# W8BANAKI PILASKW

Odanak Abenaki Newspaper Volume 8 Number 2 June 2014

# Word from the Chief



Kwaï fellow band members,

The development of culture, education and health initiatives require that we, as a community, get involved and let our voice be heard. The words and actions that guide our principles must reflect a collective vision of where we are going as a people. Each of our families holds a piece of the puzzle that distinguishes us as a people. It is important that we continue collaborating to define and conserve the traditions our families have shared over generations.

How do we make our way through the challenges of community building and continue to foster commitment on the part of our members in establishing and implementing a plan that reflects a common vision? What are we leaving as a legacy for our children and grandchildren? How can we move towards a self sufficient, autonomous model of community? These are the questions that need to guide our efforts. We must not abandon the struggle to make a better life and create a wholesome environment for our newest generation to take root in.

It is vital to the creation of a solid economic and social base that community members on or off reserve contribute actively to the ongoing efforts of community and council. We need to do less criticizing and become involved in the efforts to build a stronger community. To help move us forward in this very important process let this be the reflection that leads us... if I am not happy with the status quo, what am I doing to make it different?

In peace and friendship,

Rick O'Bomsawin Chief



From left to right on the photo: Cody Watso, Nôlan Hannis-Charron, Charles O'Bomsawin, Loghan Hannis-Turcotte, Timoty Watso, Carey Price, Nolan Bonneville-Forest, Francis Pelletier

# SEVEN ABENAKI YOUTH MEET CAREY PRICE AT THE BELL CENTRE

The Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki announced that seven young Abenaki hockey players each received full hockey gear from the Goals and Dreams program funded by the National Hockey League Players' Association. The event took place on April 5 at the Bell Centre in the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation luxury suite where our youth, accompanied by a parent, attended a game between the Canadiens and Red Wings.

At the end of the game, the lucky seven had the opportunity to visit behind the scenes of the Bell Centre and meet their Aboriginal idol, Carey Price and his wife Angela. In appreciation of the Canadiens' goalkeeper, a painting of him in action on the ice was presented to him.

This event was the result of a project organized by the First Nations Child and Family Services Program (FNCFS) in partnership with the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation. Our young hockey players were presented to the NHLPA Goals and Dreams selection committee and they were all selected. To be selected and presented to the committee, these youth had to show perseverance, sports involvement, and to have played hockey for at least one year and be a resident of either Odanak or Wôlinak.

This unique experience will remain forever etched in the memory of these young people as well as their chaperons!

Editing team

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# Word from Claire O'Bomsawin



Claire O'Bomsawin
Councillor

Hello to all the members,

Here is some news about your community. This year, I am making low-income families a priority of mine. Following discussions with the Council

and to my great pleasure, we agreed on providing a budget of \$4,000 for structural repairs to low-income homeowners, aged 65 years and under.

I would now like to talk about our elders. Activities continue as usual. Dinners are held every Tuesday and are prepared by different people every week. Saturday lunches are also still being held and guests who are chosen by our elders come and share on different topics every week. In addition, a shopping activity is organized once a month. Other activities are also organized from time to time.

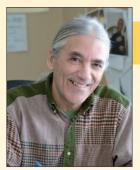
I would like to recruit some elders to teach our youth how to weave baskets to avoid losing this beautiful tradition. Our elders are gifted and they create some very beautiful baskets and we need to pass this knowledge along.

Every year, meetings and activities are organized in New York State by the Abenaki people of the United States. I am currently considering the possibility of organizing a trip with our elders to attend these activities. In fact, a few of our elders have already shown an interest in such a trip. I will advise our community elders as soon as we know the dates and details of the next event. This sort of trip would be a great opportunity to interact with other Abenaki people.

Before I conclude, I would just like to remind people of my responsibilities and commitments for the community. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Water Board, Vice-President of the Abenaki Museum and member of the Board of elected women. I am also involved in issues concerning healthcare and the elders.

In closing, I wish you a great summer. Kind regards.

# Word from Réjean O'Bomsawin



Réjean O'Bomsawin Councillor

Kwaï,

Dear Members, let me begin with the Cultural Council issue. We are in the process of developing a policy and regulations that will

not only concern language and basket-making. In fact, this policy will also include hunting, fishing, burial sites, our Aboriginal rights and everything that relates to the protection of our cultural heritage over the entire Ndakinna territory. After drafting this policy and regulations, bilingual consultations will be held with members from Quebec, Ontario and the United States.

Working closely with the Cultural Council, I am responsible for the education file with Alexis. We are hoping to establish an elementary school in Odanak in the near future, where a cultural and language programme will be offered to our Abenaki youth. For more details about the education file, I invite you to read the text prepared by Alexis Wawanoloath.

Third, renovations of the kitchen at the community hall are now complete. The new kitchen is fully furnished and all the equipment is industrial grade. More details about the kitchen and related activities will be provided in the next issue.

During the visit of the Collège Notre-Dame de Montréal musicians on May 17, we had the honour of welcoming a young Abenaki musician, Mali Savaria, daughter of Monica Ille and granddaughter of Monique Wawanolett. She gave us a performance worthy of our Nation. Music is an integral part of our community and has been for several decades. To see such continuity raises our pride of belonging to the Odanak community.

Kchi Wli Wni

# Word from Mathieu G. O'Bomsawin



Mathieu G.
O'Bomsawin
Councillor

Kwaï mziwi,

Since my nomination as Councillor for the

Abenakis of Odanak Council, we have assigned the various files. For my part, I was given three files: youth, culture and economic development.

# Assembly of Chiefs

I had the opportunity to attend the Assembly of Chiefs of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) which was held on February 18-20 in Montreal. It was for me a very interesting and educational experience that allowed me to learn more about First Nations issues at both the provincial and federal level. One of the important topics discussed at this meeting was undoubtedly the federal bill on First Nations education which is entitled the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act (Bill C -33). The majority of Chiefs who attended the meeting were opposed to this Bill, in particular because of the fact that the federal government has failed in its obligation to properly consult First Nations of Quebec and Labrador and to consider their recommendations. This opposition resulted in a legal action against the Bill by applying for judicial

review in the Federal Court, which was announced at a press conference by the Regional Chief Ghislain Picard on February 19.

# Abenaki Social

On April 24, the Aw8ssisak Akik group organized an Abenaki Social which included a community dinner followed by a performance of traditional Abenaki songs. This first event brought together twenty members. This kind of event will likely be repeated over the next year, since it is an easy and inexpensive way to bring people of all ages together and share a nice meal!

In the same vein, on April 26, a similar activity was held in Albany by Abenaki people living in the United States. We received an invitation from Mrs. Denise Watso to attend this event. I was accompanied by a few members of the M8wwa Committee. For all of us, it was our first experience participating in this activity. I really enjoyed myself and it gave me the opportunity to meet and interact with our members living outside of the community! Wliwni to the organizers of this beautiful and unifying event!

## Collège Notre-Dame de Montréal Youth Come for a Visit

On May 16 and 17, almost 40 youth from the Collège Notre-Dame de Montréal, from the music department came to visit our community. The

director of the music department paid me a visit in March to assess our interest and the feasibility of this project. The aim of the project was to raise awareness of the Aboriginal people and their reality in their communities to the school's youth whom almost never leave their urban environment. The group of musicians was composed of members from ethnic communities from different countries who know practically nothing about Aboriginals. The director of the music department wanted to visit certain Quebec Aboriginal communities with his students. During their visit to Odanak, they performed a concert at the Catholic Church and shared with certain members of the community.

# Nkawatzow8gan Gala

On Thursday, June 12, the recognition award gala was held, similar to the gala that was held in December 2010, for youth between the ages of 5 and 35. The gala is a tribute to the community's youth. On this occasion, many youth were honored in different categories. This event is a way to encourage our beautiful youth who have made our community proud!

In closing, I wish you all a great summer!

Hope to see you soon!

Wliwni

# **Word from Alexis Wawanoloath**

450 561-8113 / Awawanoloath@caodanak.com / AlexisWawa/Facebook.com



**Alexis Wawanoloath** Councillor

Kwaï to all Abenaki people of Odanak.

Last November, you gave me the great honour by choosing me as one of

your representatives. In Council, we assigned the different files to elected members. Here are the mandates that were entrusted to me by the Council: to sit on the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki, the Régie intermunicipale d'alimentation en eau potable du Bas Saint-François, the Board of Directors of the Aw8ssissak daycare centre and on the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Quebec. In addition, I am the education councillor for the territory, for the Catholic Church, for human resources development and the environment, and for the Abenaki people living outside Odanak. Below is a summary of the actions I have taken.

## Education

Over the past few months, I have worked hard on the preliminary research for establishing an elementary school. A committee was set up for this purpose. I firmly believe it is essential for the survival of our Nation that we have an educational institution that we can control for several reasons. Our identity and national pride; by sending our children to schools from another Nation, we therefore accept that our children have less historical and cultural knowledge of our own Nation. So by having our own school, we can develop the identity of our youth at their most critical age. There are also economic reasons. At the moment, we pay more than \$170,000 in tuition per year to send our children to Quebec public schools. With our own school, we could subsidize teachers, professional staff and support staff. Many of these jobs could be filled by Abenaki

people of Odanak. This represents an opportunity to reinvest our money in our community.

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Several people have mentioned their fear of having lower quality education and that we may end up with a "ghetto" type school. On the contrary, the committee and I want this school to be open to the world and of superior quality. Moreover, if we draw a circle around Odanak, in a radius of an hour's drive, there are 41 Odanak Abenaki youth in addition to the 30 already on the territory. During the summer, the Education Committee will visit the parents of elementaryaged youth to discuss the Odanak school project.

I met an Odanak resident at the convenient store the other day and he explained: "It was futile to try and save our culture and language because, in any case, it will disappear within the next ten years". This statement could be justified should we not do anything collectively now. Of course, I want this school for my daughters and for all of our Nation's children, but I'm also thinking of our elders and our ancestors who were not allowed to learn their language, their culture and their history.

# Abenaki people living outside Odanak

In January, I sent a letter to all the Abenaki people of Odanak living outside Odanak to express my willingness to represent them at the Council. I was born, raised and I spent most of my career in Vald'Or. Thus, I am in a position to understand their situation. Several people have responded to my letters or called me to offer some ideas. There were many issues including the organization of community initiation days for members who have never visited Odanak, to the creation of Councils in larger cities. Many Odanak citizens have also contacted me for issues relating to registration, education, taxation, hunting, etc.

Along with my colleagues at the Council, I would like to see these proposals become reality. For example, certain members have asked if we could arrange transportation service accommodations for the next Pow Wow on July 4, 5 and 6. People from Sudbury and Albany have expressed their willingness for this initiative which we would want to implement. If you need accommodations or you are planning for a large group requiring a bus, contact me and we will do our best to accommodate you to make the Pow Wow a memorable experience for you.

I am currently working to form committees of Abenaki people of Odanak in cities where many of our members live, such as Albany, Waterbury, Montreal, Sudbury, Sorel, Québec and Trois-Rivières. Over the next few months, I will travel to each of these communities to meet with the people and set-up committees for those interested. In the meantime, if certain individuals wish to contact me and participate in organizing these meetings, I will be happy to welcome you aboard.

I hope that members have the opportunity to apply to positions in our national governmental organizations (Abenakis of Odanak Council and the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki) even if their French is not at top-level. I believe we should have a policy to allow our English-speaking members to learn French during their first year of employment in our national governmental organizations.

#### Environment

Recently, the Council met with representatives of green technologies company. These technologies are for the fields of construction, lighting, heating/air conditioning, agrifood and energy self-sufficiency. We are examining different options for the construction of a new administration building because we currently don't have enough space. I see, for our Nation, a great opportunity to apply these new concepts and I sincerely hope that the Council will lean in this direction.

Several other matters have raised my attention since the last issue, but I cannot list every one of my actions. So if you would like more details, please contact me.

# **Word from the Executive Director**



DANIEL G. NOLETT Executive Director Abenakis of Odanak **Band Council** 

Wli sigwan W8banakiak!

The Council held a prioritization exercise for 2014-2015 over the last few weeks. Herewith is a summary:

- 1) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
   Job and Training Fair in the summer of 2014 in collaboration with the FNCFS;
- Ensure and provide coaching to young/new entrepreneurs; Expansion of the childcare centre;
- Support and develop recreational tourism;

# **EDUCATION AND RECREATION**

- Continue our steps towards creating an elementary school in Organize an Awards Gala to be held on June 12, 2014;
- Establish a network between educational institutions and the Department of Education;
- Set up an education committee in general including membres living in the United States for post-secondary education and form an elementary school committee;
- Install new modules in the parks; Revamp the community garden;

# EMPLOYABILITY, INCOME SECURITY AND THE LFNC

- Develop employability measures for Income Security clientele
- Create active measures with the Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi; Establish the profile of our members on and off reserve for our

- future workforce needs;
- Implement active measures for Income Security beneficiaries;

# 4) HEALTH

- Ensure continuous CPR training for community members and ensure that employees are certified in CPR and first aid for the OHS mutual:
- Negotiate with various levels of government to establish a single referral source for home care (HC) and home maintenance
- Continue the accreditation process and prioritize obtaining the services of a physician at the OHC;

# 5) PUBLIC SECURITY

- Plan an annual Board (Odanak/Wôlinak) meeting for prioritizing CPDA actions and activities;
  Reduce the speed limit to 10km/hr in the residential areas such
- as: Rue Awassos and Rue Managuan, etc; Install bike racks in public places to promote physical activity;
- Consider shared roadways for bikes/cars;
- Expand the police station on a floor:

# 6) HOUSING / LAND MANAGEMENT / LAND CLAIMS

- Increase the threshold of Ministerial Guarantees from \$125,000 to \$150.000: Check with GCNWA Technical Services the possibility of housing
- and property assessments
- Monitor the retrocession of land process with the AANDC for the CN land (conversion into reserve land);
- Obtain a right of way at the Domaine Pierreville;
- Prepare a management and land use plan and develop a plan to protect the forest and wetlands on community land;
- Form an advisory committee for the future of the rectory: Develop our own matrimonial property legislation;

# 7) CULTURE AND COMMUNITY LIFE

- Post photos in the entrance of the community hall of members who have made notable achievements to honour them;
- Redesign the area at the bottom of the hill behind the rectory for the Pow Wows Organize social evenings with Abenaki and Pow Wow songs and
- dances with the M8wwa committee; Include the Abenaki Museum in the process of drafting and

#### formulating the cultural policy; 8) ADMINISTRATION

Construction of a new administrative office for the Council;

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- Implement an Access to employment policy for Abenaki public service;
- Human resource development and replacement plan for current and future needs, have an updated register of competency profiles of our members, in relation to education;
- Discuss the new Electoral Code under the Indian Act;
- Find Abenaki names to identify the Council's different

The expansion of the community centre was completed in late March. Total costs amounted to nearly \$150,000. We will be able to meet a certain demand and needs for receptions and for holding activities such as community dinners. In fact, we held a community dinner (potluck) to celebrate the Sugar Maker Moon "SOGALIKAS" on April 24. Traditional foods were served. The Aw8ssisak Akik song troupe took part by performing some traditional songs.

We will be conducting an exercise with the Council to develop a new 5-year strategic plan. We will therefore prioritize actions for the next five (5) years. This activity should take place during the months of May and June with the help of the firm COSE. This exercise will prepare us in the planning of activities by the Council and its various departments.

The Council advised the Quebec Public Security Department and Public Safety Canada of our wish to sign the next 4-year funding agreement for police services. This agreement will therefore be valid from 2014 to 2018. As I write these lines, we are still waiting to receive the formal agreement for signature. There have been delays in the process due to the provincial election on April 7.

# **ENVIRONMENT AND LAND OFFICE ODANAK**

# News from the Odanak Environment and Land Bureau

## **ODANAK DISPOSAL SITE**

If you are doing some yard work and you don't know where to dispose of your waste (peat, top soil, wood, logs, branches, dead leaves, sand, soil or other waste).

There is a disposal site in Odanak for this kind of waste and it is free for Odanak residents. It is open from May to November. To use it, you must contact the Abenakis of Odanak Council for them to send someone to open the gate and accompany you on the site and explain where and how to dispose of your materials. You can use the site outside the Council's normal working hours by making an appointment.

Note that you are responsible for transporting this waste and it is forbidden to dispose of timber and concrete or asphalt on the site.

For more information or to give us your comments about this service, please contact the Odanak Environment and Land Office (450 568-6363).

Have a great summer!



## Service for residents only Access to the Odanak disposal site



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- 1. To enter and to have the gates opened, you must be accompanied by a disposal site representative.
- 2. For any disposal project, contact the Abenakis of Odanak Council to access the site.
- 3. Outside of the Council's normal working hours, make an appointment with a representative by calling the Council.

# Abenakis of Odanak Council, 450 568-2810

102, rue Sibosis, Odanak / Monday to thursday 8am to 4pm and Friday 8am to noon

## ACCEPTED FREE OF CHARGE

Peat and topsoil

## **REFUSED**

Waste -Any other material

# Stone, cement and asphalt

## **ODANAK YELLOW PERCH PROJECT**

The Odanak Environment and Land Office is aiming at restoring access for yellow perch at the community's first marsh to stimulate reproduction. In fact, for several years the decrease of spring flooding, the opening of the ice hovercrafts and control of water levels by dams have made it difficult for these fish to swim up to the marsh.

Therefore, redevelopment work is planned by early summer in order to modify the flow of the unnamed creek to make the marsh more accessible to perch.

## Spring 2014: Lots of water in our rivers

Conditions were unique this year with exceptionally high water levels. A study is currently being conducted to determine the ideal conditions for the passage of perch.

We are pleased to note the presence of a good number of yellow perch and many other species of fish (brown bullhead, white sucker, stickleback, goldeye, Northern madtom, etc). We even had the chance to observe redbacked salamanders for the first time in the marsh.



Yellow perch marked with a yellow dot on the tail



Rémi Delhorme, Luc Gauthier and Marion Thierry



Redbacked salamander



Tench is a harmful species for several native species.



This salamander (Hemidactylium scutatum) which lives in wet or even in Quebec due to the loss of wetlands for urban development, peat bog flooded forests, characterized by the presence of hummocks of moss, operations, forest drainage and logging. measures less than 9 cm and is reddish or brownish. It has four toes on its rear limbs, a unique characteristic of the species in Quebec.

This amphibian is susceptible to be designated threatened or vulnerable Website: http://www.cbodanak.com/

For more information, visit the section "Species at Risk" by clicking on the "Environment and Land" tab on the Abenakis of Odanak Council

# For pictures, videos and information about us, visit our Facebook page: Odanak Environment and Land Office

Thank you, Wli wni

Michel Durand, Émilie Paquin, Luc Gauthier-Nolett, Rémi Delhorme, Marion Thierry and Steven William The Odanak Environment and Land Office team

INFOSHEET «SPECIES AT RISK IN ODANAK»



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Website: http://www.cbodanak.com/environnement-et-terre.html Facebook page: Bureau environnement et terre d'Odanak

# **TransCanada News**



Open-house meeting in Wôlinak

In collaboration with the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki, TransCanada held an openhouse meeting at Wôlinak and Odanak on the Energy East Pipeline Project. On January 17, 2014, the meeting was held at the family hall in Wôlinak and in Odanak, it was held at the Community Centre on January 18, 2014. In all, a dozen people attended the event, including Chief Denis Landry and the Councillor Gaétan Landry from Wôlinak. For Odanak, political representation was provided by Chief Rick O'Bomsawin and Councillors



Mathieu O'Bomsawin and Alexis Wawanoloath. The open-house meeting was aimed at informing the public regarding the TransCanada Energy East Pipeline Project and allowing them to ask questions and share their comments directly to the promoter. For more information about, please contact Suzie O'Bomsawin, Director of the Territorial Consultations Department at the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki at 819 294-1686 or sobomsawin@gcnwa.com.

Suzie O'Bomsawin

# **Health services**



**DENY OBOMSAWIN**Health Services Director
Odanak Health Centre

# IN 2013-2014, WE HAVE CARRIED OUT SEVERAL ACTIVITIES:

#### Nursing Care

We distributed literature to inform the public about the causes, transmission and prejudices about HIV/AIDS.

We participated in the annual conference Crossroads on practices concerning sexual assault and domestic violence ("Carrefour des pratiques sur les agressions sexuelles et la violence familial").

In the context of suicide prevention, we presented a luncheon with the theme «Agir pour mieux vivre». This activity was offered to people aged 50 years and over.

For the diabetes and physical activity program, there was the Défi 5/30 Equilibre, Défi Course à la vie, Kirano, physical activities for children aged three to five, the Walking Club, the Winter Carnival and an outing to the Adrénergie Centre.

We contributed towards ensuring home care services.

We received funding from Health Canada in order to update the Emergency Response Plan.

We welcomed two medical students.

We established the Palliative Care component that allows people in the community to have the choice to die with dignity in their environment.

### First Nations Head Start Program (FNHSP)

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The children visited the Museum, went hiking in the forest and made some sculptures in the snow. They also had craft workshops.

#### Nutrition

The nutritionist conducted follow-ups with customers.

#### Medical Transportation

The Council purchased a vehicle for medical transportation. We hired a driver.

### Accreditation

As part of the Accreditation process, representatives from Accreditation Canada met with the personnel and management of the Health Centre. We await their report to correct if necessary certain aspects of our operations.

#### FOR 2014-2015, OUR PLANS INCLUDE:

We will complete the update of the Emergency Response Plan. Moreover, a simulation is planned for the fall. Of course, we will take certain actions as a result of the visit by Accreditation Canada. We will refine the palliative care component. We will continue to inspect restaurants in the community. We will support young parents with their babies. We will offer workshops, lectures and activities to promote health. We will also offer workshops to quit smoking. As you can see, another busy year in terms of health services.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Mélanie Panadis for her appointment as Assistant Director at the Council and Head of Human Resources.

Bravo Mélanie!



Mylène Trudeau Eng. 409, CPDA

Have you ever forgotten to wear your seatbelt... because you were just going to the corner store... just down the street... How would you like to see what might happen if a person is not buckled-in and has an accident? On Saturday July 5 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm at the Pow Wow in Odanak, the Abenaki Police Department will show the importance of wearing your seatbelt when driving by with presenting a rollover simulator! Come in large numbers, we will be at the Pow Wow site.

In addition, if you have any additional information, you can always contact us by telephone at 450 568-3733 or by Email at infocrime@cpda.ca.

See you soon!

# News from the Department of Education



Nathalie Cardin
Department
of Education

New procedures have been put forward to facilitate access to financial aid documents for students entering or continuing their post-secondary studies in the fall of 2014.

In recent weeks, we have made available the information and documents necessary to apply for financial aid online on the website of the Abenakis of Odanak Council at www.cbodanak.com under the *tab Education*.

### **IMPORTANT CHANGE**

It is now the responsibility of the student to obtain the documents relating to financial assistance, to complete and return them to us along with the required documents. Forms and other documents must be returned to the Abenakis of Odanak Council offices based on one of the following options:

- In person
- By regular mail
- By Email with attachments only at: ncardin@caodanak.com

# **DEADLINE**

The deadline to submit your completed financial aid application with all required documents for the 2014 fall semester is next June 30.

If by June 30 your class schedule is not yet available, the deadline for providing this document is August 20, 2014. You must nevertheless meet the deadline of June 30 for the other documents.

Students who do not provide the documents according to the required deadline will have their financial aid suspended until the month following the receipt of such documents.



From left to right on the photo, Pierre-Olivier Gravel, Shelly Bonneville, Michel Thibeault, Audrey Trudel, Laure Tardif, Valérie Laforce, Jenny M'Sadoques Benoit and Kassandra Lefebvre.

# **FNCFS on the Radio**

On Wednesday, April 2, the entire FNCFS (First Nations Child and Family Services) team accompanied by two representatives of the W project were on the radio of the Maskinongé RMC, at 103.1 CH20 fm, for a very interesting interview during the show Amène-toi chez nous hosted by Sébastien Rochefort.

During the interview, the FNCFS team were able to discuss everything related directly or

indirectly to social services in an Aboriginal context and more specifically for the Abenaki communities of Wôlinak and Odanak. In fact, the interview provided some good exposure which left a positive image of the Abenaki people to listeners.

Editing team

# News from the Abenaki Museum of Odanak

On March 20, the Museum presented its annual benefit cocktail party. This third edition was a huge success with nearly 100 guests who discovered the contemporary culture of the Abenaki First Nation and other First Nations. Ticket sales, corporate sponsorships, the silent auction and the sale of raffle tickets for getaway packages helped us raise \$15,000. This amount will help us organize an exhibition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Museum in 2015. We thank the participants, artists and the many sponsors who contributed to the success of this event. Hoping to see you at our next event on March 19, 2015!

The exhibition project to celebrate the Museum's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is progressing very well. Committees consisting of members of the community will begin their work shortly, the exhibition scenario is ready and the design firm has been hired. In less than a year, in May 2015, we will kick off the festivities! The most nostalgic will relive the highlights of the Museum's history and younger people will discover why it is so significant for the Abenaki community.

Until then, we will present a summer cultural program that will appeal to all with four temporary exhibitions. Through the Voices of Beads: Iroquois Beadwork will allow for the discovery of a still popular art among the Iroquois. The exhibition features twenty pieces from the collections of the Royal Ontario Museum and a dozen works from the collection of Iroquois artist

Samuel Thomas, including two full-length beaded outfits. This exhibition is presented thanks to a grant from Canadian Heritage. Red Memory: The Indian Residential Schools in Quebec, will be extended until September to allow our summer visitors to discover and understand an important part of the history of First Nations. Presented by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission (FNQLHSSC), this exhibition provides insight into the nature of the injuries, losses and cultural assimilation that the survivors and their families have been subjected to. These exhibitions will be presented from June 9 to September 7, 2014. The third exhibition, K's8gm8menawak-Our (K's8gm8menawak-Nos chefs) pays tribute to Odanak Chiefs featuring photographs and objects from the Museum's collections and from private collectors. This exhibition will run from July 3 to 21 December, 2014. Finally, you will have the pleasure of enjoying a dozen works by Georgette Obomsawine. This exhibition will also be presented until December 2014.

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The tourist season will soon begin and we hope that our marketing efforts we will be successful. The entire team of guides is ready to welcome the thousands of visitors who will come visit us in the coming months. We are proud to welcome new students, local youth, who will help our guests, eager for knowledge and discovery, learn about the history and culture of the Abenaki people. We also hope you will visit us in large numbers!



Some new things at the boutique: books, Bastien moccasins, Navajo silver jewelry. Many items for you or to offer as gifts!

The next annual general meeting of the Société historique d'Odanak will be held at the end of August 2014. Members will be convened shortly. We invite you to join the Société in order to attend the meeting, but only official members as of March 31, 2014 are entitled to vote.

I wish you all a great summer, a great Pow Wow and I hope to see you all at the Abenaki Museum.

Best regards, Michelle Bélanger Executive Director

# **News from the M8wwa Committee!**

# RYIF Project: ACCEPTED!!!

On November 4, 2013, M8wwa Committee members tabled a project under the Regional Youth Investment Fund (RYIF) from the Centre-du-Québec Youth Forum. Our project was accepted and we are very happy!!

Small reminder: our project includes two subprojects. The first is to set up a traditional gathering place (exact location to be determined) along with a wigwam. The second is to enable the youth of the community to learn different types of Pow Wow dances, along with other Abenaki traditional dances.

Registrations for dance workshops occurred in May!

# Screening of the documentary: Hi-Ho Mistahey by Alanis O'Bomsawin

On January 4, a screening of Alanis O'Bomsawin's latest documentary, Hi-Ho Mistahey, was organized by M8wwa Committee members at the Abenaki Museum. A discussion period with the filmmaker was also planned. Around forty people took part in this activity. A very interesting documentary... a must-see!

The M8wwa Committee will also present a free screening of the film Québékoisie. Stay tuned!



On the photo: Suzie, Mélanie, Alanis, Mathieu, Jennifer and Marc-Olivier O'Bomsawin

# Abenaki Rally in Albany

On April 26, Ms. Denise L. Watso invited M8wwa Committee members to present the committee and its achievements to the Abenaki people living in the United States. Many people attended the rally and it was a much appreciated opportunity for the members to meet all these people.

# Walk for the World Water Day in Lac Mégantic

The World Water Day was last March 22. For the occasion, in Lac-Mégantic, the Regroupement Interrégional sur le Gaz de Schiste de la Vallée du St-Laurent organized a walk to offer support, including the 75 have adopted the



municipalities that O'Bomsawin as well as Mandi and Alice Thompson

Regulation respecting the separation distances to protect water sources and artesian and surface wells. This walk aimed at opposing pipeline and Anticosti projects in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Despite the storm, M8wwa Committee members were present to lend support to the members of the various participating organizations. We were also joined by a few members of our community and by the Abenaki nation Quebec Native Women's Association who also support this cause.

# Upcoming Activities!

At the last Committee meeting, members thought of several activities... your input would also be interesting! There are now 7 of us thinking about what we can offer to the community, in particular youth between 15 and 35 years of age!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the M8wwa Committee or the activities our Committee members participate in!

Do you have ideas for projects? Would you like to get involved in the Committee? Please contact us!



Wliwni, M8wwa Committee members



Comité M8WWA Committee

# Free access to national parks!

Kwaï kwaï,

Did you know that under the Parks Regulation, the Abenakis of Odanak and Wôlinak community members are exempt from paying access rights as well as rights to practice fishing in the Mont-Mégantic, Mont-Orford and Yamaska National Parks?

#### To benefit from these exemptions, you must:

- · Present yourself at the welcome centre of one of the above mentioned parks;
- Have your Indian Status card with you or a letter confirming that you are a member the Odanak or Wôlinak community (both Band Councils have a sample letter available);
- Have a fishing license issued by the Nation or one issued by the province, if applicable.

Wliwni

#### Suzie O'Bomsawin

Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki sobomsawin@gcnwa.com

# **Clean-up Activity**

Organized by the Odanak Environment and Land Office, the Clean-Up activity took place in the afternoon of Saturday March 29 where about fifty people attended the event. The aim of this activity was to raise awareness and inform the Odanak people in terms of sustainable development and the adoption of environmentally friendly practices.



Photo credit : André Gill

Five information kiosks animated simultaneously were presented to visitors who were able to learn more about composting techniques, the collection of rain water, cotton diapers, Divacups and waste and recycling. During the day, 30 rainwater collectors were offered free to Odanak residents.

#### Editing team

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MÉLANIE PANADIS Assistant general director responsible for human resources

# **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

The Abenakis of Odanak Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Mélanie Panadis as Assistant General Director Responsible for Human Resources.

She holds a Bachelors degree in Business Administration option human resources at the University of Quebec at Trois-Rivières.

Her main task will be to manage human resources, from hiring personnel to assessing annual employee performance.

We are happy to have her join our team.

# **Happenings in Odanak**

SUGAR SHACK



Again this year, the sugar shack activity was a huge success. Despite the bad weather, the activity attracted 65 people of all ages. Many families took the opportunity to come satisfy their sweet tooth. You can be certain the activity will return next year, and we will make every effort to have more places.

# NHLPA



After a year of hard work, the NHLPA project was finally realized. Seven children from Odanak and Wôlinak were selected to receive full hockey gear donated by the NHLPA and they had an unforgettable evening. These youth had the opportunity to meet Angela and Carey Price after attending a Canadiens game in a luxury suite last April 5. Carey Price is a model for our Aboriginal youth because he too is an Aboriginal from western Canada. The greatest gift was to see the children's eyes light up that evening. Here are some photos!

Jenny M'Sadoques Benoit Community Organizer

# HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE



The end of the school year is almost here already! The first year of the homework assistance program was busy. We have a pool of young people between the ages of 7 and 12. Some children have shown a lot of progress. We are currently preparing the gala of appreciation with them. Please take note that the homework assistance program will be back next year, so do not hesitate to enroll your children.

# CARNIVAL 2014



The first edition of the Odanak Carnival was held last February 8. What a great activity that brought together many people from the community despite the cold. In collaboration with Nathalie Cardin from the Abanakis of Odanak Council, Évelyne Boisvert from the Health Centre and the M8wwa Committee, the day worked out perfectly. It was a busy day with bingo-racket, a hockey game, ice sculptures, cultural workshops, a dinner and finally a disco outside. Thank you very much for your participation.

# Registration for the 2014-2015 school year



You have different options:

- Motocross
- Hockey
- Mountain bike
- Ski/snowboard at Bromont
- Soccer
- Golf
- Horseback riding
- Music with Maximusik

ENTRANCE EXAM BY APPOINTMENT!!

EDUCATION IN FRENCH

# CONTACT US!!

• Telephone : 819 396-2076

• Email : juvenatnadia@hotmail.com info@juvenat.ca

• Facebook : Juvénat St-Louis Marie

• Website : www.juvenat.ca

# **MOULD**

Minimize humidity levels in your home to reduce the risk of mould

Mould is any type of fungus that comes in a variety of colours and grows in damp areas of your home. They appear where the humidity level is high in areas where there is a water leak in the kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, etc. Mould can grow on wood, paper, fabrics, drywall, insulation, interior walls or above ceiling tiles. Mould can contribute to poor air quality.

#### What are the health risks?

People living in homes with mould and damp conditions are more likely to have the following symptoms:

- Eye, nose and throat irritation
- Coughing and mucous build-up
- · Wheezing and shortness of breath
- Worsening of asthma symptoms
- Other allergic reactions

### How do I know if I have a problem?

• Not all mould is obvious to find. It is important to check for mould anywhere that is damp, especially where water damage has happened.

 Inspect your home for visible signs of mould or areas with too much moisture. Look for stains or discolouration on floors, walls, window panes, fabrics and carpets. See if you smell a musty "earthy" odour. If needed, contact an expert for help.

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### How can I prevent mould?

Prevent mould from growing by making sure you:

- Check for any damp areas in the house: basement, leaky sink, cold rooms, storage space on exterior walls, etc.
- Repair any water leaks as soon as you notice them. Clean up immediately after any flood.
- Use kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans when cooking or showering. Make sure the clothes dryer and kitchen fan vent outdoors.
- Avoid accumulating objects in the basement.
- Measure and keep humidity low, about 50% in summer and 30% in colder weather. If needed, use a dehumidifier.

# If you discover mould:

If the contaminated surface is small to moderate:

Clean the mould by using water and dish detergent. There's no need to use bleach.

#### If the contaminated area is large:

Take precautions to protect your health. Consider hiring a professional to remove the mould.

Be sure to fix the underlying cause whether it's water damage or too much humidity.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at the Odanak Health Centre.

# Sources:

HEALTH CANADA (2010).

http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/environmentenvironnement/home-maison/mould-moisissureseng.php "Hazardcheck" [Page viewed May 1, 2014]

## Paule Leïby

Community Health Representative (replacing Andréanne Gouin, for maternity leave)

# What you can do -

# Improve indoor air quality

Since we spend a great deal of time indoors, indoor air quality in the home can help prevent respiratory and other health issues.

# AVOID SECOND-HAND SMOKE

Choose a smoke-free environment: smoke outside the house and the car, or do not smoke at all.

Even if a smoker is in a closed room, secondhand smoke spreads from one room to another. In addition, potentially harmful chemicals can cling to rugs, curtains, clothes, food, furniture, toys and other surfaces. They can even remain in the room or car after the person has smoked.

# WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES?

Second-hand smoke is harmful to everyone. It contains more than 4,000 chemicals, the same amount as what a smoker inhales. At least 50 of these chemicals are known to cause cancer. They contribute directly to other heart disease and emphysema both in smokers and non-smokers.

How do I know if there is a problem?

If someone smokes in your home or car, you and your family are exposed to second-hand smoke.

# WHAT CAN I DO?

Protect your family from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke by making your home and car smoke-free environments.

- No form of ventilation eliminates the harmful effects of second-hand smoke. Opening the windows of the house or the car can even blow the smoke back inside.
- Air fresheners, even if they mask the smell of smoke, do not reduce its toxicity. Even air filters (air cleaners) cannot remove all the carcinogens.

References: SANTÉ CANADA (2010). http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/environment-environnement/home-maison/hazard-risque-eng.php "Hazardcheck" [Page viewed on March 31, 2014]

# Paule Leiby

Community Health Representative (in replacement of Andréanne Gouin, maternity leave)

# **Good News for Recyclo-Centre**

In our last issue, we talked about the 2013-2014 pilot project for socio-professional reintegration with the company Recyclo-Centre in Sorel. Good news, this project introduced by the Income Security Department was so successful that a second cohort is planned for the 2014-2015 year. Respondents meeting the criteria will be contacted shortly to solicit their participation.

Ann Landry

Income Security

# **HOUSE FOR SALE**

House for sale located at 2027, rue Tolba in Odanak.

- 5 bds, living room, kitchen and bathroom
- Convenient location close to everything
- Large plot of 0.293 ha.
- Venmar air exchanger, alarm system

Asking Price : 85 000\$

Contact: Johanne Lachapelle 450 568-7238 or Cell.: 450 780-3504

# Is my business plan complete?

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Although the financial aspect of a business plan is essential, several questions must be answered before making projections. To make an objective and realistic profitability assessment, it is important to know what the projections will be based on.

There are a variety of models to help prepare a business plan. Which one to choose? In fact, instead of wondering which one to choose, it is more important to wonder what it should contain.

To help you, here is a list of points that should be CLEARLY included in a good business plan. \_\_\_\_\_\_

## 1. The presentation quality of the application file

- Rapid and effective identification of information (logical layout highlighting key information, a table of contents with appendices, etc).
- Content is organized in a logical and coherent manner, and written in a clear and concise way.
- The text is written using proper language (vocabulary, spelling, syntax).

## 2. Market Analysis

actually The business opportunity demonstrated using facts.

- The clientele or the potential market is clearly defined.
- Market research shows that the perception, expectations and motivations of potential customers are favorable for the achievement of objectives set.
- The assumptions used for determining the volume of sales/future earnings seem to be consistent and realistic.
- Current and future trends in terms of demand for the product/service have been analyzed (stagnation, growth, decline) and are favourable for the company's viability.
- political, economic, demographic, technological and environmental situations are positive for business success.
- The main practices of competitors (pricing, communications, products/services development, distribution policy) and the analysis of their strengths and weaknesses have been identified.

# 3. Marketing Plan

The commercial potential and marketing plan are realistic in relation to the target market.

- Given the analyses (market research, competitive analysis, etc), the marketing strategy seems to be set consistent and workable.
- The product/service offered has distinctive and innovative features compared to the competition's (better quality, better price, more suitable product/service, etc).
- After-sales service (technical assistance, warranty, customer service, etc) is planned and seems realistic in terms of the clientele's needs.
- based on a logical approach which takes into financial projections are consistent and realistic.

account the practice of competition, customer perceptions, as well as all costs incurred.

- A communication plan (advertising themes, budget, media support, etc) has been developed and seems consistent with the overall marketing objective.
- The distribution channel(s) chosen allow for the product/service to be moved to the final consumer in the best possible conditions.

## 4. Operations Plan

The operations plan is feasible.

- The product/service realization process has been well defined.
- The human resources team involved in the project (promoters, employees, subcontractors, suppliers) seems to possess the skills necessary for the realization of the product/service.
- The material resources required (facilities, equipment, machinery, semi-finished products, etc) have been identified and allow for the realization of the product/service.
- The company demonstrates a commitment to quality in all of its functions (quality of product/service, customer service, quality control, etc).
- The capacity to realize the product/service (equipment, machinery, human resources, etc) is consistent with the estimated volume of sales/revenue.
- The financial requirements for the acquisition of material resources have been evaluated and are sufficient.

# 5. Funding Plan

The funding plan is likely to attract investors. Overall, future trends lead to the conclusion of the project's viability. Financial projections indicate profitability and an adequate financial profile with respect to the sector of activity.

- The funding plan provides well for the needs in terms of means (capital, start-up costs, etc) as well as appropriate and necessary financial resources for the proper functioning of the business.
- The type of funding presented (down payment by the promoter, love money, long-term loan, short-term loan, leasing, etc) seems appropriate with the financial needs of the promoter.
- The price of the product/service has been set The assumptions used in the preparation of

- The projected financial statements demonstrate interesting potential profitability or a suitable surplus.
- Projected balances for future years show an adequate financial profile relative to the sector of activity and the company's age.

# 6. Entrepreneurial Profile

The promoter or the entrepreneurial team has strong expertise and skills to realize the project.

- The promoter or team of promoters have the knowledge, skills and/or sufficient and relevant experience related to the field of activity of the company.
- The promoter or entrepreneurial team has the skills favourable for an entrepreneurial career.
- The skills of the promoter or the entrepreneurial team have been clearly demonstrated: knowledge and skills acquired by the promoter and developed through their training and past experiences, allowing them to realize their entrepreneurial and/or managerial tasks efficiently.
- The promoter or entrepreneurial team has the aptitudes favourable for an entrepreneurial career
- The aptitudes of the promoter or the entrepreneurial team have been clearly demonstrated: psychological characteristics of the promoter in respect of areas of interest, personality traits, attitudes, and values enabling them to adapt to entrepreneurial realities.

# 7. Project as a Whole

Other points that are taken into account in evaluating a business plan

- Originality, project differentiation
- Practicality of the information presented
- Viability of the project long-term
- Social, societal and environmental repercussions
- Contribution to the development of the socio economic environment in which the company plans to operate

# Sylvie Desbois

Director of the Bureau of Local Employment Responsible for housing

# **Economic Development**

Activities related to economic development since the last issue have involved individual intervention with promoters in their seed and startup stages and business consolidation, by assisting them in drafting business plans and finding funding and the referencing of organizations involved in the area of economic development.

A meeting was also set-up between the Native Commercial Credit Corporation and promoters and stakeholders. Representatives of the organization came to Odanak to present the various financial products and services offered to Aboriginal entrepreneurs.

The summer will be hectic since a Job Fair is being prepared for early fall. At this event, people will have the opportunity to learn more about the different career options available within the community and also meet potential employers on and outside the community. Visitors to the Fair will also have the opportunity to attend conferences or participate in workshops on topics dealing with different job search techniques.

# Sylvie Desbois

Director of the Bureau of Local Employment Responsible for housing

# The Resume



Eleanor Hoff CLPN

The primary tool for job seekers is unquestionably the Resume (curriculum vitae, or CV). It serves to provide a quick glance of important information for employers. It should

be written according to the type of job you are looking for.

Here are some general tips to help you write your resume effectively.

- List the items in chronological order, always starting with the most recent.
- Provide only accurate information.
- Be concise, employers are likely to receive several CVs. Information should be listed on one to two pages maximum. CVs that are too long are often set aside.
- Make sure to have your CV corrected by someone who knows the language well.
- To make it easier to read, clearly delimit each section.
- Humour must be completely avoided.

#### SECTIONS OF THE RESUME

## 1. Personal Information

You must provide the following information:

• Name, full mailing address, telephone numbers (home, mobile), email address.

## 2. Career Objective

Describe your career objective. In a sentence or

two, simply write what you would like to do. This will allow the employer to know what kind of job you are targeting. Make the connection with the job for which you are applying.

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#### 3. Education

List the general and specialized training you have completed. Be specific:

- The name of educational institutions where you studied and the city where they are located
- The level of education and the date of graduation (diploma, certificate, etc),
- The training courses or other courses taken and which are connected to the desired position
- Special honours (awards, scholarships, etc).

## 4. Job Related Skills

Describe the skills that make **YOU** the right person to fill the duties of the position sought.

The more the skills that you choose to highlight are related to the position you are applying for, the better your chance of attracting the employer's attention. These skills can be from a previous job, but also an internship, volunteer activity or even a hobby.

#### 5. Work Experience

List your previous jobs with the following details:

• Company name and location, job title, date of hiring and date of end of employment, the description of the main tasks related to the job (list up to five main tasks. You can always supplement the information during an interview).

It is relevant to mention internships and volunteer experience that have a direct link with the job you wish to obtain. Only list the main tasks.

## **6.** Additional Information

Depending on the details of the job posting, you can highlight your application by indicating certain assets such as:

- Other languages spoken and written,
- Computer skills (software and technologies you are comfortable using),
- Professional associations or qualifications cards if related to the position.

## **Other Important Points**

Do not include your references on your resume, but bring a list with you for the interview. References are people whom the employer may contact to obtain additional information about you. One can indicate a former employer, a teacher or school counselor, etc. Be sure to obtain the consent of the person named in reference.

Each CV must be accompanied by a **cover letter**. No longer than one page, this document provides you the opportunity to set yourself apart from other applicants.

Key points found in a good cover letter:

- The name of the person to whom the letter is addressed, their title and company address,
- · How you heard about the job,
- The reason why YOU are the person to hire,
- Invitation to read the CV,
- The points explaining how you meet the job requirements,
- · Your availability for an interview.

Below your signature, make sure you repeat your name and contact information.

**Anatomy of an entrepreneur** 

Source : Emploi Québec







#### Brain Eyes Introduce original ideas Have vision • Differentiate between • Be attentive being tired (get some rest) to details that can or exhausted (get support) make a difference **Ears** Nose Be attentive Feel the warning to customers signs of oncoming Learn to listen difficulties to advice from those with experience Mouth Ability to communicate clearly Hands Work hand in hand with a team Fingers Learn how to draw

from mistakes

Heart

**Legs**Jump over the

Work with passion

many obstacles that arise

Buttocks ' Absorb the shock of a setback

Keep feet on the ground