



# Building Metis connections through ice-fishing and language

By Laura Mushumanski, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

I ate like a queen in Lac La Biche last month. The food was made with so much love, and consisted of wild meat, fish, fresh vegetables and fruit, baked goodies, along with all our fry bread needs being met - how could I not bask in all my glory of feeling pleasantly plump after kohkom Alvina Sampietro shared her gifts, time and energy into nourishing our bodies, minds and spirits.

As I gathered with my fellow Metis brothers and sisters over a 3-day weekend of Michif learning and ice fishing in Lac La Biche, the one thing that kept standing out was the importance of connection. The connections we share with others supports our growth and understanding of how we engage with the world around us, as well as being able to understand our own unique gifts we can share with the world.

And once we start to feel our hurts within our hearts instead of thinking of our hurts with our heads, we are able to transition from being guarded and scared into being open to learning and engaging with others. Knowing that our hurts experience in childhood along with unfortunate events were at no fault of our own, and how being an adult is a humbling responsibility to reconcile with our hurts, so we are not passing our hurts onto others.

One thing: never be discouraged to come together with others, because you know there will always be food present - and who doesn't like a delicious smorgasbord of baking powder biscuits (that also happens to be high in calcium where calcium in large amounts acts as a natural

painkiller), along with the possibility of Indian tacos and all the dairy imaginable as an alternative form of gas for the car ride home.

Eight of us Metis learners were gifted the opportunity to immerse

ourselves in learning our Metis language, Michif, and ice-fishing. Project Lead/Coordinator with Metis Nation of Alberta Region 1 Dianna Cook did all the behind the scenes work to make this heartfelt weekend happen - the funding from the Canadian Heritage, Indigenous Languages and Cultural Programs, Indigenous Languages component made what would have been a financial barrier into a possibility for us to learn, connect and laugh.

Speaking of Michif - the multicultural language of the Metis consists of Cree verbs, French nouns and a bit of English thrown into the mix. The history of the Metis stems back to us being a diverse group of people coming together starting from the fur trade and where either French and/or Scottish men would marry our Indigenous sisters and produce offspring - and where we eventually became noted as roadside people. Although the history of Metis people has not always been pleasant, like any of our ancestors' history, the Metis in particular at one time were not welcome into 'white-man' territory, neither in our Indigenous communities - so they became known as road allowance people and formed their own



MNA Region 1 hosted a joyful 3 day weekend of Michif learning, ice fishing and togetherness - funded by Canadian Heritage - Indigenous languages. (Photo supplied)

unique culture, language and communities.

While immersing myself into the essential part of culture – language - my stay (in one of the in-floor heated cabins) was located on Sir Winston Churchill Provincial Park, the island that is captivated by Lac La Biche Lake. It was an incredible learning experience for all that were involved.

Most of us arrived the night before the icefishing expedition began. Our Metis brother Micheal Walgren and his beloved family, wife Candace, son Ethan and daughter Sydney were like the fantastic four - Metis style. The Walgren family tirelessly set up camp on the lake, drilled holes for the nets to be put in place, and the following day the sun was hot enough to burn our skin. The next two days were full of teachings that will forever imprint on our little jigging feet hearts.

One of the language speakers that was a part of our lighthearted rendezvous, the fun and loving fluent Michif speaking kohkom originally from Buffalo Narrows, Elsie Anderson was like the gift that kept on giving. Kohkom Elsie shared with me the word she used in Michif for White Fish is 'La Bla'- well so I thought. In my head I said to myself, "hmm that fish must taste like 'blah' for it to be called that." I followed up a day later with Elsie asking why the fish is called 'La Bla' and if it tastes as delightful as unknowingly swinging back a carton of expired milk, only to find out my ears must have been painted on. We giggled with each other for a few minutes about my sharp listening and learning skills. Just to clear up any confusion, in Michif, White Fish is 'Leblanc Poisson,' not La Bla.

We learned how to fillet the fish - the White Fish we caught, along with Walleye and Jack Fish, and on Saturday night we had a fish fry that left the beautiful aroma of fried fish on my hair and jacket for the following week.

And you know the type of mosom that likes to crack jokes and is over the moon about sharing photos of the pies he bakes and his family - well that was Harvey Boucher, our Cree and Michif speaker, born and raised in Lac La Biche. He was joyfully excited to speak about culture and share his knowledge about the language with us. And I have to admit - there is nothing like sharing keesh-kwan stories with a group of people and being able to come together to laugh together.

One take away from this wonderful learning experience was to be open to learn - be teachable. Our natural environment holds so much wisdom for us to continuously learn from, through the plants, animals, people and all that reside on Mother Earth, - sometimes all we have to do is sit still long enough to listen.





# **Celebrate Metis Spring Festival**

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

This year's Metis Spring Festival begins May 19, and those who enjoyed the festivities last year can expect the same from the annual celebration of Metis arts and culture.

The event, which is co-hosted by the Metis Nation of Alberta and Metis Child and Family Services Society (MCFSS), is returning to Servus Place in St. Albert, with three days of talent competitions for people of various age groups and abilities. Attendance is free, as is registration for the competitions, which have cash prizes.

On Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. are vocal competitions, with 30 spots available. On Saturday at 1 p.m. are jigging and fiddling contests, with the finals beginning Sunday at 1 p.m.

Florence Gaucher, program manager at MCFSS, said the festival's main purpose is to provide a venue for Metis people in the Edmonton area to socialize and embrace their culture, however everyone who wants to attend is welcome.

"The important part is the social aspect of it," Gaucher, who resides in St. Albert, told *Alberta* 

Native News. "People can gather together once a year when you don't normally see them throughout the year. It's just a good gathering place."

But the cultural component is equally important, she added.

The talent shows are an effort to attract young people to the event, said Gaucher.

"I was born and raised a Metis person. It was embedded in my mind by my parents that our culture is important and that we need to make our children aware of what Metis culture is about," Gaucher explained.

"It's not only about the lifestyle of Metis people. Music and dance has always been important to us.

"We as parents have a responsibility to teach our children our history and our heritage, and to be proud of being Metis and the culture that's within it."

St. Albert has always been home to a large French-speaking Metis community, so it is the ideal place to host such an event.

The Servus Credit Union Centre, where the event has taken place since 2010, is a "totally ideal" venue, Gaucher added.

The recreation facility is 320,000 square feet in size and boasts three NHL-sized ice rinks, an aquatic centre, fitness centre, indoor playground, three gymnasiums, two field houses, a teaching kitchen, and several retail operations and food services outlets.

Those who want to register for the vocal contest can do so

from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on May 19; for jigging and fiddling, registration is from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on May 20.

For more information, contact Gaucher by phone at 780-222-4138 or by email at florencemc@metischild.com.

# Doctrine of Discovery repudiation could have major impact on case law

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Vatican's announcement in March that it's repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery that was used to justify colonialism and plunder for centuries led to questions about what that decision means in practice.

According to Tamara Baldhead Pearl, a University of Alberta law professor from the One Arrow First Nation in Saskatchewan, the Vatican's repudiation of the doctrine could be an important first step in eliminating "white supremacy in Canadian case law."

"The greater the consensus that the Doctrine of Discovery is fundamentally racist and immoral, the harder it is for Canadian courts to continue to decide cases based on this fundamental doctrine," Pearl told the CBC Radio program *Day* 6.

She added that hopefully judges will "try to rethink how Canadian law can be brought into conformity with the contemporary understanding of Indigenous rights and equality among peoples."

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission report's Call to Action #46 calls on the Church and government to "repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery" and to "reform laws, governance structures, and policies... that continue to rely on such concepts."

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) called the Vatican's repudiation of the doctrine "one step among many that should be taken by the Catholic Church towards taking responsibility for its actions."

"We hope that the Vatican's statement will spur renewed conversations about the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the duty to address the profound harms that have been inflicted through colonial laws and policies," the NCTR said in a March 30 statement.

In a March 31 statement, the Metis National Council (MNC) called the repudiation a "step forward by the Catholic Church in their commitment to walking together in a good way with Indigenous peoples on the journey of reconciliation."

The Vatican must "move beyond mere words to real, tangible actions that centre the needs and experiences of Métis Survivors and their families," the MNC added, noting that it brought

these concerns to the Pope's attention last year.

The Catholic Church's disavowal of 15th century papal bulls, or edicts, which informed the doctrine came with a caveat. The Vatican maintained that these edicts were misinterpreted by colonial powers and not the will of the Church, citing later bulls that contradicted the doctrine.

Pearl told *Day 6* that while the Vatican's repudiation of the doctrine "was not perfect," it "meant a lot to a lot of Indigenous folks throughout the country."

The announcement came a year after First Nations, Metis and Inuit delegates travelled to the Vatican, where Pope Francis apologized for the Catholic Church's role in operating the carceral assimilation institutions known as "residential schools."

A few months later, the Pope visited Canada, touring Alberta, Quebec and Nunavut. At his visit to the National Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré in Quebec, Indigenous protestors unfurled a banner calling on him to "Rescind the Doctrine."

The doctrine's disavowal won't have an immediate impact on Canadian law, Pearl emphasized, "but it will have a significant impact on those who make changes in the law."

This will hopefully mark a newfound respect for the Treaties and nation-to-nation relationships that were the basis of King George III's 1763 Royal Proclamation, she added.

The notion "that Canadian state law, which is common law, civil law, is the only sole legitimate source of law in Canada" reflects the long-term impact of the doctrine on Canada's judicial system, because it ignores Indigenous laws, Pearl explained.

The Vatican's statement from last month "helps to de-legitimize the assumptions on which Crown sovereignty and underlying title are based," she said.



# NGO provides help to families of MMIWG2S+

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A newly established non-profit that provides free private investigators for families of missing Indigenous people whose disappearances aren't being investigated by police is in the midst of its inaugural crowdfunding campaign.

MMIP Investigations was incorporated in February, co-founded by L. Vawn Jeddry, a loss prevention officer from English River First Nation in Northern Saskatchewan, and Ward Clapham, a former RCMP superintendent with undercover investigative experience.

Jeddry told *Alberta Native News* that she felt the need to do something about the scourge of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit and gender diverse people across Canada.

"Just looking at all of the things that have been done, like the marches, and all of the events and activities, we really wanted to do something [resulting in] some tangible action," she said.

She emphasized that MMIP doesn't seek to interfere with any active police investigations, although they can assist law enforcement.

For the many cases that aren't being investigated by police, Jeddry and Clapham want to help families reunite with their loved ones, or in the worst case, get closure.

The person they're searching for doesn't have to be officially reported missing, Jeddry added.

"It could be somebody that families lost contact with, or cases that may not even have been reported. We would be pleased to help reconnect people with their families if there's concern for their safety," Jeddry explained.

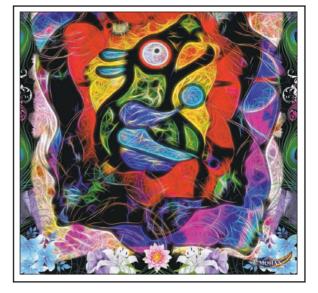
In addition to investigations, MMIP intends on providing prevention programming.

These educational programs will highlight "the vital issue of personal protection" for vulnerable community members by inculcating a sense of self-worth.

"We can't as Indigenous people continue to be told the story... that we are lesser or not worth as much as other people, because it's just not true," Jeddry said. "Unfortunately, the more someone hears those types of things, the more they believe it"

The less someone values themselves, the more likely they are to get into high-risk situations, she added

MMIP Investigations also plans on investing in GPS technology that people can access when they're in trouble, which will notify them of the nearest location to shelter. "Anybody else in that area that has the app will also be alerted that



there's somebody in trouble," Jeddry said.

"The whole idea is to remove them from the situation where they could be harmed and stop the event from happening in the first place."

The organization also aims to offer free training for Indigenous people to become licensed private investigators.

While the non-profit is majority Indigenousowned, the ultimate goal is to have it 100 per cent Indigenous-owned and operated.

To that effect, they're seeking to train Indigenous people in finance, administrative and managerial roles.

Those looking to donate can do so at https://give.crowdfunding.alberta.ca/profiles/mm ip-investigations-ltd.

# Alberta wildfires push thousands of Indigenous people from their homes

By Shari Narine, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter - Windspeaker.com

On May 9, Métis Settlement General Council President Dave Lamouche was on his way to East Prairie Métis Settlement to "see the devastation," he told Windspeaker.com.

The community was caught between two fires and evacuated late on Friday May 5. About 500 to 600 people made their way to High Prairie.

About 40 structures have been lost, said

Lamouche, including about 27 homes, as well as "sheds, farms and stuff like that."

Some community members have remained behind to help with firefighting efforts, said Lamouche.

On May 7, East Prairie Métis Settlement was joined by Gift Lake Métis Settlement in declaring local states of emergency.

Gift Lake Métis Settlement has not evacuated, said Lamouche, but the communities of Gift Lake and Whitefish Lake First Nation (Atikameg) have been without electricity and water since Friday.

Whitefish Lake First Nation declared a band council resolution state of emergency on Sunday.

Lamouche said Gift Lake was using some of its own resources to get generators as ATCO worked to repair electricity. However, he added, ATCO has sustained considerable infrastructure damage in the area.

In an announcement on its website Saturday, ATCO said it was monitoring the wildfires closely and "our crews will assess damage and begin restoration in areas that have been shut off."

Peavine Métis Settlement had a fire burning north of it, but it seems to be moving away from the community, said Lamouche.

Lamouche said he has been in contact with Alberta Indigenous Relations Minister Rick Wilson, as well as directors in the department "working with Emergency Services Alberta to try and put some priorities in place."

The three Métis settlements and 12 First Nations are among communities impacted by the 98 active fires (as of May 9) in central and

Continued on page 23

# Value and Celebrate

# Indigenous Women, Girls, Two Spirit and Gender Diverse People

#### Offering services to Indigenous families through:

- No Cost Professional Investigators and advocacy for Families of MMIWG, 2S, GD People
- Deployment of Personal Protective Technology
- Support for community Mental, Physical, and Emotional wellbeing









Red Dress Day rallies were held across Canada on May 5 to raise awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, men, boys, and Two-Spirit people, while also commemorating and honouring them. Thousands of people took part at the rally in Edmonton. Photos by Paula E. Kirman

# Red Dress Day: Caring, Sharing, and Community

By Paula E. Kirman, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Thousands of people once again took to the streets of downtown Edmonton to mark Red Dress Day on May 5.

Also The National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, Red Dress Day is intended to raise awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, men, boys, and Two-Spirit people, while also commemorating and honouring them. The red dress, often hung on trees or other public structures, became a symbol for the movement as it is believed that the colour red is the only colour visible to spirits.

Judith Gale, who is at the helm of the Bear Clan Beaver Hills House, has been involved as a Red Dress Day lead organizer since the event began in Edmonton in 2018. Gale noted that this vear there is optimism following the House of Commons unanimously adopting a motion earlier in the week for the creation of a Red Dress Alert, similar to an Amber Alert. "I'm very excited for

that step in the right direction," she said.

"Today is a day to memorialize and to recognize and to hold in our hearts our loved ones that were taken too soon. Each Indigenous person on Turtle Island knows at least 10 of our brothers and sisters who have perished. Today we commemorate each and every one of those lost souls and say they are lost but never forgotten," explains Gale.

Escorted by members of the Bear Clan Beaver Hills House and Crazy Indians Brotherhood, the crowd spanned numerous blocks marching from Churchill Square, down Jasper Avenue to Amiskwaskahegan – Beaver Hills House Park. Along the way grandmother/grandson singing and drumming group Chubby Cree, known for appearing at many social justice events, kept the beat going with their songs performed from the back of a truck at the front of the march.

At the park, which had red dresses and ribbons hanging on trees and light poles, there was a gathering where family members had the chance to speak about their lost loved ones. In addition, there was an open clothing closet, tea and bannock, and food hampers. As is customary for the event, many participants wore red, including some with a red hand painted on their faces. The handprint symbolizes blood on the hands of Canada for missing, murdered, and exploited Indigenous peoples.

After the event, Gale expressed that she was



**Drumming and singing group Chubby Cree** 

pleased with how the day went. "The day was filled with the spirits of our missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirited, and gender diverse ancestors. Their presence was felt by all. A day of caring and sharing in community came together in a good way."

Other organizations that supported Edmonton's Red Dress Day included the City of Edmonton, the Elizabeth Fry Society of Northern Alberta, Unifor, the City of Edmonton, Inner City High School, John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights, and the Bhartiya Cultural Society of Alberta.



**Bear Clan member Judith Gale** 





## WE BUY TRADITIONAL BRAIN-TANNE MOOSE AND ELK HIDES

(Smoked on both sides)

Get Paid up-to \*\$3,000 for Moose **TODAY** 



Bring your traditionally brain-tanned Elk or Moose hides to Halfords. Earn up-to \*\$3,000 for Moose today.

We pay up-to \$3,000 for XL Select Moose



3629 126 Avenue Edmonton Alberta T5B

This season, make something amazing. Try our QUALITY CRAFT KITS, or discover an excellent selection of Leather, Fur and Native Craft Supplies available at HALF@RD'S.



**@HALFORDHIDE** HALFORDSMAILORDER.COM



Check out over 9,000 Products Online, In-Store or in our Catalogue

HalfordsMailorder.com/download-catalogue



Publication Mail Agreement No. 40050628 Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: Circulation Department: #206, 8944 182 Street Edmonton AB T5T 2E3 natnews@shaw.ca

Tel: (780) 421-7966

Canadä

Volume 40, Number 05, May 2023 ISSN #08294135

www.albertanativenews.com

**EDITOR:** Deborah Shatz

**ADVERTISING:** 

Dan Moser 780-421-7966

Alberta Native News is published monthly for distribution to Native Bands and Metis Settlements across Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Northwest Territories.

All rights reserved. No part of this newspaper can be reproduced without written permission from the publisher. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editor. Alberta Native News is published by 320754 Alberta Ltd.

For change of address, please send both old and new addresses. We welcome your stories, pictures, artwork and opinions. Please send anything you would like to have published to our office.

## **Making Bingo Affordable**

# Castledowns Bingo Association

12222 - 137 Avenue, Edmonton, AB 780-457-4670

**Castledowns Bingo Start Times:** Afternoon: 12:00pm • Evening: 6:00pm Late-Night: 10:05pm

6 Pots!! Loonie Pot 1 • Loonie Pot 2/ **Full Card Insurance** Odd/ Even • Double Action • Crazy C

**Bonus Pays On:** Starburst (Bingo on Top N is a \$100 bonus pay, Fourth I down is a \$200 Bonus Pay, and Bottom O is a \$300 bonus pay) Bonanza (48th number or less \$500, 49th number is \$300, 50th number is \$200)

Tuesday is Half-Price Day

Wednesday is Player of the Week and a Guest!!

#### **SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Alberta Native News

#206, 8944 182 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5T 2E3

Name



SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$57.75 per year

\$100.80 for two years

(includes GST)



# Police violence escalating against Indigenous people in Edmonton

By Rob Houle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

\*\*This article deals with topics that may be traumatic to readers. It deals with problematic events and systemic discrimination faced by Indigenous people. If you or someone you know is dealing with trauma the Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate help to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. It is

available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to offer immediate support and crisis intervention. Call the toll-free Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or connect to the online chat at www.hopeforwellness.ca.\*\* Last week, much of Alberta was

left in disbelief when the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) released their final report on the December 9, 2020 incident involving 18 year old Pacev Dumas. Responding to a domestic

disturbance in which a knife present, allegedly numerous officers attended the Dumas residence with weapons drawn in tactical fashion. Upon arrival, the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) officers provided verbal

commands to the residents in the home, to which there was compliance.

Witnesses recalled that following the verbal commands Dumas remained on the ground in a vulnerable position in a squirming fashion. It was

at this time that Officer Ben Todd relayed more verbal commands which were followed by a "soccer kick" like attack. This kick rendered Dumas unconscious and caused severe injuries to his skull.

At no point in the altercation was a knife presented or brandished, nor was it used in a threatening fashion. Witnesses stated that they had never seen a knife, and this was corroborated when ASIRT spoke to other responding officers. It was only the next day that a knife was located in the vicinity of the residence, but it remained unclear if it was connected to the initial call.

As covered in various other news outlets, the kick exerted by Officer Todd resulted in severe trauma to Dumas in which portions of his skull had to be removed permanently due to "critical intracranial injuries, with subdural hemorrhage and midline shift." While this act, in the eyes of ASIRT may be justifiable under the *Police Act*, they concluded that the actions of Officer Todd were far from reasonable and were of a "hasty and violent nature."

With this determination, ASIRT forwarded the issue to the Alberta Crown Prosecutors

> Service (ACPS) for further consideration on whether criminal charges should be applied. In the end, and as another violation against Dumas, the ACPS declined to apply criminal charges relying upon an external opinion which remains clouded in scrutiny.

However, this type of violence and systemic failure is nothing new to Indigenous people in Edmonton. For years, it has been a proverbial open season on Indigenous people at the hands of the EPS. In 2022, citizens were shocked when surveillance video surfaced of an Indigenous woman being manhandled by an officer responding to a fight in the City's downtown core.

In that incident, a knife was brandished towards another female, but not towards

the responding officer or any other Regardless, the responding officer showed little

remorse in initiating an altercation in which he used his significant size advantage. This event resulted in zero charges, and the victim of police action was later released. With details trickling out following the release of the video and outcries from concerned advocates.

Examining the Tracking Injustice database, we can see that 24 people of Indigenous or "Unknown" heritage have been killed by the EPS since 2001. These figures reflect readily available data, and do not reflect other incidents currently under investigation or shrouded in secrecy due to the EPS policies.

Most recently, an innocent bystander was killed when EPS gunned down Mitchell Tyler Potts following a robbery complaint in February of 2022. This blatant disregard for safety leads to other questions around why the EPS continues to respond in this fashion, and whether the fact that the offender is Indigenous raises the violence factor.

These considerations are equally troubling given the Edmonton Police Commission (EPC) boasts Indigenous membership and the Chief of Police identifies as a Metis person. But one cannot help but think that these facts serve as a shield of sorts, one that attempts to justify an ongoing escalation of violence against Indigenous people in Edmonton.





# Gain experience & knowledge at CAREERS: The Next Generation



Caleb Alexander is achieving success with help from CAREERS: The Next Generation.

Like so many high school Caleb students, Alexander was unsure what he wanted to do with his life. He knew he liked working with his hands and science enjoyed classes, but that only led to more What questions: careers fit his interests? Would he be able to make a good living? How could he

make it happen? There just didn't seem to be a clear path forward.

Caleb was attending Grade 10 at Holy Trinity high school in Fort McMurray when his future began taking shape. He was introduced to a non-profit organization called CAREERS: The Next Generation. Team members work with schools across Alberta to connect students to employers for paid internships. Students have the opportunity to fast track their training in a skilled trade through the Registered Apprenticeship Program, or get hands-on experience in many different occupations through the Indigenous Youth Internship Program. CAREERS helped Caleb learn about different options that fit his interests and lifestyle. Instrumentation and Controls Technician jumped out at him, so he decided to take advantage of the opportunity and give it a try. CAREERS matched him with an employer, helped him with his resume, prepared him for the job interview, and before he knew it,

he was starting his first day as an apprentice at Syncrude Canada.

"It was a little bit daunting when I went to my safety orientation," explained Caleb. "It was just me, a 16-year-old, in a room full of adults."

It didn't take Caleb long to feel respected and part of the team. He also discovered a passion for what he was doing.

"Not only was I making money, I was also earning credits and fast tracking my training towards something I love," he explained. "Juggling high school with an apprenticeship wasn't always easy, but it was worth it. I was able to push through because I had a goal and a future I was excited about."

Syncrude is one of many Alberta companies that believes in supporting youth through CAREERS: The Next Generation. "Indigenous youth like Caleb are a vital resource for employers like Syncrude, operated by Suncor," said Jerry McPherson, Vice President, Projects & Regional Synergies, Syncrude, operated by Suncor.

"Like everyone else, they just need opportunities to develop their skills and abilities. Syncrude supports the Indigenous Youth Career Pathways program because it is helping us build our future workforce with people who have the skills we need and want to contribute to our success. By every measure, it continues to be an excellent

investment."

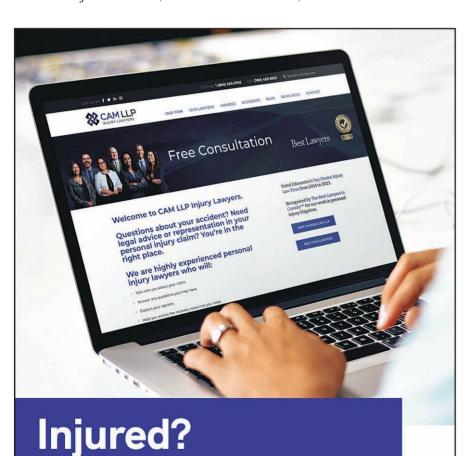
"When you provide meaningful employment for Indigenous youth, you are increasing their confidence and skills, which lays the foundation for success and ripples through their communities," added Rebecca Kragnes, Indigenous Business Relations, Bird Construction.

Over the next two years, Caleb continued to gain experience and hours towards his apprenticeship. Now, at 21-years-old, he's already become a certified journeyperson.

"My advice to high school students is, you've got nothing to lose. Just pick some-thing that interests you and give it a try. If I can do it, so can you."

Whether you're a student like Caleb, a parent helping a child navigate their future, or an employer looking to grow your workforce from the ground up, CAREERS: The Next Generation is an excellent resource to get you started. And right now, qualified employers can get up to \$7,500 to help cover the costs. Go to CAREERSnextgen.ca.

Advertise your Powwow in Alberta Native News by contacting natnews@shaw.ca



We have answers.

camllp.com

Call: 1-780-969-6998



# New book gives voice to Indigenous war veterans

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Author Jean Miso has a new book out, which gathers and chronicles the stories of Indigenous war veterans from coast to coast.

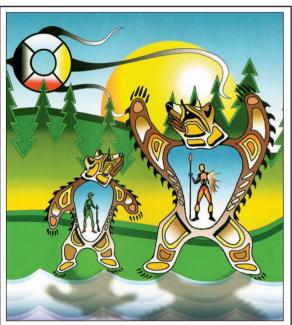
Miso, who isn't Indigenous, said she was inspired to write about the experiences of Indigenous veterans while writing a previous book about Canadian Ranger Patrol Groups, which conduct search-and-rescue operations in remote areas throughout the country.

The Ontario 3 CRPG is notable for being composed almost entirely of First Nations soldiers.

While researching for the initial book, she was flown in and out of remote Indigenous communities around the James Bay area in central Ontario.

"I saw the situation of their living conditions and felt that we need to draw more attention to support them," Miso told Alberta Native News.

That's how her most recent book, Warriors & Nations: Voices from the original people came to be, which the author described as her effort "to help draw attention to the service that was largely put under the carpet so to speak, in past military situations, so as to draw attention to their involvement and sacrifice and service to our country."



(Detail from) 'Kisikwenut Kinup' © by Gerald Gloade. Reprinted from 'Warriors & Nations.

The powerful art on the cover of this month's Alberta Native News is entitled

Warrior's Connection by artist Kalum Teke Dan. It appears in the book alongside the section on

The book is divided

into chapters for each

province and territory,

with each accompanied

by artwork from an

Indigenous artist based

contributions made by Indigenous veterans in

Miso said she began gathering stories for the book prior to the COVID pandemic, when she was able to travel freely to various Indigenous communities throughout the country.

Lieutenant-General Jocelyn Paul, who wrote the book's forward, helped connect Miso to other Indigenous veterans and encouraged her to write

The author set out from northern Ontario, driving to B.C., and then returning through southern Alberta, where the largest reserve in Canada, the Blood Tribe, is located.

Why would an Indigenous person want to serve the very country that attempted to eradicate their culture? That was a question that kept coming up

"First of all, they are the caretakers of this land, so they felt that if they didn't go protect the land that there could potentially be harm down the road. They sense the urgency of service to protect the land and keep what they hold sacred protected," Miso explained.

Additionally, Indigenous people enlisted for the same reason many other people do - money and a sense of adventure.

According to the book, Indigenous people have served as Canadian soldiers since the British Nile Expedition of 1884 - the first time Canadian troops were sent overseas - with 86 Indigenous men from Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba joining a 367-man force to paddle up the Nile to rescue a trapped group of British soldiers from Sudan.

As a non-Indigenous person, Miso felt an obligation to highlight and honour the sacrifices Indigenous people have made for Canada. But the purpose of Warriors & Nations isn't solely to profile Indigenous service members. It's to

provide a broader view of the communities they came from.

arriors & Nations

voices from the original people

"I want to show the variation of people and the struggles that they encountered to practice their traditions and follow their spirituality and communicate in their languages," Miso said.

Many Indigenous communities also showed support for the war effort through fundraising. Some Indian agents turned down the funds, because "they knew the community couldn't afford it," Miso said.

Indigenous people, of course, aren't a monolith. Some Indigenous soldiers enlisted under fake names, "because they knew that they wouldn't be welcomed back into their community, or be able to go back as an Indigenous person," she said.

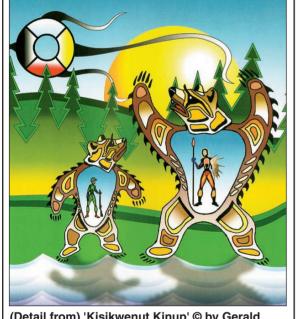
Miso said Indigenous soldiers are one type of warrier. Other warriors help keep their culture alive, she added.

"Within the traditional rich fabric of Indigenous nations," Miso writes, "I have observed that the role of a warrior encompasses much more than combat. Indigenous men and women are selected to become guardians of all aspects of community knowledge... These experts protect information and guide their people according to ancient wisdom."

All proceeds from sales of Warriors & Nations will go towards groups working on the preservation of Indigenous monuments and Indigenous education initiatives.

Proceeds from sales of Miso's previous books have also gone to charity, including building a home for unhoused veterans in London, Ont., the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund, and the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre.

"I can't help everybody, but you have to have belief in the power of one that you can make a difference in someone's life and work towards it," Miso said. "That's basically my philosophy."



**DISCOVER CALGARY LIBRARY** 











Our People. Our Product. Our Service. lt's what sets us apart.

#### YOUR ONE STOP FOR...

- Septic Tanks (up to 5m burial depth)
- . Holding Tanks (up to 3m burial depth)
- Water Cisterns (up to 3m burial depth)
- · Lift Stations
- Sumps

- · Oil & Grit Separators
- · Advanced Wastewater Treatment Systems
- INFILTRATOR® Field Systems
- · Pumps, Pipe & Fittings
- · Fleet of Picker Trucks for Delivery

20 YEAR WARRANTY ON ALL CONCRETE TANKS . CSA APPROVED

Toll Free: 1-800-232-7385 Calgary - Edmonton

www.wilbert.ca





#### **BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL**

# **Your Guide to Voting**

## **Provincial General Election**

Voting will take place to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly. If you are voting on Election Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, you must vote at the voting place identified for you on the map. If you prefer to vote in advance, from May 23 to May 27, you may vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.



## Advance Voting Days Tuesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 27

During Advance Voting Days, you can vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.

Advance voting locations nearest your electoral division are specified below. Visit www.elections.ab.ca for additional voting locations throughout the province.

Advance Voting Location		Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25	Friday, May 26	Saturday, May 27
Le Goff Community Hall 2503 3 Ave, Cold Lake No 149	Ł		10 AM - 6 PM			
Elizabeth Settlement Community Hall 60 102 St, Elizabeth Métis Settlement	Å					10 AM - 6 PM
Elk Point Pioneer Senior Centre 5010 48 Street, Elk Point	Ł				9 AM - 8 PM	
Kehewin Recreation Centre Kehewin First Nation, Kehewin No. 123	Ł					10 AM - 4 PM
Heinsburg Seniors Centre 131 1 Street, Heinsburg	Ł			10 AM - 5 PM		
St. Paul Senior Citizens Club 4809 47 Street, St. Paul	Ł	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Bonnyville Seniors Drop-In Centre 4813 47 Avenue, Bonnyville	と温	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Cold Lake Agriplex 4608 38 Avenue, Cold Lake	も呂	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM



# Election Day Monday, May 29, 2023

#### Election Day voting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On Election Day, you must vote at the voting place specified for your residence.

#### **VOTING PLACE LEGEND: BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL**

Using the map, locate your address and find the letter representing your voting area, then match it to the voting places listed below.

AF

St. Paul Recreation Centre 4802 53 Street St. Paul

ВЕ

Elk Point Pioneer Senior Centre 5010 48 Street Elk Point

Bonnyville Centennial Centre Genmec Hall 4313 50 Avenue Bonnyville

Kehewin Recreation Centre Kehewin First Nation Kehewin No. 123

Glendon RCMP Hall 5302 51 Avenue Glendon

Willow Prairie Agricultural Society 4906 52 Avenue

La Corey

Cold Lake Seniors Centre 1301 8 Avenue Cold Lake

Ardmore Seniors Drop-In Centre 4902 50 Street Ardmore

4 Wing Military Family Resource Centre 674 Kingsway Cold Lake

English Bay Community Centre Cold Lake First Nation Cold Lake No. 149B

Le Goff Community Hall 2503 3 Ave Cold Lake No. 149

L

Cold Lake Agriplex 4608 38 Avenue Cold Lake

Elizabeth Settlement Community 60 102 St

Elizabeth Métis Settlement

Cherry Grove Community Hall 5011 50A Avenue Cherry Grove

OF

Frog Lake Band Hall Frog Lake First Nation Unipouheos No. 121

Fishing Lake Communiplex Fishing Lake Métis Settlement

Legend continues on next page.

Electors unable to vote in advance or on Election Day may vote by special ballot. See www.elections.ab.ca for more details.



## **BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL**

# Your Guide to Voting

#### **Returning Office**

#### Main Office:

4811 50 Avenue, Elk Point, AB TOA 1AO Returning Officer: Bernie Kozicky

Phone: 1-833-483-2559 Email: ed51@elections.ab.ca

Office hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Voting days: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### **Accessible Voting**

#### Barrier-free Access:

All voting places are evaluated and modified, where possible to provide barrier-free access for voters. Visit www.elections.ab.ca/ accessibility for evaluation criteria on each voting place.

#### Assistive Technology:

Advance voting places with the Assistive Technology symbol are equipped with devices that assist electors to read or mark

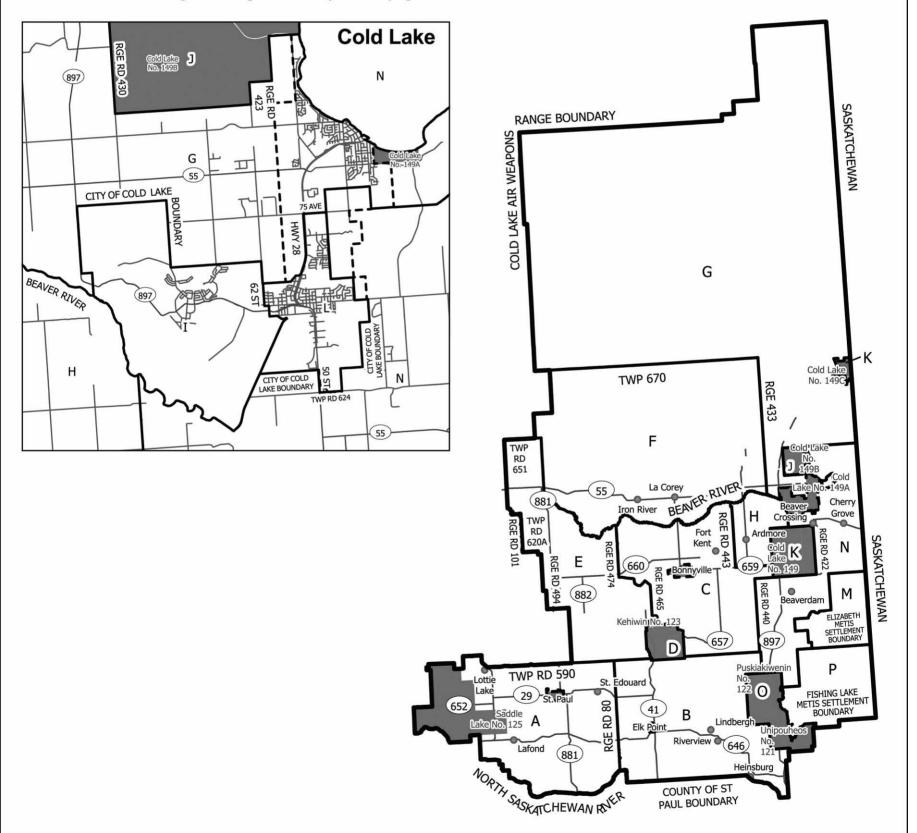
> COUNTY OF ST PAUL BOUNDARY

a ballot independently. To learn more about these devices and where they are available visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility



Results of the official count will be available on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at www.elections.ab.ca

#### Please refer to the Voting Place Legend on the previous page.





#### FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE

# Your Guide to Voting

## **Provincial General Election**

Voting will take place to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly. If you are voting on Election Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, you must vote at the voting place identified for you on the map. If you prefer to vote in advance, from May 23 to May 27, you may vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.



# Advance Voting Days Tuesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 27

During Advance Voting Days, you can vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.

Advance voting locations nearest your electoral division are specified below. Visit www.elections.ab.ca for additional voting locations throughout the province.

Advance Voting Location		Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25	Friday, May 26	Saturday, May 27
Anzac Recreation Centre 237 Stony Mountain Road, Anzac	Ł.		12 PM - 8 PM			
Conklin Multiplex 244 Northland Drive, Conklin	Ł			12 PM - 8 PM	12 PM - 8 PM	
Janvier Municipal Office 110 Janvier Drive, Janvier	Ł.					12 PM - 8 PM
Kikino Community Centre 304 14 Street, Kikino	Ł					9 AM - 8 PM
Stonebridge Hotel 9713 Hardin Street, Fort McMurray	Ł	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Wandering River Senior Drop-In Centre 5016 53 Street, Wandering River	ė.	9 AM - 8 PM				
Whitefish Lake First Nation Cultural Centre Whitefish Lake First Nation, Whitefish Lake No 128	Ł				9 AM - 8 PM	
Bold Centre 8702 91 Avenue, Lac La Biche	Ł 🛭	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Quality Hotel - Crystal Room 424 Gregoire Drive, Fort McMurray	<b>&amp;</b> 2	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM



# Election Day Monday, May 29, 2023

#### Election Day voting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On Election Day, you must vote at the voting place specified for your residence.

#### **VOTING PLACE LEGEND: FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE**

Using the map, locate your address and find the letter representing your voting area, then match it to the voting places listed below.

Kikino Community Centre 304 14 Street Kikino

Whitefish Lake First Nation Cultural Centre Whitefish Lake First Nation Whitefish Lake No. 128

Craigend Hall 65038 Range Road 134 Lac La Biche County

Hylo Community Hall 9013 Avenue Hylo

Buffalo Lake Senior Drop-In Centre Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement

Plamondon Festival Centre 9626 101 Avenue Plamondon

Wandering River Senior Drop-In Centre 5016 53 Street Wandering River

Centerfire Place 110 Eymundson Road Fort McMurray

Owl River Community Hall 68443 Range Road 135 Lac La Biche County

JĖ

**Bold Centre** 8702 91 Avenue Lac La Biche

KF

Father Beauregard School 255 Athabasca Avenue Fort McMurray

L &

Shell Place 1 C.A. Knight Way Fort McMurray

ME

Frank Lacroix Arena 155 Beaconwood Road Fort McMurray

Vista Ridge 1 Spruce Valley Drive Fort McMurray

Royal Canadian Legion 9317 Huggard Street Fort McMurray

ΡĠ

Quality Hotel 424 Gregoire Drive Fort McMurray

Q &

Anzac Recreation Centre 237 Stony Mountain Road Anzac

R

Rich Lake Community Center 64016 Range Road 115 Lac La Biche

Janvier Municipal Office 110 Janvier Drive Janvier

TE

Conklin Multiplex 244 Northland Drive Conklin

Electors unable to vote in advance or on Election Day may vote by special ballot. See www.elections.ab.ca for more details.



## FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE

# Your Guide to Voting

#### **Returning Offices**

#### Main Office:

202, 427 Gregoire Drive
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 4K7
Returning Officer: Joanne Day
Phone: 1-833-483-2804
Email: ed60@elections.ab.ca
Office hours:
Monday to Friday:
9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Voting days: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### Satellite Office:

10263 101 Avenue
Lac La Biche, AB TOA 2C0
Returning Officer: Joanne Day
Phone: 1-833-483-2805
Email: ed60@elections.ab.ca
Office hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays:
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Voting days: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### **Accessible Voting**

#### **Barrier-free Access:**

All voting places are evaluated and modified, where possible to provide barrier-free access for voters. Visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility for evaluation criteria on each voting place.

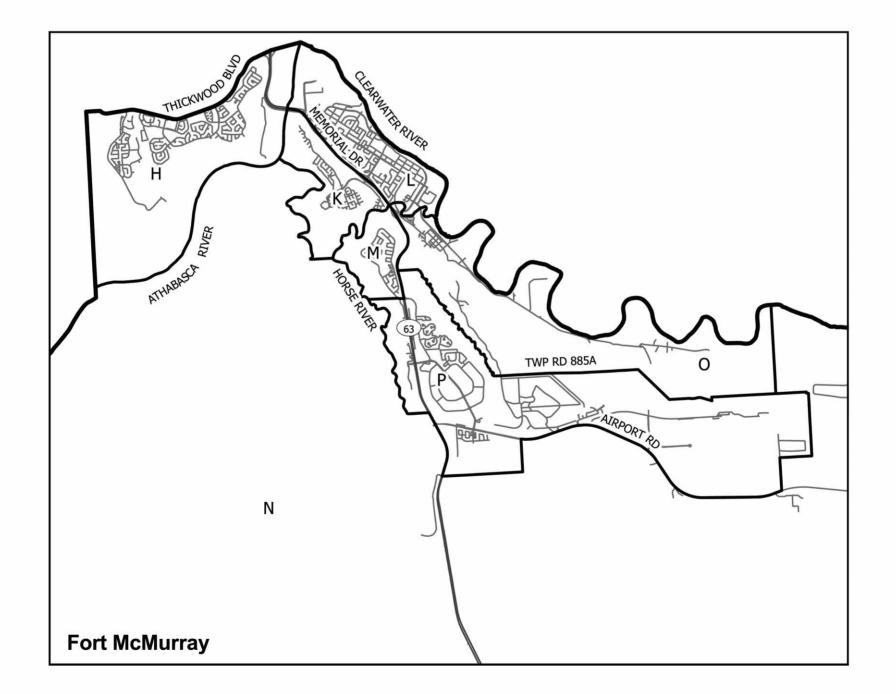
#### Assistive Technology:

Advance voting places with the Assistive Technology symbol are equipped with devices that assist electors to read or mark a ballot independently. To learn more about these devices and where they are available visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility

Results of the official count will be available on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at www.elections.ab.ca

SCAN TO FIND YOUR VOTING LOCATION

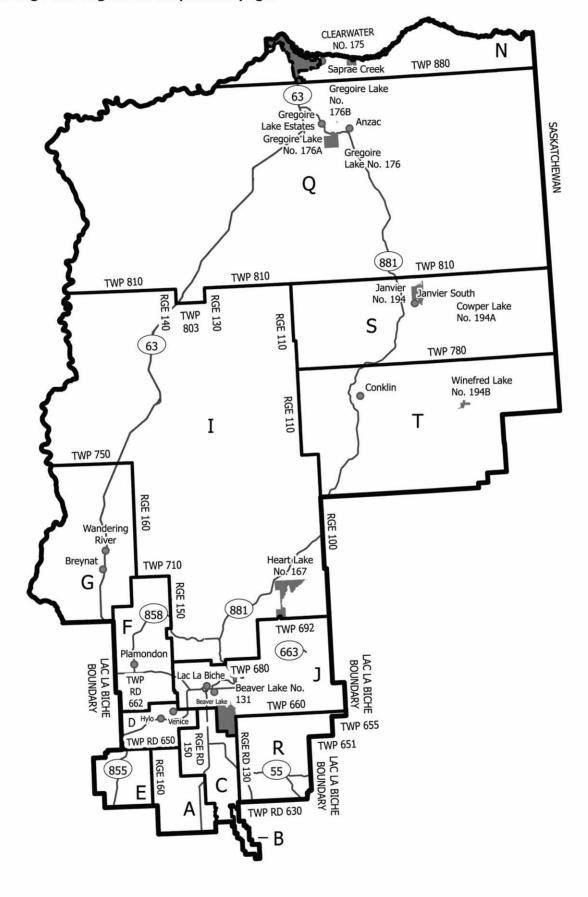
Please refer to the Voting Place Legend on the previous page.



For Electoral Division Overview map, see following page.

# FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE Your Guide to Voting

Please refer to the Voting Place Legend on the previous page.





## **Provincial General Election**

Voting will take place to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly. If you are voting on Election Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, you must vote at the voting place identified for you on the map. If you prefer to vote in advance, from May 23 to May 27, you may vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.



## 🔀 Advance Voting Days Tuesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 27

During Advance Voting Days, you can vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.

Advance voting locations nearest your electoral division are specified below. Visit www.elections.ab.ca for additional voting locations throughout the province.

Advance Voting Location		Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25	Friday, May 26	Saturday, May 27
Beaver River Executive Lodge Civeo, RMWB	Ł		12 PM - 8 PM		12 PM - 8 PM	12 PM - 8 PM
Fort Chipewyan RMWB Municipal Office 101 Loutit Street, Fort Chipewyan	Ł				10 AM - 4 PM	10 AM - 4 PM
Fort McKay Dorothy McDonald Business Centre 94405 Fort McKay Road, Fort McKay	Ł.			10 AM - 8 PM		
Fort McMurray Islamic Centre 109 Abraham Drive, Fort McMurray	も 呂	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM

## 🔀 Election Day Monday, May 29, 2023

#### Election Day voting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On Election Day, you must vote at the voting place specified for your residence.

#### **VOTING PLACE LEGEND: FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD BUFFALO**

Using the map, locate your address and find the letter representing your voting area, then match it to the voting places listed below.

AE

Family Christian Centre 160 Dickins Drive Fort McMurray

ВЬ

Fort McKay Dorothy McDonald **Business Centre** 94405 Fort McKay Road Fort McKay

Voting area has been designated as a remote area. Contact 1-877-422-8683 for voting options.

Fort Chipewyan RMWB Municipal Office 101 Loutit Street Fort Chipewyan

St. Kateri School 1, 301 Sparrow Hawk Drive Fort McMurray

Fort McMurray Islamic Centre 109 Abraham Drive Fort McMurray

Walter and Gladys Hill School 3, 301 Sparrow Hawk Drive Fort McMurray

HE

Doug Barnes Cabin 162 Tamarack Way Fort McMurray

Electors unable to vote in advance or on Election Day may vote by special ballot. See www.elections.ab.ca for more details.

#### **Returning Office**

#### Main Office:

202, 427 Gregoire Drive, Fort McMurray, AB T9H 4K7

Returning Officer: Sherry Campbell

Phone: 1-833-483-2806 Email: ed61@elections.ab.ca

Office hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Voting days: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### **Accessible Voting**

#### Barrier-free Access:

All voting places are evaluated and modified, where possible to provide barrier-free access for voters. Visit www.elections.ab.ca/ accessibility for evaluation criteria on each voting place.

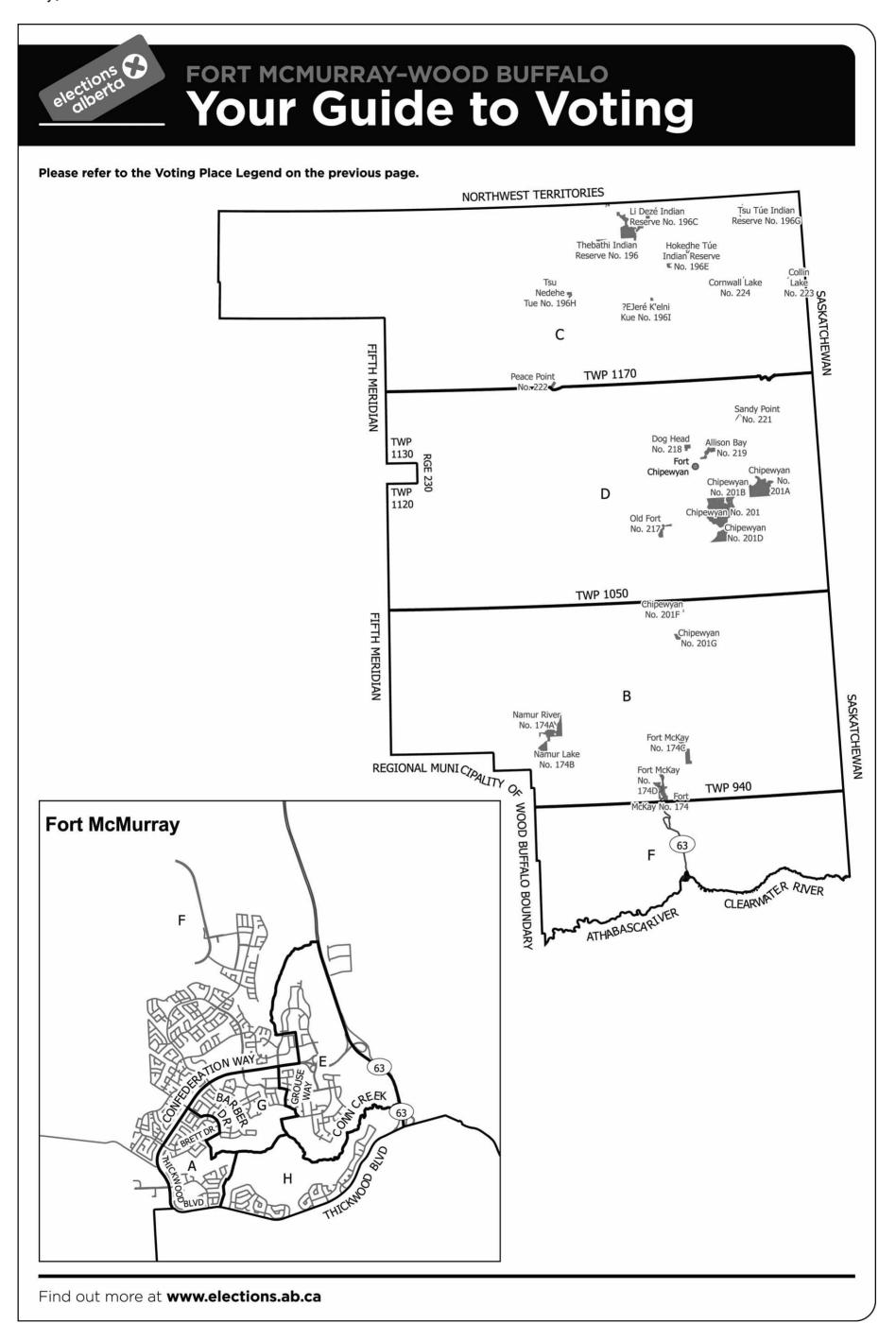
#### Assistive Technology:

Advance voting places with the Assistive Technology symbol are equipped with devices that assist electors to read or mark

a ballot independently. To learn more about these devices and where they are available visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility

Results of the official count will be available on Thursday. June 8, 2023 at www.elections.ab.ca

SCAN TO FIND YOUR VOTING LOCATION





## **Provincial General Election**

Voting will take place to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly. If you are voting on Election Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, you must vote at the voting place identified for you on the map. If you prefer to vote in advance, from May 23 to May 27, you may vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.



# Advance Voting Days Tuesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 27

During Advance Voting Days, you can vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.

Advance voting locations nearest your electoral division are specified below. Visit www.elections.ab.ca for additional voting locations throughout the province.

Advance Voting Location		Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25	Friday, May 26	Saturday, May 27
Hay Lakes Recreation Center 106 110 Main Street, Hay Lakes	٤		9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM		
Looma Community Hall 160 50516 Highway 21, Looma	\$				9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Ma-Me-O Beach Community Hall 615 2 Avenue, Ma-Me-O Beach	Ł				9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Millet Community Hall 4528 51 Street, Millet	Ł	9 AM - 8 PM				
Wetaskiwin Memorial Arts Centre 5206 50 Street, Wetaskiwin	も且	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM



# Election Day Monday, May 29, 2023

#### Election Day voting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On Election Day, you must vote at the voting place specified for your residence.

#### **VOTING PLACE LEGEND: MASKWACIS-WETASKIWIN**

Using the map, locate your address and find the letter representing your voting area, then match it to the voting places listed below.

AE

Montana First Nation Band Office **Bobtail Road** Maskwacis

Вф

Wetaskiwin Memorial Arts Centre 5206 50 Street Wetaskiwin

Chief Peter Bull Health & Wellness Memorial Centre Louis Bull Tribe Louis Bull No 138B

DE

Ma-Me-O Beach Community Hall 615 2 Avenue Ma-Me-O Beach

EF

Mulhurst Bay Community Centre 3801 50 Avenue Mulhurst Bay

Millet Community Hall 4528 51 Street Millet

Falun Community Hall 272019 Highway 13 Falun

Ηç

Cloverlawn Community Center 48203 Range Road 233 **Leduc County** 

Looma Community Hall 160 50516 Highway 21 Looma

New Sarepta Agriplex 5088 1 Avenue S New Sarepta

KF

Hay Lakes Recreation Center 106 110 Main Street Hay Lakes

Wetaskiwin Civic Centre Drill Hall 4513 50 Avenue Wetaskiwin

Calvary Baptist Church 4910 Northmount Drive Wetaskiwin

NF

Maskwacis Mall Highway 2A Ermineskin No. 138

OF

Little Beaver Hi U Seniors Centre 1110 Glenmuir Avenue Ferintosh

Electors unable to vote in advance or on Election Day may vote by special ballot. See www.elections.ab.ca for more details.

#### **Returning Office**

#### Main Office:

1840, 3725 56 Street Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2V6 Returning Officer: Caroline Dillabough

Phone: 1-833-483-2921 Email: ed74@elections.ab.ca

Office hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Voting days: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### Accessible Voting

#### & Barrier-free Access:

All voting places are evaluated and modified, where possible to provide barrier-free access for voters. Visit www.elections.ab.ca/ accessibility for evaluation criteria on each voting place.

#### Assistive Technology:

Advance voting places with the Assistive Technology symbol are equipped with devices that assist electors to read or mark

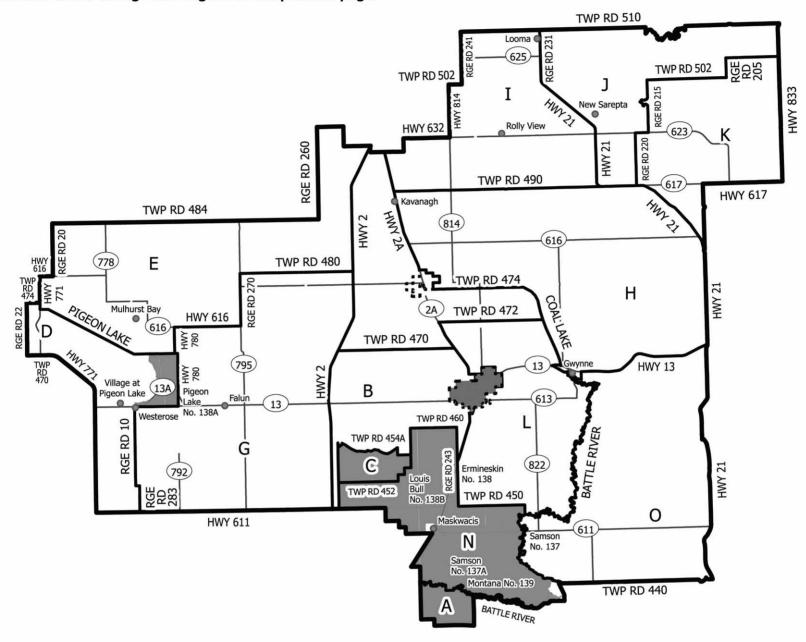
a ballot independently. To learn more about these devices and where they are available visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility

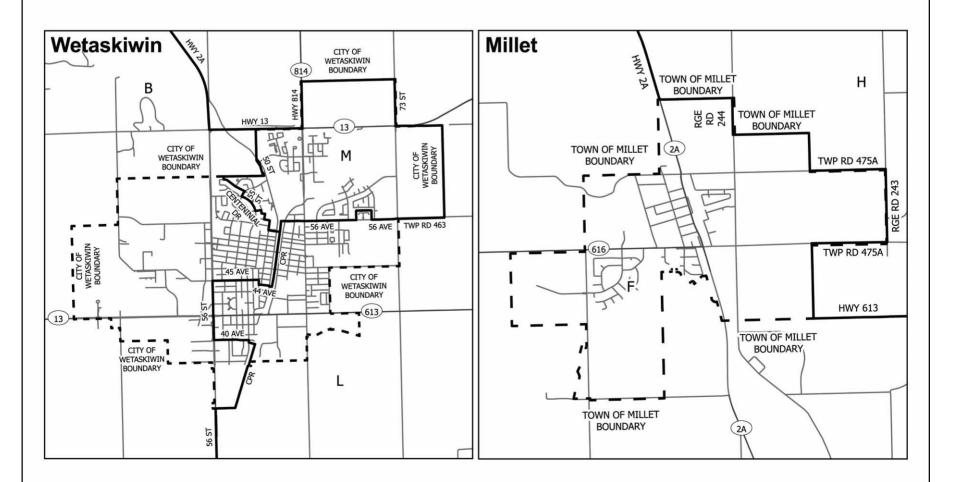
SCAN TO FIND YOUR VOTING LOCATION

Results of the official count will be available on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at www.elections.ab.ca

# MASKWACIS-WETASKIWIN Your Guide to Voting

Please refer to the Voting Place Legend on the previous page.







## **PEACE RIVER**

# **Your Guide to Voting**

#### **Provincial General Election**

Voting will take place to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly. If you are voting on Election Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, you must vote at the voting place identified for you on the map. If you prefer to vote in advance, from May 23 to May 27, you may vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.



# Advance Voting Days Tuesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 27

#### During Advance Voting Days, you can vote at any advance voting location in Alberta.

Advance voting locations nearest your electoral division are specified below. Visit www.elections.ab.ca for additional voting locations throughout the province.

Advance Voting Location		Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25	Friday, May 26	Saturday, May 27
High Level Town Office - Room 110 10511 103 Street, High Level	Ł	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Manning Legion Hall 124 4 Avenue SW, Manning	Ł.	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
La Crete Satellite Office 10001 100 Street, La Crete	と国	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM
Returning Office Peace River 9715 100 Street, Peace River	と■	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM	9 AM - 8 PM



# Election Day Monday, May 29, 2023

#### Election Day voting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On Election Day, you must vote at the voting place specified for your residence.

#### **VOTING PLACE LEGEND: PEACE RIVER**

Using the map, locate your address and find the letter representing your voting area, then match it to the voting places listed below.

Grimshaw Royal Canadian Legion 5011 47 Avenue Grimshaw

Marie Reine Cultural Centre 82028 Highway 744 Marie Reine

Peace River Seniors Drop-In Centre 10301 101 Street Peace River

Misery Mountain Ski Hill 10408 89 Street Peace River

Baytex Energy Centre 9810 73 Avenue Peace River

Weberville Community Hall 220078 Township Road 850 County of Northern Lights

Warrensville Community Hall 240080 Township Road County of Northern Lights

Dixonville Golden Age Drop-In Centre Hill Crest Community School 8A Highway 689 E Dixonville

Keg River Community Hall 243009B Township Road 1014 County of Northern Lights

Rainbow Lake Recreation Centre 1 Atco Road Rainbow Lake

Mackenzie County Building **Board Room** 1025 Aspen Drive Zama City

Dene Tha' Community Arena Dene Tha' First Nation Hay Lake No. 209

Hotchkiss Community Hall 230081 Township Road 932 Hotchkiss

NE

Paddle Prairie Communi-Plex Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement

Manning Legion Hall 124 4 Avenue SW Manning

Deadwood Community Hall Deadwood

G F

107352 Range Road 141A Blumenort

Florence MacDougall Community School 10802 Rainbow Boulevard High Level

SE

Four Chiefs Complex Dene Tha' First Nation Bushe River No. 207

Meander River Complex Dene Tha' First Nation Upper Hay River No. 212

Rocky Lane Community Hall NE-16-109-14-W5 Rocky Lane

VF

Sister Gloria School Little Red River Cree Nation Garden River

WE

John D'Or Prairie School Little Red River Cree Nation John D'Or Prairie No. 215

XF

Sewenagaham School Little Red River Cree Nation Fox Lake No. 162

YE

Fort Vermilion Legion Hall 5401 River Road Fort Vermilion

Tallcree Health Centre Tallcree First Nation Tallcree No. 173A

Northern Lights Recreation Centre 10201 99 Avenue La Crete

Tallcree Band Office Tallcree First Nation Tallcree No. 173A

St Isidore Cultural Centre 4 Rue Bouchard St. Isidore

Nampa Golden Pioneers Drop-In Centre 10203 100 Avenue Nampa

AE &

McKinney Hall 84334 Highway 688 Northern Sunrise County

AF &

Buffalo Head Prairie School 104336 Highway 697 Buffalo Head Prairie

AG &

Harmon Valley Hall 82302 Range Road 192 Harmon Valley

Electors unable to vote in advance or on Election Day may vote by special ballot. See www.elections.ab.ca for more details.



## **PEACE RIVER**

# **Your Guide to Voting**

#### **Returning Offices**

#### Main Office:

9715 100 Street
Peace River, AB T8S 1S7
Returning Officer: Aarin Sorensen
Phone: 1-833-483-2932
Email: ed77@elections.ab.ca
Office hours:
Monday to Friday:
9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Voting days: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### Satellite Office:

10001 100 Street
La Crete, AB TOH 2H0
Returning Officer: Aarin Sorensen
Phone: 1-833-483-2933
Email: ed77@elections.ab.ca
Office hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays:
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Voting days: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### **Accessible Voting**

#### **&** Barrier-free Access:

All voting places are evaluated and modified, where possible to provide barrier-free access for voters. Visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility for evaluation criteria on each voting place.

#### Assistive Technology:

Advance voting places with the Assistive Technology symbol are equipped with devices that assist electors to read or mark

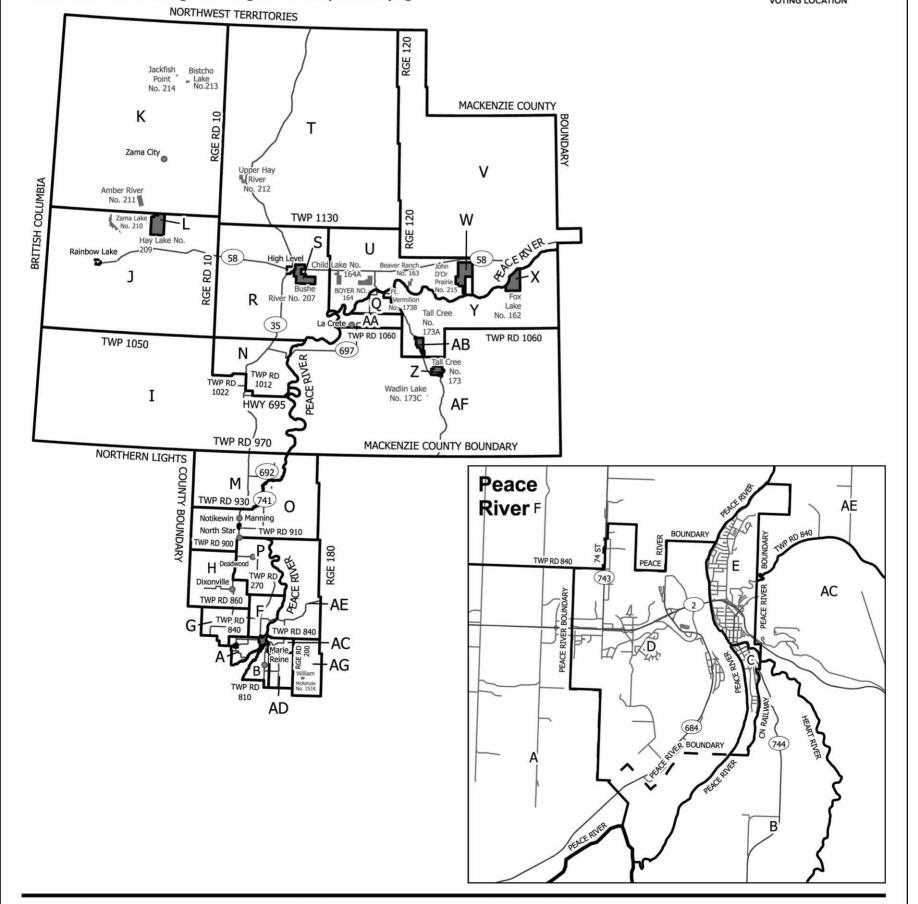
a ballot independently. To learn more about these devices and where they are available visit www.elections.ab.ca/accessibility



SCAN TO FIND YOU

## Results of the official count will be available on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at www.elections.ab.ca

Please refer to the Voting Place Legend on the previous page.



# Winnipeg hosts huge Indigenous tourism conference

By Terry Lusty, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Indigenous tourism is an expanding and allencompassing industry.

That was the message from conference organizers, presenters and delegates attending the 10th annual International Indigenous Tourism Conference (IITC) held last month at downtown Winnipeg's RBC Convention Centre. It was an event that attracted approximately 1,100 delegates from throughout Canada's 10 provinces, three territories and overseas locations like New Zealand, Australia, South America and

To illustrate a possible business enterprise that could fly in the industry, consider the potential for some seniors who are adept at storytelling, poetry, singing, acting, etc. Knowledge keepers and Elders could also contribute in this capacity. After all many have first-hand knowledge and experiences that they can draw on. They could play host at retreats, camps and gatherings on the plains, in the bush country, and the mountains. They could also demonstrate or teach traditional crafts at community centres, schools, winter carnivals, rodeos, round dances, powwows and so on. Really, the possibilities are endless. One simply has to think creatively and apply oneself accordingly.

Or, how about encouraging those who are skilled in bicycle repairs? A good many tourists and visitors like to cycle around to visit communities and see the sights. With a bit of start-up funding, one could quite easily put up a retail sales and repair shop.

These enterprises are just two examples of what is possible. The key, again, is to think creatively. Indeed, the possibilities are limitless.

The IITC in Winnipeg had much to offer and it Island,' welcomed organizers and presenters

was definitely an incentive to those who are new or foreign to the industry. Connecting with others in the industry was a valuable part of the conference offerings. Some call it mentorship as individuals connected with one another, shared knowledge and information, and learned from it.

There were also presenters and keynoters who offered insights regarding partnerships and valuable resource possibilities.

One of the Yukon delegates told other delegates about his home-operated business of renting out log cabins. Then, too, there were those who shared their experiences as hunting and fishing guides, leading hiking tours, and

The conference theme was 'Adventure to Understanding,' featuring some of the industry's leading entrepreneurs and innovators who offered inspiration and learning.

Individual breakout sessions addressed such areas as travel, media, risk management, community partnering, land acknowledgement, marketing trends, community development, and how success can reach greater heights and levels. All this, plus the value and application of cultural inclusion.

Two major keynoters were Canada's gem – the Honourable Murray Sinclair and New Zealand's Maori Tourism leader, Pania Tyler-Nathan. Both high-profile individuals centred their presentations around 'Reconciliation in Action" a topic that is in vogue during this era of awakening and healing as communities come together to shed the historical traumas of past colonization and subjugation.

An opening reception entitled 'A Taste of Turtle

on March 8th, replete with traditional and modern vittles. This was followed the next evening, March 9, with the gala banquet which was followed with the annual tourism awards. Of the five national award categories, Albertans proudly walked away with two of the honours. Metis Crossing took home the 'Leading the Way Sustainability Award." Indigenous Alberta Tourism, captured the 'Provin-



Powwow dancers in full regalia performed at the IITC opening ceremony in Winnipeg.

cial/Territorial Association of the Year Award, with Quebec and New Brunswick being second and third.

As for the remaining three national awards, they went to: 1) Dakota Dunes Resort and Casino - Business Award, 2) Josee Leblanc of Atikuss Canada - Female Entrepreneur Award, and 3) Luke Wassegijig of Wikwemikong - Original Award for Exceptional Industry Leadership. The latter award is presented to a business or organization leading the way through excellence in all business aspects - i.e. marketing campaigns, trip advisor reviews, generated revenue, staff turnover, repeat customers.

In addition to the national awards were four or provincial awards that recognized Manitoba's input as this year's conference host.

"The winners have successfully weathered several tough years - and continue to lead and thrive," commented Keith Henry, national CEO and President for Indigenous tourism.

Holly Courchene, Manitoba's CEO, also praised the award recipients saying, "Such winners represent the bringing together of different cultures - First Nation, Metis, and Inuit – and their unique tourism experiences."

The ITAC's (Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada's) primary purpose is, "to improve the socio-economic situation of Indigenous people within the 10 provinces and three territories of Canada" while the focus is, "marketing, product development support, and creating partnerships between government departments and industry leaders from across Canada."

The national conference has now held their event at Membertous, Nova Scotia as well as Calgary, Saskatoon, Kelowna and Winnipeg. The next round is scheduled to take place in Ottawa.



## **COMMUNITY NOTICE**

#### ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual vegetation control program on its rail lines in the province of Alberta, A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 - 24 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments, and municipal water supplies will be met.

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2023. Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or 1-888-888-5909.



# **Edmonton rally demands** justice for Pacey Dumas

By Paula E. Kirman, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Content warning: This article contains disturbing details and mentions suicide.

On May 7, more than 100 people gathered outside the Alberta Justice building in downtown Edmonton to support Pacey Dumas and his family, and to call for reforms to the province's justice system following an announcement in late April that Constable Ben Todd – the police officer who kicked the Indigenous young adult in the head – would not face charges.

Many of those in attendance wore orange, with chants of "Justice for Pacey" ringing out throughout the rally. Pacey Dumas was there but did not speak, though was visibly emotional especially while standing near the drummers during an Honour Song with his mother, while his grandfather looked up at the sky. Several other family members spoke out with hopes of the Crown reconsidering its position not to charge the officer, who is currently on paid leave from EPS.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT), the body which investigates allegations of police misconduct, released a report on April 27 giving its decision in the case of Pacey Dumas.



Lawyer Hilary Steinke-Attia at the rally with Pacey Dumas and his mother. Photo by Paula Kirman.

Dumas, who was 18 and weighed 90 pounds at the time, was kicked in the head during an arrest by Edmonton Police Service (EPS) Const. Ben Todd. The kick resulted in a traumatic injury, with a tennis ball-sized por-tion of

Dumas' skull needing to be removed to accommodate pres-sure from brain swelling, later replaced by a metal plate.

ASIRT's report, which does not name either the officer or injured person, suggests charges against Todd, who is currently on paid leave while EPS conducts an internal investigation. However, the Alberta Crown Prosecution Service (ACPS) has declined to prosecute, recommending to ASIRT that no charges be laid.

Michael Ewenson, ASIRT's executive director, wrote in the report that, "This does not, however, mean the [officer's] conduct was appropriate. It showed a shocking lack of judgment and disregard for the life of [Dumas]. The public expects significantly better from a police officer."

At the rally, the Dumas' family lawyer called for reforms to police oversight and the justice system. "This is a dangerous message to give to rogue officers who do abuse their authority because it says whatever you do, you can do it with impunity," she said.

"The prosecution service has the ultimate decision-making power as to what charges go before the courts. Their decision is confidential. We don't get to know the basis behind their decision. We don't get to know the names of the prosecutors who made that decision, and that decision is unreviewable and unappealable," Steinke-Attia continued.

According to the ASIRT report, on December 9, 2020 six EPS officers, Todd included, as well as a k9 unit, went to Dumas' house in response to a complaint that a fight had taken place, and that a knife was involved. Todd, armed with a carbine,



Edmontonians rally to demand justice system reforms and show support for Pacey Dumas, the young adult who was kicked in the head by a police officer. (Photo by Paula Kirman)

and two other officers, one armed with an ARWEN projectile launcher, were in front of the house, while three officers were stationed behind it. Dumas exited the house and crawled on his stomach towards the officers, which he was asked to do. The officers claim that Dumas admitted to having a knife and began reaching towards his waistband. Todd threatened to kick him in the face if Dumas did not stop, but Dumas continued to reach for his pocket. Todd then proceeded with the kick to Dumas' head.

The kick resulted in Dumas being immediately rendered unconscious. No knife was found on him. While a knife was found near the house the following day by investigators, it was not related to the incident.

In ASIRT's report, Ewenson concluded that Todd acted in a "hasty and violent manner."

"While the law recognizes that police officers operate in dynamic situations, it is difficult to see how the life of any officer was threatened by the 90-pound AP, who was laying on the ground and covered by multiple officers with a range of weapons and a police dog."

Dumas' brother Blair, then 19, was also arrested. Neither of the brothers were charged with a criminal offence, nor did either of them have criminal records. While in handcuffs, Blair witnessed the incident. Blair Dumas died by suicide in March of 2022.

The Dumas family has filed a civil lawsuit against Todd and the EPS. Trial dates have not yet been set.

 $With \ files \ from \ Jeremy \ Appel.$ 

# Shíshálh Nation reports discovery at site of St. Augustine's Residential School

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The shishall Nation located on B.C.'s Sunshine Coast has discovered what could be 40 unmarked graves on or near the site of the former St. Augustine's Residential School.

The nation, which has now completed the first two phases of its investigation, said in a statement that the discovery confirms the accounts of elders and survivors.

"As more communities search for answers and share results, I urge you not to lose sight of the devastation and the impacts," Chief Lenora Joe (hiwus yalxwemult) said in a video statement.

"I ask you to not focus on the numbers. Not all of the missing children have been found, and many will never be found."

The nation says it's working with the University of Saskatchewan to find the remains of the children who never returned from St. Augustine's, which is located in Sechelt, B.C.

The institution was operated by the Catholic Church from 1904 to 1975.

According to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), parents withdrew their children from the school in 1923 to protest the poor quality of education, harsh discipline, and

inadequate diet. This resulted in the appointment of a new principal and increased school funding.

The NCTR identifies five students who died at the school, all of whom died after 1923:

Simon Francis Jeffries (1935)

George Freddie George (1936)

Joe Moses (1937)

Stephanie Joe (1965)

Rawley Isadore Dan (1974)

But children from 51 other Nations were forced to attend St. Augustine's, according to Ioe.

Terry Clark, a University of Saskatchewan historian, told CBC News he expects more remains to be found as the investigation enters its third phase.

The preliminary findings were the result of a search with ground penetrating radar, but Clark told the *Coast Reporter* that because the land in question has been developed over the years, the radar likely missed some remains, emphasizing the importance of testimony.

The graves were so shallow that children had to be buried in a fetal position, Joe said.

"We have heard accounts of children being

forced to dig graves and bury their friends, siblings, and cousins. Take a moment to let that sink in," she said.

The shíshálh Nation announced its intention to investigate the former site of St. Augustine's in February 2022.

Joe emphasized the importance of privacy for the families and survivors who are grieving the discovery.

"Some survivors have never spoken about their experiences. An innocent question to you, might be a triggering and offensive question to others. Please don't ask," she said.

"I understand the curiosity, but for now we want to pause, stand still, and reflect. For the children we have found 'We are going to let them rest right now."

This article contains content that may cause trauma invoked by memories of past abuse. A National Indian Residential School Support line 1-866-925-4419 is available for emotional and crisis referral support services to minimize the risk associated with triggering.

# Tattoo artist credits her late father for her success

By Chevi Rabbit, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Tristen Jenni Sanderson is a gifted tattoo artist from James Smith, Saskatchewan, and calls Edmonton home. Despite the challenges of growing up in a crowded and sometimes challenging environment, Tristen found her creativity in tattoo artistry.

"After my father, Gerald Sanderson passed away five years ago, I decided that I was going to focus on my artistic skills," said Sanderson.

"I figured I shouldn't care what others think, and I should do what I am naturally good at, so I started drawing every day, even on days I didn't want to. I tried different mediums and styles, and then started using water colours, which I found out I love."

After about a year, Sanderson took her work to a tattoo shop in Hinton, Alberta, "and they loved it. They were immediate," she said, and they told her they would teach her how to tattoo.

Sanderson landed a job as one of the junior artists at a Tattoo Shop in Edmonton, but she told the owner that she just wanted to do Indigenous inspired artwork. "I just wanted to do what I was good at and it took off from there.'

She has now honed her skills and is using her talents to express herself and connect with others. It's through her work as a tattoo artist that Sanderson has become a role model and inspiration to others.

"As a tattoo artist, I learned to trust myself as an artist," said Sanderson. "We are so gifted as Indigenous people with our artwork," and as storytellers.

five brothers and four sisters. Her experience of growing up with parents who struggled with past trauma from Canada's Residential Schools and

her family dynamics gave her a unique perspective on life and art.

moved She Edmonton with her mother when she was three. "My mother left my father; she decided to try to make it in

Edmonton," said Sanderson. "My father was traditional, so it conflicted at times in the home, but he did his best."

Edmonton was difficult, continued Sanderson. "We lived in the vehicle for a little while, and my mother tried to get her footing; she eventually became a social worker. Unfortunately, my mother struggled with addiction issues – both my mother and father were residential school survivors."

Sanderson's parents tried to work on their issues while she was growing up, but sometimes it didn't go very well. The Sanderson home was crowded, she noted. "We lived in a two-bedroom apartment in Edmonton with my mother; about

who you are sometimes because you are made fun of for being Indigenous," added Sanderson.

During these moments, Tristen would retreat into her art.

"I spent a lot of time drawing; I kept to myself, I had a lot of anxiety," she said. "My anxiety would often show up in stomach pains, because that's how anxiety often shows up in children, and eventually when they get older, they get

migraines."

Thanks her to father's influence, upbringing Tristen's was rich in traditional Indigenous culture and Her art. exposure including art forms such as star blankets, beading, and drum making, as well as with experience and ceremonies powwows, gave her a strong foundation.

This foundation, combined with her natural talent and passion for art, paved the way for her career as an Indigenous artist. Sanderson's father recognized her talent and encouraged her to pursue her dreams, which gave her the confidence and motivation to become the successful artist she

Her art reflects her deep connection to her Indigenous heritage and her commitment to preserving and sharing traditional art forms with the world. Through her work, she honours her family's legacy and inspires others to embrace their cultural identities and artistic talents.

Sanderson encourages youth to try many art forms, mediums, and techniques. "I bead, I create art on canvas, with paint or pencil, or pastel, and I create tattoos," she said.

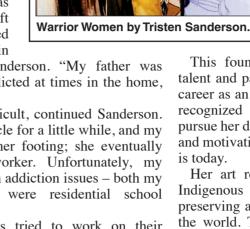
"I do a lot of bead work. This might sound weird, but I had a dream that I was wearing a beaded choker, so I decided to make one. I posted one on social media, and it took off from there."

Dreams play heavily into her paintings too. "I have dreams of them," she says. "I will often wake up in the middle of the night and write them down or do a voice recording and then I create them.

"I did a painting series called a Warrior Women Collection. I created those to show women in all their different roles in the past; we weren't all just gatherers or mothers. We were warriors as well, we were tribe leaders; we did pick medicine, and we were mothers and teachers, but we also had, non-gender specific roles."

She ends the interview by saying, "The biggest lesson I learned was to listen to myself, my intuition. So if I can tell the youth, just be honest with yourself, and the Creator gifts these beautiful things to you. If you are open to them, and if you just really listen to them, they will naturally come to you."

For more info visit www.tristenjenniart.com and Instagram: Tristen.Jenni.Art.



six of us lived there." "When you grow up in the city. It's hard to love "We tried to make the best of certain situations."

Sanderson comes from a large family - with

#### De Havilland Field Project **Comments Invited**

#### What is happening?

May 8, 2023 — 2150038 Alberta Inc. (the proponent) is proposing the De Havilland Field Project, a new aviation park located about 11 kilometres west of Strathmore, Alberta.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) invites you to review the summary of the Initial Project Description and provide comments on the proposed project. This will help the Agency prepare a summary of issues for the proponent and decide whether the project should undergo an impact assessment.

#### How can I participate?

- Submit your comments online by 11:59 p.m. on June 7, 2023. All comments will be published online.
- Participant funding will be available to eligible participants during this comment period and details will be announced shortly on the Registry. The Agency will retroactively reimburse eligible participants for their participation in this first comment period.
- Join a virtual information session to learn more about the project, the impact assessment process, and how to submit



Scan the QR-Code to visit the project Registry page.

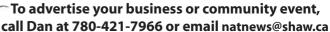
#### Have a question?

Write to us at DeHavilland@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or visit the Agency's website at canada.ca/iaac.

For media inquiries: media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or 343-549-3870.







# Hate crime stats don't reflect anti-Indigenous hate

By Jeremy Appel, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Statistics Canada has released its hate crime data for 2021, which shows an increase in police-reported incidents from 2020, but not as steep as the spike from 2019 to 2020.

But the report notes the limitations of relying on police-reported data in getting a full picture of the prevalence of hate crimes.

"There are many factors that can impact the likelihood that a given crime is reported to the police and subsequently reflected in police-reported statistics. General awareness among the community and the expertise of local police, and the relationship between a given community and the police, can play a role in how or if a crime is reported," the report says.

The data shows 77 anti-Indigenous hate incidents in 2021 — an apparent decrease of one from 2020. This comes after a 169 per cent increase from 2019 to 2020, meaning reported anti-Indigenous hate crimes are still on the rise over the past few years, and more than doubled in the first year of the pandemic.

But First Nations, Metis and Inuit people are less likely to report hate instances to police, and for good reason.

"Due to the historical and intergenerational trauma resulting from colonialism and related policies, as well as individual and systemic racism, many Indigenous people face deeply rooted social and economic challenges, including higher rates of criminal victimization, discrimination, representation in the criminal justice system, and lower levels of confidence in

the police and other institutions," the report notes.

"These and other factors can impact whether a hate crime comes to the attention of the police."

A 2019 Statistics Canada survey found that 21 per cent of Indigenous people and 16 per cent of Black people reported facing discrimination from police, compared to four per cent of the non-Indigenous, nonvisible minority population.

Overall reported hate crimes have increased 72 per cent from 2019 to 2021. This consists of a 36 per cent increase from 2019 to 2020 and a 27 per cent increase from 2020 to 2021

There were 3,360 reported hate crimes in 2021, compared to 2,646 in 2020 and 1,051 in 2019.

"The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated experiences of discrimination in Canada—including hate crimes—and underscored an increase in discourse around issues of systemic discrimination," the report notes.

The bulk of hate incidents reported in 2021 targeted people by race or ethnicity, with 1,723 reports of 3,360, representing 53 percent.

Of the 1,723 reported incidents of racist hate, 642 targeted Black people, constituting 37 per cent of reported racially motivated hate crimes. This was a decrease of 35 incidents from

2020, but almost double the 345 reported incidents in 2019.

The second largest category of reported hate crimes targeted people based on religion, with 884 reported incidents, representing 26 per cent.

Of these 884 reported incidents, 487, or 55 per cent, targeted Jewish people. There were 155

reported incidents of anti-Catholic hate, representing 17.5 percent of the total targeting religion and 144 reported incidents of Islamophobic hate, or 16 percent.

From 2020 to 2021, hate crimes against Jewish people increased by 47 per cent, compared to 71 per cent against Muslims and 260 per cent against Catholics.

Hate incidents based on sexual orientation also saw a significant increase to 13 per cent of total reported incidents in 2021 from 10 per cent in 2020.

These figures don't include hate crimes against transgender people, which aren't tracked.

All provinces and territories, except for Yukon, saw an increase in police-reported hate crimes in 2021.

The report measures prevalence of reported hate crimes as a measurement per 100,000 people for the sake of comparison.

Alberta's rate went from 4.7 in 2019 to 6.6 in 2020 and 7.6 in 2021, which is lower than the federal numbers of 5.2 in 2019, 7 in 2020 and 8.8 in 2021.

According to the report, from 2018 to 2021, almost 70 percent of hate crimes went unsolved.

Those who were charged with hate crimes are 86 percent male with a median age of 33. However, 17 percent of those charged were from the age of 12 to 17.

## Wildfires cont. from p 4

northern Alberta. Twenty-seven of those fires are considered out of control, according to Christie Tucker, information unit manager for Alberta Wildfire.

Hectares burned have passed 390,000, said Tucker

Impacted First Nations are Little Red River Cree Nation community of Fox Lake, O'Chiese First Nation, Sunchild First Nation, Whitefish Lake First Nation #459, Whitefish Lake First Nation #128 (Goodfish Reserve), Heart Lake First Nation, Swan River First Nation, Driftpile Cree Nation, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, Stoney Nakoda First

Nation (Bighorn Reserve), and Beaver First Nation.

The Little Red River Cree Nation declared a band council resolution state of emergency on Sunday. Dozens of houses were lost to fire. Evacuation began on May 3, with a full evacuation in place on May 4 with about 3,700 people leaving.

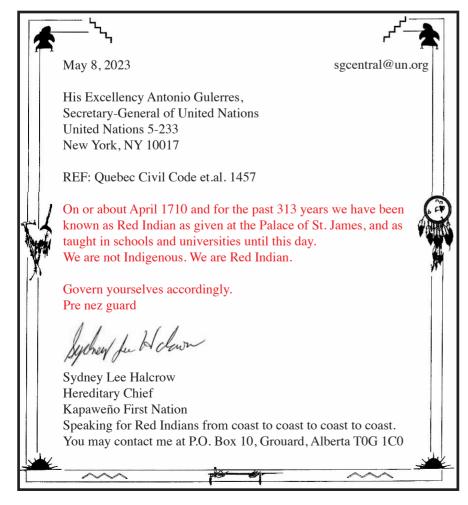
In a statement issued Sunday May 7, Indigenous Services Canada said it was "actively monitoring" the situation and managers were working with First Nations leadership, provincial emergency management agencies and other partners in Alberta "to be responsive to communities" needs as situations evolve. ISC is ensuring that impacted Nations have the funding

support on an expedited and streamlined basis."

On Sunday, Alberta also declared a provincial state of emergency with close to 30,000 people having been evacuated from their communities. As of May 9, there are 15 evacuation orders still in place.

There were 14 other communities in Alberta to declare states of local emergency.

Premier Danielle Smith said on May 9 that onetime emergency financial assistance will be available to anyone who is out of their home for seven days. Adults will receive \$1,250 and dependent children (under 18 years old) will receive \$500. Smith confirmed the payment is also available to First Nations and Métis settlement members who have been evacuated.





# Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP: a better future for you and your family.

- Making life more affordable: freezing income taxes, cutting insurance and electricity rates.
- Fixing health care and working with Indigenous peoples for culturally appropriate care.
- Respecting Indigenous rights.
- Strengthening human rights and anti-racism actions.
- Improving public education for all, to expand opportunities and overcome barriers.

\$120 million capital fund to support Indigenous-led affordable housing.





Authorized by Alberta NDP • albertandp.ca <a href="mailto:cope397">cope397</a>

Impact Assessment Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada

# De Havilland Field Project Participant Funding Available

May 10, 2023 — Funding provided by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is now available to help the public and Indigenous Peoples participate in the impact assessment process for the proposed De Havilland Field Project, a new aviation park located about 11 kilometres west of Strathmore, Alberta.

Funding is available for eligible individuals and groups to assist their participation in the planning phase of the federal impact assessment process. During the current comment period, which ends on June 7, 2023, the public and Indigenous Peoples are invited to review the summary of the Initial Project Description and provide comments. The Agency will retroactively reimburse eligible participants for their participation in this first comment period.

Applications received by June 9, 2023, will be considered.

For more information about the Funding Program, including eligibility criteria and the application form, please visit the project home page on the Registry website, reference number 84552. You can also contact the Participant Funding Program by writing to fp-paf@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or by calling 1-866-582-1884. Details about the project can also be found on the project home page.

As a next step, the Agency will determine whether a federal impact assessment is required for the project. If one is required, eligible applicants will receive additional funding to participate in a second comment period to provide feedback on the draft Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and the draft Public Participation Plan.

For media inquiries, contact the Agency's media relations team by writing to media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or calling 343-549-3870.

Stay updated on this project by following the Agency on Twitter: @IAAC\_AEIC #DeHavilland

Canadä

