

WINTER 2007



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We encourage community council
members to submit comments,
suggestions, articles, and ideas to the
editor.

Seasons Greetings

The Christmas Board meeting will be held December 13 & 14 and with visits by Deputy Minister Harvey Bostrom who sent regrets for Minister Oscar Lathlin who wasn't able to make this meeting. This time of the year brings thoughts of family gatherings, renewing friendships, and an occasion to review all we have accomplished and which professional and personal goals we did not meet.

Aboriginal & Northern Affairs Executive Director Freda Albert, Directors Jeff Gordon, Harold Smith and Karen Barker attended along with Kurt Penner Special Assistant and David Chadwick Special Advisor to Oscar Lathlin attended our Christmas Board and Staff luncheon.

Again the NACC Regional Meetings will take place in February and March 2008 please stay tuned for further updates. To assist in the planning of the regional meetings we are requesting agenda items from the communities. The NACC Regional Meeting represents part of the ongoing consultative process with Northern Affairs Communities. Often resolutions arising from the AGM provides the Department of Aboriginal & Northern Affairs with guidelines to work from.

This last year through the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative NACC has made and renewed many partnerships with the NACC communities and the First Nations communities by providing opportunities for neighbours to work together to improve the community in which they live and to beautify their neighbourhood. ***Partnering with Neighbouring Communities for a Healthier and Safe Environment***



Christmas is a magical season. It is a time for families and friends to spend together. It is also an opportunity to give. I recall my siblings and I looked on the Christmas season with amazement. We saw our parents working extra hard to make sure our Christmas was memorable. We shared a special meal together as a family and we were fortunate enough to have a present to open. For many of us, Christmas represents that one time of the year where we can share what we have with those that we love. As a father and a grand father, I now have the privilege of watching my children and grand children enjoying this season. We must also remember those that are less fortunate.

My family and I want to take this time to extend to each of you the very best. May the Creator bless you throughout this season and into the New Year!

Oscar Lathlin

Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

P R E S I D E N T ' S R E P O R T

Reg Meade ~ President's Report



The Board of Directors is trying a new strategy to better service our community membership. At the December meeting the Board will be taking Strategic Planning Training to develop a focus for the New Year and to concentrate on certain issues that are affecting the communities. After the meeting we will present the strategic planning outcome through the Whispering Pines newsletter and on the NACC webpage. We would appreciate hearing from council members of what changes they would suggest or like to see.

- Since the conference time I have attended meetings to address the following areas: Capital Approval Board, Food Security, Apprenticeship training consultations, Climate Change, Port of Churchill Announcements, Mining Conference and I have been invited to the MNO regarding the East Side Planning and Bi-Pole on the West Side.
- I also have been traveling all over the province for the Canada Manitoba Infrastructure (MRIF) announcements.

E X E C U T I V E R E P O R T ' S

Helgi Einarsson ~ Eastern Region Chairperson

Here at Dauphin River we are having another terrible winter freeze up. The ice is piled high in the river and the river is backing up. Already part of our road has been flooded and detours are being used.

Hopefully the main part of the road and will escape the rivers wrath and we won't be cut off from rest of the world! I guess we'll see what Mother Nature has in store for us this season.



I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and joyful holiday season. May the New Year bring happiness, prosperity and have a Merry Christmas.

EXECUTIVE REPORT'S continued:

Anne Lacquette ~ Western Region Chairperson



Thank you to all the Mayors and Councils that attended our AGM in August. Resolutions are being dealt with and have been sent to the appropriate government departments.

On behalf of the Western Region I would like to welcome NACC two newest staff members, Tracey Johnson and Kelly McAuley.

If you have any concerns that you need me to deal with please call the NACC office Toll free 1-888-947-6222 or myself at (204) 628-3275 or Fax (204) 626-3441.

In closing I would like wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Meegwetch!

Frances McIvor ~ Northern Region Chairperson



Seasons Greetings!

This is a very busy time of the year for everyone, with shopping and getting ready for Christmas and trying to make sure our communities are growing with positive progress. There seems to be many exciting projects happening in the North and I think many communities will be very busy. I have been attending meetings and on going discussions with board members of the Northern Central Development ad the Bayline Regional Round Table. These board meetings give us the opportunity to take some time out to discuss how our communities are doing. The staffs of BRRT, NACC and the partners are still working continuously. I am still working on setting up discussions with the appropriate people to deal with the issues on housing, health roads. I hope to have information for the Aboriginal & Northern Affairs meetings in February 2008.

I would like to take time to welcome Tracey Johnson and Kelly McAuley to the staff of NACC and if any one has the opportunity to go to the office please go and meet the staff. They would be pleased to see you.

Happy Holidays and hope to see you in the New Year.



The President, Board of Directors and Staff of NACC would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Government Update



NEW COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE OFFICIALLY OPENED IN ILFORD

A new, \$1.4-million community health centre was opened in Ilford today, ensuring better care continues to be available sooner and closer to home

for residents of the remote community, Health Minister Theresa Oswald announced today.

"It's important that all Manitobans have access to health-care services no matter where they live and we're proud to have worked with the region and the community to build this new community health centre," said Oswald. "This station will enable staff to provide quality care to area residents in a modern facility, featuring properly-designed patient examination rooms, enhanced wheelchair access and secure supply storage areas."

A public health nurse and community health worker will provide basic primary, public and emergency health services. In addition, staff from the Burntwood Regional Health Authority will travel to Ilford regularly to provide:

- diabetes programs including dietician support,
- foot care,
- pharmacy support, and
- mental-health programs.

"The Burntwood Regional Health Authority is

proud to officially open the Ilford Community Health Centre today," Marie O'Neill, chief executive officer. "This new facility will enhance the health care of residents in their own community with a modern, spacious centre we can all be proud of."

The project's contractor, Penn-Co Construction, working with the Burntwood Regional Health Authority, War Lake First Nation and Manitoba Competitiveness, Training and Trade, also provided an innovative workplace training component to the project. Five level one carpenter apprentices from the War Lake First Nation were able to work on the construction of the new station and acquire over 600 hours each in their apprenticeship programs.

"The construction of the community health centre was a positive partnership between government, Penn-Co Construction and our community with benefits to everyone involved," said Chief Betsy Kennedy of the War Lake First Nation. "On behalf of the community, I want to say how proud we are of our members who helped to build this much needed and excellent facility for our community."

The War Lake First Nation contributed funding to the training program.

"Through this project, community members were able to gain valuable work experience while working on a building that will benefit all area residents," said Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Steve Ashton, speaking in Ilford today. "Linking training opportunities to capital projects is just one example of innovative ways that we are developing our human resources in the north, as set out in the Northern Development Strategy."

Executive Assistant

Tracey Johnson was born and raised in Manitoba. Her father was a bush pilot and part time trapper as well as an avid hunter and fisherman. Her formal training is as a Legal Assistant; however, she has many years of administrative experience in a wide variety of industries. She has two grown sons and enjoys gardening.

Editor's Corner

Hello community members it's been a long year and we have been very busy in the NACC office working on details after the Conference ends and sending out the resolutions next the responses from the Ministers. This year conference was another success.

I attended an Awards Reception for the Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Foundation on November 20, 2007 which was to celebrate and honour for 42 young aboriginal people who are making their dreams come true. The Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Foundation makes it possible for Aboriginal Post-secondary students to complete their chosen field of study through the provision of financial bursaries bestowed annually. The amount of the bursary can range from \$1,500 to \$5,000.

On Nov 14 I attended a meeting for Frontiers Foundation, who have finally set-up shop here in Manitoba and are now looking for volunteers for their Housing projects. If you need more information or would like to volunteer please call Laurel Gardiner at (204) 778-7126.

In closing I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Whispering Pines Newsletter

The next issue of Whispering Pines will be published in the spring of 2008. Articles for March's issue should be submitted by Feb 15th. Articles and events submitted from the Communities are placed in the Whispering Pines free of charge! Please send your articles today.

**YOUR VOICE HAS POWER
TOGETHER, OUR VOICES WILL BE PART
OF THE SOLUTION!**

**CANADIAN ABORIGINAL AIDS NETWORK
Announces Theme of Aboriginal AIDS
Awareness Week**

OTTAWA, November 5, 2007 – The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network announced today the theme of Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week (AAAW) by launching its 2007 AAW website: www.caan.ca/aaaw

“We need your voice and especially our Leaders to speak loud and clear about HIV/AIDS,” says Kevin Barlow, Executive Director of the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network. “Together, we can turn this epidemic around and together, we can make a difference for those now living with HIV or AIDS”.

Beginning on World AIDS Day (December 1st) and extending to December 5th the Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week reminds individuals, communities and leaders that because HIV/AIDS does not discriminate it affects everyone.

To increase knowledge of HIV/AIDS among Aboriginal people this year CAAN would like to encourage individuals and communities to speak up because:

Your voice has power...

**To create hope and healing
To protect yourself and others
To reduce HIV infections**

To stop stigma and discrimination

Get informed and speak to those around you.

Now is an ideal time to engage your community about HIV/AIDS and how to reduce the HIV related stigma and discrimination too often associated with this virus.

All of the AAW materials including posters, booklets, fact sheets on HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal People, Protecting Yourself from Infection and Getting Tested for HIV, as well as Public Service Announcements (PSA) developed for radio and TV are on the AAW website which is linked to the CAAN website at www.caan.ca.

For more information please contact:
Colleen Patterson, Senior Communications Officer
Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
1-866-286-2226 ex 115 or email colleenp@caan.ca



NACC's flag was displayed at the Aboriginal portion of Mining Conference held at the Convention Centre on November 15-17, 2007 in Winnipeg

NACC BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

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Veronica Sinclair
Ph: (204) 678-2001

Western Sec. /Treasurer
Harold Fleming
Ph: (204) 732-2675

Community News

**Matheson
Island
Community
Council
9th Annual
Winter Fishing
Derby 2008**



First 20 participants to catch a fish will receive a fishing rod (One rod per participant).

Mark your calendars for the next Winter Fishing Derby in Matheson Island, Manitoba on Saturday March 8th, 2008 1 - 4 pm

Registration fee:

Category one

Cost is \$40.00 until February 22nd, 2008

\$50.00 after February 22nd, 2008

Category two \$10.00

There will be a Social Evening 8 pm - 1am.

Music by: To be Announced

“Advance ticket only” Admission \$15.00

Door Prizes

**Silent
Auction**

Payments can be made by cheque or money order and mailed to:

Matheson Island Community Council

General Delivery

Matheson Island, Manitoba R0C 2A0.

No cheques will be accepted after February 22nd, 2008. Cash will be the only method of payment accepted on the derby day.

Whispering Pines

Interact is not available!

For more information please call the Matheson Island Council Office (204) 276-2150, Mona (204) 276-2053, Terry (204) 276-2413 or Debbie (204) 276-2226.

Email: mathesoncouncil@lincsat.com

MLCC Approval No. 313/08

Manitoba Sport Fishing Rules apply 1 hole per entry and 1 line per hole.

This is a catch & release derby.

Northern Healthy Foods Initiative

Northern Healthy Foods Initiative

Grow North

Thank you to all persons involved and interested in the Grow North projects. I would also like to congratulate Mayor of Sherridon, Nick Benyk on his Golden Carrot award, on behalf of the Manitoba Food Charter. The award signifies a commitment to increasing a healthy, local and sustainable food system in the community. Please keep the momentum going in the north, by reducing high northern food costs, increasing food localism and promoting healthy living. There is great opportunity to do so with your community. Please contact NACC for information in developing a food localism and security in your community.

Some things to digest over the winter!

- Type of Garden (community, individual)
- Type of things one would like to grow
- Composting
- Community Health and Education

- Berry and Fruit Components
- Education and Lunch Programs

Have a Safe and Healthy New Year!
 Kindest Regards, Jessica Paley

Golden Carrots Awards

Northern region Winners
 Gerald Kemp: Berens River
 Michelle Trudeau: Leaf Rapids
 Nick Benyk: Sherridon



**Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Youth Council
 National Youth Health Careers Conference and Trade Show
 February 21-24, 2008
 Delta Hotels Winnipeg, MB
 SE'TO SKATOWIN
 (EMPOWERING OURSELVES AND OTHERS)
 Call for Participants
 Registration Deadline January 11, 2008
 Contact Jade Harper Events Coordinator
 Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
 867 St. Laurent Blvd.
 Ottawa, ON K1K 3B1
 Email: jade@abo-people.org
 Ph: 613-747-6022
 Fax: 613-747-8834**

Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Foundation Award 2007

This year's award recipients include 42 Aboriginal Youth:

- Shirley Haynes – Language Specialist
- Chelsea Grove – Third-year Civil/CAD Engineering
- Brianne Lagimodiere – Second-year Mechanical Engineering
- Russell Gauthier – Second-year Computer Engineering
- Jerri-Lyn Chester – Fourth-year Education
- Tanya Vincent – Human Ecology
- Angeline Nelson – Third-year Human Ecology
- Kerri Ann Spence – Human Ecology
- Ashley Faye Blais – First-year Medicine
- Mandy Buss – First-year Medicine
- Shanolyn Matawayashing – Second-year Education
- Rina Whitford – Second-year Education
- Evelyn Hayden – Aboriginal Governance
- Erica Eden – Second-year Hospitality
- Joanna Spence – Business Administration
- Tara Denise Monkman – First-year Medicine
- Carly Delavau – Fourth-year Civil Engineering
- Mary Elaine Cook – First-year Nursing

General award recipients

- Bradley Klus – Medicine
- Audrey Lorraine Foure – Midwifery
- Tara Myran – Nursing
- Kealy Murray – Nursing
- Marcie Sabel – Nursing
- Julie Williams – BA
- Audrey Sanderson – BA
- Shaneen Jeanette Robinson – BA
- Tania Beauchamp – Governance
- Stephanie Cooke – Aboriginal Community Development
- Chris Prevost – Education
- Candace Clare Wilson – Education
- Chassity White – B.Sc
- Debra Saunders – BSW
- Lorie A. Thompson – Law
- Michelle Carriere – Engineering
- George Ahmo – Engineering
- Ian Smith – Engineering
- Moe Yusim – Engineering
- Miranda Daudet – Nursing

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs award recipients

- Nichole Bruce – First-year Civil Engineering, U of MB, Jordan Kuby – First-year Engineering, Uof MB
- Kristy-Lee Tremblay – First-year Engineering, U of MB, Colin Clemons – First Year Municipal Engineering, Red River College



**The Northern Association
of Community Councils
Inc.**

**Will be closed over the
Christmas Holiday's
December 21, 2007 at
noon back to work on
January 7, 2008**

A short introduction

I have recently joined the NACC team as the Administrative Assistant. I am originally from the Ebb and Flow First Nation and grew up in the Portage La Prairie area. After

graduating high school I have been involved with Aboriginal organizations in various administrative capacities. I look forward to meeting many of NACC's members.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this great organization.

Happy Holidays everyone.

Kelly McAuley

Fact Sheet

Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage

The Government of Canada's Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage program offers support for activities that are intended for and open to the general population and celebrate local heritage, artists and artisans. Funding is available through two components:

Local Arts and Heritage Festivals will provide funding for recurrent local community events and activities that feature the public presentation of local artists and/or local heritage.

Community Historical Anniversaries Programming will provide funding for local community events and activities that commemorate the 100th anniversary or greater (in multiples of 25 years) of a historically significant local event or person.

Who Can Apply?

Eligible organizations include local non-profit incorporated organizations, groups that are not legally incorporated, and Band Councils, Tribal Councils and other Aboriginal governments or equivalent authorities.

What Are the Key Eligibility Requirements?

Applicants must have written confirmation of financial or in-kind support from their municipal government or the equivalent authority and must include the value of that support in the project budget. When the applicant is a Band Council, Tribal Council or other Aboriginal government or equivalent authority, this authority itself must provide written confirmation of support.

For Local Arts and Heritage Festivals: applicants must have already completed one eligible activity within the last two years.

For Community Historical Anniversaries Programming: the anniversary must be at least the 100th or greater, in multiples of 25 years (for example, 125th, 150th anniversary, etc.).

What Are the Application Deadlines?

The application deadlines for Local Arts and Heritage Festivals are:

- January 14, 2008 for projects taking place between June 1 and December 31, 2008.

The application deadlines for Community Historical Anniversaries Programming are:

- If the project is taking place later in 2008 (e.g. starting June 1 or later), the deadline is January 14, 2008. This deadline is for projects taking place between June 1 and December 31, 2008.

For more details about this program, including application forms and guidelines, visit the Building Communities through Arts and Heritage site at www.pch.gc.ca/communities.

You can also visit your nearest Canadian Heritage office, or contact Canadian Heritage toll-free by calling 1 866 811-0055 or TTY: 819 997-3123

Manitoba Trappers Association Fur Table

The Manitoba Trappers Association will sponsor the Thompson Fur Table on Tuesday, December 18th and Wednesday, December 19th at St. Josephs Hall on Cree Road.

Over 200 northern trappers are expected to attend and sell their furs. Five fur buyers have been invited. During the event there will be sale of trapping supplies, a trapper's raffle, pelting demonstrations, lots of door prizes and sale of crafts. The City of Thompson and Chamber

of Commerce will be providing free coffee for the trappers. Everyone is welcome.

Manitoba Trappers Association AGM & Convention 2007

Manitoba Trappers Association 2008 Annual General meeting and Convention will take place in Ashern on Friday, February 29th and Saturday, March 1st. There will be pelt preparation competitions for junior and senior trappers with cash prizes.

Friday: starting in the afternoon there will be displays, and

pelting demos, followed by live music in the evening. Coffee will be served. Saturday morning business meeting, election of Zone Directors, reports from fur auction houses, and participation by Manitoba Conservation Wildlife Branch. Dinner Banquet will be followed by awards, live auction and giant raffle draw in the evening. For registration costs and further information please call MTA at (204) 345-9107 Email: mts@mts.net



**Congratulations to the recipients of the
2007 Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards**

Academic Senior - Frank Wesley Award: Jennifer Guiboche
Nominated by University of Manitoba Access Program

Academic Junior - Frank Wesley Award: Katelyn Sinclair
Nominated by River East Collegiate

Artistic - Visual: Stanley Wood
Nominated by Argyle Alternative High School

Artistic - Performance: Kaya Wheeler
Nominated by Tanis Wheeler, Winnipeg

Athletic Senior: Jacques Marcoux
Nominated by Aboriginal Business Education Program (ABEP)

Athletic Junior: Alyssa Johnson
Nominated by Audrey Johnson and Michael Johnson, Winnipeg

Business/Entrepreneurship: Andre Man
Nominated by Aboriginal Business Education Program (ABEP)

Community/Volunteer Senior: Jennifer Scherban
Nominated by Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC)

Community/Volunteer Junior: Tasha Spillett
Nominated by University of Winnipeg Aboriginal Student Council

Cultural Female: Chelsea Lavallee
Nominated by Wilf Lavallee, St. Ambrose

Cultural Male: Joseph Mousseau
Nominated by Dr. Joannie Halas, University of Manitoba

Personal Achievement Senior: Cole Choken
Nominated by Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Southern Chiefs Organization Inc.

Personal Achievement Junior: Tessa Beardy
Nominated by Cross Lake Education Authority

NACC supports high-speed Internet and sees it as an important development tool for their membership. One of the major tasks of the NACC is to provide communication between Community Councils, Local Committees and Governmental bodies. One of the fastest growing technologies currently facilitating this communication is the Internet. However, the current dial up versions of the Internet being used in many communities can not keep up with the ever changing and expanding technology available on the web.

Some of the benefits are:

Online 24-7, No dialup lines required, Downloading larger files
Access to Internet technologies, Access to internet based learning tools, No trouble with being kicked off the internet
No dropped calls and Quick access to information you need.

CHILDREN'S PAGE



Christmas Word Search

2



S D S S C A N D Y V D W
 A L L N O W D A S H E R
 C A E O M U O N A V E E
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| BELL | DONNER | SLED |
| BLITZEN | ELF | SNOWMAN |
| CANDY | FROSTY | STAR |
| CHIMNEY | GIFT | TOY |
| COMET | PRANCER | TREE |
| CUPID | PRESENT | VIXEN |
| DANCER | RUDOLPH | WREATH |
| DASHER | SACK | |

Merry Christmas

