



KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION LIFELONG LEARNING

AHCAHK
SPIRIT BEAR
MUSKWA

MAY 1ST, 2024 ISSUE

LEARN MORE ABOUT US ONLINE!



www.kfnlearning.com



Kapaweno Nehiyawak School

Phone: 780.751.0008 | E-mail: admin@kfnschool.ca



Annual Spring Parent Teacher and Open House Event a Hit



Kapawe'no First Nation - At Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, Buffalo Bay Academy and FNVLC our students, teachers and staff continue to strengthen our foundation. This year's annual Parent Teacher Open House saw increased attendance and more registration and applications for the upcoming school year.

Our distinctive programs, unavailable elsewhere in the region, drive our progress. Full academics with numeracy and literacy initiatives, a comprehensive safety plan, and unique academic offerings in nêhiyawawein,

more on page 5

Principal Cory Cardinal Sr. Commends Students and Parents at Buffalo Bay Academy



Kapawe'no First Nation - This April, we are filled with pride for our Junior and Senior High school students at Buffalo Bay Academy. Their commitment to academics and active participation in extracurricular activities deserve high praise.

We also extend my heartfelt thanks to all the parents who joined us for the parent-teacher conference. Your involvement and support are crucial to our students' success. Together, we are fostering a robust and dynamic school community where every student has the opportunity to excel.

Amiro's
STEAKHOUSE



CALL NOW!
780-523-4493

4651-53 Avenue
Box 1348,
High Prairie
Canada, Alberta

Grade 7 Class Enhances Literacy and Numeracy Skills with Board Games

Kapawe'no First Nation - Our Buffalo Bay Academy Grade 7 class is engaging in a creative and immersive approach to learning by incorporating board games into the curriculum. These games are not only fun but they serve as effective learning tools.

Fostering Literacy and Numeracy Through Board Games: Board games are a fantastic way to enhance learning experiences. They can transform abstract concepts into tangible, interactive challenges that require strategic thinking and collaboration.

Role-Playing Games like Dungeons & Dragons (DnD): RPGs such as DnD are excellent for developing oral storytelling abilities and problem-solving skills. As students assume the roles of their characters, they're encouraged to think creatively and articulate their thoughts and strategies, thereby improving their language and communication skills.



The Board Game 'Root' and Nêhiyawak Values: 'Root' is a particularly special game in your class's repertoire. It not only provides entertainment but also serves as a cultural bridge to Indigenous values. The game emphasizes the interconnectedness of the forest ecosystem, mirroring the nation-centric

worldview of many Indigenous cultures. By playing as woodland Nêhiyawak creatures like Kahkakiw (Crow), Mahkesis (Fox), and Pisiskes (Raccoon), students learn about cooperation, resource management, and the importance of each species' role in the forest's health and stability.



LET'S PLAY... BASEBALL

JOIN US!



email: admin@kfnschool.ca | phone: (780) 751-0008

Sakihitowin Kihew tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw sakihitowin

Kapawe'no Nehiyawak - Kihcitwaw Kisnawmakiwinah ekwa Wiyasiwiwinah - Sakihitowin - kisonamakonow tanisi ta isi miyo pimacihoyah, tanihsoh kamakoyah kihmamtonicianaw ekwa miyo otinikewin ekwa sakihitowin Teaches us how to make a good life, to help us think good and to show others respect and love.

Today in our Music Class with Mr Mack and Grade K1's. Amazing this is what its all about! Kinanaskomitin - thank you for the inspiration K1's!



Mini Hockey: Moving Parents and Our Little Ones' Hockey Career Forward



Kapawe'no First Nation - In collaboration with Kapown Rehabilitation Center, Director Ms. Jennifer and nation member Mrs. TerryLynn Halcrow played crucial roles in equipping our little ones with mini hockey sticks for our newly launched mini hockey program. The initiative, which started this year in our Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, on our synthetic ice was significantly aided by Ms. Halcrow's efforts to secure the necessary equipment for the program's success.

The participation and enthusiasm of our students suggest that the program will have a lasting impact. We are grateful to all the supporters who contributed to this achievement. A big kinanaskomin to K1 teacher Mrs Jackie Halcrow, Erin Thunder, Daniella Lamouche and Mr. Brian D. Thomas, FNC Athletic Director. We aim to continue the program annually.




EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 3:30 PM

For more information please contact:
 Miss Aaron aaron.courtorielle@kfnschool.ca ■ Miss Wendy Wendy.Lamouche@kfnschool.ca
 or call the school at (780) 751-0008.



Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School and Buffalo Bay Academy
proudly present



YEAR-END Music CONCERT



ALL GRADES WILL BE
PARTICIPATING AND PERFORMING

WEDNESDAY
29 MAY
2024



Orchestrated by
MR FRED MACK

Students will be
performing traditional
Nehiyawak music as
well as reggae,
wind/brass band and
more!

SCHOOL GYM
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM



Annual Spring Parent Teacher and open House event a hit from page 1

taught by our Nêhiyawak teachers, set us apart from mainstream education. Additionally, our fine arts, music, and sports academies are expanding rapidly, and our commitment to the Nêhiyawak miyo pimacihowin through our LAWF ensures ongoing balance.

The event was a resounding success, and we look forward to future successes. Congratulations to Tori Willier, who won an iPad in the draw for students registering for next year.



Fulfilling Fridays: Balancing Learning and Fun at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School

Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School - Our first Friday back was a remarkable success! In Mrs Berlanda Sharkawi Grade 4 class, the day was packed with productive sessions on literacy and numeracy. In addition to these crucial learning components, we treated the students to a fun science movie, "Elemental," available on Disney Plus. This allowed us to efficiently conduct reading assessments and complete report cards while the students were engaged, learning and entertained.

The day didn't just revolve around academic tasks; it also included plenty of physical activity and relaxation. After the movie, everyone enjoyed a refreshing recess break outdoors with a game of kickball, followed by some downtime for hanging out. These Fridays are shaping up to be the perfect blend of instructional time and outdoor fun equaling balance. Here's to many more Fridays like this!



Ruby's GAS BAR
On the Sucker Creek First Nation

Family friendly service
Full service: Gas, Diesel,
Propane, and more...

OPEN DAILY TILL 11PM

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KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION

GRADE 7-12



ACADEMIC AND ATHLETICS
A WINNING COMBINATION!

Knowledge ever increasing...

APPLY TODAY!

email: admin@kfnschool.ca | phone: (780) 751-0008

GROUARD, TREATY 8 TERRITORY (ALBERTA)



FIRST NATION COLLEGIATE BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY

Who We Are

Buffalo Bay Academy, a Grades 7-12 school is part of the First Nation Collegiate at Kapawe'no continues to be an autonomous school. We offer technology-enhanced classrooms to support both traditional and new methods of teaching, offering students a unique blend of the Nêhiyawak way of learning. This blend incorporates Arts, Music, Sports, and LAW teachings through full accreditation by Alberta and our Elder Knowledge Keepers.

Knowledge Ever Increasing

Mission: To enrich learning rooted in Knowledge Ever Increasing blending ancestral wisdom with academics.

Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral wisdom and contemporary knowledge to face and shape tomorrow's challenges.

Unique Features

Customized Curriculum: Now featuring blended online courses to enable personalized pacing and greater subject exploration.

Cultural Affinity: Expanded to include new programs in indigenous botany, astronomy, and seasonal rites and ceremonies.



Governance

While operating under the Kapawe'no First Nation's Governance Codes, our expanded virtual learning environment also allows for a more diversified student body, maintaining our autonomy to serve even more effectively.

Educational Philosophy

"Where tradition fuels the future, we create a distinct path to wisdom and growth." This philosophy is now also backed by the latest research in cognitive science and educational psychology, leading to ever-increasing knowledge and understanding.

Location

At Kapawe'no First Nation our Buffalo Bay Academy is Grades 7-12 school, situated in the

proximity of Kapawe'no First Nation within its ancestral lands along the sacred shores of Buffalo Bay, in Grouard. Here, the land itself serves as a classroom, connecting our students to their ancestral roots.

Flexible Learning

The four-day school week from November to April remains, now enriched by virtual extensions to engage students in additional cultural and educational pursuits during their extended weekends.



more on page 8



Online Presence

Our dedicated website and social media pages, which will be made available shortly, are designed to be interactive platforms where students can access cultural archives and advanced academic resources.

Curriculum at Buffalo Bay Academy

Buffalo Bay Academy is fully accredited by Alberta Education and follows their standards for instructional time. We offer a minimum of 950 instructional hours for Grades 7-9 and 1,000 hours for Grades 10-12, consistent with Alberta Education standards and Kapawe'no First Nation School Authority requirements. To enrich these hours, we've incorporated flexible, additional online modules that can be accessed during extended weekends or evenings.

This maintains our alignment with Alberta's rigorous educational standards while offering our unique blend of traditional and innovative learning experiences.

Core Academic Programs

The core subjects now feature adaptive learning technology to provide a highly personalized educational experience, deeply integrated with Nehiyawak teachings.



Innovative Curriculum Elements

Virtual Reality (VR) Learning: Virtual field trips to sacred sites and augmented traditional storytelling are integrated into the curriculum, preserving tradition in a new form.

Traditional Knowledge Keepers: In addition to in-person teachings, there are also live-streamed sessions where Elders and experts provide real-time learning experiences.

Four Distinct Pillar Academies: Arts, Music, Sports, and LAW academies offer certification courses and internship opportunities to students, fully integrating these pillars into daily learning.

Flexible Schedule

During the winter months, Buffalo Bay Academy is launching an online cultural

exchange program where students can engage with other indigenous communities globally during their extended weekends.

Scan the code to learn more about Buffalo Bay Academy



email: admin@kfnschool.ca
phone: (780) 751-0008

**ACADEMIC AND ATHLETICS
A WINNING COMBINATION!**



FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE (FNVLC)

“Empowering First Nation Students
through Innovative Virtual Education”

Our Journey

Since its establishment on April 1st, 2021, the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) has embarked on a pioneering journey that seeks to redefine education on Turtle Island for students in Grades 4-12.

Our focus extends far beyond the classroom, encompassing all those who aspire to explore and wholeheartedly embrace the rich heritage of our ancestral way of living. We aim to create a future where knowledge transcends traditional boundaries, curiosity knows no bounds, and the immense potential of First Nation students is fully realized.

Mission-Vision-

Mission

“To provide cutting-edge virtual school experiences that transcend traditional boundaries and unlock the potential of First Nation students, as well as those eager to learn about our ancestral ways.”

Vision

“Interactive virtual learning that transports students to higher order thinking and digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations.”



Our journey is driven by the following:

A Commitment to Transformation

At FNVLC, we stand at the forefront of a transformative movement in education. We believe that learning knows no bounds, and through the seamless fusion of the physical and digital realms, we've created an educational experience unlike any other. It's an experience that doesn't merely impart knowledge but integrates the very essence of Nêhiyawak culture and wisdom into every lesson.

An Innovative Approach

Our approach is a testament to innovation. We are dedicated to pushing the boundaries of what's possible in education. From curriculum development to instructional design, we are constantly evolving to meet the dynamic needs of our students. We understand that each student is unique, and our commitment to personalized learning ensures that every individual can thrive in their way.

Empowering Through Education

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, deserves the very best education. Our commitment to excellence is unwavering. Our educators and staff are not just mentors; they are dedicated champions of student success. They work tirelessly to create a nurturing environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment.

more on page 13

High School Drama Production Explores the 21 Promises of Treaty 8 - 1899 and Queen Victoria

Kapawe'no First Nation - High school students in Ms Aaron Courtorielle's drama class are preparing an impactful production titled "21," set to perform at the year's end and the 125th Treaty 8 Celebration. Initially learning about treaties in "Osawapiskaw: The Golden Thread" under Superintendent Mr. Boh Kubrakovich-Kiniw and Ms Aaron, the students have transformed their understanding into a creative expression. They have delved into the depth and complexities of the 21 Treaty rights guaranteed to the Treaty 8 people, recognizing the nuanced realities of these promises—some honored, others not, and all open to interpretation based on language and context.

The students' production will creatively feature 21 promises, each representing a right, guiding the audience through both historical and contemporary interpretations of these rights. Through their studies, including improvisation techniques for live performance, they prepare to share their insights at the end of the school year and the Treaty 8 gathering.

The 21 Treaty rights to be presented include essential guarantees like education, healthcare, and subsistence rights—each

reflecting a facet of the historical agreements and their implications today.

They are learning that the treaty was about sharing the land; the land was not ceded, and the sharing is intended for immigration and settlement, not for extracting resources from the land or territory.

The production is scheduled to begin in early June and will run during the Treaty 8



125th year Celebration from June 16-21, 2024, at Willow Point, Sucker Creek lands.

For more details on showtimes and to support this enlightening performance, please contact Ms Aaron at aaron.courtorielle@kfnschool.ca or call (780) 751-0008.



KAPAWE'NO NĒHIYAWAK SCHOOL

MUSIC LESSONS

MR. FRED MACK
INSTRUCTOR



EVERY MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL

✉ admin@kfnschool.ca

📘 [kapawenofirstnationschool](https://www.kfnlearning.com)

☎ (780) 751-0008



Principal Jorden Thiessen's update on Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School's activities

Kapawe'no First Nation - We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all staff, students, and parents who joined us for our recent Open House and Parent-Teacher Interviews. Your presence and engagement truly make the nation stronger.

As we navigate through the remainder of the school year, let's keep our focus sharp and our efforts unwavering. With June on the horizon, there's still much to achieve, and together, we'll strive for excellence until the very end.

A reminder to those who haven't yet registered for the upcoming year: Pre-registration is ongoing, and we encourage you to secure your spot early. To sweeten the deal, we're thrilled to announce that we've given away an iPad,



and more exciting contests await parents who pre-register. Don't miss out on these opportunities!

"Lastly, let's embrace the promise of spring and renewal that surrounds us. As nature blossoms anew, so too shall our aspirations and accomplishments. Together, let's seize this season of growth and possibility."

Learning Recipes, Kitchen Safety, and the Joys of Banana Bread

Kapawe'no First Nation - In a shift from the traditional classroom to the kitchen, the K1 class at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School started on a hands on learning journey. Under the guidance of culinary teacher Mrs. Belinda Sharkawi, the young students discovered the essentials of following a recipe. "We learned the importance of safety in a kitchen and following a recipe," Mrs. Sharkawi emphasized the steps in creating a dish and where to find ingredients and supplies.

The lesson centered around making banana bread, where children learned the beginning sound and shape associated with the letter 'B'. Due to time constraints, an innovative approach was required; the class prepared two batches of banana bread—one from scratch and another using store-bought dough—each baked in separate ovens to ensure both



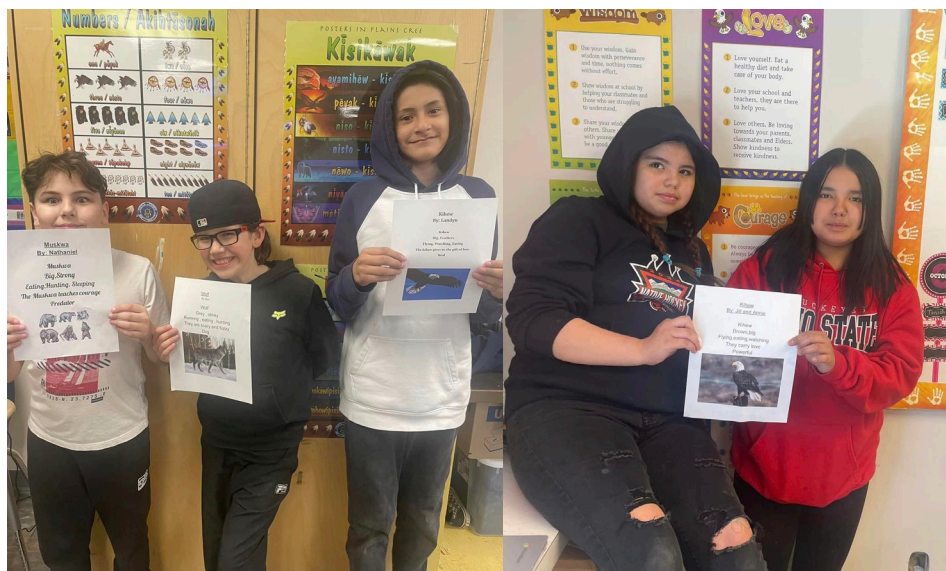
were ready on time. The hands-on experience was a hit: "The kids loved it," Mrs. Sharkawi shared, reflecting on the excitement and engagement during the baking process. Great work students and our teacher Mrs. Sharkawi.



Celebrating National Poetry Month: Grade 5/6 Students Explore Cinquain Poems and Grandmother / Grandfather Teachings

Kapawe'no First Nation - the month of April marks National Poetry, and Ms Samantha Tomkins and Grade 5/6 students at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School are diving deep into the world of poetry. They are exploring various styles and poetic devices, enhancing their understanding of how poetry can express ideas, emotions, or tell stories in unique forms. This week, the focus was on cinquain poems, a specific type of poetry that follows a distinct structure.

Each student crafted a cinquain poem centered around one of the animals from the 7 Grandmother / Grandfather teachings, reflecting on the unique gifts these animals bring to people and how these teachings resonate in their own lives. After completing



a rough draft in their poetry notebooks, students were tasked with typing their poems and accompanying them with an image,

integrating computer skills, curriculum learning, and cultural teachings into one enriching activity.

KAPAWE'NO NÊHIYAWAK SCHOOL

LACROSSE

JOIN US!

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

A photograph of a lacrosse practice session. Several students wearing helmets and holding lacrosse sticks are on a wooden floor. A teacher is standing in the background, holding a lacrosse stick. The scene is set in a gymnasium with wood-paneled walls.

First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 9

The Guiding Principles

Our guiding principles for the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) are foundational beliefs and values that shape its mission, vision, and approach to education. Our guiding principles include:



Cultural Respect and Preservation: To honor and respect our ancestral cultures, traditions, and languages, and to work towards their preservation and revitalization;

Inclusivity and Equity: To provide equitable access to quality education for all First Nation students, regardless of their location, background, or circumstances;



Community Engagement: To actively involve and engage with the local Indigenous communities, Elders, and knowledge keepers to ensure the curriculum and approach are culturally relevant and meaningful;

Holistic Education: To offer a well-rounded education that includes cultural teachings, traditional knowledge, and values alongside academic subjects.

Innovation and Adaptation: To be open to innovative approaches in education and adapt to the changing needs of students while

Our journey is driven by the following... from page 9

Inclusivity Beyond Borders

As we look to the future, our commitment to virtual education remains steadfast. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance. Our focus is to extend educational opportunities to all corners of our vast and diverse Turtle Island.

Venturing into the Future

The future of education is boundless, and at FNVLC, we are poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

Join Us in the Journey

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to join us on this transformative journey of discovery, learning, and cultural celebration. Together, we can redefine education and empower the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and visionaries.



preserving cultural integrity;

Empowerment: To empower students to become leaders, thinkers, and contributors to their communities and the broader society;

Sustainability: To ensure the sustainability of Indigenous cultures and languages by incorporating them into the educational experience.

more on page 15

Junior High Students Embrace Fine Arts and 3D Printing at Buffalo Bay Academy

Kapawe'no First Nation - As term 2 began, Buffalo Bay Academy junior high students were introduced to exciting new elective options, choosing fine arts and 3D printing. In the 3D printing classes, students have been innovative, experimenting with various materials and techniques.

They've used themes like the sun and moon to fuel their creativity, applying their ideas to different mediums including clay, acrylics, oils, and textured paints on canvas and paper.

One student who has particularly stood



out is Grade 7's Akira Courtorielle, whose work exemplifies the integration of arts, technology, and science.

Ms. April Adamson, a teacher at the academy, noted, "Akira's dedication to mastering 3D modeling and printing has honed her abilities and also enriched her artistic expression. It's inspiring to see her bridge multiple disciplines to create something truly impactful."

This creative approach has significantly broadened students' understanding of the interplay between different creative and scientific fields.



LEARN

Hand drum and grandfather drum
Drum making and painting of drums
Hand rattles with our Female students

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
AND FRIDAYS
DURING LUNCH HOUR**

Please stay connected with
Mr. Cory Cardinal Jr
for practice times, lessons
and any other questions.

First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 13

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead, our commitment to virtual education remains unwavering. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance.

Let's delve deeper into what this forward-looking commitment entails:

Unwavering Commitment to Virtual Education

The FNVLC is resolute in its commitment to virtual education. This means that it recognizes the importance of leveraging digital platforms to provide accessible and flexible learning opportunities.

Innovative Indio Network Platform

The mention of the "Indio Network platform" signifies the FNVLC's investment in cutting-edge technology and infrastructure to deliver education. This platform likely offers features and tools designed to enhance the virtual learning experience.



Transformative Learning Experiences

The FNVLC is not content with just delivering education; it aims to make a difference in students' lives. "Transformative learning experiences" indicate that the FNVLC is dedicated to providing education that goes beyond the acquisition of knowledge. It's about personal growth, development, and empowerment.

Accessibility Across Turtle Island

The FNVLC's commitment to streaming lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island emphasizes inclusivity. Turtle Island is a term used by some Indigenous peoples to refer to North America. By ensuring access to quality education across this vast region, the FNVLC is addressing geographical and circumstantial barriers that might hinder educational opportunities.

Equity in Education

The overarching goal is to ensure that all First Nation students, regardless of where they are located or their personal circumstances, have equitable access to a high-quality education. This commitment aligns with the FNVLC's mission to empower students and promote educational equity.

In essence, "Looking Ahead" signifies the FNVLC's readiness to embrace the future of education, leveraging technology to provide transformative and accessible learning experiences to First Nation students. It reflects a dedication to breaking down barriers and ensuring that education reaches every corner of Turtle Island, ultimately contributing to the empowerment and success of Indigenous communities.

Unbounded Possibilities

The future of education is boundless, and we're poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

Let's explore the key points in this statement:

Boundless Future of Education

The FNVLC acknowledges that the future of education is limitless. It recognizes that traditional boundaries and limitations are giving way to new possibilities and opportunities in education.

Embracing the Future

The FNVLC is not just passively observing but actively embracing the changing landscape of education. It is willing to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of students in this rapidly changing world.

Venturing into Uncharted Territories

This phrase signifies the FNVLC's willingness to explore new and innovative approaches to education. It is ready to take risks and pioneer new methods to enhance the learning experience.

Expanding Virtual Content

By expanding virtual content, the FNVLC is broadening the scope of subjects and resources available to students. This reflects a commitment to providing a comprehensive and diverse educational experience.

more on page 17

Students Leading the Way with Sovereign Foods

Kapawe'no First Nation - Students from both Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School (K-6) and Buffalo Bay Academy (7-12) are leading the way in our sovereign foods program, spearheaded by the Grade 7 class and teacher Ms April Adamson and EA Ms Melissa Loupette.

The students are currently planting a variety of vegetables such as lettuce, tomatoes, squash, and pumpkins, as well as various flowers. This initiative enhances our school and fostering an understanding of sovereign food sources and sustainable agricultural practices.

Through this program, students are learning about the traditional "Three Sisters" of planting corn, beans, and squash, a technique that exemplifies intercropping and sustainability. They are also gaining insights into the life cycles, development, and diverse uses of the plants and soils. This hands-on approach is deepening their appreciation for traditional knowledge and sovereign food practices, bridging the gap between historical wisdom and contemporary environmental stewardship.



JOIN US!

MUSKIMUT PAKAHTOWAN
BASKETBALL

TUESDAYS AT 6PM

Those interested in participating or gaining more insight
can reach out to Brian Thomas at 780.751.0008

Buffalo Bay Academy Opens Registration for the 2024/25 School Year

Kapawe'no First Nation - Registration for the 2024/25 school year at Buffalo Bay Academy is open! We encourage you to apply either online or in person at our school. This year, we are implementing the 80/80 academic initiative, which requires students to maintain an 80% attendance rate and an 80% academic average to participate in sports and events.

In addition to our academic standards, we are excited about the enhancements in our music, fine arts and LAWF programs. Our elite U15 and U18 hockey and basketball teams are also set to travel and compete, showcasing



our strong athletic programs and Muskwak pride. Embracing our Nehiyawak way of life and teachings, we continue to offer a top-

notch educational and cultural experience.

This year, we are providing accommodations for students who wish to reside at the academy. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of our thriving nation and school this upcoming school year.



Scan the code to learn more about Buffalo Bay Academy

First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 15

Interactive Virtual Field Trips

The mention of virtual field trips indicates a commitment to immersive and experiential learning. It allows students to explore places and concepts beyond the confines of a traditional classroom.

Digitized Learning Experiences

Digitized learning experiences make education engaging and fun. They leverage elements of games to motivate and challenge students, enhancing their learning experience.

Personalized Learning Paths

Recognizing that every student is unique, the FNVLC aims to provide personalized learning paths. This approach tailors education to individual needs, interests, and aspirations.

Limitless Possibilities

The statement emphasizes that there are no limits to what education can achieve. It conveys a sense of ambition and determination to explore all the opportunities and innovations that the future holds.

Unbounded Possibilities reflects the FNVLC's commitment to pushing the boundaries of education. It aims to create an educational environment that is dynamic, engaging, and tailored to individual learners, while

embracing emerging technologies and pedagogical approaches. This forward-looking vision signifies a dedication to providing students with an education that prepares them for the limitless opportunities of the future.

Courses Offered 2023/24

Our diverse curriculum includes a range of courses to cater to the diverse interests and needs of our students.



Independent Studies (Choose from a catalog of independent studies courses under supervision).

Over 150 courses available virtually

These courses include:

- Social Studies 10-1, 10-2, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, 30-2
- Art 10, 20, 30
- English 10, 20, 30
- Family Law (10)
- Intro To Psychology (10)
- Nêhiyawêwin 10, 20, 30

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Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimacihowin and our Grade K1's through Pwatisimow

Kapawe'no First Nation - At Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School the Grade K1 students, led by Mrs. Jackie Halcrow, are engaging themselves in Pwatisimow (powwow) under the beautiful guidance of Ms. Erin Thunder.

Pwatisimow is a vibrant expression of our Nêhiyawak miyo pimacihowin (way of life). "It's inspiring to witness our young students embrace traditional dancing", said Principal Mr Jorden Theissen.

Pwatisimow teaches them about miyo pimacihowin and allows them to participate in a living tradition that has been passed down through generations. The enthusiasm and energy they bring to each performance are a testament to the enduring spirit of the Nêhiyawak.



Nêhinawêwin words they have been learning during their practice time;

- Pwatisimow (pwaht sim ow) – powwow
- Nimihitow (nee me hi two) – dance
- Picicwikamik (pee chee chee whee kah mihk) – lodge for powwow
- Mistikwaskik (mih stick wahs kick) – drum
- Pakahamanahtik (pah kah ha mah nah tihk) – drum stick
- Mikwahp (mee kwahp) – tipi
- Seskices (see ski chees) – roach/men's regalia
- Ospwakan (ooh spwa kahn) – ceremonial pipe

LEARNING AND SPEAKING NÊHIYAWÊWIN

**EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY
AT THE BAND OFFICE**

More information, please contact Boh

email: admin@kfnschool.ca
phone: (780) 751-0008



First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 17

The Commitment to Excellence

This statement reflects the FNVLC's dedication to providing a top-tier educational experience. Let's delve deeper into what this commitment entails:

Driving Excellence

At the core of our FNVLC is an unwavering commitment to excellence. This means that we continuously strive for the highest standards of quality and effectiveness in every aspect of education that we offer.

Curriculum Development

We take pride in being leaders in curriculum development. This means that our educational programs are not stagnant but instead evolve to meet the changing needs of students and society. We invest time and resources in creating engaging, relevant, and up-to-date curricula.

Instructional Design

Our instructional design reflects our commitment to delivering the best learning experiences. We employ innovative teaching methods and technology to ensure that students are actively engaged in their education. Our instructional design is geared toward promoting creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Dedicated Team

Our educators and staff are the backbone of our FNVLC. They are a dedicated team that works tirelessly to ensure that our students receive the highest level of support and guidance. Their passion for education is what drives our commitment to excellence.

Fostering Creativity

We believe that education is not just about

memorizing facts; it's about fostering creativity. Our approach encourages students to think outside the box, explore new ideas, and develop innovative solutions to real-world problems.

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is a cornerstone of our educational philosophy. We equip students with the skills to analyze information critically, make informed decisions, and navigate complex challenges.

Cultural Enrichment

We understand the importance of cultural enrichment. Our commitment extends beyond academics to include a celebration of culture, heritage, and diversity. We believe that a well-rounded education includes an appreciation for different cultures and perspectives.

Accessibility

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, should have access to the very best education. This commitment to accessibility ensures that our FNVLC is inclusive and welcoming to students from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

In summary, our "Commitment to Excellence" is a holistic dedication to providing students with a high-quality, forward-thinking education. We prioritize innovation, creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment to ensure that every student receives the very best education possible. This commitment is a testament to our mission to empower students and prepare them for success in a rapidly changing world.

Join Us in this New Era of Education

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to be a part of this transformative educational journey at the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre.

For online registration and more information, please visit our Registration Package page or download the package directly from this link;

<https://kfnlearning.com/admissions/>

Join us in shaping the future of education for First Nation students and beyond, where learning knows no bounds, and cultural heritage is celebrated at every turn.



Connect with Principal Crystal Zhang

(780) 751-0008 or

email crystal.zhang@kfnschool.ca

to discover how we can help you or your child embark on a path of discovery, growth, and cultural enrichment.

More information please visit our website: www.kfnlearning.com/virtual-learning/



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Students Learn the Foundation of Flint Knapping

Kapawe'no First Nation - Today our students at both schools learned the foundation of flint knapping. The traditional practice of making stone tools such as arrowheads, spear points, hide fleshers and knives. This technique was used by Nêhiyawak in this area as recently as 200 years ago.

To this day, many obsidian and quartzite stone tools are sharper than steel. The students used percussion flaking and pressure flaking techniques to chip off large stone flakes, which they then slowly chipped and shaped into their desired shape. The tools used include antlers, stones and copper for shaping. This practice helps our students connect with their ancestors through a technique thousands of years old.



State of Play - Athletic Progress and Nation Spirit at FNC with Brian Thomas

Kapawe'no First Nation – 2024 has moved quickly at Kapawe'no First Nation School and Buffalo Bay Academy, where the athletic program continues to thrive balancing with academics.

This year, we've enjoyed an array of sports including volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, badminton, pickleball, lacrosse and archery. However, the standout has been our hockey program, which has grown tremendously. The effort and coordination required from our support staff and players have been substantial, and their hard work has not gone unnoticed.

As we transition from winter to spring, the focus will shift to lacrosse, baseball, track and field, and inter-school badminton competitions. These activities keep our students active and strengthen the bonds



within our community. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in our sports programs. Your participation at all levels truly

makes this a vibrant nation event.
*Brian D. Thomas, Athletic Director at
Kapawe'no First Nation School*



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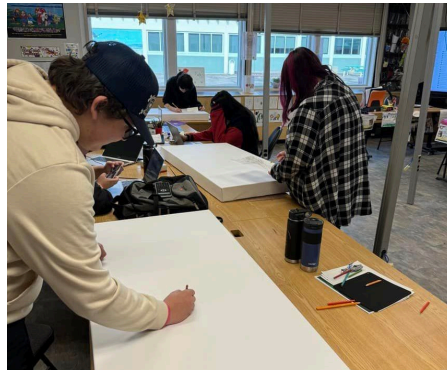
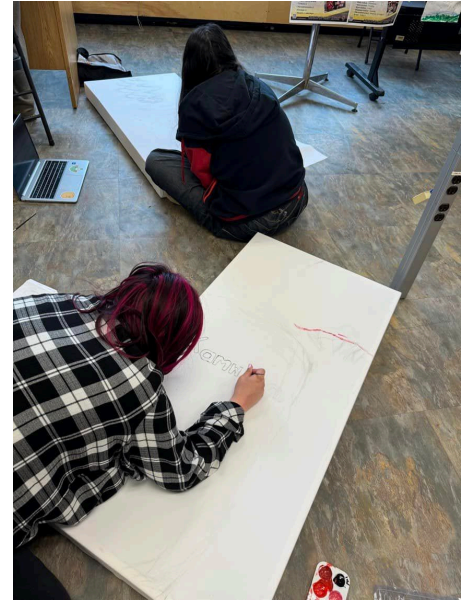
Buffalo Bay Academy High School Students Create Nêhiyawak Inspired Musical Paintings

Kapawé'no First Nation - Under the guidance of Ms. Sherry Bellegarde, the high school students at Buffalo Bay Academy have embarked on an artistic endeavor that harmonizes the visual with the musical. They are creating a series of paintings that embody musical themes, thoughtfully translating these concepts into the Nêhiyawêwin.

These artworks are more than decorations; they are visual interpretations of sound and cultural expression that will soon adorn the walls of Mr. Mack's music classroom.

The terms the students have artistically rendered into Nêhiyawêwin are fundamental to understanding both music and the cultural resonance behind the words.

'Rhythm/beat' is expressed as 'Nihtaciwan,' while 'Loud' takes the form of 'Kisiwew.' The phrase 'Where



music begins' is beautifully conveyed as 'Tanite kitohcikewin macihtawin,' and 'Quiet' is translated to 'Kamwatan.' These paintings, once completed, will serve as both an educational tool and a source of inspiration, reminding students of the intrinsic connection between their language and the universal language of music.

Celebrating Professional Administration Day at our schools

Kapawé'no Nêhiyawak Nation - On this Professional Administration Day, we honor the commitment and excellence of Bernadette Chalifoux at Kapawé'no Nêhiyawak School, Buffalo Bay Academy and FNVLC. Her diligence and adept administration are cornerstones of our schools' success, contributing to a thriving learning environment.

Today, we recognize and thank her for her invaluable service and the professionalism she exemplifies in our Nation.





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Virtual Principal Crystal Zhang Highlighting Cultural and Academic Excellence: Spotlight on Benjamin and Malaya Chartrand

Kapawe'no First Nation - Join us in celebrating the remarkable journey of Benjamin and Malaya Chartrand, two of our outstanding students at our virtual school! Today, we honour not only their academic success but also their profound cultural achievement.

Every morning, our school community gathers in person and virtually, and it is during this sacred time that Benjamin has demonstrated exceptional dedication and fluency in both Nêhiyawêwin and Anishinaabe. With grace and reverence, he leads the entire school in morning prayer, embodying the essence of our cultural heritage and linguistic richness.

In our virtual classrooms, language learning transcends mere proficiency; it becomes a gateway to cultural empowerment and identity. Through engaging methods and immersive experiences, our students, like Benjamin and Malaya, embrace the beauty of



Anishinaabe and Nêhiyawêwin and traditions, fostering a deep connection to their heritage. The significance of Benjamin and Malaya's achievement extends beyond academic

boundaries. It symbolizes resilience, pride, and the strength of cultural revival. By embracing and preserving their ancestral languages, they are not only becoming fluent speakers but also proud ambassadors of their respective nations.

At our virtual school, we celebrate not only academic milestones but also cultural triumphs. Benjamin and Malaya's success is a testament to the effectiveness of our virtual learning platform, which empowers students to thrive academically while honouring their cultural identities.

Join us in applauding Benjamin and Malaya for their outstanding achievements and in celebrating the vibrant diversity and cultural richness of our virtual school community! Nêhiyawêwin and Anishinaabe flourish in our virtual halls, serving as a testament to the richness of our heritage and the promise of our future.

Physiotherapist Services for Kapaweno Student Athletes

Kapawe'No First Nation - At our Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School, Jaime Malanchuk observed our class grade 2/3 @ 11am on Tuesday April 23rd for badminton serving classroom instruction.

She was very kind and took a keen interest in what I was doing during our instruction. As the class moved along we noticed she put down her pen, pad and joined

our class and partnered with one of our students Suki enjoying a set of badminton.

Sport has a unique way of bring the child back in us and a great way to break down walls. Our students will greatly benefit with the expertise of a physiotherapist because of the progress of our sports academy. Thank you Kapwe'no Health Centre for the continued support.





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