

NEW BREED

**Our Hero - Dorothy Askwith
Winds of Change Stir Meech Lake
Northern Education Task Force Releases
Recommendations
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Uranium - Is It Good for Northern Sask?
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METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN LEADERS SUMMIT

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan (MSS) Leaders Summit held at the Prince Albert Inn on November 25 and 26 had an excellent turnout. Approximately 100 locals were represented from all twelve areas of the MSS. One of the conference organizers, Lorna LaPlante, Executive Director of the MSS, says the attendance was better than some expected, but that everyone was happy that the attendance turned out the way it did. What was not a surprise to anyone was the lively discussions of those in attendance. There was much debate and in the end decisions were made.

Registration began Friday evening November 24. Saturday morning the day began with an opening prayer by Metis elder Vital Morin from Isle a la Crosse. The delegation was reminded of the fact that all were brothers and sisters and to keep things in perspective. Immediately after the prayer, a chairperson was elected from the delegation. Max Morin of Isle a la Crosse was elected and Murray Hamilton of Saskatoon was elected as co-chairperson.

The MSS executive then gave their reports to the assembly in order beginning with President Jim Durocher, Treasurer Philip Chartier and Secretary Gerald Morin. All three reports were well received and accepted by the assembly. Yvon Dumont, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation, and National Spokesperson of the Metis National Council (MNC) also gave a presentation. Immediately after his report, the delegates asked questions and voiced concerns over the position the MNC as well as the MSS have taken on the whole issue of the Meech Lake Accord. The MSS executive and Mr. Dumont had an opportunity to respond. As a result of all this there was a motion brought forward regarding the MSS position on the

Meech Lake Accord. It carried.

Affiliate organizations' reports followed this. All reports were to be given by the chairpersons of each affiliate board. Before any report was given there began a debate on one of the affiliates, the Metis Economic Development Foundation (MEDFO). Eventually the chairperson of MEDFO, Ed Pelletier of Moose Jaw, gave a report. At this time there was a motion brought forward by Tim Lowe of Fort Qu'Appelle that the present board of 15 members be downsized to 5. Mr. Lowe stated that MEDFO was not providing adequate service to Metis people as an economic development support service as it is mandated to do, as a result something has to be done. Mr. Lowe suggested a smaller board would be more efficient. Others who agreed with Mr. Lowe indicated that a five person board would only be appointed on an interim basis until MEDFO was actually doing what it was set out to do and that is to assist Metis people in the area of economic development.

Opponents to Mr. Lowe's motion stated that if the MEDFO board was downsized that it would work against and conflict with the whole movement of decentralization of the Metis peoples' organization. Others felt that the present board has not been given an adequate amount of time to prove themselves, and that problems with MEDFO were there before this board was in place. Overall, everyone agreed that MEDFO has serious problems and that something has to be done, but downsizing the board to five was not the answer. Mr. Lowe's motion was narrowly defeated by a couple of votes. The message from the assembly in regards to that issue was that they wanted representation of each MSS area on all affiliate boards. Soon after the vote on Mr. Lowe's motion there was another motion brought forward, which was to downsize the MEDFO board to twelve. It was then amended to thirteen with the thirteenth person being an elder. The motion passed, leaving it to the MSS board of directors to make the changes. There were concerns raised with every affiliate organization, but none were nearly as controversial and none motivated delegate participation as much as MEDFO did.

Following the MEDFO report was the Saskatchewan Native Addictions Council Corporation (SNAC). The report was given by chairperson Clarence Campeau, also MSS board member repre-

sented Eastern Region II. The concerns here were of staffing, what type of policy and procedure was in place for hiring, and how long should one be an abstainer of alcohol and drugs before they qualify, and that SNAC should make certain that everything is done according to the policy and procedure. Mr. Campeau reassured those concerned that this was practiced already and would continue to be.

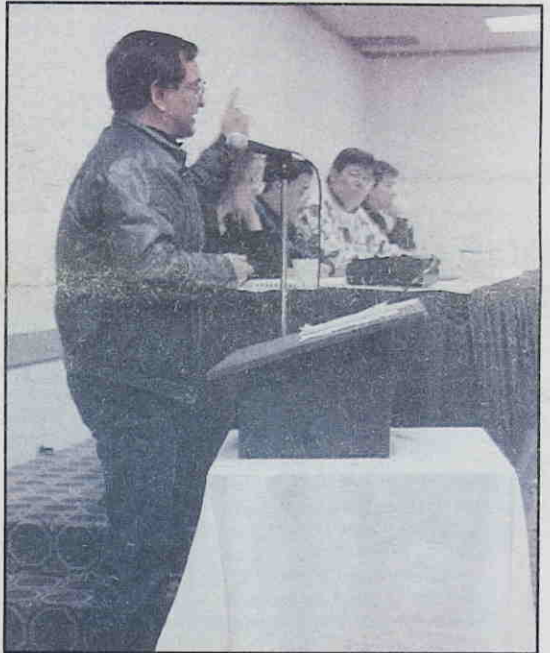
Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) report followed and chairman Max Morin, also MSS board member representing Northern Region III, gave the report along with Executive Director Christopher Lafontaine. The main concern delegates had with GDI was the efforts being made by GDI staff to unionize. Gary LaPlante of Cochin, brought forward a motion that the MSS Local Presidents present at the Leaders Summit oppose the unionization of GDI staff and of staff and other affiliate organizations, the reason being that it conflicts with and undermines the goals and objectives of self-determination, independence and self-government. Mr. LaPlante told the delegation that he is generally in favor of unions but in this case wished to remind the delegation that one of the very principles that GDI programs are based upon is that all activities are directed toward the self-determination, self-reliance and independence of Metis people. Philip Chartier, MSS Treasurer, concurred, reminded the delegation that the original intent was that non-Native employees would gradually be replaced by qualified

Native people and that unionization might jeopardize their ability to do this. There was no debate and the motion carried. Hereafter the report was accepted.

The next report was the Saskatchewan Native Economic Development Corporation (SNEDCO), given by chairman Ron Camponi, also MSS board member representing Western Region IIA. Here the main concern brought forward was the apparent lack of, and inability of Metis people to access loans from SNEDCO. Mr. Camponi re-

minded the assembly that SNEDCO for all intents and purposes, was a bank and that no person can just walk into a bank and secure a loan without being properly screened, and that same process applies to SNEDCO as well. He went on to say that, contrary to what some people may believe about SNEDCO, it has provided loans to Metis people and will continue to do so. The delegates went on to accept the report on SNEDCO.

Continued Page 8



Jimmy Durocher, MSS President



Participants of Mini Assembly

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we enter the final decade of the century, I, like countless others, feel very compelled to say something profound, if only I could think of something that hasn't been said so many times before its become cliché. Here is a little something that, if nothing else, may provoke some thought. Was the first year counted as 01 or 00? If it was 01, then the final decade in this century has not begun yet, and will not begin until January 1, 1991. Who knows for sure?

What's in store for the Metis and

the non-status Indians during the next ten years? I'll be bold and make some predictions.

Well, the 80's brought constitutional recognition of Metis as an Aboriginal people, referring of course to Section 35 of the Constitutional Act 1982. For the Non-Status Indian, it brought Bill C-31 and reinstatement to Indian Status for many. The 80's also saw the dissolution of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). From this the re-emergence of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan took place and the Non-Status Indians have organized as well.

In the next decade we can anticipate the following: the jurisdictional debate between federal and Provincial governments over responsibility for Metis people will finally be resolved. The Federal government will get the privilege. By the 21st Century, the designation "Non-Status Indian" will be a relic of the past, at the insistence of

In the next decade the Metis people will come of age and will be represented proportionately in all spheres of society.

those so called. Before too long the Federal government, in order to simplify matters, will negotiate with Aboriginal people as one unit, rather than three or four. In the next decade the Metis people will come of age and will be represented proportionately in all spheres of society. As well, the trend toward unity amongst Metis will accelerate, and last but not least, the philosophy of Gabriel Dumont will thrive.

Happy New Year and may God and St. Joseph, the patron saint of the Metis, be with us as we face yet another decade. ☐



Gary LaPlante

FROM THE EDITOR



Ona Fiddler-Berteig

I had originally planned on commenting on developments in the Last decade and writing an enthusiastic 'go get em' statement to kick off the 90's, but 1) I realized any development has its good and bad side; 2) It saddened me to read and hear so much about how the 80's was a "me, me" decade; 3) I am basically non-political (if that's possible); 4) I thought our readership had probably already drew their own conclusions about the past; 5) I ran across a comic strip which had a profound effect on my thinking (imagine that!!)(it reminds us that the new decade will progress one day at a time

regardless of anyone's hopes or aspirations); and 6) I simply ran out of time.

Here at the New Breed office it is, as the comic aptly pointed out, just one day at a time. Each day is packed full of interviews, typing, research, writing, editing,... We have a grand time.

I do admit that I have coveted this job (editor/manager) for the New Breed since it was offered in June. However, Maria beat me out in the interview.(darn!) Professionally, I was sad to hear that Maria had resigned, but personally I almost sat by the telephone waiting for the call, (I understand I was first run-

ner up in the initial interview). It came and here I am, the new editor/manager for New Breed (until April anyway).

I would love to tell you that we are planning bigger and better things, but I know this issue is the 'telling' factor, and that as readers you will form your own opinions.

However, I think it's important for the subscribers, potential subscribers and writers to know that our distribution has increased from under 2,000 to 10,000, we are soliciting advertising from an outside advertising firm, and we will produce a monthly issue of New Breed which will be in 'the

mail' on the 10th of every month. Hurrah!

As always, New Breed attempts to bring you the news. I hope that you have or will notice that there has been an attempt on our part to bring you news from the more local level. We hope that with our new increased distribution and commitment to a specific distribution day, everyone will continue to contribute and direct the contents of the newspaper.

We look forward to receiving your input for further issues and I personally hope that New Breed will become a paper we Saskatchewan Metis can be proud of.

A CONVERSATION

by John

"Tansi moshum"

"Haeiyahie!!! nugwachas! come in boy, come in. You finally came to visit your grandpa. Your cokum is over helping Mary with a moose hide. Come in boy, there is some fresh bannock cokum made this morning and the tea is still hot. Sit down meetsoo!"

"Aw right, grandma's bannock, I've missed this, no one makes it as good as cokum. How is she?"

"Oh she's still the same, never changes that one, stubborn. How about you nugwachas, how are you? You're looking good. You're not married yet?"

"Oh no, not me!"

"Your day will come, just watch, your day will come. You have a good job, good money, you shouldn't have any problem with girls."

"Oh, I'm not having any trouble."

"So...you're working as a mechanic at Key Lake still eh?"

"No, no. I'm operating heavy equipment, mostly I drive a haul truck."

"Didn't you go to school to be a mechanic, though? Before you went to work at Key Lake, you worked for a while as a mechanic, you should take an apprenticeship so that time doesn't go to waste."

"It's not up to me, there just aren't very many mechanics apprenticeships. I've bid on every one for the last five years. So they know my qualifications."

"Well, if you can't get a mechanics job, you should maybe try for a welder or something, get some free training."

"For one thing, moshum, there is no such thing as a welder apprentice at Key Lake, there never has been, or a plumber apprentice or a carpenter apprentice. If you want to get technical, the catering company is a contractor but they are told what to do by the company and I have never heard of a chef's apprentice either."

"That's not the way it's supposed to be. You guys are supposed to get training in all the trades. I'm sure it said that in the land lease when I read it, after that inquiry when the board of inquiry had a meeting here in town, at the school, me and Jim Loudvoice went to that. You are supposed to get training. That's the whole idea behind that place. The Elders really didn't want a mine, not a uranium mine anyway. But that Campbell guy said it was all going to be safe and you are supposed to get training. Why doesn't someone tell the government, they're the ones who are supposed to make sure Key Lake obeys the lease."

"Southern government, grandpa. Southern government!!! Any jam for this bannock?"

"In the cupboard over there, doesn't matter which government we have, it's in the land lease."

"The company says there is no more land lease. There is an affirmative action agreement or something but no one I've talked to has read it or knows for sure what's in it."

"They can't get a new land lease! They have to come back and talk to the Elders first."

"I don't know, that's what they say."

"You'd think when you get to my age you'd get used to being let down,,again!!! If they aren't using the land lease any more, how about the environment?"

"Well you listen to the news, we've had a lot of spills."

"I think it has a lot to do with the training up there - they teach you just enough to do the job. Nothing more - it's like they don't want us to know any more than we have to."

"You'd think in a uranium mine they would want you to be well trained. I mean, that's deadly stuff

you work with. Hey!!! here comes your grandma. You'll stay and eat with us eh. Nugwachas? She's baking a lake trout, and I know she still has some wild rice hid away."

"Baked trout and wild rice...Grandpa, you couldn't chase me away from the table even if you wanted to." ☐

NOTICE



Ona Fiddler-Berteig



Tracy Weitzel

The Board of Directors of Saskatchewan Native Communications Corporation would like to welcome two new staff members to New Breed. Congratulations to Ona Fiddler-Berteig, Editor/Manager and Tracy Weitzel, Office Manager. Welcome to the Team!!

BATOCHÉ 1990 OFF TO AN EARLY START

Back to Batoche Days has been an annual event for Saskatchewan Metis for 20 years. The number of participants has varied from a couple of hundred to near a thousand.

This year the Batoche Planning Committee is getting an early start. The second formal committee meeting took place at the Metis Society of Saskatchewan offices on December 12. Fourteen people were present. This included representatives from the Metis National Council, The Metis Society of Saskatchewan, Friendship Centres, and The Gabriel Dumont Institute.

In an atmosphere of friendship, excitement and shared purpose the events which will take place next year began to take shape.

This year's special celebration will include the traditional fiddling and jiggling competitions,



Mr. and Mrs. Batoche (an onsite award) the food booths, a revamped children's program, bingo, rodeo, baseball, softball and a Ms. Batoche competition which is hoped to involve more Metis people at the local level.

Murray Hamilton, in an articulate, objective and humorous manner, pointed out in an article which was printed in the September issue of *New Breed* that the number of participants at Back to Batoche dwindles with each year.

He cited the weather, agenda, lack of facilities, politics, funding and lack of organization as some of the reasons for this problem. He stated in September, "1990 will mark the 20th Anniversary of Back to Batoche; if some action is taken now, Batoche can be restored to its former prominence."

This year's planning committee will or has addressed some of those concerns. Ron Rivard, the Chairperson for this committee reported a modest profit of over \$8,000.00 from last year. Although Back to Batoche Days is not a profit oriented event, the dollars generated will be used towards the following years activities, and in the long term, towards goals such as permanent facilities and maybe seeding grass.

Lorna LaPlante, a committee member and the Executive Direc-

tor for the Metis Society of Saskatchewan, is enthusiastic about the committee plans. "I'm really excited about next year's celebration, we are better prepared this year and are re-doubling the effort to involve other provinces. I'm sad that some people are not happy with Batoche Days and hope that they will focus their criticism in a positive way by participating in the planning stages and help us make Back to Batoche Days an event which does not fear competition from any others activities."

The Back to Batoche planning committee will meet again on January 24, 1990 at 1:30 P.M. at the new Metis Society of Saskatchewan office, 1249 8th Street East, Saskatoon. □

BATOCHÉ RODEO, 1990 FUNDRAISING BEGINS

The back to Batoche rodeo committee hosted a New Years Eve fund raising dance. Jim Durocher, President of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan delivered the banquet address. He stressed the importance of supporting when possible all Back to Batoche fundraising initiatives. Mr. Durocher reminded those in attendance that the Metis have a long history as horsemen and that Saskatchewan still has a large number of Metis ranchers. "Native people have a long history of horsemanship, and are perhaps the best horsemen in North America," he proudly stated. He further added that, "horsemanship is culturally relevant to the Metis and the best place to showcase these skills is at the annual Back to Batoche Days."

The dance itself portrayed some of the cultural heritage inherent in

Metis identity. The music consisted of mostly Old Time dancing with highlights of Metis favorites like the Red River Jig and others. 'John Arcand and the Sons of the Early Settlers' was the band.

A special event drew applause from those in attendance. Randy Hamilton (age 13), and Joe LaPlante (age 8) demonstrated that the music of the Metis will carry on through the generations by giving a special performance of their fiddle playing skills. Raeleen Albert (age 4) was also scheduled to perform but at the crucial moment just couldn't do it.

Although the number of participants was not overwhelming (approximately 100) Gary LaPlante, who heads up the Rodeo fundraising committee is optimistic about future endeavors. "I think it is important for people to

see that fundraising for Batoche has begun," he stated. He further added that the dance was a starter for the committee and that "we'll get better."

Mr. LaPlante emphasized that the committee will do everything it can to ensure that a rodeo is a part of the Back to Batoche Days celebration and reported that other committees will also begin their fundraising activities.

Mr. Arcand did an on the spot composition which drew everyone to their feet. He had the Red River Jig flow into the traditional Auld Langsyne, and all in attendance brought 'kissing day' and the new decade in with a jig amidst much hugs, kisses and laughter.

The rodeo committee plans to host another fundraising event in the very near future. □



TEENS HAVE THEIR SAY ABOUT DRUG ABUSE

by Ann Kennedy

In 1989 hundreds of thousands of Canadian teenagers will begin to experiment with alcohol, marijuana, hashish, crack and cocaine.

How do students in Beauval feel about this? From November 27-30, 1989, students from Valley View School and Beauval Indian Educational Centre had an opportunity to make their feelings known about drug and alcohol abuse.

During a two day workshop, entitled Caravan About Drugs, students from each school created 30 second, animated public service messages about drug awareness. Each group of ten students decided the message of their film by examining their own opinions during intensive group discussion. They then wrote the plot, de-

signed, drew and colored the frames and then filmed their drawings. At the end of the workshop, the films were screened for family, friends and the media at the Beauval Indian Educational Centre.

The concept of this project was developed by Bruce Royer and Clifford Cohen from Le Groupe Sumo, Montreal in a desire to take action against a social problem which is increasingly plaguing our society. Through this desire, they developed the concept of "teenagers talking to teenagers" through animation. Their dream has now become a national campaign.

"I believe our efforts with this project will have impact on teenagers decisions about drugs and

alcohol," said Bruce Royer. "How much impact is hard to measure, but if it keeps even one person from wasting their life to substance abuse, we will have succeeded."

The basic premise of the workshop is that hard work equals fabulous rewards. "Every participant will tell you how much hard work it was," explained Clifford Cohen. "but they will also tell you in the same breath how excited they are of 'their' film. This project instills self-worth in the participant which may replace one of the fundamental reasons behind substance abuse - a feeling of worthlessness."

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L to R. Two students from BIEC, actor Billy Merasty and Bruce Royer.

LARONGE NATIVE WOMEN'S COUNCIL RECEIVES TRAINING DOLLARS

Fifteen Native women from LaRonge will participate in a one-year councillor/co-ordinator training project through funding of \$289,318 under the Canadian Jobs Strategy.

"The women who participated in last year's project showed incredible progress. After a year's training they developed a whole new outlook on life," said Defense Minister Bill McKnight in announcing the Job re-entry project on behalf of Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall.

The various training components, co-ordinated by LaRonge Native Women's Council, will prepare the women for work in crisis or resource centres. They will learn how to make proposals and budgets, write press releases and reports, interview abused children, recognize child and sexual abuse, and assess social and cultural restraints on women.

"To complete this project takes a great deal of strength and commitment both on the part of the participants and the staff," said Mr. McKnight. "We feel they are up to

the challenge, just as they have managed to cope with the changing way of life in the north."

In response to the feedback from the last project, a new co-dependency workshop to deal with adult children of alcoholics has been added.

Job placements comprise an integral part of the project and will help the participants, half of whom are social assistance recipients, attain permanent employment. Hospitals, women's resource centres and battered women's homes are among com-

mon placements that the women had during the previous program.

Anita Johnson, a member of the LaRonge Native Women's Council was excited and enthusiastic about the second year of the project. She reported that of the thirteen women in the program last year, all but one completed it and most were now employed. "It was a really successful program, we have developed the selection process for this year, hired a coordinator and will begin the actual training by the end of January," she stated.

The training has a life skills component on personal development and setting goals. It encompasses different counselling techniques, crisis counselling, examines Alcoholism as a disease and its impacts, family violence (physical, sexual, emotional and psychological), adult children of alcoholics and it cumulates in an on the job training placement.

The re-entry option of Job Entry under the Canadian Jobs Strategy offers funding for projects designed to help women re-enter the workforce. Participants may be eligible for financial support while receiving training and on-the-job experience. □

SANTA VISITS FRIENDSHIP CENTRES

'Christmas is for Children' is a common phrase these days. Friendship centres across the country appear to have adopted this philosophy. In

Saskatchewan's larger urban centres hundreds of children gather to visit with Santa and celebrate.

The Prince Albert and Saskatoon

Indian and Metis Friendship Centres received over 300 children this year. Regina boasts a guest list of over 1,000, and other centres have had successful turn-outs.

At most Friendship Centres every child who is registered receives a 'store bought' gift. In Saskatoon the larger department stores donate a certain amount of dollars in toys and the United Way give cash donations. Each child also receives a bag of candy. Elaine Lefreniere, the Program Coordinator for Saskatoon has been a busy little elf wrapping over 300 gifts and filling candy bags. Says Elaine, "We start planning for the next year as soon as the last one is over. We do evaluations and look at all suggestions to improve the party for the next year. It's very hectic, but we all pitch in and help. The fine options program has been really helpful."

The planning committee for this year's party feared that the 40 below weather would stop children from attending, but apparently the elements did not daunt the determined children and parents. Ka-

tee's, a childrens entertainment business were present with balloon animals, mimes and clowns, Santa and Mrs. Claus were on hand to listen to wish lists and

hand out gifts. The board and staff all participated in an event which will positively impact the lives of many Native children from the Saskatoon area. □



Look Mom!!

Photo Credit - Gary Bertog



and Santa....

Photo Credit - Gary Bertog

PAUL DAIGNEAULT: YOUNG LEADER

Missinipi Broadcasting Corp.

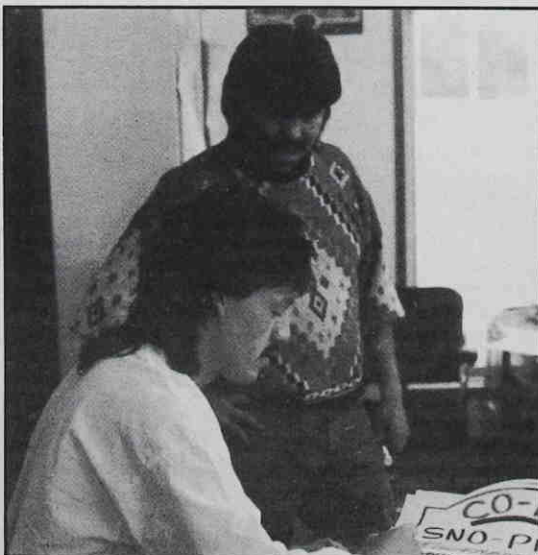
Paul Daigneault is originally from Ile a la Crosse, Saskatchewan. Paul actively participates in events and activities that benefit communities, organizations and individuals.

He isn't satisfied by just the mere fact of existence. He makes things happen!

Paul was elected as President of the Metis Society of Jim Brady local on October 18, 1989

Since then, he has been active in the local's number one priority; the restructuring of the Provincial Metis Society. With his associates, the Metis of La Ronge have submitted a paper proposing a change to the present Metis system. He has also been involved in organizing a three day hockey tournament that brought teams from as far away as Cumberland House.

On the local side of events, Paul's expectations include obtaining a large Metis membership and activating the Metis. □



Paul Daigneault

Photo Credit - Missinipi Broadcasting

Season's Greetings

House Of Prayer - 2



White Bear Reserve
Carlyle, Sask.
S0C 0R0

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Service: Sundays 2:00 p.m.
Pastor: Melvin Stevenson
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METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN DRAFTS NEW POLICY AND VISION STATEMENT

"The Metis Society of Saskatchewan hopes to start the new year and new decade with a renewed sense of purpose and with a clearer sense of direction for all sectors of the provincial Metis community," states Philip Chartier, Treasurer of MSS.

Acting on recommendations from the MSS membership, the Board of Directors of MSS at the Prince Albert Mini-Assembly in November struck up a committee whose mandate was to develop policy for the Society. The policy committee members are Philip Chartier (MSS Treasurer) Lorna LaPlante (MSS Executive Director), Winston McKay (MSS Eastern Region Area Director), Max Morin (MSS North Region III Director), and Lillian Sanderson (MSS North Region I Area Director).

The committee reviewed the existing policy and procedures, discussed logistics and on December 11th and 12th, drafted up a new policy regarding roles and responsibilities of MSS Executive, Area

Directors, Locals and Affiliates.

MSS has been accused of existing as a duplication of AMNSIS. Lillian Sanderson, a policy committee member and primary investigator for the committees development, is adamant about the position of MSS with reference to the accusations. "We've never seen what AMNSIS has. We know we have to start things over," she stated. She further added that the board which is composed of the area directors, the locals, the affiliates and the executive, all know what their mandate is, "but we have to clarify the exact procedure for how to get things done effectively and efficiently," she emphasized.

The committees December 11th and 12th meeting saw the development of the policy and the introduction of vision statement.

Lorna LaPlante, Executive Director of MSS, was enthusiastic about the endeavour, but emphasized that time was of the essence. "It is very exciting to us. The vision statement sums up why MSS



Lillian Sanderson



Phillip Chartier

exists in one sentence, now the membership have an easy to understand policy to work with," she stated.

The draft policy will be subject to the findings of the constitution committee. They have met at the area level and plan on meeting at the local level to obtain input on the overall structure of MSS.

Lorna is confident that the draft

policy will be flexible enough to be adapted to any changes if necessary "The committee utilized the MSS constitution, but did not articulate so much that it would be outdated by the constitution committees findings," she stated.

Says Lillian, "We hope the draft policy will define roles and responsibilities of all Metis. The objective was clearly to enhance

communications and development at all levels within MSS".

The draft policy and vision statement developed by the committee will be presented to the board by the end of January for ratification. If adopted, it will be printed in full in the February issue of New Breed for all membership to review. □

NORTHERN EDUCATION TASK FORCE RELEASES RECOMMENDATIONS

The Northern Education Task Force was established in March of 1988 by the Honorable Lorne Hepworthe, Provincial Minister of Education.

The Task Force was initiated to investigate and identify concerns by Northern Saskatchewan residents regarding the school and education system. The committee which consists of twelve northern residents listened to views on northern education by individuals, groups, organizations. The Task Force also held various public hearings in selected northern communities.

These communities include Stony Rapids, Cumberland House, Creighton, Pelican Narrows, Beauval, Ile a la Crosse, La Loche, Pinehouse and La Ronge.

The primary mandate as indicated in the introduction of the report to the Minister of education is, "to assist Saskatchewan Education, the boards of northern school divisions, and the board of Northern Career College to chart the course elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education in Northern Saskatchewan. The paramount mandate of the Northern Education Task Force was to identify educational concerns and issues in Northern Saskatchewan through public consultation and to recommend ways to address these issues and concerns by proposing new initiatives and priorities".

The Task Force report was released in November this year, 20 months after its inception. Mr. Roy Cheechum, the representative from La Loche was enthusiastic about the report, but also recog-


nized that although the 16 recommendations were accepted in principle by the education institutions who would implement them, the details and logistics for implementation would have to be worked out by the same institutions. "We worked hard for 18 months, sometimes the logistics for meetings were difficult but generally we are very happy with the report," he reports. "The report reflects what the people want, what the task force wants and what the North needs. We went to the grassroots and the recommendations are what we heard".

The report indicates that although there has been dramatic improvements in the educational system in Northern Saskatchewan in the past two decades there continues to be a very high drop out rate that is unacceptable.

The Task Force states that the major objective for parents and educators is to keep the kids in school.

The 136 page document identifies 16 major recommendations that will assist, if implemented, the educational system for northerners.

Most of the presentations included issues such as, Native languages, improving student retention, recreation, increased funding levels, curriculum relevant to Aboriginal and northern people, instructors who understood northern Aboriginal values and lifestyles, community involvement regarding school year schedules, a northern college regarding post secondary education, more public participation, preparation of a



From The
Executive & Area Directors and
Staff of the

**Metis Society
of
Saskatchewan**

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skilled northern workforce, grade placement, and a pre-kindergarten program available for four year old kids.

In conclusion, the people want an educational system that will provide the necessary educational needs and requirements that will in return create improved social and economic conditions that will

best serve their communities in the future.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation # 1

It is recommended that Saskatchewan education spearhead the development of early child-

hood education programs for four year old children in Northern Saskatchewan.

With emphasis on a home-based model that supports the role of the family; or where home-based programs are not feasible, consideration be given to school-based

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METIS SELF-DETERMINATION FACES CHALLENGE

Guest editorial by Clem Chartier

At the Metis Society of Saskatchewan (MSS) Leaders Summit, the membership passed the following motion: "That the assembly of Presidents at the MSS Leaders Summit held in Prince Albert on November 25th and 26th, 1989, are opposed to the unionization of the Gabriel Dumont Institute and/or any affiliate corporations because it conflicts and undermines the goals and objectives of achieving self-government and self-determination."

Why was such a motion passed? It was passed because the membership believed it was the right thing to do, a decision not taken lightly. The organization is not in principle opposed to unions, and the union movement is not in principle opposed to Native political organizations. Moreover, unions, such as the Federation of Saskatchewan Labour (SFL), support the initiatives of the MSS in its struggle for a Metis landbase and self-government.

Clearly the organization does not want to alienate this most valuable source of support!

On the other hand, the organization still intends to secure for the Metis a landbase and self-government. Attempts to unionize the

employees of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) contradicts these objectives and is therefore seen as more than a matter of "labour relations". It is viewed as an issue that threatens Metis self-government and Metis self-determination.

The Metis have strived to build a socio-economic base through the establishment of a number of institutions. These institutions, which are affiliates of the political body, are seen as forming the framework for Metis self-government. Once this right is recognized, self-government will be implemented through the existing infrastructure.

Basically, the Metis (along with the other Aboriginal peoples and nations) want to entrench in Canada's Constitution the right to self-government, as a third order of government. Currently, there are two recognized levels (orders): the federal (section 91) and provincial (section 92) governments.

In this connection, there are jurisdictional problems with respect to the Metis. In fact, the Metis are the only Aboriginal people for whom there is no clear jurisdiction. The federal government has the power to pass laws with respect to the Indian peoples (Status and Non-

Attempts to unionize the employees of the Gabriel Dumont Institute... is viewed as an issue that threatens Metis self-government and Metis self-determination.

Status) and the Inuit. However, they state that the Metis are under provincial jurisdiction. And, the government of Saskatchewan maintains that the Metis are under federal jurisdiction.

It has been, and continues to be, the position of the organization and the Metis National Council (MNC), that the Metis are covered by section 91 (24) federal powers (jurisdiction). To clarify this, the MNC has applied to the Court Challenges Program for funding. The proposed project intends to challenge the issue of federal responsibility for the Metis under section 91 (24). In the interim, the organization (MSS) has encouraged the MNC to convince the

federal Minister of Justice to refer this matter directly to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Until there is a judicial determination of this issue, it is not clear whether the province has the authority to deal with the Metis directly. Consequently, provincial labour laws may not be applicable to the Metis.

Resolving this issue and securing the right of Metis self-government in the Canadian Constitution will take time, however it is vitally important that eventual success be kept in mind. This surely was the purpose behind the resolution adopted in Prince Albert by the grassroots leadership of the organization.

In this context, the Non-Aboriginal people working within the GDI system should reflect upon the aspirations and struggles of the Metis for Metis self-government. After all, GDI is not only the educational arm of MSS, it is the cultural arm as well. Culture forms the heart of the Metis Nation which is composed of a people with a rich heritage and traditions. At least, this is what a number of such Non-Aboriginal people within GDI have been saying. In addition, GDI was also intended as a vehicle by which our people would get the proper education and training in order to become self-sufficient and self-governing. This I believe was clearly understood by those Non-Aboriginal persons who accepted employment with the institute.

The Metis and other Aboriginal people working within GDI should also examine the issue of unionizing in terms of Metis political/legal development. What are the best interests of the Metis within Saskatchewan as a whole? Where should one's loyalties lie: their people or some outside institution?

In terms of bread and butter issues, is there some compelling reason why there is a need for a union? Are working conditions that bad at GDI? If there are problems, can't these problems be worked out internally? If there is in fact a need for a representative body for the staff of GDI, such a body should be organized within the spirit and intent of Metis self-government.

The Constitution and By-Laws of the organization and GDI could be amended to provide for the establishment of employee associations, which could deal with labour relations between themselves and their employers. There could also be a provision for an Elders Panel which would deal with such labour relations problems. Any number of accommodations could be made. But these arrangements would be by the Metis themselves and would be consistent with the implementation of Metis self-government. If we want to be self-governing, then we have to take steps in that direction. This could be one of those steps. □

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G.D.I. AND R.C.M.P. RENEW CONTRACT

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research, the educational and cultural organization of Saskatchewan's Metis and Non-Status Indian people and "F" Division of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police signed a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the continuance of delivery of an innovative program started in January 1989, and designed to prepare Native people for entry into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and law enforcement related employment.

This joint project is unique in Canada and resulted from the recognition by both parties of the urgent need for more Native people in policing and law en-

forcement. The program from its inception has been and will continue to be a collaborative effort. Cooperation between the police and the Native people characterizes the entire program; the planning; student recruitment; selection and intake; course refinement and modification; monitoring; and evaluation. The complementary design of the program incorporates the recognized expertise of the Institute in designing and delivering special educational measures to academically prepare Native people for furthering their education and the Force's world renowned experience in the training of law enforcement personnel.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute coordinates and manages the pro-

GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE WILL CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research, an Aboriginal controlled education institution, is unique in Canada. The institute is designed to serve the education and cultural needs of the Saskatchewan Metis and Non-Status Indian community.

Programs include Teacher Education, Business Management, Human Justice, Forestry and other preparatory and technical programs. Support to programs and students include most importantly: Curriculum Development, Native Studies, Resource and Information Services, The Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation, and The Native Services Division of SIAST.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute will be celebrating its 10th anniversary at an Annual Cultural and Educational Conference on January 25-27, 1990 at the Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The theme of this years confer-

ence is "A Decade of Progress". Keynote speakers include: Chief Justice Murray Sinclair; Associate Chief Justice and leader of the Manitoba Inquiry into the Administration of Justice and Aboriginal people. (January 26, Banquet) Dr. Howard Adams: Educator and noted Metis Activist in the 60's, author of *Prison of Grass* (1975), has taught at the universities of British Columbia, Saskatchewan and California. (Jan. 26, a.m.) Dr. Colin McColl: Born

and raised in Ile a la Crosse. Colin graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with great distinction and is the first physician of Metis ancestry in Canada. He is currently doing his surgical residency at Foothills Hospital in Calgary. (Jan. 26, luncheon)



**Gabriel
Dumont
Institute**

and raised in Ile a la Crosse. Colin graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with great distinction and is the first physician of Metis ancestry in Canada. He is currently doing his surgical residency at Foothills Hospital in Calgary. (Jan. 26, luncheon)

Educational and Cultural workshops on Friday, January 26, 1990 include: Metis Fiddling and Dancing; Metis Storytelling; Justice Must be Done - Aboriginal Justice Issues; Spirituality; Another Perspective; Northern Education: A Challenge for the '90's; Keeping our Language; Healing Ourselves and Our Communities and Activities for Youth.

Social events include entertainment and a talent show on Thursday evening, January 25. At the banquet on Friday evening, three individuals will be invested into the Order of Gabriel Dumont and outstanding students from the Institute's programs will be honored. □

well as the Special and Regular Constable training programs.

The response to the program has been overwhelming and it is hoped that this exciting endeavour will assist the participants in gaining the qualifications necessary to meet the standards for future careers in law enforcement. □

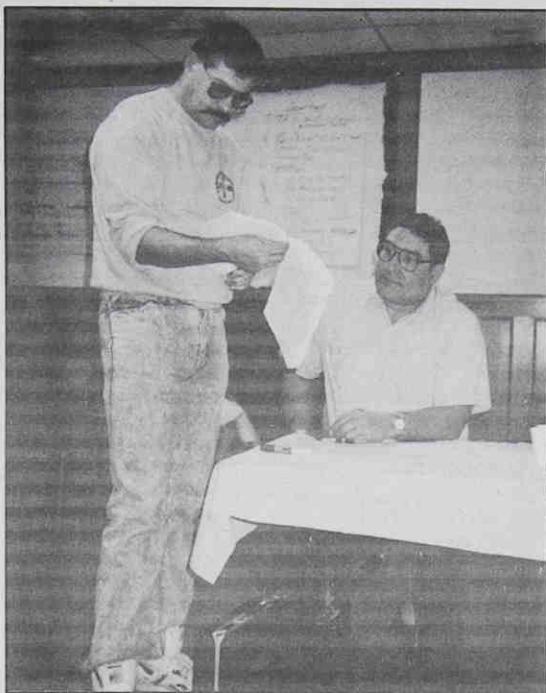
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NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES: SASKATCHEWAN'S ON THE BALL

In 1978 Willie Littlechild, a Native Member of Parliament submitted a motion to the Congress of Indigenous Peoples calling for an Indigenous Games event. Eleven years later, through the efforts of many, the North American Indigenous Games is a reality. The City of Edmonton proclaimed June 30 to July 08, 1989 to be Indigenous Games Week.

The first of the series of National Workshops took place in February, 1989 in Edmonton and saw the election of an interim board and advisory committee to plan the overall structure, strategy and criteria. In June a permanent board and advisory committee was established. According to Mr. Eugene Arcand, who is the Saskatchewan Chairperson of the provincial planning committee, the Saskatchewan delegation, was instrumental in this phase of development. The next step necessary was to have the provinces act on an individual basis.

Saskatchewan representation is presently being ensured. Representation from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Metis Society of Saskatchewan,



Standing - Eugene Arcand
Sitting - Norris Petit

Friendship Centres, Metis Society of Saskatchewan Locals, Youth and Athletic clubs and interested individuals met on December 20th at the Prince Albert Friendship Centre to consult and plan a strategy which ensures that Aboriginal youth in Saskatchewan are represented at the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG). The theme of the Games, "The Spirit-Strong Brave and True," was reflected in the consultation process which took place at the meeting. Individual members firmly reminded each other on occasion that for this endeavour, personal, individual nor party politics had any place.

Mr. Arcand, expressed the feelings of most of those present very eloquently. He stated, "This is the first time I know of that Aboriginal communities and organizations have met in a joint effort to do something to represent all of Saskatchewan. Even before the games begin, it is a once in a lifetime event".

The North American Indigenous Games is planned as a "showcase for the Indigenous people of North America including Indian, Inuit and Metis in cultural, social, rec-

reational and amateur sports activities." All present received the necessary documents to ensure that all criteria for events which will take place is met. In a spirit of cooperation and commitment sports activities contact people, venues, selection process and deadlines were discussed and decisions made.

Besides Mr. Arcand, other members to the Core Planning Committee are: Norris Petit, Lorna Arcand, Glen Pratt, Rick LaLiberte, Claude Petit, Milton Tootoosis, William Dumais and Danny Whitehawk.

Mr. Arcand, on behalf of the planning committee, extended an invitation to all interested to participate in whatever capacity they are capable of.

He emphasized the impact the games could have in the future. "It is our responsibility to ensure that as many Aboriginal youth as possible have the opportunity to try out to represent Saskatchewan. We have to share the blame for youth problems in communities if we don't work towards providing this first time opportunity."

The next meeting, which is open to all, will be held at the P.A. Friendship Centre, February 15, 1990 at 9:30 A.M. □



NOTICE

YOUTH, ATHLETES, COACHES, PARENTS...

The North American Indigenous Games may be a once in a lifetime opportunity for Aboriginal youth. Please contact the appropriate person(s) if you are interested in participating in any manner.



NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES: CONTACTS

1) VOLLYBALL

Junior Girls: Roger Bird.....663-5349
Lorna Arcand.....922-4610
Elaine Lafreniere..244-0174

Junior Boys: Glen Pratt.....835-2232
Karen Marion.....922-4610
George Lafond.....244-1101
Winston Bugler.....

Senior:

2) FASTBALL

Junior Boys: Eugene Arcand.....764-3431
Roger Bird.....663-5349
Glen Pratt.....835-2232

Junior Girls: Fran Thomas.....
Mary Johnson.....244-0174
Marcia Bitternose..835-2750

Senior: Milton Burns

3) TRACK AND FIELD

Clem Roy.....236-5654
Elaine Lafreniere..244-0174
Karen Marion.....922-4610
Sheila Sutherland..244-1101
Rick LaLiberte.....288-2254

4) WRESTLING

Eugene Arcand.....764-3431

5) BOXING

Norris Petit.....244-0174
John Davidson
Greg Bratuskesky
Steve Ross
Claude Petit

6) CANOEING

William Dumais.....758-2044
Lorna Arcand.....922-4610
Medric Thomas.....Stanley Mission

7) MARATHON

Roger Bird.....663-5349
Ray Campbell.....236-5654
Glen Pratt.....835-2232

8) SHOOTING

Ron Anderson.....244-0174
Elaine Lafreniere...244-0174

9) LACROSSE/ARCHERY/SWIMMING

coaches/coordinators/players needed
Eugene Arcand.....764-3431
Rod Derocher

PROFILE: RON CAMPONI, METIS BUSINESSMAN

by Robert LaFontaine

For Ron Camponi, every day is a potential working day. He is Chairman of the SNEDCO board, Chairman of the Mayors Core Committee for Native Recreation Programming, a member of the Child Hunger and Education Program, President of SaskNative Housing, Vice-Chairperson and General Manager of Saskatchewan Native Rentals and Western Region 11A's new Area Director for the Metis Society of Saskatchewan.

For the last eighteen years Camponi has been involved in local affairs. For about fifteen years he was Secretary-Treasurer of Local 11. He has been involved in setting up the Native Alcohol Centre in Saskatoon and for a time worked there. He is one of the founding members of Local 11, but his proudest achievement is the development of SaskNative Housing and Saskatchewan Native Rentals.

"In total we have 355 units. This corporation, SaskNative Housing, is totally self-sufficient. We get no subsidies. Saskatchewan Native Rentals is under a different program and the rents are subsidized. So what we have worked out is the families on welfare are in our units and are for students, low income working families, so that they too have good accommodations."

"I'm really proud of SaskNative Housing, because we raise money through bingo's and it goes back to the Native people. We donate to the food bank. We donate to a Native daycare downtown. We donated roughly two thousand dollars to them in the last two years."

This summer, SaskNative Housing raised enough money to buy a camp at Chitek Lake. Around



thirty families were treated to an all expense paid vacation that many would not have been able to afford on their own.

Camponi, prior to his involvement with the community, spent thirty years in the army. He went from a regular trooper to troop sergeant. "I joined when I was 16," he says. "I was trained as a gunner, then I became a troop commander and later a troop sergeant." Camponi was on the front lines of Korea. "You know it's funny, when you're in the war you remember all the good times. You remember this guy, that guy and the crazy things you did on leave. We went on leave to Japan. It was very quiet, went to a lot of movies. So like any good soldier I did my duty over in Japan and Korea," he says with a chuckle.

At the urging of his friend, Clarence Trotter and his brother Tony, Ron got involved with the Metis Society. "We had a pretty

good team working here," he says. "We grew up together and when the war broke out we sort of separated, then eventually we got back together. Of course the team is broken up now. Together we did a lot of good things." Clarence died of cancer in May, 1987 and Tony is still suffering from a stroke.

Ron then helped Tony and Clarence set up the Native Alcohol Centre in Saskatoon. "When I retired, I retired out of Regina and I met with Tony and Clarence and we set up the Native Alcohol Centre and I started working there. It's been operating for about 16 years now and we've put through thousands of people. It's one of the things that I'm proud of," he said.

Today Camponi's main problem is trying to re-organize the area and get people interested again. "There was a couple of years in which the organization was in an upheaval and the people weren't given much leadership, so now it's

a matter of going out and getting them interested again. Which might take some doing because they feel that maybe there is nothing going on."

The 63 year old Camponi, feels that progress in the area revolves around the development of some type of economic activity and the utilization of MEDFO and SNEDCO. The area, he feels, has to take a leadership role. He has been developing specific ideas and he has done some research into the viability of a variety of business ventures.

Although Camponi has no formal business training he has been involved in the establishment of a number of successful corporations and he can recognize an opportunity when he sees one. He does admit to one failure. "At one time we had a packaging plant in Meadow Lake. It was called Sas.Pac, and we had that going for three years but we were under

financed and finally went under. But it was a helluva plant."

"I guess in business you get a lot of that training in the army. You have to work with people. I was in charge of 20 - 30 people all the time and sometimes more. Everyone has their individual problems and you have to fight for them if they're right. You have to be firm, but fair. I think managing people and being organized is most important, because you don't make a move without being organized," he said.

Economic development, Camponi feels is the way to get people interested again. He says that it is his job to make sure that the people know about the programs and business opportunities that are available. At present there is a slow down with the dispute in MEDFO. The agreement with the government was signed when AMNSIS was still in control and confusion is the result.

"It should have taken place in a far more orderly manner," says Camponi of the separation within the organization. "I believe the Metis should have their own organization, but they should have taken more time. The people should have sat down and negotiated a settlement before taking the issue to court." The result, he said, is that a lot of affiliates are having problems because of the agreements signed with AMNSIS. The government has taken advantage of that fact and have put a lot of roadblocks in the path of the Metis Society and a prime example is the situation with MEDFO.

The situation within the area is going to improve. "If you want something bad enough, unless your goals are too high, then you can get it. But you have to have perseverance." Ron Camponi has a lot of business ideas and he is determined to see them through.

YORKTON FRIENDSHIP CENTRE ADDRESSES RACISM LOCALLY

During the July board meeting of the Association of Friendship Centres, the Yorkton Friendship Centre's proposal for a race Relations Coordinator was given the green light. The National Association agreed to fund a pilot project for six months and on September 5, 1989 Dale Leftwich was hired to be the Race Relations Coordinator for the Yorkton Friendship Centre.

Some of the aims of the project are: 1) to improve communications among local governments, local institutions and racial and ethnic groups. 2) To promote Non discriminatory policies and practices within the community of Yorkton. 3) To encourage increased participation of Natives in local government structures, and programs. 4) To establish a Race Relations committee to assist in the development of a long term program in our city. According to Ivan Cote, the Executive Director of the Friendship Centre, "Racism is a reality for all visible minorities, particularly Native people. We feel that we can get a more

positive response and more action if we attack all types of racism," he emphasized.

The main focus thus far has been the establishment of a Race Relations Committee. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the umbrella organization for municipal governments, has created a program for municipalities to follow in creating such a committee. The Friendship Centre took this program to the Yorkton City Council to ask that they implement it.

The Council met with them for 45 minutes and expressed their concern about the treatment of visible minorities, particularly Native people, but the newness of the idea of a Race Relations Committee made them uncomfortable and they were unwilling to strike a committee and lead the fight against racism.

The Friendship Centre decided to work with other interested groups to form a committee. The City Council supported this move and appointed an alderman to sit on the committee. The President

of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan agreed to facilitate a meeting of this committee to develop a set of objectives and a Mission Statement. The Friendship Centre is also planning a day long workshop for the committee to examine ways that racism manifests itself and ways in which to combat it.

In the words of Mr. Leftwich, "the position has two goals: one is to help mount an attack on all types of racism, with Native concerns being a subgroup of that, and the other is to obtain a larger, more positive representation of Native people in the community."

To achieve the second goal the Friendship Centre has established contact with organizations such as the Yorkton and District Multicultural Society, the Open Door Society, and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Friendship Centre has also approached the three school boards in the area to open up some lines of communication and to see what they are doing to improve the representation of Native people in

their classrooms. The responses to the Friendship Centre's initiatives have been requests for material and for presentations. According to Mr. Leftwich another positive

result of the establishment of the coordinator position has been the increased ability of the Friendship Centre to respond to requests from the community. □

METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN LEADERS SUMMIT Cont'd....

The Saskatchewan Native Communications Corporation (SNCC) report preceded SNEDCO's, and was given by chairperson Gary LaPlante. Here there was a major concern over New Breed Editor, Maria Campbell's resignation, and would there be a New Breed paper published as usual and would it be of high quality content as it was under Ms. Campbell's editorship. Mr LaPlante assured the assembly that the paper would be published as usual but did not comment on the quality of content. His report was accepted and the discussion moved on to the Provincial Metis Housing Corporation (PMHC).

The PHMC report was given by Leon McCauley, Provincial Housing Manager, along with Philip Chartier, past chairperson

of PHMC. There were no concerns other than questions on how MSS locals and members can access certain services provided by PHMC.

Also on the agenda was the Saskatchewan Native Recreation (SNR), but no report was given as it is questionable who the chairperson of the SNR is. After affiliate reports were all given, the assembly was adjourned. Delegates left the meeting better informed and with a sense of accomplishment and looking forward to a full scale general assembly of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan in 1990.

Further information on discussion and motions of the Leaders Summit assembly can be obtained from the MSS head office in Saskatoon. □

URANIUM MINING: IS IT GOOD FOR NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN?

by Paul Hanley

Industry and government officials tell us that any economic development project, such as a new mine or pulp mill, will always have advantages and disadvantages: the project goes ahead only when the benefits outweigh the problems. Comparing the pros and cons is called "cost/benefit analysis"; it can include consideration of the economic, social, and environmental aspects of a project.

Some years ago a cost/benefit analysis was undertaken to decide if we should develop uranium mines in Saskatchewan's north. Everyone agreed that there were potential problems associated with uranium: mining will disrupt the environment and there may be accidental damage to the lakes and rivers, the traditional way of life in the north is likely to change, hunting and trapping might be adversely affected, and there could be unexpected health problems caused by pollution.

However, there were also some advantages: increased employment for northerners, more money injected into the local economy, and revenues for the provincial economy which can help in funding social and health programs. Another important advantage was that uranium supplies an almost unlimited alternative fuel which can provide electricity and heating power to the world when the oil and gas and hydro-power run out.

People in general had mixed feelings: they were nervous about the potential dangers of uranium mining but were also eager to have the jobs the mines might provide. After a number of commissions and environmental assessments it was decided that the advantages outweighed the risks, and that the risks could be overcome through a variety of means such as pollution controls.

So much for theory. We've had some time to assess the cost/benefit analysis in action. Has uranium mining been a good thing for the north? Is it a good thing for the world?

Let's look at Key Lake uranium mine as an example. Uranium mines are supposed to hire northerners, which could be a major boost to the north economy. A 1981 surface lease agreement between the provincial government and the mining companies at Key Lake called for direct economic benefits which would be brought about by hiring a certain percentage of northern residents. Further, the lease called for training programs for Native northerners to ensure that they could advance in their positions at Key Lake.

The quota of northerners to be hired at Key Lake was set at 50% of the work force at the beginning of operations and efforts were to be made to increase that to 60% in the second year. In following years, the company agreed to make all possible efforts to increase that percentage even further. The company agreed to make regular progress reports on their affirmative action plan to achieve these employment goals and submit them to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission.

What has actually happened with regard to Native employment at the mine is a matter of debate. The various sides-- the company, labour, Natives, the federal government, the provincial government -- report different statistics about the percentage of Natives actually working at the mine. The highest reported figure is just over 30% of northern Natives working at Key Lake, some 20% lower than the minimum quotas set in 1981; half of what was expected by the second year of operation; far below the levels that might have

been expected by 1990, if "all best efforts" to increase Native participation had been adhered to.

According to a recent study by Bob Sass, of the University of Saskatchewan, the affirmative action agreement at Key Lake, has never been adhered to. No training programs to ensure the promotions of northerners to highly skilled or management positions are in place. The Human Rights Commission has never received a single report about the progress of the employment plan. In fact, the Saskatoon Star Phoenix reported that only 39 Native northerners work at Key Lake, 7% of the staff; this number was obtained from the federal department of Employment and Immigration, through the employment equity consultant at the Regina office. Figures from the union that represent the Key Lake workers suggest that there were about 50 Native workers.

If the northern and Native employment strategy agreed to by the company and the government was never adhered to, perhaps it doesn't matter then that a new lease agreement signed in 1988 (without informing the public, the union, or Native groups), removed the affirmative action quotas at Key Lake mine. According to Sass, this action has virtually destroyed the "social contract" between northern Natives on the one hand and the uranium industry and government on the other.

However, spokespersons for the provincial government and Cameco, the government owned corporation that operates Key Lake, say that the new Human Resource Development Agreement covering Key Lake mine intends to maximize Native and northerner employment, perhaps beyond the minimum levels agreed to in 1981. The agreement calls for a training plan which

involves the Northern Education Division of the Department of Education and stipulates quarterly employment reports. All new jobs are filled by first consulting a listing of Native northerners available; non-northerners are brought in only when no Native northerner is available.

Rita Mirwald of Cameco stated that 100% of job openings at Key Lake since 1983 have been filled by northerners. She claimed that one reason why Natives were not moving up to more senior positions as rapidly as the company would like is that the union was insisting on strict observance of seniority provisions of their collective agreement, which she claims interferes with affirmative action.

This statement is contradicted by Bob Sass, who in turn states that the Union has negotiated a provision in its collective agreement to cooperate with and assist the employer in developing sound affirmative action.

Harold Johnson, who is a miner at Key Lake, a shop steward in the union, a member of the Key Lake Affirmative Action Committee, and a Native northerner, commented that Natives tend to be "segregated" in the low paying jobs and that opportunities to advance into higher paying positions through training are decreasing rather than increasing. While he says that some white workers are afraid that they might lose their positions if affirmative action were implemented, as had been agreed, there was no problem whatsoever with the union, which supports affirmative action programs.

Johnson commented that lack of adequate training has an impact on environmental and health concerns at the mine. Most workers are not trained sufficiently to en-



sure that they take proper care to prevent environmental damage. What is worse, they are "indoctrinated" to believe that radiation is not a problem, which Johnson believes results in the workers losing a reasonable respect for the potential dangers of radiation.

While there is some confusion about the statistics around Native employment at Key Lake mine (and other uranium mines in northern Saskatchewan) one fact is clear. The industry has not kept to its agreement to maximize hiring of Native northerners. After nine years employment levels for Natives are far below expectations. Of equal concern is that various programs called for to support Native employment, such as apprenticeship training and commuter services, are being reduced rather than increased as a result of the new lease agreement signed in 1988.

According to Johnson, the main problem may be that several of the groups involved in some way with the Key Lake situation, the workers, the union, Native communities, and the public in general -- which were included in the process that led to the original agreement -- were excluded from negotiations for a new lease, which was then effectively kept secret from those directly affected by it. Open and inclusive consultation still offers a way to resolve this situation.

Anticipated employment and economic benefits are a large part of the jurisdiction for uranium mining in northern Saskatchewan. Environmental projection and

Continued page 18

LETTER TO OUR READERS

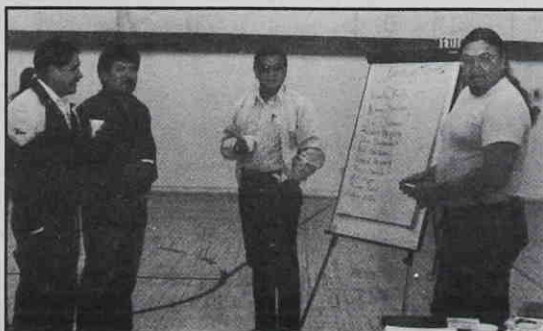


Photo Credit - Mississippi Broadcasting

L to R. Donald Caisse - Friendship Centre member. Gordon Bear - Director. Tony Cote - Executive Director. Al Rivard - Friendship Centre member.

On December 05, 1989 the Kikinahk Friendship Centre held their Annual Meeting. In attendance were members numbering over thirty five. A very exciting and prosperous meeting to say the least. The interest shown there I

feel will translate into a productive year for the Kikinahk Friendship Centre.

Of course, the regular annual meeting processes were adhered to. There was the review of the past years operations, the appoint-

ment of an auditor and so on. However, the most exciting aspect of the evening occurred when it came down to the election of officers. There was literally people running for elections. All those interested provided the meeting with a two to three minute presentation, rationalizing why they wished to seek these volunteer offices. As a result of all this, the following able individuals were elected: Robert Merasty, Al Ducharme, Gordon Bear, Joan Dreaver, Nap Gardiner, Norm Bouvier, Pauline Grass, Tracy Czernicki and Randy Wells. Congratulations.

It is certainly recognized that Kikinahk Friendship Centre needs much support, morally, physically and financially. One of the priorities of the new board will be to establish a public relations and fund raising drive. We hope that we can receive support and understanding from the community and

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the North to achieve the proper role of Kikinahk. With a strong and able Board, and a committed staff, I know we will.

Before I conclude I wish to express my appreciation on behalf of the New Board to previous Board members who worked hard always to enhance the visibility of Kikinahk. Special thanks Walter Selin, John O'Hara and Hazel Scarfe who retired after their terms this year.

In closing, I am inviting community individuals to drop in at the Centre, for a visit, to browse through the handicrafts store, or eat a feast at the cafeteria. Suggestions and ideas for programming are always welcome. See you at Kikinahk. ☐

Nap Gardiner, President

TOMORROW'S LEADERS



Photo Credits: Gary Berteig
Metis Dancers Unknown

INDIAN AND METIS FRIENDSHIP CENTRES: SASKATOON EXAMPLE



Photo Credit - Mississippi Broadcasting

Morley Norton

There are 12 Indian and Metis Friendship Centres in Saskatchewan. All or most strive to meet the needs of Native families through cultural, recreational, social, educational and service programs.

The Saskatoon Indian and Metis Friendship Centre (SIMFC) has a great reputation for its programming. Morris Blondeau, the Executive Director, is very proud of the centres past accomplishments and very optimistic about the future.

Mr. Blondeau is most proud of the fact the membership now own the centre as of June, 1989. The event was celebrated by a huge mortgage burning ceremony this summer. As for the future, says Mr. Blondeau, "We have to expand to accommodate even more necessary programs, we also need more office space." A feasibility will be soon undertaken to determine whether to build a new site on the Wall Street property or add additional floors.

"As far as we're concerned, we don't play second fiddle to any-

one. We are the only Friendship Centre in Canada that has a Native Disabled Counselling Program. We have more programs than you can shake a stick at," Morris proudly states.

SIMFC has a recreation program which strives to meet the needs of all ages and categories of clients. The Co-ed Volleyball league was developed to involve Native people in Saskatoon in a friendly and supportive activity. Youth are invited to free gym time from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. every Tuesday and Thursday.

The Me-Ta-We-Tan program, which is supported by the City of Saskatoon and Directed by Mary Johnson, offers free swimming at the Harry Baily pool Saturdays from 3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., ice skating at the Cosmo Civic Centre Sundays until March from 5:45 P.M. to 7:15 P.M., gym time at various schools throughout the city and other culturally relevant activities such as demonstration bannock baking and moccasin making in schools.

The Boxing Club has gained an

international reputation. Headed up by Morris Petit, the SIMFC Boxing Club boasts past members such as the 1987 Senior Canadian Champion Boxer Jeff Hill and the 1989 Silver Medalist Lyndon Linklater. Present members include Dean Lafreniere and Robert Boyer who will participate in the Saskatchewan Games 1990 in Melville. On January 20th the SIMFC will host a boxing card featuring clubs from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Mr. Petit is very optimistic about the future of the club, "We are a good hard working club and plan to clean up at the North American Indigenous Games this year," he states.

Hockey is a popular sport in most Native communities. Saskatoon is no exception. The 10th Annual All Native Hockey Tournament will take place from February 16th to the 18th this year. The event draws hundreds of Native people who play or enthusiastically cheer for their home team. The Spring Classics Senior Tournament will take place in April.

Besides a seriously professional recreation program SIMFC offers a cultural program which is gaining popularity as each week passes. Rose Boyer, the renowned Square-Dance and Jigging personality and a Board Member, gives free classes to anyone interested, every Sunday at the Centre from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

The Pow Wow classes have seen a phenomenal increase in participants. Male/Female, Adult/Children categories of traditional,



Photo Credit - Gary Berteig

Morris Blondeau & Norris Petit(bending)

fancy and grass dancing comprise the dance program.

Drum lessons are also given by the group present. The history of each dance is told at every session to ensure the young striving dancers understand why the dance is.

The SIMFC Program Coordinator, Elaine Lefreniere, is very confident of the further development and enhancement of the centre's profile. "We all work as a team here and strive to offer programs which are healthy and beneficial to our people, I think all Friendship Centres' goals are similar, even if the focus is different."

Morley Norton, the President of the newly revived Aboriginal Friendship Centres of Saskatchewan Inc. is challenged by the diversity of the membership. "We have to cooperate with and support each other" he states.

Representatives from Friendship Centres met in Yorkton in December 1989 and most agreed to support the initiative to establish a provincial body for lobbying and information dissemination. Mr. Norton, during a telephone interview earlier this month emphasized the importance of a provincial body, "The long term goals of the provincial body will be of course program development, but for right now we need the support of all centres. The past is past, we have to take steps to ensure that more programs like the court-worker program are not arbitrarily cut by government. We have to unite and present a powerful entity which educates, supports and protects us from those who would see our vital programs reduced or cut," he stated. □

NOTICE

The Planning Committee for the North American Indigenous Games invites graphic artists to design a logo for the Saskatchewan delegation.



Submissions and/or inquiries can be sent to:
North American Indigenous Games
Logo Competition
Attention: Eugene Arcand
1409 1st Avenue East
Box 2197
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
S6V 6Z1
Telephone: (306) 764-3431

The core planning committee will select the logo before February 15, 1990.

A gym suit, gym bag and jacket with the logo will be awarded to the artist chosen.



Prince Albert Saskatchewan

PRINCE ALBERT INDIAN METIS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 6th Annual Aboriginal

HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

January 12, 13, 14, 1990
PRINCE ALBERT COMMUNIPLEX

PRIZES:

- 1st \$3,200.00 - Trophy - Embroidered Championship Jackets
 - 2nd \$2,200.00 - Trophy
 - 3rd \$1,100.00
 - 4th \$1,100.00
- Defending Champions Dog Lake Raiders*

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SPECIAL RAIDER PROMOTION: P.A. Raiders vs. Moose Jaw Warriors — January 12

Player of the game for each game on January 12 will receive tickets for 2 to the game

TEAM SPECIAL: If whole team attends game, admission is \$3.00 per player

Labatt's Lite

- * 12 Team Limit - Double Knockout
- * 'Player of the Game' Cap Each Game
- * Embroidered Hockey Bags For All Star Team
- * Final Game Televised Locally
- * Two nights of Dancing
- January 12 - Friendship Centre
- January 13 - Exhibition Centre
- Admission \$10.00 Per Person
- Advance tickets only
- I.D. May Be Requested

NEW BREED

Our people have fought for the recognition of our rights for many years. Our early leaders have left our people a legacy: to continue to work for the recognition of our rights as a people. Today our struggles continue - We have many barriers to overcome. Our people have not yet been able to secure our rightful place and recognition of our rights. Let us work for our betterment within our organizations and communities with the same goals and visions as our early leaders.



PICTURE OF LOUIS RIEL'S COUNCIL IN 1885. TAKEN BESIDE REGINA COURT HOUSE AT THE TIME OF THEIR TRIAL

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1- JOHNNY GANSREGRET | 7 SABBISTE VANDALL |
| 2- P. PARANTEAU (FAMOUS BUFFALO HUNTER) | 8 LOUIS SAINT LUCIER (REPUTED STRONGEST MAN IN THE NORTH WEST) |
| 3- PIERRE GARDIEPUI | 9- MAXIME DUBOIS |
| 4- PHILIP GARNOT (RIEL'S SECRETARY) | 10- TIMMUS SHORT |
| 5- ALBERT MONKMAN | 11- TOUROND |
| 6- PIERRE VANDALL | 12- EMMANUEL CHAMPAGNE |

1990

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WINDS OF CHANGE STIRRING UP MEECH LAKE

by Clem Chartier

The agreement (in principle) reached at Meech Lake, Quebec on April 30, 1987 and later formalized in Ottawa on June 3, 1987 ended a series of meetings which began in Edmonton, August 1986. At that meeting the ten Premiers agreed that their first constitutional priority was to bring Quebec into the constitutional fold by negotiating around the five points presented by the province of Quebec. One of these conditions was the "recognition of Quebec as a distant society".

Since that time, eight provinces and the federal government have passed resolutions in their legislatures which would make the amendment to the Canadian Constitution possible. The provinces of Manitoba and New Brunswick to date have refused to do so. The province of Newfoundland has threatened to rescind its support. All provinces and the federal government must approve the Meech Lake Accord by June 1990 or it will fail.

The Aboriginal Peoples were unable to entrench the right to self-government in the Constitution because Premiers felt that it was too vague. They insisted that

Aboriginal self-government must first be defined, then an agreement could be signed. These same Premiers, with respect to Quebec's "distinct society" clause took the position of "sign, then define". While they did not want the courts to have an opportunity to define what Aboriginal self-government meant, they were prepared to allow the courts to define "distinct society".

While the Meech Lake Accord does not address the rights of the Aboriginal peoples, there was a provision that the new amendments do not affect what is already in the Constitution with respect to Aboriginal peoples, i.e. s. 25 of the Charter of Rights, s. 35 of the Constitutional Act 1982 or s. 91 (24) of the Constitution Act 1867.

The Accord does however guarantee yearly conferences on the constitution, which will include senate reform and fisheries on their agenda, along with "such other matters as are agreed upon". While not specifically referring to the rights of the Aboriginal peoples, does the provision enhance the chances that Aboriginal rights will be part of the conferences to be held? The last constitutional conference with respect to Aboriginal rights ended in failure in March 1987. Will the passing of Meech Lake help in getting this

process going? Or will one or more provinces be able to veto discussions with respect to Aboriginal rights by not agreeing to their inclusion on the agenda?

While it also has other ground for objecting the Accord, the government of Manitoba states that it is doing so because the Accord does not recognize the rights of the Aboriginal peoples.

The other hold-out provinces have a variety of reasons for so doing.

The First Ministers met in Ottawa in November, 1989 and discussed this impasse. It was agreed that the federal government and the premiers would make another attempt to save Meech Lake. Senator Lowell Murray was given the mandate to travel across Canada in order to convince the provinces to ratify the Accord. Based on this consultation and with the prospect of success, the First Ministers may meet again in February, 1990. This time they are taking seriously the possibility of adopting a parallel accord or companion agreement. However, Quebec firmly states that they will not re-open the Accord, while Newfoundland states that a parallel accord is not good enough.

The Prime Minister has also stated that if Meech Lake is ratified, he is prepared to hold a constitutional conference on senate reform in the fall of 1990. With respect to a constitutional conference on Aboriginal Rights, promises are continually made to the

National Native Organizations, however it appears that this issue has been completely marginalized. There is no definite commitment, with or without the adoption of Meech Lake.

In terms of the Metis National Council and the Metis Society of Saskatchewan, unqualified support was given to Meech Lake in the late spring/early summer of 1989. However, because of recent developments, the Metis Society has taken the position that if there are to be any changes to the Accord, or the adoption of a parallel accord, then the rights of the Aboriginal peoples must be included, particularly with respect to the Metis.

This decision of the MSS Leaders' Summit has been forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Premiers and the National Native Organizations.

The following is the resolution adopted by the MSS Leaders' Summit, November 25 & 26, 1989.

"WHEREAS the First Ministers' Conference on November 9 & 10, 1989 has raised the possibility of potential changes to the Meech Lake Accord, or at least the possibility of a parallel accord or agreement;

AND WHEREAS the reports of the Meech Lake Accord Hearings conducted by the Manitoba and New Brunswick legislatures have been tabled since we last reviewed this issue;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba

government, with the support of the Liberal opposition and NDP party, clearly states that Native rights, amongst others, must be part of the Meech Lake Accord before they support it;

AND WHEREAS the Prime Minister and other First Ministers have agreed to hold an FMC on Senate Reform in the fall of 1990 if the Meech Lake Accord is approved, while keeping silent with respect to a conference on Aboriginal rights;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Leaders' Summit of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan calls upon the Prime Minister and the Premiers of Canada to include the rights of the Aboriginal peoples in any revised or companion (parallel) accord;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Prime Minister ensure that the Meech Lake Accord or any other related accord does not make the rights of the Metis dependent on the recognition of the rights of others, including the legitimate rights of the province of Quebec, and of other Aboriginal peoples;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT any revision or adoption of a companion document contain a constitutional guarantee that Metis rights shall be on a yearly agenda of constitutional reform until such rights are entrenched and subsequent agreements implemented". □

WONDERING

NAP GARDINER

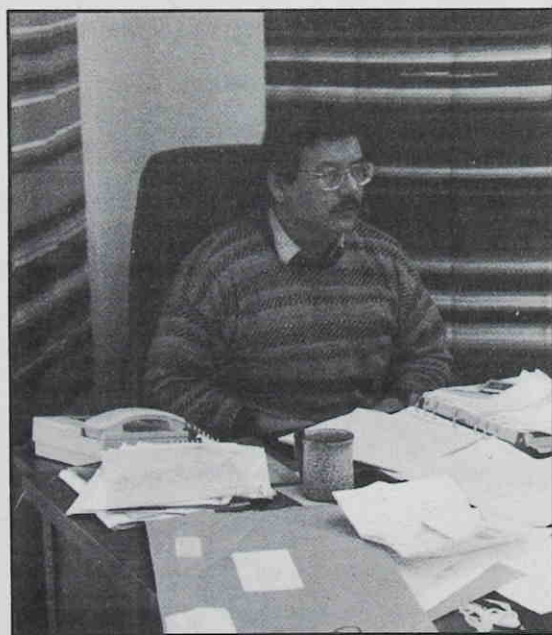


Photo Credit - Missisippi Broadcasting

January 15 1990. The Prime Minister of Canada, in an early morning press conference announces an agreement allowing Metis Self Government and control of large tracts of land in Saskatchewan. This is a surprise announcement according to officials in the Metis Society of Saskatchewan. Jim Durocher, President of the Association, expressed joy in being able to witness the historic event, "we have a lot of

work to do" he said.

Of course this is a fictional report, I do however wonder about getting ready if this were to ever happen. Do the Metis of this province have a lot to do?

There is health, and then there's a health. For many, health is a physical ailment, doctors nurses, hospitals and pills. For others, health is well being. A belief that one can only be well and healthy if the effect on ones life is healthy.

There are examples of unwellness. Take welfare, it may lead to alcoholism, family violence, or child abuse. How does welfare bring this about? It should be understood that if one is given the opportunity to be economically self sufficient - or given access to meaningful employment - these awful things might not happen.

Health, also is being able to accept responsibility for one's own problems to some extent and developing a process towards working them out. Isn't it often suggested by Aboriginal people across this land that "we" are the only ones that can lead ourselves out of the situation we're in? Health is also understanding history, ones culture and social surroundings.

What about the tax man, eh? Phew, it was close. A task force appointed by the Federal Minister of Finance, Micheal Wilson reviewed northern tax benefits and recommended removing part of the eligibility. Presently northerners living above 54 N latitude (Saskatchewan) are eligible for a tax break up to \$5,400.00. This is a great help to northern residents.

So why did this task force wish to take away the best thing that's ever happened to working people up here. From what I can gather, some of us are not northern enough, not isolated enough, and besides this tax break was meant to entice southerners to work up north. It seems it was not working as originally planned, therefore the recommendation is to move the eligibility line, in Saskatchewan terms, just a little south of Wollaston. Fortunately, the

report was presented in October of this year. TAX HIKE MIKE Wilson is busy with other things and could not put this report into play for the 1989 tax year. It makes one wonder, when alcohol is subsidized. Hey, this is not to mention the goods and services tax of 7% that will effect us poor buggers in about a year or so. I wonder if they'll start taxing welfare now.

Recently a Euro-Canadian walked into my office. We talked about movements in the north, in Europe and the Aboriginal community. To the latter point he added that "you guys are stupid!" My immediate reaction deep in my soul was to hang or scalp this guy. But, being a calm, cool collected Metis, I asked why, and expected the obvious answer "you guys let the government play around you because you can't work together, you're always fighting". Being an unbiased observer these days I left it at that.

On Environment...
- A virgin forest, is exactly that - once one tree is cut from it, it's no

longer virgin.

- Disposable diapers don't deteriorate. They're easy and convenient. An estimated 275,000 tons of disposable diapers are thrown in the garbage in this country every year. - Every 14 seconds, a hectre of arable land disappears.

- It's usually the experts against the environmentalists, the indians and the socially oriented thinkers. Experts are expensive. Can polluters afford these people?

For this issue, I'll quit wondering, because if I continue, many of you out there may start to wonder about my wondering and conclude that this guy doesn't do anything but wonder.

A final observation, is that many decisions have to be made. It is clear that in 1990 decisions must come from "global thought". Although, I see nothing new with that, unless of course we're all busy making all kinds of money, and that's difficult to believe.

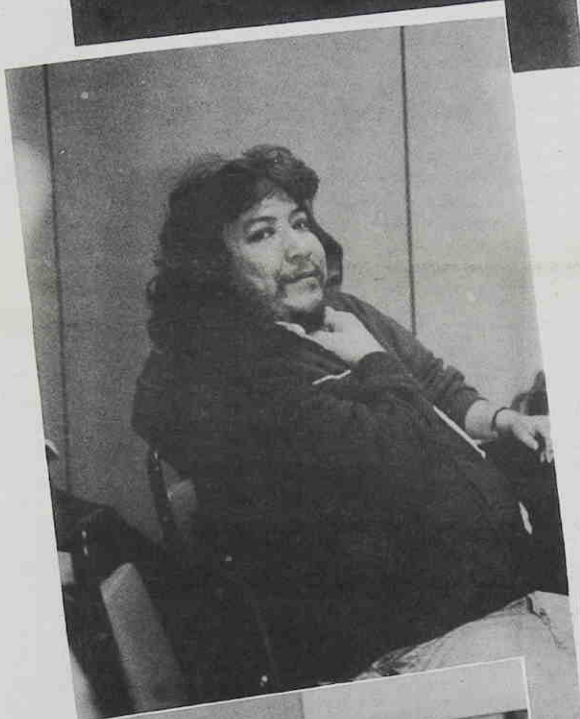
O.K., O.K., at least I'm sharing my thoughts. □

To Subscribe:

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Bay 202
Saskatoon, Sask.
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See Back Cover

Metis Society of Saskatchewan's Leaders Summit Participants



Northern Education Task Force Releases Recommendations Cont'd...

programs.

Recommendation # 2

In order that northern child's self-concept be enhanced and school-community relationships be positively fostered, it is recommended that a greater emphasis be placed on Native languages within the northern school system by: the offering of Native language classes at all levels including credit Cree and Dene language courses at all secondary level; the consideration of Native language immersion programming at the elementary level in those communities where it is formally requested; the development of appropriate materials and curriculum guides for Native language programming; and the training of northerners who teach Native languages.

Recommendation # 3

In order to enhance student progress in Northern Saskatchewan schools, it is recommended that Saskatchewan Education implement a number of initiatives. These initiatives should include the following: the implementation of a continuous progress policy at the elementary level; the adaption and implementation of a curriculum for Northern Saskatchewan which recognizes the unique aspects of northern education; the re-affirmation of the importance of the development of a positive self-concept based on the cultural, linguistic, and historical contributions made by the people of Northern Saskatchewan; the in-depth examination of current language

arts pedagogy; the development of procurement of testing and evaluation materials which are unbiased and reflected present understanding of literacy learning; and the establishment of provincially-accepted standards for northern education.

Recommendation # 4

It is recommended that a school nutrition program, based on the Saskatchewan Education community school model, be implemented in northern schools.

Recommendation # 5

It is recommended that appropriate criteria, based on northern factors, be developed for common, northern-wide standards for school and community recreational facilities and programming. It is further recommended that in those communities where minimal standards are not met, adequate funding be provided to upgrade existing facilities or to construct new ones.

Recommendation # 6

It is recommended that parents should be encouraged to become more involved in the school system as a means of ensuring that their children remain in school. To increase parental involvement a greater emphasis should be placed on public education and awareness, school and community contact, and local participation in the educational decision-making process by such measures as: the implementation of a public awareness program by northern educational jurisdictions which would involve the use of the media,

public meetings and other appropriate vehicles; the training and employment of qualified guidance counsellors whose responsibilities would include home-school liaison; and continued emphasis on the training and development of local school board to facilitate their involvement in the educational decision-making process.

Recommendation # 7

It is recommended that a guidance counselling program be developed and implemented in northern schools.

Recommendation # 8

It is recommended that the current policy which allows for changes in the school year to meet local community needs be maintained. It is further recommended that present procedures for such changes continue to require school division approval.

Recommendation # 9

It is recommended that northern high school standards be reinforced through the implementation of innovative practices such as distance education to increase the number of options available to northern students, particularly in the sciences and mathematics. It is further recommended that consideration be given to regional high schools in certain areas to offset the effects of low enrollments thereby allowing for greater specialization, increased options and better facilities.

Recommendation # 10

It is recommended that day care be provided in schools for students

who are parents of young children where numbers and need merit this service. It is further recommended that classes in parenting skills and responsible personal and social behaviour be included as part of this day care initiative.

Recommendation # 11

It is recommended that post-secondary institutions continue to offer adult upgrading programs and that cooperations among local education authorities continue to occur prior to the implementation of these programs.

Recommendation # 12

It is recommended that Saskatchewan Education coordinate development of a northern-oriented employment training strategy to prepare individuals for work in renewable, non-renewable, service, government and crown corporation agencies and industries. In cooperation with industry and government, it is further recommended that a human resource development strategy based on employment equity programs be continued and expanded.

Recommendation # 13

It is recommended that post-secondary training opportunities for northern students be maximized through implementation of the following measures: enrollment goals in key training programs for northern students of Native ancestry; expansion of distance education through initiatives such as the Saskatchewan Community Access Network (SCAN); upgrading and expanding adult training facilities in Northern Saskatchewan; provision of univer-

sity classes in northern Saskatchewan through the establishment of the Profession Access Program and the offering of courses through Northland Career College; and increased northern representation on post-school boards of education.

Recommendation # 14

It is recommended that opportunities and support for northern post-secondary students be maximized, since future development of the North will be greatly determined by a well trained, suitably qualified northern population.

Recommendation # 15

It is recommended that Saskatchewan Education facilitate the development of an education coordinating committee, comprised of representatives from school boards, Indian Band educational authorities, post-secondary education boards, teacher associations, and relevant agencies such as Saskatchewan Education, Social Services and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, to share information and to discuss educational issues of common concern.

Recommendation # 16

It is recommended that Saskatchewan Education review funding levels for northern education systems, taking into full consideration the unique factors which have an effect on northern education such as: the sparsity of population and travel distances; the costs of recruiting, communications, and maintenance; the need for instructional innovations; and the difficulty of providing adequate and acceptable housing for educational staff. □

BANNOCK SAVAGE



The Bannock Savage - Ken Dillon

Bannock was first introduced to Canada by the Scottish people. It was quickly adopted by the Indian and Metis and remains a staple and a special treat when served hot with jam and tea.

Ken Dillon, a Metis entrepreneur from northern Saskatchewan, claims to have grown up on Bannock. "They used to call me 'Bannock Savage' when I went to school," he laughs. Today the name Bannock Savage really applies. Ken has attacked the Canadian and foreign food market with an enthusiasm which is almost savage. His attack is focused on the promotion of his product, "Just Like Mom's" ready mix bannock.


Three years ago when Ken began to develop his product the Missinipi Indian Band from Northern Manitoba promised support. This month they followed through by

making the first formal bulk purchase of 1,000 lbs. of Just Like Mom's. Says Ken, "I'm so proud, we carried through on a commitment made three years ago."

The band made the first bulk purchase, but Ken predicts that by the end of January, 1990, his product will be available first in Co-ops and then in other major food outlets like Super Value and Safeway.

"Just Like Mom's" has added calcium, additional protein from whey which also adds the necessary fibre, it has reduced cholesterol consumption by using vegetable rather than animal oil and according to Ken, "is more nutritious and really tastes just like mom's or better."


The distribution of Just Like Mom's is almost 'in the bag' for Canada, but capturing the foreign market is another challenge he has met with ferocity and creativity.



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Season's Greetings

Ken plans to premier Just Like Mom's in Scotland, at the "Battle of Bannock Burn", which occurred in the early 16th century and is noted as the turning point for Scottish independence.

Ken's business was chosen to be subjected to an international market study by marketing students at the University of Saskatchewan. He hopes to be able to develop a marketing strategy which will put

"Just Like Mom's" in the heritage collection market. He plans on developing a 900 gram package which will put Just Like Mom's somewhere between maple syrup and beaded moccasins, and will be sold at airports, hotels and other tourist venues.

For the future "Just Like Mom's" will expand to include an oat bran product and sweet bread. "I want and have to develop consumer

loyalty before I introduce new products," states Ken.

For now Ken Dillon, the Bannock Savage of Saskatchewan, is a one man show with a production contract with CSP foods in Saskatoon and plans to open a distribution office in Saskatoon with one full-time and some part-time staff. Soon maybe bannock will become a household word in Canada and abroad. □

A TRIBUTE TO GRAND CHIEF GEORGE MANUEL

by Clem Chartier



Trip to Tanzania, early 70's.
L to R. Ron Shackleton, President Julius Nyrere, George Manuel.
Insert - George Manuel

Photo Credit - Clem Chartier
Insert Photo - Legault Casagrande

When I was informed of the passing of my friend and mentor, George Manuel, a deep sense of loss set in. However, as I reflected upon his death I realized that George had left behind a legacy that has been, and will continue to be, an inspiration to the Indigenous world.

George was self-educated and he worked in various areas. For example, he worked as a researcher for three years in a law office and as a community development officer for Indian Affairs, in British Columbia. His life however became focused on the Indigenous struggle and in this connection he served in a number of capacities.

In 1961 George became a Founding Vice-President of the National Indian Council. He also served as a number of government committees and commissions. In 1968, he

moved to Alberta to help develop the Indian Association of Alberta. From there, George was urged to seek the leadership of the recently formed National Indian Brotherhood (NIB) and in 1970 accepted the challenge and was elected on the first ballot. He was re-elected by acclamation in 1972, and held that position until he stepped down in 1976.

During his tenure as President of the NIB, George saw the need to organize on an international basis. In 1974 he explained this international vision, and spoke of the decolonization of Indigenous Nations in his book "The Fourth World: My People are Living".

As a result of his international vision, in 1975 George was a driving force behind the formation of the World Council of Indigenous People (WCIP). Not surprisingly,

"Fourth World peoples need no longer live as victims of state oppression"

he was elected President of the WCIP. He was re-elected in 1977 and due to ill health was not able to attend the 1981 conference in Australia. However, for his dedication to the international Indigenous struggle and his years of service, George was honored by the Third General Assembly of the WCIP which bestowed on him the distinguished title of "Ambassador of the WCIP".

In 1977, George was elected President of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, at their

9th Annual Assembly. He held this position until 1981. At this time he announced that he would not seek re-election because of ill health. However, at that year's assembly the B.C. Chiefs honored George with the title, "Grand Chief".

Despite his ill health, in November 1982 George made an investigative trip to the Guatemalan Indian refugee camps in Mexico. He then wrote an impassioned letter to the people of Canada, soliciting help for the refugees.

In 1983, the Grand Chief suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized. During this same year, the University of British Columbia, which was to honour George with a Doctor of Law Degree, broke tradition and allowed his son George Jr. to accept the Doctorate on his behalf.

Canada also recognized the contribution made by the Grand Chief. On November 12, 1986, George was awarded the Order of Canada. Always the Indian activist, George took this opportunity to voice his concerns with respect to Indian/Canada relations. In a prepared press release he stated that:

"I decided to accept the Order of Canada because it is being conferred by the Queen's representative with whom we have no quarrel. Many of the honorable members of this government have demonstrated their lack of sincerity and commitment in fulfilling promises that have been made to our people. I do not care for any recognition that they may wish to offer."

During that time (1986) George was living at Neskainlith Reserve and was serving a two-year term on their Indian Government Council. Within several months George was elected Chief of the Neskainlith Indian Government, showing that he still had the confidence and support of his people, members of the Shuswap Nation. Due to continuing ill health, George was not able to complete his term of office. The Grand Chief crossed over to the spirit world in November 1989, at the age of 68.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

I first met George in January, 1973. I was then serving as Executive Director of the Native Youth Association of Canada which had an office at the NIB. Through discussions with George and his two sons, Robert and Arthur Manuel, I became more aware of the politics surrounding the aspirations of Indian nations and peoples. These talks with George helped focus my political philosophy with respect to Indigenous ideology. George has since reduced this ideology to writing in his book, "The Fourth World".

Over the years I have had a chance to listen to George speak and also discuss issues with him. As such, George has had a significant influence on my life, both with respect to national and international Indigenous issues. When I was elected President of the WCIP in 1984, I tried to live up to the standards and examples set by the Grand Chief. In fact, his teachings made the difficult and unpopular decisions I had to make, easier.

And, in the ever increasing confusion over Indigenous ideology/struggle, as contrasted to the east/west or right/left ideologies, I always try to remember his words. "Fourth World peoples need no longer live as victims of state oppression whether the state oppression is capitalist, marxist, fascist or socialist. The Miskito, Sumo, Rama and Creole people are showing us all that an Indigenous peoples' ideology, a Fourth World ideology, has a place in this world; and that state colonialism, state imperialism and state expansion into Fourth World homelands can and will be reversed". (Indian War and Peace with Nicaragua, 1985).

While Indigenous peoples everywhere will grieve and mourn the loss of Grand Chief George Manuel, we can be comforted by the wealth of knowledge he left behind, and his strength of spirit that remains in all of us who knew him.

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RABBIT LAKE ; ONLY ONE OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THREE SPILLS

There have been 153 spills, which translates into 90 million litres of waste accidentally pumped into our environment since 1984. Key Lake (1984) and Rabbit Lake (1989) have received media attention.

"The Rabbit Lake spills immediate effects on environment and community will not be known until spring, when the first eggs hatch," states Keith Goulet M.L.A. for Cumberland House constituency.

In an interview earlier this month Mr. Goulet expressed his concern as a northerner, a Metis and a politician over the impacts on environment and community these spills will or may have.

Keith's concern is directed at the need for a monitoring committee for all mining activities, and especially if the proposed mines do open up on Wollaston Lake, which drains into Athabasca to the West and Reindeer Lake to the East. "A major spill at one of these mines

could contaminate the entire north," he warns.

Mr. Goulet accuses the Progressive Conservatives of neglecting the needs of the northern people in favor of privatization. CAMECO, which is the amalgamation of Saskatchewan Mining Development, Eldorado Nuclear and other private corporations is supposed to lead to complete privatization of the Uranium industry in a seven year period.

"Privatization has led to a reduc-

tion in economic benefits to the northern people. There were only two Native people from Wollaston Lake at the mine. Health and Safety have been neglected, the Minister has taken no action to develop a monitoring committee..." Keith listed the concerns he has. "The Rabbit Lake spill occurred because CAMECO was allowed to operate without a proper alarm system...the fault lies at three levels, the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB), the province via Saskatchewan Environment who should regulate and is responsible for lease approval and CAMECO." Keith reported.

It's the same argument over control of development of the north. The provincial government has agreed to review licensing policies, to the issue up with the justice system and maybe initiate fines and to meet and consult with northern communities. Mr. Hamilton, the Director of the mine during the spill has received an early retirement.

"We are sick and tired of government monitoring government. The people want community and band based research. We want an independent public inquiry to investigate, update and review mining policy in the north," he closed with. □

Uranium - Is It Good for Northern Sask?

Cont'd...



nished by this incident, no one knows what the impact of such a spill is on the environment, wildlife, fish and people in the area. Testing of water in Wollaston Lake indicates that no significant damage occurred. However, the credibility of these tests as accurate measures of safety standards is questioned by many; the possible health effects of low-levels of radiation is a subject of intense debate.

Employment and safety aside, the nuclear industry argues that nuclear energy is the only means to guarantee adequate power supplies for the future; imagine the consequences, to employment, the economy, even education and health care, if our society runs out of power supply. Supplies of other fuels such as oil, gas, and coal are or will run out, says the industry, and uranium can fill the gap. More important, fuels such as coal and oil pollute the environment by emitting carbon dioxide, which is largely responsible for the trend to global warming, called the "greenhouse effect." Global warming is considered to be the foremost environmental problem facing the world, much more dangerous than the possible effect of nuclear power.

At first thought, warmer weather may sound like a good idea to most Canadians, but even a small rise in global temperatures could have several serious consequences: flooding of the lowland coastal

areas where most people live, an increase in droughts, especially in places such as Saskatchewan where the climate is already dry, increase in forest fires, disruptions of wildlife populations, among other problems.

According to the nuclear industry, the advantage of nuclear power is that it does not produce carbon emissions, therefore it does not contribute to global warming. Other advantages of nuclear are that uranium and other nuclear wastes are contained and stored, while wastes from burning coal and oil belch out from smoke stacks and spread throughout the atmosphere without any control, resulting in damaging acid rain. And nuclear energy facilities take up and destroy much less space than the hydro-electric dam projects, which can destroy entire watersheds.

The problem with these arguments is that they don't tell the whole story, they are only partly true. For example, nuclear power does not emit carbon directly from the nuclear power plant, but the process of mining, milling, and transporting uranium and uranium wastes uses plenty of fossil fuels and therefore the full nuclear power cycle also contributes to global warming.

It is certainly true that nuclear is better from a carbon emissions standard. However, nuclear power supplies only 5% of the world's energy needs. To produce enough

power from nuclear to substantially reduce the problem of global warming, several nuclear power plants would have to be built around the world each week for twenty-five years. Nuclear power plants cost about \$5 billion dollars each, meaning that nuclear is the most expensive power alternative. Due to the rising costs of nuclear and widespread opposition to the industry, only a handful of nuclear power plants are now being built and even fewer are being ordered for the future. Many feel that nuclear power, and with it uranium mining, are at best no growth industries.

It would appear that uranium/nuclear is not a feasible alternative for the world or Saskatchewan. The industry does not seem to provide a real option for an environmentally safe and economically feasible energy alternative, and it has yet to fulfill its promise of providing direct economic benefits through jobs to northerners.

Given these realities, why is the nuclear option promoted so strenuously and adopted by governments, against public opinion. The answer may be that nuclear power provides direct economic benefits to a small and powerful interest group that has the ear of those in power. The interests and values of environmentalists and northern residents do not yet have the clout to match those of the nuclear lobby. If they did, other

options for economic development, those that met the direct needs of northern people, would be given priority.

Consider, for example, the immense potential of sustainable forestry. The October 1989 edition of the Worldwatch Paper, entitled "Slowing Global Warming: A Worldwide Strategy" analysis various options for the future. One that shows considerable promise is the use of trees as fuel. Wood fuel is already a major fuel source -- supplying more of the world's energy needs than nuclear -- especially in the poorer nations of the developing world; now several countries have begun to use wood fuel in generating power on a larger scale.

When wood fuel is used in combination with an effective reforestation program it is an effective and environmentally safe alternative. Trees have the advantage that they consume carbon from the air while growing to maturity, so as long as they are replanted and burned efficiently, they provide a renewable, environmentally sound alternative. In addition, forestry and reforestation is more labour and less-capital intensive than nuclear power. It would be worthwhile to see our governments working with the forest industry, environmentalists, and Native northerners to examine the potential of wood fuel to generate power and economic benefits for Saskatchewan's north. □

\$240,000.00 SLOTTED FOR TRAINING NATIVE PEOPLE

Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister of National Defence, today announced on behalf of Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall the approval of \$240,000 under a three-year Innovations pilot project to train 45 Natives for jobs in the mining industry in the Athabasca Basin of northern Saskatchewan.

The project will use a training methodology based on a modified version of the co-operative education program under the Canadian Jobs Strategy.

"Basic adult education and other training programs are not addressing the employment problems faced by people in remote northern communities. We see the need for a new approach that links academic upgrading with actual jobs

in the mining sector," said Mr. McKnight.

The Athabasca Training Council, which is sponsoring the project, comprises representatives from each of the seven communities in the region, three of which are Native reserves.

Designed for unemployed adults, the project will begin in September and will be based on an adult basic education co-op program targeted at older workers. The participants will be offered full-time upgrading and full-time work experience on a three week, one week rotation that will last up to three years. While 45 adults can be accommodated in total, only 15 will be in training at any one time.

The mining industry was identified for this project because of

three of Canada's five uranium producers operate in northern Saskatchewan.

"We are encouraged by the response of potential employers to offer both work experience placement and long-term employment opportunities for graduates," the Minister added.

An additional \$844,000 contribution in funding is expected from Indian and Northern Affairs, Saskatchewan Education, the mining industry and the Canada Employment Centre at La Ronge.

The innovations program encourages new ways to generate growth in the Canadian labour market. It funds ideas that explore creative solutions designed to keep our labour market up-to-date and effective. □

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HERO OF THE MONTH DOROTHY (TROTIER) ASKWITH

by Gary LaPlante



Dorothy Askwith, 64, is a senior counsellor at the Native Addictions Council (NAC) Centre in Saskatoon. She also carries out the duties that a program coordinator would normally be responsible for. She has worked at the NAC Centre for approximately 12 years.

Dorothy is a lifetime resident of Saskatoon. She was born here and plans to retire here as well. Dorothy has a strong Metis identity, as a result of both her parents coming from culturally strong Metis families. Her grandfather, Alexander Trotter had settled in

Montana, but by 1902 the family had resettled at Round Prairie, which for a time was thriving Metis settlement near Saskatoon. Her father Pete Trotter was one of the first settlers. Pete had sixteen children, seven with his first wife, and nine with his second wife, of whom Dorothy is the eldest. Dorothy's mother was Elizabeth Laframboise. Her maternal grandfather was Joseph Laframboise, while her maternal grandmother was an Arcand. Joseph was also from Montana and had resettled at Duck Lake. While there he was employed as a mailman, deliver-

ing mail by horse and buggy.

Dorothy recalls stories her mother used to tell usually around bedtime. Some were of Louis Riel and the resistance at Batoche in 1885. Dorothy remembers her mother describing how the Metis people were left out of the development of the West as it became a part of Canada. As a result, the Metis then asked Louis Riel to speak on their behalf, to bring forward concerns and grievances regarding these developments. The Metis everywhere were aware of Riel's great oratory skills. Other stories Dorothy remembers were of Cree characters such as Whitkoak.

Dorothy was born in 1925. In her younger years she was "mama's little helper". Being the eldest, she had to take on responsibilities at a young age. Very mature at the age of 17, she decided to join the Royal Canadian Air Force after the Second World War broke out. Dorothy saw this as an opportunity to educate herself as well as experience some adventure. She travelled across Canada from Moncton to Alberta and in the process get a lot of exposure in cross-cultural relations which she feels was beneficial later in life. There were other Metis women who joined the army, but Dorothy was the only Metis woman that she

knows of in the Air Force. The whole stint was a very rewarding experience, according to Dorothy. She remembers when she returned to Saskatoon, she received a lot of positive attention that made her feel special, but feels it had more to do with the uniform than with herself.

After the Air Force, she acquired a driver's license and worked as a driver as she did not have a grade 12 diploma. She went on to marry Harold Askwith who is now a retired plumber. They have three daughters and one son: Sylvia of Saskatoon, is a homemaker, Valarie of Estevan, an electronic assembler and Heather lives in Edmonton. Heather's twin brother Harold holds a commercial pilot's license and is presently furthering his education in Moose Jaw.

Dorothy was somewhat involved, along with her late brother Clarence Trotter in forming local 11 in the late 1960's. She also recalls her father's involvement in the Metis Society in the 1930's. NAC originated in the early 1970's and it was at this time that Dorothy assessed her own life and realized that alcohol was playing too large a part. At that point, she didn't like who she was. She decided to do something about it and it was then she was introduced to the program. Dorothy says, "it was through that program that I identified myself as a whole human being. I learned to love myself unselfishly, learning to love." Dorothy expresses gratitude to the

late Clarence Trotter, to Bertha Oulette and the late Fred Schoental for giving her the opportunity to prove herself.

At the same time Dorothy was also encouraged to be knowledgeable of the big picture which tended to open her eyes to see beyond her own immediate wants and needs. Although she keeps a low profile politically, she asserts her strong concern for the direction our people take politically. Dorothy believed that we have to understand ourselves first so as to get a better understanding and perspective of our goals and objectives politically. "Sobering up as a people would be a major step in that direction", she says, for there is too much drugs and alcohol in our lives.

"I don't like to go to assemblies because the atmosphere tends to be divisive rather than unifying. I am for unity; for us to be at peace with one another," Dorothy states.

Dorothy has strong concern for the young, as young people make up a large number of NAC's clients. She stresses that there needs to be more effort put into helping the younger people fight alcohol and drug abuse. The New Breed salutes our Hero of the Month, Dorothy Askwith for her contributions in this area, as well as strengthening the stability of our people and providing a positive role model. □

MRS. NORA IRVING: THE GOOD LIFE

Bertha Ballentyne

Nora Irving is a pretty interesting lady. First of all, she was born in 1909 at Dominion Island an Lac La Ronge. She is 80 years old, but judging from her picture, this lady does not look her age at all. I attributed her youthfulness to her health and cherry disposition. Nora has been married twice and gave birth to 12 daughters and sons. The first six children were from her first husband, Stanley Charles. There are four daughters, Jean Lavant living in British Columbia, Ida Allen in La Ronge, Helen Charles in La Ronge, and Mabel McLeod in Stanley Mission. From her first marriage there are two sons Willie and Pat Char-

les both of whom are living in La Ronge.

During her second marriage to William Irving, Nora had two daughters, Kerry Irving living in Prince Albert and Theresa Irving in La Ronge. She also had four more sons, Donald in Prince Albert, John, Kelly, and Norman all live in La Ronge.

Nora Irving says she has lost count of her grandchildren as well as her great grandchildren.

With her first husband, most of her time was spent at the trapline. When Stanley Charles passed on, she returned to La Ronge, where she was to meet her second husband. She met and married Bill



Irving, who passed away two years ago.

However, Nora and Bill had maintained a traditional lifestyle with excursions to places like Pipestone.

During those days, she enjoyed being outdoors, travelling by canoe in the summer and with dogs in the winter.

Today, Nora enjoys life to the fullest. She enjoys her time at home and passes the time away with beading, sewing and cooking. Her baking can be tasted at church where she participates fully. This 80 year old woman is undaunted by life and its problems as can be seen by her youthful character. □

THE AMAZING POWER OF ALCOHOL

by Mrs. Adeline Hardisty
C.H.W.
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.

An A.A. friend of mine says he read a newspaper story, that Alcohol will remove stains from clothing. This is quite correct. But, that is not all - alcohol is very versatile. It will also remove winter, summer, spring, and autumn, clothes from a wife and children if used in sufficient quantity. Alcohol will remove furniture and rugs from a home, food from a table, lining from a stomach, vision from the eyes and judgement from the mind. Alcohol will remove reputations, a good job, good friends, happiness from children's hearts, sanity, freedom, man's ability to adjust and live with his fellowmen and remove life itself. Yes, as a remover of things alcohol has no equal. □

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NATIVE ACCESS PROGRAM OPENS DOORS TO NURSING CAREERS

The National Native Access Program to Nursing (NNAPN) is providing a chance for Native students to enter university nursing programs across Canada.

Marilyn Sanderson is one such student. She is a graduate of the 1989 Spring Access Program and is now studying nursing at the University of Saskatchewan.

Marilyn grew up on the James Smith Reserve in Saskatchewan and always wanted to become a nurse. After leaving the reserve, she finished high school, went to business college and worked as a secretary for a number of years.

She still had the dream of becoming a nurse, so while she worked full-time she also went to school to take the math and science courses needed for nursing.

Marilyn feels that the biggest obstacle that she faced was not having the background she needed in maths and sciences. She stresses the importance of counselling young people about the courses needed to get into medical careers.

Students who attend the Access Program must have the basic courses needed for university entrance, but seats have been saved in nursing programs at universities across Canada for successful graduates of the Access Program.

During the nine-week Spring Access Program in Saskatoon, Marilyn studies major subjects that are taken in nursing programs at the university level.

There were five other students in Marilyn's class and they became very close during the nine weeks they spent together. The students came from different backgrounds.

Marilyn and three other students were living in Saskatoon before they began the program, but the communities they had originally come from included James Smith

Reserve, White Bear Reserve, an Skownan, Manitoba. The two other students were from La Ronge and Fort Franklin, NWT.

Five of the six students had children, ranging in age from infants to teenagers. Several of the students also had to take some upgrading to meet university entrance requirements, while others had already taken university classes.

Balancing activities and time while in the Spring Program was a challenge, says Marilyn.

The Access Program has a strong cultural component, looking at Native culture and traditional health benefits and practices. This helps to strengthen cultural identity and demonstrate positive Native role models.

Marilyn's class attended a traditional Native feast held in Prince Albert. For some, this was a new experience, while others were familiar with the tradition and meaning of such an event and were able to share their knowledge and experience.

The Spring Program was a time for Marilyn to look at her goal of nursing and to evaluate herself for success in a university program. Marilyn felt that the experience gave her further incentive to become a nurse. She also felt that studying the different subjects helped her become more aware of what to expect in her first year university classes.

At the end of the Spring Program, Marilyn and two other students were recommended for direct entry into first year nursing at the University of Saskatchewan, and one student was recommended to a pre-nursing year at the University of Alberta, and one moved out of Saskatchewan and will be looking into nursing programs there.

Marilyn hopes to find a career in nursing overseas for about a year and then work in a hospital with children or newborns. She agrees that there is a need for more Native nurses and feels that it is important for Native people to have someone of their own culture to relate to when they are in the hospital.

Most agree that nurses that trained at a university level, like Marilyn, should improve the overall health and wellbeing of Native communities through leadership and involvement in community health and development.

Inquiries about the program can be directed to The National Native Access Program to Nursing, (306) 966-6224. □



Marilyn Sanderson (far right, back row) with classmates.



*Are You Native?
Have You Ever Thought of Becoming
a Nurse?*

The National Native Access Program to Nursing, NNAPN, is a nine week spring program that assists students of Native ancestry to gain entrance to university degree nursing programs across Canada. Applicants are eligible if they have the high school courses that are the requirement of the university they wish to attend. This year's program will run from April 30 to June 29.

For further information please contact:

The Coordinator, NNAPN
College of Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Sask., S7N 0W0
or call collect to (306) 966-6224

BEA SHAWANDA ADDRESSES WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE



Bea Shawanda

"I'm not afraid of tomorrow for I have seen yesterday and I'm here today", said Bea Shawanda, an experienced Native educator and trainer from the National Native Association of Treatment Directors in Calgary and originally from the Odawa tribe in Ontario.

Shawanda, who is known for her workshop "The healing power of laughter and play", addressed over

130 women attending a women's health conference held December 5th and 6th in Saskatoon. The conference was sponsored by the Saskatoon Community Clinic, Women's Mid Life Health Project, Iskiewak-o-myo-waw-inowaw.

"Life is a journey", continued Shawanda "and the power of family, friends, school, the church and even the law act as role mod-

*"Life is a journey
and the power of
family, friends,
school, the church
and even the law
act as role mod-
els."*

els. All these help us form relationships. Sometimes, however experiences from the past may cause us to lose our self image and that can be detrimental."

In order to overcome self doubt and low self esteem, Shawanda recommended that women particularly in their mid life couple the gift of heart (experience, the teacher of the past) with the



Cindy Nault (Coordinator)

teacher of the future (the gift of logic and thought) to free themselves from unpleasant experiences of the past. This is important since society is very youth oriented and compounds the situation by building up some false images of women in their mid life and older.

"But when a Native woman or a white woman knows who she is, in other words, she has a good self

image, she does not need to be liberated, for she is already free", added the Native educator. "Mid life is not something to dread but to celebrate", said Shawanda. "We should begin to collect our rewards as we reach out to the sunset of life and not be afraid to ask for help from family, friends or social agencies". □

CHICKEN POX

by Donna Stockdale

Disease Control Nurse

LaRonge Northern Health Services

Chickenpox is a very common virus infection among children. It begins 2-3 weeks after a person is exposed to another person who has the disease. Mild fever or a runny nose may be present 2-3 days before the small red, itchy spots appear. These spots quickly turn into little pimples or water-filled blisters that pop up easily and finally form scabs. Usually they begin on the body and later on the arms, head, and legs. They appear in "crops" over 2-5 days so there may be spots, blisters and scabs all at the same time. As long as the scabs don't become infected and aren't scratched off, they will fall off in 1-3 weeks, leaving no scars.

Chickenpox is spread mainly through the air on droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person. Less often, the virus is spread through the water from a broken blister.

Chickenpox is highly contagious 1-2 days before the rash appears and for a few days afterwards. By the time the last spots have crusted the person can no longer spread the disease. To prevent spreading it, children with chickenpox must be kept out of school, daycare and other public places for seven days from the time the first spots appear. Although chickenpox is usually mild, it can cause severe illness in adults, newborns under 2 weeks of age and children with

leukemia.

The treatment is aimed at controlling fever and itching and preventing infection. Scabs which are scratched off or become infected may leave scars.

1) If needed, give acetaminophen to control fever. Never give ASA (acetylsalicylic acid) to a child with chickenpox or the flu because of the danger of developing Reye's Syndrome, a potentially fatal disease.

2) Frequent baking soda baths will help relieve itching; about one half cup baking soda to each bathtub half-full of water is enough. Put long sleeves and leggings on your child as well as mittens or socks on infants' hands to make it harder to scratch at those very itchy spots.

3) Daily baths in warm soapy water will help prevent infection. Cut fingernails short and wash hands frequently. If itching is severe or infection occurs, your family doctor may prescribe an antihistamine or antibiotic.

In most cases, chickenpox is an uncomfortable, annoying illness which lasts a week and requires a patient, imaginative care-giver! All cases of chickenpox should be reported to your local public health nurse. Your nurse or doctor can also give you more information about chickenpox and its treatment. □

GERMS THAT CHILDREN GET

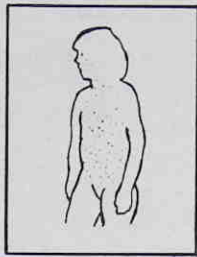
CHICKEN POX

- This is a very common virus and it spreads easily among children

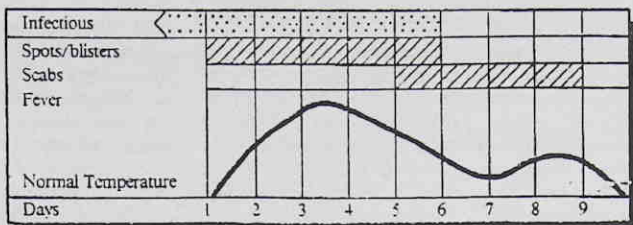
Growing Period
7 to 21 days

Signs:

- skin rash
- mild fever
- itchy spots
- spots from scabs



Visual Signs



Typical Pattern of Chicken Pox

Note: Do not give aspirin to children with chickenpox. They may develop Reye's Syndrome, a potentially fatal disease.

The signs of Reye's Syndrome are:

- it begins with a mild respiratory infection, the flu or chicken pox for which the child has been given aspirin;
- the child begins to vomit and become drowsy;
- the child loses consciousness and convulsions may occur.

Courtesy of the Government of the North West Territories.

EVERY YOUTH UNDER PRESSURE TO "TRY" DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

A talk with Eloise Opheim

Executive Director, PRIDE Canada, Saskatoon

It is now accepted that every child in Saskatchewan will be confronted with the decision to try alcohol or other drugs at some time during his or her school years.

General awareness and public education in the past decade have made people more aware of the psychological and physical risks youth take when they use drugs. Still, drug and alcohol abuse con-

tinues to threaten Saskatchewan young people.

Recent developments in Canada's larger centres show the devastating effects of the cocaine and "crack" trade. These powerfully addictive drugs will eventually permeate Saskatchewan. They may be causing a problem here already.

The number one drug problem

among youth in our province remains alcohol abuse. A recent study showed that the average age at which Canadian youth start drinking is 12.5 years.

PRIDE Canada (Parent Resources Institute for Drug Education) takes the stand that parents and youth cannot defeat the drug suppliers. PRIDE believes, however, that families can beat drug abuse by educating themselves about it and taking a stand against it. PRIDE works to educate families to learn about drugs and to commit themselves to not using them.

Parents play a primary role in fighting drug abuse among young

people. Parents can learn about drug abuse and teach their children about it. Parents set an example for their children by their use or non-use of alcohol or other drugs. Parent groups have played a powerful role in some Saskatchewan centres by organizing to create drug-free communities.

Youth groups organized by PRIDE also play a major role in helping their fellow youth make the right decision when confronted with drugs. Young people are under much subtle pressure today to begin using drugs. And it may not be a fiendish drug seller who coerces them into buying drugs. It may be a peer group or

even a friend who tries to persuade them to "experiment" for the first time.

Strong, visible peer groups within their own highschool environment who send out a strong anti-drug message influence young peoples' stand on drug use.

PRIDE believes that governments and schools must put more work and funding into educating families to create an anti-drug environment throughout the province. PRIDE Canada in Saskatoon gives information to any individual or group wishing to learn more about youth and drugs. PRIDE invites toll-free calls to their Saskatoon office at 1-800-667-3747.

HYPOTHERMIA: BEING TOO COOL

Hypothermia is a potentially fatal disorder that occurs when body heat is lost to a cold environment faster than it can be replaced.

Risk of hypothermia goes up in activities like skiing, snowmobiling, winter camping, hiking and hunting, and water sports. If dampness is involved, temperatures don't have to drop below 10°C (50°F) to be at risk. It can be a factor indoors as well, especially for those who live in inadequate protection (e.g., thermostat too low or poor insulation).

Symptoms: The body shivers to generate heat when confronted

with cold, but if the cool temperatures are prolonged enough to overwhelm this process, hypothermia will follow. Signs are varied, and can include increasing loss of energy, confusion, violent shivering, stiff, cold muscles, slow breathing, or trembling. Depression and reduced coordination may result, memory and judgement can fail, and sleepiness and hallucinations can develop.

Treatment: Cardiac arrest is the usual cause of death when the body's inner temperature cools below 30°C (86°F), so the heart must be protected when treating someone with hypothermia.

Do not raise the victim's feet, as that will send cold blood from the legs to the vital organs and further reduce the body's central or "core" temperature.

Do not give alcohol, which expands blood vessels and exposes more blood to the cold-blood that is circulated back to the heart.

Do share your own body warmth by lying next to the victim—with both of you in a sleeping bag or blanket, if one is available.

Do get help—after starting the above measures. Get the victim to a hospital as soon as possible.

Prevention. At home, make sure insulation and heating are ade-

quate. Hypothermia can happen indoors as well as out in cold weather, especially with the elderly and the very young.

Don't travel alone to isolated places in winter. Winter safety gear (e.g., waterproof matches and clothing) should be taken on outdoor hikes, snowshoe treks, etc.

Wear several layers of loose clothing, making sure your neck and head are covered. Wear mittens, not gloves, because they have less surface area exposed to the cold. Footwear should have room

for toes to move, as tightness will reduce the supply of warm blood to the feet.

If you get wet, change clothes as soon as possible. If you must be in cold water for a longer time (e.g., boating accident), remaining still while wearing a life jacket and clothing will grant a survival time up to three hours in water of 10°C. Swimming in cold water increases body heat loss—and the average person can swim just one tenth as far as they could in warm water.

The Red Cross Society has detailed information on safety in cold water and cold weather.

Health Talk was brought to you by the Saskatchewan Medical Association, the doctors of Saskatchewan and this newspaper. □

NDP ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS STATEMENT

by Keith Goulet, NDP MLA



As we move into the 1990's, it is a good opportunity to establish policies and priorities for the new decade.

Delegates at the Saskatchewan NDP convention in November, 1989 took this task seriously. They debated, and passed, policy initiatives in a wide range of areas.

The policy that was adopted with respect to Aboriginal people was based on a report by the Commission on Aboriginal People which was established "to consider the relationship between the Government of Saskatchewan and Aboriginal people's organizations and the importance of Indian, Metis, Non-status Indian people within Saskatchewan's community of people". The commission concerned itself with self-government and land issues, education, employment and economic development, and social justice.

The goal of our Commission was to seek new ideas and explore creative policy options through public input. As a democratic organization in Saskatchewan, in opposition or in government, we want to be able to support the political, economic, and social justice aspirations of Saskatchewan's Aboriginal people in the most effective way possible. We recognize that the only way to have a truly effective and accountable relationship with Aboriginal people is to be clear about our principles and our policy in regard to issues that directly affect them.

In developing specific policies for the Aboriginal community in our province, it must be recognized that Saskatchewan Aboriginal people are not a culturally homogeneous group. The cultural, political, and legal differences be-

tween Indian and Metis people must be recognized as distinct.

The Metis population is a major Aboriginal group. They are a self-defined people who grew out of the contact between the Indian peoples and the Europeans. They share a common historic and national identity as Metis and many continue to live in "Metis" communities. They have their own political, social, and cultural organizations. In The Constitutional Act (1982), the Metis were officially recognized for the first time as one of the Aboriginal people of Canada.

The NDP policy for the 1990's regarding Aboriginal People as proposed by the Commission and adopted by convention deals with five areas. These are land; economic development; self-government; education and training; and racism. Below are just a few of the specific policy statements.

- The outstanding land claims of Indian and Metis people must be resolved.

- Traditional Aboriginal theory and practice on land use and the Aboriginal concept of living in harmony with nature should be included within the overall framework of sustainable economic development.

- A comprehensive economic development strategy which will include all sectors of the economy will be planned, developed and implemented in co-ordination with Indian and Metis people.

- Education and employment eq-

uity programs for Aboriginal people will be adopted by both public and private sector companies.

- New programs and policies must be developed to ensure the full and equal participation of Indian and Metis women in the economy. These could include a separate Aboriginal Women's Loan or Equity Fund, support for entrepreneurial development training programs, child care arrangements and others.

- The Aboriginal people's right of autonomous self-government will be recognized and confirmed.

- A new constitutional process of fully recognizing and affirming Treaty and Aboriginal Rights will be supported.

- New programs and approaches should be developed which will provide a high degree of local authority over Indian and Metis child and family services. The rights of Aboriginal children to develop their identity within the context of Aboriginal families and communities must be affirmed and supported through practical policies and services.

- In view of the historical legacy of inadequate and inequitable education for Indian and Metis people, adult education and upgrading opportunities shall be developed in co-operation with Indian and Metis people.

- There is a need to continue to support innovative teacher training opportunities for students of Indian ancestry. The successful

programs of the last twenty years in this area should be continued and new areas of emphasis such as educational planning, curriculum development and Indian language should be supported.

- In response to the continuing high drop-out rates of Aboriginal children, new approaches should be investigated which will allow Indian, Metis and Non-Status Indian parents more decision making authority over the education of their children. Representatives of Aboriginal people on school boards, legislative changes to permit schools and school boards operated by Indian and Metis communities and other approaches should be examined.

- A multicultural and race relations commission will be established to promote greater harmony and respect amongst all nationalities.

- In keeping with similar reviews in other provinces across the country, a provincial task force should be created to review the position of Aboriginal people within Saskatchewan's human justice system.

These are but a few of the specific policies with which the NDP plans to move into the 1990's. If you would like a copy of the complete policy commission report, contact me (Keith Goulet, MLA; Legislative Building; Regina, Saskatchewan; S4S 0B3) or call NDP Provincial office at 525-1322. □

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE 90'S

Grant Hodgins
Minister of Indian and Native Affairs

Saskatchewan's future belongs to its Aboriginal population. The 1990's will be the decade when Aboriginal people will come into their own. We are all aware of what the demographics tell us. The Native population is growing at a greater rate than the non-Native population and is generally younger.

We could talk about how these population trends will likely mean more pressures being placed on social programs, about more problems, about more racial sensitivity; but I believe Aboriginal people are tired of being viewed as a "problem". I know I'm tired of people thinking in those terms.

Let's talk in terms of opportunity, of hope of determination to succeed, of a new society for Saskatchewan in which Aboriginal people assume leadership roles in all sectors of business, professions, government, administration and community life. I see the coming decade as one of renewed interest in the family and community life. The Native community has always valued these things, so this is nothing new for it. We do, however, have to work together all across Saskatchewan as a unity of peoples to ensure these values are

reinforced and practiced, and most importantly, taught to our children. This is especially true in our urban centres where there seem to be so many more influences detracting from a sense of neighborhood and community. Yet, the opportunity is there in the many services available. For example, when the Friendship Centre in Regina held its Christmas party this year, over 1000 people came to share the fellowship and to bring happiness into the lives of all the children present. This children's party is only one example of how the Native community is pulling together to accomplish important goals for itself.

I believe the Aboriginal community also has within its ranks the means of providing proactive leadership in the management of social programs. I'm thinking, for example, of the school system where native parents, and indeed the native community at large, should be working toward meaningful involvement, not just in areas which will help their children's learning, but in areas of overall management and decision making. Every school board in every community boasting a siz-

able native population should have Native board members.

The power is in the hands of the native electorate. All that is required is to use it for the good of the community.

More Native people should be running for public office at all levels: federally, provincially, and municipally. An activated Native population could represent several constituencies all across Saskatchewan. If there were more Native politicians of all political stripes, Native communities would not have to ask what will government do for us, it would be government. Native self-government could be a very real fact of life in the 90's, but not in the way we might expect. It will come through active involvement in existing political systems.

With the non-native population containing a smaller youth segment and a larger segment of older people, it will become even more critical for native youth to stay in school, achieve academically and go on to post-secondary training. The whole of our society must invest in its youth, but the native youth are our best hope for the future.

I see greater opportunity for strategic partnerships between Native-controlled institutions such as the one between Gabriel Dumont Institute and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST). These partnerships mean greater Native ownership of existing delivery systems while at the same time allowing for the unique cultural component which

I believe must be preserved and enhanced.

The recently completed report of the Task Force on Northern Education is an example of the way in which active involvement from the Native community influences profoundly the changes required to existing institutions in order to accommodate native expectations. The report does two things: it reflects the desire of northern communities to have a school system where academic standards are second to none in Saskatchewan and at the same time respects Native cultural values and norms.

The challenges will be in making sure that the creativity, thoughtfulness and cooperation which characterized the production of the northern education report is there in the implementation of the recommendations. That will be the proof of the pudding for northerners.

Max Morin, from Ile a la Crosse, spoke for the new-age Saskatchewanians of the 90's when he told the group at the first planning session on implementation of the report that the communities of the north must solve their own problems. Handouts don't help, only people can make a difference. These are the thoughts of a natural leader, one who happens to be of Aboriginal descent, but who nonetheless, speaks the truth that applies to all communities in Saskatchewan; indeed to Saskatchewan itself. This leads me to the topic of the environment. Concern for the environment is part of the renewed concern for

family, neighborhood and community. It is a self-help movement. We all want to guarantee the health and wellbeing of our children. As someone said to me recently, "We have not inherited the environment from our grandparents, but rather have borrowed it from our children".

Aboriginal cultures understand this basic premise which is reflected in the sense of oneness and affinity with nature. We all know the great challenge of the 90's will lie in our ability to balance the need for economic well-being, growth and prosperity with an appropriate means of protecting and even healing our "borrowed" environment.

This challenge is a shared community effort where none of us can afford to stand by waiting for someone else to solve the dilemma. We must work together to meet the challenge. The Native community needs academic development. It is at the same time no less affected by environmental concerns than the rest of society. I believe, as I have said earlier, the capacity to deal with these challenges is there in the Aboriginal community, in its vitality, its power and its people.

For too long, the area of Native issues has been characterized by pessimism, cynicism and dependency. The 90's belong to the Indian and Metis people of Saskatchewan. The Native community holds the means of revitalizing itself and together we hold the means of revitalizing our environment. □

CATHOLIC NATIVE BISHOP VISITS SASKATOON

by June Nunan

Recently the Most Rev. Charles J. Chaput O.F.M. Cap., a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi, and the Bishop of Rapid City, South Dakota, visited Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Bishop Charles has Master Degrees in both Religious Education and in Theology. He is an active member on Peace and Justice Committees, on Interracial Justice Boards as well as the Denver Indian Health Board and the Blackhills Rehabilitation Hospital Board. He is also a director of the National Tekakwitha Conference which holds an annual conference of North American Catholics of Native Ancestry. His grandmother grew up on the same reservation as did Albert Negahnquet, the first full-blooded Native Catholic priest who was ordained in 1903. We felt it a great privilege to welcome Bishop Charles to Saskatoon.

The visit commenced with Bishop Charles celebrating the Sunday evening Eucharist (Mass) at St. Patrick's Parish where Very Rev. Len Morand is pastor and in Native Ministries for the local diocese. Four young people made their First Holy Communion at this Mass. The evening ended with a reception and with entertainment by the Gabriel Dumont Dancers - who are organized and trained by Sharon Chicoose. Sharon is one of the teachers at the Guadalupe Early Learning Centres which are run by Catholic Native Ministries in Saskatoon.

The following day, Bishop Charles met with some of Native students from one of the Catholic High Schools in the city, E.D. Feehan. He extended an invitation to them to visit him and stay in Rapid City, S.D. That invitation was immediately accepted as now thirty-five students and six staff are planning to go south for the Easter holidays. En route to New Mexico, their destination, they will stop in Rapid City for a short visit. While in New Mexico they will also meet with another of the Catholic Native Bishops when they are greeted by the Most Rev. Donald E. Pelotie S.S.S., of Gallup, New Mexico. One wonders if



Photo Credit June Nunan



Photo Credit S. Chicoose

such a large family from the north was expected quite so soon to take up Bishop Charles' invitation.

Another stop for the Bishop was at St. Mary's community School, where he met with a number of Native students, some of whom he would confirm later that day.

Bishop Charles addressed faculty and students at St. Thomas Moore College, University of Saskatchewan. He first spoke of his own band and of how they were forced into different states. They

were sent into Michigan, Indiana, eventually being split between Kansas, his own band, and Omaha. In his presentation on "Inculturation", attention was given to Pope John Paul II who has spoken a number of times on an Indigenous Church and the need to have Native people represented.

Bishop Charles is a member of the Capuchin Order - a branch of the Franciscans, who are identified by their own poverty as well as their commitment to work with

and among the poor. The church, in striving to recognize and accept all cultures and welcomes the Native people. At the same time society at large puts pressure on Native people to conform to the dominant society and in doing so fails to acknowledge the gifts that they bring as individuals and as a community with a defined culture. The church's mission is to bring the Gospel as a clear announcement for all to understand. Native persons are called to be fully who

they are both culturally and spiritually by responding to the gospel in their unique way as Catholic Christians. The Word of God became human in the person of Christ whose own mind, language and thought were a part of the Jewish culture. At the same time he accepted those of other cultures and encouraged unity of all peoples. We are called to be fully alive and to rejoice in the gifts each culture brings. Bishop Charles, having shared these thoughts, responded to questions from the audience and then shared in refreshments.

In the evening a Gathering and Pot Luck were held at St. Patrick's Parish followed by Mass, during which twelve teenagers and adults were confirmed. The Catholic Native Community are grateful to Bishop James P. Mahoney for extending this privilege. All had the opportunity to meet Bishop Charles after Mass when refreshments were served. Entertainment was provided by the St. Mary's Community School Hoop Dancers. This was followed by the Round Dance. Those who were confirmed were later surprised to receive letters and cards from Bishop Charles in their Christmas mail.

Saskatoon Catholic Native Ministries are grateful to Bishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. for having visited our community.

Joseph Red Thunder, accompanied by David Red Fox, as also in Saskatoon during the time of Bishop Charles' visit. Joseph is past - Chairperson of the Sioux Inter-Tribal Councils and now holds the office of Vice President. He is also President of the Catholic Indian Congress. Joseph led the Prayer and Healing service held at St. Patrick's Parish. He travels a great deal throughout the U.S.A. and Canada and has become well known to Native and non-Native for his gift of prayer for those with special needs. This was a return visit for our Sioux friends as they visit Saskatoon, several times a year, for ministry to the Catholic Native Community here. □

Teens Have Their Say About Drug Abuse Cont'd...

RCMP Special Constables were there not only to answer questions about drugs, but also to talk with the students about their concerns. "The project allowed our members to hear what the students think about their community, about their dreams for the future, and about the impact of drugs and alcohol on peoples' lives," said Inspector Lynch, Coordinator of Aboriginal Policing of RCMP "F" Division. "Through the cartoons they produced, it became obvious that the teenagers know what kind of lifestyle they want for themselves and their community. There are a lot of bright and energetic young people in this community."

Sgt. Beasse, RCMP detachment Commander for Beauval, felt that one of the most important outcomes of the project was that both the RCMP and the students realized they had common goals in the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse. "We weren't there to lecture, but to work together in a positive, preventative ways. I hope we helped to dispel some of the stereotypes held about police because effective policing means having the community work with us toward the common goal of building a healthy society."

How did the students feel about the project? The following are excerpt from letters written by students at Valley View School:

"The project will always remain in my memories as an exciting and fun experience."

"I really enjoyed working on the animation, I learned how to create the drawings and make them seem almost real."

"I'm writing this letter to thank you for what you have done for our school and the B.I.E.C. and for asking Billy Merasty to come along."

"You did something right for us."

Some of the film titles from Beauval and across the country are: Don't Get Trapped; Problems From Sniffing; Beer Buster; Acid Earth; Respect Our Land, Respect Our People; Respect Your Baby; Teenage Wasteland-Clean It Up.

Through their creativity, hard work, and through the measures they chose, the students from Valley View School and Beauval Indian Educational Centre shared



Students at BIEC

their visions for the future, and gave us all cause to reflect about each of our roles in society and the impact of the messages we give each other.

The workshop was sponsored by the Ministry of the Solicitor Gen-

eral of Canada Secretariat, RCMP "F" Division. It also received support and sponsorship from the schools and their staff, community groups and organizations in Beauval. □

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