

Weekly Newsletter for February 15-21

Flyers are to be delivered each weekend by 4pm Sunday evening.
Didn't receive your newsletter this weekend?
Please call Kristy Boucher at 623-9543 ext.217 or
info@fwfn.com with your questions or concerns.

Finance Information Page For:

- Direct Deposit Forms for Member Distributions
- Youth Turning 18 Direct Deposit Forms
- Late Banking Information Annual Member Distributions
- Are You Making a Payment?

Is now on Page 2 of our Weekly Newsletter

Stay informed, follow us on:



NOTICE TO ON RESERVE HOUSEHOLDS WITH DOGS

Letting your dog run loose, puts them and the community members in danger.

It is up to the pet owner to control their pets, and protect others from them. Pet owners can be held accountable if their pet hurts someone.

Please be advised that Flyer Carriers have the right to refuse delivery to the household in they encounter a dog or dogs in the area that makes them feel unsafe.



Christmas Boundary Interest Distribution

Further to the November 25, 2020 Chief and Council meeting your December 4, 2020 distribution details are as follows:

- \$500 per adult (aged 18 and older) member from the Boundary Trust Income Allocation
- \$35 per adult (aged 18 and older) member from the Boundary Trust Income Allocation
- \$50 for Elders aged 55-plus (at December 31, 2020) from the OFNLP funds

The above will be paid by EFT (electron funds transfer) and was uploaded to the RBC on Friday December 4, 2020. Funds may take up to 5-days to be deposited in your account so if you have not received your funds by Friday December 11, 2020 then please contact us at that time. Please contact Esther Pervais, Finance Officer for these inquiries.

All payment are issued by EFT. The only exception is for those members who are not a resident in Canada. Non-resident members will be issued a cheque and it will be mailed to your last updated mailing address.

If your banking information has changed then you should refer to the first Finance page of our weekly Newsletter. We will require a new direct deposit form, please see the previous Finance page for the required format.

Late banking information – Annual Member Distributions

Any revised direct deposit information received after a member distribution will be processed on a weekly basis until the Christmas break, each Friday. Please ensure your new banking information is received as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday each week before the Friday.

Questions regarding the above can be addressed to Esther Pervais, Finance Officer or Michael D. Pelletier, CEO.



Direct Deposit Forms for Member Distributions

Please keep your banking information up-to-date with Finance. If you change your financial institution or have not yet provided any banking information to Finance, the following options are available to submit your Direct Deposit Information:

- Mail in a sample VOID cheque from your chequing account that has your current address information on it. Please enclose a brief note such as "Please update my direct deposit information", sign and date this note and provide your phone number in case we need to contact you.
- If you have online banking, you can print out your own Direct Deposit form that is pre-populated with your name and bank account information already on it, sign and date it, print your address and phone number on it and mail it to FWFN Finance. Finance will not process a manually filled out/hand-written direct deposit form that is not bank-stamped and bank-dated by your branch.
- You can also visit your financial institution and have them fax FWFN Finance directly at (807) 623-5190 your direct deposit form after you signed and dated it. The fax must be faxed from the financial institution and cannot be faxed from a third-party fax number. Please note, some financial institutions provide this fax service and some do not. In the event they do not, you will need to mail this direct deposit form to us, as we will require your original signature.
- Please note Finance does not process any banking updates by e-mail or pictures or hand-written account information.
- If you are providing your banking information for FWFN employee payroll purposes, you will need to consent to release this information from FWFN Payroll to share this information to FWFN Accounts Payable and you will need to sign and date this form along with FWFN Payroll sign off.

Youth Turning 18 - Direct Deposit Forms

Please provide your direct deposit information as noted above at least 1-week in advance of your birthday to the attention of Finance to release FWFN youth funds held in trust. In addition, as the Specific Claim Housing Trust administers the remaining balance of youth funds, please also contact Michael Pelletier Jr, CEO directly at cell (807) 629-0471 to arrange any payment of these youth funds due to you, you will need to provide your banking information to them directly.

Late Banking Information – Annual Member Distributions

Any revised direct deposit information received after a member distribution will be processed on the 3rd – Friday of each month thereafter. Please provide no later than the Wednesday before the 3rd Friday to ensure any amounts owing to you are processed on the 3rd Friday. Otherwise, your payment may not be processed until the following month's 3rd

Are You Making a Payment? **NEW UPDATE Effective June 3, 2020**

Any member or customer making a payment (rent, ice rental, arena gym memberships, hall rental, hunting/fishing licenses, craft tables, Health Fair, Good Food Box, Pow Wow vendors, any other payments), Fort William First Nation Reception (2nd Floor of Band Office) must issue you an official pre-numbered FWFN receipt.

<u>Effective June 3, 2020</u> FWFN can accept payments by autodeposit/e-transfer from your personal smartphone banking app. You can register FWFN as a recipient by adding our Accounts Receivable email: accountsreceivable@fwfn.com. Please include a brief message before sending your payment such as: rent, ice rental (include organization name if applicable), invoice IVC#. A receipt will then issued to you by mail.

We can also debit/credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover). You may also mail in your cheque payment to the address noted below. Please reference your invoice number or rental unit address for rental payments. During the pandemic we are not processing any cash deposits.

FWFN Arena can process receipts if you are paying for your ice debit or credit card. The Arena no longer processes cash. FWFN Arena customers can now set up accountsreceivable@fwfn.com to send in an autodeposit/e-transfer payment - please include a brief reference to your organization if applicable and invoice IVC#.

Fort William First Nation – 2nd floor, Suite 200 at 90 Anemki Drive – for mailings.



COVID-19 – Update from Finance

As COVID-19 numbers continue to increase during the second wave in Ontario it is more important than ever for everyone to remain vigilant in their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This includes maintaining physical distancing with one another, practicing good hand hygiene and wearing masks when in enclosed public spaces.

Please continue to visit our local Thunder Bay Health Unit website for the most current COVID-19 data at: https://www.tbdhu.com/coviddata.

You may also visit our COVID-19 Action Plan web page for Community Updates, Resources and Important Contact Information at: https://fwfn.com/covid-19-action-plan/.

In addition to being a part of the COVID-19 pandemic team, Finance continues to work onsite in order to maintain continuity of services. Responding to COVID-19 pandemic needs and our Community's health and safety remains our primary focus while we continue to do our best to administer all of our Finance functions and as a result, our response times may continue to be delayed. We sincerely appreciate your continued patience and understanding during this time.

Payments to our suppliers

If you are a member-contractor with no current banking information on hand for EFT direct deposit payment, we will be mailing your payment by cheque to you. All regular supplier payments will be processed by cheque and mailed. There will be no picking up of cheques for personal delivery in order to limit contact and uphold the physical distancing requirements by public health officials.

You may wish to set up direct deposit, if so, please refer to the previous page for the correct format to submit this information to us.

Bingo Balls

Until further notice, Bingo Balls applications are not being accepted at this time, as a result of limited Bingo Operations during the pandemic.

Meegwetch – Stay safe and well – We are all in this together, in kindness – Your Finance Team



JOB POSTING

Position Title: Bus Driver(s)

Position Description: Under the general direction of the Director of Health & Social Services, with

direct supervision provided by the Education Manager, transports children

between school and home via school bus.

Major Responsibilities:

Transport children between school and home and/or an excursion as needed

- Ensure children's safety when boarding and leaving the bus and crossing the street while bus is stopped
- Report delays, mechanical problems and accidents to Education Department
- Complete accident/incident reports and distribute these to proper school and Education Department
- Additional duties as required

Qualifications/ Conditions of Employment:

- Must be able to work on short notice
- Completion of secondary school diploma is preferred
- A minimum of one year of safe driving experience is required
- Copy of Driver's Abstract required
- Class "G" driver's license required
- Criminal Reference Check required
- Bus drivers require a Class "B" license in Ontario (copy to be provided with application) FWFN is willing to train qualified applicants for class "B" license.

Job Posting Closing Date: Posting open until position is filled. Please direct your

application, consisting of a cover letter and resume with three

(3) references to the attention of:

Donna Mullen Human Resources Assistant P: 807-623-9543 ext. 806 F: 807-623-5190

Email: donnamullen@fwfn.com

When hand delivering, ensure that your application is date

stamped and a copy provided to you.

We appreciate all applications. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



JOB POSTING

Position Title: Bus Monitor

Position Description: Under the general direction of the Director of Health & Social Services and direct

supervision of the Education Coordinator, the bus monitor will enforce the bus transportation policies and procedures to ensure students safety while travelling

on the bus.

Major Responsibilities:

Ensure students follow FWFN bus safety protocols and procedures while travelling on the bus

- Report any behavioural issues, incidence and injuries of a child to the Principal of the school as well as the Education Coordinator
- Set and maintain rules for students to abide by while travelling on the bus
- Provide incident reports in the event of on accident/incident
- Attend meetings as required
- Additional duties as required

Qualifications/ Conditions of Employment:

- Completion of secondary school diploma preferred
- Criminal Reference Check required
- First Aid Certificate required

Job Posting Closing Date: Posting open until position(s) is filled. Please direct your

application, consisting of a cover letter and resume with three

(3) references to the attention of:

Donna Mullen
Human Resources Assistant
P: 807-623-9543 ext. 806
F: 807-623-5190

Email: donnamullen@fwfn.com

When hand delivering, ensure that your application is date stamped and a copy provided to you.

We appreciate all applications. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



**Extended **

Come on!! F.W.F.N Time to get your art on!

"One Life" Campaign



F.W.F.N addiction and wellness workers together with mental health worker are teaming up to launch a new campaign titled <u>One Life</u>

During this time of the stay-at-home order if you are looking for something to do with your family show us your art work and you will have your art displayed on the F.W.F.N website and Facebook page.

We are asking all those that are interested to submit a poster representing positive motivational messages through art that we can use as our logo and poster.

There will be

1st prize2nd prize3rd prize



Deadline: February 19th 2021

Call: 622-8802 for drop off

Email: LorettaCollins@fwfn

Email: AddictionsWorker@fwfn.com



Call out to Community Members

**Due to the pandemic and recent stay at home order we are extending the date for testimonials for the ONE LIFE campaign **

Deadline: February 19th 2021

Addiction and Wellness workers as well as Mental Health worker are looking for a few people to share their addiction/mental health testimonials. We are requesting a short 5 min or less video sharing your testimonial. Your video will appear in our "ONE LIFE" campaign that we will be launching to the community



Once your video is finished you will then email it to one of the Addiction Workers <u>lorettacollins@fwfn.com</u> <u>AddictionsWorker@fwfn.com</u>



YOUTH & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

UPCOMING 20 EVENTS 21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Online Yoga Anishnaabemowin	Book Club		R
7	8	9	Online 10 Yoga Anishnaabemowin	Book Club	12	13
Happys Valentings Days	Family Day Snow Sculpture Contest	16	17 Anishnaabemowin	Book Club O	19	20
21	22	23	24	Book Club O	26	27
	Online		Anishnaabemowin			
28	Yoga Feb-March W	/ebsite Access				

Our

Program

Details

Online Yoga4all

- Last Face to Face Yoga Session is Feb 10th 2021
 @5-6pm. Got Monthly Access for Feb & March.
- Online throught Instructors website.

 Yoga instructor will be video taping herself so you could review multiple times at your convenience.
 Must Register with marniegreenwald@fwfn.com

Family Day Snow Sculpture

Info Needed: Name/Number/Address

Must Contact: marniegreenwald@fwfn.com

Register by: Feb 12th 2021 @3pm

Judges will come arounf Feb 15th @ 4-6pm

Off Reserve Memebrs Send their Snow Sculpture pictures into ShayalayneSabourin@fwfn.com by Feb 15th 2:00pm

Book Club (



book : Gathering Moss — Robin Wall Kimmeres
Registration participants will meet once a week
Thrusdays @5-7pm to discuss the book.

The book is yours to keep.

Suggestions for upcoming book are encouraged.
Please send suggestions to Shayalayne at
ShayalayneSabourin@fwfn.com

• Anishnaabemowin



Online Zoom Language Program Every Wednesday 7pm-9pm

Must Contact : gailrbannon@fwfn.com
(Indigenous Language Teachings & Storys)

2nd Annual

Mental Health Presentation & Community Discussion



FWFN Hall on 2 a Pill Anishinabek
Family Car vice you to our Mental Hall sssion

Hosted to a Z 1 - li will be provided closes to the date

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Sarsday, February 11th

three ghout the event for those in attendance!!





Join us to share your message or story and to hear other peoples stories in support of mental health.

If you have any questions about this event contact:

Stephanie MacLaurin

622-8802 ext. 240

stephaniemaclaurin@fwfn.com



APPLICATIONS

2021/2022 Post-Secondary Applications are now available.

Please email education@fwfn.com
to request an application OR find the
application on the official FWFN
website www.fwfn.com

EVERY student must apply each year.

The deadline to submit the application is Friday May 28, 2021 by 4pm.

For more information, contact:

Myra Bannon Edcuation Manager 623.9543 ext 225 Myra@fwfn.com Brittany Collins
Education Assistant
623.9543 ext 205
education@fwfn.com



ANISHNAABEMOWN PROGRAM

Wednesday's Time: 7:00PM – 9:00PM

Online Zoom Program

To register contact: gailrbannon@fwfn.com





What you need to know about COVID-19 vaccines: Information for people with cancer

Vaccines are safe and they can protect you from serious illnesses like COVID-19.

Health Canada has approved two COVID-19 vaccines made by the drug companies Pfizer and Moderna. These approvals mean that Canadians can get the vaccines once they are available. Health Canada is reviewing other vaccines that may also be approved soon.

People who have or have recently had cancer may have a higher risk of getting very sick from **COVID-19.** The vaccine is an important part of protecting people with cancer.

Read this information to learn what is known about the vaccines at this time.

If you have questions about whether the vaccine is right for you, talk to:

- Your cancer care team if you are getting cancer treatment now
- Your primary care provider (family doctor or nurse practitioner) if you have already finished your cancer treatment

Which people with cancer are most at risk from COVID-19?

The following groups are known to be at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19:

- People with cancers of the blood like leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma
- People with lung cancer
- People who were diagnosed with cancer in the last year
- People with cancer who are 65 years or older
- People who have had a stem cell transplant in the last 6 months
- People getting treatments that weaken the immune system, such as chemotherapy and targeted therapies

Talk to your health care team about your risks.

How safe is the COVID-19 vaccine for people with cancer?

The COVID-19 vaccine has been tested on thousands of people and has proven to be safe.

Health Canada only approves vaccines that meet strict safety and efficacy (how well something works) standards. The COVID-19 vaccines have had the same safety checks and testing as any other vaccine that has been approved.

The COVID-19 vaccine has not yet been tested on people with cancer. From studying other vaccines, such as the flu shot, doctors say that the COVID-19 vaccine is safe for most with people with cancer.

You cannot get infected with COVID-19 from the vaccine.

Does the COVID-19 vaccine have side effects?

Serious side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine are very rare. Most side-effects from the COVID-19 vaccine are mild and will go away on their own.

The most common side effects are:

- pain in your arm where the needle was given
- fatigue (feeling very tired)
- headache
- body chills
- muscle aches
- joint pain
- fever (a temperature taken by mouth of 38.3° C (100.9 F) or higher one time or 38.0° C (100.4° F) for at least one hour)
- diarrhea
- vomiting

After you get the COVID-19 vaccine, wait for at least 15 minutes before going home. This wait is to check for side effects or an allergic reaction.

Side effects are more likely to happen after your second dose. If side-effects last for more than 2-3 days, make sure you speak to your health care team.



How is the COVID-19 vaccine given?

The two approved COVID-19 vaccines are given by an injection (shot) into the muscle of your upper arm. The full vaccine is two shots that are given a few weeks apart. Both shots are needed for the vaccine to work.

We will know more details about how future COVID-19 vaccines will be given once they have been approved by Health Canada.

How long does it take for the vaccine to protect against COVID-19?

Both approved COVID-19 vaccines protect you about 7-14 days after you get the second shot of the vaccine.

More studies are needed to know how well the vaccine works for people with cancer. Some people with cancer may not get as much protection from the vaccine, but any amount of protection helps to keep you safe.

When will the vaccine be available for people with cancer?

The government is rolling out a three-phase plan to ensure that people can get COVID-19 vaccines as soon as they are available. Some people with cancer may be able to get the vaccine before some other groups.

Since COVID-19 can cause people with cancer to get very sick, you should talk with your health care team about getting the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is available.

At what point in treatment is the best time for people with cancer to get the vaccine?

Speak to your health care team to decide the right time for you to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Your health care team can help you decide based on:

- your medical history
- the details of your cancer and treatment



Can the COVID-19 vaccine cause an allergic reaction?

There have been reports of people having an allergic reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine. If you have a severe allergy to anything, speak with your health care team before getting the vaccine.

For more information about the ingredients in the vaccine and advice for people with severe allergies, look at the following websites:

Ontario Ministry of Health's <u>Information Sheet on Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines</u>

Health Canada Recommendations for People with Serious Allergies

Keep wearing a mask and social distancing after getting the vaccine

There is still a chance that you can get infected with COVID-19 after getting the vaccine, even if you do not feel sick. You may also still be able to spread COVID-19 to others. As such, it is important to keep:

- Wearing a mask
- Washing your hands
- Keeping 6 feet apart from people you do not live with

To keep everyone safe, keep following public health advice after getting the vaccine.

For more information

Health Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments.html

Ontario Ministry of Health: https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccines-ontario

Ontario Government Ethical Framework for COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution: https://www.ontario.ca/page/ethical-framework-covid-19-vaccine-distribution



WHO IS A CLOSE CONTACT?

CLOSE CONTACT

You were within 6 feet/2 metres for 15 minutes or more.





You had multiple close encounters with someone over a 24-hour period (even if each was less than 15 minutes).





You had close physical contact with the person, such as a hug.





You live or provide care in the same home.





NOT A CLOSE CONTACT

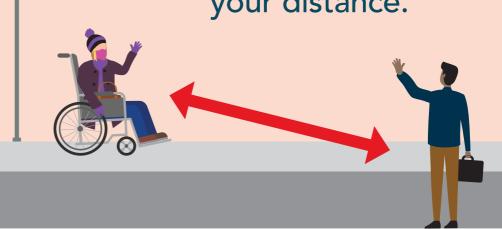
You had brief close contact while wearing a mask and/or with a barrier in place.



You passed someone quickly.



You greeted someone and kept your distance.



You made a delivery to someone who was self-isolating but had no contact with them.







COMMUNITY ADVISORY

FORT WILLIAM FIRST NATION

Title: Declaration of COVID-19 Outbreak February 10, 2021

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) is declaring an outbreak of COVID-19 among individuals who are experiencing homelessness and those who are precariously housed in the City of Thunder Bay.

Enhanced testing and surveillance done recently has shown a small but significant increase in cases of COVID-19 in this population. In addition, in the follow-up with individuals identified with COVID-19, public health has not always been able to establish a clear link with other cases suggesting that some spread of the virus has happened in this community.

TBDHU has been working with many partners involved with this population throughout this pandemic, including at the Vulnerable Population COVID-19 Planning Table. This is a strong partnership, involving numerous community organizations, that has been in place since the beginning of the pandemic to address gaps and mitigate risk of COVID-19 among vulnerable populations. The working group includes representatives from local emergency shelters, health care, mental health and addictions and social services providers, First Nation partners, food security programs and public health.

Significant measures have already been put in place, including enhanced testing and surveillance, static bed lists at shelters, and the expansion of the isolation shelter. TBDHU and community partners will be implementing enhanced infection prevention and control assessments and supports in various settings, ongoing testing and surveillance measures, and the deployment of rapid testing options, among other measures. The outbreak declaration will serve to strengthen and enhance the work that is being done.

For additional information about COVID-19 and the TBDHU area, please see the TBDHU Website.

Visit Ontario's website to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19.

For more information - Health Unit Media: news@tbdhu.com.



Department: Fort William First Nation CEO Subject: COVID-19 Community Update

Date Prepared: February 10th, 2021
Prepared by: Michael D. Pelletier

Chief Executive Officer

NOTICE TO COMMUNITY: COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATE

This memorandum will serve to update the community of Fort William First Nation on active cases, self-isolation situations, and the coming vaccines to the community.

With regards to the two positive cases in our community that were recently reported, one case has now been resolved, completing their self isolation period at a local hotel. The second positive case is still active, isolating at a local hotel and coming close to being resolved. There are still a number of self isolation households that are under our surveillance. Testing has been completed at all households with many results coming back as negative. There are no further positive cases to be reported. We are taking all necessary precautions in the positive and self isolation cases to prevent further spread of the illness. At this time, no further information regarding the cases will be disclosed in order to protect their right to privacy.

Vaccines for COVID-19 are coming closer to our community through the Thunder Bay District Health Unit. Our Emergency Response Group have setup a working group and led by our Community Health Representative and Community Health Nurse so that it is given out to those that are identified as a priority. The top of this list is our elders who will be first served. They will be given to those elders that are oldest and continuing to those that lesser aged in five year increments. Further updates will be sent to the community via newsletters and postings to our website which has a dedicated section for vaccines located at:

www.fwfn.com/covid-19-action-plan/

We ask that members continue to respect the stay at home orders, to remain in their homes and only leave for necessities. This also means that you should not be letting individuals outside your household into your home. There are exceptions for individuals living alone. Please self-monitor for any indication of symptoms related to COVID-19. If you believe you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, please contact the COVID-19 hotline at 698-0415 during normal operating hours (Monday – Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm) or during after hours at our Family Support line, 472-7701.

If you have any questions, please see contact information below.

Respectfully,

Michael D. Pelletier, Chief Executive Officer P: 807.623.9543 Ext. 233 C: 807-629-0471

ONTARIO WORKS FOOD BANK PICK UP GUIDELINES PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

- If you are <u>sick or are experiencing any of the following</u>
 - o Do you have a fever/chills?
 - Do you have a new or worsening cough?
 - Are you experiencing shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
 - Do you have a temperature equal to or over 38 Degrees Celsius?
 - o Are you experiencing fatigue or weakness?
 - o Are you experiencing muscle of body aches?
 - o Are you experiencing a decrease or loss of taste or smell?
 - o Do you have a headache that is unusual or long lasting?
 - Do you have digestive issues such as nausea/vomiting, diarrhea or stomach pain?
 - Have you travelled outside of Northwestern Ontario within the past 2 weeks?

If you answered yes to any of the above, we ask that you or any member of your home **DO NOT** come to the office to pick up your hamper. Please remain at home and call for assistance on how to receive your hamper @ 622-6791

- You must wear a mask at all times when picking up your hamper
- Someone will take down your name when you arrive, putting you in the line to be served.
- If you have a vehicle, please <u>remain in the vehicle</u> until your food hamper is brought out to the curb and the <u>worker has walked away.</u>
- If you do not have a vehicle, please <u>practice safe social distancing</u> while waiting to be served-<u>remaining 6ft away from one another.</u> Indicators will be marked where the line begins and the hamper will be brought out to you, <u>please stay where you are until the worker walks away.</u>
- Please do not come to the door or surround the door
- Once you are done please leave the cart on the curb do not attempt to bring it in.
- We ask that when you get home to <u>wipe down/ wash your food</u> products before storing them.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 5, 2021

Elders' Council named 2020 Guthrie Award recipient

Toronto, ON – The Law Foundation of Ontario is pleased to announce that the Elders' Council is the 2020 recipient of the Guthrie Award, the Foundation's signature award to recognize exceptional access to justice champions.

The Elders' Council was established using Indigenous methodologies to support the work of the Indigenous Justice Division (IJD) of the Ministry of the Attorney General. The Council holds positions for up to 13 Indigenous Elders who are Knowledge Keepers from across Ontario. The Elders were approached to participate based on their personal leadership strengths and specialized knowledge. The Council is gender-balanced and reflective of the diverse Indigenous Nations and regions of the province.

The Elders' Council is committed to supporting the reclamation of Indigenous legal systems and strengthening justice for Indigenous people in the province. The Council works to guide the IJD and its staff in an effort to repair the relationship between the Ministry of the Attorney General and Indigenous communities within Ontario.

"The Elders bring a compelling truth and integrity to their work," says Linda Rothstein, the Foundation's Board Chair. "By sharing their knowledge and lived experiences directly with those within the justice sector, the Elders' Council is helping to transform not just opinions but policies and laws that could bring about meaningful change and improve access to justice for Indigenous people across the province."

Quite unprecedented in other jurisdictions, the **Elders'** Council has provided formal advice directly to three Attorneys General for Ontario, as well as to staff at all levels of government across various Ministries and Divisions.

The Elders' Council also helped develop and co-facilitate Bimickaway, which is an award-winning, 17.5-hour Indigenous cultural competency training for justice sector workers. Bimickaway is an Anishinaabemowin word meaning 'to leave footprints'. Participants consistently provide feedback that the Elders' contributions are the most valuable and transformative part of the curriculum and help them understand the real-life and ongoing impact of the government laws and policies that are discussed in the training. Since 2016, over 5,900 people have completed the training and it has a long waiting list.

The Elders' Council has also educated the sector, and the public, through:

 Presentations and facilitated conversations such as those at the Sharing Our Justice Bundles Gathering, ReconciliACTION Forum, and Ontario Human Rights Commission's Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights Dialogue forums

- Consultations, such as providing recommendations to the Independent Review of Ontario Corrections, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Expert Hearings, and Indigenous design elements for the New Toronto Courthouse
- One-on-one support to families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and to families involved in coroner's inquests
- Co-facilitation of Family Circles **through the IJD's** Family Information Liaison Unit services, which bring coroners, police officers, and crown prosecutors together to provide information **directly to family members about their missing or murdered loved one's case**

"The Elders change the hearts and minds of government employees by creating respectful forums for dialogue," says Kimberly Murray, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Indigenous Justice Division, who nominated the Elders' Council for the Guthrie Award. "In all of its work, the Elders' Council has had a deep and transformative impact on everyone with whom they have interacted."

Members of the Elders' Council represent First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities from across Ontario. All of the Elders have worked in service of their communities throughout their lives, including in justice, health, education, and in leadership positions. Each brings a unique perspective based on their personal experiences, professional accomplishments, and Indigenous knowledge. The following Elders will be receiving the Guthrie Award:

- Elder Barney Batise: a Nishnawbe Aski Nation Elder and former Chief of Matachewan First Nation
- Elder Katsi Cook: Mohawk, of the Wolf Clan, Mohawks of Akwesasne
- Elder Helen Cromarty: Nishnawbe Aski Nation Elder, a member of Sachigo Lake First Nation and a residential school survivor
- Elder Donna Debassige: Anishinaabe kwe, of the Fish Clan from Mnidoo Mnising (Manitoulin Island) and a member of the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory
- Elder Waasaanese (Alex Jacobs): born at Lake Penage on the Whitefish Lake First Nation Community
- Elder Janice Longboat: Mohawk, Turtle Clan of Six Nations of the Grand River
- Elder Dr. Marlene Pierre: an Ojibwe of the Fort William First Nation, born and raised in the city of Thunder Bay
- Senator Verna Porter-Burnelle: citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario
- Elder Pauline Shirt: born and raised in Saddle Lake Reserve, Alberta, residing in Toronto
- Elder Gilbert Smith: from Naicatchewenin First Nation near Fort Frances, Ontario
- Elder Sally Webster: born on the land near Baker Lake, Nunavut, now living in Ottawa
- Elder Sytukie Joamie: from Tuapait, outside of Pannirtuug, Nunavut and now lives in Ottawa

Supporters of the Elders' Council Guthrie Award nomination

"In my role as Deputy Attorney General, I found the advice and knowledge that the Elders shared invaluable. The exceptional contributions of the Elders' Council to MAG have been central for MAG to make the justice system more culturally relevant and responsive to Indigenous Peoples. When dealing with issues such as over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in our jails or the impact of the lack of bail beds for those from fly-in communities, what was most helpful for me was to meet and listen to the Elders and take their advice and apply it to solutions we might not have developed yet... The Bimickaway training of almost all Crown Attorneys has also led to a different approach by many of them across the province."

- Paul Boniferro, former Deputy Attorney General for Ontario

"As an Anishnawbe from Wikwemikong First Nation, the importance of Elders in guiding our work is vitally important. We have always been taught to include and consult with Elders in our work as their guidance, sharing of knowledge and experience is critical. ... The Elders' Council increases access to justice for Indigenous communities and people. The Council does this by sharing their knowledge and personal experience with participants in Bimickaway, by providing spiritual and emotional support to families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, providing support to families during coroner's inquests, and providing guidance and advice on law and policy at the highest level within the Ministry of the Attorney General."

- Marian Jacko, Children's Lawyer for Ontario

"In my role as the Ontario Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform I had the opportunity to meet with and receive the benefit of advice from the Elders' Council several times. The members of the Elders' Council have first-hand experiences of the negative effects of colonialism and assimilative government laws and policies. ... During our frank and passionate discussions, I gained a deeper understanding of how the existing criminal justice structures and processes target Indigenous Peoples and their communities. Their message to me had direct impact on my work and recommendations."

- Howard Sapers, Independent Consultant and former Ontario Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform

- end -

About the Guthrie Award

The Law Foundation of Ontario created the Guthrie Award in 1996 to honour H. Donald Guthrie, Q.C., a long-standing member and Chair of the Foundation's Board.

Previous recipients include: **Pamela Cross, women's rights advocate;** Mary Birdsell, Executive Director, Justice for Children and Youth; Professor Reem Bahdi, professor, author, and human rights advocate; Julie Mathews, Executive Director, Community Legal Education Ontario; Kimberly Murray, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Aboriginal Justice and former Executive Director, Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada; Stephen Goudge, former Ontario Court of Appeal; the Hon. Roy McMurtry,

former Attorney General and Chief Justice of Ontario; Alan Borovoy, former general counsel, Canadian Civil Liberties Association; and the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic.

About The Law Foundation of Ontario

Established by statute in 1974, The Law Foundation of Ontario is the sole foundation in Ontario with the mandate of improving access to justice. Through granting and collaboration, the Foundation invests in knowledge and services that help people understand the law and use it to improve their lives.

To schedule a media interview, please contact:

Nathalie Noël, Communications Specialist, nnoel@lawfoundation.on.ca

Lisa Cirillo, CEO, <u>lcirillo@lawfoundation.on.ca</u>

Attachments:

Vertical photo collage

Elder Janice Longboat	Elder Helen Cromarty	Elder Sytukie Joamie	
Senator Verna Porter-Burnelle	Elder Sally Webster	Elder Waasaanese (Alex Jacobs)	
Elder Pauline Shirt	Elder Gilbert Smith	Elder Dr. Marlene Pierre	
Elder Katsi Cook	Elder Barney Batise	Elder Donna Debassige	

Horizontal photo collage

Elder Janice	Elder Helen	Elder Sytukie	Elder Pauline	Elder Barney	Elder Dr.
Longboat	Cromarty	Joamie	Shirt	Batise	Marlene Pierre
Senator Verna Porter-Burnelle	Elder Sally Webster	Elder Waasaanese (Alex Jacobs)	Elder Katsi Cook	Elder Gilbert Smith	Elder Donna Debassige



POUR DIFFUSION IMMÉDIATE

5 FÉVRIFR 2021

Le Conseil des Sages nommé récipiendaire du prix Guthrie 2020

Toronto, ON – La Fondation du droit de l'Ontario a le plaisir d'annoncer que le Conseil des Sages se mérite le prix Guthrie 2020. Le prix vise à souligner la contribution de chantres de l'accès à la justice qui se démarquent.

Le Conseil des Sages a été établi selon des méthodes Autochtones pour appuyer le travail de la Division de la justice pour les Autochtones (DJA) du ministère du Procureur général. Le Conseil occupe des postes pour un maximum de treize Sages Autochtones qui sont des Gardiens de Savoir dans tout l'Ontario. La participation des Sages a été sollicitée sur la base de la qualité de leur leadership et du savoir particulier de chacun et chacune. Le Conseil est composé d'un nombre représentatif de femmes et de membres des différentes nations et régions Autochtones de la province.

Le Conseil des Sages soutient résolument la revendication en faveur de l'instauration de mécanismes de justice Autochtone et de l'amélioration de l'accès à la justice des Autochtones vivant dans la province. Le Conseil aide la DJA et son personnel à rétablir la relation entre le ministère du Procureur général et les communautés Autochtones de l'Ontario.

« Les Sages font leur travail avec une intégrité et une authenticité remarquables », affirme Linda Rothstein, présidente du conseil d'administration de la Fondation. « En faisant part de leur savoir et de leur vécu à des acteurs du secteur de la justice, le Conseil des Sages contribue à provoquer des transformations majeures dans les manières de penser, mais aussi dans les politiques et les lois, transformations de nature à améliorer l'accès à la justice des Autochtones de la province. »

Le Conseil des Sages a conseillé officiellement et directement trois procureurs généraux de l'Ontario, une première au Canada. Il a également conseillé le personnel de divers ministères et organismes au sein du gouvernement.

Le Conseil des Sages a aussi aidé à mettre sur pied et a coanimé le programme Bimickaway, une formation primée de dix-sept heures et demie sur la compétence culturelle Autochtone, destinée aux membres du secteur juridique. Bimickaway est un mot Anishinaabemowin qui signifie « laisser des empreintes de pas ». Dans leur rétroaction, les participants notent souvent que les contributions des Sages sont l'élément le plus important et formateur du programme, qu'elles les aident à comprendre l'impact réel et présent des lois et politiques gouvernementales abordées dans la formation. Depuis 2016, plus de 5 900 personnes ont achevé la formation, et de nombreuses autres sont inscrites sur la liste d'attente.

Le Conseil des Sages a également éduqué le milieu juridique et le public grâce aux initiatives suivantes :

- Des présentations et des conversations en présence d'un animateur, notamment celles tenues à l'occasion du Sharing Our Justice Bundles Gathering, de la conférence ReconciliACTION, et du Dialogue sur les peuples Autochtones et les droits de la personne organisé en partenariat avec la Commission ontarienne des droits de la personne.
- Des consultations, qui ont notamment mené à des recommandations dans le cadre de l'Examen indépendant des Services correctionnels de l'Ontario, des témoignages d'experts dans l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles Autochtones disparues et assassinées, et des éléments de représentation de la culture Autochtone dans la conception du nouveau Palais de justice de Toronto.
- Du soutien individuel aux membres de familles de femmes et de filles Autochtones disparues ou assassinées et de familles qui ont pris part à l'enquête du coroner.
- La coanimation des Cercles familiaux par l'entremise de l'Unité de liaison pour l'information à l'intention des familles de la DJA, qui rassemble des coroners, des agents de police et des procureurs de la Couronne chargés de renseigner directement les familles sur l'état du dossier concernant leurs êtres chers disparus ou assassinés.

« Les Sages transforment le cœur et les pensées des employés du gouvernement en créant des contextes d'échanges respectueux », explique Kimberly Murray, sous-procureure générale adjointe à la Division de la justice pour les Autochtones, qui a proposé le Conseil des Sages comme candidat pour le prix Guthrie. « Le Conseil des Sages a eu une influence profonde et transformatrice sur toutes les personnes avec lesquelles ses membres sont en intéraction, cette influence se manifeste dans l'ensemble de son travail ».

Les membres du Conseil des Sages représentent les communautés des Inuits, des Métis et de **Premières nations des quatre coins de l'Ontario. Tous les** Sages **ont œuvré au service de leur** communauté au long de leur vie, notamment dans les domaines de la justice, de la santé, de **l'éducation et d**ans des postes de leadership. Chacun et chacune offre une perspective unique ancrée dans son vécu, ses réalisations professionnelles et le savoir Autochtone. Les Sages suivants seront les récipiendaires du prix Guthrie :

- M. Barney Batise, Sage de la Nation Nishnawbee Aski et ancien chef de la Première Nation de Matachewan.
- Mme Katsi Cook, Sage Mohawk du clan du Loup, des Mohawks d'Akwesasne
- Mme Helen Cromarty, Sage de la Nation Nishnawbe Aski, membre de la Première Nation de Sachigo Lake et survivante d'un pensionnat.
- Mme Donna Debassige, Sage Anishinaabe kwe, du clan Fish de Mnidoo Mnising (île de Manitoulin) et membre de la Première Nation du territoire non cédé de Wiikwemkoong.
- Waasaanese (M. Alex Jacobs), Sage né à Lake Penage, dans la Première Nation de Whitefish Lake.
- Mme Janice Longboat, Sage Mohawk, du clan Turtle des Six Nations de la rivière Grand.
- La Dre Marlene Pierre, Sage Ojibwé de la Première Nation de Fort William, née et élevée dans la ville de Thunder Bay.
- La sénatrice Verna Porter-Burnelle, membre de la Nation métisse de l'Ontario.
- Mme Pauline Shirt, Sage née et élevée dans la réserve de Saddle Lake, en Alberta. Elle réside à Toronto.
- M. Gilbert Smith, Sage de la Première Nation de Naicatchewenin près de Fort Frances, en Ontario.

- Mme Sally Webster, Sage née sur le territoire près du lac Baker, au Nunavut. Elle réside actuellement à Ottawa.
- Mme Sytukie Joamie, Sage originaire de Tuapait, près de Pannirtuuq, au Nunavut. Elle réside actuellement à Ottawa.

Ce que nous ont dit les tenants de la nomination du Conseil des Sages pour le prix Guthrie

- « Dans ma fonction de sous-procureur général adjoint, les conseils et les savoirs que les Sages m'ont communiqués m'ont été d'une valeur inestimable. Les contributions exceptionnelles du Conseil des Sages au MPG ont été essentielles pour que ce dernier puisse rendre le système juridique mieux adapté aux particularités culturelles et sensible aux peuples Autochtones. Lorsque j'ai abordé des enjeux tels que la surreprésentation des membres des peuples Autochtones dans nos centres carcéraux ou les répercussions de la pénurie de places pour membres des collectivités accessibles par avion en liberté conditionnelle, ce qui m'a été le plus utile a été de rencontrer et d'écouter les Sages, de prendre leurs conseils à cœur pour ensuite les traduire dans des solutions que nous n'avions peut-être pas encore envisagées... La formation Bimickaway, suivie par une très vaste majorité de procureurs de la Couronne, a également amené un bon nombre d'entre eux à adopter une approche différente, et ce dans toute la province. »
- Paul Boniferro, ancien sous-procureur général adjoint de l'Ontario
- « Pour moi qui suis Anichinabée de la Première nation de Wikwemikong, le rôle des Sages dans l'orientation de notre travail est d'une importance primordiale. On nous a toujours appris à inclure et à consulter les Sages dans notre travail, car leurs conseils, ainsi que le partage de leurs connaissances et de leur vécu sont indispensables. ... Le Conseil des Sages améliore l'accès à la justice pour les communautés et les peuples Autochtones. Le Conseil arrive à le faire en faisant connaître le savoir et le vécu de ses membres aux participants du programme Bimickaway, en apportant un soutien spirituel et émotionnel aux familles des femmes et des filles Autochtones disparues ou assassinées, en offrant un soutien aux familles pendant les enquêtes des coroners et en prodiguant des conseils en matière de droit et de politique dans les plus hauts échelons du ministère du Procureur général. »
- Marian Jacko, avocate des enfants pour l'Ontario
- « Dans mon rôle de conseiller indépendant pour la réforme des services correctionnels de l'Ontario, j'ai eu l'occasion de rencontrer les membres du Conseil des Sages et de tirer avantage de leurs suggestions à plusieurs reprises. Les membres du Conseil des Sages possèdent une expérience de première main des effets négatifs du colonialisme et des lois et politiques assimilatrices du gouvernement. ... Au cours des échanges francs et passionnés que nous avons eus, j'ai acquis une meilleure compréhension de la manière dont les structures et les processus de justice pénale en vigueur ciblent les peuples Autochtones et leurs communautés. Le message qu'ils m'ont adressé a directement influencé mon travail et mes recommandations. »
- Howard Sapers, consultant indépendant et ancien conseiller indépendant pour la réforme des services correctionnels de l'Ontario

Au suject du prix Guthrie

La Fondation a créé le prix Guthrie en 1996 en l'honneur de H. Donald Guthrie, c.r., qui a siégé pendant de nombreuses années au conseil d'administration de la Fondation, qu'il a d'ailleurs présidé pour un bon nombre de mandats.

Ont reçu le prix par le passé : Pamela Cross, avocate et défenseure des droits des femmes; Mary Birdsell, directrice générale, Justice for Children and Youth; professeure Reem Bahdi, professeure, auteure et défenseure des droits de la personne; Julie Mathews, directrice générale, Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario; Kimberly Murray, sous-procureure générale adjointe, justice pour les Autochtones et ancienne directrice générale de la Commission de vérité et réconciliation du Canada; Stephen Goudge, ancien juge à la Cour d'appel de l'Ontario; l'honorable Roy McMurtry, ancien procureur et juge en chef de l'Ontario; Alan Borovoy, ancien avocat général, Association canadienne des libertés civiles; et la Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic.

Au sujet de la Fondation du droit de l'Ontario

Créée par une loi en 1974, la Fondation du droit de l'Ontario est la seule fondation de la province qui a pour mission d'améliorer l'accès à la justice. Grâce à l'octroi de subventions et à la collaboration, la Fondation mise sur les connaissances et les services qui aident les gens à comprendre le droit et à s'en servir pour améliorer leurs vies.

Pour de plus amples renseignements

Nathalie Noël, spécialiste de la communication, <u>nnoel@lawfoundation.on.ca</u>

Lisa Cirillo, chef de la direction, <u>lcirillo@lawfoundation.on.ca</u>

Pièces jointes

Deux collages de photos de 12 Sages Autochtones

Mental Health Information: Suicide Prevention



There is Hope. There is Help. Suicide is Preventable.

If you or someone you know is thinking of dying by suicide, get help immediately. Call 911 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALIC or text "HOME" to 741741 to the Crisis Text Line.



Everyone's life matters. Help is available.



People do care. Treatment works.



Don't keep it to yourself. Tell a trusted adult





What to Do

- Identify trusted adults at school and home.
- Avoid drugs and alcohol
- Consider downloading helping apps like Virtual Hope Box, MY3, or A Friend Asks
- + Recognize the warring signs in yourself, your friends, on social media
- · Get help. You can't do it alone. · Tell a school psychologist, courselot, teacher, parent, or other adult.
 - Call 911 or 1.600 273 TALK or hall. "HOME" to 741741

Reminders for Friends

- don't judge
- Confirm. Ask if they have thoughts of dying or of suicide
- · Protect. Take any threats they make seriously. Do not agree to keep a secret! Tell someone
- · Stay. Do not leave alone a person you are concerned about being at imminere risk. You might be their Distant.
- Act. Call for belp immediately!

Connect, Listen, be accepting.

Risk Factors

- Feeling depressed, hopeless
- Delberale self mury ('cutting') Prior surcidal thinking and behavior
- Having family members or friends who have altempted or died by **Builde**
- Loss of an important relationship (e.g. beneking up)
- Being naised or alone
- Having been traumatized or abused
- Drug and aicohol use.

Warning Signs

- · Sucidal threats, both direct (I want to die') and indirect (I wish i could go to sleep and not wake up"i
- Sucide notes, plans, social media posts
- Making final plans, giving away taveste. things.
- Preoxyginton with death or reverge
- Changes in behavior, sleeping, eating, appearance thoughts and/or healings.
- Extreme mood swings, rage, withdrawaii
- Sudden usesplained happiness.

For more information, wisit www.hasponine.org/safety.and-clisis © 2019 National Association of School Psychologists

Emergency Contacts:

1. Kid's Help Line

1-866-925-5454

2. LGBT Youth Line-LGBTQQ22SI peer support

1-800-268-9688

Text 647-694-4275

3. Bullying Hotline Canada

1-877-352-4497

4. Good2Talk Post Secondary Crisis Line

1-866-925-5454

SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS



FREE DOWNLOADABLE APPS:

Mood Tools app - Includes safety planning diary. Helpful for those living with depression and/or thinking about suicide and how to stay safe.

Super Better app - A resilience builder - motivates users through simple games that have achievable goals. The tools learned can be applied to life when the going gets tough.

Calm app - Mindfulness app rated "#1 app for sleep and meditations".

7 Seven app - Mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health are all connected and interconnected - this app helps you move your body using 7 minute workouts - no special equipment - just a wall, chair, and your body.

Mental Health Information: Talking About Suicide







WHAT TO DO

if a person says they are considering suicide

- Take the person seriously
- Stay with them
- Help them remove lethal means
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255
- Text TALK to 741741 to text with a trained crisis counselor from the Crisis Text Line for free, 24/7
- Escort them to mental health services or an emergency room









Community COVID-19 Testing Monday February 8

For members of Fort William First Nation who have been in close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case or have symptoms

Please call the Dilico Family Health Team at 626-5200 to book an appointment

- Note that it usually takes several days after exposure to have an accurate test done
- That all close contacts must continue to complete their 14 day isolation, even if they have a negative test (applies only to close contacts and not those being tested for symptoms)



Restorative Justice & Cultural

Present through Zoom

Cultural Teaching With



Starting: Monday <mark>Feb. 8, Feb. 15 & Feb. 22</mark>

6:00pm – 7:30pm



To register email

Reneepervais@fwfn.com

Registration will be closed at 4 pm on the day of each session.



COMMUNITY ADVISORY

FORT WILLIAM FIRST NATION

Title: SHUT-DOWN EXTENDED

February 8, 2021

SHUT DOWN EXTENDED IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) region will remain in a temporary shutdown, until February 16, 2021.

The extension of the shutdown in our area means TBDHU will continue to experience timelimited public health and workplace safety measures to control the spread of COVID-19. The stay-at-home order remains in place.

Additional information on the announcement can be found in the Province of Ontario press release.

TBDHU encourages all residents to follow all public health measures to protect the health of individuals and our health system. As usual, if you get any COVID-19 symptoms, even mild ones, isolate immediately and arrange to get tested at your local assessment centre. Visit the TBDHU Website for more information or contact TBDHU at (807) 625-5900 or toll-free: 1-888-294-6630.

For more information - Health Unit Media: news@tbdhu.com.

As usual, if you get any COVID-19 symptoms, even mild ones, isolate immediately and arrange to get tested at your local assessment center.

Visit the TBDHU Website for more information or contact TBDHU at (807) 625-5900 or toll-free: 1-888-294-6630.

Updated information will be posted as it becomes available, please check the website FWFN.com and watch for community notices to keep updated.

Sincerely,

Luanne Maki

Luanne Maki Surveillance Co-ordinator