

### CHAPLEAU CREE FIRST NATION NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023 - KASKATINISIW-PISIM

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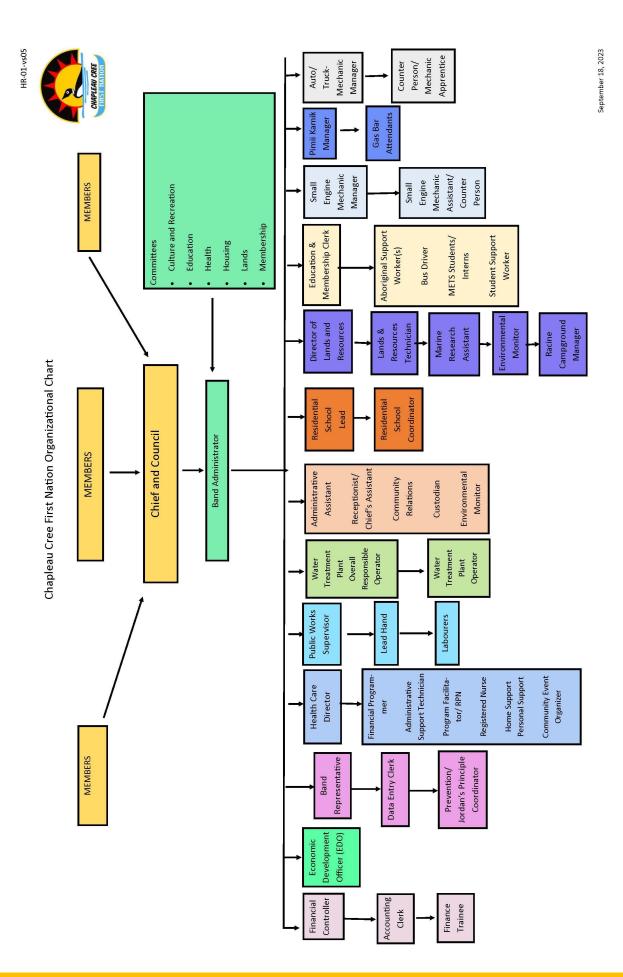
Volume 15 Issue 2

# Wachay, Fox Lake, Neyhweeneenowuk!



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# In Memoriam





Michael Cachagee Sr. 1939-2023

William Saylors 1947-2023

# **Our Sincerest Condolences**



John Bain 1937-2023



Eva Memegos 1928-2023 **Drake Cachagee** 

Kr

Mary (Mercier) Cote

1945-2023

2005-2023

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

#### INTRODUCTION

Wachay, my fellow band members!

Winter is on its way, and we have completed a tremendous amount of work this past year. As the year settles to the snow, we are looking back at all that's been accomplished this year such as our successful cultural events, our economic development bearing fruit, and our housing projects booming. We are looking forward to capitalizing on proposed projects and the completion of our many housing developments as the year winds to a close.

#### **CULTURAL REPRISE**

Our 28th annual Pow-Wow was held this August to the best turnout we've had in well over a decade. It is because of our pow-wow committee, headed by our Healthcare Director, that it's owed its success and as well as the support of Chief & Council and the many other individuals who contributed. We brought in drum groups such as the Thunder Creek Singers and the Young Eagle Singers. These cultural events are the backbone of our people's spirits, and we renew ourselves through its practices and traditions. They are as integral to us as food and water, and I am so proud of this year's success to show for it.

Also in culture was the eighth annual cultural harvest we have out at Mushkwasheewee Saakaaheekaan (Grassy Lake) and just like our pow-wow, our community participation was excellent. With many cultural events such as archery, teachings within the cooking tent, fish harvesting, axe throwing, arts and crafts, and bingo, of course, it's an important and communal landmark that we partake in these festivities and teachings together as a people, as one.

Band members returning, and new members, old and young, near and far, I encourage you all to come back every autumn for this fall harvest. It is a treat to see the generations, the families, and the community bond over our shared heritage; to be out there on the land, on the waters, under the sky, that is the way of our people.

#### WAWA-PORCUPINE TRANSMISSION LINE

The proposed Wawa-Porcupine transmission line is still an ongoing process and will be for the many months to come, but first, let me remind you all you about what it is and what's the overall goal: The province of Ontario is proposing a power line from Wawa to Timmins as the inadequate power must be addressed in the north. The two main proponents are Hydro One and TIPS, and of these two, we have chosen TIPS as they offer a much better deal. In this, we are involved in a coalition with Michipicoten First Nation, Missinaibie First Nation, and Taywka Tagamou First Nation; these three other proponents are directly impacted in our traditional territory. This is still in the process, and we will be waiting for Independent Electricity System Operator to decide on who they will be choosing. Once that happens, then we will be getting into much heavier and involved negotiations.

It is our priority to have a small environmental impact and to receive an economical boon.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This year, the same as the last, had been a big endeavour for housing on-reserve. As many of you already

know, we have several builds now that are reserved for renting. In addition to the three houses built, rented out, and its families moved in since the last newsletter, we are overseeing the finishing touches on five more houses, three two-bedrooms and the foundations of two three bedrooms that should be ready for when the snow thaws.

Our project at Sideburned Lake is one that's in two phases. The first being the four cabins which are being built as we speak. They will all be closed in before winter sets in and then the work can begin on the inside throughout the course of the winter. These cabins are a unique design as you can see in the pictures. They are eight-person and six-person cabins.

The second phase of this will be the lodge itself, we will begin that construction when the funds start to flow—making sure that this is mostly cost-neutral to Chapleau Cree First Nation. In all probability, the cabins will be completed by next summer, completely turnkey, the other half of the project, the ecolodge, could take up to two years.

Two shapatuans were built, as well, they are Cree-style buildings for cooking wild meat. This is the way our ancestors did it and as we are always trying to bring much of our culture back that was lost. One is at Grassy Lake, used for our cultural gatherings, and the other is at our pow-wow grounds where it is used for our traditional gatherings at the grounds.

#### **CLOSING REMARK**

In closing, I would like to thank the band members for choosing me to lead us through these many projects, developments, trials, and successes. I would also like to thank my council for standing by my side through each instance, as well.

In days before, this is the time of the year where families were preparing to go on the trapline. They would

go at this time of the year before the freeze-up that they could travel freely and spend a couple of months until the ice permitted. They would come out around Christmas for a few weeks to stock-up and then go back to harvest well into March.

This was a very important time of the year for our people, I would ask each of you to make sure it is important to you, as well.

Meegwetch! Chief Keeter Corston





## Band Administrator Report - Edith Larocque

### Band Administrator Report – Edith Larocque

"You can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed."

"We are committed to responsible and accountable leadership carrying out the collective will of its members thereby improving their quality of life".

> "We are committed to protecting and preserving our treaty and aboriginal inherent rights".

Winter hours of operation have resumed at our offices and businesses from 8:30AM to 4:30PM Monday to Friday. Pimii Kamik Gas Bar hours are 7:00AM to 9:00PM seven days a week.

Year end is complete, and our draft Audited Financial Statements have been submitted to Indigenous Service Canada for review and approval. With the increase in illnesses due to COVID-19 and the seasonal flu, and the benefit of the Technology and internet available today, we have discontinued our Annual General Meetings. Our Audited Financial Statements can be found on our website, <u>www.chapleaucree.ca</u> or online at Indigenous Service Canada website as per the Financial Transparency Act. Please see our enclosed

poster for more details.

The Public Works department remains busy with roads, housing maintenance, client services, assisting programs when required in providing manual labour required for lifting and relocating large items to meet the demands of specific programming. The Public Works team not only assists with programs and ensures the necessary supplies are available and ready but also ensure our assets on reserve are maintained and scheduled for any necessary work to ensure its use of life is extensive. This team is a major part of the success of our department's programs for the safety and well being of all our members.

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. Housing meetings were held, and applications were reviewed, and homes have been allocated to qualifying members.

Our Health Department is extremely busy with planning, organizing, and holding many activities and events for the community and its members. We have had an increase in participation from our members and welcome the opportunity to provide services to them and their families. Please feel free to reach out to Marlene Kapashesit, Healthcare Director at hcd@chapleaucree.ca to inquire about any service or program that may be of interest to you and she will direct you to the appropriate member of the Healthcare team.

The Lands Department continues working on protecting our aboriginal treaty rights on the land and reaching out to various agencies and governments and ensure they are providing meaningful consultation to our First Nation. Our Lands & Resources Technician was on a temporary leave, and we welcome her return on November 6, 2023. The Lands & Resources Director position remains available. The posting is included in the package.

Our water treatment plant is operating smoothly. Our Overall Responsible Operator continues to collaborate with the Ministries and Federal Government officials making sure the current and future needs of our community are being met.

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 have all been assigned to members. Should anyone wish to be added to the wait list, please submit your name and interest to <u>reception@chapleaucree.ca</u>. We will contact you once a site has become available.

Chapleau Cree has had a few changes to our staff. Our Aboriginal Student Support Worker has decided not to return to the position this year. We thank her for time and wish her well with her future endeavours.

Chapleau Cree First Nation has a team of 47 employees working diligently in providing services and programs to members and the community. We could not accomplish everything we have achieved this past year without the knowledge, expertise, time and cooperation and the incredible efforts of all our employees. A sincere thank you and heartfelt gratitude for your contribution to our First Nation and its members.

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 <u>bandadmin@chapleaucree.ca</u> or telephone (705) 864-0784 ext. 226.

Wishing everyone good health and spirit.

*Mena Kaa Waa pah miten Till we meet again* Edith Larocque







P.O. Box 400 ← Fox Lake Reserve, Ontario ← POM 1K0 Ph (705) 864-0784 ← Fax (705) 864-1760 adminassist@chapleaucree.ca

### Chapleau Cree First Nation Status Children's Activity Fund 2022-2023

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

Parents are encouraged to submit copies of original receipts for sport/cultural/extra-curricular activities their status children have participated in. Receipts must be dated between **December 1, 2022 and November 30, 2023** to be eligible for this program.

Please send a letter with the name of the child(ren) along with copies of your receipts before **Friday**, **December 8**, **2023**.

\* Only cost for fees associated with youth activities are eligible; Equipment and supply costs will not be considered.

\*This lottery process is based on number of submissions received.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Edith Larocque, Band Administrator at (705)864-0784 ext. 226.

bandadmin@chapleaucree.ca





Wacheya,

I am Adrienne Beaupre/Dawn Eagle, from the Eagle clan.

I am a Chapleau Cree band member, that resides within our community.

I am pleased to announce that I am the, Residential School Coordinator for Chapleau Cree First Nation.

Having had 3 aunts that did not return home from St. John's IRS, and ancestors, that have attended St. John's IRS, I have a passion to assist families and survivors, to share their experiences, help uncover truths, and for the children, that never made it home.

Learning our history and what happened, can help heal our Peoples and our Nations, and to help us move forward in a good way.

I look forward to working with all communities and families, that have been affected by St. John's Residential School.

Miigwetch,



# **Membership Report - Stephanie Scott**

#### Wachay Membership!

Bill C-38 was introduced into the House of Commons in November 2021 and completed its

1<sup>st</sup> reading in December 2022. The bill began its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

These proposed changes will include:

- Enfranchisement
- Reregistration
- Acquired rights to natal band Membership.

Indigenous Services Canada released a simplified renewal form for the SCIS card. Previously registered adult applicants who meet the 4 conditions can take advantage of the new simplified renewal process:

- Vou were 16 or older when you last applied for your Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS).
- The following personal information has not changed since your last SCIS was issued: your family name, given names, date of birth, First Nation affiliation and registration number.
- Vour last SCIS was not revoked or reported lost, stolen or damaged.
- You are applying no more than 1 year before and no later than the renewal date on the front of your SCIS.

You can find status application forms and SCIS/renewal application and guarantor forms at the below link. I will also work with Kyle Corston, Community Relations, to include the new forms on the CCFN website. https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1462806841047/1572461062751#opt2

For the old-style laminate certificate of status, please call or email me ahead of time to book an appointment to assure you that I am available and have cards in stock.

ISC informed Band Offices that they are short on supply. I will not be administrating cards for other First Nation members at this time as Chapleau Cree First Nation members are a priority.

If you had a SCIS card, you are not able to receive the old-style card and must apply for a SCIS. I can assist with the application for SCIS and take the photo through photo app to send directly to the SCIS processing center.

Chapleau Cree First Nation population is continuing to increase its membership and our ISC registry list grows almost every day. Generations of families are gaining status as a registered Indian with Indigenous Service Canada. As a Registered status Indian, you have access to Treaty Rights, harvesting, Education (Post-Secondary funding) and Health. Registering and applying to Chapleau Cree First Nation, (we are section 10 and control our own membership and election code) has additional benefits including programming, Housing and voting. (See Chart below for more info)

### What is the difference between the Registry List and the Band Membership List?

| Registry List  | Band Membership List   |
|--|--|
| <ul> <li>Administered by ISC;</li> <li>Added to Registry List when registered<br/>as a Status Indian;</li> <li>Entitled to all rights as defined under the<br/>Indian Act. (i.e., Harvesting within Trea-<br/>ty), Education) and Health.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Administered by Chapleau Cree;</li> <li>Must apply to Chapleau Cree for acceptance into Membership if not registered at birth;</li> <li>Entitled to all rights as defined under the Indian Act;</li> <li>Eligible to vote in Chief and Council Elections;</li> <li>Eligible to vote in Referendums;</li> <li>Eligible for CCFN programming/activities;</li> <li>CCFN per member capita distributions;</li> <li>Receive information packages, Newsletters etc. from Chapleau Cree;</li> <li>Entitled to build on the Reserve;</li> </ul> |

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 at education@chapleaucree.ca or call my direct line **705-864-5082**.



### **Education Report - Stephanie Scott**

#### Wachay!

The new school year is well on its way which means that it has been busy here in the office. We currently have twenty-three full-time post-secondary students and one part-time student. This will not be possible without the financial support of Mushkegowuk Employment and Training who have provided funding for eight of our first year students. The Post-Secondary Student Support Program is full for this 23/24 academic year.

The funding application deadline for Fall 2024 intake is June 1st, 2024. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed in a second round, funding dependent.

Mushkegowuk Employment and Training Services (METS) has support 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;

The Education Department partnered with Life Sacred Journey and the Health Department on the Back-to-School Shopping Trip. The families were able to visit many exhibits at the Ontario Science Centre, Royal Ontario Museum and check out Ripley's Aquarium, CN Tower and more!

Our youth are growing fast with a new younger generation coming up that are getting to experience these events for the first time. Their excitement brings so much joy to a busy day.

Aboriginal Student Support Workers are collaborating with each local Provincial School with activities and les-

sons within the classrooms to continue building student multicultural understanding.

The Algoma District School Board recently upgraded the Indigenous Resource Room at the Chapleau Elementary/Secondary School that included, new furniture, new desks and conversational area. The room showcases Indigenous artwork traced and painted onto the walls by the students.

Newmont Gold has an estimated workforce of 221 including 41 First Nation members from the 3 surrounding First Nations. Employment opportunities are filled quickly. If you are interested in working at Newmont Gold, please contact me directly or email your the IBA Coordinator, David Courtois at <u>bordenfnc@wabun.on.ca</u>. Please check out the new QR codes for Newmont employment opportunities and for a candidate interest form!

#### **Stephanie Scott**

edcuation@chapleaucree.ca





#### Scan for more information on

Newmont Employment Opportunities:



Scan to Fill Out Candidate Interest Form:



### Economic Development Report - Padraic Taaffe

### **Greetings Band Members**,

It has been a busy first six months for me in the Economic Development Office. There are several large projects that are nearing completion and that will bring many benefits to Chapleau Cree First Nation.

### Housing

Construction activities continue at a high pace, with the last two foundations of this round of housing development having been poured. These houses are scheduled for delivery in early December, and we expect to have them ready for occupancy in April.

At that point Chapleau Cree will have constructed <u>22 new housing units since 2017</u>, a tremendous rate of growth.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) contributions and CCFN's investments have built:

- Five Houses at 6 Cachagee Road, 17 Cachagee Road, 928 Lindy Louttit Lane, 939 Lindy Louttit Lane, and 183 Margaret Ann Road.
- Duplex at 3 and 5 Cachagee Road.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Loans and subsidies have built:

- Three Houses at 4 Cachagee Road, 941 Lindy Louttit Lane, and 269 Margaret Ann Road.
- Two Houses at 236 Margaret Ann Road and 240 Margaret Ann Road, and the Mukeso House Extension Duplex.
- Two Houses at 7 Cachagee Road and 937 Lindy Louttit Lane.

Rapid Housing Initiative from CMHC:

Two Triplexes on Margaret Ann Road.

After the completion of the last of these planned houses, we will need to assess the infrastructure that supports housing and the community before undertaking any new building projects. I am working with the Band Administrator and the Water Plant Supervisor on plans to ensure that the water supply gets the investments that it needs, and there is more work to be done on roads and landscaping. There is a new source of funding from ISC for Housing Management and we will be applying for funds to support the staff and equipment that we need to maintain the houses and infrastructure that the band needs.



### Ecolodge

The four Chalets at Sideburned Lake are being constructed with Thermologs, made from white pine and polystyrene foam. This durable and energy efficient building material allows for quick construction – there is no need for a frame as the walls are all load bearing. Construction of the Chalets will be complete in the spring of 2024.



The area being developed at Sideburned Lake (the old Golden Route site) is patent land purchased by Chapleau Cree in 2017, surrounded by the Treaty Land Entitlement settlement that includes much of Sideburned and Highbrush Lakes. The facilities will be the gateway to enjoying the lakes and lands that are in the process of being added to the reserve.



### **Economic Development Report - Continued**

The development of this area is a multi-year, multi-million-dollar project, of which the four Chalets are only the first phase. Funding applications and planning work are ongoing and there will be more news about this project in the years to come. With its direct access to highway 101, the

### Streetlights

Chapleau Cree has been successful in applying for a \$100,000 grant from the First Nations Community Building Retrofit Program, which will fund the replacement of all the existing streetlights with LED lights. This project is already in progress, and we are working to expedite the installation of the new LED lights in the areas where the old lights are broken.

We have also applied for a \$150,000 grant from the Independent Electricity System Operator to install solar LED streetlights to fill in the stretches of Margaret Ann Road and wherever else there are no lights at all.

Energy efficient, reliable LED streetlights will make the community safer and more enjoyable.



### **Finance Server Upgrade**

With the help of Wolfgang Nakogee, we have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Mushkegowuk Council Employment & Training Service (METS) to replace the computer server that supports the Finance department's software – a critical piece of infrastructure.

### **Support for Private Business Ventures**

Prosperity does not just come from big, expensive projects financed by grant applications and run by the band administration. There are many supports and sources of help for First Nations business owners and entrepreneurs, in fact, so many that it can be a confusing alphabet soup with overlapping agencies at the federal, provincial, regional and tribal council levels maxae.

I am here to help you navigate these systems. If you have an existing business that you want to improve and expand or have an idea that you want help turning into a reality, please come see me or email me and we will work with you and for you.

In the meantime, there are some great resources that you can have a look at on your own.

Canada Business Benefits Finder

https://innovation.ised-isde.canada.ca/s/?language=en CA



**Business Benefits Finder** 

Find programs and services to help your business grow.

Whether you're an entrepreneur, a business, or a not-for-profit organization. Tell us your story.

I'm looking for V for my business.



**Ontario Aboriginal Business Grants** 

https://ontariobusinessgrants.com/by-audience/aboriginal-business-grants/?msID=b6497050-fe29-4f57-a567-76d356e751bc





### **Aboriginal Business Grants**

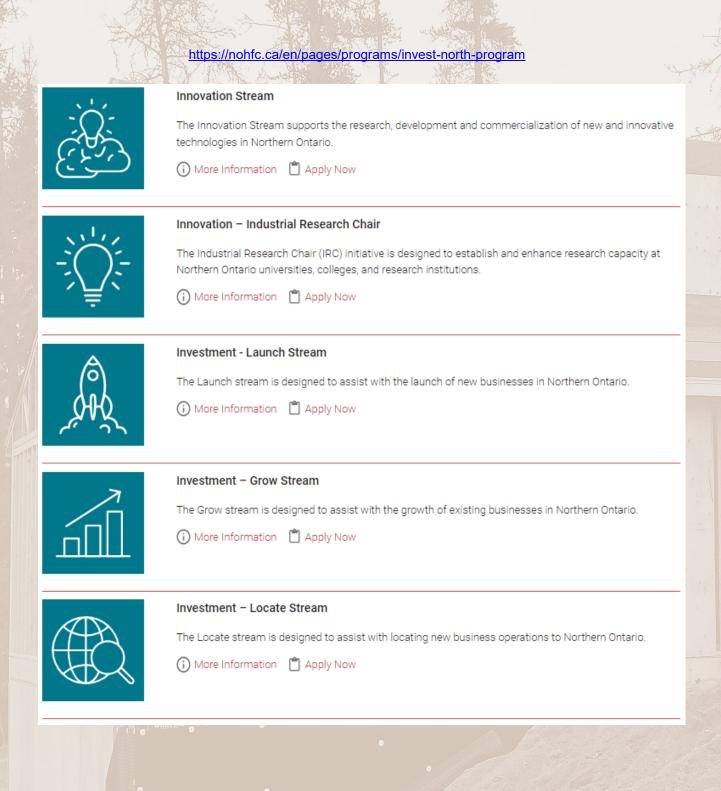
51 Grants & More for Indigenous Business

www.OntarioBusinessGrants.com

**Quick Navigation** 

### **Economic Development Report - Continued**

NOHFC - Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation



### Canada Ontario Resource Development Agency (CORDA)

### https://www.hiawathafirstnation.com/services-departments/corda/

CORDA is a tripartite initiative between Federal, Provincial and First Nation governments. The Agreement includes Grand Council Treaty #3, the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Union of Ontario Indians, the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Independent First Nations, Canada, and Ontario.

CORDA is governed by the principles of preservation for future generations, conservation in the present, and regeneration from the past.

It is a province wide program with an annual application process. Financial support is provided to projects whose intent is to foster economic development and natural resource management for future generations by promoting harvesting, conservation, and traditional harvesting. Funding for CORDA is provided equally by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

Eligible applications must promote natural resource development, management, harvesting and conservation in Ontario. They must also involve one or more of the following:

- Commercial Fishing, including all aspects of sustained yield production and quality control
- Fur Trapping, including all aspects of trap line management and pelt quality control
- Forestry, harvesting, maintenance, renewal and access
- Non-timber forest products including wild rice, blueberries, wild traditional crops and medicinal plants
- Deer, bear, barren-ground caribou and moose hide utilization
- Sports fishing and hunting, including assistance to guides and outfitters
- Fishing and hunting for domestic use
- Commercial recreation related to the development of renewable natural resources including ecotourism, hunting camps, guiding, skiing and snowmobile trails
- Processing and marketing of products derived from natural resource development, management and harvesting
- Environmental projects relating to resource development
- Natural resource planning such as those projects related to natural heritage or addressing invasive species

Applications must be submitted annually. Projects may apply for up to **\$35,000** per year. Projects may, at times, be approved for funding at an amount less than requested.

This year's application deadline has passed but it is not too early to start developing an application for next year. Please come and see me if you would like some help with the application.

#### **Future Plans**

Over the next few months, there are some major projects and ongoing initiatives that I will be focusing on.

- Water Plant expansion. We will be developing the funding and supports needed to ensure that Chapleau Cree has safe and plentiful water for all community needs.
- Rental housing workshops to go over the proper use of HRV systems and other issues. We will be having in-person workshops for renters as well as online and printed materials.

### **Economic Development Report - Continued**

- Community engagement sessions about funding opportunities and supports for private business ventures, including e-commerce. There will be ongoing communications and support sessions for band members who are business owners and entrepreneurs.
- Development of a playground on Margaret Ann Road. We are working to develop a playground area on Margaret Ann Road for the benefit of children (and adults) on that side of Fox Lake.

Padraic Taaffe, Economic Development Officer







### Public Works Garage Report - Wayne Kapashesit

#### Good day, Wachey!

lit's been a busy summer and fall season for the public works team, but managed to keep up with our daily workloads that came our way. We've had two summer students and one Co-op student doing his community hours that helped our department a great deal and appreciate their contribution to our department.

I'd like to recognize our public works staff and trainees for the experience and knowledge they have shared with me. I'm sure I wouldn't have done this supervisor position without their help. Just getting to know where and how operation works with all the activities and projects that come our way.

First, I'd like to share that one of the projects that was a success is helping with our cooking tents that were built. Delivering the supplies that were needed at the job sites. Also setting up of our indigenous day up at the baseball field, setting up for the Pow Wow grounds, then the 2023 Fall Harvest Culture event. Cleaning up around the grassy campground, and community putting in the docks at Racine Lake and Fox Lake.

As winter approaches, we will be busy with our on-call schedule of snow removal, keeping our roads, offices/ businesses and lots open.

As the winter months set in, I'd like to take this time to wish you all a successful safe school year, and winter season.

Thank you/ Meegweetch Public Works Supervisor

Wayne Kapashesit





### Water Treatment Plant Report - Allan Dupuis

#### Hello everyone!

The seasons are beginning to change here in Chapleau. While today wasn't our first day of snow, the temperatures have dropped, and it looks like the white stuff is going to start falling on the regular again. Everyone has their favorite season of the year in Canada and while most people would say their favorite is summer mine is the fall and it really doesn't last too long around here. I hope all the hunters got the opportunities to get out there and were successful in their hunts and I hope all the fishers out there had a great summer and season as well. This year I didn't get out to camp as much as I hoped but as the saying goes "there's always next year"!

Before it gets too cold, we at the Water Treatment Plant have a lot of work to finish up. We have a lot of new homes and services across the First Nation. While they have been busy putting up homes and additions, we have been doing out part to ensure they all have access to good clean water. The work we do with new services is not only visually marking the valves and equipment but completing "tie-ins" so they can be found even if they are under 5 feet of snow. The visual markers are not only important to us at the plant but for the contractors and Public Works team so they can avoid these areas during the winter when clearing snow. We also work on a full system flush before winter because this is the last opportunity, we will have to flush every hydrant without causing ice and water build up on roads or driveways as not every hydrant can be flushed without causing hazards in the winter due to location issues and frozen grounds.

Our trainee has completed his first full year in the Water Treatment Plant and soon will be able to write the exam for his Level I certification. In his first year he had written and passed his Operator in Training certification as well as completed the Walkerton entry level course. He has also passed other certification courses along the way such as Working from Heights. I look forward to seeing him progress in his carrier as a Water Operator.

The upgraded plant is running well but as anyone who has worked in the Water Industry knows, the work is never done and there is always another project. Our THM/HAA issues have been under control, but we must be diligent in our work to ensure we meet the regulations for safe drinking water. We also need to manage our wells that feed the system since they are a limited resource due to the conditions in our area. We have begun working on a project to have additional wells drilled so we can meet the needs of this growing

community and the membership we serve. Hopefully this project is finished, and we can begin scheduling the work to be completed in the spring or early summer.

I look forward to keeping you updated in the next newsletter.

### Allan Dupuis

### Water Treatment Plant Operator





### Health Director - Marlene Kapashesit

Wachay,

The Health and Community Events programs have been quite busy throughout the summer/fall of 2023.

Our Health department has fulfilled many activities within our community, such as nutrition bingo, Health Care presentations with a lunch n' learn setting. Many presentations included our collaborator, Maamwesying and servicing our local community members with home visits and setting up health referrals.

The Community Events Organizer position is still vacant, however; our Health department continues to fulfill cultural activities such as Regalia Workshops, Summer and Fall Camping events and Traditional Teachings.

Our Cree Classes—L Dialect have begun in March 2023 and continues via Online course. We conducted a weekend session on site, which was very productive with the Cree class team. Our goal is to complete the Daisy Turner Cree Booklet by December 2023. Moose Cree First Nation member, Norman Wesley has been dedicated to providing our Cree Language Classes.

On June 21, 2023, a community celebration of Indigenous Day of games and fun entertainment for the youth and families. We had outdoor games, food and music for our community.

Youth Summer Camp was held July 17- 19, 2023, as "Day camp at Grassy Lake." Many youth enjoyed the activities and were fulfilled by local support and guidance of our CCFN elders.

The Children's summer trips took place, one event they went to Toronto and explored many activities and the Tiny tots were on another trip to Santa's village.

The Cooking Tents were built and opened during the two main summer/fall events of Pow wow and Fall Harvest. These cooking tents are used with our programs to cook our traditional foods and a gathering place for our community members. We demonstrated cooking geese and turkey on an open fire, along with Bannock on a Stick and Indian Donuts. It was great to have our Cooking Team

from Moose Factory: Greta & Mike Katapayuk Sr, Mike Katapayuk Jr. and Joyce & Douglas Small.

The Powwow was held on August 12 & 13, 2023 at the Chapleau Cree First Nation Pow Wow grounds. It was a great time to gather with family and friends. Many visitors were welcomed and shared the time of healing.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Fall Harvest was held September 25 – 28, 2023 at Grassy Lake grounds. In total, there were 234 registered participants. Activities were held for all groups that included Traditional Cooking, Tamarack Bird Workshop, Canvas Painting, Beading, Soapstone Carving, Knife & Axe Sharpening Workshop, along with many games. This event provided meals daily with our local member catering services.

In closing, wishing you and your families a safe upcoming Winter season.

Respectfully,

### Marlene Kapashesit







Health Report Continued





# Life's Sacred Journey Report Hilary Arsenault-Broomhead



It has been a busy season for Life's Sacred Journey. We continue to work to serve and support Chapleau Cree First Nation in the best possible way through programs, parties and presentations.

We began spring by celebrating Bear Witness Day through our Jordan's Principle Program. A movie about the reform was played while the group baked some of Spirit Bear's favourite cookie recipes. And as the weather warmed up, we encouraged Members to welcome the season with our second step challenge. This friendly competition has been a successful one and is something we plan on continuing a few times a year to get people moving, so keep an eye out for upcoming events. We also encouraged a spring salutation with a seed growing activity. Bulbs were planted and blossoms bloomed! We are consistently looking for new and engaging ideas to keep local Members involved in activities that all can participate in.

Shortly thereafter, in a collaboration with the Education Department, speakers from Timmins and Area Women in Crisis came to provide an information session about the realities and risks of human trafficking; a heinous happening that it is important to be aware of. Tentative plans are in place to bring the organization back to present to high school students directly in efforts to broaden awareness and increase safety.

Summer saw a larger scale event in collaboration with Chapleau Cree Health Services to celebrate National Indigenous People's Day with activities hosted in the ball field. It was a sweltering day, and the games were sizzling. It was a great time for all ages with prizes and live music. With the success of this event, we hope to make the celebration an annual one with bigger and better offerings as the years progress.

Getting out into the community, LSJ attended Family Fun Day with other Children's service providers in town. We set up a table and hosted a game of Medicine Wheel Twister. We were able to advise the community of the services we offer and engage with the town's families in a new and different setting.

While we held and hosted multiple events here on Fox Lake Reserve, Life's Sacred Journey, along with other departments, had a great time taking our adventures on the road this summer too, A weeklong community trip to the big city of Toronto! Families had an exciting time visiting lots of attractions and events including the Toronto Zoo, the CN Tower, Ripley's Aquarium, the CNE, a Blue Jays game and Canada's Wonderland. The trip concluded with a stop at the Rama Pow Wow, one of the biggest in all of Ontario. These experiences were new for some and exciting for all; enjoyable, but surely exhausting. Future trips will aim to be a little more streamlined to maximize fun and allow the opportunity for relaxation as well.

This excursion brought us to the end of summer and saw us getting ready to get back to the school routine. To support our students, LSJ hosted a pizza party to celebrate and hopefully encourage a school year of success!

We continued into the autumn season with another family venture with Health. This time, families with younger children paid a visit to Santa's Village. Children were able to have a meet and greet with the big man himself at his favourite summer vacation spot located halfway between the equator and the north pole. Riveting rides and amusing activities were on the agenda and our tiny tots had a great time.

As the Child and Family Support Services Department, Life's Sacred Journey has a heavy focus on our children and youth. This does not mean, however, that we forget about the grownup members of the family. Our Prevention Worker, Charnelle, hosted a child-free appetizer night. We can all use a little break from time to time and plan on offering the opportunity for parents and adults to have these social experiences on a more regular basis.

We have been so happy and feel so honoured to be able to bring this variety of events and excursions to the Community, but there has also been an immense amount of work behind the scenes. Band Representative/ Manger Hilary, and Jordan's Principle Coordinator/Prevention Worker, Charnelle, have attended a diverse range of trainings, conferences and forums, both together and respectively, in order to be able to bring the best possible services tailored to our Community's needs. Charnelle has achieved certification in ASIST training as well as an Anger Management Specialist. She is currently attending a community-based program through Anishinabek Educational Institute working towards a diploma as a Native Community Worker. Hilary has achieved a certificate in supporting domestic violence victims through the court process. This adds to the services that Band Rep can offer including Restorative Justice and basic court support. Hilary has also attended multiple Band Rep Meetings with Mushkegowuk and Kunuwanimano, respectively, and will be attending a Band Rep Forum held by Clarke Child and Family Law in the coming weeks. Additionally they have attended various Jordan's Principle Trainings to keep up to date with the latest information and material the program has to offer. These trainings also allow for networking opportunities that provide insight into what other First Nations are working towards and accomplishing so that we might apply the newly gained knowledge to fit the needs of the families we service. If you have any questions about what the Jordan's Principle Program can offer your family, please contact Char-

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### Life's Sacred Journey Report - Continued

nelle at 705 860-0001 or prevention@lifessacredjourney.ca.

We also expanded our networking to other agencies and organizations and met with Deputy Grand Chief Victor Linklater and his consultant Kayla Viau to learn about the process of developing our own First Nation's laws regarding Child Protection and adherence to Bill C-92. We have retained Clarke Child and Family Law to assist us with this process and to represent our First Nation in court proceedings having to do with Child Welfare. We look forward to this relationship moving forward and are eager to see how its development benefits our children, youth and families all over the province and country. Band Rep services are available to all Band Members and Affiliates that have any involvement with any Child Welfare Agency for any reason. If you have questions, concerns or require support, please do not hesitate to contact **Hilary at 705 860-0003** or **bandrep@lifessacredjourney.ca**.

As mentioned above, it has been a busy season, and the next is gearing up to be a whole new set of adventures. Please remember that we are never too busy to meet with members, or to hear ideas from the community on how we can best support families. Stay tuned for upcoming events and feel free to come visit us at **814 Fox Lake Road**, at the side door. Our sign will be up soon!

Meegwetch. Hilary Arsenault-Broomhead LSJ Band Rep





# Indian Residential School Initiative Report - Deanna Cachagee



#### Wachiye!

The St. John's IRS Initiative seeks to document the stories and experiences of the Survivors and families of Survivors that attended St. John's Anglican Residential School to create a comprehensive record of the school, search the school grounds, and investigate on behalf of the children who never made it home.

This process will follow a trauma-informed, Survivor-led approach, with the goals of:

- Bringing together cultural protocols and western protocols in seeking and uncovering the truth of what happened at St. Johns Anglican Residential School;
- Continue the journey of individual, family, and community healing; and
- Seeking closure for families of missing children, including memorialization and commemoration as guided by an established IRS Survivor's working group

This Initiative is a joint effort between Chapleau Cree, Chapleau Ojibwe and Brunswick House First Nation's. Regular weekly Technical Working Group meetings have taken place with the Initiative Leads and Coordinator's from each community, as well as with Narratives Inc. who are our project management and research support.

Additionally, two Initiative gatherings were hosted – the Opening Ceremony which took place June 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> in Chapleau Cree FN at the Band Complex, and the Second Gathering on September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> at Chapleau Ojibwe FN at their traditional Pow Wow grounds. These gatherings were to launch the Initiative to our local First Nations community members, as well as to begin the Phase 1 planning processes and protocol development. These protocols are essential in guiding the Initiative while we work to reach the goals listed above.

The following protocols began to be developed during the Opening Ceremony: healing protocol, communications protocol, terms of Reference for the Survivor's Working Group. The Second Gathering focused on important discussions: uncovering the truth, memorialization and commemoration of gravesites, and bringing the children home. Additionally, the Initiative ran a logo contest and a winner was selected during the Second Gathering. First place was awarded to Bobbie McCulloch, who captured the following logo themes: intergenerational family units, representation of all three communities, environmental symbols such as trees and waterways, children and families to represent the healing of the past and the building of the future for the next generation. Going forward, St. John's IRS Initiative will be utilizing this logo on all official communications.

Again – this is sensitive work which must be undertaken in a good way and must honour the process of truth gathering with the utmost respect and dignity. The establishment of the Survivor's Working Circle has been at the centre of this Initiative's Phase 1 and is integral in guiding the work into Phase II and beyond. The Survivors'

Working Circle is comprised of community Elders, IRS Survivors, and intergenerational Survivors. As this Initiative grows, we will be launching new communications such as a newsletter and Facebook group to keep the Survivors' Working Circle up to date in new developments. The next St. John's IRS Initiative's next gathering will be set for Spring 2023 in Brunswick House FN. If you would like more information on how to become part of the Survivor's Working Group, please send an e-mail to <u>rsilead@chapleaucree.ca</u>

Mikwec, Deanna Cachagee Residential School Initiative Lead



St. John's IRS Initiative Opening Ceremony @ CCFN



St. John's IRS Initiative Second Gathering @ COFN

## **Marine Conservation Project Report**

## - Kyle Corston

#### Wachay Wachay Band Members!

This is a quick update from my last report in May. Ontario has

agreed to meet with Mushkegowuk over the contested land area, and Lawrence Martin, Mushkegowuk's Manager for the Marine Conservation Project, has been busy behind the scenes having recently met with Indigenous Affairs Minister Greg Rickford and others, to secure a PFP (Project for Financial Permanence) for the project and to provide legislation for conservation. Things seem to be rolling forward as expected, and the local Marine Conservation Assistants are working away collecting TEK data in all their respective communities.

Here at CCFN, I've had a good handful of members come in and do the Tawich Study (the name of the marine project's data collection manual), but there are still a lot of you out there that are locals, that I still need to interview! I cannot reiterate enough that ALL OF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE, and ALL DATA IS DATA. Whether it's a place you harvested moose or fish from, or a place you've picked berries, or a special place you like to walk to just to reinvigorate your spirit, And I have no doubt that many of you have noticed changes to the bush and ecosystem over your lifetimes. THIS IS ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION THAT CAN BE SHARED AND KEPT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. Our cultural connection to the land is spiritual, emotional and mental as much as it is physical, and isn't just about harvesting meat for sustenance. Not to mention there is a \$500 HONOURARIUM FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS!

This information will be used in creation of the Mushkegowuk National Marine Conservation Area, but will also be kept and preserved into the future by the tribal council, and who knows how your input will be used by generations to come. So please come out and share your knowledge with us, and be a part of this important initiative!

Meegwetch!

Kyle Corston Mushkegowuk Marine Conservation Assistant



## Wahkohtowin Development - David Flood

#### Wahkohtowin Development

This summer - and due to two of our three First Nations being members of Mushkegowuk Tribal Council, we have been pulled into the NEW conservation and protection initiative called Project for Finance Permanence. This is an offering from the Federal Govt for Nations to lead the land selection to achieve 30% biodiversity conservation by 2030.



Our role in Omushkego Wahkohtowin will be to support conservation best bet mapping for the industrial forest area that overlaps the territories. The challenge is to find intactness, connectivity and ecosystem that will benefit from conservation.

#### Guardians 2023 - May to Aug

Another successful spring/summer with two post secondary students and eight seasonal Guardians provide support and services in a cultural learning environment.



This year's group had participants from a range of Nation's that included Cree, Ojibway, but also Abinake and Algonquin.

Accomplishments include Birch Tapping for Syrup, Birch Bark Canoe Build, Medicine locating, Cultural teachings -Drum making and songs, star and pictographs teaching, Herbicide Alternative - Assessments and Manual Brushing, Solar Thermal panel build, community powwow and gathering support.







**Tree to Home** 

The solution proposed is through Onebowl.org, it is a form of public private partnership that promotes an opportunity for a supply chain of service. With over 6500 homes shortage and growing in NAN Territory



there is high demand and growing interest in the Thermo Log - Home kit solution. Visit Onebowl.org for more!

We are hiring - we are looking for a Guardian Program Manager and Coordinator. We have successfully run the program for four years and it continues to incrementally grow!

We are a social enterprise created to pursue full participation in governance and jurisdiction for its three owner First

Nations - established April 2016 - visit www.wahkohtowin.com

Link to our social media and watch for Climate Action info through our newest collaboration *RAD* - *Restore, Assert, Defend.*.

David Flood General Manager







## **CCFN Community Trust - Brian Ritchie**

#### Wachay CCFN Members!

It hard to believe is already closing in on the final months of the year. For the Community Trust, it was an exciting year as

we announced the first funded project to Band Member Jennifer David (nee Jennifer Swanson), to write the history of the Treaty Land Entitlement journey for our Community. For those of you who don't know Jennifer, she is the daughter of Bunny and Buddy Swanson. Jennifer has a degree in Journalism and English, and a Bachelor of Arts, both from Carleton University.



This project is now underway and some of you may have seen Jennifer at this summer's Pow Wow and you may have even been interviewed by Jennifer or other members of her team. Her team is continuing archival research for an e-

book that shares our Nation's journey to negotiate our Treaty Land Entitlement claim, and to receive compensation for unmet promises made under Treaty 9. To this end, Jennifer wanted us to ask that anyone with stories to share about Chapleau Cree history, to contact her at <u>ccfnhistory@gmail.com</u>.

Regarding the performance of the trust, this newsletter will be accompanied by our Annual Report specifying the history of the Trust, its financial performance within the 2022 fiscal year, the Trust mandate, and the status of funding for a 2023 project or projects.

Because we have distributed the Annual Report, we won't cover the full Trust performance here, but we will confirm that we will be launching another Request For Proposals (RFP) in November. This year's RFP will focus on the trust objective *'The promotion and protection of heritage and culture'*. We want to leave it open for creativity, but the focus should be on language, cultural traditions and crafts as were performed by our own Cree ancestors.

Once again, we will be soliciting evaluators from the Community to review and rank the proposals. Funding will more than last year's \$50,000 but we want to create some flexibility to fund one or more projects at that amount or a larger project if it provides good value to Membership. Remember that projects must benefit the entire Community, on and off reserve, so some form of digital delivery may be necessary depending on the subject matter that you are proposing. More on this year's RFP will be shared on the iamcree.ca website and we will also promote it through social media and the email list that we have on file.

We have done our best to maintain our email list of band members and communicate through that. If you have not received email communication from us in the last year, please send an email to **info@iamcree.ca** and we will add you to our distribution list.

As we enter the winter months, we would also like to take this opportunity to wish the membership and their families a safe happy and healthy holiday season.

## Three Nations Development - Brian Ritchie

#### Wachay CCFN Members!

Chapleau Cree, along with Brunswick House, and Chapleau Ojibwe First Nations own Three Nations Development Limited Partnership, a business development entity that consolidates business opportunities involved in the Newmont mining operation at Borden Lake. The limited partnership is controlled a 'general partner' Three Nations Development GP Inc. (TND). Brian Ritchie, a CCFN band member, is the current director managing CCFN's interest in the partnership with guidance from Chief and Council.

As you may remember, TND has three primary lines of business: 1) a large number of business partnerships with the companies that do business with Newmont-Borden Gold, 2) a trucking partnership earning money on each tonne of gold ore that is trucked to Timmins for refining, and 3) a housing business which owns 14 two-bedroom apartments that are leased to Newmont for their operations staff.

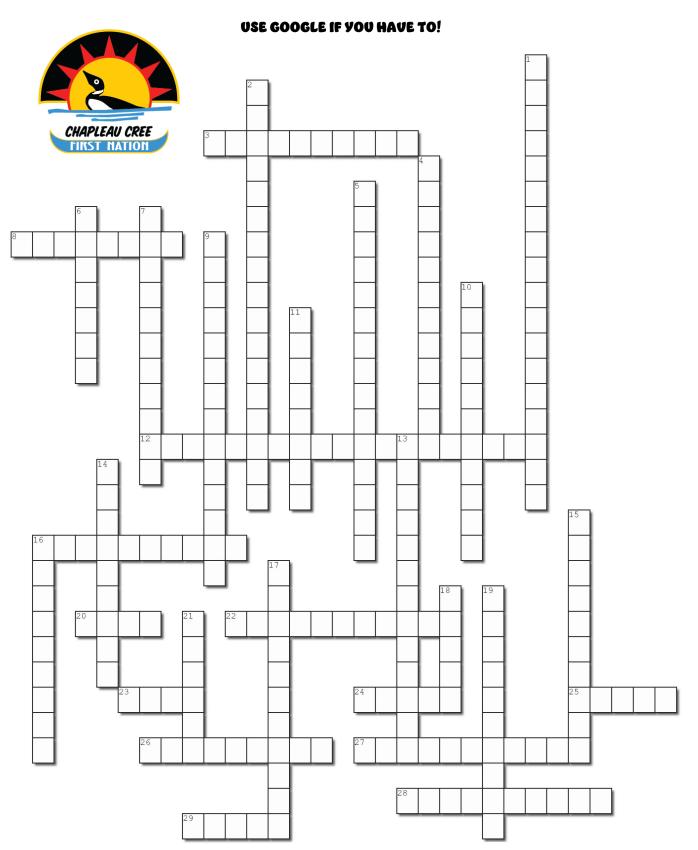
This year, ending March 31, 2023, TND made over \$3.4M in revenue. From this, it directly distributed over \$791,000 earned from the trucking partnership. From the trucking line of business, 35%, or \$277,000, flowed directly to Chapleau Cree. After that distribution, and other nominal expenses by TND, there was \$2.28M in profit remaining for TND's March 31, 2023 fiscal year-end.

This past August, TND Directors approved a new distribution of \$750,000 to each of its three community owners. This is in addition to \$500,000 distribution per community made earlier this year for a total distribution to \$1.25M to CCFN within the calendar year of 2023. It should be stated the First Nations' cost of running this economic development corporation is very low. TND has no fulltime employees; it is run totally by its parttime directors and bookkeeping staff meaning that it is an extremely efficient organization for delivering economic returns to its three First Nation owners.

Meegwetch, Brian Ritchie



## **TEST YOUR CCFN IQ**



## **CLUES:**

#### Across

3. name of the river where the first Chapleau Cree settlement is situated (aka 'the back river) 8. a simple wooden sled traditionally used by our

ancestors

12. a political organization representing 51 First Nation communities across Treaty 9 and Treaty 5 areas of north ontario (3 words)

16. name of the lake where CCFN is currently building the Ecolodge Project

20. type of bird found on the CCFN logo

22. name of the road that our Pow Wow Grounds are located on

23. Numbered Treaty also known as James Bay Treaty

English word for 'niska'

25. animal species: 'alces alces' and also the name of our Cree dialect

26. specialized outdoor gear for walking on top of the snow

27. our Tribal Council

28. tributary of the Moose River, the Cree word for

this river means 'pictured waters' after the pictographs that are found there

29. traditional boat made of birch bark









#### Down

1. a family well being, prevention and advocacy program located across the street from the CCFN Health Centre

2. name of the building that the CCFN maintenance crew work from (3 words)

Miss World Canada

5. the name of the 'front' river in the town of Chapleau, a tributary of the 'Chapleau River'

6. unleavened bread on a stick

7. North Shore Community Health Service (located across from the CCFN Health Centre)

9. Cree word for 'grassy' as in Grassy Lake

10. a Cree word meaning 'kinship' and referring to Cree codes of conduct, but also the name of a local organization that's a 'social enterprize of First Nations actively upholding our rights for the benefit of our shared traditional territories, communities and livelihood'

11. large body of water on the southern tip of Hudson Bay and traditional homelands of the Mushkegowuk people

13. who our Band Complex (office) is named after 14. nickname of the neighbourhood within the town of Chapleau (south of Birch St) that historically the members of CCFN lived in

15. name of our gas bar and gift shop

16. a traditional Cree cooking tent (we now have one at our Powwow Grounds and one at Grassy Lake)

17. ceremonial building next to our Health Centre

- 18. a wire trap for catching rabbits
- 19. aka Betty Albert Lincez
- 21. Cree word for fox

### **ANSWERS:**

21. Cree word for fox (mukeso) 19. aka Betty Albert Lincez (wabimeguil) 18. a wire trap for catching rabbits (snare) (agbolaltrut)

17. ceremonial building next to our Health Centre (uenjedeys)

at our Powwow Grounds and one at Grassy Lake) 16. a traditional Cree cooking tent (we now have one J5. name of our gas bar and gift shop (pimilkamik) 14. nickname of the neighbourhood within the town of Chapleau (south of Birch St) that historically the (saiahsaylors)

13. who our Band Complex (office) is named after Mushkegowuk people (jamesbay)

Hudson Bay and traditional homelands of the large body of water on the southern tip of 11 (niwothovic (wahkohtowin)

shared traditional territories, communities and actively upholding our rights for the benefit of our

organization that's a 'social enterprize of First Nations Cree codes of conduct, but also the name of a local a Cree word meaning 'kinship' and referring to .0 (aeweensewaanee)

(maamwesying) 9. Cree word for 'grassy' as in Grassy Lake

across from the CCFN Health Centre)

7. North Shore Community Health Service (located (kebsquasheshing) 6. unleavened bread on a stick (bannock)

Chapleau, a tributary of the 'Chapleau River'

Miss World Canada (emmamorrison)
 the town of the 'front' river in the town of

crew work from (3 words) (publicworksgarage) 2. name of the building that the CCFN maintenance

Health Centre (litessacredjourney) program located across the street from the CCFN

1. a family well being, prevention and advocac uwod

29. traditional boat made of birch bark (canoe) this river means 'pictured waters' after the pictographs that are found there (missinalpi)

28. tributary of the Moose River, the Cree word for 27. our Tribal Council (mushkegowuk) 27. our Tribal Council (mushkegowuk)

26. specialized outdoor gear for walking on top of the our Cree dialect (moose)

English word for 'nisks' (goose)
 animal species: 'alces alces' and also the name of our Cree dialect (moose)

23. Numbered Treaty also known as James Bay Treaty (nine)

22. name of the road that our Pow Wow Grounds are located on (margaretann)

the Ecolodge Project (sideburned) 20. type of bird found on the CCFN logo (loon)

16. name of the lake where CCFN is currently building

(nonsnnavbeaskination) areas of north ontario (3 words)

Agtion communities across Treaty 9 and Treaty 5

à. a simple wooden sled traditionally used by our ancestors (tobaggan)
 a. point representing 51 First
 b. and Texa (Texa (Te

(uspakwashi)

settlement is situated (aka 'the back river) 3. name of the river where the first Chapleau Cree ACTOSS



PIMII KAMIK GAS BAR:705-864-07817:00am-9:00pmMon-SunCCFN Small Engine Repair:705-864-10458:30am-4:30pmMon-FriChapleau Cree Auto/Truck:705-864-90908:30am-4:30pmMon-Fri







# **Christmas** Dinner



Date: Saturday December 9, 2023 Time: Doors open at 5:30pm with dinner following at 6:00pm

Where: Band Office



Please RSVP at 705-864-0784 no later than November 30, 2023. Meegwetch!



# **Upcoming Events**

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

December 9, 2023: CCFN Christmas Party

(Semi-Formal Event. 5:30pm at CCFN Band Office Community Hall. Call 705-864-0784 for more info)

December 22, 2023 - January 8, 2024: Office Closure

February 19, 2024: Family Day

March 29, 2024: Good Friday

April 1, 2024: Easter Monday

May 12, 2024: Mother's Day

May 20, 2024: Victoria Day

June 21, 2024: National Indigenous Peoples Day

Chapleau Cree First Nation Fox Lake Reserve P.O. Box 400 Chapleau, ON POM 1K0 PH (705) 864-0784 FAX (705) 864-1760 communications@chapleaucree.ca

