



Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

'The people of Sand Point'

~ A Message From Chief and Council ~

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2006

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Fall is upon us once again and we are all getting back into a routine that is welcomed after a very busy summer. We celebrated the return to school by hosting a well-attended barbeque at the administration office where we distributed 'return to school backpacks'. It was nice to have so many of you attend.

With the impending transfer of the land, we have been receiving inquiries from many of you about housing. Once we have reserve land, the First Nation would then be entitled to funding that presently we are not able to access. Capital is one such funding stream. In order for us to be able to access capital dollars, the First Nation must first complete a Community/Capital Planning Study. These studies are important as they identify the infrastructure require-

ments, such as water, sewer, roads, hydro etc that will be required along with costs. Once completed, INAC is able to budget our needs into their capital and infrastructure budgets based on our study. Our challenge presently is to convince INAC to fund our Community/Capital Planning Study now, rather than wait until the lands become reserve, as is the policy of INAC. Along with the Community/Capital Planning Study, we are seeking funding to develop a housing model that will be unique to our community while learning from the experiences of other First Nations, both positive and negative. More and more First Nations are actively seeking a range of innovative solutions in all aspects of housing, from program design and construction techniques to new man-

BINGWI NEYAASHI ANISHINAABEK'S TEAM:

Paul Gladu	Chief
Leona Clarke	Councillor
Laura Aims	Councillor
Audrey Gilbeau	Economic Development Officer
Kelly Banning	Finance Director
Grace Podolchuk	Health Coordinator
Jessica Stewardson	Employment & Training Counsellor/Office Assistant
Katie Borysewicz	Administrative Assistant
Gloria Deans	Volunteer!

agement and governance models. In the very near future we will be looking for members input into the development of the housing model. There are many things that will need to be considered and we ask for your patience. Our goal is to have a housing program that is fair, equitable and accessible to all members. By creating a dialogue with the membership, we will have the information necessary to design a program that will meet our needs.

Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek - meaning

The meaning of Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek comes from the Ojibway translation 'the people of Sand Point'. Our name has been formally changed. The logo for Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek has been created from the contribu-

tion of band members. Recently, we held a contest for a new logo that reflects who we are as a people and a community. The resulting logo was developed involving the contributions of Lynn Lapointe and Ritchie Deans.

A Message From The Health Department

September 2006

"Aaniin" From the Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek Health Department

The XVI International AIDS 2006 conference was held in Toronto, Canada, from the 13th-18th of August 2006. Participants from around the world gathered in support of the Struggle against HIV/AIDS. The conference took on a networking approach expanding public awareness to the global community through means of sharing information, ideas, knowledge and research. The goal of which is to intensify HIV/AIDS program awareness, prevention, treatment and care efforts internationally.

The focus of the conference was on
ADVOCATING HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND AWARENESS THROUGH

- Increased global response
- Public awareness and prevention programming
- Encouragement for those affected by and living with HIV/AIDS



Grace Podolchuk Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek health contact with Jody Cotter HIV/AIDS Educator UOI at the XVI International AIDS Conference 2006.

For more information on HIV/AIDS go to the following news, stories and glossary sites listed:

www.aids2006.org/

Official site for the 2006 AIDS Conference:

<http://www.aidstruth.org/in-the-news.php>

AIDS Medical Glossary:

<http://www.qmhc.org/health/glossary.html>

AIDS Vaccine Glossary:

<http://www.iavi.org/viewpage.cfm?aid=34>

HIV/AIDS: <http://www.aidstruth.org/index.php>



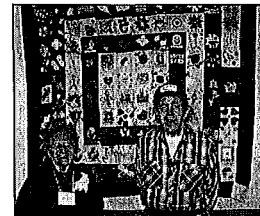
DIABETES/ELDERS CONFERENCE AMBI-MINO-BIMAADIZI-DAA (COME, LET US LEAD A GOOD LIFE) September 25-28, 2006 Nor'Wester Best Western Hotel



William Gibson ~ Making crafts as well as selling my crafts was so much fun. I even did some ballroom dancing steps on the dance floor. New friendships were made. I enjoyed everything!

Patrick McGuire ~ I was happy with the teachings and the quilt was more than I expected. It really turned out nice. I had an enjoyable three days.

Phyllis Michon ~ I really enjoyed being a part of the quilt making project. Attending the conference allowed me to meet with family and old friends, reminiscing over old times, and making new memories to take home with me.



Anne McGuire ~ I had an enjoyable experience. Everyone was so nice to me. I learned more about the medicine wheel and native culture and was really happy about how the quilt turned out. I not only enjoyed watching the young people square dance, I joined in myself. Storytelling through the drumming was nice and also seeing old acquaintances.

Grace Podolchuk ~ I enjoyed being with all the elders. It went beyond just meeting and greeting family and friends. Teaching stemmed from oral health issues, nutrition, exercise, arts and crafts, traditional teachings, and evenings of social activities that emanated a joy-filled strength of good old fashion laughter.

Lawrence Esquega ~ Getting together with all the people and doing crafts was really a fun time. We made miniature drums and a ribbon of life in support of Diabetes Awareness.

The Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek Health Department objective is to provide advocacy and referral to the membership, serve as a link by connecting individuals with resources and to generate and maintain professional helping relationships, and to promote healthy living lifestyle choices through prevention and awareness. Funding is provided by the following: Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy, Health Canada, and the Union of Ontario Indians. Programming: Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, Aboriginal Healthy Babies Healthy Children, Early Childhood Development, Federal Disabilities, Federal Family Violence, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder, HIV/AIDS, MOH-LTC Diabetes Education, Problem Gambling Strategy.

FOR INFORMATION ON HEALTH RELATED ISSUES PLEASE CALL GRACE @ 623-2724 OR EMAIL gtpodolchuk@hotmail.com

A Note From The Economic Development Department

Chief Gladu has been promoting value added forestry as an economic development initiative since 2000. to date we have been successful in negotiating cedar resources from a Sustainable Forest License holder, as well as exploring the feasibility of cedar opportunities.

As some of you may be aware, when harvesting cedar we need to be concerned about such things as the oils and tannic acid. To assist us, we were successful in securing funding from the First Nation Forestry Program to develop a cedar harvesting prescription. Essentially, this initiative will highlight Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek as a leader in cedar harvesting and eventually value added production.

Along with developing the prescription, we have also secured dollars to continue negotiating with various Sustainable Forest License holders and to develop a business plan that will meet the requirements specified by the Ministry of Natural Resources. We are very excited about this initiative, as it will result in a value added business, which will create both employment opportunities and revenue generation. I will keep you informed in upcoming newsletters.

Update on Land Transfer

We have been saying for quite some time that the land transfer is right around the corner. In January 2006, Ontario signed the agreement and we are pleased to report that the honourable Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, Jim Prentice, has signed the agreement. It was Council's expectation that the Final Agreement would have been signed off by May or June of this year.

However, with the election in January resulting in a new government, the process was slowed considerably as the newly elected politicians needed time for debriefing.

What happens after the Minister signs the agreement? Once Canada signs the agreement, an Implementation Committee will be formed consisting of a representative from Indian and Northern Affairs, Ontario Secretariat for Aboriginal Affairs, and Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek. The purpose of the Implementations Committee to ensure the procedural steps such as transferring the land from Ontario to

Canada are completed in a timely manner. There are a few steps involved in this phase but they are procedural and we should not come across any more glitches to slow this down. Soon we will be planning a celebration of the land transfer process involving the membership. We have some ideas of how best to mark this historic occasion and in the coming months we will be looking to the membership for input.

At times we do get frustrated with the slow pace in which this process has moved, but when we look back on the history of our people, this really has taken us well over a hundred years. We are so close now, that we need to focus our energies on the big picture. We will keep the membership updated on the progress of the land transfer.

If you are interested in joining the celebration committee, please contact the administrative office @ 1-877-623-2724.

Land and Larger Land Base Process

In 1991, Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (Sand Point First Nation) and other first nation communities located within the Robinson Superior (1850) Treaty area became involved in the land and larger land base process. This process was expected to take two years.

We have included in the newsletter on page four (4) a summary of the Additions to Reserve Process utilized by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. You will note that we are now at Step 6. The last few steps are procedural and will be overseen by an Implementation Committee. We are anxious for the day when the Order In Council is completed, which will register the land in the Indian Land Registry.

The Additions to Reserve Process

The following are the 9 steps which will lead to our land signing process. Currently we are on step 6 in which Minister Prentice has signed the land agreement.

STEP 1: Requisite Information

- * The First Nation gathers the requisite information and documentation
- * Gather historical information



STEP 2: Request for ATR

- * The First Nation submits a formal request, usually through a band council resolution, that the land be added to reserve or that a new reserve be created
- * The requisite information and documentation is submitted to the INAC regional office with the request



STEP 3: Regional Review

- * An INAC regional officer will review the request and supporting documentation and will work with the First Nation to ensure all requirements of the ATR policy are met



STEP 4: Regional Review

- * When satisfied, the regional officer presents the proposal to the ATR committee for consideration
- * The ATR committee makes a recommendation to the RDG or other delegated authority
- * If urban or contentious, goes to Deputy Minister for review



STEP 5: Approval-in-Principle

- * Proposal either rejected or approved-in-principle
- * Approval obtained may be subject to conditions (including environmental concerns) that must be satisfied before the proposal receives final approval



STEP 6: Title to Land

- * Administration and control of land transferred to INAC

In Progress

STEP 7: Approval Submission Package

- * INAC Region prepares a submission to request final approval
- * Submission package forwarded to INAC headquarters

STEP 8: INAC Headquarters Review

- * Submission is reviewed by Lands and Trust Services branch at headquarters
- * If all requirements have been met, the submission is forwarded to the Minister of INAC

STEP 9: Final Approval

- * Final approval is given through an order-in-council from the Governor General in Council or through an order from the Minister of INAC
- * The order-in-council is registered in the Indian Land Registry



From Kelly's Desk



Just in case your kid doesn't turn out to be a
'ROCKSTAR'... you can enter to win 1 of 8 \$2,500.00

Registered Education Savings Plans.

Go to www.heritagefunds.ca. Click on the

ENTER TO WIN \$20,000.00 button.

Fill out and submit your entry for the January 17,
2007 draw.



GOOD LUCK!



Employment & Training Counsellor/ Office Assistant

A year has gone by and I have completed my
internship as the Youth Intern for Bingwi Neyaashi
Anishinaabek. I will still be working with the
Aboriginal Human Resource Department plus
assisting the staff within the office.

I look forward to talking with you,
Jessica Stewardson

Retail Tax Exemption

Please be advised that the ministry, when purchasing a new or used vehicle of finance-tax advisory series branch, has amended its policy on the application of retail sales tax (RST) to motor vehicles by Status Indians, Indian Bands and band councils.

The Ontario Retail Sales Tax Act provides for an exemption from RST on taxable goods situated on a reserve, when these goods are purchased by a Status Indian, Indian band, or band council.

In the past, motor vehicle vendors were required to obtain proof that a given vehicle was registered to a reserve address before completing the sale on an RST-exempt basis. Vehicles purchased by Status Indians, Indian bands and band councils and registered to non-reserve addresses were subject to RST, regardless of the fact that a federal "Certificate of Indian Status" card may have been provided and/or that the vehicle may have been delivered to a reserve address.

Under the revised policy now in effect, vehicles purchased on reserve by Status Indians, Indian bands, and band councils are not subject to RST. Vehicles purchased off-reserve now similarly qualify for exemption from RST provided:

The vehicle is registered to a reserve address and the purchaser shows their "Certificate of Indian Status" (individual Status Indians) or issues a valid Purchase Exemption Certificate (Indian bands or band councils).

The vehicle is registered to a non-reserve address, the purchaser shows their "Certificate of Indian Status" (individual Status Indians) or issues a valid PEC (Indian bands or band councils), and the vendor arranges to have the vehicle delivered to a reserve.

In order to substantiate the non-collection of RST on motor vehicle sales to Status Indians; Indian bands, and band councils, vendors are expected to:

Record the "Certificate of Indian Status" card number, name, and Indian band or registry number of individual Purchasers,

Or

Retain Purchase Exemption Certificates issued by Indian bands or band councils,

And

Retain documentation showing that the vehicles are either registered to reserve addresses or were delivered to reserves.



If you have any questions - call: 1-888-285-7815

Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped with the Grand Assembly at Sand Point park! It was a very successful 4 days surrounded by extraordinary people. Thank you!

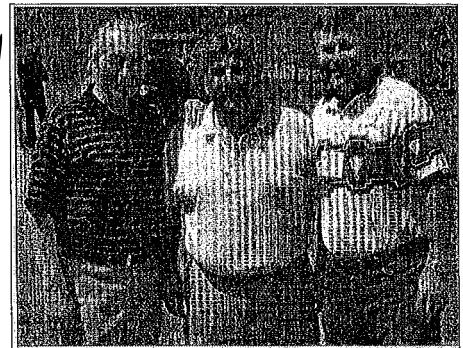


Grand Assembly

CONGRATULATIONS CHIEF WILFRED KING!



Chief Wilfred King has been elected Northern Superior Regional Chief.



Chief Paul Gladu, centre, played host to National Chief Phil Fontaine and Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief John Beaucage at the 2006 Grand Council Assembly.

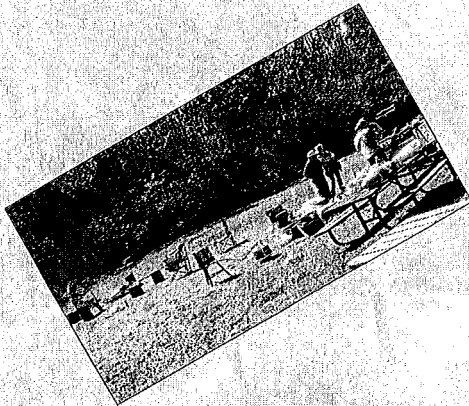


Assembly of First Nations, National Chief Phil Fontaine and Chief Paul Gladu.

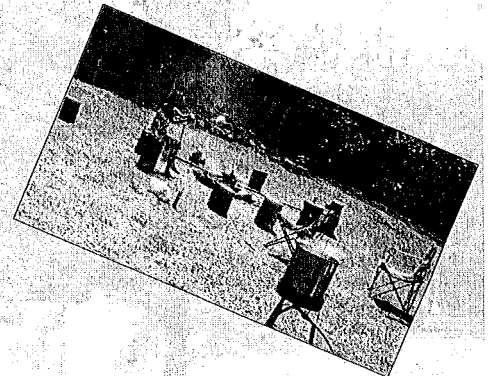


Metis Nations of Ontario, President Tony Balant and Chief Gladu at the Grand Assembly.

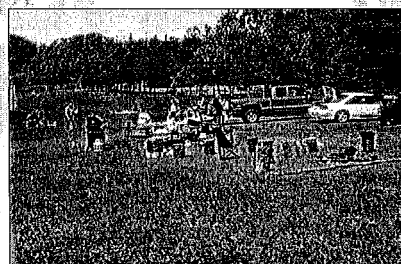
Aboriginal Day ~ 2006



Bannock making contest goes to ... Chief Paul Gladu and Councillor Leona Clarke.

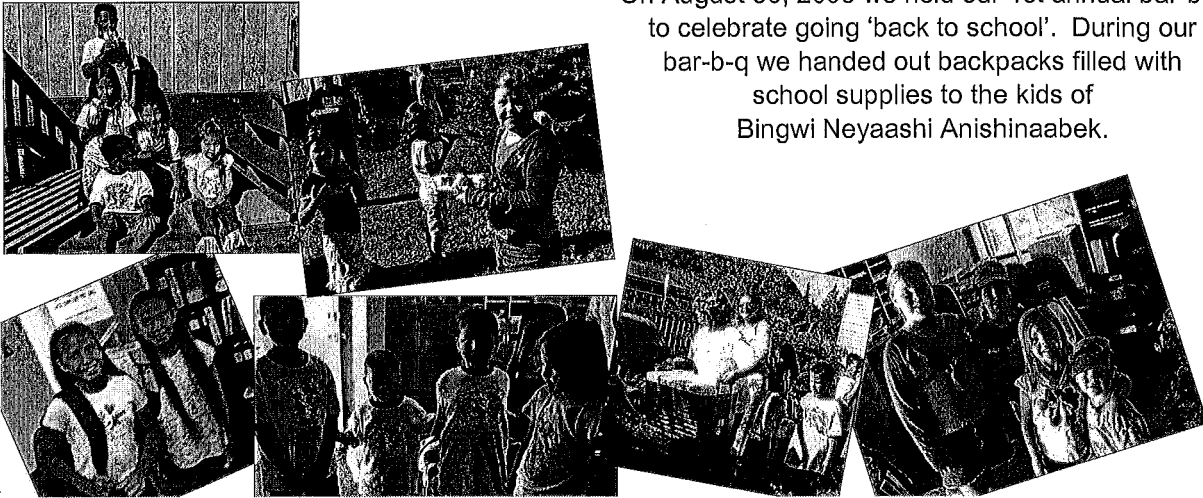


A fun day filled with relaxation, hamburgers, hotdogs and fun!



BACK TO SCHOOL

On August 30, 2006 we held our 1st annual bar-b-q to celebrate going 'back to school'. During our bar-b-q we handed out backpacks filled with school supplies to the kids of Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek.

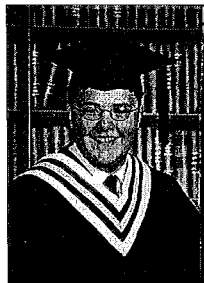


Special Announcements!

A Special 'Thank You' to
Bingwi Neyaashi
Anishinaabek
for initiating the
'school supplies' project.

THANK YOU!

Congratulations Kody LeClair!



Kody has
entered grade 9
at Hillcrest
Highschool.

Keep up the hard
work!

Love your dad!

~ RECIPE ~

Hot and Sour Soup!

6 c. chicken or beef broth
7 oz. pork, chicken, shrimp or tofu
1/2 c. water
1 c. sliced fresh mushrooms
2 tbsp cornstarch
3 tbsp white vinegar
2 tbsp soy sauce
2 tbsp chili paste (sambal oelek)
1/4 tsp pepper
1 large egg
2 green onions
Bring broth to a boil in large sauce pan. Add pork, return to a boil. Reduce heat. Cover. Boil gently for about 5 minutes until pork is tender. Add mushrooms, cover. Simmer for 10 minutes. Stir water into cornstarch in small bowl. Add next 4 ingredients. Stir into pork mixture until boiling and slightly thickened. Beat eggs with pork in 1 cup liquid measure, add egg to pork in thin stream, constantly stirring in circular motion until fine egg threads form. Sprinkle individual servings with green onion. Makes about 7 cups. Serves 6.

Gloria Deans

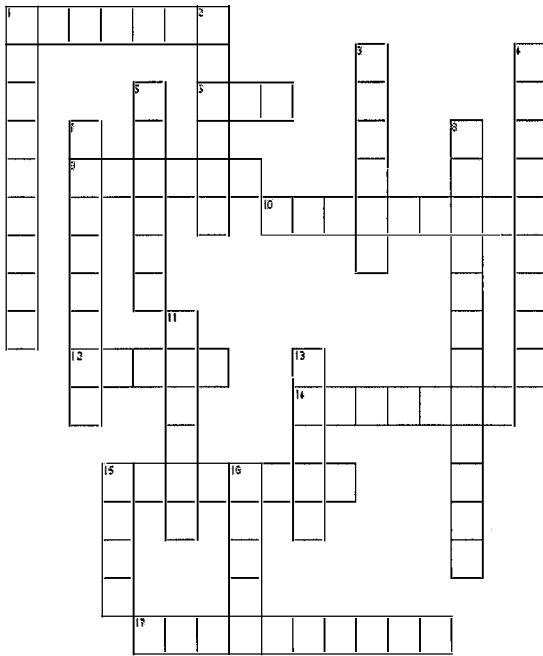
HOHOHO! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We need help this year to make our Christmas party as good as last years! If you are interested in volunteering or giving us some holly jolly ideas, please call the administrative office @ 623-2724.



Fun Page

Autumn



Make your own crossword puzzles! Try a free demo at www.CrosswordWeaver.com

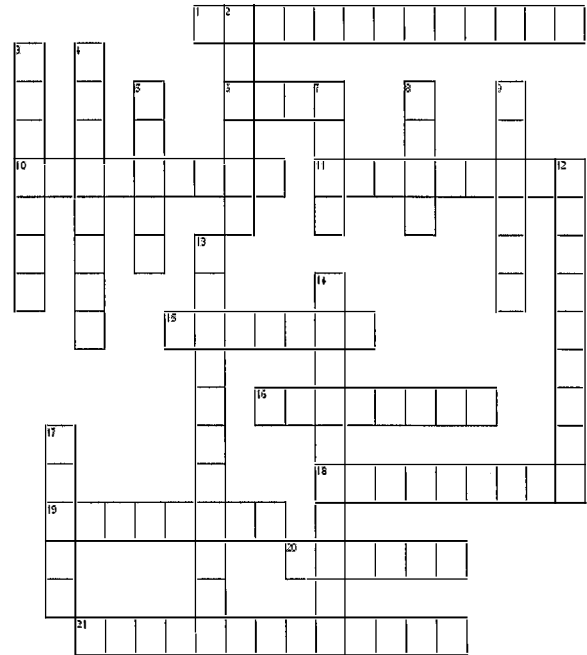
ACROSS

- 1 Reap and gather
 6 First color of a rainbow
 9 Goes
 10 Sleep for the winter
 12 Tallest plants
 14 Halloween gourd
 15 Super Bowl sport
 17 Horn of plenty
- 3 World Cup sport
 4 Stuffed bird scarer
 5 Pumpkin color
 7 What shivering birds do
 8 Holiday with a feast
 11 Buttery color
 13 Fruit you bob for
 15 Color changing season
 16 Dirty color

DOWN

- 1 Scary holiday
 2 Thanksgiving gobbler

Christmas



Make your own crossword puzzles! Try a free demo at www.CrosswordWeaver.com

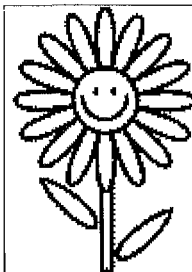
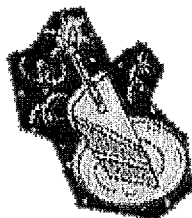
ACROSS

- 1 Christmas colors (3 wds.)
 6 Present topper
 10 Encourages a kiss
 11 Tree decorations
 15 Frosty is one of these
 16 Warm chocolatey drink (2 wds.)
 18 Roast them on an open fire
 19 Santa's sleigh pullers
 20 The people you spend the
- holidays with
 21 Ornament covered evergreen (2 wds.)
- 9 Shimmering tree decoration
 12 Footwear by the fire
 13 They jingle all the way (2 wds.)
 14 The biggest elf (2 wds.)
 17 Happy
- 2 Ties up a present
 3 How Santa gets inside your home
 4 What Santa brings
 5 Pointy green leaf
 7 It's white and it falls
 8 What bad kids get

DOWN

Birthday Greetings!

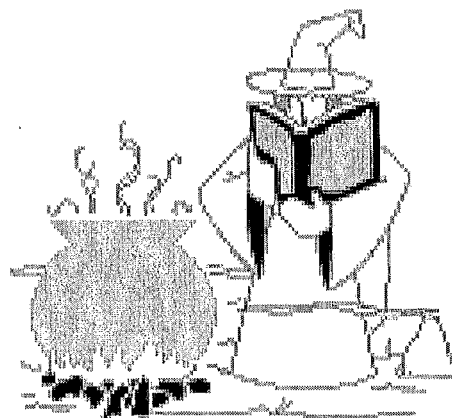
Megan Borysewicz	September 4	Jim Clarke	November 1
Patrick McGuire	September 6	Marie Drouin	November 2
Ritchie Deans	September 11	Ellen Canuel	November 3
Pierson Facca	September 12	Margaret Grimard	November 5
John McGuire	September 16	James Johnson	November 7
Daniel Perkles	September 17	Stacey Morrisseau	November 9
Douglas Perkles	September 17	Roanna Martin	November 10
Patrick Hagar	September 23	Christina Morrisseau	November 14
Stephen Legarde	September 25	Mike Michon	November 15
Kyle Michon	October 11	John Esquega	November 19
Maureen Clarke	October 18	Karen Clarke	November 19
Arthur Hagar	October 18	Sullivan McGuire	November 20
Cameron Binguis	October 19	Naconi Legarde	November 22
Victor Lesperance	October 20	Leona Clarke	November 24
Keri Esquega	October 21	Joseph LeClair	November 25
Selena Esquega	October 21	Dennis Lesperance	November 26
Cora-Lee McGuire	October 21	Robert Kletzel	November 28
Edward Esquega	October 25		
Steven Welton	October 25		
Eric Welton	October 25		
Christine Koronkiewicz	October 27		
Sherry McGuire	October 29		



Recipe for a Friend

~ A teaspoon of Respect
 ~ A teaspoon of Trust
 ~ A cup of Love
 ~ A pinch of Tolerance
 ~ A clove of Understanding
 ~ A sprig of Encouragement
 ~ A ton Support
 ~ A bit of Confidence
 ~ A bunch of Commitment
 ~ And a whole lot of Fun!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



Update on Residential School Information

The Indian residential schools settlement process has started. First, Courts across Canada will hold public hearings to consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. Former students and their families may object to the settlement and ask to speak at one of the hearings. If all the Courts approve the settlement after those hearings, another notice will be distributed to explain how to get a payment from the settlement or be excluded from it. The settlement provides:

- At least \$1.9 billion dollars available for "common experience" payments for former students who lived at the schools;
- A process to allow those who suffered sexual or serious physical abuses, or other abuses that caused serious psychological effects, to get between \$5,000 and \$275,000 each, or more money for those who also show a loss of income;
- \$125 million to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation for healing programmes, \$60 million for truth and reconciliation to document and preserve the experiences of survivors, and \$20 million for national and community commemorative projects;
- Up to about \$100 million for the lawyers who represent former students across Canada.

As of May 10, 2006 - the Government of Canada has approved the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, and has announced an Advance Payment program for former students 65 years of age or older on May 30, 2005, the day the negotiations began. As of today, application forms for the Advance Payment are available on the Government website at www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca or by calling: 1-800-816-7293



~ Memoriam ~



Gene Esquega Sr.
1973 - 2006

Gene Thomas Allan Esquega Sr. of Fort William First Nation passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, July 27, 2006. Gene was born on May 1, 1973 in Thunder Bay. He graduated from St. Patrick High School in 1991. He was athletic and enjoyed many sports. He was a big Chicago Bears fan. He was employed with LTL Contracting and held a membership with I.U.O.E Local 793. Gene was an outstanding son, father, brother, and friend. His family and friends were very special to him. He will be dearly missed. Gene is survived by his children Carly and Autumn Longpeter-Esquega (Cindy), Jessie Anne Lachinette (Allison), "Little" Gene Esquega, Horizon Mendowegan and step son, Denya Mendowegan (Nalda), all of Thunder Bay, his parents, Myria Esquega of Fort William First Nation and Fredrick Thomas of Lac Seul First Nation, his sister Gloria Esquega (Joe) and her two sons, Jordan and Brandon Esquega, his other siblings, Fallon and Zachery Poile, Evelyn and Carla Johnson, Ursula Matinet, Skylar and Spencer Wesley, Luke Bannon and Darren Fenton, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and other relatives and many friends. He was predeceased by his grandparents, Victor and Margaret Esquega, Charles Thomas and Bella Keejick, his uncle Vincent "Quincy" Esquega and special father figure George Bannon. Honourary pallbearers are Lennox Mattinas, Luke Bannon, Darren Fenton, Steve Johnson, Trevor Mendowegan, Donald Johnson, and Jonathon Shawataskung.

A tree will be planted in memory of Gene Esquega in the Blake Funeral Chapel Memorial Grove. Annual dedication service Sunday, June 24, 2007.

Victor Lesperance
1944 - 2006

Mr. Victor Joseph Lesperance, 62 years, of Nipigon, Ontario passed away Wednesday, September 27, 2006 in the Nipigon District Memorial Hospital, Nipigon, Ontario with his family by his side. Victor was employed with Public Works for the Township of Nipigon before his retirement. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping. He loved music and playing his guitar. Victor was one of the original "Chrome Domes". Predeceased by his parents - Dennis and Lucy Lesperance, by five brothers - Charles Robinson, Daniel, Christopher, Ernest and Albert Lesperance; he is survived by his wife Janice of Nipigon, by twelve children - Victor Jr. and Dennis Lesperance both of Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek, Ontario, Johnny Lesperance, Carrie Lesperance, and Joanne Lesperance all of Thunder Bay, ON, Janelle Foulds-Lesperance at home, Nancy Lesperance and Donna Timmerman both of Geraldton, Ontario, Lorna Cardinal (& Chris Frasier) of Edmonton, Alberta, Ray (& Heather) Cardinal of Lamond, Alberta, Clint (& Melissa) Cardinal and Lamont (& Kendra) Cardinal both of Drayton Valley, Alberta, by numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, by eight siblings - Douglas Lesperance, Dennis (& Valda) Lesperance, and Caroline (& James) Hardy all of Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek, Lorri Anne (& Melvin) Lester of Nipigon, Phyllis (& Eugene) Michon, Denise Taft and Marlene Lesperance all of Thunder Bay, Reggie (& Debbie) Legarde of Port Perry, Ontario and by sister-in-law Shirley Lesperance of Lake Helen Reserve, Ontario. Numerous other relatives also survive.