

such as Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. In fact, many leaderships such as Leonard Standingontheroad- Grand Chief Treaty Six Nations, Arthur Noskey- -Grand Chief of Treaty Eight First Nation, Roseanne Archibald- National Chief Assembly of First Nations, Cathy Merrick- Grand Chief of Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, and many more honored guests. Not only did leadership attend, but also our elders and knowledge keepers. Many guest speakers that communicated on multiple topics and events leading up to the N.R.T.A. Summit. Speakers such as Sharon Venne, Sylvia McAdam, Russel Diabo, Heather Bear, Paul Chartrand and countless others.



Grand Entry at N.R.T.A Summit- Photo by Kayla Cutarm

Sylvia McAdam giving her statement on the Traditional Perspective states, “What does systemic mean; after the treaty making and how we got to this point, it's called Underlying The Crown. It is the Doctrine of Discovery- the language of domination and dehumanization; the language used to separate indigenous peoples from the land. Criminalizing the people who are trying to protect the land and water. Some of the medicine we were able to access on our hunting grounds, we can't find. We have to take a stand somewhere, the federal government cannot continue to do this and we cannot continue to let them.”

Heather Bear, Fourth Vice Chief of F.S.I.N. (Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nation) continues with similar thoughts, expressing her concerns on the lack of consultation with First Nation peoples and the environmental impacts of the increased mining area within her nation. “These impacts will result in chronic

waste disease and allow for more health concerns to be developed,” she says. Mrs. Bear believes that shaming the Canadian government on a global scale will assist and bring attention to these issues and that unity is key to making progress.

Paul Chartand- former lawyer and professor,, goes on to point out that the N.R.T.A have been made part of the constitution and as a result will be much harder to change. Mr. Chartrand disputes that the specific section of the constitution that applies to the N.R.T.A. has been misinterpreted; in a way that disfavours first nations peoples. It highlights the lack of consent to the current constitution. Thus, drawing attention to government overreach and lack of accountability.

We expect to see change in the near future in regards to the N.R.T.A. and the neglect First Nations peoples have faced when it comes to our inherent treaty rights. With this summit coming to an end, it is hoped that the information, resources and shared knowledge will encourage our people to be involved with treaties, their history and the impact they have on our current way of life. Our elders tell us time and time again, that they want to see our nations thrive, and that it is up to us to teach and protect our future generations. It is up to us to share their teachings and their knowledge that they have given us, and continue to support one another.



N.R.T.A SUMMINT 2023- Photo by Kayla Cutarm

CREE CORNER

paskâweho pîsim <^b∇.|| ÅPc



Egg Hatching Month

BEACH

yikâwiskâhk

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CAMPFIRE

kocawânis

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FLOWER

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Welcoming
Summer
Elements

Camping
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SWIM

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kimêskanâm

your path in life

SUNSET

pahkismowin

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ICECREAM

kâ-tahkâk

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WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE NEW EMPLOYEE'S OF ERMINESKIN CREE NATION!

- Janelle Small: Office Administration Archives Assistant
- Danielle W. Nepoose: Lands and Resources Researcher/Land Lease Clerk
- Collette Simon: Membership Researcher
- River Minde: Arena, Parks and Recreation Manager
- Kayla Cutarm: I.T. and Communications Newsletter Editor

We look forward to working with you and welcome you to the team!

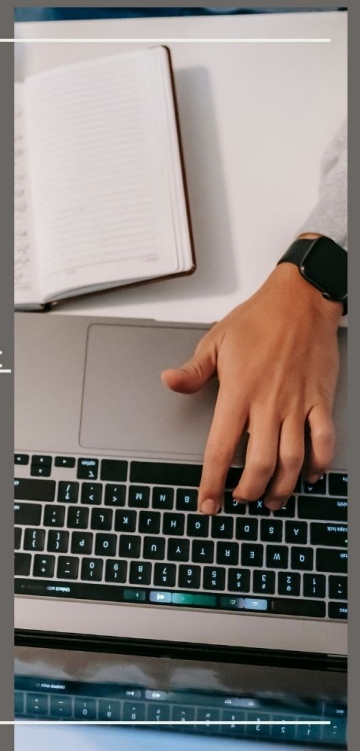
NEWLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

JUNE 15, 2023

YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR INFO &
PHOTO'S TO:

NEWSLETTER@ERMINESKIN.CA
OR
KAYLA@ERMINESKIN.CA



THE 2023 GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Pigeon Lake Regional High School hosted their Graduation Celebration on Friday May 26, 2023. This year, Pigeon Lake Regional had thirty (30) students that were part of the graduating class. We had two of our nation member's graduate with the class of 2023; Marshall Cutarm and Vance Littlepoplar-Roan. Both students have successfully completed and have received their high school diplomas.



A part of the agenda was dedicated to the Eagle Feather Ceremony. Each indigenous student was presented with an eagle feather from elder, Myrna Yellowbird from Samson Cree Nation. Through-

out the ceremony, Myrna explained how education is a big part of everyone's lives and that we never stop learning. The eagle feather ceremony is a tradition that honors graduating students and their accomplishments. The eagle feather is a representation of a step forward as they move on to the next phase of life.

Marshall Cutarm was awarded with the Pigeon Lake Regional Service Award. The award was described as "a student dedicated to the school, school work and showed great

school spirit". Marshall plans to further his education at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in the Culinary Arts Program this fall. As well, Vance Littlepoplar-Roan plans to continue his education by entering into the U.C.E.P. (University and College Entrance Program) for engineering. Mr. Roan, will also be looking at attending N.A.I.T after graduation. We look forward to seeing our two Ermineskin Cree Nation members continue their education and follow their passion and dreams. Congratulations to the PLRS Class of 2023!

- Article by Kayla Cutarm



ERMINESKIN CREE NATION POWWOW 2023

This past weekend, Ermineskin Cree Nation celebrated our annual Powwow "Honoring Kinship". The event was generously sponsored by ECN Leadership, as well as local companies and other outside entities such as; N.G.C.I., Wild West Gallery, Kanawemahwasowin Kamik, Maskwacis Education Schools Commission, Cenovus Energy, and many others!



Day One began with a huge lineup of eager spectators and participants waiting to enter Maskwa Park, setting the tone leading up to an eventful weekend. A phenomenal display during the Grand Entry Ceremony with well over 650 dancers made up of leadership, champion dancers, and representatives from other nations such as Jeff Raine from Louis Bull, who had high praise for Day One of our celebrations; "Miyo Wapan, Good Morning, had a good little downpour to settle the dust and rinse the grass off this morning. Nice and fresh now. It's always good to see friends and family having a good time in Indian Country! Honored to be Representing the Louis Bull Tribe at the Ermineskin Annual Celebration 2023. Got to Experience my First Official Grand Entry as an elected official in the Powwow Circle. Quite the intro from MC Elmer Rattlesnake. Thanks to the Ermineskin Chief and Council for the invite. Only in Indian Country! Hai hai!"

Our Master of Ceremony was Hal Eagltail from Tsuu Tina and Elmer Rattlesnake from Smallboy Camp. We also had Showtime Drum Group from Pineridge South Dakota as our host drum for the weekend. Many families and organizations hosted dance specials such as; N.G.C.I. - Teen Boys and Girls Traditional, a Tiny Tot Initiation and Dance Special - Kawasaysot Kihew Skwew, Kenny and Penny Roan

Family- Men's Old Style Grass Dance, Patti Coyote and Family - Men's Grass Dance, and ECN Powwow Committee - Teen Girls Fancy Shawl and Jr. Boys Prairie Chicken.

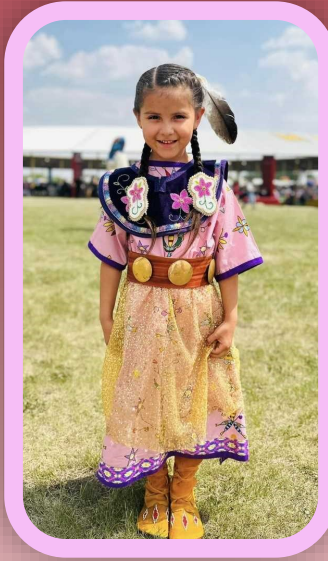
Osamuskwasis, the granddaughter of Penny Roan, congratulates the winners of the Family's Grass Dance special hosted on May 27th, 2023; "Hihiy kitatamihin to everyone who came and supported our family. We are so thankful for the family that travelled from Tsuu Tina & all over. The singers and of course the dancers that brought their style! Congratulations: 1st: Hunter Street, 2nd: RedSky Chimburas and 3rd: Jacobi Omeassoo"

There were powerful songs being sung for the dancers. We had many contestants in the singing competition, but there can only be one, the winners are as follows; 5th- Poundmaker, 4th- Sharp Shooter, 3rd- Cree Confederation, 2nd- Blackstone, and our 1st Place winner coming with the heat, Young Spirit! Congratulations to all those who entered the singing competition and thank you for providing the songs for our dancers.

This year's Powwow Celebration was an ultimate success! We would like to express our gratitude to the Powwow Committee, the event sponsors, the vendors, our leadership, our host drum, our Master of Ceremony, all of the dancers, and of course all of the volunteers and those who attended the 2023 Ermineskin Cree Nation Powwow Celebration! nanâskomowin!



ERMINESKIN 2023



POWWOW CELEBRATION



ERMINESKIN CELEBRATES MOTHER'S

Mother's Day is not only an opportunity to shower our mothers with love and appreciation, but also a chance to honor all the exceptional women who have embraced the role of caregiver, nurturer, and confidante in our lives. Whether they are our birth mothers, stepmothers, adoptive mothers, grandmothers, or mother figures, they deserve our heartfelt gratitude.

This previous Mother's Day we showed our appreciation as a community through the numerous events we held, Brighter Futures

held a drive-thru where they gave a variety of gifts and deserts to moms. KKI also had an event at the N.O.K. Building, they offered breakfast, lunch, a variety of giveaways, crafts for children to do with their moms, various spa treatments and a special mothers day bingo. Community Wellness also hosted their own event at the arena, their event had some games, offered massages, and had performances from a magician and hypnotist. Overall we hope that our events helped show how much we value and respect the mothers in our lives.



ECN COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Our ECN Events recently hosted a community cleanup event, and their efforts have made a significant impact on our neighborhood. With gloves on, trash bags in hand, and a united spirit, these dedicated employees and volunteers worked together to make our community cleaner and more beautiful.

Participants cleaned side by side through the day. They diligently cleared litter from Muskwa Park, sidewalks, and public spaces, focusing on plastic bottles, food wrappers, and other debris that had accumulated over time. Their hard work enhanced the aesthetics of our community and contributed to a cleaner, safer environment for all.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to ECN Events Department who organized this

initiative and to every employee and volunteer who generously contributed their time and effort. Your dedication to our community is truly inspiring. Let's draw inspiration from this event and continue to maintain the cleanliness of our surroundings. By adopting responsible waste management practices, recycling conscientiously, and encouraging others to do the same, we can collectively nurture a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future.

Here's to a cleaner and more vibrant community for all of us.



WOMENS LAND BASE TEACHING

During the week of May 23-25, 2023, The Brighter Futures Department hosted another successful Women's Land Based Teaching workshop that was facilitated by Elders, Lorraine Cutarm & Effie Janvier. This workshop took place at the Village Inn at Pigeon Lake, Alberta and consisted of 15 participants.



Lorraine explained, "This workshop is a reminder of our responsibilities as mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers. The past two years have had a huge impact on our lives that we are still living through today. The isolation itself has affected our families and friends throughout our community. Land based learning is going to be different for everyone, but it's up to the participants on how they retain and utilize the knowledge and skills we are teaching. We are here to break those barriers that keep us in place where complacency is the norm. Each and every one of us have the capacity to lead our loved ones to wellness, no matter what it takes to get there."

Throughout the three-day workshop, the women that attended had the experience of learning cultural traditions and obtain the knowledge/importance of ceremonies; knowledge that some of our women did not get the chance to learn growing up. Lorraine and Effie taught these women the importance of protocol and how it plays a role in our daily lives. As well, the importance of knowing and sharing family history with your families and friends.

Another key lesson that the facilitators wanted

to emphasize is wellness. Wellness for our physical,



psychological, spiritual and mental state as women. Indigenous women face 80% more physical/mental struggles than the average man. This was a very big topic that they wanted to teach to those who attended. These women learned wellness through activities such as morning and evening nature walks, out-of-the-box gardening, sewing, massage/reiki and open discussions on issues & solutions indigenous women face on a daily basis.

As a result, the three-day workshop allowed these women to ground themselves with ceremonial teachings, elder guidance and fun activities. Lorraine will be facilitating similar workshops in the near future with the partnership with the Brighter Futures Department. You can contact Brighter Future's via phone at 780-585-2000, or email them at futuresbrighter@yahoo.com



Upcoming Events/Classifieds

**ERMINESKIN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

TINY TOT

*Pow Wow
and K5 Grad
Ceremony*

FRIDAY, JUNE 16
GRAD CEREMONY @ 12:30 SHARP - EES GYM
POW WOW AT 1:00 -
NORTH OF THE EES FRONT DOORS

TRADITIONAL POW WOW
 GIVEAWAY
 DANCING FOR FUN
INVITED SOFT GROUPS ONLY

150 PARTICIPANT CAPACITY

SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COVID PROTOCOLS.

ERMINESKIN AND SAMSON

*Father's Day
Celebration*

THIS EVENT IS FOR FATHERS ONLY.
NO CHILDREN OR SPOUSES PLEASE.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 -PHOTOBOOTH-
 FOOD - GAMES - MUCH MORE!

ERMINESKIN ARENA | **JUNE 15TH**
10:30AM - 2:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER,
 CONTACT COMMUNITY WELLNESS:
(780) 585-3741

This event is sponsored by:

Important Notice: **Ermineskin Tribal Support Support Services**

THE TRIBAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

What this means:

ECN Tribal Support Services will not be accepting applications or providing services until further notice. It is advised to utilize supports available in the community such as the Local Foodbank.

Apologies for the inconvenience, and thank you for understanding.

ECN PUBLIC WORKS

**Attention:
Road Closure**

There will be a **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE** on **Ermineskin A (3-Mile Road)** between Terrence Ermineskin and Ron Ermineskin residences - along the guardrails.

The road will be excavated and rebuilt as it is collapsing due to long overdue life expectancy. Please find an alternate route while road reclamation is underway. Sorry for the short notice and the inconvenience this may have caused.

-Shelly Cutarm, Public Works Manager



780-585-3886



Report a Leak

REPORT ANY LEAKS WITHIN THE HOMES TO ERMINESKIN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (EPM) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



Neyaskweyahk Employment Program

KIDS PLAYHOUSE

RAFFLE

\$20.00 / TICKET
Draw will be done when all tickets are sold





TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASE AT THE N.E.P SHOP!
PHONE: 780-585-2101
EMAIL: NATHAN.RATTLESNAKE@ERMINESKIN.CA

ECN POWWOW LOST & FOUND

TO CLAIM YOUR ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND AT THE ECN POWWOW, YOU WILL HAVE TO PICK THEM UP WITH THE ADMINISTRATION SECURITY.

**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
Ermineskin Cree Nation
8:30AM - 4:30PM
(780) 585-3741
-ECN Powwow Committee**





ERMINESKIN CREE NATION

CLASS OF 2023

GRAD PHOTOS

Must include students First and Last name, as well as their School's Name




ECN is taking submissions of 2023 Grads in their cap + gown, formal wear or their favorite outfits! Open to Ermineskin students, on and off reserve

- Kindergarten Graduates
- Highschool Graduates (consider sending a baby picture/ kindergarten picture along with your grad photos)
- Post-Secondary / University Graduates

DEADLINE:
JUNE 15TH, 2023

Submit Via Google Form

Send submissions to :
tara@ermineskin.ca
marleigh@ermineskin.ca
isaac@ermineskin.ca
Google Form:
<https://forms.gle/112hVmfguDVUrah48>



For more info contact ECN Communications:
(780) 585-3741

HIGHSCHOOL SUMMER Work Experience PROGRAM

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JUNE 16TH, 2023

This program is for Ermineskin Students who are in Highschool. INAC Summer Work Experience Program's goal is to support activities and training that will assist students in acquiring the essential skills that will help them gain employment, function well in the workplace and learn about job/career options.

**GROUP 1:
JUNE 20TH - JULY 31ST
2023**

**GROUP 2:
AUGUST 1ST - 28TH
2023**

REQUIREMENTS:

- Ermineskin Band Member
- Highschool Student
- Must work Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Must have reliable transportation
- Must Provide SIN #
- Provide Unofficial Transcripts

APPLY NOW

(780) 585-4006
millie@ermineskin.ca
Ermineskin Administration Office or P&R Building (Across the Admin Building)

**ONLY 12 SPOTS AVAILABLE
(6 MALE & 6 FEMALE)**



Important note:
1. Applications are **ONLY AVAILABLE AS A HARD COPY.**
2. Applications can **ONLY BE SUBMITTED AS A HARD COPY.**

ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS PRESENTS:

FATHER'S DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT 2023

FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH, 2023

LOCATION: DORCHESTER RANCH GOLF COURSE

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH, 2023**



**ALL FATHER'S
WELCOME**



**9:30 AM SHOTGUN START
2 MAN, BEST BALL
A, B AND C FLIGHTS (C FLIGHT WILL BE CO-ED)
FIRST 120 REGISTERED**

**TO REGISTER:
COMMUNITY WELLNESS
(780) 585-3741**

**\$75/PERSON
\$150/TEAM
FEE INCLUDES:
KP'S, LONG PUTT, SNACK AND CART**

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MASKWACIS YOUTH DAY CAMPS



- SAMSON YOUTH SPORTS DEVELOPMENT
- ERMINESKIN RECREATION
- ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS
- LOUIS BULL HEALTH & WELLNESS

WEEK 1: JUNE 27 - 29	WEEK 2: JULY 4 - 6	WEEK 3: JULY 11 - 13	WEEK 4: JULY 18 - 20	WEEK 5: JULY 25 - 27	WEEK 6: AUGUST 1 - 3
12PM - 4PM	12PM - 4PM	12PM - 4PM	12PM - 4PM	12PM - 4PM	12PM - 4PM
SOCCER	GOLF	BASKET BALL	TOUCH FOOTBALL	LACROSSE	TOUCH FOOTBALL
LOCATION: BEAR PARK	LOCATION: TO BE ANNOUNCED	LOCATION: H.B.M.C	LOCATION: BEAR PARK	LOCATION: ECN ARENA	LOCATION: BEAR PARK

ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS: (780) 585-3741
ERMINESKIN RECREATION: (780) 585-3088

SAMSON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT: (780)585 3012
LOUIS BULL HEALTH & WELLNESS: (780) 585-4075 (GAVEN OR JESSE)