

2014–2015 Oasis 23rd Annual Report

On behalf of the Nipawin Oasis Board of Directors we would like to welcome you to the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre and thank you for attending our 23rd Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Nipawin Board of Directors, I would like to thank Joy Hanson , Executive director, for a successful year. As a result of your hard work and dedication, the Nipawin Oasis has become a sustainable non profit organization recognized by federal, provincial and municipal agencies. The Nipawin Oasis is becoming the hub for the Northeast due to your dedication and hard work and we thank you for this.

I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their support, dedication and their time they gave out of their busy schedules towards the success of the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre. Due to your dedication and support you have given, the Oasis Centre has become well recognized.

We would like to thank the participants, funders, volunteers, employees, members, supporters, and donors that provided support this year. Programs that are being offered through the Nipawin Oasis have provided positive results for program participants.

The Oasis this year is operating programs in the areas of Culture, prevention, mental health, family support, family literacy, nutrition, community inclusion, drop in support and youth programming. The Oasis is becoming a hub for the Northeast. This is the last year for the Nipawin Oasis operating the Nipawin Taxi business as we sold the business to James Allardice.

We are thankful for the funding , financial and volunteer support we received during this fiscal year. 2014 -2015 we received capital funding for major upgrades, repaired the roof, 15 passenger van and some new flooring. Support dollars are coming from federal, provincial and municipal governments which is very appreciated by the Nipawin Oasis Board of Directors. Funding dollars are becoming more long term and as a result the Nipawin Oasis Board of Directors has been able to hire a part time Executive Director - Joy Hanson and also offer more long term positions and stability for staff.

Garry Schenstead
Nipawin Oasis Board President

I would just like to thank everyone for their support, participation, hard work, coaching, mentoring, and funding this year. Thankyou Garry for being the rock and providing stability to the organization and great listener, coach and providing the opportunity for the girls carpentry program. Special thanks to all of the employees for being such a pleasure to work with :) and making this year such a success!!! We Got This! :)

Joy Hanson
Nipawin Oasis Executive Director

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If you would like more information please email nipoasis1@sasktel.net or call 306-862-5551. we also have a website www.nipawinoasis.com.

Please like us on Facebook :) Always looking for donations and volunteers :):)



WHAT IS THE OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE?

The Nipawin Oasis is 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. Approximately 200 individuals use the centre weekly.

The Centre operates its activities and conducts its affairs under the Co-operatives, 1996 Act and is registered with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice with the Corporation Branch. The Community Centre is also registered with the Government of Canada with the Canada Revenue Agency as a registered charity. There are no dividends or interest on share capital to the members or patrons and no part of the surplus is to benefit the members or patrons.

The Board of Directors serve in a solely volunteer capacity of the Co-operative and are elected from the membership. The board meets monthly along with the advisory committee to review the Co-operative's financials, mission and objectives while identifying potential risks and opportunities in consultation with stakeholders. The direction determined guides the operations of programs and services in the development of plans and annual goals.

The Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Limited was incorporated in 1992.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014/15

President

Gary Schenstead

Treasurer

Lyle Adderley

Directors:

Diane Berge

Arnold Schellenberg

Ron Saretzky

Tom Weegar

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Senator Philip Head (Red Earth and PAGC)

Vice Chief Robert Whitecap—Red Earth

Chief Carlton Bear—Shoal Lake

Ron Nickel—Social Services

Lewis Robin —Town of Nipawin

EMPLOYEES (2014/15) (CURRENT)

Joy Hanson

—Executive Director (part time)

Stacie Simon

—Accounts and Records Controller (part time)

Harriet Burns

—Cultural Leader (part time)

Raquel Chaboyer

—Executive Assistant (temp—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

Support Staff —Summer students, Cultural Advisors, Youth workers, Odd jobs, building maintenance

VISION AND MISSION

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.

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.

We strive to provide opportunities and **CHOICES** along with the values of:

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 accountable, transparent and responsible valuing a

Community that works together and that is

Effective in meeting the needs of the community and provides

Security within a safe, respectful, 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

Caring and Culture

Relationships

Action

Food and Fun

Teamwork and Time

Safety and Security

The Oasis was conceived as an umbrella that

promotes sharing between user groups. The ownership, financial support, and responsibility for programs is shared by the local community (through the Board, volunteers, and local fundraising), local, regional and provincial agencies.

Where people can come together in an environment where they feel secure enough through care to belong and connect to themselves, peers, and mentors and given ample opportunity to succeed both in and out of the group. The groups provide a lifelong learning opportunity and the freedom to excel and build strong leadership skills for themselves, families, and community as a whole.





2014—2015 OASIS PROGRAMS AND BUSINESSES

Family Support Program—Northeast Region

Family Literacy Programming & Resources—Northeast Region Hub

Youth Nutrition, Literacy, Culture Program—after school (grades 1-8) (Mon.—Thurs.)

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/Opportunities—phone, fax, photocopy, computer, internet, resume, portfolio, life skills, gardening, yard work, volunteer, fundraising, nutrition, emergent needs, housing and home support, giveaway shed, literacy, tutoring, community hours, alternative measures support, community events and inclusion, transportation, employment and personal support.

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.

“Who named the "Oasis"? That's exactly what it is. The healing circle, the traditional teachings, the blessing of our meals, all this and more has made a big difference in my life. The "Oasis" is my home away from home. I've been gifted with the art of "moccasin making". The "Oasis" quenches our "thirsts" in life, whatever they may be, from the little people to the Elders.” Mary

(Mary as a result of what she has learned during the Oasis traditional time from Oasis Cultural Leader—Harriet Burns Mary has started her own business “Kookum’s Moccassins” and has passed on the teachings to her family.)

STATISTICS

Youth Nutrition/Culture Program	Numbers	Monthly Statistics (Average)	Numbers
# of Families in Youth program	33	# of participants	150
# of Family Members of youth program	160	# of Youth	68
# of Meals 2014_15 served in CNDP/CIF (youth)	2475	% that are First Nation	85-90 %
# of participants 2014_15 in CNDP/CIF (youth)	1907	% with disabilities	25%
# of Central Park participants	22	# that are homeless	40
# of Wagner participants	18	# that are at risk of homelessness	125
# of LP Miller participants	25	# using computers	34
# of Teen youth drop in during school hours	13	# using phone	23
# of meals served (community, families)	1300	# using transportation	50-70
#of participants (community, families)	1000	# wanting resume assistance/ identifications, filling out forms	10
# of youth bridged to Girl guides and Air Cadets	23	# that Oasis provided employment for	34
Mental Health program participants	35-40	Culture Programming (monthly)	100 - 200
Family Support Program average monthly families and youth that Oasis provides services for	40-60	Employment 2014_15 at Oasis	34 employees \$221,000
Literacy Programming (monthly) Family, Workplace	40-60	“Try a Tool” Project	2000 students

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/OUTCOMES 2014-2015

Youth:

Air Cadet camps—winter and summer survival

Girl Guide camp—Heritage Lake

Golf program - Rolling Pines Golf Course

Carpentry Program (7 wk) —partnership with Arborfield school/Handiworks —Munden Coates instructor

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

Family

Family Literacy/Baby Day (monthly)—partnership with KTHR—Rhonda Teichrob—
Wedding reception held at the Oasis—1st time :)

Prevention/Health/Wellness:

Lunch and Learns

Living with Chronic Illness workshop at Oasis

Healing Circle

Mental Health Support Group

Oasis garden

COPE group went to Prince Albert—Oct. 23

Christmas Party with PA Mental Health support group at Legion—Nov. 27

Culture Activities:

National Aboriginal Day Celebration—June 21

Culture Days—Cree Culture and Language Celebration —Sept. 26

Red Earth Wild Meat Distribution—Nov. 12 at the Oasis

Elders, Cultural Advisors

Red Earth Culture Camp—Red Earth

Beadwork, Moccasins, Moss bags, Bonnets,

Academy of Fashion Design—delivering a traditional sewing class at the Oasis—using residential personal credits

NAIG—North American Indigenous Games Lance Run Ceremony—Oasis —July 7 & 8

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

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

<http://www.nipawinjournal.com/2015/03/07/rotary-club-of-nipawin-honors-local-volunteers>

<http://www.nipawinjournal.com/2015/05/20/local-program-maintains-aboriginal-tradition>

<http://www.nipawinjournal.com/2015/04/07/nipawin-oasis-keeps-culture-through-support-group>

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS 2014-2015

Literacy/Professional Development:

Lindsay Brittain (Oasis employee) receives 2014 Sask. Literacy award of Merit
Family Support Program Coordinator attended Core Training in Prince Albert.
FSP Coordinator and Family Support Specialists attended the Northern Family Support Conference.
FSP Coordinator and Family Support Specialists attended Mental Health Wellness Conference.
Online UBC-EDX course “Reconciliation through Indigenous Education” was taken by Executive Director
Residential, Renovation and Construction Program —12 week program from March 31 to June 20.
Partnership with SIIT and Apprenticeship and Trade Commission
Project Management and Proposal Writing Course at the Oasis — Nov. 10, 12, & 13
Reaching In and Reaching Out workshop—Tisdale—employees attended
“Try a Tool” project— sponsored by SaskPower—2000 students in spring and fall in 7 communities

Community Outreach/Inclusion/Support:

Work Air Cadet Bingos and Legion Trade Fair
Social Services—CBO forum —presentation—Sept. 24
Bridge youth to Air Cadets and Girl guides
Tobin Lake July 1st—made cupcakes and cleanup
Family Fun Night at Wagner Gym—Thursdays 6:30—8—organized by Gillis McKay
Child Find at the Oasis—Sept. 3
Poverty Workshop—Tisdale Oct. 16 — Oasis Forum presentation
Alternative Measures—working with to provide community service hours
Flu Clinic and Lunch and Learn—Oct. 27 and Nov. 5
Community Christmas Concert at Evergreen—Dec. 7 (lunch proceeds went to the Northeast Outreach Support Services Women’s Shelter in Melfort)
Giveaway Shed— built shelves and place to store items to giveaway as needed
Special Olympics Gold Medal—Team Sask. - Debbie Cramer (Oasis employee)
Oasis Fleamarket and Bike Sale—May 2
Nipawin Oasis Annual General Meeting—June 24
March 7th—Rotary “Paul Harris award” Gala—Joy received the honorary award for her volunteer and literacy work in the community.
March 29th— worked at Shopping spree at Evergreen selling hot dogs, baking
Started Facebook page as well as groups on: Literacy, Cultural. Parenting, Recipes, and Skills

Capital:

Nipawin Taxi—Nipawin Oasis is no longer in the Taxi business and has sold it to James Allardice.
Operation is as usual.
Homelessness Initiative grant—repaired roof and purchased new 15 passenger van

WHAT DIFFERENCE DID WE MAKE?

Cree Culture & Language:

Significantly increased:

- knowledge, awareness and participation of First Nation & Métis Culture and Cree language
- partnerships with Red Earth, Shoal Lake, Cumberland House, James Smith Cree Nations, Marguerite Riel Centre and Northern Lights Development Corp.
- involvement of First Nation and Métis Elders, Cultural Advisors at the centre and with the youth and healing circle and traditional time once a week.
- participation of First Nation & Métis youth, individuals and families in the community of Nipawin
- knowledge of Red Earth Cree Nation history and traditional knowledge
- Indigenous Culture through the Teepee in place year round at the Oasis
- Community celebrations of National Aboriginal Day and Culture Days
- Honoured to be asked to host the North American Indigenous Games Lance Run Ceremony at the Oasis—along with entertainment by “Constant Reminder” teenage band from James Smith Cree Nation
- participation in and knowledge of Treaty Awareness, Cree language, beading, Powwow, jigging, drumming, traditional foods, bonnet making, moccasins, cradle boards and Medicine Wheel teachings
- opportunities to sell/trade beadwork and moccasins.
- cultural knowledge and awareness through the hiring of Harriet Burns—Cultural Leader to lead traditional time, and culture in youth and family programming

Nutrition/Prevention/Health:

Significantly increased:

- knowledge, participation and awareness of safe food handling, cooking, nutrition, wellness, physical activity, social skills and independent living skills for over 70 youth, and 35 families
- knowledge, awareness on various health, prevention and nutrition topics

Literacy/Education and Employment:

Significantly increased:

- Renovation, Residential and Construction Program for 12 students. 3 went on to further their education, 2 are working full time—1 in the construction trade.
- Carpentry Skills and opportunities for 12 girls

Support, Intervention, Counselling:

Increased

- Youth and Family Support and Counselling services as a result of increased funding and development of the Family Support Program serving the Northeast area
- Assistance with filling out required forms, literacy, applications, resumes, Identification

Community Outreach & Support/Inclusion/Other agencies:

Website, Facebook pages Program Grants—over \$400,000 in grants

Referrals to and from other agencies

Community meetings

Bridging to Girl Guides (11) and Air Cadets—(12)

Provided access to community resources

Provided Taxi Service to the community

Provided Green Team/Odd Job service to community

CHILD NUTRITION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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

This program teaches good nutrition practices for children, youth and families, and helps develop independent living skills for children and their families including new ways to prepare food, budgeting, shopping, safe food handling, preserving, Cree culture, literacy and outdoor activities. The youth are picked up at school and driven home after the program.



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 7 & up). Family Literacy is on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and some Fridays. We also have older youth dropping in daily for pro-

gramming 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.

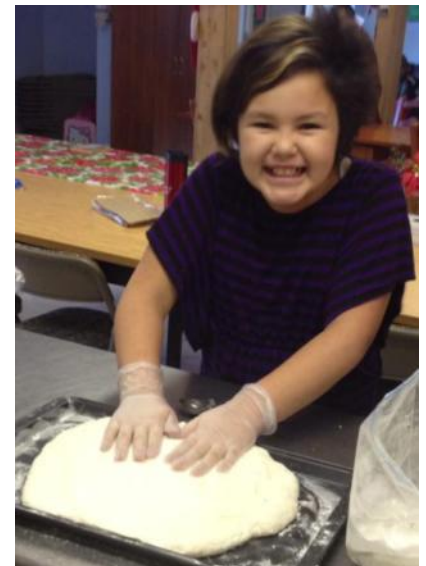
Other activities : nature walk/hike, learning about various local plants and animals, outdoor scavenger hunt, visit Regional Park, literacy, sliding at



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 and volunteers when needed.



CULTURE AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION PROGRAM



This program includes Cree culture and language, literacy, community events, outdoor and physical activities. The Oasis also provides support and transportation for the youth to attend Girl Guides and the Nipawin Air Cadet program.



Yearly activities have included beadwork, outdoor cooking, bannock making, sledding, skating, storytelling, scavenger hunts, camping, skiing, shopping, swimming—Melfort and Nipawin,



bowling, outings at the Regional Park, nature walks, cultural teachings, jigging, traditional cultural teachings, and time with Elders and Cultural Advisors.



This program is led by cultural leader—Harriet Burns with transportation/support provided by Marshal Roberts, cultural leaders and volunteers. Funded by SaskCulture, , Community Initiatives Fund, and the TIP community grant.



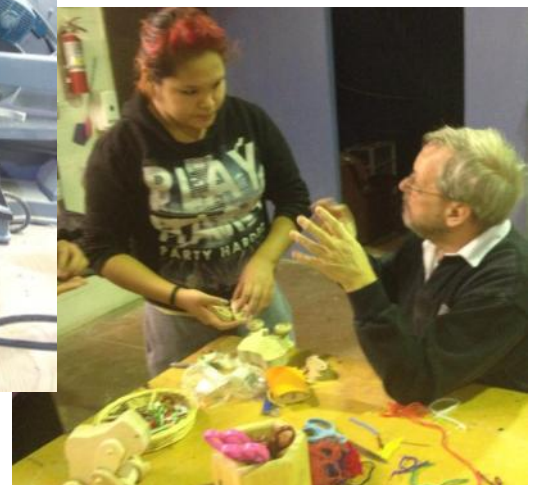
WOMEN & GIRLS EXPLORING TRADES PROGRAM

Program is to identify and provide opportunities to prepare First Nation and Métis girls, youth and women from Nipawin and surrounding First Nation communities for technology and trades careers.

This program is funded by Ministry of Education—Literacy Office, CIF, Sask. Status of Women Office and SaskPower.



7 Week Carpentry Program with Munden Coates. This was a partnership with the Nipawin Oasis, Arborfield school and instructor Munden Coates along with Handiworks and Gary Schenstead for providing the space. This was a 7 week carpentry program held in the fall of 2014. The girls made a picnic table, hockey stick, a jigger doll, and a David Wakefield movable wooden toy.



“TRY A TOOL” PROGRAM

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 and is delivered in the spring and fall to the schools in the surrounding area.



In the fall we went to 6 schools (1000 students)—Shoal Lake Cree Nation, James Smith Cree Nation, Village of Cumberland House, Cumberland House Cree Nation, Kinisten Sauteaux Nation, and Central Park School —Nipawin. Role models are Kaydie Desjarlais—Carpenter at Pineland Co-op, Harriet Burns—Cultural Advisor, Codie Sandypoint—apprentice electrician at SaskPower, Shania Umpherville—Oasis carpentry program, Joy Hanson—retired power engineer—SaskPower. Additional



role models also from the Oasis Women & Girls Exploring trades program also attended.

We went into the schools in the morning and talked with 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. Interest in the project has been high from the students and the teachers as well as other schools have heard about the project and would like us to go to their school.



CULTURE PROGRAMMING—TRADITIONAL TIME



Traditional Time is funded by SaskCulture and is led 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. Activities have included singing ducks, duck soup, goose that tastes like moose stew, bannock, “Indian cake”, participating in Wake service, Cree singing, Cree language, beadwork, moccasins, sewing, bonnets, moss bags, quilting, cultural teachings, outdoor cooking, and looming. Mary started her own business



“Kookum’s Mocassins” as a result of the teachings from Harriet on beadwork and the art of moccasin making. She has also gone on to teach her daughter.



HEALING CIRCLE



Healing Circle with Elders Evelyn and Riley Burns from the James Smith Cree Nation and 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.

The healing circle is a First Nations healing model with the intention of specifically addressing or healing an individual or individu-

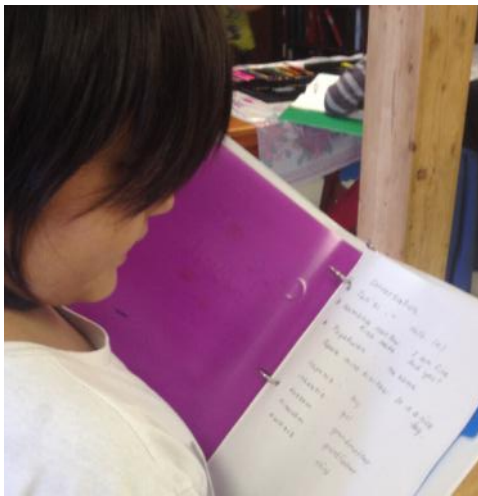
als with traumas and addictions from effects such as the Residential Schools.

The Healing Circle involves a group of people that come together to create an atmosphere in which everyone feels free to share stories about personal barriers or trauma's. Different topics are discussed that include Indian Resi-



dential School trauma, marriage and relationships, domestic violence, alcohol and drug addictions, parenting and other family issues etc. Participants of this support program

choose the topics for each week. At the end of each session an Elder shares their knowledge and provides words of encouragement. We would like to thank Marguerite Riel



Centre for their support of providing Elders for the healing circle.



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Funded by the Kelsey Trail Health Region – the COPE program supports people diagnosed with schizophrenia, depression, bi-polar disorder and other chronic mental health problems.

Twice each week the group meets with the Oasis Outreach Worker, Volunteers and the Mental Health Nurse to carry out the various social and recreation activities. The group has been to Prince Albert, had Prince Albert come here for a Christmas Party, Regional Park for a weiner roast, Halloween Party, Meals twice a month, Christmas concert at Evergreen and the United Church, volunteer appreciation lunch at the Oasis and Birthday parties. For Christmas each participant received a small box of treats and cards with lots of oranges and other goodies.

In addition, the program provides vocational work opportunities, home support, birthday recognition and advocacy work.

The Oasis provided regional support in organizing the adult summer camp for the Kelsey Trail and Prince Albert/Parkland Health Regions also a Christmas social. The program is very dependent on volunteers and the Oasis is fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers that contribute their time, compassion, encouragement and support to the program.



Doug Lowe has completed the training for “Peer Leader for Living with Chronic Conditions” and has also taken the training to “Train the Trainer to be a Peer Leader”. Doug has facilitated five weekly sessions for six weeks and is also doing a complete four day “Train the Trainer session in Saskatoon.

Doug Lowe coordinates the provincial joint district Mental Health Camp at Christopher Lake with KTHR and PA Health District.

Camp continues to be the highlight of the year. This year 13 from the Nipawin COPE group attended camp, with a combined total of Prince Albert Health and Kelsey Trail Health of 63 clients and 14 staff. While at camp we fished, took daily pontoon boat tours, ate wonderful meals, did morning exercises followed by nature hikes (even in the rain), crafts, etc. Due to a huge infestation of Bertha Army worms, some of the clients were a little squeamish about hiking in the woods. Camp opened a treat shop twice a day at coffee breaks. All treats and drinks were \$1 each; the campers had to purchase themselves. We had a campfire weather permitting, three movie nights. Another highlight of camp was Wednesday night dance with a DJ out of Prince Albert. Bingo was played every afternoon with all of the agencies supplying great prizes. Some went canoeing if they had prior experience with that activity. One group went to Waskasiu and toured the Nature Centre. Each year Kelsey Trail or Prince Albert is responsible for dispensing medication; this year was Kelsey Trail's turn.

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. We provide services for the Northeast area.

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 SUPPORT/LITERACY PROGRAMMING—PARENT & TOT

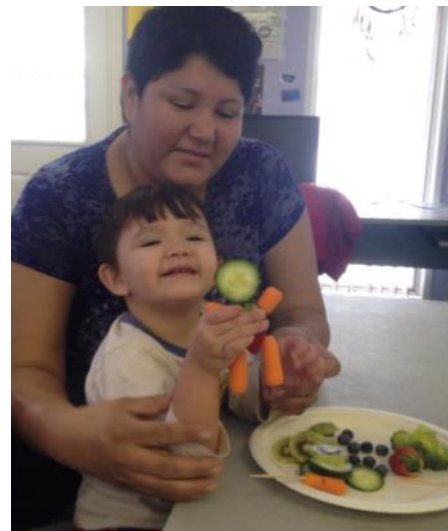


This program is offered once a month and is facilitated by Rhonda Teichreb, KTHR Early Childhood Development Facilitator & Telehealth Coordinator with activities and support from the Oasis Family Support Employees. The aim is to bring parents with infants and toddlers together to increase their knowledge 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, family literacy, solid foods for infants and healthy eating.



FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAMMING

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/>



OASIS GARDEN

This is the second year for the garden and thanks to Stacie Simon for leading this project :) Enjoying all the fresh vegetables while the youth and other participants are enjoying learning how to weed, water, prepare and preserve the produce. Yum Yum!



NAIG Lance Run Ceremony at the Oasis July 7 & 8

This year Saskatchewan was the host province of the North American Indigenous Games that took place July 20th – 27th in Regina with thousands of Indigenous youth who participated in competitive sports; all that participated were representing their home communities. The NAIG ceremonial lance travelled through the province to bring awareness and pride for Saskatchewan to be the host province. Nipawin was selected as a key community for the Lance to stop and visit. The Nipawin Oasis Community Centre, with the community's help, welcomed 10 youth Lance runners and chaperones to Nipawin on July 7th 2014. We would like to thank the Town of Nipawin for welcoming the youth and their chaperones to Nipawin and for giving the welcoming address, special thank you to Elder Norman Head for blessing the food and a big thank you to Constant Reminder for their wonderful performance! It was a successful event that had approximately 100 community members join us!



Oasis celebrates National Aboriginal Day June 21

Sponsored by Canadian Heritage, SaskCulture and Community Initiatives Fund Activities

On June 21st 2014 the Nipawin Oasis hosted its 2nd successful National Aboriginal Day Celebration with Elders Henry and Betsy Crane, Angelique McKay, Rev. Reta Nawakayas, Emma Pelly, Ernest and Harriet Felix and honoured guests, Joseph Naytowhow – Indigenous Knowledge Keeper, Island Dancers from Cumberland House, Powwow dancers Kyle Whitefish and Harriet Lathlin. The events that took place were Pipe Ceremony, Teepee raising and teachings by Joseph Naytowhow, Traditional dancing and teachings, bonnet and moss bag making, cradle board display and teachings, carving with Elder Henry Crane, Cree language and Syllabics, drumming and powwow dancing, Red Earth Cree Nation history, jigging, square dancing, medicine wheel teachings, children's activities and traditional lunch served with bannock and putchin. Followed by Jigging, Neckbone and Watermelon eating contests. It was another successful celebration that had approximately 150 community members participate! One Elder said it was the best day of her life :) and the youth were asking when can we do this again? :)



Oasis celebrates Culture Days—Cree Language & Culture

Funded by SaskCulture and Community Initiatives Fund

To view the pictures from this day

[https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.607651312667992.1073741839.131390726960722&type=1&l=4aba6be1e8)

[set=a.607651312667992.1073741839.131390726960722&type=1&l=4aba6be1e8](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.607651312667992.1073741839.131390726960722&type=1&l=4aba6be1e8)

Sept. 26

10:00 Opening Ceremony

11 – 12 Teepee Raising and Teachings with Elder Riley Burns

12 – 1 Traditional food – moose soup

1:00 Cree songs with Steven and Christopher Head

1-5 Interactive activities: Jigging, drumming, bonnet making, bannock making, beading, looming, bracelet making, traditional games, storytelling, Red Earth history sharing, Elder sharing, Cree language, carvings and cradle board, moss bags, crafts, plucking ducks and geese

4-5 Traditional meal – moose stew

Impact/Benefit:

This was the second time for the Nipawin Oasis to host culture days

- **Bridged Communities/Changed attitudes** - It built bridges between aboriginal people and non aboriginal people. Hudson Bay brought a class of non-aboriginal youth that interacted very well with the many aboriginal youth that were there. They really enjoyed it they said. We had two newspapers covering the event – Nipawin Journal and the Parkland Review

- **Hope/ Utilized local resources** - It gave people hope and excitement and to plan for next year's event. The Elders were very thankful for having this event and repeatedly commented on how this event is needed in the community and to have it ongoing.

- **Passing on knowledge so it's not lost** – Elders sharing their knowledge to the youth.

- **Traditions continuing** – youth and families enjoyed the hands on activities



- **Strengthened partnerships** with the communities of Red Earth, Shoal Lake and Cumberland House as well as Hudson Bay school



Residential Renovation and Construction Program—12 weeks

This program was a partnership between SIIT (Sask. Indian Institute of Technologys), Sask. Apprenticeship Board, Ministry of Economy—Prov. Gov't, and the Nipawin Oasis. Nine students were successful in completing the program. Nipawin was the first rural urban community to host this program and the first time the program qualified to receive the provincial training allowance. Instructor was Sean Mahar with SIIT. This partnership in addition to funding received from the Homeless Initiative grant provided with the students assistance to build 3 sheds, install 2 vanities, shelving, and baseboards. We are very grateful for all their hard work and dedication in not only furthering their own careers but to help out the Oasis at the same time :) We were blessed to have Elder Phyllis Flett and Emma Pelly and Joseph Naytowhow who was at the graduation ceremony and shared wisdom and encouragement. The meal was made by the Oasis which was delicious :) Several of the students are now working or furthering their education.



Lindsay Brittain receives 2014 Sask. Literacy award of Merit

On April 23, 2014, hosted by the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield—Lieutenant Governor at Government House in Regina. Lindsay Brittain was presented with the Cameco Literacy Learner Award and Bursary of \$1,000 in his position of Youth and Culture Leader at the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre. The five awards were presented to individuals who displayed outstanding efforts to promote literacy, programs devoted to learning, and organizations that incorporated essential skills, learn-



ing, and literacy when educating others. Lindsay is currently enrolled in a two year youth worker program to further his education. A very special young man in many ways and is missed by all.

YOUTH GOLFING PROGRAM



We are very thankful to Debbie Arnst of the Rolling Pines golf course for their support and applying for the MAPP grant which allows the program to be partially funded. This enables the Oasis youth to experience the pleasure of learning and playing the game of golf. Superb lessons as always were given by Derrick Tallon. To practice the youth enjoyed the Nipawin Golf Course driving range as well with thanks to Derrick for supplying the range balls :) This will be continuing in 2015 as well.



RABBIT AND BEAR PAW—PUPPETRY

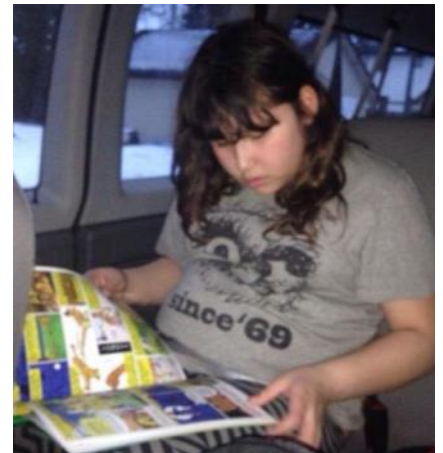
On March 27th the Oasis had the pleasure of being able to host Rabbit and Bear Paws.

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 Dream-catcher and the Seven Grandfathers.

While Rabbit is fasting in the forest at the top of the mountain, he dreams of a Grand-mother 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

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



Honouring Indigenous Inspirational Women of Change Dinner—March 6

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 Nechapank 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.

What difference has the Oasis made to you?

Children asked to have more things to build with in their classrooms! We talked in our Social Studies classes about what careers were shared at the "Try a Tool" Day and some of our classes wrote about their experience in their journals.

My class really enjoyed the "Try a Tool" event. Every single student was engaged the entire time! They loved the hammering/ drill station. It was busy for the whole hour we were there. They also loved the building station - sticks and string to tie together.

I've seen a lot of difference since I've started working at the Oasis such as traditional days that Harriet Burns is teaching. There are trips we have gone to like swimming, golfing, etc. Kids are always looking forward to going to kitchens. People ask me what's happening next week and so on. It feels pretty good that I can explain about the Oasis to them.

Oasis is an amazing place to go to where you can feel welcomed and loved. At least that's how we, my family, feel.

Oasis is a place to meet or take programs that are offered and help you when needed. I enjoy going there whenever I have a chance, visit and check out anything that is going on, very friendly people we get to meet and work with. I enjoyed working, talking and making friends there.

If it wasn't for the Oasis, I wouldn't be here.

They loved it! In the words of Owen Tait, "It was awesome!!!"

My kids loved it!! There was a great variety of hands on activities with tools that many kids would never see, let alone be able to operate.

I definitely think the Oasis is a amazing place to meet new people and learn so many things! Very friendly people ! I love the Facebook pages!

Oasis offer programs that, "a stay home mom" should go to ...

Thinking about my dad and how much he loved going there. He always mentioned about Oasis, how you helped him to get a job and helping him get stuff.

Oasis is an awesome place to work and Oasis always has things planned for all ages. Oasis is a blessed place and everyone who goes in and out is a blessing at Oasis in Jesus name.

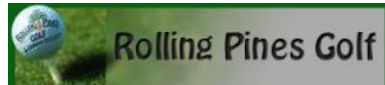
Just like to say everyone at the oasis are doing a great job with the kids so glad they have a safe place to hang and have fun a job well done!!

It's a great place to relax and visit new and old friends, share ideas, bead, bake and now we're going to sing along as we bead!

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



Saskatchewan
Status of
Women Office



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



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

Youth Donations:

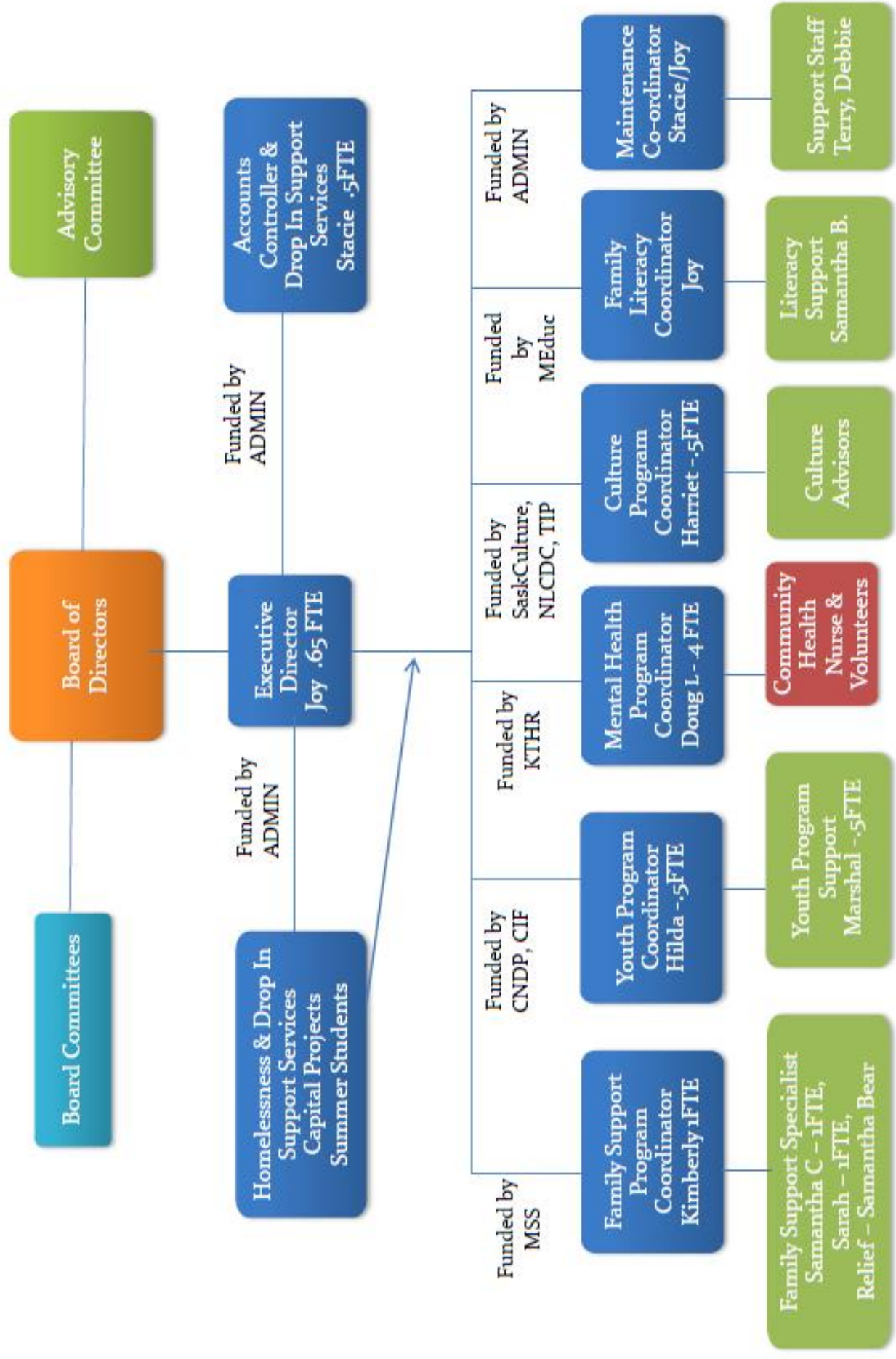
Tobin Lake Rec Board
Red Earth Cree Nation
Ken Hanson

Oasis General Donations:

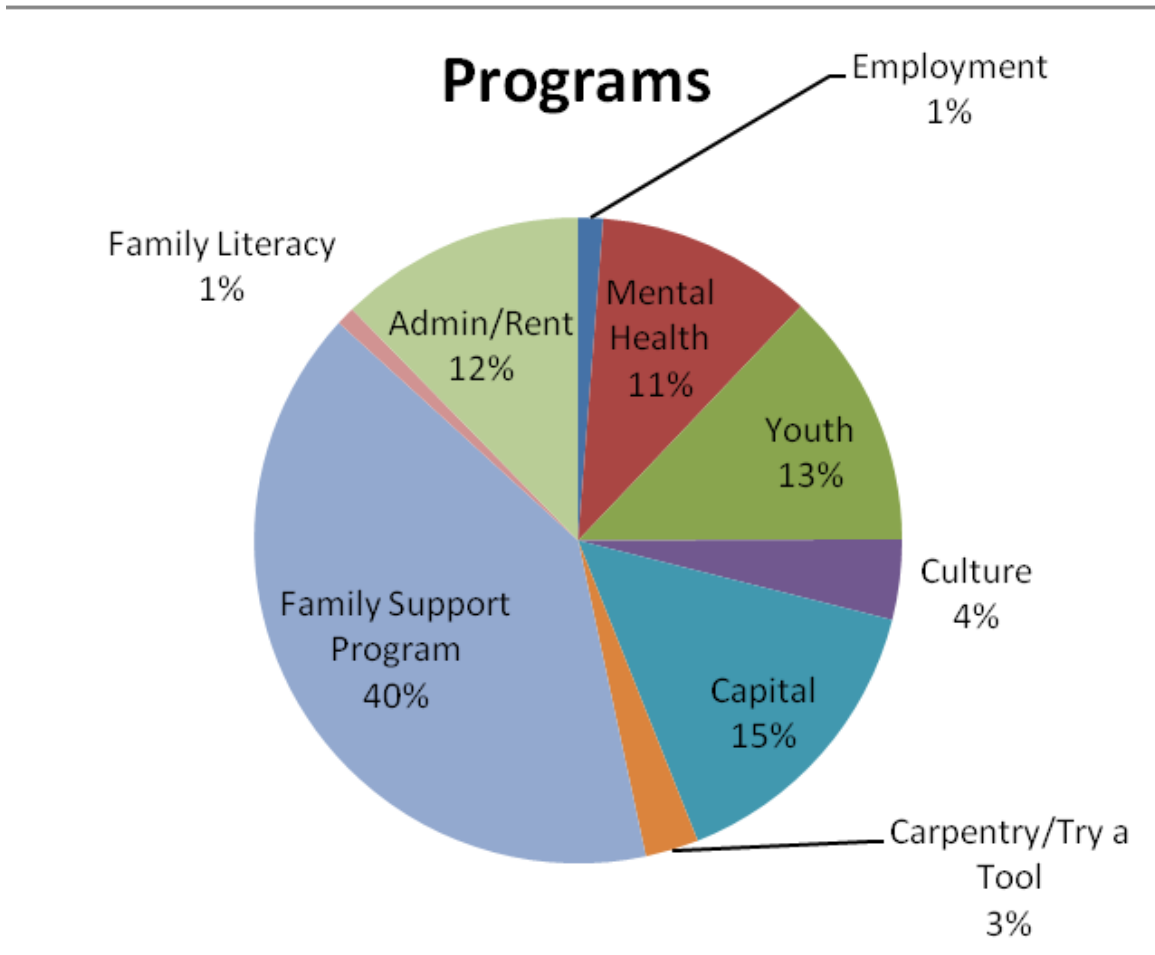
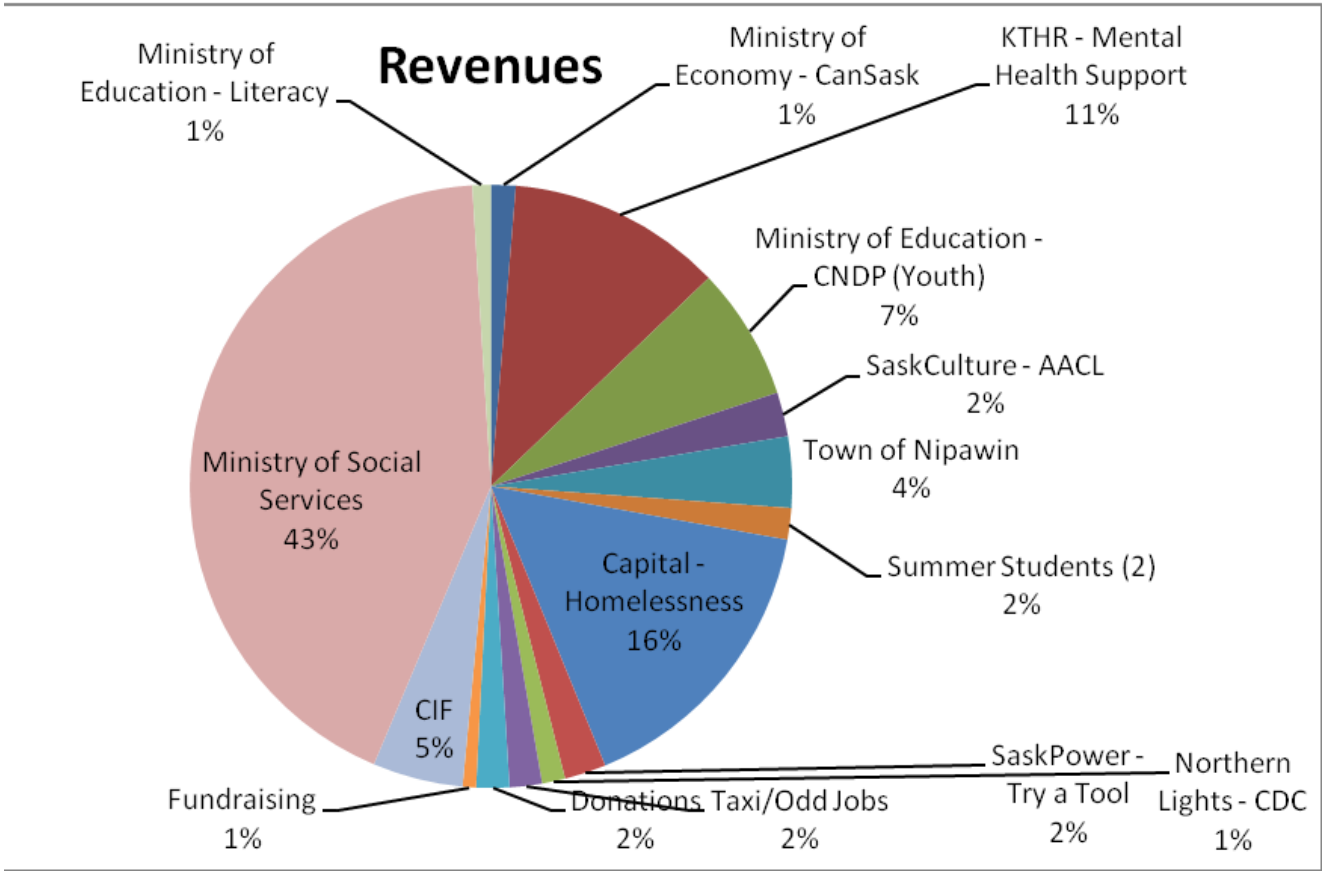
Nipawin Ministerials
United Church
Royal Purple
The Salvation Army
Charles Fitzsimmons
United Way of Regina
Knights of Columbus
Nipawin Alliance Church
St. Johns Anglican Church
Diane Berge
Helen Remple
Frances Hughes
Clifford and Thelma Kelsey
Norman and Joanne Thomson
Lorna King
Nipawin Donor's Choice
Nipawin Senior Citizens Association
Nipawin Denture Clinic
Re/Max Nipawin



Nipawin Oasis Org Chart 2015-16



STATISTICS





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd.

We have audited the statement of financial position of Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. as at March 31, 2015, the statement of changes in net asset, the statements of operations, and cash flow for the year then ended, as well a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. derives revenue from fundraising activities the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the year ended March 31, 2015 current assets and net assets as at March 31, 2015

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. as at March 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.



Tisdale, Saskatchewan
June 23, 2015


CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

**NIPAWIN OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE LTD.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2015**

	Total 2015	Total 2014
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 256,108	\$ 96,664
Term Deposits	25,000	25,000
Accounts receivable	23,775	9,247
Prepaid expenses	3,517	4,004
	<u>308,400</u>	<u>134,915</u>
Capital assets (Note 3)	184,204	168,735
Total Assets	\$ 492,604	\$ 303,650
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	9,080	3,230
Payroll liabilities	6,880	4,114
GST payable	(3,566)	(2,480)
PST payable	-	165
Deferred grant - Community Initiatives	16,537	12,705
Deferred grant - Literacy	36,033	-
Deferred grant - Northern Lights CDC	1,333	-
Deferred grant - Kitchens grant	24,057	26,963
Deferred grant - Community Initiatives Vitality	3,748	7,680
Deferred grant - COPE camp	1,378	1,391
Deferred grant - Raise A Reader	750	1,000
Deferred grant - Sask Culture AALG	11,859	2,395
Deferred grant - Family Support	56,959	-
Deferred grant - Try a Tool	12,370	-
Ministry Restricted Reserve for Equipment	5,000	-
Total liabilities	\$ 182,418	\$ 57,163
Fund Balances:		
Invested in capital assets	164,011	145,566
Unrestricted	146,175	100,921
Fund Balances - Statement 2	310,186	246,487
Total	\$ 492,604	\$ 303,650

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

Director

Director

**NIPAWIN OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE LTD.
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
Year Ended March 31, 2015**

	Unrestricted	Invested in capital assets	\$ 2015	\$ 2014
Net Assets - beginning of period	\$ 100,921	\$ 145,566	\$ 246,487	\$ 192,291
Changes to capital assets from expenses	(5)	43,314	\$ 43,309	4,760
Deficiency (excess) of revenue over expenses	45,259	(24,869)	20,390	49,436
	\$ 146,175	\$ 164,011	\$ 310,186	\$ 246,487

NIPAWIN OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE LTD.
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the Year Ended March 31, 2015

	\$ 2015	\$ 2014
REVENUES		
CanSask Grant (Schedule 1)	6,573	65,298
COPE (Schedule 2)	57,539	58,399
Collective Kitchens Program (Schedule 3)	35,490	26,579
Grants (Schedule 4)	145,605	99,604
Oasis Employment Program (Schedule 5)	71,846	107,405
General (Schedule 6)	79,284	30,895
Community Initiatives (Schedule 9)	24,173	35,463
Ministry of Social Services (Schedule 10)	212,668	89,589
Literacy (Schedule 11)	4,967	54,321
Total Revenues	638,145	567,553
EXPENSES		
CanSask Grant (Schedule 1)	6,573	65,298
COPE (Schedule 2)	57,539	58,399
Collective Kitchens Program (Schedule 3)	35,490	26,579
Grants (Schedule 4)	126,605	84,284
Oasis Employment Program (Schedule 5)	63,167	95,956
General - Wages, odd jobs, office, utilities (Schedule 8)	6,395	2,004
General - General expenses (Schedule 8)	55,309	(1,974)
Amortization	24,869	6,844
Community Initiatives (Schedule 9)	24,173	35,463
Ministry of Social Services (Schedule 10)	212,668	89,943
Literacy (Schedule 11)	4,967	55,321
Total Expenses	617,755	518,117
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	20,390	49,436

NIPAWIN OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE LTD.
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended March 31, 2015

	\$ 2015	\$ 2014
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash receipts	622,410	560,511
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(585,034)	(513,858)
Interest received	1,207	197
Cash flows from (for) Operating Activities	\$ 38,583	\$ 46,850
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of assets/disposal of assets	2,971	3,831
Cash flows from (for) Investment Activities	2,971	3,831
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Deferred revenue	112,890	(40,209)
Reserve setup	5,000	-
Repayment of loan	-	(13,381)
Cash flows from (for) Financing Activities	\$ 117,890	\$ (53,590)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	159,444	(2,909)
Cash - beginning of year	121,664	124,573
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 281,108	\$ 121,664

504 Railway Ave W
Box 3146
Nipawin, Sk. S0E 1E0



Nipawin
asis
Community Centre Co-operative Ltd.

Ph: (306) 862-5551
Fax: (306) 862-5589
Email: nipoasis1@sasktel.net
www.nipawinoasis.com

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*