

# Ermineskin Newsletter September 27, 2019

# ECN Multipurpose Centre Open House

eptember 19, 2019 - After 7 years of planning, ECN has finally opened the doors of its Multipurpose Center to the public with an open house.

The event ran from 11:00AM until 2:00PM, with a pipe ceremony at 10:30 AM. Kisikaw K'Sayin led the pipe ceremony with help from oskapewis. Chief Craig Makinaw, members of council, representatives from ATCO, and Tribal Law Officer Josh Littlechild also attended.

The hall has a large central room capable of accommodating 200 people and a fully equipped kitchen. There is also a sitting area to the East of the building with a fire-pit and a protective fence, and a playground for children to enjoy.

Emcee Josh Littlechild led introductions following the pipe ceremony, with a drum group singing songs to honour the event, and speeches from Chief Makinaw, Sales Manager of Community Development at ATCO Sustainable Communities Dean Seiz, and Councillor Collin Wildcat. Mr. Seiz gifted Chief Makinaw with a plaque, and Collin Wildcat with the shovel from the groundbreaking event.

"We'll have a lot of events, and a lot of meetings here. This will be a busy place for the next year," said Chief Makinaw, after thanking the ATCO construction workers for their hard work.

"This was a really exciting project to get done." said Dean Seiz.

"A few years ago I was asked to oversee this







project," said Councillor Collin Wildcat. "We had a few issues getting this building done," said Collin, as trade tariffs on steel almost put the build in jeopardy, as well as flooding this past July. "This building has already done what it was built for, it's for our happy times, our sad times. It's a meeting place, a gathering place."

~article/photos by Sara Lee~

## Kanawemawasowin Kamik Hosts Naming Ceremony

eptember 14, 2019 - Chrystal Littlechild Debbie and Strongman-Omeasoo of Kanawemahwasowin Kamik hosted a naming ceremony for children and children in families of care. Kenneth Roan and oskapewis, Edwin Frencheater, Lorraine White, Ida Bull and help-Noreen and Carol the ceremony at Kenneth private Roan's residence in Mameo. Dozens of people were in attendance. During there was ceremony, singing for the children and explanations for why the names were chosen.

Chrystal Littlechild-Hill spoke to the assembled, giving some history to the event, "What we've cess, we've been listening Centre: Ken Roan speaking at the gathering. working with our elders

and our leadership and our citizens. We're really bringing our children back home to where they belong... through ceremony. We're ceremony people. Many of our children have very limited opportunity to (attend ceremony) when they grow up in a system. And a system that isn't ours or built by us." Elder Ken Roan said that the names will be used in an opposing fashion of the Indian registration system, that the Cree names will be a way to register our children back into our Nation and our way of life.

Elder Ken Roan spoke before the beginning of the ceremony, "Tatawaw... it's a good day for a spiritual ceremony gathering, this



been doing in Ermineskin Top left to right: Debbie Strongman-Omeasoo, Lorraine White and womis going through a pro- en elders, Chrystal Littlechild-Hill, Joanne Oskatamin-Potts.

to our community and Bottom, left to right: Ken Roan, Edwin Frencheater, attendees watching !the speakers, a young child in attendance.

> is what we do. This is what are grandparents did for us. When we were little children, it's a nurturing of gratitude for me, myself, my brother Edwin. The way our [grandparents] took us in. Conditioning us in this way of life, this ceremony way of ours... I'm really thankful for how far it took me... We call them law lodges (the ceremonies), where all people come, all walks of life, to our ceremonies... we welcome. To come as one people, one tribe, with one mind, one heart, one spirit."

> Following the ceremony, there was a feast. At the end of the event attendees were invited to the Pigeon Lake Recreation Center. ~article/photos by Sara Lee~



#### FACEBOOK GROUPS/PAGE:

- -Ermineskin Cree Nation
- -Ermineskin News for Pigeon Lake Members
- -Ermineskin Cree Nation Communications
- -Ermineskin Youth News/Info
- -Ermineskin Elders Information Group
- -Ermineskin Volunteer Opportunities



@ermineskincreenation @ecn\_newsletter

Ermineskin Cree Nation

Website:

www.ermineskin.ca

( Phone: (780) 585-3741 Toll Free: (886) 585-3941

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**B** 

Important Dates: Administration Building October 14, 2019 - Thanksgiving Monday, Offices Closed

October 18, 2019 - Off Friday, Offices Closed November 1, 2019 - Off Friday, Offices Closed



# Chiefs Sign Buffalo Treaty at Nipisihkopahk Secondary School

eptember 20, 2019 - A special Buffalo Treaty event was celebrated with the Governor General Awards in Samson.

A reenactment of the Treaty Six signing was performed at the Jonas Applegarth Theatre. There were also speakers Dr. Leroy Littlebear and Dennis Omeasoo.

Dr. Leroy Littlebear spoke about the nature of the traditional world view as opposed to that of colonizers. "For us, the world is always in flux, it is always changing."

Dennis Omeasoo introduced his work with Regina Catholic Schools, sharing the Winter Count Buffalo Robe bundle and it's significance; "a collection of prayers acquired through spiritual ceremonies involving all people affected by residential schools."

Following the speakers was the signing of new signatories to the Buffalo Treaty. The Buffalo Treaty was first signed in 2014 with the Blackfeet Nation, Blood Tribe, Siksika Nation, Piikani Nation, among others. They invited the Chiefs of the Four Nations



Left: Dr. Leroy Littlebear, centre/right: dancers for the buffalo dance

in Maskwacis to sign. The treaty was created to "honour, recognize, and revitalize the time immemorial relationship we have with Buffalo" (The Buffalo: A Treaty of Cooperation, Renewal and Restoration). ~article/photos by Sara Lee~





More photos of the mineskin Multi-Purpose Center

Top left: fire pit with wind break and seating

Top Right: Front Entrance

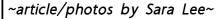
Bottom Left: Fully equipped

kitchen

Playground Bottom Right: for children 18 months to 12 years old. ~photos by Sara Lee~

## **Court Approved Indian Day School** Information Session

he External Affairs department staff hosted representatives from Gowling WLG at the Jim Rattlesnake Building for an evening informational session about the **Approved** Court Indian Schools Class Action law suit. The Jim Rattlesnake was packed with past students of the Four Nations area schools eager for information.









#### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

#### **Court Approved Indian Day School**

In case you missed the Information session that was hosted on September 17:

| What if I was in Day School<br>and went to ResidentialYou are eligible if you attended an Indian Day School for the period<br>of time listed in Schedule K of the Settlement Agreement. You can<br>be eligible for Day School and Day Scholar if you attended both.<br>They are separate actions. There is no current Settlement<br>Agreement for Day Scholars. You are still eligible if you were<br>compensated through the IRS process.What is the differenceBeing registered allows Gowling WLG to contact you with importan   |
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| be eligible for Day School and Day Scholar if you attended both. They are separate actions. There is no current Settlement Agreement for Day Scholars. You are still eligible if you were compensated through the IRS process.   |
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| Agreement for Day Scholars. You are still eligible if you were compensated through the IRS process.  |
| compensated through the IRS process.   |
|  |
| What is the difference Being registered allows Gowling WLG to contact you with important   |
| being reported and red to contact you with important   |
| between registering and updates. Gowling WLG is the legal firm available for free advice and   |
| submitting a claim? questions. To register call 1 (844) 539-3815 or go to  |
| https://ca.gowlingwlg.com/dayschoolclassaction/  |
| TATE OF THE PERSON OF THE PERS |
| Where can I submit my  Being registered does not qualify you for compensation.   |
| claim? Compensation will be determined by a designated Claims  |
| Administrator that is not Gowling WLG. More information on the   |
| Claims Administrator and contact information will be forthcoming.  |
| When can I submit my "The Claims Process is not yet available.   |
| claim? The Claims Form can be reviewed and documents prepared pending  |
| the opening up of the Claims Process after November 19, 2019."   |
| Can I make a claim for a "The ESTATE of a Class Member who died on or after July 31, 2007  |
| loved one or family can make a claim on behalf of the deceased. If the deceased has no   |
| member that has passed will or executor, then an Estate Administrator will need to be  |
| away? appointed. Representatives of estates should begin the process of  |
| estate administration as soon as possible." Contact Membership   |
| for forms or INAC at Phone (toll-free): 1-800-567-9604.  |
| What is the deadline to Once the Claims Process has opened, Class Members will have 2.5  |
| apply? years to submit their claim.  |
| Is the Claims Form Level 1 claimants do not need to provide additional   |
| difficult? Do I need to documentation. "Some additional information and documents are  |
| <b>provide school records?</b> required to support claims for higher levels of compensation, but   |
| those who cannot obtain documents can provide a Sworn  |
| Declaration included on the Claims Form."  |
| I attended an Ermineskin Students who attended the Ermineskin primary, elementary, and Jr  |
| school, am I eligible? high schools from 1969 – 1991 as well as those students who   |
| attended the Ermineskin Kindergarten from 1970 – 1991 are  |
| eligible.  |
| What can I do at this Register with Gowling WLG. Obtain letters of administration for  |
| moment? deceased family members if applicable. Review Claims Form and  |
| collect supporting documentation if required (see level 2-5 harms).  |

Call 1 (844) 539-3815 for more information or visit the official website for the Federal Indian Day ~submitted by Danika Lightning~ School Class Action: https://indiandayschools.com/en/



The Kanawemahwasowin Kamik Program held a Naming Ceremony for all children our and youth that are currently in care with Alberta Children's With that, Services. we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to our Elders; Kenneth Roan. Lorraine White, Ida Bull and Edwin Frencheater. We also extend our appreciation to our helpers, cooks, loey Hamelin, CFS Staff, Band Administrator and caregivers that made this a very special day for our children, youth and families. their would also like to thank my team in their hard work and contributions to this special event. Great work by all.

~submitted: Chrystal Littlechild-Hill~

## Recharge Your Life

eptember 24, 2019 - Recharge Your Life instructor David Buffalo led his first class of the new season at the Elder's Centre. Day one of the class featured "Emotional Freedom Tapping," a type of energy work that involves tapping the body in specific places and repeating affirmations.

Day two of the class saw the students doing some expressive art. Students made an art piece, which Mr. Buffalo then interpreted for each participant. Different usage of colour and assembly of the art gave different readings.

David Buffalo gave each reading with words of wisdom, kindness, and encouragement. "Fear is the cheapest room in our house," said Mr. Buffalo.

Interested parties can sign up for upcoming Recharge Your Life classes with the Community



Wellness department at 780-585-3741. next session is October 23 and 24, 2019. ~article/photos by Sara Lee~

### Local Youth Interns in Africa

ansi! My name is Megan Ermineskin. I am one of 11 Indigenous interns from all over Canada chosen by VIDEA to take part on a 4 month overseas internship in Africa. I have been in Zambia since August and will return home December In this internship, you either get placed in Uganda or Zambia. I am placed in the small town of Lundazi, Zambia working with the Rising Fountains organization. Rising Fountains focuses on community development in which we have a number of current pro-

jects based on women's rights and local | Left: Megan Ermineskin, Right: Megan with associates and new friends ment, and gender. I'm so excited to continue learning welcoming. and to share everything I've learned back home! If you are between the ages of 18-35 and are wanting

myself and it was an opportunity to get away from cohort home for a few months, I had no idea that this would For more information on the process or to apply, visbe so much more than just self-growth. It was quickly it videa.ca/indigenous-internships-2/ Hai hai. during the pre-departure briefing when learning about Africa that I realized the change I want to make in Er-





governance, human rights, HIV/AIDS, improved forest mineskin and Maskwacis. Thope to come home and inmanagement, and financial services and livelihood in spire the youth of Maskwacis to go for opportunities like women! Living in Zambia has not only achieved my goal this. This internship has influenced me in so many positive of self-growth, I have also gained so much knowledge on ways and has impacted my world view greatly. The peoglobal issues in accordance to good governance, environ- ple I've met so far in Zambia are so amazing, kind, and

Coming into this internship, I had no idea what to ex- to travel, to learn, to experience a new culture, and to pect. I only had a personal goal of self-growth and to meet amazing people, VIDEA is now interviewing to bring about the next cohort to Africa in January 2020, and another April 2020!

~article submitted by Maureen Ward~

## Political Analyst

rmineskin Cree Nation welcomes staff member Rene McCarthy, **Political** the new Analyst with the External Affairs Department.



Under the direction of the Ermineskin

Cree Nation (ECN) External Affairs Director the incumbent will conduct research and analysis of Provincial, Federal and/or International legislations and policy affecting Treaty based rights as well as Federal fiduciary obligations. Political Analyst will also maintain contact and monitor the activities of other Treaty and po-The Political Analyst will litical organizations. provide recommendations, reports and develop political opinion, statements, and political strategies on issues as prioritized by Ermineskin Cree Nation Chief and Council.



Congratulations to the Brosox for their win at the Men's Comp Provincial Champions! Seen above, players include: Tyrone Ermineskin, Caycee Littlechild, and Landon Wagner

## Young Spirit Winds Graduates

Left to right: lordayna Littlechild, Mariah Ermineskin, Alexendria Lee. Niguina Crier-Soosay ~photo by Sara Lee~



# Maskwacis Minor Hockey AGM

eptember 19, 2019 - The Maskwacis Minor Hockey board held their AGM at the Four Nations Arena lobby.

Maskwacis Minor Hockey President Threefingers spoke, introducing present dignitaries and reading out the list of people on the board. Mr. Threefingers announced that there will be a Reffing clinic in November, and said that anyone interested in coaching or reffing should contact the Maskwacis Minor Hockey office at 780-585-3771. There will be a fundraising opportunity for selling 50/50s.

Secretary Kashina Swampy's report included a wish to increase the levels of communication within the board, as well as with Parents and play-

Treasurer Myrna Buffalo urged parents to finish paying their child's fees, as this year they will be banned from getting on the ice after the deadline of October 1st if they haven't paid yet.

"We're run by volunteers, and would like to see a lot more parental involvement," urged Kashina Swampy.



Parents were able to voice their concerns with Hockey Alberta representatives. Issues with bullying from teammates and their coaches, were brought up, as well as the racism they face from outside players, coaches, refs and parents.

A meal was served and several door prizes were Several board positions are now opened to volungiven out, as well as 2 chances to win tickets for teers interested in working with the MMH Board. that night's game at Roger's Place where the Edmonton Oilers played the Calgary Flames.

~article by Sara Lee, Photo by Tara Cutarm~~

# EJHS opens Treaty Six Week

eptember 23, 2019 -Ermineskin lunior Senior High School began their annual Treaty Six week with a flag-raising ceremony. The ceremony began with an honor song performed by the school drum coinciding group, with a raising of the flags. Marvin Littlechild Elder spoke to the assembled students, which included a delegation of student and staff visitors from Ashoro, lapan. His speech in Cree and English was about the history and importance of the signing of Treaty Six. Chief Bobtail signed the adhesion on September 25. 1877 at Blackfoot Crossing, and Ermineskin celebrates Bobtail day on this day every year.

Cadence Dion, an EJSHS grade 12 student, danced for the staff, students, and guests from Japan. Following her dance the students from Ashoro sang 2 songs, one in Japanese, the other an English cover of "A Whole New World" from the Aladdin movie soundtrack.

"In the spirit of friendship," the Japanese students were invited to stand in a circle and were then joined by staff and students from EJSHS in a round dance.

Right: Image of the numbered treaties, from https://en.wikipedia.org/ wiki/Numbered\_Treaties ~article/photos by SEL~





#### Fri. September 27, 2019 Newsletter Day

MEC Open House and 10th Anniversary Celebration - Ermineskin Mall - 12PM-4:30PM

Healing from Family Violence, Two day workshop, Day 2 of 2. Jim Rattlesnake Building, registration and coffee 9:30AM, Workshop 10-4. Lunch and Light snacks provided. Certificate for full attendance. Register: Brighter Futures @ 780-585-2000 or 780-585-2400.

Sat. September 28, 2019

Ermineskin Minor Sports Bingo Fundraiser: Evening. To Volunteer please call Jackie Littlechild @ 780 -585-3760.

Mon. September 30, 2019

MCTC Grand Opening—9AM2PM. NGCI Building. For more information, call 780-585-0016.

Female Bootcamp - Rec - 6-7PM, register - 780-585-3088

**Pow Wow Singing Program**, Recreation 6PM-7PM @ Jim RS, Register: 780-585-3088

Tues. October 1, 2019

MHS Shape Program 10 week program, weigh-ins Tuesdays from 9am-3pm

Rec Arts & Crafts Program - Canvas wall art, 5-7pm, snacks included, youth and adults welcome

Youth Fitness Strength Training, 6PM-7PM, Jim RS. Ages 12+, register: 780-585-3088

Wed. October 2, 2019

Pow Wow Cardio Fitness Program, 7PM-8-PM @ Jim RS. Info: 780-585-3088

Thurs. October 3, 2019
Karate Youth Program 2019 -

Ermineskin Recreation - 5:30PM-6:30PM @ Jim RS, Register: 780-585-3088

Kiyas Nehiyaw Ohpikinawasowin (Long Ago Cree Parenting). 6 week program. 10am-12PM ® Brighter Futures. Register: Rebecca or Clarisse at 780-585-2000.

Sat. October 5, 2019

Alberta First Nations Voice for On Reserve Shelters Society Fundraising Gala. Featuring Armond Duckchief, \$125/ticket. Information: Nola Littlechild @ Ermineskin Women's Shelter 780-585-4470.

Mon. October 7, 2019

Female Bootcamp - Rec - 6-7PM, register - 780-585-3088

**Pow Wow Singing Program**, Recreation 6PM-7PM @ Jim RS, Register: 780-585-3088

Tues. October 8, 2019

MHS Shape Program 10 week program, weighins Tuesdays from 9am-3pm

Rec Arts & Crafts Program - spooky halloween books, 5-7pm, snacks included, youth and adults welcome
Youth Fitness

Strength
Training, 6PM
-7PM, Jim RS.
Ages 12+,
register: 780-

585-3088

Maskwacis After School Youth Program, Louis Bull Rec, 5:00PM-7:30PM, Medicine wheel teachings, to register contact your nations rep, ECN Rec 780-585-3088

Wed. October 9, 2019

Pow Wow Cardio Fitness Program, 7PM-8-PM @ Jim RS. Info: 780-585-3088

Thurs. October 10, 2019
Karate Youth Program 2019 Ermineskin Recreation 5:30PM6:30PM @ Jim RS, Register: 780585-3088

Kiyas Nehiyaw Ohpikinawasowin (Long Ago Cree Parenting). 6 week program. 10am-12PM ® Brighter Futures. Register: Rebecca or Clarisse at 780-585-2000.

Fri. October 11, 2019 Newsletter Day

#### **Job Opportunities**

Ermineskin Cree Nation Submit Application/Resume, and other required paperwork to ECN Personnel Deparment

Position: One (1) Level Two Child Development Assistant with the Ermineskin Daycare Closing: September 30,

Position: Manager with the Ermineskin Neyaskweyahk Employment SkillsTraining (NEST)department Closing: September 30, 2019

Position: Two (2) Room Supervisors ECD Level Three with the Ermineskin Daycare Closing: October 10, 2019

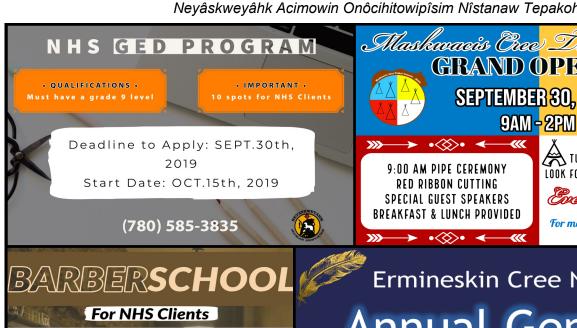
Position: Neyaskweyahk Sub-Division & Band Units Administrative Assistant with the Property Management (EPM) department Closing: October 11, 2019 Position: Three (3) Committee Members with the Ermineskin Pow Wow Committee, one (1) year term Closing: September 30, 2019

Position: Two (2) Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) Aides with the Ermineskin Brighter Futures Department Closing: September 30, 2019

Position: Support Services Administrator with the Ermineskin Community and Wellness Department Closing: October 10, 2019

Position: Manager with teh Ermineskin Property Management (EPM) department Closing: October 10, 2019

Position: Septic Truck Operator/Swamper with the Property Management (EPM) department Closing: October 11, 2019





LOCATED AT THE NGCI BUILDING TURN OFF HIGHWAY 2A BY FAS GAS LOOK FOR THE TIPI BY MASKWACIS MALL



For more Information Please Contact (780)585-0016

# **Ermineskin Cree Nation**

# **Annual General** Meeting

Monday, September 30, 2019

Ermineskin Multipurpose Center

At 10:00am \*Lunch will be Provided\*

Topic: Ermineskin Cree Nation 2019 **Audit Presentation** 



FEDERAL ELECTION / 2019 ÉLECTION FÉDÉRALE / 2019

**IMPORTANT:** 18 spots for NHS Clients

y f ⊚ □ in

DEADLINE: October 4th, 2019

**Program will be from November** 25th, 2019 to January 8th, 2020.

> LOCATION: **ECN ELDERS CENTRE**

> > Nevaskwevahk Human

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1-800-463-6868 | elections.ca | TTY/ATS 1-800-361-8935



#### Be Safe and Be Seen Ermineskin Reserve Road Safety

During this autumn change of season, the farmers are busy in the fields. This means an increase in slow-moving equipment on reserve roads, which can create a hazard. Remember to share the road. Be safe and be seen.

Keep these in mind,

Be aware of slow-moving farm machinery. The typical speed of a piece of farm machinery is 30-40 km/hour. You need to slow down to react! Be patient.

- Watch for vehicles marked with slow-moving vehicle signs (a bright orange triangle with a red border) and flashing amber lights.
- Equipment is large and may take up more than one lane.
- Do not drive in equipment blind spots where operators cannot see you. Keep back a safe distance at least 50 feet, when following.
- · Never assume. Watch for hand signals. Just because a tractor veers right does not mean the operator is pulling over for you to pass.
- · Be aware of intersections where farm equipment might turn. Also, equipment might unexpectedly turn onto a public road from a field or driveway.
- · Do not expect equipment to run partly on the road shoulders. Farm machinery operators will stay on roadways whenever possible. Thank You







Terry Littlechild Ermineskin Lands & Resources Manager (780)585 - 4006 Box 219

Maskwacis. AB T0C-1NO terryl@ermineskin.ca



To vote, you must be a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years old on election day.

☐ Make sure you're registered at your current address

Visit elections.ca to check your registration no



Watch for your voter information card in the mail

If you're registered, you will get a voter information card in the mail after the election is called. It tells you where and when you can vote. Check the name and address on the card. If there are errors, or if you don't receive a card, visit elections.ca or call 1-800-463-6868 to update your voter information.



☐ Make a plan to vote

You can vote almost any time during the election period; visit elections.ca to choose the voting option that works best for you.

 $\ \square$  Bring ID when you go to vote

Here are your options:

Option 1: Show one piece of government-issued ID with your photo, name and current address. For example: your driver's licence

Option 2: Show two pieces of ID. Both must have your name, and at least one must have your current address. For example: your voter informatio card and a bank statement, or a utility bill and your student ID card.

Option 3:

If you don't have ID, you can still vote if you declare your identity an address in writing and have someone who knows you and who is assigned to your polling station vouch for you.

The voucher must be able to prove their identity and address. A person can vouch for only one person (except in long-term care institutions).

Visit elections.ca for the official information you need to vote

1-800-463-6868 / elections.ca / BTTY 1-800-361-8935

Alberta

Canada

Advance Voting for Ermineskin residents for the election will be October 11-14 (Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon), 2019 from 9AM-9PM at the Ermineskin Mall. You can register to vote at NHS on September 30, 2019 from 10AM-3PM, and at the Ermineskin Mall on October 7-8, 2019 from 9AM-5PM.







For more information contact 780-585-4450 or email lana@maskwacisemployment.ca

