



Word from the Chief

Kwai fellow band members,

The winds of change are blowing strong in Canada. We as First Nations people are at a place where we must gather, reflect upon and stand up for what our communities' directions will take. Changes on the horizon being initiated by the highest level of government are going to affect our daily lives in a significant manner. Our self-governing framework and foundation has to begin take shape.

Our Country is moving at an unpredictable pace. The current infrastructure of "Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada", who manage, predetermine and define our programs, is in the midst of its dismantling process.

Our future is changing face and our attention to this process is being called upon in an abrupt fashion. Issues such as self-government, the dismantling of the Indian act, registration, land management, fiscal and fiduciary issues, border crossing, NAFTA, and the legalization of cannabis are all at the consultation tables and we as a people must be active in the deliberations. Our input is crucial. This is the future of our Nations, the legacy we leave for our children.

This past weekend it was encouraging for me to attend a gathering organized by our women, "Reforming the Abenaki Circle", here in our community. I met with strong, involved women, the heart of our Nation. I would like to see this as a first step in a process of building the foundation that defines us as the Abenaki Nation.

When called upon for participation in focus groups and information sessions, please be among us. If we are going to govern ourselves, careful thought has to be given to each issue. As a collective, we must participate in this very important discussions process.

The changes resulting from our women being called back to the center of our community brings with it an important need for reform to our existing codes and policies. Moreover, we need to cultivate the unity necessary to face these coming changes.

In peace and friendship,

Chief Rick O'Bomsawin

REJOIN THE CIRCLE FORUM

A wonderful, vibrant and inspiring event.



NICOLE O'BOMSAWIN

On Behalf Of The Organizing Committee – First Edition

For the past 8 years, the Odanak Native Women's Group has been organizing a community event as part of Earth Day. In the fall of 2017, an idea submitted by Hélène O'Bomsawin, namely the need for the transfer of cultural knowledge to young adults living outside the community, has raised much enthusiasm. Five Aboriginal women living in and outside the community came together to create a program that would spark interest for those eager to learn more about what it means to be an Abenaki in 2018, while referring to traditional and modern aspects.

On April 21st and 22nd, the community of Odanak welcomed nearly 80 participants of all ages, from 2 to 90 years old, for the event *Rejoin the Circle and Celebrate Earth Day*.

At this event, Chief Rick O'Bomsawin addressed the participants by welcoming them and reminding them that women have always been the focal point to transmitting cultural knowledge and that, given his role as a political representative, his duty is to take this into account by providing his support so that culture remains alive.

For example, workshops on the Abenaki language, traditional knowledge and

arts and crafts captivated participants. Meetings with Annette Nolett, a mother-to-daughter weaver, and Joyce Panadis, a graphite drawing artist, inspired some beautiful moments rich in emotion. The potluck dinners also provided wonderful opportunities to share.

Move and reclaim your culture, a portage activity initiated by Jacques T. Watso, was organized and gave several participants the opportunity to experience some of the work of our ancestors. Nicole O'Bomsawin then led some dancing and singing activities before dinner to reconnect with Mother Earth.

In the evening, a short discussion was led by Luc O'Bomsawin on the W8banaki cultural policy. This was followed by some quiet time with traditional group songs, along with a Song to Mary in Abenaki language sung by Elise B. De Gonzague. Sylvain Rivard read some poetry and texts written by Abenakis, including an unpublished essay written by Christine Sioui Wawanoloath.

The next day, Earth Day, began with a tribute to nebi (water). The NdaKinna Office team, represented by Suzie O'Bomsawin, David Bernard and Geneviève Treyvault, then offered a thrilling performance by presenting the archaeology of the historical period up to the current NdaKinna claims, all

within 60 minutes. A large sharing circle was then formed, giving the floor to the young people; touching and commanding, grateful and enthusiastic.

Following these two activities, Mandi Thompson reminded those present some of the highlights from Quebec Native Women (QNW) and spoke about her involvement in this association. She then passed the talking stick to Viviane Michel, QNW President, who took the opportunity to recognize how much Ms. Thompson has achieved. She finished by addressing the issues in the news as well as QNW staff. To close these two beautiful days, after a wonderful potluck dinner, the Earth Day march began to the sound of drums in the streets of Odanak where young and old picked up various waste forgotten under the snow.

It was an ambitious program, but thanks to Annie O'Bomsawin, we were able to accomplish all that was scheduled. A special thanks to Marc-Olivier O'Bomsawin who handled the event's logistics, as well as volunteers Pierre-Alexandre and Charlotte.

Kchi Wliwni to the Abenakis of Odanak Council, the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki and Quebec Native Women who made this event possible and helped make it a success.

Word from Councilors



FLORENCE BENEDICT
Councilor

Kwaï,

Finally! A winter that seemed endless for most of us is making way for the spring. We are optimistically looking ahead with new projects as these first rays of sun point toward the approaching summer.

My agenda over the last few weeks:



Launch of Katherine Girard's novel

Author Katherine Girard's novel *Le retour d'Annabelle*, published by A.K.A., was launched on February 14th. This novel is an entirely fictional story and more than thirty people attended the event. Ms. Girard was very generous in answering questions from the public and participating in a signing session.

The event was held at our beautiful "Awikhighanigamikok" library in Odanak. Ms. Girard is a resident of Odanak.

On February 17th, Mr. Jacques Watso and I attended the event "Cap sur l'Avenir Nicolet-Yamaska" which was held at the Hotel Montfort in Nicolet. It was a great opportunity to network with neighbouring municipalities. On this occasion, Odanak's ECOCENTRE project drew some interest and was the subject of a capsule presented by the project manager Mr. Samuel Dufour. To view the capsule, type "Odanak - Cap sur l'avenir de Nicolet-Yamaska" on Youtube.

The ECOCENTRE is a residual materials management service. A site that once served as a

clandestine garbage dump has been closed and decontaminated to be converted into a site where community members can legally dispose of their bulk waste such as: furniture, building materials, paint cans, batteries, etc. Congratulations to the entire team of the Environment and Land Office team who, through this initiative, contributes to making our community a GREENER, cleaner and healthier community.

On February 27th and 28th, as well as on March 1st, the Quebec Elected Women's Meeting was held in Gatineau. As always, it was a great opportunity to get together and share on various topics concerning our respective communities. The main topics discussed:

- Bill S-3 (the Descheneaux decision)
- Cannabis issues
- The next G-7 summit to be held on June 8 and 9, 2018 in Charlevoix, Innu territory
- Housing
- The Viens Public Inquiry Commission
- Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls

Several dignitaries were in attendance including Minister of Indigenous Services, Jane Philpott, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Carolyn Bennett, and AFNQL Chief, Ghyslain Picard.

President of the Quebec Native Women's association, Ms. Viviane Michel, was present along with Commissioner Ms. Michelle Audet, who currently sits on the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

Several announcements were made during these three days, including Indigenous Services Canada's injection of \$ 600 million over three years into the housing program. Indeed, certain communities have extremely urgent needs due to the lack of housing and space, which results in overcrowding in already existing housing units, which leads to increased social issues.



Women's Day



Women's Day

On March 8th, as part of Women's Day, Quebec Native Women (QNW) and members of the community were invited to attend a meeting at the Centre des femmes immigrantes in Sherbrooke. Ms. Viviane Michel was present and was invited to speak. I had the opportunity to share my story and describe my role as an elected representative in our community, and Ms. Nicole O'bomsawin gave a short presentation on Abenaki culture. The meeting ended with a traditional song. The purpose of this invitation was to share on the difficulties of immigrant women by drawing a parallel with the struggle of Aboriginal women and our common issues. A "pot luck" dinner was organized and we had the opportunity to taste traditional dishes from different countries. It was a very nice evening and we were all received very warmly. Nicole O'bomsawin, Joyce Panadis, Pricilla Watso, Charlotte Gauthier and myself attended the event.

From March 27th to the 29th, I had the chance to attend the First Nations Forum on Sexual Abuse organized by Quebec Native Women at the Plaza Hotel in Quebec City. More than 120 people attended this event, where a total of 27 communities were represented. Several topics on various forms of violence against women and children in communities were discussed. Through workshops, we developed an action plan to combat sexual assault in communities. It will be presented to the Chiefs' table for approval.



First Nations Forum on Sexual Abuse

In this sense, you will soon be invited to participate in a survey to determine the actual needs of Odanak in the fight against sexual assault and all other forms of violence. Several associations were present at this forum such as Ms. Viviane Michel, President of Quebec Native Women, Mr. Ghyslain Picard, Mr. Geoffrey Kelly, Minister responsible for Native Affairs in Quebec, and the Minister of Justice Ms. Stéphanie Vallée. Each gave a speech reaffirming their support and commitment in our efforts to fight against sexual assault in the communities.



Conference by Natasha Kanapé-Fontaine

On April 24th, we attended the conference by poet and actress-performer Natasha Kanapé-Fontaine at the Maskwa Library in Wôlinak, which was organized by the FNCFS in the context of the Trois-Rivières Book Fair. This activity was an opportunity for us to share wonderful moments with her. To end the day, we went to the Book Fair held at the Delta Hotel in Trois-Rivières.

Wishing you a wonderful summer! See you in the fall.

Wliwni

Word from Councilors



CLAIRE O'BOMSAWIN
Councilor

Hello everyone,

Below is a summary of the many activities that have taken place in recent months with our community elders.

First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) have mandated their two senior caregivers, Stéfanie O'Bomsawin and Mathieu Laforce, to conduct a survey of community elders. The survey is now complete and the next step is to compile the data received to present a conclusion. The exhaustive survey questions offered the 25 participants the opportunity to share about their quality of life and gave them, among other things, the opportunity to offer suggestions to break social isolation. We look forward to examining the study results.

Catherine Girard's novel was launched on March 14th: *Le Retour d'Annabelle*. The event, held at Odanak's Awikhighanigamikok Library, was a great opportunity to learn more about her second novel, a book praising the noble quality of resilience. A special thank you to Ms. Girard who held a book signing session for those in attendance. Thank you also to Marcelle O'Bomsawin, Director of the library, for this wonderful evening.

On March 20th, our elders met with Wôlinak elders for a luncheon and exchange. It was a very pleasant activity.

I had the pleasure on March 22nd to participate in the Musée des Abénakis' annual benefit cocktail held in Odanak. What a wonderful success! More than 110 guests were present during this evening honouring the great cultural wealth of the Abenakis. Thanks to the generous contribution of sponsors and guests, the Museum raised an impressive \$ 33,500. Congratulations to the Director, Mathieu O'Bomsawin, and his extraordinary team!

Our traditional sugar shack outing was held on March 27th for our elders. This year, 16 people participated in this activity which was a great opportunity to spend a little together. Thank you to all participants!

The Abenakis of Odanak Council's held its Annual General Assembly on March 31st. The meeting was held at the community hall and about fifteen people were present. Thank you for attending!

Finally, the very first edition of the Rejoin the Circle and Celebrate Earth Day forum was held on April 21-22. The many activities provided gave participants a wonderful opportunity to share amongst each other. There were people from many regions in attendance: Trois-Rivières, Montreal and even Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. A big thank you to the organizing committee. I would also like to highlight Miss Charlotte Gauthier Nolett's enthusiasm for her community as a young Abenaki. She represents a wonderful model for our youth and I find it very reassuring for the future of our Nation.

I would like to close by wishing everyone a wonderful spring and summer.

See you all very soon!



JACQUES T. WATSO
Councilor

Hello my W8banakiak family,

Life goes on in Odanak despite the trials and tribulations of living in our beautiful community. First, my reform of the electoral code was blocked by resolution by the Chief. This means that no changes will be made to the electoral code for the next two years, leaving the outside vote to determine daily life in Odanak. Personally, I opt for a live vote, which requires our members to come and vote in person here in Odanak.

Finally, I would like to address the issue of cultural misappropriation, which affects us all as members of the Abenaki Nation of Odanak. Only members reading this, as well as

our cousins from W8linak, have the right to proclaim themselves Abenakis in due form. The blood flowing in our veins is that of our parents and ancestors. A horde of usurpers have misappropriated our culture and heritage. Quietly and slyly, groups, organizations and individuals are appropriating our cultural heritage without basis. This horde of individuals, without having a single drop of Abenaki blood and genealogical proof, are misappropriating our culture outright. Some are even profiting considerably.

Here are a few of these cultural thieves. None of these individuals are Abenakis, but according to some of them, they are more so than we are. I am currently working on a strategy to stop this bleeding. However, one way for you to fight these usurpers is to affirm your identity and proudly practice your culture. Do not be afraid to denounce people who pilfer our cultural heritage. Enough is enough! If we do not practice our culture, someone else will practice it in our place.

My dear Abenaki brothers and sisters, let's keep our heads high and move forward positively and constructively.



ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN
Councilor

Kwaï,
Spring is finally here!

I would first like to congratulate the organizers of the event Rejoin the Circle and Celebrate Earth Day: Annie O'Bomsawin Bégin, Hélène O'Bomsawin, Nicole O'Bomsawin, Mandy Thompson and Suzie O'Bomsawin as well as all the participants and volunteers who contributed to the success of this first edition. Hopefully this event will be back, as it is a great opportunity for non-resident Band

members to obtain information and ask questions directly and meet with people from the community.

With regard to our Catholic Church file, I would like to inform you that the roof and wall on the river side were insulated using sprayed urethane foam. I would also like to take this opportunity to share with you the new opening hours:

- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: 8 to noon
- Thursday: 8 to 10

I invite you to contact us before you come to the church. For visits or to obtain any other information about the church, please call us at 450-568-6536 or e-mail us eglise101@gmail.com.

In closing, I wish all members of our Abenaki community a wonderful summer season! Join us for the 2018 Pow Wow to be held July 6-8! Hoping to see you there!

WliWni

Word from Management



DANIEL G. NOLETT
Executive Director
Abenakis of Odanak Council

Kwaï mziwi!

Work on the Sibosis Street storm outlet, which extends from Waban-Aki Street to the Saint-François River, was completed during the week of January 8th. As soon as the weather permits, Excavation L.J.L. Inc., the project contractor, will complete the paving work on Waban-Aki Street and the final hydraulic-seeding landscaping work.

Construction work on the new Public Works garage on Route Marie-Victorin in the industrial park area has now been completed. The only work left, when weather permits, is the pavement of the parking lot. Reminder: on October 12th, we received confirmation of funding from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) in the amount of \$606,307 for 2017-2018. This amount covers the costs related to the construction of the dome shelter to store abrasives and de-icing salts.

The dome was built in the fall of 2016 at a cost of \$47,000. This amount also covers the costs of constructing the new Public Works garage and the fenced enclosure around the dome and garage. Construction costs for the new garage, which measures 40X80 feet (3,200 square feet), are estimated at approximately \$458,000. The balance of \$159,307 will be used for the fenced enclosure (estimated at approximately \$100,000) and for preparing the lot around the garage building.

On February 19, we welcomed Ms. Lianne Côté to our Council as property management officer. Ms. Côté has been responsible for the management of commercial premises and the housing program, as well as the management of Council-owned housing units. In addition, she has provided support to community promoters in their business start-up projects over recent weeks. Unfortunately, Lianne will leave us on May 25 to return to work at CNESST. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

On March 5th, Ms. Christelle Pelbois joined our organization as new Director of the Odanak Health Centre. She previously worked with the CIUSSS Montérégie where she was responsible for her department and some one hundred employees. Unfortunately for us, she left us after two months. We

also wish her best of luck in her future projects.

We will post these two positions and hope to fill them as soon as possible.

Due to watermain breaks in May and November 2017, the Council decided to proceed with cathodic protection work on the old cast-iron water mains. We refer in particular to the pipes on Waban-Aki, Awassos and Tolba Streets. Work will be done during the spring and summer. First, it is necessary to repair defective or faulty valves. We want to make sure that if there are water main breaks in the future, we will be able to limit the closure of the water and thus minimize impacts for our citizens.

The cathodic protection work will be carried out during the valve replacement operations. This work will help stop the aging process of our pipes. Although this will not prevent water main breaks occurring in the future, it can extend its lifespan. We approached Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to apply for funding for the replacement of the old cast-iron water mains dating back to the early 1970s. However, ISC responded that the service life of these pipes was such that they are still good for several years.

The Council finally resigned itself to having to demolish the old presbytery. After vain attempts to

find funds to renovate this building, we have no choice but to demolish it. Work should be done this spring. Since the presbytery is located right next to the remains of Odanak's old fort, archaeological excavations will have to be done around the presbytery to make sure there are no artefacts prior to commencing demolition work.

Finally, following announcements made in the context of the presentation of the last federal budget, we learned that ISC will approve budgets for the servicing of lots for the construction of houses. The Council intends to take advantage of this windfall by applying for the servicing of more than 40 lots on the lands where the CN used to be located. For example, we will be able to complete Mgezo Street and Pakesso Street (a new street developed on the former CN grounds in 2016-17) at Waban-Aki Street. We will then have more than 50 lots, which would meet the needs for the housing and homeownership program for the next 20 or 30 years.

ERRATUM:

In my previous article, I wished you all a wonderful fall season in French, whereas I should have wished you a wonderful winter!

I wish you all a very nice ~~fall~~ winter! N'sidaldam mziwi, wli pbon!

Property Management



LISANNE CÔTÉ
Housing Agent

Things are happening in the community!

With the departure of Julie Gagnon last September, Karine Gill took over temporarily until my arrival in mid-February as housing agent. My mandate is to coordinate residential housing and business premises activities, to manage, in collaboration with the Grand Conseil, construction projects related to housing and economic development and to monitor the subsidies of our various related



housing programs. I also offer a support role in business start-ups and I assist the Council's Executive Director in the development and implementation of the community strategic development plan.

INDUSTRIAL MOTELS

With the work completed at the new industrial motel, Fitgym has moved into its premises in recent weeks. Fitgym was the last business to occupy the industrial motel premises. With this newly vacant space, we were able to start the refurbishment work, which will now be entirely dedicated to the Kiuna Institution in order to accommodate additional classes. Atelier GP is currently moving into

the new motel. The company specializes in general mechanics for automobiles, motorcycles and small engines, and also offers gunsmith services. Premises are also available in the new industrial motel for your business projects. Rental rates are advantageous because it represents a business incubator to promote economic development in Odanak.

LE CALUMET

The Council recently decided to demolish the former restaurant Le Calumet building. The demolition date has yet to be determined.

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING

A 2-bedroom (4 ½) unit will be

available in early July for community members. In addition, 4-bedroom (6 ½) units will also be available as one of the buildings on Mgezo Street, which until recently housed students from the Kiuna Institution, is now vacant. Finally, two fully-equipped units with common areas and independent bedrooms will be available to community members and employees in the Mgezo Street building.

MINOR REPAIRS

You have until May 19, 2018 to submit an application for financial assistance for structural repairs and roof repairs. The amounts for assistance for these repairs are \$2,000 and \$4,000, respectively. Forms are available at the Council's reception desk.

For any information concerning the projects related to my mandate, I will be pleased to receive your call or feel free to visit me at my Council office.

Technical Services of the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki



MARIO DIAMOND
Technical Services Director

KKwaï N'nid8da
T8ni Kd'al8wzi ?

Even if the spring is slow to warm us and its waves are still strong, it is not preventing our plans for our communities from moving forward. Estimates have been

made and plans are being drawn up on our work tables. Only certain budgets still need approval before we can begin seeing new rooftops peek through the foliage.

Here is a short summary of the various projects taking place in your community. First, works at the outfalls are drawing to a close. All that remains is the landscaping and pavement repairs on Waban-Aki Street. Public Works, meanwhile, will soon have a brand new garage allowing them to relocate and maintain all their equipment. This garage will be well equipped to reduce machine downtime during peak periods. With the relocation of our Public Works, the community hall will have a new parking area.

Construction of the new industrial incubator is now complete and tenants are already fully benefiting. Following this new construction, asphaltting will be carried out around the incubator as well as on Managuan and Mgezo streets as we finalize the project.

Infrastructure work on Route 132, Sips Street and a portion of Pakesso Street has been completed. However, in order to make several lots viable, the extension of Pakesso Street towards Waban-Aki Street should begin in the fall if budgets permit.

Technical Services at the Grand Conseil have the opportunity to participate in another brilliant project in progress; i.e. redevelopment of premises 3, 4, 5

and 6 which will allow for the expansion of the Kiuna Institution. With this expansion, the college will be able to offer its students new and innovative programs.

Finally, please note that an infrastructure vulnerability study is currently under way to identify the preventive measures to be taken to minimize breakage and thus extend the life and efficiency of the water, storm and sanitary sewer system.

Many people have put their shoulder to the wheel to give it momentum. Based on the number of projects and achievements, it is easy to recognize that our efforts are paying off. As Joseph-Arthur from the Temps d'une Paix series said so well: "This is progress!"

First Nations Child and Family Services

Working together

MICHEL THIBEAULT
Director, FNCFS

At the end of 2016, First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) conducted an extensive consultation process with the populations of Odanak and Wôlinak. Hundreds of individuals were consulted on several elements such as professional services and culture. Several elements emerged from this consultation, in particular that it was imperative that community action plans be organized jointly.

Since 2017, FNCFS has responded to this public concern by organizing

all its actions by bringing together all community stakeholders and partners. Several organizing committees were created and projects were organized accordingly. The two (2) health centres are now systematically involved, as well as other groups such as elders, youth and of course, council representatives.

One of the most noticeable examples of this consultation process is Project W. This year, the entire population was invited to be part of the organizing committee for this event, which brings together young people from both communities and where, during this

unique fashion show, young artists present traditional clothing. Health centre partners and members of the community worked together. In short, this event demonstrates the results of the involvement of all the strengths of a community. Other actions such as carnivals were organized in committee, bringing together all the resources and ideas of a community.

Jenny M'Sadoques and Valérie Laforce are the two driving forces for most of the actions organized in consultation. They have been responsible for ensuring that everyone can get involved in their own way and respective capacity.

This community-based approach is at the heart of FNCFS values and consultation is now part of all actions in this program. All FNCFS case workers are now committed to taking action while consulting with community members at the clinical, administrative or cultural level.

I invite you to contact us to share all your project ideas as well as your comments and suggestions. We unassumingly recognize that the team still has much to learn, so do not hesitate to contact us to share your comments. We are committed to listening to the communities we serve.

DU 29 JUIN 2018
AU 22 DÉCEMBRE 2019

**L'INDIEN AU-DELÀ
D'HOLLYWOOD**

UNE EXPOSITION ÉTONNANTE
sur l'image des autochtones dans la culture populaire.

AN AMAZING EXHIBITION
on the image of indigenous people in popular culture

**BEYOND
HOLLYWOOD**

JUNE 29, 2018
TO DECEMBER 22, 2019

MUSÉE DES
Abénakis

108, rue Waban-Aki,
Odanak (Qc), J0G 1H0
450 568-2600
www.museeabenakis.ca

Odanak Environment and Land Office

Using forest management to improve habitat quality for wildlife

For many animal species, habitat quality is generally the parameter which most affects the health status of a population. These habitats, and primarily forest habitats, evolve over time in a natural process known as vegetation succession (i.e. aging, death and forest regeneration cycles). However, in a context where forest-wildlife dynamics are very often altered by human interventions (e.g. crops, roads, houses) and forest areas are increasingly isolated, it is common for certain species to no longer find the necessary habitat elements for which they have adapted to.

In such a context, it is possible to intervene intentionally in order to redirect the vegetation succession processes and provide habitats necessary for a precarious species. The recommended type of intervention (e.g. cutting, planting, thinning) depends on the existing forest structure, the potential for vegetation to grow at a given location and the target animal species; and all of occurs in what is called a Wildlife-Forest Management Plan (PAFF - Plan d'Aménagement Forêt-Faune).

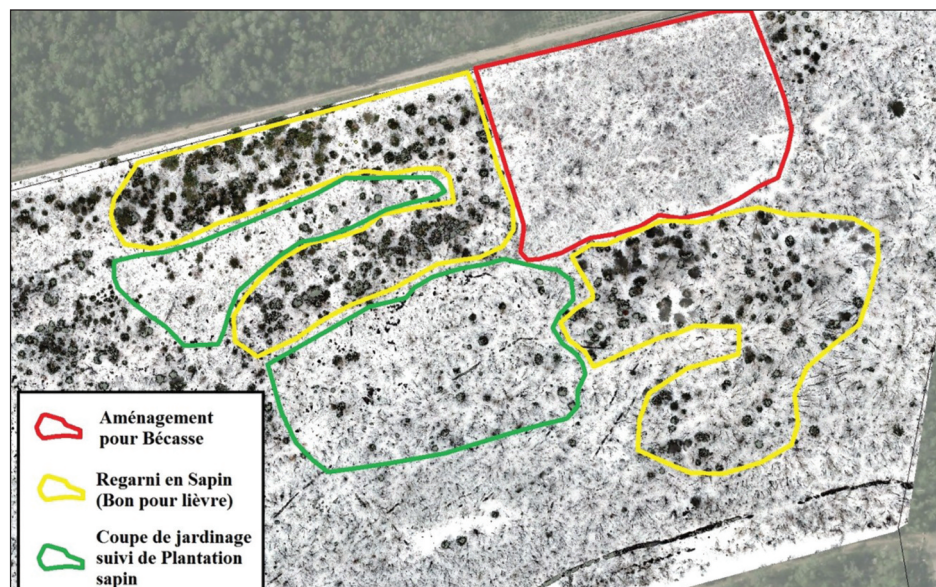


Figure. Simplified example of a Wildlife-Forest Management Plan.

In Odanak, our field observations and testimonials from land users suggest that there is a lack of young conifer-dominated forests and that small game populations, such as the snowshoe hare, are decreasing. These two observations go hand in hand, since conifer regeneration constitutes a mandatory habitat element for the protection of the hare. For this reason, the Odanak Environment and Land Office is currently developing a PAFF specific to the various forest areas

in the community (Commune, Domaine Saint-François and Pierreville, Koak forest, etc). This plan will focus primarily on improving habitat quality for small game. To assess the overall picture, we use a variety of techniques such as snow tracking to determine abundance areas of game species during the critical winter period. Other techniques are used, such as ultra-precise mapping using a drone, head count of white-tailed deer in the winter and the inventory of different

types of vegetation. These data will be analyzed by considering the forest composition around the community (region-wide). Since animals have no boundaries, these factors must be evaluated in order to maximize the chances of successful management plans.



By having a global vision of the forest area, this allows us to target intervention priorities and ultimately manage forest areas to increase and/or help stabilize game populations such as ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, white-tailed deer and American woodcock. Obviously, since everything is connected, such interventions can have other beneficial effects on many other non-target species.

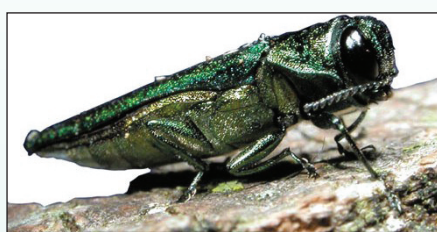
WILDLIFE CAPSULE

Threat of invasive alien species:

The emerald ash borer

An invasive alien species is a plant, animal or micro-organism (virus, bacterium or fungus) that is introduced outside its natural range and can establish itself at a speed and/or intensity that may constitute a threat for the environment, the economy or the society in general. In Quebec, more than twenty species are already considered to be of concern (e.g. phragmite, zebra mussel, black spot goby, tench) and many more are on our doorstep.

One species in particular has been the subject of many articles in recent years; the emerald ash borer. This insect, native to Asia, established itself in North America during the 1990s, and



since then has been responsible for the death of about 100 million ash trees, all species combined, in more than 22 American states and 2 Canadian provinces. In Quebec, the southwest part of the province is most affected, including the island of Montreal where the majority of ornamental trees in the city are ash trees. It goes without saying that this insect pest poses a significant threat to ash trees in the region, and

therefore, for traditional Abenaki activities including basketry that is made from black ash. In addition, the presence of the emerald ash borer has recently been documented for the first time in the Centre-du-Québec region. To limit the spread of the species, it is important to follow the recommendations and requirements issued by the authorities. For example, it is forbidden to move any product from the ash tree, such as logs, branches and wood chips, as well as all types of firewood from the affected areas. For further information, or simply for guidance, please refer to the following address: http://agrile.cqee.org/?page_id=1486



The Odanak Environment and Land Office team 2017-2018:
Michel Durand, Luc Gauthier, Samuel Dufour-Pelletier, Christopher Coughlin and 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, Quebec, Canada, J0G 1H0
Tel: 450-568-6363
environnement@caodanak.com
Website: <https://caodanak.com/>
Facebook

Environment and Land

Announcement - Containers



The Environment and Land Office reminds you that the Odanak disposal site is reopened to serve all members and residents of the community free of charge. Once again this year, you can come and dispose of construction materials, scrap metal, old furniture and appliances, hazardous household waste (paint, neon lights, chemicals), green residues (wood, branches, leaves) and

granular materials (sand, gravel, rocks). It is **VERY IMPORTANT** to follow the regulations in place by referring to the various posters present. It is **forbidden** to dispose of household waste ("trash" and recycling) and to visit the site outside opening hours.

For any questions or assistance, please contact the Environment and Land Office at 450-568-6363

SITE OPENING HOURS

Monday to Thursday 8am to 4pm
Friday 8am to noon

RATE INCREASE - ODANAK RESIDENTS

Starting in 2019,
the "WATER – WASTE – SEWAGE"
account will be increased from \$156 to \$160.

Next Annual General Meeting

Saturday, September 29th, 2018, at 1:30 pm
At the Community Center, 56 Waban-Aki Street

For more information

450 568-2810

Communities

Short column on the Abenaki language

In this column, I will discuss animate and inanimate words.

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 a soft "o" at the end of a word. The "o" is pronounced as is, such as in the word "photo", rather than an "a" as in the word "bought". When the "o" is followed by the letter "n", the "o" is pronounced as a double "o" such as in the word "mood". For example, "tassakwabon", or chair, is pronounced "tassakwaboone".

In the Abenaki language, as in all First Nations languages, there are animate and inanimate words. For common nouns, everything alive is animate and, as a general rule, things that are not alive are inanimate. There are exceptions however. Some inanimate objects are considered animate.

All the conjugation, for example the verb accompanying the word or adjective that qualifies the word, will follow logic considering if the noun is animate or inanimate. In the plural, animate nouns end in "k" and "l".

Animate common nouns :

Man	sing.	San8ba
Men	plur.	San8bak
Woman	sing.	Phanem
Women	plur.	Phanemok
Child	sing.	Aw8ssis
Children	plur.	Aw8ssisak
Boy	sing.	Wskinnos
Boys	plur.	Wskinnosak
Girl	sing.	N8kskwa
Girls	plur.	N8kskwak
Father	sing.	–mit8gwes
Fathers	plur.	–mit8gwesak
My father		nmit8gwes
Your fathers		kmit8gwesak
Mother	sing.	–igawes
Mothers	plur.	–igawesak
My mother		nigawes
Their mothers		wigawesak

Inanimate common nouns :

House	sing.	Wigw8m
Houses	plur.	Wigw8mal
Street	sing.	8wdi
Streets	plur.	8wdial
Table	sing.	Tawipodi
Tables	plur.	Tawipodial
Chair	sing.	Tassakwabon
Chairs	plur.	Tassakwabonal
Window	sing.	Tawz8gan
Windows	plur.	Tawz8ganal
Door	sing.	Klh8gan
Doors	plur.	Klh8ganal
Room	sing.	Al8msakw
Rooms	plur.	Al8msakol

SOUGHT AFTER

We are looking for a picture of Mr. Jules Paul Denis and we are calling on you to help us. If you have one or know someone that

owns one, please contact the Band Council at 450-568-2810 or 1-888-568-2810 or by email at info@caodanak.com.



MUSÉE DES Abénakis

ANNUAL FUND-RAISING COCKTAIL

For the seventh consecutive year, the Musée des Abénakis held its fund-raising event last March and it was a record year! Thanks to the 110 guests in attendance as well as the generous contribution of 30 sponsors, the Musée des Abénakis is very pleased to announce that it has raised the sum of \$33,500 (\$24,000 net profit) which will allow the Museum to continue contributing to its educational and cultural missions. This is the largest amount raised by the Musée des Abénakis in a single fund-raising event. Thank you to everyone who participated!

INCREASE IN VISITOR TRAFFIC

March 31st marked the end of our fiscal year and our annual attendance has been compiled. The news is excellent; more than 11,500 visitors passed through the Musée des Abénakis' doors in 2017-2018! An increase of more than 33% compared to last year. It is also interesting to note that over 1,500 students from more than 40 schools came to discover our Abenaki culture this year. Let's continue to promote this beautiful culture, one visitor at a time!

Hoping for another busy year in 2018-2019!

CULTURAL PROGRAM

Last March, the Museum launched its first official cultural program. To date, four activities have been held and were hugely successful.

First, the activity "*Au Musée des Abénakis: on se relâche*", organized during La Riveraine school board's spring break, invited more than 30 people to snowshoe on the Koak Trail, as well as to prepare a special bannock and decorate a stained glass dream catcher.

The "Wampum: stringing white shells" activity allowed a few fortunate members of the community to learn more about the meaning of these small tubular beads and to make their own beaded bracelets.

"Mategwas and sugar", our Easter activity organized for toddlers allowed a dozen children 2 to 6 years of age to discover the Abenaki culture through legends told by Ms. Christine Sioui-Wawanoloath. The children also had the opportunity to meet Mategwas the rabbit, then take part in an egg hunt and end this



Within the context of the activity "*Au Musée des Abénakis: on se relâche*", more than 30 people took part to different activities like cooking delicious bannock."

beautiful day by satisfying their sweet tooth with maple taffy. A success from start to finish!

Finally, the "Bec et Museau" activity gave more than 30 people the opportunity to see real birds of prey and to exchange with trapper Mr. Antoine Martineau-Rousseau. A memorable activity!

You surely wish you would have attended these activities. Don't worry! You still have time to register for the culinary activity "Nd'adbokwa" held on May 20th, during our "Poetry evening" of June 7th. Feel free to contact us for more information.

A summer cultural program will also be launched next June. We have many fun surprises in store! All the details will be revealed soon.

Did you know that as a member of the Odanak Historical Society you benefit from savings on the Museum's cultural activities? Please inquire!

L'INDIEN AU-DELÀ D'HOLLYWOOD (INDIANS BEYOND HOLLYWOOD)

For over a year now, the Musée des Abénakis team has actively been working with the Sherbrooke Nature and Science Museum to offer the public a stunning summer exhibit; *L'Indien au-delà d'Hollywood*.

The purpose of this exhibit is to show the cultural diversity of First Nations people based on the fact that, for the majority of the population unfortunately, when we talk about the First Peoples, too often the image of feather headdresses or teepees is used. Often, there is little nuance presented to refine this

stereotypical iconography. In fact, the media, consumer products and film – especially Hollywood – have largely contributed to shaping, disseminating and generalizing a homogenous indigenous image in the popular imagination. It suggests that all Aboriginals are alike and only certain types of Aboriginals are presented (the evil Indian, the brave Indian, the Indian princess, etc.).

The exhibit *L'Indien au-delà d'Hollywood* provides the opportunity to present the Aboriginal iconography formatted or invented by Hollywood and mass consumption, conveyed in North America (particularly in Quebec), in parallel with the authentic cultural diversity of First Nations people, in order to raise awareness - a way of "reinventing" the relationship with the Aboriginal image.

In addition, the exhibit will highlight the current Aboriginal voice which is well aware of this stereotypical imagery, questions its own cultural distinctiveness and strives to break these preconceived images. Aboriginal groups are now addressing the issue of cultural appropriation.

In short, the exhibit seeks a better understanding and greater knowledge of the current realities of the First Nations people, and aims at creating a place of rapprochement and sharing between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

L'Indien au-delà d'Hollywood opens its doors to the public on Friday, June 29, for the next 18 months. Take advantage of the coming summer to visit this exhibit

which will leave no one indifferent. And remember, visiting the Museum is free for all Abenakis!

LONGHOUSE PROJECT

A few weeks ago, we received a positive confirmation from Canadian Heritage for a project submitted last fall. Indeed, \$49,000 has been granted to the Musée des Abénakis for the creation of an Abenaki bark-made longhouse and a traditional vegetable garden. They will be located at the Museum's outdoor site. The project will begin in a few weeks and end next summer. Stay informed in the coming months, you may be able to see the project's construction!

We will certainly need artisans willing to participate in this beautiful project. Contact us if you wish to get involved!

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT

The Museum is looking for students to complete its team of interpreter-guides for the summer season. Candidates sought must be dynamic, motivated and autonomous, possess good interpersonal skills and have a keen interest in history, especially Abenaki history. The job lasts from 8 to 12 weeks, with a minimum of 28 hours per week. Interested candidates are invited to submit their resumes in person, or by email at the following address: info@museeabenakis.ca.

Join our team for a culturally fulfilling summer!

Vicky Desfossés-Bégin,
Communications
and Media Office
Musée des Abénakis