

MAZINIGAN

June 2026



Ode'min Giizis: Strawberry Moon

Ode'min Giizis, the Strawberry Moon, is the sixth moon of creation, rising with the longest day of the year. Its root, ode, means heart in the Anishinaabe language – and from that heart-shaped berry comes a teaching: sweetness, forgiveness, and peace among our people. Known too as the Heart Berry Moon, ode'min is a medicine that balances the blood and gathers us together in love.

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Save the Date: June 19 - Community Celebration

**Loose dogs are putting our workers at risk.
Please keep yours secured.**



Garbage crews work every Wednesday from 8am to 3pm, and fibre internet teams are installing cable across COTTN. Loose dogs have interrupted both, and some workers have been bitten. Please keep your dogs secured at all times so our workers can do their work safely. Miigwech for your consideration.

OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation offices will be closed:



Monday, June 22 – National Indigenous Peoples Day
Wednesday, July 1 – Canada Day

Regular hours resume the following business day. Miigwech.

Help us reach
more citizens.



We launched new email newsletters in May 2026 so everyone can stay informed with regular updates, no matter where home is.

SIGNED UP SO FAR

275 of **2,600** citizens ages 16+



TO YOUR INBOX

- Digital *Mazinigan*
- Weekly program reminders
- Monthly Chief and Council News
- Special Reports

We heard you when you said that you want to see more consistent and reliable communication, outside of Facebook. This is one of the ways we are working on that.



Scan to subscribe
or call Jaclyn
519-289-5555

June Activity & Event Master Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 3 EVENTS Men's Drop-In Series AFR Program Pick-up Community Family Language Nights	2 Math Tutoring	3 Chippewa Golf League	4 ODSP Caseworker Visit	5 Children's Pow Wow AFR Program Pick-up	6 Resume Workshop Thunderbird Trust AGM
7	8 3 EVENTS AFR Program Pick-up Resume Workshop Community Family Language Nights	9 3 EVENTS Math Tutoring Applications Workshop Regular Council Meeting	10 AFR Program Pick-up Chippewa Golf League	11	12 AFR Program Pick-up	13
14	15 4 EVENTS Men's Drop-In Series Stained-glass Workshop Resume Workshop Community Family Language Nights	16 3 EVENTS Math Tutoring Applications Workshop ODSP Caseworker Visit	17 Chippewa Golf League	18	19 Community Celebration	20 Golf Tournament Yard & Food Sale Fundraiser
21 Mzawe Anishnaabe Gizhigad National Indigenous Peoples Day	22 Office Closure: National Indigenous Peoples Day	23 Math Tutoring Regular Council Meeting	24 Chippewa Golf League	25	26 Let's Talk Law	27
28	29 Community Family Language Nights	30	1 Office Closure: Canada Day	2	3	4

For EarlyON programming, refer to page 21

For Seniors programming, refer to page 25

OGIMAAKAAN Aaniish enkamgak?

June 2026 Chief and Council, What's happening?



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

- **Tues, June 9, 1PM**
Regular Council Meeting
- **Tues, June 23, 5PM**
Regular Council Meeting
Everyone is welcome to attend these in-person meetings

SAVE THE DATES

- **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

STAFF APPRECIATION

Chief and Council want to recognize the outstanding work of staff following a significant storm event in late May. Teams across Public Works, Housing, and Treaty, Lands & Environment acted quickly to inspect community infrastructure, clear roadways, address damage, and keep essential services running.

Thank you to everyone who responded. Your hard work and commitment to this community does not go unnoticed.

Our Nation Is Building Economic Sovereignty Through Infrastructure Ownership

What happened

Chippewas of the Thames, together with our Waawayatanong Treaty Partners (Aamjiwnaang, Walpole Island, Caldwell, Kettle & Stony Point), became 50% owners of the Chatham to Lakeshore Transmission Line through a formal partnership with Hydro One. This is the first of several regional infrastructure projects where our Nation will exercise equity ownership and build long-term economic sovereignty within our Treaty Territory.



From left to right: Chief Joe Miskokomon, Chief Kimberly Bressette, Chief Nikki van Oirschot, and Chief Janelle Nahmabin break ground for the St. Clair Transmission Line in September 2025, along with Minister of Energy and Mines Stephen Lecce, Hydro One Chief Operating Officer Megan Telford, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton Bob Bailey, Mayor of St. Clair Township Jeff Agar, and Hydro One Executive Vice President (Capital Portfolio Delivery) Ryan Docherty. (Photo courtesy of Hydro One)

What is equity partnership?

Equity partnership means our Nation is not just being consulted on infrastructure in our territory. We are becoming part owners of it. As an owner, we receive regular dividend payments - reliable income that continues for the full life of the line (50+ years). This creates long-term revenue streams that remain under Nation direction and can support future generations independent of changing government priorities.

Our Nation did not need to use existing community funds upfront. Financing is available, and the revenue generated by the investment more than covers repayment, with strong returns left over. The Ontario Energy Board regulates the project, making this a stable, low-risk investment.

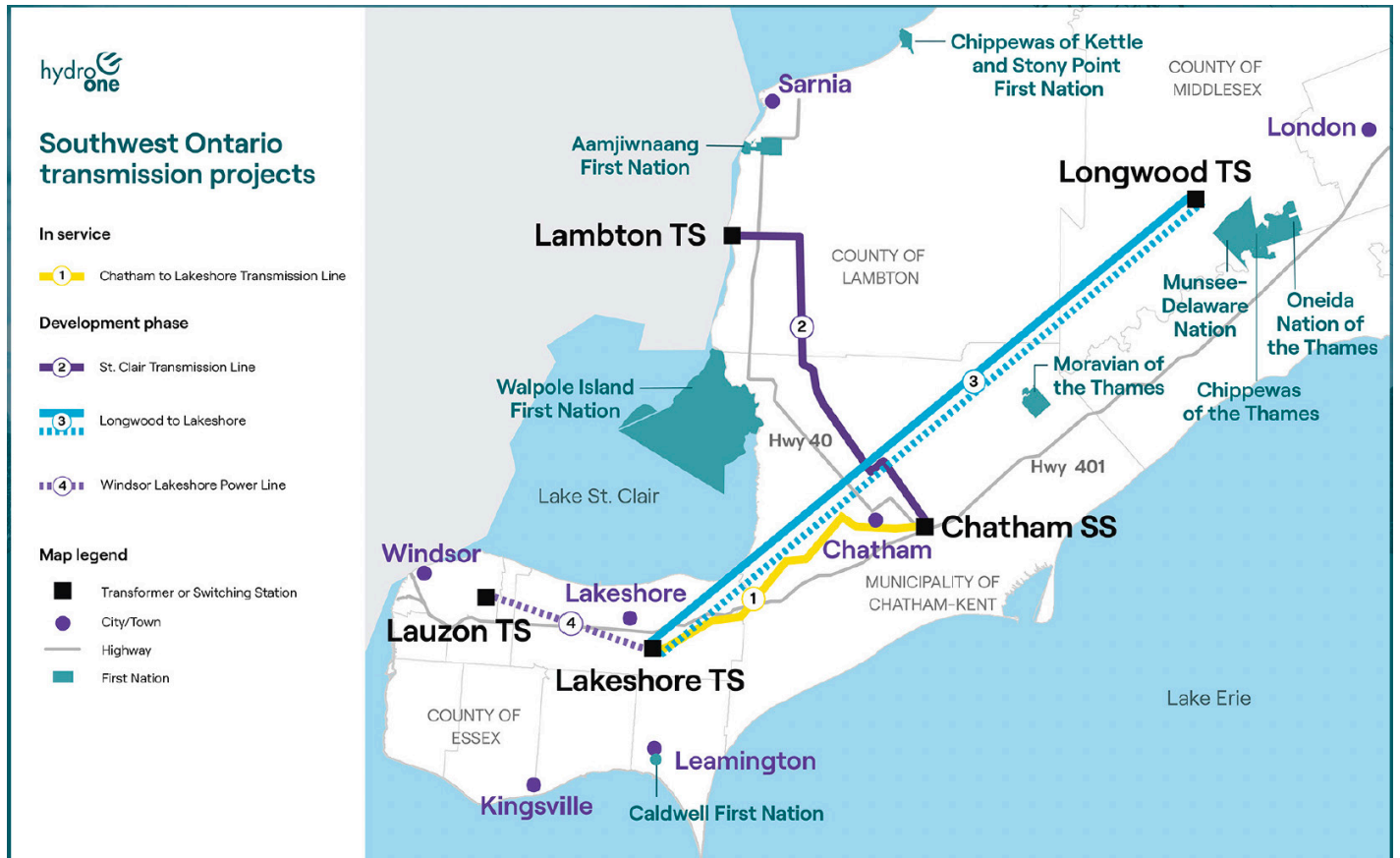
By the Numbers

- \$8 million: Investment per Nation
- \$0: Upfront Cost to Nation (via financing)
- \$20–25 million: Estimated Return per Nation (over approximately 50 years, based on consumer demand)

What's Coming Next

The Waawayatanong Treaty Council and Hydro One are working on three more projects in our Treaty Territory:

- **St. Clair Transmission Line**
 - Under construction
 - In service by Dec 2027
- **Longwood to Lakeshore** (Lines 1 & 2)
 - First line in service by 2030
- **Windsor Lakeshore Power Line**
 - In service by 2032



These transmission lines are part of a broader long-term strategy to build Nation-owned infrastructure, regional partnerships, and create economic independence. They also support job creation projects and the establishment of an on-reserve Trade School.

Revenue generated from these projects will help strengthen Nation building by reinvesting in programs, services, infrastructure, land recovery, youth opportunities, and long-term planning for future generations.

Questions?

Reach out to Kodi Deleary, Stakeholder Relations
kodi.deleary@cottfn.com

Note: This is a synopsis of a larger 4-page newsletter, created in partnership with Hydro One. That full document can be found under the "Regional Economic Development" section here: <https://bit.ly/Ogimaakaan>

Understanding The Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Audit Report

Fiscal Year 2025 Audit: A brief background guide for citizens
by Barb Dejonckheere, CPA, HB.Comm - Comptroller

What is an audit, and why does it matter?

Every year, an independent accounting firm reviews the Nation's financial records and provides an opinion, on the Nation's Consolidated Financial Statements. An audit report provides information on the financial health of the Nation, which includes a variety of audit testing methods to validate and assess the financial balances reported by Leadership.

An audit is one of the most important tools citizens have for understanding how public resources are being managed. It is an external check conducted by independent financial professionals who are guided by professional regulations and principles to ensure integrity and transparency of their report, and do not have any stake in the outcome. To reinforce this independence, the Nation selects its auditor through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process that is renewed every five years.

What records were audited?

Our Nation's audit process includes assessing all financial activity directly related to our funding agreements that provide financial resources to the Nation, and it validates the spending of those resources on our programs and services, administrative support and overhead as well as strategic development, investments and capital expenditures. The Auditor also relies on the audit reports of the Nation's other financial entities, such as our Thunderbird Trust, Big Bear Creek Trust, and our Chippewa Development Corporation.

What are the types of audit opinions that an auditor can issue in an audit?

In Canada, auditors can issue one of four types of opinions based on what they find. The most favourable is an unqualified opinion, which means the financial statements present a fair picture in all respects. A qualified opinion is issued when the auditor finds one or more specific issues that affect part of the statements, but the rest of the financial picture is fairly presented — the auditor explains the reasons for the qualification. An adverse opinion is issued when the issues are so widespread that the statements as a whole do not fairly represent the Nation's financial position. A disclaimer of opinion is issued when the auditor cannot gather enough evidence to form an opinion at all — for example, because of incomplete records.

An audit opinion is not only important to our Nation, but it is important for our Nation as a significantly unfavourable opinion would signal to funders and other investors that our Nation is not financially worthy to fund or conduct business with and in all likelihood the Federal Government would interject and take control of our Nation's finances.

What our Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit reports

The Nation's fiscal year 2024-2025 financial audit was conducted by MacNeil Edmundson Professional Corporation and covers the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2025. A "qualified" opinion was issued due to the fact that the balances of our previous Chippewa Development Corporation could not be validated (assessed) as of March 31, 2025 and therefore could not present, fairly, what the current year balances should be. This opinion has not changed year-over-year due to the same issue with the previous Chippewa Development Corporation financial reporting matters. This phrase sounds concerning, so it is important to explain what it means — and what it does not mean.

What is a "qualified opinion"?

A qualified opinion means the financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects — except for one specific issue. It is not a finding of fraud or mismanagement. It is a disclosure gap. In this case, the previous Chippewa Development Corporation, which is wholly owned by the Nation, did not have its financial statements available in time to be included. Until those numbers are available to assess fairly, the Nation's audit cannot be fully unqualified. This has been the case since the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

For all other areas of the Nation's finances, the auditors found the statements present fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian Public Sector accounting standards.

The numbers at a glance

The table below summarizes key figures from the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2025.

	FY 2025 (\$)	FY 2024 (\$)	What this means
Cash on hand	23,312,421	14,014,549	Strong cash position, up \$9.3M year over year
Total financial assets	34,220,112	23,840,667	Includes investments, trust funds, receivables
Total liabilities	37,918,211	22,201,267	Includes debt taken on for capital projects
Net financial position	(3,698,099)	1,639,400	See explanation below
Capital assets (net)	48,022,844	45,531,434	Land, buildings, roads, water systems
Accumulated surplus	44,851,960	47,776,040	Total community wealth position

Source: Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2025 · MacNeill Edmundson Professional Corporation
Full audit online at cottfn.com/departments/administration.

What does the net debt position mean?

The Nation's financial assets (\$34.2M) are currently lower than its liabilities (\$37.9M) — a net debt of \$3.7M. This is a shift from the prior year's surplus position of \$1.6M.

This is primarily the result of debt taken on to fund our Land-back strategy under our Big Bear Creek Trust agreement to purchase land located within the 1834 Claim Area as part of our community development. It is also a result of making equity investments necessary to provide future prosperity and wealth generation for our Nation. When physical infrastructure

and community-owned assets are included, the Nation holds more than \$72 million in short-term and long-term community assets.

The increase in liabilities should be understood in context, not in isolation. Like a mortgage used to build a home, some debt is connected to building long-term assets that will serve the Nation for decades.

What is growing

- **Cash on hand:** Cash nearly doubled — from \$14.0M to \$23.3M because of financing received ahead of the investments made in FY 2025-2026.
- **Capital assets:** The Nation's net Assets value increased in value year over year due to the purchase of farmland (land) during the year.
- **Investments:** Portfolio investments grew from \$2.07M to \$2.29M
- **Own-source Revenue:** Revenue generated outside of government funding increased to \$4.13M from \$3.41M

Connection to Council's work

The financial statements reflect the structural investments Council described in the Spring 2026 Update. The increase in capital spending is tied directly to the Capital Projects & Infrastructure portfolio, the Land Back initiative, and the Prosperity Development work underway.

83% of the Nation's revenue currently comes from government funding — a dependency Council is actively working to reduce. The financial statements show the early stages of that shift.

Where to learn more

The full audited financial statements will be published in the Annual Report and they are posted online at cottfn.com/departments/administration.

Citizens are welcome to review them, ask questions or contact the Finance Audit portfolio mandate Councillors directly: Councillor Warren Huff (warren@cottfn.com) or Councillor Norma Albert (Councillor.nalbert@cottfn.com).

The audited statements will also be reviewed at the Annual General Meeting in September (date TBD).

NOW HIRING · FOUNDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Seven generations start with this one.

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation is recruiting the inaugural Board of Directors for the Deshkan Ziibiing Investment Corporation (DZIC).

DZIC invests for the prosperity of Deshkan Ziibiing — guided by our *Chi-innakonigewin*, our *Wiindmaagewin*, and the principle of *Mino Bimaadiziwin*. This is a founding board. The decisions made here will outlast us.

We're looking for 5–7 directors, with at least **40 % COTTFN members**. Elders, youth, and entrepreneurs from our community are especially encouraged to apply.

AT A GLANCE

COMMITMENT	50–70 hours / year	HONORARIUM	Yes Tied to DZIC performance
TERM	2–4 years Staggered, renewable	INTERVIEWS	Week of July 6–10
LOCATION	Virtual From anywhere in Canada	TERM BEGINS	August 15, 2026
CLOSES	June 28, 2026 — 11:59 PM EST		

How to apply

Read the full posting, then submit your application with résumé and cover letter.



STEP 1 · READ THE POSTING

Full job posting

<https://shorturl.at/6loVa>



STEP 2 · APPLY

Application form

<https://shorturl.at/tRk16>

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

Vendor application form on page 36 & 37



Deshkan Ziibiing

Chippewas of the Thames

First Nation

ANISHINAABE/AADZIWIN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- ✔ SET UP & SIGNS
- ✔ REGISTRATION HELPERS
- ✔ ELDER SUPPORT
- ✔ COMMUNITY CENTRE MONITOR
- ✔ FEAST SERVERS
- ✔ GATE ATTENDANTS

We are looking for
volunteers to help at
COTTEN'S 49TH Annual
Competition Pow Wow

For more information or
to volunteer contact:

pday@cottfn.com

keriley@cottfn.com

Vendor application form on page 38





Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training



2026

JULY 6TH – AUGUST 28TH
**SUMMER STUDENT
EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM**

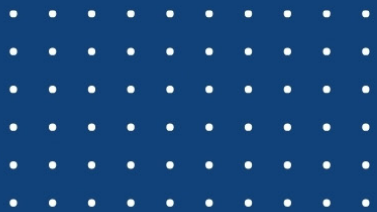
ELIGIBILITY

**SUMMER STUDENT
JOB POSTINGS**

- **Membership** – Membership Assistant (1 position)
- **Early Years** – JK/SK Anishnabemowin Summer Camp (2 positions)
- **Youth Centre** – Day Camp Counsellors (6 positions)
- **Community Development** – Youth Leaders (4 positions), Youth Learners (6 positions)

- **MUST** be a Chippewa Band
- **MUST** have a valid status card
- **MUST** have a valid SIN#
- **MUST** be 15 years of age at the start of the program
- **MUST** provide proof of fulltime fall 2026 enrollment
- **MUST** submit a resume and cover letter w/ 3 work or character references
- **MUST** submit up to 3 certifications to increase chances of securing a job

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT
JUNE 19TH @ 4PM**



Email

etadmin@cottfn.com



Phone#

519-962-8688



To view job descriptions & apply for the summer student positions, please visit: www.cottfn.com/jobs



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

RESUME WORKSHOPS

Employment & Training will be offering Resume and Cover Letter workshops for anyone who would like assistance in updating or creating their resume.

DROP INS WELCOME!
No appointment necessary

June 6, 8, & 15, 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

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



Deshkan Ziibling
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Employment
and Training

E&T APPLICATIONS WORKSHOPS

Interested in applying for funding through E&T but don't know where to start or how/what is required to complete an application? Join E&T for a new workshop series where each month we will take a focused look at the requirements and timelines of the various funding programs E&T has to offer.

DROP INS WELCOME!
No appointment necessary

June 9 & 16, 2026

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

Training includes:

- This session will focus on the Skills Training Application.
- Application requirements
 - Funding requirements
 - What can and cannot be funded
 - How to fill out the application
 - Application review and approval timelines

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



June, 2026

Office Hours

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 4:30pm (Closed from 12:00-1:00pm for lunch)

ODSP Information

Sherry Steuer, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Caseworker will be here in the office on the following dates;

- **June 4th from 8:30am-4:30pm (Heather Wood will be filling in for Sherry Steuer on this day)**
- **June 16th from 11:30am to 4:30pm**

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

TSF

Ontario Works has a Transitional Support Fund (TSF) to help with emergency housing repairs (applicant must own the home and be residing in the home. (Homes under an estate are not eligible for home repairs), appliance repairs, moving costs, rent, arrears (up to 12 months), heating and/or hydro costs. For more information on TSF please contact the Ontario Works department to speak with one of the staff members.

OESP

Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) may provide a credit if you are a customer of Hydro One Networks and each household member over the age of 18 years old have filed Income Taxes for the current year. For more information on the OESP credit please visit the website at ontarioelectricitysupport.ca. If you have any questions, you can contact the Ontario Works department and speak with one of the staff members.

Propane Company's

Please make sure to check your propane tank and place an order for propane when your tank is at 30%. Propane companies are taking anywhere from 5-7 business days to deliver propane and will not make any expectations for delivery.

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

- Office Closed June 22nd for National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Jana Kehego – Vacation June 15th & 16th
- Kristen Hendrick – Vacation June 5th, 19th, 26th, and on the 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th from 3:00-4:30pm
- Liz Grosbeck – Vacation June 19th

TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT FUND (TSF)

**AVAILABLE TO LOW INCOME ON-RESERVE COTTEN
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

Eligible Expenses Under TSF

- rent deposits;
- fuel and hydro deposits;
- prevent the discontinuance and/or assist with the reconnection of utilities or heating
- establishing a new principal residence;
- arrears relating to shelter costs;
- relating to utility costs; and/or,
- items or costs necessary to maintain the safety or well-being of a person in the household
- TSF may not be used to build new structures or conduct major renovations on existing structures.

The Transitional Support Program is intended to provide low-income individuals and families who normally reside within the First Nation with supports to secure, retain and/or maintain a home in a safe and healthy condition.

Please note that the funding is a limited and is contingent on funds available.

For more information and to complete the required application, please contact the Ontario Works Department to speak with a staff member to assist you.

519-289-5621

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

NOW ACCEPTING

REFERRALS & NEW CLIENTS

Our Specialized Services Department is currently accepting referrals and new clients for therapeutic services.

Our team includes both an Adult Therapist and Child Therapist who provide supportive, culturally safe, and trauma-informed services to individuals and families.



Teresa Benincasa
ADULT THERAPIST
 Chippewas of the Thames
 Child, Youth & Family Well-Being Services



Makayla Cassell
CHILD THERAPIST
 Chippewas of the Thames
 Child, Youth & Family Well-Being Services

SERVICES MAY INCLUDE:



Emotional wellness support



Coping strategies



Mental health support



Family support



Therapeutic interventions

TO CONNECT WITH OUR THERAPISTS, PLEASE CONTACT:



For parents & caregivers:
 We're here to listen, support, and connect with you and your family. ❤️

Teresa Benincasa

✉️ tbenincasa@cottfn.com

☎️ 519-878-3052

Makayla Cassell

✉️ mcassell@cottfn.com

☎️ 519-878-1352



Deshkan Ziibiing
 Chippewas of the Thames
 First Nation Child, Youth
 & Family Well-Being Services

You don't have to navigate things alone.
 We're here for you.



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



Thank You

TO OUR

MOTHER'S DAY

Sponsors!

Your generosity and support help make our community stronger.

Miwetch for helping make this day so special!

- ♥ Andy's Pizza Mount Brydges
- ♥ Duke Restaurant Strathroy
- ♥ Elegance school London
- ♥ Food Basic's Strathroy
- ♥ Forest of Flower's Strathroy
- ♥ Giant Tiger Strathroy
- ♥ Home Hardware Strathroy
- ♥ Kathy's Kitchen Strathroy
- ♥ No Frill's Kilworth
- ♥ Parkway Garden Centre London
- ♥ Pharmasave Chippewa
- ♥ R.D. Bus Lines Oneida
- ♥ Roy's Family Restaurant Strathroy
- ♥ Slamz pizza Strathroy
- ♥ Anishinaabemowin Department
- ♥ Bridget Jewell
- ♥ Justice Department
- ♥ Ontario Works
- ♥ Felicia Huff

EVENT HOSTED BY:



Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation

Thank you!





COMMUNITY INVITATION
CLASS OF 2026
GRADUATION

RESCHEDULED
Friday, June 12

DESHKAN ZIIBIING
CHIPPEWA COMMUNITY CENTER

AANIIN, AAMBE, COME OUT AND CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY'S LANGUAGE JOURNEY AND THE CLASS OF 2026 PASWE'AATIGOOK IMMERSION CLASS GRADUATION. CEREMONY BEGINS AT 6PM, KARAOKE & CELEBRATIONS 7PM-10PM

MYTHS VS. FACTS

ABOUT JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

Jordan's Principle is only for children living on reserve.



Jordan's Principle supports First Nations children living both on and off reserve.

My child needs a medical diagnosis to qualify.



A diagnosis is not required. Support is based on individual needs.

Applications are approved or denied by First Nations Jordan's Principle staff.



Indigenous Services Canada reviews applications on a case-by-case basis and makes the final decisions.

Only guardians can submit an application.



Jordan's Principle requests can be submitted by a guardian, youth aged 16 or 17, or an authorized representative.

For more information on Jordan's Principle, please contact:



322 Chippewa Road,
Muncey ON NOL 1Y0



519-289-5641



bethyoung@cottfn.com & khopkins@cottfn.com



Niizhwaaso giizhgad	Ntam giizhgad	Niizo giizhgad	Niizho giizhgad	Niivo giizhgad	Naano giizhgad	Ngodwaaso giizhgad
	1 Virtual Program: Song/Book	2 Play & Connect: Sensory Play 10am - 12pm	3 Play & Connect: Building /Free Play 5:30pm - 7pm	4 Family Outing: Play Away 10am	5 Virtual Program: Song/Book	6
7	8 Virtual Program: Song/Book	9 Miinwaa Paarnsedaa Komoka Colour Activity 10am	10 Odaminodaa Outdoor Free Play 5:30pm - 7pm	11 Anishnaabermowin with Russ Peltier 5:30pm - 7pm	12 Virtual Program: Song/Book	13
14	15 SLCP: Parent & Tot Swim 10am -11am	16 Virtual Program: Song/Book	17 Play & Connect: Arts & Crafts 10am - 12pm	18 Maamwi Gindaasdaa: I Love You, Daddy! 9am	19 Virtual Program: Song/Book	20
21	22 Closed National Indigenous Peoples Day	23 Miinwaa Paarnsedaa Longwoods Mhidoons Activity 10am	24 Odaminodaa Drumming with Liam 5:30pm - 7pm	25 Maamwi Gindaasdaa: TBA 5:30pm - 7pm	26 Virtual Program: Song/Book	27 Family Outing: Tin Cup 10am
28	29 Virtual Program: Song/Book	30 Play & Connect: Arts & Crafts 10am - 12pm		Our programs are for families with children 0-6 years of age. Programs are by registration only, drop in are not available at this time. Miigwechi!		



Contact: Amanda Hutton

Address: 330 Chippewa Rd., Muncey

Tel: 519-289-0584

Email: ahutton@cotfn.com

Facebook: Enji Maajtaawaad Child & Family EarlyON

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





THE COTTFN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS
HOSTING A
**HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM
AND
CANADIAN FIREARMS
SAFETY COURSE
(CFSC)**

- Limited to youth aged 12 - 25 years old
- 12 spots available
- Must complete the full 4 days to get license
 - Pass both Hunter Ed and CFSC exams
- Youth under 18 must have guardian consent



August 17th - 20th, 2026



**Heritage Building - 300 E
River Rd, Muncey, ON**



For more information or to register,
email: gcloud@cottfn.com
Call: 519-962-8544

YOUTH WILL LEARN

- hunting laws and regulations
- hunter responsibilities
- wildlife management
- hunting safety and equipment
- hunting techniques
- wildlife identification
- Basic firearms safety practices
- Ammunition types and storage
- Operating firearm actions
- Safe handling and carry procedures
- Responsibilities of the firearms owner/user
- Firearm storage, transportation and handling





GIIGIDAA INAAKONIGEWIN LET'S TALK LAW

Discover the importance of language and legal systems. Come out and join us for the second session of the series which focuses on Natural and a Paint Night based on Natural Law



Friday, June 26, 2026

12pm-4pm

Future dates and locations to be determined
Register with Alyssa at asturgeon@cottfn.com



Justice Department
Chippewa of the
Thames First Nation

CHIPPEWA SENIORS PROGRAM

JUNE 2026

TUE	WED	THU
2 LUNCH: TBA ACTIVITY: Photo clip board	3 ACTIVITY: Euchre 5-7PM	4 LUNCH: TBA ACTIIVITY: mushroom plant holder
9 LUNCH: TBA ACTIVITY: Yahtzee	10 ACTIVITY: Quarter Bingo 4:30-7:00pm	11 LUNCH: TBA ACTIVITY: playing card bingo (Bring your change)
16 NO LUNCH	17 ACTIVITY: Euchre 5-7pm	18 CONGREGATE DINING DINNER: Chicken Parmesan with bun
23 LUNCH: Pizza subs with chips ACTIVITY: Nutrition Bingo	24 ACTIVITY: Quarter Bingo 4:30-7:00pm	25 LUNCH: Pulled pork on a bun & coleslaw ACTIVITY: Coloring
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, no sign up is required unless stated. Both programs (Euchre & Quarter Bingo) are potluck. Quarter Bingo will now be starting at 4:30 with potluck and bingo will be starting at 5 SHARP..

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

THIS MENU IS SUBJECTTO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



CHIPPEWA GOLF LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

START TIME: 5PM

BEGINNING MAY 6, 2026

TILL SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

WARDSVILLE GOLF CLUB

1948 Longwoods Rd. Wardsville, ON



.....

“AWESOME AUSTIN”



Tee off with us for a fun, friendly competition every Wednesday. Chippewas of the Thames has Golf league every Wednesday night at Wardsville Golf Club.

- Get in on skins every Wednesday
- League players get a discount for golf and cart. Let the cashier know your with Chippewas golf league.
- No pre-registration needed. Show up, play with another league member and submit your score card for 9 holes.
- League year-end Golf Tournament September 12, 2026





Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

ARE YOU A HIGHSCHOOL STUDENT STRUGGLING WITH MATH?



Get the Help You Need Math Tutoring Available!

.....

- One-on-one assistance
- Homework help
- Test preparation
- Clear explanations

For more information, please contact:

Tyanna Soucy
Secondary Student Lead
519 289-0621 ext. # 201

A registration form needs to be filled out before attending the tutoring program

Our experienced Math tutor is here to support your learning.

An after-school math tutoring program has been designed for highschool students taking Math in the second semester.

A hot meal is being served for students attending the after-school tutoring program at Antler River Elementary School at 4:30 p.m., and Tutoring takes place from 5 - 7 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. Transportation is provided for those within the community





Update from the Director of Education

Boozhoo Kinawayah, education will begin posting monthly in the Mazinigan to strengthen our communication with the community. Submissions will come from Steve Styers (Director of Education), Tyanna Soucey (Secondary Support Worker), and Debbie Dolson (Post-Secondary Counsellor).

1. Community Engagement Night – Antler River Elementary School hosted a Parent/Family Community Engagement Night on May 14 with a focus on literacy. Teachers led workshops to help parents and guardians build their capacity to support literacy at home. Students each chose five books from GoodMinds bookstore, which were handed out that evening. Door prizes and food rounded out the night — miigwech to everyone who came out in support of the future of Chippewa of the Thames.

2. Professional Development – The education department has engaged in the following PD at Antler River Elementary School to date:

- Circle training: using the circle as a dialogue process to create safe spaces and resolve differences
- Strengthening Professional Relationships with Paula Connolly
- Acadience Data: collecting, sharing, and planning with the TVDSB literacy coordinator
- Staff sweat (August)
- Supporting students: emergency preparedness, documentation, problem solving, routine development
- CPR/First Aid; EpiPen and puffer training with Nurse Tammy
- IEPs: writing, implementing, and following
- CPRI training: Building a Culture of Safety
- Structured Learning for LSWs with Denise Emery
- Observations and meetings with other schools to support Special Education (LSWs) and intermediate math (TVDSB)
- Joint PD at Kettle Point on April 24 with Aamijiwnaang and Oneida First Nations
- Upcoming: iPad training and report card PD for teachers

3. Summer Programming – We're currently organizing summer programming for students and will share details shortly.

Steve Styers
Director of Education
Chippewa of the Thames First Nation



Post-Secondary Program Update

The 2025-2026 academic year has been supported 113 post-secondary students across Canada and the United States. (Nova Scotia to California) The students are enrolled in various programs from Medical Doctor to Welding Fabrication Technician. Over the past 3 years the post-secondary program received an exceptionally high number of applications, and unfortunately, the available funds were not sufficient to support all applicants. We had to encourage students to explore alternative sources of financial assistance to support their educational goals. Additionally, we suspended the January and March application intake.



A notable concern has been the loss of international students at institutions across Canada causing a ripple down effect on students such as loss of support staff and cancelation of programs. While at the same time there has been an increase in post-graduate opportunities and the expansion of online programming to better support working Indigenous students. Partnerships and pathways continue to strengthen through initiatives such as Indigenous ISSAP and bridging programs, including Lambton College's 2+2 model. Ongoing engagement with networks such as IEC and the SFNS leakage project (SET) has supported collaboration and information sharing across institutions and First Nation communities.

This quarter included significant outreach, engagement, and community presence at key events and meetings. Participation in the St. Clair College IEC Membership Meeting hosted at Caldwell First Nation, as well as involvement in the SFNS and Post-Secondary Education collaboration sessions, supported relationship-building and sector alignment. Attendance at events such as the Fanshawe College Year-End Gathering and Open House, Western Indigenous Graduation, and Western University Pow Wow highlighted student success and community connections, including celebrating five graduates, two from the Master of Professional Education program. In addition, preparations are underway for upcoming events such as the Lambton College Outdoor Space grand opening. The Post-Secondary Education Forum hosted by the Chiefs of Ontario also provided an opportunity to engage with education leaders and share resources to strengthen First Nations post-secondary supports.



Ongoing support to prospective and current students has included OCAS/OUAC application assistance, academic advising, and coordination with secondary schools and post-secondary institutions. Key administrative priorities such as the March 1 application intake, virtual application workshops, and the successful processing of winter tuition payments before the March 31 year-end have been completed. Moving forward, priorities include continued recruitment of secondary students into post-secondary pathways, further website enhancements, and a comprehensive review of post-secondary program policies and procedures to ensure responsive and effective service delivery.



Deshkan Ziibiing

Chippewas of the Thames

First Nation Gagige Gikinomaagoziwin

Board of Education

324 Chippewa Road

Muncey, ON, N0L 1Y0

Cell: 519-282-2148

Fax: 519-289-0633

tsoucy@chippewa-ed.on.ca

Secondary Student Programming

We continue to support our secondary students with the guidance, resources, and encouragement they need to succeed in their educational journeys.

Our program focuses on:

- Student well-being, engagement, and attendance
- Academic support and tutoring opportunities
- Strong connections between school, home, and community
- Advocacy and support for students and families
- Access to cultural, community, and extracurricular opportunities
- Future planning for graduation and beyond

We are grateful to work alongside community partners, including the Chippewa Health Team, who provide additional supports like Homework Hangout and tutoring spaces for students.

Math Tutoring:

Tuesday evenings, 5:00–7:00 PM. To join, please reach out to Tyanna for a registration form.

Transportation Support:

Support is available for after-school program transportation — reach out for details.

How to Register:

To register, please connect with the Secondary Student Advocate. Students will be asked to provide:

- School timetable
- Signed Consent for Service & OSR access
- Signed Student Code of Behaviour (Transportation Policy)

Coming Soon:

Secondary Student Contract Forms will be available starting this summer — more details to follow.

For more information or to get connected, contact Tyanna, our Secondary Student Advocate.

Anishinaabek Food Rights Program
Raffle Fundraiser

Congratulations *Mothers' Day* Winners

1st place - Jayna
2nd Place - Wanda Stacy
3rd Place - Angie Harris
4th Place - Liz Grosbeck
Consolation prizes:
Laurel Henry & Liz Grosbeck



THUNDERBIRD TRUST

AGM
2026



Annual General Meeting

Date: June 6, 2026

Time: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Where: Seniors Complex

Breakfast at 9:30 am with presentation to follow then finishing with lunch. Prizes at the end of meeting!

Documents will be available and can be mailed, emailed or faxed by request.

We look forward to seeing you!

Please join us for our
Annual General Meeting
of the Thunderbird Trust where we will be presenting our
2025 Audit & Community Report.



For more information contact the office at 519-264-2626 OR

Email info@thunderbirdtrust.ca

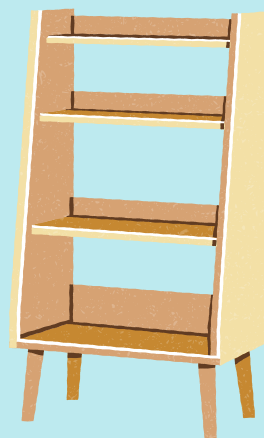
SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026

YARD & FOOD SALE FUNDRAISER



**17 KETTLE CREEK PLACE
TAMMY & DUANE'S**

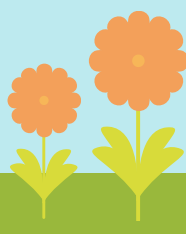
11 AM-3 PM



FOOD MENU:

**INDIAN TACOS
CORN SOUP
FRY BREAD
DRINKS**

**Proceeds going toward Alanis'
education journey!**



SEAN & COURTNEY'S
WEDDING PARTY
PRESENTS:

Join us for a day of outdoor fun on the green
in raising funds for Sean & Courtney's
Wedding in 2027

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026

WARDSVILLE GOLF COURSE

1948 Longwoods Rd. Wardsville, ON

27 HOLES

9 HOLES - ALTERNATE SHOT

9 HOLES - BEST BALL

9 HOLES - SCRAMBLE



**DEADLINE TO
REGISTER:
Friday, June 6!
Register today!**



REGISTRATION

Spots are limited so register today!

- \$150 per golfer
(50% fee due to hold your spot)
- Format: 2 person teams
(Co-ed teams not mandatory)
- Includes: cart, 27 holes, & dinner

To register or for more
information, email:
sncwedding073127@yahoo.com



WIN PRIZES!

Closest to the pin / **Skins** / **50/50 Draw** / **Putting contest**

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 9:00am - 9:50am** Registration/golf check in.
The start of your epic day
- 10:00am** Shot gun start.
Let the good times roll
- 4:30PM** Dinner - eat in or take out
available & contest prize
announcements.

****Join us for Coffee Hour****
at our
Recovery Support Group

**A safe and nurturing space for everyone in recovery and
looking for support**

**We meet at the Employment & Training Portable every
Friday at 5:30-7:00**

Facilitated by
Westover Treatment staff
Mike Mcgilvery

Please call Cynthia Tribe
519-878-0165



Chippewas of the Thames First Nation 48th Annual Competition Pow Wow August 15 & 16, 2026

Vendor Application & Agreement Form

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Vendors Responsibilities and Regulations:

The Vendor Co-Ordinator will assign and direct vendors to their assigned location. Vendor spaces will be assigned according to tribal members preference, previous years of attendance, and date of vendor's application submission. Set-up for vendors will begin on Friday, August 14, 2026, from 1:00pm until 8:00pm. Gates will be closed after 8:00pm. Saturday, August 15, 2026 from 8:00am until 12 Noon.

**Please do your best to ensure that you are on time. Failure to set up during the times specified above may result in the loss of your space.*

Booth Name: _____

Owner / Vendor: _____

Booth Type: Craft _____ Food _____ Information _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

COTTFN Member? Yes _____ No _____

Tribal Affiliation: _____ **Please attach a copy of your Status card.**

Name of Booth Attendees: 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Food Vendors: Our Pow Wow is becoming greener with the advent of monitored recycling and compost stations - - we ask that you use paper products where it is possible to do so. *Miigwech.*

Rebates available to Food Vendors to promote healthy food at their booths.

**Absolutely no firearms, illegal drugs, or dogs
will be permitted within the pow wow grounds.**



Chippewas of the Thames First Nation 49th Annual Competition Pow Wow

August 15 & 16, 2026

Vendor Application & Agreement Form

Vendors play a big part in making a Pow Wow a success.
The Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Pow Wow Committee
work hard to make this weekend a successful one for you!

1. The Pow Wow Committee will provide: Grounds cleaning, washroom facilities, garbage bins, in & out privileges to the grounds, and Friday and Saturday night security.
2. There are some electricity hookups available - - First come, First served.
3. Booths must be First Nation owned and First Nation operated.
4. **Payment for your space will be collected at 4:00pm by the Vendor Co-Ordinator on the Saturday and Sunday of Pow Wow weekend.**
Craft Vendors: \$50.00 per day
Food Vendors: \$150.00 per day
Outside Organizations Information: \$25.00 weekend
5. Free admission to the Pow Wow will be a maximum of 3 attendants per booth. All food and craft vendors are to stay within assigned vending spots.
6. There will be no reimbursements of monies for any vendors due to low sales or rain.
7. No drugs, alcohol, or cannabis products including paraphernalia and articles/items resembling drugs or alcohol are to be sold.
8. All ticket sales are to be kept at your booth.
9. No vendors shall create aisles between booths.
10. Please be advised that failure to comply with the above Responsibilities and Regulations may result in the vendor being warned and/or asked to leave.

I have read and understood the above rules set forth by the Chippewas of the Thames Pow Wow Committee, and I agree to abide by the above terms. The vendor hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, its employees, officers, agents, representatives, and volunteer in their official and individual capacities from any and all liability, claim, loss damage, or expenses, including cost and attorney's fees, that the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, or its employees or volunteers, incur as a result of any claims, actions, or lawsuit that arise out of, occur during or are in any way connected with the vendors participation in this event.

ALL Pow Wow Committee decisions are final.

Vendor Signature: _____ Date: _____

For any questions and/or information, please contact:

Keithera Riley – keriley@cottfn.com or

Patti Day – pday@cottfn.com

or call: **519-264-2500**

CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES POW WOW 2026

AUGUST 14, 15, & 16, 2025

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

Free admission will be granted on the day(s) of volunteering.

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Chippewa of the Thames First Nation Pow Wow are looking for volunteers to assist in the operation of the Annual Pow Wow in the following areas: Gate Admission, Kitchen helpers, Parking, Security, Groundkeepers, Firekeepers, Registration & Tabulators, Information Booth etc. See full list below.

Volunteers must be willing to assist when needed and willing to interact with community members and guests.

Any staff willing to volunteer will be compensated with time off for hours worked.

The Anishinaabe'aadziwin department will sign off any volunteer forms required following the Pow Wow. IE: Ontario Works, secondary school mandatory volunteer hours, Thunderbird Trust, Healing Journey Assistance, and Biinojiinyaag recipients.

Volunteers are invited to attend a **pre-volunteer meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 12:00pm.** Meeting will be at Heritage Office – 300 East River Road, Muncey Ontario

Please complete the following sections:

Name:	Address:
Contact No.	E-Mail:

Volunteer Areas: Please place a check mark on the area(s) of interest to volunteer

<input type="checkbox"/> Set Up & Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Gate Admission	<input type="checkbox"/> Parking Attendant
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration Helpers	<input type="checkbox"/> Tabulators	<input type="checkbox"/> Feast Servers
<input type="checkbox"/> Security	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Centre Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Keepers
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Booth	<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Grounds Clean Up
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground Preparation	<input type="checkbox"/> Give Away – (Sunday only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Gopher
Other:		

Please check shift(s) you would like to volunteer for:

Friday, August 14	Saturday, August 15	Sunday, August 16
12:00pm to 4:00pm	7:00am to 11:00am	7:00am to 11:00am
11:00am to 3:00pm	11:00am to 3:00pm	11:00am to 3:00pm
3:00pm to 8:00pm	3:00pm to 8:00pm	3:00pm to 7:00pm
8:00pm to 8:00am (adults security volunteers only)	8:00pm to 8 am (adults security volunteers only)	

Please forward the form via email to pday@cottfn.com or keriley@cottfn.com , or drop off at the Chippewas Heritage Office by **4:00pm on Tuesday, August 11, 2026.**

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):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ontario Works | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability-WSIB |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODSP | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Age Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Income | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Insurance | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation

Prayer

Strawberry Moon, I humble myself to you as I prepare to go to the fasting grounds. I come to you knowing that the Creator has given me this path to follow.

Nookomis, I come to you as I ask for guidance and understanding in my journey. My quest is for inner balance, to converse with the spirits of our ancestors, that will help me in this physical world.

When I sit in the circle of the sacred ceremonies and lodges, I will learn to walk this road with my eyes open to Creation and respect myself for all that I am.

Till next time we meet again, Strawberry Moon,
I am forever grateful, Miigwech.

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