



**January 2026**

**Mnidoo-Giisoons**

**Little Spirit Moon is the twelfth moon of Creation, a very spiritual time. At this time all Creation is being reminded of their journey set out by the Creator. During this time, the Little Spirit Moon journey to Turtle Island, as a healer and a seer in the hearts of all Creation. This is to ensure that the strength and power of the flourish with the identity and diversity to make the journey from this to the next visit.**

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**| ARES Xmas Baz**



# Mnidoog-Giisoons

## Little Spirit Moon

**BUS RUN WILL NOT BE RUNNING DURING -  
DEC 19, 2025 AT 12PM UNTIL JAN 5, 2026**



### Chippewa Transit



*\*NEW SCHEDULE\**

<u><b>Morning Run:</b></u>		<u><b>Afternoon Run:</b></u>	
<b>Heading into London</b> Pick-up/Drop-off		<b>Heading Into London</b> Pick-up/Drop-off	
Bear Creek Gas Bar	7:15am	Bear Creek Gas Bar	3:45pm
Chippewa Community Centre	7:30am	Chippewa Community Centre	4:00pm
Oneida Community Centre	7:45am	Oneida Community Centre	4:15pm
Fanshawe College	8:15am	Fanshawe College	4:45pm
White Oaks Mall	8:35am	White Oaks Mall	5:05pm
Westmount Mall	8:55am	Westmount Mall	5:25pm
<b>Returning to Nation</b> Drop-off Only		<b>Returning to Nation</b> Drop-off Only	
Oneida Community Centre	9:30am	Oneida Community Centre	6:00pm
Chippewa Community Centre	9:40am	Chippewa Community Centre	6:10pm
END OF RUN		END OF RUN	

***\*Chippewa Transit follows all Middlesex County bus cancellations\****

TRANSIT INQUIRIES: 226-386-6545

TRANSPORTATION@COTTEN.COM



## GOOD TO KNOW


Hard copies of Council Meeting Minutes can be picked up at the band office. Alternatively, members can also request to have Meeting Minutes mailed out to them. Please direct all inquiries to Justine Doxtator at [jdoxtator@cottfn.com](mailto:jdoxtator@cottfn.com), or by calling 519-289-5555 ext 229.

## Regular Council Meetings

Members wanting to meet with council are requested to contact Justine Doxtator - [jdoxtator@cottfn.com](mailto:jdoxtator@cottfn.com) to arrange a time slot on their agenda.

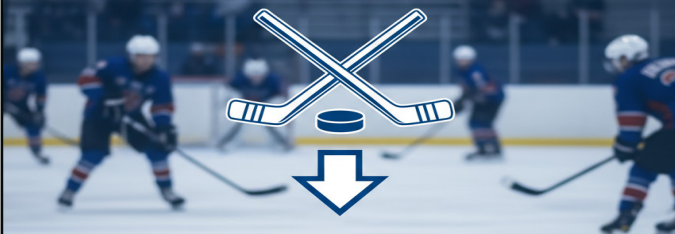
**Garbage Run**  
**Tue Dec 23, 2025**  
**Tue Dec 30, 2025**



  
**Recycling Run**  
**Sat Dec 27, 2025**  
**Sat Jan 3, 2026**



**Chippewa Ice Time**  
**at Mt Brydes Arena**



**Beginning October 5th**

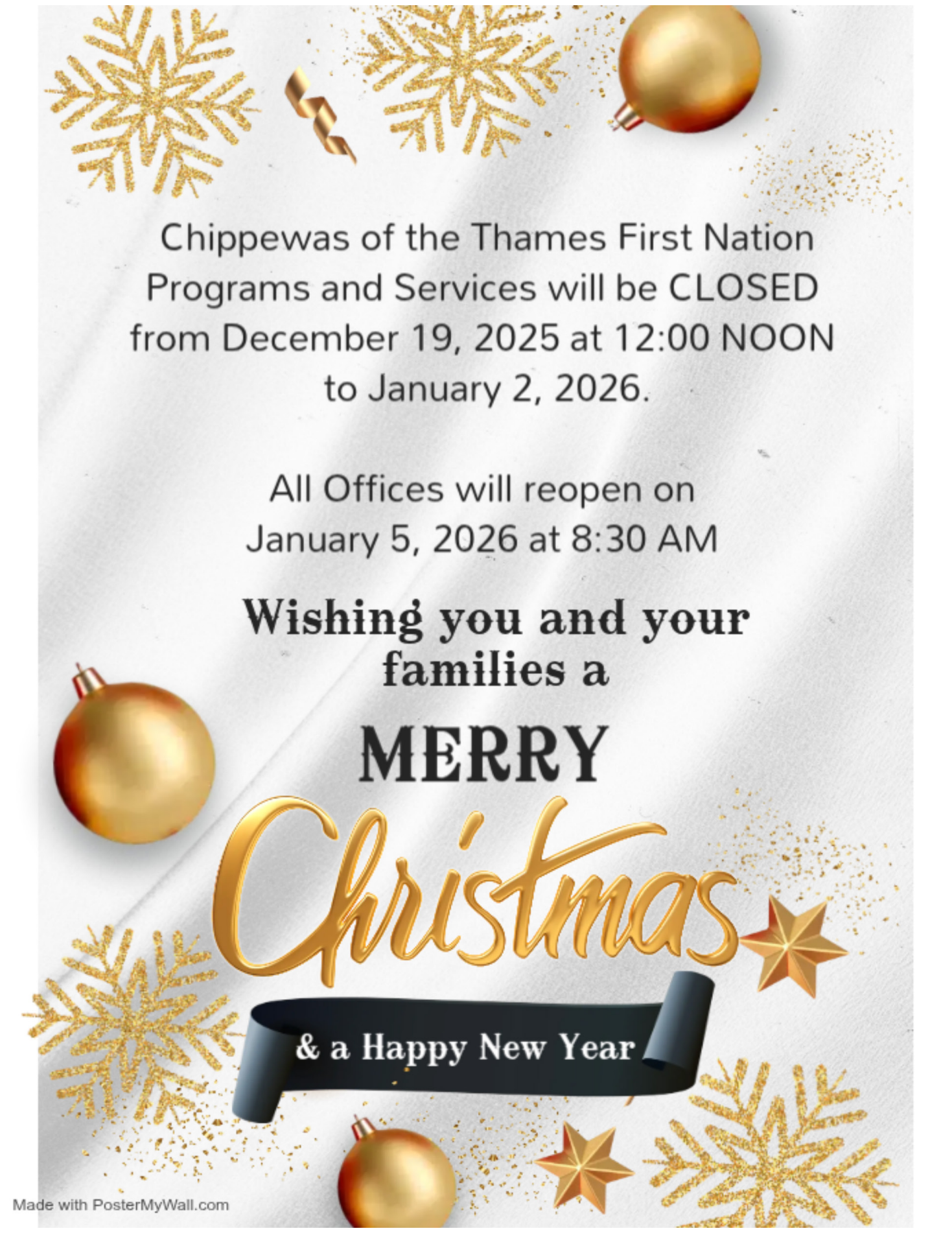
**Sundays 3pm to 6pm**

**Pucks and Sticks for last hour**

**Water Delivery for Seniors**  
**Tues Dec 23, 2025**  
**Tues Dec 30, 2025**







Chippewas of the Thames First Nation  
Programs and Services will be **CLOSED**  
from December 19, 2025 at 12:00 NOON  
to January 2, 2026.

All Offices will reopen on  
January 5, 2026 at 8:30 AM

**Wishing you and your  
families a**

**MERRY**

**Christmas**

**& a Happy New Year**





## Holiday Closure Notice



The Child, Youth & Family Well-Being Services Department will be closed for the holiday season beginning Friday, December 19, 2025 at 12:00 p.m., and will reopen on Monday, January 5, 2026.

If you experience an emergency and need to reach a Band Representative during this time, please contact Danielle Grosbeck, Director of Child, Youth & Family Well-Being Services, at **519-878-0721**.

Wishing you and your family a warm, safe, and joyful holiday season. ✨







*Congratulations*  
**STUDENT  
AWARDS**

DESHKAN ZIIBIING CHIPPEWAS OF THE  
THAMES FIRST NATION GAGIGE  
GIKINOMAAGOZIWIN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Class of 2025

**Program**

**December 5, 2025**

**5:00pm-8:00pm**

**Antler River Elementary School**

**5:00pm DINNER**

**6:00pm-7:00pm Awards Ceremony**

**Emcee- Kristen Hendrick**

**Opening Song - Eagle Flight**

**Opening Prayer - Sydney Kechego**

**Welcoming Address: Steve Styres, Life Long Learning Director**

**Guest Speakers**

**Sydney Kechego - Post-Secondary**

**Award Presentations**

**Elementary School**

**Secondary School**

**Post-Secondary**

**Honour Song - Eagle Flight**

**Chi Miigwech**

**Board of Trustees**

**Cathy Kechego, Co-Chair**

**Gina McGahey, Co-Chair**

**Frank French**

**Cheryl Riley**

**Terri Fisher**

**Mary Deleary**

**Andie Albert**

**Evelyn Young**

**Shania Albert**

**Board Of Education Staff**

**Steve Styres, Life Long Learning Director**

**Tyanna Soucy, Secondary School Advocate**

**Debbie Dolson, Post-Secondary Counsellor**

**Chantelle Fisher, Admin/Finance**

**Daphne Kechego, Reception**

**Maraika Doucet, HR**

**Eagle Flight Singers**

**Kickin Wings Catering**

**Lynx Ent**



# **Antler River Elementary Grade 8 Graduates 2025**



**Curtis Albert  
Vincent Elijah  
Sincere Elijah-French  
Alex Henry  
Jeniston Henry  
Cacey Hill  
Josh Hill  
Jettah Kechego  
Rylin Kechego  
Vernon Medeiros-Hallday  
Dakota Partridge-Sturgeon  
Francis Snake  
Chrysah Wolfe**



## **Secondary School Student Awards 2024-2025**

### **Highest Achievement**

#### **Saunders Secondary School**

**Matteo-Cady Hill  
Hannah Deleary  
Christopher Hendrick  
Alexandra Dolson  
Taryn Doxtator  
Tyla Burch  
Makenzie Albert  
Miley Burch**

#### **St. Andre Bessette**

**Aiyana Chrisjohn  
Maddie Chrisjohn  
Milo (Emma) Elijah-Chrisjohn**

### **SDCI**

**Chayten Miskokomon  
Lawson Miskokomon**

## **Academic Improvement**

### **SDCI**

**Jayda Albert  
Corbin Hendrick  
Chayten Miskokmon  
Makenzie Albert**

#### **Saunders Secondary School**

**Makenzie Albert  
Drake Boddy  
Christopher Hendrick**





## **Grade 12 Graduates**

### **SDCI**

**Dante (Diego) Fisher Albert**

### **Saunders Secondary School**

**Lorenzo Arcia-Deleary  
Domnick Dolson  
Liam Peters-Albert**

### **SWAC**

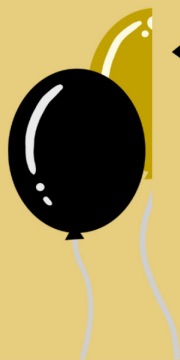
### **Alternative Secondary School**

**Marissa Flores-Kechego  
Christina Riley  
Hunter Bressette  
Dravin Albert-Burch  
Shawnessy Elijah  
Darren Elijah  
Shaeden Beeswax**

## **Highest Achievement 6 Credits Graduating Students**

**Darren Elijah  
Alternative Secondary School**

**Christina Riley  
Alternative Secondary School**



# **Post-Secondary Student Awards 2024-2025**

## **Graduate Studies Scholarship**

**Andie Albert, Doctor of Philosophy in  
Geography and Environment, Western  
University**

## **B Scholarship**

**Judy Dyer, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin  
Language, Fanshawe College  
Janessa French, Nursing, University of Alberta  
Niigoni White-Eye, Bachelor of Human  
Geography, UBC**





# **A Scholarship**

**Clarity Albert-Hill, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language, Fanshawe College**

**Sydney Blackwell, Bachelor of Science, UBC**

**Christina Borris, Social Service Worker, Durham College**

**Shauntee Centen, Graphic Design, Fanshawe College**

**Kayla Deleary, Indigenous Studies, Carleton University**

**Mackenzie Deleary, Medical Doctor Program, McMaster University**

**Taylor Deleary, Indigenous Studies, Western University**

**Candace Doxtator, Master of Public Administration, Queen's University**

**Andria Dyer, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language, Fanshawe College**

**Chantal Fisher, Master of Professional Education, Western University**

**Colin French, Executive Master of Business Administration, University of Fredericton**

**Joseph Jones-Fisher, Bachelor of Creative Technologies, University of Regina**

**Sage Liliberte, Indigenous Studies, Carleton University**

**Julie MacFarlane, Master of Professional Education, Western University**

**Danielle (Zee) Riley, Indigenous STEM Access Program, Lakehead University**

**Nyomie Simpson, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Institute of American Indian Arts**

**Claire Thrower, Bachelor of Science, Dalhousie University**

**Jiindazay White-Eye, Bachelor of Science, Humber-Guelph University**

**Tyler Young, CICE Program, Lambton College**

# 2024–2025 Graduates

**Alexis Albert, Master (Hons) of Social Work (Dean's List),  
Wilfred Laurier University**

**Jadin Albert, Bachelor of Education, University of Windsor**

**Carleigh Simone Barnett, Paswe'aatigook**

**Anishinaabemowin Language Certificate, Fanshawe College**

**Wasnanaa Blyde, Developmental Service Worker Diploma,  
St. Clair College**

**Jesmine Craig, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin  
Language Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe  
College**

**Julia Craig, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language  
Diploma, Fanshawe College**

**Shannon Craig, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin  
Language Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe  
College**

**Aaron Critchley, Bachelor of Social Science Degree,  
Conestoga College**

**Breannah Dejong, Bachelor of Speech and Language Degree  
(First-Class Standing), Brock University**

**Jade Fisher, Master of Science in Biochemistry, University of  
Regina, NSERC Canada Graduate Studies Award, Chemical  
Institute of Canada Student Award.**

**Terri Fisher, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language  
Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe College**

**Tyler French, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language  
Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe College**

**Christina Graham-Brandeau, Bachelor of Criminology  
Degree (Hons), Wilfred Laurier University**

**Jeremy Hendrick, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin  
Language Diploma, Fanshawe College**

**Monica Hendrick, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin  
Language Diploma, Fanshawe College**





## 2024–2025 Graduates

**Carla Jones, Bachelor of Nursing Degree, New Mexico State University**

**Emily Kechego, Social Service Worker Diploma (Academic Honours), F.N.T.I**

**Sydney Kechego, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Diploma, Fanshawe College**

**Shauna Kechego-Nichols, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Diploma (Dean's Honour Roll), Fanshawe College**

**Giselle Krajcer, Office Administration- Health Services Diploma, Fanshawe College**

**Shantelle Krajcer, Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, Western University**

**Aspyn Krizanovic, Liberal Arts Diploma, St. Clair College**

**Amber Olson, Practical Nursing Diploma, A.E.I.**

**Courtney Riley, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe College**

**Keithera Riley, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Diploma, Fanshawe College**

**Jason Rollison, Bachelor of Science Degree, MacEwan University**

**Natalie Coby Smith, Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Certificate, Fanshawe College**

**David Sturgeon, Oneida Language Certificate, Fanshawe College**

**Jasmine Sturgeon, Mental Health and Addiction Worker Diploma, F.N.T.I**

**Victoria Sturgeon, Paswe'aatigook Anisinaabemowing Language Diploma (President's Honour Roll), Fanshawe College**

**Shelby Thrower, Bachelor of Education, Western University**

**Mackenzie Vandermeer-Roth, Veterinary Assistant and Office Administration Certificate (Director's Honour Roll), Guelph University**

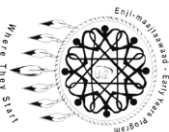
**Melissa Jean Ventura-Sturgeon, Bachelor of Health Administration Degree, Toronto Metropolitan University**

**Emma Young, Master of Geography, University of Toronto**





Nizhwaaso giizhgaad	Ntam giizhgaad	Niizo giizhgaad	Niizho giizhgaad	Niwo giizhgaad	Naano giizhgaad	Ngodwaaso giizhgaad
				1	2	3
Closed for Winter Holidays						
4	5 <b>Virtual Program</b> The Clothing Song 	6 <b>Play &amp; Connect</b> Snow Sensory Play 10am - 12pm	7  <b>Anishinaabemowin with Russ</b> Story & Crafts 5:30pm - 6:30pm	8 <b>Family Outing</b> Funvilla 5:30pm	9 <b>Maamwi Gindaasdaa</b> TBA 8am	10
11	12 <b>Miinwaa Paarnsedaa</b> Komoka 10am 	13 <b>Activity Kit: Winter Snow</b> Activity Kits 8am 	14  <b>Anishinaabemowin with Russ</b> Story & Crafts 5:30pm - 6:30pm	15 <b>Play &amp; Connect</b> Free Play 10am - 12pm 	16 <b>Virtual Program</b> Potty By: Leslie Patricelli	17 <b>Family Outing</b> Storybook Gardens Skate Trail 
18	19 <b>Virtual Program</b> Winter Activities	20 <b>Maamwi Gindaasdaa</b> Pancake Faces 10am - 12pm 	21  <b>Anishinaabemowin with Russ</b> Story & Crafts 5:30pm - 6:30pm	22 <b>Family Outing</b> Fleetway Indoor Play Area 5:30pm	23 <b>Activity Kit: Anishinaabemowin</b> Flashcards 8am 	24
25	26 <b>SLCP Paretn &amp; Tot Swim</b> (0-6 years) 10am - 11am 	27 <b>Play &amp; Connect</b> Free Play 10am - 12pm	28  <b>Anishinaabemowin with Russ</b> Story & Crafts 5:30pm - 6:30pm	29 <b>Play &amp; Connect</b> Animal Prints 10am - 12pm 	30 <b>Virtual Program</b> Tubby By: Leslie Patricelli	31



**Contact:** Amanda Hutton

**Address:** 330 Chippewa Rd., Muncey

**Tel:** 519-289-0584

**Email:** ahutton@cottm.com

**Facebook:** Enji Maajtaawaad Child & Family Earlyon

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call, or email me. Miligwechi!







### Anishinaabemowin Word of the Day

A Anishinaabemowin word/phase will be posted each day of the week.

### Virtual

Videos will be posted throughout the month.

### Play & Connect:

\*Registration is required. Lunch is provided.

**Wegonesh:** Snow Sensory Play

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

**Wegonesh:** Free Play

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Thursday January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

**Wegonesh:** Free Play

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

**Wegonesh:** Animal Tracks

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Thursday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm



### Maamwi Gindaasdaa

**Wegonesh: Book:** Over and Under the Snow

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Friday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 8am

**Note:** 15 Books will be available on a first come, first served basis only.

### Anishinaabemowin with Russ

\*Registration is required. Supper provided.

**Wegonesh:** Learning Anishinaabemowin (Crafts, Activities, Songs & Stories)

**Aapiish:** Enji Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Time:** 5pm - 6:30pm

Our EarlyOn programs are for families with children 0-6 years of age. Registration is required.

To register contact Amanda at:

### SLCP

\*Registration is required.

**Wegonesh:** Parent & Tot swim (0-6 years)

**Aapiish:** 585 Bradley Ave, London

**Aaniish pii:** Monday January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 11am

### Activity Kits

**Wegonesh:** Winter Activity Kit

**Aapiish:** Enji Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Wegonesh:** Anishinaabemowin Flash Cards

**Aapiish:** Enji Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 8am

**Note:** 15 Kits will be available on a first come, first served basis only.

### Family Outings

\*Registration is required. Limited Spots.

**Wegonesh:** Funville

**Aapiish:** 1305 Commissioners Rd., London

**Aaniish pii:** Thursday January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30pm

**Wegonesh:** Fleetway's Indoor Play Area

**Aapiish:** 720 Proudfoot Lane

**Aaniish pii:** Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 at 5:30pm

### Miami Gindaasdaa:

\*Registration is required.

**Wegonesh:** Pancake Faces

**Aapiish:** Enji-Maaajtaawaad Early Years

**Aaniish pii:** Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

### Miami Gindaasdaa:

\*Registration is required.

**Wegonesh:** Miinwaa Paansedaa

**Aapiish:** Komoka

**Aaniish pii:** Monday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

Come out and play! Join me for interactive sessions that promote learning through play, creativity, and social interaction. Whether it's arts and crafts, storytime, or outdoor games, there's something for everyone! Bring your little ones to explore, learn, and

# Jordan's Principle

## What is Jordan's Principle?



Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle that ensures all First Nations children living in Canada can access the products, services, and supports they need, when they need them, without denial, delay, or disruption due to their First Nations status.

In order to access funding, a request needs to be submitted to Indigenous Services Canada and approved.

## What is the role of a Navigator?



The role of a Jordan's Principle Navigator is to assist First Nations children and their families in navigating existing community, provincial, and federal systems, as well as the full scope of Jordan's Principle. We assist by identifying what supports may be requested and by helping to remove the stress of administrative burdens.

## Services & Supports



Items, services, and supports may address a range of health, social, and educational needs. Each child is unique, and all requests are reviewed by Indigenous Services Canada on a case-by-case basis.

Jordan's Principle and its substantive equality principles focus on the best interests of the child and the self-determination of First Nations peoples by using a holistic approach and providing culturally appropriate services.

## Jordan's Principle Staff

**Jordan's Principle Supervisor**

**Jordan's Principle Navigator**

# HR DEPARTMENT

## JANUARY 2026

We are grateful to be back in the office after a wonderful holiday break and are looking forward to the year ahead at COTTFN.

The Human Resources Department is pleased to share a staffing update with the community.

In December 2025, we welcomed a new team member to Chippewas of the Thames First Nation:

- Ashley Mostafa – Housing Manager

Please join us in welcoming Ashley to COTTFN and supporting her in this important role.

As COTTFN continues to grow, we will be posting new employment opportunities on the COTTFN website and encourage community members to apply. If you are looking for general support with your resume, are exploring a career change, or would like to talk about future career opportunities with the Nation, feel free to reach out to the HR Department—we welcome the chance to get to know you.

We also have many new employees set to start with COTTFN in January, and we look forward to sharing more about them in our next newsletter!

Miigwech,

**Human Resources Department**

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation



# SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8:<sup>TH</sup> 8:30-4:30

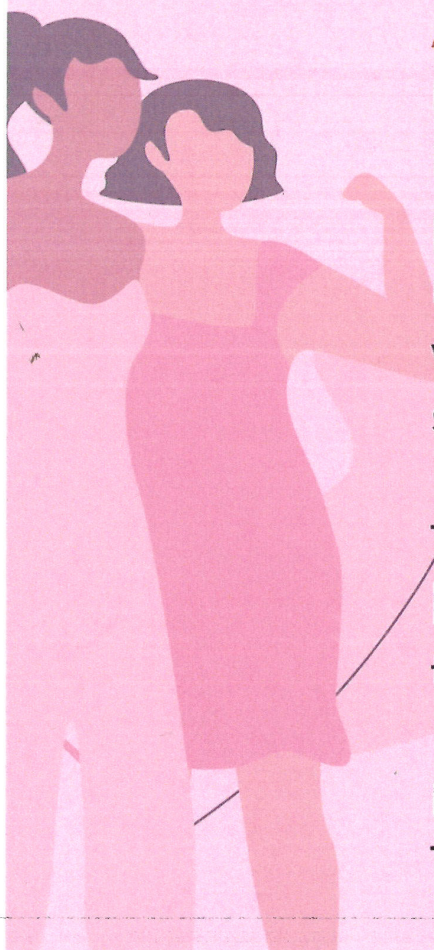
Attending this two-day course will train you to intervene with an individual who is thinking about suicide.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a two-day interactive workshop in suicide first aid. ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may have thoughts of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety.

This workshop contains content that may be upsetting for some people, especially those who have lost a loved one to suicide

\*\*\*\*FOOD PROVIDED\*\*\*\*

Please Register with  
TNICHOLS@COTTFN.COM





**Deadline Extended**

## **Power Line Survey**

**<https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/LXL>**



Hydro One is planning two new single-circuit 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines from Longwood Station (near Melbourne) to Lakeshore.

All COTTFN citizens 18+ are invited to fill out this survey to help us better understand potential impacts of the project. The data is being collected by COTTFN's Treaties, Lands and Environment Department.

We appreciate all the responses so far!

NEW Cash Prize Draw - Fill it out by January 14th

Only complete once. Please include contact info if you want to enter the draw.

Link to project information from Hydro One

<https://www.hydroone.com/about/corporate-information/major-projects/longwood-to-lakeshore>

Need a paper copy? Come to the office or contact 519-289-5555 ext. 236 / [consultation@cottfn.com](mailto:consultation@cottfn.com)



**Deshkan Ziibing**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation Treaties, Lands  
and Environment



**Deshkan Ziibiing**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation

## HOUSING



**January 2026**

**Boozhoo / Greetings Community Members,**

As we approach the holiday season, the Housing Department would like to share important updates, reminders, and our office closure dates. We wish everyone a safe, warm, and peaceful holiday filled with family, kindness, and rest.

The Housing Department supports Chippewas of the Thames First Nation by managing and maintaining community housing and helping members access safe, affordable homes. Our team oversees rental housing, property maintenance, tenant relations, inspections, and housing programs. We also develop policies and procedures, provide financial oversight, and plan for future housing growth to address the Nation's needs. Through partnerships with government agencies and internal departments, Housing works to improve living conditions, expand housing options, and maintain the value of our community's housing assets.



## Message from the Housing Manager

My name is Ashley Mostafa, and I am honoured to begin my new role as Housing Manager for our community. Miigwech for the warm welcome and support I've received already.

My focus in the new year will be:

- Strengthening tenant communication
- Improving maintenance response times
- Ensuring fairness, accountability, and transparency
- Supporting responsible budgeting and planning
- Building strong partnerships with contractors, staff, and community members

Housing is not just about buildings — it's about safety, family, and belonging. I look forward to working with everyone in 2026.

## Holiday Office Closures

The Housing Department will be **closed**:

- **December 22, 2025 – January 5, 2026**
- **Regular office hours resume January 5, 2026**

During this time, staff will not be available for non-urgent matters

## Holiday Garbage/Recycle Pick-up

Tuesday December 23, 2025 & Tuesday December 30, 2025

## Rent Payment Reminders (Tenants)

Rent is due the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month.

**\*\*\*Rent Arrears: Please call or visit the Housing Department to set-up payment arrangements. A notice was sent to all individuals who are in arrears.**

## Lease Agreement Renewals (Tenants)

Notices sent to all individual who must renew their lease agreement. Very important, please come to the housing office to sign.

## All maintenance Issues During Regular Business Hours (Tenants)

**Text or Call 1-519-319-0125**

## Housing Maintenance Checklist – December (For Tenants & Owners)

This checklist helps ensure homes are safe, warm, and in good condition during the winter months. If you notice any issues below, please contact the Housing Office.

### Heating & Ventilation

- ☐ Furnace / heating system working properly
- ☐ Heat reaching all rooms evenly
- ☐ No loud noises, burning smells, or unusual sounds
- ☐ Baseboard heaters clear of furniture and curtains
- ☐ Vents not blocked

### Plumbing & Water

- ☐ No leaking pipes, taps, or toilets
- ☐ Water pressure is normal
- ☐ Drains flowing properly
- ☐ No frozen or slow-moving pipes
- ☐ No water damage under sinks

### Doors & Windows

- ☐ Exterior doors close and lock properly
- ☐ No drafts around doors or windows
- ☐ Weather stripping intact
- ☐ Windows fully closed and sealed

### Electrical Safety

- ☐ No exposed or damaged wiring
- ☐ Outlets not overloaded
- ☐ Extension cords used safely and not under rugs
- ☐ Breakers not tripping frequently

### Fire Safety

- ☐ Smoke alarms working (no chirping)
- ☐ Carbon monoxide detector working (if applicable)
- ☐ Clear space around heaters and stoves
- ☐ Safe use of holiday lights and decorations
- ☐ No flammable items near heat sources

### Outdoor & Winter Safety

- ☐ Steps and railings secure
- ☐ Snow and ice cleared from entrances
- ☐ Outdoor lights working
- ☐ Pathways safe and visible

### General Home Safety

- ☐ Floors clear of tripping hazards
- ☐ Hallways and exits clear
- ☐ No broken fixtures or loose handles
- ☐ Garbage removed regularly

## Fire Safety - Holiday Season Reminders

Fire safety is extremely important during the winter months. Please keep your home and family safe by remembering the following:

### 1. Check Your Smoke Alarms

- Make sure smoke detectors are working
- Replace batteries if needed
- Do not remove or disable alarms

### 2. Safe Use of Heaters

- Keep heaters at least **3 feet** away from furniture, curtains, and bedding
- Never use the oven or stove to heat your home
- Do not place anything on top of space heaters

### 3. Kitchen Safety During Holiday Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Keep flammable items (towels, paper, plastic) away from the stove
- Turn pot handles inward to avoid tipping

### 4. Christmas Lights & Decorations

- Use CSA-approved lights
- Do not overload outlets
- Turn off lights before going to bed or leaving home
- Keep real trees watered to prevent drying out

### 5. Candle Safety

- Use battery-operated candles if possible
- If using real candles, keep them away from pets, children, and flammable materials
- Never leave candles burning unattended

### 6. Have an Escape Plan

- Make sure everyone in the home knows where to exit
- Keep hallways and doorways clear
- Practice fire safety with children

## Tenant Reminders

- Keep pathways cleared of snow
- Report heating issues early
- Allow scheduled access for maintenance
- Avoid blocking vents, baseboards, and heaters
- Practice fire safety at all times

Miigwech for keeping our community safe this holiday season.



## **Emergency Maintenance During Closure and After-Hours (Tenants)**

For **emergencies only**, please contact:

**Emergency Housing Line: Ashley Mostafa Housing Manager 1-807-853-2642**

Emergencies include:

- No heat
- Major leaks
- Electrical hazards
- Broken exterior doors
- Fire or smoke damage

All non-emergency repairs will be addressed once the office reopens on **January 5, 2026**

## **Housing Applications**

Stay tuned! On-going housing applications to open in the New Year- 2026

## **First Nations Housing Market Fund Program**

- For more information, please contact Scott Flamand at 705-618-1093 by text or email at [flamandmservices@gmail.com](mailto:flamandmservices@gmail.com) Keep a look out upcoming workshops in January 2026!

Theme: Fire Safety

All entrees to be dropped off at the Housing Department no later than January 10/2026.

Please include name, age, phone number and address

Every Child/Youth is a Winner!

On behalf of the Housing Department, we wish all community members a safe, warm, and peaceful holiday season. Thank you for your patience and support as we work together to strengthen housing services for everyone.

## **Warm Holiday Wishes**

**Miigwech,**  
Ashley Mostafa  
Housing Manager  
1-807-853-2642  
[amostafa@cottfn.com](mailto:amostafa@cottfn.com)

# FIRE SAFETY



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Kids & Youth (0 to 26) Colouring/Drawing Contest

December 15, 2025

On behalf of the family of the Late Tyler “GOALIE” Kechego we would like to send out a heart felt miigwetch to all the Fire Keepers - Dalton Kechego, Jaden French, Steve Sturgeon, Will, Sheldon Fisher, Michell Kechego, Brandon Sickles to all who tended the fire (sorry if I’m forgetting anyone), everyone who had donated coffee and food to the house. To Rene Burch, Paris Burch and Miley Burch for the delicious meal that they had served and prepared.

Miigwetch to the Chippewa Fire Department for the rental of the tent and the Chippewa Roads Department for the table and chairs, delivery of the wood when needed.

Your kindness will forever be held in our hearts.

Veronica, Dwight, Wyatt and Shelby Kechego, Alyssa, Ivan, Elaina and Aiyanna Chrisjohn





# Healthy Lifestyles

## Nutrition Program

3 SIMPLE NUTRITION HABITS FOR A  
HEALTHY START TO THE YEAR

JOIN US FOR A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CLASS LED BY  
A REGISTERED DIETITIAN.

LEARN PRACTICAL NUTRITION STRATEGIES TO  
SUPPORT YOUR ENERGY AND LONG-TERM HEALTH.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH**  
**1PM - 3 PM**

- 
- ✓ **NUTRITION PRESENTATION**
  - ✓ **HEALTHY FOOD & BEVERAGES PROVIDED**
  - ✓ **OPTIONAL HEALTH CHECKS UPON REQUEST:**

- **WEIGHT UPDATES**
- **BLOOD SUGAR TESTING**
- **BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS**

**HOSTED AT THE HEALTH CENTRE**

**CALL TO RSVP WITH THE  
DIETITIAN REBECCA AT  
519-289-5641**

# UPDATED AFR APPLICATION

## CHIPPEWA ANISHINAABEK FOOD RIGHTS APPLICATION

Personal information provided on this form is kept confidential. Only statistical information will be reported.

**Please Print Clearly**

### Part A: General Information

**Please Circle One**

Male/ Female

On Rez/ Off Rez

Age Group:

18-24

25-35

36-45

46-55

56-64 65+

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Postal Code

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Band #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part B: Additional Household Members

Please lists all dependent adults and/or child(ren) within your household.

**IDENTIFICATION MAY BE ASKED TO BE SHOWN AT TIME OF PICK UP:**

Spouse/Dependent(s) Name:	Age:	If you require any of the following Items, please circle
1 _____	_____	1. Feminine Products
2 _____	_____	2. Tooth Brush
3 _____	_____	3. Tooth Paste
4 _____	_____	4. Deodorant
5 _____	_____	5. Depends - <b>Please Circle Mens or Womens</b>
6 _____	_____	
7 _____	_____	List any dietary restrictions (Food Allergies):
8 _____	_____	_____

Please circle 3 items if baby items are needed also please list diaper and pull ups sizes needed; Diaper size \_\_\_\_\_, Pull-ups \_\_\_\_\_, Wipes, Formula, Baby Cereal, Baby Snacks, Baby Body Wash, Baby Lotion

### Part C: Financial Overview Information.

Please identify your monthly income by checking the appropriate box(es):

<input type="checkbox"/> Ontario Works	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Specify:)
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability-WSIB	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment Income
<input type="checkbox"/> ODSP	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Age Security

### Part D: Eligibility Criteria

**1. THIS IS OPEN TO ALL CHIPPEWA MEMBERS ON & OFF RESERVE REGARDLESS OF INCOME**

- 2. \$5.00** re-stocking fee payment is required to pick up a food box
- Last day of pick up posted will be the last day to pick any food hampers
- Only **one** food basket per household, per month due to limited funding available

### Office Use

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 Paid \_\_\_\_\_:Initial Date of Pick Up: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial: \_\_\_\_\_



**Deshkan Zibiing**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation

**To submit a community posting please send it to [newsletter@cottfn.com](mailto:newsletter@cottfn.com) or drop off at the band office front desk.**

**Postings must be community-centric; not business advertisements or political.**

#### **Little Spirit Moon Prayer**

**Little Spirit Moon, I offer my tobacco and humble myself in the most respectful way as I was taught by my grandfathers and grandmothers. I ask at this time, of the Little Spirit Moon, for healing. This healing is for visions of the spirits and good health so I can walk this road with the purist energies of Creation. Nookomis, I ask for these things, not only for myself but to share with my family and extended family. I ask for the families that have gone on to the spirit world and the families that will soon be here. Little Spirit Moon, I ask now for forgiveness for the things I do not speak of and the things I have forgotten. So I will be able to respect myself, for all that I am. Until the next time we meet,**