



Did you know that LDMLFN hosted *over 12 events* for its families this spring and summer? Miigwetch to our administrative team and community leadership for making these activities possible! These types of activities build and strengthen our relationships and community spirit. They assist in reconnecting us with our families and relatives in a good and healthy way.

For more information or to suggest a story for the next issue, please contact your Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation Band Office at (807) 622-9835; or email: ldmlfn@tbaytel.net. We would love to hear from you!

For upcoming events and employment opportunities please visit our community website at:
www.lacdesmillelacsfirstnation.ca

NEZAADIKAANG NEWS

Towards a healthy and informed community

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Annual Powwow Honours Land & Community!

Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation community members and guests came together once again to honour our lands and community at the annual “Return to Our Lands” powwow held at the Savanne River Resort from June 16-18, 2017.

This year’s powwow was emceed by Nathan Moses under the spiritual guidance of Elder Gilbert Smith and with the assistance of Arena Director Rheal Twance. Fourteen drums were in attendance this year and over 100 dancers registered. Many children and youth were in attendance dancing proudly in their regalia.

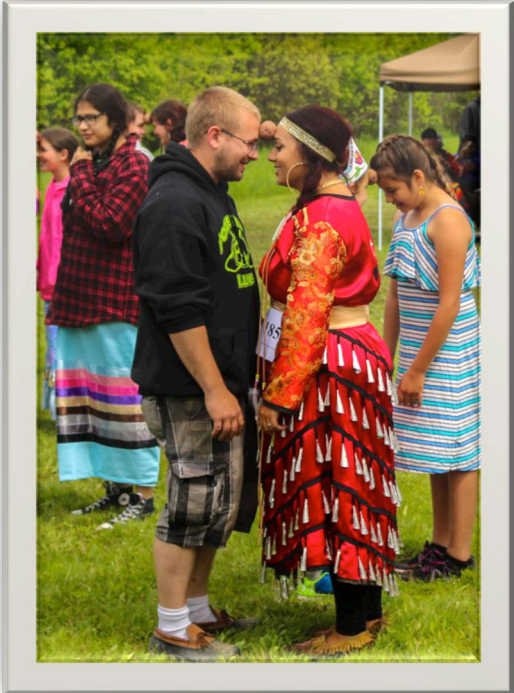
The committee held several dance specials to honour the dancers and a new princess and brave were selected for the

fourth year in a row. The princess and brave pageant continues to be one way that our community honours our youth and encourages them to continue on a good path as proud Anishinabeg. This year's Princess is Annelise Laramée and our Brave is Kaleb McGinnis. Runners up were Khaalesi Reid and Jasper Ignace. We know they will proudly represent our community. A huge thank you to all of the children who participated.

This year we were fortunate to have a record number of dancers come out to share their dance styles and the committee hosted a number of specials to honour their gift of dance!

"It is so inspiring to see how our powwow has grown," said LDMLFN Chief White Cloud. "It is wonderful to see the increase in members—especially our children and youth—who are returning to and engaging in their culture and traditions. This is promising for our future."

For more photographs of the powwow, please visit www.lacdesmillelacsfn.ca



LDMLFN Celebrates its Mothers and Fathers

In May and June, LDMLFN held different events to honour and celebrate its mothers and fathers! Both events were an opportunity to say 'miigwetch' to our parents for everything they do for our families throughout the year!



A special day of pampering was held for mothers at a local Thunder Bay spa and a 'father and son' bowling night was held for dads! Chi miigwetch to everyone who came out to celebrate our mothers and fathers!

For more information about these events please contact Mike Ignace, Community Wellness Worker at (807)622-9835 ex. 231.

Another Session of Sewing Spirits Wraps Up!

LDMLFN celebrated the end of another successful year of its Sewing Spirits program at a feast ceremony held in June at the Victoria Inn.

Community members came together to feast their new regalia and cultural items and a special ceremony was also held to birth several new community hand drums!

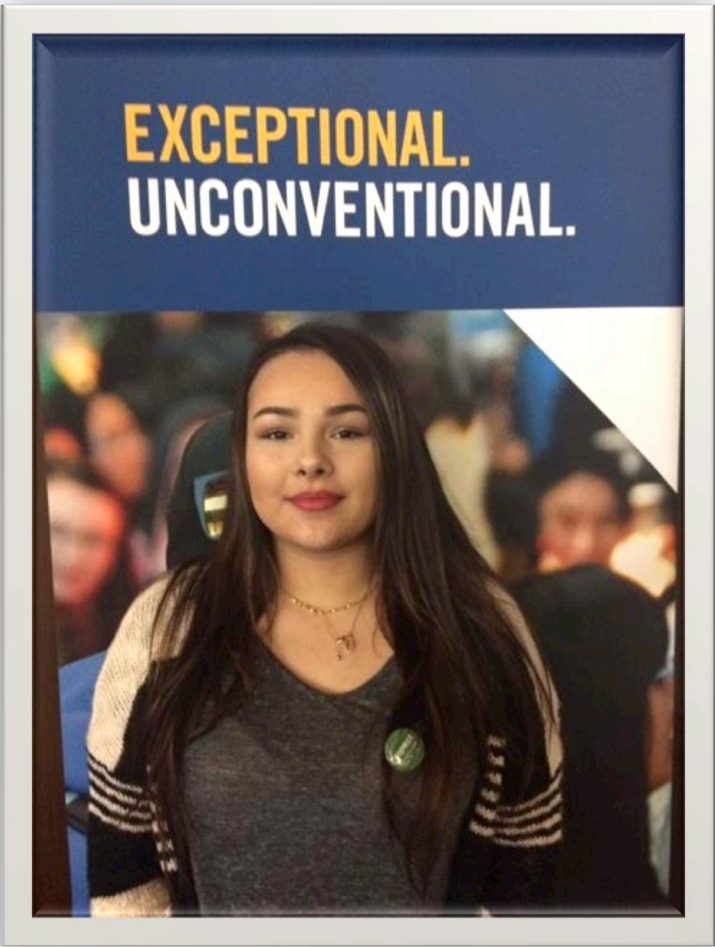




Congratulations Zoey!

Congratulations to Zoey Sawdo for receiving a Personal Achievement Award at the 2017 Northwestern Ontario Aboriginal Youth Achievement and Recognition Award Ceremony.

Zoey is presently focused on her schooling and work as she prepares for post-secondary education opportunities! She works part-time and is also an active member of her community. Zoey also enjoys spending time with her younger cousin Reid. Her family and community is very proud of her accomplishments! Way to go Zoey!



Congratulations Angelina!

Angelina Berkan won a provincial silver medal at the Ontario Bantam Wrestling Championship in Orillia on April 22, 2017. As a grade 7 student, this was her fourth year wrestling but her first year with the Lakehead Wrestling Club at the competitive level. She finished the season with 2 first place finishes (including a high school tourney) and 3 second place finishes. Her wrestling record is 31-6.

If you would like to include a congratulatory message to a community member, please email ldmlfn@tbaytel.net.

LDMLFN Commemorates Historic Signing of Flood Claim Settlement

Community Elders, Chief and Council and visiting dignitaries gathered together in ceremony to commemorate the official signing of the flood claim settlement out at the LDMLFN Community Cultural Complex on June 20, 2017. Among those in attendance were Grand Council Treaty #3 Ogichidaa Francis Kavanaugh, MPP Bill Mauro and the Honourable David Zimmer, Ontario Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. Members of the Negotiations Team for the First Nation, Canada and Ontario were also in attendance for this historic event.

Achieved through negotiation and in a spirit of partnership, this historic claim settlement resolves a specific flooding dispute between the parties that has been outstanding for more than 145 years. The negotiated settlement provides approximately \$77 million in financial compensation for damages and includes a flooding easement.



“This settlement will have positive, far reaching effects for our people and community, now and into the future. We truly appreciate the tireless work of our Negotiations Team and the involvement of our members to ensure that an acceptable outcome was realized throughout this lengthy process. Today is dedicated to all of our relatives who have gone on ahead of us and who prayed and dreamed that this day would come,” said Chief White Cloud.

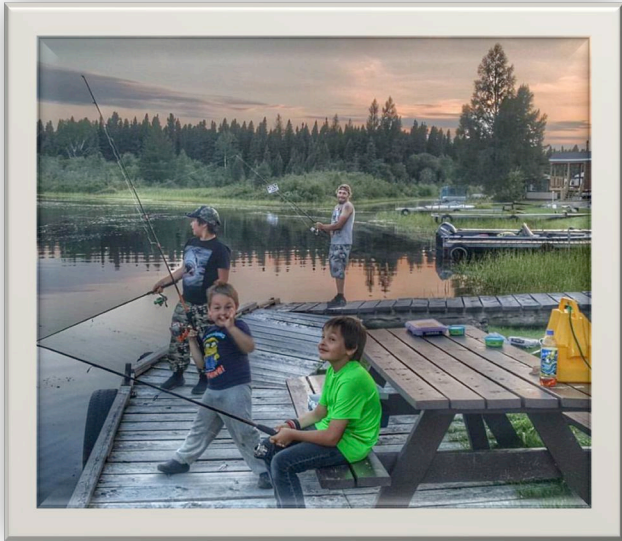


“This settlement is not only about bringing closure and healing for our community and people. It is also about new beginnings and opportunities to work together with Canada and Ontario as respected partners in a new era of reconciliation—within a Nation to Nation relationship,” said Chief White Cloud



Community Youth Participate in Land-Based Activities

LDMLFN children, youth and their family members participated in a week-long schedule of fun and educational land-based activities this August 2017. Approximately 40 people



registered for a range of day-long events including, but not limited to, fishing on Lac Des Mille Lacs, berry picking, and arts and crafts. It is wonderful to see our young ones on the land, participating in the same activities as their ancestors!

LDMLFN Annual Health Fair



The Annual Health Fair took place in March in Thunder Bay. The community welcomed several local First Nations and mainstream service providers who set up booths to deliver valuable health information and tools. A healthy lunch was provided and presentations were done by several health service organizations! Please contact Marcia Pedri for any Health related programs or assistance.



March Break Activities

LDMLFN organized several fun and family-friendly activities during the March Break! Miigwetch to all the families that came out! These events help strengthen our community relationships and are a lot of fun!