



Red River Current Newsletter

A Fort McKay First Nation Publication

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National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Elsie Fabian school hosted the community's 'Every Child Matters' event on Thursday September 26th. The event gathered the community together to honour Indigenous Culture and history as well as to reflect upon that history, and to connect with the community.

Chief Raymond Powder spoke from the heart about the importance of the day and the need to never forget the reasons for the day of remembrance.

Continued on page 2



Fort McKay First Nation Interim Education Director Miranda Beaton.



Chief Raymond Powder

ABORIGINAL ROLE MODELS AWARD



Fort McKay First Nation Chief Raymond Powder was recently honoured to be given an Aboriginal Role Models of Alberta award. The award was made for Chief Powder's leadership of the Fort McKay First Nation and within the greater Aboriginal community.

Continued on page 3



Elder Lina Gallup

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

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 us via email at:
communications@fortmckay.com

Sign up for the FMFN App Today!

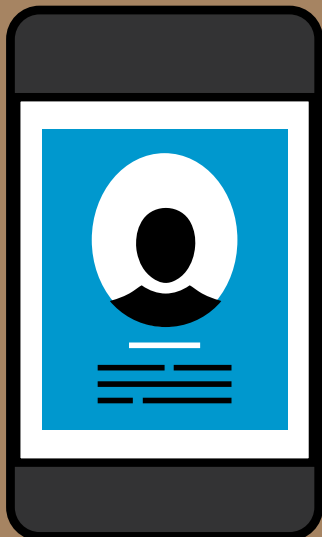
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community news and get
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First Nation App on your
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Google Play

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App Store



ORANGE SHIRT DAY



Continued from page 1

"In the spirit of the
National Day for Truth and
Reconciliation, we honour the
survivors, remember those lost
and commit to reconciliation."

After the school event
everyone walked down to
the Cultural Village followed
by a meal and a Round
Dance in the Band Hall.
The FMFN administrative
office was closed on Monday
September 30th so that
all staff and community
members could have the
opportunity to participate
in events and activities
dedicated to reflecting on the
legacy of residential schools,
and supporting healing for
survivors and their families.



Councillor Melinda Stewart.



Councillor Crystal McDonald.



Staff and youth gathering for the walk to the Cultural Village and Band Hall.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from page 1

The evening was presented by Enoch Cree First Nation at the River Cree Resort with NDP/ MLA Jodi Calahoo Stonehouse as the MC and Blair Gladue (aka Superfan Magoo) as the guest speaker.



Others honoured during the evening included Dr. Nicole Cardinal from the University of Alberta and actor Pauline Alexis.



MC for the evening was NDP/MLA Jodi Calahoo Stonehouse



Chief Raymond Powder stands proudly surrounded by family and friends.

In this Issue...

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	1 & 2
Aboriginal Role Model Award	1 & 3
Staff appreciation golf event.....	4 & 5
FMFN Musician's Update.....	6
Staff News	7
Chief Powder introduces Premier Smith at Oil Sands Expo	8 & 9
Elders Fall Camp at Moose Lake.....	10 & 11
Athabasca Tribal Council Cultural Festival	12 & 13
FMFN Family Day Harvest Festival	14 & 15
Upcoming Events.....	16

FORT MCKAY HEALTH CENTRE

Clinic Dates:

Dr O'Connor - Oct 15th - 18th
Dr Taiwo - Oct 29th - 31st
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 Centre 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.fortmackayfm.com

STAFF APPRECIATION

Staff appreciation golf event

Fort McKay First Nation recently held an appreciation golf event for staff who volunteered during Treaty Days, the 125th anniversary of Treaty 8 and the Athabasca Tribal Council Cultural Festival. With a tee off time of 3:30 pm, players managed to get in nine holes of fun golf at the Miskanaw golf club before returning to the 19th hole for a buffet steak dinner and prizegiving. As you can see from these pictures a good time was had by all who took part. Thank you to all the volunteers.



STAFF APPRECIATION



FMFN Musician's Update

Fort McKay First Nation member **Bryce Fabian**, aka B Fabian, has officially partnered with V13 Promotions to bring his highly anticipated album *Endeavors* to life. This exciting collaboration marks a pivotal moment in his career, as the album's promotion will be strategically handled to maximize its impact and reach. In the lead-up to the full release in May 2025, Bryce will also be releasing two singles from the album, giving fans an early taste of the heartfelt and powerful tracks that embody his signature country style.

Featuring 12 original songs, all written by Bryce himself, *Endeavors* will showcase collaborations with Indigenous artists like Jarrid Lee. It will reflect Bryce's deep connection to his roots while pushing the boundaries of modern country music. With themes of resilience, chasing dreams, and embracing life's challenges, *Endeavors* promises to resonate with listeners personally.

The partnership with V13 Promotions is pivotal in helping B Fabian expand his reach nationally and internationally. It allows him to focus entirely on his artistry while they manage the promotional efforts. Releasing two singles before the album's debut will give fans and new listeners a glimpse into what they can expect from the complete project.

This new chapter in Bryce's journey, fueled by his collaboration with V13, positions him to continue growing as an artist and expanding his audience. As the release of *Endeavors* draws closer, the excitement around B Fabian's music is only set to build, creating anticipation for the next stage of his rising career. (His first album *Dirt Roads to Open Highways*, is still available at all major online platforms),

Congratulations Bryce!

Kaydence Gladue released her 8th studio song, *Take Care*, just before her appearance at the Turtle Island Festival. Turtle Island is a celebration of Indigenous Music and Arts and was held at Sunset Beach Vancouver.

Kaydence was one of the featured youth performers and is happy with the direction her music is going. As she said on her YouTube channel, "Someone told me this was their favorite song I have ever done - hope y'all feel the same."



FMFN member Kaydence Gladue.

New Appointment Announcement, Health Director Carlene Moore

Carlene Moore, who joined the Health Team in April of this year, has been appointed as Director, Community Health and Wellness. Carlene has been filling the role on an interim basis since July before the appointment was made permanent in September.

Carlene is a Fort McMurray resident and Cree by ancestry. As she tells it, "My kokum was from Driftpile Cree First Nation, while my mushum was from Fort Chipewyan.

Carlene's career with Wood Buffalo Primary Care Network includes extensive experience as an Opioid Response Coordinator, a Family Practice Nurse, prenatal care, women's health, inpatient psychiatry and as a behavioural health provider. She has also worked in the health care field for Indigenous Services Canada and brings that knowledge and leadership experience to her new position.

"I want to thank the Health Care Team for your commitment to providing excellent care to the community. It's a privilege to work alongside such a compassionate team. As we continue this journey together, I'm looking forward to building on our successes and creating solutions to any unique challenges we may face. I look forward to collaborating with each of you to enhance our health programs and achieve goals for community health and wellness within Fort McKay First Nation."



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

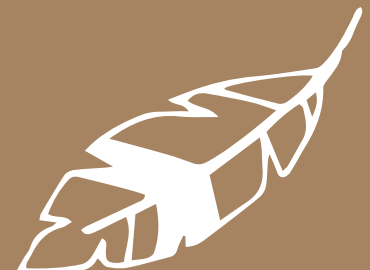
Every Wednesday at 6 pm in the Band Hall.

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



Chief Powder Introduces Premier Smith at Oil Sands Expo

Fort McKay First Nation Chief Raymond Powder was given the honour of introducing Alberta Premier Danielle Smith at the Oil Sands Trade Expo held recently in Fort McMurray. In his speech prior to the introduction, Chief Powder stressed the importance of respectful co-operation between First Nations, industry, and the provincial government. He gave an overview of Fort McKay First Nation's growth, linking it to the history of oil sands development.

Premier Smith in her talk stressed the importance of the oil industry to the economic prosperity of the province, and her government's intent to ensure that responsible development continues.

Since 1985 the Oil Sands Expo has been an important industry event. In addition to a

significant networking opportunity, it also presents the latest innovation and technology to oil industry partners across Alberta.



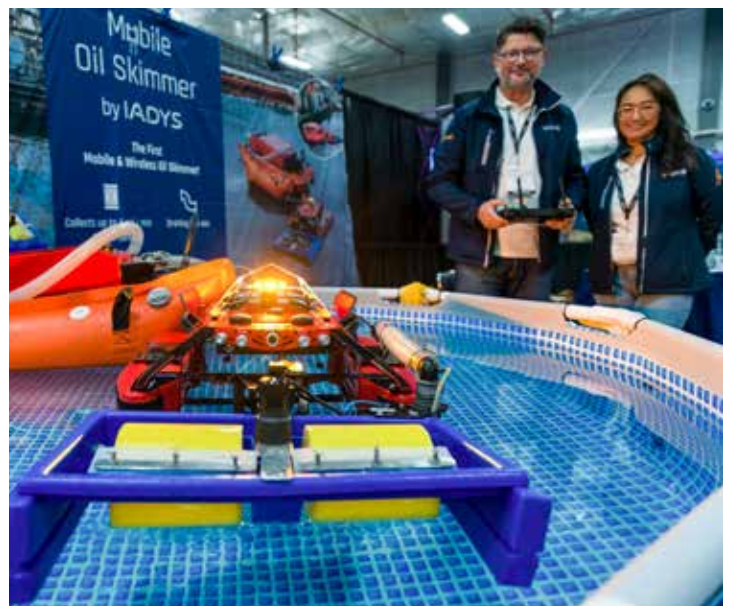
Chief Raymond Powder at the Oil Sands Expo podium.



Chief Raymond Powder and Premier Danielle Smith.



Minister of Energy and Minerals Brian Jean MLA with Chief Raymond Powder at the Oil Sands Expo.



Above and right, some of the stands at the Oil Sands Expo.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL NEWS



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



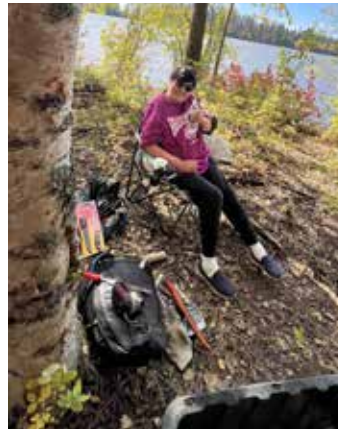
Elders Fall Camp at Moose Lake

Moose Lake is a sacred region that serves as the community's cultural heartland. The Fort McKay First Nation community originated in the Moose Lake area, so when the Elders go back to Moose Lake every year, they are preserving traditions and honouring our culture and a way of life that goes back thousands of years.

The Elders were taken by McMurray Aviation up to the lake. It is a popular annual event and Paradise Bay is a welcoming site every time they return.

Among the more popular entertainments are the Bingo games. Congratulations Edith, winning the 5 card Bingo our times, and Josephine who claimed the \$200 gift card.

Thanks also to Norman Macdonald who sponsored \$1000 to the later Bingo competitions. The \$250 Sputnik was won by Barb Faichney, the \$500 bonanza by Cecilia McDonald, and the \$250 consolation won by Clara Bouchier.



Waiting for the flight to Moose Lake from Fort McMurray.



Watching the arrival of another flight from Fort McMurray.



FMFN ELDERS

There was also a special surprise for the Elders. The Moose Lake camp attendants built a smoker for the fish caught during their stay at Paradise Bay. Special thanks to staff member and community elder Lawrence Chile who helped smoke the fish and get it prepared to take with them. This traditional way of preserving the meat and infusing it with smoke makes a delicious supper when they go back home to Fort McKay.

Thanks to everyone and see you all next year.



Building the smoker for the fish caught at the lake.



Athabasca Tribal Council Cultural Festival

The Annual Athabasca Tribal Council Cultural Festival took place at Snye Point Park on the weekend of September 12-15. Fort McKay First Nation were out in Force and the food teepee was a popular gathering point.

Chief Raymond Powder took part with other local chiefs and dignitaries in the grand entrance before being asked to speak to the gathering. Many other members took part in workshops and were instructed by talented local artists. Among others Rebecca Fabian led an arts workshop making car visor headaddresses, Ryan Grandjambe showed how to make dreamcatchers, and the Elders programming was sponsored by the Bouchier Group for the second year in a row.

In addition, the Nicely Put Together Band performed onstage on Saturday night, and Holly Fortier and Miranda Beaton were asked to MC the events onstage. And to top it all, the Fort McKay Rez Rockets won the Hand Games tournament. Congratulations to everyone who volunteered or took part. See you in 2025.



Chief Raymond Powder during his speech.



Councillor Bobby Shott takes part in the Grand Entry.

ATC FESTIVAL



Left to right: Sophie Powder with Chief Raymond Powder and Emma Proulx - Redcrow.



MLA Tany Yao and Mayor Sandy Bowman were flag bearers.

The Fort McKay Rez Rockets with the Hand Games trophy.

Fort McKay Family Day Harvest Festival

The Fort McKay First Nation Family Day and Harvest Festival was held at Heritage Park in downtown Fort McMurray on Sunday the 6th of October. There was plenty of things to do and fun to be had. Free pumpkins to take home and carve vied with Halloween balloon twisting, cookie decorating and facepainting, bean bag tossing, bouncy castles and candy floss, and all kinds of games and carnival activities for the little ones. Music by the Nicely Put Together Band had young and old up on the dancefloor.



FMFN HARVEST FESTIVAL



UPCOMING EVENTS

Day	Date	Event	Details
Every Mon	Oct 7 to Oct 28	Health Centre: Mental Health Travel Team. 10am - 4pm	Appointments and Walk-ins. Contact The Health Centre at 780-828-2450.
Every Tues	Oct 8 to Oct 29	AA Support Group, every Tuesday at the Family Support Centre	8:30pm - 10pm, Doors Open at 8pm
Every Tues	Oct 8 to Oct 29	Cree Online Classes, 6pm - 7:30pm, Instructor Edith Orr	Register through Audrey at culture@fortmckay.com
Every Tues	Oct 8 to Oct 29	Outdoor Basketball at the Old School Playground	Ages 12-20. Contact Katara. 780-972-9810. 6pm - 8pm
Every Wed	Oct 9 to Oct 30	Dene Online Classes, 6pm - 7:30pm, Instructor Janette Flett-Jones	Register through Audrey at culture@fortmckay.com
Mon & Wed	Oct 7 to Oct 30	Drop in Workout at the Youth Centre 4:30pm - 9pm	Ages 12-18. Contact Dylan at 780-799-2406.
Every Thur	Oct 10 to Oct 31	Adult Volleyball at the School Gym	7:15pm - 9:15pm Contact Number is 780-215-5276.
Thur	Oct 10	Thanksgiving Hamper from ESS	10am - Noon at Fort McKay arena
Thur	Oct 10	Oil Barons Practice in Fort McKay	4:30pm - 6:30 at Fort McKay arena
Every Fri	Oct 11 to Oct 25	NA Support Group, every Friday at the Family Support Centre	8pm - 9pm, Doors Open at 7:30pm
Sat	Oct 12	Community Draft Hockey Tournament	15+, 11 players per team. Contact Shay 780-742-4622
Mon	Oct 14	Statutory Days off/School Breaks. No school	Elsie Fabian School Calendar important Dates
Wed	Oct 16	Local Air Quality Open House, 10 am - 2pm	Bertha Ganter Air Monitoring Station
Thurs	Oct 17	Understanding and Decoding Depression in Youth: Signs, Cause, and Myths	12pm - 1pm AND 4:30pm - 5:30pm in the Youth Centre. Contact Sarah at 780-215-7118
Fri & Sat	Oct 18 to Oct 19	Special Sevice, with Guests Allen and Harriet Walker 7 pm	Fort McKay Band Hall, music by Tyler Letendre
Sat	Oct 19	Next Door Thrift Store in the Old School	10am - 4pm Contact Val McDonald at 780-690-6074
Thur	Oct 24	Practical Tools to Manage Youth Depression	12pm - 1pm AND 4:30pm - 5:30pm in the Youth Centre. Contact Sarah at 780-215-7118
Fri	Oct 25	Professional Learning Fridays. No school	Elsie Fabian School Calendar important Dates
Mon	Oct 28	Indigenous Womens & Mothers Group, Family Support Centre. All welcome.	1pm - 2:30pm. Contact Leah 780-828-4048. A safe space to connect with other women.
Thur	Oct 31	Halloween Candy Handout. 6pm until supplies run out.	At the Fort McKay Fire Hall