

June 2021 edition of the COUNCIL CORNER

Thank you, Nipawin and area residents for getting vaccinated and encouraging your friends and neighbours to get vaccinated. It is so great to see the case numbers dropping. Your efforts along with the whole team behind the incredible vaccine roll out in Saskatchewan are making it possible to look towards a summer of reconnection that all of us have been waiting for so patiently.

The horrible discovery of a mass grave of 215 children at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School and many unmarked graves in Saskatchewan have caused grief and trauma to families and communities. It causes me to really rethink the work of Truth and Reconciliation. I see in a new way, why the Truth and Reconciliation Commission made sure that Truth came first in its report and recommendations. This is what the Survivors have been telling us for a long time.

We can't say nice words about reconciling and building a different way forward without fully acknowledging and decrying the crimes and abuses that have been done to children, here on Canadian soil, by those that were supposed to be caring for and protecting the children.

We must stand with Survivors and honour their truths, and the truths of all families affected in order to move forward. Denial and downplaying of residential schools is still too present in our society and it is holding us back.

On Indigenous People's Day the Town of Nipawin together with Chief Marcel Head of the Shoal Lake Cree Nation, Prince Albert Grand Council's Grand Chief Brian Hardlotte, from the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Brent Digness from Metis Nation Eastern Region 2 gathered at the Nipawin Town Office with a group of about 60 people to raise the Reconciliation Nipawin flag. Elder Kathleen Head spoke the opening and closing prayers and drummers from Little Red and Lucky Man and Kinistin First Nations as well as two young drummers from LP Miller School sang the Honor Song as the Reconciliation Flag was raised.



This 3rd annual event symbolizes the support and commitment of the Town of Nipawin to promote reconciliation and raise awareness to the Calls of Action. The raising of this Reconciliation flag formally shows our ongoing work towards the truth and reconciliation process in our community.

Our collective call to action is an appeal to mobilize all levels of government and organizations, as well as individuals to make changes in our society wherever we are. They list specific actions which include creating and maintaining respectful relationships, creating and ensuring an inclusive society/community and advancing the process of reconciliation.

Updates:

- Representatives of Rio Tinto report that the FalCon project in Fort a la Corne is proposing that the project stay on standby with limited activity at the site for the remainder of 2021 and early 2022. This is a plan that the Rio Tinto Exploration Canada intends to confirm at a meeting with its joint venture partner in July. Limited activity at the site mean it will continue to have security staff. They also plan for a small drill program at Birchbark Lake, north of Highway 55. At the same time, staff will continue investigating the options for optimal mining of the kimberlites at FalCon. Through this work they are continuing to study the technical, economic, social, cultural and environmental context of this area in order to evaluate the options for a future mine.
- The Visitor Centre is open and welcoming visitors. Students, Andi Hidlebaugh and Madison Kitchen staff the centre and post interesting tidbits about the past and information about local venues and things to do. You can keep up with the newest information on the Nipawin Tourism and Visitor Information page on Facebook and/or Twitter. A warm welcome to our new Tourism and Marketing Coordinator Krysten Albert. Welcome Krysten!
- Exciting news for the Boreal Area Regional Waste Authority (BARWA) landfill. BARWA was recently advised that an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for decommissioning of the nine old cells (begun in 1973) at the landfill was successful. The \$3.5 million dollars of ICIP funding is comprised of Federal (\$1,421,742),

Provincial (\$1,184,666) and BARWA contribution (\$947,946) funding to close the old cells in compliance with Ministry of Environment regulations. Dates for start and completion will be determined.

Reminders:

- The Public Works department reports that road painting is well underway and crack filling has been completed. Please slow down when passing Town workers. Thank you for your patience.
- **Summer Play Programs** are scheduled to begin (see poster below)
 - Preschool Fun Zone
 - Fun Factory
 - Activity Zone

Recognition:

- Congratulations to the Nipawin Rotary Club on 75 years in the community. In recognition of the 75-year celebration the Rotary Club is planning to provide new playground equipment at East Pleasantview Park. Thank you, Rotary members for your contributions to the community over the past 75 years.

As our Province begins to re-open on July 11th, on behalf of the Council and Administration, I wish each of you a wonderful summer full of enjoyable activities.



Do not hesitate to call the Town Office if you need assistance or advice. **(306) 862 9866**

If you have an **idea, concern or a bouquet** please consider arranging an opportunity for a conversation. Call (306) 862 9866 to arrange an appointment or by email to mayorharper@nipawin.com. (**NOTE:** Anonymous concerns, written or by phone, will not receive response so please sign your concern and provide contact information.)

Summer Play Programs

Ages 3 & 4
 Family Resource Centre
 Monday-Friday—Drop off 9am & Pickup @ 11am
 July 5-August 20

Pre-Register for max 4 weeks at a time. To register, stop in at the Family Resource Centre and fill out a registration form. Parent/caregiver must be available for any communication needed for your child during this time. Call 306-862-7290 with any questions.

Preschool Fun Zone

Ages 5-8
 Centennial Arena
 Monday-Friday 9:00-3:00
 7 Sessions - July 5-August 20

Online Registration—Opens June 24th @ 9am.
 Must register for full week.
 All current guidelines will be followed.
<https://app.booking.ca/nipawinpub/courses/index.asp>

FUN FACTORY

JUNE 29TH—AUGUST 29TH							
ALL SHA PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS WILL BE FOLLOWED							
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
6:00-7:45	MORNING LAKE SWIM						
7:45-8:45	AQUASIZE AND EXERCISE PROGRAM						
9:00-10:30	SWIMMING LESSONS					LESSONS	LESSONS
10:30-11:45							
12:00-1:00	LANE SWIMMING					RENTALS	RENTALS
	PARENT & TOT	PROGRAM	PARENT & TOT	PROGRAM	PARENT & TOT		
1:00-5:00	PUBLIC SWIMMING					FAMILY SWIM	FAMILY SWIM
5:00-7:30	LIONS SWIM CLUB/RENTALS/PRIVATE LESSONS			RENTALS	RENTALS	RENTALS	5:15-7:15 RENTALS
7:30-9:00	PUBLIC SWIM	FAMILY SWIM	PUBLIC SWIM	PUBLIC SWIM	PUBLIC SWIM		PUBLIC SWIM

YOUR HOME HAS BEEN GNOMED
 NOW IT IS UP TO YOU TO GO GNOME SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME!

Instructions:

- Keep gnome for 2-3 days before passing along
- Take a photo and post on facebook and tag the Town of Nipawin Parks & Recreation page or email us a photo at d.seckinger@nipawin.com
- Secretly pass the gnome along to another yard that is deserving. A yard that has a wonderful flower display, a manicured lawn, a beautifully landscaped yard etc.

A fun new initiative from the Nipawin in Bloom Committee! Look for this little guy to see if your home has been gnomed!