



M'CHIGEENG



Happy New Year, M'Chigeeng!

Aanii kina wiya, and happy New Year to our M'Chigeeng community! As we step into 2024, let's embrace the promise of new beginnings and opportunities.

In this edition, you'll find updates

REMINDER:

If you selected pick-up as your collection option, you must pick up your Christmas Gift Cheque at the Administration Office.

on important community matters, job opportunities, and upcoming events both in M'Chigeeng and in the greater Manitoulin community. Plus, we'll share valuable resources and information to help you make the most of the year ahead.

Get ready for an exciting year filled with changes and developments. Stay tuned for important information regarding the Robinson Huron Treaty and Manitoulin Project, as well as exciting updates about events and projects happening in M'Chigeeng.

Thank you for being part of our vibrant community, and here's to a January filled with hope, positivity, and prosperity.

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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

December 22, 2023

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
Library
Ph: 705-377-5540

**BINOOJIINH
GAMGOONHS
DAY CARE**

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

AG Building Closed Until Further Notice

The Anishinaabemowin Gamig Elders Centre will be closed for Elder Drop Ins starting December 21st 2023, until further notice. The Elder Navigator has decided to move on to pursue other opportunities, but would like to pass along well wishes and many thanks to the community of M'Chigeeng for warmly welcoming her.

Photo by Alex Usquaino

AN EVENING OF STORYTELLING

with **Isaac Murdoch**

Date/Time: Thursday, January 18, 2024
5:30pm - 8:30pm

Location: 7 Fires Youth & Elder's Centre
46 Bay of Island Road
Whitefish River First Nation

EVERYONE WELCOME!

*Corn soup, scone and dessert will be served.
Parents must accompany their children.*

Bomgiizhik (Isaac Murdoch) is from Serpent River Frist Nation.

He is of the Fish Clan and is Ojibwe, he has 4 beautiful children. He currently lives in the forest at Nimkii Aazhibikoong, an Anishnabek community that focuses on Anishnabek language, art, and land-based activities. Being blessed with the opportunity, Bomgiizhik grew up in the traditional setting of hunting and gathering on the land. Having spent many years learning from elders, he spends a lot of his time as a storyteller. Many of his stories become his visual art pieces which have become recognized worldwide. Bomgiizhik is also a singer song writer who, loves to make music when ever he gets a chance. You will often find him on the land looking at his favorite plants or gazing into the beautiful night sky.



Noojmowin Teg
Health Centre
A place of healing

For more information, visit Noojmowin-teg.ca or call (705) 368-0083

Happy New Year from the Education Department!

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Aanii kina wiya!
Lakeview School is excited to be entering a New Year! 2024 is sure to be exciting and amazing!

We look forward to collaborating with community programs to continue supporting and expanding students' learning experiences.

Families and caregivers, please continue to be involved – visit the school, read with your child/ren, support homework completion, and communicate with classroom teachers regularly!

Families + Community + Students + Staff = Student Success

Let's continue working together for the benefit of every child!

Hap No Wenh!

Miigwech,

Gayle Payette, Principal
gaylep@lakeviewschool.ca
705-368-6434 mobile



Happy New Year from the Mighty, Mighty Grade Twos!

Be healthy, be kind, and jingle on!

Reminders for Secondary Students

Return to school: January 8th, 2024

Last Full Day of Official Classes First Semester: January 24th, 2024

Scheduled Exam Period: January 25th, 2024 - January 31st, 2024

PD Day: February 2nd, 2024

Start of Second Semester: February 5th, 2024



It's Great to be in Grade Three!

The grade 3 class was busy getting ready for the holidays. In preparation, they created festive stories. The narrative stories consisted of an enticing beginning, problematic middle and a solution encompassing ending. Ask a grade 3 to read you their story. They were so proud they walked down to the Wellness Center and read them to the Elders. Students also made Christmas ornaments for the Elders, sang them a song and told them jokes.





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ENAAGDENJGED

(one who takes care of others or things)

Department: Administration

Employment Status: **Regular Full-Time**

Salary: **Negotiable (subject to education & experience), includes pension & benefits**

M'Chigeeng First Nation is seeking an inspiring Anishnaabe Leader. With strong background in management, administration, and finance as the Enaagdenjged; along with exceptional communication and interpersonal skills. Values and understands Anishinabek culture and is fluent in Anishinabemowin is a strong asset. If you are results oriented, an analytical thinker and have a proactive approach, then you may be a great fit for this position.

Summary of Position

The Enaagdenjged works under the general direction of the M'Chigeeng First Nation Chief and Council; and shall, in every aspect oversee the administration and manage the operations of M'Chigeeng First Nation; and is the administrative lead and link between Senior Management and Chief and Council. Responsible to ensure the management, administration and delivery of all M'Chigeeng programs and services and that these needs of are met in an effective, efficient and timely manner. Ensures Anishinabek cultural practices are incorporated in daily interactions and program activities with focus on retention of Anishinabemowin (C&C 2030 Declaration goal of MFN being fluent in Anishinabemowin).

Specifications

Preferred, University Degree with minimum of 5-Years direct management or direct work experience. Minimum, College Diploma with minimum of 4-Years of direct management or direct work experience. Understands Anishinabek culture and traditions and fluency of Anishinabemowin. Is compassionate, approachable and known as an upstanding and respectful role model. Ability to deal effectively with high pressure and challenging situations; proven competencies for managing information and people; decision-making and negotiating with high level officials and government bodies as a representative for Chief & Council. Ability to implement change management, risk management and quality assurance.

Interested applicants please submit **COVER LETTER, RESUME, THREE (3) CURRENT WORK-RELATED REFERENCES** (with contact information) & **EDUCATION CERTIFICATION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**, by 12:00 P.M to:

“ENAAGDENJGED”

M'CHIGEENG FIRST NATION

P.O. Box 333

M'CHIGEENG, ON P0P 1G0

employment@mchigeeng.ca or Fax 705-377-4980

Closing Date: January 12, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Migwetch to all interested applicants, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



BIMAADZIWIN GOOD LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Theme: "Chasing the Fire"

Saturday, February 10, 2024

9:00am - 3:30pm

Location: Manitoulin Secondary School
107 Bay Street, M'Chigeeng, Ontario

This conference is for children and youth 18 and under

**Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent*

Enjoy this fun filled day of keynote speakers and interactive workshops, including:

- traditional Anishnaabe Teachings
- archery and badminton
- painting
- boxing, kickboxing and MMA drills
- fire making, trapping and winter bushcraft skills
- and more!

Special guests:

Madison Kvatlin, Miss Universe Canada & The Big Bush Company + more great people being added!



**Noojmowin Teg
Health Centre**
A place of healing

For more information, visit Noojmowin-teg.ca or call (705) 368-0083



Binoojiinh Gamgoonhs

On behalf of M'Chigeeng Binoojiinhs Gamgoonhs we would like to welcome you back from Christmas Break. We hope all our students and families had a wonderful holiday season and are off to a great start in 2024!

I wanted to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to our newest full time hires here at M'Chigeeng Binoojiinhs Gamgoonhs. As many of you have already observed we have a few new individuals joining our team and they are Shelby Roy, Assistant Supervisor; Kayla Swire, Registered Early Childhood Educator; and

Sheila Eshquib, Educator. (Please insert picture #1)

I also want to welcome Kim Moor, who is joining us as a volunteer 3 days a week. Kim provides additional support in the programs where required; an extra set of hands, eyes and ears is always appreciated. Chi Miigwech Kim for your generous gesture.

-Denise Debassige

Friendly Reminders

- January 4 & 5, 2024 the Centre is open to working families only. Full day school age care is provided for working families who have their child(ren) registered.

- Regular hours of operation resume on Monday, January 8, 2024.

- Friday, February 2, 2024 is a PD Day, the centre will be closed on this day.



New Faces at the Daycare!

Above: Shelby Roy, Kayla Swire, Sheila Eshquib.

Right: Welcome Kim Moor!

Board of Directors Needed for 3 Corporate Boards



Applications can be found on the M'Chigeeng Website and at the Band Office

Board Member Eligibility to apply:

- You must be a M'Chigeeng Community member.
- At least 18 years of age.
- Available for evening meetings.
- A CRC is required.



How to apply:

Board Applications can be dropped off at Front Reception, mailed or emailed.

M'Chigeeng First Nation Chief and Council
P.O. Box 333, 53 Hwy 551
M'Chigeeng, Ontario POP 1G0



The M'Chigeeng Administration Office
hours of business
Mon-Thurs 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

GET IN TOUCH

HIAH Corp. Staff – Administration Office

Natalie Shawana, Business Economic Development Manager
Daina Stevens, Administrative Assistant
Jeff Corbiere, Renewable Energy Worker

Ext. 231 natalies@mchigeeng.ca
Ext. 232 dainas@mchigeeng.ca
Ext. 230 jeffc@mchigeeng.ca

M'Chigeeng Has Hired a New Water Protection Coordinator!

The M'Chigeeng First Nation band office is excited to present Rachel Arsenault as our new Source Water Protection Coordinator. In this role, Rachel will be preparing a community-led Source Water Protection (SWP) plan for M'Chigeeng based on the input, knowledge, and values of our members. The plan will be guided by a SWP Committee consisting of M'Chigeeng technicians, Leadership and community representatives, the UCCMM, and the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC). This project is part of a regional pilot program coordinated by the OFNTSC source water team who will be providing resources, training, and technical and advisory services throughout the project.

Rachel Arsenault is Anishinabek (Ojibwe and Odawa) and a band member of Wiikwemkoong Unceded First Nation. She has several years of work experience with various Indigenous organizations and Indigenous led projects such as the Decolonizing Water Partnership Project, which is based out of Ottawa, Ontario. She holds a Masters in Indigenous Relations with a speciality in water and Indigenous water relationships from Laurentian University and is completing her PhD studies at York University in Toronto (under the supervision of Dr. Deborah McGregor).

Rachel is very excited to work with M'Chigeeng and looks forward to connecting with the community on this critically important project. Keep an eye on future newsletters for more information about the project as well as upcoming events!

For more information about this project, or to get involved, please contact Natalie at natalies@mchigeeng.ca.



Water Ceremony

M'Chigeeng First Nation has requested Isadora Babamash and Alma Jean Mlgwans to lead a water ceremony for blessing the development of M'Chigeeng's own source water protection plan.

Where: Bay Street Beach

When: January 25, 2023

Time: Noon

Feast to follow at the Band Council Chambers

Ontario Works / LDM Department

Happy New year from the Ontario Works/LDM Department! Here are some updates on the ODSP program, LDM program, Food Depot and more.

Ontario Disability Supports Program: Update

M'Chigeeng Ontario Works has begun the process for the ODSP Delivery Site for January 2024. We have hired two new ODSP Caseworkers that will be located in the M'Chigeeng Administrative Office under the OW-LDM Department.

We would like to WELCOME the new TEAM members, Lorraine P. Migwan's and Abigail Paul!

All ODSP clients can now contact the new ODSP Caseworkers!

LDM Program

We will be recruiting for a new LDM Training Development Officer as Abigail Paul has moved onto to our ODSP Program. Abby will continue to work Part Time for the LDM while we recruit for a new LDM Worker.

The LDM Program can assist with training opportunities:

1. Purchase of Training
2. Targeted Wage Subsidy
3. Self Employment Assistance
4. Mobility
5. Employment Insurance applications
6. Employment Supports.

If you are interested in enhancing your skills and bettering your job opportunities, Please contact Abigail Paul – Training Development Officer at 705 377 5362, Ext. 225 - abbyp@mchigeeng.ca and John Ense at Ext. 215 johne@mchigeeng.ca.

Training opportunities we are continuing to explore are in trades, administration, computers, Bus Drivers License through – NATT.

Employment Experience - Training Wage Subsidy

We are continuing to accept applications for Training Opportunities for the Employment Experience Program for the period April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 2024.

All applicants must be a M'Chigeeng First Nation Band Member and on Social Assistance to qualify. Businesses can apply for the wage subsidy program under the Employment Experience Program to assist trainees for up to a year. Please contact April Corbiere at 705 377 5362 Ext. 238 or aprilc@mchigeeng.ca

M'Chigeeng Ontario Work Program

OW applications please contact April Corbiere at 705 377 5362 Ext. 238 aprilc@mchigeeng.ca, or Colleen Debassige at colleend@mchigeeng.ca Ext. 222 to schedule an appointment or any inquiries.

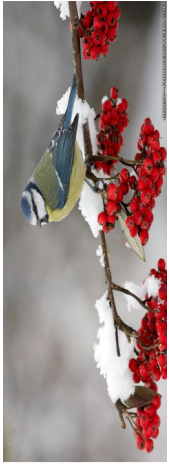
ASI Program

If you are experiencing difficulties with addictions, ASI can help. The program's targeted group is for Ontario Works - ODSP clientele. If you would like to schedule an appointment Please contact Joan Hoekstra - Addictions Service Initiative - Caseworker at 705 377 5362, Ext. 219 or by email joanh@mchigeeng.ca.

Food Depot

Food Bank dates are **Mondays and Thursdays**, delivery will be from **2pm – 4:00 pm**. Please contact Amy Mae Migwan's at Ext 222 or by email at amym@mchigeeng.ca, you can also contact Colleen Debassige at 705 377 5362, Ext 222 or by email at colleend@mchigeeng.ca before 2:00 pm or contact the Ontario Works Office The Food Depot is available to all Band members that may need assistance.

We would like to thank Anong Beam for continuing to donate fresh farm eggs to the FOOD DEPOT!



January 2024

Name Giizhgad

Shkwaaname
Giizhgad

Niish Giizhgad

Zozep Giizhgad

Spiniganwang

Jiibato Giizhgad

Manii Giizhgad

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Bring on the NEW YEAR!	Offices Closed	Learn to Crochet With Lynzii 1pm	BMO 10am Quilting 1pm Baby Blankets will be donated to the daycare	
7	9	10	11	12	13
	Nutrition Bingo 2pm	Freshmart Grocery Shopping 1pm	Learn to Crochet With Lynzii 1pm	BMO 10am Quilting 1pm Baby Blankets will be donated to the daycare	
14	16	17	18	19	20
	Prize Bingo 2pm	Freshmart Grocery Shopping 1pm	Learn to Crochet With Lynzii 1pm	BMO 10am Quilting 1pm Baby Blankets will be donated to the daycare	
21	23	24	25	26	27
	Nutrition Bingo 2pm	Freshmart Grocery Shopping 1pm	Learn to Crochet With Lynzii 1pm	BMO 10am Quilting 1pm Baby Blankets will be donated to the daycare	
28	30	31	Meals on Wheels available Mon-Fri \$5.00 each Please call ahead to book transportation to events Team Members for activities/events are: Danielle Kutschke Elder's Navigator-(705) 968-0210 Angela McGraw-Corbriere (705) 377-4240 ext 201		
	Prize Bingo 2pm	Espanola Shopping Trip 8am Weather Permitting			