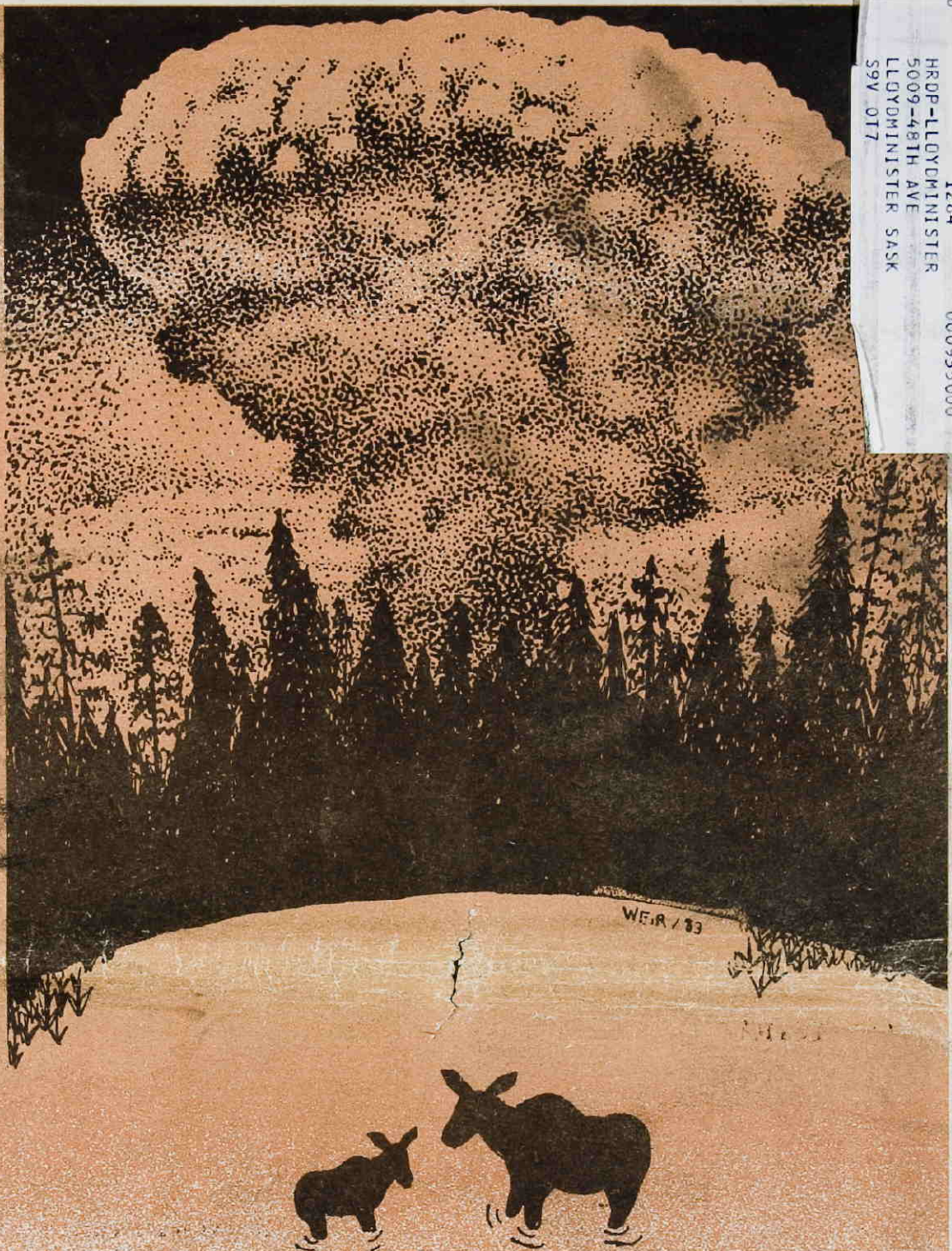
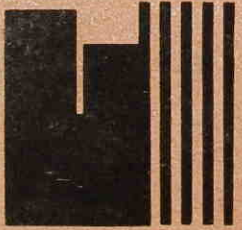
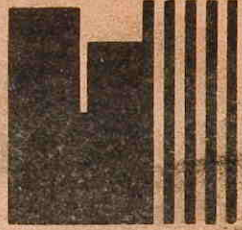
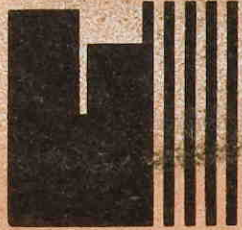


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April 1984



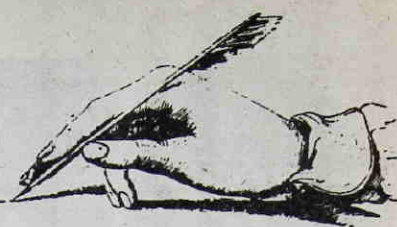
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URANIUM and the ENVIRONMENT

How Safe Are Uranium MINES?

Image of a North West Village

0
1284
HRP-LLOYDMINISTER
5009-48TH AVE
LLOYDMINISTER SASK
S9V 0T7
000935000



CRUISE TESTING A BLOT ON HISTORY

Dear *New Breed Journal*:

The testing of the cruise missile in Canada is a blot on this nation's history. This is a black day for Canada and for democracy. Against the wishes of most Canadians the guidance system for a first-strike weapon 15 times as powerful as the bomb dropped on Hiroshima is being tested over our soil.

The government tells us not to worry, the missile will not actually be launched from the B52 bomber as if we were only concerned about whether this pilotless missile might crash. That is a cynical trivialization of the issue. What we object to is the involvement of Canada, Canadian airspace and Canadian land in this extremely dangerous and provocative escalation of the arms race.

No nuclear weapon gives security to its owner. Nuclear weapons are useless for defence. According to the theory of deterrence, one country's possession of nuclear weapons would deter any other country from using theirs, or from starting conventional wars, because of the fear of retaliation. The trouble with deterrence is that it might not work - and if it fails, the weapons will be used, not in defence, because there is no defence against nuclear weapons, but only to provide whatever grim satisfaction might be derived from wiping out "the other side" too after they've already attacked.

Today's generation of nuclear weapons - cruise, Pershing II, Trident, MX - don't even fit into the cockeyed theory of deterrence. These are weapons designed not for retaliation but for first use - for attack, not for so-called "defence."

The arms race is making some people very rich and very powerful. It is not in the interests of these people that ordinary people should want peace and demand the end to the obscene waste of money on weaponry. Meanwhile, governments keep their own citizens in a state of paranoid fear of whoever is designated as "the enemy", in order to justify the massive so-called "defence" expenditures and the enormous invasion of privacy and suppression of democracy which takes place in the name of "national security."

We have been lied to about the cruise. It is not a defensive weapon. We have been told that we must test the cruise because of our duty to NATO, yet the air-launched cruise missile is not a NATO weapon at all, but an American strategic weapon. And if it were a NATO weapon, and if our membership in NATO did require us to help test a first-strike weapon, shouldn't we be asking whether we want to remain in NATO, a supposedly defensive alliance?

Meanwhile, our NATO allies are by no means unanimous in their support for deployment of ground-launched cruise missiles in Europe. The women uncomfortably camped in the 8 peace camps at Greenham Common and protesters at other American airbases in Britain and Europe are the visible tip of an enormous iceberg of opposition to this deployment.

We deplore the hypocrisy of Canadian politicians who claim that the Trudeau peace mission should have been discussed in the House so that all parties could endorse it, and who have raised no protest against cruise testing in Canada. We remind Prime Minister Trudeau of his long-forgotten "strategy of suffocation" of the arms race which he proposed at the U.N. in 1978.

Regina coalition for Peace and Disarmament calls upon all peace-loving Canadians to make their voices heard and demand that the obscenity of testing or producing any weapons of mass destruction or their delivery systems in Canada never be repeated. The Canadian government must make it clear that this will not happen again. □

Joan Havemann
Regina, Sask.

NATIVE SCHOOL FOR REGINA

Dear *New Breed Journal*:

On March 13, 1984 the Native Education and Research Centre Incorporated made a presentation to the Honourable Patricia Smith, the Minister of Education. We put forward a proposal for the establish-

ment of a Kindergarten to grade 9 Native Based Urban School for the City of Regina.

This school will offer a strong academic program with an emphasis on the Native way of life. Native content will be included in all subject areas. The school will offer Native teachers, parental involvement in the classroom and a small school environment free from racial discrimination. There will also be a pre-school tutelage program for 3 and 4 year olds. The school will have an open door policy and students from all ethnic and racial backgrounds will be welcomed. This school is being set up as a pilot program with the intention being that curriculum materials and learning approaches piloted in this school will be adapted for use in the existing school system. The school will be run by a Board of Directors with a Native majority. For further information contact us at the following address:

Native Education and
Research Centre Incorporated
2006 Cuning Crescent
Regina, Sask.
S4B 0M8

CHILD CARE UPDATE

Dear *New Breed Journal*:

Action Child Care is pleased to provide its supporters with an update of recent events and with some good news for the future!

The last few weeks have been spent organizing a "Save our Day Care" Rally held in Saskatoon. Regina held a successful rally on Saturday, February 25; Prince Albert and the north have announced plans to continue the fight as well. Our rally was held over the noon hour on Wednesday, February 29, at the Sturdy-Stone Building. Despite a heavy snowfall, approximately 80 people braved the elements to show their support of quality, non-profit day care for Saskatchewan children. We were very encouraged by the number of new faces that were in the group! Gail Stevens, Co-Chairperson of Action Child Care, addressed the group on the threat of profit-oriented day care being introduced in Saskatchewan. We have enclosed a copy of her speech for more information. The group also heard from Judy Martin, Chairperson of the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association, on the national position which supports non-profit delivery models.

Action Child Care is very pleased to announce the opening of our Saskatoon office and resource centre. Our office is located in the YWCA, a special word of thanks to the "Y" for providing this space at a negligible cost. The office is open from 9-12 and from 1-3. Please feel free to drop in anytime, or call Action Child Care, at 242-0444.

In the early spring, we will be undertaking a Membership Drive, and groups and individuals across Saskatchewan, who support Action Child Care's objectives and goals, will be invited to become Action Child Care members. You can expect to hear more in the near future!

The provincial government has announced it will hand down the 1984-85 budget on March 21, 1984. In the past years, Action Child Care has made its response to provincial budgets, and you can expect our analysis of the upcoming budget and policy changes in future correspondence.

The small concession to unemployed parents regarding the period of available subsidization announced March 8, 1984, by Mr. Dirks, does not reduce the threat of day care for-profit. Recall that this period was reduced from six months to two months by this government almost two years ago!

Your letters to MLA's, Cabinet Ministers and media are raising doubts about the wisdom of introducing day care for-profit. Your continued support is invaluable because we see that this government is becoming aware (finally!) that policy introducing day care for-profit is not publically supported.

We'll continue to keep you informed, and work with you in our struggle for high quality, affordable day care choices for parents! □

Action Child Care
Steering Committee
P.O. Box 8087
Saskatoon, Sask.
S7K 4R7

MLA PROPOSES REVIEW COMMITTEE

Dear *New Breed Journal*:

The following letter was sent to Sid Dutchak, minister of Indian and Northern Affairs on March 9, 1984, from MLA Fred Thompson.

I write concerning Saskatchewan Housing Corporation's decision to evict northern residents from homes built under the Northern Housing Program.

I write to ask you to delay these evictions until you have appointed a full scale review of the Northern Housing Program, including input from northern residents themselves.

The review undertaken by your government to this point has involved bureaucrats sitting in plush offices in Regina making decisions which will affect the lives of hundreds of northern people. That's not acceptable.

I urge you to launch a full review of the Northern Housing Program, with full input from northern people, including representatives of northern local communities.

Such a review should consider rewriting the mortgages for these northern units on a more suitable and realistic basis. The units are very costly because their construction required the transportation of materials into the North, and because training programs were used to build them.

The training of northern residents should have been a positive benefit gained from the construction of these homes, not a negative factor adding to the cost for the buyers.

There is fear in the North today. Fear that your government is about to turn people out of their homes. What possible benefit will you or the taxpayers gain from such an action? Many of the families to be evicted from their homes will simply end up on welfare, and back in the same housing units, with the taxpayers picking up the tab.

I ask you to consider such a Review Committee, and to put a stop to any evictions until after that committee has reported. I await your early response.

Fred Thompson, M.L.A.
Athabasca Constituency

DISAPPOINTED WITH COMMITTEE ON SELF-GOVERNMENT

Dear *New Breed Journal*:

As the NDP member on the Special Committee on Indian Self-Government I was disappointed by the government's response to the committee's recommendations.

The response lacked commitment to the self-government's major recommendation calling for constitutional entrenchment of the Indian people's right to self-government as "the surest way to achieve permanent and fundamental change in the relationship between Indian peoples and the federal government."

Although the report had been tabled four months earlier the cabinet had not made up its mind on constitutional entrenchment two days before the first ministers conference began. If the federal government had advocated constitutional entrenchment at an earlier time it might have been possible to mobilize public opinion and to persuade more provinces to support the concept.

I was also disappointed that the government did not respond in detail to the recommendation for long term fiscal arrangements and a new and more just land claim process. Framework legislation for self-government could be a helpful step but without proper provisions for a stable economic base, Indian self-government will be nothing more than empty wind.

We must continue the momentum to establish a new relationship between Canada and Indian First Nations. Unfortunately, the Liberals only pay lip service to the urgent cries for reform. Self-government, land claims, and ending sex discrimination in the Indian Act remain goals yet to be reached despite years of Liberal promises. □

Jim Manly, M.P.
NDP Indian Affairs Critic
Ottawa, Ontario

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New Breed Journal
Suite 210-2505-11th
Regina, Sask. S4P 0K6

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Articles submitted to the NewBreed Journal and subsequently published shall be paid for at the rate of \$2.50 per column inch. We reserve the right to publish whole or parts thereof. All material must be signed, however, names will be withheld if requested.

Photographs submitted with written material shall be paid for at the rate of \$5.00 per published photo and will be returned upon request.

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CANADA POST SECOND CLASS,
REGISTRATION NO. 4649

Community Reporters Wanted
NewBreed Journal is looking for community reporters. If you are interested please contact:
Editor, NewBreed Journal
210 - 2505 11th Ave.
Regina, Sask. S4P 0K6

Achimowins

by Joan Beatty

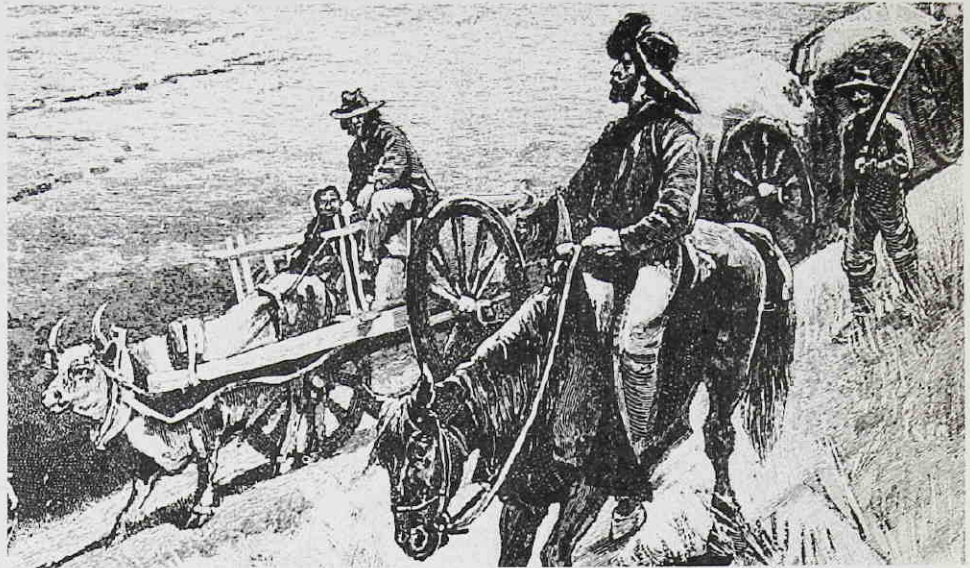


In this issue of *New Breed*, we hope you will enjoy the article featuring Buffalo Narrows, a community in north western Saskatchewan. One of our northern reporters **Vye Bouvier**, is beginning a series which will tell about a community, its beginnings, the present, as seen through the eyes of community people.

Freelance reporter, **Robert Lafontaine**, also writes about the big home coming celebrations Crescent Lake is planning. We also hear from area director **Dennis Langan** in Yorkton and we find out the results of the local elections held in Yorkton recently.

Our Prince Albert reporter, **Arlo Yuzicapi**, went to Native Heritage week celebrations that were held in one of the schools in Prince Albert. She also talked to a couple of very interesting people, **Norma Green** and **Norman Babineau**.

Diane Leis of Cole Bay and **Vye** also do follow up articles on the uranium issue. If you recall, **Vye** did an article in the March paper which explained many of the terms used by the media, governments, companies, etc., when talking about uranium but half of the time we don't know what they mean. We realize the material was very heavy reading but we also think it's important someone takes the time to explain the different terms.



While I was in Prince Albert recently, I was sad to hear that **Marie Merasty** of Pelican Narrows had passed away after a month's stay in the hospital. She was one of the most interesting ladies I have ever met. I used to go and visit her and we used to spend a lot of time visiting and talking about the olden days and what it was like then. She was a great story teller and one never tired of listening to her. She was a very smart and politically aware lady and believed very strongly in self-sufficiency. And she brought up her kids likewise. Most of them continue to be really good friends of mine, like **Anne** and **Kathy**, and their loss is just as great as it is mine. On behalf of my family and everyone who knew her, we extend our sympathies to the family.

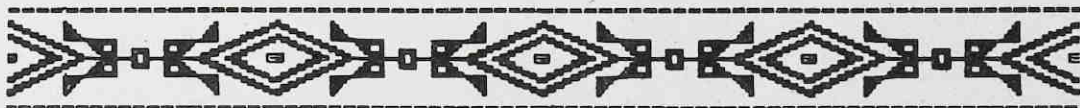
Well, the provincial budget has come down but we're still in the dark as to what kind of funding will be available to the different Native groups and social agencies. I was talking to **Lawrence Yew** a couple of days ago and he doesn't sound too optimistic, saying there isn't that much for northern Saskatchewan. Hopefully, we can get an interview with Finance Minister, **Bob Andrews**, for the next issue to bring us up to date. Anyway, we'll have more information for you about the budget.

The other matter we have to start thinking about is the federal elections and who the candidates are go-

ing to be. There is already names being tossed around like **Jimmy D** running in the Battlefords-Meadow Lake Constituency. When I saw **Doug Anguish** in Ottawa, he said he was already nominated by acclamation to run again for that area on behalf of the NDP. It was also interesting to hear that long time PC representative, **Stan Korchinski**, wouldn't be running for elections again in the Cumberland Constituency. Again, individuals are being approached to consider having their names stand for nomination. Anyway, I think it's important that Native people get together and support different candidates, no matter what party they represent, just as long as they represent our views. I think if we do it on a collective basis, our vote can really count. On one estimation, if the Native people voted as a block in western Canada, they could elect 17 federal seats to Parliament. So get involved; that's the only way we'll ever get anywhere.

So much for the politics, I would just like to remind you again that we're always happy to hear from you, your comments, etc. I'd like to know what your thinking about on different matters and I'm sure many other people do too.

I would also like to extend birthday greetings to **Edna**, my dad, and everyone else celebrating their birthday in the past few weeks. Also, congratulations to **Tim Low** and his wife **Donna** on the recent birth of their baby girl, **Chelsy**. □



Gabriel Dumont Institute

of
Native Studies and
Applied Research

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research has an immediate opening for an Assistant Director based in Regina.

The Dumont Institute is a Native controlled agency serving the educational needs of the Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. It is engaged in teacher education, research, curriculum development, library services, field services, and community adult education programs. There are over 50 staff at present.

The Assistant Director will assist the Director in the overall administration and supervision of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

Qualifications: Candidates should have completed their studies toward

and have received a Masters Degree. The successful candidate should have background experience in teaching or educational administration, program planning and program development.

He/She will be knowledgeable about the Native Peoples of Saskatchewan and be able to translate that knowledge into the development of programs designed to strengthen those peoples.

Salary: Negotiable
Closing Date: April 15, 1984

Forward resumes, along with three (3) letters of reference to:

Dona Desmarais, Chairperson
Dumont Management Board
Gabriel Dumont Institute
121 Broadway Avenue East
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4N 0Z6

Why Are AMNSIS Educational Programs Important?

by Keith Turnbull

There are well over 100,000 Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan (Indian, Metis and Non-Status). It is a well known fact that by and large, Aboriginal people are poor people, and have been kept out of the mainstream of Canadian Life.

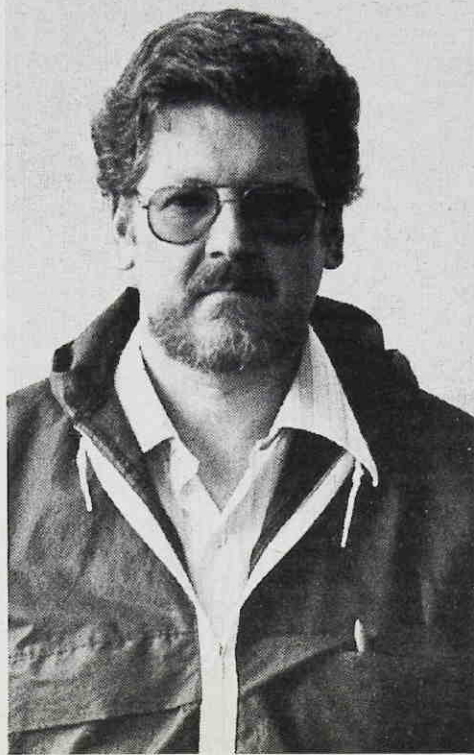
In 1980, according to the Canadian Census, their average annual income was only 66% that of Non-Native Canadians. Other studies show that 70% of Metis and Non-Status Indian families in Regina and Saskatoon live in poverty as defined by the government of Canada.

The unemployment rate amongst Aboriginal people is more than double that of the general population. This rate does not include people who have stopped looking for work because there is none. For those who are employed, construction jobs are most common for men, while women tend to work in the clerical and service occupations. Few Aboriginal people are employed as professionals of any kind.

The Aboriginal population is very young - 70% are less than thirty years old, compared to 50% of the general population. Large numbers of these young people are entering the "labour market" (that is, they are looking for work) at the present time.

The shortcomings of the educational system, along with the poverty, unemployment and cultural oppression inherent in our society, cause many Aboriginal students to quit school at an early age. On average, Aboriginal people obtain only a grade 8 education, while only 2.5 have some post-secondary education (compared to 26% of all Canadians).

The statistics used in this article show clearly that, collectively, Aboriginal people are not on an equal footing with the rest of the population. In hard economic times such as we are now experiencing, the majority of working people, small farmers and small



Keith Turnbull

businessmen are suffering. However, as a group, Aboriginal people suffer the most.

The ideal situation in Canada and Saskatchewan would be full employment with everyone having the right to training and a job of their choice, based on the collective needs of society. The reality, of course, is much different.

For Aboriginal people, the first step towards the ideal is to achieve equality with the general population in all areas of education and employment. For example, if 12% of the people are Aboriginal, then, on average 12% of doctors, lawyers, engineers, carpenters, teachers, bus drivers, mine labourers, skilled tradesmen, nurses and so on must be Aboriginal people, fully trained, qualified, and employed. Obviously, enormous progress is needed, both in education and in employment opportunities.

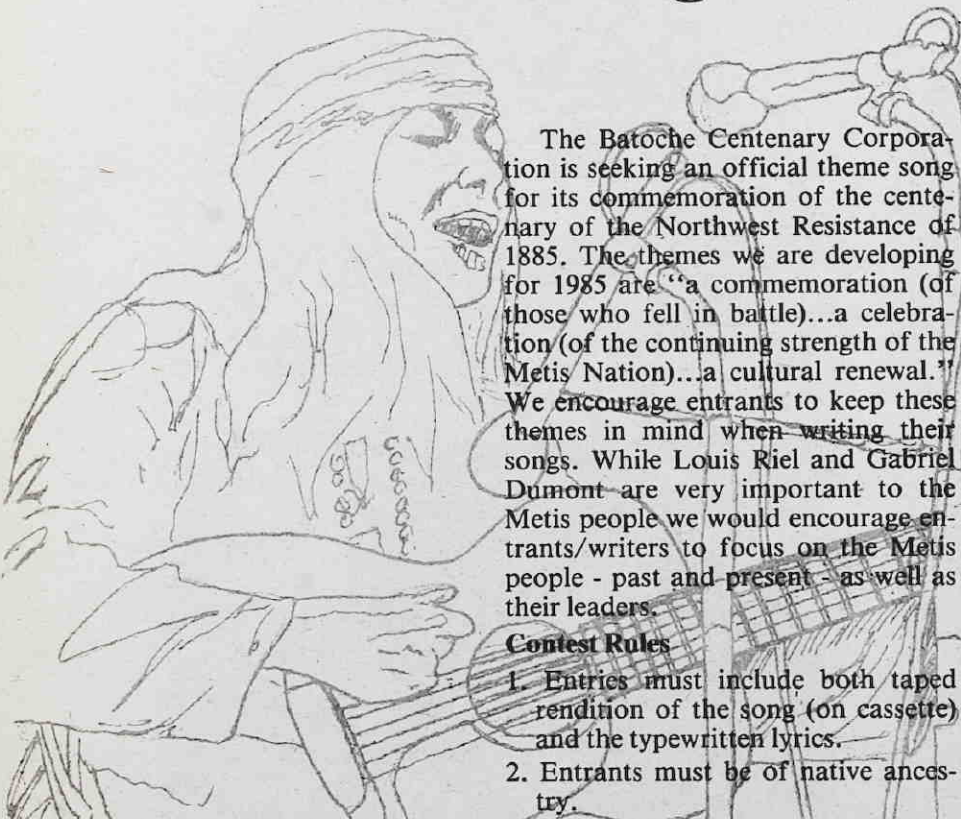
More and better training programs are needed, which provide Aboriginal students with the financial, academic, counselling and cultural supports required to be successful. As poor people, Aboriginal peoples need realistic training allowances. Native Studies must be an integral part of all training programs, so that students can analyze and understand the causes of oppression and how to fight for positive changes.

New models of training, such as those developed by the Gabriel Dumont Institute and the Saskatchewan Indian Federated and Community Colleges, provide some of the answers. A good example is the SUNTEP program, where teacher-education students have a higher per capita rate of success than do all students in the regular university program.

But these programs are only a beginning. Without the rapid expansion of properly funded training programs, and without imaginative new ideas which can immediately be put into practice, equality will never be achieved. Without equality of all people in our society, there can be no justice in our society.

Our educational institute and training programs form the basis for future developments. Education is one of the cornerstones to a better future for everyone. Every setback in education is a setback in the fight for equality. Therefore, support for our educational programming is vital. □

“Batoche Centenary Announces Song Contest”



The Batoche Centenary Corporation is seeking an official theme song for its commemoration of the centenary of the Northwest Resistance of 1885. The themes we are developing for 1985 are “a commemoration (of those who fell in battle)...a celebration (of the continuing strength of the Metis Nation)...a cultural renewal.” We encourage entrants to keep these themes in mind when writing their songs. While Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont are very important to the Metis people we would encourage entrants/writers to focus on the Metis people - past and present - as well as their leaders.

Contest Rules

1. Entries must include both taped rendition of the song (on cassette) and the typewritten lyrics.
2. Entrants must be of native ancestry.

3. Contest deadline for entries is August 15, 1984.
4. Entries will be judged by a panel which will include recognized native musicians. Judges' decision is final.
5. The winners will be announced August 31.
6. The prize is \$250.
7. The winning song will be recorded by an artist chosen by the BCC and will be distributed as the official theme of Batoche 1985. The songwriter would receive the normal royalties and his/her name would appear on the record.
8. All entries must be sent to:

Metis Song Contest
Batoche Centenary Corporation
No. 5, 501-45th Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7L 5Z9

Andrew Tables 1984-85 Budget

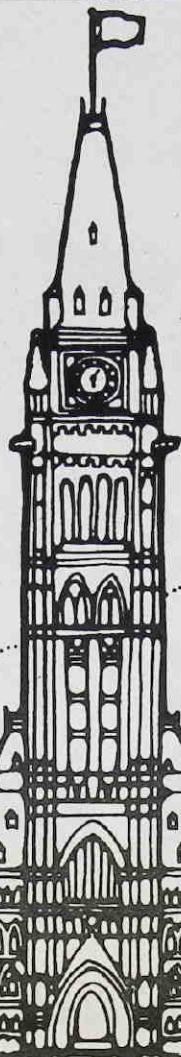
Regina - Finance minister Bob Andrew unveiled a 1984-85 budget on March 21st featuring initiatives to encourage small business and agricultural investment and expansion, programs for greater youth employment and steps to reduce the impact of utility rate increases.

He described it as a forward looking budget that introduces an agenda for change to deal with emerging economic opportunities. The expenditure plan represents a fair balance between the need for restraint and the need to protect essential wealth-producing programs, he stated.

The minister outlined a series of initiatives that would be taken to encourage economic development and investment.

He introduced the Venture Capital Tax Credit Program which offers 30 per cent provincial income tax credit to investors in venture capital corporations providing equity capital to small firms. He estimated that in the 1984 tax year, the new program would generate more than \$16 million in investment.

A new industrial incentives program will be established to provide one-time payments of \$7,500 for each new permanent job created by manufacturing



The minister outlined steps to reduce the impact of utility rate increases, including:

- No increases will be requested for basic telephone services for 1984.
- No increases in rates, on average, will be requested under the Saskatchewan Auto Fund.
- There will be no increase in natural gas rates in 1984.
- The sales tax on electricity consumed in homes and on farms will be eliminated.
- The sales tax on the utility bills of public skating rinks, curling rinks and swimming pools will be removed.

Andrew said that for the first time, the health budget will exceed \$1 billion. It includes a five-year \$24 million nursing home construction program to add 1,000 new beds and replace a further 500 existing ones.

He also announced a series of initiatives for senior citizens that include expanded emphasis on long-term care beds, home care and respite services, and the Senior Citizen's Home Repair Program and increases under the Saskatchewan Income Plan. Effective July 1, 1984, the rate for single seniors will double from \$25 to \$50 per month. The rate for couples will increase from \$45 to \$75 per month.

In announcing measures aimed at providing em-

and processing firms. The program would create more than 1,500 permanent jobs.

Other initiatives to encourage small business development included:

- Elimination of the provincial corporate tax on small manufacturing and processing firms.
- Elimination of the sales tax on research and development prototypes.
- A program to encourage a greater supply of longer-term fixed interest rate financing for new and expanding small businesses.

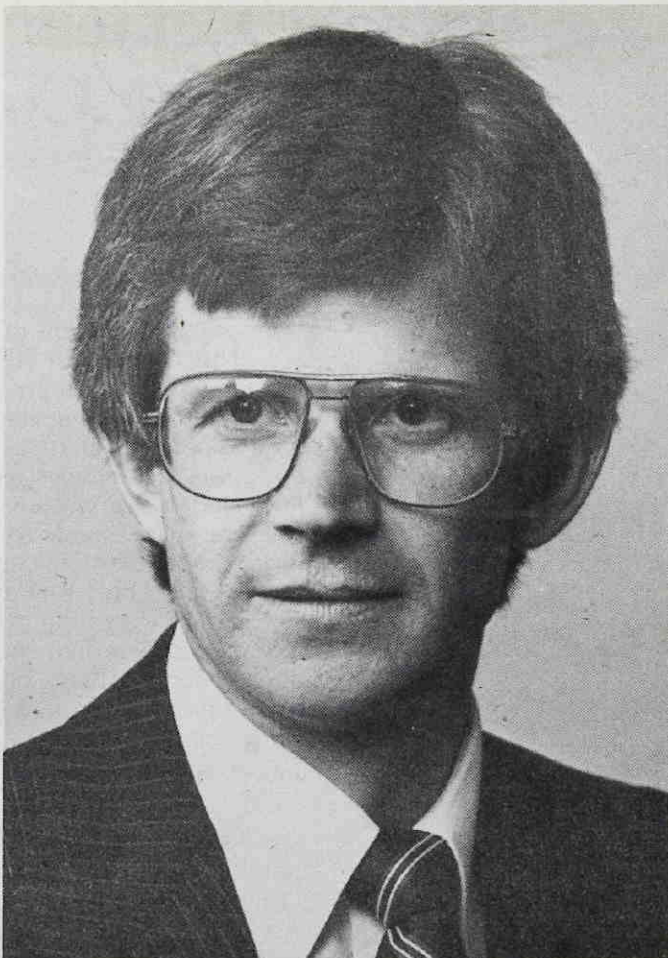
Andrew announced steps to encourage agricultural stability and growth:

- A relaxation of Agricultural Credit Corporation eligibility criteria, reduced interest rates and an increased loan maximum.
- A \$4 million fund to assist financially troubled but viable farm operations.
- Increased financial assistance for farm irrigation.
- \$11 million in tax relief through elimination of school property taxes on a farm's home quarter.
- Introduction of a Livestock Investment Tax Credit to encourage development in livestock finishing and related industries.
- Guaranteed operating loans for feedlots and custom finishers.
- A feed grain marketing mechanism to co-ordinate the marketing of feed grains between producers and users.

Andrew also outlined steps to encourage mineral exploration, forestry, tourism and construction.

The package included introduction of a five-year senior citizen's home repair program. Effective Aug. 1, 1984, grants of up to \$1,000 will be available to repair and modernize seniors' homes.

To allow greater citizen involvement with Crown corporations, Andrew announced the introduction of two new investment vehicles for Saskatchewan residents. Saskatchewan Power savings bonds will be offered with a fixed interest rate and government guarantee, and participation bonds will be offered for the Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation.



ployment for young people, Andrew announced that along with expansion of the province's technical institutes currently under way, 3,500 training spaces will be added to community colleges.

There will also be a six-point program to create 5,600 jobs for young people during the next few months including:

- A new youth employment entry program to provide a subsidy of \$2.50 per hour to employers hiring people under 25.
 - A summer employment scholarship plan.
 - Establishment of a careers corporation by the Department of Parks and Renewable Resources to hire, train and employ young people.
 - Opportunities '84 to build on last year's highly successful program for summer student employment.
 - An employment development program for young welfare recipients.
 - Breakthrough: an employment program specifically for persons with handicaps.
- Describing the current welfare program as archaic, bureaucratic and lacking in accountability, Andrew said there will be a new approach to welfare based on these principles:
- Anyone able to work will be helped to find a job through skill training and job creation where necessary.
 - Where an appropriate job is not immediately available, the government will encourage participation in community service.
 - Where possible, no single person able to work should get more from welfare than for working.
 - Benefits to senior citizens will not be reduced.
 - The structure will be simplified.

In addition, the speech announced an increase in the monthly maximum allowance under the Family Income Plan to \$100 from \$91 per child.

As part of the effort to ensure financial viability of municipalities, Andrew announced a commission will be created to review issues affecting municipalities, school boards, libraries and union hospitals. That process, he said, will lead to a major conference this fall on provincial-local government fiscal relations.

The spending estimate for 1984-85, at \$3,279 million represents an increase of only 4.9 per cent, the lowest annual increase in 18 years.

That expenditure, coupled with revenue of \$3,012 million will produce a deficit estimated at \$267 million, 20 per cent below that of 1983-84.

While overall expenditures were up 4.9 per cent, the combined health and education sectors increased more than seven per cent and economic development more than 30 per cent.

As part of its fiscal management program, Andrew said it is necessary for the government as an employer to take a leadership role in containing escalating wage rates. Therefore, the salary adjustment for 2,300 public service managers will be zero per cent for 1984.



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"It's strange how some choose to live like that instead of choosing to be rich like us!"

Tax increases in the new budget include a rise in the general corporate income tax to 16 per cent from 14; a rise in the rate on railway locomotive diesel and aviation fuel of eight cents and one cent per litre re-

spectively; a 15 cent increase per pack of 25 cigarettes and increases in cut-tobacco and cigar rates.

New Breed will have responses to the budget in the May issue. □



Budget Highlights

Following are highlights of the 1984-85 Saskatchewan budget introduced Wednesday night by Finance Minister Bob Andrew:

- A Saskatchewan Tax Incentives Program to stimulate small business and agriculture.
- A tax reduction plan for small businesses and farmers to increase investment and jobs.
- An Industrial Incentives Program to encourage job creation in manufacturing and processing.
- A program to increase the supply of longer-term, fixed interest rate financing for small businesses.
- Programs to help farmers cope with the cost-price squeeze, including \$11 million of tax relief with the elimination of school property taxes on the home quarter.

- Steps to strengthen the mining, forestry, tourism and construction industries.
- Investment opportunities for Saskatchewan residents to participate directly in Crown corporations.
- Steps to reduce the impact of utility rate increases.
- A five-year, \$25 million nursing home construction program.
- A strategy to help Saskatchewan senior citizens.
- Expansion of training places in Saskatchewan's technical institutes and community colleges.
- A six-point job creation program for young people to create 5,600 new jobs.
- Reform of the welfare system to eliminate abuses, with emphasis of expanded skill training, job placement and community service.

- An increase in the monthly maximum allowance under the Family Income Plan from \$91 to \$100.
- A commission to examine and propose improvements to the financial relationship between the province and municipalities.
- An increase in the general corporate income tax from 14 per cent to 16 per cent, an increase in the tax on railway locomotive diesel fuel and aviation fuel and a 15 cent increase per package in the cigarette tax.
- A program to control spending, including the lowest increase in spending in 18 years (4.9 per cent) and a zero salary increase for public service managers in 1984.
- Revenues of \$3,012 million and expenditures of \$3,279 million, for a deficit of \$267 million. The deficit is 20 per cent below the level of 1983-84. □

Life Skills - A Place To Grow

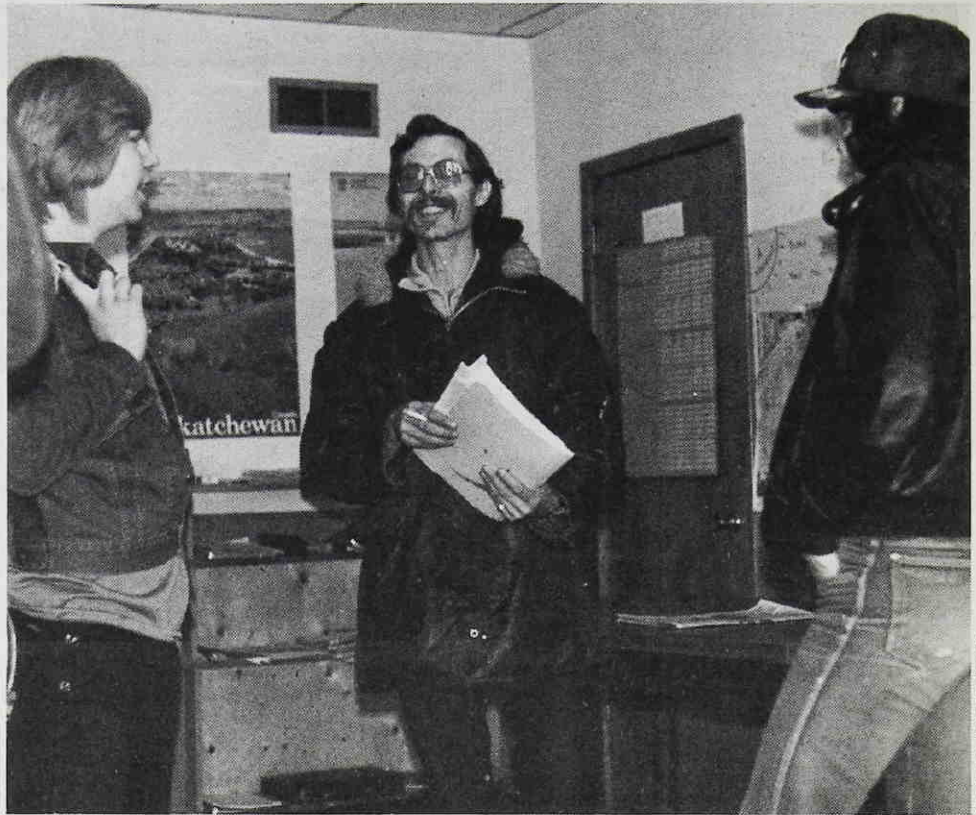
by Arlo Yuzicapi

Prince Albert - What do a grandmother, an ex-miner and high school drop-out have in common? All three and 15 other students are sharing a course designed to provide them with a feeling of self-confidence, a sense of direction for future goals and the pre-employment and training skills necessary to start out fresh in the world. The Prince Albert Life Skills Project, a program of the Prince Albert and District Community Service Centre, has been in operation for 13 years. Although only 3 months in duration, each three-part course is packed with activities and exercises geared toward providing a sense of confidence and assertiveness in each of its participants. The first seven weeks covers such areas as communication, problem-solving, goal-setting, conflict resolution, personal life management, community resource accessing and time management skills. The remainder of the course deals with applying these newly-developed skills, plus additional job-search techniques to on-the-job-experience placements and in establishing contacts for future employment and training.

What kind of person does the Life Skills course most benefit? Who gets accepted? Life Skills coach Janice McIvor feels the one requirement of every potential candidate is his/her desire to "achieve something better in life" and a commitment to stay in the course for the full three months. McIvor and manager/instructor Paul Robinson receive, on the average, 70 referrals per intake, out of which 42-45 interviews are conducted every term. From there, the final 18 are selected. Although the majority of the referrals are from such places as Community Service Centre (welfare), Work Preparation Centre, Prince Albert Training and Employment Program, Native Co-ordinating Council, and Pine Grove Correctional Centre, quite a few of the students learned of the program from other graduates. Equally important in the initial screening is not only the wish to change, but the environment to do so. For example, someone who shares a house with people who party alot might want to relocate so his or her performance in the course is not affected. As well, those students who have impaired health or a serious alcohol/drug problem may wish to undergo prior treatment to ensure better results form the program.

Perhaps the most important goal strived for by both instructors and students is to better one's self-image by promoting assertiveness and confidence. One exercise observed involved delivering prepared speeches to the group. Participants were requested to criticize each other positively on paper with regard to eye contact, posture, voice and whether it was presented forcefully and captured their interest. Students, at the beginning of the course, had the option of reciting directly from prepared papers and eventually they became confident enough to stand up in front of the class. Later, they will be on video camera where they will be able to observe themselves.

Students, enrolled in the present program, rated their progress in a number of interviews. One student, Iva, was unemployed, bored and very negative about her life prior to Life Skills. She feels the course has helped her relate to people better, and has given her enough confidence where she could share personal events such as her mother's mental illness which is something she could never do before the day's speeches. Gail, prior to Life Skills, found herself divorced and on welfare with two small children and knew "she had to get moving." Her social worker recommended Life Skills. Gail feels she has gained self-confidence from the support of the group and can see "alot of open doors for educational opportunities." She hopes to pursue a career in the field of account-



Life Skills students Lanny, Conrad and Randy after a hard day of speeches.

ing. Paul could never say "no" to anyone for fear of hurting their feelings. Dropping out of school in grade nine, Paul did a series of odd jobs until he reluctantly got on welfare. Although his friends "thought he was nuts" to enroll in a course that didn't pay training dollars, he continued. He now believes he is more assertive and honest, gives a "better first impression" and hopes to continue his education and training.

Two members of the group commute daily from the Community Training Residence where they are serving minimum security sentences. Keith describes entering the program as not knowing where he was going, all mixed up with no direction to pursue. He knew he wanted a change in life and wanted to stay out of trouble. He also knew he wanted to enroll in Life Skills and after talking it over with Paul Robinson, pursued that goal. When asked if he though Life Skills should be taught in jail, Keith admitted not all inmates feel the same way about bettering themselves, however, the course still should be available or taught in jail. Keith's future goals include training in either autobody, upholstery or motor mechanics. Lanny, the youngest of the group ranging from 16 to 35 plus, was starting to "skip school and get into trouble." Knowing he wanted to continue school but not in Melfort "because he knew too many people," approached his probation officer about taking another class. Lanny feels he's not as "hyper" and shy as he used to be, and has a "better head on his shoulders." He hopes to go back to school after he graduates from this course.

Most students interviewed, from Janis who was literally stuck on Welfare with no training options, to Randy who would like to become a nursing assistant, agree it is the support and encouragement received from the group as a whole that is most beneficial. The positive reinforcement that nurtures assertive-

ness, not aggression, confidence, not put downs, is the going rule. One student, Conrad, had worked in Uranium City for 14 years as a miner before he found himself unemployed and on welfare with no idea "who he was" at the age of 34. He feels he is now at a "fork in the road" after combatting alcohol and drug addiction, and wishes he had taken Life Skills earlier in his life. Conrad strongly advocates a similar program be compulsory in high school as it makes students aware of their true goals and opportunities.

The group strongly believes Life Skills gave them the chance to feel good about themselves and a belief that they can do whatever they desire in their lives. The one answer all interviews had in common when asked "What change have you felt the most since enrolling in the course?" was Confidence. Throughout the course, students are expected to conform closely to standards that will be expected by future employers or training institutes. These standards include punctuality, motivation, appearance and maturity. An open mind, co-operation, self-examination, cultural sensitivity and honesty are also promoted throughout the various exercises and discussions.

Instructors Janice and Paul do not hesitate to remind students to "toe the line". After 4 unexplained absences, a student's enrollment is terminated and an equal emphasis is placed on "lates". Full participation is expected; in other words, "no rest for the wicked". It may appear difficult, but in the followup report for 1982-83, 71% of the enrolled students graduated, and were lined up for future jobs and more training. A few were on assistance but employable after three months. Although it is difficult to keep track of the 50 or so graduates per year, perhaps what is most rewarding is the fact each graduate leaves with a feeling of renewed self-respect, the skills to pursue a productive job or practical training, and the wish and commitment to continue growing. □

ASSOCIATION OF METIS & NON-STATUS INDIANS OF SASKATCHEWAN

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Life Skills Coach Emphasizes Confidence Building



Life Skills class with coach-instructor Janice McIvor (standing 2nd from the right).

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi

by Arlo Yuzicapi

Janice McIvor was born in 1954 in Red Lake, a small community in northern Ontario where she completed her grade 12 before moving out west. Although her parents were woodland Cree from Cross Lake in northern Manitoba and could speak Cree fluently, Janice was raised to believe she was "white". She spent a great deal of her years at home knowing she was darker but never given any explanation as to why. Looking back now, Janice recalls, "My mother hated the fact she was an Indian and wanted to block out all the negative things that happened to her because of it, like the poverty." Growing up in a community with no Indians, Janice feels she didn't have anything that could even give her an idea of what being a Native person was like. Any Indians she did see were in the movies or the few that would "come into town to get drunk." One particularly disturbing event occurred when Janice's grandfather died and her family attended the Cross Lake funeral which was conducted entirely in Cree. "I was really lost", Janice remembers, "By not being told I was Indian, I

couldn't begin to comprehend that these were my people, their language and culture were so alien. My parents would never talk about it to help me understand."

In 1974 Janice began to do a lot of reading about Indian history and spirituality which gave her a better grasp on the life she encountered briefly in northern Manitoba. Six years ago, she enrolled in Life Skills and Human Services courses where she was encouraged to explore and accept her heritage. The self-awareness process that occurred during this period in her life helped Janice to realize she wanted to pursue a career in the counselling field. "The course made me look at my potential. I'd been through a lot and could see how to apply these experiences to helping others," she states. "When I went in I was very shy, insecure, had a low-self image and didn't think I was very worthwhile. I can really identify with someone being in a situation where, for the first time you're told you're special and unique. I started feeling really good about myself and knew I could help others."

With four years experience of working with Prince Albert's Native Co-ordinating Council as a Family Service Worker and her studies and positions since then, Janice believes many Native peoples' low self-image is still a problem. "A lot of Native people see themselves as being 'put-down' and being a victim and unimportant. Unemployment, alcoholism, low education achievement all stem from this 'loser attitude' which is reinforced by the schools and such things as court briefs," she says. She stresses the importance of re-educating Native parents in inserting pride, dignity and confidence for their children.

Janice describes her present duties with the Prince Albert Life Skills course as "helping people get in touch with their life." Being a life skills coach, Janice would like to stay away from the stereo type image of a "teacher" although the roles are similar, that is, "guiding and fertilizing a person's growth". "My job is to build an atmosphere of 18 people trusting one another in 9 weeks. A student cannot graduate unless they've moved a lot of steps forward. The neat thing is the students really want to be there, not where they were before; for example on welfare. At Life Skills, we create a lot of situations where the students can see and evaluate themselves. I don't do the evaluation, they do. I help facilitate their change in behavior, attitude, appearance and energy level, from an 'I can't' attitude to an 'I can'. We accent the positive. For the students who came from a negative, broken environment, a lot of 'positive strokes' help them to believe in themselves," she states. Janice's one criticism in her job is she never has enough time to do everything she wants to do.

Janice's involvement in other activities, outside of numerous classes and seminars for her own development, has included memberships in the provincial Native Womens organization, Interval House, Day Care, City Welfare Board, Welfare Appeal Board as well as teaching night classes and seminars at Natomum Community College in the areas of communication and parenting. Her future plans are to continue what she is doing now, only better. Janice currently lives on an acreage outside of Prince Albert with her two children, Levi Hawk, and Onowa Blue. □

Elections Held in Yorkton

by Robert LaFontaine

Yorkton - Charges of gross mismanagement and abuse of bingo funds dominated the local election here held on February 12 at the Yorkton Metis Hall. Eighty-three members showed up to witness what was billed as a power struggle between Area Director, Dennis Langan and Local President, Eugene Fleury.

The once powerful Langan coalition which included wife and former Vice-President, Darlene Langan, board member Francis Pelletier, board member Bradley Martin and former Secretary-Treasurer of the Yorkton Local Housing and board member, Lester Shingoose, was decimated after the first ballot was cast. None will be returning to serve on the board of directors and none will serve in any executive position.

Members of the past administration that will be returning are President, Eugene Fleury, board member Edwin Pelletier, and former board member and the administration's new Vice-President, Gerald St. Pierre.

The new board of directors will include Native Youth President, Anthony Flamont, student Charlene Brazeau, truck driver Wilmar Shingoose, sub-contractor Leo Martin and former journalist, Robert LaFontaine, will serve in the now sensitive post of Secretary-Treasurer.

It was a nervous afternoon for President, Eugene Fleury. Visibly shaken he stuttered nervously through his President's report and presented a brief run down of his five months in office. Fleury was appointed President of the board in August after former President, Clayton Ward was forced to resign due to job commitments.

The Metis Hall is now collecting \$870 a month in rent from three programs that have rented office space in the building. Among them are Native Outreach, Education and the Upgrading program. The Upgrading program was the only one of three proposals that he has put in that was accepted.

Fleury also stated that the Local now owes more than ten thousand dollars in taxes. The tax issue fre-

quently cropped up during the meeting. It was later decided that the new board would have to make the tax issue a priority.

Fleury explained that no complete financial statements were available because the Secretary-Treasurer, Shirley Ward, had failed to attend the meeting.

Husband Clayton Ward defended his wife saying that "It was felt that she was not involved with the bingo or paying the bills and she felt that she had no part."

There was then some argument as to whether Mrs. Ward had taken any part. The argument in itself was typical of the entire meeting. One side would say something and the other side would deny whatever it was vehemently and raise counter charges.



AMNSIS Local No. 17 Vice President Gerald St. Pierre, and Eugene Fleury, President

Chairman Roy Brazeau admonished the crowd that holding elections was hard enough, but they are made even more difficult if there were no complete financial records available.

The accusations then grew more serious. Robert LaFontaine, referring to a partial financial statement accused Secretary-Treasurer of the Yorkton Local Housing bingo, Lester Shingoose, of failing to deposit bingo funds. "There are nineteen records of no deposits," he said. LaFontaine explained that he had, at the request of President, Eugene Fleury, begun an unofficial financial statement the previous evening, but due to the limited time had been unable to complete it. His facts, he explained, were based on bank statements.

"Nineteen records of no deposits," he continued. "That's about ten thousand dollars." There was some dispute as to where LaFontaine had reached the ten thousand dollar figure. LaFontaine explained that based on the first couple of bingo's, where over five hundred dollars was deposited, multiplied by nineteen, would be around ten thousand dollars.

Area Director, Dennis Langan said that perhaps there had been some jackpots given out. "There were no jackpots given out in that time," replied Fleury referring to photocopies of numerous cheques. He also said that there was a \$1000.00 withdrawal unaccounted for. Fleury later produced two brief financial statements.

We don't deal in money, we deal in assets, said Lester Shingoose. He also argued that the Yorkton Local Housing didn't exist. Yorkton Local Housing had never been registered. Through it all, he seemed shaken and somewhat surprised. He later added that he had given out quite a few donations. He didn't think at the time of getting receipts. It was later learned during the meeting that he had helped the touch football team purchase sweaters. He also said that he did agree with the partial financial statement.

We had no financial statements at the start, said Chairman Roy Brazeau. Now we have financial statements all over the place and cheques falling out of everyone's pockets.

Demoralized, the Langan coalition went to the polls. They seemed to sense defeat and after the vote for President they realized the day would not be theirs. The final vote count is as follows:

President - Eugene Fleury, 51 votes, Gilbert Pelletier, 32 votes. Vice-President - Gerald St. Pierre, 57 votes, Leo Martin, 26 votes. Secretary-Treasurer - Robert LaFontaine, 47 votes, Joyce Wilson, 29 votes.

Board of Directors by Acclamation - Charlene Brazeau, Anthony Flamont, Leo Martin, Marcel Pelletier, Edwin Pelletier and Wilmar Shingoose.

The task facing the new executive is enormous. First they will have to find new ways of generating revenue in order to pay the mountain of bills that have piled up. They will also have to try and heal the obvious rift that has beset the Local and perhaps foremost, restore the credibility of the society among members and non-members alike. □

Unemployed Fight For Employment

by Arlo Yuzicapi

Prince Albert - Saskatoon Union of Unemployed Workers members, Walter Davis and Christine Smiley, were in Prince Albert recently to facilitate an educational workshop called Unemployment in the 80's: Causes and solutions. Sponsored by a labour project grant from CUSO-OXFAM with the assistance of the Saskatoon union, Prince Albert's Union of Unemployed Workers members were able to view National Film Board's "As Friend and Foe". The film examined the history of the Canadian Labour Movement and government involvement and was followed by a discussion regarding the reasons of unemployment.

Davis, founder and associate member of the Saskatoon U.U.W., reported the aims of the organization is to help the unemployed fight for full employment and immediate job creation, become aware of the unemployment and welfare systems and policies, ensure proper social assistance and services, and to serve as a support group for each other. Len Usiken, president of the P.A. group, said the year old P.A. Local now has office space in the Union Building on 1st Ave. and 8th street east.

Stating high unemployment percentages, Davis said the situation resembles the 1930's Depression too much. Believing the suppression of unions and drastic unemployment is "planned and deliberate", Davis stated this action allows large corporations and government to lower the standard of living and wages as well as prevent the power of workers to demand better job security and working conditions. Quoting from economists and politicians, Davis reported, many workers laid-off during this "depression will never be rehired as their jobs have been removed forever." He said wages will increase in step with the cost of living is unrealistic.

Davis said Native people are more aware and are more affected by the high unemployment. He said he helped Native people from the north prepare press releases citing 90% unemployment in their areas. However, he said training and affirmative action programs geared to target groups such as Native people, women and handicapped people suffer as these pro-



Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi

A happier moment with some of the participants at the meeting.

grams are often ignored when the priority is on providing everybody employment. One participant, Anne Dorion stated equal opportunity programs can only happen when there is full employment.

The discussion then centred on what can be done by the Prince Albert group to help other unemployed people. One suggestion by Wes Fineday was to inform unemployed people about the unemployment

insurance appeal procedure. "More often than not," he said, "the worker who is disqualified from benefits often goes on welfare instead of appealing because of the intimidation of the system." It was also decided that money will be raised to provide information inserts in the local paper and at the unemployment office. □

Area Director Dennis Langan Speaks Out



AMNSIS Area Director, Dennis Langan

by Robert LaFontaine

Yorkton - The Yorkton and district area is finally beginning to get some programs. Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) Area Director Dennis Langan attributes the lack of action to the political infighting and the numerous by-elections.

"It was unfortunate that the area had to go through the three or four by-elections," he said. "It took six months before the board got together. I see our organization picking up. We're now heading in

the right direction. In the future I can see the Area building up. I'm now getting support from the Area board."

Despite rumours of repeated attempts to oust the incumbent Area Director, Langan has so far prevailed, and with the optimism born of youth he sees a silver lining in every dark cloud.

"The President's have been good to work for," he says. "We are all striving toward the same things, unity and the education of our young people. In the

past the Area Board hasn't given me any direction. They are now coming around and starting to make demands of me."

A local election showed some erosion of support for the new area director. Although not directly involved in the contest, Langan supporters were soundly defeated. Despite repeated attempts by Langan to heal old political wounds he admits dissension has surfaced.

"If we stand together and not throw mud at each other we can succeed. I can't blame the local President's if they feel that I'm not doing my job. I would be willing to step down (if there was enough opposition) but I would always be willing to support the organization."

Langan has been charged by his opposition of running roughshod over the Area Board, but Langan denies such rumours. "My philosophy has always been that no one man knows it all and the grassroots people that elect us know that. My ideas are basic, education and employment. If there is something I don't know I know my colleagues would back me up."

It hasn't been all easy times for Langan. He has had to preside during a growing depression and the inevitable tightening of the federal and provincial budgets.

"Well, I believe that it has affected us, but I can see them coming around in the future. Every government (referring to Provincial Progressive Conservatives) has to get the feel of the situation before setting goals."

At 23, Langan is the youngest and the most inexperienced member of the Provincial Board of Directors. Constant participation in local and area politics have helped.

"I've always been involved," he says. "But we can't keep looking back. We have to look forward and correct our mistakes." His age he says, hasn't made any difference.

The area is picking up. Yorkton now has a home renovations crew and an upgrading program that employs twelve people. How much is due to Langan's leadership can only be surmised. □

Members Question Metis Participation

Marcelin - Claude Petit received mixed reaction from Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) Western Region 2 members at a February 26th meeting held in Marcelin, after he made a presentation on projected land costs of \$75,000 and a building complex expenditures of 5.7 million dollars for Batoche. This would include a racing track, multiple purpose building and log cabins. One concern expressed by Murry Hamilton was that the Batoche Committee members should not concentrate on the physical buildings but instead concentrate on the participation of the Metis people themselves. Reporting on the drop of attendance at previous Metis Heritage celebrations, Hamilton stressed his feeling that buildings do not get people involved. Petit responded that it is programs that get people involved and when the programs are gone, so is the participation. He agreed with Hamilton that money spent on expensive hotels when board/executive meetings and conferences could be diverted to the construction and upkeep of a conference facility on site at Batoche. Petit commented that in 1885, Metis people did not get dollars for hotels.

During the rest of his presentation, Petit assured skeptical members that land funds were pretty well assured. As the building complex and other plans will be dependent on a cost-sharing agreement between the federal and provincial governments, Petit agreed with Roy Fosseneuve's suggestion of fund-raising at the local level to contribute to the cost. Lois Fiddler, Local 109 president, asked what was being done to prevent the various non-Native groups from "getting on the band wagon" for the Centenary, citing Saskatoon's planned '85 activities. "We've always had Metis planned activities with Metis participation," stated Fiddler. "I'd sure hate to see our relatives travelling long distances and come to non-Native planned events." Petit, in turn, reported every effort was being made by the Batoche Centenary Corporation to co-ordinate all activities with regard to the celebration. Petit emphasized that all activities w

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Ron Rivard, Chief Administration Officer for Metis National Council, addresses participants at Marcelin's area meeting.

be controlled by the Metis people which range from rodeos to food booths. Region 2 Area Director, Roberta Kelly, confirmed Parks Canada will be completing their renovations converting the Batoche site to a national historical park before the planned '85 Centenary. Parks Canada is also working closely with the communities of Duck Lake, St. Louis and Batoche and has recently provided a Batoche Liaison worker, Norman Babineau, to help co-ordinate the event.

Metis National Council (MNC) representative, Ron Rivard, was also present at Sunday's meeting to explain AMNSIS and MNC position with regard to the constitutional talks. He explained the history of the MNC and its participating bodies of AMNSIS, the Manitoba Metis Federation, the Metis Association of Alberta, the Louis Riel Metis Association (BC), and more recently, the Robinson Superior Metis of Ontario. He said the MNC's priority items include Metis self-identification, land base, and self-government. Rivard fielded a number of questions from members regarding the recent constitutional talks.

Hamilton was concerned that only certain consultants had access to confidential documents and could not understand why Board of Directors (AMNSIS) members could not, at least, explain or relate the activities and proceedings of MNC meetings to the local grassroots members. "There's no excuse in the world why local people can't know what's going on in the preparation talks. What happens if Heinemann or Milen (consultants) get killed? Does anyone else know what's happening? What decisions are being made by these people without our input?" Hamilton asked. Rivard assured him that there are enough people up to date on the talks but admitted the frequent changes due to "volleyball politics" within the MNC administration has not helped in this problem of communication and could understand their frustration. □

Outreach Touted as Success Story

by Robert LaFontaine

Yorkton - The longest running program in the Parkland Area's history is also its most successful. Two years ago the concept of a Native Outreach office became a reality for the Native people of Yorkton and the surrounding district. In the beginning a lack of advertising and credibility stagnated the program. It has been only in the past five months that the Native Outreach program has blossomed into its full potential.

The drive and energy behind the program is co-ordinator Edwin Pelletier. "I enjoy working with Native people," he said. "Its my life." When Pelletier took over, the staff was demoralized. The funding was running out and two of the employment counsellors had quit. The success of the program can be traced directly back to him. But without the steady influence of Secretary-Bookkeeper, Nancy Vitkauskas and the hiring of veteran counsellor, Marcel Pelletier, co-ordinator Edwin Pelletier acknowledges the program may have gone under.

Although the program is open to people of all nationalities, its' Native emphasis is also the major reason for its success. "Well there's a lot of Native people that are shy," says Employment counsellor Marcel Pelletier. "They don't have that boldness to go out and ask a white person for a job. Pelletier knows



Outreach workers: Nancy Vitkauskas, Marcel Pelletier, and Edwin Pelletier.

the problems a Native person encounters when looking for a job. "Native people have a tendency to drop in here," he says. "They feel more comfortable with their own people. I know I feel more comfortable with my own people."

"A Native organization like this will push for a Native person," says Marcel. "I like to see my people get ahead, have a job and get off welfare. We also know the skills of our people. They're not afraid to talk to us."

Edwin Pelletier is proud of what he has accomplished so far. "We see a lot of clientel," he says. "An average of 500 people a month, that includes repeaters. If you want to go by last month, we saw 725 people. That also includes repeaters. We also registered 36 new clients and we referred 66 clients to employers. With the economy the way it is, we average about five permanent jobs a month."

Jubilant with success, Edwin looks to the future. "Through this program I hope that we can refer the proper people with trades skills to permanent employment and the people with limited education to the proper training and trade schools."

The program runs out in September but Pelletier is optimistic. "Definitely we're looking for more funds. An amendment to our contract and an extension of the program would be ideal." □

Fund Raising Banquet a Success

by Martha Ironstar

Regina - The Regina Native Women's Association (RNWA) recently held their second annual fund raising banquet at the Four Seasons Palace in Regina. The successful banquet boosted their total to around \$90,000 towards the purchase of a building in north central Regina.

Country entertainer, Gloria Anna Carrier, sang to an audience of 270 including special guests, Pat Smith, Minister of Education, who also presented RNWA with a five hundred dollar cheque. Alderman Joe McEwan, represented the Mayor of Regina, and

the Leader of the Opposition, Allan Blakeney, was also in attendance.

In 1981, the RNWA decided to try and purchase a building which would house a Native day care centre and a Native ministry centre. The RNWA staff and board, together with community volunteers, established a fund raising committee. The target goal was set at \$75,000 of which \$15,000 had already been committed. The centre was to be a community facility not only offering programming, day care and other services, but one which involves the Native and non-Native community in various cultural, social and recreational activities.

RNWA is asking individuals, community groups,

businesses and other organizations to make a tax deductible donation for a home for the Regina Native Women Association. Individuals and groups who make a donation of at least \$100 will be known as "Friends of Regina Native Women" and their names will be placed on a plaque in the foyer of their new home.

The fund-raising banquet wrapped up Native Women's Week which began with kid's day and a pow-wow at the Regina Friendship Centre. Soup and bannock was served all week, and bake and rummage sales as well as bingo's were held. Proceeds are to go to the building fund. "All in all it was a great success; we're pleased," said Eileen McAllister of RNWA. □

Metis History

Metis History - Graphics

The Age of British Colonialism and Imperialism

by AMNSIS Researcher
Ron Bourgeault

In the last article, we have seen why the Red River Settlement was formed by the Hudson's Bay Company. The main reason was to create a settlement of labourers, most of which came to be Metis. The creation of a wage labour working class inside the fur trade territory came to be the formation of a labour market. A place in which labour could be hired when needed and laid off when no longer required.

From the Metis labour pool established in the Red River came the seasonal wage labourers (voyagers) that were needed to run the transportation boats throughout the interior. As well, they became the seasonal and annual labourers that worked around the different posts within the interior and including the plains buffalo hunters needed to produce pemmican (surplus food) for distribution throughout the posts in the interior.

Women in the Working Class

In all of these jobs, it was the women who did the support work within the family. If they were working at different posts in the interior, then women's labour went towards the support of those posts. It was expected by the Hudson's Bay Company (HBCo) that all women within their families would have to work in some capacity for the fur trade. Take as an example an order issued in 1823 by the Board of Directors of the Hudson's Bay Company concerning the use of women's labour around the different posts.

"The Services of a few women may be necessary at most of the posts. These might be allowed their provisions but the number to be allowed at each post should be regulated by the council."

In fact this was the reason for the intentional creation of individual families. First, for the reproduction of the cheap wage labour that was needed. Second, that women's labour could be exploited in support work cheaper than what their husbands. In short, women within the Metis working class and Indian peasantry came to be doubly exploited.

For those women situated in the Red River, their labour went into the small plots of land the families were allowed to squat on as a means of supporting the men's low wages. In the buffalo hunt, Metis women and Indian women, who were separated through marriage from their communal background, did the support work of stripping the buffalo carcasses and preparing the pemmican for trade. Within the Indian peasantry in the interior women's labour continued to be exploited as support work in the production of fur.

Formation of a Middle Class (Petty Bourgeoisie)

Just as it was necessary, for economic reasons, to have a wage labour working class in the fur trade that was cheaper than the European working class, so it was also necessary, for economic reasons, to have a middle class that could operate certain parts of the fur trade cheaper than the Hudson's Bay Company was able to do. Some Metis, who were seen as being responsible and loyal, were set up in businesses by the Hudson's Bay Company. Such areas as transportation, either by land or water, trading on the plains or shop keepers in the Red River were turned over to this Metis middle class.

These middle class businessmen came to form a Metis commercial middle class. In return for being established in business, the individual businessmen were required to sign contracts with the Company to provide a service at a set price. Or, in the case of traders on the plains and in the north, they had to obtain licences to trade from the Company. Although the licences allowed them to trade, the traders had to sell their produce and furs to the company who determined the price. For example, the situation in which

the Governor of Ruperts Land, George Simpson describes the benefits of the businessmen relationship with the company.

"Your partnership with Mr. MacDermot I hope will turn out well, we shall be happy to give you every support, and assistance in our power and if you are contented with moderate profits, study economy, make a point of fulfilling your engagements and ideals for ready money.....The concern will turn out profitable to yourselves and advantageous to the colony at large."

As well, take the situation, as described by the Governor, that shows how the company exploited that middle class by controlling the price for which they transported goods.

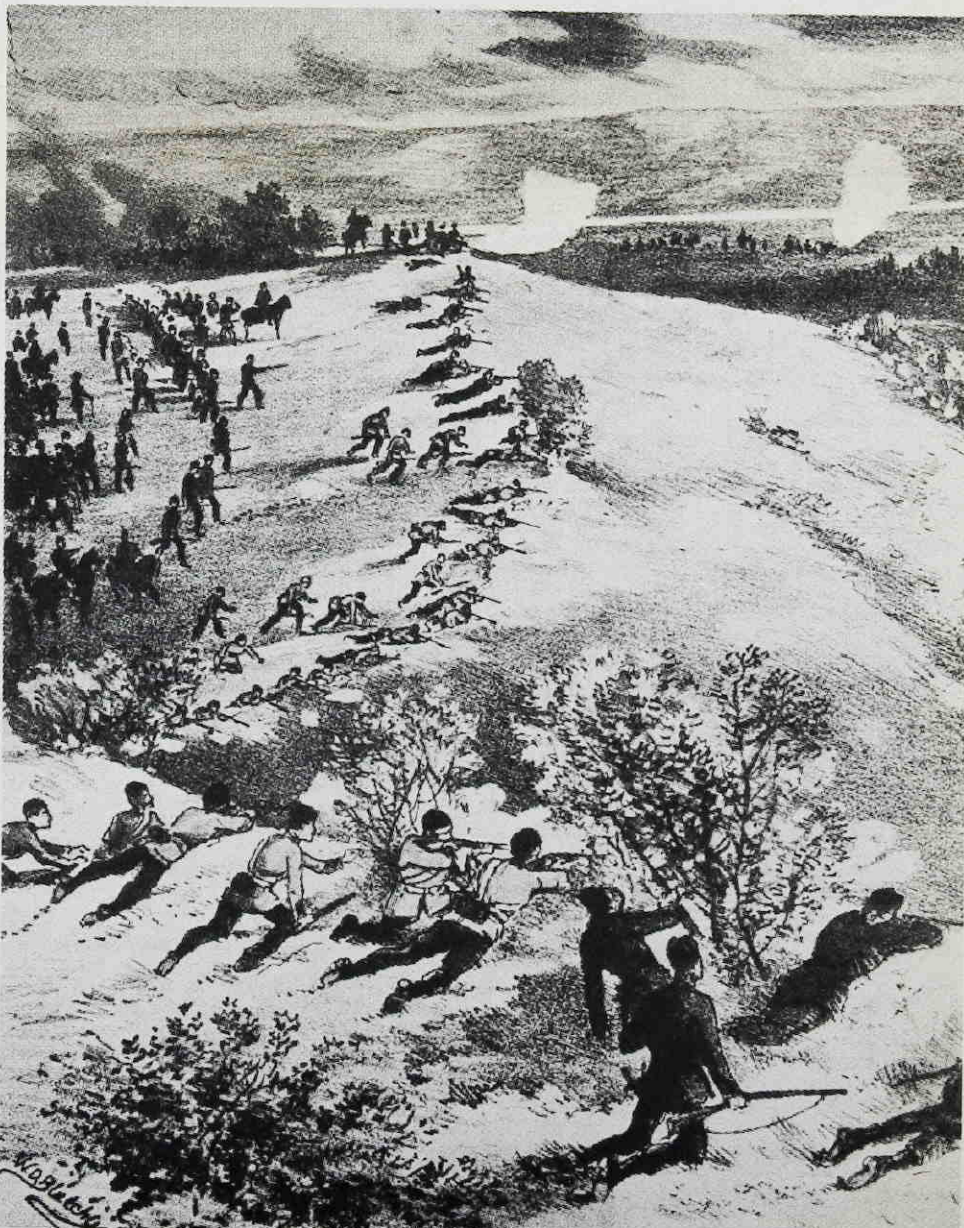
"I have a communication from Joseph Cook while at Red River proposing to enter into a contract for the transport of 200 pieces goods from this place (York Factory) to Red River for a term of three years, but the terms appeared unreasonable. I therefore did not close with him but agreed to enter into a contract for the same quantity and terms of years at 20/p. piece he to provide boats, agres (labour) etc. etc.....(if) this however does not happen to be the case, I will therefore feel o

bliged by your closing with Joseph Cook agreeably to the proposition made by me and if he declines that you will offer the same terms to Mackay and in the event of his declining it, likewise that a notice for tenders be put up at the church doors. The freight at present given is too high and we cannot as heretofore, provide boats, sails, etc. The companys craft, moreover, cannot do the whole of our transport business as we shall have to provide freight for about 400 pieces goods annually to Norway House in future on account of

Athabasca and MacKenzie's River. Mackay is entitled to 100 acres of land....."

In this way, the Metis commercial middle class came to be exploited by the British merchant capitalists centered in London.

The Metis commercial middle class was intentionally exploited in two ways. First, they ran certain businesses or provided certain services cheaper than if the company was to do it itself. Second, since this middle class was in a controlled position by the British merchant capitalists, they were never allowed to make large profits. What this meant was that this middle class was never allowed to acquire large amounts of wealth or capital. It was always kept economically backward. The main reason was, the British were afraid that if this middle class became economically strong enough (or accumulated enough wealth), they would want to take over their own economy, as the main capitalists, and declare national independence. So, this middle class was always caused to be dependent.





The formation of a middle class was not just done for economic reasons. It was also done for political ends. After 1821, Ruperts Land came to be more under Britain's formal colonial control within her expanding colonial empire. Different colonies within the British empire had different positions or status, depending upon their political and economic importance. The fur trade was not seen as being as important an industry as cotton in India, or sugar, tobacco and coffee in the Caribbean. Ruperts Land was not a formal colony as India; but it came to be a colony, nonetheless, administered by the Hudson's Bay Company on behalf of Britain's colonial office and imperial interests.

As a colony, with its labour being increasingly exploited by British capitalist interests, there had to be a middle class within the colony that was loyal to British political and economic interests and at the same time maintain control over the mass of the labouring populations. Many Metis continued to be brought into the Hudson's Bay Company in junior positions as clerks and post masters. Forbidden to be in the higher positions of the company, their positions were used as a means of trade relations and political control of labour. Take the situation of Cuthbert Grant, who after the North West Company was merged with the Hudson's Bay Company, was seen as being a useful ally by the Hudson's Bay Company. They needed a national leader who could organize and control the plains buffalo hunters so that they would hunt and produce the required pemmican needed for the fur trade industry. After the merger, Grant was given a position as clerk in the company. Such was the price of manipulated and co-opted nationalism.

The following is taken from a letter from The Governor of Ruperts Land to Grant in 1823 and instructions to the Board of Directors in 1824.

"I have to acquaint you that the Council are willing to receive you into the Company's Service provided you enter into an engagement for a term of three years at the salary of £120 stg. p. annum in the capacity of clerk....."

and

"The Half-breed population is by far the most extended about the settlement and appear to require great good management otherwise they will become in my opinion dangerous to its peace..... Their notions of pride and independence are such that they are not the class of people that would be desirable on any terms as they are indolent and unsteady merely fit for voyaging. Under those circumstances it is necessary to watch and manage them with great care otherwise they may become the most formidable enemy to which the settlement is exposed.

Cuthbert Grant who your Honours were last year pleased to admit as a clerk in the Service is warmly attached to this race of people and has much influence over them which he seems desirous to use in furtherance of our views."

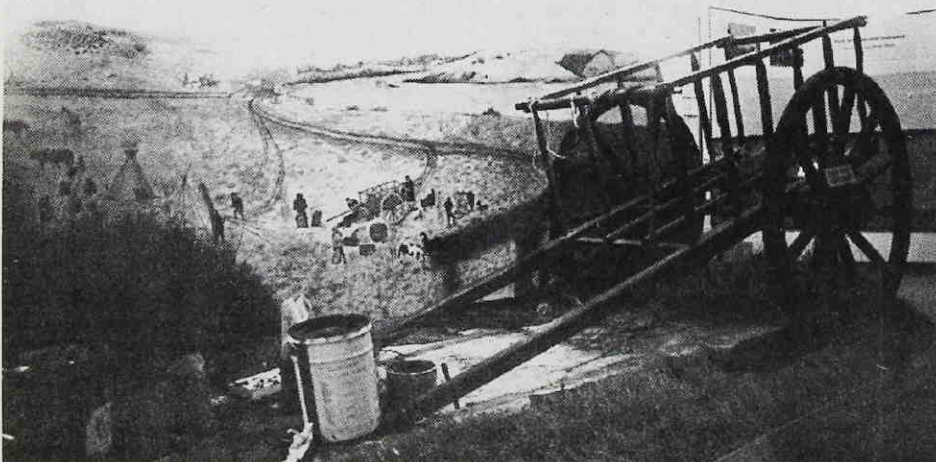
And so Cuthbert Grant became a paid straw-boss for the British colonialists as warden of the plains.

It was extremely important to colonialism the world over in order for the colonial process to become complete. There had to be that particular class a colonial class - that was willing to be a national agent of foreign domination and exploitation. It was

always made to appear to be within their interests. The fur trade was no exception. However, not all of that colonial class was united in collaboration. There emerged, economic and political differences that were not willing to be apart of the collaboration and exploitation. That, as well, happened within the Metis middle class of the fur trade. With the settlement of money of the company and Hudson's Bay company.

There also emerged in the Red River, a Metis middle class of large landowners who came to form a landed elite. These were the sons and daughters of the retired officers of both the North West Company and Hudson's Bay Company who were retired to the Red River with large grants of land from the company. These officers were intentionally retired to the Red River with large land grants in order to form this loyal landed elite. So their class interests and loyalties were passed on to their children with the inheritance of land. By the 1830's, a Metis landed elite was in formation who were to function as a colonial loyal class in much the same way as the likes of Cuthbert Grant.

In the next article, we will look at the creation of a colonial government made up of the resident British fur trade officials and loyal members from the Metis middle class. It was the purpose of this colonial government to provide British political sovereign control over Ruperts Land and at the same time provide control over the middle class and working classes within the fur trade territory. We will also look at the coming of the Church and missionaries as agents of the colonial process. □



1. H.B.C.A. - A6/20, f. 127 - 13 March, 1823
Governor and committee, Hudson's Bay House, London to George Simpson, York Factory.
2. H.B.C.A. - D4/5, f. 84 - 25 August, 1825
George Simpson, Governor of Ruperts Land to Alex Ross.
3. H.B.C.A. - D4/5, f. 82 - 24 August, 1825
George Simpson, Governor of Ruperts Land to Donald McKenzie.
4. H.B.C.A. - D4/2, f. 57 - 14 July, 1823
George Simpson, Governor of Ruperts Land to Cuthbert Grant.
5. H.B.C.A. - D4/87, f. 1 - 5 June, 1824
George Simpson, Governor of Ruperts Land to Governor and Committee, H. B. Co., London.

Feature on Environment

“Uranium Miners Should be Told What the Risks Are” A Talk with Dr. Eric Young

by Vye Bouvier

Saskatoon - Eric Young, author of a book on radioactivity and how it affects human health, spoke at the Saskatoon Public Library on February 10. Young is a member of the British Columbia Medical Association which did research that influenced the decision of the Bates Commission in British Columbia to place a seven year moratorium on the building of uranium mines.

Young compared the uranium industry to the Titanic. The number of lifeboats met the standard for other ships. However, there weren't enough lifeboats for that size of a ship, because it was so big it was thought to be unsinkable.

Uranium mining is considered equivalent to a safe industry. The Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) when it set its standards used numbers which are for a more safe industry. A safe industry is considered to be one death per a thousand people exposed. The Science Council of Canada is presently looking into radiation standards.

The effects of radon gas and its daughter products were of concern to Young. Radon gas is given off at various stages of mining and milling. People in the mill are being exposed to various amounts of radon. Radon daughter products cause lung cancer when breathed in on dust particles. Among uranium miners, lung cancer is five times the incidence of lung cancer in Canada. The incidence of lung cancer in Canada is 5%, double that among uranium workers and it is 10%. The present allowable limit of exposure to radon gas in Canada is 4 Working Level Months (WLM). In 30 years a worker would accumulate 120 WLM. In a lifetime, 44 WLM will cause cancer. The present allowable limit for radon gas gives a doubling incidence of lung cancer. “Workers Should be Told What the Risks Are”, said Young.

Young also talked about the tailings systems (waste disposal systems) in uranium mines. “The aim of the tailings system is to have a walkaway system”, said Young. Tailings have to be maintained in perpetuity, who is to bear the cost of monitoring? Probably the government and the taxpayer.

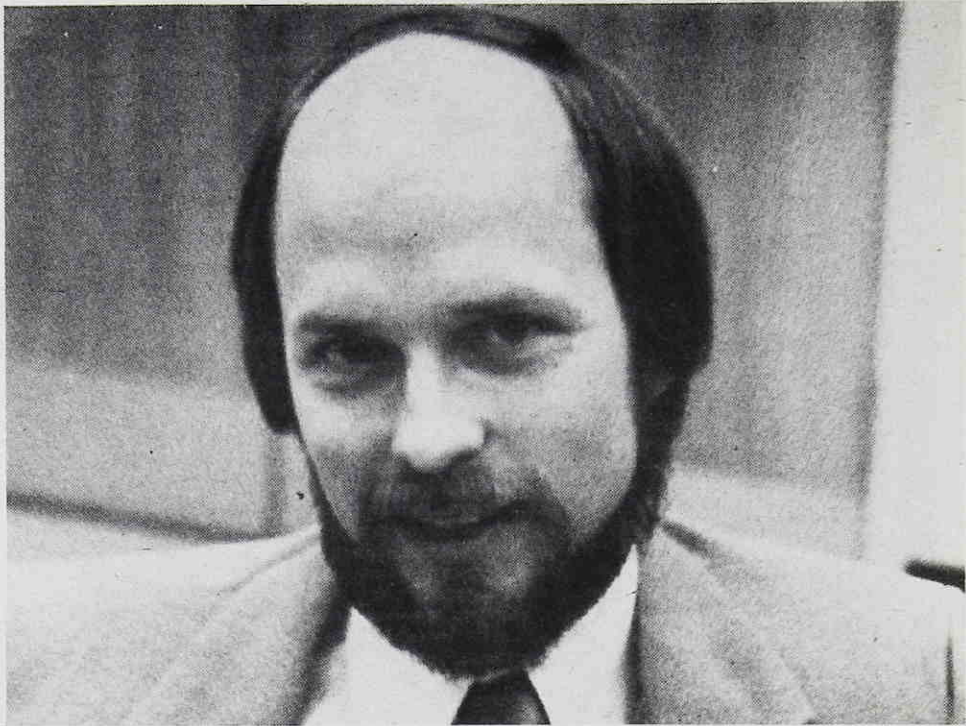
Radium is 1% of the water in the tailings pond. It is treated with barium chloride and it becomes a precipitate. It is then stored for future disposal. One of the methods of disposal being considered is deep geological disposal areas.

Covering over tailings brings out radioactivity. The radioactivity of covered tailings is three times higher than the piles without soil on top. When grass is planted, the diffusion of radon gas is increased. Radon gas is the largest single contributor to the risk of tailings.

Some of the radioactive tailings in Ontario, were used in building the dam in the Serpent River. There are 50 million tons of tailings in Canada. By the turn of the century, there are expected to be 100 million tons. These tailings areas will have to be monitored over hundreds of thousands of year ... monitored by some type of government in perpetuity.

New Breed: *The spill has motivated a lot of people to get involved or re-involved in working on the uranium issue. Do you think that this aspect of having the spill was a good thing?*

Young: It usually takes a crisis to get people involved in things, but the spill itself is not good. There is a potential for long term problems if it is not cleaned up and put back in the reservoir system. But it points out the fact that the supposedly “state of the art” systems can and do fail, either because they're not designed properly or because of human error. The last supposedly foolproof system was the one in Churchrock, New Mexico. It was the best technology available when it was put in, one of the newest tailings dams in the United States. It failed on July 16, 1979 and had only recently been com-



Dr. Eric Young
“Uranium mines should know the risks”

Photo by Vye Bouvier

pleted. The best dam ever constructed in the United States split open and released 100 million gallons of acidic water into the Rio Puerco River, a tributary of the little Colorado River. The radioactive water flash flooded through Gallup, New Mexico, it overflowed the bank in several places. Beside the radioactive water, there were 1,100 tons of radioactive mud and rock and sand escaped. It was a 6,000 foot dam and there was a 200 ft. split in the dam. The clean up crews only managed to retrieve 140 tons out of the 1,100 tons. They found, a fair distance down from the spill, elevated levels of several radioactive chemicals.

New Breed: *You say that with the spill there is a “Potential” for long term problems, wouldn't you say that there “definitely” are problems?*

Young: The potential is if they don't clean it up and it gets into the ground waters or into the river system or into the food chain, where it is concentrated in the plant life, animal or fish life. For example, the diatoms (microorganisms) take particles out of water and use it as food. The diatom picks up particles in the water as it goes through. The radioactivity is on these particles and they stay in the diatom, whereas the water goes right through. The diatom absorbs more and more of the particles, and the concentration of radioactive particles builds higher and higher. A fish comes by and eats the organism, the fish retains the material that the organism has and the fish will build up higher levels of radioactivity than the level in the water. Plants do the same thing. Plants absorb water and the radioactivity stays in plants.

New Breed: *What are the symptoms of radiation sickness?*

Young: For acute radiation sickness, you have to be exposed in a short period of time to very high levels of radiation which should not occur in the mines at all. Usually, you don't get any symptoms of radiation sickness until you've been exposed to 100 to 200 rems of radiation and that's a lot of radiation, much more than you'd get in a mine.

The ore releases gamma radiation and if you were exposed to a really high grade ore, which should be unlikely because you should be protected by shielding or else you shouldn't be close to it in the first place. But if we suppose that

you are exposed to 45% grade ore (the highest level in some mines. Key and Cluff Lake mines would have some such areas) then you could be getting anywhere from 1/2 to 1 rem per hour. That would mean in a period from 100 to 200 hours, theoretically you could get 100 rems of radiation within 100 to 200 hours. (This would be working a meter from the ore without shielding). But the only real way to tell is to do measurements at the ore face (with a geiger counter or scintillometer) to find out what the level of radiation is at a particular area. The calculations are all based on average numbers from other uranium mines where we know the release of gamma radiation per percent of ore grade. The release depends on the type of rock and other things. If a worker is wearing a radiation badge, she should be able to tell the amount of radiation she is getting. The maximum level a worker should get is 5 rems a year and that level of radiation won't cause radiation sickness.

New Breed: *How can a worker keep track of her radiation measurements?*

Young: Since 1980, the National Dose Registry in Ottawa has been keeping track of the gamma radiation workers are exposed to. So, no one should be getting exposed to anything more than 5 rem.

In 1980, all workers in uranium mines were to be covered by quarterly gamma dosimetry. This means that every three months, workers radiation badges are supposed to be read by the national dose registry. You would get this information from: The National Dose Registry, Health and Welfare Canada, Radiation Protection Branch, Ottawa, Canada.

The National Dose Registry is also supposed to have the yearly total of working level months (WLM) of radon daughter products workers have been exposed to. This is an average of all workers, in terms of how many WLM they've been exposed to over the year from the radioactive produce of radon gas. The company would do a sampling of air and calculate what the average worker is supposed to be getting, based on the amount of time the average worker was exposed to that level of radioactivity. They would add up the time, an average of how many workers and how many hours at such and such a level.



Left to right: Patrick Daigneault, Vye Bouvier and Brian Ratt. Some members of the Northern Camp for Ecology.

Photo by Vye Bouvier

New Breed: Using an analogy, How would you describe the uranium decay series?

Young: This is how uranium breaks down. It's like starting out with a series of bowls, one on top of the other, and each has a little hole on the bottom. You start out with all bowls empty except the one at the top. Let's say you had water in the bowls, although the first bowl would be analogous to uranium-238. The bowl underneath the top bowl would be one of the breakdown products or decay products of uranium. As the second bowl is getting water in it, the little spout on the bottom of it is letting water out into the bowl underneath it. The radiation is coming out as the levels are changing, it just goes out through the series like that. So water eventually comes out of all levels at different rates. You don't start out with bowls all the same size. The uranium-238 bowl would be the size of a living room. The one below a bathroom, until the bottom one, the size of a cup. The half life is how long it takes for the amount of substance you're talking about to deplete to half its size. So, if the bowl is the size of this room, the half life would be the amount of time it takes for the water to spill out so that the bowl is only half full. And for uranium-238, it's almost $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion years. And whereas on another level, the half-life of radon gas is 3.8 days. The whole chain gives off radiation from uranium-238 to lead-206 which is stable (ie. it doesn't break down any further). Radiation is given off at all stages, at different rates and intensities. There are different kinds of radiation given off.

New Breed: What radiation resulting from the decay of uranium would uranium miners be concerned about?

Young: What you'd be concerned about in uranium mining is gamma radiation which is similar to x-rays but which has a different wavelength. The other one to be concerned about in uranium mining is alpha. There is also beta particle radiation. But the ones that cause the basic problems in uranium mining are alpha and gamma. The dosimeter (radiation badge) measures gamma. The scintillometer measures gamma. Gamma radiation has genetic effects and gives you a long term cancer risk increase. Alpha radiation gives lung cancer, this radiation is given off by radon gas and radon daughters.

This form of radiation is measured by grab sampling methods. The company takes a sample of gas in the air and calculates the radioactivity from that. In France, this is measured by personal dosimeters called "tracketch" dosimeter. This seems to be a more accurate way to determine what workers inhale in terms of radon and thoron gas and their daughter or decay products. We have suggested that workers in Canada be issued with radiation measurement devices.

New Breed: What is yellowcake? and when trucks transport it, when they stop at a village, do the truckers and the people in the houses nearby have to worry about harmful levels of radioactivity? Do the workers in the mines have to worry about it? And when there is a spill from a truck, is there anything to worry about?

Young: Yellowcake is a dry, yellowish powder which is 85% uranium oxide. Uranium itself isn't all that radioactive. It gives out a bit of radioactivity but not very much. It is the breakdown products of uranium that are more dangerous; this includes radium-226 and radon gas and its daughter products.

After the milling process, the uranium is separated from the leachate (that's the acid solution that takes the uranium out of the crushed and ground rock, during the milling process). So, uranium is removed by chemical process and is dried as this yellow powder, called uranium oxide or yellow cake. This is then put in metal barrels and transported.

The yellowcake doesn't emit very much in the way of radiation, so that truckers as long as they have shielding between themselves and the barrels should be well enough protected. Trucks passing through towns should have no problems with the population of the town.

The barrels of yellowcake are loaded with front end loaders and the workers are a fair distance from the barrels.

In a spill, if the barrels rupture, the yellow powder spills all over the ground, or it could land in a river. Yellowcake would take a billion years to eventually become thorium-234. Yellowcake emits a low level of alpha particles and the gamma risk is extremely low. Yellowcake is dangerous when breathed in as dust. It is also dangerous when it falls into water, as it increases the concentration of uranium

in the water. It takes an incredible amount of dilution to dilute uranium oxide (which is 850 million parts per billion) down to a drinking water level of 20 parts per billion (the drinking water standard). A truck may haul twenty 55 gallon drums. Uranium is known to cause chronic kidney damage after it goes through your body. It is the chemical property of uranium that does this.

Breathing in yellowcake, increases concentration of uranium oxide in the lung and contributes some radiation to the body. Workers should have showers and wash hands before having food. It is radioactive enough if you breath it in over a long term, it can contribute to the total body does of radiation.

In a spill on land, in the short time while picking it up, the dust may be breathed in. Gamma radiation does come from the dust that comes off it. Any does of radiation is a risk. The more sources of radioactivity, the more it contributes to total lung does. Yellowcake dust may be blown away by wind during a spill. Once in the barrel, alpha particles can't penetrate, but the gamma rays can.

In the United States, at one mine in Washington State, the company has a special team to deal with radioactive spills and dust spills from yellowcake. The teams have special equipment for cleaning up the spill.

New Breed: Do you think that non-medical people can educate themselves about the uranium industry?

Young: Absolutely. The book I wrote was written to stimulate and inform the public. Discussions and decisions should be based on ethical and social perspectives that really have nothing to do with technical details of how you mine and dispose of tailings.

New Breed: What about the understanding of the health of people living around uranium mines?

Young: You would need a basic understanding of radiation and its effects. There is a lot of material available. It's a long educational process.

Eric Young's book is: *The Health Dangers of Uranium Mining and Jurisdictional Questions - A Summary of Material Before the British Columbia Royal Commission of Inquiry - Health and Environmental Protection - Uranium Mining - August 1980*, by E.R. Young B.Sc. M.D. and R.F. Woolard M.D.

Photo Profile

Native Heritage Week Held in Prince Albert School

by Arlo Yuzicapi

Prince Albert - Native Heritage was the theme for this year's Education Week (March 4-10) at Prince Charles Community School in Prince Albert. Suggested in September by Teacher Associate Richard Isbister, all Prince Charles staff readily accepted the idea of promoting Native appreciation within the school, whose population of Native students is higher than most schools in Prince Albert.

Isbister and Community School Co-ordinator, Marie Thorpe, said in a March 5th interview that they've been working actively for about a month to co-ordinate such activities as the round dances, arts and crafts demonstrations, legends and story telling and the outdoor "Snowflake Festival". At first they just started phoning a few groups such as SUNTEP (Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program) and the Indian Cultural College in Saskatoon, and asked them if they knew anyone who makes crafts or tells stories about Indians. Soon the school was arranging for the Sturgeon Lake Band Singers and Drummers to lead the pow-wow and round dances in which Sturgeon Lake School students helped start off. As well, various Native elders were requested to come in and share traditional stories and legends.

The idea of Native Heritage had been emphasized within the school prior to Education Week. Isbister, on staff since September, displayed hide paintings made by his class in December as Christmas gifts for grandparents. "The school stresses school pride and a positive self-concept in each child," says Thorpe, adding all history and culture is shared so that every student might have a sense of appreciation and pride. Isbister feels such things as hide painting really help the kids understand their heritage.

Prince Charles is one of 17 community schools within the province that receive extra funding to hire co-ordinators and teacher's associates to help establish a stronger community bond by encouraging more parents to participate in the activities of the school. One parent, Georgina Glaser, baked bannock for most of the festivities. Although her family participated in various winter festivals, this was only their second pow-wow and the kids thought it was great. Judging from comments of most participants, the Native Heritage Week was a success on the whole. □



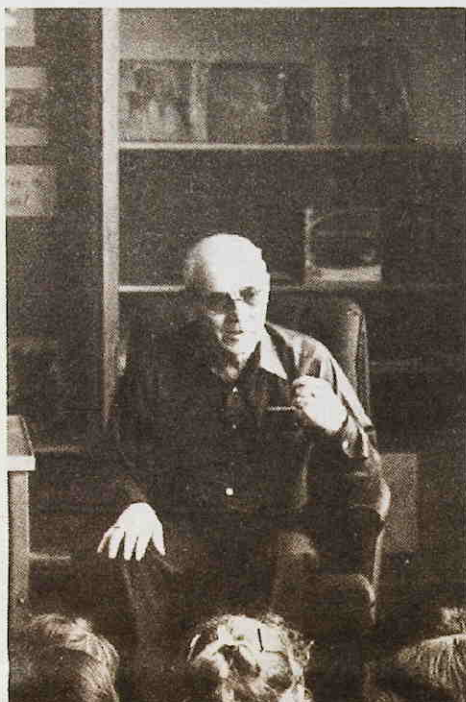
Grade 3 student Shane Isbister shows off the tipi erected by Prince Charles in the school gym.

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Hide demonstration and some of the many students participating in Day 2 of Native Heritage Week

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



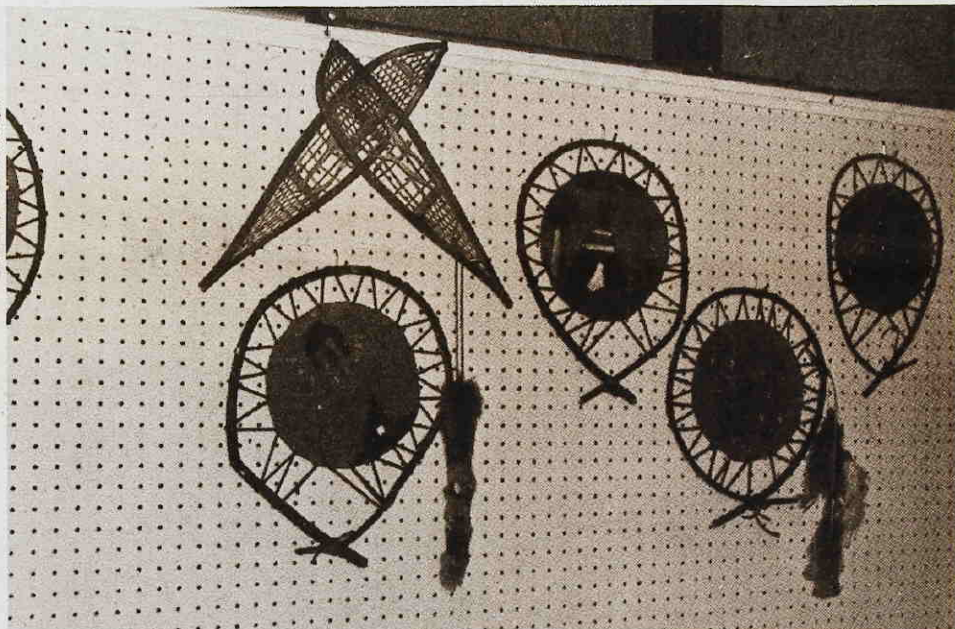
Elder Bill Greyeyes from Saskatoon shares stories and tall tales with some of the younger students.



Suniep intern-teacher Connie Regnier displays the many crafts and jewellery collected.

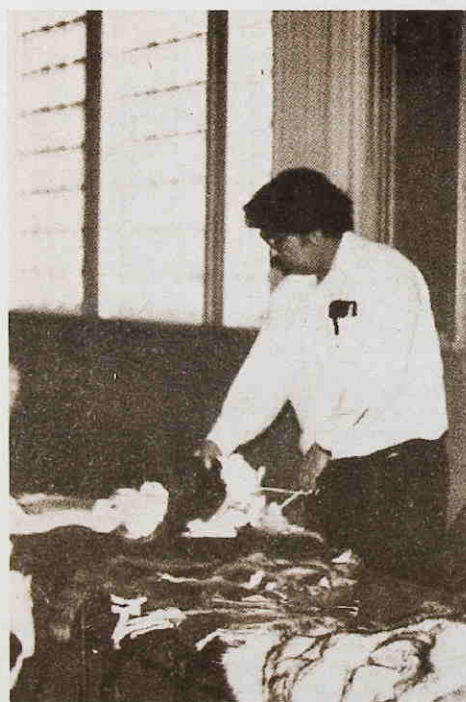
Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



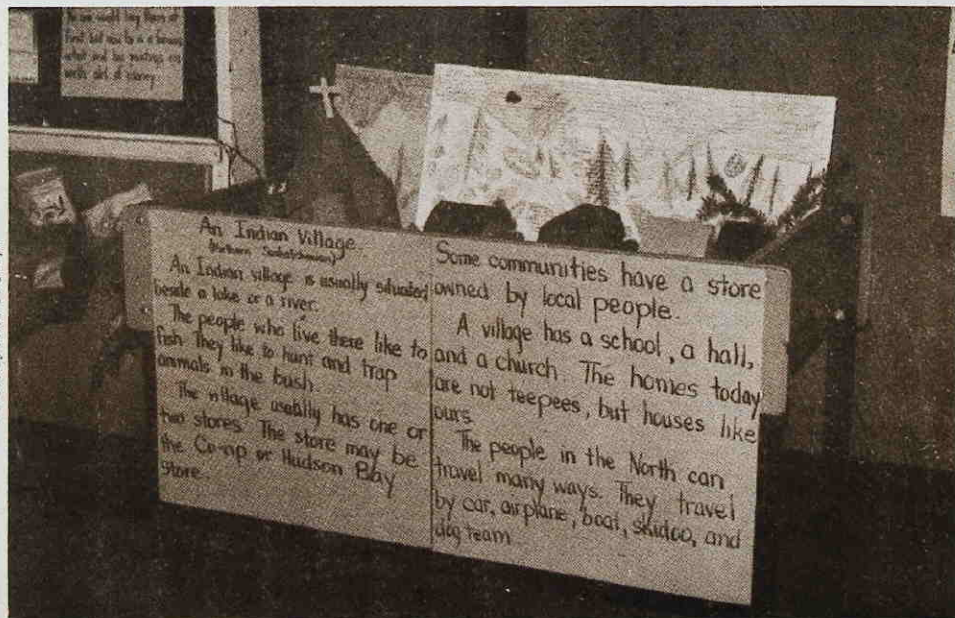
Hide paintings on display at Prince Charles were done by students as a Christmas project.

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Murray Kyle from Hudson's Bay Company displays the many cured furs to Prince Charles students.

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Indian Village Display

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi

Richard Isbister Teacher Associate

by Arlo Yuzicapi

Richard Isbister was born in 1955 in Prince Albert but was raised in the community of Mount Nebo, about 54 miles west of Prince Albert. Son of Doug and Lorna Isbister, Richard doesn't recall any real problems growing up as a Metis, although he did experience a language barrier with fellow Native people as he couldn't speak Cree. Richard spent part of his working years as a mover, travelling most of western Canada extensively before becoming involved in retail work.

It wasn't until 1982, after enrolling in a Life Skills course, that Richard started thinking seriously about a career re-direction. "Life Skills was a good experience for me. It helped me to achieve better self-esteem and not look at myself so negatively. Before that, I was unemployed and not feeling too good about myself. I knew I had to change but not exactly sure in what areas. Life Skills gave me that opportunity to look at myself in a positive way," he recalls and would consider Life Skills a turning point in his life. Richard believes the course should be implemented in high school curriculum.

Richard later enrolled in the Human Services Program in Prince Albert which he describes as a "continuation of Life Skills but more in-depth" in the area of counselling, i.e. communication and listening skills. It was during this time he had the chance to practice, and become more aware of the qualities of counselling and life skills coaching he had within himself.

From all his experience in counselling, Richard believes most problems experienced by Native people, such as unemployment, stem from lack of education. Although Native organizations are stressing education, he feels Native people are still having to take "lower end of the totem pole jobs." "We must have education that suits us today, not 100 years ago," he says adding, "We must not fight against the education system but work within it."



Richard Isbister, Teacher's Associate, shows his "best side".

Richard's present position, as a Teacher Associate, involves helping the teacher in the classroom, co-ordinating and participating in after school activities and working with those students who may need extra help. As well, he goes into the surrounding community for casual home visits on a regular basis to "let them know what's happening in the school." A lot of parents are reluctant to approach the school, he says, and by knowing someone from these visits, parents have a more relaxed feeling in the building and with teachers. Parents are also encouraged to participate in as many activities in the school as possible.

Richard enjoys his job as he likes working with kids and the experience is furthering his own education in the human services field. So far he has a very effective working relationship with fellow staff members and the children and doesn't feel he has any barriers other than those he imposes upon himself. Although he knows he is doing a good job, Richard

sometimes has to deal with mild bouts of anxiety when he feels he isn't meeting the high demands and standards he sets for himself. To others who might wish to pursue a similar career, he advises that besides receiving a formal education, one should have a good working experience with people at all levels of the community. One should also examine his/her own capabilities to make sure it's the field they really want to go into, and if so, "they should not be afraid to go through the system to better themselves at all levels of education."

Future plans for Richard includes instructional training in Life Skills coaching, teacher's college, and more training in the field of counselling and teaching. Besides being involved in extra-curricular activities such as the Parents Education Group branch of Citizens Against Drug Abuse (CADA), Richard devotes a lot of time to raising his 8 year old son Shane.

Babineau Finds His Roots

by Arlo Yuzicapi

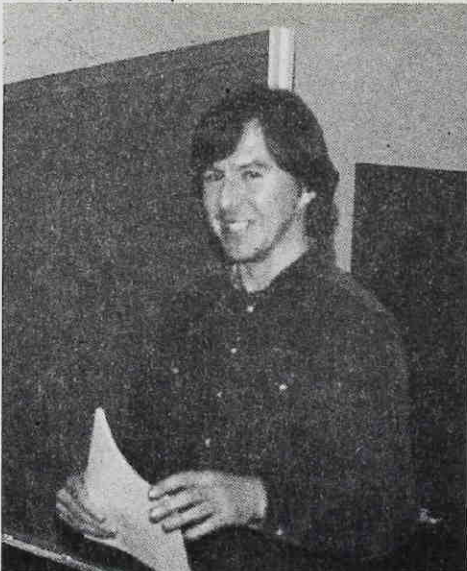
Born 1954 in Calgary, Norman Babineau spent a great deal of his life travelling with his airforce family to such places as Quebec, France and Ontario. Graduating from Grade 13 in Ontario, he worked for a number of years with the postal service in Toronto before enrolling in the Ontario College of Art 4 years ago in an Environmental Design (branch of architecture) course that he hopes to complete this summer.

Adopted by strong Catholic foster parents at birth, Norman was never aware of his Native background until four years ago when a friend persuaded him to trace his true heritage. At first he was reluctant, as he recalls, not only because it would hurt his adoptive parents but believed nine out of ten people who attempt similar searches are often disappointed from the results for a variety of reasons. Prior to finding his family, Norman didn't know any Native people "as there wasn't too many (Native people) in the airforce or in the places where his family was stationed. His view, until that point in his life, was based on the stereotype of the "handsome noble savage" as seen in Hollywood and books or the negative examples as seen in most urban centres.

Norman became more intrigued when his extensive research led him to Batoche and St. Louis where a rich Metis history lay. The discovery of such an exciting past literally "blew him away", especially when he found out his grandfathers were Senator and Monsignor Boucher. He traced many of his ancestors to Riel's provisional government when history was being made in western Canada, providing Norman with a feeling of deep pride. Meeting his real mother and other relatives in various reunions over the years was perhaps the greatest events in his life for he had found a home after years of travelling and a sense of who he really was.

Norman learned of the Batoche liaison position with Parks Canada from an uncle in St. Louis who thought he might be qualified. Knowing the term would provide him with 'grassroots' experience with

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Norman Babineau - Home at last

his own people, he took the incentive to apply, with 'very stiff competition', for the position. After being informed he would be starting the job in less than two weeks, Norman moved from Toronto to St. Louis on January 31.

Working out of the AMNSIS Western Region 2 office in Prince Albert, the position is described by Norman as "the middleman between Parks Canada and AMNSIS." Travelling between St. Louis, Duck Lake, Batoche, Prince Albert and occasionally Winnipeg, his duties include making sure Batoche 85 plans are well co-ordinated between all parties. Any job opportunities within Parks Canada are referred to him and he informs the AMNSIS board. As well, a great deal of effort is made to ensure AMNSIS representatives understand Parks Canada policy and information, and that "they understand us." Norman also has a personal commitment to make sure Metis

history material is accurately and positively portrayed in Parks Canada's publications and tours. He feels he can do the job well as his many years of experience with the government and his commitment to the Metis people allows him to "relate to both camps."

Norman feels the biggest issue facing Metis people is the growth process of self-identification to actual self-government. "It's exciting to work out the business of how to govern ourselves. We're lucky as we're becoming more educated and have more of a voice," he states. Norman can see the problems of unemployment, housing, education and discrimination as being eventually resolved once self-government is achieved fully. "Self-government means self-respect," he says. "AMNSIS has done a fantastic job," he continues, "They've provided programs in housing, education and skills training, their own educational institute, and lots more. I realize a lot of people within AMNSIS are frustrated because they're experiencing the day to day problems. It sometimes takes one coming in from the outside to point out the great headway the Metis people and AMNSIS have made. And they're not even a full self-government yet."

To those people who might wish to seek employment within Parks Canada, Norman advises polishing up their communications skills. Recalling the Batoche Tour Guide interviews he sat in on, Norman said it was not that the candidates lacked knowledge, intelligence or capability, but most had difficulty expressing their answers when fielding questions from the board. As well, he would recommend anyone looking for a career to follow their interest and not to get discouraged by the system. He feels elders should not be overlooked either as they provide an indispensable source of information and advice.

Norman's outside interests include art and architecture, and he would like to research some of the early Metis homesteads "before they blow away completely." He would also like to learn some Cree and French Cree so he can find out what's being said at Local meetings that "crack everyone up." Norman has recently moved to Prince Albert from St. Louis and feels he would like to stay in the area he now claims as home.

Human Rights Worker Stresses Cross Cultural Education

by Arlo Yuzicapi

Norma Green is a Dakota Indian originally from the Wahpehton reserve about 20 miles northwest of Prince Albert. Daughter of Tom and Mary Standing, Norma attended school on the reserve and transferred to Prince Albert to complete her high school. Enrolling in a secretarial course was just the beginning of many classes and courses she would eventually complete to enrich and further her career. After finishing business college, Norma married and over the years had 4 children. Forced to work for economic reasons, she recalls it was a lot more difficult to be a working mother "in those days" with virtually no daycare facilities.

Although she grew up on a reserve, Norma did not become involved with Indians or Metis until 10 years ago when she started working for Human Rights as a secretary. As she was raised by her grandmother, Norma always had a strong feeling of identity and pride in being an Indian and didn't experience discrimination until her teens when she was one of a few Native students in high school. Describing her father as hardworking and non-drinking and her ex-husband as "English and white", Norma says it was the Human Rights Commission which revealed a lot of problems of Native people she was never really exposed to. She then became involved in her "first Native organization", the Prince Albert Indian and Metis Friendship Centre. Since then Norma has participated in numerous Native and Women's groups, holding such positions as the local and provincial treasurer for the Saskatchewan Native Women Association, board member for the national Native Women in Ottawa, the Action Committee Status of Women, advisory committee for Pre-Employment Exploration for Women, and board membership for the Friendship Centre and the Prince Albert Legal Aid Society.

Norma feels the most serious problem of Native people today is their lack of education. This she feels is due to the racist and negative curriculum which still

Photo by Arlo Yuzicapi



Norma Green works for the Human Rights Commission in Prince Albert.

exists in most schools. Because the curriculum and the majority of schools do not help promote a positive self-image within Native people, these students do not feel good about themselves and as a result, drop-out. The schools often overlooks negative stereotypes of Indians, she believes. The different economic situation of many Native people also contributes to social problems of students in terms of clothes, lunches and home environment, she adds.

Norma believes the goal of keeping Indian and Metis students in school can be achieved through a number of ways. Workshops with parents, teachers and counsellors to examine the needs of Native children adolescents would be a start, she says, adding "Native parents have to give their children a lot of encouragement to enjoy and continue school and teachers/counsellors have to be more sensitive and aware of Indian students culture and any problems." Quite often, she continues, the parents feel quite intimidated by teachers and schools (due to their own negative experiences) and if they did become more involved with school activities, the kids would become more encouraged if they had their parents' support. She recalls a time when her intervention prevented an insensitive teacher from hassling and failing her son. A lot of times a student will quit because he/she misinterprets their parents' intimidation, she says.

Besides communications workshops, Norma also recommends more Native counsellors be visible to the students in addition to peer counselling as one Regina school is piloting where the students counsel each other quite successfully.

In her present position, Norma investigates complaints of discrimination in the following areas: race, creed, religion, colour, sex, marital status, physical disability, age, nationality, ancestry, and place of origin. As well, complaints of discriminations and denial of rights in employment, housing, public accommodation (restaurants, hotels, theatres), education, civil liberties and against publications which "ridicule or affront a person's dignity" are examined. Although 25-30 miscellaneous complaints are received a month, only 20 or so formal complaints go the distance, which can range anywhere from 2-8 months depending on the severity.

For each case, Norma must start out being totally unbiased and objective, and to quote from the Human Rights code "each case must be viewed with a critical eye and understanding heart." A great deal of her work involves interpreting this code. A preliminary investigation is then conducted to determine if there are reasonable grounds to believe the code has been violated. Norma stresses the need for a lot of evidence, much like court. If reasonable grounds are established, the complainant then files a formal complaint in which she views all evidence to see if it supports or does not support the complaint of discrimination. Norma then will inform her director of the results and settlement if the evidence is sufficient. Settlements are usually based on prior cases. People filing the complaints are also free to appeal any on the decisions whereby it will be referred to a Board of Inquiry with one to three members to rule.

A typical example of discrimination could be an unqualified non-Native person receiving a job where a qualified Native person also applied. As simple as it appears, this type of case has to be weighed carefully, Norma says. She also receives complaints from Native people regarding police brutality or harassment which is also difficult to prove. She feels this is because the complainants are often intimidated or hold a defeatist attitude from past convictions or because alcohol was involved.

Despite her heavy workload, Norma feels her job is her most rewarding accomplishment in life thus far. By fighting for and winning cases that grants equal and human rights for Native people, women and handicapped people, she feels she is really doing something positive for society. Her future goals, outside of continuing in what she terms as a most challenging job, might include formal law classes but at this point in her career she is quite satisfied. Norma is currently raising two of her children. □

Native American Flute Music By R. Carlos Nakai

Phoenix, Arizona - R. Carlos Nakai, an American Indian of Navajo-Ute descent, has captured the

haunting and timeless sounds of the Native American flute in his first album, called "Changes".

"Changes" is a collection of fourteen songs composed and arranged by Nakai. All songs are performed on a wooden, hand-crafted Native American flute by Nakai without accompaniment. The songs reflect a diversity of sources and inspiration, ranging from arrangements of traditional Lakota Sioux, Blood and Zuni melodies to impressionistic original compositions that remain true to the traditions of

Native American music.

"Changes" has been generating strong interest across the country," remarked Raymond Boley of Canyon Records, the prime distributor of Nakai's album. "People are drawn to the haunting, natural quality and distinctive American Indian sound of Nakai's music. Museums, art galleries and craft shops from Boston to Los Angeles are selling 'Changes' by playing it for visitors and customers as they browse. The reaction is quickly favorable. We expect the response in Europe to be similar."

R. Carlos Nakai, who has studied and played the Native American flute for the past ten years, currently teaches and demonstrates various aspects of American Indian traditions for museums, civic groups and schools throughout Arizona. His lectures and demonstrations cover such topics as crafts and herbology to spiritual values and music to culture and lifestyle.

Nakai holds a degree in education from Northern Arizona University and is a veteran of service in the U.S. Navy. Nakai broadened his understanding of the Native American culture by living, studying and working with members of different tribes. He studied beadwork, featherwork, crafts and Southern style singing and dancing with the Kiowa, leatherwork and beadwork with the Cheyenne, and Northern style singing and dancing with the Blood Indians of Canada.

As a performer and composer, Nakai strives to retain traditional sounds and styles of the Native American flute while exploring the creative possibilities. Thus, "Changes" is authentically ethnic, authentically American Indian yet original and personal, modern yet within the rich heritage of American Indian music.

"Changes", an album of Native American flute music created and performed by R. Carlos Nakai, is available on cassette and is distributed in Canada by Prairie Crafts, 215 Wall Street, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 1N5. Distribution in the United States is by Canyon Records and Indian Arts, 4143 North 16th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85016. □



Image of a Northwestern Saskatchewan Village - Buffalo Narrows

by Vye Bouvier

Introduction:

The Churchill River, a long and spectacular river system, runs through northern Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba to Hudson Bay. Lakes, big and small, are interspersed along this river system. Most of the villages located on the shores of the larger lakes are Indian and Metis villages. In this article of a village in northwestern Saskatchewan, I will try to give a picture of the village as it is in the present, and the events in the history of the village which brought it to where it is today.

Buffalo Narrows

Buffalo narrows, a village of 1,200 is located on Churchill Lake.

According to, *A History of Buffalo Narrows*, "the community of Buffalo Narrows begin to exist when Martial Kiezie, along with his wife Charlotte Harper and his brother Pat, became the first permanent settlers in 1895". Martial and Pat were Cree from Cold Lake, Alberta, and Charlotte was Dene from Fort Resolution.

The village started out with a few Metis families, who moved in from neighbouring northern Saskatchewan and northern Alberta villages. Fishing and mink ranching attracted many men of Norwegian ancestry, European and Canadian, to this area. Many of these men married Metis women from northern Saskatchewan and northern Alberta and settled in Buffalo Narrows. It is not only the fishing, the mink ranching, the government offices, the plane companies, and the uranium mining that have shaped Buffalo Narrows. The people, mainly of Metis and Norwegian ancestry, have made this village unique.

I talked with a woman whose father was one of the first Norwegian men to come to Buffalo Narrows. Her mother, a Cree Metis woman, was originally from Green Lake. Mary Pederson Hansen saw Buffalo Narrows grow from a village of a hundred to a village of one thousand.

Richard Waite's father built the fish plant in the early 1940's. The first fish plant built burnt down, but the building that replaced it is still operating.

I met with three members of the Buffalo Narrows Native Women's Association. From this meeting I got a social perspective of the community through the eyes of these women.

I talked with Ross McLeod, the manager at the local village office. McLeod has been in this position for nine years. In this interview, McLeod relates his idea of the function of the village council and its history.

Luke Jeddrie is the manager of the local radio station. I asked him what function the radio station served in the community.

Mary Hansen

"For enjoyment", Mary Hansen recalled, "we used to ride on toboggans pulled by dog teams. That and horseback riding". This to someone of her generation did not seem very impressive. To any young person now living in Buffalo Narrows, these two activities would be very exciting.

She was born in Buffalo Narrows in 1930. Her mother was Celina Laliberte, a Metis woman from Green Lake. Her father was Tom Pederson, a Norwegian who was the first white settler in Buffalo Narrows.

The house in which Mary grew up was situated where the bar is now located. This house was a two story log house, which was heated by a wood furnace in the basement. They obtained electricity from a power plant. When Mary was eleven, this house burnt down. A frame house was built at the same site. Mary lived with her parents until she was eighteen.

Tom was recognized as the first settler when a big party was held for him. One of his achievements, as told by Mary, is that he cleared a lot of land. Tom had horses, goats and a cow. After the party Tom and Celina moved to a smaller house. John Hansen and Mary, when they married, bought the Pederson's house. It was later sold to a man from Saskatoon, who built a bar on the site.



Mary Hansen - Buffalo Narrows

Mary attended the school in Buffalo Narrows until she was in grade five. Her parents sent her to Canwood for the next grade. She was so lonesome, her father had to travel there in the early spring to pick her up. She describes the incredible journey, most of it on foot from Canwood to Buffalo Narrows. "Narciss Merasty brought us by horseteam, he guided us to Beauval. Our suitcases were in the wagon and we walked behind the team. From Beauval, we got a ride with Daniel Daigneault to Ile-a-la-Crosse. From Ile-a-la-Crosse we walked to Deep River to Joe Walzer's place. We stayed overnight. Frank Maurice and Harry McCallum of Buffalo Narrows met us here and took us back by dog team and boat. Where it was still frozen, we used the dog team, and where it was open we used the boat. I spent my twelfth birthday on that road. In muskeg we walked in water up to our knees. We would take chances walking across logs over creeks". While she was in Canwood, she lived at Carl Andersons, who were friends of her parents.

In those days, chores for a thirteen year old were quite different. Mary would use a horse to haul water, at 25 cents a barrel for 45 gallons of water. This was her spending money. Mary had to milk 16 goats and one cow. As a child, Mary when she spent time on the lake, used a rowboat. Her father had an evinrude motor and one of his boats was a big house boat.

In 1949, at eighteen, Mary married John Hansen. They lived in the village for one year; they then sold their house and moved to Cree Lake to live a life of trapping and fishing for seventeen years. John had moved to Cree Lake in 1946 and while he was there, he had built a log house. While John and Mary lived in Cree Lake, their children stayed in boarding schools in Ile-a-la-Crosse and Timber Bay.

John and Mary and their children moved back to Buffalo Narrows in 1967. They bought a cafe which belonged to Richard White, and who had rented it out to Tom Derr. They ran the cafe for five years, giving it up in 1972. There weren't enough people going through the village to use the cafe. The house that Mary and her family are presently living in, was once the cafe. Today, John Hansen runs a laundromat which is attached to the front of the house.

There is only one family now at Cree Lake, Lawrence John and his family. In the 1960's there were: Joe Gunn, Alfred Montgrand, Clement John, George Black and four others who are now dead: William Bernard, Antoine Bernard, Alec Wolverine and Isaac Black. Most of these people were from Patuanak and are now living there.

John fishes during the winter and summer. At one time, there was only winter fishing, and in the summer the men would work at relief work, that is: cutting line, putting up telegraph wire, cutting roads. At

times, John would have eight to nine men fishing for him. This year, he has found out he has arthritis, and he has decided to make it his last year at fishing north of Buffalo Narrows, at Cree Lake and the surrounding area. He'll fish in nearby lakes, probably camping on Clear Lake. Clear Lake was once a small community before the people moved to what is now Turnor Lake. John bought a piece of land at Clear Lake, from the Roman Catholic bishop. The land has a church sitting on it, which John has renovated to make a comfortable home.

Mary has also travelled in the north. She has taken a trip to Stony Rapids by way of a plane and then by a boat. A plane took them from Buffalo Narrows to Engeman Lake. From there they travelled by boat and outboard motor to Stony Rapids. Mary describes it as, "a beautiful trip, which took twenty-three days. It could have taken us less time, but John was trapping. He got over 400 rats."

In 1979, Mary, John and one of their daughters took another kind of trip. They travelled to Cuba over the Christmas holidays.

Mary's work, outside the home, has been commercial cooking. Mary cooked for Vicky Pedersen's Cafe in 1979. She also worked at the Buffalo Narrows Cafe when her sister Rosie was managing it. She has completed formal training in commercial cooking at the Westside Community College in Buffalo Narrows. She has cooked in Buffalo Narrows for a construction crew and for the Department of Highways. Her one commercial cooking job out of Buffalo Narrows was up on Rio Lake, between Uranium City and Stony Rapids. She cooked in a tent for a Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation crew. She left after a month because she didn't like the idea of being away from home from June until December with only two days out. This spring, Mary will be back at work with the Department of Highways.

Richard Waite

Richard Waite's father, Len Waite, introduced the method of filleting fish as a method of processing fish in Saskatchewan. In the 1930's, he built the first fish processing plant in the province. This first plant was built at Big River, and a second one was built at Dore Lake. Dore Lake went from a B lake to an A lake, which meant that you didn't have to process fish out of Dore, because it was export fish. Dore plant dismantled and it was moved to Cree Lake in 1956 and 57.

Richard's grandfather, John, emigrated to Canada from England. He came to Big River to work in the lumber operation. He left that to haul fish by horse and sleigh. He had teams for freighting. He also had a farm in Big River. His son, Len, grew up in Big River. Len worked for his father driving teams and fishing. They fished on Dore Lake. At that time, fishing was a winter operation. Fish was hauled by horse team to Big River. The fish could be kept in storage there for a couple of weeks or months in refrigerated box cars, and then shipped by train from Big River to the states.

Fishing was strictly a winter operation in Saskatchewan, until Len Waite built processing plants. His idea was that he'd fillet the fish, and keep them frozen until they got to market. Richard Waite suspects that the idea probably originated from the buyers from the states. Len knew fish brokers and fish companies in the states. Some would come to Big River. Others, he met on his trips south or in telephone conversations.

Len Waite was in the air force for five or six years. In 1939, he taught flying in Prince Albert in the Elementary Training School. He came up to Buffalo Narrows in the thirties. The first fish plant, that Len built in Buffalo Narrows stood where Athabasca Airways is now located. It was built in the early 40's and burnt down in the winter of 1950. It was rebuilt by the church in March of 1951. It was a better location as there was more shelter in the channel. This plant is still there.

In the early years of the fishing industry, a reefer barge hauled from in the summer, from Buffalo Narrows down the river to Fort Black or Beauval. From there, the fish was loaded into trucks and quickly hauled to storage facilities at Waite Fisheries in Big River. The fish was then shipped by train to New York and Chicago.

The head office for the Buffalo Narrows fish plant was in Big River. Len Waite hired managers Frank Nordstrom and Eric Kriek to run the plant in Buffalo Narrows. Len visited Buffalo Narrows but never lived there. A lot of people from the Canwood area worked for him as fishermen and bombardier drivers.

Richard came to Buffalo Narrows to help build the new plant in 1951. He learned refrigeration when they were building the plant. In 1954, he took his pilot's license at the Prince Albert flying club. He flew fish to and from the plant in Buffalo Narrows and sometimes drove bombardier. The plant had six bombardiers at one time, with a driver for each one. Some of the drivers were from Buffalo Narrows.

The bombardiers would go as far as Cree Lake, about 160 miles by bush trail at about 20 to 25 miles per hour. Planes were first used in the late 40's for hauling fish from isolated lakes like Cree Lake and Black Birch. The plant started out with one or two planes. In the late 40's, the plant owned two models. The Wacco and the Tiger Moth, which was a trainer plane for the air force and the size of a 185. The Tiger Moth was bought from the government when the Prince Albert school closed down. In the late 40's, Waite Fisheries owned four norsemans (norsemans were in between the size of an otter and beaver). The first norsemans bought by Waite's plant was the first norsemans built; serial no. 1. Also, in the 40's, the plant acquired three ansons. These planes were also like trainers and were twin light bombers. A fairchild 82 crashed on Lac Ile-a-la-Crosse in the 40's. Waite's didn't have all these planes at one time, and as Richard Waite puts it, "the odd one crashed".

In the late 40's and early 50's, Waite's Fisheries had 5 or 6 planes. The pilots were: George Greening, Jim Barber, Tommy McCloy and Cal Finlayson. Greening had been in the airforce with Len Waite. Barber had also been in the airforce, and had flown a Lancaster in World War II. When Saskatchewan Government Airways was started, Waite's Fisheries sold the aircraft to the government. Richard now flies a Cessna 180, it is a company plane, which only he flies. By coincidence, the registration on the plane is his father's initials LJW.

Richard has seen a real change in the transportation of fish. Fish were first taken south by horse teams during the winter. Later, caterpillar tractor "swings" (a "swing" was about 4 sleighs and a caboose) and then trucks hauled the fish in winter. In the summer, refrigerated barges took the fish from Buffalo Narrows to Fort Black or Beauval. A truck picked it up here and took the fish from there to Big River. In Big River, the fish would be placed in a holding room. At this stage, the fish may have been out of the freezer for five or six days. Fish doesn't thaw out in that period of time. The fish was placed in the freezer to "tighten it out". Lakes inaccessible by road had the fish flown out either to Buffalo Narrows or flown directly to Big River.

As well as selling to American markets, Richard sold to local markets such as Swifts, Burns, Canada Packers, Inter-continental and to some markets in Alberta. In winter there were mail order markets. A circular containing price lists was mailed to all the farmers in the province.

After Richard's father's death, and after some of the older managers had retired, Richard settled in Buffalo Narrows to manage the plant. Richard still flies periodically but he doesn't haul fish any more. The Big River Waite Fisheries is now just a packing and refrigeration plant. There is still a certain amount of fish that comes into Buffalo Narrows by plane. One of the lakes that still is accessible only by plane is Pasfield, north of Cree Lake and Thompson.

The Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation was established in 1969. Waite's Fishery processed fish for FFMC for approximately five or six years. They were still processing fish in the early 70's. Because of high costs, the company decided to give up processing and to pack for the FFMC. The plant has been packing for FFMC since then.

The establishment of the FFMC made a difference to the plant and to about 30 people who lost their jobs when the plant gave up processing fish. Where once there were 40 people employed at processing fish, in the summer there are now about 8 workers weighing and packing fish. In the winter there are 4 workers. A large number of the plant employees were women. Today, there are a few fishermen in the winter and relatively many in the summer. Waite said that today, the increase or decrease in the number of fishermen is unpredictable. When there are jobs available, fewer people fish.

Ross McLeod

Until the 30's, there was no real settlement in Buffalo Narrows. People lived on islands and at the mouth of the river. In the 30's, the first school was

opened and a new church was built. Before that, the church, which had been built by Father Moreau was a log building. The highway north reached Buffalo Narrows in 1957.

Before the 60's, there was a ratepayer's association. This was an advisory group from the community, whose main job was to build and maintain streets. Of this group, the chairman was the head resources officer (the Department of Natural Resources). The DNR provided funding although it was very little. The Local Community Authorities and the Local Advisory Councils were started in 1967-68.

Commercial fishing was once the mainstay of the economy of Buffalo Narrows. It's been dropping off for the last ten years. If the government drops their transportation subsidy for the fish that is flown in from isolated lakes, I think the fishermen fishing the "fly lakes" won't be able to afford to fish. We have about six fairly big fishermen and about fifty others who make it a part of their livelihood.

The first boost to our economy was the building of the Distant Early Warning (DEW) radar line, which was built in the early 1950's. The American and the Canadian governments built it to detect Russian planes if they should fly over. While the radar line was being built there were airforce helicopters up here. There were a lot of people travelling around in the two years the line was being built. The radar units were self-contained. There were fuel tanks, diesel generators, a bunkhouse or two, a machine repair shed and a radar tower with an antennae on it. There were a lot of people working during the construction stage. The people of Buffalo Narrows were not employed in building the radar line. The economic benefits were in the sales made by the stores and the business done in the cafes. Once in operation, a few workers were left behind to fly to each radar unit to see if they were working. No one was stationed there, only the maintenance crew came and went. A little money was spent at the time, it was a passing thing. The closest radar unit was straight south at Kazan Lake. Another one was built behind the town of Michelle Village. Another one was built at the end of La Loche Lake and there was one at Fort Black, near Ile-a-la-Crosse. Shortly after the building of the radar stations, the government started building a road from Beauval to Buffalo Narrows.

There was a co-op sawmill in the early 60's. The Department of Natural Resources took it over. It operated for ten years. The sawmill was not efficient and the costs were too great to produce lumber. All dimensions of lumber and boards for fish boxes were made in the mill.

The role of the village council is to maintain village facilities such as streets and street lights and sewer and water. The Buffalo Narrows village council is more an administrative unit than a political body involved beyond the community.

About eight years ago when the Local Community Authority (LCA which was then the name of the village council) would grade the gravel streets, the LCA kept street lights up and picked up garbage. In 1975, the LCA grant was \$30,000. In 1984, the same kind of grant is in excess of \$400,000. There is a staff of eleven with one part time worker, a recreation director, three in the office and outside workers. The paved highway running through the village is the responsibility of the Department of Highways. The other streets are maintained by the village's grader and caterpillar.

The main difference in changing the name of the community from LCA to village is that in the last two years, with the death of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS), no more municipal work is done by project management of DNS. There is no more joint funding between the provincial government and the village or hamlet councils. Three years ago the Buffalo Narrows LCA jointly funded the creation of a subdivision with DNS. The council paid \$200,000, as their share of 40% of the total expense. The subdivision was to create lots for a building. DNS refused to fund the entire cost at this time. The total cost of putting in a street and putting in a powerline was \$475,000.

Changing from an LCA to a village hasn't changed us that much. We have been basically following what is now the new act. There is the difference, that now you can issue the debentures to borrow money providing you have the approval of the Local Government Board in Regina. The limit to our loans depend on our assessment and the ability to pay money back. We receive a per capita grant (ie. so much per person), a small extra amount, an unconditional grant which we spend on community business, and revenue funds from property taxes (which depend on the number of houses and lots).



Susan Leitch at the Buffalo Narrows radio station

You, also now have to go to a wider number of departments for things. Instead of going only to DNS in northern Saskatchewan, you now have to go to urban affairs in either Prince Albert, North Battleford or Regina.

We are on the same rules as the south had. However, we don't have the infrastructure in the community that southern villages have had for 50 to 75 years. We don't have sidewalks and paved streets. We don't have the money for these things; we need other things more. We are presently planning a new curling rink and a new village hall. A skating rink was just finished.

Buffalo Narrows was the DNS regional headquarters for Northwestern Saskatchewan for various government agencies. Most government jobs are now held by local people, except for trained or supervisory jobs. In the residence at the Westside Community College the cooks and cleaning staff are local people. In the last three years the community college has provided fair assistance in job training. There are 20 employees, including instructors. Training should have been started ten years ago. The college trains cooks, welders and mechanics.

A lot of people worked in the uranium mine during the construction phase. And since the mine has been in operation, roughly ten Buffalo Narrows people have worked in each mine. If another mine were built, other people would qualify for jobs. The mines provide a certain amount of training. Men are trained as heavy equipment operators, millworkers, and in construction.

I first came to Buffalo Narrows, when I was stationed here to work for Imperial Oil.

Luke Jedry - CIBN Radio

CIBN did a day's survey of the CIBN listener's to see whether the radio station should continue operating or not. All 400 questionnaires returned wanted to see CIBN continue operating.

CIBN is owned by the Buffalo Narrows Broadcasting Corporation. The station runs on public support and local advertising. The radio station obtained a license from CRTC in 1981. Since August, Luke Jedry has been the manager and the only person who works full time at the station. A volunteer, Susan Leitch, comes in for afternoon rock music.

CIBN uses old equipment. There is a small mixer and ordinary turntable. The radio station has a 10 watt transmitter, which can be picked up on a 12-15 milke radius with an aerial.

This is an example of CIBN's programming day:

- 7 a.m. - News, weather and sports
- 7 - 8 a.m. - morning music country
- 8 - 11 a.m. - weather and sports, music country
- 11 a.m. - public service announcements and radio bingo
- 11:15 a.m. - music country
- 12 p.m. - news, weather and sports
- 12:15 p.m. - music (mixed)
- 12:30 p.m. - moments of meditation (religious)
- 1 - 2:30 p.m. - country music
- 2:30 - 4 p.m. - rock music
- 4 - 5 p.m. - top country hits
- 5 - 6 p.m. - mellow and pop music
- 6 p.m. - weather and sign off

Jedry feels that the station serves mainly an entertainment and public service announcement role in the community. Jedry determines what is to be on the program. He says that having worked as a country and western singer, he feels most comfortable with a program of music. With a station the size of CIBN, Jedry says there aren't that many decisions to make. He does not feel he has the "expertise" to put out news. Controversial political topics are not touched.

The station's bulletins come in useful, when kids are lost. Stray cats and dogs have also been found. Messages are sent out to trappers in outlying areas.

The Native Women's Movement

I talked with three women from the Native Women's Movement: Doreen Larsen, Linda Pedersen and Gladys Hansen.

I attended a panel discussion held by the Native Women's Association, which was on the problems of youth. The following workers were on the panel: social service worker, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and a psychiatric nurse. Twenty six women attended the meeting.

The next day I talked with Doreen Hansen at her place of work, where she teaches math. Doreen had been the provincial representative at the Native Women's Annual Meeting in Saskatoon in November. She is the Native Women's Association representative in the northwest area.

Doreen feels that the Native Women's Associations in the north and south have different priorities. "We are dealing still with education and parenting, when they're more interested in the constitution."

Doreen's solution to divided communities is for communities to work together, and for the people within communities to get together in solving social ills. "I think people are realizing they have something to offer. Working on problems, they'll get enough confidence to get involved in something else. The turn out at the last nights meeting was more than the usual five or six women. In working with the problems of youth, we have gotten the parents involved. Now, we are going to the youth."

Our goal for Native Women is concern for the community. Native Women is trying to get a place set up that will help the community. We'd like to organize a crisis or community centre. A crisis centre would deal only with problems, and would have counsellors available. The community centre would be a place to socialize.

The Native Women's group came by its name by being affiliated with the provincial Native Women's Association. The Buffalo Narrows Native Women's Association includes men in its events and meetings; however, because of its affiliation with the provincial group, men cannot sit on the board. Doreen says that the local Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) involves women in their activities.

Doreen says, "Native women are parents; we're more concerned about what affects our community and our families, rather than the world. Concern over the drug problems of the young, before we're concerned with Trudeau or the PC". This Native women's group has a "clean your own back yard approach" in that problems in the community are dealt with first. When the communities problems are solved then we'll worry about the outer world.

The Native Women's Association had a grant for six months from January 1983 until June 1983. Eileen McAllister, who had done a lot of the work to organize the group, was the first co-ordinator. A secretary and a field worker were also hired. After the group found an office, a drop-in center was opened. An assertiveness training and a counselling workshop were held. Dan Sidia taught the assertiveness training and Dorothy Ewart the counselling. The grant is now gone, but there is money remaining for three workshops. Two workshops are being considered: parent effectiveness training and lifeskills. Energies are being focussed mainly on youth and parenting. The group is trying to get funding for a crisis center.

Linda, when asked why she is involved with the Native women's group, replied, "Youth. There has to be something for them to do. They need more recreational activities rather than to walk the streets."

Gladys would like to be involved, "for women". "So many women don't know where to turn, they think that they're the only ones that have the problem, they don't realize other people have the same problems. Maybe, with a Native women's office, women would open up to other women and find some help." □



Left to Right: Linda Pedersen and Doreen Hansen of the Buffalo Narrows Native Women's Association

A Woman in Moosetown

by Vye Bouvier

Home in the Bush

Yes, it was winter all right. Time to wear underwear and hoods. It was like walking on air; walking in snowshoes. The sky was the blue of a clear thirty below celsius.

Up ahead, there is movement in a rabbit snare, my mother had set. Oh no, not a live one. Yes and staring at me with naked fear. Why me? "Well now waa-push," I address the frightened rabbit, "life or death?" I gently release the shaking animal. We are all trapped animals at some time.

Not all forest folk were philosophers, but it was circumstance that had landed me here. What a thing to say. We never choose where we go, we just pop on to the scene. One universal minute I am born in Moosetown, Northern Saskatchewan; another minute I'm in the forest talking to a rabbit. What a coincidence! No use being cynical. If I had my choice, I'd spend my time studying the eating habits of the snail or some star in a distant galaxy. Some people do that. They probably learn more than us crazy seekers who get sidetracked.

Back to the house. I'll walk along the lake to pick dry willows for kindling. The house is well heated with a wood cookstove and an airtight wood heater. And it is wonderful to live three miles from Moosetown, on an island.

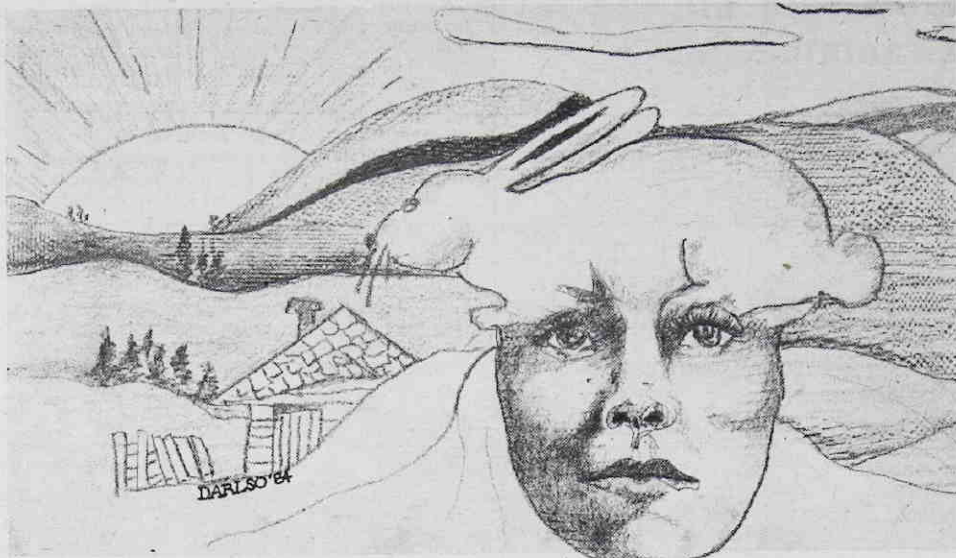
My five year old sister jumps out from behind the door when I enter. She had been waiting for me. "Did you see a rabbit?" she asks. "Yes, and it saw me," I laugh. "Where is it?" "Oh, I let it go back to what it was doing. It was alive in the snare and it wanted to hop." How to explain this to a child without making people the lords of animals. "Where will it go?"; Sandra's view of the world knew no limits. "Home." "Julia, will you tell me a story?" I had spoiled Sandy with my happy fantasies of what the world is like. "At bedtime, love, let me read a bit, okay?"

Sandy spoke Cree, unlike most children on the mainland. When it was time for her to attend school on the mainland, she would learn to speak English, like her sisters who were there living with aunts, uncles and grandparents. Of our ten sisters, six had left the village to either live elsewhere with mates or to pursue interests that existed outside the village. I had returned because I was too broke to attend the University of Farmers Province. Dammit, I'd been on my way to studying the evolution of the sex life of the snail.

My father, Marcel, enters the room to ask about the snare. I repeat the story in adult lingo, kid's lingo was more fun. The world was warm, exciting and wonderful in a kid's eyes. I had never forgotten the stories my mother had told me about her time in the bush.

My father had lost a leg in the billion dollar uranium mine. Finally, the government had named one of its most prized enterprises after something it worshipped. Eagle Lake, no longer needed a name, as it had been drained to create the biggest uranium mine in the world. Most of us had never seen it, it was guarded by the huge company which shared ownership with the government.

My father, who had spent most of his life fishing and trapping, now walked through the forest with



one artificial leg. As artificial as the compensation he received from the mine. Being a runner, I would have asked for all the billions for a leg. A leg, speed, motion, sitting in yoga positions; legs. My father had been checking his muskrat traps yesterday. Right now, he was whittling a whistle for Sandy.

Marie, my mother, was knitting wool socks for the sisters who attended school. Christmas was coming, they could hang their new socks. "Knit mine huge," I tease. "You do have the biggest feet," replies a mother who must have the last laugh. Life on the island would be too serious without my mother's comical view of the world. There are funny things that happen on islands.

Only the crackling of the fire disturbed the silence as we sat down to supper. Marcel had made his special dish, moose rubaboo. Marie had made strawberry pie. What more could a person ask? Well, myself, nothing short of my biggest fantasy. But this would do for now. Sandy raised a fuss wanting pie first. Her curiosity distracts her, "did the moose look at you, when you shot him?" she asks of Marcel. "No, I got him while he wasn't looking," replies my uncomfortable father.

After dishes, I settle down to ponder my very intellectual book, with my dictionary by my side. One idea and one page later, I stare at the frost on the window panes. This book would be good for kindling. Around here, people would say it would be good for ass-wipe, but this book was even too thick for that. My mind was slowly but surely rotting. I am picturing my friend Anne. I met her before I came home. I can hear her laughing at everything. A view of the world I share. I miss the company of independent, crazy women. Around here, I'm the only woman over twenty five who doesn't need a child or a man. I may as well be on Pluto. The Plutonians may have a world of wombs rebelling against pure function.

This book is too much, so are my thoughts. I'll pick on Marcel. "Marcel, did you say the uncle Albert paid five horses for aunt Sarah?" "No!" Marcel was annoyed. "It wasn't quite like that. He did give my father five horses, but it was common then to give your daughter's hand to a good provider."

"Oh, so as long as a man could stuff your daughter, it didn't matter whether he could feed her spiritually or her sexual appetite?" I loved a good fight with

my father. "Julia!", my mother usually ignored us, but she was afraid of what was to come. "I was just kidding," I reassure her. "Dad, you know I love those stories, they're too much to be truly sad. Five horses to sleep with someone. Merdre." I loved to use French "swears" as Sandy would say. The little tad was waiting for me to say an "F" word or an "S" word. Sandy would only say the first letter of her "swears." Little or big, we would sometimes entertain ourselves in unacceptable ways. Call it the wish to be rejected for a second. "Julia, will you tell me a story, now?"

"This is the tale of the rabbit who went out to explore the world. What'll we call the rabbit? Anos? Today?...okay. Anos, left her parents and eight brothers and sisters, to make her way through the woods. She met muskrats and beavers by the river. She ran from wolves and coyotes on the ground and hawks, eagles and owls in the air. She spent a lot of time running. She ran so hard, she passed by everything she had set out to explore on her own. Then, one day, she ran into a snare that some crazy woman had set. Anos could run no more. She had to sit there and stare at the snow and the spruce trees. A Labrador plant stared straight at her. Now, she could see very clearly, what she had been going through. While she was very still, no flying or prowling creatures found her. She was white like the snow, no longer a tumbling snowball. One day, big eyes within a circle of wolf fur looked down on her. A huge creature reached down with her big mitts. Anos closed her eyes. "This is it," she despaired. Nothing happened. "Nothing like contemplating Labrador plants some more," thought the desperate rabbit. Seconds passed. No hand on her throat. Nobody waited this long to die. She couldn't keep her eyes closed any longer. "Adventurers faced things," she reassured herself. She was free! She could have been rabbit stew for those big creatures. But here she was, ready to run. And she had learned that when you are still sometimes, you can see more than when you are always running." Sandy had fallen asleep.

I wish someone would tell me a story tonight. The world is so still and I want to run. But, you don't run into a trap to escape a vacuum. I will have to stare back at the Labrador plants and the night, to find my woman dream. □



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Regina, Saskatchewan

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How Safe Are Uranium Mines?

by Diana Leis

Experts who work for the uranium companies and the government are always telling us that uranium mines are safe. They tell us that spills of millions of litres of water contaminated with radium 226 as much as 120 times the 'safe' level will not harm us. They tell us this contaminated water is safe to drink and to swim in. They tell us these spills will not leak into the rivers and lakes to pollute them for millions of years. They tell us it is safe to take uranium from the bottom of Wollaston Lake. They tell workers they are in no danger when they dig the radioactive uranium from the ground, crush it in the mills, and

in the fetus is killed or damaged, the child may be born deformed, or with a heart problem or other abnormalities. This child may be normal, but it may have a damaged cell (gene) that it can pass on to its children.

These particles may remain in the body for 15 to 30 years before they do any damage. They cannot be felt or seen. Neither the person affected nor a doctor can tell if a person has these particles inside them.

Alpha and beta particles are carried through the air in 'radon gas or uranium daughters'. The only protection from these particles would be completely air-tight face masks, clothing suits, and cabs on machines. It is almost impossible to make a face mask or a machine cab that would stop all these particles. They are so small they can attach to a piece of dust and go through air filters. Even the mining company scientists said at the Key Lake Hearings, it is very dif-

ficult to filter out all these particles. Remember, even one small particle will damage a cell.

Spills along the way will release radiation. The rocks that are not used are called tailings. These tailings still contain 85% of the radioactivity. They will release radiation for millions of years. The alpha and beta particles will travel in the air and radium 226 will get into the water, soil, plants, and animals. When we drink this water and eat this food, radium 226 will get into us to cause cancers and diseases in us and possibly deformities and diseases in our future children. For some reason, people suffer more from cancer than animals. Children and babies are more affected from radiation because their cells are still dividing and growing.

Government departments have set standards for workers' safety and the protection of the environment. These standards allow a worker to receive 5 rems (5000 millirems) of total radiation in one year. Workers should work for only short periods in areas



clean up these highly radioactive spills.

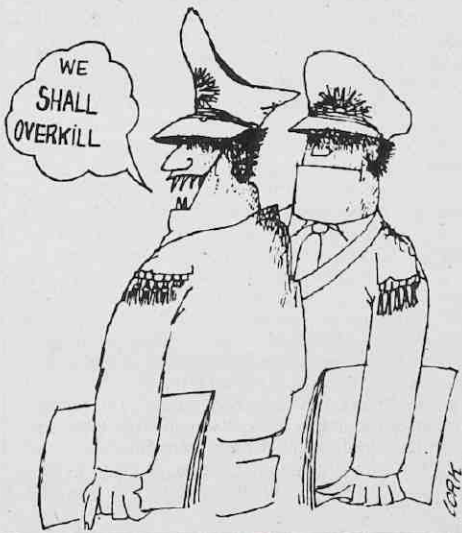
What do they tell us about radioactivity and radiation? How much of what they do tell us can we believe? How safe are these mines for workers, the environment, and all of us who live in Saskatchewan?

Uranium is a natural material that is radioactive. This means that the atoms are constantly breaking down into another material which is usually radioactive. When this breakdown occurs, a powerful electrical charge is called radiation.

We often hear people who work for the mining companies telling us there is 'natural radiation' from the uranium before it is mined. Uranium, in its natural state, is inside rocks buried deep under the ground. The rocks prevent the radioactive materials from escaping. When these rocks are dug from the ground and crushed in the mill, the radioactive materials are then released.

If the electrical charges (radiation) enter our body, they can destroy or damage our cells. This can cause us to develop cancers. This can also make our bodies weak so we may get other diseases more easily. We may also grow old faster.

There are three types of radiation at a uranium mine. Gamma rays can shoot through the body to injure organs (body parts) and cells. Only several inches of lead can slow down the gamma rays. Lead suits worn by the workers or machine cabs lined with lead may prevent some radiation from gamma rays. Alpha and beta rays can be stopped by a piece of paper, but the alpha and beta particles are very small and they can get into the body by breathing, swallowing, or through the skin. Ionizing radiation from alpha and beta rays is the most dangerous. Once inside the body, these particles are likely to do permanent damage. They may kill or damage cells inside the body. Damage to even one cell can cause cancer. If an alpha particle is breathed into the lungs, a person may get lung cancer. If a person swallows an alpha or beta particle, it will travel through the blood and cause cancer wherever it stays. If particles get into the skin, they can cause skin cancer. These particles can travel to the unborn body (fetus) in a mother. If a cell



difficult to filter out all these particles. Remember, even one small particle will damage a cell.

Which places at the mines are the most dangerous? The pit where the ore is dug from and the mill where the ore is crushed release the most radon gas and gamma rays. Underground mines have more radon gas because the gas cannot escape. All places at the mine are dangerous because the radiation released from the pit, mill, and tailings can travel in the air, on contaminated clothing and equipment, and in the water.

No one in Saskatchewan or even Canada is guaranteed safety from this radiation. Only .1% of the uranium rock is used. This .1% pure uranium is made into yellowcake in the mill at the mine. This yellowcake is hauled on trucks from Key Lake, Cluff Lake, and Rabbit Lake to Saskatoon and from there to On-

where radiation is high. Mining companies are supposed to monitor workers and the workplace and provide protective equipment to be sure workers do not receive more than the allowable radiation. The Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada stated in 1982 that all radiation workers in mines and mills should wear thermo luminescent dosimeter (TLP) badges at all times while at work. These TLP badges measure the amount of gamma rays. These badges are supposed to be sent to the Radiation Protection Bureau in Ottawa to be read. Workers have the right to know these readings. These badges can also warn a worker when radiation levels are too high. A worker has the right to refuse to work in areas where radiation is too high. The Occupational Health and Safety Act of Saskatchewan states that the employer must provide, without loss of pay, other temporary work where a worker has been over-exposed and that a temporary removal will enable the worker to resume his usual work.

Radon gas and radon daughter levels are measured at different places and times by the Department of the Environment. These measurements may have many errors because the levels of radiation will be different at all areas and at different areas. An area of high radiation can easily be passed without a reading.

The Occupational Health and Safety Act also states places of employment should have an Occupational Health Committee. There should be at least half workers on this Committee. This Committee should meet regularly and should take part in safety education programs and training. Workers should be able to go to this Committee when they feel their rights or safety regulations are being ignored.

In 1982 John Alderman of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch stated that the Government of Saskatchewan was committed to providing worker education and a full disclosure of information and risks from uranium mining to workers. Mining companies claim all workers must attend a thorough safety education program when they begin

work. Only workers at the mines know if this safety education is provided and how true the information is.

I do not believe much of the information we are told by the mining companies and government. An article in "Directions", a magazine published by the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation, stated that the "tailings ponds" at Key Lake were the most sophisticated in the world and would not leak. This magazine is sent to all northern schools. It has glossy pictures and other stories stating that radiation levels at the mine are safe and encouraging students to work at uranium mines. How careful are the mining companies?

How carefully does the government watch these mines? There are now millions of tons of radioactive tailings at every uranium mine. These tailings may not be harmful if they were returned deep into the ground where they came from, but no mine is now using a method of storing these tailings that is safe. At the Cluff Lake mine 8,000 tonnes are stored in 3,000 cement vaults. The cement is already cracking on 200 of these allowing radioactive materials to leak out. In April 1983 five of these vaults tipped and spilled 2½ tonnes of radioactive sludge into the soil. At the mines at Uranium City, untreated radioactive waste was pumped into nearby lakes. At Rabbit Lake and Key Lake these tailings are stored in open pits where they release radiation into the air, ground and water.

How safe are the standards that have been set? Many scientists are now saying that these standards are much too high. The minimum allowable levels of radiation for people who do not work in radiation areas (mines) is only .5 rems or 500 millirems per year. Radiation workers are allowed to receive 5000 millirems per year. Many scientists now say there are no safe levels of radiation and even very low levels of radiation will cause cancer, birth defects, and other diseases.

Studies done by Dr. Sister Rosalie Bortell and other scientists have proven that children born to mothers who had even one x-ray while they were pregnant had a much higher risk of getting leukemia and other cancers, asthma, hives, enzyme, pneumonia, depilatory, and rheumatic fever. The radiation from an x-ray is only 29 to 50 millirems and uranium workers may be exposed to 5000 millirems.

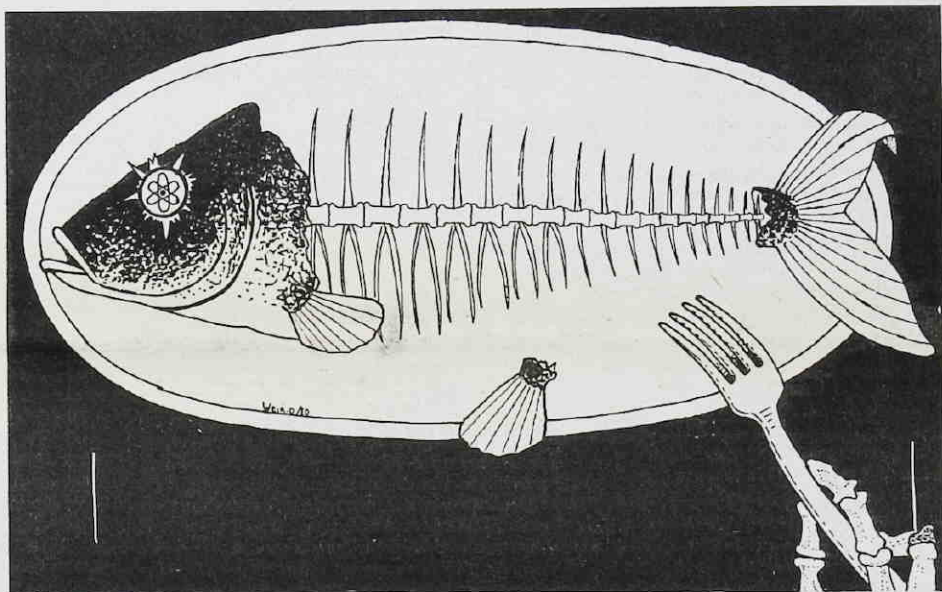
A miner who had worked at the Uranium City mines said he knew at least 50 men who have been killed since the mines opened there in 1953. He knew 18 men who were killed underground and the rest have died from cancer. He said safety regulations at the mine were often ignored by the men so they could make more money. He also said 90% of the miners who worked at the uranium mine in Port Radium, Northwest Territories from the 1940's to 1953 have died from cancer. Uranium from this mine was used to make the bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan during World War II.

456 of the miners who worked in the uranium mines at Elliot Lake, Ontario have died from cancer, mostly lung cancers. Miners between the ages of 40 to 60 were 5 times more likely to get cancer and miners who smoked were 76 times more likely to get cancer than people who don't work in mines. Close to 50 Navajo Indians who worked in the uranium mines in New Mexico, United States have died of cancer. These men worked in the mines in the 1950's and did not get cancer until the 1970's.

Uranium mined from Saskatchewan is sold to companies in Ontario, Quebec, United States, France, Germany and other countries. These companies use uranium to produce electricity in nuclear power plants. The radiation released from these power plants is the same as the radiation from uranium mines. Workers in these power plants also have higher rates of cancer. Some children near a nuclear power plant at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, United States have been born with hypothyroidism. This disease stunts a child's growth and causes mental retardation. They got this disease because their mothers drank milk contaminated with codeine-131 released from the plant. Many animals near this plant have stopped having babies or have miscarriages.

Saskatchewan uranium is also sold to United States, France, Germany, and other countries that use it to make nuclear weapons (Bombs). The bombs dropped in Japan in 1944 killed 190,000 people instantly. Thousands of people later died from radiation sickness, cancer, and other diseases. Mothers in Japan still worry if their children will be born okay.

In 1954 the United States tested an atomic bomb in the South Pacific Islands near Australia. One island has completely vanished. The wind blew the radiation to other islands where people lived. Many



people suffered from radiation sickness. This causes the hair to fall out, ulcers on the skin, vomiting, diarrhea, and kills blood cells. People from these islands still suffer from cancer and some mothers have given birth to 'bags of jelly' instead of babies.

At another 1953 bomb test site in Utah, United States 4,300 sheep died shortly after the testing. Many people who live nearby and many of the soldiers who went on this test site have now died from cancer.

Radiation in the uranium mines can be high enough to cause radiation sickness, cancers, birth defects, and other diseases. It takes only 1 millionth of a gram of radium to cause bone cancer. The concentration of radium in the spills at the Key Lake and Cluff Lake Mines is much higher than this.

What is this radioactivity going to do to us and our children? What will happen to the workers who clean up the spills, receive our our exposure from yellowcake spilling on their bodies and other similar dangerous accidents that will always be at the mines?

Bjarne Paulson was one of the 600 men in Canadian Air Force who helped clean up an accident at the nuclear power plant at Chalk River, Ontario in 1958. He had 40 operations for cancer between 1965 and 1980. Many of the other men have also developed cancers. Mr. Paulson received no compensation or help from the Air Force or government.

I am afraid the future is just as dangerous for all of us. Perhaps if we close all the mines now, scientists can find a way to store these wastes safely and put all the uranium back into the ground where it belongs.

Who needs uranium anyway? I don't want any more bombs. We have enough electricity from hydro dams and diesel power plants. We don't even use uranium in Saskatchewan. Why should we and our future children suffer from cancers so the people who own the mines can make millions of dollars selling u-

ranium to countries who use it to make bombs? As Dr. Helen Caldicott said, "We are killing ourselves so we can make bombs to kill people better." □

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Dialogue on Education

GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE OF NATIVE STUDIES AND APPLIED RESEARCH

Working Committee For Native Education Established in Regina

by Barry McKay

Regina - Working Committee for Native Education consists of a network of many individuals who represent many types of organizations. Our main purpose is to work together with a common goal of improving the education system for Native children.

The objectives of the Working Committee are as follows:

- ★ to establish a network for Indian/Native parents and Indian/Native educational advocacy groups in Regina.
- ★ to enable the school boards and Department of Education an opportunity to hear and engage Indian/Native parental concerns regarding the educational system for the Native community.
- ★ to promote the development of co-operative relationship between schools and Indian/Native parents.
- ★ to inform Indian/Native parents and Indian/Native parent advocacy groups on appropriate means to effect changes in the school system.
- ★ to provide workshops, seminars, presentations to the Native communities so that they understand the education system; their role in the system.

The Education Act, 1978 guarantees each student

of school age in Saskatchewan:

1. The right to free education.
2. The right that each student be provided with instruction appropriate to his/her age level and level of educational attainment and,
3. A program on instructions consistent with his/her educational needs and abilities.

Recently, the Department of Education completed a study called "The Inner School Dropout Study". Unfortunately, statistics from this study point out the serious inequality of educational opportunities for Native students. For example: 93.7% of Native students who enter the school system do not complete grade 12. This means that a Indian/Native child has a 6% to 7% chance of completing grade 12.

The Working Committee has been discussing possible resolutions to improve the educational system for Indian/Native students within the schools systems in Regina. The Council has had ongoing meetings and a number of resolutions have been formulated. In fact these resolutions will be presented to the Regina Board of Education at its March 26, 1984 Board meeting.

The following are the resolutions that will be presented to the Regina Board of Education:

1. Redirecting funds received for students that dropout to programs designed to help these students.
2. The establishment of school and community based tutorial programs.
3. The establishment of a race relations program for the 1984-85 school year.

4. The establishment of an affirmative action hiring program (Native teacher's).
5. Co-operation with the Indian/Native Working Committee by the Regina Board of Education.
6. Board support for establishing a K-12 Native school.
7. Providing cross-cultural workshops for teachers-utilizing provincial and local Indian/Native organizations.
8. Board implementation of a counselling program that utilizes elders as counsellors.
9. The Board provide one seat on the Board for a Native trustee to be elected by the Native community.
10. Board support for the development of Native curriculum utilizing Native curriculum development organizations.
11. Board examinations of the way in which it receives Native representations.

It is important that the Indian/Native Community in Saskatchewan start working towards the common goal of improving the education system for our children. The Working Committee for Native Education needs your help. We need new ideas and support from the Native community. We need many new people for the sub-committees. If, you would like more information about the committee contact Barry McKay (522-5691) at Gabriel Dumont Institute, Regina.

Barry McKay is a faculty member of the Recreation Technology program of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, and a long-time activist for good education for Native people. □



A Tribute To Lorraine Dieter

It is with great sadness that we would like to convey the news that Lorraine Dieter passed away on March 21, 1984. Lorraine worked at Gabriel Dumont Institute in Regina. She was twenty-three years of age and so full of kindness, gentleness, and understanding. It is very hard to believe that we will never see her beautiful face again.

It was an honour to have known Lorraine Dieter. This winter an organization called, "Recreation For Kids" held a Christmas party for 600 underprivileged children. The driving force behind this venture was, you guessed it -- Lorraine Dieter. She spent countless hours of her own free time in collecting donations and material for the party. Yes, as usual Lorraine Dieter put the happiness of others before herself.

We would like to express our sincere sympathy to her family. Lorraine left a small four year old son, whom she called Jeremy. He, along with Wendell Gibbons, was the shining light in her heart.

The staff of the Dumont community as a tribute to Lorraine, have decided to purchase a Savings Bond for her son. All money collected will be put into a savings account to gain interest until November when the Bond(s) will be purchased.

Lorraine Dieter, you will never be forgotten. □

—love your friends



Lorraine Dieter

From the Shelves of Dumont Library



New Books now available at the Gabriel Dumont Institute Library.

As Long As the Sun Shines and Water Flows: A reader in Canadian Native Studies. Getty, Iran L. University of B.C. Press, 1983.

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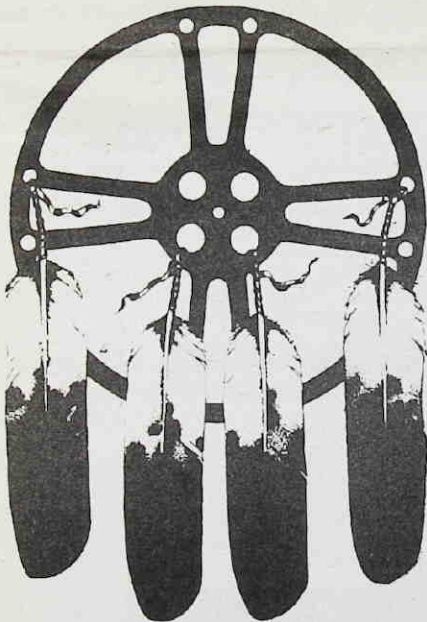
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From One Sky



CARGILL, INC.: Profile of a Multinational slide tape 20 min. National Farmers Union & Cuso Canada \$5/10

This well-researched slide show outlines what kind of an organization Cargill is, and what its arrival in force on the prairies might mean for prairie farmers. Is Cargill's plan to break down the orderly marketing of grain on the prairies? This is the question the slide show tries to answer. □

FOR BREAD AND HOPE

slide tape 20 min. Kevin Moynihan - Toronto \$5/10

This slide tape presentation introduces the question of population by situating that question in a larger context. Immigration is the result of people's search for a decent life for themselves and their families, a decent life denied them in their homeland by a system which was created affluence for some and poverty for many. □

MAKING A KILLING slide tape Project Ploughshares Canada 1981 \$10/15

An examination of the huge growth of the weapons industry and of Canada's role as arms promoter to the world. Canada itself will purchase more than thirty billion dollars of military equipment in the 1980's. This slide shoe provides a history of Canada's role in producing weapons, a survey of the relationship with the U.S. in defence production and an examination of Canada's present role as a supplier of military hardware to the Third World. Oriented to church audiences, the slide tape is a revealing exposure of a role Canada has cut out for itself in the war business. It is appropriate for general audiences. □

Available from:

One Sky
the Saskatchewan Cross-Cultural Centre
134 Avenue F. South
Saskatoon, Sask. S7M 1S8
Phone (306) 652-1571

Economic and Employment Coordinators

The Associations of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan requires the services of five (5) Economic and Employment Coordinators. Duties to commence May 15, 1984. These will be 10-month term positions with extension depending on funding.

Qualifications

Successful candidates must have satisfactorily completed their post-secondary at a recognized Institution with their major in Economic Development or Finance and have several years of successful work experience during which they have demonstrated their ability to work with Native people, to do economic analysis and evaluation of commercial projects and transactions and can demonstrate a sound

knowledge of employment development procedures and policies. The senior Officer should also have demonstrated ability to organize work assignments and supervise the activities of other staff.

Duties:

Will include defining and evaluating economic opportunities, planning and developing economic projects and/or employment development projects, assist successful applicants with project implementation, promote employment in the private and public sector and will maintain liaison with Native organizations and institutions and carry out other relevant duties and responsibilities.

Locations:

Senior Project Officer - Regina.
Salary - \$2600 - \$2800/monthly range

Project Officers - Prince Albert, North Battleford
Buffalo Narrows and La Ronge.
Salary - \$2400 - \$2600/monthly range

Closing Date:

April 24, 1984

Apply To:

Tim Low
2 - 806 Victoria Avenue
Regina, Sask. S4N 0R6

Provide personnel details, qualifications and work history. □

Recipes

SWEET AND SOUR DEER RIBS

- 3 pounds deer ribs, trimmed and cut in 2-inch lengths
3 tablespoons melted fat
2 cups tomato juice
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon dry mustard
¼ teaspoon or more, black pepper
3 tablespoons brown sugar
½ cup white vinegar
3 medium whole onions
3 tablespoons flour
½ cup cold water
1. Soak ribs in salted water overnight. Then drain well.
 2. Melt fat in heavy fry pan on top of stove. Add ribs and brown well on all sides.
 3. Transfer ribs to a roaster.
 4. Mix tomato juice, salt, mustard, pepper, brown sugar and vinegar and pour over ribs in the roaster.
 5. Roast in a hot oven at 400° F. for 15 minutes, turning ribs occasionally.
 6. Add onions and reduce heat to 350° F. Cover and roast for 1 hour, or until meat is tender, stirring occasionally.
 7. When meat is tender, transfer the ribs to a serving dish. Thicken the sauce with a paste made from the flour and water and cook a few minutes more on top of the stove, stirring constantly.
 8. Pour sauce over the ribs in the serving dish. Serve with hot rice. Serves 6.

MOOSE CHILI CON CARNE

- 1 pound moose meat, ground
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon flour
½ cup chopped onion or
4 tablespoons dried onion flakes
2 tablespoons fat
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
4 cups canned tomatoes
1 10 oz can mushroom bits and pieces, drained
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 15 oz can red kidney beans
1. Sprinkle meat with flour, salt and pepper.
 2. Melt fat in heavy fry pan.
 3. Combine meat with onion, then brown it in hot fat.

4. Add remaining ingredients, reduce heat and simmer until meat is tender, about 45 minutes.
5. Serve hot with baking powder biscuits or buttered toast. Serves 6.

HEAD CHEESE

- Head of moose, venison, caribou, reindeer or elk, plus heart, tongue and trimmings as desired
½ cup salt
1 gallon water
1. Clean the head by removing the eyes, ears, brains and all of the skin.
 2. Trim off all fat.
 3. Cut head into pieces and soak in brine made from ½ cup salt added to 1 gallon of water, for at least 6 hours (this draws out the blood).
 4. Drain the pieces of head and rinse thoroughly in clean water.
 5. Place in a large pot, add meat trimmings, cover with hot water, bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and let simmer until the meat can be removed from the bone.
 6. Trim meat from the bones and chop fine. Weigh the meat on kitchen scales.



7. Strain the broth, then let it boil down until you have 4 cups of broth for each 3 pounds of chopped meat.
8. Add the chopped meat to the broth with the following spices for each 3 pounds of meat: 1 tablespoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper, 1 tablespoon onion flakes (optional), 1 teaspoon ground allspice, ½ teaspoon ground cloves.
9. Heat the mixture, then let it simmer 15 minutes.
10. Pour into loaf pans or bowls, cover and chill till firm.

Note

If a firmer jelly is desired, add 1 tablespoon gelatin (softened in ¼ cup cold water) for each 2 cups of liquid.

CRANBERRY MUFFINS

- ¼ cup cranberries
½ cup powdered sugar
2 cups flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
¼ cup sugar
1 egg, well beaten
1 cup milk
4 tablespoons shortening, melted
1. Mix cranberries with powdered sugar and let stand while preparing the muffin mixture.
 2. Sift dry ingredients.
 3. Add egg, milk, and melted shortening, all at once.
 4. Mix only until the dry ingredients are dampened.
 5. Fold in sugared cranberries.
 6. Fill greased muffin tins to 2/3 full.
 7. Bake in moderate oven 350° F. for 20 minutes. Makes 12 muffins.

Recipes Wanted

New Breed Journal is looking to print your favorite recipe. We are especially interested in traditional recipes that our ancestors may have used long ago, using different kinds of wild meats, fish, berries, herbs, etc., using the various methods of cooking available to them. Of course, we are also interested in modern recipes using both traditional and modern foods and methods of cooking. Send them c/o Editor, New Breed Journal, 210-2505-11th Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 0K6. □

Guidelines for Choosing Food

"Go Ahead"

High in nutrients, low in sugar, moderate salt and fat.

Eat Anytime

White milk, plain yogurt
Cheese, cottage cheese

Meat, poultry, fish, eggs
Nuts, seeds (unsalted)
Peanut butter
Chili, baked beans
Soups (meat, dried pea or bean, cream soup made with milk)

Salads, coleslaw
Raw fruits and vegetables
Unsweetened fruit (frozen, canned)
Unsweetened fruit and vegetable juices, vegetable soups

Whole grain breads, crackers, muffins
Bagels
Cereals (not sugar coated)

Pizza, hamburgers, tacos

Submarine sandwiches, hotdogs
Sandwiches (meat, cheese, egg, fish, peanut butter fillings)

"Caution"

High in Nutrients, high in sugar.
When eaten with meals less harmful to teeth.

Flavoured yogurt, yogurt shakes
Chocolate milk, hot chocolate
Milk puddings
Ice cream, milkshakes

Sweetened fruits, juices
Raisins and other dried fruits

Granola-type cereals or bars
Cookies (oatmeal, nut, raisin, peanut butter, etc.)

Low in Nutrients in relation to energy (calories), low in sugar.
Eat only occasionally.

Sugarless gum
Sugarless candy or mints

High in Salt:
Popcorn, pretzels
Instant powdered soups

High in Salt and Fat:
Potato chips, corn chips

Cheese flavoured snacks
French fried potatoes

"Stop"

Low in nutrients in relation to energy (calories), high in sugar.
Try to Avoid.

Chocolate bar, candies, gum
Breath mints, lozenges

Sof Drinks

Fruit Flavoured drinks (even if vitamin C added)

Cakes, pastries, doughnuts
Sweet cookies

Flavoured gelatin desserts
Popsicles

Honey, jams, syrups

Note: Added sugar may be expressed as: Sucrose, Maltose, Dextrose, Glucose, Invert Sugar, Honey, Corn Syrup, Brown Sugar.

Adapted from Province of B.C. Ministry of Health. Guidelines for Accessory Foods Served in Schools, 1978, and Snacking Signals "The Trent to Vending" Nutrition Matters. No. 8, 1979, by Metro Toronto and York Region Nutritionists.

They Found a Body in April: on Finding Home

my seventeenth summer
your first time on a road
your broad smooth arms
more used to hefting canoes from shore
than closing car doors
and I promised I would come north
to see you
soon

ten years later
to find you
had died
inexplicable circumstances
no inquiry
the man who tells me does not see the hurt
congratulates me on my judicial curiosity
a good sign for a new northern lawyer
admits there could be some legal avenues
to explore in that case

my eyes dropped I ask
did you marry any children
no no alone
was I the only woman
you ever asked to join you
was that why a few years back
on a soft September morning
leaves plunging from their wooden harbours
I got a sadness that I shrugged off unfounded
and a message that came clearly
to my fresh from sleeping head
Joe Lariviere is dead

Brenda Niskala
La Ronge, Sask.

Bobby Was The Eagle

Bobby was the eagle
who could fly so high
when you put an eagle
in a cage, that eagle
will die

Bobby was the eagle
who tried to care so much
but it was hard to care
in a cage when he hurt
so much

Bobby was the eagle
who went here and there
stopping for a moment and
looking, but what he was looking
for was never there.

Bobby was the eagle
who died each day in a cage
life as the eagle is over
when away of life ends
a new begins

Bobby was the eagle
who has changed so much
the eagle is gone now
and a lion has been born
a caged lion

Bob Hartford

Keeper of Lost Souls

Empty sockets bleed
Tears of sand and dust
Lizard and vulture feed
On life's waning lust

In the desert of lies
White bones drying in the sun
Truth with dinosaur eyes
The final cycle has begun

Headlong through time's darkened hall
Runs the human race
Pursued by grinning skull
With angelic face

Keeper of lost souls,
Guarding sanctuary's gate
Prophet of the final goals
Playing with the scales of fate

The road to freedom leads through hell
Thus it must forever be
In the darkness chimes the bell
Then the blind shall learn to see

All along the treacherous way
Hidden clues, the scattered few
The meaning, the joy betray
Clear as sparkling morning dew

Submitted by Bruno Glos
755 Steeles Ave. W. No. 1211
Willowdale, Ontario
M2R 2S6

The Mystery of Creation

Revered beauty of mountains
Nature in its' rawest form,
Ancient ghosts of rivers frozen in midair
Repeat to the Nations...His Glory.

Infinite grace of Eagles
Strength in its' rarest form,
Searing eyes penetrating the craggy peaks
Permeate to the skies...His Presence.

Blessed Life of Man
Creation in its' greatest form,
Emotions, reasoning and Will born of dust
Generate to the earth...His Power.

Holiest Lamb of God
Love in its' purest form,
Far-off echoes of nails pounding flesh on wood
Sacrificed for me...His Son.

Bonita Beatty
Deschambault Lake, Sask.

The Last Day On Earth

A Protest Against Nuclear War

My mother is tired tonight, she sits by the fire
Her shoulders are bent
with a weight I cannot lift alone.

I wish I could lift that burden
but I am just a baby
and I don't know what to say.
I curl up by her dirty feet. I can smell
her Goodness dying

I can see her eyes are crying
but what is left to do?
Inside her sagging breasts
her life is sinking away
and I can't even stop the pain
I want to take Her in my arms
but my arms cannot surround her

I want to wipe away her tears
but she says I must not touch her
I want to tell her many things
but words will never cure her.

Her pain is mine
They have raped Her for the very last time
And dead fish slap up on the beaches.
Seagulls scream a curse
to a sun that cannot see them
and all around, Her children die
and no one ever hears them.

She gave me Life and freedom
and the strength to keep together
Sitting here on the very last day
she knows I won't betray Her.

Lorraine Gratton
Regina Beach, Sask.

Have you ever watched the sun rise
from a lonely prison cell
and heard a freight train whistle blow
like a demon from hell
Have you ever seen mail come in
to greet some other hundred men
while the letter you longed for
failed to come again.....

If you've never known these things
then you're a lucky man
your life has been a good one
from the morning it began
But if you've known the misery
of a barren prison cell
You've had your share of loneliness
You've done your time in hell

Bob Hartford

I will walk
through the
valley and the
shadow of death

and I will
ride upon the
wind

I will sail
upon the sea
of life

and I will
fear no evil
for I am
the hunter
not the hunted

Bob Hartford

Lack of Understanding Basis of Allegations

Regina - Urban Affairs Minister Tim Embury recently said a lack of understanding seems to be the basis of recent allegations regarding tax liens in Uranium City.

Embury said that John Wade, a provincial employee who is currently the administrator for Uranium City, was following normal municipal administrative policies as set out in the Tax Enforcement Act when he placed liens on the properties whose taxes are in arrears.

It was also noted by Embury that 108 properties had liens placed against them this year while 81 liens were registered last year when an elected council was running the affairs of Uranium City.

The minister is expecting to receive a request from the town administrator to compromise tax arrears on vacant residential properties. This would effectively remove the tax liens registered against these properties.

"This action is not normally taken in regards to those owing taxes to a municipality. However, recognizing the unique situation that exists in Uranium City, as soon as I receive the request, I will approve it," Embury said.

In addition, Embury confirmed the winter road would remain open for another week to March 23 to assist persons and families moving from Uranium City.

Embury was responding to recent suggestions that he had ordered the liens to be placed on the vacant properties.

"Contrary to ignoring the residents of Uranium City, as has been charged, the government of Saskatchewan is actively supporting the community in a number of ways," Embury said.

"We've written off \$2 million in outstanding municipal debentures and expect to provide an additional \$1 million in operating assistance in the next year."

Outfitters Test New Marketing Approach

Regina - Bob Ackerman, president of the Northern Saskatchewan Outfitters Association (NSOA), said recently response to an all-Saskatchewan outfitter show held in Minneapolis was "super."

The Reel Fishing Adventure Show held March 14 and 15 was hosted by 20 NSOA outfitters in co-operation with Tourism Canada, Saskatchewan Tourism and Small Business and Norcanair.

The two-day event was organized to test a new approach to market sport fishing for northern Saskatchewan. Traditionally, outfitters from Saskatchewan have promoted their camps at Minneapolis's annual sport and travel show. However, because of that show's popularity, only a few Saskatchewan outfitters have been able to get into it.

"The show has a waiting list as long as my arm," Ackerman said. Waiting period of up to five years are not uncommon, he said.

Another reason for hosting a separate show stems from a growing trend at sport and travel shows to have an increasing emphasis on recreational vehicles.

The NSOA show was designed to attract only bonafide fishermen, Don Shalley, a tourism marketing officer with Saskatchewan Tourism and Small Business, said. Shalley represented the department at the Minneapolis show.

Each outfitter operated his own booth and films about fishing in Saskatchewan were featured. As an added touch, taste samples of northern Saskatchewan fish, including lake trout and walleye, were prepared. The fish proved so popular people were making meals of it, Ackerman said.

"Outfitters who attended the show are saying it has to happen again because of the way it was received by the public," Ackerman said.

Ogle Disappointed with Vatican Decision

Saskatoon - Saskatoon East MP Bob Ogle says he was both surprised and disappointed to be informed of an apparent turnaround in a Vatican decision which means he must not seek re-election.

But he says he has never contemplated giving up the priesthood in favor of seeking a third term representing the New Democratic Party.

"I'm a priest first and I hope to remain a priest for the rest of my life," Ogle told a recent news conference.

"Part of my being a priest is being obedient to my superiors. Obedience is only an active function when you do something you aren't in accord with. You don't have to be obedient to do something you like."

Ogle, 55, advised his constituency association of a papal directive that he will give up the seat he has held since 1979 despite earlier indications he would be able to continue in elected politics. He plans to remain as MP until the next election.

The directive was in accordance with the new Code of Canon Law, which went into effect in December, prohibiting priests from seeking elected political positions.

Ogle said on a visit to Rome in April 1983, he was given assurances by papal representatives that he could continue to hold his seat, but added he "received nothing in writing."

Ogle said while he will not run for re-election, he will continue to be a member of the NDP.

Full Discussion of Self-Government Urged

Regina - Indian and Native Affairs Minister Sid Dutchak recently told his federal counterpart, John Munro, that the province expects the federal government to give a commitment to full discussion of the federal government's recent response to the recommendations of the House of Commons Special Committee on Indian Self-Government.

The Regina meeting was called at the request of Premier Grant Devine. The premier made the request at the recent First Ministers Conference on rights of Aboriginal peoples. In his opening address to the conference, Premier Devine urged the federal government to begin co-operative work with the provinces on the federal response on Indian self-government.

The response made public by the federal government immediately prior to the First Ministers Conference endorses many of the recommendations on Indian self-government contained in the Special Committee report. In adopting those recommendations, the federal government announced its intention to introduce legislation to provide for Indian self-government at an early date.

At his meeting today with the federal minister, Dutchak said he regarded this meeting as the first of several discussions that would have to occur at both the working level and ministerial level on the subject.

"Saskatchewan will oppose any efforts by the federal government to have this meeting stand by itself as the record of consultation with the province on the federal response to the Special Committee Report," Dutchak said.

"I have advised the federal minister of Indian Affairs that Saskatchewan requires commitment to full and comprehensive discussion on the federal proposal, that all provinces should be engaged in this process, and that Indian people should participate equally in such discussions. Anything less than this will, in my view, slow the pace of change toward the exercise of greater control by Indian people over their own lives and that of their communities," he said.

"The government of Saskatchewan, for its part, supports the need for Indian people to exercise wider autonomy and decision-making, particularly at the community level. That commitment is reflected in Saskatchewan's wish to keep an open mind on the federal proposal on Indian self-government and our willingness to respond on short notice to the federal request to meet in Regina today."

"I have urged Mr. Munro to establish a clear structure and agenda for provinces and Indian people to meet and build agreement on aspects of the federal proposal before that proposal is introduced as legislation into the House of Commons. I have proposed that he begin meaningful dialogue by sharing with Saskatchewan the federal draft of the legislation; in turn, I am sharing with him an extensive series of questions on the federal proposal which arise from my review."

"Last Supper" for N.M.C.

LaRonge - The Northern Municipal Council came to an end this month, and recently past and present councillors and staff held a 'last supper' to mark its passing.

MLA Fred Thompson reviewed the progress made in northern local government through the efforts of the NMC. "The per capita grant was only \$2 when the NMC was started in 1973," he reminded the councillors. "You've done a good job through some stormy situations, and northern Saskatchewan is a better place for all of us through your efforts."

MLA Lawrence Yew, a past NMC councillor, described it as the end of an era. "You can feel proud of yourselves for the work you've done," he told councillors. "Now let's not get buried. Let's keep up the struggle."

"We've come through some turbulent times," said former councillor Mike Blackmon, "but we arrived at agreement. The history of northern Saskatchewan is richer because of the NMC. Don't give up now; you started a very important job, and you must carry on the battle."

Guest speaker Ted Bowerman was unable to attend, and apart from Thompson and Yew, no representatives of the provincial government were present for the 'last supper' and social evening.

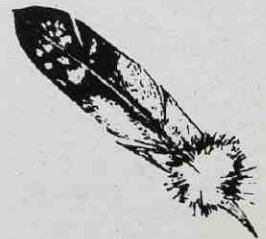
Saskatchewan to Work With Other Provinces on Acid Rain

Ottawa - Saskatchewan will continue to work closely with the other western provinces to develop a control strategy to prevent acid rain, Environment Minister Neal Hardy said recently while in Ottawa. Hardy was attending a Canada-Europe Ministerial Conference on Acid Rain.

"It has been confirmed that Saskatchewan does not have an acid rain problem," Hardy said. However, the northern part of the province is highly sensitive to acid rain's effects. I recognize the threat to the environment. Consequently, I support Canada's efforts to achieve an international agreement to control acid rain.

The invitation to attend the March 20th conference was issued by Environment Canada Minister Charles Caccia to all provincial environment ministers to meet with the European member nations of the Economic Commission for Europe, who have signed the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution and endorsed an acid rain control program. Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland have signed the convention.

The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the commitment of the member nations to fight the global problem of acid rain, by proposing specific actions to reduce emissions and to encourage other nations to join in these actions.



Sandinista Oppression Propaganda, Priest Says

(Globe and Mail)

Ottawa - A Roman Catholic Nicaraguan priest involved in the major resettlement program for Miskito Indians says claims of their persecution is U.S.-inspired propaganda aimed to discredit the Sandinista Government.

Rev. Agustin Sambola, a Capuchin priest, has worked in the Tasba Pri — the Miskito phrase for free land — resettlement area in the country's northeast since it was established more than two years ago by Managua following the evacuation of nearly 10,000 Miskitos from near the Honduran border.

"Criticism that the Nicaraguan Government has received from the media, mainly by the Reagan Administration, is that the Nicaraguan Government is killing the Miskito Indians, exploiting the Miskito Indians, ruining the Miskito Indians," Father Sambola, 38, said in an interview this week in Toronto.

"This is propaganda. What's behind the propaganda? It's being used as tool to discredit the Government."

However, Rev. Wendelin Shafer, U.S. Capuchin priest who has spent 36 years in Nicaragua, told the New York Times recently that the Sandinista revolutionary process and the forceful relocation of Miskito from areas along the Atlantic coast where they had lived for centuries to settlement camps has caused hardship, unhappiness and in some cases turned the once-peaceful Indians into rebels fighting for their traditional culture.

The Globe and Mail's Latin America correspondent, Oakland Ross, found during visits to several resettlement villages nearly a year ago that while complaints by Indians may have in some cases been exaggerated they were far from baseless.

"The task of coaxing the distinct Indian culture into the Nicaraguan revolution has been among the trickiest challenges faced by the Sandinistas," he wrote in one dispatch. "Throughout, the process has been hounded by mutual distrust; at times, it has been stained by bloodshed."

Winning the Miskitos over, conceded Father Sambola, whose studies in the United States left him with a marked midwest accent, has not been without resistance. This is partly because some members of the Sandinista leadership do not appreciate indigenous cultures, he said.

As well, he said, there has been a lack of understanding by the Indian minority of the reason for its relocation. The Sandinista Government has maintained, as does Father Sambola, that the Indians were moved to protect them from Anastasio Somoza rebels backed by the United States across the Rio Coco in Honduras.

"Resettlement was to maintain the lives of these people," Father Sambola insisted. "It was an option for life. . . Sure it's been difficult. Nobody wants to move from their land."

Nevertheless, after a series of rebellions, many Miskitos fled to Honduras, some of them working with the insurgents who oppose Managua. The Sandinistas said the uprisings were the work of Washington-backed counter-revolutionaries who had cynically manipulated the Miskitos.

Father Sambola, a member of the Garifuno ethnic minority, works with 16 Catholic catechists, about three Moravian Church pastors and 20 Moravian catechists in the resettlement camps. The Moravian Church is a pre-Reformation Protestant denomination whose missionaries have been active in the region since the 1840s.

Getting Nicaragua's minorities actively and democratically involved in the rebuilding of the country is made extremely difficult by outside pressures, including the threat of invasion by the United States, Father Sambola said.

He is an ardent revolutionary, who believes the Nicaraguan revolution is different from others led by people whose fervor for change later turned to power-grasping conservatism.

"There was an active Christian participation in the revolution," he said. "That's a note and a characteristic that no other revolution in history has ever

had, and this has made the Nicaraguan revolution a new space in history. The Chinese, the Cuban, the Russian revolutions did not have that.

"Moved by our faith as Christians we participated in it, building the new society. And this helps it not to become square or dogmatic, but to create, and this is what we have experienced in that last four years of the revolutionary process in Nicaragua. It's creative, dynamic, not boxed in."

As for the Pope's official displeasure with Roman Catholic clergy actively engaged in politics, Father Sambola said:

"We continue to work within the structures — political, religious, economical — which deal with the development of our people, within country in its totality. Prior to the revolution, during the revolution and now with the construction of the new society, we participate actively in these roles.

"And we try to be authentic in doing that, not hiding our commitment to change the society knowing we have to be the salt, the yeast in that society. We can choose the structure in which we participate. We participate in the given structure and help people come to the realization of growth.

Father Sambola's visit to Canada has been sponsored by the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, the social overseas development organization set up by Catholic bishops.

During his visit, Father Sambola has been called for Canadian support peace efforts in Latin America, to increase trade with Nicaragua and to establish a Canadian embassy in Managua. □

Pope to Visit Fort Simpson

Fort Simpson, N.W.T. - This largely Native NWT town may soon be playing host to Pope John - Paul during his Canadian tour later this year. Although the Vatican has yet to release official confirmation, this historical visit is tentatively planned for September 17, 1984 and will immediately follow the Pontiff's visit to Edmonton. □

News from outside province

St. Regis Health Study Released

Ottawa - Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin today released the first part of a study on the effects of environmental contaminants on the health of the residents of the St. Regis Reserve.

This section (Volume I) deals only with medical survey findings related to fluoride.

"We are releasing this first part now because its findings are of concern to the people who live there and who, like us, have been waiting a long time for this report," the Minister said.

Volume I reports no detectable health problems attributable to fluoride. Some elevated blood fluoride levels and other health conditions were found in some individuals. These will be investigated further. The report will also serve as a very useful base for future health programs on the reserve.

The St. Regis Reserve is located on the St. Lawrence River with parts in Ontario, Quebec and New York State; it includes Cornwall Island.

Under a 1980 agreement, Dr. Irving J. Selikoff of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York undertook to lead a team of doctors, dentists and environmental specialists to study the effects of four environmental contaminants: fluoride, mercury, mirex and PCBs.

Earlier studies indicated fluoride damage to vegetation and cattle on Cornwall Island and the presence of mercury, mirex and PCBs in fish in the St. Lawrence.

The overall study, which will cost about \$1.6 million upon completion, was designed to determine the effects, singly or in combination, on St. Regis residents of fluoride and the three chemicals found in local fish.

Miss Bégin expressed her continuing concern for the way in which Canada's Native people, who often live close to the natural environment, have their way of life disrupted and health endangered by contaminants. □

AFN and Coalition Shun Provinces

(AMMSA)

Ottawa - When the First Ministers' Conference between Native leaders and the governments ended in Ottawa on March 9 with little progress made toward defining Aboriginal rights, the two groups representing treaty Indians, the Assembly of First Nations and the Coalition of First Nations, agreed that the provincial governments have no authority to determine Aboriginal rights.

Grand Chief David Ahenakew of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), representing most of Canada's 300,000 treaty Indians, said the provincial governments have no jurisdiction over the AFN and his organization would continue to deal directly with the federal government in bilateral talks.

This is the position that the Coalition of First Nations, a breakaway group representing 70,000 treaty Indians across Canada, has always maintained. The Coalition, whose members include the chiefs of the Kehewin, Frog Lake, Goodfish Lake, Cold Lake, Saddle Lake, Enoch and Paul bands, says the treaties were made between two nations, Great Britain and the Indian First Nations. This means the provincial governments have no right to interfere in what they call a "nation to nation process".

But Chief Ed Burnstick, Coalition member from the Paul Band 55 km west of Edmonton, does not foresee the Coalition and the AFN working together toward their common goal of having Indian control their own affairs.

"At this time I don't see any working relationship with the Assembly of First Nations. The AFN has been trying to coordinate this whole thing but they don't speak for us. We speak for ourselves," said Burnstick.

During the two-day First Ministers' Conference members of the Coalition, which has refused to join in any constitutional talks which include the provinces, protested outside the conference while representatives of the AFN were discussing Aboriginal rights and Indian self-government with the federal and provincial governments and other Native leaders. □

Boycott Against British Goods Urged by Legislative Assembly

N.W.T. - In response to a recent boycott of Canadian fish products by Britain to protest the Canadian seal hunt, the NWT Legislative Assembly has asked people to boycott United Kingdom products in an effort to halt the growing anti-trapping and anti-seal hunting movement.

Nellis Cournoyea, minister of renewable resources said that the British boycott could spread to other nations thereby creating an even greater threat to the livelihood of many northern Native people.

Ms. Cournoyea said, "We stand a chance of losing our ability to work in the best way people know how.....most people have their education on the land. They have their education on harvesting and utilizing the animals they are able to hunt and trap. This is a matter of survival for NWT's Aboriginal peoples and cannot be confused with such 'rich man's sports' as the popular British Fox Hunt." She said a stronger protest by the Federal Government was needed in this matter. Concern was shared and echoed by Richard Nerysoo, executive council leader who felt that the federal government should express itself "a little more furiously" about this issue than it has in the past.

A recent conference, sponsored by the Native Council of Canada and aimed at developing a national strategy to counter these anti-survival movements was held in Winnipeg this past month and many representatives from the territorial government and Native organizations were in attendance. □

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