



Ermineskin Newsletter August 24, 2023

Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Ohpahowipîsim Nîstanaw Newsosâp

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ALBERTA INDIGENOUS GAMES 2023



Another amazing year of the Alberta Indigenous Games (A.I.G) came to end on Saturday August 19, 2023! This year, Ermineskin Cree Nation had over 70 youth members participate in this year's games, ranging from different age groups and many sports categories such as soccer, volleyball, ball hockey and many others! A closing ceremony was held in the evening of August 19th at Rundle Park Family Centre, open to all participants, attendee's and family!

Congratulations to all of our ECN Youth who got the opportunity to play and even win medals in

the Alberta Indigenous Games 2023!! Huge thank you going out to all of the facilitators, those who made donations, all of the amazing coaches and assistant coaches, and of course, all of the athletes who participated in this year's games!

Please be aware our staff in the Communications Department tried our best to catch as many games and we were allotted. It wasn't our intention to miss any games! Please see highlights on page 2.

“Accessibility. Little to no cost. Inclusivity. Being able to provide opportunities to the youth, while building a brotherhood, a community amongst the young people in a healthy way is a feat of its own. The Bear Hills Basketball Club continues to grow every single year. 11 teams, 135 youth. I am so proud of Klevlin Cutknife for his selflessness, his determination and his ability to just show up for the kids. They can see it and feel it. I am proud this man is the father of my boys and continues to be a positive, sober role model for the youth. Keep being deadly Klevlin” - *Ainsley Rain*

“Thank you so much Klevlin Cutknife our Maskwacis Youth we’re looking good in their jerseys. Thank you to all of our amazing coaches. We have so many amazing Basketball players!” - *Erika Johnson*

“Thanks coach Klevlin Cutknife for hooking Chestin up he had so much fun! (He) Klevlin loves his team and coaches Bronze medal for Bear hill boys.” - *Matthew Many Guns*

Way to go Bear Hills U15 My Kimowan enjoyed him-

self. He's looking forward to next year. BRONZE congratulations!!” -*Vanessa Omeasoo*

“Bronze for U11 team 2. They Worked hard all 4 days. couldn’t ask for a better group!” -*Coach Lyn and coach Jada*

“My daughter Tenesha and I had a great time coaching the U-11 girls. We lost in the finals 11-18 against Grey horse. The girls showed great sportsmanship and heart throughout the tournament. They never gave up and played hard right to the final buzzer. Congratulations on your silver medal at 2023 Alberta Indigenous Games!!! I really hope your young lady’s keep playing the game of basketball, the sky is the limit! ” -*Coach Mike Lightning*

“Shout out to Lyn Potts on her team U11, that was the best game, the little ones were so awesome to watch and they were amazing!” - *Cary Potts Desjarlais*

“The U15 Bearhills team won bronze with a buzzer beater! “Great game! A great bunch of upstanding youth that played their best! Congrats” - *Azure Johnson*





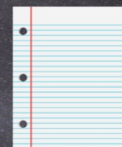
CREE CORNER



School Bus
pôsiwinis
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Pencil
masinahikanâcikos
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Paper
masinahikanekin
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BACK TO SCHOOL



Scissors
paskwahamatowin
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Teacher
Okiskinwahamâkew
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Books
masinahikana
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MASKWACÎS EDUCATION
SCHOOLS COMMISSION

Welcome Back

Welcome back MESC Students! We hope you had a fun filled summer!
We are excited to have awasisak fill classes & halls!

Important Dates:

- New student registration deadline is **Friday, September 1, 2023**
- First day of school for K5 - Grade 12 will begin on **Tuesday, September 5, 2023**
- First day of school for Headstart & K4 will begin on **Monday, September 11, 2023**
- First day of school for Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre will begin on **Monday, September 25, 2023**

Upcoming Events:

MESC Parent Portal Draw:

Update your MESC Parent Portal NOW for a Chance to Win a 75" TV!
MESC Transportation and Student Services would like to ensure that Parents with students attending MESC Schools update their demographic information on their **MESC Parent Portal**.

Updating your MESC Parent Portal is essential for MESC Returning Students. Not only does it Register your child(ren) to a MESC School, it also gives MESC Transportation important student information such as: house number, land location and emergency contacts that is needed for busing services. For MESC Parent Portal Assistance, please contact Candace Swampy at (780)585-3243.

Draw Closes on Friday, September 1, 2023



MESC Back to School Celebration:

YOU ARE INVITED to the MESC Back to School Celebration & BBQ on **August 18, 2023** at the Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School in Montana from **11am - 2pm**. Come bring your awâsisak and oskâyak and get back to school ready. Come enjoy a day of Fun family activities and meet our Special Guest Edmonton Oilers **Evander Kane!** We will be also offering the following services for families:

- School Registration/Parent Portal Assistance
- Transportation Registration Assistance
- Transportation First Rider Program
- Airbrush Face painting
- Cree Beauty Services
- Petting Zoo
- Free Haircuts
- and much more!



M.H.S ANNUAL HEALTH SUMMIT



On August 15th and 16th, 2023 Maskwacis Health Services held their annual Health Fair and Leadership Summit. The summit was open to the community of Maskwacis. This two (2) day event allowed for the departments of M.H.S to promote the services and programs they currently have. As well as any upcoming programs and services they are planning in the near future. They also shared, the many accomplishments that each department has and the progression they have made!

Hawk Radio was also in attendance to broadcast the entire two (2) day event. Each department had a booth to answer any of the questions that community members may have had regarding their programs/ services. In total there were fourteen (14) booths set

up. There was also many door prizes and draws to enter with each department booth! The mission of Maskwacis Health Services is to improve and provide quality holistic health programs and services to the Maskwacis Peoples. Maskwacis Health Services will provide the highest quality, comprehensive health care delivery system for all the members of the Maskwacis. Maskwacis Health Services would like to thank everyone that was in attendance as well as the staff, organizers, volunteers and caterers.

Please follow **MASKWACIS HEALTH SERVICES** on Facebook or M.H.S website **www.mymhs.ca**

to stay up to date with programs and services!

MESC Back to School BBQ & Celebration!

Ay Hay to all the Ohpikinahawasiwin for bringing your awâsisak & oskâyak to the Back to school celebration and BBQ today. It was a big success! The day was filled with lots of fun family activities, good laughs and positive vibes. We would like to thank our special guest Edmonton Oiler; Evander Kane, all the MESC Staff, organizers, vendors, volunteers and partners for all coming together to make this event a success. What an awesome way to kick off the 2023-2024 school year. Miywasin! - M.E.S.C

Photo Credits: Janine Wildcat



E.C.N COUNCIL



Kaylyn Buffalo



Richard Coyote



Alfred Cross



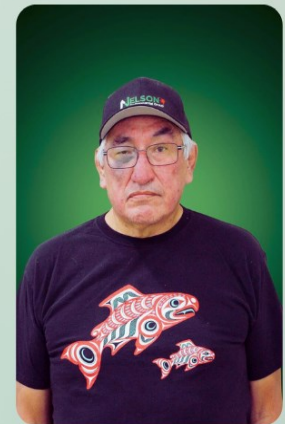
Earl Jr. Ermineskin



Stephen Ermineskin



Inez Lightning



Earl Littlechild



Josh Littlechild



Neil Littlechild

CANDIDATES



Terry Littlechild



Jason Makinaw



Nina Makinaw



Cheryl Montour



Allan Morin



Trudy Whitebear



Collin Wildcat



Daniel Wildcat



Ermineskin Cree Nation Council Forum will be Friday August 25, 2023 from 9am-12pm at the Ermineskin Arena. Video's of candidate platforms you can find on Ermineskin Cree Nation Facebook Page as well as the E.C.N Youtube Channel.

LOCAL ARTIST SHOWCASE'S ART COLLECTION



Artist Dave Buffalo

come home. I remembered a bitter cold snap and sudden warmth. Mosum shared to us, and mom translated the Cree. It is the start of *neyhiyo summer* there is a lot to do, all over, life is full and thriving in a good way.”

Buffalo said his late mosum was a historian and teacher. He never purchased anything to work on the skins, feathers and bones he collected all about the land. He fashioned those into beautiful works of art. Buffalo’s 14 mixed media pictures

When the temperature rises in the dead of winter, an Indian Summer is upon us and for a local artist, it reminds him of his mosom’s (grandfather) words — “you have to keep working, no matter what”, which inspired David Buffalo to continuing creating through the COVID pandemic. Until the pandemic, Buffalo had been teaching expressive art classes but had to give that up because they were in-person. “I tried doing them online, but it didn’t work. You have to be connected to the people.”

In that time, he was able to find other work, but still had a passion to express himself through art and the words of his elders.

Buffalo said he remembers when winter had settled in and Christmas had past and his late mosum was living with his family then. “I was always fascinated by him. At his old age he still provided for himself trapping throughout the year,” said Buffalo. “No matter the weather, mosum still went out to check his traps and

currently hanging on the wall of Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin MLA Rick Wilson’s offices were created with that, and the advice of other elders in mind. “They would say do what you’re going to do in a good way, or don’t do it.”

Buffalo collected all the pictures in this series from discarded novels, magazine and news prints, recycling the old pages into new artwork. “Mosum wouldn’t have known about global warming now. I cannot recall or remember the last *Indian Summer* we had in Maskwacis,” said Buffalo.

The collection will be on display until the middle of August. Buffalo is hoping to sell the creations as a collection and will be hosting a meet-and-greet at Wilson’s office.

Article and Photo provided by: Christina Max—Wetaskiwin Times



**MASKWACIS MINOR HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION**
2023-2024
REGISTRATION

REGISTER BY AUGUST 31, 2023

**AND BE ENTERED FOR A
CHANCE TO WIN A BRAND
NEW 75" SMART TV**

forms must be fully complete to be
entered
email:

maskwacishockey@gmail.com



**THURSDAY AUGUST 31, 2023
@ 12 NOON**

**RALLY BEGINS AT HBMC &
WALK TO MASKWACIS MALL**

MASKWACIS KOKOMS ON THE WAR AGAINST DRUGS

Ermineskin Brighter Futures presents:

MEN'S WELLNESS RETREAT

With Michael Hart

August 25th - 27th 2023


Village Creek Country Inn

Arrive 25th in evening

Begin 26th @10 AM

10 participants max

 futuresbrighter@yahoo.com

 780-585-2000



MCTC CALL OUT FOR PIGEON LAKE FACILITATORS



We are looking for
Pigeon Lake facilitators
who can teach

- Beading
- Jewelry
- Dancing
- Healthy living
- Healthy Expressions
of art

Please send your
Resume, Crim Check,
Child Intervention
check, and 3 Reference
letters to:
Info@mctc.ca



Call 780-585-0016 for inquiries



2023-2024 REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN

4 NATIONS ARENA

780-585-3771

MASKWACISHOCKEY@GMAIL.COM

FB PAGE: MASKWACIS

MINOR HOCKEY

ASSOCIATION



Reminder to all Hockey Parents and to those New to the Association, RESPECT IN SPORTS is required and mandatory to complete before your Childs registration can be accepted. Your Certificate does expire and you must re-certify every 3 years.

Please double check your Certification complete date, and submit it on the Registration form. New Hockey Parents, you will have to create an account and complete each module before your Certificate will be given.

Link is below:

**Respect in Sport for Hockey Canada
Parents - Getting Started
respectgroupinc.com**



ERMINESKIN
COUNCIL FORUM



9AM - 12PM

25

AUG 2023

AT THE
ERMINESKIN ARENA

COME OUT TO
**MEET THE
CANDIDATES**