

FREE

BLOOD TRIBE CHIEF AND COUNCIL REVIEW

TSINIKSSINI

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 8

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

2011

Young Medicine

ROCK'N
THE NATIONS



ALSO...

**First Nations Metis Awareness
Kainai Community Conference
Adopt A Highway Program
Community Walk Against Racism**

**UPCOMING EVENTS
BTEST UPDATE**



In this Issue...

**Published by Blood Tribe
Administration
COMMUNICATIONS Department**

The Blood Tribe Council Review entitled 'TSINIKSSINI' is dedicated to the sharing of information for the people of the Blood Tribe. The magazine format features news, stories, articles and an array of items as our way of sharing what is occurring on the Blood reserve and beyond.

We hope you enjoy your magazine and invite any suggestions you may have in improving our coverage on any number of events and activities. The magazine will be printed on a monthly basis and will be distributed to various locations on the reserve.

The magazine is free of charge.

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COVER: Curt Young and Jamie Medicine Crane

FNMI AWARENESS DAYS AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE



Lethbridge College, in collaboration with RBC Foundation, hosted the First Nations Metis & Inuit (FNMI) Awareness Days on campus October 18-20, 2011. The event celebrated the pride, history and knowledge of Canada's First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities. Among the special events included the College tipi raising on Tuesday to kick off the event, followed by opening ceremonies with Tracy Edwards, Lethbridge College president, with a greeting to students, employees and the general public.

A traditional feast of stew and bannock followed at the Piita Pawanii Centre.

"This year's FNMI Awareness Days showcases some incredible talent," says Robin Little Bear, FNMI manager. "The event brings a wonderful energy to the college that solidifies our commitment to sharing the heritage and traditions of the FNMI people." For the first time in Lethbridge, a very exciting group, "Young Medicine Entertainment," featuring blues artist Curt Young with local dancer Jamie Medicine Crane, who use contemporary music and dance with a native edge, will be performing.

Other events included the antics of DerRic Starlight Comedy Performance, Spirit and Music, with award-winning recording artist Olivia Tailfeathers, a well-respected educator who uses her talents as a musician and entertainer to express her Blackfoot culture and heritage to the youth of our nations. Blackfoot Sky, stories of the land featuring noted musicians Ira Provost and Rudy Heavy Runner. New events that were very popular were the "Faculty Hand Game Challenge" with professors and students vying to become the first ever Lethbridge College Hand Game Champions, Hand Drum contest presenting some of the best local hand drum singers in competition. Rock'N the Nations III was a night of entertainment at the DA Electric Barn on campus showcasing a variety of FNMI musical talent and fashion featuring Native American styles and all genres of music: rock, blues, hip hop and country.



The University of Lethbridge was one of many booths set up at the event.



Young Medicine and Dallas Arcand perform.



World champion hoop dancer Dallas Arcand.



Lacey Devine.



Puppeteer DerRic Starlight.

Story by Rick Tailfeathers

BLOOD TRIBE EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS TRAINING

UPDATE OCTOBER 2011



Pre-construction trainees busy during construction phase of work inside the Kainai Agri-plex.



Trainees stand for group photo.



The renovated Kainai Agri-plex is now more crowd friendly.

The BTEST office has been busy this past year with a number of programs and services. The Department is located in the community of Levern on the western side of the Blood Tribe. The department offers a number of programs, services and other activities each year corresponding with employment and training that leads to employment.

This past summer, BTEST was proud to sponsor the annual Summer Student program which created 70 jobs for post-secondary students. Additionally, we operated the High School project with 20 high School positions and hosted job placements at the Kainai Board of Education, Blood Tribe Agriculture Project, Family and Community Support Services and Blood Tribe Recreation. BTEST also partnered with Blood Tribe Economic Development to launch 14 high school students in summer businesses. Finally, BTEST partnered with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development to create positions for 8 high School students and 2 post-secondary students in the field of forestry. Currently, BTEST is operating a Youth Work Experience program with 20 youth participating. The trainees had an opportunity to participate in a two-week cultural training program that took them to various Blood Tribe significant cultural sites in southern Alberta. All students are currently in their work placements and will remain until March 2012.

BTEST also sponsored over 40 trainees in various programs through our Individual

Funding department. Applications for training programs of less than one year that lead directly to employment can be submitted beginning February 1, 2012, as funding for our current year has been closed due to budget constraints. Applications for Work Gear, a program that assists in the purchase of work related clothing, boots and some tools, is still available for those who have secured a new full-time job. This year, BTEST has funded over 30 clients through the Work Gear program.

BTEST has operated a number of in-house training programs throughout the year including the pre-Construction program which was completed in June 2011. The students completed work on the Kainai Agri-plex. BTEST was also proud to participate in the Statistics Canada training program assisting 14 clients with living allowance while taking their training in the field. BTEST also was proud to host the Mold Remediation program, a one week program in partnership with Blood Tribe Housing which saw 12 people trained with the majority now working throughout the Blood Tribe. BTEST is currently hosting the Early Childhood level 2 training program, a partnership with Family and Community Support Services and the Kainai Board of Education. BTEST has 20 students who will be in training until August 2012.

BTEST has a number of services available for any person seeking employment or advice on training and career planning. We

have a career counsellor available to discuss training. Please feel free to call in and make an appointment. As well, our Employment Officer can assist with a number of job search strategies, including assistance with resumes, job referrals, tools on interview techniques and information calls. BTEST keeps an updated job board with the latest postings and information on the labour market and tools and techniques for assisting in job search and career planning.

Finally, BTEST hosts a short-term work program each year to assist departments, entities and local community groups in short-term work projects. BTEST will be offering another program in December. Please look for posters in late November.

For more information, please contact the BTEST office at (403) 737-8149.



BLOOD TRIBE HOUSING EMPLOYS INSPECTOR TO ENSURE EMPLOYEES ADHERE TO SAFETY



Leonard Crow Chief is Housing Maintenance and acting Invoice Inspector.

The Blood Tribe Housing has employed an individual who is providing technical expertise in ensuring housing construction complies with industry standards. Leonard Crow Chief, maintenance and acting invoice inspector, is part of a pilot project from Housing which is using the Alberta Health & Safety Act as a guideline for all Housing employees to comply with.

they slowly came around and completed their work before they got paid.”

Contractors and workers of the Blood Tribe Housing who submit invoices for work they have performed now have their invoices reviewed by Crow Chief. He then inspects the work they have performed and has the ability to pass the invoices submitted, or to have the contractors or workers complete work ac-

ly provide us with safety measures we can abide with,” he said. “If the contractors are clear in what they can do, what type of products they can use, and to keep it in mind that they are working for the best interests of our people, then we can continue to improve in raising our own employment standards. The contractors are starting to appreciate the fact that we have something to comply with, as

“We’re just like everyone else, when we pay for something, we like to see it done right. We also want this work performed with safety as our top priority.” - Leonard Crow Chief

“We want the employees and worker to comply to all the rules and regulations of off-reserve organizations as far as safety is concerned,” he explained. “The Housing Director (Melvin Spear Chief) felt that it was pertinent that we have someone out there to monitor the invoices and to make sure they were done as stated.”

Crow Chief’s role as the acting Invoice Inspector keeps him busy as he reviews the invoices submitted by contractors, and then inspects the work performed according to the invoice submitted. He said the contractors gradually accepted his role. “The monitoring of invoices has been very good. The contractors were reluctant at first, but then

cording to the invoices they have submitted. “Our main concern is safety,” he explained. “We need to ensure that the work is being performed in as safe a manner as possible. And also, the work that is being performed needs to be done right. We are trying to get people who are experts at doing specific type of work such as roofers, finishers and plumbers. This saves the tribe money because we don’t have to keep doing work from contractors who are not specialized to do certain type of work.”

Crow Chief is looking at the possibility of introducing guidelines for contractors and workers to follow with regard to health and safety standards. “The guidelines will clear-

opposed to what am I going to do in this situation. Now, they can look at something concrete to follow.”

With an invoice inspector in place, Crow Chief said the contractors realize that their work will be inspected before any work is considered complete. As a result, the work performed is done according to Housings requirements.

“We’re just like everyone else,” he said. “When we pay for something, we like to see it done right. We also want this work performed with safety as our top priority.”

HONORARY KAINAI CHIEFTAIN LEAVES LASTING LEGACY AS A HUMANITARIAN



Ralph Thrall Jr.

An honorary member of the Blood Tribe has made his journey into the spirit world. Ralph Thrall Jr., who was inducted into the prestigious Kainai Chieftainship in 1988, and who was given the name Flying Eagle, passed away on Friday, October 28, 2011, with his family at his side.

The late Thrall Jr., who proudly wore his headdress in support of the many functions as a member of the Kainai Chieftainship, was a committed individual of his community through his involvement in many activities and social events. His family owned the famed McIntyre Ranch and he shared his generosity without hesitation. Thrall Jr. was ever present in support of the Chieftainship



Ralph Thrall Jr. in 2011 at the Kainai Chieftainship Ceremony for Prime Minister Stephen Harper. as one of the 40 living members who comprise the esteemed group. The people of the Blood Tribe acknowledge Flying Eagle as he makes his way home.

JAPAN BUSINESSMAN WAS INFLUENTIAL IN ESTABLISHING BTAP'S DEVELOPMENT



Mr. Susumo Ono with Blood elder Pete Standing Alone.

Mr. Susumo Ono, a man who was instrumental in opening new timothy hay markets for the Blood Tribe Agricultural Project's forage processing plant has died. Mr. Ono, who was inducted into the Kainai Chieftainship in 1997, was given the name White Horse Rider by Blood elder Pete Standing Alone. Mr. Ono was part of the Sumitomo Corporation who were involved in many business affairs throughout the world.

At the time of his passing, Mr. Ono requested his family and business partners to inform the Blood people of his death. He was a well-known and respected man who died on October 23, 2011, at the age of 70.



Aerial photograph of Blood Tribe Agricultural Project irrigated lands.

KAINAI COMMUNITY CONFERENCE SHARES TOPICS FROM MANY LOCAL AND NATIONAL PROFESSIONALS



Blood Counselor Josh Curly Rider.

The annual Kainai Community Conference at the Kainai High School on October 5, 6, 7, 2011, brought together a large number of community members to hear a variety of professionals share themes of interest on the topics of education and cultural relevance. Chief Charles Weasel Head welcomed everyone to the conference and elders gave their blessing on each of the three days.

The conference featured three well-known individuals who have created a path for themselves in education and politics. Dr. Martha Many Grey Horses, who earned her Doctorate Degree in Education, has been very active in promoting health and education issues worldwide. She is the Senior Associate of the First Nations Centre of the National Aboriginal Health Organization in Ottawa, Ont., and has worked for the World Health Organization in the Kingdom of Lesotha, the Republic of South Africa. An honor Many Grey Horses holds deeply is the meritorious recognition by the Albuquerque, N.M., Human Rights Commission for her advocacy work in promoting cultural sensitivity and quality education for all American Indian students.

Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Little Black Bear First Nation in Saskatchewan shared his political knowledge and expertise of the treaties and inherent rights with the audience members during his keynote address. "Terminology is important," he said of describing the many First Nations peoples in

Canada. "Some people like the word 'Indian,' some like 'Native,' now its indigenous peoples because of the whole United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. In Canada, you have the term 'aboriginal,' and aboriginal peoples refers to Indians, Metis and Inuit. That's in Canada's constitution and it's not really right, because it takes away from the distinctiveness and uniqueness when you put everyone in the mixing bowl as Natives. You wonder who you are referring to. Your language is so important. It's your identity."

Janet Fox, from the Onion Lake Nation in Saskatchewan, spoke on reclaiming our indigenous knowledge. "The medicines we have today we buy in the pharmacy is because of the knowledge of our people," she said. "It's good to understand our creations stories, legends. Pretty soon you begin to make your own connections, you begin to understand many things. Everything is all connected." Fox, who is a fluent Cree speaker, was awarded the Master Facilitator from the Virtues Project for her work involving the Teepee Teachings concept. She is also a recipient of the 2010 Saskatchewan First Nations Awards in Education.

With nearly every session filled, the participants were treated to a number of information sessions including: KaInai Government Agreement, Literacy, Diabetes Prevention, Training and Employment, National Child Benefit Reinvestment Initiatives, Species at Risk on the Blood reserve, Holistic Healing, Laughter, Beadwork for Beginners, Rattle Making, Resume Building, Medicine Bag Building, Protecting our Environment, Family Trees and Genograms, Gangs on the Blood reserve, How to Manage Money, The Chinook Arch Regional Library System, Giving Hope Back to our People, Emergency Preparedness, the Importance of Speaking Blackfoot, Respecting our Elders, Labour Market Information, Family Literacy, KBE Student Attendance Policy and the Communication Between Body and Mind.

Kainai Board of Education Superintendent, Richard Fox, thanked the keynote speakers, presenters and participants for their involvement in the annual Kainai Community Conference.



Keynote speaker Chief Perry Bellegarde.



Morris Many Fingers, Richard Fox and Counselor Jim Gladstone.



Participants listening to one of the presenters.



The sessions were informative and well-attended.

Story by Tom Russell

KAINAI GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

GENERAL INFORMATION



Q1. What are the Kainai Bilateral and Tripartite Government Agreements about?

A1. They are about acknowledging the established system of government by the Blood Tribe, and the Blood Tribe exercising jurisdiction and other authorities over child, youth and family matters, and governance matters.

Q2. What are the benefits to the Blood

Q11. What do the Kainai Bilateral and Tripartite Government Agreements have to do with governance?

A11. They acknowledge the Blood Tribe's established system of governance that is in accordance with its customs, traditions and tribal system, the principles of which are expressed in Kainayssini. Currently, the Blood Tribe is required to carry out many of its governance activities under the Indian Act. The Blood Tribe will continue to carry out its governance activities, however matters such as overall governance, and membership, elections and financial management will be under the authority recognized in the Agreements and the Blood Tribe Governance Law. The main objective of the Blood Tribe, in exercising authority over governance matters, is to better protect the interests of Blood Tribe Members and to promote their stability and security by respecting the cultural, customary and community values and practices that are unique to the Blood Tribe.

Q12. What is Kainayssini and what does it have to do with the Kainai Government process?

A12. Kainayssini is the essence of who the Blood Tribe is, it includes the Blood Tribe's worldview, values, beliefs, culture, language and traditions and is expressed in the Elders Declaration, Kainayssini. It is the basis of the Kainai Government Agreements, as an effort to preserve and safeguard the Blood Tribe's rights and interests as Kainai.

Q13. What is First Nations governance?

A13. It is the way First Nation communi-

Tribe?

A2. The Blood Tribe will be able to resume authority over child, youth and family matters and make decisions on these matters which will better meet the best interests of the Blood Tribe and its Members, including most importantly, Blood Tribe children. Additionally, the Blood Tribe's authority over governance matters such as membership, elections, and financial accountability will be recognized.

Q3. How will this affect the Blood Tribe in the years following ratification?

A3. Within a number of years of ratification, the Blood Tribe will have a fully implemented and operational system for child, youth and family matters that is based

GOVERNANCE

ties organize and make decisions as to how best to meet the needs of their members. First Nations always governed themselves using their own inherent customary and traditional ways of governing. However, since the late 1870's, the Indian Act has interfered with those ways by imposing a limited form of governance on First Nations that made them primarily accountable to Canada and the Minister of Indian Affairs rather than their own members.

Q14. Does self-government negate the fundamental Treaty relationship with Canada?

A14. Self-government is a term that means the same as First Nations governance. We know that this term is sometimes a concern because it is thought that it would alter or eliminate the fundamental Treaty relationship with Canada. This is not what the Kainai Government Agreements are about. Canada recognizes the inherent right of self-

on Blood Tribe customs and traditions, and it will have codified long-standing governance protocols in accordance with Blood Tribe customs and traditions.

Q4. Have Blood Tribe Members been consulted with during the Kainai Government Agreement process?

A4. The Blood Tribe has conducted extensive consultations with Blood Tribe Members since the process began in June of 1995. This consultation has been done in a number of ways including Elder forums, community sessions, open houses, door-to-door canvassing of on-reserve Members, and mail-outs to off-reserve Members. Specifically, focus testing with Blood Tribe Members was done in May 2003 and May 2006.

government as an existing aboriginal right within the meaning of section 35 of the Constitution Act in the Kainai Bilateral and Tripartite Agreements.

Q15. What does "jurisdiction" mean?

A15. Generally, it means the ability to make laws. Specifically in the Kainai Government Agreements, it means the power of the Blood Tribe to make laws in accordance with the Agreements and the Blood Tribe Governance Law. The law making power of the Blood Tribe is exercised by Blood Tribe Council.

Q16. Were Blood Tribe Elders involved in the Kainai Government Agreement process?

A16. Blood Tribe Elders have been actively involved in providing advice and guidance during the process both during negotiations with Canada and Alberta, and in the drafting of the Blood Tribe Governance Law and the Blood Tribe Family Preserva-



Kainai Government Agreement staff sharing information.

KAINAI GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS GOVERNANCE *cont.*

tion Code. Additionally, Kainayssini has been recognized as a source of authority in the Blood Tribe laws and codes that are being drafted.

Q17. What is the Blood Tribe Governance Law?

A17. The ratification of a Blood Tribe Governance Law is required by the Kainai Bilateral Government Agreement. It will acknowledge the customs, traditions and tribal system of the Blood Tribe and the inherent right of the Blood Tribe to govern itself and to continue to protect the interests of Blood Tribe Members. It does not take away any of the Blood Tribe's governance authority but rather codifies existing protocols and practices, and enhances certain authorities.

Q18. What is dealt with under the Blood Tribe Governance Law?

A18. The Blood Tribe Governance Law

has been developed by the Blood Tribe and will be the governing law for the Blood Tribe. It provides for matters such as the procedures for the exercise of legislative powers and duties, reporting to Blood Tribe Members, rules to address conflict of interest, criteria for delegation of Authority and publishing and accessing Blood Tribe laws. The Blood Tribe will exercise its Jurisdiction and Authority in accordance with the Kainai Government Agreements and the Blood Tribe Governance Law. It also addresses the areas of Membership and Elections.

Q19. How is Membership dealt with in the Blood Tribe Governance Law?

A19. Membership will now be recognized as an area of jurisdiction of the Blood Tribe under the Blood Tribe Governance Law. The substance of the Blood Tribe Membership Code, 2000, including the re-

quirements to become a Blood Tribe Member, remains the same and does not change as a result of the ratification of the Kainai Government Agreements and the Blood Tribe Governance Law.

Q20. How are Elections dealt with under the Blood Tribe Governance Law?

A20. The election process, like membership, falls as an area of jurisdiction under the Blood Tribe Governance Law. Also like membership, the substance of the Kainaiwa/Blood Tribe Election Bylaw and Regulations, 1995, and the requirements regarding voting age and elections, remains the same and does not change as a result of the ratification of the Kainai Government Agreements and the Blood Tribe Governance Law.

TREATY AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Q21. Will the Kainai Government Agreements affect the Treaty Rights of the Blood Tribe and Blood Tribe Members?

A21. The Blood Tribe and Blood Tribe Members' Treaty Rights will not be affected negatively by the Kainai Government Agreements. The Agreements contain provisions that state that there is no affect on Treaty Rights and that existing Treaty Rights continue to be protected in s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. The Agreements are meant to implement an intergovernmental relationship that is negotiated between the Blood Tribe, Canada and Alberta. Additionally, the Blood Tribe Governance Law does not affect Treaty Rights of the Blood Tribe and its Members. It also contains a provision that specifically states those rights are not affected.

Q22. Will the Kainai Government Agreements affect the Aboriginal Rights of the Blood Tribe and Blood Tribe Members?

A22. Just as Treaty Rights are not affected, the Aboriginal Rights of the Blood Tribe and its Members will not be negatively affected by the Agreements. The Agreements contain provisions that state there is no affect on Aboriginal Rights and that existing Aboriginal Rights continue to be protected in s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. The Blood Tribe Governance Law also does not affect the Aboriginal Rights of the Blood

Tribe and its Members and contains a provision that specifically states those rights are not affected.

Q23. Will the Kainai Government Agreements affect future funding for the Blood Tribe by Canada?

A23. Along with the Kainai Government Agreements, a Financial Arrangements Agreement is being negotiated and the priority is to address and enhance existing levels of funding. The Blood Tribe will continue to remain eligible for any new program funding that may become available in the future.

Q41. Where can I get more information about the Kainai Government Agreements:

A41. You may contact Kainai Government Agreement office at the following telephone numbers:

Telephone: (403) 328-6341

Toll-free: 1-866-737-2250

You may also visit the website of Kainai Government Agreement at:

www.kainaigovernment.org



Dr. Leroy Little Bear and community member.

BLOOD TRIBE FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT



The FCSS department offers a variety of services.

Once again the summer has passed and we are now already planning for the winter season. The department is winding down some programs such as the community gardens, growing food security of Alberta, and Project, Good Food Box. These projects are completed for the winter and will be starting up again in the spring

All the other FCSS programs and services such as the handibus services that we provide for the Blood Tribe Health Department and Blood Tribe Education, homemakers, bottle depot and the Moses Lake Homeless Shelter, will continue to be of service throughout the winter months

Right now, we're presently gearing up for the Christmas season with our annual food drive under the Kainai Food Bank. We appreciate Chief and Council's support along with the departments in supporting our intent to provide hampers to our members that are in need of family, community and support. Presently, we have 171 applicants. To summarize the total we have: 97 adult males, 133 adult females, and 237 children (136 males and 122 females) and again, that's the current list. We are expecting more applicants.

In terms of donation and food drives, we have been receiving donations from various departments and Murphy Oil has confirmed their donation of \$5000 to the Kainai Food Bank Society for the Christmas Hamper project, and the Town of Cardston will be hosting the annual food drive.

The Food Bank has started lining up the volunteers, and, if feasible, we would like to deliver the hampers to the community halls so that the individuals won't have to travel far to pick up their hampers. If you have any question, you can contact Tia Fox, Kainai Food Bank manager, here at the FCSS department.

Some of the other services we provide are the processing of application for attaining ramps from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The forms are available at our office and everyone has to fill out forms with correct information such as income verification and a medical report, and once completed, we then require a Band Council Resolution (BCR), signed by Blood Tribe Chief and Council.

Upon completion, all documents are sent to Edmonton for final approval. It takes three

(3) to four (4) months for the process to be completed. Once all the criteria are met, the construction of the ramp begins. If you require further information on this, you can contact Burton Many Fingers at the FCSS department at 403-737-2888.

I welcome anyone to drop by and request for further information in the programs and services we provide. I do realize that the amount of information provided is very condensed, however, we are more than willing to share with you further details if you have any questions.

On behalf of our staff, we wish you all a happy, Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Years.



Photo of Human Resource Building.

Submitted by Bruce Iron Shirt, Director, FCSS.

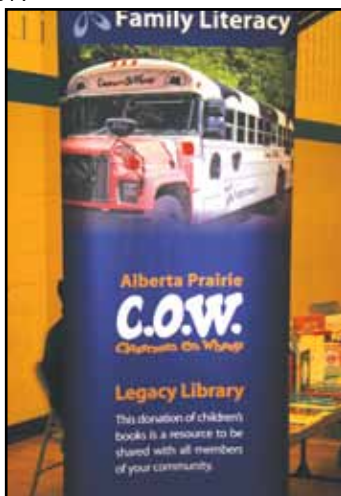
CLASSROOM ON WHEELS LITERACY BUS MAKES STOP TO VISIT BLOOD STUDENTS



The Classroom on Wheels bus is in huge demand from many students and educators from across Alberta.

The C.O.W. bus recently made a stop at the Saipoyi school to bring young children and family members into the travelling library. The C.O.W., which translates to the Classroom On Wheels bus, is a provincially operated program through the Centre for Family Literacy program.

The Centre for Family Literacy began as Prospects Literacy Association, in February 1980, when it was established as the first volunteer tutor program in Alberta. It had the primary goal of matching tutors with adults who needed help to develop reading, writing and math skills. In addition to one-on-one tutoring, adults were also able to participate in small group reading and writing workshops. These adult-oriented programs were the main focus of Prospects' work for the first dozen years. In addition, Prospects supported the development of training for literacy practitioners and helped to set up a provincial professional development organization, the Literacy Coordinators of Alberta, in 1987.



Family Literacy poster.

Prospects piloted its first family literacy program in Edmonton in 1993. Within five years it had begun to deliver a wide range of family literacy programs that helped parents support their children's literacy development, while also assisting parents with their own literacy skills. The organization served more than 2,500 families through hundreds of programs during these seminal years. It also developed strong partnerships for program delivery with local organizations such as health centres, family resource centres, libraries and schools.

This growth, along with significant community interest, led to the idea of developing a centre that would focus on literacy development in the family context.

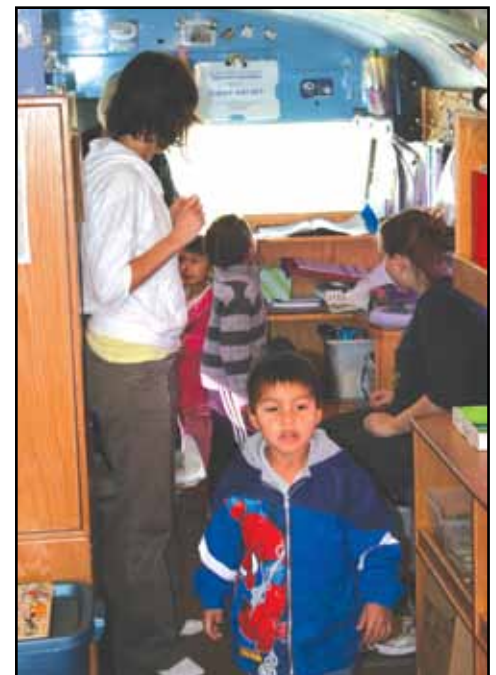
In 1998, in partnership with Success by 6@, University of Alberta, United Way of the Alberta Capital Region and Alberta Learning, Prospects was funded by the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS), Human Resources Development Canada, to develop a provincial Centre for Family Literacy. Following a cross-sectoral needs assessment and extensive consultation with the literacy community, it was determined that Prospects would dissolve as an organization, and the new Centre for Family Literacy would assume all of the programs and work of Prospects. As well, on the recommendation of the NLS, the Centre would take on a new provincial mandate for provision of family literacy training, information, promotion, resources and research.

Linda Weasel Head, literacy coordinator, Kainai Board of Education, said family literacy is important for people of all ages. "We're going to have them (C.O.W. bus) come back on the 8th of September next

year on International Family Literacy Day in the evening, so that more people can attend," she said. "The children really enjoyed themselves and we are looking forward to having them back. We had over 150 students involved. Next year, we want to have a meal for all the families who will be attending this event."

The Blood Tribe has its own Family Literacy program under the guidance of Hali Heavy Shields, who is working with Social Development. Also, Weasel Head is asking the grandparents, uncles, aunts and family members to volunteer to read to the kindergarten students.

For more information, please contact Linda Weasel Head at 403.737.3966 to inquire about any Family Literacy activities.



The C.O.W. bus was a fun place to learn.

Story by Tom Russell

REMEMBRANCE DAY CELEBRATION HONOR VETERANS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRIES



The grand entry of the Remembrance Day ceremonies honored the veterans and family members.

A growing number of people showed their honor and respect of the many tribal soldiers who served, and continue to serve, our country on a day set aside in remembrance of their brave deeds and actions. The Gladstone Hall echoed with the sound of drumbeats and trumpets as families of war veterans remembered their loved ones in solemn respect for their contributions to the very freedoms we enjoy today.

With Martin Eagle Child as the emcee and elder Charlie Crow Chief sharing the opening prayer, the Remembrance Day festivities began with the Blackfoot and English rendition of In Flanders Field which was read in English by Maria Russell and translated into Blackfoot by elder Lena Russell. Jasmine Goodstriker then offered words of praise to her grandfather, WW II veteran Art Wells, and after a two-minute silence and the Last Post from bugler George Kush, Chief Charles Weasel Head welcomed everyone to the ceremony.

“Our Blood Tribe members did not have to join the war; it was based on a voluntary act,” he said. “Their dedication and commitment in knowing how important it was to serve our country so that we could enjoy the life, the freedom and environment we have today. I want to thank the young people who continue to serve and enlist in the cadets, the army and the many other postings. Thank you to all those who proudly served and dedicated their lives so that we could be safe,

enjoy our home and to be able to continue to practice our traditions and our culture.”

Blood Councilor Ira Tailfeathers echoed Chief Weasel Head’s comment of our veterans volunteering for battle, and added: “We are all blessed to have warriors who have protected us, and who continue to protect us today,” he said. “We still have proud families who continue to keep this tradition alive with the utmost respect and honor our warriors deserve. On behalf of our Chief & Council,

we truly admire your dedication in preserving a place and time where we have the opportunity to remember our soldiers on those battlefields where sacrifice and bloodshed was a huge price they paid for us.”

Dorothy First Rider, veterans family representative, said not only did the World War veterans serve their countries during the wars, but had an impact on the political fields when they arrived home. “In 1945, our returning veterans came home to a rapidly changing world,” she said. “It has been expressed in historical literature that there was a direct link between the participation of the aboriginal people in the Second World War and the emergence of a new political consciousness among aboriginal peoples. They (veterans) evoked a new political awareness.”

Mikka First Rider and Cody Rayne First Rider read a poem while Rennie Tallow recited The Ode on behalf of his family. Elder Sophie Tailfeathers gave the blessing of the food and the families of the veterans laid wreaths in memory of their loved ones and present day soldiers still serving in conflicts around the world. The Rocky Lake and Moccasin Flats drummers sang honor songs during the festivities.



The Kainai Cadets in full regalia proudly represented the youth at the festivities.

EAGLE SPEAKER NAMED MISS MANITO AHBEE IN MEMORY OF A YOUNG MANITOBA NATIVE



Torry, seen here with her parents Myron and Tanya, sister Kalli and grandmother Nora Healy proudly share the honor.

A young traditional dancer from the Blood Tribe was named the Miss Manito Ahbee Travelling Princess at the recent Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards festivities and powwow in Winnipeg, Man., on November 4, 2011. Torry Eagle Speaker, 17, daughter of Myron and Tanya Eagle Speaker, was honored to wear the crown in memory of Cherrisse Diane Marie Houle, Winnipeg, Man., who was reported missing in May, 2009, and is one of many aboriginal women who died under mysterious circumstances.

"I wanted to acknowledge the Manito Ahbee powwow committee and the princess pageant committee. Cherrisse Houle's family: Barbara, Justin, Jordon and Jessica and their father Dennis Contois.

I also wanted to thank my family and friends for the support," she said. "I greatly appreciate it.

It was such an honor to meet the Houle family."

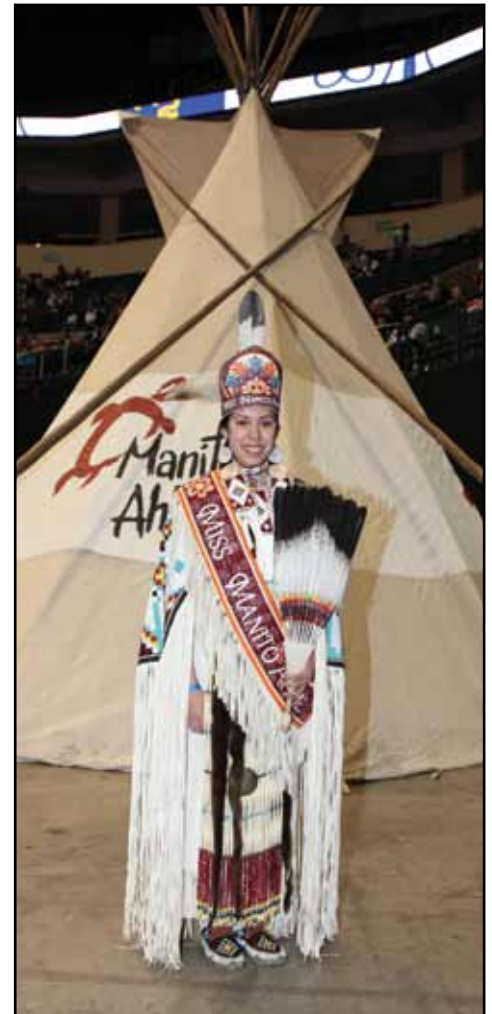
"I kindly ask you to keep our missing sisters in your prayers because that is someone's mother, daughter, sister or niece." - Torry Eagle Speaker

The Manito Ahbee Festival celebrates and showcases Aboriginal music, art and culture, with the 6th annual festival taking place in Winnipeg from November 2nd to 6th, 2011. Manito Ahbee – which means 'Where the Creator Sits,' – honours a sacred site in Manitoba's Whiteshell Provincial Park where Aboriginal people have gathered for hundreds of years to share teachings and wisdom. There are several petroforms at this site including one shaped like a turtle that represents Turtle Island, another name for North America. Manito Ahbee was recognized in 2007 with Travel Manitoba's Tourism Award in the category of Aboriginal Tourism. The Board of Governors, staff and organizers of Manito Ahbee express deep gratitude for all participants, supporters and communities who have come together to make the festival what it is today.

Torry's journey to Winnipeg to participate in the pageant began by completing application forms and submitting an essay. She researched the life of Cherrisse Houle and when it came time for her to speak before the interview panel, she became filled with compassion. "During the interview I got emotional; I felt like I messed up in the interview, but I was told it was okay I showed emotion because I had deep empathy for the family," she explained. "I'll always keep the Houle family in my prayers now."

As the selection process neared, Eagle Speaker and the other candidates stood there, nervously anticipating the outcome. "I was very nervous when it got to the crowning portion. All of us wished each other luck. We were so proud of the 1st and 2nd runner up," she said. "When my name was announced for the title, I was very humbled. I cried tears of happiness and so did my mom and grandma. The first thing I did was to let the Houle family know I'll do my very best to honor Cherrisse."

Eagle Speaker modestly looks beyond winning the pageant and into a much larger responsibility of supporting families in times of need. "The title is not just about winning a beautiful crown and sash. It's about honoring Cherrisse and all the missing and murdered aboriginal women in Canada," she said. "I kindly ask you to keep our missing sisters in your prayers because that is someone's mother, daughter, sister or niece."



Miss Manito Ahbee Torry Eagle Speaker.

BLOOD TRIBE RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT REPORT



Children are always more than willing to participate in fun activities.

The Halls were closed during the year due to upgrades which included new floors, paint, bathroom upgrades and other renovations. Currently, all halls are open for the winter season. We need your assistance in keeping our halls clean and free from vandalism. Please abide by building policies and procedures as posted. There is a \$50.00 booking fee required when booking halls and there is also a \$500.00 Damage Deposit required for all the Halls for Powwows, Dances, Weddings, Basketball & Volley Ball Tournaments, etc.

Calendars regarding program activities are available at the Recreation Office. Individuals interested in participating in any of the activities are urged to contact Program Coordinators: Laura Weasel Fat, Nathan Black Water, Kristy Many Fingers and Tom Little Bear. There is a survey available at the Recreation office asking for your input on the services we provide and we are asking you if you have any requests for other programs you may be interested in. Please feel free to stop in and fill one out a survey as your input is important. Our goal of the Recreation department is to provide quality programs for our community. Please contact our Program Supervisor, Patricia Bruised Head, for more

information regarding available programs.

Programs run from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday, and on Friday, the Programmers work in the office to complete reports and plans. Weekends are flexible as some programs are offered.

Kainai Minor Hockey has 5 team categories, Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget, registered with the Spud League. Two female teams, Bantam and Midget, are entered in the Central Alberta Hockey League. The annual Hockey Tournaments are scheduled for:

Alberta Treaty Hockey Tournament, March 29 – April 1, 2012;

Alberta Native Hockey Tournament, April 4 – 8, 2012.

The Kainai Minor Hockey League executive is as follows:

President, Marcia Black Water, Vice-President, Clarence Black Water Jr., Registrar, Norma Wolf Child, Secretary/Treasurer, Jody Black Water, SPUD league Representative, Brett Healy, CAHL Governor, Al Black Water, CAHL Director, Twylla Little Shields, Referee in Charge, Tim Bird.

For more information, please contact the Kainai Minor Hockey office at 403-737-3018.

The Kainai Multi-Purpose Center site location for the new building is located at the old school running track across from the Emergency services building. Engineers are working on the building pad, parking lot and infrastructure.

If you require more information on the Kainai Multi-Purpose Center, please stop by Recreation office to see the building plans.

The Kainai Memorial Agriplex is under new management. The Kainai Ag-Society is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Agriplex.

For more information regarding bookings and programs, please contact the Ag-Society at 403-737-3848.

Blood Tribe Recreation Director Marcella Knife
403.737.3868.

BLOOD TRIBE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT PROMOTES BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ON MULTINATIONAL LEVEL



The Blood Tribe have plans to increase the cattle herd for future development.

The success of local, national and international business, these days, depends heavily on how much the action of marketing their product is involved. The Blood Tribe Agricultural Project is leaning on several individuals, among others, who are sharing their growing expertise in the field of Marketing and public relations in promoting what the agriculture industry on the Blood reserve has to offer.

For Justin Shade, marketing manager, Blood Tribe Agricultural Project, and Bob Shade, international Business Consultant and Business Development, assisting businesses on First Nations to realize their full potential beyond their traditional territories is an opportunity with huge benefits.

“Marketing is something we really haven’t done before. Marketing is buying and selling for your company and bringing your business, your community and your nation out to the public and promoting it so that the people can see it and provide a positive image,” he said. “Marketing helps the economy and creates employment. To be successful, we need support from the people and from our local government, and that’s what we have. We are trying to sell our product and communicate with the people.”

Shade, who recently joined the Blood Tribe Agricultural Project (BTAP) team, as the Marketing Manager for BTAP and its affiliates, is working toward the promotion of the

various divisions within BTAP. These include the Blood Tribe Irrigation Management, St. Mary’s Construction Company Ltd., Oahki (Water) Investment Property Management, Blood Tribe Processing Plant, Blood Tribe Farming Initiative and the Kainai Agribusiness Corporation. Currently, the Blood Tribe Forage Processing Plant is an area Shade is concentrating on as Timothy hay continues to be a much sought after product, especially in the Pacific Rim and mainly Japan. How-

ever, with the expertise of Bobby Shade, the hope for export into other countries around the world is where the task of marketing is an asset.

“We met with Bobby and one thing that came out with our meeting is that he’s opening new doors in the United States,” he said. “With any relationships we have with other groups, one thing that is coming up is natural beef. There are casinos interested in our natural beef and Bobby can help in this area.” Shade said the Blood Tribe is well-known for the high quality cattle they produce. “We have plans to revive Sawkee Feedlot where we can supply the market by purchasing more cattle,” he said. “I would like to see the reserve ranchers involved.”

Shade extends an open invitation for tribal members to tour the facilities of the Blood Tribe Agricultural Project to hear, firsthand, about the current operations and plans for the future. “Promoting agriculture is very important. It’s our main industry on the Blood reserve,” he explained. “If we continue working on our promotion and marketing, we could be leaders in the industry. It’s something that begins at the grassroots level and we’re working toward expanding our presence in these markets.”

Shade has plans to conduct workshops in the community this winter and spring for the membership, forage producers and ranchers, and how they may want to participate. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact Justin Shade at 403.737.3901.



Justin Shade with Board members and representatives from Japan.

HALLOWEEN BRINGS OUT THE LAUGHTER DURING THIS FUN-FILLED NOON ACTIVITY



The first, second and third place winners of the 2011 BTA Halloween Pow Wow costume contest pose with Blood Tribe Human Resources Director, Kaite Rabbit-Young Pine.

This year's annual Blood Tribe Administration Halloween Fest featured a variety of colorful, frightening and hilarious costumes during the noon-hour activity. With a drum group from Old Agency providing the music, and Steve Frank's commentary as the emcee, the Halloween participants entertained the many people in attendance with their fancy moves.

The Blood Tribe Human Resource department sponsored this fun activity in giving employees and community members the opportunity to share laughter and to compete for a small monetary prize for their efforts. Also, many children from the schools and communities donned their costumes and visited the many departments for treats of candy and small toys.



Going down for points!



Count Dracula made an appearance at the event.



Trick or Treaters were spooking the halls and offices of the BTA all day and were given generous treats.

ZOMBIE WALK IN CARDSTON HOPING TO PUT AN END TO STUDENT HUNGER

The Town of Cardston was invaded by Zombies on October 28, 2011, as a number of people marched through the downtown streets looking for support toward a worthy cause. The Zombie Walk was an organized event to end hunger for students of the Red Crow Community College who may be experiencing financial shortfalls as they strive to earn their education.

For many students, pursuing an education without financial sponsorship makes it difficult to make ends meet on a limited budget. Often, the school day is without a lunch.

The Zombie Walk was to promote awareness to the hardships students face on this issue. Also, to begin the process of bringing back our spirit of giving and sharing in offering aid and assistance in providing for students wanting to receive an education. All business, organizations and entities who contributed to the Zombie Walk had their names on a logo. The organizers of the walk asked for a financial contribution as well as non-perishable food items from the public.

The well-attended event is meant to be an ongoing feature in offering community and individual support. Anyone wishing to contribute to End Student Hunger can contact Red Crow Community College at 403.737.2400.



The following photographs are of community members who took to the streets to promote awareness toward ending student hunger.



1ST ANNUAL TREATY 7 CROSS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE MEDICINE WHEEL DISTRICT -- BLOOD RESERVE



The runners and organizers walk around the cross country course at North end of the reserve.

Bantam Boys – Under 13

1. Easton Weasel Head SES
2. Titus Day Rider TMS
3. Trevor White Grass TMS
4. Nikael Scout SES
5. Justin Shouting SES

Bantam Girls - Under 13

1. Brandi Hind Bull TMS
2. Celina Young Pine TMS
3. Mia Eagle Speaker SES
4. Markie Many Fingers SES
5. Thai Big Sorrel Horse SES

Midget Boys – Under 14

1. Austin Oka TMS
2. Trevis Bird TMS
3. Dillon Shade TMS
4. Asago Morning Bird TMS
5. Jaylin Goodstriker TMS

Midget Girls – Under 14

1. Sara Little Bear TMS
2. Brittany Crying Head TMS
3. Brittany Bull Shields TMS
4. Candace Crow Shoe AES
5. Doreen Crying Head TMS

Junior Girls / Juvenile – under 16

1. Tyra Good Striker KHS
2. Kristen Scout KHS
3. Joellen Davis KHS
4. Lakota Vielle KHS
5. Bailey Good Striker KHS

Junior Boys / Juvenile Boys

1. Tyson Good Striker KHS
2. Tim Eagle Speaker KHS
3. David Crow Chief TMS
4. Jonathon Red Crane KHS
5. Roan Mountain Horse KHS

Intermediate Girls Under 17

1. Katie Good Striker KHS
2. Brittany Spotted Bull KHS
3. Shyan Good Striker KHS

Intermediate Boys Under 17

1. Jalen Good Striker KHS
2. Clay Good Striker KHS
3. High Scout KHS
4. Emmitt Twigg KHS
5. Andrew Rabbit KHS

Senior Girls Under 19

1. Francine Russell KHS

Senior Boys Under 19

1. Blaize Russell KHS
2. Marcus Eagle Plume KHS
3. Evan Healy KHS/ BT
1. KHS – Kainai Hgh School
2. TMS - Tatsikiisaapo’p Middle School
3. SES – Saipoyi Elementary School
4. AES – Aahsaopi Elementary School

The First Annual Treaty Seven Cross Country Championships, hosted by the Tatsikiisaapo’p Middle School on September 29, 2011, featured many long-distance runners who proved their endurance during this event. Mike Bruised Head, principal, Tatsikiisaapo’p Middle School, said the cross country meet is part of a larger collaboration between each of the Treaty Seven First Nations. “This is part of a joint-initiative we’ve had with Treaty Seven schools where we organize different activities including sports, the youth conference, science fair and this year, a new initiative, the Treaty Seven art competition, and hand-games,” he said. “So, we’ve balanced it out where we have the physical, spiritual, cultural and educational aspect. We’ve had very good turnout these past years.”

Bruised Head congratulated all the athletes, organizers, funders, the Kainai Board of Education, INAC and Treaty Seven Management Corporation, the Blood Tribe Police and Emergency Medical Services staff for their support.



The students showed their grit and determination to cross the finish line.

Story by Tom Russell

TWO TRIBAL DEPARTMENTS PARTICIPATE IN ALBERTA ADOPT A HIGHWAY PROGRAM

Two Blood Tribe Administration departments have adopted sections of the highway as their way of contributing to healthy communities. The Land Management and Human Resources departments officially adopted approximately nine kilometers near Stand Off and are responsible to keep the ditches along these areas clean and free from garbage and debris. There are strict guidelines each of the two Blood Tribe Administration departments must follow according to the Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation guidelines in their Adopt-a-Highway program. Any person or group who make application to be a part of Caring For Alberta's Highways—Adopt-A-Highway program must renew their application each year. The adoptees will agree to pick up litter a minimum of once a year before winter. Each of the participants is required to attend a Highway Clean Up Training Course for safety purposes. It is also recommended that the group have Comprehensive General Liability Insurance coverage and the clean up must occur during daylight hours and in good weather. Any person involved in the clean up must be nine years-of-age and older and no pets are allowed during the clean up.

The two sections of road adopted by the Land and Human Resources department are along the highway near Albert's Gas Bar and from the St. Catherine's Cemetery to the Belly River Gas station.



Land employees help keep their adopted highway clean.

JOB FINDERS CLUB IN LETHBRIDGE

--Not really a club, but a place for success--

Every month in Lethbridge there is an employment office that provides an employment program that has been successful in helping our urban Aboriginal community gain employment. Facilitated by Jami Wells, Job Coach of the Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Centre, this three week program takes place every Tuesday and Wednesday of the week.

"I have worked in this industry for a course of five or so years," says Wells. "I really enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of this group in which we can learn from each other, and support each other in job searching. A lot of the job search strategies have changed, and not a lot of people are aware of how to successfully gain employment. With the competition rising, and the labour market slowing down, it can be tough. But, if you were to come in and participate in this group, you will reap what you sow."

For those of you that do not know, the Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Centre was created to meet the employment and

training needs of clientele living in Lethbridge. Because we are a new entity, most still assume that we are the old Lethbridge Aboriginal Career Employment Centre. This is not the case as the Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Centre is prided on being a completely different organization with the same concepts in mind--those being to assist our fellow urban aboriginals find a career path that they will enjoy.

Over the course of this year, there have been approximately six job clubs that have taken place with successful placements of clients in career type positions. Some of the program content involves cover letter and resume writing, marketing for the underemployed, self awareness and diversity support training. Workshops are also provided to interested individuals. Some workshops include: First Aid and CPR, Adapting to Urban Living, Diversity in the Workplace, Cultural Awareness and identifying self, dressing for success, career decision making and business etiquette.

Not only is the job finders club a proponent of this agency, there are also two career counsellors on hand to help you individually access services. The focus of the Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Centre focuses on employment, entrepreneurship, inclusion of aboriginal people in the work place and economic development. All you have to do to join is to fill out the application. You will need your Social Insurance Number and your current Lethbridge address, as only residents of the City have full access to the agency.

If you or someone you know who resides in Lethbridge is needing assistance with their job search or training applications, come on down to the Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Centre located right next door to the Club Cigar shop at 305-5th St. S, Lethbridge, AB. If you are a Facebook user, add Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge to find out about community events you can involve yourself in and when the next Job Finders Club will take place. Or, feel free to contact the office at 403.320.7699 for further information.

COMMUNITY GATHERS TO END RACISM



A peaceful demonstration through the Town of Cardston was initiated to highlight equality and justice.

On Friday, October 21, 2011, a gathering of Blood Tribe members walked through the main street of Cardston to create awareness of their concerns regarding the racial attitudes of community members in Cardston and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment. In attendance was the family of the late Leland Red Crow, who was laid to rest this same day.

Red Crow was a victim of an alleged hit and run while he walked along the street bordering the reserve and the Cardston township. At the time of the walk, it was mentioned that no further investigation of the matter will take place and no charges are pending for the young non-native driver.

The organizer for this event, Candice Shade stated: "This is a time to stop prejudice against each other and come together. This walk is a positive way to get our message out as a community and we deserve justice because we are people too."

This past summer, a similar incident occurred within the town of Cardston. The Blood Tribe victim this time was only seven years old. Again, no further investigation is pending in this case, and again, no charges will be laid against the young non-native driver who struck her. The child suffered

life-threatening injuries that were treated at the Children's Hospital in Calgary and is very fortunate to have survived; thanks to her bike helmet. She and her young cousins, who witnessed the accident, are still plagued with nightmares to this day.

Less than ten years ago, a three-year old Blood Tribe child was also struck and killed along the same street that borders the reserve and was yet another situation where the young non-native driver was not charged with any offence.

This is why the underlying theme of the walk was to seek equality in the form of justice

being served in all of these cases. One supporter was heard saying, "We are not second class citizens and we deserve to be treated fairly by the R.C.M.P."

The walk wrapped up at the Moccasin Flats Plaza where the group of around 50 people showed their support to the Red Crow family and relatives who shared their feelings at the loss of a father, brother, nephew and cousin. Shade thanked the family for allowing the community to support them and also everyone that attended. The event concluded with Roger Hunt Sr. offering prayers and guidance to all of those in attendance.



The young people joined to create awareness.

PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE CONFERENCE SHARES KEY INFORMATION WITH COMMUNITIES



Chief Charles Weasel Head shares his insights at the prevention of family violence conference.



Organizer Pearl Long Time Squirrel.

The Prevention of Family Violence hosted a three-day event which shared many topics with the people in attendance. Pearl Long Time Squirrel, coordinator and chair of the prevention of family violence committee, said the conference was designed to assist those families who are experiencing difficulties within their homes and communities. “We try to provide what’s best for our people,” she said. “Most of our facilitators are from the reserve, with some from Piikani. We try to provide information to the people to help them deal with any concerns they may have.”

The Prevention of Family Violence Committee is comprised of various agency and community members whose goal is to have safe and healthy communities for all people. The committee utilizes elders who provide their prayers and spirituality as guides toward achieving healthier lifestyles. Also, sharing information with people on how to work together is a common goal in realizing the potential for positive growth.

The Prevention of Family Violence represents the following agencies:
National Native Alcohol & Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP)
Prevention of Family Violence Project
Blood Tribe Police Services
Victims Services Unit
Blood Tribe Social Development
Blood Tribe Mental Health
Blood Tribe Recreation & Parks
Communities of Moses Lake, Lavern, Stand Off, Old Agency, Fort Whoop-up
IRS—Indian Residential Schools

For more information on the Prevention of Family Violence program, please contact the Wellness Centre at 403.737.3883.



Grand entry flag bearers.



Many people attended the conference.

YOUNG MEDICINE PERFORM DANCE AND MUSIC IN TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY GENRES



Jamie Medicine Crane and Curt Young of Young Medicine.

Two talented performers who are combining traditional dance with contemporary music are captivating audiences worldwide who are quickly drawn into their visual and auditory presentation. Jamie Medicine Crane, model, dancer and entrepreneur, and Curt Young, a Blues musician who also shares his knowledge and wisdom in lecture sessions with children, took their show, Young Medicine, on the road during the Rocking the Nations gathering at the Lethbridge College Barn on Friday, October 17, 2001.

Young Medicine, a visual and musical arrangement, came about several years ago when both Medicine Crane and Young visualized a stage production combining their talents. “Curt and his friend Dallas Arcand (Hoop dancer) came to perform at our conference, and shortly after that, we collaborated and decided to put a show together,” she said. “I’ve been performing for quite awhile, doing a lot of cultural presentations for different communities, and I had the opportunity to share fancy dance and my experiences as a First Nations woman in modeling and following my goals and dreams.”

Young, who picked up a guitar at the tender age of ten, eventually found his niche in the world of Blues. He went main-stream with his music and hit the road, performing in nightclubs, bars and folk festivals, and touring with the likes of well-known musician Colin James, among others talented artists.

“I was into music basically my whole life, but I wasn’t fully engaged into it until about

eight years ago,” he said. “I met Dallas Arcand at music festival, and we put a show together. Dallas was the first person who introduced me to the cultural way of performing with the guitar and dance. When I started, I wasn’t doing any Aboriginal shows at all, I was doing mainly singer/songwriter material.”

Since they have joined their talents and experiences onto the stage designed for specific audiences, Young Medicine is taking their show into the international theater. They recently travelled to Los Angeles to perform at the World Championships for Performing Arts. The World Championships of Performing Arts is by far the biggest in scale and scope, and seeks to turn the international corridor between a country’s artists and dreamers – and Hollywood’s “land of dreams” – into a two-way street as a launch pad for opportunity, recognition and reward. Their performance earned them 2 Gold, 3 Silver and a Bronze medal in Group Dance Ethnic Folklore, Group Instrument Original Works, Group Song & Dance, Group Vocal, Original Works and Group Instrument Open. “It was an international event and everyone was there with high spirits,” said Young. “It was a pleasure to be there and compete.” Medicine Crane said they made many contacts at the World Championships. “There was people from the music, modeling and acting industry who were looking for talent from around the world, and we made some really good contacts. We hope to be back next year.”

Young Medicine also travelled to Peru in August during the World’s Indigenous Peoples Conference in Education where they hosted a workshop on the Blackfoot traditional dress, and using music to enhance how these two subjects play a role in the First Nations way of life.

Young Medicine is taking their traditional and contemporary gifts and experiences into the mainstream to share their theater with the world.



Photo of medals won.



Posing in beautiful Peru.



Dressed in full-regalia.



Meeting many people in Los Angeles.



ROCK'N THE NATIONS LIVES UP TO ITS NAME



Models sharing creative fashion designs.



Another pretty model in a Serene Weasel Traveller design.



Jarret Panther Bone of Dope Boy Association.

Three's a charm for the partnered event everyone was talking about that happened at the Lethbridge College Barn on October 21, 2011. Young Medicine and Lethbridge College First Nations Metis & Inuit (FNMI) Student Club co-hosted a Rock'n the Nations event where fashion, musical talent and guest costumes were displayed in true Native style.

Opening remarks from co-host and coordinator Jamie Medicine Crane, who is also the other half of Young Medicine, welcomed all to the show and thanked those who participated in making the affair a great occasion. "We believe that music/dance have been a teaching tool in our culture for many years. We have had many experiences throughout our lives that have inspired us to give back to our communities and our youth; and our inspiration to start Rock'N the Nations was to expose, promote young talent of all Nations, and to bring together all genres of music in one night."

With Travis Plaited Hair emceeing the show, it was an amusing lively event. To kick start the show, Rachel Crow Spreads Wings graced the stage with a two-song teaser where she performed a sweet rendition of a Beatles tune called *Oh Darling*, accompanied by guitarist Murray Nelson. Nelson is also the guitarist for Jolene Draper, who was another entertainer scheduled to contribute to the festivities. The duet then performed their second song titled *The Rose*.

When asked about her first performance as a singer Rachel had this to say, "My heart was throbbing. This was a life changing event that was all over in less than a second. It was like okay, here I go, I believe in myself, so sing girl."

As the night wore on and people started to

spill into the seats, it was a Southern Alberta's who's who of Aboriginal talent, as music performers were out in droves. Talents in attendance were Jane and Sioux Crop Eared Wolf, Lacey Devine, Primitive, Dope Boy Association, Simone Smith, the former Miss Blackfoot Canada, who also showcased her collaborative fashion as well. With Shock Standards, Lance Tailfeathers and Kurt Young contributing their guitar skills to the experience, and headlining the event was Sacred Savage.

The show also included its first ever fashion show which highlighted local fashion designers Serene Weasel Traveler, sApunii (Butterfly) Designs-By Jamie & Rachel, Simone Smith, Lana Water Chief, Beverly Hungry Wolf and Elaina Beebe.

Serene Weasel Traveler, a three-year fashion designer, who is a member of the Piikani Chief and Council, began the fashion show, showing five great contemporary pieces she created based on her cultural identity and own sense of style.

Overall, the evening was a great time and considered a success for the 200-plus guys and ghouls who attended.



Rachel Crow Spreads Wings.



Jolene Draper.



Shock Standards.



Sioux Crop Eared Wolf.

NOTICES AND UPCOMING EVENTS November/December 2011

DISTRIBUTION TO BLOOD TRIBE MEMBERS

Date: December 14, 2011
Time: 9:00 am – 8:00 pm
Place: Kainai High School Gymnasium

NO LOCAL MAILINGS
(within a 100 mile radius)
submission of Addresses to
commence on December 01, 2011

- **Distribution Amount - \$600.00**
- *Registered Band Members as of October 31, 2011 will be eligible for distribution*
- *The Per Capita Distribution will be identified as a “Gift” to Band Members and not to be deducted from income sources*
- *mailing of cheques will not start until December 19, 2011*

Cheques will be released to Payee Only! No Exceptions!

Note: There will be no deletion/addition to payroll due to October 31, 2011 deadline

For further information

please contact Blood Tribe Membership office

@ 403-737-8110 or 403-737-8218

fax: 403-737-2351

Kainai Government Agreement

**“Your Vote Matters
Your Vote Counts”**

**KGA Referendum
December 14, 2011**

for more info visit:
www.kainaigovernment.org



**Dont Forget to Vote on December 14th at
Kainai High School Gymnasium.**

**Call: 403-328-6341
for details**