

# NEW BREED

January 1982

Volume 13, No. 1

\$1.50

Voice of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan

**The Good  
The Bad  
And The Ugly  
1981**



# Letters

## SASKATOON SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

Dear Editor:

On August 28, 1981, France and Mexico issued a joint declaration with respect to the civil war resulting from the revolution against the U.S.-backed ruling junta in El Salvador. The declaration called for a just settlement of the crisis which would take account of the country's need for fundamental social, economic and political changes. It also gave formal recognition to the opposition FMLM-FDR alliance as a representative political force in El Salvador which is entitled to participate in mechanisms for settling the crisis.

The Franco-Mexican declaration has received widespread international endorsement. Among the governments which have pronounced themselves in favour are those of Norway, Sweden, Ireland, Grenada, Austria, Denmark and the Seychelles. Canadian organizations which have called for the recognition of the FMLM-FDR alliance include the Inter-Church Committee on Human Rights in Latin America, The Parti Quebecois and the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour. Regrettably, however, the Canadian government has failed to respond.

The Salvadorean crisis has recently worsened, with the prospect of a regionalization of the conflict. The Honduran government has initiated plans to re-locate forcibly the twenty thousand Salvadorean refugees who

have been living along the frontier between the two countries. Moreover, with the advice and support of the U.S. government, the Salvadorean, Honduran and Guatemalan armies are co-ordinating military action in the region.

Within El Salvador, the dimensions of the struggle are becoming ever clearer. Twenty thousand people were assassinated in 1980 and the daily average of fifty killings has continued throughout 1981. The flight of capital last year amounted to five hundred million U.S. dollars and national production levels decreased by 11.7%.

The response of the U.S.-backed junta has been the heightened prosecution of the war against the insurgents. Yet the insurgents represent a majority of the Salvadorean people. The opposition FMLM-FDR alliance has broad-based support among professionals, students, small and middle businessmen, workers and peasants. It's recognition as a legitimate political force is an essential step towards the full participation of the Salvadorean people in a democratic and popular government.

We urge organizations and individuals who are concerned for a just settlement of the conflict to express support



for the Franco-Mexican declaration by writing to their MP's and to the Canadian government.

Saskatoon Solidarity Committee  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

## POEMS SUBMITTED

Dear Editor:

This poem was written by me. Since your paper caters to the Native population, I thought your readers would appreciate such writings. In the event your paper should have space in one of your future editions, maybe my poem could come in handy.

A brief history. Both my husband (Barney) and I come from Cumberland House, Saskatchewan. His family comes from there. My parents are from there. I was born in northern Manitoba in 1941. Our ties with the family back in Saskatchewan remain strong. We have been in Thompson 20 years now. We have five sons. I am a probation officer and am employed with the Manitoba government. My interests are in writing. One of these days I am going to write books! For now whenever the urge comes I write poems. I have been fortunate so far I have had a few published in our local "New Nations" magazine. All my poems tend to have hidden messages for our people or for those who control this country.

Ethel Deschambeault  
Thompson, Manitoba

[Ed. Note: See one of poems inside.]

Comments on our publication are most welcome. What do you think of NEW BREED in general? What are your opinions on specific articles? What else would you like to see in NEW BREED? Please submit letters prior to the 25th of each month. Thankyou!

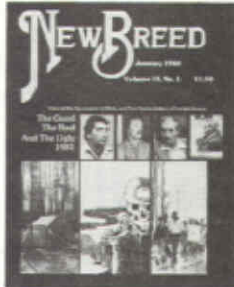
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# NEW BREED

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Voice of the Association of Metis & Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan



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**Acknowledgements & Credits**  
 Regina Leader Post, Ben Batch, Barry McKay, Ethel Deschambeault, Cedrick Black.

**Please Note:**  
 We have just finished going through our computer mailing list. Some mistakes may have been made in this list, so if you find that you are not receiving your copy of New Breed regularly please let us know. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

**ATTENTION WRITERS:** Articles submitted to New Breed and subsequently used for publication shall be paid for at the rate of \$2.50 per column inch (10 pt. 13 pica). We reserve the right to publish whole or parts of articles submitted.

**NOTE:** All articles must be signed, however, your name will be withheld if requested.

Poems submitted will be paid at the rate of 75 cents per line, minimum \$5.00 and maximum \$25.00.

Photos that are submitted with articles shall be paid for at the rate of \$5.00 per published photo. These shall be returned upon request.

New Breed is published twelve times yearly by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Association, however free expression of opinion is invited.

# EDITORIAL

## Native Rights Issue Remains Critical

by Joan Beatty

1981 has been one of the toughest years for the Association of Metis and Non Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) because never before have the issues been so critical and never has the pressures been greater on the provincial politicians.

1981 was the year the process for bringing home the constitution really got into high gear. 1981 was also the year AMNSIS' solidarity was threatened and challenged through court action.

AMNSIS, at one point, stood alone in opposing the constitutional package while the three national Native leaders were shaking hands with Justice Minister Jean Chretien and slapping each other on the back, saying they had reached a "historical moment" after having reached an agreement with the federal government. AMNSIS referred to the agreement as the "Friday Night Massacre" saying the federal government had not gone far enough in defining Native rights. AMNSIS, to date, still maintains that position. The organization kept lobbying with other Native groups and trying to work with the Native Council of Canada (NCC) to reverse its decision which it finally accomplished. Other Native groups followed suit when they realized they hadn't received such a good deal after all. Then the federal government and the provinces reached a constitutional compromise in November but only after they had used the Native Rights package as a "bargaining tool", completely deleting it. Both levels of government denied the accusation of "having sold



"THE BEST CONSTITUTION IN THE WORLD."

Native people down the drain." The Native people themselves across Canada started to really wake up and began demonstrating to have the Native Rights clause reinstated.

The Prime Minister responded by saying he had been "sad" that the Native people had been left out of the constitution but stated it was up to the provinces to re-open discussions. Individual provinces, seemingly to try and save face to the general public, started making public statements saying they would support the inclusion of Native rights in the proposed new constitution.

Finally, Jean Chretien made another announcement in the House of Commons. Amidst loud cheers and clapping by everyone in the House, Chretien said Canada had once again

proven itself as a great democracy by putting Native rights back in the constitution. It was exactly the same clause, instead of reading "recognition of aboriginal rights", it now reads "recognition of existing aboriginal rights". Many wanted to know why the word "existing" was added but both levels of government said it didn't change things. Some have said it allowed the provinces to save face.

AMNSIS remains skeptical and says the government didn't go far enough because the only thing the Native rights clause does is acknowledge the existence of the Metis people. It does not guarantee them any rights nor does it give them a political process through which their land and aboriginal rights claims can be dealt with in a fair manner.

1982 will even be a tougher year for AMNSIS and its membership as it will determine whether we get any kind of settlement at all. With the letter recently sent to us by Premier Allen Blakeney saying his government does not recognize the Metis people as having any land or aboriginal rights, it's even going to be tougher for the Native people. Chretien had already told us the same thing earlier in the year, saying the federal government saw no basis for a land and aboriginal rights settlement for the Metis people.

It will be up to us to prove to the governments and the public that we do have legitimate land and aboriginal rights claims, a fact that both levels of governments have refused to deal with in the past 100 years. □

# NEW BREED

## YOUR MESSAGE IN OUR MAGAZINE

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## Achimowins by Joan Beatty

The months of December and January are extremely busy months for everyone, even more so for the staff of *New Breed*. This is the time we try and compile two issues of *New Breed* in about a three week period. In order for the magazines to be out in time, particularly the January issue, we have to ensure it's put together prior to Christmas and the two week break all AMNSIS staff get. So we've been really scrambling this past while.

For the January issue, we attempt to review all the major events and happenings we covered in the *New Breed* in 1981 which affected the Metis and Non-Status people of this province. We hope you find it interesting.

We also have more on the "Working Together" conference which took place in Regina in late November.

There was both good and bad news for us this month. First of all the good news; the court charges against AMNSIS, Jim Sinclair, president, and Wayne McKenzie, executive director, have been dropped. More on this in the magazine. On the other hand, we received another 'Jean Chretien' letter saying we have no aboriginal rights. This time it came from Premier Allan Blakeney who we thought was our strongest supporter. It's funny he didn't explain his government's position during the "Working Together" conference. Anyway, we have more on this in the magazine.

We have our regular features including provincial and area news, Cree news, book reviews, poems, recipes, etc. This brings to mind that we need more recipes, poems and articles from our readers. We want your input!

We would also like to encourage all the AMNSIS Locals and other interested individuals to let us know of upcoming events and tell us of the things they would like covered in *New Breed*. We once again have a northern and a southern reporter so we should be able to give you a good response in terms of coverage. One of the things I like to see in our magazine is sports events like hockey and curling tournaments, etc., and I know a lot of them are taking place. Please let us know ahead of time so we can send someone to cover them. Your co-operation will be really appreciated.

We would like to once again mention to all the Locals and AMNSIS members our subscription policy. Every AMNSIS member receives the magazine free but first we need your name and address along with your Local membership number. Once we get that, we can put you on to the mailing list. I know there are still many of you who don't get the magazine on a regular basis and we would like to rectify that.

We would also like to have your suggestions and comments on some of the themes we should have this coming year. What are some of the major issues you would like covered? We have already received suggestions like problems Native people face in the urban centres, housing, recreation, etc., but we would like more ideas.

That's it for this month. Hope everyone had a Happy New Year and all the best in 1982 from all of us here at *New Breed*.

Dear Mr. McKenzie:

This is further to my letter of November 17, 1981. As you will know by now, we were able to get section 34 included in the constitutional resolution. This was done by taking the position that if the Accord of November 5th was to be opened up, then we were insisting upon the inclusion of the old section 34. When support grew for a change dealing with equal rights between men and women we found ourselves in a position to insist upon treaty and aboriginal rights being considered and eventually included.

This is consistent with our position that we took during the constitutional discussions. We think that, on balance, it is a good thing to have these rights affirmed in the Constitution.

The Government of Saskatchewan continues to reserve its right to dispute the fact that any particular group of people may be entitled to aboriginal rights and you will be familiar with the fact that it has not been our position that Metis people as a people are entitled to aboriginal rights to land. This would not, of course, preclude an individual of Metis origin from having rights to a trapping area or rights to hunt or other rights based upon lengthy use by that individual or his family.

I write to confirm our position on this matter so that there will be no confusion resulting from our desire to see the old section 34 reinstated in the resolution and our success in this regard.

Yours sincerely,  
Allan Blakeney  
Premier.



New Breed



## Blakeney Writes a Chretien Letter

by Joan Beatty

**Regina** - In a somewhat surprising turn of events, Premier Allan Blakeney has sent a letter to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) saying he does not recognize the aboriginal rights of the Metis people. His government had put forth one of the strongest positions of support for the entrenchment of treaty and aboriginal rights in the proposed Canadian constitution. Jim Sinclair, president of AMNSIS, said the letter sent to the organization, says the same thing as the 'Chretien letter' of April 24, 1981, (see May issue of *New Breed*) that Metis people have no basis for land and aboriginal rights. Sinclair said the organization had expected

**Blakeney to go to the first ministers conference in support of Native peoples rights not in opposition to them.**

Wayne McKenzie, executive director for AMNSIS, said Blakeney made sure the "Working Together" conference was over before he sent the letter to the organization. "In his letter, he doesn't talk about a land base, he talks about traplines," he said.

The following is the letter sent to AMNSIS, dated December 9, 1981, to the attention of Wayne McKenzie:

In an earlier letter to AMNSIS, dated November 17, 1981, Blakeney had outlined the Saskatchewan government's position on Native rights in the proposed constitution which said in part:

*"I would have no objection in principle to a constitutional provision intended to clarify the definition "Indians" in Section (92)24 to make it clear that the term includes registered Indians, Inuit, Metis and other Native people."*

Sinclair said the problem is that neither the federal or provincial governments want to take responsibility for the Metis and Non-Status Indian people. He said the recent letters sent by Premier Blakeney just further indicates the lack of concern of government to have a fair and just settlement for the Metis people. Sinclair said that this means Native people will have to be that much stronger and work that much harder in order to get an aboriginal rights and a land claims settlement. □



**Dona Desmarais**

One of the Metis Locals who got a new president in 1981 was the Riel Local in Regina. On August 1, 1981, Dona Desmarais got in by acclamation as president of the Local.

Originally from Ile-a-la-Crosse, Dona graduated from North Battleford Collegiate in 1967. Upon graduating, she joined the Canadian Armed Forces and attended the CAF School of Administration and Logistics in southern Ontario, graduating in 1968. She worked for several years with various financial institutions in eastern Canada as a Consumer Loans Officer.

Dona migrated back to Saskatchewan in 1978, working at various places before assuming the position of Executive Assistant to Jim Sinclair, AMNSIS President. In June, 1980, she accepted the position of Director of the Native Employment Centre for the Riel Local.

Dona has a committed interest in education. She sits on the board of the Gabriel Dumont Institute and feels education and training are essential for her people.

Besides her already busy career, Dona has managed to complete her ground school training in flying and has logged six hours flying time.

Dona has two children, Andrea, nine years old and Chantelle, six years old. □

## PROFILES



**Jerry Durocher**

Jerry Durocher started working for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) four and a half years ago.

After getting treatment at the Native Alcohol Centre (NAC), he worked at the NAC centre as a trainee counselor for four and a half months. He then went to work as an Economic Development Worker for AMNSIS, his present position to date. At an early age, Jerry moved from his northern home of Ile-a-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan, to Prince Albert to attend school. After completing his education, he travelled around the country working at various jobs.

Projects he has been involved in include the Prince Albert Out-Patient Service Centre, a follow-up service to ex-patients of NAC. Another project was in Duck Lake, south of Prince Albert, building sidewalks for the community.

Jerry is presently working on a project to establish a treatment centre for alcoholics in a rural setting north of Prince Albert.

Not only is Jerry an active AMNSIS Local member, he is also the vice-president of the Native Co-ordination Council (NCC). NCC was set up to co-ordinate Native services in Prince Albert. Jerry is also a board member of the Prince Albert Friendship Centre.

Jerry also takes time from his busy schedule to be a Big Brother. "Big Brothers" is an organization that provides companionship to fatherless boys. He accompanies his "little brother" to various sports activities and special events. □

# NEW BREED

*"Voice of Saskatchewan Metis and Non-Status Indians"*

### THE ROLE OF THE NEW BREED

Playing a vital role in the inter-relationship between the communities and the relationship between the community and provincial organization of the Metis Association of Saskatchewan, the NEW BREED provides a two way printed vehicle which the community and our Association can utilize for purposes beneficial to both. Not only is the publication an information source to its Native readers but also to the non-native readers who hopefully gain a new understanding of the Native people in their battle for justice and recognition.

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# A 1981 Events Synopsis

by Vi Sanderson, Rob LaFontaine & Joan Beatty

The following is a review of the events covered in 1981 by *New Breed* magazine. The summaries, besides providing the background, also give a short update on the issues covered.



The group wanted to know why a technical institute was being built in Prince Albert and not in northern Saskatchewan. They also wanted to know why most of the revenue and resources were going to southern Saskatchewan.

## Demonstrations

The major demonstration of the year was held in La Ronge in northern Saskatchewan by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) and other concerned individuals. Unhappy with the Saskatchewan government's response to their concerns, over 300 people from across the province gathered in La Ronge on June 15 to attend a meeting which was followed by a peaceful demonstration.

Ten major concerns were brought up during the meeting which had been presented to government but not dealt with. They included the need for technical training facilities and the lack of funding for Native Career Development, training and employment programs, no decent communication or recreation program, no move by government to turn over the Metis farms, no economic development program and the upstaging by the province of a Native Economic Development Foundation with the same concept only operated under their control, no community education system, except the NSIM program which is hopelessly underfunded, to meet the training needs of the Native people. The group also wanted support on the aboriginal rights issue.

Jim Sinclair, president of AMNSIS, said the "we've worked hard in developing an economic strategy for our people. Our aboriginal rights research is completed. We want our own training and education facilities and a decent communications program. Most important, we want to gain control of our lives through economic programs and land."

Some progress throughout the year has been made in obtaining a better communications program through the formation of the Saskatchewan Native Communications (Wheta Matowin) Corporation. However, getting adequate funding is still a problem. The Native Economic Development Foundation question has still not been dealt with by government although meetings are now under way. (See review on economic development) There is still no technical training facilities in the north except for the training depot in Buffalo Narrows which provides only limited training. There are no identifiable recreation programs at the local level and work at obtaining the Metis farms continues.

The constitution will be patriated and we will be granted "existing" rights as Metis people. Not both levels of government say Metis people have no rights. (See constitutional update)

In the area of education, there has been area education committees established. They have now assumed part control of administering the NSIM program. Funding, however, has not improved to any substantial degree.

In another demonstration, 12 protestors were charged after blockading a bridge at Buffalo Narrows on June 26. The demonstration was held because Premier Allan Blakeney and the Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, Jerry Hammersmith, refused to meet with the group. Both were in the community to conduct official openings of several public buildings and the bridge.

The group wanted more employment and an increase in revenue for the people of the north. The homeowners said their new houses wouldn't be hooked up for water and sewage for another two years. They wanted to move into them right away but because of the lack of water and sewage, they were told they couldn't by DNS officials.

AMNSIS said the membership is constantly being harrassed for asking and sticking up for their rights.





## Metis Heritage Days 1981

One of the highlights for all Metis and Non-Status Indian people from across Saskatchewan and Canada is the annual Metis Heritage Days held at Batoche, Saskatchewan. 1981 proved no exception as record crowds enjoyed three days of fine weather during the celebrations held July 17-19, 1981.

Batoche is the historical site of the Rebellion.

As in other years, the celebrations were marked with top Native entertainment, sports and cultural events.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the Riel Rebellion, the term "Back to Batoche" will be used during the centennial in 1985. Parks Canada is also doing some redevelopment work to be completed by 1985. According to Tim Low, consultant for AMNSIS, he, along with Area Director Murray Hamilton, met with the Parks Canada planners to ensure that "the historical interpretation of the events that led up to the Rebellion are clearly expressed from our point of view."

Plans are already underway for the 1982 Metis Heritage Days with the planning committee meeting every few weeks. The AMNSIS areas are being requested to select people to represent them on the committee so that input can be obtained from everyone. Low said in order to have a more efficient and enjoyable event for 1982, plans have to be made now.



The event is a cultural and memorial tribute to all who died during the Riel Rebellion in 1885.



## AMNSIS Elections

One of the most democratic and strongest Native organizations in Canada today is the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). It is the only Native organization today which has the "one membership, one vote" ballot system. Membership to AMNSIS is determined by over 127 active Metis Locals in the province.

The AMNSIS elections held on August 1, 1981, saw the return of Rod Durocher as vice-president, Frank Tomkins as provincial secretary, Rod Bishop as area director for Western Region I, Jim Favel to Northern Region III, Murray Hamilton to Western Region II, along with newcomers Don Ross to the Southwest Area, Morley Norton to Western Region IA, and Armand Murray to Northern Region II.

Effective 1982, all positions within AMNSIS will be up for elections for three year terms as ratified by the Annual Assembly, July 16, 1981, at Batoche, Saskatchewan.

# Economic Development Proposal - Still Nothing Definite

The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) presented the Honorable Allan E. Blakeney, Premier of the province of Saskatchewan and his Cabinet colleagues a proposal on March 18, 1981 for the establishment of a Native Development Foundation of Saskatchewan (NDFS). According to Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director for AMNSIS, there still has not been a firm response from government although there has been a promise of some meetings to discuss the matter.

## Background

It would have one direct subsidiary, the Native Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO). In turn, NEDCO would have three subsidiaries:

- i) Native Loan Corporation (NLC);
- ii) Native Venture Capital Corporation (NVCC); and
- iii) Native Human Resources Development Corporation (NHRD).

Policy would be set by the Board of Directors of NDFS. The Board would take into account the economic development needs of the Native people as identified by the planning arm of AMNSIS and the area and local executives.

The Board of Directors of the operating subsidiaries of NEDCO would include the President of NEDCO plus three additional people appointed by the Board members of NEDCO from its members or community at large on the basis of experience and interests.

The proposal requested an initial capital funding of \$15 million plus \$425,000 for initial operating expenses from the government of Saskatchewan. It was also proposed that the federal government and the private sector would be approached for funding.

The provincial government introduced new legislation in May for the establishment of a southern and northern economic development foundation. However, AMNSIS officials say the new Bill 107 is irrelevant to them because it does not mean new economic development initiatives for the Metis and Non-Status people in Saskatchewan. AMNSIS intends to keep pushing for the funding and control of their own foundation. For more information on the Foundation, see the May and October issues of *New Breed*.

The Foundation was to have been organized as a non-profit organization, which together with its operating subsidiaries, would plan, finance and facilitate economic development for Native people in Saskatchewan.

The action spot of the province for Native people continues to be northern Saskatchewan as expansion and development continues to take place at a very rapid pace.

## Northern Saskatchewan

### Options 80

In April, 1981, Jerry Hammersmith, Minister of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) announced consultations would be taking place with northern residents for the establishment of a new northern administration act. An Options 80 Task Committee, consisting of northern groups, was formed to obtain feedback from northern people. Consultations and meetings were held with northern communities to explain the proposals set forward by government and to get the northern peoples' reactions. Many northern people were skeptical, saying things were happening too fast and that they wanted more time to study the proposals.

According to Hammersmith, submissions were received from all northern organizations with a consensus to what the northern act should consist of.

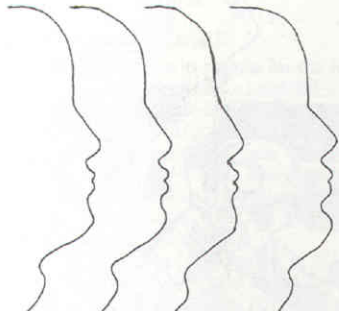
A White Paper was introduced in the spring session of the Legislature. The Bill will be tabled in March. The DNS Minister says the Act should be in effect by April, 1982 but no dramatic changes will take place as the process of enforcing the new Municipalities Act will take some time.

## Training and Employment

Training and employment continue to be a primary concern of northern residents this past year. The concern was reinforced by the Cluff Lake, Key Lake and the federal Richardson report, which all recommended the need for a technical training institute in northern Saskatchewan if the residents there were to receive employment benefits from the development taking place.

However, much to the surprise and frustration of northern people, Jerry Hammersmith, Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, announced a technical institute would be built in Prince Albert. Many people said this was to safeguard his seat in the Prince Albert riding for the next provincial election. Hammersmith denied the allegations saying a training institute was going to be built in the south and the most likely place was Prince Albert. He said the school was not intended to fulfill the training needs of northern Saskatchewan.

Northern residents say this is a far cry from what is really needed. The mines themselves have also introduced training on the job programs, subsidized by government. The Community Colleges continue to try to meet the training needs in the north but they too lack the funding.



### Key Lake Mining

During 1981, the Key Lake Mining Company (KLMC) got the go ahead for the construction and operation of its mining operations at Key Lake, 225 kilometres north of La Ronge. After a six month inquiry, a surface lease agreement was signed in August between the government and KLMC.

It will provide over 800 jobs during the construction period. It is estimated that 500 people will be needed for the operational phase. KLMC had hoped to begin operations in 1983 but according to president Peter Clarke, it looks like there will be a one year delay.

### Gulf Minerals

Earlier in the year, Gulf Minerals Canada Ltd. submitted a proposal to government saying it wanted to expand its existing mining operations at Rabbit Lake. The company wanted to develop a new uranium ore at Collins Bay, six miles north of its present operations. Because of the potential impact, the Company was asked to do an environmental review.

The ore body lies beneath the waters of Collins Bay which will require dyking off the water to get to the ore body.

Residents in the area expressed concern about the potential environmental impacts on the caribou, fish and plant life which they depend upon for their living.

Environmental reports were received from Gulf Minerals in July but the Department of Environment said the information was not adequate. More reports were submitted which are now being reviewed by government. These are expected to be available for public review in mid-January. Depending on public reaction, the government will then decide whether the mine proceeds or whether an inquiry is needed.

A training facility was opened at the Buffalo Narrows Training Depot where courses are currently underway which will allow some people to get into jobs created by northern development.

It is expected that the provincial government will receive over \$3 billion in royalties, taxes and revenue during the life span of the project.



## Uranium Industry

One of the most surprising moves in the uranium industry was the recent announcement by Eldorado Nuclear Ltd., a federal crown corporation, to shut down its Uranium City operations. Approximately 3000 people will be effected by the closure scheduled for June 1992. However, according to Lillian Mercredi, a local Metis, not too many Native people will be effected as very few of them work in the mine. However, the Native people in the town and from surrounding communities will be effected in terms of getting their supplies from there as most stores are expected to close down.

The reaction by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) to the closure and the mass publicity it received was that they felt sorry for the people that were going to be left unemployed. However, they said it was just another example of how little attention is given to the northern Native people, who are unskilled and unemployed and left to contend for themselves.

According to Lillian Mercredi, a local Metis, not too many Native people will be effected as very few of them work in the mine.



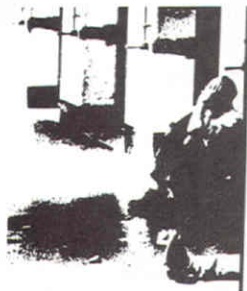
## Social Concerns

### Corrections And Incarceration

According to John H. Hylton, School of Human Justice, University of Regina, 60% of all those in provincial correction centres are Native people and the number is increasing each year. Unless a major change occurs in terms of concrete economic development planning for the Native people, Native admissions into jails will increase drastically in the next fifteen years. In a report prepared by Hylton, February, 1980, with the increased activity in northern development and a continuous increase in the urban Native population, the environment, economy, and the

social network of the Native family is disrupted. "To the extent that this occurs, social problems including crime, can be expected to increase," the report states.

There are three correctional facilities in Saskatchewan: Regina, Prince Albert and Saskatoon with a community correctional centre in North Battleford. Two new jails have also been built this past year, costing the government over \$20 million. They are located in Prince Albert and Saskatoon. A federal penitentiary is also located in Prince Albert.



## Native Alcohol Council

One of the most important programs for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) continues to be the one to combat the number one problem of Native people - alcoholism. The Native Alcohol Council (NAC) has rehabilitation centres in all major centres in Saskatchewan, including Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina. In addition, they administer a crisis intervention centre out of the Riel Local office in Regina and an outpatient follow-up centre in Prince Albert. NAC receives funding from the Department of Public Health through the Alcoholism Commission.

According to Fred Schoenthal, Director of NAC, the present program caters to those who want to be helped and primarily to those 25 years old and up. "We've been in existence for ten years and I feel it's about time our program goes through a change and a new direction. Alcoholics ten years ago are not the same as those today; they're getting much younger." Schoenthal said greater emphasis and discussions will be held this coming year so that the target group will include young people. Programs in education and prevention will also be considered.

## Saskatchewan Native Women's Association

Native women in Saskatchewan continue to be very active in developing social programs for the family unit. The Regina Native Women's Association (RNWA), an affiliate of the provincial organization, has continued to be one of the most active locals. The group, formed in 1971, has set up the Regina Native Women's Girls Home. The home helps young girls who may be encountering problems by giving them shelter and counselling. They also had a gardening project, a cultural summer camp, as well as being involved with different schools within the city who have Native students. The purpose of the program is to make school officials aware of the problems being faced by the Native students and act as a liaison between the two groups.

For the young mothers, the RNWA is looking for daycare facilities and have already trained twelve Native women to work in the facilities. This was the first course of its kind where the women completed an eight week training course in all areas relating to daycare. The RNWA are also involved in providing pre-natal instruction for the "Healthiest Babies Possible". The group is planning to expand this program this coming year.

However, one of the biggest projects of the RNWA this coming year will be to continue with their fund raising efforts for daycare facilities. According to Donna Pinay, Executive Director for the RNWA, the women have already raised about \$16,000.

The RNWA are also involved in providing pre-natal instruction for the "Healthiest Babies Possible".



Elaine Jessop



*Kenn Whyte*

## Education

### Non-Status Indian and Metis Program (NSIM)

The old Non-Registered Indian and Metis Program (NRIM) has been changed to the Non-Status Indian and Metis Program (NSIM) and control of the funding has also changed hands.

Now, instead of Community Colleges controlling the types of training and funding, area education committees, with the help of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, have taken over the responsibility.

Each area has been allotted some funds to set up their Area Education Committees. A Provincial Committee in turn has been set up with representatives from the Department of Continuing Education and AMNSIS, including the Dumont Institute, to give direction to the Area Committees.

It will be the Area Committees though that will be taking on the responsibility of identifying training needs with the help of the Dumont field staff. Several Area Education Committees have already been set up.



*Regina's potential SUNTEP grads.*

### S.U.N.T.E.P.

A third Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) opened this fall in Prince Albert. During the first year, there will be only 15 students but an additional 15 students will be added each year until there is a total student enrollment of 45.

First year students in Saskatoon and Regina have had a successful year with only one drop out in Saskatoon who is planning to return. There was some problem in funding for daycare services for some students but Social Services came through with a subsidy for daycare.

Students in Regina have taken classes in English, Drama, Native Studies, Native History and Culture as well as two classes in General Education.

Saskatoon students have taken similar courses. Education Studies 100, English 102, Native Studies 100, and Indian Education 257A. They have also taken a class in Educational Psychology 211.

### N.O.R.T.E.P.

On June 26, 1981, the Northern Teachers Education Program held its third graduation. Eleven more students were honored in La Ronge. Among the dignitaries present were Premier Allan Blakeney, Jerry Hamersmith, Minister of Northern Saskatchewan and Norman MacAuley, MLA for the Cumberland constituency.

**NORTEP was at first looked upon by government officials with skepticism but it has proven itself. Since 1976, they have had 26 graduates and the program has a 75% retention rate.**

The problem, according to Michael Tymchak, director of NORTEP, is how to turn out more students. The teacher turnover rate among white teachers is 25% and the student growth rate by NORTEP is only 5%.

The program also met with some resistance from Fred Thompson, MLA for the Athabasca constituency. He believes that the students in the program are not being taught properly. He would like to see the students sent to regular teacher programs.

But the people involved in the program are confident, having been told it is one of the best Native teacher education programs in Canada. A feasibility study is also being planned for an addition to the La Ronge school to allow more students to enroll.

### Survival School in Saskatchewan

Late last fall, a new concept of Native education was introduced to Saskatoon. On November 14, 1980, the Saskatoon Survival School officially opened.

The survival school was started by concerned parents. They were concerned about the high drop out rate within the urban community. They say it is a viable alternative to the present school system for Native children.

The students have the opportunity to learn more about themselves and about being Native. It also gives the student academic studies, which will eventually allow them to go back to the regular school system.

## Housing

One of the first things the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) went after when they first started organizing years ago was housing for its people. This continued to be a priority item for the organization in 1981 and it became more evident when the Bear Creek charges were laid against AMNSIS, Jim Sinclair, President, and Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director, for buying trailers for people who were living in tents during the winter. The organization has always maintained that in order for people to maintain their jobs, they must have decent housing for their families.

The government's response to the demand for better housing for Native people was the Rural and Native Housing Program (Section 40). A five year agreement was drawn up between the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) which expired last year. The Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) was responsible for northern housing along with guaranteeing at least 100 housing units to Local Housing Groups (LHG). A new agreement for delivering housing in Saskatchewan has still to be worked out between CMHC and SHC which has forced a one year extension of the present agreement.

### Local Housing Groups Plagued With Problems

Although the Native people in Saskatchewan continue to be one of the most successful building groups in Canada, Native people building for Native people, they have had to do this under difficult conditions. Speaking at a workshop in Prince Albert this past year, Jim Sinclair, President of AMNSIS, said, "The Section 40 Housing Program is not working because it was never meant to work. It was drawn up by government people; we were not involved. We don't have the trained personnel yet we have to start from scratch. We are forced to sign contracts below the real costs of the units." Earlier in the year, several LHG were cut off funds from DNS and forced to leave houses incomplete and people unemployed because of what DNS referred to as 'cost overruns'.

AMNSIS maintains the funds were not sufficient in the first place and that training and the support of the LHG was never there. AMNSIS says that training and the actual cost of building the houses have to be separate, something which they will be negotiating for under the new agreement. In the meantime, CMHC, DNS, and AMNSIS officials are meeting to try and iron out the difficulties encountered by the LHG's so that the groups can get going again and complete the units.



**"The Section 40 Housing Program is not working because it was never meant to work... We don't have the trained personnel yet we have to start from scratch. We are forced to sign contracts below the real costs of the units."**

## FSI In Lottery Business

Moose Jaw - The Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI) will become distributors of Loto Canada, The Provincial and Western Express lottery tickets.

Western Canada Lottery and Sask. Sport Limited have granted a license to the Saskatchewan Indian Lottery Foundation under the auspices of the Federation. They also hope to become the exclusive operator of an "instant lottery" in Saskatchewan.

Tickets will be sold at Indian-Metis Friendship Centres, Indian band offices, the FSI and the Department of Indian Affairs. Retailers get 10 percent, the Saskatchewan Indian Lottery Foundation will get 10 percent and the other 80 percent will go to the governments.

Wayne Ahenakew, treasurer of the FSI says that prospective retailers have already begun applying for the job. Selling will start right away.

The money raised will be used to develop Indian sport and cultural and recreational centres. Ahenakew says that they have already asked the provincial government to pass legislation permitting them to become owners of an "instant lottery". □

## Economic Development Foundation to Start

Prince Albert - Susanne Wise, Director of Economic Development for the Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) says the Economic Development Foundation announced by government this past spring will likely start early in the next calendar year. The Foundation will have a northern and southern corporation.

Three types of economic aid will be provided by the Foundation. It will make loans, equity investments and it will make management arrangements.

While legislation enabling the creation of the Foundation was passed last spring, the corporations are still

not operating. The northern corporation will replace the eight year old loan front of DNS which was geared towards small businesses. It will provide for the type of lending northerners now need, Wise said.

Premier Allan Blakeney outlined late in November how the Foundation would operate. "Applicants could be individuals, corporations, co-operatives, or other organizations," he said. "We will want to see the proprietors of these ventures assuming much of the responsibility and direction, consistent with our obligation to maintain responsibility for any public money used." □

## Blockade Case Still in Courts

Prince Albert - The 14 people charged with the blockade of a bridge in Buffalo Narrows will have to go back to court on January 13.

Allan Kenny, Allan Buckley, Brain Ratt, Tony Kieze, Vital Morin, Thomas Roy, Max Morin, Raymond Laliberte, James Favel, Allan Morin, Maurice Durocher, Dennis Shatilla, Philip Chartier and Ronald Caisse were all charged after blockading a bridge at Buffalo Narrows last summer.

The demonstration, on June 26, resulted because of Premier Allan Blakeney's refusal to meet with the local people over several concerns. Blakeney and Northern Affairs Minister Jerry Hammersmith were in town to open several public buildings and the bridge.

Confrontation was avoided when the Premier took a helicopter to the airport about five kilometres away. Blakeney was unable to officially open the bridge.

Local people wanted to meet with the Premier over three specific issues. They wanted to move into their new homes but were unable to do so because of lack of sewer and water services by DNS. They wanted to know

why a technical institute was being built in Prince Albert and not the north. They wanted more jobs and more revenue to benefit northern people. □

## Mediator Sought for Prince Albert Residential School Dispute

Prince Albert - The dispute between the Prince Albert city council and the Peter Ballantyne Indian band over the status of a residential school property within city limits continues and the search for a mediator is still on.

Raymond Chenier, parliamentary secretary to Indian Affairs Minister, John Munro says that the department is yet to interview candidates for the job.

Munro had suggested in August that a mediator be appointed. He had also said that he was personally committed to the transfer but that the federal cabinet would have to review the proposed move in September or October.

Chenier has said that the cabinet still hasn't had time to look at the proposed transfer of land and property to the Indian Band. The school is presently administered by the Prince Albert District Chiefs. The land is owned by the federal government.

The Prince Albert City Council has refused to guarantee all future services unless the residence abides by all city bylaws. □

## Mishap Sends Four to Uranium City Hospital

Prince Albert - Four workers at the Cluff Lake uranium mill were sent to the hospital after being sprayed in the face with yellowcake slurry.

The workers were under observation for possible damage to their kidneys. Yellowcake, the primary product of uranium mining, has a low specific radioactivity. Urinary sam-





**Pins & Crests For Sale**

AMNSIS Crests and Pins are now available. Pins are \$2.00 each and Crests are \$3.00 each. To order, contact Claude Petit at:

Recreation  
AMNSIS  
1170-8th Avenue  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4R 1C9  
(306)525-6721

**Second Annual Educational And Cultural Conference**

*Sponsored by the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies & Applied Research*

**Place:**

Coronet Motor Hotel  
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

**Date:**

January 29-30, 1982

**Theme:**

*Adult and Community Education*

Feature presentation by Frank Tomkins, Chairman of the Gabriel Dumont Institute. Other speakers include Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), Dr. Kenn Whyte, Director of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, Jerry Hammersmith, Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, Doug McArthur, Minister of Continuing Education, and Federal Manpower Minister, Lloyd Axworthy. (McArthur & Axworthy not confirmed.)

**Delegates:**

*Travelling expenses for two delegates will be covered.*

For more information contact Lyle Mueller or Walter Currie at the Dumont office:

Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies & Applied Research  
300-2505-11th Avenue  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4P 0K6  
(306)522-5691



ples indicated the amount of yellowcake indigested was minimal. Absorption into the urine is the first sign of any toxic effect.

The mishap occurred as the men were attempting to relieve a blockage at the base of the yellowcake thickener. A supervisor, two mechanics, and an operator were given an emetic to induce vomiting and immediately flown to the Uranium City hospital. The men have since been reported as doing fine. □

**New Executive Director of Forestry Appointed**

Saskatoon - The first priority is the development of a comprehensive provincial forestry policy, says new executive director of forestry, Tony Richmond.

Richmond has taught forestry at technical institutes and worked in the private industry. Besides his extensive background he also has degrees from the University of British Columbia.

"In the past, the attitude has been that there's always a lot more wood over the hill. That's just not true anymore," says Richmond. Backlogs of forest areas have been depleted either by harvest or fire and in turn they have been allowed to accumulate. Depletion is exceeding new growth, he said.

The forest division falls under the Department of Tourism and Renewable Resources and it is easier to reconcile demands of industry, wildlife conservation and recreation, he explained.

But Saskatchewan can't afford another year of fires like 1979 and 1980. Locating and extinguishing fires before they get out of control is crucial, he said. Improved lightning detection systems and development of helicopter initial attack crews should help.

"Unless we get a lot more snow than we've got now, there could be trouble next spring," he warned. □

**MacAuley Will Leave Politics**

Saskatoon - Sixty-three year old Norman MacAuley announced recently his plans to leave politics due to health problems. MacAuley, MLA for the Cumberland constituency says that he will not seek election in the spring.

He is one of seven government members who have announced retirement. The other members include: Minister Wes Robbins, Saskatoon, Nutana; Bev Duck, Saskatoon, Mayfair; John Skoberg, Moose Jaw North; Auburn Pepper, Weyburn; Adolph Matsalla, Canora and John Kowalchuk, Melville. □

**Benefits For The North**

Prince Albert - The speech from the throne was a statement of optimism and confidence in the future of the province, said Jerry Hammersmith, Minister for Northern Saskatchewan.

"The reduction of the fee for telephone installation in rural areas from \$400 to \$100 is an example of people enjoying the benefits of the government's wise management of and investment in resources," said Hammersmith.

The Homeowner's Security Act is designed to help mortgage holders "frightened with loss of homes and foreclosure," he said.

He is also pleased that the government is placing emphasis on skills training for the northern people. Legislation will also be introduced to implement the Northern Municipality Act. The Act will set up a governing structure in the north. The handicapped will also benefit through accessibility legislation, he said.

The provincial government is "showing renewed optimism in the face of much less optimism nationally" and residents are enjoying the benefits of Crown Corporations. □

## Seventh Best

**Washington** - The best country to live in is Sweden, Canada is tied for seventh, and Guinea-Bissau is the worst, says a rating from the Environment Fund.

Ratings are done on a scale of 1 to 100 by the non-profit group, studying environmental and population issues.

Infant mortality, life expectancy at age one and literacy were the measures used to determine the rating. Income, taxes, housing and other economic factors were not considered.



## Bingo!

**Stafford, England** - The latest idea to attract passengers back to the Midland Red company's services is bingo on their buses.

The buses, operating on 20 routes, will each have different numbers posted inside for passengers to check off on cards which are being distributed to 20,000 homes.

A weekly \$1500 first prize is offered.

## Drink Coffee & Run Faster

**Muncie, Ind.** - The caffeine in 2½ cups of coffee, taken one hour before strenuous exercise can dramatically improve endurance says William Fink, research associate at the Human Performance Lab at Bell State University.

"During exercise, the body uses both carbohydrates and fats for energy. Caffeine stimulates an enzyme called lipase which easily breaks down fat molecules, making more of them immediately available for fuel," he said.

# WIDD YOU KNOW

## ????????????

- The Mona Lisa, completed by Leonardo da Vinci in 1503, is considered the most valuable painting in the world.
- The name Mexico comes from Mexitli, the name of an Aztec god.
- Most American cars have 15,000 parts compared to 81,000 in a Rolls Royce.
- The Gobi Desert in Asia is larger than France, Germany and Italy combined.
- The Asian coromant bird can swim as fast as it flies.
- When it gets really cold in Paris, the Eiffel Tower shrinks more than 15 centimetres.
- Safety pins were invented in 1849 by Walter Hunt and were first manufactured in New York.
- The first commercial mirrors were made in Venice in 1565 of blown glass coated with mercury and tin.
- The phrase "mad as a hatter" refers to hatters who suffered mercury poisoning from the quicksilver they used in making fur hats.
- A silversmith can stretch one grain of silver (about five-hundredth of a troy ounce) into a 120 metre length.
- A twelve inch candle burns for four hours.
- A cow spends 18 hours a day chewing its food and cud.
- The largest breed of rabbit is the Flemish giant, which weighs an average of six kilograms.

## Cold Turkey

Although it sounds hard to do, it's really easier to stop smoking completely than just cutting down gradually. When you smoke fewer cigarettes you have withdrawal symptoms longer than if you just stop cold. Worse, your craving for nicotine won't go away, no matter how few cigarettes you're really smoking and your chances of going back to your former habits are very high.

It only takes about three days to withdraw. Getting your teeth cleaned, drinking lots of juices and water to flush out your system and moderate exercise will help you get through the withdrawal stage.



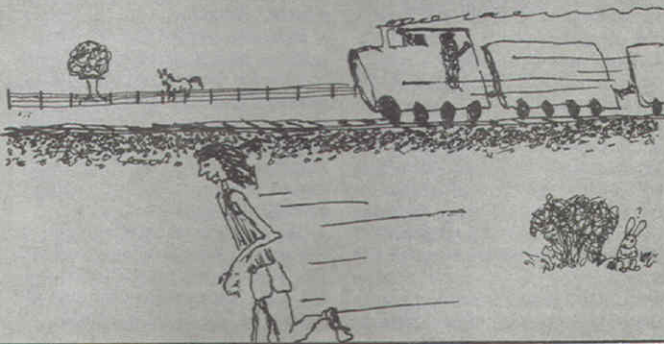
## Old-Fashioned Prices

**Chicago** - The exclusive Crickets restaurant here celebrated its fifth anniversary by offering regular customers a full-course \$35 dinner, 1881-style, for 85 cents.

Appetizers cost a dime, soup a nickel, lamb chops were 15 cents and a bottle of beer cost 5 cents.

A real diner's delight - but do they take Chargex?

- Toronto Star



### **This Land Is No Longer Ours**

*Among the forests, along river ways,  
Lake shores, stood villages.*

*The people of this land lived in  
Warm teepees, huts and in dwellings  
Made of birch, bark and earth.  
From one coast to the other Indian people  
of all kinds could be found.*

*They had one thing in common, the color of  
Their skin, it came in all shades of brown.  
The color of their eyes were also brown.  
These were people with fine sharp features.  
Beautiful women and handsome men.  
There were those with rugged weather  
Beaten features.*

*Some had high cheek bones with slanted eyes  
And there were those with flat rounded features.*

*They lived on "land" which they  
Shared with the animals who roamed the  
Wide open spaces.*

*They did not think in terms of who  
Owned this land.*

*They all knew it was meant for man's use  
To live in harmony and peace with nature.  
They knew this land belonged to no one!  
They knew this land was created by the  
Kichi Manitou, the Maker of the Universe  
For all mankind to share.*

*As time passed strangers with white skin came  
To this land, they came by boat and sea.  
They spoke a foreign tongue.*

*They had strange customs.  
They made rules and laws.  
Their strange ways dictated  
Who belonged to the "land".*

*More and more of these strangers came.  
They began to fill the land.*

*The "land" where the Indian people  
Once lived in peace was being taken up  
By these strangers.*

*The Indian people retreated, some,  
Almost in fear of these strange beings  
With strange customs and a foreign tongue!  
They backed off and wandered as far  
Away as they could from these strangers  
With deep blue colored eyes so piercing.*

*As these strangers grew in numbers  
The "land" became scarce for the Indian.  
The "land" suddenly belonged to someone.  
To these strangers, Kichi Manitou had no meaning.  
The Indian became confused for he  
Could not understand these strangers  
And the laws they made.  
That is why today, this land is no longer ours.*

*Ethel Deschambault*

### **Snow**

*I hear voices softly calling  
as the snow is gently falling  
come and be free, like a bird  
in flight  
out in this wonderful world  
of white*

*Alas, but this cannot be  
for I am locked up as you can  
see*

*but I will be free in a little  
while*

*And then all of my troubles will  
begin to pile*

*I will walk out into the snow  
as the wind will begin to blow  
climb up into the bus  
thinking about both of us.*

*Cedrick Black  
Saskatoon, Sask.*

# PINE HOUSE - A COMMUNITY PROFILE

by Vi Sanderson

**Pine House** - One of the communities in northern Saskatchewan that has received a lot of negative publicity in the past is Pine House, a community of 650, predominantly all Native. Pine House, 213 kilometres northwest of La Ronge, can be reached by road and air.

However, like most northern settlements that have reached their highs and lows amidst all the government and development activity during the past decade, Pine House was one of the two communities that seemed to draw in the news media from the south. La Loche was the other. A lot of people have said, including Northern Minister Jerry Hammersmith, that the coverage done by national CBC news documentary people had been "unfair" depicting only one side of the social problems being experienced by Pine House people. It portrayed the people as nothing but a bunch of alcoholics, neglecting their children, and not doing anything about trying to solve their problems. The people of Pine House were offended as it was one of the first communities in the north that came to grips with their problems and tried to do something about them.

## **CBC Documentary**

In January 1979, CBC's "Fifth Estate" televised a documentary about Pine House, called "The Dry Road Back", regarding alcohol problems in that community. According to local residents and George Smith, the overseer, they were very concerned and frustrated as the documentary was both inaccurate and insensitive. They felt the program reinforced negative and stereotype images of the 'drunken Indian'. Since that time, Mr. Smith has written many letters to the CBC officials requesting a public apology which to date has not been made. Smith said what the Fifth Estate chose not to mention were the initiatives being taken to improve the quality of life in Pine House, such as the alcohol rehabilitation programs, economic development projects, child care centre and other

positive steps the people of Pine House were taking to improve their life style and community.

In the early days the people settled at Belanger River (Surie River) or more commonly known in Cree as Mouse River. At that time there was also a Hudson's Bay trading post where trappers traded fur for supplies. According to a long time resident, Annie Natamogan, she said they used to buy their basic food supplies about once a year. "My father used to buy 100 pounds of flour and it would last us almost a year. We lived mainly on wild meat and fish. We all made our living by trapping and fishing. There was no such thing as money, only furs."

As the settlement grew, the people moved to Snake Lake, later naming their community Pine House. The people in those days would make their own home brew on special occasions, but drinking was not a way of life. Everybody made a good living for their families.

In 1978, Pine House became a Local Community Authority (LCA). The LCA members became very concerned at what was happening to their people and the social upheaval they were going through. They started applying for alcohol counselling programs for their people to sober them and put them to work once again. The LCA established a policy which still applies today, "If any employee misses three consecutive days of work due to alcohol, they will be dismissed from employment. However, employees are given a choice, first a letter is written requesting them to attend a one month or two week course at the alcohol rehab centre in Ile-a-la-Croise. After completion of the course, employees may return to work." According to the town Administrator, Tom Sanderson, "the policy has worked very effectively and when the person returns home, he or she gets a lot of community support. People don't offer you drinks."

Georgina Smerek, Norsask Native Outreach counsellor also assists in finding the person a job once he is sober.

## **Economic Development & Programs**

In 1974, the LCA started a local housing project, completing five houses through a subcontractor. In July 1981, the Local Housing Group went on their own. They presently employ one administrator and nine carpenters who are training towards receiving journeyman status. They will

complete five houses at the end of March, 1982.

## **Pine House Regional Economic Development Corporation (PREDCO)**

PREDCO was established in September 1979 through a Special ARDA grant from Economic Development Branch, DNS. PREDCO is a post cutting corporation. The general manager is George Smith and foreman is Gordon Smith. There are presently 15 employees, all local residents of Pine House. There is one subcontractor Fred (Peanuts) Pederson, who employs three men. PREDCO also recently went into joint venturing with SINCO Trucking who haul the logs to Prince Albert where they are sold and marketed.

## **Norsask Native Outreach**

The local employment counsellor is Georgina Smerek of Pine House. This past summer, Smerek applied for the Summer Youth Program funded by Canada Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC). Nine students were employed who worked at cleaning up the beaches, building garbage stands, cleaning the graveyard, painting the church and fence, building a ball diamond, building the playground. They also supervised the young children at the playground. Two students also worked on the community radio communications through DNS Extension Services Branch. Smerek also handles other employment related projects. Only two local men work at the Key Lake Mine. Many of the residents prefer to work at home.

## **Multi-Use Centre**

The building of the centre started in June, 1981. The expected date of completion is the end of April, 1982. Funding came from DNS Economic Development Branch. There are nine permanent employees (carpenters) and one supervisor. The plans are to house all existing projects and programs in the centre including the LCA offices, AA offices, PREDCO, Local Housing, Outreach, Aid for the Elderly, Recreational office for the senior citizens, Youth Group, local recreation, and hopefully a community radio. This centre will also be used for holding dances, local talent shows, bingo, movies, the library, and the adult education program. There are also large kitchen facilities for holding banquets. □

## SOME COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Pine House Co-op Store employs six Native staff.

### Public School

The local school is presently undergoing major renovations. A new gym is to be completed in the near future.

The locally elected school board consists of all Native people.

### Child Care Centre

The centre employs four full time staff.

### Learning Centre

This is an extension of the La Ronge Community College. Twelve local residents presently attend upgrading classes.

### Health Centre

The centre employs two registered nurses, one of Metis ancestry. There is also a local Community Health Worker (CHW). The centre was completed in June, 1980.

### Tinkers Cafe

This is owned and operated by Rosa and Philip Tinker of Pine House.

### Future Planning

Future plans of Pine House includes the construction of a six unit Senior Citizen Home to be built by the Local Housing Group in the spring of 1982.

PREDCO also plans to joint venture with TriTec of Prince Albert in building prefab units in Pine House and Key Lake.

### Local Community Authority (LCA) Members

- George Smith - Overseer
- Mary Hanson - Deputy Overseer
- Joan Sanderson - Councillor
- Gordon Smith - Councillor
- Miky McKenzie - Councillor

### LCA Staff include:

- Tom Sanderson - Town Administrator
- Verna Natamogan - Secretary/Treasurer
- Marie Symes Graham - Planner
- Terry Larivier - Housing Administrator
- Verna Tinker - Program Co-ordinator
- Margaret Larivier - PREDCO Secretary
- Freda Sanderson - Health Worker
- Greg Ross - Fire Chief
- James Smith - Night Watchman



Veronica Sanderson, a resident of Pine House

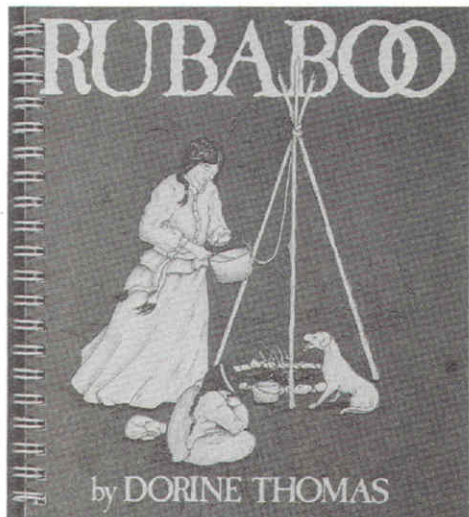




# BOOKS REVIEWED

from the shelves of dumont library

Sara Lochhead



## Rubaboo

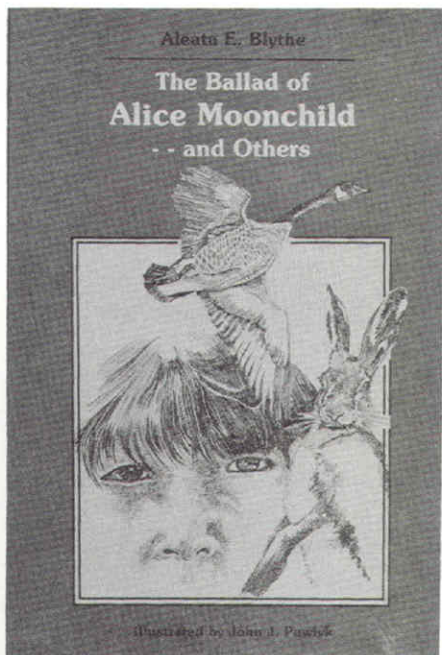
by Dorine Thomas.

Winnipeg, Pemmican Publications, 1981.

ISBN 0-919143-25-3

*Rubaboo* is one of the most recent offerings from the Metis press Pemmican Publications. A glance at its table of contents reveals the wealth of practical day-to-day knowledge regarding the living culture of the Metis people in the Red River days between 1812 and 1870. The making of pemmican, medicines, the art of quilting, spinning and weather forecasting as well as "other bits of living" are recorded here. However, upon reading through, it becomes clear that this book is much more. In the words of its author, "*Rubaboo* is about women. It is about what women did. It is about our grandmother's way of life and how we can look back on the Indian and White parts of ourselves and learn from it. It is about teaching our children their heritage and helping them to grow in knowledge and in pride."

This book is highly recommended - a good read.



## The Ballad of Alice Moonchild — And Others

by Aleata E. Blythe. Illustrated by John J. Pawlyk.

Winnipeg, Pemmican Publications, 1981.

ISBN 0-919143-26-1

This book is the latest from Pemmican Publications in Winnipeg. The "*Ballads of Alice Moonchild*" looks at the dilemma of a Metis girl growing up in, and dealing with, two cultures. The seeming contradictions of Alice's dual heritages, the efforts of the education system to erase her Indian Ancestry, the hostility directed towards her by both Indian and White cultures are displayed and examined in this work. The ballad and other poems in this collection are written with a clearness of vision, a simplicity and a directness that will not fail to touch the heart of the readers.



The article is about a speech given to the AMNSIS annual assembly in 1976 by Ben Baich. Although the article is dated, the message still applies for 1982: Don't Agonize - Organize! 1982 will be a historical year for Native people because this is the year the Constitutional issue will be discussed and more importantly, 1982 will determine whether Native people have their aboriginal rights and land claims settled.

Baich's theme was: "Don't agonize... organize and fight! Too many times people are so busy feeling sorry for themselves they don't get together and unite." Referring to a speech made by Jim Sinclair earlier in the day, Baich stated: "If people would have been listening closely they would have heard Sinclair saying over and over again, 'if we stand up'. This means that 50,000 people must stand up. By uniting what is meant is that everyone at this meeting has to convert 10 people and those 10 have to convert 10 more so that we can stand up together. So you don't agonize - you organize with unity. Don't confuse motion with action.

The warning that stood out clearly was: "There is only one thing necessary for the triumph of evil and that is for good men and women to do nothing. For every one of us who is at this meeting there are 25 at home who say 'Keem' (that's alright), it's not my problem. Nobody escapes. Yes, the most prominent place in hell is reserved for those who are neutral on any issue in life that involves their people. Nobody is neutral and let it not be forgotten! If you're not part of the solution then you're bloody well part of the problem! There is nothing worse than a silent people who let their leaders stand up and support them. When they talk, they talk about your children and your children's children. They talk about their future. Where in hell are your children going? In jail? 90 percent are unemployed! Don't wait 'til your leaders are dead before you honour them! What are you afraid to lose? Your reputations? You don't have any! Your land? Where is it? Your jobs? The only thing you have is your history and your future."

#### Made in Canada

As emotions ran high Mr. Baich continued, "If I had a choice to pick a race of people I would like to be, I would like to be halfbreed. And I'll tell you why as I was told by some old halfbreeds. This country was settled by migrations thousands of years ago. The Asians or whatever came over the Bering Strait and through the south to settle the North American continent. The Europeans came over several hundred years ago. They were two powerful groups of people because the weak couldn't make it and the cowards didn't even start. They married and nine months later, genetically speaking, the halfbreed was born. A New Nation was created. Genetically speaking, to my eyes, and I can defend it, the halfbreed is the Number One race in Canada. It

is the only race that is stamped Made in Canada. No other race can say that.

So then one asks, 'Why are there so damned many in trouble? What are their chances? Why are they so poor in a resource-rich country such as Canada?' The biggest problem facing the halfbreed is mental conditioning. The educational system conditions Metis with no history. Not only does it condition your children, it bloody well conditions my children as well, that you have no worthwhile history. They are told that you play no big part in the development of this country and that your heroes are non-existent. The Metis people must fight to put their heroes into society. A people without heroes has no future and you have all kinds of heroes. Not all of your heroes are gone. There are some here, now, who face impossible odds because their people won't stand up with them.

#### To further condition the halfbreed the school says, 'you don't fail the educational system, you fail life'.

To further condition the halfbreed the school says, 'you don't fail the educational system, you fail life'. When there were no schools in the North, you didn't see halfbreeds fail! They're the best runners; the best hunters; the best trappers; the best everything. Then you always hear people saying that the Metis have no leaders. Why you have the best leader sitting here in this room. You've got leaders all over the place. You don't need any training, or scurrying around the country to find leaders. You have some of the toughest bloody leaders in the world.

But you're going to have to work hard, because a lot of your people are so bloody chicken-shit by conditioning that they will not stand up. They'll buy themselves out for a piece of bread.

Also to be watched is the drag-down system used by Native people when one of their kind gets a good job or anything. They are branded as selling out! However, you must infiltrate all systems without buying yourselves out. Everyone who holds a position anywhere should be part of the movement."

So as Baich so aptly put it: "Don't agonize...organize and unite! When your leaders stand up and fight, get up there alongside of them!"

### BEAR CREEK CHARGES DROPPED BUT HOUSING PROBLEM STILL EXISTS

by Joan Beatty

**Regina** - At a recent press conference held in Regina, the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) say that although the Bear Creek charges have been dropped, it still does not alleviate the housing shortage people in the northern community of Bear Creek are experiencing. Jim Sinclair, President of AMNSIS, said he has heard that some people are still living in tents because governments won't deal with the problem. Sinclair said although the charges have caused the organization problems and has brought them a lot of publicity, the fact remains that the real living conditions in northern Saskatchewan communities like Bear Creek have not

been brought to the public's attention. "It's not so much that individuals were charged but the real emphasis should be on why those charges were laid in the first place; the emphasis should be on the living conditions at Bear Creek," he said.

The charges laid against AMNSIS, Sinclair and Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director, stemmed from the purchase of five trailers for people at Bear Creek with funds from a Canada Manpower grant. Part of the grant was to have been used to train the people to be wood cutters but charges were laid before the contract expired.

Last year, Sinclair was approached by people in La Loche for assistance in trying to get some kind of accommodations at Bear Creek where the post cutting operations were. All their attempts for government help had failed. The post cutting operations started in the summer with some people living in

tents and others staying in old log shacks they had repaired. With the approach of cold weather and winter, the people were forced to seek better accommodations. They didn't want to leave the post cutting camp because there was no employment at La Loche, 30 miles away.

Jim Sinclair approached the Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) with no result because the Department did not recognize the camp of about 80 people as a 'legal' community. Earlier, they had been approached by the people themselves for assistance in digging a well for drinking water. DNS refused to help. Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation were also approached but could not help because they didn't have any programming that could help the people in the community, not in an emergency basis anyway.

AMNSIS then approached the Director General of the Saskatchewan Region for the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC), Gil Johnson. In the past, Johnson had proved most receptive to the needs of the Native people and this constituted





an emergency. Meetings were held between AMNSIS and CEIC which finally resulted in an agreement being made for the purchase of five trailers to be tied into a training program. The trailers were bought in mid December and shipped to Bear Creek. Investigations began by the RCMP with charges being laid in May against AMNSIS, Sinclair, McKenzie and Johnson, alleging the action had constituted a criminal offense.

Rob Milen, Legal Counsel for AMNSIS, said at the press conference that the Crown did not appear to understand the humanity displayed by AMNSIS and Manpower in helping the people out at Bear Creek. "If anyone was guilty of anything, it was looking after the welfare and the well-being of the people at Bear Creek," he said.

Sinclair said that incidents like this just goes to prove that there are really no programs that work to help the many problems facing Native people. "When programs are drawn up, we are never involved in the planning process and we have no control. We have to try and work with makeshift programs that are full of regulations and red tape."

During the press conference, Sinclair referred to the oppressing conditions in northern Saskatchewan like Bear Creek. "There is an illusion of people being happy in northern Saskatchewan but its not true. They're being oppressed and tied down by government bureaucracy." He urged the media to go north and find out for themselves so that the rest of the public would know the real situation. □

Friday, December 11, 1981  
- For Immediate Release -

## Crown Drops Criminal Charges Against AMNSIS And Its Officials

**Regina** - Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) today advised that earlier this week the Crown had dropped all criminal charges against AMNSIS, Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director of AMNSIS, and himself in relation to matters at Bear Creek.

AMNSIS, McKenzie and Sinclair were each charged with fraud and theft in obtaining five trailers for people living in tents in the northern community of Bear Creek last winter. Bear Creek is located approximately 30 miles south of La Loche in northwest Saskatchewan.

"The Canadian Constitution was sent to England this week, two days after the criminal charges were dropped," Mr. Sinclair said, "I'm not surprised at what's happening now."

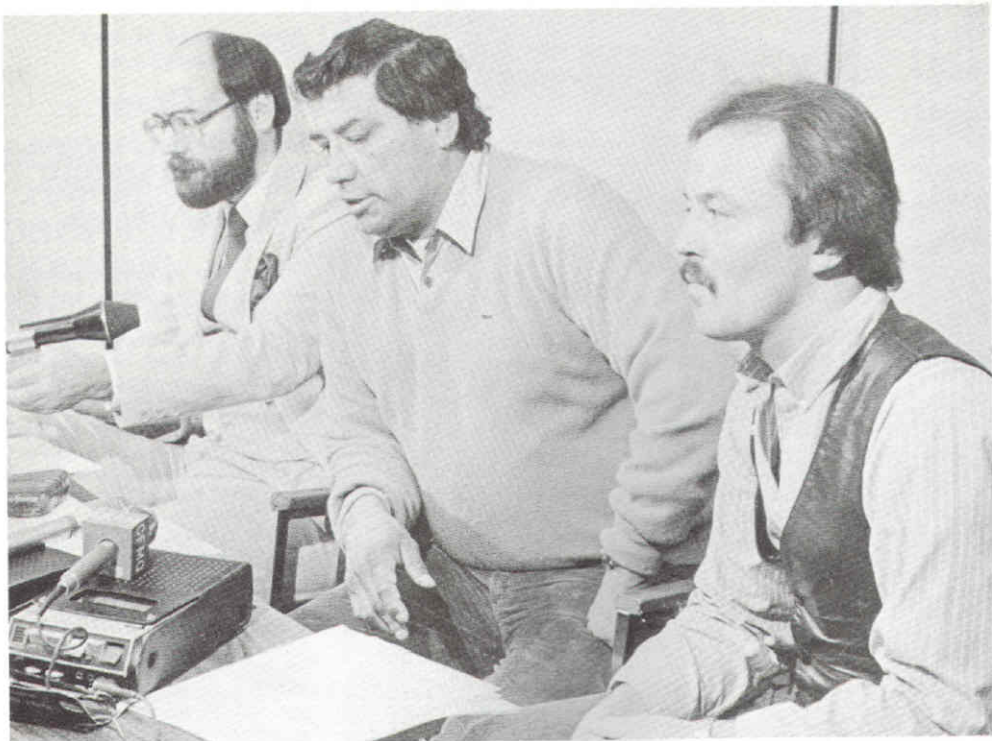
AMNSIS was the most vocal critic of the so-called Native rights package put into the new Canadian Constitution on January 30, 1981. "Shortly after that our problems began," said Mr. Sinclair.

"These charges tied us up in the Courts and diverted monies earmarked for community consultation, lobbying in Ottawa, and carrying on our campaign in England relating to the Canadian Constitution. A great deal of time, energy and money had to be diverted away from our struggle to protect our aboriginal rights in the proposed Constitution," said Mr. Sinclair.

Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director of AMNSIS, also advised of the bad effects that the charges had upon AMNSIS.

"We perceived that government officials were reluctant to deal with us after the charges. Our Association had an inability to deal with governments on the programs that were needed," Mr. McKenzie said.

"The goals of AMNSIS are to settle the aboriginal rights and land claims of our membership. Our goals are to train people and to put them to work. Our goals are to provide our people



with economic and political control over their own lives. We can't get at our goals if we're tied up in the Courts," Mr. McKenzie stated.

Rob Milen, AMNSIS Legal Counsel, pointed out that Manpower had responded to a critical need of the people at Bear Creek in a very creative and forthright manner.

"In my view, the Crown appeared unable to understand the urgency of the situation or the humanity displayed by the Department and, in particular, its Director General," Milen said.

"Our Association and its officers cooperated with the RCMP throughout their investigation. We were confident that there was no substance to the allegations being made. If anyone was guilty of anything, it was simply being guilty of being concerned about the living conditions at Bear Creek, and for the welfare and well-being of the inhabitants of the community."

"As a result, I have retained the services of Mr. Bill Vancise, a prominent Regina lawyer, to determine what action, if any, we can take against the officials involved. These charges have been hanging over our heads for

*McKenzie, Sinclair, Milen*

quite a while. Now the matter has been dropped before AMNSIS and its officers have even had an opportunity to enter a plea of "not guilty" before a court of law," Milen said. □

#### Chronology of Events Bear Creek

- a) **January 30, 1981:** the federal government announces that an "historical moment" has taken place - Native rights are to be protected in the proposed new Canadian Constitution.
- b) **Week of February 1, 1981 on:** AMNSIS becomes the first Native organization in the country to speak out and lobby actively against the so-called "Native rights" provisions.
- c) **February 24, 1981:** the RCMP raid AMNSIS head office, re: Bear Creek.
- d) **March 31, 1981:** the RCMP again raid AMNSIS head office on an additional matter.
- e) **May 13, 1981:** charges of fraud and theft laid against AMNSIS, Jim Sinclair and Wayne McKenzie re: Bear Creek.
- f) **July, 1981:** preliminary inquiry set, but adjourned for AMNSIS, Sinclair and McKenzie re: Bear Creek.

g) **September 28, 1981:** AMNSIS legal counsel, Mr. Bill Vancise, makes an application to quash the information laid against the Association, Sinclair and McKenzie alleging fraud re: Bear Creek. The application was subsequently granted by His Honour, Judge Bellerose. The Crown subsequently withdrew the theft charge re: Bear Creek.

h) **October 2, 1981:** the Crown lays new information against AMNSIS, Sinclair and McKenzie alleging fraud and theft re: Bear Creek.

i) **November 26, 1981:** AMNSIS legal counsel, Mr. Bill Vancise, again makes an application to quash the information laid against the Association, Sinclair and McKenzie re: Bear Creek. His Honour, Judge Fenwick, reserves decision until **December 11, 1981.**

j) **December 3, 1981:** the Crown terminates proceedings against Manpower Director General.

k) **December 6, 1981:** the Crown advises Mr. Vancise by letter that charges are not proceeding against AMNSIS, Sinclair and McKenzie re: Bear Creek.

l) **December 8, 1981:** the Canadian Constitution leaves for England.

# AMNSIS BELIEVES CHARGES AGAINST IT WERE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED

by John Millar  
of The Leader-Post

**Regina** - The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) believe fraud and theft charges brought against it and two of its officers were politically motivated.

At a press conference in Regina December 11, 1981, association president Jim Sinclair said charges against himself, executive director Wayne McKenzie and the organization were dropped shortly before the Canadian constitution was sent to England.

He said AMNSIS has no proof at this time that the charges were politically motivated, but he invited people to draw their own conclusions from the timing.

At the beginning of February, 1981, the association was the first native group to speak out against the native rights proposals in the constitution.

Later that month, the RCMP raided AMNSIS headquarters for information about a work program at Bear Creek in Northern Saskatchewan.

In May the charges were laid. The charges were the result of Canada Employment and Immigration money earmarked for an employment training program that was used to buy trailers in the community.

Earlier this week, the Crown entered a stay of proceedings on the charges, meaning it does not feel at this time it will go ahead with them.

"These charges have been hanging over our heads for quite a while. Now the matter has been dropped before AMNSIS and its officers have even had an opportunity to enter a plea of not guilty in a court of law," Rob Milen, legal advisor for the association said.

He said he has engaged Regina lawyer Bill Vance to examine what action, if any, the association can take and against whom such action should be taken.

Sinclair said the charges were partly

as a result of the association's opposition to the constitution, and he did not think the harassment has ended.

He said the motivation for the whole situation was to keep Indian leaders down. Instead, it will motivate them to fight for their rights.

He compared the situation to tactics used by the authorities in the United States to suppress Indian and Black leaders 10 years ago.

McKenzie said it is not even known who laid the complaint in the first place. The federal government, against whom the theft was alleged to have taken place, did not lay the charge. Nor did the provincial government. And it certainly wasn't the people of Bear Creek, he said.

He said time and money was spent on the court case that could have been better spent fighting the constitution proposals. Then the charges were not pursued.



Gil Johnson

Although Milen said the association did not, at this time, have any hard proof that there was a political motivation to the charges, Sinclair said the indication is given in a memo from Minister of Northern Saskatchewan Jerry Hammersmith to Urban Affairs Minister Walter Smishek in which Hammersmith suggests the RCMP be used to control the growing militancy of AMNSIS.

"I'm a politician. I don't draw my conclusions from hard evidence," he said.

He said there were ministers in the government who have let the charges interfere with dealings they have had with AMNSIS, using the excuse of needing legal opinions to slow down

actions.

In particular, he named federal Employment and Immigration minister Lloyd Axworthy as one who has held off dealings with the association while the charges were pending.

As a result, some projects were lost and others put on the shelf, he said.

On the other hand, some ministers like Justice Minister Jean Chretien did not let the charges have any bearing on dealings with the association, nor did provincial ministers, he said.

Sinclair said the money was used to purchase five trailers so people in Bear Creek who lived in tents last winter could have suitable living conditions.

He said the problems of Bear Creek and other northern communities have not been solved so the association will continue to work on it. As late as Thursday, he had heard people were still living in tents in Bear Creek.

The problem is there is not enough freedom within government projects to give the people what they really need in order to survive. And now, because of the charges, fewer bureaucrats will take a chance on acting in a humanitarian fashion by working outside regulations.

He said the problem of restrictive regulations on government programs is one he will discuss with Chretien in the near future.

Sinclair said the problem for Metis and Non-Status Indians is neither federal or provincial governments want to take responsibility for them.

To illustrate the point, he produced two letters from Premier Allan Blakeney to the association.

In the first, dated Nov. 17, 1981, Blakeney said he has always taken the view that Indian, as referred to in section 91.24 of the British North America Act does not mean registered Indians as defined by the Indian Act.

He said he could support in principle opening the definition in 91.24 to include Indians, Inuit, Metis and all Native people.

In a letter dated Dec. 9, 1981, Blakeney said Saskatchewan reserves the right to dispute any group of people being entitled to aboriginal rights and that it has not been the government's position that the Metis, as a people, have aboriginal land right entitlements.

Sinclair said this type of flip-flop is indicative of the way government handles Native rights. □

Regina - The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) have had in their possession for quite some time now an internal government memorandum from Jerry Hammersmith, Minister of Northern Saskatchewan, recommending how the provincial government should deal with AMNSIS confrontation tactics. In a letter sent to Walter Smishek, Minister of Urban Affairs, with copies to Premier Allan Blakeney, members of the Special Cabinet Committee, and government officials, Hammersmith says a province-wide response would be most effective if it came through the Social Planning Secretary.

During a recent press conference in Regina, Jim Sinclair, president of AMNSIS, distributed a copy of the letter to the media, saying this was just another way of keeping the Native people down and under control by calling in the RCMP. "The tactic was intended to keep our people down but instead it has mobilized them which has spread to other parts of the country," he said. Sinclair also said that Hammersmith accused AMNSIS of harrasing DNS Native staff during the peaceful demonstration that was held in La Ronge, "something, he said, was completely untrue. Why would we bother with our own people when there are so few of them in management positions and who aren't involved in policy making anyway?" Sinclair also said that many times the organization is looked upon as doing nothing but holding demonstrations. "We're the last ones at the bargaining table. We can't call in the RCMP when we're not happy with the way things are going; we've got nobody to turn to but ourselves," he said.

Wayne McKenzie, executive director for AMNSIS, said that the organization has worked hard at putting together an economic strategy for the Native people, something which has been in the hands of the government for over seven months but hasn't been responded to. McKenzie also said the organization goes to hundreds of meetings with all kinds of proposals that are sound and justifiable with seemingly very little response from government. "Just because we have done our homework doesn't mean that the government should try and discredit our organization and come up with more delay tactics and not deal with the issues that are before them," McKenzie said.

The following excerpt appeared in Hammersmith's letter dated July 13, 1981:

## HAMMERSMITH RECOMMENDS A COURSE OF ACTION FOR DEALING WITH AMNSIS MILITANCY...

### RE: Provincial/AMNSIS Relationship

Current confrontation tactics by AMNSIS in Northern Saskatchewan including a two hour demonstration in the DNS La Ronge Office Building and the blockade of the provincial highway and bridge at Buffalo Narrows have led the Department to review its current relationship. During the DNS occupation, a particularly abhorrent planned harassment of DNS Native employees by AMNSIS demonstrators took place and one Asian born Canadian staff member was physically threatened. This has placed our Native employees in a most difficult position and has put, in the long run, our efforts at affirmative action in jeopardy. You are aware that I was personally threatened by an AMNSIS Northern Board member and the RCMP are, at my request, following up the incident with the individual concerned.

Our reading of the public reaction to these tactics by AMNSIS indicates that AMNSIS has gone too far, broken the law, and that a government response is required and expected. Many representatives of Metis locals and of the FSI have called to indicate support for a strong Provincial Government response. The AMNSIS position also tends to undercut these groups and individuals who have chosen to deal with us in a positive and constructive fashion. During the Premier's tour, the Beauval LCA refused to allow AMNSIS to demonstrate in their community. Buffalo Narrows LCA has issued a public apology to the Premier for the events in their community which caused them much embarrassment.

It is my view that a Provincial Government response is required to AMNSIS in order to clearly set out, for the public, that the Government will not tolerate law breaking by any group as a legitimate tool for forcing government action. This is particularly important at a time when the public is aware that considerable provincial government funds have been made available to AMNSIS for the purpose of positive and productive consultation through the process outlined above. These funds are now being used to fund confrontation. I should add that the AMNSIS leadership is not generally well supported by their own membership in these tactics.

In Northern Saskatchewan I would recommend the following course of action be taken as part of an overall Provincial Government response:

i) Immediately confirm, in writing, to AMNSIS Provincial Executive that as long as confrontation continues, no discussions at either the Ministerial or Officials level are possible. (AMNSIS Northern Board have already confirmed that they do not wish to meet with DNS Executive).

ii) That core funding for AMNSIS programs in Northern Saskatchewan be reduced or eliminated and redirected either to local governments or where desirable, direct to Metis locals, friendship centres, Native women, and other non-government organizations working in a productive fashion with Native people. Specific actions would include:

- Cancel the Economic Development Field Worker Program immediately.
- Confirm that Provincial Government funds will not be provided to the Technical Staff Unit when Special ARDA funding ends.
- Deny the \$860,000 additional core funding request from AMNSIS received in May, 1981, which included a request to reinstitute the DNS Liaison Worker.
- Follow-up any harassment of provincial civil servants with the RCMP for appropriate action.



## DEMONSTRATION FOR NATIVE RIGHTS

by Vi Sanderson

**Regina** - About 50 Native and non-native people held a demonstration in Regina during the opening ceremonies of the fall sitting of the Legislature. As the Lieutenant Governor's horse drawn buggy rode by, with cannon booms echoing in honour, the demonstrators, holding the Canadian flag upside down, proceeded behind him across the bridge to the Legislative Buildings.

Brenda Dubois of Regina explained the purpose of the demonstration. "The governments have ignored us with our concerns. We are here to support our leaders. As a drum beats like the ear of mother earth, our earth is going to be here long after the multi-nationals are gone. We have a right to determine our future and destiny. We have a right to speak up for our Native rights. Also, we want to create a general awareness on what's been going on with the constitution regarding Native rights," she said. In the lobby a drum started beating, seeming to appear from nowhere. The young singers circling the drum, sang a traditional song of sorrow and protest.

The demonstration then went upstairs where the opening ceremonies of the Saskatchewan Legislature continued; a traditional round dance and song echoed in the hallways. John Graham, one of the demonstrators, told listeners, "This song carries with it a lot of struggles. It represents the struggle of indigenous peoples and it's going to be with us through our struggles in future. No matter what they say about our rights, treaty rights, constitutional rights, we have a natural right to this land."

The demonstrators then burned and ripped up the Canadian flag. □



Nap LaFontaine

## SOUTHEAST AREA RECOGNIZES ITS TRAINEES

by Robert LaFontaine

**Fort Qu'Appelle** - On December 9, 1981, more than 175 people from 17 different Locals came to attend the southeast area meeting and banquet at the Legion Hall in Fort Qu'Appelle.

A lot of government dignitaries, Ministers, Deputy Minister and representatives from Industry and Commerce, Social Services, the Department of Continuing Education were in attendance.

After a social hour from 3 o'clock to 4 o'clock, Chris LaFontaine, the master of ceremonies, opened the meeting with a song. The words were appropriate for the occasion.

"Go my son, get an education. Go my son learn a new vocation. Go my son help your Indian Nation." With the help of his wife and son, LaFontaine made his point.

Area Director, Nap LaFontaine made a brief overview of the programs in the southeast area. "In order to have a good home you must have a good job. In order to have a good job you must have a good education," said Nap. Housing, education and economic development, he said, are all directly related.

In reference to the government dignitaries, LaFontaine said that "we must let the non-native people know what we are doing and what our goals are." He said "there are two plans for the betterment of the people, one is short term and the other is long term. These

encompass the Native Alcohol Council program, education, Ka Pa Chee, administration and in some cases, affirmative action.

"We find that misappropriation of funds is our biggest concern," he said. We have over two million dollars in housing each year and we have four auditors to check our books. We keep very good books. Part of our job is to go back to the Locals and teach them to keep good books," he said.

A lot of Metis people, he said, get trained and leave because they can get better wages elsewhere. "Our programs are based on hiring unskilled help. We estimate that in our Metis farms for example they will be qualified to work anywhere. "I hope government will look at us as a good investment," he said.

Vera McLeod, the Area Housing Board chairman, introduced the board and the housing manager, Larry LaFontaine. He explained that the 17 units under construction were 50%-95% complete and that the group had recently signed a contract for 16 more units. Over 200 people, he said, are directly affected by the program.

Eva Peters, Ka Pa Chee Board chairman, with the help of Nap LaFontaine, introduced the board and explained to those in attendance the purpose of Ka Pa Chee. The Centre, said Nap is centrally located and was intended to be used by students for short term projects. It selects its students from the 17 Locals in the area.

"We have the best students that I have had the opportunity to work with, but of course they're here and I have to say that. But they have all been carefully screened," said Chuck Swartz, teacher of the social work program. "Once they have completed the course, they are halfway to a degree. That paper is good anywhere in the country," he said.

Certificates of achievement were given out to all the students and program workers. Students in the Fireman Course, a three week program, were also recognized.

Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), was congratulated by the majority of government officials in attendance on court charges having been dropped. In his remarks, Sinclair said the main concern of the organization is the constitutional issue. He said that people like him and Nap LaFontaine, had done

their work and that it was time for the younger leaders to start taking over. "I am going to leave it to the youth to define our rights," he said. Sinclair also said "this should be declared Nappi's day, since he's done such a good job of organizing his area as was evident by the number of people in attendance and by the type of programs being administered in the area." Simon de Jong, federal representative of the New Democratic Party, was also in attendance. He congratulated all the graduates, stating, "you are an example to the rest of society."

Most of the government representatives at the meeting said they were impressed with the organization and the success of the training programs.

"I didn't know how much you had accomplished," said Industry and Commerce Minister, Norman Vickers. The Economic Development Foundation, proposed by AMNSIS, he said was being reviewed. "At this point in time it looks like it will go ahead very, very shortly," he said.

After the speeches, there was a delicious banquet of turkey with all the trimmings. Entertainment for the evening was provided by Winston Wuttunee. □

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ENDS

by Robert LaFontaine

**Regina** - "The total number of people that have gone through the program is eleven, seven have advanced to more permanent positions and there are four working here now," said Myrna Desjarlais, program manager for the Community Development project.

Administered by Riel Local, the program was designed to teach prospective job candidates, office procedure and to give them more knowledge about programs run by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). The seven people who have gone on "are working where they feel most comfortable," said Desjarlais.

Candidates for the program had to be out of work for eight weeks, Native and willing to work, said Desjarlais. "We tried to teach them new office skills, public awareness and to get

them back in the work world," said Desjarlais.

But the 12 month program started on a Canada Employment Commission (CEC) grant on January 5, 1981, will end on December 18. "I think that it was a program that was needed. I know it's helped me a lot," said Desjarlais. The other three people in the program are Rose Peterson, Shirley Peterson and Geri Sangwais. "It had at first freaked me out when I found out that I had three people working under me," said Desjarlais.

Desjarlais expressed disappointment that this was only a one time funding project but she expressed hope that other Locals would take advantage of the same program. □



## Silver Gloves Boxing Championships

January 30, 1982

St. Michael's Residential School  
Duck Lake

Novice Tournament

Junior C

Intermediate

Seniors

This is prior to the Saskatchewan Games, February 21-23, 1982.

## Corrections Workers

### A career opportunity in Corrections

Corrections Division, Saskatchewan Social Services, invites applications for Corrections Worker positions at the Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon Correctional Centres. The provincial correctional centres accommodate male offenders serving terms of less than two years as well as a number of men on remand awaiting trial. Corrections Workers provide care and custody to inmates. Shift work is involved.

Successful applicants will receive 16 weeks of training, including both classroom study and field placements. Positions are scheduled to begin in late April. Trainees will be on full salary during the training period. On successful completion of training, each Corrections Worker will be assigned to a permanent position at one of the Centres.

Candidates will have a good employment record, including experience in working with people, and a sincere interest in a career in Corrections. Supervisory experience and exposure to people of various cultures would be assets. Credit and non-credit courses related to human service work (life skills, communication skills, psychology, recreation, social work, Indian studies, human justice, etc.) may be substituted for some work experience.

#### Salary:

- Corrections Worker 1
- \$1,643-\$1,979 - (professional credentials)
- \$1,583 - (trainee rate)
- \$1,501-\$1,800 - (non-professional credentials)
- \$1,448 - (trainee rate)
- (Salaries under review)

Competition: 702061-1-4758

Closing: As Soon As Possible

Forward your application forms and/or resumes to the Saskatchewan Public Service Commission, 3211 Albert Street, Regina, S4S 5W6, quoting position, department and competition number.



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# ILE-A-LA-CROSSE INDUSTRIES TO REVAMP THEIR ORGANIZATION

by Vi Sanderson

**Ile-a-la-Crosse** - According to Max Morin, board member of Ile-a-la-Crosse Industries, changes are forthcoming this year for the company.

A task force has been established to look into the future of the Industry which has been plagued with financial and administrative problems for quite some time.

To try and alleviate the problems, the Ile-a-la-Crosse Native Co-op Industries decided to form a task force. They are to make recommendations to the Board of Directors and government on what should be done. The task force includes four members from Ile-a-la-Crosse Industries, one from the Local Community Authority (LCA), one from the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), one from the Local Housing Group, one from Northern Housing Branch, Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS), one from the Department of Co-ops, one accountant from DNS and one accountant from Ile-a-la-Crosse Native Industries.

The task force has already recommended that a management team be hired for the Industry to study the present structure including the accounting system, and to identify the main roles and responsibilities for each division. They are also required to draft a policy for the future of the Industry. DNS Economic Development Branch has provided \$30,000 to hire a management team who are to be selected by the task force, DNS, and local members.

In 1977, Ile-a-la-Crosse Industries was formed as a pilot project. Their objective was to create and maximize employment for people in Ile-a-la-Crosse. Their first contract was with the Local Metis Housing Group to build some housing units. However, because of budget limitations and high costs of materials, the Industry made no profit. Other contracts include building cupboards. The Industry has also completed 80 prefab housing units for the Cluff Lake Mine.

The Industry is planning to joint venture with other companies, like NorGuard Security Systems Ltd. They are presently training 15 students to be security guards who are all northern Native people. Once the training is over, they will work at the Key Lake Mine. Caribou Development Corporation is another company the Industry has gone into business with.

The company does construction and mine related jobs, like setting up temporary mining camps, etc. At the present time they are negotiating with Key Lake Mining Development to construct the mine's permanent camp site.

Max Morin hopes that with more support and training, the Industry will grow into a profitable company for the people of Ile-a-la-Crosse. □

## RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR "KIDS INC." NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS

by Barry McKay

**Regina** - A Recreation Committee was established about a year ago which consisted of the following organizations: Native Women, Youth Unlimited, Friendship Centre, and Riel Local. The main goal of this Recreation Committee was to work together as one group to get more low income people involved in recreation.

The recreation committee called themselves Recreation Committee for "Kids Incorporated", and the specific objectives were as follows:

- 1) to provide as many different recreation activities as possible, at minimum cost to the participants.
- 2) to develop self-supporting recreation programs.
- 3) to provide an information service to youths.
- 4) to establish competent sports and recreation program development and management capabilities in the community.
- 5) to provide orderly, cultural, physical, and social development.
- 6) to provide recreation programs and opportunities to achieve leadership skills.

7) to promote on-going sports and leisure time activities for low income neighborhoods.

Although "Kids Incorporated" objectives remain the same, many members of the committee have left us. What we need is people to get involved. We are certainly on the right track in making life more enjoyable for those less fortunate than ourselves. However, we need people to volunteer some of their time to work with children, we need new ideas, we need people to think of ways to raise funds, etc. We won't lie to you, it does take a great deal of your time. However, the rewards are tenfold.

"Kids Incorporated" recently had a Roller-Skate-A-Thon at the Great Skate (north). We raised over \$1,000 and donated the money towards a Christmas party for underprivileged children, recreational material for NAC, and a cash donation to Riel Cresaults.

We would like to thank the Great Skate staff for their kindness. The special discount rate was greatly appreciated; we think you're the best. A special thanks to Big Brothers, DataCom, and the Regina Athletic Club (it's not the first time Ed Rollin has supported us) for their kind donation.

God Bless the following participants who were involved in the Roller-Skate-A-Thon; without your help a lot of people wouldn't have had a nice Christmas:

Barry & Leanne Olshanoski  
Debra Amyotte  
Donna Kaniak  
Lyle Mueller  
Brian Goutray  
Conrad Bigley  
Sammy McKay  
Norman Mike  
Rodger Ross  
Bernie Amyotte  
Glenda Goforth  
Debbie Gordon  
Rowena & Tommy Dubois  
Robert Malbeuf  
Pepi Redman  
Debbie & Theresa Fayant  
Lynn Johns  
Phyllis, Monica, Monty Bellegarde  
Margret, Kimberly, Delia Dubois  
Bill, Laurie, Danny Mathews

If you are interested in getting involved, call or write Barry McKay, 647 Sangster Blvd., Regina, 949-0807. □



## CORRECTION WORKERS GRADUATE

by Vi Sanderson

**Prince Albert** - Fifteen northerners graduated November 19, 1981, from the provincial government's new Correction Worker Program in Prince Albert. According to the Social Services Branch of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan, this program is the first of its kind.

The graduates will be employed at three new correctional facilities in the north, including two community residential centres in Buffalo Narrows, and a bush camp near the Smoothstone River.

The training program was designed mainly for persons who will be working in the north but the 17 week course will allow the trainees to work at any provincial correction institution. It's an accredited course sponsored through the University of Regina's Human Justice Program.

The graduates include: Herb Norton, Glen Clark, Robert Woods, Elsie Anderson and Hazel MacDonald

from Buffalo Narrows; Tom Sanders, Gary Write, Isaac Charles and Ingrid Haider from La Ronge. From Uranium City, Alvin Cook and Ken Mercedie, Clayton White of Smeaton and Medrick Thomas of Cumberland House. Steve Charles of Pelican Narrows and Daniel Desjarlais of Cole Bay also graduated.

Jerry Hammersmith, Minister for the Department of Northern Saskatchewan presented certificates and made the key note speech. He emphasized the graduates would not be guards, but would act more like big brothers and sisters, teaching others how to live. □

### METIS COMMUNITY CALENDAR 1982

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# WORKING TOGETHER CONFERENCE

by Robert LaFontaine & Vi Sanderson

**Regina** - One delegate termed it a "gigantic breakthrough". "To get the association (AMNSIS), the Saskatchewan Indians (FSI), government and business talking together is a breakthrough," he said. "Hell, to get FSI and AMNSIS in the same room is a feat in itself."

Over two thousand delegates from government, business, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI) and the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) met on November 22-24, 1981, to share information on the economic, cultural, educational and political woes of the Saskatchewan Native people.

The three hundred thousand dollar event was "a beginning to work together towards greater understanding and appreciation of common issues," said first day speaker Walter Currie, assistant director of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

The first day was used as a political forum for leaders of both AMNSIS and FSI. Both organizations were unhappy with their treatment in the constitutional issue.

"We have a treaty," said senator John Tootoosis from Poundmaker reserve. "It has to be honoured. Look at the medal they gave us. Queen Victoria on one side and an Indian and a white man shaking hands on the other. It is a contract and it has to be honoured," he said.

Jim Sinclair, president of AMNSIS moved the crowd from tears to laughter in a fine display of oratory. "The constitution is a constitution based on racism. When you leave out Canada's largest and smallest minority groups, the constitution is not based on people," he said. "We deal with the Ku Klux Klan everyday," he told a largely appreciative audience. "They're the social workers, judges, teachers. The only difference is they aren't wearing their sheets."

Urban Affairs Minister Walter Smishek agreed but only to a certain point. Too often Native people are blamed for their problems, he said, but the real problems are poverty, lack of



education and lack of opportunity. But "I don't buy the argument that Native people can't make it in this society. I see too many exceptions," he said.

After the opening speeches, the delegates broke up into numerous workshops. For the next two and a half days they would listen to the common problems of the Native people and try and come up with viable recommendations to combat these problems. From the control of northern economic expansion to cultural erosion within the Native community, delegates participated in the "uniqueness" of the conference.

## Education and Culture

That the present system is not working was the conclusion drawn at workshop number six of the Education and Culture Workshop.

"We need Indian control of Indian education," said Ida Wasacase, director of the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. The government, she said, gives money to universities and institutes to teach education to Indian children but no money goes directly to the Indian people.

Kenn Whyte, director of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, said that the institute has made strides. He quoted David Bernstein. "If the culture of the teacher becomes part of the consciousness of the student, the culture of the student must become part of the consciousness of the teacher."

He said that the institute has helped students adapt to university life while helping them retain a strong identity. This, he said, has been possible through the participation and co-operation of the universities.

A representative of the Native Law Centre described their success and the

need for such a program. Sixteen members of the Trudeau cabinet are lawyers, he said. While the situation for Native people is improving, there is still a great demand for Native lawyers. In Saskatchewan, there are 845 lawyers, four are Native people but there are only two that are practising. He pointed out that there are about 40,000 lawyers practising in Canada.

"Native people are under-represented in this country," he said. The standards, he said, are being set higher and higher each year but with the program Native people could make the grade.

In another workshop discussion ranged on the inadequacies of textbooks within the school system. "There are no text books that adequately cover the early history of our country," said Oliver Brass, lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan. The textbooks stereotype Native people. The easiest way to solve the problem, the workshop was told, is to rewrite the history books.

Out of all the workshops came one major complaint. The education system is inadequate but it has to be used. It also has to be changed to suit the needs of Native people. Recommendations included requiring teachers to take a course in cross cultural teaching or designing courses that could make them more aware of the differences within the two societies. It was also stressed that there has to be more involvement by Native people in the education system.

## Political Institutions & Involvement

There were two separate workshops on political institutions and involvement. Both the FSI and AMNSIS had members of their executive come in and explain their respect-

tive positions on current issues and the involvement of their respective organizations.

Frank Tomkins, secretary for AMNSIS, outlined briefly the history of the organization. The session was chaired by Jim Durocher, the provincial treasurer of AMNSIS. Wayne McKenzie, AMNSIS executive director, outlined the current programs and services delivered by AMNSIS.

The Association, he said, has had to fight for the place that it has already attained. "In order to meet government criteria, we changed the name to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan," he said.

The Association has been built on historical grounds. That of Riel and others right down to the buffalo hunt where there were leaders who organized the hunt and everyone had a specific job set out for him. The Association itself is political in nature and perhaps has become burdened down with administrative duties.

"The question is not one of whether we should or should not get involved in program delivery, but one of how we can best do that," said McKenzie.

#### **Social & Health Concerns**

The social and health concerns evolved into primarily discussions on alcohol and drug abuse and child care, recreation and the placement of Native children into a non-native environment.

There is an acute need of Native health care workers, it was decided on the second day of workshops. Native health care is not keeping up with the standards set by the non-native society. The mortality rate for Native children under two years of age is four times the national average. There are only ten Native nurses and no Indian doctors in Saskatchewan. Native people tend to use health care facilities only in emergencies.

There has been an increase in health care counselling for Native children in grades eight and nine. The number of students in medical programs must be increased, said Dr. Melvyn Lavallee, a speaker at the workshop. Everyone seems to be in the education field.

The Saskatchewan Native Women's Association (SNWA) recommended the formation of a Native people's health council to deal with the concerns expressed in the workshop. "The health and welfare of Native people is declining," said Elaine Jessop, SNWA president.



#### **Economic Development Initiatives**

This workshop focused on economic development strategies and objectives of the private sector, government and Native people and how they perceive themselves in joint ventures.

Wayne McKenzie stated, "It is time Native people get a chance to handle their own funds in terms of program control. We have always told governments how we spend our money. You are the ones mispending money and we get the blame for it. Political representatives are elected by ten people and where are they? We are asking you to be accountable." McKenzie went on to explain that AMNSIS have been prepared for quite some time with business and joint venture strategies. "We are ahead of government. We have done our homework, we are ready for joint venture. We've been ready since March 18, 1981, and we're still waiting," he said.

Pat Woods, general manager for SINCO, explained the goals for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI) are "land, resources, control of education and training on the job, and requested to give them support to get their own technical training centre."

#### **Economic Development**

This workshop concentrated on strategies and how each agency perceives economic development. Wayne McKenzie, executive director of AMNSIS stated, "It is ironic that the one area of development which would help us get the greatest degree of control over our own lives, economic development, is the area in which we are experiencing the most difficulty in getting firm program and resource commitments from both levels of government." He went on to question both governments on how seriously they were regarding Native development. To date, Native people have no real power or control over their own lives. Some of the long term economic development possibilities he mentioned are energy, communications, transportation, real estate and an economic development foundation which would enable Native people to establish businesses, construction, service industries, agriculture, forestry, etc. "The foundation would have access to money for fund development services, business support services and for training specifically related to business enterprises being funded by the foundation," McKenzie explained.

"We have poor basic community services, and the Indian population has the lowest standard of living, land people and resources are essential ingredients in the development of people," said Steve Pooyak, second vice-president of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians. One of the long term goals of the FSI is geared toward self-sufficiency.

The Honorable Elwood Cowley, Minister of Mineral Resources and Economic Development, spoke about northern Saskatchewan and the existence of job opportunities due to construction and mining development.

### Impacts of Short-Term & Long-Term Development

This workshop focused on the impact of short term and long term development of renewable and non-renewable resources on social and economic and environmental plans. Vital Morin, an elder of AMNSIS, was very concerned about the set up of the workshops as he felt people were too scattered and that the theme of the conference "Working Together", would not be reached. "We can't continue not to work together. I'm very concerned about development and mining industry in northern Saskatchewan. Northerners never had any input into the lease agreement, all the negotiating was done by government. We know it was a deliberate move by government," he said. The long term goals he mentioned were aboriginal rights, self-government and a just settlement of capital from the mining industry.

Mike Mercedie of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) Manpower Secretariat stated, "We got our message loud and clear. We have to work together and not just for one day."

Jack Howard, of FSI, was concerned about the development on lands and the effects development has on renewable resources. "I think resource development effects everyone when development occurs on land. The land becomes less attractive. We need to have proper land management," he said.

The topic of wild rice industry in northern Saskatchewan was also discussed. Lawrence Lacendre of Prince Albert, a wild rice grower himself, said, "We have formed a wild rice growers co-operative. We don't get support from government, but if it was government controlled, the government

would be pouring money into the industry and giving support."

Ray Purdie, Deputy Minister of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan stated, "I was unaware of the lack of support from the government to the wild rice industry. I certainly support the idea that we give them the support they need." □

This workshop focused on the pros and cons of renewable and non-renewable resource development and the possibility of resource sharing plans, involving the private sector, government, and Native people.

One Native person, Jim Favel, Area Director for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, got frustrated during the discussions saying he couldn't see himself talking about resource development sharing when he had none to share.

"I think it's pretty silly to sit here and talk about sharing resources when Native people haven't even got a land base. How can we share something we haven't got? Southern construction companies are pouring into northern Saskatchewan and Native people are being forced to joint venture with these southern companies. It reminds me of a gold rush and the gold is northern Native people and the land. We have no money, no expertise to go on our own and the government knows that, and they don't do anything about it. All the products are being taken out of the Northern Administrative District and northern people are being left out," he said.

Some of the recommendations taken from the discussions are:

- establish Native community development corporations, invest corporation or equity funds
- foster non duplications of small businesses and consider the social impacts of new ventures
- give education regarding international and multinational involvement in the north
- label northern products and goods to promote the north
- implement a northern development board with heavy Native representation
- Native people should control programs which involve their welfare
- follow Options 80, planning a mechanism with a meaningful Native voice

- give Native people exclusive control of northern tourism
- senior governments should recognize land claims and entrench aboriginal rights and treaty rights
- ensure that the constitution can't override land lease agreements regarding employment and training. □





## Employment Expected to Double in Uranium Industry

OTTAWA - According to discussion papers recently released by the Energy, Mines and Resource Department, the federal government is expecting employment in the uranium industry to double in the next several years if planned capital projects proceed on schedule.

It is estimated Canada's total uranium production capability could increase from 7,000 tons in 1980 to more than 13,000 tons in 1984 and to 14,000 tons in 1985.

Uranium ore processing plants include: Agnew Lake, Elliot Lake, and Bancroft in Ontario; Uranium City, Rabbit Lake, and Cluff Lake in Saskatchewan with Key Lake scheduled to start its operation in 1983-84. Rio Algom is also proceeding with its Stanleigh Mill at Elliot Lake.

Should markets improve in the 1990's, at least five other projects can proceed. Feasibility studies are being conducted or have been completed. These projects can add another 3,500 tons of uranium to Canada's annual production capability. The projects being considered include: Brinco Limited's Kitts-Michels deposits at Makkovik, Labrador, Consolidated Rexspar's deposits at Birch Island, B.C., the Esso Minerals Midwest deposit in northern Saskatchewan, the Norcen Energy Resources Blizzars deposit at Beaverdell, B.C., and the Rio Algom Milliken Mining rehabilitation proposal to consolidate its Milliken, Lacnor, and Nordic properties near Elliot Lake.

Canada now ranks second to the U.S. in current world uranium production. □

## Pawley Says Manitoba Can Expect Hard Times

WINNIPEG - Newly elected Premier Howard Pawley of Manitoba recently stated Manitoba can expect hard times because of what he called "an international recession."

Pawley said his New Democrat Party government, which came to power in November, 1981, plans new initiatives to revive Manitoba's economy. He gave no details.

"The provincial economy has been virtually stagnant since 1977 and we soon are going to suffer the effects of the international recession that is already moving in our direction," he said.

Pawley said a slump in mining and housing construction, plus predictions that already high interest rates will rise again in 1982, will add to the province's economic woes.

"We intend to take an active role...developing policy to confront the lack of federal initiative in Ottawa," he said. □

## No Curse Laid

VANCOUVER - A woman who said the late Chief Dan George had laid a curse on the British Columbia forest industry has retracted her statement.

Nora Maxwell, a resident of Cowichan Bay, B.C., said Chief Dan George had told her about the curse in 1972 but *New Breed*

made her promise not to reveal it until his death. She quoted him as saying: "May they find their profits turn to ashes in their mouths, that they cannot sell the product of their filthy hand."

Maxwell's story was challenged by Dan George's daughter, Ann Thomas. She said her father was a strong Roman Catholic who was too religious to have laid a curse even if he'd known how.

George's daughter also said several members of the George family are working in the lumber industry and Dan George would have had no reason to undermine their livelihood.

Maxwell has since retracted her statement and apologized, saying she was mistaken. □

## Indian Builds Thriving Business

LAC BROCHET, MAN. - A 47 year old Indian man, who never spent more than a day in school and speaks only a few words of English, has a booming business in the small northern Manitoba town of Lac Brochet.

After 22 years of fishing and trapping, Noel Antsanene, went into the store business in 1974 with a \$700 loan from the Northlands Indian Band Council. Within a year, he had repaid the band and paid them \$1,300 more to ensure he maintained ownership of the store.

Using earnings from the store, Antsanene built a coffee shop and a five table pool room which also doubles as a movie theatre. He plans to make the coffee shop into a full fledged restaurant by next summer. He has also expanded the store to almost four times the original size.

With the expansions, Antsanene expects annual sales of \$500,000. □

## Indians Lose Court Action

LONDON - Canadian Indians recently failed in their first attempt at legal action in the British courts aimed at establishing that Britain is responsible for protection of Indian treaty rights.

An application by the Indian Association of Alberta for a hearing was rejected by the High Court, Queen's Bench Division. The official view of the High Court is that Britain has no treaty obligations to the Indians, a view shared by Canada.

Lawyers for the Association said they would likely appeal the ruling. The ruling was a big blow to the Indians' hopes of forcing Britain to uphold their demands for changes to the Canadian constitutional patriation package recently presented to the Queen. □

## Alaska Pipeline Not Assured

OTTAWA - The future of the Alaska Highway pipeline is not assured by US Congress approval of a bill clearing the way for private financing of the project, Energy Minister Marc Lalonde said recently.

"There is one less stumbling block in the project," he said. "The sponsors in the US will now have to convince the banks to raise the \$40 million to \$60 million needed."

The project is to pipe vast quantities of North Alaska gas - discovered 13 years ago - to US markets through a 7700 kilometre pipeline system by way of the Yukon, British Columbia and Alberta.

A pipeline consortium led by Northwest Energy Co. of Salt Lake City, Utah, one of the sponsors, acknowledged problems in raising the money. Failure to borrow enough in world money markets prompted the legislation to be passed.

Critics say the inability to borrow enough money for the project demonstrates it is uneconomical. Even if completed, they say, the costs would make the delivery of gas too expensive - up to five times the present average price and three times as much as the equivalent in top priced oil. □

## Publisher Specializes In Native Literature

NANAIMO, B.C. - An Indian operated publishing house specializing in literature by and about Native people has been successfully operating in Nanaimo, B.C. for the past year. Copies of its first book, "Gone Indian" by University of Manitoba professor Robert Kroetsch, are already on bookstore shelves.

Three books will be released this month and seven are lined up for next year.

The firm, Theytus Books, had its beginnings four years ago when publisher Randy Fred, 30, came to Nanaimo to try and find a job. But he couldn't find work.

Out of frustration, the Quan-a-tsus-tal Media Society was formed, which tries to give Native people more access to the media so they could talk with each other and with the non-native people.

Out of the Society, video documentaries were made and a newsletter started circulating. To keep things moving, Fred visited various government departments for funding. A resource development officer steered him towards publishing.

The Quan-a-tsus-tal members received a Local Employment Assistance Program grant last year for a feasibility study. They found both a supply of manuscripts and market to justify a new publishing firm.

Another grant of \$104,000 last December and a promise of more money for the second year of operation allowed the firm to officially open its offices last January. □

## Summer Job Creation For Students

OTTAWA - The federal government plans to spend \$100 million on summer job creation for students, Employment Minister Lloyd Axworthy recently announced in Ottawa.

He said he hopes the kinds of jobs generated by the programs will give students some experience in fields related to their studies and career hopes. "Students often can't get the jobs they want after graduation because they lack experience," he said. □



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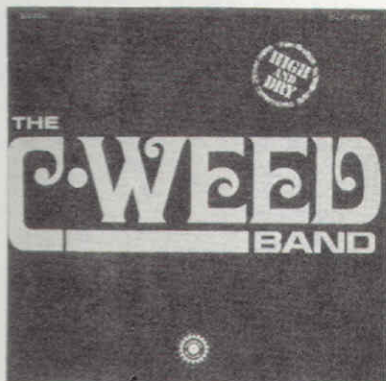


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*If courtworker services or assistance are required, please contact a Native Courtworker in your area, or the nearest Friendship Centre, at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to court appearance OR after having been taken into custody, ask about contacting a Native Courtworker.*

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S9A 2Y9 445-8216  
Donna Paskemin  
Wilfred Tootoosis  
Richard Charette  
Phone: 445-5832  
448-8216  
445-6958

**Regina Friendship Centre**  
1688 Toronto Street  
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Ken Yeo  
Henry Champagne  
Beatrice Stevenson  
Phone: 525-5459

**Indian Metis Friendship Centre**  
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Prince Albert, Saskatchewan  
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Iris Bear  
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764-5260

**Yorkton Friendship Centre**  
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Mary Pelletier  
Georgina Pelletier  
Phone: 782-2822

**Moose Jaw Friendship Centre**  
112 River Street West  
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Ed Dube  
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**Moose Mountain Friendship Centre**  
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Caroline Standingready  
Phone: 584-2425

**North West Friendship Centre**  
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236-6300

**Indian Metis Friendship Centre**  
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