



Red River Current

JUNE 2019

VOLUME 9 : ISSUE 6

MONIKA WILSON RECOGNIZED DURING ESQUAO AWARDS



Monika Wilson with Chief Mel Grandjamb and others at the Esquao awards.

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The Advancement of Aboriginal Women (IAAW) recognized Monika Wilson on May 13th during the 24th Annual Esquao Awards.

This year, the awards gala took place at the River Cree Resort and Casino in Edmonton and acknowledged 20 women of First Nations, Métis and Inuit descendants for their achievements and contributing roles across Alberta.

Wilson was recognized for her education. She recently graduated with her Juris Doctor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, with a specialization in Aboriginal law and a focus on business law. Prior to law school, she obtained a Bachelor of Arts at UBC-Okanagan in Kelowna, with a major in Anthropology and Indigenous Studies. Through her volunteer experience, she is an active promoter in raising awareness of Indigenous and feminist legal issues and has provided legal advice and

support to low-income Indigenous clients in the Vancouver region.

During the ceremony, Monika Wilson was introduced as “Unwaveringly goal-driven... [her] excellence is all the more profound when you consider the dedication she maintained to academic excellence, having made the dean’s list in her undergraduate degree while working part time and *(story continued on p.2)*



MONIKA WILSON RECOGNIZED DURING ESQUAO AWARDS

volunteering throughout her academic career. Monika's determination and hard work make her an inspiration to all women." Fort McKay Chief Mel Grandjamb also attended the awards ceremony and presented the award to Monika.

The Dorothy McDonald Leadership Award was presented to Lisa Weber, a lawyer known for her many years representing Indigenous governments, communities, organizations, and individuals. The Dorothy

McDonald Award is the only award that is selected by IAAW. IAAW described Dorothy McDonald as "a powerhouse. Her commitment to her community was strong and it is because of her, this ceremony was created."

Over 600 attendees appeared from across the province including business agencies, government officials, and First Nation leaders organizations to recognize and honor these influential women.

The Esquao Awards is the largest assembly honoring Indigenous Women across the country. Since the first ceremony, 456 women have been recognized from over 90 communities.

The Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women (IAAW) is a non-profit organization that recognizes the role, value, and achievement of Aboriginal women in society and raises awareness about the challenges and obstacles faced by Aboriginal women.

FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mel Grandjamb, Chief
Raymond Powder, Councillor
David Bouchier, Councillor
Melinda Stewart, Councillor
Crystal McDonald, Councillor

George Arcand Jr., CEO
Chris Johnson, CFO
Barrie Robb, CEO, Business Development
Alvaro Pinto, Executive Director, Sustainability Department
James Owl, Executive Director, Capital Projects
Noma Mangena, Director, Human Resources

ADMINISTRATION DEPT.

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

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed daily: 12 - 1 p.m.

SUBMISSIONS

If you have any photos, stories or ideas for the Red River Current, please contact the Communications Department
email: communications@fortmckay.com



Monika Wilson speaking after receiving her award



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

NOTICE

TO MEMBERS OF FORT MCKAY FIRST NATION

BUSINESS PROFITS DISTRIBUTION:

A Distribution of Business Profits will be paid to the Members of the Fort McKay First Nation on Friday, June 14th, 2019.

LOCATION:

**Father Begin Hall, Dorothy McDonald Business Centre
& Chateau Nova Kingsway (159 Airport Rd. Edmonton, AB T5G 0W6)**

DATE AND TIME:

Father Begin Hall:
Friday, June 14th, 2019,
10:00AM to 2:00PM

Chateau Nova:
Friday, June 14th, 2019
12:00PM to 5:00PM

DOCUMENTATION:

Administrative Personnel have prepared a package of forms with a brief set of instructions to assist you with your payments. These forms are available for pick up at the Fort McKay First Nation Band Office.

NEXT QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING:

FORT MCKAY, AB:

Monday, July 15th @ 6:30 PM,
Father Begin Hall, Dorothy McDonald Business Centre

FORT MCMURRAY, AB:

Tuesday, July 16th @ 6:30 PM,
Radisson Hotel, 435 Gregoire Dr.

EDMONTON, AB:

Wednesday, July 17th @ 6:30 PM,
Chateau Nova Hotel, 159 Airport Road

**FORT MCKAY FIRST NATION STRONGLY ENCOURAGES
OUR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO ATTEND.**

*For more information, please contact: Fort McKay First Nation Administration, Dorothy McDonald Business Centre,
780-828-4220, www.fortmckay.com*

FORT MCKAY FIRST NATION GOES HIGH TECH WITH ENVIRONMENTAL GUARDIANS AND UAV PROGRAM!



Photo taken from one of FMFN's EG Program UAV from 300 feet above ground looking south from the Fort McKay Business Incubator on April 16, 2019.

Thanks to a significant grant funding opportunity from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Fort McKay First Nation (FMFN) has been able to obtain \$300,000 in funding, with the potential for another \$150,000 in 2020 to support FMFN's Environmental Guardian (EG) Program, which employs three FMFN members (Ryan Grandjambe, Dawson Redcrow, and Harriet Champagne) for the purpose of community-based monitoring. The goal of the program is to support and provide capacity for FMFN members to develop experience and leadership skills, as well as access training opportunities, in environmental sciences and monitoring. One of the major areas that FMFN's EG Program is investing in is UAVs (drones) for both landscape mapping and site documentation, but also for air monitoring and thermal imaging, and these tools will provide state-of-the-art capabilities for FMFN to carry out its own community-based monitoring, as well as offer inspection capabilities and potential search and rescue support capabilities, if ever needed.

FMFN's Environmental Guardians have already installed 24 wildlife cameras in the Moose Lake area to better understand the wildlife species that are present and where they are spending some of their time, as well as to specifically help better understand where caribou are travelling in the Moose Lake area. The Environmental Guardians will also be heavily involved in conducting regular water quality monitoring at Moose (Gardiner) Lake and Buffalo (Namur) Lake as that part of the program expands.



FMFN EG Program wildlife camera and photo it took of a Moose on March 6, 2019 in the Moose Lake area.

Community Education Celebration



Please join us to recognize Fort McKay First Nation 2018/2019 graduating classes.

WE WILL BE HONORING STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM:

KINDERGARTEN
GRADE 6
GRADE 12
POST-SECONDARY

Round Dance and BBQ style catering!
Photo Booth, Raffle, 50/50
June 27th at 6:00 p.m.
Location: Arbor

BUSSING REGISTRATION

BUSSING REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2019 SCHOOL YEAR IS DUE JUNE 15, 2019!

Please come by the Education Offices to register, and pick up the Parent/Student Handbook, which contains information on transportation, attendance, tutoring, school fees, and school supplies reimbursement.

SCHOOL OPTIONS ARE SELECTED BASED ON START TIMES AND EFFICIENT BUS ROUTES:

- Father Patrick Mercredi Community School
- Holy Trinity High School
- St. Anne's School
- Sister Mary Phillips
- Elsie Yanik School
- Christina Gordon Public School





FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

TREATY DAYS

June 21 - 23, 2019
Everyone Welcome!

1899
2019
120TH ANNIVERSARY

You're invited to experience this exciting three day event.
Come CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE and participate in a variety of traditional events!

Special Entertainment from



With Local Supporting Acts

North Country Rock, Black Eyed Creez, AB-Originalz, Nicely Put Together Band
and The Stephanie Harpe Experience

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS:

Presenting Sponsor



Fireworks Sponsor



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Event Catering Sponsor



DENE KOE
A Fort McKay First Nation & Creeo Venture

Support Sponsors



Your could give your people
Culligan Water



Treaty Days • 2019 Event Schedule

Friday June 21	Time	Location
Registration, Information & Merchandise Tent	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Front of Band Hall
Kids Bike Parade	9:45 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Fire Hall Intersection to Wellness Center
Main Parade (Starts on North Side)	10 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Main Road
Opening Ceremonies	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Amphitheatre
INAC Treaty Payout	12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Gazebo
BBQ Lunch – Steak and Shrimp	1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Behind Band Hall
Corporate Tug of War	1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Behind Band Hall
Kids Activities	2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Arena
Teddy Bear Party by C-T Creations	2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Arena
Dene Hand Games	2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Cultural Village
Cultural Village	2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Cultural Village
Local Entertainment – AB-Originalz	3 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Entertainment – Tebey	4 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Community Supper – Bison Burgers	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Band Hall
Slow Pitch Tournament	6 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Baseball Field
Fort McKay Idol & Jigging, Moose Calling and Laughing Contest – Music by Nicely Put Together Band	7 p.m. - 11 p.m.	Amphitheatre

Saturday June 22	Time	Location
Registration, Information & Merchandise tent	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Front of Band Hall
Slow pitch Tournament	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Behind School
Community Breakfast	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Band Hall
Community Tug of War	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Behind Band Hall
Fort McKay Fear Factor	11 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Youth Center
Cultural Village	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Beside Band Hall
Kids Activities	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Arena
Dene Hand Games	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Culture Village
Community Supper – Turkey & Ham Dinner	4 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Band Hall
Local Entertainment - North Country Rock	6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Local Entertainment - Black Eyed Creez	7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Opening Act – SHE (Stephanie Harpe Experience)	8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Main Act - Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	10 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Amphitheatre
Fire Works	11:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.	Behind Amphitheatre

Sunday June 23	Time	Location
Baseball Tournament	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Behind School

CANADIAN ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY HEARTS AND MINDS



Canadian Alliance Health Community Participants

From May 15-17th, the Canadian Alliance for Healthy Hearts and Minds (CAHHM) –First Nations Workshop on Principles and Approaches to Statistical Analysis with Indigenous Story Telling was held at the Population Health Research Institute (PHRI), Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University.

Fort McKay First Nation Local Community Advisory Board member for the CAHHM, or “Healthy Hearts Study”, Jean L’Hommecourt, attended along with Fort McKay study lead Dr. Jeff Brook and coordinator Mary Speck.

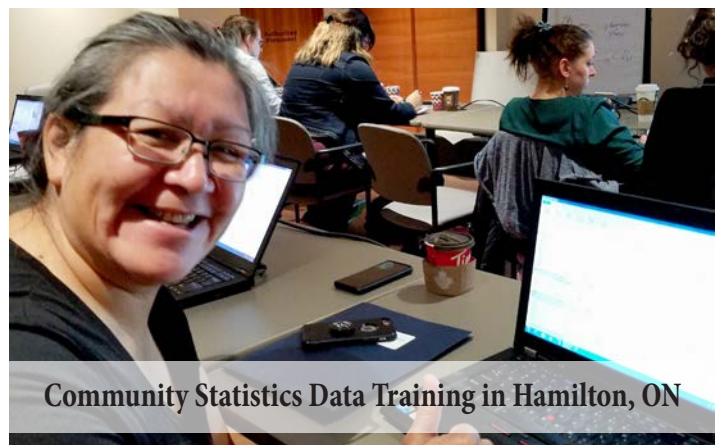
In February 2018 CAHHM brought a mobile MRI to the Fort McKay Band Hall parking lot to gather important health measurements for the community. Now these data are available and are being used. The purpose of this workshop was to empower First Nations communities involved in CAHHM

with the tools to analyze and interpret their own community data and to develop research questions. A founding principle for CAHHM was that each community owns their own data. This workshop was to ensure a fulsome understanding of all the information collected as part of the study in order to help ensure Fort McKay maximizes their use and knowledge generation to suit their needs.

Representatives from each community’s LCAB spent time learning more regarding the type, quality, completeness, and principles and approaches to statistical analysis of the CAHHM data. Dr. Brook made a presentation about environmental concerns in Fort McKay as a first step in building support across all communities to participate in future health and environment studies. A highlight of the workshop was a gala dinner hosted by friends at the Six Nations of the Grand River Gathering Place.



Jean, Mary and Jeff during a meeting



Community Statistics Data Training in Hamilton, ON



FOREST PROTECTION AREA OF ALBERTA

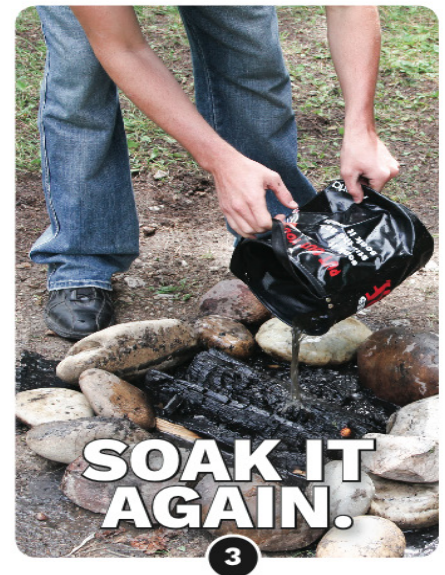
Alberta's Forest Protection Area (FPA) covers approximately 60 per cent of the province's landmass. The province is responsible for managing wildfires in this area. Wildfire protection in Alberta is shared between Alberta Wildfire (inside the FPA) and the municipalities and counties outside the FPA.

For more information:
wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-maps/administrative-boundaries.aspx

FOREST AND PRAIRIE PROTECTION ACT

If you're responsible for starting a wildfire, you can be charged under the Forest and Prairie Protection Act (FPPA), fined and held liable for all costs associated with fighting the wildfire. All Alberta legislation, including the FPPA, can be found at the Queen's Printer.

SAFE CAMPFIRES



SELECT YOUR SITE

- In campgrounds or recreational areas, use the designated stoves, rings or fire pits. They are designed to keep fires from spreading and are the best choice for a safe campfire.
- When outside of a campground, use sites that are clear of dry grass, bushes, leaves, branches, tree trunks, peat moss and overhanging branches. If the site has already been used for a campfire, use the same site.
- Build your campfires on level ground that is sheltered from wind.
- If you can't build your fire near a water source, have a large container of water nearby to keep your campfire under control and fully extinguish it.

PREPARE YOUR CAMPFIRE

THE TOOLS

- A shovel or spade
- An axe or hatchet
- Enough water to fully extinguish your campfire

THE SITE

In the backcountry or where there is not a dedicated fire ring, use these instructions:

- Make a circle about one metre around.
- Dig or scrape down to the mineral soil.
- Clear away any flammable materials within one metre of the pit.

EXTINGUISH YOUR CAMPFIRE

SOAK IT. STIR IT. SOAK IT AGAIN.

- Let the fire burn down before you plan on putting it out. Spread the embers within the fire pit, then add water or loose dirt and stir.
- Expose any material still burning and then add more water and stir again until you can no longer see smoke or steam. Do not bury your fire as the embers may continue to smoulder and can re-emerge as a wildfire.
- Repeat until your campfire is cool to the touch.
- If your fire is out, you should not be able to feel any heat from the ashes.

Alberta Wildfire

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
wildfire.alberta.ca
 PFFC.WFIO@gov.ab.ca
 1-866-FYI-FIRE

f t y i a a
 ALBERTA WILDFIRE

REPORT WILDFIRES 310-FIRE

Alberta
FIREBANS.ca

FireSmart
 FireSmart.ca

Alberta Government
 OCTOBER 2016

SAFE CAMPFIRES

WILDFIRE PREVENTION TIPS

ELDERS CENTRE ACTIVITIES!



June 11, 2019

June 12, 2019

June 13, 2019

June 14, 2019

June 19, 2019

June 24, 2019

June 26, 2019

June 27, 2019

June 29, 2019

Music in the Park in Fort McMurray

Flower Basket Planting

Elders Lunch at Riverside

Dinner in Fort McMurray

Summer Wreath Making with Ashley

Walmart Outing

Ten Diamond/Tens Tournament

Boating & Picnic with Councillor David Bouchier

Signing with Candace around the fire at Riverside

Tuesdays & Thursday - Elders Lunch

Grocery Shopping Day - Call Rosita for Pick up

Please call Rosita for registration of outings 780-742-5015

ATTENTION

SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

*Changes to the operations of the
Summer Student Employment Program
are effective this summer.*

Learn about the changes at the
Parent and Student Information Night
on June 4th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the
Youth Centre.

**SSEP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS
JUNE 14, 2019.**

*Applications are located at the
Education Office, located in the
basement of the band office.*



Please join us at

NORMA GRANJAMBE & SAM HOWE MEMORIAL JAMBOREE

When: June 29, 2019

Where: Fort McKay

Band Hall

Doors open at 4:30 pm

Dinner: 5:00 pm

BBQ

50/50

SILENT AUCTION

TALENT SHOW

YOUTH AND ADULT CASH

PRIZES



MINORS' TRUST PAYMENT TO BENEFICIARIES

(Quarterly General Meeting Information)

The Minors' Trust has been set up with Peace Hills Trust as Trustee. Effective immediately, all minors' per capita distributions will be paid into the Minors' Trust, invested in an appropriate conservative, low risk investment and held in the minors' name for payment when the minor comes of age.

A final point of discussion will be brought to the Membership at the next Quarterly General Meeting in July 2019 of how to manage fund pay-outs when minors come of age. The balances will be substantial and could include 18 years of distributions plus interest earned on investments of these distributions. Fort McKay wants to ensure those funds become the foundation of something positive for the successful future of the minor.

Studies on per capita distributions have shown how important it is to manage large per capita pay-outs. A 2014 study published in the American Indian Law Journal found that amongst American Tribes, those that provided per capita distributions had increased rates of poverty in their communities. Another paper published by the University of Arizona as part of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development described the hidden costs of per capita distributions as drug and alcohol abuse, a declining work ethic and a 'why bother?' attitude to education.

It is not healthy to have young adults start off with a 'why bother' attitude to education or to incentivize behaviour that creates dysfunction and harm. It is important to the well-being of our community to make sure that we don't create such a situation. In order to manage the risks of paying out a large amount of money when a minor turns 18, Fort McKay wants to create incentives for youth to pursue education and build a solid foundation for their future.

The Chief & Council will be seeking Membership input on the following proposals for pay-out to:

- A former minor who reaches the age of 18 is entitled to receive 100% of the funds held in trust for him or her if they have graduated from high school with their diploma. If the former minor does not graduate, then they must wait until the age of 21 to obtain payment out of their trust funds. If the minor returns to school to finish, then they can apply at any time after obtaining their high school diploma for payment of 100% of their trust funds. or;
- A former minor who reaches the age of 18 is entitled to receive 50% of the funds held in trust for him or her and the remaining 50% of the funds at the age of 21.

If these rules are adopted, individuals who do not complete high school will wait longer to gain access to their trust funds. This creates an incentive to finish high school and pursue an education.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

WELLNESS CENTER 780-828-2412

Mondays

Playground Games (Ages 8+) 6pm-8pm
Youth Choice (Ages 10+) 8pm-9pm

Tuesdays

Mini Chefs (Ages 6-7) 6pm-7:30pm
Tenni-Ball (Ages 8+) 6pm-8pm
Youth Choice (Ages 10+) 8pm-9pm

Wednesdays

DIY Craft Club (Ages 8+) 6pm-8pm
Soccer (Ages 8+) 6pm-8pm
Youth Choice (Ages 10+) 8pm-9pm

Thursday

Nature Play (Ages 6+) 6pm-7:30pm
Floor Hockey (Ages 8+) 6pm-8pm
Youth Choice (Ages 10+) 8pm-9pm

June 7

Field Trip – Town School Kids Only
Outdoor Park
(Ages 6-12)

Permission Slip Required
Bus Leaves at 10:30am
Bus Returns at 2:30pm

PRE-TEEN NIGHT

June 14
Field Trip – Mac Island
(Ages 8-11)

Permission Slip Required
Bus Leaves at 5:30pm
Bus Returns at 10:00pm

JUNIOR LEADERS MEETING

June 26 (Ages 10+) 6pm-7pm

The Wellness Center will be closed June 21 for Treaty Days and June 27 & 28 for the Annual Youth Cultural Trip.

For more information about our programs, please contact us during regular operating hours.

FORT MCKAY HEALTH CENTRE 780-828-2450

Medical Transportation: Contact 780-742-8843 or after hours Edmonton. Referral Unit 1-800-514-7106 with any questions.

Physio – Monday and Thursdays

Immunizations – Immunization clinic every Wednesday except for the last Wednesday of the Month.

For more information on the services offered at the Health Centre, please contact the centre during regular office hours.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTRE

VICTIM SERVICES

*Alternating Wednesdays from
10:00am-11:00am*

NEAFAN

Alternating Thursday from 10:00am-12:00pm

WAYPOINTS

Every Wednesday from 1:00pm-3:00pm

EDMUND LEDI

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00pm-7:00pm

PROBATION SERVICES

Second Monday of every month at Band hall incubator 10:00am-12:00pm

ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

Alternative Thursday from 10.00 am - 3.00

For more information on our services, please call 780-972-4048

