

Ermineskin Newsletter August 19, 2025 Neyâskweyâhk Acimowin Ohpahowipîsim Kekâc Nîstanaw

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Ermineskin Back to School Celebration













As the new school year approaches, it's exciting to see K.K.I. and Ermineskin Community Wellness come together to create excitement for our younger students returning to school. The event featured fun attractions like bouncy castles where kids could jump and play, face painting, and balloon art that brought smiles to everyone. There was also a dunk tank that provided a chance for some friendly fun.

The staff at the event made sure each student received important items, including brandnew school shoes, so they are ready for the year ahead. Additionally, the Ermineskin Food Bank provided snack bags through Food Banks Canada's "After the Bell Program" to ensure children have access to healthy snacks. "Right on! This is what our community is about!" says Kristen W.

We deeply appreciate everyone who attended the Mini Carnival and contributed to its wonderful success. Your support and effort made this event truly special, and we're grateful to have such an amazing community. Thank you!

Kanawemahwasowin Kamik (KKI)

Community Engagements in Progress

Kanawemahwasowin Kamik's Special Projects department has been meeting with Ermineskin Cree Nation citizens to gather ideas and input for KKIs future goals and programming.

Director of Special Projects Erick Ambtman, along with KKI CEO Rhonda Ross, Prevention Director Patty Wildcat, and Community Engagement Coordinator Jerry Young have been meeting in locations where ECN citizens reside, with appearances from Board Chair Michelle Littlechild, Ermineskin Councillor and KKI Board member Jason Makinaw, and Chief Joel Mykat as their schedule has permitted.

The first engagement in Edmonton was at the Holiday Inn Express Downtown on July 25th, with additional engagements happening in Ermineskin on July 29th, in Mountain Cree (aka Smallboy Camp) on August 6, and the latest engagement happening at the Red Deer Public Library on August 11th.

Rhonda Ross, speaking at the Edmonton engagement: "We're here to hear from you. We need to know what will help you as families. To help your families be strong. We have these goals: we want to protect the children... we want to keep families together. We want to build safe, loving, and culturally rooted homes... We want to bring culture into our everyday lives, we want to include the language, the traditions."

KKI has been meeting with directors and leaders from ECN at what has been called the Leaders in Family Togetherness (LIFT) table. "We come together to talk about how we can work together to support (Ermineskin) families" says Rhonda.

Upcoming engagments include Pigeon Lake on August 18, Buck Lake on August 21, and Vancouver on August 26, 2025. For more information about the upcoming engagements contact Jerry Young at jerry.y@kkamik.com, or call 780-585-3721. You can find more information about our programs and how to register on our Facebook Page: Kanawemahwasowin Kamik, or on our website: www.kkamik.com.

~submitted by Sara Lee, KKI Community & Events Coordinator~







Above: Ermineskin Councillor and KKI Board member Jason Makinaw and KKI Board Chair Michelle Littlechild speak at the Edmonton community engagement. Attendees gave their ideas in the open forum discussion

Left: Erick Ambtman and Jerry Young meeting with attendees.





School Bus pôsiwinis >γΔ.σ^



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Paper masinahikanekin בלפ_"סףשף,

BACK TO SCHOOL



Scissors paskwahamatowin <^P."<\D\\',



Teacher Okiskinwahamâkew PP^Pa." \L9°



Books masinahikana Γζσ"Δβσ

RUGUSTSALE

HOODIE'S 10% OFF andeag's 10% off BACK PACK'S 10% OFF Heag's 10% off ationery 10% off Blankets 10% off pihtwâhew o



Reminder

NEXT ISSUE:

SEPTEMBER 2TH 2025

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

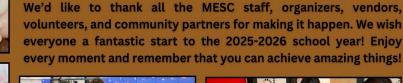
AUGUST 29TH 2025

KAYLA@ERMINESKIN.CA

MESC BACK TO SCHOOL CELEBRATION



The MESC Back to School Celebration was a great success! They had fun activities like a petting zoo, face painting, coloring, and also free haircuts. Woody and Jesse from Toy Story surprised us with a visit, which made the day even more special.















Ermineskin Property Management Announcement

Service Call Prevention Tips

MOLD PREVENTION TIPS

- Ventilate your home by opening windows weekly to ensure good air quality and air flow throughout the house, including basement windows.
- Use bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans.
- Report water leaks

ENSURE A CLEAR AND CLEAN ACCESS TO FURNACE, HOT WATER TANKS, PRESSURE TANKS, ELECTRICAL BREAKER BOX AND FLOOR DRAIN.

- · Keep laundry off the floor.
- · Declutter and store items properly in storage bins and onto shelves.
- · Regularly sweep and mop of basement floor.

SEPTIC CLEANING: Before calling the Emergency Services Line:

- · Keep the grass cut in and around septic tank.
- · Keep area clear of any garbage and debris.
- · Ensure the septic plug in securely plugged in.
- · Ensure the septic plug has not been damaged.
- · Do NOT pour grease or greasy water down any drain.
- . Do NOT flush any kind of wipes in the toilets.
- . Do NOT flush used condoms in toilets.
- Do NOT flush paper towels in the toilets.
- If basement drain smells of sulfur, poor a pail of HOT water into the drain then sit. When the
 drainpipes get dry the sulfur smell begins to linger.

CISTERNS MAINTENANCE: Water Conservation When You Have A Cistern

- · Keep the grass cut in and around Cistern tank.
- No washing cars.
- . No filling of Large Pools.
- Do NOT leave water running unnecessarily.
- · Report any leaks immediately.
- . Report of any odd smells, if there is, discontinue use until addressed by a plumber.

FURNACE MAINTENANCE - CHANGE FILTERS MONTHLY

PLEASE REVIEW THE ERMINESKIN CREE NATION HOME MAINTENANCE MANUAL FOR TROUBLE SHOOTING TIPS. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE, PLEASE REQUEST ONE FROM HOUSING.

If you have any questions or concerns contact EPM: 780-585-3886



NEYASKWEYAHK EMPLOYMENT SKILLS TRAINING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Empowering Our People: The NEST Program

On August 15, 2025, the staff at Neyaskweyahk Employment Skills Training hosted a community engagement event designed to inform the community about the programs and services offered by the department. Attendees enjoyed a delicious lunch and had the chance to win numerous exciting door prizes!

A big shoutout to the incredible staff at N.E.S.T. for organizing this fantastic event! It is truly inspiring to see their dedication to keeping our community informed about the valuable programs and services available. Taking the initiative on bringing essential services for employment and training to our community. Below is some useful information shared during the engagement that community members may find helpful.

The Neyaskweyahk Employment Skills Training (NEST) program is here to support members of the Maskwacis Four Nations on their journey to meaningful employment. With a focus on building confidence and employability, NEST offers funding and support for training programs that lead directly to job opportunities. It operates under the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ISETS) in partnership with Service Canada.

Who Is Eligible?

To apply, you must be:

- •18 years or older
- •A registered citizen of one of the Four Nations of Maskwacis
- •Living in the community for at least six months
- •In possession of a Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Applicants are prioritized based on their current status—whether continuing, new, or previously deferred. If you're already working, you may still qualify for short -term skill upgrades related to your current job.

What Kind of Training Is Funded?

NEST supports short- and long-term training programs ranging from 8 to 52 weeks. Some examples include:

- •Trades training (e.g., welding, carpentry, HEO)
- •Early Childhood Development
- •EMT, Addictions Counseling, Fire Training
- Office Administration

Short-term and walk-in training programs (as short as 1 to 30 days) are also eligible. However, university-level



diplomas, degrees, and any international training programs are not funded.

What Financial Support Is Offered? If your application is approved, you may be eligible for:

- •Tuition funding (up to \$10,000)
- •Daily attendance support (\$75/day)
- •Rent or utility support (\$500/month)
- •Room and board allowance (\$250/month)
- •Childcare assistance (\$25/day or \$400/month per child)

Additional support for textbooks, supplies, exams, and some travel expenses may also be available. Funding is based on consistent attendance and submission of required documents.

What Are My Responsibilities as a Client?

Once funded, clients are expected to:

- Maintain regular contact with NEST staff
- •Submit timesheets, progress reports, and proof of attendance
- •Notify NEST of any changes (address, contact info, program withdrawal, etc.)
- •Complete their training and work in that field for at least one year before reapplying

Misuse of funds or failure to comply with program rules may lead to suspension from the program.

The NEST program is an excellent opportunity to gain valuable skills and take the next step in your career. For more information or to apply, visit the NEST office or speak with a NEST coordinator today.





A.I.G AIGALIGATS



















DISCLAIMER: PLEASE NOTE THAT WE PUT IN OUR BEST EFFORTS TO INCLUDE AS MANY E.C.N YOUTH WHO COMPETED IN A.I.G. 2024, IF WE MISSED ANYONE, IT WAS NOT OUR INTENTION

Confederacy of Treaty No. 6 First Nations





Treaty No. 6 First Nations fighting Alberta separatists in court

Confederacy prepares to seek intervener status in referendum question case

August 15, 2025 (Treaty No. 6 Territory) — The Confederacy of Treaty No. 6 First Nations will file an official application to intervene in the courts against a proposed referendum question regarding Alberta separating from Canada.

Court of King's Bench Justice Colin Feasby has ruled that a full hearing on the constitutionality of the question will take place. In solidarity with other Alberta First Nations, the Confederacy of Treaty No. 6 holds the question of Alberta separation to be unconstitutional, illegal and a threat to Treaty. Separation of Alberta from Canada would be a breach of the Crown's Treaty with First Nations as set out in Treaty No. 6.

We will continue our unchanging opposition to separatist rhetoric and the idea that Alberta could consider separating from Canada. The push for separation is a direct violation of Treaty – which are sacred and legally binding commitments. It is also unconstitutional, posing a clear threat to Section 35 of the *Constitution Act* which protects First Nations Rights.

We will not be idle. Just as First Nations fought for the inclusion of Section 35 in the Constitution, we will continue to fight and oppose the reckless political posturing of this Alberta government and the so-called "Alberta Prosperity Project", who are in fact engaged in playing political games that endanger the future of all Albertans.

To those who stood with us and showed their solidarity with Treaty No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8 in May at the Alberta legislature, stand with us now. We must continue to send the message that Treaty is not history — it is a living agreement that binds us all.

Media Contact: Brian Golightly | pipikwan pêhtâkwan | brian@pipikwanpehtakwan.com

OB OPPORTUNITIES/COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ermineskin Cree Nation

WE ARE HIRING!

AUGUST 18TH, 2025 OPEN POSITIONS:

- Administrative Assistant the Ermineskin Neyaskweyahk Arena Dept.
 - CLOSING: August 25, 2025
- Equipment Maintenance the Ermineskin Neyaskweyahk Arena Dept. CLOSING: August 25, 2025
- Board Member the Ermineskin Rural **Electrification Association** (REA) Board CLOSING: August 25, 2025
- Crisis Intervention Worker (CIW) with the Ermineskin Women's Shelter CLOSING: September 2, 2025 *Contract Term*
- Groundskeeper with the Ermineskin Women's Shelter CLOSING: September 2, 2025 *Contract Term*

APPLY NOW



Please submit applications, resume and criminal record check to:

faith@ermineskin.ca



Join Our Team!

Full-time	Part-time
✓ Custodian	✓ Prep/Line Cook
	✓ Slot Attendant
	✓ Table Games Dealer

Basic Application Requirements:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Criminal Record Check

Departmental Requirements:

- WHMIS-after 90 days (Custodian)
- Gaming Registration, Reel Facts (Optional), Deal Us in Phase 1, AML Certification and Lotto Learn (Slot Department)
- ✓ Gaming Registration, Deal Us In Phase 1 and AML Certification (Table Games)

AGLC SMART TRAINING COURSES CAN BE FOUND AT www.smartprograms.aglc.ca

AML TRAINING COURSE CAN BE FOUND AT www.amlcertification.aglc.ca

LOTTO LEARN CAN BE FOUND AT www.lottolearn.ca

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a brief cover letter outlining your interest in the position to obs@bearhillscasino.com with the subject line "Custodian Application", "Prep/Line Cook Application", "Slot Attendant Application", "Table Games Dealer Application".



KKI PREVENTION PROGRAM PRESENTS:

Lightning Family Indian Residential School Presentation

With Blanket Exercise



Wayside Inn Wetaskiwin, AB **Breakfast & Lunch Provided**

For Information Regarding Transportation & Registration Contact: melina.a@kkamik.com Minimum 30 Participants

RECOGNIZING & HONOURING THE HISTORY OF INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS.





MASKWACIS AUTISM SUPPORT

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ ((

August 28, 2025

12 - 2pm

HBMC classroom

Special Presentation and Group Discussion on Back to School Preparedness with Kristen Swampy



AGES 6 - 17
12-2 PM
USDAY 2025
OPEN TO ALL 4 NATIONS YOUTH





DON'T MISS THIS FREE YOUTH FOOTBALL CLINIC!

IN COLLABORATION WITH ERMINESKIN COMMUNITY WELLNESS
HOSTED BY THE CFL AND COACHED BY THE EDMONTON ELKS
PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY CAPITAL POWER





HOWARD BUFFALO Memorial Center

52A AB-611 MASKWACIS, AB T4J IF Taking Flight International Corporation

Supporting Survivors of Sexual Trauma Certification Course

Facilitated by Dr. Jane Simington, PhD.

September 2-5, 2025

Star of the North Retreat Centre, St. Albert, Alberta 3A St. Vital Ave, St. Albert, AB T8N 1K1

Organized by Ermineskin Brighter Futures
Meals and accommodations will be provided.

During the teaching and learning experiences provided in this course you:

- Gain advanced knowledge and relevant theory of the immediate and longterm effects of sexual trauma on the body, mind, emotion, and spirit.
- Recognize the immediate and long-term grief and trauma reactions to sexual violence and use strategies to heal these responses.
- Advance abilities to provide supportive counselling strategies.



TAX CREDIT AVAILABLE

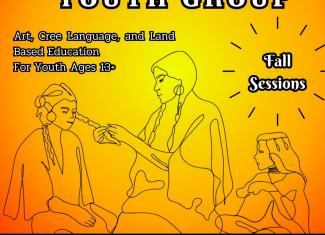


For more info and to register: Please call Brighter Futures reception @ 780-585-2000

ERMINESKIN BRIGHTER FUTURES PRESENTS: WARPAN

<u>agākwak</u>

YOUTH GROUP



Every Thursday Evening 5-7 PM Begins August 28th, 2025 Ø,

wapanacakwak@outlook.com

780-585-2000

Supper and Transportation provided





NEW DATE!!



Candidate Nomination:
AUGUST 20111, 2025
Council Election Date:
AUGUST 27111, 2025

Ermineskin **FORUM** for Councillor Candidates:

AUGUST 25TH, 2025
STARTING AT 10:00AT
LOCATION: NOK BUILDI

Contact Robert Smallboy, External Affairs (780) 585-3741 or robert.smallboy@ermineskin.ca

Elections Officer:

Loretta J Pete Lambert Chief Electoral Officer 1-306-343-7383 Come meet the Candidates!

Ermineskin Community Wellness Presents:

Understanding Yourself & Trauma

September 16-18, 2025
9:30AM - 4:00PM

Subject to change

Subject to change

Register with Ermineskin Community Wellness at (780)535-3741