



# 10th Anniversary Special Edition

# Wabun Sun

Published by Wabun Tribal Council



**CHIEF GLORIA MCKENZIE,  
BEAVERHOUSE FN**



**CHIEF DAVE BABIN,  
WAHGOSHIG FN**



**CHIEF ANITA STEPHENS,  
CHAPLEAU OJIBWE FN**



**CHIEF MURRAY RAY,  
FLYING POST FN**



**CHIEF WALTER NAVEAU,  
MATTAGAMI FN**



**CHIEF RENE OJEBAH,  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN**



**CHIEF ELENORE HENDRIX,  
MATACHEWAN FN**



**CHIEF CHRISTINE VENEDAM,  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN**



**CHIEF PAUL MCKENZIE,  
WAHGOSHIG FN**



**CHIEF MARILYN GAGNON-DOYLE,  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN**

## Keeping The Circle Strong 1998 - 2008

This special edition of Wabun Sun celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the newspaper which is printed and distributed to Wabun members and an extended mailing list of First Nation and non-Native government and private sector contacts. The Wabun Sun is also featured online at the Wabun website at [www.wabun.on.ca](http://www.wabun.on.ca)

Thanks to the Wabun Chiefs and administration staff, the vision to create and develop Wabun Sun has documented and promoted the development of the Wabun Tribal Council, Wabun Health Services and the Wabun First Nation communities of Beaverhouse, Brunswick House, Chapleau Ojibwe, Flying Post, Matachewan, Mattagami and Wahgoshig.

The Wabun Chiefs and Wabun executive was ahead of its time when it created Wabun Sun with the assistance of Xavier Kataquapit and Michael McGrath as editors and

writers. Ten years ago, few First Nations organizations or agencies produced their own newspapers. Today we see many.

Wabun Sun is proud to have produced stories that have featured and highlighted major resource development projects with the non-Native private sector, as well as community stories documenting and promoting initiatives in all of Wabun's First Nations over the past decade. It is good to know that for the rest of time, there will be documented positive stories on the individual Chiefs, Wabun Tribal Council and Wabun Health Services leadership and staff members and Wabun community members. These stories featured detailed interviews and were professionally written to provide informative articles.

Wabun Sun has served to keep Wabun First Nation members informed as to development and decision

making and in addition it has provided Wabun Chiefs, Councils and administrations a means to stay in touch with Wabun First Nation members, staff, First Nation government, agencies and organizations as well as non-Native government, agencies and organizations.

Through the development of historical stories for Wabun Sun, there are now documented accounts and interviews that promote the history of Wabun First Nations. Ten years of producing Wabun Sun through many stories and photos have provided Wabun First Nations with a rich and detailed historical database that can and will be referred to into the future.

"Thanks to our Chiefs, Wabun Tribal Council had the vision to develop and produce Wabun Sun. The mainstream media is often negative in its approach to coverage concerning First Nations and Wabun Sun has played a key role in

ensuring that our people have had the opportunity to tell their own stories. I want to thank Xavier Kataquapit and Mike McGrath for their efforts over the past ten years and I look forward to the future of Wabun Sun," said Shawn Batise, Executive Director, Wabun Tribal Council.

Jean Lemieux, Health Director, Wabun Health Services commented that Wabun Sun has been helpful in making sure that Wabun Health policies, initiatives and efforts have been communicated to Wabun First Nation members.

"Wabun Sun has contributed to the healing and well being of our First Nations in communicating the good things being done to help our people. It has also had a positive benefit in terms of self esteem through so many stories about our First Nations, Wabun leadership and staff and community members," said Lemieux.



**CHIEF ROY MEANISS,  
BEAVERHOUSE FN**



**CHIEF BAPTISTE MEMEGOS,  
CHAPLEAU OJIBWE FN**



**CHIEF ANDREW NESHAWABIN,  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN**



**CHIEF CHAD BOISSONEAU,  
MATTAGAMI FN**



**CHIEF JOYCE LUKE,  
MATTAGAMI FN**



**CHIEF FABIAN BATISE  
MATACHEWAN FN**



**CHIEF RICHARD WINCIKABY,  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN**



# Year One - December 1998 to December 1999

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Grand Opening of new Wabun Tribal Council Timmins Office:** Wabun hosts a major event in November 1998 to open its new office at 313 Railway Street in Timmins with dignitaries, Wabun Chiefs, Wabun members and others.

**- Wabun Annual General Meeting Hosted In Brunswick House FN:** Wabun's ninth annual General Meeting took place in September and provided a look back at the council's work in the past year.

**- Sixth Annual Wabun Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament:** the golf tournament took place in September and drew over 70 participants.

**- Wabun Tribal Council Supports NAN In Fight Against Lands For Life:** Wabun supports NAN in fighting the Ontario government's land use strategy.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- Wabun Health Services Programs Leading The Way:** Wabun Health Services takes over the administration of what was once a federal government responsibility.

**- Patient Transportation Program Provides Link To Health Care:** this program is one of the main services areas of Wabun Health and it is designed to assist those who are ill and need access to special care and treatment.

**- What You Should Know About Diabetes:** an informative feature on diabetes, a disease that affects First Nation people at a higher rate.

**- Y2K Preparedness A Sensible Approach For Wabun Communities:** An Emergency Response Y2K information session was held in Timmins as

part of an effort to ensure the safety and well being of Wabun First Nation members.

**- Wabun Health Staff Promotions:** An announcement on the promotion of Peggy Claveau to the position of Assistant Health Director and Roseanne Ojeebah to Health Clerk.

**- New Faces Welcomed To Wabun Health Services:** An announcement on the hiring of four new employees, Roseanna Ojeebah, Margaret Miller, Cindy Giguere and Tanya Spencer, to bring the best in health programming to Wabun communities.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- Mattagami FN Community Complex:** An impressive state of the art complex now dominates the skyline in this community.

**- Matachewan Complex Provides Community Pride:** Community spirit was behind the building of the Matachewan FN Community Complex.

**- Wahgoshig First Nation To Install Telephone Service:** After years of lobbying Wahgoshig First Nation is finally getting a real telephone service.

**- Women's Circle Enjoys Retreat:** The Beaverhouse FN Women's Circle hosted a retreat to strengthen women's groups.

**- Budding Young Mattagami FN Artists:** Students were chosen by the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto Young Native Artists program for framing and display in Toronto.

**- In Memory Of Chief Memegos:** Wabun leadership announced the dedication of the Chief's office in memory to the late Chief Baptiste Memegos of Chapleau Ojibwe FN.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Chief Elenore Hendrix, Matachewan FN
- Chief Anita Stephens, Chapleau Ojibwe FN
- Jean Lemieux, Financial Advisor
- Audrey Batise, Secretary / Receptionist
- Jason Batise, Wabun Economic Development And Technical Services Advisor
- Peggy Claveau, Health Clerk
- Ginette Thivierge, Community Health Nurse
- Sandra Secenj, Community Health Nurse

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

#### Column Topics For the Year Included:

- Welcome to the first issue of Wabun Sun the main component of our communications strategy.
- Casino Rama officially opened its doors to the public on August 1, 1996 and this has proven to be a very successful venture.
- Thanks to a lot of eager participants the Sixth Annual Wabun Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament was a great success.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jennifer McLeod, Health Director

#### Column Topics For the Year Included:

- Thanks to staff and our communities, we have developed community oriented health services.
- In December 1998, we said good bye to Jack Diamond who was known to all of the Wabun Health Staff as a colleague and a friend.
- We have had a busy year and I am very proud of the accomplishments of the Wabun Health Staff and our Wabun Community Support Workers.

# Year Two - December 1999 to December 2000

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Wabun Tribal Council Celebrates 10th Anniversary:** Wabun Tribal Council's 10th Anniversary celebrations took place at Matachewan First Nation on August 24 and 25, 2000. The two day celebration was held around a Chief's Meeting and Wabun Annual General Meeting.

**- Wabun Scholarship Fund Awarded To Three Students:** Scholarships awarded to Russell Evans, Matachewan FN; Chris McKay, Mattagami FN and Crystal Schram, Matachewan FN.

**- Support Group Motivates Wabun Staff:**

Wabun staff members recently formed a peer support group called the Chub Club.

**- Wabun 7th Annual Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament Supported By Many:** This year 88 participants joined with Wabun Tribal Council on September 22, 2000 to socialize and help with a worthwhile cause.

**- Major Research Being Conducted Related To Self Governance:** A Nishnawbe-Aski Nation wide research project is being conducted as part of the Sectoral Government Negotiations.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- What's New With Wabun Health:** As Wabun Health enters the new millennium there are many initiatives being planned.

**- Dealing With The Flu:** This year health professionals have grown concerned about the arrival of the latest virus strain.

**- Documentation Project:** An announcement was made on the implementation of a new client chart system for all Wabun First Nation patient records.

**- Mattagami FN Medical Vehicle:** In December 1999 Mattagami First Nation purchased a new

medical services transportation vehicle.

**- Wabun Health Promotes Healthy Lifestyle Choices:** This issue of Wabun Sun is dedicated to fostering healthy lifestyle choices.

**- Wabun Health Services Highlights 1999 – 2000 At AGM:** Wabun Health Services Health Director, Jennifer McLeod, tabled her report to Chiefs that they have continued to develop and expand health services to Wabun communities.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- Mattagami First Nation Forestry Initiatives:**

The people of Mattagami First Nation are being trained in preparation for forestry initiatives that will provide employment.

**- Wabun Members Win Awards At NADF:** The Nishnawbe-Aski Development Fund Business Awards on December 8, 1999, featured major presentations to two Wabun community members.

**- Senior Citizen Complex Being Built In Brunswick House FN:** Construction of a new six apartment senior's building complex began in mid May 2000. The new building will be located near the First Nation Pow Wow grounds and will overlook a small lake nearby.

**- First Nation Entrepreneurs - Mario & Ann Batisse:** Mario and Ann Batisse run their 100 percent owned company, Two Eagles Training, from their headquarters in Matachewan FN.

**- Baptiste Memego's Memorial Gathering Featured:** The gathering is an annual event that honours the late Chief Baptiste Memego's, a respected leader and elder of the community.

**- In Memory Of Helen Naveau, Mattagami FN:** Helen Naveau of Mattagami First Nation passed away in October 2000 at the Timmins and District

Hospital at 74 years of age.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Chief Paul McKenzie, Wahgoshig FN
- Shawn Batise, Executive Director
- Cecile Wesley, Community Health Nurse
- Chief Roy Meaniss, Beaverhouse First Nation
- Paulette McKay, Bookkeeper
- Therese McLellan, Community Health Nurse
- Alfred Ojeebah, Brunswick House FN, Wabun Tribal Council Chairperson
- Marie Helene Lessard, Dietitian

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- This is the 10th Anniversary of the founding of Wabun Tribal Council.
- This will be a busy summer in the First Nation Political scene with the upcoming elections for the Assembly of First Nations, Chiefs Of Ontario and Nishnawbe-Aski Nation.
- I want to take the opportunity with this issue of Wabun Sun to discuss the Corbiere Decision, which made it possible for off-Reserve First Nation members to vote in local First Nation elections.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jennifer McLeod, Health Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- Well I am happy to report that Y2K was a non event even though our communities were ready thanks to the hard work of many First Nation members and Crisis teams.
- Wabun Health is promoting Healthy Lifestyle Choices and I am happy to report that myself and staff members are practicing what we preach.

# Year Three - December 2000 to December 2001

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Wabun Tribal Council Plans For The Future:** Wabun Tribal Council recently launched a Strategic Planning Process to develop a five year plan aimed at meeting the needs of the First Nations.

**- Wabun Scholarship Fund Awarded:** Recipients of this years scholarship fund are Matachewan FN members: Russell Evans, Richard Wincikaby and Jeannine Batisse and Mattagami FN members Arthur Constant and Mary Lee Boissoneau.

**- Annual General Meeting Held At Mattagami FN:** The 11th AGM on November 23, 2001 featured positive news in terms of financial stability, provision of services to the Wabun communities.

**- Wabun Tribal Council Saddened At The Passing Of Clifford Diamond:** Wabun Tribal Council, the community of Wahgoshig FN and indeed the First Nation community at large lost a friend with the passing of Clifford Peter Joseph Diamond, Monday October 15, 2001

**- Wabun Golf Tournament Better Than Ever:** Participants in the 8th Annual Wabun Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament braved cool and damp weather to compete at the event, held Friday September 21, 2001.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- Home And Community Care Program Launched By Wabun Health:** Wabun Health Services is implementing a new program to provide assistance to Elders and special needs patients.

**- Health Canada Pushes Pro Forma Agreement:** Health Canada is pushing a Pro Forma agreement on to First Nations.

**- Wabun Health Services Attends Health Retreat:** The Health Care Workers retreat took place from August 20 to 24, 2001.

**- Wabun Health Promotes Quit Smoking Incentive:** Wabun Health is promoting a smoke free lifestyle to its First Nation communities.

**- Wabun Health Helps Community Members To Quit Smoking:** Wabun Health Services announced the grand prize winners of the Quit Smoking Incentive in September 2001.

**- Breast Cancer Awareness Promoted:** Wabun Health Services Is developing a new program with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) to promote awareness of breast cancer.

**- Wabun Staff Attends Empowerment Conference:** Julie McKay and Rose Anne Ojeebah attended the Native Men & Women's Empowerment Conference.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- Wahgoshig Healing Lodge - A Community Effort:** The people of Wahgoshig First Nation are looking forward to the new Kegewigwan Wahgoshig Healing Lodge.

**- Mattagami Food Bank Makes Life Easier For People:** The Mattagami FN Food Bank is starting its second year of providing support to needy families in the community.

**- Community Eagle Staff Completed:** The Community Eagle staff was presented to the Matachewan First Nation in the fall of 2000.

**- Evelyn Black Completes Mental Health Program:** Evelyn Black, NNADAP Worker for Wahgoshig FN completed a mental health program

with the Misiway Eniniwuk Health Center.

**- NAN Elder Of The Year – Theresa Memegoes, Chapleau Ojibwe FN:** Elder Theresa Memegoes, Chapleau Ojibwe FN was recently presented with the NAN Elder Of The Year Award.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Darlene Lafontaine, Financial Advisor  
 - Chief Richard Wincikaby, Matachewan First Nation  
 - Julie McKay, Health Clerk  
 - Chief Chad Boissoneau, Mattagami First Nation  
 - Edna Hanson, NNADAP Worker, Matachewan First Nation

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- In this issue of Wabun Sun I would like to make some comments about the changes that the federal government is intending to make with the First Nation Governance Act.

- Wabun Tribal Council has embarked on a Strategic Planning Process and I am happy to report that we are well on our way with the process.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jean Lemieux, Health Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- I want to thank all those at Wabun Tribal Council, Wabun Health and in all our communities who have made my transition to Health Director an enjoyable experience.

- I am very happy that Wabun Tribal Council has embarked on a strategic planning process

# Year Four - December 2001 to December 2002

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Historic Process On Self Governance Will Determine Future:** The Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Self Governance Negotiation Committee held its first ever off-reserve public meeting at the Timmins Native Friendship Centre January 23, 2002. The information and public consultation meeting drew more than 100 people. The NAN Committee was joined by government of Canada negotiators to explain the process of self governance.

**- Elder Theresa Memegoes Provides History Of Chapleau Ojibwe FN:** This community is home to First Nation descendants who have lived in the area for many generations. Elder Theresa Memegoes provided a history of the her community, which was established along the former Highway 129.

**- Matachewan First Nation Historical Perspective:** Matachewan FN is an historic First Nation community that has served as the traditional living site of many First Nation families. Elder Laura Flood was born and raised in Matachewan FN and she was kind enough to share her knowledge of the history of the community during an interview.

**- Scholarship Fund Award Winners:** Six students received awards from the Wabun Scholarship Fund. They were: Mary-Lee Boissoneau, Chris McKay, Jeanine Batisse, Doreen Fox, Rose Thomas and Bertha Cormier.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- Wahgoshig First Nation Implements Home And Community Care Program:** Wahgoshig First Nation is the first Wabun community to implement the Home and Community Care

Program to provide better health services to community members who require health care in their homes.

**- Health Care Worker Meeting Run By Wabun:** Wabun Health Services held a two day Health Care Workers meeting to bring together Wabun Health staff and other health care workers to keep in touch with developments and initiatives taking place in Wabun's communities.

**- New Technology An Aid To People With Diabetes:** Wabun Health has introduced a new blood monitoring tool known as the Hemoglobin A1C machine to help community members with diabetes by preventing complications of the disease and assisting them to better manage their condition.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- Wahgoshig First Nation Presented With Ambulance:** A New Ambulance vehicle was presented to the recently trained first response medical team in Wahgoshig First Nation. The vehicle was provided through a provincial initiative for communities that are half an hour away from an ambulance service and have more than fifty incidents per year.

**- Our Language Our Culture:** A language feature that was provided by Elder Theresa Memegoes, Chapleau Ojibwe First Nation.

**- Ojibway Translations:** A language feature that was provided by Elder Laura Flood, Matachewan First Nation.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Jennifer Constant, Governance and Education Jurisdiction Community Research Coordinator, Mattagami First Nation

- Marie Boucher, Matachewan First Nation  
 - Pauline McKay Healthy Babies / Healthy Children Community Coordinator for Mattagami First Nation  
 - Betty Wheesk New Intervention / Prevention Worker for Mattagami First Nation  
 - Elder Laura Flood, Matachewan First Nation  
 - Margaret Quakegesic, NNADAP Worker, Brunswick House First Nation  
 - Kevin Tangie, Brunswick House FN and Community Development Officer, Mamo-Wichi-Hetiwin Employment & Training

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- In response from community members and Wabun staff we will now focus a little more on the historical aspects of who we are and culture and traditions. We will feature historical articles about our First Nations to provide us with an opportunity to promote our individual First Nation histories and give us a chance to share our past.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jean Lemieux, Health Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- I want to dedicate my column this issue to the wonderful work that all of our National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention (NNADAP) Program Workers have been doing. The program changed in Mattagami FN and is now known as the Intervention / Prevention Worker Program.

- We are continually looking for new ways to improve our services and to achieve funding from the government to develop programs aimed at benefiting our Wabun members.





# Wabun Sun

10th Anniversary Issue 1998 - 2008



# Year Five - December 2002 To December 2003

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

- **Wahgoshig FN Historical Feature:** The history of Wahgoshig FN dates back to the Abitibi tribes of the Algonquin, Cree and Ojibway.

- **History Of Mattagami FN Is Progressive:** The history of the community is about the home of the Ojibway and OjiCree people.

- **Brunswick House FN Moving Ahead:** The community is being led by members who want to build on past successes.

- **Scholarship Fund Awards:** Awarded to Christina Morris, Wahgoshig FN; Mary-Lee Boissoneau, Mattagami FN and Matachewan FN members Doreen Fox and Jeanine Batisse.

- **Beaverhouse FN A History With A Future:** Beaverhouse FN is an old settlement on the banks of the Misema River system.

- **Wabun FNs Take Part In Water Management Planning:** Communities along the Mattagami and Abitibi River systems are taking part in process.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

- **Mental Health Program Developed:** Wabun Health Services has been working to plan for the development of a Mental Health Program.

- **Winners In Quit Smoking Incentive Program:** Wabun Health Services announced the final draw winners of Quit Smoking Incentive Program.

- **Staff Taking Diabetes Educator Program:** Wabun CHNs are receiving training in diabetes education to be able to provide Diabetes education.

- **Wabun Health Care Workers Take Time Management Training:** Wabun Health Care workers completed the training program.

- **CHNs Take Advanced Foot Care Training:** Cecile Wesley and Cindy Giguere acquired Advanced Foot Care Training .

- **Caroline Ojeebah Retires:** Caroline Ojeebah has retired after dedicating 30 years of employment in numerous positions in Brunswick House FN.

- **Changes Affect Non-Insured Health Benefits:** Some new changes have taken place to the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program.

- **Welcome Back Julie Brousseau:** Julie (McKay) Brousseau returns as the Wabun Health Clerk.

- **Poker Run Promotes Diabetes Prevention:** A Poker Run event in Mattagami FN promotes healthy living, exercise and diabetes prevention.

- **Alternative Medicine Training Provided:** A training session on the alternative health practice of Reiki was provided to Wabun Health Staff.

- **Health Care Worker Retreat:** The Second Annual Retreat took place in September.

- **Health Program Evaluation Conducted:** Wabun Health Services undergoes a program evaluation as part of the health transfer process.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

- **Chapleau Ojibwe FN Opens New B & B:** The Blue Heron Inn has seven new rooms for guests.

- **James McKay At North American Indigenous Games:** McKay attends NAIG in Winnipeg Manitoba.

- **New Ambulance Building For Wahgoshig FN:** New funding assists in the development of services.

- **Language Translations:** by Elder Alex Black, Wahgoshig FN, Elder Hattie Luke-Maher, Mattagami FN and Elder Emmaline Macpherson, Beaverhouse FN.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Elder Emily McKay, Mattagami First Nation

- Chief Christine Venedam, Brunswick House FN

- Walter Naveau, Mattagami First Nation

- Elder Alex Black, Wahgoshig First Nation

- Tammy Gregoire, NAPS Officer, Mattagami FN

- Marilyn Tangie, Referral Clerk, Brunswick House FN

- Elder Hattie Luke-Maher, Mattagami FN

- Sue Prince, Water Management Planning Community Coordinator, Mattagami FN

- Chief Andrew Neshawabin, Brunswick House FN

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batisse, Executive Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- We as First Nation people are comfortable with the idea that we as a people are the guardians of the land and water.

- It is hard to believe that in this day and age we First Nation peoples still have to fight unjust and inappropriate legislation from the Canadian government such as the recent First Nations Governance Act or Bill C-7.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jean Lemieux, Health Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- Wabun Health is successful because of the efforts of our administration, staff and our First Nation leadership and community members.

- We like to keep current with new research in regards to health issues in general and more specifically the issues that affect our Wabun First Nation members.

# Year Six - December 2003 To December 2004

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

- **Mattagami FN Specific Land Claim Settled With Government Of Canada:** Mattagami FN and INAC have agreed upon a Specific Land Claim settlement.

- **Wabun Development Corp Gives Back:** The Wabun Tribal Council Development Corporation has paid dividends to its member First Nations.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

- **Health Canada Announces Change To NIHB Program:** Health Canada announced a new approach to the NIHB program's consent initiative.

- **E-SDRT Training To Improve Efficiency:** Training with a focus on improving efficiency in reporting for the Home and Community Care workers and on privacy was presented to the Wabun Health Team members January 7, 2004.

- **Protocol Signing Stays True To Traditional Ways:** The signing of a new protocol between Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation (NALSC) and Child & Family Services of Timmins and District will ensure a more culturally appropriate method of care for First Nation children and families.

- **Wabun Women Run For Health:** Mattagami First Nation members Juanita Luke and Jennifer Constant along with Therese Mannila Community Health Nurse took part in the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon in September 2004.

- **Walking Challenge:** Wabun Health Care staff challenged themselves to promoting healthier lifestyles by participating in a Walking Challenge.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

- **Matachewan FN Upgrades The Community With Treatment Plant And Subdivision:** A new

water treatment plant and sub-division is currently being constructed for Matachewan First Nation with the assistance of Wabun Tribal Council.

- **Traditional Drum Making Teaching Benefits Many In Matachewan First Nation:** Traditional drum making teaching was provided for 12 First Nation members in Matachewan FN through an education workshop to foster community interest in cultural knowledge and skills.

- **Lily Jacques Assisting In Bringing Traditional Teaching To Brunswick House FN:** Lily Jacques, Starbear, Traditional Teacher is helping her community learn about traditional teachings and cultural activities with help and support from Brunswick House FN and Wabun Tribal Council.

- **Mervyn Buffalo Working To Develop Awareness On Learning Disabilities:** Mervyn (Merv) Buffalo is working with Native and non-Native families in northern Ontario to promote awareness and gather support for young people diagnosed with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or related conditions.

- **Wahgoshig FN Youth Experience Traditional Pow Wow In Albuquerque, New Mexico:** Wahgoshig First Nation members received assistance to attend the Gathering Of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque, New Mexico which took place from April 22 to 25, 2004.

- **Juanita Luke Of Mattagami FN Wins Lifefest Contest:** The promotion of Healthy Lifestyles was the focus of a Lifefest contest which was held by Wabun Health Services for its six member communities.

- **Beaverhouse FN Goes Back To Roots In Church Reconstruction:** The community of

Beaverhouse First Nation was grateful to see the reconstruction of a local Church on their First Nation territory.

- **Wahgoshig FN Takes Part In Women's Retreat:** Wahgoshig First Nation members attended the 'Women Walking Together' Women's retreat at the North Bay Indian Friendship Centre in November 2004.

- **Language Translations:** by Elder Clara Mathias, Beaverhouse FN and Elder George Endugesick, Brunswick House FN.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Morris Wheesk, Water Plant Operator, Mattagami FN

- Elder George Naveau, Mattagami First Nation

- Elder Thomas Saunders, Brunswick House FN

- Elder George Endugesick, Brunswick House FN

- Ghislain Jacques, Brunswick House First Nation

- Elder Clara Mattias, Beaverhouse First Nation

- Anne Chookomolin, Wahgoshig First Nation

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batisse, Executive Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- I want to remind all Wabun community members that we are still progressing through the Self Governance Process with the Canadian Government.

- There have been some big changes in my life when my son Quinton Leo Edward Batisse was born on July 6, 2004.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jean Lemieux, Health Director

#### Column topics for the year included:

- There are many ways we keep in touch with our First Nations and our community members.



# Year Seven - December 2004 To December 2005

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Wabun Coordinates Training And Employment Services:** As a result of a desire by Matawa First Nations Management to administer its own employment and training programs, Wabun Tribal Council has also moved to handle these services for its First Nations. Mamo-Wichi-Hetiwin Employment & Training had been the delivery service organization for both tribal councils. The new regional service is now called Wabun Training and Employment Services.

**- Wabun First Nations Partners In Waterpower Project:** Brunswick House First Nation and Chapeau Ojibwe First Nation are partners in two developing multi million dollar waterpower projects on the Kapuskasing River that were awarded recently by the Ontario government. The new waterpower projects are part of the provincial government's Waterpower Site Release Strategy which is being administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- Marilyn Tangie Attends PSW Training:** Marilyn Tangie, of Brunswick House First Nation, is attending training to become a certified Personal Support Worker.

**- Wabun Hires Crisis Team Coordinator / Intervention Worker:** Wabun Tribal Council Health Services has hired Michael B. Archer as the new Crisis Team Coordinator / Intervention Worker.

**- Jennifer Constant And Julie Brousseau Heading To Iceland Marathon:** Wabun Tribal Council members, Julie Brousseau and Jennifer

Constant are supporting the Canadian Diabetes Association as participants of the organization's Team Diabetes Canada, which is a fundraising initiative to raise money for diabetes research, education, service and advocacy.

**- Wabun Health Staff Addresses Diabetes:** Therese Mannila Community Health Nurse for Mattagami First Nation is working towards becoming a Certified Diabetes Educator.

**- Wabun Health Services Implements New Improvements To NIHB Programs:** Wabun Health Services is implementing new improvements that have been made to the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program. These new changes were put in place July 2005 by Health Canada to provide improved services and clarify policies and procedures for health givers across the country.

**- Health Care Workers Attend Traditional Teachings Retreat:** Wabun Health Services held a Health Care Workers Retreat titled 'Exploring Aboriginal Healing Ways' in Brunswick House First Nation, September 19 to 23, 2005.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- NAPS Detachment Developed In Matachewan First Nation:** A Nishnawbe-Aski Police Services (NAPS) detachment will begin operations in Matachewan First Nations in June 2005. The newly constructed building will be located in the commercial property section of a new subdivision that has been created by the First Nation.

**- Wahgoshig FN Hosts Spring Star Lodge Ceremony:** Wahgoshig First Nation hosted the

Spring Star Lodge Ceremony for community members and traditional people in a week long event in May 2005.

**- Burial Site Discovered On Brunswick House FN Territory:** Brunswick House First Nation members are working together to protect their people's recently discovered burial sites on the First Nations traditional lands at Windermere Lake near the railway town of Nicholson, northwest of the town of Chapeau.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Chief Fabian Batisse, Matachewan First Nation

## REFLECTIONS

**Shawn Batisse, Executive Director**

### Column topics for the year included:

- As a result of the decision by Matawa First Nations Management to deliver its own employment and training programs, Mamo-Wichi-Hetiwin Employment & Training has been retired and has also resulted in Wabun Tribal Council having to take over delivery of these services for its member First Nations.

## HEALTH MATTERS

**Jean Lemieux, Health Director**

### Column topics for the year included:

**- Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Celebrates Move To New Location:** The Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Specialized Solvent Abuse Treatment Centre held a Grand Opening to celebrate the organization's move to a new facility in Thunder Bay. The event was attended by Jean Lemieux, Health Director and Board Member for Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Treat Centre and Wabun Tribal Council representative.

# Year Eight - December 2005 To December 2006

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

**- Wabun First Nations Commemorate 100 Years Of Treaty #9:** Wabun Tribal Council featured Treaty #9 Commemoration ceremonies in events that brought together Wabun community members young and old throughout the summer of 2006. Five of Wabun's First Nations marked the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the James Bay Treaty #9 in 1906 between the First Nations people of northern Ontario and the government of Canada.

**- Chapeau Ojibwe First Nation Looking Forward To Brighter Future:** Chapeau Ojibwe First Nation held commemoration ceremonies to mark the community's 100th Anniversary of the signing of Treaty #9 on July 21. A delegation from Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, First Nation leaders and local representatives, provincial government and the local mayor's office were on hand.

**- Brunswick House First Nation Has A Moving History:** Brunswick House First Nation brought together their community to hold commemoration ceremonies with First Nation leaders and visitors on July 25, 2006. Brunswick House FN held a gathering at the local community complex where dignitaries and local leadership made presentations and met with the people of the First Nation.

**- Wahgoshig FN Commemorates Treaty #9 On The Shores Of Lake Abitibi:** Wahgoshig First Nation was the first of several communities from the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation area to hold commemoration ceremonies during the summer of 2006. The community held commemoration ceremonies on June 7, 2006 on their traditional homelands on the Point of Lake Abitibi.

**- Mattagami FN Features Colourful And Exciting Commemoration:** Mattagami First Nation held its official Treaty #9 Commemoration ceremonies on July 7 at its First Nation Community Complex. The community hosted a three day gathering featuring local events and entertainment for visitors.

**- Matachewan FN Commemorates 100 Years With Showing Of Artifact:** Matachewan First Nation held a community gathering with local members and regional dignitaries during the First Nation's commemoration ceremonies on June 20, 2006. A highlight to the ceremonial events was the presentation of the original flag that was presented to the first recognized Chief of Matachewan First Nation during the signing of the treaty in 1906.

**- Wabun Scholarships Awarded:** Wabun Tribal Council awarded six scholarship fund awards to Wabun post secondary students based on their academic performance in the past year. Award winners were Mary-Lee Boissoneau, Stacey Dunn, Karen Huard, Marina Thompson, Delta Ray Flood and Johnathan Dunn.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

**- Wabun Health Directing Pandemic Flu Plan:** Most people have been hearing about the possibility of a coming pandemic. Wabun Health has been working with its First Nation leadership and Nishnawbe-Aski Nation to develop a Pandemic plan for its communities.

**- Evelyn Black Provides Information Session On Crystal Meth:** Evelyn Black, National Native Alcohol Drug Abuse and Prevention (NNADAP) Worker for Wahgoshig First Nation facilitated a

four day information workshop on Crystal Meth for Wabun Health Care Workers in February 2006.

**- Wabun Health Care Workers Attend Workshop:** Wabun Health Care workers and Wabun community members took part in an intensive three day abuse prevention workshop in February 2006. The workshop for Aboriginal communities was titled 'Walking The Prevention Circle' and it was presented by the Canadian Red Cross, Timmins and District Branch.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

**- Amy Sackaney Wins First Place In Basketball Free Throw:** Amy Sackaney, a member of Wahgoshig First Nation has taken first place in the Northern Ontario regional basketball free throw competitions.

**- Family Violence Workshops For Wabun First Nations:** Wabun Health Care workers are providing an educational workshop on family violence to all Wabun First Nations

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Chief Willis McKay, Mattagami First Nation  
- Mike Archer, Regional Crisis Coordinator, Wabun Health Services

## REFLECTIONS

**Shawn Batisse, Executive Director**

### Column topics for the year included:

- Five of our Wabun Tribal Council First Nations held Treaty #9 Commemoration events this past summer. Our First Nation leadership and members came together to remember that 100 years ago our ancestors signed Treaty #9 believing that it would bring prosperity, friendship and well being.



# Year Nine - December 2006 To December 2007

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

- **Wahgoshig First Nation Signs MOU:** A golden opportunity has been announced with an agreement between Wahgoshig FN and Apollo Gold Corp in January 2007.
- **Flying Post FN Joins Wabun Tribal Council:** Flying Post FN formerly an independent First Nation in the NAN territory has joined the Wabun Tribal Council.
- **Power Projects Partnership Moving Ahead:** Chapleau Ojibwe FN and Brunswick House FN signed an Agreement in Principle with HydroMega in February 2007
- **Three Wabun First Nations Sign Agreement With Liberty Mines:** FN representatives took part in a grand opening of the new Redstone Mill nickel concentrator facility to meet with the company after signing a MOU with Liberty Mines in September 2007.
- **Wahgoshig FN Signs Deal With Two Companies:** Wahgoshig FN leadership signs MOU with Sheltered Oak Resources Inc and Sage Gold Inc in September 2007.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

- **Appreciation Night For Community Crisis Teams:** An Appreciation Night for volunteer members from Wabun's communities.
- **Mike Archer Facilitates Communication Workshop:** A series of Peer Support Workshops for Wabun communities

## COMMUNITY STORIES

- **Elder George Batisse Will Be Sadly Missed:** Wabun Tribal Council was saddened to receive the

news of the passing of Elder George Batisse Sr., of Matachewan First Nation, on January 8, 2007.

- **Brunswick House First Nation Hosts Crisis Team Building Workshop:** Brunswick House First Nation hosted a Crisis Team Building Workshop for their community in January 2007 to ensure that support services are prepared in case of an emergency.
- **Mattagami Eatery Paves The Way For Health Meals:** Bruce McKay and his family, who are the owners of the Mattagami Convenience Store and Restaurant have taken a bite out of bad eating habits by adopting a new health conscious menu for their community.
- **Wahgoshig Hockey Players Shine In Tournament Win:** Wahgoshig First Nation members were a big factor in helping their team, the Matheson Lightning win the annual Atom / Peewee House League tournament in Iroquois Falls in December 2006.
- **Wahgoshig First Nation Hosts Traditional Gathering in Timmins:** Wahgoshig First Nation will be hosting the Eagle and Condor symposium of international indigenous culture and heritage, to take place in May 2007 at Northern College in Timmins.
- **Mattagami FN Marketing Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products:** Mattagami FN is marketing unique environmental cleaning products.
- **Margaret Quakegesic Expanding Knowledge Through Further Education:** Margaret Quakegesic, NNADAP Worker for Brunswick House FN is attending a program offered by the

Anishinabek Education Institute.

- **Wabun First Nations Youth Participate In Workshop In Mattagami FN:** Wabun First Nations youth were brought together to take part in education presentations at the Youth Life Prevention Skills workshop that was hosted in Mattagami First Nation in August 2007.
- **A Tribute To My Mishoomiss: Sydney Ojeebah:** An original poem by Alfred Ojeebah, Wabun Chairperson and member of Brunswick House First Nation, that recalls the life of his father and his family.

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Elder Noel Diamond, Wahgoshig First Nation
- Michelle Carrier, Community Health Nurse
- Elder Valerie Bull, Flying Post First Nation
- Diane Takenay, Brunswick House First Nation
- Chief Bill Lacroix, Brunswick House First Nation
- Elaine Daly, Crisis Coordinator, Matachewan First Nation
- Darlene Naveau, Community Health Representative, Mattagami First Nation

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

### Column topics for the year included:

- First Nations are now being consulted and negotiated with by resource based companies that want to develop on or near our traditional lands.
- Wabun Tribal Council is proud to welcome Flying Post First Nation to the Wabun family.
- I congratulate all our Chiefs for recognizing the importance in negotiating with the mining industry.

# Year Ten - December 2007 To December 2008

## TRIBAL COUNCIL STORIES

- **Wabun Reps Attend AFOA Conference:** Financial representatives from Wabun attended the AFOA 8th Annual National Conference.
- **Liberty Mines Signs IBA With Wabun FNs:** Matachewan FN, Mattagami FN and Wahgoshig FN signed an IBA with Liberty Mines Inc.
- **Matachewan FN Signs MOU With Northgate:** A proactive approach by Northgate Minerals has resulted in an agreement with Matachewan First Nation.
- **Wabun Announces Scholarship Winners:** Winners are Flying Post FN members Darryl Ray, Randi Ray and Jeff Berube; Mattagami FN members James McKay and Deanna Hyde.
- **Nancy Cyr Assisting Wabun Members:** Nancy Cyr, IBA Coordinator for Liberty Mines is implementing the IBA with the First Nations.

## HEALTH SERVICES STORIES

- **Wabun Health Features Crisis Team Training:** Wabun Health Services hosted a week long Crisis Team Training event in Timmins in March 2008.
- **Wabun Health Wellness Workshop:** Wabun Health Services hosted a Men's and Women's Wellness workshop in October 2007.
- **Health Care Workers Retreat:** The Retreat for Wabun Health staff and First Nation health care workers was held in November 2008.
- **Youth Suicide Prevention Funding:** Wabun Health Services acquired funding from the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy.

## COMMUNITY STORIES

- **Elders Gathering Hosted By Matachewan First Nation:** Matachewan First Nation hosted the second annual Elders Gathering in October 2007.

- **Mattagami FN Elder Irene Luke Passes:** Elder Irene Luke passed away at the age of 77 on January 25, 2008.

- **Utility Services Upgraded In Mattagami First Nation:** Redevelopment of local water treatment plant and electric power system.

- **Matachewan FN To Host Teaching Camp:** Matachewan FN is preparing to host an Annual Traditional And Cultural teaching camp for youth.

- **Youth Gathering In Brunswick House FN:** Brunswick House FN will be hosting the second annual Wabun Youth Workshop.

- **2008 Community Crisis Team Featured:** A photo of the participants of the Crisis Team Training event which was held in March 2008.

- **9th Annual Mattagami Fishing Tourny:** Mattagami FN hosted the 9th Annual Live Release Walleye Tournament in June 2008.

- **Jamie-Lee Batisse Wins At NAIG:** Jamie-Lee Batisse, a member of Matachewan FN scored a medal winning performance at the 2008 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG).

## FEATURED BIOGRAPHIES

### Personal Interviews:

- Chief Rene Ojeebah, Brunswick House FN
- Sue Collins, CHN, Matachewan First Nation
- Ginger Nadon, Band Manager, Wahgoshig FN
- Madeline Chokomolin, Health Policy Analyst
- Doris Mitchell, Brunswick House First Nation
- Pam Cormier, EDO, Matachewan First Nation
- Myrande Tremblay, Wahgoshig First Nation

## REFLECTIONS

### Shawn Batise, Executive Director

### Column topics for the year included:

- 2007 was a banner year for our First Nations in

terms of development and participation in resource development projects.

- Most First Nations welcome, encourage and support responsible development of our natural resources on or near our traditional lands.
- When governments and the justice system finally acknowledged our rights as First Nation people in regards to resource harvesting on our traditional lands we at Wabun were ready to move ahead in working with Forestry, Mining and Hydro developers.

## HEALTH MATTERS

### Jean Lemieux, Health Director

### Column topics for the year included:

- We are bringing people together for educational, social and healing initiatives.
- We want to encourage our young people to stay in school so that they can attain future employment opportunities in the medical field.
- We are undergoing an accreditation process with Accreditation Canada and this is yet another important step for Wabun Health as we continually improve our programs and services for our First Nations.



**Wabun Sun**

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