

SPRING 2016

Vol 2. No. 2



MAQUATUASHTUK

Dipajimuum

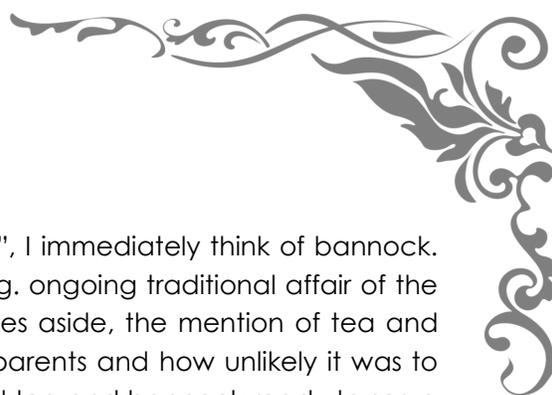


A Community where Tradition Lives On



Editorial

by Shannon Atsynia



Tea-N-Bannock anyone? I don't know about you but whenever I hear "tea", I immediately think of bannock. And whenever I hear "bannock", I immediately think of tea. It's been a long, ongoing traditional affair of the two that at this point breaking them up would entail court hearings. All jokes aside, the mention of tea and bannock just sends us all back to memories of neighbors visiting our grandparents and how unlikely it was to find a table without either of the two. No one's table was set unless they had tea and bannock ready to serve at the quick knock at the door by a friend or family member. Ah, memories.

Now, the mention of tea and bannock sends me to Toronto, Ontario where a tiny quaint restaurant is located on Gerrard Street called "Tea-N-Bannock". Not only do they serve tea and bannock, but they have a plethora of items you won't find in most restaurants. Indian tacos, salmon or trout burgers, elk stew, fry bread, and what we call blanket dogs. (I like to call them Indian pogos.) You'll find a good selection of various meals that you know will remind you of home. And with the fine traditional décor and music, Tea-N-Bannock is a home away from home.

So, the next time you have plans to visit Canada's Wonderland, or the CN Tower, be sure to put this place on your list of things to do. As a past customer, I'd recommend trying the corn coup with bannock as a light lunch, salmon burger with coleslaw if you're looking for something with a little leverage, and as a dessert? Try the bannock pudding! It's a rendition of bread pudding and it's amazing.

Tea-N-Bannock is located at 1294 Gerrard Street in the heart of downtown Toronto and is run by its owner Enos Miller. It is also the home to Wemindji's own, Tina Mark Ottereyes, who has been the manager at Tea-N-Bannock for the past two years. Aside from running a restaurant, Tea-N-Bannock also does catering services and has done catering at events such as the Little NHL (*Native Hockey League*).

Whether you're in Toronto for business or pleasure, tea-n-bannock is the place to go when you're itching for a home cooked meal. You'll be greeted by friendly employees who enjoy meeting new people and reacquainting with old friends. For more information, for directions and/or to take a peek at their menu, visit their website at www.teanbannock.ca



Photo of Tina Mark Ottereyes and Enos Miller at Tea-N-Bannock in Toronto, Ont.



MAQUATUASHTUK
Dipajimuun

Upcoming Issues in 2016 of
"Maquatuashtuk Dipajimuun"

Print Day: Friday, September 2
Deadline: Monday, August 29

Print Day: Friday, December 2
Deadline: Monday, November 28

What's coming up?

The summer season is upon us and that means a lot of great summer activities are coming up for everyone! From summer camps, summer employment, Old Factory visit and Wemindji's birthday, July is definitely going to keep us all busy!

We encourage you to browse through the calendars provided in this newsletter from our Youth department, and Sports & Recreation. These, along with Wellness & Culture are among our organizers and coordinators of various programs in our community. You're bound to find something fun to do this summer with these departments working hard planning some great activities!

Don't forget, our 32nd annual General Assembly is coming up in August. Details and an agenda will be released this July. We look forward to seeing everyone come and participate in the discussions. On that note, have a safe and great summer! Be sure to help celebrate Wemindji's birthday on July 15th!

Contact Us:

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Wemindji, QC J0M 1L0
T (819) 978-0264 F (819) 978-0258

Website: <http://wemindji.ca>



*Cree Nation of Wemindji
Administration Office*



REMINDER

**Cree Nation of Wemindji
SUMMER HOURS**

(June 27 - August 26, 2016)

Administration/Maintenance

Monday - Thursday	8:30am - 12:00pm 1:-00pm - 4:00pm
Friday	8:30am - 12:00pm

Message from the Housing Department:

We, the housing department would like to remind our tenants to bring in their T4's to our office. The reason why? We want them is to access CMHC funds for the purpose of renovations, we only have a few T4's we've received here at the office and we would appreciate it if more tenants brought in their T-4 slips. We need to tap into programs such as RRAP which stands for Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, Retrofit, Emergency Repair Program, and Home Adaptations Senior's Independence programs. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate contact the housing department.

Thank you for your understanding and have a great summer!

Clarence Miniquaken

Director of Housing

Training Opportunity

Lifeguard Training: CNW is looking for anyone who is interested in Lifeguard training! For questions or to submit your name, call 978-3060 ext. 225 or 978-0264 ext. 206

For more information, or to request job postings, please call our office during regular office hours or email: hrdirector@wemindji.ca

Cree Nation of Wemindji welcomes the new employees

- Sherry Georgekish, Youth Centre Janitor
- Johnny Mark, Director of Environment
- Russell Miniquaken, Operator
- Robert Miniquaken, Operator
- James Napash, Recreation Assistant
- Sonia Gilpin, Program Coordinator
- Melvin Kakabat, Complex Attendant
- Desiree Ottereyes, Training Development Coordinator

We wish them all the best of luck in their positions.

Be sure to check out our newly updated website
at <http://wemindji.ca>



Wemindji Minor Sport Association presents



2016 Golf Benefit

June 23, 2016 | at the Club de Golf Belvédère in Val-d'Or



*Moto
Sport
du Cuivre*



SPONSORS

PLATINUM* : \$ 3000+

GOLD : \$ 2000+

SILVER : \$ 1500+

BRONZE : \$ 1000+

*First 10 receive 2 golf carts



FEES

Green & Supper : \$ 150 / Person

Entertainment & Supper : \$ 50 / Person

Green Fee : \$ 100 / Person

CONTACT

TYLER SHANUSH

INTERIM MINOR SPORT COORDINATOR

Wemindji.recreation@live.ca

T. 819 978-3818 # 232

F. 819 978-3061





Training & Development Coordinator

Hello Wemindji Eeyouch! I am very happy to say that this will be my first newsletter submission as the Training and Development Coordinator! Since this is a brand new position, I feel that I should give the community the basics of what my roles and duties are.

As the Training and Development Coordinator my duty is to do some community needs assessments to see what types of training the community members need and wants. My goal is to initiate the link between training and employment.

Currently, my main focus is on the Wemindji Employment and Career Project which is an exciting new project that has already started. The purpose of this program *is to help the participants find an exciting career field in which they're passionate about*, and could motivate participants to become *employed* or to achieve a higher *education*. This is a great and innovative project that will be available to **a maximum of 20 community members** who are unemployed and are out of school, and who are *16 years old and up*. **This program is entirely client centered, meaning that this program will be specifically customized for each individual.** Along the way they will receive:

- ♣ Job coaching
- ♣ Training
- ♣ A variety of work-
- ♣ Work Experience
- ♣ Salary Increases
- ♣ On-going support

This summer we will start taking registrations and then the program will run in full swing by August.

So, my fellow community members, I have a question for you.

What is YOUR DREAM:

FOR YOURSELF? FOR YOUR FAMILY?

FOR YOUR CAREER?

FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?

Submitted by:

Desiree Ottereyes, Training & Development Coordinator
Cree Nation of Wemindji
email: td_coordinator@wemindji.ca
phone: (819) 978-0264 ext. 690



If you're not sure, then boy this is an amazing opportunity for you! Through this program, participants can sample different careers of their choosing to help them discover their interests, and they will be able to build meaningful career skills and work experience in an area of their choice. As stated previously, this exciting new opportunity will help you find a career field in which you're passionate about. Throughout the work experience participants will also be gaining training in essential skills workshops as well as having the opportunity to pursue academic upgrading for those who need it. Some of the key workshops for participants to look forward to are:

- 1) Oral/Written Communication Skills
- 2) Computer Skills
- 3) Time Management
- 4) Resume/Cover Letter Writing

Not only will we be providing support to the participants, but we will also supply support to the employers as well through our "Train the Trainer" workshop. This workshop was created as a tool for employers to use to effectively support and coach their participants. All in all, this is an exciting project to be a part of and I encourage all community members to keep an eye out for our future advertisements on this project.

(Training & Development Coordinator....)

As a result of this exciting new project I have been working closely with the Youth Department, Youth Council, Communications Officer, and the Economic Development Officer on an activity to complement the Wemindji Employment and Career Project that we feel will strongly benefit the community; The Wemindji Career Conference. This conference is set to happen from June 6th to June 8th, which will be followed by the Grand Opening for the Mayaupiu Training Institute. Our goal for this project is to guide community members in discovering their passion by providing workshops that will give members the skills and knowledge needed for employment. This event is set to take place early June, and we hope you can come participate in Wemindji's first ever Career Conference.

Initially, this conference was originally set out to be a typical career fair, but when the team met up to discuss this, we realized that our community needed something more:

- ♣ innovative
- ♣ interactive,
- ♣ Engaging
- ♣ Community Focused

Therefore, we came up with numerous amount of workshops that participants can choose from. We made sure that there would be something for everybody and we're so excited to start announcing it! So make sure you keep an eye out for that as well. Here's a sneak peak of what you can look forward to

- ♣ Job Search Skills
- ♣ Local Entrepreneur Success Stories
- ♣ Career Mapping
- ♣ Local Job Opportunities

To conclude, I would like to thank you for reading. In spirit of our upcoming projects I would like to leave you with a quote, *"Everyone has talent. What's rare is the courage to follow it to where it leads."* And remember, you are not alone, we here at the Cree Nation of Wemindji, **want to help you every step of the way.** Again, thank you for reading and may the Creator bless you.

By: Desiree Ottereyes, Training & Development Coordinator



Monday	1:00pm to 5:00pm
Tuesday	1:00pm to 5:00pm
Wednesday	1:00pm to 5:30pm
Thursday	10:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 6:00pm
Friday	9:30am to 2:00pm

Direct Banking	1-800-363-9992
Direct Banking for Business	1-800-345-7777
Loans/Mortgages/Investments	1-800-665-9665

Website: www.bmo.com

Housing Maintenance Tips from CMHC

Cleaning mould in your home:

- Small amounts of mould in a house are common and easy to take care of if you catch it early.
- You can clean up small areas of mould yourself if you are healthy.
- Do not clean it up yourself if you suffer from asthma, tuberculosis or other respiratory disease; have a virus or infection such as a cold or a flu; or if you are pregnant.
- Cleaning is temporary and mould will come back if you do not take care of the source of moisture and dampness.
- You can help prevent mould by keeping your home dry.

Consult CMHC's free guide ; *Moisture and Air - Householder's Guide*, to help you identify and fix mould problems.

CMHC.ca/tips2016



WE WANT

TO HELP YOU

FIND YOUR PASSION



EXPLORE DIFFERENT CAREER FIELDS
AND DISCOVER YOUR PASSION

CAREER CONFERENCE

YOUTH CENTRE

3 GEORGEKISH ROAD, WEMINDJI, QC

JUNE 6TH TO 8TH 9AM TO 5PM

CAREER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday June 6, 2016			Tuesday June 7, 2016			Wednesday June 8, 2016		
Opening Remarks	Opening Prayer Chief Dennis Georgekish		Youth Council		Deputy Chief Frank Atsynia			
Morning Presentation	Kendal Netmaker <i>Keys to Entrepreneurship</i>		Luc Bertrand <i>Introduction to Career Mapping</i>		Desiree Ottereyes <i>Wemindji Employment and Career Project</i>			
Health Break								
Morning Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Job Search Skills Part 1: Traditional Knowledge & Transferable Skills ➤ Identify Career Interest ➤ Entrepreneur Workshop 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Job Search Skills Part 3: How to Find a Job ➤ CNW's Mission & Vision Statements & Principles of Good Government ➤ Career Mapping 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cree Nation of Wemindji ➤ Proposal Writing ➤ Entrepreneur Success Stories 			
Lunch Break								
Afternoon Presentation	Joey Georgekish <i>Setting Goals and Objectives</i>		Geraldine Mark <i>How to Apply for Niskamoon Funding</i>		Alice Nuktie <i>How to Apply for CHRD Funding</i>			
Health Break								
Afternoon Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Job Search Skills Part 2: Resume and Cover Letter Writing ➤ Tawich ➤ Setting Goals and Objectives 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Job Search Skills Part 4 ➤ Job Interview Coaching ➤ How to Start a Business ➤ Mapping Project ➤ Museum Presentation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ How to Enroll in Higher Education ➤ Expanding Horizons: Post-Secondary Education ➤ Jason Simon 			
Supper Break								
Evening Activity	Post-Secondary Students Recognition Supper		Tyler Shanush		Jason Simon			
	Youth Employment Consultation Session		Community Showcase of Post-Secondary Graduates		Special Event			

MAQUATUA EYYOU SCHOOL ROCKS!

By Aidan McCaffrey



Another year is coming to an end at Maquatua Eeyou School and I can speak for teachers and staff when I say that we couldn't be more proud of the progress of the students this year! Teachers at MES have implemented challenging goals for their students this year and the kids have risen to the challenge and proven they are more than capable learners. Everyone – teachers and students alike - at MES should be proud of themselves for all they have accomplished in this school year!

Here are some highlights from this academic school year at Maquatua Eeyou School:

Arrival of many new teachers – this year MES said farewell to some old faces and welcomed many new teachers. With addition of so many new faces, fresh ideas and innovative teaching techniques came pouring into the school and the students benefitted greatly from the variety and creativity.

New school – by the looks of it, the new elementary school is coming along well and staff and students couldn't be more excited to start the new school year in a brand new, beautiful building. Elementary teachers are dreaming of sparkling desks and new classrooms!

Extracurriculars – this year MES began a new student-engagement initiative with after-school extracurricular activities. Teachers created groups such as badminton, basketball, broomball, tutoring, French language, girls and boys clubs, circus club, yoga club and countless others to engage students in school culture. They were a real success and students participated actively!

Breakfast Program – the Breakfast Program at MES this year was a success and the facilitators couldn't be more grateful for the help various members of the school community provided throughout the year. From students and teachers helping unload the delivery trucks, to the use of school kitchen/classroom, the Breakfast Program served the students of Maquatua Eeyou School every morning and helped start their days off ready to learn with fed bodies and minds. A special thank you to The Cree Nation of Wemindji, The Fundraising Committee, Maquatua Eeyou School and GoldCorp for their generous donations to the program. Without you, there would be no breakfast!



Art Concentration Program – secondary students were able to participate in a new Art Concentration program this year. Started by Amy Bourbonnais and subsequently taken over by Mike Morris, students were exposed to many artistic elements and able to full express their creative abilities in a concentrated setting. The program was such a success that more concentration programs will be available next year to upper elementary and secondary students.

RTI – A pilot project from the Cree School Board was started at MES this year with Marsha Brown at the helm with the goal of bringing as many students to grade level in literacy as possible. Teachers set challenging but attainable goals for students and worked tirelessly to support their students on the path to success. The results were overwhelmingly positive and students were able to see and celebrate their own achievements while teachers used these milestones to plan more effective learning experiences for them to ensure the continuation of these accomplishments!!

Maquatua Eeyou School Rocks!!

Symposium – This year the entire CSB participated in a huge gathering of teachers, administrators and other education professionals in Montreal. We took part in valuable workshops and learned so much from and about each other. It was great to meet teachers from other communities, share ideas, stories, strategies and support and hear from some very wise and inspiring speakers, including the Right Honorable Paul Martin, Katherine Wooton and Abraham Jolly.

Terry Fox and Skip-a-Thon – this year students did some amazing fundraising for some very good causes. Students raised \$2999.60 for Terry Fox and \$691.50 for Skip-a-Thon, way to go!

Secondary 5 Graduation Fundraising – our future grads did a great job raising money for their celebration with the help of Carmen Faries. Selling Christmas and Valentine's Day Candy Grams, Secondary 5 students took ownership of fundraising for their graduation festivities.

Secondary Canteen – this year through Danielle Lepine's Entrepreneurship program, Secondary students ran a break-time canteen which sold various goodies and snacks to students. This was a great learning opportunity which taught them valuable life skills!

Cree Culture Camp – Grades 3 and up were able to participate in Cree cultural activities at the new Cree Culture Camp throughout the year. Students learned valuable skills, got to apply their cultural knowledge and experience life at camp with the guidance of very knowledgeable teachers and community members.

Teacher Appreciation Week – Teachers and their hard work were recognized and celebrated this winter by the CEA's office (Lee Ann and company) and the Parent Committee. Teachers were treated to fabulous gifts, treats and activities which truly made us feel appreciated and recognized. We at MES know that it takes a whole village to teach a child and we couldn't do it without one another and the support of administration, school support staff, parents and community!!



Konrad's Core Class – Konrad Jurgens took on a new approach to a concentrated programming class with much success! Students learned valuable life skills, contributed to the school culture, established a presence in the community and made some delicious cinnamon buns and pizza!

Book Bingo – the first Book Bingo at MES took place in March with great success! Students and families participated in a fun night of bingo, healthy snacks and with great book prizes!

A Very ABBA Christmas Concert – This Christmas season, the entire elementary sector took part in a fabulous Wemindji/ABBA-themed Christmas concert. Students and teachers alike practiced tirelessly and put on an amazing show!

Sleepovers and Swimming – as a great incentive for student participation in school, teachers in lower Elementary have been having sleepovers and taking students swimming to reward them for great behavior and for all their hard work.



Maquatua Eeyou School

MES received some great news for the school's Breakfast Program recently! The Annual Board of Compensation and Creeco Golf Benefit will be fundraising for the Breakfast Programs of Eeyou Istchee. The BOC and Creeco will be generously donating some of the funds raised to Maquatua Eeyou School! We hope they have a successful turn out and that all participants enjoy a beautiful day of golf in sunny Val d'Or! Please visit <http://www.boc-creeco-golf.ca/> for information on how to register and begin sponsorship for the tournament taking place at the Club Sports Belvedere Golf Course in Val-d'Or, Quebec on Thursday June 16, 2016.

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Maquatua Eeyou School Upcoming Events:

- **May 16th** – June 23rd – Elephant Thoughts are in town to help with science exam prep!
- **May 24th** – June 21st Cree School Board Exams: Grades 2, 4, 6 Secondary 2 and 4 will be participating in exams.
- **May 24th** – June 21st Ministry Exams – Secondary 4 and 5
- **June 17th** – Maquatua Eeyou School Math Assessment: the entire school will be participating in a math assessment due June 17th.
- **June 2016** - PM Benchmark and DRA – the entire school will be participating in reading assessments over the next few weeks.
- **June 3rd** – Wemindji's Annie Whiskeychan Day – Recognition awards for Student Excellence in Cree Language and Cree Culture, Community Potluck in the Gym, activities and a walking out ceremony.
- **June 15th** – Sports Day
- **June 18th** – Secondary Prom
- **June 20th** – Grade 6 Graduation 5:30pm at the Community Hall
- **June 21st** – Kindergarten Graduation 9:30am at the Community Hall
- **June 22nd** – Last Day of School
- **June 23rd** – Report Card and Parent-Teacher Interview Day (PED Day)
- **June 24th** – St. Jean de Baptiste Day (no school)
- **August 27th** – Secondary 5 Graduation at the Community Hall

Naming of the New School!

As many know, the new elementary school is going up fast and it looks beautiful! However, while the bricks are being laid and concrete is poured and dry, we still need a name! Luckily, there will be a naming contest and anyone is eligible to submit! Here are the details from the new "Naming of Wemindji's New Elementary School Contest" Facebook page:

1st Place: \$1,000.00

2nd Place: \$ 500.00

3rd Place: \$ 300.00

Eligibility: open to all residents of Wemindji.

How to enter: the contest is open from 12:00 pm May 26 to June 9, 2016 at 5:00 pm. To enter, please leave a comment with your name and proposed name on this Facebook page.

Selection of Winners: 3 names will be selected by the Maquatua Eeyou School Parent Committee. These names will then be submitted to the Council of Commissioners who will determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

Suggested guidelines:

- Represent CSB Mission and Vision
- Cree Values
- Name of surrounding areas
- Name of a deceased person who has made a significant contribution to the field of education (permission from family is required, if chosen)

If a person does not have Facebook and wishes to enter they can also submit their proposed name at the CSB administration building. Any questions please feel free to contact Lee Ann Gilpin, CEA at (819)978-0389 or by email at lagilpin@cscree.qc.ca."

Put your thinking caps on Wemindji!

The academic school year of 2015/2016 has been full of changes, accomplishments and great achievements. We have seen a steady flow of new faces but all are committed to a common goal for Maquatua Eeyou School – success for all. Teachers, parents, administration and community members have worked determinedly together to provide the children of Wemindji with the best educational experiences possible and the hard work has definitely paid off. Student are taking pride and ownership in their learning and working harder than ever before. We at MES can't wait to see what next year has in store for the great children of this community!

Grade Two meets Carved Dogsleds, Rusted Bowls and Wooden Polar Bears

By: Katherine Scott

Did you know that Wemindji has a small but exciting collection of local archaeological, historical and craft items? They are kept in safe storage and displayed sometimes at special events or conferences. At Wellness and Culture, where I've been working on and off, we have been cataloguing, photographing and making sure they are properly stored to keep them in good condition. This article is a story about those objects and the creativity they can unleash.

One afternoon in March, I visited Aidan's Grade Two classroom with a few of those objects. Christine Heuvelink, a student teacher from Bishop's College, had been teaching the children a unit on stories and storytelling. She knew that we had been working on the collection and had admired many of the pieces at our Museum Day. Christine invited us to bring a few of the items to her classroom and tell their stories to her students. Aidan was equally enthusiastic about the idea too. These two teachers had generated a lot of enthusiasm for our visit.

Deciding which objects to choose was a challenge. I wanted to bring them all! Of course that was not feasible. Each piece in the collection holds so many stories. I only know a few of those stories but even the few I know would make a long presentation if it included the whole collection.



Each and every item, no matter how old, rusted or ordinary it might appear to be, seems to come alive with the stories we have heard about its maker, its materials, the person who collected it, and what was happening around the time that it was made. With Linda and Stacy's help, I finally decided on some beautiful wooden carvings, a bone scraper, a fishnet shuttle, two baby dolls wrapped in waaspisuwiyaan, a wooden ladle, a fragment of an ancient ceramic pot, and a rusted tin bowl.

We set them up on a table at the front of the room so the children could sit around them. After we talked about being careful and respecting these objects, everyone settled down to listen intently. I told a series of stories related to three or four of the artefacts. We talked about the things themselves and about how many stories are layered in each one. The children could hardly sit still for the excitement, but despite the excitement they behaved beautifully. The objects and their histories ignited all kinds of questions, amazing questions about how things were made, what they were made of, and how they came to be in our collection. Those wonderful comments and questions kept us talking for most of an hour yet no one seemed bored.

A magical hour of creative writing and drawing followed the presentation. Christine had the children go back to their desks to write their own stories. She had prepared story pages with spaces for both illustrations and writing that would guide their work. To me it seemed that she was asking a lot of such young children. It's obvious I don't know much about what second graders can accomplish! There were no protests about getting to work. The stories just spilled out of the children and on to their papers, drawings too.

Every child had a great idea to express and unique way of doing that. There were funny stories, adventures full of suspense, and small stories that made you want to read more. One intriguing tale was about the rusty bowl and its journey down the river. Another child used the carved dogsled to start his brief but totally engaging story of a hungry hunter who went out with his dogs to find food for the family. There were adventure stories related to the polar bear carving and a memorable account of how a carving found its way into the collection I had brought. The work each child produced revealed the storyteller that lies just below the surface in each and every one of us – especially Wemindji Eeyouch!

I certainly learned a lot about storytelling that day. It was inspiring to see the power of Wemindji's collection of historical objects in action. They are surprising sources of knowledge and triggers for creativity. The objects hold tremendous potential for teaching, arousing interest, and encouraging learning about Wemindji Eeyou culture and history. We look forward to visiting the school again!

By: Katherine Scott



Message from the School Commissioner

Clarence Tomatuk

My name is Clarence Tomatuk and I was appointed by the community of Wemindji as the School Commissioner for the new three years. I suppose you know by now that I had worked for the Cree School Board as a Senior Administrator for 34 years. I retired from the Cree School Board on December 16, 2011.

Since being the School Commissioner, I have had to re-orient my long administrative experience to a decision maker on the Council of Commissioners representing Wemindji. Since I started I was re-oriented to a new style of leadership demands and processes. At first everything was changing around me so I had to change to this new style of doing things. Things that I have seen and done before seem like the past and of not today. I was a little skeptical about the governance model if this model can answer our community's concerns and specific issues in Education for our youth. Special Needs students and Adults. The process of School Commissioners bringing up important local education issues to the Council of Commissioners is no longer in place. The Commissioners speak on many common education issues and speak with one voice. There is a formal agenda. The documents are sent electronically to us in advance by the office of the Secretary General.

There are still ways and means to bring important educational issues at the Political and Administrative level at the Cree School Board. I have attended school committee meetings to listen to, to observe and to hear parents' voices. I can tell you that we have a very active school committee that need equal support from the parents.

I will provide all pertinent and important information on education to the community following our regional meetings by whatever means possible.

Perhaps one of the most important questions I am asked is when the new school will be opened. In my discussion with Abraham Jolly, Director General, he assured me that the school will be opened when the new school year begins. The school construction is on schedule and the facility will be the home school for students from Kindergarten to grade 6.

It is very important that parents and our community members support our children's education and for our students to aspire, to succeed, to become contributing members of our community and of our Cree Nation into the future.

The best formula for student success is to focus on parental involvement in their children's education, student support, teacher and administrative support, maintaining a good learning environment and an atmosphere of good working relationships. Thank you.



Tickets

- \$5 - for one (1) ticket
- \$10 - for three (3) tickets
- \$20 - for seven (7) tickets

*Chase
the ACE*
Fundraiser

*50% of the proceeds
go to the local Pound!*

To purchase tickets:

See Lori Mercer

call/text: (819) 978-7473



Willie Matches Memorial Mbyupimaatisuun Center

60 Maquatua Road, P.O. Box 90
Wemindji, Quebec J0M 1L0
Telephone: (819) 978-0225 FAX: (819) 978-3075



Clinic Hours

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Closed FOR AN EMERGENCY CALL: (819) 978-0225		8:00 to 9:00 AM Blood Test		8:00 to 9:00 AM Blood Test		Closed FOR AN EMERGENCY CALL: (819) 978-0225
	9:00 to 11:15 AM	9:00 to 11:15 AM	9:00 to 11:15 AM	9:00 to 11:15 AM	9:00 to 11:15 AM	
	Open Clinic	Open Clinic	Open Clinic	Open Clinic	Open Clinic	
	Refills	Refills	Refills	Refills	No Refills	
	12:00 to 1:00 PM	12:00 to 1:00 PM	12:00 to 1:00 PM	12:00 to 1:00 PM	12:00 to 1:00 PM	
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
	1:00 to 4:15 PM	1:00 to 4:15 PM	1:00 to 4:15 PM	1:00 to 4:15 PM	1:00 to 4:15 PM	
	Open Clinic	Tchyio Clinic	Tchyio Clinic	Tchyio Clinic	Emergencies Only	
Refills	No Refills	No Refills	No Refills	No Refills		

FOR AN **EMERGENCY** AFTER WORKING HOURS CALL: (819) 978-0225

*Please bring all your pill containers when you come for a refill. You can drop them off in the morning and pick them up later in the day**
PATIENTS THAT COME TO THE CLINIC TO SEE A NURSE ARE ASKED TO BRING THEIR HEALTH CARD WITH THEM AT ALL TIMES.
FOR LOST, BROKEN OR EXPIRED HEALTH CARDS, CALL RAMQ: 1(800) 561-9749

Dog/Cat Clinic



Wemindji

Spay/Neuter • Vaccinations

Monday, June 68:00 am - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, June 78:00 am - 1:00 pm

Please bring dogs/cats in for surgery as early as possible.

**Location: Quebco Unit – 17 Spruce St.
Contact: Lori Mercer 819-978-7473**

*Be a responsible animal owner.
Spay and neuter your dog and cat.*



Animal Care & Control Office

The Animal Care & Control Officer has now opened registrations for dog owners to register their dogs and receive a dog tag.

What you need to do:

- o **Go to the Band Office to pay the forty dollar registration fee. (See Mara Mayappo)**
- o **Bring your receipt to Lori Mercer at the Fire Hall**
- o **Registration forms will be filled out & your pet will receive a dog tag**

Benefits to registering your dog means you will get free vaccinations, animal care/advice, IFAW spay/neuter program and if your pet is lost or impounded, our local Animal Care will know who to contact from the dog tag info that will be on your dog's tag.

For more info, contact:

Lori Mercer, Animal Care & Control Officer

cell: (819) 978-7473

email: acc@wemindji.ca

Wemindji & Me: A YEAR IN REVIEW

By: Aidan McCaffrey

They say time flies when you're having fun, and it's the truth! This past year in Wemindji, my 4th in teaching, has been a lot of fun and it has definitely flown by. I am lucky to know some great people in town who make the time spent away from family and friends well worth it.

I started my 4th year of teaching in Wemindji this past August in Grade 2. I moved up with my class, which meant that I kept the same kids from my previous year in Grade 1, with the addition of a couple of new faces. I felt such a good connection with my class that I was happy to teach them again, and hopeful that 6 weeks of summer didn't have them totally forgetting the old routine! With a few reminders, we were back to business as usual and having a ball in our classroom.

In October, the entire Cree School Board met in Montreal for the Symposium. It was an incredible time where teachers and professionals from all over the board met in beautiful Montreal and shared stories, ideas, strategies and wisdoms. I signed up for some very useful workshops and spent some time getting to know other teachers from the board. It was amazing to put faces to names of people I knew but hadn't had the chance to meet due to distance between our schools. It was a delight to be treated to such a valuable opportunity and my colleagues and I made the most out of the time there. This special time away from Wemindji also allowed me a quick trip back to Oakville, Ontario to see my family before heading to Montreal for the big meet! It was my last chance to see my youngest sister before she was due to give birth to her first child in November. It was a quick but special visit and I was glad to have been able to make the unexpected trip!

I arrived back in Wemindji after the Symposium full of great ideas and ready to apply them to the classroom. Not long afterwards, we began an ambitious initiative in the school called RTI, or Response Through Intervention. This was a pilot project started by the CSB in our school which got teachers to set goals that all students could achieve with the right supports and planning and would see students reaching grade-level literacy goals. At first I was frustrated with some aspects and given my nature, I was stubborn! But, with time and seeing the actual results and the kids working so hard towards the goals,

it became clear to me the importance of the project and that I just needed to be patient! As the months went by, the kids blossomed under the new approaches to learning and we were hitting one target after another. RTI has never made me feel like more of a teacher and more fulfilled by my work! I am so proud of the hard work my class and I have done this year, and even more proud of the team my colleagues and I have become as a result.

Last November I started a new chapter in my life, one where I became an aunt! My sister gave birth to the first grandchild in the family, a boy named Robin. He quickly became my obsession and I was lucky enough to be able to make a quick trip home a couple of weeks after he was born so I could meet him. It was a really special trip but was not without my own personal trauma. As some of you may know, I am fairly accident prone and I definitely have bad luck with vehicles. Well, this trip was no exception and on my way back up the James Bay Highway on a sunny Monday afternoon, I hit black ice and swerved right off the road at about KM218 and went straight off the shoulder into the trees. I was unhurt but pretty shaken and upset, and my nearly-new van was totalled. Luckily, strangers passed by not 10 minutes later and took me to KM381 where I waited for help from some truly amazing friends. That experience definitely humbled me and made me realize how careful you need to be on the road and how precious life can be. I also realized that there are so many good people in the world who are willing to help, it made me appreciate all the big and little things people do.



Christmas this year was extra special. I was anxious to get home to spend oodles of time with my new family member Robin as well as soak up lots of family and friend time. The breaks home always seem so short when you try to pack as much as you can in, and of course you want to see as many friends and family as possible, not to mention shopping! Time flew by but it was peaceful and happy. I also bought a new van and drove it back up with a new addition to my own household, our family dog Bobo.

I began the New Year at MES with a student teacher named Christine. She was a student in her last stage from Bishop's University and I consider myself extremely lucky to have had her placed in my classroom. Christine was mature, introspective, reflective, responsible and imaginative. The kids loved her and so did I! She brought a very supportive and caring attitude to the class and worked tirelessly to engage the students in meaningful and culturally relevant activities. I learned so much about myself as a teacher as well as I trained her, it was a very good experience for all of us.

As the months progressed, I was able to watch my students learn and grow which was such an inspiring and rewarding experience. I have such an amazing class of kids who want to do well, who try their best and meet challenges head on. I am lucky to have such a supportive staff at work that sees the students as "ours" not just "mine" or "yours".

Goosebreak was a welcomed and enjoyed holiday for me. I haven't yet had the chance to leave the country during this time because like Christmas, there is so much to squeeze into such a short time. However I made the most of it, again spending as much time as possible with my new nephew, my sisters, family and friends. I also spent time with my mom planning out our trip overseas this summer! I am very excited to be spending 2 full weeks in London, Paris and Wales, getting to see the parts of the UK where my mother and father were born, and spreading my Grandad's ashes in his hometown of Monmouth, Wales. It will be a truly amazing experience and I know my mom and I will make memories to last a lifetime.



In all, this year in Wemindji has been one not without its ups and downs, but with the help of friends, family, my students and people of the community, it's been mostly ups! I have had experiences that solidify my love for this beautiful town and make me proud to call myself a member. I am inspired daily by the

hard work of my students and colleagues and find motivation in our shared successes. I am glad for the new friends I have made this year and am always grateful for the relationships I established long ago. When you don't have family up here, friends and community make all the difference and I count myself lucky to live in a place that gives me the best of both worlds!



Cree Nation of Wemindji Chief & Council Meetings

June 9, 2016

July 20 & 21, 2016

August 24, 2016

September 21, 2016

October 19 & 20, 2016

November 23, 2016

December 7, 2016 (if necessary)



Environmental Awareness Program

We need your help Wemindji. Over the past few months, we've noticed the decreased amount of recycled materials on pickup days. With less people recycling, garbage collection is unfortunately increasing.

As part of our efforts to support Wemindji's Environmental Awareness program, we provide the community with a list of "Do's" and "Don't-s" to help educate which materials are recyclable and those that are not. We also give information on hazardous waste and how to go about disposing these materials.

For more information, or to obtain a copy of our list of Do's & Don't on our recycling program, please visit our Administrative office during regular office hours. Our director of Environment, Mr. Johnny Mark, will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Let's continue to keep Wemindji a beautiful and healthy community to live in!



Restaurant Hours

Monday to Friday:

Breakfast: 7:00am to 11am

Lunch: 12:00am to 1:30pm

Supper: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Fast Food Menu is served: 11:30am to 7pm

Saturday & Sunday:

Brunch: 8:00am to 1:00pm

Supper: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Sibi Gas Station

(819) 978-3508

Monday & Friday 9am - 9pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 8pm

Call outs are at a \$50 fee on an Emergency basis only. (No call outs after Midnight) Call **819-527-7516



Community Store Hours

Monday to Wednesday 9am - 7pm

Thursday & Friday 9am - 9pm

Saturday & Sunday 11am - 5pm

(819) 978-3656



PRESS RELEASE

A first in Eeyou Istchee : a cohort of trained local tourism guides

Wemindji Tourism, an entity under Tawich Development Corporation, in collaboration with the firm PAR Conseils completed the first training ever in community tour guiding in Eeyou Istchee while Wemindji is well equipped now with a brigade of six citizens who can make a professional discovery of their community.

The 4-day training - including a final test managed by each of the participants - presented 39 points of tourist interest in the community with descriptive text for each; then profiling the needs and expectations of tourist clientele from Quebec, Canada, the United States, Britain, Germany, France and Japan and ending with specific guiding techniques and support for individual visitors and groups.

With the constant support of COTA (Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association), which ensures the development, and marketing of tourism in Eeyou Istchee, Tourism Wemindji thus endows competent local resources to be able to position Wemindji as a major destination in our region.

Congratulations to our first graduates and next time you are in Wemindji, enjoy our 3 hour personalized tour of our community.

Source: Wemindji Tourism

Charlene Wawatie

819.978.3737

tourism@wemindji.ca



First trained community tour guides, Wemindji May 2016

From left to right: Henry Stewart, Charlene Wawatie (tourism officer), Charles Matches, Roy Stewart, Donald Stewart, Alexander Wistchee (top left), Jennifer Stewart (top right)



*Cree Nation of Wemindji
One-call Phone Numbers*

Fire Department	819-978-3911
Housing Maintenance	819-978-7265
Drinking Water Dept.	819-978-7508
Waste Water Dept.	819-978-7476
Road & Walkways	819-978-7472
Energy Systems	819-978-7277
Arena Maintenance	819-978-7422
W.H.M.S.C Maintenance	978-7543/7580
Airport Maintenance	819-978-7430
Animal Care & Control	819-978-7473
Communications Officer	819-978-7511

I D D Y O B H G U H W U F D M N F K S R
T K Q H F D E N K C A L B I X T V N A A
X T C L A R K M I S T A C H E E S I C K
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E M F A I T A B A K A K E D P U M H M A
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Q W R D N G L H A Z L W L O A I P A I H
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WORD LIST:

ASQUABANESKUM	DANYLUK	LINKLATER	SHASHAWESKUM
ATSYNIA	FARIES	MARK	SIMPSON
BLACKNED	GEORGEKISH	MATCHES	STEWART
BOISELLE	GILPIN	MAYAPPO	SWALLOW
BROWN	GULL	MCCAFFREY	TAYLOR
BULL	HUGHBOY	MINIQUAKEN	VISITOR
CHEEZO	KAKABAT	MISTACHEESICK	WEAPENICAPPO
CLARK	KUDLU	SHANUSH	WEISTCHE

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT COULD BE
IN OUR NEXT ISSUE OF

MAQUATUASHTUK
DIPAJIMUUN

FOR MORE INFO

email: communication@wemindji.ca



As Tawich Distribution Inc. enters its second fiscal year, we are extremely proud of the difficulties that we have overcome and the progress that we have made. We have a new fully implemented inventory management and invoicing system. This, coupled with a highly effective staff, is the foundation upon which TDI will grow in the future.

We are very pleased to announce that we have made our initial orders for hunting and golf apparel. The hunting apparel will be available mid summer and the golf apparel will arrive just in time for the 2016 Golf Benefit at the end of June.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, TDI is searching for new staff. The postings for administrative assistant and technical rep are now closed and we are currently conducting interviews. As we grow, however, we expect that our personnel requirements will grow as well so keep an eye out for new employment opportunities.

TDI would like to wish continued success to our Cree hunters on traditional leave and a great summer to everyone!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Brown
Director of Operations
Tawich Distribution Inc.



Tawich Development Corporation

Summer is on its way! The hustlin' & bustlin' atmosphere of the community is near. It's always a busy time of the year and TDC is no exception. The construction of the new TDC Administration building is very near completion and so we expect to make our big move towards the end of June. We finally have our own building to house our Administration staff and our subsidiary managers and staff.

Our summer hours will be effective from June 13 to August 26:

Monday to Thursday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm
Friday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Our new address & contact information will be:

12 Tawich Road
Wemindji, Quebec J0M 1L0
Telephone: 819-978-3030
Fax: 819-978-3039

We will be having a grand opening in August and at that time; there will be tours of the building for those of you who are interested to see.

We will be publishing an inaugural edition of the Tawich Business magazine in July. We thank Cassandra Danyluk for the hard work and commitment she has demonstrated for researching and writing the articles for this issue. She worked with Jeremy Diamond who did design and layout.

We would like to welcome new staff members:

- Serge Manguelle, Controller – hired since May 2
- Margaret Danyluk, Receptionist (transferred from TCI) – hired since June 6
- Judy Coon-Come, Executive Secretary (replacement) – hired since June 15

TDC and its' subsidiaries will be making presentations at the General Assembly in August, for those of you who want an update on our activities. Our Annual Report 2015-16 will be ready for distribution at the assembly. We wish everyone a great summer filled with fun and awesomeness!



Sports & Recreation Dept.

JUNE 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				BALL HOCKEY CAMP - ARENA		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	BALL HOCKEY CAMP - ARENA					
	BASKETBALL CAMP - COMPLEX					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Longest Drive & Closest to the Pin Contest	BASKETBALL CAMP - COMPLEX				INVITATION BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
INVITATION BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT		ABORIGINAL DAY		WEMINDJI MINOR SPORTS GOLF BENEFIT Val d'Or	JEAN BAPTIST DAY	
26	27	28	29	30	RECREATION BINGO	
	BALL HOCKEY CAMP - ARENA				RADIO – FRIDAY, JUNE 10 MERCHANDISE – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29	

JULY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					CANADA DAY 2016	INVITATIONAL BALL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
INVITATIONAL BALL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT	BALL HOCKEY CAMP - ARENA					LOCAL FISHING DERBY - Trout
	LACROSSE CAMP - ARENA					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
LOCAL FISHING DERBY - Trout	SOFTBALL CAMP - BALLFIELD				WEMINDJI'S BIRTHDAY	
	LACROSSE CAMP – ARENA (JULY 4-15)			INVITATIONAL SENIOR SOFTBALL & FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
INVITATIONAL SENIOR SOFTBALL & FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT	SOFTBALL CAMP - BALLFIELD				RECREATION BINGO	LOCAL FISHING DERBY - Pike
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
LOCAL FISHING DERBY - Pike	SOFTBALL CAMP - BALLFIELD			CREE MINOR SOFTBALL FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT - VD		
	FIELD DAY BALLFIELD – FUN & GAMES & CONTESTS		SOFTBALL CAMP BBQ			LOCAL FISHING DERBY - Walleye
31	SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE – Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays)					
CREE MSFT - VD	OLD FACTORY VISIT 2016 – July 25 – August 3					
LOCAL FISHING DERBY-Walleye	LOCAL FISHING DERBY – WEEKENDS (July 9/10 TROUT,, 23/24 PIKE , 30/31 WALLEYE) – Results August 2					



Paint Hills Uschiniichiiukimikw

Submitted by:
Sonia Gilpin, Programs Coordinator

Hello Wemindji Eeyouch!

We, the Wemindji Youth Department will be collaborating with The Wemindji Youth Council in any Activities, Programs & Events

- **Main Purpose of IYF**

The IYF has been implementing programs and activities designed to restore strength and hope to the youth so they can develop

into productive and responsible citizens. It is widely acknowledged by governments that behavior change is required for a true

Transformation within our communities, however there are few organizations that can and have been focusing these efforts on changing the mindset, starting with our youth.

- **Mindset of IYF**

A strong mindset means that one can break through challenges and become a true leader and a positive member of society.

Prime Ministers and business leaders have and continue to arise out from poverty. The IYF has proven that the solution lies in

Maintaining an appropriate balance by restoring a proper mindset through teaching of the mind

- June 29, 2016 - **Running Marathon**
- July 4-7, 2016 - **Basic Canoe Training**
- July 8, 2016 - **Canoe Races & Youth Trip to Yasinski**
- July 16, 2016 - **Mini Fitness Challenge**
- July 16-25, 2016 - **Canoe Expedition**
- July 20-26, 2016 - **Youth Incentive Trip**

If you should require any information about any of our programs and activities please do not hesitate to contact us at 819-978-3949 or email the Programs Coordinator/ Interim Youth Chief at soniag@wemindji.ca

Youth Department & Youth Council Activities, Programs and Events

From May 29 - June 4, we are collaborating with The Cree Health Board and Social Services of James Bay

"Physical Activity Week in Eeyou Itchee"

Daily Activities

- Soccer Baseball (Ball Field) - May 29
Changed Indoor
- Outdoor Ball Hockey - May 30 *changed*
Indoor Floor Hockey
- Outdoor Dodge ball - May 31st
- Outdoor Cops & Robbers - June 1st
- Outdoor Freeze N' Tag - June 2nd
- Outdoor Basketball (knock-out) - June 3rd
- Community Clean up - June 4th
- Movie Night - June 5th
- June 6-8, 2016 - **1st Annual Career Conference located at the Youth Centre**
- June 15, 2016 - **Youth Council Meeting (open to all youth) at 7:00PM**
- June 17, 2016 - **Move Night/Younique Party/ Female Workshop at 7:00PM**
- June 22, 2016 - **Bike Marathon at 7:00PM**
- June 26 - July 4 - **The Radiant & Clean Heart - Refocusing Our Youth**



Paint Hills Uschimiichikimikw Calendars

June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29 Soccer Baseball (Ball Field)	May 30 Outdoor Ball Hockey 7:00PM	May 31 Outdoor Dodgeball 7:00PM	1 Coffee Break @ 3:00PM/ Outdoor Dodgeball 7:00PM	2 Outdoor Freeze N' Tag 7:00PM	3 Outdoor Basketball (Knock-out) 7PM	4 Community Clean Up
5 Movie Night	6 Career Conference	7 Career Conference	8 Career Conference	9	10 S'more Night Cultural Camp 7:00PM	11 Outdoor Volleyball 7:00PM
12 A walk with youth 7:00PM	13 Outdoor Basketball	14 Continue Outdoor Basketball Games	15 Coffee Break @ 3:00pm/ Youth Council Meeting (open) 7:00PM	16 Outdoor Ball Hockey	17 Movie Night/ Younique Party/ Female Workshop @ 7:00PM	18 Touch Football (Ball Field) 7:00PM
19 Outdoor Dodgeball	20 Outdoor Freeze N' Tag	21 Activity of their Own	22 Bike Marathon	23 Pool Tournament 16+/ 12-15 Activity of their own	24 Pool Tournament 16+/ 12-15 Activity of their own	25 Outdoor Hide N' Seek
26 Game (Not it!)	27 International Youth Fellowship	28 IYF	29 Running Marathon/ IYF	30 IYF		

July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 IYF Canada's Day	2 IYF
3 IYF	4 IYF Basic Canoe Training	5 Basic Canoe Training	6 Basic Canoe Training	7 Basic Canoe Training	8 Canoe Races/ Youth Trip to Yasinski	9 Youth Trip to Yasinski
10 Youth Trip to Yasinski	11	12	13 Mini Fitness Challenge	14 Water Fun	15 Wemindji's Birthday	16 Canoe Expedition
17 Canoe Expedition	18 Canoe Expedition	19 Canoe Expedition	20 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip	21 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip	22 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip	23 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip
24 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip	25 Canoe Expedition/ Youth Incentive Trip	26	27	28	29	30
31						