



Word from the Chief

Kwei 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 pow wow 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 and 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. From the efforts of the time, the citizen code was developed and adopted. It’s main reason for being developed was to ensure that lands could remain in families following the death of our elders, male or female. With the recent change in the Indian act this document would stand to become obsolete. As a nation 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

Nd'elosa Odanak: I walk to the village



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

BY MALI OBOMSAWIN

At the end of kikas pôgwas, 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 W8banaki 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 our 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 W8banaki ancestors have always traveled, and the W8bankis 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 W8banaki territories in Maine, but how disconnected I felt from the Western territories of New Hampshire, Vermont, and southern Quebec. I felt separated from our land, and W8banaki didn’t feel like one Dawnland, but multiple, scattered pieces.

Moreover, I was feeling guilty for graduating from a colonial institution responsible for such tremendous cultural damage to the W8banaki 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 -

NEXT PUBLIC GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 25th, 2019, at 7:00 pm at the Community Center, 58, Waban-Aki Street. For more information (450) 568-2810

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.



Thaya Lachapelle, age 17 and daughter of Johanne Lachapelle, received a certificate of recognition by completing the First Nations youth course entitled "Mini-School of Medicine" (Min-école de médecine) which aims at introducing Aboriginal youth in secondary 3, 4 and 5 to the field of health and provide support to young people who want to prepare

and equip 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.



Délia 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. Délya 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.



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,
Wliwni



CLAIRE O'BOMSAWIN
Councillor

Dear Odanak community members,

All the elders' activities (lunches, meals on wheels, Saturday breakfasts) ended for the summer period and returned to service in September. Elders spent a wonderful holiday period and had plenty to do. Indeed, a variety of summer activities such as a corn roast and various trips took place. We even took aquafitness classes at the community pool thanks to the Odanak Health Centre. This activity was very popular.

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.

Thank you for your trust.



Thank you all for participating in the aqua fit classes!

Why aqua fitness?

- When we are in the water there is only 50% of our body weight, therefore our joints are less impacted.
- It is good for endurance. We can train much longer and strengthen our heart since water exercise has a low impact on muscles and joints.

Word from Councillors



JACQUES T. WATSO
Councillor

Kwai dear members of the Abenaki band of Odanak,

First of all, I would like to acknowledge the exceptional work of the organizing committee of the 60th edition of the Odanak Powwow, 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 Kchaïak 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 Odanak, I salute the remarkable work of the community stakeholders who are committed to making Odanak 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.

It is already election time. I therefore reiterate my position: Odanak needs its own Customary Electoral Code. The Council can't continue to talk about self-government while remaining dependent on the Electoral Code of the Indian Act.

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 Powwow will be held on October 26th, at the Odanak Community Hall.



ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN
Councillor

Kwai,

I will begin by congratulating the organizers and the many volunteers of the 60th edition of the Odanak 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. Alanis 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-Québec Crown Corporation regarding the construction of an interconnection line between Hydro-Québec'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 Odanak 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.

Word from Management



DANIEL G. NOLETT
Executive Director
Abenaki Council of Odanak

Kwaï 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 \$59,000 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. Canoxel now replaces the cedar wood finish that was originally installed during the construction of the station in 2004. The wood required a lot of maintenance; a stain finish had been reapplied just two years ago and was already peeling again. The same situation had occurred at the community centre. Therefore, in the summer of 2018, we decided to install Canoxel 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 at the six-unit block at 3 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 SAQ, where he accumulated 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 Abénakis 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 once a decision has been made by the Federal Court Judge.

<https://indiandayschools.com/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 wlalokaw8gan mziwi!

Wli tagw8gw! Have a wonderful fall!

Nd'elosa Odanak: I walk to the village

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 -

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 I-91. As I approached, it appeared to be a teenage moose, running directly toward Odanak. I took it as a sign that in order to know our territory, connect with our culture, and work to heal myself and our ancestors from disconnectedness, I, like the moose, should run north to Odanak. The ceremony would be officially dedicated to commemorating W8banakis like Henry Masta who would have travelled a similar route to Dartmouth, and to the ancestors lost along U.S. Route 5 when it was a “military trail,” modeled after W8banaki traditional paths and used by Rogers’ Rangers in wartimes. I learned so much during this journey.

A few things I can share. I learned that the more time we spend with the land, the more we are taught and nurtured by it. As the language tells us, to learn is to teach yourself: “Ndagakimzi” means both “I learn” and “I teach myself,” which suggests that no matter who is “teaching you,” learning requires self-teaching in order to be complete. Our elders and

knowledge keepers are crucial for the survival of our communities, but equally is the individual’s interest in exploring and intimately knowing the ways and lands of our people. We cannot expect to have everything taught to us without doing the work ourselves, and we cannot let the shame of being disconnected from parts of our culture and ndakinna stop us from learning and healing.

For me, the knowledge of now being able to say, “I know the way to Odanak without a map. You follow these rivers, this path, this shortcut. I have walked it,” is empowering. To envision being able to make that journey by canoe is even more empowering. On my journey I scouted which parts of the Kwenitekw, Passumpsic, Massawippi, and Alsig8ntekw rivers might be canoe-able in different seasons. Because the spring water is so high, we didn’t attempt to paddle any of the rivers this time.

I learned that to use and challenge one’s body is to honor it, and to honor our bodies is to honor the land, our minds, and our ancestors. The earth prefers that we walk or run, canoe or bike, than take a car. Cars disrupt the air, land, animals, and water... and I learned to feel the painfully hot pavement that we drive on from an

animal’s perspective—where you can’t get in a car or an air-conditioned space to escape the heat or the huge trucks driving threateningly fast.

I observed the degradation of our lands and rivers: numerous dams disrupting our waterways and the fish and wildlife who belong to them; mining sites for granite, limestone, and marble; old mills and factories and the depressed towns they once employed; copious roadkill and litter along roadsides; animals that waited for a break in traffic to dart across busy roads; and miles upon miles of land cleared for farming and unprotected from the blaring sun. On the last day of the journey I ran (and slowly limped) for 6 hours from Drummondville in the heat, sun and concrete with little protection from trees.

I also observed parts of the land that still thrive—calm, cool groves of trees beside the river; animals feeding along a dirt path, unphased by humans; birds of unlimited variety; native trees and plants and recovering forests, amazing lakes. There is so much to fight for.

We all know the native environment has suffered as much as Native people in the last 400 years. 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 that is soft, protective, green, and safe is on the water, on dirt, forest floor through plentiful 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 more the environment of Wabanaki changes. If nothing is done, we will lose our culture along with our land.

Visions and healing come through ceremony and participating in our culture. I hope my fellow W8banaki people will read this and see that our land still cares for us even though we may be disconnected geographically. Our spirit, g’diwaskwa, is in every corner of W8banaki. I hope others will try to reconnect. Alôgomomek.

Socio-economic assistance

Income Security Program Annual Report
(Last resort assistance) 2018-2019



ANN LANDRY
Socio-economic assistance agent
Sector's mission

Provide last resort financial assistance for Odanak community members who do not have sufficient resources to support themselves.

Promote the integration of community members (employable) to the labour market through training, development of employability and employment support programs.

Provide adequate financial resources and individually-based professional services to people unable to work.

Mitigate the dependence on income security and the underemployment issues in Odanak.

Participate in various community-based projects.

Activities – Income Security (2018-2019)

- Attend training and information sessions for the implementation

- of the First Nations of Quebec Income Security Policy Framework;
- Participate in the development of the new “Horizon” system with the FNQLHSSC designers (follow-up);
 - Apply the administrative procedures included in the Income Security Policy Framework and follow-up on updates and apply them when required;
 - 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.

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:

Social assistance benefits expenditures	2018-2019
Basic allowance	\$143,750.71
Limited capacity allowance ¹	\$39,870.00
Special allowance ²	\$1,898.01
Employment assistance measures	\$675.00
Total for 2018-2019	\$186,193.72

Data were collected 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 or due to pregnancy, age (58 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 resources for clients (psychologist, counsellor);
- Annual meetings (2) with communities adhering to the framework policy;

- FNQLHSSC training “Calculation of the parental contribution”;
- Meetings and follow-ups of employment assistance measures;
- Work in close collaboration with the Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi (CJE) so that the clientele (16 to 35 year-olds) has access to all employment services and programs;
- The LFNC and income security are working closely to improve customer service.

Statistics over the last three (3) years

Year	2016-2017	2017-2018	2017-2018
Training (adult, vocational (DEP), college)	1	2	1
Labour market	4	2	1
Subsidized project	0	0	
Employment assistance measures	0	1	1
Social reintegration	2	0	0
Employed following the project	1	0	-
Total number of participants	7	5	3

Technical Services



MARIO DIAMOND
Technical Services Director
Kwaï N’Nid8bak,

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 Pakesso Street, the establishment of a brand new eco-centre, the installation of a generator and several interior improvements to the community centre, to name a few.

In addition, the year of 2019, although not yet over, will be a prolific year in terms of achievements and investments, which shows that the Abenaki community of Odanak is very dynamic and innovative in terms of projects.

GCNWA's Technical Services Department is proud to work closely with the Abenaki Council of Odanak to ensure the success of these many projects, whether in terms of infrastructure, construction, building renovation, new street construction and lot development. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chief and the councillors working during the last mandate for their trust and I wish them the best of luck in the upcoming elections to perpetuate this great collaboration.

Adio! Wlinanawalmezi!

Economic Development



STÉPHANE LECOURS-AUBIN
Economic Development Officer

Kwaï !

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)



NATHALIE CARDIN
Education Agent and
Administrator for Indian Registry

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.

Indian Act

Following the decision rendered on the Descheneaux case, ISC provided a list to the Indian Registry Administrators of all registered members affected by this change to the Act. If you believe you are a member affected by this change, you can contact us for more information. A diagram of the case is also included in this article to visualize the changes.

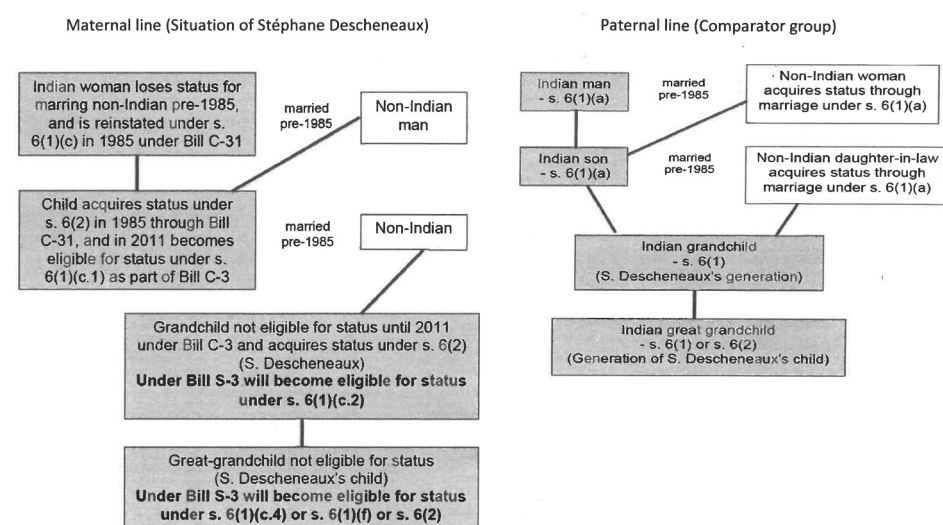
FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION

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, Église 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.gowlingwlg.com/dayschoolclassaction/>. There is no deadline to register. Should you have any questions or require support, please contact us at 1 (844) 539-3815.



Health Center



JEAN VOLLANT
Director
Odnak Health Center

It has been a year since I started as Director of the Odnak 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 Odnak 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 Lamirande, social worker; Elisabeth Morel, dental hygienist; Joanie Boisvert, 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 Odnak.

In the meantime, I wish you all a beautiful fall.

Accreditation Canada

MICHEL PAUL
Accreditation Coordinator

Kwei 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

Odanak Community Organization

Great initiatives that have taken place over the last few months

STÉFANIE O'BOMSAWIN

Kwaï mziwi,

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. **Wliwni especially to the Environment and Land Office, the Ndakina Office, the Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Odanak Health Centre and the Musée des Abénakis, without whom this week could not have been held.**

- Sunday June 16
 - Fishing activity | 40 participants
- Tuesday June 18
 - Breakfast | 17 participants
 - Walking bus | 19 participants
- Wednesday June 19
 - Community lunch 48 participants
 - Elders rights workshop 30 participants
- Thursday June 20
 - Azew8 group happy hour (Focus group of parents of children aged 0-5 years) Around thirty participants
- Friday June 21
 - Yoga | 6 participants
- Saturday June 22
 - Musée des Abénakis 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 Alegria – *Logan Kermagoret*
- 2nd prize:** prize: 1 night at the Godefroy + night trip to the Bécancour Biodiversity Centre (value of \$280) – *Cécile Gill*
- 3rd prize:** \$100 gift card to the RGFM movie theater – *Théophyle Panadis-Benoît*

4th prize: \$100 gift card to the RGFM movie theater – *Marcelle R. O'Bomsawin*

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

2019 PAPOW8GAN 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 **Wliwni to the Environment and Land Office, the Ndakina Office, the Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Odanak Health Centre and the Musée des Abénakis** 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 FNCFS 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.

Wliwni.



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 adjectives¹.

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 :

Me.....	Nia
You	Kia
Him/her	Agma
We (exclusive)*	Niona
We (inclusive)**.....	Kiona
You.....	Kiow8
They.....	Agm8w8

Reinforced form :

Myself	Niatta
Yourself	Kiatta
Himself/Herself	Agmatta
Ourselves (exclusive)*.....	Nionatta
Ourselves (inclusive)**	Kionatta
Yourselves.....	Kiow8tta
Themselves	Agm8w8tta

Locative case :

In me, at me, by me	Niak
In you, at you, by you.....	Kiak
In him, at him, by him	Agmak
In her, at her, by her	
In us, at us, by us (exclusive)*	Nionak
In us, at us, by us (inclusive)**	Kionak
In you, at you, by you	Kiow8k
In them, at them, by them	Agm8w8k

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

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

1 Taken from INITIATION À LA GRAMMAIRE ABÉNAKISE, Monique Nolett-Ille, Odanak 2006.

News From Your Museum



SUMMER CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

The Museum held four cultural events during the summer. First, W8banaki sawaw8ganal, 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. On August 9, more than 30 people enjoyed the opportunity to watch the shooting stars, and be lulled by Nicole O'Bomsawin's stories through the activity storytelling and legends under an alakwsak sky. More recently, on September 14, the family activity Maalhakws: Abenakis and the ash tree attracted 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 cruising the streets of 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, Cléopée Lachapelle and Ali Lagdaâ. 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. Without 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! Form your team 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. Geneviève 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, Geneviève 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. Geneviève Bédard, who will surely rise to the challenge.

RENEWAL OF OUR PERMANENT EXHIBIT

The permanent exhibit renewal project is going well. Last August, Maelström 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 WIJOKA Facebook page: travaillons ensemble! let's work together to keep abreast of the project's progress in real time.

KABASA WAMPUM

Closely linked to the permanent exhibit renewal project, have you had the opportunity to visit the Museum this summer and participate in the collective work, directed by artist Christine Sioui-Wawanoloath? More than 900 people, from everywhere, produced their miniature paintings which were later incorporated into the final work. The paintings were then assembled to represent wampum pearls and create the image of a sturgeon. An emblematic animal of the Abenakis, the sturgeon is a signature, a symbol of longevity and perseverance. The artwork measuring 12 feet wide by 8 feet high will be incorporated into the permanent exhibit in 2020.

INDIANS BEYOND HOLLYWOOD (L'Indien au-delà d'Hollywood)

Indians Beyond Hollywood ends on December 22, 2019. So you have a little less than 3 months left to discover this amazing exhibition.

In addition, considering the enthusiasm generated by the positive reaction of the general public, the exhibit will become

homeless in the summer of 2020, i.e. it will move to several other museums in Canada. This will increase the awareness of Canadians about cultural appropriation and, by the same token, increase understanding and awareness of the current realities of First Nations.

The traveling exhibit Indians Beyond Hollywood will allow the Musée des Abénakis to increase its visibility with clients from various locations across Canada and thereby increase its notoriety. Visitors will recognize the brand image of the Musée des Abénakis and this could allow us to increase our annual attendance. This increased visibility will also prove that a regional museum can design quality exhibits and will showcase our team's abilities and skills. This is great news for all and we can be very proud!

KWIGW8MNA

Have you noticed the traditional dwelling that was built during the summer on our outdoor site, between the Museum and the chapel? It is now almost finished, but the beginning of the work did not proceed as planned...

During the first day of work, last June, we had to face a reality we were not expecting - the materials received for the construction of the long-house were not the materials ordered!

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 to point out that the Abenakis 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 ABENAKIS 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 Band Council decided to print his 2017-2018 Annual Report upon ad hoc request of his members.

At 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