



Red River Current



MARCH 2017

VOLUME 7 :: ISSUE 3

YOUTH EXPERIENCE WINTER CULTURAL EXCURSION



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Every year, the Wellness Center hosts a youth cultural excursion that is routinely held during the summer break. Due to the Fort McMurray wildfire and massive evacuation this year, a summer adventure was unfortunately not an option. Trying to find other options, coordinators put on their thinking caps and came up with a new spin for the missed excursion while adding some Christmas spirit as they decided to organize the excursion during the student's Christmas break.

On Friday, December 16th, 38 kids filled a bus eager to start the journey on their first winter excursion. The weather was

beautiful and cheers of excitement filled the bus. The group picked up some breakfast in Fort McMurray and quickly headed on their way to Edmonton. Upon our arrival, they sat down for a delicious supper and planned to visit Candy Cane Lane that evening. Unfortunately by the time everyone finished eating, the weather had quickly dropped to -36 degrees Celsius with the wind chill. Consequently, the outdoor walk was postponed and replaced with some down time at the swimming pool in the hotel.

The next day, the weather finally warmed up and the group started their excursion with a trip to the

Muttart Conservatory to learn about the botanical gardens. Julia Soucie, Director of the Wellness Center was pleased with the tour: "We explored each pyramid that was based on a different climate which included a variety of different plant species that could only be found in certain areas of the world".

The first biome was the Temperate Pyramid, which had plants from Canada, the Great Lakes, Australia and the mountainous parts of Asia! The group recognized many plants in this biome that were found in Canada and around Fort McKay.

(continued on page 4)

LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY



FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jim Boucher, Chief
Raymond Powder, Councillor
Crystal McDonald, Councillor
Gerald Gladue, Councillor
Peggy Lacorde, Councillor

George Arcand, CEO
Larry Hewko, CFO
Barrie Robb, CEO of Business
Development

ADMINISTRATION DEPT.

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

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am - 2:00pm
Closed daily: 12 - 1pm

SUBMISSIONS

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

February has seen some extreme and fluctuating weather conditions ranging from very cold temperatures to rain, presenting very messy melting and icy conditions. Work on the seniors' residence has progressed quite well despite the challenging conditions that were presented to crews last month.

James Owl, Executive Director of Capital Projects, explained the progress achieved during this last month: "The exterior roof and wall seals were completed over the month and the envelope of the building is now completely weather tight and insulated. On the interior of the building, the final concrete floor pour was completed. Crews are now able to forge ahead and complete framing and dry walling of partition walls on both floors of the building."

Significant progress on plumbing, heating and electrical systems has been observed over the past month and Fort McKay Members continue to be solid contributors in helping to maintain the advanced pace of construction. There are now 5 members of Fort McKay First Nation on site full time, whose effort have all been appreciated and acknowledged by Owl "Jarod Boucher continues to be a reliable apprentice with the Electrical contractor, Horizon Electric. Kane McKenzie, an apprentice with Goldbar Mechanical is building a valuable skill set as a 3rd year Plumbing Apprentice. Tyler and Leah Grandjambe, working along with the Clarks Main Crew, are exposed to a range of installations from pouring concrete floors to installing radon mitigation packages. Joshua Faichney Orr and Adrian Stokes are exposed to the fine details of insulating and water proofing the building envelope."

As we transition into March, crews will be moving towards the installation of exterior finishes and starting site improvements such as concrete culvert that will navigate the site and manage water runoff from the upper sections of the community. On the interior, drywall finishes and painting will be executed as mechanical and electrical crews continue with their respective system installations.

SAVY SIMON VISITS FORT MCKAY

~Changing the world one hug at a time~

Savvy Simon, a First Nation motivational speaker, visited Fort McKay on Saturday February 4th to share her inspiring story and extend her love during an unforgettable four-hour presentation.

Savvy is an educator, entrepreneur, activist, mentor and entertainer. Awarded as one of Top 40 Female Change Makers in Canada, she has worked with many remarkable people such as Dolly Parton, former National Chief Shawn Alteo in Saskatoon, Comedian Don Burnstick, and Buffy St-Marie. She has also been featured in two published books - Urban Tribes and Colour of our Spirit.

Her impact and influence has been felt around the world with a goal to spread love throughout the world and help people gain empowerment and



self-confidence while prioritizing health and wellness.

Simon Adams, Community Services Director, organized the event and was very impressed with her presentation: "Savvy talked about her life stories growing up about being surrounded by substance abuse and being bullied. She explained how she fought through the

stereotypes and kept a positive outlook on life!"

During the event a feast was offered and prepared by Jeanette Brownson and Marissa Cardinal who cooked a mouthwatering roast beef and chicken dinner. Over 40 people attended the event including individuals from the Youth Centre in Janvier.



YOUTH EXPERIENCE WINT



The second biome was the Tropical Pyramid; a very humid area that contained plants normally found in tropical rainforests! “We did an activity in this pyramid where we had the opportunity to wear special pollinator goggles which gave us the eyesight of a bee! We traveled around the pyramid to see what it would be like to be a bumble bee looking for pollen in plants. It was so much fun!” Explained Soucie.

The Arid Pyramid was next on the list, and featured florae and cacti generally found in cool, hot or dry climates such as the desert. The group learned how plants retained moisture as well as the different defense mechanisms some plants use to keep predators away. Some defense mechanisms mentioned included strong scents, waxy leaves and prickles!

Finally, they visited the Feature Pyramid. This area was completely decorated for Christmas and was decorated with thousands of poinsettias, mistletoes and even a Santa sleigh... Anyone who walked through this pyramid could undoubtedly feel the Christmas spirit.

“Before leaving, we planted a “mimosa pudica” flower which was absolutely amazing! When the plant was touched, all the leaves drooped down to defend itself from harm. If it was left alone for a few minutes, the leaves would perk back up and it would be happy again!” explained Soucie.

After the Conservatory, everyone headed toward Fort Edmonton Park to attend the Christmas Reflections Program where they explored the beautifully decorated park from the holiday season. Sipping hot chocolate, singing Christmas Carols, playing outdoor curling in the snow, riding the trolley car and even cooking bannock were some of the activities included. Before leaving, all listened to stories from Cree Elders in a heated tee-pee while making lasting memories with great friends!

During the evening, they headed to the Valley Zoo for the Zoominescence Festival! Soucie described the ambiance: “It was dark when we arrived, but the entire zoo was filled with Christmas light displays! There was a giant ice maze, which we all managed to find our way through. We enjoyed seeing lots of animals and even took turns petting a huge python snake!”

After a good night’s sleep, everyone headed to the John Janzen Nature Center on Sunday. “We took part in a program called “Stalking and Tracking”. This program, featured an outdoor nature walk while looking for animal tracks in the snow along the way. We saw chipmunk tracks, hare tracks and even dog tracks while we ventured through the woods”, stated Soucie. Some of the activities inside included the chance to pet a snake and match up animals with their scat. All took turns identifying animals, and sharing stories. The group finished off the morning with some sliding on the hill.

ER CULTURAL EXCURSION



The plans for the afternoon included a trip to the Citadel Theatre for a matinee viewing of the live play “A Christmas Carol.” “We were absolutely in awe at how amazing the actors were! We felt like we were watching a Hollywood movie at a theatre. The play was one of the highlights of the excursion. When the play was finished, we were all talking about how cool it would be to be an actor in a live performance,” explained Soucie.

The evening included some serious fun playing laser tag at the Gateway Entertainment Center, followed by a delicious supper. After dinner, they finally made their way to Candy Cane Lane and strolled along, all amazed by the beautiful lights and sounds of the holidays. Every house was beautifully decorated leaving endless opportunities to take pictures. The street was filled with bon fires to keep everyone warm, and the sounds of Christmas carols echoed throughout the street!

The next morning called for their trip back home. But the fun wasn’t over yet... everyone woke up extra early to get one last swim in before checking out of the hotel and headed for one last stop at the Telus World of Science. A special Angry Birds Exhibit was featured and when the group walked into the room they were excited to see a zip line ending over foam blocks, a slingshot that launched balls and knocked down the blocks, along with SO MANY different fun play areas. “We were so excited with the Angry Birds Exhibit that we barely had time to see the rest of the

Science Center before it was time to go!” said Soucie. The group enjoyed lunch before heading back home to Fort McKay. All were full of Christmas spirit, and anxious to get home to their families. So many comments were made from all of the kids on the way back about how amazing it was to take a winter adventure with the Wellness Center.



The Wellness Centre would like to send a great big THANK YOU to CNRL and to the Fort McKay First Nation for their generous contributions that permit these amazing excursions to take place each year! Another big THANK YOU to our bus driver, Bernard, and to the Fort McKay Wellness Center staff Julia, Kory, Logan, Candace, and Alice!

NEW POTTERY CLASSES



Fort McKay is now offering pottery classes to youth and adults at the Youth Centre! Classes are offered on Mondays from 6pm to 8pm for youth and on Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm for adults. Sarah Hiscock, an experienced pottery maker will be teaching the classes.

She was first introduced to Clay in 2001 through a local pottery studio in northern BC. "I fell in love with the creative process from the very first piece of clay I molded into a tiny bowl. I've spent the last 16 years learning new skills and tips from many professional potters and in working with the medium itself. There is always something new to be learned and pass along to the next generation of upcoming potters looking to play in the mud."

Hiscock moved to Fort McMurray in 2005, and immediately joined the local guild, where she continued to teach the beginner pottery courses

and served as an executive member. "In the last few years I have been working out of my home studio focusing on functional pottery and glass works. Each piece is a unique one of a kind work of art. I love that my pieces have found their way into many homes and are used everyday. It's a great feeling when a someone tells me that his or her favorite coffee mug is one that I have handcrafted," she explained.

Hiscock is very excited to be teaching pottery at the Youth Centre and wants to pass on the skills she has learned to a new generation of potters: "It is truly a great outlet for creativity and to focus energy in a positive way. Whether it is slab building or wheelwork there is a way that all skill levels can participate and enjoy the creative process." If you would like more information, please contact the Youth Centre.



DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

The Red River Current is looking for stories about individuals who go above and beyond and deserve to be recognized. If you are or know someone who has an inspiring story to share with the Red River Current, we would love to hear from you! Please call or text Nancy Robin at: 780-715-4512 or email: nancydoire@msn.com

POWER EDGE PRO OFFERS HOCKEY CAMP



On February 17th to the 19th, the Fort McKay Power Edge Pro Hockey team (PEP) traveled to Fort Chipewyan to offer a PEP hockey camp with the direct support of BJ Fitzpatrick and his company "Change Up Performance".

The camp was open to the communities of Fort Chipewyan, Fort McKay and Janvier. A total of 43 hockey players ranging from age 5 to 17 years old attended the camp participating in a combination of 'on ice' PEP sessions, dangles, dry land, team building and nutrition. All players received the chance to further develop various skills and get hands on learning experience in all aspects of sport development.

Those involved in coaching and training included BJ Fitzpatrick, Tommy Sullivan, Trent Shott, Brandy Fitzpatrick, Casey Howlett and Lolita Ladouceur. Although a majority of the players were from Fort Chipewyan, three of the Fort McKay PEP Hockey Academy athletes travelled up to take part in this camp; Tayden Shott- Atom, Logan Fitzpatrick- Novice and Grayson Shott- Initiation.

A big thank you to the parents and sponsors in Fort Chipewyan who helped organize the event and hosted the Fort McKay PEP group!



NEW CERTIFIED HOCKEY COACHES

Hockey Alberta hosted a coaches clinic on Saturday February 4th. Altogether, 16 people from around the region were registered for this course. We would like to congratulate the following individuals from Fort Mckay that are now certified coaches:

Lolita Ladouceur, Candace Fabian, Brad Fabian, Trent Shott, Sheldon Shott, and BJ Fitzpatrick.

Lolita and Candace are also the first two women in our community to get certified as hockey coaches! Good job to all of you!!

Food Sanitation & Hygiene

A Comprehensive Course in Safe Food Handling



When: Day 1 - Wednesday March 15, 2017 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Day 2 - Thursday March 16, 2017 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
(You must attend both days to be eligible for food safety certificate)

Where: Band Hall

Cost: No Cost

Who should take this course?

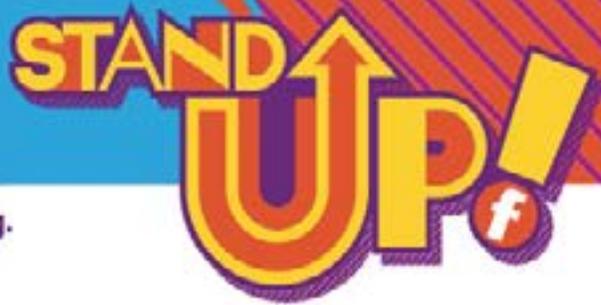
- ✓ Food handlers working in a food establishment, daycare or school
- ✓ Persons involved in the preparation of food for public gatherings or other special events
- ✓ Anyone wishing to obtain the *Provincial Certificate* in Food Sanitation



Register at with Belinda Whiteknife, CHR at 780.828.4229

Presented by Environmental Public Health Services
First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada

BULLYING PREVENTION TIP SHEET FOR PARENTS



It's never too early to talk to your child about bullying.

For more information, visit: www.prevnet.ca

WHAT IS BULLYING AND WHY SHOULD PARENTS BE CONCERNED ABOUT IT?

Bullying is repeated, unwanted aggressive behaviour that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance. It can result in physical, social, or educational harm or distress for those who are bullied (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, 2015)

- The person who bullies does it purposefully and with a goal – to cause distress to another, or to gain a social or material reward. Bullying is a relationship problem. Over time, children who are bullied feel more and more helpless, shamed, and trapped. Children who are bullying others come to feel more and more powerful, and learn to use power and aggression to control and distress others. This can lead to a pattern of unhealthy relationships in later life in which they abuse power.
- Bullying can be physical (e.g., pushing), verbal (e.g., name calling), or social (e.g., excluding or spreading rumours). It can be carried out in person or using electronic devices like cell phones. It is often directed at students who are perceived as different– e.g., race, religion, sexual orientation, body type, or ability.
- Bullying requires relationship solutions – solutions that create safety and social-emotional growth for those who bully, those who are bullied, and those who witness it.
- When kids become involved in bullying problems, adults need to be involved to help them learn from the experiences and find healthy ways to be in relationships.

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT BULLYING

- Be proactive. Start a discussion with your child about bullying and raise the topic often, especially during transitional periods like a change of school.
- Listen to what children say about bullying and take it seriously.
- Make it clear that you think bullying is wrong.
- Recognize the courage it takes to report bullying and be sure to let children know that asking an adult for help to put an end to bullying is not the same as tattling.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS A BYSTANDER TO BULLYING

- Calm down and think before you take action. Respond caringly and let your child know you'll help solve the problem, whether your child is bullying others, being bullied, or a bystander.
- Keep a record of what happened and evaluate your success.
- Children who are bullied need to be heard and supported. They need a safety plan to ensure they are protected. You may need to communicate with adults at school (or wherever the bullying happened). This depends on the seriousness of the situation and the age of your child. Support older children and youth who want to try handling the situation independently first.
- Children who are bullying others need help to learn healthier behaviour in relationships. Encourage them to think about how other people feel, and help them find ways to use their influence more positively and make up for harm they have done to the person they have bullied. You may need to work with other adults in your child's life to make a plan.
- If children are bystanders to bullying. Encourage them to Stand UP! for kids who are being bullied. Let them know there are many ways to Stand UP! for someone who is being bullied; they should choose a method they're comfortable with.



WASTE TRANSFER STATION

As snow starts to melt crews are working hard to ensure that waste materials at the Waste Transfer Station are correctly disposed of and that litter is not blowing around the community.

We request the community's assistance in ensuring that refuse is placed in correct bins and correctly signed areas. There are bins for general household waste only as well as signed areas for wood waste and metals. When bins are contaminated by incorrect waste, the cost of tipping at the RMWB triple, costing the entire community significantly each year



Remember, there are high resolution cameras at the entrance to the transfer station to help identify illegal dumping. We have successfully been able to identify individuals dumping vehicles in the late night hours and have passed information onto the police.

Housing Connect



In order to update our records we will be asking all tenants to complete an information sheet in order to obtain current contact information. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

We are excited to offer another service for our tenants. We will be able to provide rent receipts electronically via email. Look for the forms around the community. If you would like to participate, fill the form out, drop it off at Capital Projects office or email to ahanhart@fortmckay.com. Of course, rent receipts will be provided when paying in person.

CRIME STOPPERS
ASSOCIATION OF EDMONTON AND NORTHERN ALBERTA
IS YOUR PROGRAM!

**YOU CAN BE REWARDED WITH
CASH \$\$\$\$ UP TO \$2000
BY ANONYMOUSLY HELPING
STOP CRIME IN FORT MCKAY**

**JUST CALL CRIME STOPPERS AT
1-800-222-8477, OR GO TO
WWW.CRIMESTOPPERS.AB.CA**

HOUSING MATTERS

The Housing Department continues to see a steady stream of Tenants scheduling appointments to renew leases and make payment arrangements.

Arrears and rent payments continue to be a major area of focus for the Fort McKay First Nation Council and Senior Administration.

Non-payment of rent and arrears could have serious consequences. Repairs and/or renovations will be put on hold until accounts have been brought current and/or payment arrangements have been made at the housing office. In some instances, eviction from the unit could be a possibility. All monthly rental payments are due on the first business day of each month. Please contact the Housing Department at (780) 828-5555 to schedule an appointment.



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

NOTICE NEXT QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

FORT MCKAY, AB: March 7, 2017 @ 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM; Father Begin Hall, Dorothy McDonald Business Centre

FORT MCMURRAY, AB: March 8, 2017 @ 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM; Aurora Boardroom, Merit Hotel & Suites, 8200 Franklin Avenue, 6:30 – 9:00 PM

EDMONTON, AB: March 9, 2017 @ 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM; Chateau Nova Kingsway Hotel, 159 Airport Road

CHIEF AND COUNCIL HIGHLY ENCOURAGES ALL FORT MCKAY FIRST NATION MEMBERS TO ATTEND.

GED upskilling

This 13 week GED Upskilling
Training includes:

- GED Preparation and Test
270 Hours
- Computer, internet
& email basics
60 hours
- Job search support
60 hours

To be eligible you must be:

- Métis
- Between 25 – 65 years of age
- Currently receiving EI or have
received EI in the past 12 months
- Lacking a GED, safety tickets, or
basic technical knowledge to be
competitive in today's labour
market

GED Upskilling begins in Fort McMurray March 27th, 2017
Deadline to register is Friday March 10th, 2017

For more information call: Rupertsland Institute, Métis Employment
Services at 780-623-2524 or Keyano College, May-Britt Jensen at
780-792-5729



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

NOTICE ELDERS MEETING

DATE: MARCH 7TH, 2017
TIME: 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM

PLACE: BAND HALL

AGENDA

LUNCH: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

DISCUSSION: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
COMMUNITY SAFETY

THREE NEW LAWS IN FORT MCKAY

The community has spoken and the Fort McKay administration listened and has now taken action. In an effort to make Fort McKay a safer and better place to live, there are three new laws in Fort McKay. The laws have been enacted by the Chief and Council and can now all be enforced by local law enforcement. For example the RCMP can issue fines and/or, in the case of the new trespass law, can arrest and remove people in violation of the law. **The three new laws are; Responsible Pet Owner Law, Trespass Law, Noise Bylaw.**



The following are brief descriptions of the laws:

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER LAW

Fort McKay has always had a problem with dogs running at large. The reason for this is not the dogs, but the irresponsible pet owners. This new law empowers Fort McKay animal control to fine irresponsible pet owners. It also allows animal control to catch dogs that are loose, or not being cared for properly, or being abused, and then find them a forever home with a responsible, caring pet owner. The law also allows animal control to remove dogs that have proven to be a threat, for example a dog that has harmed another dog or person. Fort McKay encourages all pet owners to be responsible. For example, a responsible pet owner is one that keeps their dog tethered or penned (not continuously), lets in the house and/or takes it for walks often, and of course make sure it always has food, shelter and water. Licensing and registering of all pets in Fort McKay will also be a necessity under the law and will gradually, but be fully implemented within the next year. Violations of the Responsible Pet Owner Law can lead to fines of up to \$1000.

TRESPASS LAW

The Trespass Law empowers the Fort McKay First Nation and the RCMP to remove individual(s) who are unlawfully on Fort McKay First Nation lands and/or give just cause to be removed from Fort McKay lands. "Just Cause" means engaging or threatening to engage in conduct which constitutes a danger or a potential danger to property or persons; or which threatens the health, safety,

security, or the peace, order, and governance of the First Nation or any person lawfully on First Nation Lands and Premises. A person who is guilty of trespass is liable to a fine of up to \$1,000 or to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or both, in respect of each act of trespass. For example: after an investigation, if there is proof that a person is selling illicit drugs in the community, that person can be removed forcibly from Fort McKay and subjected to penalties under the Law.

NOISE BYLAW

Council is of the opinion that the residents of the Reserve are entitled to enjoy peaceful living in the community and that noise, nuisances, and disturbances should be reduced as far as possible particularly during evening hours when most residents are sleeping. Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of the Noise Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or to a term of imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days for each act of contravention. For example, if you are traveling down Fort McKay Streets on an ATV in a loud manner, RCMP can be subjected to penalties under the law.

These are only brief descriptions of the three new Fort McKay laws. All three laws are detailed and comprehensive. Full information on the laws will be available at the QGM and other community meetings. The full information on these laws will also be available soon on our website, fortmckay.com.

DOG TRAPS

Fort McKay Animal Control has acquired two dog traps. The dog traps will be set up in areas where loose and/or stray dogs are frequently seen. Animal Control is asking residents to stay away and not tamper with the dog traps, and to instruct children to do the same. Persons damaging the traps will be investigated for property damage and prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If you see a dog or any other animal in a dog trap, or, you have any questions about the dog traps, please call Cort Gallup at 780-838-6061.



Elders income tax

AnnMarie Petrocco is available to file T4's for the elders of Fort McKay free of charge and is available to provide this service by appointment only.

AnnMarie can provide Income Tax services to non-elders for a fee.

Cell 780-742-1894

SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT GENERAL UPDATE

WHO ARE WE?

The Sustainability Department (FMSD) is here in your community to ensure that existing and planned industrial development throughout Fort McKay's Traditional Territory is done in the most sustainable and responsible way possible if it is going to take place. The staff at the FMSD work in many different areas such as; Community Engagement, Trapper Relations, Environment, Regulatory, Government Relations, Long Term Agreements, and Parks and Land Use. These areas work together to make sure that development applications are reviewed and assessed, and that community members and trappers are engaged, so we can properly reflect their concerns to industry and government. We work to facilitate ongoing consultation within the community so residents know how their traditional lands are being affected. The FMSD demands and pushes for a higher standard from industry and government than the regulatory standards asked for today.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

These articles are intended to be a way for the FMSD to communicate what work we have been doing within our department and also to notify you of upcoming activities and events that are going on within the Fort McKay area. In this issue we will provide information about reclamation efforts from the large wildfire in 2016, information about the AER and Alberta Health Advisory Group for Air Quality and Odours, and information about wildlife cameras and safety near the Shell mine site.

HORSE RIVER WILDFIRE RECLAMATION PROGRAM

The wildfire of 2016 in Fort McMurray, officially named the Horse River Wildfire, was estimated to have grown to an area of 589,617 hectares in size. As the fire was burning in city limits and forested areas, some treed areas were bulldozed to create firebreaks. These firebreaks were created in a hurry for safety reasons. Now the Government is working to reclaim these areas to prevent erosion and clean up the areas where the work was done. The Government of Alberta has contacted the FMSD to provide an overview of their reclamation plans and the

department has not identified any concerns.

As shown by the red lines in the map, there is a total of 320kms that were bulldozed during the fire that will be reclaimed. Land that was disturbed by removing trees to stop the fire from spreading will now be cleaned up to reduce soil erosion, to ensure the soil quality is stable to promote vegetation growth, and to reduce the risk for potential future wildfires. Shrubs and trees that were bulldozed to one side will be rolled back onto the bare soil areas to promote growth.

Other areas such as creeks/ pipeline crossings, and helipads will be cleaned up. Creeks that may have become blocked by fallen trees will be cleared of all debris. The project has been divided into four areas due to some areas being very remote. The maps will provide you a detailed look at the project as a whole and shows the four areas where the work will be done.

Projects will use machinery (dozers and excavators) capable of moving downed woody debris, and rolling back earth and woody debris along dozer lines and helipads. Debris will be removed from creek crossings and erosion control measures will be constructed. Water holes (bell holes) will be refilled with the original material excavated from the site. Pipeline crossings will be reclaimed by removing swamp mats which were put in place to allow construction equipment to drive in swampy areas. All earth used to cap pipelines will be placed back where it was taken from.

A map showing the various project areas attached.



AER AND ALBERTA HEALTH ODOURS AND AIR QUALITY ADVISORY GROUP

The FMDS continues to work with the Alberta Energy Regulator and Alberta Health towards putting the 17 recommendations into action from the Recurrent Human Health Complaints Report that was released in 2016. The first step was to establish an Advisory Group and a Terms of Reference (document that provides direction on the deliverables and timeline of the group) that will consist of members from AER, Alberta Health, Fort McKay First Nation (Sustainability Department), Fort McKay Metis, Environment Canada and Industry. A Community Advisory Group will be created later this spring/summer to support the work of the Advisory Group. If you are interested in helping to address the ongoing air quality and odour issues in Fort McKay and to be a part of this Advisory Group, please contact the Sustainability Department.

SHELL WILDLIFE CAMERAS AND EQUIPMENT

Shell recently held a community advisory group meeting (CAG) with Fort McKay. In the meeting Shell discussed some of their current wildlife monitoring work. Shell conducts wildlife monitoring along the river corridors and within their leases. You may see cameras or noise recorders in the woods. There are two types of monitoring equipment they are currently using. (see pictures).



One device is a recording device only- meaning there is only a microphone that is set up to listen for sounds of wildlife, this winter, Shell is listening for owls. These sounds are recorded in a computer chip in the device that Shell staff come and collect when it is full. The staff then take the recordings and are able to tell what birds are in the area. The other monitoring device is a wildlife camera. These cameras are set up and are only intended for the purpose of taking photos of wildlife, such as moose, deer, fox, wolves, bears...etc. that may be in the area. Not only is this information important for Shell to collect, but it is also very important to Fort McKay to know what wildlife is in this area. From this data we are able to understand more about the population of the wildlife and if development is having an effect on where the wildlife travel.

Unfortunately, Shell has informed the FMDS and the CAG members that many of these cameras and recording devices have been shot at, damaged and destroyed. These monitoring devices are highly important for capturing data. Due to a concern for the safety of their staff, Shell has had to remove cameras from certain areas and can no longer monitor these areas for wildlife. The less cameras that can be put up in the forest, the less data we will have on wildlife and where they go in this area.

We ask that if you are out in this area and you see cameras such as these that you do not attempt to shoot at them or damage them in any way. If you have any questions about them or want to know more about what these cameras do, FMDS staff would be happy to talk to you about them and what we can learn from the information they collect.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SYNCRUDE HIRING SUMMER STUDENTS!

Employment opportunities beginning May 29, 2017 are available with the Aboriginal Summer Student program. The majority of these positions are located at the Syncrude Plant Site north of Fort McMurray. You will receive work direction from an experienced professional and contribute to the day-to-day operation of Syncrude.

Administrative Support & Labourers

Qualifications:

- Currently registered as a full-time student in a post-secondary program, which is a minimum of two years in length
- Returning to full-time studies in September 2017
- Have proof of Metis or First Nations status (please upload card when submitting online application)
- Be a resident of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

To apply or more information,
go to: www.syncrude.ca

HEALTH CENTRE 780-828-2450

Dr. Taiwo- March 1, 2, 28, 29 & 30
Immunization-call for appointment
Physio – Monday (morning only)
Thursday (all day)
Safe food Handling course: March
15 and March 16, Call Belinda to
sign up. Light lunch will be provided
both days.

March is
nutrition month!



FAMILY SUPPORT CENTRE 780-828-4650

March 2 Healthy Communications -1:00-3:00pm
March 7 Defining Abuse – 1:00-3:00pm
March 9 Anger Management - 1:00-3:00pm
March 14 Responsibilities – 1:00-3:00pm
March 16 Self Esteem – 1:00-3:00pm
March 21 Emotional Awareness – 1:00-3:00pm
March 23 Family Dynamics - 1:00-3:00pm
March 28 Stress Management – 1:00-3:00pm
March 30 Grief & Loss 1:00-3:00pm

N.A. on Mondays 7:00-9:00pm
A.A. on Wednesdays 7:00-9:00pm
Waypoints on Wednesdays 1:00-3:00pm
All workshops located at the
Family Support Centre.

GET INTO FITNESS!! 780-714-7094

Mondays - Workout 12:00-1:00pm
Tuesdays - Yoga 12:00-1:00pm
Wednesdays - Adult volleyball 7:00-9:00pm
(At the school gym)

March's family activity:
Skiing/Snowboarding
Saturday March 11th
What is included?
Transportation and lift tickets
To register, please call Stefany at:
780-714-7094

JOIN THE FORT MCKAY EDUCATION FACEBOOK PAGE

There you will find important
community notices,
budding information
and anything related to
the FMFN Education
department !