**Word from the Chief**

Kwe fellow band members,

Hope you all had a great summer and took time to rest and enjoy the abundant benefits of holiday. Sun, family and a little fun are the gifts of this past season. Our 60th anniversary powwow was a success bringing family and friends down memory lane.

Coming into the fall season we are facing a monumental junction as a nation. As mentioned in my last articles many changes are coming in the areas of land management, jurisdictional laws, cannabis, wills and testaments and status registrations.

Throughout this summer changes to the Indian act, which completely do away with the inequities between genders with respect to the registration of our children and their children, have come into force. This change is called “6-1 all the way”. This change incites a very important reflection on our part as a nation.

In the 90s when this inequity in the Indian act discriminated against our women and did not allow their children to be recognized as equals, we came together to try and rectify this. In the efforts of the time, the citizen code was developed and adopted. It’s main reason for being developed was to ensure the survival of our Abenaki nation.

As we have to think seriously about the impact of not addressing this very important step in the process of establishing the foundation for the survival of our Abenaki nation.

Not addressing the citizenship, membership and residency codes will only stand to ensure the eventual vanishing of our nation. With all of us, men or women now having the same criterion for recognition and registry we need to act to ensure that our nation conserves its blood quantum and identity. Disregarding this important element can jeopardize our integrity as a nation.

We will be addressing this issue as a priority this fall. I hope to have many of you participate in this crucial process.

In peace and friendship,

Chief Rick O’Bomsawin

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**Nd’elosa Odanak: I walk to the village**

*If nothing is done, we will lose our culture along with our land*, warns Mali Obomsawin.

**BY MALI OBOMSAWIN**

At the end of kikas pògwas, I did a ceremonial run along our sacred rivers and historic trails– from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire to Odanak. The journey was 215 miles, crossed the Canada-U.S. border, and took 5 days. My sister Tagwôngo and father Tom Obomsawin joined and road-crewed for me on the journey, and I am happy to share my experience with my fellow Wîbanaki people upon the Grand Council’s request!

My name is Mali Obomsawin, and I have been coming to Odanak my whole life to visit family and attend powwow and other ceremonies. I am now 23 and graduated from Dartmouth College last June (2018). I grew up in Maine near Norridgewock, the site of the 1724 massacre of our people and Father Rasles by Roger’s Rangers, and from whence many Abenaki, including my family, came to Odanak.

Growing up in Maine, my siblings, Dad, and I annually joined the Penobscots and other Wabanaki for local ceremonies, including their sacred journey along the Penobscot River to their spiritual center, Mt. Katahdin, which the Penobscots have been making since ancient times. Every year, the journey is incredibly healing (I call it my “spiritual new year”). I feel blessed to be able to intimately come to know the land and route that our Wîbanaki ancestors have always traveled, and the Wîbanaki that continue this ceremony.

Last spring as I was preparing to graduate from college, I was making visits to Odanak to learn how to make my regalia for graduation. On one of my drives to Odanak, I was reflecting on how connected I feel to the Eastern Wîbanaki territories in Maine, but how disconnected I felt from the Western territories of New Hampshire, Vermont, and southern Quebec. I felt separated from our ancestors have always traveled, and the Wîbanaki that continue this ceremony.

Moreover, I was feeling guilty for graduating from a colonial institution responsible for such tremendous cultural damage to the Wîbanaki people through erasure, land theft, and Christianization. I told myself that when I graduate, I’ll focus my attention on learning our language and cultural arts better, which hold so much of our traditional knowledge and ways of thinking.

* - CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 -
**Word from Councillors**

**FLORENCE BENEDICT**

Councillor

Kwai,
Hello to all you loyal readers of our quarterly journal.
I hope you had a nice summer vacation. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students a safe return to school for the 2019-2020 semester! For this edition, I do not want to talk about myself, but rather to share important moments in the lives of our children who have distinguished themselves at the local and provincial levels, and in different areas of activities.

Let's start with Louka O'bomsawin, 9, son of Atoan O'bomsawin and Evelyne Boisvert. I would like to congratulate Louka and his dek hockey team, as they are the big winners of the Dek Hockey Tournament - Final (b) Atom, which was held in Drummondville last July. Louka contributed to the win with 2 goals and one assist. Congratulations to the champions! Louka will enter the Vincent Lemire School this fall in grade 4.

Hubert Latour, age 10 and son of Nathalie Cardin and Martin Latour, was awarded the trophy for the most-improved player during the last season in minor hockey, as a novice player for the St-David Penguins.

Congratulations Hubert! Hubert will be in grade 5 this fall at Vincent-Lemire.

Délya Gamelin Rainville, 17 years old and daughter of Nancy Gamelin and Robert Rainville, was awarded a certificate in Flag Football as a player of excellence in 2019. She also received the very distinguished medal of the National Assembly, which rewarded her sustained efforts for her great improvement during the last five years in high school and was even awarded a $ 75 scholarship. Delya completed her high school studies at Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption College in Nicolet. She is now in the agricultural field in Saint-Hyacinthe, more specifically at the ITA (Institut technologique agroalimentaire) in management and technologies of agricultural enterprises. Congratulations and much success in your future plans.

Last July, elders were very happy to participate in the 60th edition of the Odanak Pow Wow. Some of our elders even had a craft or kitchen kiosk on the event site. We had a very good time. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Pow Wow organizing committee. The event was a success all along the line.

With the terribly hot summer we had, I requested 34 air conditioning units from the Abenakis of Odanak Council for our community elders, a request that was granted. I would like to thank Chief Rick O'bomsawin for his support in this process. The air conditioners were installed after the Pow Wow. This is an initiative I am very proud of because it proves that the well-being of our elders is important to us. After all, our elders built our community. In addition, we want them to maintain their independence for as long as possible by allowing them to stay in their homes despite the summer heat.

Two months after the release of this edition of the newsletter, elections will be held. I know there will be great changes in terms of Indian affairs for our communities, and I want to be part of these discussions because our future generations must be protected. It is with pride that I announce to you that I am running for an eighth term. I want you to know that after almost 14 years in office, I'm still motivated to represent the people in my community. Your support will be much appreciated.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all graduates, bachelor's graduates, masters and doctoral students and future recipients for the 2019-2020 period, wherever you may be. You, dear Abenaki students, are the future and hope of our Nation.

Thank you and see you soon, Wiwini

I hope you had a nice summer vacation. I would like to congratulate all our students for their academic achievements, their hard work, and their perseverance. I would also like to congratulate all the young people who want to prepare themselves for this type of journey.

For example, dissection and suture, ultrasound and laparoscopy workshops were given to participating students. They were also fortunate enough to work with a number of health professionals such as Dr. Stanley Vollant, surgeon.

Thaya will begin her Secondary 5 this fall and will eventually enter the health field.

Kwai,
Word from Councillors

JAQUES T WATSO
Councillor

Kwai dear members of the Abenaki band of O danak,

First of all, I would like to acknowledge the exceptional work of the organizing committee of the 60th edition of the O danak Pow wow, not to mention the Pow Wow Parade Committee. It is in affirmation mode that each member of the committee has offered you one of the most beautiful Pow Wow of the last 20 years. Here are some pictures:

Since the Powwow takes place only on one weekend per year, we must remember that cultural affirmation is a daily reality. It is through these community initiatives that we can maintain and perpetuate culture. We welcome the initiatives of programs such as Niona, the day camp, Espace Jeunesse, the Kchélaq Elders’ Group and the activities of the Musée des Abénakis, to name a few. However, it is imperative that we participate in these programs in a constructive and positive way. Beyond the omnipresent negativism in O danak, I salute the remarkable work of the community stakeholders who are committed to making O danak a healthier and more harmonious place.

Last June, the Declaration of Mutual Respect of the Inter-Nations Alliance was signed in Quebec City. This alliance is composed of four distinct Nations; Innu, Abenaki, Atikamekw and Maliseet, aims to renew old ancestral agreements in a modern context. The primary goal is to assert our autonomy on our ancestral territories.


On these words, I wish you a happy autumn with your loved ones.

And don’t forget that the third edition of the Traditional Fall Pow wow will be held on October 26th, at the O danak Community Hall.

ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN
Councillor

Kwai,

I will begin by congratulating the organizers and the many volunteers of the 60th edition of the O danak Pow Wow for providing us with a great weekend. What a success!

I would also like to thank Mr. Jean Panadis, Ms. Joyce Panadis and Mr. Steven Boisclair Panadis for their dedication in producing the Catholic Church replica. Note that the old replica had remained in place for more than 20 years and had also been constructed by members of the Panadis family. As a future project, we are hoping to create a miniature replica of our former presbytery. The project is conceivable, but not yet confirmed.

To conclude, the Kiuna Institution recently named its resource centre in honour of Ms. Alainis Obomsawin. It is a beautiful distinction and a great pride for the college.

Thank you and have a wonderful fall.

• ERRATUM •

ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN
Councillor

Kwai,

Hello to all,

Here is a summary of the activities I have had the pleasure of participating in over the last few months as well as the files I am working on as a councillor.

First of all, I attended a meeting with the Hydro-Quebec Crown Corporation regarding the construction of an interconnection line between Hydro-Quebec’s electricity network and that of Maine to increase the capacity of exchange between Quebec and New England. We took the opportunity to evaluate the possibility of doing business with them, but unfortunately, as their contracts amount to more than $500,000 minimum, the likelihood that this partnership will occur is very low.

On a completely different topic, I had the chance to meet one of the representatives of the Consulate General of Mexico during his visit to our community. He was very satisfied with the student exchange with the Kiuna Institution and hopes that the experience will continue in future years.

Concerning the church’s file, some adjustments were made to the residence of our missionary pastor to improve the living room and bedroom.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the organizers of O danak Got Talent, as well as all the participants! It was a pleasure to attend this first edition. I particularly want to congratulate François Bergeron and Co. for winning the Jury Prize.

In closing, I wish you all a beautiful summer season.
Ndé'elosa Odanak: I walk to the village

As I was driving and reflecting on all of this, I saw a tall black figure in the distance that looked like a person running north in the middle of highway 191. As I approached, it appeared to be a female moose, running directly toward Odanak. I took it as a sign in order to know our territory, connect with our culture, and work to heal myself and our ancestors from disconnection. I, like the moose, should run north to Odanak. The ceremony would be officially dedicated in order to reconnect. Algimáakimí! For me, the knowledge of now becoming a part of the community centre last August. I learned that we must be able to envision the healthy, native space of the past, clearly see and engage with the damaged and disrespected land of the present, and envision a healing path forward. The path is soft, green, and full of life; the safest is on the water, on dirt, or through forest. It is one that protects our ways of knowledge—areas where we can hunt, rivers that we can fish and not worry about contamination.

If we destroy our land, if we refuse to care about the impact of “development” and pollution on our land just because we don’t hold the deeds to these lands anymore, who are we? There is no more time to invest in fossil fuels or development for a cheap dollar. With climate change in full swing and temperatures rising, our cultural knowledge will become irrelevant the safer the landscape is, the more we will lose our culture along with our land.

Visions and healing come through community and participating in our culture. I hope my fellow Wôbanakis will read this and see that our land still cares for us even though we may be disconnected geographically. Our spirit, g'diwoqg'é, is in every corner of Wôbanakis. I hope others will try to reconnect. Algimáakimí.

DANIEL G. NOLETT
Executive Director
Aikenak Council of Odanak

Kwâi mziwi!

The 2019-2024 strategic plan was adopted by the Council on July 2. For details, you can access it online. It is available on our website in the “Documentation” section.

The generator was finally installed at the Odanak Community Centre last August. We are ready to welcome members who would feel the need during extensive power outages either in summer during hot weather or in winter to keep warm. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) awarded us $39,000 for the installation of this generator.

We also had acoustic panels installed on the walls (the wood part) of the community centre last July. According to experts, this measure would reduce by about 60% the reverberation inside the centre. This will greatly improve the sound quality by reducing the echo. We invested $23,000 to improve the acoustics. Still at the community centre, we had the hardwood floors finished at the beginning of September. An investment of $13,000 allowed us to improve them by sanding them and then applying an oil finish.

At the end of August, we had the exterior siding of the Odanak Police Station redone for $25,000. Canexel now replaces the cedar wood finish that was originally installed during the construction of the station in 2004. The wood finish had been reapplied just two years ago and was already peeling again. The same situation occurred at the community centre. Therefore, in the summer of 2018, we decided to install Canexel instead of wood finishing (cedar) at the community centre.

Following the collapse of the balconies at the six-unit apartment block located at 2 Mgezo Street, at the end of the winter, we had all the balconies of all our apartment blocks inspected without exception to ensure their sturdiness and good condition as a security measure for our tenants. The balconies of 2 Mgezo Street were demolished as a result of their subsidence. A problem of premature decay of wooden supports was discovered. The balconies were rebuilt at the end of August. Balustrade retaining legs for the six-unit apartment at 2 Mgezo Street have also been replaced as a precautionary security measure. A total amount of $100,000 has been invested to address the problem of balconies at 2 and 3 Mgezo Street.

We hired our new Director of Human Resources. His name is Mr. Jonathan Charbonneau. Mr. Charbonneau started on May 27. He previously worked with the organization for more than 13 years of human resources management experience.

Concerning the class action suit filed by victims of federal Indian day schools, the Federal Court was asked to approve the settlement for a nation-wide class action lawsuit against Canada to compensate survivors for harms they suffered while attending federally operated Indian Day Schools. The proposed settlement with Canada includes everyone who attended a Federal Indian Day School, including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

The Settlement must be approved by the Federal Court before compensation will become available to Class Members. The proposed Settlement Approval Hearing was held on May 13, 14 and 15, 2019. We are waiting for the judge to release his decision on whether or not the settlement is approved.

Odanak members who attended the Académie St-Joseph (school where the Musée des Abénaakis is currently located) and the Odanak Anglican School will be eligible for financial compensation if they were abused when they attended these schools. For more information, please visit the internet links below. We will keep you informed of developments on this matter, which has been made by the Federal Court Judge.

https://indiandayschools.ca/en/

In closing, I would like to congratulate and acknowledge the excellent work of all the volunteers involved in planning and hosting the 60th edition of the Odanak Pow Wow. The event was a success all the way! I received many good comments about the parade in particular. I tip my hat to all! Pita wâlakwâgan mziwi! Wi tagwàgwi! Have a wonderful fall!
### Income Security Program Annual Report (Last resort assistance) 2018-2019

**Social assistance benefits expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018-2019</th>
<th>$126,193.72</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic allowance</td>
<td>$143,750.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited capacity allowance</td>
<td>$39,897.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special allowance</td>
<td>$1,898.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment assistance measures</td>
<td>$679.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for 2018-2019</td>
<td>$186,193.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data were calculated internally (accounting). They have not yet been verified by the accounting auditors.

### Further information on budget items

**Note 1:** Limited capacity allowances are provided to people with physical or mental incapacity due to pregnancy, age (50 and over) and for children under the age of 5.

**Note 2:** Special allowances are provided to people with special needs in the following situations: illness, pregnancy, tuition fees for a minor child, death of a family member, etc.

### Employment-based activities, training and special projects

- Periodic meetings are held with the aim of helping and assisting clients in their efforts towards employment.
- Meetings with external organizations related to income security, transfer to the province and employment.
- Work in close cooperation with each department.

### Budget item, social assistance

**In 2018-2019, income security payments totalled $186,193.72 to income security program beneficiaries. Based on statistics, herewith are the results:**

- Provide professional services to program beneficiaries in consideration of their individual needs;
- Conduct annual reassessments in order to update claimants’ files;
- Monitor individual plans for employable clients;
- Develop healthy relationships with regional and provincial organizations related to income security transfer to the province and employment;
- Work in close cooperation with each department.

### Technical Services

**MARIO DIAMOND**

Technical Services Director

Kwa’N’idiitbahk

Several beautiful projects and programs are underway for the community of Odanak. Ultimately, they will benefit everyone and make daily life easier. These achievements include the development of a brand new eco-centre, the installation of a generator and several interior improvements to the community centre, to name a few.

### Economic Development

**STÉPHANE LECOURS-AUBIN**

Economic Development Officer

Kwa’!

I hope you are well and that you have been able to enjoy the summer that passes so quickly!

Did you know that giving back to your community is the number one reason to start a business based on a recent study of Aboriginal entrepreneurship motivations? This is a statement that all Aboriginal entrepreneurs can be proud of!

Moreover, since many members have expressed their desire to start new business projects, it gives me great pleasure to announce that a Practical Business Start-Up Guide for Abenaki Promoters is currently being created. The latter will deal with many topics of interest such as entrepreneurial profiles, drafting the business plan and a list of funding sources. Note that this resource should be available later in the year.

Finally, I take the opportunity to highlight the continuation of the project “Abenakis in Business” (Abénakis en affaires) which promotes the products/services of Abenaki companies and artists. Your interactions as well as your sharing provide a good visibility and about twenty such testimonials will be posted on the Council’s Facebook page and on its Web site. You will find some of these publications at the end of this edition of the Pilaskw!

Do not hesitate to contact me!
Administration of the Indian Register

Certificate of Indian Status (CIS) and Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS)

Note that in recent years we can no longer send Certificates of Indian Status (CIS) by mail. Members must therefore come to our offices to renew their card (certificate). To do this, you must first make an appointment with us by calling one of two numbers: 450-568-2810 or toll free 1 888-568-2810. A member may also request a renewal of his or her card (certificate), the SCIS, from ISC (Indigenous Services Canada) by completing the forms provided on our website at www.caodanak.com. We can also send you these forms by mail or provide them to you in person at our offices.

Please contact us in the following cases:

Change of address, death of a member, marriage, divorce, birth. You can now change your address using our website.

FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION

The Federal Court has approved a nation-wide class settlement to compensate survivors for harms suffered while attending Federal Indian Day Schools and Federal Day Schools. The settlement includes compensation for eligible Survivor Class Members ranging from $10,000 to $200,000 based on the level of harm experienced as well as the creation of a Legacy Fund of $200 million to support commemoration projects, health and wellness projects, and language and culture initiatives. To be eligible for direct compensation, a person must have attended at least one of the Federal Indian Day Schools or Federal Day Schools funded, managed and controlled by Canada such as St. Frances Academy, Pierreville Protestant Abenaki Indian School, St. Francis Protestant, Eglise anglicane et St. Joseph’s.

Survivors will be able to apply for compensation, however, compensation will not be issued until after the implementation date. Claims for compensation will begin to be processed for compensation 120 days from August 19th, 2019, subject to any appeals that are brought.

Please complete a Registration Form to receive information about the settlement as it becomes available by going on this web page: https://ca.gowingwig.com/dayschoolclassaction/. There is no deadline to register. Should you have any questions or require support, please contact us at 1 (844) 539-3815.

Accreditation Canada

MICHEL PAUL
Accreditation Coordinator

Kweí to all,

A few words, in this summer period, concerning the accreditation renewal process of the Health Centre. The process is proceeding according to the work plan approved by senior management as well as the health plan.

Specifically, in conjunction with each of the accreditation teams, we finalized the self-assessment exercises for the various activity sectors at the organization’s portal using the standards to obtain an overall portrait of their conformity. In addition, sampling was conducted using criteria with staff members to complement the two (2) assessment tools, one on quality of life at work and one on safety culture surrounding the provision of health services to community members.

All results from these self-assessment exercises are now available at the portal for analysis to develop a Continuous Quality Improvement Plan (CQIP). We expect to do this early in the fall by involving each of the accreditation teams. As soon as the CQIP is approved by the various bodies involved in this process, we will be pleased to provide you with the results, the proposed actions to ensure their respective compliance within the deadlines and especially before the visit by Accreditation Canada representatives scheduled for the month of October 2020.

For those unfamiliar with this approach, I remind you that accreditation in health care is a process of evaluating quality and safety according to recognized standards of excellence to identify what is currently being well done and what could be improved with respect to the organization’s governance and the health services offered to clients. Have a wonderful summer with your family.

Health Center

JEAN VOLLANT
Director
Odanak Health Center

It has been a year since I started as Director of the Odanak Health Centre. 2018-2019 was an exceptional transitional year in all respects.

It was indeed a busy and fulfilling year in terms of mandates. The Odanak Health Centre continued its evolution by conducting structural changes within the organization.

We continued to mobilize a diversity of actors and partners in the realization of stimulating and promising projects for the collective development of members of the Abenaki community.

2018-2019 was marked by the addition of new resources to the Health Centre team: Linda Blanchard, social worker; Danielle Laminarde, social worker; Elisabeth Moréel, dental hygienist; Joannie Borsvert, replacement nutrition technician; Christina Racine, alternate kinesiologist, as well as myself. A breath of fresh air accompanies these new expertise and perspectives on the services offered to the population.

Once again, I had the opportunity to see how lucky I am to work with this great team. During the last year, we held several meetings to retrospect the activities carried out.

Our revitalized health centre will reveal in the coming weeks a new web platform, an updated service offer and a series of reports to better inform you.

With regard to the services offered, the calendar of activities is already filling out for the next year, following another year of mandates achieved in 2018-2019.

In addition, the next annual general assembly will be held in September 2019, in Odanak.

In the meantime, I wish you all a beautiful fall.
Great initiatives that have taken place over the last few months

STÉPHANIE O’BOMSAWIN

Kwai miziwi,
The end of summer season is already drawing near! I hope you have all enjoyed the good weather to create beautiful memories, spend quality time with family and of course recharge your batteries.

As a community organizer, let me remind you of all the great initiatives that have taken place over the last few months for families, but also for the community as a whole.

INTERGENERATIONAL WEEK

First of all, the summer season started in force during our first edition of the intergenerational week. On behalf of the organizing committee, we want to thank everyone for your interest in the many activities. Wiłwinì especially to the Environment and Land Office, the Ndakina Office, the Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Odanak Health Centre and the Musée des Abénaquis, without whom this week could not have been held.

- Sunday June 16  – Fishing activity 140 participants
- Tuesday June 18  – Breakfast l 17 participants  – Walking bus l 19 participants
- Wednesday June 19  – Community lunch  48 participants  – Elders rights workshop  30 participants
- Thursday June 20  – Azeqî group happy hour (Focus group of parents of children aged 0-5 years) Around thirty participants
- Friday June 21  – Yoga l 6 participants
- Saturday June 22  – Musée des Abénaquis car rally 4 teams (Around fifteen participants)

On Tuesday, June 25, 2019, a draw was held for all participants, all activities combined. Here is the list of winners:

1st prize: $225 gift card for the Cirque de Soleil show Alegría  – Logan Keramoget

2nd prize: prize: 1 night at the Godfrey + night trip to the Bécancour Biodiversity Centre (value of $280)  – Cécile Gill

3rd prize: $100 gift card to the RGFM movie theater  – Théophile Panadis-Benikite

4th prize: $100 gift card to the RGFM movie theater  – Marcelle R. O’Bomswin

5th prize: 2 tickets to the Stateria de Sorel – Annabelle Houle

2019 PAPOUBGAN DAY CAMP

For eight consecutive weeks, from June 25 to August 16, 25 children between the ages of 5 and 11 attended day camp. About fifteen children on average were present at all times.

Thanks to the collaboration of several community and outside partners, the children were able to learn new things while having fun.

A special Wiłwinì to the Environment and Land Office, the Ndakina Office, the Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Odanak Health Centre and the Musée des Abénaquis to have made all these activities possible and which have helped create wonderful memories for the children.

YOUTH SPACE: 2019 SUMMER PLANNING

The Youth Space (Espace Jeunesse) is a place for teenagers between the ages of 11 and 17 to gather, provide entertainment and create a place where they feel safe and where they can feel at home at all times. As this is a project that is important to us at FNCS this summer, we made the decision to launch a very special program so that young people can learn more about the project, the place and become familiar with the group.

May activities were organized including several scientific activities, cultural activities, cinema trips, sports outings, etc.

Dear participants, hoping to see you again during our new fall programming.

Wiłwinì.

Coming soon!

ACTIVITIES FOR 5-11 AND 11-17 YEAR-OLDS

Dear parents, I invite you to check your mail and social media, because a very interesting project will be set up for the fall to entertain your children during the school year. Looking forward to seeing you again.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR ELDERS (50 AND OVER)

Since last May, following the QADA study conducted in 2017-2018, an “elder” committee has been set up to better ensure the improvement of the physical and psychological well-being of our elders.

As a result, members of the FNCFs, the Health Centre and the Band Council have developed a calendar of activities for the coming year.

Many of you may have already started participating through aquafit courses that ended last August.

In addition, an activity to mark National Seniors Day will be held on October 1. We will take this opportunity to officially launch the Elders Calendar. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Short Column on the Abenaki Language

In this column, I will focus on personal and possessive pronouns as well as possessive adjectives.

Personal and possessive pronouns

Personal and possessive pronouns are expressed in the same way. For example, the personal pronoun “me” and the possessive pronoun “mine” are both expressed by the word “nia” in the Abenaki language.

Subjective personal pronouns and possessive adjectives

Subjective personal pronouns and possessive adjectives are also expressed in the same way. For example, the first person singular conjugation of verbs “I” and the first person singular of the declension of the noun “my” are both expressed by “N” or “Nd”. “N” is placed before a verb or a noun beginning with a consonant. “Nd”, meanwhile, is placed before a verb or a noun starting with a vowel.

The subjective personal pronoun “we” and the possessive adjective “our” are duplicated in the conjugation of a verb or a noun declension. They become exclusive or inclusive, depending on whether they exclude or include the person(s) we are talking to.

Personal pronouns

Simple form : ................................. Reinforced form :

Me ................................................. Nia
You ................................................. Ki
Him/her ........................................... Aguna
We (exclusive) ................................ Niona
We (inclusive)** ............................ Kiona
You ................................................. Kiowé
They .............................................. Añi

Locative case : .................................

In me, at me, by me ......................... Nia
In you, at you, by you ................. Ki
In him, at him, by him .......... Añi
In her, at her, by her ................. Niona
In us, at us, by us (exclusive) .... Niona
In us, at us, by us (inclusive) .. Kiona
In you, at you, by you ......... Kiowé
In them, at them, by them .... Añi

** Exclusive: Excludes the person(s) spoken to

** Inclusive: Includes the person(s) spoken to

1 Taken from INITIATION À LA GRAMMAIRE ABÉNAKISE, Monique Niolet-Ille, Odanak 2006.
MUSEUM DES ABÉNAKIS

SUMMER CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

The Museum held four cultural events during the summer. First, W8banak sawawganal, between traditions and modernity, a conference on Abenaki dress over time. This conference, moderated by Sylvain Rivard, was very informative and participants learned a lot about Abenaki culture.

During August 9, more than 30 people enjoyed the opportunity to watch the shooting stars, all by lullied by Nicole O’Bomsawin’s stories through the activity storytelling and legends under an alawaksak sky. More recently, on September 14, the family activity Malhakws: Abenakis and the ash tree around several families. Thank you to the Odanak Environment and Land Office for collaborating in the success of this activity.

Finally, as part of Intergenerational Week last June, the Museum invited members of the community to participate in a car rally. While cruised across Odanak, Notre-Dame-de-Pierreville, Pierreville and St-François-du-Lac for more than two hours, participants had to answer all kinds of questions: sometimes crazy, sometimes more serious.

The winning team consisted of Patricia Lachapelle, Cléophée Lachapelle and Ali Lagadà. They won a cruise in the heart of the 103 islands of the archipelago of Sorel.

Stay tuned as the 2019–2020 fall-winter schedule will be coming out soon. We are revealing all the activities, here is a glimpse at what to expect.

We will present for Halloween a quiz night that you do not want to miss! Formerly with us today and compete against other groups in this quiz combining general knowledge and manual skills! Will you be the winners of this first edition and raise the trophy?

Also, because of the great success of the 2018 Christmas Market, we will present the second edition in November. Moreover, we are always looking for artists and craftsmen for this activity. Contact us if you wish to reserve a table.

NEW MANAGEMENT

Ms. Genève Bédard took up her post last July as the Museum’s Executive Director. Holding a Bachelor’s degree in history as well as a master’s degree in museology, Genève has more than 20 years’ experience in the field of managing cultural and tourism projects. She has worked in several museums in the Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec regions; the Musée des cultures du Monde (previously known as the Museum of World Religions), the Rodolphe-Duguay House, as well as the Pop Museum (formerly known as the Musée Québécois de la Culture Populaire). Her skills in management, communication and heritage will certainly be valuable assets for the Musée des Abénakis.

The Board of Directors of the Odanak Historical Society and the entire Museum team welcome Ms. Genève Bédard, who will surely rise to the challenge.

RENEWAL OF OUR PERMANENT EXHIBIT

The permanent exhibit renewal project is going well. Last August, Maelstrom Créatif’s team - the firm participating with us in this major project - submitted the first exhibition concept based on the comments they gathered during several community meetings during last year’s event. If you have not already done so, join the W10K.A Facebook page; travaillons ensemble let’s work together to keep abreast of the project’s progress in real time.

KABASA WAMPUM

As you may know, the respect for the environment is extremely important to our Nation. That’s why the Board Council decided to print his 2017-2018 Annual Report upon ad hoc request of his every member of his community.

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While we were thinking of building a traditional 18th century Abenaki home, the materials we received forced us to rethink our original idea since it was impossible to build this type of home with the materials received!

So we made the decision to represent an Abenaki dwelling from the colonial period. This change of era allows us to show visitors the way of life of the Abenakis in the 19th century - a way of life where despite colonial pressure, the values and traditional knowledge of the Abenaki persisted.

In addition, the archaeological discoveries made on the site of the historic quadrangle allowed us to document this important period in the history of the Abenakis on the territory and this will be reflected in the interior design. Among other things, we wish that the Abenaki transformed European materials into traditional tools, consumed European food components and used furniture and objects that were both Abenaki and European.

This last minute change allows Kwigw8mna to be a unique version which has never previously been presented in Quebec! A big advantage for your Museum!

Construction of the dwelling was entrusted to the Technologies autochtones team and three members of the Odanak community; Chancey Benedict, Normand Cloutier and Paul Thompson. Thank you gentlemen for the work done during the summer heat waves!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Vicky Desfossés-Bégin,
Communications and Mediation Officer
Musée des Abénakis

INSTRUCTIONS TO GET A HARD COPY OF THE 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ABÉNAKIS OF ODANAK BAND COUNCIL

Dear community member of Odanak,

As with every year, the Abenakis of Odanak Band Council, in order to promote transparency, provides his Annual Report to every member of his community.

As you may know, the respect for the environment is extremely important to our Nation. That’s why the Board Council decided to print his 2017-2018 Annual Report upon ad hoc request of his members.

All times, an electronic version of the report is available on the Band Council website. To get to it, you must reach the “Annual Reports” section located on this page: www.caodanak.com/en/documentation.

Otherwise, if you want a hard copy of the Report, it is possible to request it by contacting directly the Band Council:

- By phone: (450) 568-2810
- By email: reception@caodanak.com

Your collaboration is greatly appreciated.

The Abenakis of Odanak Band Council