



Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin ᓂᓴᓐᓴᓐᓴᓐ ᐱᓴᓴᓐᓴᓐ

# Ermineskin Newsletter June 16th, 2022

Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Opâskahopîsim Nikotwâsosâp Akimaw Anohc

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## Starting the Healing Journey



On June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Elders and community members and other Indigenous representatives (from the Treaty 6 region) came together to talk about the impacts of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) and shared stories about their experiences. The “Starting the Healing Journey” event was hosted by the Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations and was held at the Neyaskweyahk Okimaw Kamik (NOK) building in Ermineskin. Both days began with a pipe ceremony to give thanks and prayers. The first day included a traditional feast to honour the residential school survivors and to remember the ones who never made it home.

Survivors began telling stories about their childhoods at IRS in a talking circle. The partici-

pant’s testimonies were emotional, as well as providing insights on ways of healing as they moved forward from their traumatic experiences. One of the Elders stated that “all ceremonies are important, the creation stories are important, and passing on the Cree language to the youth was also important”. Another elder stated that our medicines are powerful and we must not forget to use them. The event ended with a round dance , giveaway and closing remarks from hosts.

There remains a lot of healing to be done, and it will take time to heal from the atrocities inflicted on our Indigenous peoples. With love, hope, support and traditional healing practices we will all begin our healing journeys.

# Indian Day School Class Action Lawsuit

## THE DEADLINE IS FAST APPROACHING

Claimants have until July 13, 2022 at 11:59 pm PST to file a claim for compensation. The Claims Administrator must receive a completed Claim Form:

- by email or fax with an electronic system-generated date stamp of no later than July 13, 2022 at 11:59 PM PST; or
- by regular mail or courier postmarked by Canada Post or the courier service provider no later than July 13, 2022 at 11:59 PM PST.

Legal counsel is available, at no cost to you, to help review your narrative and assist with selecting the appropriate claim level. Please call 1-844-539-13815 to speak with a member of our legal team.

If you need help with your claim call the following IRS departments:

**Ermineskin Cree Nation - Noreen Omeasoo (780) 585 - 2268**

**Samson Cree Nation - Beatrice Okeymow (780) 585 - 3634**

**Louis Bull Cree Nation - Tammy Moonias (780) 585 - 4075**

**Montana Cree Nation - Leanne Lewis (780) 585 - 3744**

## Common Reasons for Claim Form Delays

Your Claim Form is an important document in the Indian Day School settlement. To process your claim in a timely and smooth manner, please take your time completing your Claim Form and, before you send it, double check that it is complete. The following are some of the common causes for delays:

**Mailing Address**

**Name**

**School Information**

**Sworn Declaration**

**Estate Documents**

If you would like help filling out your Claim Form, contact Class Counsel, **Gowling WLG** at 1-844-539-3811. If you have questions about your claim once it's been submitted, please call the Claims Administrator, **Deloitte** at 1-888-221-2898 for assistance.

# Your Time, Your Claim, Your Journey

**Your time**  
You have waited long enough. Apply before the deadline:  
**July 13, 2022**

**Your claim**  
If you attended a Federal Indian Day School, see if your school is on the list

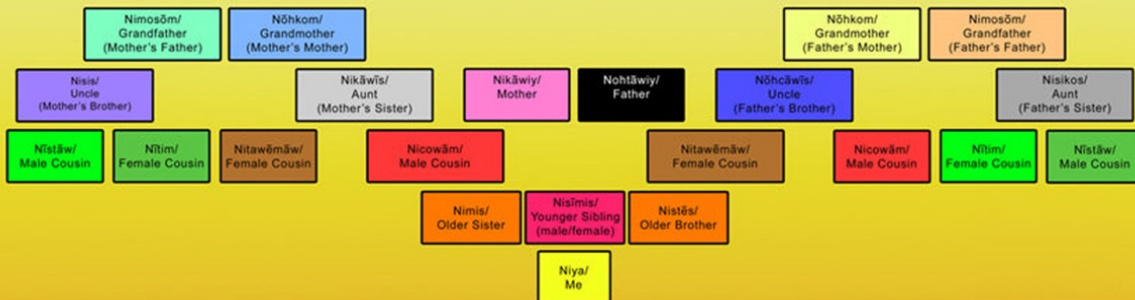
**Your journey**  
If you experienced harm, you may be eligible for compensation

Claim what's yours.
For information or support visit [indianschools.com](http://indianschools.com) or call 1-844-539-3815

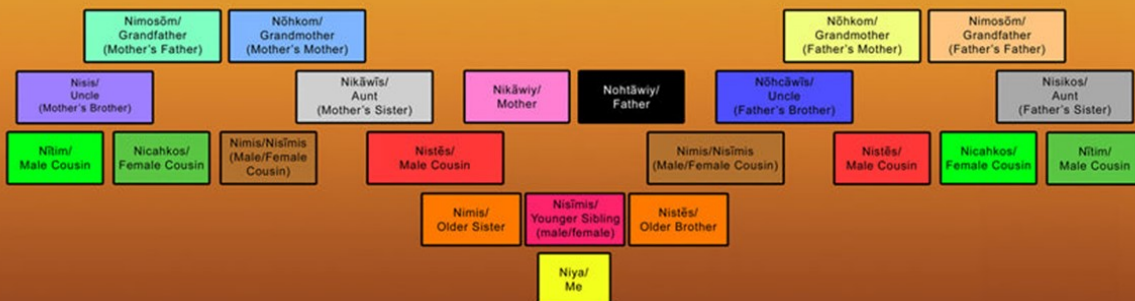


# CREE CORNER

## POSTERS IN PLAINS CREE BOYS KINSHIP CHART



## GIRLS KINSHIP CHART



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**noh.ta.wiy**

ᓃ"ᑕᐃ.ᓄ

“my father”

Miyo-Otāwīmāwi  
-Kisikanisi

Happy Father's Day

# Team Indigenous Alberta vs Canada Summer Games Team Alberta

On June 4th there was an exhibition Lacrosse game at the Four Nations Arena in Samson. Team Indigenous Alberta played against the Canada Summer Games Team Alberta. The guest speaker was Wilton Littlechild. Both teams played well and showed great teamwork. The score was 9 - 1 for Team AB



## Brian Wildcat Receives an Honorary Doctor of Laws



Retrieved from: U of A names honorary degree recipients for 2022 spring convocation | Folio (ualberta.ca)

Brian Wildcat's life work is shaped by the belief that First Nations schools have a critical role to play in improving Indigenous education. A U of A graduate, Wildcat has been a school superintendent in Maskwacis for 25 years. His leadership and continuing commitment to quality Cree education was instrumental in the recent collaboration needed to build a single, unified school system from four small school authorities in Maskwacis.

Hailed as a model for Indigenous education, Maskwacis Education Schools Commission, with Wildcat as superintendent, was launched in 2018 with the vision to foster competent, confident and resilient Maskwacis Cree-speaking students. Wildcat is a member of Ermineskin Cree Nation and he lives in Maskwacis.

Brian Wildcat received an honorary doctor of laws degree June 5 during convocation at Augustana Campus in Camrose.

## Early Learning Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony



Early Learning Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony: MESC hosted a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new early learning centre in Maskwacis on May 18, 2022. Chief Ermineskin, partners from the Workun Garrick Partnership and representatives from Jen Col joined MESC to celebrate this new beginning. We would like to thank the elders Helen Bull and John Nepoose who attended this ceremony who provided invocation and opening remarks on behalf of the Board of Governors. The early learning centre has been designed around Cree culture and language and creating a positive student experience. We are looking forward to the completion of the early learning centre in 2023.



Retrieved from: <https://www.facebook.com/MaskwacisEducation>



Photo of Chief Randy Ermineskin at blanket ceremony for the Neyaskweyâhk Trust Board of Trustees in Calgary on May 25, 2022.

# Awareness In Action



**Jerry Saddleback Jr.**







**Stephanie Harpe**



**Brian Lightning**

There was a Domestic Violence conference held on June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. The first day of the conference was held at the HBMC in Samson, the second day was held at the Bear Park in Ermineskin. The keynote speakers included Stephanie Harpe and Konwatsitsa:wi Meloche. Both speakers are advocates for Violence against Women, MMIW2S Movement and Indigenous Rights. Jerry Saddleback Jr. and V. Lillian Gladeau spoke about Family Unit Roles and Cheryl Montour sang the Grandmother Song. Some of the topics covered were “What is Domestic Violence”, and “How are we going to bring about change”. Stephanie Harpe shared her story about domestic abuse and addictions, based on the narrative of her life and overcoming her trauma.

- 
**Teach safe and healthy relationship skills**
  - Social-emotional learning programs for youth
  - Healthy relationship programs for couples
- 
**Engage Influential adults and peers**
  - Men and boys as allies in prevention
  - Bystander empowerment and education
  - Family-based programs
- 
**Disrupt the developmental pathways toward partner violence**
  - Early childhood home visitation
  - Preschool enrichment with family engagement
  - Parenting skill and family relationship programs
  - Treatment for at-risk children, youth, and families
- 
**Create protective environments**
  - Improve school climate and safety
  - Improve organizational policies and workplace climate
  - Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods
- 
**Strengthen economic supports for families**
  - Strengthen household financial security
  - Strengthen work-family supports
- 
**Support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms**
  - Victim-centered services
  - Housing programs
  - First responder and civil legal protections
  - Patient-centered approaches
  - Treatment and support for survivors of IPV, including teen dating violence

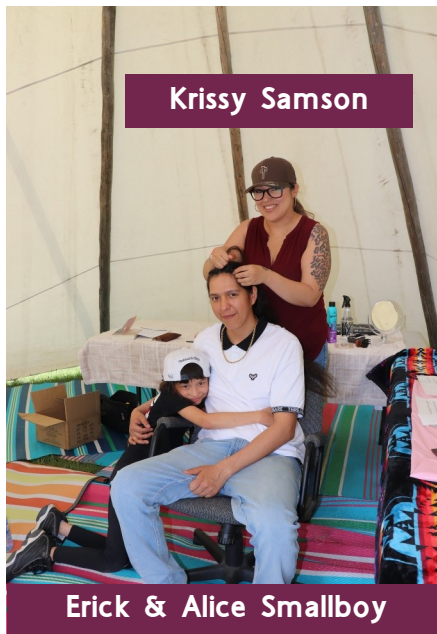


**In collaboration with Ermineskin Women’s Shelter, Ermineskin Brighter Futures, Maskwacis Victim Services & Samson Community**

# Against Domestic Violence Conference



Konwatsitsa:wi Meloche

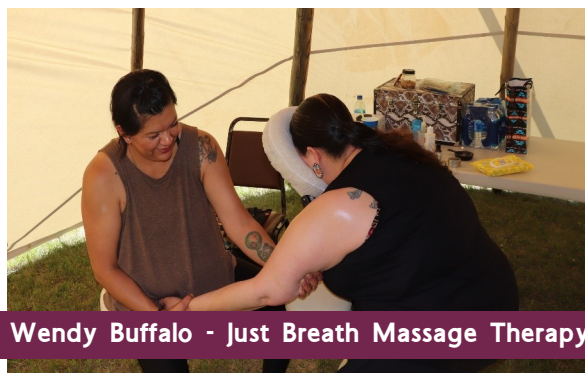


Krissy Samson

Erick & Alice Smallboy



Sierra Yellowbird



Wendy Buffalo - Just Breath Massage Therapy



Perfect Storm Drum Group



Steven Farmer



Nearly **1 in 5** women

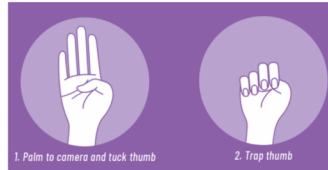


About **1 in 7** men



report having experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime.

### THE VIOLENCE AT HOME SIGNAL FOR HELP



Signal For Help | Use Sign to Ask for Help  
"Signal for Help" is a one-handed sign someone can use on a video call. It can help a person silently show they need help and want to be checked in on.

Canadian Women's Foundation [www.canadianwomen.org/signal-for-help](http://www.canadianwomen.org/signal-for-help)

**IF YOU ARE FACING VIOLENCE - YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**  
CALL OR TEXT @VICTIMLINKBC 1 800 563-0808  
OR EMAIL VICTIMLINKBC@BC211.CA.  
Help is available in 150+ languages.

# JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

## 4 WAYS TO BE A PRIDE ALLY



### EDUCATE

Learn about LGBTQIA+ history, terminology and pronouns. Plus, take an interest in current social issues.



### IDENTIFY

Identify as an ally with pronouns, stickers, t-shirts or affirming social media posts.



### PARTICIPATE

Show up for Pride! Attend a Pride parade, fundraiser, festival or drag show to show your support.



### DONATE

Donate to LGBTQIA+ community services to maintain programs for, Healthcare and Youth.



## CELEBRATE YOUR PRIDE!



# INCLUSION

## Ermineskin Junior & Senior High School Students Pride Parade at Bear Park



## One Love Pride Parade Ermineskin Students







# Ermineskin TRADITIONAL Powwow

Maskwa Park,  
Maskwacis, AB **THURSDAY  
JUNE 30TH 2022**

**JCs**

Elmer Rattlesnake  
Blue

**Host Drum**

Mountain Cree

**5:30 pm- 6 pm lunch  
will be served  
7:00 pm Grand Entry  
Tipis Paid Daily**

**contact information**  
Faye Wolfe 780-585-3741  
Amanda Ermineskin  
780-585-3065

Ermineskin Cree Nation, Ermineskin Chief and Council, Ermineskin Tribal Enterprises or any affiliated entities and departments and Ermineskin powwow committee are not responsible for any form of loss, theft, injury, forces of nature, vandalism, or travel assistance.

*No Alcohol or Drugs  
are allowed on Premises.*



# Father's Day Poker Walk

**MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022  
10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

Calling all dads to come and celebrate father's day with us! We will be doing fun activities throughout the day with lunch and gifts for the first 50 dads! Prizes will be awarded at the end of the event!

Located outside of the Main Medical entrance



**For more information  
contact Kayla or Rebecca  
@ 780-585-2266**



# Ohtawimawak Kisikaw Pîb°

**FATHER'S DAY BBQ, GAMES,  
DOOR PRIZES and RAFFLES!!**

- FOOTBALL TOSS
- PUTTING CHALLENGE
- TUG-OF-WAR
- POTATO SACK RACE
- THREE LEGGED RACE

**GIFT BAGS FOR ALL DAD'S**

WHAT: KKI FATHER'S DAY  
EVENT  
WHERE: ERMINESKIN BEAR  
PARK  
WHEN: JUNE 17TH, 2022  
START: 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

**FATHER'S DAY EVENT!**



If you have any questions please call (780) 585-3721 ask for Andrea or email andrea.m@kkamik.com  
PLEASE ADHERE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, STAY HOME IF YOU ARE UNWELL



Maskwa Park,  
Maskwacis, AB

**2022  
JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> - 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**JCs**

Elmer Rattlesnake  
Chris Wells  
Host Drum

Mountain Cree  
Arena Directors

Nathan Littlechild  
Navarone Thunderchild

Drum Judge

Nathan Rattlesnake

Zero Tolerance: No Alcohol or  
Drugs allowed on the premises

**Dance**

**Competition**

Mens Golden age (50+)  
Mens Buckskin (50+)  
Womens GoldenAge (50+)

1st \$1400 2nd \$1200 3rd \$1000 4th \$800

Adult Categories (18+)

1st \$1400 2nd \$1200 3rd \$1000 4th \$800

Teen Categories (13-17)

1st \$500 2nd \$400 3rd \$300 4th \$200

Jr. Categories (6-12)

1st \$400 2nd \$300 3rd \$200 4th \$100

Tiny TOTS paid daily (0-5)

**Drum**

**Competition**

1st \$14,000  
2nd \$10,000  
3rd \$8,000  
4th \$6,000  
5th \$4,000

**Specials**

Mens Traditional Winner  
take all \$1500  
Womens Jingle Winner  
take all \$1500  
other specials to be  
announced  
TRIBE GIVEAWAY

**contact information**

Faye Wolfe 780-585-3741

Amanda Ermineskin

780-585-3065

Ermineskin Cree Nation, Ermineskin Chief and Council, Ermineskin Tribal Enterprises or any affiliated entities and departments and Ermineskin powwow committee are not responsible for any form of loss, theft, injury, forces of nature, vandalism, or travel assistance.



# Upcoming Events/Classifieds

**Social Assistance  
Employment Training**

**Pre Employment Support Program/SAET**

**Sculpted Gel Nails, Manicure & Pedicure Certificate Program.**

*8 spots available.*

*June 21st-Aug 16th*

*2-Classes of 4*

*Delmar College Red Deer*

**Safety Protocols / Gel and Polish Application / Sculpted Nail Application / Nail Art/ French (Reverse & Traditional) / Fills and Removals / Manicures / Pedicures.**

**REGISTER NOW!**

**(780)585-3835**

**MCSS PROUDLY PRESENTS**

**ISKWEWAK WELLNESS CAMP**

**VILLAGE CREEK INN, PIGEON LAKE**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH - SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH**

OPEN TO GIRLS 16 & UP. LEARN TRADITIONAL CREE TEACHINGS, WOMANS WELLNESS, PHYSICAL FITNESS, & OTHER SUPER FUN ACTIVITIES!  
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CONTACT  
MASKWACIS COUNSELLING @ 780.585.2268

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK @: MASKWACISCOUNSELLING**

<p><b>OPENING CEREMONIES</b></p> <p>JUNE 17 - 19, 2022</p> <p>CAMPING AVAILABLE ON-SITE. PLEASE CONTACT TO RESERVE TIPI POLES AVAILABLE FOR HIDE CAMP USE.</p>	<p><b>MARKET MONDAY</b></p> <p>JUNE 20, 2022</p> <p>MASKWACIS HANDGAMES ARBOR</p> <p>\$2 ADMISSION PER PERSON</p> <p>PLEASE BOOK TABLE IN ADVANCE</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b></p> <p>JUNE 21, 2022</p> <p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY</p> <p>MASKWACIS BEAR PARK</p> <p>BBQ 6PM - 9PM</p> <p>FIREWORKS 10:30PM</p>
<p><b>2nd Annual</b></p> <p><b>Maskwacis Woman's Hide Camp</b></p> <p><b>Location: 3 Mile Ermineskin</b></p> <p><b>June 17 - 24, 2022</b></p> <p>\$500 Registration Fee Per Person - Instructors Brenda &amp; Peggy Lee</p>		
<p><b>WELLNESS WEDNESDAY</b></p> <p>JUNE 22, 2022</p> <p>SAGE BEAUTY SPA SERVICES</p> <p>LASHES BY SHALEE</p> <p>AZE AZUCAR REIKI &amp; TAROT</p> <p>COUNSELING SERVICES &amp; MORE</p>	<p><b>TRADE BLANKET THURSDAY</b></p> <p>JUNE 23, 2022</p> <p>MASKWACIS HANDGAMES ARBOR</p> <p>\$2 ADMISSION PER PERSON</p> <p>PLEASE REGISTER TO OFFER A TRADE</p>	<p><b>FINAL DAY FRIDAY</b></p> <p>JUNE 24, 2022</p> <p><b>FEAST &amp; GIVEAWAY</b></p> <p>CONTACT PEGGY LEE VIA EMAIL AT: HIDETANNING22@GMAIL.COM</p>

**ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS & ERMINESKIN BRIGHTER FUTURES PRESENTS**

# FATHER'S DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT

**FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022**

Location: Dorchester Ranch Golf Course



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2022**



**All Father's Welcome**

**\$175 ENTRY FEE PER PERSON**  
**\*INCLUDES: KP'S, LONG PUTT, MEAL & CART**  
**FIRST 144 REGISTERED & PAID**

To Register Please Contact:  
 Community Wellness (780)585-3741  
 Tyrone Ermineskin (780)312-4712  
 Ron Ermineskin (780)360-6009

**9:30 AM SHOTGUN START**  
**CASH PRIZES FOR A, B, C**  
**50/50 DRAWS**

# Maskwacis Summer Youth Day Camps

**Ages: 7-17**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM**



**ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS**



Ermineskin Arena  
 Parks & Recreation  
 (780)585-3088



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



**SAMSON YOUTH WELLNESS**  
 (780) 585-3634



**SAMSON YOUTH & SPORT DEVELOPMENT**  
 (780)585-3012

**WEEK #1: JULY 5-7**

**LACROSSE**

Location: Ermineskin Arena



**JR. GOLF**

Location: TBA

**Time: 12PM - 4PM**

**WEEK #2: JULY 12-14**

**JR. GOLF**

Location: TBA



**BASKETBALL**

Location: HBMC

**Time: 12PM - 4PM**

**WEEK #3: JULY 19-21**

**VOLLEYBALL**

Location: HBMC



**LACROSSE**

Location: Samson Ball Diamonds

**Time: 12PM - 4PM**

**WEEK #4: JULY 26-28**

**TRADITIONAL TEACHINGS**

Location: Maskwacis Bear Park

HIDE TANNING  
 HAND GAMES  
 HOOP DANCING

**Time: 12PM - 4PM**

# Maskwacis

National Indigenous Peoples Day

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## BBQ & Fireworks

MUSIC | FOOD | DRAWS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

6PM-9PM **BBQ MEAL**  
 Start 10:30PM **FIREWORKS**

JUNE 21ST 2022  
**BEAR PARK, MASKWACIS ALBERTA**

(780) 585-3741 ✉ trishia@ermineskin.ca  
 ext #266

**ERMINESKIN NEWSLETTER**  
 NEXT ISSUE: JUNE 29, 2022

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
 JUNE 27, 2022

ECN I.T & Communications  
 PO Box 219  
 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0

M C S S  
 presents

June 27 - 30, 2022

*Mending Broken Hearts*

Wayside Inn, Wetaskiwin **10-3pm**  
**10 Spots only - Call 780.585.2268**

## Ermineskin Cree Nation Cumulative Effects Information Workshop

**Where: Ermineskin Arena** **Meals provided, first 30 people**

<b>General Public</b> June 20th 12 noon- 4pm	<b>Elders Session</b> June 22nd 10 am - 3pm <b>ECN Staff</b> June 22nd 6:30 pm - 8:30pm	<b>Land Users/                  Hunters</b> June 27th 10 am - 3pm <b>General Public</b> June 27th 6:30 pm - 8:30pm	<b>Youth Session</b> June 28th 10 am- 2pm
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Cumulative Effects - What are they and why do they matter?  
 Cumulative Effects - Changes to the environment or human well-being from past, present, and future human activities  
 Impacts can be individually minor but collectively significant

Cumulative effects include more than environmental impacts:  
 Cultural / Spiritual Socio-economic  
 Political/governance Health and well being