Tansi, Recently I had a horrible experience with the health sciences center in Winnipeg in which I personally was present to hear of just how much of a difference and better services we can all have in the north compared to an overcrowded town populated hospital in the south where the balance of equality and fairness is outweighed by financial status.

There were a couple of incidences that happened last week between one family and the patient intake admission along with the night nursing staff in which I can only describe as being extremely poor, if not a very lack of respect on the patients seeking medical attention. There are no words that I can find to better explain of how I feel towards a failing health care system which from my viewpoint seems to be biased and discriminatingly transparent to the needs of the patients especially to our own.

We’ve all heard about Brian Sinclair when he was admitted into the waiting room for over 34 hours to get medical attention. He was provided with no care, no treatment and no assessment or attention. He was completely ignored by the admission and nursing staff where he finally succumbed to his injuries.

You would think that this hospital would clean up its policies, disciplines and practices to provide adequate and equal care for all those walking through those doors despite of the bad publicity its been getting. Now this is not a race issue anymore, but a financial status issue whether you be white black native or yellow. For those who are unaware of the harsh reality of where we stand with the rest of the fast changing world, is if you don’t have good health coverage, which evidently is available to taxpaying blue collar and white collar customers, you’re most likely to wait in line longer than those who are able to leap frog you to seeing a doctor within seconds or minutes. Even with treaty status which entitles you to receive adequate medical care for some First Nations, that’s sum people, not all First Nations in Canada have the same rust stained agreements with the government. It’s still not as good and is a scorn for the admitting staff at the health sciences center who see it as a mountain of time consuming paperwork.

Now we can list a number of factors and positives about how this huge multimillion health corporation looks after its customers but who has the time to thoroughly investigate a mountain of B.S.?

Perhaps there are other ways and other places in which we can get better service than what is offered at the health sciences center that seems to value the business of only taxpaying blue and white collar customers. We can however support and become a stronger voice in our own community and help improve existing services. The need to take better care of our future is strongly advisable in which in the very near future this worldly corporate monetary power system that indulges greatly on the value of money only than the well being of the human race, it will very soon turn into a giant maniacal entity where only the rich will prevail over all and those living under them is considered scrap and a lost cause.

This is not the evolution of humanity I want to believe in if the value of saving a life is not as important than how much money a person makes or by the color of thier skin, but I do hope that as the coming weeks I look forward to hearing how the current process of the OCN and The Norman Regional Health work together of making better improvements to taking a lot better care of the people here rather than sending them to that place.

So stay tuned for next week as we get an update in regards to it... May God Bless you all and have a safe weekend, ekosi

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The need to take better care of our future

Today’s Quote:
“Wisdom is knowing what to do next, skill is knowing how to do it, and virtue is doing it.”

By Gabriel Constant-Editor
TO THE CITIZENS OF OCN

January 27, 2012
LOCAl
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Tansi. Six months has passed since the last time I submitted an article in the Natotawin. First of all, on behalf of my family, I hope everyone had a good Christmas and we can all hope for a good year. We also know these seasons can be difficult for some as many are missed because the Creator has called them home. They are in a wonderful place. Our condolences and prayers are with those who are left behind, and we ask the Creator to keep our ancestors and loved ones safe in the spirit world. I’m not sure what’s going to happen on December 2012, there appears to be signs of change that is expected to happen to Mother Earth. There are several prophecies including the Mayan which indicated there would be some change; the Mayan Calendar ends on this date. Maybe it’s spiritual; maybe its evolution, or maybe both. All we can pray for is that the change benefits humanity for the better. Remember, whether you are Traditional, Christian, Muslim, Jew, we all have spirits or angels who look after us. These spirits are called our spiritual grandfathers. They could be past friends, uncles, aunts, or they could animal spirits (such as the Bear Spirit, the Wolf Spirit). These spirits work for the Creator. Also remember there are bad spirits. Pray to the good spirits. Our prayers will see us through everything in a good way. Please keep in mind we do what we do for our Children, Grandchildren and those still come. There continues to be a lot of issues and concerns that affect OCN. As a former Councillor and as a citizen of OCN, I continue to work on a few issues. Because of my experience with the Dakota McGillivary Case, Opaskwayak Cree Nation vs. Her Majesty the Queen, I humbly appreciate and welcome the opportunity to Chief Constant for allowing me to assist with this file. This is an issue that affects all of us and our special status is a treaty obligation that reflects a lot of our Inherent and Aboriginal Rights, and these were promised by the Queen and her successors in return for peace and honour. These treaties were not surrender treaties; they were treaties of peace, to live in harmony, and to share the resources of the land. It was a pleasure to sit with Council and to assist with some of the discussions. I know Council is expected to properly manage our financial resources and to grasp and address many political issues. I presented this report because our leadership should be aware of these movements, and we want our Council to be knowledgeable and informed, and further our Citizens should be aware of these issues.

On the local front, we continue to work on our legal claim. P. Michael Jerch Corporation is working to put a team of experts together to assist with this case. I have been requested by Mr. Jerch to assist with the experts who will be working on this claim. Mr. Rob Brightman, one of the experts will be here the week of January 30th to conduct further interviews with our Citizens. We continue to work with our Citizens and record their recollection of events. Our local office, the BDA department also continues to update our issue base generally. In addition, the funding of this claim continues to be a concern. We are quite aware of this; therefore, our lawyer has endeavored to keep costs at a minimum. And additionally, the Band has made many requests to SICT, MKO, AMC and AFN, for support and we continue to do this. During our meeting with AMC, Grand Chief Derek Nepinak suggested and committed to assist in fundraising events to help with this effort. As we stated previously, this event would be initiated in Winnipeg as well as other centres can be identified. We thank the Grand Chief for this commitment. Also, we are planning an organized walk to Winnipeg and bring awareness to this concern. We are hoping for a three or four day event with at least 1000 people take part. We realize the people need to be a part of this issue, and it is a fact that it affects all of us. Council cannot do this by themselves. Section 6 of the Indian Act is what causing our concern. We need to replace it with our own law and our own authority. We exercised citizenship before the Europeans arrived, we had a system. Today, the government wants us to prove that. Holy smokes it should be obvious we had a system; the world didn’t start when they arrived. We had society that was acceptable by residents on Turtle Island. And further, the government expects us to pay the cost to prove that. This week in Ottawa, the Chiefs of Canada met with the Prime Minister’s office in an attempt to resolve some of these outstanding commitments. Chief Constant and a couple of Councillors were there. In preparation for this meeting, a special meeting was called in Winnipeg to develop an Agenda. A Common Front Strategy Document was developed and adopted by the Assembly. We realized we will not be able to present all First Nation issues in one day…so it was recommended to request the Prime Minister to commit to hold a First Minister’s Conference on First Nations Issues. The items that will be addressed are: Treaties Access to Natural Resources Citizenship Economic Development Environmental Protection, and First Nations leaders to call for the recognition, implementation and enforcement of Treaty and Inherent Rights on a First Nation-Crown basis. Reset Canada’s Assimilation and Extinguishment Policies that reflect the honour of the Crown; Have Canada commit to implement the essence and purpose of all the articles of United Nations Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples. Seek short and immediate outcomes that address ongoing concerns and issues: clean running water, health and housing. Instruct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to change the Agenda of the Crown-First Nations Gathering. Seek a commitment for a new fiscal relationship based on Treaty and Inherent Right to self-government. Review existing documents to assist in preparing common front positions. Creation of Media Strategy so that we are all speaking from the same position. In addition, the Chiefs are requesting for a follow-up meeting with the Prime Minister and are considering other options, such as the United Nation Forum. The world conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014. This is a brief outline of the report I presented to Council on January 16, 2012 at the Big Eddy Youth Centre. Ekosi Maka, These are some of the events taking place in the area of citizenship and will keep you updated. May God, the Creator protect and guide us.

Nathan McGillivary
Huh? Yep, I mentioned the Year of the Dragon! A big Ha-roo to you and everyone around our space of the universe! Specially to our Chinese friends who celebrated Chinese New Year. To Chinese people, Spring begins around February 3rd or 4th this year if that says anything for us here. And it is the Year of the Dragon! Mention some more of this coming up but got to welcome you to another diggin’s and Groundhog Days is February 2, 2012 this year. Remember this…

Kidding! Anyway onward with something to say but not really meaning anything in particular so something to say but not really meaning anything in particular so not really meaning anything in particular so Kidding! Anyway onward with this…

Yeah! Groundhog Day Ceremonies coming up also you know! And what does Chinese Spring have to do with Groundhog Day? Well, everything kinda’ revolves around Spring and when Spring is going to be. Doesn’t matter, Spring is coming anyways, either way, some ways. Indians have a different new year and is when the buds come out especially the pussy willows. Kids love those and we used to take those to the “cheacher” in a jar – just like taking an apple to school for the cheacher just to impress her and score some extra points in school. No, actually it was learning how to share and to tell the teacher they were welcome and how much we appreciated their dedication to teaching us. Ho-ka!

Anybody see my dog Fred? Furry kinda’ dude with weird brown eye brows and a funny looking kinda’ smile that seemed to say “watch out I’ll bite your tire off”. Yeah, he’s gone missing like on a milk carton kinda’ gone. Last I seen of him he was heading south chasing a cage truck or something when he was hitchhiking. Kids – don’t take rides from strangers!

Enough is enough: Aboriginal students demand action to broaden access to post-secondary education

Ottawa-- Students call on the federal government to honour the Treaty rights guaranteed to Aboriginal students to access post-secondary education. Despite rising tuition fees in many provinces, the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) has been capped at two per cent growth since 1996. This has prevented tens of thousands of Aboriginal students from attending college or university.

“If the federal government is serious about providing Aboriginal students with the opportunity to get the skills and training they need to participate in the Canadian economy, it should increase funding available to students who are ready to attend college or university,” said Patrick Smoke, Aboriginal Students’ Representative for the Canadian Federation of Students. “The PSSSP has been shown to be a very successful program, but it is dramatically short on funds.”

“Due to the funding cap on the PSSSP, approximately 20,000 eligible students are currently on a waiting list to get funding to continue their studies. First Nations and Inuit communities are forced to make extremely difficult decisions about who to fund, and for how much, using limited funds. In addition, Metis and non-status students receive no funding to pursue their education.

“Above and beyond the moral and legal obligation of the federal government to fund Aboriginal Students access to education, ensuring Aboriginal students’ right to education would have a significant impact on the Canadian economy,” added Smoke. “The federal government must lift the funding cap on the PSSSP and deliver on long-time promises to Aboriginal Peoples.”

In one week, on February 1, students from across the country will hold a National Student Day of Action to call for increased access to post-secondary education for all students. Students will be holding actions and rallies in several Canadian cities including Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Regina and Vancouver to reduce tuition fees, drop student debt and increase education funding.
Hello again and thanks for dropping by to kinda’ listen to and form your own opinion about what we are all about here in the OCN Social Service office. You know we still receive criticisms about what we are trying to do here as workers for the Band and it’s membership.

As is the way of things right now, we still have to follow the Social Assistance policy even though we are not Federal Government Agents or Indian Agents (a bit of humor here), but were/are hired by our own government leadership and administration to deliver the Social Services Program and services to our own people.

We still have people telling us it isn’t our money which may be true, but we still have to follow the policies that we have in order for us to keep receiving those funds coming to the Band. It is just tiring and stressful to keep hearing these kind of criticisms when we like working with our own Indian people and believe we are helping those in need, which is what our department is all about. Anyone can apply for assistance, but they have to “qualify” for assistance depending upon the need and what income they may have.

Just as info about the policy though, we still have couples that say they are not living together, and may even have children – then if they care for each other then they should prove it by claiming together in being honest. Living together is the same as being married and with marriage comes responsibility, and the same with having children. Claim them as your own! We will be concentrating on these clients as there seems to be a lot of couples that are doing this, and the onus is upon the client to prove that they are not living together, or not receiving income from their partner. You could be put on hold until you do so, referred to the Tribunal Process and then end up owing back to the Band – we are not trying to be mean, but clients should be open and honest, when all we are trying to do is help our people in need and those that cannot work due to health and such. They are taking away from those that really need help. No way to build a worker/client relationship of trust and honesty.

Speaking about children, those parents that have babies that are applying for Infant Formula Allowance, you may have to have your Doctor fill out and sign your IFA forms because of the Breast-feeding Policy that is in effect by our Health Centre. They are not able to sign those forms so you could also use The Pas Primary Health Centre also to see who may be able to sign these. We have in our SA policy that there is such a thing as “parental choice” on whether Moms want to breast feed or use infant formula, or even do both. Most choose the IFA but need the forms signed – what do you do?

Oh yeah! I almost forgot! You probably already know that Kathy Whitehead is our new OCN Social Services Case Management Worker hired to work with our clients, and that Adelaide Lathlin is our new Social Services Supplementary Assistance Worker to work with client supplements and Work Opportunity Program services. Yeah, way later eh Jon?

Kathy is also setting up another Planning & Budgeting Workshop specifically with continuing adult education, post secondary education and employment info and such starting off with a bit of lunch, so we are focusing on those that are interested in being and continuing to be a student towards employment. February 3, 2012, in the old Housing office.

Well, enough for now I suppose but just remember, all we are doing is have an open, honest, friendly and trusting relationship with our clients and follow what we are supposed to in order to continue receiving funding for those in need. Imagine no assistance program in place – what would you be doing for yourself and your family? Where would you go and who would you depend on?

Ekosi pitimah, in a good way…

Call for Submissions

SUBMISSION DEADLINE is January 31, 2012

If you have a feature, documentary, short, music video or animation for the Aboriginal community. Submit NOW! Go to www.dreamspeakers.org to fill out the Submission form.

Dreamspeakers celebrates the achievements and excellence in film and video by showcasing and educating the work of Aboriginal filmmakers. It is also a networking opportunity.

In addition, to screening films, the festival is also a forum where filmmakers, video makers, and other industry artists can network skills and pitch ideas to producers and investors who seek fresh product or innovative concepts.

For more information on submissions go to www.dreamspeakers.org

Opaskwayik Health Authority presents:

BRINGING TRADITION HOME
Aboriginal Parenting in Today’s World

Parents Classes will start FEBRUARY 6, 2012
6:00pm—8:30pm at the Beatrice Wilson Health Centre

The aim of Bringing Tradition Home is to present traditional values and cultural practices to help parents, grandparents and other family caregivers to raise healthy children in today’s urban Canadian context. We believe that healthy children with involved parents lead to healthy communities.

The program is based on the traditional values from the Seven Sacred teachings and includes 9 gatherings that focus on a value and related to parenting issues.

Schedule:
February 6, 9, 13, 16, 21, 27
March 1, 5 and 8

Please contact Charlotte Whitehead at 627-7410 to register for the program. Limited spots available. Thank you.
ABORIGINAL PRE-CADET TRAINING PROGRAM

The Aboriginal Pre-Cadet Training Program (APTP) offers Canadian Aboriginal people aged 19 – 29 the opportunity to experience daily police work with the RCMP. This 17 week summer program provides candidates with hands-on experience in the RCMP’s training program, and a unique opportunity to work in their community with police officers of the RCMP.

APTP candidates attend a three week training session at the RCMP Training Academy (Depot) in Regina, beginning in May. The training includes collaborative problem-solving skills, law enforcement, public speaking and cultural diversity. Elements of physical fitness and drill which promote teamwork and provide candidates with long-term strategies to meet their personal fitness goals are incorporated into the training.

After successful completion of the APTP course, candidates are posted to an RCMP detachment in or near their home community where they will work with police officers for 14 weeks. Activities and duties vary depending on the need of the detachment and will include crime prevention and community policing initiatives.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2012 SESSION!

The 2012 APTP session runs from May to August, 2012. Positions are limited to 32 candidates. Apply early so you don’t miss out on discovering a career nowhere near ordinary. Deadline for application is January 31st, 2012.

Please come to OCN Employment & Training to pick up applications for this great opportunity. Please note the age requirement is 19 - 29 years of age, sorry, not exceptions. This program starts in May and runs for 14 weeks. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2012.
FEMALE HEART ATTACKS

I was aware that female heart attacks are different, but this is the best description I’ve ever read.

Women and heart attacks (Myocardial infarction). Did you know that women rarely have the same dramatic symptoms that men have when experiencing heart attack.. you know, the sudden stabbing pain in the chest, the cold sweat, grabbing the chest & dropping to the floor that we see in the movies. Here is the story of one woman’s experience with a heart attack.

I had a heart attack at about 10:30 PM with NO prior exertion, NO prior emotional trauma that one would suspect might have brought it on. I was sitting all snugly & warm on a cold evening, with my purring cat in my lap, reading an interesting story my friend had sent me, and actually thinking, ‘A-A-h, this is the life, all cozy and warm in my soft, cushy Lazy Boy with my feet propped up.

A moment later, I felt that awful sensation of indigestion, when you’ve been in a hurry and grabbed a bite of something in slow motion and it is most uncomfortable. You realize you shouldn’t have gulped it down so fast and needed to chew it more thoroughly and this time drink a glass of water to hasten its progress down to the stomach. This was my initial sensation—the only trouble was that I had’t taken a bite of anything since about 5:00 p.m.

After it seemed to subside, the next sensation was like little squeezing pains in both jaws, ‘AHA!! NOW I know what’s happening in my body, which dumps all sorts of sludge things up in there. Pain in the chest & dropping to the floor that we see in the movies. Here is the story of one woman’s experience with a heart attack.

I lowered the foot rest dumping the cat from my lap, started to take a step and fell on the floor instead. I thought to myself, If this is a heart attack, I shouldn’t be walking into the next room where the phone is or anywhere else... but, on the other hand, if I don’t, nobody will know that I need help, and if I wait any longer I may not be able to get up in a moment.

I pulled myself up with the arms of the chair, walked slowly into the next room and dialed the Paramedics... I told her I thought I was having a heart attack due to the pressure building under the sternum and radiating into my jaws. I didn’t feel hysterical or afraid, just stating the facts. She said she was sending the Paramedics over immediately, asked if the front door was near to me, and to un-bolt the door and then lie down on the floor where they could see me when they came in.

I unlocked the door and then laid down on the floor as instructed and lost consciousness, as I don’t remember the medics coming in, their examination, lifting me onto a gurney or getting me into their ambulance, or hearing the call they made to St. Jude ER on the way, but I did briefly awaken when we arrived and saw that the radiologist was already there in his surgical blues and cap, helping the medics pull my stretcher out of the ambulance. He was bending over me asking questions (probably something like ‘Have you taken any medications?’) but I couldn’t make my mind interpret what he was saying, or form an answer, and nodded off again, not waking up until the Cardiologist and partner had already threaded the teeny angiogram balloon up my femoral artery into the aorta and into my heart where they installed 2 side by side stints to hold open my right coronary artery.

I know it sounds like all my thinking and actions at home must have taken at least 20-30 minutes before calling the paramedics, but actually it took perhaps 4-5 minutes before the call, and both the fire station and St Jude are only minutes away from my home, and my Cardiologist was already ready to go to the OR in his scrubs and get on restarting my heart (which had stopped somewhere between my arrival and the procedure) and installing the stints.

Why have I written all of this to you and if it’s at night you won’t reach him anyway, and if it’s daytime, his assistants (or answering service) will tell you to call the Paramedics. He doesn’t carry the equipment in his car that you need to be saved! The Paramedics do, principally OXYGEN that you need ASAP. Your Dr will be notified later.

3. Don’t assume it couldn’t be a heart attack because you have a normal cholesterol count. Research has discovered that a cholesterol elevated reading is rarely the cause of an MI (unless it’s unbelievably high and/or accompanied by high blood pressure). MIs are usually caused by long-term stress and inflammation in the body, which dumps all sorts of deadly hormones into your system to sludge things up in there. Pain in the jaw can wake you from a sound sleep. Let’s be careful and be aware. The more we know the better chance we could survive.

A cardiologist says if everyone who gets this mail sends it to 10 people, you can be sure that we’ll save at least one life.

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2012 and the end of a cycle and the start of a new era?

By Gabriel Corazon Editor

When 2012 was just happening and not 2012 has finally arrived and it is being widely criticized as being the year of the “the end of the world.”

Himans more hype? More propaganda for fear mongers to be totally convinced that we are all doomed? Or is this a new trend in making a quick buck for scammers preying on those whose plan is to run to the hills whenever someone says the sky is falling?

It’s business as usual for many unconvinced people who think it’s just gonna be another ordinary day, after all, the media has had a fair share of doomsday sayer whos recent predictions failed made enough headline news. The whole thing about 2012 and the impacts that it has in mass hysteria from movies to unsupported theories of earths destruction on a precise date can still be felt and heard in many conversations where ever you go.

What’s picking up is now is another trend of videos that are circulating the web where people are recording wierd sounds of trumpets that is said to be heard around the world and is being claimed that they are the signal of the end times.

Perhaps maybe, but if it were true that trumpets can be heard in the skies. Don’t you think it would’ve made the news around the globe in a mass media frenzy too? Perhaps if this were true, it would’ve have made the news around the world and is being claimed that they are the signal of the end times.

Very interesting which of course caused me to do a little digging around on just exactly how this came about and it’s starts of course with the Mayan calendar.

Scientists and archeologists agree that the hand carved block of rock is one of the most accurate calendars to date, even more accurate than today’s standard Gregorian calendar. It’s precision to predict lunar eclipses on exact dates is said to be phenomenal and most intriguing, the whole calendar ends on the first day of Winter solstice on December 21, 2012 after completing one cycle (great cycle or world age) that started 5,125 years ago.

It is hypothesized as well that 5,125 years ago (in Gregorian terms the year 3114 BC) the third world ended and that in eleven months and 5 days from now (in the fourth world or fourth age) will finally complete it’s great cycle and come to an end on Dec 21, 2012. Which means that we will be now entering the new 5th world or age? So we can assume that this great cycle started ticking four ages ago?

Coincidently enough, this great cycle also happens on a 25,000 year cycle of an ancient hieroglyphs found on every temple building and carved stone codex’s. The ancient civilization was more advanced than previously thought as today’s scientific and archeological in the Mayan community make new discoveries. Part of these discoveries is that the Mayan language in written form can have multiple meanings in one character alone. So interpretation of their hieroglyphs is very complex.

What’s even more interesting is that most of these buildings are constructed on a single foundation starting nine steps or platforms and has four stairways that lead to the top with each one on each side of the pyramid. All their steps are also numbered to 365 like the day’s of the year.

The nine platforms or steps of this pyramid also hold great significance in their culture and is being considered most intriguing that might hold the keys to the distant past. As with the nine platforms it’s being suggested that the human race is on a time schedule and is broken down to what some believe is an accurate time frame.

Also at these sites, is a code of some kind of catalogue was discovered giving archeologists a better description of what these structures represented. It took decades of deciphering to translate and what is known so far.

These pyramid structures are also suggested to be as giant calendars themselves that tell the creation of the universe, our galaxy, our planets, our earth and our future.

Even so there are no records to indicate that we (the human race) may have been here much earlier and is argued that the Mayans were here even before Noah’s Flood. The archeology community have recently discovered that from ancient ruins being unearthed in various continents record a past catastrophic event at the end of the third age (that’s 3114 BC in Gregorian calendar).

Even more intriguing is the recent discoveries of villages, monuments, cities and towns found on the continent shelf approximately 500 meters below sea level. At which before the great flood the current sea level was allot lower 5,125 years ago.

Almost all the rock paintings or carvings tell familiar stories of a cataclysmic event (Noah’s Flood) and most of these ancient drawings are always found in higher regions of the mountains. This gave the notion that past civilizations ran to the hills before this great earth changing event took place and leaving behind their story.

Five times the earth will go through changes and these are indicated in the Mayan calendar as some claim we are now entering the fifth age in the great “evolution of consciousness”

Hence all this gave rise to the 2012 End of the world phenomena which many believe that mankind is on a time schedule to the great enlightenment or the golden age of thousand years of paradise.
Canada’s race-based health care system – a cure for high costs, or a death sentence for First Nations?

OTTAWA, Jan. 25, 2012 /CNW/ - Instead of boasting about Canada's success in avoiding much of the impacts of the recent global economic downturn at this week’s World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Prime Minister Stephen Harper should be sharing with them a ground-breaking Canadian plan to stimulate its economy with initiatives that create genuine partnerships with First Peoples.

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, one of 120 First Nations leaders from across Canada to participate in what was billed as a historic Crown-First Nations Gathering, said the post-event consensus was that Canada is intent on pushing through its own legislative agenda for First Nations, instead of working with them on comprehensive and creative solutions.

Madahbee said Canada is missing out on an opportunity to be seen as a leader on the world stage. "The National Chief has told Prime Minister Harper that a comprehensive action plan would add $400 billion to Canadian economy, and eliminate $150 billion in social costs. There are 400 million Indigenous peoples around the globe -- over a million in Canada. We are the fastest growing population. We are the students and workers of the future. Why do governments constantly overlook us?"

"If financial self-sufficiency of First Nations is truly the "end-goal" of the Canadian government, they need to be talking to us about the treaty promises and resource revenue-sharing. This is the only way to create certainty for corporate projects. They can no longer expect to barge into our territories without dealing with First Nations peoples."

"We have epidemic health and social issues, gross inequities in funding for our students, and virtually no share in the billions in resources being stolen from our traditional territories," said Madahbee, speaking for 39 member communities of the Anishinabek Nation. "What we heard from Mr. Harper was a lame rehashing of his government's so-called accomplishments for our communities and citizens."

Madahbee said the Gathering began with some sources of optimism, a ceremonial opening that included numerous references to the Royal Proclamation of 1763, by which the Crown in Canada envisioned a nation-to-nation relationship in its dealings with First Peoples.

"But the Harper Conservatives just cannot bring themselves to truly honour the treaty relationship of sharing upon which Canada's creation was based. They should be convening First Ministers' meetings involving our people and the provinces to create comprehensive action plans."

"Instead, they continue to rely on their bureaucrats who, like the ones who created the racist Indian Act in 1876, still act more as roadblocks to First Nations progress than facilitators. The Prime Minister himself said in Ottawa that the old rules - like the Indian Act - don't get good results."

"Let's start working together on some new rules."

Bayside, NS (16 Jan 2012) For Immediate Release

There are few doctors in isolated First Nations. The federally-run health care system relies on nurses (RNs) to provide care. With the cost of health care on everyone’s mind, maybe it’s time to consider this less expensive alternative.

First Peoples are dying because of the way the federal government delivers their health care. But if it’s good enough for First Peoples living on reserve, why isn’t it good enough for other Canadians? It’s time to examine this fundamental question.

"If RNs in all settings cannot legally and independently examine a sick person, provide a medical diagnosis, do laboratory tests and x-rays and interpret those results, dispense treatments including drugs, why are RNs doing this in isolated First Nations communities?" Joyce Atcheson asks.

Atcheson, a former RN and nurse practitioner who worked in isolated First Nations communities left the profession when licensing authorities failed to fulfill their legislated mandates. As a Métis woman, of Plains Cree descent, Atcheson refused to be a shield for others to hide behind by saying the system must be ok if she works in it.

"Licensing authorities, such as the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the College of Nurses, and the College of Pharmacists are closing their eyes to illegal and frankly genocidal practices by RNs who function as doctors and pharmacists in isolated First Nations communities," she says.

Atcheson’s desire to change the system was re-ignited after recent news reports of the deaths of babies and youth in isolated First Nations communities. The deaths came after individuals’ repeated requests for help from the RNs at the nursing stations.

"This system, created by the federal government for isolated First Nations, is killing people," Atcheson says. “It’s time to fix it before it becomes everyone’s problem.”

Forum and Tradeshow tackles northern housing issues head on

WINNIPEG, MB – Frontiers Foundation is hosting the Northern and Aboriginal Housing Forum and Tradeshow. From February 20-23, 2012 approximately 400 participants from Manitoba, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta will meet at the Canad Inn Polo Park in Winnipeg to increase awareness and build partnerships for improving their northern housing.

The forum has four content streams: Northern Housing Technology, Northern Housing Management, Forestry, and Employment and Training in the Forestry and Construction Trades. These will run through the plenary and concurrent sessions as well as the Trade Show. The conference is sponsored by Aboriginal Forestry Initiative, Manitoba Aborigi-

nal and Northern Affairs, Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba Housing and Community Development, and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The keynote speakers will include community leadership, and program managers from housing, employment and training, income security, economic development, post secondary training and the finance and construction sectors.

Presenters from across Canada will highlight how housing can be made more durable, energy efficient, and cost effective, often using local mate-
ials. There will also be a focus on community development and capacity building highlighting producing of local lumber, alternative framing styles, new training programs, home ownership, development of housing authorities and unit maintenance plans. The government of Manitoba acknowledges the need for improved northern housing as a key area for investment in its Northern Development Strategy.

In many northern communities there is a drastic housing shortage. The northern climate is tough on existing houses and mould is a common problem in many houses. Crowded, inadequate living conditions are unhealthy and contribute to illness and social stress. Revitalizing the housing stock will create jobs, increase local training prospects, improve health conditions and serve as an incentive for further local economic development. -

-Northern Development Strategy, 2001

Saddly, the issues raised above have only grown since 2001. Communities, government and the corporate and non-profit sectors must work together to build partnerships that can get more results with existing and invested resources...building the people to build the community.
Good morning everyone and you’re so much on time and so attentive. I’m pleased to be here with you and proud to be a part of this historic event. Before I begin I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the tragedy that’s occurring in Burns Lake British Columbia. I think I can speak for all of us in saying that our thoughts and prayers are with the people from Burns Lake from that community. I’ve had a long history with First Nations, first in opposition then as a government member and now as Minister. I have seen a lot of change over the years and I’m encouraged to see first-hand many examples of strong First Nations leadership driving positive change. Importantly I’ve also seen a strengthening of the relationship between the Crown and First Nations and I believe this gathering is an important part of that process.

We are working together because we share a desire to see a Canada where all First Nations people participate fully in our social, economic and cultural prosperity, a Canada where strong healthy self-sufficient First Nations communities are full participants will benefit all of us. We acknowledge the many challenges still before us. There are many success stories but there are still many communities that are still struggling to break down the barriers of poverty and dependency.

We want to move past those barriers. It will not be easy and it will require all of us to work together. Before we can move forward we must recognize the importance of coming to terms with the past. The Prime Minister’s statement of apology on behalf of all Canadians to former students of Indian residential schools was an important part of this process.

In 2010 our government endorsed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We support the principles of this aspirational document and believe that they are consistent with the government’s approach to working with aboriginal peoples. Our government has also continued to work with First Nations across the country to negotiate treaties and self-government agreements. To date 23 comprehensive land claims and 2 self-government agreements have been brought into force.

We’ve also worked together to develop modern First Nations legislation, government legislation. Recently we collaborated with the Atlantic Policy Congress and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs by introducing the First Nations Elections Act. It will develop options for more modern accountable and stable electoral processes for First Nations. We will continue to work with First Nations to develop the modern governance structures that will support future prosperity for their communities.

Another critical building block of prosperity for First Nations is the management of lands and resources. Our government has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at releasing First Nations from the limitations imposed by the Indian Act while still respecting the unique needs of First Nation peoples. The First Nations Land Management Act provides signatory First Nations with self-governance over their lands and the revenue derived from their use. This allows them to move at the speed of business. Yesterday I announced that 18 First Nations had been added. They will join the 37 First Nations that are already operating under their own land codes. These 55 First Nations will no longer be held back by the multiple land management challenges of the Indian Act. That’s about one quarter of the Indian Act that they will be out from under.

Our government has also undertaken historic steps to improve and expedite the resolution of specific land claims. Our initiatives are working. Since 2007 over 65 specific claims have been settled, many of which had been unresolved for more than 20 years. Economic prosperity will come from unlocking the potential of First Nations and will require unleashing the potential of First Nations people.

Education and skills training are key to taking maximum advantage of economic opportunities and continuing to build capacity within First Nation communities. We’ve launched or extended several programs designed to improve education results. We have established five tripartite education agreements. These agreements foster collaboration and tripartite decision making on shared priorities.

Our government has also made significant investments in school infrastructure. We have invested more than $800 million which includes the construction of more than 20 schools and the completion of more than 250 school infrastructure projects. In order to further our efforts to improve education outcomes our government and the Assembly of First Nations jointly launched the work of the independent national panel on First Nation elementary and secondary education in June of last year. Their important report is anticipated soon.

Our work on lands and education is only part of what we are doing to advance the economic development of First Nation communities. We have signed important tripartite agreements in six provinces for an enhanced prevention approach to First Nation child and family services. We have established the federal framework for aboriginal economic development in an effort to focus and coordinate the government’s efforts to improve economic outcomes.

We have worked with First Nations to establish the First Nations Finance Authority which improves access to the capital and financial services that First Nations communities need. They expect to be issuing their first bond later this year. We have undertaken a number of investments designed to increase aboriginal participation in the Canadian labour market and economy. Recently we signed a tripartite agreement in Saskatchewan to find new approaches to income assistance that includes active measures such as training and skills development.

These initiatives benefit all Canadians because Canada will increasingly need First Nations to fill skilled jobs. This is something we all know and it’s a unique opportunity. Much has been accomplished together in the last six years. We believe in making targeted investments in shared priorities and we believe in getting results. Economic independence cannot be imposed by a government program. It is something that must be built from the ground up. It requires dedication and hard work. It requires focused and responsible governance at every level. Most of all it requires leadership. This event has brought together hundreds of leaders who have the power to change Canada for the better. Every one of us has the responsibility to work together to build a future where First Nations share fully in the prosperity of this great country. Ultimately history will judge the significance of this event not by what is said today but by what is done and what results we achieve together. Thank you one and all.
Jonah was born January 2, 1932 in The Pas, MB to Rachel and Alex Bignell. He was the oldest of his eight siblings. He received his education at the Elkhorn Residential School. During his younger years, Jonah enjoyed trapping, hunting and travelling with the extra gang on the railroad. He was the last employed at the McGillivary Care Home. This was a job that he loved. Jonah met and married Mildred Doris Bignell. Together they raised six children.

Jonah enjoyed babysitting and looking after his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He helped raised two of his grandchildren, Mike and Janet, then later on his great grandchildren, Alex, Flora and Angel. He loved his grandchildren very much and gave them all nicknames. Jonah especially loved going to church every Sunday and had strong faith in the Lord.

Jonah passed away on Monday, January 16, 2012 at the St. Anthony’s Hospital in The Pas, MB. Jonah was pre-deceased by his wife Mildred; his parents Alexander and Rachel Bignell; Sisters Agnes Bignell; Lucy Bignell; Sarah Bignell; Isabel (achip) Young; Uncles Peter Bignell, Louie Bignell, henry Bignell; Foster Parents Philip and Agnes Ross; Son Curtis Bignell; Samuel Bignell; Bernard Bignell; grandparent John and Alice McKay (mother side). Peter and Jane Bignell (father side); grandson Frank James Bignell; brother in law Jonah Young. Nephews Brian, Kim, Felix Bignell, Niece Mary Ann Bignell; Grandparent Catherine McKay (mother side); Aunts and Uncles Cecelia and Baptiste Buck; Harriet and John George Knight; Christie and Oliver Knight; Jeannie and George McNabb; Thelma Knight; nephew Alexander Knight; Uncle Joe McKay and Auntie Eleanor McKay; Cousins Eva Morach; Florence McKay; Emma McKay.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to you and may the Great Spirit look after you and your families

Pallbearers – Dennis Bignell, Sr.; Dennis Bignell, Jr.; Oliver Bignell; Allan Bignell; Stuart Bignell; Neil Bignell; Chris Bignell; Darren Bignell; Lawrence Paul

Eulogy & Honor Song @ Burial – Grandson Councillor Mike Bignell

Honor Song @ Burial – Daniel “Bugsy” Constant

Music Ministry – Councillor Mike Jebb, Jr., Norman Cook, Clifford McDonnlick

Music Ministry – Purvis McKay, Rod Bignell, Solomon McNabb

Tribute Song – Darren Bignell

Readers – Wendy Bignell, Richard Lavallee-Bignell, Moses & Mabel Bignell & Family; Oliver & Pauline Bignell & Family; Joe (Pearl) Bignell & Family; Dennis & Rona Bignell & Family; Allan & Flora Bignell & Family; Shannon & Bill Pelly & Family;

The family of the Late Jonah Bignell would like to thank the following individuals and organizations that helped with laying our Dad to Rest; Rev. Gloria Lavallee & Rev. Verna Jubb – for guiding the service so that he can enter the spirit world as he went on his journey

Singers- for providing the music and singing from your hearts and for soothing the hearts of those family members who were impacted by his passing

For the Pallbearers for carrying our Dad to his final resting place

To all the People who showed up at the wakes to show their support. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to you and may the Great Spirit look after you and your families

If we missed anyone, it is not intentional, for everyone who helped us through this difficult time – God Bless You and Thank You. For all the flowers and cards that were sent, we really appreciate them.

We also would like to thank you for your comforting words and prayers – they really mean a lot to the family.

We love you Dad – Rest in Peace, Until We Meet Again

Jonah Bignell January 2, 1932 – January 16, 2012

“This is the day the Lord has made, I will come again…” That where I may am, there you may be also” – John 14:3

SINCERELY THE FAMILY OF THE LATE JONAH BIGNELL:

Children: Leona (Leonard) Paul; Louie (Brenda) Bignell; Lester (Flora) Bignell; Flora (Leonard) Paul; Louie (Brenda) Bignell; grandchildren Janet (John) Young; Michael (Jennifer) Bignell; Lawrence Paul; Leon Paul, Rebecca Bignell; Lester Bignell, Jr.; Dylan Lathlin

Flora, and Angel Bignell-Young

Great Grandchildren: Alexander, Flora, and Angel Bignell-Young
NOTICE

Church Of The Redeemer
Confirmation Classes Will Begin On January 10, 2012 In The Margaret Henderson Parish, One class each Tuesday After The Bus Run At 4pm. For More Information Phone At 623-2316-Home Or 620-2751-Cell. Confirmation Candidates Need To Register, I’ll Need Your Full Name, Date Of Birth, Date Of Baptism, And Phone Number For Contact. Priest In Charge Ven. Jim Sayese

A A Meetings
Time: 7:00pm-8:00pm
When: Every Thursdays
Place: The Beatrice Wilson Health Centre
Starting: January 12, 2012

ATTENTION OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION BAND MEMBERS
The Finance & Administration Committee is seeking a member to sit on the committee for a 4-year term.

Strengths and assets to include:

- OCN band member;
- Grade 12 and/or equivalent;
- Strong financial background;
- Able to read financial statements & budgets;
- Be able to attend 2 – 3 regular meetings monthly;
- Committed to the betterment of OCN.

If this is you & you are interested, please mail or drop off your resume and covering letter to:

OCN Finance Division
Lower Ildo - Oinika Mall
Attn: Jeannie Carrier, Director of Finance
Box 1080
Opaskwayak, Manitoba
R6R2E0


“We thank all interested applicants, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.”

NEED YOUR OLD VEHICLES REMOVED
All types, Trucks, Cars, Machinery
And, more! Call the lands Dept.
Ask for Randy/Marion
(204) 627-7130

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Ask for Randy/Marion
(204) 627-7130

NOTICE TO OCN MEMBERSHIP
Members are reminded to:
1) Post identifying information, such as a phone number on your ice
2) Clean up areas around ice shack;
3) Clean up areas after hosting events such as Fishing Derbies
4) Exercise caution and safety in open water areas.

IT TAKES ALL OF US TO RESPECT
AND LOOK AFTER CREATOR’S
GIFTS
CREE NATION CHILD AND
FAMILY CARING
AGENCY

CIC WORKER – PERMANENT POSITION
Lynn Lake, MB

Cree Nation Child & Family Caring Agency is situated on Opaskwayak Cree Nation and is responsible for administering and providing for the delivery of Child and Family Services. Under a provincial mandate, the Agency services the Swampy Cree communities, as well as Flin Flon, Thompson, Swan River, Winnipeg and Lynn Lake/Marcel Columbo First Nation.

Cree Nation Child & Family Caring Agency is dedicated to providing comprehensive CFS Services that are community-based and incorporate both protection and prevention services. Our agency strives to maintain family unity.

POSITION SUMMARY:
Under the supervision of CIC Supervisor or Unit Supervisors, the Children in Care (CIC) Worker provides for the placement, case management and ongoing support for children in care, including the management of special cases and situations. The CIC Worker gathers information and assesses family functioning problems, develops and implements intervention plans, provides referrals, supports, guidance and problem solving to families, assesses the intervention, and follows up with families three to six months after the intervention is complete. The goal is to increase family capacity and safely return children to their family. Adheres to the Child and Family Services Act and regulations regarding children in care and ensures that provincial standards are met for all children in care on their caseload.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Arrange placement (5%)
Assessment & Case Planning (30%)
Intervention, Case Monitoring, Risk Assessment & Follow-Up (40%)
File Documentation (25%)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Work experience in Child and Family Services with demonstrated knowledge of child development, family centered service, early intervention, family support and community-based services

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) or related under graduate degree in Human Services (preferred)
Ability to converse fluently in Cree (preferred)

KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE
Excellent assessment, intervention and writing skills
Knowledge of the Child and Family Services Act and provincial standards
Understanding of child development theory and practice
Knowledge of available resources within the community (formal and informal)
Knowledge of Family Systems theory
Working knowledge of child abuse
Ability to use a variety of computer applications such as Microsoft Word, Excel and data base systems
CFSIS and FACTS information systems (preferred)

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT
Must pass a criminal records check, child abuse registry check and prior contact check.
Cannot be active on a protection case.
Must maintain absolute confidentiality in accordance with agency requirements.
Varied amounts of travel required within this position.
Must have a valid Manitoba driver’s license.
Must be able to provide own vehicle for work.
Required to provide on-call services on a rotating basis.
Other duties related to the position may be assigned.

Deadline: January 30, 2012 @ 4:30 p.m.

SUBMIT RESUMES ALONG WITH THREE (3) REFERENCES MARKED “PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL” TO:

Human Resources Coordinator
Cree Nation Child & Family Caring Agency
Box 10130
Opaskwayak, MB. R0B 2J0
Fax: 204-623-3847
Email: lducharme@cncfca.ca

We thank all who apply, and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

REQUIRES: NIHB Referral Clerk – Full Time
LOCATION: BEATRICE WILSON HEALTH CENTRE

Summary of Position:
Under the general supervision of the NIHB Supervisor, the NIHB Referral Clerk is responsible for the accurate assessment of eligibility, correction approval and payment of invoices for OCN NIHB clients in accordance with OHA policies and procedures as well as FNHB agreements and guidelines. NIHB may include: medical treatment access, transportation, boarding and lodging within Manitoba;

vision care;
Medical equipment and supplies sometimes involving prescribed prosthetics and/or drugs.

As the first point of NIHB contact to the OCN membership, the NIHB Referral Clerk ensures a high level of confidentiality and must maintain professional working relationships with a variety of individuals, groups and organizations.

Working Conditions:
The NIHB unit must meet multiple and often conflicting deadlines and will have to manage a number of requests and situations at one time. Stress may be caused by the need to complete tasks within these tight deadlines. Discretion and tact are required in handling sensitive and confidential information.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:
Knowledge of health benefit programs and the ability to interpret Health Canada program directives, legislation and policies;
Knowledge of computer systems and proficiency of database, spreadsheet, e-mail, Internet and word processing software;
Ability to communicate effectively with a broad range of individuals;
Ability to meet deadlines;
Ability to react to multiple demands and handle stressful situations;
Ability to obtain and review pertinent information and make sound decisions and/or recommendations based on the available information

Ability to speak Cree is a considered an asset;
Strong work ethic which result in the ability to maintain strict confidentiality and to work in a highly independent manner.

Education and/or Work Experience Required:
Completion of related post-secondary training at a Certiﬁcate or Diploma level in Health, Business or Administration. At least one year of related work experience.

Salary: To commensurate with education and experience within budget

DEADLINE: February 8, 2012 @ 4:00 p.m. “NO” late submissions will be considered.

Upon request a detailed Job Description of NIHB Referral Clerk is available.

If you are interested in being part of the team of health care professionals, applications must include a cover letter, resume, copy of credentials, police check and if applicable an email address.

Current telephone number Email address if applicable
All interested applicants will submit applications by e-mail to:

HR@ocnhealth.com OR Mail or Hand Deliver to: Lucille Dorion, Personnel/Payroll Manager
OPASKWAYAK HEALTH AUTHORITY
245 Waller Road PO Box 10280
OPASKWAYAK, MB R0B 2J0

Please mark as “CONFIDENTIAL”

Candidates must identify how they meet the education and work experience along with knowledge, skills and abilities (and any asset qualifications, if applicable). Failure to address these requirements may result in the candidate being screened out. We thank all who applied; however, only those given further consideration will be contacted.
January 27, 2012

NOTICE

by-Law No. 13 - Hawkers/Peddlers

Under the authority of By-Law No. 13, all Hawkers/Peddlers who wish to conduct sales (this includes persons selling wood for firewood/fuelwood purposes), on Opaskwayak Cree Nation must apply for a permit at the (BDA) Band Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor, 151 Fischer Avenue (Post Office Building). Applications for food related activities MUST attach relevant Public Health Approvals. The Hawker/Peddler permits are to be in effect for one (1) year in duration.

Type of Licenses

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<tr>
<th>Fees per year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residents of OCN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Residents: Sales from Stationary Location (Hawkers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents: Door-to-Door Sales (Peddlers)</td>
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The Opaskwayak Cree Nation Reserves includes:

- Reserve 21A (Timberland Trailer Court, Young’s Point)
- Reserve 21B (Rall’s Island)
- Reserve 21C (White Bridge area)
- Reserve 21D
- Reserve 21D Salt Channel
- Reserve 21E (Townsite, Carrot River, Big Eddy)
- Reserve 21F
- Reserve 21G
- Reserve 21H (Bracken Dam)
- Reserve 21I
- Reserve 21J
- Reserve 21N
- Reserve 21P
- Stony Point 21
- Root Lake 231
- Carrot River 27A (Saskatchewan)
- Root Lake Beach Ridge Reserve

BY-LAW NO. 8 - DOG & FELINE CONTROL

Under the Authority of By-Law No. 8, Council has required the registration of all dogs within the boundaries of Opaskwayak Cree Nation Reserves.

In accordance with the By-Law, the following are to be adhered to:

- No Dogs shall be allowed to run at large on the Reserve;
- No household should have more than two (2) dogs, other than working dogs;
- All dogs living on Reserve are required to be registered;
- All registered dogs are to wear a registration tag which will be given to the dog owner at the time of registration;
- The Council may require that no person shall keep an unregistered dog within the boundaries of the Reserve and any unregistered dog may be seized and placed in the pound by the Dog Control Officer;
- All working dogs shall be confined in a suitable enclosure or chained when not in use;
- No person shall establish a kennel on the Reserve without prior written permission of the Council;

Dog Tags are $5.00 per dog and will need to be renewed annually. Your dog(s) can be registered at the BDA office located upstairs of the Post Office Building, 2nd Floor, 161 Fisher Avenue.

If you require further information, call Anita Bignell at the Band Development Authority Office at 627-7130.

Any complaints regarding dog incidents may be directed to the Animal Control Officer at 623-8829, or leave a message at 627-7051

NOTICE

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

GOING OUT TO LAYNE TERENCE YOUNG WHO WILL BE CELEBRATED HIS 39TH ON JANUARY 19, 2012

LOVE YOUR HUNI LEIA,
SHAWN & EDDIE

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY GOING OUT TO LARRY HEAD ON JANUARY 18TH, 2012

LOVE ALL YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN!
SHAWN, JENNA, MECS, ARIES & THE NEWEST ADDITION
ERIK EDMUND CONSTANT

LOVE YOU Papa

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY!!
IRENE COWLEY PERSONIUS
ON JANUARY 18, 2012

COMING FROM THE HEAD FAMILY

LOVE YOU CHAPAN
ABORIGINAL MEDIA ART INITIATIVE
MARCH 12TH – APRIL 14TH 2012

A CALL FOR ABORIGINAL PERSONS IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN MANITOBA (THIS MEANS YOU) TO PARTICIPATE IN VIDEO POOL MEDIA ARTS CENTRE’S ABORIGINAL MEDIA ART INITIATIVE (AMAI 2012)

THE ABORIGINAL MEDIA ART INITIATIVE (AMAI 2012) IS A ONE-MONTH RESIDENCY AT VIDEO POOL MEDIA ARTS CENTRE IN WINNIPEG. AMAI 2012 IS OPEN TO ALL ABORIGINAL ARTISTS LIVING OUTSIDE OF URBAN CENTERS IN MANITOBA. DESIGNED AS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AMAI 2012 INCLUDES AN IMMERSIVE WORKSHOP SERIES AND ONE-ON-ONE MENTORING TO ASSIST THE RECIPIENT IN THE PRODUCTION OF A SHORT VIDEO.

ALL TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES ARE PAID.

$1000 HONORARIUM AND A WEEKLY PER DIEM.

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS HAVE HAD THEIR WORKS SCREENED NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

NO FILM/VIDEO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT KEVIN LEE BURTON
Video Pool’s Outreach Coordinator at
vpool_reach@videopool.org
or 1-204-940-5134
or toll-free at 1-855-553-3303

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15TH, 2012.
PARTICIPANTS ARE SELECTED AND NOTIFIED BY FEBRUARY 20TH, 2012.

PROGRAM DETAILS AT WWW.VIDEOPOOL.ORG