



Word from the Chief



Kwei fellow band members,

At our last National Assembly the theme that prevailed in the many discussions was that of "Gaining Momentum". In all facets of our discussions we spoke about the driving forces and continued strength needed for us to further advance and develop as First Nations communities.

The Youth of our nations, for which one of our own, Jennifer O'Bomsawin has assumed a leading role, had certainly taken the forefront in voicing their concerns to the assembly. They shared with us as Chiefs, their thoughts on the conditions needed to ensure a hopeful, promising future for the next generation; our children and grandchildren. Bringing those concerns home and voicing them in our present system of services would certainly seem to be the next best step. We have begun to do so. Hearing from our young adults who have themselves started families would be very important in order for us to work as partners in leaving a better legacy from which our children and their children can grow.

It is my understanding that this year our community will be hosting the Regional youth's assembly. It is my hope that our young people draw from their caucuses, concrete strategies which could be used as guidelines for our enthusiastic service providers. I'm reminded that a collective effort is just what is needed to build the momentum to succeed and ensure a brighter future, thus a healthy, promising environment for our Nation.

At this time there is a commitment on the part of the Government of Canada to review laws, policies and operational practices to make certain that our rights and safety as First Nations people be respected. Their efforts will hopefully set the stage for improving the status quo with regards to safety and healing for our children, women and elders. As much as we see that there is a lot of work being done, we are also gaining a clearer understanding of the amplitude of the work at hand.

Open dialogue in our community must continue to happen if we are to see any improvement in the current situations. If you have interest in participating and having your voice heard, please attend our next general assembly and share your thoughts. Together we can and must find solutions!

In peace and friendship,
Chief Rick O'Bomsawin

Congratulations to Ms. Alanis Obomsawin



Congratulations to Ms. Alanis Obomsawin, Abenaki filmmaker and artist who was awarded the title of Grand Officer by the Premier of Quebec, Philippe Couillard, during the ceremony of the National Order of Quebec held in the Legislative Chamber of the Parliament Building in Quebec City, June 22, 2016.

Born from Abenaki parents, Alanis Obomsawin is a prolific filmmaker, always active, very militant with her documentaries with a strong social content, rooted in Native history, culture and socio-politic. Her films mostly relate the concerns of Natives, including women, as they approach without concession issues important to them, she also addresses many battles fought by First Nations and highlight their points of view in order to render their real visibility. A woman of many hats, Ms. Obomsawin has been singer, actress and public storyteller for the Canadian version of Sesame Street. For over twenty-five years, she devoted herself to various forms of visual arts.

Rick O'Bomsawin

A young Abenakis stands out!



An Abenaki youth, Noah Laberge, has been selected to be part of the 2016 Montreal Ice Storm team with the 2016 Team Brick edition, becoming one of the 17 players on the 2016 Montreal Ice Storm team which will represent Quebec at the Brick tournament in Edmonton. This is the most prestigious minor atom tournament in North America. Much of the best 10-year-old players will compete. The caliber of hockey is unparalleled for that age group and the treatment given to players by tournament organizers and by the local media is normally reserved for pros. It is a memorable

experience for youngsters and their families. Just like PK Subban or Sidney Crosby before him, participating is an honour for 9-year-old Noah.

The 2016 edition of the tournament is reserved for players born in 2006 and was held at the West Edmonton Mall from July 4 to 10, 2016.

In preparation for this tournament, the team had already won its first tournament: The Tournoi de la relève Gouverneurs AAA. Noah will also participate in the Montreal Meltdown tournament.

Mélanie Lambert



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Word from councilors



Florence Benedict
Councilor

Kwai,

Fall is just around the corner! I hope you all enjoyed the beautiful summer we had and that you come back in great shape. I want to acknowledge the outstanding work of the 2016 Pow Wow organizing committee. The event was a success, despite the fact that Mother Nature provided a few surprises over the weekend. Thank you to the organizing committee!

By the time you read this, the relocation of the library and the post office should be almost complete and operational. The cost for this transformation will have been made possible through an unexpected grant of \$64,491 from FNIF (First Nation Infrastructure Fund). The library's transformation was carried out by Renovations Jacques T. Watso, Jean-Claude Nolett for the ceramics work and of course Yvon Michon and Alex Michon Enr. for painting.

Along the same line the expansion work of our daycare centre began last August. The work should extend over a period of about a month. This project will create 16 new places, bringing our capacity to 52 children. The work is being done by Constructions G.Thérien Inc.

As part of Ms. Raymonde Nolett's Avenir d'enfants project, a cookbook was created by Ms. Amélie Nolett-Descheneaux and Mr. André Gill. The official book launch will take place this fall. Note that funding for this project comes entirely from the FNQLHSSC. Stay tuned for the launch date to be held at our new library!



This summer I had the privilege of accompanying PABÔWONGAN for a field trip at the Insectarium and the Planetarium of Montreal. Quite a challenge to keep track of all these little ones! It was a very rewarding day nonetheless.

I would like to point out the good work of the day camp team: coordinator, Ms. Nathalie Hamel and monitors: Geneviève, Rosalie, Catherine and Marc-Olivier. Also thank you to Mr. Guy Trudeau who was available throughout the summer to drive the day-camp children to the different activities.

Finally, I would feel bad if I did not mention the wonderful weekend I had camping on Île Ronde on June 18 and 19 (Alnôbai Menahan) to celebrate the National Aboriginal Day.

There were over 67 participants for this activity, and 26 of them stayed the night. It was a lot of fun with many laughs. I would like to especially thank Ms. Helen Watso and Ms. Caroline Cardin for looking after logistics, as well as for their dedication throughout this weekend. Thanks also to the Odanak Health Centre for preparing lunch on Saturday, and the Odanak Environment and Land Office team, without whom this event would simply not have been possible. Also thank you to the various partners: The Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki and the Avenir d'enfants project. Finally, a special thank you to Ms. Theresa Watso for the nice pictures!

See you next time and we'll talk again in January!

Thank you



Réjean OBomsawin,
Councilor

Kway Mziwi Wôbanakiak,

DEAR FELLOW ABENAKI PEOPLE,

EDUCATION

I am pleased to announce that my main goal for the Education file ("Broadening our knowledge to ensure the sustainability of our Abenaki Nation through education") is taking shape slowly. Several meetings were held with local and regional school authorities to bring together resources from different services and provide an accurate vision of our traditions.

To begin, the validation of information was essential for maintaining the factual transmission of our culture and for ensuring that the educators-transmitters are Abenaki people who are knowledgeable about our history. Furthermore, I am continuing to develop with various stakeholders a curriculum for the educational programs in our region to include our culture and traditions. Eventually, as already mentioned and according to your requests, this curriculum may be used and adapted according to different regions. For those interested, I invite you to contact me at 450 494-1401.

Together, the Abenaki Nation will make its mark in education.

LAND

A meeting was held last week with our lawyers to discuss territorial developments. It goes without saying that this process is long, but is well underway thanks to our team's efforts, who have been working on this for several years.

NOMADISM AND EDUCATION... LIKE OUR ANCESTORS!

The fact that our ancestors were nomads, that they were able to develop knowledge and provide us with a rich education in terms of culture and traditions, thus teaching us the values of sharing. They therefore had to develop great open-mindedness towards others.

In this sense, I am pleased to introduce you to someone from our community, Ms. Roxanne M'Sadoques, who has developed this quality, just as our ancestors did for generations.

Roxanne M'Sadoques, aged 19, originally from Odanak, has kindly agreed to share her world exploration experience and present her next adventure to Africa as aid worker in education. Indeed, Ms. M'Sadoques has made several trips and says: "Personally, travelling has helped me discover who I am. Now I see things from a different angle. I can understand the differences between people and this diminishes all the stereotypes or prejudices that I could have had before." Her world tour has brought her to several countries, including: France, Spain, England, Holland, Germany, Turkey, Greece, Costa Rica, the United States, and not to mention her own country, Canada.

Her next trip to the island of Madagascar in Africa is very special. She was chosen as part of an Aboriginal youth project supported by an international body to help developing countries. To become part of this humanitarian project, she had to do various interviews and several tests to finally be selected from several other young people in Canada to join a group that will leave in August 2016, for four months. She will be involved mainly in the education sector and other areas related to youth.

In turn, she will be able to transmit, among other things, the basics of our culture, and of course learn about others, just like our ancestors! I wish, on my behalf and on behalf of the community, that Ms. Roxanne M'Sadoques has an enriching human experience, thus perpetuating our traditional values of caring and respect for others.

KCHI NIWASKW (THE CREATOR) PROTECTS YOU!



NEXT PUBLIC ASSEMBLY
September 24th, 2016 at 1:30 pm
For more information 450 568-2810

Word from councilors



Claire O'Bomsawin
Councilor

Hello to you all, members of the Abenaki community,

Here is some news from your community.

Elders on vacation

Tuesday lunches and Saturday breakfasts were postponed for the summer. However, this popular activity will resume in September.

On June 17, we participated in a weekend camping activity on Île Ronde. This activity was successfully organized by Ms. Helen Watso and her team. The elders were pleased to participate. It was a very pleasant experience appreciated by all.

At the end of June, Ms. Joyce Panadis presented her exhibit and it was a success. What beautiful work and remarkable talent!

During the first week of August, the elders headed to Ottawa for a five-day stay during which they enjoyed interesting visits such as the Parliament of Canada and the Canadian Museum of History.

A new project is born

The elders will be offered a new service: Meals on Wheels! Indeed, my request was accepted by the Abenakis of Odanak Council and I am very pleased. The meals will be distributed starting on August 24th, twice a week, on Wednesdays and Fridays, until the end of December. We will then assess the popularity of this initiative and determine whether we continue the project or not. According to the requests received, 33 elders shall receive meals prepared by the Meals on Wheels team. I can't wait! I will provide a follow-up on this initiative in the next issue of the Pilaskw.

Wishing you a wonderful early fall season!



Alain O'Bomsawin
Councilor

Hello to all,

I hope you enjoyed your summer. For my part, Claire O'Bomsawin, Florence Benedict and I met with some Vermont students who came to visit us in Odanak. This meeting was organized by Suzie O'Bomsawin who took the opportunity to prepare a schedule for the students so they could visit the community and several tourist attractions, such as the Abenaki Museum. It was a success in every respect! Thank you Suzie!

In addition, a request for assistance was filed with Canadian Heritage and the Quebec Religious Heritage Council for the maintenance of the rectory. The amounts involved total

around \$400,000. So far, the Quebec Religious Heritage Council asked us to prepare a health status report in order to better understand the situation and what repairs will be needed for the balance of the project, should it be accepted.

Regarding the Anglican Church, repairs to the cement structures were made. In addition, a new porch was built at the back of the building. Cement repairs were also made at the Catholic Church. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Fernand R. O'Bomsawin for his many years of volunteer service at the cemetery and at the Catholic Church.

NB: It is important to remember that since the month of July, a new secretary was hired at the Church and her name is Ms. Marie-Pierre Nadeau. She can be reached Monday to Thursday between 9 am and 4 pm, excluding the lunch hour (noon to 1 pm) and Friday from 9 am to noon. For questions related to the church (Masses, cemetery, etc), please call 450 568-6536 and Ms. Nadeau will be happy to take your call.

Word from Management



DANIEL G. NOLETT,
Executive Director
Abenakis of Odanak Council

Kwaï mziwi!

Following our request for funding as part of the Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) First Nation Infrastructure Fund (FNIF), we have received confirmation from INAC, last July, that they would grant \$64,491 for relocating the library and post office. The library will be relocated to where the conference room was in the former Council offices, at 102 Sibosis street. The post office, meanwhile, will be relocated to where the library was, at 58 Waban-Aki street, in the room adjacent to the community centre. Initially, the Council had decided to invest some of the Band's funds in this project in the event the FNIF declined our request.

The other project approved by INAC as part of the FNIF is the development of a pedestrian trail to ensure the safety of students walking to the Kiuna Institution. This trail will be built on the former railroad track, along Route 132. An amount of \$605,138 was granted by INAC.

We are still awaiting a response to our requests for funding made to INAC and Canada Economic Development. We submitted requests for funding for renovation work required at the Abenaki Museum. This includes work on the roof's terrace, the old building's copings, painting the porch, cornices and columns, etc. Total costs for repairs to the Museum are estimated at \$300,000.

Last June, we received confirmation from the Nicolet-Yamaska MRC that our project for adding new park modules was accepted. We will therefore receive close to \$17,000 from the Pacte Rural. We estimate a total investment of nearly \$40,000 to add these new modules at the park near the Odanak pool. The installation work will be done in September.

There have been employee changes in recent months and weeks at the Council. Note the departure of Ms. Sylvie Desbois as director of the local employment office. She left in January. She was replaced by Ms. Julie Gagnon who began on August 22nd. She will assume the position of economic development officer. Ms. Gagnon had been working for the Pierre-de-Saurel CLD for nearly six (6) years. She has also served on the municipality of Pierreville town council for three (3) years.

Also, with the process undertaken as part of the new First Nations Land Management Act (FNLMA), during the month of May, we hired Ms. Katharina Trottier as land's coordinator. She also holds the position of land's coordinator for

the community of W8linak. Ms. Trottier is also an Abenaki community member. The FNLMA process takes place over a period of two (2) years. The first step is to develop a land code and the second is to adopt it by referendum. I shall leave it up to Katharina to explain a little more in detail how this FNLMA process works.

Last June, Ms. Mélanie Panadis asked to resume her duties exclusively as accreditation coordinator at the Odanak Health Centre. At the time of writing this, we were still in the process of hiring a new assistant executive manager in charge of human resources, in replacement of Ms. Panadis.

Last July, Ms. Émilie Paquin, a biologist with the Environment and Land Office since April 2011, informed us that she was leaving us after accepting a position as biologist with the Ministère de la Forêt, de la Faune et des Parcs, in their Trois-Rivières office. We are currently in the hiring process for a biologist.

Finally, we invite you to read the 2015-2016 annual report which will be sent to you shortly through the mail. We have a surplus of just over \$200,000 in operations, prior to investments. Details will be provided for each department activities with the condensed financial statements.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!
Wli machiniben!



Photos credit : Theresa Watso

Kwai ! Hello !

This second traditional outing on Alnôbaï Menahan (Round Island in Abenaki) was a powerful experience for participants. The activity, which took place on June 18th and 19th, allowed us to celebrate the summer solstice and our National Aboriginal Day.

The event was also a way to promote health, highlighting the importance of outdoor activities and increase our knowledge of our traditions, all at a location rich in biodiversity. Fishing was a hit with the little ones even though the sun rays were among us all day.

The walks to discover the island was a surprise to many. Indeed, participants were able to observe several species of plants on the island and everyone was pleasantly surprised by the stream which is home to hundreds of frogs.

A special shout out to the Odanak Environment and Land's office team that did an excellent job with the campsite.

Exchanges between young and elders helped develop new relationships that remind us of our ancestors and our roots in these beautiful sunny days of summer.

Imagine the fun we had during the workshops, of which making talking sticks, modern trapping techniques, an Abenaki bingo, building bird houses for children up to 5 years old and a rabaska outing under the stars ... to name only a few.

Beautiful rides were made on the river thanks to the different boats : motorboats, canoe, and two rabaskas purchased by the Abenakis of Odanak Council, which may be used for other occasions.

A total of 103 people registered and 67 of them

participated in the event.

Thank you ! Wliwni ! to all who joined us for this great activity and a Big Thank You to the organizing committee:

FNCFS : Helen Watso, Michel Thibeault and Caroline Cardin

Project Nid8baskwak - Avenir d'enfant (Odanak) : Raymonde Nolett

Avenir d'enfant (Wôlinak) : Guylaine Vachon

Abenakis of Odanak Council : Daniel G. Nolett and Florence Benedict

Abenaki Police Force : Mylène Trudeau

M8wwa committee : Mathieu O'Bomsawin Gauthier

Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki : Suzie O'Bomsawin

Odanak Health Center : Jessica Papineau and Marie-Pier Desnoyers

Kchaïak : Barbara Watso

Odanak Environment and Land Office : Michel D. Nolett, Émilie Paquin, Luc G. Nolett and Christopher Coughlin.

Helen Watso

social development coordinator

Hunting and fishing

Abenaki hunting and fishing committee report and follow-up

The hunting and fishing committee was formed in August 2011 following a request from the Odanak Environment and Land Office in order to educate hunters and fishermen to the various changes in the environment and ancestral practices and to define new means for these activities.

The committee includes volunteers involved in preparing recommendations for the committee responsible for monitoring the agreement with the Government of Quebec for hunting, trapping and fishing in our traditional practice area. A lot of work has been done by the volunteers since the committee's creation, for example: we shot three (3) deer and we brought them to Odanak that same evening to demonstrate how to cut up and prepare animal parts for freezing, all in order to reignite our people's interest in the great outdoors.

In our proposals, details were requested concerning our agreement with the provincial government on the implementation of this agreement. It was not an issue of renegotiating the document itself, but rather to clarify certain points that we felt were unclear and that left room for interpretation outside the community. For example, our permits are valid outside of our practice area with other hunters during their hunting seasons.

As a committee, we appreciate the great value of the individuals who represent us with the current relevant government bodies: Ms. Suzie O'Bomsawin and Mr. Daniel Nolett. Their support is crucial so that our recommendations are heard in order to improve communications and understanding. In addition, let's not forget Mr. Hugo Mailhot-Couture for drafting the minutes and for other types of assistance.

Here are some of our recommendations for hunting. Among them, we asked to be entitled to two (2) wild turkeys (female or male) and a moose licence per hunting permit. We were hoping that with some of these proposals, we would revive interest for some of our community's hunters to resume their practices.

We have tabled these requests and at the same time proposed actions for temporary measures in order to avoid conflicts with other hunters.

We have also asked to fully restore Zone 4 as it appears on current maps, which would expand our practice area.

The committee has also made recommendations for lake sturgeon concerning the number of catches. Following this request, we quickly received a response from our standing committee members.

The committee has 14 members and each one gives of his time in order to clarify our understanding. At our general assembly, held in September 2015, a lot of hunters and fishermen attended in order to meet with us to express their approaches and issues in their respective hunting area.

For the future, the committee has already started work on two tables with the purpose of informing hunters on depredation and community hunting.

To this end, we have made proposals on depredation methods with control by the community to the Quebec government and the authorities concerned (UPA).

In addition, the committee is proactive on the image projected by the Abenaki people towards the hunting population so that they are seen as respectful towards private land.

The committee has set a goal of informing hunters living in and outside the community so that everyone is able to practice hunting and fishing so as not to conflict with the various stakeholders and to respect them.

This year we hope to obtain written notices on the different interpretations and we will communicate the different follow-ups to our requests and adjustments.

It is also important to keep in mind the following: the committee is a non-partisan committee. In other words, there is no political or other type of tendency in this area that may influence the committee's work. This is the reason we support this avenue in order to express ourselves at all times.

The committee by Normand Laframboise



Greetings All;

I hope this news finds you and your families in good health and wellbeing!

Our Sigoun Gathering this year was expanded to a two-day event, and the Albany community was blessed to host some of our finest master basket makers who made the trip from Odanak to teach their relatives in New York. The main focus was on teaching a new generation of Abenaki basket makers, ensuring our cultural survival, and several new basket makers crafted their first black ash splint and sweetgrass baskets during the weekend.

The community also came together to enjoy a potluck feast, Abenaki traditional songs with drumming, and social dances such as the snake dance. While feasting, dancing, singing, and basket making, we shared our family histories with each other, our family connections and travel routes, and most importantly, the love for our culture that always brings us together. The bridge to connect our communities is being built with the good intentions of our Abenaki Nation families both on and off reserve.

I am so grateful to be a part of this great Abenaki Nation moving forward in a positive direction, helping to make history and leaving a legacy for future generations.

The community of Abenaki families in the Albany region would like to send a big THANK YOU! to the basket makers who attended this gathering to teach their relatives: Diane Nolett, Annette Nolett; Raymonde Nolett, and Angelica Duane. Also, a special thank you to our Director General Daniel Nolett. Daniel attended the Sigoun in 2015, and offered to bring a basket making class to 2016's social gathering. He made it all happen this year! Good to his word, as always. Also, Daniel generously offered his drumming and singing of our Abenaki songs.

We also thank our newly-elected Councilor, Florence Benedict, who attended her first Sigoun Gathering and led the snake dance not once but twice! She also braided sweetgrass for the baskets, and mingled with the Abenaki families.

Finally, thanks also to Jacques Watso and his wife, Carin. Jacko led a song, while Carin led us in an Innu, Montagnais traditional dance.

We are currently looking for a new venue for our gathering in the fall (Penibagos, October leaf fall maker month). Once arrangements are made I will distribute the information via Facebook, Abenaki Connection group email, or contact me via email ab8naki@gmail.com or at 518 334-3101 for updates.

Wli Wni! (thank you!)
Denise L. Watso

Household chemical safety

You probably use many household chemical products in and around your home and garage. These products may include cleaning liquids and powders, polishes, drain cleaners, paint thinners, and windshield washer fluids. These types of products can be dangerous and cause burns, fires, poisonings and explosions.

DID YOU KNOW?

Detergent packets are attractive to children and can be dangerous if ingested. Keep them locked out of sight and reach of children.

Household chemical products are among the top products responsible for injuries and deaths in children under the age of five years. Bad taste and odours often do not keep children away from household chemical products. Even a small amount of a chemical product can be harmful to a child.

Use, store, and dispose of household chemicals carefully. Learn the meaning of the hazard symbols and follow all directions on the label.

IMPORTANT!

If someone has been in contact with a household chemical product and you think they may have been harmed:

- Call a Poison Control Centre or your health care provider right away. You can find phone numbers for the Poison Control Centre nearest you at the front of your local telephone book or by searching Poison Control Centre + (your province or territory) on the Internet.
- Tell the person who answers the phone what the product label says. There should also be first aid instructions on the back or side of the product surrounded by a border.
- Bring the product with you when you go for help.

SAFETY TIPS

1. Read the label before you buy or use a household chemical product.

- Follow the instructions every time you use a household chemical. By law, the label must include instructions on how to use and store the product safely. It must also show warnings of potential hazards.
- By law, household chemical products must have a bordered label on the back or side. Inside the border, you will find instructions for safe use and first aid treatment, and a list of harmful substances in the product.
- Look for hazard symbols on the front of the product. If you don't already know what these symbols mean, learn them. If you follow the instructions, you could prevent an injury. You could even save a life.
- Do not cover up or remove the labels from household chemical products.

2. Use household chemical products carefully, especially around children.

- Never mix household chemical products together. Some mixtures can produce harmful gases.
- Check that child-resistant closures are in good working order.
- Child-resistant does not mean child-proof. Close the cap on the container all the way even if you set it down for just a moment.
- Teach children that hazard symbols mean **Danger! Do not touch.**
- Post emergency phone numbers by your telephone and/or program the number into your phone.

3. Store household chemical products safely.

- Store all household chemical products in their original containers. Keep all safety information.
- Keep all household chemical products locked away, where children cannot see or reach them.
- Try not to store products that may release harmful fumes or catch fire inside your home. These items include paints, solvents, gasoline, fuels or varnishes. Store them according to the instructions on the product's label in a separate building if you can, or in an area that is well vented to the outside.

4. Dispose of leftover household chemical products safely.

- Buy only the amount you need for the job so there is no waste.
- Check your city or town's guidelines for instructions on how to dispose of chemicals and other hazardous waste.

NEVER :





- Burn household chemical containers;
- Pour the contents down the drain unless directed;
- Inappropriately re-use empty containers.

UNDERSTANDING HAZARD SYMBOLS

Hazard symbols are on the labels of many products in and around your home and garage, like cooking spray, cleaning products, paint thinners, drain cleaners and windshield washer fluid.

Hazard symbols have three parts:

1. The picture Type of danger (see table below)
2. The shape of the frame
A triangle = the container is dangerous
An octagon = the contents are dangerous
3. Signal words underneath the hazard symbol explain the degree of risk.
 - **CAUTION:** means temporary injury may result. Death may occur with extreme exposure.
 - **DANGER:** means may cause temporary or permanent injury, or death.
 - **EXTREME DANGER:** means exposure to very low amounts may cause death or serious injury.

Image	Type of danger	Description
	Explosive	The container can explode if heated or punctured. Flying pieces of metal or plastic from the container can cause serious injury, especially to your eyes.
	Corrosive	The product can burn your skin or eyes. If swallowed, it can damage your throat and stomach.
	Flammable	The product or its fumes will catch fire easily if it is near heat, flames, or sparks. Rags used with this product may begin to burn on their own.
	Poison	If you swallow, lick, or in some cases, breathe in the chemical, you could become very sick or die.

Check for product recalls and report any injuries or other product-related health and safety concerns.

Paule Leiby, community health representative, Odanak Health Centre
References: Health Canada. "Household chemical safety", [On line], <http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/security-securite/home-maison/chemicals-chimiques-eng.php> (Page viewed August 3, 2016)

Odanak Environment and Land Office

ILLUSTRATED LOOK AT THE SUMMER OF 2016

YELLOW PERCH PROJECT IN THE 1ST AND 2ND MARSHES

We first monitored the fishway at the 1st marsh (2nd year of monitoring after development) in addition to monitoring the movement of fish at the 2nd marsh. We are currently working on developing the 2nd marsh to improve fish habitat and the movement of fish between the Tardif channel and the marsh. These projects are made possible through a contribution from the Community Interaction Program (CIP, the governments of Canada and Quebec), the Fondation de la faune du Québec (FFQ) and the Québec Ministère des Forêts de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP).

LAKE STURGEON PROJECT IN THE SAINT-FRANÇOIS RIVER

We then conducted our third year of monitoring of the lake sturgeon spawning ground in Drummondville. This year, several cooling periods combined with a drying up of the river caused by a hydroelectric dam have significantly disrupted the spawning of sturgeon in Drummondville. We only caught 6 sturgeon and no eggs. We nevertheless caught a few larvae (69) which were again this year sorted by our superb sorting team! Thank you to Annette Nolett, Diane Nolett, Angelica Diane, Denise Panadis, Gorgette Nolett, Claire Laramée and Priscilla for all their hours of sorting through mud! This project is funded by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk (AFSAR).

SEARCH FOR RARE ENDANGERED FISH

We also did a few days of minnow seine fishing on the Saint-François River to complete our fish at risk research projects. We caught two rare and endangered species (eastern sand darter and channel darter) at two stations. This project is funded by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk (AFSAR).

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Besides our wildlife projects, the team in the field in Odanak this summer is composed of Luc Gauthier, Christopher Coughlin, Kenny Panadis, Danny Gill, Steve Williams and Simon Gauthier, who worked with Éric Gauthier from public works during the summer doing community maintenance work (grass, parks, trash cans, sidewalks, etc), and preparing and managing the community camping site on Île Ronde, finishing and adapting the KOAK trail for people with reduced mobility, maintaining all wood structures (repairs and painting), cleaning and clearing the limits of the territory, and so on.

Capsule " SPECIES AT RISK IN ODANAK "

Brook pimpernel



The brook pimpernel (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*) is an herbaceous wetland plant producing a long cluster of pretty little pale blue, pink or white flowers. It is considered a susceptible species in Quebec because of its rarity. It is found only in the St. Lawrence valley between Montreal and Quebec, and only in a few places (including Odanak and Notre-Dame-de-Pierreville). It can measure 20 to 90 cm high, but easily goes unnoticed to an unsuspecting walker. Indeed, it is rarely abundant and leaves are similar to other

grasses. However, its tiny but numerous flowers (20 to 65) attract attention by their beauty, despite their small size (5-6 mm).

During the demolition of the old Odanak dock, Michel and Luc spotted a few brook pimpernel plants near the road used by heavy machinery. They were able to rescue them by transplanting them in a better habitat, protected from threats, near the La Commune marshes. They are now flourishing in their new habitat.

1. Fyke net fishing during the spawning migration of perch at the 1st and 2nd marshes (Christopher Coughlin and Luc Gauthier)
2. Monitoring the movement of fish in the streams connecting the Saint-François River and the Tardif channel at the 1st and 2nd marshes (Émilie Paquin)
3. Catching and measuring a lake sturgeon at the Drummondville spawning ground in the spring of 2016 (Émilie)
4. Searching for sturgeon eggs on our egg-collection mats (Kenny, Christopher, Claudie Giguère-Croteau and Michel La Haye)
5. Counting and identification of minnows caught by purse seiners in the Saint-François River (Anne-Sophie Lavoie and Kenny)
6. Channel darter caught in the Saint-François River (threatened species in Quebec and Canada)
7. Traveling by boat during the development of the community campsite at Île Ronde (Christopher)
8. Big catfish caught with a hoop net during the community camping activity at Île Ronde (Kenny)



NEW KOAK TRAIL

Adapted for strollers, walkers and wheelchairs

Finally a walking trail in one of the most beautiful forests on the territory, 100% adapted for people with reduced mobility, using walkers and even wheelchairs.

This small trail is a 700 m loop, clear of obstructions, well maintained and flat.

Many wooden bridges span the creeks and access fences are now adapted for wheelchairs.

We would like to invite parents to come walk this gorgeous trail with their babies or toddlers in strollers.

The KOAK trail is located outside the village of Odanak on Waban-Aki street (near Notre-Dame-de-Pierreville) on Judge Gill's or Dr. Bouchard's former property. Parking is available at the trail entrance and you can even picnic there.



WOOD CUTTING IN THE COMMUNITY



Free firewood available in Odanak for those who wish to cut it themselves.

You must however obtain prior authorization from the Abenakis of Odanak Council to cut wood on the community's public lands.

Where to obtain:

- Information on cutting (techniques)
- Information on places available for wood cutting
- Information on wood cutting authorization

Michel Durand
Odanak Environment and Land Office
62 rue Waban-Aki
450 568-6363

Monday to Thursday, 8 am to 4 pm
Or by appointment at other times

IMPORTANT:

Whether for your personal needs or for sale purposes, it is **prohibited at all times to transport wood on the reserve (including on private land) outside the reserve** under threat of confiscation, fine and revocation of the wood cutting authorization (section 93 of the Indian Act)

On request, you **must present your wood cutting authorization to a police officer** or employee of the Abenakis of Odanak Council.

AUTORISATION DE COUPE DE BOIS SUR LES TERRAINS DU CONSEIL DES ABÉNAKIS D'ODANAK (CAO) TIMBER HARVESTING AUTHORIZATION ON THE ABENAKI COUNCIL OF ODANAK'S (ACO) LANDS	
Date de l'émission / Date of issue	_____
Nom du représentant du CAO / ACO representative's name	_____
Information sur le demandeur / Applicant's information	
Nom / Last name	_____
Prénoms / First name	_____
Adresse / Address	_____
Numéro de téléphone / Phone number	_____
Autorisation de coupe / Timber Harvesting Authorization	
Nombre de corde de bois autorisé / Number of cords of wood allowed	_____
Emplacement / Location	
Date de fin de l'autorisation / End date of authorization	_____
Délimitation du secteur de coupe sur le terrain avec le demandeur / Delimitation of the harvesting area on the land with the applicant <input type="checkbox"/>	
Signature du demandeur / Applicant's signature	_____
Signature de représentant de CAO / ACO representative's signature	_____
<small>Cette autorisation peut être émise de la part d'un représentant du Conseil des Abénakis d'Odanak / This authorization can be issued only by a representative of the Abenaki Council of Odanak.</small>	

REMINDER

Management of Hazardous Household Waste (HHW) in Odanak

HHW

Hazardous household waste (HHW) includes products that are found in our homes and which are either dangerous to health or hazardous to the environment. They require special attention for the safety of the community, and in order not to contaminate landfills.

HOW TO DISPOSE OF THESE PRODUCTS :

- Keep leftover products in their original containers.
- If this is not possible, use sealed containers and specify the nature of the product on the container.
- Bring these products on the concrete slab inside the HHW collection site when open in front of the doors when closed.

The collection site is located near the community hall on Waban Aki street



LIST OF HHW

Oils:

- All vegetable or synthetic oils

Paint:

- All paints (even if they froze)

Fluorescent bulbs and neons:

- Screw-in bulbs or neons (unbroken)

Batteries:

- All types of batteries (rechargeable or not)
- Batteries for electronic devices and tools

Electronic devices:

- Cell phones, computers, televisions, other
- Wires for electronic devices and accessories

Flammable products:

- All aerosols (insecticides, deodorizers, oils, insulating foams)
- Propane and butane (small tanks)
- Waxes, glues, fondue fuel, antifreeze
- Solvent (varsol, thinner, paint stripper)
- Varnish
- Chlorine, ajax, peroxide

Toxic products:

- Pesticides, insecticides, algacides, other
- Veterinary products

Corrosive products:

- Acids or bases
- Scale removers, Dr. Tuya
- Drano, cleaners, ammonia, bleach
- Thermometers and other mercury-containing products

On request, you must present your wood cutting authorization to a police officer or employee of the Abenakis of Odanak Council.



The Odanak Environment and Land Office team – summer 2016: Michel Durand, Luc Gauthier, Émilie Paquin, Christopher Coughlin, Kenny Panadis, Danny Gill, Steve Williams, Claudie-Giguère-Croteau, Anne-Sophie Lavoie and Simon Gauthier

62, rue Waban Aki, Odanak, Québec, Canada, J0G 1H0
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Web site : <https://caodanak.com/> - Facebook



MUSÉE DES
Abénakis

Successful inauguration!

On June 26, the Musée des Abénakis officially launched its summer exhibits: Essence of a Nation, Joyce Panadis' first solo exhibition, and REGALIA, Native Pride, by photographer Roland Lorente. Close a hundred of you came to enjoy these contemporary exhibitions. A huge thanks to all for attending; artists were delighted to see you in such numbers! REGALIA - Native Pride ended on September 11 and received very positive feedback from Museum visitors. Essence of a Nation, meanwhile, will be presented until October 9, 2016. You still have a few days to come and experience Joyce Panadis' world in which, through her 12 graphite drawings, she reflects on our identity. In addition, Joyce led two live workshops, on July 24 and August 14. She received an excellent response from the public. Do not miss her third and final live performance on September 18!

Gala Inc. award

For its latest edition, under the theme Generator of entrepreneurial spirit (Porteur de l'esprit entrepreneurial), the Coeur-du-Québec Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCICQ) presented in May a Gala Inc. with an Abenaki twist. During this evening, the Musée des Abénakis was awarded the "Coup de Coeur" honours, presented by Hydro-Québec for their work overall. This is the 13th award

received by the Musée des Abénakis over the last 5 years.

Major gifts campaign: a third partner!

Since 2015, the Museum has been developing a major gifts program to find new sources of income and strive towards financial independence. Thus, by joining private partners and foundations, the Museum will develop structuring projects at the cultural, education and tourism levels which will allow us to diversify the offer and clientele and thereby increase our own-source revenues.

In late spring, we received the good news that the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) will donate \$30,000 to the Musée des Abénakis. With this financial contribution along with a grant of nearly \$140,000 from Quebec's Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, Museum visitors will have the opportunity to experience the cultural heritage of the Abenaki people with an interactive and innovative approach. This project will present to the Museum's clientele a unique immersive experience in the form of a virtual and augmented reality and will feature Abenaki collections and ancestral skills. RBC joins Hydro-Québec and Bell in becoming our third major partner.

Full circle!

The Musée des Abénakis, in collaboration with archaeologist Genevieve Treyvaud, is currently working on the completion of an archaeological reference book. This first publication by the Musée des Abénakis is as much for the general public as for history buffs and archeology experts and those interested in Aboriginal issues. Richly

illustrated, it will be a synthesis of the results of the archaeological projects entitled Odanak Fort: The Past Revisited and Tagwa8ganek, from stone-mill to the mill (Tagwa8ganek, de la meule de pierre au moulin).

The publication to be launched during the winter will present the results of the archaeological research conducted in Odanak around 2010 to 2014 and what these findings revealed about the history, land use and traditional ways of life of the Abenaki First Nation. This reference book will highlight the most important artifacts unearthed during excavations in Odanak.

W8linaktegw: the Abenaki River

The Musée des Abénakis, in collaboration with the Abenakis of Wôlinak Council, is proud to announce that archaeological excavations are currently underway in Wôlinak, thanks to a financial contribution of \$99,500 from Canadian Heritage. They began in mid-August and shall end in early October. The project: W8linaktegw: The Abenaki River is led by Geneviève Treyvaud, archaeologist who worked on the project Odanak Fort: the past revisited in Odanak. The purpose of this research is to better document the occupation, lifestyle and diet of the Abenaki people who lived near the Bécancour River in the 17th and 18th centuries. You are invited to come meet Mrs. Treyvaud in Wôlinak and visit the Ste-Thérèse Chapel where some of her archaeological findings are displayed.

Annual general assembly

The Odanak Historical Society invites you to attend the next annual general assembly (AGA) on September 25th at 1:30 pm. Elections will be held for certain positions within the board.

Note that in order to exercise your right to vote or to apply for a position, you must be a member of the Odanak Historical Society as of March 31st, 2015, the end of our fiscal year. Eligible members will receive the AGA related documents shortly.

Must-see exhibits

As of the end of October, the Musée des Abénakis, in association with the Société historique de la région de Pierreville, will present a new exhibition that highlights the life of Paul Comtois, native of Pierreville (St. Thomas). Moreover, 2016 marks the fiftieth anniversary of this man's passing who was Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec from 1961 to 1966. You will be invited to the official opening in the coming weeks.

The technological equipment for the permanent exhibition Wôbanaki: People of the Rising Sun, which opened in 2006, was refurbished thanks to funds received from the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund (NIB Trust Fund). This means that the multimedia projection, videos showing traditional skills and the video-testimonials produced in 2006 by Alanis O'Bomsawin, as part of the Waban-Aki documentary, are functional again.

Enjoy your visit to the Museum and take the opportunity to experience or re-experience our retrospective exhibit Kizi n8nninska kassigaden (ending on December 23) which celebrates the Museum's 50 year history.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

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



Katharina Trottier

Hello all,

The community of Odanak has had the opportunity to initiate a new project with the Framework Agreement. This agreement provides the opportunity for our community to adhere to the First Nations Land Management Act. This project includes several components that will enable our First Nation to develop at several levels, including economically and at the community level.

What is the Framework Agreement?

The First Nations Framework Agreement on Land Management provides First Nations the opportunity to exercise control over their lands and resources for the benefit of their members.

This agreement is the result of negotiations between the 14 First Nations and the Government of Canada in 1996. The Framework Agreement identifies the powers that will be granted to the First Nation. This is the first real recognition of the right of First Nations to manage their lands and their resources.

Furthermore, the Framework Agreement cannot be amended without the consent of First Nations;

the level of protection of our lands and resources is increased.

What explains the success of the Framework Agreement?

1. It was developed and managed by First Nations and not by Canada, and continues to be led by First Nations.
2. Maintaining the status of reserve lands is mandatory since they cannot be transferred or sold. The purpose of the Framework Agreement is to protect First Nations lands for future generations.
3. Jurisdiction respecting lands, the decision-making process and control are under the community's responsibility, not Canada.
4. Research findings of the Harvard Project: "When Native nations make their own decisions about what development approaches to take, they consistently out-perform external decision makers..."

"1 out of every 5 First Nations in Canada is either a signatory to the Framework Agreement or on the 'waiting list' to become a signatory in order to pursue self-determination. Hundreds of millions of dollars are being invested in economic development projects on Framework Agreement First Nations' lands. Canada is receiving a financial return ten times the dollars that the federal

government is investing in the Framework Agreement process. What an incredible success story." (Chief Robert Louie, Westbank First Nation Chair, Lands Advisory Board)

Here are a few benefits of the Framework Agreement for a First Nation:

- First real recognition of First Nation right to manage its reserve lands and resources; thereby correcting the shortcomings in the Indian Act;
- More efficient management of First Nation land;
- Community and economic development;
- Increased obligation to be accountable to First Nation members;
- Transfer by Canada of previous land revenues to First Nation;
- Recognition of the right to receive revenue from First Nation land interests;
- Protection against arbitrary provincial expropriation of First Nation land;
- Ability of First Nation to address the current vacuum on rules related to land in the event of marriage breakdown;
- Removal of the need to obtain ministerial approval for First Nation laws.

For more information, please feel free to contact me. It will be my pleasure to answer your questions.