

Bear Fax

Paskiwa Peesim
Egg Hatching Moon
October 2019



www.missanabiecreefn.com

Missanabie Cree First Nation



MCFN Band Council 2019-2023

Congratulations to the
Elected MCFN Chief and Council and the Elders Council Liaison

Jason Gauthier, Chief
Les Nolan, Deputy Chief
Councillor Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte
Councillor Cory McLeod
Councillor JoAnn Pezzo
Councillor Shawn Pine
Glad Fletcher-Hawkins, Elder Liaison

Inside this Issue:

P. 2-3	Messages from Chief and Council
P. 3-11	From the Desk of
P. 11	Community News and Notes
P. 12	Counselling at Family Services
P. 13	Monthly Bus Passes available
P. 14	Beading Fun
P. 15	September Birthday Greetings
P. 16	October Birthday Greetings
P. 17	Events Calendar
P. 18-19	The Cost of Money
P. 20	Membership
P. 21	Contact Information
P. 22	Vision Statement

Events/Gatherings:

- Sisters in Spirit Vigils**
October, 4, 2019 Everywhere, ON
<https://www.nwac.ca>
- National Indigenous Health Conference 2019**
October 15 - 17, 2019 Vancouver, BC
www.nihcvancouver.com
- Special Education Information Sharing Forum**
October 22-23, 2019 Thunder Bay, ON
www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/event/special-education-information-sharing-forum-3/
- Community Justice and Safety Symposium**
October 23-24 Thunder Bay, ON
www.nan.on.ca/community-safety-symposium
- NAN Chiefs Fall Assembly**
November 13-14, 2019 Thunder Bay, ON
<http://www.nan.on.ca/>

Messages from Chief and Council

Watchay,

Let me first thank everyone for their support during the election this year. Serving the community has been an honour, and I look forward to the next 3 years to move our community forward.

The settlement has been moving along and will be distributed shortly. We have had several hoops to jump through with the bank, but things are definitely moving towards our Per Capita Distribution. This means that community member who are registered with Missanabie Cree will be transferred the agreed-upon amount to their bank account.

As you may know, with banking, there is a considerable amount of red tape and process involved. We are all doing our best to get this done as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience.

Chief Jason Gauthier



Maurice Law and Federal Negotiators in attendance at signing the settlement agreement.

Wachyia, Aanii, Boozhoo,

I would like to thank all the membership who voted for me. I am truly proud for all the votes that put me in the position of Deputy Chief. I will do my utmost to work for the betterment of our First Nation.

I continue to hold the Family Well Being portfolio and look forward to working closely with the Well Being Team. I am also second on Economic Development. As in the past, I will carry on to go wherever I may be needed to support the other councillors with their portfolios.

I look forward to working with JoAnn Pezzo and Bobbie Fletcher-Decorte, I feel they will be a great asset to the new Chief and Council.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the MCFN's staff especially at this time for their thorough work in compiling the information needed for the distribution for the settlement dollars. Hopefully, by the time the members receive this newsletter the members will have received their settlement dollars.

As Chief and Council, we will be dedicated to working on the development of our community in Missanabie. This will be a long process but, with due diligence we will work hard to get the membership who wish to move up there every chance to do so as soon as all possible.

As always, in spirit of a united community,
Chi-Meegwech
Les Nolan, Deputy Chief

Wachiaye, I am deeply honored to have been elected as a Missanabie Cree band councillor. Chi Miigwej to those who voted for me, family, extended family, the MCFN community members. To be entrusted with the ongoing building of our community is humbling, again miigwej. I'd like to congratulate the new and re-elected councillors and Chief Jason Gauthier on his re-election. I look forward to working along side my peers, community members as our First Nation moves forward on our latest journey, the creation and development of our community on traditional lands.

The new Chief and Council met for orientation in August. I choose the Culture portfolio as my primary portfolio. Within this portfolio umbrella is i) language ii) education iii) comprehensive community planning. In September, I attended a 1- day Environmental Assessment survey workshop in Timmins and a Mushkegowuk Council meeting where I met the Chiefs and some of the staff of the Mushkegowuk Council. This was followed by a strategic planning session with MCFN staff in the Soo. Should you, the community members, have any questions, concerns, thoughts or just want to talk, I can be reached via email, phone (a message can be left with

Amber Lacrosse 705-254-2702 ext 231 and she'll forward it to me) or in person.

On a personal note, I held the role of secretary for the powwow planning committee. A binder is available for future reference for our next powwow. This amazing feat was achieved with many of the committee members living throughout Ontario and Manitoba. Miigwej to those who made the powwow a huge success. To be a part of this historical day will forever be imbedded in my memories.

I attended the women's drumming retreat this past weekend, quality time spent with community members I met while employed at the office, lots of sharing, helping each other and laughter. Miigwej to the organizers, Chef Julien and his helpers, and to our excellent teacher and the Healing Lodge Singers MIIGWEJ.

Wanting nothing but the best for all...take care and keep safe

JoAnn Pezzo

Missanabie Cree Band Councilor

jpezzo@missanabiecree.com

From the Desk of:

BAND ADMINISTRATOR

Hope this finds everyone well and that the past two months since the Annual Gathering has been enjoyable for you and your families. The school year is now in full swing and fall rainy weather has made its way to us; however, soon the fall colours will grace us with its beauty!

This month's newsletter will be a compilation of past events such as the Annual Gathering, that entailed a lot of staff effort in preparation for and during the Annual Gathering. The months leading up to the Annual Gathering, had various contractors on-site repairing, renovating and rebuilding structures to ready Island View Camp for membership stay at the Gathering. These improvements

were significant and provided additional accommodations, along with added wheelchair accessibility. The Community Accessibility – Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) project (available through Employment and Social Development Canada) provided MCFN with the opportunity to enhance and upgrade buildings for wheelchair accessibility (pictures provided). These improvements are now completed.

The week long Gathering also encompassed the Election for Chief and Council as well as the Ratification Vote for the Treaty Lands Entitlement (TLE). There were significant number of votes and support for both processes.

Administratively, we have been catching up since these past events but are now focused and immersed in the TLE Settlement Claim process. The TLE Settlement Claim process is a big undertaking that requires involvement by Chief and Council, staff and volunteer assistance (thank you). Stay tuned for news and updates from Chief and Council on its progress. Member information relating to registration status cards and banking information is required and is being collected by our office (provide to June Markie, Front Reception). There are multiple staff in conjunction with outside agencies working diligently through the process as quickly as the process will allow.

Chief and Council and staff had recently met to discuss, identify and work through and develop a Strategic Plan/

Vision that included short-term and long-term goals. This session included overviews and updates, identification of departmental needs, recommendations/vision and upcoming events and initiatives. Staff had the opportunity to work with Chief and Council who are the primary and alternate leads for Portfolio's such as:

Land and Resources
Governance; Administration; Government to Government Relations
Child Youth; Elders; Family
Culture; Language; Education; CCP
Economic Development

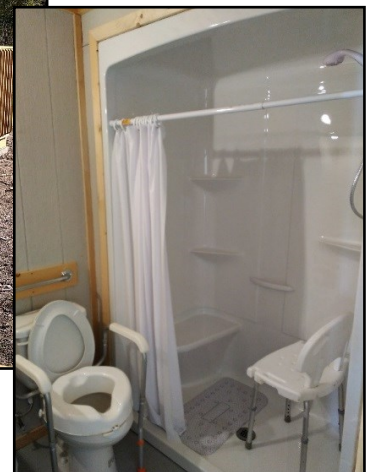
Miigwetch – Until next month's newsletter!
Doreen Boissoneau

ACCESSIBLE SHOWERHOUSE: There is one ramp leading into men's and women's washrooms and one

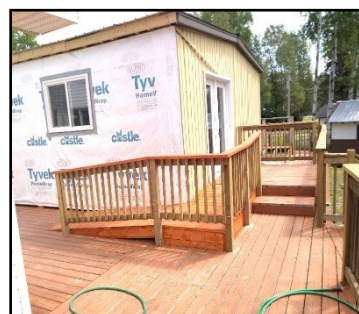
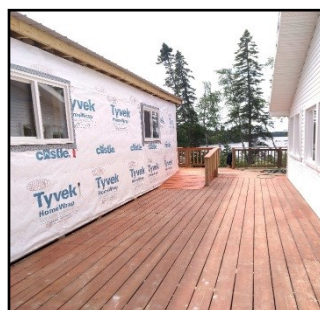
wheel chair accessible shower and toilet room in both men's and women's.



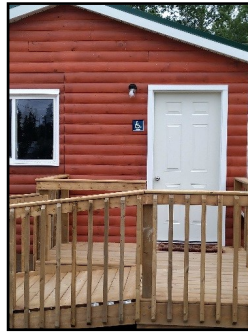
ACCESSIBLE CABIN: wheelchair ramp and wheelchair accessible bathroom



ELDERS TRAILER: has one wheel chair ramp, and two wheel chair accessible bathrooms



ACCESSIBILITY SIGNAGE: in and around buildings at IVC



CULTURAL FACILITATOR

Annual Gathering 2019
September 09, 2019

This past August was our 26th Gathering, our 10th election and the first year for our own Pow Wow! Incredible growth and expansion!

Preparation for the Pow Wow and Gathering begins very early as there are many details to take care of. Planning meetings, teleconferencing, lists of lists and eventually shopping and arranging the transportation of all our supplies and materials needed to host an event.

One major preparation I did this year was cleanse the Eagle Staff. All the feathers were washed and fluffed to bring back the white down. A broken Eagle Feather was discovered and replaced. Plans are in place to paint the carrier box and install hand carry handles on it. More family ties were cut for the inclusion of new family members to the existing Community Tie which wraps around the inside of the building. Medicines were gathered together to bring to the teepee Firekeeper for the Pow Wow and for the Sacred Fire as well for any ceremony at Keekanaw Centre.

The volunteer Pow Wow Feast Committee had a plan to arrive early and begin their preparations, which proved to be a very wise move. Although all the planning did not go as intended, the feast committee did an amazing job of putting it all together. Kudos go to Margert Bergeron, Holly Deschamps, Luciano Pezzo, Jordan Ju, John and JoAnn Pezzo, Julien Bergeron, Sophie Doucette, Carol

Bergeron, Donna Ruth, Patti Odawa, Barb Ruth, and the others who supported the committee while they did their work.

Other members of the pow wow committee who should be named are: Carol Jeffries, Davey Jones, Faye Wesley, JoAnna Bergeron, Neil Bergeron, Marion Nolan, Fire-keeper John Dubeski and his helper Sherry, Karen Ruth, Gloria Wesley, Theresa Ruth, Pam Rew, Tim Travers, Lorie Jeffries, Maggie Jeffries, Aletha Pezzo, Alesha Corbin, Jake Harris, Alexandra Pezzo, Doug, Tom and Jan Ruth. Please, if I missed anyone let me know and I will make sure you are mentioned.

The pow wow drew members who have never attended a gathering at Island View and it was wonderful to see them amongst the attendees at the pow wow. Many thanks to our MC, Ron Kanutski, Arena Director Norman Paul, Head Dancers Henry Lewis and Kristol Abel, Ceremonial Elder Lois MacDonald, Head Veteran Davey Jones who replaced Kevin Wesley who was unable to attend. I would like to acknowledge Karen Boyer who willingly came on as our advisor to share her knowledge on planning the pow wow. Chi-Miigwej to our funders Alamos Gold and Indigenous Services Canada.

Many thanks to BG Fletchers' family who came to share in honoring Elder BG posthumously. BG always played a role in planning our community and he built models of an arbour. When we do build a Pow Wow arbour, it has been suggested that we name it after BG. Thanks to the family and relatives of Jackie Fletcher who danced with

her in the Honor Song. Elder Jackie was honored for her life's work with community and First Nation office. Jackie brought many programs forward with her fast thinking creative mind, for example, the Winter Solstice that was held in Wawa Chalets, December 2018.

Many thanks to the Eagle Staff Carriers, Bill Gideon who carried the MCFN staff and Ron Kanutski who carried in the Wawia (Lake Helen) family staff. The Flag Carriers were:

William Deschamps from Marathon -
Missanabie Cree Flag

Leo Bergeron from Sudbury -
Nishnawbe Aski Nation Flag

Jamie Guidon from Kelowna, B.C. -
James Bay Treaty Flag

Davey Jones from Toronto -
Canadian Flag

Meagan Harris from Thunder Bay - Pride Flag

Teyla Wright from Sault Ste Marie - Metis Flag

Chris Wesley from Elliot Lake - Ontario Flag

Charles Wesley from Thunder Bay - POW - MIA Flag

A humongous heap of gratitude to the drum groups, Host drum group HBO from Heron Bay, and Ninkii Aanakwat (Thunder Cloud) from Sault Ste Marie.

To all the adult, youth and child dancers, we sincerely hope to see everyone again next year!

On Monday, Ron Kanutski presented 2 workshops. In addition to be the Master of Ceremonies for our Pow Wow, Ron is also a Health & Wellness Facilitator and Cultural Teacher. The workshop for youth was based on building self-esteem titled; 4 Roots to

Wellness. He met with adults and presented a workshop titled; Working Through Grief with Our Medicines. Both sessions were well received by the participants.

We were fortunate to utilize Ron once more in our gathering activities. On Tuesday evening he switched gears into his Oji-Cree Stand-Up Comedy. The opening act for Ron were local grannies who put together a skit titled "Grannies Go to Bingo". There was a lot of laughter and a truly fun evening filled with the healing sounds of laughter.

Naturally Superior Adventures returned this year and brought with them 8 kayaks and 8 paddleboards, along with 2 instructors, Andrea and Devon. The instructors were fabulous and had all the participants working hard to be successful in kayaking. The afternoon of paddle boarding was full and I'm not sure if everyone who wanted to paddleboard had the chance to do so. There are some awesome pictures out there of this event and I will post them soon.

The make-up and photo shoot turned into a major success and end results for all participants were 5 x 7 pictures wearing our "Strong Resilient Cree" t-shirts and ribbon skirts. Perhaps next year this can be done for our males. Maybe not make-up but hair grooming and the T-shirts.

Anything is possible with the dynamic and cree-ative staff that put these events together.

On Friday, I attended the mine tour and had an experience into another world of technology and worksite exposure of mining. We went as far underground as level 6, dressed in full mining safety gear. The trip down was not in an elevator shaft but in an open-air jeep type vehicle on a rocky road ramp. It is indescribable at times, the humongous scope



Kayakers at the Annual Gathering 2019

of construction and activity that goes on underground, not to mention the darkness shown with all our lights turned off. I was pleased to have our member Dave Ouellet as a personal accompaniment and guide. Thanks to Stephen Hawkins and Brittany Maclean for your work in helping to organize the tour. The group was laughing at me because I fell asleep on the way out, despite the bumps, bangs and jostling around while on the ride out. One comment, "you must have been a miner in a former life!"

I continue with Cultural Facilitation at the Alamos Mine Site. Every Wednesday, in the morning portion of the day's induction (orientation to miners on all Health and Safety topics) Cultural Competency and Safety is my delivery. I have received 99.9% positive evaluations from the participants. Only one participant wrote; "I don't understand why we have to take this". Most of the comments center around; I did not know this happened to the Indigenous people", "We didn't take this in school", "Good presentation", Well presented, I now understand

more than ever before about the original people of Canada". I consider this venture and working relationship with Alamos to be most positive, professional and productive in the Health & Safety department.

I say congratulations to the elected Chief and Council. May you continue to have the positive backing of the community throughout your term. Welcome back Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte and welcome our newest councillor JoAnn Pezzo.

I am working on another article that has been on my mind for some time now, triggered by the settlement dollars coming to our community. My article will be based on another community's experience and the fall out from that.

Looking forward and revelling in this change of seasons.
Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Harris, Migizi Gwabme Kew
Eagle Spirit Woman

FAMILY SERVICES SUPERVISOR

Aanii from the desk of the Family Services Supervisor,
The Annual Gathering was very fun, busy and was jam packed with events. The Family Services Team was hard at work hosting events and programming, and helping out around the event. We did have a few snags in some of our programs, but through those snags we have learned what works, what doesn't work, and how we can improve for the next Annual Gathering. I want to thank the community for always being active participants in the programming and I can't wait for next year's Gathering.

We have been very busy at our new Family Services Office in Sault Ste. Marie. There have been a few new programs that we have rolled out since being back from the Annual Gathering. We now have the hubs program started, which is now called the Choose Life Assistants pro-

gram. The four hubs (Toronto, Sudbury, Wawa/Missanabie, and Thunder Bay) each has a worker who will be putting on a program each month and doing healthy snacks.

Missanabie Cree Family Services Office also has a food bank for those struggling with food security and we have a milk program. In the Sault Ste. Marie office, we will now be offering clinical counselling every second Thursday. For more information, see the flyer that is posted in this Bear Fax. The Family Services Team has been busy planning programming for the next few months and we invite anyone who has suggestions about programs you would like to see us host to contact me by email at edabutch@missanabiecree.com.

Eva Dabutch

CBA IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATOR

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Chief and Council elected to office for the term 2019-2022. In addition to the ratified settlement by the MCFN members', the Chief and Council have inherited a considerable portfolio of community, economic and social development. For my part, being the Community Benefits Agreement Coordinator for over 2 years has given me the opportunity to work on establishing relationships with Island Gold mine personnel and understanding the mining operations' better so as to enable me to fulfil my role of coordinating processes to generate economic benefit for Missanabie Cree.

After 2 years of hard work, we now have a consistent revenue stream from the mine. Apart from revenue already being received from partners with catering, drilling, Personal Protective equipment, ventilation, water pump,

dam raising, and ground support contracts, I can report that recently, joint venture partner, Cementation, secured the underground development contract. Two members have already been offered positions, and a third is considering his options in this specific enterprise. I can add that the % revenue contribution from this particular contract adds a significant share of profit to Missanabie Cree.

Over the next few months, several operational contract renewals and project requirements at Island Gold mine means that MCBC staff will be extremely busy. The product of these contract opportunities will be reported to the membership in the coming months. As will opportunities that arise from the CBA funding for employment/training.



Without any doubt, Business Day at the Gathering, 2019 proved a resounding success. Many joint venture partners had tables. There were many sponsored \$ gift cards won, and the grand prize of a Mac Book Pro donated by Alamos went to Marion Nolan.



The mine tour on the last day of the Gathering had a few hiccups with the bus choosing not to start, but some hardy members still made their way to the mine and enjoyed a rewarding experience. We hope that another mine tour can be arranged for members who could not come this time.

Look closely to recognize Janice Fletcher, 3 in from right, and looking left, Gloria Harris, Dominic Fletcher & son, Maverick, Austin Hemphill, the GM at IG, Tim Travers, with me on the extreme right.

A manned scoop. They can be operated remotely.



Left:

Half a mile down, Dominic and Maverick admiring the view.

Above right:

MCFN member and our underground guide for the day, David Ouellet, and Tim Travers.

Right:

Steve Hawkins, CBA Implementation Coordinator, MCFN, and Brittany Maclean, Logistics EA, MCBC.



Finally, I would like say a big “miigwetch’ to everyone. I have fully enjoyed my time working for MCFN. Ensuring that the terms of the CBA are met has been my priority. I have always been mindful that the mine should respect the rights of Missanabie Cree First Nation to build its community based on benefits derived from the mining resource of its land. I can say that the mine is being supportive and is showing due commitment to the CBA. In short, there is a way to go, but we are making progress.

Stephen □

CBA Implementation Coordinator

CHOOSE LIFE COORDINATOR

Aaniin, Wachay, Hello Everyone,

I would like to start off by saying it was nice seeing the community and the involvement in the Annual Gathering once again! My family and I have been attending 16 + years now! I think most aspects of the Gathering were awesome and well put together and participation was also a high point! The one event that stood out for me was the Self Esteem workshop -it had an AMAZING turnout, and participation was crazy good and very positive!!

Choose life has been getting in the swing of things with the roll out of the new programs offered in the Hubs so we must stay on top of things and get used to the monthly protocols. Unfortunately, the funds for the four current locations was budgeted, secured and allocated through the Choose life program in the initial stages of this fiscal year. We have heard the call out to expand the hubs and it is hopefully in the planning stages if the funds are found to support the growth. It is a lot of work to coordinate these packages, but it is starting to come together! We are getting into the flow of things it seems. We will keep you updated as updates are available for this.

The movie night at Galaxy also had an incredible turnout

INDIAN REGISTRY ADMINISTRATOR

Re: Status cards

If you need assistance with your applications for secure cards, please call. Appointments can be made.

If you need a laminated red card, please call for information or appointments: 705-254-2702

Address change forms are printed in every issue of the Bear Fax – these address change forms are supposed to be signed by the member.

Receptionist, June Markie, will accept address change forms for those who wish to receive hard copies of the Bear Fax.

Regards,

Deb Clement, Indian Registry Administrator –

with close to 50 participants! We will plan another again in upcoming months! We will continue the beading three Tuesday's a month and eventually switch to the regalia in November (hopefully with evenings available). We will have someone with the teachings and the skills to guide us through the process! Upcoming for October we will have a Halloween bowling party with best costume prizes at North Crest -Wait for the poster to come out! Also, we will have a youth night at Farmer Bob's Corn maze!

The wellness team is continuing to gather information from CIBC to inform members of the many banking options to safeguard and plan into the future. We will host another information session in the near future, and we will be able to ask questions that can help understand these options better.

We should be able to post a calendar soon for the upcoming events! I look forward to seeing you at our events and programming always!!

Miigwetch,

April Wesley, Choose Life Coordinator
477 Queen St East, Second floor
Telephone: 705-253-3506 Ext 201
Email: awesley@missanabiecree.com

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OFFICER

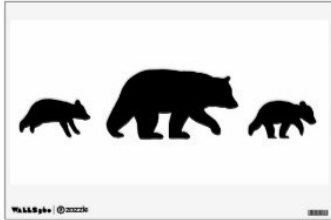
Wachay, Members,
Re Election 2019

It seemed like a historic milestone in many ways for Missanabie Cree. Thank you for voting. Thanks to all the candidates who put their names forward.

Chief and Council were selected by membership for 2019 to 2022. Congratulations!

Deb Clement

FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER



Watchay Missanabie Cree Families and Members:

I am so happy to be back at work again as the Family Support Worker for Missanabie Cree. We had our

1st program at our new office. The Back To School program which involved preparing lunch snacks for children and providing healthy snacks for school. April our Choose Life Coordinator also gave back to school haircuts to the children and youth. We welcome all to come to the office and participate in the programs, drop in to say hello and visit with tea and coffee, and utilize the services we offer. We have been busy with many various projects. In the month of September we had an Elders Meeting, Elders Social, Elders Tea, Movie Night, every Tuesday afternoon we have beading, and provided a Bullying Program for families and children. We are super happy that we can provide more programming, activities, and family event for our members.

April Wesley the Choose Life Coordinator and myself (Family Support worker) met with CIBC consultants to discuss various topics; for example: GIC's, Tax Free Savings Account, tailoring financial plans to fit your needs,

and the pros and cons of opening up a joint account. We hope to solidify an early October date for an informational session with these key speakers. This notice will be posted

Although I did not work during the gathering it still was an absolute honor to host the Carolyn Bergeron Crib Tournament, MCFN Bingo, and the Elders Auction. These events bring tons of laughter, fun and excitement to the Annual Gathering.

This is the new address of the Missanabie Cree Family Services office:

Queenscenter
477 Queen Street East
Suite 200 on 2nd Floor
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 1Z5
Phone: 705-253-3506

Please call in or send our team any suggestions you may have for programming or activities you would like to do.



Community News and Notes

IN MEMORIAM

Daniel (Danny) Cannon who passed on
 To the Spirit World
 In Toronto, Ontario
 B. December 7, 1969
 D. July 17, 2019

From your family
 Pam Rew, Deborah Cannon

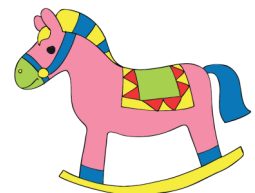


I would like to wish my oldest son Richard
 on Sept.28th



A Happy Birthday
 Love you my son, MOM
 XXXXXX000000

Happy 4th Birthday
 Eva Lynne Goodfellow
 Love from your family
 October 12





*Now available at Family Services Office *

Counselling helps people address traumas, understand impacts of intergenerational trauma, develop coping strategies, identify strengths, and promote healing, resiliency and self-empowerment. This counselling takes a culturally safety and holistic approach that promotes spiritual, emotional, mental and physical wellbeing.

Dates are:

September 26th, 2019– 1:00pm-4:00pm

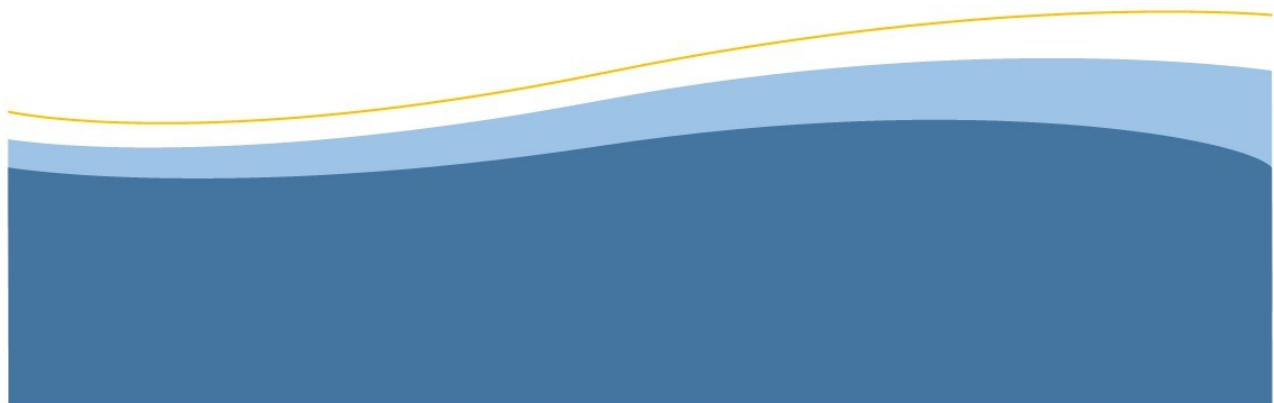
October 10, 2019– 1:00pm-4:00pm

October 24, 2019– 1:00pm-4:00pm

~ and every two weeks after~

Please contact Eva Dabutch– edabutch@missanabiecree.com
To set up appointment

Missanabie Cree Family Services Office
477 Queen St Sault Ste. Marie, ON Suite 200 (2nd floor)





All MCFN Youth ...
Come and sign-in
for a monthly bus



477 Queen St. Suite 200 2nd floor

(705)253-3506 Contact:

Choose Life Coordinator- April Wesley

awesley@missanabiecree.com

Beading Fun!

Come out and
share your
thoughts, talents
and ideas!

Come on out on

Tuesdays

477 Queen St.

suite 200 2nd floor

(705)253-3506

Learn how to make your
choice of head bands, head
pieces, chokers, earrings!!

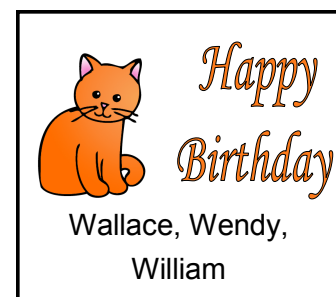
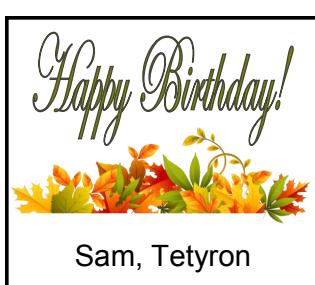
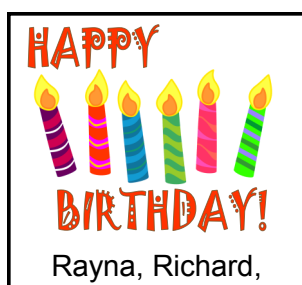
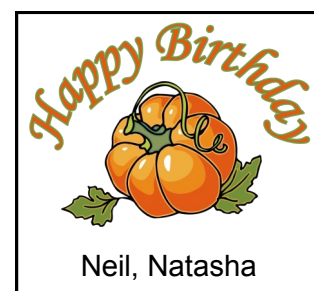
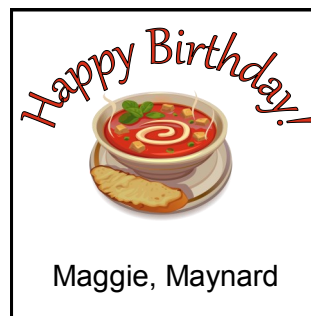
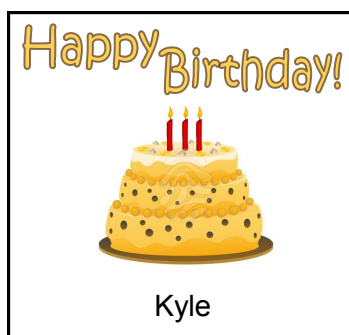
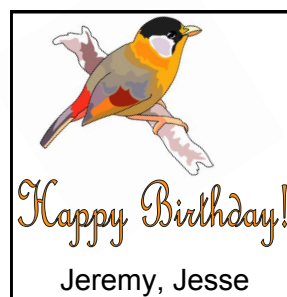
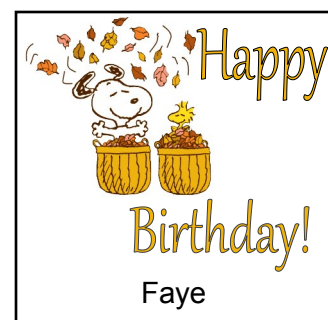
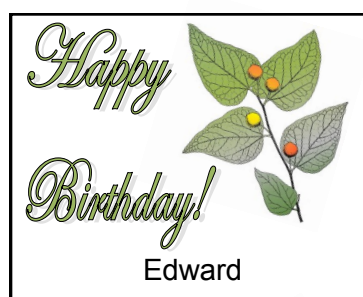
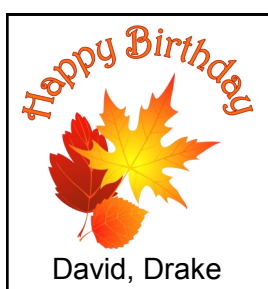
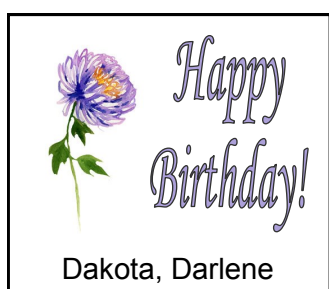
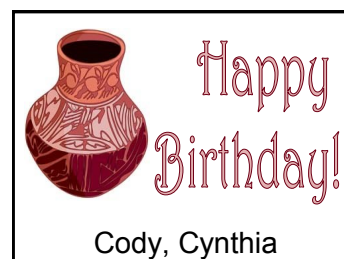
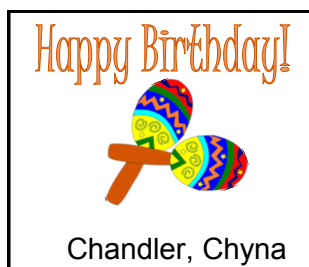
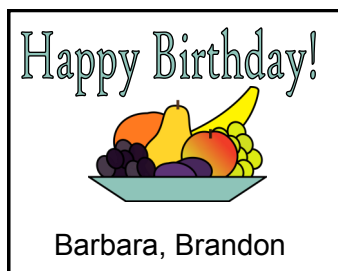
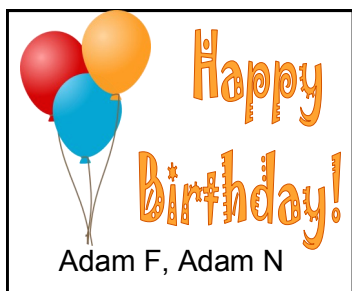
All supplies are available

edabutch@missanabiecree.com

awesley@missanabiecree.com

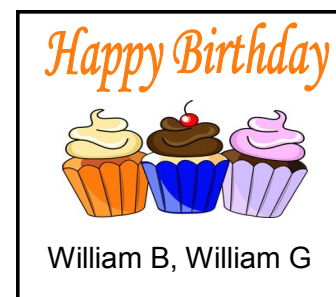
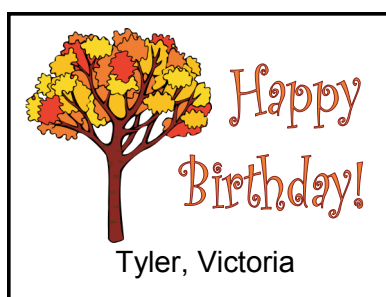
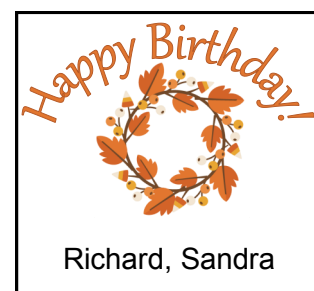
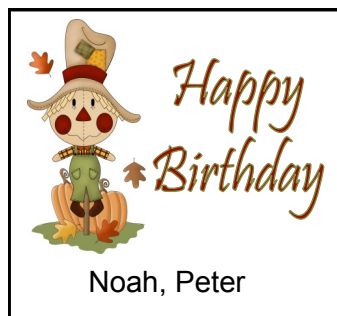
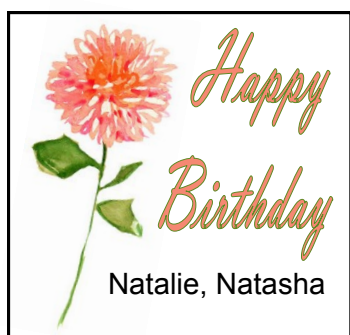
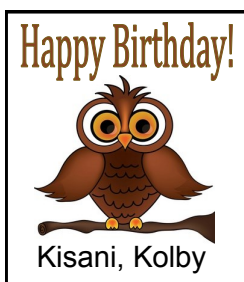
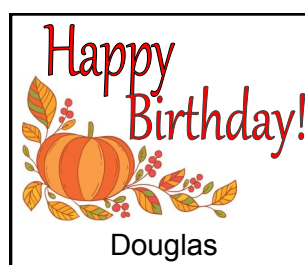
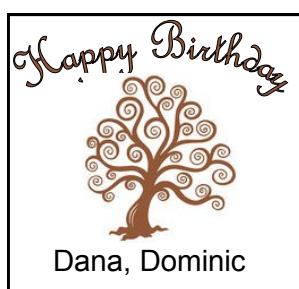
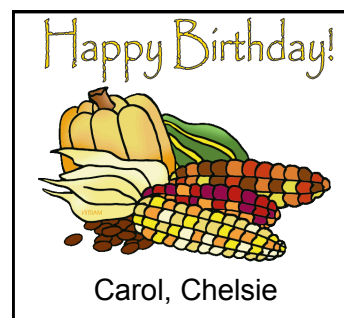
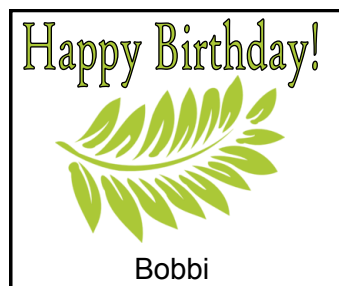
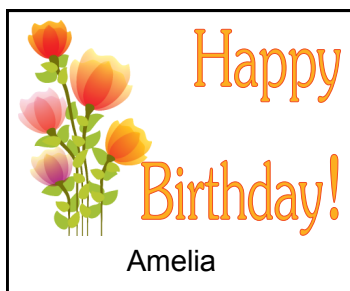


September Birthday Greetings





October Birthday Greetings





MCFN Events Calendar

OCTOBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
For updates, check our FB page, website or call the Band Office.		1 Spaghetti Dinner/ CIBC InfoSession 5-8 pm	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Beading 1-3 pm	9 Healthy Snacks 1 pm	10	11	12 Swimming Party and Pizza John Rhodes Arena 4-6:30pm
13	14 	15 Beading 1-3 pm	16 Elders Luncheon 12-2 pm	17	18	19
20	21 Halloween Bowl Northcrest Bowling Lanes 6-9 pm	22 Beading 1-3 pm	23 Job Ready Program 10 am - 12 pm	24	25	26
27	28	29 Youth Corn Maze Mockingbird Farm 7-9 pm	30	31 Pi a oo moo Peesim Migration south Moon 		

NOVEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Freeze up Moon Haskinitisew Peesim					Unless otherwise noted, all activities are held at Family Services office at 477 Queen St. E, Suite 201, For more info call 705-253-	
3	4	5 Regalia Workshop 4 - 5:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11 Remembrance Day Office Closed 	12 Regalia Workshop 4-5:00 pm	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Youth Dinner/ Brainstorm 4-5 pm Place: TBD	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Cost of Money

(submitted by Gloria Harris)

Missanabie Cree members are soon to individually experience having an influx of money. I am writing this article as a result of having researched in the past and written articles on many issues that impacted First Nation communities. One major project, I was contracted for was under the umbrella of the Northwestern Ontario Women's Decade Council, funded by Status of Women Canada, to produce an educational manual that could be used as a training tool in northwestern Ontario women's shelter network. This was in 1992 and 1993.

The manual was titled: Caring Sharing Honesty Respect. I was an expert on my own life, and certainly not the expert on Indigenous issues at that time. That is why I researched for 4 months and wrote for 4 months as I was also a full-time employee during this time at the women's shelter in Marathon. Once the manual was done, we drew up an implementation plan and I went on a full tour of all the shelters in northwestern Ontario delivering this workshop on introduction to aboriginal culture. During 1992/93, I was new to the Sweetgrass Path or Good Red Road as some call it.

Incidentally, I met a member from Missanabie Cree, while presenting the workshop in Red Lake. Unbeknownst to both of us, we talked during the break and she approached me with, "I'm going to a gathering of my people, I wonder if you ever heard of the Missanabie Cree". I gasped and took a step backward and excitedly exclaimed, "I'm a member of Missanabie Cree". The gathering she was talking about was the first one held in Wawa Motor Inn chalet cabins. And that is how I met Cheryl (Chicken) MacCumber!

As we are all aware, the settlement dollars that are forthcoming is way more than most of us has ever received at once. Some of us (wish I was one of them) know lots about investments and handling money responsibly. A great majority of us don't or have never taken the time to look deeper into handling money, let alone a large sum. So, back to the reason why I'm writing this article is to share one community's experience.

Hobbema, Alberta is located at the centre of 4 Cree reserves, namely Samson, Ermineskin, Louis Buss and Montana bands. From 1980 to 1987, Hobbema had the highest suicide rates in North America. At the peak of the epidemic, 16 people killed themselves in 1 year. An oilfield was discovered in 1950 and by 1970, oil royalties began pouring into the bands. By 1983, at the peak of the oil boom, the bands were receiving \$185 million in annual royalties. In the history of Canada, very few communities have been transformed from poverty to wealth so suddenly. As the oil money poured into Hobbema, the social upheaval was traumatic. Use of alcohol and drugs increased, families broke apart and the suicides increased. From 1985 to 87 there was a violent death almost every week. Automobile accidents, usually involving alcohol skyrocketed. In 1987 alone, 12 residents of Hobbema died in highway accidents. A culture can be destroyed by money as easily as disease or war.

The influx of a large amount of money interferes with the cultural and spiritual values. If you look to how First Nations lived before the money system. Especially if the community has never been prepared for it, such as Hobbema was not prepared. It replaced old values; money brought in a value of its own. It didn't bring happiness, it put more value on materialistic possessions. The family and the value of spirituality got lost. The com-

munity did not realize the problems that the money would create. The Hobbema bands had no financial experts who might have advised them to channel their royalty payments into a fund to economic development. There was no assistance to prepare them to spend wisely.

The government at that time could have provided the necessary expert guidance, but it made little effort to help the bands in that transition time of very little money to lots of money.

The fate of any community is a product of a complex web of factors. At Hobbema, the influx of money was certainly one factor. The lack of proper management and control of the money was another. And let's not forget the story of many communities, histories of poverty due to the creation of reserves with no source of economy and intergenerational trauma caused by residential schools.

Missanabie Cree history is one of struggle too. No land, community for 112 years before the papers were signed. Creation of Chapleau Game Preserve in 1925 cut off our ancestor's food source of moose, fish and birds. Families were dispersed across the country. We need to learn and understand our community history and the sordid relationship of residential schools to members of our community. We as a community need to look to healing from harms done and focus on the source of harm not the addiction that is used to cope. It is a proven fact that once addictions are addressed the root causes surface and that too must be addressed.

In that same sense we need to know that the influx of money coming to us can be used in ways to benefit us personally if we take the correct measures of thinking it out carefully on what, where, how we choose to make it work best for us. In addiction counselling, they encourage and emphasize to persons with new sobriety to not make any major decisions in the first year of sobriety.

Talk it out with family members who you know have money management experience.

Let's be a community that others would look to on how we handled the influx of money. Let's not become more sad statistics to add to the horrific list of unnecessary deaths in Indigenous country

We can also form a round table discussion or as some people call it...kitchen table talks. Let's be leaders and a forward community. Topics for discussion can include wills, executors, life insurance needs, power of attorney for personal care and property, minimizing taxes and other fees, keeping track of accounts and important information, and others that were talked about at the CIBC estate planning session.

Bottom line is we want our assets to go to the people we care about.

Bear Fax by Email

If you wish to receive your Bear Fax newsletter in a pdf file by email, please call the office and leave your name and email with our reception, June Markie

Have some news you'd like to share, or a greeting to someone special? If you do, you may send your submission to be posted to Community News and Notes. Pictures are also welcome.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th day of each month.

Please call or email reception or send by fax to the Band Office.

Share Your Stories

MCFN Membership

Indian Registration Scheduled Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

By Appointment Only

Updating Addresses. Members, please keep your address up-to-date so you don't miss out on pertinent information regarding band business. Please use the form below and mail or fax it to Missanabie Cree First Nation. You may also call the Band Office or email June Markie at jmarkie@missanabiecree.com. PLEASE NOTE: A CHANGE OF ADDRESS CAN ONLY BE PROCESSED WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED, NOT FROM ANYONE ELSE.

Names of deceased members are not removed from the band voter's list unless the information is provided to Aboriginal Affairs. Anyone with funeral information (i.e. name of funeral home/location), date of death, a death certificate, or anyone who can be contacted for this information, please call or leave a message with Deb Clement at the MCFN Band Office.



MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM - - For Band Members

SURNAME	
First Name and 2 nd Name	
ALIAS/BAND #	
DATE RECEIVED	
NEW ADDRESS	
CITY/PROVINCE	
POSTAL CODE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE #	
SIGNATURE	

CONTACT AND OTHER INFORMATION

MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION

174B HWY 17B
Garden River, ON
P6A 6Z1

SATELLITE OFFICE:
559 Queen St. E
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2A3

Phone: 705-254-2702
Toll Free: 1-800-319-3001
Fax: 705-254-3292

MCFN Chief & Council

Jason Gauthier, Chief, ex. 231
jgauthier@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Cory McLeod
cmcLeod@missanabiecree.com

Glad Fletcher-Hawkins, Elder Liaison
gfletcher-hawkins@missanabiecree.com

Les Nolan, Deputy Chief, ex. 504
lnolan@missanabiecree.com

Councillor JoAnn Pezzo
jpezzo@missanabiecree.com

Alexandra Langford-Pezzo, Youth Representative
apezzo@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Bobbi Fletcher-Decorte
bfletcher-decorte@missanabiecree.com

Councillor Shawn Pine
spine@missanabiecree.com

MCFN Staff

Band Administrator Doreen Boissoneau **ex. 222**

dboissoneau@missanabiecree.com

Bookkeeper Louise Campbell **ex. 224**

lcampbell@missanabiecree.com

Reception June Markie **ex. 221**

jmarkie@missanabiecree.com

Program Development Lesley Gagnon **ex. 226**

lgagnon@missanabiecree.com

Executive Assistant Shereena Campbell **ex. 235**

scampbell@missanabiecree.com

Band Administrative Assistant Amber Lacrosse **ex. 231**

alacrosse@missanabiecree.com

Post-Secondary Education Officer / Registration Clerk Deb Clement **ex. 227**

dclement@missanabiecree.com

Comprehensive Community Planning Coordinator Jutta Horn **ex. 245**

jhorn@missanabiecree.com

Governance Coordinator (vacant)

FAMILY SERVICES 477 Queen St. E 705-253-3403

Family Services Supervisor Eva Dabutch **ex. 244**

edabutch@missanabiecree.com

Family Support Worker Bonnie Wiebe **ex. 238**

bwiebe@missanabiecree.com

Addictions Counsellor Danielle Moore **ex. 236**

dmoore@missanabiecree.com

Family Well-being Worker Bonnie Wiebe

bwiebe@missanabiecree.com

Choose Life Coordinator April Wesley **ex. 229**

awesley@missanabiecree.com

MCBC OFFICE: 705-949-6818

CBA Implementation Coordinator Stephen Hawkins

shawkins@missanabiecree.com

Cultural Facilitator Gloria Harris

gharris@missanabiecree.com

Executive Assistant Brittany MacLean

bmaclean@missanabiecree.com

ELDERS COUNCIL

Diane Astle	Gloria Harris
Audrey Bateson	Shirley Horn
Kathy Beaudry	Fran Luther
Cathy Clement	Cheryl Macumber
Deborah Ewing	Carol Nolan
D'Arcy Fletcher	Marion Nolan
Jackie Fletcher	JoAnn Pezzo
Glad Fletcher-Hawkins	Laura-Lee Rawlyk
	Pamela Rew

GOVERNANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (GCC)

Kyle Bateson Jackie Fletcher Deb Ewing Victoria Pezzo

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNING

STEERING COMMITTEE (CCPSC)

Neil Ewing Jackie Fletcher Shirley Horn
Glad Fletcher-Hawkins Terri Lou Fletcher JoAnn Pezzo

MCDC BOARD

Shereena Campbell Jackie Fletcher Lesley Gagnon Marion Nolan

VISION STATEMENT OF THE MISSANABIE CREE

We are the Anishnabe of the Missanabie Cree First Nation
whose vision is to have a united and self-governing body
that will determine our destiny guided by the seven laws.

We have a vision of a leadership that is open, honest, trustworthy;
a leadership with conviction, accessible to the people;
a leadership that is progressive yet respectful of our traditions, values and beliefs;
a leadership with confidence, always watchful and assertive
in protecting and preserving the treaty and aboriginal rights of our people;
a leadership that is directed by our people
and with exclusive accountability to our people and our people alone.

We have a vision of our community re-established on the traditional lands
that were once the homeland of our ancestors
where institutions of our government, economy and education can once again thrive.

We have a vision of a people where individuals and families can stand strong
and find healing through tradition and spirituality;
individuals and families who are loving and compassionate.

We have a vision of a people who are bi-cultural and bi-lingual;
a people who can walk in both worlds contributing to our well-being,
the well-being of our brother and sister First Nations; contributing and competing globally.

We have a vision of a Nation of people who respect the dignity of all;
a people who find balance through equality of all ages, male and female alike.

We have a vision of people who respect the environment,
harvesting and reaping the resources of the land in a sustainable manner
as responsible stewards for the use of future generations.

We are the Anishnabe of the Missanabie Cree First Nation
whose vision it is to regain and restore our rightful place
and through the strength of our people, never again be denied our place in society.

September 20, 1998