

#### Montana First Nation Newsletter - July to September 2025

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Exercising Our Inherent Sovereignty

# Commemorating Indigenous Veterans Day



Montana First Nation was honoured to host National Indigenous Veterans Day on Saturday, Nov. 8 in Maskwacis. A special thank you to Montana First Nation members, Seth Longjohn (*Active Duty*) and Greg Buffalo (*Air Force*) for travelling to be part of the special commemoration. *Photo Submitted* 

# Nation Members Active in Apprenticeship & Job Training



Montana First Nation member, Kyle Rabbit was part of a crew of 1st year apprentices working to increase their training and hours.

ontana First Nation's (MFN) sixth month Work Readiness program continues strong.

Up to 15 MFN members can take part in the program and it's supporting members as they enhance their professional development. The program is a partnership with MFN's Integrated Services Department (MISD) that runs from July 7 to December 18.

Such work features up to 360-hours in work experience and up to 180hours of work-related development professional and safety ticket training with areas of work including automotive, horticulture, forestry, carpentry and office administration.

Continuing that growth, Akamihk Forestry is working to establish its own forestry division. MFN partnered with Folklore Contracting on a 300-hectare standing contract for West Fraser. Four Job Corps

On the job training and work experience

"They'll get the ball rolling to help you do your apprenticeship.
You'll get your hours and they'll teach you in classroom and on site."

#### Kyle Rabbit

Nation members were employed from July to September. More work is planned for the spring/summer of 2026.

Working with the Skills Partnership Fund (SPF), MFN employed up to seven 1st-year apprentices from July to Story continued next page...

### Nation Members Active cont.

Story continued from previous page...

September to help them achieve the 1,500 hours needed to move on to year two.

Apprentices are placed under a journeyman contractor throughout various projects happening in Akamihk.

For one member, Kyle Rabbit, the experience has helped him enhance his training and learning. Kyle and others worked with Monolith Modular and Akâmihk Building Solutions on the 10-home project and various renovations.

In late September, Job Corps began working with real estate/property management on Picker Truck services collecting large items such as furniture and tires. Please call 1-866-583-4691 ext. 117 for more information.

Job Corps

On the job training and work experience.

Job Corps Manager is Chase McDougall

#### **ELDER SERVICES**

In partnership with MISD Health services MFN services our Elder's lawns every twoweek including snow clearing for Elders when winter arrives. If an Elder's house has been missed, please call 1-866-583-4691.

### **OHS Certificate of Recognition**

Partnerships in Injury Reduction

Akâmihk Kanataskiy Ventures (AKV) has been awarded a certificate of recognition for developing an occupational health and safety program that meets Occupational Health and Safety's Partnerships standard. The certificate also recognizes that an independent evaluation was conducted.

## Youth Conference Highlights Learning and Empowerment

Health and Human Services Come Together for the Nation **MISD** 

Helping Montana First Nation become healthy, well trained, educated and independent.



hat a summer it's been for Montana Integrated Services Department (MISD).

Working together to support Nation members' health and services needs, one of the highlights was the first ever MFN Youth Conference held July 22 to 24.

The conference, called Miyô Pimohtê brought together community members with different expertise who shared their success and knowledge with youths.

Approximately 78 youths participated in the

conference.

programming Continued occurred over the summer. These included sound therapy sessions, a Teddy Bear fair for kids, which included physio and speech language supports. The fair was an excellent experience with about 20 tables of which vendors. was supported bv Jordan's Principle.

Physiotherapy is a vital need for nation members so MISD works to bring supports like Jordan's Principle to the Nation. Another important part of MISD's offerings this summer included the cultural camp, held Aug. 5 to 7.

The two days included tipi setup, sewing, plus drum making, a sweat lodge, making bowls, smudge smudge kits and pouches. There were women's teachings, medicine picking, sweat, hoop dancing and more. Hand Games were held as well. There were also massages, reflexology, and reiki for attendees.



See photos of both events on the next page.

# Photos from the Youth Conference and Cultural Days



**MISD** 

Helping Montana First Nation become healthy, well trained, educated and independent.

Health Services Manager is Vickie Hvamb. Human Services Co-Managers are Ethel Currie and Phil Dua.









# **Honouring our Graduates**



High School Graduates: Alexandra Beebe, Ponoka Secondary Campus; Cassidy Buffalo, Ponoka Outreach (The BRICK School); Ava Longjohn, Ponoka Secondary Campus; Deston Pipestem, Ponoka Secondary Campus. Not present: Jayden Joyal, Saskatchewan; Selena Roasting, Saskatchewan; Keira White, USA; Drake Cattleman, Bentley High School. Post Secondary Degrees and Masters: Chance Longjohn, Bachelor of Education Degree - Red Deer Polytechnic; Hanna Louis, Masters Degree in Science (Earth and Atmospheric Science - Hannah is currently working on her Doctorate) - University of Alberta; Kimberly Reagan Potts, Bachelor of Social Work - University of Alberta; and Christian Abt, Bachelor of Fine Arts - Emily Carr Institute in Vancouver, B.C. Congratulations to all graduates!

## Land Reclamation and Solar Take Centre Stage



he biggest focus for Akâmihk Kanataskiy Ventures (AKV) continues to be the Pigeon Lake Remediation and Reclamation project.

The remediation project is led by Imperial Oil with the the Four Nations of Maskwacis being part of the contracted work.

Approximately 50 Montana First Nation staff are contracted to support he remediation project, which aims to bring the land back to its original state before oil drilling occurred.

The goal is to double the number of MFN members working at the site and to reach industry standards in terms of cost per tonne in its remediation project.

Solar continues to be a focus for MFN. With the solar plant on MFN land, AKV is working towards getting the Killarney Lake solar farm is expected to be 26 MWp with 100 MW battery capacity.

Solar energy requires a high level of review and regulatory requirements that operations and Akâmihk Energy are looking into.

Along with important maintenance and testing, Akamihk Energy has been updating MFN's Chief and Council and its progress.

Operations Manager for AKV is Jesse Currie who took over the role this year. Assistant Energy Manager at Akamihk Energy is Thomas Dannah.

#### Akâmihk Kanataskiy Ventures

Valuing people, safety, our earth, our environment, service and integrity.

### Eyes Up for AKV Announcements:

- Working with MFN Job Corps and SPF, AKV is looking to hire MFN members with heavy equipment operators ticket
- AKV plans to be hiring more staff in the New Year
- Operations is preparing for snow clearing on MFN roads.

# Public Works: Keeping Water Clean and Services Ready



Manager for real estate and property development is Sodiq Ogunbi.

Responding to Nation needs

Public

Works

One of the homes on the MFN townsite being worked on by MFN members. There are 10 homes currently being renovated, including the one in this photo.

anaging the housing and public works is an ongoing focus for Montana First Nation.

Staff are constantly monitoring the water quality from the Nation's water treatment plant. Testing occurs at the plant, cisterns, water wells, and homes along the main water line leading to homes on the MFN townsite.

Every quarter a government health inspector checks the status of water tests, ensuring the systems are working as they should.

There are currently 10 homes being renovated on the reserve along with 10 new mobile homes just about completed in conjunction with MFN Job Corps.

This is complemented by the hard work of MFN staff, including Jolene Mackinaw, supervisor, and Ronnelle Rabbit, field supervisor and ticketed journeyman.

### Solid Waste Transfer Station

MFN's transfer site
helps redirect waste
items normally
destined for the landfill
into different channels.

Items such as used oil and oil filters, tires, and furniture are accepted at the transfer site, keeping the land cleaner for future generations.

**Hours of Operation:** 

Mon/Wed/Saturday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Students Receive Hands-On Learning at Greenhouse

Akâmihk Fresh Produce Supplied to Edmonton and Calgary Locations



training the students through the Greenhouse SPF Training program. Everyone was hands-on learning the daily tasks of being a Greenhouse Operator and enjoying the work that they were able to accomplish together.

The Akamihk Fresh product became available within Calgary at both Amaranth Foods locations. We also began supplying LOCA in Sherwood Park and Edmonton locations. Customers are appreciating the access to an Indigenous grown product that is fresh, local and pesticide free.

### Greenhouse

Proudly Grown by Montana First Nation

Aphids were spotted within the facility, so we began using a natural pest control method utilizing beneficial insects.

Progress was made on the conventional greenhouse, digging trenches for the irrigation system and laying down white ground cover to suppress any potential weed growth within the facility.

We are looking forward to growing more amazing locally grown product right on Montana First Nation and are extremely proud to be representing Montana within the province of Alberta.

Manager for the Greenhouse is Jordan Gerein.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE UPCOMING DECEMBER 2025 PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTION

PLEASE COMPLETE AN UPDATED VERIFICATION FORM TO VERIFY OR ADVISE OF CHANGES TO YOUR BANKING INFORMATION.

PLEASE SUBMIT NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE VERIFICATION FORM. THE COMPLETED COPY FORM CAN BE SENT BACK TO <a href="mailto:directdeposit@montanafirstnation.com">directdeposit@montanafirstnation.com</a> OR DROPPED OFF AT THE MONTANA FIRST NATION MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT.

\*\* A SPECIFIC DATE OF THE DIRECT DEPOSIT WILL BE POSTED ONCE CONFIRMED. FOR ANY INQUIRIES CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT @ 780-585-3744 EXT. 251 OR EMAIL directdeposit@montanafirstnation.com

#### **VERIFICATION FORM**

MONTANA FIRST NATION December 2025 PCD

PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Full Name of Member:			
Membership Number/Status Nu	mber:		
Address:P.O. Box/Street	Town/City	Province	Postal Code
Phone Number:	01 02 NO.	11 102	
HAS YOUR BANKING INFORM DISTRIBUTION: YES		E THE APRIL 24, 20	25 PCD
IF NO, PLEASE SIGN THE VEI BACK TO <u>directdeposit@mon</u>	RIFICATION FORM AND	HAVE IT WITNESSE	D AND SEND
IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH DIR CHEQUE, SIGN THE VERIFICA directdeposit@montanafirstn:	TION FORM, HAVE IT W		
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT			
I, this form is accurate and true. E above and that the bank accourresponsible for the accuracy of t deposited into the account provi	By signing below, I declare nt information provided is in the information I have pro-	mine. I acknowledge t	r identified that I am fully
Printed Name of Member	Meml	ber Signature	
Printed Name of Witness	Witne	ess Signature	
Date			

### **Cash Prize Contest!**

# \$300 CASHPRIZE

Want to get up-to-the-minute notifications from the Band Administration AND enter to win a cash prize of \$300?

#### O DOWNLOAD

Scan the QR code or visit the App Store and search:

'Montana First Nation'

#### 2 REGISTER

Tap 'Register' under 'Member Login'

Fill out your info and tap register.

#### VERIFY

Check your email and verify your account.

Now you're entered!

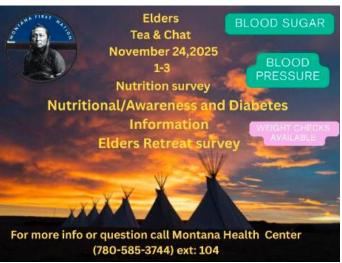
### START TIME

Monday, November 17th @ 2:00PM

#### **DRAW TIME**

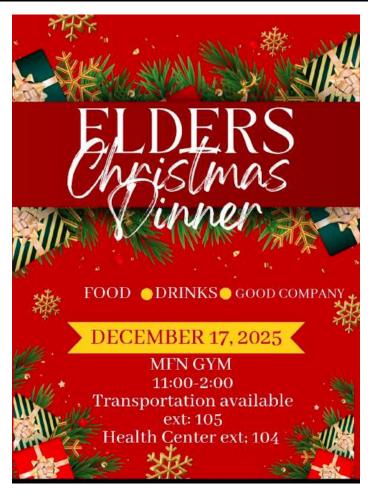
Monday, December 8th @ 2:00PM















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# **AKÂMIHK DIRECTORY**

#### MONTANA FIRSTNATION DIRECTORY

Departments	Last	First	EXT	Department	Last	First	EXT
COUNCILAREA& ADMINIS	STRATION			MONTANA INTEGRATEDSER	RVICEDELIVERY(MISD)	Human & Health	
CHIEF	CATTLEMAN	RALPH	249	MISD Asst Manager	CURRIE	ETHEL	261
COUNCILLOR	CURRIE	JOAN	235	MISD Asst Manager	DUA	PHILLIP	252
COUNCILLOR	POTTS	CLAINIA	229	Case Coach	KELLN	DARREN	240
COUNCILLOR	PIPESTEM	SIMONE	236	Case Coach	LOUIS	CHEYENNE	263
COUNCILLOR	PIPESTEM	TREYVON	262	Case Coach			248
Director of Operations	LONGJOHN	GINA	245	MISD Receptionist	STRONGMAN	KYLA	230
Administrative Manager	LOUIS	LEANNE	226	Membership/Intake	MCDOUGALL	CAROLINE	251
Administrative Assistant		225	Health and Wellness	LOUIS	CARSON	234	
HRGeneralist	POTTS	RYAN	247	Case Coach	DESJARLAIS	CARLY	254
Receptionist	ERNESTINECATTLEMAN / M	ARJ BUFFALO	0 - 221	CaseCoach	PIPESTEM	SAMANTHA	235
BOARDROOM			264	Health Manager	HVAMB	VICKIE	106
FINANCE DEPARTMENT				Nurse	KLOOSTER	ANDREA	102
Director of Finance	AYUB	TAHIR	239	Receptionist Health	MACKINAW-WOLF	LAREL	104
Accounts Payroll	SOOSAY	CHARMAINE	224	FNIHBCoordinator	RABBIT	CARRIE	105
Accounts Payables	SADDLEBACK	BRAYLENE	222	Home Care	KERZEWSKI	LORI	256
				AKAMIHK COMMUNITY DEV	ELOPMENTCORPORAT	TION(ACDS)	
*AKV - MFN MANAGEME	AKV - MFN MANAGEMENT-D5 AKV Toll Free *1-877-583-4691*		Director	WETCHIE, VICKIE			
Real Estate Manager	OGUNBI	SODIQ	103	ACDSSTAFF	MIRENDA, KYLE,	1-58	37-807-0692
Real Estate Assistant	MACKINAW	JOLENE	102		KAYLEIGH, NICOLE		
	CURRIE	JESSE	105	MONTANA FIRSTNATION NUMBERS			
Job Corps Manager	MCDOUGALL	CHASE	109	MFN FAX NUMBER	780-585-3264		
Finance		MANNY	116	HEALTH CENTERFAX	780-585-3416		
				Montana GasBar	780-585-3775	i	
				ACFSS	780-585-0136	(SIII)	
				Headstart	780-585-3517	18	187
				Daycare	780-585-6610	2	° I
				School	780-585-3799	The same of the sa	
AKAMIHK HEALTH CARESERVICESMEDICALCLINIC (587) 742-1244			AKV SECURITY	1-825-995-1562			
CONSULTATION and LANDS			AKV/MFN MANAGEMENT	1-866-583-4691			
Consultation Manager	NORTHWEST	KYRA	268	Medical Transport Cell	cal Transport Cell 403-704-6534		
Consultation	SERIGHT	PHIL	228	Med Transport After Hours	1-800-514-7106	i	
				Medical Transport	780-585-3744 ext. 105	Ī	

The Montana First Nation will increasingly exercise its inherent sovereignty and implement its Tribal government.



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