



Mdaamin Giizis
Corn Moon

September 2021



A-Kii, Bemaadziik, E-Niigaanwang
The Land, the People, the Future

ENKAMGAK

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

In This Issue

UPDATES

- Duchesnay Bridge.....2
- Council Connection.....3
- Natural Resources.....4
- Vaccines & Testing.....5
- Employment & Updates.....6

EVENTS

- Healing Circle.....7
- Entrepreneur Series.....8
- Golf Tourney & LNHL.....9

EDUCATION

- Back to School, Adult Ed & After School Program.....10

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Seniors' Meals.....11
- Harm Red & Right Path.....11
- Gtigewin & Gardening.....11

CULTURE & YOUTH

- Nishnaabemwin.....13
- Nbisning Stories..... 14-16
- NCW Events..... 17-18

ADS & NOTICES

- Spotlight & Ads..... 19-22
- Monthly Calendar.....23

Click the links above to read each section.



Monday, Sept 6
Labour Day &
Thursday, Sept 30
Nat'l Day for TRC

Council Meetings

Sept 7 & 21

@ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

To attend livestreamed Council meetings, register in advance by contacting Kim Salvaneschi at 705-753-2050 or email kims@nfn.ca. Learn more at nfn.ca/livestreaming

Chief & Council Inaugural Meeting

New Leadership for 2021-2024 Term Sworn in August 3rd

Nipissing's Chief and Council for the 2021-2024 term were officially sworn into office on Tuesday, August 3rd in Ktigaaning (Garden Village). Miigwech to Gokmis Evelyn McLeod and George Couchie for facilitating the ceremony, to Blair Beaucage for offering a song, and to our Nipissing Brave Warrior, Trent Beaucage, for carrying the Eagle staff.

The inaugural meeting was livestreamed and is available on our [YouTube channel](#).

Our newly elected Council is committed to continuing on the nation-building path blazed by successive Councils. We will continue moving forward by empowering our membership, protecting our inherent rights and strengthening Nipissing's reputation as a progressive and accountable nation. We will work together to ensure the long-term health and prosperity of our nation and Debendaagziwaad.

Chief & Council 2021-2024

Gimaa (Chief) Scott McLeod
Cell: 705-498-3990 Email: scottm@nfn.ca

Aanke Gimaa (Deputy Chief) Michael Sawyer
Cell: 705-476-2113 Email: mikes@nfn.ca

Giidoninikwe (Councillor) Jane B. Commanda
Email: janeb@nfn.ca

Giidoninikwe (Councillor) Joan McLeod-Shabogesic
Email: joanm@nfn.ca

Giidoninikwe (Councillor) June Commanda
Email: junec@nfn.ca

Giidonini (Councillor) Eric (Ric) Stevens
Email: rics@nfn.ca

Giidonini (Councillor) Tyeler Commanda
Email: tyelerc@nfn.ca

Giidonini (Councillor) Daniel M. Stevens
Email: danielm@nfn.ca



L-R: Councillors Daniel M. Stevens, June Commanda, Tyeler Commanda, Jane B. Commanda, Chief Scott McLeod, Councillors Joan McLeod-Shabogesic and Rick Stevens and Deputy Chief Michael Sawyer

Duchesnay Creek Bridge Project Completion

New bridge officially reopened to traffic on August 20th

Nearly two years to the day since construction began on the Duchesnay Creek Bridge replacement project, the Nipissing-Miller Partnership project team celebrated the successful completion of their first joint venture project.

This \$12 million project was fully funded by the provincial government and awarded to the Nipissing-Miller Partnership, a joint venture in which Nipissing has a majority stake (51%).

The new bridge pays tribute to the historic wood structure it replaces, which was built in 1937 and was the last remaining timber bridge structure in Ontario. It's remarkable that the bridge was built using sustainable wood products for the entire substructure, which is unique in Ontario.

NFN and Miller began preparing for this opportunity in 2018 by launching an initiative that provided valuable on-the-job training and experience for NFN members, as well as future employment and training opportunities. Many of our local businesses also contributed to the project through supply and service procurement opportunities.

"The project is historic from the province of Ontario's view, but from our community's perspective, it's a historic business arrangement that hasn't happened until now," explained Chief Scott McLeod to local media who attended the reopening ceremony.

"As far as history goes, the Duchesnay Creek has been crossed for thousands of years by our people," adds Chief McLeod. "When we look at the bridge as historic, it's historic in a colonized way. For the last 160 years, our community as well as most First Nation communities have been marginalized and left out of the economy."

This project created *real* opportunities for employment, procurement and economic development within Nipissing First Nation. We are grateful to MPP Vic Fedeli and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation for seeing and supporting our vision and really making a difference in reconciliation.

As Chief McLeod said, "the construction of the new structure, along with the joint partnership with Miller, represents both a metaphorical and literal bridge building."

With the bridge now completed, the Nipissing-Miller crew is undertaking the second phase of the project between highway 17 and Couchie Memorial Drive. The scope of work includes creating a new entrance to Duchesnay, removing the abandoned CN Rail overpass, shaving the hill down to improve sightlines, and one kilometre of paving between highway 17 and the new Duchesnay Creek bridge.

Photo Credit: Kelly Anne Smith



A small ceremony was held on August 20th with representatives from Nipissing First Nation and Miller Paving prior to the bridge reopening to traffic.

[VIDEO: Bridge Reopening Ceremony - August 20, 2021](#)



Drone Imagery

[Shuttle Bus Crossing](#)
(video)

[Drone Imagery 1](#) (photos)

[Drone Imagery 2](#) (photos)

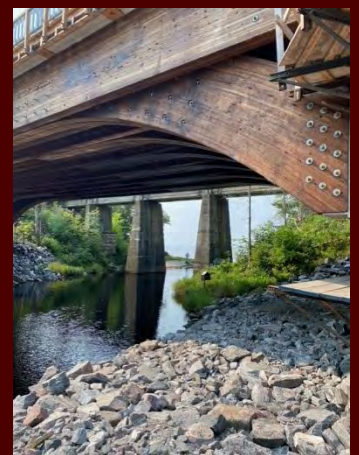
[Drone Imagery 3](#) (photos)

Progress Videos

[Video Progress Report: November 2, 2020](#)
Installation of 1st Girder

[Video Progress Report: September 4, 2020](#)
Sub-Structure Completed

Drone imagery and progress videos are courtesy of Concrete Pictures Inc. If you are prompted for a password, enter "concrete".



New National Holiday on September 30th

Prime Minister Trudeau recently announced a new federal holiday, the **National Day for Truth & Reconciliation**, which will be celebrated on **September 30th**.

Trudeau explained the goal for this holiday is to encourage Canadians to learn about and reflect on our country's history and present day truths, as well as to commemorate the survivors of Indian residential schools, their families, and their communities – as called for by the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and Indigenous leaders.

Treaty Annuity Payments

NFN plans to distribute payments at the Annual Community Meeting in November.

To receive your treaty payment sooner, you can download and fill out the [Treaty Annuity Payment Request form](#) and mail it to your [ISC regional office](#).

Treaty payments will be mailed to you in the form of a cheque.



Update on Council Committees

Committee Member Call-Outs Coming Later this Month



Our committees bring the voices of the membership to current issues and priorities, and help provide valuable context to Council's decision-making processes. 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.

Our newly elected Chief & Council are reviewing our current committee names and compositions and are planning to est advisory committees as well.

Each member of Council is responsible for serving as the chairperson for one or more committee portfolios. These portfolios will be assigned on August 26th.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks about committee membership opportunities and how to apply.

Community Outreach Program Update

Recruitment for Right Path Manager & Outreach Coordinator Underway

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.



Robinson-Huron Treaty nations welcome federal commitment to settle annuities case

The 21 First Nations of the Robinson-Huron Treaty welcome the news that the Government of Canada has completed their mandating process and are prepared to negotiate and settle the ongoing annuities case. Canada has stated that the negotiation and settlement process requires participation from the Government of Ontario.

While Canada did not appeal the stage 1 and 2 decisions in the case, Ontario has appealed. The appeals were heard by the Ontario Court of Appeal in April and June 2021 and the decisions of the Court have not yet been released. The Robinson-Huron Treaty Litigation Fund has called on Ontario to drop their litigation and begin honourable negotiations.

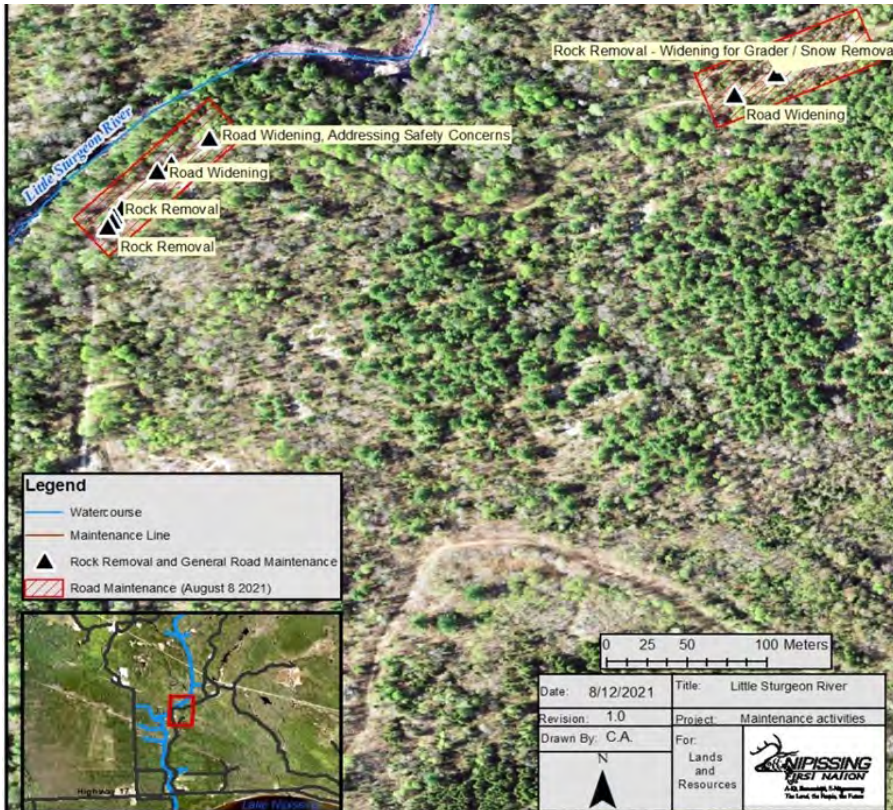
“Now, we need the province to come to the table to make this settlement happen,” said Chief Sayers. “It is time for Ontario to honour the escalator clause and engage in negotiations on behalf of all people we have welcomed on our lands.”

Road Work for Future Forestry Operations

Portions of Little Sturgeon River Road to be Widened for Safety & Access

This notice is to inform members that work is commencing to widen some portions of the Little Sturgeon River Road. The road work will include taking down rocky portions of the travelled section as a safety measure for all users.

This work will allow timber to be harvested as a Crown cut that is part of NFN's sustainable forestry license (SFL) in the late fall and into the winter. The work will be completed by Young Forestry Services and the areas of work are shown below.



Should you have any questions or concerns about this road work, please contact:

Cameron Welch, Director of Lands & Natural Resources
705-753-2050 ext. 1225 or cameronw@nfn.ca

ONE-TIME PAYMENT FOR SENIORS 75 & OVER AND OAS INCREASES

- The Federal Government issued a one-time payment of \$500 in August 2021 to seniors who are 75 and over as of June 30, 2022.
- There will be a permanent 10% increase to the monthly OAS pension for seniors aged 75 and over, beginning in July 2022.

NO ACTION IS REQUIRED BY SENIORS who will automatically receive the payment if they are eligible.

Please contact the Service Canada Outreach Support Centre at 1-877-355-2657 Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4pm if you have questions or for more information.

Commercial Fishery Harvest Level Update

The NFN commercial fishery is expected to reach the safe harvest level of 30,000 kg by the end of August 2021.

NFN's Chief and Council will meet on August 26th to review a recommendation from our Natural Resources Department on the closure of the commercial fishery for the 2021 season.

Decision-making about closure dates is informed by our own harvest data that is collected by NFN Fisheries staff using catch reports submitted by registered compliant fishers, as well as harvest level estimates for non-reporting / non-compliant fishers.

Council's decision about the 2021 season closure date will be posted when confirmed.

Miigwech to the registered commercial fishers who follow our *Fisheries Law* and processes. Your efforts and respect for the will of the community are appreciated.

For more information, please visit nfn.ca/natural-resources/fisheries/ or contact:

Jeff McLeod, Natural Resources Manager

705-753-2050 ext. 1325 or jeffm@nfn.ca

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.

Updates on Youth Vaccines

Youth aged 12-17 eligible for Pfizer vaccine, pre-registrations open for 5-11 year olds

As of August 25th, NFN Health Services has administered over 3,100 vaccines to NFN community members, including over 200 vaccines for youth between the ages of 12 and 17 years. Any youth who will be 12 years old by December 31, 2021 are Although we continue to await further direction from the Ontario Ministry of Health on vaccines for children between the ages of 5 to 11 years, we expect to have the go ahead soon. Our Health Centre is now accepting pre-registrations for this age group. Please call 705-753-3312 to pre-register children aged 5 to 11 years for a COVID-19 vaccine.

COVaxON Data Entry Completed

All NFN vaccination records have now been inputted into COVaxON, the Ontario provincial database used for tracking COVID-19 vaccines.

A reminder that can retrieve your own vaccine record online. Your doctor, pharmacist or hospital will also be able to see your record if you need it for healthcare reasons.

Here is what you will need to get your COVID-19 vaccine record:

- Visit: [Ontario COVID-19 vaccination service \(ontariohealth.ca\)](https://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 that information.

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

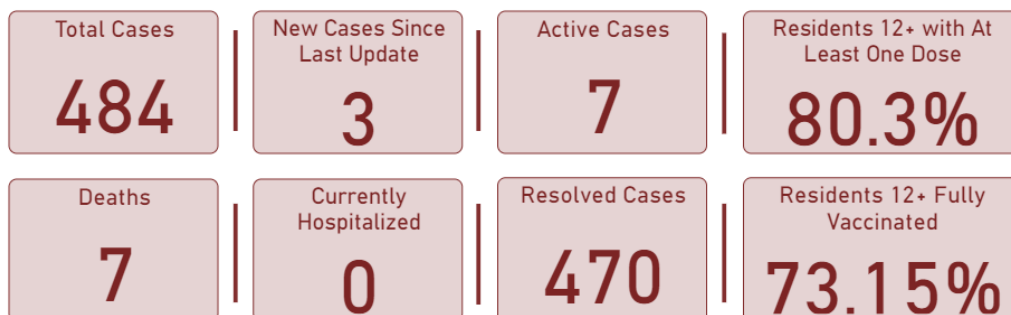
Rapid Testing on NFN

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 Wednesday, August 25th at 10:00 a.m. for the Nipissing District, which has all 7 active cases in our region (Nipissing & Parry Sound Districts).



*Vaccine Data Includes Nipissing and Parry Sound

Employment Opportunities

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

Nbisiing Secondary School Math Teacher – Permanent FT Position – *3rd Round*
Apply by Friday, September 3, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Integrated Children's Program – 1 Lead & 2 Assistants
Apply by Friday, September 17, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

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 for more information or to apply.

Personal Support Workers – Casual Employment (w/ paid sick days and 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:

Please submit applications before the deadline to 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

Miigwech to all applicants for their interest; however only those who qualify for an interview will be contacted.

Staffing Updates

Please welcome our new Mental Health Therapist, **Sherri Pinder**, to *Giyak Moseng* The Right Path Counselling & Prevention Services. Sherri holds an Honours Bachelor Degree in Sociology and Psychology, a Drug & Alcohol Counselling Diploma and Bachelor of Education. She has been a professor at Canadore College in the Mental Health & Addiction Worker program and is a Registered Psychotherapist. Her work history as an Addictions Counsellor and Manager of Addictions Services at the Community Counselling Centre and Mental Health & Wellness Navigator will undoubtedly be assets to Nipissing First Nation.

On September 7th, our Communications Officer, **Gen Couchie**, will transition to a new role as Business Operations Manager with Nipissing First Nation. The first round posting for the Communications Officer position closed on August 20th and interviews have been scheduled. During this transition, please direct any inquiries to Freda Martel, Director of Administration, at 705-753-2050 or fredam@nfn.ca.



Job Postings No Longer Mailed

The mid-month mail-out we send to local members (and sometimes 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 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 members should be aware of. However, **effective September 2021, you must opt-in to the mailing list** if you wish to continue receiving job postings by mail.

Contact Julie Lambert at 705-753-2050 or juliel@nfn.ca to continue receiving job postings by mail or email.

Job postings are always available at 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 thomasl@nfn.ca.

COMMUNITY HEALING CIRCLE

September 1 @ 6 pm

Garden Village Outdoor Rink

Facilitated by George Couchie

*with support from The Right Path
Counselling & Prevention Services
and NFN Administration*

COVID Protocols will be in place,
and space at this event is limited.
PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER.

We encourage participants to bring their own water bottles



**Register with Lori-Anne at 705-753-3312 ext. 2266
by August 31st. Transportation is available.**

Goals of the Healing Circle

- Create a safe space for sharing and listening to each other
- Raise awareness of these complex issues and of supports available
- Strengthen our community by working together to identify solutions

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



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

To register please contact Ken
Hazell at kenh@nfn.ca or
705-753-2050 ex. 1264

Open to NFN members and affiliates

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER
2021 DATES TO BE
DETERMINED

tbc
the business centre
NIPISSING PARRY SOUND

Workshops will be provided virtually

Chi-Miigwech to our Sponsors!

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Peace Hills Trust
 Barrantagh Investments
 Composite Power Group
 Miller Group
 KPMG

GOLD SPONSORS

WP Financial

SILVER SPONSORS

Young Forestry

FRIENDS OF NIPISSING

Tim's Convenience
 TC Energy
 Spectrum Telecom Group
 CIBC
 Northshore Convenience
 Urban Windows
 Dokis First Nation
 RBC
 TC Energy

HOLE IN ONE SPONSOR

True North Chev Olds

Our Annual Charity Golf Tournament is a great success every year thanks to the generous contributions of our valued sponsors and the participation of our members and allies.

Miigwech!



Annual Golf Tournament a Huge Success

Our 29th Annual Charity Golf Tournament was a great success again this year!

Miigwech to all of the participants for coming out and braving the extreme heat. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all of our sponsors for their support. Please see the listing of sponsors on the left side of this page.

Congratulations to our winning Men's, Women's and Mixed teams!

Men's (-12)	Women's (+2)	Mixed (-10)
George Armstrong	Karen Penasse	Zach Beaudette
Hugh Martel	Vanessa Penasse	Kyle Beaudette
Wayne Martel	Diane McLeod	Danika Beaudry
Philip Penasse	Candace Shabogestic	Shawnee Penasse



Our Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) Tournament Host Committee is starting to plan the 2022 tournament following the cancellation of the 2020 & 2021 tournaments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our committee is in regular contact with the LNHL Executive Committee, which is currently finalizing negotiations with the City of Mississauga. We look forward to providing more details about our plans as we finalize them in the coming weeks and start to engage the community in our efforts.

See [page 20](#) for our 1st Fundraising Raffle!



Student Registration and Bussing

If you live on-reserve, you must register your child at the Education Department to access services and programs, such as Nbisiing Bus Lines, incentives, and special education assistance.

Off-reserve students from Grades 8-12, attending one of our local school boards are eligible for academic incentives.

The Student Registration and Bussing Information form must be completed **EVERY YEAR**.

To register, visit our website or contact us today:

nfn.ca/education/elementary-secondary | 705-753-6995

Register for Adult Education

Are you 21 or older? Do you want to get your Ontario Secondary School Diploma?

It may be closer than you think! Your life experiences may make you eligible for extra credits.

Classes start Monday, September 13th and are offered:

Monday and Wednesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Nbisiing Secondary School (469 Couchie Memorial, Duchesnay)

Tuesday and Thursday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Band Office – Boardroom in new wing (36 Semo Road, Garden Village)

Classes take place from September 13 to December 2, and tentatively from January 3 to June 9.

For more information and to register, visit our website or contact us today:

nfn.ca/education/adult-education | 705-753-6995

Integrated Children's After School Program

We hope to be able to offer the Integrated Children's After School Program this year. We will update you as more details become available and staffing is in place. We are currently recruiting for a program lead and two assistants, with all positions closing on September 17th. Please see [page 6](#) or visit nfn.ca/jobs to view/download the posting.

If the program is offered, a notice will be posted in the October newsletter. The notice and registration form will also be posted on our website and social media sites. As was the case in the past, the program will operate Monday to Thursday for parents/legal guardians who are registered NFN members, with eligibility/priority given to those where both parents/guardians work outside of the home.



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

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

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

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

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



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 September 1st for a meal package on September 8th

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.

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 available.

The Culturally Defined Community Withdrawal Management Program also provides land based activities and cultural supports.

Call 705-753-1375 for more information.



THE CULTURALLY DEFINED COMMUNITY WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM INVITES YOU TO



OPEN HOUSE
58 SEMO RD.
LAWRENCE
COMMANDA HEALTH
CENTRE
SEPTEMBER 24TH
4:00 - 7:00 PM

RSVP WITH ARIEL

705-753-1375

GTIGEWIN

Garden Stand Schedule for September

Check out the dates and locations below to find out when you can pick up *fresh free* vegetables!

Garden Stands are open from Noon to 3pm (while supplies last)

Friday, September 3rd

Duchesnay - Nbisiing Secondary School

Friday, September 10th

Yellek - Playground

Friday, September 17th

Garden Village - Seniors' Complex



Ktigaaning Activity
Send in your Garden Harvest Photos!



Send in photos of your garden harvests and any dishes or canning you prepared with them to gailm@nfn.ca by **September 23rd** to have your name entered into a draw for prizes!



NBISIING ANISHINAABEG EAGLE STAFF

As explained by Perry McLeod Shabogestic

The eagle staff is a staff (flag) that represents our nishinaabe Nations. Our Nbisiing nishinaabeg staff has the deer represented on it. This came from the time when Phil Goulais was our Gimaa. The deer is now pretty much accepted as a representation of the Nbisiing nishinaabeg.

In our history documents, we are at times referred to as “people of the deer”. The seven eagle feathers represent the seven clans of the nishinaabeg, and of the Seven Life Teachings, that some refer to as The Seven Grandfather Teachings.

Our staff is brought in first and leads our people at community gatherings. It represents our families and our community.

Dan Commanda made this particular staff.

Nbisiing Nishnaabemwin

September - Mdaamin Giizis (Corn Moon)

Mdaamin giizis, dgosenmin wii naadmawshiyana mina wii-waamdashin maa maadziwin mina wii-nsotamaan maa mnidoo maadziwin maa pii minwa waakwiing.

Gii – kendaan Gzhemnidoo wiin gii saad Mdaamini Giizis, wii naadmaawshid; ji-gwekgaabwiyaan maa megwaa maadziwin.

Gookmis mooshkeshkaagan maadziwin wii mi wiidesmninaa. Aabwenmishin, giishpin nendamaan gego wa wiinmoonaan mii dash pii tkweshkoonaan mii ji-mno piitenmiszooyaan wii mnaadenmidzooyaan. Miigwech.

Corn Moon, I humble myself to you for the journey of Creation shown to me and the understanding of the continuing journey of the spirits from this world to the next.

The Creator instructed Gookmis to teach me; so I may remain in balance with Creation .

Gookmis, my heart is filled with the energies to live and share this spiritual journey.

In the 13 rows of multi-coloured corn lies the spirits of the universe, waiting to begin the ever continuing cycle of life, as it was in the beginning.

I ask that I may be forgiven for the things I do not speak of, the things I have forgotten. When we meet again at the crossroads, I will journey with honour and dignity for all that I am.



Nishnaabe kidwinan

Ni-dkwaagi -	Getting to be fall
Gaawbiinong -	West
Ningishmong -	Sunset
Mkadewaa -	Black
Wiiba dbikat -	Early darkness

Dialogue : Ezhiwebak noongom gwajjiing?
(Weather today outside is....)

Noongom – Present/Now

Mno-giizh gat noongom.	It's nice today.
Noodin noongom.	It's windy today.
Gimiwan noongom.	It's raining today.
Dkayaa noongom.	It's cool today.

Tomorrow - Waabang – future (wii)

Wii- mno-giizh gat waabang.	It will be nice tomorrow.
Wii- noodin waabang.	It will be windy tomorrow.
Wii- gimiwan waabang.	It will rain tomorrow.
Wii- dkayaa waabang.	It will be cool tomorrow.

Yesterday- Jiinaago – past

Jiinaago gii- mno-giizh gat.	Yesterday it was nice.
Jiinaago gii- noodin.	Yesterday it was windy.
Jiinaago gii- gimiwan.	Yesterday it was raining.
Jiinaago gii- dkayaa.	Yesterday it was cool.

kiishbaaw'ii kiing around the earth / on the land

mnis	island
gchi pkwanaag	mountain
nookming , mtigkaang	forest
migizi soswan	eagles nest
miikaans	trail
miikan	road
jiikbiig	shore
ni-pkwanaa	hill
zaagigan	lake
zaagigaans	little lake
ziibi	river
giishkaapkaa	rocky ledge / cliff
mashkiig	muskeg
neyaa	point
neyaashiing	around the point
zaagdawaang	mouth of the river
baawtigong	falls
pimeknak	ditch/ side of the road
pkwanaa	hill
niisaapkaag	rocky slope
zhiibaayaa	narrows
ni-neyaapkaa	smooth rock
siniikaa	rocky area
mgwii	sand
wiikwedong	bay
miinkaang	blueberry patch
deminkaang	strawberry patch
mskogminkaang	raspberry patch

Nbisiing Nishaabe Gaabinaadziwaad Gamig – NFN Culture Centre

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

Nipissing Lore and Storytelling

By Joan McLeod Shabogesic for the Recovering Voices Project

As with any culture, storytelling and lore are an important part of childhood. Whether it be reading Harry Potter or a good scary Stephen King novel.

Story telling soothes the inner child of all ages and usually the story comes with a lesson, a virtue to attain or a warning to not delve in things we are better not knowing about.

Nipissing Nation has been gifted with some research interviews conducted by Ms. Lise Hansen of stories, lore relayed by the recollections of John Jr. O'jeek, Ban. During my childhood Elders in our communities would relate stories to their children.

Lawrence Commanda, Ban, who related to Leatherdale the Story of the Manitou's in the book Brule to Booth. We have heard the story showcased in the entertainment of a local tourist operated touring boat about the Nipissing Princess who threw herself into the burning of the stake of her Mohawk love.

My father tried to regale to his children the story of the Shad Fly Princess which was entertaining but I as my brothers and sisters knew he was trying to give us a little levity and humour. I also overheard my parents talking of the bear walker stories and fireball transformations of individuals capable of doing misdeeds.

My childhood friend and I loved visited her Nokomis and listening to the headless horseman and his horses echoing terrorizing hoofs beating through our village. I loved the tale of the appearance of the handsome man who visited and the people he visited only seeing his hooves under his long coat as he left the house.

All stories entertain but I am not the only person who knows most lore are delivered to not only enrich our entertainment urges but that some stories have been told over centuries and unintentionally have been changed by the culture of the **day and time** the person is relating the story or lore.

You will read this in John Jr.'s description of animals such as tigers and lions and this description is probably just meaning a big cat i.e. lynx, cougar. There are also references in John Jr.'s stories that have an element of messaging being handed down through the story telling. One, is the repeated reference to 'fasting' and dreams of our animal protectors where his stories relate to teachings of present day.

Readers remember that John Jr. was born in the year 1900. It was 33 years since the new fledging Canada and the Indian Act came into existence and change our culture at Nipissing. The timing of his birth was 52 years after Shabogesic and his principal men signed the 1848 letter with the doodems.

One of John Jr.'s passions was for storytelling. These stories of lore of Lake Nipissing have been told to anyone who wanted to hear of times long ago. He kept a daily journal where he journalized dates, events, happenings and weather. The whereabouts of this journal is not known. John Jr. loved relating the stories that he heard as a child from his Elders. His mother Sarah also contributed to John's cache of lore. He most likely heard these stories as a child and in his lifetime retold these stories to the children of T'ganing.

Ms. Lise Hansen was a Phd candidate who documented the Nipissing People as part of her thesis. Ms. Hansen has provided the following interviews of John's lore of the Nipissings. We thank and acknowledge Ms. Hansen's contribution of these stories that now will be once again relayed to the children of Nipissing.

Keeping the above in mind, Nipissing Culture and Heritage is looking for stories and lore told to you about our people, to either support or add to the stories recorded by Ms. Lise Hansen.

These stories are available on our website at nfn.ca/culture-heritage/ or request a copy by mail or email by calling Gail at 705-753-2050 ext. 1284 or gailm@nfn.ca.

Residential School Experience at Nbisiing

Introduction by Dr. Katrina Srigley, Article by Randy Sawyer

This part of the newsletter speaks about histories that are filled with sadness and violence. They are difficult to comprehend. If you need support, please reach out to those in your circle who provide you with support, to Elders in our community skilled in counselling, and community health services at Nipissing First Nation or in your surrounding community. Contact information for those able to provide this support include:

- Giyak Moseng/The Right Path Counselling and Prevention Services: 705-753-1375
- Giwedno Mshkikiiwgamig/Indigenous Hub, North Bay: 705-995-0060

The events of recent months that have uncovered the unmarked graves of children at institutions called residential schools, do not surprise many people in nations that have long listened to and learned from the stories of grandmothers, grandfathers, parents, siblings, cousins, aunties, and uncles who experienced these places. They have encouraged some Nbisiing Nishnaabeg to ask the Culture & Heritage department to share more information about the Nipissing experience at these institutions.

As we shared in our last submission to the newsletter from our work for *Gaa Bi Kidwaad Maa Nbisiing*, commitment to and advocacy for teaching and learning plays an important role in the history of Nbisiing Nishnaabeg. This includes fights for educational rights, schools, Nishnaabemwin and culturally-grounded teaching and learning, and to ensure the truth of the past is understood that have been led by Nbisiing Nishnaabekwegag and Nishnaabeniini for more than one hundred and fifty years.

We hold these stories close, while also holding space for histories that include experiences of learning that were not about education at all, but rather about genocidal violence, indoctrination, physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and the intent to destroy families, nations, and ways of life.

In response to requests from Nation members and as we look toward Orange Shirt Day on September 30, 2021, we will expand the histories available on the Culture and Heritage website related to the history of these institutions, including personal reflections, historical documents, and photographs. We will share a reading list. We also intend this to be a living page and hope that those who want to share family and related histories, or responses written, artistic, or recorded to what they learn, will reach out to Glenna Beaucage in the Culture and Heritage department at 705-753-2050 or by email to glennab@nfn.ca.

We begin with a submission from life-long educator and historian, Randy Sawyer.

Reflections on the Experience of Residential “Schools” at Nipissing - By Randy Sawyer

While the colonial agenda and genocidal intent that structured residential schools — “kill the Indian in the child” — was consistent across this country, the Indigenous residential school experience varied greatly. Several factors influenced this including the length of colonial incursion, land theft, government policy, and location on Turtle Island. For instance, the residential school program intensified in the west alongside a desire to control and steal land. There were more residential schools out west than in the east. Personally, I don’t consider residential schools, schools or educational institutions. They were mostly assimilation institutions.

Indigenous communities sometimes established their own colonial schools on their territory. This was one way to resist sending children to the residential schools, though it was not always a successful form of resistance. Indigenous communities that had their own schools sometimes did not have to send their children to residential schools. These schools are known as Indian Day Schools. This was the situation with Bear Island, Dokis Bay, Rama, Nipissing and other communities.

Continued on next page

Reflections on the Experience of Residential “Schools” at Nipissing - By Randy Sawyer

Continued from previous page

The same rules for assimilation, such as discouraging the use of their languages and practicing cultural ways of life, were applied in the Indian Day Schools.

At Nipissing, there were three different Indian Day Schools operating at different times. The first school built on the Nipissing Reserve was at Neyaaba'aakwaan (Duchesnay / Couchie Point) in 1884 by my great-great grandfather Jocko (Ganibinok) Couchi for \$500.00. It was a school for about 10 years when it closed because not enough students attended. The second school was built at Mskwaawaabikang (Beaucage) in 1888 and was in operation until 1919. The closing might have something to do with the Spanish Flu that was circulating throughout the communities at that time. The third school was built at Gtigaaning (Garden Village) in 1905. It was in operation until late 1950's / early 1960's (approximations).

An example of how experiences in these institutions, Residential Institutions and Indian Day Schools, affected my family. My mother was the last one in her family to attend the Spanish Residential School. When she first went there she could not speak English only her first language of Nibisiing nishnaabemwin. She is the last fluent speaker in her family; all her younger siblings understand our first language thoroughly but they don't carry on conversations in the language. The residential school experience ended the fluency of nishnaabemwin in my mother's family. My father's experience was different. He attended the Rama Indian Day School. They were discouraged from speaking our first language at school; however, when school was over for the day he went home and became Nishnaabe again. Everyone in his family is fluent in their language (Ojibwe/Chippewa), even the grandchildren raised by my grandparents.

Language repression happened for several reasons, all of which supported cultural genocide. As our language speakers remind us, our way of life is embedded in our language. English and French were the languages of the colonizers. The role Nishnaabemwin played in teaching and learning relationships shifted in time and place. The missionaries who came to the shores of Lake Nipissing or whom our ancestors met while visiting our Wendaki allies learned our languages. They had little choice if they wanted to be welcomed in our nations.

The intensification of the colonial project and land theft by the end of the 19th century, meant that language

destruction became a cornerstone of genocidal colonial policy. Interrupting the use of Indigenous languages helped “kill the Indian in the child” because it severed connections between children their families, nations, and territories, their way of life. The repression of the language was also necessary from a functional standpoint for the teachers of the Indigenous children because they did not understand Indigenous languages and had no incentive to learn them. Rather than learn indigenous languages they forced the children to learn English or French in support of their civilizing agenda. In fact, education was not really the mandate of these institutions.

The residential school experience for the Nibisiing Nishinaabeg is also quite varied. Not everyone attended residential school or they attended at different times. The residential school that the Nipissing children attended was in Spanish, Ontario. This was a Roman Catholic school. The Roman Catholic Church was quite territorial so only Roman Catholics could attend. On the Nipissing Reserve there were families that were not Roman Catholics and, as a result, their experiences were different. Frank Commanda's family is one example. Frank was from Nipissing and so like most Nibisiing Nishnaabeg was Roman Catholic. Frank married Priscilla Snache, Nishnaabekwe from the Rama Reserve. Most Rama Nishnaabeg were Protestant, United Church. As a result, some of Frank's children were Catholic and some were Protestant. The ones who were Catholic went to the Spanish Residential School.

While Protestant and Anglican churches also ran residential schools, Shingwauk Residential School in nearby Sault Ste Marie for instance, the focus of the Nipissing Indian Agents and colonial officials was Spanish. This might explain why the residential school experience on the Nipissing Reserve was quite varied. My grandparents never attended residential school but their children up to my mother did. That is when my grandfather told the Indian Agent that his children didn't want to go to residential school anymore but would attend school in North Bay. They were lucky that in that time and place and with that Indian Agent it worked.

Sources of Knowledge:

Visits with my mother, Delma Sawyer

Public Archives of Canada, Record Group 10, Chiefs and Councilors – Nipissing Band-Robinson Huron Treaty, Ontario.

“Nipissing Indian Reserve dates back to year 1850”, Nugget, [North Bay], Friday, June 30, 1967



Nbisiing Binoojii Naadawenmind

(Native Child Welfare Program)

We strive to build healthy foundations and strengthen the well-being of youth in our community. N.F.N Band Members & Affiliates

MANY ACTIVITES & EVENTS INCLUDES

Supplies Always Provided

- Craft Workshops
- Family Events
- Virtual Activities
- Baby Group (0-5)
- Movie Nights
- Cultural Teachings

PREVENTION WORKERS



Brady Penasse

Youth Worker for Ages (13-24)

bradyp@nfn.ca

705 753 2050 ext.1274

Katie Lariviere

Child Worker for Ages (0-12)

katiel@nfn.ca

705 753 2050 ext.1323



**Monthly
Participation
Draws**

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**NFN Child
Welfare
Program**



NATIVE CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM

Children 12 and under

NCW EVENTS

Craft activities - Sept 8
and 21

Netflix - Sept 10 and 24

ALL SUPPLIES WILL BE
PROVIDED FOR ALL
ACTIVITIES
PLEASE NOTE DATES
CAN CHANGE, FOLLOW
US ON FACEBOOK
@NFNWCW

Register with Katie at
katiel@nfn.ca or 705-
753-2050 ext. 1323

Kids Scrapbooking - Sept
16

Kids self-care packages -
Sept 23

Kids Social - Sept 27

Story time with Gokmis -
Date TBA

Kids Pony Bead craft -
Sept 29

Baby Group - Dates TBA

NCW Events



Ages 13 - 24



JACK BOX GAME NIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 9TH & 23RD @ 6:30PM

COLOUR ME CALM SOCIAL - SUPPLIES

PROVIDED BY NCW - SEPTEMBER 14TH @6:30PM

BEADING SOCIAL - ORANGE SHIRT DAY PINS

SEPTEMBER 28TH @ 6:30PM

All Ages

FAMILY YOGA - SEPTEMBER 22 @ 6:00PM



DUCHESNAY DRIVE IN MOVIE THEATRE

SEPTEMBER 24TH @ 8:30PM

DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED

Contact BradyP@nfn.ca
for the Zoom link



Walk of Honour ~ Every Child Matters

Our Native Child Welfare (NCW) program is pleased to be coordinating a walk and ceremony on Thursday, September 30th. This work is being guided by an Adhoc committee to honour our Residential School Survivors and their families. Time & Location of Walk to be announced.

BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY

Submit all entries to
randypenfn.ca
Ages 17 and under

Draw date: Sept. 3
Registration open
until Sept. 2

Artwork by Brady Penasse



in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Nipissing's Kelsey Borgford who was recently recognized with the Runner-Up award at the Second Story Press 2021 Indigenous Writing Contest for her short story, *What's in a Bead?*.

Borgford's story explores the significance of Indigenous beadwork in relation to art, history and healing. She hopes people will learn to honour their relationships after reading the story.



"Especially with the older people in their lives, there is so much knowledge that we aren't taking in," Borgford says. "When you look at traditional teachings about life cycles, it's the Elders' job to teach and ours to listen. My generation and the young ones right now have the potential to make or break it. A lot of the skills are passing away with the Elders and we have to take those skills and carry on their life in our art and the way we walk our paths."

Click [here](#) to read the full article by the *Anishinabek News*.

A Warm Welcome for Patricia & the Walk of Sorrow Group



L-R: Chief Scott McLeod & Gokmis Evelyn McLeod meeting the group at the Mr. Gas on Thibeault Hill in North Bay before walking to the waterfront in a show of solidarity.

Patricia Ballantyne began her cross-country trek at 8 a.m. on June 5th. Her departure point was Old Residential School in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. About 2,500 kms and ten pairs of shoes later, Patricia and her supporters arrived in North Bay on August 9th and were welcomed with our warm Nipissing hospitality. While North Bay Pride kindly arranged accommodations for the group, our Nipissing Ojibway Daycare children visited the group in the lodge in Garden Village and community members came together to coordinate a fish fry dinner that was very much appreciated.

Patricia and her supporters arrived in Ottawa on August 22nd and left a lasting impression on everyone they met along their journey. We wish them safe travels home after this long and meaningful journey.

ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

3 Prizes to be won!

LNHL Raffle Tickets available at local stores!

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



NAME

PHONE NUMBER

NFN PERMIT # 1019-133

\$10 PER TICKET / 3 FOR \$25

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HOSTING OF LITTLE NHL 2022

NFN PERMIT # 1019-133



NORTH BAY INDIGENOUS HUB - GIIWEDNO MSHIKIIWGAMIG PRESENTS...

Indigenous Market & Teaching Lodge



GIIWEDNO MSHIKIIWGAMIG

SEPT 10TH 12PM-8PM & SEPT 11TH 10AM-4PM

- Traditional Teachings
- Food and Art Vendors
- Residential School Information
- Dancing, Singing & Food Prep Demonstration

*ALL PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED FOR THIS OUTDOOR EVENT.

Contact events@gmghub.ca if you have any questions.

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EVERYONE WELCOME!

Cannabis Fire Safety

RESPONSIBILITY GROWS HERE.



IMPAIRMENT INCLUDES CANNABIS



Cooking while under the influence of alcohol, prescription drugs or cannabis can result in a fire.

Don't put yourself or your family at risk.
Always remain alert when cooking.

Keep a close eye on anyone attempting to cook or smoke while impaired.

SMOKING IS SMOKING



Smoking is the **leading cause of residential fire deaths** in Ontario.

Encourage smokers to smoke outside. **Never smoke or toké in bed.**

Whether it is tobacco or cannabis, cigarettes and joints need to be properly extinguished in **large, deep ashtrays**.

HAZARDOUS EXTRACTION OF CANNABIS OIL CAN CAUSE EXPLOSIONS AND FIRES



Extracting cannabis oil with flammable solvents is **extremely hazardous**. It can result in the uncontrolled release of flammable vapours. If ignited, these vapours lead to explosions and fires that can cause serious injury or death.

Hazardous extraction in basements is particularly dangerous because flammable vapours can accumulate in higher concentrations leading to even more powerful explosions.

Hazardous extraction using flammable materials such as butane is against the law in homes and in basements.

TOO MANY WIRES CAN CAUSE FIRES



Extension cords should be used only as a **temporary connection**. If permanent wiring is required, have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician. **Extension cords should not be linked together.** Instead, use an extension cord that is long enough to do the job.

Avoid running cords under rugs, which can damage the cord and cause a fire.

Avoid overloading a circuit with "octopus outlets". If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician.

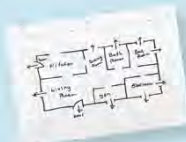
Ensure that all electrical appliances such as grow lamps are **certified by an accredited testing agency** like ULC or CSA. And make sure they are operated according to manufacturer's instructions.

Don't put yourself or your family at risk of fire.

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!



Only working smoke alarms give you the early warning you need to safely escape a fire. Install **smoke and carbon monoxide alarms** in your home. **Test them every month.**



Practice a **home fire escape plan** so everyone in your home knows what to do when the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms sound in an emergency.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Nipissing First Nation Fire Service

Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management
ontario.ca/firemarshal

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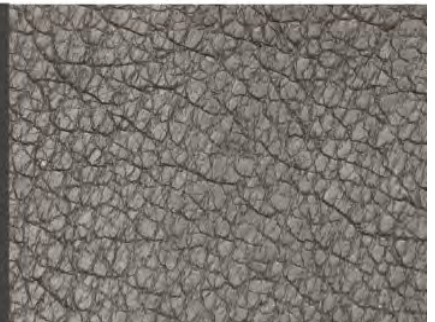
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September 2021

Mdaamin Giizis (Corn Moon)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1  Food Bank ACCESS DAY Community Healing Circle @6pm in ODR	2	3 Kendaaswin Back to School Draw!	4
5	6 STAT Holiday Labour Day	7 Council Meeting @ 7:30pm	8 Kids Crafts Register with katiel@nfn.ca	9 Jack Box Game Night Register with: bradyp@nfn.ca (ages 13-24)	 Kids Netflix	11
12	13	14 Colour Me Calm Social @ 6:30pm (ages 13-24)	15  Food Bank ACCESS DAY nfn.ca/food-bank	16 Kids Scrapbooking Register with: katiel@nfn.ca	17	18
19	20	21 Kids Crafts & Self-Care Pkgs katiel@nfn.ca Council Meeting @ 7:30pm	22 Family Yoga @ 6pm. Register: bradyp@nfn.ca	23 Jack Box Game Night Register with: bradyp@nfn.ca (ages 13-24)	24 Duchesnay Drive-In Movie @ 8:30pm Right Path Open House 4-7pm Kids Netflix	25
26	27 Kids Social Register with katiel@nfn.ca	28 Beading Social @ 6:30pm (ages 13-24)	29 Kids Pony Bead Craft Register: katiel@nfn.ca (ages 0-12)	 30 Walk of Honour & STAT Holiday National Day for Truth & Reconciliation		Oct 2 Virtual Pow Wow with Live Dancers Grand Entry at Noon



Contact Us

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 Garden Village ON P2B 3K2

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 FAX: (705) 753-0207

