



Red River Current

SEPTEMBER 2015

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FORT MCKAY GROUP OF COMPANIES SUPPORT YOUTH WITH GOLF TOURNAMENT

The ninth annual Fort McKay Group of Companies LP Golf Tournament continues to make a big difference in the future of Aboriginal students.

\$142,000, not including proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets, putting contest, mulligans and 50/50, was raised at the ninth annual tournament held this past June. Each year, funds raised have been given to the Fort McKay E-Learning Centre to supplement their core budget, often for cultural enrichment, as well as the educational

programs at the Fort McKay School, including providing funding which helps pay for teacher assistants at the school.

"E-Learning students have travelled to Hawaii where they presented at the World Conference on Healing via panel discussions on the benefits of E-Learning," shares Ona Fiddler-Berteig, E-Learning/Training Mentor. "They have also been able to attend the Gathering of Nations pow wow in New Mexico, and have also attended Indspire in Calgary, in part due to the generosity of the Fort McKay Group of Companies."

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FORT MCKAY LAWN AND GARDEN COMPETITION 2015



The fifth annual Fort McKay lawn and garden competition was a huge success yet again, with the biggest turnout Hammerstone has ever seen. Hammerstone and Bill, the guest judge and Horticulturist from Dunvegan, were amazed by how

many different plants, flowers, herbs and vegetables all the participants had included in their lawn and gardens. Many different creative ideas using recycled materials were seen, such as building an outdoor living space from wooden pallets to old kitchen sinks for strawberry gardens. The addition of the Kids Categories brought fun creativity for multiple families and you can look forward to seeing new categories for all ages in 2016.

In preparation for the competition, Hammerstone, Dunvegan and the Sustainability Department, put together a two day

workshop in May, where community members joined Bill the horticulturist to ask him questions about their personal gardening goals, gardening tips, and information. With the large turnout for both events, you can look forward to seeing all this next year with the addition of a Kids Workshop to show them how to grow a plant from seedling to bloom.

The Sustainability Department will have information on the 2016 Competition and Workshops early spring so feel free to contact Jessica or Melinda if you have any questions.



FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

George Arcand, CEO
Larry Hewko, CFO/COO
Barrie Robb, CEO Business Development

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

SUBMISSIONS

If you have any photos, stories or ideas for the Fort McKay Current, please contact Nancy Robin at:
780-715-4512 or
email: nancydoire@msn.com

CATEGORIES	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE
Traditional Flower/Plant/Tree	Evelyn Boucher	Thecla Tremblay
Compost/Renewable Resources	James Stewart (Scotty)	Melinda Stewart
Novice Green Thumb	Georgette Yellowknee	Reba Fabian
Landscaping with Trees	Joe Grandjambe	Thecla Tremblay
Patio Décor/Deck/Outdoor Living Space	Lena Gallup	Georgette Yellowknee
Rock/Flower Garden	Lena Gallup	Bonnie Courtorielle
Vegetable Garden	Evelyn Boucher	Joe Grandjambe
Best Lawn & Garden Overall	James Stewart	Georgette Yellowknee
KIDS CATEGORIES	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE
Biggest Sunflower	Savannah	Victoria & Kairo
Best Flower	Joely, Josie, Nana, Brace	Gracie
Garbage Bin	Exzander Brayden Kalishia	Joely, Josie, Nana, Brace



FORT MCKAY GROUP OF COMPANIES

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Funded by Shell Canada and supplemented by Enbridge and the Fort McKay Group of Companies LP, the Fort McKay E Learning Centre provides an alternative program for high school students who for a variety of reasons are not attending the mainstream high schools in Fort McMurray.

With a strong cultural component, an emphasis on addressing self-esteem and building strong relationships with their students, the Fort McKay E-Learning Centre is providing opportunities for students to experience workshops, out-of-country trips,

cultural camps and so much more.

This year the Centre is planning to attend the World Conference on Healing in New Zealand. In addition to the fundraising being done by the Centre, funds raised from the Fort McKay Group of Companies LP will help make this trip a reality.

The Fort McKay Group of Companies LP is also making a big difference at the Fort McKay School, which has programs for students from Kindergarten to Grade Eight. With the goals of improving attendance, literacy, parental/community involvement, and Cree and Dene language, funds raised by the Fort McKay Group of Companies LP are going a long way to make sure these goals are achieved.

The results of this dedication? The school's attendance is improving, and they had more perfect attenders this year than last. Students are improving their literacy skills, and they now have a Parental Council group that meets once a month. A Cree instructor is currently contributing greatly to the success of students, and a Dene language program will soon be implemented, providing students the opportunity to learn both languages!

The Fort McKay Group of Companies LP is a large oilfield construction and services company here in Northern Alberta.

First founded in 1986, it is fully owned by the Fort McKay First Nation. Having started out with one single janitorial contract, FMGOC has optimized its close proximity to the oil sands development, and established numerous oil industry-based companies that provide both employment opportunities and revenue for its community.

Their hard work and dedication isn't limited only to the oil sands industry and other fields; it has far reaching effects within the community, as evidenced by the work being done at the Fort McKay E-Learning Centre and the Fort McKay School.

The success of the Fort McKay Group of Companies LP Golf Tournament is thanks to: Alberta Motor Products, Alberta Pacific Forest Industries, Aluma Systems, The Bouchier Group, ATCO Electric, ACDEN, Birch Mountain Enterprise, Boughtonlaw, ESS, EXEL, RBC Bank, Pennock Acheson Nielsen Devaney Chartered Accountants, Rogers Insurance North, Bri- on Energy, Canadian Natural, Emeco, Heavy Metal Equipment Rentals, Shell, Fort McKay Logistics, Fort McKay Group of Companies, Suncor, Syncrude, Shott Earthworks, Total, Teck, Vallen, and Balsom Communications.

by: Kerri Leland



FAR FROM HOME BUT CLOSE TO THE HEART

Melinda Stewart, Community Development Manager with Fort McKay's Sustainability Department, toured the CNOOC Nexen spill site on July 29, 2015. Why go all the way down there, so far from home? As Melinda explained to the tour group and CNOOC Nexen employees, Fort McKay is surrounded by oil sands operations and leases. It can be difficult to reach much of Fort McKay's traditional territory, so many members have to go further to practise their traditional way of life. Traditional territories of the First Nations and Métis in this area are broad and overlap, but more importantly, Aboriginal people share a common connection to the land. Melinda's visit to the spill site was a sign of respect for the land and a show of support for the First Nations and Métis living on, and enjoying, the lands closest to the spill.

Touring the spill site was also a learning opportunity for Fort McKay. With so much oil sands development near Fort McKay, members often wonder and worry about the environment, possible spills, or other incidents. The Fort McKay Sustainability Department has been following the CNOOC Nexen spill closely. Not just to see how the company is handling the spill clean-up and management of environmental impacts, but to learn how the company is communicating with First Nations and Métis neighbours, and all Aboriginal groups in the oil sands area.

Government of Alberta ministers of Energy and Environment & Parks toured the spill site on July 24, 2015. Energy Minister, Margaret McCuaig-Boyd, said "The development of our resources has to be done in a way that is responsible and sustainable. A key focus of the discussions we

are having today concern where gaps in communication with the Fort McMurray First Nation may have occurred and how we can better work together to close those gaps."

Although the pipeline is new (installed in 2014) and used the latest technology, this is the largest reported spill in Alberta's history. CNOOC Nexen reacted quickly once the spill was discovered. But what about prevention? Why didn't process operators notice a drop in line pressure with the loss of that much product? Why were there no emergency shut-off valves along the pipe, especially near the lake? Melinda had lots of questions, but many of their answers showed that they were only focused on investigating and cleaning up the spill.

Tour guides seemed unsure of the water shed direction, indicating that it was north and south (although there are obvious ridges at both the north and south sides of the spill). When asked how they were going to return the spill site to its natural state, they said they would replace the damaged muskeg with fresh muskeg. Muskeg grows very slowly and it has not been proven to grow

and thrive in any reclamation area yet. Disturbing and damaging an unspoiled section of muskeg to replace what was damaged by the spill will likely create an even bigger footprint on the landscape. Melinda took the time to point out the importance of muskeg to Indigenous peoples. It's Mother Nature's natural water filtration system. It is home to berries and medicinal plants. It's a source of food for animals.

Although the company has publicly accepted responsibility for the spill and its clean-up, the bigger picture of the impact of development and

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Aerial shot of Nexen oil spill site from July 29th 2015 which spilled an estimated 5 million litres of bitumen, sand and wastewater, over a 16,000-square-metre area.

spills on Aboriginal and Treaty rights has not been acknowledged.

Fort McKay is surrounded by oil sands operations and leases. This development brings jobs, economic development opportunities, and the financial benefits to help build a sustainable future for the community of Fort McKay. Balancing development with protection of the environment and opportunities to practise Aboriginal and treaty rights are key parts of the Long Term Benefit Agreements negotiated with companies operating on Fort McKay's traditional territory. The CNOOC Nexen pipeline spill is a reminder of how important it is to have regular and strong communications between Fort McKay and companies operating on Fort McKay's traditional territory. The Sustainability Department will be contacting all companies operating in this area to make sure that Fort McKay is immediately contacted about any incident on Fort McKay's traditional territory, and that regular and direct communications with Fort McKay is part of any company's emergency response plan.

*Submitted by:
Fort McKay Sustainability Department*

NEXEN PIPELINE SPILL:

- The spill was found on July 15, 2015.
- It happened in a section of pipeline between the Kinosis and Long Lake sites.
- The pipe is 12 km long, with shut-off valves at the plant and the processing plant. No emergency shut-off valve along the pipe. No personnel monitor the pipeline.
- The spill area is approximately 50 metres x 400 metres.
- About 60,000 litres is believed to have spilled (raw product - 2/3 bitumen 1/3 saline).
- The deepest point of the spill is thought to be around 2.5 metres.
- There is a lake just 75 metres away from the spill site.
- CNOOC Nexen is investigating to find out what caused the spill.
- Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) is also investigating.

Daily updates are posted to the CNOOC Nexen website (<http://www.nexencnoocld.com/en/Operations/OilSands/PipelineFailure.aspx>)



VOLUNTEERS ARE PEOPLE THAT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

For Treaty Days to happen, it takes a lot of committed people behind the scenes. This year we had a great team of people and I would like to recognize them for their help. And, please note that some of our individuals did double and triple duty and then went above and beyond. Here are our teams and individuals who made a difference:

CULTURAL VILLAGE / TRADITIONAL EVENTS & DRUMMERS AND DANCERS

Audrey Redcrow, Coordinator

Doris Lacorde, Bernadette Lacorde, Rod Adams, Theresa Adams, Brenda Paquette, Scotty Stewart, Albertine Desjarlais, Jean L'Hommecourt and Gabe Desjarlais,
with Kelly McDonald, Elissa Whiteknife and Nick Giant,
and with Ona Fiddler-Berteig, Casey Howlett, and E-Learning students.

SOUND SYSTEMS & HOTEL COORDINATOR

Blair McEwen (FM Systems)

SET-UP, TAKE-DOWN & CLEAN-UP CREWS

Rick Boucher, Coordinator & Arnold Faichney, Supervisor, Capital Projects

SECURITY

Larry Farough, Gage Devers & Rick Beurlinl (Great Plains Security)

FOOD SERVICES

Shawna Janvier, FMFN, & Trudie Tulk

Angela Arquette, Rose Beaton, Ann Marie Petrocco, Skylar Nelson, Dora Courtorielle, Melanie Hoffman, Randy Vinnie, Colleen Ahayasou, Catherine Derocher, Brenda Grandjambe, Steven Harpe, Elena Gould and Ashley (RMWB), Irene Yellowknee, Rene Lemoine, Stuart Randell,
with Nancy Parker & Chef Deepak Arora, Fidel and Vinesh Kamath (Creeburn Lake Lodge)

PANCAKE & CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS

Chief Jim Boucher, CEO George Arcand Jr., Councilor Crystal McDonald, CFO Larry Hewko, Peggy Lacorde, James Owl, Director, CFO Marguerite McDonald and Alvaro Pinto, Director

OPENING CEREMONIES

Miranda Beaton, Director and Gena Calliou, HR Department

KIDS EVENTS

Julia Soucie, Coordinator

Richelle Clift, Kory Torraville and Logan Bingley - Wellness Center
with Alice Ladouceur, Dawn Mercredi and Hail Bent

BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Simon Adams, Director

Jesse Rodriguez, Shane Fontaine and Mathew Gladu, Arena

BINGO

Stefany Guillen, Coordinator

PARADE

Gaitane Villeneuve, Melinda Stewart, Jessica Montour and Joanne Powder, FMSD
With Ryan Abel and Eddison Lee-Johnson

FT. MCKAY IDOL

Lisa Grandjambe, FMFN Health Services

HORSE RIDES & PETTING ZOO

Janet McDonald, FMFN Day Care

INFORMATION

Sheila Smart & the FMGOC team

DIGNITARIES & COMMUNICATION

Rose Mueller, Director, and Andrea Lavallee

FINANCE / CASH & CHEQUES

Mandy Moore & Larry Hewko, CFO

FIREWORKS

Jauvonne Kitto

BROCHURES

Kelly Schuler, Brave Communications

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cort Gallup and Mark Gallup

ELDER SERVICES

Yvonne Shott, Coordinator and Lena Gallup, Elder

DRUMMERS AND HAND GAMES

Joe Tambour, Dene Drummer & Nick Giant, Cree Drummers

OUR SPONSORS

PLATINUM

The Bouchier Group

GOLD

Synchrude Canada Limited, ESS Compass Canada & 100.5 CRUZ FM and MIX 103.7

SILVER

CNRL & Brion Energy

BRONZE

BP Canada, Total E&P Canada, Pacer, Shell & Ft. McKay / Savanna

SPECIAL MENTION

Alberta Motor Products, Culligan Water, Brave Communications & Teck Frontier

**AND A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO MARIE AND LORETTA FROM
SAKASTEWEW TRANSPORTATION FOR DONATING THEIR SERVICES
FOR THE WHOLE OF TREATY DAYS!**



EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION FRIDGE MAGNET

Fort McKay residents, have you received your Fort McKay Emergency Contact Info. Fridge magnet? If not, please go to the band hall reception and pick one up. Please add your unit # at the bottom of the magnet so that those in your home will know your unit # in the event of an emergency. The following are the emergency phone numbers listed on the refrigerator magnet and a description of the type of emergency support that is offered at the phone number.

EMERGENCY: 911

An emergency is any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police, fire department or ambulance. Examples include: a fire, a crime (especially if in progress), car crash (especially if someone is injured), a medical emergency (such as someone who is unconscious, gasping for air or not breathing, experiencing an allergic reaction, having chest pain, having uncontrollable bleeding, or any other symptoms that require immediate medical attention).

Important: If you're not sure whether the situation is a true emergency, officials recommend calling 911 and letting the call-taker determine whether you need emergency help.

When you call 911, be prepared to answer the call-taker's questions, which may include:

- The location of the emergency, including the street address
 - The phone number you are calling from
 - The nature of the emergency
 - Details about the emergency, such as a physical description of a person who may have committed a crime, a description of any fire that may be burning, or a description of injuries or symptoms being experienced by a person having a medical emergency
- Remember, the call-taker's questions are important to get the right kind of help to you quickly. Be prepared to follow any instructions the call-taker gives you. Many 911 centers can tell you exactly what to do to help in an emergency until help arrives, such as providing step-by-step instructions to aid someone who is choking or needs first aid or CPR.



Finally, do not hang up until the call-taker instructs you to. If you dial 911 by mistake, or if a child in your home dials 911 when no emergency exists, do not hang up—that could make 911 officials think that an emergency exists, and possibly send responders to your location. Instead, simply explain to the call-taker what happened.

POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY): 780-788-4000

Call this number when you have an incident which does not require immediate police, fire or medical assistance. For example, when you need to report a minor accident, stolen or damaged property where there is no suspect in the area, dangerous animal sightings in town (ex. bears or wolves), dog attacks, illegal drug/alcohol activity, general noise complaints or another non-urgent criminal matters.



ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE:
780-743-1190

24/7 crisis hotline that offers support/referrals for anybody that is facing any kind of crisis.

SOS LINE:
780-743-4357

SOS or "Some Other Solutions", Provides 24/7 support for crisis prevention, intervention and postvention.

KIDS HELP PHONE:
1-800-668-6868

Kids can call 24/7 for phone counselling, web counselling. For ages 20 & under. Free, 24/7. Anonymous & Confidential. Non-judgemental.

HEALTH LINK:
1-866-408-5465

For medical problems, where life is not in danger, Alberta Health Link can be an excellent resource. If you're not feeling well, but don't have a specific complaint or if you have health questions, the registered nurses at Health Link are trained to help.

BULLYING HOTLINE:
1-888-456-2323

Call the Bullying Prevention Helpline. It's available toll-free 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

BAND HALL RECEPTION:
780-828-4220

Call for all safety concerns that may be handled by the FMFN Administration, ex: housing, flooding, down traffic signs, stray dogs, electrical problems, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, industry related problems, etc. If the Band Hall is closed please call one of our Community Safety Representatives.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES:

Angela 780-370-7319

Cort: 780-838-6061

THIS HOUSE IS UNIT #

Please write your unit # next to this. This is your address and will inform occupants of the location in the event that they need to call emergency 911.

THANK YOU and BE SAFE!

FORT MCKAY HISTORY



*Barges and dredges
were once a common
sight on the
Athabasca River*



SUMMER FUN WITH THE

RELAY FOR LIFE

This year, Fort McKay team raised \$2,672.00 for Relay for Life... Good Job everyone!! Special thanks to BME for sponsoring the team!



TAEKWONDO

In July, Total Taekwondo came to Fort McKay and 30 kids had the opportunity to learn more about taekwondo, self defense and anti-bullying. The program ended with excitement as the kids showed their new skills of breaking boards.



WILD PLAY

On August 15th, we had a fun day at the Vista Ridge!



FORT MCKAY REC CLUB!

FOOTBALL CAMP

15 youth from Fort McKay had the opportunity to participate on the Northern Elite.

The camp was ran by 4 coaches:

- Donald Anderson coach of University of Ottawa
- Kwame Osei WR of the Toronto Argonauts
- Devon Bailey WR of Edmonton Eskimo
- Jermaine Oram- CB Monuntain Allison Mountiers



6 WEEKS FITNESS CHALLENGE RESULTS

Marie MacDonald and Melissa Power took the 1st place on both most weight lost and inches lost. Congratulations to both of you!

WEEKLY CHALLENGES:

- Brandy Fitzpatrick- squat challenge
- Terry Grandjambe- plank challenge
- Terry Grandjambe- cardio challenge
- BJ Fitzpatrick- being active challenge



SOCCER CAMP

For any updates about the Rec activities, add us on Facebook at Fort McKay Rec Club.



ATTENTION STUDENTS! Post-Secondary Secondary Awards Available

Are you a post-secondary student looking for extra funding for the upcoming school year? If so, there are various different types of awards and scholarships available that you may qualify for.

Please visit Keyano College's website at:

<http://www.keyano.ca/Admissions/FinancialAid/AwardsScholarship>

to see the list of awards.

Don't wait too long to apply!

The deadline for most funding applications is **September 30th 2015.**



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

WELLNESS CENTRE ACTIVITIES

From Monday to Friday,
After School Activities are from
3:00pm-5:00pm and our
Supper Program is from 5:00pm-6:00pm

Evening Programming:

Mondays (14th, 21st, 28th) - Archery
Tuesdays (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) - Badminton
Wednesdays (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th) - Drama Games
Thursdays (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th) - Softball
All evening programs run from 6:00pm-9:00pm and are for all youth ages 12-17.

We will be **CLOSED** on
Monday, September 7th for Labor Day.

FIRE ARMS SAFETY COURSE

*Presented by: Fort McKay Sustainability
Department*

When: Sept 30th, Oct 1st, 2nd 2015
Time: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Where: Sustainability Dep. Board Room
Instructor: Bill Bowie

For those requiring information about
their PAL application, Mr. Bowie will be
available to assist with your paper work.
Please call for appointment before
class starts.

For more information contact:
Wayne Courchene
Ph: 780-828-2480 Cell: 780 881-2756



SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

**For booking call: 780-828-2496
or contact Massey Whiteknife at:
780-370-1772**

All classes start at 9:00am sharp! Late arrivals must rebook.

September 1	Fall Protection Ossa (isafety)
September 2	Confined Space Entry (isafety)
September 3	Wilderness Awareness (Suncor approved)
September 14	Fall Protection Ossa (isafety)
September 15	Confined Space/Entry (isafety)
September 16	Small Tools
September 17	Wilderness Awareness (Suncor approved)
September 18	Anger Management
September 21	H2S Alive
September 22	Fall Protection Ossa (isafety)
September 23	Confined Space/Entry Ossa (isafety)
September 25	WHIMIS
September 28	Fall Protection Ossa (isafety)
September 29	TDG
September 30	Flagger

