

Eagle Feather NEWS

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Saskatoon building bridges 125 years later

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INSIDE

Cover Story.....1

Editorial.....4

Winona Wheeler5

John Cuthand column.....6

Sandra Ahenakew.....8

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**Eagle Feather News
Role Model Issue**

Next Month - Veterans & Youth



The 125-year relationship between Saskatoon and its neighbours to the south, the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, was celebrated with ceremonies marking the anniversary of the meeting between John Lake and Chief Whitecap in 1882. Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison and Chief Darcy Bear (right), were among the dignitaries participating in the event.

(Photos by John Lagimodiere)



Chief Whitecap offered wise advice

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the meeting of Chief Whitecap and John Lake who came to the area in 1882 looking for a site for a temperance colony. He asked the advice of Chief Whitecap, from the nearby Whitecap Dakota First Nation, as to the best place to settle.

Chief Whitecap suggested the area on the east bank near what is now Victoria Avenue, as a spot where a ferry could cross the river.

Now 125 years later, the communities of Saskatoon and Whitecap Dakota First Nation came together to celebrate the meeting of these two leaders and the strong relationship the two communities have had for the past 125 years.

What better way to celebrate than to close the traffic bridge and invite the entire city down to the historic site and have a party. With respect to history, Whitecap Chief Darcy Bear and his councilors Dwayne Eagle and Frank Royal arrived in full regalia, dripping feathers and on horseback. Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison, also dressed in retro and top hat to boot, arrived in a canoe along with some Saskatoon

city councilors.

Mayor Atchison and Chief Bear exchanged gifts and there were smiles all around as they christened the future site of a commemorative statue with prayers by an Elder and a minister at a dedication ceremony. The statue is to be created by local artist Hans Holtkamp and will be in place by September 2008.

BY JOHN LAGIMODIERE

The party then began with people crowding the bridge to eat a burger and check out the sights. The new Amphitheatre at the River Landing was put to use for a cultural extravaganza that had a reenactment of the historic meeting told through dance, narration and acting.

To top off the event, citizens crowded the riverbank to watch an awesome display of lasers and fireworks that were launched from five floating docks that were anchored in the river between the Traffic Bridge and the Senator Sid Buckwold Bridge. The laser lights on the river performed in synchronization with a mesmerizing musical sound track on shore. The disco lights on the Traffic Bridge were also turned on.

Alanis King new artistic director at Saskatchewan Native Theatre

SASKATOON – The Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company (SNTC) recently announced the addition of Alanis King as artistic director. With the competitive selection of King, SNTC is thrilled with the addition of a new leader of the artistic team to the company.

The SNTC board of directors and management believe King's direction will complement and enhance SNTC's ongoing professional and community theatre programming.

"We are pleased to add the skills, knowledge and expertise of Alanis King to our company," said Donna Heimbecker, general manager and producer of SNTC.

"Alanis is committed to fostering the development of youth, artists and communities through the arts and will undoubtedly be an asset in realizing SNTC's vision, goals and objectives."

King is a graduate of the prestigious National Theatre School of Canada and is originally from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve in Ontario. Alanis brings 20 years of theatre experience to SNTC and has worked professionally as a playwright, director and in theatre development, most recently overseeing the construction of the Garden River First Nation outdoor amphitheatre.

She moves back to Saskatoon where she attended Aden Bowman Collegiate in earlier years and where her father Dr. Cecil King, renowned academic leader in the field of education, calls home.

"I'm extremely excited to be part of SNTC which has a reputation that precedes itself in the national scope of Aboriginal theatre arts in Canada," said King.

"I'm eager to enhance the vision of Kenneth Charlette, founding artistic director and to take the lead in all aspects of training, directing, artistic programming, and community development.

"Plus it is really good to be home."

Incorporated in January 1999, SNTC is an award winning cultural performing arts organization and professional theatre arts training centre located in Saskatoon. SNTC creates, develops and produces artistic productions by Canadian Aboriginal artists that complement and enhance the local and national performing arts scene.

SNTC focuses on innovative partnerships, mentorship and collaboration with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal individuals, organizations and agencies to produce and present a unique blend of community and professional theatre and staged presentations.

SNTC produces, on average, 25 projects each year. Additional outreach, professional development and special events are also a component of the SNTC portfolio of products and services.

"Under the guidance of community Elders and cultural leaders and using theatre as a community development tool, SNTC is proud to put faces, voices and action to the hopes and dreams of Saskatchewan's youth,



Alanis King has come home to join the Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company, artists and communities.

"With Alanis joining the team we can move forward and build on our success," says Heimbecker.



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Was Chief One Arrow really a rebel, asks Stonechild

After reading last month's cover story about Chief One Arrow, Blair Stonechild, a noted educator and author, had some concerns. The following article was written by Mr. Stonechild and he shares his knowledge and research with Eagle Feather News Readers. We thank him for his submission. - Editor

In the 1980s, when I began research on the 1885 Resistance for my Master's research on the 1885 Resistance, I quickly discovered that Chief One Arrow had been imprisoned, then died in St. Boniface, Manitoba and was buried next to Riel.

Bill Waiser and I, who co-authored *Loyal Till Death: Indians and the North West Rebellion*, became aware that the people of One Arrow did not know what had become of their Chief after he was taken away in 1885. The research that we conducted included interview of numerous elders, with the help of the late Wilfred Tootoosis.

On One Arrow, we obtained an interview of respected elder Florence Paul, who was connected with the family of Almighty Voice. She told us that telling stories about the Resistance was "like when something is covered with a blanket and held down on all four sides. They talked about it in parts only – not the whole story. And they got nervous telling it. They were afraid of another uprising and more trouble. And they were also afraid of getting the young people into trouble."

Hence it is no surprise that many in that community do not know the full story of their chief.

Our interviews of Elders, including great leaders such as John Tootoosis, unanimously revealed that the position of the chiefs leading up to 1885 was to not side with Louis Riel and the Métis Resistance. Big Bear, for example, has recorded statements that he did not agree at all with Riel's initiative. Instead, they chose to adhere to the treaties they signed, something that they considered a sacred obligation.

In the case of Chief One Arrow, we consulted the transcripts from One Arrow's trial, which are available through the Saskatchewan Archives.

At his trial, One Arrow himself testified: "I am an old man now. I was taken to the place Batoche's, to join Riel by Gabriel [Dumont]. I did not take myself to that place. They took me there. I could not say how many there were of them [Métis] that took me there, but there was quite a number of them ... so I went there and was taken prisoner. Gabriel took me prisoner."

One Arrow continued to state in his defence: "All that was said against me was false. I did not take up my gun with the intention to shoot any man. I was on the brink of the hill the whole day, and I had my gun there, but of course not with the intention to use the gun against any man, and when I saw the white men coming down, I ran down the hill too and ran off."

Moreover, he testified that he was still mourning the loss of a grandchild, and in that situation would not have fought at any rate.

Another individual who proved to be instrumental in the forcible removal of One Arrow and a number of his band members to Batoche was their Métis farm instructor and Riel sympathizer Michel Dumas, who ordered the band to obey Métis orders. While One Arrow was found guilty of treason-felony and sentenced to three years at Stoney Mountain Penitentiary, it was very clear from our research that One Arrow did not receive a fair trial.

At his trial, his lawyer, Beverley Robertson, stated to the judge: "I have not been able to get anyone to assist me, who does know the Indians well enough to prepare properly for their defence. The most that I can do is to sit here and watch the case made by the Crown and appeal to you to consider it leniently."

The same thing can be said about the trials of Chiefs Big Bear and Poundmaker. Indeed, our book documents a deliberate government conspiracy to portray chiefs as disloyal and to then remove them from power.

While some people resort to expletives to dismiss

the work of those they do not agree with, I am prepared to treat different points of view with respect. Manachitowin, respect, is one of the values that is a fundamental in traditional Cree culture.

Mr. John's dilemma in coming to an interpretation of history that he can live with is understandable. The treatment of One Arrow's band by the Canadian government after 1885 was so horrible and vindictive that one can see that their chief may just as well have been guilty of what he was accused of.

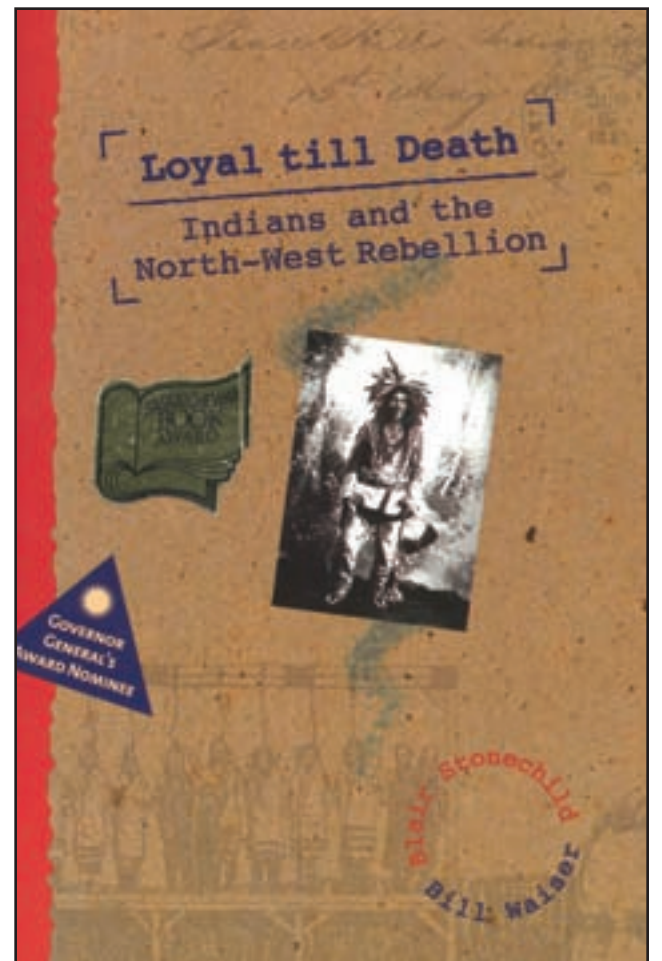
I can also understand the sensitivities surrounding One Arrow's relationships with their Métis neighbours, something that Mr. John goes to great lengths to emphasize. In our book, *Loyal Till Death*, the title incidentally being the actual words expressed by Chiefs Muddy Bull and Sharphead of the Alberta area in 1885, we were simply pointing out that the chiefs had their own political agenda, which was to adhere to their peace treaty, which to them was sacred.

The only circumstance under which they would take up arms would be if they were attacked first.

Nowhere in our book do we say that the Métis Resistance to defend their legitimate interests was wrong. In fact they had every right to defend their beliefs. There were many indications that at a personal level, First Nations and Métis got along well, and that some First Nations sympathizers did fight alongside them.

However, acknowledging history in a respectful and accurate manner does not have to be an impediment to what continues to be friendly relations between One Arrow and its Métis neighbours.

Just as Mr John mistakenly believed that One Arrow was buried on the One Arrow reserve, perhaps a bit of reading of history books such as *Loyal Till Death* will



bring him to a better understanding of the past and appreciation that his ancestor had a great deal of integrity in remaining faithful to Treaty which he had signed.

- Blair Stonechild
First Nations University of Canada



The cemetery at One Arrow First Nation near Batoche, Saskatchewan.



Ward Meetings

COUNCIL IS ASKING FOR YOUR INPUT

Saskatoon City Council will be hosting a series of Ward meetings this fall to gather feedback from residents on a variety of issues. One meeting will be hosted in each of the City's ten municipal wards, and will be attended by the Ward Councillor, the Mayor, and senior civic managers. All meetings will be conducted between 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DATE & LOCATION	WARD REPRESENTATION
• Tuesday, October 16 Confederation Inn - 3330 Fairlight Drive	Ward 3 – Councillor Maurice Neault
• Wednesday, October 17 Brevoort Park School (Library) - 2809 Early Drive	Ward 8 – Councillor Glen Penner
• Tuesday, October 23 Oskayak High School (former Joe Duquette High School) - 919 Broadway Avenue	Ward 6 – Councillor Charlie Clark
• Thursday, October 25 Kelsey Campus (Theatre, Room 104) - 1130 Idylwyld Drive North	Ward 1 – Councillor Darren Hill
• Tuesday, October 30 Legion Building (former Pensioner and Pioneers Building) - 606 Spadina Crescent West	Ward 2 – Councillor Pat Lorje
• Thursday, November 8 Cosmo Civic Centre (Multi-purpose Room) - 3130 Laurier Drive	Ward 4 – Councillor Myles Heidt

NOTE: Meetings for Ward 10, Ward 9, Ward 5 and Ward 7 were held in early October.

All meetings will be recorded, and feedback forms will be provided for attendees to complete. For more information contact the Office of the City Clerk at 975-3240.



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City of
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Saskatchewan could have a new look before long

Because of publishing deadlines, this is being written scant days ... perhaps, moments ... before Premier Lorne is supposed to call an election. If no election has been called, skip the rest of this section and go read sports.

If a provincial election has been called, prepare for some hot air over the next month. And people wanting your votes.

This will be fun. The NDP machine and the SaskParty do not like each other. These people have been cussing each other out in the Legislature and on billboards for the past four years. No opportunity to slam, diss or belittle the opponent has been passed up by either side. Oftentimes the game deteriorated into childish garbage and tears. And these are our elected leaders.

One hopes that this election campaign doesn't run into a battle of how bad the other team is and that's why our party is best. We hope they campaign on their strengths and their platform.

The only leader who was really taking a higher road in the pre-election days was Liberal chief David Karwacki. He has made good political hay with calling down MLAs for granting themselves the sweetest medical and dental benefit package ever ... better than the Medicine Chest even, because at least they can collect it. Unfortunately for the Liberals, no one, even themselves, expect them to win many seats. They are working hard on four or five ridings and have good

chances in all of them, but aren't really after the First Nation and Métis vote since none of their targeted ridings have a high Aboriginal population.

In this term, the SaskParty would not waste a chance to pin the NDP to the wall over health care, labour laws or inner scandal and they would go after

Editorial

them hard. But pre-election ads from the SaskParty have been pleasant with a nice commercial starring Leader Brad Wall at a football practice on a nice sunny day speaking about nice hopeful sunny things.

Quite the contrast to the short-lived wolf in sheep's clothing ad campaign that some people say the NDP ran in hopes of scaring the proletariat into obedience with their fellow comrades. The SaskParty has courted the Aboriginal vote and have certainly brought some First Nation and Métis leaders on board compared to the past. This will help them in some of the swing rural seats that make or break governments in Saskatchewan when seat counts are close.

You may have noticed that the NDP has been on a spending spree lately. Housing money, day care money,

a better gaming deal with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, money for the arts, sports and roads being paved onto reserves are just some announcements that have come in the run up to this election. Though they do deny it is timed to build up the team before an election, there has to be some connection cause the NDP ain't stupid and neither are we.

The province is in the best financial shape it has been for decades and the NDP can proudly run on that record. We have come a long way in the last year. The economy is screaming along and there is no end in sight. Uranium is in demand. Potash is in demand. Oil is over \$70 per barrel. Amazingly, even farmers may make a buck this year and SIGA will have six casinos soon, with three of them being shiny brand new. If you are not working in this economy, you are either dead, crippled or have to get off the weed.

Ironically, though, the NDP trails the SaskParty in the polls by a wide margin. Some pundits believe the NDP machine is suffering because, after 16 years, some people just want a change, regardless or in spite of the economy. Most marriages don't last 16 years.

Depending on the results of four or so key rural seats and a few seats in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan may look quite a bit different a month from now. Everyone expects a SaskParty majority, but never, ever write off the NDP machine. David Karwacki and his three seats just may hold the balance of power. Wouldn't that be interesting?

What's coming up in Eagle Feather News

We hope you enjoy our role model edition. We highlighted a few people and organizations this month that are doing a well and we want to throw a special congratulations to the folks at the Clarence Campeau Development Fund on their Tenth Anniversary. Way to go and keep up the good work. A real role model of an organization.

Next month we will bring you coverage of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Pow

wow and Assembly, the Anskohk Aboriginal Literature Festival and profiles and features on our veterans and their contributions.

Firefighting fun

Who didn't want to be a fireman when they were growing up? Thanks to the folks at the Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, I was able to live the dream and act as a firefighter for a morning.

Me and other assorted grubby media types like Merv Brass and Darren Bernhardt were run through a gamut of exercises including dowsing a fire with a fire extinguisher, driving a fire truck over pylons, climbing a 70 foot ladder in full gear, cutting apart a car with the Jaws of Life and a thing you could describe as a Really Big Toe Nail Clipper and extinguishing a car fire wearing a full face mask and breathing apparatus.

The work was physically exhaust-

ing, very technical and ultra neat.

The one firefighter explained his job this way. "It is a rush. When you are saving someone ... carrying them out ... they look you in the eyes like you are a God. You can never take that away from me."

Sounds cool to me

Thanks to Norma McKay, Kurt Delorme and the men and women that walked us through the paces that day. They even had a Métis fireman teach us how to drive.

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Publisher/Editor

John Lagimodiere
651-1772
johnl@eaglefeathernews.com

Associate Editor

Warren Goulding
warrengoulding@yahoo.ca

Advertising Sales

Faith McLean
651-1776
mclean-f@shaw.ca

Publications Mail Agreement
No. 40027204
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Canadian Addresses to:
Circulation Dept.
P.O. Box 924
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7K 3M4

johnl@eaglefeathernews.com

Contributing Writers

John Cuthand
Winona Wheeler
Warren Goulding
Blue Pelletier
Sandra Ahenakew
Deindra Ness
Amanda Wapass-Griffin
Michael Gosselin
Alene Campbell

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Tel: (306) 978-8118 1-866-323-NEWS (6397)
Email: johnl@eaglefeathernews.com

Fax: (306) 978-8117
Web: www.eaglefeathernews.com

Finding the right job requires a lot of work

Do you like your job? When you were in your teens and twenties did you ever envision that you would be in the career you are in today?

Going through some career changes these past few years gave me the opportunity to look back and think about how I came to be doing the work I do today.

When I was a kid I wanted to be a veterinarian. I loved working with animals and had a knack for fixing broken wings and concocting remedies for sores and illnesses. Our home was filled with a menagerie of dogs, cats, guinea pigs, hamsters, lizards and a continuous stream of sick, broken or abandoned birds and animals that got dropped off at our door.

My mom thought it was fun but it drove my dad crazy. He never let me have a horse because we didn't have enough land, so I got me some goats. My goats were well trained and even won blue ribbons at the local country fair. Goats are cool.

School was tough. To be a veterinarian you need a strong background in the sciences and though I tried real hard I did not get the grades needed to continue. The failure I felt was a devastating blow to my self-esteem and dreams about my future. I had no idea

what to do next.

Some say 'chance' but I believe that the Grandmothers had a lot to do with the opportunities that seemed to fall into my lap. I soon found myself in a totally different series of jobs and in 1979 I learned that I loved doing historical research with Elders and in the archives. I became a land claims researcher and have spent the last 28 years learning and teaching the histories of our people. There were a few interruptions along this road but am back in the saddle again and it sure

and projects for our universities, and be actively engaged in research activities.

The research part of our jobs is where we put our professional training into action. We are expected to balance our professional activities (paid consulting and/or research) with our scholarly research – we get paid by our universities to do scholarly research as part of our jobs so we are expected to do a lot of research without being paid extra for it. And rightly so.

Scholarly research is a lot of

shelves collecting dust are useless. We need to "get it out there" by presenting our research findings at conferences, publishing it in articles, books, videos or other media so individuals, First Nations, organizations or anyone else can access it and use it.

The quality of a university is determined to a very large degree by the quality and productivity of its professors. If your profs are "out there" doing and publishing their research it not only enhances our communities and the reputation of the university, it also enhances their teaching. Doing research and writing keeps the mind sharp, and keeps us informed about new knowledge, and gives us useful professional experiences that we can bring into the classrooms to share with our students.


So, if you want to gauge the quality of education you are getting, check out the qualifications and productivity of your professors.

Some people are in jobs that they don't like, others are in jobs that are OK, and others are in jobs that they truly enjoy. Sometimes the path to a great job simply unfolds, other times a person has to work real hard for many years to get where they want to be.

Considering we spend about half of our waking hours at work it is worth it to spend a few years of effort and sacrifices to get to a place where you feel good about what you do.

Introspection

Winona Wheeler



feels good.

Being a university professor is a wonderful job if you work in a place that values what you have to offer. A professor's job consists of four components: teaching, service to community, service to university, and research. Teaching is only part of our job. We are also expected to do volunteer work at the community level, to do committee work and develop innovative programs

work. We develop research projects in our areas of expertise that will have some value, and we apply for and bring research grant money into the university which we use to enhance its resources, create jobs for our students, and to cover travel and other related research costs.

The most important part of our research work, is what we do with our research findings. Reports sitting on

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- Enabling access to human rights protection for off-reserve First Nations citizens
- Discussing ways to improve Aboriginal accountability

<p>MEETINGS IN YOUR COMMUNITY: Hosted by: <i>The Aboriginal Affairs Coalition of Saskatchewan</i></p> <p>Saskatoon October 18th, 2007 @ 5:30 p.m. St. Mary Community School 337 Avenue O South Saskatoon, SK</p> <p>* Refreshments: 5:30 Soup and bannock</p>	<p>MEETINGS IN YOUR COMMUNITY: Hosted by: <i>Aboriginal Peoples' Council of Regina</i></p> <p>Regina October 17th, 2007 @ 5:30 p.m. Indian Métis Christian Fellowship Center 3131 Dewdney Ave. Regina, SK</p> <p>* Refreshments: 5:30 Soup and bannock</p>
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Residential Schools and First Nations resistance

The story goes in the time of the residential schools a young priest from Quebec stepped off the train in Western Canada. He was welcomed by his Christian brothers and taken to the mission house on a local reserve.

In the days that followed he would take walks around the reserve meeting people and experiencing the countryside. One day he went a greater distance than he had before. He saw smoke rising and so he thought he would go visit whoever was camped there.

In those days it was illegal for Indians to perform their ceremonies. If caught they could face up to six months in jail. It just so happened a diehard group of traditionalists had gathered to perform a sweat lodge ceremony on the kimootch (the sly).

They were in the lodge when the sharp eyed oscapeous sighted the priest approaching down a hillside.

"The priest is coming! The priest is coming," the oscapeous shouted as he thumped on the canvas covering.

The flap flipped open. Everyone was panicking.

"Quick," someone said, "Let's all stand up and carry this lodge away on our backs."

They all stood up and the lodge popped up out of the ground. Away they ran, bumping into trees as they went.

Evening came and the priests gathered together for their supper. The young priest spoke.

"Brothers, today I saw a very strange sight.," he said. "I was out walking when I came across a giant turtle. When I came closer this turtle became very scared and ran away bumping into trees. The strangest part, brothers, is this turtle had 12 legs." (Special thanks to Elder Danny Musqua. This is one of his many stories.)

A bit of humour may seem an odd

British Columbia, like Saskatchewan, has a long history of unbroken Indian resistance. In mid-September a grassroots gathering of residential school survivors was held in Lytton, the site of some of the worse atrocities committed against Indian children.

The survivors were fed up with the many people profiting off of their misery.

Saskatchewan is ripe for a similar gathering.

Not so many people are aware the Indian people fought back during the darkest times. The Onion Lake Residential school was burned down by the students it housed. One Elder recalls the iron bunk beds glowing white hot as they clattered through the collapsing floors. This was during the 1920s.

The Delmas Industrial School was also burned down. The older kids escorted the younger ones out. In both instances, these schools had no choice but to send the children home.

Another boarding school was burned in Ontario. In Saskatchewan at least one church was burned to the ground on reserve when it was found out a member of the clergy was abusing children.

These stories have been kept quiet too long. People need to know there was an active resistance.

The organized Christian Churches influence in the Indian communities is diminishing like the retreating polar ice caps. They are no longer indispensable nor can they dictate to anyone, anymore. Respect has become an eye to eye. They now have the opportunity to return to the very pure and intense origins of Christianity.

It is a role where the clergy are in service to their congregation and not the masters of their flock. To do any less is to fail their congregations and themselves.

Common Ground

John Cuthand



way to start a column about the residential schools. So much is happening so fast a joke may be a good way to relieve at least some of the tension. It is said the best jokes are the ones people can identify with.

This past week an Assembly of First Nations spokesman declared a day of celebration with the signing of the residential school settlement.

I didn't see anybody celebrating. Nor did anyone dance on the grass when the Gordon's Residential School house of horrors was demolished. There was simply a long silence as the old brick building tumbled to the ground.

They felt exploited and controlled. They were sick of lawyers, mental health workers and government bureaucrats, so they held their own gathering with their own agenda. For the first time they were in control and it felt good.

Survivors heard about the gathering through word of mouth and the internet. They came from British Columbia, Alberta, and even Texas and Germany. The numbers swelled beyond expectations. Survivors were no longer fodder for the misery industry but competent caring people exercising power and control over their own lives.

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Bruce Dumont, President of the Métis Nation BC and Audrey Poitras, President of the Métis Nation of Alberta. (Photo by John Lagimodiere)

Clem Chartier holding MNC hostage claim four provincial Métis leaders

SASKATOON – The leaders of four of the five governing members of the Métis National Council (MNC) called a press conference recently to condemn the actions of past MNC President Clem Chartier and Manitoba Métis Federation President David Chartrand to have the courts intervene in the affairs of the MNC and to de-rail the holding of the elections for MNC President which were scheduled for October 12 and 13.

Chartier is going to court to get the court in Ontario to decide who should be the delegates to the Métis National Council General Assembly and election. Chartier was run out of the president's job a few months ago. Four of the five governing members voted to oust Chartier because his term was unduly extended when illegally elected members from the MN-S were at the table.

Both Chartier and Chartrand have abandoned the MNC's own bylaws, and have instead asked the court system to intervene in the affairs of the MNC by indefinitely postponing the MNC presidential elections scheduled for this October. The order was granted to examine witnesses and hold hearings on a further order requested by Chartier and Chartrand that would have the court identify who will be the delegates to the MNC Assembly.

"The elections for MNC President are nearly one year overdue," claims MNBC President Bruce Dumont.

"The board of governors maintains that the office of the MNC president was vacant. I am astonished that the former MNC president and MMF president would take this action to further delay the MNC elections and cause this uncertainty to continue.

"In accordance with the MNC By-laws I was appointed as the interim president in July by the majority of the MNC board of governors to ensure that we maintain our position of self governance to address this vacancy," said Dumont.

"It is a fundamental principle that the

MNC must never interfere in the affairs of its governing members and here we have the past president and the MMF president asking a court to do that very thing – by asking the court to determine who would be the Métis Nation Alberta's delegates to the MNC Assembly," Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) President Audrey Poitras said.

"This has always been the sole right of each province to decide. I am appalled that rather than following our by-laws, Mr. Chartier and Mr. Chartrand are in effect asking the courts to intervene and to, de-facto, amend our by-laws," Poitras added.

"The right of our people to run their own affairs and to choose their own leaders has never been a question in Saskatchewan," said MN-S President Robert Doucette.

"To see a Past National President of the MNC going to the courts to have them take over our decision making process just sickens me.

"I want it to be clear that we are the ones who must defend the Métis National Council against this attack on our rights as a Nation and as a people. It seems as if Mr. Chartier uses bylaws at his convenience, not as a rule," said Doucette.

"It is extremely ironic to me that the Métis National Council has fought long and hard for nearly two decades to have our inherent right of self-determination and our right of self-government adopted as a 'minimum standard' of our human rights by the United Nations and on the eve of the historic vote to adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, our past president has asked a court to determine our rights and to identify who can cast a ballot in our national election.

"I am shocked and completely dismayed by this contradictory and irresponsible action," said MNO President Tony Belcourt.

It is estimated that the court costs could escalate to over \$100,000 for the MNC alone.

Province restores MN-S funding

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing \$385,000 to the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) for basic operations and policy and research functions.

"We are very pleased to restore funding to the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan so that it can continue its valuable work on behalf of Métis people in Saskatchewan," First Nations and Métis Relations Minister Maynard Sonntag said.

"We thank the provincial government for working to normalize the relationship between both of our governments and Métis communities," Métis Nation - Saskatchewan president Robert Doucette said.

"It is the first step in re-establishing the credibility of the MN-S and allows us to begin the work that needs to be done at the community level."

Provincial funding to the MN-S was suspended after the Lampard Report concluded that the results of the May 2004 election were unreliable.

A new MN-S election was held June 27, 2007, following efforts by both the provincial and federal governments and the assistance of a Métis Electoral Consultation Panel, an Independent Oversight Committee, a Chief Electoral Officer and many Métis people. After election results were verified by the Chief Electoral Officer, the Province began work to restore relations with the MN-S.

"I look forward to resuming normal relations with the MN-S and once again work together toward our common goal of making Saskatchewan the best place for Métis families to live, work and build strong futures," Sonntag said.

Following a judicial recount, Max Morin has been named Secretary of the MN-S. He joins President Robert Doucette, Vice President Allan Morin and Treasurer Gabe Lafond on the executive. Since the new election, the executive has worked with little or no resources, leading President Doucette to even hitchhike to Ile-a-la-Croix for meetings. A full accounting of the MN-S monetary state of the union is due soon.



MN-S President Robert Doucette

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APPOINTMENT


Gary Merasty

Gary Merasty honed his leadership skills during two terms as grand chief of the Prince Albert Grand Council and as a member of Parliament serving northern Saskatchewan. Jerry Grandey, Cameco's president and CEO, is pleased to announce Gary is bringing those skills to Cameco as the company's new vice-president, corporate social responsibility.



As a First Nations leader, Gary's experience and insight will enhance understanding of northern communities within Cameco and increase understanding of Cameco within northern communities.

A member of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, Gary graduated from the University of Saskatchewan's Indian Teacher Education Program in 1991 and received his masters of education in 2004. He has worked as chief of staff at the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, associate director of education in his home community and spent three years with Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Gary has served on a variety of boards including the Prince Albert Development Corporation, West Wind Aviation Limited Partnership, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies and Saskatoon Airport Authority.



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H E A L T H

Diabetics face dental health challenges

How do your breasts feel? October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the perfect time to make an appointment with your physician to have your yearly physical.

Regular visits with your dentist are equally as important and especially if you are a diabetic. Unfortunately, many of our Aboriginal people are diabetic and studies show that diabetics are more susceptible to the development of oral infections and periodontal disease.

Oral infections tend to be more severe in diabetic patients than non-diabetic patients. Diabetics may experience diminished salivary flow and a sensation of a burning mouth or tongue, which leads to a higher incidence of tooth decay. Furthermore, diabetics who do not control their blood sugar levels tend to have increased oral health problems, particularly gum recession (shrinkage). Diabetics who receive proper dental care and control their insulin stand a better chance of avoiding gum disease.

They should maintain good dental health care to prevent mouth infections. Mouth infections require immediate treatment; dentists may prescribe antibiotics, medicated mouth rinses and more frequent cleanings to avoid complications related to bacterial infections. To keep teeth and gums strong, diabetic patients should be aware of their blood sugar levels and have their triglyceride and cholesterol levels checked regularly.

These factors may have a direct correlation on chances of developing periodontal disease. If blood sugar is not under control, diabetic patients should talk with both their dentist and physician about receiving proper dental care. Dental procedures should be as short and as stress-free as possible. It's a good idea to make morning appointments because blood glucose levels tend to be under better control at this time of day.

•••

Bipolar Disorder - What Are the Symptoms?

The primary symptoms of bipolar disorder are dramatic and unpredictable mood swings. The illness has two strongly contrasting phases. In the manic phase:

Sandee Sez



Sandra Ahenakew

Euphoria or irritability, excessive talk; racing thoughts, inflated self-esteem, unusual energy; less need for sleep, impulsiveness, a reckless pursuit of gratification, shopping sprees, more and sometimes promiscuous sex, fast driving, hallucinations and or delusions.

In the depressive phase: Depressed mood and low self-esteem, low energy levels and apathy, sadness, loneliness, helplessness, guilt, slow speech, fatigue, and poor coordination, insomnia or oversleeping, suicidal thoughts and feelings, poor concentration and lack of interest or pleasure in usual activities. Call your doctor if: You notice some of these symptoms in a family member.

Note: Persons with bipolar disorder often deny anything is wrong, especially in the manic phase. If you are worried about a family member or close friend, a doctor can offer advice on how to handle the situation. Call your doctor if: You notice some of these symptoms in yourself. Because of the stigma still attached to bipolar disorder (and to many other mental diseases), patients are frequently reluctant to acknowledge that anything is wrong, and doctors often fail to recognize the disorder.

In addition, the symptoms may sometimes seem to be merely exaggerated versions of normal moods. In any event, research suggests that almost 75 per cent of cases go untreated or are treated inappropriately.

•••

I want to thank a reader from Prince Albert for writing in and responding to last month's column "Dating in your forties..."

I gather from your letter that it is difficult dating given that you are currently serving time. Before I go any further I want to compliment you on your beautiful handwriting. First, let me apologize. I am terribly sorry if I misled you in the article – but I am married and have been for well over a decade and still quite in love with the man I married (mind you it does feel like serving time sometimes).

You sure got my husband's attention, though – he asked me what the heck I wrote in that article (now I know he isn't reading them every month). You did mention that if I wasn't interested – did I have a friend. I actually have many friends, perhaps when you send me the photo you mentioned – I can ask my circle of friends if they are interested.

I do have two single sisters, but one is very strongly opposed to drinking and driving (she's not a drinker either) and the other one is a lawyer, but you probably already have one of those – besides she lives in another province and long distance relationships generally don't work.

I wish you all the best and hope that once you get out – that you will stay out; life is so much more fun on the outside.

I enjoy hearing from you. Email your questions and comments to sandee2says@yahoo.com or send them snail mail to Eagle Feather News

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10 Reasons to take part in the walk for Diabetes

1. In honour of your loved ones
2. Prevention and management of Type 2 Diabetes
3. Team & Community Building
4. Get a work out
5. Create awareness about Diabetes
6. Enjoy the outdoors
7. Make this your walk for the day
8. Lower your blood glucose levels
9. Win some great prizes
10. Have fun



**Visit your Public Library
during
Saskatchewan Library Week
October 15 - 22**

Live, Laugh, Learn @ your library!

Sod turned for new Painted Hand Casino development

A ground-breaking ceremony was recently held to officially launch the construction phase of the new Painted Hand Casino in Yorkton.

The \$29 million entertainment facility is one of two expansion projects at SIGA approved by the Saskatchewan government. The project is entirely funded by the First Nations of Saskatchewan with no municipal, provincial, or federal funding.

"The new casino will ensure stable employment for hundreds of First Nations people and generate important economic development in the area," said Acting Yorkton Tribal Council Chief Lindsay Kaye.

"The economic spin-off from this project will be considerable for the city and the region."

The new casino development is a joint partnership between Kahkewistahaw First Nation, Yorkton Tribal Council, and the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA).

"Casino development is sophisticated in nature," said Tribal Chief Kaye. "We're very excited that we've reached the next stage of this positive development and the point of breaking ground for the new Painted Hand Casino."

When completed, the casino will employ over 200 full and part-time workers and will include a gaming floor, restaurant and multi-function facility capable of hosting a variety of events and concerts.

"The Painted Hand Casino has been successful, but it has clearly outgrown its current venue," said Zane Hansen, SIGA CEO and President.

"We look forward enhancing the product we offer to our patrons with a new state-of-the-art casino and entertainment facility which will prove to be inviting and spectacular. It will also promise to reflect First Nations culture and values in its design and architecture."

Highlights of the project ...

- Situated on Kahkewistahaw FN
- Joint development with Yorkton Tribal Council
- The Painted Hand Casino entertained more than 473,000 guests this past year.
- \$29.3M to rebuild to enhance product offering in the Yorkton market
- 43,000 sq. ft
- 250 slots, 10 live games
- Multi-Function Sit-Down: 250 people
- Multi-Function theater style seating 350 people
- Design and architectural plans are being developed by Native American Firm Thalden Boyd
- Target Opening: 2009



Curtis Standing (Painted Hand GM), Ray Ahenakew (board chair), Chief Lindsay Kaye, Deb Higgins (Minister Responsible for Sask Liquor and Gaming), and Zane Hansen turn the sod for the new facility.



Grants Available

Groups applying must be registered non-profit organizations under the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Corporations Act.

GRANT WORKSHOP FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS
 Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
 Cosmo Civic Centre, 3130 Laurier Drive.
 Workshop is free, however you must call 975-3383 by November 15, 2007 to pre-register.

SASK LOTTERIES COMMUNITY GRANT
 For Sport, Culture and Recreation Projects
 • Application Deadline January 15, 2008
 • Projects are to occur between April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

URBAN ABORIGINAL GRANT PROGRAM
 Project Grants (culture, sport and recreation) targeted to Aboriginal people in Saskatoon.
 • Application Deadline January 15, 2008
 • Projects are to occur between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009

ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS CASH GRANT
 Social Service Groups
 • Application Deadline February 29, 2008
 • Projects to be completed within 12 months following award notification.

SPORTS PARTICIPATION GRANT
 Coach Development, Learn To, and Cost as a Barrier
 • Application Deadline April 15, 2008
 • Projects are to occur between July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

APPLICATION FORMS are available for pick-up two months prior to grant deadline at the following locations:
 • Front lobby of City Hall
 • Reception desk of Community Services (2nd floor City Hall)
 • Any City Leisure Facility

For more information call 975-3383 or check our website at www.saskatoon.ca, Community Services Department, Leisure Services & Community Development.






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October 15-21, 2007

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Saskatchewan!

BUSINESS

FSIN negotiates improved gaming deal with Province

Saskatoon – The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and the Province of Saskatchewan have agreed to amend the Gaming Framework Agreement. The amendments were ratified at a Special FSIN Assembly In September.

The deal will see First Nation communities receive more casino revenues to improve the conditions of First Nations people.

The revenue sharing formula will change so the First Nations Trust will receive 50 per cent of the net profits from SIGA casinos to support economic development, health, education, culture and other First Nations initiatives, up from 37.5 per cent. Of the remaining revenue, 25 per cent will go to the Province's general revenue fund, with the remaining 25 per cent going to Community Development Corporations to support First Nation and non-First Nation charities and organizations across the province.

"Gaming revenues benefit First Nations people throughout the province," FSIN Chief Lawrence Joseph said.

"This gaming agreement is a work in progress and our partnership with the Province is important as we continue to work toward First Nations jurisdiction over gaming."

The revenue sharing change means First Nations communities, through the First Nations Trust, will receive nearly



Federation Of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Chief Lawrence Joseph and Vice Chief Morley Watson squeezed an extra 12.5 percent of First Nation gaming revenues from the provincial government represented here by Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Minister Deb Higgins.

\$40 million more in revenues from SIGA casinos over the next five years, based on current projections. Casino revenues are critical to First Nations communities as they work to provide essential services.

"The impact of First Nations gaming in Saskatchewan has been extremely positive, creating jobs and economic spin-offs throughout the province. This agreement balances our continuing positive relationship with First Nations while ensuring the interests of all Saskatchewan people are reflected," said Deb Higgins,

minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.

Another change is an additional \$250,000 in cost-shared funding for the First Nations Addictions Rehabilitation Foundation, which provides funding for problem gambling awareness, prevention and treatment programs.

"The major thrust of these negotiations with the Province has been to increase the revenue stream for First Nations so they can improve the lives of

their community members," said FSIN Vice-Chief Morley Watson.

"We respect our relationship with the Province – this agreement has generated jobs and provided much-needed revenue and we're eager to move on into the next phase of building communities."

The amendments to the Gaming Framework Agreement also strengthen accountability provisions regarding Community Development Corporations. Both the FSIN and the Province are determined to make the process for sharing resources more transparent. Under the amended agreement, Community Development Corporations will be required to provide more detailed reporting to their boards and the public concerning the annual operations of the Community Development Corporation and the grants they provide.

Community Development Corporations fund economic development, social development, justice, health, education, recreation, culture and other related initiatives among First Nations and non-First Nations organizations in all communities.

Under the terms of the 2002 Gaming Framework Agreement, the FSIN and government agreed to review the agreement every five years.

Discussions for this first review period began in December 2006 and concluded with a tentative agreement in July 2007.



AWĀSIS 2008

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Fax: (306) 249-9585



Call For Presenters

The Awāsis: Aboriginal Education Council is calling for presenters for their upcoming annual conference. A variety of proposals consisting of adult and youth oriented workshops are encouraged. The Awāsis Conference 2008 is scheduled for April 30, May 1, May 2 and is held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The host hotel is the Saskatoon Inn co-hosted by the Travelodge.

The council's primary goal is to ensure and to assist in the continued growth and improvement of Aboriginal education. The council's mandate emphasizes their commitment to deliver information in a 'wholistic' approach consisting of four strands: wellness, spirituality, culture, and education.

Log on to the website address below to retrieve the 'call for presenters' application form or request it by email or telephone. Note that the deadline for applications may be extended if deemed necessary.

Website:

www.stf.sk.ca/prof_growth/ssclawasislawasis.htm

Email:

awasisconf@sasktel.net

If you require any further information, please contact:
AWĀSIS Planning Committee 2008
Attention: Julie Roy
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Clarence Campeau Development Fund marks a decade of providing assistance for Aboriginal businesses

BY WARREN GOULDING

Looking back at a decade that has been nothing short of phenomenal for his organization, Fund Manger Roland Duplessis can only marvel at what has been accomplished. The Clarence Campeau Development Fund, established in 1997, has come a long way.

“Who would have been able to predict that we’d be sitting where we’re at today with the number of clients and the amount of money that we’ve been able to provide to the Métis business community,” says Duplessis. “And then there’s the amount of leverage dollars we’ve been able to help with and the communities we’re in.”

Duplessis, who joined CCDF nine years ago, is candid when he recalls the early going.

“We knew what the mandate was and we knew some of the things we wanted to do,” he explains. “But when I first came on we had some programs that were just not deliverable.”

Duplessis huddled with Ron Rivard and other key people at CCDF and formulated a plan for the fledgling organization.

“We came up with some programs that would be responsible to the needs of the Métis community and really reflected what we wanted to do as an organization.”

Not the least of the challenges in the early years was the lack of resources for such things as accounting software and other programs that would be essential.

“We were so small we had a Simply Accounting system and we were bringing in people every couple of weeks to do some work for us,” Duplessis recalls. “I hired Georgina Nicolas and she began to turn things around.”

• Continued on Page 12



The staff of CCDF took a moment to pose in front of the Red River Cart at their gala banquet. From left to right and front to back they are, Rebecca Krahn, Office Manager, Roland Duplessis, Fund Manager, Ryan Patterson, Business Development Officer, Monica Brunet, Business Development Officer, Georgette Nicolas, Business Development Officer, Christine McGowan, Administrative Assistant, Steve Danners, Business Development Officer.

(Photo by Ken Williams)

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Left to right. Board Members Mark La Rocque, Kathy Pallidwar and Greg Fofonoff are with entertainer John Arcand, Jigger Brent Potskin, Fund Manager Roland Duplessis, Lyle Donald, and fellow Board members Ron Rivard and Hal Sanders.

(Photo by Ken Williams)

Clarence Campeau Development Fund has

• Continued from Page 11

"It took us two years to get a loan system that was conducive to our needs because we do some pretty unique forms of financing and funding, things like non-repayable contributions, interest free deals with no security."

Once up-to-date computer programs and staff were in place, things began to take off.

The numbers speak for themselves and Duplessis is pleased to tell the story of the Clarence Campeau Development Fund and the impact it has had not only on the Aboriginal business community but in Saskatchewan as a whole.

"Here we are, we've got our own building, we've got our own staff, we've got over 200 clients, we've put over \$50 million in leveraged funding into the Saskatchewan economy.

"We've made \$18 million available to Métis businesses in the province, 400 different businesses have been funded out of here," Duplessis says.

"In the neighbourhood of 4,000 d
ated as a result of our funding. It's ju

Along the way, the Saskatchewan
while that spells opportunity for many
trepreneurs, it's interesting to note that
for certain businesses.

"When things are booming, we
Métis people in a position where they
dow of opportunity for wealth creatio
plessis.

Unlike more mainstream busin
plagued by a lack of equity, a fact D
17 years working with Métis people.

"That was the first thing that was
uity in the Aboriginal community in

community. There are lots of program
very few that are trying to meet
quired to entice or encourage ban
into projects for Aboriginal busin

It's that role that has made C
Fund a success and given them a
spected across the country.

"In our case, we only require
client," he explains. "No banking
to finance 95 per cent of the valu
per cent thrown in, the banks are
So now projects that may not ha
cause they're not good projects
aren't sound, simply because the
to put into projects."



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MN-S President Robert Doucette receives a presentation from CCDF board member Ron Rivard and Fund Manager Roland Duplessis. (Photo by Ken Williams)

... helped 400 businesses create 4,000 jobs

Direct and indirect jobs have been created and taken off."

... an economy has also taken off. And ... businesses, including Aboriginal enterprises, during the boom times mean different things

... are looking for opportunities to put ... can take advantage of that win-win situation and job creation," explains Duplessis.

... businesses, Métis ventures are often ... Duplessis has observed during his

... evident to me, was the lack of equity. In general, not only the Métis companies set up to provide financing, but ... the needs of the equity that's ... banking or other funding institutions ... businesses."

... Clarence Campeau Development Fund ... a profile and reputation that is re-

... five per cent cash equity from a ... g institution in the world is going ... e of the security. But with our 35 ... looking at 60 per cent financing. ... ve been able to make it, not be- ... or not because the individuals ... y didn't have enough cash equity

Duplessis sees the Clarence Campeau Development Fund being around for a long time, there to help business people who have raised families, gained life and business experience and are ready to make their own mark in the business world.

"They don't have the inheritance dollars, for example, but they've got the education, the technical skills and we're there to help them with that one little ingredient ... equity."

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'Little Mother' took good care of friends and family

BY DEIRDRA NESS

Marie Lasas, a pretty 19-year-old girl with roots in the Pasqua First Nation, was known as "kokum" by her friends and family.

The eldest of four girls whose parents struggled and lost their battle with addictions, Marie assumed the role of little mother at an early age. It was a role she would continue throughout her life.

Marie and her sisters entered the foster care system when they were toddlers. Sometimes together, sometimes apart, they moved from place to place to place. It was during this time that Marie met Sue Meikle, an outreach worker. Sue connected with Marie and recommended her for the Egadz My Home when she was 13.

So, when Marie was just entering her teen years, she moved into My Home, a safe housing project run by the Egadz outreach program.

Marie considered her close friends and My Home housemates to be sisters. The little mother would warn them about hard drugs, bad dates, and street dangers. At My Home she would wait up for her sisters to come home. It was her nature.

"She was always making sure we had food to eat and a bed to sleep in," reflects her close friend Sharlena Mentuck.

Egadz Youth Centre was a regular hangout for Marie. She enjoyed organizing in the baby room and was also teaching budgeting.

While Marie had struggled with her own addictions, she became committed to living a good family life when she gave birth to Brooklyn in 2003. Her second daughter, Dannyelle, was born in 2004. Marie was a gentle, loving mother who was working hard to finish high school. She was always taking her kids to the park. Most importantly, she wanted her daughters to have a good family home with their father.

Despite leaving My Home to live with the father of their children, Marie kept in close contact with her infor-



Marie Lasas with her daughter Brooklyn.

mally adopted mother, Sue, and her sisters.

Although Marie wasn't involved in the sex trade, she was actively involved in Saskatoon's annual Day of Mourning honouring victims of the sex trade. Marie's efforts were officially recognized when the Day of Mourning organizing group was nominated for a 2005 SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Award.

When the Riversdale Business Improvement District was looking for street ambassadors to work in the community, Marie came highly recommended and was hired for the job. She took pride working in her community and making it a better place for her family and friends. When the father of her children went back to his reserve, she left her job to keep her family together. She was sad to leave a job she enjoyed and excelled at, but keeping her family together was more important.

Marie tried very hard to make a life with her children's father, but they eventually split. In the summer of 2006, Brooklyn and Dannyelle's father took custody without Marie's consent and went back to his reserve. She was devastated. Unable to be with her daughters and struggling through the cumbersome process to retain custody, the little mother became increasingly depressed and started abusing hard drugs and alcohol.

"Marie always looked ahead. She didn't focus on the past. It's just who she was."

— Sue Meikle

On Sept. 21, 2006, Marie left a friend's house in the 600 block of Avenue H South around 10:30 p.m., to walk home. She never made it. Marie was a cautious and street-smart young woman who was always in close contact with her family and friends – which is what set off alarm bells almost as soon as she disappeared.

On June 30, 2007 Marie's body was found and her death has been declared a homicide. At the 2007 Day of Mourning, one of the balloons released held Marie's name.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

Marie was five feet six inches tall, 130 pounds, with auburn hair, and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing grey jeans, a black jacket, and a white headband. Anyone with information about Marie's disappearance and/or her death please contact the Saskatoon Police Service at 975-8300 or call anonymously to: Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.



Marchers made their way through downtown Saskatoon.

Walking to remember murdered, missing women

BY JOHN LAGIMODIERE

On Oct. 4, the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC), Saskatchewan Sisters in Spirit and Amnesty International honoured missing and murdered Indigenous women at the second annual Sisters in Spirit vigil.

This was a national event to help keep the issue in the forefront of people's minds and so those that are gone are not forgotten.

In Saskatoon, local organizers hosted a pancake breakfast at the Indian and Métis Friendship Centre. After the meal, there was a police led procession down 22nd Street through downtown Saskatoon and ultimately to Friendship Park.

At the park, marchers, organizers and the police who acted as their escorts

all stood in a solemn circle holding candles. A long moment of silence was held for those women who are missing or murdered in our community.

Darlene Lancely, one of the organizers took note that this was a concerted effort around the Nation and that it was important.

"Events like this are happening around Canada as we speak," she said. "And we know that the Creator is watching over us. It is a cold day, but during the silence, the sun came out and warmed us all."

The afternoon consisted of a luncheon of soup, bannock and entertainment. There was also a showing of "Finding Dawn", a documentary on missing women. The event closed with a circle and a prayer.



Darlene Lancely was one of the organizers of the Missing Women's Walk to raise awareness about missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

Missinipi Youth Foundation Scholarship Awards

The Missinipi Youth Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee is pleased to announce the seven scholarship recipients for the 2007-2008 academic year. The scholarships program is designed to support and encourage northern youth to undertake post secondary educational opportunities in all aspects of media skills and electronic media communications.

Janelle Roy of Ile a la Crosse who is of Metis ancestry will be receiving \$1,500. Janelle is enrolled in the Western Academy of Radio and T.V. Broadcast Training in Saskatoon.

Kaylene Bell of La Ronge will be receiving \$1,500. Kaylene is a member of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. Kaylene is also enrolled in the Western Academy of Radio and T.V. Broadcast Training.

Cassandra Opikokew of Meadow Lake will be receiving \$1,000. Cassandra is a member of the Canoe Lake First Nation. Cassandra is in her fourth year of study towards a degree

in Journalism at University of Regina.

Trudy Stewart of Meadow Lake will be receiving \$1,000. Trudy is a member of the Flying Dust Band near Meadow Lake. Trudy is entering her fourth year of the Indian Communications Arts program at First Nations University in Regina.

Ntawnis Piapot of Piapot Cree Nation has been awarded \$1,000. Ntawnis is enrolled in her third year of the Indian Communications Arts program at First Nations University of Canada.

Penny Smoke of Fishing Lake First Nation has also been awarded \$1,000. Penny is entering her third year of the Indian Communications Arts program at First Nations University of Canada.

Reba O' Watch of Okanese First Nation will be receiving a \$1,000. scholarship. Reba is entering her second year of the Indian Communications Arts program at First Nation University in Regina.

EGADZ led program building safe homes for young women

BY JOHN LAGIMODIERE

Twelve at-risk young women between the ages of 18 and 23 will be living more independently and enjoying an enhanced quality of life thanks to a new affordable rental housing project that recently opened in Saskatoon.

The project, consisting of two buildings called My Home III and My Home IV, will receive funding from the federal, provincial and municipal governments totaling over \$600,000.

The project consists of two homes in the new neighbourhood of Hampton Village in Saskatoon. Each home is 604.1 square metres with six bedrooms and shared kitchen

and resource areas. Support services link the young women to school, training, employment and other community resources. Individuals in the homes will also have input on how the homes operate, thereby creating a sense of ownership. My Home III and IV are based on the highly successful My Home and My Home Too models, which

serve young people, aged 12-17 in Saskatoon.

Dee Eyahpaise was a resident in My Home Too and through hard work, has earned a job working at the new house and is a role model. Previously, Eyahpaise was on her own and surfing friends' couches but she wasn't happy.

"I really wanted to do better for myself and the people at Egadz said I could move into My Home Too in May," said Dee. "It really helped me do well for myself."

Eyahpaise now takes on a mentoring role in the home. Admittedly, Dee had a problem with a negative lifestyle including abusing drugs and alcohol. Her past helps her relate to the young women she will be living with, many who have come from broken homes and scary situations.

"I grew up in foster care. This place is nothing like that," she enforced. "Here we are free to come and go, but it is to school and jobs. Everything is based on goals and healthy living, so we learn how to do it. This is no free ride."



Dee Eyahpaise found a home at My Home Too, now she helps others.

The young women support each other with parenting and schoolwork and develop a healthy familial relationship. The mentors are there for support in a kind of been there done that way. And the residents and the mentors both win.

"This job makes me feel important," said Eyahpaise. "I gave up drugs and drinking so I am doing well. The girls always lean on the strong ones and try to be like them. I help them, and they help me."

The project was undertaken by the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. (EGADZ) and is supported through the Centenary Affordable Housing Program, part

of Saskatchewan's HomeFirst housing policy framework and the City of Saskatoon's Innovative Housing Incentive Program.

EGADZ is a non-profit, community-based organization that has provided direct support services to empower at-risk youth in Saskatoon since 1990. Their My Home program has been wildly successful and helped many young women.

"This job is a big honour and the homes are so important for us," added Dee Eyahpaise. "It gives us a place to live. A home so we can focus on bigger things like school and what you want to do after school, instead of just survival."



Many local and national companies have helped with funding for the homes.

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NDP is the best choice for Aboriginal people in the next election

By Angie Merasty

Tansi, my name is Angie Merasty and I am the President of the Aboriginal New Democrats of Saskatchewan (ANDS).

ANDS was formed in 1989 by Métis and First Nations NDP members who believed Aboriginal people must have a voice at all levels of the Party and government. They saw a need for a strong relationship based on mutual respect, trust, honesty and shared responsibilities.

Our vision is to elect more Aboriginal political leaders who will address the concerns and priorities of First Nations and Métis people. Today, through groups like ANDS, Aboriginal people play a part larger than ever before in the decision-making process and policy creation of both the NDP and government but there is still lots of room for improvement. This is first and foremost the reason why I am an Aboriginal New Democrat.

As we are all aware, the Aboriginal vote is becoming more and more powerful with each election in Saskatchewan. The First Nations and Métis populations continue to grow and get more involved in the electoral process. An active Aboriginal vote now has the potential to determine the outcome of more than a few ridings in both urban and rural Saskatchewan.

With this in mind, it is crucial First Nations and Métis peoples in this province exercise their right to vote in the next provincial election. It is important we show our influence in determining who forms the next government.

As is the case with any government, Aboriginal people have not achieved everything we have wanted under NDP governments. As previously stated, there is always lots of room for improvement.

Nevertheless, I think if you look at history you will find that there has always been a willingness by both CCF and NDP governments to build bridges with First Nations and Métis peoples and form relationships based on mutual respect. Under the leadership of Premier Lorne Calvert's NDP government, significant progress has been made. The signing of numerous Aboriginal Employment Development Program agreements, the creation of the Department of First Nations and Métis Relations, the continuance of the Treaty Land Entitlement process and significant investments in programs and bursaries to help Aboriginal people attain a higher education are just a few examples.

On the other hand, I think if you also look at history you will find that the right wing individuals who make up the Saskatchewan Party have never shown any genuine interest in First Nations or Métis peoples. As a matter of fact, the people in the Sask Party have often put forward ideas that would reduce the rights of Aboriginal people.

For example, the 2003 Sask Party platform says the First Nations Treaties should not be honoured under the intent in which they were signed but within the

"political climate" of the 21st century. This would mean the rights from the Treaties we have fought so hard to achieve would be subjected to the whims of the largely non-Aboriginal politicians of the day under a Sask Party government. No thank you!

This same platform calls for the reduction of Aboriginal self-government to the same rights, rules and responsibilities as a regular Saskatchewan municipality. Again, this is not what our forefathers fought for.

Now, as we get close to a provincial election, the Saskatchewan Party has suddenly become very interested in the Aboriginal vote, as they have come to realize its powerful potential. Nevertheless, Brad Wall and company have been very quiet as to exactly what they would do for Aboriginal people if elected.

Does this remind you of anyone?

Stephen Harper and the Conservatives didn't talk much about Aboriginal people in the 2006 federal election either. Although, as we have seen, they had numerous plans regarding us once elected.

Unfortunately, none of these plans have benefited Aboriginal people. A Saskatchewan Party government would be no different. They even have former Conservative MP and strong Harper supporter Jeremy Harrison running for them in Meadow Lake.

A wolf is always a wolf. Even if you dress it up in sheep's clothing, it is still a wolf. Do not let the Sask Party fool you!

I'd like to give you an analogy and yet another reason why I became an Aboriginal New Democrat.

Growing up in northern Saskatchewan, our people would go out to hunt moose for sustenance and when they were successful, everybody in the community ate, we all benefited and no one was left behind.

Under Premier Lorne Calvert, Saskatchewan has certainly seen prosperous economic times but at the same time our NDP government has tried to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of a social system where everyone benefits and no one gets left behind.

In terms of the Saskatchewan Party, they would probably take the best parts of the moose and sell it to the highest bidder. Under a Sask Party government, most people would be left behind. Aboriginal people would be left behind!

Nitotimak, in this upcoming election, I encourage you, the First Nations and Métis people of this province to have your voices heard!

Exercise your power and your right to vote and please consider voting NDP. We need to continue to have a voice at the table and this will only happen under an NDP government.

If you are interested in getting more information on the upcoming election, have questions about the NDP or would just like to chat, please don't hesitate to contact me at

ands@saskndp.ca

Ninanaskimon! Tiniki!

**This is a paid political message
from Angie Merasty – ANDS President**

Originally from Pelican Narrows, SK Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation

Saskatchewan Credit Unions and You

Attention – Indian Residential School Survivors and their Families

Being Prepared

Shortly, Residential School survivors and their families will finally be able to get some closure in the form of compensation from the Residential School Settlement. But for those receiving a settlement, there are a lot of things that need to be taken into consideration.

These payouts that you and your friends and relatives will be receiving will have a huge impact on your lives. Having more money means new responsibilities, new challenges, and new choices.

Ensuring you have a sound plan in place is very important. If you don't already have one, one of the first things you should consider is to set up an account ahead of time with a credit union or financial institution of your choice.

Setting up an account is important, as you will want a safe place to keep the money that you will be receiving.

Why should I set up an account?

- Having a large amount of cash around is dangerous in terms of increasing your chance of being victimized by fraud or theft.
- Avoid line-ups – faster service
- You can also receive your payment through Direct Deposit, which will speed up the process and puts the money straight into your account
- Financial institutions do not carry a lot of cash on hand unless they know in advance that cash is going to be needed for a specific reason
- All deposits you make at Saskatchewan credit unions are 100% guaranteed and available to you whenever you want to have access to them
- Financial institutions do not have to cash government issued cheques over \$1,500 without an account at that financial institution •
- You will have access to a variety of additional financial products and services
- Having cash readily available makes it too easy to make spur of the moment purchases
- Cheque cashing businesses will charge a large fee for cashing any and all cheques
- Monthly statements will help you keep track of and manage your money

The biggest reason for setting up an account is for your personal safety. By placing the settlement in an account, it will remain in a safe place until the funds are needed.

Opening an Account is Easy

When you are opening an account, you should find a credit union or financial institution that best meets your needs, is close to where you live, has low service fees, and convenient hours.

You will want to visit or call your local credit union or financial institution and ask them about the different kinds of accounts they offer.

What do I need to open an account?

To open an account, certain legislative conditions must be met. You will be required to:

- Provide your name, address and date of birth
- Complete account opening documentation
- Provide two pieces of identification, one of which must be a driver's license, social insurance number, provincial health card, birth certificate, Indian Status Card or similar identification
- You may open an account regardless of your employment status

If you look after your money properly, it can make a difference in your life and in the lives of those people closest to you.

Remember, it is your money. Take the time to prepare and do what is in your best interest.

Saskatchewan Credit Unions and You

Please contact your local credit union for more information on the products and services they offer and they will help you select the type of account that is best suited to meet your needs.

Watch future issues of Eagle Feather News for more information on Saskatchewan credit unions or visit www.saskcu.com. If you have questions about the credit union system or their products and services, you can contact us at communications@saskcentral.com.

 Saskatchewan
Credit Unions
Make it Real

Saskatchewan survivors share their stories for legacy project

BY ALENE CAMPBELL

About 150 residential school survivors came to Regina in late September to share their stories and personal experiences – some for the first time – as part of an ongoing project to record these accounts so that future generations can know and understand the devastating impact these schools had, and continue to have, on those who attended them.

The Legacy of Hope Foundation was in Regina in late September, at the Ramada Inn and Convention Centre, collecting stories to be archived into books and DVDs that will be used for educational purposes.

“The Foundation’s mandate is to educate and to make the Canadian public aware of what happened to the survivors during their time at residential schools,” said Carol Thornhill, project manager with the Ottawa-based Legacy of Hope Foundation.

“There are even some people who aren’t aware of the experiences people had in residential schools or the lasting effects that is has on them today.”

The Legacy of Hope Foundation began collecting stories from survivors for the multi-year national legacy commemoration project called *Our Stories...Our Strength* in August of 2006. So far, about 400 residential school survivors have shared their stories during the videotaped interviews in 15 cities across Canada.

The process of relating and remembering the hardships endured during their years at residential school brought out a mix of reactions from those who shared their stories. In each city, the Foundation partnered with a local, Aboriginal health agency to inform people of the project and to provide post-interview counselling.

“Often, someone will tell us they feel closure, that they feel ‘lighter’. Some are telling their stories for the first time.

“It opens old wounds obviously but that’s part of reliving the experience,” said Thornhill.

Therapists with White Raven Health Centre at the All Nations Healing Hospital in Fort Qu’Appelle, the agency that partnered with the Foundation to host the storytelling event, will do two- and four-week post-interview follow-ups and arranged ongoing counselling as needed.

he was loved and that his life had purpose.

He committed himself to helping others, got his masters of education degree from the University of Saskatchewan in the mid-eighties and was appointed to the board of the Aboriginal Health Foundation by National Chief Phil Fontaine when it opened in 1998.

Currently taking his PhD in humanities, Severight believes that the chance for the survivors to tell their stories is crucial to the healing process of the community.

The value of recording these stories goes far beyond healing and establishing a true account of the resident school experience.

As an educational tool, Severight sees these stories as a way to reach youth, particularly youth at risk, and re-connected them with their culture.

“The youth are the ones suffering for the dysfunctionality of previous generations,” said Severight.

“We need to get the kids to reconnect with their real community, not the gang community, because living in a gang community is a lie.

“We need to invite them to come back to who they really are, back to their spirituality and their roots.”

The majority of stories collected describe the neglect, abuse in myriad, nearly unimaginable forms, and self-hatred arising from being conditioned to feel ashamed of their culture and ancestry. Positive recollections – and they are precious few, according to Thornhill – are limited to how the schools provided some survivors with a basic education.

The Foundation’s final story gathering event will take place in Ottawa in November and will be for Inuit survivors of residential schools.

The Foundation will not be marketing the book and DVDs for sale but does plan to make them available to First Nations communities and tribal councils.



Carol Thornhill of the Legacy of Hope Foundation and Grant Severight of White Raven Health Centre.

Grant Severight, a mental health therapist at White Raven Health Centre, came to Regina to both help survivors who were sharing their stories and also to relate his own experiences as a survivor himself.

“Every time I tell my story, I heal a little bit more,” he said.

Placed in the St. Phillip’s residential school near Yorkton at the age of four, Severight became an alcoholic by his mid-teens and had spent nine years in prison by the time he was 25. Driven to suicide by despair, rage and abuse, he begged the Creator for reason to continue living – and the response he got was that

Buckle up.

Whether you’re travelling in the city or in the country, everyone in the vehicle needs to buckle up.

Life is a gift from the Creator, respect it. Always wear a seatbelt and use the right safety seat for kids.

**Life is a gift.
Please respect it.**



Original feather illustration by Gary Natomagan.

SGM
Take care out there.

Agecoutay captures and shares the world's stories

Yes, the man in the photo is world famous athlete David Beckham, and beside him is good old Saskatchewan and Regina boy Richard Agecoutay. Agecoutay has made a name for himself nationally for his work as a videographer for CBC. The man has excelled in his career, is a Gemini Award Nominee for the category of Best Photography and is certainly a role model. We asked him to explain the photo, and his career in his words. - Eagle Feather Editor



Richard Agecoutay with soccer star David Beckham.

You met David Beckham? How's that?

Beckam had recently joined the L.A. Galaxy of the North American Major

League Soccer. He was damaged goods so to speak, unable to play due to an injured ankle. He was traveling with his team to play the Toronto FC (Football Club). Since signing with the LA Galaxy, he and his wife whipped up a media frenzy here in North America the likes of which had not been seen in a while.

Being the CBC, we were able to secure an exclusive interview with him for a brief 20 minutes on August 4. Derek Hopper (a CBC colleague) and I spent most of the morning lighting the set for the interview at the Air Canada Center in Toronto. Once the set was lit and our audio check done we waited ... and waited ... he finally appeared a few minutes late surrounded by a half dozen handlers and four of the biggest body guards I've seen. I covered the Queen and her body guards were like small children compared to these guys!

His first order of business was to meet and greet everyone in the room. He gave all of us a firm handshake and a little boy grin and wink! What a gentleman.

Scott Russell from Sports Saturday conducted the interview. The session was scheduled for 20 minutes but he was having such a good time with Scott he stayed for 40 minutes.

He was like a little boy with his cute accent and he answered each question with honesty and humility. I've shot many interviews with many celebrities during my career but he has to be the best EVER. At the end he hung around and posed patiently for photos with all of us who were in the room. What a guy. It's easy to understand why everyone adores him!

How did you get to be such an accomplished Videographer?

I was always an artsy fartsy guy. I was in the choir as a schoolboy and I was always pulled out of class to work on hallway murals during the holidays. I spent a lot of time drawing and painting and just appreciating art as a child.

When I graduated high school I got a job as a janitor at the Globe Theatre in Regina. During my time at the Globe I had ample opportunity to work with some of the best actors in the country. One day I met an actress named Tantoo Cardinal. She was acting in a play at the Globe and she introduced me to a producer at the Saskatchewan Native Communications Society (SNCC).

I eventually took a leave from the Globe in order to receive some training at

SNCC. During an 18 month training period I was trained in Radio/TV/Print reporting and production.

I finally left the Globe Theatre in 1992 and left to work at the Banff Centre for the Arts. I spent 3 1/2 years in Banff working with many elite TV professionals from around the Globe and developed a sound understanding of television production. More importantly, I matured as an artist and I was able to develop my 'eye'. The most important lesson I learned while in Banff was never compromise and to strive for daily excellence in your chosen art.

Eventually I left the Banff Centre and took a job as a news shooter and editor. I worked for The A Channel in Calgary for more than three years. It was tough grind as I was faced daily with compromise and mediocrity. My ideals were shot. The private news media is all about advertising dollars and has little to do about storytelling. You have no time to shoot a story, you're usually stuck with a reporter that only cares about being a 'minor' celebrity than a caring journalist. The 'privates' only want to exploit humanity and not nurture it.

I left The A Channel for the wild blue yonder. I took a job as a producer for Northern Native Broadcasting in Whitehorse. I spent eight months in Whitehorse then left for a more enjoyable adventure in Canada's newest territory Nunavut.

In Oct. of 2001 I accepted a job as an ENG/EFP Videographer/Editor with CBC North. I re-located to Iqaluit in Nunavut to work on CBC North programs Iglaaq and Northbeat. In 2003, I was seconded to the CBC Toronto Production Centre where I now work for Studio and Remote Productions.

What is the best thing about your career choice? Worst?

There are many of both so I'll give you a few different ones.

Best: I really love my work and I'm very passionate about what I do.

I'm not a technician; I'm an artist with a sensitive eye with a caring spirit. Everyday I get to roll tape is a blessing, it's like getting paid to drink beer!

Worst: Putting my career first, not having a balanced life, not spending time

with the ones I love. One year I was on the road for 100 days! I spent 12 days following the Stanley Cup. That year, I think I spent four or five days with my daughter.

Best: Shooting a documentary on Narwhales in the High Arctic.

Worst: While on this shoot we were hunted by a huge Polar Bear for three days!

Best: Shooting a Leaf game between the players benches for Hockey Night in Canada.

Worst: Being hit in the back with a

they succeeded. I admire their courage and sacrifices they made. When I was young, I remember that they were always working (my day worked for Molson Brewery and my mother worked for Saskpower and then later DIAND). My dad was a blue collar worker and my mother was a white collar worker so that makes me a 'paisley' color worker because I work in the arts. I think I've inherited many of their talents and I would not be the person I am today if were not for my parents.

Any tips for young and upcoming future journalists?

If you want to become a journalist? Get a good education from a reputable institution. Put yourself in situation where you will learn from the best. Be prepared to suffer for what you want. Be prepared to leave your hometown or rez. Choose your mentors carefully.

Pay your dues. Strive for excellence; be relentless in your pursuit of excellence. Dedicate all your spare time to becoming the best. Read, read and read some more, and become an expert on current issues.

If you want to become a shooter? Do all the things above but a few more like: Get a camera and shoot till you drop. Buy a prism and learn to understand the quality and quantity of light. Become a image maker not a picture taker.



Richard Agecoutay with Lord Stanley's gift to hockey, the Stanley Cup.

roll of tape hurled by Leaf player Ian White 'cause he couldn't see the action happening in the opposition's goal crease.

Best: Shooting the migration of the Porcupine Caribou herd in Old Crow.

Worst: Not sleeping for three days because we were surrounded by grizzly bears hunting newborn calves!

Who are the role models in your life?

My role models are my parents. They left the 'rez' to build a better life for us kids. They ventured out not knowing what to expect. They took a chance and

Learn how to develop black and white film. Study all kinds of visual art, current and classic.

Attend some theatre and observe the lighting style, go and see lots of films not the ones "at a theatre near you" but FILMS like the ones they screen at the Regina Public Library! Become familiar with photographers Herb Ritz, Karsh, Ansel Adams, Robert Cappa, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Sebastião Salgado, Eisindstaedt, Stieglitz and many more and de-construct their images.

Always remember great photographers think with his/her eyes.

Young cadet sees army service in his future

BY JOHN LAGIMODIERE

Brendon Delorme is not your typical inner city youth. At age 16, this young man is an accomplished army cadet, avid drumming student and is thinking of dabbling a bit in drama. Definitely not the bandana wearing tough guy image that many inner-city kids adopt.

"I owe lots to the cadet corps," said Delorme, a student at Saskatoon's E.D. Feehan High School. "In the four years I have done this, I have learned discipline, gained confidence in myself and excelled at public speaking.

"I have taken part in field exercises and can find my way around with a map and compass. And I've been to BC twice and have dozens of friends around Canada."

Lieutenant Kevin Seesequasis is the Unit Information Officer 2293 North Saskatchewan Regiment Army Cadet Corp, which was recently named the top unit in the province. He has watched Brandon grow in his four years at cadets.

"Mr. Delorme is on his way up to achieving great things. He takes national tests in March and he will start to see the rewards and travel the world on different cultural exchanges and do good things," said Seesequasis. "He has great leadership potential and will be a real leader and role model for Aboriginal youth."

Seesequasis, a member of Beardy's First Nation, added that some in society just expect First Nation kids

to be in gangs. His organization wants to change that.

"We offer Aboriginal youth an opportunity to get away from some of those societal expectations. We provide leadership and confidence and the opportunity to travel the world and experience the camaraderie. That is what we are about, building good citizens."

And Brandon Delorme is showing that leadership. He has climbed up the ranks and is already a master corporal. With all of his activities, there is no time for a negative lifestyle.

"We have lots of activities. Weekend training exercises. Plus, I am a section commander and it gives you responsibility. If you are bored, you can call up other cadets at any time and arrange something to get away from negative stuff. My drumming I also use to stay off that path. I feel strongly rooted in my culture."

Unlike many youth his age, Delorme already has his career path marked out in front of him.

"I want to use my experience from cadets to get into the regular forces and serve my country," said Delorme. "People should know that there is no racism here either. There is no black, white or Indian here. In uniform you are all the same. Everybody is equal in uniform."

Inspired by the stories of Elders and veterans, Delorme gets past all of the images of war that people see and use to form their opinions on the military. He sees it differently.

"Most people only see the violence and all the death. I see soldiers going out to help a failing country.



Brendon Delorme is a proud member of the North Saskatchewan Regiment Army Cadet Corps.

(Photo by John Lagimodiere)

Where people have lost control and can't support their own military or policing system. I want to go there and help them."

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Website: www.mgf.ca

PRODUCTION LINE WORKERS

Mitchell's Gourmet Foods is accepting applications for full-time production line workers in their hog slaughtering and processing facilities in Saskatoon. These are hourly-paid positions with a wage range of \$9.30 - \$15.35 per hour. We offer a comprehensive benefit package and pension plan. Shift schedules may vary from week to week to include days, afternoons or midnights. Some shifts involve working Saturday and/or Sunday. Apply in person at 3003 11th Street West in Saskatoon, apply online at www.mgf.ca or submit resumes to:

Human Resources
Mitchell's Gourmet Foods
Box 850 Saskatoon, SK
S7K 3V4 Fax:(306) 931-4296

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest but only those being considered for an interview will be contacted, no phone calls please.

Almost ten percent of our sworn officers are
Aboriginal men and women.
We would like you to join them.

**Saskatoon Police Service
Recruitment Information Session**
Tuesday, October 16, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.

The information session will be held at the Saskatoon Police Service headquarters located at 130 4th Avenue North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Everyone is welcome, registration is not required. Please register to write the entrance exam and take the physical abilities test by submitting your full name, date of birth, address and phone number to: recruiting@police.saskatoon.sk.ca or call (306) 975-8282. www.police.saskatoon.sk.ca

The next written Entrance Exam is scheduled for October 17th at 8:00 a.m. and Physical Testing on October 18th at 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, November 14th at 8:00 a.m.
and Physical Testing on November 15th at 10:00 a.m.

Aboriginal Music Festival bigger and better in its fourth year

BY BLUE PELLETIER



The Phenom of Redd Nation performs at the Aboriginal Music Festival.

The fourth annual Aboriginal Music Festival was by all accounts a major success. The event, which is a joint venture between the Indigenous Peoples Program at the University of Saskatchewan and the Aboriginal Music Association of Saskatchewan, attracted 30 of the country's top musical performers and well over 600 guests.

Throughout the evening guests enjoyed a variety of music, great food, and were treated to a fashion show. There was also a silent auction held for the numerous items that were donated to the event.

The Festival started with humble beginnings with just a handful of artists and just over 60 guests the first year. The goal was to showcase the talents of Aboriginal artists that were both established in the music scene as well as those who were just coming up.

With the growing popularity of the festival it may be time to expand, both the talent and the facility. Organizers plan on bringing in even bigger names with an emphasis on more international artists.

The need for a larger facility would then become an issue, perhaps maybe moving the event to TCU Place or elsewhere.

It was great to see established acts such as EeeKwol & Mills and the Billy Jo Green Band, share the spotlight with acts such as Soundmyne and InfoRed. Being on the same stage with such renowned artists is a great way to motivate youth to get involved with music and the arts.

All the money raised from the event will go towards the Red Cross, victims of the Peru earthquake, and the Aboriginal Youth Development Programs.

If you are interested in more information or want to be a part of this event please contact Alex Munoz at (306) 966-2027.



Festival host Cal Arcand



Dog the Bounty Hunter was in Regina recently and posed for this photo with a bunch of fans. We hear his wife made a scene on the plane ... go figure.

COMING SOON TO Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company

Ånskohk Aboriginal Literature Festival

October 16 - 20, 2007
Saskatoon, SK.

JOANNE ARNOTT • MARIA CAMPBELL • MARIE CLEMENTS • CHERIE DIMALINE
MARILYN DUMONT • CONNIE FIFE • LOUISE HALFE • DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR
CATHERINE JAMESON • BASIL JOHNSTON • ANNA-LEAH KING
TANYA LUKIN-LINKLATER • SHARRON PROULX-TURNER • NEAL MCLEOD
MORNINGSTAR MERCREDI • JANET MARIE ROGERS • GREG SCOFIELD
ANNA-MARIE SEWELL • BLAIR STONECHILD • GEORGINA WILLIAMS

Workshops • Public Presentations • Children's Presentations
Luncheon Presentations • Coffee Houses • Book Launches
Gala Banquet & Book Awards

Check out the "Festival-at-a-Glance" at www.sntc.ca

Festival Discount Pass:	\$20 - available at SNTC & McNally Robinson - Festival Discount Pass benefits include discount on gala, luncheon tickets and workshop registration fees plus a 10% discount on Festival titles at McNally Robinson
Luncheon Presentations:	\$15.00/\$10.00 with Festival Pass
Workshops:	\$25.00/\$20.00 with Festival Pass (Space is limited. Pre-registration required)
Gala & Book Awards:	\$50.00/\$40.00 with Festival Pass

Information regarding group registration, workshops, luncheon and gala banquet & book award fees/ticket prices available at SNTC or at www.sntc.ca

Group pre-registration is required for all events. Space is limited. Group rates available for ticketed events.

2007 Circle of Voices Production: *Kihew*

October 26 - November 4, 2007
Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium (919 - 20th St. W.)
Saskatoon, SK.

MATINEE & EVENING SHOWS TIMES

Adults - \$12.50	Ticket Prices
Students/Seniors - \$10.50	
Group rate (10 or more) - \$5.50	

4th Annual Louis Riel Celebration

November 16, 2007
Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium (919 - 20th St. W.)
Saskatoon, SK.

TWO SHOWS ONLY!

1:00 p.m. - 60 minute matinee
7:00 p.m. - 2 hour show w/ reception

Evening show: Adults: \$12.50 • Students/Seniors: \$10.50
Matinee: Adults \$8.50 • Students/Seniors: \$6.50
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE CONTACT:
SASKATCHEWAN NATIVE THEATRE COMPANY, 220—20TH ST W, SASKATOON, SK.
PH: 306-933-2262 EMAIL: info@sntc.ca WEBSITE: www.sntc.ca



Circle of Voices reveals the healing power of Kihew

BY AMANDA WAPASS-GRIFFIN

What happens when you have seven passionate young people, a talented playwright, and a theatre company with a vision? The answer is easy: Magic.

This year the Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company's Circle of Voices (COV) production of *Kihew*, by Saskatoon playwright, Curtis Peeteetuce, is hitting the stage at the end of this month. *Kihew*, which means 'eagle' in Cree, is a play that deals with pertinent issues such as cultural identity, healing and the intergenerational effects of residential school.

The story circles around Patricia Kihew and her three grandchildren, Terry, Joel and Winter. This is a family with secrets from the past that are beginning to resurface as Patricia struggles with the decision whether she should accept her settlement cheque or not. The play is poignant, humorous and, at times, eerie, as it explores how Patricia and her grandchildren are affected by their family's residential school experience.

This play could not have come at a better time as this fall residential school settlement money will pass into the hands of over 80,000 former students who attended the 130 residential schools across Canada.

This year's COV participants, Deidre Badger, Jaired Henderson, Daniel Knight, Demetrius Knight, Nicole Morin, Aaron Shingoose and Cory Standing, breathe life into *Kihew* and the message

it bears. Henderson, who plays Terry, describes *Kihew* as "a wake up call."

It is a 'wake-up call' that is necessary

"The characters in *Kihew* are strong and real," asserts Standing, "and people will relate to that."



Aaron Shingoose, Cory Standing, Demetrius Knight, Daniel Knight, Jaired Henderson, Deidre Badger and Nicole Morin (seated) are this year's Circle of Voices participants.

as the issue of residential schools and their intergenerational effects are prevalent in Aboriginal communities in our province and across the country. *Kihew* provides a powerful glimpse into what many individuals, families and communities are dealing with.

Kihew is about making choices and the power of right choices. The young people in this production talk frankly about the choice they made to be in Circle of Voices which challenges them to live alcohol and drug free during the eight month program. They acknowledge

it is about making one choice at a time. "Everyone is capable of change, they just need direction," states Badger, who plays Patricia and spent a year in a residential school herself.

All agree that what they have had to sacrifice pales to what they have gained – self-respect, self esteem and getting back in touch with their culture.

As rehearsals for *Kihew* continue in full force and opening night looms on the horizon, some expressed anxiety and questioned the impact the play would have on audience members.

Their fears were put to rest when they performed a staged reading of *Kihew* for the Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat in Regina last week.

After the reading, the cast and crew received a standing ovation and many in the audience had tears in their eyes as the message hit close to home.

Past COV productions have not shied away from the big issues and *Kihew* is keeping true to that spirit. Badger sums it up perfectly, "If we are going to heal, we have to heal as a people."

Kihew opens Oct. 27 and runs until Nov. 4 in Saskatoon before embarking on a province-wide tour.

Call SNTC at 933-2262 if you are interested in having the production come to your community

SASKATCHEWAN NATIVE THEATRE COMPANY IS PROUD TO PRESENT...

KIHHEW

Oct 27-Nov 4

Directed by CURTIS PEETEETUCE
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
2007 CIRCLE OF VOICES PARTICIPANTS
Directed by KENNETH CHARLETTE

2007 CIRCLE OF VOICES PARTICIPANTS:
DEIDRE BADGER
JAIRED HENDERSON
DANIEL KNIGHT
DEMETRIUS KNIGHT
NICOLE MORIN
AARON SHINGOOSE
CORY STANDING

Times 8:00 PM (MON-SAT)
1:00 PM MATINEE

Venue UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX AUDITORIUM
(Ave. J & 20th St.) 919-20TH ST. W

Ticket Prices ADULTS \$12.50
STUDENTS/SENIORS \$10.50
GROUP RATES (10 OR MORE) - \$5.50

For Tickets SNTC BOX OFFICE
(306) 933-2262

WARNING: CONTAINS NATIVE LANGUAGE, SMOKE & USE OF STRONG LANGUAGE.

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Canada Saskatchewan

SPORTS

Athletes preparing for 2008 Games in Cowichan

NAIG tryouts all across Saskatchewan

It is time to start thinking about the 2008 North American Indigenous Games. Next summer, athletes from across North America will descend upon the First Nations community of Cowichan, British Columbia. The games will take place August 2-8, 2008 with three days of Senior (over 19) competition preceding the main competition.

Tryouts for the various sports have begun all across Saskatchewan. It is important to start early and have all athletes identified, so that teams as well as individuals have a chance to focus on the respective team and sport.

For more information on the location and times of specific tryouts contact the NAIG Team Sask office at (306) 665-1215 and toll free across Saskatchewan at 1-866-349-NAIG. Or you can visit the website at www.teamsask.fsin.com.

Riders putting it together for stretch run

Down the stretch of the CFL season you hate to say the Riders have it easy, but they do avoid playing either one of the division leaders down the stretch. They also play the miserable Hamilton Tiger-Cats in a home and home series. So if all goes well ... maybe ... just maybe, we will have a home playoff date.

After the Riders started the season on a tear, they were slowed by the injury bug. Once Matt Dominguez went down, the offense struggled to find the go to receiver. DJ Flick has stepped up to fill that role and with Cory Holmes doing a little bit of everything since being re-acquired from Hamilton, the offense seems to be back on track.

It is time for the Riders to step up and make a statement to their fans and this province. Despite the marvelous job Eric Tillman and Kent Austin have done with this team, Saskatchewan has backed this team for too long and has constantly been let down. I said at the start of this year, things felt different, and I still believe that.

Grey Cup final score will be Riders 33 - Bombers 28. What?

Blue's fearless NHL preview

This will be the year the San Jose Sharks break through and win the franchise's first Stanley Cup. In the final I'm going to say they beat Ottawa, 4-2. It will be close, but I like the depth and experience of San Jose over the hungry and ever improving Senators.

Other teams in the West that should compete will be Vancouver, as long as Luongo plays well again. The Ducks, Red Wings, and Flames are all good, but not quite good enough. Despite the presence of Joe Sakic and signing of Mr. Canada, Ryan Smyth, I think the Avalanche are still too young to compete for the Cup but can be a very dangerous team come playoff time.

In the East a lot of teams got a lot better, while teams such as Buffalo and New Jersey did little to improve their clubs. Expect the balance of power to shift in the East. Look for Philadelphia to be much improved, and expect Carolina and Tampa Bay to return to a more dominant form after a year wasted by each club.

Sports



Blue Pelletier

Some rookies to watch would be Jonathan Toews of the Chicago Blackhawks and Nicklas Backstrom of the Washington Capitals. Both will play a lot and have the skillset to make a major impact.

To all of you who are sitting there saying: "What about the Penguins?" ... maybe in two to three years and definitely not this year!



The Riders have been impressive in recent games ... could this be THE year?

(Photo by Jamie Gibson)

Career Symposium 2007

Wednesday October 24th, 2007
Prairie Land Park
 Saskatoon, SK

Who Should Attend?
 Aboriginal students from the First Nation Univ. of Canada, Sask. Indian Institute of Technologies, Sask. Institute of Applied Science and Technology, Univ. of Sask., Univ. of Regina, Gabriel Dumont Institute, Dumont Technical Institute, Senior Level High School, graduates of private schools, professions and certified trade persons. Immediate job seekers welcome.
***No Admission charge.**

Who will be recruiting?
 Employers, who are committed to recruit, train and employ Aboriginal peoples. Industries represented will be health, public service transportation, communication, hospitality, mining, retail, marketing, construction and trades, financial and food processing.

To Register:

Contact: **Rob Woods** Tel: (306) 260.1781 Fax: (306) 933.4633
 E-mail: rswoods@shaw.ca

Organizers would like to recognize our sponsor(s):
 Nation and Metis Relations, SIGA, Rawlco, Eagle Feather News, and the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce.

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Playing baseball has been a part of Michael Laliberte's life since he was four years old.

Michael Laliberte throws heat as a young role model

BY MIKE GOSSELIN

At only 14 years of age, Michael Laliberte may seem a bit too young to be considered a role model. His stats, on the other hand, tell a different story.

Laliberte, a pitcher with the Triple A Red Sox in Saskatoon, has been throwing some major heat on baseball diamonds around the city, province and even country since he was a young lad.

"My mom started me when I was four," he explains. "(I've played) pretty much my whole life."

This lifelong experience has paid off. In addition to playing Triple A ball this year, Laliberte has played for Team Saskatchewan at the 2006 North American Indigenous Games in Denver, was selected as one of the top 16 players in Zone 6 (Saskatoon), as well as a top 18 selection at this summer's Bantam Selects tournament in Estevan. The latter accolades resulted in him making the Saskfirst team that played against Manitoba and Alberta on the September long weekend.

"I played well," he says of his experience with SaskFirst. "I pitched six innings in a total of three games and I played first base for three innings in our last game."

Michael's mother, Kim, cannot say enough for what baseball has done for her son. Aside from making new friends

and keeping busy, baseball has also helped Michael gain life experience, something she feels is very important in adolescent development.

"Keeping your kid involved in organized sport of any kind ensures that they develop skills like determination, dedication, loyalty, commitment, dreams," she said from her home recently. "All of which ensure your kid will stay out of trouble."

Staying out of trouble is a central characteristic when considered a role model for younger kids. Kim, however, is not sure that sentiment is valid.

"I would hope that he is (a role model) but at this point there are so few Aboriginal kids playing baseball in Saskatoon that I don't know if they see him or not.

"As we saw going to the SaskFirst games, there were two Aboriginal kids on the Saskatchewan team, two on the Manitoba team and I'm unsure if there were any on the Alberta team."

Players like Michael Laliberte will surely change those numbers. He aspires to play pro, and like a true role model, is in it for all the right reasons.

"It (playing pro) would give me the opportunity to acquire a great education and do something I love."

For all those sports nuts who are wondering, Michael's fastball was clocked at 78 mph at the same distance as the pros.



NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Proposed Amalgamation of Affinity Credit Union, FirstSask Credit Union and Nokomis Savings and Credit Union Limited

The Boards of Directors of Affinity Credit Union, FirstSask Credit Union and Nokomis Savings and Credit Union Limited are recommending to members a partnership by way of amalgamation focused on members and community.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that special meetings of the members of FirstSask Credit Union will be held as listed below to consider and, if thought fit, to approve, by special resolution an agreement providing for the amalgamation of Affinity Credit Union, FirstSask Credit Union and Nokomis Savings and Credit Union Limited. The effective date of the proposed amalgamation will be January 1, 2008.

Date	Time	Location
Nov 5th, 2007	7 p.m.	Saskatoon Main Branch, 22nd St. E.
Nov 6th, 2007	7 p.m.	Shellbrook Senior Centre
Nov 7th, 2007	7 p.m.	FirstSask Community Hall, Langham

Summary of Amalgamation Agreement

The Amalgamation in summary states:

- Affinity Credit Union, FirstSask Credit Union and Nokomis Savings and Credit Union Limited, (the "Amalgamating Credit Unions") agree to amalgamate to become the Amalgamated Credit Union.
- Each member of each of the Amalgamating Credit Unions shall become a member of the Amalgamated Credit Union on the date of amalgamation and receive the privileges thereof.
- The Amalgamated Credit Union shall become the owner of all assets, rights and things and be subject to all of the liabilities and obligations of each of the Amalgamating Credit Unions. The Amalgamated Credit Union shall maintain a complete record of all assets, rights and things owned by it and all liabilities and obligations as a result of the amalgamation.
- The name of the Amalgamated Credit Union will be Affinity Credit Union.
- Each of the Amalgamating Credit Unions will provide full disclosure of its assets and liabilities.
- From the date of the agreement until the amalgamation date, the Amalgamating Credit Unions shall consult with each other with regard to business operations and extraordinary expenses.
- The Amalgamation Agreement includes proposed Articles of Amalgamation (Schedule A) and Bylaws (Schedule B) for the Amalgamated Credit Union. Bylaws for the Amalgamated Credit Union will provide for the governance structure of the Amalgamated Credit Union which shall include election of a specified number of delegates by members from each of nine separate districts, one of which will be a First Nations district. Delegates in turn will elect a specified number of directors to represent each district on the Board of Directors of the Amalgamated Credit Union. The first delegates and directors of the Amalgamated Credit Union are named as part of the Amalgamation Agreement and the first Board of Directors will consist of 25 Directors.
- The Agreement shall only proceed upon the approval of the members of Affinity Credit Union and FirstSask Credit Union. If members of Nokomis Savings and Credit Union Limited do not approve the amalgamation, then the districts and bylaws shall be adjusted accordingly to reflect the fact that only Affinity Credit Union and FirstSask Credit Union will proceed with the amalgamation.
- The Directors of any of the Amalgamating Credit Unions may terminate that credit union's involvement in the amalgamation and withdraw that credit union as a party to the Amalgamation Agreement at any time before the amalgamation date.
- The effective date of the amalgamation shall be the 1st day of January, 2008.

In addition to the special voting meetings described above, we also invite members to attend information meetings. These meetings will include a presentation on the proposal and provide a forum to answer any questions that members may have regarding the proposed amalgamation.

Date	Time	Location
Oct 23rd, 2007	7 p.m.	Saskatoon Main Branch, 22nd St. E.
Oct 24th, 2007	7 p.m.	Shellbrook Senior Centre
Oct 25th, 2007	7 p.m.	FirstSask Community Hall, Langham

Registration for ALL meetings begins at 6:30 p.m.

Members must vote in their own District unless their primary residence is in another District. For example, a Langham District member who lives in Saskatoon may vote in either Saskatoon or Langham. Members can only vote once, even if they have an account in more than one District.



For more information, go to www.abettercreditunionforyou.com

Photo Courtesy of Ted Whitehall

Over \$80,000 In Prizes



Logo designed by Dennis Okane

"Honouring the Survivors of the Residential School Era" Educational Symposium

Thursday, October 18, 2007
Saskatoon Inn

Adults 18 - 54

- 1st - \$1000
- 2nd - \$800
- 3rd - \$600
- 4th - \$400
- 5th - \$200
- Mens Traditional
 - Contemporary
 - Original
- Ladies Traditional
 - Stationary
 - Walk-around
- Mens Grass
 - Contemporary
 - Original
- Ladies Jingle
 - Contemporary
 - Original
- Mens Fancy
 - Northern
 - Southern
- Ladies Fancy
 - Contemporary
 - Original
- Mens Chicken Dance

Golden Age 55+

- 1st - \$1000
- 2nd - \$800
- 3rd - \$600
- 4th - \$400
- 5th - \$200
- Mens Traditional
- Ladies Traditional

Teens 13 - 17

- 1st - \$300
- 2nd - \$200
- 3rd - \$100
- 4th - \$50
- Boys Traditional
- Girls Traditional
- Boys Grass
- Girls Jingle
- Boys Fancy
- Girls Fancy
- Boys Chicken Dance

Tiny Tots

- 5 Years and Under
- paid Saturday and Sunday

Youth 6 - 12

- 1st - \$100
- 2nd - \$75
- 3rd - \$50
- 4th - \$50
- Boys Traditional
- Girls Traditional
- Boys Grass
- Girls Jingle
- Boys Fancy
- Girls Fancy

Specials

- FSIN Dance Special
- "Honouring Residential School Survivors"
- SICC 35th Anniversary
- 3-Generation Team Dance Special
- Tyrell Stanley Honouring Dance Special - Teens
- Grass Dance
- 2006/2007 Outgoing Miss FSIN Princess Dance Special
- Yazzie Family Fancy
- Bustle Dance Special
- Men's Whistle Carriers Dance Special

Princess Pageant

Singing Contest

- Original
- 1st - \$5000
- 2nd - \$4000
- 3rd - \$3000
- 4th - \$2000
- 5th - \$1000

Contemporary

- 1st - \$5000
- 2nd - \$4000
- 3rd - \$3000
- 4th - \$2000
- 5th - \$1000

Host Drums

- The Boyz
- Big Bear

Announcers

- Vince Beyl
- Gordon Tootoosis
- Howard Walker



Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

Pow Wow 2007

October 19, 20 & 21

Credit Union Centre, Saskatoon, SK.

Grand Entries:

- Friday - 7:00pm
- Saturday - 12pm & 7:00pm
- Sunday - 12pm

Admission:

- \$5.00 Per Day
- \$10.00 Weekend
- 6 & under free

Family Rates: (Family of 5)

- \$10.00 Per Day
- \$20.00 Weekend

For more information contact:

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
 Phone: (306) 665-1215; E-mail: powwow.info@fsin.com
 Website: www.fsin.com

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