

Waking Up Ojibwe
Anishinaabemodaa



Anishinaabemodaa Newsletter

June 2024



Boozhoo gakina awiia! Hello everyone!



Rideau Hall Ceremony

An opening ceremony was held for a new project and partnership with The Rideau Hall Foundation, aimed at creating a pathway for fluent speakers to become teachers within the Ontario school system. The ceremony was led by Pebaambines and attended by community members, students, staff, and partners from KPDSB, RRDSB, the Ontario College of Teachers, GCT#3, and SayITFirst.



Dual Language Immersion

PD with MIIN

May 31st, 2024 Waking Up Ojibwe employees, alongside representatives from Big Grassy and Seine River, attended an insightful workshop on dual language immersion (DLI), presented by the Midwest Indigenous Immersion Network (MIIN). This took place in Fond du Lac, Minnesota. Presenter Amy Young, a Language Immersion Education Specialist from MN State Education spoke about the importance of DLI and teaching methods. Participants had a chance to practice teaching methods and discuss best practices when engaging students in Anishinaabemowin. The workshop emphasized the importance of interactive and visual learning tools to overcome the plateau effect in language acquisition. The event fostered a collaborative environment, with contributions from Wisconsin's Red Cliff First Nation members, Fond du Lac speakers, and other Immersion directors and teachers, making it a memorable and enriching experience for all involved.



MIIN Visit to Niizhwaachiig Anikoo'bijigeng Gikinoo' amaadiwigamiing

Gimiwan (Dustin Brunette) Executive Director of the Midwest Indigenous Immersion Network MIIN, visited SGEI April 8th and 9th. He was able to introduce his program and website to Anishinaabemowin teachers from both school boards and local daycares. The following day, Gimiwan presented to our Gigidiziiminaaning Committee. Waking Up Ojibwe looks forward to a continued partnership with MIIN.



Follow us on FB to learn more about our events!

Upcoming Summer Programming!

Canoe Days, Golf Days, Take a Hike Days, Infant Anishinaabemowin at the SGEI Library, Weechi Days, Teddy Bear Picnic



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Introducing Our Newest Team Members



Gaa-gikinoo'amawaad Oshki-aya'aa Aki-dazhiikewinan Waking Up Ojibwe - Anishinaabemodaa

Lori-Lynn Harrison, Fort Frances

Boozhoo, I'm Lori-Lynn Harrison. I moved from Red Deer, Alberta to Fort Frances four years ago in hopes to connect with my culture and learn as much as possible about my Anishinaabe family. I am an Anishinaabe spirit from Wabigoon and am part of the Nigig/Otter clan. My journey has connected me deeper than anticipated and has brought more meaning to "why" I have been so connected with Mother Earth and the land. I started working at Seven Generations Education Institute almost four months ago. My wish is to coordinate experiences, connecting youth to their culture, Elders, language and the LAND. The connection I have found from an early age has led me to an extremely fruitful life and has brought me great purpose. Looking forward to the future and learning the language as it brings even a deeper connection and meaning. (See photo A).



A

Anishinaabemodaa Niibino Gekinoo-amaaged Interns

Shandra Spears Bombay, Rainy River First Nations

Boozhoo, I'm Shandra Spears Bombay. I'm Anishinaabe and a member of Rainy River First Nations/Manitou Rapids. I'm happy to move home after living most of my life in southern Ontario as part of the Sixties Scoop. I've worked in theatre and music along with writing and visual arts. Now, I'm in my first year of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Program at Seven Gens. I'm excited to see what we experience working with young people and communities in the area. (See photo B).



B

Tanya Foy-Hunter, Rainy River First Nations

Boozhoo! Waabishkaa Makoons indigoo. Name indoodem. Nishkaandigaan indoonjii. My name is Tanya Foy-Hunter, I am from the sturgeon clan and live in Manitou Baawitigong with my husband and son. I am a student of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Program and am taking a summer position as an Anishinaabemodaa Niibino Gekinoo'amaaged. I am excited in my new role and looking forward to the summer! Miigwech. (See photo C).



C

Olivia Calder-Mainville, Couchiching First Nation

Boozhoo! Payshaa Anaakotook'kwe indigoo. Makwa nindoodem. Couchiching nindoonjii. My name is Olivia Calder-Mainville and I am from Couchiching. I have recently moved back home for the summer after pursuing post-secondary education in southern Ontario. This summer, I am looking forward to learning and sharing the Ojibwe language and culture. Miigwech! (See photo D).



D

Marra (MJ) McPherson, Couchiching First Nation

Boozhoo. MJ Nindizhinikaaz, makwa nindoodem, waaninidawigaang izhinikade ishkonigan wenjiyan. I am a summer student with the Anishinaabemodaa program. I have completed 120+ hours in the mentor learner program during highschool through Seven Generations Education Institute and Fort Frances Highschool. I am now a second year Integrated Media student with the Life specialization at OCADu in Southern Ontario. (See photo E).

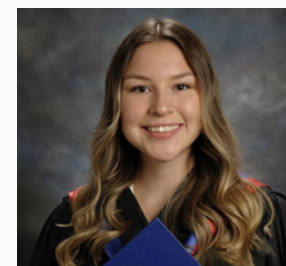


E

Gaa-wijiji'at Abinoojiyag Ji-anishinaabemowaad Gii-niibing Intern

Rianna Roach, Couchiching First Nation

Boozhoo! My name is Rianna Roach and I am from Couchiching First Nation. Recently I have graduated from Lakehead University, Thunder Bay Campus in the Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. I strongly believe integrating our culture and language in everyday life as well as healthcare and education, is imperative to the holistic well-being of Anishinaabe people. This summer, I eagerly anticipate immersing myself in meaningful interactions with families, as I delve deeper into our teachings, culture, and language. These experiences will enrich my personal toolkit, enabling me to empower and better advocate for our Anishinaabe people to be able to connect with their language. (See photo F).



F

Returning Summer Team Members

Ellie Petsnick, Fort Frances

I am returning for my second summer with the Waking Up Ojibwe Team. This summer I will be focusing on connecting the language with the outdoors and building youth leadership skills through canoeing, hiking, and other outdoor activities. (See photo G).



G





Gagwe-gikendamaadiziwiwn "Quest for Knowledge"

Competition

During the week of April 22, 2024 students from local elementary school Ojibwe classes competed in the annual Gagwe-gikendamaadiziwiwn, or "Quest for Knowledge" competition consisting of a variety of different stations held at the Fort Frances SGEI campus. The stations included pictionary (Mazinbii'an igaye Nisidotan), jeopardy (Oko-aabijitooying Anishinaabemowin), creating three anishinaabemowin translations (Wiji'idiyok Ji-ozhitooyeg Oshki-ikidowinan), presentation using technology (Indoozhitoomin gaa-maamakaadengaagwak), and a presentation using art (Nimaamakaajichigemin). Robert Moore School championed the Junior division, while Donald Young School emerged victorious in the Intermediate division.

Left photo: Junior division champions



Right photo: Intermediate division champions



SnOasis

Anishinaabemodaa was invited by the Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre and Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre to attend this free family event Saturday March 2nd. Children and families engaged in language learning activities and tried miinan aniibishaabo (blueberry cedar tea).



Biinichigedaa Aki/Let's Clean Mother Earth - April 22



This year on Earth day we collaborated with United Native Friendship Centre & GIZHEWAADIZIWIN HEALTH ACCESS CENTRE to host an event to clean up land around the point.



Anishinaabemowin Festival Category

The Rainy River District Festival of Performing Arts committee and Waking Up Ojibwe collaborated to

showcase Anishinaabemowin April 18th at JW Walker School. 2 classes from JW Walker (Mrs. Andy) and 2 classes from St. Mary's (Mrs. Papineau) performed songs and poems in the language. We also had an individual hand drum performance as well. Gaa-nitaa-anishinaabemod-Ji-wiji'aad Abinooyiya, Hilda Boy adjudicated the sessions and shared insightful discussion on the significance of language use in schools and with our youth. Miigwech to Marie Brady and the Festival Committee for their help bringing this vision come to fruition.

