



# NEYASKWEYAHK ACIMOWIN

Kisê Pîsim  
December 13, 2023

Ermineskin Newsletter  
Neyaskweyahk Acimowin Mikisiw Pîsim Newosâp Akimaw Anohc

Tansi and welcome to another edition of the Neyaskweyahk Acimowin. Happy New Year everyone. I hope the holidays went well for everyone in Maskwacis. 2022 ended with a Christmas/New years Traditional Pow Wow at the Panee Memorial Agriplex with about 10 drums and over 100 dancers each day back in December 29-30, 2022. Ermineskin Councilor Stephen Ermineskin was present and he welcomed the people each day and Councilors Clayton Wildcat and Joel Mykat were in the Grand Entries both days along with some of the pow wow committee members. Prayers were said both days before the pow wow as is the tradition and Louis Bull Elder Solomon Bull said the prayer the first day and a female Elder said it the next day. The two days were kind of cold but that never stopped people coming from as far as Sik Sika. Good job to the committee members and I hope everyone had a safe trip back to their home fires.

Next Acimowin Issues January 13 & 27 and February 10 & 24, 2023

WWW.ERMINESKIN.CA



## Vision Statement

Ermineskin Cree Nation is united, strong, healthy and sovereign.

## Mission Statement

To practice and protect Cree traditions and treaties, that foster self reliance, create a safe community with a vibrant economy.

## Mission Statement

**Respect:** We acknowledge and recognize the important roles of leaders, members, staff and Elders who work for the betterment of the community.  
**Honest:** We will keep our word, be truthful with everyone and live up to the traditional laws and values of the Ermineskin Cree Nation.

**Accountable:** We assure that our conduct and communications shall be above reproach and of an exemplary nature that will reflect favourably on the Ermineskin Cree Nation Council and membership.

**Fair:** We are fair and just, treating everyone with dignity and respect.

## Ermineksin Cree Nation

Chief: Randy Ermineskin.

Councilors:

Craig Makinaw  
Shirley May Ermineskin  
Joel Mykat  
Jason Makinaw  
Clayton Wildcat  
Ryan Ermineskin  
Nina Makinaw  
Stephen (Craig) Ermineskin



## Ermineksin Cree Nation

PO Box 219 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0

Phone: 780-585-3741

Fax: 780-585-3774

Website: [www.ermyneskin.ca](http://www.ermyneskin.ca)

## Ermineksin Cree Nation

Hours: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Monday to Friday.

Every Second Friday Off.

## Ermineksin Cree Nation

Communications Department

Communications Manager: Tara Cutarm.

Email: [tara@ermyneskin.ca](mailto:tara@ermyneskin.ca)

Newsletter Editor: Guide Fleury.

Email: [guide@ermyneskin.ca](mailto:guide@ermyneskin.ca)

The Neyaskweyahk Acimowin is published twice a month. It is available on the Ermineskin website for viewing.



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## About

The Ermineskin Cree Nation (Reserve #138) is one member of the Four Nations of Maskwacis, Alberta-located in Central Alberta about fifty miles south of Edmonton on Highway 2A, half way between the towns of Ponoka and Wetaskiwin. The Ermineskin Cree Nations land base is approximately 25,000 acres. This area is traditionally known as the Bear Hills or Maskwacheesihk.

### Contact Us

Phone: 780-585-3741

## Christmas/New Years Traditional Pow Wow 2022

December 29-30, 2022

Ermineskin Cree Nation had a Christmas/New Years Traditional Pow Wow at the Panee Memorial Agriplex with about 10 drums and 100 dancers every day. The weather was cold but that did not stop people coming as far as Sik Sika. The MCs were Elmer Rattlesnake and Dennis "Blue" Lightning and special MC Hal Eagletail. The host drum was Blackstone and the Arena Directors were Nathan Littlechild and Jerry Roasting. The dancers were paid daily and lunch was served. There was a give a way and Santa Claus was in attendance for the youth. Thank you to the pow wow committee, Andrea Mackinaw, Teresa White, Shinea Small, Kenneth X Roan.



Day one saw Grand Entry along with Intertribals. The categories were: Tiny Tots, Buckskin and Golden Age categories, Children and Teen categories. After supper break the floor was Open for Initiations and Specials. At about 9 PM there was a pow wow committee special call Team Dance Winner Take All. You can see some of the video on the Ermineskin Cree Nation facebook page. Finally, at about 9 PM the Adult categories took place.



Santa Claus and the Grinch did show up for the youth. Afterward there was a dance contest between the two and they did a spectacular performance.

The format was repeated the next day and there were a few more drums and dancers present on the last day. I hope everyone had a safe travel back to their home fires and once again thank you to the Ermineskin pow wow committee for a great two days.





Bucky Old Elk shaking hands with Mason Buffalo from Samson. Bucky showed the people his double beat Crow dance and talked briefly about his family, where he is from and what pow wow is to his people.



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December 29, 2023

Interview with Mason Saddleback, Ermineskin Recreation Youth Tournament gaming host at the Jim Rattlesnake Sports building just before Christmas.

Mason Saddleback: I heard there used to be Halo tournaments back in the day.

Guide: Back in the late 1990s a few people would be gaming at the college.

Mason: I was tired of people not hosting them. I have set ups, the time and money. I decided to do them for the kids myself and I am hosting the tournament today.

I used to play a lot of competitive gaming online. There were no local events. So I decided to host them myself and bring the competition here.

Guide: So it was your own initiative because it's your community and you would like to see that for the youth?

Mason: Yes.

Guide: Do you build your own computers?

Mason: I built my own personal computer but I do not build for other people. I do eventually want to build spare computers for more computer based tournaments too for the kids. Everyone plays on computers now a days.

Guide: As for software, what are the main games

the youth are playing today?

Mason: A lot of people are playing Smash Bros and Mario Kart. They all play Call of Duty and Fortnite but it's hard to get actual game stations and X boxes as it is to get switches.

Guide: So you would need those X boxes and play stations if you wanted to go to that next level with the youth?

Mason: Yes. I would have to get more sponsorship.

Guide: What is the age range for players?

Mason: We do have older players on Smash Bros and Mario Kart because it's an all ages competitive scene. Anyone can drop in and play.

Guide: Do you need a WiFi connection?

Mason: Usually you need a WiFi connection but for local events like this you do not need WiFi.

Guide: Would you be available to set up for any of the bands if they wanted your services?

Mason: Yes I do run the tournaments myself and you can email me at saddlebackmason@gmail.com and you can call my cell at 780 335 9423.

Guide: Thank you Mason.

Mason: Thank you.



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We pay our respect to a former Neyaskweyahk Okimaw Gordon Lee-Kisikaw K'Sayin.

January 4, 2023  
Remembering Kisikaw K'Sayin.

It is with sadness we announce the passing of one of our former Neyaskweyahk Okimaw (Chief). First of all, we send our sincere condolences to Muriel, their children, grandchildren, relatives here in Maskwacis and those from BC. He was a prominent leader promoting, protecting and advancing Treaty Rights for First Nations both nationally and internationally. He was a proud father, grandfather and proud member of Neyaskweyahk. His advice to me was that if you did not have your language you did not have Treaty. In my first term as Chief he presented me with the Union Jack flag along with a Treaty 6 Medal and told me that it was important to understand the significance of being sovereign.

He would remind me to always carry my medal and flag.

He was currently involved in the planning of the National Resource Transfer Act (NRTA) gathering that is scheduled for May 2023 here in Neyaskweyahk lands. This was an event he truly believed in reminding the Government that we did not cede or surrender any lands or resources. My hope and prayers are that many will continue to follow his teachings and his example of what it means to be

Treaty. On a special note, I recently nominated Kisikaw K'Sayin for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Medal awarding him for his life's work on these very issues. It arrived on my desk before Christmas and we had planned on an evening of special recognition. We will still honour him along with the other four recipients when the time is right. He will be missed but I know he will be with us in spirit. We are also reminded that we have other nation members who have passed on and our condolences go to their families as well. Please continue to be supportive and kind to one another.

Chief Randy Ermineskin, Ermineskin Cree Nation

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January 9th, 2023

**Ermineskin Security Department** would like acknowledge the Departments and Businesses that donated the door prizes for our Staff Christmas Dinner;

Howie Ng for donating the gift certificates Burger Baron for donating the woman purse and a men's wallet

Elvin Wolfe from the Events Planner's office

Fas Gas for donating some \$\$ cash

Lucky Dollar for the grocery gift certificate

Human Resources for the gift certificate to purchase groceries.

EIRD (Carol Wildcat) for her generous donation  
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towards our dinner  
NEST for their donation of 2 beaded lanyards  
Weinhandl'z for the 2 gift certificates for big breakfasts.  
Thank you for your contribution to creating an exciting event that bring all the staff together to share a warm and delicious meal with lots of laughter.

**From all the Ermineskin Security Department.**



December 28, 2023

On December 28th we held our annual community Christmas dinner at our beautiful Maskwacis Cree Jr/Sr High-school. We had an wonderful turn out and thankful for all those who attended. Our dinner was a traditional Christmas Dinner with all trimmings buffet style and served with the help of our council member May Ermineskin. A very special thanks to Scott Hall and his team for cooking such a delicious meal, And to EIRD for their monetary contribution and Ermineskin Events for organizing our community dinner.

Elvin Wolfe, Events Planner



January 7, 2023

Four Nation Arena: The Maskwacis Hawks U11 played Innisfail and it was a mixed team with boys and girls. It was 4-2 Hawks after the first period. If you get the chance go watch them play.



# SOCIAL MEDIA 101 CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM



- 4 LIVE SESSIONS
- ASYNCHRONOUS
- WRITE YOUR STORY EXERCISE

TOTAL 13 HOURS OF LEARNING TIME

#### Contact Us:

Manisha Khetarpal  
mkhetarpal@mccedu.ca  
Lakeisha Buffalo  
lakbuffalo@mccedu.ca

Registration link:  
<https://forms.gle/SgM5j8Utarxh9tct6>

## Food Bank Donations

Want to donate to the Local Food Bank? Don't know what you can donate? Here is a list of items that the ECN Foodbank will Accept! Please make sure to check the expiry dates and that the items are UN-OPENED.

#### CANNED / JAR ITEMS:

- Soups
- Peanut Butter / Jam / Honey
- Pasta Sauces
- Canned Fruit
- Beans

#### DRY / PANTRY ITEMS:

- Flour
- Un-Opened Cooking Oil
- Quick Oats
- Juice Crystals
- Granola Bars / Un-Opened Cookies
- Pancake/ Cake Mix
- Rice
- Noodles
- Cereal
- Pastas (KD, maccaroni, spaghetti, penne, shells, etc.)

#### OTHER ITEMS:

- Toilet Paper
- Toothbrushes / Toothpaste
- Shampoo + Conditioner
- Bodywash / Soap Bars (his or hers)
- Diapers (Preferably Size 6)

\* Unfortunately, we do not take ANY clothing donations.



**DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM  
\$20 BINGO PACKAGE  
REGISTER AT THE DOOR**

**ERMINESKIN RECREATION**

**TOY BINGO**

**JANUARY 20TH, 2023**

**LOCATION: JIM RATTLESNAKE SPORTS BUILDING**

**FOR AGES 12 - 17 YEARS OLD**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: (780) 585-3088**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**

**FREE TO AGES 12+  
JANUARY 19TH, 2023  
START 3:00 PM**

**GAMING TOURNAMENT**

**TO RESERVE A SPOT: (780) 585-3088**

**40 PARTICIPANTS MAX**

**SUPER SMASH BROS. ULTIMATE**

**MARIO KART DELUXE**

**ERMINESKIN RECREATION**

**AFTER SCHOOL MOVIE PROGRAM**

**JANUARY 2023**

**MONDAYS | 6pm | @WETASKIWINCINEMAS**

**UPCOMING DATES:**

**January 16th  
January 23rd  
January 30th**

**CONTACT:** (780) 585-3088  
river@ermeskin.ca



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
NEYASKWEYAK GROUP OF COMPANIES INC.

NEYASKWEYAK GAS BAR AND CONVENIENCE STORE LTD.

#### CASHIER

##### SUMMARY:

The Cashier be responsible for handling cash transactions; charge purchases to customers' credit cards and provide customers with receipts; monitoring gas purchases and drive offs; stocking shelves; order merchandise as required. Assuring the safe operating procedures are compliant and maintenance of gas bar property and its environment. This individual must possess good public relations skills required for demonstrating professionalism in dealing with the business public. This position requires the individual to be prepared for a flexible work schedule.

##### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be Trustworthy
- Cash handling is an important task;
- Loyalty and commitment to work schedule is required
- Attention to detail in tasks is critical.
- Willing to work extra shifts and/or extended hours when requested.
- Abstain from Drugs & Alcohol (during working hours).
- Willing to sign an Honesty Declaration
- Willing to sign an Oath of Confidentiality

DEADLINE: JANUARY 17, 2023

INTERESTED PERSONS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT A COVER LETTER, RESUME, AND A CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK TO:

Chris Karnitsky  
General Manager – Neyaskweyak Gas Bar & Taco Time  
Neyaskweyak Group of Companies Inc.  
P.O Box 1320 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0

Email: [FaxGas@apinc.ca](mailto:FaxGas@apinc.ca) Deliver: In-person

## NEWSLETTER CONTACT:

NEXT ISSUE: JANUARY 27TH, 2023



Submission Deadline:  
January 25th, 2023

(780) 585-3741

guide@ermeskin.ca  
tara@ermeskin.ca  
marleigh@ermeskin.ca

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

[www.ermeskin.ca](http://www.ermeskin.ca)



## WE ARE HIRING!

As of January 10th, 2023

#### OPEN POSITIONS:

- ✓ Archives Assistant with ECN Office Administration by January 25th, 2023
- ✓ Programmer with Ermineskin Daycare by: January 25th, 2023
- ✓ Financial Analyst Project Accounting with ECN Finance Dept. by: January 25th, 2023
- ✓ One (1) Early Child Development Worker Level 2 with Ermineskin Daycare by: January 25th, 2023

Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:

[faith@ermeskin.ca](mailto:faith@ermeskin.ca)



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
NEYASKWEYAK GROUP OF COMPANIES INC.

NEYASKWEYAK GAS BAR AND CONVENIENCE STORE LTD.  
GAS ATTENDANTS

##### SUMMARY:

The Gas Attendant will be working in a team-based approach and will be responsible for providing excellent customer service; pump fuel for consumers; provide basic maintenance on cars such as cleaning the windshield and check customers' vehicle oil level. This individual will report defective merchandise. This individual must possess good public relations skills required for demonstrating professionalism in dealing with the business public. This position requires the individual to be prepared for a flexible work schedule. Basic automotive experience would be an asset.

##### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be Trustworthy.
2. Loyalty and commitment to work schedule is required.
3. Attention to detail in tasks is critical.
4. Willing to work extra shifts and/or extended hours when requested.
5. Abstain from Drugs & Alcohol (during working hours).
6. Willing to sign an Honesty Declaration.

DEADLINE: Open until successful candidate(s) found

INTERESTED PERSONS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT A RESUME AND A CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK TO:

Chris Karnitsky  
Manager – Neyaskweyak Gas Bar & Convenience Store  
Neyaskweyak Group of Companies Inc.  
P.O Box 1320 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0  
Submit:  
Email: [chris@apinc.ca](mailto:chris@apinc.ca) Deliver: In person

\*\*\* Incomplete Applications will be screened out \*\*\*

## January 2023

### KISÊ-PÎSIM “KIND MONTH”

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 First Day Back NHS Mid-Month	10 COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 9AM - 12PM	11 ECN PCD Distribution 10am - 3pm @ N.O.K. Bldg. NGCI Mall Market	12 Dog Food Distribution 1pm - 3pm @ Security Compound COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 9AM - 12PM	13 Dog Food Distribution 1pm - 3pm @ PL Rec Centre & Security Compound Newsletter Distribution NGCI Mall Market	14
15	16 After School Movie Program, 6PM @ Jim RS Building	17 COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 9AM - 12PM Wellness Resolution @ NHS Med Transport, 9AM - 12PM	18	19 Gaming Tournament, 3PM @ Jim RS Building Alzheimer's Info Session 10:30am - 1pm @ MHS Transport Bldg.	20 Toy Bingo Ages 12 - 17, 6pm - 8:30PM @ Jim RS Building NGCI Mall Market	21
22	23 After School Movie Program, 6PM @ Jim RS Building	24 MHD Diabetes Info Session 12:30am - 8pm @ MHS Transport Bldg. COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 10:30AM - 1PM	25	26 COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 9AM - 12PM Wellness Resolution @ NHS Med Transport, 9AM - 12PM	27 Newsletter Distribution	28
29	30 After School Movie Program, 6PM @ Jim RS Building	31 COVID-19 Testing @ MHS Lab, 9AM - 12PM				

## February 2023

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1	2	3 Closed	4
5	6	7 Massage Therapy Wetaskiwin Register 585-3741	8 Massage Therapy Wetaskiwin Register 585-3741	9	10 Newsletter.	11
12	13 Fas Gas Hours 8 AM to 12 AM	14 Valentines Day	15	16	17 Closed	18
19	20 Family Day	21	22	23	24 Newsletter.	25
26	27	28				

## Upcoming Events/Classifieds

### JANUARY 2023

\*January 4: National Ribbon Skirt Day.

\*January 9: Neyaskweyahk Human Services, Please be advised that the NHS office is Open to the public as of January 9 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Call 780-585-3835.

\*January 11, 13, 20: Maskwacis Mall Market. \$25/Table. Extra Tables \$10 Charge. Contact: Tricia Wildcat 780-585-3000 Email: tricial@ngcinc.ca

\*January 12: Dog Food distribution 1-4 PM at ECN Security Compound. Call 780-585-2004. Form needs to be filled out and can be done over phone.

\*January 12: Gaming Tournament at the Jim Rattlesnake Sports Building. Time: 3 PM. Reserve a spot call 780-585-3088.

\*January 13: Dog Food distribution at the Pigeon Lake Recreation Center from 1-3:30 PM. Call 780-585-2004. Form needs to be filled out and can be done over phone.

\*January 13: Deadline for Indian Dayschools Class Action Claims Administrator to submit your claim. Requests for Deadline Extension are available on the website: [www.classaction.deloitte.ca](http://www.classaction.deloitte.ca) Or call Class Council 1-844-539-3815.

\*January 17-18 and 19-20: Horse Therapy at the Pannee. Register 780-585-2268.

\*January 20: Toy Bingo at the Jim Rattlesnake building. Time 6 PM. Call 780-585-3088. Ages 12-17 years of age. Ermineskin Recreation & NEP.

\*January 23-26: MCSS Presents: Mending Broken Hearts, Grief Recovery Program. 10 AM to 3 PM. Call 780-585-2268.

### FEBRUARY

\*February 7-8, 2023. 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Location: BW Wayside Inn, Wetaskiwin. To Register: 780-585-3741. Hosted by Ermineskin Community Wellness.

\*February 13: Neyaskweyahk Gas Bar new hours 8 AM to 12 AM. Fas Gas Plus.

### Cree Corner

It is Cold - Kisîn p̥<sup>o</sup>

Scarf

Kisowahpison

p̥<sup>o</sup>l<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>l<sup>o</sup>

Mittens  
Astisak

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>l<sup>o</sup>

Snow Shoes

Asâmak

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>

Winter Boots

Piponaskisina

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>pr<sup>o</sup>

Winter Jacket

Piponasâkay

ä>ä<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>

Sweater

Sipihkiskawasakay

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>ä<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>

Skates

Sônískwâtâhikana

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>a

Ice Miskwamiy

ä<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>ä<sup>o</sup>

Skating Sônískwâtâhikêwin

ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>b<sup>+</sup>ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>ä<sup>o</sup>ll<sup>o</sup>



Ermineskin family with Panee Ermineskin, his Dad the first Chief of Ermineskin, his son Johnny Nipese, Sisters and Granddaughters Louise and Theresa. Photo: Florence Buffalo.

Source: [www.ermineskin.ca](http://www.ermineskin.ca)



Please be advised that Niwihcihaw Acceptance Ltd. will be closed for operations from January 30 - February 3, 2023.

Regular office hours will resume on February 6, 2023

We apologize for any inconvenience.

**NGCI Management**