



Wigwam to Wigwam

YOUR "HOUSE TO HOUSE" NEWS

We're Back!!!

Here we are, summer is winding down and, as I type this article, the Ontario power grid is being pushed to the limit due to extreme heat conditions. It has been quite a hot summer so far and my complaints about the frigid temperatures of winter seem to be a very distant memory for me at this point in time.

The Wigwam to Wigwam Newsletter has taken a back seat to other projects and initiatives lately but all that has changed. Along with Sarah-Jayne Kendall (Building Manager at Wigwamen Terrace), it is hoped that we can provide ongoing, monthly editions of this newsletter.

My name is Warren Canney and I run the Aboriginal Housing Support Centre out of an office at 20 Sewells Road. I'm also the on-site Counselor for the building in my role as the Transitional Housing Support Worker.

I've been producing the monthly newsletter for 20 Sewells Road since the beginning of this year and it has been very well received by the tenants and the staff who work there. Sarah Jayne and I hope to

create colourful, insightful and interesting newsletters for all of the tenants living in Wigwamen housing.

As is the case with the Sewells Road Newsletter, tenants are encouraged to send in their stories, poems, lyrics, photos, etc. for inclusion in the newsletters. Why not pass along your favourite recipes for other tenants to enjoy?

There are lots of community activities happening at 20 Sewells Road. By the time this newsletter goes out, the 1st Annual BBQ will have taken place and everyone is very much looking forward to that event.

As is the case with all community events, people will be taking photographs, engaging in conversation with old friends and meeting new ones. I encourage our readers to tell us their stories or pass along some photos of some of the special events that they attend for inclusion in the newsletter.

Details on how to contact Sarah Jayne or myself are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

August 2006

Volume 8, Issue 2

Special points of interest:

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Why Porcupine has quills

(a Chippewa story)

Long ago, when the world was young, porcupines had no quills. One day when Porcupine was in the woods, Bear came along and wanted to eat him. But Porcupine climbed to the top of a tree and was safe. The next day, when Porcupine was under a hawthorn tree, he noticed how the thorns pricked him. He had an idea. He broke off some of the branches of the hawthorns and put them on his back. Then he went into the woods and waited for Bear. When Bear sprang on Porcupine, the little animal just curled himself up in a ball. Bear had to go away, for the thorns pricked him very much. Nanabozho saw what happened. He called Porcupine to him and asked, "How did you know that trick?" "I am always in danger when Bears comes along," replied Porcupine. "When I saw those thorns, I thought I would use them." So Nanabozho took some branches from the hawthorn tree and peeled off the bark until they were white. Then he put some clay on the back of Porcupine, stuck the thorns in it, and made the whole a part of his skin. "Now go into the woods," said Nanabozho. Porcupine obeyed, and Nanabozho hid himself behind a tree. Soon Wolf came along. He sprang on Porcupine and then ran away, howling. Bear came along, but he did not get near Porcupine. He was afraid of those thorns. That is why porcupines have quills today.



Vacating Your Unit

Here are a few things to keep in mind if and when you consider moving out of your unit:

- Should you wish to terminate your tenancy, you are required to give 60 days written notice to Wigwamen Incorporated.
- The termination date can be no earlier than the last day of any given month.
- In the event that you vacate your unit without giving the proper notice, you will still be responsible for paying your rent for the complete 60 days.
- When vacating your unit, please ensure that you have made arrangements to have all garbage, unwanted furniture and personal possessions removed from the property, before vacating the unit. In the event that belongings are left behind, you will be charged back for the cost of removal, and this will be kept on your file.

Please ensure that your fridge and stove are clean and in good condition.

Guess What?...

Wigwamen's Got Talent



Are you between the ages of 4 and 16 and have an amazing talent that you would like to perform at the picnic?

**Then sign up for the
Wigwamen Kids Talent Show**

**The talent show will take place
between 2 pm and 3 pm at this year's picnic.
Each person will have 2 minutes to perform.**

**To sign up for this year's talent show, have your
parents call the office with your name, address and talent
that you will perform.**

Please respond before August 20th, 2006

Quaaout Lodge Vacation

The Quaaout Indian Reserve, on Little Shuswap Lake in British Columbia, is where we spent part of our summer vacation. The Reserve is administered by the Squilax Indian Band and it is one of the 17 Reserves of the Shuswap Nation.

I lived in the British Columbia Interior for 18 years and our two week vacation back there was long anticipated. For one fabulous week of our holiday, we were pampered and spoiled while we vacationed at the Quaaout Lodge on the reserve (see <http://www.quaaout.com> on the Internet).

Not only was the facility a first class operation, the grounds were full of interesting educational sites that are designed to teach vacationers more about the local Aboriginal community.

Vacationers can also rent a teepee if they would prefer that over a regular hotel room.

The resort property is more of a 'living museum' with stops of interest every few feet and plaques explaining the significance of each area.

The beach, along Little Shuswap Lake, is sandy and the water very clean and clear.

The 18 hole golf course, adja-



Some of the Native crafts on display in the hotel lobby

cent to the property, is scheduled to open in the summer of 2007.

Just over 10 years ago, the old, abandoned church on the Reserve burned down. The church had been home to thousands of bats for decades and before the annual migration north the following spring, the Squilax Indian Band Council made sure that bat houses were erected on the old church site, and at other locations on the Reserve, so the bats would have a safe and dry place to spend their summers.

Hats off to the Squilax Indian Band for the fabulous work they've done by creating this excellent resource on their Reserve.



Several of the bat houses scattered throughout the Reserve

Drum Making Workshop

It was my honour to attend the Drum Making Workshop at 20 Sewells Road held on the evening of July 20th in the Community Room. The program was presented by Steve Teekens, of Native Child and Family Services of Toronto.

Under Steve's guidance, 9 drums were skillfully produced that evening. Steve went into great detail telling the tale of the drum before actual work on the drums began.

People of all ages and backgrounds took part in the workshop and no one was disappointed with the results. I have my drum proudly displayed in my home for friends and family to see.

The evening was organized by Sewells Road resident, Flora Vaughn-Dempsey. Flora is the person who also got the weekly MAC (Multicultural Arts and Crafts) group started in the building and has been quite busy this summer helping with the summer kids' program in the building. Thank you to both Steve and Flora for an unforgettable evening.



Above: Workshop participants working hard on their drums under the direction of Steve Teekens

Below: Completed drum



Left: Steve Teekens demonstrating how to sand the drum prior to the application of the deer skin

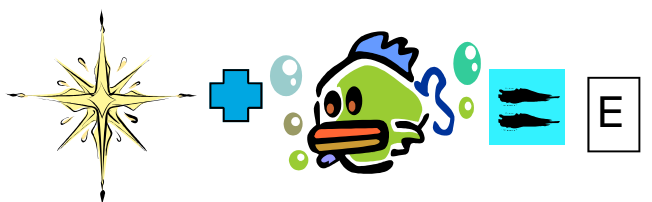
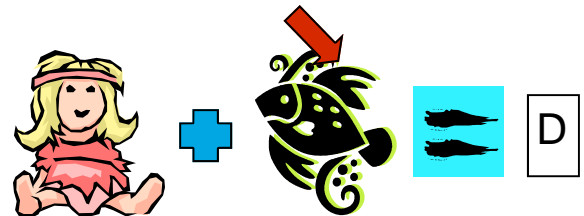
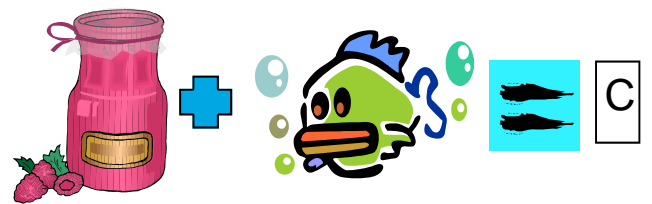
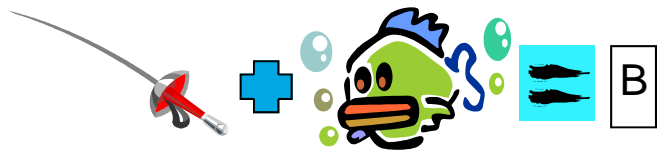
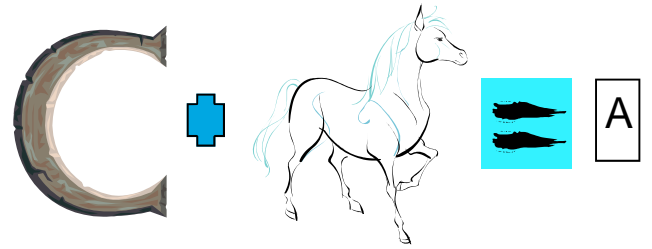


*** FUN PAGE ***

JUST ANOTHER HOT DAY

(A Word Search Puzzle)

V O A U O W A P G B F W I A T
 Y S T S A W U N S A Y N S N J
 U C U O B M I W S K K R I G I
 E A J U Z N C I B I A A J N U
 G L O Z R Y Z O H N F F Z I X
 N D B U Q Z R O B G P B T R H
 I I B I L O V E R H E A T E D
 L N Q I T Z S D I R R O T T D
 I G N I T S H C K F E D O S I
 O G J X F N U X O I G W A I M
 B D O S B B Q B C R G J B L U
 L A C I P O R T M N C S G B H
 Z Z T D R Y X G I O U H C T J
 E X T R E M E R N L C O I U S
 P S E H Q Z E H T I L W I N L
 R J N A I T O R B P T Q Q L G
 W U Q K L R Y N K C G A M M K
 B F B E S I S D K M R D E M D
 A G W S W X U T V T A M B W H
 Z S C S W Q E V Y V C Z B M S



BAKING, BLISTERING, BOILING, BURNING, COMBUSTIBLE,
 DRY, EXTREME, FAINT, FIERY, HUMID, OVERHEATED,
 SCALDING, SCORCHING, SIZZLING, SULTRY, SWEATING,
 SWELTERING, THIRSTY, TORRID, TROPICAL

SOMETHING'S FISHY HERE!!!

A: _____

B: _____

C: _____

D: _____

E: _____

(see page 12 for correct answers)

Zero Balance Club Winners!!!

Wigwamen residents who pay their rent on time have their names entered into a draw to receive a \$50 gift certificate good at any Dominion store. Here is a list of our most recent Zero Balance Club winners:

- [Sauna Provo](#)
- [Joseph Mack](#)
- [Aygon Mehdizadeh](#)
- [Rosena Wells](#)
- [Lisa Maracle](#)



\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to everyone who won the gift certificates!!!

Paying your rent on time is what gets your name entered into the draw. Winning is dependent upon having your name drawn from among all of the other tenants who have also been entered into the draw. Good luck!!!

Aboriginal Presentation



On July 20th, two Sewells Road residents, Elizabeth Bellerose and Kerry Beboning, were part of a special Aboriginal presentation at the Toronto Public Library next door to the building. The presentation was very well attended. I counted close to 75 children in the large meeting room.

Elizabeth oversaw a hands-on experience that had all of the children create small medicine wheels. Kerry, seen in the photo on the left, read a traditional Native story to the children.

It was an excellent presentation by both Wigwamen tenants. Well done!!!

The residential schools settlement process has begun. The healing continues.

The Indian residential schools settlement process has started. First, through these initial notices, former students and their families will learn how to give their views on the fairness of the settlement. Then, Courts across Canada will hold public hearings. If all the Courts approve the settlement after those hearings, another notice will be distributed to explain how to get a payment from the settlement or be excluded from it. Considering the 80,000 living Aboriginal people who are former students of the residential school system, the settlement provides:

- 1) At least \$1.9 billion available for “common experience” payments to former students who lived at one of the schools. Payments will be \$10,000 for the first school year (or part of a school year) plus \$3,000 for each school year (or part of a school year) after that.
- 2) A process to allow those who suffered sexual or serious physical abuses, or other abuses that caused serious psychological effects, to get between \$5,000 and \$275,000 each. You could get more money if you also show a loss of income.
- 3) Money for programs for former students and their families for healing, truth, reconciliation, and commemoration of the residential schools and the abuses suffered: \$125 million for healing, \$60 million to research, document, and preserve the experiences of the survivors, and \$20 million for national and community commemorative projects.

You don't have to show you were abused to get a common experience payment, and you can get one even if you had an abuse lawsuit, and even if you settled it. You can object to the settlement if you don't like some part of it. If you have an objection, you must by **August 25, 2006**, send an email to objections@residentialschoolsettlement.ca, write to Residential Schools Settlement, Suite 3-505, 133 Weber St. North, Waterloo, Ontario N2J 3G9, or call toll free 1-866-879-4913. Be sure to explain why you are against the settlement, and include your name, the school(s) you attended, your address, and telephone number. If you object, it will be considered at a settlement approval hearing. You may ask to speak at the hearing in the Court overseeing your claim. The hearing that affects you is generally based on where you now live. As part of the settlement, the government will pay lawyers representing former students up to approximately \$100 million in fees, plus costs and taxes. You don't have to hire a lawyer to object, and you don't have to hire and pay a lawyer to get a common experience payment once the claims process begins. Of course, you may hire your own lawyer and pay that lawyer to object, speak for you at a hearing, or represent you with an abuse claim.

Ontario Court Date: August 29-31, 2006

Phone: 1-866-879-4913

Internet: www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca



Terrace Happenings

The Seniors Social Club has elected Gladys Ashkewe as President and Pauline Grant as Vice President. Katie Pasquach stepped down as President and moved to her reserve in Moose Factory. We miss you Katie.

Sadly, Henrietta Ross passed away. Wigwamen staff and tenants send our condolences to her family and friends. Henrietta will be missed both at the Terrace and the NCCT.

Wigwamen would like to welcome our newest tenants, Mary Boyer and Lloyd Buckell. A warm welcome to both of you and we wish you many happy years here in the Terrace community.

As a reminder to all tenants, please **do not** feed the pigeons or the squirrels. Not only do they create a mess, they are unsanitary. Frances is working diligently to keep the grounds clean and needs everyone's help by not feeding the animal. Thanks for your co-operation.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Sarah Jayne
Terrace Manager

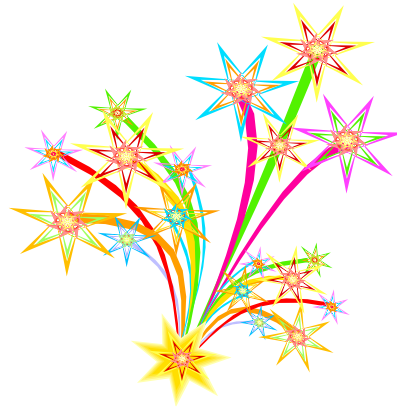
Eagle Eye - Live Cam

Eagles - 'Live' (and I'm not referring to the country/rock group): For months now, one of the world's most visited websites has been one located on Vancouver Island. In fact, the camera looking at an active eagle's nest is getting more than 10 million views per day. That is a staggering number of people, world-wide, that are keenly interested in watching the eagle nest and wanting to check in on how the new chicks are doing. It is a fabulous site to spend time on and you can actually listen to the sounds made by the eagles so turn up your speakers and listen in while you watch. Get your children and grandchildren involved in seeing one of nature's most magnificent creatures in the wild.

If you are able to access the Internet, make sure you take the time to go to the following website and spend some time with the eagles: <http://www.infotecbsi.com/wildlife>. The website boasts that the parents have produced, "A couple of fat and sassy eaglets. The chicks are getting bigger all the time, feeding every couple of hours on various menus brought to them by mom and dad." If you haven't already had a look, it is worth taking the time to check in on this eagle family living in the Victoria/Sidney area of Vancouver Island. It truly is amazing!

...time for

**Wigwamen's
Annual
Tenant
Picnic**



and you are invited!!!!

The picnic will take place on:

Saturday, September 9, 2006

(Rain date scheduled for September 16th, 2006)

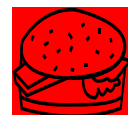
at

Christie Pits Park

from

11:30 am to 4:00 pm

We'll see you at the Pits!!!!!!!!!!



Aboriginal Housing Support Centre

Many of you may have used the services of the Aboriginal Housing Support Centre to apply for subsidized housing prior to being accepted into Wigwamen Incorporated. The program continues to flourish and has been running out of 20 Sewells Road since the building opened July 1, 2005.

Warren Canney is the Housing Counsellor and he continues to help people sign-up for subsidized housing, deal with landlord/tenant issues and provide guidance regarding personal issues that affect people on a daily basis.

The Aboriginal Housing Support Centre has ap-

plication forms for numerous subsidized housing providers, Native and non-Native.

If you know of a friend, a family member, or a neighbour who is thinking about applying for subsidized housing or who needs help with an apartment search, have them give AHSC a call.

The office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Call ahead at 416-281-2057 or email at info@aboriginalhsc.org. To view the various services offered by AHSC, you can have a look at the website by going to: www.aboriginalhsc.org.

Jobs For Youth Program

This summer, three youths have been working at 20 Sewells Road. The Summer Jobs for Youth Program provides young people aged 15 to 18 with the job readiness skills they need to help build self-esteem and lead rewarding, productive lives. It includes pre-employment readiness, employment placements and post-employment supports in a variety of fields including recreation, hospitality, retail and general labour.

The program, which is co-ordinated through Scarborough-based Tropicana Community Services, began last month. In 2006, the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services is investing about \$2.6 million to deliver the program for up to 750 Toronto youth. In 2007, the program will provide about \$5.3 million to expand the program for up to 1,650 youth in at-risk communities across the province.

The building at 20 Sewells Road is in the community of Malvern, one of the 13 communities

within Toronto considered as an 'at-risk', or high priority, community.

The Summer Camp Program for children runs out of the large Community Room from Monday to Friday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm and is being run by Safa Ehtesham and Arichana Easwaralingam. Flora Vaughn-Dempsey, from the Multicultural Arts and Crafts Group, has been very instrumental in the operation and design of the program.

Jerome Manners has been working under the guidance of the building Superintendent, Terry Marcus. Somehow, Jerome has managed to work outdoors in the extreme heat this summer thrown at us. The lawns and gardens look great!

Having Safa, Arichana and Jerome working in the building has been a real bonus for the tenants and the staff. There is no doubt that they will be greatly missed once this summer has come to an end.

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Donna Fanjoy and Jennifer 'Star' Jeff representing the Multicultural Arts and Crafts Group at the Malvern Family Resource Centre sponsored 'Malvern Multicultural Day' picnic June 25, 2006

Contact Us

If you have submissions for the 'Wigwam To Wigwam' newsletter, please contact the following people:

Warren Canney: 416-281-2079
wcanney@wigwamen.com

OR

Sarah-Jayne Kendall: 416-925-9165
sjkendall@wigwamen.com

Answers to:

Something's Fishy Here

(from page 6)

A: Seahorse

B: Swordfish

C: Jellyfish

D: Dolphin

E: Starfish

