



# AHCAHK MUSKWA

SPIRIT BEAR

KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION COLLEGIATE

NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 ISSUE

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Kapaweno Nehiyawak School

Phone: 780.751.0008 | E-mail: [Admin@kfncollegiate.ca](mailto:Admin@kfncollegiate.ca)



## Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School's Grade 4 class started off the week honouring local Nêhiyawak code talker veterans

Kapawe'no First Nation - Mrs Sharkawi's Grade 4 class watched a documentary directed by Alexandra Lazarowich. (Family roots from Grouard Pearl Calahasen daughter). Grade 4 class then wrote to a veteran and thanked them for one of the seven grandfather teachings if not all. Students also wrote the teaching in Nêhiyawêwin. The honouring didn't end there.

Students went on a field trip to a local trail to gather spruce boughs to create and design their own wreath to lay beside a veterans

*more on page 12*

## Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School Grade 5 Students Shine in Muskwa Spirit Bear Song

Kapawe'no First Nation - In an inspiring display of talent and appreciation, the amazing Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School grade 5 students of Ms. Sam Tomkins' class captivated the audience with their heartfelt rendition of the "Muskwa Spirit Bear Song."



*more on page 3*



# KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION HEALTH CENTRE

Phone: 780-751-2284

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Portfolio Councillor Pam Halcrow

Marcella Schnurr, Health Manager





# NEHIYAWEWIN *Sacred* TEACHINGS LAWS



## ◀ SAKIHITOWIN

Kihew tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw sakihitowin kisnawmakonow tanisi ta isi miyo pimachiyah, tanihsoh kamakoyah kihmamtonikanaw ekwa miyo otinikewin ekwa sakihitowin

(Love) - Eagle carries and gives us the gift of love, teaches us how to make a good life, to help us think good and to show others respect and love.

## ◀ MANACIHITOWIN ▶

Sakawmostos tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw manachitowin tamanaohiyakwaw ki totimnawahk kispin kintawitin ekosi ti sih kanawapimkawiwin maka kispin ki miyininan ka miytotahson ekwa ka maytotin kitaskiy

Respect - Buffalo carries and gives us the gift of respect, to respect others so that they see you respect them. If you do harm and only do good for yourself, you harm yourself and our land.



## ◀ SOHKITEHEWIN

Muskwa tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw sohkithehewin kimikonow tanisi ti sih nipowistamahk oma kikwiw ka kostamahk

Courage - Bear carries and gives us the gift of courage, shows us how to stand up in the face of fear and be brave.

## ◀ KWAYASKITATSOWIN ▶

Mistapew tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw kwayaskitatsowin - ki kisnaw mako sinaw tanisi ti sih nisoka mahsoyah kwasyask ti sah yah yahk ekwa kayas okih kitotimnawahk kapisih pimachitowaw

Honesty - Sasquatch carries and gives us the gift of honesty, teaches us how to stand up respectfully and be considerate. It also teaches us how well our ancestors lived and survived.



## ◀ IYINISIWIN

Amisk tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw Iyinihiwin - kisnawmakosinaw oma katotamahk kikwiw kiksikinaw manachitowin ekwa niso kamahotowin ihm i ya sihkikha ta miywiciwat kichi ayisiniw

Wisdom - Beaver carries and gives us the gift of wisdom, teaches us the way we understand how to love and helps us learn how we relate to others.

## ◀ TAPAHTHEYIMISOWIN ▶

Mahikan tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw tapahtheyimisowin ispayo ka miyo totawat ayisiniw kwayask ki pimatisinaw kakiyaw

Humility - Wolf carries and gives us the gift of humility, it goes to show us to treat others well and to live good with everyone.



## ◀ TAPWEWIN

Miskinahk tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw tapwewin ispayo maka tah kam atoskatamihk pohko tapwewin piyahitk ipihpihk maka ki miyo wahpah thikosinaw kikwiw kawi ispahyihk pahpiyahitk

Truth - Turtle carries and gives us the gift of truth, it takes work and patience to gain truth but the truth lives only if we let things happen slowly.





# Echoes of Excellence: Celebrating the Legacy of Music at Kapawe'no First Collegiate schools

Kapawe'no First Nation - Kapawe'no First Collegiate and its schools recently had the honor of welcoming back Mr. Fred Mack, the esteemed music teacher who pioneered the school's flourishing music program in the 2023/24 school year. Known for his unique teaching style with brass instruments, Mr. Mack played an instrumental role in laying the foundation for a thriving music culture within the schools. During his recent visit, he expressed deep appreciation for the opportunity to be part of the school's rich musical tradition.



Central to Mr. Mack's legacy is his role in recruiting Mr. Colin Campbell, the current music teacher who has significantly contributed to the program's ongoing success.

With his own distinctive teaching approach with string instruments, Mr. Campbell continues to build on the strong foundation established by Mr. Mack. Together, their

contributions emphasize the collaborative spirit and dedication to excellence that define Kapawe'no First Collegiate's music program for all schools and the nation.

## *Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School Grade 5 Students Shine in Muskwa Spirit Bear Song* *from page 1*

The performance showcased not only their musical skills but also their respect and understanding of nehiyawak pimachimowin. With the lyrics and drumming repeated in harmonious unison, the students successfully celebrated this beautiful piece with enthusiasm and spirit.



Scan the QR Code to watch the video.  
Opens in facebook app.



## KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION CONSULTATION

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Email: [kfnconsultation@gamil.com](mailto:kfnconsultation@gamil.com)  
Michelle Knibb, ICRC Manager and KFN Liaison





# Rising Star: Mya McLeod's Artistic Journey at Buffalo Bay Academy

Kapawe'no First Nation - Mya McLeod, a grade 11 student at Buffalo Bay Academy, is making waves with her exceptional talent in contemporary art. Known for her unique style and innovative approach, Mya has become a prominent figure within her school community.

Her passion for art is evident in every piece she creates, drawing inspiration from diverse cultures and perspectives. Her work not only reflects her artistic skill but also a deep understanding of the social and emotional threads that connect us. This young artist's ability to communicate complex ideas through her art signals a promising future in the world of creative expression.



In addition to her artistic prowess, Mya's commitment to academics and music is noteworthy. Her grades are climbing steadily, reflecting her dedication and hard work across all her subjects. Mya balances her academic responsibilities with her artistic pursuits, demonstrating tremendous discipline and time management. Her involvement in music further enriches her artistic journey, providing a harmonious blend of rhythm and visual creativity. As Mya continues to grow and evolve, she serves as an inspiration to her peers, showcasing the powerful synergy between education and the arts. Buffalo Bay Academy is truly proud to have such a multi-talented student leading the way in arts and academics.



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Admin@kfncollegiate.ca



# Athletic Director Brian Thomas Energizes Students during physical activity time

Kapawe'no First Nation - Mr Brian Thomas, a former Canadian Olympic athlete, has taken on the role of Athletic Director at Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate very seriously. He continues to bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position.

With a storied athletic career behind him, Mr. Thomas continues to focus on nurturing the next generation of athletes by fostering an environment where students can excel in sports as well as academics. His leadership is marked by a commitment to inclusivity and empowerment, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to discover and develop their athletic abilities.

Under Mr. Thomas's visionary guidance, the athletic programs at Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate are poised for invigorating growth. His strategies emphasize not only physical excellence but also mental resilience and teamwork. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves, cultivate healthy

lifestyles, and embrace the Olympic spirit of determination and courage. Mr. Thomas's presence as Athletic Director is more than just a professional commitment; it's a passionate

mission to inspire and transform student lives, preparing them for both the sports arena and future life endeavors. Keep up the greatness Mr Thomas.



**KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION LIFELONG LEARNING  
CITIZEN PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Tel: (780) 751-3800 | Email: [Carla.Halcrow@kapaweno.ca](mailto:Carla.Halcrow@kapaweno.ca) | Portfolio Councillor Debbie Chalifoux - Carla Halcrow, Manager





# SAKAMOOSTOS WASAW

## BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY

### Who We Are

Sakamoostos Wasaw (Buffalo Bay Academy), is a Grade 7-12 school that is part of the Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate. We offer technology-enhanced classrooms to support both traditional and new methods of teaching, offering students a unique blend of Nêhiyawak Pimachimowin. This blend incorporates academics with Arts, Music, Sports, and LAW teachings through full accreditation by Alberta and our Elder Knowledge Keepers.

We have two streams in our academy and they are our Grades 7-9 Junior High and 10-12 High School.

### 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.



*more on page 7*





## 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.



## Innovative Curriculum Elements

**Balance with Technology to Enhance Learning:** Education in person or online that finds the balance between meaningful person to person interactions and using technology to improve communication and enhance learning.

**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.kfncollegiate.ca](http://www.kfncollegiate.ca) 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@kfncollegiate.ca](mailto:Admin@kfncollegiate.ca)  
phone: (780) 751-0008



## Celebrating Excellence: Honoring Jaze Beaudry-Courtoreille at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School

Kapawe'no First Nation - At Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School, we are deeply committed to celebrating and honoring the achievements and milestones of all our young students.

Today, we are thrilled to celebrate the birthday of Jaze, a student whose dedication and enthusiasm continue to inspire everyone around him. Jaze's involvement in nehiyawak pimachimowin—a cultural program that enriches our students' connection to their heritage—demonstrates his passion for learning and preserving indigenous traditions.

In addition to his cultural contributions, Jaze excels both on and off the ice as an avid hockey player. His dynamic energy and teamwork are evident in every match, making him a respected team member. Academically, Jaze thrives in Ms. Tomkins' class, consistently impressing us with his commitment to

excellence and learning. His accomplishments, both in sports and academics, are a testament to the supportive and nurturing environment at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School, where students like Jaze are encouraged to pursue their passions with pride and enthusiasm.



# LEARN TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT!

# MUSIC

## LESSONS AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL

**FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT**

Admin@kfnccollegiate.ca

(780) 751-0008



## Honouring Ms. Tomkins:

# Empowering Lifelong Learning at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School

Kapawe'no First Nation - Ms. Sam Tomkins, a member of Sucker Creek First Nation has become a transformative force at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School, serving not only as vice principal but also as an inspiring leader for one of the school's largest and most energetic groups, the grade 5 and 6 classes.

Her ability to match their energy fosters an engaging and dynamic learning environment, guiding students to explore education with enthusiasm and curiosity. As one of the veteran leading educators, she pioneers a learning shift that deeply integrates nehiyawewin and pimachimowin into the standard Alberta curriculum. Her firm belief in blending nehiyawak lessons like pimachimowin and wakotowin with Alberta's learning requirements ensures students receive a well-rounded, culturally rich learning experience.

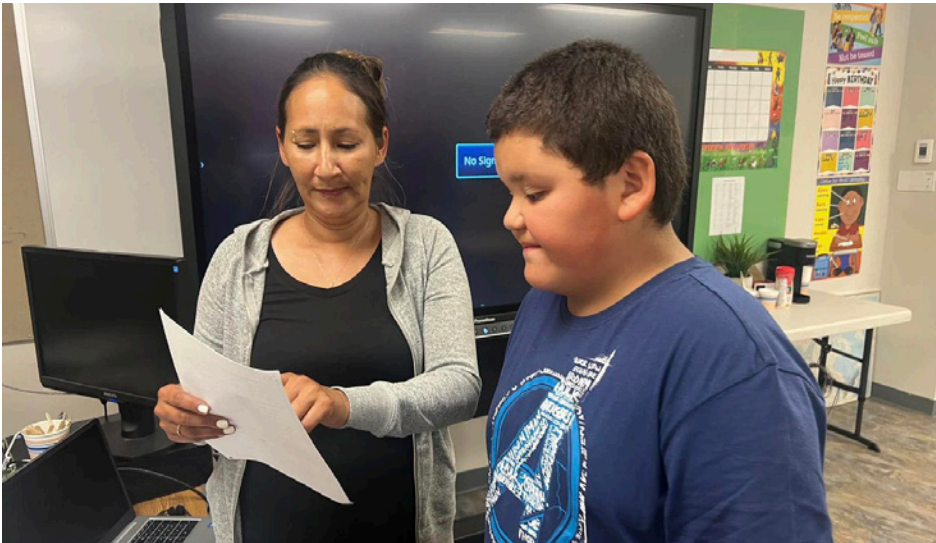
Beyond academic learning, Ms. Tomkins



Her commitment to nurturing respect for Mother Earth through the lens of the seven sacred teachings further enriches the students' lifelong learning journey.

emphasizes the importance of cultural expressions by incorporating artistic elements such as music and art into her teaching. She provides students with a tactile connection to their heritage through activities like drumming the drum and participation in programs focusing on arts, music, athletics, and the land, air, water, and fire (LAWF). Her commitment to nurturing respect for Mother Earth through the lens of the seven sacred teachings further enriches the students' lifelong learning journey.

By fostering an environment where nehiyawak appreciation intertwines with academic excellence, Ms. Tomkins advances both the learning achievements and personal growth of her students. Her continuous dedication and innovative approaches set an exemplary standard for holistic learning at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School. Keep up the greatness, Ms. Tomkins.



**KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION WELLNESS CENTRE**  
**YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Phone 780-751-3085 | Email: Kara.supernault@kapaweno.ca | Kara Supernault, Coordinator





# KASKAPATEW PEKISKWEWIN "SMOKE SIGNALS"

## FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE (FNVLC)

"Empowering First Nation Students through Innovative Virtual Education"

### 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 Kaskapatew Pekiskwewin "Smoke Signals". 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.

### 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.

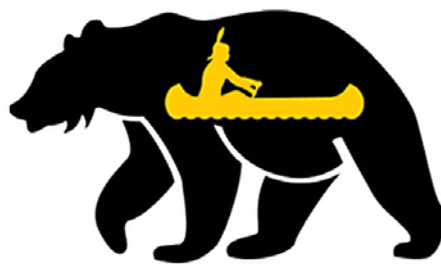
#### Vision:

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

### 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.

### A Unique Approach

The First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) offers a unique approach to learning by seamlessly integrating traditional 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

## 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



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 to 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.

***"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 Councillor Debbie Chalifoux and Councillor 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 LAW (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.

*more on page 21*

that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment.

### 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"***



## ***Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School's Grade 4 class started off the week honouring local Nêhiyawak code talker veterans*** *from page 1*

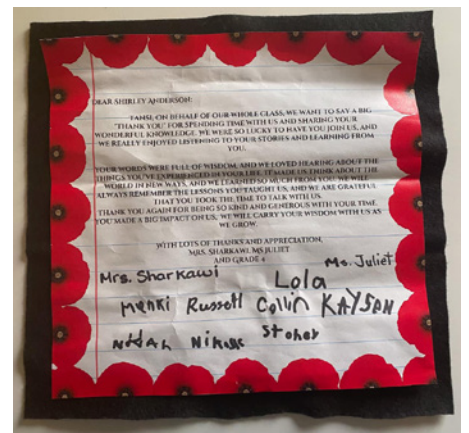
distinguished headstone. After their work of art was completed, the next day students had a special guest visit Knowledge Keeper Ms Shirley Anderson to share her knowledge and wisdom on our local veterans and where their burial is located. It was an amazing experience and will leave a lasting impact on the importance of honouring those who served our country, especially our local Nêhiyawak

code talkers.

Mr Don Cunningham and Mr Scott Courtorielle also played a huge role in making this a successful experience and lesson for the students. Don went over ways to respect yourself and the cemetery of those who passed on. Scott started the visit with an honour drum song.









## Buffalo Bay Academy Students Explore Lifelong Learning Skills on the land









# KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL

Alberta Education School Number S.2351

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.

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

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

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***"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

*more on page 17*



**KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL...** *from page 16*

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

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."*

**Online about us**

Check out our website at [www.kfncollegiate.ca](http://www.kfncollegiate.ca) and for more information, and also you can check out our Facebook site for Kapawe'no First Nation School: <https://www.facebook.com/kapawenofirstnationschool/>



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FRIES SM-\$5.00, LG-\$7.00	POP \$1.50
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KAPAWE'NO KASKITAYANIH-KA SKIH TAH YA NIH

# When I can

*Ka-sihk-tah-ya-nih*

## Kapawe'no Kaskitayanih-Ka Skih Tah Ya Nih

Ensures quality learning with partnership between KFN Wellness Centre and an Alberta Education accredited school KFN Collegiate

Flexible on-site attendance or virtual learning stream which allow students to complete their coursework **at their own pace** with direct support from teachers.

**Personalized** and supportive education tailored to meet diverse student needs.

is designed to provide flexible learning options for students who need an alternative to traditional classroom settings; This could be the program to help you achieve your Junior High Grades and high school credits.



This program is designed for:  
Grades 7 to 9, Grades 10 to 12  
and for Adult Learning

### CONTACT US:

P.O. Box 10, Grouard, Alberta T0G 1C0  
E-mail: Admin@kfncollegiate.ca  
Phone: (780) 751-0008

**REGISTER TODAY!**



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM  
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE, OR VISIT

<https://kfnlearning.com/outreach>



# KAPAWE'NO KASKIHTAYANIH

## OUTREACH/ADULT LEARNING



### Overview

Kaskihtayanih at Kapawe'no First Nation is designed to provide flexible learning options for students who need an alternative to traditional classroom settings. It offers two streams known as hybrid: in-person and virtual independent learning. We are a partnership between KFN Wellness Centre and KFN Collegiate which is an Alberta Education accreditation school under number S.2351.

The in-person stream requires students to attend the school and complete workbooks on-site with direct support from teachers. The virtual independent learning stream allows students to complete their coursework online at their own pace, with teacher assistance available on designated days.

This program ensures personalized and supportive education tailored to meet diverse student needs. Students who struggle with coping skills, attendance concerns, learning challenges; this could be the program to help you achieve your Junior High Grades and high school credits.

For High School programming: the "academic/practical stream" or the "knowledge and employability stream" will determine the program for the student.



Please scan the QR Code to learn more about the Kapawe'no Outreach/Adult Learning

### Summary of High School Streams:

#### Academic Stream - Core

The "academic stream" is a specialized core program designed to prepare high school students for success in "college and university." The program offers a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and advanced academic skills. Students in the academic stream have access to specialized courses, enrichment opportunities, and personalized support to help them achieve their academic goals. By participating in the academic stream, students are equipped with the local knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to excel in college and university programs.

#### Practical Stream

The "practical stream" is tailored for high school students aspiring to pursue "trade schools and training programs." The program offers a comprehensive curriculum that not only focuses on

academic subjects but also incorporates practical skills relevant to various trades. Students in the program have access to specialized courses, hands-on training, and career guidance to prepare them for success in their chosen trade. The program emphasizes the development of technical skills, problem-solving abilities, and work ethic, ensuring that graduates are well-equipped to excel in trade schools and training programs and embark on successful careers in their chosen fields.

*\*Students who attend the Academic or Practical stream, once students have achieved 100 credits with all the "REQUIRED" courses, will graduate with an Alberta High School Diploma. All students "Credentials" will be confirmed through PASI through Alberta Education that a student has met all the requirements to graduate.*

#### Knowledge and Employability Stream (K&E)

The "Knowledge and Employability Stream"

is specifically designed for high school students with special needs and learning challenges. The program provides a supportive and inclusive learning environment tailored to meet the unique needs of each student. The curriculum focuses on developing essential life and employability skills, such as communication, problem-solving, and teamwork, to help students achieve success in both their personal lives. Through individualized learning plans, small class sizes, and specialized instruction, the Knowledge and Employability Stream aims to empower students with the tools and confidence needed to overcome challenges while giving the students the skills needed to lead productive lives.

*\*Students who attend the Knowledge and Employability Stream, once students have achieved 80 credits with all the required courses, will graduate with an Alberta High School Certificate of Completion.*



## WHO WE ARE

Under the Kapawe'no First Nation Lifelong Learning, the Kapawe'no First Nation Collegiate comprises 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 Iyiniisiwin with academics.

Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral Iyiniisiwin 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 Knowledge 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), Manacihitowin (respect), Sohkitewin (Courage), Kwayaskitawin (Honesty), Iyiniisiwin (Wisdom) Tapahteyimisowin (Humility) and Tapwewin (Truth)

## INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM ELEMENTS

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

## 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.



## 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 (Sakamoostos Wasaw)
- First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) (Kaskapatew Pekiskwewin)
- Outreach / Adult Learning (Kapawe'no Kaskitayanih-Ka Skih Tah Ya Nih)

## 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.



## CALL US TODAY

**(780) 751-0008**

E-mail: [admin@kfnccollegiate.ca](mailto:admin@kfnccollegiate.ca)  
Website: [www.kfnccollegiate.ca](http://www.kfnccollegiate.ca)

Alberta Education School Number S.2351





# Oskiniskwiwak Voices Revitalize Nehiyawewin

Kapawe'no First Nation - Our two talented oskiniskwiwak from Ms. Sam Tomkins' class at Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School have captivated the nation by singing the "waniska" morning song in Nehiyawewin. This song, a call to wake up, celebrates the start of a new day with harmonious tones, inviting students from our KFN Collegiate to appreciate the beauty of nature.

Beginning with "waniska pewapan oma" (Wake up! The sun is coming), the students' voices fill the school's corridors with warmth and optimism, inspiring everyone to embrace the dawn.

The performance proceeds with "asay piyesisak ki-nikamowak" (The birds are already singing) and concludes with "pe-miyonakwan kitaskinwa" (How beautiful this land of ours is). Through these lyrics, the young singers



spread joy and a deep connection to their environment, embodying the role of cultural ambassadors. Supported by Ms. Tomkins, who integrates traditional songs into their

education, these students proudly celebrate their heritage, reinforcing cultural identity and inspiring their peers and community to honor nehilyawak traditions each morning.

## Kaskapatew Pekiskwewin "Smoke Signals" from page 10

*"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 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 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."*

**Amiro's**  
STEAKHOUSE



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**780-523-4493**

4651-53 Avenue  
Box 1348,  
High Prairie  
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## Welcome to the “niyanan Ws” section of kiskinawhamatowin misinahikan

Kapawé'no First Nation - Niyanan Ws awina, kikwiw, tanti, taniki, tanspi (5 W's who, what, where, why & when). This part focuses on the important 5 W's we use to ask questions and learn more about things.

The 5 W's are: awina (Who), kikwiw (What), tanti (Where), taniki (Why), and tanspi (When). These words help us understand stories, answer questions, and find out details about different topics.

By using these questions, you can gather important information and understand things better. Let's explore how these simple but powerful words can help you learn and share new information in everyday life!

- awina (ah wee nah) - who awina (ah wee nah) - who is it?
- awina kiya (ah wee nah kee yah) - who are you awinki (ah wee ni key) - who are they? kikwaya (key kwiy ah) - what is it?
- kikwiw (key kwiy) - what
- kikwiw kitotin (key kwiy kih toh teen) - what are you doing taniki (tahn knee kih) - why
- tanikohk (tahn ih kohk) - when will it happen tanimaykohk (tahn my kohk) - when is it happening
- tanisi isnakoso kona (tan si isna koh soh koo nah) - what color is the snow? tanspi (tan spee) - when did it happen
- tanti (tan tee) - where
- tanti kiya ohci (tan tee kee yah os chi) - where are you from
- tantowa (tan two ah) - what kind



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







## KIKSKITITAN SERIES

**Incorporating our teachings and stories  
through Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin**

**kih-ci-twaw Ki-snaw-ma-ki-wi-nah  
e-kwa wi-ya-si-wi-wi-nah**

Kapawe'no First Nation - sohkithehwin - muskwa tahkonam ekwa  
kimikonaw sohkithehwin - kimikonow tanisi ti sih nipowistamahk  
oma kikwiw ka kostamahk

Sohkithehwin (Courage) - Bear carries and gives us the gift of  
courage, shows us how to stand up in the face of fear and be brave.



**KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION WELLNESS CENTRE  
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Email: [Jarett.Knibb@kapaweno.ca](mailto:Jarett.Knibb@kapaweno.ca) | Jarett Knibb, Manager







# FIRST NATION COLLEGIATE



## KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL K-6

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SAKAMOOSTOS WASAW

## BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY

GRADE 7-12



ARTS | MUSIC  
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to meet the challenges of tomorrow!*

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## KASKAPATEW PEKISKWEWIN FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE



KAPAWE'NO


## KASKITAYANIH-KA SKIH TAH YA NIH

OUTREACH /  
ADULT LEARNING



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT KFN SCHOOL:

**Email: [Admin@kfncollegiate.ca](mailto:Admin@kfncollegiate.ca) | Phone: (780) 751-0008**

 KAPAWENO FIRST NATION SCHOOL [www.kfncollegiate.ca](http://www.kfncollegiate.ca)

