



Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin ᓂᓴᓐᓴᓐ ᐱᓴᓐᓴᓐ



Ermineskin Newsletter June 26, 2024

Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Paskâweho Pîsim Nîstanaw Nikotwâsosâp

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

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



Left to Right: Oliver Cook, Wyatt Cutarm Krahn, Kash Minde, Mason Peigan



LUCAS CARLSON



CHANEL WHITE



20



CONGRATULATIONS

Ponoka Brick Learning Centre Class of 2024



24



LAZIGHA GIROUX



PETER WILDCAT



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 a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). In 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*



IN CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY, ECN DAYCARE HOSTED A POWWOW!



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!



Photo provided by: Bear Hills Resort and Casino Facebook

"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 programming for elders and youth, help with housing and roads, and it will help us 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



Ermineskin Cree Nation

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. Closing date: July 8, 2024
- ✔ Manager with the Ermineskin Technical Services Dept. Closing date: July 11, 2024

Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:
faith@ermineskin.ca

APPLY NOW



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Neyaskweyâhk 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 management 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:

Neyaskweyâhk 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 accessible anytime when needed.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Valid Class 5 driver's license
- Possess own transportation
- Understanding 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 monthly operation reports
- Managing employees and schedules
- Strong experience in a managerial role. Strong working knowledge of operational procedures
- Proven 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
- Excellent Customer Service and Vendor relations

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in business management or related field
- Equivalency: Business Diploma with 5+ years of experience.
- 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 Neyaskweyâhk 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 Wildeat, VP Operations
Neyaskweyâhk Group of Companies Inc.
P.O Box 1320 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0
Email: tricia@ngcinc.ca Fax: (780) 585-0721
***** Incomplete Applications will be screened out *****

MASKWACIS LIBRARY PRESENTS

2024 PRIDE PICNIC

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.

JOIN THE CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

3PM - 5PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 780-585-3012 [EXT. 103]
OR FACEBOOK @ MASKWACIS LIBRARY



Maskwacis Health Services



NAYOSKAN INTAKE #19

- 1 Call MCSS to begin your intake process with a Nayoskan worker
- 2 Must complete the following:
 - *Medical Assessment done by your family doctor
 - *Attend 2 1-on-1 counselling sessions with our MCSS Certified Staff
 - *Attend 2 A.A Meetings before next intake
- 3 Graduation Monday, August 05

Next cycle begins
July 08,
2024

More info
Call MCSS at
780-585-2268

Ermineskin General Meeting

**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



TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

ALBERTA BASIC SECURITY TRAINING

In this program you will be introduced to the basics of security.

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 inquiries, please call 780-585-0191 or email nest@ermineskin.ca

Deadline to apply: July 3rd, 2024

Program Starts July 15th, 2024



**ERMINESKIN
CREE NATION**



**PROJECT SAFE
CANADA**

MASKWACIS LIBRARY IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH TD SUMMER READING CLUB

MASKWACIS 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



**MASKWACIS
CULTURAL COLLEGE**

50/50'S WILL
BE
SOLD

SILENT
AUCTION

MCC 50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLF FUNDRAISER

*Montgomery Glen
Golf & Country Club*

Wetaskiwin, Alberta

Friday, July 5, 2024

Shotgun at 9 a.m.

\$1000.00/team

Deposit of \$250 required.

Deadline for deposit: Friday, June 21

1 woman minimum per team

30 teams

Mulligans \$20.00 each

Meal Provided

Payout-based on entries

A - B: Based on entry fee

No pros



FOR MORE INFORMATION

(780) 585-3925

Harlin: hbuffalo@mccedu.ca/780-335-7080

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

NEYASKWEYAHK
ART & CRAFT CLUB



LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAYS, 5PM-7PM

✓ Painting

✓ Crafting

✓ Drawing

Ages

6-13

REGISTER NOW

(780) 585-3088

river@erminekin.ca



ERMINEKIN BRIGHTER FUTURES PRESENTS:

Uprooting Intergenerational Trauma



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

780-585-2000
Futuresbrighter@yahoo.com

Erminekin Brighter Futures
presents:

"Old Me"
Addictions

Facilitated by
Kristen Wildcat-Many Bears

**A 3 Day
Workshop on
battling
Addictions
and
obtaining
Sobriety**

Date: July 9-12th, 2024

Location: Edmonton, Alberta

18+

Please contact Brighter Futures

@780-585-2000 to Register!

or kristenmanybears@gmail.com



MASKWACIS
HEALTH SERVICES

Elders Tea & Health Info June 27-28, 2024

Erminekin Elders Center
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
PTSD/Anxiety Health Presentation
(Get the freedom of a healthy mind)

Learn & visit with Kici kihteyak
(open to all elders of Maskwacis & anyone
willing to participate in a healing journey)

Lunch will be served

Call -780 - 585-2266 / Ext 2442

Follow us @ Maskwacis Health



**EDDIE STEELE AS FOOTBALL COACH
(FORMER EDMONTON ESKIMOS GREY CUP WINNER 2015)**

WEEK 1: JULY 2-4 12PM - 4PM SOCCER LOCATION: ECN ARENA	WEEK 2: JULY 9-11 12PM - 4PM GOLF LOCATION: PONOKA GOLF COURSE	WEEK 3: JULY 15 - 18 ANNUAL YOUTH GATHERING PRE-REGISTER WITH RECREATION LOCATION: TBA	WEEK 4: JULY 23 - 25 12PM - 4PM LACROSSE LOCATION: ECN ARENA	WEEK 5: JUL 30 - AUG 1 12PM - 4PM TOUCH FOOTBALL LOCATION: SAMSON BASEBALL DIAMOND
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SUBJECT TO CHANGE

AGES 11+ MASKWACIS YOUTH DAY CAMPS



LOUIS BULL
COMMUNITY WELLNESS



SAMSON YOUTH
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT



ERMINESKIN
RECREATION



ERMINESKIN
COMMUNITY WELLNESS

ERMINESKIN RECREATION:
(780) 585-3088

SYSD:
(780) 585-3012

LOUIS BULL COMMUNITY
WELLNESS:
(780) 585-4075





ATTENTION

NEYASKWEYAHK HUMAN SERVICES PRESENTS CLIENT APPRECIATION DAY. BBQ/FREE YARD SALE. THEME OF THE DAY IS WESTERN DAYS. CONTESTS FOR CHILDRENS BEST DRESSED COWBOY/COWGIRL AND A BEST REZ BREAKFAST SANDWICH.

JUNE 27TH 10A.M NHS OFFICE.

20 Prizes for best dressed children ages 0-11 years. (Ponoka Stamped wrist band)

Rules for best Rez Fried Bannock Sandwich contest:

- 1) must make 3 sandwich's for judging. 2) must leave name and contact number. 3) must be creative and edible. 4) must be handed in by 1 p.m. Judging will be done at 1:30 pm.

1st prize \$250
2nd prize \$150
3rd prize \$100

winners will be contacted. All runner ups will be acknowledged.







ERMINESKIN CREE
NATION

CLASS OF 2024

GRAD PHOTOS



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

ECN is taking submissions of 2024 Grads in their cap + gown, formal wear or their favorite outfits! Open to Ermineskin students, ON and OFF-RESERVE

LAST CALL FOR GRAD
PHOTOS: JULY 1ST, 2024

Send submissions to :
kayla@ermineskin.ca

JotForm:
<https://form.jotform.com/241156767412053>

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

Submit Via JotForm

