



MAZINIGAN

Namebine Giizis: Sucker Moon

APRIL 2026

Sucker Moon is the fourth moon of Creation. This is a time when the sucker journeys from Creation to the Spirit world. At this time, Nookomis prepares the sucker with teachings to return with the medicines to purify the water beings and the guidance needed to make this spiritual journey. Nookomis leaves the sucker with purification medicine teachings that cleanse the path the spirits of the water beings of Turtle Island.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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- | New Community Plan Launching Soon**
- | New CEO Announced for Development Corp**
- | TradesUp! Future Skilled Workers**
- | New Land & Water Restoration**
- | Community Email Updates Launch**
- | Pet Wellness Clinic Coming May 15**

Chief Miskokomon now a Member of the Order of Canada

Chippewas of the Thames is celebrating an incredible milestone for one of our own. Chief R.K. Joe Miskokomon has been appointed a Member of the Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honours.

A respected Anishinaabe leader, Chief Miskokomon has spent more than 50 years advocating for First Nations rights, governance, and wellbeing. From his time as Chief to his leadership as Grand Council Chief of the Anishinabek Nation, his work has helped strengthen nation-to-nation relationships and advance collective voices across Ontario. His contributions to major negotiations with the federal government have helped secure important land claim settlements and open doors for future generations.

As noted by Grand Council Chief Debassige, “we honour Chief Joe Miskokomon not only for his remarkable achievements and leadership, but also for his enduring dedication to justice and the affirmation of our inherent and treaty rights. His work continues to inspire us all to stand firm in the pursuit of sovereignty, respect, and reconciliation.”

This honour reflects not only Chief Miskokomon's lifelong dedication, but also the strength and shared efforts of the community leaders who continue to move this work forward every day.



Chief Joe Miskokomon is pictured alongside Governor General Mary Simon during a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, on Thursday, March 19, 2026.
THE CANADIAN PRESS/Spencer Colby

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Date	Event	Page
02-Apr-26	TradesUp! – Skills Ontario Tech Truck Visit	10
06-Apr-26	Resume Workshop	26
08-Apr-26	Post-Secondary Application Assistance Program	38
09-Apr-26	ODSP Caseworker Visit	23
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23-Apr-26	ODSP Caseworker Visit	23
24-Apr-26	Food Allergen Training	25
24-Apr-26	Healthy Balance Nutrition Program	15
25-Apr-26	Healthy Relationships Training	29
27-Apr-26	Men’s Self-Care Workshop	19
28-Apr-26	Regular Council Meeting	5

Welcome

This month, we welcomed new staff and celebrated team members moving into new roles at Chippewas of the Thames. Miigwech for choosing to support and serve this community.

Rene Doxtator

Assistant Early Childhood Educator
Early Years

Rebecca Hartley *(in a new role)*

Certified Diabetes Educator
Health Department

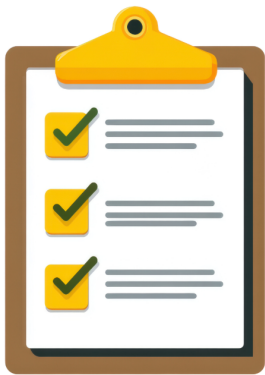
Destini Millar

Cultural Harm Reduction Outreach Worker
Health Department

Growing Our Team

Check out current openings at
www.cottfn.com/jobs

Life changes? Let us know!



If there's been a birth, death, change of address, or name change, please contact the Membership & Estates Office to keep your records and contact information up to date.

Beulah Kechego, bkechego@cottfn.com
Skloud Riley, sriley@cottfn.com
519-289-5555



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation

Green Lane Landfill

Odor reports

519-652-0929



A Message from our Public Works Department:

Fibre network construction will begin this month as the project enters its final phase. During this time, crews will be working to complete the remaining infrastructure and connect the remaining homes to the network, bringing us closer to full community connectivity.

OGIMAAKAN Aaniish enkamgak?

APRIL 2026 Chief and Council, What's happening?



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

- **Tues, April 14, 1PM**
Regular Council Meeting

- **Tues, April 28, 5PM**
Regular Council Meeting

Everyone is welcome to attend these in-person meetings

SAVE THE DATES

- **SPRING COMMUNITY UPDATE**
Thurs, May 28th, 5PM
London - Location TBD
- **SUMMER COMMUNITY UPDATE**
Thurs, Aug 27, 5PM
Pow wow grounds (*weather permitting*) **or** Antler River Seniors Complex
- **FALL COMMUNITY UPDATE**
Thurs, Nov 26, 5PM
London - Location TBD

COUNCIL AGENDAS AND MINUTES

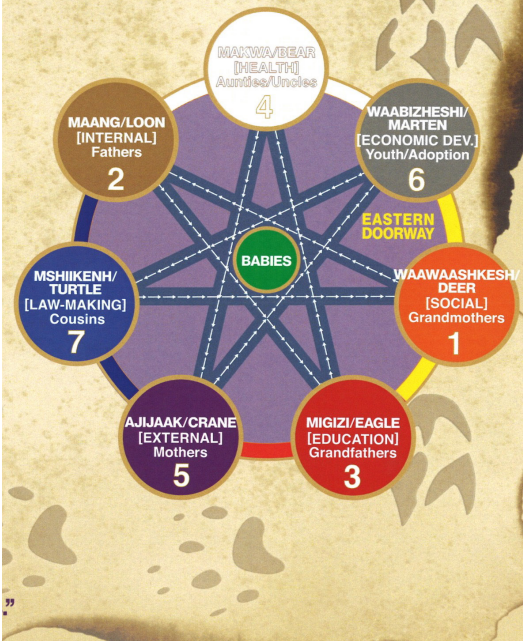
- Council agendas are **finalized on the Friday** before the meeting and posted at the band office.
 - If you would like to be on the agenda, a "Notice of Intent" form needs to be submitted in advance. The form can be found at the band office or requested from Justine Doxtator, jdoxtator@cottfn.com, 519-289-5555 x229.
- Printed copies of council minutes are currently available at the band office. Electronic copies can be requested via Justine Doxtator, Executive Assistant, jdoxtator@cottfn.com

Each clan selected a leader. They sat in council to make a decision, after listening to their clan members' recommendations.



7-POINTED STAR Decision-Making Process

The 7-Pointed Star Decision-Making Process involves approaching the Eastern Door and communicating with the Waawaashkesh (Deer) Doodem (Clan) (1). From there the decision-making journey takes the decision seeker on a counter-clockwise path leading to six other Doodemag in the order as indicated by the numbers on the diagram above. Following the arrows the decision seeker leaves the Waawaashkesh Doodem and ends their journey with the Mshiikenh (Turtle) Doodem (7) and eventually a decision.



Doodemag Gathering

Chi-miigwech to all the citizens who attended COTTEN's 3rd clan gathering on March 9-10th.

We learned about the 7 clans, and their sub-clans. We also learned how our ancestors made decisions, guided by our knowledges and with our families in mind.

Semaa has been passed and Richard Assinewai and Chop Waindubence will be returning to offer teachings again next year.

Gmaapiich...

In a little while...

A special time to reaffirm our dreams

- *for ourselves*
- *for our families*
- *for our communities*
- *for our Nation*

OUR NEXT COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN IS BEGINNING SOON.

Our last plan led to real change in our community. Now it's time to shape what comes next, together.

This summer, we'll be inviting everyone to share their voice.

Join our members mailing list to stay informed and be part of the journey.

Scan to join



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation



Meet Tristan Smyth

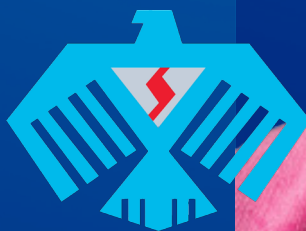
CEO, Deshkan Ziibiing Development Corporation

Tristan Smyth (they/them) joins the Deshkan Ziibiing Development Corporation as CEO, bringing a strong background in economic development, social finance, and youth empowerment. Most recently, Tristan was with the Propel Impact Foundation, where they launched Canada's first youth-led impact investment fund, supporting startups, small businesses, and nonprofits.

Throughout their career, Tristan has advised on or led over \$2 billion CAD in economic development initiatives. They have been recognized as one of Canada's Top 21 Young Impact Leaders by Future of Good (2019) and named to the Ottawa Business Journal's Forty Under 40 (2023).

Tristan currently serves as Treasurer and founding board member of Giyak Mishkawzid Shkagmikwe, the economic development corporation for Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, and as Chair of the Table of Impact Investment Practitioners. They are also Vice-Chair of Boann Funds, a \$150 million social finance fund in partnership with the Government of Canada, and an adjunct faculty member at Carleton University.

Raised in northern BC and rural Alberta, Tristan enjoys gardening, pickling, science fiction, Dungeons & Dragons, and embroidery in their spare time.



Important announcement for Deshkan Ziibing citizens!

Stay connected to your community, wherever you live. **Sign up for regular email updates, delivered directly to you.**

Regular updates you can count on:

- *Mazinigan*
- Chief and Council News
- Weekly Event & Program Reminders
- Critical updates
- Special reports
- Community awareness & learning series

Stay informed.
Stay connected.



Scan to join



Questions? Contact
comms@cottfn.com
or 519-289-5555

TradesUp!

Inspiring the Next Generation of Skilled Trades



Building the future—one tower at a time.

On March 10, youth gathered for an interactive TradesUp! session with the team from Forbes Bros., where learning about skilled trades meant rolling up their sleeves and getting hands-on.

Working in teams of three, participants built their own hydro transmission tower models using simple materials—testing their creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

This activity connected directly to the real work Forbes Bros. is doing, and it helps youth see how engineering, construction, and innovation come together in major infrastructure projects.

COTTfN's TradesUp! Series is about more than careers—it's about opening doors, building confidence, and showing young people that their ideas and skills can shape the future of our communities.

This event was made possible through an internal collaboration between the Youth Center, Board of Education, Employment & Training, and the Trades School.

Thank you to Forbes Bros. for sharing their time, knowledge, and experience with the next generation of builders and problem-solvers. The future of skilled trades is bright, and it starts with opportunities like this.

For more info, contact Megan Huff, mhuff@cottfn.com



Next TradesUp! Session

Visit the Skills Ontario Tech Truck!

April 2nd, 2026

3:00PM-6:00PM

Antler River Elementary School



First Nations Child and Family Services
and Jordan's Principle Settlement

Time to submit your claim



WHO CAN SUBMIT

Removed Child Class

First Nations individuals who, while under the Age of Majority, were removed from their homes between April 1, 1991, and March 31, 2022, while living on reserve or in the Yukon, and whose placement was funded by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

Removed Child Family Class

Caregiving Parents or Caregiving Grandparents of a Removed Child.

WHEN TO SUBMIT

Adult Class Members have until March 10, 2028, to submit their Claim. If the Class Member was a minor when the Claim Period opened on March 10, 2025, they have three years from the date they become an adult to submit their Claim.

Adult Caregiving Parents or Caregiving Grandparents must submit their Claim by March 10, 2028, regardless of the age of the associated Removed Child.

HOW TO SUBMIT



Complete and submit a Claim Form at Portal.FNChildclaims.ca or by email, fax, or mail



Include a valid government-issued ID



If you believe you are eligible under more than one Class, submit a separate form for each Class

You do not have to do this by yourself.
Contact the Administrator and ask for a Claims Helper.

SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

Administrator: 1-833-852-0755
Hope for Wellness: 1-855-242-3310
Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or text: FIRSTNATIONS to 688868



SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE AND
START YOUR CLAIM

www.FNChildclaims.ca

STRONG ROOTS. BRIGHT FUTURES.



We are now accepting referrals for our 10-week program for young people (ages 12-17 males) to **grow, connect, and build strength** in a **supportive environment.**

- Building confidence and identity
 - Developing healthy coping skills
 - Strengthening relationships
 - Connecting to culture, community, and self
- Earn Credits to High School if you are eligible

intake@nimkee.org

Program Start Date:
April 13/14

Application Deadline:
**THIS FRIDAY,
March 27th**

CHIPPEWA SENIORS PROGRAM

April 2026

TUE	WED	THU
	1 ACTIVITY: Quarter Bingo 5-7PM	2 LUNCH: French Fries & Chicken Burgers ACTIVITY: Puzzle Book
7 LUNCH: Tortellini Bake with Garlic Bread ACTIVITY: Coloring	8 ACTIVITY: Euchre 5-7pm	9 LUNCH: Taco and Rice ACTIVITY: Easter egg birdseed feeders
14 NO LUNCH	15 ACTIVITY: Quarter Bingo 5-7pm	16 CONGREGATE DINING DINNER: Meatloaf with Mashed potatoes
21 LUNCH: Pizza on a pita ACTIVITY: Nutrition Bingo	22 ACTIVITY: Euchre 5-7pm	23 LUNCH: Pierogi soup with bun ACTIVITY: spring flower banner
28 LUNCH: Chicken souvlaki with salad ACTIVITY: free for all	29 ACTIVITY: Quarter Bingo 5-7pm	30 NO LUNCH

Lunch Program is scheduled every Tuesday & Thursday 12-1pm, unless stated.

Activities take place after lunch from 1-3pm.
No sign up is required unless stated

Evening programming happens every Wednesday evening 5-7pm, no sign up is required unless stated.
Both programs (Euchre & Quarter Bingo) are potluck.

Congregate Dining: is scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month.

THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

COTTEN HEALTH CENTRE JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WHAT IS JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE?

Jordan's Principle is a child-first initiative that ensures First Nations children receive the supports and services they need. It is named after Jordan River Anderson, who died in hospital due to his First Nation status. Jordan's Principle ensures that First Nations children get equitable access to government-funded services and supports without delays or denials.



WHAT IS GOING ON WITH MY CHILD'S REQUEST?

Recent changes to Jordan's Principle mean the initiative is now more focused on providing support for First Nations children where there are clear gaps in services. Some types of funding – especially for school based supports and certain emergency needs, may be more limited and requests may take longer due to stricter approval processes. While these changes aim to make the initiative more sustainable, they have affected how quickly and easily families can access supports. If you have questions or need help, reach out to your local Jordan's Principle worker or Indigenous Services Canada at 1-855-572-4453.

WHAT DO I NEED TO APPLY?

- Child's full name & date of birth
- Letter of support
- Description of need & gap/delay in accessing supports
- Supporting documents (assessments, prescriptions, etc.)
- Cost information
- Consent

Strong documentation = stronger application.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

The most important part of your application is a strong letter of support. The letter must clearly describe the child's specific needs and why the requested support is required. It should explain how the support will help address those needs and ensure the child can access services equally and without delay. The letter should include that the need cannot be met through existing services or programs.

WHO CAN WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT?

The letter must be written by a licensed/registered professional, such as a health, education, or social worker. For cultural supports, an Elder or Knowledge Keeper can write the letter. The professional needs to speak within their scope, be in the child's circle of care, and clearly explain the child's needs and how the support will help.



WHY IS MY CHILD'S REQUEST TAKING SO LONG?

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is struggling to process a high volume of requests resulting in a significant backlog. Estimates in 2025 suggested over 130,000 requests were waiting for review.

ARE REQUESTS BEING PROCESSED DIFFERENTLY THAN PREVIOUS YEARS?

In short, yes. ISC made operational changes to Jordan's Principle last year which has negatively impacted requests pending a funding decision and new applications.

WHAT ARE SOME CHANGES?

- Stronger focus on "substantive equality". Request must clearly show the specific unmet need, a gap or delay in services, and how the request ensures the child has equal access to services.
- Stricter documentation requirements. Requests must include detailed justification and professional recommendation. Requests without strong documentation are more likely to be denied.
- Limits on what will be approved. Certain requests are no longer approved unless clearly tied to a child's need and meet "substantive equality" criteria including clothing, childcare, camps, home renovations/repairs, sports, extracurricular activities, travel, and school-related supports.



322 Chippewa Rd, Muncey ON



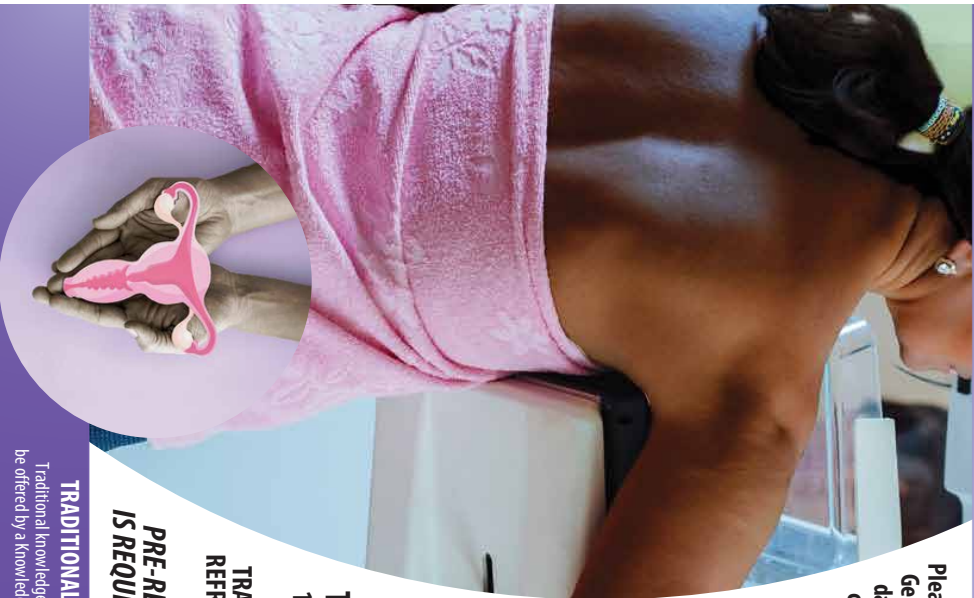
519-289-5641



khopkins@cottfn.com
bethyoung@cottfn.com

CMO Communities

Indigenous Breast and Cervical Screening Day



Please join us at the Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital in a private and supportive day of breast mammography screening and cervical screening.

CMO WOMEN

BREAST SCREENING: AGE 40-74

CERVICAL SCREENING: AGE 25-69

WHAT TO EXPECT

Each session we will have health professionals give short presentations on the cervical screening, mammography and FIT testing prior to getting their screening.

A great opportunity to ask questions from health professionals in a supportive and private setting. Cervical screening will be done by the Midwives of Middlesex and Area (MOMA).

Thursday, June 4, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

TRADITIONAL TEACHINGS
Traditional knowledge on women's health will be offered by a Knowledge keeper/Elder.



TO REGISTER:
CHIPPewa, OTHER FIRST NATIONS & URBAN
Connie Frenkel at Chippewa Health Centre
519-289-5641 ext. 231

ONEIDA, OTHER FIRST NATIONS & URBAN
Kathy Rave at Oneida Health Centre
519-552-0500 ext. 817

MUNSEE
Lauryn Kechego at Munsee Health Centre
519-289-5396 ext. 229



STRONGER THROUGH MOVEMENT

WE'RE EXCITED TO SHARE A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR MOVEMENT AND WELLNESS:

YMCA PASSES



PLEASE SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY DIETITIAN TO REGISTER FOR THIS NEW PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YMCA

CALL 519-289-5641 X257

THIS PROGRAM WELCOMES ALL AGES



Chi Miigwech to all of the community members who came out to join our first Cooking Competition on March 3rd!

Soup Competition Winners

Gift Cards were awarded to our ribbon winners:

- 1ST Shirley Grosbeck
- 2ND Agnes Henry
- 3RD Gail Riley

Thank you as well to our competition Judges Courtney Hendrick & Kim Fisher



Our Door Prize Winner took home an Enamel Cast Iron Cuisinart Cookware Dish!

Stay Tuned for Future Cooking Programs!



Healthy Balance Nutrition Program

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

THIS MONTH WE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT SUGARS AND ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH
FROM 1PM - 3 PM

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

- WEIGHT UPDATES
- BLOOD SUGAR TESTING
- BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

EVENT WILL BE HOSTED IN THE BOARD ROOM AT THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

CALL TO RSVP WITH THE COMMUNITY DIETITIAN REBECCA AT 519-289-5641 X257 WALK INS ARE ALSO WELCOME



Boopogame Giizis

April

Bloom where you are planted

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 OFF	2 OFF	3 OFF	4
5	6 OFF	7	8	9 Grief Circle 5-7 E & T Portable	10 Caring Cupboard 9-12 Recovery Support 6-7 E & T Portable	11
12	13 Young Bucks 5-7 Early Years	14 Womans Group 5-7 E & T Portable	15 Two Spirited Group 5-7 E & T Portable	16 Grief Circle 5-7 E & T Portable	17 Caring Cupboard Recovery Support 6-7 E & T Portable	18
19	20 Girl Power 5-7 Early Years	21	22	23 Grief Circle 5-7 E & T Portable	24 Caring Cupboard Recovery Support 6-7 E & T Portable	25
26	27 Young Bucks 5-7 Early Years	28 Woman's Group 5-7 E & T Portable	29	30 Grief Circle 5-7 E & T Portable		

Cynthia Tribe
Community
Prevention

519-878-0165

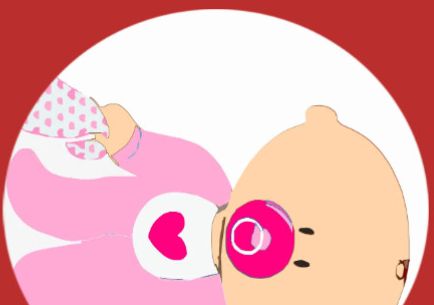


Deshkan Ziibing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Health Centre

Babies Born 2025

ATTENTION

CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES MEMBERSHIP



EMAIL
SFRENCH@COTTFFN.COM

CHILD NAME

FOR THE DREAM CATCHER

DETAIL OF HANDOUT/EVENT
WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A
FUTURE DATE

DEADLINE APRIL 24, 2026 BY 4:00 PM

Made with PosterMyWall.com

EARTH DAY CLEANUP



START TIME: 9 AM

**SUPPLIES PROVIDED IN
FRONT OF BAND OFFICE**

BBQ FOR VOLUNTEERS!



FAMILY LOUNGE

THURSDAY April 16, 2026
5:00 pm - 7:00 PM

A SAFE PLACE FOR PARENTS AND
CARE GIVERS TO COME TOGETHER.
ACTIVITIES, DISCUSSIONS AND
GOOD LAUGHS.



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Health Centre

Youth Mental Health Team &
Chippewas Registered Dietitian

Maamawi Kitchen

Free Grocery
Giftcards

Come learn how to
cook various dishes

April 14th, 2026
At 5 pm - 7 pm

Chippewa Health
Center
322 Chippewas Rd.
Muncey ON

Register @
Justicedoxtator@cotfn.com



MEN'S DROP-IN SERIES



Good food. Good conversation. Good company.

A relaxed space for men to come together, share a meal, and connect.



◆ April 20 ● May 4 ● June 1 ● June 15 ● June 29 ◆

◆ 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM ◆
Employment & Training Portable

Hosted by Greg ◆◆◆◆◆

A delicious homemade supper will be served.

Limited to 15 participants ◆◆◆◆◆

To register, call Greg at

◆ (519) 878-0949 ◆



MEN'S SELF-CARE WORKSHOP

April 27 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Employment and Training Portable
320 Chippewa Road

This is not your typical workshop.

Join us for an evening for men to come together, share a homemade meal, and experience something different.

Try Laughter Therapy — a unique experience that helps release stress, lift your spirit, and bring people together through laughter.

We'll also explore mindfulness for men — practical ways to reset, refocus, and take care of yourself.

Homemade supper will be served.

Take a break. Have some laughs. Feed your spirit.

Register with Greg at
(519) 878-0949




Deshken Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Child, Youth
& Family Well-Being Services




ATTENTION CHIPPEWA OF THE THAMES PET OWNERS
IMPORTANT: UPDATED PET SERVICES FOR MAY 15 CLINIC

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation is pleased to offer a **Pet Wellness – Sterilization & Vaccination Campaign** on:

 Friday, May 15, 2026

 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

 COTTFN Firehall & Administration Complex
322 Chippewa Rd., Muncey, ON

Services will be provided by East Village Animal Hospital (EVAH).

✓ PET EXAMINATIONS – \$50

- Full check-up by licensed veterinarians
- Core vaccinations included (parvovirus, parainfluenza, distemper, adenovirus, leptospirosis, rabies, or applicable cat vaccines)
- Blood testing for dogs (tick-borne diseases & heartworm, if required)

🐱 CAT SPAY & NEUTER (ON-SITE) – \$150

- Same-day exam, vaccinations, surgery, and recovery cone included
- Already spayed/neutered? Receive exam & vaccines for \$50

🐶 DOG SPAY & NEUTER (SUBSIDIZED PROGRAM)

- Dogs must be 4 months – 6 years old
- Initial visit (May 15): exam, vaccines, and bloodwork – \$50
- Register for surgery on May 20 or June 9, 2026
- Surgery cost: \$175–\$325 (based on weight) + \$50 exam
- Subsidized through Canfix.org
- Sign-up, subsidies, and transportation options available

+ ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Flea & tick prevention (cost varies by weight)
- Deworming (cost varies by weight)

⚠️ IMPORTANT NOTES

- Services are NOT available for breeders or breeding animals
- Registration is REQUIRED
- Pre-payment for sterilization services is REQUIRED by May 1, 2026

HOW TO REGISTER
To reserve your spot, please contact:
Chris Saxby, RN/RSW – Health Centre
519-289-5641 ext. 241
csaxby@cottfn.com

SAVE THE DATE

Chippewas of the Thames

First Nation

49th Annual

Competition Pow Wow

August 15 & 16, 2026

640 Jubilee Road, Muncey

General Inquiries: pday@cottfn.com

Vendor information: keriley@cottfn.com



Deshkan Zibiing

Chippewas of the Thames

First Nation

**Save
the
Date**

Anishinaabe'aadziwin

ZIGWAN
SPRING

Artists

MARKET

Saturday, May 2

10 am to 3 pm

Community Center, COTTEN

Vendor info: keriley@cottfn.com



ROUND DANCE

FRIDAY APRIL 10 2026

CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES FIRST NATION
RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS
COMMITTEE

COTTFN Community Centre
320 Chippewa Road, Muncey, On

4:30 pm - Pipe Ceremony

6:00 pm - Feast

7:00 pm to 12:00 am - Round Dance

Late Night Snack

Giveaways, Contests, Spot Dances

MC: Gordon Nicotine-Sands,
Plains Cree, Ojibway, London, ON.

Stickman: Cameron Bear Plains Cree,
Six Nations, ON.

Pipeman: Anthony Gladue, Plains Cree,
Toronto, ON.

Singers: Liam Sands, Oneida/Cree/Ojibway,
London, ON.

Matt Isaac, Ojibway, Aamjiwnaang, ON.

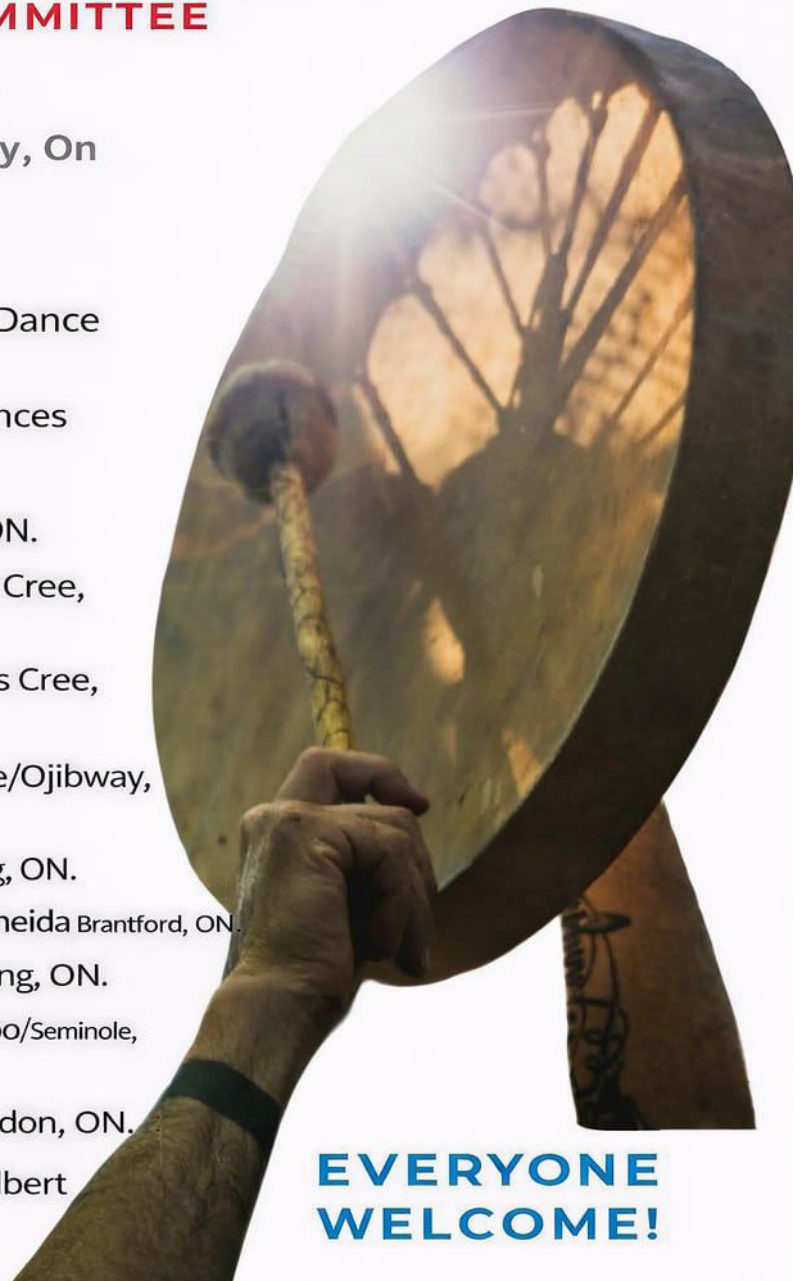
Brook Antone-Kamalatisit, Cree/Oneida Brantford, ON.

Lorne Pawis, Ojibway, Wausauksing, ON.

Ascension Harjo, Mohawk/Kickapoo/Seminole,
Six Nations, ON.

Tayden Grosbeck, Chippewa, London, ON.

Event Coordinator: Fernanda Albert
fernandaalbert@yahoo.ca



**EVERYONE
WELCOME!**



April, 2026

All staff are available through the office phone line, their cell phones or emails. Please keep all office related calls between the hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm from Monday to Friday.

1. Sherry Steuer, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Caseworker will be here in the office on the following dates;
 - April 9th from 1:00-4:30pm
 - April 23rd from 8:30am -12:00pm

If you need to contact Sherry outside of these dates, you can reach her by phone at 519-438-5111 Ext. 3193. If she does not answer, please leave her a message and she will get back to you as soon as she can.

2. Ontario Works has a Transitional Support Fund (TSF) to help with emergency housing repairs, appliance repairs, moving costs, heating and/or hydro costs. You do not have to be an Ontario Works client to qualify for TSF but you do have to reside within Chippewas of the Thames First Nation in order to be eligible for TSF. TSF is unable to help with major repairs or repairs to homes that are in an estate. Maintenance and repairs to homes in estates are the responsibility of the Administrator or Executor of the estate. For low-income clients, please contact Jana Kehego to make an application.
3. Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) may provide you with a credit if you're the customer of an electricity utility and you have filed your taxes. The credit, if your eligible would depend on your income, base off your income taxes and household size. When completing the application all household members over the age of 18 years old must have filed their taxes and must sign off on the OESP consent form. You can apply for the OESP credit through the OESP application either online at ontarioelectricitysupport.ca or mail the application to Ontario Electricity Support Program, PO BOX 1540 STN B, Ottawa, ON K1P 0C7. The application for the OESP credit is included in this month's newsletter. If you have any questions, you can contact the office and speak with one of the workers.
4. Please make sure to check your propane tank and place an order for propane when your tank is at 25-30%. Propane companies are taking anywhere from 5-7 business days to deliver propane and will not make expectations.

Office closures and when staff are out of the office for April, 2026:

- Office Closed April 3rd for Good Friday and April 6th for Easter Monday
- Kristen Hendrick – Vacation April 10, 13, 23 & 24



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

APRIL

04 / 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Resume Workshop	7	8	9	10 Chainsaw Training	11 Student Resume Workshop
12	13	14	15	16 Safe Food Handling	17 Food allergen	18
19	20 Resume Workshop	21	22	23 Smart Serve	24 Food allergen	25 Student Training
26	27	28	29	30		



Scan QR code
to register for
training programs



MOST IMPORTANT

- APR. 6TH & 20TH - RESUME WORKSHOP
1:30PM - 2:30PM
- APR. 10TH - CHAINSAW TRAINING
2:00PM - 3:00PM
- APR. 11TH - RESUME WORKSHOP
(STUDENT ONLY)
1:30PM - 2:30PM
- APR. 16TH - SAFE FOOD HANDLING
9:30AM - 3:30PM
- APR. 23RD - SMART SERVE
9:00AM - 3:00PM
- APR. 17TH & 24TH - FOOD ALLERGEN TRAINING
2:00PM - 4:00PM
- APR. 25TH - HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
(STUDENT ONLY)
10:00AM - 4:00PM



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Zibbing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

FOOD ALLERGEN TRAINING

Community Development

This Food Allergen Awareness training is designed to help food service personnel ensure the safe and proper handling of food allergens in compliance with Canadian food safety standards.

Space is limited to 5 people. Register today!

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#

April 17th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the Chippewa community center from 2:00pm-4:00pm

Training includes:

- Laptop Provided for training
- Average Duration: 1.5 Hours
- Approved Across Canada
- Certificate Valid for 3 Years
- Printable Certificate Upon Completion
- Plastic and Digital Certificates Available
- Unlimited Exam Attempts
- Self-Paced



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Zibbing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

FOOD ALLERGEN TRAINING

Community Development

This Food Allergen Awareness training is designed to help food service personnel ensure the safe and proper handling of food allergens in compliance with Canadian food safety standards.

Space is limited to 5 people. Register today!

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#

April 24th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the Chippewa community center from 2:00pm-4:00pm

Training includes:

- Laptop Provided for training
- Average Duration: 1.5 Hours
- Approved Across Canada
- Certificate Valid for 3 Years
- Printable Certificate Upon Completion
- Plastic and Digital Certificates Available
- Unlimited Exam Attempts
- Self-Paced



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

RESUMÉ WORKSHOP

**Community Development*
Employment & Training will
be offering a Resumé and
Covering Letter workshop for
anyone who would like
assistance in updating or
creating their resumé.*

DROP INS WELCOME!
*No appointment
necessary*

April 6th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the
Chippewa community center
from 1:30pm-2:30pm
(30min presentation)

Training includes:

- Resumé Basics
- Cover Letter Basics
- What to include and not include
- Formatting
- How/when to update
- Professional wording

QUESTIONS?: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING

**Community Development*
ONLINE TRAINING
This online Chainsaw Safety
course teaches the basics of
safely operating and
maintaining a gas or electric
chainsaw, in accordance with
CSA Standard Z62.1-15
(R2020) and CSA No. 62841-4,
which is the industry
standard for chainsaw
operators in Canada.*

**Space is limited
to 5 people.**
Register today!

April 10th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the
Chippewa community center
from 2:00pm-3:00pm

Training includes:

- Laptop provided
- Average Duration: 1 Hour
- Digital & Printable Certificate
- Plastic Proof Of Training Card Included
- Unlimited Exam Attempts
- Accepted Across Canada
- Self-Paced

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

RESUME WORKSHOP

April 11th, 2026

STUDENT ONLY
Employment & Training will be offering a Resume and Covering Letter workshop for anyone who would like assistance in updating or creating their resume.

at Portable-2 beside the Chippewa community center from 1:30pm-2:30pm (30min presentation)
Training includes:

- Resume Basics
- Cover Letter Basics
- What to include and not include
- Formatting
- How/when to update
- Professional wording

DROP INS WELCOME!
No appointment necessary

QUESTIONS?: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

SAFE FOOD HANDLING TRAINING

April 16th, 2026

Community Development
The Safe Food Handler Certification Program teaches food handlers the general principles of safe food handling. This certificate meets the mandatory Ontario food safety training requirements and is recognized by all health units in Ontario.

Space is limited to 10 people.
Register today!

at Portable-2 beside the Chippewa community center from 9:30am-3:30pm
Training includes:

- public health legislation
- food microbiology
- temperature control
- cross-contamination
- personal hygiene
- cleaning and sanitizing

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Zibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

RESUME WORKSHOP

**Community Development*
Employment & Training will
be offering a Resume and
Covering Letter workshop for
anyone who would like
assistance in updating or
creating their resume.*

DROP INS WELCOME!
*No appointment
necessary*

QUESTIONS?: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688

April 20th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the
Chippewa community center
from 1:30pm-2:30pm
(30min presentation)

Training includes:

- Resume Basics
- Cover Letter Basics
- What to include and not include
- Formatting
- How/when to update
- Professional wording



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Zibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

SMART SERVE TRAINING

**Community Development*
Smart Serve is Ontario's
mandated training for all
servers of alcohol beverages
in licensed establishments.
The course covers such topics
as the effects of alcohol,
responsible serving
techniques, legal issues, and
house policies.*

**Space is limited
to 10 people.
Register today!**

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTEN.COM OR 519-962-8688
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#

April 23rd, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the
Chippewa community center
from 9:00am-3:00pm

Training includes:

- Understanding the effects of alcohol
- Recognizing signs of intoxication
- Responsible alcohol service practices
- Knowledge of your legal responsibilities and liabilities as a server



Register Online Today!



Deshkan Zibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS TRAINING

****STUDENT ONLY TRAINING****

Build stronger, healthier connections through this engaging relationship skills training. Learn practical tools to improve communication, navigate conflict, and foster mutual respect in personal and professional relationships. This session is designed to be interactive, supportive, and immediately applicable to real-life situations.

***Space is limited
to 10 people.
Register today!***

April 25th, 2026

at Portable-2 beside the
Chippewa community center
from 10:00am-4:00pm

Training includes:

- Effective communication and active listening skills
- Setting and respecting healthy boundaries
- Conflict resolution strategies that strengthen relationships
- Building trust, empathy, and emotional awareness

HOW TO REGISTER: ETADMIN@COTTFN.COM OR 519-962-8688

****PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#****

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Senior Lawncare Program

*Employment & Training is proud to announce
that the Senior Lawncare program will run for
the grasscutting season of 2026*

APRIL - OCTOBER 2026

Sign-up Requirements

- MUST** show proof of age (60+)
- MUST** be a Chippewa Band Member
- MUST** reside on-reservation
- MUST** provide address
- MUST** reside on the property being registered

HOW TO REGISTER:

✉ ETAdmin@COTTFN.com

☎ 519-962-8688



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

Senior Lawncare Services Outline

REGISTRATION:

To register for the 2026 Senior Lawncare list, please call or email Employment & Training. You will be asked to provide the following; **Status card #, street address, and photo copy of front and back of status card.**

SERVICES:

The Senior Lawncare Crew are tasked **ONLY** with grasscutting/weedwacking for registered properties within COTTFN.

The Senior Lawncare Crew are **NOT** responsible to move any objects or debris from homeowners property.

RULES:

The Registreree **MUST** reside on the property being registered.

The homeowner **MUST** be registered with E&T prior to any work starting.

The homeowner **MUST** be 60+ in order to qualify for services.

The **HOMEOWNER** is responsible for ensuring the yard is clear of any objects/debris.

ALL pets **MUST** be tied up or brought into the home before any work can start.

For further information or to register please contact the Employment & Training Office

✉ ETAdmin@COTTFN.com ☎ 519-962-8688



CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES FIRST NATION

NOTICE

Big Bear Creek Trust - Unclaimed Per Capita Distribution

The Big Bear Creek Trust has come to the 10-year limit for unclaimed Per Capita Distribution (PCD) payments.

As per the Trust Agreement Section 13.12 of the Big Bear Creek Trust Agreement dated April 24, 2025:

“If for any reason a Member fails to come forward and collect their Per Capita Distribution for a period exceeding 10 years following the year in which they became a Qualifying Member, then the amount of that Member’s Per Capita Distribution shall be returned by Chippewas of the Thames First Nation to the Trust Property and that Member forever forfeits their right to their Per Capita Distribution.”

Big Bear Creek Trust currently has 2 Qualifying Members who have not collected their PCD payment. Those who became a **Qualifying Member in 2016** have until **December 31, 2027**, to collect their PCD payment or they forfeit their right to collect, and it will be returned to the Trust.

Please contact the Trust Administration Manager via email bigbearcreek@cottfn.com, 519-289-5555 ex. 222 or in person at the Administration Office Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. for an application.

Enclosed: Qualifying Members in 2016 who have not collected their Per Capita Distribution.

JENSON	DONALD RUPERT	1995
CROSBY	CHRISTOPHER EDWARD	1995



London **Arts** Council

**Artists in Practice Workshop Series
Now Accepting Applications**

Submission deadline: Friday, April 7, 2026, 4:30PM

Both the application process and program participation (if selected) are free of charge.

Artists in Practice Workshop Series is a targeted initiative designed to support **emerging and mid-career visual artists** in **London** and **surrounding First Nations communities**, including **Oneida Nation of the Thames, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation**, and **Munsee Delaware Nation**.

Funded by the **Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Seed Grant**, the program responds directly to feedback from local artists seeking accessible, culturally relevant opportunities to strengthen their artistic and professional practices.

About the Program

The Artists in Practice Workshop Series strengthens pathways to practical, specialized professional development through a combination of **skill-building workshops** and **additional learning opportunities**. Participants gain knowledge and tools to support **sustainable careers in the arts**.

The program is centred on **inclusivity, connectivity, and peer networking**, creating supportive learning environments where artists can build confidence, expand professional networks, and deepen their creative practices.

Participants will develop practical skills in:

- Creating professional CVs and portfolios
- Writing grants and funding applications
- Managing finances as an artist
- Social media and digital strategy
- Navigating artificial intelligence in artistic practice

Additional Learning Opportunities:

- Guided artist studio visits
- Museum tour
- Commercial gallery panel discussion

These experiences offer firsthand insight into professional creative processes, business strategies, and paid artistic opportunities across the visual arts sector.



London **Arts** Council



**Indigenous
London Arts**



LONDON
CITY OF MUSIC

267 Dundas Street | London ON | N6A 1H2
519.439.0013 | info@londonarts.ca
www.londonarts.ca



ANISHINAABEK FOOD RIGHTS ONLINE APPLICATIONS

A Message from the AFR Team

We have refreshed the look of our AFR application, but don't worry—it's still the same application, just with an updated design.

We have also renamed what was previously called the Food Hamper or Food Box[®] to the AFR Care Package.

We feel this better reflects the food and household supplies provided to individuals and families through the program.

Starting this upcoming month, we will also be testing **online application submissions**. Community members will be able to scan the QR code in the monthly *Mazinigan* to apply using their smartphone.

We hope this new option helps make the process easier and more convenient. As we test this feature, **community feedback is welcome!**



Scan the QR Code to Apply Now!



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Ontario Works

328 Chippewa Road
Muncey, ON, N0L 1Y0
Tel: 519-289-5621
Fax: 519-289-3013

Anishinaabek Food Rights (AFR) Program

The \$5.00 restocking fee will be due on the day of pick up.

ADDED EXTRA DAYS AND TIMES for April Pick-Up.

**Tuesday April 7th
Friday April 10th
Monday April 13th
Wednesday April 15th
Friday April 17th**

**Pick up times are from:
10:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm**

PLEASE NOTE

****** Seniors' delivery will be on April 2nd, 2026 ******

****Please make sure that you sign up with an AFR staff member ****

To contact the AFR department please call **519-289-5621 EXT. 251**

To contact Brittney Chrisjohn, please call her cell phone or text **226-378-4264** from Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm or you can reach her by email at afr@cottfn.com

You **must** register ahead of time to receive a food basket through the Anishinaabek Food Rights (AFR) program. If your application is not in before the pickup dates, you will not receive a food basket until the next pickup day. If you apply on a later pick up day, please be aware that all items may not be available.

For those that have registered and do not have a ride to pick up food basket please, call, email or text letting us know someone is picking up on your behalf and we can release your food basket.

**Must be a Chippewa band member and only one food hamper per household.
It is only one per household due to limited funding available.**

ANISHINAABEK FOOD RIGHTS APPLICATION (COTTFN)

PART 1: Eligibility Criteria

1. **\$5.00 re-stocking fee** payment is **required to pick up a food box**.
2. Last day of pick up posted will be the last day to pick up any food hampers.
3. Only **ONE food basket per household**, per month due to limited funding available.
4. This program **OPEN TO ALL CHIPPEWA MEMBERS** on & off the reserve, **regardless of income**.

PART 2: General Information

Date		Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Reserve <input type="checkbox"/> Off-Reserve
First Name			Last Name		
Address					
Phone #			Email		
Band #					

PART 3: Household Members & Income

List all Dependent adults and/or child(ren) living in your household.

#	Name	Age
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

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

- Ontario Works Disability-WSIB
 ODSP Old Age Security
 Employment Income
 Employment Insurance
 Student
 Other (Please Specify): _____

Reminder: This program is open to all Chippewa Members living on or off the reserve, regardless of income.

PART 4: Needs & Preferences (optional but helps us pack your box)

Hygiene & Personal Care Needs

- Feminine Products
 Toothbrush
 Toothpaste
 Deodorant

Adult Incontinence/Medical Needs

- Adult Diapers / Depends (Size: _____)

Dietary Restrictions/Allergies

List any allergies or restrictions:

Baby/Child Items (if applicable)

- Diaper Size: _____
 Pull-ups Size: _____

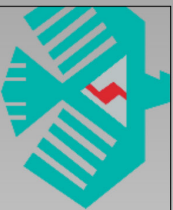
Please check up to 3 Items (as available):

- Wipes Baby Wash Baby Lotion
 Baby Cereal Baby Snacks
 Formula: _____

Office use only:

\$5.00 PAID (received by: _____)

Date of Pick Up: _____ (Confirmed by: _____)



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Gagige Gikinomaagoziwin
Board of Education



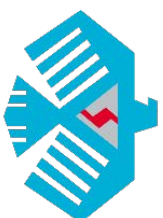
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE SESSIONS
APPLY FOR POST-SECONDARY FUNDING

APRIL 8, 2026
APRIL 23, 2026

2 PM to 6 PM

Deshkan Ziibling Post-Secondary Program

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
324 CHIPPEWA ROAD
519-289-0621
ddolson@chippewa-ed.on.ca



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Gagige Gikinomaagoziwin
Board of Education

POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM

The Chippewa Post-secondary program provides financial assistance to eligible students in pursuit of their post-secondary education based on the availability of funding in the budget.

Deadlines are:

Summer Enrollment – March 1

Fall Enrollment – May 1

Winter Enrollment – October 1

Post-Secondary Program On-Line application

Link to apply: <https://sfmspsc.ca/>

Ontario
College
Application
Centre
www.ocacs.ca

Ontario
University
Application
Centre
www.ouac.ca

BURSARY AND ASSISTANCE FUND

COTTN Board of Education Bursary Assistance Fund was established to help alleviate some of the financial stress post-secondary students may experience. Bursaries are non-repayable, grants issued to students who demonstrate financial need.

Deadlines are:
(Students can apply once per year)

April 1

August 1

November 14

Guidelines and application available at www.cottfn.com

For more information please contact:

Debbie Dolson

Post-Secondary Counsellor

Deshkan Ziibling Chippewas of the Thames

First Nation

Kinoomaagegamig Board of Education

324 Chippewa Road,

Muncey, ON, N0L 1Y0,

Cell: 519-282-1463

T: 519-289-0621 X 205

Email: ddolson@chippewa-ed.on.ca

Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin Language Program



Starting SEPTEMBER 2026

This program is for students interested in learning their language and culture immersed in a learning environment that is located in-community at the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN), southwest of London, Ontario. The program will also be offered online for students that are not located in the COTTFN community.

Two-Year Ontario College Diploma

Paswe'aatigook Anishinaabemowin
Language Program

- Courses related to sharing the language with others
- Pathway to further studies in complementary career
- Emphasis on experiential learning
- Delivered in a blended format
- One-year certificate option available

Apply on www.ontariocolleges.ca



PASWE'AATIGOOK

For more information,
please contact:

Bev Antone-Collar
Academic Advisor

T: 519-452-4430

E: bantone-collar@fanshawec.ca

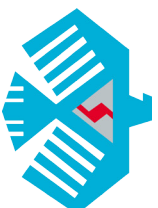
fanshawec.ca/pail





Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

320 Chippewa Road, Muncey Ontario N0L 1Y0 Tel: (519) 289-5555 Fax: (519) 289-2230



Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

320 Chippewa Road, Muncey Ontario N0L 1Y0 Tel: (519) 289-5555 Fax: (519) 289-2230

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation is accepting applications for the position of:

Archaeological Field Liaison

Department: Treaties, Lands and Environment

Reports to: TLE Director

Term: Casual – until December 2026

Closing Date: Applications accepted on rolling basis

Summary:

Archaeology is the study of human activity through the recovery and analysis of material culture. Archaeological Field Liaisons monitor and participate in archaeological assessments as representatives of COTTFN. AFLs help ensure that significant sites and artifacts are appropriately handled.

Duties and Responsibilities:

As part of a field crew, participate in Stage 2 to 4 archaeological investigations at Indigenous and post-contact sites in Southwestern, Ontario.

- Screen soil deposits
- Take accurate field notes
- Record archaeological field data
- Perform basic analysis of artifacts
- Communicate concerns to TLE staff
- Work effectively in the field as part of a team

Qualifications:

- Must be a COTTFN member.
- Possess a certificate in archaeological monitoring.
- Access to a reliable vehicle to get to sites throughout southwestern Ontario. Proof of valid driver's license and current insurance required.
- Physically able, with or without accommodation, to extensively perform bending, kneeling, standing, lifting, and carrying objects weighing up to 50 lbs.
- With or without accommodation, perform extensive manual labour including excavation with shovels and moving buckets, wheelbarrows filled with dirt.

- Must have a tolerance for working in outdoor environments (ie various weather conditions and temperatures), prolonged walking and standing on various terrains.
- Excellent work ethic and team-player attitude.
- Ability to follow instructions, including safety briefings.

Other Requirements:

- Some sites may require over-time hours and/or overnight stays.
- Must wear PPE as required for the site - steel toe boots, vests, pylon, safety glasses and gloves, etc.

We may offer training later in the year for those who do not have an archaeological monitoring certificate, but at this time we are only hiring individuals who have completed the training.

Interested COTTFN applicants, please submit a resume, three references, and copy of archaeological monitoring certificate to:

human.resources@cottfn.com

or

320 Chippewa Road, Muncey, ON N0L 1Y0

Please clearly mark “Archaeological Field Liaison”

NOTE: We thank all candidates for applying; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD LIAISON OPPORTUNITIES



APPLY ONLINE

JOB POSTING DETAILS TO COME
Contact Lauren Little for more info -
llittle@cottfn.com.

ON-SITE TRAINING MAY 11-15, 2026
HOSTED BY: CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES
TREATIES, LANDS, & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

01

OPPORTUNITY SUMMARY

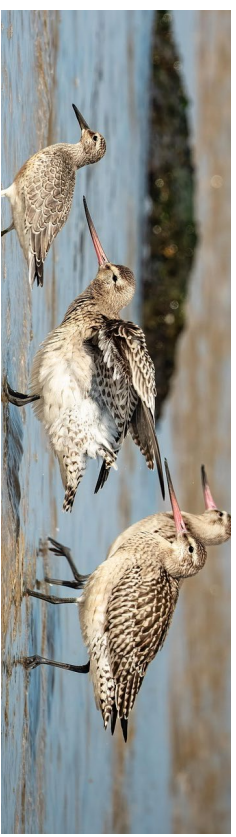


The Treaties, Lands, and Environment department is seeking interested band members to join our team of Environmental Field Liaisons (EFLs). Qualified candidates will complete a comprehensive training course to learn the necessary skills to become a true ambassador of Traditional and Treaty land. After training, EFLs will have access to year-round opportunities to work on site and gain in-field experience.

Environmental field work is critical to maintaining healthy ecosystems, strengthening biodiversity, and protecting traditional values of land stewardship. Your work as a field liaison will ensure companies are fulfilling their duty to consult and respecting the environment in which we live.

Applications go online soon - please watch for a COTTFFN job posting this month.

41



02

WHY APPLY?

- **BUILD YOUR RESUME** Learn valuable environmental surveying and compliance skills.
- **WORK OUTDOORS** Bond with nature and explore traditional territory.
- **MAKE MONEY** Earn a competitive wage and practical on-the-job experience.
- **STEWARD THE LAND** Improve the quality of the natural environment around you.

New Program: “Wii-webi-shki-bmijwang bmaadziwin maa miinwaa Waabshkiigogamiing”

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation's Department of Treaties, Lands and Environment (TLE) is launching a **new land and water restoration program**: “Wii-webi-shki-bmijwang bmaadziwin maa miinwaa Waabshkiigogamiing” (*Renewing the flow of life back into Lake Erie*).

Over three years this program will focus on reducing agricultural water pollution in Deshkan Ziibi (Thames River) and Lake Erie watershed using Nature-based Solutions.

What This Means

We're restoring lands and waters in ways that:

- * Reduce pollution at its source
- * Create jobs for Indigenous Guardians
- * Use Indigenous seeds, plants, and medicines
- * Support planting of fruit and nut trees

COTTFN members can access:

- * Financial support for restoration projects
- * Help with planning, planting, and maintenance
- * Indigenous plants, seeds, and trees

Certificate of Possession holders can also access:

- * Full support to restore natural areas on their land
- * Incentives for sustainable farming practices (like cover crops to reduce runoff)

Get Involved

Interested in restoring your land or learning more?

waab@cottfn.com

519-289-5555 ext. 233



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

AKI DEBWEWIN PROJECT



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

SAVE THE DATE

INTEGRAL ECOLOGY GROUP (IEG) WILL BE PRESENTING THE FINDINGS OF MAPPING CUMULATIVE IMPACTS IN COTTFN TERRITORY AND NEED YOUR FEEDBACK! OPEN TO ALL COTTFN BAND MEMEBERS

APRIL 13, 2026 (5-730PM)

DINNER SERVED AT 5PM

ANTLER RIVER SENIORS COMPLEX
20723 MUNCEY ROAD

**VIRTUAL OPTION:
PLEASE EMAIL FOR ZOOM LINK**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO:
CONSULTATION@COTTFN.COM



COTTFN Roads Dept.

2026 Spring Cleanup



Spring Cleanup Map Legend:

- Colborne - April 7th - 9th ● - Start Point ■ - End Point
- Regular Garbage Pickup - April 8th 🗑️
- Townline - April 10th - 13th ● - Start Point ■ - End Point
- Back Settlement - April 14th - 16th ● - Start Point ■ - End Point
- Regular Garbage Pickup - April 15th 🗑️

Please NO - tires, batteries, paint cans, furniture, electronics, and building materials. Most appliances will be picked up.



bdyer@cottfn.com



519-289-5555 ext. 241

SAVE ON ENERGY™

POWER WHAT'S NEXT

Energy Affordability Program

FREE HOME UPGRADES



LET US HELP YOU SAVE ON YOUR ENERGY BILLS

- FREE insulation upgrades
- FREE replacement appliances
- FREE cold climate air source heat pumps

"With the free upgrades from this program, I am seeing improvements in my energy bills and home comfort."

Linda Daybutch, Missisquoi First Nation

ieso
Powering Today
Powering Tomorrow

SAVE ON ENERGY
POWER REWARDS 2023



The Energy Affordability Program is here to help you stay comfortable and save on energy year round. Replace old, inefficient appliances, upgrade insulation, eliminate drafts and air leaks—all at no cost.



Home Improvements Professionally Installed NO COST TO YOU



Homes located on reserves are eligible for:

- Energy-efficient refrigerators and freezers
- Energy-efficient window air conditioners
- ENERGY STAR® certified LED light bulbs

You may also be eligible* for:

- Cold climate air source heat pumps
- New attic, wall and basement insulation
- Smart thermostats
- Draft-proofing around doors and windows

*Upgrades available for homes heated by electricity or oil.



STILL HEATING WITH OIL?



You qualify for a **free heat pump** from Save on Energy, with funding support from Natural Resources Canada through its Oil to Heat Pump Affordability Program.

 A heat pump is an energy-efficient system that both heats and cools.

Goodbye

- High heating bills and costly oil
- Inconvenient oil deliveries
- Potential leaks with costly clean-ups
- Oil fumes, soot and poor air quality

Hello

- Up to 50% lower heating costs
- Efficient heating and cooling in one system
- Modern, low-maintenance technology
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions

REDUCE ENERGY COSTS AND BOOST COMFORT YEAR ROUND



YOUR HOME AND BUDGET WILL BENEFIT

-  Enhanced comfort in every season
-  Lasting energy savings
-  A happier, healthier home

WERE YOU UNABLE TO ATTEND THE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE ENERGY AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM? HERE ARE THE PROGRAM DETAILS AND APPLICATION ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO APPLY!

Enbridge Gas Home Winterproofing Program, IESO Energy Affordability & Oil to Heat Pump Program

Application Form - Chippewas of the Thames First Nation ON-RESERVE

First and Last Name	
Address	
Phone Number	
Email	

1. Best time to reach you by phone?

Morning Afternoon Evening

2. Primary Heating Source (Gas, Electric, Propane, Oil, Wood):

Natural Gas Electric Propane Oil Wood

3. What kind of heating system do you have?

Baseboard heating Furnace Oil Furnace Gas fireplace Boiler Electric fireplace Other

4. Are you listed as the primary or secondary account holder on the home's gas and/or electric bills?

Please Note: You must be the electricity account holder to qualify for EAP and the gas account holder to qualify for HWP.

Gas only Electric only Both

5. Who is your natural gas provider? Enbridge Other I do not have natural gas in my home

• [Enbridge Customers Only] - Provide account number

6. Total Number of Occupants living in the Home:

7. What is the total Household Income for anyone over the age of 18 on your Notice of Assessment Line 26000

Taxable Income"

8. Please check Box if anyone in the home is part of the below listed Government Programs?

Allowance for Survivors Allowance for Seniors Guaranteed Income Supplement

Ontario Works Ontario Disability Support Program Healthy Smiles Ontario

Received LEAP within 12 months Received OESP within last 12 months

9. Does your water heater use one of the following?

Electricity Gas Oil Other

8. What decade was your home built in?

- 1930's or earlier 1940's 1950's 1960's 1970's 1980's 1990's 2000 and newer

9. Which of the following appliances are present in your home (Fridge, Freezer, Dehumidifier, Window A/C Unit)?

Fridge			Freezer			Dehumidifer			Window A/C		
Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age

10. What type of thermostat do you have?

- Manual Programmable Smart

11. Do you Own or Rent the home?

- Own Rent

12. If you Rent, please provide your Landlord/Band Council Information as we require Landlord approval before scheduling an appointment

Landlord/Band Council Name	
Landlord/Band Council Phone Number	
Landlord/Band Council Email	

- IMPORTANT -

You must have your:

- **ENBRIDGE GAS AND ELECTRICITY BILL** present during your free energy audit – **if applicable our team will advise**

Return the completed application to:

Email:

We look forward to hearing from you as we hope to help you reduce your energy bills, make your home more comfortable and reduce your carbon footprint!

The Home Inspectors Group Team – proud & exclusive Delivery Agent for the Home Winterproofing Program and the Energy Affordability Program.

Enbridge Gas Home Winterproofing Program, IESO Energy Affordability & Oil to Heat Pump Program

Application Form – Chippewas of the Thames First Nation OFF-RESERVE

First and Last Name	
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Natural Gas Electric Propane Oil Wood

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Baseboard heating Furnace Oil Furnace Gas fireplace Boiler Electric fireplace Other

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Allowance for Survivors Allowance for Seniors Guaranteed Income Supplement

Ontario Works Ontario Disability Support Program Healthy Smiles Ontario

Received LEAP within 12 months Received OESP within last 12 months

9. Does your water heater use one of the following?

Electricity Gas Oil Other

10. Have you participated in any Home Improvement programs in the past 10 years? If so, what year and what was completed? Yes No

If yes, provide the following:	
Which year did you participate (if applicable)	
What was the program name (if applicable)	
Which upgrades were completed (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Attic <input type="checkbox"/> Windows/Doors <input type="checkbox"/> Wall Insulation <input type="checkbox"/> Basement Insulation <input type="checkbox"/> Furnace <input type="checkbox"/> A/C <input type="checkbox"/> Draft-proofing <input type="checkbox"/> Water Heater

11. What decade was your home built in?

1930's or earlier 1940's 1950's 1960's 1970's 1980's 1990's 2000 and newer

12. Which of the following appliances are present in your home (Fridge, Freezer, Dehumidifier, Window A/C Unit)?

Fridge			Freezer			Dehumidifer			Window A/C		
Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age	Present Y/N	# of Units	Age

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15. If you Rent, please provide your Landlord/Band Council Information as we require Landlord approval before scheduling an appointment

Landlord/Band Council Name	
Landlord/Band Council Phone Number	
Landlord/Band Council Email	



- IMPORTANT -

You must have your:

- ENBRIDGE GAS AND ELECTRICITY BILL present during your free energy audit – **if applicable our team will**
- **advise**
NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT for anyone over the age of 18 OR proof of GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM present during your free energy audit.

Return the completed application to:

Email:	socialhousing@thigroup.ca
--------	---------------------------

We look forward to hearing from you as we hope to help you reduce your energy bills, make your home more comfortable and reduce your carbon footprint!

The Home Inspectors Group Team – proud & exclusive Delivery Agent for the Home Winterproofing Program and the Energy Affordability Program.



COTTEN EMPLOYEE CONTACT LIST

Title	Name	Telephone/Fax	Email
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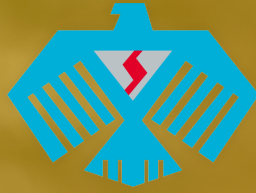
Title	Name	Telephone/Fax	Email
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Indigenous Guardian	Taylor Deleary		taylordeleary@cottfn.com
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Oshki-Bimadziwin Lead Coordinator	Sydney Kechego		skechego@cottfn.com
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Youth Mental Health Counsellor	Douglas Smallboy	233	dsmallboy@cottfn.com
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Youth Mental Health Counsellor	Justine Doxtator		justinedoxtator@cottfn.com
Harm Reduction Supervisor	Kyle Christiansen	229	kchristsiansen@cottfn.com
Cultural Outreach Harm Reduction Worker	Edmund Milian	230	Emilian@cottfn.com

Employee information may change as our organization continues to grow and evolve. We appreciate your understanding.

COTTEN EMPLOYEE CONTACT LIST

Title	Name	Telephone /Fax	Email	Title	Name	Telephone /Fax	Email
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Crisis Response Worker	Jennifer Riley	260	jennifer.riley@cottfn.com	Director of E & Training	Kim Smith	519-962-8688	ksmith@cottfn.com
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Community Relations Office Support Worker		(p) 519-289-5621 (f) 519-289-2704	tracy@cottfn.com	Transportation Coordinator	Amy Henry	226-386-6545	trnsportation@cottfn.com
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AFR	Avery Deleary	226-378-4264	avery.deleary@cottfn.com	Assistant Director	Cheri Fisher	229	cheri.fisher@cottfn.com
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Administrative Assistant	Kristen Hendrick	224 (c) 519-281-6284	khendrick@cottfn.com	Assistant Director	Amy Deleary	c-226-374-4496	amishra@cwkw@cottfn.com
OW Admin Financial Assistant	Daniel A. Albert		dalbert@cottfn.com	Office Assistant	Daphne Kehego	200	Ed.admin@chlpdewa-ed.on.ca
Band Representative	Jasmine Albert	519-289-1551	jalbum@cottfn.com	Director of Lifelong Learning	Steve Syers	203	ssyers@chlpdewa-ed.on.ca
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Band Representative	Sheri Haselbah	519-878-0532		Post Secondary Counsellor	Debbie Dolson-Young	205	ddolson@chlpdewa-ed.on.ca
Band Representative		519-878-0269		School Secretary	Carly Kehego	519-289-1000	ckehego@cottfn.ca
Post Majority Support Services Coordinator	Angie Henry	519-878-1002	ahenry@cottfn.com	Principal	Kim Vandersluis	100	kvandersluis@cottfn.ca
Family Well-being Worker	Theresa Burch	519-878-0472	tburch@cottfn.com	Roads Supervisor	Doug Tribe	519-264-1720	dtribe@cottfn.com
CYWB	David Andrews		dandrews@cottfn.com	Roads Worker	Chris Hendrick	519-872-1882	chrishendrick@cottfn.com
CYWB	Greg Hartford		ghartford@cottfn.com	Roads Worker	Tim Burch		timburch@cottfn.com
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Child + Family Well-being Worker	Michelle French		mifrench@cottfn.com	Heavy Equipment Op	Jamie Dockstater		
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Community Prevention Worker	Cythia Tribe	519-878-0165	ctribe@cottfn.com	Wastewater Operator	Rawleigh Grosbeck	519-289-0249	rhg@cottfn.com
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Youth Prevention Worker	Wyatt Kehego	519-878-0721	wyatt@cottfn.com				

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Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation

To submit a community posting please send it to newsletter@cottfn.com or drop off at the band office front desk.

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

Sucker Moon Prayer

I offer my tobacco and humble myself to you at the time, when Nookomis leaves you with the gifts of the blood of creation. I do this in the way that the Creator has instructed. Nookomis I ask that I may cleanse my body, mind and spirit, with the spirits of the water, so that I too can receive the gifts of purification and understanding of the Sucker Moon. I ask this so that when I come to the water's edge they will know me as I am in my heart. Until the next time we meet, Sucker Moon Miigwetch.

