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**H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> FLU:  
PBCN Prepares for Possible Pandemic**



*Arnette Weber-Beeds  
Executive Director  
PBCN Health Services*

Since March we have had a celebration supper for the Practical Nursing graduates, a tri-annual Staff Conference and the Annual General Meeting. We hosted a celebration for the six Practical Nurses who graduated from the PBCN – SIAST Practical Nursing Program on June 12th. The graduates are Lisa Merasty, Alvina Merasty, Bonita Linklater and Ravonne Custer from Pelican Narrows, Doreen Ballantyne from Deschambault Lake and Frieda Olson from Southend. We are very proud of these ladies and are very happy to have employed all of them in our Health Centers.

The tri-annual Health Conference was held in Prince Albert in June. There were a number of really great presenters including our own Dr. Bonita Beatty who provided an overview of PBCN Health Services. The keynote speaker and highlight of the conference was Dave Peltzer, author of A

*Child called IT, the Lost Boy* and many others, who shared his life as an abused child and how he overcame and thrived as an adult.

**H1N1 Influenza: PBCN Pandemic Preparedness**

By: Duane Hiebert Emergency Response Coordinator PBCN Health Services

**What is a Pandemic?** The simplest definition is that it is an influenza that occurs in many countries at the same time. Pandemics are caused by a new or unique virus that people do not have a resistance to and can cause wide scale illness.

**What is H1N1?** H1N1 is a new virus that was identified in April 2009 in Mexico. H1N1 is highly contagious and it has now spread around the world. H1N1 characteristics include:

Influenza-like illness (ILI): acute onset of fever and cough and one or more of: sore throat, muscle aches, joint pain, or weakness. Vomiting/diarrhea may be present and fever may not be prominent.

*continued on page 3*

# Chief's Message

Tansi. I want to personally send out my greetings and thanks to all the people who have made my travels to our communities such an easy and enjoyable thing to do. I want to thank my staff and support network for making sure the things we are doing are getting completed. This past spring and summer has been very hectic for the Council and I. We are looking at improvements in all areas within our First Nation. Also, we are looking at priority matters such as the Flu pandemic that may be coming to our communities and a report from health is in this newsletter. Please make sure you read it and prepare you and your family from this potential crisis. Some other areas we are looking at are gang activities and violence in our communities. There are groups and agencies involved at the community and band wide level addressing these problems and finding out ways to combat them. One thing we don't need in our communities is violence amongst our own people and we are addressing gangs and finding ways to occupy the young people so they don't get caught up in this lifestyle.

I have asked Ted Merasty to get this newsletter out on a 4-6 week regular basis besides his duties in lands and resource issues. Each and every newsletter will include what we, as leaders are working on, but more importantly, the newsletter will showcase what we are as a First Nation. The newsletter will include youth stories, elder's wisdom, community actions and activities and each department will give regular updates on their activities on an on-going basis. This way, we hope to continue giving the PBCN members recent and important news that may be useful to

you. If you have personal stories or important information you feel should be out in our communities, feel free to contact Ted to include in the next newsletter. These can be graduations, birthday wishes,

birth announcements, anniversaries, local events, postings of fundraisers, or anything you might want to promote in your community. Over the next year, we want to make sure the Acimowin is your go to source of news and local information from the PBCN.



Another go to source is the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation Website, which is currently undergoing some changes, but please make sure you visit the Peter Ballantyne Website [www.peterballantyne.ca](http://www.peterballantyne.ca) for any news on community events and more, this is one other tool we are utilizing to get the information out to the membership. In October I will be doing the community round meetings along with Donna Morin, PBCN Co-Manager and other program managers. Attached in the newsletter are the dates of the community meetings and agenda items to be discussed at the community level. Ikosi akwa Ninanaskimon.

## Editor's Message



By: Ted J. Merasty

This new style Acimowin was inspired by the Leadership's desire to ensure the membership has information you need to become more informed about the everyday actions

and activities of your elected representatives, as well as the many local and band wide departments they represent. In the coming months, I will be asking elders and youth to submit to being interviewed and photographed for inclusion in the newsletter. This simple process takes but a few minutes and we feel that it encourages people to be more open to discuss the past as well as the future. This open forum dialogue is a way for people from other communities to get to know each other better.

Each community will also be given an updated profile in the Acimowin so everyone can better understand what makes each of our community's the

unique places they are. In this edition, Sturgeon Landing is profiled and every community will have their turn. Next month will be Denare Beach, then Kinosao, Southend, Sandy Bay, Deschambault Lake, Prince Albert (Kiskaciwan) and then Pelican Narrows. I feel as we profile each community, it would be best to include an elder and youth from that community next to the profile to make for more interesting reading. We will also include an elected leader's profile and a few words from them so that all communities can get to know who the other leaders from the communities are. In this edition, we have words from Councillor George A. Michell and his urban piece was well done. Over the next winter and spring, each community and each elected representative will have their opportunity to express their wishes to the local and band wide membership. There is also a Just for Kids! Section so that our younger generation can perhaps peruse through the information with their parents/guardians becoming informed as to what is going on within our First

Nation before they start the puzzles, mini-projects, crosswords, etc. Each issue will be different. I hope you find this newsletter provides you with current information you can appreciate.

In order to continue bringing the Acimowin to the communities on a regular basis, I am asking for submissions to the paper in the form of local reports, actions, upcoming activities, recent births or baptism announcements, graduations, anniversaries and other material you feel would highlight your community the best way possible. The next edition will have the PBCN Idol Finale highlights, local events, fall convocations, business ventures, election act information, new upcoming referendum on reserve designation, justice and gang issues, etc. If you have anything to contribute for the next Acimowin, feel free to contact me at (306) 763-3057 or

(306) 980-1081 or email [tjmerasty@sasktel.net](mailto:tjmerasty@sasktel.net).

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Transmission: directly from person to person through coughing or sneezing, and indirectly from touching contaminated surfaces and objects and then touching the eyes/nose/mouth.

Contagious: transmission is most likely to occur during the first few days of obvious illness.

**How do I protect myself from getting the H1N1 flu?** Like any flu the best way to reduce the spread of the virus is to practice good infection prevention and control behaviors. This includes good practices such as:

**Hand Hygiene** - Scrub your hands, between your fingers, under your nails, wrists, and forearms with soap for 20 seconds, then rinse thoroughly,

**Cough and Sneez Hygiene** - Use tissues for wiping noses and throw the tissue away immediately in the garbage. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing and coughing. If you don't have a tissue use the crook of your arm. Wash your hands or use alternative hand sanitizers after coughing, sneezing or using tissues.

**What has PBCN Health Services done to prepare?** Pandemic Planning Committees were identified for each of the PBCN communities. The community plans are periodically reviewed and have been tested to ensure that all areas of concern are addressed. Each community has a Pandemic Coordinator, who is responsible for the coordination of the plan. Prince Albert also has a Pandemic Coordinator on staff that is responsible for updating of the plan, coordinating training for community members interested in participating in the Pandemic Plan and other aspects of the planning and implementation of each community Pandemic Plan. As part of the overall preparedness, packages for each household in the PBCN communities were prepared and distributed to each Health Center. These packages contained information on Self-Care, First Aid, Infection Control Guidelines and basic medical supplies (thermometer and masks) that would be of use to prevent the spread of H1N1. The masks provided are to be worn only by individuals that may have the virus and would prevent the spread by coughing or sneezing. The wearing of the mask will not prevent a person from catching the virus.

**Additional Steps the Community Health Centers may take.** Some changes include issuing of masks to persons that have signs of flu when they come to Health Centers. These people will be asked to sit in another area. These precautions limit the spread of the flu.



**Vaccinations.** Public Health Canada advised the vaccine for H1N1 will be available by the middle of November. It is anticipated that there will be enough vaccine for everyone in Canada and will be available at the Health Center by the middle of November. All community members are encouraged to receive the vaccine. Once the vaccine is at the Health Center community members will be advised as to when vaccinations will be done in the community.

**Additional Information.** This brief article will not answer all the questions that there are regarding H1N1. Community members are urged to keep updated on this influenza and to take precautions to prevent its spread. For updates on the influenza you can contact your community Pandemic Coordinator or the PBCN Pandemic Coordinator.

Contact information is as follows:

Pelican Narrows	Keith McCallum	632-2046
Deschambault Lake	Jane Ballantyne	632-2106
Southend	Carol Pontague	758-2063
PBCN PA	Duane Hiebert	953-4425

There are web sites available that will provide H1N1 updates and these are:

- Northern Intertribal Health Authority [www.nitha.com](http://www.nitha.com)
- Public Health Agency of Canada [www.publichealth.gc.ca](http://www.publichealth.gc.ca)
- Saskatchewan Health [www.health.gov.sk.ca](http://www.health.gov.sk.ca)
- World Health Organization [www.who.com](http://www.who.com)



Trevor Ives

# PB Developments Limited Partnership

## Growth and Profits Continue as we approach 2010!!

**Western First Nations Hospitality L.P.** recently added to its portfolio of Hotels by purchasing a hotel in Southern Saskatchewan in the Town of Estevan. The Perfect Inn & Suites became available and given the strong financial performance of the existing hotels this was a good fit for the company. The deal becomes effective on October 1st, 2009.

This hotel opened its doors in June 2001 and has been performing extremely well in a marketplace, which is seeing growth from the coal power and oil & gas industries. This makes four properties within the company and improves the overall financial performance.

**PBCN P.A. Fuel & Convenience L.P.** started with the **Petro-Canada** station on 2nd Avenue in Prince Albert. We designed, built and now operate the most successful Petro-Canada retail fuel outlet in Saskatchewan. Based on this success, we have started the second **Petro-Canada development on 6th Avenue** East in Prince Albert. The land has already been cleared and work is on-going to turn it into an Urban Reserve.

Once completed, the facility will be approximately the same size building as the 2nd Avenue Petro-Canada, but it will have an additional 2 gas pumps for a total of 6 pumps. Once both stations are operational, we should see an increase in overall sales volume and market share, an increase in jobs, better customer service with shorter line-ups at both locations and an overall increase in business performance.

**Mee-Toos Forest Products Ltd.** has initiated a post-harvesting program near Pelican Narrows. With the assistance of the Chief & local Councillors, we have a crew of over 14 people processing fence posts near the airport at Pelican Narrows. It is our expectation that this will evolve to a post peeling operation this fall with the assistance of the community of Sandy Bay. Posts will be marketed to Saskatoon processors who will treat and sell the posts into the marketplace. If this initiative proves successful, we hope to continue the operation into the future.

**Prince Albert Casino Ventures L.P. (PACV)** purchased approximately 6 acres of land immediately adjacent to the existing Northern Lights Casino. While the land goes through the reserve creation process, we have invested infrastructure in the land by putting in sewer and water services, lighting and paving the site. Currently the land is leased to the Northern Lights Casino and has improved

Here are some financial statistics for PBDLP that have resulted in new records this year:

PBCN has over **\$16 million** of equity in it's businesses held through PBDLP.

Consolidated sales exceeded **\$30 million** for the fiscal year.

Cash distributions to PBCN from both Petro-Canada rebates and profit distributions exceeded **\$2.4 million** this year!

**How did we do it?** PBDLP is the *'for profit'* business arm of the PBCN and represents Band-wide commercial initiatives. With a focus on profits and business stability, PBDLP strives to achieve a balance between cash distributions to members through PBCN, business growth & stability and new investment opportunities. PBDLP business investments range in ownership from 100% to as little as 3%. This is a listing of some of our more successful business initiatives with our related ownership level within PBDLP:

- ✓ **First Nations Insurance Services Ltd.** (9.1%)
- ✓ **First Pharmacy Plus Ltd.** (100%)
- ✓ **Northern Resource Trucking L.P.** (3%)
- ✓ **Prince Albert Casino Ventures L.P.** (100%)
- ✓ **PBCN P.A. Fuel & Convenience L.P.** (100%)
- ✓ **Western First Nations Hospitality L.P.** (40%)



Sandy Bay Housing Project, one of our 8 PBCN communities.

## Future Gas Bar



their customer parking requirements in a safe environment. In addition, the available land has made it possible to start discussions on the possibility of Casino expansion and upgrades on the site. There are current plans to develop a separate smoking room in the near future. These projects provide a good return on investment for PACV and ensure that the Northern Lights Casino is a top-level performer for SIGA. This results in increased distributions to PBCN.

*A winner every time!* This is how we describe the **ATM machines at the Northern Lights Casino**. The PBCN Chief & Council were successful in their efforts to secure the contract to provide the ATM Bank Machine services within the Northern Lights Casino. We now have 4 ATM machines operating smoothly in the Casino. The fees from the ATM's are shared between the Northern Lights Casino and PBCN. This contract opportunity has proven to be a very good investment and adds to the overall business success of PBDLP. PBCN Leadership and PBCN Membership can be extremely proud of these results. We will continue to work to grow the Company and improve its ongoing performance.



**Jim Custer showing kids how to fillet a monster jackfish at Jims Camp**



**Chief and John Morin Swearing in Ceremony**

# Education

The school year is now underway. We do not have an accurate count of the student's numbers for they are still registering for the 2009-2010 school year. From preliminary indications enrolment should hold or increase slightly; however, we will know more once enrolments stabilize.

There are some new developments for this school year. In previous years, the school year ended in mid to early June; however, with school closures throughout the year, the student contact days were quite low. Therefore, the school year is extended until the end of June. There is extra time built in to the school year for possible closures. If there are few or no closures, the schools will be allowed to take long weekends in May/June.

All of the schools within the Prince Albert Grand Council area are a part of the First Nations Student Success Program. There are new reporting requirements attached to this program. On a monthly basis all schools must report student attendance and school closures. In addition we are also recording staff attendance in the data system for our own purposes. Other reporting requirements are graduation rates and student retention rates. All of this information is rolled up for PAGC and reported to INAC. Accountability in terms of standardized testing is also mandatory. With these new requirements it is important that students attend school regularly and that reasons for absence is explained to the school. Indian Affairs funds students based on their attendance. If students miss too much school in September and October, INAC will not provide funding for the students.

This year PBCN Education will be hosting a band wide education conference in November. The theme of the conference is "Reclaiming the Spirit". Dr. Martin Brokenleg from the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota will be



**Dr. Larry Wilkie**

in attendance on the first day. Dr. Edna Olive, the founder of positive peer facilitation, and Dr. Ken McKluskey, Dean of Education from the University of Winnipeg, will be in attendance on days two and three. The wrap-up for day four is currently being planned. The conference for 2010 is tentatively scheduled for the third week in August 2010, with Dr. Jane Pollock as the keynote. Her work centres on teaching and planning according to benchmarks and curriculum standards.

Construction on the new school in Deschambault Lake is underway. The targeted completion date is July 15, 2010. Chief McCallum, Councillor Joanne Ray and Councillor Harvey Nateweyes and Larry Wilke met with the Northern Lights School Division on August 20 for preliminary discussions on the future of the school and the desire to build a new school in Sandy Bay. This process will take time; however, ground work is now being done. The school in Pelican Narrows is in need of renovations. There is a severe lack of space with the growing student population.





Letters with appropriate documentation will be sent to INAC within the next month. The school in Southend is reaching capacity and will soon need an expansion.

The number of teacherages in all of the communities is also an issue. INAC's formula does not always allow the band to have the number of teacherages required.

INAC has increased reporting requirements, with a resulting increase in the workload; however, funding has not increased to off-set this extra work. In the interim, Richard Jobb has been given added duties as the acting Associate Director of Education; this is in addition to his regular duties as the education coordinator in Southend. This is formal recognition of extra work that Richard was already doing for the band in the area of education.

We will have more community based reports for the next edition of the newsletter.



**Chief talking to kids at school**



**Kimosom Pwatinahk Collegiate**

# Post Secondary Student Support Program

The PSSSP team consists of: Christine Morin, Gloria Merasty, Carol Merasty, MaryAnn Sewap and Brenda Roberts. The group was very busy in June attending the summer graduations at various institutes and witnessing the many achievements that our band members have attained for themselves and their families. Congratulations to the entire 2009 group of PBCN Post Secondary Graduates. Their efforts were well documented and presented in a musical video which was shown at the First Annual Peter Ballantyne "Honouring Our Graduates: Past and Present 2009" Gala held also in June 2009. It was truly inspiring to see just how many of our community members have achieved their certificates, diplomas, degrees and masters. One can only hope to see these numbers continue to climb. We thank everyone who supported this event. The public is welcome to visit the post secondary office and see the photos presented in the lobby. Our staff looks forward to attending the fall graduations at Saskatoon and Regina for those students who have completed their masters and bachelor requirements.

This past spring, several staff had the privilege of speaking to the fresh crop of high school graduates at the Pelican Narrows, Deschambault Lake and Sandy Bay high school graduations. These new graduates were invited to further their academics and go on to a post secondary school career. As one person stated "you have shut one door behind you but another one opens in front of you" and each high school graduate is invited to come knocking on the post secondary office door.

The PBCN PSSSP Summer Student Employment Program had yet another successful term. We had 6 of our returning PSSSP students working in different departments during the summer. This hardworking and dedicated group included the following students:

Debra Michel, Olivia McCallum, Melvin Merasty, Mary Sewap, Elsie Ballantyne and Clorice Merasty

This summer employment program not only supported these students financially for their hard work but it also assisted them in gaining work experience within their different fields of study. Good work and a job well done to these folks!

The post secondary student support office offers annual incentives by awarding various scholarships to currently funded students who have achieved an average of 75%, 85% or greater. The deadline is October 31, 2009 for our students.



**Elders Mr. and Mrs. Mike Daniels, Gertrude and Ann Merasty**



**Elders Virginia Bird and Bella Michel**



**These are 3 summer students that worked at the PSSSP office this summer.**

*Left to right*

**Elsie Ballantyne, Debra Michel, Mary Sewap**



## Post Secondary Coordinator, Christine Morin

As we begin a new academic year together, I want to encourage each PSSSP student to do the best they can. Set the goals you want to achieve for each semester. Reach these goals by keeping to your schedules and deadlines and starting each assignment early, then of course study, study! These rules for yourself will help you to end the academic year with great success. Please keep in contact with the office; let us know if you need help with assignments, papers and studying by way of tutors, or if you just need a little word of encouragement to get you through the day. Your student counsellors are very talented and knowledgeable persons who can proofread your papers for you. Sometimes another pair of eyes makes the difference for a winning paper! Remember to take it one exam at a time; make a list and cross them off as you complete them. Have a great semester!

Everyone, please remember to send all of the necessary documents as soon as you have them. The deadlines for funding for anyone wishing to apply are March 31st for the spring and summer classes and May 31st for fall funding. The application deadline for January classes is November 15th. Applications are available in the Post Secondary office and on the PBCN website. The PSSSP staff welcomes all new students to the program and we are looking forward to working with you!

# Housing Report to the PBCN Members

By: Trevor Morin – Housing Director

## CEAP INAC Initiative (Canada's Economic Action Plan)

PBCN has been successful in their proposal submissions for some of the CEAP Stimulus Package from the Federal Government's call for proposals. We are aware it will not solve the serious housing shortages, as it will put a small dent into addressing the housing crisis in First Nations Communities. These funds will flow in the next fiscal year and construction will begin in that fiscal year of 2010. PBCN was approved for the following;

- Construction of a multi-unit complex for Kiskaciwan for \$750,000.00
- Lot Servicing \$150,000.00 for Kiskaciwan
- Band Housing Renovations for \$961,790.00 to be allocated band wide.

If any band member has any additional questions, they can contact Leland Parisian (Regional Housing Officer for INAC) at (306) 780-7364. We also were successful in our proposal submissions for some of the CEAP Stimulus Package from the Federal Government. These funds will flow this fiscal year and construction began this fiscal year. These funds amount to \$779,573.00 for repairs to 50 existing units. CMHC will not approve any cosmetic items such as countertops or painting walls.

## Capital (aka Band Housing)

It appears that INAC will release New Year Band Housing funds between by mid-September 2009. According to the PBCN finance department and the PAGC inspection reports, not all communities completed their projects on time. Although, most of the PBCN communities were waiting for other communities to be done, INAC policy would not allow for individual communities to begin their projects until all of the PBCN communities were completed. Management is challenging INAC whether this can be changed in the new fiscal year, whereas one community does not affect the other communities' progress. Since PBCN is a multi community, and INAC does not want to change policy, it is a real huge obstacle year after year.

Again, if projects are not done, funding will once again be on hold from INAC until these can be 100% done. Then the funding is delayed and will delay all of the PBCN funding for housing. From past experience, some communities had difficulties with getting some band and some RRAP projects completed on time.

## CMHC Section 95 and RNH unit maintenance

It is now up to the local housing committees and the housing coordinator and the main accounting department to coordinate the ordering of materials and who they hire for labor. We are aware that PBCN members are getting impatient about when the repairs will begin, some have started and some are late in starting.

Other issues affecting late renovations are; late Materials Delivery, a lack of sub contractors (electricians and plumbers). Another final issue is that the administration is backed up at head office. It takes a lot of paper work and administration to coordinate the construction. This combined; with a lack of

funding to hire extra housing staff creates a back log on projects. Our office is recommending a project manager for PBCN Band wide. This will separate the duties from the accounting department; this also promotes accountability and transparency.

## CMHC Housing (new CMHC Housing Units)

PBCN has received a CMHC allocation on their rating scale. However, INAC still has to approve PBCN on their rating scale. Our office will submit an application for 20 RTM units for this fiscal year. If CMHC and INAC were to approve the application now, the RTM's would have to be delivered by February 2010 at the latest. The risk would be higher here and would cause risks of mold for the homes due to winter construction issues. This will be a huge challenge for the chosen construction general contractor. The requirement is to choose a general contractor for a turn key operation as PBCN is still tender in their financial situation and the financial risks will be significantly lowered or the sole responsibility of the bonded general contractor. It is recommended for PBCN to cooperate with this requirement and to learn as time goes on.

## New CMHC Lease Agreements

Our office has to begin enforcing rent collection on all working tenants. We thank all working tenants who have signed on. They will find that our rent is way cheaper as compared to rent in all areas of the province. Even low income housing is at an all time high in urban areas. PBCN had signed agreements with CMHC in order to maintain the units. Our office cannot do any maintenance, buy appliances or even pay for the monthly mortgage on the house or continue funding the replacement reserve account due to the shortfalls in rent.

The agreements state that any rental shortfalls or deficits will have to be paid from "other PBCN source revenues". **Band Members must understand, if they do not pay their rent, they are taking away much needed maintenance from their fellow neighbor.** We cannot maintain this program if tenants do not cooperate. CMHC will also assess PBCN on the status of rent collection and will decide if PBCN is eligible for future CMHC Units. This will be the 12<sup>th</sup> year that PBCN has not had any new CMHC units due to INAC Policy.

The new funds for renovations, the Kiskaciwan Multi-plex and the lot servicing will start in April of 2010. A request has been submitted to INAC to redirect the funds for lot servicing and the multiplex to the reserve closer to Prince Albert (Kistapinan Indian Reserve). The plan is to develop some lots for homeownership as well as for elders to be closer to services in the city. An engineering firm has been hired to continue with the subdivision plan for the next few months. For any concerns, please contact the housing portfolio council member, the local housing committees, and local housing coordinator, or my office for any additional information. Work 953-4400 Fax 953-4420.

# Social Report

Our audit from Pricewaterhouse is completed and INAC's compliance report was completed in August with another that should be completed by November. Our cash flow is determined by INAC and we are forwarded \$850,000 per month. Our expenditures for April, May, June, July and August have averaged \$950,000. This shortfall creates hardship as INAC, as per the CFA agreement is supposed to reimburse the PBCN for all expenses incurred every month. We haven't been receiving our overflow funds. INAC seems comfortable with our cash flow situation because we have been told they have been forwarding all monies owed to us. This is an ongoing battle.

On the bright side; our potato harvest is expected to be a bumper crop. We are looking to harvest and market our surplus potatoes. We have a tractor and are looking to cultivate our land just south of Prince Albert approximately 5 kms. Over at Kiskaciwan there is 50-60 acres of good farm land. It is a good idea that some of our people can be trained to farm. Organic vegetables (without pesticides or herbicides) are in great demand on the market and we have a potential deal with Sobey's. Hundreds of bags will be available by the end of September.

Our National Child Benefit Reinvestment (NCBR) program is over 2 million. Most of the work oriented programs are coordinated with Northlands College Training component.

All future NCBR will require a training component to qualify with INAC policies. As of today, 95% of all NCBR programs have been approved and the rest are forthcoming. Lastly, we had two AIS software workshops for the Social Development staff. We covered AIS software, overtime sheets, and TOIL forms for payroll. We agreed on a plan to pay all bills and pay invoices. We also spent a day with INAC reviewing the policy manual. Here is the social account as of the end of June 2009.



**John Merasty SA - Director**

Opening Balance	282,960.44
June outstanding cheques	62,212.18
Closing Book balance	220,748.26



**Prince Albert Urban Reserve**



**Vera Sayese, Director**

# Indian Child Family Services

We are excited to be reporting to our membership another successful year in providing services and programs to all of our PBCN communities. We have just completed 13 years of operation with our Agency. Our theme this year is "strengthening the family unit".

these circumstances and are the most at risk to suffer neglect and abuse. The latest trends in the communities are gang related activities and the use of more potent inhalants.

## FOSTER CARE

We would like to commend the foster parents who open their homes and hearts to the children that have been placed in the care of the Agency. Without the support of the foster parents it would be hard to do effective child protection as we would have to look at placing children out of their home communities. Thank you for your support and continuing services to our Agency. Our staff continues to provide the PRIDE Training for the foster parents in their respective communities.

## AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

Our authority to deliver child and family services is delegated by the Band and the Province of Saskatchewan. We are funded primarily by INAC. Peter Ballantyne Child & Family Services Inc. began November 1, 1995 and the Group Homes opened in February 2000.

There are 140 employees working for PBCFSI, a majority being Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation members. We have eight (8) offices located in the communities of Kinoosao, Southend, Deschambault Lake, Pelican Narrows, Sandy Bay, Amisk Lake, Sturgeon Landing and the central office at the Chief Joseph Custer Reserve in Prince Albert. PBCFSI has three group homes located in Pelican Narrows, Deschambault Lake and Southend, and one Family Wellness Center in Sandy Bay. The Sandy Bay Family Wellness Centre is the only program in Canada that provides a residential treatment program for children in care and their families that works toward family reunification. We also converted the Deschambault Lake Group Home to a second Family Wellness Centre. The benefit of these programs is that children very often do not come into care again.

## Governance Structure

The governance structure of PBCFSI is composed of one (1) Elder and eleven (11) Directors / Board members representing the communities of PBCN. The Board is responsible for the legal and financial obligations of the agency and for providing leadership and accountability to the families and communities. The Chief and Council hold ex-officio positions within the organization.

## Program and Service Delivery

PBCFSI's mandate is to provide child and family services living on PBCN Reserve lands. PBCFSI provides community-based child and family services that reflect culture and values of our PBCN communities and build on family strengths. PBCFSI provides a wide array of programs from protection and prevention services through educational and awareness programs to promote healthy lifestyles. PBCFSI follows The Child and Family Services Act (Saskatchewan) and is guided by our vision, our mission, our guiding principles and values as per our Strategic Plan and our five (5) year business plan.

PBCN community members face many challenges in their lives including poverty, poor housing conditions, substance abuse and exposure to family violence. Children are the most vulnerable in

## Preventative Enhancement Model

The Prevention Focused Approach Model in conjunction with the PBCFSI strategic plan will enhance the lives of PBCN children and families by promoting their development and well-being, keeping them safe and protected, and ensuring that they live in a stable and safe environment in healthy communities. Implementation of Preventative Focused Approach Model will result in the reduction of the number of PBCN children in care, support community cost sharing projects to promote healthy lifestyles, communicate the message that PBCFSI is more than a child protection service, and most importantly, achieve the goal that the family is the most important resource for the child.

## Comprehensive Funding Arrangement (CFA)

An Agreement between PBCFSI and INAC: The Board of Directors signed the 2009-2010 Comprehensive Funding Arrangement on March 17, 2009. On February 5, 2009, PBCFSI Board of Directors approved and signed the Amendment CFA 2008-09 to receive the Prevention

Services Enhancement Funding and received two installments totaling \$1,580,964 (February 15, 2009 and March 15, 2009). Agencies provide advocacy and support and are involved in joint case planning with off-reserve First Nations families, children and youth who are receiving services from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services.

## Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute

The Institute was incorporated early in 2007. The Executive Directors of the 17 FN CFS Agencies formed the first Board of Directors. In July 2008 we have downsized the board appointments to nine. I currently serve as a Vice Chair for the Institute.

## Conclusion

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of our organization; our staff, the Board of Directors, the Chief and Council, our foster parents, our Elders, the other programs that sit with us at the Interagency table and our community members. Our success is due to all the people who have helped build better communities. Always remember...Awasisak: "The Heart of our Community and our Nation". Ekosi!



# PBCN Community Profile

## Sturgeon Landing

Between two provinces straddling the Manitoba and Saskatchewan boundaries lies this small community of approximately 100 individuals. There are, of course many more people living away from Sturgeon Landing than in it, but that's the way it been for some of our communities and the gap seems to be getting larger. Call it the urbanization of a generation. There used to be two parts of the community but in recent years, there has been a decidedly one way trip from across the west side of the river to the east side where the majority of residents now live. Houses have sprung up over the past few years on the east side of the river as the west is all but abandoned due to a lack of community infrastructure. Access to water and sewer services could only be made available on the east part of the river and thus everyone has moved over.

The recently elected Councillor is Gertie Budd, herself no stranger to the role of community leader having held the post for several terms in the 90's and in this decade. Councillor Budd, like the other two smaller PBCN communities, has responsibilities for the community in every capacity from ICFS, Health, education, housing and social issues. Unlike other communities where portfolios are shared, one Councillor communities have no such scenario. Therefore, community prosperity is placed squarely on the shoulders of those who dare to lead for the two year terms.

The community has a school with several dozen kids and youth. It has internet access and the same curriculum as can be found in all of our schools. The Health Centre takes care of most of the needs in Sturgeon Landing with more serious care needs being met in The Pas, an hour away by taxi. The community hall is nicely maintained and has hosted meetings before with ample room for everyone. A few years ago (2005), it was the finishing place for the Centennial Canoe Quest and by all accounts, the PBCN put up very solid teams and a well received end to the festivities by bringing out the good food and good people. The people speak a Swampy Cree (n) dialect with the word me pronounced neena instead of neetha presumably due to their close proximity to Cumberland House. Sturgeon Landing is halfway between Flin Flon and The Pas Manitoba. Once on the highway south past Cranberry Portage, watch for the huge sign on the right and a short ride on the gravel road and you are there. Councillor Budd and the people of sturgeon landing will make you feel quite welcome.



BBQ at Sturgeon Landing



Gertie Budd Swearing In Ceremony



# Just for Kids!

## Handprint Spider



This spooky little spider does double duty - first as a quick and easy fun craft for kids of all ages, and second as a keepsake for mothers (or grandmothers) to lock away and bring out on future Halloweens!

**You will need:** Black paper Wiggle eyes Black wool Glue

### Instructions:

Draw around both hands with fingers spread out and thumbs tight against index fingers.

Cut out the hands and glue them together so that the palms form the spider's body and the fingers it's legs.

Glue on the wiggle eyes. Make a small hole through the centre of the body. Thread the wool through the hole and tie into a knot. Hang these spooky spiders from doorways to scare people as they come through!

## Help these spooky friends get together!



## Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

Don't toss those pumpkin seeds! Roast them to make a quick and crispy snack. Ask for a parent's help before you start this project.



**YOU WILL NEED** Pumpkin seeds from your jack-o'-lantern Olive oil Salt Baking pan with raised edges

### HERE'S HOW

Preheat oven to 350° Fahrenheit (176° Celsius).

Separate the seeds from the pumpkin glop. Rinse and pat them dry with a paper towel. Put the seeds in the baking pan.

Drizzle the olive oil over the pumpkin seeds and then sprinkle them with salt. Stir the seeds to coat them with oil, then spread them out evenly over the bottom of the baking pan.

Cook for 10 minutes, then remove the pan from the oven and stir the seeds. Return to the oven for another 10 minutes until the seeds are golden brown.

Let the seeds cool, then transfer them to a plate lined with paper towels to soak up the extra oil. Experiment by adding other spices to see what flavor you like best!



### Halloween Word Scramble



Can you unscramble these mixed up words to discover which spooky creatures are coming to the Halloween party tonight?

1. gohst                    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. vemipar                \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. wtchi                    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. snlkteeo                \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
5. mmmuy                 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. feetrnsanink         \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. wrleefwo              \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
8. mnorset                \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

# Councillor Profile

## GEORGE A. MICHELL

Tansi, My name is George Michell I am the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation Urban Councilor for the Prince Albert, Saskatoon, LaRonge and Surrounding areas. First of all, I would just like to say thank you to Ted Merasty for putting in so much time and effort into developing this masterpiece. All your hard work is greatly appreciated. I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce the things that we have been working on and mention some others projects that we are undergoing.

### My Portfolio Assignments include:

Health Services, Child and Family Services, Education/Post Secondary, Woodland Cree Training, Administration & Finance, Resources, Fishing, Trapping & Hunting, Recreation & Sports Economic Development, Treaty Land Entitlement, Social Development, Housing & Infrastructure Urban Services (PAGC) and Governance.

### Committees:

The following people who sit in TLE Committee are: Margaret Michel, Celina Morin, Eli Natewayes, Brenda Roberts, Sandford (Sandy) Custer and Dolly Clarke.

The Steering Committee members for the urban area are: Randy Sewap, Becky Ballantyne and Bobby Cook.

The steering committee brings issues that arise to the TLE Committee. They also forward any proposals or projects to the Trustees at the TLE office which is also situated at the Chief Joseph Custer Reserve #201 in the Basement of the Post Secondary Education Office.

**Cottage 1** - Our new office location, is located at the Chief Joseph Custer Reserve #201 This new office was opened in November 2008 and we plan on opening a part time office in Saskatoon sometime in the near future. We have finished our Phase 1 renovations and we will be starting our phase 2 renovations for our unfurnished basement in the summer of 2010 so that we can have more office space and a boardroom for your convenience.

The PBCN Urban reserve also known Kiskaciwan Reserve is working on getting a 6-plex unit at the Reserve in the next year or so. We also have 3 more reserves in the Prince Albert area, including the PBCN Petro Station. Our TLE is working on an additional selection. Over the winter we will be planning future use of all our urban reserve lands. I have had several community meetings in our urban areas; we have listened to the membership and hope to work on their suggestions in the upcoming months. We have also assisted



**Randy Sewap, Crystal Merasty,  
Councillor George Michell, Clarise Lecoq**

some members to obtain employment and to get enrolled in education and training courses. We will have some new projects starting in 2010 such as the new PBCN Petro Station on 6th Ave. What we need in the future are some big projects that employees a lot of our members. For example there may be plans for an education facility on one of our reserves or multi-unit housing developments. From our office we have tried to support youth in sporting and recreation activities such as hockey, soccer and ball. We had several urban youth attend the Summer Games in Onion Lake. We provided some school supplies for the Urban School children. Over the last few months we have supported the urban members in need with emergency assistance. At this time however the funds are low and the demands are high therefore we cannot help as much as we would like to. On Aboriginal Day June 21, we held a PBCN Elders Gathering and Feast, which was very good turnout and am looking forward to it next year. On behalf of our administration staff I thank you for your support and your help in making our community a better place to live.



**Denare Beach Councillor Clayton Sewap  
standing next to RCMP officer and  
Clayton's family on Treaty Day**



# ATTENTION ALL PETER BALLANTYNE CREE NATION MEMBERS

## *PBCN Idol*

*We Will be Auditioning  
through the PBCN  
Communities in Search of the  
PBCN's Greatest Talent !!*

*Contest Auditions will take place at  
these following Venues:*

*Sandy Bay  
Pelican Narrows  
Denare Beach/ Sturgeon Landing  
Southend/ Kinoosao  
Deschambault Lake  
Prince Albert/ Saskatoon/  
LaRonge and other surrounding  
areas*

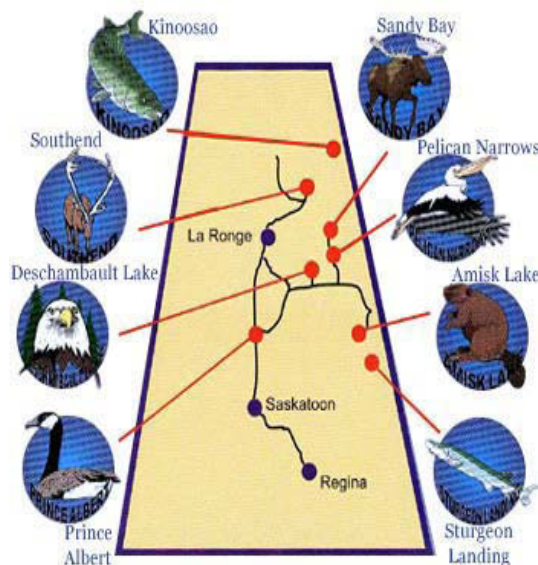
*Do you think you have what  
it takes to become the Winner of the  
1st Annual PBCN Talent Search?*

The Grand prize winner will  
walk away with a Recording  
Studio Session with Turtle  
Island or Equivalent Value  
and all the bragging rights  
about being the First PBCN  
Talent Star !!

**Amateur Talent Only**

## Grand Finale November 28th & 29th 2009

The Peter Ballantyne Cree Nations



### E.A Rawlinson Centre

- All semi finalists will be announced on MBC Radio and the Semi finalists who make it to the Grand Finale in Prince Albert will receive full travel, meals and accommodations for contestant and a parent/guardian (if required).

For more Information or Entry Forms please contact:

Mark Merasty	980-9960
Brenda Roberts	953-4400 (Messages)
Candace Merasty	953-4400
Pauline Clarke	764-1026
Crystal Merasty	765-5388