



"OTHER THINGS ON THE LIST INCLUDE: HOT TUBS, GARAGES, MOUNTAIN CABINS AND ONE-ROOM MODULAR HOUSES CONNECTED TOGETHER TO MAKE LARGER BUILDINGS." - SEE STORY

BTEST BUSY PREPARING WORKFORCE TOWARD OFFERING PRODUCTION LINE EMPLOYMENT

The Blood Tribe Employment & Skills Training department is moving forward in offering training programs for Blood Tribe members. The recent grand opening of the BTEST facility situated in the community of Levern on the western border of the Blood reserve is a positive sign of the intent to provide training which leads to employment. Dexter Bruised Head, acting Director, assumed his role in an effort to begin making contacts with businesses and organizations which require a skilled and prepared training force who are ready to begin employment when called upon. Currently, Chief & Council, Economic Development and Bruised Head has made contact with the United States-based Morgan Company from Hallettsville, Texas.

"It will be a production line setting. What they will be building are things like modular housing like they use

in the northern bush camps," he said. "Other things on the list include: hot tubs, garages, mountain cabins and one-room modular houses connected together to make larger buildings."

The Morgan Company is preparing to move into the former Kainai Industries building situated on the southern edge of the Stand Off townsite. The Kainai Industries building will be retrofitted to accommodate the various requests from interested buyers of these products. Bruised Head said the development of the BTEST program was to establish partnerships with businesses seeking employees. "How this program was put together was based on partnerships and the demand for employees and laborers in this area. Companies like Whisper Creek, Temple City Homes, SRI Homes, Triple M Homes are constantly looking for employees, so, what we did was pull

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everyone together, and with their help we have created this program.” Bruised Head said the program and curriculum was based on the need of these partners. “The graduates will have the exact skills needed to walk right into employment. When these employees are ready to go to work, they know exactly where they are going and what the (workplace) environment will be.”



Dexter Bruised Head

In an effort to create fairness and accountability, Bruised Head said a steering committee was created from the various partners to ensure BTEST and its programs operate with integrity and direction. “These partners are now the steering committee for the pre-industrial construction program and they will see the whole program through. They will make visits here, and towards the end of the program, they will try to get those individuals into the workplace.”

Bruised Head’s philosophy for achievement is straightforward: “We’re gearing this toward success, and one way to do this is to have all the partners involved. We will be quite excited if we can get 100 per cent employment. We can do it.”

See next issue for coverage of the agreement between the Blood Tribe and Morgan Management Corporation

BLOOD TRIBE DISABILITY GROUP MEETS TO DISCUSS STRATEGIES

A group of departments and organizations are meeting to discuss issues and concerns affecting Blood Tribe persons with disabilities. Shane Wells, Rehabilitation Practitioner, KBE, is organizing interested people in advocating for services for people with disabilities. “The only services people with disabilities are able to access are services off the reserve. There are a lot of people with disabilities and there should be something that should be happening here on the reserve,” he says.



Disability Workshop participants

Many Blood Tribe entities and departments are showing interest in participating in the disability group’s initial meetings “Right now, this is all voluntary. I’m just asking people and the different agencies and parents to become involved. All I’m doing is advocating for persons with disabilities,” says Wells. “In the future, we hope to have services available to everybody.” Among the agencies and departments involved include Children’s Services, Protection Services, Oapoka’sin (Lethbridge), Canadian Paraplegic Association (Calgary), Social Development, Family & Community Support Services, Kainai Wellness Centre, as well as support from parents in the community.

Wells says his involvement stems from children with disabilities in the schools. “What happens when these children leave our education system?

There are no services available and I don’t think that’s fair. We should be getting these services on the reserve because there are a lot of people with disabilities here. What it all boils down to, is giving quality of life to people with disabilities.” Wells can be contacted on his cell at 894-4972 if you require any further information.

Treaty 7 Accepting Off Reserve Applications



Arnold Jerry - T7MC

OFF RESERVE HOUSING APPLICATIONS from Treaty 7 Management Corp and Opasikoniwew Housing Authority.

Accepting applications relating to home ownership. The program allows for a grant of 10% of the down payment not to exceed \$20,000.00 Applications and information can be picked up by the **Housing Department. 737-3988**

For further information please call: **Arnold Jerry at 403-238-9157**



ELDERS ENJOY FESTIVE FEAST

Nearly 200 Blood Tribe elders were honored with a feast and gifts from the Blood Tribe Chief & Council and Administration. The annual elder's feast, which was scheduled for December 17, 2007, was rescheduled to Tuesday, January 15, at the Lethbridge Lodge.

Bruce Iron Shirt, Director, FCSS, who was one of the organizers of the feast, said the elders who braved the weather really enjoyed the meal and gifts. "I keep getting positive responses from the elders. In fact, a lot of them, just to have a social activity, is all they want." Iron Shirt said the elder's feast was organized by many Blood Tribe Administration departments, FCSS staff and the Kainai Elders' First Nation's Association. The elders who attended the feast were treated to a roast beef dinner and were presented with gifts.

"It was an opportunity to meet other elders..."

Bruce Iron Shirt, Director

Family & Community Support Services

Among those in attendance included Blood Tribe Chief Charles Weasel Head, Bob Tarleck, Mayor of Lethbridge, Louis Soop, RCCC, and keynote speaker Dr. Esther Tailfeathers. Iron Shirt said the intent of the feast was not only to bring the elders together as a way of showing our respect for their wisdom and strength, but to bring them together to visit with each other. "It was an opportunity to meet other elders, to visit, laugh, and to have a little bit of fun." Other attendees included Ramona Big Head-Mills, Olivia Tailfeathers and Wayne Plume, who closed the evening's entertainment with a round-dance.

IS MY CHILD IN A GANG

The Gang problem on the Blood reserve is at an all time high and is growing with each passing day. The youth are becoming more involved with these activities. The time has come to ask ourselves, is my child at risk of joining one of these gangs or worse yet, are they already in one.

The facts are that; they are at risk and this risk is growing everyday. The need for a simple way to deter your child from these activities is to know the warning signs that are happening everyday at home, before and after school.

How can we do this? Simple. By attending one of our workshops. The Blood Tribe Police along with Kainai Crime Prevention are offering a workshop for parents. This workshop will cover all aspects of the gang culture on and off the reserve. The workshops will benefit the parents and guardians of youth on the Blood reserve and offer the community an insight into the real threat of Gang violence within the youth community.

This workshop will help parents/guardians learn more about these changing times and how they can help themselves understand the different obstacles that face our youth everyday. The workshops are to be held at the TIPI Room in the FCSS building on Tuesday January 29 at 7:00 pm and on Thursday January 31 at 7:00 pm. Contact Russell Red Crow at Kainai Corrections for more info. **737-2555**



Russell Red Crow

RECREATION ASKING PUBLIC FOR RODEO MEMORABELIA

The Blood Tribe Recreation & Parks are asking the public if they have any rodeo or horse-racing photos they want to share. The photos requested will be displayed on a wall in the Kainai Agriplex. Winston Bruised Head, Agriplex Manager, says the photos will promote the rich history and accomplishments of Blood Tribe rodeo athletes. "We are asking people if they want to donate photos and a short story or biography explaining their accomplishments. I am asking for a picture with a story behind it."

Photos of cowboys and cowgirls, both young-and-old, such as the late Tom Three Person's taming of Cyclone at the 1912 Calgary Stampede, or photos of Blood lawyer Jim Gladstone winning the 1977 World Championship title in the Calf Roping event, are only a few examples of photos which can be placed in the Kainai Agriplex. Also included in the request are items such as chaps, spurs, ropes or other rodeo gear that may have been used during their run at a championship. "I am not sure, but I heard Jim Gladstone may still have the rope he broke during his championship run. This is the kind of stuff I am asking for," says Bruised Head.

Bruised Head says it is time we honor our athletes in the sport of rodeo and horse racing. "The Blackfoot have a history of having excellent horsemanship throughout the centuries, and we are losing this tradition. These photos displayed in this manner, for all to see, may inspire our young to become horseman or to pursue their dreams of someday winning a championship." Anyone interested in donating photos can contact the Recreation department at **737-3868**

Blood Tribe 2007

JANUARY 2007

Feds Visit Blood Reserve



Federal Member of Parliament Ted Menzies and Dept. of Agriculture reps visit the Blood reserve, Jan. 11/07, to look first hand at Economic Development and Agriculture initiatives.

FEBRUARY

International Peace Pow-wow 2007



The annual International Peace Pow-wow hosted by the Blackfoot Cultural Society based in Lethbridge, was again a very successful event with visitors and competitors coming from as far away as Saskatchewan, Northern Alberta and Montana and Arizona to the south.

INAC Minister Assures Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement on Course

OTTAWA (January 31, 2007)

The Settlement Agreement requires the approval of the Courts in nine jurisdictions across Canada, and the Government is pleased to confirm that the Settlement Agreement has now been substantially approved by those Courts.

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MARCH

Blood Tribe Public Works

Holds Series of Meetings

Blood Tribe Public Works and the Moses Lake community held a series of meetings to enable the Blood Tribe departments to answer questions about the communities concerns and essential services issues

Mayor Tarleck Visits Standoff and is Arrested for Charity



Friday March 9, 2007

Lethbridge Mayor Bob Tarleck finds time in a busy schedule to visit Standoff to meet with Chief Charles Weasel Head & members of Council. To his surprise he was arrested in a jail and bail fund-raiser sponsored by the Moses Lake Community.

APRIL

Levern Community Hosts Sod Turning Ceremony



March 28, 2007

The Levern Issuitapi Community Committee hosted a sod turning ceremony in the heart of Levern, on Wednesday, to initiate plans to build a new Arbor.

Integrated Service Delivery Program Created

As a result of collaboration between various departments of the Tribe including Social Development, Blood Tribe Employment and Skills Training, Blood Tribe Education, and Red Crow Community College and with the support of Chief and Council, the Integrated Service Delivery Program was created.

MAY

BTEST Center Opens



The \$3 million multi-purpose training centre which was jointly funded by the Blood Tribe, and Federal and Provincial Agencies will be providing training opportunities in all the Trades and specific areas of Technology. The Blood Tribe Employment and Skills Training (BTEST) an agency under the Chief and Council provided the administrative support for the construction of the building and will be providing the staff and program administration for the new training institution.

Levern Community Hosts Annual Diabetes Walk

The walk was convened at the Aahsopii Elementary School with a meal and address from the Leadership and organizers of the walk. Organizers have been trying to raise awareness on the subject of diabetes to the members of the Tribe as we have been targeted as a high risk group for the disease.

Year End Review

JUNE

Blood Tribe Agriculture Sector Launched



To achieve a more streamlined management of agricultural activities, the Economic Development Committee has amalgamated all the Ag ventures under one umbrella which will include: Kainai Agri-business Corp., BTAP, Blood Band Ranch, Kainai Farming Initiative, and Blood Tribe Forage Plant.

CBC Visits Reserve to do

Story for “The National”

The television crew from the CBC National were recent visitors to the Blood reserve, to do coverage for their top rated news program, the National. Activity at BTAP and the Ag Sector was what sparked their interest, and the focus of their documentary which will be aired early in July. The crew visited BTAP, the Blood Band Ranch as well as the Blood Tribe Farming Initiative.

JULY

June 29/ 2007

National Day of Action

The National Day of Action is a nationwide demonstration which goal is to create an awareness of First Nations issues, the Blood Tribe Chief and Council support this peaceful demonstration and have set aside June 29, as other First Nations have, to show the worldwide public that the Blood Tribe has unresolved issues that need to be addressed.

Public Works Strike Peaceful End with Conditions

After nearly 3 days of deliberations, the strikers agreed to return to work amid many calls from distressed Tribal members to the administration, asking for water and other services. The peaceful end to the strike was conditional and further talks are expected to take place in the coming days.

Writing on Stone Interpretive Center Grand Opening



June 20, 2007

To celebrate the Grand Opening of the Writing on Stone Interpretive Center, a number of Blood Tribe respected elders and members were present as well as local officials and residents of the area. About 150 people were on hand to witness the ribbon cutting and to hear speeches by the various representatives.

AUGUST

Dinosaur Bones Found On St. Mary’s River



Representatives from the Royal Tyrrel Museum in Drumheller and members of Kainaiwa Resources Inc. were examining the find site and extracting fossils from the river believed to be prehistoric dinosaur bones.

Blood Tribe Honours Premier Stelmach with Traditional Chieftainship Ceremony



StandOff The Blood Tribe honored Premier Ed Stelmach with a naming ceremony and headdress transfer during a traditional chieftainship ceremony on their sacred Sun Dance grounds, July 27.

Minister Jim Prentice Visits Kainai Fair & Powwow



A special guest who attended this year’s annual Kainai Pow-wow was Federal Minister of Indian Affairs Jim Prentice at Chief Charles Weasel Head’s invitation.

Blood Tribe Farming Initiative - Successful Harvest

Recently the Blood Tribe Farming Initiative, which is in its second year of operation, began its harvest of winter wheat at the Band Farms location near the St. Mary’s Dam.

SEPTEMBER

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park 75th Anniversary



A special international conference to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Waterton - Glacier International Peace Park was held in Waterton, Sept. 9-12 and was attended by international delegates.

Unveiling of Blackfoot Confederacy Landmark at Cypress Hills



The 7th annual Blackfoot Confederacy Conference held in Medicine Hat (Saamis), Alberta Sept. 4 -7 2007, and hosted by Kainai, once again brought together members of the four Confederacy Tribes; Siksika Nation, Amskapi Pikuni (Blackfeet), Kainai (Blood), and Piikani (Peigan Nation) to share common concerns affecting all four member Nations and to strengthen alliances that have existed for centuries.

The site of Medicine Hat and particularly the Cypress Hills, was chosen to reaffirm their traditional territory and to establish their continued interests in those lands.

OCTOBER

4th Annual Prevention of Family Violence Conference “Niitsitapikimmapiiyipitssin” October 9, 10, 11th 2007 Lethbridge Lodge



The purpose of the conference was to raise awareness of the problems plaguing the Blood reserve. Problems such as family violence, crime, drug and alcohol abuse were addressed and the presenters offered alternative ways for Blood members to deal with their problems and stress.

National Film Board to do Third Part of “Standing Alone” Series.



Producer Colin Lowe with Pete Standing Alone

The film “Circle of the Sun” was the first film involving Pete Standing Alone, back in the early 1960’s. It was a collaborative effort by Colin Low and other senior NFB filmmakers. The film showed how life was, here on the Blood reserve and the looming threat presented by mainstream society on the Blackfoot language and culture.

NOVEMBER

Morgan USA to Recruit for 60 Jobs

Kainai Industries could house factory. A major U.S. corporation, Morgan, is looking to expand their operations into Canada and looking at possibly re-opening Kainai Industries as their base for southern Alberta.

DECEMBER

Levern Community Hosts 2nd Annual Santa Parade



It was the perfect day for Santa to make his pre-Christmas stop on the Blood reserve Dec. 2/07, with temperatures hovering around the freezing point and excitement peaking in the community of Levern. It was Santa’s second visit to the reserve and appropriately, he was the star attraction at the Parade, hosted by the Levern Community and various departments of the Blood Tribe Administration.

Alberta Library Community Welcomes Red Crow College Edmonton, November 21, 2007

Red Crow Community College has become the first First Nations post-secondary institute in the province to gain membership in The Alberta Library (TAL) – a collaboration of over 290 libraries committed to barrier-free access to information, ideas and culture.



The 5th “Get Fit Challenge” Promoting Healthy Lifestyles in First Nations Communities

An information session was held by professional bodybuilder, Clay Bruno, at the Standoff Old School Gym on January 10 to inform the community of the latest “Get Fit” competition. Bruno, a First Nation member from Hobbema, showed a short video of his last competition and the participants’ testimonials and also the before and after pictures of the weight loss entrants. A local competitor, Al Blackwater, was the winner of the last men’s weight loss category and won \$1000 and a top of the line treadmill. Bruno spoke to the small group who attended about the fitness challenge, weight loss, proper nutrition and workout routines. A special category for bodybuilders, a “Warrior” division is also included for more advanced fitness trainers. A \$75 fee will get you registered in the weight loss division and a couples category along with the Warrior category available to all. More information and registration forms are available from Al Blackwater – 737-3799 or 634-9886.



Al Blackwater with Clay Bruno

BLOOD TRIBE PREPARES FOR POSSIBLE PANDEMIC

The Blood Tribe Department of Health is encouraging more people to participate in workshops in the event we are faced with an influenza pandemic. The All Department Pandemic Planning Session hosted by the Health Department on January 22, 2007, presented its preparedness plan to a number of organizations and interested persons. An influenza pandemic is a virus which has no known immunity and the results could cause illness and deaths. With greater opportunities for people to travel longer distances and to foreign countries, the chances are higher for the spread of viruses to occur. According to the World Health Organization, preparing for a possible pandemic is important:

1. Preparation will reduce direct medical and economic effects by ensuring adequate measures are taken and implemented before the pandemic occurs, and;
2. Improvements in infrastructure can have immediate and lasting benefits, and can also mitigate the effect of other epidemics or infectious disease threats.

For more information contact the Blood Tribe Department of Health at 737-3888.



Sunil Beeharry



Barbara Williams - Freeman



Organizers and attendees of the Pandemic Flu Workshop held at the Ramada Hotel

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS JANUARY 2008

Job Opportunity:

PRIMARY CARE

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
CLERK**

Blood Tribe Health Center Clinic

Start Date: ASAP

Status: Permanent

Hours of work: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 - 3:30

Closing Date: When suitable candidate found

**For more info contact: Natalie
White Quills 737-3888**

EMPLOYMENT

OPPORTUNITIES:

**Kainaiwa Children's
Services Corp.**

SUPERVISOR:

Blood Tribe Youth Ranch

CHILD CARE COUNSELOR:

Blood Tribe Youth Ranch

3 positions

CHILD CARE COUNSELOR:

Specialized Parented Home

2 positions Day/Evening

2 positions Night

DEADLINE FOR ALL POSI-

TIONS: TUESDAY JANUARY 30

For More Info call:

737-2900

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CHIEF & COUNCIL UPDATE 2007

Council Notes. Jan. 07/08

Council Chambers

1. Economic Development Committee presentation. Restructure of the Ec. Dev. Pillar to incorporate improved structure by introducing Holding Company to amalgamate ventures under this structure to control and protect Tribal interests and assets. There was much dialogue and debate. Motion was passed to bring forth final draft.

2. Housing update. Presentation by Director Kim Shade. Kim updated Council on the status of new homes being completed, there are 70 new homes in past 2 years and 60 RRAP projects. (a number of these have not been completed due to the construction contractor shortage, many Blood contractors are working off reserve. Council had concerns that these new homes were standing idle. Council has committed \$2.2 million for mortgage guarantees, 60% - 70% of homeowners are not paying

Meeting of Jan. 08/08

at Tipi Room.

1. Finance Code presentation (draft proposal under discussion) 1995 finance by-law is being revised w/assistance from Walsh Wilkins Creighton "Blood Tribe Financial Administration Code" An overview was given and discussion, further development is in the process before it goes to Council for BCR.

2. Morgan USA update given by Ec Dev Director Rob Crow. A 3 year lease agreement is being developed until a land designation (Section 30) can be acquired with Council approval. There are 10 Tribal members

who have gone to Dallas Texas for training under Morgan. (will become lead hands)

Blood Tribe has been nominated for excellence in business, through South Grow organization.

3. Ted Menzies visit to Council with INAC officials. Menzies listened to Council and replied on some of the concerns Chief and Council brought forth. Chief gave the presentation; housing, public services, education, Big Claim, and concerns on flood disaster relief that has not been contributed to Tribe.

4. Red Arrow update on the status of the Red Arrow Gravel Project given by INAC lands. Most of the reclamation has been completed but there is still the re-forestation that needs to be done before the reclamation is complete according to permit requirements.

5. UXO Legacy project given by Fran McBride, Department of National Defence, national manager. Unexploded Ordinances are ammunition left behind on the reserve from World War 2, some of those ammunitions can be live. This project will locate all UXOs and dispose of them in the next couple of years. There will be an awareness and education campaign for the reserve residents.

BLOOD TRIBE ADMINISTRATION

