

MINWAAJIM



Formerly known as the Mississauga FN Smoke Signal



AANII -

From The Editorial Committee

As the winter snow melts away, and the grass comes through and the flowers try to bloom through, spring weather is trying to get out now that the time has finally come. The transition from winter to springs gives a sense of renewed energy as the days grow longer and the sun's warmth gives us days to enjoy the beautiful weather.

In our fourth edition, also known as the Spring "Mnookmi" edition of the Smoke Signal, we continue to slowly re-brand as "Minwaajim". Minwaajim in Anishinaabemowin means 'to bring good news'. For the word Mnookmi, it means 'it is spring' in Anishinaabemowin. We previously had an issue last year as "Ziigwaan" but that means 'early spring' in the language.

We are currently offering a digital-only version of the newsletter. This will reduce our carbon footprint on the environment, keep operations costs low and help grow outreach.

Community members who wish for a physical copy of the Minwaajim, can contact Stacey Schellekens at: stacey@mississaugi.com to be added on the mailing list.

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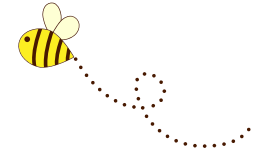
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Bee Conscious Please



By: Dana Boyer

The main issues for the bees populations today are habitat loss, pesticides use, diseases, cell towers, and climate change. A third of all our produce is pollinated by bees, and there are 25,000 known species of bees (only 8 of these are honeybees) belonging to the order Hymenoptera which also include wasps, ants, and sawflies.

There are many small things we can do as individuals or communities to aid in the well-being of our most beloved bumble bee and other pollinators. According to the Center of Biological Diversity 1 in 4 bee species are at risk of extinction in North America, and by the simple act of giving sugar water to an exhausted bee who is walking or planting a succession of trees/plants whose flowers will bloom from spring to fall and staying clear of pesticides and herbicides in your yard, will help in the survival of our small friends.

Bees Love:

Trees: Alder, American Holly, Basswood, Black Gum, Black Locust, Catalpa, Eastern Redbud, Hawthorn, Hazels, Linden, Magnolia, Maples, Mountain Ash, Poplar, Sycamore

Perennials: Buttercups, Clematis, Cosmos, Crocuses, Dahlias
Echinacea, English Ivy, Foxglove, Geraniums, Hollyhocks, Hyacinth, Roses, Tansey
Yellow Hyssop

Fruits: Blackberries, Cantaloupe, Gourds, Fruit Trees, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Strawberries, Watermelons

Vegetables: Peppers and Garlic

Herbs: Bee Balm, Borage, Catnip, Chives, Coriander, Fennel, Lavender, Mints, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme

Shrubs: Blueberry, Butterfly Bush, Button Bush, Honeysuckle, Indigo, Privet
Annuals: Asters, Calliopsis, Cannabis, Clover, Marigolds, Poppies, Sunflowers, Zinnias

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Planting Seasonally:

Early: Crabapple, Cranberry, Crocus, Foxglove, Heliotrope, Hazelnut, Heather, Primrose, Willow.

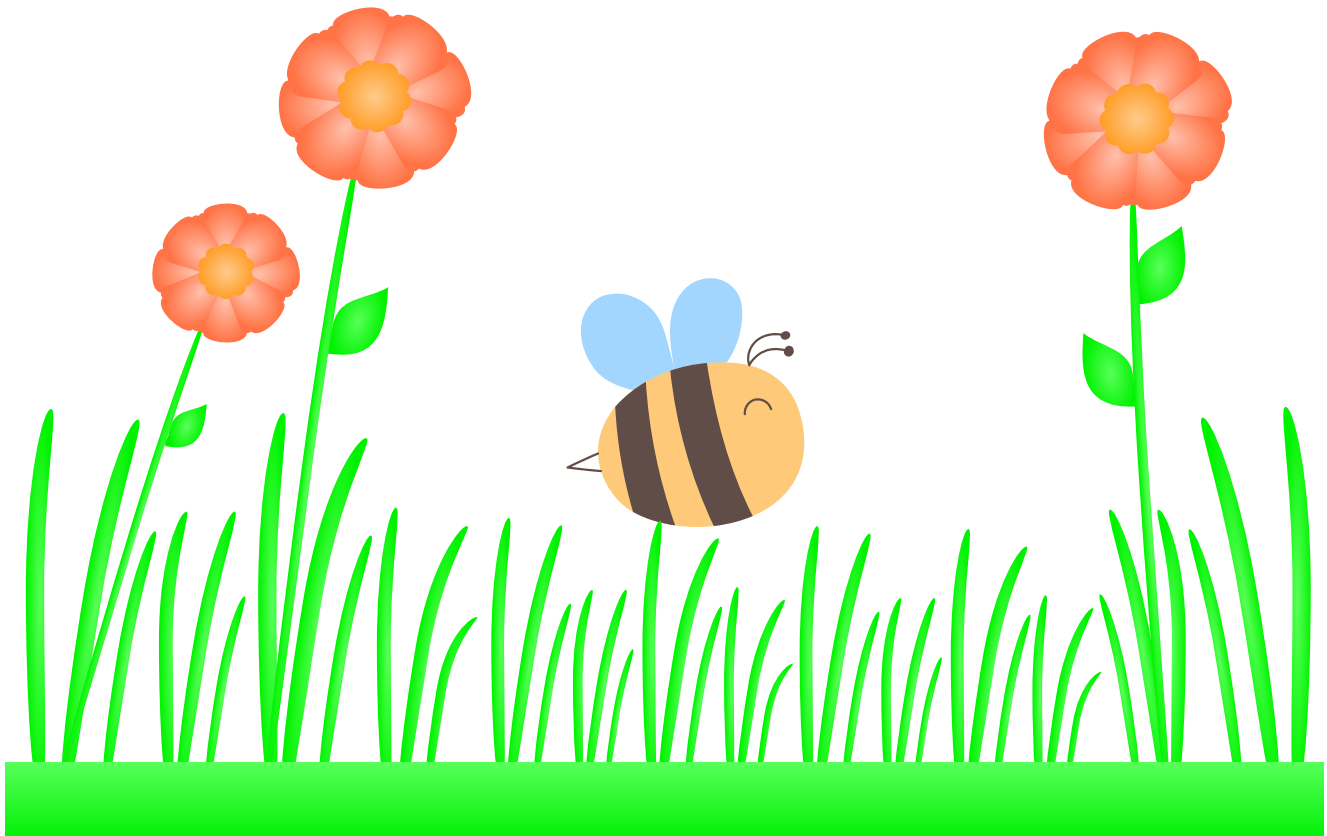
Mid-season: Catnip, Chives, Dahlia, Hyssop, Lavender, Raspberry, Sunflower, Yarrow
Late: Borage, Coneflower, Cornflower, Cosmos, Goldenrod, Pumpkin, Sedum, Squash.

Tips: Old fashion varieties are better for the bees than the highly cultivated newer varieties.

Plant wildflowers in your garden or create a small meadow in your yard which you would mow in the spring and the fall.

999 out of 1000 insects are beneficial or harmless, so put-up bird and bat boxes and hit aphids with water to reduce the number of insects in your yard.

Make sure you buy plants, and seeds free of neonicotinoids, a pesticide that can remain in the soil for years and other systemic pesticides and ask a sales person for help if needed.



What is Anishinaabe Giizhigad?

Anishinaabe Giizhigad celebrates the proclamation of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin (Anishinabek Nation Constitution) that took place on June 6, 2012, at the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly.

The Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin was confirmed by Pipe Ceremony and therefore, is a sacred commitment by Anishinabek to live by Anishinaabe Law: Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe (One Anishinaabe Family). This means acquiring Anishinaabemowin (Language) and Anishinaabe Inaadziwin (Culture). These are the source of Nationhood: Unity and Identity. Anishinaabe Aadziwin includes Anishinaabe Governance.

We have everything that we need in our Sacred Bundle including the Anishinabek Nation Eagle Staff (National Flag), Three Fires Confederacy Song (National Anthem), and Seven Sacred Gifts. This is the foundation for Anishinabek and also the way forward: Gwekwaadziwin – To Live A Good Life as instructed by Anishinaabe Elders.

Celebrate being Anishinaabe!



JOIN US Celebrate with us on June 6, via YouTube livestream: youtube.com/AnishinabekNation

Indigenous-led Archaeology at Mississauga First Nation

Project Update: Nisdotang gaa-bi-zhiwebag wii-ni-mni-mbaadzing

By: Jake Cousineau, Data Management Technician

This summer, the Lands and Resources Department will be starting the **Nisdotang gaa-bi-zhiwebag wii-no-mno-bmaadzing project** (Understanding what happened in the past to live a good life). A collaboration with the University of Toronto, this 5-year project aims to learn more about the archaeological history of the Mississauga people along the north shores of Lake Huron while building capacity within the community to identify, preserve and protect their own archaeological and cultural heritage.

The project supports hiring three band members as summer field techs who will work with the team throughout the project, learning to identify artifacts, excavate sites and how to protect them. In the first year of the project, the team is working on getting artifacts previously excavated from MFN's traditional territory repatriated back to the community. With progress already being made on returning these artifacts, this summer, the teams will re-catalogue the artifacts and visit the sites to assess their condition. In the next two years, we will focus on the sites identified in the Mississaugi Delta that have high archaeological potential, exploring questions about historical landscape management and fisheries by the Mississauga ancestors

We will look into traditional fire ecology and how the Mississauga people in the past used fire to maintain a healthy ecosystem, promoting the growth of important food sources such as berry plants and creating a habitat for wild game. The final two years will focus on the interior, using traditional knowledge to identify possible wintering sites and documenting and preserving rock art sites within MFN's traditional territory.

Throughout the summer months, we will be offering an open house so that community members can stop in and learn about the project, meet the team, and everyone can share their knowledge and experience with each other. Keep your eyes open for the announcement if you are interested in archaeology and history.

More than Ruins on a Barren Island: Indigenous History on St. Joseph's Island

By: Zoie Piche, Junior Archaeological Lab and Field Tech

The British Military laid their eyes upon this beautiful island in 1796 and formally purchased the land from the local Anishinaabe bands in 1798. The development of the fort was to help defend Upper Canada against the United States and it ended up playing a crucial role in the War of 1812. As the years passed by, the community grew. A village at the south tip of the island included Indigenous people, fur traders, British military personnel, and their families, making the fort a thriving centre for all.

The Lands and Resources Department had the honour of visiting this National Historic Site, Fort St Joseph, on May 23rd, 2024. The interpreters from Parks Canada provided a guided tour of the museums and ruins of the fort, showcasing the fort's rich military history to us and other First Nations working on their own research projects.

This summer, the Lands and Resources Department will be collaborating with Parks Canada at Fort St Joseph. In this project, we will be cataloguing and analyzing artifacts that could potentially be of Indigenous origin. We will be conducting research on the presence of Indigenous peoples on St. Joseph Island before and after the British occupation of the fort. Through this project, we can revitalize Indigenous history on St Joseph's Island through a more detailed analysis of Indigenous archaeology and land use on the island.

Our team will also visit several archives in the hopes of finding more primary historical documents relating to the topic. Unfortunately, currently, there is only a little bit of information published about Indigenous people on St. Joseph Island. Our ancestors are occasionally mentioned in old journals by military personnel and the British Indian Department. There is little mention of our people, and it wasn't always in our favour.

This project has facilitated the hiring of a Junior Archaeological Lab and Field Technician, who will play a crucial role in the Lands and Resources department. Their responsibilities will extend beyond this project, as they will be involved in many other archaeological and historical projects for Mississauga First Nation, contributing to our ongoing efforts to preserve and share our rich history.

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More than Ruins on a Barren Island: **Indigenous History on St. Joseph's Island**

During the next couple of months, in my role as the Junior Archaeological Lab and Field tech, I will be working with the Data Management Technician to secure interviews with band members about cultural practices, traditions and land use on St. Joseph Island to help strengthen our knowledge and incorporate it to our project. This project hopes to add knowledge and representation of Mississaugi history along the north shores of Lake Huron to the museum at Fort St Joseph.

We are currently seeking any knowledge regarding First Nations peoples on St. Joseph Island. We welcome any information that you would like to share with us. Please contact the Data Management Technician at jake@mississaugi.com or the Junior Archaeological Lab and Field Technician at jatechnician@mississaugi.com

Aani,



Boozhoo, Zoie Piche ndizhinikaaz. Makwa ndoodem. Mississauga First Nation ndoonjibaa.

Hello, My name is Zoie Piche. I am Bear Clan, from Mississauga First Nation.

I am thrilled and honoured to be a new member of the Lands and Resources Department as the Junior Archeological Lab and Field Technician.

I have always been fascinated with the history and the land of my First Nation, which has led me to this exciting opportunity. This will be an adventure of discovering and learning, which includes identifying and protecting archeological sites and projects with the Data Management Technician.

I am looking forward to my time here and getting to know everyone.

Miigwech~Thank you,

Zoie

Wildfire Prevention and Protection Safety

By: Ricki Lea Ferrigan

Ontario, like many forested regions, faces the threat of wildfires. Practicing forest fire safety is crucial to prevent the outbreak and spread of wildfires.

Here are some tips:

Campfire safety	Shoreline Fire safety	ATV safety	Hunting Safety	Fireworks Safety	General precautions
Follow guidelines for safe campfires, ensuring they are small, built on a non-combustible surface, and fully extinguished before leaving.	When cooking by the shoreline, be cautious with fires to prevent wildfires.	Reduce the risk of wildfires caused by ATV use by maintaining cleanliness, checking for debris build-up, and ensuring proper maintenance of brakes and exhaust systems.	Be vigilant when discharging firearms in forested areas, ensuring all residues are properly extinguished.	Launch fireworks in fire-safe areas, away from flammable materials, and have fire suppression equipment readily available.	Monitor weather conditions and adhere to fire bans or restrictions during dry periods.
Never leave a campfire unattended, and always keep a water source and shovel nearby for control.	Build fires on bare soil or rocks, away from flammable materials and overhanging branches.	Carry fire suppression equipment such as shovels, collapsible pails, or fire extinguishers while riding.	Prohibit smoking in forested areas and ensure proper disposal of smoking materials.	Attending organized fireworks displays when possible.	Report any signs of wildfire immediately to local authorities.
Keep fires small and under constant supervision, and thoroughly extinguish the site when finished.					Educate yourself and others on fire safety practices to prevent accidental ignition

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Wildfire Prevention and Protection Safety

By following these guidelines and practicing responsible behavior, individuals can contribute to reducing the risk of wildfires in Ontario's forested areas, protecting both the environment and communities from potential harm.

It's critical for everyone to understand their responsibility when it comes to outdoor fires, particularly during forest fire season in Ontario. Any individual who starts a fire outdoors must ensure they take all necessary precautions: tending to the fire, maintaining control, and thoroughly extinguishing it before leaving the site. Failure to do so can result in fines and potential liability for costs associated with extinguishing the fire. During forest fire season, heightened awareness is crucial. If anyone spots flames or smoke, it's essential to act swiftly: **Call 310-FIRE (3473) or 911.**

Remember, you're accountable for any fires you ignite. Exercise caution, and only start fires when conditions are safe. Additionally, ensure proper extinguishment procedures are followed. If you're responsible for a wildland fire, you may face charges under the Forest Fires Prevention Act and could be held liable for the expenses incurred in extinguishing the fire.



Mississauga First Nation PAL course

By: Cheyenne Corbiere

An all-women's Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) course was offered on April 5th – 6th, 2024, by the MFN Bylaw Officer, Scott Richer. Richer's objective for the all-women's course was to provide a safe environment for MFN's female members to gain valuable knowledge and skills. "I wanted the women from MFN to be comfortable in their efforts to get this license" says Scott Richer.

With the maximum class size of 12, Scott was able to fill these seats with ease. On the first day, the course focused on learning theory. The women learned regulations, the diverse types of firearms, ammunition, and gun safety. Day two was also filled with theory and included practical skills. The conclusion of the course required the women to write an exam to receive their license.

Successfully, all women were able to pass the course with flying colours. The acquisition of this license will allow for a much safer experience when practicing the traditional harvesting rights of Mississauga First Nation. Ricki Lea Ferrigan, a participant of the PAL course said "I did learn a lot and the material was rewarding because now I have a better understanding of guns and how to operate them."

In the future, Scott shared he would like to include youths and families. "The importance of firearm safety and basic firearm knowledge for harvesters is important. It helps mitigate some of the issues with law enforcement and some of the errors that Indigenous harvesters make throughout the season." He also voiced, "it alleviates our legal issues with government agencies and their perception of Indigenous harvesting."

The importance of having members with this knowledge can allow for opportunities such as traditional harvesting gatherings, increased food security, and creating stronger bonds within our community. We would like to thank Scott Richer for his efforts in providing these important educational opportunities and for creating safe and comfortable spaces to learn.

Community Comprehensive Plan

By: Jon Cada

The Mississauga First Nation administration is developing updates for the 10-year Community Comprehensive Plan (CCP). This document informs strategic planning and community development initiatives to prioritize as indicated by the community. Input gathering started in fall 2023 and will continue through fall 2024 at which time the inputs will be consolidated and presented for final review and approval and will direct administration to prioritize community-informed projects starting in 2025.

The Chi-Naakinagewin Department held its third community engagement session on April 22nd, 2024. This session included presentations on updates in law development, the justice circle, food security, communications, economic development, membership and the Mississagi Trust. 20 community members took part in the two separate sessions.

An engagement session focused on gathering input from elders was held on June 8, 2024, at Chiblow Lake Lodge. This session focused on reviewing action items from the previous CCP and updating them for the next 10 years.

A virtual engagement session is planned for July 2024, so be sure to check the community flyer on our website as well as updates on our social media channels.



Wilma Bissiallon presenting at a community engagement session at Chiblow Lake Lodge



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ZOOM

CHI-NAAKINAGEWIN PRESENTS

Join us for informative presentations regarding the Comprehensive Community Plan for Mississauga First Nation. This is to gain ideas for updates to the 2024 - 2034 Community Plan.

Date: July 23rd, 2024

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86835369778>



For further information, contact:

Cheyenne Corbiere - wiindamaagewin@mississaugi.com

705-261-1104

Mississauga First Nation Champions Indigenous Rights Advancement in Nuclear Industry

By: Peyton Pitawanakwat

The absence of Indigenous consent for nuclear waste, uranium mining, and refining on the ancestral lands of First Nations has prompted leaders from Ontario, Quebec, and New Brunswick to voice strong concerns on a national scale.

Elizabeth May, the leader of the Green Party, joined these Indigenous leaders during a press conference at Parliament Hill on April 30, 2024, to express apprehensions about the presence of nuclear waste on their traditional lands. Also present at the event were Wolastoq Grand Chief Ron Tremblay, Mississauga First Nation Councillor Peyton Pitawanakwat, and Peskotomuhkati Nation Chief Hugh Akagi, who shared their community experiences with the nuclear industry with the media.



Leader of the Green Party Elizabeth May and MFN Councillor Peyton Pitawanakwat

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Article 29(2) emphasizes that hazardous materials should not be stored or disposed of in the lands or territories of Indigenous peoples without their free, prior, and informed consent.

Despite legislation to uphold the rights of First Nations, the Government of Canada is advocating for the expansion of nuclear energy across the country without the consent of the affected Indigenous nations.

The homeland of Mississauga First Nation is the site of the world's largest uranium refinery, which was established 40 years ago without respecting the rights of the community or acknowledging the site's sacred and cultural significance.

In 2021, Mississauga First Nation participated as an intervenor in the licensing process for the first time, marking a historic moment for the community. Our submission outlined our concerns and allowed us to continue voicing the injustices we have faced.

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Mississauga First Nation Champions Indigenous Rights Advancement in Nuclear Industry

Our Anishinaabe culture is deeply intertwined with the land. The environment forms the foundation of our traditions, knowledge, and identity. It is our birthright, our legacy, and our heritage. The natural world is at the core of our language, storytelling, art, and traditional practices, passed down from generation to generation with deep respect and honour.

As stated during the press conference, nuclear operations on our ancestral lands have contributed to the loss of our culture and spiritual traditions and have been detrimental to our health. The corporation has materially benefitted from the operations at Blind River, the world's largest uranium refinery. The proposal to place radioactive waste on our lands perpetuates environmental injustice and amounts to environmental racism.



From left to right: Elizabeth May, Peyton Pitawanakwat, Grand Chief Ron Tremblay, Kim Reeder and Chief Hugh Agaki

In the face of these challenges, we stand resilient and united in our commitment to protecting our lands, our culture, and our future generations. Together, we will continue to raise our voices, advocate for justice, and uphold our rights with determination. Our journey is not just about confronting injustice; it is about reclaiming our heritage and shaping a future where our lands and community thrive in harmony with our values.



CPAC. (2024). Elizabeth May and Indigenous leaders raise concerns about nuclear waste – April 30, 2024, [Screenshot]. Youtube. https://youtu.be/hJ_TSH4k-g?si=ZKWq33rT8DeP8FMA

Community Member Profile – Krista Bissiallon

By: Jon Cada



Krista Bissiallon

Krista is a band member of Mississauga First Nation. She was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, ON, attended post-secondary at Algoma University and has since developed a successful career in community advocacy, policy development and grant development. Today, Krista leverages her expertise to coordinate funding strategies for charities, foundations and organizations nationwide. When asked about what got her interested in this field, she reflected on her upbringing. She mentioned her father’s passing and acknowledged the influences he had on her outlook on life.

“My dad (John) had no idea what I did for work. He would say, ‘I don’t know what she does, she sits at home, is always in meetings and gets to travel a lot’. I don’t think he fully understood the community work I was engaged with, but he knew it had a positive impact and it was creating new opportunities in my life, and he encouraged me every step of the way.”

Upon graduation, Krista got involved with cross-provincial contract work. This included policy development and gathering grassroots-informed data to establish support platforms for youth engagement, funding strategies and outreach in Northern Ontario communities. *“After graduating from the CESD program, I had friends who invited me to sit with this group called the Youth Social Infrastructure (YSI). I had no idea what the work was, but I was attracted to how it was informing policy change to improve youth-led action and project work in the north. I was doing similar policy work with NORDIK, but this new thing was grassroots-led and that’s something I wasn’t involved with before.”*

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Community Member Profile – Krista Bissiallon

Krista's passion and voice grew in the work. She mentioned the people she encountered, and how fascinating they processed the world. Particularly, she noted their ideas on the theory of change and systems-level thinking. It made her question, who funded this work and where the money came from, *"I kept asking these questions and it kept opening a rabbit hole. It got to the point where I declared for myself one day, I'll be one of these decision-makers who decides who gets this funding and how they can use it to improve their communities."*

Krista's new goals eventually led her to the Youth Opportunities Fund, a sister organization of the Ontario Trillium Foundation as a granting coach. In this position, she learned what community groups were asking for. After a few years, her expertise, networks and vision led to a new position as a strategic coordinator for the Philanthropic Foundation of Canada (PFC). *"PFC feels so much like my work with the YSI. It's always learning and working to create new opportunities for groups across Canada. I work in the arts and culture field, but I also contribute to the arm that pushes for a national climate pledge policy with our partners."* Krista was hired as the sole Indigenous voice with her new firm which she mentioned is intimidating but is very open to connecting with Indigenous groups, communities and organizations to amplify calls for change and support.

When asked about her relationship with Mississauga First Nation, she recalled her childhood memories, weekend visits, meeting many cousins and how it was her dad's favourite thing to share his upbringing with her, *"Some visits were the best, other times it was a huge bore watching him reminisce. I feel like I took some of that for granted now."*

Krista mentioned her lack of strong connections to Mississauga FN. *"I love my work; I don't hate my job. That means something in today's world I feel. My values feel aligned and I'm fulfilling my purpose. I look forward to any opportunity to share what I can offer to Mississaugi."*

National Indigenous People's Day

By: Miranda Bobiwash

On a beautiful but hot and humid day, The Social Services Department put on the Indigenous People's Day Celebration for the community. To celebrate the beautiful day, there were many events that the children took part in.

St. Mary's Catholic School, École St-Joseph and Blind River Public School all came to take part in the fun day. There were bouncy houses, minnow races and the Mississauga Fire Department that were there. There was also a snow cone and cotton candy booth for the kids to enjoy a sweet treat.

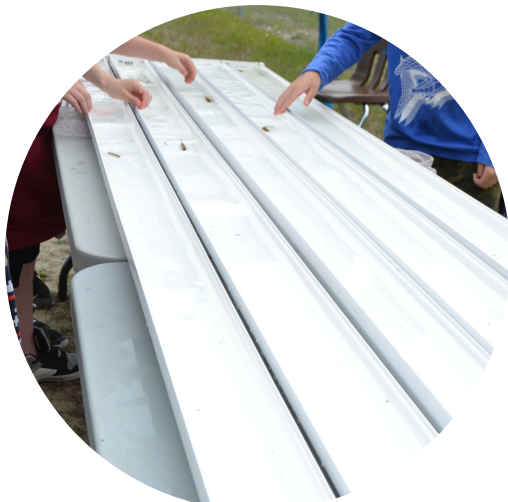
In the gym, there was the Anishnaabemowin instructor Donnelley Trudeau, doing Anishnaabemowin bingo for community members to want to practice and learn the language in a fun way. Also, for the members of the community, some took part in a poker walk.

At lunch time, the children gathered back into the gym for the tasty lunch that everyone enjoyed. After the lunch, Sarah McGregor, the Community Support Worker Assistant and avid pow wow dancer, put on a dancing demonstration to show the community various dances with her pow wow pals.

As the drummers were leading the way with their singing and drumming, the dances that they were demonstrating were: Fancy Dancer, Jingle Dress, Fancy Shawl Dancing and Old-Style dancing. Towards the end, they invited the kids to join in on the dancing and fun. The dance demonstration was just a warm up to what we are going to see at Mississauga First Nation's 43rd Pow wow on the third week of July. Overall, it was a fun day for everyone to celebrate our beautiful culture and heritage.



Kids waiting to go into the bouncy house



Children partaking in the minnow races



Two young jingle dress dancers

National Indigenous People's Day



Sarah McGregor demonstrating shawl dancing to the community

For Indigenous People's Day, The Government of Canada declared National Indigenous People's Day on June 21st in 1996 as a day for Canadians to come together to celebrate the Indigenous Peoples of Canada. The day is to acknowledge and honour the rich heritage, culture, and traditions that we have and to celebrate our beautiful culture for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit's. Miigwetch to all the staff members that helped during the day.



Children joining in on the fun on Indigenous Day with the dancers



Fancy Dancers taking a break

Photos of the Past



If you can identify anyone in the photos, please don't hesitate to contact our Librarian & Archival Clerk Miranda Bobiwash at archives@mississauga.com

June is National Indigenous History Month
Let's celebrate our heritage and our history



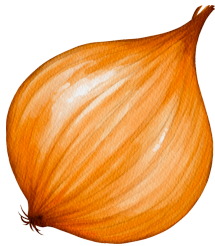
Spring words in Anishnaabemowin

Correctly match the following words:



- Seeds

- Shkaangwash
(chka-ang-wash)



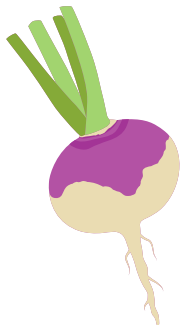
- Onion

- Miinkaanensan
(meen-kawn-en-sahn)



- Flowers

- Jiis
(Jees)



- Turnip

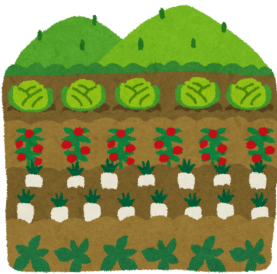
- waabigwanen
(waa-bee-gwaanen)

Spring words in Anishnaabemowin

Correctly match the following words:



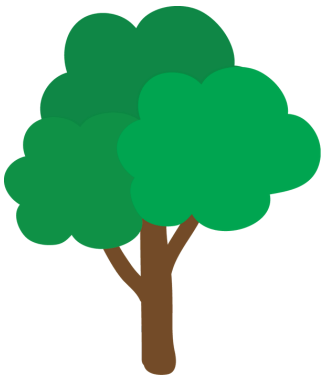
- Cabbage
- Aki (aa-kee)



- Garden
- Kchi-niibish (chi-neebeesh)



- Earth
- Mtig (mee-tig)



- Tree
- Kitigan

Anishinaabemowin Enji Jiingtamok (Ojibwe language at the Pow Wow)

Maamwi-biindigegaawag: Grand Entry	Eniimijig: The Dancers
G'chi-twaa-aabwinigan: Arbor	Eniimid: The one who is dancing
Mgizi miigwanaatik: Eagle staff	Gchi-nishinaabe zhigaawin: Traditional style
Akiwewin: Flag	Zhinawa'oojigan zhigaawin: The Jingle Dance
Anishinabek Akiwewin: Anishinabek Flag	Miishkonhsiing-eniimid: Grass Dancer (one who dances on the grass)
Zhimaaganish: Veteran	Memengwaanhiing ezhigaad: Fancy Shawl Dancer (one who dances like a butterfly)
Eniigaanzid: Arena Director	Bineshiinh zhigaawin: Men's Fancy Dance
Edabaakinaged: Judge	Niizho-tkokii zhigaawin: Two Step Dance
Eniigaaniigaad-nini: Head Male Dancer	Giimoochgaawin: Sneak Up Dance
Eniigaaniigaad-kwe: Head Female Dancer	Aandeg Zhigaawin: Crow Hop
Giigida-nini: Male Emcee	Maawndogaang: Inter-tribal Dance
Edewegejik: Drummers	
Dewegan: Drum	
Deweganaatig: Drum stick	
Ngamo-kwe: Female singer	
Ngamo-nini: Male singer	
Mnaajaa-ngamwin: Honour song	
Mnaajaa-ngamwinan: Honour songs	



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MFN Graduation Parade

By: Miranda Bobiwash

To celebrate the recent graduates of this year, the Education Department and the MFN Fire Department made a Graduation Parade for the graduating class of 2024. From daycare, elementary and secondary school, they put out signs for all the graduates and gave them a gift to commemorate the hard work that they did through out the year.

Congratulations to all the graduates and the best luck in the future!



E. Bellefeuille



E. Crozier



M.J. Dufour



M. Fitzpatrick



J. MacLeod



O. Morningstar



MFN Graduation Parade



J. Robinson



C. Bisailon



J.Cada-Stevens & Z. Cada



M. Debassige



R. Niganobe



K. Dafoe



M.J. Lafreniere



M. Ferrigan



Mississauga Binojee
Nagdawenjigamik
2024



PRE-SCHOOL GRADUATES

Maamiikwenminim gii giizhiitaa'yek!

E. Bellefeuille

O. Morningstar

E. Crozier

J. MacLeod

M. Fitzpatrick

J. Robinson





Mississauga First Nation
2024



ELEMENTARY GRADUATES

Maamiikwenminim gii giizhiitaa'yek!

C. Bisailon

Grade 8 - B.R.P.S

Z. Cada

Grade 8 - St. Mary's

M. Debassige

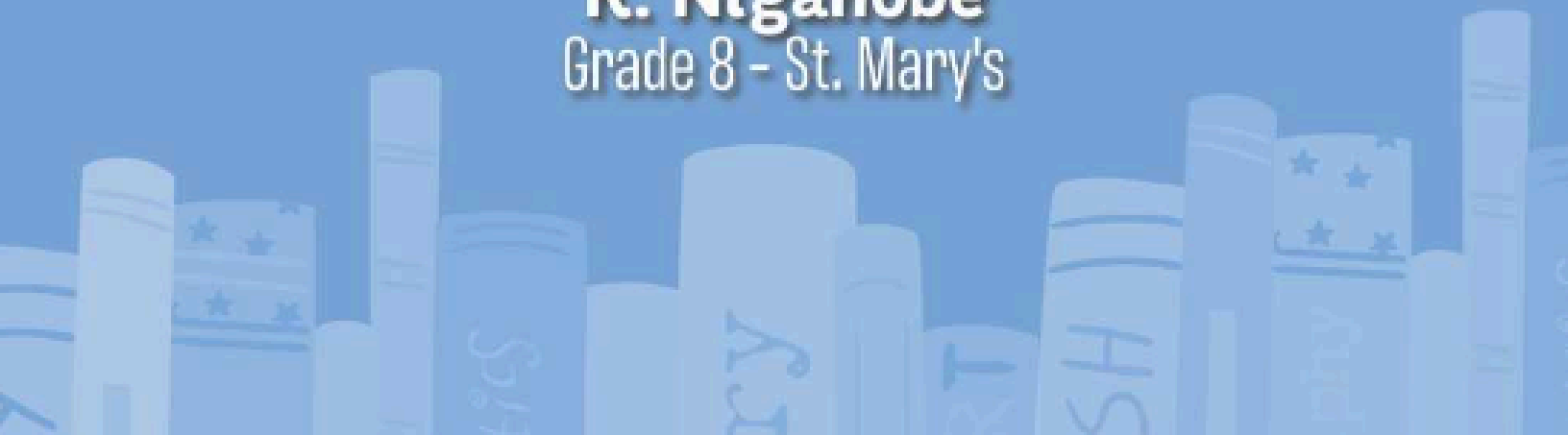
Grade 8 - B.R.P.S

T. Fireman

Grade 8 - B.R.P.S

R. Niganobe

Grade 8 - St. Mary's





Mississauga First Nation
2024



SECONDARY GRADUATES

Maamiikwenminim gii giizhiitaa'yek!

J. Cada-Stevens

Grade 12 - MFN Adult Education

K. Dafoe

Grade 12 - Jeunesse-Nord

M. Ferrigan

Grade 12 - MFN Adult Education

M.J. Lafreniere

Grade 12 - W.C. Eaket





Mississauga First Nation
2023-2024



POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES

Maamiikwenminim gii giizhiitaa'yek!

A. Beauchamp-Billingsley

Practical Nursing
(Diploma)

J. Boyer

Carpentry and Renovation Techniques
(Certificate)

C. Brown

Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training
(Certificate)

M. Cada

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
(Degree)

T. Chiblow

Bachelor of Social Work
(Degree)

L. Daybutch

Indigenous Wellness & Addictions Prevention
(Diploma)

F. Hayden

Photography - Content Creation
(Diploma)

K. MacMillan-Robertson

Social Service Worker
(Diploma)

C. Morningstar

Office Administration General
(Certificate)

K. McCaig

Anesthesia Assistant
(Graduate Certificate)

A. Moffatt

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
(Degree)

M. Moreau

Electrical Engineering Technician
(Diploma)

C. Niganobe

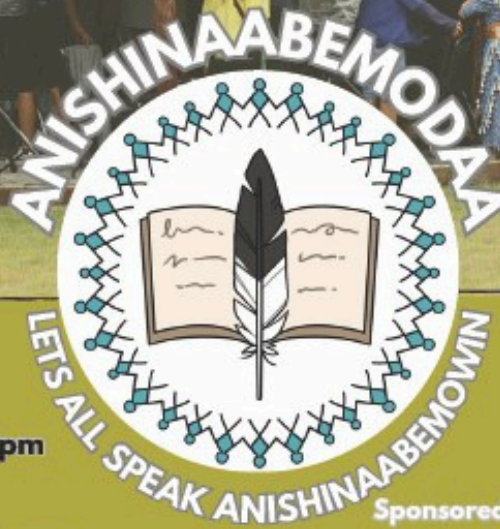
Mental Health & Addictions Worker
(Diploma)

C. Penny

General Arts & Science
(Certificate)



MISSISSAUGA FIRST NATION 43RD ANNUAL TRADITIONAL POWWOW JULY 20-21, 2024



GRAND ENTRY

Saturday 1pm & 7pm | Sunday 12pm

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Stephanie Pangowish & Darren McGregor

HOST DRUM

Charging Horse

CO-HOST DRUM

Under the Pines

INVITED DRUMS

Migiziinsag (MFN Boys Drum Group)
Nimkii Aankwam

HEAD DANCERS

Hannah Morningstar
Naakwam Shawanda

HEAD YOUTH DANCERS

Niizh Wemigwans
Leland Bellefeuille

HEAD JR DANCERS

Aubreigh Fox
Niigaani Niganobe

HEAD VETERAN

Wayne Pitawanakwat

ARENA DIRECTOR

Robert Stoneypoint

HEAD ELDERS

Leona Whetung & Wes Whetung

COMMUNITY FEAST | SATURDAY AT 5PM

No drugs, alcohol, or pets

Honorariums for first 5 registered drums

EVERYONE WELCOME!

SPECIALS

More info to follow!

Old Style Jingle Special

Sponsored by Head Female, Hannah Morningstar

Men's Woodland Special

Sponsored by Head Male, Naakwam Shawanda

Youth Girls Jingle 12 and under

Sponsored by Head Youth, Niizh Wemigwans
\$200 Winner Take All

Womens 18+ Fancy Shawl

Sponsored by Sarah McGregor & Family
1st \$800 2nd \$600 3rd \$400
Giveaway for all dancers

Women's 18+ Combined Special

Sponsored by Chief and Council
1st \$800 2nd \$400 3rd \$300

Men's 18+ Combined Special

Sponsored by Chief and Council
1st \$800 2nd \$400 3rd \$300

Youth 13-18 Combined Special

Sponsored by MFN Youth Coordinator
1st \$350 2nd \$250 3rd \$150

Children 7-12 Combined Special

Sponsored by MFN Child-Youth Worker
1st \$150 2nd \$100 3rd \$75 + Giveaway for Dancers

LOCATION

Max's Road off Highway 557
(Scan QR code)

Food or Craft Vendor Applications
or General Inquires, contact
Sarahdaybutch@mississauga.com



Upcoming Events

In the community

July

July 20-21st MFN 43rd annual Pow Wow

August

August 5th - Civic Holiday

August 17th - MFN Street Fair

August 24th-25th - Gathering of Grandmother
Pipes Nokomis Pawagan

September

September 2nd - Labour Day

September 30th - Orange Shirt Day

Answers to Word Match

Mnookmi page 1:

Seeds: Miinkaanensan
Onion: Shkaangwash
Flowers: Waabigwanen
Turnip: Jiis

Mnookmi page 2:

Cabbage: Kchi-Niibish
Garden: Kitigan
Earth: Aki
Tree: Mtig





cultural support services

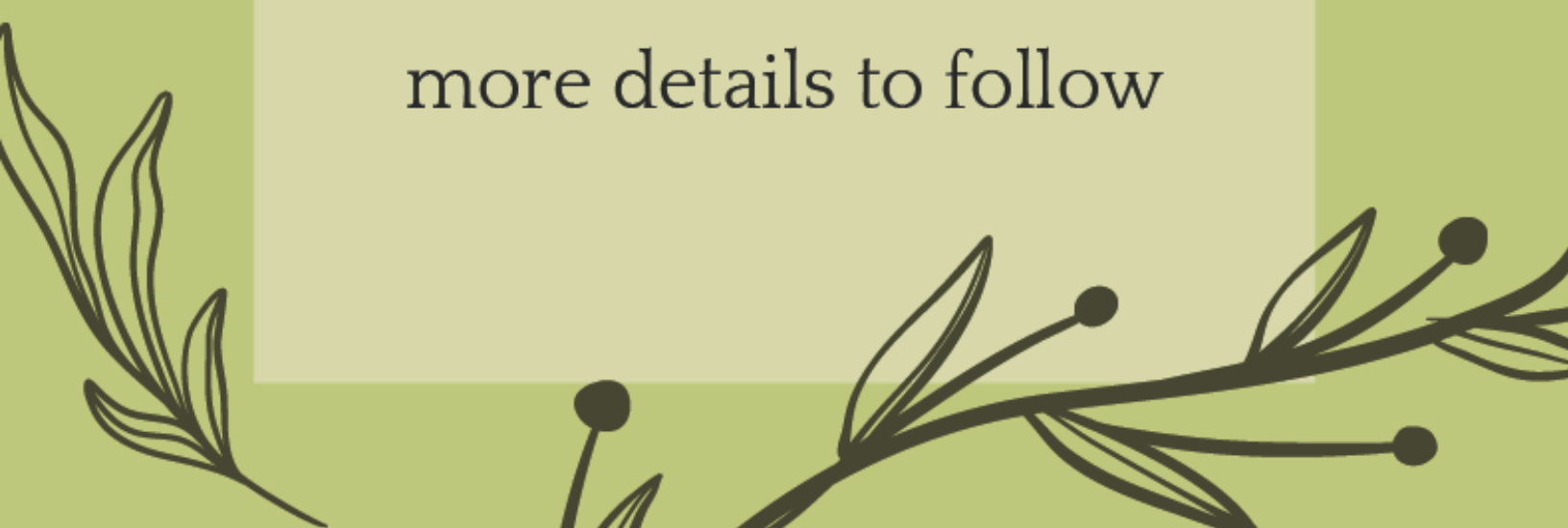
SAVE THE DATE

August 24 - 25, 2024

Mississaugi First Nation

Gathering of Grandmother Pipes Nokomis Pawagan

more details to follow



COMMUNITY NOTES

FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Aanii,

We hope you enjoyed the fourth edition of “Minwaajim.” The word Minwaajim means 'to bring good news' in Anishnaabemowin.

To preserve the Anishinaabe language, the editorial committee will be strategizing and implementing the language in more articles, captions, and headlines. The Editorial committee also understands that it is important to preserve the language and to utilize a strategy that encourages community members in reconnecting with the language, history, and traditions of Mississauga First Nation. If you are practicing the language and wish to support us, please don't hesitate to connect.

The newsletter is for the community, and if you want to put anything in Minwaajim, stories from the past, photos or any events happening in the community that you want to promote, you can email Stacey or Miranda for the next edition of the Minwaajim.

For any inquiries regarding the Minwaajim publication, please contact our lead editor, Stacey Schellekens at stacey@mississaugi.com

Editorial Committee:

Stacey Schellekens
Miranda Bobiwash
Jake Cousineau
Jon Cada
Kathleen Lofstrom
Cheyenne Corbiere
Michael Mayer
Peyton Pitawanakwat
Laura Mayer

Produced with support from:



Roger Daybutch emceeing while L. Bellefeuille dances