



## Word from the Chief

Kwei fellow band members,

I hope you all spent some wonderful times with family and friends over the holidays. Our village certainly showed its solidarity in ensuring that everyone had the basics of making a beautiful meal to have or share with loved ones. There were fundraising activities, bingo and street collections to help raise funds. These moneys went to make the season a little brighter for those for whom Christmas might otherwise have been more challenging. Kudos to all of the volunteers who give of their time and love to feed the heart of our community. Moreover, we had a record attendance at the elder's Christmas meal this year. This is a fine example of our will to see our community heal and come together.

Stepping into the New Year your leaders are being called upon to strategize, reflect and act on some life changing events in INAC (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada). The progressive dismantling of INAC is bringing with it some very significant changes for our nations. One of these changes is the status and registration of first nations people and who will manage the new registrations. Minister Bennett has informed us that the changes are well on their way. This means that in the near future INAC will no longer decide who will be on our band lists. This charge will be delegated to our band council and its administrators.

This action follows the activities surrounding bill S-3 which was met with much conflict and controversy. At the table, chiefs had conflicting

reactions to this bill being accepted by the house, so much so that for the duration of the talks there were heated discussions and great disaccord between community leaders. Although we as a community fought to ensure the gender discrimination in the Indian Act be addressed, not all communities were of the same mind. We thought it necessary to continue a fight that our women had so passionately fought for far too long. Now our women reclaim their rightful status at the same equality, as our men. Some nations saw this bill as threatening the cultural hub leading to the erosion of foundational values and teachings of our nations. This is very much a possibility if we simply look at these changes to the act for the financial benefits; if we don't see the priority in our traditions and cultural survival. The choice is ours.

Other important modifications that go along with the changes in registration are those related to funding and programs for our people. We will see significant changes in the distribution of funding for our nations. We are looking at blanket funding for 10-year periods. This is, without a doubt, the start of self-governance. We as nations must decide our priorities and how we will sustain these resources. Therefore, all the more is it now necessary to prioritize and reformulate our systems to ensure a stable, sustainable foundation to build our grandchildren's heritage upon, be it cultural or financial.

In Peace and friendship,

**Chief Rick O'Bomsawin**

## Passion for Service



**Normand Laframboise** (Photo Spectre média, Jessica Garneau)

By ALAIN GOUPIL - La Tribune

A resourceful man, Normand Laframboise understood early on that "quality services" was meant to be his trademark, no matter what kind of responsibilities would fall on his shoulders in the future.

"For me, services are the back bone of everything," says Laframboise. "That's what drives a business, a researcher, a student to push forward, evolve," he adds speaking with the conviction of a man who retired in 2009 from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, after 35 years of service.

Normand Laframboise has always attached special importance to this dimension of his work. Long before he set foot on the Université de Sherbrooke's campus, he was already putting this principle into practice.

It all started in 1972 with one of his first jobs, when he was hired as a steel worker for the construction of the CN Tower. "I really took that job very seriously," reminisces Laframboise. "Half of the iron rods encased in the CN Tower's concrete were probably cut by me....," he says laughing and remembering this cornerstone experience gained in the Queen City. "I worked so much there, but it also helped me to learn English, which has been really useful since."

Back in his hometown, he landed his first job at the Université de Sherbrooke: special constable for the security department. Shortly after being hired, the university decided to pass security services on to the Ville de Sherbrooke. At that moment, Laframboise took a position at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Services (faculté de médecine et des sciences de la santé, FMSS), where

he made his mark for over three decades.

As soon as he arrived, he was asked to implement an efficient procurement process in molecular biology and microbiology. Instantly, as this task was entrusted to him, he knew he could make a difference in providing services to the faculty's professors, researchers, and students. Over time, he developed a solid knowledge base and his expertise became renown in the field of procurement, services, and equipment acquisition designed for the faculty's extensive amount of ongoing research projects.

"I understood right away that my role would be to foresee how to meet the researchers' and students' needs so that they could work efficiently in their labs," says Laframboise. "Before I worked at the faculty, a researcher could wait up to three months before receiving a restriction enzyme. When I took my position, I made sure the faculty would have a permanent stock. Delivery went from three months to three seconds!"

Making quality services a priority was key, all the faculty benefited from the process. "In all my years at the faculty, it has always been clear to me: if we were to attract the best researchers, we had to offer the best services. This has always been my way of doing..."

This approach also led him to take part in several other projects, including launching the Ribo-Club with Professor Sherif Abou Elela, developing the world's first Bio-Bar as well as forming the faculty's and the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke's subcommittee on lab health and safety.

**- SUITE À LA PAGE 5 -**

## Word from Councillors

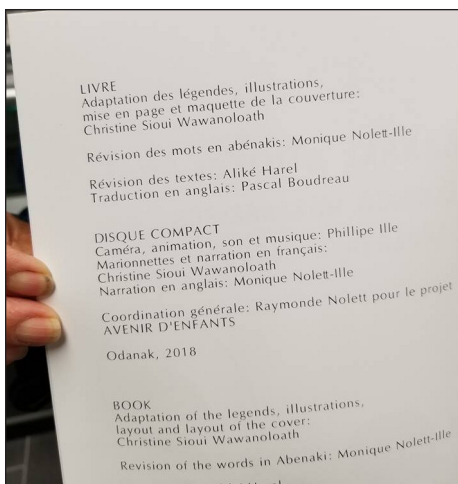


**FLORENCE BENEDICT**  
Concillor

Kwai,

As you read these lines, the holidays will already be a thing of the past. However, before moving into 2019, here's a summary of the past few months' activities, in which I had the chance to take part.

June 13 was the book launch of *Wabanaki 8tlok8ganal*, under the supervision of Raymonde Nolett Avenir d'enfants' project coordinator. For the occasion, some thirty people participated in the book's unveiling. They also had the pleasure to watch the book's first narrated projection on a big screen. This illustrated book comes with a CD produced in three languages, Abenaki, French, and English. Thanks to Christine Sioui and Monique Nolett, as well as to Philippe Ile for their valuable contribution in the making of this wonderful book. You can get a hold of this book at the Abenaki Council of Odanak or at the Musée des Abénakis.



The Quebec Native Women's (QNW) annual general meeting was held on September 30, 2018. The event was hosted in the Aln8bawi hall and welcomed the regional representative Viviane Michel. The elections were held during this meeting to determine who would become the new local representative. I'm honoured to announce that I have been chosen by our women as the new official representative. Liz O'bomsawin will become the assistant representative. I want to thank you for your great trust, and it fills me with pride to take up this role. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mandi Thompson for the eight years during which you have made us so proud by being available and devoted to Quebec Native Women.

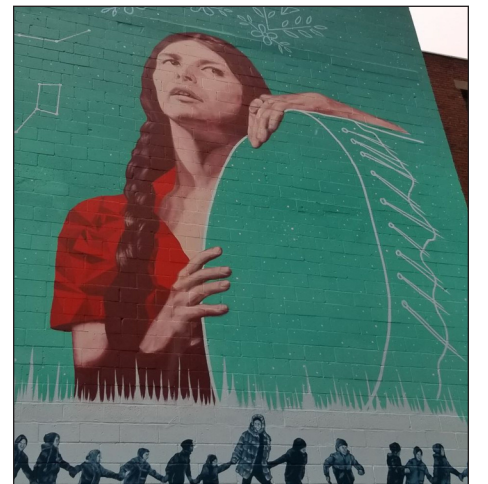
Last September, Michel D. Nolett also received the Land Management Award from the National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association, awarded during the 11th National Gathering for Lands Managers hosted in Whitehorse, Yukon. Since his involvement in 2007, in the inception of Environment and Land where he now acts as a land manager, this department has not ceased to amaze us by the quality of services offered and by the team's commitment to make Odanak a greener community and to protect its territory. Special thanks to the whole team and congratulations Michel!



the unveiling of the mural by Meky Ottawa depicting Alanis Obomsawin, an initiative from the organization MU. This is the 20th mural of their collection of Montreal's Great Artists.



A vigil was organized on October 4 in the memory of Canada's missing and murdered Aboriginal women; on the same occasion, "Major Rodgers 1759's massacre" was also commemorated. Despite this dark time in Abenaki history, we celebrated our Nation's perennality by giving ourselves this introspective moment near the Catholic Church in front of the commemorative rock with the description of this famous historical battle.



In mid-November, I also had the chance to take part in the Quebec Native Woman's 45th annual gathering, during which Viviane Michel was re-elected for a fourth mandate as president. Congratulations to Vivian Michel! To conclude on this month, I took part in the Native Women's Association of Canada's (NWAC) symposium in Ottawa. This gathering was mostly about Bill S-3 and its repercussions, but inequities some members or some communities are still struggling with were also discussed.



The very first gathering between the community's youth and elders was held on October 20–21. Throughout this weekend of exchanges and discussions, elders shared their memories, often turning into bursts of laughter or shedding a tear from time to time.

On November 12, 2018, fifteen of us travelled to Montreal to attend



So, until next time and stay safe on the roads!

Wli wni



## Word from Councillors



**CLAIRE O'BOMSAWIN**  
Concillor

Kwaï dear members,

Here is a summary of events I had the pleasure to attend to over the last few months.

First of all, the Cultural Day took place on September 8 by the St. Francis River. A great initiative that informed or introduced participants to our rich Abenaki culture. Elders' lunch on Tuesdays was back on September 11 as well as breakfast with a guest on Saturdays. These events are greatly appreciated since they are an opportunity to develop rewarding

relationships and to enjoy some pleasant time with all those who take part in the events.

On September 22, we took part in the spaghetti supper organized by councillor Jacques T. Watso and a team of volunteers to raise funds for Odanak's fall pow-wow. The supper took place in the Odanak's community hall and gathered a crowd. It was a great success! The next day, on September 23, M. Jean-Paul Lamirande's weekly drum making with deer hide classes kicked off. This class, which took place at the Musée des Abénakis, gathered over 15 participants. At the end of October, everyone went home with their creations. It was a huge success!

On September 24 was the day the presbytery's demolition took place. This was a very emotional time for some of us considering what this building represented. However, as it has been explained, renovating and maintaining this building was unfortunately impossible given the tremendous costs it would have incurred.

As happens every year, an annual general meeting was held at the end of September to present the Abenaki Council of Odanak's annual report. Some twenty people from the community also attended the meeting. To wrap up September, the Quebec Native Women (QNW) organization met with the community's women to present their annual report. This meeting was also the time to choose a woman to represent our community for the 44th QNW annual gathering on November 11–12, 2018. This year, Florence Benedict has been chosen. Congratulations!

As is tradition each fall, the community's elders and I go apple picking in a local orchard. This happens to be how our fall activities started out. The month of October ended with the second edition of the fall pow-wow. Several people were there and the activities organized were greatly appreciated. Congratulations to the organizing committee!

Our traditional food drive took place on November 17. Thanks to generous donations, we have

succeeded in raising \$2,400. More funds will be raised with the bingo fundraising on December 3. Many families spent the holidays filled with more kindness and cheer thanks to your generosity. Thank you!

To cap this year in good company, the elders took part in their Christmas party, on December 14. Not only did they enjoy a delicious buffet, the participants went home with gifts offered by the Band Council. These consisted of gift cards that can be used in businesses located in our community as a way to help local economy as well.

I would like to inform you that the last 2018 meals-on-wheels was on December 21, and will resume in January 2019. I also take this opportunity to thank Caroline Cardin for her excellent services. It's highly appreciated.

I hope you had a great time over the holidays with those dearest to you, your family, and people you love. May 2019 bring you happiness, health, and peace.



**JACQUES T. WATSO**  
Concillor

Kwaï members of Odanak,

On October 27, the second edition of the traditional fall pow-wow was held in Odanak. This personal initiative is a tribute to my big brother who left us last June. The day was filled with emotions ranging from tears to laughter, mingled with joy, dancing, and singing. This event is a time to commemorate our loved one that have passed away, but also a time to celebrate life. I wish to thank my family, my friends, and all the visitors who came by to share this moment with us. Throughout the day, Odanak was well represented by the singing formation Aw8ssisak Akik and the drumming formation The Flying Sturgeons. Drummers from Red Tail Spirits and The Buffalo Hat Singers also took part in the festivities. Finally, we cannot thank the Niona youth tech team enough for their participation.

Thanks to their involvement, this second edition of the pow-wow genuinely stood out.



On November 5, we attended the unveiling of the mural painted in honour of Alanis O'bomsawin. The mural, which stands at the corner of Lincoln and Atwater Streets in

Montreal, is worth the trip. My brother Jean-François O'bomsawin and I were honoured to interpret an Abenaki honour song on that memorable day.



Do not miss the 60th Odanak pow-wow! Since August, the organizing committee has been busily

working to come up with the most beautiful pow-wow for you! I encourage you to immediately mark July 5–7 on your calendar. Until then, you can follow us on Facebook and on our Web site: [www.powwowodanak.com](http://www.powwowodanak.com).

Lastly, I would like to say that I'm proud of the next generation's interest in culture, nurtured in a positive and constructive way, withstanding the negativity that undermines the community. The new generation wishes to steer away from the toxic climate that can sometimes be felt in Odanak. To conclude, thumbs up to people in Odanak who still believe in a healthy community life.

Winter is almost at an end, let's keep fighting for a future full of promise.



## Word from Councillors



**ALAIN O'BOMSAWIN**  
Concillor

Kwaï,

Greetings everyone,

First, let me fill you in with some information about my current responsibilities.

Recently, renovations have been carried out on the Fatima chapel. These renovations included solidifying the floor and replacing the double door with a windowed door, which will improve the building's lighting and allow visitors to have a glimpse inside the chapel when it is closed.

As for the Catholic Church, preparations are underway to submit an application to the Québec Religious Heritage Council to fund the repainting of the roof.

I had the chance to represent the Wabanaki Nation by taking part in the presentation of two of four short documentaries in the historical series "Les Abénakis de Bécancour d'hier à aujourd'hui." These wonderful productions can be watched by clicking on the following link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=3&v=RaRWbwW\\_uGQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=RaRWbwW_uGQ).

I was also delighted to take part in the unveiling of the huge mural by Meky Ottawa, an homage depicting Alanis O'bomsawin. This astonishing piece of art is a significant tribute to a fantastic and admirable woman. Let's just say this portrait equals the woman portrayed in greatness.

I take this opportunity to thank all those who helped out during the power failure. Your commitment ensured that the most vulnerable people were not in danger and kept safe. This was greatly appreciated.

I also take this opportunity to wish you and those dearest to you Happy New Year. May 2019 bring you peace, health, and prosperity.

Wli Wni,



## A word from Management



**DANIEL G. NOLETT**  
Executive Director  
Abenaki Council of Odanak

Kwaï mziwi !

On October 30, repairs have been completed on the last faulty waterworks valve on Waban-Aki Street in front of the community pool. The purpose of the repair work was to confine drinking water interruptions to community habitations if a break occurs or repairs on the water supply is are needed. We expect this to minimize the impact on users. From now on, we hope cutting off the water supply to all the community residents will not be necessary for future waterwork repairs.

The old presbytery demolition work was completed the week of September 24. Demolition was

staggered over four days, right after the archeological search had been completed in August to make sure no artefact was buried under the demolition site. The demolition cost stands just over 32 626\$. The Council has formed a revitalization committee for the historical site where the museum and the Catholic Church stand and where the pow-wow also takes place. We encourage community members to share their insight to help us find ideas on how to restore the beauty of the site. This area may not have received all the care it has needed over the last few years and the violent storms of the last summers have brought damage to some of the trees. We are now seeking to make this place more appealing for tourists and everyone.

I inform you that we have renewed our agreement with the Régie de gestion des matières résiduelles du Bas-St-François for household waste and recycling collection for a 5-year year span. This new agreement was in effect starting January 1, 2019. This will incur an increase in fees as of January 2019 since the Saint-Nicéphore's waste disposal site shut down. The Régie must now dispose of our waste in Victoriaville. To minimize the effect of this increase on annual

fees charged to residents, at the beginning of January 2019, household waste collection is scheduled every two weeks instead of every week. For the following years, waste collection will be every two weeks during the cold season, which is from fall (around November) until early spring (around April). For this year, however, waste collection every two weeks is effective starting at the beginning of January. You should have already received a new calendar with the collection dates for waste and recycling.

On account of the Indian Affairs' transformation process, now called Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), we recently received important announcements. The department is currently working in collaboration with First Nations Education Council and the Institut Tshakapesh to review the elementary and high school programs' funding formula. They are also seeking to develop a new regional framework education agreement. Since the 2018–2019 school year, tuition fees for these students (with status and living on reserve) attending schools outside the reserve have been assumed by the province.

For the current year as well as the next, ISC allows us to keep the part of the funding granted for 2018–2019 and the part to be received in 2019–2020 covering the tuition fees for elementary and high school students attending public establishments.

What can be said for the moment is that communities like ours, i.e. without elementary and high schools on reserve territory, will not receive funding to cover tuition fees for elementary and high school students with status residing on reserve who are attending public schools outside the reserve starting in the 2020–2021 school year.

Finally, I would like to let you know that the Abenaki Council of Odanak's strategic plan expires on March 31, 2019. We have therefore taken the necessary steps to develop a five (5) year strategic plan. We have been brainstorming with each department under the Council's responsibility to guide our representatives design the major orientations shaping the next five (5) years to come. To be continued.

Wli pbon ! Enjoy winter !

## Let's Rejoin the Circle and Celebrate Earth Day



BY SUZIE O'BOMSAWIN

Kwaï mziwi,

Again, this year, we are delighted to invite you to participate in great numbers in the 2nd forum "Rejoin the circle and celebrate Earth Day", which will take place April 20-21, 2019, in Odanak. The event's activities are offered to all Abenaki people, band members from Odanak and Wôlinak, their families and dear ones. Last year, after experiencing the forum's first edition with so much intensity and after receiving and reading your

positive feedback, the same committee (composed of Luc, Marc-Olivier, Suzie, Nicole, Annie, and Hélène) is back for more and is organizing the 2nd forum with genuine enthusiasm. The event is structured very much like last year's edition, with workshop sessions and collective meals. This year, to celebrate the Abenaki culture and our relationship with the Earth, we present the following themes: language, traditional knowledge through Abenaki symbols and motifs, main clans, territory, genealogy, Abenaki history and medicinal plants. A surprise event will also be prepared for the children as well as a festive singing and dancing evening with the "Flying Sturgeons"!

From the observations you have shared with us, please note that many activities will take place at the same time. Workshops on Saturday will take place in Odanak's Kiuna Institution, which

provides several rooms for simultaneous workshops as well as a collective space. The supper and festive evening will, however, be moved to the community hall, as the event continues in that location on Sunday. The community hall is the perfect place to regather in the circle all together and share with one another. We are brewing up a collective meal themed "Odanak/Wôlinak's Tale Weaving"! Let's build on intergenerational dialogue!

On Earth Day, April 21, there will be a conference about the land, followed by a large sharing circle. For the occasion, you will have the opportunity to speak, share your impressions, and discuss your experience of the forum. Sharing collective knowledge makes this event unique and precious! This community event is a way to pass on our culture; it fosters authenticity and pride because it binds, in every aspect, tradition and moder-

nity. You are all warmly invited to attend and "let's keep culture alive!"

Overview or Summary:

What? "Rejoin the circle and celebrate Earth Day" Forum

When? April 20 - 21, 2019

Where? Odanak Kiuna Institution: All day Saturday the 20th until supper  
Odanak Community Hall: Saturday evening and Sunday

- Events in French and in English
- Accommodations available at the Kiuna Institution (fees apply)
- Meals offered on-site
- A voluntary contribution is suggested to help us organize the forum's future editions.

Wliwni!

For information:

forumreformonslecercle@gmail.com  
Suzie O'Bomsawin  
418-955-4811

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



MARIO DIAMOND  
Technical Services Director

KKwaï N'nid8ba,

The year 2018 is already behind us along with its good share of success for the community. The end of the winter holidays brings us back to the working table to plan and develop upcoming projects. All the work that has been accomplished is the fruit of previous discussions, triggered by the necessity to overcome shortcomings or to meet the needs

of the community and its members.

Better plans and estimates ensure that every dollar spent is put to good use. This method is also a way to make sure those who are invited to bid, through the bidding process, will do so on equal terms. In other words, we will compare apples with apples and make sure the quality of the work complies with our objectives.

The year 2019 will be a good year and promises to bring many wonderful successful projects with the participation the Abenaki Council of Odanak's representatives and employees, as well as the Grand Conseil team.

Wli ngwejigaden

Wig8damoda wji 2019

Malio Pkwamalapkw

## Health Center



JEAN VOLLANT  
Director  
Odanak Health Center

### A WORD FROM MANAGEMENT

It fills me with great pride and enthusiasm to announce that I have recently been nominated to act as the Odanak Health Center's director. Throughout my career, I have held several

positions in the field of education as well as in health and social services.

I am now given a great opportunity to work in this beautiful Abenaki community. My task will mainly consist of continuing the devoted work my predecessor has accomplished, but also to address the challenges that will be targeted in the 2016-2021 five-year plan on community health care.

Our team and I are obviously sparing no effort to provide complete health care services to Odanak residents.

This will also be a unique opportunity to bring my ideas to the table, offer some insight, a chance for my humble experience and academic training to bear fruit here. This opportunity will certainly add perspective to my teamwork experience!

### LA PASSION DU SERVICE ( SUITE DE LA PAGE 1 )

In 2011, he agreed to momentarily leave retirement to successfully complete the Espace LABz's construction in the Sherbrooke's science park.

When time for retirement had finally come once more, Normand Laframboise, who used to work relentlessly, confessed he needed time to make the transition.

"Two years after my retirement, I was sleeping 13 to 15 hours a night, which was not the case when I was working. Back then, if there had been 26 hours in a day, I would probably have been working those extra hours."

Now at the age of 65, Laframboise lives peacefully in the quiet countryside where he can reconnect with his Aboriginal roots. "I am Abenaki on my mother's side, she was born Obomsawin," he says. "Since I retired, I became a community hunter.

It's a way to hunt for others in my community. That's probably why I love being surrounded by nature, the trees, and animals. Being in the wild gives you a taste of freedom, and that speaks to my own nature," explains Laframboise.

Looking back on his career, Normand Laframboise tells us that he enjoyed every minute of it. "I liked everything I did because I knew why I was doing it," says Laframboise.

Quick facts:

- Born in Sherbrooke, 65 years ago
- Worked for 35 years at the Université de Sherbrooke's Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- Worked on the CN Tower construction site
- Espace LABz's superintendent
- Founding member of the Ribo-Club
- Founding member of the Bio-Bar
- Sylvie Deslandes' husband

## Ndakinna Office

# The Presbytery and its Virtual Future

Authors : **Geneviève Treyvaud** and **David Bernard**, Ndakinna Office

Several archeological digs were carried out in Odanak's historical area. They were mostly undertaken near the Musée des Abénakis, except in 2013, when an intervention in front of the presbytery's main entrance led to the unearthing of the remains of Odanak's first church built in the 18th century. The old mission's site is one of the most important in Québec, it is registered with the provincial (ministère de la Culture et des Communications) and Canadian government (Canadian Heritage), designated by the Borden code CaFe-7. Under the Cultural Heritage Act, it is our duty to conduct archeological digs if the construction or demolition of infrastructure could put heritage property at risk.

This is why the presbytery's demolition started with a new archeological dig in the historical quadrangle. Six 100 cm by 100 cm test pits were excavated along the presbytery's West wall and ground-penetrating radar imagery was used along the wall and around the church. The ground-penetrating radar is a geophysical prospecting technique used to analyze the ground and the infrastructures hidden underground, such as water pipes or electrical wires, which makes digging or removing surface material unnecessary. In archaeology, this method is used to detect ancient house walls, graves, or any kind of ancient structures.

The six test pits uncovered many artefacts and the structure elements of a fireplace dating back to the 18th century. Several glass beads, dishware and glass shards, and tool fragments were discovered while digging the pits, but also some more modern objects dating from the

presbytery's construction and occupancy. Several burnt animal bones were found in the fireplace. These were analyzed by zooarcheologist Roxane Lévesque to identify the species consumed. Ground-penetrating radar data was analyzed and we have confirmed that no structures could be found under the path running the length of the presbytery's West wall.

While archaeology can document facts and habits of the past, it can also serve to document ancient buildings and their modifications over time. For this project, we sought input from archaeology students specializing in architecture, geomatics, and virtual reconstruction. They photographed and recorded every part of the presbytery's external architecture with specialized equipment. Samuel Dufour, from Environment and Land Odanak, also participated by taking pictures with a drone to photograph the roof of the building. Marianne Paradis, who specializes in virtual archaeology, used all these images to produce a 3D reconstruction of the presbytery. This virtual information will be preserved in the Musée des Abénakis' archives and could be used for a future exhibit.

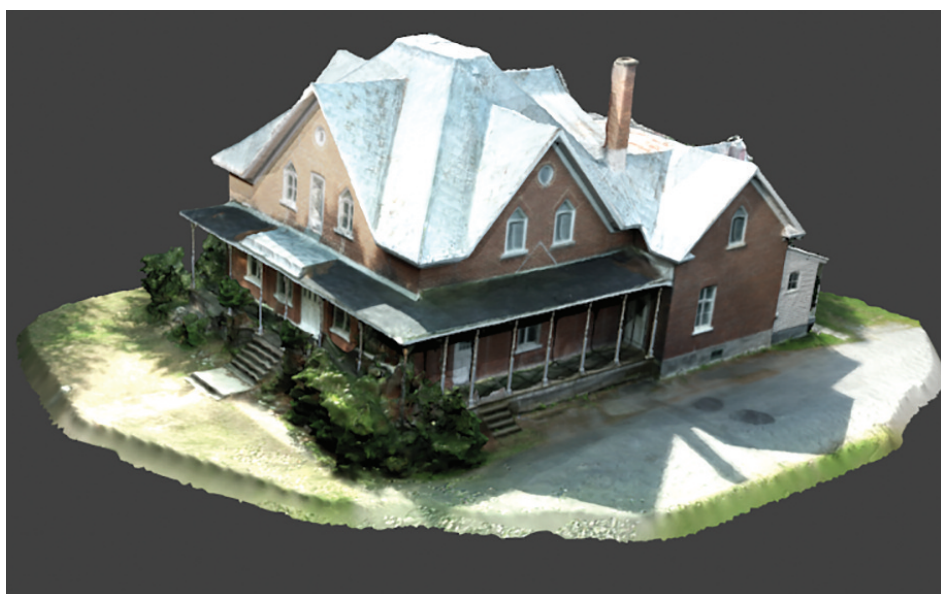
The presbytery is a significant element in the community's landscape. It has been part of W8banakiak's daily life for over a century. We naturally believed it was important to document the building; collecting anecdotes was also core to the project, good or bad memories, any piece of information about this building and its occupants. August saw the Niona team at work, Gabriel Ariel, Pier-Alexandre Thompson, Léa Robinson, helped by David Bernard, Valérie Laforce, and Sylvie Morin. They conducted interviews with the elders, Jean Panadis, Annette Nolett, and



Thérèse Gaudet-O'Bomsawin. Previous to that afternoon of work, the team had a collective lunch with Université Laval and Niona students.

Over the next few months, we will analyze the archeological collection and write a report. A keepsake documentary based on the recordings, images, the 3D reconstruction, and the results from the archeological dig will be produced and presented to the community in fall 2019. All documents pertaining to this research project will then be archived at the Musée des Abénakis for future generations and will be available for consultation.

This project was also an opportunity for the Ndakinna Office, Odanak's and Wôlinak's Environment and Land to organize an archeological day. Archaeology is the key to research and consultations; it is an essential tool when we need to document the territory's past land use. This event's goal was twofold. First, deepen the team's understanding of what archaeology has to offer by experiencing an archeological campaign. Second, help out the students and archeologists working with the Ndakinna office—to make sure the dig was completed on time!



## Finance



**CATHERINE BUSSI RES-C T **  
Finance Director

Kwa ,

Last fall, the Abenaki Council of Odanak undertook the revision of the acquisition policy. The revised version is angled to optimize the community resource use by reducing some tasks that provided no added value and to update relevant financial controls.

The revised policy has been made available on the Council's Web site, [www.caodanak.com](http://www.caodanak.com).

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all members who currently receive payments from the Council to enroll for direct deposit. Instead of issuing a cheque, this perfectly safe method allows us to deposit payments directly in the bank account of your choice; shortly after, you will receive a payment notice by email. Apart from being economically positive for the organization, payments will be processed to your bank account more quickly.

For more information about the direct deposit, please get in touch with me.

Wli Wni,

**Catherine Bussi res-C t **,  
CPA, CA, MBA

## Economic Development



**ST PHANE LECOURS-AUBIN**  
Economic Development Officer

Greetings dear community members !

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the economic development officer, a new resource serving Odanak and W linak Abenaki communities.

Being committed to promoting Aboriginal cultural heritage, retaining existing businesses, and creating new projects, I warmly welcome any member with a business project to meet with me and will listen carefully to projects of all scopes.

I also plan on visiting community and private businesses based in

both communities in the coming weeks to get some feedback from local job creators, open a discussion about their concerns and current or future needs. Let's not forget a wide range of expertise and resources are available depending on your needs (starting up, acquisition, expansion, mentorship, turnaround, cooperative development, etc.).

I would like to remind everyone that one space is still available for rent in the commercial and industrial complex on route 132 in Odanak. These spaces have the benefit of increased customer traffic and a large parking lot, including favourable rental rates.

Let's show how proud we are of our community and private businesses, praise the business owners from here and promote the local economy !

Looking forward to meet you!

**St phane Lecours-Aubin**, CRHA  
Economic Development Officer  
GCNWA

### NEXT PUBLIC GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, March 30th, 2019, at 1:30 pm  
At the Community Center, 56, Waban-Aki Street  
For more information  
450-568-2810

## Community

### Short Column On The Abenaki Language

In this issue, I will discuss animate and inanimate words, especially those we use in our daily life.

Reminder: Remember that every letter in a word should be pronounced in Abenaki. For example, the "s" at the end of the word sibosis should be pronounced as a soft "s". This is why we say "sibosis" and not "sibosi" or "sibosiz". The following letters do not exist in our alphabet: F, Q, R, U, V, X, Y. The letter "g" is always a hard sound as in glove. The letter "j" is pronounced "dz". The combined letters "ch" are pronounced "ts", as in channa ("tsanna"), while "h" is always an aspirated sound. The Abenaki language does not use the "f" sound. For example, phanem, which means "woman" in Abenaki, is pronounced "p"hanem. In Abenaki, there are no "sh" or "ch" sounds as in shiny or champagne.

Letter "i" is pronounced "ay". For example, the word nebi (water) is pronounced "nebay". The vowel " " or "8"

is a nasal sound between French "an" and "on". The letter "w", when placed before a consonant, is pronounced like an "o". It will also be pronounced like a soft "o" at the end of a word. We pronounce "o" like a long "o", as in photo and not "uh" as in above. When "o" is followed by the letter "n", "o" is then pronounced "oo". For example, tassakwabon (a chair) is pronounced "tassakwaboon".

In Abenaki, and typically in all North American Aboriginal languages, there are animate and inanimate words. For nouns, let's keep in mind that living things fall in the animate group, and, most of the time, things that are not alive fall in the inanimate group. However, there are some exceptions. Some inanimate objects are considered animate.

All the declensions, such as subject-verb or adjective-noun agreement, will follow the animate or inanimate pattern. In their plural form, animate nouns end with "k" and "l".

#### Animate Words :

|                        |              |           |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Glass (for drinking)   | <i>sing.</i> | Aasazid   |
| Glasses (for drinking) | <i>plur.</i> | Aasazijik |
| Knife                  | <i>sing.</i> | Nsakwakw  |
| Knives                 | <i>plur.</i> | Nsakwakok |
| Spoon                  | <i>sing.</i> | Amkw8n    |
| Spoons                 | <i>plur.</i> | Amkw8nak  |
| Cup                    | <i>sing.</i> | Kwatsis   |
| Cups                   | <i>plur.</i> | Kwatsisak |
| Bottle                 | <i>sing.</i> | Pot8ia    |
| Bottles                | <i>plur.</i> | Pot8iak   |

#### Inanimate Words :

|          |              |   |
|----------|--------------|---|
| Utensil  | <i>sing.</i> | Awak8gan                                |
| Utensils | <i>plur.</i> | Awak8ganal                              |
| Plate    | <i>sing.</i> | Anasiat<br>(from French "une assiette") |
| Plates   | <i>plur.</i> | Anasiatal                               |
| Fork     | <i>sing.</i> | Nimatgwahigan                           |
| Forks    | <i>plur.</i> | Nimatgwahiganal                         |
| Clock    | <i>sing.</i> | Papizowkwazik                           |
| Clocks   | <i>plur.</i> | Papizowkwazikil                         |
| Box      | <i>sing.</i> | Paks (from English)                     |
| Boxes    | <i>plur.</i> | Paksal                                  |

### NOTICE

## NEW WATER, SEWAGE, AND WASTE COLLECTION FEES

Please remember the new changes to the water supply, sewage, and waste collection fees will be in effect starting on the next billing date, i.e. March 2019.

**Residential fees:** The fees will go from \$ 156 to \$ 160 for basic services, which include :

- Collecting one (1) black bin and one (1) blue bin.

A \$30 fee will be charged for each extra bin.

\*A maximum of two (2) black bins and two (2) blue bins per residence will be authorized.

## News From Your Museum



### SPEAK UP, THE MUSEUM IS LISTENING

The Musée des Abénakis is currently preparing its new permanent exhibit. The exhibit will be unveiled on June 21, 2020. This project, which received substantial funding from the ministère de la Culture et des Communications, will transform the Musée des Abénakis into a cultural hub for the exchange, transmission, and promotion of the Abenaki culture.

One of the first steps of this great project is mobilizing Odanak and Wôlinak members. For the exhibit to be a faithful picture of a thriving Nation, the museum will run creative workshops at various meetings throughout winter 2019. All will be welcome to share their vision of our Nation and discuss what matters most to them.

We will keep you informed !

### FALL-WINTER CULTURAL PROGRAM

While these lines are being written, we are halfway through our cultural program, which ends next March. Here is a summary of some of the past events and information about upcoming events.

#### ***Kiwakwa, the Ice Monster***

On October 26 and 27, over 125 people faced the Kiwakwa in the fright course designed by Hérôle and the Musée des Abénakis. This Halloween activity revealed another side of the museum to all the participants. Thank you to our ten volunteers, including Luc O'Bomsawin, David Houle, Vincent Houle, and Jérémy Houle from Odanak. You have made this terrifying event a success !

#### ***Abenaki Christmas Market***

The first edition of the Abenaki Christmas Market took place on November 24. Just in time for the holidays and the best way avoid the Christmas shopping frenzy in the big stores! Close to 100 people came by to discover authentic and unique products made by Abenaki artists and artisans. Élise Boucher-DeGonzague, Johanne Lachapelle,



Jean-Paul Lamirande, Annette Nolett, Raymonde Nolett, Joyce Panadis, Karyne Wawanolett. Thanks to you, the market was a successful event. Thank you for your participation !

#### ***Sisiwan ta pakholigan, Rattler and Drum***

This activity for 2–8 year-old children will take place at the museum on February 23. Children

will learn about the Abenaki culture through songs, dance, traditional clothing, and music. A cultural experience for the young ones. There is still time to sign up, get in touch with us !

#### ***Let's Take a Break at the Museum !***

purred by last year's success, the March break activity is back. On March 8, you can come with your

children aged 5–12 years old to our half day program, which includes activities ranging from an outdoor rally to creative craft workshops, and let's not forget a sweet snack. Make your reservation today.

#### **2019 BENEFIT DINNER**

Our annual fundraising event will be held on March 21. Keeping the winning formula for the evening we will present musical, gastronomic, and artistic discoveries again this year again. By the way, if you wish to donate a work of art for our famous silent auction, I encourage you to get in touch with me directly. To purchase tickets, please contact the museum's boutique.

Members of the Société historique d'Odanak are eligible for a discount price. If your membership has expired or if you are not yet a member, you can register now !

#### ***KWIGW8MNA, OUR HOUSE***

Since 2010, several archeological digs have documented Abenaki settlement practises in Odanak's historical quadrangle. The area's continuous occupancy is recorded by a significant number of buried artefacts and remains showing housing structures or subsistence activities. After funding from Canadian Heritage was confirmed, an initiative to promote traditional Abenaki knowledge and their settlement practises came to life.

This initiative includes the construction of a traditional house with indoor and outdoor facilities. Medicinal and traditional plants will be grown in the site's future garden. As early as summer 2019, people will be able to visit the house and its living spaces. The museum is collaborating with the Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki and the Abenaki Council of Odanak to complete this ambitious initiative! Over the next few months, you will have the chance to see this house take shape near the museum.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful 2019. May the new year bring you happiness and success. May your achievements be rewarded and your dreams come true!

I am looking forward to see you soon at the museum,

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