



# Ermineskin Newsletter January 12, 2024

Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Kisepîsim Nîsosâp

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## Reindeer Lane 2023



On December 19th and 20th, 2023 Ermineskin Cree Nation hosted the annually holiday lane. Reindeer Lane was located at the Panee Agriplex where many staff and volunteers decorated the barns with various lights and decorations. It was an event that was open to all Four (4) Nations to attend. The purpose of the holiday lane was to bring joy and Christmas spirit to fellow community members, as well as neighboring communities and Nations during the holidays. Although, there was not a lot of snow this Christmas; it was still a fun and creative way to spread holiday cheer in Maskwacis! There were good-

ie bags, hot chocolate, sandwiches and fireworks! The event was such a success that Global News came to do a feature of the event. In total, over eighty (80) vehicles had attended this two day event. We'd like to give a big thank you to Ermineskin Education Trust Fund Board and staff for handing out three hundred (300) toques and mitten sets for all the boys and girls! Also, we'd like to give thanks to E.C.N Recreation staff, Community Wellness, Events Staff, Panee Staff and Volunteers, and everyone involved in this two day event.

## FLOOD STUDY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY REPORT



drainage system to increase the resiliency of Ermineskin, especially considering changing climate and consequently more extreme precipitation events. This project was funded in whole by the Government of Alberta, through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre's Climate Resilience Capacity Building Program. The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre is a partnership of Alberta Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, and the Government of Alberta.

We just finished a project with Shelley which was funded by the Alberta Government's Municipal Climate Change Action Centre.

"Ermineskin Cree Nation has completed a Flood Study and Climate Resiliency Report, to better understand the impacts of climate change on future flooding events. The report "Flood Study - Climate Change Impacts" by Kerr Wood Leidal (KWL) analyzes the impacts of climate change on five selected areas within the reserve and recommends improvement measures to the

**For questions, contact:**

Shelley Cutarm at [shelley@ermineskin.ca](mailto:shelley@ermineskin.ca) or Dirk Scharbatke at [dscharbatke@kwl.ca](mailto:dscharbatke@kwl.ca)





# CREE CORNER



Singing  
enikamot  
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Cake  
wâwipahkwesikanak  
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## Miyo Tipiponwew Kîsikâw Happy Birthday Γ↵ ƝΛ>⊖·° ρρб°



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ΓC◁·be



Year  
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Games  
metawewina  
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## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

SUBMITTED BY:  
NADINE GUTARM

“Mimiw Sakahikan ❤️”



# ERMINESKIN CHRISTMAS DINNER

On December 21st, 2023, Ermineskin Cree Nation hosted the annual Christmas Community Dinner. This event was held at the Jim Rattlesnake building where all Nation members were welcomed to join. There was an amazing turkey dinner catered by Bob Ronnie's Catering as well as some amazing entertainment by local band "5 n GO". Throughout the evening they had door prizes for all adults that were in attendance and the youth had the



opportunity to take pictures with Santa and also receive a gift! Gatherings like these are important for our community because it bring members of the Nation together to celebrate the holidays, while also sharing a few stories, laughs and smiles. We'd like to thank all the staff, volunteers, the band for attending the community dinner and hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday!

## ERMINESKIN ELDER'S JANUARY BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT!

**ELMER RATTLESNAKE  
ROSANN KRISTEN  
LORI LYNN WILDCAT  
MELVIN D LITTLECHILD  
MADELINE LITTLECHILD  
CHESTER MORIN  
GERALDINE (BRENDA) LEE  
CAROLINE WHITEQUILLS**

**CYNTHIA ROAN  
CURTIS ERMINESKIN  
HERB BAPTISTE  
MARY HELEN LITTLECHILD  
KENNETH WILDCAT  
DEAN WOLFE  
STELLA LISTENER  
DEBROAH YOUNG  
LINDA RABIDEUA**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

# ERMINESKIN HOLIDAY WISHES

In the heart of our close-knit Nation, a memorable moment occurred at our 2023 Community Christmas Dinner. In this community, where neighbours are more than just familiar faces, but pillars of support and kinship, the holiday season was flowing with a special kind of magic.

Claudie Bull has been volunteering at the ECN Christmas Events as Santa for the past 4 years. This previous year was the very first time he received a letter from a child. On December 13th, ECN Community Wellness hosted a Meet-and-Greet photo session with Santa, where 6-year-old Rhydian had given Santa a letter that read; ***“Dear Santa, my name is Rhydian and I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. I have some secret wishes; This year for Christmas could you please bring me a Bissell Bagless Vacuum Cleaner”.***

Teresa White took to social media to share the sweet sentiment, and quickly people wanted to

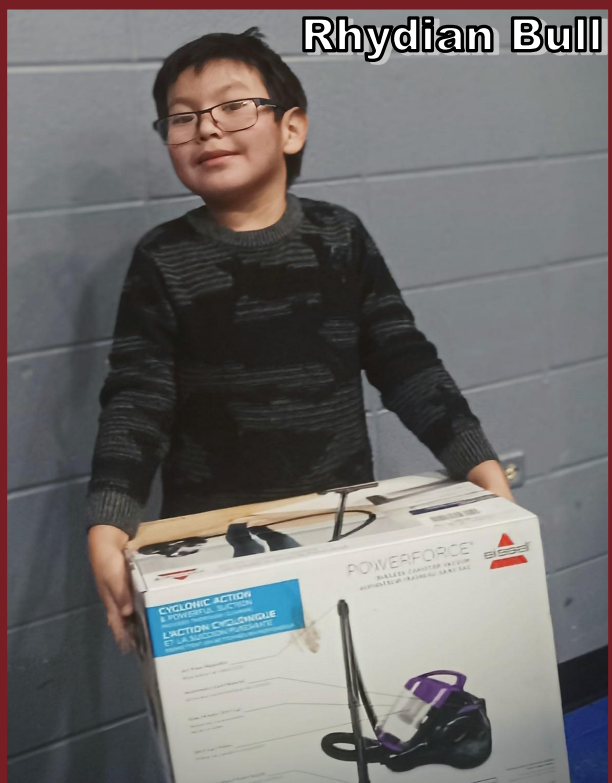


Claudie Bull

contribute funds to get the vacuum. With the contributions from Lorraine White, Harriet Baptiste, Chrystal Yellowbird, Shinea Small, Teresa White and Claudie Bull, they were able to give this amazing gift to six-year-old Rhydian, who was so excited to come back and see Santa to share this special moment!

It is always a great achievement when community members can come together and build a strong sense of wâhkôhtowin. It is important to practice kindness during the holidays, as we can sometimes get caught up in the hustle and bustle of Christmas. It's good to step back and enjoy moments like this. It takes a lot of love and compassion to make this kind of thing happen but with enough support, Christmas wishes can still come true.

Thank you to everyone who came together to make this happen and keep the magic of Christmas alive in our Nation of Ermineskin!



Rhydian Bull

# M.C.T.C COMMUNITY DINNER 2023

On December 20th, 2023 M.C.T.C hosted a dinner open to all four nations and Pigeon Lake residents. There were various door prizes and draws held through out the night as well as various treats and activities for children such as



a face painting, and pictures with Santa and much more! The dinner itself was a traditional Christmas turkey dinner. The event started out strong and a line quickly formed that ended up running out the main door of the recreation centre. The RCMP assisted in serving the food and various leadership within the Four (4) Nations were in attendance. Emery Burninggrass, an indigenous puppeteer/comedian, put on a show for the entertainment for the evening. This event in particular felt significant to

many Pigeon Lake residents because it was a gathering for Nation members and it has been the first community event since before the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope that in the future, we will see more Four (4) Nations events in the Pigeon Lake community.

*“It was nice to see our chief at our Christmas dinner out here in Ma-Me-O. It was a honor to have our leaders coming to our gatherings, I hope to see more of them coming to our gatherings. Hai Hai and you all have a happy new year and stay safe and stand strong”* -says Peggy Cutarm (E.C.N Elder/ Pigeon Lake resident)



## E.P.M IMPORTANT NOTICE!

ECN Property Management would like to address these items regarding this cold snap we are experiencing:

In sewer backup cases, PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING ANY WATER UNTIL THE PLUMBER ARRIVES. We ask that you avoid water use in the home and wait until a plumber arrives to assist and avoid any further damage if you are experiencing a sewer back-up.

KEEP UP WITH YOUR FURNACE FILTER REPLACEMENTS. During the winter months, it is recommended that you change your filters EVERY 30 DAYS This is to avoid a build-up of

dust and debris and avoid the possibility of a fire in the home. It is being proactive and safe.

NO RUNNING WATER, CONTACT ECN TECH SERVICES. For ECN residents who have cisterns, if you do not have running water, you are to contact TECH SERVICES DIRECTLY. We cannot take calls in regards to no water, as the issue does not pertain to ECN Property Management. Tech Services: (780) 585-0255

*For any other questions or concerns, please reach out to Ermineskin Property Management: (780) 585-3886*

## Newly Highest Appointed Companion

Canada's Governor General Mary Simon has announced 78 new additional members to the Order of Canada, including three companions, 15 officers, one honorary officer and 59 members.

Former Lawyer and Treaty 6 Grand Chief Dr. Wilton Littlechild is being promoted to the Order's highest level of companion, after he was first appointed as a member in 1998. Chief Littlechild is from Maskwacis, just north of Ponoka.

*"For his lifelong contributions to reconciliation in Canada and around the globe, and for his inspirational leadership promoting Indigenous athletes in international sports events"*

The list also includes 89 year old Willie Adams, the first Inuit appointed to the Senate in Canada. He was honored for his "long-standing support of Indigenous interests and for advancing

Indigenous representation in Canadian legislation."

Deantha Rae Edmunds, Canada's first Inuk opera singer, was made a member of the order "for her original compositions and her mentorship of young Indigenous musicians."

-CFWE FM RADIO



## WINTER READINESS



### Bring your pets indoors.

If you have pets, bring them indoors. If you cannot bring them inside, provide adequate shelter to keep them warm and make sure they have access to unfrozen water.

### Get your car ready.

Have maintenance service on your vehicle as often as the manufacturer recommends. In addition, every fall, do the following:

- Have the radiator system serviced or check the antifreeze level yourself with an antifreeze tester. Add antifreeze as needed.
- Replace windshield-wiper fluid with a wintertime mixture.
- Make sure the tires on your car have adequate tread and air pressure. Replace any worn tires and fill low tires with air to the proper pressure recommended for your car (typically between 30-35 psi).
- Keep the gas tank near full to help avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Keep your car in good working order. Be sure to check the following: heater, defroster, brakes, brake fluid, ignition, emergency flashers, exhaust, oil, and battery.

### Dress warmly.

- Dress in layers, with a wind-resistant outer layer.
- When it is cold, wear a hat, mittens or insulated gloves. Keep your face warm with a scarf, neck tube or facemask.
- Wear warm and waterproof footwear. When it is very cold, or when the wind chill is significant, cover as much exposed skin as possible. Your body's extremities, such as the ears, nose, fingers and toes lose heat the fastest.

# FIRST INDIGENOUS WOMAN TO WIN GOLDEN GLOBE



tor from the Gordon Tootoosis Nokaniwin Theatre said there likely will be an increased interest in the arts from Indigenous people.

“It’s about time. It’s inspirational to see our people up on stage, our languages,” she said.

A historic win at the Golden Globe Awards is getting attention within the Indigenous acting community.

On Sunday night, Blackfeet actress Lily Gladstone won the award for Best Actress in a Motion Picture- Drama for her role in the 2023 film, *Killers of the Flower Moon*.

Gladstone is from the Blackfeet Nation located in Montana. During her acceptance speech, Gladstone spoke some of her Blackfeet language.

“She really broke down a lot of doors for us. There have been actors trying to do that for decades. This win, it’s historic and it’s big,” Indigenous theatre artist Skyler Anderson said.

“This is for every little rez kid, every little urban kid, every little native kid who has a dream,” Gladstone said.

Jennifer Dawn Bishop, the Artistic Direc-

tor from the Gordon Tootoosis Nokaniwin Theatre said there likely will be an increased interest in the arts from Indigenous people.

“Typically roles we are offered aren’t Indigenous, these characters aren’t brown, so we have to fit our way into these roles,” Anderson said.

Bishop says insecurities about acting resumes or levels of training may be holding Indigenous actors back from pursuing bigger roles. However, she is positive about opportunities gradually appearing.

“The door is slowly opening. I can only hope that door is blown wide open some day,” Bishop said.

Gladstone is also nominated for an Academy Award in the Leading Actress category. The Oscars are scheduled for March 10, 2024.

*Mick Favel— CTV NEWS REGINA*



# UPCOMING EVENTS/CLASSIFIEDS



Ermineskin Cree Nation

## WE ARE HIRING!

January 8th, 2024

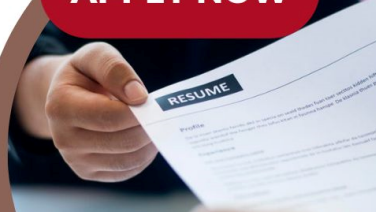
### OPEN POSITIONS:

- Director \*\*Three Year Term\*\* with the Ermineskin Personnel Department by January 23rd, 2024
- One Committee Member \*\*Three Year Term\*\* with the Ermineskin Pow Wow Committee by January 23rd, 2024
- Director \*\*Three Year Term\*\* with the Ermineskin Tribal Services Department by January 23rd, 2024
- Manager with the Ermineskin Technical Services department by January 23rd, 2024
- Receptionist with the Ermineskin Finance department by January 23rd, 2024

Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:

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

**APPLY NOW**



## DOG FOOD DISTRIBUTION



**JANUARY 17TH, 2024  
1PM - 4PM  
ECN SECURITY COMPOUND**

DOG FOOD IS FOR REGISTERED DOGS ONLY

IN ORDER TO GET DOG FOOD YOU NEED TO APPLY BEFORE THE DAY OF THE DISTRIBUTION.

EVERYONE NEEDS TO RESIGN FOR JANUARY 2024, EXCEPT THOSE WHO SIGNED IN DECEMBER 2023.



**(780) 585-2004**

## PIGEON LAKE

## DOG FOOD DISTRIBUTION



**JANUARY 18TH, 2024  
1PM - 3:30 PM  
PIGEON LAKE RECREATION CENTRE**

DOG FOOD IS FOR REGISTERED DOGS ONLY IN ORDER TO GET DOG FOOD YOU NEED TO APPLY BEFORE THE DAY OF THE DISTRIBUTION.

EVERYONE NEEDS TO RESIGN FOR JANUARY 2024, EXCEPT FOR THOSE WHO SIGNED IN DECEMBER 2023.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PICK UP A REGISTRATION FORM PLEASE CALL ECN SECURITY TO FILL OUT THE FORM OVER THE PHONE 8AM-4PM



**(780) 585-2004**

## ECN MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

NO STATUS CARDS THIS WEEK.


**WILL RESUME**

January 16th, 2024



ECN Membership will also be CLOSED ON JANUARY 9TH, 2024 to assist with PCD Distribution at the N.O.K. Bldg., 10am - 3pm


# Iskwewak Youth & Wellness CAMP





Ages 14-17  
Jan. 26 - 28, 2024  
Village Creek Inn, Pigeon Lake

Learn some Traditional Cree Teachings, Women's Wellness, Physical Fitness and other fun activities including traditional arts & crafts.

Limited Space | Call to register  
MCSS @ 780-585-2268



MASKWACIS COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICES

## PEOPLE IMPACTED BY CANCER SHARING CIRCLE


ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

THURSDAY | 18 JANUARY, 2024 | 6:00PM

INTRODUCTION | PRAYER AND SMUDGE | PRESENTATIONS Q & A | TESTIMONIALS & MUCH MORE

DIAL IN OR USE THE ZOOM APP

TOLL FREE: 1 855 703 8985  
MEETING ID: 930 1706 2140 | PASSCODE: 130407




MASKWACIS COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICES

INVITES ALL TO

# BELL LET'S TALK DAY

## AM & PM SESSIONS

TOPIC:  
**S.A.D. SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER**



Followed by an activity:  
ART THERAPY

**24TH JANUARY | 9AM & 1PM**  
MCSS/YSW Multi-Purpose Room

For more information or to pre-register: Call MCSS at 780-585-2268

Maskwacis Counselling & Support Services



# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS GROUP SUPPORT




Phone In or use the free ZOOM app

Toll Free 1.855.703.8985  
Meeting ID: 912.6177.4237#  
Passcode: 936604#

Every Wednesday, at 12:00 pm

# Ahkameyimowin

Perseverance

January 15 - March 22, 2024

The Youth Day Treatment Program helps with the following:

CO-ED  
MALE/FEMALE  
AGES 12 -17



- Addictions
- Grief
- Loss
- Low Self-esteem
- Anger Management
- Cultural Awareness
- TRANSPORTATION & MEALS PROVIDED
- Suicide Awareness
- Mental Health Awareness
- Relapse Prevention

FOR INFORMATION/INTAKE CONTACT:  
YOUNG SPIRIT WINDS  
780.585.2219

Caitlin Littlechild, Aftercare Worker  
Allie Young, Youth Counsellor  
Karen Longmuir, Youth Counsellor

Email: [clittlechild1@onehealth.ca](mailto:clittlechild1@onehealth.ca)  
Email: [ayoung@onehealth.ca](mailto:ayoung@onehealth.ca)  
Email: [klongmuir@onehealth.ca](mailto:klongmuir@onehealth.ca)

## Group Exercise

Come join us on Thursday January 11th from 1:30 pm to 2:30pm

Located at Maskwacis Home Care



There will be nutritious snacks provided at the end of the activity

For Registration and more information call 780-585-2020



Ermineskin Tech Services

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Attention ECN Members:

The future weather forecast is showing very cold temperatures in the coming days, until Monday of next week. These extremely cold temperatures cause the water and garbage trucks to freeze up and make conditions dangerous for the operators.

As a result, the trucks and the operators may not be able to go out on some of these days. Please do your best to conserve water during this time and please be patient with garbage pick-up expectations. Normal service will resume once the cold snap has passed. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



[ermineskin.ca/tech-services/](http://ermineskin.ca/tech-services/)

For more info!

(780) 585- 0255

-Ermineskin Tech Services



OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT IN ALL 4 NATIONS!

GET READY FOR PRESCHOOL PROGRAM-10 WEEK PROGRAM!

- ✓ ERMINESKIN
- ✓ SAMSON
- ✓ LOUIS BULL
- ✓ PIGEON LAKE
- ✓ MONTANA



Ermineskin- Wednesdays & Fridays (AM)  
Samson- Tuesdays & Thursdays (PM)  
Louis Bull- Wednesdays & Thursdays (PM)  
Montana- Every Tuesdays (PM)

OPEN FOR CHILDREN ages 2 - 4 yrs old

CALL FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CHRISTY CRANE

(780) 335-1817

Pigeon Lake- Tuesdays & Thursdays (AM)  
All starting the 3rd week of January 2024!

**MASKWACIS EMPLOYMENT CENTER**

# SPRING JOB FAIR

**MARCH 21, 2024 THURSDAY**

**HOWARD BUFFALO MEMORIAL CENTER  
MASKWACIS, ALBERTA  
10AM-3PM**



- ✓ Be Prepared
- ✓ Bring Your Resume
- ✓ Dress to Impress

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**INDUSTRY REGISTRATION**  
[www.maskwacisemployment.ca](http://www.maskwacisemployment.ca)

For more information, contact 780-585-4450 or email [iana@maskwacisemployment.ca](mailto:iana@maskwacisemployment.ca)




# Nehiyawewin

**Winter 2024 Online Evening Classes**

MESC Learning Services is pleased to offer the following Nehiyawewin online evening programming to engage participants in Cree syllabics, SRO and conversational Cree.

**13 Weeks of online classes**

**Levels of Cree to Register in:**

- 1 NISTAM (Introductory):** Little to no written or oral knowledge of the Cree language.
- 2 MÂCI (Beginner):** Basic written and oral knowledge of the Cree language.
- 3 TAPITAW (Intermediate):** Strong understanding of Cree, with the ability to engage in conversational Cree.
- 4 NESTAW (Advanced):** Fluent in Cree, but want to strengthen oral and written knowledge.

Registration opens **January 8, 2024**, and closes **January 18, 2023**.

Classes start: **January 22, 2024 - April 22, 2024**

**Register at:**  
<https://bit.ly/W24CREE>

**Please note: programming will be offered online and participants are required to have a valid Gmail address and internet access**

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ <b>Nistam Nehiyawewin</b> Introductory Location: Online Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</p>	<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ <b>Tapitaw Nehiyawewin</b> Intermediate Location: Online Time: 5 pm - 6 pm</p>
<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ <b>Mâci Nehiyawewin</b> Beginner Location: Online Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</p>	<p>ᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ <b>Nestaw Nehiyawewin</b> Advanced Location: Online Time: 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm</p>

For more information, contact Jolene Rain at (780) 585-0811 or [jolenerain@maskwacised.ca](mailto:jolenerain@maskwacised.ca)



# 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@ermeskin.ca](mailto:newsletter@ermeskin.ca)



# MIYOPIMATISWIN YOUTH CONFERENCE

**FEBRUARY 02, 2024 | 8AM-8PM**  
H.B.M.C. MASKWACIS, ALBERTA

Miyopimatisiwin: To live a good life. Join us for a day of learning within the medicine wheel teachings. Ages 12-19

Door Prizes      Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner provided



**MORE INFO: 780-585-2268**  
Website: [www.miyopimatisiwin.com](http://www.miyopimatisiwin.com)

Follow MCSS on Facebook  
[@MaskwacisCounselling](https://www.facebook.com/MaskwacisCounselling)