Cree language in our community. Part of the project was to also make training sessions and material available to members regardless of location. Please contact Cheryl Dupuis, Cultural Coordinator for more information on the ongoing language programs.
- Please contact me directly should you have any questions or wish to discuss an application for funding under the RRAP, ERP or HASI renovation programs through CMHC. I will be applying for budget commitments for on-reserve homeowner renovation funding under these programs for the upcoming fiscal year 2023-2024.
- Our 9 large bear bins which can be emptied with the additional hydraulic arms for the garbage truck have arrived in our community. Bins and hydraulic truck arms were delivered in September.
- I have successfully obtained proposal driven funding from ISC – for Immediate Needs Housing Project (as mentioned above) and have received approval for 5 additional homes, as well as Lot Development for 8 lots and waterline extensions to provide water services to each lot. The lots will be staked out but left in their natural state until such time they will be used for construction.
- Additionally, I continue to work with local business on joint ventures and acquisition projects, on which more information will be available as the discussions move forward.

Should you have any questions, comments or ideas please let me know I would be happy to have a chat and get some fresh ideas and perspectives. If you also require any assistance with personal business ventures, please reach out. Until next time, meegwetch!!

**Regards,**

**Peggy Domingue**

**Economic Development Officer**







# Water Treatment Plant Report - Allan Dupuis

**Hello, everyone!**

The work continues at the Water Treatment Plant. Earlier this year I reported that the upgrade project was completed and now we can move on and focus our attention on maintaining our water treatment plant and on new projects. The First Nation is increasing its capacity by building many new homes for Band Members. Each home requires water lines, some of which needed to be tapped from the watermain and new service lines and shut offs installed. We have had a contractor come in and install 300m of 6" water main piping to extend our distribution system on Margaret Ann Road and it runs back towards Fox Lake Road.



It appears at this point that changing the GAC (granular activated carbon) will be an annual maintenance project that will be required to keep Trihalomethanes (THM) and haloacetic acids (HAA) to an acceptable level. It's a dirty process but we are getting more efficient and better at containing the mess and completing the project every time we complete this filter maintenance project.



In the water plant we continue to fine tune the water treatment system and processed with minor changes and additions that make the plant work for us and help achieve the parameters and standards that we expect from our drinking water. It ap-





eager to learn and help. We are excited to have the opportunity to train another Water Operator from this community as we have had very good success in the past with training operators who have succeeded well in the water industry. His presence has come at the right time as we have a lot to do. While he will have to balance training and his workload at the same time I think he is up to the task and will progress quickly.

Our plans at the Water Treatment Plant include more services and lines being installed to meet the demands of the future housing projects as well as putting a plan together to correct some deficiencies for our distribution system that include items such as old blow off valves and main stops. We also would like to put a plan in to have more wells drilled to ensure we can maintain our water needs into the future with an expanding community.

Thanks, and I look forward to the next update in our future newsletters.

**Water Treatment Plant Manager  
Allan Dupuis**



**SAMPLE RESULTS (Including running average):**

**A. Water Treatment Plant Treated: 03 Treated Water Tap**

Quarterly Chemical Water Sample Lab Results		Parameters Tested			FAC	Turbidity
		Total Trihalomethanes (THMs)	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	Nitrates		
Drinking Water Standard	Objective	100 µg/L (p.p.b) or less	80 µg/L (p.p.b) or less	45 mg/L or less - federal 10 mg/L or less - provincial	mg/L	NTU
	Type of Objective	MAC*	MAC*	MAC		
	2022-09-12	55.1	40.8	0.735		
	2022-05-10	77.7	84.1	0.04		
	2022-01-05	70.2	63.4	0.06		
	2021-08-03	50.8	47.5	0.07		
	<b>Running Average:</b>	<b>63.45</b>	<b>58.95</b>			

# Health Coordinator - *Marlene Kapashesit*

**Wachay,** As a member of Chapleau Cree First Nation, I'd like to introduce myself as the Healthcare Coordinator. I started this position September 6, 2022 and humbly accepted a new journey to share my teachings and experiences of the Cree Values of Mushkegowuk territory.

On a personal note, my husband, Wayne and I located to Chapleau Cree in September along with our daughter and grandson. Wayne and I have four children and a full blessing of our grandchildren. My work experience is 30 years of Child Welfare and mental health serving West & East coast of James Bay. My utmost passion is our Cree traditions and traditional crafts of sewing with moosehide and beading. My traditional sewing brings a wealth of love and grounding to our land and culture. I am here to share this passion to carry on with our Cree traditions to our youth, as they are the next generation to carry our teachings.

## **Health Updates:**

- May 2022, our nurse, Barb supported Northern Ontario School of Medicine. They would assist with our Home Visits within our community.
- Tamarack Presentation was held to work with Medicine teachings.
- Osteopathy Awareness presentations.
- Labrador Tea Teachings

- Bowen Therapy
- Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinic
- We have a Personal Support Worker and Home Care Worker that work directly with our elders and families who are in needing support.

## **Cultural Activities:**

Many cultural activities occurred within the community, such as Medicine Harvest, Regalia making, Sharing Circles and many events to work with youth and their families.

Our 27th Annual Pow Wow gathering was held in July 2022, where many youth, families and elders participated, as well as Walking Out Ceremonies, Youth summer camps and Drumming.

The 7th Annual Fall Harvest Gathering took place at Grassy Lake, with a great success of community members participating in many events during the week of October 3 – 6, 2022.

## **Health Awareness Activities:**

A workshop of Ladies Self Defense was held in CCFN with a great turnout of ladies who participated.

Monthly health awareness activities consisted of Weight Watchers program, Diabetic Info sessions, and Nutrition Bingos. We had weekly Lunch n' Learn on a variety of discussions such as FASD, Diabetes, Osteopathy and other health topics. This will provide continual information sessions to our community members.

Our Senior sessions include Senior Lunch Clubs, where they have an lunch and gather together to share and visit. Our Seniors Thanksgiving Dinner at Dominion was a great turnout and was an opportunity to meet the new Health Care Coordinator along with CCFN staff.

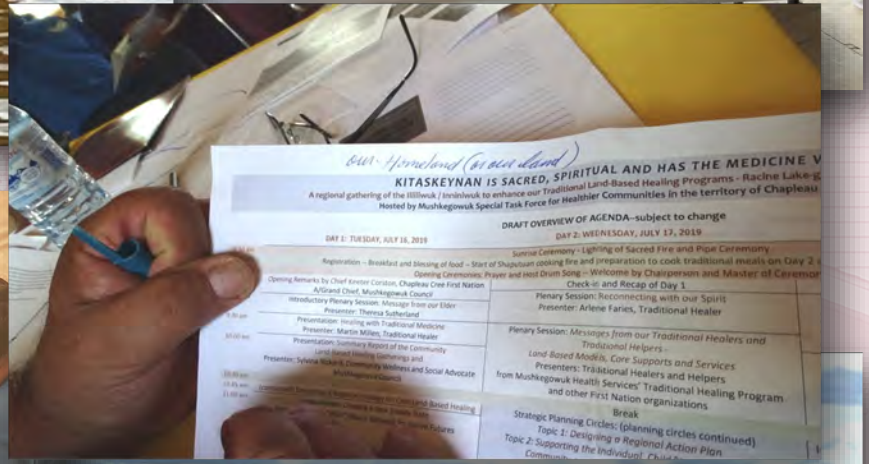
As part of streamlining our upcoming activities, our friendly administrator Debbie O'Brien is our main contact. She is in charge to set up all the Activities registrations, along with our weekly pamphlets. Please don't hesitate to call her as she is always a helping hand for the Health Centre.

In closing, I send my utmost respect to Chapleau Cree First Nation as we move in a direction to build up our children and youth to become our Community's leaders in a well balanced Cree lifestyle.

**Respectfully,**

**Marlene**







# Culture & Family Well Being - Cheryl Dupuis

**Hello/Wachay,**

## **Blooming/Earth Season (May & June 2022)**

Some of our activities for this season were focused on Mother's Day Arts and Crafts, Tamarack Harvesting Teachings, Domestic Violence Presentation, Traditional Healing One on One/Focusing, Spirit Names and Sweat with Cree Traditional Healer, Martin Scott, Fire Keeper Roles, Goose Harvesting Teachings & Preparation (Land Based as well), Wahkohtowin Birch Tree Tapping Teachings & Outdoor Dinner Gathering, Mens Virtual Sharing Circle with Kris Morrison, Indigenous Mens Alliance (IMA) and we had two (2) students from the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Students (mentoring). Youth Regalia Making with Paul & Ruby Wesley, Youth programs with SBE Group, National Indigenous Peoples Day Activities at Grassy Lake and Coordination of Youth Summer Cultural Camp, Pow Wow and 7th Annual Cultural Harvest

## **Summer Season (July & August 2022)**

Two of our children, Lila Raposo & Sage Ruffo, had their Walking Out Ceremony & Feast with community and families at Grassy Lake, Coordination continued for our Youth Summer Cultural Camp and was held with cultural teachings and activities. Our annual St. John's Residential School Commemoration was held honouring our ancestors who were impacted by the Residential Schools. Pow Wow Registration & Entertainment Night with Vern Cheechoo & Dustin Hollings, Tobacco Tie Teachings, Pow Wow Etiquette and Dance Teachings with

Deanna Cachagee was held before our 27th Annual Pow Wow which was held with our very own Adult Lead Female Dancer, Deanna Cachagee and Lead Male Dancer, Brandon Ruffo with Youth Lead Female Dancer, Peyton Domingue and Youth Lead Male Dancer, Keenan Domingue. We held a Family Fun Day at Fox Lake Beach and Coordination of our 7th Annual Cultural Harvest continued.

## **Fall Season (September & October 2022)**

We resumed Hand Drumming for all ages and genders with Sandy Ruffo. Held our 7th Annual Cultural Harvest with a record of 169 registered attendance and coordinated the organization of supplies to be relocated to new garage. Assisted with coordination of the Alzheimers Lunch & Learn, Halloween Party, Monthly community Dinner presentation announcements, and the National Addictions Awareness Week healers and activities.

I would like to say thank you, Meegwetch to all the staff, band members, teachers, helpers and community partners for working together with me to provide cultural well-being for our first nations. The support was appreciated and valued and I shall honour this as I move onto my next journey in helping families in other first nation.

Meegwetch!

Respectfully,

**Cheryl Dupuis, Cultural Coordinator -  
Chapleau Cree First Nation**

















*Culture & Family Well Being Report Continued*

# Life's Sacred Journey Report - Hilary Arsenault

Life's Sacred Journey has had an exciting season and is looking forward to strengthening our presence in the community and reaching as many families as we can as time goes on.

In the summer of 2022, we moved into a dedicated office on the **lower level of 814 Fox Lake Road**. The beautifully executed renovation has provided us with a space better suited to be able to serve members in a private and inviting setting. While there are a few details left to complete for a full set up, we are extremely happy to be in our new location. Band Member, Betty Albert Lincez, aka Wabimeguil, has been commissioned to create an art piece to be featured in our Family Room. Most of the artwork featured in our offices are pieces created by this amazingly talented artist. We are enthusiastically awaiting to see what amazing concept she comes up with to reflect our department. Once the finishing touches have been added, we anticipate to hold our grand opening in the near future.

At the beginning of September, we were delighted to welcome **Charnelle Kapashesit** to our team! Charnelle has taken on a dual role for our department as our new **Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator and Prevention/Wellness Worker**. She comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and valuable experience, a wonderful addition to our team. Charnelle will be making a presentation to Chief and Council in respect to Jordan's Principle at the Strategic Meeting in November. Shortly following that, she will be facilitating an event for the Chapleau Cree First Nation Community to illustrate the importance of the initiative and how it benefits our children for their best possible success. Keep an eye out for upcoming information. Please join us in welcoming Charnelle to the LSJ team and to the community. **Char-**

**nelle can be reached at (705) 860-0001** for any inquiries about the programs and services she and LSJ offers.

As winter approaches, we are preparing to work collaboratively with the Health Centre to host celebratory events for our youth and families. LSJ is excited to be making preparations for the Youth Christmas Party in December as well other upcoming seasonal festivities such as Valentine's Day and Easter. Life's Sacred Journey aims to keep our youth engaged and families involved with events that are appealing to and enjoyable for all who attend, while also offering support and services that are tailored to the specific needs of individuals and their situations.

LSJ is available for a variety of form of support including but not limited to child protection advocacy, Jordan's Principle, court support, service referrals, programs and workshops. All information is handled with confidentiality being of the highest priority. Upon request, we will accommodate meeting times, locations or platforms to make you feel as comfortable as possible. We strive to build rapport and establish relationships with the people to whom we provide our services. The role of our Data Entry Clerk is to ensure that any and all documentation is maintained with specialized, secure software and that records are protected. Your privacy is important to us.

The LSJ Team is here to help, and we are always open to suggestions to best meet the needs of Members and Affiliates. If you have any questions or recommendations about how we might be able to assist you or your family please feel free to contact **Band Representative, Hilary Arsenault-Broomhead at 705 860-0003**.





# Meet Our **NEW** Staff

Charnelle Kapashesit has joined the Chapleau Cree First Nation team as Prevention/Jordan's Principle Coordinator!

Charnelle decided to work for Chapleau Cree - Life's Sacred Journey to contribute her experience and teachings. Also, to expand her knowledge with Prevention Programs and Jordan's Principle Services. She's looking forward to planning new programs for the families and youth in our community. In addition, she's passionate to work alongside a new team!

Charnelle recently moved back home to Ontario (Chapleau) this summer. Charnelle is a band member of Chapleau Cree First Nation, she is looking forward to reconnecting with the land and people of our community. For the past seven years she's been living in Northern Quebec. Charnelle recently graduated from Algonquin College - Office Administration. In addition, she also has two years of experience working with Jordan's Principle, serving nine communities in Northern Quebec.

Her hobbies include spending time with her son, William. Travelling with her family. Reconnecting with her culture and traditions, such as hunting in the fall and spring, she enjoys going out on the land with her father – to pass down to her son William to carry on our traditions.

Charnelle also shared the following words:

"I haven't had a home of my own yet. I always moved around quite a bit over the past few years. However, this coming fall my son William and I will have our own first home here in the community. We are very excited and grateful for this new chapter in our lives and look forward to meeting the community members. We finally have a place to call home."

Charnelle Kapashesit can be reached by:

Phone: (705) 860-0001

Email: [prevention@lifessacredjourney.ca](mailto:prevention@lifessacredjourney.ca)

# Welcome





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<i>Lands &amp; Resources Director</i>	Vacant	232	705-864-5073	landsdirector@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Lands Technician</i>	Lauryn Cachagee	233	705-864-5071	landstechnician@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Marine Research Assistant</i>	Kyle Corston	234/223	705-864-5081	landsmra@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Economic Devopement Officer</i>	Peggy Domingue	231	705-864-5067	edo@chapleaucree.ca
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	Band Office Kitchen	292	705-864-5088	
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	Cindy Fletcher			education2@chapleaucree.ca
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<b>Chapleau Cree Health Centre   Phone: 705-864-0200   Fax: 705-864-0206</b>				
<i>Health Care Coordinator</i>	Marlene Kapashesit	202	705-864-1538	hcc@chapleaucree.ca
<i>RPN/Program Facilitator</i>	Tracy Martin	206	705-864-4175	programs@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Financial Programmer</i>	Chalias Caldwell	204	705-864-2422	h.finance@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Culture Coordinator/FWB</i>	Vacant	203	705-864-4177	culture@chapleaucree.ca
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<i>Casual Home Support Worker</i>	Kathleen Bouchard			homesupport2@chapleaucree.ca
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	Health Centre Kitchen	281	705-864-4174	
	Centre Main Fax CCFN Hi		705-864-0206	
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	North Shore Clinic Maam	902	705-864-5098	
<i>RPN</i>	Fletcher, Angie	901	705-864-5097	
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<i>PWG Maintenance</i>	Brandon Ruffo			publicworks3@chapleaucree.ca
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<i>Head Mechanic</i>	Albert Lapierre	261	705-864-5075	autotruck@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Mechanic Apprentice</i>	Ulric Larocque	261	705-864-5075	autotruck1@chapleaucree.ca
<b>Chapleau Cree Small Engine Repair, 40 Mukeso Road   Phone/Fax: 705-864-1045</b>				
<i>Small Engines Supervisor</i>	Michel Lasante	262	705-864-5080	smallengine@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Mechanic Assistant</i>	Nick Lasente	262	705-864-5080	smallengine1@chapleaucree.ca
<b>Pimii Kamik Gas Bar, 566 Fox Lake Road   Phone: 705-864-0781   Fax: 705-864-2921</b>				
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<i>Gas Bar Clerk</i>	Real Mailloux			pimiikamik8@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Gas Bar Clerk</i>	Kevin Paquin			pimiikamik10@chapleaucree.ca
<i>Gas Bar Clerk</i>	Keenan Domingue			pimiikamik11@chapleaucree.ca

# Movember Bros 2022



EMMA MORRISON

MISS WORLD

CANADA 2022

The First Cree  
Nations titleholder

BWP Award



**Congrats Emma!**  
**We're Proud of You!**

# Lands and Resources Report - Lauryn Cachagee

By Lauryn Cachagee, Lands and Resources Technician:

The summer and fall months have been a busy time for the Lands and Resources department.



In July I had the opportunity to do vegetation index surveys with the Wahkohtowin Guardians. These surveys are done on 2-3-year-old jack pine or spruce trees, to determine whether a certain area needs to be sprayed with aerial herbicide.



The Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) reached out to us to discuss their current mapping project in the Swayze township off the Sultan Industrial Rd. Their work involves taking small samples of rocks and testing them for geological data.



The fall began with attending drone training hosted by Missanabie Cree at Island View Campground. I successfully acquired my Basic Operations Pilot Certificate in which I can now operate drones under certain regulations. I believe drones would not only be beneficial to capture photos at our gatherings, but also for **compliance monitoring**.

Missinaibi Forest Management Inc. (MFMI) has a sub First Nations Committee. This committee is continuing ongoing conversations about the possibility of hosting a career fair for the youth, and opportunities to train band members in Forest Operations Compliance Inspection and heavy equipment operation.

The documentary film: "The Issue With Tissue" produced by Michael Zelnicker was premiered in Sudbury for the Cinefest Film Festival. The documentary focuses on how a vast volume of wood from the boreal forest is used to make toilet paper for American companies. They discuss the challenges First Nations have when it comes to forestry operations, as many of their practices were put in place without the **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)** of First Nations. Chief Corston, Wahkohtowin, and First Nation

communities across Canada's boreal forest were featured in the film.



The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) has recently purchased previous Domtar lands in the Hearst and Constance Lake First Nation area, with the goal of creating conservation areas. This is currently the largest private **land conservation agreement** in Canadian history. With their focus being the study and recovery of the Woodland Caribou. Woodland Caribou are a keystone species, and many First Nations have voiced their concerns about their decline. This purchase of land will not affect **Aboriginal Treaty Rights** of people practicing their rights on their traditional lands.



The Customized Consultation Agreement (CCA) requires forestry companies to consult with Chapleau Cree on operations. I have been in the field with both Green-First Forest Products and Interfor to ensure that **community values** are protected and to better understand their plans for certain blocks.



We had a great turnout and beautiful weather this year for our Fall Harvest. I ran a craft event with Deanna Bennett and did a nature walk on tree identification with Kyle Corston. Both events went smoothly, and I really enjoyed getting to know fellow band members to discuss about the work our department does.

I attended the Omushkego Youth Treaty Conference in Timmins. This conference highlighted the importance of Treaty Rights, and the past, present, and future of our Treaty. There were youth from all Mushkegowuk communities present.



In collaboration with Brunswick House First Nation, Missanabie Cree First Nation, Wahkoh-towin, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) we are currently part tak-

ing in surveys to determine whether moose are utilizing certain areas. We are currently in “year zero” of this project and are establishing plots in many different tree stands and site conditions. For example, we will be completing surveys in both sprayed and unsprayed blocks, blocks with mature conifer, and blocks with browse. To see whether **moose** prefer certain areas over others.

As of November 8th, it will be my one year with the Lands and Resources department, and I could not be more thrilled with the amount of experience I have already gained. I am eager to continue learning from and working for my community.

Miigwetch,

**Lauryn Cachagee**

**Lands and Resources Technician**





# Marine Research Report—Kyle Corston

## Wachay!

My name is Kyle Corston, and as many of you already know I was hired by Chapleau Cree earlier this spring to facilitate the Marine Research project initiated by the Mushkegowuk Tribal Council, as part of the new Marine Conservation Area being created up on the James and Hudson Bay coasts. The Mushkegowuk Council of Chiefs have chosen the tool of **National Marine Conservation Area** to ensure the protection of their marine territory in western James Bay and southern Hudson Bay. The Omushkego refer to **James Bay** as “**Weeneebayko**” and **Hudson Bay** as “**Gitchie Weeneebayko**” in Cree. The initiative includes Moose Cree, Kashechewan, Fort Albany, Attawapiskat, Taykwa Tagamou, Chapleau Cree, Missanabie Cree, Weenusk (Peawanuck) and Fort Severn First Nations. As well, Wildlands League and Oceans North are working in partnership to support this Indigenous-led initiative.



Since Chapleau Cree is some distance from the proposed Marine Conservation Area, however, the primary focus of the project here in the inland communities such as Missinabie and Taykwa Tagamou, will be to research and reclaim the original Illilewmowin and Anishinawbemowin names of the local rivers and lakes. In the past century and a half, most of the local lakes and waterways were renamed by colonial settlers, and/or given improper spellings and pronunciations in Cree/Ojibwe when recorded. The goal of this project will be to find as many of the old original names as possible, and to have them properly translated into Cree, in standardized Roman Orthography and Cree Syllabics, and to have the Ontario government recognize these names as official on future maps.

***This is where you as a community come in:*** it's my job to investigate and compile data collected from Band Members and land-users in the area who still might possess this knowledge, as well as research Hudson's Bay Company documents and old CPR surveys, or whatever other documentation I can find that might have some of these placenames recorded. Mushkegowuk Lands Department and Chapleau Cree are working with Lynn Peplinski, who is the Traditional Place Names Manager for Nunavut's Inuit Heritage Trust. Lynn is a linguist and academic, and she managed a similar project conducted by the Inuit back in the 1990s, recording Elder's place name knowledge and placing this information on maps to share with communities. She is



working with us to ensure that we follow the correct methodologies in recording these names using both maps and audio/visual recording equipment, to ensure that the names will be legally recognized in the future.

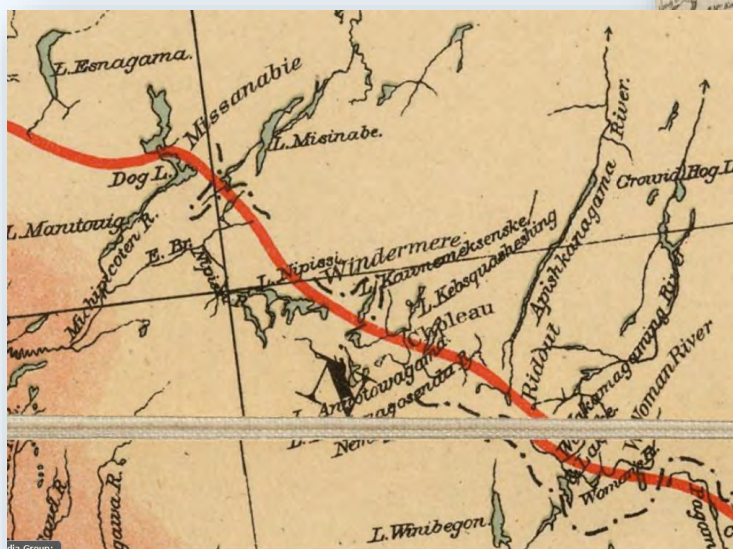
I have begun the process of recording data and have spoken to a handful of Band Members already. Meegwetch to Bill, Doreen and Brett Cachagee, John Saylor, and Ray Barty for sharing their Traditional Knowledge with me so far! I have also been scouring the internet, searching through Hudson's Bay Company archives on the Government of Manitoba's website, and other online resources as well. So far, we have been able to collect original names for a few lakes such as **Borden Lake** which was known as Loon Lake (**Mwako Saakaaekaan in Cree**), **Serviss Lake** which was Green Lake (**Osawaskosiw Saakaaekaan**), and **Racine Lake** which was Grassy Lake (**Mushkwasheewee Saakaaekaan**). Other examples I have found that still require proper translation are "**Apishkanagama**" which is recorded on old railroad maps where "**Kinogami**" is currently, or "**Waakamin**" for Wakami Lake, which I'm pretty sure means "**Clear Water**" in Ojibwe, but will still have to be verified. Substantially more work will need to be done to ensure these names and translations are being recorded properly, and a lot will be required since we literally have hundreds of lakes and rivers in the Chapleau area.

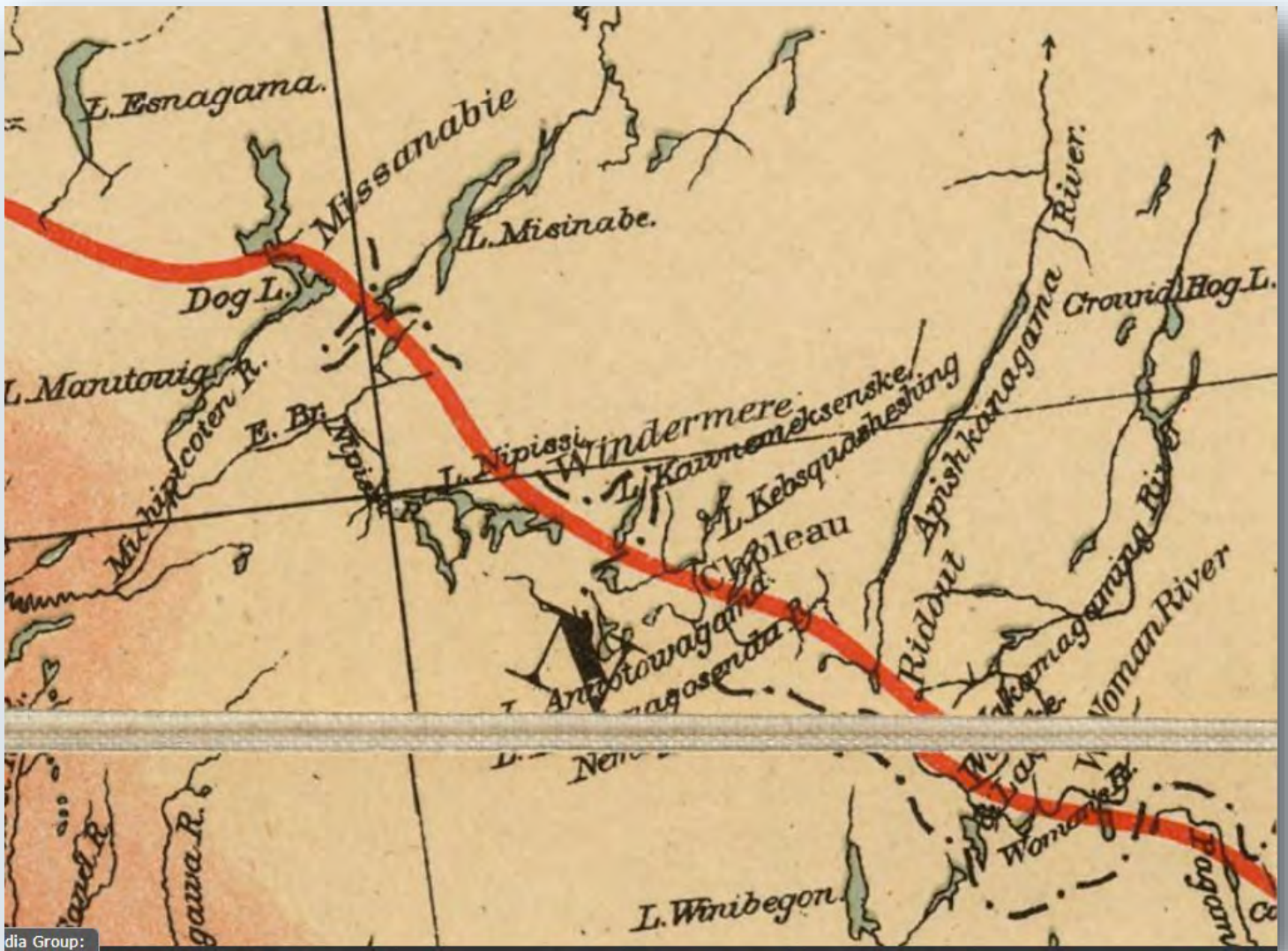
So, if any of you out there have any traditional knowledge to share with me on this project, of any of the old place names, please contact me here at the Band Office. Or better yet, come in and say hello, and we can look at maps and discuss over coffee and tea! This project will continue over the next 3 years and will require input from anybody who has even the slightest bit of information. So please come out and be a part of this extremely important project!

**Ninaskomitin!**

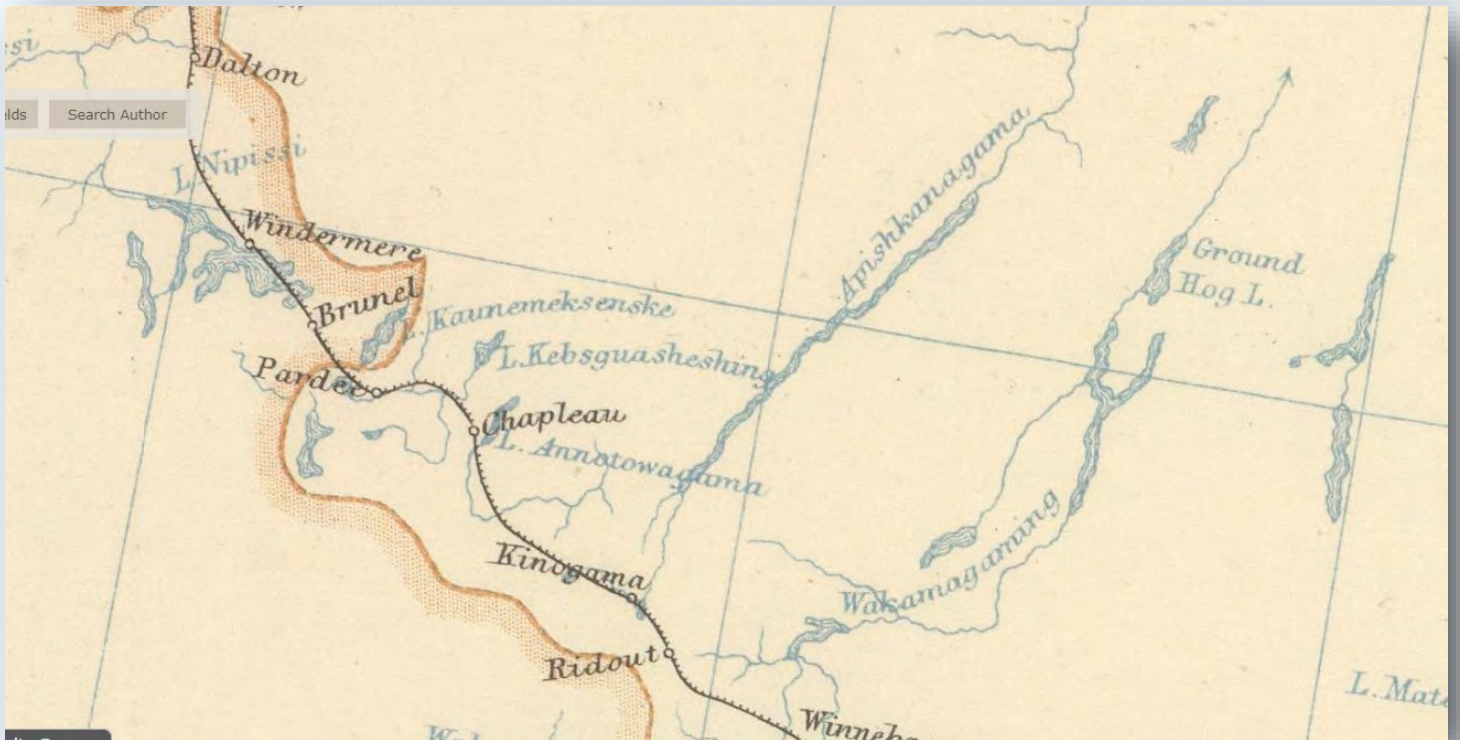
**Kyle Corston,**

**Lands Dept. Marine Research Assistant**



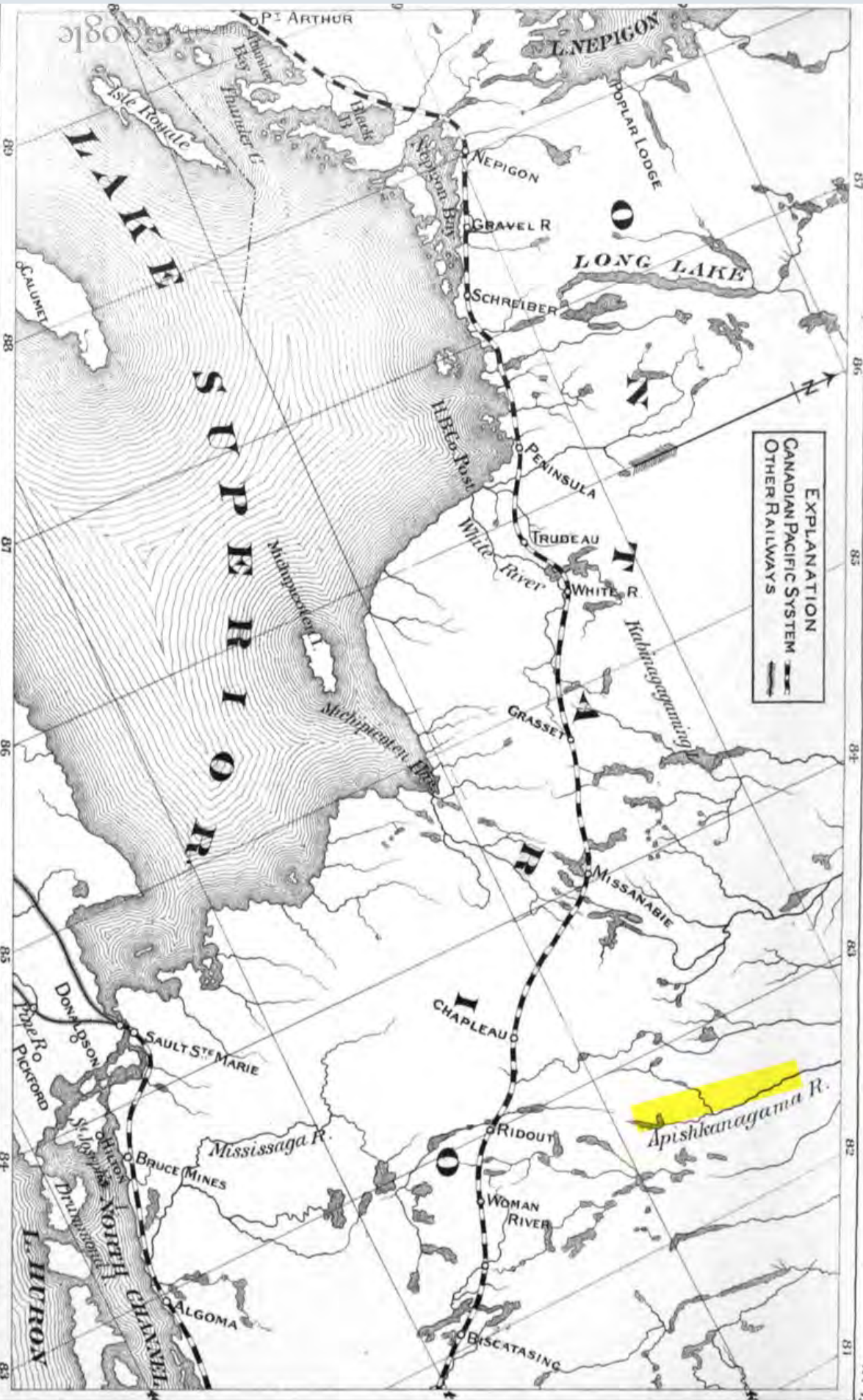


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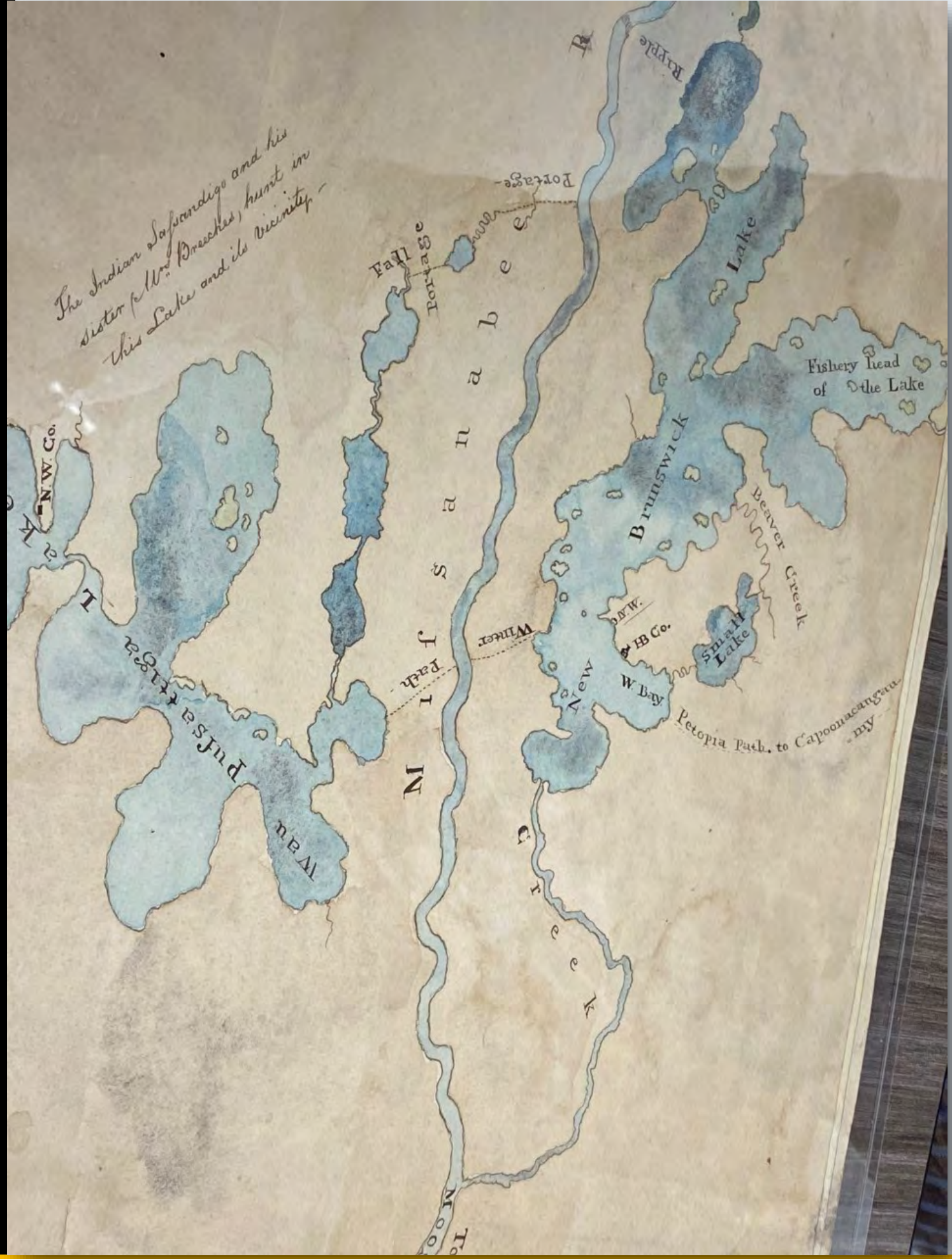


ids Search Author

Marine Research Report Continued



The Indian Sagondigo and his  
 sister (Mr. Breches), hunt in  
 this Lake and its vicinity -





# Wahkohtowin - Amberly Quakegesic



## **From Routes to Roots:**

### ***Rekindling Relationships with Land, Community and Culture***

In 2020, Wahkohtowin staff along with FN members built their first traditional Birch Bark Canoe, guided by Algonquin master canoe builder Chuck Commanda. It was an incredible experience to learn how to harvest the materials needed and build something that was an essential tool to our ancestors for survival. The canoe is an important part of our history because it gave our people the ability to travel great distances to access food, resources, and to meet with people. Chuck travelled all the way up to Chapleau, from Kiti-gan Zibi Quebec, to bring us out onto the land and taught us how to locate and harvest all the necessary materials to build a

birch bark canoe. We learned how harvest bark from Birch trees, how to split and bend Cedar, how to split and process spruce root and how to collect Spruce pitch. It was a lot of work, but we always placed our Sema (tobacco) down to give thanks and only harvested what was needed. Wahkohtowin staff led by Chuck worked directly with the youth transferring this knowledge to FN community members through the Guardian Program. The Guardians spent weeks out on the land, harvesting these materials, while also learning about medicines, wildlife, habitat, culture and more. This process has proven to be so much more than simply building a canoe as we see relationships being built between participants, connections to land and community being formed and one's sense of self, place and belonging being forged.



On October 12th 2022, Chuck returned to Chapleau for Wahkohtowin's second traditional Birch bark canoe build! Wahkohtowin's new Cultural Revitalization worker, Christina Bekintis and her mother, Adrienne Beaupre, performed a water ceremony to start the build off in a good way. It was emphasized that it is important to give thanks for water, and to care for it, because water is medicine, and nothing can survive without it. We had a great turnout each day as community members from near and far dropped in to participate and rekindle this art woven deeply with cultural teachings. Everyone involved was very hands-on and excited to learn. Chuck is an amazing person to work with, he is patient, humble, a master craftsman and he



also has a lot of knowledge to share about Indigenous history, cultural knowledge, and deeply relevant stories that all inspired participants to want to learn more. Chuck is always looking to improve his practice and is always listening to those around him with an open mind. Wahkohtowin's goal is to bring the art and process of canoe building back as an annual practice and revive the skills and knowledge to ensure their survival.



10 days after beginning, on October 22nd, 2022, Wahkohtowin staff, community members and canoe build participants were ready to launch the canoe at the Chapleau waterfront and invited everyone to come out and share in the excitement. A closing ceremony was held with a group of drummers to invite the ancestors out to celebrate with us and join us in birthing the

beautiful canoe. It was a magical experience to be a part of... the wind was calm, the water was serene, the drummers sounded beautiful, and the canoe silently and flawlessly floated across the Kepsquaeheshing River. Our ancestors would be proud.



We are excited to announce that Chuck will be returning to Chapleau in July of 2023 to do the next community canoe build. Wahkohtowin staff along with community members are planning to lead this build, while Chuck's role will be to oversee as a guide and mentor helping



everyone to cultivate their skills. Soon, canoe building will be a regular part of the program for Guardians, community members and youth, and together we will ensure this knowledge lives on for future generations to come.

**Miigwetch!**



# CCFN Community Trust - Brian Ritchie

As you may remember, the **CCFN Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) settlement** was split into two parts; **1)** a portion determined by membership to be used for Per-Capita Distribution and **2)** a smaller portion which would be used to support Community projects to advance the Purposes of the Trust, namely, Health and Well-Being, Community Development, Culture and Heritage, Economic Development and Education.

You may also remember that the portion of the Trust reserved to advance the purposes of the Trust was to be locked for 5 years, after which, income from that portion could be used to promote projects that are selected from a request for proposals. We are pleased to announce that the Trust now has a new website at **iamcree.ca**. In addition, we launched our first RFP on November 1 to capture the story of our Treaty Land Entitlement Journey, from the first signing of Treaty 9, through to the establishment of the Trust, and to present day where we will begin advancing the Purposes of the Trust.

For clarity, there is still a portion of the Per Capita Distribution (PCD) portion of the trust which is maintained for minors who were born before the Trust Ratification Date of January 17th, 2016. Having said that, the remainder of the trust is not for PCDs to members; only income from the remaining Trust amount is allowed to be used each year for projects that advance the Purposes of the Trust and provide benefit for all Community members, both on and off the Fox Lake Reserve.

We have done our best to communicate the new website and the RFP to members based on email addresses that we have. If you have not received communication from us, please send an email to **info@iamcree.ca**

Lastly, please note that we are also looking for Band Members to participate on our RFP Evaluation Committee. We have received several requests for that, but if you have not submitted a request, and you wish to participate, you can also send an email to **info@iamcree.ca** and we will consider your request.

**Brian Ritchie—CCFN Community Trust**



## Three Nations Development - *Brian Ritchie*

Along with Brunswick House, and Chapleau Ojibwe First Nations, Chapleau Cree owns one third of Three Nations Development, a business development corporation that consolidates business opportunities around the Newmont mining operation at Borden Lake. Through this business development corporation, we have business relationships with around 100 service and equipment providers that supply the Newmont-Borden operation.

In addition to the business partner relationships discussed above, using earnings from our business operations, Three Nations Development has invested in, and now fully paid, for two properties in Chapleau, containing 14 two-bedroom apartment units that are used to provide lodging to Newmont employees and contractors.

On October 25th, Three Nations Development held its Annual General Meeting at which it disclosed, to its First Nation owners, that it has had another great year of operation with net earnings of over \$1.8M. This is in addition to \$716,459 in gold ore trucking revenue that is also distributed to the three owner First Nation Communities, throughout the year, for a total of over \$2.5M in net earnings for the year ending March 31, 2022. At the same Annual General Meeting, the owners approved a distribution of income from Three Nations Development to each of its First Nation owners of \$750,000 per Community.

For your additional information, Three Nations Development is run very efficiently with no fulltime staff, and very low operating costs. It is supported primarily by three directors, one appointed from each of its owner Communities.

**Brian Ritchie – TND Director for CCFN**



## 2022 CHAPLEAU CREE RAVENS



In August of 2022, the Chapleau Cree Raven hockey team participated in the first Indigenous Youth hockey summer Challenge in Sudbury, Ontario.

The age group of the players were 12 and 13 and they had to of played on a U13 Peeewe team from the 2021-2022 season.

Wade Cachagee organized the team and had help on the bench from Robert Moreau and James Panamick. Thank you guys for helping out.

Organizing the team took many days and hours to recruit the players, communicate with the parents and to ensure the players had fun at the first Indigenous Youth hockey summer Challenge.

This awesome event would not have been possible without the financial support from Chief and Council of our First Nation. All players represented Chapleau Cree at the highest level, everyone played hard and most importantly had fun.

All parents were very thankful and wish to participate in any future tournaments with the team. Other teams included Moose Cree, Waswanipi and Wikwemkong. The team battled to the very end won games against Moose Cree and Wikwemkong and lost a game against Waswanipi, only to play them again for the Championship game and brought home gold defeating them for 1st place in the tournament. We had great representation from Chapleau Cree players and also had players from Moose Cree First Nation, Fort Albany and other communities to make up 12 skaters and 1 goalie.



**GO RAVENS GO!**



# Upcoming Events

**Note: Dates and events listed below are tentative and subject to change.**

**December 17, 2022:** CCFN Christmas Party

*(Semi-Formal Event. 5:30pm at Chapleau Arena Community Hall. Call 705-864-0784 for more info)*

**February 20, 2023:** Family Day

**April 7, 2023:** Good Friday

**April 10, 2023:** Easter Monday

**May 14, 2023:** Mother's Day

**May 20, 2023:** Victoria Day

**June 21:** National Indigenous Peoples Day

Chapleau Cree First Nation

Fox Lake Reserve

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