



Red River Current

JULY 2013

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FIRE DEPT. RETAINS TITLE

The Fort McKay Fire Department can sing, “We are the champions once again.” For the second consecutive year the FMFD won the National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition - Alberta Region. Last year the FMFD was victorious in Morley, Alberta and placed third in the national competition in New Brunswick. This year the FMFD won the provincial championship once again and will for the second consecutive year represent Team Alberta in the National Aboriginal Firefighters Competition. The annual competition is being held in Ontario next month. “We are very excited about the

national championship,” says Captain James McIssac. “Especially because we missed second by only 5 seconds last year.” There were 5 teams in this year’s provincial competition, which was hosted by the Enoch Cree Nation just west of Edmonton. Competition events were made up of five events or “evolutions” where the fire teams worked together in fire fighting skills such as hose rolling, BA (breathing apparatus) use and ladder work. The FMFD Competition team consisted of Chief Mel Grandjamb, Deputy Chief Ron Quintal, Deputy Chief Kathleen Faichney, Captain James McIssac, Firefighter Tyler Young and

Firefighter Shelley Cyprien. Walpole Island, near Hamilton, Ontario is hosting the 2013 competition. In the National Competition the Fire teams must compete in a total of 16 grueling evolutions including bucket target relay and fuel fire extinguishment.

(Continued on page 2)

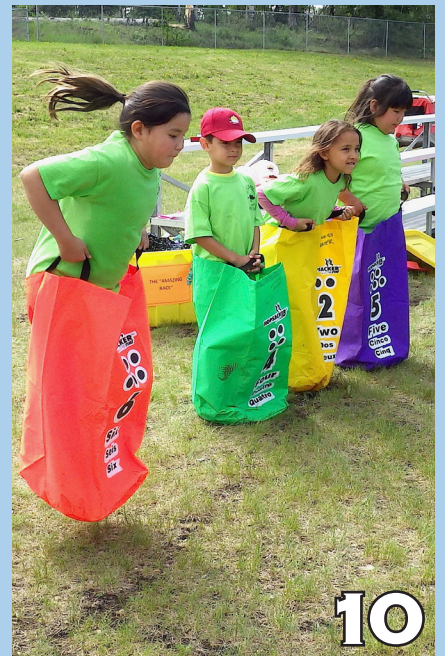
ATV DANGER	3
ANTI-BULLYING	4
SUMMER KEYANO	5
RELAY FOR LIFE	9
RAT ROOT	8
MARGARET’S 76TH	12



2



6



10

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS



FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jim Boucher, Chief
Raymond Powder, Councillor
David Bouchier, Councillor
Gerald Gladue, Councillor
Ruth McKenzie, Councillor

George Arcand, CEO
Larry Hewko, CFO/COO

ADMINISTRATION DEPT.

Dorothy McDonald Business Centre
General Delivery
Fort McKay, AB T0P 1C0
Phone: 780-828-2430

Hours of Operation:
Mon. to Thurs. - 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday - 8:30am - 2:00pm

COMMUNITY INFO LINE
780-828-2442

SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

Cort Gallup, Editor
If you have any photos, stories or ideas for the Fort McKay Current, please contact Cort at cgallup@fortmckay.com or call 780-838-6061.

TEAM ALBERTA! The Provincial Champion Fort McKay Fire Department preparing for competition at the National Aboriginal Firefighter Competition, Alberta Region, at Enoch, Alberta. Team Alberta members are (above, left to right) Captain James McIssac, Firefighter Shelley Cyprien, Firefighter Tyler Young, Chief Mel Grandjamb, Deputy Chief Ron Quintal and Deputy Chief Kathleen Faichney.

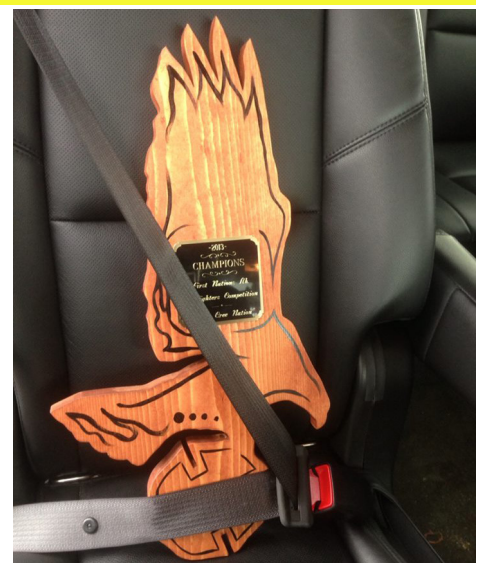
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The results of last year's competition were: 1st Saskatchewan, 2nd Manitoba, 3rd Alberta, 4th Ontario, 5th Quebec, 6th Atlantic, 7th British Columbia, 8th Nunavut, 9th Host Team - Atlantic.

The FMFD team will train twice a week and then undergo a few days of intense training just before the August 24th competition.

"We really have our sights set on first place this year and becoming the national champions," says Deputy Chief Ron Quintal.

Good luck FMFD and go Team Alberta!



The 2013 Championship trophy on it's way safely home.
National Championship next?



BEST TREATY DAYS EVAH



POW! WOW! The Fort McKay Pow Wow Dance Group enters the arbour at the 2013 Treaty Days Grand Entry. Leona Grandjambe coordinates the pow wow dance group. For more information on the group call Leona at 780-828-4220. Watch for full Treaty Days 2013 coverage, a special Red River Current edition, coming next month.

ATV DANGEROUS DRIVING

The dangerous and reckless operation of quads, side by sides and motorbikes by young people in the community is reportedly a major problem in the community right now.

“We have to express our concerns that an accident will happen if this continues,” stated a representative for the Fort McKay administration. “We have had children speeding up

and down roadways, and in and out of heavy equipment in construction areas. We have had many near misses. This dangerous driving must stop now.”

Parents and guardians are being asked to please supervise their children when they are operating ATVs.

Operating a small vehicle is a high-risk activity. These vehicles are

lighter, less stable and more vulnerable in a crash than other vehicles on the road. New riders are at the greatest risk of having a collision because they are unfamiliar with the controls and handling characteristics of small vehicles.

For those who are supervising their children operating ATVs in a safe manner, thank you very much.

IT'S THE LAW!

Off-Highway Vehicle Regulation, Section 2. Minimum driving age: The minimum age for operating off-highway vehicles on public land or highways is 14 years where permitted. If you are younger than 14 years, you may operate on public land with supervision by someone 18 years of age or older who is either on the same off-highway vehicle or in close proximity.



ANTI-BULLYING AWARDS GO TO FORT MCKAY

Fort McKay kids won three of the four Wood Buffalo Kids Who Care Awards. The Family Violence and Bullying Council presented the three winners with a certificate and iPod earlier this month.

Kids nominated throughout Wood Buffalo were recognized for working to make a difference in the lives of friends, classmates, neighbors and even strangers by acting with generosity, kindness, compassion and tolerance. They are kids whose efforts make our schools and communities safer, more respectful and more tolerant places to live learn and play.

Children and Youth up to 18 years of age were nominated by teachers, support staff, bus drivers, coaches, any extra-curricular leader, pastor, youth group leader or peers.

THE WINNERS:

Kaydence Gladue, 10, Fort McKay School

Kaydence always goes above and beyond to make the world a better place. She is always there to help a little one tie their shoe, to read with them, and to include them in activities, no matter what their age is. She is a role model for both younger and older youth in the community, speaking out against bullying, using good manners and leading by example. She volunteers every chance she gets including at the Santa Claus Parade, Community Clean-Ups, helping out with the elders in the community and even volunteers at the local youth center, where she is a "Junior Leader."

Her positive attitude and giant smile can turn anyone's "bad" day into a GREAT day. Way to go KAYDENCE!



Aliyah Ross, 11, and Kaydence Gladue, 10, (left) of Fort McKay School receive their awards and iPods from Jennifer Vince of the Family Violence and Bullying Council. Alice Ladouceur, 14, (seen above with Aliyah) of the E-Learning School was the other winner.

Alice Ladouceur, 14, E-Learning Fort McKay School

Alice is a star in her community and is constantly raising the bar and setting a good example for everyone around her. She volunteers at the youth center where she helps teach children good manners, how to not be a bully and to be kind to each other. She helps resolve issues between children who are fighting, and passes on her knowledge of being respectful and accepting of everyone. She goes out of her way to volunteer, and to recruit others to volunteer with her. She is friends with children of all ages, and treats everyone like a sister or brother. She deserves to be recognized for her constant caring and kindness, which she passes along to everyone she meets. Way to go ALICE!

Aliyah Ross, 11, Fort McKay School

Aliyah is a bright young lady who takes pride in helping others.

She goes out of her way to include others in her activities, especially those who are usually left out. She enjoys dancing, art, DJing and sports, and encourages others to participate in everything she does. She is always helping out at the school and in her community, any chance she gets!

The younger ones in the community look up to her and she makes sure to treat everyone fairly, regardless of their age, race or gender, or whether they are from the community or not.

Her arms are always open and her heart is on her sleeve, which makes her an excellent role model to everyone who crosses her path.

Way to go ALIYAH!



KEYANO COLLEGE OPEN ALL SUMMER

With the hiring of Donna Grandjambe as the Learning Community Facilitator, The Dorothy McDonald Learning Centre will be open all summer. Donna was a student in Keyano's College Prep program last year and will return to complete the last of her Grade 12 courses this fall. "We are able to provide this summer employment opportunity through a collaborative effort between Keyano College and Athabasca University Learning Communities Project," says Janet Lowndes Keyano's Chair of the Aboriginal Education and College & Career Prep Programming. When the centre is open, community members may stop by to use the computers. This may appeal to community members who: need a computer to take a distance delivered course through the summer, want informa-

tion about programs and courses, want to prepare a resume or search for jobs, want practise computer skills or want a quiet space for reading or writing.

Right: Keyano's Learning Community Facilitator, Donna Grandjambe. **Below:** summer hours of Operation of the Dorothy McDonald Learning Centre.



Fort McKay Learning Centre					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	9:00- 12:00	9:00 - 12:00	9:00 - 12:00		9:00 - 12:00
LUNCH - CLOSED					
Afternoon	1:00 - 3:00	1:00 - 3:00	1:00 - 3:00		1:00 - 3:00
Evening		6:00- 8:30 pm	6:00- 8:30 pm		

RELAY FOR ORRIN

We recently lost a young community member to Cancer, by the name of Jeffery Orrin Boucher. In memory of him, and with the blessing of his wife, Crystal, a team for the Relay for Life was formed. Team Fort McKay walked all night (The Shott family) thorough the rain in the annual event held on Friday June 7, at the Casman Centre. A pre-relay car wash, just as wet, was held at the arena. Thank you for the generosity of the participants and donators.



PHOTOS BY STEFANY GUILLEN-GARCES



FORT MCKAY SCHOOL ECS GR.



Steven Auger



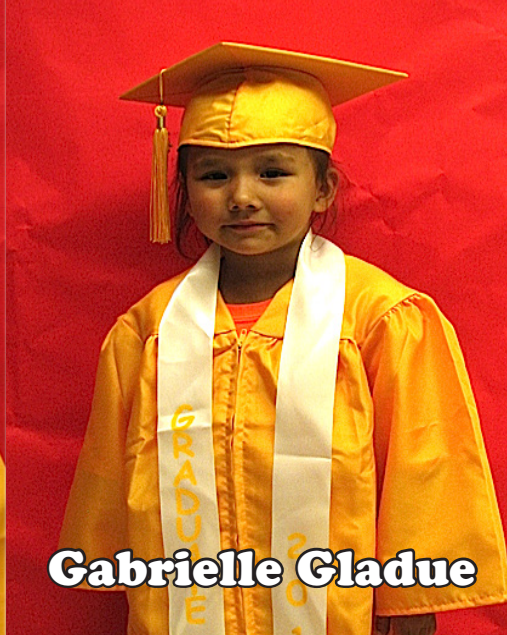
Ethan Cardinal



Maleisha Cooper



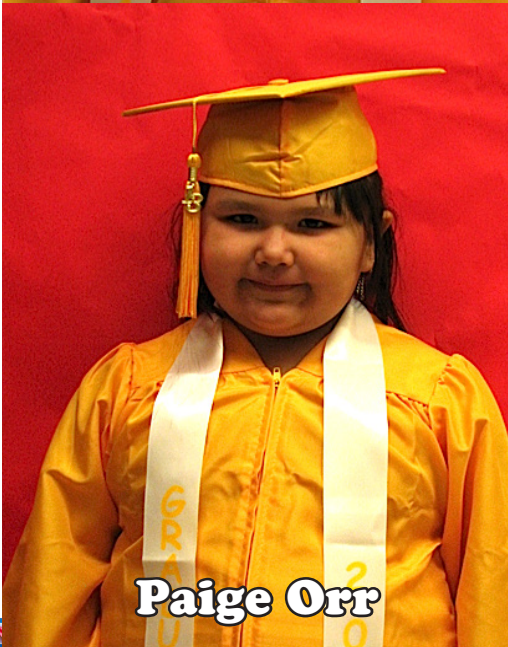
Noah Fitzpatrick



Gabrielle Gladue



Jonah Grandjambe



Paige Orr



Ashton Quintal



Damien Richards

GRADUATES 2013 -CONGRATULATIONS!



Raiden Cooper



Jacob Eisler



Callie Fitzpatrick



Keira Grandjambe



Brayden Lacorde



Kayleigh Lacorde-Boucher



Shaydon L'Hommecourt



Draven Seniatha



Tayden Shott

HISTORICAL PHOTO OF THE MONTH



trapline site Fort
McKay AB. 1994

Alice
Boucher

Fort McKay trapper, Alice Boucher, was considered one of the people who knew a lot about bush medicine. There were about 5 people in the Fort McMurray area who were experts in bush medicine and she was one of them. She was highly respected by the people of Fort McKay as well as those outside Fort McKay. When she spoke people listened. Here she is holding a hide scraper made out of the lower leg of a moose, at her trapline across the river from the current Fort McKay town site. "A lovely and very pleasant lady, who was always that way. The nicest person in the world."

RAT ROOT: GOOD MEDICINE

This fairly rare marsh plant is commonly known as sweet flag, known to the aboriginal people as rat root. Even though rat root has a strong taste to it, we eat this root to heal any stomach problems, headaches, or toothaches. Because of its healing abilities it is known by some as

a sacred plant. When you dig rat root out of the ground it is important that you exchange something with the land. This means that you pay respect to the land by sprinkling a bit of tobacco on the land that you are taking the rat root from. Not only is rat root a strong

medicine used to cure colds, but it is also known to give a person who eats it a lot of strength & energy. Before digging for rat root please bring a knowledgeable person to help you.



Wihkis - rat root: wachusko mechiwin - muskrat food



YOUTH CREATE GRAFFITI MASTERPIECES

On July 14-15 the youth of Fort McKay First Nation had the privilege to do a graffiti workshop with Red deer's native Jesse Gouchey. Over the span of two days the youth were involved in working on a mural that will be displayed in the arena, as well as individual canvas style artworks that will be displayed in an art show at the ARTERY in Edmonton on August 7, 2013. "Graffitiing was a great experience, Jesse is a great artist and I hope he can come to McKay again," said Taylor McDonald. This is part of the new program partnership that Fort McKay First Nation has entered into with the program of the "Alberta Future Leaders" (AFL). This program is designed as a community and youth development program that uses sport, recreation, arts and leadership activities to inspire the youth to become positive leaders, overcome barriers and realize their full potential. Since McKay is one of the five arts communities, it is part of our mandate to bring up a guest artist to teach a workshop for the youth. When asked what kind of art would inspire them most, or they be most interested in learning more about, the youth expressed interest in bringing in a graffiti artist. The inspiration behind the mural they created was the idea of the Seven Sacred Teachings in the canoe of the

the Fort McKay Logo. "It was fun, and the tricks were cool. I learnt a lot of new things," said Shyla Ahyasou. Jesse Gouchey (Cree) grew up drawing and sketching, before taking to street art. After being fed up with his art being covered in a few days, and the risk of receiving a hefty fine, he decided to take his street style art to a more professional level. Jesse moved to Calgary and received education in animation training with Quickdraw Animation's Aboriginal Youth Animation Project. His art inspiration since come from the collaboration of traditional west coast native styles and modern media. "Jesse's workshop was great, and the youth seemed to really enjoy creating their own art pieces. I'm very excited to have their work on display in front of so many at the hockey arena and the Art expo in Edmonton," says the AFL's Elli-

cia Vieira. "A big thank you to the youth who came out and participated. Shyla Ahyasou, Jaiden Boucher, Lori Boucher, Cruz Cooper, Taylor Macdonald, and Brooklynn Macdonald." The Youth Centre will be open Tuesday and Thursday nights when the AFL's Ellicia and Taylor will be providing workshops in art, music and sports. For more information on the AFL programs just call the Youth Centre at 780-715-1248.



Above: Graffiti artists Lori-Lynn Boucher (left), Taylor McDonald and Jaiden Boucher (right) work on their Graffiti masterpieces. **Below:** Jesse Gouchey with the "The Seven Sacred Teachings in the Fort McKay Logo Canoe" in progress (left), and the huge masterpiece completed (right).



HIGH RE

1st ANNUAL FORT MCKAY SCHOOL SPORTS DAY



TEAM CUZZINS

Watch for RRC Treaty Days Issue coming soon!



Fort McKay Warriors, Juncker Division, at Hockey Night in Canada's 4on4 Play On! in Fort Mac.

THE FORT MCKAY HEALTH CENT



Z P H O T O S

FORT MCKAY GOC ANNUAL GOLF TOURNEY



Above: Posing at the putting contest, a fundraiser for Fort McKay's E-Learning program, are (left to right) Miranda Beaton, Michele Arcand, Rose Mueller and Dayle Hyde with photographer Jenica Boucher.



Below: (left to right) Fort McKay Group of Companies CEO Mel Grandjamb, Chief Jim Boucher, TOTAL President Andre Goffart, Linda Bucke-TOTAL Manager Community Engagement, Lorna Simpson-TOTAL Community Engagement Coordinator, Dennis Nephin-Fort McKay GOC Marketing Manager, and Gary Houston-TOTAL VP Sustainable Development & HSE.

NTRE ANNUAL DIABETES WALK



MARGARET MACDONALD'S 76TH BIRTHDAY



On Saturday July 13, 2013, Margaret's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends gathered together for a small informal birthday lunch. Mom was so happy to have her family & friends with her in her home, it meant a lot to her.

It was a nice little celebration and her neighbors, Evelyn & Mason, provided the delicious lunch. Margaret's daughter-in-law Janet made one of the birthday cakes as well, as she does for so many. Thank you to Janet for all the great tasting food,

she's always cooking for mom. All the food was so good, some had seconds and one had thirds, lol. Margaret & family wanted to say a big heartfelt Thank You to Evelyn & Mason who donated all the food; they would not accept any payment.

Evelyn and Mason's kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Margaret & Family.

The above content was submitted by Shirley MacDonald.

If you would like to submit something for the Red River Current email it to cgallop@fortmckay.com

SMOKE SIGNALS

WOMEN BUILDING FUTURES

Trade up to a better future. There are more women making careers for themselves in the trades than you think, and many more on the way. Find out how you can be one of them. Go to the information session and find out more: July 25th, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Alberta Works Centre, Provincial Building, 9915 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray.

Register today by calling 1-866-452-1201 or register online at: womenbuildingfutures.com.

FIRST ANNUAL MOOSE LAKES YOUTH CAMP

Come join our team of experienced camp leaders for a fun filled week of swimming, hiking, archery, fishing, bug collecting canoeing, sports and team building! Traditional programming, including dry sweats, sweetgrass ceremonies and bannock making. July 29th to August 2nd-age group 8 to 11 years old AND August 5th to August 9th-age group 12 to 15 years old. Space is limited so register now. Please go to band hall reception to register. For more information call Fred at 780-370-8374

Granny

What are you doing Sweety?



Moose tuffing.

