



November/December 2003 Newsletter

Volume 1: Issue 1



Chief's Message

Hello:

In accordance with the election held and sanctioned by the members on April 5, 2003 (Electoral officer Dennis Robinson), myself and councilors Phyllis Michon and Steven Podolchuk, have been working very hard on the members behalf to advance the interests of the First Nation. Our election process has been recognized by the Assemble of First Nations, Robinson Superior Chiefs, Union of Ontario Indians and the Chiefs of Ontario. Our election process has also been recognized by the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership (Casino Rama).



Since July of 2003, we have been actively providing services to the membership. As you are all aware, we had limited activity for approximately a year, and are now working to stabilize operations and to address outstanding issues.

On September 25, 2003, while I was participating in a Governance Meeting with the Union of Ontario Indians, which was also attended by Minister Nault the issue regarding Sand Point's election was discussed. Minister Nault, did acknowledge that the Sand Point First Nation election was legitimate and would be forwarding a letter stating his acknowledgement of the election process and the results.

Our present activities are to prepare for the audit as well as the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 operating budget. We are addressing the global issues of the First Nation, and have received numerous requests from the membership for assistance for various reasons. To aid in this area, we are seeking the participation of members to develop a member specific policy to ensure that there is a fair process in determining the level of assistance, if any, when a band member requests personal financial support. When these activities are completed we will be calling a General Meeting of Members where we present the Members Policy for ratification and will also present the Audit to the members.

Once again I apologize for the delay in holding a community meeting, however we feel that we want to have in our possession all necessary documentation such as the letter from Minister Nault, and our Audit to present to the membership. We are asking for your patience and understanding as we work to address these and other issues of our First Nation.

Wishing you all the best of the holiday season and will look forward to meeting with you at our Annual General Meeting.

Sincerely,

Chief Paul Gladu

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ATTENTION SAND POINT FIRST NATION BAND MEMBERS

Sand Point First Nation is seeking 3-4 Band Members interested in participating on a volunteer basis for the purpose of developing a Member specific policy. This policy will focus on two areas: 1) Will be developing objective standards for addressing Members requests for financial assistance 2) Will be developing policies specific to how individuals can become members of Sand Point First Nation.

Please forward your response in writing by November 30, 2003.

Address response to:

Sand Point First Nation
P.O. Box 24021
215 Red River Road, Suite 200,
2nd Floor
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7B 1A6

Once the policy is developed in draft it will be forwarded to the members for comments and input. Once the policy is ratified it will be forwarded to all Band Members for your reference.

The Chief, Council & Staff at Sand Point First
Nation wish you and your family a
joyous Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.





SEASONS GREETINGS!

It has been a while since our last newsletter so I will just let you know what the Health Department has been up to. The following health initiatives AHWS Community Worker/ Multi-year Training, Aboriginal Diabetes, Family Violence, Disabilities, Healthy Babies Healthy Children, HIVAIDS, MOH-LTC Problem Gambling and the MOH-LTC Diabetics Education and Treatment Program were approved towards funding health prevention, awareness issues. As the First Nation does not have a land base our dollars are very limited and are more focused in prevention and referral. The Health Department is looking forward to offering a health resource center that will be more inviting and user friendly for all age groups. This also includes implementing a library resource database. The intention of the latter is to allow for a lending library sometime in the near future for our membership.

In the interim, for those starting families, I have some really cool reading packages from Ontario Early Years that the Sand Point Health Department is giving out as an additional tool for parents to share with their little ones. Newborn literacy packages are available to the families who have newborn baby(s) up to 12 months of age. There are several items in the package including a video called "Precious Minds-Nurturing Literacy in the Early Years". As the video explains, "Studies show reading to children when they are aged 0-3 helps them realize their potential during a crucial period in their development." To those who qualify, please call the Sand Point First Nation Health Department to register your child's name. For further information on Ontario Early Years you can call the toll free number 1-866. 821-7770 or through their website at: www.ontarioearlyyears.ca.

For those interested in viewing some educational health topics on video, you're invited to come in and check out what the library presently has to offer. The department is equipped with a TV/VCR. Videos on FASD, Nutrition, Having a Baby, Breastfeeding, Substance Abuse and other topics, are on hand for viewing.



Friendly reminder

The Non-insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program client Consent initiative has been extended as a result of political lobbying of the Assembly of First Nations. The **deadline date is March 1, 2004**. Some requests to explain the purpose of this new process and how to fill out forms have been presented to the Health Department. In the hopes of answering some questions or concerns the following information has been provided. In the Non Insured Health Benefits Program Information Booklet, the following is explained.

- ☐ Why your consent is required for Health Canada to collect, use and disclose your information
- ☐ What information is collected
- ☐ How the information is collected, used, protected and disclosed
- ☐ If you withdraw or have not provided consent, you have the option of paying for eligible non-insured health benefits. (see page 10)

How to complete the consent form:

This same information can be found on page 11 of the pamphlet as follows:

Part A:

If you are age 18 years or over, complete Part A of the Consent Form by providing your:

- ☐ Last, first and middle name
- ☐ Date of birth in numbers: Day (21), Month (01), Year (1954)
- ☐ Identification number (treaty/status, 9 or 10 digit number) or band name and family number, or "N" or "B" number, or other health care number
- ☐ Mailing address
- ☐ Telephone number



Part B:

If you are the legal parent or guardian or person having a legally recognized authority to act (e.g., by law, court decision, valid written agreement or customary adoption) on behalf of a child under the age of 18 years and/or of an incapacitated (mentally incompetent) person who resides with you, complete Part B or dependents section of the Consent Form by providing the child's and/or incapacitated person's:

- ☐ Last, first and middle name
- ☐ Date of birth in numbers: Date, Month, Year
- ☐ Identification number (treaty/status, 9 or 10 digit number) or band name and family number, or "N" or "B" number, or other health care number.
- ☐ Name, address, telephone number of the Parent or Guardian or person having a legally recognized authority to act and relationship to the children/incapacitated persons

Part B has room to provide information for up to five (5) children or dependents. If you require more space, attach a separate sheet of paper, provide information in the same format as the 'form' and sign it.

At the bottom of Part A and /or Part B of the form:

- ☐ Sign your name
- ☐ Write in the date
- ☐ If a Parent or Guardian or person having a legally recognized authority to act is signing on behalf of a dependent under Part B, that person will need to provide his or her full name, address and telephone number
- ☐ If someone has provided you with a verbal translation that person will need to complete the information box for translators

When you have completed the consent form for your self and all dependents, place the form in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided. No postage is required.

For more information call toll free 1-888-751-5011, Ottawa (local calls) (613) 946 4400

Or contact the website at www.healthcanada.ca/nihb-consent.

The pamphlets/forms and Non-Insured Health Benefits Program Information Booklet accessed directly from Health Canada or at the Sand Point First Nation office any time during office hours.

Kids, Youth, Adults, Do you need assistance? Support? Help?
Someone to 'lend a hand'?

Toll free help-lines are available 24 hours a day to assist you;

Kids Help Line - 1800-668-6868

Operation go Home - 1-800-668-4663 (Youth)

Parents Help Line - 1-888-603-9100

Assaulted Women's Help-line - 1-866-863-0511

For more help line information call the Thunder Bay Community Information & Referral Centre, at 1-877-586-5638



The Sand Point First Nation Health Department funding is provided by the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy Multi-Year Training Program, the AHWS Community Worker Program, Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, Federal Family Violence Initiative, Federal Disabilities Initiative, Healthy Babies Healthy Children, HIV/AIDS, MOH-LTC Aboriginal Problem Gambling Strategy and the MOH-LTC Diabetes Education and Treatment Program.

Economic Development

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. I also hope you had an enjoyable summer. My summer was too short and the falling snow reminds me of what can be expected for the next four or five months.

My new role at the Sand Point Office is in economic development. I will be working closing with my Supervisor, Audrey Gilbeau, as well as with Chief and Council in this position.

Presently, I am exploring "Added Value" opportunities in the Forestry Industry. This is a relatively new and untapped sector in this region. I will not be pursuing initiatives in the traditional areas of Forestry i.e. harvesting or trucking. These areas are over saturated and highly competitive.

As per the advice of the Elders, tradition, culture and a conscience awareness of the environment must be incorporated into all economic ventures. I will diligently adhere to this when pursuing opportunities.

It is the mandate given by Chief and Council as well as the Elders to move forward with economic development as it will be crucial for sustaining the Sand Point community while providing employment for the membership today.

I hope to provide details on initiatives in the near future. Until then, enjoy the snow.

In Unity
Albert Gladu

Looking for a job?

JOB POSTING (pending contract approval)

Aboriginal Strategy Group is looking for Sand Point First Nation community members for a three to four week work contract - Pending project funding.

Work duties include working outside harvesting ground hemlock in the forest - 1/2 day training included. Salary will be production based. Start date would be between Thursday November 21st and Monday November 25th, 2003. Work term would be contingent on the amount of snow in the forest.

Interested band members can contact Leona Clarke at the Sand Point First Nation office @ 346-0550.

Aboriginal Strategy Group will confirm available budget by Thursday November 21st.

Come to the Resource Centre and view online Job Listings:

Job Search
www.jobs.gc.ca

Youth Resource Network of Canada
www.youth.gc.ca

The resource centre is equipped with five workstations with all having Internet connectivity and Microsoft Office. The resource centre was made possible thanks to the generous contribution from Industry Canada—FedNor.

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From the Finance Office...

At this time I just wanted to provide a short note to update the membership on our finance activities. I've been quite busy getting our records up to date since there was such a lengthy period with no data entry. Our auditors are scheduled to come in the third week of November to audit the records for the 2002 – 2003 fiscal year. That is a big difference to our last audit, as I was able to have them come in the second week of May, which enabled us to get the first North-western Ontario First Nation audit into INAC. This earned Sand Point a \$10,000 prize, which we have still not received. As always, I'm hoping that it will reflect Sand Point in a positive position. Last audit we were able to produce a cumulative deficit under the 8% threshold therefore we are not required to submit a Remedial Management Plan to INAC.

I'm hoping many good things are in Sand Point's future. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Kelly Banning
Finance Officer



HRDC Job Bank

Skim through this career development agency that offers a database of jobs sorted by region and available in either English or French.
Web site: <http://jb-ge.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/>

HRDC Youth Initiatives

Working with all levels of government and the public to improve employment prospects for the young. Provides job banks and student loans.
Web site: <http://youth.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/>

HRDC WorkSearch

This HRDC resource guides job seekers through the process of finding employment. Browse topics such as how to become self-employed.
Web site: <http://worksearch.gc.ca/>

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING UPDATE...

For your information, my office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. daily.

As some of you may be aware, the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy is presently in the renewal process. The Term of the existing agreement with Human Resource Development Canada is ending on March 2004 and a new strategy is presently being negotiated nationally.

The new strategy is being referred to as the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy II which should result in a formal announcement in November or December. It is still unknown if there will be new monies with this agreement.

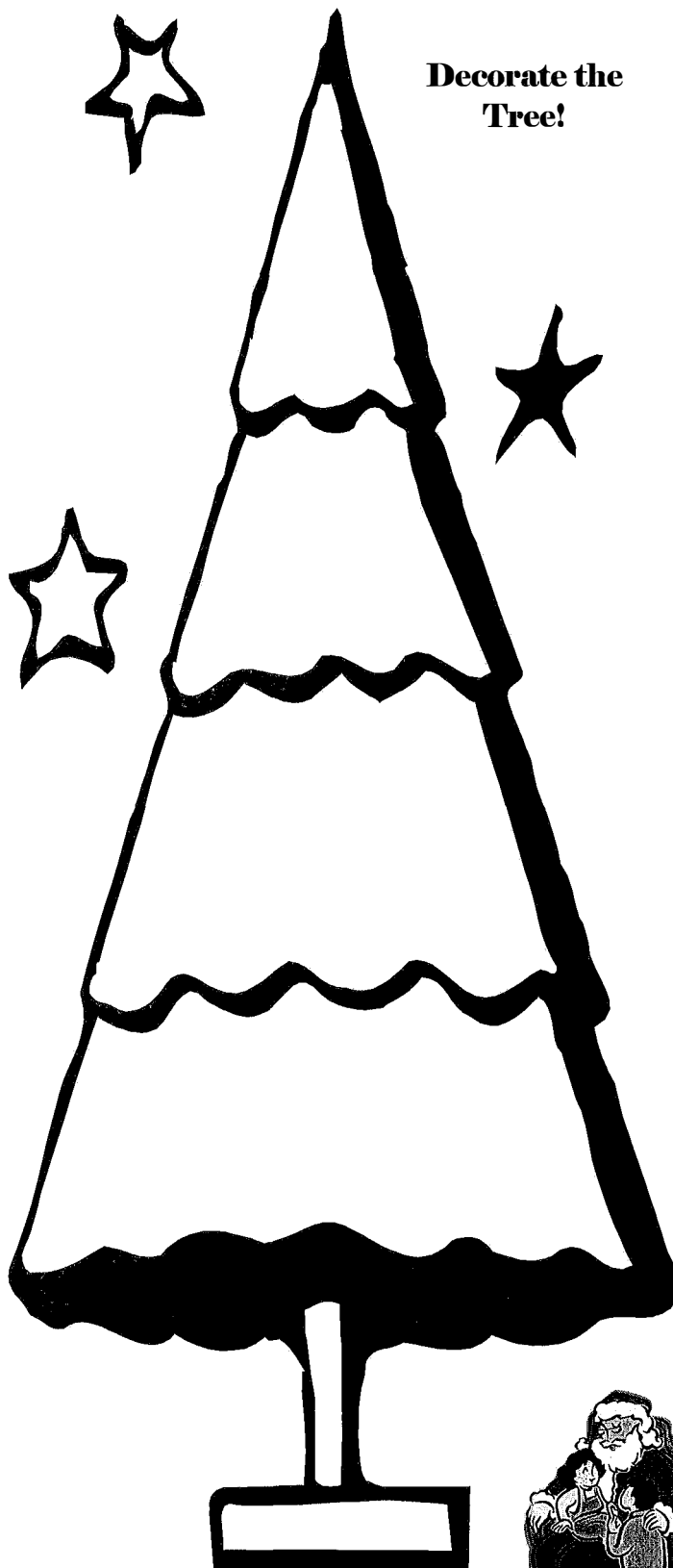
If you have any questions regarding the AHRDA Renewal process, or need assistance in finding employment please contact me at (807) 346-0550.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Leona Clarke
Employment and Training Co-ordinator

Seasons Greetings

Decorate the Tree!



Christmas Party

Winter months are upon us again; with a chill in the air, snow on the ground, and frost on the windows, Ah, the holidays! And guess what? Sand Point First Nation is having a party!

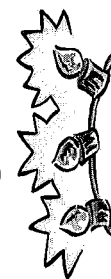
Hey kiddies, this will include a visit from the big guy in red. Also an A&P food gift certificate for \$25.00 will be given out at the Christmas Party to one member of each household. Come and join in on the fun. See you at the party. If you have any questions, give us a call.

Looking forward to hearing from you! I can be reached also by e-mail sfngrace@tbaytel.net

Grace Podolchuk
Sand Point First Nation Health Department



COME TO OUR
CHRISTMAS PARTY ON
SATURDAY DECEMBER
13, 2003 FROM 1 PM TO
4 PM LOCATED IN THE
BANQUET HALL AT
MATAWA ON 233 COURT STREET
SOUTH.



Santa will be there to give out toys to the good girls and boys BUT, due to his very busy schedule this year, Santa requires that we let him know in advance if our children are coming. Also, a \$25.00 A&P gift certificate will be given to the head of every household who attends.

Deadline for registration is November 28, 2003. Please call if you plan to attend with your child(ren). You can call Katie @ 346-0550 to register.



IN REMEMBRANCE**Madeline McPhee (Lagarde)****Wife, Mother, Sister, Grandma, Aunty, Friend, Elder of Sand Point First Nation**

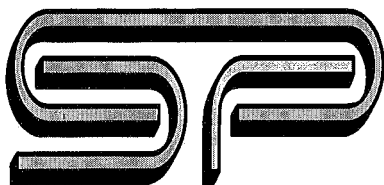
Mrs. Madeline Marie McPhee, age 78 years, resident of Fitzgerald Street, passed away peacefully in St. Joseph's Hospice on Saturday, November 1, 2003.

Madeline was born in Sand Point, Ontario. She was employed by Great Lakes Lumber & Shipping as a cook in area bush camps and later, moved to Winnipeg where she worked for the T. Eaton Co. Following that, she married her first husband Theodore Dow who predeceased her in 1957, and then married her present husband in 1958. She enjoyed knitting and crocheting but her home and family were her main interests. Madeline was a secretary in the family business (Kraft Movers) for forty four years this year.

Madeline is survived by her husband Rea; four daughters: Iris Dow (Romeo Rancourt), Jean Dow, Grace Podolchuk (Gary Zurkan); Madelaine (Maddie) McPhee; son Brian Dow, all of Thunder Bay; six grandchildren: Katie, Camille, Jon, Steven, Sherry, Shanna; six great grandchildren: Jade, Sara, Megan, Ethan, Arianna and Quinton; sisters: Annie McGuire, Hilda Lagarde, Agnes Hardy, Flo Veilleux; four brothers: Stanley Lagarde, Christy Lagarde, Richard and Ronnie Lagarde. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents; sister Audrey Lafrancois; brother Curly Lagarde and grandson Nathan Borysewicz.

According to Madeline's wishes, cremation has taken place and a Memorial Service was held on Tuesday, November 4th at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Harbourview Funeral Centre, 499 North Cumberland Street, officiated by Rev. Mark Owens of First Baptist Church. Interment of ashes will take place at a later date. As expressions of sympathy, donations may be made in Madeline's memory to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.





SAND POINT FIRST NATION

P.O. Box 24021
215 Red River Road, Suite
200
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7B 1A6
Phone: 346-0550
Fax: 346-0578

Staff at Sand Point First Nation

Chief Paul Gladu
Steven Podolchuk.....Councillor
Phyllis Michon.....Councillor
Audrey Gilbeau ...Director of Operations
Leona Clarke.....AHRDA Coordinator
Albert Gladu.....Development Officer
Kelly Banning.....Finance Officer
Grace Podolchuk.....Health Officer
Katie Borysewicz...Secretary/Receptionist

*On the lighter
side...*



Friendship

Friendship is a Golden Chain,
The links are friends so dear,
And like a rare and precious jewel
Its treasured more each year...
Its clasped together firmly
With a love that's deep and true,
And its rich with happy memories
And fond recollections, too...

Time can't destroy its beauty
For, as long as memory lives,
Years can't erase the pleasure
That the joy of friendship gives...
For friendship is a priceless gift
That can't be bought or sold,
But to have an understanding friend
Is worth far more than gold...
And the Golden Chain of Friendship
Is a strong and blessed tie
Binding kindred hearts together
As the years go by.

-Author Unknown

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU,
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU,
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR...**

Jim Clarke	Nov 1
Marie Drouin	Nov 2
Ellen Gladu	Nov 3
James Johnson	Nov 7
Roanna Morrisseau	Nov 10
John Esquega	Nov 19
Karen Clarke	Nov 19
Sullivan McGuire	Nov 20
Leona Clarke	Nov 24
Joseph LeClair	Nov 25
Joseph Lesperance	Nov 26
Robert Kletzel	Nov 28
Paul Hagar	Dec 5
Phyllis Michon	Dec 20
George McGuire	Dec 20
Craig McGuire	Dec 22
Ronald Hagar	Dec 22
Vera McCollum	Dec 26
Noella Esquega	Dec 28
Violet Mullin	Dec 31
Michael McGuire	Dec 31
Marie Drouin	Dec 31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!



Attention All Youth

We would like to invite Youth between the ages of 14 and 29 to be part of the Sand Point First Nation Youth Advisory Council. The Youth Council will be starting up again in January 2004. For all those interested in becoming part of the Council, please call the Sand Point First Nation Band Office (807-346-0550) and leave a message for either Katie or Laura. We can also be reached by email at: www.spfnyc@hotmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Youth Advisory Council



Submissions



If there is anything that you would like to submit to our bi-monthly newsletter, be it poems, news, recipes, announcements, etc; please have items faxed, mailed or dropped off at the Sand Point office. Please address submissions to Katie

Elder's Advisory Council

There is a vacancy on the Elder's Advisory Council.

For those Sand Point First Nation Band Members who are over the age of 55 and wish to be on the Elders Advisory Council, please contact the Sand Point First Nation Band Office at @ 807-346-0550 for further information.

Thank-you in advance for your interest.