

Waking Up Ojibwe  
Anishinaabemodaa



Quarterly Newsletter

Niibin 2024



## Boozhoo gakina awiya!



### Aki-Bimaadiziwin Program

#### Kids Learn to Canoe

Beginning July 17, and recurring on Thursdays throughout August, the Summer Team hosted Youth Canoe Skill-Building Clinics guided by our own Paddle Canada certified canoe instructor! Youth learned basic paddling strokes, techniques, lake canoeing safety procedures, and canoe rescue techniques. During lunch hours, the team held a language table each day with a variety of games in Anishinaabemowin such as, Giant Jenga, Pictionary, and a real life Go Fish game!



#### Adult Canoe Skills

Due to popular demand on the SGEI Facebook page from Kids Learn to Canoe, our Paddle Canada certified canoe instructor and Anishinaabemodaa Summer Team members held Adult Canoe Skills at the Point Park Beach. Adult canoe days were two hours long, beginning in August and running weekly until the end of the month. Similar to Kids Learn to Canoe, adults learned basic paddle strokes, technique, and lake canoeing safety procedures!



#### Let's All Fish! - Wewebanaabiidaa

This three day program began with cultural teachings with Don Jones and Lake Life Adventures' Darren Gates teaching water safety, and proper handling of fishing equipment. The young anglers also poured and painted their own jigs with the help of the Westover family and Roger Harrison. Rainy Lake Adventures and Lake Life Adventures provided pontoon boats, rods, and tackle with Dan Bird guiding on the last day. Youth enjoyed fishing, swimming, and a delicious shore lunch!



#### Learn to Play Lacrosse!

On July 11, Anishinaabemodaa partnered with UNFC and Terry McMahon to bring lacrosse skills to local youth. Two groups were offered with younger ages participating in the morning and older youth in the afternoon. Youth practiced catching, throwing, cradling, stickhandling, and ended with a scrimmage! Everyone who participated in lacrosse got to put their names into a draw for tackle boxes.



Say IT First

## Let's All Golf – Bimosebakite'jii'igesidaa

Young golfers in local communities had the opportunity to improve on their golf skills at Heron Landing Golf Course with Anishinaabemodaa and our esteemed partners to teach skills. Language games and table were offered under the Seven Generations Tent for golfers. Participants learned to do a tobacco offering, warmed up, and practiced on both the driving and putting ranges. As their skills grew, the young people went out and played golf together, culminating in a team game with encouragement for all.



## Take a Hike Tuesday – Anishinaabe Gidakiiminaan

Beginning August 6, Gaa-gikinoo'amawaad Oshki-aya'aa Aki-dazhiikewinan program and partnered community programs, ventured to Rocky Inlet with youth to bring cultural teachings and language skills, and to promote physical and emotional well being while on the land. Don Smith, Cultural Coordinator from Weechi-it-te-win Family Services gave a traditional opening and tobacco teachings. Youth learned fire making skills, made canopy shelters, went on medicine walks, listened to the 7 Grandfather Teachings, and practiced woodtick safety. Anishinaabemodaa Interns provided Anishinaabemowin language games and teachings.



## Developmental Services & Nigigoonsiminikaaning Day Care SGEI Tours

Developmental Services and Nigigoonsiminikaaning Daycare came to visit the Fort Frances SGEI campus, and our team of interns sprang into action! Activities during the tour included a game as well as Anishinaabe language related to the four directions in the circle room, an energetic Anishinaabemowin word-matching game on the mezzanine, and a singing activity in the library. Outdoors, the participants thoroughly enjoyed finding stuffed animals hidden around the lawn. It was a great day with the youth engaging with the Anishinaabemodaa team!

Want to stay up to date?

Be sure to follow Waking Up Ojibwe – Anishinaabemodaa and SGEI on Facebook! Also, check out the News & Events page on our website!



## Couchiching First Nation Latchkey Visit

On a weekly basis, the Gaa-wiiji-odaami'aad Abinoojiya' Ji-anishinaabemonid, Darcy Jones, visits with the children who attend Couchiching First Nation's Latchkey summer program. During visits, children are introduced to our friend, and language keeper, Aginjibagwesi! This day, the group enjoyed an afternoon of singing songs in Anishinaabemowin, reading *Aginjibagwesi O'dibaajimo Mazina'igan*, and making their own tobacco ties!



## Weechi'it-te-win Childrens Days

On July 9 & 10 Weechi'it-te-win Family services, all surrounding First Nation communities, and other community partners held a two day gathering for children of the surrounding areas at the Nanicost grounds. Anishinaabemodaa and their summer team kept the children cool on two of the hottest days of summer with freezies for prizes after playing bucket target practice Lacrosse with reusable water balloons. Families were invited for two full days of fun-filled games, activities, pontoon boat rides, a dunk tank, and blow-up castles!



## Teddy Bear Picnic

On June 28, the Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre, along with community partners, hosted the annual Teddy Bear Picnic. Weather would not stop this picnic; events were held upstairs in the Fort Frances Memorial Sports Complex due to rain. The Anishinaabemodaa Summer Team added to the fun with Anishinaabemowin games focused on Zhiishiib (duck), where attendees answered questions in the language to win prizes. Children enjoyed splashing in the duck pond, matching coloured ducks to questions, picking out prize books or freezies, and taking photos with a giant inflatable duck!



## Fort Frances Love is Love Pride Event

On June 26, a pride celebration was held at the Point Park, despite the cool weather this pride brunch was a warming celebration of love and community. The Anishinaabdemodaa Summer Team attended with words of zaagi'idiwin and apiitenim, alongside activities for all ages such as guessing the amount of skittles in a glass jar for a prize. Older ages enjoyed pronouncing the specialized words we had for pride, and the younger kids enjoyed making Froot Loop bracelets with the team members.



## Introducing Our Newest Team Member!

*Shae Jordan, Gakijiwanong Anishnaabe Nation*

Boozhoo! Waabishkiginiw indigoo, Gakijiwanong Anishinaabe Nation indoonjii idash Fort Frances oodenaang indaa noongom, Mikinaak Indoodem. My name is Shae, and I am from Lac La Croix First Nation, though I currently reside in Fort Frances, ON. I belong to the Turtle Clan. I am thrilled to join the Anishinaabemodaa Waking Up Ojibwe Team as the new Gaa-gikinoo'amaaged Anishinaabemowin position. I graduated in 2023 from the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Program offered by Anishinaabemodaa. I love attending ceremonies, spending time on the land, and good food. I am excited to continue working with the language, culture and to be part of such an amazing team. Miigwech!

