



Point Of Contact



Ardoch Algonquin First Nation(AAFNA)

Newsletter

Aditagagomin/Kakone Kisis August/September 2005

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Ka-Pishkawandemin: Council Meetings

- **July 31st
- **August 27th
- **Sept. 24th

Council meetings are open to all members and are held at 1pm at the band office in Ardoch.

Please Attend!!!

Are Aboriginal Women Being Targeted By Serial Killers?

On November 12, 1971, 19-year-old Helen Betty Osborne was abducted by four white men in the town of The Pas, Manitoba and then sexually assaulted and brutally killed. More than three decades later, on March 25, 2003, her 16-year-old cousin Felicia Solomon disappeared on her way home from school in Winnipeg.



Helen Betty Osborne, murdered in 1971, and her cousin Felicia Solomon, murdered in 2003

Her murder was a racist and sexist act. Betty Osborne would be alive today had she not been an Aboriginal woman. Amnesty International has argued that Canadian officials have too long ignored the threat to Indigenous women in Canadian towns and cities. Many are missing, some have been murdered and Canadian authorities are not doing enough to stop the violence. While the lack of consistent reporting and comprehensive analysis by Canadian police and government agencies of violent crimes against Indigenous women leaves many unanswered questions about the scale and sources of violence, Amnesty feels that it is the social and economic marginalization of Indigenous women that has placed far too many women in harm's way. In the report entitled *Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada*, suggests that violence against Indigenous women is rarely understood as a human rights issue. Instead, it is seen as a social or criminal concern.

AAFNA General Assembly to be Held

The Annual General Assembly of the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation (AAFNA) will be held during the 2nd annual Pow Wow. The Assembly will be held on the second morning of the Pow Wow, Sunday September 4, 2005. Traditionally, the Annual General Assembly is one of the most important gatherings of the year for AAFNA Families. It is at the General Assembly that the membership gives direction to the Family Heads Council.

This has been a very challenging years for AAFNA. Our Council continues to strive for honesty and openness in the Algonquin Land Claim. We have taken the position of remaining outside of the Land Claim negotiations until equity for all Algonquin communities and open communication can be achieved. We have also defended our traditional form of governance by challenging the Algonquin Negotiations Representative Election.

AAFNA continues to pressure Ontario for recognition of Algonquin Harvesting and Resource Management rights. There have been significant events over the past year that will be discussed at the General Assembly.

We also continue to develop our community structure. Council is putting particular attention toward developing policies that will help us to become more efficient in meeting community needs. Council has recognized and continues to struggle with better communications with our membership.

Family Heads Council urges all members to attend the Annual General Assembly at this Years Pow Wow. This will be a great opportunity to make your opinions known, give support to Council and share in the ongoing vision of AAFNA.

However, when Indigenous women are targeted because of their gender or Indigenous identity, their human rights have been abused. When they are not offered an adequate level of protection by state authorities because of their gender or Indigenous identity, those human rights have been violated. This is the reality in which Indigenous women exist in Canada. In fact, According to a 1996 government statistic, Indigenous women between the ages of 25 and 44 are five times more likely to die of a violent death than non-Indigenous women

At the present time, over 500 Indigenous women in Canada are missing or presumed murdered. Some have been linked to serial killers who it is said, targeted Indigenous women specifically. While evidence indicates that racist and sexist attitudes toward Indigenous women continue to be a factor in these disappearances and murders, little has been done by Canadian officials to stop the onslaught of violence against Indigenous women.

Greetings From the Chief

Kwey Kwey:

The second annual powow and family gathering is fast approaching. The theme this year is Leadership, so in that vein, I would anticipate a large turn out for the event. Please get involved, and grow stronger together.

The Powwow is scheduled to be on the **03-04 September 2005**, at the Plevna Hall and grounds

We will also be holding our General Yearly Assembly meeting during the Powwow time. For more information contact me at 613-268-2688 or Bob Lovelace at 613-374-5598, or Dave or Carol Anne at 613-375-8345.

All the best, have safe and happy summer,
See you in September!

Your Chief,
Randy Cota for
Heads of Family Council.

Nozhem: First Peoples Performance Space Upcoming Events

- >Sept. 18-24, 2005: Le-La-La Dancers From Kwakwaka'waku Nation of Northern Vancouver Island.
- >Sept. 13-Dec. 8, 2005: Indigenous Contemporary Dance and Indigenous Contemporary Repertory.
- >November 7, 2005: Asani: Voice and Song Workshop.
- >Date to be Announced: Arnait Inuit Women's Video Workshops and Screenings
- >March 1-4, 2006: An Evening in Paris
- >March 30-31, 2006: Indigenous Theatre Presentation

Nozhem: First Peoples Performance Space is Located at the First Peoples House of Learning, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario.

All events are open to the public. For info e-mail nozhem@trentu.ca

Rick Revelle Coaches Champion Aboriginal Soft Ball Team

Rick Revelle will be going to the Canadian Senior Men's fastball Championships in St Thomas Ontario from August 27th to September 4th:

He will be coaching the Eastmain Fireballs from Quebec. The Fireballs are an all Native team lead by their player manager Ray Shanoush. The Fireball's record over the last 2 years is 87 wins and 6 losses, 12 tournament championships and back to back Regional Champions in Quebec. Ray Shanoush plays in the summer also for MVD Sports in Ashland Ohio an ISC team. There Shanoush has a 16 and 2 record with an .303 era. He has 134 strikeouts against 28 walks and has a batting average of .308 Eastmain's other pitchers are big 6'4', Ritchie Denny, a Mi'Kmaq from Cape Breton Island and John "Rocket" Moses from Eastmain.

The Eastmain Fireballs are also going to the North American Indigenous Games in Denver Colorado in July 2006 and have asked Revelle to coach them there. The North American Indigenous Games are the biggest Native games in the world with 15 sports in 5 age categories and men and women's competitions. In 2002, at Winnipeg there were 35,000 people at the opening ceremonies.

Revelle is an Algonquin from the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation and Allies band and a Level 2 softball coach .

part and parcel with Canadian Indian Policy. Perhaps a more sinister reason for continuing tax exemption through the Indian Act was to reinforce Indian dependency on the State. If Indians were taxed then they would expect the same rights as other citizens. When Aboriginal people were given Canadian citizenship in 1962, tax exemption continued as an established benefit.

Over the last century Canadian Indian Policy has become more and more confused. In an attempt to enforce a “one size fits all” Indian Act, the Canadian government has had to constantly create exceptions that have no grounding in history or reality. Tax exemption is no different. For example, status-Algonquins at Golden Lake enjoy tax exemption by way of the Indian Act although they have no treaty with Canada. The government recognises the Aboriginal rights of non-status Algonquins to negotiate a treaty but does not recognise their right to tax exemption. Clearly, Canada is engaged in out-right discrimination.

Canoe Tickets

The Perry Canoe is one of the finest canoes ever built. It is light (47 lbs), strong and versatile. The Perry Canoe was designed by Harold Perry and continues to be built in his workshop with great craftsmanship. Every Summer AAFNA raffles one of these fine canoes. The funds raised by this raffle go to Scholarships and Social activities. To get your ticket for the Perry Canoe please contact Bob Lovelace (613-374-5598). The Draw will take place on Sunday, September 4, at the AAFNA Powwow.

Bob also needs help selling tickets so if you would like your family and friends to have a chance of winning a Perry Canoe, please contact him for additional tickets.

Kinnikinnik: GIFT OF THE BEAR

by
Keewaydinoquay



According to the tales of the Midewiwin, the first council of the Mide spirits was held at the Centre of the Earth and it was called by the upper air spirits to ask the help of the under earth spirits in saving a strange, unfurred animal named mankind.

Otter and Bear were chosen to push the first Tree of Life pole (Grandmother Cedar) from the Earth's Centre through the surface, forming the first channel of communications between Above and Below.

“Hurry Up!” Called Otter down the crack in the earth where the top of the pole had first appeared.

“My fur is drying out in the warm winds Above. Give your best effort.” So Bear gave one last mighty heave with his giant muscles. The earth trembled, and the first Tree of life emerged in the sunlight, quickly followed by Bear himself.

“Come on,” urged Otter, “we have done as they told us. I am anxious to return Below.”

“Not so fast there,” growled Bear. He lifted his great head and curiously sniffed the warm smells of Above.

“I would see this unfurred creature for whom the whole council was concerned.”

“Very well,” bobbed the agreeable Otter, “but make it snappy.” The two totem animals did not have far to look. They came upon a cluster of the unfurred creatures pounding bark.

Seeing the totemog, they howled, dropped the bark, and fled—all but one small manchild who could not even stand on his hind legs.

Bear stared at the naked infant.

“No wonder they needed help. No claws, no teeth, no fur. Not even a Berry.”

“Not even a WHAT?”

“Not even a berry.” Bear pointed down an opening in the manchild’s head out of which came wails of people sound.

“No safety berry. Like mine, see?” Bear leaned back his huge head, parting his gleaming jaws, and Otter obligingly peered into the cavern. There, hanging from the back of Bear’s throat, was a round, ripe miskomin! (rose-coloured berry).

“Sure enough,” said Otter. “What do you do with it?”

“What do I do with it?” That’s the Last Berry. It holds all the other berries I’ve eaten before down inside. And I never starve because the Last berry is always there.”

Otter slid impatiently into the water.

“I don’t really understand why anyone would eat berries.” He called, “but if you think that manchild needs one—give him one and hurry up.” Bear crunched down on his great buttocks

and slid down to the dune to the beach.

Behind him, where his rump had opened up the sand, there grew a long vine with shining leaves and little round berries just like the one in Bear’s mouth. Bear reached over, yanked off a berry, and bopped it into the wailing manchild’s mouth.

“There now,” he rumbled in tender bear tones, “you shall not starve. You have a bear berry too.”

The astonished infant was still, trying to keep his bear berry down. (That is what babies are doing when you see them silently swallowing. In swallowing, trying to keep their bear berries down.) The warm sunlight of Above shone upon the new bearberry vine and upon the plunge circles in the water as Otter and Bear returned to Below.

Bahmbtah-benahsee, (Tom-Tom Bird), who had seen everything that happened, flew to the Tree of Life. Carefully he positioned his grabbing toes into the oil bard. Then he threw back his handsome hammer head and beat out the first rhythm ever sounded on cedar. It said:

Behreee

Bare Bear Behree

Paposse gotta

Bare Bear Behree

Gift of the Bear

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the planning of the 2nd annual AAFNA Powwow and Family Gathering.

Please contact:

Paula Sherman paulasherman@trentu.ca

Bob Lovelace 1-613-374-5598

Randy Cota 1-613-268-2688)

For more information.

We need your support!

Please get involved in the gathering!!!

ARDOCH ALGONQUIN FIRST NATION

Honourary Chief: Harold Perry

2ND ANNUAL POWWOW AND GATHERING OF FAMILIES

HONORING LEADERSHIP

ALL PEOPLES AND NATIONS WELCOME

September 3 & 4

Schedule

GRAND ENTRY Saturday 1:30 p.m.

GRAND ENTRY Sunday 1:00 p.m.

Host Drum - OPP Drum and singers (Zhowski Miingan)

Guest Drum- Pikwanagan Drum of Golden Lake

Head Dancers: Glen Marsden & Paula Sherman

Saturday 10:00am-12:00pm

Ardoch First Nation General Assembly

Saturday 9:00 pm Dance with DJ Pete Vance

Barbeque and Vendors on Powwow grounds

Arts and Crafts Display and Sale

Algonquin History Workshop

General information 613-268-2688

Vendor information 613-283-9432

**Dancer/Drummer and Vender camping on Plevna Hall Grounds

**Additional camping available at Ardoch Falls Park.

**Camping info:1-905-475-0280 or www.ardochfalls.ca