

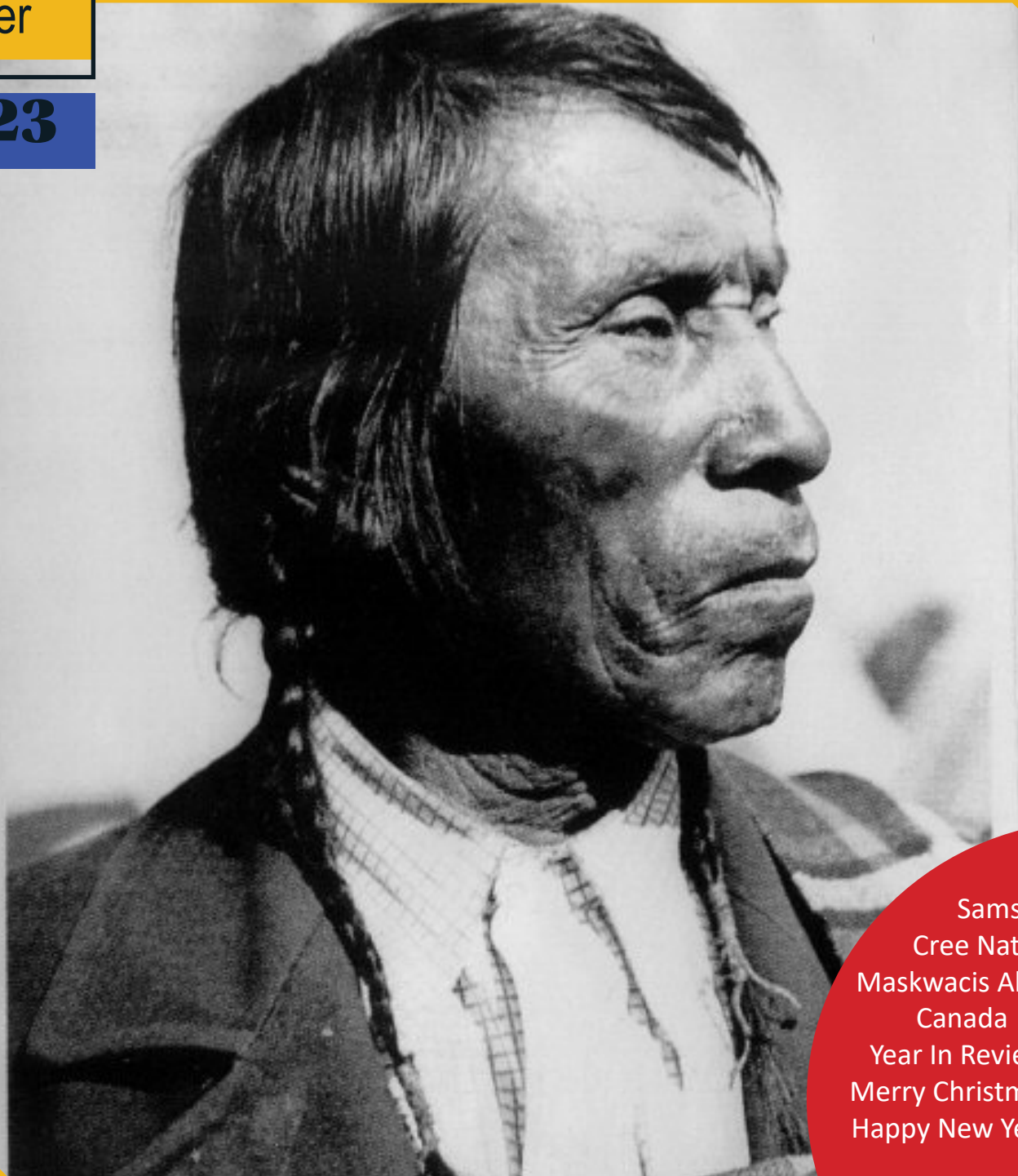
Nipisihkopahk Pawâcakinâsis

Acimowin

December

22, 2023

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 18



Samson
Cree Nation
Maskwacis Alberta
Canada
Year In Review
Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

www.samsoncree.com

Year In Review

Words by Guide Photos Delorna, Ashley, Guide, Integrated Family Services, SYSD, Jordana LP, Glinis Buffalo, Community Wellness, Museum & Archives for Cover Photo of Chief Samson.

January 2023 started off with the nation coming out of the Covid 19 pandemic. Restrictions were lifted and life went back to normal. People travelled, the stores were open and you did not need to use the cross border App anymore or carry your vaccine card.

December 1, 2023 The nation has Emergency Services. These men and women who work at these facilities are very good people. They help nation members when that need is there. There is also Maskwacis Mobile Mental Health in the community. These men and women travel to the destination where the client is rather than the other way around.

What is important is that there is someone to talk to in Maskwacis. Their services are not restricted to Samson. The nation deserves credit to for assisting people from the other three reserves. As well, we have Maskwacis Ambulance Services who serve all of Maskwacis. Big thanks to Stew and his crew. Most or all of these services run 24 hours a day. That's what makes it reliable for the people who need it. True everyday heroes in the community. Going into 2024 with programs and services for the nation and Maskwacis alleviates that stress that some people maybe going through. Please don't be afraid to give them a call this holiday season.

February 14, 2023. Devon Morin-Tiphaskahn Kamik, Information Session Clean Energy & Us.



January 30-31: Traditional Knowledge & Inherent Rights Gathering at the HBMC.



February 16-17: Youth Gathering : Inspiring the Future.



February 9: Cree Class with Bryan Lightning.

March 4. U.N. Rapporteur, Francisco Cali Tzay visits Maskwacis.



March 21, Election Law general meeting.



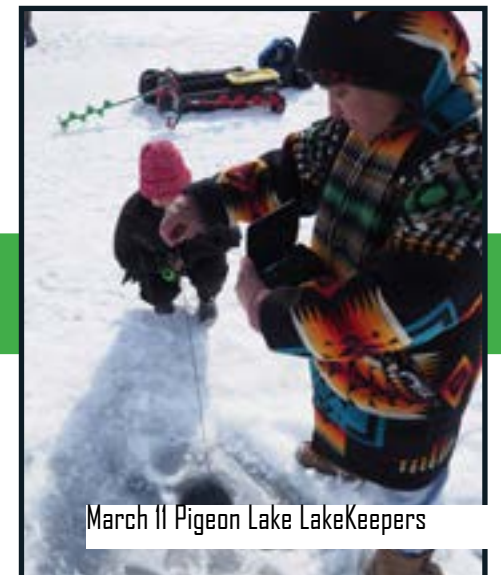
March 17 Amazing Race.



February 20. Family Day in Samson, the cooks and volunteers.



February 20. Pigeon Lake Family Day. Spirit North with skiing.



March 11 Pigeon Lake LakeKeepers



March 6: Ashley Lightning joins Communications Dept.

November 16, 2023
The Acimowin Year In Review.

I see people using google docs to sign people up for their course or class. They are using technology to transcend boundaries and to overcome distances between people. The world has become a small place now with technology being able to link people together over vast distances. Their is Leadership and community engagements and not to mention voting online which other First Nations do not have yet. I have not mentioned social media yet so now is the time. The mainstream social media platforms let us know about information in an ever changing world. We look

to our administrators as trusted workers for the people to get them the correct information quickly and accurately. We connect with our families on social media and we can see how each other are doing. Once again, the world is getting smaller.

What will it be like in 2024? With proper leadership, prayers and ceremony there will be, in my opinion, a better tomorrow. One where the youth of today become successful in whatever career they choose. Over course, education will help them get there. Some will need help and the nation has programs and services for them so don't be afraid to ask.



March 6. Ponoka Mayor visits leadership.



March U13 Champions.



March 15 Mens Group Fire Arms graduates.



March 7 Bittern Lake Buffalo Release.



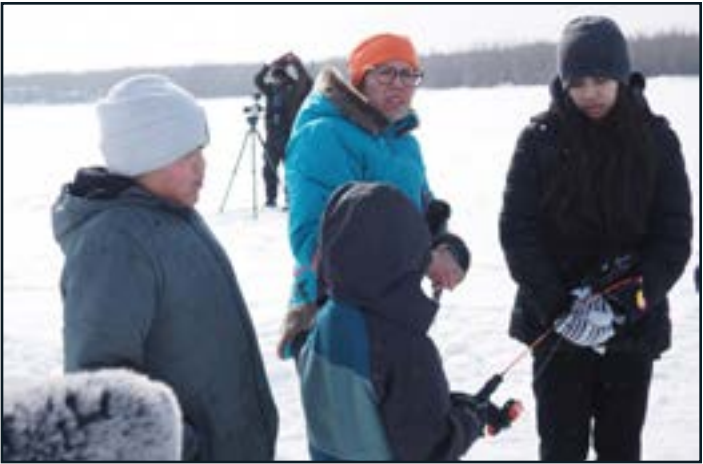
April 20 Kakiyaw Nipiy Ehotinikayahk Water Our Shared Gift information session/conference.



April 3 Samson Registry Office future location Grand Opening. Alberta Ministry of Indigenous Relations Rick Wilson, Chief Vernon Saddleback, Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction Dale Nally.



April 13 Treaties Bronze Medal winners.



April 25 Mamow Mimiw Sakahikan Ice Fishing and Sharing of Knowledge, Glinis Buffalo.



April 13 Attack U13 Champions.



April 22: Guitarfest at Jonas Applegarth Theatre.

Teddy Bear Toss

December 9, 2023, Four Nations Arena, Samson Cree Nation.



WOMENS WELLNESS

December 9, 2023: Pigeon Lake Recreation Centre.



December 8, 2023:
Samson Community Wellness, N.N.A.D.A.P.
Womens Wellness camp graduates and staff.
Source: Samson Community Wellness NNADAP facebook page.

Year In Review 2023

May 12: Joe Buffalo Indspire National Achievement Award (photo: Discorder magazine 2020).



May 17: Graduates from the Frontline Administrative Assistant Program.

May 9: Vernon Saddleback voted in as Samson Chief.



May 12: Mothers Day with Integrated Family Services, HBMC.



May 23: Council Election. 30 hour recount by hand.

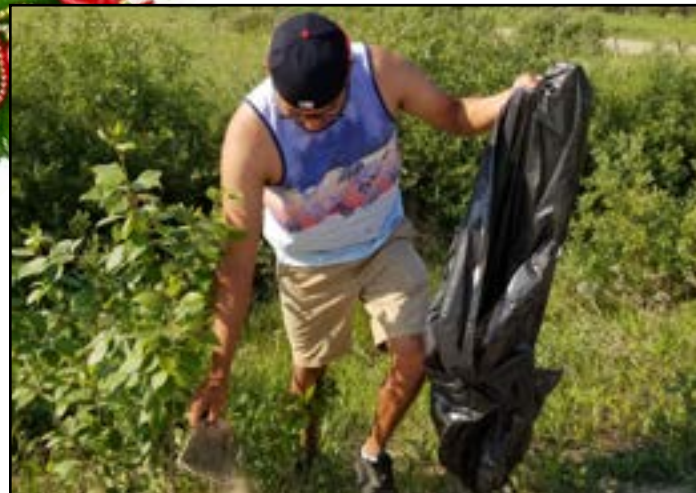


June 6: Mimiw Sakahikan Habitat Restoration, Glinis Buffalo.

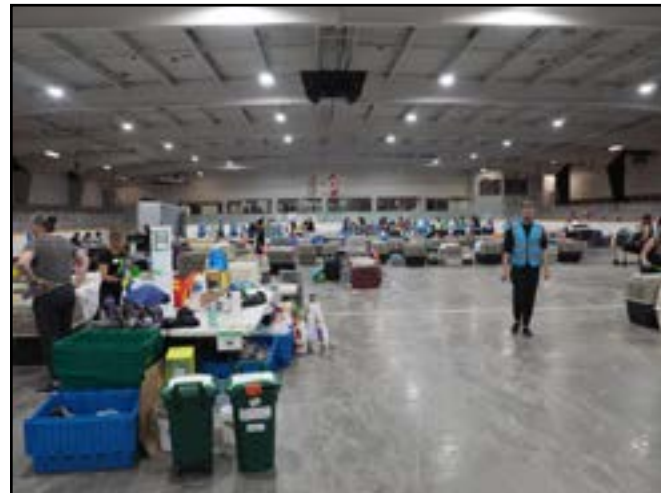


May 11: Drayton Vallery almost burns down due to wind and grass fires.

Year In Review 2023



June 8: Community Clean Up.



June 16-18: Maskwacis Dog and Cat Wellness Clinic.



June 12 Elders Event by Indian Residential Schools department.
June 15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day by Elders & Assisted Living department.



June 16: Fathers Day in Samson and Pigeon Lake.



June 26: Chief and Council Inauguration.

July 17: 6 Mile Traditional Mini Pow Wow.



Charity Check Stop

Dec 13, 2023

Forwarded from Teddi Saddleback, Executive Director Pe Sakastew Centre.

First of all, I would like to thank All Staff who have donated to our Jean Friday's throughout the years, your donation does not go unnoticed. On behalf of the Wellness Committee, we have collectively decided to give back to the local community of Maskwacis and donate these funds to the annual SCN Charity Check Stop.

Funds collected go the local food bank and Secret Santa.

This year we raised \$250 from our Jean Guy fund, which Teddi Saddleback matched (\$250) and Michael matching that total (\$500), the grand total was \$1000 donation from Pe Sakastew Centre. This has been the most that has been donated (to my knowledge) on behalf of the Healing Lodge. In the Spirit of Giving let's collectively work together to beat this total next year.

Chelsey Stoyka, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director Pe Sakastew Centre.



Thank You

Year In Review

July 1: TP Village at Ponoka Stampede.



July 3: Samson Cree Nation float in the Ponoka Stampede Parade.



July 4-6: Land2Lab at Pigeon Lake with Glinis Buffalo.



July 12: Elders Engagement by Community Wellness & Indian Residential School Resolution Health Support Program.

August 18: Indigenous Off-Diesel-Mountain Cree/Smallboy Camp Tipahaskahn Kamik field trip. Pipe ceremony acknowledging 3 month probation period for I.O.D.I. Coordinator Tiran Smallboy-Zorthian.



July 21: Grand Opening of the Maskwacis Mobile Mental Health building.



August 11-13: Samson Cree Nation Pow Wow. Photo by Jeff Heyden-Kaye.



August 16: Vacuum Truck purchase for the Water/WastWater servicing program.



August 16: Elders Engagement-Historical Photos.



August 2: Climate and Energy Workshop, hosted by Devon Morin Smart Renewable Energy Projectg (SREP) Coordinator.

August 8-10: Reclaiming Our Knowledge (ROK). Mini pow wow.



August 13: Samson Pow Wow Celebration car pile in winners. Last day of pow wow 11 PM.



September 8: FASD Awareness Day Walk by I.F.S. and other depts. Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation 11

GINGERBREAD PARADE



December 19, 2023.



12 Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation



September 13: American Sign Language class.



September 22: MCC graduation at HBMC.



September 28: Christopher Crier Vigil.

September 28: Orange Shirt Day.



Through it all the nation has endured. Through pandemic, heart ache and losing the ones we loved. Our Elders and teachers are still here to teach us the Cree language which one day will be spoken fluently.

Our leaders have done their best to get us through the year and prayers were done everyday in Maskwacis by the people who care and who will not give up. There is too much at stake. As the world sets up for 2024 be prepared. Pray and be thankful for what we have. There are wars happening now that is making the world unsafe. Young people have questions so talk to them and do your best to answer them. To all the departments who have worked with the youth this year thank you.

Thank you to the readers who have supported the Acimowin. Thank you to all the people who invited the editor to your events. That is how community is developed. People wanting to help people.

Just like the Emergency Services, Community Wellness and other human services in our community.

Other departments have helped out this year like Community Initiatives and Community Wellness for cutting wood and delivering it to the people who need it. The department also had some very good conferences and guest speakers over the year to get their message out.

We have laughter to look forward to during the holidays. Being at peace brings healing so try and do that for someone at this time of year when Pisim cannot be seen all day sometimes.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year from the Samson Cree Nation Employees and Leadership. We will see you all in the new year. Hai Hai !



September 26: Treaty Day payments at HBMC.

SCN Community Dinner



October 19: MEC Job Fair.



October 18: Clean Yard Winners.



October 16-November 12: Community Wellness, Men's Healing Camp at Camp Wohelo.



October 13: Financial Audit by MNP LLP Accounting. Chief Vernon answering questions.



October 27: Museum & Archives department winners.



October 3: Grand Opening of the Shane Yellowbird Recording Studio.



October 29: 6 Mile Haunted House.



October 11: Samson Headstart, Kokum's and Mosum's Tea.



November 8:



December 19, 2023, at the HBMC.



Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation 15



Pigeon Lake Christmas Dinner



November 9: NITF Awards.



November 15: Colin Buffalo (63), St. Francis X. Playing for the university Vanier Cup.



November 21-23: National Addictions Awareness Week (NAAW) at the HBMC hosted by Community Wellness & Nipisihkopahk Wellness and Social Development. Guest Speker Daphie Pooyak talks to the people about medicine. Daphie is a cancer survivor. Another Guest Speaker was Eugene Braverock (photo above) from Kainai Nation. He was in Wonder Woman as the Chief.



November 8: \$1500 donation to Womens Shelter and Samson Food Bank from 6 Mile. BELOW: November 17: National Child Day with IFS.



December 18: Christmas Pictures.



Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation 17



December 2023: Staff Christmas Pictures, Pigeon Lake.



December 2023: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Tribal Services, Donna Potts-Johnson.



December 13: Charity Check Stop, Pe Sakastew Centre.



December 7: Elders Christmas Dinner. Samson Elders and Assisted Living Department.



December 9: Pigeon Lake, Ralph Morin, MA.



December 18: Knotts Landing Festival of Lights. By Samson Community Wellness NNADAP.

988 Suicide Crisis Line

Get help with three simple numbers.

Call or text 9-8-8 any time for help when you need it

9-8-8

Suicide Crisis Helpline

9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline is funded by the Government of Canada.



Thank you Mother Earth

Myles Rain

For thousands of years

You have grown and flourished
Shaping all elements, all life forms
To coexist, to renew.
For future generations.

In all your beauty
In all that's good.

Natural disasters

I want you to grow

There are some
who want it all;
do not understand
that they are hurting you
do not give you time to heal, or
render you unable to heal.

Are your way of healing Yourself.

Find ways to flourish
beat out greed and the almighty dollar.

Thank you for

the land
the water
the wind and
the fire.

Thank you for

the four directions
the four elements
the four seasons
the animals and
all the races.

Thank you for

All your gifts and for
Your care of me.



VARIOS PICTURES

Edmonton Christmas Dinner



December 12: Christmas dinner in Edmonton. Photos: Delorna and Ashley.



Calgary Christmas Dinner

December 14, 2023



Day Scholars Settlement Class Members can apply for an extension until January 4, 2024. Individuals who attended Federal Indian Residential Schools as a Day Scholar have a three-month extension to apply for compensation.

To receive an extension, Claimants must complete an extension request form and identify a reason why they have been unable to submit a claim by the October 4, 2023, deadline. This request must be submitted together with their Claim Form no later than January 4, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

To be eligible for compensation, individuals must have attended a Federal Indian Residential School during the dates stated on the Schedule E list. Families of eligible Day Scholars who have passed away on or after May 30, 2005, may submit an Estate Claim. The best way to submit a claim is online, and eligible claims will be processed as quickly as possible by the Administrator.

Resources available to Class Members
Class Counsel is available to answer questions about the Settlement at 1-888-222-6845 or dayscholars@waddellphillips.ca.

The Administrator can answer questions about the Claim Form at 1-887-877-5786 or dayscholarsclaims@deloitte.ca.



Call Maskwacis Counselling & Support Services and speak to our IRS workers: Noreen or Leo at 780-585-2268 to help with your claim submissions.

Website: <https://firstnationsdrinkingwater.ca/index.php/claims-forms/>

December 7, 2023

Samson Cree Nation is a Nation that is on the List for the First Nations Drinking Water Settlement. For assistance in applying make your appointment with the Samson Legal Department at 780-585-3793 ext 106.

The settlement includes compensation for Impacted First Nations and eligible individuals as well as commitments to fund the construction, operation and maintenance of infrastructure needed to provide regular access to safe drinking water in their homes.

Compensation is available for Impacted First Nations and eligible individuals subject to drinking water advisory that lasted at least one year between November 20, 1995 and June 20, 2023.

As an individual you can submit a Claim Form even if your First Nation does not submit a Band Council Acceptance Resolution. Individuals can also apply for additional compensation for Specified Injuries. For More information contact Pamihowin (Samson Legal) Department at 780-585-3793 Ext 106 They will assist in filling out forms.



Various Pictures 2023 A Look Back



December 20: Community Wellness Respite. Tara Buffalo and Team.



Samson Maintenance Department, Myles Rain.



Leann's Kitchen.



24 Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation



Festival of Trees



March 6, 2023.
Ponoka Mayor Tom Ferguson visits local family and leadership.

OFF RESERVE Holiday GIFT CARDS

DEADLINE:
January 26, 2024

Purpose:
SCN will be providing a walmart gift card to off reserve members in lieu of holiday turkey hampers.
**** ONE PER HOUSEHOLD ****

How to apply:
Please email: communitywellness.nwsd@gmail.com to begin the intake process.

Intake Details:
Provide the following: Name, Address, Proof of your address (Copy of lease/utility bill ect.) & Band Number.

Distribution Dates:
December 19, 2023 - January 26, 2024

For more information please contact:
Samson Emergency Management - 780-585-0009

SAMSON CREE NATION PCD DISTRIBUTION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
DECEMBER 11, 2023	1:00 am to 4:00 pm	HBMC
DECEMBER 12, 2023	8:00 am to 2:00 pm	SCN BAND OFFICE
DECEMBER 12, 2023	8:00 pm to 8:00 pm	EDMONTON INN & CONFERENCE CENTRE 11000 EDMONDWAY AVE
DECEMBER 13, 2023	1:00 am to 3:00 pm	PIGEON LAKE RECREATION CENTRE
DECEMBER 14, 2023	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	SCN BAND OFFICE
DECEMBER 14, 2023	8:00 pm to 8:00 pm	THE WESTERN - AIRPORT (CALGARY) 4711 Aero Dr. AB
DECEMBER 15, 2023	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	SCN BAND OFFICE
JANUARY 8, 2024	1:00 am to 4:00 pm	HBMC
JANUARY 9-12, 2024	8:00 am to 4:00 pm	SCN BAND OFFICE

THE VENUES IDENTIFIED ARE FOR THOSE WHO DID NOT SIGN UP FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT AND CHEQUES WILL BE PROVIDED.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Samson Communications Department @SamsonCreeNation 25

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
VIDEA

Maskwacis Widows/Widowers Christmas Special

Supper and Dance!

Location Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre

Date December 27th 2023

Time 6PM to 12AM

Bob Ronney - Catering
Stoney River - Entertainment!
Door Prizes - Guest Speakers
200 Limited Seating
Widows/Widowers along with 1 guest free!
Come on by and let's have a happy moment!
Call Rick Lightning 780-312-4405 to reserve!

SAMSON RECREATION BINGO

\$25,000.00 BONANZA

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23, 2023

TICKETS: \$100.00/\$125.00 ON DATE OF EVENT

DOORS OPEN: 3:30PM
BONANZA PRE-CALL: 5:30PM
EARLY BIRD: 5:45 PM
REGULAR GAMES: 6:00 PM

REGULAR GAMES (6 SERIES BOOKLET):
\$12,000.00 IN TOTAL PRIZES:
 6-4 BASEBALL: \$2,500.00
 QUICKIE: \$2,500.00
 WILDCARD: \$2,500.00
 ODD/EVEN: \$2,500.00

OUR BIGGEST EVER BONANZA TOTAL PAYOUT
BONANZA:
 TIPI PATTERN: \$5,000.00
 FULL CARD: \$15,000.00
 CONSOLATION: \$5,000.00
\$25,000.00 TOTAL BONANZA PAYOUT!!!

TOUR PRIZES: ALL PATRONS ATTENDING EVENT ARE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED

North Bear Contracting
 780 585 3025
 Cell 780 362 1887
 northbearservices@gmail.com



Maskwacis Mobile Mental Health Unit

Crisis Line
780-362-2150

Box 4000
 Maskwacis, AB
 T0C 1N0

Office: Mon. - Fri. 780-585-0048
 www.maskwacis-mmh.com
 Email: info@maskwacis-mmh.com

Wellbriety

Recovery/ Sobriety Support Talking Circle

EVERY FRIDAY

TIME: 12 P.M. - 1 P.M.
Location: Mobile Mental Health Building
PHONE: 780-585-0048

☞ Refreshments will be provided ☜

Presented by: Maskwacis Cree Tribal Council

PIGEON LAKE YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMPS

TUESDAY NIGHTS
5PM - 7PM
ALL AGES
WATER & SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED

LOCATION: PIGEON LAKE RECREATION CENTRE

CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL 2023

Main Event:

- Face Painters
- Bouncy Houses
- Crafts
- Food/Snacks

DEC 21 2023 **5:00 - 9:00 PM**
 Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre

*** FREE ENTRY ***

For more information please call SHS @ 780-585-2230 or SYSD @ 780-585-3012

CREEBIRD ELECTRIC

creebirdelectric.ca | cree8iveyellowbird@gmail.com

Electrical Contractor / Electrician
403-963-8443

NORTH WIND ENTERPRISES

- FENCE / GATE / DECK BUILDING & REPAIR
- HOME IMPROVEMENTS & RENOS
- SMALL GARBAGE REMOVAL
- SNOW REMOVAL
- ROOF REPAIR
- GRASS CUTTING
- EAVESTROUGH CLEANING & REPAIR

(780) 360-6249 danhorvath12@gmail.com

Sage Beauty

Danielle Baptiste
 Owner/Operator
780-360-8270

sage.beauty@outlook.com
 www.sagebeauty.online

Facebook @sagebeauty00
 Instagram @sagebeauty_00

Samson Food Bank

Sanjel Energy Services

Sanjel Energy Services' Generous Donation to the Four Nations Food Bank me fantastic news to share: Sanjel Energy Services has stepped up with a generous donation to the Food Bank! Their kindness is making a real difference in our community. Each food bank in Maskwacis received \$4000.00. Since 2020, Sanjel has contributed over \$20 000 to Maskwacis Foodbanks.

The generosity of Sanjel Energy Services is a powerful reminder that together, we can build a stronger Nation. A big shout-out to Sanjel Energy Services for their caring spirit and commitment to making our community a better place.

Sanjel Energy is an industry-leading energy services company delivering

customized cementing solutions across Canada. Sanjel works in partnership with SevGen Consulting and local Human Resources departments to support Nation members in employment with Sanjel Energy Services.

Let's keep the momentum going and make a positive impact together!

Respectfully,

Derek Bruno

Managing Partner, SevGen Consulting

www.sevgen.ca

Sanjel Energy



Lieutenant Governor

Salma Lakhani

December 7, 2023

SCN Tiny Tot Princess Kalaya and twin sister Alyrika Buffalo performed for Lieutenant Governor Salma

Lakhani at the Camrose Sahakarini Winter Fair December 7, 2023.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024



*Merry Christmas Happy New Year
SCN Chief and Council*

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 CP Holiday Train Wetaskiwin 330PM	8 Acimowin	9 PL Arts &Crafts Sale. Teddy Bear Toss 4 Nations Arena 530PM.
10 PL Arts &Crafts Sale.	11 PCD HBMC	12 PCD BAND OFFICE & PCD Edmonton	13 Cree Market. Charity Check Stop. PCD PIGEON LAKE	14 PCD BAND OFFICE & PCD Calgary & Christmas Dinner.	15 PCD BAND OFFICE	16
17	18 PCD HBMC 10AM.	19 Community Dinner 11-2 PM. Gingerbread Parade 5 PM. Reindeer Lane.	20 School Concert	21 Acimowin Childrens Group After School Program Dates SYSD. Solstice.	22 Last Day of Work.	23 Bingo Special.
24 Christmas Eve. Round Dance Louis Bull.	25 Christmas Day Dinner 12-3 PM.	26	27 Maskwacis Widows Christmas Special. Stoney River Entertainment.	28	29	30

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Years Day. Happy New Year SCN!	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Back To Work. PCD HBMC 9AM	9 PCD BAND OFFICE	10 PCD BAND OFFICE	11 PCD BAND OFFICE	12 Acimowin	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Gaming Tournament with Mason SB NOK building Ermineskin 11 AM.
21	22	23	24	25 Full Moon.	26 Acimowin	27
28	29	30	31	Maskwacis Counselling & Support Services (MCSS) 585-2268 for A.A. Program. Maskwacis Mobile Mental Health 780-585-3830 Hotline 780-362-2150.		

Vision Statement

Samson Cree Nation is a healthy, educated, knowledgeable and industrious community.

Mission Statement

Samson Cree Nation is a Sovereign Nation that is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all our People by maximizing our Human Resources and respecting our Cree Language and Traditions of our Peoples.
www.samsoncree.com/aboutus



NEVER MISS AN UPDATE

GET THE APP

The app uses state-of-the-art technology to notify SCN members of breaking news, documents, videos, and events, instantly delivered via push notifications.

- JOB OPENINGS
- SURVEYS
- EVENTS
- NEWS

HOW TO GET THE APP

- 1 Scan the QR code below or visit the App Store or Google Play Store and Search "Samson Cree Nation"
- 2 Tap "Register" under "Member Login"
- 3 Fill out your information and press "Register"
- 4 Click the verification link in your email address







News

The Samson Cree Nation Acimowin

Communications Manager
Delorna Makinaw
Email: dbmakinaw@samsoncree.com

Administrative/Social Media Assistant:
Ashley Lightning
Email: comms@samsoncree.com

Samson Communications Department:
Box 159 Maskwacis, AB T0C 1N0. Ph: 780-585-3793.

SCN Departments: Please send your announcements, events or information to the Acimowin for publication.
Email: acimowin@samsoncree.com
Ph: 780-585-3793 ext. 202

The Acimowin is released bi-weekly every month.
Advertisers please call the Communications Office.

Community events can be forwarded to the Acimowin.
Please make it a JPEG or PDF format to save paper.

Social Media:
Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Twitter (X) and Snapchat.
Website:
www.samsoncree.com

SCN Calgary Urban Satellite Office
Address: 1603 10 Ave NW T3C 0J7
Coordinator: N/A
Work Cell: 403-836-1783
Work: 587-353-4002
E: scn.satellite.calgary@gmail.com

SCN Edmonton Urban Office
Address: N/A
Ph: 780-756-6377 OR 780-585-3634
E: scn.satellite.edmonton@gmail.com
Check out their Facebook page.

Seasons Greetings SML

Photo by Phil. Maintenance at Lake Louise.



To see the back issues of the Acimowin.
www.issuu.com/samsoncreeenation

ACIMOWIN

Email: acimowin@samsoncree.com or comms@samsoncree.com

Phone: 780-585-3793

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