

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

# SANDPOINT FIRST NATION

## BINGWI NEYAASHI ANISHINAABEK

### HEAD OFFICE

1 Copper Thunderbird Road,  
Sand Point FN, ON, P0T 2B0

### SATELLITE OFFICE

292 South Court St.,  
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6C6  
Phone: (807) 623-2724  
Fax: (807) 623-2764  
Toll Free: 1-877-623-2724

### FAMILY WELL-BEING

150 Grandview Rd  
Thunder Bay, ON P7G 1P5  
215 Van Norman St. 2nd  
Floor, Thunder Bay, ON P7A  
4B6



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Boozhoo Hello and happy summer to all BNA members! It has been a long time since our last newsletter, but we are trying our best to get back on track.

BNA continues to move forward at a lightning speed on its multiple developments and projects. This is now being done unfortunately with fewer staff, as BNA has recently lost some staff members – and we of course wish them all the best. However, while our staff numbers have decreased, our workload has not. Therefore, we certainly do appreciate all of the patience of the membership during this time. If it takes us a little bit longer to get back to you, we promise it is not for a lack of trying.

BNA's projects are numerous, but all necessary. We have commenced the building of our next 3 single-family-dwellings. These are CHMC rent-to-own homes that have been allotted to members through our recent housing process, and they will be ready for move in by next Spring. With some of our new member residents recently moving back to the land, BNA can now proudly say that it has 20 members and their families residing year-round at Sand Point. This is a huge achievement that all should be proud of.

In order to ensure a safe and modern community for our new residents, BNA is actively continuing to work on its on-reserve infrastructure. We will be working with Teranorth to finalize the main road into the community, and with Tom Rentz to bring in the road into the Phase 4 Housing Area, south of the maintenance garage. Pro-Gen will also be bringing in 3-phase power into this zone, ensuring that future developments will be able to take place in this area. BNA is also continuing work on its District Biomass Heating Study, finalizing the geotechnical work on its Waste Transfer Station, and will be carrying out the work on its Community Greenspace project by having Papasay take the lead and save on ridiculously high bid costs from outside contractors. We are also looking forward to our members testing out our new battery-powered equipment down at the land.

Our Family Well-Being has continued to be the linchpin of the community, bringing families together for programming on a very regular basis. The new Grandview property is being utilized regularly, and programming on the land continues to ensure that our youth are brought together. Our Youth Committee is also playing a key role now in our Title Casework, participating regularly with our lawyers and workers at FWB to ensure valuable input is received regarding the way forward. While the Elders show us the way, the Youth are our future, and we must work closely with them to ensure we are doing things in the right way, and that meets the demands of our community's future.



# A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL

We are also proud to announce some exciting initiatives that are gaining steam quickly. Despite very long COVID-related delays, our Sawmill finally received its new Baker Line, which is in the process of being installed. Likewise, our kiln chamber and planer moulder will soon be hooked up. BNA will then be able to meet the demand of large companies like Resolute and Greenstone Goldmines for their lumber orders, while at the same time commence the stockpiling of lumber for our homes. What we need now is workers. Members who are interested in working in the Papasay Sawmill should apply to Art Gladu, our Sawmill Manager, at [agladu@bnafn.ca](mailto:agladu@bnafn.ca). We are looking for members to keep this facility operating with our new equipment long into the future.

BNA has also proceeded with the purchase of Big Virgin Island on Lake Nipigon. The ceremony for this purchase will be held with Lakehead University at our community meeting on Saturday, August 20th on the land. We are also looking at tourism and rental opportunities at our Blue Lake Property. With BNA acquiring new reserve lands over the next few years, ensuring that we are ready to go on the tourism-front is critical to being able to hit-the-ground-running, so to speak. We want our community to be at the forefront of any developments on Lake Nipigon.



We continue to be proud of the amazing work that is being done both on the land and in Thunder Bay by our staff, and by our partners. It takes a team to move massive initiatives forward, and we are proud to have this team in place at BNA.

Miigwetch everyone, and we hope all BNA members have a safe and happy summer. We look forward to seeing you soon!

**-Chief Paul Gladu, Councillor Lillian Calder and Councillor Tracy Gibson**



# **BNA LAND CODE** **RE-RATIFICATION**

With the completion of the BNA Land Use Plan, the Lands Committee members – Marcel Donio, John McCollum, Carrie Calder, Gloria Deans and Leroy Clarke – have now turned their attention to the re-ratification of the BNA Land Code. With the support of the Lands Advisory Board, the Committee is working through the BNA Land Code line-by-line, looking for ways to streamline and make it more user friendly and adaptable to our community. Once it is finalized, this document will be brought to the membership for re-ratification.



The Land Code is critical for BNA to be able to organize its developments on-reserve, and ensure it develops in an orderly, environmentally safe, and economically sound manner.





# **BNA** TOURISM

BNA held a community meeting this past spring about the potential purchase of an Island on the south end of Lake Nipigon, about a 15-minute boat ride from BNA, called “Big Virgin Island”. The response from the membership was very positive to proceed with this purchase. Therefore, we have made an offer to purchase this property, which has been accepted by the seller. Papasay will own the property as it must be in the hands of a corporation. This Island, along with other plans around our future 5-Star Eco-Lodge at Poplar Point, are all critical parts of BNA’s future plans around tourism. We are also looking at new and innovative ways to have Norval Morrisseau’s name and art incorporated into BNA’s developments.

BNA will be having a ceremony with LU for this purchase at our next community meeting at the land, August 20th, 2022.





# MINING & EXPLORATION

BNA continues to work closely with its neighbouring communities on the mining and exploration developments in the region. Rock Tech is furthest along, and we have a signed Exploration Agreement with the company, and our neighbouring communities, Rocky Bay and the Red Rock Indian Band. Our First Nation collective entity, “3-Nations Resources”, has been formed, and partnerships are being developed with Asiniikaa Mining for the construction of the project, as well as Dexterra/Outland for camps and catering. Rock Tech is looking at commencing work on the road very soon, and we are hoping that 3-Nations will be the selected bid for this road.

BNA and its neighbours have also successfully signed an exploration Agreement with Imagine Lithium, and are nearing completion on negotiations with Ultra Lithium. These agreements will bring in additionally needed resources into the community, including scholarships for youth.





# COMMUNITY STEERING

Are you looking to be more involved with your community? Would you like to have your voice heard? Do you have a strong desire to promote well-being among children and families? Are you hoping to gain training opportunities and leadership skills? If you answered yes, this is a perfect opportunity for you!

The community steering committee is an opportunity for you to be involved with all aspects of BNA's Family Well being, EarlyON and Health Centre. Community members chosen for the committee will be involved helping to identify community needs or gaps, concerns, and strengths within the community. Committee members will be assisting with providing suggestions for workshops, programs, activities and identifying strategies for increasing inclusivity of the centre. The community steering committee will also be helping to guide the future development and renovations to the former Grandview public school site as well as ideas for increasing programs and services on reserve. Community members are invited to sit as a volunteer on this committee. Committee members will meet monthly to discuss what is happening at the centre, concerns, or suggestions they are hearing within the community and help to provide ideas for meaningful programming decisions grounded in the current needs identified within our

community. Opportunities for training will be provided to committee members on a variety of topics including effective communication, leadership development and conflict resolution. The main roles and responsibilities of committee members include:

- Attending monthly meetings
- Attending community programs
- Advocating for child and family well being
- Promoting community members participation through genuine interactions and sharing of information about resources and programs offered
- Providing a voice for center participants by gathering feedback/responses and bringing it forward in a respectful manner to meetings
- Be a positive role model within the community (walking a good path)

Overall committee members will be responsible to provide meaningful input in decision making on programs, resources, renovations, and any new developments. Committee members will need to have shown involvement with the centre within the last year (virtual or in person). We are seeking to have about 10-12 community members ages 12+ to ensure a variety of voices are heard. For those who wish to be part of the Community Steering Committee please email [astevenson@bnafn.ca](mailto:astevenson@bnafn.ca) to express your interest by August 15th 2022 and let us know why you wish to be selected for the committee. Miigwetch for your interest and only those selected will be contacted





# BIOMASS CONVERSION PROJECT

Through its role as 25% shareholder on Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc., BNA/Papasay is involved in a potential large-scale biomass opportunity on the Lake Nipigon Forest. By using under-utilized species and woody biomass in the forest – which the MNRF would usually require that we burn – LNFMI is looking at partnering and developing a large-scale facility to convert this material to natural gas. This would be then pumped back into the gas line. Location for this potential facility is not yet known, as studies must still be completed. However it is expected to create approximately 300 new jobs in the region.

While this opportunity was presented to the BNA membership at our June 18th community meeting, BNA will continue to update the membership about the results of this study as they become available.





# HOUSING

BNA is continuing with its strong housing program. With three more homes getting completed this year in spite of COVID-19 continuing to negatively affect the supply chain. These are beautiful and green single-family dwellings. BNA is also at the same time continuing to take steps to beautify the Phase One Housing Area. BNA's on-reserve population has now grown to 20 members and affiliates. This is a huge jump considering that BNA's on-reserve population was 0 three years ago. BNA will continue to strive to growing BNA's community largely supported by BNA's very successful housing program.



# FOOD SECURITY

BNA looks forward to continuing our greenhouse program this year with the planting of the greenhouse. Fruits and/or vegetables will be planted at the start of the growing season to take full advantage of the growing season. They will be planted in raised garden beds both inside and outside of the greenhouse. The food harvested will be distributed once again to Members living full time at BNA.







# CORDA

BNA was successful in our application to enhance the traditional harvesting activities available at BNA. This project will create a trail to Copper Thunderbird Lookout which will allow access to forest areas for the purpose of traditional harvesting and recreation. The products which are anticipated to be available to be harvested include non-timber forest products including blueberries, wild traditional crops and medicinal plants. The trail creation will also create opportunities for ecotourism.



## ASSET MANAGEMENT

BNA is currently working on completing Part 3 of BNA's Asset Management Plan. This phase includes the completion of the financial analysis for the maintenance and replacement of BNA infrastructure when needed. Then implementation will occur with the end goal of maintaining BNA's infrastructure and having money in place to replace it when needed.

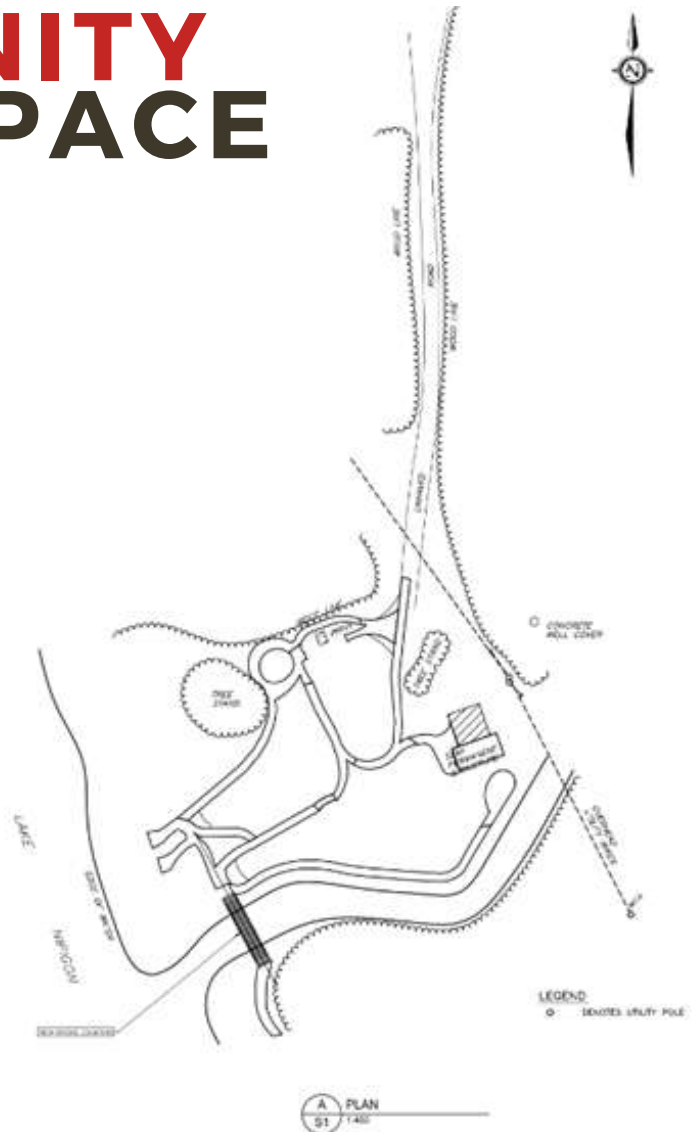






# COMMUNITY GREENSPACE

BNA is currently working on a community greenspace project which will provide the Membership with a park area to enjoy. The greenspace will include walking trails, fire pit, pergola, benches for viewing Lake Nipigon, a bridge across the creek, and washroom facilities. Giving Members and visitors alike a new outdoor leisure space to enjoy.



# BLUE BOX PROGRAM PRODUCER PAYS

BNA established a recycling program last year, which will continue this year. However, since BNA already has a recycling program, we were eligible to sign up for the “Producer Pays Blue Box Program”. BNA is schedule to funded recycling services in place starting July 2023.





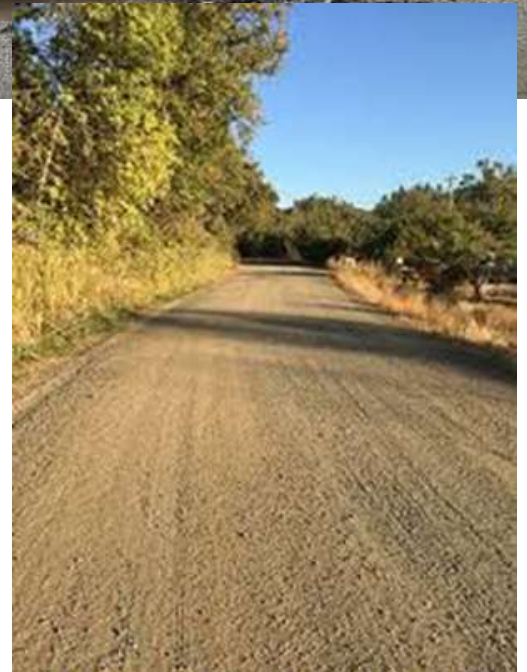
# WASTE TRANSFER STATION

BNA is currently working on the geotechnical investigation of a new site designated to be used for BNA's waste transfer station. After this step, design and construction funding will be the next things for BNA to apply for. The intent is to have a location where recycling and hazardous materials are separated from the waste stream, and waste is collected and then transported out of the community efficiently with minimal environmental impact.



## ACRS

After many years of fighting, BNA finally has had its infrastructure recognized by Indigenous Services Canada's Infrastructure Funding Group. Money to maintain BNA's infrastructure started flowing to BNA at the start of last fiscal. BNA will now be able to properly maintain critical infrastructure such as roads and band buildings.





# DRINKING WATER QUALITY PROJECTS

BNA recently completed a Public Health Project with ISC. This project looked at both the opportunities and challenges related to supplying drinking water to Members living year-round at Sand Point. Currently BNA is seeking funding for a community water study which will include an engineering study and the installation of additional drinking water wells.



# COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS

As of April, 2022, a draft has been completed of the Comprehensive Community Plan 2022. Over the last three years, and using data collected meeting with Elders, Youth and the CCP Working Committee (Ryan Gorrie, Jennifer Davis, Jeff Fuller, Joe Ladouceur Jr, and Ashley Stevenson), a draft document has been completed and has been submitted to the leadership for their review and approval.

The CCP is a living document and will always see constant review and revision and going into the future, contributions from community members remains critical.

With the Comprehensive Community Planning process now complete, BNA is looking for a Communications Coordinator to continue the work of communicating the activities of Chief, Council, and staff with the membership. If you are interested in this role, please apply to the attention of Jordan Hatton (jhatton@bnafn.ca) at the BNA office. – Miigwetch!"







# COMMUNITY ENERGY COORDINATOR

Happy Summer Everyone and hello from BNA's Community Energy Coordinator, Aysha McNally. Since the last community newsletter, BNA has further progressed in a large quantity of energy projects for the community. Below I will be giving brief summaries of the different energy projects such as BNA's Transmission Line projects, Bioheat Study, Greenstone Super Dump project, and the BNA Electric Vehicle Pilot Project.



## TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECTS

BNA has been continuing to work with Pro Gen Inc (PGI) and Hydro One for the below areas to bring electricity into the community. The transmission projects are soon to be complete within the next year.

-Main road down copper thunderbird and into the community

-Phase 1 Loop

-Middle Beach

-2 poles for camping in the summer

-Phase 4 Subdivision





# BIOHEAT STUDY

BNA has been working with Northern Community Solutions (NCS) and TBT Engineering for a feasibility study for a district biomass project for the community. Once the feasibility study is complete BNA will secure funding for the design, construction, and operation and maintenance. The project consists of using a 1 small and 1 big boiler to provide heat for much of the BNA community. The distribution lines will be buried underground, and can last for an approx. 30 years. The district biomass heating system is a clean and reliable way to heat homes.



# GREENSTONE SUPER DUMP PROJECT

BNA is working with its neighbouring communities and Nokiwin Tribal Council in looking at options for a new 'Super Dump Facility'. This would see the closure of the old Macdiarmid landfill site, and BNA's waste being removed from the community's Waste Transfer Station, which it is in the process of constructing. This Super Dump is critical as well because the Beardmore site is reaching capacity, and a new site is required. As the selection process continues, BNA will update the membership as to where this will be located in the region, as well as timelines for construction.

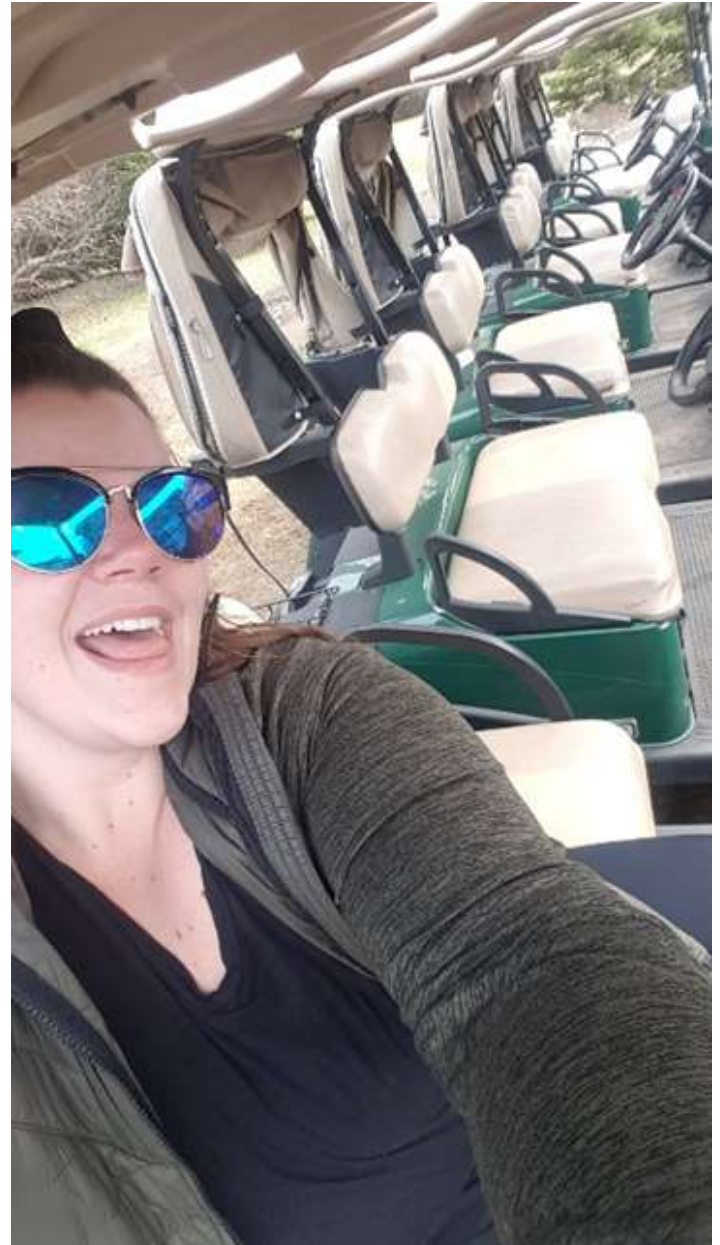






# BNA ELECTRIC VEHICLE PILOT PROJECT

BNA has begun its pilot electric vehicle project. The IESO has provided funding through the Indigenous Energy Program (IEP). This funding has given BNA the opportunity to install solar powered lithium battery charging stations located throughout the community. The variety of electric vehicles that will be used during this project are a ride on lawn mower, 2 trikes, 2 boat motors, and 3 golf carts. BNA is working with NCS during this project. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting Project for BNA, send me an email at [amcnally@bnafn.ca](mailto:amcnally@bnafn.ca) or give me a call at (807) 623-2724 ext. 217. 😊







# FINANCE OFFICER

Boozhoo,

I want to take this opportunity to provide an update on this past quarter and some of the exciting things that are on the horizon.

Firstly, our Finance team has experienced numerous changes over the past quarter with Angie leaving. Helene and I have been inundated with the enormous workload and we have been able to maintain the finance department. We have added to the team, for the Summer, by hiring a Summer Student, Michelle Donio-King. The additional help has alleviated some of the pressures we face, preventing us from becoming too overwhelmed. Michelle is currently taking the two-year Business Accounting Program at Confederation College and is joining us to gain some vital learning experience as well as help the Finance Team.

We continue to progress with the work we are doing with the First Nation's Financial Management Board. We have completed the "Finance Policy" and "Information Management Policy" and we are currently working on the "Human Resource Policy". This has been a huge undertaking and to see it nearing completion is a great relief. I see a huge advantage to the First Nation by this coming to completion, one that will carry Bingwi Neyaashi Anishnaabek confidently into the future.

We had our Audited Financial Statements for 2020 – 2021 which has been brought forth to the membership and has been approved, we achieved a clean opinion once again. With that one out of the way, Helene and I are preparing ourselves for the 2021 – 2022 audit, which has now begun.

My thanks go out to the members who have helped us get a bit more streamlined by sending us your banking information, this will be the way all transactions are done in the very near future. For those of you that still haven't submitted your information, it is never too late to do that. I will just need you to get your Direct Deposit information from the bank or your app and send it to [khicks@bnafn.ca](mailto:khicks@bnafn.ca), it must contain your name as well as your banking information. Miigwetch!!

Everyone have a safe and happy Summer and I hope to meet even more of the membership as time goes on.

"We will be known forever by the tracks we leave." Dakota

Kelly Hicks  
Finance Officer



# BNA GOVERNANCE

Boozhoo everyone, I hope 2022 has been good to you so far. I can tell you it has been quite busy in the Governance department here at BNA. As you are aware, I do status cards for our members and for other First Nations people from across Canada. For our members, this service is free and for non-members there is a fifty-dollar service fee because it requires more time to verify their identity. Please have a read on what projects I have been working on.

My first real task has been working on BNA's Election Code. Over the course of many months, there were plenty of meetings with Council, BNA staff and Legal counsel, where we researched the timelines and other overlapping concerns. We were complacent with our final proposed amendments and sent out ratification voting packages to the membership. Due to the lack of voters, we had an online zoom meeting, where members were able to vote online, and our ratification of the Election Law was unanimously passed on March 30, 2022.



It is that time of year again where we have hired our members who want to work on the land. With funds from the Canada Summer Jobs and AETS, we have hired summer students to work out on the land. The roles and responsibilities of a Grounds Maintenance Worker include the ability to work outside most days. The workers will be mowing grass, keeping the trails clear, making sure the camping sites, beaches and main residential areas are in a clean kept nature. We always strongly encourage our youth to apply for these jobs.



If you are interested in getting a status card, interested in applying for a summer student job, get in touch with me at [lesquega@bnafn.ca](mailto:lesquega@bnafn.ca) or call me at the office at 623 2724 extension 203.

Miigwetch, Louise





# WINTER RECAP FROM BNA HEALTH

## HELLO SUMMER!

As we say goodbye to one season and welcome another, the BNA Health department has been busy! Over the long and cold winter months, while fighting our way through the height of cold and flu/covid-19 season, we offered the following community outreach services.

- Emergency isolation relief
- Community outreach
- PPE Home Kits
- Rapid Antigen test kits
- Current and up to date Covid information
- Health advocacy
- Access to four sacred medicines (sweet grass, sage, cedar, tobacco)



As we enter summer and warmer weather, we will continue to offer most of these ongoing services to our BNA members to ensure your safety and to continue to help stop the spread of Covid-19.

We look forward to continuing engaging the community members in health-related education in fun and unique ways. So far, there has been focus on PPE awareness, child & youth dental hygiene, and mental health awareness! Keep your eyes out for future health education and tips and interactive programming and incentives.

Let's get moving and dance our way into a bright & fresh summer, and the warm waves of a fun and exciting summer!

Miigwetch Baamaapii!

Tashia Smith-Ennis RN- Community Wellness Worker- [tsmithennis@bnafn.ca](mailto:tsmithennis@bnafn.ca)



# BNA FAMILY WELL-BEING CENTRE

Boozhoo everyone,

It has been my absolute pleasure to see all the community members coming out and participating in a variety of programs and activities at our new Grandview site. For those of you who may not be aware we have recently added another location for our Health, Family Well-being and EarlyON centre located at 150 Grandview rd. Our new site that was 100% funded for our community includes a beautiful house, former Lakehead public school and over 8 acres of green space. We are so appreciative to have the opportunity to gain this beautiful property as it will help to provide the much-needed space to continue the work we are doing in our community. If you haven't visited the site, we encourage you to come out to one of our programs or events to have a look! We would love to have you out to see the new property. As always, I hope this newsletter provides you with useful information and a variety of programs and resources for you as well, also I do hope you consider joining our Community Steering Committee. Please note that we are slowly moving towards going paperless and posting updates online as well as our newsletters and calendars. If you would like to have a paper copy sent, please reach out to Ashley.astevenson@bnafn.ca or call 807-344-3055 otherwise please update us with your email address or take time to view updates on our Facebook page or BNA website. Finally, we would be happy to hear from you, if you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out and talk to us.

Miigwetch,  
Camille Borysewicz  
Director of Social Services







Boozhoo!!

Summer is here, and it feels goooood! We have been busy bees over at the Family Well-Being Centre, with moving out the property, setting up the programming space to planning our calendars. We have a summer filled with some amazing events and programs, there is something for all ages to participate in.

Our Summer calendars have programs happening during the day from 11am-3pm, lunch will be provided, and transportation is always available. (48-hour advance notice is required) We have community crafting starting back up on Tuesdays, come out and get creative, pick up a new skill or finish off an old project. Wellness Wednesday's will be a time for us to gather and participate in activities that focus on strengthening our wellbeing, emotionally, physically, mentally and spiritually. It will be a time for us to connect with one another and focus only on the good! Drum socials will continue throughout the summer, along with our new program Community Connection Night. We look forward to seeing you all come out, enjoy the property and participate in all the programming we have to offer. We are also very thrilled to announce our Youth Camp and Family Camp will be happening again this summer. It has been a long two years not hosting these events and we are pumped to get out to the land and create some new memories with you all. Youth Camp will be happening July 13th - 15th and Family Camp will be August 23rd – 25th please keep an eye on the Facebook page to register. This summer is going to be a good one! It will be filled with sunshine, laughter, swimming, campfires, mosquitos and much much more! Be sure to keep your eyes on the Family Well-Being Centre Facebook page so you don't miss a thing!!

Miigwetch and stay deadly!  
Lindsey Gladu  
Manager of Family Well-Being

BNA FAMILY WELL-BEING CENTRE		AUGUST 2022						
LOCATION: 215 VAN NORMAN ST. PHONE: 344-2055		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Family Well-Being Staff:</b> Camille Borysewicz Director of Social Services cborysewicz@bnafn.ca Lindsey Gladu Manager of Family Well-Being lgladu@bnafn.ca Ashley Stevenson Admin and Finance astevenson@bnafn.ca Jill Riley Child and Youth Worker jriley@bnafn.ca Katie Borysewicz Jordan's Principle Navigator kborysewicz@bnafn.ca <b>EarlyON Staff</b> Karen Williams Family Wellness EarlyON Coordinator kwilliams@bnafn.ca Drew Nahwegahbow Community Well-Being Coordinator drew.nahwegahbow@bnafn.ca Tashia Smith-Ennis Home & Community Care Worker tashias@bnafn.ca Elizabeth Latta Child and Youth Worker elatta@bnafn.ca Glenda Takalo Family Representative gtakalo@bnafn.ca Tina Gardner Child Wellness Worker tgardner@bnafn.ca			1	2 Community Crafting 11-3PM	3 Wellness Wednesday 11-3PM	4 Junior's Drop In 11-3PM	5	6
		7	8	9 Drum Social 6PM	10 Wellness Wednesday 11-3PM	11 Youth Drop In 11-3PM	12	13
		14	15	<b>Nookiwin Unity Gathering</b> Fort William FN			19	20 Community Meeting At BNA
		21	22	<b>FAMILY CAMP</b> AT BNA REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED			26	27
		28	29	30 Community Crafting 11-3PM	31 Community Connection Night 5:30PM	PLEASE NOTE THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE		



# CHILD & YOUTH WORKERS

SUMMER IS FINALLY HERE!!! YAY!!! As the nicer weather approaches, we are encouraging everyone to get outside and enjoy it while it's here! We have some fun stuff coming up in the next few months and hope you have been following us on our Instagram and our Facebook Page for all the programming we offer! To kick off the Summer we had our School is out BASH! We had Epic Cones providing us with a tasty treats and bouncy castles, a red neck slip and slide and we all enjoyed fun outdoor games and activities! This past June we also hosted a Fishing Derby for Father's Day weekend out on The Land in honor of those men in our lives! Coming up we have two different Camping Events! Youth Camp in July for ages 12- 24 and Family Camp at the end of August for everyone to come out and enjoy the last bit of summer together! We hope to see many of you out on the land this summer enjoying Nature and getting to know each other better! We will be slowing down on our programming over the summer months as we encourage you all to disconnect to reconnect again this summer! We will still have some time to get those Juniors and Youth together to do some fun stuff over the summer month and to keep us connected! We have really enjoyed the last few months creating some fantastic groups of young people and watching them really start to get to know each other and form relationships. Over the past couple months, we started a Youth Council for the Community. We have 11 amazing youth, ages 12-24 signed up to help the community and to provide a very important voice to our young people! It was so great to see so much interest in this! They are very excited to be a much-needed influence on decisions happening to the land and the community as a whole! So far, we have had 2 council meetings, so this is still very new, but we are very excited to see where this group leads! Also, the Youth Council are going on three meetings for a few chosen reps from the Youth Council who have met with BNA Lawyers to learn about the history of the land and the people! They are also learning about plans for the future of the reserve and engaging with Elder's Council and community leaders to learn and provide a much-needed voice for our young people about the future of their community! So, thank you for encouraging your Children to come out to our programming and be a part of everything going on! Can't wait to see everyone at the School's Out Bash! Enjoy your summer and please feel free to reach out to Myself (Liz) and Jill with any questions about our upcoming camps and programming!

Miigwetch  
Liz Latta & Jill Riley  
Family Well-being Team





Boozhoo,

Welcome to the showers of sun and rain that mean summer is coming! The health and wellness dept. have a lot in store in the coming months including the introduction of WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS & COMMUNITY CONNECTION NIGHTS. We plan to continue exploring the values and health benefits of local flowers and plants through some edible delights and skin care solutions. Make sure you bring your appetites and favorite recipes for a down home potluck dinner. As we move through the warm and sunny days, we are working on partnering with local survival specialists to offer outdoor education to ensure we all stay safe and attentive in our forest and trail blazing adventures. We also have a few cards up our sleeves for some fun and games to roll the dice and have you rummy up your best poker face. We will be celebrating international self-care day on July 24th, but we will be promoting good self-care in a variety of ways throughout the entire month. What does self-care look like to you? On August 12th we will be celebrating our youth on International Youth Day!

Stay tuned and enjoy the summer as it sneaks in slow n' steady! And remember to apply your sunscreen.

Miigwetch  
Tashia Smith-Ennis  
Home & Community Care Worker





# COMMUNITY WELL-BEING COORDINATOR

Hello everyone,

Andrew Nahwegahbow - Community Well-Being Coordinator. Thought I would share a little bit about myself. Waabshkaa Binesi N'dizhnikahz. Aundeck Omni Kaning n'donjibaa. M'shiikenh dodem. My Anishinaabe nooswin is White Thunderbird. Aundeck Omni Kaning is where I am from. I am from the Turtle Clan. I want to extend a huge thank you to BNAFN for allowing me to be a part of the Family Well-Being Team. I have been a part of the team since March 14, 2022. Exciting times ahead of me since becoming a part of this amazing team and FN.



Community Well-Being has collaborated with the Home and Community Care Worker, Child and Youth Workers, EarlyOn program just to name a few. I find that my role is

to incorporate the Culture into existing programming as well as future programming. I facilitated alongside the Child and Youth Workers with the Hand Drum Making workshop and Birthing Ceremony. I facilitated our Ribbon Shirt Making workshop as well. For future programming, I will look at accessing internal resources as well as outside resources in incorporating culturally appropriate programming for BNA Membership with events such as Traditional Health, Naming Ceremonies, Drumming and Singing lessons, and sweat lodges, to name a few. My focus for programming will be on the four quadrants of the Medicine Wheel – Emotional, Mental, Spiritual, and Physical.

I look forward to meeting with you all in the near future.

Miigwetch,

Andrew Nahwegahbow





# BNA EARLYON CENTRE

Boozhoo,

Here at the EarlyON Centre we have been busy enjoying the Winter months with all our families and have continued to provide a variety of virtual and in-person programming. We did some neat and cool science activities, some amazing crafts, and shared stories. We started up our Ojibwe Language program and continued our partnership with TBIFC and started making regalia for our children. Our monthly cooking and baking program continued to be a success and has come to an end for the year. The families really enjoyed the different recipes we offered and trying the new foods.

We will continue to do more in-person, outdoor programming as we are now into the warmer weather. For the month of June, we joined the other EarlyON Centre's within the district of Thunder Bay and did a Canada Wide Participaction Challenge to be the most active community in the country. We ended the challenge with a community event at Marina Park.

Registration is no longer required for our events and programs. A calendar will continue to be posted to our FB website page and our KeyON page at [www.keyon.ca](http://www.keyon.ca)

Miigwetch,  
Karen and Tina





# BNA BAND REP

Boozhoo,

I hope you are all doing well. Over the past few months, Katie and I have continued to deliver family engagement sessions. In March, we held a DIY pottery session and everyone's pieces turned out amazing. In April, we held a Family Spring Night at the Grandview property. It was so nice to see everyone come together in a shared space; the sensory table was a huge hit among the little ones. In May, we hosted a Mini Golf Night. We are looking forward to getting outdoors and enjoying the warm weather together.

We established our Community/Child Welfare Protocol Development Group in February 2022. We meet bi-weekly, virtually as a group of eight. We have established a Terms of Reference and are in the mid-stages of reviewing the 2017 protocol. We will also be renaming the group to be more reflective of our vision. The Protocol is an interim plan that is anticipated to be completed and implemented by February 2023. We are very excited to be the change and will be reaching out to the community soon to obtain feedback, share information, and seek guidance.

Katie and I had the opportunity to attend the IFN Child Welfare Networking Session in Toronto. What an amazing experience. Every community in attendance either had their own protocols, was in the process of developing a protocol, or in the final stages of writing their own Indigenous Law. It was very motivational, inspirational, and enlightening. It's nice to know we are on the right track and have made a few new friends along the way.

I continue to work collaboratively with families in the areas of advocacy, prevention, and support services. I remain committed to supporting Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek families in a holistic way from a prevention/strength-based perspective.

Please check the FWB Calendar and/or the FWB Facebook page for upcoming programs. We are always looking for suggestions and feedback about previous or upcoming programming.

If you want to learn more about the Family Representative position or require any services, support, prevention, advocacy, or training please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be contacted at [gtakalo@bnafn.ca](mailto:gtakalo@bnafn.ca) or on my cell at (807) 476-7176 Monday to Friday 9-4:30.

Miigwetch,  
Glenda Takalo  
Family Representative



# JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE



Aanii! Over the past months, I have advocated for multiple families on Jordan's Principle applications. BNA has had some successfully approved, with others still awaiting a decision, and some denied (appeal process will take place). Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle, meaning that all First Nations children must have equitable access to all government-funded public services when they need them. This principle addresses and ensures that there are no gaps in services such as mental health, special education, dental, medical needs, and more. With that in mind, the timeline of the application process can be very long, taking six months or more to hear anything back from the government. I want to ensure to BNA members that once I apply, I follow up consistently to receive a response.



Glenda and I collaborate on a family engagement session every last Monday of the month. We gear to the whole family. In June, we hosted a mini-golf and outdoor activity session at Boulevard Lake. As well we have family activities planned for June, July and August, some will be in collaboration with other FWB staff geared to the summer season. Please check the FWB calendar on our Facebook page for future sessions.

If you have any questions or would like to get a Jordan's Principle Application started for your child, I encourage you to send me an email or give me a call. I can be reached at (807) 344-3055 ext. 230, [jpnavigator@bnafn.ca](mailto:jpnavigator@bnafn.ca)

Take care, and stay safe and healthy!

Miigwetch,  
Katie Borysewicz





# BNA DEVELOPMENTS

## SAWMILL UPDATE

Our new Baker Sawmill line has been delayed over 8 months but has now been delivered to our sawmill. There will still be more work to do before we fire this up. The complete commissioning of our line should be the end of August. At the same time our planer moulder and our new dry kiln chamber will also be wired in.

With all this work being done in our sawmill we will finally have completed a circle. The logs coming from Lake Nipigon which we manage with three other FN

The saw logs are cut into rough boards by our community members. They are then dried in our new dry kiln chamber. They are then run through our planer moulder and graded. The final stage is to have our lumber build our future homes in our community.



# COMMUNITY

With the start of a new building year, BNA has started with the building of three new homes and by doing this, more of our band members are coming home. As of June of 2022 Sandpoint's population has increased to 16 full-time members. This year let's Welcome Rob and Annita Deans and Cameron and Leah Deans who are also bringing their two children Brooklyn and Londyn Deans who is the future of our community.

# LANDS

As we grow we will need to expand our footprint and you will see this when driving past our sawmill. We have cleared lot B. By doing this we are now able to put two to three large buildings so that we can store our outdoor machinery and our finished product from our sawmill

We have cleared another lot for a study on waste management. TBT Engineering is now doing some test holes on this lot. With this being done BNA is going green and we are strongly focused on the green initiative. We are currently using three large bins for recycling our plastic metal and paper.

# OUR GREEN SPACE

The area down by the creek is going to be an area where band members and friends can sit back relax and enjoy the beautiful sights and images that are all around us. This area will be completed later this year and will provide a fire pit seating walking area and a greenhouse garden area for members to grow fruits and vegetables. With this being a green space no motorized vehicles will be around so we can enjoy the sounds of nature.











# SUMMER 2022

## BINGWI NEYAASHI ANISHINAABEK

### HEAD OFFICE

1 Copper Thunderbird Road,  
Sand Point FN, ON, P0T 2B0

### SATELLITE OFFICE

292 South Court St.,  
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6C6  
Phone: (807) 623-2724  
Fax: (807) 623-2764  
Toll Free: 1-877-623-2724

### FAMILY WELL-BEING

150 Grandview Rd  
Thunder Bay, ON P7G 1P5  
215 Van Norman St. 2nd  
Floor, Thunder Bay, ON P7A  
4B6