



W8BANAKI

PILASKW

ODANAK ABENAKI NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 11 - NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 2017

Word from the Chief



Kwei fellow band members,

Summer is nearing its end. I hope you've all had a wonderful summer and that the good memories created with family and friends are abundant. We've met many of our band members this summer who have come to Odanak for a visit, either at Pow Wow or at other times throughout the season. It's always nice to see old faces and meet new people.

The continuous growth of our community is often a topic of conversation. We are inspired by the positive feedback we get from people who have not visited in a while. They are pleased to see that our village is slowly becoming one with promise for future generations.

We are fast approaching and welcoming our time of harvest. All of our hard work is reaping many rewards. As with the gardens in our community we are also seeing more fruits of labor in the development of our local economy.

We would like to say welcome and good luck to a new business by a local entrepreneur; "Marché 132". This business will provide space for a number of kiosks who will each sell their products (preserves, crafts and natural products). There will also be a café for you to take a break in. We wish them much success in their endeavour.

Also, with the planned expansion of Kiuna College we are excited to be advancing into the building of stage two in Odanak's business park. This expansion will provide the needed space to welcome 5 new businesses who are ready to take their place in our economic development park. Local economic and social endeavours are important parts of ensuring our community's progress. With the personal investment of our members we have the potential to provide an economic base that will create jobs and growth for the people of our band and their families.

Whether it is through local business development, self-development through education or through initiatives that promote the safeguarding of our culture, we must continue to bring our best to the table and work together.

Not withstanding the challenges we face on a daily basis in a world plagued with racism, hate and destruction, we must continue to do our part. We must counter the direction of our world with the same strength, love and determination which was once at the heart of our people. We are optimistic that we are on a continued good path toward building a brighter future.

In peace and friendship,

Chief Rick O'Bomsawin



A FIRST
ABENAKISE
JUDGE

The Abenaki Council of Odanak would like to congratulate Mrs O'Bonsawin on being the first Abenakise Judge.

Previously general counsel with the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group in Ottawa, Mrs O'Bonsawin is appointed a judge of the Superior Court of Justice in Ottawa.

BIOGRAPHY

Justice Michelle O'Bonsawin was born in Hanmer, Ontario, a small Francophone town east of Sudbury. She is a fluently bilingual Abenaki member of the Odanak First Nation. Justice O'Bonsawin holds a B.A. (Laurentian University), an LL.B. (University of Ottawa), and an LL.M. (Osgoode Hall), and is currently enrolled in the University of Ottawa's Ph.D. program in law. She began her legal career with the RCMP Legal Services and later was counsel with Canada Post Corporation, specializing in labour, employment, human rights, and privacy law. Prior to her appointment, Justice O'Bonsawin was general counsel for the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group, where she developed a specialization in mental health law. She has taught Indigenous law part-time in the University of Ottawa's French common law program.

In addition to her legal work, Justice O'Bonsawin is a frequent guest speaker on mental health, labour and privacy law. She serves on the Board of Governors of the University of Ottawa, as well as its Executive Committee. Justice O'Bonsawin also acts as a mentor in the Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, and University of Ottawa mentorship programs and is the legal coach for the Collège catholique Samuel-Genest high school team for the OBA/OJEN moot competition. She resides in Ottawa with her family.

It is with great pride that we wish her all the best in her new function.

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Word from Councilors



FLORENCE BENEDICT
Councilor

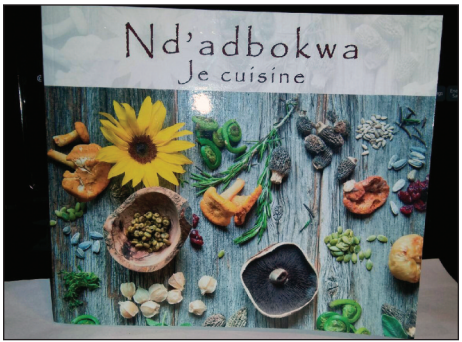
Kwai,

ERRATUM - I would like to begin my article by correcting an error published in the May edition.

In my article on the Quebec Native Women rally on page 2, in the fourth paragraph, I mentioned that our special guest, police investigator Ms. Mylène Trudeau, joined us to describe her role in the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Women.

It should have read that Ms. Trudeau participated in the investigation into the alleged police abuse of Indigenous women in Val-D'Or following the report by ICI Radio-Canada's telecast Enquête.

I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused Ms. Trudeau.
* * *



Launch of the Cookbook
"Nd'adbokwa - Je cuisine".

On Wednesday, May 17th, the recipe book "Nd'adbokwa - Je cuisine" was launched at the Awikhi-

ganigamikok library in Odanak. This book was initiated and created by the project coordinator, Mrs. Raymonde Nolett, with the participation of Ms. Amélie Nolett-Descheneaux, project manager, and Mr. André Gill, in charge of photography, editing and layout. This project could not have been completed without the FN-QLHSSC's financial support and their project "Avenir d'enfants". This launch was a great opportunity to discover certain dishes from this book. Around forty people attended the event, including the regional coordinator of the "Avenir d'enfants" project, Ms. Claudia Bastien.



Press conference in Wôlinak.

On May 26, I had the honour to be invited to speak at a press conference held in Wôlinak as part of the announcement of a financial contribution from Canadian Heritage. This announcement, made by the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister



Announcement of a financial contribution from Canadian Heritage.

of Canadian Heritage, involved two community projects on Aboriginal culture in Quebec for a total

grant of \$174,160. A portion of this amount, \$23,160, was donated to the St-Pierre de Drummondville Community Centre for the outdoor development of an Aboriginal settlement in collaboration with the Musée des Abénakis and the Abenakis of Odanak Council.

Among other things, this project contributed to a cultural rapprochement between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people which included family activities that took place throughout the summer. A sum of \$ 151,000 was donated to the community of Wôlinak for its exhibition project Mémoire vivante, la rivière au long détour, highlighting the place of remembrance of the Bécancour/Wôlinak mission. These two projects were made possible through the Canada 150 program.



Our annual Pow Wow.

I would like to mention our annual Pow Wow held on June 30, July 1 and 2. Many people came to discover our traditional dishes and briefly share our culture. Congratulations to the organizing committee and all the volunteers. It was another resounding success!

On August 18, the PABÔWONGAN day camp ended and took on a festive air. A wonderful celebration was organized by the camp counsellors and organizers. For the event, an inflatable playing module was set up inside the community centre and a dinner was prepared by the children under the supervi-

sion of Ms. Marie-Pier Desnoyers, project manager for Étincelle. We enjoyed corn on the cob, smoked salmon salad and a muffins and cotton candy dessert.

For the occasion, a \$25 gift certi-



Summer Camp PABÔWONGAN.

cate redeemable at Renaud-Bray was given to each child who attended the camp all summer. A special mention was also given to Elody Allard for the biggest number of smiles accumulated during the day camp this summer. A \$25 gift certificate to spend at Toys' R Us was awarded to congratulate her.



Summer Camp PABÔWONGAN.

A special thank you goes out to the day camp organizers, Mrs. Jenny M'Sadoques, day camp coordinator, her assistant, Marc-Olivier O'bomsawin and camp counsellors Catherine, Geneviève and Samantha. Until next year and I wish you all a wonderful back to school.

All the best.

ODANAK ENVIRONMENT AND LAND OFFICE - NOTICE TO ALL
THE ODANAK DISPOSAL SITE HAS BEEN REDESIGNED

The Odanak disposal site, located at the intersection of Skamonnal and Managuan streets, has been redesigned to better serve you. There are now two containers on site and a specific location to dispose of your large waste. The accepted waste is indicated on each container. You can visit the site during opening hours from Monday to Thursday from 8 am

to 4 pm and on Friday from 8 am to noon. Access is prohibited when the site is closed. It is important to note that household waste is not accepted nor is hazardous household waste (HHW: paint, oil, batteries, filters, small electrical appliances). You can always dispose of your HHW at the Environment and Land Office site located at 62 Waban-Aki street.



Word from Councilors



CLAIRE O'BOMSAWIN
Councilor

Hello dear members,

I would first like to say that I am very proud to announce that the communities of Odanak and Wôlinak now have a Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the Elderly, a first for an Aboriginal community in Quebec.



Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the Elderly.

This charter is posted in public places such as the Band Council offices, the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki offices and the

family halls. I would also like to thank Theresa Watso for the extended visibility she provided for us with her article published in the newspaper *L'Annonceur* concerning the introduction of this Charter.



The Elders' Hall Aln8baïwi.

Also in the news concerning our community elders, I am pleased to inform you that the elders' hall Aln8baïwi is now properly identified in the three languages (Abenaki, English and French) with a sign installed at the front of the hall. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Band Council for supporting my request.

Activities this past summer

On May 17, the recipe book "Nd'adbokwa - Je cuisine" was launched at the Awikhiganigamikok library in Odanak. A big thank you to Raymonde Nolett and her entire team for their excellent work, and to André Gill for the beautiful photographs found in the book. For those who wish, note that you can borrow the book "Nd'adbokwa - Je cuisine" at Odanak's community library.

On June 10, the Musée des Abénakis organized a wonderful event where the many visitors could taste smoked fish and duck stuffed goose and discover some of our traditional dishes. A special thank you to Mr. Jacques Watso who was happy to prepare the tasty dishes that were served.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work by the organizing committee for the Pow Wow's last edition held on July 4 and 5 in our community. Once again, the event was a success thanks to the great participation of all!

What to expect in the coming weeks

Corn mask making courses will be offered by Ms. Nicole Bibeau around mid-September. This is a very original and traditional creative activity which I invite you to attend in large numbers. A notice will be sent by mail informing you of the exact dates for registration.

The Active Living (Vie Active) workshops are back to help community elders improve their well-being by exercising in groups. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Thérèse O'Bomsawin for coordinating this program.

The Meals-on-Wheels service will resume by mid-September. Individuals interested in receiving meals will have to call to give their name. A fee of \$ 2 will be charged for each registration. A notice will be sent by mail to provide further details.

Towards the end of September, FNCFS will be organizing a trip to Wendake for the elders to visit the community museum and to meet and share with Wendat elders over a delicious lunch. We are also looking forward to meeting them.

As we read these lines, we will be well into the month of September, so we hope you all had a very nice summer. As you probably know, this year is already an election year. I am therefore pleased to announce that I will run again as councillor for a sixth term. The reason I am running again is that I still have the drive and I'm available to members of my community. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you and I hope to see you soon !

Word from Councilors



ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN
Councilor

Kwai !

I hope you had a great summer and enjoyed your holidays. Fall is on our doorstep so let's take advantage of this moment to recall some of the events that took place this past season and those to come.

I would first like to congratulate the Pow Wow organizing committee for making this edition

a success despite the short time available. Once again, this celebration was a success! Many artisans came to present a great diversity of handicrafts. The Odanak Pow Wow is renowned for this vast variety of craftsmen and we thank them. We are proud to have such great artists in the community.

Also, for the safety of our members, visitors and the Odanak cemetery site itself, trees will have to be cut down near the main entrance. We will therefore avoid possible accidents and people will be able to move about safely. In addition, a fence will be installed on the left side of the site to better delineate the path to the cemetery.

Do not forget that on October 14 at 7 p.m., a fundraising concert will be held at the Catholic Church in

Odanak to raise money in order to recount the history of Rogers' Raid on Odanak. This is a must-see event !

In closing, I would like to congratulate a member of our community, Mr. Éric Cloutier, who achieved a great feat at pocket billiards by earning the gold medal in the *8-Ball* event and a silver medal in the *straight pool* event at the 2017 World Police and Fire Games in Los Angeles. This competition takes place every two years around the world. In fact, the next games will be held in Chengdu, China in 2019.

If you have any questions regarding my dossiers, please do not hesitate to contact me !

Alain O'Bomsawin



Éric Cloutier achieved a great feat at pocket billiards.

Word from Councilors



RÉJEAN O'BOMSAWIN
Conseiller

Kway Wôbanaki alnôba Odana,

Abenaki Pride !

I am always very proud to communicate with you through our newsletter. These days, and for several years now, the basis of our values and customs, whether traditionalist or any other belief system, is an integral part of who we are, so the freedom to practice and respect others has always been valued by our grandparents. Have we already forgotten who we are as a First Nation? Are individualistic values imposed on us and is our right of opinion now censored to take advantage of public goods? Has the Indian Act changed us that much? Why is it a matter of percentage of "Indian

blood" or "generations", while this notion did not exist for our ancestors? This should still be the case. It is natural to welcome all those who are part of our great Abenaki Nation family with all their rights and freedoms.

It is never too late to reset the clock to Abenaki time, based on respect for oneself and others. I am saddened that lying and slandering have broken long-standing friendships and introduced a climate of false fear and intimidation hidden behind philosophical statements. It is up to us to reclaim our future.

Pursuing our dreams !

I would like to take this opportunity to announce that Ms. Michelle O'Bonsawin of Sudbury, Ontario, who is part of our large Abenaki family, has been sworn in as Honourable Justice of the Ontario Court. I was honoured to accept her invitation to attend the swearing-in ceremony held on June 21st in Ottawa. As Spiritual Leader of the Nation, I also celebrated a ritual for this occasion. She is the first Abenaki woman to hold this title and she is very proud to have achieved her

dream. Congratulations Madam Justice Michelle O'Bonsawin!

KCHI NIWASKW
(THE CREATOR) PROTECT YOU !

Réjean OBomsawin
Responsible for the Land/Education/Social services dossiers
Councillor at the Abenakis of Odanak Council,
Representative at the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki

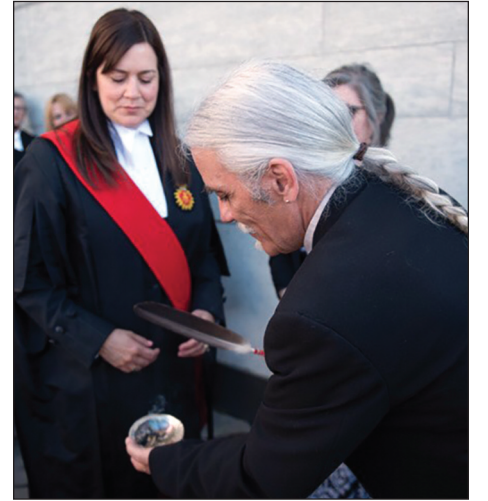


Photo : Courtney Cochrane

RECTIFICATION

Please note that someone changed without my authorization the exact words of my newsletter article published in May 2017. You should have read the following. Thank you.

Kway Wôbanaki alnôba Odana,
LAND, EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES

For reasons beyond my control, I am unable to provide specific details on the dossiers under my responsibility.

KCHI NIWASKW (THE CREATOR) PROTECT YOU !

Réjean OBomsawin
Responsible for the Land//Education/Social services dossiers
Councillor at the Abenakis of Odanak Council,
Representative at the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki

First Nations Child and Family Services - FNCFS

Another Busy Season

JENNY M'SADOQUES BENOIT

It goes without saying that another busy season is now behind us at the Odanak First Nations Child and Family Services. This summer we were responsible, among other things, for the day camp with more than 25 children enrolled. To everyone's delight, several activities and outings took place. The children had the opportunity to go to the Sherbrooke Nature Science Museum, the Adrénergie climbing centre in Trois-Rivières along with many other equally challenging activities.

With the collaboration of Ms. Mylène Trudeau from the CPDA (police force), community children also had the opportunity to participate in a workshop on the prevention of disappearances, in collaboration with the Missing Children's Network (Réseau Enfants-Retour).

Opposite is a sequence of photos taken during these activities.

It is now back-to-school time and this means the homework assistance program will resume.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at 450-568-0515.



BENEFIT CONCERT - QUEBEC VOLTIGEURS

As part of our historical and cultural reappropriation process, a benefit concert given by the Quebec Voltigeurs marching band will be held on Saturday, October 14th, at the Odanak Catholic Church.

The concert will begin at 7 pm and all proceeds will be forwarded

to the Odanak Historical Society for the implementation of a historical re-enactment of the Rogers' Raid on the Odanak community. The re-enactment is scheduled to take place on October 4th, 2019 in Odanak.

In order to better situate the distinct relationship between the

Abenakis of Odanak people and the Canadian Voltigeurs (ancestors of the Quebec Voltigeurs), a mini-lecture given by Dr. Éric Nicolas and Chief Warrant Officer Éric Godbout will take place at a date and place still to be determined.

Please add these dates to your calendar and share this

information with your friends and family.

Looking forward to seeing you there in large numbers !

Kchi nanawalmezi

Luc O'Bomsawin

Word from Management



DANIEL G. NOLETT
Executive Director
Abenakis of Odanak Council

Kwaï mziwi!

Thanks to a grant of \$ 180,000 as part of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's First Nations Infrastructure Fund (FNIF), we were able to link Mgezo street with Managuan street over the winter and spring. The work began in February and ended in April. With this project, we were also able to service 10 lots for an eventual new housing project. The project is estimated at around \$ 400,000 in total. We may receive additional funding from INAC as part of the FNIF for the street linking and servicing projects in 2017-2018 in the event other communities do not use all of their allocated funds; which could bring the Council's financial contribution to \$ 0 for this project.

With respect to the Descheneaux case, the Government of Canada had until July 3 to amend section 6 of the Indian Act to comply with the Superior Court of Quebec's February 2016 decision. Unfortunately, the Senate and the House of Commons do not agree on the bill to address cases of discrimination relating to persons entitled to be registered. What we understand from the situation is that no new person is entitled to Indian registration in Quebec. We will keep you informed of developments in this file.

The Council recently filed a request for funding from INAC for the Lands and Economic Development sectors for the extension of infrastructure along Route 132, past the Kiuna Institution, to expand the industrial park and thus proceed in the fall with the construction of phase II of the industrial motel.

Following the water main break on Waban-Aki street in early May, we amended the request for funding from INAC for repairing the stormwater outfall on Sibosis street. The Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki's technical services team estimates that the water supply system's valves must all be replaced on Waban-Aki street. We therefore had to close

the community's entire network in May in order to repair the water main. In addition, given that the water main is over forty years old, we would also replace Waban-Aki street's entire water main. This is conditional on the Government's acceptance of our funding request. The cost for replacing the water main is currently being estimated by the technical services. The work for replacing the stormwater outfall as well as the water main and valves could be done at the same time. We will keep you posted.

We hereby announce the departure of Mr. Deny O'Bomsawin as Director of the Odanak Health Centre (OHC). Mr. O'Bomsawin has been director of the OHC since its inception, from 1996 until the end of July. We wish him all the best in retirement and thank him for all these years providing services for the OHC and members of the community. We should be able to find a new director for the Health Centre by September.

This year, the Odanak Day Camp was once again under the responsibility of the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki's FNCFS. Each week, the day camp welcomed on average 15 children from the community.

We were able to open the community pool in extremis this summer as we managed to find a second national pool lifeguard the week prior to opening the pool on June 24th. Needless to say, it was quite difficult for us to recruit qualified lifeguards this year. We were nevertheless successful in creating a team of two national lifeguards and two lifeguard assistants in order to open the pool 7 days a week. Notice to interested parties for next summer, we invite 16 year-olds to enrol in a national lifeguard training and thus have the opportunity to land a great summer job in 2018!

Lawn and public area maintenance work has been going well so far. Parks and other public areas under the Council's responsibility have been very well cared for. We have hired two members of the community for the summer and fall to help the public works team. We also hired a student for the summer to assist them.

I wish you all a great fall season !
N'sidaldam mziwi, wligek tagw8gw!

Daniel G. Nolett
Executive Director
Abenakis of Odanak Council

ABENAKIS
OF ODANAK
COUNCIL



NATHALIE CARDIN
Education Agent
and Administrator
for Indian Registry

EDUCATION - STATISTICS

A) ELEMENTARY LEVEL	
Number of students:	35
B) SECONDARY LEVEL	
Number of students:	21
Number of students attending a public school:	11
Number of students attending a private school: ..	10
Number of students who dropped out:	1
Number of graduates:	3
C) COLLEGE LEVEL	
Number of students:	39
Number of students on reserve:	15
Number of students off reserve:	24
Number of students who dropped out:	3
Number of graduates:	9
College graduates' programs of study:	
DEC Natural sciences	
DEC Interior design	
DEC Special education	
DEC Building estimation and evaluation technology	
AEC Prison intervention techniques	
AEC Accounting	
AEC Human Resources Support Officer	
Graphic Design Diploma	
Ecotourism Certificate	
D) UNIVERSITY LEVEL	
Number of students:	56
Number of students on reserve:	13
Number of students off reserve:	43
Number of students who dropped out:	2
Number of graduates:	10

D) UNIVERSITY LEVEL (CONTINUED)

University graduates' programs of study:
Master's degree in Computer Science
Master's degree in Speech Language Pathology
Bachelor of General Arts & science
Bachelor of Administration (3 graduates)
Bachelor of Civil Engineering
Bachelor of Biology
Bachelor of Social Work Specialized for First Nations
Bachelor of Computer Science

ACTIVITIES HELD BY THE ABENAKIS OF ODANAK COUNCIL, BUT FUNDED IN FULL OR IN PART BY THE FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION COUNCIL (FNEC) :

- Abenaki language courses;
- Production of DVD for language courses;
- Homework assistance;
- Summer employment for four (4) students in 2016;
- Abenaki basket weaving course;
- Salon du livre de Montréal (book fair);
- Project W;
- Weekend at Ile Ronde;
- Dr. Stanley Vollant's Walk;
- Cosmodôme;
- Biodôme;
- Botanical garden and Insectarium;
- Odanak library;
- Purchase of material for nature interpretation activities.

ODANAK ENVIRONMENT AND LAND OFFICE



MONITORING PERCH DEVELOPMENT AT THE LA COMMUNE MARSHES

We are also continuing to monitor the upstream migration of perch to the two La Commune marshes to determine if the redesign work carried out at the 1st marsh in 2014 is still effective and to determine the pre-development work to be carried out at the 2nd marsh. This year has been distinctive in several ways. The abnormally high water level made it impossible to observe linkage problems (or the long-term effectiveness of the development work carried out at the 1st marsh) between the marshes and the river, since the two culverts and streams were completely submerged. However, the number of yellow perch caught in the streams that link the marshes to the river was much higher in the spring of 2017 than in all other years that the marshes were monitored. A total of 1,937 perch were caught at the 1st marsh, compared to 106, 302 and 105 in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively. The portrait is more stable at the 2nd marsh with a total of 819 yellow perch in 2017, compared to 778 in 2016. Our sample also shows that several perch have spawned in the marshes (sexually mature males and females), but also that the majority of individuals are small (recruitment). These results are encouraging, but it is important to note that despite these positive results, the perch population of Lake Saint-Pierre and its archipel remains fragile and in a precarious situation. Over the summer, in order to assist in the species' recovery, the Environment and Land Office will redesign the connection between the channel and the 2nd marsh in order to make this quality breeding habitat available at all times for yellow perch and other aquatic species.

DRUMMONDVILLE

Monitoring Lake Sturgeon spawning activities

Again this year, the Environment and Land Office has monitored reproduction of Lake Sturgeon at the Drummondville spawning grounds. These monitoring activities were all the more important this year because, as you remember, there appears to have been some problem with the spring 2016 spawning. The combination of several factors disrupted the reproductive behaviour of spawners, such as excessive dry conditions in the Saint-François River's tailbay due to the management of hydroelectric dams. It was therefore impossible for us to document the scope of spawning activities with our conventional method of capturing eggs and spawners. However, a few larvae were captured and showed that spawning did in fact occur, but in an area not covered by our study. Conversely, spawning in the spring of 2017 went smoothly and

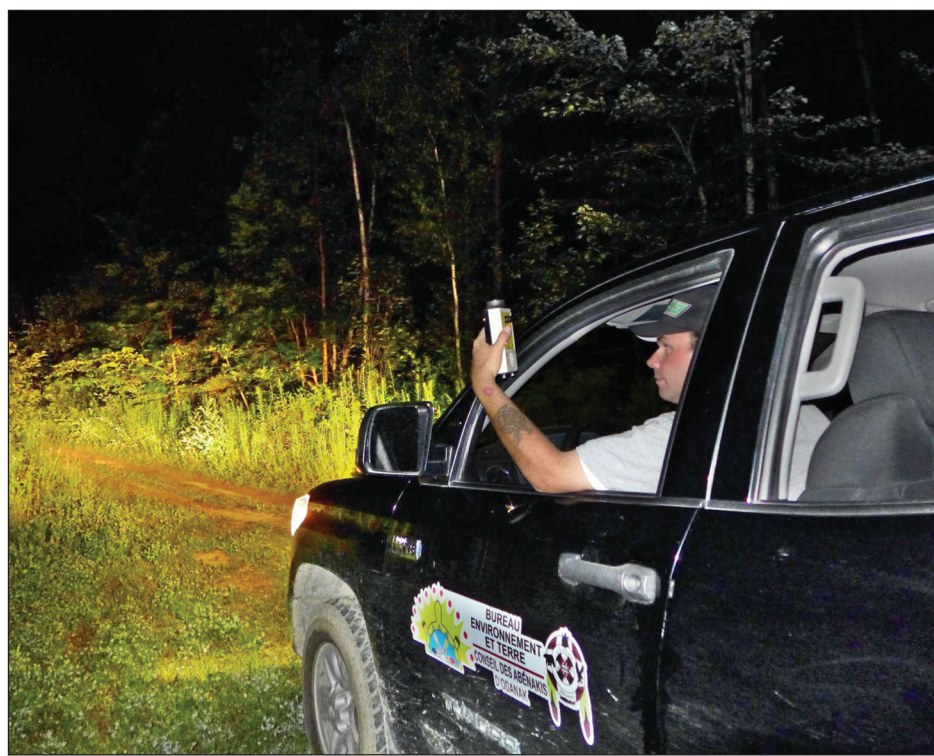


provided reliable results with an adequate and stable hydraulic regime. The chronosequence of field activities allowed us to characterize the arrival of different fish species and their activities according to the hydraulic regime. In doing so, several eggs were harvested and more than 50 different sturgeons were captured

before being tagged and released, thus estimating the spawning peak to be somewhere between May 15 and May 17, 2017. The subsequent capture of drifting larvae also shows that reproduction was somewhat successful, but these data need to be analyzed more rigorously before a formal conclusion is reached.

SPECIES AT RISK

SEVERAL BAT INVENTORIES



We conducted several bat inventories in the area in June and July. A listening route consisting of

travelling along a standardized path with an ultrasound detection device was conducted in order to

identify and characterize the bat population in the region. Several species at risk were sought, including the little brown bat and eastern pipistrelle. We also located four bat maternities and identified 73, 81, 109 and 111 individuals respectively in these maternities. A maternity corresponds to a site used by bats to nest and feed their young while awaiting their departure, which occurs later in the summer. These maternities can be found in natural structures such as hollow trees or caves, but also in human dwellings. The most common species in the area is the big brown bat, which is the most likely species to use human dwellings for nesting or to hibernate. Further analysis of sonograms (recording of cries with a special device) will allow us to detect the presence of various species by matching the data with the type of habitat used.



The Odanak Environment and Land Office team 2016-2017:
Michel Durand, Luc Gauthier, Samuel Dufour-Pelletier, Christopher Coughlin et Steve Williams

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or if you have any information that may be of interest to us; including the presence of chimney swifts and bats near your property.

Odanak Environment and Land Office
 62 Waban Aki Street, Odanak, Québec, Canada, J0G 1H0
 Tel: 450-568-6363
 e-mail: environnement@caodanak.com
 Website: <https://caodanak.com/> - Facebook

Communities

NEW MEMBER JOINING THE NDAKINNA TEAM



DAVID BERNARD
Research Officer

Kwaï mziwi,

I am very pleased to announce that I will be joining the Ndakinna Office team as a research officer. I am delighted to continue the excellent work carried out by Marie-Eve over the past few years, because I know she has established a relationship of trust with many of you. It will be a

great challenge to fill her shoes which she left at the entrance of my new office.

Several dynamic projects are in store at the Office. For example, we are currently developing research partnerships with academia, particularly in the field of archaeology. I am very pleased to be part of these initiatives and to become involved concretely in both communities. I hope to be able to defend the Nation's rights and interests on the Ndakinna to the best of my abilities.

See you soon,

Wliwni,

David

For any questions, please contact me at the following e-mail address : davidbernard@gcnwa.com

Short Column on the Abenaki Language

In this column, I will discuss common phrases and expressions. Brief reminder: In the Abenaki language, it is important to know that all the letters in a word must be pronounced. For example, the "s" at the end of SIBOSIS should be pronounced. We therefore say "sibosisse" rather than "sibosi". Moreover, the following letters are not part of our alphabet: F, Q, R, U, V, X, Y. The "G" is always hard as in "glove". The "J" for its part is pronounced "dz". The "ch" is pronounced "ts" as in "channa" (tsanna). The "H" is always aspirated. We do not have an "F" sound. For example, woman is pronounced "phanem" in Abenaki. We say "P" hanem. Moreover, we do not have the "sh" or "ch" sound as in shirt or charade. The "i" is pronounced "ay". For example, nebi (water) is pronounced "NEBAY". The "ô" or the "8" is a nasal sound between the "an" and the "on", such as the French words "sans" and "son". The "w", when placed before a consonant, is pronounced as an "o". It is also pronounced as "o" at the end of a word. Finally, the "o" is really pronounced as an "o" and not as an "a".

Personal pronouns :

- Me, INia (N or Nd)
- You (singular)Kia (K or Kd)
- He, she, him, her.....Agma (W or Wd)
- We (exclusive)Niona (N or Nd)
- We (inclusive)Kiona (K or Kd)
- You (plural)Kiow8 (K or Kd)
- They, themAgm8w8 (W or Wd)

- Hello !Kwaï !
- GoodbyeAdio (from Adieu)
- Yes8h8
- NoNda
- Thank you.....Wliwni
- You're welcome.....Ndakagwi
- How are you ?T8ni kd'al8wzi ?
- I am wellN'wal8wzi
- JI am not wellNda n'wal8wziw
- I am sickNd'akwamalsi
- How is the weather?T8ni alikizgak?
- The weather is niceWlikizgad
- The weather is not so nice.....Nda wlikizgadowi
- The weather is badMajikizgad
- It is sunnyKizosoo
- It is cloudyAsokwad
- It is hotKzabda
- It is not so hot.....Nda kzabdawi
- It is cold.....Tka
- It is warmNda tkawi
- It is rainingSogl8n
- It is snowingPs8n

More to come in the next Pilaskw !

A new challenge awaits me

Kwaï mziwi,

I am writing today to announce that I am leaving my position at the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki, as a new challenge awaits me in September. Indeed, I decided to continue pursue my studies in anthropology at the University of Montreal. I would like to thank you for your trust over the years and for sharing your knowledge of the Ndakinna along with your hunting, fishing and trapping stories! It was a difficult decision to make as I loved

working with you all and for the Ndakinna Office. I am very pleased that David Bernard will be joining the Ndakinna Office team. David is a very competent and motivated person. I know he will greatly contribute to the promotion and defense of the Nation's rights and interests on the Ndakinna. I wish him as much pleasure as I have had with you over the years. I hope to see you soon, Wliwni ! Marie-Ève ☺

ODANAK ENVIRONMENT AND LAND OFFICE

CAPSULE SPECIES AT RISK

Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)



PHOTO RICHARD PRÉVOST / GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC

Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), measuring around 30 centimetres, is the smallest wading bird found in North America. In Quebec, the breeding population totals about 200 to 300 pairs mostly located near the Ottawa River, the Richelieu River and the St. Lawrence River upstream of Quebec. According to current

data, the population is quite small, about 3,000 individuals in Canada, and declining as there appears to have been a 30% decrease in the number of individuals over the last 10 years. For this reason, this species has been considered threatened since 2009. This decline is mainly due to the loss and degradation of the least

bittern breeding habitat, i.e. Quebec wetlands. In Quebec, swamp filling and draining for agricultural and urban development purposes have been identified as the leading cause of wetland loss. In Odanak, inventories conducted in 2009 by Luc and an amateur ornithologist confirmed the presence of this species on Île Ronde.

MUSÉE DES Abénakis

EFFECTIVE PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN !

The 2017 summer tourism season was very good for the Musée des Abénakis : a 29% increase in visitors was recorded, which brings our attendance for the months of June, July and August 2017 to almost 5,300 visitors ! This increase is the result of numerous advertising campaigns in which the Museum participated and improvements in our promotional displays. Perhaps you noticed our television ads on Radio-Canada and RDI over the summer as well as billboards installed near the Cantine du Calumet and the restaurant Comme chez soi, for example ?

OPEN HOUSE

On June 10, we organized an "open house" to allow more people to discover the Museum. In addition to visiting our exhibitions, in collaboration with Jacques T. Watso, we were able to offer curious visitors the opportunity to learn more about Abenaki culture along with traditional food tasting which included smoked fish, moose and goose, all for free. The event proved to be a huge success! Nearly 250 people attended between 10 am and 5 pm. To promote this activity, we used online advertising through Facebook and the public response was very positive: it reached over 27,000 people! If you have not already done so, do not hesitate to "Like" our page and stay informed on everything happening at the Museum!

EW AT THE KIZ8BAK GIFT SHOP

We recently received a new product line from the Navajo, Zuni and Hopi Nations in Arizona, USA. Jewellery such as bracelets, rings and necklaces for men, women and children are waiting for you; products for any taste and any budget! In addition, we received beautiful knives with antler shafts. Reminder: when you become a Museum member, you obtain a 15% discount on your purchases at the gift shop!



AUGUST: QUEBEC ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

A true archaeological experience was held on August 6th at the Musée des Abénakis. The activity entitled "An Archaeological Project and a Fort" allowed 35 people to discover some of the details of the archaeology profession by

actively participating in an archaeological excavation at the very heart of the Odanak Fort site. In the company of archaeologist Geneviève Treyvaud and her students, young and old learned certain excavation techniques and

actually searched for artefacts! The participants all found at least one artefact, which made this activity a great success! At lunch time, participants attended a conference on the results from the latest research carried out on the Abenaki territory.

W8linaktekw: Abenaki River

For a second year, the Musée des Abénakis, in collaboration with the Abenakis of Wôlinak Council, is pleased to announce that archaeological excavations were carried out over the summer, from July 31st to September 1st. An archaeological team attempted to locate the remains of the Saint-François Xavier mission in the centre of the

current Wôlinak village, in the municipality of Bécancour, on the banks of the Bécancour River. Initial research, in the form of surveys, was carried out in the summer and fall of 2016. These surveys helped locate, among other things, the remains of stone masonry and Aboriginal artefacts from the French regime era at Île Montesson and in Wôlinak. The

purpose of this summer's campaign was to validate the theories concerning the displacement of Abenaki villages and missions. The work also helped to better document the Abenaki First Nation's ways of life and their use of the land from the late prehistoric era to present day. Excavations will continue at Île Montesson until early October.

FALL EXHIBITS

From mid-October to the spring of 2018, we will be hosting the Microcosme exhibit; a creative project consisting of a challenge to innovation and self-surpassing sent to craftsmen, based on a given theme. During the introduction phase of this exhibit, a twinning partnership was formed with seven Lower St. Lawrence artists, all members of the *Métiers d'art/Bas-Saint-Laurent corporation* and seven Aboriginal artists from different First Nations in Quebec, including Ms. Sylvie Bernard from Wôlinak. These artists were invited to create a project in two stages. First, everyone was asked to create a miniature piece, then pass it on to their partner, and subsequently integrate it into each artist's final project. It is a

creative experience that requires everyone to create outside his or her comfort zone, focusing on research, innovation and the exploration of new techniques or materials.

This exhibit was first presented at the Regional Museum of Rimouski, the Kamouraska Art Centre, the Maison amérindienne de Mont Saint-Hilaire, the Mashteuiatsh Amerindian Museum, the Huron-Wendat Museum, to end here in Odanak.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Vicky Desfossés-Bégin,
agente médiation et
communications
Musée des Abénakis

CRAFT WORKSHOP AT THE ST. PIERRE COMMUNITY CENTRE

As part of Canada's 150th anniversary, the Saint-Pierre Community Centre in Drummondville organized an Aboriginal culture awareness week from July 31st to August 3rd and invited the Musée des Abénakis as well as several community artists and craftsmen to participate. Two Museum employees traveled to the St-Pierre Church in Drummondville where they were able to show off their skills by creating coloured pearl necklaces and a talking stick. Nearly 250 youth between the ages of 5 and 12 benefited from this grant and enjoyed a captivating cultural experience!