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Fall/Winter 2014 Volume 2, Issue 3



www.nipawinoasis.com



Welcome :)

We have had an exciting third quarter :) We received funding from Ministry of Social Services for a Family support program serving Nipawin and Melfort area. We also have 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.

Several new employees have been hired at the Oasis. We received funding from SaskPower and the Status of Women office to deliver the “Try a Tool” project in the Northeast. We received funding from SaskCulture for an Aboriginal Arts, Culture and Leadership programming. Ministry of Education, Community Initiatives Fund is funding the Youth and Family Nutrition and Culture programming. Culture Days—Celebrating Cree language and Culture was another successful event. Homelessness Partnership grant— fixed the roof and purchased a new 15 passenger van. Northern Lights Community Development Corp. is funding the Family and Youth Literacy programming. Carpentry program this fall partnership with Arborfield school and instructor Munden Coates. Community Christmas concert with proceeds going to the Oasis and lunch proceeds went to Northeast Outreach Support Services—women’s shelter. Much more inside :) enjoy.....Thankyou

Joy Hanson—Executive Director—nipoasis1@sasktel.net

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN FALL & WINTER 2014



Child Find at the Oasis—Sept. 3
Purchased 7 passenger van —for programming
Culture Days—Cree Culture and Language Celebration —Sept. 26
Traditional Time/Healing Circle —Started Every Wednesday 10-3
Project Management and Proposal Writing Course — Nov. 10, 12, & 13
Reaching In and Reaching Out workshop—Tisdale—employees attended
Family Literacy/Baby Day—partnership with KTHR—Rhonda Teichrob— Early Childhood Development and Community Wellness
Red Earth Wild Meat Distribution—Nov. 12 at the Oasis
“Try a Tool” project—partnership with SaskPower and Status of Women began
Carpentry Program (7 wk) —partnership with Arborfield school/Handiworks — Munden Coates instructor
Poverty Workshop—Tisdale Oct. 16 — Forum presentation
Oasis coats—Several employees ordered new coats
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)
COPE group went to Prince Albert—Oct. 23
Christmas Party with PA Mental Health support group at Legion—Nov. 27
Social Services—CBO forum —presentation—Sept. 24
Homelessness Initiative grant—repaired roof and purchased new 15 passenger van
Wedding reception held at the Oasis—1st time :)
Giveaway Shed— built shelves and place to store items to giveaway as needed
Academy of Fashion Design—delivering a traditional sewing class at the Oasis—using residential personal credits
Follow up Reports completed— SaskCulture, CIF, Raise a Reader, Heritage Canada, Lakeland & District for Sport and Recreation, and Summer student grants.
Grants received for 2014-2015 —Child Nutrition & Development Program grant—Ministry of Education, Northern Lights CDC, TIP grant, Ministry of Social Services, KTHR—Mental Health, RRAC program, Status of Women, SaskCulture—Leadership Program, CIF, Homelessness Initiative, SaskPower—’Try a Tool’, Family Literacy Hub—Ministry of Education— Provincial Library and Literacy Office.
Nipawin Intergated Services Committee Meetings—participating in
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.

Coming Events

Honouring Indigenous
Inspiritational Woman of
Change Dinner —March 6

National Aboriginal Day—
June 21

Traditional Sewing Pro-
gram— Jan—April

‘Try a Tool’ project—April,
May, June

Parent & Tot Day—2nd
Tuesday of every month



**TAXI
TRANSPORTATION
LOCALLY OWNED
AND OPERATED**

Taxi number is
862-8559

Taxi Driver is
James Allardice

Extended Hours days,
evenings and weekends

**By supporting the
Oasis Taxi you
support the
community**

2014-2015 OASIS PROGRAMS

Family Support Program

Family Literacy Programming & Resources

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

Traditional Time—Every Wednesday 10-3

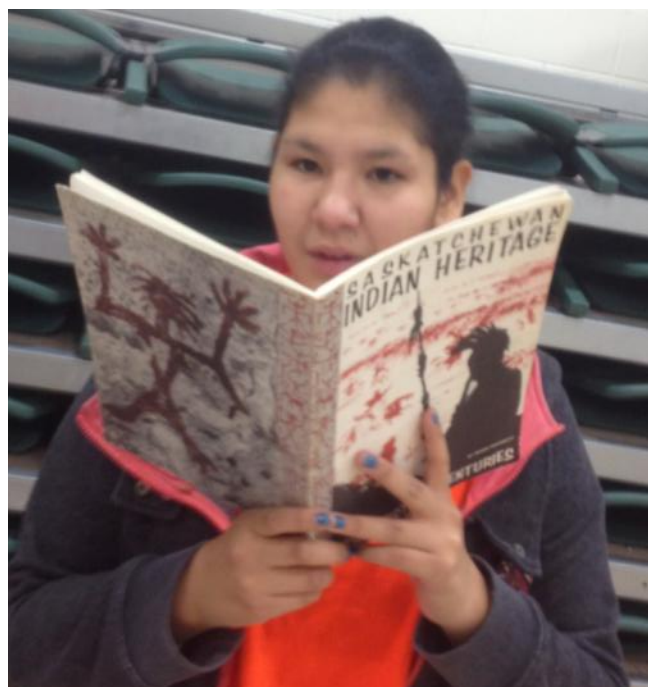
Healing Circle—Wednesday 1-3

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

Women & Girls Exploring Trades Program—”Try a Tool”
and Carpentry

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

Mental Health Provincial Summer Camp



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



“Try a Tool Project”

funded by SaskPower & Status of Women Office

To see additional photos <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.241664802599980.41392.131390726960722&type=3>

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 fall we went to 6 schools—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. This fall over a 1000 students participated in this project. We will be delivering this again in the spring to schools in Nipawin and surrounding area. 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.





*Grade 1's were engaged in activities for the full time!!!!
Kids asked when they get to do it again!*

Did you see an impact or difference as a result of the presentation?

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.



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.



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. Excellent hands on learning at all stations!

Carpentry Program with Mr. 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. We would like to thank Munden Coates for being such a wonderful instructor that made the

lessons so much fun :)



YOUTH CULTURE, LITERACY AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

This program is funded by Ministry of Education, Community Initiatives Fund, TIP grant and Northern Lights Community Development Corp.

Youth Program



Youth programming began September 14th/2014 with 64 youth registered in grades 1 through 8 for the afterschool programming and 10 teen youth for drop in programming. A Parents Welcome Night was held between October 20th – 23rd where youth showed parents crafts and activities that was done in the beginning weeks of the program, parents toured the Oasis Centre and participated in scheduled interactive and fun activities lead by the youth.



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, sliding at Regional Park and hospital hills, swimming in Melfort, Christmas party with parents, carpentry, various arts and crafts, various games to increase social skills, community events, leadership skills, and self esteem building.

Youth Program Leaders are Patricia McGillivray, Moreen Reed, and Marcien Roberts with support from the Family Support program and other employees.



FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

We are excited to announce that our Family Support Program grew! We want to welcome Kimberly Bear, Family Support Coordinator, and Sarah Britton, Family Support Specialist in addition to Family Support Specialist—Samantha Chippeway.

The objective of the program is to move the family toward adequate, independent functioning without Ministry of Social Services Child Protection involvement. To provide direct support services to families in the family home by strengthening communication and problem solving skills, enhancing family cohesion, while decreasing the number of children coming into the care of the Ministry.

They have been working on: getting the reporting up to date, parenting program planning and development, available community resources, assisting with youth programming, family literacy, contract hours and working with drop in participants needs.

Kimberly and Joy gave a presentation on the Oasis programs at the MSS of CBO forum in the fall in Prince Albert.

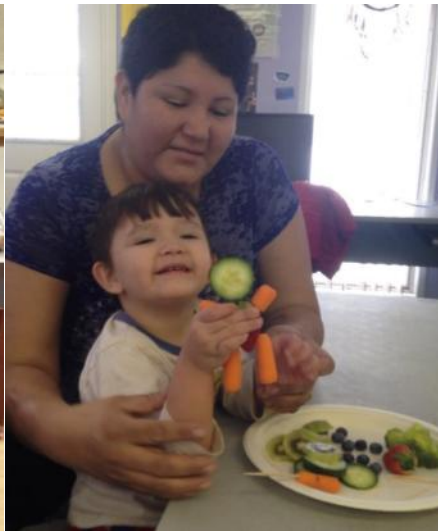


FAMILY LITERACY

Parent & Tot Kitchen



This program is offered once a month and is led by Samantha Chippeway, Family Support Specialist, 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!



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.**

Outcomes:

- Increased community support for and availability of family literacy learning opportunities/resources for Saskatchewan families.
- Increased professional knowledge, collaboration and capacity within the community to provide ethno-culturally appropriate and effective family literacy programs and services to Saskatchewan families.
- Increased knowledge and confidence of program participants (i.e., parents, caregivers, and others working with families) to support the developmental literacy skills of children and strengthen development of life-long and life-wide literacy skills of all family members.
- Improved learning outcomes for families and children.



While promoting and providing:

- reading and learning as a valued family activity
- intergenerational learning opportunities through shared learning activities
- respectful, inclusive ways to be engaged and supportive in learning

For more information:

<http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/literacy/family-literacy-hubs>

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—Christmas Break, Feb. Winter Break and Easter 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

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/>



TRADITIONAL TIME

Traditional Time lead by Harriet Burns is held every Wednesday from 10—3. The time is spent cooking traditional foods, sharing, beadwork, making moccasins, having fun and supporting one another. 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.



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. 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. Volunteers assist with the group which is much appreciated. Average attendance is between 15—25.

EMPLOYEES

Joy Hanson—Executive Director

Kimberly Bear—Family Support Program Coordinator

Samantha Chippeway – Family Support Specialist

Sarah Britton—Family Support Specialist

Doug Lowe – Mental Health Program Co-ordinator (part time)

Stacie Simon – Accounts and Records Controller (part time)

Harriet Burns—Cultural Leader (part time)

Patricia McGillivray—Youth Program Leader (part time)

Marcien Roberts—Youth Program Leader (part time)

Moreen Reed –Youth Program Leader (part time)

Debbie Cramer/Terry Snider – Janitorial (part time)

James Allardice – Nipawin Oasis Taxi Co-ordinator

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

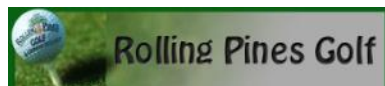
Lewis Robin—Town of Nipawin



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 (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*

