

M'CHIGEENG

FIRST NATION

NEW Website - Coming Summer 2022

COVID-19 Update

t is with great joy that we share with the Community that Chief and Council has officially ended the State of Emergency as it relates to Covid-19. We are grateful for the patience

Election Date Referendum

Please note: Notices will be going out to off reserve June 10th. Notices will be posted for on reserve locally and bulk mailed. Read more on page 7. and understanding our membership has had during this unprecedented time. We are also grateful for our Membership in the support of protocols, safety considerations and rules that have been in place. This pandemic has been difficult on all of us. For much of the term of this leadership, Covid-19 and the safety of the community and our most vulnerable have been the priority and focus of the Chief and Council. During this time the Council was faced with many difficult decisions(continued on page 11...)

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Health Services Updates Important dates include: Vaccine clinic, sweat lodge, medicine cabinet cleanup

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SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Please be advised that we are switching over to summer hours, as of June 22nd, so offices will be open Monday to Friday, 8am-4pm.



Health Services Updates

lean up your medicine cabinet, June 6-10! How do you figure out what to keep in your medicine cabinet?

1. Is the medication expired?

2. Why were you prescribed this medication?

3. Do you have a medical condition that prevents you from taking this medication?

4. What are your doctor's recommendations regarding this medication?

5. Does this medication effectively treat your health problems?

6. Has the medication changed in appearance, taste and/or smell?

7. Has the medication been stored properly?8. Do you still need this medication?

The upcoming covid vaccination clinic updates are June 16th, July 13th and August 16th. Book your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th dose online at covid-19.ontario.ca/ book-vaccine.

ABORIGINAL DAY FISH FRY!

Served at noon until 1pm

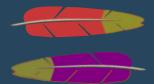
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Chigeeng First Nation Invites you to attend an Aboriginal Day Fish Fry at the pow wow

grounds. This event will be held on Tuesday, June 21st from 10am to 2pm.

Expect tons of family fun, including a fire contest, story-telling, fish filet, indian ball, cedar tea and music!

For more information, please contact Family Resources or the Youth Program.









he Anishinabek Nation is celebrating Anishinaabe Giizhigad on June 6 to honour our past, present, and future. In the simplest terms, we are strengthening our Nation and providing a good future, an Anishinaabe future, for our children. Our greatest strength

is our Anishinaabe ways: our language, culture, history, and traditions. This is how we have survived genocide and this is how we will strengthen our people and ensure our future. We have much to celebrate!

On November 17, 2021, the Anishinabek Nation Leadership Council proclaimed June 6 as Anishinaabe Giizhigad our very own national holiday. June 6 commemorates the proclamation of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin (Anishinabek Nation Constitution) by the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council, held at the Roundhouse in Shequiandah First Nation on June 6, 2012. The adoption of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin was then confirmed by The Pipe Ceremony and so, it is a sacred commitment to live according to Anishinaabe principles and law. Our principles and laws are expressed in the Preamble of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin. The Preamble, Ngo Dwe

Res Contractions

Mno-waawiindandaa Anishinaabe Giizhigad! Let's celebrate Anishinaabe Day!

Waangizid Anishinaabe (One Anishinaabe Family) was guided, created, and gifted to us by our Elders and provides the spirit and intent, and the vision and purpose of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin.

Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe states:

"Creator placed Anishinaabe on the Earth along with the Gift of Spirituality. Here on Mother Earth, there were Gifts given to Anishinaabe to look after: Fire, Water, Earth, and Air.

The Creator also gave Anishinaabe Seven Sacred Gifts to guide them. They are: Love, Truth, Respect, Wisdom, Humility, To Live a Good Life, and Bravery.

Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves. We respect and honour the past, present and future."

To live according to Anishinaabe principles and law, we must acquire and practice Anishinaabemowin (Language) and Anishinaabe Inaadziwin (Culture), always. This is the source of Anishinabek nationhood, identity, and pride.

This is how we provide for future generations. This is why we will celebrate June 6 each year.

The celebration will be livestreamed on June 6th from 8:30am-5pm at https://www.youtube.com/user/ AnishinabekNation

M'Chigeeng Binoojiinh Gamgoonhs – Early Years Learning Centre

The following are June updates for Binoojinh Gamgoonhs - Early Years Learning Centre



Chigeeng First Nation would like to extend a warm welcome all new staff members at

Binoojinh Gamgoonhs:

- Terry Durno Maintenance
- Amber Gaudrault RECE
- •RhondaDebassige-Administrative Assistant
- Matthew Bebonang Educator Assistant

• Kaylynn Payette - Educator Assistant

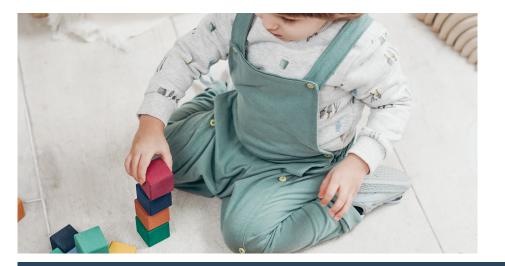
- Kaelyn Moor Exucator Assistant
- Shania Roy Supply/Summer Student

• Dream Saunders - Summer Student

MISSION STATEMENT

Our goal is to provide stimulating experiences for the child in a safe, happy and relaxed environment.

In addition, our goal is to foster independence, self-esteem, curiosity, cultural awareness and school readiness.



IMPORTANT JUNE DATES:

June 15th - Alternate date for JK Graduation photos

June 16 & 17th - PD Day (Daycare Centre closed)

June 21st - Aboriginal Day (Daycare Centre closed)

June 23rd - JK Graduation from 10:30-11:30am. Feast to follow.

June 28th - Last Day! Pow Wow

June 29th & 30th -Program/Summer Prep. (Daycare Centre closed) July 4th - Summer Program Begins (working families only)



Capital Projects & Public Works - Roads

Some of the highly traveled routs within the community have had substantial wear and tear over the last few years. The main factor to this wear and tear is winter temperatures changing; The action of increased freezing and thawing happening during the winter season creates excessivve wear on the roads and requires more salt applications. The freeze/thaw cycles cause the roads to deteriorate quicker, and winter salt also contributes to road deterioration due to salt's corrosive quality.

Another factor that creates wear and tear on the roads is the volume of traffic and speed. Side roads are designed and built to handle certain amounts of traffic per day, and the traffic is scheduled to travel at speeds the roads were designed to quip. If volume increases and traffic speed is excessive, this causes roads to deteriorate faster than normal. As the Public Works team is out regularly, filling pots and adressing road issues we ask that people travelling on these roads slow down and drive safely around workers. We are people too ,with families to go home to at the end of the day.

CPPW office is working on a roads strategy report to address the deteriorating roads. Before the hardtop can be replaced, ditching must be completed and culverts need to be replaced. Some areas of the road require complete rebuilding as the subsurface is comprimised. This all requires planning and budgeting.

Solid Waste Study: The project team is working with ISC on funding for a temporary transfer station, which allows time for the team to plan, acquire funds for the permanent transfer station and clean up the old site.

Housing

Phase II renovations- Stalled several times due to Covid -19 breakouts in the community. For the safety of the crew and members the housing maintenance crew was reassigned to help with the community complex refresh. With the downward trend in covid cases the crew completed the renovations and is addressing Health θ safety concerns with tenants.

6-plex renovations- (old motel)- CMHC funded renovation project is well underway, Lignum Builders from Espanola were awarded the contract earlier this spring and are expected to have the renovation completed by end of fall 2022. This renovation will have six 1-bedroom apartments for members to rent.

Barrier free units- This is an Indigenous Service Canada funded project, as it has come to our attention that we need more handicap accessible units. Units are 1-bedroom and barrier free to help accommodate member who require adjusted living conditions. Construction is expected to be completed fall 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this report do not hesitate to contact my office: murraym@mchigeeng.ca

Gaming Lagoon

This project is in the final stages of the design, comments from ISC, Oceans and Fisheries have been submitted for review. The project team is optimistic that the project can go to tender later this summer with completion scheduled for 2023.

Lakeview Booster Station

The remediation for this facility well under way, upgrades to the piping, new pumps and the new generator expected to be completed fall 2022.

Lakeview School

Project team has completed the design and plans for the Health and Safety remediation for the Lakeview School. The team is waiting for approval to tender out the remediation work. Stay tuned.

Crosshill Watermain

The project team has been meeting regularly to ensure the scope of the project is clear, the design is at phase II of the Detailed design where a more detailed plan for the decommissioning of the drinking water cisterns. Some of the items already discussed and completed is the hydraulic analyst, topographic survey, population projection to establish water use demands and fire flows.

Other projects we are working on is updating the Capital Planning Study, Elevated Storage Reservoir (Water tower) remediation.

New Housing Officer

Congratulations to Winifred Panamick, the successful candidate for the Housing Officer position, she has vast experience with the housing program. Ms. Panamick's main focused will be the management and maintenance of M'Chigeeng's rental properties.

MFN FOOD DEPOT

Open on Monday & Thursday

9:00 – 4:00 pm

Referrals for food box ongoing throughout the week. Pick up and deliveries on open days only.

705-377-5362 or emailed to dianned@mchigeeng.ca ext. 227 abbyp@mchigeeng.ca ext.238

Donations accepted. 726B HWY 551 SIL Building B

Referral Forms can be found on M'Chigeeng website.

Notice of Referendum

Changing the date of the General Election

n June 2, 2022 the Council made a Decision to Approve a Referendum on the M'Chigeeng First Nation Custom Election Code 2019 that will formally include a specific section in the M'Chigeeng First Nation Custom Election Code 2019 to state:

"M'Chigeeng First Nation General Election shall be held on the Saturday of the September Labour Day Weekend in the voting year"

This decision was based on Membership expressing the desire to have the General Election return to the Saturday of the Labour Day Weekend in a voting year. Currently, the General Election occurs at the end of March in a voting year.

To ensure this change is completed in a proper, transparent and legal way, a referendum and vote by the Membership is required. Attached is the Referendum Timeline that was approved by the Council. Also attached is additional information as it relates to the Referendum Question.

Art Jacko has been appointed the Referendum Officer and Marlene Debassige has been appointed as Deputy Referendum Officer. We encourage our Membership who are residing off reserve and have not updated their mailing address to do so by contacting the Deputy Electoral Officer, Marlene Debassige. This will ensure that you will receive a ballot package in the mail. The Contact information for the Referendum Officer and Deputy Referendum Officer are as follows:

Art Jacko, Referendum Officer 705-377-5362 ext. 202 Email: artj@mchigeeng.ca

Marlene Debassige, Deputy Referendum Officer 705-377-5362 ext. 203 Email: marlened@mchigeeng.ca

Should you have any further information with respect to the Referendum please contact the Referendum Officer or Deputy Referendum Officer.

Referendum Timeline

To Change the Date of the General Election to the Saturday of the September Labour Day Weekend in a Voting Year

Appoint Enaagdenjged and Office Administrator as Referendum Officer and Deputy Referendum Officer June 2, 2022

Notice of Referendum to go out to Band Membership on and Off Reserve June 10, 2022

> Send Ballots to Off Reserve Membership July 4, 2022

> Referendum Poll and counting of ballots August 13, 2022

Additional Information

A Referendum will be held on August 13, 2022 for Membership to decide on changing the Date of the General Election to the Saturday of the September Labour Day weekend in a voting year. Currently the General Election is held on March 27 of a voting year. The question will be a yes or no question for membership to decide on. Below is a summary of what each option would mean:

A YES VOTE WOULD MEAN:

The General Election Date would return to the Saturday of the Labour Day weekend in September. The New Council's term would commence for three years following the counting of ballots. The Current Council's term would extend an additional six (6) months to the Election Date one time only.

A NO VOTE WOULD MEAN:

The General Election would remain on March 27 of a voting year. The New Council's term would commence for three (3) years following the counting of ballots. The Current Council's term would end on March 27, 2023 **Connecting Indigenous Peoples to the Ocean Economy**

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Indigenous Peoples from all backgrounds and levels of education can apply

The Indigenous Career Pivot Program facilitates meaningful 12-month work placements for mid-career Indigenous Peoples interested in exploring and pursuing careers in ocean-based industries.

Participants receive:

- Wage packages
- Full orientation and onboarding
- Opportunity to attend career building conferences and workshops
- Professional development courses
- Mentoring and peer support

LEARN MORE & APPLY

https://clearseas.org/en/programs/indigenous-career-pivot-program/



INDIGENOUS BUSINESS GRANT 2022

Grant Overview

Indigenous-owned businesses across Canada are invited to apply to one of two grant levels.

- Level 1: \$2,500 grant + CCAB membership 50 grants are awarded in a live draw.
- Level 2: \$10,000 grant (\$5,000 per year for two years) + CCAB membership a commitment to actively participate on an advisory panel for the duration of the grant. Completed applications are reviewed by a jury and 25 grants are awarded. Please note, Level 2 is only available in 2022.
- The business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by an Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) person/persons.
- The for-profit business must be registered in Canada.
- Your business is only allowed to apply to either Level 1 or Level 2, you cannot apply to both.
- The application process closes on June 24th at 4:00PM EST.



For more information,

visit: https://www.ccab.com/indigenous-business-grant-022/?fbclid=IwAR1Pf1kj8KEhmgZb0jGmAQOzJxS4oFO5fg8NBT0uHbABuiveXxGnQa3ZGJA#1617 056100693-d181e207-cb45

Cathy Bouchard

Program Coordinator - Rural Agri-Innovation Network (RAIN)

Phone 705.942.7927 ext. 3135 / Fax 705.942.6169

Email <u>cbouchard@ssmic.com</u>

Mail 99 Foster Dr., Level Six, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5X6







Summer Sweat Lodge

The summer sweat lodge will be held at 689A Hwy. 551, behind the M'Chigeeng Health Centre.

oin conductor Alma Jean for a summer sweat lodge on Tuesday, June 21st at 1:00pm. Please make as many tobacco prayer ties as you need, wear light clothing and bring a towel and water.

Please note there is a maximum of 8 participants.

Tuesday June 21st, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: 689A Hwy 551

Sponsored by the M'Chigeeng Health Centre. Contact Geraldine Ense-McGregor to confirm. (705)-377-5347.

Call for Committee Members and Volunteers

It is time to plan for M'Chigeeng's Pow-Wow!

P lease join us at the community complex on June 11, 2022 from 1-3pm as we begin planning M'Chigeeng First Nation's powwow. We are strongly encouraging youth to participate in the planning, but all are welcome and encouraged to join.

If you are interested in joining the planning committee, please contact Marlene Debassige at 705-377-5362 ext 203.





Chief & Council Meeting

(Continued from page 1...)

and stood steadfast in ensuring the health and safety of our membership was the number one priority. Together as a community, we have made it through the worst of this pandemic and for this we say a big Gchi Miigwech!!! At last night's council meeting, the EOG presented the following recommendations: End the Covid-19 state of Emergency, ending the levels of reopening and activation; The oversight and monitorina of Covid-19 will transition to health services; Masking will be required at Health Services, Lakeview school and Binoojinhs Gamgoonhs; Masking will be optional for all community hosted events and at the Administration Office: Masking and sanitization will continue to be made available for all events and at all MFN public buildings; Staff will be encouraged to continue to monitor for symptoms and use the Rapid Test when symptoms are present; Vaccination Proof of will only required for MFN be Staff: Covid-19Leave policy has been rescinded; A review of the Covid-19 State of Emergency will be undertaken, & a report prepared for Chief and Council.

Although the Chief and Council has ended the State of Emergency as it relates to Covid-19, we are reminding our membership that the Covid-19 pandemic is still here. We encourage our Membership to continue to follow the advice of M'Chigeeng Health Services and Public Health. We continue to encourage our membership to wash and sanitize hands, wear a mask, and physical distance in large gatherings and encourage our membership to continue to wash and sanitize hands, wear a mask, and physical distance in large gatherings and enroucage our membership to make good personal decisions as we move forward with this pandemic.

Again, on behalf of Council we wish to congratulate and celebrate this success which has been made possible by our Membership! Gchi Miigwech!

On behalf of council, Ogimaa Kwe Linda Debassige

UPCOMING COVID VACCINATION CLINICS

June 16, 2022 July 13, 2022 August 16, 2022





Public Health Mobile COVID-19 Bus will be located at the M'Chigeeng Complex 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and pediatric doses available

How to book an appointment

Book online covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine

Book by phone 705-522-9200





KILLARNEY PC AGES 9 to 17

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDE

IIMITED SPOTS

JULY 14 & AUGUST 11, 2021

LET'S GO

ON A TRIP!

REGISTRATION IS MANADTORY! PLEASE CONTACT RENEE OR SALLY AT 705-377-4371 Depature From the Family Resources Office at 9 AM.

Arrival to MFN

We will be arriving back to the Family Reources Building at 4PM

How does your garden grow

Community Garden Contest

Registration June 1st—July 8th Judging: July 12th & 13th

PRIZE WINNERS: BBQ's x 2 Propane fire tables x 2 Patio Sets x 2

Prizes for all gardens entered! Full Size Garden (1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners) Raised Garden Boxes (1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners)

Judging will take place: July 12/13th, 2022

Winner's will be announced July 14th, 2022 M'Chigeeng Health Service/ Administration Website

Dandelions... Not Just a weed!

Though dandelions are not native to North America, they are a weed with many uses Dandelions are some of the most nutritionally dense greens yavailable, and are full of vitamins and antioxidants. The greens are also a good source of Vitamins C, A, and K. Dandelions are rich in potassium, so they are a diuretic and an excellent blood detoxifier. Dandelions are also known to stabilize blood sugar! The entire plant is edible: flower, leaves, and roots!



Community Garden Contest

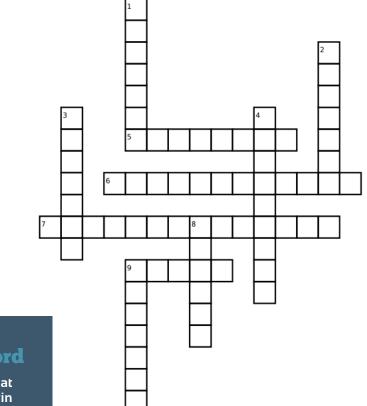
Registration for the contest is June 1st - July 8th. Judging will occur July 12 -13th, and the winners will be announced on July 14th, 2022!

Do you love gardening? Do friends come to you for plant advice? Or are you new to the feeling of dirt under your fingernails? Now is your chance to show off! Everyone, regardless of experience is welcome to register for the community garden contest between June 1st and July 8th. There are prizes for all gardens entered into the contest.

Grand prizes for first, second and 3rd place are two

BBQs, two propane fire tables, and 2 patio sets. The judging will take place on July 12-13th, 2022 and the winners will be announced on July 14th on the M'Chigeeng Health Services/Administration website. Winners will be selected from two categories; full-sized gardens and raised garden boxes!

Test Your Language Knowlege!



Anishinaabe Crossword

Answers can be found online at mchigeeng.ca/anishinaabemowin

Down: 1. One of the 5 senses 2. a drum 3. aboriginal footwear 4. Thank you 8. Water 9. hands (more than 1)

Across: 5. Apple 6. A hockey stick 7. How are you? 9. The number three



June 2022

Poem for Father's Day - The Maple by Alexander McPhee

I sat on the doorstep one evening, Where out on the lawn I could see; A man and a boy, they were standing, At the foot of the old Maple tree.

The boy was only a youngster, The man was feeble and grey; I knew they were pals without asking, For I often had seen them this way.

The old man was quietly talking, He was pointing and nodding his head; Though the distance was too great to hear them,

I knew every word that was said.

He said — "Son, see this tall stately Maple, It has stood many years on the lawn; I dare say it still will be standing, A good many years, when we've gone."

"My Grandad first showed me the Maple, Even though it was standing so high; When I took your father to see it, It was reaching way up to the sky." "As a youngster, I played 'round the Maple, I caught the sweet sap in the Spring; While the birds would fly all through the branches,

Or sit there, how sweetly they'd sing."

"I remember a beautiful robin, Had built a nest up in the tree; One day, I crawled up through the branches, This bird's nest, I wanted to see." "There were four little eggs in that bird nest, And I was surprised beyond words; For I saw four little eggs breaking open, Inside there were four little birds."

They turned, hand in hand, up the driveway, I knew that this story was done; The old man — you guessed it — my father; The youngster, yes, he was my son.

They stopped as they came to the doorstep, They stood looking back to the lawn; He said — "That's a stately old maple, 'Twill be there many years when we've gone." ADMINISTRATION OFFICES Finance & Administration Capital Projects/Public Works Ontario Works/LDM Education Administration/Post-Secondary Economic Development/HIAH/MERE



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE P.O. Box 333, 53 Hwy 551 M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0 Ph: (705) 377-5362 Fax: 705-377-4980

June 7, 2022

Update to all MChigeeng Members and Staff;

HEALTH CENTRE Tel: 705-377-5347 Fax: 705-377-5090

□ **FAMILY RESOURCE** Tel: 705-377-4371 Fax: 705-377-4340

WELLNESS CENTRE Tel: 705-377-4240 Fax: 705-377-4179

□ **LAKEVIEW SCHOOL** Tel: 705-377-4988 Fax: 705-377-5080 <u>Library</u> Ph: 705-377-5540

BINOOJIINH GAMGOONHS DAY CARE

Tel: 705-377-5383 Fax: 705-377-4377

As part of the Social State of Emergency on Opioids Mental Health and Violence declared on March 15, 2021, M'Chigeeng First Nation is advising that work has commenced on developing a plan to address the challenges that our First Nation faces. MFN submitted a proposal to Indigenous Service Canada under the Emergency Management Assistance Program. Our proposal was accepted under the program and work identified in the proposal will be carried out by ISN Maskwa (Investigative Solutions Network Inc.) starting the week of June 13, 2022. This work will involve:

- 1. Community Safety Assessment;
- 2. Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan;
- 3. Updating the MFN Emergency Management Plan; and
- 4. Updating Electronic Mapping:

Safety Assessment

ISN-Maska will be led by Bob Weir along with Paul Syrette and will attend the community to commence the Security Assessment and Environmental Scan. This will comprise of going around the community to assess different things and identify needs and recommendations (ie. Cutting brush, placing lights, etc.). They will also identify the areas for the security cameras to be placed. This will occur tentatively the week of June 13, 2022. This will also include a night assessment.

Community Safety and Wellbeing Planning

During the same week, Melissa Chegli will be attending to start the work on the Community Safety and Wellbeing Planning. The initial phase of community safety and well-being planning is used to meet with community members, Elders, Youth, Lakeview School, service providers and leadership to identify the main priority areas to focus on the plan.

They will use different methods to engage residents in the community, some examples can include surveys, focus group meetings by sector, one-on-one interviews with key people or agencies, and community events where people build relationships and celebrate community. This initial phase is intended to both gather feedback from the community as well as share information with community members about the community safety and well-being work that is happening.

Updating Emergency Management Plan

This work will involve updating the existing Emergency Management plan with ISN Maskwa, Emergency Management coordinators at the Anishinabek Nation and MFN Senior staff.

Updating Electronic Mapping

This work will involve updating our 911 and incorporating into our newly acquired Geographic Information System (GIS). Additional information on specific engagement sessions dates and times will be provided shortly.

Art Jacko Enaagdenjged