

## Alberta Chamber of Commerce Awards



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CONFERENCE

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# BLOOD ENTREPRENEUR NOMINATED IN ALBERTA AWARD OF DISTINCTION



Franklyn White Quills

An entrepreneur who is presently on the Blood Tribe Chief & Council was part of a company that travelled to the Alberta Chamber of Commerce Business Awards of Distinction ceremony in Edmonton on February 27, 2009, after being nominated in the small business category. Franklyn White Quills, who prior to his election as a member of council, was employed as a Native Funeral Facilitator with the Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematorium, accompanied Ralph & Faith Zentner to Edmonton in acknowledging their nomination. Faith Zentner, co-owner and Funeral Director of Cornerstone, and husband, Ralph, owner, said they were very pleased of the recognition received from the nomination and of their participation in the business awards process. "We were nominated and won the 2008 Business of the Year award for Lethbridge and were presented with the award by the University of Lethbridge. Then, all the finalists were sent to the Alberta Chamber of Commerce Distinction awards ceremony and we (Cornerstone), were one of the businesses nominated for Alberta. We were really humbled by the nomination. It means a lot to us."

Franklyn White Quills, who was at the awards ceremony, said he is proud to be working for his people and said though they did not win the award, being nominated is a major accomplishment for any small business. "It was really something for us. It was quite an honor," he said of the

recognition. "Even though we didn't win, we are still winners. I think everyone who attended the awards ceremony are winners." As a measure of providing care and compassion to its many clients, Zentner said Cornerstone decided to expand its reach, especially onto the Blood reserve, and to open two funeral homes where their clientele can pay their final respects for their loved ones in their communities. "The Catholic Church put their churches in Moses Lake and Stand Off up for sale, and we bought them," she said of the move in bringing their services closer to home for most people. "We renovated the two churches and now the people have a place to go to be with their loved ones, especially during their time of need. Franklyn wanted to make sure that the people could come and use them (Churches) at no charge. He was a big part in moving our services closer to the people."

White Quills has been employed with Cornerstone since 1995 and has since become a co-owner of the Funeral Home business. Though he is a Blood Tribe councilor, his role in serving the people in need continues. "Even though I am a member of council, the families still request my services. I can't say no to the families," he said of his role in meeting the needs of those in sorrow. "I think the people feel comforted when I'm there, so, I try to be there for them to help in any way I can."

White Quills had attempted to secure employment with other funeral homes in the area, but it was Ralph Zentner who employed Franklyn—over 13 years ago. "I approached other funeral homes but it was Cornerstone who employed me. They were the only ones who gave

me an opportunity to work in this occupation. I began working for them in 1995, and I'm still there. This November, it will be 14 years serving our people and others," he said. "Ralph and Faith are really wonderful people to work with." Faith Zentner acknowledged the dedication and effort Franklyn commits to serving people. "Franklyn was with us about a month after we opened, and he has been our longest-standing employee here," she said. "I think, from the Native peoples' perspective, he is an extremely genuine and humble person. "



L-R; Chief Charles Weaselhead, Premier Ed Stelmach, Chief Walter Janvier, Hon. Gene Zwozdesky

The 2009 winners are:

- Premier's Award of Distinction**  
Rogers Insurance, - Calgary
- Aboriginal Woman Entrepreneur**  
Muskwa Productions and Consulting  
- Tsuu T'ina
- Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneur**  
Hytek Computer Sales and Service Limited  
- Rocky Mountain House
- Diversity Leadership**  
Frito Lay Canada - Lethbridge
- Employer of Persons with Disabilities**  
Canada Safeway Limited - Calgary
- Employer of Youth**  
Good Earth Coffeehouse and Bakery  
- Calgary
- Small Business**  
Mathieu Hryniuk LLP - Peace River
- Marketing**  
Spindle, Stairs & Railings - Calgary
- Aboriginal Relations - Best Practice**  
ESS Support Services- Calgary
- Aboriginal Relations - Eagle Feather**  
Samson Management Limited - Hobbema

# AFOA ALBERTA HOSTS 5TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION'S CONFERENCE



*Bert Crowfoot, founder of Aboriginal Multimedia Society of Alberta, was a presenter at the Communications Conference hosted by the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada.*

The Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada hosted a communications conference to share how media and public relations strategies can be effectively utilized in reaching their intended audiences. Romeo Crow Chief, AFOA executive director and president, said the communications conference offered a number of First Nations' organizations an opportunity to share their best practices in how they utilize communications in reaching their goals.

"The goal of the communications conference is to give our communities an opportunity to share what they have in their communities, whether they are trying new innovations, and share it with other First Nations," he said. "The best way to learn is from others. So, that's what we try to do, we try to facilitate that process by bringing different communities together to share what they're doing well, so that they could bring it home and try it in their own communities."

The communications conference brought people from the Yukon, B.C., Saskatchewan and Alberta together to participate in a number

of presentations shared with business and organizations who have developed a greater understanding of communications and of how it can be used to share and gather information. Bert Crowfoot, a member of Siksika First Nation, and who has been involved in communications for over thirty years, founded the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) in 1983 which has since flourished into a variety of mediums, informed the participants of how his journey evolved from a fledgling beginning into a media operation which now encompasses a multitude of mediums.

"You have to learn how to adapt," he said. "We have to not be afraid to take that step, I mean, 31-years-ago, I didn't know any better; I was sleeping in my van selling advertising. As a result, that's why our organization is doing so well. People said we couldn't do it. To me, that was fuel: 'I'll show you I can do it.'" Today, AMMSA comprises print, radio and video production as the mediums in sharing information with its ever-expanding audiences.

Other sessions included Leslie Lounsbury, Say Magazine; Nicole Rob-

ertson, Muskwa Productions; John Gladue, Kehewin Cree Nation, and Lance Tailfeathers who shared information and communication strategies on the Kainai Legislative Agreement. On day two, Glenna Cross, Cross Wise Communications Ltd., presented a session on communicating in a multi-generational workplace. In her research, Cross identified a number of age groups who comprise workplace organizations and of how identifying these diverse groups can help to create a healthier work place environment. Among the groups identified by Cross are: Veterans, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials. "In workplaces now, they are very integrated. You might be a very young person supervising a much older person; you might be a much older person supervising a very young person," she explained. "So, all of a sudden, the world is a bit more complicated. Some of this (information) is going to be very applicable in the First Nations' culture." Cross shared her research on the affects of each generation and had the participants involved in sharing information related to their generations.

Shane Breaker presented information on the Siksika Nation's Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park and Tony Many Fingers shared his experiences and communication strategies of the Lastar Radio.

Both the Kainai Legislative Agreement and Lastar Radio sessions were recognized for their information sessions.



# BLOOD TRIBE ADMINISTRATION

## DEPARTMENT PROFILE PUBLIC WORKS

The Blood Tribe Public Works department is responsible to maintain a number of areas on the Blood reserve as part of its mandate. Joe Healy, Director, oversees a staff of 39 employees whose duties includes road maintenance and construction and waste management and water control.

With over 1200 kilometres of roads to maintain, the Public Works has six graders to blade the roads in each of the main communities. For the past few years, the road maintenance crew have tried a number of approaches in keeping up with the road conditions and now utilize the sweep-technique. This approach has all the graders in one area, for instance, the community of Fish Creek, until they have completed the road maintenance. They then move into the St. Mary's community and then into Levern. Healy says this allows for quicker road maintenance and provides for a more accountable approach as the roads crew attempts to keep up with the constant demands of maintaining the roads. In the last three years, 23 pieces of equipment have been purchased, but Healy says they still require more equipment to service the Blood reserve's growing capacity. Among the equipment which Healy is looking to are: graders, scrapers, loaders, skid-steers, backhoes, track-hoes and water and service trucks. The Water management division has four water trucks which service approximately 800 cisterns in all areas on the reserve. The cisterns for many home owners come in a variety of sizes ranging from 18-hundred to 6000 gallons and are allowed two water deliveries per month. Each water delivery costs the home owner \$20 per load of approximately 1500 gallons. Water delivery is especially difficult during severe weather conditions which make it difficult for water truck drivers, and often request for home owners to mark out where their cisterns are located during winter snow periods. This request assists the roads department locate where the cisterns are



*A Public Works water truck driver making another fill up at the Standoff water pump.*

for easier snow removal and minimal possibility for damage. There are six water treatment plants in operation.

The Waste Management division picks up waste disposal from a number of households on the reserve. Healy says they are looking at a waste disposal system currently utilized on another Blackfoot First Nation which will assist in complying with environmental standards. Each Blood Tribe member utilizing the garbage dump site in Stand Off are encouraged to comply with trash disposal rules. Healy says the Peigan waste disposal site is very well maintained and began five years ago when environment friendly teachings were shared with the students. These students now have developed an environment-conscious mentality and contribute to a healthy community.

The community of Stand Off will have an expansion to the current sewage lagoon in meeting a growing population and for future developments. The lagoon expansion began in October for phase one of the operation until December, and phase two is scheduled for completion in July 2009.

Healy says the lagoon expansion is required in keeping up with a steadily-rising population and to prepare for future development of projects which would have strained the current sewage lagoon. "The current capacity right now is 1625 persons," says Healy. "And once we're finished the expansion, it will be expanded for 3625 persons." The cost of the sewage lagoon expansion is approximately \$2.4 million.

The Public Works department is located in Stand Off, AB., and any inquiries can be directed to 403.737.2540.

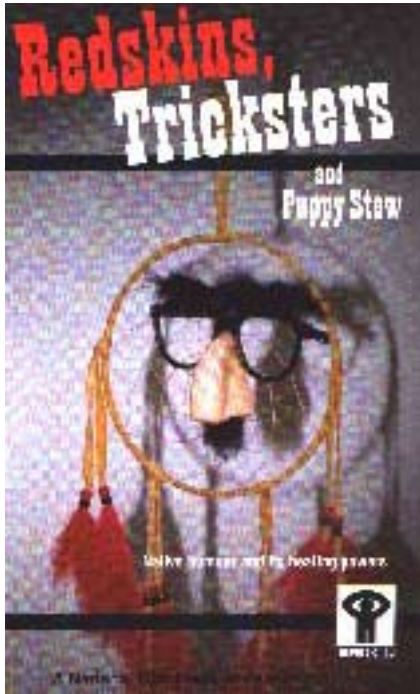
The Public Works department consists of:

<b>Joe Healy:</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Finance:</b>	<b>Trina Tallow – four employees</b>
<b>Road Maintenance:</b>	<b>Kelvin Black Horse – seven employees</b>
<b>Road Construction:</b>	<b>Clement Black Water – seven employees</b>
<b>Utilities:</b>	<b>Terrance Bottle – 12 employees</b>
<b>Roads Shop:</b>	<b>Desmond White Quills – three employees</b>
<b>Safety Officer/acting:</b>	<b>Delray First Rider</b>

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

*In accordance with the Principles of Kainayssini, the Blood Tribe Public Works department will provide safe, health-conscious services through responsible and cost-effective planning to a more responsive and responsible community as a whole.*

# NAPI TRICKSTER ALIVE AND WELL AT THE GALT MUSEUM & ARCHIVES



Napi the Trickster was the main topic of discussion at a workshop at the Galt Museum & Archives in Lethbridge on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, before an audience of both young-and-elderly people. Blanche Bruised Head, Blood elder and moderator, was the guest speaker who shared some of the many Napi stories with Native and non-Native participants.

“In my golden years, I found that I could sit with my grandchildren and tell them stories, and be as silly as Napi,” said Bruised Head as she began her introduction to the Trickster. “And yet, in that silliness and craziness, still be able to share the history of the Blackfoot people of our culture and our ways of life.” As part of the Café Galt series at the Galt Museum & Archives, Bruised Head introduced who Napi was: “Some people think Napi was the Creator. No, Creator had given Napi the job, if you want to use that term, to make sure the plant, animal, insect and human world stayed in balance,” she explained of Napi’s role in early creation. “Everything, the birds rocks, everything, had the ability to communicate with one another. All of creation was able to talk with one another. But, Napi was such a silly, silly old man.”

During the time when all things were able to communicate, Bruised Head said Napi co-existed with everything, but was always involved in one activity or another. She shared the story of how Napi tried to get the berries he seen on the water, but realized after many attempts to get them, that the berries were only a reflection in the water of the berries hanging on a bush above the water. “What is the moral of the story,” Bruised Head asked of those listening to her story of Napi. ‘Don’t be deceived,’ was one response; another response was: ‘Look before you leap.’ One of the morals Bruised Head got from the story of Napi and the berries was: “Be kind to yourself and others.” She said that because Napi was greedy, and because he got hurt by the thorns of the bullberry bush, he was not kind to himself and to the bullberry bush.

Another Napi story Bruised Head shared with the participants was Napi and the Rock. Napi gave his buffalo hide to the rock, and later took it back when it began to rain. Again, Bruised Head asked for responses, and several of the people said: ‘You shouldn’t be an Indian giver,’ and ‘Do unto others as you would want them to do onto you.’ They were told that they were right. “These Napi stories, they teach you about life; they teach you about creation; they teach you about self-respect, dignity, they are not just stories of ‘...and he lived happily ever after,’” she said. “The Napi stories are a part of our lives.”

An important aspect of the lecture session focused on humor in Indian country. Bruised Head shared how humor is so much an integral aspect of the Blackfoot people, and of how humor is so interwoven with the Blackfoot culture, traditions and history. “It’s a real gift to be able to put a smile on people’s faces,” she said to the people in attendance. “Our oral history is so rich and full. We are so fortunate to have all these stories, and humor is so much a part of who we are—the Blackfoot.”

## *NAPI and the Rock*



*One hot summer day, Napi, the supernatural trickster of the Blackfoot peoples, rested on the rock because the day was warm and he was tired. He spread his robe on the rock, telling the rock to keep the robe in return for letting Napi rest there. Suddenly, the weather changed and Napi became cold as the wind whistled and the rain fell. Napi asked the rock to return his robe, but the rock refused. Napi got mad and just took the clothing. As he strolled away, he heard a loud noise and turning, he saw the rock was rolling after him. Napi ran for his life. The deer, the bison and the pronghorn were Napi's friends, and they tried to stop the rock by running in front of it. The rock rolled over them. Napi's last chance was to call on the bats for help. Fortunately, they did better than their hoofed neighbours, and by diving at the rock and colliding with it, one of them finally hit the rock just right and it broke into two pieces. Not only does this story explain why the rock is in two pieces, but also why bats have squashed-looking faces.*

*The tale provides helpful caution against taking back what you have given away.*

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP TO BE PART OF THE COMMUNITIES



*Council members Marcel Weasel Head, Josh Curly Rider and Andrew Bull Calf represented the Social committee in bringing about change which will begin in Moses Lake. Many community members were in attendance at the meeting in Moses Lake.*

A plan to begin working toward healthy, safe communities for the entire Blood reserve will begin with the community of Moses Lake as a model. The Social committee hosted its second meeting with people from the community of Moses Lake, Blood Tribe Administration departments and entities, and a group from Meyers Norris Penny to begin identifying key issues and areas of concern in developing strategies toward reaching their goals.

Andrew Bull Calf, Blood Tribe Council, who resides in Moses Lake said the plan to begin the process of living healthy lifestyles has to happen somewhere. “We are trying to plant a seed,” he shared in meeting their objectives of attaining vibrant communities. “You community members, we need your ideas to start making our communities grow and develop. We all live here. We know what’s wrong in our communities, so we need to hear from you.”

The community action plan will begin hearing what the people in Moses

Lake want and once a concrete plan of action has been developed, the same process will be utilized in each community on the reserve. Marcel Weasel Head, Blood Tribe Council, said the Tribe is looking at the eventual results of this plan. “We want everyone to begin to see what we want to do,” he explained. “The whole idea behind this is that each department and entity on the reserve provide programs and services, but we never see the end result. We never measure the success; did we accomplish anything. We have to look at this in the long-term and work together as one.”

Jeff Orchard, Meyers Norris Penny presented an outline of how the community of Moses Lake can take the lead role in establishing strategies that work for them with the input from the community members. “The idea behind this is to help identify from the people of the community what needs to change. The first step of the process is: what would you like the communities to be; what is it that has to change, what is it we

would like to change, and what is it that nothing will ever change—that’s what makes us who we are. All we do (MNP) is lead the process and ask the questions so it’s very much a drawn-out process.”

The strategic plan will be measured on its progress each month and community input will help in developing an action plan which will then be used in other communities on the reserve. Josh Curly Rider, Blood Tribe Council, said working together will bring about short- and long-term goals. “We want to work with the communities and departments to improve our programs. The Blood Tribe Health department said we want to be the healthiest community in the world by 2025, but they won’t be able to accomplish it alone. The departments and the community, by working together, can accomplish it by then.”

The Blood Tribe Communications department will inform the public of when the next planning meeting will occur.

## SATELITE OFFICES SET TO OPEN IN FOUR LOCALES

In an effort to meet with more Tribal members, the Chief & Council have established satellite offices in key locations on the Blood reserve. Four areas have been identified in establishing satellite offices as a measure of providing access by Chief & Council to the people of the Blood Tribe.

The communities of Moses Lake, Levern and Stand Off will have a satellite office with another office situated in Lethbridge. The office in Moses Lake will be situated in the Moccasin Flats Plaza; the office in Levern will be situated in the Blood Tribe Employment & Skills Training (BTEST) building; the Stand Off satellite office will be situated in the old Saipoyi School, and the Lethbridge satellite office will be situated on the 4th floor of the Chancery Court building across from the Lethbridge Lodge.

The satellite offices are equipped with telephones and the usual office fare and each of the satellite offices have access to larger meeting rooms if required. The Chief & Council each have access to any of the satellite offices and can plug in



*The Moccasin Flats Plaza is one of the locations which will house one of the satellite offices to be used by members of council. Other locations include: Levern, Standoff and in Lethbridge.*

their laptops to perform their duties, to review materials, or to conduct public interviews.

Please note that persons wanting to make an appointment with the Chief or Council can contact Alva Weasel Moccasin at 403.737.8102. It will at the Council's discretion of when they will be available to meet at these satellite offices. Also, Chief & Council will not be available to meet at any one of the satellite offices during reg-

ularly scheduled council meetings. The Communications department will share additional information on who to contact if you may want to book a meeting time and location. Also, phone numbers will be made available to people requesting for any additional information. The hours of operation for the satellite offices are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH PROVIDE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY

The Blood Tribe Economic Development recently completed work on an economic impact study which identifies how much of an economic impact the Blood Tribe has on local and regional economies. Rob Crow, Director, Economic Development, says the impact assessment study was a comprehensive look at how much money is spent by the Blood Tribe administrative body and individual member spending on local towns, the

City of Lethbridge and beyond. The Economic Impact Study was initiated by the Blood Tribe Economic Development department to determine how much the Blood Tribe invests in the local economies through direct and in-direct spending by the Blood Tribe, its companies and its on-reserve members. The Impact Assessment Study will provide resourceful information to the Tribe in its economic developmental stages

and will provide information vital in planning for future development on the reserve.

The presentation of the Economic Impact Study is scheduled for May whereby the people of the Blood Tribe will be invited to view information contained within the study. The Communications department will inform the public of the time, date and location of the presentation.

## BLOOD TRIBE YOUTH COUNCIL NEWS



The Kainai Youth Council's mandate includes representing the youth through advocacy, representation and creating opportunities in a formal and recognized voice. In existence for 12 years, the Kainai Youth Council (KYC) is developing partnerships within the Blood Tribe and is extending its reach beyond the reserve to include organizations such as the Alberta Children Services, Student Commission of Canada and Alberta Mentoring Partnership.

Tanya White Man Left, KYC coordinator, is the driving force in keeping activities and events planned. The KYC is described as a youth for youth organization whereby the participants from within each community are involved and committed to activities which portray a positive image of the youth. With their theme: 'Building Unity for a Better Tomorrow,' the KYC are involved

in a number of activities including: Kainai Youth Week, Kainai Youth Walk-athons, Community Christmas dinners, Easter activities and Leadership Development through the Community Clubs. Each of the community clubs are situated in the four main communities on the reserve. They include: Moses Lake, Lavern, Stand Off and Old Agency. As a measure of participation, each community club is given the opportunity to host each of the above mentioned activities and functions.

The KYC host a series Kainai Youth Forums whereby the professionals presenting on various topics are the youth themselves. At the youth forums, the youths speak to their peers on relevant topics and get informative feedback from the participants. This affords the KYC to gain valuable insight into what challenges or obstacles the youth of today are experiencing, and to offer suggestions to help them better understand these issues or concerns. The KYC have had four Kainai Youth Forums and look forward to hosting such key events in the near future.

Among some of the activities are hip hop dances which allow for

those interested in dance to show their creativity on the dance floor. This activity helps the youth to keep active, especially during the winter months when the cold weather keeps us indoors. The hip hop dance, including other forms of dance styles help to demonstrate a healthy, chemical free environment which allows for the creativity to be expressed in a fun and carefree environment. Other times when the dance fever becomes hot are during Halloween and Valentine's Day.

To show they are committed to their duties, the KYC have fund-raising events which go toward such functions as Christmas dinners and community dinners. The community dinners are viewed as special tribute to the youth who go beyond their limits to improve the quality of life for others. Some of the funds raised provide gifts of acknowledgement as a small measure of showing their appreciation and hard work.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of the Kainai Youth Council, or who want to participate in one of the activities or functions, can contact Tanya White Man Left at 403.737.2900.

## FIRST BLOOD INDIAN NURSE PASSES AWAY



Nora Baldwin, nee Gladstone, daughter of the late Senator James and Janie Gladstone, passed away at the Surrey Memorial Hospital in Surrey, B.C., on March 17, 2009. She was born on the Blood reserve on August 6, 1920, and attended the St. Paul's Residential School until age 16. In 1937, she was one of four Canadian Indians chosen to go to London, England to attend the coronation of King George IV. This was a highlight of her life and upon her return was given the name 'Ninaki,' or princess. She then left the reserve and went to Bedford High School in Saskatoon, as Indians were not accepted in Cardston schools. After graduation, she attended the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, B.C., where in 1945 she graduated as a registered nurse, becoming the first nurse from her reserve. She was a neo-natal nurse at several hospitals in B.C. before retiring from the Vancouver General Hospital in 1985.

Nora was married to Ed Baldwin in 1955 and had one son, Neal.

A few years ago, Nora said: "I have this advice for people of the Blood Tribe. Be proud of our country, for not everyone can say they are true Canadians, as we are. In the past, our forefathers gazed at the stars but now the time has come for each of us to reach out for their star. You can do it."

# AROUND THE REZ...

## **BTEB APPOINTS NEW BOARD**

The Kainai Board of Education recently had elections in which a number of positions were filled including members at large, Chief & Council representatives and parent advisory committees for the schools located on the reserve. The two Chief & Council representatives are **Kirby Many Fingers** and **Jim Gladstone**. The members at large are **Arnold Fox** and **Oliver Shouting** and the parent advisory committee chairpersons are **Delphine Goodstriker**, **Johnny Day Rider Sr.** and **Joyce Goodstriker**. The Saipoyi Chairperson has yet to be determined. Also undetermined is the Executive of the Board.

The Parent Advisory Committee members for the four schools include: Kainai High School, **Delphine Goodstriker**, **Shane Little Bear**; Tatsikiisaapo'p Middle School, **Warren Twigg**, **Johnny Day Rider Sr.**, **Nina Buckskin**, **Alvin Wells** and **Ann Shouting**; Saipoyi Community School, **Cal Williams**, **Martin Eagle Child**, **Melodie Little Bear** and **Moses Spear Chief**. The Chairperson for Saipoyi has yet to be determined; Aahsopi Elementary School, **Randy Many Fingers**, **Patrick Bare Shin Bone**, **Joyce Goodstriker**, **Eric Buckskin** and **Denise Mountain Horse**.

The elected Board and PAC members were sworn in on March 9, 2009.

## **OLYMPIC TORCH TO SHINE ON BLOODS**

On January 18th, 2010, the Olympic Torch signifying the opening of the Winter Olympics in Vancouver will be carried onto the Blood reserve as part of its journey across Canada. **Patricia Bruised Head**, program supervisor, Recreation, says the Olympic Torch will be carried onto the Blood reserve by seven torchbearers. "It's really exciting to have such a historic and memorable event happening here on the Blood reserve," she says. "On behalf of the people of the Blood Tribe, the Blood Tribe Parks & Recreation is really proud to be a part of the 2010 Olympic Torch relay route." Bruised Head is proud of the history our present and past athletes

have contributed, especially during the recent 2008 North American Indigenous Games when a number of medals were brought home by our youth.

The Olympic torch is a tradition continued from the Ancient Olympic Games. In ancient Olympia (Greece), a flame was ignited by the sun and then kept burning until the close of the games. The flame first appeared in the modern games at the 1928 games in Amsterdam. The flame itself represents purity, the pursuit of perfection and the struggle for victory. It also represents peace and friendship. The Olympic flame is lit at the ancient site of Olympia by women wearing ancient-style robes and using a curved mirror and the sun. The Olympic Torch is then passed from runner to runner from the ancient site of Olympia to the Olympic stadium in the hosting city. The flame is then kept alight until the Games have concluded. Additional information will be provided on the preparations of welcoming the Olympic Torch.

## **PUBLIC WORKS STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR HARD WORK**

A number of the Public Works employees, volunteers and family members enjoyed a hearty breakfast in recognition and appreciation of their efforts during the recent severe winter storm. The breakfast was hosted by the Delaney Restaurant, Walsh Wilkins Creighton and the Blood Tribe Administration who donated their time and resources in preparation for the breakfast.

**Sandra Delaney**, restaurant manager, said the breakfast was a small gesture of appreciation for the road warriors who worked tirelessly in trying to stay one step ahead of old man winter. "We admire those employees and volunteers who gave 150 per cent of their time during the winter storm," she said. "This breakfast is just our way of saying thanks to every one at the Public Works department." **Wallace Delaney**, restaurant owner, who was s a former road crew employee, recalled the demands placed on heavy-equipment operators during times of harsh weather. "It was tough," he said. "There were many times

when we had to work 24-hours-a-day, so I know what these guys go through."

The Public Works staff enjoyed a hot meal of pancakes, sausages, bacon and eggs, hash browns and hot coffee.

## **CONCERNED BLOOD MEMBERS MEET TO DISCUSS GANGS AND DRUG CRISIS**

A small but concerned group of educators, Blood Tribe employees and parents are meeting to discuss and develop strategies in bringing awareness in trying to stop drug use and gang activity on the Blood reserve. The group has met on several occasions and is encouraging other Blood Tribe members to become more involved in ridding the reserve of drugs, drug dealers and gangs and their affiliations.

Since the group is in its infancy, there is yet to be an official spokesperson to speak on behalf of a growing concern from parents and families who want their neighborhoods and communities to be free from the destructive behavior and attitudes as a result of drug usage and gang participation. The group of concerned participants has expressed a number of concerns and is sharing many ideas as a starting-point in moving forward with the future of our children in the forefront.

Some of the ideas are to promote the positive aspect of those who choose not to do drugs or to be involved in gangs; express a strong message that drugs and gangs will not be tolerated on the Blood reserve; have the police show a stronger presence in the communities; have our leadership strongly support a zero tolerance of drugs and gangs; rid the reserve on non-tribal members who are involved in drug dealing and gang involvement; support of more recreational activities for our youth; patrol the major highways, communities and party places on the reserve; communicate the negative and destructive results of drug use and gang activities through media outlets; create a positive environment for our people and many other concerns.

The group is planning to meet consistently every Friday of each week at 1 p.m. until a more in-depth outline can be developed.

## BLOOD ARTIST PICTOGRAPHS FEATURED AT EPCOR CENTRE

A young Blackfoot woman from the Blood Tribe is one of the featured artists at The New Gallery in the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts in Calgary, AB. Marjie Crop Eared Wolf, who is a rising star in a long history of Blood artists, is currently displaying her collection of artwork until April 2009.

Crop Eared Wolf combined traditional symbols of the Blackfoot and Shushwap pictographs with modern graffiti that she found in urban areas. She represents both her Blackfoot and Shushwap heritage and puts a modern twist into the traditional art of pictographs: "I juxtapose the traditional art form of pictographs with the modern graffiti of tagging," she says in describing her art technique. "I have found urban areas where graffiti is everywhere: back alleys, behind buildings, under bridges and train yards."

The idea for her exhibit came from an earlier work she did using the idea of the imagery of pictographs using small stones and red ocre as a medium. While on a visit to Writing-On-Stone Provincial Park, Crop

Eared Wolf noticed that some of the pictograph sites were vandalized with graffiti. "To me it was kind of saddening and disheartening that they [vandals] didn't have enough respect to recognize these as pieces of art. I thought I would do something about it, and that's where this idea came from," she says.

Influenced by her father who was also an artist, Crop Eared Wolf feels her interest in art stems from being exposed to art at an early age. Her parents, Annabel Crop Eared Wolf and the late Jesse Seymour, provided her with encouragement and the freedom to explore her talents as an artist. In April, 1999, an opportunity arose for the then 11th grade student to exhibit her work when her high school art teacher, Delia Cross Child, was approached by the Curator of the Galt Museum and asked her and her students to participate in an exhibit entitled: 'Reflections of a Continuum.' The exhibit



*Marjie Crop Eared Wolf is seen here standing with her art display at Calgary's Epcor Center.*

featured a contrast of traditional art in the form of beadwork and contemporary student artwork. This was the first time Crop Eared Wolf's work had been publicly shown. "It's exciting to actually have my work recognized and shown," she says of her craft and growing talent. "It encourages me to take it further and it gives me hope to continue my art work." After Crop Eared Wolf graduates from her Bachelor of Fine Arts program at the University of Lethbridge this spring, she plans to continue working on ideas for new exhibits, continue to produce her art and perhaps one day open an art gallery of her own.

Anyone interested in viewing the art exhibit can visit the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts in Calgary. Crop Eared Wolf's exhibit will continue until April 26th, 2009.



*Crop Eared Wolf's artwork seen here is entitled, 'Coyote and Spider.'*

# COUNCIL NOTES MARCH 2009

## **Regular Council Meeting of March 2/09 at Council Chambers.**

**1. Proposed by Councillor Jim Gladstone to establish 3-days of Council meetings per month with commitment not to change dates and Council meetings to be priority over other meetings.** Proposed that Council meet:

- First full week of the month -3 days.
  - Third full week of the month -2 days
- (motion by Delores Day Chief)*

**2. Pillar System-** Chief Charles Weasel Head has stated that there will be some revisions made to improve the system (revised structure)

**3. IRCA.** Role of the IRCA in the Kainai Rodeo has been questioned, will they continue to sanction rodeo? Council stated that any changes should happen at the end of the season. Councillor Dexter Bruised Head suggested to rescind the BCR of Council endorsement of IRCA to allow other groups to be participant in sanctioning Kainai Rodeo. Council to consider and further discussion.

**4. Human Resources.** Director Katie Rabbit. Updated on the position of Housing Director that is in the process of being filled. A number of candidates are receiving further screening and decision will be made public as soon as selection process has been completed.

**5. St. Mary's Canal construction.** Upgrading of the St. Mary's Canal has been going for several months, concerns by the Kainai truckers that they are not being given opportunities in this project, many of the jobs are going to non-members. Kainai truckers are eligible to work with equal pay as non-member truckers. Construction under the PFRA.

**6. Finance Committee update (Budget).** Presented by Veronica Shade. First round budget meetings has taken place, strategy is looking at living within our means, w/impact of the recession our oil and gas revenues are taking a hit. Directors to do zero based budget, program budgets will be a priority. FTA is coming up (2010) and impact of the current recession will probably effect negotiations on FTA. Council priority on cutting Council travel.

**7. Housing update on renovations,** Wanda Tailfeathers (Acting Housing Director). Howard Beebe (CMHC Treaty 7 Housing

representative for the Tribe) has been project manager and reports that renovations will meet deadline of March 31/09.

**8. First Nations Development Fund.** Nadine Tailfeathers and Cloanne Wells presented on the current FY 09 approvals on Sept. 08 allocation of Casino funds. A list is available on request. Criteria of the funding was outlined and possible proposals discussed.

## **Regular Council Meeting of March 3/09 at Council Chambers.**

**1. Blood Tribe Economic Impact Study.** Rob Crow, BT Economic Development Director presented the findings of the recent impact study conducted by Myers Norris and Penny (Apr. 08-Oct. 08). Results of the study will be fully disclosed in the media when release occurs. (April release to BT members, May release to mainstream media)

## **Regular Council meeting of March 16/09 at Council Chambers.**

**1. Economic Development/BT Communications presentation on communications strategy on BT Economic impact study.** A major media blitz is being planned to release information to members of tribe and Southern Alberta communities. Tentative date set for May 6/09 and community release prior. It was noted that the reserve members are not supporting small businesses on the reserve, a major initiative is being planned to seek support for small business.

**2. Health Dept. financial update.** CEO Chris Shade/Clark Bruised Head gave an update on the financial crunch the BTDH is experiencing due to the deficit created by Kainai Continuing Care Centre (rising costs and underfunding by gov't). Council to find bridge funding and will look at giving Health Dept. political support to seek additional funding, plans to meet Provincial Minister of Aboriginal Relations, Gene Zwosdesky.

**3. Blood Tribe Housing.** Wanda Tailfeathers (A/Housing Director) presented an update on RRAP program for the current fiscal year, units renovated are completed to reach March 31/09 deadline. Approval for 45 new units has been given by INAC including 25 units for this fiscal year (\$3.6 million with CMHC mortgage.) Morgan Structures Canada is proposing to build some of these new units. BCR was presented and passed by Council.

## **Regular Council meeting of March 17/09 at Council Chambers.**

**1. Kainai First Nations Elders Assoc. presentation by President Ernest Rabbit.** Elders group gave information on their association, goals and objectives, and mandate "Elders helping elders, elders helping youth" They hope play a supporting role in the retention of culture, language and history of the Blood Tribe. Approached Council w/ budget submission and request for continued financial support. Were directed to budget process.

**2. North Side Medical Clinic.** Presentation given by representative of Dr. Melon, clinic is for sale, proposal to sell to Blood Tribe. The clinic which is located on 13th st. north (Lethbridge has a 40% native clientele). It was proposed that it could be a satellite clinic for the Tribe, or Dr. Melon could sell a portion of his company shares to become partners w/ Tribe. Other options are possible. Council heard the proposal and will reply w/ due diligence done.

**3. Lastar Radio.** Tony Many Fingers and Shaun Old Shoes presented information package to Council on the Radio station services provided and proposal to do live radio broadcasts from Council meetings. Council will consider in the future.

**4. Akers Trust group 1&2 update on the membership of trustees.** Some of the terms of the trustees will expire in June/09. Council will consider options in filling the positions. Council discussed all relevant matters and will make decision at next Council meeting.

**5. Harley Frank Business Services.** Harley gave presentation to Council. Proposal for services his company can offer in management consultation to the Tribe in apprenticeship program for Council and BTA Directors and Entity managers in the Economic Development sector. Council will consider proposal for further discussion.

**6. Community Development Strategic Plan.** Councillor Sheldon Day Chief gave presentation on strategic plan to combat community violence and addictions that are plaguing the community (part of the community development plan). Focus on proactive programs to provide alternatives for members. Communities need to be a big part of this.

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

## MARCH 2009

### Alberta Treaty Hockey

# CHAMPIONSHIPS

## APRIL 2-5, 2009

### CALGARY, ALBERTA

Alberta Treaty Hockey Association  
**VISION STATEMENT**

To be a Self-Sufficient Hockey Organization  
 Committed to Cultural Exchanges and  
 Positive Experiences using Positive Role Models  
 and Opportunities to Showcase  
**OUR**  
 Treaty Nation Communities and Athletes

**Team Entry Fee:**  
 \$700.00

**Community Fee Deadline:**  
 November 15, 2008  
 (\$600.00 per Community)

**Team Entry Fee Deadline:**  
 January 15, 2009  
 (\$700.00 per Team)

**Team Roster Deadline:**  
 February 15, 2009

For more information contact  
 Your Community Representatives  
 or  
 ATHA Secretary, Verna White  
 @ (780) 585-2173  
 or  
 ATHA Treasurer, Gerri Eaglespeaker  
 @ (403) 737-3888

Make Cheques Payable to:  
 Alberta Treaty Hockey Association  
 P.O. BOX 2439, Hobbema, Alberta T0C 1N0  
 Every Participant is Required to Have Current & Valid  
 HockeySaves Card



### ELDERS MEETING

Old Saipoyii Gym  
 April 9th, 2009  
 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

**LUNCH PROVIDED**  
 for more info contact:  
 Marsha Crow Eagle

403-737-8132



### BLOOD TRIBE HEALTH PROMOTION LOGO AND COMMERCIAL CONTEST

**FIRST NATIONS DIABETES  
 LOGO CONTEST**

**FIRST NATIONS DIABETES  
 COMMERCIAL CONTEST**

\*LOGO DUE APRIL 20TH  
 \*LOGO MUST RELATE TO DIABETES OR  
 HEALTHY LIFESTYLE  
 \*LOGO SHOULD HAVE NATIVE THEME

\* COMMERCIAL MUST BE LESS THAN 1 MINUTES  
 IN LENGTH  
 \*MUST CONTAIN MATERIAL RELATIVE TO  
 DIABETES  
 \*MUST BE ABLE TO VIEW IT ON VIDEO/DVD

**PRIZE!!**  
 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE - PAIR OF HIGH-END NIKE SHOES +  
 \$0.00  
 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE - NIKE TRACK SUIT +25.00  
 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE - NIKE JACKET

**PRIZE!!**  
 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE - \$200.00  
 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE - \$150.00  
 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE - \$100.00



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JASON @ 403-360-1041



**KAINAIWA**



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### RESERVE LOSES GOOD FRIEND

A free-spirited young man nearly made it past the cold winter months, but unfortunately, succumbed to exposure. Lloyd Striped Wolf, a familiar figure who was often seen near his favorite hangouts, the Trading Post and Beebe Mart, left the confines of the Blood reserve to enter into the spirit world. Striped Wolf was a hardy young man who faced some of life's toughest challenges as he braved the world alone. On a number of occasions, he was given the care and attention he required, but mostly, he chose to live his life his way.

Any person or family who wishes to give a kind donation can contact David Good Rider at the Kainai Wellness Centre at 403.737.3883.