

# NEZAADIKAANG NEWS

*Towards a healthy and informed community*

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## Hundreds Gather at Annual Powwow

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation community members and guests came together to dance, pray, feast and visit with one another at the annual community powwow held at the Savanne River Resort from June 19 to 21, 2015.

This year's powwow was emceed by Ron Kanutski, under the spiritual guidance of Elder Gilbert Smith, and with the assistance of Arena Director Todd Genno. Dancers of all ages circled the arbor to the beats of local and regional drums that included Shkoday-Asin, Nokomis, Dark Thunderbird, and Northwest Bay Traditional. The committee held several dance specials to honour the dancers and a new princess and brave were selected for the second year in a row.

*(story continued on page 2)*



The princess and brave pageant was introduced last year as a way to honour community youth and encourage them to continue embracing their culture and teachings as Anishinabe People. The new princess and brave are Alexandra Schooley-Zoccole and Kaleb McGinnis.

The rain that fell on Saturday did not deter the singers and dancers. The Creator provides rain to help nourish life and heal the People. Powwow guests also welcomed the talent and teachings brought by two travelling Hoop Dancers that shared their beautiful steps and words with all those in attendance. "The weather always surprises us, but we improvised this year and moved the powwow into our main tent for the first day," said powwow coordinator Mike Ignace. "It was great weekend, which ended with a spectacular firework display!"

*For more photographs of the powwow, please visit:*

*[www.lacdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca](http://www.lacdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca)*





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## From the Office of Chief and Council

**Boozhoo to our Membership and Families!** We hope that everyone has been enjoying the warm weather now that summer is in full swing. Summer is always a busy time for families as they travel to visit one another and get work done around the home. As we strive to keep our community members informed, we would like to take the opportunity to provide updates regarding your governing council's ongoing initiatives, meetings and other Band business.

### Enhancing Communication

In an effort to enhance our communication efforts, we are pleased to introduce a new format for our community newsletter. As we move forward with a more engaging publication, we will strive to increase the frequency of its distribution. The new newsletter along with the new community website is part of a larger strategic communications plan that will utilize more tools to keep our membership informed and build healthier relationships with our many stakeholders. Please remember to check our "News" section of our website for regular updates. This is where you will find the most reliable and updated information about our First Nation's initiatives, activities, programs, etc.

### Flood Claim Negotiations

Since the Winter/Spring newsletter, our Flood Claim Negotiations Team has continued to meet with both provincial and federal negotiations teams. At the beginning of June, Chief and Council along with members of our negotiation team attended meetings in Toronto with Minister Zimmer (Aboriginal Affairs), AANDC senior representatives and the Ontario negotiator. During these meetings, there were discussions that centred around the option of a bilateral settlement with the Province of Ontario. This may occur should the federal government be in the position to not table an offer this Fall due to the upcoming federal election. This was based on various factors, the foremost factor being that our process was being continuously delayed by federal cabinet shuffles, changes in representatives, and elections business. We are now at the stage where we are formulating actual numbers for compensation and we aim to be in the position to present these numbers to our Membership by late Fall 2015.

### Land Development

In late spring, Chief and Council met with AANDC's Regional Director General (Ontario). A key agenda item included securing a commitment from AANDC to provide infrastructure funding, specifically funds for wells and septic systems. It is of the utmost importance that individuals wishing to develop residences on our land base have access to safe drinking water and waste disposal. We aim to hold a meeting for members who submitted a letter of interest this fall. Please stay tuned for more information about a meeting date and time.

*(continued on page 4)*





### **Congratulations New Grad!**

Congratulations to Band Member Shyann May on her recent graduation from the Early Childhood Education program at Confederation College. Shyann has found employment in Thunder Bay and has plans to continue her education in the near future as well!

*“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela*

## **From the Office of Chief and Council** (continued)

### **Welcome**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Celeste Pedri-Spade who will be assisting our community with its ongoing efforts to enhance communication. As mentioned previously, we look forward to designing and implementing new initiatives and tools to keep our Membership and community partners continuously informed of Band activities, issues, and accomplishments. Also, we would like to extend an introduction to Stacy McDermid who is assisting our community with a health-needs assessment in partnership with our Council and Dr. Cheryl Everall of the Joseph Esquega Health Centre.

### **Health Assessment Update**

Chi Miigwetch to those who have taken the time to complete the Community Health Assessment. As we move forward in rebuilding our community, your participation is important as it helps leadership to understand our unique health care needs. Over the next few months, the results will be synthesized and summarized into a report by health care professionals. Any identifying information has been removed. Although the survey is closed, it's not too late to let us know what services you see beneficial to LDMLFN and/or what you feel is a concern with respect to health related issues. Please email your comments to Stacy McDermid at [nylycats@hotmail.com](mailto:nylycats@hotmail.com).

For more information or to suggest a story for the next issue, please contact your Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Band Office at (807) 622-9835 and leave your name and contact information.

[www.lacsdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca](http://www.lacsdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca)





## LDMFN Annual Health Fair A Great Success!

The Annual Health Fair took place on Saturday March 19, 2015 at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay. Approximately 100 community members and guests were in attendance. This year's event focused on "Diabetes Awareness" and several local First Nations and mainstream service providers set up booths to deliver valuable health information and tools. A healthy lunch was provided and presentations were

done by The Childrens Centre Thunder Bay, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care, First Nations and Inuit Health, Chiefs of Ontario, and Mishko Bimaadziwin. Some of the topics addressed included anti-bullying strategies, foot care, oral hygiene, and prescription drug abuse prevention. The afternoon finished off with "Diabetes Bingo" and the drawing of door prizes.

## LDMLFN Elders Come Together at Annual Gathering

The Annual Elder's Gathering was held in May at the Victoria Inn in Thunder Bay. Elders spent three days together doing different activities both at the Victoria Inn and out at the community land base. Elders visited the Cultural Complex and Roundhouse and participated in fun recreational activities including Bingo and a performance by a local nostalgia band, the Sensational Hot Rods.

On the last day of the gathering, a new Elder's Council was selected for a three (3) year term. Your new Elder's Council includes Ernest Boyes, Amelia Crowley, Roy Ignace, Gladys Mychasiw, Bill Tenniscoe, and Frances Shebobman. An orientation for this new Council will take place in the near future.







### Congratulations New Grad!

Congratulations to Dannell McGinnis, daughter of Victoria Barber. Dannell received her high school diploma at the beginning of the summer. Dannell is a mother of two beautiful young ones—Kaleb and Nathalie. Way to go Dannell!

*If you would like to include a congratulatory message to a community member, please let Mark Berkan, Education & Training Coordinator know (807) 622-9835 ex. 226*

### LDMLFN 2015 Election Results

As per our community's Custom Election Code, an election took place in June 2015 for the positions of one (1) Chief and five (5) Councillors.



Your elected Chief and Council for the next three (3) years are: Chief Whitecloud (Judy Maunula), and Councillors Irma Churchill, Tracy Morrison, Garry Kishiqueb, Julia Rusnak and Carmel Zoccole. An Oath of Office ceremony, conducted by the Honourable Justice Joyce L. Pelletier, was held on July 27, 2015. The official results of the election may be found on the "News" section of our website, [www.lacdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca](http://www.lacdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca)

*\*Please note, an appeal to the election results submitted to an independent adjudicator following the election was denied and dismissed mid-July. No grounds to support any violation of our Election Code or to support claims of fraudulent or corrupt practice related to the election were found.*



The following summer activities are available for community youth:

**July 22, 2015: Movie matinee at Silvercity.** Contact Marcia to register.

**July 23, 2015: Aerosports trampoline park.** Contact Curtis to register.

**July 24, 2015: Bowling at Mario's Bowl.** Contact Curtis to register.

**August 6, 2015: Community Kitchen at the Band Office.** Contact Marcia to register.

**August 19, 2015: BBQ at Chippewa Park.** Contact Marcia to register.

**August 20, 2015: Aerosports trampoline park.** Contact Curtis to register.

**August 21, 2015: Bowling at Mario's Bowl.** Contact Curtis to register.

**Marcia Pedri: (807) 622-9835 ex. 233;**  
[marciapedri@tbaytel.net](mailto:marciapedri@tbaytel.net)

**Curtis Primeau: (807) 622-9835 ex. 231;**  
[curtisprimeau@tbaytel.net](mailto:curtisprimeau@tbaytel.net)

## Reminder to all Community Members:

**Sewing Spirits** will start up again this September 2015!

Sewing Spirits is a weekly group of community members that meet to learn how to create regalia and other Anishinabe cultural items like drums, feather carriers, medicine pouches, etc.

If you are interested in participating please contact Marcia Pedri at (807) 622-9835; email: [marciapedri@tbaytel.net](mailto:marciapedri@tbaytel.net).

## LDMLFN Celebrates its Mothers

Mothers Day is a celebration honouring our mothers, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds and the influence of mothers in society. On May 6, 2015 a special day of pampering was held for LDMLFN mothers! Our mothers were treated to a spa party held at A Spa For You. Women were invited to receive massages, foot detox, manicures, and other relaxing and enjoyable activities. Lots of laughter medicine was also shared! It was a wonderful way of saying, "we appreciate you mom!"



Congratulations to Ashlynn Dolph-Ignace, the winner of our recent logo contest! Ashlynn will now have the opportunity to work with a graphic designer to learn how artwork is transformed into a file that can be used for different communications materials.

***"I used a butterfly because it goes through change... in the center piece is the caterpillar... its the beginning... around it, is a cocoon... then poof! The final stage is a full bloom butterfly."***

– Ashlynn Dolph-Ignace



LAC DES MILLE LACS FIRST NATION PRESENTS

# LIVE FREE LIVE RIGHTEOUS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2015 ■ 4PM - 11PM ■ FORT WILLIAM HISTORICAL PARK

**A TRIBE CALLED RED**

⊕ **KEYS N KRATES** ⊕

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