

October 2015



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Proud to be Metis

Hi! My name is Carson

I was born on May 24th, 2015 in Windsor, ON I weighed 7 lbs 2 oz and was 20.7" long. I came into the world at lightning speed. The nurses couldn't believe it!

When my mom told me I was Metis, I was so excited! Here is my reaction.



Photo Source: Carson's proud parents

"Fallen leaves lying on the grass in the November sun bring more happiness than the daffodils"

~ Cyril Connolly



Quote Source: AZQuotes

Drum Making - A Busy Thanksgiving Weekend

Several weeks ago one of the members of the OMFRC community, shared his plans for the Thanksgiving weekend with us. Ed was sending in his application in to join the Traditional Hand Drum Making Workshop just west of Fonda, New York. The course was to be instructed by Jackie Labonte, a Mohawk woman living near Niagara Falls. Knowing how many of our community would be thrilled to hear about Ed's experiences that weekend we asked if he would share his

adventure with our community. What follows is his story complete with photos.





A Member Writes

Please Note: For those students who prefer native emphasis instead of Shakespear we have just received word Pamela Vanderburg telling us about courses which will replace the standard Grade 11 mandatory English course.

Pamela writes: This is one of 10 native studies courses offered. ENSS currently teaches 3 and this will be the 4th in September. Pamela adds, all secondary schools need to be teaching these vital courses. We couldn't agree more Pamela.

NBE 3C ~ Aboriginal Voices

This course emphasizes the development of literacy, critical thinking and communication skills through experiential learning and the study of works in English by Aboriginal writers from different Nations across Canada. Students will study the content, form, and style of informational texts and literary works, including Storytelling and Mythology, Short Stories, Traditional Song and contemporary Poetry, Film, Various Media Articles and documents addressing issues in contemporary society. Students will write, read, apply and respond to literary works, graphic and informational texts with a focus on effectively expressing opinions and points of view with appropriate voice and language and with precision and clarity. This is a course addressing the traditions, philosophy, and culture of First Nations' Peoples in Canada and it is open to all students; both Native and Non-Native. **Note:** The NBE3C Contemporary Aboriginal Voices (College Preparation) can be used to meet the Grade 11 compulsory English credit requirement.

Note: If you like hands-on learning, to write, read poems and other literary works please consider this course (with English and perhaps EWC4C or EWC4U.)



Pamela Vanderburg
Native Studies Teacher



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An Indigenous Common Heritage



Further to our conversation last month with regards to the Oka Crisis - 25 years later we ended with the suggestion that we, as Metis, share much history with our other Indigenous 'cousins'. We suggested that our common future is rooted in a common past. One of our readers asked the question "If the Metis culture is distinct, then how do we have so much in common with other Indigenous peoples?" Well, the reader is quite right. Not only are the Metis proud of their heritage, the Metis culture is recognized as distinct.

Authors: Christine, and her brother Trevor Shoniker
Photo Source: Indian Canoe - Albert Bierstadt Wikimedia Commons

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Mi'kmaq Leaders, Nova Scotia Government
Commit To Long Term Plan To Treaty

Commit To Long-Term Plan To Treaty Education



Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil, Eskasoni Chief Leroy Denny and Millbrook Chief Bob Gloade sign MOU on treaty education/Photo by Stephen Brake

The Nova Scotia government has signed a memorandum of understanding with Mi'kmaq leaders to launch a long-term initiative to teach the peace and friendship treaties in all schools, the civil service and the broader public.

"The M.O.U. is a historic moment because for too long, the story of the Mi'kmaq has been absent from our provincial education system," Eskasoni Chief Leroy Denny said Thursday during Mi'kmaq Treaty Day ceremonies.

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Dr. Joe Medicine Crow Celebrates 102nd Birthday

Dr. Joe Medicine Crow is the last living Plains Indian war chief. Dr. Medicine Crow's grandparents lived before the United States Government sent Indians to a reservation in 1884. His father was a boyhood friend of Chief Plenty Coups and had advised Plenty Coups to go to the nation's capital to present the Indians cases for preserving their ancestral land.

Born October 27, 1913 near Lodge Grass, Montana, Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow is the last living person with a direct oral history from a participant of the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876.

His grandfather, White Man Runs Him was a scout with General Custer and died in 1925 when Medicine Crow was 11 years old.



Joe Medicine Crow's grandfather Chief Medicine Crow

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Ahousaht First Nation Leads Rescue of Passengers From Capsized B.C. Whale-Watching Boat



Albert Titian/Facebook

Photo of Leviathan II, which capsized off the Vancouver Island town of Tofino, British Columbia. Members of the Ahousaht First Nation were immediately on scene on Sunday October 25 and helped rescue 21 passengers. Five of the 27 on board died, and one remained missing on Monday October 26.

Ahousaht First Nation members were at the forefront of rescue efforts when a whale-watching boat capsized off the Vancouver Island town of Tofino on October 25, killing at least five people and leaving one person still missing as of Monday.

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Indigenous Women Take Climate Matters

Into Their Own Hands



Native American drummers demonstrate at the steps of City Hall during a rally to take strong action on the climate change on February 17, 2013 in Los Angeles, California. (David McNew / Getty Images)

NEW YORK - Not far from the negotiations for a new global development agenda that took place between heads of state at the United Nations General Assembly last month, a small group of female leaders gathered out of the

**Joshua Wheeler
Cherokee Warrior
First US Casualty Fighting ISIS**



Courtesy U.S. Army

Joshua L. Wheeler, Cherokee warrior died fighting ISIS.

Joshua L. Wheeler, 39-year-old Cherokee warrior, is the latest American lost in the fog of the 2nd Iraq war.

Cherokee Principal Chief Bill John Baker, in his role as mourner-in-chief, released a statement reading in part:

Our hearts go out to the Wheeler family for their tragic loss. Master Sergeant Joshua Wheeler was a highly decorated member of the Delta Force unit whose mission in Iraq was freeing hostages held by ISIS. Like so many of our Cherokee warriors, Joshua died serving our great country and we are forever indebted to him for his bravery and willingness to accept the most dangerous missions... Joshua is a true American hero and we will always honor his life and sacrifices at the Cherokee Nation.

[Read More](#)

Two Hours of Native American Music

With today's busy lifestyle we hope you can find some time to sit back, unwind and relax while listening to 2 hours of soothing Native American Music.



New Submissions

Our editors are always looking for original submissions that would be of interest to our community. Do you know of any upcoming events that you would like to share either through the Newsletter or Facebook?

If you have something you would like to add to future

limelight to sign another historic agreement.

The delegation chose not to meet at UN headquarters in east Midtown but on a traditional Native American tribal territory in Central Park's East Meadow. Seven women representing eight different tribes signed a treaty to unite the indigenous women of the Americas in friendship to protect the land and people from the harms of climate change and environmental degradation. In what organizers said was the first-ever indigenous women's treaty, the women pledged to support the rights of indigenous peoples, commit nonviolent acts of civil disobedience to protect the planet, and demand immediate changes to laws that have led to environmental destruction.

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The Medicine Wheel

New cultural landmark in Nose Hill Park: Siksikaitstapi medicine wheel offering site

Nose Hill Park recently became home to a new cultural landmark. In late September, members of the Blood Tribe built a traditional medicine wheel there as part of the Siksikaitstapi (Blackfoot Confederacy) conference.

The medicine wheel is constructed of rocks in the shape of the Siksikaitstapi logo, a circle that represents all four member tribes: Siksika, Blood, Northern and Southern Peigan.



This photo was sent to us today by Marc G. in Alberta. Marc is a members of the OMFRC community and also an active volunteer. Marc writes: My daughter and I went for a hike up Nose Hill Park today in the rain and snow to see the medicine wheel. Thank you Marc for sharing this photo with us.

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issues we would be happy to consider it; please call or email putting Facebook or Newsletter material in the subject line!

omfrcinfo @ gmail.com

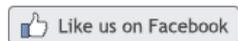
613-332 -4789



The OMFRC would like to thank everyone that is standing with us to support the Ontario Metis Family Records Center Community Facebook Page.....your response is nothing short of incredible!

Stay connected and celebrate your heritage! Share that you're a member of the OMFRC Community with your family members on Facebook. It has never been more important to stand up and be counted!

Have you visited our Facebook page? We welcome you to join our OMFRC Community - we want to hear from you.



Ontario Metis Family Records Center



We're on the web!
See us at:

www.aboriginalstatus.org
www.omfrc.org

**Is Your Membership
Coming Up for
Renewal?**



If it is, call 1-613-332-4789 and you can do it right over the phone in just a couple of minutes.

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