



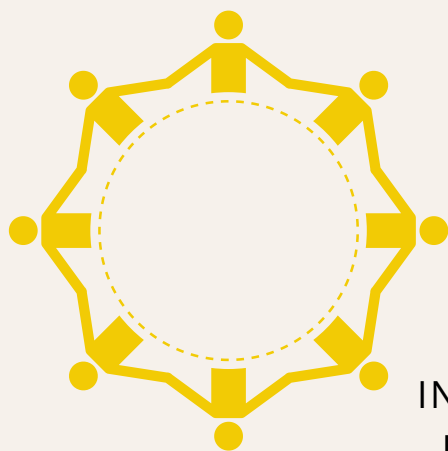
GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3

The GOVERNMENT OF THE ANISHINAABE NATION in Treaty #3



ZIIGWAN (SPRING) NEWSLETTER 2022

PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF OUR PEOPLE BY ENSURING THE PROTECTION,
PRESERVATION, AND ENHANCEMENT OF INHERENT AND TREATY RIGHTS.



POLITICAL
ADMINISTRATION
HEALTH
SOCIAL
EDUCATION
ECONOMIC - T3IG
TERRITORIAL PLANNING UNIT
INDIAN RESIDENTIAL & DAY SCHOOL
KAAKEWAASEYA JUSTICE SERVICES
TREATY & ABORIGINAL RIGHTS RESEARCH



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Chief Bill Petiquan, Wabauskang (Co-Chair)
Chief Carrie Atatise-Norwegian, Lac La Croix
Chief Brian Perrault, Couchiching
Chief Wesley Big George, Naongashiing
Chief Howard Kabestra, Nootkamegwanning
Chief Linda McVicar, Animakee Wa Zhing

CULTURAL

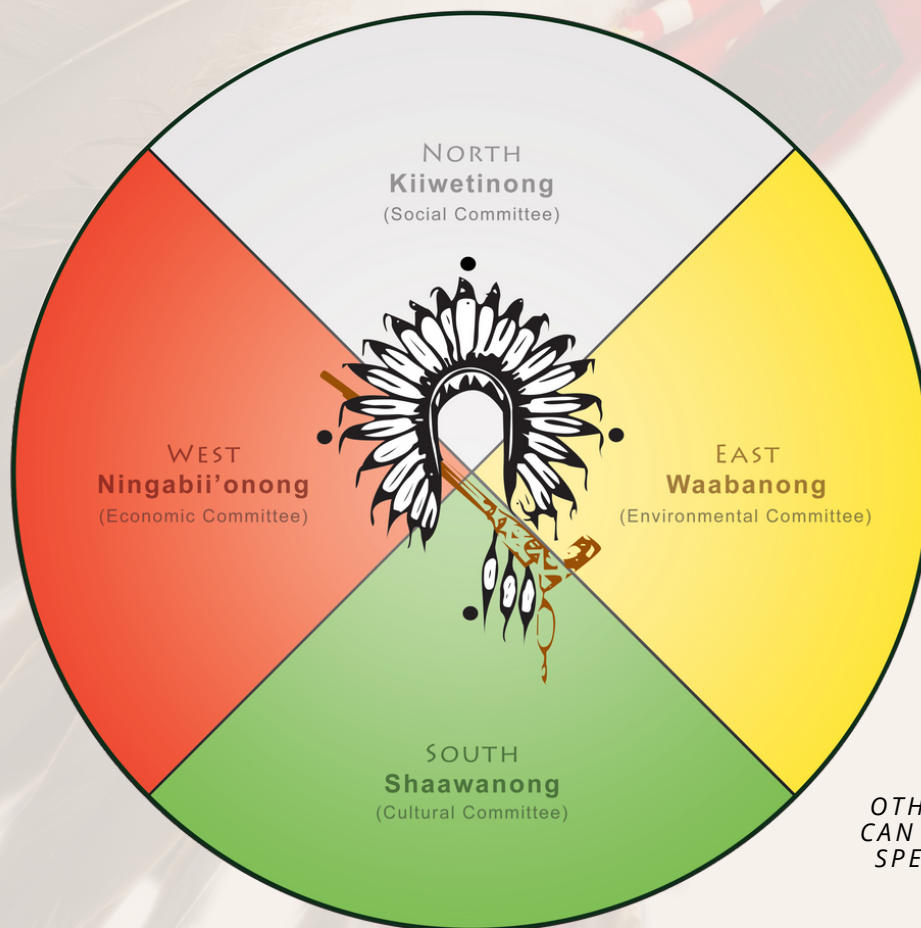
Chief Lynn Indian, Mishkosiminiziibiing (Chair)
Chief Jeffrey Copenace, Onigaming (Co-Chair)
Chief Chris Skead, Wauzhushk Onigum
Chief John Kabatay Sr., Seine River
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Chief Andrea Camp, Buffalo Point
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Chief Gerald Lewis, Iskatewizaagegan #39
Chief Waylon Scott, Wabaseemoong
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*OTHER CHIEFS COMMITTEES
CAN BE FORMED TO ADDRESS
SPECIFIC ADVOCACY NEEDS
AND PRIORITIES.*



OSHKINIIGIIG

YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE



OSHKINIIGIIG (YOUTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL)
REPRESENT THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE
ANISHINAABE NATION IN TREATY #3. THE VOICE AND
MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH COMPLETE THE
CIRCLE OF TRADITIONAL GOVERNANCE.

WINTER LIPSCOMBE
WAUZHUSHK ONIGUM

ERNIE COBINESS JR.
BUFFALO POINT

SETH VLOTAROS
RAINY RIVER FIRST NATIONS

KAYLA MORRISON
ONIGAMING

SAGE SMITH
NAICATCHEWENIN

ALEX CALVERT
MIGISI SAHGAIGAN

LINDSAY BAIN
WABIGOON LAKE

CAIDENCE SKEAD
WAUZHUSHK ONIGUM

LIAM GEORGE
NAONGASHIING

The Treaty #3 Youth Executive Council (YEC) hosted the annual "Not Everything Needs to go Viral" series, reimagined given the COVID landscape. The YEC held a sexual health product packaging design contest in partnership with Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig Health Access Centre (WNHAC) to break the stigma associated with conversations on sexual health and wellness. The winning design is by Alicia Kejick from Iskatewizaagegan #39. The sexual health kits have been distributed across Treaty #3.



Find us on  @treaty3yec

 youthexecutive@treaty3.ca



YEC members attended the Treaty #3 Youth and Elders Traditional Knowledge Gathering held in Winnipeg, MB.



KEY UPDATES

The YEC used a portion of funding from their Laidlaw Foundation grant to support the midwifery gathering held in Sagkeeng First Nation. Over a few months the YEC helped support the planning of the gathering alongside Grand Council Treaty #3 as well as community partners and supported the purchase of tikanagans.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING

In March of 2022, the YEC successfully applied for \$18,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. This funding is held in partnership between the YEC, Grand Council Treaty #3, and Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong and will be used to distribute COVID Community Care Packages to single and young parent families, youth in the justice system, or those experiencing housing instability. Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong has contributed food boxes to be distributed alongside the care packages. The YEC is tremendously grateful for the support of this important initiative.



TRANSITIONING TO THE WORKFORCE TOOLKIT

The YEC has continued to work alongside Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Lake of the Woods Employment Action Project (LEAP), and Northern Community Development Services (NCDS) to develop a “transitioning to the workforce” toolkit and resource guide, and employment workshop series, as part of the first phase of the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) grant received in 2021 to develop resources to support youth transitions to adulthood.



GAAGIIDOO-IKWEWAG

WOMEN'S COUNCIL UPDATE



Grand Council Treaty#3 Women's Council is pleased to announce the new Women's Council West Member, Brittany Cobiness from Buffalo Point First Nation.

Women from across the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty#3 gathered at Wauzhushk Onigum Nation Roundhouse at Pow Wow Island for the Traditional Selection process for the Women's Council West Member on April 8, 2022. The women were supported by community Elders; Ida Skead and Terry Skead as well as the community drum and Chief Chris Skead.

Miigwech to Wauzhushk Onigum Nation for hosting the Traditional selection process in their community.



Nibi Water Walk April 2022



**THE GAAGIIDOO-IKWEWAG (WOMEN'S COUNCIL)
WITHIN THE ANISHINAABE NATION OF TREATY #3
REPRESENTS THE UNIQUE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF
ANISHINAABE WOMEN IN THE TERRITORY.**

ANITA COLLINS
SEINE RIVER

BRITTANY COBINESS
BUFFALO POINT

MONA GORDON
LAC SEUL

PRISCILLA SIMARD
COUCHICHING

Find us on 

@Treaty3WomensCouncil



**GRAND COUNCIL
TREATY #3**
The GOVERNMENT OF THE ANISHINAABE NATION in Treaty #3



MAMAWICHI-GABOWITAA-ININIWAG
Treaty #3 Men's Council

MAMAWICHI-GABOWITAA-ININIWAG

MEN'S COUNCIL UPDATE



THE MAMAWICHI-GABOWITAA-ININIWAG (MEN'S COUNCIL) WITHIN THE ANISHINAABE NATION OF TREATY #3 REPRESENTS THE NEEDS OF AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE ANISHINAABE MEN IN THE TERRITORY.

ANDREW JOHNSON
SEINE RIVER

DARYL REDSKY
SHOAL LAKE #40

NATHANIEL COUNCILLOR
NAICATCHEWENIN

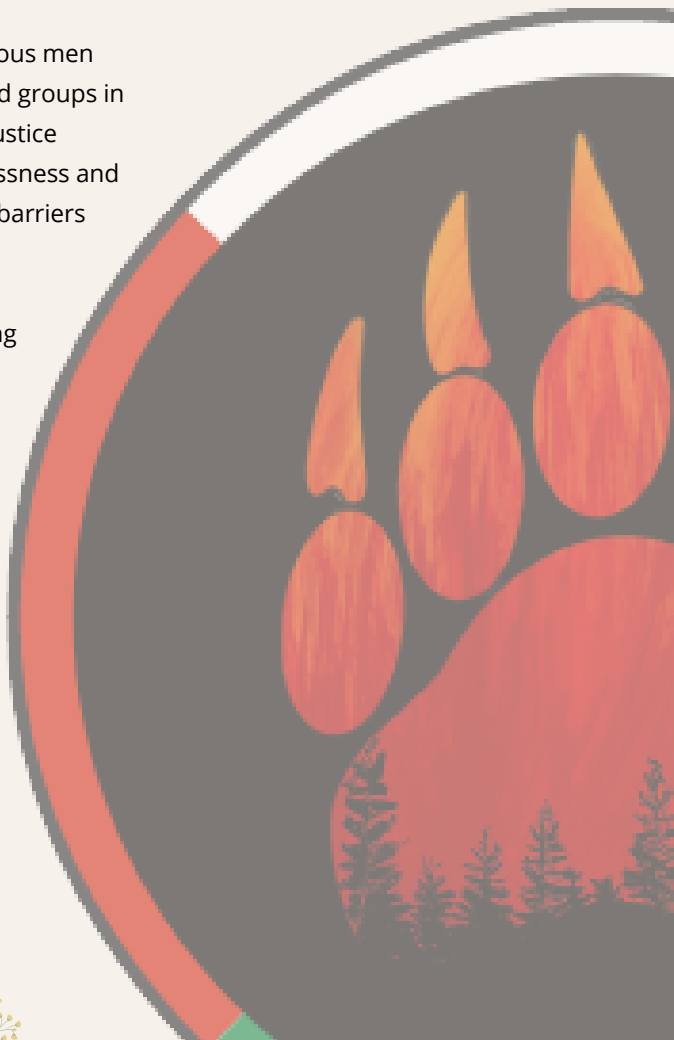
BILL PETIQUAN
WABAUSKANG

Social indicators point to the fact that Indigenous men may be one of the most socially disadvantaged groups in Canada. Over representation in the criminal justice system, poor employment prospects, homelessness and substance abuse issues are among the many barriers men face on a daily basis.

While the nature and extent of problems facing Indigenous men are well described, there is little evidence to guide efforts intended to make lasting improvements to their quality of life.

The Treaty#3 Men's Council has been able to participate in Grand Council Treaty#3 meetings for:

- Abinoojii Inakonigiwin
- Economic Development
- Health





MIZI'IWE AANA KWAT

2SLGBTQQIA+ COUNCIL UPDATE



**THE MIZI'IWE AANA KWAT
(2SLGBTQQIA+ COUNCIL) WITHIN
THE ANISHINAABE NATION OF
TREATY #3 REPRESENTS THE
NEEDS OF AND ASPIRATIONS OF
THE ANISHINAABE 2SLGBTQQIA+
COMMUNITY IN THE TERRITORY.**

SHAYLA HOURIE
NAONGASHIING
(ECONOMIC)

KIERAN DAVIS
LAC SUEL
(ENVIRONMENTAL)

MELODY MCKIVER
LAC SUEL
(CULTURAL)

DAHLIA JOURDAIN
COUCHCHICHING
(SOCIAL)


On March 12, 2022 in Winnipeg the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council had their first initial meeting since the Council has been established.

The members developed their strategic visioning report involving developing Terms of Reference with portfolio responsibilities, setting regular meeting dates ideally 1-2 times per month, request for technology support to fulfill Council's mandate, ensuring eagle feathers that were gifted to the Council members to be present at all meetings and require all Council members to attend the flag raising ceremonies in June (Pride Month).

The Council also plans to ensure that their social media presence is a safe place and to provide more support to the 2-Spirit people at the community level.

Campaigns and Contests are also in the works along with developing 2-Spirit books and biographies to tell people's stories and introduce kids, youth and educators to 2-Spirit stories.

The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council wishes to formally move 2S to the front of the former council acronym.

Find us on 
[@Treaty3LGBTQ2SCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/Treaty3LGBTQ2SCouncil)





OFFICE OF THE OGICHIDAA

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT UPDATE



OGICHIDAA FRANCIS KAVANAUGH



OFFICE OF THE OGICHIDAA

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

As spring has arrived and the threat of COVID-19 has faded in many of our communities, Grand Council Treaty #3 has been hard at work getting back to regularly scheduled meetings. This will be the first time since the pandemic began that Grand Council has been able to host a full Spring Assembly.

This Spring Assembly's theme is relationships. Over the course of the pandemic one of the most difficult parts of being isolated from the rest of the province of Ontario has been the maintenance of relationships with other Treaty areas and advocacy organizations. It is hoped that as pandemic restrictions have eased, it will be easier for delegates to travel and these relationships can be restored to allow for cooperation, coordination, and mutual support of our shared efforts to protect and enhance our Treaty and inherent rights.

While the upcoming provincial election has led to a slowdown in efforts with the provincial government as ministry partners have entered a "caretaker period" pending the completion of the election, work continues to navigate the resumption of in person meetings with both the federal and provincial levels of government. As travel opportunities continue to open up, Grand Council is receiving more visits from government representatives

Perhaps the most important progress made this spring has been in the advancement of the status of the Cecilia Jeffrey Residential School property in Kenora. The previous commitments of the Minister of Indigenous Services to transfer the property to Treaty #3 to be kept in trust on behalf of all 28 Treaty #3 First Nations has been upheld and confirmed by the newly appointed Minister. A meeting held on May 4 and 5, 2022 in Wauzhushk Onigum with elders and survivors of Cecilia Jeffrey provided input on the future use of the site. It is anticipated that the transfer of the property to Treaty #3 will occur through an expedited process to be completed before the end of summer.



GITIZIMINAN ELDER'S COUNCIL



***Our Elders remain
integral to the
operations of Grand
Council Treaty #3
and the Office of the
Ogichidaa. I consult
with many of our
gifted knowledge
keepers on issues
that come before us.***

The Political Office is continuing support of Treaty #3's First Nations in the following areas;

- The resolution of the question of the Cecilia Jeffrey property ownership
- Ongoing planning efforts for the 150th Anniversary of the signing of Treaty #3 in 2023
- The review and possible expansion of resource revenue sharing in Treaty #3
- Supporting community consultation on the Dibaajimowin Project – Treaty #3's Internet connectivity project that will connect all Treaty #3 communities to fibre internet by 2024
- Reevaluation of the relationship with the Chiefs of Ontario

As Ogichidaa, I would like to extend my appreciation to each and every citizen that sacrificed to keep our communities safe during the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whether it was organizing community response, delivering groceries to isolating families, or simply doing our best to slow the spread, we all came together to ensure our most vulnerable were protected from this horrible disease. We must now focus on how to build up stronger, more resilient communities and take the lessons learned from this pandemic to heart. I ask each and every one of us to take the time this summer to appreciate what is most important to all of us – the time we spend with friends and family. I hope to be able to spend time with many of you over the course of the summer whether at meetings, at our pow wows, or other community events. I wish you all the very best in this coming season.





GICHI OZHIBWIGE OGAAMIC
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE



ADMINISTRATION

As we have moved into the Spring months:

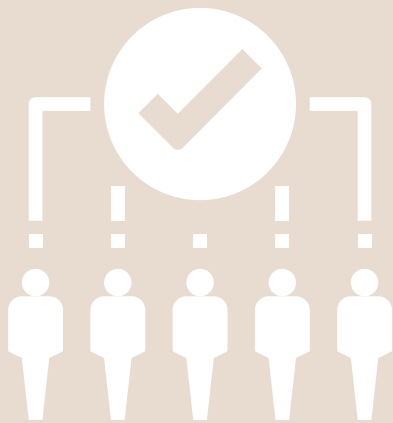
Our staff have been finalizing year end and seeking confirmation for the 2022-23 fiscal year workplans and budgets.

Grand Council Treaty #3 offices are open to the public. We still encourage everyone to wear face masks; and ensure that masks and hand sanitizer are available at the offices for visitors. Grand Council Treaty#3 has been hosting more meeting in person and making a virtual option available.

Our offices will be having our Spring feasts in May in the Kenora, Dryden and Fort Frances locations.

Grand Council Treaty#3 is hiring! We have a number of positions that we are seeking to fill. Please send your resume to HR@treaty3.ca

We will soon be posting for summer students positions as well – so if you are looking for a summer job, apply today!



AT THE DIRECTION OF THE LEADERSHIP, FOR THE
BENEFIT/PROTECTION OF THE CITIZENS, THE
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF GRAND COUNCIL
TREATY#3 PROTECTS, PRESERVES AND ENHANCES
TREATY AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS.

THIS IS ACHIEVED BY ADVANCING THE EXERCISE OF:
INHERENT JURISDICTION, SOVEREIGNTY, NATION-
BUILDING AND; TRADITIONAL GOVERNANCE. WITH
THE AIM TO PRESERVE AND BUILD THE ANISHINAABE
NATION'S GOAL OF SELF-DETERMINATION.



Grand Council Treaty#3 Board of Directors recently completed the policy for all staff of GCT#3 in accordance with Ontario's Bill 27.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT TO DISCONNECT?

Ontario's Right to Disconnect legislation, introduced last year with the passage of the province's Bill 27, Working for Workers Act, 2021, requires employers with 25 or more employees to develop a written policy for staff regarding disconnecting from work.

The legislation defines "disconnecting from work" as "not engaging in work-related communications, including emails, telephone calls, video calls or the sending or reviewing of other messages, so as to be free from the performance of work."

FINANCE

During COVID Grand Council Treaty#3 added an EFT process for employees and vendors. The EFT process is:

- **Cost-effective:** For businesses, EFTs are a cost-effective way to save money on printing paper checks and postage. EFTs not only eliminate the risk of human counting errors and fraudulent bills, but they also eliminate the risk of checks being lost or intercepted in the mail.
- **Safe and convenient:** For consumers, no matter which method you choose, transferring funds typically requires minimal effort. In addition, it eliminates the need for visiting bank branches in person, which increases the consumer-convenience factor.
- **Isn't always immediate:** Depending on the business and type of recurring transaction, it could take a few days or a few weeks to cancel recurring payments or direct deposits.

WE ARE HIRING!

**YOUTH
COORDINATOR**

**WATER MONITORING
TECHNICIANS**

**INDIGENOUS CARE
COORDINATOR**

**ABINOOJII
INAKONIGWIN
POLICY ANALYST**

**COMMUNICATIONS
SPECIALIST**

**ANTI-RACISM
COORDINATOR**

**TRAUMA INFORMED
COORDINATOR**

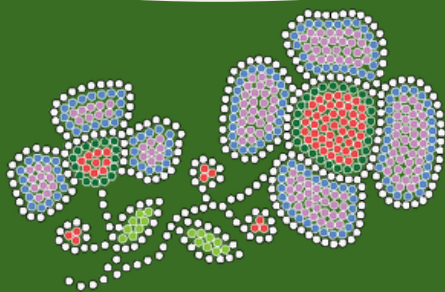
**ANOKAADAMANG
GAKENDAASOWIN
PROJECTS
COORDINATOR**

**MINERAL SECTOR
SPECIALIST**

GLADUE WRITER

**YOUTH
REINTEGRATION
WORKER**

Visit <http://gct3.ca/jobs> to learn more!



HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3 HEALTH COUNCIL



BOOZHOO - GREETINGS TO ALL!

Spring is officially here and renewal is finally upon us. The change in seasons; longer days and warmer weather will definitely do wonders for our overall health. Enjoy this time and take care of you and your families.

COVID 19 – health department continues to monitor COVID and as you know we are currently in our sixth wave and are seeing more cases and higher positivity rates in our region, projections do show that we should see a decrease in numbers by mid-June. The fourth booster is now available to those who want it and many of the restrictions have now been lifted with the exception of mask mandates in health and hospital settings. It is still highly recommended that masks be used in all indoor public spaces.

CANCER CARE & DRUG TASK FORCE

Grand Council Treaty #3 Drug Task Force – we have been successful in securing funding to support the work of the substance use related deaths in our communities. To date we have had one family meeting in Manitoba and heard from 19 Courageous family members about how we can better advocate and support individuals with substance use disorders and families who are impacted. We will continue with this important work in the coming months. “Let’s all work together to reduce the stigma of substance use and show our support and compassion to individuals and families who have been impacted.”

Treaty #3 Cancer Survivorship Campaign –this work is almost complete and we are very excited and hopeful to see this work launched in June 2022. Miigwech to the survivors who stepped forward to share their healing journey with us. Treaty #3 Regional Cancer Lead – Kenora Chiefs Advisory will take on this role and will work with the Health Council and Social Chiefs to identify key priorities to address Cancer across all Treaty #3 communities.

Kidney Disease Research in Treaty #3 –results were shared with the Health Council and the final report will be ready to share with Leadership and communities in the coming weeks. This research will help inform health care providers of the work needed to prevent and reduce the rate of kidney disease within Treaty #3.



INDIGENOUS SYSTEMS COORDINATOR MINO GHIIZIGUD AKINA-GO



Grand Council Treaty #3 held a second Midwifery Gathering Ga Nijjaansiked on March 26th and 27th, 2022 in Sagkeeng First Nation. It is an honour to be given the name by 107 year old, Evelyn Johnson as she herself was a former traditional midwife from Seine River First Nation, which means "Spirit Birthing". An Honourable mention goes out to her, as she was the Keynote Speaker to help set the tone for the Gathering, on the Life Cycle process in what the Roles and Responsibilities were in families and communities as birthing babies and raising children are expressions of territorial sovereignty and jurisdiction. The Knowledge-sharing related to this process is a foundational component of cultural and spiritual identity for Anishinaabe people.

Ga Nijjaansiked was a collaborative process of Treaty #3 regional organizations and others who were key in the planning (GCT#3 Council Constituents - Women, Youth and Men's Council, WNHAC, GHAC, AOM, Elaine Ross, and Sagkeeng First Nation Chief & Council and Health Staff (Host community).

Ga Nijjaansiked was held both in-person and virtually to keep in align with covid19 restrictions. The gathering was well attended, represented by 16 First Nation communities and a well-balanced group of men and women who shared their midwife and traditional knowledge.

The Gathering began with a Sacred Fire being lit followed with a Sunrise Ceremony. Councillor, Linda Dorie welcomed participants to the Treaty #3 and Treaty #1 territory followed by an Honour song rendered by the local Forever Women Drum Group, lead by Cheryl Bird and students. Ogichidaa, Francis Kavanaugh delivered a Welcoming and Opening Address with the key message of the importance of Birthing Reclamation and bringing it back to our communities and territory.

We'd like to acknowledge our gratitude to the many Helpers who have made Ga Nijjaansiked Gathering a success, chi-meegwetch for there excellent show of team work. Special mention go out to the midwives and traditional birthworkers in attendance, our sincerest gratitude.

YOUTH COORDINATOR

In mental health funding, we send out the final payment to 12 schools by March 21, 2022.

Currently working on collecting final reports from the schools. In 2021-2022, Health Department flow-thru \$ 935,400 to 12 First Nation schools and \$180,000 to 23 First Nation communities for Suicide prevention activities and training.

April 2nd and 9th, 2022. Health Department completed two sessions of Suicide -Alertness training in the Dryden and Kenora area. Both pieces of training were well appreciated, with maximum youth participation from Grassy Narrow, Wauzhusk Onigum, Wabaseemoong, Eagle Lake, Wabigoon and Lac Seul.

Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture approved \$237,800 funding to Grand Council Treaty #3 for the 2022-2023 Youth Cultural Camps (YCC) program. The youth Coordinator had a review meeting with the Ministry supervisor that acknowledged greater appreciation for the work of Grand Council treaty#3 and offered ongoing support to this year's YCC projects. As a result, With the YCC budget, the Health Department will be conducting three youth survival in June, July and August 2022.



HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

Recruitment and Retention into Health care education and professions is a priority for Grand Council Treaty 3. On April 19, 2022 Grand Council Treaty #3 and the Health Expert Advisory Panel hosted a ZOOM session with Dr. Erik Brodt, the Executive Director of the Northwest Native American Centre of Excellence and the We Are Healers Initiative in the United States. Hospital Executives, Physicians and training institutes for Health Disciplines attended this workshop about successful programs and approaches in inspiring Indigenous youth to pursue careers in health care. The session was motivating and now GCT#3 is initiating partnerships to connect the resources, programs and supports in recruiting and retaining students from Treaty 3.

On April 29, 2022 the First Cohort of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) students from Seven Generations Campus at Kenora, Fort Frances and Dryden received nursing pins during a traditional ceremony. The pins mark the completion of the first two years of their four-year degree in partnership with Lakehead University. GCT#3 sends out heartfelt congratulations to all the students and the staff at Seven Generations who are making training in Health Disciplines more accessible and culturally safe within the territory. GCT#3 looks forward to more collaboration and supporting cultural and traditional healing teachings in the future.



JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

Jordan's Principle partnered with our Social department to bring the 3Nolan's Hockey Camp to Treaty #3, hosted at the Fort Frances Memorial Sports Centre. Youth aged 7-16 spent two days running drills and a third day of scrimmage games, all under the supervision and with guidance from ex-NHL coach Ted Nolan, as well as his sons and former NHL players Jordan and Brandon Nolan. The Nolan's goal is to give children from Indigenous communities the same opportunities as children in urban areas. We would like to thank coaches Ash, Pete, Mitch, and Blake for joining us on the ice and helping the Nolan's give our children a unique experience. On the second day, a banquet was held for the players, their families, and the coaches; this banquet featured a Q&A with the Nolan's, photo opportunities, and prizes, a huge congratulations to the winners of the prize baskets, iPads, speakers, and winners of the Nolan's merchandise. We would like to thank the winner of the women's basket, Mariah Bundz, for choosing to give her prize to Tess from Tess's kitchen: this was a wonderful gift, as Tess kept the canteen open all weekend for the participants of the camp. Not only did this event give participants the chance to get back on the ice, but it also allowed for them to make friends from across Treaty #3, they also learned the importance of education, as Brandon and Jordan both shared their experiences with going back to school.

Jordan's Principle would like to give a special thank you to all departments and staff at Grand Council; with only a two-day notice, they were able to fill a vehicle with donations for the Migisi fire victims. Jordan's Principle also provided donations to the Treaty #3 Police's Spirit of Hope program.





DIBAAJIMOWIN PROJECT – CONNECTING TREATY #3 COMMUNITIES THROUGH HIGH SPEED INTERNET



The Dibaajimowin Project has two phases.

Dibaajimowin Phase 1 which involves fibre optic line upgrades into six Treaty #3 First Nations received final funding approval in late December 2021 and is currently in the design stage. Maps of the proposed work have been shared with community leadership and an engagement process under Manito Aki Inakonigaawin is underway to gain community consent for the build. All detailed engineering and final planning awaits this community input and construction can begin as soon as consent is given.

Dibaajimowin Phase 2, for network and last mile construction of fibre optic connections to individual households and community buildings in 21 Treaty #3 First Nations, including the six communities in Phase 1, should see final approval of the funding by early summer. The community consent engagement process under Manito Aki Inakonigaawin will begin as soon as funding is confirmed and detailed engineering and final planning will be dependent on community input. Construction for Phase 2 will then begin when community consent is given.

A meeting to update and consult with the Dibaajimowin Chiefs Advisory committee (Social & Economic Chiefs) is planned during the Spring Assembly. A meeting of the Elders Advisory will take place a few weeks later.

Dibaajimowin Phase 1 & 2 is a multi year project – all weather dependent construction must be completed in the 2025 building season and individual fibre optic connections completed by March 2026.

The Project Lead, Jennifer McKibbon, is located in the GCT3 Kenora offices and available by email jennifer.mckibbon@treaty3.ca



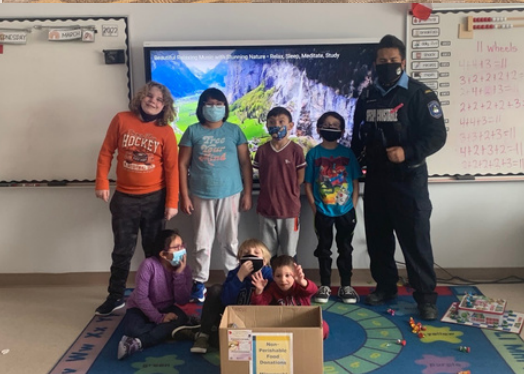


SOCIAL DEPARTMENT UPDATE



MMIWG

The 2nd Annual Cruiser of Hope Event was held throughout the territory in the three urban settings being Kenora, Dryden and Fort Frances. The event is held each year to assist those fleeing violence to lead a good life with their children. The donations go to the six shelters within Treaty #3 to help those start a new life free of violence.



School engagements have been very important, with students and staff learning about the Zahgidiwin Red Ribbon Campaign. Highlighting the importance of equality and kindness while bringing awareness to the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Online classes, as well as in person engagements are continuing to take place to give families, women, girls and those impacted an inclusive safe space to do things that are beneficial to their mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

The Social Department of Grand Council Treaty #3 strives to promote education, advocacy, and awareness on a grassroots level in the Anishinaabe Nation of Treaty #3.



ABINOOJII INAKONIGEWIN YOUTH ADVOCATE

Boozhoo, aaniin, hello! To briefly introduce myself again, my name is Lindsay Bain and I'm a member of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation in Treaty No. 3 living in Winnipeg while completing the last semester of my Bachelor of Arts degree in Global Political Economy at the University of Manitoba. I'm grateful to be working with GCT3 as the Abinoojii Inakonigewin Youth Advocate and serving as a Junior Proxy on the Youth Executive Council. I've absolutely loved my time with GCT3 so far!

Working as the Abinoojii Inakonigewin Youth Advocate, my position has been focused on community engagements and advocacy for youth needs in policy drafting and implementation. We've all been impacted by COVID-19 and although I would have loved to have held more in-person engagement sessions with community the past few months, I've been grateful for the opportunities I have been invited to and been able to attend. I started off on an informative foot while attending the Abinoojii Inakonigewin (AI) Quadrilateral Table Meeting in December. Our Social Committee hosted a virtual gathering to honour and celebrate the resiliency and success of our Indigenous youth on February 19th called "Unapologetically You." Even virtually, this was a phenomenal event. It was so much fun to meet and engage with youth while having virtual dance parties and playing games with Turtle Concepts! I attended the "Envisioning our Future" virtual youth gathering with the YEC in February, which was focused on supporting youth in accessing Jordan's Principle and helping youth build skills for self-advocacy with guest speaker Rachel Radyk. Wabigoon invited me to give a presentation on the work I've been doing with AI for GCT3 and the YEC at a youth retreat in Winnipeg March 4-6. This was especially exciting for me since I was able to meet some new faces from my home community while sharing information on the exciting developments happening with AI and Community Customary Care Codes. I was extremely grateful to have been able to sit in on the Social Chief's meeting with the rest of the Social department on March 12. I learned a lot about other projects being developed by the health and education departments that made me even more passionate and excited to be holding the position I am within our organization! Attending the Youth and Elder Traditional Knowledge Gathering in Winnipeg on March 26-27 was yet another example of this. I'm looking forward to even more events in the coming months! I've been invited to attend and present at the Dryden High School's 25th Graduation Pow Wow on May long weekend, and have been planning a youth conference on AI and Bill-C92 with the Youth Executive Council in Onigaming over the June 3-5 weekend. The Youth Executive Council has been wanting to make informational videos and do interviews with Elders, youth, and community members on Bill C-92 and Abinoojii Inakonigewin, so we're planning a conference that's centered around AI, ceremony, and learning that will combine opportunities for videos and community engagement. Onigaming is implementing AI on May 31st so the timing works well! We're grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with their Customary Care Resource Program for planning and support.

Aside from community engagements, I've been learning a lot through research and documentation-parsing while considering gaps for youth interests in policy. I've been attending the weekly COO technical meetings on the Agreement in Principle signed regarding the Child Welfare CHRT ruling and have learned a lot through these sessions. I'm looking forward to finding new ways for information sharing on AI at all levels, and am excited for more engagement and next steps through summer. Please keep me in mind if you have invitations to events that align with my work! Miigwech.





EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE



**"EDUCATION IS AN
IMPORTANT PART
OF LIFE AND YOU
SHOULD TRY TO
ALWAYS TRY TO
AND KEEP ON
LEARNING ABOUT
LIFE"**

**- YOUTH & ELDER
TRADITIONAL
KNOWLEDGE
GATHERING**

EDUCATION UNIT ADDITION

Hello, my name is Ticha Milne and I am the new Education Administrative Assistant located in Fort Frances. I am a proud mother of 4 beautiful and respectable children. People find me to be an upbeat, self-motivated team player with excellent communication skills. For the past several years I have worked as a Manager for the Golden Eagle Bingo Hall located in Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, as well as an Owner/Operator of my own small business. I look forward to meeting everyone and I am beyond excited to start this new adventure.



EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS

Two Education Strategic Planning Sessions have been held towards education. The first one was held December 14-15, 2021 in Winnipeg MB with 45+ participants from Social Sustainability Chief's leadership, Education Directors and Education stakeholders. This was dialogue held between leadership and education technicians to discuss education matters and identifying collective goals. The second one was held March 24-25, 2022 in Winnipeg MB with 35+ participants. This session focused on an education vision, mission, values and pathways towards a Treaty #3 Education Law. Both sessions were productive and focused on future planning for education in Treaty #3.

VIRTUAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FORUM & SCIENCE FAIR

The Science Fair portion, however, was a great success! We received over 10 video submissions from youth across Treaty #3, demonstrating various experiments within the 3 science areas. Each youth received a participation package filled with great GCT3 EDU items, and one lucky participant, from David Kejick School in Iskatewizagegan #39, walked away with the grand prize of a PS5 gaming bundle! All submissions were well done, and we look forward to next year's GCT3 Science and Technology Forum and Science Fair!

VIRTUAL YOUTH CAREER FAIR

In partnership with Shooniya Wa-biiting, the GCT3 EDU Career Fair was held March 21-22, and hosted by our Keynote speaker, Jan Greenfeather-King of Greenfeather-King Indigenous Motivation Inc. This year the GCT3 Career Fair strayed away from the traditional mainstream areas of careers, and focused more on careers based in the Arts, self-employment, and trades. Each presenter described their journeys in pursuing their desired career paths, the many obstacles they faced, how they overcame them, and the people that supported them.

We had presentations from: Comedian Ryan McMahon; Robert Fairbanks of 'The Rez Reporter'; Maverick Judson founder of MJ Interactive; Chris Mitchell from the Vancouver film school; Energy Reader Barb Moreau; Founder of Dene Cree Designs, Christine Merasty; Traditional Knowledge hunter and trapper, Charles Friday; Jessica Gruchy of the Toronto film school; Rob Roy of RRDSB; Creator Gardens founder, Joe Pitawanakwat; and Sgt. Carl Bryant of the Treaty #3 Police. It was a very busy couple of days packed with inspiring messages, and we look forward to next year's line up!

The Post-Secondary Research Team of Morning Star Tom, David Anderson, Willow Crow and Sherry Moreau have continued research through online surveys, interviews and virtual focus groups with the members of Treaty #3 about post-secondary. 300+ surveys and interviews have been completed from post-secondary students and education stakeholders. 10+ virtual focus groups have been held. There will be opportunity for a few more focus groups. All information will be rolled up into a report that will be distributed to leadership and education directors of the First Nation communities. Recommendations towards an Ontario Regional model at Chief's of Ontario will be made.

YOUTH AND ELDER TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE GATHERING

The Treaty #3 Youth and Elder Traditional Knowledge Gathering was held from March 26th to March 27th, 2022 in Winnipeg, MB at the Club Regent Hotel. The event was brought together Elders, youth, educators, and leadership to elicit discussions about how cultural and traditional knowledge can be integrated into a Treaty #3 Education system. Over 90 participants attended the event and were invited to engage in presentations from five Grand Council Treaty #3 units: Social, Justice, Territorial Planning Unit, Health, and of course Education.

The Keynote speaker, Nicole Bell, an Associate Professor at the School of Education for Trent University, spoke about her book 'Just Do It', and her journey towards creating 'The Anishinaabe Bimaadiziwin Cultural Healing and Learning Program,' which is one of the very few off-reserve, culture-based educational spaces created for Anishinaabe children and youth in Canada. The program existed as a model for Indigenous communities and educators to create culturally-based educational spaces for Indigenous children and youth by presenting an innovative and transformative educational site that specifically reflects Anishinaabe culture and community realities.

The goal of the Gathering was to have participants reflect and discuss three questions in relationship to how cultural and traditional knowledge can be incorporated into the Treaty #3 Education System:

1. How do we create a schooling environment that would reflect the Treaty #3 Anishinaabe culture and instill traditional values while providing the students with the skills they would need to survive in the modern world?
2. What would this culturally relevant space, method, and environment for teaching our Treaty #3 students look like?
3. How do we transmit this learning in a wholistic way which addresses the student's spiritual, physical, emotional and mental capacities?

In addition, participants were then asked to discuss how each of the Grand Council Treaty #3 units can also support this infusion of traditions in the Treaty #3 Education system.

After exploring these relevant ideas, perspectives, resources, practices, and tips geared towards creating a traditional knowledge-based Treaty #3 Education system, the GCT3 Education unit hopes to use these insights when creating future frameworks around education and commitment towards life-long learning and community wellbeing for the youth of Treaty #3.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES!

Youth Environmental Monitoring Workshop with TPU, Strategic Planning, Anishinaabemowin Language Resource, Early Development Instrument, Treaty #3 History curriculum development.



TREATY #3 INVESTMENT GROUP

ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE

GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3
INVESTMENT GROUP



**TREATY #3 INVESTMENT GROUP DEVELOPS
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND INVESTMENTS TO
GENERATE WEALTH FOR TREATY 3 SHAREHOLDERS.**

VALUES

RESPECT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY
HUMILITY AND WISDOM
HONESTY AND INTEGRITY
LOVE AND COURAGE

CECILIA JEFFREY PROPERTY UPDATE

We have received positive news with respect to work on the Cecilia Jeffrey Property and we can attribute the progress to commitments made by Minister Marc Miller while he held the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada prior to the last election. During our conversations with him, he maintained that he was willing to consider a third option to resolve issues with respect to C.J. Property. The initial options under consideration were the Additions To Reserve (ATR) process and Direct Transfer, each option had their limitations and reinforced the bureaucratic “red tape” to transfer the land to Grand Council Treaty #3.

In March 2022, we met with Minister Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada at Kenora Chiefs Advisory in Kenora to discuss next steps with respect to the property. We provided the Minister with a complete background and history of the property. She recommended that we continue working on Option #2 which is a Direct Transfer to Treaty #3 and she committed to fast-tracking the process through the Government of Canada. At the same time, we received a letter from Anne Scotten, Regional Director General – Ontario to begin the process of Direct Transfer.

Grand Council Treaty #3 representatives met with Anne Scotten, Regional Director General – Ontario on April 01, 2022 via Zoom to discuss options and a strategy for the property and transfer to GCT#3. It was in this meeting that Anne stated that she wanted to transfer the land to Treaty #3 as soon as possible. We discussed the important issues that required action to transfer the land to Treaty #3. The included the following points;

- The first point was remediation, deciding what was required to turn the land over to Treaty #3 including environmental cleanup, completion of property assessment to determine "Fair Market Value"
- The second point is assigning a Property Manager from the Federal government to the site, to manage and safeguard the property as it is and that includes getting the occupants, people who are using the site off the property. Close the building to their use and make the building a vacant building.
- Thirdly, is the intention to demolish the building in a safe manner as there is hazardous material used in the construction of the school.
- Indigenous Services Canada agreed to provide funding for GCT#3 to complete the property appraisal with the stipulation that GCT#3 agree to share the findings with ISC.
- No more band council resolutions from twenty-eight (28) different communities, GCT#3 has their own governance model and will appoint four (4) Chiefs to act as its trustees.
- Procedurally, ISC will require Treasury Board (TB) approval on the value of the property and RDG Anne Scotten said she will make the TB submission and state that the process is useless as it doesn't go to the heart of what we are going to do.
- ISC's objective is to complete everything for May 2022.
- Grand Council Treaty #3 indicated that we require a meeting with elders and survivors to determine what they wanted to see for future use of the site and their position with respect to the burial sites.

Following this meeting, we met with Elder/Survivors at Powwow Island, Wauzhushk Onigum on May 4 – 5, 2022 to discuss what they wanted to see implemented for the site and their position with respect to future direction. Here is a list of recommendations made by the Elders/Survivors for future use;

- That the work on future use be lead by ceremonies with the inclusion of Elders and Survivors for future direction.
- Build a healing centre that focused on Residential School Survivors, incorporating a number of treatments including intergenerational trauma, alcohol/drug addictions, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and revitalizing Anishinaabemowin. Also use sweat lodges on the site.
- Build a roundhouse for healing and ceremonies.
- Housing for Residential School Survivors.
- Economic Development on the property including a shopping centre.
- Name the site after Charlie Wenjack, call it "Charlie's Place"
- Remember the connection to School Point on Shoal Lake as this is important and to feast that relationship.
- That further meetings to talk about experiences is requested and that this meeting is just the beginning.
- Maintain Memorialization Park for people to continue to offer tobacco at the site.
- Change the name of CJ Property to something in Anishinaabemowin.

Here is a list of recommendations with respect to the burial sites;

- That the burial sites should be taken care of in a careful manner. Aagwaamiziwin, (be mindful, be aware of actions), Weweni (be careful);
- Identify any unmarked graves before occupying;
- Use radar to locate graves; (Ground Penetrating Radar)
- Find a way to achieve to honor for the children that didn't make it
- Women to be consulted- they are the Caregivers.
- Children that were wronged – engage the spirit that corrects things.
- Spirits are waiting for us to do something.
- Homestake Road – graves right by the road or under the road.
- Spring and Fall Feasts are held as soon as the buds are out; including the little people who dwell there.

HOUSING UPDATE

The Grand Council Treaty #3 Housing Strategy has three focal points that are the basis for the work undertaken by Clear Direction. They include on-reserve housing, urban housing and homelessness. This report will include an update on each area.

ON-RESERVE HOUSING

The work on the Grand Council Treaty #3 Housing Strategy has entered the second year with Clear Direction undertaking the Housing Engagement activities with each of the First Nations. It began with attempting to access data through AFN and First Nation Information Governance Centre (FNIGC) to establish a base line of information to evaluate on-reserve housing. There were issues with data (sparse, long periods in between collection times, evidence/backup, collecting) and so Rylan Reed travelled to 23 of 28 member Nations during the summer of 2021. Clear Direction completed a report on October 8, 2021. We heard a number of common themes throughout those initial conversations, they include;

1. Funding
2. Need for Additional Housing
3. Need for more Suitable/Serviced Lots
4. Need for more Water capacity/infrastructure
5. Need for more Sewer capacity/infrastructure
6. Repairs/Mold
7. Staffing
8. Homelessness
9. Citizens Living Off-Reserve
10. Office Space, Warehouses, Shops
11. Firefighting Equipment and Infrastructure
12. Electricity/Hydro One Issues



Some of the conditions for developing the Housing Strategy as a guide to follow include that each Nation must have its respective housing and infrastructure needs addressed, the Housing Strategy must perform better, in terms of housing outcomes, than what is occurring (and being produced) presently. Citizens, First Nations and Tribal Councils/Advisory Services must benefit through this Housing Strategy. GCT#3 will make the case to prove to the Government of Canada that funding the Housing Strategy will better meet the needs of citizens.

What are the next steps in the Housing Strategy?

1. Housing and Infrastructure Needs Assessments (new housing, replacement housing, major repairs, what kind of housing? (Now and in the Future)
2. Explore Potential of Enhancing/Expanding Technical and Professional Services to member Nations within GCT#3
3. Explore Potential of member Nation-owned Housing Focused Enterprises
4. Explore Potential of Nation-owned Financial Services. Housing loans and down-payment assistance programs could potentially be offered to citizens wishing to buy or build both on-and off reserve as there is an Aboriginal Financial Institute (AFI) that currently operates in Treaty #3.
5. Comprehensive Consultations and Relationship-Building to develop a Specific GCT#3 Homelessness Strategy

URBAN HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Grand Council Treaty #3 representatives recently met with Henry Wall, CAO – Kenora Social Services Board and Dan McCormick, CAO – Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board in Fort Frances to discuss how we can collaborate on addressing urban housing and homelessness in the region. Currently, in the Rainy River-Fort Frances District area they have a vacancy rate of zero and a wait list of 279 clients for affordable housing. They have a shortage of addiction beds and have reached out to the tribal agencies to attempt to collaborate on projects, but the problem is the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing picks and chooses which projects to fund, so they won't fund an entire project, just elements of it.

In Kenora, there are 1,600 families seeking affordable housing. People can access jobs in the city when they cannot access affordable housing in the city. We also need to have a conversation around systemic racism and its impacts on housing. Another problem that the group indicated was getting contractors do the work on construction plus the high cost of building when its cost 60% more to build in our region as opposed to other areas. Transportation cost for materials adds to the problem for affordable housing in our region.

Grand Council Treaty #3 will seek a mandate from the Chiefs-In-Assembly to continue dialogue with these municipal organizations to address urban housing and homelessness in Treaty #3. In the past, there are examples where partnership with municipal governments have worked including the All-Nations Hospital Partnership in Kenora and the Dibaajimowin Project which was approved for \$51 million to provide high speed fibre to twenty-one First Nations and 13 municipalities.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY

Grand Council Treaty #3 (GCT#3) was approved by Fednor on January 19, 2022 for a contribution of \$214,197.00 toward the development of a feasibility study to determine the state of the fishery in Treaty #3. The contract to undertake the work to complete the Treaty #3 Commercial Fishery Evaluation was awarded to Cambium Indigenous Professional Services (CIPS) from Curve Lake, Ontario.

The evaluation will look at a number of priority areas with respect to the fishery;

CIPS will provide the following deliverables in formats pre-approved by GCT#3:

1. Project Calibration Workshop (Virtual)
 2. Project Workplan Development and Management
 3. Initial Data Collection and Gap Identification
 4. Project Re-Calibration Meeting
 5. Study Design and Citizen Science System Development
 - a. GCT#3 Community Based Skills and Fishery Understanding
 - b. Western Science Study Design
 - c. Traditional Knowledge Assessment and Documentation
 6. Citizen Science Recruitment, Training and Support
 7. Data Collection, Support and Controls
 8. Integration of Data to Meet Feasibility Study Requirements
 9. Report Development and Presentation
1. Deliverable #1 – Understanding the GCT#3 Fishery
 2. Deliverable #2 –GCT#3 Fish Population Study Methodology and Implementation Plan
 3. Deliverable #3 - GCT#3 Traditional Knowledge Study for the Treaty #3 Fishery
 4. Deliverable #4 – Appendix to Final Report – Raw Data Summary
 5. Deliverable #5 - GCT#3 Commercial Harvest Data
 6. Deliverable #6 – Assessment of the Fish Supply for A Commercial Walleye Fishery in Treaty #3

All information collected during the project will be the ownership of GCT#3 including any training materials, methodologies and reports. Digital files will be provided and any printed reports would be completed by the GCT#3 as desired.



TREATY #3 INVESTMENT GROUP

The Treaty #3 Investment Group (T3IG) has been working on the operational side with the Board of Directors to complete the requirements for investments. We will be issuing letters for a contribution of \$25k for each individual First Nation to sign on to the limited partnership for Treaty #3 Investment Group.

As part of the Strategic Plan approved in September 2021, T3IG will continue working on the following items for implementation for Year 1;

- Develop role and responsibilities (policies and procedures) for Board members based on legal requirements and best practices
- Conduct HR needs assessment for staff
- Develop communication protocol for information sharing with shareholders (e.g. fact sheet, Q&A)
- Revisit corporate documents to determine any additional information requirements

Treaty #3 Investment Group is also currently advertising for a Director position to fill a vacancy in the West direction. Under the Four Direction Governance Model (FDGM) that is utilized by Grand Council Treaty #3, Directors for T3IG are chosen from all regions to ensure that every area is part of the decision-making process and that gender diversity, is taken into consideration for representation. The West direction, under FDGM includes; Naotkamegwaning, Northwest Angle #33, Animke Wa Zhing, Buffalo Point, Sagkeeng, Shoal Lake #40 and Iskatewizaagegan #39. Our preference is that this individual reside within the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3.

We will accept applications on an ongoing basis until the Director position is filled.

Applications will be available at www.gct3.ca; or e-mail Drake Crosson, Economic Intern at drake.crosson@treaty3.ca or Gary Allen, Chief Executive Officer at gary.allen@treaty3.ca

Thank you for the contributions of Ogichidaa Francis Kavanaugh, Economic Chiefs Committee, Dan Morriseau and Drake Crosson on the initiatives from our unit.

Miigwech!

Gary Allen
Senior Political Advisor
CEO
Treaty #3 Investment Group



Zhaagimaa Waabo



TERRITORIAL PLANNING UNIT

DEPARTMENT UPDATE



WORD FROM OUR DEPARTMENT

Find us on 

The Territorial Planning Unit wants to wish everyone a happy spring! With warm weather arriving, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy. For more Territorial Planning Unit updates, please visit the following link for our [TPU Newsletter!](https://gct3.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/GCT3-TPU-Spring-Newsletter-2022.pdf)
(gct3.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/GCT3-TPU-Spring-Newsletter-2022.pdf)



NEW TPU STAFF:

THE TPU IS PLEASED TO WELCOME NEW STAFF TO OUR GROWING TEAM! PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING NEW STAFF:

CHASTON MANDAMIN
FORESTRY INTERN

TAYLOR ISAAC
JUNIOR ENERGY COORDINATOR

ALLY KROLYK
WATER MONITORING TECHNICIAN

MICHAELA NOVAK
ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING
COORDINATOR

The Territorial Planning Unit is continuing to grow, please watch our webpage for new opportunities. We will be out in Treaty #3 communities this summer on the Dibajimowin project, water monitoring, climate change, energy and the MAI Toolkit. The TPU has also released the Lands Manager Toolkit and the Nuclear 101 Guidebook for viewing on our website. Upcoming Toolkits include the MAI toolkit and the Nibi and MAI Pathways forward report. The TPU will also be releasing the Nibi Curriculum, Nibi Portal and GeoPortal in the coming weeks so please stay tuned!

If there is any support that you or your community need please don't hesitate to reach out to our Team.



INDIAN RESIDENTIAL & DAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Grand Council Treaty #3 did a two day Cecilia Jeffrey Property engagement session in Wauzhushk Onigum on May 4-5, 2022. The Wisokotatiwin staff were asked to provide cultural and Health support. The sessions consisted of seeking direction from the IRSS and Elders who had attended the school in respect to the future of CJ property.

Since the findings of unmarked graves of children in Kamloops, the continued work that needs to be implemented is the 94 calls to Action (CTA). An important part of this work needs to include addressing four CTA's (73-76) that relate to the tragic loss of children who had died or went missing while attending the Residential Schools.

**"WISOKOTAATIWIIN MEANS TO
WORK AND STAND TOGETHER. AS
OUR ANCESTORS HAVE DONE
SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL- THE
LEADERS AND ELDERS WOULD SIT
TOGETHER AND SMOKE THEIR
PIPES AND OFFER ASEMAK, FOOD
AND PRAYER TO BE GIVEN A
GOOD LIFE FOR ALL.
MINOBIMADASEWIIN."**



Anishnabemowin Language Camp was done in the Ole Reservation of Sabaskong from February 28th to March 4th. Elders were involved and videos were done in Anishnabemowin. We are still editing the videos.

MEET THE TEAM OF WISOKATATIWIN

DELORES KELLY-CULTURAL COORDINATOR/ MANAGER

Boozhoo! I am the Cultural Coordinator/Manager of the IRSHSP (Wisokotatiwin) of GCT#3. As we approach another season with the harsh winter behind us; we hope it has finished its course and gives way to Mother Nature to provide growth to the land. We are always reminded of all the possibilities that the new warmth brings. In working with the IRSS and their families it can be demanding and challenging but rewarding and healing because I am sitting with people who are traumatized but are seeking assistance to be directed onto the Healing journey of their choice.

HAYLEY JACULAK - INDIAN DAY SCHOOL SUPPORT WORKER AND ASMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Boozhoo, my name is Hayley Jaculak and I am from marathon Ontario. A little bit about me, in 2019 I graduated the Police Foundations program at Confederation College, where I spent the summer working as the public safety liaison. After that summer I stayed working at the college in a new position, Security supervisor. I worked as security for two years at the college until I moved to Kenora! I moved to Kenora in July of 2021. Now I have the pleasure of being the new IDS Support/Administrative Assistant, at Grand Council Treaty 3.

DONALD KELLY, RHSW

Poozhoo Niichianishinaabewitoog, Niiganagizhik indigo, Pizhiw nidodem, Hello my name is Donald Kelly, and I work for Grand Council Treaty 3 as IRS support worker where I support individuals who are applying for compensation regarding IDS forms and help to understanding what is being asked of them. I know how hard this can be, and what it entails. Opening wounds that have been buried for such a long time can be very trying, stressful, and often traumatic. I will try to help you on those times of troubled waters, and support you. Also, I was asked if I knew a little about this time of the year, SPRING. Ziigwan izhinikaade, the year of renewal, and when we get ready to greet the rains and the warming of the season. We will have a Spring feast to honor the new season, give tobacco and offerings of food to the creator and the blessings of our items and ask in great humility for life, if the creator deems so. We thank the creator for all that has been given and ask what more we can do to help creation, wiisokaagewin. Just a little knowledge I have borrowed from all who have honored me with their presence, Aanwasa, pamaa miinawa. Miigwech/ Thank you.

CRAIG LAVAND- ISHKABEWIS

Boozhoo, Waabishki Maa'iingan , mawkwa ododem, Wauzhushk Onigum oghi. He is the Ishkbewis for the Wiskotatiwin program. He was born in Kenora Ontario with the given name of Craig Michael Lavand. He assists in restoring the traditional belief systems in community initiatives to decrease the negative impacts of the Intergenerational trauma caused by the IRS system. He is learning and preserving the Anishnabe language and culture from the Wiskotatin program and staff which has also been beneficial to his healing journey. He also learning and observing traditional knowledge through community based ceremonies and gatherings.



IDS CLAIMS/APPLICATION REMINDER OF THE DEADLINE

We are coming into the last couple of months for Indian day school survivors who attended to apply by July 23th 2022. We offer free one on one claim form support is also available if you are needing a personalized support, write a narrative and check on the status of a completed claim or estate claim. The contact number is 1-877-515-7525 or email IDSclaimsupport.com

NOTICE PROGRAM & DISPOSITION OF IAP & ADR RECORDS TO IRSS

Claimants can request copies of their IAP or ADR records, to keep or to share as they choose. Those who wish to preserve their records for history may choose to share them with National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). To share their records with the NCTR, claimants must complete a consent form. The consent form is available on the www.MyRecordsMyChoice.ca website. To request a copy of their records they can contact the IAP Information toll-free at 1-877-635-2648 or visit www.MyRecordsMyChoice.ca



UPDATE ON CLASS ACTIONS THAT IMPACT THE TREATY# 3 NATIONS

The Federal Indian Day School Class Action was certified on June 21, 2018 in the Federal Court. Canada agreed to pay compensation to eligible Class Members with the severity of harms they suffered while attending an Indian Day School. To qualify for compensation, you must have gone to a school listed in Schedule K and be accepted by the Claim Administrator as being an eligible Class Member. The Claims Process is available till July 13th 2023.

The Day Scholar Compensation Payment Claims are now open and the deadline to apply is October 4th 2023. The Federal Court has approved a settlement agreement that resolves the Day Scholar Survivor and Descendant Class claims. The Indian Residential Schools Day Scholars Class Action was brought on behalf of Day Scholars – students who attended Indian Residential Schools (“IRS”) during the day only but did not sleep there overnight, and their Descendants (their children). The lawsuit claimed that IRSs destroyed Class Members’ language and culture, violated their cultural and linguistic rights, and caused psychological harms.

In cases where a Day Scholar has died on or after May 30, 2005, a claim can be submitted on behalf of a deceased Day Scholar by the estate Executor/Administrator/Trustee/Liquidator, or if there is no estate Executor/Administrator/Trustee/Liquidator, the highest priority living heir.

August 30 2019 was the deadline to completing the 60’s Scoop application form*

The forms needed to be sent in by November 30th 2019-It is no longer taking applications. \April 4, 2022: Progress Update on Claims Processing for the 60’s Scoop. The Administrator has confirmed that the number of Eligible Class Members now exceeds 20,000. According to the Settlement Agreement, if between 20,000 and 30,000 Eligible Class Members are approved by the Administrator, each Eligible Class Member will receive \$25,000 total compensation. As stipulated by an Order of the Court regarding payment, where more than 20,000 claimants are determined to be Eligible Class Members, the Parties must return to Court to seek an Order regarding the second and final payment to Eligible Class Members. Counsel is in the process of requesting Court approval to issue a final payment of \$4,000 to all Eligible Class Members who have received an interim payment of \$21,000. New Eligible Class Members who are approved by the Administrator, and who have not received the interim payment, can expect to receive a total one-time payment of \$25,000.

Indian Hospitals Class Action - Koskie Minsky LLP along with Cooper Regel (a member of Masuch Albert LLP), commenced a class action on January 25, 2018 against the Attorney General of Canada alleging that its operation of “Indian Hospitals” was negligent and breached fiduciary duties owed to Indigenous People. This class action was certified on January 22, 2020.

The Class Period means the period from and including the date on which Canada assumed management and control of any particular Indian Hospital, which shall be no earlier than January 1, 1936. If you believe you may be a class member, please contact us at 1-866-777-6308 or email us at indianhospitalsclassaction@kmlaw.ca.

Indigenous Child Welfare Class Action

Murphy Battista LLP and Gowling WLG filed a proposed class action against the Government of Canada (“Canada”) concerning the apprehension of Indigenous children and youth, living off-reserve, by child welfare agencies, and their placement in the care of individuals who were not members of their Indigenous community, group or people.

If you have questions or would like to be included in our database of class members and kept apprised of developments, please email us at childwelfare@murphybattista.com. The toll free number is 1-888-683-9621

This action seeks damages for Indigenous children and youth who were apprehended from their families by child welfare agencies, while living off-reserve, between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 2019 and placed in the care of individuals who were not members of their Indigenous community, group, or people, as well as for their families. The goal of this lawsuit is to compensate these children and their families for their losses, vindicate their rights, and deter future violations of these rights by Canada and other state actors. This proposed class action does not include Indigenous children and youth who were apprehended while living on-reserve, who are instead class members in another proposed class action styled as Moushoun and Meawasige (by his litigation guardian, Beadle) v The Attorney General of Canada.



KAAKEWAASEYA JUSTICE SERVICES

DEPARTMENT UPDATE



KAAKEWAASEYA MEANS “GOOD PATH” AND IT GIVES DIRECTION TO THE MANY PROGRAMS OPERATING UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3 JUSTICE PORTFOLIO:

- COMMUNITY JUSTICE
- YOUTH REINTEGRATION
- YOUTH INTERVENTION
- YOUTH TRANSITION
- INDIGENOUS BAIL VERIFICATION & SUPERVISION
- GLADUE REPORT WRITERS
- GLADUE AFTERCARE
- INDIGENOUS SUPPORT NETWORK
- INDIGENOUS JUSTICE LIAISON
- ANTI-RACISM INITIATIVE
- ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
[GCT3.CA/PEOPLE/JUSTICE](https://gct3.ca/people/justice)

KAAKEWAASEYA JUSTICE SERVICES

JUSTICE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE, ARTHUR HUMINUK

We are delighted to be back in the office, and I personally would like to thank the Justice team for their exceptional efforts in ensuring that we continue to provide essential services to our Treaty #3 Territory and stakeholders throughout the pandemic. With the re-opening of our office, we look forward to things returning to normal.

Next is our spring newsletter outlining several updates and announcements of activities that have continued through the pandemic, including:

- Welcoming our New Hires
- Open Positions in the Justice Department
- Ontario Court Updates
- New Dryden Office
- Justice Announcements & Community News!

Under the direction and leadership of Treaty #3 Elders, Chiefs, the Ogichidaa and GCT3 Executive Director, Kaakewaaseya Justice Services has continued to collaborate with the Indigenous Justice Division of the Ministry of the Attorney General, the MCCSS Youth Justice Division, Heritage Canada, and the Department of Justice Canada to improve the effectiveness of our services.



KAKEWAASEYA JUSTICE SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, New Hires!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff from our dynamic justice department: Jeffrey White (Anti-Racism Coordinator), Sinthai Weese (Youth Intervention Worker), Tammy Keejick-Keewatin (Community Justice Coordinator), and Michael King (Shanawentasoowi – Civil Family Mediation Worker).

Open Positions:

- Anti-Racism Workers - Location: Fort Frances, ON
- Gladue Writer - Location: Dryden, ON
- Youth Reintegration - Location: Grassy Narrows FN

For More Information, Contact:

Oluyinka Leigh, Human Resource Specialist | Email: hr@treaty3.ca

ONTARIO COURT UPDATES

Effective April 4, there will be increased access to in-person proceedings. While the Court can now accommodate more in-person proceedings, it is also committed to continuing the use of video and phone options for some hearings. Message re: COVID-19 (Updated March 18, 2022) at <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/covid-19>



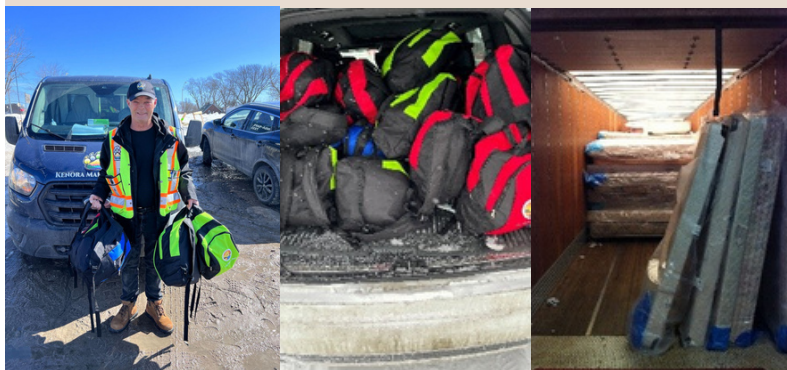
NEW DRYDEN OFFICE IS NOW OPEN!

27 Whyte Avenue: The GCT3 Dryden Justice Team and Territorial Planning Units Regulatory Specialist have moved into a new office. Grand Opening Celebration to follow!



COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NEWS

ISN COMMUNITY DELIVERIES



February – April: ISN distributed 200 Backpacks to members throughout the Treaty 3 area during. Each backpack had a warm sweat suit, socks, hat, mitts, personal hygiene items, first aid kits, water bottles, flashlights.

February – April: ISN distributed 30 new Beds, Frames & Linens in April to Wabaseemoong, Grassy Narrows & Lac Seul that were donated by True North Aid.

For more information on True North Aid visit:
<https://truenorthaid.ca>

VIRTUAL ART CLASS

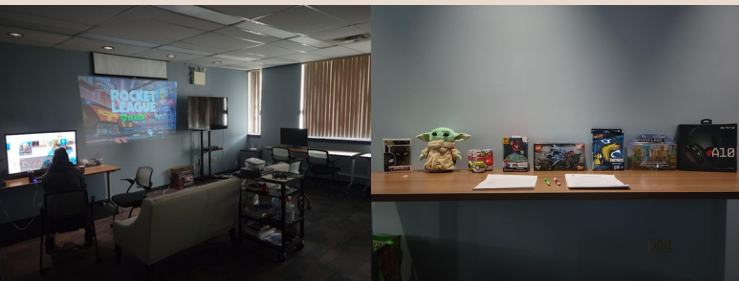
Feb 12, 2022: GCT3 Youth Justice, in collaboration with Jordan's Principle, hosted a virtual art class for Treaty #3 Youth aged 12-17 to learn the fundamentals of water-colour painting and technique in a fun and positive setting!





ANNUAL JUSTICE STAFF RETREAT/MEETING

March 17 & 18, 2022: GCT#3 Justice Department held its strategic planning in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in the acknowledged Treaty #1 territories of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Dakota, Dene, Métis, and Oji-Cree Nations. Reconnecting with one another and learning about stress management were the key objectives of the team's gathering following their remote work throughout the pandemic.



LAN PARTY

March 25, 2022: GCT3 Youth Justice hosted a LAN Party at the Justice Office in Kenora for Treaty #3 Youth Aged 12-19 to get to know other local gamers and Treaty #3 Staff!

LAN Party Setup – GCT3 Kenora Office, 100 Park Street



FANCY SHAWL MAKING WITH ELDER

April 13, 2022: With Elder Evelyn Finlayson's guidance, the youth's sewing project has made remarkable progress!



DRUM MAKING SESSION

April 22, 2022: Elder Ted Copenace shows JKS Justice Workers how to make Drum Kits. The workers will take this knowledge to host future sessions with the T3 youth.

THE GARDEN PATH

MAY 10, 2022 – Women's Place Kenora: GCT3 Indigenous Support Network/Justice Staff assembled food bins for Women's Place Kenora's food sustainability program. This initiative is for people who are struggling with grocery costs and lack access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

For more information contact: wpk.info@shaw.ca | p: 807-468-9095



BIKE SETUP FOR GRASSY NARROWS YOUTH

MAY 10, 2022: Building bikes for children and teens was made possible thanks to assistance from the Grassy Narrows crew and the GCT3 Youth Justice Program.



TREATY & ABORIGINAL RIGHTS RESEARCH

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research is working with 14 First Nations on 54 claims included claims involve: Timber, Agricultural Supplies, Treaty Land Entitlement, Farming Land, Annuity Payments Shortfall, Cows and Ploughs and Reserve boundaries.

The following is an overview of the Jay Treaty. Legally, this treaty was likely considered as the mutual assistance (Nation to Nation) obligations of Great Britain during the 1873 Treaty discussions, as it was acknowledged as a continuing obligation between Great Britain and the United States.

- The obligation of both States to allow undisturbed entry and exit by Indigenous peoples for purposes of trade and Indigenous citizenry;
- The non-enforcement of trade sanctions involving the States, so that Indigenous peoples could continue going about their Indigenous inter-nation trading.
- Citizenship rights as Indigenous peoples occupying lands and territories within North America.

JAY TREATY SIGNED NOVEMBER 19, 1794

The Jay Treaty, or, as its official title reads, A Treaty of Amity; Commerce and Navigation between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, was concluded by Lord Grenville, Foreign Secretary of Great Britain, and John Jay, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, in November 1794. This early Treaty was seen as a sign of international recognition of the very young United States by Great Britain.

INDIGENOUS BORDER CROSSING PRIVILEGES

Article III states,

"It is agreed that it shall at all times be free to His Majesty's subjects, and to the citizens of the United States, and to the Indians dwelling on either side of the said boundary line, freely to pass and repass by land or inland navigation, into the respective territories and countries of the two parties, on the continent of America ... and freely to carry on trade and commerce with each other [N]or shall the Indians passing or repassing with their own proper goods and effects of whatever nature, pay for the same any impost or duty whatever. But goods in bales, or other large packages, unusual among Indians, shall not be considered as goods belonging bona fide to Indians."

Article III of the Jay Treaty declared the right of Indians, American citizens, and Canadian subjects to trade and travel between the United States and Canada, which was then a territory of Great Britain.

Some legal experts dispute whether the treaty rights were abrogated by the War of 1812.[1] Nevertheless, the United States has codified this right in the provisions of Section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 and as amended in 1965. Customs and Immigration officials administer special policies in relation to Indigenous peoples from Canada who may prove that they have 50% Indian blood, in order to reside and work in the United States. Two Indian status grandparents are normally required to freely cross under the Jay Treaty, and US government officials have template letters from which Indigenous political leaders (First Nation Chiefs) may confirm their citizens rights under the Jay Treaty.[2]

Denise Evans, a law student, explains the political importance of the Jay Treaty obligations which secured a peace and relationship of Nation-Nation independence for Indigenous peoples:

Free passage of the border was essential for Anglo-First Nations relations. At that time, the British were signing treaties with the First Nations as nations in their own right. The imposition of border controls by Britain and the United States would have shown the First Nations that Britain was not prepared to consider them as independent political entities. The good will of the First Nations people was also important to Britain in keeping American encroachment on the border to a minimum. Prior to the signing of the Jay Treaty, it had been the hope of Britain that the First Nations would form a buffer zone between Canada and the United States, leaving the Great Lakes for Britain.[3]

As a result of the Jay Treaty, Status Indians born in Canada may be entitled to enter the United States for the purpose of employment, study, retirement, investing, and/or immigration. The rights are determined to be wider if a person can prove that they have at least 50% Indigenous blood quantum (a confirmed genealogy of most Status Indians in the 1950s is available at US customs for many border families). The most powerful Jay Treaty right for such Indigenous peoples is that they cannot be deported for any reason. Unlike most legal immigrants, Canadian-born Native Americans residing in the US are entitled to public benefits and domestic tuition fees on the same basis as U.S. citizens, this is the basis of the concept of "Native American Indian" rights in the United States.

With the pandemic nearly at its end around the world; the borders are now being open for travel. Activities that require travel can now happen and with summer upon us this, make for a busy time at the US/Canada border. The Jay Treaty and particularly the provision for the Indigenous peoples; is a strong basis of an assertion these rights still exist, as a legal binding treaty that Canada must observe and protect.

[1] "From these judgments (quoted by Birkenhead) it is evident that the Jay Treaty has been held by courts in both England and the United States to have survived the war of 1812," See N A M MacKenzie, *The Jay Treaty of 1794*, 1929 7-7 *Canadian Bar Review* 431, 1929 *CanLIIDocs* 48, <<https://canlii.ca/t/t6t0>>, retrieved on 2022-05-11 at 436.

[2] American Indian Law Alliance, *Border crossing rights under the Jay Treaty* online: <https://www.ptla.org/border-crossing-rights-jay-treaty#Cross%20Border> (May 11, 2022).

[3] Denise Evans, *Superimposed Nations: The Jay Treaty and Aboriginal Rights*, 1995 4 *Dalhousie Journal of Legal Studies* 215, 1995 *CanLIIDocs* 8, <<https://canlii.ca/t/288x>>, retrieved on 2022-05-11 at 220 using J. A. Combs, *Power, Politics and Ideology: A Case Study of the Jay Treaty* (Ann Arbor: University Microfilms International, 1964) at 136, as authority at fn 14.

The Denise Evans article also revisits an important Law review article (O'Brien) that shared much of the history of the Jay Treaty and the important perspective of Indigenous Nations that the assurances in various Treaties brought the Jay Treaty obligations into specific treaties in North America. For example, the argument that the Treaty of Ghent was included in treaty obligations of the British towards First Nations people in Burlington, Ontario in 1815:

I will now repeat to you one of the Articles of the Treaty of Peace which secures to you the Peaceable possession of all the country which you possessed before the late War, and the Road is now open and free for you to pass and repass it without interruption.[1]

It is the Treaty of Ghent that resuscitated the Indigenous border crossing rights but not the rights for US or British (Canadian) citizens. However, the Treaty of Ghent has been viewed as a “non self-executing Treaty” that would require domestic legislation to make it binding law in Canada or the United States.[1] That is why the “treaty commitment” in subsequent treaties like the above 1815 treaty discussion or within Treaty #3 are important parts of the evidentiary record. Canada continues to rely on the abrogation thesis regarding Canada and the British conflict in the War of 1812 to ignore the Jay Treaty.

There may be Anishinaabe knowledge about Jay Treaty rights and Treaty 3 that could be explored to make the assertion that the border crossing rights were included in Treaty 3 as the Royal Proclamation of 1763 obligations were also included as Treaty 3 obligations by similar logic and argument. The Crown obligations to ensure that through their Nation-State relations with the United States and the border crossing regimes that they must constantly engage on and harmonize for trade and other international legal obligations, they should also for the Jay Treaty is a solemn obligation to Indigenous peoples as Indigenous citizens of Turtle Island-based Nations.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Article 36:

1. Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.

[1] S. O'Brien, "The Medicine Line: A Border Dividing Tribal Sovereignty, Economies and Families" (1984) 53 Fordham L. Rev. 315 at 322.

[1] *United States v. Garrow*, 88 F.2d 318 (C.C.P.A. 1937). This case was followed in the Canadian common law in case called *R v. Francis*, (1993), 12 O.R. (3d) 427, leave to appeal to Supreme Court of Canada refused 14 October 1993. Which included the argument that the War of 1812 abrogated this important treaty obligation to Indigenous Nations.

2. States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of this right.

It is important to note that the Indigenous Services Canada appointed Special Representative tasked with reviewing border issues impacted Indigenous peoples and Canada offered **ratification of the Jay Treaty** as a potential proposed solution on August 31, 2017.[1] Formal review, formal response or implementation of the Caron Report hasn't been transparent or seems to be a low priority for Canada despite strong submissions from communities such as the Blood Tribe and the Mohawks of Akwesasne and the larger Iroquois Caucus.

Sara Mainville, Partner JFK Law LLP.

[1] Fred Caron CD, QC, Minister's Special Representative, Submitted: August 31, 2017 online: <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1506622719017/1609249944512#sec3> (May 11, 2022).



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