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Nipawin

asis

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Spring 2015 Volume 2, Issue 4



Find us on
Facebook

www.nipawinoasis.com



The **MORE** that you **READ**,
the more **THINGS** you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** you **LEARN**,
the more **PLACES** you'll **GO!**
~ Dr. Seuss



Welcome :)

Spring :) new beginnings :) and that has been happening at the Oasis with some new employees as well as the exciting renovations. We have much to be grateful for at the Oasis. We appreciate the support, donations, and participation in programs and services at the Oasis. It is making a difference :) We are winding down the year end reporting and getting ready for the audit. We will be having our AGM—Tuesday June 23 at 1:00. We are looking for board members if you are interested please let us know. The coffee is always on at the Oasis please drop in and see us anytime :) Much more inside :) enjoy.....Thankyou

Joy Hanson—Executive Director—nipoasis1@sasktel.net

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN SPRING 2015

Coming Events

May 22—Introduction to Family Literacy Training

June 21—National Aboriginal Day

June 23—AGM at 1pm at the Oasis

‘Try a Tool’ project—April, May, June

Parent & Tot Day—2nd Tuesday of every month

Oasis Board meetings—1st Tuesday of every month at 5pm. Everyone welcome to attend.

March 6th—**Indigenous Inspirational Women of Change Dinner** at the Oasis—sponsored by the Status of Women Office—Sask. (attendance 50)

March 7th—**Rotary “Paul Harris award” Gala**—Joy received the honorary award for her volunteer and literacy work in the community.

March 27th—**Aboriginal Storytelling with puppeteers “Rabbit and Bear Paw”** 50 adult and youth attended

March 29th— worked at **Shopping spree at Evergreen** selling hot dogs, baking

Spring Break—over 50 youth were able to attend swimming in Melfort over 3 days

April 7—**Nipawin Achiever Award**—Oasis nominated Dennis Dymertko for all of his volunteer work at the Oasis

April 18—**Harold Johnson**—Cree Author of 5 books and Harvard graduate and lawyer— at Oasis—50 people attended

April—**New flooring** installed in offices and hallway at the Oasis by Phil’s Flooring. Nine **new windows** installed by the Co-op. Funded by the Homelessness Partnership Strategy

Nipawin Taxi—Nipawin Oasis is no longer in the Taxi business and has sold it to James Allardice. Operation is as usual.

“Try a Tool” project—partnership with SaskPower and Status of Women began spring tour to Red Earth, Shoal Lake, Cumberland House, Kinisten, James Smith and Central Park schools.

Alternative Measures—working with to provide community service hours

Air Cadets—Sundance Umpherville & Mattea Lofstrom members of the Nipawin Air Cadet marksman-ship team won 1st in provincials and placed 9th in Nationals. Campout—March 27th

Mental Health Support Group—Doug Lowe gave Mental Health presentation to

Professional Development—Family Support Program Coordinator attended Core Training in Prince Albert. Coordinator and Family Support Specialists attended the Northern Family Support Conference and a Mental Health Wellness Conference. Online course “Reconciliation through Indigenous Education” was taken by ED.

Giveaway Shed— donations received to assist families and individuals in need

Follow up Reports completed— Child Nutrition and Development Grant

Grants received for 2014-2015 —Child Nutrition & Development Program grant—Ministry of Education, Northern Lights CDC, TIP grant, Ministry of Social Services—Family Support Program, KTHR—Mental Health Support Program, RRAC program, Status of Women Office, SaskCulture—Leadership Program, CIF, Homelessness Initiative, SaskPower—’Try a Tool’, Family Literacy Hub—Ministry of Education— Provincial Library and Literacy Office.

Monthly Staff/Safety/Board Meetings and Policy/Procedures — continued to hold the monthly meetings

Oasis Website/Facebook pages—updating regularly

Community use /rental of Oasis— NE Country Music Association, Nechapanuk Services, Parent & Tot Day—KTHR, and Red Earth Cree Nation.

STANLEY HEAD



Stanley Head—long time participant at the Oasis passed away April 3, 2015 at the age of 60 years. The funeral service was held on Monday, April 13, 2015 in the JWHMEC Gym in Red Earth, SK. Interment followed in Red Earth Cemetery.

Stanley James Head was born on February 1, 1955 to late Darcy and Ellen Head at Carrot River Union Hospital. Stanley

passed away on April 3, 2015 at the Codette Area.

Stanley leaves treasured memories to his loving daughters: Melodie Whitecap, Elena (Todd) Whitehead, Rayna & Loreleen McKay; his loving sons: Sherwin (Beryl) Whitecap, Christopher (Melissa) McKay and Gillis (Lisa) McKay. Stanley completed grade 8 at Red Earth School. Stanley was a devoted father and brother. He was a blessing to his seven children. His favorite sayings were: “My oh my mid chilly”, “Wait for me to finish my story (in Cree)”, ‘Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy’. He enjoyed watching western, scary and classic movies. He also enjoyed being with his children, grandchildren, family and friends. He loved to fish, go on duck hunting trips and picking bottles. He loved singing and listening to cree hymn songs, and country songs. He worked and helped build the gym (JWHMEC) in 1978 to 1980. He also picked roots in the farm areas around Smokey Burns and Codette area. He was also a carpenter at Red Earth Cree Nation.

Stanley couldn’t stay in one place too long. Always had to go and go. He was a part of “L.G. gang”.

He is also loved to spend the nights with his siblings when he came to Red Earth to visit. He would pull a lot of jokes on his siblings, his children and his grandchildren. His brothers called him “Wolverine”, Papa Smurf and Poo-Sees (Cat). He had a special girlfriend “Merle Settee”.



2015 OASIS PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS/SERVICES

Family Support Program—Northeast Region

Family Literacy Programming & Resources—Northeast Region

Youth Nutrition, Literacy, Culture Program—after school (grades 1-8) (Monday—Thursday)

Traditional Time—Every Wednesday 10-3—Northeast Region

Healing Circle—Wednesday 1-3—Northeast Region

Youth Community Inclusion Program—Bridge youth to Girl Guides/Air Cadets

Women & Girls Exploring Trades Program—“Try a Tool” —Northeast Region

Mental Health Support Program - COPE (Mon. & Thurs)

Mental Health Provincial Summer Camp

Drop in Support Services—phone, computer, internet, resume, portfolio, life skills, nutrition, emergent needs, transportation, employment and support.



Congratulations to Youth Program Leader—Patricia McGillivray (presently on maternity leave) on the birth of her baby girl whom she named Joy Barbara. Aweeeee. :)



OASIS HAPPENINGS



Congratulations to Oasis accounts controller Stacie Simon for winning gold at the Provincial indoor archery tournament :) and setting a new record!!! And to her family also :) awesome!



Sarah—started cake decorating its beautiful and was delicious too :)



Congratulations to Dennis for all of your volunteer work at the Oasis :) you are appreciated :) :) :)

Achievers Awards honors athletes and volunteers

Mike Hodges
Nipawin Journal
Wednesday, April 8, 2015 10:20:17 MDT AM



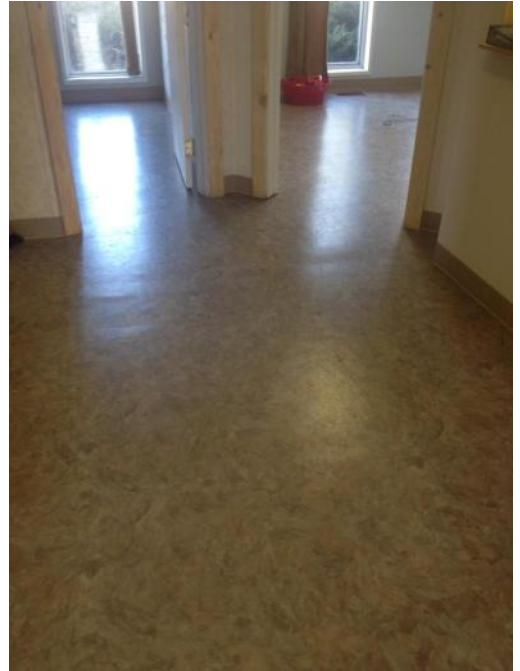
Dennis Dmyterko (right) accepts his award from Mayor Dave Trann (left) for outstanding volunteerism with the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre.



Kim and her new recipe for baked salmon for the “Honouring Indigenous Inspirational Women of Change” Dinner. Was delicious :)

OASIS HAPPENINGS

We are undergoing renovations :) new flooring put in by Phil's Flooring and windows installed by the Co-op. This capital expenses is the result of the Homelessness Partnership Strategy funding we received. Painting and cupboards are funded by the CIF Vitality grant. Come check it out what a difference!



Honouring Indigenous Inspirational Women of Change Dinner— March 6, 2015

Funded by Status of Women Office



Biographies of Honourees

Shana Lathlin: Shana is 19 years old from Shoal Lake Cree Nation. Shana speaks Cree and English fluently. She graduated grade 12 in 2014 and was selected by students as prom queen. She plans to continue her education in Police or conservation officer training. She was in air cadets for 4 years and played minor hockey with Hudson Bay. She is also a part time parent aid for Ne-

chapanuk Child and Family Services. She teaches youth to hunt chickens in the fall and setting rabbit snares in the winter. The first year of trapping, she was recognized and given an award “Youth trapper of the year” from Northern Trapper Association of Saskatchewan, where she gave a speech at the Trappers convention to honor the people who got her there. She was also aired on MBC Radio to tell her story in Cree Language.

Aldina Lathlin: Aldina encourages and empowers youth to step out and explore their options. She stands by to help the person she helps until they succeed. Aldina started an All girls Hockey Team. Sports became a way of life for her. She opens up her home to youth for problem solving skills and counselling.

Ruth Bear: She has been a health director for about ten years and carries out 11 programs. It’s a very demanding position and she is able to attend any meetings that entail Health related wellness and services for the community. Her environment is in the current development and planning of a new independent first nation on reserve hospital. She completed Health Manager Training through PAGC, and graduated at British Columbia along with PAGC and Council of Shoal Lake.

Kaydie Desjarlais: Kaydie is an apprentice carpenter at the Pineland Co-op in Nipawin. She also takes a lead in the Oasis “Try a tool” project and a positive role model. She grew up surrounded by her three uncles who were journeyman carpenter. She loves fishing, hunting, and fixing cars with her grandfather. From her grandma, she learned the preparation of traditional.

Codie Sandypoint: Codie is an apprentice electrician working for SaskPower and currently in the electrician program at Cumberland College. She is a role model in the Oasis “Try a Tool” Program. It took a lot of courage for Codie to move to Nipawin without knowing anybody in the area from her home community of Black Lake.

Ina Whitehead: Ina is the first women of Red Earth Cree Nation to be nominated and selected as Vice Chief. She has influenced the community to stop violence against each other. Ina played a vital role in the women’s council, as they volunteered their time to help the community in time of need. Ina is known to be caring and humbled by Christian faith.

During the discussion, almost every woman mentioned starting up a women’s council for the Nipawin area to meet once a month and find ways to work together with other communities. This was the goal we had aim to strive for, with the hope that the women would love to start a women’s group. The women talked about the importance of language and traditions, role models for the young girls, and other conferences for women to gather together for networking.

We would also like to thank the Pineland Co-op for sponsoring of the gift baskets for the honourees and to the Nipawin Rotary Club for a financial donation.

“Try a Tool Project”

funded by SaskPower & Status of Women Office (check out facebook for more photos :)



This is a continuation of a project that began in 2013 with 23 hands on activities that engaged youth towards utilizing tools that would encourage them to consider trades as a possible career. Due to the success of the project it has been expanded and enhanced this year to over 40 hands on activities involving Cree language and culture, math, science, mechanical, processes, various trades skills, and electrical activities. This project is funded by SaskPower for 3 years with additional financial support from the Status of Women office.

This spring we will be going to schools of: Red Earth, Shoal Lake, Cumberland House and James Smith Cree Nation, Kinisten Sauteaux Nation, and Central Park School and Pre-k —Nipawin. Role models are Kaydie Desjarlais—Carpenter at Pine-land Co-op, Harriet Burns—Cultural Advisor, Shania Umpherville—Oasis carpentry program, Joy Hanson—retired power engineer—SaskPower. Additional role models also from the Oasis Women & Girls Exploring trades program will also attend

when possible.

We go into the schools in the morning and talk with the high school students about the project and the various careers at SaskPower, the importance of math's and sciences, electrical safety, power conservation and environmental protection. We then worked with some of the high school students “Train the trainer” so that they could assist with the delivery of the activities to the students from k—6 in the afternoon. Last fall over a 1000 students participated in this project.



YOUTH CULTURE, LITERACY AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

This program is funded by Ministry of Education and the Community Initiatives Fund,



The nutrition program runs from Sept to June, five days a week for three hours each day on Mondays from 3:30-6:30 - Wagner Girls (grades 4-6) Tuesdays - Central Park (grades 1-3) Wednesdays - LP Miller Teen Girls (grades 7& up) Thursdays - Teen Co-ed (grades 4-6). Family Literacy is on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and some Fridays. We also have older youth dropping in daily for programming that sometimes involves nutrition. There is also additional programming for Parent and Tot programming, special events, weekends, and includes bridging to community programs and activities.

Since the program began youth have been learning kitchen safety and how to cook using simple yet healthy recipes by working together. Some examples are learning safe food handling, appropriate temperatures used when cooking various foods etc.

making chicken and vegetable wraps, trying various salad recipes and making meals creative by incorporating various fruits and vegetables.



Other activities : nature walk/hike, learning about various local plants and animals, outdoor scavenger hunt, visit Regional Park, literacy, sliding at Regional Park and hospital hills, swimming in Melfort, Christmas party with parents, carpentry, various arts and crafts, skiing, fundraising, various games to increase social skills, community events, leadership skills, and self esteem building.



Youth Program Leaders are Hilda and Marshall Roberts with support from Cultural Leader—Harriet Burns as well as other employees when needed.

LITERACY AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION PROGRAM

This program is funded by Northern Lights Community Development Corp. and TIP,

The Oasis bridges youth to Air Cadets and Girl Guides (24 youth). We provide transportation, assist with financial support, fundraising, volunteers and provide support for the youth and families. Recently Sundance Umpherville and Mattea Lofstrom Markmanship team finished first in provincials and ninth in Nationals. Here are some photos from the Air Cadet campout on March 27th, the Girl guides bake sale and other activities.



FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Family Support Program is funded by the Ministry of Social Services. We have Kimberly Bear as the coordinator and Samantha Chippeway, Sarah Britton as the family support specialist and Samantha Bear who fills in for relief. We have two contracts with the ministry one for mandated hours and the other diversion hours.

The objective of the mandated service program is to provide in home support and education to parents whose children are at risk of coming into the care or who are in the care of the Ministry and where there is an established reunification plan to return them to the care of their parents.

Program outcomes:

- Parents have increased knowledge of healthy parenting
- Parents have increased community ties
- Parents exhibit healthier parenting behaviour
- More children are returned to their parents
- Fewer children of the parents are placed in out-of-home care at a later date

The objective of the diversion service program is the provision of direct support services to individuals and families by providing assistance in accessing community resources that will divert them from the need for intervention and protection services through the Ministry's Child and Family Services Program.

Program outcomes:

- Families have knowledge of their strengths, skills, stress and risk areas.
- Parents have increased knowledge of child development
- Parents or caregivers have knowledge of positive parenting skills and strategies
- Parents can identify and are using formal and informal community resources
- Parents have established and are using a support system that relies less on intensive services from the Ministry of Social Services and other human services.
- Children and youth who are at risk of coming into care of the Ministry are able to reside in the family home.



FAMILY LITERACY

Parent & Tot Kitchen



This program is offered once a month and is coordinated by the Family Support Program and Rhonda Teichreb, KTHR Early Childhood Development Facilitator & Telehealth Coordinator. The aim is to bring parents with infants and toddlers together to increase their knowledge in various child health and development topics, while having fun and socializing with other parents. Topics covered so far are, infant stimulation, songs and rhymes, solid foods for infants and healthy eating. The next Parent and Tot Kitchen is scheduled for March 10th 11am – 1pm at the Oasis Centre. All are welcome!



PLAY is our work.
We learn everything through **PLAY**.
Take time to **PLAY** with us today!

Good morning. My favorite day of the week, today is "traditional day" at the Oasis plus we're having our healing circle. Have a good day. January is sure flying by, mabe it's just me, it seems the older I get the faster time goes.



The Nipawin Oasis has become the 11th Family Literacy Hub Service provider serving the northeast of the province with funding from the Ministry of Education— Provincial Library and Literacy Office.



The primary objective is to **ensure that Northeast families have access to family literacy programs, services and supports to strengthen literacy development at home and in their community.**

Current Literacy programs offered at the Oasis are:

Parent and Tot Day - Second Tuesday of every month 11—1
 Youth Literacy—after school Mon.—Thurs.
 Traditional Time—Family Literacy—Every Wed from 10—3
 “Try a Tool” program—April—June (scheduled dates)
 Summer Literacy camp—July & August
 Family Literacy Weeks— Dec. Winter Break, Feb. Winter Break and Spring Break
 Jan. 27 - Family Literacy Day Celebration
 June 21—National Aboriginal Day and Intergenerational learning
 Sept. 25—Culture Days—Intergenerational learning
 Computer & Internet usage—public use
 Library Resources - includes Cultural resources and Red Earth History
 Community Literacy Events, Resources, and education

Facebook:

Nipawin Oasis Parenting group— <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1456353187932702/>

Nipawin Oasis Cultural group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1435786793328133/>

Nipawin Oasis Recipe group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/388745721263475/>

Nipawin Oasis Craft group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1487451708143078/>

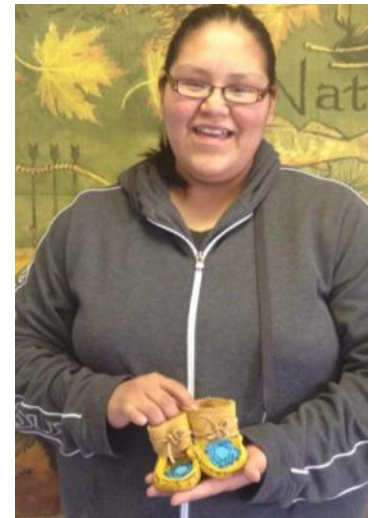
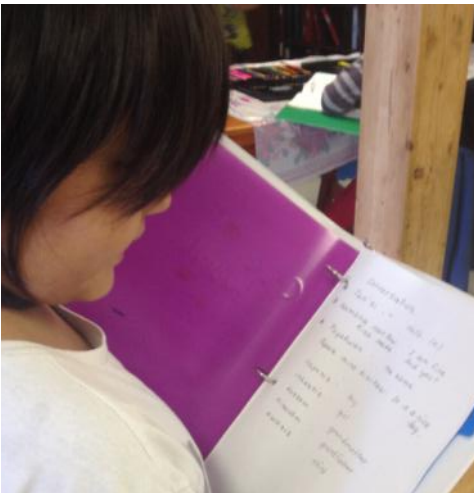
Nipawin Oasis Literacy Group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/349294951927436/>

TRADITIONAL TIME—FAMILY LITERACY



Traditional Time is funded by SaskCulture and is lead by Harriet Burns and community cultural leaders. It is held every Wednesday from 10—3. The time is spent cooking traditional foods, sharing, beadwork, making moccasins, having

fun and supporting one another. Recent activities have included singeing ducks and making duck soup. Healing Circle with Elders Evelyn and Riley Burns from the Marguerite Riel Centre every two weeks where support for the survivors of residential schools and their families have a place to share their stories and find support for trauma that continue to affect families today.

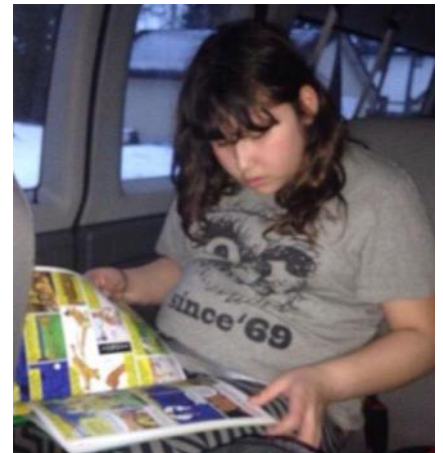


RABBIT AND BEAR PAW

On March 27th the Oasis had the pleasure of being able to host Rabbit and Bear Paws. This was an interactive presentation enjoyed by all ages with many of the participants (50) becoming the puppeteers. The 2 presentations were on *Anti-Bullying and Dreamcatcher* and *the Seven Grandfathers*.



While Rabbit is fasting in the forest at the top of the mountain, he dreams of a Grandmother spider who guides him to seven special animals. These seven animals share with Rabbit what it means to walk a good path through life, through understanding of the Seven Grandfathers of Courage, Respect, Humility,



Honesty, Truth, Love, and Wisdom.

The event was followed by sharing of an evening meal and visiting. We purchased two copies of all of the books for use at the centre and as giveaways.



HAROLD JOHNSON—CREE AUTHOR



On Saturday April 18th we were honoured to have author Harold Johnson at the Oasis. There were 50 in attendance and enjoyed by all. He talked about his life and since there was snow on the ground he told a story. He also did a reading from his book *Charlie Muskrat*. Harold is an author of 4 books *Charlie*



Muskrat, The Cast Stone, Billy Tinker, Two Families—Treaties and Government, and Back Track.



He will be

launching his latest book in the fall and we are hoping that he will be able to come to the Oasis again. Harold was born and raised in Northern Saskatchewan, he has a Master of Law degree from Harvard University. He has served in the Canadian Navy, and worked in mining and logging. Two of his books have won Saskatchewan book awards—*Two Families Treaties and Government* and *The Cast Stone*. Johnson practices law in La Ronge, Saskatchewan and balances this with operating his family's traditional trap line. The evening followed with a dinner and sharing.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT—DOUG LOWE COORDINATOR

The group meets twice a week under the leadership of Doug Lowe along with the KTHR Community Mental Health Nurse—Christina Reimer. Doug presented at the Catholic church during the Cantata on April 12th and \$1900 in donations was received for the COPE group. On April 19th Doug presented again on the COPE group to the United Church Men's breakfast. He also took a participant to Saskatoon for medical. They held their regular lunches and birthday party. Busy planning for the summer provincial camp at Christopher Lake on June 15.

EMPLOYEES

Joy Hanson—Executive Director (part time)
Stacie Simon – Accounts and Records Controller (part time)
Harriet Burns—Cultural Leader (part time)
Kimberly Bear—Family Support Program Coordinator
Samantha Chippeway – Family Support Specialist
Sarah Britton—Family Support Specialist
Samantha Whitehead-Bear—Family Support Specialist—Relief
Doug Lowe – Mental Health Program Co-ordinator (part time)
Hilda Roberts –Youth Program Leader (part time)
Marcien Roberts—Youth Program Leader & Transportation (part time)
Shania Umpherville – Summer Student
Kayla Bear—Summer Student
Debbie Cramer/Terry Snider/Phyllis Snider – Janitorial (part time)
Support Staff – Cultural Advisors, Youth workers, odd jobs, building maintenance

Board of Directors and Advisory Committee (volunteer)

President – Gary Schenstead
Treasurer— Lyle Adderley
Secretary—Diane Berge
Directors:
Tom Weegar
Arnold Schellenberg
Ron Saretzky
Curent Advisory Committee:
Chief Carlton Bear—Shoal Lake Cree Nation
Vice—Chief—Robert Whitecap—Red Earth Cree Nation
Ron Nickel—Social Services
Lewis Robin—Town of Nipawin



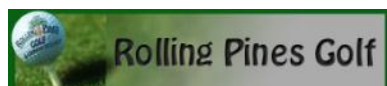
(From left right) Verda Hoppe, Jim Chute and Joy Hanson.

Congratulations to Joy Hanson for receiving the “Paul Harris” award from the Nipawin Rotary for her volunteerism and work with Literacy in the community.

THANKYOU :) FUNDERS, PARTNERS AND DONORS 2014-2015



Ministry of Social Services
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Education - Literacy Office
Status of Women Office



Marguerite Riel
Centre Melfort



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



culturedays
create participate celebrate september 26, 27 & 28, 2014

2014—2015 Funders and Donors since April 1, 2014 til March 31, 2015 (in addition to above)

Nipawin Denture Clinic
Remax—Nipawin
Tobin Lake & District Rec. Board
Nipawin Ministerial Association
Nipawin United Church
Nipawin Royal Purple
Salvation Army Lenten Lunch
Charles Fitzsimmons
United Way of Regina
Knights of Columbus
Nipawin Alliance Church—Care and Share
Nipawin Anglican Church
Diane Berge
Helen Remple
Ken and Joy Hanson
Frances Hughes
Clifford and Thelma Kelsey
Norman and Joanne Thomson
Lorna King
United Way
Donor's Choice

We are looking for craft supplies, healthy food items, volunteers for the youth program and donations of household items for families in need. Coffee is always on and you are most welcome just to drop in and say Hi :)



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Our Mission

We are a community resource co-operative centre that provides cultural, prevention, educational, and intervention programming, services, support and employment opportunities to the community of Nipawin and area in Northeast Saskatchewan.

Our Vision

Our Centre will be a place where people care, belong and get involved. Our Vision is to be one of the leaders in building an inclusive, supportive, safe and healthy community.

Caring, supportive, non-judgemental and respectful, using a
Holistic approach that promotes wellness and that provides
Opportunities and uses as its guides
Integrity which is accountability, transparency and responsible while valuing a
Community that works together and that is
Effective in meeting the needs of the community and provides
Security within a safe, respectful, and supportive environment

*Our programming focus is on **CRAFTS** which also serves as a strong foundation for the cultural, personal and leadership development of the youth, individuals and families*

C Caring and Culture
R Relationships
A Action
F Food and Fun
T Teamwork and Time
S Safety and Security



*Providing Opportunities
for
Positive Choices*

