



NEWSLETTER

Our mission is to deliver information to our community members about events taking place throughout the community and to provide this in a way that is easy to find and digest the information important to you.

NEWS

A FEAST FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & FELLOWSHIP

This year Acadia First Nation went all out for the annual Harvest Feast. This year marked the second consecutive year the event was held after a brief hiatus. The event was attended by members of Acadia First Nation, staff members and the volunteers on site to help organize the event. This year, the event was open to non-band members who wished to attend and paid an admission fee. Live entertainment was provided by David Burbine & Traditional Country. A bingo game was held to give attendees a chance to win prizes and Yarmouth Big Bounce Rentals was there to provide entertainment for the kids. We had local artisans on site offering their goods to those in attendance. The event was packed with community members enjoying the entertainment and the company of each other.



The event officially began with a traditional opening prayer by Elder Marilyn Francis. The opening prayer is a traditional ceremony used to ask our ancestors to bless the event and reminds all of those in attendance why we are gathered together as a community. Everyone capable of standing was on their feet in respect to the ceremony. The opening prayer was preceded by a greeting by Chief Deborah Robinson. The Chief gave a warm heartfelt welcoming to all of those in attendance and showed appreciation for the volunteers and staff that helped coordinate the event. Afterwards, Elder Marilyn Francis introduced her son David Paul who performed the Honour Song. This spiritual song was performed with great passion during the opening of the event helped set the tone for the afternoon.



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The afternoon continued as everyone gathered around in anticipation of the food. Attendees had plenty to occupy their attention with several stations set up around the field featuring traditional Mi`kmaq culture and activities. Stations were set up by community members Peter Pictou and Rose Francis where they offered Mi`kmaq crafts, art and cultural antiques. These unique artifacts bring the spirit of culture and tradition to the event and give all of us a chance to see the beauty that thrives in our culture.

Other stations set up at the event offered traditional teas and food. Bannock, a traditional staple of our culture, was prepared on site by Melanie Purdy where she offered samples throughout the afternoon. The event also featured traditional song and dance with the female drumming group, Women of the Shore, providing the song and drums while traditional dances were performed by Jayson Surette. These performances provide a sense of tradition that makes events like this a cultural experience.



While all of the activities were underway, the volunteers had already been hard at work for hours in preparation of the event. The day started early as volunteers, staff members and members of Chief and Council arrived to get the stage set for the event. All this on top of the hours and hours already put in during the weeks leading to the event. The feast grounds were decorated and everything was set by the time the doors opened at 11 am but the volunteers job had only just started. They were busy

preparing and cooking food for all of the people in attendance. We had volunteers in place preparing the salmon planks so they could be placed by the open fire to cook. We had people manning the BBQ`s where they cooked hot dogs, hamburgers, scallops and moose burgers. Other volunteers were on hand to watch over the lobsters as the were



steamed to perfection under the bright autumn sky. In the kitchen we had many on hand to help get the food ready and served to the hungry hordes gathered, awaiting the feast. It is because of the tireless work of these volunteers that allowed this event to be such a success and each of us should be proud to have people like this as a part of our community. Thank you to all of those that volunteered their time to make this event all of us should be proud of.



With the success of this year`s Harvest Feast we should expect that this year will mark a revitalization for the event and we should expect to see it return year after year. I hope to see this event grow in size and in spirit as we continue moving forward together as a community and hope members from our other locations will make the journey to join in on the festivities.

A TRIP OF RESPECT, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT WITH OUR ELDERS

Article Written by Melanie Purdy

Monday morning, August 15th, the bus departed and headed on its way to Cavendish Beach, with stops along the way in New Minas and Masstown Market. Upon arrival at Lakeview Lodge & Cottages our Elders were offered the quiet, relaxing vacation they deserve in beautiful Prince Edward Island. Established in 1949, Lakeview Cottages has come to represent quality and comfort for those who stay. They took great pride in their beautifully landscaped grounds and spotless cottages nestled in the heart of Cavendish. From their clean, refreshing pool to the warm and inviting cottages, our goal was to create memories to last a life time.



Tuesday the bus took our Elders to Charlottetown, where they all were able to enjoy the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI Pow Wow. Then up on return to Cavendish some of our Elders were able to attend Leon Gallant in Concert at Stanley Bridge. Leon Gallant writes and sings with country, folk

and east-coast influences. His music is kitchen party style to get your feet tapping. He performs mainly in the summer at local venues such as Avonlea Village and Stanley Bridge Hall. His songs are influenced by "down home" people, places and stories.

Wednesday the bus then took our Elders back to Charlottetown and they were all able to attend Anne of Green Gables the Musical at the Confederation Centre of the Arts. Now in its Guinness Record setting 52nd season, the original Anne musical is a Canadian classic in every sense of the word. Based on L.M. Montgomery's beloved novel, the musical adaptation of the story of an imaginative red-haired orphan searching for belonging, certainly tugged at heartstrings and tickled the funny bones of all in attendance.

The last evening the whole group were able to attend a dinner together at Chez Yvonne's in Cavendish. The return home was just as special with a special stop in Millbrook First Nation to attend the Glooscap Cultural Centre. It was a wonderful trip and we look forward to having all our Elders together again.

SANDRA RACINE

BASKET MAKER



MI'KMAW BASKETRY WORKSHOP

Beginner Level

November 5th 10:00-5:00, 219 Main St., Liverpool

Cost: \$125, lunch and materials provided

Limited space - please register by October 27th

Presented by Sipuke'l Gallery

902-354-5501

A DAY AT THE PARK

On September 17, 2016 a community picnic was held in Shelburne for members of Acadia First Nation. This is one of several events held during this time of year that provides Acadia First Nation with the opportunity to show its' appreciation for our community members. This event has a more intimate atmosphere than the larger events like the Gold River Mawio'mi (Powwow) or

AFN Harvest Feast. This is an event that allows families and community members to gather and share each others company while the children get to play and build friendships. It is the smaller events like these that help build the strong backbone of a tight knit community.



This year the event was held at The Islands Provincial Park. A beautiful provincial park in Shelburne located across the harbour with picturesque views that provides the perfect atmosphere for an event like this. Those in attendance were treated to BBQ prepared by the councillors and volunteers in attendance. There were activities in place for the children in attendance and some silly photos were taken. The mood was joyous and fun was had by all those in attendance.

This was another successful event for Acadia First Nation. Our community continues to benefit from the cohesiveness that events like these breed. As our community moves forward together, it will be events like this that build the relationships and memories we needed to continue growing a strong and united Acadia First Nation.

Youth Drummers



Youth Drum Group will begin one day a week at the
Yarmouth Health Center from 3:45- 4:45pm

First Class

Thursday October 20th

Grade Primary - Grade 6

Any questions or concerns 902-742-4337 ask for Melanie

(Do not need drum, firstly they will be learning the Mi'kmaq words and songs, then drumming)
If your child is interested, just have them show up at Health Centre.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY	EVENT	DETAILS/LOCATION	DATES
Acadia First Nation	CMHC Basic Home Maintenance Workshops	Monday, October 24, 2016 - AFN Wildcat Community Center - Wildcat (civic address 1059 Molega Rd) Tuesday, October 25, 2016 - AFN Entertainment Centre - Yarmouth (10552 Hwy#3 Yarmouth) Wednesday, October 26, 2016 - AFN Gold River Health Center - Gold River (311 Beech Hill Rd) Lunch is provided & there will be DOOR PRIZES We have a maximum of 20 seats for Yarmouth & Wildcat and roughly 10 seats in Gold River REGISTER NOW by calling Val @ 902 682-2421 or	October 24 thru October 26 9:00 A.M - 4:00 P.M
	Mi'kmawey Forestry - Forestry and You Workshops 2016	Elders are invited to have lunch and share their knowledge on Netukulimk with us from 12 – 2:30 pm. Harvesters, crafters and those interested in a career in Forestry are invited to have supper, hear about exciting opportunities and share their thoughts from 3 – 5 pm.	December 8
Liverpool	Presentation by Savannah "Savvy" SIMON	A Charter Bus will be departing Acadia First Nation Band Office at 8:00am for Students only in grade 6-Grade 12 as well as post-secondary youth. These students are invited to travel to Liverpool NS for a Motivational Presentation by Savvy Simon Contact Melanie Purdy for more information @ 902-742-5599 or email @ mrobinson@acadiaband.ca or text @ 902-749-6911	October 24 10am-12 Noon
	Mi'kmaw Basket Making Workshop with Sandra Racine	Participants in Sandra's November 5th Workshop at Sipuke'l Gallery will be taught the basics of Mi'kmaw basket making. Each will complete an 8-standard basket using both natural and dyed ash and sweetgrass. Advance registration is required due to limited space and for preparation of materials. Registration Deadline is October 27th.	November 5 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Yarmouth	Youth Drum Group	Youth Drum Group will begin one day a week at the Yarmouth Health Center Any questions or concerns 902-742-4337 ask for Melanie. (Do not need drum, firstly they will be learning the Mi'kmaq words and songs, then drumming) If your child is interested, just have them show up at Health Centre.	First Class commences October 20 3:45 - 4:45 pm

HARVEST FEAST PHOTO ALBUM

