



Quarterly Newsletter

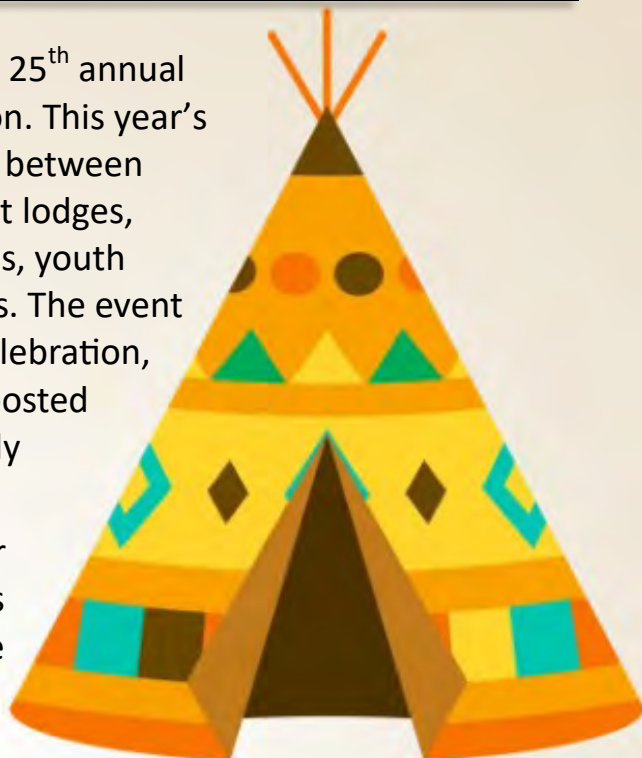
Niibin 2023 Edition



2023 YOUTH & ELDERS GATHERING UPDATE

The 2023 Youth and Elders Gathering marks the 25th annual Y&E Gathering event at Michipicoten First Nation. This year's planning committee confirmed over 110 events between August 5th and August 11th. Events include sweat lodges, making ribbon skirts and shirts, daily canoe rides, youth activities, a variety of teachings, and horseshoes. The event will surely be an exciting week of community celebration, learning, and fun. The finalized agenda will be posted on the MFN website, Facebook page, and weekly flyer within two weeks.

The event coordinators have identified a caterer to provide light breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for the week of the Gathering. A member of the committee has begun working with the caterer to develop a thoughtful and delicious menu for



the week. Once finalized, the menu will be available on the MFN website, Facebook page, and weekly flyer. The event is free for all to attend, but the event coordinators request that anyone willing to volunteer and support the event reach out to:

yegathering@michipicoten.com

Some supporting roles include event helpers, registration aids, material preppers, and general support. An event of this size requires a lot of helping hands, and every extra person helping out is greatly appreciated. If you reach out, the coordinators will discuss potential support needs and add you to a running list of volunteers required to ensure such a large community event runs smoothly.

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Chiefs Message

Gimaa Kwe Patricia Tangie



Ahniin, Boozhoo Relatives,

Half the year is already gone by and there is so much happening for Michipicoten these days! We have recently closed the Victoria Inn acquisition. A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place in the near future in Thunder Bay, Ontario. I am hoping this celebration will coincide with the dates for the Robinson-Superior (RST) Annuities trial.

June 26, 2023 was the final day of the RST trial in Sudbury. The court is breaking for the summer months and will resume in September. Closing statements for the RST are expected to be heard in Thunder Bay from September 11 to 22, 2023. If you would like to attend, please feel free to do so. We will post the address on our MFN website once it is known.

Our 25th Youth and Elders (Y&E) Gathering is just around the corner. Staff and volunteers have been working diligently to make this Gathering a success. Grandfathers/Grandmothers (rocks) have been collected for you to have Sweatlodges during the Gathering. On June 30th, Sweatlodge teachings are planned for those who want to help build a lodge. People will learn how to collect materials, build the lodge and then Helpers will be able to participate in a Sweatlodge ceremony if the Northern Ontario fire ban is lifted.

Northern Ontario has been experiencing an open fire ban for most of our summer so far. Our sky is hazy with smoke and the smell of smoke is heavy in the air. While we had rain last night, it's not enough. We need so much more rain to quench Mother Earth's thirst and extinguish the fires.

Also in this newsletter, you will also see some of our recent graduates. We know some of you had to work harder than others to achieve this success. Those of you who are still in school are encouraged to continue working hard. Don't give up, you will be rewarded for your dedication. If you're struggling, remember, short term pain for long term gain.

All in all, those of you who have completed your education, whether your education is from the traditional cultural school of life or an academic post secondary education, we sure could use some additions to our dynamic Michipicoten team. Tell us who you are! It would be nice to see a picture of you and hear a bit about yourself or your family. We want to know our Citizens; your skills, training, and interests can be sent to Ashley Omolida, Communications Coordinator or Debashish Basu, Education Coordinator to include in future newsletters.

Know that Council is very grateful to you all! Many thanks go to you for your perseverance and continued support. We know times are rapidly changing and you becoming involved in our Nation improves our quality of life. You also improve our Universal Energy with your good medicine.

Our warmest prayers go to those of you whose loved ones who have graduated from this world to the Spirit world. We extend our sincere condolences, and our best wishes go to you all.

We look forward to seeing you at our Youth and Elders Gathering August 5-11, 2023. Until then, have a great summer!

Aho, Gimaa Kwe Patricia Tangie

Chief & Council Meeting

Schedules

REGULAR PLANNING MEETINGS

Thursday September 14	2:00pm to 5:00pm
Thursday October 12	2:00pm to 5:00pm
Thursday November 9	2:00pm to 5:00pm

New Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89658248045>

Meeting ID: 896 5824 8045

Dial In: 1-438-809-7799 (Canada) 1-646-558-8656 (US)

REGULAR CHIEF & COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday August 24	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Thursday September 28	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Thursday October 26	6:00pm to 8:00pm

New Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89769643548>

Meeting ID: 897 6964 3548

Dial In: 1-438-809-7799 (Canada) 1-646-558-8656 (US)

*Due to account changes, these **NEW** Zoom Links were created in June 2023.
Please use these links for all future Chief & Council meetings*

Please note: There will be no meetings in July and no Planning Meeting in August.

Please contact Ellen Mackenzie, Executive Assistant at 705-856-1993 ext 214
or email executiveassistant@michipicoten.com to arrange for item(s) you wish
to speak about at a meeting.

Michipicoten First Nation Offices & Hours



Monday to Friday *closed for lunch	8:00am to 4:30pm 12:00pm to 12:30pm
Friday	8:00am to 1:30pm
Closed Weekends and all major Canadian & First Nation Holidays	

Administration Building (Band Hall)

(107 Hiawatha Drive, Michipicoten First Nation) - Administration, Communications, and Public Works staff and services

Carpentry Shop

(13 Whitesands Drive, Michipicoten First Nation) - Operations & Maintenance staff and services

Family Well-Being Lodge

(3 Maple Street, Wawa) - cultural programming and supports.

Health Centre

(109 Hiawatha Drive, Michipicoten First Nation) - Health & Social Services supports

Membership Services

Contact:

Jenny Fletcher, Membership Administrator

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 210

E-mail: reception@michipicoten.com

Our Membership service can assist you with:

- Indian Registry Administration (IRA)
- Renewing CIS Status Cards at the Administration Building - by appointment only
- Provide Gas Card Tax Exemption information
- Treaty Annuity Payment information
- Updating your address in our AIS database and in Accounts Payable



Communications

E-mail: communications@michipicoten.com

Website: <https://michipicoten.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MichipicotenFirstNation

YouTube Channel: [@officialmichipicotenfirstnation](https://www.youtube.com/@officialmichipicotenfirstnation)

Weekly Flyers are posted every Thursday at <https://michipicoten.com/news-events/our-flyers>

Quarterly Newsletters are posted every season at <https://michipicoten.com/news-events/our-newsletters>

MFN Employee Contact List can be viewed on our website at <https://michipicoten.com/contact>





Missing Address List

Contact:

Jenny Fletcher, Office Coordinator / Membership Administrator

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 210

Fax: 705-856-1642

E-mail: reception@michipicoten.com

Website: <https://michipicoten.com/services/membership>

If you are a new Citizen to Michipicoten, have never claimed your Better Living Policy payment, or have moved within the last year, please call and update your address with Jenny Fletcher at the contact details above.

This is to ensure future newsletters, letters and cards will be delivered to the proper address in a timely manner.

Communications



Contact:

Ashley Omolida, Communications Coordinator

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 225

Fax: 705-856-1642

E-mail: communications@michipicoten.com

YouTube Channel: [@officialmichipicotenfirstnation](https://www.youtube.com/@officialmichipicotenfirstnation)

Website: <https://michipicoten.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MichipicotenFirstNation

Call Out – Newsletter Mailing/Emailing Preferences

Since the release of the 2023 Election Newsletter, we have received some requests from Citizens to receive their future newsletters by e-mail instead of a printed copy. Since this is a great request due to it being environmentally friendly and efficient for Citizens who live farther from Northern Ontario, we are calling out to all MFN Citizens who would like to start receiving their future newsletters by e-mail rather than it being mailed to their home.

Please email communications@michipicoten.com if you would like to start receiving your newsletters by e-mail and to which e-mail address you would like to use. This will be recorded in a database used only for newsletter e-mailing purposes.

If you would like to make a suggestion for content that you would like to see in future Quarterly Newsletters or submit a birth announcement, graduation, death announcement, birthday or well wishes, inspirational quotes, pictures, etc., please email communications@michipicoten.com your contribution or suggestion!

Better Living Program

Contact: **Jenny Fletcher, Membership Administrator**
Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 210, Fax: 705-856-1642
E-mail: blp@michipicoten.com

For Citizens that are not familiar with this benefit, the Michipicoten First Nation Better Living Policy has been in effect since June 2008 and provides Citizens with a small monetary reimbursement to help with day-to-day living expenses. Financing of this program comes primarily from interest income earned through investments held by the Michipicoten First Nation Boundary Claim Settlement Trust. When the trust income alone isn't enough to support this program, other revenues and surpluses are used to top up the budget. The amount of the benefit and the source of additional revenues to support the benefit, are at the discretion of Chief & Council and are reviewed each year before a new budget is determined.

The 2023-2024 annual benefit amount, effective June 25th, 2023, will be \$1,200.00.

To access this benefit eligible Citizens must submit a Claim Form to the BLP team, including receipts to support the Claim amount (usually the full \$1,200.00) and dated no earlier than June 25th, 2023. Note that payments through this program are *not* subject to taxation as income. This is why we ask Citizens to submit receipts as it is a reimbursement program.

CHANGES TO THE POLICY FOR 2023-2024

An updated Better Living Policy was approved on March 9, 2023. Changes to be aware of are as follows:

- Banking information as well as custody/guardianship information must be resubmitted every year
- The Better Living Policy Claim Form is now required. There are multiple copies included with this newsletter but forms are available on our website as well (see below). Extra forms can be requested through Jenny (see above) by email or sent in the post
- A statement on harassment and anti-bullying has been added, both of which can be the cause of a delay for a claim. Please ensure you read and understand this section.

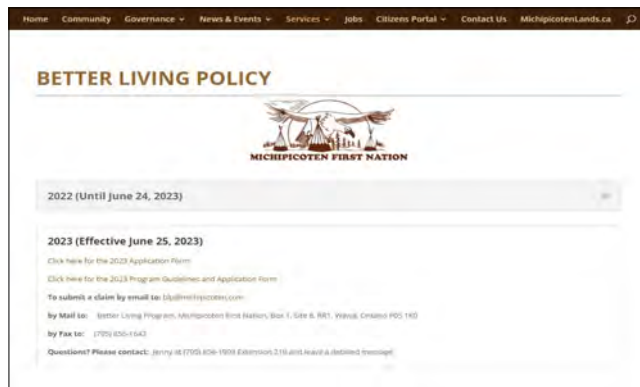
TO SUBMIT A CLAIM:

Mail to: Better Living Policy
Michipicoten First Nation
Box 1, Site 8, RR1,
Wawa, Ontario P0S 1K0

Email to: blp@michipicoten.com

Fax to: (705) 856-1642

BLP Forms can be printed from
<https://michipicoten.com/services/better-living-policy>



Please note: If you wish to be reimbursed by Direct Deposit, please include a void cheque or banking confirmation with your completed application.

MFN Employment

MFN Welcomes new Director of Operations

It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of **Michael Reid** to the position of **Director of Operations** for Michipicoten First Nation.

After obtaining his Honours Bachelor of Science degree, Micheal became a Certified Associate in Project Management and will soon write his Project Management Professional (PMP) exam. He has also been taking courses through the Economic Development Association of Canada and is close to completing the requirements of an Economic Development Officer

Micheal also sits on the board for the Lady Dunn Health Centre Foundation, where as a key member of the by-law committee, he has become well versed in the pillars of strategic planning, governance, accountability, transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Micheal joined the MFN team in the role of Mineral Development Advisor in 2021, where he has leveraged a wealth of tools, frameworks, and processes, to develop and implement them within the department and has embraced the opportunity to learn about the culture, challenges and opportunities faced by MFN.

With his diverse educational and professional background, coupled with his positive track record at Michipicoten, we are confident Micheal is well positioned to grasp the needs of the various departments of Michipicoten.

We are excited to have Micheal lead the management and staff in his new role as Director of Operations and I hope you will join me in congratulating him.

MFN Welcomes new Manager of Health & Social Services



We are very pleased to announce that **Erica Perkins** has accepted the position of Manager, Health & Social Services and will be joining the Michipicoten Team on **Monday, July 10**.

Erica is a registered nurse and certified First Nation Health Manager with over 22 years experience successfully managing a First Nation Health Centre. In her previous role as Health & Social Service Director for the Biigtigong Mno-zhi-yaawgamig Health Centre, she effectively managed the staff, ensured the delivery of quality health & social service programs, and led the centre through the accreditation process, being one of only three Health Centre's in Canada to be awarded "Exemplary Status".

Erica has extensive knowledge of Health & Social Service legislation, proven success in leading teams and was recipient of the "Hero in Health" award from the Anishinabek Nation.

With a strong background in First Nation Health & Social Services, a wealth of contacts, and hands on experience with the Band Representative program, we are confident Erica will provide the support and leadership needed by our growing Health & Social Service Department.

Erica lives in Sault Ste Marie but will establish a schedule to be in MFN on a regular basis. With long-standing familial connections to Michipicoten, Erica is very excited to be joining the team.

Current career opportunities with Michipicoten First Nation:

- ⇒ Community & Economic Development Officer (CEDO)
- ⇒ Manager - Culture, Language & Education
- ⇒ Forestry Liaison Specialist
- ⇒ Family Support Worker
- ⇒ Community Wellness Worker

Contact:

Lisa Belanger, Human Resources Advisor

Phone: 807-620-7895 cell

E-mail: hr@michipicoten.com

Website: <https://michipicoten.com/aboriginal-job-opportunities/>





Education

Applications/Check Ins/General Information:

Debashish Basu, Education Coordinator

Phone: 705-856-1993 extension 221

E-mail: educationcoordinator@michipicoten.com

Tuition/Payments:

Diane Purser, Finance Manager

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 212

E-mail: finance@michipicoten.com

HOW WE ARE SUPPORTING OUR JK-12 STUDENTS

- On Reserve and off reserve programs for children and youth, including Youth & Elder Gathering programming to promote youth engagement and cultural awareness
- Financial support and oversight of 6 Aboriginal Education Support Workers (AESWs) working out of 5 schools at both the elementary and secondary level
- Cultural Quiet Space and events held at the Secondary level to help students to stay on track
- Hands on assistance for secondary students to transition to our post secondary student support program
- Financial support for healthy snacks, milk programs, field trips, excursions, cultural workshops and conferences
- Graduation awards for Grade 8 and Grade 12 graduates
- Back pack programs for students returning to school in September

POST SECONDARY STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Over \$1,000,000.00 was provided to Michipicoten First Nation Citizens pursuing post secondary education in the past year. A portion of these dollars went to tuition but the majority was used for monthly student allowances, books, supplies, tutoring, graduation awards and other supports.

We have seen significant growth in the number of Citizens in this program, growing from just 20 students in 2018 to almost 70 full-time/part-time students in 2023. These numbers are expected to continue to increase.

Our financial support has helped doctors, lawyers, social workers, teachers, IT professionals, business administrators, security and law enforcement professionals and many others achieve success. Anything and everything is possible and the hard work of our students has proved this!

GRADUATES OF 2023

- Sierra Stone-Paul—Grade 8 certificate from Sir James Dunn Public School
- Hana Nelson—Grade 12 Diploma from École secondaire Saint-Joseph
- Emma Chapman—Grade 12 Diploma from Michipicoten High School
- Odessa Andre-Stone—Grade 12 Diploma from Michipicoten High School
- Tyler Andre—Grade 12 Diploma from Michipicoten High School
- Alexander Dennis-De Couteau—Pre-Health Sciences from Confederation College
- Mackenzie Hutchings—Dental Office Administration from Centre for Distance Education
- Linda Souliere—BA Gerontology from Laurentian University

Continued on pages 9-13...


Congratulations
Class of
★ **2023** ★



Maya Johnson

Maya is graduating Grade 12 from Brantford Collegiate Institute, Brantford, Ontario, where she has been a student in the Laurier Academic Program throughout her high school years.

Throughout her 4 years in high school, she achieved Honour Roll each year, as well as several certificates for highest grade achieved in courses.

She will be attending Wilfrid Laurier University in the fall, enrolled in Criminology. Her long term goal is to attend Law School and serve her community as a Crown Attorney.

"We wish her much success in achieving her goals and are so proud of the woman she has become." - Maya's family



Brady Desrochers

Brady graduated Grade 12 from Michipicoten High School. He will be attending Conestoga College for Electrical Engineering in the fall.



Haylee Lecuyer

Haylee will be graduating Grade 8. She will be attending St. Mary's College in September.




Congratulations
Class of
★ **2023** ★

Kameron McCue

School: Carleton University

Program: History

Level achieved: Bachelor of Arts Honours
with High Distinction

The next step: Attending law school at the
University of Ottawa to become a lawyer
like my Kokum, Rachelle Philippe



Cheyenne Beaupre

2023 Graduate from St Mary's College!

"Not only have you graduated and received your Diploma in Canada, but you have reached for the stars and graduated in Australia. Your dedication and perseverance to achieve your dreams has landed you a place at RMIT University in Melbourne for your Bachelor's in July! Mum, Abby and your family down-under are incredibly proud of you."



Reese Michel

Reese graduated from the
Social Services Worker Diploma (Indigenous
Specialization) at Cambrian College.





graduate



Dayllin Smith

Dayllin graduated from the Alberta College of Body Art in November 2022. She opened her own tattoo shop this year called, "Inked By Day Tattoo Studio".

"Hopefully sharing this story inspires young and old band members that anything is possible and to let them know about the tattoo program for any young/old artist wanting to be

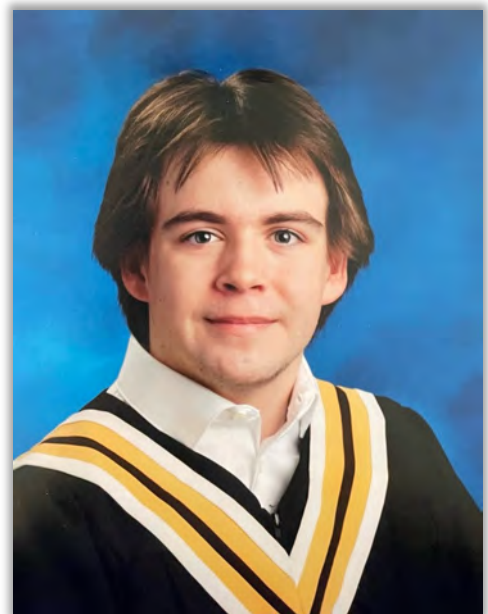


become tattoo artists as this is an accredited college and funding is available through our band for this program!"
- Dayllin



Legend Newell

Legend, 14 years old, graduated Grade 8 from Northeastern Elementary School. Legend will be attending Confederation Secondary School in September 2023.



Eric Labancz-Vye

Eric is graduating Grade 12 from Korah Collegiate & Vocational School in Sault Ste. Marie. He will be attending Western University (London, ON) for Economics in the Fall.



Kaleena Reed

Kaleena is graduating from Grade 8 and will continue her studies in the Fall of 2023 at St. Anthony's Catholic School in Drumheller, Alberta


Congratulations
Class of
★ **2023** ★



Aaron MacDonald

School: Lakehead University
Program: General Arts - Indigenous Learning
Level Achieved: Bachelor of Arts Degree

Next Steps: Immediately following graduation, Aaron has already begun further studies at York University in the Bachelor of Education program. He was accepted into the innovative "Waaban Indigenous Teacher Education", a specialized cohort that forms Indigenous students to be the next leaders in education.

"Congratulations Aaron this incredible achievement and for your continued commitment to Indigenous Education. We are so proud of you and are excited to see all that you will accomplish!" - Family



Dakota Desjardine

Dakota is graduating Grade 12 from Chippewa Secondary School.

She will be taking next year to work and then continuing her schooling. Her plan is to take her Indigenous studies at Trent University.





Keesha Saunders

Keesha graduated from university with a Bachelor of Health Sciences (honours) in Kinesiology from Ontario Tech University.

Her next step is to find full time work and study to become a registered kinesiologist in September.



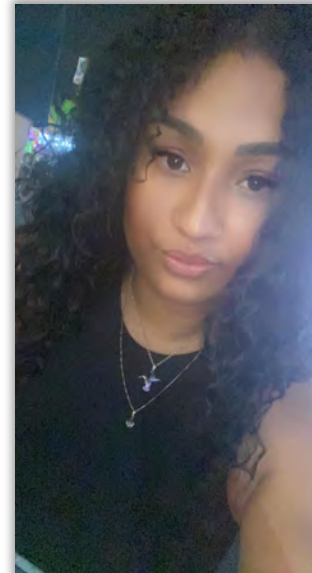
***Congratulations to all Michipicoten First Nation Graduates of 2023
for your determination and achievements!***

We wish you the very best on your next journey!



Deacon Lesage

Deacon is graduating Grade 8 from St. Basil School in Sault Ste. Marie. He is going to continue with his high school education at St. Mary's College in Sault Ste. Marie.



Teneisha Noble

Teneisha graduated from Indigenous Social Work at Laurentian University.

Public Works & Land Use Planning



Contact:

Chris Buckell, Public Works Administrator

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 217

E-mail: cbuckell@michipicoten.com

Emile (Andy) Neyland, O&M Supervisor

Phone: 705-856-4825

E-mail: a.neyland@michipicoten.com

Alexander Marques, Community & Land Use Planner

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 227

E-mail: a.marques@michipicoten.com

Website: michipicotenlands.ca

Ashley Omolida, Operations Admin Assistant

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 225

E-mail: a.omolida@michipicoten.com

Michipicoten First Nation continues to advance a wide range of development projects that are intended to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gros Cap reserve. Following the strategy outlined in the land use plan, Michipicoten has focused efforts on 4 key areas:

1. Create new high-quality housing to attract Citizens back to live at Gros Cap.
2. Strategically designate a small highway-side portion of the Gros Cap reserve at Tremblay Flats for business development and to increase local employment opportunities.
3. Improve natural areas and public spaces to provide more amenities and activities that can serve both residents and non-resident Citizens to enjoy the land and connect with their community.
4. Improve and expand key infrastructure (such as the water treatment and distribution system, roads) to ensure that the community can safely and efficiently accommodate its planned growth.



Continued on page 15...

...continued from page 14

At the moment, Michipicoten is advancing projects to address these objectives simultaneously. To that end, Michipicoten is:

1. Preparing 10 new lots for development as a housing subdivision adjacent to the existing community. One of the 10 lots will be an “overflow” parking area, and community park. Following the conclusion of the community lead housing design process in the fall of 2022, Niwiigwaaminaanin, MFN is currently refining those designs with the goal of constructing 13 new homes in 2024/2025.
2. MFN will have completed its premiere public space, and catalyst for Tremblay Flats, the MFN Common in July 2023. The goal is to have the new space open for Citizens to enjoy during the Youth & Elders Gathering this summer. In addition, MFN is undertaking a land designation to prepare the legal infrastructure for MFN to develop an employment area at Tremblay Flats.
3. A new park, an open-air market, landscaping, and public seating areas are all underway to help make the common areas of the reserve more accessible and attractive. Further environmental improvements are being explored to rehabilitate trout spawning in the White Sands creek, which runs down the middle of the community.
4. The Watermain will be extended to the rink area this summer, to ensure the new housing development is fully serviced. Upgrades to the water treatment plant have been assessed, and a plan for an expanded treatment facility is in the works. Many community roads are also planned to be resurfaced and aligned to improve safe travel into the community. As so much construction is planned within the residential area, MFN is waiting for some major projects to conclude before commencing with resurfacing so as not to damage the new road surface.



Housing Applications

Housing Applications are available at the Administration Building, MFN Website, or by contacting Ashley Omolida, Operations Admin Assistant (*contact information on page 14*). Housing applications can either be mailed or e-mailed to you. As soon as your completed application is received, you will be placed on the Housing Wait List. It is the applicant's responsibility to resubmit their application once per year to keep it an ACTIVE APPLICATION. This is to ensure that we have your current contact information and current living situation for when housing becomes available. If your contact information has NOT changed within the year, another application is not needed, but please contact our office so we can update the status of your application to keep it as an ACTIVE APPLICATION. Inactive applications will not be considered in the selection process when housing becomes available.

Please visit: <https://michipicoten.com/services/housing-application-on-reserve>

Energy

Contact:

Gina Simon, Community Energy Champion

Phone: 705-856-1993 ext 216

Fax: 705-856-1642

E-mail: g.simon@michipicoten.com



Aanii Anishnabek. Summer is streaming in and the hope is you can sit back and enjoy the sunshine. We have host of activities and information for your benefit and use. Please review the 'energy ads' and feel free to give me a call or send me a text if have any questions, or ideas to share.

First of all, if you have any fears about your hydro being cutoff or need assistance with your electricity bills, there is help out there and you may qualify. See our **OESP and LESP** ads (OESP on page 17, LEAP on page 19) and book an appointment.

Also, the **Canada Greener Homes initiative** is a grant program administered by Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) that provides funding for eligible energy-efficient improvements and EnerGuide home evaluations. Homeowners can receive up to \$5,000. for eligible retrofits like insulation, air-sealing, windows, doors, heat pumps, and solar panels—plus \$600 which applies to your registered energy advisor to conduct a pre-retrofit evaluation of your home.

The application process can be arduous and complicated and do not get discouraged, MFN has an opportunity through a newly announced streamlined approach, whereby an Indigenous community can access program funds through a single contribution agreement that provides flexibility to coordinate a 'community application'. As MFN's Community Energy Champion, I am seeking interested MFN homeowners who may wish to be a part of the 'multiple homes application'. Send me a text or give me call if you're interested and want more information. See following link for more information:

<https://natural-resources.canada.ca/energy-efficiency/homes/canada-greener-homes-initiative/canada-greener-homes-grant/canada-greener-homes-grant/canada-greener-homes-grant-spring-2022-update/24060>

As we move toward lessening our carbon footprint on Mother Earth and a target of Net Zero - which basically means, 'reducing emissions and implementing methods of absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere'. People are asking how they can do their part. Check out **MFN Energy** page see a list of activities and a survey called **Incorporating Greener Options**. By participating you may win a prize. Check it out and do your part:

<https://michipicoten.com/services/energy/>

Remember the **POWER UP—Summer Energy Youth Camp** for July 17-21, 2023 see poster on page 18 for more information on registration.

Ever wanted **FREE advice for your home**? Check out the ad on page 19 and register for a 'walk thru' with an expert.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

MICHIPICOTEN FIRST NATION

WANT LOWER



HYDRO BILLS TODAY!

Households may qualify for a monthly reduction to your electricity bill through Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP).

APPLY AUGUST 8TH & 9TH 2023 9AM til 4PM
MICHIPICOTEN ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

For info: 705-856-1993 Ext# 216 or Email g.simon@michipicoten.com

How Much Can Households Receive?

Households can receive between \$52 and \$113 credit toward their utility bill every month. ex. Sample Bill \$350 - \$90 credit applied = \$260 (new bill)

The amount credit applied is based on two factors.

1. How many people live in the home
2. Total combined household income

ONWAA Energy Team rep will visit community to provide face-to-face assistance in filling out applications.

Questions call 1-844-885-3157 or email oesp@onwaa.com to book a visit.

What To Bring?

1. Copy of Electricity Bill
2. Names, Birthdates, SIN for all household members (18-74)
3. Proof of Income or Pay stubs if not filed taxes in past two years

It's Easy To Apply!

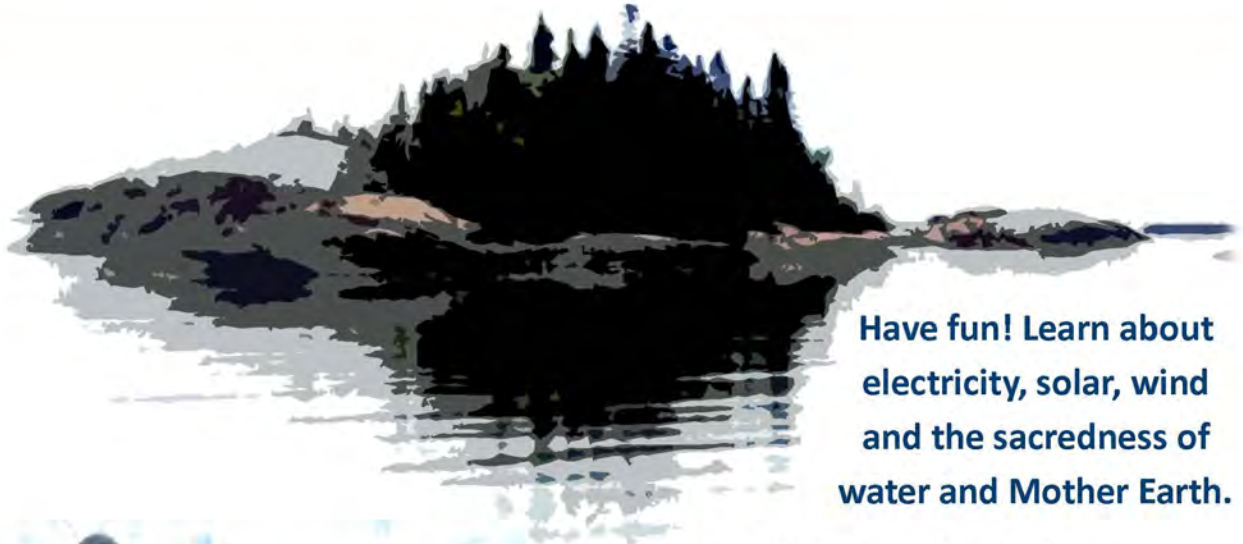
1. With ONWAA Agent
Our agents are able to support clients in person by visiting the community, or by phone
1-844-885-3157
2. Online
Households that have filed their taxes in the last year can apply online or by filling out a paper copy of the application located online at www.ontarioelectricitysupport.ca.



**This program is
open to everyone
with an electricity bill!**



POWER UP AT MICHIPICOTEN FIRST NATION SUMMER ENERGY YOUTH CAMP JULY 17 - JULY 20, 2023



Have fun! Learn about electricity, solar, wind and the sacredness of water and Mother Earth.



Activities will include Hikes, Explore 'Where water flows', and discover your 'Ecological footprint'



18 SPOTS AVAILABLE
Youth ages 7-13 years old



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT:

GINA SIMON, COMMUNITY ENERGY CHAMPION

Call 705-856-1993 ext 216 or e-mail: g.simon@michipicoten.com

HOME ENERGY EFFICIENT OPTIONS CALL OUT TO CITIZENS



FOR MICHIPICOTEN HOMEOWNERS INTERESTED IN LEARNING TIPS ON HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME ENERGY EFFICIENT. PLANS ARE IN THE WORKS FOR A COMMUNITY WORKSHOP FOR MFN CITIZENS TO COME LISTEN AND LEARN. RECEIVE SOME EXPERT ADVICE AT NO COSTS.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, PLEASE CONTACT:
GINA SIMON, COMMUNITY ENERGY CHAMPION
Call 705-856-1993 ext 216 or email g.simon@michipicoten.com

Need help with electricity bills?

Apply for assistance to both/or either
LEAP or OESP programs

LEAP is a ONE time deal. You may qualify for \$500 up to \$600 grant.

OESP is designed to help reduce cost \$\$ of household electricity bill. How? By applying monthly credits. Your credit amount will depend on how many people live in your home along with your combined household income.

For more information:
Gina Simon, CEC at
MFN Admin Building
OR call TOLL-FREE
1-844-885-3157



Contact: Gina Simon, CEC at 705-856-1993 ext 216 or g.simon@michipicoten.com

Michipicoten First Nation Family Virtual Fish Derby



Friday June 16th, 2023 to Thursday August 10th, 2023

PARTICIPATION DRAWS:

Fishing Kayak, 2 Portable Fish Finders, 2 Fishing Kits and 2 Tents!

Random draws for \$50 Gift Cards!

CONTEST PRIZES:

Largest, smallest, and mystery size in four (4) fish entry categories

VIRTUAL FISHING RULES

- *MFN Citizens and members of their household can participate (proof of address required if non-member)*
- *No limit on the number of fish entries.*
- *Only Rod Fishing is permitted -- **no netting.***
- *Location and Duration: Fish wherever you like in Canada between June 16th, 2023 to August 10th, 2023.*
- *Four Fish Entry Categories: Pike, Pickerel, any Species of Trout and Bass*
- ***Eligible Fish Entries Must Include:** photo(s) clearly identifying the length of fish, fish species, digital date/time stamp and an image of the Citizen who caught the fish.*
- *All fish entries must be submitted by e-mail to nandre@michipicoten.com ONLY no later than 12 noon August 10th, 2023**** NO EXCEPTIONS FOR LATE ENTRIES ******
- *Prizes will be \$300 for the largest, \$200 for the 2nd largest, \$100 for smallest and \$50 for the mystery size in each of the four fish entry categories.*
- ***Eligible Participation Entry:** provide a photo with a digital date/time stamp of you and your family out fishing for entry for our participation draws. Must e-mail a photo to nandre@michipicoten.com no later than noon on August 10th, 2023.*
- *Entries received after 12 noon on August 10th, 2023 will not be accepted.*
- *Winners will be notified the following week and their names will be posted on the MFN Facebook page!!*

**If you have any questions or would like more information,
please contact Nancy Andre by e-mail nandre@michipicoten.com.**

Happy Fishing, Everyone!!!!



Lands & Environmental Stewardship

Contact:

Steven Murphy, Lands & Environmental Stewardship Manager

Phone: 705-914-0294 cell

E-mail: s.murphy@michipicoten.com

Jessica Zadori, Biodiversity Coordinator

Phone: 705-914-0025 cell

E-mail: j.zadori@michipicoten.com

Matthew Stone, Land Guardian

Phone: 705-856-1993

E-mail: m.stone@michipicoten.com

David Ruffo, Mineral Development Advisor

Phone: 705-914-0033 cell

E-mail: d.ruffo@michipicoten.com

**Levis Bouchard, Environmental Monitor —
Borden/Newmont**

Phone: 705-914-0407 cell

E-mail: l.bouchard@michipicoten.com

ON-GOING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Lands and Environmental Stewardship (L&ES) Department has been hosting engagement sessions in the community for a little over a year now, in an effort to address the strategic objective of community outreach and education. These sessions serve as a touch point for the community to engage directly with the L&ES Department, develop relationships with the staff and learn more about the work being conducted by the team. The session breakdown consists of an update on key projects the L&ES Department is working on, followed by a presentation on a specific topic of interest, for example the most recent topic was Abandoned Mines, presented by the Ministry of Mines, and ends with an open discussion for questions arising from the presentation or personal interests. The hope is that these presentations will provide more background knowledge to Citizens, so that when future consultation opportunities arise, the community has additional knowledge to access and provide more comments on these projects. These sessions are hosted on the third Thursday of every month from 5:30-8:00pm and offer food and refreshments for attendees. To accommodate the wide geographic range of MFN Citizens, these sessions are held in a hybrid format, in-person and virtually, and plans are in the works to record the sessions and upload them to the MFN YouTube channel. Keep your eyes on MFN communication platforms for details on the next session!

FISH BIOMONITORING STUDY YEAR 2

First Nations Environmental Contaminants program has accepted MFN funding proposal submitted by the L&ES Department to continue monitoring of traditionally consumed fish species and waterbodies of significance. We look forward to working in areas of human exposure assessment components, working an accreditation laboratory for chemical analysis, and sharing our findings with our Citizens. MFN will be working in tandem with Dr. Mary Claire Buell out of Trent University on the project. Dr. Buell was instrumental in last year's study and will head up this round of studies for the department. We look forward to MFN Citizens taking part in a Fish Derby during the Youth & Elders Gathering to provide samples to the study. Our youth will also take part in the science aspect and learn the proper processing techniques on-site. We hope to see you there!

LANDS DEPARTMENT INTERN – ABANDONED MINE HAZARDS PROJECT

Recently, the L&ES Department has successfully acquired an intern from the Niagara College Post-graduate Program for Environmental Management and Assessment. This Intern will be providing approximately 13 days worth of time towards a project devised by the L&ES Department to analyze the Abandoned Mines within MFN traditional territory. The strategic intention of this initiative is to begin developing a relationship with the College, to consistently have an intern from the program supporting the L&ES Department, for various environmental projects that may be developed in the future. Our current project on abandoned mines is focused on an area about 30km around the Town of Dubreuilville and is focused on assessing the historic mines in the area for risks associated with human health and environmental contamination. This assessment will serve as a basis to begin supporting land users in being aware of potentially unknown risks associated with their land use areas, to ensure safe practice of these important activities. Please reach out to the L&ES Department if you have interest in the results of this project or would like to assess your land use areas.

Social Services



Contact:

Holly Syrette, Band Representative Intake Supervisor (Sault Ste. Marie)

Phone: 705-914-0004 cell

E-mail: h.syrette@michipicoten.com

Band Representative & Child Advocate (Sault Ste. Marie Team)

Gayle Ouellette

Phone: 705-914-0019 cell

E-mail: MFNbandrep1@michipicoten.com

Angela Laird

Phone: 705-914-0045 cell

E-mail: MFNbandrep4@michipicoten.com

Band Representative & Child Advocate (Wawa Team)

Lindsey Kobzick

Phone: 705-914-0430 cell

E-mail: MFNbandrep2@michipicoten.com

CHILD WELFARE UPDATE:

An office has been purchased for the Band Rep program in Sault Ste Marie to facilitate the growing staff dedicated to serving MFN families in need of support and representation. The building is located at 402 Albert Street, around the corner from the courthouse, to help in the delivery of Band Rep services. Our child welfare team hopes to be in the building by September 2023. We will make an announcement on our grand opening.

Year one of our child welfare strategic plan is coming to an end. We have increased our staff to include:

- 4 Band Representatives
- 1 Administrative Support Worker

In the near future, we hope to have recruited:

- 2 Case Aids
- 1 Records Clerk
- Prevention Support Worker
- After Care Workers
- Jordan's Principle Writers
- Family Workers
- Child In Care Case Managers
- Well-being Workers

Community consultations were completed in May 2023 and year one of the Michipicoten First Nation Child Welfare Strategic Plan. This completes phase one of our child welfare development and a report will be provided to Chief & Council. Soon, we will begin phase two of our development.



Michipicoten First Nation Band Representative and Child Advocates

Acts on behalf of Michipicoten First Nation (MFN) as a party under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, to advocate for the best interests of children affiliated with MFN and involved with Child Welfare Agencies, both on and off reserve.

- Provides support to MFN families in all Child Welfare matters
- Accompany Child Welfare Agencies during investigations and home visits
- Advocate to maintain family units, and community cultural ties
- Ensure that MFN members are fully aware of their rights and understand the child and family service system
- Follow up with family and child welfare workers to stay up to date and to ensure service plans/plans of care are being implemented and identify the need for changes or potential solutions.

KNOW THE FACTS!

It is your **RIGHT** to have a band representative present if CAS or a Native Child and family services agency requests a visit with you and your family whether you live on or off Michipicoten First Nation.

It is also your **RIGHT** to refuse a visit until your band representative is present.

Legislation clearly states that Band Representatives be notified prior to these agencies contacting you.

Please visit: <https://michipicoten.com/services/health-and-social-services/>



Remembering Our Loved Ones



On behalf of the Chief,
Council, Staff and Citizens,
we acknowledge and send
strong prayers to all of our
Citizens who passed into
the Spirit World.

Our deepest condolences
are also with their family and
friends left behind.



Prayer for the Grieving

I give you this one thought to keep,
I am with you still, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints in the snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the mornings hush,
I am the swift, uplifting rush -
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone -
I am with you still—in each new dawn.

- Unknown

Katelin Kathleen Wynne
Wayne Gerald Boissoneau
Loretta Ann Rozsa
Julia Marie Garner
Iran David Higo
Lyndsay Allison Swanson
Marie Elizabeth Heenan

..and to everyone not listed who also crossed into the Spirit World



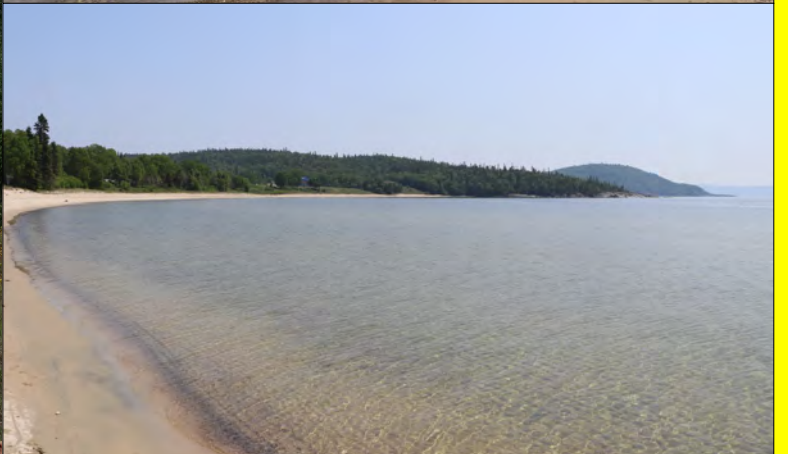
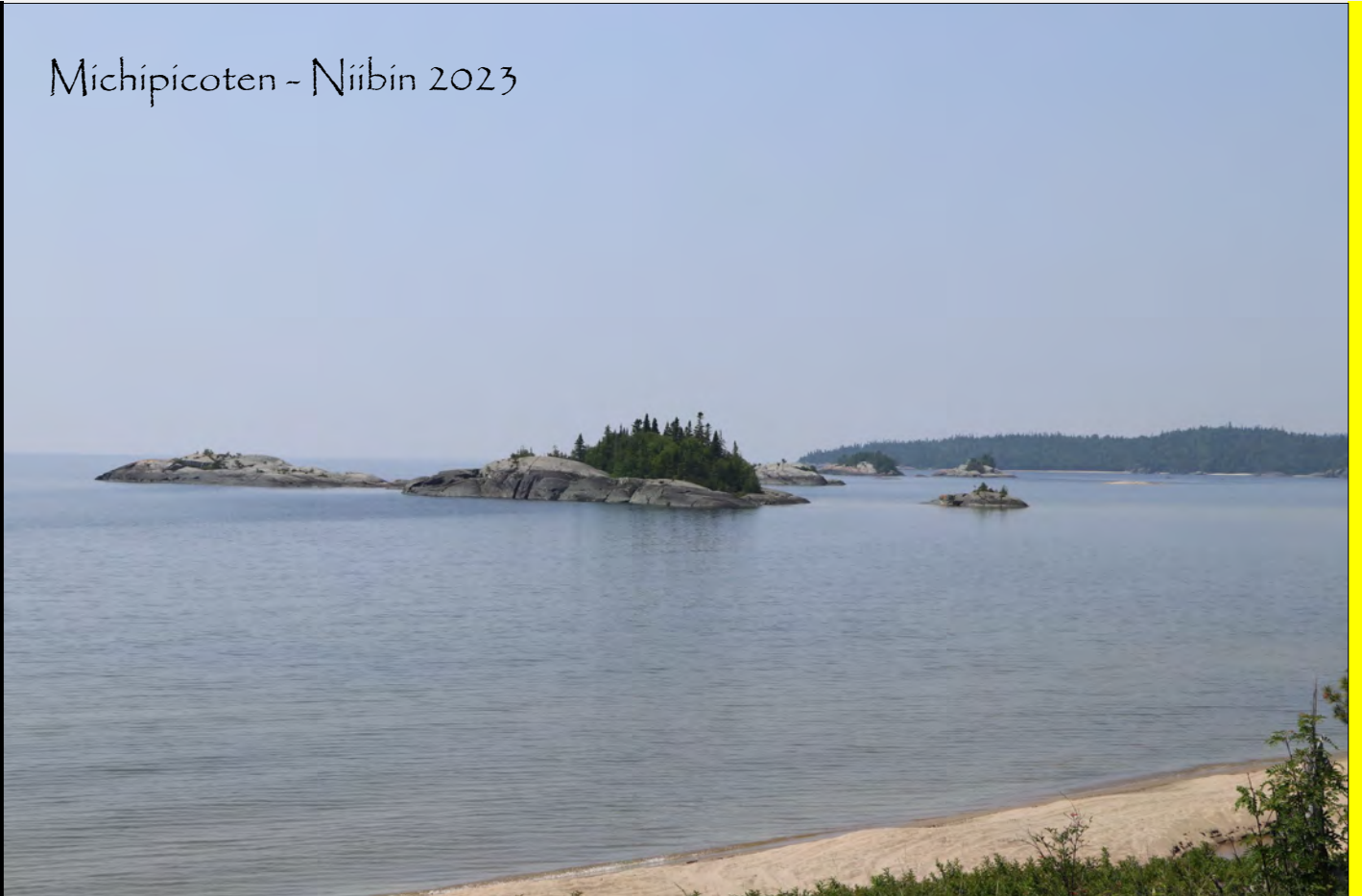
On Friday May 5th, Michipicoten First Nation staff and community members joined together for a luncheon prepared by Chief Pat Tangie at the Band Hall. Darcy Whitecrow, Cultural Facilitator joined us virtually with a prayer for all the missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited people. After everyone finished eating, we set off into the community to hang red dresses to bring awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people who have been subjected to this horrific violence in Canada. The Cemetery Road was lined with red dresses hanging in the trees for everyone coming into Michipicoten to see.

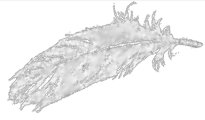
Red Dress Day, also known as National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirited People, is observed on May 5th. Red Dress Day was inspired by Métis artist Jaime Black's REDress Project installation, in which she hung empty, red dresses to represent the missing and murdered women. Red dresses have become symbolic of the crisis as a result of her installation.

NO MORE STOLEN SISTERS



Michipicoten ~ Niibin 2023





May you be
strengthened by
yesterday's rain,
walk straight in
tomorrow's wind,
and cherish each
moment of the sun
today.

- Ojibwe prayer





Quarterly Newsletter - Niibin 2023 Edition