



Red River Current

September 2020

VOLUME 10 : ISSUE 8

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Northland School Division (NSD) is pleased to provide its re-entry plan. On July 21, 2020, Jason Kenney, Premier, Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education and Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health announced that in-person classes will resume under scenario 1, which is a complete return to school with health and safety measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Prior to the announcement,

Alberta Education with support from Dr. Hinshaw, provided guidance to support school divisions with re-entry plans. As a result, Northland School Division (NSD) has developed a re-entry plan outlining school operations and expectations.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank our committee of principals, directors, and senior administration for putting together a plan that outlines

additional health measures and multiple options to support in-person and at-home learning," Robin Guild, Board Chair. We value the partnerships we have with our parents and guardians. This year will be no different and it is more important now, more than ever, that our families and schools work together to support our students and to

(story continued on p.2)



KIDS ARE BACK IN CLASSROOMS WITH NSD RE-ENTRY PLAN



FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

Chris Johnson, CEO
Alvaro Pinto, CEO Oilsands Development
and Sustainability
Stuart Randall, Senior Manager,
Business Development
James Owl, Executive Director,
Capital Projects
Noma Mangena, Director, Human Resources

ADMINISTRATION DEPT.

Dorothy McDonald Business Centre
General Delivery
Fort McKay, AB T0P 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

(story continued from p.1)

model healthy practices. I also want to thank Minister LaGrange and Dr. Hinshaw for providing guidance with implementing additional health measures.”

Schools will resume in-school classes on September 8-11, 2020 with the added health measures. Students will have a staggered entry in the first week, with parents being notified which days during the first week that their child will attend in-person classes. NSD’s re-entry plan includes the following health measures:

- mandatory use of masks Kindergarten-Grade 12 on buses;
- mandatory use of masks for all staff and students Grades 4-12;
- masks highly recommended for Kindergarten-Grade 3 students;
- enhanced cleaning and hygiene protocols;
- daily screening requirements;
- strict stay-at-home guidelines for individuals who feel unwell or have symptoms related to COVID-19;
- enforced public-health measures; and
- cohort and physical distancing strategies.

“While developing the re-entry plan, we wanted to ensure the transition back to school is smooth and operations take place in the safest way possible,” said Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools. “For families not yet ready to send their child to school, we are offering an at-home learning option. Both the in-school and at-home learning options allow students to stay connected to their school throughout their learning.”



What's New and Exciting!!!!

Moose Lake Summer Camp Photo Contest 2020

Chief Mel Grandjamb is sponsoring a photo contest for this year's summer camp program.

Photos collected this year during your stay at Moose and Buffalo Lakes will be used in our advertising campaign.

Photos can be taken with cell phone or camera and submitted by September 30, 2020 to Audrey Redcrow by phone **780-215-2384** or email aredcrow@fortmckay.com

1st Prize, \$1000

2nd Prize, \$500

3rd Prize, \$250

Good luck everyone, and Remember,
Please Enjoy your Stay at Paradise Bay!



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION





FORT MCKAY NO MEET THE

Exzander Lacorde



Exzander Lacorde is hands-down the most explosive player on the team. His speed combined with his quickness makes him an unstoppable force. Although his season was cut short due to injury, he still led the team in all-purpose yards and had the longest touchdown of the season. this kid will excel at whatever sport he chooses, and you will definitely see him on the gridiron again next season!

Everett 'Unstoppable' Reid

Everett 'Unstoppable' Reid was a physical presence on the field standing 6'2 and weighing 225 pounds at just 14 years old. He played his first year of football during the 2019 season with the Northern Spirits and lead the team in sacks as well as contributing on offense as Running back and Wide Receiver. Coachable kid with a lot of heart and leadership skills. This will NOT be the last time we hear from this kid!



NORTHERN SPIRITS THE TEAM



Kairo 'Pedro' Grandjambe

Kairo 'Pedro' Grandjambe is Wide Receiver and H-Back for the Fort Mckay Northern Spirits! Although he missed the second half of the season, he still managed to end the year with the most receiving yards and receiving touchdowns! Kairo is a PLAYMAKER!!



Alicia 'Chief' Gladue



Alicia 'CHIEF' Gladue was the Spirit of the Northern Spirits. Alicia came to the first game to be team photographer, and after a few injuries I asked her to play. It didn't take long to realize that she had what it took to be a special football player. After that first game she never looked back. She led the team in tackles and was captain of the defense, which earned her defensive MVP award. Her overall commitment and willingness to get better every week, combined with her ferocious competitive nature made her the ultimate player. She finished the year with team MVP award in a co-ed team in a co-ed league. She played multiple positions including running back and even one game scoring a receiving touchdown.



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

INTRODUCING NEW IN OUR COMMUNITY

CHRISTINE GULLION

We would like to introduce Christine Gullion, the new Education Director of Fort McKay First Nation. Christine is a member of the Swan River First Nation near Kinuso, Alberta. She is the eldest daughter of Betty and Johnny Jackson. She has over twenty years' experience in the Education field including working as a teacher's assistant, teacher, Vice Principal and Principal. Her work in the field of education is well known in the Treaty 8 area.

She has mentored teachers and Principals as well as being the founder of the Treaty 8 Traditional Games. Christine teaches the Traditional Games and has had led the Treaty 8 Traditional Games competition for ten years. She has a firm belief that in order for aboriginal students to succeed, they need to know their history and culture and to be proud of this rich heritage.

She also believes that Aboriginal people are facing the loss of their language and culture and that the school is one way that we can retain the language and culture. Language can only be retained by teaching it at the school and reinforcing it at home. Sometimes this means teaching the parents their aboriginal language as many parents have also lost their aboriginal language. Christine believes that respect is of utmost importance when dealing with students and has always taught and worked from the heart!

She is looking forward to working at Fort McKay and having the new school recognized as having both an excellent academic program and an exceptional language and cultural focus!



Christine Gullion, Education Director

NADINE DALHEIM

Nadine Dalheim is the new Addictions & Mental Health Manager in our community. Nadine's role is to provide supervision and management for the addictions and mental health needs of the community. This includes working out of the Family Support Centre and overseeing its day to day operations as well as develop new programs for the community that can target the mental health needs as well as substance use concerns for all ages within the community.



NEW EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

Nadine brings with her a great deal of education and experience. She is a certified Mental Health Therapist and will be providing services to children, youth, and adults in the community. She is also a PhD candidate and is currently studying Child and Adolescents Developmental Psychology, and researching the effects of technology and developmental delays in children.

In her previous working experiences, Nadine worked for Alberta Health Services in Fort McMurray and supervised the addictions as well as the wellness team. She was an outreach counsellor and traveled to the Indigenous and Metis communities surrounding Fort McMurray, including Fort McKay. “I have worked in this field now for 10 years, including being the manager of a prevention program for an Indigenous community in Saskatchewan, as well as developing and delivering training for foster parents and group homes in Indigenous communities throughout Saskatchewan,” she explained.

Nadine hopes to offer more services in the community that will focus on mental health and addictions as well as family supports. “I would like to see more services for children and youth in the community and I look forward to connecting with other departments and working together to put together new initiatives that will benefit the community.”

NANCY PEEL

Nancy Peel is Fort McKay’s new Tenant Engagement Coordinator. In her role, she will be responsible for new housing applications, lease renewals, and housing repairs within our community.

Nancy previously worked for NWT Housing Corporation for two years, primarily in the North Slave region. “I was responsible for home ownership applications, and repairs to existing homes,” she explained. She also offered budgeting and home maintenance training programs to clients that were approved for home ownership.

Nancy enjoys tackling challenges by taking things one day at a time. If you have any housing issue, you can count on her. “If I am able, I will be here”, she shared. She looks forward to her new role working in Fort McKay and getting to know community members.

During her spare time, Nancy enjoys spending time with her two grandchildren. “We pick berries, go to the parks, go to the movies. We cook together.” Nancy also enjoys bead work, playing horseshoes and reading books.



**Nancy Peel, Tenant
Engagement Coordinator**



FORT MCKAY SUSTAINABILITY

In this issue ...

- Update on the Moose Lake 10km Zone Access Management Plan
- Remote wildlife camera monitoring in the Moose Lake area
- Environmental Guardian Program update

Contact us at:

(780) 828 2470

fmsadmin@fortmckay.com

The Sustainability Department oversees Fort McKay's interaction with the oil sands industry in every respect except commercial enterprises. It negotiates impact benefit agreements, oversees community engagement, monitors environmental impacts within the traditional territory to ensure industry compliance, and oversees regulatory activities. It is also responsible for government relations associated with natural resource development and Crown land management.

The department monitors water quality, air quality, cumulative effects, and other industrial impacts on the environment, as well as conducting environmental research.

MOOSE LAKE 10KM ZONE ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Finalizing the draft Moose Lake Plan

Chief Mel Grandjamb and Alberta's Environment and Parks Minister, Jason Nixon, met monthly between February and May to give direction to their respective staffs. The Sustainability

Department met with government staff, oil sands and forestry companies, and other Indigenous people almost daily up to the middle of May to improve the draft of the plan government had abandoned in 2018.

Alberta's Court of Appeal delivered a judgement in April that overturned the Alberta Energy Regulator's approval of Prosper's Rigel Project inside the 10km zone designated for the Moose Lake Plan. The court directed AER to reconsider the project, including government commitments to complete the plan, the "honour of the Crown" and the impact of cumulative effects on Treaty rights.

The Alberta government released the 2020 draft of the Moose Lake Plan in May for review by stakeholders. All oil sands companies inside the 10km zone except CNRL shared their submissions with Fort McKay. Submissions on the plan were also made by the Fort McKay and Fort Chipewyan Métis, AlPac Forest Industries and Northland Forest Products.

The Sustainability Department hosted a number of socially distanced and online consultation sessions to collect input from the community about the draft Moose Lake Plan.

Following COVID-19 public health directives to ensure health and safety, those who attended the sessions unanimously expressed their desire to prohibit a developer from placing its central processing facility (CPF) inside the 10 km zone. Members have stated clearly they want a comprehensive and meaningful Moose Lake Plan that protects the ecological and cultural integrity of the Moose Lake area to support the exercise of Treaty rights and traditional land uses essential to preserve our Cree and Dene cultures.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic and public health responsibilities, Fort McKay and Alberta agreed to extend the 90-Day Roadmap announced January 31 through the summer months and into the autumn. The Sustainability Department expects to provide its formal submission to Alberta to improve the Moose Lake Plan in the fall.



CITY DEPARTMENT NEWS

While considerable work has been completed to improve upon the government's 2018 version, we have yet to resolve important issues, including the CPF ban and how best to allocate disturbance limits to minimize impacts. SD is encouraged by the progress made with Alberta and anticipates the final Moose Lake Plan will address these key protection measures.

Fort McKay received notice in July that the Alberta Energy Regulator intends to reconvene a hearing on the Prosper Rigel Project in the near term.

We wish to thank all of you for your ongoing support of Moose Lake. Despite new obstacles, we remain confident we will cross the finish line soon and secure protection for this special area that is essential for the preservation and transmission of our culture and way of life to future generations. We remain committed to using every tool at our disposal to do so.

REMOTE WILDLIFE CAMERA MONITORING

The Environmental Guardian Program, funded through a grant from Environment and Climate Change Canada, has been busy with its wildlife camera program and has deployed 24 remote cameras in the Moose Lake area to better understand resident wildlife and their movements.



Ryan Grandjambe collecting water quality samples at Buffalo (Namur) Lake.



Park Ranger Junior Poulin helps the Guardians with a water survey assignment.



Ryan Grandjambe at one of McKay's hydrometric (water monitoring) stations.

The Guardians are also performing water monitoring programs at Moose Lake and Buffalo Lake for the fourth year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Guardians are performing all monitoring tasks that would ordinarily be done in collaboration with consultants from Associated Environmental Inc. Recent investments in education and training have qualified the Guardians to do nearly all the field work in the Moose Lake area can be almost entirely completed by FMFN's own community members that make up the Environmental Guardian Program.

REPORT AN ODOUR

To report an odour, please call:

Alberta Environment Hotline: 1 800 222 6514 (24 hrs)

For up-to-date information during odours and other air events in the region, please call:

WBEA Air Information Line: 1 866 685 3699 (24 hrs)

If an odour is making you feel sick or you have health concerns, please call:

Alberta Health Link: 1 866 408 5465 (24 hrs)



Back to School



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

2020/2021 Elementary - High School Students School Supplies Reimbursement

- Maximum reimbursement of \$150 / student for supplies on the School Supplies list for your child's school district, Shoes, Backpack and Reusable Nonmedical Mask for the school bus.
- Fort McMurray Catholic District Supply List:
<https://fmcschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/School-Supply-List-2020-2021.pdf>
- Fort McKay School students may submit for reimbursement of shoes & a backpack as school supplies are provided.
- Student must be on the Fort McKay First Nation Band Membership List to qualify.

Please email receipts to
education@fortmckay.com

OR

Drop the receipt off to the front desk in a labelled envelope with your child's name, grade and school

**Deadline for submissions:
September 30, 2020.**



PARENTS' GUIDE 2020–21 SCHOOL YEAR

Return to near normal daily in-school classes with health measures



Learning in the new school year

Students will return to school daily at the beginning of the new school year. There are health measures that everyone has to follow to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and help stay safe.

While your school will develop a plan to meet the government's health recommendations, everyone will have a role to play.

PARENTS' ROLE IN KEEPING SCHOOLS SAFE

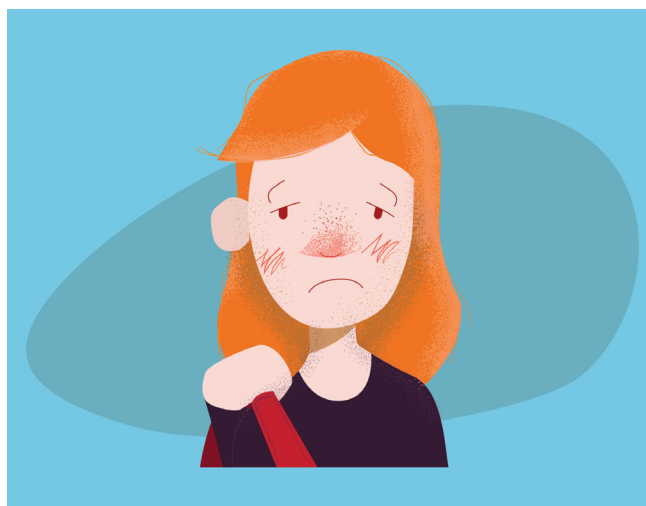
Screen for symptoms every morning

Check every morning to see if your child has any of these symptoms.

If yes, they must stay home:

- Fever, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, chills, painful swallowing
- Runny nose/nasal congestion, feeling unwell/fatigued, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, unexplained loss of appetite
- Loss of sense of taste or smell, muscle/joint aches, headache, Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

Use the [Self-Assessment tool](#) to check if your child should be tested for COVID-19.



Stay home when sick or if in contact with someone who is sick

Students, parents or family members must not enter school if they:

- Feel sick or have symptoms of COVID-19
- Had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Had close contact with a symptomatic close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Have traveled outside of Canada in the last 14 days



For more details: alberta.ca/returntoschool

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Alberta



IMPORTANT COMMUNITY NOTICE:

~Medical Transportation Update~



Following the lifting of restrictions and the subsequent increase in Medical Transportation utilization, the ERU has recently experienced increases in the volume of calls received. Request and/or documents received within 24 hours of the travel time have created workflow problems for our staff which may impact client's travel and could result in trips needing to be rescheduled. To assist the regional office in coordinating travel, we are asking everyone to ensure that travel requests and all associated documentation are submitted a minimum of 2 business days in advance of the departure time. Please do not hold onto the file/request at the Health Center, but instead action the file as soon as possible and/or in accordance with the timeframe outlined above. Working together, we can help ensure that all clients can make their scheduled appointment(s).

COVID-19 INFORMATION

HOW TO WEAR A NON-MEDICAL MASK

Non-medical masks, including homemade cloth masks, can help prevent the spread COVID-19. They are another tool to use in places where it's difficult to keep two metres from other people for extended periods of time – such as public transit, grocery stores, pharmacies, hair salons, airplanes and some retail shops.

Masks do not replace proper hygiene, physical distancing or isolation to prevent the spread.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WEARING AND CARING FOR YOUR MASK

alberta.ca/masks

Alberta



PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

You can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Alberta. Prevention starts with awareness.

- Practice physical distancing
- Self-isolate if you're feeling sick
- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Do not travel outside of Canada

PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

All Albertans have a responsibility to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Take steps to protect yourself and others:

- Limit the number of times you leave your home
- Stay at least 2 meters away from others when you go out for groceries, medical trips, and other essential needs
- Have groceries or other items delivered if possible
- If you go outside for fresh air maintain 2 meters distance from others
- Avoid overcrowding in elevators and other enclosed spaces
- Wash your hands after touching communal surfaces such as handrails, handles
- Postpone family visits, friend gatherings, and group outings, especially if household or family members are senior citizens or have high-risk medical conditions
- Do not gather with other people if you have a fever or a cough, even if symptoms appear to be mild.
- Obey all mandatory self-isolation requirements and mass gathering restrictions now in place in Alberta.

Legally enforceable public health measures are in place to limit the time Albertans spend in contact with each other. Anyone violating these restrictions is now subject to fines.

MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS

COVID-19 symptoms are similar to influenza and other respiratory illnesses. Symptoms can include:

- cough
- fever
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- sore throat

If you have any of these symptoms stay home and self-isolate; do not go to an ER or medical clinic. **Call Health Link at 8-1-1 for more information.** Services are available in 240 languages.

SELF ISOLATE

You are legally required to self-isolate for:

- **14 days** if you returned from international travel or are a close contact of a person with COVID-19
- **10 days** if you have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition

If you are self-isolating:

- Stay home — do not go to work, social events or any other public areas or community settings
- Avoid close contact with other people, including household members but especially seniors and people with chronic conditions or compromised immune systems
- Do not use public transportation or ride sharing
- Do not go for walks in public places. This includes children in mandatory self-isolation.
- If you go outside, you must remain on private property not accessible by others.
- If you live in an apartment building or high-rise, you must stay inside and cannot use the elevators or stairwells. If your balcony is private and at least 2 metres away from other balconies, you may use your balcony to get fresh air.



FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

Teddy Bear Fair

This event is a fun, health and wellness event for children from birth to age 6. Providing health information, screening and referrals to appropriate health services and programs.

This year, please phone ahead to book a time for the following for your child;

- Record their height and weight.
- Check up on immunizations
- Public Health Nurse available to set up appropriate referrals.
- Educational handouts: Nutrition, Jordan Principal, FASD, Dental Care.
- A Teddy Bear for every child.
- Tooth brush.
- Car Safety.
- Handwashing.
- A bagged lunch will be provided.
- Door prizes upon entrance.



This event will be at the Youth Centre on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., please remember to practice social distancing, wear a mask and follow all COVID-19 health restrictions.

Contact Vanessa CHR at the Health Centre on **780-828-2450** or **780-742-8277** to book your appointment.

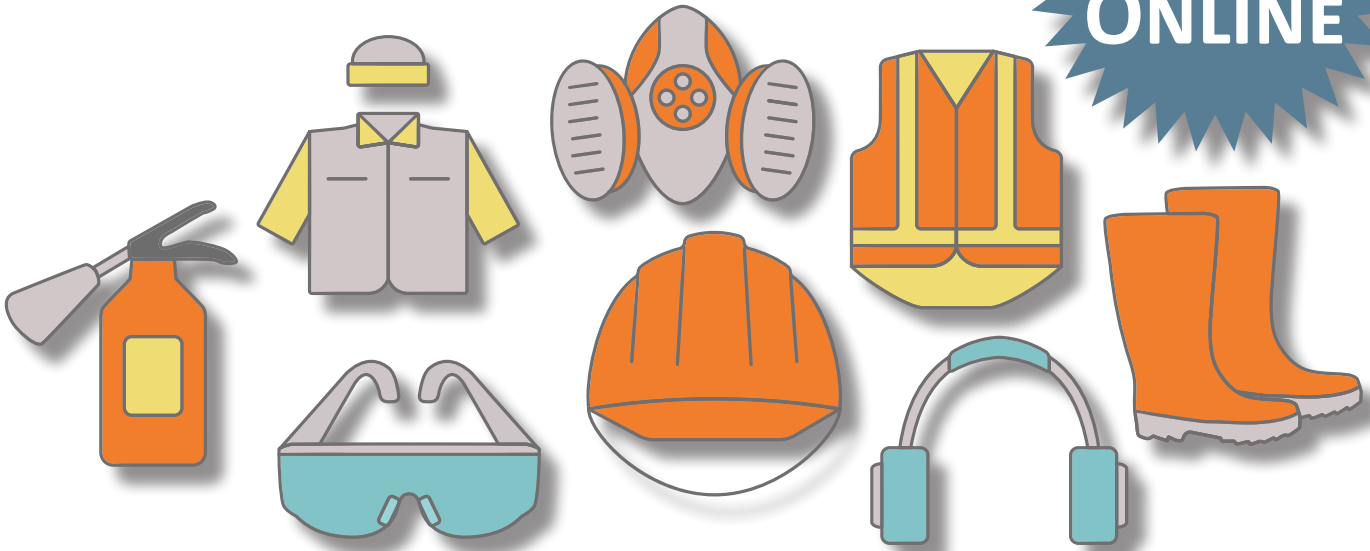
INSPIRED BY OUR PAST, INVESTED IN OUR FUTURE





FORT MCKAY
FIRST NATION

**FREE
ONLINE**



CSTS - CONSTRUCTION SAFETY ASSOCIATION SYSTEMS TRAINING

CSTS is ONE of the required safety trainings to work in the oil sands.

CSTS 2020 – is being offered for FREE online!

Get your training today at www.youracsa.ca/courses/csts2020
OR

Fort McKay First Nation members can call the Employment Counsellor at **587-646-4638** or email kpandit@fortmckay.com for help with registration.

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COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

WELLNESS CENTER 780-828-2412

Amid the current COVID-19 Outbreak,
The Wellness Center is
running "virtual programs" online via our
Facebook Page "Fort McKay
Wellness Center".

To view a list of our planned virtual
activities for this month, please
go to our facebook page.

You can contact us by email to
fortmckaywellnesscenter@hotmail.ca
if you do not have access to
Facebook and would like to receive
email updates or if you would like
more information on latest program
initiatives.

FORT MCKAY HEALTH CENTRE 780-828-2450

DR. O'CONNOR

September 14th 15th 16th
Please call in advance if you need to make
an appointment with Dr. O'Connor.

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION:

Contact 780-742-8843 for after hours
Edmonton Referral Unit
1-800-514-7106 with any questions.

PHYSIO

Call Tamarack Physical Therapy to make an
appointment at 780-743-3267

IMMUNIZATIONS

Contact the Health Centre to make an
appointment with the Public Health Nurse

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

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS!!



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Stay informed by :

Listening to Fort McKay's community radio station:
106.3 fm
& going on fort mckay's facebook page

