A Fort McKay First Nation Publication

### Volume 14: Issue 2 · March 2024

## **Grand Opening of Multi-Sport** Simulator at Fort McKay Arena



Left to Right: Councillor Crystal McDonald, Councillor Melinda Stewart, Chief Raymond Powder, Nicole Bouchier, Councillor David Bouchier and unknown person.

ort McKay First Nation, in partnership with Bouchier, hosted the grand opening of a state-of-the-art multi-sport simulator at the Fort McKay Arena. The event, held on January 31, 2024, showcased the recently renovated facility, and highlighted the positive impact of collaboration and charitable contributions on the development of Indigenous youth through sports.

"This is a very exciting time for our community as we see a growing list of state-of-the-art facilities serving Fort McKay," said Chief Raymond Powder. "David and Nicole Bouchier have played a key role in helping us get to where we are today, helping us reach our goals while supporting our youth. On behalf of our Nation, I thank them for their hard work and for their commitment to always doing their best for our community."

The grand opening event featured a variety of distinguished guests,

including a blessing by Elder Clara Boucher and a warm welcome from Chief Powder. The event also included speeches emphasizing

#### Continued on page 2



Nicole Bouchier and Councillor David Bouchier cut the ribbon to the new simulator

#### LOCAL ARCHER AIMS FOR THE PODIUM

Tayden Shott was right on target at the 3D Archery Indoor Provincial Competition in Medicine Hat last month. Tayden, a member of Fort McKay, finished in 3rd place in the 15-17 Open Male Compound Division. He was the only athlete from the northeast to attend the the event, and the one who travelled the furthest to

Shott has participated in numerous competitions over the past few years. He won silver at the Alberta 3D Target Provincials and gold at the 2022 Alberta Indigenous Games and at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games in Nova Scotia. At the 2023 Arctic Winter Games in Fort McMurray, Tayden finished 4th. He also won gold at the 2023 Alberta Indigenous Games and was recently awarded the Youth award for the RMWB Council's Excellence awards.

Congratulations, Tayden, on your accomplishments. We can chart your success by following the arrows.



#### **FMFN LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Raymond Powder, Chief David Bouchier, Councillor Crystal McDonald, Councillor Bobby Shott, Councillor Melinda Stewart, Councillor

Rhonda Laboucan, CEO Alvaro Pinto, CEO Oilsands Development and Sustainability Stuart Randell, Director, Strategic Portfolio Investments

#### 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 us via email at: communications@fortmckay.com

# Sign up for the FMFN App Today!

Stay updated with the latest community news and get important community notifications simply by downloading the Fort McKay First Nation App on your your iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

Never miss an update and download the app now!









The Bouchier family presented a cheque for \$10,000 to the Wahkohtowin Sports Circle Foundation.

#### Continued from page 1

the importance of community engagement and the significant role that sports play in the lives of young Indigenous individuals. Fort McKay Recreation expressed their gratitude to Bouchier and the Wahkohtowin Sports Circle Foundation for their generous support, as well as to the community members, stakeholders, and dignitaries who attended the grand opening event and championed the cause of empowering Indigenous youth through sports.

"Youth are the future of our communities, and sports provide them with the opportunity to learn valuable life skills, foster a sense of teamwork, and promote physical and mental well-being. We are proud to contribute to the positive development of Indigenous youth through our donations to Fort McKay

Recreation and the Wahkohtowin Sports Circle Foundation," says David Bouchier, Founder and Owner of Bouchier.

Bouchier's generous donation of \$100,000 in 2023 to Fort McKay Recreation has provided the necessary support for the establishment of the multi-sport simulator. Additionally, Bouchier has also contributed \$10,000 to the Wahkohtowin Sports Circle Foundation, formerly know as Fort Mac Hockey Bros. WSCF gave back by donating \$5,000 towards the purchase of archery equipment for Fort McKay Recreation.

The grand opening event culminated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony, symbolizing the official launch of the multi-sport simulator. The simulator is now open to the community and kicked off with the first annual Bouchier Golf Tournament in February.



# Looking out for the community's wellbeing



f someone's dog goes missing, there's a good chance they'll be seen by one of Fort McKay's security cameras and brought safely home.

The cameras, set up on the roads in and out in the community; at some intersections, and on certain public buildings such as the Band Hall, help track vehicular traffic patterns and abnormal animal behaviour as well as pets. They are unmonitored and used as a source of information only in a crisis, a traffic accident, or a police investigation.

"In our case the cameras are very definitely a passive protection system," said Darrel Laboucan, the Senior Community Police Officer.

All the camera footage is stored on a secure disk drive that allows peace officers to review the material in order to resolve community issues. It is never reviewed for any other purpose.

The system is secure and almost all the images it captures are mundane and day-to-day activities. But in extreme cases, the cameras can help resolve issues effectively, efficiently, and fairly.



#### In this Issue...

Local Archer aims for the podium	Grand Opening of Multi-Sport Simulator	
Get ready for the 2024 Wildfire Season	Local Archer aims for the podium	
It's fire season, best to be prepared	Looking out for the community's wellbeing	3
Three ways to keep the peace	Get ready for the 2024 Wildfire Season	4
Winter Safety	It's fire season, best to be prepared	5
Bear season may come ealy this year. Be prepared	Three ways to keep the peace	6
Elders lunch & big prize bingo	Winter Safety	7
FMFN celebrates excellence in sport	Bear season may come ealy this year. Be prepared	8
Ethan Fabian & Emmett McIsaac shine in U13 Tourney11 Happy 92nd Birthday Lina Gallup12 & 13 Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal15	Elders lunch & big prize bingo	9
Happy 92nd Birthday Lina Gallup12 & 13 Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal15	FMFN celebrates excellence in sport	10 & 11
Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal15	Ethan Fabian & Emmett McIsaac shine in U13 Tourney	11
Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal15 Upcoming Events15 & 16	Happy 92nd Birthday Lina Gallup	12 & 13
Upcoming Events15 & 16	Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal	15
	Upcoming Events	15 & 16

# FORT MCKAY HEALTH CENTRE

#### **Clinic Dates:**

Dr O'Connor - March 4th - 8th Dr Taiwo - March 26th - 28th PCN Nurse - Every Mon & Wed

Please call in advance if you need to make an appointment with Dr. O'Connor or Charlene.

#### **Immunizations**

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

For more information on other services offered at the Health Centre, please contact the centre at **780.828.2450.** 

# FORT MCKAY EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

The Employment and Training Center is there to help you with creating/ updating resumes, searching for and applying for jobs, and offering support for employment and training.

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact the office at **780.828.2478.** 

#### FORT MCKAY 106.3 FM



STAY up to date with the latest music and news!!

Listening to Fort McKay's community radio station!

www.fortmckayfm.com

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### This year, wildfire season may come early

he weather this winter means that wildfire season is expected start ten days earlier than usual, according to the Albert government.

Recently, we've seen the risks that wildfires present. And with above average temperatures this winter, and below average precipitation, the risk of fires is also higher than usual.

#### It pays to be cautious

As a precaution, given the conditions, Alberta Wildfire may make greater use of the fire ban and restriction system to help reduce the risk of accidental fires.

Any member who has a planned burning in the Forest Protection Area will require a permit from the Fort McKay Fire Department.

#### Know what, and what not, to do

All members are encouraged to become familiar with FireSmart principles and to take an active role in wildfire prevention and mitigation by preparing their properties accordingly.

Members are urged to exercise extreme caution in forested areas. Please refrain from burning under warm, dry, and windy conditions. It is crucial that you remain up to date on fire bans and restrictions. More than 60 per cent of the wildfires in Alberta last year were caused by people.

#### Here are some helpful tips:

- Make sure that your family and the members of your household are prepared and ready to leave immediately should the need arise.
- Have go-bags packed.



 Stay informed about weather conditions and advisories in your area.

 Remove any fire hazards in and around your home, such as dried out branches, leaves, and debris.



 Keep a sprinkler that is in good working condition in an accessible location.

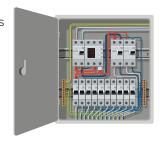




 Make sure smoke alarms are placed on every level of the home, and preferably in every bedroom.

- Consult with your local fire department or a qualified engineer about making your home fire-resistant.
- Learn how to turn off the utilities in your residence.





• Make sure that your vehicle has enough fuel.

 Check on elderly relatives and neighbours to see if they require assistance.



ad Carte Car

• Ensure that pets and/or service animals are accounted for.

### Keep these phone numbers handy

If you see a wildfire, report it immediately by calling **310-FIRE (3473).** 

If the fire is in the immediate community, call 911.

In Fort McKay, FMFN Peace Officer Contact Information is **780.828.5555 and press 3.** 

Every night our FMFN Security Team is on call from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Contact them at **587.644.4400.** 

Angela McKenzie, Director, Safety and Emergency Management, Fort McKay First Nation

Office: 780-828-4220 | Cell: 780-370-7319

You can also contact The Emergency Management Agency: Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays) **Phone: 780.422.9000.** 

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### It's fire season, best to be prepared

e all know how devastating uncontrolled fires can be. In early spring, the trees are very dry. It doesn't take much to set them ablaze. Here are some simple pointers to help keep both you, and the forest, safe.

During wildfire season, always check to see if there is a campfire ban.

If you do start a fire, make sure you can put it out – always have a bucket of water or a fire extinguisher immediately available.

Before you build a campfire, find level ground sheltered from the wind, away from trees, bushes, leaves, grass, and overhanging foliage. Never build a fire under a tree.

Use a fire pit if one is available. Check to see where other campers have built fires safely.

ATVs and off-road motorbikes can also cause fires. Before you ride, check your exhaust. Make sure your muffler and your spark arrestor are working properly. One spark be enough to cause a wildfire.

Forest fires travel quickly. If you see a fire, no matter how far away it is, evacuate the area immediately and call **310-FIRE (3473).** 

Always beware of lightning when you're in the bush. It travels at 270,000 miles per hour and can reach temperatures of 30,000 degrees Celsius.

#### Fire Evacuation.

On the FMFN web site, there's a Wildfire Emergency Preparedness page. It tells you everything you need to know about wildfire risks, how to prepare, and how to evacuate safely should the need arise.

#### These simple steps will also help:

Don't panic and have a plan.

Listen to the radio, check reputable social media outlets, and watch for email from FMFN for updated information.

When evacuating from Fort McKay head south, unless you receive official word stating otherwise.

In an evacuation, there's no time to waste. Prepare an emergency evacuation kit in advance so you and your family can be ready right away. This kit should include food, water, clothing, bedding, flashlights, batteries, a pocketknife, utility tool, chargers for electronic devices, first aid kit, toilet paper, prescriptions, spare glasses, pet foods and water bowls, bug spray, children's toys and books, copies of useful documentations, IDS, insurance etc.

Also have spare gas containers so you can refill your tank on the road.



# FORT MCKAY CULTURAL PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### DANCER AND DRUMMER PERFORMANCES

- Traditional Healing Assistance
- Round Dance / Dene Dance
- Cultural Workshops
- Moose/Buffalo Lake Summer Retreat
- Moose Lake Camps & Events
- Employment Opportunities
- Community & Special Events

#### **CREE & DENE CLASSES**

Every Tuesday Cree class on Zoom.

Every Wednesday Dene class on Zoom.

To register, contact culture@fortmckay.com

#### **DRUM PRACTICE**

Every Wednesday at 6 pm in the Band Hall.

All males welcome. Drop In no registration required!

If you would like to be a volunteer or be a Resource Worker for some of our programs or events, please submit an email, please include what events you are interested in, or what skill sets you can provide. First priority will be given to community members.

For more information about our upcoming programs, please contact:

Audrey Redcrow
Cultural and Special Events Lead
780-215-2384
Aredcrow@fortmckay.com



## Three ways to keep the peace



RCMP Constable Rob Crawford

n Fort McKay First Nation, there are three different types of uniformed officers responsible for the preservation and maintenance of public peace. There are the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP); FMFN community peace officers, and FMFN bylaw enforcement officers. Each has different powers and sources of authority.

The RCMP is the national police force and, as an agency of the Government of Canada, delivers police services, under contract, to 11 provinces and territories: more than 150 municipalities, and 600 Indigenous communities. The RCMP detachment in Fort McMurray also has an officer stationed in Fort McKay. This officer works in conjunction with FMFN officers to ensure the safety of the community. On the odd occasion when the RCMP officer is called away, local policing is provided by a combination of outside security firms and FMFN peace officers.

Community Peace Officers are trained to maintain provincial laws such as the Dangerous Dogs Act and the Forest and Prairie Protection Act. They are recruited and employed



Peace Officer CPO Walid Khamis

by FMFN, and some are members of the community. All Community Peace Officers must meet provincially mandated standards and serve the FMFN under the authorization of the Alberta Solicitor General. In addition to enforcing the Alberta Statutes, they also respond to incidents that put property and lives at risk. They patrol the community regularly and maintain a close link with the public as part of their community safety mandate.

Bylaw Enforcement Officers are hired by FMFN, like any other employee. Unlike Peace Officers, who are trained to a Provincial standard, there is no mandated training for Bylaw Officers in Alberta. There are, however, recommended courses that enhance skills and increase knowledge. Ongoing opportunities are afforded these officers to improve their qualifications.

Broadly speaking, the RCMP enforces the laws of Canada; Peace Officers enforce the statutes of Alberta relevant to the Nation, and Bylaw Enforcement Officers enforce the Bylaws of Fort McKay First Nation. In certain circumstances, they work



Bylaw Officer Waverly Albert

together and it is not unusual for a Peace Officer to accompany the RCMP in the course of their mutual duties, or for a Bylaw Officer to request assistance from either.

All three services are available to serve, help, and protect the people of the community and can be contacted at **780-215-4188**.



Traffic stops are taken seriously!

## **Winter Safety**



inter break-up is projected to be early this year. Now is the time to prepare yourself and to keep in mind all the steps you can take to prevent injury.

First and foremost, during a break-up, stay away from the river. Break-ups can be unpredictable and extremely dangerous.

#### Before river break-up

In spring, there is an increased risk of flooding when ice on the Athabasca begins to melt and break apart. Be aware and stay informed.

Watch out for thin ice and stay away from riverbanks.

Check the Alberta Environment website for real-time advisories and warnings.

Listen to local media, watch for information from the Communications Department.

#### How to negotiate winter walking and driving.

#### Driving

Make sure you have good, correctly inflated winter tires.

Slow down.

Don't be over-confident because you have an all-wheel drive vehicle.

Increase your following distance. If you are driving at 60km/h, your stopping distance on a dry road is 100 feet. On an icy road it's 600 feet.

Bridges and ramps are the first to freeze. Use caution.

Do not use cruise control.

Be prepared for black ice — assume it's always there.

#### Walking

To walk safely on snow or ice: Curl your toes under and walk as flatfooted as possible.

Take short steps or shuffle for stability. Bend slightly forward and keep your centre of gravity directly over your feet as much as possible.

Keep your hands out of your pockets.



balance.

Be prepared to fall. If you do fall, try to do so in such a way that your thigh, hip, and shoulder make contact with the ground in sequence.

Also, if you fall, take a moment to see if you have hurt anything badly. Some injures are exacerbated by getting up too quickly.

Using spike grips on your shoes can make a big difference.

Think about where you are going to walk before you go, and take all necessary precautions.

#### In the event of a flood

Do not walk through moving water or standing water.

Do not drive through flooded areas If your vehicle stalls in rising waters, get everyone out and head to higher ground.

Be prepare to be evacuated and follow all evacuation instructions.



### Bear season may come early this year. Be prepared.

Il signs indicate that this will be a short winter. As a result, bears will be awake and stirring earlier than normal. Always be aware of the possibility of an encounter with a bear, and what to do if that happens.

The best way to stay safe is simply to avoid bears. But that may not be as easy as it sounds. So if you do meet a bear, there are important things to remember after avoidance.

#### How to avoid bears

Be noisy. Bears do not want trouble if they can avoid it and noise can help inspire them to give you a wide berth. Bigger groups are safer, too.

Watch for fresh bear signs. Tracks, droppings, diggings, torn-up logs and turned-over rocks are all indicators that a bear has been in the area. Leave the area if the signs are fresh.

Always keep your dog on a leash. Dogs can provoke defensive behaviour in bears.

#### Remaining calm is essential

If you see a bear, try to remain calm. Do not run away. If the bear hasn't seen you, move away quietly. If it has seen you, it may try to mock charge you or growl and bark.

Staying calm may not be easy in the circumstances, but it is the most important thing you can do. If you speak, do so gently and firmly. Back away slowly. Make yourself appear as large as you can. Pick up any children. Move around the bear in as wide a circle as possible, or wait for the bear to move on. When it has gone, head away in the opposite direction.

If the bear does not leave but keeps coming, do not run away. It may be approaching for several different reasons. It may just be curious, after your food, or testing its dominance. In rare cases, a bear may see you as potential prey. In all these eventualities, the bear will be focussed on you, with head and ears up. Try to appear non-threatening.



Speak calmly. If the bear stops moving towards you, back away slowly. If it keeps coming, stand still, and use bear spray. If the bear makes contact, fall on the ground and play dead. Lie still and wait for the bear to leave.

#### **Bear Spray**

Carry bear spray with you at all times on the trail, and know how to use it. Bear spray can be effective with some bears when used properly. Be aware that wind, spray distance, rain, freezing temperatures and product shelf life can all influence its effectiveness. Familiarize yourself with the proper use of bear spray (including the manufacturer's specific instructions) and keep it readily accessible.

Bear spray should only be used as a last resort and all opportunities should be given to allow the bear to retreat on its own or to escape from the situation.

Most encounters with bears end without injury. However, if a bear does attack it is difficult to predict the best strategy to use. That's why taking steps to avoid an encounter is essential.



### **ELDERS NEWS**

## **Elders Lunch & Big Prize Bingo**



t was a beautiful day for our Elders to get out and enjoy a soup and sandwich lunch and a big prize bingo at the Elders Center on February 1st. Congratulations to our winners.

The Health & Senior Services team ware always very happy to see our Elders out enjoying social events and activities. Just a reminder that the Elders Center is open daily, and all Elders are welcome!

If you require more information regarding programs, please call Tara at **780-742-4927** or drop by the Center and see Peggy for a calendar of events.







# FORT MCKAY ELDERS BINGO!

#### **Date**

Thursdays

#### **Time**

Noon - 2:00 pm

#### Location

Elders Centre

Call Peggy for cards at **780-598-3575.** 



#### **CFWE RADIO BINGO**

#### Date

Mondays and Saturdays

#### Time

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

#### Location

Fort McKay Radio Canada



# FMFN celebrates excellence in sport



The Fort McMurray Legion Pool League trophy won by Roy McDonald, Gilbert Estes, Maurice McDonald, Curtis McDonald and John Paquette.

ecently, the Community Service Department compiled a list of the sporting accomplishments achieved by members of the community. Please join us in recognizing the hard work and dedication of our families, friends, and neighbours.

#### These members shone in hockey.

Shay Laurent was in the BCHL and played for the Fort McMurray Oil Barons.

Keegan Pruden played pro hockey in Europe and is now coaching in Edmonton.

Brayden Pruden has played competitive hockey throughout and had opportunities in the SJHL.

Blaize Bouchier has been playing elite school hockey in Edmonton.

Seth Grandjambe is currently playing college hockey in the US.

Ethen Grandjambe played Junior Hockey in Alberta and Ontario.

Tyrell Shott lit the league up with the Tomahawks for 3 years in Junior.

Jayden Shott is currently playing with the Gibbons Pioneers Junior Hockey Team.

Brogan Fischer (Campre) had a strong showing with the Medicine Hat Tigers of the WHL.

Ryleigh Schmuland is the starting goalie with the Edmonton Pandas Elite women's team.

Sky Orr has been playing for the female Huskies the last few years.

Hunter Calliou made the Bisons Spring Hockey team and will be playing in the upcoming Elite Spring Tournaments.

Ryett Laurent has been chosen for the Fort McMurray Mountaineers Elite Touring Squad.

### All these young people played higher level hockey in 2023:

Jonah Grandjambe, Rayden Grandjambe, Leanne Grandjambe, Dayton Wilson, Madden L'Hommecourt, Kayleigh Bouchier, Adele Shott, Ben Asadi, Kane Folkersen, Logan Fitzpatrick, Cole Boucher, and Ryleigh Schmuland.

### And in sports that took place off the rink:

In archery, Tayden Shott has won numerous gold medals and will represent Team Alberta at the Arctic Winter Games in March.

Gracie and Savannah Stewart are also representing Team Alberta at the Arctic Winter Games in the Dene Games category.

Lexi Redcrow's has been doing competitive cheerleading for many years with Northfort and her team has qualified for the World Championships in Orlando, Florida, this spring.

Cruz Fabian and Ethen Fabian played elite Oil Giants Baseball.

Seth Lee Berland was awarded the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award for the Prince George Kodiaks Men's Football Team.

In pool, Roy McDonald, Gilbert Estes, Maurice McDonald, Curtis McDonald and John Paquette finished at the top of the Fort McMurray Legion Pool League. They have also had strong results in a few Alberta tournaments and will be competing in these upcoming events: the Battle of the Bands, March 20 to 24, and the Western Championships in Calgary April 30 to May 5.

Special mention must be made of The Northern Spirits Football team. Initially they played in the all-boys Capital District Minor Football Association, even though they fielded a team that was half girls. Now an all-girl team, the Northern Spirits compete in the girls league and finished strongly last year, beating

### **COMMUNITY MEMBER NEWS**

the defending champions in our last home game.

Alicia Gladue was chosen as a Captain of Team Alberta and helped win the Canadian National Championships.

James Black is one of our young outstanding players and competes in the Alberta Indigenous games.

Alicia Gladue and Gabby Gladue had podium finishes in all of their events at the 2023 Alberta Indigenous Games and will be competing again in 2024.

Several youths from other communities have also taken the next step to elite sports in Fort McKay. Parker and Cruz Flett in basketball and hockey respectively.

Cash Brebant, Hunter Columbe, Daniel Marsden, Jagger John, Heath Whiteknife Junior qualified for elite hockey programs.

Kartin plays AA Fort McMurray.

Gage Roberts plays AAA and has been scouted for Junior.

As of this article, the Fort McKay Braves men's hockey team is currently sitting in first place in the Elite Division of the Fort McMurray Senior Men's Hockey League.

While we have tried to be as comprehensive as possible, there are undoubtedly names that we have missed. If you know of someone who deserves to be recognised for their sporting achievements, please contact us.

Send their names and other relevant details to **communications@ fortmckay.com** and we will include them in a future edition.



Alicia (Left) and Gabby Gladue at the AIG

# Ethen Fabian and Emmett McIsaac shine in Bow River U13 Tourney



ort McKay Chief and Council congratulate Emmett McIsaac and Ethen Fabian for their recent achievements on the rink.

Emmett and Ethen play for the U13 Sharks in the Fort McMurray Minor Hockey Association (FMMHA). They are the only two Fort McKay First Nation members on the team. Community Coach Shay Laurent said, "We have approximately 30 vouths from our community who play hockey for the FMMHA in various divisions and age groups. Minor hockey is a place for anyone who wants to enjoy sports in a team environment, make new friends, develop athletic skills, and learn valuable life lessons. Emmett and Ethen are doing very well for themselves and the whole hockeyplaying community of Fort McKay is proud of them."

On the first weekend in February, the U13 Sharks attended the Bow River Bruins Tournament 'Showdown in the Valley'. They were undefeated and took home the gold medal, beating the Fort Saskatchewan Rangers in the final

Ethen's mother Reba Fabian is also the team manager. "I am very proud of the team and these two boys. They have improved so much and they both played so well. I'd never been a team manager before, but I'm glad I volunteered. Being a hockey parent is one thing, but watching things from behind the scenes was

very special, especially seeing how hard all the players work. Both our boys played their hearts out against teams they have never played before, from Calgary, Glenlake, and Fort Saskatchewan.

"Ethen has been playing hockey for the last 2 years and has come very far in the sport. He started on defense, then switched to wing, and now is centre because of his fast skating and his slap shots. He is really enjoying this year and loves his coaches and teammates."

Emmett's mother Shelley McIsaac also had good things to say about the program. "This is Emmett's first year back after some time away and he was so happy to be on the ice with the team. He loved playing in the weekend tournament and is really enjoying every minute of hockey this year."

And nothing adds to the enjoyment of hockey like winning a championship. Congratulations Ethen Fabian and Emmett McIsaac.



# **Happy 92nd Birthday Lina Gallup**



ort McKay Chief and Council congratulated Elder Lina Gallup on her 92nd birthday, which was celebrated on, January 29, 2024. Family, friends, and distinguished guests gathered in the Band Hall dressed in a Hawaiian aloha theme to honour Lina for her amazing life.

Chief Raymond Powder brought the best wishes of the Nation, and waltzed Lina around the dance floor to the sound of band member Stephanie Harpe live on stage. Mayor Sandy Bowman and FMFN Councillors David Bouchier, Bobby Shott, and Melinda Stewart (apologies from Councillor Crystal McDonald) were also on hand to pay their tributes to Lina for her many achievements during her remarkable life. The night's many speeches acknowledged Lina's political, cultural, and mentoring influences.

They were joined by FMFN CEO Rhonda Laboucan, ATC CEO Karla Buffalo, and Bouchier Group Co-Owner and CEO Nicole Bourke-Bouchier. Family, friends, and Lina's fellow Elders joined the distinguished guests to sing happy birthday.

Lina was six years old when she was taken away from her family and home in Fort McKay. She survived thirteen years in residential schools. As a result of that experience, she spent the rest of her life caring for others, first in the nursing world, then in social work, and then as the operator of a group home for Indigenous youth and children.

Congratulations Lina on a life well lived.





### **COMMUNITY MEMBER NEWS**



















# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### for all residents of Fort McKay

The laws and bylaws of Fort McKay First Nation that were in place before the implementation of our Land Code continue to be in effect. These regulations are publicly accessible and can be found listed on both the Fort McKay First Nation and First Nation Gazette websites:

**Animal Control Bylaw** 

**Trespass Law** 

**Noise Disturbance Law** 

**Community Housing Law** 

**Long Term Lease Law** 

**Bylaw Enforcement Officer and Peace Officer Bylaw** 

Feel free to explore and familiarize yourself with the regulations governing our community using the links listed below:

First Nation Gazette: https://bit.ly/3uAkJD4 - link to Fort McKay advanced search.

Fort McKay Website: https://bit.ly/49KmfBq for a direct link to our Bylaws page.

In addition to these bylaws, all federal environmental protection laws continue to apply to Fort McKay First Nation land.

### **COMMUNITY MEMBER NEWS**

### Chase Fabian helps the Storm take home a medal



ort McKay First Nation would like to congratulate Chase Fabian on his success with the Fort McMurray U15 Storm who were "Rippin' It In The Hills" at the so-named hockey tournament in Rolling Hills, Alberta between February 16th to 18th.

The team captured the under-15 Bronze Medal with a win against the Edmonton Sabres. A big part of the Storm's success was the play of #13, Fort McKay's Chase Fabian.

Chase is pictured here on the left, following the final game, with his Storm teammates.

Congratulations, Chase, on a much deserved top three finish.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Day	Date	Event	Details
Fri	March 1	No School - Professional Learning Friday 11	For More Information see The Elsie Fabian School 2023-2024 Calendar
Fri	March 1	Winter Festival 2024 Fort McKay 11 am - 8:30 pm	Contact Audrey Redcrow 780-215-1458.
Fri	March 1	Employee Appreciation Day	
Every Mon, Tue & Thur	March 4 to March 28	Adult Volleyball at the School Gym	7:15 pm - 9:15 pm Contact Stefany, sguillen@fortmckay.com

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### Continued from page 15

Day	Date	Event	Details
Every Mon & Wed	March 4 to March 27	Health Information: Physiotherapy at the Health Centre	Contact Erin for more Information 780-215-6723.
Every Tues	March 5 to March 26	Cree Classes on Zoom with Edith Orr 6:30 pm - 8 pm	Register at culture@fortmckay.com
Every Tues & Wed	March 5 to March 27	Guided Fitness/Strength Training Program	6 pm - 7 pm. Targeted Workouts teaching proper technique. Contact Sarah at 780-215-7124
Every Tues	March 5 to March 26	Youth Volleyball at the School Gym	6 pm - 7 pm. Contact Stefany at 780-714-7094.
Every Tues & Thurs	March 5 to March 28	Health Information: Acupuncture at the Health Centre	Contact Erin for more Information 780-215-6723.
Every Wed	March 6 to March 27	Dene Classes on Zoom with Janette Flett-Jones 6 pm - 7:30 pm	Register at culture@fortmckay.com
Every Thurs	March 7 to March 28	Circuit training for anyone 16 or over, at the school track.	6 pm - 7 pm. Care provided for children 3-12 so adults can join. Contact Stefany at 780-714-7101
Fri	March 15	No School - Professional Learning Friday 12	For More Information see The Elsie Fabian School 2023-2024 Calendar
Sun	March 17	Saint Patrick's day	
Mon to Thurs	March 18 to March 21	Winter Week on the Land	For More Information see The Elsie Fabian School 2023-2024 Calendar
Wed	March 20	First Day of Spring	
Fri	March 22	World Water Day	
Mon	March 25	Easter Basket Making 5 pm - 9 pm in the Band Hall	Contact Audrey Redcrow 780-215-1458.
Tues	March 26	Easter Basket Making 5 pm - 9 pm in the Band Hall	Contact Audrey Redcrow 780-215-1458.
Frid	March 29	No School - Non-Operational School Day - 06	For More Information see The Elsie Fabian School 2023-2024 Calendar
Fri	March 29	Good Friday	
Sun	March 31	Easter Sunday	