

## Ermineskin Newsletter June 29th, 2022

## Maskwacis Hosts a Press Conference



On June 27 the Maskwacis hosted a Press Conference at the Neyaskweyahk Okimaw Kamik (NOK) Building. The leaders of Maskwacis - Chief Desmond Bull, Chief Randy Ermineskin, Chief Wilton Littlechild, Chief Vernon Saddleback, and Proxy for Montana, Chase McDougall spoke about the announcement from the Vatican of the Papal visit. Pope Francis will be arriving in Maskwacis on July 25th. During the visit, he will meet with survivors and community members, he will then go on to visit the former residential school site, and pray at the Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church. Pope Francis will then make a formal apology to the Residential School survivors at the arbor. The Vatican has said the Pope's daily appearances will be short due to the 85-year-old's mobility and health issues. The Maskwacis First Nations want to make sure the visit is meaningful despite the time constraints. Leaders from four First Nations say the Pope's upcoming visit could help the world understand the impacts and intergenerational trauma that the residential school system inflicted on Indigenous people. More information about Pope Francis's visit will be available once all the arrangements have been finalized.

Pope Francis is scheduled to arrive in Edmonton on July 24 for a brief ceremony at the airport. The next day he is set to join survivors in Maskwacis. He will then travel to Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples in downtown Edmonton. On July 26, Francis is scheduled to attend a large mass at the Commonwealth Stadium, also in Edmonton.



## POPE FRANCIS VISITS (Submission from the Planning Committee)

It has been officially announced by the Vatican that Pope Francis will be visiting Maskwacis on July 25, 2022. He will make a public appearance at Bear Park (Ermineskin) where he will give an apology to the former residential school students. A lot of preparations have already begun, and we will do our best to keep you all informed on the planning process.

Many of you may have questions or concerns regarding this event. Here is a brief overview of information to answer some of your questions.

Why is Pope Francis coming to Canada? In March and April of 2022, 30 Indigenous delegates representing First Nations, Métis and Inuit Elders, survivors of residential schools and youth went to Rome and met with Pope Francis. During their meeting with the Pope, they shared their stories and discussed the historical and ongoing intergenerational trauma that is continuously impacting Indigenous Peoples. The Pope had many invitations to visit several Indigenous communities, including an invite from Chief Wilton Littlechild. After issuing a public apology on April 1, 2022 at the Vatican, the Pope reiterated his desire to travel to Canada to deliver an apology to the Indian Residential School survivors on their own land. The visit is to also continue the healing and reconciliation journey for the Indigenous people.

Why Maskwacis? The Ermineskin Residential School was one of the largest in Canada. The Pope desired that he visit a First Nation that was the site of an Indian residential school. The Pope was invited to visit Maskwacis by the delegates that went to Rome this past April, which included Maskwacis elders, and Chief Wilton Littlechild. Factoring the Pope's health, being at the age of 85, his increased lack of mobility due to the necessity of a wheelchair all contributed to his restrictions on travel. Therefor the Maskwacis location fit well considering all the factors and the desires to obtain important measures.

**How long will the Pope visit?** Due to limited mobility of the Pope and scheduling the visits are in within 1 hour time periods.

Where will the Pope be in Maskwacis? He will visit the Church our lady of Seven Sorrows for a private visit. Also the former site of the Ermineskin Indian Residential School grounds and the Cemetery for a private visit with Chief's and delegates, then a public gathering at Bear Park.

**How Many People do they expect?** They are estimating 15,000 people to attend at Bear Park. People from Maskwacis including other residential schools survivors, and some invited guest as and dignitaries from across the country will be in attendance.

Can we watch from home or at other locations? Yes, the visit will be viewable online; it can be watched from the Papalvisit.ca website in the comfort of your home if you have access to wifi. Other "Off-site" Viewing locations may come available nothing yet confirmed (potential locations being considered are: Samson, Montana, and Ponoka) more information to come.

**How do You Register to attend?** You must register in advance on the Papal website. They will get the registrations up soon at papalvisit.ca

Who is able to attend? The event is meant for the Indian Residential School Survivors from Maskwacis and across Canada, and invited quests.

Will you be able to attend if you do not register? No, due to security reasons. You must register prior.



POSTERS IN PLAINS CREE

# Numbers / Akihtasonah



## Indian Day School Class Action Lawsuit

# Don't forget to submit your Claim Form.



The deadline to complete and submit your Claim Form is July 13, 2022.

The Claims Administrator remains committed to on a letter or package by either Canada Post ment Agreement.

tor by the Claims Deadline. It is the Claimants' postmark on their claim submission. responsibility to ensure their claim meets the Claims Deadline.

The Claims Deadline is July 13, 2022 at 11:59 be received by the Claims Administrator af-PM Pacific Standard Time (PST).

In order to meet the Claims Deadline,

received by the Claims Administrator or have case or regular mail or courier) indicated on an electronic, system-generated date stamp of the correspondence is before the Claims Deadno later than July 13, 2022 at 11:59 PM PST. Claims Submitted by regular mail or couri- PLEASE NOTE: Claims submitted by regular mail er must be received by the Claims Administrator or postmarked by Canada Post or courier ministrator after July 13, 2022 at 11:59 PM service provider by no later than July 13, 2022 PM PST. For clarity, the term "postmark" refers to an official mark stamped and might not be accepted.

ensuring that all Claimants are given the oppor- or a courier service indicating the date and tunity to submit a complete claim form within time that the correspondence was received by the Claims Period prescribed under the Settle- Canada Post/courier service. A postmark may not be automatically applied by the post office or courier service. Therefore, it is the responsi-All claims must be received by the Administra- bility of the Claimant to request and obtain a

For greater certainty, a Claim submission may ter July 13, 2022 at 11:59 PM PST, so long as the electronic, system-generated date stamp (in Claims submitted by email or fax must be the case of email or fax) or postmark (in the line.

> or courier that are received by the Claims Ad-PST without a postmark will be deemed to have been received after the Claims Deadline

## MASKWACIS MINOR HOCKEY UPDATE

MMHA's Annual General Meeting was held on June 22, 2022 at the 4Nations Arena • in Samson. Regardless of the low attendance, a to-do list was announced as follows: All jerseys loaned out during regular season (for provincials or for treaties) in the 2021/2022 season will need to be returned As Soon As Possible.

MMHA in order for your child to play in the successful season. They are in need of coaches, upcoming 2022/2023 season. If your child managers, and refs for the 2022/2023 season! played with MMHA in the 2021/2022 season and is not playing at an AA or AAA level, they REMINDER: LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR AIG IS tion for an Oiler's Night for your child during mitted. (Photo & article by: Jessica Ermineskin) the 2022/2023 season, can be paid upfront or during the season before the initial date is set, in order for MMHA to have an approximate amount of children attending. Date TBH.

A golf fundraiser is in the works for August 2022. Stay tuned for more! Volunteers are encouraged!

The 4Nations arena will be hosting activities: Starting on June 28th

- In-line rollerblading will run every Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8pm.
- Youth Ball Hockey will also run on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
- July and August- Lacrosse every Monday and Wednesday from 6-8pm

Any outstanding fees will need to be paid to MMHA relies on parent volunteers to have a

will not be released from MMHA. A \$150 op- JUNE 30TH 2022. No late entries will be sub-





# Father's Day Golf Tournament

Ermineskin Community Wellness and Brighter Futures hosted a successful Father's Day Golf Tournament at Dorchester Ranch Golf Course on June 17, 2022. Over 80+ golfers participated. Dads, Uncles and Mosums were present despite the wet weather. There were tons of laughs, jokes, and positive vibes out on the course! After 18 holes, and a well-deserved supper, a few competitors resulted in tie. An exciting "chip-off" was held on hole 9. (Photos & article by Jessica Ermineskin)























# Congratulations to all the winners. A side 1st Place - Joel Johnson

2nd place split - Eric Ermineskin & Joel Rain

B side 1st Place - Pete Wolfe

2nd Place - Warren Samson

3rd Place- Jamison Larocque

C side 1st Place - Darryl Buffalo Sr.

2nd Place - John Rattlesnake

3rd Place - Ryan Potts

Happy Gilmore Longest Drive - River Minde (Photos & article by Jessica Ermineskin)















# Indigenous Peoples Day

On Tuesday June 21st 2022, Ermineskin Industrial Relations, Kanawemahwasowin Kamik and NGCI Neyaskweyahk Group of Companies provided the public with 1,000 burgers and hotdogs for a Drive-Thru Indigenous Peoples Day Event. Kamawemahwasowin Kamik staff were also present to help with the cooking and distribution. A huge thank you to our volunteers for giving their all in the sun and rain! You are appreciated. The evening ended in a fantastic firework show! Thank you to all that came out and celebrated with us! (Photos & article by Jessica Ermineskin)





## Upcoming Events/Classifieds









Ermineskin Arena Parks & Recreation (780)585-3088



**LOUIS BULL** COMMUNITY WELLNESS (780) 585-4075



SAMSON YOUTH WELLNESS (7.80) 585-3634



SAMSON YOUTH & SPORT DEVELOPMENT (7/80)585-3012

Week #A: Jour 5=7



Location: TBA

Time: 12PM - 4PM

WEEK #2: JULY 12-14





Location: HBMC

Time: 12PM - 4PM

WEEK #3: JULY 19-21



Location: Samson **Ball Diamonds** 

Time: 12PM - 4PM

Week #43 Jour 23-23

HIDE TANNING HAND GAMES HOOP DANCING

Time: 12PM - 4PM

# Healing from loss sharing circle

June 23 2~4

June 30 2~4

July 7 2~4

July14 2~4

Snacks and transportation provided please call Ermineskin **Brighter Futures to register** 1-780-585-2000 or futuresbrighter@yahoo.com

DEPARTING: RIVER CREE RESORT AND CASINO ARRIVING: REYNOLDS-ALBERTA MUSEUM



Legacy Run 2022

**Ride for Awareness** 

JULY 1, 2022

Legacy Run 215+ of 2021 was held to honor the memory of the children found in May at the former Indian Residential School in Kamloops. This tragic event triggered survivors of Canadian Indian Residential Schools to come together in solidarity and bring awareness to this dark history which was uncerthed by the unmarked graves. It was our hope that the Legacy Run would unite Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples.

## **Event Features**

A peaceful memorial convoy of trucks, motorcycles, and passenger vehicles will be departing from River Cree at 10 AM and arrive at the museum at 11:30 AM

Events scheduled to start at 12 PM where guest speakers, cultural performances and activities will take place.

This event is a place to listen, heal, and share stories in a social setting. Please come with open minds and hearts, Hai H



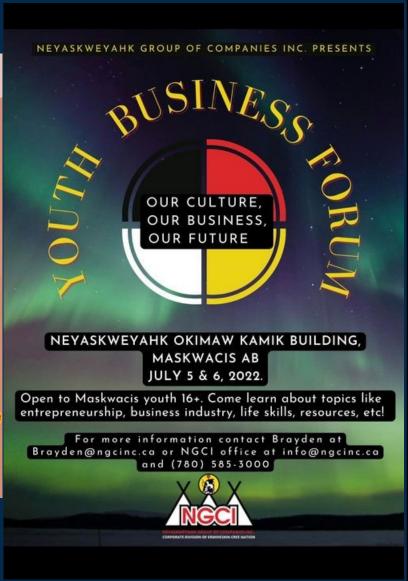
















Location : Ermineskin Cree Nation Handgame Arbor





NEYASKWEYAHK GROUP OF COMPANIES INC. PRESENTS



Montgomery Glen, Wetaskiwin Thursday July 7, 2022

Teams of 4 - each team must have one woman Minimum 3 drives per

Dinner Included

**8AM 9AM**Registration Shot Gun Start

\$400 fee for teams

\$10,000 Hole-in-One

Sponsored by



\$1000 \$600

\$400 3rd

Prizing Most Honest

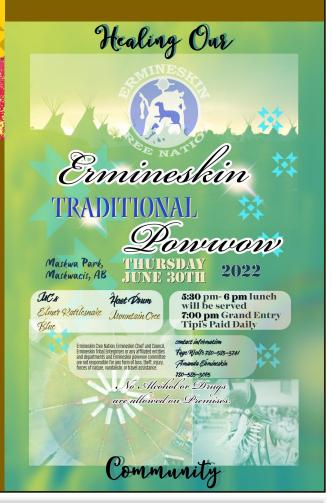


Contact Stephen Wagner at (780) 585-3000 or stephen@ngcinc.ca









<u>585-3741</u> Ext.310 or Teresa

White at <u>780-839-9944</u>