

WABUN

Volume Thirteen Issue Two

Sun



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REFLECTIONS



**Shawn
Batise**
Executive
Director

For more than a hundred years the people of the Wabun Tribal Council First Nations were mostly forgotten when it came to any sharing in all the resource development that has happened on our traditional lands. Our ancestors, great grandfathers, grandfathers and so many family members had rare opportunities to participate in any of the development happening in mines, forestry and hydro projects nearby. That only started to change very recently.

I am so proud of and grateful to our Wabun Chiefs over the years and in particular those who over the past decade or so have provided direction to seek out and meet with resource development companies working on our lands. We needed a vision from our Chiefs that was based on changing the way we look at our relationship with developers and government. Their support and our research, analysis, lobbying, along with corporate and public relations over the years has resulted in recognition at many levels. We are considered by other First Nations, industry and government as being at the leading edge when it comes to formulating, processing and implementing agreements with developers working on our traditional lands.

When the Ontario government decided a few years ago that it was time to modernize the mining act they called upon the Wabun Tribal Council to become part of the small group brought together to detail the rules and regulations for the new Modernized Mining Act. Make no mistake about it, this was history in the making as it was the

first time First Nations actually were asked to sit at the table with government ministers, assistants to the deputy ministers and lawyers to draft the details in the production of a new mining act.

You probably know from many past issues of Wabun Sun that for years now we have been actively pursuing resource developers coming on to our traditional lands. Although it has been an enormous amount of work with much research, analysis and negotiations with a multitude of companies and government representatives it has paid off with the signing of many Exploration Agreements (EAs), Memorandums Of Understandings (MOU) and Impact and Benefits Agreements (IBA). In cases where development has proceeded to the creation of mines or hydro development projects we are reaping the benefits of having negotiated good agreements for our Wabun members.

The old Mining Act had no mention of Aboriginal engagement

In our role as part of the new mining act planning group we fought long and hard for First Nations and of course we were able to draw on the considerable experience we have honed over the years. I was involved in a lot of meetings at Queen's Park over the past few years and it was no easy feat to deal with a group whose members were all dedicated to getting as much as they could for themselves. We did not get everything we wanted and at the end of the day the government of Ontario made the final decision

based on our input. What we did get was impressive in that we now have a much better consultation and engagement process with the big change being that resource developers wanting to do business on our traditional lands have to make contact with us first to move ahead. The production of agreements is not mandatory although greatly encouraged and frankly I would have preferred a stronger commitment but the changes we got put us in a much better negotiating position compared to our rights under the previous outdated mining act. The old act had no mention of Aboriginal engagement.

There are thousands of claims belonging to hundreds of exploration companies across Ontario and many of these are on Wabun traditional lands. Before the new Modernized Mining Act was in play we only managed to engage about 10 percent of these companies as under the old mining act they did not need to talk to us until they got to the point of needing a permit. Now they have to meet with us before they do anything. Since the creation of the new act we have received about 8 to 10 emails a day from resource developers and we are working with them as fast as we can to sign agreements beneficial to everyone. We expect more than 30 new exploration agreements by the end of this year and perhaps dozens more with a host of companies moving into the future. This has created a huge workload for us but the rewards will in the long run benefit our Wabun members for years to come. We have changed the way we look at development on our lands and with an eye to self-sufficiency that will allow our people to take control of their own destiny.

We do not have mandatory agreement provisions or the right to veto in the new act but of course we still have the right to protest, conduct civil disobedience and we can always turn to the

courts to deal with conflict or negative issues that arise. However, I am very happy and proud to say that there is much more cooperation between all of the stakeholders involved in resource development on our traditional lands and a good part of that has to do with the new act that makes

us more comfortable with clearly defined rules.

Perhaps many of us would think now that we have the golden goose but in reality we must remember that perhaps only one in 50 mining claims actually become a producing mine in the current market. That falls to one in about

100 with the price of gold dropping. This means that we will benefit from mines that come on line in the future but the road to that development is long and in many cases just won't pan out. The thing is, when a mine does become a reality Wabun will be part of that success story.

HEALTH MATTERS

I like to think of our Wabun Tribal Council First Nations as like a family. It is a large family spread over six communities with different terrain, community infrastructure, economic opportunities in mining, forestry and hydro development and unique histories. One thing that is very common to all our Wabun First Nations are the children. Our First Nation youth are perhaps our first generation to move dramatically into the modern world at large. In many ways that is great and in others it is problematic.

More and more our youth are moving away from the teachings of our ancestors, our traditions and culture. They are being bombarded by all kinds of electrical mediums like television, the computer, internet, smart phones, text mail and of course the popular non Native culture of today. Many travel outside of the community for school.

One of the things I experienced in growing up was the loss of a connection of being a First Nation person and I know that many of my generation felt this. Thankfully, my parents were there for me in many ways in handing down their knowledge of what it was to be Native. In today's fast paced world, where so much is changing on our Wabun First Nations, many of our youth are not connecting with their roots as Aboriginal people and of course that is causing some confusion. Where there is confusion in terms of identity then more often than not there are problems with issues like alcohol and drug addiction, depression, anxiety, bullying, low self-esteem, suicide and anger to name a few.

I am so grateful and proud of our Wabun Chiefs for recognizing the difficulties our youth face and for stepping up and providing us at Wabun Health with the direction and support to give our young people a hand up through many beneficial programs. I am also truly proud of our

Wabun Health staff and in particular Mike Archer, Community Crisis Coordinator for working tirelessly for so many years to provide our youth with practical workshops and retreats to educate them and give them the tools they need to deal with the problems they are experiencing. It satisfies me greatly that this education for the most part is done by our own First Nation facilitators and healers who draw on Native traditional and cultural teachings.

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Wabun First
Nations***

As you can see on the front cover of this issue of Wabun Sun we have just celebrated the seventh annual Wabun Youth Gathering. This is perhaps the most profound effort we have made in terms of assisting our youth in giving them the necessary knowledge, skills and tools they need to survive and blossom into productive, proud and strong Native people. They are discovering who they are as First Nation people, their Native traditions and culture and how to move forward in this life with a good sense of identity knowing they have the support of the Wabun family.

We have been holding the Wabun Youth Gathering for seven years and

**Jean
Lemieux
Health
Director**



in that time I have watched little preteens participate in programs and workshops designed for them with the resulting graduation to senior youth or older teens. It makes me feel so good when I return to attend this event every year and find positive changes in our Wabun youth. I see the teens coming up and chaperoning and caring for the younger ones and I watch as the older teens graduate on to pursue education or job opportunities with a real purpose in their lives. It is not easy to step up and make the effort to care about the future of our Wabun youth and it takes a lot of time, energy, experience and money to make it happen. So, thanks to everyone who has participated throughout the years in our Wabun Youth Gathering and that includes, our Chiefs, Elders, chaperones, facilitators, Mike Archer who coordinates the event every year and of course to our most precious resource ... our youth.

As our youth proceed through life I am sure they will remember the friendships they made with young people from other Wabun First Nations, I know they will use the knowledge and skills they gained in the bullying, suicide prevention, anger, drug and alcohol abuse workshops and sessions to move through a world full of obstacles and challenges. I can only hope that someday they will return to carry on our work in taking care of the Wabun Family. See you at the Eighth Wabun Youth Gathering.

Wabun Makes History With Input On New Mining Act

The new Modernized Mining Act in Ontario has some important benefits and rules regarding First Nations thanks to the input and lobbying of Wabun Tribal Council

When Shawn Batise, Executive Director of Wabun Tribal Council with direction from the Wabun Chiefs first started to engage and negotiate with resource development companies more than a decade ago he had no idea that his endeavours would result in acclaim with other First Nations, Industry and Government.

“For years we have been meeting with resource development companies and most of this has had to do with mining exploration on our traditional lands. We were pleased when the Ontario government finally decided it was time to modernize the mining act and invited us to provide our input. I might point out that this was the first time in Ontario history that First Nations were asked to sit in on the process of drafting this type of legislation. We did not get everything we wanted for First Nations in this province but we ended up with a better engagement and consulting process that strengthens our position in terms of working

with industry and government,” explained Batise.

The rules set out in the new act came into effect on November 1, 2012 and then were fully implemented in April 2013. The new act was originally passed at Queen’s Park in 2009 but it took a couple of years of meeting and negotiating to end up with something that could move forward.

“We fought long and hard on the behalf of First Nations but at the end of the day the final decision was taken by the province. We would have preferred that agreements were mandatory and that we would have been granted the power of veto but that did not happen. However, we managed to make sure that industry is now obliged to meet with us at the start of any exploration or activity on our traditional lands,” said Batise.

The new act has resulted in a huge increase in industry contact with Wabun Tribal Council as well as other First Nations. Batise pointed out that this increase has pro-

duced a huge workload for Wabun staff and in the near future he anticipates dozens of new agreements being signed with resource development companies. To deal with this increase in workload funding has been provided which has assisted in the creation of the position of Mineral Development Adviser filled by Diane Tookenay.



Diane Tookenay,
Mineral
Development
Advisor

The Ontario government claims that “new rules and tools will help provide clarity and certainty to industry, ensure ongoing engagement by industry with affected Aboriginal communities and help build positive relationships with surface rights owners”.



LOBBYING AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS HAS BEEN A PROACTIVE STRATEGY SUPPORTED BY THE CHIEFS OF WABUN FOR THE PAST DECADE. WABUN’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SHAWN BATISE, ATTENDS MAJOR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT EVENTS TO LOBBY ON BEHALF OF THE WABUN FIRST NATIONS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES. HERE WE SEE ONTARIO PREMIER, KATHLEEN WYNNE CHATTING WITH BATISE AT A MINING INDUSTRY SHOWCASE.

Highlights Of Ontario's New Mining Act

The new rules in the act include the following initiatives.

THE MINING ACT AWARENESS PROGRAM:

The program provides basic information on the mining sequence, staking claims, early exploration and Aboriginal consultation requirements at the various stages of the process, with an emphasis on the changes that have been made to the regulations. The program, which will be delivered on-line, will also raise awareness of the importance of considering other users of public land. By November 1, 2014, every current holder of a prospector's licence will be required to have completed the program.

SITES OF ABORIGINAL CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Effective November 1, 2012, Aboriginal communities will be able to apply to have sites of Aboriginal cultural significance withdrawn so mining claims cannot be staked.

EXPLORATION PLANS:

In order to undertake certain early exploration activities, an exploration plan must be submitted, and any surface rights owners must be notified. Aboriginal communities potentially affected by the exploration plan activities will be notified by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) and have an opportunity to provide feedback before the proposed activities can be carried out. Exploration plans are mandatory as of April 1, 2013.

EXPLORATION PERMITS:

Some early exploration activities will require an exploration permit. Those activities will only be allowed to take place once the permit has been approved by MNDM. Surface rights owners must be notified when applying for a permit. Aboriginal communities potentially affected by the exploration permit activities will be consulted and have an opportunity to provide comments and feedback before a decision is made on the permit. Exploration permits are mandatory as of April 1, 2013.



PROACTIVE EFFORTS BY WABUN TRIBAL COUNCIL HAS RESULTED IN THE SIGNING OF MANY AGREEMENTS WITH RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES OVER THE YEARS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT WHEN THE PRICE OF GOLD IS HIGH ABOUT ONE IN 50 EXPLORATION AGREEMENTS END UP IN MINES. HERE WE SEE SOME HAPPY WABUN FIRST NATION MEMBERS EMPLOYED BY AURICO GOLD AS A RESULT OF NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS AND A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

Major changes in the act also include the following.

VOLUNTARY REHABILITATION:

Effective November 1, 2012, provisions will be implemented to allow individuals or companies to apply to voluntarily rehabilitate an existing mine hazard that they did not create on Crown-held land, and without becoming liable for pre-existing environmental issues on the site.

CLAIM-STAKING:

Effective November 1, 2012, if you ground stake a mining claim, you must include Global Positioning System (GPS) geo referencing data on the application to record the claim. MNDM will provide a set of standards to follow. This requirement will only apply to ground staked mining claims on lands that are unsurveyed (not surveyed into lots and concessions).

ASSESSMENT WORK CREDITS:

Effective November 1, 2012, changes to the assessment work regulation will make Aboriginal consultation costs and the cost of providing GPS data for existing claims eligible for assessment credit. Monetary payments in lieu of assessment work will be accepted under certain conditions.

BULK SAMPLES:

Effective November 1, 2012, the process for obtaining permission to test mineral content has changed and thresholds have been set for the amount of material that will be considered a bulk sample. Both a bulk sample permit and an exploration permit will be required to extract a sample and test mineral content on a mining claim.

CLOSURE PLANS:

Effective November 1, 2012, the rules for Aboriginal consultation will be formalized. Aboriginal consultation is required prior to the submission of a certified closure plan or closure plan amendment. There will also be provisions for facilitation (if required) to assist with the process.



WABUN TRIBAL COUNCIL WAS INVITED TO BE PART OF A GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE RECENTLY LEGISLATED MODERNIZED MINING ACT. PICTURED HERE FROM L-R ARE: JASON BATISE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / TECHNICAL SERVICES ADVISOR, WABUN; MICHAEL GRAVELLE, ONTARIO MINISTER OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES AND SHAWN BATISE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WABUN.



**Wabun Youth Gathering
Junior Group
July 15 - 19, 2013**

7th Annual Wabun Youth Gathering A Success

The seventh annual Wabun Youth Gathering, held at the Eco Centre Lodge in Elk Lake, featured workshops dealing with the critical issues such as suicide prevention, family violence and bullying. Role playing and skits based on traditional and cultural teachings were utilized to educate participants. Eighty Wabun youth attended the event which ran from July 15 to 26 and was sponsored by Wabun Tribal Council Health Services.

The event was divided into two parts. The first week from July 15 to 19 was held for junior youth aged from eight to 12 and the second week from July 22 to 26 was for senior youth aged 13 to 18. The first week of events featured facilitators Craig Fox of Wikwemikong First Nation and Dana Cosgrove of Mattagami First Nation. Fox, a traditional teacher and dancer, instructed the male youth on preparations and ceremonies concerning Pow Wows and dance. Cosgrove provided presentations for female youth in traditional dances, teachings and songs.

The end of first week was celebrated with a mini Pow Wow on July 18 developed and performed by the youth.

The senior week featured a series of workshops by Clayton Small, who led discussions and education on suicide prevention skills and peer support. Small, a northern Cheyenne Native American, who is based in Albuquerque New Mexico, is an aboriginal leadership specialist that promotes primary suicide intervention techniques. Small also holds a Masters in Education and once held the position of secondary school principal.

Jean Lemieux, Health Director, Wabun Health Services pointed out that she has seen positive changes in the Wabun First Nations as a result of the Wabun Youth Gathering and the various workshops produced by the health department.

"We understand that we must work with our youth from an early age and give them the skills and tools they need to become productive and healthy adults", said Lemieux.

Wabun Youth participants, who have been attending the event over the years, move into chaperone positions to assist the organizers and facilitators.

"I am kind of amazed that they asked me to help as a junior chaperone this year. I always look forward to



coming to the gathering and it has helped me in so many ways through all the traditional teachings we get here", said 14 year old Brent Boissoneau of Mattagami, First Nation.

For the first year ever the featured drum and singing group came from a Wabun community. The Big Bear Claw Singers of Brunswick House First Nation, led by Jason Saunders performed traditional songs.

Elder Vina Hendrix, Matachewan FN, who has been attending the gathering for years was once again on hand to provide teachings to the youth.





"This is one of the best things that has ever happened to our First Nations and it provides the opportunity for our youth to gather with each other, our leaders and elders to learn more about our culture and traditions", commented Elder Hendrix.

Chief Walter Naveau of Mattagami First Nation, Chief Elenore Hendrix of Matachewan First Nation and Chief Marcia Martel Brown were on hand to lend their support and counsel to the event organizers and young people in attendance.

"These young people are our leaders of tomorrow and it is up to us to make sure we do all we can to assist them to become strong and healthy. It makes me feel very proud and optimistic to see these Wabun youth learning our culture and traditions", said Chief Naveau.

Chief Hendrix and Chief Martel Brown congratulated the event organizers and youth for producing over the years what has become a major First Nation event.

Mike Archer, Community Crisis Coordinator, Wabun Health Services has been coordinating the event for the past seven years.

"The Wabun Youth Gathering is the kind of healing that we need more of in our First Nations because it is based on the teachings of tradition and

culture. We can only progress and make things better for ourselves as First Nation people if we decide that we really want change and to develop healthy and strong communities", said Archer.



FROM L-R: CLAYTON SMALL, WORKSHOP FACILITATOR; ELDER MORRIS NAVEAU, MATTAGAMI FN AND JEAN LEMIEUX, HEALTH DIRECTOR, WABUN HEALTH SERVICES.

Morris Naveau, an Elder and a residential school survivor was on hand to assist with the senior Wabun youth and to share his story of struggle and survival.

Facilitator, Small, with the kind yet disciplined demeanour of a seasoned

educator led the Wabun Youth through many role playing sessions and discussions having to do with difficult issues. His recurring theme was "step up" and he applied it to every topic of discussion.

"I like what the Chiefs of Wabun, Jean Lemieux and Mike Archer are doing here with the ongoing development of this annual youth gathering. I am very proud to have participated in this year's event and I am extremely impressed with the openness and bravery I have seen expressed by the young people here," said Small

Veteran senior Wabun youth participant Samuel Kloetstra of Mattagami First Nation pointed out that the event has provided him with confidence and many skills to deal with life. In fact he was selected to sit on the Minister of Ontario's Student Advisory Council as an Aboriginal representative.

The Wabun Youth Gathering came out of the vision and guidance of the late Elder Thomas Saunders, Brunswick House FN, who wanted to see the Wabun communities coming together in one gathering.

**For more pictures go to:
www.wabunyouthgathering.com**



**Wabun Youth Gathering
Senior Group
July 22 - 26, 2013**

Cooking With The Wolfman A Howling Success

Mattagami First Nation hosted an educational workshop with celebrity Aboriginal Chef David Wolfman

The open event, which invited members from the Wabun communities to attend, was held at the community complex on August 13.



Eileen Boissoneau,
Community Health Representative,
Mattagami FN

Eileen Boissoneau, Community Health Representative coordinated the event which was supported by Wabun Health Services and by Mattagami First Nation for providing a venue and suitable location.

"This was an event concept that was forwarded to me by our Community Health Nurse, Therese Mannilla and one that we wanted to feature in our community. Having a nationally recognized Aboriginal cooking show host in our First Nation was a great way to promote

healthy eating and lifestyles for our First Nation members. It was also a way for us to bring attention to issues such as diabetes prevention and management as well as finding solutions to healthy eating for low income families in our First Nation communities," said Boissoneau.

She gave thanks to her health staff at Mattagami First Nation and Wabun Health Services for their support and assistance in making the event possible.

Chef Wolfman provided education and skills training on food preparation as well as sustaining healthy lifestyles and simple easy ways to cook and prepare meals at home. Event participants were guided in group discussions on how to determine healthy eating habits and strategies on how low income families can adopt a healthy diet.

As he describes on his website at www.cookingwiththewolfman.com

"I strive to inspire others to find their life's passion. Each day is a treasure to behold and my motto is,



NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ABORIGINAL CHEF DAVID WOLFMAN IS WELL KNOWN THROUGH HIS COOKING SHOW 'COOKING WITH THE WOLFMAN' ON THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES TELEVISION NETWORK (APT).

'one day at a time'. When it comes to cooking, when I am asked how to prepare moose, bush rabbit or a gourmet meal, my answer is always the same 'very carefully and with love'," said Chef Wolfman.

He is a culinary arts professor at George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology in Toronto. He is also the host, writer, and executive producer of the nationally televised 'Cooking with the Wolfman' television program on Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APT). He is a descendant of the Xaxli'p (HA-CLIP) Band of Lillooet, in British Columbia. His cooking takes everyday North American food products to a higher level, described as "Aboriginal Fusion: traditional Aboriginal foods with a modern twist." As a former caterer and International Culinary Olympic gold medal winner, Chef Wolfman shares his knowledge and skills with audiences young and old at events and gatherings.

Mattagami FN Walleye Hatchery Breeds New Beginnings



CONGRATULATIONS TO MATTAGAMI FN AND TO CHAD BOISSONEAU (PICTURED HERE CONDUCTING A TOUR FOR STUDENTS) FOR THE INGENUITY AND EFFORTS IN CREATING 'HATCHING FOR OUR FUTURE'. THIS WALLEYE FISH HATCHERY PROJECT RESULTED IN THE RELEASE OF AN ESTIMATED 300,000 FRY, OR JUVENILE WALLEYE INTO THE MATTAGAMI LAKE AREA. BOISSONEAU HEADED THE PROJECT BASED ON HIS PAST EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE. IT RAN FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2013. THIS WILL BE A GREAT BOOST TO MAJOR FISHING EVENTS HELD IN THE MATTAGAMI LAKE AREA EVERY YEAR INCLUDING THE ANNUAL MATTAGAMI FN WALLEYE TOURNAMENT WHICH TAKES PLACE EVERY JUNE AND THE NEWLY ANNOUNCED WALLEYE DERBY THAT WILL TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 7 AND 8, 2013.

Wabun First Nation Chiefs and Councils In 2013

Beaverhouse First Nation



**Chief Marcia
Brown-Martel**
Beaverhouse FN

Councillors:

- Elder Catherine McKenzie
- Gloria McKenzie
- Bert McKenzie
- Peter Kyle
- Teresa Lafrenier

Flying Post First Nation



Chief Murray Ray
Flying Post FN

Councillors:

- Susan Baril
- Robert Mcleod
- Lynn Ray
- Richard Ray

Brunswick House First Nation



**Chief Andrew
Neshawabin**
Brunswick House FN

Councillors:

- Irene Redbreast
- Charmaine Saunders
- Kevin Tangie
- Marjorie Tangie

Elections took place in mid August 2013 and any changes in leadership will be updated on the www.wabun.on.ca website and the next issue of Wabun Sun

Matachewan First Nation



**Chief Elenore
Hendrix**
Matachewan FN

Councillors:

- Real Boucher
- Gail Brubacher
- David Flood
- Jean Lemieux
- Leahan Parrott
- Richard Wincikaby

Chapleau Ojibwe First Nation



**Chief Anita
Stephens**
Chapleau Ojibwe FN

Councillors:

- Elder Theresa Memegos
- Leona Panamick

Mattagami First Nation



**Chief Walter
Naveau**
Mattagami FN

Councillors

- Jennifer Constant
- Bruce McKay
- James Naveau
- Larry Naveau
- Elder Leonard Naveau

Brunswick House FN Welcomes Doctor Clinic

Wabun Health is proud to assist Brunswick House First Nation with the establishment of a local clinic spearheaded by Dr. Doris Mitchell, who is a community member

Brunswick House First Nation has developed a regular visiting doctors clinic in its community to provide easier access to medical services for its members. The clinic was started in April 2013 and it is headed by Dr. Mitchell, who, as member of Brunswick House First Nation, felt a need to give back to her community. She is assisted in her community visits by Dr. Stephen Saari and Dr. Kendra Saari. Each doctor visits the community once a month which provides the First Nation with three separate visits every four weeks.



Michelle Carrier,
Community
Health Nurse,
Brunswick
House FN

"The clinics held by our visiting doctors has proven very popular in our community. We are booked with clients two weeks in advance for every visit. Everyone is very happy to have the service right in our First Nation. It has also meant a lot to our Elders and clients who can not easily visit an out of town clinic or hospital. The doctors provide a continuity of care by providing home visits for those who are not able to go to the clinic," said Michelle Carrier, Community Health Nurse (CHN).

Carrier explained that since Dr Mitchell had established a medical practice in the neighbouring town of Chapleau, she wanted to find a way to directly work with her First Nation. Dr Mitchell in turn invited her medical colleagues Dr Stephen Saari and Dr Kendra Saari, whom she had graduated with from medical school and who both had medical practices in Chapleau, to work with her in developing the program in Brunswick House First Nation.

"Dr Mitchell wanted to give back to her community in some way. When it was decided that the doctor visitation program was to be established, we were happy to help her with the initiative for the First Nation," said Carrier.

Community members are registered as clients of the medical clinic in the town of Chapleau, where their appointments can be arranged. The medical staff in Brunswick House FN, in turn receive the appointment list from the clinic in Chapleau and organize the visits with the doctors at their own medical office in the community. The First Nation made their local medical center available for the doctors visitation program at the community complex. Wabun Health Services provided support for the program by designating funding assistance to set up the doctors office with medical supplies. The visiting doctors have direct access to patient medical files electronically as they have access to the medical center files. This access

also allows them to view any current lab work as it is filed.

Carrier added that the community is proud to have a member of their First Nation serving its membership with this important service.

"Dr. Mitchell is a shining example for other First Nation members,"
Jean Lemieux

"There is a great sense of pride in having Dr Mitchell working with her own people in her community. She provides a great example for the younger generation. This important service has also provided us all with a great sense comfort for our members and makes it easier for them to access medical services," said Carrier.

Dr Doris Mitchell, a member of Brunswick House First Nation, completed her medical training at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine in 2010. She has been involved in Aboriginal medical services and organizations since 1991.

"We are all very grateful to Dr. Mitchell for taking her medical expertise back to her home community. She is a shining example for other Wabun First Nation members who have developed career skills to realize that they are always needed back home," said Jean Lemieux, Wabun Health Director.



A DOCTORS CLINIC IS FEATURED AT THE BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN COMMUNITY COMPLEX / MEDICAL CENTRE

Dr. Mitchell Stands Out As Wabun Role Model

Dr. Doris Mitchell, a member of Brunswick House First Nation, is selected as our Wabun Aboriginal role model for this issue of Wabun Sun



DR DORIS MITCHELL, A MEMBER OF BRUNSWICK HOUSE FN, IS WORKING WITH HER FIRST NATION TO GIVE BACK TO HER PEOPLE AND HER COMMUNITY.

She has made great efforts to acquire her education as a doctor and now she is bringing her skills and training back to her home community. She currently has her own medical practice in the town of Chapleau and in April 2013, she met with Brunswick House First Nation leadership to develop a visiting doctors clinic for the community.

Dr. Mitchell started her career in the medical field as a Registered Nurse when she graduated in 1991 from a nursing program at Confeder-

ation College in Thunder Bay. She concentrated her career on Aboriginal health services and helped open and manage the only Aboriginal Community Health Centre (CHC) in Northern Ontario - Misiway Miploemahtesewin CHC. She went on to work for the organization for twelve years. She was well known in the Aboriginal and medical community as a leader in the development of culturally sensitive and competent health care programming.

Dr. Mitchell has also held board positions with the Timmins and District Hospital as well as establishing advisory committees and groups dedicated to advocating for Aboriginal health.

In the early 2000s, she returned to post-secondary education and in 2005 she graduated with honours from a Bachelor of Science program at Laurentian University. Soon after in 2006, she applied and was accepted into the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). In addition to her education, she helped to establish working groups, committees and collaborations dedicated to Aboriginal health representation. She also took time to act as a speaker on issues of

Aboriginal education, the impact of the residential school system and on the colonization on the Aboriginal people of Canada. In the spring of 2010, she graduated from medical school and moved to post graduate training in Family Medicine at the NOSM, where she continued her education as well as her work in creating and developing initiatives to better represent Aboriginal issues in health, education and awareness.

Born in Sudbury, Ontario, Dr. Mitchell was raised in the community of Chapleau. She is a First Nation Ojibway and member of the Brunswick House First Nation. Throughout her years in school she managed to continue to work full time, serve on several boards, raise two small boys as a single mother and volunteered as a Canadian Scouts leader.

"Dr. Mitchell serves as a great role model for our communities and our youth. Her career success in First Nation health, shows how much we as Aboriginal people can achieve through hard work, dedication and determination," said Jean Lemieux, Health Director, Wabun Health Services.

2013 Wabun Scholarship Fund Recipients

Wabun Tribal Council announced the recipients of the 2013 Scholarship Fund Awards.

The Wabun Scholarship Fund is open to any Wabun FN student enrolled in a post secondary school.

Students are encouraged to apply for next year's sponsorship in 2014 as early as possible. A letter should detail why the applicant feels he or she deserves a scholarship and indicate what program they are attending, as well as a proof of academic performance or a recent transcript. Applications should be sent to the attention of:

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Shawn Batisse, Executive Director,
Wabun Tribal Council,
313 Railway Street, Timmins,
Ontario, P4N 2P4

JANINE RAY

– Biomedical Sciences – University
of Waterloo

ROBERT ENAIR

– Travel and Tourism – Central
Michigan University

REBECCA BOULANGER

– Office Administration – Northern College

CAITLYN LEFEBVRE

– Bachelor of Social Work –
Northern College

JENNIFER SEDLACEK

– Bachelor of Science in Nursing –
Vancouver Island University

TODD KIRKBRIDE

– Powerline Technician – Cambrian College

COURTNEY KEAY

– Business Administration –
Accounting – Northern College

TIANNA MCKAY-GOLINOWSKI

– Bachelor of Science, Nursing –
Laurentian University

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Mattagami FN Gets Right To Play

Mattagami First Nation has partnered with the Right To Play organization to support and encourage local youth to develop life skills through educational and fun activities in the community. The community is taking part in the Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program, a year long program which was started in April 2013, to develop and strengthen essential life and leadership skills for Aboriginal Youth.

"We were excited and happy to get the PLAY program established in our community for our youth. It is a program that will provide our young people with valuable life skills, as well as support and encourage their growth and development," said First Nation Councillor Jennifer Constant.



Andrea Naveau,
Community
Mentor,
Right To Play

Andrea Naveau, a member of Mattagami FN, will act as the Community Mentor for the program in the community. She will be working with local youth between the ages of four to 17 through physical activities and play to provide hands on education and training in life and leadership skills. The program is designed to train older youth so that they can lead the physical activities and play with younger children. These activities include running events, relay races and team play.

Naveau, who has completed an Early Childhood Education program at Canadore College in North Bay also worked in education in her community as a Teachers Assistant. At 23 years of age, she is grateful for her new role and hopes to continue working with youth as a career into the future.

"Helping young people is what I enjoy doing and I am grateful to our First

Nation for giving me this opportunity. It is a great program for our youth. It feels fantastic to help our youth work towards a brighter future and give them a good start in life," said Naveau.

As part of the start up of the program in the spring, two Mattagami FN youth were sponsored by Right To Play to attend a week long symposium hosted by the organization in Parry Sound. Ethan McKay, 12 years of age and Nolan Naveau, 11 years of age, attended the event to receive education and skills training in organizing activities and events with others.



Emily Gibson,
Program
Officer,
PLAY Program,
Right To Play

Emily Gibson, Program Officer for the PLAY program, visited the community in July for a week to provide support and assistance to Naveau. She communicates with Community Mentors such as Naveau in eight Aboriginal communities throughout Ontario on a regular weekly basis and as well makes two annual visits to each First Nation.

"I am excited to be working with Mattagami as it is a very active, close knit and supportive community. There are many children taking part in this program and I believe that Andrea will have a great impact on their lives. I am thankful to everyone I have met and I am grateful to the community for being so welcoming and supportive," said Gibson.

Founded in 2000, Right To Play is an international organization that uses sport and play programs to improve health, develop life skills and foster peace in children and communities in many countries around the world. In 2010, Right To Play, with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and other funding partners, initi-

ated the Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program in partnership with Moose Cree First Nation and Sandy Lake First Nation. The PLAY program was developed to build on the strengths of Aboriginal youth and their communities, while supporting the value of culture and identity.



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