

CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND

Quarterly Reports

MARCH 2012

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**CHIEF and COUNCIL QUARTERLY REPORT
FOR
March 2012**

Ahneen Georgina Island Membership!

Please take the time to enjoy reading our 2nd Quarterly Report from Chief and Council.

Also please be advised that Council is available to meet with membership when scheduled through Natalie at the front desk, do not hesitate to contact Chief or any Council members for questions or suggestions. Miigwetch!

Community Announcements:

Council would like to thank the Joint Services Committee once again for arranging an organizing the Winter Carnival on March 10th. Although the weather was extremely warm for this time of year, we were still able to skate at the Buzzy Memorial outdoor rink. Everyone enjoyed themselves, participated in the activities and had a good time. Thank you to all who volunteered to help out and take time out of their own lives to make the day special for our children!

Council would also like to thank and acknowledge Rachel BigCanoe and Erica Kelly for the organizing and proposal writing skills to obtain funding to host the career fair at Sutton District High School. The event was well attended by our First Nation students as well as some of the main stream students came in to check it out. There were a lot of excellent booths set up for the kids to visit and ask questions on future careers and choices. All the people that attend and set up the booths volunteer their time into this event, so that our children can have glimpses of different careers they may want to enter into.

This was a long season and Chief and Council would like to address and give thanks to our scoot drivers who were so dedicated to the safety of transporting our members back and forth. It's not an easy job and it sure takes a toll on their bodies. They always went above and beyond their call of duties and rescued many non-members lives that were in danger.

Coldwater Claim:

The Coldwater vote is scheduled for April 14th at the Community Centre. Council cannot stress enough for the membership to exercise their right to vote on this important claim. Packages have been mailed out to the membership and delivered on Reserve, community meetings have been arranged for membership to ask questions or seek advice on the Coldwater Claim. A big thank you goes out to our Deputy Electoral Officer Sylvia McCue and her team as well as Suzanne Howse Community Consultation Worker, who worked diligently to meet the timelines

that Indian Affairs was proposing so that the vote date could happen sooner than later. Congratulations to all the CTC First Nation's and Nawash who successfully got the Ratification packages ready in record timing. We look forward to the Vote date and a successful conclusion to the wrong injustices that our First Nation had to suffer since our ancestors were wrongfully removed from Coldwater in 1836.

Williams Treaty:

Court proceedings are now moving ahead on the Williams Treaty, Canada did not come back to the table with a mandate to negotiate. Phase 1 of the Trial with Community Evidence will begin on May 7th at Rama First Nation. The Williams Treaty First Nation's have all decided that we have had too much time and money invested into this process and now it's time to move forward with the Court case.

All the Williams Treaty First Nation's will have to be submitting dollars into the court proceedings which could amount up to 500 thousand dollars each. Our lawyer Peter Hutchins advised that these costs are for the expert witnesses, trial process, lawyer fees and accommodation. The trial could last up to 8 months. The Williams Treaty First Nations are focusing on seeking financial compensation and our Hunting and Fishing Rights returned.

Lands:

A community meeting was held in early February to discuss the Land Use Plan that had been developed. Chief and Council had reviewed the Land Use Plan made comments and overall decided that it would be up to the community to accept the plan as is. From the community meeting and letters sent in from the membership Council decided to postpone the vote date on the Land Use Plan so that some revisions could be made to better reflect the uniqueness of our island. As the Plan is redeveloped, community meetings will be held to communicate the changes and new drafts to the membership.

Environment:

Earth Day clean up is scheduled for April 23rd, lunch provided. Information will be provided on all the different recycling programs at community centre as well as tree sales. Please come out and participate to help clean up and keep our island beautiful.

Attached is the Waste Management Calendar! It's a great resource to access information on waste management, recycling programs and information on our island. Make sure to review the calendar for waste services that have been changed according to holiday schedules.

Health:

The Chief and Council met with Michel Bisson from Health Canada. He came to explain the new funding template. The Council members asked him about a new Health Facility because ours is now over 25 years old. We ask Medical Services every year and every year we are given the reasons as to why there is no money. This year was no exception. We did manage to get some commitment to support our outrageous hydro costs with the building that we are completely underfunded with.

Council looked into how other First Nation's manage their Family Referral dollars. Apparently some First Nation's use those dollars for Health Directors and the NNADAP takes on the responsibility of treatment referral. Council decided it was necessary to contract a Health Director for reporting reasons for funding purposes. Medical Services provides no money for this badly needed position. NNADAP will be taking on the added duties of treatment referral.

Social Services:

Carol Taylor will be coming around to visit the Elders and fill out their yearly applications. She will be contacting the Elders to set up times.

Child Services:

From all that Council has observed and heard from other First Nations, our Child Services Worker, Shannon Crate has broken barriers with the Children's Aid Society which others only dream about. We are so fortunate to have Shannon working on behalf of our families.

Community Teachings:

Early Childhood Education

On January 25th and 27th, Kim, Debbie, Lauri and Lorraine attended the Early Learning Summit hosted by the Chiefs of Ontario, at the Marriot in Toronto.

The Junior Kindergarten program is running smoothly and we don't anticipate any problems with this wonderful program. All of the JK's are doing well.

Kim, Donna and Pat attended Gathering of First Nations, Early Learning Conference at the Marriot in Toronto on March 22nd and 23rd. The first day was training on the new reporting format since the change of responsibility to the Ministry of Education. The second day the Chief was invited to discuss with and to get input from First Nation leadership on the modernization of child care in Ontario.

Education:

A very successful career fair for First Nation students was held at the High School on March 6th. It was titled "Dare to Dream" this year. Thanks to Rachael Big Canoe and Erica Kelly's excellent planning and hard work, the day ^{of} ~~with~~ ^{was} filled with information and many booths were represented by a variety/careers for the students to discuss with the representatives attending the booths. The morning session was with relationship expert and motivational speaker, Dr. Karyn Gordon who delivered an empowering message to our students on being successful at whatever you try to do.

Once again Lauri is going to try to have summer Ojibwe language classes for high school credits for our students. If there is room we will be calling for any adults that are interested in taking these classes. If Lauri can get this program up and running, it will be delivered in August.

Post Secondary

Graduating students this year are in the following programs:

Bachelor of Arts – English

Certificate in Sustainable Building

Dental Hygienist

College Trades - Welding Techniques

Bachelor of Social Work

Teacher – Masters in Geography

Bachelor of Arts (Political Science)

Environmental Technician

Certificate General Arts and Science

Four of the above students have applied advanced studies in their field.

We have thirteen students who will be continuing on this year towards their degree and/or certificate.

Heritage, Culture and Language:

Andrew Big Canoe and Suzanne Howes will be scheduling another Talking Circle gathering for some time in May. Two very successful gatherings have been held in October and November of 2011. Unfortunately, ice travel throughout the winter prevented our off-reserve members from coming to the Island, so the Talking Circles were cancelled. We are all busy now dealing

with the Coldwater Settlement vote, so Andy and Suzanne are planning for a May date. Watch for a flyer on reserve or check the Chippewas of Georgina Island website.

During a senior's trip to Ottawa last fall, I picked up a book called "Pocket Ojibwe for Kids and Parents". After our Elder and Ojibwe language teacher at WaabgonGamigschool, Barbara McDonald, reviewed it, I ordered 100 copies. They are meant to be given to parents and grandparents of the students currently taking Ojibwe language classes. Georgina Wolske has also been given copies to hand out to Ojibwe parents from the mainland schools where she teaches. If anyone missed out, I do have a few copies here at the office.

It is the 100th anniversary of the War of 1812, so our local First Nation communities are forming a volunteer committee who are planning events for this year as well as possibly making a film or documentary, a booklet and possibly curriculum for our on-reserve schools, on our participation in this war. Some of the initiatives will take longer than one year to develop.

For the coming year, all of our budgets are very tight again; however we will be celebrating Aboriginal Day, in June, as usual.

Radio Station:

Morgan is off for 8 weeks on a training course and Leah Atkinson will be covering for him until he returns. So hang in there, Morgan will be back.

Transportation:

The rebuild of the engine and generators went well. The Aazhwe is running well at this time and we are just dealing with a few minor issues. New benches will be installed in the passenger quarters in the next week. Also non-member rates were raised to \$40.00 to offset costs on repairs and fuel. Coast Guard will be coming this week to inspect for operational safety issues.

This also was our first year operating the airboats without Huskey being available for maintenance. Terry Crate did a good job staying on top the repairs.

Water Station:

The Water Station has been experiencing technical difficulties these past few weeks. Our workers have been trying to figure out the problems being encountered with the Treatment plant. The pumps have blown and then the back-up pump blew and had to be replaced. Our Water Treatment Plant Operator ordered a new one which had solved that problem. Water levels were down for a few days as we waited for the new pump to arrive. Then the Filtration System has been acting up in which our Operator recommended that "boil water advisory" should be in effect until problem is rectified. Operators are waiting on new filter media and

keeping track of water levels. We ask that the community members be patient while our operators work on these problems so that clean healthy water can be delivered to our homes. The Water Treatment Plant was built in 1993 and we have been advised that our building does not only need substantial upgrades but a whole new system needs to be replaced so that our membership on reserve can enjoy clean drinkable water. We have been lobbying Indian Affairs regarding a new Treatment Plant; it seems that their focus is more up in the Northern Reserves.

Literacy/Library:

Report Attached

Police:

Report Attached

On behalf of the Native Literacy program I would like to acknowledge the success of three of our students. These individuals have shown what hard work and perseverance can do.

These three students have completed three different objectives and courses of study;

Trish BigCanoe completed an online course called Self-Management/Self-direction. This course provides students with an opportunity to learn and use strategies that can be applied to their academic, employment, and personal life. The course focuses on areas such as self-reflection, critical thinking, goal setting, study skills, organizational skills, group dynamics and career/employment exploration.

Amber Snache completed the Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition which entails subjects of Math, English, Science, History and Geography. This has given her credits towards her grade twelve.

Willow Hill has completed courses required to attain her Ontario Secondary School Diploma. We must commend Willow on this achievement as she was also working and raising a family at the same time as her studies.

We are very proud of these women they are examples that anything is possible. We also have a gentleman who is on his way to completing his Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition and will be working towards his grade twelve. He will be our first male student to complete this process, Way To Go Jesse.

It is very heartening for myself and Karen to see the progress and accomplishments that these individuals have attained. Thanks to our teacher Marian and our partnership with Sabrina at elearnnetwork our program has grown in the past few years, enabling us to offer more to our students and these three women are shining examples of this. I would like to thank Chief Donna BigCanoe and council for recognizing the importance of the Native Literacy program and a special thank you to our portfolio holder Pat BigCanoe for all of her support and encouragement to us and our program. We would also like to recognize the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities. Without all of you this would not have been possible.

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POLICE REPORT December 2011

14 occurrences for the month of December 2011

- 1 – Stolen Vehicle
- 1 – Traffic Complaint
- 1 – Serve Documents
- 1 – Assist OPP
- 1 – Transport Service
- 3 – Police Assistance
- 1 – Historic Sexual Assault, charges laid
- 1 – Insecure Premises
- 2 – False Alarm
- 2 – Police Information



POLICE REPORT January 2012

23 occurrences for the month of January 2012

- 1 – Vehicle Transport
- 2 – Police Assistance
- 2 – Insecure Premises
- 3 – Fail to Remain MVC
- 1 – Spot Checks
- 9 – Sexual Assault Investigation Follow-up
- 1 – Mischief
- 2 – False Alarms
- 1 – Property Related
- 1 – Fraud

Our Economy

Our Decisions

Our Future

“Let us put our minds together and see what future we will make for our children”

All Welcome to attend – we need your input.

“ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN”

Community Centre

Date: April 26th, 2012

Two Sessions

Time: 1 p.m. – 3p.m.

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Let’s discuss our economic future together. Bring ideas, enthusiasm and energy. All welcome. Refreshments. Prizes.

