

# WIGWAM TO WIGWAM

YOUR HOUSE TO HOUSE NEWS

DECEMBER 2010

## Holiday Office Closures

Friday, December 24, 2010	Office is open until noon
Monday, December 27, 2010	Office is closed
Tuesday, December 28, 2010	Office is closed
Friday, December 31, 2010	Office is open until noon
Monday, January 3, 2011	Office is closed

*Merry Christmas!*

*“Nííbaa’ anamí’egíízhigad & Aabíta Bíboon!”*  
(Ojibway)

*“Ojenyunyat Sungwiyadeson honungradon  
nagwutut. Ojenyunyat osrasay!”*  
(Iroquois)

*“Mítho Makosí Kesíkansí!”*  
(Cree)

*“Kuvíanak Inovía!”*  
(Inuktitut)

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## Did you know...

Wigwamen Incorporated is the oldest and the largest urban Native housing provider in the City of Toronto and the Province of Ontario, and is one of the largest in Canada.

Wigwamen originally began in 1970 as a committee who met at Toronto's Native Friendship Centre. Members were anxious to do something about the need for better housing for Native people in the City of Toronto. The high cost of living in the city, the unfamiliar cultural and physical environment, isolation, discrimination, and lack of education and experience, all contributed to hindering the adjustment of Aboriginal individuals and families migrating to the city. This included access to adequate and affordable housing.

The committee developed a housing program to provide rental assisted housing to Aboriginal residents in the City of Toronto and in 1972, Wigwamen Incorporated was founded.



### Wigwamen website

*Did you know Wigwamen has a website?*

On the website you can find pictures of annual events such as the Tenant Picnic, Flower Power and the Wigwamen Scholarships.

You can also read past and current newsletters and learn about Wigwamen's rich history!

Check it out at [www.wigwamen.com](http://www.wigwamen.com)

# STATUS CARDS IN CANADA

Reproduced from the Indian and Northern Affairs website ([www.ainc-inac.gc.ca](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca))

The Government of Canada is committed to working with First Nations and all partners to improve the quality of life of First Nations people in Canada. As part of this commitment, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has introduced the new Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS), commonly referred to as the Status card.

The Secure Status card is a credible identity document that meets the needs of Status Indians. Service providers will also appreciate the secure Status card's modern security features that provide better protection from the abuses of fraud and identity theft.

Currently, there are four VALID types of Status cards in circulation. After the new card is launched, your current Status card will continue to be valid until it reaches its renewal date.

## LAMINATED CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN STATUS

## NEW

## SECURE CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN STATUS

### CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN STATUS “ALL IN ONE”



### CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN STATUS “PILOT PROJECT”



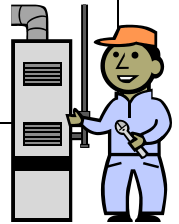


## MAINTENANCE

In the next few months, many of our units will be undergoing changes to improve their energy efficiency. These changes include the installation of new furnaces/boilers, windows and insulation.

Tenants will be notified individually regarding changes to their particular units.

We appreciate your co-operation during this time in allowing access to your unit so these improvements can be made.



## How to care for your new windows

Cleaning the frames and glass should only require a mild soap and water. After washing the window, simply rinse with clear water and wipe dry with a soft cloth.

- ⇒ Do not clean with harmful cleaning solutions and abrasive compounds. These cleaning solutions will scratch or discolour the vinyl.
- ⇒ Use exhaust fans regularly in rooms with high humidity (bathrooms, kitchens, etc.)
- ⇒ It is important to keep the sill or track clean of any dirt or debris.
- ⇒ Use only mild soap, water and a soft brush when cleaning your screens. When finished rinse with clear water and wipe dry.

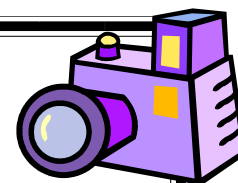
## The City of Toronto's Water Meter Exchange Program

Under the City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 851, Water Supply, a mandatory water meter upgrade is required at all properties.

Water meter upgrades will be taking place at all of Wigwamen units over the next couple of years. Appointments will be booked for these exchanges by Wigwamen and tenants will be given notice regarding when this exchange will take place. The name of the company contracted by the City of Toronto to complete these meter exchanges is *Neptune Technology Group (Canada) Ltd.*



***Faces of the Terrace***  
**Photo Documentary Project**



We recently started a new project at the Terrace entitled "Faces of the Terrace". This project will see a photo wall created of the tenants to highlight the rich history of the building and its residents.

We will be adding to the wall with 10 volunteers at a time and hope to have our first set of photos up by Christmas.

Any *Terrace tenants* interested in volunteering can contact Danielle Powell at (416) 481-4451 or Lisa Kristensen at (416) 925-9165.



**ZERO BALANCE CLUB**



The winner for the month September is:

**PATRICK CARPENTER**



***CONGRATULATIONS!***

If you want a chance to win a \$50.00 gift card, all you have to do is pay your rent on time every month and you will be automatically entered into the draw!

## **Are you looking to start a career in Office Administration?**

If you answered yes, the FNTI (First Nations Technical Institute) **Office Administration Certificate Program** is for you.

### **Program Outline**

“The Office Administration Certificate Program is a college-level program offered in partnership with St. Lawrence College of Applied Arts and Technology. This program provides learning and academic accreditation to administrative/executive assistants, program support personnel, and junior management personnel employed with (or inspiring to be employed with) First Nations and Aboriginal organizations.”

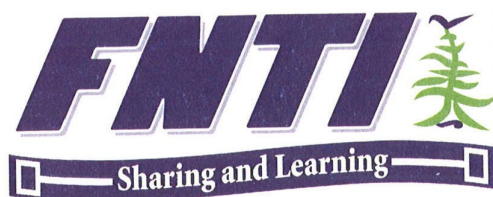
“Consistent with all FNTI programs, learning opportunities in this program are culturally appropriate, current and responsive to adult learning. In addition a first Nations Governance course ensures that students are introduced to the structures and components of First Nation political and governmental organizations in Canada.”

### **For more information about this program or the many other programs offered by FNTI:**

Online: [www.fnti.com](http://www.fnti.com)

By phone: 613-396-2133 or 1-800-267-0637

By e-mail: [buffyh@fnti.net](mailto:buffyh@fnti.net) or [april@m@fnti.net](mailto:april@m@fnti.net)



*Source: FNTI Office Administration Certificate Program brochure*

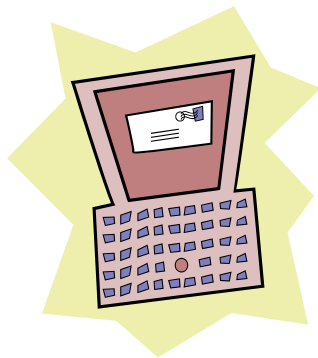
## Sign up to receive "Wigwam to Wigwam" by e-mail

In October, the "Wigwam to Wigwam" newsletter was sent out to tenants by e-mail for the first time! Wigwamen is making an effort to reduce the amount of paper distributed by our office and you can do your part too by signing up to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

We had only a small number of tenants sign up in September and are hoping that eventually all or most of our tenants will receive "Wigwam to Wigwam" by e-mail.

Congratulations to Loretta Whiskeyjack who signed up to receive the newsletter by e-mail and was the winner of our draw!

If you would like to sign up to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please e-mail Danielle Powell at [dpowell@wigwamen.com](mailto:dpowell@wigwamen.com).



## *Calling all young artists...*

Each month we would like to include a piece of artwork or writing (including poems, short stories, etc.) in our newsletter to highlight talent amongst our youngest tenants!

If you are between the ages 5 and 13 and would like to contribute your work to our monthly newsletter please contact Danielle Powell at (416) 481-4451.

**PLEASE NOTE: Submissions must be no bigger than 5 1/4" x 4 1/4" (approximately half a piece of paper) and should include your name, address and age on the back of your work.**

We look forward to seeing all of your wonderful submissions!



*Check back each month to see if your artwork or writing is printed in the newsletter!*



### YOUR "HOUSE TO HOUSE" NEWS

**Wigwamen Incorporated**

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**If you have a submission for the "Wigwam to Wigwam" newsletter, please contact:**

**Danielle Powell**

**(416) 481-4451**

**dpowell@wigwamen.com**