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# JUNE 15<sup>st</sup>, 2024 ISSUE

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# Buffalo Bay Academy Students Honor Tradition at Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering

Kapawe'no First Nation / Sucker Creek First Nation - The Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering saw a profound demonstration of tradition and unity as Buffalo Bay Academy students participated in the grand entry, paddling the waterways from Buffalo Bay. This significant event, which united together nations within the Treaty 8 territory, focuses on discussing sovereignty, treaties, and future directions.

The students, adorned in their Muskwak jerseys, have been preparing diligently for this moment. Their commitment and effort were evident as

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#### Showcasing Excellence at the Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering: First Nation Collegiate's Pillar Schools

Willow Point, Sucker Creek First Nation - At the Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering, First Nation Collegiate set up a booth to highlight its four pillar schools: Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School (K-6), Buffalo Bay Academy (7-12), First Nation Virtual Learning Centre, and Kapawe'no Outreach/Adult Education.

The booth attracted significant interest, showcasing unique programs like on-the-



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#### Buffalo Bay Academy Students Honor Tradition at Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering from page 1

they paddled their canoes, embodying the resilience and strength of their ancestors through song and harmony. The sight of young Nêhiyawak students arriving on the shore was a deeply moving moment, bringing elder knowledge keepers and members to tears with joy and pride. Elder Knowledge Keeper Mike Beaver shared, "When I saw the students arrive on the shore, I rejoiced and cried. It was truly inspiring.

"This event is a celebration of the 125th anniversary of Treaty 8 and a powerful reminder of the enduring spirit of the treaty and protecting the lands, resources water of our unceded territory. The gathering serves as a platform for discussing crucial issues related to sovereignty and treaty rights, fostering a sense of solidarity and purpose among the nations.

As the canoes glided through the waters, accompanied by the rhythmic sounds of traditional drums, the atmosphere was filled with a sense of reverence and determination. The students' dedication to Pimacihowin and their role in this historic gathering is a testament to the strength and resilience of the Nêhiyawak people.





# Buffalo Bay Academy Students help at Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering Registration

Willow Point, Sucker Creek First Nation - At the Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering, on Monday 17 June 2024, Buffalo Bay Academy students stepped up to assist with registration, showcasing their dedication and nation spirit. Under the guidance of the amazing Michelle Knibb, Lifetime Councillor Pam Halcrow, Lifetime Councillor Deb Chalifoux, and Elder Knowledge Keeper Diane Halcrow, Grade 8/9 Instructor Wendy Lamouche, the students managed registration efficiently and warmly welcomed attendees.

The involvement of Buffalo Bay Academy students at the Oti Nekan 125th Treaty 8 Gathering underscores the academy's role in nurturing future leaders who are grounded in their Pimacihowin and ready to contribute meaningfully to their Nations.







# Culinary Creativity and Exciting Field Trips at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School

Kapawe'no First Nation - Our K-6 students at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School wrapped up their foods class by making pizza, showcasing their culinary skills and teamwork.

As a year-end treat, our Grade 4 students enjoyed a field trip to KFC, celebrating their hard work and achievements this school year. Additionally, we want to highlight Jaze's impressive diorama. Using feathers and rocks, Jaze created a fire, explaining in his slide presentation that it symbolizes warmth and cooking, demonstrating his creativity and understanding of essential survival skills.



#### Showcasing Excellence at the Oti Nekan125th Treaty 8 Gathering: First Nation Collegiate's Pillar Schools from page 1

land learning, the Leadership and Wellness Framework (LAWF), music and sports academies, and the innovative 80/80 balance of attendance and grade average.

Interest generated at the booth signifies strong support for First Nation Collegiate's learning approach. This week alone, the increased engagement has doubled our





registration numbers, and we expect this trend to continue. First Nation Collegiate stands as a place for learning excellence, driven by a commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders. The staff's dedication





and innovative programs ensure students are well-prepared for the future and ready to achieve great things.



### Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School Kindergarten-Grade 1 Class Update

Kapawe'no First Nation - We proudly report that the Kindergarten-Grade 1 class at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School has achieved notable success this year in reading, printing, and mathematics. "I am very proud of these students; they are exceptional individuals," said Ms. Halcrow. She believes in the potential of her students and encourages them to pursue any path they choose in the future. "I let them know that anything is possible," she added.

Ms. Halcrow, along with Erin Thunder and Daniella Lamouche, has fostered a strong group of students who follow the classroom and playground rules. "We have created a positive and safe atmosphere where students want to be and learn with enthusiasm," Ms. Halcrow stated. This supportive environment has been reflected in the students' progress throughout the school year.







Kindergarten students: Sage, Luca, Kadince, Easton, Malaya, Jason Grade 1 students: Caprice, Chloe, Kaydee, Nicholas, William Teacher: Ms. J. Halcrow, E.A.: Erin Thunder, E.A.: Daniella Lamouche





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



# **Learning Through a Close Battle**

Kapawe'no First Nation – On June 4th, 2024, our Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School hosted Atikameg School from White Fish First Nation in a spirited floor hockey game in Grouard. Dressed brilliantly in our yellow and black jerseys, our young Grade 3, 4, 5, and 6 students put forth a wonderful effort, battling to the last whistle. Despite losing the game 5-3, Kael had a standout performance, scoring all three of our goals. Our goalie, Sam, played well in the net.

Athletic Director Brian D. Thomas emphasized the need to play solid defense in front of Sam and expressed confidence that we will improve in our next match. The most important takeaway is the improvement of all our players as a cohesive unit.







SUCKER CREEK FIRST NATION PRESERVING OUR COMMUNITY, CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND TRADITIONS



# **BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY**

#### Who We Are

The Buffalo Bay Academy, is a Grades 7-12 school is part of the First Nation Collegiate at Kapawe'no First Nation. We offer technologyenhanced classrooms to support both traditional and new methods of teaching, offering students a unique blend of the Nêhiyawak way of learning on the land. 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 and athletics.

**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 and in the classroom 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

Under the Kapawe'no First Nation's Governance Codes, our expanded learning environment allows for a more diversified student body while maintaining our autonomy. This enables us to serve more effectively, falling under the Lifelong Learning framework of the Nation.

#### **Learning Philosophy**

"Where tradition fuels the future, we create a distinct path to wisdom and growth." This philosophy is backed by the latest research in cognitive science and learning 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.



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#### **Flexible Learning**

The school week from September to June is enriched by virtual extensions, engaging students in additional cultural and educational activities. Weekends are dedicated to fun, wellness, and athletics during the sporting periods.

#### Curriculum at Buffalo Bay Academy

Buffalo Bay Academy is fully accredited by Alberta Education and follows the global 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 governance 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 the rigorous learning standards while offering our unique blend of traditional and innovative learning experiences.

#### **Core Academic Programs**

The core subjects 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.

#### **Contact Us**

Our website at www.kfnlearning.com offers virtual tours, webinars and news. Visit our expanded social media presence on Facebook at Buffalo Bay Academy for more enriching content.



Scan the code to learn more about Buffalo Bay Academy



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

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# 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 define lifelong learning on Turtle Island for students in Grades 4-12.

#### **Mission-Vision**

#### **Mission:**

To enrich learning rooted in Lifelong Learning blending ancestral wisdom with academics.

#### Vision:

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



#### Our journey is driven by the following:

# A Commitment to Innovation in Online Learning

At FNVLC, we are pioneering a revolutionary shift in online education. We firmly believe that learning should be accessible anytime, anywhere, and our commitment to harnessing the full potential of digital technology reflects this belief. By seamlessly integrating traditional learning principles with the dynamic capabilities of online learning platforms, we have crafted an educational experience that transcends conventional boundaries. It's not just about delivering content virtually; it's about infusing every aspect of the learning journey with the richness of Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin, creating a transformative experience for our students.

#### **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.

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# Meagan Pfefferle, a proud citizen of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak playing the Waniska (Sunrise Song) in Nêhiyawêwin

Kapawe'no First Nation - On this beautiful morning at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, we are honored to witness our young student, Meagan Pfefferle, a proud citizen of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak playing the Waniska (Sunrise Song) in Nêhiyawêwin.

Meagan's dedication to preserving and celebrating our language and traditions through music brings pride to our Nation and schools. Her performance is a reminder of the strength and continuity of our Pimachihowin, lighting the path for future generations. Tâpwêwin, the truth, resonates in her song, awakening our spirits with the dawn.





## Buffalo Bay Academy students try the Canadian military fitness test (FORCE Test)

Kapawe'no First Nation - school is almost out as our students at Buffalo Bay Academy had the opportunity to try the Canadian military fitness test (FORCE Test). Many of our students have expressed interest in doing the Bold Eagle summer program in Wainwright. This allowed our students to see where their fitness levels are, and what they can do to improve.

The test is something that everyone joining Bold Eagle and the military needs to pass, and military members need to re-qualify every year. Some of our students actually passed the test!

Scan the code to watch the video on facebook





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# TREATY No.8

"As Long as The Sun Shines The Grass Grows. The Rivers Flow and Until Such Time As Yidah Should Reverse" NW/T

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# **JUNE** 16-21 2024

WILLOW POINT SUCKER CREEK FIRST NATION

# CELEBRATING THE PAST EMBRACING THE FUTURE

REATH & GATHERING

OTI NEKAN

25"

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www.125treaty8.com



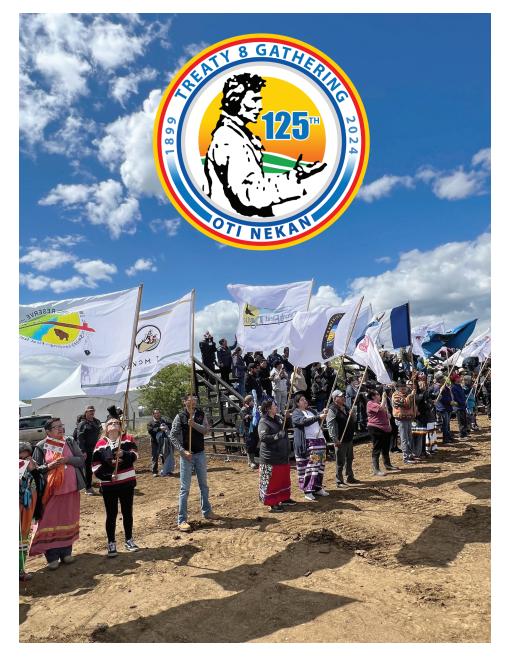
# CELEBRATING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE: OTI NEKAN 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF TREATY 8

reaty 8 Territory, encompassing a land mass of approximately 840,000 square kilometers, an impressive area larger than France and the largest numbered treaty by area in history, unique in its terms and implementation, shaped by the distinctive social organization. With the richness in resources, over time, our territory has experienced the klondike gold rush, oil and gas extraction, and forestry extraction. In 1899, the first set of negotiations for Treaty No. 8 began between the Sovereign First Nations of the Cree, Dene (Beaver, Chipewyan, Slavey), and Saulteaux people and the Queen of England.

This gathering is at the original location of treaty making and carries profound historical significance and a forward-looking vision, marking a journey that spans over a century.

The 125th Commemorative Gathering is more than a commemorative event; it's a reflection on the journey since the making of treaty with the Crown and a reassessment of its implications for the future. It echoes the sentiments of the 100th anniversary in 1999, where celebrations on the shores of Lesser Slave Lake marked a century of this historical accord. That event, attended by many from the nations, was a remembrance statement on the ongoing relevance and vitality of the treaty's terms.

Now, as planning for the 125th Commemorative Gathering unfolds, there is a palpable sense of anticipation mixed with reflective reverence. The event promises to be an amalgamation of cultural celebration, historical remembrance,



The gathering aims to bring together diverse voices and perspectives, offering a platform for exchange, learning, and unity.

#### **OTI NEKAN 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF TREATY 8**



and nation introspection. At its core, it seeks to reinforce the nation to nation relationships and the commitments made over a century ago, which are as significant today as they were then. The organizers have laid out an extensive work plan, touching on every aspect of the event. From executive planning to cultural showcases, youth engagement, and meticulous documentation and archiving, the plan is comprehensive. It's a blueprint not just for a successful event but for an impactful experience that educates, inspires, and honours the legacy of Treaty No. 8.

The gathering aims to bring together diverse voices and perspectives, offering a platform for exchange, learning, and unity. Central

to this are the cultural and spiritual aspects, reflecting the deep-rooted traditions and beliefs of the participating First Nations.

The event also looks to the future, particularly through youth engagement, signifying the importance of involving and empowering the next generation of leaders. As the Nations prepare for this significant gathering, there is a strong sense of responsibility - to honour the past, acknowledge the present, and pave the way for a future that remains true to the spirit of Treaty No. 8.The 125th Commemorative Gathering is set to be a milestone event in the history of Treaty 8 and its peoples, promising to be a profound testament to resilience, unity, and hope.



For more information, please visit the official website www.125treaty8.com



#### **OTI NEKAN 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF TREATY 8**























Photo credit: Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta , Peerless Trout First Nation

#### www.125treaty8.com

# 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 lifelong learning. 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 learning for all First Nation students, regardless of their location, background, or circumstances;

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

**Holistic Learning:** To offer a well-rounded learning 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 preserving cultural integrity;

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

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

#### 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 reliable learning 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 learning 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 learning, 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 define lifelong learning and empower the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and visionaries.

#### "Lifelong Learning for First Nation Students and Beyond"

#### A Unique Approach

The First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) offers a unique approach to learning seamlessly integrating traditional by educational principles with digital technology, creating a comprehensive and transformative learning experience. This approach emphasizes the synergy between the tangible and virtual realms, blending Nêhiyawak (Cree) Pimachihowin (way of life) with modern learning practices. It goes beyond mere academics, immersing students in Indigenous culture and wisdom, fostering a deep understanding of their heritage, and preparing them to thrive in a rapidly changing global landscape. The FNVLC's philosophy ensures that students become knowledgeable, culturally aware individuals ready to face future challenges.

#### **Unbounded Possibilities**

The future of learning is boundless, and the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) is poised to embrace it fully. Venturing into uncharted territories, FNVLC is expanding its virtual content to include a wide range of subjects, interactive virtual field trips, engaging digitized learning experiences, and personalized learning paths tailored

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

to individual needs and aspirations. This commitment to innovative approaches reflects a willingness to adapt and evolve, ensuring a comprehensive and diverse educational experience. Embracing the limitless possibilities of the future, FNVLC aims to create a dynamic, engaging, and tailored educational environment that prepares students for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

#### **Courses Offered**

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

#### The Commitment to **Excellence**

The FNVLC is dedicated to providing a toptier educational experience through an unwavering commitment to excellence. This involves continuous improvement in curriculum development, innovative instructional design, and a dedicated team of educators. The FNVLC emphasizes fostering creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment, ensuring a well-rounded education that appreciates diverse cultures and perspectives. Committed to accessibility, FNVLC strives to make high-quality education available to all students, regardless of their background, empowering them for success in a rapidly changing world.

# **Looking Ahead**

As we look ahead, our commitment to virtual education remains unwavering. Through our reliable Learning Management system, 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:

#### **Innovative Learning** Platform

FNVLC's commitment to guality education is evident in its investment in state-ofthe-art technology like PowerSchool and Google Services. This platform enhances the virtual learning journey, offering a seamless, intuitive system for managing and accessing educational resources.

**Transformative Learning Experiences** The FNVLC aims to make a difference in students' lives, providing education that

goes beyond knowledge acquisition. It focuses on personal growth, development, and empowerment.

#### Accessibility Across Turtle Island

The FNVLC's streaming of lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island emphasizes inclusivity, addressing geographical and circumstantial barriers to ensure access to quality education.

#### **Equity in Learning**

The goal is to ensure all First Nation students, regardless of location or personal circumstances,

have equitable access to high-quality education, aligning with FNVLC's mission to empower students and promote educational equity.

In essence, "Looking Ahead" signifies FNVLC's readiness to embrace the future of education, leveraging technology to provide transformative and accessible learning experiences, ultimately contributing to the empowerment and success of our Nations.

Connect with Principal Crystal Zhang

to discover how we can help you or your

child embark on a path of discovery,

at (780) 751-0008 or email

crystal.zhang@kfnschool.ca

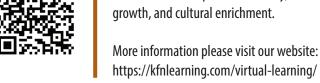
"Empowering First Nation Students through Innovative Virtual Learning"

#### Join Us in this New Era of Learning

Welcome to a new era of learning, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to be a part of this transformative learning 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 learning for First Nation students and beyond, where learning knows no bounds, and Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin is celebrated at every turn.





# **KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL**

We proudly lead the Nehiyawak (Cree) Nation and Canada in providing unparalleled in person and Virtual School experiences for Indigenous students in real-time as a Grade K-6 accredited school.

Our approach, a fusion of tangible tradition and the Cloud's ethereal possibilities, offers qualitative experiences unmatched in Turtle Island (Canada). At the forefront of curriculum and instructional design, we take immense pride in our academically rigorous program, deeply infused with Indigenous Ways of Knowing, encompassing Language, Traditions, Culture, Practices, Values, and Morals.

#### "In the heart of tradition, we find innovation; in the cloud's boundless potential, we discover a new path to knowledge."

In addition to our virtual classroom streaming options, we serve as a lighthouse for in-person learning. Our contemporary school, spanning Grade K-6, is nestled in the Hamlet of Grouard, Alberta, adjacent to the Sovereign Nation of Kapawe'no First Nation.

# *"Our physical and virtual doors stand open, ready to guide the journey of every student seeking knowledge."*

#### **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.

#### For more about us click on each:

- Location
- Governance
- Nêhiyawak way of life
- Life Long Learning

"We embrace our ancestral wisdom, we find the strength to uphold the Sovereign and Inherent Rights of our Nehiyawak Nation."



#### Location

Our school finds its home 3.5 hours north of Edmonton and 2.5 hours east of Grande Prairie, accessible via a paved highway on the northwest shore of Slave Lake, known as Buffalo Bay. The towns of High Prairie and Slave Lake lie in close proximity.

#### **Governance within our Nation**

With unwavering support from Hereditary Chief Sydney Lee Halcrow and lifetime Councillors Debbie Chalfioux and Pamela Halcrow, we operate in alignment with our Nation's Governance Codes and the Sovereign and Inherent Rights of Nehiyawak people.

#### Nehiyawak Pimachihowin (Way of Life)

A distinctive feature of our institution is the integration of LAWF (Land, Air, Water and Fire) teachings into our instructional programs and



education processes. Nehiyawak teachings hold equal importance alongside Alberta Education coursework, guiding our students on a path of identity discovery and a balanced approach to indigenous and non-indigenous ways of knowing.

Our Nehiyawewin immersion program lays the foundation for the revitalization of our language within our school, Nation, and territory. Our cultural and land-based programs immerse students in the Nehiyawak way of life and ways of knowing. Furthermore, we offer a top-notch Quality Daily Physical Education Program, running in conjunction with our Sports Academy and Indigenous Fine Arts Academy, tailored for students. We firmly believe in achieving academic excellence in harmony with athletic pursuits as a vital aspect of lifelong learning.

"In the rhythm of our cultural heartbeat, we find excellence both in mind and body."

#### Life Long Learning

Our school adheres to Alberta Education's guidelines for instructional hours, ensuring a minimum of 950 hours for elementary and junior high student instruction and 1000 hours of instruction for high school. Our flexible school timetable allows for a four-day school week during the winter months (November to April), providing our students with extended weekends to explore, participate in activities, engage in cultural practices, and build upon traditions.

# *"Learning knows no bounds; it spans generations, seasons, and beyond."*

As a federally funded, Alberta and EKC Accredited, First Nation-owned and operated school, we prioritize the well-being of our

#### KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL ... from page 17

students, parents, and employees, recognizing them as our most valuable assets within the Kapawe'no First Nation School Authority.

Our multi-talented staff, including Pow Wow Dancers, Olympians, Qualified coaches, Varsity Team Players, musicians, actors, and more, actively participate in the Alberta Junior and Senior high school Athletic Association, Alberta Native Sports programs, Band Concerts, Pow Wows, Drama Productions, and beyond. We have gained recognition as a school where talent thrives, and knowledge continually expands. Our staff are deeply engaged in coaching, mentoring, training, and supporting the activities of our Sports Academy and Fine Arts/Music Academy teams.

"In the mosaic of talents, we cultivate a vibrant tapestry of achievement and creativity."



Starting every November, we are among the select few schools in Alberta to implement a four-day work week, continuing until after Spring Break in April. Our school delivery

#### **Online about us**

model embodies the Seven Grandfather and Grandmother Teachings of Love, Respect, Humility, Wisdom, Obedience, Truth, and Honesty.

Each day we embark on a new day of learning, guided by the belief that learning commences nine months before birth and endures until nine months after one "crosses" the river to the other side.

"Our journey is guided by timeless teachings, and our destination is knowledge."





# VERV SECOND WERNESDAY

## EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY AT THE BAND OFFICE

More information, please contact Boh

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

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# ITE MALE U15 & U1 $\mathbb{S}$

SUFFALO

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#### NE ARENA PEAVI

THURSDAY 27 - REGISTRATION 5PM AND SKATE FRIDAY 28 - 10AM TO 5PM INTER SQUAD REGISTRATION IS FREEI

BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY IS A FULL TIME SCHOOL AND HOCKEY PROGRAM FOR U15 AND U18 ELITE TEAMS. WE HOPE TO START OUR FEMALE PROGRAM VERY SOON

More information call Boh at (204) 648-6268 or Brian Thomas at (825) 522-4730 email: admin@buffalobayacademy.com



ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS EQUALS EXCELLENCE

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# Mrs. Tomkins' Grade 5/6 Class Enhances Nêhiyawêwin Skills with Jeopardy

Kapawe'no First Nation - In Mrs. Tomkins' Grade 5/6 class at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, students have started playing Nêhiyawêwin (Cree) Jeopardy to sharpen their Nêhiyawêwin speaking skills. This fun and engaging game also offers Kapaweno dollars as an incentive.

The game features questions in five topics, requiring answers in either Nêhiyawêwin or English. The students have already shown improvement and are enjoying the learning process. The interactive nature of Nêhiyawêwin Jeopardy makes learning enjoyable and also fosters a deeper connection to the language and culture. The enthusiasm in the classroom is evident, with students eagerly participating and helping each other enhance their Nêhiyawêwin vocabulary and fluency.



#### **Grade 4 Students Showcase Indigenous Knowledge Through Dioramas**

Kapawe'no First Nation - Our Grade 4 students at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School have completed their final project: dioramas. These projects sparked their creativity and curiosity, encouraging them to delve deeper into our Indigenous ways of life. The students explored various landscapes, ways of life, and the use of natural resources for survival.

Each diorama included an animal from the Seven Teachings in its natural habitat, accompanied by a written report detailing the landforms, structures, and tools featured, along with their purpose and significance. A heartfelt thank you to Miss Melissa for crafting three items for each student's diorama, enhancing the authenticity and educational value of their projects.







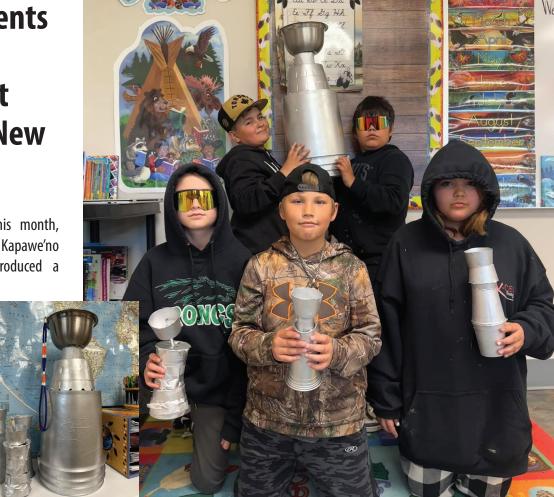
#### **KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION LIFELONG LEARNING**

# Grade 4 Students Celebrate Measurement Skills with a New Hall Pass

Kapawe'no First Nation - This month, our Grade 4 students at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School have introduced a

creative new hall pass! As part of our math measurement unit, the students designed and constructed their very own Stanley Cup.

We'll keep our favored team a secret, but the excitement and pride in their work are clear.



# KAPAWE'NO KASKITAYANIH-KA SKIH TAH YA NIH OUTREACH / ADULT LEARNING



APPLY NOW!

email: admin@kfnschool.ca

(780) 751-0008

#### **WHO WE ARE**

Under the Kapawe'no First Nation Lifelong Learning, the Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate comprises of four pillar schools, is accredited both in western studies and Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin (way of life). Our programs specialize in Nêhiyawewin (Cree Language) Isihcikewin (to know for yourself) arts, sciences, music, sports and Nêhiyawak studies. With state-of-the-art technology, we build upon the technological advances of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School (K-6), Buffalo Bay Academy (7-12), First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) and Kapawe'no Kaskitayanih-Ka Skih Tah Ya Nih (Outreach/Adult Learning).

#### LOCATION

Nestled within the ancestral lands of the Kapawe'no First Nation, the First Nation Collegiate stands alongside Buffalo Bay connecting the waters of the Lesser Slave Lake 29 km away from High Prairie and along side the Hamlet of Grouard.

#### **KNOWLEDGE EVER INCREASING**

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

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

#### LIFE LONG LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

"Knowledge Ever Increasing" philosophy embodies the harmonious blend of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin and modern pedagogy.

We extend by incorporating our 7 Sacred Grandmother / Grandfather teachings, Elders Knowlege Council involvement and use Lateral Kindness with enriching the academic environment with collaborative and wisdom-based learning.

Our 7 Sacred Grandmother / Grandfather teachings are; Sakihitowin (Love), Manacihtowin (respect), Sohkitehewin (Courage), Kwayaskitatsowin (Honesty), lyinisiwin(Wisdom) Tapahteyimisowin (Humility) and Tapwewin (Truth)

#### **UNIQUE FEATURES**

Interdisciplinary Programs: Melding traditional knowledge and modern subjects for a well-rounded education.

Research Opportunities: Working in sync with our schools, we offer research initiatives that allow students to delve into their ancestral knowledge. Partnerships: Leveraging relations with local businesses and organizations for internships and job placements.

#### GOVERNANCE

Functioning under the Kapawe'no First Nation's Hereditary Chief Sydney L Halcrow and Lifetime Councillor Debbie Chalifoux and Councillor Pam Halcrow, we share governance principles under Lifelong Learning in the Nation, ensuring alignment and maintaining our own distinctive role in higher learning.

#### **FLEXIBLE LEARNING**

Building upon the four-day school week implemented at our schools, the curriculum includes interactive virtual sessions, enabling students to pursue independent research projects or participate in local support services.

#### CURRICULUM

Fully accredited, our courses meet the academic standards for higher education, while our unique Nêhiyawak / Indigenous studies program complements the curricula offered.

#### **INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM ELEMENTS**

lyinisiwin Circles: Interactive dialogue sessions where students, educators, and Elders share knowledge. Indigenous Exchange Program: An extension of cultural exchange initiative, now at the collegiate level.











## SCHOOLS

We have four pillar schools under our First Nation Collegiate which are:

#### THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS ARE:

- Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak
  School K-6 (KNS)
- Buffalo Bay Academy 7-12
- First Nation Virtual Learning
  Centre (FNVLC)
- Kapawe'no Kapawe'no Kaskitayanih-Ka Skih Tah Ya Nih (Outreach / Adult Learning)

#### **ADMISSIONS**

Admission processes are holistic, considering applicants' academic and cultural contributions. They are also in line with the open and inclusive admissions policy at Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate.





#### email: admin@kfnschool.ca

# Osâwâpiskâw Asapap

Osâwâpiskâw explores Asapap the intricate blend of inherent rights of Kapawe'no and Nations, sovereignty, treaties and legal documents that have shaped Indigenous-settler relations on Turtle Island, specifically what is known by the settlers as Canada. We delve into the historical context, interpretations, and contemporary implications of these foundational agreements, offering students a comprehensive understanding of their importance. Along with the incorporation of our 7 Sacred Grandmother and Grandfather teachings and the integration of Kapawe'no First Nation Codes / Laws here are the program modules;





#### **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

Osâwâpiskâw Asapap is divided into modules, with sections each focusing on a relation, treaty and/or legal documentation or descriptions;

- Each module includes an overview, key learning objectives, topics for discussion, and suggested activities or assignments.
- We will work with students to identify their research style and presentation mode that they will prefer.
- This course is very interactive, asking students to be part of the process at all times.
- Sharing circles and discussions will be part of the process.

#### OUR 7 SACRED GRANDMOTHER AND GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS

Our 7 Sacred Grandmother and Grandfather teachings and laws serve as the moral and ethical compass that steers our lifelong learning direction. Rooted in Nêhiyawak way of life and teachings, they are foundational tenets that shape our approach to learning, leadership, and Nation involvement.

- Sâkihitowin (Love) Kinew (Eagle)
- Manacihtowin (Respect) Sakawmostos (Buffalo)
- Sohkitehewin (Courage) Muskwa (Bear)
- Kwayaskitatsowin (Honesty) Mistapew (Sasquatch)
- Iyinisiwin (Wisdom) Amisk (Beaver)
- Tapahteyimisowin (Humility) Mahican (Wolf)
- Tapwewin (Truth) Miskinahk (Turtle)

To learn more about Osâwâpiskâw Asapap, please scan this code to visit the website.



