



Red River Current



APRIL 2017

VOLUME 7 :: ISSUE 4

YEARS IN
BUSINESS

29TH REGIONAL ABORIGINAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

There are people that go above and beyond from what is expected of them. Without expectation, they love to help others and accomplish one goal after another. These individuals go the extra mile and play a big part in making our community a better place. The Regional Aboriginal Recognition Awards finds and recognizes these shining stars each year through a nomination process and hosts a celebration to honour and respect these remarkable people.

On February 25th, sixteen awards were presented in the Grand Ballroom at Shell Place, MacDonald Island Park to honour those who stood out in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The evening was hosted by keynote Speaker Cheryl Alexander, Master of Ceremony Melanie Antoine and included live entertainment from the Métis Child & Family Jiggers.

Categories for nominations included: Female & Male Youth, Female & Male Junior Achievement, Elder, Trapper, Adult Culture, Leadership, Outstanding Athlete, Outstanding Adult Student, Art, Volunteer, Entrepreneur,

Female & Male Citizen & Lifetime Achievement. Some who were recognized that evening included Tayden Shott, Exzander Lacorde, Adam Boucher, Ron Quintal, and Marie Boucher (Saskasteew Transportation Company Ltd).

Tayden Shott, who is only in fourth grade, was presented with the Fort McKay Junior Achievement Awards. In 2015, he was honoured with the Fort McKay school culture award and also received the Merit Award from Alberta Distance Learning for his outstanding academic achievements in 2016. During the ceremony, he was introduced as a boy who has outstanding attendance and an inquisitive mind. He embraces his First Nation's and Metis culture and is learning to speak Cree and enjoys hunting, participating with moose harvests and attending the annual Métis Fish harvest in Lac La Biche. The nine year old enjoys gardening and helping his father on their trapline. As a member of the Northwind Dancers & Drummers group since the age of five, he proudly wears his traditional ribbon shirts when drumming.

(story continued on page 2)



Tayden Shott

Fort McKay First Nation 4
Donates Generously

New App Teaches Cree 6
Language

Work Orders 10
Demystified

Implementing First 12
Nation Laws

RCMP Meet With 16
Elders



29th REGIONAL ABORIGIN

Tayden has drummed at various events including the 2016 RARA awards, Western Canadian Summer Games, and Fort McKay Treaty Days. He enjoys jigging and participates in various jigging workshops. Shott is also natural athlete and has been playing hockey since he was four years old. He received the most

sportsmen like award in 2016 and participates in the Alberta Native Hockey Provincials each spring as well as summer sport camps. As a member of our school's cooking club and recycling club, he is a great role model at his school and at a home to his younger brother.

Exzander Lacorde received the Fort McMurray Catholic School District – Male Junior Achievement Youth Award. He was presented as a twelve year old who possesses wisdom beyond his years. The sixth grader is known for his great leadership in his school and as an individual who loves to help others with an open heart and positive mind. Exzander works hard at school and is always trying to improve his marks. He is known for his creative artwork and excellence in mathematics. Being the eldest of 3 siblings, he influences them to become better students. Lacorde loves to help Elders in his community and during his spare time enjoys hunting chickens and ducks, and snaring rabbits with his parents and grand parents. This young man understands and speaks fundamental words in Cree and continuously thrives to improve and learn his native tongue every day. Exzander is a very friendly and fun loving boy and altogether a great citizen in our community!

Adam Boucher was honoured with the Male Youth of the Year Award. Being the youngest in a family of six, he is expected to be the first in obtaining his high

school diploma. An E Learning Centre student, Adam attends school regularly and always works quietly and efficiently. During his spare time, he likes to volunteer in various fundraising activities. He was presented as a student who overcame many challenges in his life and has developed a maturity and sense of responsibility beyond his 17 years. He wants to become a welder in the future and dreams of having his own business one day so he can help his sisters and make a life for himself. He did not have many opportunities as a child to learn about his culture and traditions; however for the last 13 years he has been eager to learn more about hunting and trapping. During his visits to Moose Lake with his Uncle and Aunty, he participates in hunting, trapping, snaring activities and also prepares traditional foods and has become more respectful to Mother Earth. He is an excellent role model to his fellow friends and is expected to finish high school earlier than required. Adam Boucher has set himself a path that will be surely challenging but also very rewarding.

Ron Quintal, who is well known for being an outstanding role model and an excellent leader, was given the Leadership of the Year Award. He was presented as a man who shows a high degree of ethics and accountability and who leads by example. On a daily basis, Quintal deals with complex social and environmental issues

FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

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

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

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



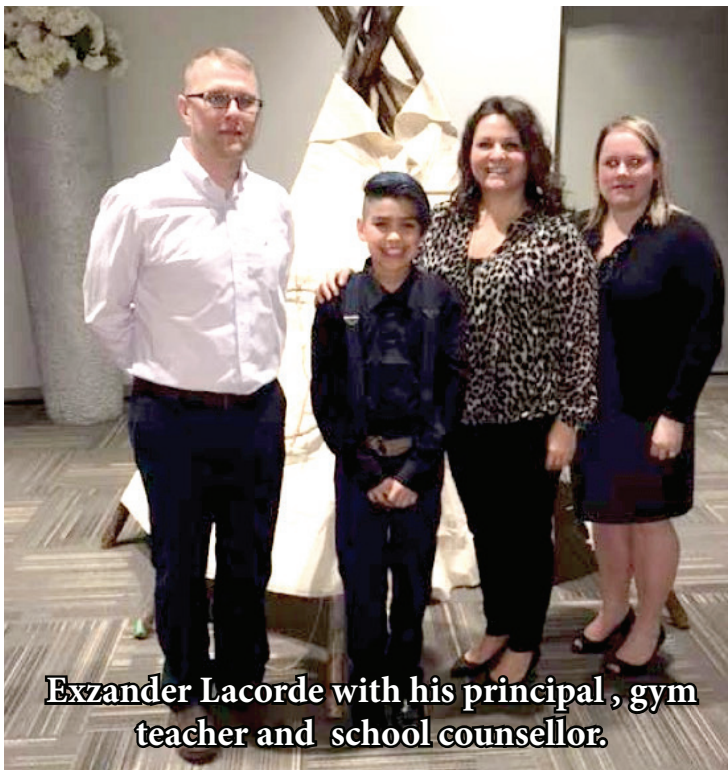
AL RECOGNITION AWARDS

with grace and patience. His success as a leader is demonstrated with the several consecutive term his members have elected him. Ron's leadership style and personal approach in community leadership has been accounted for the impressive and significant growth within the Fort McKay Métis Local. He is very passionate about his community as well as the direction it is taking and is one of the most successful political and commercial Métis Locals in all of Alberta. Quintal works hard to ensure equality amongst his members so all are treated fairly and respectfully. Just recently, Quintal was recently recognized with YMM as on of 'Top 50 under 50'. He is the proud father of four children and works hard in teaching them to become more self-sufficient, hardworking, and caring young men one day.

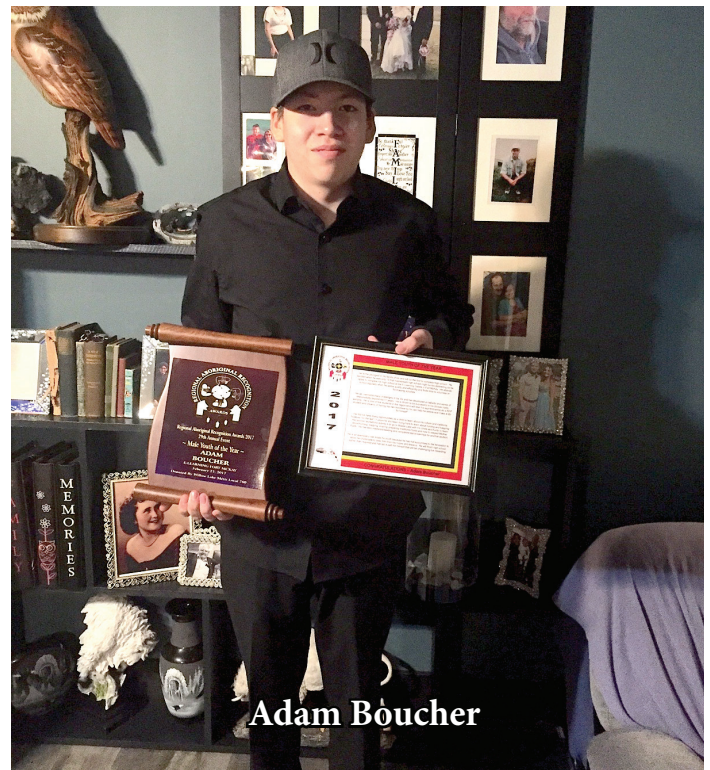
The Entrepreneur of the Year Award recipient this year was our very own Sakasteew Transportation Company Ltd. Founded and owned by Marie Boucher, the company provides ground personnel transportation services for industrial workers and VIPs, Airport Shuttles, Camp Shuttles, Community Shuttles to different plant sites, Site Shuttle Services, Special Tours and many other local and outside customers. Marie was recognized as someone who not only has a passion for her business, but someone who also knows the value of safe and reliable transportation. Sakasteew Transportation is known as one of the safest and largest First Nation transportation companies in Northern Alberta. Marie's statement is "to always get the passengers home safe and alive to their families, I value their

lives just as I value mine". Boucher has resided in Fort McKay all her life and loves helping her community in any way she can. Those who know her identify her as a person who always acts in a loving and caring nature. Through her business, she offers local employment for community members, and donates turkeys and hams during the Holidays. Boucher truly cares deeply about her people, her community and her environment, and her business is deeply rooted in providing a high standard of service.

Congratulations to all of this year's RARA recipients... You all make our community proud!!



Exzander Lacorde with his principal, gym teacher and school counsellor.



Adam Boucher

FORT MCKAY DONATES GENEROUSLY TO HOSPITAL



On Thursday February 23rd, the Northern Lights Health Foundation's Gratitude Campaign got a lot closer to its goal of \$16 million thanks to the Fort McKay First Nation and their family of businesses. The Northern Lights Health Foundation (Health Foundation) was honored to attend the Nation's 30 Years of Business Celebration, and elated to receive a cheque for \$550,000 towards the Gratitude Campaign and improving health care in our Region.

Melanie Antoine, Chair of the Northern Lights Health Foundation's Board of Directors and members of the Health Foundation's Board of Directors were presented a cheque by Chief Jim Boucher, Fort McKay First Nation Councilors and the Fort McKay Family of Businesses.

The Gratitude Campaign is the largest Campaign under-taking by the Health Foundation in their 32 year history. The Campaign is dynamic, innovative, comprehensive and regional in scope and will result in the delivery of world class health care to the people who live and work in Wood Buffalo. It is inclusive of 8 projects that cover many aspects of health care from the beginning of life to the end of life. The Northern Lights Regional Health Centre is the only hospital in the

Wood Buffalo Region, and as residents we want to be able to access the care we need, right here at home and when we need it!

Chief Boucher spoke to the Health Foundation on why Fort McKay is making health care a priority. "We invest in the future of our community, and no matter how much we focus on our health sometimes our bodies just break down and need some repair. It is critical our people are able to access the care they require here and now in Fort McMurray."

In recognition of the Fort McKay First Nation's generous donation, the Medicine Wheel Room located on the 4th floor of the hospital, will be renamed in honor of First Nation Elder Margaret MacDonald who passed away in 2015 after living out her last years on the Continuing Care unit. Chief Boucher recalled how Margaret had done so much for the community and how she was the first Aboriginal member of the Health Foundation Board of Directors. "It is important to us to name the Medicine Wheel Room in memory of Margaret MacDonald for all that she has done for our community," stated the Chief. The Medicine Wheel Room is an important place for aboriginal residents/patients, who along with



their community, friends, and family, can hold gatherings and spiritual ceremonies right in the hospital. The Chief expresses, "It is a place where our people can feel the comforts and familiarities of home."

The Health Foundation and the Board of Directors wishes to congratulate Fort McKay First Nation on 30 successful years of business and to thank the Nation and their family of businesses, (Fort McKay Group of Companies, First North Catering, Barge Landing Lodge, Dene Koe, Caribou Energy Park and Hammerstone Products) for the tremendous support of the Gratitude Campaign. These companies are not only invested in the future and sustainability of the region, they are invested in the health and well-being of the people of Fort McKay, leading the way to a brighter future for generations to come.

The Executive Director of the Health Foundation, Cindy Amerongen says, "Although we are extremely excited to announce one year after the launch of the Campaign we have raised \$6.625 million, we also know there is a long way to go to reach our goal. We continue to count on the support of individuals, businesses and industry to

help us reach our \$16 million commitment. Fort McKay First Nation's partnership model shows their leadership and commitment to health care, and we are certain it will go a long way in inspiring others."

Melanie Antoine believes that companies making the decision to pledge to the campaign are really investing in their own businesses and people. "They are investing in their workers, their families, their friends, and their loved ones. It's a win-win for everyone."

Fort McKay First Nation is the first of five regional First Nations to make a pledge to the campaign. Chief Jim Boucher says "I think it's important that we all stand behind the hospital and support this important campaign."

For more information on the Northern Lights Health Foundation and the Gratitude Campaign, and how you can support check out www.northernlightshealthfoundation.ca or call 780-793-7347.



Annual Diabetes Walk



When: **May 17, 2017 @ 11am**

Starting at the **SCHOOL**
BBQ Lunch **will be**
Provided



Free T-shirts



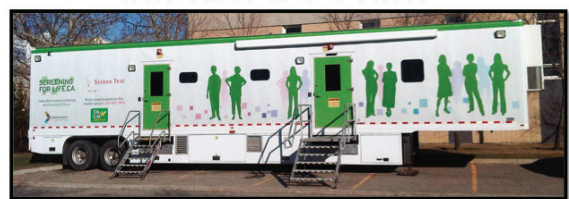
Come walk & show your support, Walk with US! Let's prevent diabetes!



EVERYONE WELCOME!

For more information, please call Belinda at the Health Centre 780.828.2455

BREAST SCREENING MOBILE CLINIC



WHEN:

May 30/17 - Wednesday
Time: **10:50am – 5:30pm**

May 31/17 – Thursday
Time: **9am-3:30pm**

WHERE:

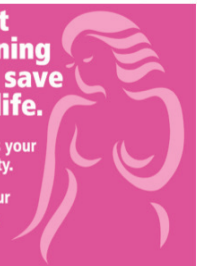
Health Centre (Parking Lot)

- Screening is for 40yrs or older (only)
- Door prizes & refreshments

Please Call Belinda to book appointment. 780-828-2455

breast screening could save your life.

Don't miss your opportunity.
Accept your invitation.



NEW APP TEACHES CREE LANGUAGE



There are over 2 million different apps available for download nowadays, but this new app is one of a first!

The Athabasca Tribal Council introduced a new app with the goal to preserve indigenous languages. The main objective is to reintroduce this language to all youth interested. Byron Bates, who was approached by the Athabasca Tribal Council, developed the free app called ATC Cree. Bates was a student at Vancouver Island University and was sponsored by ATC throughout his studies. He possesses a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Computer Science.

The app allows individuals to look up words in English through different categories and after selecting the word, can see and hear the translation in Cree. It is designed to be easy encouraging anyone at any level to utilize. It can be used for self-study, conversation with Elders, self-study, or just a refresher to those were already taught Cree but forgot some words.

ATC Cree currently holds 120 words, but the team has already recorded over 400 words and will continue to work on adding more words as time goes by. The team is planning to interview various Elders within the 5 First Nation communities, while recording them speak Cree words and submitting these words into the app. "We're going to slowly make the app bigger and better. We're going to launch a Dene app very soon also. We're just going to make it very robust and hopefully it'll be used in schools and [by] all the youth." Bates explained during an interview with Global News.

After the first week of being launched, the Cree language app has already received over 3200 downloads. The app is offered for both Android and Apple devices. Bates encourages all to use, "your language is a big part of your identity as an aboriginal person... to be proud of your heritage and to want to speak it."

E LEARNING GRADUATION AND ANNIVERSARY

Thursday June 29 2017

Limited ticket sales will be available soon

Elders & past graduates have priority for proceedings and dinner

The evening dance is open to the public

More details coming in next newsletter...



EDUCATION CONFERENCE DELIVERS IMPORTANT MESSAGE



Maggie Farrington, ATC CEO presenting a gift of gratitude to Councillor Raymond Powder for giving his keynote address at the conference.

On March 8th, many attended a three-day conference at the Quality Inn in Fort McMurray to discuss a very important subject: education. Hosted by the Athabasca Tribal Council, the conference's theme was titled "Strength & Unity –Working Towards Indigenous Education". The theme emphasized the goal of the conference: the importance of our native language and culture. Many students, parents, teacher, and Elders were all part of the event.

The conference included many influential speakers including Chief Steve Courtoreille, MCFN and Former Grand Chief of Treaty 8, Councillor Raymond Powder of FMFN, Elder & former Chief David Janvier, CPFN, Elder & former Chief Robert Cree, FMFN 468, Elder Rarihokwats, Historic Research Consultant from Mohawk First Nation, Craig Falcon, Actor and Owner/CEO of Nightgun Consulting, Maggie Farrington CEO of ATC, and Darren Googoo, Director of Education from Membertou First Nation.

Throughout the conference, Elder David Janvier delivered his speech in Dene and beside him was his daughter Marina Nokohoo who translated the message to all. Elder Robert Cree also delivered his presentation in Cree. "We wanted to bring these languages into our conference to emphasize that 'language and culture' both play a part in our education priorities", explained Rita Marten, Director of Education at Athabasca Tribal Council who was also the organizer of the event.

During his keynote address, Councillor Raymond Powder spoke of the importance of education. "I strongly believe in the power and benefits of education, which when pursued, develops a wide range of perspectives and experiences... ATC [is] committing to education as our number one priority... We are past the beginning stages of developing an educational system for our nation, which will be infused with our Cree and Dene Cultures, tradition and languages". Councillor Raymond Powder has been involved with the Athabasca Tribal Council Education Committee since 1997.

Throughout the conference, Athabasca Tribal Council also revealed its new and improved logo as well as its new app called ATC Cree Language (for more details, see article on p.4). The event included cultural activities, entertainment, door prizes and giveaways.



INTRODUCING NEW EDUCATION SUPPORT COORDINATOR



Hi my name is Didi Grandjambe I started with the Education Department in February as an Education Support Coordinator. I am excited to be working with the Education Dept. My previous experience working with the students on the bus as the bus monitor has given me the knowledge to know what goes on inside the bus daily. I also worked as an Aboriginal Liaison in the Fort McMurray Catholic School Board and am quite familiar with our families and students.

I am helping out with our students that are attending schooling in Fort McMurray as well as assisting with bussing from Fort McKay for our Elementary and High School students to Fort McMurray. I have been going into the schools to drop in for lunch to have a chat about bussing and as well as going on the busses to check attendance and behavior.

Currently we have approximately 75 students registered to ride the bus. We need to have parents most current information in case of emergency as well as to keep parents updated on any changes.

Any updates concerning the bus can usually be found on the Fort McKay Education Department Facebook page. If your contact info has changed please call to notify the office at 780-828-2429 or email myself at dgrandjambe@fortmckay.com.



ABORIGINAL STUDENT SERVICES, AWARDS, BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS, COMMUNITY EVENTS, FURTHER EDUCATION, INFORMATION SHARING, OTHER GENERAL, POST SECONDARY EDUCATION, POST SECONDARY STUDENTS, RESOURCES & RESEARCH, SLPS POLICY & APPLICATIONS, SUPPORT, TUITION, UNDERGRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS, WEBSITE LINKS

WHEN IS THE NEXT INDSPIRE APPLICATION DEADLINE?

May 15 2017

building
brighter futures
Bursaries, Scholarships, and Awards



INTRODUCING NEW POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Hi my name is Elissa Whiteknife and I've been recently hired as the new Post-Secondary Education Co-ordinator working under the direction of Miranda Beaton, Education Director. I am a Fort McKay Band Member and my mother is the late and great Elsie Fabian. I am so excited to be back working for my Band again and helping our Students continue their Education onto Post-Secondary. Please direct your questions or concerns to myself at 780-828-2429 or email: education@fortmckay.com.

Last month I had the opportunity to meet with some of our students attending Higher Education in Edmonton. Alannis Laurent will be finished her upgrading in April 2017 where she did extremely well, this has prepared her for her next step which she has been accepted into the Business Management Program at NAIT for the Spring Session. Congratulation Alannis!!

Say Hello to Darrell Lacorde who is also doing Upgrading at MacEwan University – his Academic Goal is to be accepted into the Mechanical Engineering Program at the University of Alberta. Way to go Darrell you are well on your way.

Students interested in the Spring Session have till March 31st to get their applications in.



LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY

Spring has sprung and things are starting to shape up in the interior of the seniors living centre!

Crews have been very busy hanging drywall board and taping and finishing the joints on the upper floor. As for the lower floor, sub-contractors are in the process of installing electrical wiring, sprinkler piping and ductwork to get ready for drywall installation expected in early April. Final framing of architectural features has been completed and distinctive final colours can now be seen as the siding materials are quickly being installed on the exterior of the structure.



James Owl, Executive Director of Capital Projects, is pleased all work completed by his crew: “Band members, Tyler Grandjambe, Leah Grandjambe, Kane Mckenzie, Jorod Boucher and Josh Faichney-Orr continue to be strong contributors to the remarkable progress of the project.”

Over the next month, we will see the completion of the exterior siding finishes, drywall completion on the lower floor, painting on the upper floor and the start of the drainage culvert through the site.

WORK ORDERS DEMYSTIFIED

Contrary to what the term seems to mean, ‘work orders’ are not actually an order to complete work when someone calls in a request. They are an internal tool for providing direction to staff on tasks that require attention and a means of tracing work that is already completed. For tenants of Fort McKay, a process is necessary to attain a work order.

First a call is made, or a tenant visits the Housing Office with a request. The work request form is filled and then staff reviews the form, looking for a number of requirements. There will be a check to see whether a valid lease agreement is in place and whether the tenant is paying rent or has arrears. If the tenant is up to date on all requirements, a Housing Technician will go out and evaluate the work and provide notes and estimate for approval. If the work is requires any type of repair or maintenance, the form will be approved and subsequently a work order will be printed. At times, materials need to be ordered to complete the work outlined.

This process takes time but it is necessary as it allows staff to ensure maintenance, repairs and modifications meet the Tenancy Law, the Tenant's Lease Agreement and all fit into budget and scheduling constraints.

Tenants should closely review their tenant agreement, which outlines maintenance and repair responsibilities. Reading the tenant lease will help ease frustrations and bottlenecks when calling the Housing Department for requests.

UPCOMING HOUSE INSPECTIONS

As most tenants are aware, the Tenancy Law and the Tenant Lease Agreement require a minimum of yearly inspections of all housing units in Fort McKay

There are a number of reasons to inspect housing units which include, verification of condition, recording of health and safety issues, inventorying appliances and help with project planning and budgeting.

Over the months of April and May, the Housing Department will be contacting all tenants to schedule inspections and to review tenant files. Please ensure that you make time for these inspections to stay current with your lease agreement. A copy of the completion of inspection along with photos and sketches will be provided to each tenant in the community.

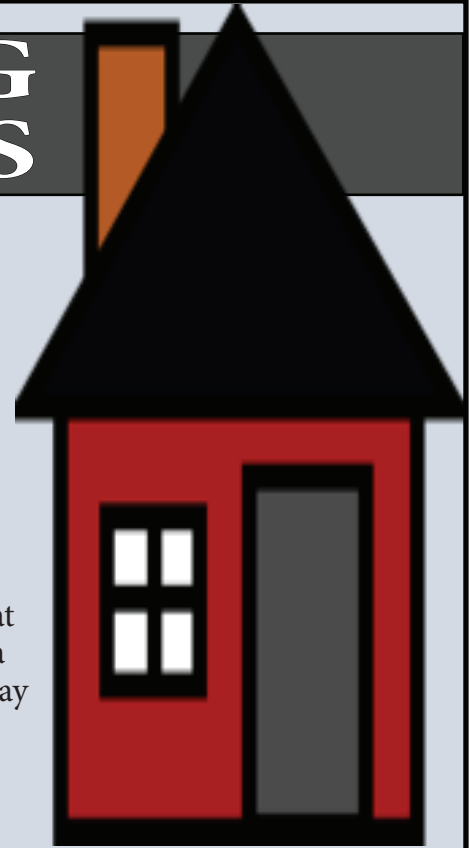


HOUSING MATTERS

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.



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 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.



NOTICE

MEMBER INFORMATION ON THE PROCESS FOR IMPLEMENTING FIRST NATION LAWS AND POLICIES

OVERVIEW

As Fort McKay First Nation continues to develop a comprehensive system of laws and policies, many Members have asked about the requirements to enact these laws or policies. In particular, some Members have asked whether laws or policies have to be voted on or approved by Members.

Generally speaking, Membership approval is not required to enact a law or policy. As with other governments, the citizens of Fort McKay First Nation elect their representatives and entrust those representatives to enact laws and govern in their best interests. That said, the laws governing First Nations can be complex. Specific rules may be contained in the Indian Act. Other rules have evolved into a practice because of developments in the common law as determined by the Courts across the country. In addition, Fort McKay First Nation has imposed some rules on itself that affect the process.

The different rules and when then apply are explained more fully below. Generally, these fall into four categories:

- 1.Laws that require a Membership vote because the Indian Act says so;
- 2.Laws where Membership votes are recommended because a referendum vote is the best evidence to prove that the law is supported by the Membership;
- 3.Laws where the Indian Act states the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs must approve of the law before it can be enforced; and
- 4.Every other kind of law or policy where the Chief and Council may decide to implement the law; provided that they first review it with Members.

LAWS THAT REQUIRE A MEMBERSHIP VOTE BECAUSE THE INDIAN ACT SAYS SO

There are two kinds of laws in respect of which the Indian Act imposes a requirement of a Membership vote. These are Membership Codes and intoxicants bylaws.

Membership

Prior to 1985 Membership with a First Nation was tied to Indian Act registration system and was controlled by the department now known as Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.

In 1985, the Indian Act was amended to allow First Nations to enact their own Membership code or law. Canada retained control over recognition of Indian status under the Act.

To enact a Membership code or law for the first time, the First Nation must give notice to Membership of its intention to take control of the Membership list and the majority of the electors 18 years of age and older must give consent to the code or law.

These requirements are set out in section 10 of the Indian Act and must be complied with to have the First Nation take control of Membership. Once the First Nation has taken control of Membership, future amendments are dealt with under the provisions of the specific code or law. Typically, there is some level of Membership consultation and opportunity to express views but this could be by way of a petition rather than a ratification vote.

Intoxicants

The Indian Act has provisions that deal with matters such as prohibiting possession of intoxicants or their sale. Sometimes these laws are referred to as creating a “dry” Reserve. If the First

Nation wants to implement an intoxicants bylaw, then the law must first be voted on in a special meeting of the Members and assented to by a majority of those electors who vote. This requirement is set out in section 85.1(2) of the Indian Act.

LAWS WHERE MEMBERSHIP VOTES ARE RECOMMENDED

Election

Election laws are considered customary laws meaning that there are no requirements under the Indian Act or any other statute that governs how they are implemented. Custom is the default selection process and part of the inherent right of self-governance.

The Courts have said that customary laws must be Constitutional and in compliance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms but aside from that, First Nations are entitled to determine how they elect their leaders.

However, Courts across Canada and, in particular, the Federal Court have dealt with questions about the validity of First Nation laws in a number of cases and certain principles have evolved.

In particular, the Courts have said that custom election laws must reflect a “broad consensus” of the electors. There are no rules on how a First Nation proves that there is a “broad consensus” so answering that question depends on the individual facts of each case.

As the existence of a broad consensus is an evidentiary question for a Court, the best evidence is usually a ratification vote. This is the clearest evidence of a broad consensus. However, a broad consensus can also be proven by evidence of past practice or even a lack of protest regarding a particular practice.

Once the election law has been enacted, future amendments are dealt with under the specific provisions of the Code or law.

LAWS WHERE MINISTERIAL APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

Taxation

There are certain bylaws which the Indian Act states must be approved by the Minister. These are set out in section 83 of the Indian Act and include so-called “money bylaws” that include the following areas:

- Property taxation; and
- Raising money from Members to support band projects (i.e. direct taxation of Members).

ALL OTHER LAWS AND POLICIES

Aside from the specific situations outlined above, it is up to the Chief and Council to make laws and policies which they consider to be in the best interests of the First Nation. There is no legal requirement for Members to vote on them and no legal requirement for Ministerial approval.

That said, Fort McKay has chosen to place some requirements on Chief and Council through the Election Code. Section 93.1.4 of the Fort McKay First Nation Election Code requires that Chief and Council review all proposed bylaws and policies with electors before the bylaws or policies come into force.

The provisions of the Election Code are intended to ensure Members have the opportunity to be informed and educated about laws and policies that Chief and Council are considering or planning to implement. This does not mean that Members must approve of the bylaws or policies or those they can veto the bylaws or policies. It just means that Chief and Council must provide the information to Members before enacting a law or policy.

Membership meetings also provide a forum for Members to comment on proposed laws, so there is an aspect of consultation involved. It gives Chief and Council a chance to hear Membership perspectives and they may take those views into consideration before finalizing the law or policy. However, the final decision on whether to implement a law or policy that is not subject to any special rules under the Indian Act lies entirely and exclusively with the Chief and Council.



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 last month's issue we provided information about reclamation efforts from the large wildfire in 2016, information about the AER and Alberta Health Task Force for Air Quality and Odours, and information about wildlife cameras and safety near the Shell mine site. This issue provides an educational piece on types of oil and ways to transport it, which was given as a demonstration by Enbridge at their last community advisory group (CAG) meeting. The FMSD also would like to thank and recognize one of our lawyers who has worked for Fort McKay First Nation for many years and is now going into retirement.

ENBRIDGE OIL DEMONSTRATION

Enbridge recently held a CAG meeting where as part of their presentation, they brought in samples of oil and pipeline material to explain to the community members what their company does. The samples

included types of oil, and other material that are transported through the pipes as well as pipe and pipe cleaning samples.



There are several types of oil (petroleum) occurring naturally. The difference between those oils is the number of building blocks called hydrocarbons that can make the oil lighter or heavier. The less hydrocarbons, the heavier and more viscous the oil is, just like molasses. Bitumen is one example.

When you have a lot of hydrocarbons the oil is very light and flows very easily, just like water. Conventional crude oil is one example. It's pretty thin and has a strong smell and is also referred to as light sweet oil; meaning it has a low density and there is little or no sulfur in it. The oil itself cannot be used the way it is naturally, so it has to go to a refinery through a pipeline to be turned into useful products.



There are over 6,000 uses for oil, some of which include: antifreeze, balloons, ballpoint pens, basketballs, bicycle tires, dentures, deodorant, eyeglasses, fishing rods, footballs, gasoline, hand lotion, insect repellent, jet fuel, life jackets, nail polish, paint brushes, roofing, shower curtains, skis, soft contact lenses, telephones, tires, trash bags, almost all plastics and many other things.

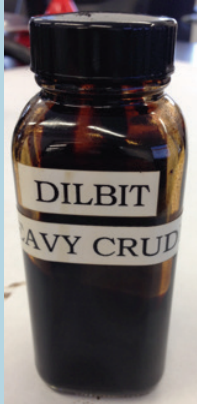
The Oil Sands is a common source of oil for this area. It consists of oil, sand, water and clay. This oil that comes from the oil sands is referred to as bitumen. (Bitumen cannot go inside pipelines by itself and requires another liquid to be diluted with in order to help it flow through a pipeline. There are many types of liquids that can be mixed with bitumen; one of them is called condensate, another



one is called synthetic crude oil.

Synthetic crude oil is obtained from an upgrader, where they remove some carbon and add hydrogen to make it a lighter kind of oil. When bitumen is diluted with synthetic crude oil it is referred to as Synbit.

Condensate is very thin; chemically, it is like gasoline. When bitumen is diluted with condensate it is often referred to as Dilbit.

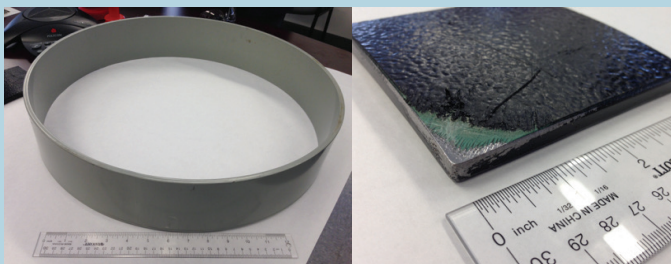


As these materials travel through the pipes the pipes need to be continuously checked and maintained. Enbridge also showed the CAG group a sample “slice” of a 20-inch pipe, a sample of the protective coating called fusion bond

epoxy that is put onto the steel pipe to seal it, and a sample of a PIG (Pipeline Inspection Gage), which goes through the pipe to inspect for any damage. The PIGs are built to match the size of the pipe, and they can range in size to fit inside a 2-inch pipe or even a 60-inch pipe. All of these samples helped to explain the oil extraction, transportation, and pipeline maintenance processes to the CAG members.



**miniature PIG
sampling.**



**top right photo:
pipeline sampling
top left photo:
protective coating,**

RETIREMENT OF KARIN BUSS, LONG-TIME LAWYER TO FORT MCKAY



The FMSD would like to thank Karin Buss for all of her hard work and dedication to the community of Fort McKay. Karin used to live with her family in Fort McMurray when she was in elementary school. Before becoming a lawyer, Karin worked in social work. She has worked with Fort McKay for more than 20 years, working with the Sustainability Department from when it was just one person to what it is today. Karin has created a strong relationship with the community and a bond of trust that will not be forgotten.

Karin has assisted Fort McKay in consultation with almost all projects in the territory in some form or another including attending ERCM (now AER) hearings on environmental issues, including Imperial Kearl and Shell. She has worked with the FMSD to advocate for stronger environmental requirements, and has assisted them with consultation with Alberta and companies and also negotiating long term agreements. She has also worked with Fort McKay extensively in negotiating consultation policies with Alberta. She has been key in recent initiatives to protect Moose Lake including the Moose Lake Access Management Plan (MLAMP), and the Dover Commercial Project, which went to the Court of Appeal.

Karin holds a great wealth of knowledge about Fort McKay, which has been key to her providing counsel and advice to our staff and to our overall successes within the community. We thank you Karin for all your years of dedication and the strong bond you have developed with staff at the FMFN. We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors.

PET BYLAW NOW ACTIVE



After loose and stray dogs were identified as one of the top safety concerns in Fort McKay, the Fort McKay First Nation decided to create a Responsible Pet Owner Bylaw to help deal with the problem.

The law gives the administration the tools to enforce and make sure that Fort McKay pet owners are responsible for their pets. It also gives Fort McKay animal control and the RCMP the right to remove animals from owners that are not taking proper care of their pets. The law also gives animal control or the RCMP the right to remove animals that have proven to be dangerous to other animals or people. The law also states that all pets in Fort McKay must be registered and licensed. Pet owners will be given sufficient time to get their pets registered before licensing is enforced. To enforce the law, penalties can be given to pet owners for offences such as loose dogs or unregistered pets. Fine amounts range from \$100 to \$1000.

The Responsible Pet Owner Bylaw is comprehensive and all pet owners should review it. Detailed copies of the law as well as the Noise Law, and Trespass Law will be distributed to every home in Fort McKay and to the RCMP. If you would like to receive a copy of the law call the Band Hall front desk at 780-828-4220.

There will be a Spay and Neuter clinic in Fort McKay in June. The goal of this clinic is to have a proactive approach to the animal control and to have every pet in Fort McKay fixed. Notice of this clinic will be hand delivered to all pet owners. The last pet clinic in Fort McKay that also included micro-chipping and immunizations proved that there are many responsible, loving pet owners in Fort McKay. Thank you for being a responsible Pet Owner.

RCMP MEET WITH ELDERS

Chief and Council invited the RCMP to meeting with the Elders to discuss their concerns. Three RCMP representatives joined the last Elders' meeting on March 7 and it was a great success. RCMP let the Elders know that they continue to encourage the community to help fight crime in the community by feeling free to report incidents to the RCMP and by calling Crimestoppers. Some Elders' expressed their satisfaction with the increased police presence in the community and the improvement in response times to incidents in the community. The Elders are very pleased that Chief & Council and the RCMP are taking their concerns seriously, and have recently implemented three new bylaws in the community of Fort McKay to better protect its members. As of April 1st, 2017, the Responsible Pet Owner Bylaw, Trespassing Law and Noise and Disturbance Law are in full effect. The RCMP have made improvements to their office in Fort McKay and said they hope this will even further improve the service to Fort McKay. The RCMP also said that they are very active in addressing any illegal activity in Fort McKay and will always continue to do so. If you have any concerns or questions regarding to the RCMP, please call Cort Gallup at 780-838-6061.





FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION



MY TAP WATER LOOKS DISCOLOURED

DISCOLOURED WATER THAT
LAST FOR A FEW HOURS OR DAYS



QUICK CHECK LIST MY TAP WATER MAY...

- ☐ look a black, brown, orange, red or yellow colour
- ☐ have been discoloured for a few hours or days
- ☐ look clearer after I run the tap for a long while
- ☐ have been turned off recently
- ☐ be at a lower pressure than normal
- ☐ be discoloured at all taps in my house
- ☐ be discoloured in my house and at my neighbours
- ☐ have more iron or manganese than normal



CAUSES

Discoloured water is caused by iron sediments which have settled inside the water mains over time. These sediments come from the cast iron water mains we have in our network.

Normally, this doesn't affect anyone. But, a burst water main, for example, will increase the water flow and can stir up the sediment, causing the water to become discoloured.

Occasionally there may also be manganese present in the water supply, which comes from the natural water source. Historically, there may be manganese particles left on the inside of the water pipes, so when there is a disturbance to the water mains, such as a burst main, this can sometimes disturb these particles, making the water look black.

Neither iron nor manganese are harmful at the levels which can be found in tap water.



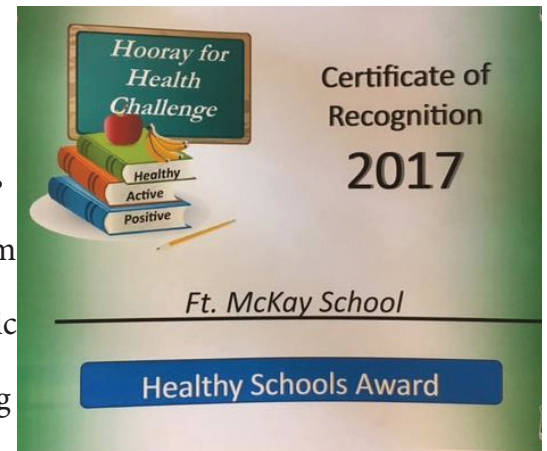
A burst water main can make the water become discoloured



FORT MCKAY KIDS LEARNING HEALTHY HABITS

At Fort McKay School, students have been learning about nutrition in a variety of ways. Through "Taste Testing", they are able to try fruits and vegetables as well as learn about serving sizes and how many servings they should have each day as part of a balanced meal. Students assisted the School Health Facilitator in collecting wrappers and pictures for 'Choose Most Often', 'Choose Sometimes' and 'Choose Least Often' foods. Many now even include some of the 'Choose Most Often' foods into their school lunches.

As school health also includes physical activities, the Fort McKay School has partnered with the Wellness Center, the Fort McKay Recreation, and the Fort McKay Arena to provide a wide range of physical activities. Stefany Guillen-Garces and Brandy Fitzpatrick have been coming into the School to instruct students in Dry Land, Yoga, and Dance Play. Kory Torreville, Stefany Guillen-Garces and Lolita Ladouceur have partnered and offer a Roller Blading program every Wednesday that all classes were able to participate in including school staff. Grades 1-6 classes have also been taking basic one-hour skating classes at the Fort McKay Arena each week. Skating season wraps up, several classes have seen all students being able to skate and participate by the end of the sessions.



As Fort McKay School moves closer to the end of the year, we are looking at developing a whole Apple School Monthly Campaign in partnership with the Glendon School with the Arctic Winter Games. As a result of these initiatives, the Fort McKay School was given a Certificate of Recognition "2017 Healthy Schools Award by Alberta Health Services".

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Do your part in preventing wildfires by following the necessary precautions:

- Never leave fires unattended. Completely extinguish fires and remember to **SOAK IT, STIR IT and SOAK IT AGAIN.**
- Keep a fire extinguisher, hose or source of water nearby when using your fire pit.
- Keep off-highway vehicles (OHV) clean and stop frequently to extinguish hot spots.
- Always fully extinguish cigarette butts.
- Ensure that wildfire hazards are low and that a fire ban has not been issued prior to using a fire pit or OHV www.albertafirebans.ca

Residents living in the Urban Service Area (Fort McMurray) are reminded that backyard fire pits require a permit. If you have recently installed a fire pit or are a new homeowner, you are required to submit an application to the Fire Prevention Branch, located at Fire Hall 5 (200 Sprae Creek Trail, T9H 4P1).

Fire pit permit applications can be obtained by visiting www.rmwb.ca/fireprevention. There is a \$35 permit fee, and all approved permits are valid as long as the applicant resides at the address listed on the permit.

Residents living outside of the Urban Service Area can obtain a free fire permits from March 1 to October 31 through the local Alberta Agriculture and Forestry office by contacting 780-743-7125.

For more information please visit:
www.wildfire.alberta.ca

TO REPORT A WILDFIRE CALL 310-FIRE (3473).

Alberta

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YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
**NORMA GRANDJAMBE &
SAM HOWE**
MEMORIAL JAMBOREE



Canteen

Silent
Auction

50/50



Door prizes

April 22, 2017
Fort McKay Band Hall
Doors will open at 4:00



MUSIC BY NICELY PUT
TOGETHER BAND

Come dance...
Come sing...
But most importantly, come have a good time!

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

WELLNESS CENTER 780-828-2412

Weekdays:

Afterschool Activities 3:15-5pm

Supper Program 5-6 pm

Monday April 3rd:

Young Chef's Program

(Ages 8+)- 6-8 pm (Ages 10+) 6-9pm

Tuesdays April 4&25

Soccer (ages 6+) 6-8pm

Homework Help (gr 1-6) 6-7pm

(Ages 10+) 6-9:00pm

Wednesdays April 5&26

Young Engineers (Age 8-17) 6-8pm

(Ages 10+) 6-9pm

Thursdays April 6&27

Basketball (Age 8+) 6-8pm

(Ages 10+) 6-9pm

Friday April 7th

Native Provincials

*No field trip

Movie Night at Wellness 6-9pm

We have two different spring breaks this year- one for Fort McKay School and one for the kids who go to school in town. We will be open 9 AM to 7 PM those days.

Town School Spring Break Field Trip

April 13th

OPEN 9 AM to 7 PM

*Permission slip required

Bus leaves at 11:00 AM

Bus Returns at 3:00 PM

Fort McKay School Spring Break Field Trip

*Permission slip required

Bus leaves at 11:00 AM

Bus Returns at 3:00 PM

Please note that the Wellness Center will be closed for Good Friday (April 14, 2017) and Easter Monday. (April 17, 2017)

Please contact the Wellness Center for more details at 780-828-4312.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTRE 780-828-4650

April 4

Stress Management – 1:00-3:00pm

April 6

Grief & Loss 1:00-3:00pm

April 11

Healthy Communications -1:00-3:00pm

April 13

Defining Abuse – 1:00-3:00pm

April 18

Anger Management - 1:00-3:00pm

April 20

Responsibilities – 1:00-3:00pm

April 25

Self Esteem – 1:00-3:00pm

April 27

Emotional Awareness – 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.

HEALTH CENTRE 780-828-2450

Dr. Taiwo: TBA

Physiotherapy: Mon. (morning only) & Thurs.

Immunization: April 4 & 18

Annual Diabetes Walk: May 17 @ the school
free t-shirts & free BBQ lunch

Breast Screening Clinic: May 30 & 31 – Call
Belinda to book appt. 780-828-2455 (40yrs + ONLY)
Please call the Health Centre for all other
inquiries or to book appointments.

FORT MCKAY RECREATION 780-714-7094

Adult Pottery Classes:

Starting April 19th, Wednesdays 6-8pm

*participants must committed to 8
classes \$40 deposit its required.

Must be registered! Absolutely no walk-ins!

***Fitness challenge:** starts Tuesday April 18th

Join us on FB AT FORT MCKAY REC CLUB for
updates

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FORT MCKAY REC CLUB for updates

