



# MICHIPICOTEN FIRST NATION

## NEWSLETTER

March / April 2010



### CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Publication Agreement #  
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Aaniin Brothers and Sisters:

Spring is here and it is good to see the buds on the trees, it is that time of rebirth and renewal that we all look forward to, the promise of things to come, resulting in the fruits of our labours.

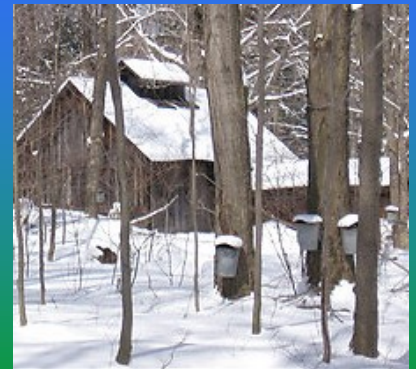
Sometimes we seem to be fighting an uphill battle when it comes to First Nation economic opportunity and the business of getting things done. The Ontario Power Authority have changed the rules again on power connections and we continue to experience some delays in our Dore Falls Run of the River Project. It is little wonder First Nations and their members are frustrated in their efforts to achieve self sustainability. Holding the Energy Portfolio for the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs Forum, I am working closely with government representatives and industry to address these issues and in attending the various conferences and networking on renewable energy and resources. We are further frustrated in our efforts with the various funding programs announced which require our commitment in resources and research just to submit proposals. Political announcements for funding make good press, not necessarily good business when funds are not readily available; but we continue to pursue all avenues of opportunity and fight the good fight.

Our cultural room at the local High School has been supportive of our member students and helped to open up our culture to all the students and teachers. We always encourage awareness in education which is relevant to our culture.

Planning for this year's Youth and Elders Gathering is underway with a strong commitment from Council and our committee. We are holding it a little earlier this year to accommodate our members' requests. We look forward to seeing you and wish you renewed strength, health and happiness.

Chi Miigwetch, Chief Joe Buckell

**March** (Crust on the Snow Moon) - Onaabani-Giizis  
**April** (Sap Boiling Moon) - Iskigamizige-Giizis



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**Michipicoten First Nation Directory**

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Lewis, Marcel	Band Van Driver	(705) 856-1993	

**YOUR CURRENT CHIEF AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ARE:**



**1. Councillor Myrtle Swanson  
2. Councillor Kathryn Campbell  
3. Councillor William Swanson Sr.**



**Chief  
Joe Buckell**



**4. Councillor Linda Peterson  
5. Councillor William Buckell  
6. Councillor Emile Neyland**





















**Membership Success Stories**



Hello, my name is Verna Andre-Stone. I just completed an 8 month program, Early Childhood Education through Native Education and Training College in North Bay, ON. I graduated in March 2010 with an A- = 91%. It was a huge success for me, due to the past hardships with the lose of my dad who was a great person, so this one's for you Dad; just one more achievement you can be proud of.

I would like to say 'chi'miigwetch' to Michipicoten First Nation for supporting me with all my education, which includes Personal Support Worker, Native Education Counsellor and now Early Childhood Education. Also I would like to say a 'chi'miigwetch' to Linda Peterson/Education Counsellor, for giving me hope and encouragement through this process and told me that I can do it. And a 'Thank You' to my husband and family who told me to finish and to be proud of all my accomplishments. Especially my husband who stood by my side each and every time I wanted to succeed in my life journeys. I will continue to succeed with all my life's goals and dreams I'm not done yet. Education is key to success, don't let anyone take your dreams away, soar for the best that you can accomplish in your journey and always dream.

**So Soar High and reach for the Top!**



A insert from the Grassroot news by Scott Taylor..." She just continues to set records and win awards. In fact, there might not be a better female athlete in this province (Manitoba) than Winnipeg's Alyssa Johnson, the 2009 Tom Longboat Award winner." On February 27, 2010 Alyssa set a new Manitoba Indoor Junior record in the 400m, running a 55.60 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. (A record held previously by Sandy Gilkes since Feb 9, 1980).

Alyssa is also part of the distance medley relay team which finished 5th overall in their conference with a combination time of 11:13.77. This has given them a ranking of 12th in the USA, and 1st in the Utah history.

Alyssa's goal this summer is to qualify for team Canada, so she can compete in IAAF World Junior Championships, held in Moncton, New Brunswick, from July 19- 25, 2010.

She continues to chase her dream...a dream that someday to make Canada's Olympic Team.

Should anyone like to congratulate Alyssa on her hard work, or say a few words to this inspirational individual, you may contact her at:

Audrey JOHNSON [[ajhnsn@shaw.ca](mailto:ajhnsn@shaw.ca)]

photo courtesy of Stephen Nowland



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The information/articles submitted to the newsletter do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Editor or Michipicoten First Nation.

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### On March 11, 2010

A graduation luncheon was held in Dubreuville, Ontario for the boys who successfully completed their course in "Basic Underground Hard Rock Miner Common Core". Three of the successful graduates were members of Michipicoten First Nation: William Swanson Jr. (2nd from left), Zach Day-Andre (in front), and Greg Stone (3rd from right).

We pledge to do our best to keep you informed in a timely manner on events of interest to all members. Submission deadline is the 15th of the month for the month following. We reserve the right to refuse potentially damaging or inflammatory articles.

Send submissions to the Editor or e-mail:  
[finance@michipicoten.com](mailto:finance@michipicoten.com)



September Sunsets on Indian Beach



### MFN newsletter Schedule:

Jan./Feb.- Mail out by Feb. 25, 2010  
Mar./Apr.- Mail out by Apr. 25, 2010  
May/June- Mail out by June 25, 2010

July/Aug.-Mail out by Aug. 25, 2010  
Sept./Oct.- Mail out by Oct. 25, 2010  
Nov./Dec.- Mail out by Dec. 17, 2010