



Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin ᑕᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ

Ermineskin Newsletter September 22, 2023

Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Onôcihitowipîsim Akimaw Anohc

ᑕᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑕᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ

Maskwacis Cultural College Graduation!



M.C.C celebrates the graduates of 2023 as well as the 50th year anniversary on September 16th, 2023. This year Maskwacis Cultural College celebrates 50 years of offering post secondary on reserve. Now for the first time, M.C.C is offering a Masters program. In the future one day the college is hoping to offer a Doctorate program. These are things to be proud of and to celebrate for our community! They also honored those who attended Maskwacis Cultural College Alumina and those that have attended their program off-reserve. **“Graduation day! One day at a time this is**

how I got here! Somehow, I got here, when I doubted myself. I needed something to hold on too and school did that for me. Working in the school, the kids did that for me. They lifted my spirit! I plan to continue my education journey. I am happy to get back into learning. I will always encourage education. Hai Hai” said Jaylene Janvier M.C.C Graduate.

We wish the graduates all the blessings they deserve for all the hard, work and effort they put towards their education. May your paths and your future be bright and prosperous!



CHIEF STATEMENT

I want to begin with cheering on all our students who returned to school these past few weeks whether it be grade school on up to college, university and even back into continuing education. It's never too late to start. Keep your dreams.

I also want to congratulate our Ermineskin nation members who received their certificates, diplomas and degrees this past weekend at Maskwacis Cultural Colleges Grad ceremony. We are very proud of your accomplishments.

At the political level during my term, we had to make decisions to protect the nation and one example was when we faced Covid in 2020 and we had our first case. We were uncertain on how to navigate this pandemic, but thankfully our focus was safety first.

I personally thank Emergency Operations Committee (EOC) for the their hard work even when I saw the criticism they faced. There were times when we had to wait for Alberta Health to provide us with information on how to manage.

Moving forward, we know we will always have new leadership but the focus has to be consistent in promoting, protecting and advancing our Treaty and Inherent Rights. It is going to be critical in the days ahead and engaging all membership in decisions will be important.

In regard to our strategic plan, I am proud of our nation for participating in the first ever nation-wide strategic plan we did in 2020-21. This process pushed for needed changes and an improved organizational structure to better serve our community.

On another note, I would like to commend our Maskwacis Kokums who are warring against drugs and taking a stand toward a better and safe community. They have plans on doing a Rally on September 27th at the NOK building.

My next post will include my summaries of the three main council matters of which I had directed our leadership to put focus on at the beginning of my term in 2020-21 and how each has transpired to date.

Ekosi pitama.

CHEIF RANDY ERMINESKIN

CREE CORNER



HUNTING
MÂCÎWIN
ᓵᓴᓴᓴ



DRIED MEATS
KÂHKEWAKWA
ᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴ



SMOKED FISH
EKÂSKAPÂSOT KINOSEW
ᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴ ᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴ



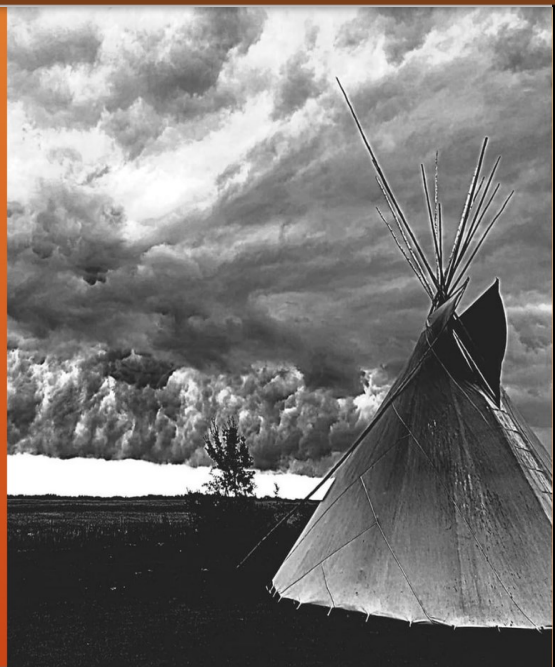
TRAPPING
WANÎHIKEWIN
ᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴᓴ

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



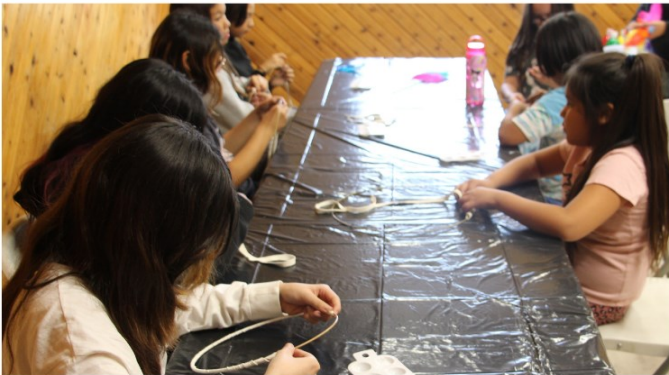
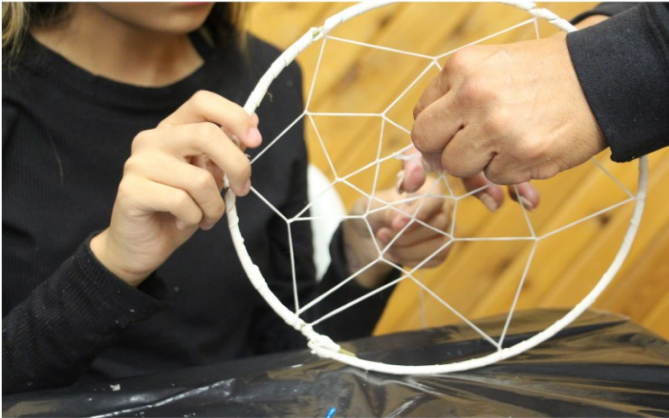
SUBMITTED BY:
JAMIE COPENACE

Taken at home on
Schoolhouse Road.





E.C.N GETS CREATIVE



Every Wednesday evening E.C.N youth are welcome to join the “Arts & Crafts” night at the Jim Rattlesnake Building from 5-7pm. This will give your children the opportunity to bring out their creative side as well as provide a safe environment for children to interact. All supplies are provided when attending! In addition, youth are provided with snacks and refreshments.

“We encourage our youth to attend because helps them interact with one another while learning and understanding social skills, creativity and following instructions. So far, we’ve made rock paintings and dreamcatchers. Each craft we do, I incorporate the importance of our cultural teachings. I really enjoy and appreciate the youth that attend!” says facilitator Carolyn Omeasoo.

You can contact Summer Mackinaw at the Jim Rattlesnake to preregister your children at (780) 585-3088.

MASKWACIS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BARBEQUE

On September 7, 2023 Maskwacis Minor Hockey Association held their annual “Back to Hockey BBQ” at the 4 Nations Arena. With the 2023-24 hockey season starting early October, Maskwacis Minor Hockey wanted to give back to parents and athletes.

Registration has now opened for the upcoming 2023-2024 hockey season. In order for us to start early, we require all registration forms to be handed in early. There are many ways we can help you get registered as fast and quickly as possible. Any Registration forms that come in after September 21st may be subject to a \$100 late fee. There are many grants and funds available to alleviate the cost of your registration fees. The sooner you Register, the sooner you can apply for these Grants. Help is out there!



MASKWACIS MINOR HOCKEY

1. www.kidsportcanada.ca/alberta forms can also be picked up at the 4 Nations arena office.
 2. www.kidsportHAP.ca
 3. www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca ONLINE ONLY
 4. www.assistfund.hockeycanadafoundation.ca ONLINE ONLY
 5. Maskwacis Minor Hockey Association BINGOS
 6. Kisipatnahk Minor Sports BINGOS
 7. Samson Youth Sports Initiative BIINGOS
- If you require assistance in our registration process, please do not hesitate to stop in at the 4 Nations Arena and I will be glad to assist you.
Thank you, Alaine Littlepoplar. (Registrar)
We wish all athletes the best in this year’s hockey season!

COVID-19 INFORMATION & AWARENESS

With the recent cases of Covid arising in our community we'd like to remind everyone that just because restrictions have been lifted that the virus is still apparent in our communities. The ways COVID-19 is transmitted is through tiny respiratory droplets or vaporizers produced by people who have the virus. The virus spreads most commonly by breathing in air that contains infected droplets from people coughing, sneezing, talking, and laughing, or when the infected droplets come into direct contact with another person's nose, mouth or eyes. As well, the virus can also spread by touching objects and surfaces the virus has landed on and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported ranging from mild symptoms to severe. Symptoms can appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms include:

- ·Fever or chills
- ·Cough
- ·Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ·Fatigue
- ·Muscle or body aches
- ·Headache
- ·New loss of taste or smell
- ·Sore throat
- ·Congestion or runny nose
- ·Nausea or vomiting
- ·Diarrhea

There are many ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It is important we do so by following some of these helpful tips of prevention. For example, practicing good hygiene habits can protect you and those around you from spreading COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses. Such as:

- Stay home if you are feeling sick
- Consistently and correctly wearing a high-quality mask
- Wash or sanitize your hands often
- Cover your coughs and sneezes



- Clean and disinfect surfaces regularly (for example, counters, doorknobs)
- Social distancing

As well, you can be immunized with the Covid-19 Vaccine. You can do so by contacting your local medical clinics and pharmacies. Maskwacis Health Services Medical Clinic offers Moderna and Pfizer vaccines as well as a booster vaccine that are highly recommended for elders 60 years and above.

If you or someone you may know have tested positive for Covid, treatment to relieve symptoms can include:

- Plenty of rest
- Fluids and staying hydrated
- Pain relievers, cough medicine, cough drops etc.

Adults over age 65 and people of any age with existing long-lasting (chronic) medical conditions should call their health care provider as soon as symptoms start. These factors can put people at greater risk of becoming seriously ill with COVID-19. For beneficial results we advise you to follow your health care provider's suggestions and staying at home (isolating). If you are experiencing any of the following severe symptoms of COVID-19 please Call 911 immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent chest pain or pressure
- Confusion
- Trouble staying awake
- Discolorations of skin tone, lips or nailbeds (Blue, Grey, pale)

Lets do our part to keep our community and people safe from Covid-19!

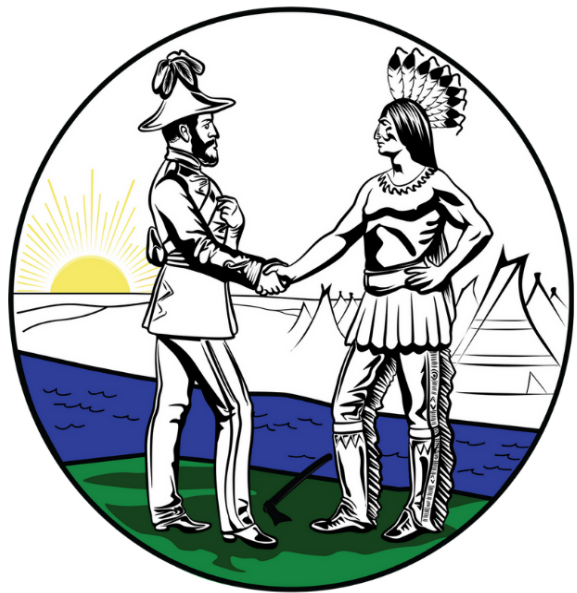
UNDERSTANDING TREATY HISTORY

In Ermineskin September 25th is recognized as Bobtail Day, Annual holiday to honor Chief Bobtail & Treaty No. 6. Treaty No. 6 was first signed at Fort Carlton 1876, in Prince Albert Saskatchewan by Plain and Wood Cree, Assiniboine, and other tribes. An Adhesion to Treaty 6 was signed by Chief Bobtail of Maskwacis September 25th, in 1877 at Blackfoot Crossing at the Bow River, (Siksika Nation) Which will mark 146 years to the day.

The four original chiefs of what is now Maskwacis were Bobtail, Ermineskin, Muddy Bull and Samson, and during 1884-85, the joint boundaries of the Bobtail, Ermineskin, Montana, and Samson bands were established within the thousands of acres of reserve land. While the Ermineskin traditional territory includes the reserve lands, the reserve was formally established in 1885. The land houses substantial oil and gas deposits, agricultural land, and waterfront access to Pigeon Lake.



CHIEF BOBTAIL



Treaty 6 is one of the numbered treaties signed between the Indigenous Peoples of Canada and the British government. It was signed near Fort Carlton in what is now Saskatchewan. Treaty 6 covers a large territory that includes parts of present-day Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

What are Treaties? Well, Treaties are formal agreements or contracts between two or more sovereign states or international organizations. They establish legally binding obligations and rights for the parties involved. Treaties can cover a wide range of subjects, such as territorial boundaries, trade agreements, human rights, environmental protection, arms control, and many others. The process typically involves discussions, diplomacy, and sometimes complex legal drafting. Once signed, treaties may need to be ratified by the participating nations' legislative bodies before they can come into effect. The treaties serve as an important tool in international relations, facilitating cooperation, resolving disputes, and promoting peace and stability.



It is important for Indigenous peoples to learn about Treaty 6 for several reasons:

1. Historical Understanding: Treaty 6 is a significant part of Indigenous history in Canada. Learning about the treaty helps Indigenous peoples understand the context and circumstances under which their ancestors entered into agreements with the British /Canadian state government. This knowledge contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of their own culture, identity, and historical experiences.

2. Rights and Responsibilities: Treaty 6 establishes specific rights and responsibilities for Indigenous signatories. By learning about the treaty, Indigenous peoples can gain a deeper understanding of the specific rights and benefits that were promised to them, such as reserve lands, annuities, healthcare, and education provisions. This knowledge empowers them to assert and advocate for their treaty rights in various contexts, including legal processes and negotiations with the government.

3. Cultural Preservation: Understanding Treaty 6 allows Indigenous peoples to preserve and pass down their cultural heritage to future generations. The treaty represents an important aspect of Indigenous history, traditions, and governance systems.

By learning about it, Indigenous peoples can ensure that their cultural knowledge, values, and customs associated with the treaty are preserved and transmitted to younger generations.

4. Sovereignty and Self-Determination: Learning about Treaty 6 contributes to Indigenous peoples' efforts toward sovereignty and self-determination. Knowledge of the treaty helps individuals and communities assert their rights and exercise their autonomy in matters related to land, resources, governance, education, and healthcare. It provides a foundation for Indigenous self-governance and the pursuit of community-led initiatives.

5. Reconciliation and Relationship Building: Treaty education is a crucial element of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. By understanding the obligations and promises made in Treaty #6, non-Indigenous individuals can better recognize and respect the rights and perspectives of Indigenous peoples. The knowledge of Treaty 6 can foster greater understanding, empathy, and constructive relationships based on mutual respect and partnership.

Overall, learning about Treaty 6 is significant for Indigenous peoples as it contributes to historical, cultural, legal, and socio-political aspects of their lives, empowering them to assert their rights, preserve their heritage, and pursue meaningful partnerships with the Canadian state government and society at large.

“LEAD WITH CULTURE”



What does it mean to lead with culture? It's something both Ferrada Lightning, a 26-year-old from Maskwacis, Alta. and Megan Metz a 24-year-old from Kitimat, B.C. do every day. “When we come back to culture, we come back to reconnecting with our ancestor’s wisdom, their strength and the connection of the community, because our ceremonies are beautiful practices and that that is who we are,” said Lightning.

“Culture is who I am, it’s my connection to my community, my elders – it’s changed my life.” For years, Indigenous people were taught to hide who they were, to be ashamed of their culture and practice in private, but over the course of the past several decades that’s changed – and both Lightning and Metz are taking part of that change in their communities. Metz wears multiple hats. In her community she works on language revitalization, teaching beginner classes to adults. She also does archival work and is a strong advocate for mental health. “I’m just really passionate about trying to learn as much as I can and teaching it to youth, to other community members that are really wanting to learn,” she said. As a Haisla speaker she’s empowered by those who have taught her to get comfortable teaching. “I’ve learned that it is just as important for you as a language learner to teach as much as you can, as soon as you can,” said Metz.

“There’s a lot of power in that, rather than waiting until you’re fluent – time is kind of the essence when it comes to language revitalization.” Being a language teacher helps keep her mind sharp and retention up. “I love infusing culture into storytelling and that’s something I’m really passionate about,” said Metz. “So when it’s potlach time or ceremony time just sharing words and phrases that have to do with that is so important.”

Richard Jock, CEO of the First Nations Health Authority, said the conference “emerged out of interest in pursuing approaches that work for communities.” “Our approach is wellness and that within wellness, part of our instructions from the First Nations people of B.C. is to lead with culture,” he said.

The week saw Indigenous people from across Canada, the U.S., Aotearoa (New Zealand) and Australia share resources, expertise and challenges. “This time helps provide inspiration to continue with the work as some of this is quite challenging – like residential schools, effects of colonialism, the continuing effects of drugs and alcohol – so I would say this is really a source of inspiration,” said Jock. “But also some of those practical models by which we can hope to improve lives of our people.”

“Things can be quite heavy in the world sometimes,” adds Metz. “It’s nice to be in a space like this where you can just be filled with hope of what is possible when we come together.”

Article Provided by: Hayley Lewis Global News

UPCOMING EVENTS/CLASSIFIEDS



YOUTH Employment Program

DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2023

This program is for Ermineskin Youth (AGES 15-30). The Youth Employment 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.

Start Date:
OCTOBER 10TH, 2023
(24 Week Program)

REQUIREMENTS:

- Ermineskin Band Member
- Ages 15 to 30
- Must work Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Must have reliable transportation
- Must Provide SIN #
- Provide Criminal Record Check

APPLY NOW

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

Important note:

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

ONLY 12 SPOTS AVAILABLE
(6 Male and 6 Female)



• ECN Industrial Relations

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

FOR ECN POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS AGES 18-25

OCTOBER 7TH, 2023
10:00AM - 2:00PM

ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE

TOPICS:

AQUATIC HABITAT RESTORATION FUND: LAND AND RESOURCES PRESERVATION

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS INITIATIVE: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VALUES



SEEKING SELECTIVE YOUTH TO BE PART OF THE CUMULATIVE EFFECTS SUB COMMITTEE

5 CHANCES TO WIN \$1000

LOCATION: NOK BUILDING, MASKWACIS AB

REGISTER NOW!

MARIANNE WARD
(780) 585-3779



PHOTO OF THE WEEK



ECN Newsletter is taking photo submissions to showcase in the newsletter. It is to promote positivity and connectivity in our Nation.

Landscapes, community events, success stories, pets or animals, all are acceptable!

Photo will be chosen at random.

PLEASE SUBMIT PHOTO TO:

Kayla Cutarm
newsletter@erminekin.ca



FREE FIREWOOD

Ermineskin N.E.P. Department has Balsam (black) Poplar wood for recreational use available for pick up.

PLEASE NOTE: IT MUST BE CUT UP WITH A CHAINSAW BY YOURSELF.

Our pile of wood is located outside the perimeter of N.E.P. Compound, south of the NEP Building.





HOME MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

Traditional Past and Present, Why Home Maintenance?
 Reactive vs. Proactive, Grade/Slope, Roof & Exterior Elements, Doors & Windows, Interior Elements, Minor Plumbing, Mechanical Components, Mold & Identifying Moisture Causes, and Workshop Safety.

Light Supper will be provided
 4:00 PM – 10:00 PM
 (Limited Seating)
 (Call to register)


Attention: Home Occupants
 Monday September 25, 2023 – NOK Bldg.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
 Bruce Littlechild – EPM (780) 585-3886 Ext. 237


Presented by
 Nicholas Kootenavoo

Certificate upon
 Completion

WAXASE 2023



UPDATED



BIKING PROGRAM

MUST WEAR PROPER ATTIRE AND HAVE EXPERIENCE RIDING
 'LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE'

AGES 8 - 17

MONDAY'S STARTING SEPT. 11TH, 2023

STARTS AT 5PM
 Bikes and Gear PROVIDED

JIM RATTLESNAKE SPORTS BUILDING

ERMINESKIN REC (780) 585-3088



ERMINESKIN WOMEN'S SHELTER SOCIETY PRESENTS:

Annual General Meeting

Fall Feast / Giveaway

Feast to follow after the AGM Presentations. Everyone is invited!
 Please bring your own Tupperware/to-go containers, teatowels and bags.

OCTOBER 3RD, 2023
 10:00am - 12:00pm

Location:
 N.O.K. BUILDING



Xmas Hamper – Gift Cards 2023

At this time we will be taking names, addresses, phone numbers and band numbers for all ECN band members who reside In/Out of Province - Country. Gift cards will be mailed out ASAP to ensure they reach individuals in a timely manner, you must ensure that you provide the Correct Address, we will not be responsible for any lost or stolen cards.

Keep in mind that once you have requested a card your name will be crossed off the hamper pick up list.

One per household and for those who are over 18 years of age, children do not qualify.

Please contact **Janice Ermineskin** @ (780) 585-3779 to place name on list, Office hours are from Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 PM, closed every 2nd Friday.

Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to hearing from you.

☺ Management

Position	Closing Date	Required Documents
Project Officer with the Ermineskin Neyaskweyahk Employment Skills Training (NEST) department	September 26th	Application/Resume, copies of Certificates and updated Criminal Record Check
Director with the Ermineskin Community Services & Wellness (CSW) department	September 22nd	Resume, Cover Letter, Three (3) Letters of Reference and updated Criminal Record Check.
Recreation Custodian with the Ermineskin Arena, Parks and Recreation department	September 26th	Application/Resume, updated Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check and copies of Certificates
Arena Operator Supervisor with the Ermineskin Arena, Parks and Recreation department	September 22nd	Application/Resume, updated Criminal Record Check and Copies of Certificates.
Arena Facility Operator with the Ermineskin Arena, Parks and Recreation department	September 26th	Application/Resume, updated Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check and copies of Certificates
Grader Operator with the Ermineskin Public Works department	September 22nd	Application/Resume, copies of Certificates, updated Criminal Record Check and Driver Abstract
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Mentor/Support Workers with the Ermineskin Brighter Futures department	September 22nd	Application/Resume, updated Criminal Record Check, Child Intervention Check and Copies of Certificates
Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) Aide with the Ermineskin Brighter Futures department	September 22nd	Application/Resume, updated Criminal Record Check, Child Intervention Check and Copies of Certificates.

ECN ELDERS DEPT. PRESENTS

THANKS GIVING

Dinner

FOR ERMINESKIN ELDERS 60+



OCTOBER 10TH, 2023
TUESDAY | 11AM - 2PM

Ermineskin Elders Centre

For More Information: (780) 585-3435



SILVER CREEK PAINTBALL FIELD TRIP

VAN LEAVE AT 10:30AM FROM JIM RS SPORTS BUILDING

\$25 / CHILD

PLEASE NOTE- FEE IS TO SECURE SPOT AND WILL BE USED TO FEED THE CHILDREN ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT

SUNDAY, OCT.1ST 2023

AGES 12+

FIRST 12 TO PAY FEE AND REGISTER

TO REGISTER: (780) 585-3088



MOVIE NIGHT FIELD TRIP

**VAN LEAVE
AT 5:00PM**
FROM JIM RS
SPORTS BUILDING

*DRINKS AND POPCORN
WILL BE INCLUDED

THURSDAY, SEPT.28, 2023

AGES 10+

**TO REGISTER:
(780) 585-3088**



KRAAY FAMILY FARM FIELD TRIP

VAN LEAVE AT 10:30AM
FROM JIM RS SPORTS BUILDING

\$25 / CHILD

PLEASE NOTE- FEE IS TO SECURE SPOT AND WILL BE
USED TO FEED THE CHILDREN ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT

SATURDAY, SEPT.30TH 2023

AGES 12+

FIRST 12 TO PAY FEE AND REGISTER

**TO REGISTER:
(780) 585-3088**