



N.A.C.C. 38th Annual General Meeting & Tradeshow

INSIDE:

President's Report:.....	2
Executive Reports:.....	2 & 3
Government Update:.....	5
Executive Assistant – Report:.....	5
Children's Page:.....	16

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Whispering Pines is published by the Northern Association of Community Councils Inc. & printed by Derksen Printers of Steinbach, Manitoba.

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

President Reg Meade and the Northern Association of Community Councils Board of Directors are pleased to announce the theme and dates for the AGM & Tradeshow.

Theme: “Opportunities in Every Challenge”

Manitoba
Aboriginal and
Northern Affairs



Held in partnership with ██████████ in Winnipeg, Manitoba August 19th Aboriginal & Northern Affairs day will convene at 8:30 am, and NACC's Plenary Meeting will convene at 8:30 am on August 20 & 21, 2008 and the location of the hotel is still **T.B.A.**

Each of the 52 NACC Community Councils is invited to send two delegates from their councils to participate in the conference. One room will be booked for each community council. Also room arrangements will be handled for the Clerks/Administrators and all delegates must be willing to share a room as in previous years.

Elections will held this year at the AGM for the President and Regional Chairperson Board positions. Soon you will able to register on line at <http://nacc.cimnet.ca>.

If you're interested in finding out more about the upcoming AGM & Tradeshow please don't hesitate to call your local board member or call the office Toll free 1-888-947-6222 or (204) 947-2227. We look forward to seeing you in August.

38th AGM & Tradeshow ~ continued on page 6

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Reg Meade ~ President's Report

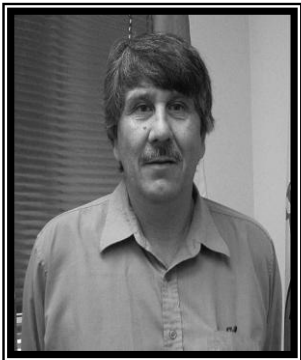


This quarter has been a busy one with the holiday season and activities in the communities. In February, I attended the Home Works Consultation in Winnipeg. The presentation was informative, but there are many questions yet to be answered. This was a preliminary information session; there are many details to be hammered out. The Frontier School Division Conference was also held in Winnipeg during February, I attended representing NACC. The Regional Meetings in The Pas and Winnipeg were a success.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Helgi Einarsson ~ Eastern Region Chairperson



On December 21 the Manitoba Commercial Inland Fishers Federation held a meeting in the NACC boardroom. This meeting was regarding the resignation from Ken Campbell the President. At the meeting we appointed Allan Gaudry to be the acting chair.

Manitoba Commercial Inland Fishers Federation will be holding its Annual Conference in April 18-20, 2008. At the conference they will be holding a Banquet for the Longest Service Award and another award for fishermen who help to promote the Fishing Industry on April 18, 2008. They also wanted to invite Reg Meade to do the Opening Remarks.

In December I attended a meeting regarding the Lake Winnipeg Management Board it has been put on hold until a study is completed to see if it falls within the Premiers Economic Advisory Committee.

I attended all the Executive Meetings. Met with the Whitefish Fisherman & Water Stewardship Derek Kroeker to try and get a line extension to Tamarock so fisherman can land fish at Goodman's. The Whitefish fishermen elected Lloyd Sinclair and Dave Kirkness as their new representatives.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter.

EXECUTIVE REPORT's Continued:

Anne Lacquette ~ Western Region Chairperson



I would like to remind the Community Councils in our region about the upcoming Regional Meetings being held in Winnipeg at the Canad Inn Polo Park on March 4, 5 & 6, 2008. I hope that all of our Councils are able to send delegates during this time.

I attended a meeting in Waterhen in regards to a lagoon for Waterhen and the surrounding communities. There were questions concerning the impacts on the environment that couldn't be answered completely by the people in attendance. There will be another meeting held in the near future.

The Mayor of Camperville Community Council Joseph Allen Chartrand passed away on January 24th, 2008. I would like to send condolences and prayers to Allen's family in their time of loss and remembrance. Shirley Parenteau is now the Deputy Mayor of Camperville.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter!

Frances McIvor – Northern Region Chairperson



Graduation is a very special time for all students. There are many opportunities available to our young and mature students alike. Attending and completing high school teaches us to understand the importance of striving for academic success, as well the importance of using success to help our communities to succeed. There are a number of career opportunities currently available in most communities. All communities need strong leaders, leaders in management, finances, recreational and community clerks. I hope some of our graduates will be interested in career opportunities for future employment in our communities.

After high school many of our graduates move on to post secondary education and remain in the larger centres. Smaller communities have difficulty attracting and keeping employees. Therefore, I hope some of our youth and mature students whether they pursue post – secondary education or not would take a look at some of the career opportunities in the smaller communities. If you have any questions please ask any Mayor, Councillors, staff or Aboriginal & Northern Affairs staff member, they will guide you in the right direction.

The ideas we have are practical and can be accomplished when community leaders work in partnership with community members.



Chantelle's Promise

Just days after being diagnosed with Leukemia, a brave young Aboriginal woman, Chantelle Chornoby, from Ilford, Manitoba put pen to paper, while she lay in a hospital bed in Winnipeg.

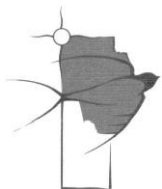
"I promise to never let cancer kill my mind, spirit and soul. I promise I will never let it take me from my family and friends too soon, it will not discourage me, it will not scare me, it will not get me down, and it will not take my laughter and smiles. I guarantee you cancer will make me strong, proud, fearless and happy. I fought it once and I will not only fight it again, but I promise I will beat it again."

Chantelle's fight against cancer includes a stem cell transplant from a suitable donor. Ethnicity is important when searching for a donor. In Canada of the approximate 220,000 registered on Canadian Blood Services' OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network, only one percent is of Aboriginal descent making it difficult to find a suitable donor for Aboriginal patients.

Chantelle made a decision to share her story and to encourage more Aboriginal people to join the **OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network**. Her thoughts are with other patients who are, or will find themselves, in a similar situation.

If you're between the age of 17 and 50, in good general health and willing to donate to any patient in need, Please consider joining the **OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network**. Register online at www.onematch.ca or call 1-888-2 DONATE (1-888-236-6283) or contact any Burntwood Regional Health Authority facility.

Help us keep
Chantelle's Promise



Burntwood
Regional Health Authority
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Government Update

Manitoba News Release



February 28, 2008

PROVINCE ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT OF MOSAKAHIKEN CREE NATION COMPREHENSIVE FOREBAY AGREEMENT

Moose Lake-Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister Oscar Lathlin has announced the completion of the forebay agreements process relating to adverse effects from hydroelectric development for the Mosakahiken Cree Nation.

The official agreement was signed at Mosakahiken Cree Nation today by Lathlin, Ruth Kristjanson from Manitoba Hydro and Chief Philip Buck.

"Our government is determined to continue the important work needed to resolve outstanding issues resulting from previous hydroelectric development," said the minister. "I am pleased that future hydroelectric development in northern areas now means increased employment and economic opportunities for people living in the north."

"We want to thank the community leadership for working with us to resolve the outstanding issues and look forward to establishing a new relationship with the community as we move forward," said Manitoba Hydro president and CEO Bob Brennan.

Lathlin noted this is the fourth and final forebay agreement to be completed in a process that started in the 1960s and was built on an agreement in principle signed in 2000. Previous comprehensive agreements have been completed with the Chemawawin Cree Nation and the Aboriginal and Northern Affairs communities of Easterville and Moose Lake.

The agreement includes financial compensation, allocation of land and provisions for joint natural resources management.

Mosakahiken Cree Nation is approximately 470 kilometres northwest of Winnipeg.

Executive Assistant

A New Year always holds the promise of better times, even if the times recently passed were good, but it also presents challenges. How we view those challenges sometimes sways their outcome. If we look at a stretch of road and say to ourselves, “its long, I’ll be tired half way through”. Then it will be long and we will be tired half way through; but if we look at the same stretch of road and say to ourselves “its long, but I can do it, and I will feel better when I’m finished”. Guess what? That is exactly what will happen. We all need to rely on our own ability to sway the outcome of any challenge to get the best possible result. It has been said many times, “If you think you can, or you think you can’t, either way, you’re right.”

Winter is a great time to start new projects, whether a fitness routine, trying to eat more healthy or a new position. I accepted my position with NACC in November and have been very busy learning more about NACC, the communities we represent and the needs that are present in those communities. We have a great team here in the Winnipeg office, and we look forward to seeing all of you at the Conference in August. The venue is being decided upon and will be posted out the communities as soon as the decision is made. As part of a healthy work environment, we have become a Workplace in Motion. I would like to throw out a challenge to all the communities we represent (and those we don’t) to become either Workplaces in Motion or a Moving Around Manitoba Community. Check out the provincial government website for more information on how your community can participate. Let us know your challenges and successes so we can share them through the Whispering Pines.

Congratulations to Jessica Paley, she has left NACC and accepted a position with Aboriginal & Northern Affairs. We will miss her greatly and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Editor's Corner

Since the last issue of the Whispering Pines I have been very busy with the two new staff members that were hired in November 2007 getting them acquainted with the office procedures and AGM scheduling.

Now my next challenge is to the communities to provide information regarding activities in your area for the next issue of the Whispering Pines Newsletter in June. Matheson Island Community Council has met that challenge!

It is with great sadness we announce our Northern Healthy Foods Initiative staff member, Jessica Paley is leaving NACC. She will be greatly missed but I would like to wish her success in her future activities.

Please feel free to contact me at 1-888-947-6222 anytime and I will help you with any of your concerns that you may have. Until next time take care everyone and have a Happy Easter!

Northern Healthy Foods Initiative

There are many steps you can take to get the sleep your body craves. Here are 10 to start with:

- 1. Sprinkle just-washed sheets and pillowcases with lavender water**, and then iron them before making your bed. The scent is proven to promote relaxation.
- 2. Hide your clock**, so that its glow won’t disturb you and make sure there is no light coming from other sources including your windows as this will seriously impair your body’s ability to produce melatonin.

3. Choose the right pillow -- neck pillows, which resemble a rectangle with a depression in the middle, can enhance the quality of your sleep and reduce neck pain.

4. Paint your bedroom sage green, or another soothing color, which will provide a visual reminder of sleep.

5. Move your bed away from outside walls, which will help cut down on noise.

6. Kick your dog or cat out of your bedroom -- studies have shown that they snore!

7. Take a hot bath 90 to 120 minutes before bedtime; it increases your core body temperature, and when it abruptly drops when you get out of the bath, it signals your body that you are ready for sleep.

8. Keep a notepad at your bedside -- if you wake in the middle of the night with your mind going, you can transfer your to-do list to the page and return to sleep unworried.

9. Put heavier curtains over your windows --

even the barely noticeable light from streetlights, a full moon, or your neighbor's house can interfere with the circadian rhythm changes you need to fall asleep.

10. Eat a handful of walnuts before bed -- they're a good source of tryptophan, a sleep-enhancing amino acid.

Whispering Pines Newsletter

The next issue of Whispering Pines will be published in the summer of 2008. Articles for June's issue should be submitted by the second week in May. Articles submitted from the Communities are placed in the Whispering Pines free of charge! So please send your articles, events or meeting dates today. Thanks!



*Happy Easter from the
President, Board of
Director and Staff of
NACC*



NOTICE OF TENDER

Northern Association of
Community Councils Inc.

Tender will be available on
April 30, 2008 from our office.

Please call then to request a copy.
Northern Association of Community Councils is
accepting sealed tenders for the following:

Transcribing for NACC 38th Annual General
Meeting in August 2008.

Recording & Recording Equipment for NACC

38th Annual General Meeting in August 2008

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

NACC 38th. Tradeshow 2008

Dates: Tuesday, August 19
& Wednesday 20, 2008
Times: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Location: T.B.A.
Cost: \$200.00 per table.
There is no cost to the NACC
Community Councils and sponsors.
Set-up times will be on Monday evening from

6:00 pm till 7:30 or Tuesday morning at 8:00 am.
Soon you'll be able to apply on line @
<http://nacc.cimnet.ca>

Things You Never Knew Your Cell Phone Could Do

There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival.

Check out the things that you can do with it:

First: Emergency

The emergency number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile; network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interesting this number 112 can be dialed even if the keypad is locked.

Second: Have you locked your keys in the car?

Does your car have a remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone. If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their cell phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. This will save someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other "remote" for your car, you can unlock the doors (or truck).
Editor's Note: It works fine! We tried it out and it unlocked our car over a cell phone!

Please stay tuned to the next issue for more Cell Phone tips.



**Manitoba Hydro
invites submissions to
2008 Spirit of the Earth Awards**

Spirit of the Earth Awards promotes environmental awareness while recognizing the culture and history of Aboriginal people. The annual Awards program is open to any individual or group whose environmental activity has been implemented by Aboriginal people, or non-Aboriginal people working with Aboriginal communities.

The deadline for submissions is April 25, 2008.

Spirit of the Earth Award recipients will be honoured on National Aboriginal Day, June 21, 2008.

Criteria

Submission must:

Demonstrate the positive impact the project or initiative has had on the environment (give examples of how the impact was achieved and measured; provide photographs of the project/initiative, if possible);

Illustrate direct involvement of Aboriginal people or non-Aboriginal people working in partnership with Aboriginal communities (describe target audiences and how many people reached);

Describe objectives, outstanding attributes and total cost;

Show how education was part of the project/initiative (describe teaching materials and techniques);

Submissions may also relate to activities that provide opportunities for youth and Elders to interact on the land.

Eligibility

**Individuals, organizations, and partnerships
Youth and student organizations
Culture, religious and sport group
Educational institutions**

Trade or professional organizations

Media

Send your completed submission form to:

Spirit of the Earth Awards
c/o Manitoba Hydro
820 Taylor Avenue
PO Box 815
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2P4

For more information

Phone: (204) 474-4934

Fax: (204) 474-4974

E-mail: bcarruthers@hydro.mb.ca

Website: <http://www.hydro.mb.ca>

(click Environment; Programs)



APRIL 22, 2008
EARTH DAY

Here are some
activity ideas to
get you
and your
community
involved.

- **Earth Day Assembly**

y: Your assembly might include: a guest speaker, information displays, sketches/plays about the environment, and environmental storytelling.

- **Litterless Lunches:** Hold a contest to see which classroom makes the least amount of garbage at lunchtime during Earth Month.

- **Composting:** Introduce an outdoor compost receptacle or a small indoor worm composting bin to your school.
- **Schoolyard or Community Clean-Up:** Organize a schoolyard or community clean-up. Remove garbage from nature sites and shorelines to protect your community's wildlife and to make the place visually appealing.
- **Green Up Daily PA Announcements:** Read different eco-facts over the morning announcements during Earth Month. Visit the EcoKids home page or use our Eco-Calendar to get your daily dose of green facts.
- **Plant Native Trees And Flowers:** Spruce up your schoolyard or local park to keep the planet healthy. Make sure to remove the weeds manually and not use pesticides.
- **Coordinate A "Lights Off!" Campaign:** Turn off the lights in all of the classrooms for two or three hours per day during Earth Month.
- **Walk to School Week:** Organize "walking/wheeling Wednesdays" or "Physical Fridays", which encourages taking active transportation to and from school. Visit <http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/> for more information.
- **Walking School Buses:** Establish supervised walks to school to eliminate driving and traffic volume in school zones.
- **Tote-Your-Own-Trash Day:** Tote your trash around with you for one day or week to get an idea of how much garbage we throw out! At the end of the day or week, you can develop your own personal action plan with goals to reduce, reuse and recycle.

- **Swap Event:** Students can bring in their old toys, video games, and books to swap.
- **Arrange A Used Battery Drive:** Ask everyone to bring in their used batteries so that they can all be brought to a recycling depot. Visit <http://www.rbrc.org/call2recycle/> to find out where you can bring the batteries.
- **Create An Idle-Free Zone On Your School Grounds:** Make sure to educate every one on why engine idling is bad for the environment and our health. Visit our “Switch Off!” section. **Hold A School Art Exhibit:** Display photography, sculptures and various art pieces that focus upon the environment.
- **Make Bird Houses And Feeders Or Other Wildlife Feeding Stations:** These can be installed around the schoolyard by students and/or sold as a fundraiser.



A Port in the Storm

A non profit organization currently raising money in a capital campaign for the construction of a facility in Winnipeg to house patients from rural and Northern Manitoba with cancer and other life

threatening illnesses that require lengthy medical treatments in the City of Winnipeg.

The Board of Directors of NACC is pleased to endorse this organization and the very worthwhile work they are doing.

Matheson Island

Community Council 9th Annual



Winter Fishing Derby 2008

**Matheson Island, Manitoba
Saturday, March 8th, 2008
1 pm - 4 pm**



Scholarship

Pursue Your Calling

Pursue Your Calling is a scholarship program designed to encourage students to study in areas of high demand for the telecommunications industry. Scholarships will be awarded to grade 12 graduates and/or mature students in Manitoba who are entering their first year of full-time study in one of the eligible programs.

Benefits of the Scholarship

If selected, you will:

Receive \$1,000 to be applied towards your tuition for each year of your program, to a maximum of four years totaling \$ 4,000.

Be eligible for summer employment at MTS Allstream, which is an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on work experience in your chosen field of study.

Be eligible for employee discounts on cellular phones and service and DSL High Speed Internet service.

Be provided with a mentor who will support and help you adapt to the MTS Allstream corporate environment.

Participate in scheduled MTS Allstream related activities with mentors and other students.

The Selection

Pursue Your Calling scholarships are awarded based on your academic achievement (75 per cent or over), and your responses to the short answer questions provided.

Short listed candidates are required to participate in an interview with the MTS Allstream scholarship selection committee before final decisions are made.

Consistent with its commitment to equity and diversity, MTS Allstream will consider designated group status in the selection of candidates, specifically women, visible minorities, aboriginal people, and people with disabilities.

The Application

Application forms are available online or from your school guidance counsellor. Please be sure to include with your application:

1. Transcript of your marks.
2. Proof of acceptance into eligible post-secondary program of study.
3. Resume.
4. Responses to all four (4) short answer questions.

The Timeline

April: Is the deadline for submitting scholarship applications - April 25, 2008.

May/June: Shortlisted candidates participate in an interview with the MTS Allstream Scholarship Selection Committee.

July: All candidates will be notified of their application status in July.

September: Scholarship funds are sent to the educational institution.

For More Information: Contact Sandy Adelman by phone, write or e-mail at:

Pursue Your Calling Scholarship Program

c/o MTS Allstream Human Resources Department
P.O. Box 6666, (MP16A)
333 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3V6
Phone: 204 941-6124
E-mail:
sandy.adelman@mtsallstream.com

To be eligible for the MTS Allstream Pursue Your Calling scholarship program applicants must be a Canadian citizen and a resident of Manitoba.

MY FIRST FUR TABLE

-by Lois Malkoske

I started working for MTA in January last year, so one of my first jobs was sending “Thank-You” letters for something I knew nothing about, the 2006 Fur Table. I have learned a lot more about trapping in the last year.....but there is still so much more to know. For instance, when I was reading an article about “rat” trapping, I couldn’t imagine how many rats a trapper would need for it to amount to anything. So when I asked about it and found out the article meant muskrats, I had one of those “Did I say that out loud?” moments.

This year I was able to attend the Fur Table in person. We arrived at St. Jo’s Hall at 7:00 a.m. and there were many trappers there already. They had their furs in tow, and were being issued numbers to see the fur buyers. One by one they had their turn with each buyer and were given prices. For many of the trappers this is an opportunity to visit with old friends as well as doing business. You can hear the laughter as stories are exchanged and trapping is discussed. These are hearty people, many from remote areas that don’t get into Thompson very often to shop or visit.

I was selling raffle tickets, and MTA memberships. It was the perfect job for meeting the trappers and their families, and to learn more about the fur industry. I couldn’t help but think that this tradition probably hasn’t changed in a long time. While it would seem to be an “old-fashioned” way to do business, it is a hands-on approach that is well understood by the trappers and buyers alike. In addition, flu shots were given by two public health nurses, there were trap and sleigh sales, handicrafts of many kinds, and even missionaries.

I was told a couple of fur buyers did not attend the Fur Table this year, and I feel bad for the trappers that had to run all over Thompson to see these buyers after the MTA went to all the trouble and expense to organize this event on their behalf.

All things considered, I think the Fur Table was a great success. I learned a great deal more about trapping and the strength and tenacity of the northern people. I was at the Thompson airport when it was over, and many of the trappers were heading back to their homes in the remote areas. They had all done their Christmas shopping and were loaded down with freight to go back.....and the one thing they had all purchased along with the gifts.....a large supply of toilet paper!

NACC Board of Directors

President ~ Reg Meade

Helgi Einarsson ~ Eastern Chairperson

Frances McIvor ~ Northern Chairperson

Anne Lacquette ~ Western Chairperson

Chandler McLeod ~ Eastern Vice-Chairperson

Glen Flett ~ Northern Vice-Chairperson

Larry Chartrand ~ Western Vice-Chairperson

Barbara Marcyniuk ~ Eastern Sec. /Treasurer

Veronica Sinclair ~ Northern Sec. /Treasurer

Harold Fleming ~ Western Sec. /Treasurer

Events Calendar

4th Annual Walleye Warrior 24 hour Ice Fishing Marathon will be held again in Gimli, MB – March 8 & 9, 2008 all donations go to Cancer Care Manitoba. If you're interested in learning more about the Walleye Warriors visit: <http://www.walleyewarriormarathon.com>

Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk

Special Guest for

A New Generation Celebrates the Music of Walter Flett

@ West End Cultural Centre

Thursday, March 20

Doors 7:15 / Concert 8PM

This concert, featuring Walter Flett's son, James Flett, Ron Halldorson and several very young Métis fiddlers, including extraordinarily talented and driven 21 year old *Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk*, is to be recorded by CBC Radio's Canada Live for a later national broadcast. Flett, a champion of the traditional music that incorporates Celtic, Scottish, Irish Appalachian and French Canadian, fortunately passed on both his passion and talent to his sons who in turn are nurturing a whole new generation.

Also appearing on the show are two teenagers, Ryan D'Aoust from Norway House and Matthew Contois from Grand Rapids, MB who, like Alyssa, benefit from and are carrying on this astonishing musical heritage. And, one of Alyssa's equally

talented brothers, Conlin will accompany on guitar.

The young French Métis/Ukrainian, Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk, just last month released her debut recording that pays tribute to the legendary Walter Flett. Currently studying viola performance with Ulrich Eichenauer and Nobuko Imai at the Conservatoire de Tibor Varga in Sion, Switzerland Alyssa has toured extensively, including a trip to China with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra RCM and throughout the U.S. and South America with the Youth Orchestra of the Americas. A graduate of the Young Artists' Performance Academy of the RCM in Toronto, Alyssa has won several awards including the 2004 Manitoba Music Festival Senior Strings, the 2006 Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival Strings Trophy Finalist and the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation scholarship.

Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 at the door are available through Ticketmaster (204) 780-3333 or the WECC Box Office (204) 783-6918. This is one concert you should NOT miss.

Please add to your listings

Further information and interviews with Alyssa, contact:

Jane Harbury (416) 960-1568 jane@harbury.ca

<http://www.myspace.com/omeigwessi>

Whispering Pines is a quarterly publication of NACC, which provides an essential means of communication between isolated communities and regions. Whispering Pines has been serving as an information tool of northern communities since the early 1970's. Your comments are greatly appreciated. The next issues are scheduled to be set out as follows June, September and December.

"getting vocal!"

Growing LOCAL

Cultivating a Food Secure Future for Manitobans

Workshops, discussions and displays featuring:
Food Preserving • Grower Co-ops
Urban Agriculture • Eating on a Budget
Eating in the North • Food in Schools
Farm Mentorship • Local Food Forum

University of Winnipeg
March 7 and 8, 2008

March 7th evening
Feast from the Land dinner

For more information
or to get involved:
In Winnipeg 943-0823
Toll free 1-800-731-2638
growinglocal@mbfoodcharter.ca



www.manitobafoodsecurity.ca



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Manitoba 

Community Councils are Paving the Way for High Speed Internet Service in Northern Manitoba's NACC Communities. The Future is high speed internet.

Through satellite based internet service providers and through the Broad Band Communications Network (BCN) role out, all Northern NACC communities have the option to get on the high speed train either by satellite or via the BCN system.

HIGH SPEED INTERNET TESTIMONIALS

<p>Sherridon: Wendy Vacheresse "Faster to do things online" "No more days without access" "No more work being backed up" "We are more efficient" "Faster to download attachments" "Faster to upgrading programs" "Faster to update windows and stuff like adobe" "Faster to update virus scanners" "Quicker to get all the alerts" "Before it was impossible to upgrade" "Now we get automatic updates"</p>	<p>Brochet: John Cook "Getting emails faster" "Finding things online faster" "Finding courses, confirming course dates" "Looking for online courses" "Dial up is too slow" "Other employees find it better to use" "Our public works uses it" "Saves money on not having a dial up line and an internet account" "Downloading is faster" "No disconnections"</p>
<p>Pikwitonei: Wayne Laubmann "100 times faster" "No loosing connections" "Not having dial up" "This is way was better" "Really no comparison to the dial up"</p>	<p>Moose Lake: Jerry Campbell "Good" "Much faster of course" "Convenient" "Allows us to send more information" "Allows us to receive more information"</p>
<p>Easterville: Darlene Thomas "Faster and quicker" "logs in when computer is turned on" "Searching the web is quicker" "Sending emails is faster" "Fast to upload the files" "Feel comfortable with it" "Sometimes with dial up you can't log in" "You do not get disrupted using high speed" "No waiting to login"</p>	<p>Pelican Rapids: Shirley Genaille "Keeps her updated" "Go on it faster" "No more waiting to get a free line" "Not having to wait a month to get a dial up line" "You open it and you are on" "Only one monthly fee" "You can use it 24/7" "No worry about running up a phone bill" "We can share the connection, not like with the dial up"</p>

The following Northern Community Councils are seriously looking into getting on the high speed band wagon: Cross Lake Community Council, Nelson House Community Council, Norway House Community Council, and the God's Lake Community Council.

Article by: Charles Nyabeze Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Community and Resource Development consultant. Ph: 677-6787(204) email: charles.nyabeze@gov.mb.ca

The 2007 Thompson Fur Table
By Cherry White
All Fur Table Pictures courtesy Dean Berezanski

The City of Thompson is a busy place. Each year as the Fur Table dates draw near we rush to book hotel rooms, canvass businesses for support of the event, ensure that Manitoba Conservation has staff on hand for registering furs and check with the northern trappers to see how the trapping is going. We also prepare for our on-site board meeting, try to guess what will sell in the way of trapping supplies, arrange for pelting demonstrations and coordinate information on approved traps. Contacting the caterer to provide lunches and keep the coffee pot on for the many trappers and visitors who attend is important. The complimentary coffee is courtesy of the City of Thompson and the Chamber of Commerce, in appreciation of the business that the Fur Table brings to the area.

A bit of history reprinted from the 2006-07 Manitoba Trapping Guide:

“The Thompson Fur Table was one of several such events **initiated in late 1970s** by provincial staff **to provide northern trappers with a unique opportunity** to get **better prices** for their raw pelts. The two day table is **traditionally** held a week or so before Christmas, and has had **over 300 trappers attend. It has been the only such event in Canada** and is now organized by the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Up to five licensed Manitoba **fur dealers gather annually in one hall** and inspect each trapper’s lot of fur. Each dealer provides a quote for the lot and the trapper selects the best price. **In this way the trapper benefits from the on-site competitive demand for their furs.**

The December timing of the **Fur Table also allows families from all over the north to meet** with distant friends, **learn** about new furbearer harvest and management techniques, and **do some shopping** before returning to their communities. **Hundreds of thousands of dollars are injected into the local economy.”**

Sounds good?

Unfortunately this past December only three fur dealers of the usual five attended the Fur Table. These supporters were not local, and traveled many miles to the Fur Table. This meant four or five days away from their regular place of business, cost of air fare or vehicle expense, hotel rooms, meals, etc. A worthwhile opportunity only if the fur is there. The two auction houses, FHA and NAFA, were well represented, paying liberal advances on consigned furs. For trappers who normally sell outright, only having one cash buyer (The NW Co) left some feeling disappointed, and of the opinion that the competition of previous years was lacking.

Now imagine this happening for a few years. The trappers may feel that by losing the competitiveness of multiple cash buyers it would be better to just “ship” the fur to auction, or wait until later in the season to market the fur. **Tradition** cannot last too long in the face of pure and simple economics.

Eventually there would no longer be enough volume to warrant a December Fur Table. What about those trappers who want to sell locally? With no competition, what prices would be offered for the fur? – perhaps not always a fair price for this valuable commodity. **Tradition** could become just another word.

.....Unethical..... Politics.....

Unfortunate that these terms come to mind in connection with this world class event; which has been featured in the National Post, national and local news, as well as a television program on *The Sharing Circle*.

Loss of the Fur Table would not only be a negative for the City of Thompson, but a definite financial loss for many of the trappers. MTA will be doing everything possible to ensure there will be at least three cash buyers, in addition to the two Auction Houses for next year's fur table. It is important to offer the trappers the competitive atmosphere they deserve.

If you have comments or concerns, please make them heard.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

To find word search and cross word puzzles go on line to the Web site: www.puzzlechoice.com

Happy Easter!



Soccer Word Search

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CLEATS
COACH
DEFENSE
FIELD
FOOTBALL
FOUL
GAME
GOALIE
HALFTIME
NET
OFFENSE
OPPONENT
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PLAYER
POINT
PRACTICE
REFEREE
SCORE
SHOT
SOCCER
TACKLE
TEAMMATE
TRAIN
TURF
UNIFORM
VOLLEY
WORLD CUP

A V Z C Z S E V J X Z E V Y
C R D R N O B J D O G N T E
A C L E A T S T C C F R U T
S Z G Y F N O C L Y O H A D
C O G A M E D H R E C C O S
C U N L U N N B S L K A D C
R G W P N O K S G L X L L O
Z I O G I P A K E O U L E R
Q D A Z F P C T M V A O I E
A F G V O O A I I B Z L F E
A P H H R M D A T A V V I R
L O B C M N T O F F E N S E
M I D A N W O R L D C U P F
O N E O M F P R A C T I C E
D T I C Z N F M H I E A A R
E A U C A R G O I Z N G W E

