



# ENKAMGAK

October 2021

Translation from Nishnaabemwin: "The Happenings" or "What is Going on?"

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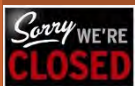
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October 11<sup>th</sup> for  
Thanksgiving

## Council Meetings

October 5 & 19

@ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

To attend livestreamed Council meetings, please register *in advance* with Kim Salvaneschi at 705-753-2050 or email [kims@nfn.ca](mailto:kims@nfn.ca).

## Planning for 2022 LNHL is Underway

### Host & Executive Committees Optimistic about 2022 Tournament

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, we issued a news release to announce that our Host Committee and the Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) Executive are working together to plan for the 2022 LNHL tournament. Keeping current public health measures and rising vaccination rates in mind, the organizing committees are optimistic about hosting the 49<sup>th</sup> annual tournament from **March 13-17, 2022** in the City of Mississauga.

We are all eager to pick up where we left off following the cancellations of the 2020 and 2021 tournaments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The difficult decision to cancel two consecutive tournaments was made entirely out of concern for the health and wellbeing of participants and their families.

"We are grateful to the City of Mississauga and Tourism Mississauga for their continued support and for sponsoring the tournament," said LNHL President Marian Jacko. "We would also like to recognize our other main presenting sponsors: Hydro One, Peace Hills Trust and Indigenous Services Canada, and sponsors at all levels for standing by us through these challenging times and committing to supporting the 2022 tournament. Chi-Miigwech!"



Plans will be fluid as some details will depend on public health measures six months from now, but the host committee is set on re-energizing the theme of the 2020 tournament – *All Nations, One Family*. As Nipissing First Nation Chief Scott McLeod noted, "our theme seems more fitting than ever seeing how much we have all missed this hockey tradition that our children and communities look forward to every year. Nipissing is more than ready to (finally) host an unforgettable experience for our brothers and sisters across Ontario."

"We look forward to bringing First Nation youth and families together again to create lasting memories and friendships while showcasing the four pillars of the LNHL: *Education, Respect, Citizenship and Sportsmanship*," added Jacko.

The Little NHL tournament will continue to use *EventConnect* for all aspects of registration, scheduling and accommodations. When registration is set to open, team coaches/representatives will receive an email with a link they can use to sign up their team(s) and block off hotel rooms and Airbnb's near the arenas. All information needed for registration and hotels will be sent in the coming weeks and the *EventConnect* Customer Support team will also be available to assist.

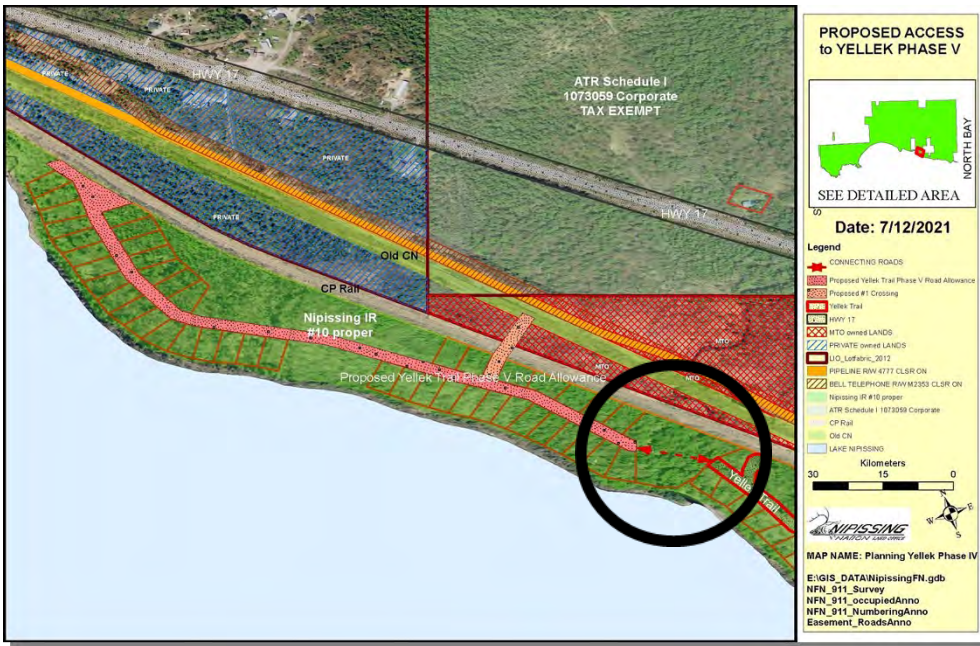
We will continue to keep you updated as we move forward with our plans. View the complete news release on our website: [nfn.ca/lnhl2022](http://nfn.ca/lnhl2022)



## Brush Clearing in Yellek

A [community notice](#) was issued on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to inform the membership of brush clearing work that took place during the last week of September in preparation for the extension of the west end of Yellek Trail. This will extend Yellek Trail by 1.2km (1,200 meters) beyond the existing roadway corridor.

As advised during the tender process, the work is in preparation for the development of Phase V of the Yellek subdivision as shown in the map below (area is circled).



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Applications for a lot in this area will not be accepted until such time as there is a proper drivable road and hydro service to the lots. A community notice will be issued to inform the membership when the application process is open.

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact Steve Doucette, Public Works Manager, at 705-753-4167 or [steved@nfn.ca](mailto:steved@nfn.ca).

## Enbridge Survey & Geo-Technical Work

A second [community notice](#) was issued on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to advise that surveying and geo-technical work will take place along Enbridge's easement across Nipissing First Nation lands between Sturgeon Falls and North Bay.

J.D. Barnes Limited will complete survey work the first week of October 2021 while the geo-technical work will be completed in November 2021. Areas of NFN where work will be taking place include Veterans' Lane, Jocko Point, Serenity Lane and Yellek. Detailed maps are provided in the community notice.

If you have any questions or concerns about this scheduled work, please contact Cathy McLeod, Land Manager, at 705-753-2922 or [cathym@nfn.ca](mailto:cathym@nfn.ca).

Both community notices are available on the [News & Notices](#) section of our website.

## Seasonal Closure of Commercial Fishery

The commercial fishery closed for the 2021 season effective September 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The closure will remain in effect until the end of the spring 2022 moratorium.

Members who plan to fish for subsistence must follow our Fisheries Law and are asked to notify our Fisheries Office by calling (705) 753-6991.

Miigwech to registered commercial fishers and community members who respect the will of the community and follow our Fisheries Law and processes.

Anyone selling fish harvested under the pretense of subsistence or ceremonial fishing will be considered to be in violation of NFN's fishing laws and will be subject to enforcement measures under our Fisheries Law.

For more information, or to report compliance issues, please contact Jeff McLeod, Natural Resources Manager at 705-753-2050 ext. 1325 or [jeffm@nfn.ca](mailto:jeffm@nfn.ca)

For more information, please visit [nfn.ca/fisheries/](http://nfn.ca/fisheries/).

## Register to Attend Council Meetings

NFN Debendaagziwaad can register to attend online Chief & Council meetings held via Zoom.

Please register in advance by contacting:

Kim Salvaneschi  
705-753-2050 ext. 1229  
[kims@nfn.ca](mailto:kims@nfn.ca)

For more information and to view our Live Streaming Policy and Privacy Collection Statement, please [click here](#).



## Update on Council Committees

### Committee Member Call-Outs Coming Later this Month



NFN Committee compositions have now been confirmed and Council portfolios have been assigned for our Advisory and Adhoc Committees. Watch for more information in the coming weeks about committee membership opportunities and how to apply.

Our committees bring the voices of the membership to current issues and priorities, and help provide valuable context to our leadership. Committee recommendations help inform decision-making processes and assist Chief and Council with meeting NFN's Governance Strategic Plan goals.

Each member of Council brings knowledge, experience and education that benefits our nation through their involvement in our committees, as well as their advocacy efforts through external boards and agencies.

## Advisory Committees 2021-2024

COMMITTEE	PREVIOUS CHAIR	APPROVED ASSIGNMENT
Culture & Language		Jane Commanda
Education	Michael Sawyer	Deputy Chief Michael Sawyer
Economic Development	Jane Commanda	Joan McLeod-Shabogesic
Housing & Planning	Michael Sawyer	Tyler Commanda
Lands & Bylaw	Brian Couchie	Tyler Commanda
Natural Resources	Corey Goulais	Daniel Stevens
Social & Wellness	Rick Stevens	Rick Stevens
Finance & Audit <i>*Mandatory appointment</i>	* Chief Scott McLeod * Rick Stevens Brian Couchie	* Chief Scott McLeod * Deputy Chief Michael Sawyer Rick Stevens

## Ad Hoc Advisory Committees 2021-2024

COMMITTEE	PREVIOUS CHAIR(S)	APPROVED ASSIGNMENT
Anishinaabemwin Translation	n/a	June Commanda
Citizenship	Michael Sawyer Corey Goulais	Chief Scott McLeod Daniel Stevens
Pow Wow	n/a	Joan McLeod-Shabogesic



## Annual Community Meeting



Our annual community meeting will be presented virtually this year on **Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**. With our offices still closed to the public and current provincial restrictions around hosting indoor gatherings and organized public events, it is not possible to proceed with hosting an in-person meeting this year.

The province has paused the exit from the [Roadmap to Reopen](#) in response to evolving data around the Delta variant and based on the recent experiences of other jurisdictions. We remain in Step 3 of the Roadmap until further notice.

Our organization has become more adept at using online meeting platforms in the past year in order to stay connected and to continue delivering programs and services to our members virtually. We are confident that we will be able to host an informative and engaging virtual event for our members. The meeting will also be recorded so that it can be viewed by those unable to attend at the scheduled time.

We understand that not everyone is online and will gladly make meeting notes and presentations available by mail to anyone who requests this information. We will also mail the Annual Report to members by request after it is released in November.

## Treaty Pay Distribution



Our Membership Office had requested that Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) staff attend our Annual Community Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> to distribute treaty payments for 2020 and 2021. As mentioned above, it has since been decided that our annual meeting will be held virtually this year, and ISC has advised that they are not visiting communities due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

You can wait until ISC is able to attend our community, or you can download and fill out the [Treaty Annuity Payment Request form](#) and mail it to your [ISC regional office](#) to receive your payment sooner. Treaty payments will be mailed as a cheque.

## Christmas Distribution



Due to public health restrictions around gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic and our offices remaining closed to the public, we will be unable to offer in-person distribution this year. Request forms will be mailed to all members in mid-October.

**\*\* We are strongly recommending that members fill out the form in order to receive their funds by cheque or direct deposit \*\***

Request a **cheque or direct deposit** by completing the [Christmas Distribution Form](#) on our website ([nfn.ca/xmas-2021](http://nfn.ca/xmas-2021)). The form must be submitted to Finance every year in order to receive payment via cheque or direct deposit.

Requests received by **October 22, 2021** will receive payment on November 25-26, 2021. Forms received after the deadline date may take up to 4 weeks to be processed. Registered NFN members have until March 31, 2022 to request their shares.

**Cheque Mailing Date:** Thursday, November 25, 2021

**Direct Deposit (EFT) Date:** Friday, November 26, 2021

*Shares do not accumulate and must be requested each year.*

## Trespassing on Railway

There are reports of people trespassing on the railway property in Duchesnay. We have been advised of concerns about the number of pedestrians using the train tracks to cross from Duchesnay Village to go to the stores on the highway.

Another major concern to NFN and the railway is the placement of objects on the railway tracks. Any attempt to derail the train by placing objects on the tracks is dangerous to both the railway employees on the train and to the community of Duchesnay. A train derailment could mean a road closure for hours while cleanup occurs affecting health and safety.

A reminder that it is not safe to use the railway tracks as a shortcut and that doing so is trespassing.

The railway company has blocked off access to the trail to prevent trespassers. Parents, please advise your children of the risk to themselves by trespassing and by placing objects on the tracks.

# COVID-19

**Got symptoms?  
Stay home and  
get tested.**

**You can get a test if:**

- You are worried you may have COVID-19
- You have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
- You are at risk of exposure to COVID-19 through your employment
- You are experiencing **symptoms of COVID-19** (someone without symptoms or voluntarily testing is no longer a priority)
- You do not need a referral to get a test
- You do not need a health card to get a test

**There are two testing centres in the area:**

**West Nipissing Assessment Centre**  
705-580-2186  
Open 12pm - 4pm  
Monday to Friday

**North Bay Regional Health Centre**  
705-474-8600 ext. 4110  
Open 9am - 5pm (7 days a week) - Assessment Centre in parking lot #9 – for symptomatic patients or children 8 years & under. Drive thru options near Emergency entrance are also available for asymptomatic people.

Note: public health officials do not recommend getting tested for COVID-19 if you don't have any symptoms.

## Proof of Vaccination Requirements

As of September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ontarians need to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination along with photo ID to access certain higher-risk indoor settings, including restaurants and bars; nightclubs and casinos; meeting and event spaces; gyms, fitness centres and recreational facilities; sporting events; concerts, music festivals, theatres and cinemas, and more. Learn more in this FAQ document: [bit.ly/3EoK82v](https://bit.ly/3EoK82v)

## Get your COVID-19 Vaccine Record



- Visit: [covid19.ontariohealth.ca](https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca)
- You will need your health card, postal code and date of birth.
- You will need to print or save your record once you retrieve it.

If you have an urgent need for your COVaxON vaccine record, please contact Carole Lafantaisie, Community Health Nurse, at 705-753-3312 ext. 2257.

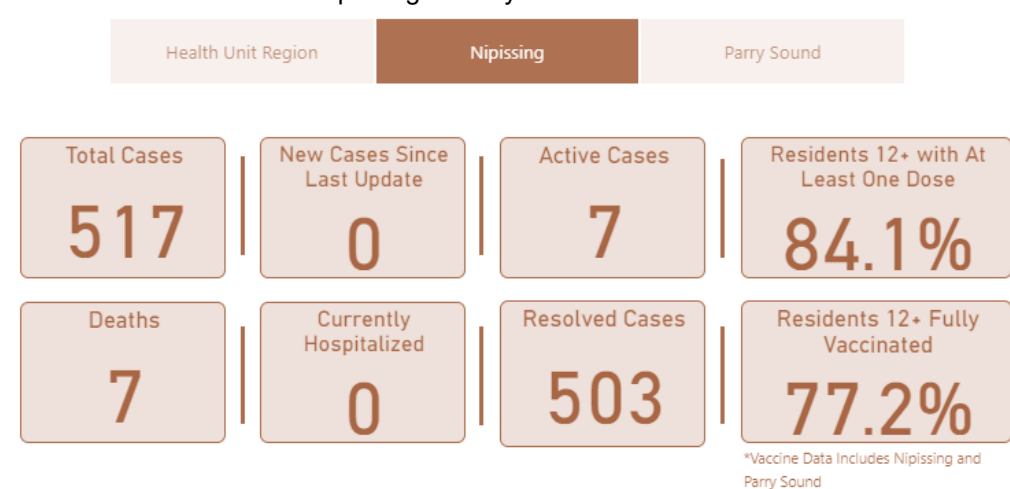
## Rapid Testing on NFN

If you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms a rapid test can give you a printed result in 15 minutes. NFN Health Services has 4 COVID-19 rapid testing units that are operated by our trained nurses.

**To inquire about a rapid test, please call the Health Centre at 705-753-3312.**

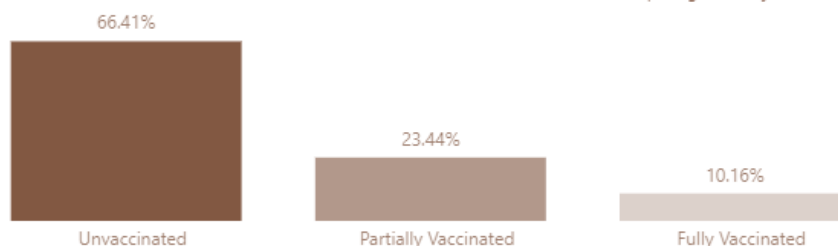
## Public Health Dashboard

Below is the Health Unit's [COVID-19 status report dashboard](#) as of September 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. for the Nipissing District. There are **7** active cases in the Nipissing District and 8 in total for both the Nipissing & Parry Sound Districts.



Percentage of Cases by Vaccination Status (Reported June 1st, 2021 and Later)

\*Data Includes cases in both Nipissing and Parry Sound districts



# Drinking Water Class Action

On June 15, 2021, Chief and Council passed a resolution to “opt-in” to a national class action litigation against the Attorney General of Canada for failing to address prolonged drinking-water advisories on First Nations reserves across Canada, including Nipissing First Nation.

The lawsuit was launched by the Tataskweyak Cree Nation in Manitoba, the Curve Lake First Nation and Neskantaga First Nation in Ontario. The three First Nations are jointly represented by the law firm McCarthy Tétrault and Oltuis Kleeer Townsend (OKT) and are coordinating their approach to advancing the proceedings as one national class action against Canada.

The key allegation is that Canada has breached its obligations to First Nations and their members by failing to ensure that reserve communities have access to clean and safe drinking water.

Nipissing First Nation is eligible to join the class action, which does not cost anything as the law firms are pursuing it on contingency, which means they will only be paid in the event of success. The litigation seeks to advance the rights and well-being of First Nations communities and their members by:

- Obtaining compensation for individuals and communities that have suffered from a lack of reliable access to clean water; and
- Obtaining a declaration that Canada has an ongoing responsibility to work with First Nations to provide access to clean water. This includes requiring Canada to construct and fund appropriate water systems for First Nations communities.

The class includes all members of First Nations whose communities were subject to a drinking water advisory for at least one year or longer, from November 8, 1995 to the present. Class members must have been alive two years prior to this action being commenced to be eligible for the compensation sought.

## Current Status & Updates

At the end of July 2021, the federal Indigenous Services Minister, Marc Miller, announced an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) with the three First Nations through a negotiation process to resolve national class action suits on safe drinking water in these communities.

The agreement in principle must still be approved by the court, and includes \$1.5 billion in compensation for people deprived of clean drinking water, the creation of a \$400-million First Nation economic and cultural restoration fund and at least \$6 billion to support reliable access to safe drinking water on reserves.

### **Potential compensation details have not been confirmed as of yet.**

For additional information or updates from OKT, visit: [Class Action Litigation on Drinking Water Advisories on First Nations Reserves - OKT \(oktlaw.com\)](https://www.oktlaw.com)

### **If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:**

- Jaclyn McNamara at [jmcmamara@oktlaw.com](mailto:jmcmamara@oktlaw.com) (416) 598-1214
- Kevin Hille at [khille@oktlaw.com](mailto:khille@oktlaw.com) (416) 598-3694
- Bryce Edwards at [BEwards@oktlaw.com](mailto:BEwards@oktlaw.com) or (416) 981-9342

## Consultations about Mining Exploration in River Valley

Our Lands & Natural Resources department held two community consultation sessions in September to provide information about the ongoing exploration and potential mining development operations on our traditional territory in River Valley.

The first session was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. NFN members who wish to receive a link to the recording of this session can contact Gen Couchie at [genc@nfn.ca](mailto:genc@nfn.ca).

The second session was held in the Outdoor Rink in Garden Village on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

These exploration activities have the potential to impact your Indigenous and Treaty Rights. The administration and Chief and Council are seeking your feedback on the project and the path forward for NFN in relation to the project.

If you wish to submit written comments, please send them no later than Thursday, October 14th to:

Cameron Welch, Director of Lands & Natural Resources  
36 Semo Road  
Garden Village ON P2B 3K2  
Email: [cameronw@nfn.ca](mailto:cameronw@nfn.ca)



## Job Postings Will No Longer Be Mailed

The mid-month mail-out we send to local members (and sometimes to our off-reserve members as well) often only included job postings.

This monthly mail-out is intended to capture urgent notices or political items that occur in between newsletters. However, job postings had been included for some time, and many members have asked to stop receiving our mailings as a result.

We will continue to mail important notices about community consultations, votes, business licenses, and other issues that all members should be aware of. **Please note that the deadline to OPT-IN to the job posting mailing list has been EXTENDED to November 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Contact Julie Lambert at 705-753-2050 or [juliel@nfn.ca](mailto:juliel@nfn.ca) to continue receiving job postings by mail or email.

Job postings are always available at [nfn.ca/jobs](http://nfn.ca/jobs) or connect with Tom Lambert, our Employment & Training Manager, to assist with your job search or career development. Tom can be reached at 705-753-6985 or email [thomasl@nfn.ca](mailto:thomasl@nfn.ca).

## Employment Opportunities

To view the complete job posting, please click on the position titles below, visit [nfn.ca/jobs](http://nfn.ca/jobs), or call 705-753-2050 to request a copy by mail, fax or email.

### Water Treatment Plant Operator Level II – Permanent Full-Time

Apply by Friday, October 1, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

*Responsible for providing monitoring, operational and maintenance services for NFN's Water Treatment Plant and distribution system and overseeing and supporting Water Treatment Plant staff in the wastewater treatment and collection systems.*

### The Right Path Counselling & Prevention Services Outreach Coordinator –

Permanent Full-Time - Apply by Friday, October 1, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

*The Outreach Coordinator will directly participate in the implementation of outreach services to vulnerable community members of NFN as well as connecting clients to and working collaboratively with other community services and supports.*

## Open Postings & Casual Employment Opportunities

### 2021 Bus Drivers – Route #5: Duchesnay, Yellek & Serenity Lane

Open Posting – Contact Charlene Bellefeuille at 705-753-6995 or [charleneb@nfn.ca](mailto:charleneb@nfn.ca) for more information or to apply.

### Personal Support Workers – Casual Employment (w/ paid sick days & mileage)

Open to All Applicants – No Closing Date

### Relief Workers: Various NFN Departments

Open Posting – No Closing Date

### Relief Workers: Ojibway Women's Lodge

Open Posting – No Closing Date

### Relief Workers: Manual Labour Positions

Open Posting – No Closing Date

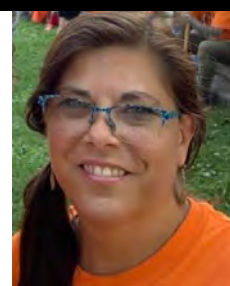
**TO APPLY:** Submit applications before the deadline to [resumes@nfn.ca](mailto:resumes@nfn.ca), or by fax to 705-753-0207, or mail to: Human Resources Department, Nipissing First Nation, 36 Semo Road, Garden Village ON P2B 3K2.

## Staffing Updates

Please join us in welcoming **Lori Lee Michaud** to NFN as our new Human Resources Manager. Lori Lee joined our team on September 13<sup>th</sup> and has been busy meeting our staff (virtually) and getting to know our organization and community.

Lori Lee is a seasoned professional with over two decades of experience in Human Resources in the areas of non-profit, telecom, consulting and transportation. She has obtained both the Canadian Human Resource Professional and Canadian Human Resource Leader designations with the Human Resource Professional Association of Ontario.

She greatly enjoys her profession and is excited to work with our team at NFN.





NIPISSING FIRST NATION INVITES YOU TO

# ENTREPRENEUR WORKSHOP SERIES AND BUSINESS PITCH CONTEST

Six part series of workshops  
focused on entrepreneurs in  
our community in conjunction  
with The Business Centre NPS

Grand Prize  
\$7500 Grant Towards  
Establishing New  
Business on NFN



Weekly Gift Draws  
for Participants of  
Workshop

To register please contact Ken  
Hazell at [kenh@nfn.ca](mailto:kenh@nfn.ca) or  
705-753-2050 ex. 1264

Open to NFN members and affiliates

OCTOBER 13 -  
NOVEMBER 17 2021  
WEDNESDAYS 12-1PM

Workshops will be provided virtually





## NUSU Honours Former Deputy Chief Muriel Sawyer, Ban

The boardroom at Nipissing University's new Student Centre has been named in honour of our former Deputy Chief, Dr. Muriel Sawyer, Ban who passed to the spirit world earlier this year. Miigwech to Dr. Cindy Peltier for speaking at the event and sharing the dedication in Nishnaabemwin out of respect for the work that Dr. Sawyer dedicated her life to.

Muriel held an honorary doctorate degree from Nipissing University and was both a custodian of Nishnaabemwin and an irreplaceable advocate for Indigenous education. We will forever cherish our memories of her and honour her legacy as we carry forward on the trail she blazed.

Watch the livestream of the boardroom naming ceremony here: [nusu.com/studentcentre/](https://nusu.com/studentcentre/)

View the full gallery of photos here: [nipissingu.ca/galleries/student-centre](https://nipissingu.ca/galleries/student-centre)



## AES Online Communications Toolkit

An online communication toolkit has been created in Microsoft Sway, which contains a wealth of introductory information related to the Anishinabek Education System and the Master Education Agreement.

The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body is pleased to work in continued partnership with the Participating First Nations, Ontario District School Boards, and the Ministry of Education's Indigenous Education Office as we welcome all students of the Anishinabek Education System to the 2021-2022 school year.

This fall, they will continue working together for Anishinabek students through the Master Education Agreement and a renewed Multi-Year Action Plan. There are some great new projects and initiatives to look forward to! We encourage everyone to visit the toolkit today and throughout the year: [sway.office.com/drVXFHh52COdfqHd?ref=Link](https://sway.office.com/drVXFHh52COdfqHd?ref=Link)

The seasonal calendar below offers a glimpse of upcoming events and important milestones in the Multi-Year Action Plan. Keep an eye out for more detailed communications on many of these key dates throughout the next year.

REC DSB Regional Meetings	<b>Fall 2021</b>  Region 1 Oct. 7 - Participating First Nations (PFN) Oct. 8 - District School Boards & PFN  Region 2 Oct. 13 - Participating First Nations Oct. 14 - District School Boards & PFN  Region 3 Oct. 20 - Participating First Nations Oct. 21 - District School Boards & PFN  Region 4 Oct. 27 - Participating First Nations Oct. 28 - District School Boards & PFN	Winter 2022  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum (to be determined)</li> <li>• Building Relationships through Pedagogy – Annual Gathering for Teachers</li> <li>• Indigenous Leads Gathering</li> <li>• Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund Call For Proposals</li> <li>• Implementation of the Early Development Instrument</li> </ul>
	<b>Spring 2022</b>  Region 1 May - Participating First Nations May - District School Boards and PFN  Region 2 May - Participating First Nations May - District School Boards and PFN  Region 3 May - Participating First Nations May - District School Boards and PFN  Region 4 May - Participating First Nations May - District School Boards and PFN	 ANISHINABEK EDUCATION SYSTEM  MEA-MYAP Key Dates



**Sisters in Spirit Candlelight Vigil**  
**Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Location: Ojibway Women's Lodge**



October 4<sup>th</sup> is a day when we honour the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people (MMIWG2s+). The violence experienced by MMIWG2s+ people in Canada is a national tragedy. We take this day to give prayers to the families who have lost loved ones and to remember the ones who were taken from us.



**AGENDA**

- 6:30pm – Opening Remarks with Smudge
- 6:45pm – Heart Wall
- 7:00pm – Candlelight Vigil Walk
- 7:30pm – Refreshments & Closing Remarks

**All Welcome!** Please dress warmly. If possible, please wear an item of red clothing. The heart wall will be filled with messages of strength, hope, and memorial to honour MMIWG2S+. If you are unable to attend the vigil but wish to participate you can send a heart message to Brooklyn to be filled out on your behalf.

*Hosted by the Ojibway Women's Lodge (OWL). Sponsored by Native Women's Association of Canada.*

Contact Brooklyn for more information at 705-472-0233 or [brooklynp@nfn.ca](mailto:brooklynp@nfn.ca).

**True Self Debwewendizwin Receives Award**

Nipissing First Nation's True Self Debwewendizwin Program has been selected to receive an Ontario Peer Development Initiative (OPDI) Lighthouse Award in the *Community Builders* category. True Self was nominated by the Lived Experience & Recovery Network and the award will be presented on October 5<sup>th</sup> at the OPDI virtual award ceremony.

*Excerpt from the nomination:* "For the past 15 years, True Self Debwewendizwin has strived to provide streamlined access to services that promote the safety, self-sufficiency and wellbeing of individuals and their families by fostering a structured collaborative community response as they strengthen communities, create bridges while employing values of Peer Support, collaborate with those who care about equity and social justice and amplify those voices that have been silenced. True Self is a shining example of building community..."

*Criteria for Award:* Building bridges to create more inclusive and resilient communities; Working across organizations, sectors, neighbourhoods, regions, or identity/issue/social groups; Caring about equity and social justice; Amplifying silenced voices; and Increasing capacity for peer involvement in decision-making.

The nomination was accompanied by a heartfelt letter of thanks from a former client who shared her story of a second chance thanks to the peer supports she received through True Self. The writer was a victim of domestic violence and started using drugs to escape the world she was living in. She spent three years in a federal penitentiary for stealing from her place of employment and was released to a recovery home where she enrolled with True Self. Today, she has received many awards to continue her recovery and has graduated with a certificate in Mental Health and Addictions.



## Community Walk & Quilts to Honour Survivors

For the first time ever, September 30<sup>th</sup> will be observed as a statutory holiday to commemorate the legacy of residential schools in Canada. It is a day to spread awareness of and reflect on the tragedies experienced by Indigenous people through this system that created traumas and impacts that continue to reverberate through our community to this day.

Nipissing First Nation organized a Community Walk on September 30<sup>th</sup>. While the event had not yet taken place at the time of writing this article, it will undoubtedly be more meaningful as a result of a community member coordinating a heartfelt and respectful gift for each our survivors. Although she did not want any recognition, we want to say Chi-Miigwech to Natalie Payette-Chevrier for fundraising and coordinating the creation of quilts for Nipissing survivors as well as the presentation of these beautiful quilts to survivors in our community and as far away as British Colombia.

Natalie was inspired by a project called “Quilts for Survivors” spearheaded by Vanessa Genier, an Indigenous mother of five children from Missianabie Cree First Nation in Ontario. Vanessa has been quilting since she was 9 years old and believes that a quilt is love sewn together to bring people together. It is a symbol of support, respect and love.

Vanessa started a Facebook group called “Quilts for Survivors” and asked other quilters to help her make blocks that could be sewn together to honour residential school survivors. In her words, she also wanted to “honour the lives of the children, our ancestors, who are just now finding their way home as Turtle Island is releasing the children back to their Nations across this land.” Vanessa’s group quickly grew from 5 members to over 2,600 to date. Her initial goal of making 18 quilts was eclipsed and they have now sent out nearly 400 quilts to First Nations across Canada and the United States, with patches (and monetary donations) sent from all over the world.

Natalie approached Michelle Seguin whose group “Sew Happy 2 Sew” in North Bay made the quilts for our Nipissing survivors. They were also supported by Restoule Quilters, Cottage Quilters from Corbeil and a group from Mattawa. They amalgamated their efforts to make this a special day for our Nipissing survivors. Chi-Miigwech to all involved!



L-R: Natalie Payette-Chevrier, Survivor June Commanda and Michelle Seguin of the group “Sew Happy to Sew” in North Bay

As Vanessa explains, “I wish for these quilts to aid survivors on their healing journey. The history of Canada is not as pleasant as many believe it to be. No child should have had to attend Residential School. No child should have had to suffer the way our Indigenous people have. I hope that this small token will ease your journey just a bit.”



Natalie Payette-Chevrier presenting a quilt to survivor Mary Dokis

## First Nations Public Library Week

October 4-10 is First Nations Public Library Week. Nipissing Nation Kendaaswin is currently closed to the public, so our contests will be held online on our Facebook page. Like "[Nipissing Nation Kendaaswin](#)" on Facebook to receive notification of events that will be posted to the page during the week. Contest participants will be entered into draws!

### Contests and events may include:

- Live trivia sessions
- Live Legends storytelling
- Daily Photo Displays & Identification
- Hockey Stories







## Meal Program for Seniors

*Orders must be placed every month*



**Must be a registered NFN member aged 65 years or older**  
**Program provides a package of frozen prepared meals once a month**

Call Stella Solomon at the Health Centre at 705-753-3312 to place your order for pick up or local delivery.

### Monthly Order Deadline

**Order by October 6<sup>th</sup> for a meal package on October 13<sup>th</sup>**

## HARM REDUCTION SERVICES (needle exchange and naloxone kits)

are available **Monday to Friday** from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Right Path (316 Ted Commanda Drive, Garden Village).

Knock at the door and someone will assist OR call Lisa at (705) 753-1375 to make arrangements to get your order to you.

You can also email: [lisal@nfn.ca](mailto:lisal@nfn.ca).

The **Suboxone Clinic** is still available **Monday to Friday** from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Health Centre (58 Semo Road, Garden Village). You can also call 705-753-1375 to make pick-up or delivery arrangements. New referrals & self-referrals are welcome. Client transportation is available.

The Culturally Defined Community Withdrawal Management Program also provides land based activities and cultural supports. Call 705-753-1375 for more information.

## Opioid-Related Deaths in our District

Our Health Unit region has seen an increase in opioid-related deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before the pandemic, we experienced 10.8 opioid-related deaths per 100 thousand people. This rate increased to 36.4 opioid-related deaths per 100 thousand people during the pandemic.

Access the full report on opioid-related deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario: <https://bit.ly/3k4u1hb>

Knowing how to recognize and respond to an opioid-related overdose could save a life.

Be prepared by taking one of the Health Unit's online naloxone trainings, or contact the Right Path at 705-753-1375 for training opportunities and/or Harm Reduction supplies.

To learn more or register for an upcoming training through the Health Unit, go to [www.myhealthunit.ca/naloxone](http://www.myhealthunit.ca/naloxone).

**IF YOU SEE AN OVERDOSE, CALL 9-1-1 and give Naloxone.**

The opioid-related death rate **increased** during the pandemic in our Health Unit region.



Pre-pandemic Cohort

Pandemic Cohort



highest opioid-related death rate in Ontario

highest opioid-related death rate in Ontario

*Before the pandemic, between March 16 - Dec. 31, 2019*

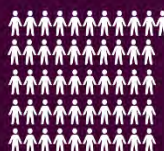
*During the COVID-19 pandemic, between March 16 - Dec. 31, 2020*

Opioid-related deaths have **increased** in our Health Unit region.



**2019**

**2020**



**19** opioid-related deaths in the Health Unit region

**51** opioid-related deaths in the Health Unit region

## Mental Health Resources

### FOR ADULTS

**ConnexOntario:** 24/7 support to help you find local mental health and addiction services at 1-866-531-2600 or [ConnexOntario.ca](http://ConnexOntario.ca)

**Talk 4 Healing:** 24/7 support and resources for Indigenous women in 14 languages by phone or text to 1-855-554-HEAL (4325) or online at [talk4healing.com](http://talk4healing.com)

### FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Hands The Family Help Network:** Counselling and therapy support for children, youth, and their families 1-800-668-8555 or visit [thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca](http://thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca)

**Kids Help Phone:** Free, confidential professional counselling, information, and referrals for mental health and addictions services.

Call 1-800-668-6868

Text: CONNECT to 686868

Live chat counselling:

[kidshelpphone.ca](http://kidshelpphone.ca)

### CRISIS INTERVENTION

**North Bay Regional Health Centre:** 1-800-352-1141 Available 24/7

**Sturgeon Falls Alliance Centre:** 705-753-3110 x 288

4pm - 11pm — 7 days/week

**Canada Suicide Prevention** 1-833-456-4566 - 24/7

**Overdose Prevention Line** 1-888-853-8542

## Soar Above Stigma

Three Indigenous Health organizations: First Peoples Wellness Circle, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, and the First Nations Health Managers Association have partnered with NationTalk to create the Soar Above Stigma Campaign.

An article in the Anishinabek News explained that the campaign was created with the intention of easing the tension of stigma due to fears surrounding COVID-19, along with escalating mental health issues, and substance abuse due to addictions.

By sharing Indigenous voices and perspectives, the campaign aims to propel Indigenous values of hope, belonging, meaning, and purpose. Together, these organizations formed the Soar Above Stigma campaign to support our communities when they need it most.

**Visit their website:** [soarabovestigma.com/](http://soarabovestigma.com/)

**Follow them on Facebook:** [facebook.com/SoarAboveStigma](https://facebook.com/SoarAboveStigma)

**Read the article on Anishinabek News:** [bit.ly/39CVVff](http://bit.ly/39CVVff)



## Community Outreach Program Update

Our Health Services team continues to focus on increasing our capacity to assist community members dealing with mental health and addictions challenges.

We are currently recruiting a Manager for the Right Path Counselling & Prevention Services, as well as an Outreach Coordinator to oversee a team of two outreach workers who will meet people where they are in the community to support them.

Our Social Core Group and Right Path team have been working hard to help address health and wellness challenges in our community. Many people are working hard within our organization and at the grassroots level to provide support and services for those struggling with mental health and addictions issues and to create safe spaces for individuals and families to heal.

Two community circles have been held to date - on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> - with both circles facilitated by George Couchie and supported by The Right Path staff.

The goals of the community circles are to provide an open forum for people to express thoughts on the overdoses and deaths within the community, and ideas on how to recover from them. We also seek to raise awareness of complex issues surrounding substance misuse and invite people to get involved and sit on the advisory committee.

*As a community, reducing stigma by creating safe spaces to share, heal and discuss solutions is important for everyone's health and well-being.*



# Nbisiing Anishinaabemwin

## October - Binaakwii Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)

Binaakwii Giizis, nda-bgidnamoon semaa mina ndoo – gbasendis ge shi-waamdayaan.

Nga-kwejmin wii-wiidbiminaa nji-wii – nsidwi-shkiishgonaan,

Gchi-twaawendaagwak gaa zhijkaadeg maa e-bi-zheshkaag naaniibwiyaan

Gookmis, wii – kwejmin wii- noondmaan n'de pane washme wii- mno- mnidoowiyaan pii dash a'yaawid mii gonaa ni-mshkawziimgag ga-chi-shkozmin pii Binaakwiid Giizis goojing.

Mii dash noogom kwedweyaan Gookmis, wii –bkidendaan waa kidyaan mina ge enendmaan.

Mnidoo-miikaasing e-chi-piitendaagwak washme minwa pii tkweshkaadyang

Binaakwii Giizis. Miigwech.

Falling Leaves Moon. I offer my tobacco and humble myself to you for what you have shown me . I ask that I may sit and absorb ,through my eyes the miracles of Creation unfolding in front of me.

Gookmis, I hear the sounds of my heart with every passing moment becoming more spirit than human. Once again, me spiritual energies are awakened, in this union of the Falling Leaves Moon.

I ask for forgiveness for what I do not speak of and the things I have forgotten .

So I may be able to respect myself more the next time we meet, in the time of the Falling Leaves Moon.

Until then, for all that I am.

Miigwech.

### Nishnaabeg Dialogue

**Binaakwii Giizis Kidwenan**– Falling Leaves Moon (October) Word List

**Gchi-Miigwech Giizhgak** – Thanksgiving Day

**Waa Mijyaan** – What to eat

**Mzise** – Turkey

**Pdakan** – Potatoes

**Kaadaakoog** – Carrots

**Komaani Debaate** – Pumpkin Pie

**Nda-Wenjge / Giiwse** – Hunting

**Nookming** – Forest / Bush

**Ndooshbe** – Duck Hunting

**Moozwe** – Moose Hunting

**Zhiishiib** – Duck

**Ninshib** – Mallard (duck)

**Baarsigan** – Gun

### Thirteen Moons Teaching

This is the time of the year when mother earth blesses us with the most beautiful colors. During this moon, all the leaves that are falling will begin to blanket mother earth. Each leaf is placed upon her with much gentleness. Also, much like Mdaamin Giizis, hunting season is still in its full peak. In our Nipissing territory, our people hunt for moose, deer, ducks, and geese. This is the season that the hunt moose and deer. This is also the animals mating season, so these animals soon become pregnant with new life, and we do not hunt the animals during this time.. We have obligations and responsibilities that come with rights: to respect the animals, Mother earth, and all of creation. So that life can replenish. During this moon, we also give many thanks to our animals and mother earth for the food she has provided us with, we give thanks with an offering of semaa. Secularly, we have the celebration of Thanksgiving. Some families also give thanks by offering a spirit plate. This is the time of the year when most of our root medicines, and cranberries are ready to be harvested, respectfully and sustainably.

Nbisiing Nishaabe Gaabinaadziwaad Gamig – NFN Culture Centre

*\*\*We gratefully acknowledge our fluent speakers\*\**

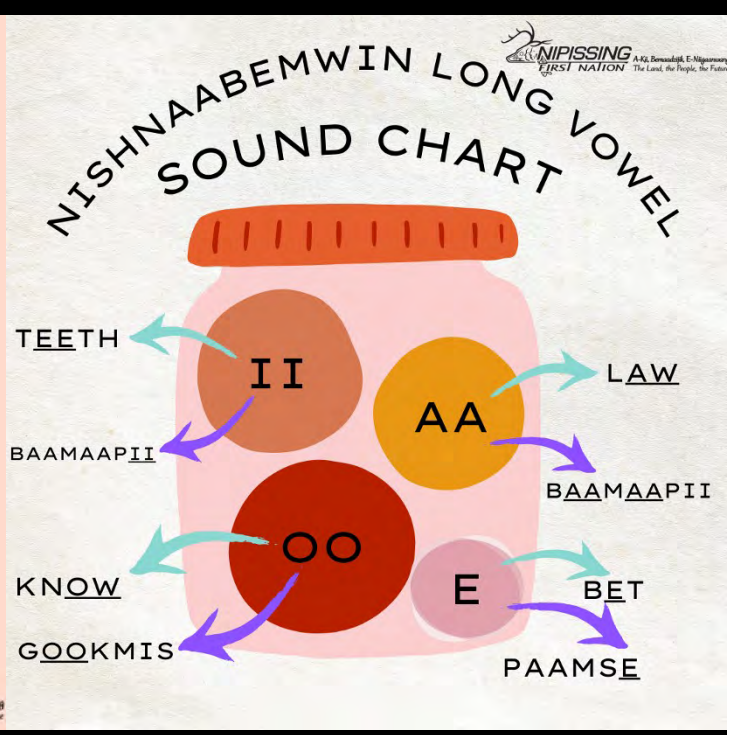
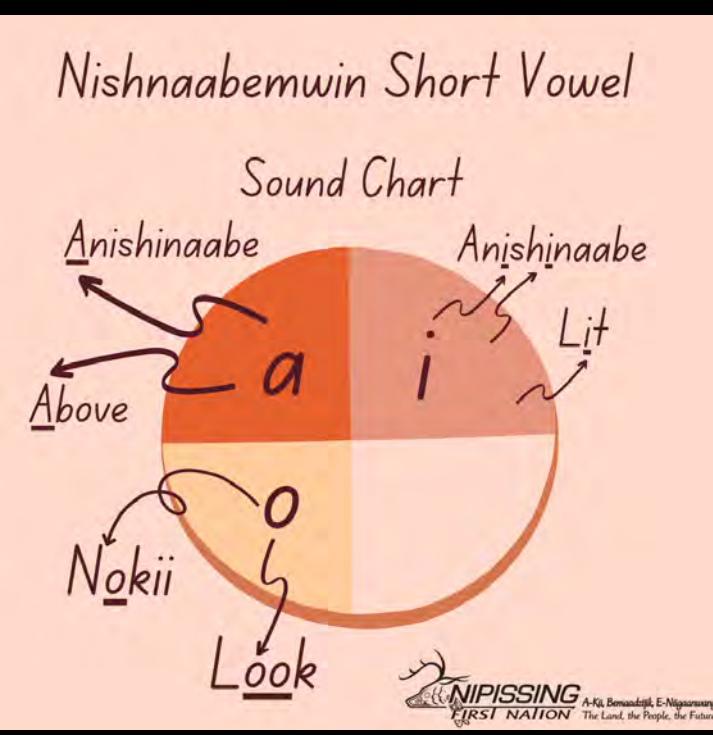
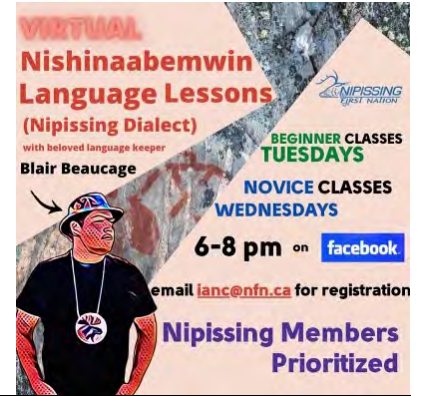


# Nishnaabemwin Language Lessons & Documentary

We are more than happy to announce that **Nishnaabemwin Kinoomaagewin** started the week of **September 27<sup>th</sup>** with Blair Beaucage as our teacher. Two 1 hour classes per week for beginner and novice learners. Sign up for Nbisiiing Nishnaabemwin Kinoomaagewin by emailing [ianc@nfn.ca](mailto:ianc@nfn.ca) for further information.

**Nishnaabemwin Documentary:** Mindy Lariviere and Sara Cornthwaite have been working on a Nishnaabemwin documentary to capture the state of our language at this point in our community.

This project was fully funded by the National Indigenous Brotherhood Fund in partnership with Nipissing First Nation. This special documentary is dedicated to Murielban and her dream for our people to speak our language. We are awaiting the edit for a community premiere showing of the film. We expect to have it available for viewing in early November. Stayed tuned for details. Gchi-Miigwech!



## Giveaways for Annual Pow Wow

The following is intended as a little information regarding hosting a special at our annual pow wow. Our people have traditionally brought gifts to one another, and in the powwow circle it remains the same. Families will host specials, memorials, and giveaways. For this type of event, it takes a whole year to prepare the giveaway gifts and prepare their minds for what's coming up. If a family is grieving a loss, it's said that we wait and grieve the loss of our loved one for one whole year until we take the time to celebrate their lives. As most of us know there are many of difficult stages when grieving a loss. Sometimes more than a year. Memorials work the same as specials. The family prepares a giveaway and make special gifts to bring back into the powwow circle to honor that person.

For specials, dancers and singers will often find their gift in the circle whether its dancing or singing. It brings them healing and they sometimes will prepare giveaways in our traditional way to give back to the circle. If any family wishes to host a special for next year's pow wow, please contact [mindyl@nfn.ca](mailto:mindyl@nfn.ca) for more information.

## Semo Commanda, Ban

By Joan McLeod - Shabogestic

Semo (Simon) identified with the name of Commanda. The names Commanda, Commando, Commandant began to appear in our Nation records after the contributions of our ancestors in the wars that took place on Turtle Island. The name was adopted by warriors who lead their fellow warriors into battle. Persons with this surname are descendants of those proud warriors of our past. Semo Commanda in an interview stated that his grandfather 'received the new name' at the time of the War of 1812.



His parents were Joseph Commanda and Madelaine Kijibonkwe Ojibabonkwe. His grandfather was the Iroquois Chief 'Rotten Wood'. The name Rotten Wood according to his granddaughter Josephine Commanda Beaucage, translated from the name 'Beejesick'. In an interview, Mrs. Beaucage provided insight into the naming of the nautical vessel the 'Chief Commanda'. She stated it was named for her grandfather Semo.

The recorded date of his birth has different results. Both federal and provincial archives records show that Semo (Simon) was born at Deux-Montages, Oka, Quebec on March 12, 1830. In an interview to a local newspaper Semo stated he came to Lake Nipissing from 'Lecto Mountain, near the Hudson, on the St. Lawrence River, just below Quebec City', with his parents at the age of 3 years old in 1831. This would put his birth year in 1828. This primary source demonstrates that at the time of his death Semo was entering his 111<sup>th</sup> year. He lived a full life at Beaucage and left Turtle Island to the Creator on February 18, 1838, at 5:41 in the morning, at his home in Beaucage Village, Nipissing Reserve.

Semo's political career began in 1885 serving as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief of Nipissing. He served a further 14 years as Chief of Nipissing from 1890 to 1904.

A trader's sale logbook of 1850 to early 1870's shows the 'duck' to identify Semo. Although this is not proof positive of the doodem Semo identified with, it provides insight into the trader's way of identifying the individuals he traded with. This logbook may assist us in determining doodemags of our Nipissing ancestors. The log book page with Semo Comantant and the duck symbol clearly shows a correlation of the name with the duck.

Semo had many occupations. He was a farmer for much of his life at Beaucage and he practiced the Nipissing harvesting traditions as a hunter, trapper and fisherman to augment his subsistence. A newspaper article reports that he worked as 'a guide for engineers' who planned and surveyed the land for the Canadian Pacific Railway in the early 1880's. He related that he worked in forestry beginning at the age of 30 for lumberman David Moore. He also related in that newspaper article that he participated on the side of the British in the Riel Rebellion of 1885. His other areas of work took him to reside in the communities now known as Cochrane and the northern Nipissing Territory as well as the immediate Nipissing Territory now identified as Springer, Field, Badgerow and Caldwell Townships.

Semo's first marriage was to Philomene Couchie. Semo and Philomene had three children. He later married Marie Laronde on July 1, 1877. Their children were Paul, William, Annie, Louise, Agnes, Alice, Selina and Madeline. His son Paul Commanda followed his father's political aspiration as serving as Chief of Nipissing from 1910 to 1912. Paul, like his father was an expert guide. He was head guide for the Carnegie expeditions.

On the back of the picture of Semo provided by the estate of Nellie Commanda and generously shared by his great grandson George Howards, there are inscriptions. The inscription notes the photographer as a Mrs. G. McNaughton of North Bay. Another inscription by either the cited photographer, or of Nellie Commanda, 'Princess Red Rock' inscribed 'Black Deer' Grand Old Man of Nipissing Chief of all the Ojibway'. The name black deer would translate today to '*Makade waawaashkeshi*'. Of great interest is that the walking stick that Semo holds in his hand in the picture on page one, was a bequest to his grandson Odrick Howards. The walking stick and Semo's rifle are legacy possessions of Mr. Howards from his grandfather Semo.

*Continued on next page...*



*Continued from previous page...*

Of his personal character and temperament, the newspaper article described Semo as a man 'beloved for miles around and admired by white men who respected his shrewdness and qualities of character'. My mother Leda Couchie McLeod Shabogesic described Semo as a quiet, caring, very friendly man. She remembered him as a very thoughtful man who hosted a meal for her and my father Fred on their wedding day at Beaucage.

This profile on Semo Commanda is one part of a series on this family and their very important contributions to our Nation. Descendants of Semo now carry the names, Howards, Harney, Twigg, Lepage, Clark, Mallinson, Seguin, Commanda, Beaucage, Couchie and Legasse.

This profile of Semo is a product of relationship building between Nipissing Nation, Nipissing University and the North Bay Museum. The author would like to acknowledge the contributions of Mrs. Audrey Harney, Mr. Odrick Howards, Jacqueline and Glen Couch, Liz McLeod Stevens Elders Profiles, Nipissing Nation, Nipissing University and the North Bay Museum.

## Life Stages - Wheel of Life Cycle

- ◇ Infancy – bring joy to the community.
- ◇ Toddlers – teach us about safety in the environment
- ◇ Child – remind and teach us about truth.
- ◇ Youth – challenge the status quo. That is their job.
- ◇ Young Adults – Do the work of the people.
- ◇ Parents – Provide for their young & old people in the community.
- ◇ Grandparents – life teacher.
- ◇ Elders

Seven Fires of Life. Life: awakening consciousness of the spirit world.

Settler nation dismantled our communities and families and women were dominated, oppressed, violence used against them. Interference.

Going to get stories from the elders is not as simple as it sounds. There are missed appointments, shyness, sometimes fear of speaking, that people won't believe them.

A pregnant woman is a conduit between this life and the spirit world.

Naming ceremony provides a sense of belonging.

Ceremonies recognize and honor our responsibilities.

The settler population always misunderstand our child rearing practices. European systems are coercive & direct – controlling children. Children have to learn independence at a very early age. Autonomy and responsibility to the community. Settlers always thought we neglected our children.

Honouring responsibility – praising milestones of the young people to provide feelings of purpose and worth.

Children are the heart of our community. Are we working for the good of the children?

Our women used to be the head of the community. This flipped with the settler society. Women would maintain the order in the community. The Indian Act displaced our women.

The elderly women – leadership, governance, teaching, and managing health in the community (birth, death, medicines)



# Glove Making

WITH TRACEY LAROCHELLE



Registration with [mindyl@nfn.ca](mailto:mindyl@nfn.ca)  
 Participation fees are \$50 per person  
 EMT - [Payments@nfn.ca](mailto:Payments@nfn.ca)  
 NFN band membership priority  
**October 23rd from 9am to 4pm via Zoom**

**REGISTRATION  
 REQUIRED!**

Miigwech!



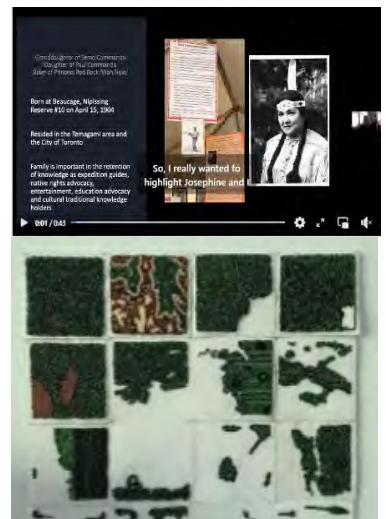
## Lake Nipissing Beading Project

As the beading kits continue to roll in, we reflect on a major inspiration for this project: Josephine Commanda Beaucage-ban from Nipissing First Nation.

In this clip, Joan McLeod Shabogesic speaks about Josephine's legacy as an advocate for Indigenous education, beading as a cultural art medium, and "the importance of teaching your own."

Watch the presentation on the Lake Nipissing Beading Project Speaker Series: [lakenipissingbeadingproject.com/speakerseries/i](http://lakenipissingbeadingproject.com/speakerseries/i) or [fb.watch/7ObI532xBq/](https://fb.watch/7ObI532xBq/)

The last of the beaded squares are on their way in and when complete, we will have a fully beaded replica of Lake Nipissing completed by Nipissing and Dokis members. The first exhibition will open on September 29<sup>th</sup> in Eastern Canada and will travel back to Nipissing territory in the near future.







Canadian Heritage

Patrimoine canadien



# NIPISSING FIRST NATION



PRESENTS

HOST MCS



BOB GOULAIS  
&  
PERRY SHABOGESIC MCLEOD

HOST DRUM



BURNING PLAIN  
SINGERS

HEAD VETERAN



JASON NAKOGEE

HEAD DANCERS



TORY & TAMARA  
OJEEK

33RD ANNUAL

VIRTUAL

POW WOW

GCHI TWAAWENDAAGWAAD SHKODE



HONOURING OUR SACRED FIRE



Native Child Welfare

AGES 0-24

# PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Sign up to receive a Free  
Pumpkin from Leisure Farms  
Before Oct 12th

**1st Place will be Judged by NFN Staff**  
**2nd & 3rd Place will be Ruffled Off**  
\*All Prizes to be Announced\*

**SUBMIT A PHOTO OF YOUR  
PUMPKIN BY OCTOBER 27TH**

**Email [Bradyp@nfn.ca](mailto:Bradyp@nfn.ca)**

NFN Members & Affiliates Only



Native Child Welfare

# OCTOBER

## EVENTS

Watch our Facebook Page  
@NFNNCW for Upcoming  
Events this Month!

Watch our Facebook page for pop-up Children's programming, including Netflix Nights, Kids' Crafts, Fun Easy Snacks, Thanksgiving Baskets & Storytime with Gokmis

**OCT**

**15**

### Drive In Movie Theatre

*Garden Village Daycare Parking Lot*

*Register with [bradyp@nfn.ca](mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca)*

**OCT**

**31**

### Hallowe'en Photo Booth

*Come dressed up with your costume and get your photo taken at the photo booth at the Band Office from 11am - 3pm*

### EVERY **Jack Box Game Nights**

**THURS**

*For ages 13-24 years @ 6:30pm*

*Register with [bradyp@nfn.ca](mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca)*

# in the Spotlight

## Waaseyaa Couchie to be Featured on CBC Kids Show

Congratulations to Waaseyaa Couchie, who joined the cast of a CBC kids show called Ukulele U and shot the first season of episodes throughout the summer.

In her father Clint's words, "Waaseyaa really made an impression with folks there and they incorporated elements of her culture and identity into the show. Lots of tears from Nokomis on that day of shooting. We celebrated with her at the wrap party last Friday and got to check out some of the show and it's amazing. Such an amazing experience for Waaseyaa. Our family is proud, and I am sure our home communities of Nipissing First Nation and Chippewas of the Thames are super proud as well."

Look for the show on CBC platforms in February 2022 and visit:

[financialpost.com/.../music-titans-produce-kids...](https://financialpost.com/.../music-titans-produce-kids...)



## Local Youth Create Mural as part of "Couleurs du Nord" TV Show

*Adapted from an article in the West Nipissing Tribune*

The community of Cache Bay now has its first mural, one that illustrates aspects of life in West Nipissing, and it came courtesy of a few dedicated local youth, renowned graffiti artist Mique Michelle and a television production crew.



As part of the filming of a new French-language show, "Couleurs du Nord", four local teens, including two Nipissing members **Zoé McLeod** (16) and **Melissa Goulais** (14) left their mark on the Cache Bay Community Centre. While they had never picked up a spray paint can before this experience, in just three days, under the guidance of Mique Michelle, they were able to create a winding painting that captures what they think makes living in West Nipissing special.

"We're trying to show in our mural what the community is, how we express ourselves here and what we can find around here," said McLeod. "For example, there's berries, feathers and medicines that we find in our community, so we wanted to put a little touch on that here. There's lots of words of kindness, like amour and love: I just wanted everyone to know that our community is really together and it's like a big family, we're altogether inclusive."

Read the article here: [westnipissing.com/tv-show-filmed-in-wn-with-local-kids-ends-with-cache-bay-mural-unveiling/](https://westnipissing.com/tv-show-filmed-in-wn-with-local-kids-ends-with-cache-bay-mural-unveiling/)

## Andrea Goulais Highlighted for Dedication to Culture

Francophone students across the province were lucky enough to participate in a mega virtual show to celebrate the Franco-Ontarian flag day. Every region of the province had the opportunity to highlight this event, the Nipissing Parry Sound region decided to create a "dessiner band" with six Francophone heroes from the region. Andrea's family is very proud to share Andrea's caricature. She was chosen for all her dedication to Aboriginal and Francophone culture. She is very well surrounded.





## Unsettled is Now Airing on APTN

Tune in to APTN on Fridays at 8m to watch Unsettled, which was filmed on Nipissing First Nation and features a lot of familiar faces and scenery.

Filming for this TV series started in February 2020 and was completed in August and September 2020. The series was created by Jennifer Podemski and Hannah Moscovitch with Jeremy Podeswa as Executive Producer.

The production operated with a limited crew and had strict COVID-19 prevention and safety measures in place to keep cast, crew and our community safe. Despite these challenge, it is nice to see the script come to life on TV.

The series stars Cheri Maracle as Rayna Keetch, a First Nations woman whose life undergoes an upheaval when her husband Darryl (Brandon Oakes) loses his business, forcing them and their family to abandon their lives in Toronto and start over back on their home reserve.

Recently reunited with her birth family, Rayna returns to her First Nation for a traditional homecoming ceremony when her husband Darryl announces that he's been a victim of a scam and has lost their fortune. Despite the devastating news, Rayna charges ahead and drives north to her reserve. Expecting to find solace in the ceremony and culture, Rayna is blindsided by her dysfunctional birth family and a community in turmoil.

What begins as a weekend out of town becomes a search for meaning and identity, a journey of healing and transformation for Rayna, her family and the divided community of Binesizhaabose First Nation.



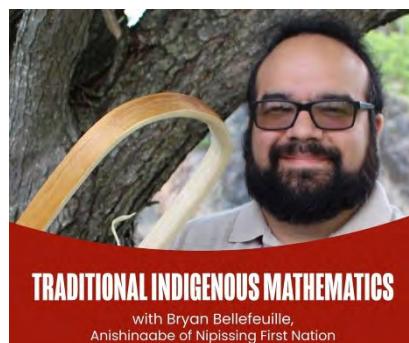
## Traditional Indigenous Mathematics

Nipissing First Nation member Bryan Bellefeuille facilitated a live session about Traditional Indigenous Mathematics on September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the Ontario Science Centre. The session explored Indigenous ways of learning and knowing.

Bryan is a firekeeper, grass dancer, fisherman and Ojibwe language teacher and a proud father of three. His session covered everything from making tools and measuring trees to building canoes and cooking meals, and exploring the many uses of math in traditional settings.

Here is the link to the recorded session: <https://youtu.be/P6htwS5Mv8E>

Bryan also had a spot on CBC Radio North that you can listen to by clicking on this link: <https://www.cbc.ca/.../15867910-teaching-traditional...>



*3 Prizes to be won!*

1st Custom Made Warriors Jersey - 2nd Warriors Beaded Medallion - 3rd Warriors Leather Mitts

Draw will be held at the Annual Community Meeting and streamed live via Nipissing First Nation Administration Facebook Page



# RAFFLE TICKET



## \$10 PER TICKET / 3 FOR \$25

\* ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HOSTING OF LITTLE NHL 2022\*

NFN PERMIT # 1019-133

To purchase tickets,  
contact Sabrina at  
705-753-2050 or  
sabinawm@nfn.ca  
**Good Luck!**





# Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™


Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make different sounds:

**BEEP**



**There's an emergency!**  
Get everyone out of the home immediately. Call **9-1-1** from outside.

**CHIRP**



A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the batteries, or the alarms themselves, need to be **replaced**.

**Get Loud!** Test your alarms today and every month.

For more information contact your **local fire department**.

NIPISSING FIRST NATION  
FIRE SERVICES



Office of the Fire Marshal  
ontario.ca/firemarshal  
@onfiremarshal

# Get Loud! and "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™"

Nipissing First Nation Fire Department is challenging everyone to test their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and "Get Loud!" as part of Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week runs from October 3-9 and the **Nipissing First Nation Fire Department** is urging everyone to Get Loud! and "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™".

By law, every home in Ontario must have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas however, too often fatal fires in Ontario occur in homes where there were no working smoke alarms.

Do you know what your smoke alarm is telling you with those beeps? Lets test our Alarms and "Get Loud!" by pushing the test button on smoke and carbon monoxide alarms every month to learn the sound alarms make.

Testing alarms produces a beep, the sound of alarms in an emergency. Replace the batteries if the alarms do not sound when the test button is pushed. If the alarms still don't sound, replace the alarms.

Testing your alarms is the only way to ensure they are working and that you and your family can be alerted in the event of a fire.

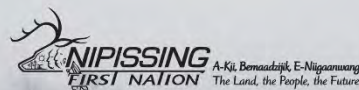
"Knowing the different sounds your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make can save you, your loved ones, and your home. Get Loud! by testing your alarms every month to learn the sound they make and to ensure the batteries work."

"Take immediate action if your smoke or carbon monoxide alarms sound. If the alarms beep in an emergency get everyone out of the home. If your alarms chirp, replace the batteries or alarms immediately."

## Snow Plowing Tenders & Waivers

A call for snow plowing tenders was issued on September 20<sup>th</sup> for seniors' driveways and commercial lots with a deadline for bids of October 15<sup>th</sup>. Seniors' waivers will be mailed out in the next two weeks.

For more information, or if you do not receive a waiver, please contact: Charlene Lalonde, Community Infrastructure Administrative Assistant, at 705-753-2050 ext. 1285 or [charlenel@nfn.ca](mailto:charlenel@nfn.ca).



**NOW ACCEPTING TENDERS**

**Snow Plowing Services for Seniors' Driveways & Commercial Lots**

**Deadline: October 15, 2021**

**Details at [nfn.ca/snow-tenders](http://nfn.ca/snow-tenders)**



COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

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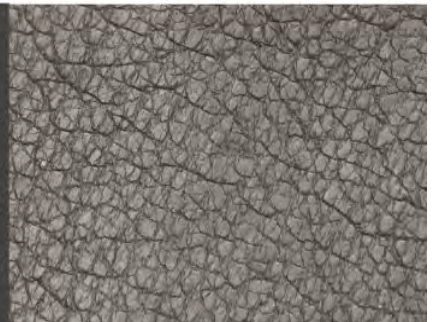
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# COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR



Photo Credit: Michèle Chrétien

# October 2021

## Binaakwii Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Watch the @NFCNCW Facebook page for programs for children 0-12 years this month.</p> <p>Nishnaabemwin classes every Tues &amp; Wed @ 6pm. Register with <a href="mailto:ianc@nfn.ca">ianc@nfn.ca</a>. NFN members priority.</p>			<b>SEPT 29</b> <b>Community Healing Circle</b> @6pm in ODR Garden Village	<b>SEPT 30</b>  <b>Walk of Honour</b> @ 9am in ODR & <b>STAT Holiday</b> <i>Truth &amp; Reconciliation</i>	<b>1</b> <b>Job Postings Deadline</b> Water Treatment Operator & Outreach Coordinator	<b>2</b>  <b>Virtual Pow Wow with Live Dancers</b> <b>Grand Entry at Noon</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Sisters in Spirit Candlelight Vigil at OWL</b> @ 6:30pm	<b>5</b> <b>Council Meeting</b> @ 7:30pm	<b>6</b>  <b>Deadline to order Seniors Meal Package</b> Delivery Oct 13	<b>7</b> <b>Jack Box Game Nights</b> Register: <a href="mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca">bradyp@nfn.ca</a> (Ages 13-24)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<p>First Nations Public Library Week – Follow NFN Kendaaswin on Facebook for events during the week!</p>						
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>STAT Holiday</b> Thanksgiving 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Entrepreneur Workshop</b> 12-1pm until November 17	<b>14</b> <b>Jack Box Game Nights</b> Register: <a href="mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca">bradyp@nfn.ca</a> (Ages 13-24)	<b>15</b> <b>Drive-In Movie</b> Garden Village Register with: <a href="mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca">bradyp@nfn.ca</a>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Council Meeting</b> @ 7:30pm	<b>20</b>  <b>Entrepreneur Workshop</b> 12-1pm until November 17	<b>21</b> <b>Jack Box Game Nights</b> Register: <a href="mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca">bradyp@nfn.ca</a> (Ages 13-24)	<b>22</b> <b>Xmas Distribution Form Deadline</b> to receive payment on November 26-27	<b>23</b> <b>Glove Making</b> 9am – 4pm \$50/person <a href="mailto:mindy1@nfn.ca">mindy1@nfn.ca</a>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Entrepreneur Workshop</b> 12-1pm until November 17  <b>Pumpkin Carving Photos Deadline</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Jack Box Game Nights</b> Register: <a href="mailto:bradyp@nfn.ca">bradyp@nfn.ca</a> (Ages 13-24)	<b>29</b>	<b>30/31</b> <b>Happy Halloween!</b>  Photo booth @ Band Office on October 31 <sup>st</sup> from 11am – 3pm



### Contact Us

36 Semo Road  
 Garden Village ON P2B 3K2  
[www.nfn.ca](http://www.nfn.ca)

TEL: (705) 753-2050  
 FAX: (705) 753-0207  
 EMAIL: [genc@nfn.ca](mailto:genc@nfn.ca)

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