



Bingwi Neyaashi
Anishinaabek

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER



Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

292 S. Court St., Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 6C6

Phone: (807) 623-2724 Fax: (807) 623-2764 Toll Free: 1-877-623-2724



CONTENTS

04

LETTER FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL

06

COVID-19 UPDATE

07

DUPLEX CONSTRUCTION

08

BIOMASS

09

GREENHOUSE AND WASTE

10

ASSETS

11

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

15

ENERGY

16

FAMILY WELL BEING

20

HEALTH

23

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNER

24

FINANCE OPERATIONS

25

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL

Over the past several weeks, the Covid-19 pandemic has upended all of our lives. While Northern Ontario has yet to be hit with the same intensity from the virus as the south of the Province, we still have several cases that have been reported in and around the Thunder Bay region. And along with the rest of the Province, BNA's offices in Thunder Bay – including both our main office on Court Street, and our Family Well-Being / EarlyOn Centre on Van Norman – have been closed to both staff and membership until such time as the risks associated from this pandemic are no longer a threat. Likewise, the Papasay Sawmill located at Sand Point was also recently closed until such time that it is safe to re-open. Until this time, staff will be working remotely.

As soon as we received word of the severity of this problem in March, BNA's leadership immediately acted. Along with closing the BNA offices in Thunder Bay, we ensured that communication with our membership was a top priority. Tracy Gibson, BNA's Governance Coordinator, was designated the main point-of-contact for all BNA members that had any questions or concerns with respect to this virus. Likewise, the Nokiiwin Tribal Council also assisted BNA and its members in accessing financial aid as required. Communication channels were opened with both levels of government, and BNA began sharing all information regarding federal and provincial aid packages with our members. We continue to carefully monitor this situation, as it is changing and evolving on a daily-basis.

However, BNA's Chief and Council did not feel that this was enough. BNA's membership is unique among most other First Nations in our region in that our community was displaced, and this has resulted in a membership that resides almost entirely off-reserve as a result (with the exception of course of our first pioneering members moving to the land). Because of this fact, programs being set up by neighbouring communities on-reserve – including quarantining of communities, deliveries of food baskets, etc. – were far more difficult to institute for an off-reserve population that lives not only in NW Ontario, but throughout the country. **The leadership needed to find a solution that would assist all of our members, regardless of where they resided.**

Therefore, Chief and Council made the decision to move forward with direct assistance to BNA members with a cheque for \$300 for everyone over the age of 18 years old. This was not an easy decision. Out of the federal government's \$305 million "Indigenous Community Support Fund", after factoring in population, 'rural and remoteness', and other measurements, BNA's allocation from this fund came to just over \$67,000. This meant that BNA would be short of its total to meet this obligation to the membership at \$300/adult member, and would need to cover the remaining amount from alternative funds. While this has not been easy, Chief and Council are committed to ensuring that our members are assisted during this difficult time.

As this crisis continues, we will continue to share all information that we receive from all levels of government with our members. Our number one priority is the safety and security of our membership and our staff, and we will always ensure that we will do whatever is necessary to support our Elders, youth and families during hard times. We believe we have done this, and will continue to do so going forward.

In order to receive future payments from BNA, you must send your direct deposit information to Tracy Gibson at tgibson@bnafn.ca. This will ensure that future member payments can go out far quicker than through traditional mail. To all members of BNA: please stay safe, and look out for each other. As they say, we are all in this together.

Miigwetch everyone,
Chief and Council

COVID-19 UPDATE

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek



Tracy Gibson has been designated the point person for questions related to the Covid crisis. If you have any questions about current benefits at the federal or provincial level, or anything else related to this crisis, you can email me any time at tgibson@bnafn.ca, and I will make sure and get back to you as soon as I can.

INDIAN REGISTRATION AND BILL S-3

Indigenous Services Canada has changed the way you can register for Indian Registration under Bill S-3. If you or your child are entitled to be registered under Bill S-3 and were born on or after April 17, 1985, you can go directly to any Regional Indigenous Services Canada office and be registered immediately, even if you have submitted your registration to Winnipeg. You will need to bring the original long form Birth Certificate and picture ID. If you're registering a child under 16, you will need the parent's Registration Number and ID for yourself as well and if 2 parents are named on the long form Birth Certificate, both parents have to attend the ISC office with photo ID as both parents need to sign the Registration Form. If you were born before April 17, 1985 you still have to mail your registration for to the Winnipeg Office and unfortunately there is at least a 2 year wait for them to process registration forms. If your Mother, Grandmother or Great Grandmother lost their registration because they married a Non-Indigenous person you are entitled to be registered. If one of your ancestors lost their entitlement due to enfranchisement you may qualify for registration as well. If you have any questions on Indian Registration, contact Tracy Gibson at the BNA Satellite office: tgibson@bnafn.ca or by phone 807-623-2724 ext 211. Tracy can still make the Pink Laminated Status Cards. If you need to have one made call Tracy to set up an appointment.

GOVERNANCE

Houses are being built on BNA Land, and over the next year, Chief and Council will be visiting the BNA Matrimonial Laws. And in consultation with its members, we will be looking at what changes to the laws are required. With Members moving onto the Land there will be a need to start drafting Laws & Bylaws with consultation from BNA Members and the first law that will be looked at will be an Environmental Law. The BNA Members will be updated on these events through Community Meetings, Newsletters and information mailouts.



MAY 2020 | ISSUE 1

DUPLEX CONSTRUCTION

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

DUPLEX CONSTRUCTION 2019

For many years now, we have been hearing from our members about how much they are looking forward to live in the community. In a 2017 member housing survey that was conducted, 29% of respondents answered that they planned to move back to BNA in 1-2 years, while 32% responded saying they would move back to the community in 3-5 years. At the start of last year there was no permanent housing at BNA's community, however Chief and Council had housing as a priority in order to address the demand for housing which had been communicated to them from the membership.

Through diligent efforts, exciting progress was made in regard to housing at BNA's community. In 2019 BNA initiated the construction of two CMHC Band-owned duplexes to provide rental housing to members. A two bedroom duplex has been constructed, hooked up to servicing and BNA's first tenant moved has moved into it. As well, the three bedroom duplex is complete and ready for occupancy, and is currently being utilized for health programming.

Both units are furnished with a washer, dryer, fridge, stove, dishwasher and woodstove which will off-set heating costs for renters. As well each unit has its own independent septic field and a water supply which has been shown through water testing to have good quality groundwater. We hope that by providing these rental units as a housing option to the membership, we can once again have members living on the land year-round as a first step in re-developing our beautiful community.

BNA is looking to continue its positive momentum on the housing front in 2020, and will have some additional information on this matter to share with BNA members over the next few weeks.

Miigwetch!

BIOMASS

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

BNA BIOMASS PROJECT

Papasay Management Corporation LP (Papasay) was initiated to undertake business initiatives to benefit all BNA Band Members. Papasay established the Papasay Value Added Wood Products Sawmill (Papasay Sawmill) as a forest sector economic development initiative. The purpose of the Sawmill is to be a critical piece of infrastructure at BNA's community which will generate wealth and create employment opportunities for Band Members.

While great progress has been made to establish and market the Sawmill, the facility lacked a heating system. This created difficult conditions for workers and slowed production. In 2019, BNA began a project to install and commission a bio-heat system for the Sawmill. The boiler was commissioned in February, and is now operating. This system is fueled by the Sawmill's wood waste which is chipped, and the project reduces the environmental footprint of the project. Benefits of this system include providing heat, using the sawmill waste as fuel, producing fuel for other bio-heat opportunities in the community, and producing wood chips which could be sold to the region. The system is now installed, and we are awaiting the delivery of the chipper, due to the Covid pandemic, but should be delivered and installed by September 2020



GREENHOUSE AND WASTE

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

GREENHOUSE

Right now, all of the fruits and vegetables consumed in the community are brought in, with limited amounts grown by community members in small garden plots. In an effort to enhance BNA's on-community capabilities and infrastructure, Councillor Katie Borysewicz and Infrastructure Development Coordinator Brian Petrie started searching for greenhouse funding about one year ago. BNA has now secured funding to establish a community greenhouse and outdoor gardening area this year.

The greenhouse structure will be 8 x 12ft., with an insulated structure with an independent energy and control system, and a 12 x 20 ft. covered greenhouse area. The greenhouse will have amongst other things, water storage, lighting and a cooling system. The outdoor gardening area would be comprised of raised garden beds.

The greenhouse will supply seedlings for the outdoor gardening area in the spring and then be used to grow vegetables which require hot temperatures. BNA will partner with both Roots to Harvest and Collective Future Consulting in order to provide training and capacity building to members - allowing them to both grow their food, and preserve it

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Currently the Greenstone region is running out of waste disposal options. Many landfills in the region are either nearing capacity or closing. BNA is currently participating in the waste steering committee which is looking at waste disposal options related to a new landfill. This steering committee includes the Municipality of Greenstone, Indigenous Services Canada, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Forestry and the First Nations located within the Greenstone region. BNAs participation is aimed at ensuring that environmentally friendly waste disposal options are used to protect BNAs traditional territory. One example of this will be the inclusion of recycling which is not currently practiced in the Greenstone region. At the same time waste disposal options will be put in place to ensure that there is a place to dispose of garbage at the community (e.g. Waste Transfer Station).

ASSETS

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

ASSET MANAGEMENT

BNA has assets which require capital to maintain them in order to reach their life expectancy. These assets currently include but are not limited to the government office, duplexes, satellite office, and the Family Well Being Centre. BNA has received funding to create an Asset Management Plan to help manage assets. An Asset Plan is a very important strategic business tool used to provide the information required for effective planning, priority setting and decision making related to assets.

A sound Asset Management Plan is also important to allow BNA's leadership and management to ensure that proper maintenance is completed and services are not interrupted. While at the same time ensuring that assets are properly operated and that the cost to BNA for this is minimized. This will help BNA maintain a strong financial position which benefits the BNA membership. A full inventory of BNA's assets on-reserve will be undertaken this year.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

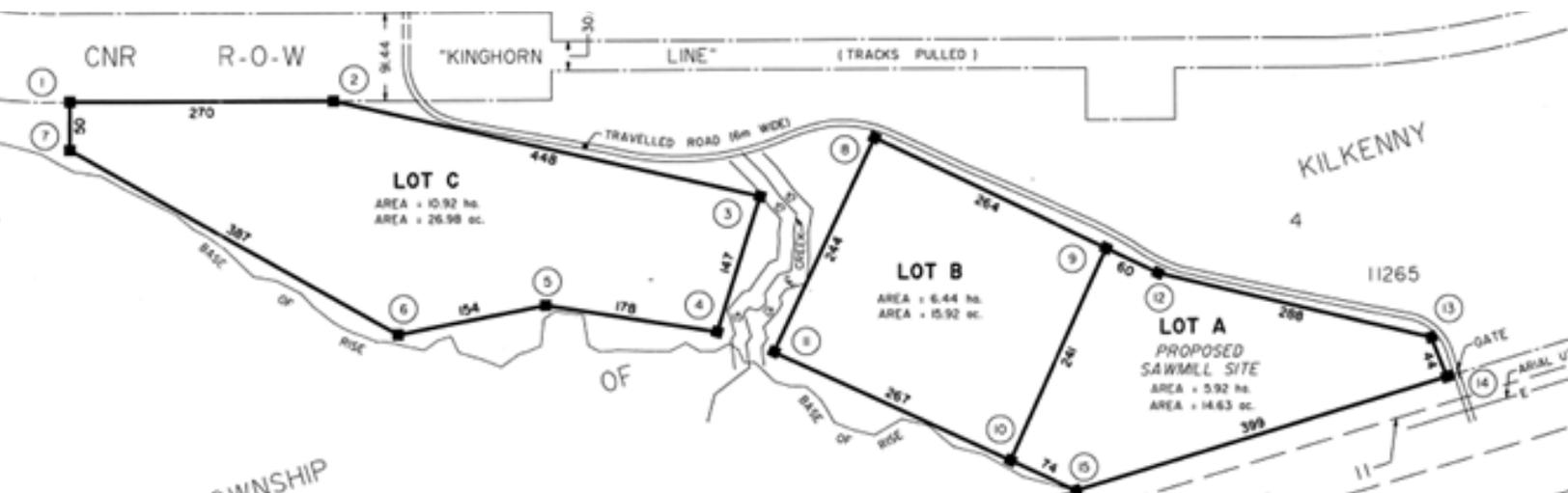
The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

THE BNA ROADS AND LOT A EXPANSION PROJECT

In 2019, BNA commenced an ambitious roads project with Steve Ward Contracting. The Project involved the widening, ditching, and straightening of several kilometers of Copper Thunderbird Road. This included through the Phase 1 Housing area, where a new road loop was installed at the end of the development which connected it to the cemetery road. As part of this project, the Papasay pit was opened, and material was prepared and stockpiled. In 2020, we will be completing this project. This will include the replacement of culverts, and adding aggregate material from the Papasay pit to the road in order to bring up the base. Due to the strong relationship developed between Chief and Council and Indigenous Services Canada, BNA was able to secure nearly 90% of the funding required for this project.

Along with the BNA Roads Project, thanks to significant support from ISC's Community Opportunity Readiness Program, we are also moving ahead with the expansion of Lot A of the BNA Industrial Park. This will see the current park expanded to encompass all of the surveyed section of Lot A. Along with this expansion, the first 450 meters of Copper Thunderbird Road, from Hwy 11 to the Sawmill entrance, will also be improved as part of this Project. And as with the BNA Roads Project, material from the Papasay Pit will be utilized as part of this project.

If there are any BNA members with heavy equipment experience and certification, there may be an opportunities for employment on these Projects. Please contact Jordan Hatton at jhatton@bnafn.ca.



BNA TRANSMISSION PROJECT

While in the plans for several years now, the BNA Transmission Project was not yet ready to move forward. The reason for this is that new transmission should always be constructed alongside existing transportation corridors. And as the BNA Roads project had not yet been completed, the transmission project could not yet move forward. But with the completion of the Roads Project this summer, the Transmission Project is slated to move forward in late 2020.

This year, we are planning on bringing 3-phase power from the Sawmill - where it was installed back in 2018 to run the equipment - into the Phase 1 Housing Area. This new line will run along the newly developed Roads corridor, and will have fibre optics also running along the line in order to provide the necessary communications supports that current and future BNA residents will require. BNA will be working with Hydro One and ISC to ensure that this Project is properly funded, and properly constructed.

The BNA Transmission Project is another significant infrastructure development being undertaken on the rapidly developing reserve lands. It is evidence of how far the community has come in such a short amount of time.



SAWMILL BUSINESS PLAN AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

Since commencing operations in September 2017, the Papasay Sawmill has employed – and is continuing to employ – BNA and BZA members for its operation. It has gone through significant facility upgrades, including insulating of the building, installation of a biomass heating system, and 3-phase power upgrades, just to name a few. It has been producing lumber for customers big and small throughout the region. However, despite continuing to operate, the Sawmill has run up against a significant production problem: the current equipment line that Papasay is utilizing at the Sawmill is insufficient to meet the large-scale demands of large regional purchasers. This has meant that we have had to pass on significant opportunities due to the simple fact that we cannot produce enough lumber fast enough.

To solve this issue, Papasay has been finalizing its Business Plan. This Plan will allow us to submit our equipment upgrade plan to federal and provincial funders for their consideration. Likewise, if required, Papasay will be able to take the Plan to a bank or other lending agencies for a potential loan. Regardless, the goal is to upgrade our equipment line, provide new drying and planing/moulding capabilities, and grow our opportunities for regional employment.

The Papasay Sawmill continues to be an anchor business for the First Nation, and our hope is that our new plan will stabilize and grow this operation well into the future.

*(NOTE:
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Papasay stopped operations in the Sawmill in early April. We will be monitoring the situation, and re-opening when it is safe and prudent to do so.)*



CHANGES TO THE BNA MATRIMONIAL REAL PROPERTY LAW

Due to the shameful displacement of our people in the middle of the 20th century, the BNA membership is unique among most of our fellow First Nations because the vast majority of our membership are married to non-BNA members. This makes sense – as our members were displaced, they married outside of their community, which would have been much less likely if we had remained a cohesive unit as we were prior to displacement. However, despite having one of the most ‘liberal’ laws amongst First Nations in Canada with respect to the treatment of non-member spouses, the fact remains: Section 5.20 of our current MRP Laws state that non-members have 6 months to leave their on-reserve premise in the case of the death of a member-spouse. This fact has meant a reluctance of many members to make a move back to the land.

Therefore, Chief and Council are committed to changing this law. We are working on wording now that will allow non-member spouses – who are community members whom may have invested heavily in their on-reserve homes – to be allowed to remain in their marital home in the terrible event of a death of a member-spouse. Once the wording has been vetted, included legally, we will bring this to the membership for ratification. We will once and for all provide fairness to our non-member spouses that is lacking in so many on-reserve communities across this country.



ENERGY

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

COMMUNITY ENERGY CHAMPION

Happy May everybody! My name is Ayshaliisa McNally and I am the Community Energy Coordinator with Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (BNA) First Nation. I am a certified Community Energy Champion, Fire Smart Champion and the climate change point person for BNA. As BNA's Community Energy Coordinator, it is part of my job to look for opportunities to bring renewable energy resources such as solar panels/ solar farm projects and other sustainable project possibilities for BNA. Some of the projects I have been working on thus far are writing proposals for economic development and sustainable projects and working with the BNA team members to ensure projects are energy efficient and sustainable. As we move further into the year 2020, I will continue to work with the BNA team on renewable energy projects.

I will also begin to work with TBT Engineering to draft the Community Energy Plan and continue to conduct community energy audits for the Community Energy Plan. For BNA members who are interested, I am offering to conduct energy audits in your home. If agreed upon, I will come to your home, ask what your energy concerns are within your home and I will inspect your home for any drafts or excessive moisture concerns. When I am finished I will write a small report on what was found and where home improvements can be made in order to save energy and money. However, this practice will not commence until a later date due to the Covid-19 Virus. The BNA membership will be notified when this practice will begin by offering this service to those members who are interested.

Other projects include receiving funding to install solar panels for the Papasay Sawmill, and bringing power into the community by installing poles along the Copper Thunderbird Road, and bringing 3-phase power from the Sawmill into the community, including fiber optics. Currently, BNA is working with Hydro One and Bell Canada for the design of this power system. I will also continue to learn from conferences, webinars and community members through community engagement sessions.

If you have any questions, please email me at amcnally@bnafn.ca

FAMILY WELL-BEING PROGRAM

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

MESSAGE FROM THE BNA FAMILY WELL-BEING AND EARLYON CENTRE

Dear Community members, I hope this newsletter finds you well and doing your best to stay healthy during this challenging time. I can gather that many of you have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the changes that have come about with being asked to stay home and isolate from others. For some of you, I imagine it is the opposite – you are an essential worker and don't have the ability to stay home. Sadly, with the pandemic many of our programs and services has come to a halt. Cancellations and postponements of events such as our "Giinawind Gathering" have been unavoidable. It is unclear as to when our Family and EarlyON Centre will be re-opened or when events and programs will be running again. We will continue to update members as changes to the current situation take place. In response to the pandemic, we are working diligently to rapidly transform the way we provide services to our community. We have been reaching out online via our Facebook groups and trying to make the most of the new way of being. We understand that this way of reaching out does not reach everyone and if there are any suggestions or ideas of how we can serve you better please reach out and let us know. As you read through the Family Well-being and EarlyOn portion of this newsletter we hope you will enjoy some of highlights from past programs and current online activities we would love for you to participate in. On behalf of the whole Family and EarlyON team we would like to wish you all a healthy home filled with laughter and love. We hope the summer season approaching will bring some reprieve. I know that it will be a very trying time for many of you as we continue to live our lives differently.

Sincerely,

Camille Borysewicz

Director of Social Services

UPDATE FROM THE FAMILY CENTRE

Throughout the year, we have been super busy and enjoying spending time with our community through providing programs, resources and activities. Our focus has been to promote overall well-being and cultural responsiveness across our community by reaching out to children, youth, families, Elders and seniors through a variety of programs and activities. Although we are currently a small team we have strived to keep as many programs and activities running as possible through our valued partnerships. With the tremendous support of our Chief and Council, BNA health department, staff from BNA EarlyON centre and partnerships with organizations such as the Indigenous Friendship Centre and Nokiiwin we have had a successful year. We would also like to highlight all of the community members that have stepped up and shared their wisdom, knowledge and strength at our Centre. All of these important people and organizations have been instrumental in creating a space for all community members to utilize. All of that being said this has been the foundation for us to be able to provide an inclusive space in which children, youth, seniors and families can feel as sense of belonging. Through their giving of time, energy, advocacy or funding, BNA's community of supporters are deeply valued in moving forward with the Family Centre's mission to create a safe space for our community that promotes connection to culture, healing and well being in all areas of the life cycle. Every day, we were used to witnessing positive transformations in our community and although we aren't able to host gatherings, programs or activities at this point in time we are still continuing to plan for the upcoming season and looking forward to upcoming programs like our "Seniors nights" and events like our "Giinawind Gathering". For those who have yet to participate at the Family Centre we would like to extend the warmest welcome and hope to have you all join us when we finally re-open to the community.

Miigwetch



TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES PROJECT

Boozhoo! My name is Lindsey Gladu, I am the Cultural Family Youth Worker at the Family Well Being Centre. Since the band meeting back in November we have been busy with interviews, surveys and hands on learning out on the land. The Director of Economic Development for BNA, Jordan Hatton, traveled to Nipigon to meet with several representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) at their district office regarding commercial trapping, commercial fishing rules and regulations, as well as the unique Indigenous-only fishery on Lake Nipigon. Jordan also interviewed members of the "Indigenous Food Circle" regarding locally grown food and greenhouse developments on-reserve. Surveys were completed by me and Arthur Gladu regarding potential commercial fishing/trapping, greenhouse gardening out on BNA land. Those who participated in the survey received an honorarium for their time and input, miigwetch to everyone who contributed to this project.

In February we offered an ice fishing event out on the land. We had a great turnout and the weekend was a huge success! Participants were taught how to put a fishing net under the ice, how to follow the net to the hole that was 300 ft away and how to create and repair a fishing net. The weekend was a great learning experience for all, and everyone had a wonderful time. We had hoped to get our trapping weekend in before the end of March but unfortunately due to the pandemic this was not able to take place. Keep an eye out for future mail outs for an upcoming trapping weekend.

Chi-Miigwetch to everyone for their participation in this project!



EARLYON CENTRE



The last couple of months have been, fun and a little crazy for our Centre. In February we had Biidaaban Healing Lodge facilitate a hand drum making workshop. We had 8 families that took part in the workshop. A week later, in partnership with the Indigenous Friendship Centre, we all learned the traditional drum birthing ceremony and were able to birth their drums. What a great learning experience. We also partnered with ONWA for pre/post-natal drop-in groups. We shared teachings around each trimester and preparing for the birth of our babies. It was a mother's led group, each sharing and answering questions from their own experiences. It was a beautiful to see how entwined the group became and how much knowledge each mom had to share. We even had a few dads participate and share their experiences as well. Each week we made a gift for our babies and shared the teachings and added it to their bundles. The gifts we made were, moccasins, teething rings, belly button bag and we left off with our Star Blankets. We offered a few new programs as well, Nanabijou Storytime, Learning to Powwow, and Dad's Night. Each program involved cultural teachings and parent - child interaction. Our families really enjoy learning our culture and we are grateful to being able to share it with them. We offer a daily smudge and open to any other ideas the parents may want or need. We continue to provide the community with programs and activities on-line through our Facebook page so you can enjoy from the comfort of your home during the pandemic. Every Wednesday and Thursday we do Toddler hand drumming live on Facebook, we are also posting our favorite recipes for you to enjoy, and activities and crafts to help continue the learning process and to foster the curiosity in children. We hope you are all staying healthy and staying safe. We miss seeing everyone and we look forward to seeing you in the future!

Karen Williams and Jill Riley

HEALTH

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

Now that spring is here, we can begin to look forward to warmer temperatures and new beginnings. Hoping that everyone is in good physical and mental health despite these challenging times we are facing. Below is a great example of some helpful suggestions to leading a healthy lifestyle from the World Health Organization.



COVID-19

There is so much information available on the internet about COVID-19, ensure the information that you are viewing is factual and from a reliable source. Being well informed is one of the ways to help prevent the spread of the virus.

We can all do our part to help slow the transmission of the virus by staying home when sick, washing your hands, coughing and sneezing into your sleeve or a tissue, and maintaining social distancing.

BNA MEDICAL CLINIC

When BNA's current Chief and Council came into power there was no permanent medical clinic on BNA's land. Design work for the clinic was completed, and construction began in the Spring of 2019. We are proud to say that the construction of the clinic building is now complete. The building now has power. The next step is to complete the septic and well connections.

Once operational on a part-time basis, this centre will provide basic medical services to the members at the community, and perhaps to additional BNA partners in the region without medical services. This will improve the lives of many people.





Nokiiwin
TRIBAL COUNCIL

Wesway
People... Care your way

RESPITE CARE FUNDING FOR FAMILIES

What is Respite Care?

Respite care is anything that provides a break or relief for families who are caring for loved ones with exceptional needs.

Who is Eligible for this Funding?

This funding is for families with unmet respite care needs who are caring for a child who is under the age of 18, lives at home with a caregiver or guardian, has physical or mental wellness challenges, a disability or chronic/complex health issue, is a member of a Nokiiwin community, living on or off reserve.

How Does it Work?

Families decide how and when they want to use their support and who they trust to provide the care. Childcare, overnight relief, recreational activity fees, after school programs, specialized camps, extra professional services, and even assistance on medical trips are all considered services of respite care. Wesway will then reimburse the family caregiver for costs associated with their respite plan.

For more

information and application, please contact:

Wesway 1-888-623-2353 ext. 6672 or rdabrowski@wesway.com

Christine Wood cwood@bnafn.ca



Nokiiwin is continuing to provide support for respite services to families in member communities during this difficult time of COVID-19

At the time of this newsletter, there is still so much uncertainty surrounding when the band office will re-open and programming to resume, notice will be provided to members once a date is confirmed. In the meantime, if you require assistance with grocery needs, please take advantage of the community resource available for food hampers, call 211 to register. Please take care of yourself and your loved ones. Our lives have been put on pause temporarily, but we are resilient, and we will adjust to the new realities. If you have any questions, or want more information, please email me at cwood@bnafn.ca. Thank you, Christine Wood, RPN, Home & Community Care Worker

MAY 2020 | ISSUE 1

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNER

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

ROBIN RANGER

Boozhoo! My name is Robin Ranger, and I am your your Comprehensive Community Planning Coordinator. Through membership meetings and elders gatherings from the past year and from around the office, I have already met many community members! Effective Community Planning means that every one of us has a clear vision of where we are coming from and where going as a community. This means keeping connected.

Some of us can remember back to a time of party lines and rotary dial telephones. Today, smartphones, tablets and home computers bring so much more of the world into our homes. Keep connected to the whats happening in the community by visiting our website for up-dates, announcements and important information. The work we do continues and Comprehensive Community Planning continues to unfold. Until we meet again under one roof as a community, we will reach out through our website and please, do not hesitate to email me at rranger@bnafn.ca



FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

Hi everybody. My name is Angie Maltese and I am new Director of Finance & Operations for Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek First Nation (BNA). I am thrilled that Chief and Council have given me the opportunity to work with such an amazing group of people. There are so many exciting things happening at BNA right now – from building homes on the land to a thriving Family Well Being and Early On Centre. I am fortunate and glad to be part of all of this. By way of background, I am a chartered professional accountant and chartered accountant with over 30 years of experience of working in a variety of accounting, advisory and consulting roles, most recently as a partner in a national public accounting firm. Over the years, I have worked with clients in a large variety of industries, including many First Nation owned organizations. I was born and raised in Thunder Bay and while I have lived in many other places (Toronto; Montreal; Australia; London, England), I consider myself a true Northerner at heart. My husband and I love hiking, cross country skiing and hanging out in the summer at our camp on Hawkeye Lake. I hope to meet as many of you as possible in person one day and hope that you and your family are staying safe and well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the pandemic hit, our team has been very busy over the last couple months. In fact, I feel we are busier than ever! In compliance with government orders, we have been working remotely since mid-March and our main office, Family Well Being and Early On Centre are temporarily closed. It is important we keep all of our people safe during the pandemic. But for the most part, it is “business as usual” for the BNA team. We are busy writing funding proposals and funding reports, the programming that would normally happen in our Family Well Being and Early On Centre has been moved online, and our Finance team was very busy last month coordinating and processing the \$300 payment that went out to each of our members aged 18 years of age and older to help alleviate some of the financial hardship that has arisen due to the COVID-19 crisis. Things continue to evolve daily due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are staying in touch with government and other First Nation organizations to ensure that we are informed of any developments and stay top of mind so that we can help our community and membership through these challenging times. Please continue to check out our website and facebook pages to stay informed of any developments and tips on staying safe and well during the pandemic. Please stay safe and well and if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to us.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The official newsletter of
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

LAND USE PLANNER

Job Posting – 1 Full Time Position
Competitive Benefits Package
Salary Range: \$50,000 to \$60,000
Salary Commensurate with Experience

Position Summary

BNA is currently accepting applications for the full-time position of Land Use Planner. This position will be responsible for developing the BNA Land Use Plan (LUP), which includes completing all field work, community engagement and research required for the plan, and the completion of the plan. Once the LUP is complete, the Land Use Planner will implement, monitor, evaluate and continuously improve it.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- An undergraduate degree or diploma in a relevant field of study, along with relevant work experience.
- Working knowledge of legislation, regulations, policies and procedures for the land use/environmental sector.
- An understanding of BNA's economic, cultural and political environment.
- Ability to administer programs and initiatives.
- Skilled at working both independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills.
- Well-developed decision making skills.
- Effective communication skills.
- Computer skills including the ability to create and manipulate spreadsheets and word documents, use of Microsoft Word. GIS and surveying knowledge is an asset.
- Effective stress management and time management skills.
- Must be able to complete work in the office, in the field and in the community, as required.
- Able to complete field work which may be physically demanding and
- involve walking over uneven terrains for extended periods.
- The Land Use Planner must be prepared to work in the rain, cold, snow and wind as required.
- Have a driver's license and willing to travel regularly, as required.

LAND USE PLANNER

Salary will be negotiated commensurate with experience. The position is based at BNA's satellite office located in Thunder Bay, with some out of town travel.

Deadline Date: May 29, 2020

Attention: Jordan Hatton Email: jhatton@bnafn.ca Website: www.bnafn.ca

Thank you to all who apply. However, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

BNA will look to the membership first to fill this position. However, if no qualified member is found, we will look outside the membership.



Research Assistant Rebuilding Nations Through Economic Independence

Want to make a difference in Your Community?

Northern Policy Institute in partnership with Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (AZA), Nezaadiikaang (LDMLFN) and Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (BNA) is seeking three (3) Contract Policy Analysts for a 16 week placement (length of placement is negotiable depending on successful candidate's choice of full-time or part-time hours). While analysts with particular expertise are most welcome, an inter-disciplinary approach and the capacity to work across subject areas is expected.

The successful candidates will work as part of the team delivering the "Rebuilding Nations Through Economic Independence" project. This community focused, case based, research initiative intends to build a road map for communities to rebuild in a sustainable and economically independent way. The researchers will work with and be supported by a network of similar researchers coordinated through the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.

Strong analytical and writing skills would be of value. The placements will be expected to assess and explore potential policy implications and apply comparative evidence to support proposed policy changes, solutions, or directions. University or college students with some practical experience are preferred. Strong self-motivation is essential as well as the ability to engage with and learn from a large and diverse team.

Northern Policy Institute appreciates all expressions of interest; only candidates who are to be interviewed will be contacted. The salary range for this position is \$15-\$17 per hour for Bachelors or College level candidates, and \$17-\$19 per hour for Masters level candidates. Internships will begin 1 June 2020.

Deadline for applications is **noon eastern time on Monday 18 May, 2020.**

Please forward a cover letter, resume and references to hr@northernpolicy.ca with **Rebuilding Nations Research Assistant** in the subject line.

*Experience North is a program intended to build capacity in Northern Ontario. As such, there is a hiring preference in place. When considering applications, NPI will give preference to members of the partner communities. Candidates coming from rural or remote northern communities or with a stated interest in working in northern regions in the future may also be given special preference. If any of these characteristics apply to you, **we encourage you to voluntarily state this in your cover letter.***



Sand Point First Nation

Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

“Chief Joe Ladouceur and Councillors Katie Borysewicz and Lillian Calder by the newly installed BNA Hwy sign in 2018”