



Head Office - Reserves 22A1/22A2

Mailing Address

1100 Memorial Ave, Suite 328, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 4A3

Telephone: 807-622-9835

Fax: 807-622-9866

Toll Free: 1-888-573-0168

Office email ldmlfn@tbaytel.net

JULY 2014 NEWSLETTER - UPDATES

BOOZHOO to all of our family, friends and members! We hope this Newsletter finds everyone well and looking forward to a beautiful summer and holidays. We have been incredibly busy working on a number of initiatives and have prepared updates for your information. We realize that communication is problematic for most organizations and we are addressing that to the best of our abilities.

ELDERS COUNCIL

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our Elders Council for their input and participation this past year in the various activities that have been taking place in our community. These included cultural and traditional teachings, Ojibway language classes, and regalia and drum making classes. Your commitment to serve and assist the First Nation is very much appreciated. Chi Miigwetch to Elders Ernie Boyes, Shirley Churchill-Chapman, Gladys Mychasiw, Margaret Savage, Louis Sawdo and Julie Rusnak.

ELDERS GATHERING

Our Annual Elders Gathering was held June 26th to June 29th in Thunder Bay and coincided once again with our Annual PowWow. We had numerous requests from our out-of-town Elders that they had wanted to attend our Powwow, which is why we combined the two events. A good time was experienced with the renewing of friendships and relationships, visiting with family and friends, and enjoying our lands and activities. The weather was beautiful and we say Miigwetch to the Creator for all he has given us. Due to the full schedules and events, we are looking at separating these two events for next year.

COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER

The construction of this magnificent building is now complete and we are in the final process of furnishing/decorating the inside so that it is ready for use. We have had much positive feedback and people are astounded that we have such a Centre and Roundhouse. As stated in previous newsletters, the main planned occupants for this building, between the months of May through September, are our Elders. For more details or to book your room for a week or two during this time, please speak with Councillor Irma Churchill.

The Centre will also be open for various meetings outside of this period and we are looking at different marketing options. The contractors are continuing with the remaining landscaping surrounding the Complex and it is hoped to be completed sometime this fall. A reminder goes out that the area is still considered a construction site due to the landscaping occurring, so please take the proper precautions.

Our people now have an awesome physical foundation where we can come together as a Community on our landbase. Much thanks and much appreciation go out to those people who selflessly volunteered their time and effort into making this monumental undertaking a success. We are proud to have this project nearly completed as it is an integral part of the Community Development Strategic Plan that was approved by the membership. We look forward to moving ahead with the next steps of the plan in the near future.

NEW COMMUNITY DRUMS

We are honoured to acknowledge the arrival of two new drums in our community. We welcome the Louis Sawdo Family drum, and a drum presented to the community by Rob Spade and Celeste Pedri. This drum will be housed in our Roundhouse and will be available for our youth and community members to drum on. A name has been put forth by an Elder, and its' name means "whirlwind" after a dream was shared about this drum. Chi Miigwetch for your gifts! We are also excited about the new hand drums that our people worked on this past spring, bringing a total of 25 new hand drums into our Community! We look forward to hearing them soon.

LDMLFN FLOOD CLAIM NEGOTIATIONS

As reported to the membership in our last Newsletter our negotiations are moving ahead in a very positive manner. Many thanks go out to our Negotiations Team of experts who have done an excellent job of researching and preparing studies and reports that support our claim.

The Appraisers submitted their Final Appraisal report on December 24th, 2013 to all three parties (the LDMLFN, the Government of Canada, and the Provincial Government). Our appraisal expert, Mr. Bob Thompson has reviewed and is in agreement with the final Appraisal. We have most recently been told by the lead negotiators of the Federal and Provincial governments that they are reviewing the final report internally and that this should be completed this fall.

We are very confident that all of the necessary work required by our negotiating team is complete and because of this have submitted a document to the governments to assist them with approaching their superiors for a mandate related to an "Offer to Settle". Our negotiations team is bound by the Confidentiality Clause of the Negotiations Protocol and therefore the contents of the document prepared and submitted to Canada and Ontario cannot be shared at this time.

In our most recent meeting with the two governments, we requested for and received a commitment that the LDMLFN claim would be given top priority among the other flood claims within the Treaty #3 Territory. Excerpts from the March 4th, 2014 Meeting Record:

"Ontario noted that the LDMLFN has that commitment from Ontario. It is already a high priority in the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs".

"Canada noted that this claim is a very complex claim and is a high priority and at the forefront of the Treaty #3 flooding claims. Canada is working with Ontario towards a joint offer being made during the fiscal year 2014-2015."

Chi Miigwetch to all of the members of the LDMLFN Negotiation Team for all of their faithfulness, dedication and commitment to negotiating the very best settlement offer that is possible. Thanks to the efforts of the entire team we now have knowledge of what is acceptable compensation for each separate Head of Damage.

It is important to note that when an acceptable offer is presented, that offer will still have to go through the Referendum Process for Acceptance and Approval by our membership. Miigwetch to our members for their patience with this lengthy process. We understand and feel the same frustration with the delays and cut-backs on the part of the Federal and Provincial Governments.

GOOD BYES AND WELCOME BACKS

A warm welcome back goes out to Honey Chicago as she returns to her duties after her maternity leave. Great to have you back with us Honey! Best wishes go out to Wendi Ignace as she moves to her new home in Toronto. We will miss her positive attitude and laughter at the office.

FIRST NATION WEBSITE

Thank you to all for your patience in this matter. We anticipate that this communication tool will better assist our members in learning more about the First Nation and its' initiatives and to be better informed. Many thanks go out to Bruce Barber and Michael Ignace for your hard work on this site and for persevering through technical problems. Mike will be sending out an information letter in the near future on how to access this site. Note: Although it will be up and running soon, we still have work to be done and pages under construction.

OSISKO HAMMOND REEF GOLD PROJECT

The Environmental Assessment for this possible project is in the final stages and expected to be completed this summer. We wish to update the membership that there have been a number of bids to take over the Osisko Mining Corporation. We are pleased to announce that Agnico Eagle & Yamana Gold were successful in their bids.

We would like to remind you that we anticipate there will be job opportunities that will become available once construction of the mine site begins. In an effort to be prepared for this our Administration has developed a Skills Inventory that allows us to contact members that have an interest in employment. We encourage all Community members, if they have not already done so, to submit up-dated resumes and letters of interest so that we can add them to our Inventory.

It is anticipated that once the mine goes to construction and then operation, it will have a projected 20 to 25 year mine life. This means that from initial construction to mine closure there will be a mine life span of approximately 30 years that will provide long term employment and opportunity for our members.

DALLAN FORESTRY GENERAL PARTNER INC.

We are would also like to inform the membership that we have entered into a Limited Partnership Agreement between the Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, Nikigoonsiminikaaning First Nation and A&J Levesque Holdings Inc. in an endeavor to bid for yard service contracts at Resolute Forest Products new sawmills in Atikokan and Ignace.

Shortly after forming the Partnership we became aware of a yard service contract that was open for bids at the Resolute Paper mill in Thunder Bay. The contract is to feed biomass to the boilers that run the new co-gen plant at Resolute. Due to time restrains and the urgency in filling this contract, we had to move quickly and are pleased to inform our membership that we have been successful in acquiring a five year contract at the Thunder Bay pulp mill site.

We are now in the process of preparing bids to supply yard services to both of the other sawmills when they go into operation. The anticipated opening of the Ignace sawmill is the fall of 2014 and the Atikokan sawmill is the spring of 2015.

A reminder goes out to please submit an updated resume for our files. This will enable us to contact you should jobs become available. Please forward your resumes to Mark Berkan, Education Director & Training.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Aboriginal Healing & Wellness Worker	(full-time)
Education Program Developer Intern	(1 yr contract with possible extension)
Program & Research Co-ordinator Intern	(1 yr contract with possible extension)

URBAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION PROJECT

We have been working closely with Bimose Tribal Council over the last year and a half in terms of developing our own Alternative Education Program for high school students and adults seeking to obtain their high school diploma.

We are also looking at the possibility of opening and operating our own Private Elementary School in the city of Thunder Bay, where we can provide education from an Aboriginal world-view as opposed to mainstream Euro-Canadian teaching. This is an exciting venture which is in its early stages, but we have secured funding for an intern position to get this off and running. We believe that this is an exciting and worthwhile endeavor as the Canadian Education system does not adequately meet the educational and cultural needs of our children. For more information on this initiative, please speak with Chief Whitecloud.

22A1 LOT DEVELOPMENT

As we continue to follow the Community Feasibility Study accepted by AANDC we are now in the process of having the Phase One lots surveyed. Presently we have successfully harvested the timber off of the proposed road line for the lot development and are in the process of removing the wood fibre. We expect this to be completed in early August and then will have the surveyors in to survey the lots identified in Phase One of the Community Development Study.

There are approximately 40 lots that will be surveyed and made available to our membership. This is an extremely exciting time for our people. We are asking those that may have an interest in one of the lots to send in a letter stating their intention. Please address your letter to the attention of Quentin Snider, Band Administrator.

We understand that not all of our people are interested or in a position to start building on-reserve. Should we receive less than 40 requests, we will go ahead with those that have sent in letters in handing out the lots. Our understanding is that work must be started by the individuals within a two year time frame in order for them to receive their "ticket of possession" from the First Nation. In order to provide some time for individuals to decide if they or their family may want to do so, we have put a deadline of August 31, 2014 for the letters of interest for phase one lots. We will be sending out more information on this process and what is required from the individual band members.

Please keep in mind that this endeavor will require much time and effort on everyone's part in clearing the land and building their homes. As we do not yet receive funding from Indian Affairs for this, individuals will have to finance their homes or summer homes on their own. We have been meeting with different banking agencies in terms of possible financing options that may or may not be of interest to those that are wanting to build. This information will also be made available to the membership.

Please note that all of the proper ceremonies have already taken place regarding the building of these structures on our land, and this includes the Roundhouse and Community Cultural Centre.

Our Housing Committee members have been working on policies and procedures in preparation for the housing which will be occurring. Miigwetch to them for their commitment to our First Nation and in assisting the people in returning to our lands in a good way!

Education Program Developer (Intern Position-1 year)

**Location: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation is currently in the process of developing a comprehensive community education strategy and structure that will address the needs of their members. The overall goal of our new education program will be to provide effective educational structures that will utilize and support Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation's Anishinaabe language and cultural traditions both in Thunder Bay and on our ancestral lands.

Job Description

The Education Program Developer will assist the Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation with the development of education programming and services in the community and Thunder Bay area. The successful candidate will also work with community members to develop culturally appropriate programming that supports the needs of the First Nation and enhances regional Anishinaabe language and cultural programs.

Required Qualifications

This position is open to Northern Ontario post secondary school graduates, 29 years of age or under who recently graduated from an accredited college or university. Graduates from a post secondary school outside of Northern Ontario who have resided in the North for at least one year are also eligible. Mature graduates may be considered should no successful applicant with the age qualification apply.

Preference will be given to candidates that hold an Honours or Bachelor of Education Degree. Other post-secondary qualifications may be considered.

Ideally, the successful candidate should have a minimum of 3 years' experience working in an educational setting.

The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and access to their own vehicle.

Please provide at least 2 references with your application, including your current or last supervisor. For students, this would include your Dean or Academic Advisor.

Application Deadline: July 17, 2014 by 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Please mail applications to: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation - Attention: Hiring Committee

1100 Memorial Avenue, Suite 328, Thunder Bay ON, P7B 4A3

Note: These positions are internal and it is hoped that our community members who are interested and have the required qualifications will apply. Should we not receive qualified applications, we will post these positions externally and hire accordingly. This will ensure that our First Nation receives the best possible individuals for the positions. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Program & Research Co-ordinator (Intern Position-1 year)

**Location: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation is currently in the process of developing its programs and services that are provided to the membership. In order to meet the needs of the First Nation's growth, there is a need for co-ordination and analytical research to be conducted.

Job Description

The Program & Research Co-ordinator will assist the Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation with the development of programs and research in different areas of interest. This position requires an individual who has acquired proven research, analysis, writing, oral presentation, critical thinking, and problem solving skills through their education.

The successful candidate will work with staff and liaison with various funding agencies and organizations to assist the First Nation in reaching their objectives and goals.

Required Qualifications

This position is open to Northern Ontario post secondary school graduates, 29 years of age or under who recently graduated from an accredited college or university. Graduates from a post secondary school outside of Northern Ontario who have resided in the North for at least one year are also eligible. Mature graduates may be considered should no successful applicant with the age qualification apply.

Preference will be given to candidates that hold an Honours or Bachelor Degree in a relevant field of study.

Ideally, the successful candidate should have a minimum of 2 years' experience working with research projects.

The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and access to their own vehicle.

Please provide at least 2 references with your application, including your current or last supervisor. For students, this would include your Dean or Academic Advisor.

Application Deadline: July 17, 2014 by 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Please mail applications to: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation - Attention: Hiring Committee

1100 Memorial Avenue, Suite 328, Thunder Bay ON, P7B 4A3

Note: These positions are internal and it is hoped that our community members who are interested and have the required qualifications will apply. Should we not receive qualified applications, we will post these positions externally and hire accordingly. This will ensure that our First Nation receives the best possible individuals for the positions. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Aboriginal Healing & Wellness Worker (Permanent Full-time)

**Location: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation is currently seeking an individual to fill the permanent full-time position of Aboriginal Healing & Wellness Worker.

Job Description

The Community Wellness Worker program provides family violence services, referrals, support and case management to clients to address and respond to existing and emerging health, healing and wellness issues or violent situations. This community based worker will also provide prevention/awareness activities as well as liaise and networking with other health and social service agencies. The successful candidate will focus on the reduction of all forms of violence, while promoting healthy life-style choices.

Required Qualifications

This position is fully funded and permanent. Individuals who have an educational background in the Social Services and past job experience that would enhance this position are encouraged to apply.

Ideally, the successful candidate should have a minimum of 2 years' experience working in a position geared towards the prevention of violence and healthy life-styles.

The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and access to their own vehicle.

Please provide at least 2 references with your application, including your current or last supervisor. For students, this would include your Dean or Academic Advisor.

Application Deadline: July 17, 2014 by 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Please mail applications to: Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation - Attention: Hiring Committee

1100 Memorial Avenue, Suite 328, Thunder Bay ON, P7B 4A3

Note: These positions are internal and it is hoped that our community members who are interested and have the required qualifications will apply. Should we not receive qualified applications, we will post these positions externally and hire accordingly. This will ensure that our First Nation receives the best possible individuals for the positions. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

VOLUNTEER DATA BASE

We are currently in the process of building a data base which contains the names of our community members who are interested in volunteering their time and talents. Please speak with Michael Ignace on this. Volunteers are essential to any organization. Please find a list of reasons why you might consider volunteering.

It provides physical and mental rewards, reduces stress and makes you healthier.

It brings people together.

It promotes personal growth and raises self-esteem.

Volunteering strengthens your community. You get a chance to give back.

Volunteers gain job and life experience.

You find out that you can make a difference.

If you have some spare time, like meeting and working alongside people, and wish to donate your talents, please consider Volunteering!

As you can see our First Nation has been extremely busy this year! Sincerest apologies for the late report and updates, but with limited staffing, limited funding and hectic schedules it has been difficult to find the time to get this information out. Should you require any additional information on any of the above initiatives, please feel free to contact our office and ask to speak with Chief Whitecloud, Councillor Churchill or one of the appropriate staff member identified.

We leave you with an inspirational quote from Mark Twain....

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover.”