

# Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration



Rain or shine our people will come! On June 21, 2024 Ermineskin Cree Nation, in collaboration with Samson Cree Nation, hosted an Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration! Indigenous Peoples Day is a representation and acknowledgement of our continued resilience, celebrating our culture and traditions. A reminder of our past, present and future existence; we are still here!

This year the celebration started of with a Mini Powwow sponsored by Samson Cree Nation and slowly progressed into a fun filled day. There was bouncy castles, wagon rides, temporary tattoo's and face painting for all participants. As well as a barbecue lunch/dinner

sponsored by ATCO Gas Ltd., plenty of food for everyone in attendance.

As the night continued, we had a performance from local band 5'N'GO, giving us the best of both worlds, country and rock music! In addition, we had a great an inspiring performance by local artists NDN Army. Although the weather was not the best, our Nations came together to spend this special day with one another!

As the event came to an end, we concluded the celebration with a spectacular show of fireworks! We'd like to give thanks to all that attended, our volunteers, security, vendors and event coordinators. Happy Indigenous People's Day!

# LACROSSE TEAM MOVES ON TO PROVINCIALS

The playoffs for Central Alberta Lacrosse League Championship banner for the U15 was held Wednesday, June 19th.

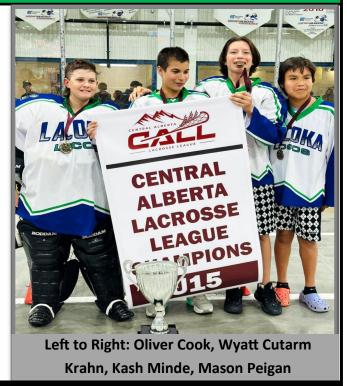
Congratulations to the U15 Lacoka Locos on winning the Central Alberta Lacrosse League Championship Banner!

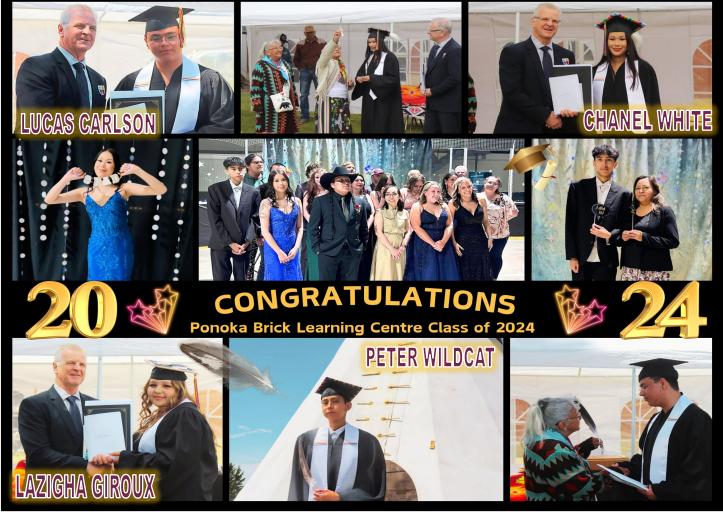
They now qualify for Provincials!

And congratulations to the First Nations players and those from Maskwacis:

- -Mason Piegan
- -Kash Minde
- -Wyatt Cutarm Krahn
- -and Goalie Oliver Cook (Cold Lake)

Good luck in Provincials July 12th-14th, 2024!







## Peek at the Week



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
June, 24th	June, 25th	June, 26th	June, 27th	June, 28th
ECN OFFICE CLOSURE IN LIEU OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY.	ADULT FITNESS PROGRAM AT JIM RS, 4:30PM-6:00PM MOMS SUPPORT AND HEALING CIRCLE AT MHS BLUE BUILDING 4:00PM-7:00PM	MASKWACIS SUMMER READING CLUB AT HBMC 10:00AM - 1:00PM PRIDE DAY CELEBRATION AT MHS BUILDING 12:00PM - 4:00PM CRAFTS CLUB AT JIM RS BLDG 5:00PM-7:00PM	ELDERS TEA & HEALTH INFO SESSION AT ELDERS CENTRE 10:00AM-3:00PM  N.H.S. APPRECIATION DAY AT NHS OFFICE 10:00AM START	ELDERS TEA & HEALTH INFO SESSION AT ELDERS CENTRE 10:00AM-3:00PM PRIDE PICNIC BEHIND H.B.M.C 3:00PM-5:000PM

# E.E.T.F FIRST CHARTED ACCOUNTANT

Educational Journey - Nigel Wildcat

After graduating from Wetaskiwin Composite High School in 2005, I worked in the construction industry and obtained my Journeyman/Red Seal Electrician certifications in 2014. Shortly after this I decided to go back to post-secondary school, and in 2016 I began my Bachelor of Administration degree in Accounting from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT).

I graduated from NAIT in April of 2020. During my studies at NAIT I decided that I wanted to become Chartered а (CPA). Professional Accountant October of 2020 I began my accounting career with MNP out their Edmonton office and also began my CPA studies at the CPA Western School of Business (CPAWSB). Over the next three years I worked full time while studying and completing the CPA program at the CPAWSB. There were countless weekends and evenings spent studying to get through the program but it has been worth it and has created a great career for myself.



**NIGEL WILDCAT** 

In September 2023 I wrote the Common Final Exam (CFE), the final exam all CPA candidates must pass to become a CPA. In December 2023 I was ecstatic to learn that I had passed the CFE and on January 5, 2024 I officially become a CPA.

In addition to the modules, exams, and studying there is also a work experience component to becoming a Chartered Professional Accountant. All candidates must have a minimum of 30 months of relevant work experience in addition to completing the CPA program and passing the CFE.

I would like to thank the Ermineskin Education Trust Fund for supporting me through my 4-year Bachelor's Degree. Without the trust fund going back to school would have been a lot more difficult. I am also proud to find out that I am the first band member to become a CPA.

## **EDMONTON OILERS ANTHEM ORIGIN**

The origins of "La Bamba" as the Oilers' celebration song date back to when Wayne Gretzky was in Edmonton.

In the 1980s, Gretzky was dating Vikki Moss and became close with her brother, Joey. Gretzky helped Joey get a job as the team's locker room attendant. "La Bamba" was Moss' favourite song, and it instantly became a hit within the organization. "The 'La Bamba' comes from a team Christmas party we had every year," Gretzky explained. "We would have a live band and [Moss] knew one song. He would get up and sing, 'La Bamba.' So it's one of the great winning songs for any professional sports team."

Moss passed away in 2020. The Oilers brought back the song to honour him in the 2021-22 season and it has stuck ever since. Although the song started with Moss, its legacy continued with Ben Stelter.

During the 2021-22 season, six-year old Ben began attending Oilers games. He was diagnosed with glioblas-

toma, a form of brain cancer. The Oilers heard his story and began supporting him. "You never want to see a family go through that thing, you never want to see a kid go through something like that," McDavid said. "Any joy that we could bring [Ben] was always worth it." Ben's iconic catch phrase, "Play La Bamba, baby!" revitalized the song's meaning to Edmontonians. On August 10, 2022, Ben passed away at the age of 6. He will forever be an Edmonton icon! Getty Images/Mike Stelter/Sportsnet







# Ermineskin Celebrates

We celebrate our dads, mosums, uncles, brothers and all-important male figures in our lives. A day dedicated to honoring fathers, celebrating paternal bonds and highlighting the influence of the men in our community. An event was held at the Ermineskin Arena on June 13th that had over a hundred (100) participants attend. The event had many games, wellness stations that included massages, reflexology and ear candling. There were also a few guest speakers, Eddie Steele (former Edmonton Elk) who spoke on his personal experience being a father

and Comedian Conway Kootenay as some may know "Smudge Pan." The event also had a barbeque lunch provided by Toni's Catering.

"It was such a great event, I don't often get time to spend with my bros and, although it wasn't a long event, it was still good to see everyone enjoying themselves, having a couple laughs and just being around one another. It doesn't happen often so I'm grateful we have these opportunities to attend these events. Hai Hai to all the organizers, they did a really good job." says Aaron Littlechild.













The Fathers Day
Celebration's did not
end there. On Friday
June 14th, Ermineskin
Health and Wellness
Departments in collaboration with Dorchester Ranch and Golf
Course to host the annual Fathers Day Golf
Tournament. There
was over 44 teams registered for this years
tournament.

# Father's Day!

This annual event is a great way to bring the men of our community together, those who have love for the game and participants that like to connect with one another. It gives an environment of enjoyment and competition. It was a beautiful day for a round of golf! There was four divisions for the event and the placement for winners go as follows:

**A DIVISION:** 

1st- Eric Ermineskin, 2nd- Jaizen Buffalo 3rd- Ryan Potts, 4th- Jamison Laroque

## **B DIVISION:**

1st- Calvin Rattlesnake, 2nd- Nigel Soosay 3rd- Jason Anquist, 4th- Lonny Ermineskin

**C DIVISION:** 

1st- Bruce Saulteaux, 2nd- Garret Wildcat 3rd- Stefan Roan, 4th- Zach Alexis

## **D DIVISION:**

1st—Buddy Dixon, 2nd—Warren Samson 3rd—Lisa Littlechild, 4th—Jesse Laroque

We'd like to give thanks to all participants, organizer and volunteers for this years Fathers Day Celebrations! It's important to note that, while fathers traditionally fulfill many roles, other male figures such as mosum's, uncles, older brothers, or other significant men in a child's life can also have a profound impact. Positive male role models contribute to a child's overall development, shaping their values, beliefs, and behaviors in meaningful ways. Hai Hai to all the fathers and father figures out there!













# **Bear Hills Grand Opening!**



"This establishment will help our people grow, but more importantly, it's here for our next Seven Generations. Today, everything changes for Louis Bull Tribe. Thank all of you, each and every one of you, for coming to celebrate this milestone with us." Says Erika Bull-Giroux -Director, Socio-Economic Development.

The Grand opening of the Bear Hills Casino and Travel Resort took place on June 19th, 2024, where nation members of Maskwacis, Chief's from surrounding Nations, representatives from the AGLC, and Minster Rick Wilson were in attendance for this monumental experience. Erika Bull-Giroux shared many empowering and inspiring words on the efforts behind the opening of the Resort, but also the brighter future that will also come in the next seven generations.

"I want to thank our elders and our leadership. We started this project off with a ceremony. Back in the day, our ancestors would choose warriors to go and hunt, and when those warriors would bring back a buffalo, it was used for everything; food, clothing, tools and ceremonies. Every part of the animal was used and nothing was wasted. I once heard that Economic Development is the modern day buffalo hunt, and it really stuck with me. When we talk about this establishment, that's how I see it. The earnings from this Casino will do so much more than feed and shelter our people, it will help enhance programing for elders and youth, help with housing and roads, and it will help is with the tools we need to assist our nation members to find their identity and their spirit, the cultur-

al component, because we are in an identity crisis. This establishment will help our people grow, but more importantly, it's here for our next Seven Generations."

"Thirty years ago, when I first heard about the project, I was a teenager" says Chief Desmond Bull, "and back then it was a dream, a vision of what could be. Today we live that reality. This couldn't have happened without everyone, past and present, and as we work onto the future of what it could also become. There's many leaders, Chiefs, councilmen, staff, technicians, and so many more, elders included, that worked towards making this dream a reality that it is today. Today is a celebration, and we should acknowledge it as so. Creator gave us a beautiful day for this event to acknowledge all of the work, perseverance and sacrifices made over three decades to bring us to this moment. This is only phase one, and I look forward to seeing how we are going to develop this further."

Bear Hills Casino and Travel Resort is currently operating with 51% of their staff being First Nations. On average, 34% of employees of Host First Nation casinos are from the Host Nations. 51% of Bear Hills' staff are from Louis Bull and Maskwacis, which is a huge accomplishment for them, province wide. The Resort also features live music entertainment, with artists such as 5'N'GO, High Limit Band, and even Armond Duck Chief! Be sure to come and tour the facility, try your luck or even just come for the food and music. Hours ar 11:00am - 2:00am, Monday to Sunday.

## Community Events/ Job Opportunities



## WE ARE HIRING!

June 26th, 2024

**OPEN POSITIONS:** 

**Director With Ermineskin** Health & Wellness Depart. \*3 Year Contract\* Closing date: July 8, 2024

Home Maintenance Technician with the Ermineskin CMHC/Property Management Dept.

Manager with the Ermineskin Technical Services Dept.

Closing date: July 11,

2024

Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:

faith@ermineskin.ca

Closing date: July 8, 2024





- Call MCSS to begin your intake process with a Navoskan worker
- Must complete the following:
  - \*Medical Assessment done by your family
  - \*Attend 2 1-on-1 counselling sessions with our MCSS Certified Staff
  - \*Attend 2 A.A Meetings before next intake

Graduation Monday, August 05

**Next cycle** begins **July 08,** 2024

> More info Call MCSS at 780-585-2268





## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Neyaskweyahk Gas Bar & Convenience Store and Taco Time GENERAL MANAGER

SUMMARY

The General Manager will be responsible for the overall operation of both the Gas Bar and Taco Time operations to improve service, marketing execution and company profitability. This includes scheduling, appraisals, budgeting, and attainment of financial results. Other responsibilities include the overall managemen of image, standards, implementation and adherence to company programs, policies, and procedures as well as human resources related activities. The individual reports directly to the VP Operations of NGCI. This individual must possess good public relation skills required for demonstrating professionalism in dealing with the business public. This position requires the individual to be prepared for a flexible work schedule.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Neyaskweyahk Gas Bar and Taco Time are located at Ermineskin Cree Nation, Maskwacis, AB. The environment of both businesses is fast paced with 24/7 operating hours. The Manager will be accessi anytime when needed.

- anytime when needed.

  QUALIFICATIONS:

  Valid Class \$ driver's license

  Possess own transportation

  Linderstanding of Strategic goals for the companies

  Excellent computer skills Purchase of Sale System, Microsoft programs

  Excellent Written skills, Time Management skills, and Communication skills

  Ability to prepare monthy operation reports

  Managing employees and schedules

  Proven experience in a managerial role. Strong working knowledge of operational procedures

  Strong decision-making capabilities

  Above-average collaboration, and delegation skills

  Proven ability to develop and maintain financial plans

  Ability to motivate and lead people, and hold employees accountable

  - Ability to motivate and lead people, and hold employees accountable Excellent Customer Service and Vendor relations

### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in business management or related field Equivalency: Business Diploma with 5+ years of experienc Previous performance evaluation experience Working knowledge of human resources processes

- Marketing knowledge Financial Management in Business Operations. Forecasting, budgeting, Sales, ROI, GPM.

WAGE SCALE:
As per established and adopted Salary Grid of Neyaskweyahk Group of Companies Inc.

WORK HOURS: 80 Hour Work Schedule; Flexible salary-based work schedule

Deadline: July 4, 2024

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

Tricia Wildcat, VP Operations
Neyaskweyahk Group of Companies Inc.
P.O Box 1320 Maskwacis, AB TOC 1N0
Email: tricia@ngeinc.e. Fax: (780) 585-0721
\*\*\* Incomplete Applications will be screened out \*\*\*

MASKWÁCIS LIBRARY

PLEASE JOIN US BEHIND THE HBMC, IN A POTLUCK STYLE PICNIC, AS WE GATHER AND CELEBRATE MASKWACIS'S TWO-SPIRIT COMMUNITY. REFRESHMENTS AND RESOURCES 🎙 AVAILABLE. DOOR PRIZES AVAILABLE. SPEAKERS AND VENDORS ON SITE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28



Agenda: ECN Quarterly Report by Managers and Directors



July 19th, 2024 Starting at 10AM

Light refreshments and lunch will be provided

Location: N.O.K. Building







### ALBERTA BASIC SECURITY TRAINING

In this program you will be introduced to the basics of security. In order to receive certification, applicants must attend all session

This includes:

Canadian Legal System

Basic Procedures

Communication

Documentation & Evidence

Emergency Response Procedures Health & Safety In order to receive certification, applicants must attend all sessions and pass the written exam with 80% or more.

Classes will be from 9am to 4:30pm Monday-Friday .

For training inquires, please call 780-585-0191 or email nest@ermineskin.ca

Deadline to apply: July 3rd, 2024

Program Starts July 15th, 2024





MASKWACIS LIBRARY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TD SUMMER READING CLUB



REGISTER IN PERSON @ MASKWACIS LIBRARY

EVERY
WEDNESDAY
10AM - 1PM

**AGES 8 - 17** 

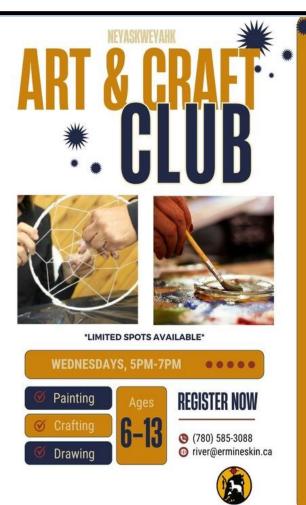
## **JOIN US!**

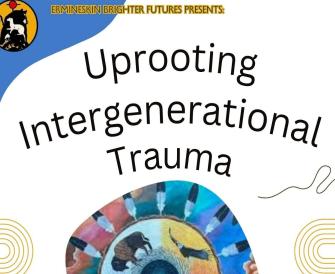
EVERY WEDNESDAY AS WE
READ A NEW BOOK AND DO
CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES
WEEKLY.
PRIZES REWARDED FOR
ATTENDANCE AND
READING GOALS

CALL 780-585-3012 EXT. 103 OR FACEBOOK @ MASKWACIS LIBRARY FOR QUESTIONS



Elaine: elainelightning@mccedu.ca/403-596-3740





July 2nd - 5th 2024 Courtyard Marriot West Edmonton, AB

780-585-2000 Futuresbrighter@yahoo.com



or kristenmanybears a gmail.com





