

#### Ermineskin Newsletter January 31, 2020

#### Pawâkan Macbeth Production Tours Treaty 6 Territory and Beyond

he set of Pawâkan Macbeth, which was performed at the Nipisihkopahk Secondary School, had an eerie atmospheric and windy soundscape reminiscent of the blasted heath of Shakespeare's Macbeth. Two dead snag trees in the night with stark white boulders and a moon were all that was seen in this pre-treaty gothic production. With the smell of smudge in the air, the play was introduced by Assistant Director Barry Bilinsky and Samson Cree Nation's own Mitchell Saddleback. The Indigenous Playwright play, by Renaltta Arluk, is set in 1870 in what is now Treaty 6 territory. It stars Aaron Wells of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth and Tsimsian Nations of the Northwest BCas Macikosisân (Macbeth), and Allyson Pratt of Alexander First Nation as Kâwanihot Iskwew (Lady Macbeth). "She really does everything out of her need to survive... not suffering anymore. There is that greed, that hunger, that wanting, but I don't think it's as manipulative as the Shakespeare version" said Allyson Pratt of her role. "The most challenging part is probably the big emotional scenes, because they're quite dark and quite heavy, so it's those places I can come back and L\_\_\_ find that joy and light again."

According to the Akpik Theatre website, the play was written after Renaltta Arluk spent time with students in Frog Lake, adapting Macbeth their way. There are 3 different versions of the play, as certain tales can only be told in winter. The playwright worked closely with Elders from Treaty 6 to



really just protecting my own energy Top: The circular backdrop used to full effect with backlighting and shadows, Bottom, left to and making sure when I do go to right: Aaron Wells, Mitchell Saddleback, Sophie Merasty, and Allyson Pratt

abide by proper protocol and to incorporate Plains Cree language. The production is touring Treaty 6 territory and interested parties can catch it at the ATB Arts Barn in Edmonton on February 6-8, 2020. It's 90 minutes long, and since it is quite violent is not recommended to children under 14 years of age.

Photos/article by SEL

#### Coronavirus Update

Coronavirus 2019 acute respiratory disease (cNoV 2019) is a flu-like virus that originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in late 2019. Symptoms include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, as well as pneumonia and kidney failure in severe cases. The majority of cases have reported mild symptoms, according to Alberta.ca. The virus has spread to 18 countries as of press time with 82 confirmed cases outside of China, including 3 confirmed cases in Canada. Note that cNoV 2019 is just the most recent strain of coronavirus, just like each flu is a different strain.

In a situation update from the World Health Organization (released January 29, 2020), there are several steps you can take to "reduce the general risk of transmission of acute respiratory infections," which include:

- Avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.
- Frequent hand-washing, especially after direct contact with ill people or their environment
- Avoiding unprotected contact with farm or wild animals.
- People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands).

An Emergency Committee with the World Health Organization re-convened on January 30, 2020, under the direction of Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom. The Committee's role is to give advice to the Director-General, who makes the final decision on the determination of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). In a press statement on January 30, 2020, Dr. Adhanom declared the outbreak an international emergency, saying "Our greatest concern is the potential for the virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems, and which are ill-prepared to deal with it."

Chinese Canadians have noticed an increase in racist incidences due to misinformation and rumours surrounding the virus. "I think there is so much panic in the community, people are not acting with evidence and fact, people are

acting with fear and panic," said Dr. Joseph Wong, founder of Chinese Canadian National Council in an interview with Global News. "Chances of contracting cNoV 2019 are still extremely low." https://globalnews.ca/



news/6478602/chinese-canadians-racism-coronavirus/

Along with racism, there is other misinformation surrounding the genesis and spread of the virus. To avoid false information, make sure it is coming from credible sources, such as the World Health Organization, Canada Health, Alberta Health, or real Doctors. Ermineskin Cree Nation will keep the community informed of the facts in a timely fashion.

While it is important to do all you can to prevent the spread of new viruses like cNoV 2019, don't raise a panic within your community or family. The regular flu is much more deadly than the coronavirus. "A novel outbreak will always command more attention than a common illness, and the coronavirus is a serious health threat. But our newfound hypervigilance about infections might be more helpful if we could redirect some of it toward influenza — a significantly deadlier virus that strikes every year," says Health Care Business reporter Bob Herman from Axios.com. This is a perspective shared by many Doctors and scientists.

To put that in perspective, the new strain of coronavavirus has killed 170 people out of 7736 total cases, but the flu has at least 15 million cases so far this flu season (just in the USA), with 8,200 people dying due to flu complications. The best option for prevention and safety is to get a flu shot. Note that flu shots do not cause the flu, they give your body time to create antibodies for the most likely flu virus to spread in a given year. Flu shots are suggested every year as the virus mutates over time. If you get the flu after you get a shot you were already exposed to the virus before your immune system made antibodies.

Article by Sara Lee

### STAY NOTIFIED WITH ERMINESKIN CREE NATION

#### 🚹 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



Snap chat:

@ErmineskinCree

@ecnnewsletter

Instagram:

YouTube Channel

@ermineskincreenation
@ecn\_newsletter

Ermineskin Cree Nation

Website:

www.ermineskin.ca

Phone:

(780) 585-3741

Toll Free: (886) 585-3941



Correction: In the January 17, 2020 edition of the Newsletter, Elias Burnstick was referred to as Elias Littlechild. Apologies and thank you for the correction.

### When the ndn taco you paid \$7 for is all cheap:







February 7, 2020: Off Friday - Non-essential offices closed February 17, 2020: Family Day - Non-essential offices closed February 21, 2020: Off Friday - Non-essential offices closed March 6, 2020: Off Friday - Non-essential offices closed



Next Issue: February 14, 2020 Submission Deadline: February 10, 2020 @ 4:30PM

> ECN I.T. & Communications Box 219 Maskwacis AB TOC 1N0

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Phone: 780-585-3741 Ext. 266 Cell: 780-360-3588 Email: sara@ermineskin.ca

#### Ermineskin Newsletter Riddle Corner

here will be prizes for the first 2 people to contact the Newsletter Editor with the correct answers, starting at 9:30AM Tuesday February 4, 2020.

Last edition's winners were Shawna Houle and James Saddleback.

- 1. This belongs to you, but everyone else uses it.
- 2. What can you hold in your right hand, but never in your left hand?
- 3. If eleven plus two equals one, what does nine plus five equal?

Last Edition Answers:

- 1. A keyboard
  - 2. A towel
- 3. ENT (Eight, Nine, Ten)



Above: Photos of beautiful Neyaskweyahk captured by Janine Wildcat on Christmas Day 2019





iolence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Level II Training took place at the Jonas Applegarth Theatre at Samson High School on January 21 & 22, 2020. The training was hosted by Ermineskin Community Wellness & Samson Cree Nation Finance Department. This was a continuation of the VTRA Level I Training that the teams took in September last year and was conducted by North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response facilitator Pat Rivard. Several agencies from Ermineskin & Samson are completed the training for the sole purpose of conducting threat assessments for prevention and intervention of violence within the community. information presented was very informational and will benefit the community immensely.

Some of the key topics of Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) discussed pertained to: VTRA is not counselling -> It is data collection The better the DATA, the better the ASSESS-MENT, the better the INTERVENTION

You can't do VTRA without understanding Trauma

VTRA is meant to be helpful, NOT hurtful Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and their connection to developing diseases because of traumatic stress

"Attention seeking" is CONNECTION seeking

The more OPEN our communities are, the HEALTHIER the community will be.

Rationalize -> Rational + Lies (what are the rational lies people are telling themselves?)

The opposite of ADDICTION, is CONNECTION Instructor Pat Rivard was an amazing mentor in this training. We were very blessed to have had him train our community members in VTRA Training. "Grounded in his professional experiences as a social worker, which included a 6 year career in Child Welfare and subsequently a two year career as a family counsellor, provides an in-depth understanding of the foundational practices of VTRA. Recently, Pat transitioned from an 18 year career in Education where he served students and communities as a teacher, Principal and 9 years in senior leadership in two school divisions in Alberta. Pat received an award from NACTATR for his outstanding leadership in the advancement of VTRA practice demonstrating a tireless commitment towards providing safe and caring environments for students and community. Pat is in his third year of being a national trainer for NACTATR." After the conclusion of the training, Pat was gifted with a Ribbon Shirt to appreciation for show our sharing knowledge with us. https://www.nactatr.com/ team/patrivard.html

Article & Photos by Janine Wildcat

Congratulations to Ermineskin Elementary School in your fundraising efforts for Australia!



Ermineskin Elementary School

9 mins · 🔇

We are happy to announce that we made \$845 for the Australian Red Cross with our hot dog fundraiser last week! Way to go staff, students and parents! Thank you to 4S for organizing this event and for thinking about helping others outside of our community! Great job!

#### **Ermineskin Elementary School Celebrates Maskwacis**

The dedicated staff at the Ermineskin Elementary School hosted an Elders' Tea at their school on Friday, January 24, 2020 to showcase to the Elders of Maskwacis of how EES celebrates the culture within the school. Each grade at the school took a topic and created beautiful diagrams, crafts and pictures to showcase their love for our Nehiyaw ways. Grade 3 Educa-

tor Ms. Nanaquawetung stated: "We wanted to show our knowledge and pride for our Cree culture." Topics included: pahkwesikan, ribbon skirts, moccasins, paskwaw mostos, Treaty No. 6 information, and tipi teachings. The Elders were treated to tea and bannock whilst they basked in the knowledge and food



provided by the children. Elder Rose Makinaw gleamingly stated "I looked at the displays and the children are learning quite a lot. This is really lovely. You can see the awasisak really appreciate the Elders being here."

Article & Photos by Janine Wildcat

Neyaskweyahk DCCP

2020

tress and if they

eyaskweyahk Dog Care & Control Program would like to introduce themselves to the community and to make the public aware of their goals. We have been authorized by Chief & council to implement and enforce the dog control bylaw.

The Dog Care & Control Program provides dog control services for the community of Neyaskweyahk. Cats and other animals are outside the authority of the dog control bylaw and therefore are not something that the Neyaskweyahk DCCP responds to.

The Animal Control Officer would like to advise dog owners of unaffiliated animal welfare organizations entering the area and offering services to the community. If the public comes across any of them, please ask them to identify themselves, as well as the organization that they work for. Include the reasons why welfare may believe your animals are in dis-

have permission to be on Neyaskweyahk land. Any concerns or questions about these organizations, please contact the Neyaskweyahk DCCP.

Please note pet owners are also responsible for the burial and removal of their own deceased pets. Dogs that have died of unknown/unnatural causes, diseases, and/ or infections need to be investigated and disposed of properly by an animal control officer. There will be a fee incurred to the owner for the cremation of their deceased dog.

When reporting a stray please include a complete description and a picture (if possible). If you have a diseased, distressed, or dangerous dog and/ or would like to surrender, please call Jacob Wilder, Animal Control Officer, of the Neyaskweyahk Dog Care & Control Program at 780.585.2004 (office) or at 780.335.7997 (mobile) to leave a message.

~submission from DCCP~

#### Important Notice from Alberta.ca

ecently, false information has been circulating about supposed changes to Alberta's distracted driving laws coming into effect on February 1. These rumours around new rules and stricter penalties are false. Alberta's distracted driving laws and penalties are not changing at this time.

The distracted driving law applies to anyone driving in Alberta. It restricts drivers from doing any of the following, even while stopped at red lights:

- using hand-held cell phones
- texting or e-mailing
- using electronic devices such as laptop computers, video games, cameras, video entertainment displays and programming portable audio players such as MP3 players
- entering information on GPS units
- reading printed materials in the vehicle
- writing, printing or sketching
- personal grooming such as brushing and flossing teeth, putting on makeup, curling hair, clipping nails or shaving

Police can also charge you if you permit anything to:

- occupy the front seat of your vehicle that interferes with your access to the vehicle controls and the safe operation of the vehicle
- obstruct your clear vision in any direction

For the safety of pets, drivers and all road users, it is recommended that pets are secured in appropriate pet carriers.

The penalty for distracted driving in Alberta is a \$287 fine and 3 demerit points. Activities that are **not** specifically restricted under the law are:

- using a cell phone in hands-free mode
  - the device is not held in the driver's

- hand and is activated by voice or a single touch to the device
- using an earphone if it is used in a hands-free or voice-activated manner
- drinking beverages coffee, water or pop
- eating a snack
- Smoking
- talking with passengers
- listening to a portable audio player as long as it is set up before you begin driving
- calling emergency services such as 9-1 1 with a hand-held cell phone
- using two-way radios or hand-held radios (also known as CB radios) when a driver is required to remain in contact with one's employer, such as when escorting oversized vehicles or when participating in search, rescue and emergency management situations
- permitting the display screen of the following:
  - a GPS navigation system as long as the system is affixed to the vehicle and programmed before you begin driving or the system is voice activated. You cannot hold the unit or manually enter information while driving
  - ⋄ a collision avoidance system
  - a gauge, instrument, device or system that provides information about the vehicle's systems or the vehicle's location
  - a dispatch system for transporting passengers
  - a logistical transportation tracking system that tracks vehicle location, driver status or the delivery of goods for commercial purposes
  - ⋄ an alcohol ignition interlock device

#### Nehiyawewin 2020 Cree Language Programs

askwacis Education Schools Commission is offering Daytime and Evening Cree Language Programs for anyone who is interested in learning Nehiyawewin (Cree)!

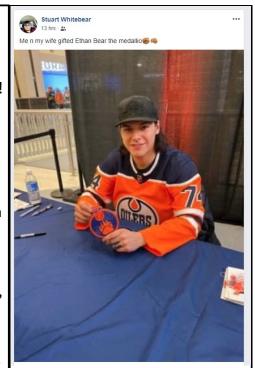
Registration is open now and closes February 17, 2020, with a maximum of 25 students per program. Oral language proficiency assessments will be conducted upon registration to ensure optimal learning for participants.

The two daytime programs will be a 45 minute Parents and Tots Nehiyawewin Program, and Kehtehayahk Pe Kiyokek, which offers Elders a place to visit and socialize once a week at the Nehiyawew Kamik.

The 6 evening programs will be an online Syllabic class, Introductory Cree, Beginner Cree, Intermediate Cree, Advanced Cree, and Family Nights. The programs will be offered at the Nehiyawew Kamik (formally the Cree Resource Building) in Ermineskin, with other sessions offered at the Ehpewapak Alternate School, Samson Primary School, Louis Bull Head Start Building, Mimiw Sakahikan, and Montana School.

The sessions will be 12 weeks, running from February 3 until April 30, 2020.

For more information, please contact Jolene Rain at 780-585-2879.



Above: Edmonton Oilers player #74 Ethan Bear with his new beaded medallion gifted by Deidre Makinaw and Stuart Whitebear. Too deadly!

# Notice from ECN Personnel Regarding REA Board Member Position

The REA Board Member position has been extended again. Anyone who has their power service provided by Ermineskin REA Ltd is eligible to apply for this position.



@THRIVEUNLTD



#### Employment Opportunity

EXPERIENCED CUSTODIAN NEEDED

#### Job Summary

Are "immaculate" and "well-kept" two of your favorite words? Are you known as the neat freak among your circle of friends? If so, you may be well-suited to become our next Custodian. Our department will rely on you to provide our guests and employees with a spotless interior and exterior atmosphere where everything is well-ordered. You'll become a critical component of upholding our departments culture and image all while helping us to look and feel our absolute best through the ambiance of our office.

Job Skills & Qualifications

#### Preferred:

- A sense of hospitality, integrity, pride in your work and a love for cleanliness and organization
- Extreme attention to the smallest detail
   Initiative to take on tasks without being
- Initiative to take on tasks without bein told and without being monitored
- Maintenance training/certification not required but is an asset

#### Requirements:

- Safety Tickets WHMIS, TDG, H2S
  - Must sign Oath of Confidentiality
- Own transportation
- Must be in the office 2x per week(Afternoons)

#### NEYASKWEYAHK EMPLOYMENT SKILLS TRAINING

Maskwacis AB P.O Box 219 TOC-

Phone: 780 585 0191 Fax: 780 585 3319 Applicants MUST apply with Ermineskin NEST.

# Upcoming Events/Classifieds

Fri. January 31, 2020

Newsletter Day!

Tue. February 11, 2020

**Ermineskin Citizen Engagement** ECN Assessment and Levy Law, 6:00PM-8:30PM at Elder's Centre.

ECN Recreation Arts & Crafts Program 5:30PM-7:30PM @ Jim RS: Bullet Journals.

Fri. February 14, 2020

Newsletter Day!

#### Job Opportunities

Social Systems Navigator Specialist with the Kanawemawahsowin Kamik Program for Children & Families department.

CLOSING: February 3, 2020

Please Submit Application/ Resume copies of certificates, updated Criminal Record Check and Child Intervention Check to Ermineskin Personnel Department.

One (1) <u>Case Management</u> <u>Worker</u> with the <u>Neyaskweyahk Human Services</u> (NHS) department.

CLOSING: February 4, 2020

Please Submit Application/ Resume copies of certificates, updated Criminal Record Check and Child Intervention Check and Two (2) letters of Reference to the Ermineskin Personnel Department.

<u>Cook</u> with the <u>Ermineskin Day-care department</u>.

CLOSING: February 6, 2020

Please Submit Application/ Resume, copy of Food Handling certificate, updated Criminal Record Check and Child Intervention Check to the Ermineskin Personnel Department.

Homemaker/Caregiver with

the <u>Ermineskin Assisted Living</u> (homecare) department.

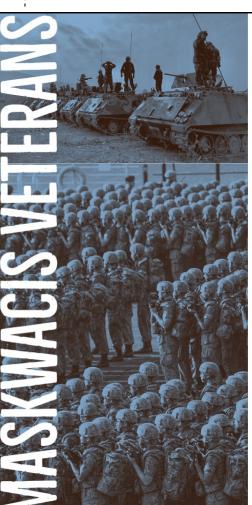
CLOSING: February 10, 2020

Please Submit Application/ Resume, Copies of Certificates, Driver`s Abstract and updated Criminal Record Check.

One (1) <u>Board Member</u> with the <u>Rural Electrification Association (REA) board</u>

CLOSING: February 11, 2020

Please Submit Application/ Resume to the Ermineskin Personnel Department.



# ATTENTION MASKWACIS VETERAN'S FAMILIES

The Indigenous Project Last Post Fund is seeking assistance from Maskwacis Veteran's Families for the required information on Members who enlist:

#### **Canadian Armed Forces**

- 1) Regular (Army, Air Force and Navy)
- 2) Reservist (Army, Air Force and Navy)
- 3) Militia (Army, Air Force and Navy)

#### **USA Forces**

1) USA Forces (Marine, Army, Air Force, and Navy)

For more information please contact Henry Raine: (780)585-3855 (780)361-6440

#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

JOIN US FOR OUR GRAND OPENING/OPEN HOUSE ON APRIL 8TH, 2020 AT YOUNG SPIRIT WINDS (YSW)10:30AM - 2:00PM DOOR PRIZES/SPEAKER(S)/LUNCH

Young Spirit

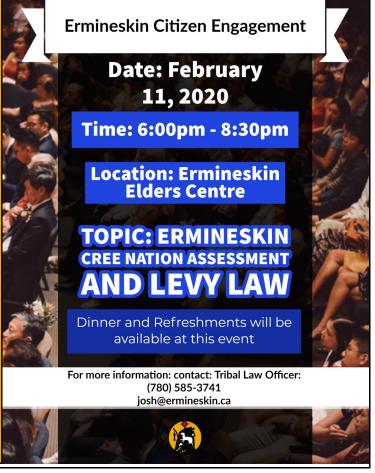
Spring Program 10 Weeks All Female - Cycle for the 8 Weeks All Male- Cycle for the Fall Program 12 Weeks

\*Please visit the office for

intake applications\*







Ermineskin Community Wellness Presents

Monday, February 17, 2020

#### 10:30 am

Pancake Breakfast at the Neyaskweyahk Okimaw Kamik Building

#### 11:00 am

Family Movie at the Jim RS Bldg Ice Skating at the Erm. Arena Winter Games at the Erm. Arena Parking Lot

> Face Painting & Photobooth Horse Wagon Rides



Family Dinner at the Ermineskin Jr/Sr High School Gathering Area

•≪•4:30 pm•≪•

Entertainment by Hypnotist Sebastian Steel at the EJSHS School Gym

LEASE NOTE: DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



#### **NEYASKEWAHK EMPLOYMENT SKILLS TRAINING**

#### Class 7 Drivers Training- February 6 & 7, 2020

#### Are you interested in obtaining your Learners License?

Open to those who qualify with the following:

- MUST Have No Fines, No Suspensions, No Tickets
- 2. MUST Be an Ermineskin Band member, or Reside on Ermineskin
- 3. MUST be 18 years or older with VALID Identification.



Only 9 Seats Available.



#### Apply with Ermineskin N.E.S.T

Phone: 780-585-0191/0192 Fax: 780-585-3319 Toll Free: 1-(866)-585-3941





**Hours Of Operation** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm WE WILL BE CLOSED

\*5 DAYS\* AFTER CHILD TAX AND

N.H.S ISSUANCE.

**Please Call For** 

Eligibility

(780) 585-2377

-		ERMINESKIN FOOD BA					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS-	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	FΕ	BRU	AR \	2 (	2 0		
	Open	Open	Open	Open  N.H.S issuance	Open		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
2	Closed	Open	Open	Open	Off Friday	C.	
2	3	4 Open	5 Open	6 Open	/	8	
9	Open 1O	11	12	13	Open 14	15	
	Closed Family Day	Open	Open	Closed Child Tax	Off Friday		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
22	Closed	Open A.I.S.H	Open <i>Pension</i>	Open	Closed	20	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	



## MASKWACIS 4 NATIONS ELDER'S GATHERING 2020

FEBRUARY 19 & 20, 10AM - 3PM



Natawemihsowin o\_CV·Г"♂△-> Healing Yourself

Pipe Ceremony at 9:00am on Feb. 19th

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2019** 

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT YOUR NATIONS' ELDERS DEPARTMENT

BULLET **JOURNALS** 

FEBRUARY 11 FEBRUARY 18 FEBRUARY 25 **GIANT PAPER** ROSES & **FLOWERS** 

DECORATIVE DREAM **CATCHERS** 

MARCH 3

AGES 13+UP ERMINESKIN RECREATION



Arts & Crafts Program

TUESDAYS

JIM RATTLESNAKE BLDG.

5:30PM = 7:30PM

PLEASE REGISTER

MARCH 10 BEADED **KEYCHAINS** 

MARCH 17

BEADED **KEYCHAINS NECKLACES**  MARCH 24 BEADED **KEYCHAINS** 

& NECKLACES

WITH JANINE WILDCAT AT (780)585-3741. FIRST 30 PEOPLE REGISTERED.