

# OCCC NEWS

OUR CULTURE, OUR TRADITIONS, OUR LANGUAGES SHALL SURVIVE

## OCCC SCHOLARSHIP



Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre

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[info@occc.ca](mailto:info@occc.ca)





The staff are busy developing resources for the NAN schools.  
Contact us and see what's new!

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## GREAT MOON GATHERING 2017



On February 16 & 17, 2017, teachers attended the Great Moon in South Porcupine at the Northern College Campus. Over 300 teachers, principals, native language teachers, education authorities attended many interesting workshops. We also set up a display at Northern College for participants to view our resources.



Teachers visiting the Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre



Bunnie Sutherland winner of our draw at the Great Moon Gathering.

## OJIBWAY AND CREE CULTURAL CENTRE

### Annual Scholarship Awards 2016-2017



The Ojibway and Cree Cultural is pleased to announce the winners of its Annual OCCC Scholarship awards. Congratulations to **Jade Elizabeth Wesley** from Peetabeck Academy in Fort Albany, recipient of the *Willie Wesley Memorial Award 2017*.

Congratulations to **Janice Beaver** from Nibinamik Education Centre in Summer Beaver, recipient of the Gilbert and Barbara Baxter memorial Award 2017.

These scholarships are provided in recognition of the students' efforts in promoting language and culture within the NAN area. Consequently, the purpose of these scholarships is to honor those Grade 8 students who are actively involved with language and culture activities in the schools or communities, and show good attendance, attitude, and achievement in school.

The students received a plaque and \$200.00 during their schools graduating ceremonies, surrounded by friends and family. In addition, their names will go on a plaque displayed at the OCCC in Timmins.

Special thanks to Mr. Alex Cranston and Ms. Julie Galbraith for nominating the students.



# OJIBWAY AND CREE CULTURAL CENTRE Grade 8 Scholarship



The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre is pleased to announce that it is sponsoring its **13th** annual OCCC scholarship for two Grade 8 First Nation students in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation. These scholarships are provided in **memory of Willie Wesley (for the east) and Gilbert and Barbara Baxter (for the west)** for their efforts in promoting language and culture within Nishnawbe Aski Nation. Consequently, one student from the east and one student from the west will be chosen as recipients of these awards. To be eligible these students must be members of one of the 49 NAN communities and returning to Grade 9 in the new school year.

The purpose of these scholarships is to honour those students that exemplify the following qualities: (a) actively involved with language and culture activities in the school or community, and (b) show good attendance, attitude, and achievement in school. If you feel a student in your school is worthy of such an award then please submit a one page essay describing why you feel that this student should be honoured with this scholarship. Entries should be submitted on or before **May 4 , 2018.**

Two students will be selected from the entries received by the staff of the Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre. These winning students will receive a plaque, \$200.00, and mention in the OCCC Newsletter or Wawatay News. In addition their names will be placed on a plaque located at Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre in Timmins.

**Please fax submissions to Kim Piche at (705) 267-4988 or e-mail to [kpiche@occc.ca](mailto:kpiche@occc.ca)**

# SUMMER STUDENT 2017



***Abigail Davey***



***Kelsie Iserhoff***

Another great summer with the summer students. The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre was very fortunate to have the opportunity to hire 2 summer students. We were able to obtain funding from 2 various funding agencies for these positions.

The funding sources were Mushkegowuk Employment and Training and Service Canada. Our dedicated and beautiful students were Kelsie Iserhoff and Abigail Davey. The students were kept busy during the summer with various duties. It was an honor and privilege to work with these beautiful students. Wishing them all success in their future endeavours. Abigail was heading to Ottawa and will be studying Aboriginal Studies at Algonquin College and Kelsie will be attending George Brown and studying Media Foundations. We miss you girls and your beautiful smiles.



# LEGENDS CORNER

## WEE-SA-KI-JAHK AND THE TREES

Told by Lizzie Matthews

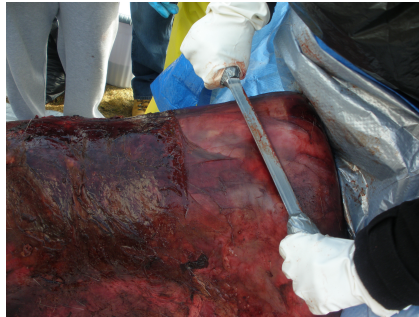
One time Wee-sa-ki-jhak killed a bear. "Now I will cook. Now I will eat. I am very hungry", he said. Wee-sa-ki-jhak started to skin the bear. He threw the intestines aside with the liver still attached. Then Wee-sa-ki-jhak made a big fire. He started to cook a big meal. "It must be cooked by now," he said. Wee-sa-ki-jhak removed the bear from the fire. "I will be full too soon. I will use the trees to squeeze my stomach so there will be more room," he continue. Wee-sa-ki-jhak walked towards two trees that were nearby. He stood between them and said, "Trees, come closer." The trees came closer. They began to squeeze Wee-sa-ki-jhak. "Stop it, stop it, not too hard," he said. But the trees kept on squeezing. "Stop it, stop it. You're hurting me," he told them. "You're squeezing me flat," he said. The trees squeezed him even more tightly. "Hey, creatures. Come and eat. Wee-sa-ki-jhak has finished cooking for you," shouted the trees. Sure enough the creatures came running. All different kinds of animals came running. It did not take long before the whole bear disappeared. When Wee-sa-ki-jhak saw his food being eaten so fast, he got very angry. "You make me so angry," he told the trees. Wee-sa-ki-jhak forced his way loose and twisted the trees on either side of him.



## CULTURAL WORKSHOPS AT OCCC

On April 11 & 12, the Ojibway and Cultural Centre and the Timmins Native Friendship Centre hosted a 2-day Cultural Workshop, "Moosehide Scrapping and Geese Plucking".

Students were invited to participate and learn hands on the technique. Moosehide Scrapping is a traditional practice that fewer and fewer people take the time nowadays to do the work. The students also learn how to pluck a goose. Plucking a goose can be a messy ordeal, so you need to take precautions when preparing the plucking area to confine the mess.





Look who dropped in for a visit. We were happy when Dennis Austin dropped by and came to visit the Cultural Centre. Before moving to Thunder Bay to work at the Confederation College in the Film Department, he worked as the Media Production Director. It was real nice to catch up. Thank you Dennis for your visit.



## MEDICAL STUDENTS



2 students from the Northern Ontario School of Medicine had the opportunity to spend time with the staff of OCCC and learn more about the culture. A day trip to Miken Otaski

# ART WORKSHOP



The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre hosted an art workshop on April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> in Timmins, Ontario. Ojibway artist, Brian Waboose from Birch Island conducted the workshop. Brian is also a motivational speaker and talked about drugs and alcohol. Each student completed their own painting. They were all very proud of their artwork. Brian, an Ojibwe Indian, is known for his colourful paintings symbolic of wildlife, natural phenomena, Indian culture, and human experience. His paintings, carvings and sculptures illuminate the conceptual reawakening of Ojibwe thought within the universal languages of colour and icon.



# A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT OCCC

The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre has been located in Timmins since 1974. It all began in 1974 as one of seven programs of the Grand Council Treaty #9. Now known as Nishnawbe Aski Nation. Incorporated since October 1974. Our role is to serve the educational cultural and language and traditional interest of the people of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre has received numerous requests from many cities in the USA, European countries, including Sweden, Germany, Poland, Japan, New Zealand. Travellers from Spain, Philippines, Turkey, and Italy have visited the Cultural Centre.

One of the major accomplishment has been the establishment of the native oriented library.

Previous Executive Director's

- Carol Nadjiwon
- Alex Spence
- Abe Joly      **WINTER 2017**
- Esther Wesley
- Bert Morrison
- Dianne Riopel – Present



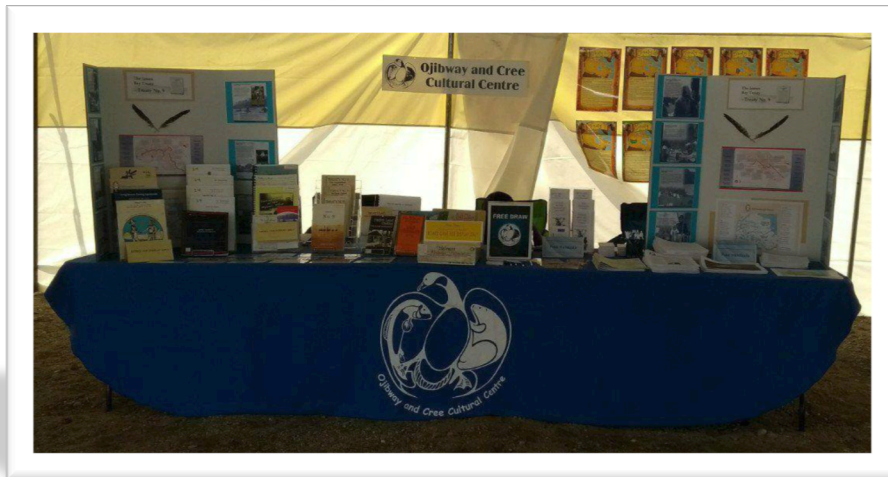
## 2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back right: Bill Louttit, Frank McKay, Cathy Therriault, Geordi Kakepetum, Gary Naveau

Front right: Irene Ross and Belina Anderson

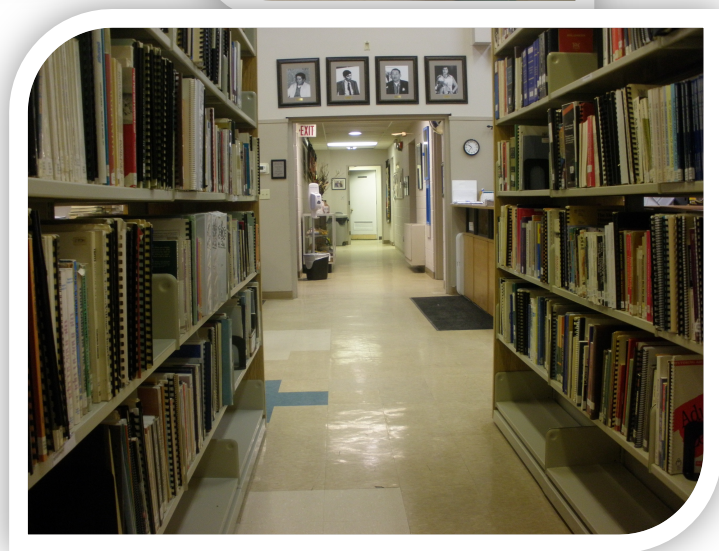
# VARIOUS DISPLAYS



# VARIOUS PRESENTATIONS



# Visit our beautiful library



## Resource Centre Library at your fingertips!

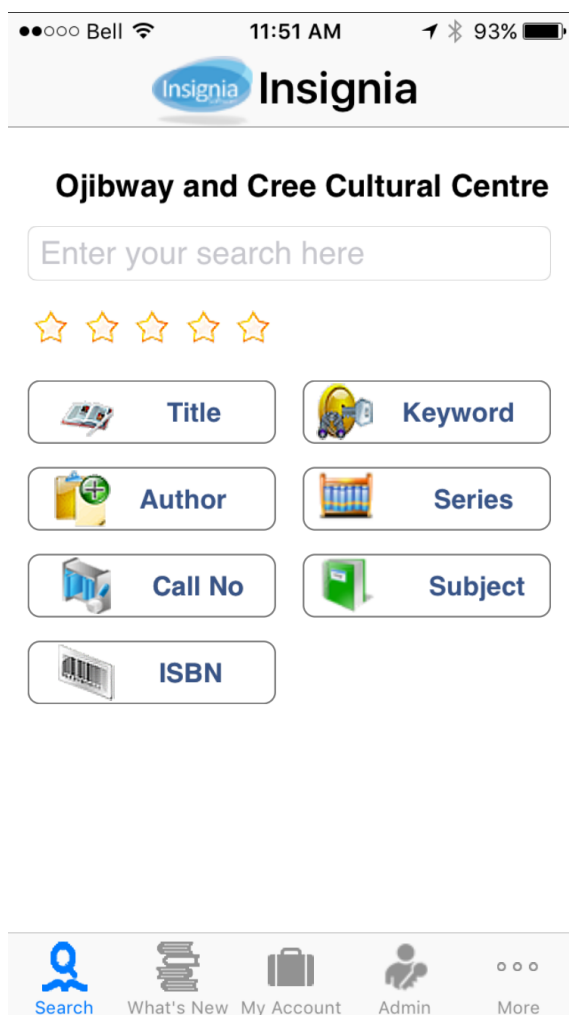
*The Resource Centre currently has an APP available for patrons to have access to our library anywhere, anytime!*

Insignia currently offers two mobile applications that allow patrons to search the library 24/7 from anywhere with internet access. These mobile applications exist for Android and Apple iOS operating systems.



## Smartphone Apps

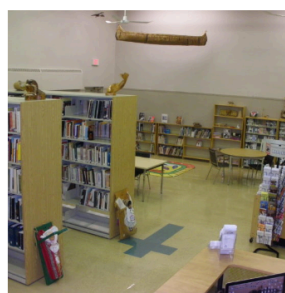
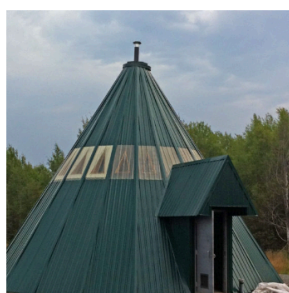
Insignia Library System comes with Smartphone Apps for Apple and Android devices, the App provides the patron with search and reserve capability. Staff can also do circulation and inventory.



# COMING SOON! NEW OCCC WEBSITE



[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [SERVICES](#) [ONLINE RESOURCES](#) [CONTACT US](#)



Our Culture, Our Traditions, Our Languages  
Shall Survive.

OCCC HAS A NEW LOOK!

[WWW.OCCC.CA](http://WWW.OCCC.CA)

QUESTIONS?

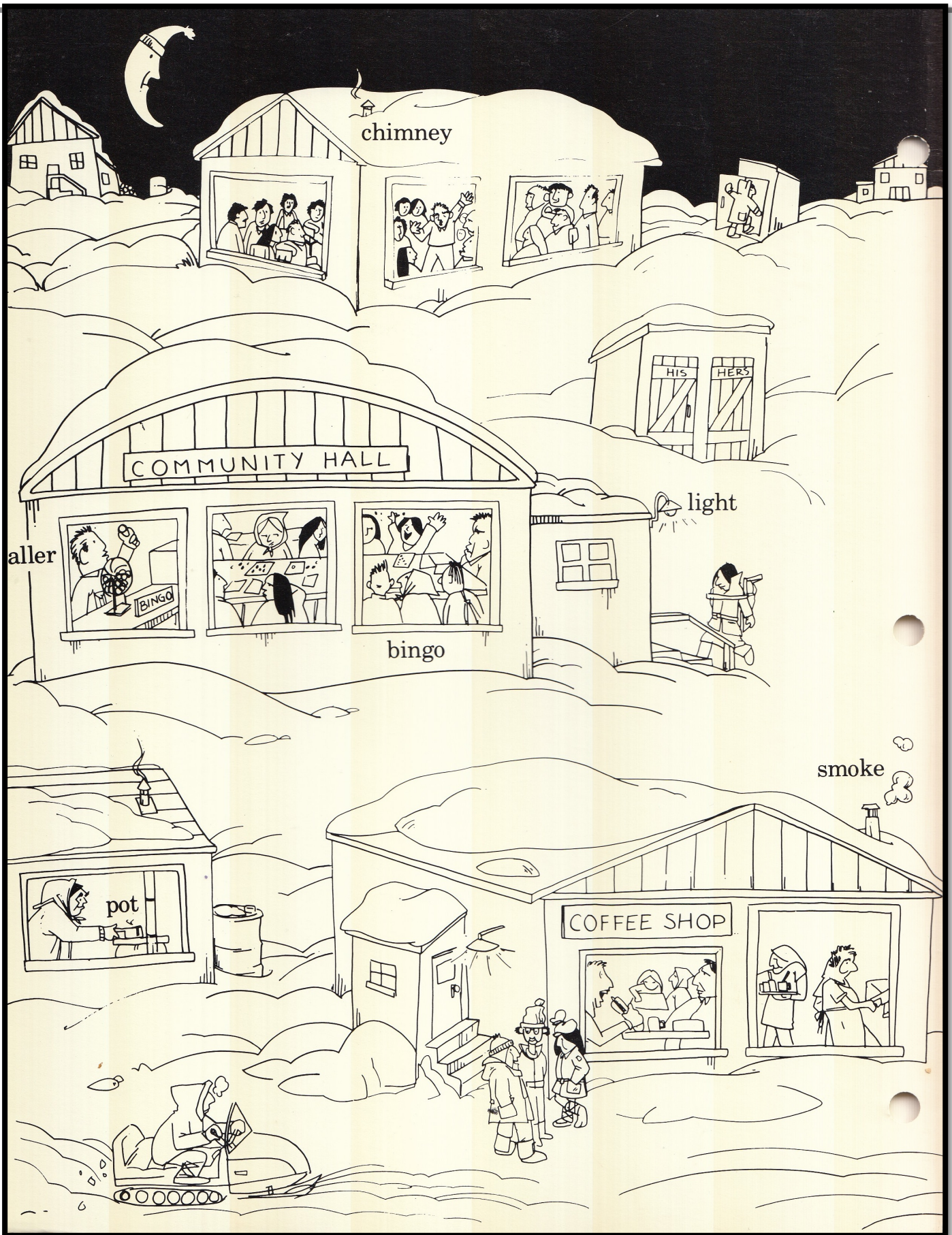
[info@occc.ca](mailto:info@occc.ca)

705.267.7911 weekdays 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

# HORIZON FOR SENIORS

The OCCC received funding from Government of Canada, to host workshops with the elders from Golden Manor and Extendicare in Timmins. We hosted workshops on traditional games, bannock making, Legends and Sing-a-long, Storytelling, Reminiscing About the Past, Show and Tell. These workshops will be completed by March 2018.





## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

I would like to introduce you to Shawnee Etherington, a young artist who recently provided some artwork for our centre. She is a Cree woman from Fort Albany First Nation, in the James Bay area. She is 20 years old and likes to draw, listen to music and watch Anime, YouTube videos. She has been drawing ever since the age of 7 years old. She draws by expressing her feelings. She appreciates every day and enjoy life. Shawnee has a beautiful personality and has the most beautiful smile. We hope and wish her the very best with her artistic gifts.

WINTER 2017



From the language program corner, Angela Shisheesh

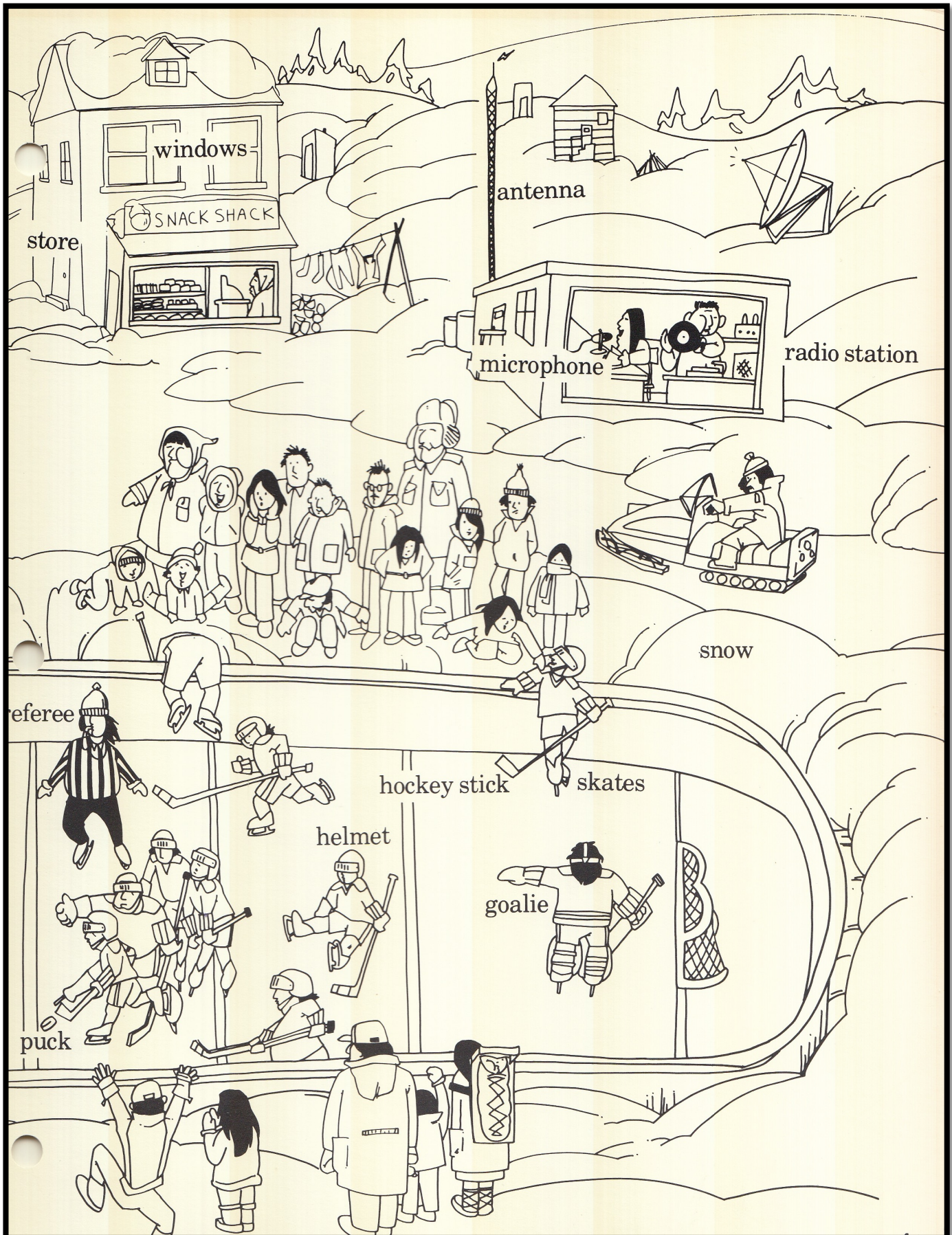


Hello Hello to everyone! From the language corner. It's been busy for me this past few months attending language conferences and whenever there is a Chief conferences doing simultaneous translations. Its been busy for me especially since I am alone in the language department. But I have Debra Hookimaw, a lovely lady and kind that help me to do proofreading, my translation work. I do translations and interpret anyone whoever needs my help I am there for them at anytime never refuse anyone that's my way of sharing my kindness to my fellowmen also respecting the "Motto" of our organization." If it is possible as far, as depends on me, live at peace with everyone. Sooner or later, if I am wise and discover that life is a mixture of good days and bad, victory and defeat, give and take. I have learned this in dealing with different things and walks of life in my work field that it does not pay to be sensitive, that I should let some things go over my back like water off a duck's back. I have learned that he/she who loses his/her temper usually loses. I have learned that carrying a chip on my shoulder is the easiest way to hurt others. I have learned many moons ago that the quickest way to become unpopular is to carry tales and gossip about others. I also have learned that people are human and that it does not do any harm to smile and say "good morning" even if it is raining or snowing. Only our Father in heaven knows why the way the weather carries out in our world, we just have to accept it nobody is going to listen to us if we complain about it.

God bless you all.



WINTER 2017



# CANADA 150<sup>th</sup>

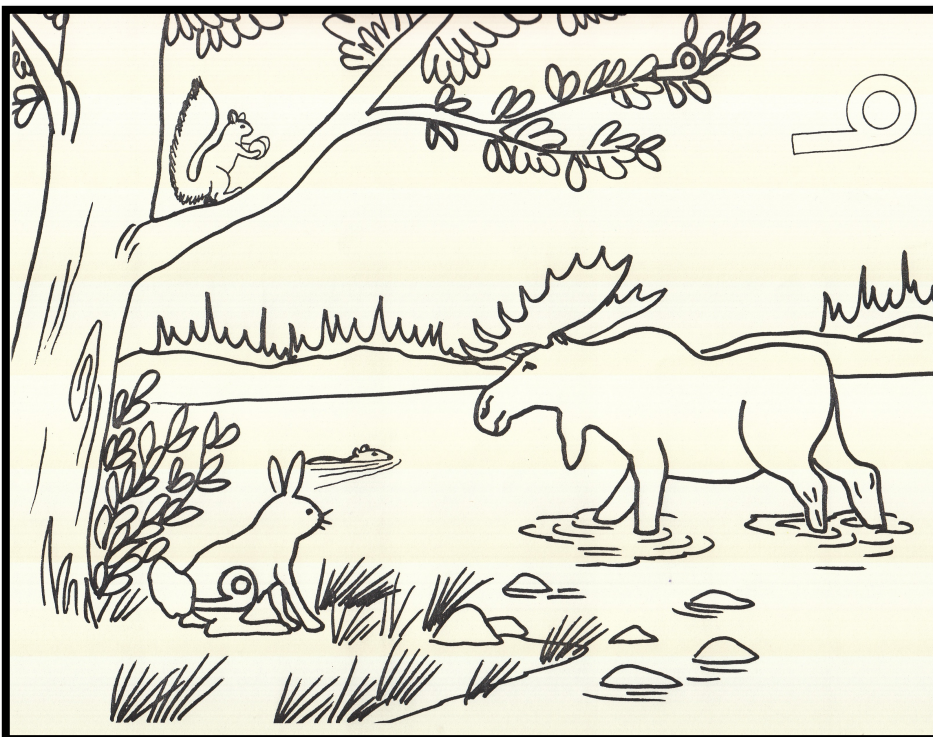
The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre received funding through the Community Foundations Canada to host various workshops for the students sharing the culture. This is in connection with Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Workshops on traditional cooking, Dreamcatchers, Medicine Wheel, Teepee Set up, Traditional Games and Legends, Traditional Ceremonies and 7 Grandfather teachings. We are looking forward in sharing these workshop with the students. These workshop will be completed by March 2018



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# SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



To promote the language and culture, the Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre has been hosting the OCCC Scholarship for over 13 years, to all Nishanwbe Aski Nation schools.. Since 2004, the scholarship is to honour Gilbert and Barbara Baxter from the western part of NAN and the Willie Wesley from the Eastern part of NAN, for their contributions and achievements in the promotion of language and culture. The purpose of these scholarships is to honour those students that exemplify the following qualities:

***(a) actively involved with language and culture activities in the school or community, and***

***(b) show good attendance, attitude, and achievement in school. If you feel a student in your school is worthy of such an award then***

The OCCC encourages all NAN schools teachers to nominate a student who demonstrates these qualities.

## WINTER 2017

Two students will be selected from the entries received by the staff of the Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre. These winning students will receive a plaque, \$200.00, and mention in the OCCC Newsletter or Wawatay News. In addition their names will be placed on a plaque located at Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre in Timmins.

The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre congratulates the following students

### Willie Wesley Memorial Award

2004-Giivwed Kakegabon- Sachigo Lake First Nation 2  
 2005-Jackson Williams-Kashechewan First Nation  
 2006-Serena Koostachin-Attawapiskat First Nation  
 2007 - Felix Neshinapaise-Summer Beaver First Nation  
 2008- Gina Dore-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2009- Calvin Taylor-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2010-Nathan Naveau-Mattagami First Nation  
 2012- Noah Echum-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2013-Riley Waboose-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2015-Bailey Trapper-Cochrane Public School  
 2016-Tyson Ossibens-Long Lac First Nation  
 2017-Jade Elizabeth Wesley-Fort Albany First Nation

### Gilbert and Barbara Baxter Memorial Award

004-Julie Mamakeesic-Sachigo Lake First Nation  
 2005-Bradley Strang-Poplar Hill First Nation  
 2006-Michael Rae-Deer Lake First Nation  
 2007-Lani Ostamas -Deer Lake First Nation  
 2008-Matthews Morris-Kasabonika First Nation  
 2009-Allison Neshinapase-Summer Beaver First Nation  
 2011-Hannah Meshake-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2012-Waylon Harper-Keewaywin First Nation  
 2013-Dominick Beardsy-Kiingfisher Lake First Nation  
 2015-Yvan Shane Winter-Wapekeka First Nation  
 2016-Tyson Ossiben-Ginoogaming First Nation  
 2017-Janice Beaver-Summer Beaver First Nation

Scholarship information will be sent out to all NAN schools sometime at the beginning of March 2018. Again, we encourage you to nominate a student. If you should have any questions, please contact the Centre at (705) 267-7911 or [info@occc.ca](mailto:info@occc.ca).