

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre

January 2022

Welcome from our Executive Director

This year we will be 60 years old!

As the oldest Indigenous organization in Edmonton and area, we want to express our love and appreciation for being part of our family during that time. A lot has changed for Indigenous people since 1962 when we officially opened our doors as an incorporated society. We look forward to the future together as we all adapt and grow in this urban setting. As Indigenous people we have lived through wars, pandemics, colonialism, and genocide. We will continue to be here to keep offering services that will enhance our community through the next 60!

I thank you all for your support and patience as we navigate this pandemic. All the staff at CNFC are working hard to keep on providing services and programs while dealing with the ever-changing restrictions.

Let us be reminded to care for one another, be kind, and more compassionate during these difficult times.

All my relations,

Ron Moon Walker

A word from our President

Happy New Year Family and Friends,

I hope you all had a warm Christmas filled with love and peace. Even though the holiday season was busy, I managed to take a few moments to reflect on the last year. There were many trials in 2021. However, there were positive moments too. Many organizations and families who were struggling themselves still found ways to help others who were in need. I want to thank the staff and volunteers of our Friendship Centre for their hard work and dedication to our community. Our center would not be able to provide the programs and services that it does without their tenacity and compassion.

As we begin a new year, I want to wish you and your families good health and happiness. Please remember to be kind to one another. Although these are trying times, we are strong, and our ancestors taught us how to adapt. We can make 2022 a good year. I leave with a quote from Mother Theresa.

"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."

Take care and stay safe,

Tracy Cardinal

Grandmother Moon—Spirit Moon

The first moon of Creation is Spirit Moon, and is manifested through the Northern Lights. It is a time to honor the silence and realize our place within all of Great Mystery's creatures.



Monthly Cree Words

Kisê-pîsim

January

Ochehtow kisîkâw

New Year's Day

Kôna

Snow

Otakikomiwin

Cold

Pêyak

One

Yikwatin

Frost

Kwayask itatisiwin

Honesty

Ahcâhk

Spirit

Kâ-nîmihitocik

Northern Lights

Time To Meet Some Staff!

Cree Language Teacher

Les Skinner

tân'si kahkiyaw!

Les Skinner n'tisiyîhkâson.
sakâwotipêyimisow nîya! My name is Les Skinner and I am a Métis bushman! I grew up in Edmonton but my family is originally from the community of Balsam Bay, Manitoba. I heard Cree as a child from my n'câpân (great grandmother) who also used to make me jig around. While I didn't learn much Cree then, I remember the love my câpân had for me-- it's from there that I learned the love and kinship in our language. Because of the love of my câpân, I started to reclaim our language at age 16. 16 years later, I now travel all around the bush hunting, fishing and working at ceremonies seeking out our language and way of life to revitalize it and pass it on.

When you come to Cree Class at the Friendship Centre, I hope to pass on some of that love and knowledge of our way of life as it was passed on to me. I hope to see you there!

êkosi p'tamâ, that's it for now,
- Les



Youth Coordinator: Jordan Koski

Tansi!

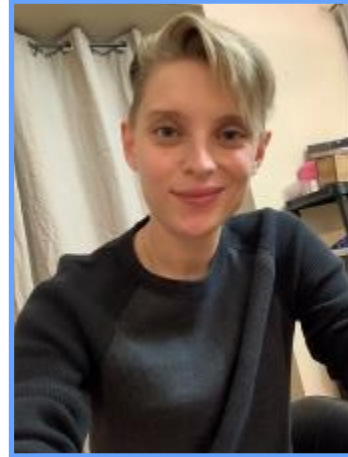
I'd like to thank the CNFC staff for the warm welcome! I've been living back in the city for a couple years now and boy did I miss it!

My name is Jordan, I have been brought on to be the new Youth Coordinator here at the Friendship Centre and look forward to working with our youth in Amiskwaciwâskahikan.

I have a strong passion for teaching and helping young people become the best version of themselves that they are proud of. I also hope to help showcase and promote people's talents, skills, and dreams that they can share with the world.

I come from up North (in the bush), and I have a background in Martial Arts, Fire Fighting, Medical Response, Post-secondary planning, Graphic Design, Editing, and much more.

You can reach me at the Centre at 780-761-1900, or by email at cnfcyouth@cnfc.ca, or facebook @ Oskinîkiw Young



Community Support & Program Coordinator: Kateao Nehua-Jackson

Kia Ora/Tansi,

Kateao Nehua-Jackson nisihkason,
Amiskwaciwâskahikan êkwa Aotearoa ocinia,
ekwa atôske Canadian Native Friendship Centre
nîya Community Program Coordinator.

I am Māori, Indigenous to my country of Aotearoa. I am honored to be able to serve the Indigenous Community here on Treaty 6 territory with the same commitment and passion as I have my entire life back home in Aotearoa. I am fluent in my own language, culture and traditions and teach this on a daily basis, I am also on my own journey of commitment to learn Cree traditions and Language, to ensure I am honoring my children here and the people of this territory.

Ngā mihi maioha/kinanāskōmitin

communityprogram@cnfc.ca

(780) 761-1900



Receptionist: Dianna Dreaver

Hi there, my name is Dianna Dreaver. I am very grateful for being a part of the CNFC family! My family originates from Treaty 6 territory in Saskatchewan.

My background varies, however I have worked in many areas within non-profit organizations.

I really enjoy interacting with people and I truly have a passion for wanting people to be able to succeed in their journey.

What's Happening Around the Centre



Youth Zoom Hangouts



Welcome to Youth Zoom Hangouts! Since we cannot host weekly youth nights here at the Centre, we will be doing them online! There are four age groups (see below).

We will have some activities planned, some goodie bags and some fun to be had!

Starting December 21, 2021

Tuesdays at 6-7 p.m. for Wāpos (Rabbit) Ages 7-12

Tuesdays at 7-8 p.m. for Apisimosos (Deer) Ages 13-17

Thursdays at 5-6 p.m. for Pisimoyāpiy (Rainbow) 2Spirit Support

Thursdays at 8-9 p.m. for Muskwa (Bear) Ages 18-29

On Zoom! Link provided after registration

To register please email - cnfcyouth@cnfc.ca

[Jordan Koski - Youth Coordinator]



Virtual Indigenous Language Classes

in partnership with Edmonton Public Library

Whether you want to reconnect to your ancestral language or learn a language from the territory, this is the class for you. These classes are offered in partnership with the Canadian Native Friendship Centre and is suitable for beginners and those with previous language knowledge. These are a free registered, online class where you will also connect with community members and make new friends through shared passion for language revitalization. To receive a link and passcode to the online class via, please register with your name and email address and instructions will be sent to you on the day of the session.

Nehiyawewin Language Classes

Facilitated by Leslie Skinner

Running Tuesdays and Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Stoney Nakota Language Classes

Facilitated by Lyndon Aginas

Running Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm

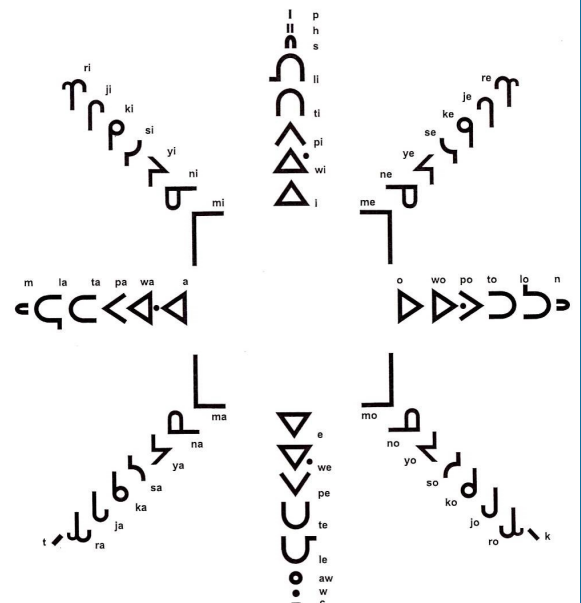
Please visit epl.ca or cnfc.ca for more information.

BUILDING A GRADUATION NATION **Pathways** to Education

Pathways to Education Canada is a charitable organization that collaborates with community-based organizations across Canada to help youth in low-income communities' graduate from high school and successfully transition into college and university. The program addresses systemic barriers to education by providing leadership, expertise, and a community-based program proven to increase graduation rates.

Pathways to Education Edmonton works with the Canadian Native Friendship Centre to deliver the program in Edmonton school systems, providing after-school tutoring, mentoring and financial assistance to address the barriers that can stand in the way of education. Each student benefits from a personal relationship with their Student/Parent Support Worker - part counsellor, advocate, confidante, social worker, and mediator - who motivates and guides students and their families, brings insight that can't be found on report cards, and holds students accountable to the contract they sign in order to participate in the program.

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre has created many community partnerships from the Province of Alberta, Edmonton Public School Division, Edmonton Catholic School District, Pathways to Education Canada, City of Edmonton and many other community partners. Therefore, our Pathways to Education program benefits immensely from the numerous resources provided by the organization. The Pathways to Education Edmonton focuses on providing afterschool supports and resources for Indigenous students grade 9 to 12 students, however we are open to all. Our program has embraced the national model and is heavily based on the Medicine Wheel model with Cultural Teachings and ways of being integrated into our daily programming.



7 Grandfather Teachings

Sabe/ Honesty

The teaching of honesty is taught to us by Sabe or sometimes the raven.



Sabe is believed to be closer to the spirit world than humans and reminds us, just as the raven does, that we must be truthful to who we are. The Ojibwa expression Kitchi-Sabe means to walk tall, or to have integrity. It is only by being honest that we can have integrity.

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre

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Phone:
780-761-1900
Fax:
780-760-1900
Website:
cnfc.ca

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 (Virtual) - Cree Class - Youth Hangouts	5 (Virtual) - Cree Class	6 (Virtual) - Stoney Class - Youth Hangouts	7	8
9	10	11 (Virtual) - Cree Class - Youth Hangouts	12 (Virtual) - Cree Class	13 (Virtual) - Stoney Class - Youth Hangouts	14	15
16	17	18 (Virtual) - Cree Class - Youth Hangouts	19 (Virtual) - Cree Class	20 (Virtual) - Stoney Class - Youth Hangouts	21	22
23 Bingo	24	25 (Virtual) - Cree Class - Youth Hangouts	26 (Virtual) - Cree Class	27 (Virtual) - Stoney Class - Youth Hangouts	28	29
30	31					